

ProxThink

Proximity thinking, for living in a connected, changing world ... ProxThink.com

Four Basic Terms ... *Situation* - Whatever you are dealing with or considering. *Element* - Loosely, an *element* can be anything. Any person, place, thing, idea, feeling, time, group, relationship, situation, proximity, etc. It's whatever you are considering for the moment as a separate thing. *Relationship* - Any kind of association or connection between elements. *Proximity* - Elements related or potentially related to a situation, in physical, mental and other ways.



I'm David Loughry, creator of proximity thinking, for living in a connected, changing world.

I developed proximity thinking over decades, integrating a diverse array of knowledge and experiences in the arts, sciences, design and business. I also have a math degree and an MBA.

Find more about me and my other projects at loughry.com

ProxThink is short for proximity thinking.

The growth model is one part of proximity thinking.

For reading order, follow the numbers, notes and arrows.

1. Start Here

Old-Fashioned? Shutdowns and Some Governmental Approaches Outdated? Antiquated? What Can We Do?

4. Yellow

Immigration is an issue in many parts of the world. Governments can struggle with our connectedness.

Government workers ...
can't get new jobs quickly ...
and can't vote representatives out of office.
Immigrants and their families ...
are stuck with current approaches ...
and the resulting pressures, frustrations and negative impacts.
Users of networked technologies wait for government to catch up to emerging challenges ...
such as privacy, security, surveillance, market power, etc.

5. All Red

Short term ... those affected can't do much.

Users of poorly working government services ...
can't directly impact the debate or negotiations, and ...
have to put up with bad or missing services.
Communities, businesses and the rest of the world ...
have to deal with a poorly functioning government.

2. First Orange

We live in a connected world, ripe for collaboration. How is this related to shutdowns, governments and other shared situations?

6. First + Path

In many ways, we're still using systems of government created for a much less connected world.
U.S. representatives still have to fly to Washington to vote.
Much of government is still very top-down, hierarchical and more competitive than collaborative.
To collaborate is to work jointly on an activity.
A connected world creates more possibilities for collaboration.
But we may need collaboration approaches created for a connected world.

3. First Blue

What if, more often, we used collaboration approaches created for a connected world?

7. First + Path

Some drivers of immigration, like violence and great income differences, might have less influence.
Other issues might be addressed at the same time.
We might have better, more enjoyable approaches for lots of different shared situations.
Short-term effects like those in the red bubbles we saw might appear less often.
More people might avoid feeling stuck or bored in their jobs or businesses.

8. All Green

The ProxThink growth model is a collaboration approach created for a connected world.

It helps people with a shared situation. It is four processes that can make the proximity of a shared situation more like one thing, rather than a bunch of unconnected things.
This can make the proximity of their situation easier to relate to, and help their shared situation come alive.
It can also offer people more variety, as some of the focus shifts to proximities.
The growth model can be implemented in low-tech and/or high-tech ways and systems.
It scales from simple, daily shared situations, to larger, more complex ones.
It may be used within existing organizations, but can also create new ways of dealing with shared situations.
I think it has potential. Why don't we find out?

9. All Purple

How can you start playing around with and using the ProxThink growth model?

First, get an introduction to the proximity thinking framework, as the growth model is part of it. Your likely fastest onramp is the online course at:
proxthink.thinkific.com
In the course, you can start playing around with the growth model in the Shared Situation Guide. You'll use the guide within the Quip app for mobile and desktop collaboration.
But you don't have to use the Shared Situation Guide in the Quip app. You can also start playing around with the growth model processes in your own low-tech and/or high-tech systems and ways.
As more people try and experiment with this, we can share experiences and knowledge, and improve as we go. The course has more about how to do that.
Again, your likely fastest path to start playing around with and using the ProxThink growth model is the online course at ...
proxthink.thinkific.com

Perhaps Quip can create other options for non-business uses.
FYI - Quip is free for groups with low to moderate activity.
I hope to also duplicate the guide on other collaboration platforms.

FYI - You can take the course for reasonable minimum proxri, or access the overviews, all the quizzes and the whole ProxThink site for optional proxri.

• Questions? Contact us via proxthink.com.
• Created by David Loughry.

• As you find this rewarding, please proxri with the proximity in mind via proxthink.com.