



BOSTON

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"Toward a Science of Consciousness"

Systemic Constellations

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PHILADELPHIA

Evidence for Non-Local, Atemporal, Continuous Consciousness

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A

What Are Systemic Constellations?

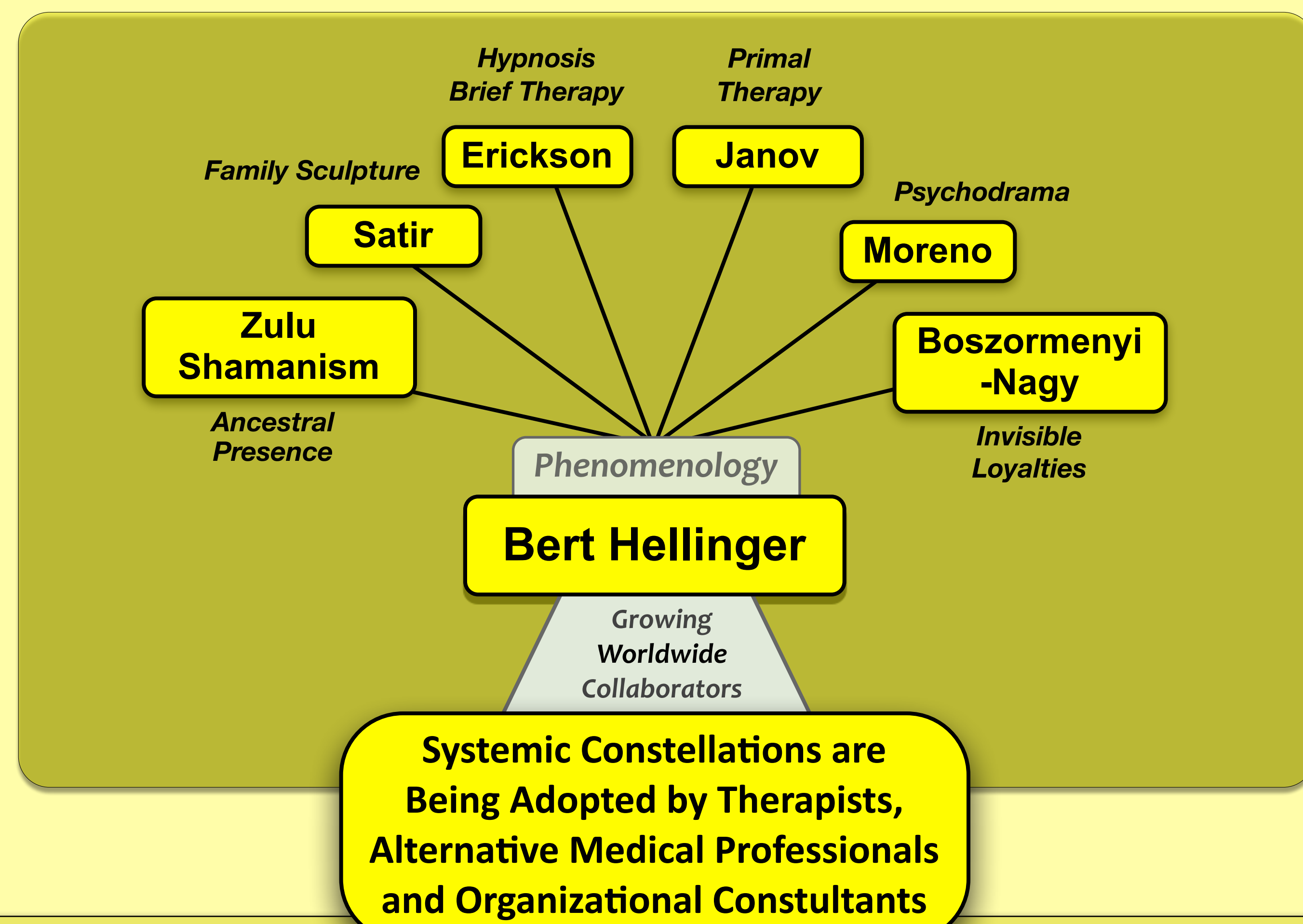
A surprisingly effective tool for revealing and re-aligning powerful, hidden, life-shaping loyalties in ancestral families & organizations.

Here's the classic family workshop form:

1. **Issue and Background.** A trained facilitator elicits from the client an issue and background information, focusing quickly on likely relevant ancestors and events.
2. **Set-Up.** The client selects group members to stand as representatives for these, and sets them up in a spontaneous, intuitively chosen, geometric pattern.
3. **Emergence of a Dynamic.** The postures, feelings, and social interactions of this "constellation," resonating with events both past and future, become a reliable guide for perceiving underlying dynamics. See E below.
4. **Resolution.** Patient, constructive re-arrangements of the group have strong positive effects on both the client and other elements of the system.
5. **Integration.** Over a few weeks or months, change-resistant problems in health, relationships, career tend to resolve, often in uncanny fashion.

Forms beyond the classic have also emerged:

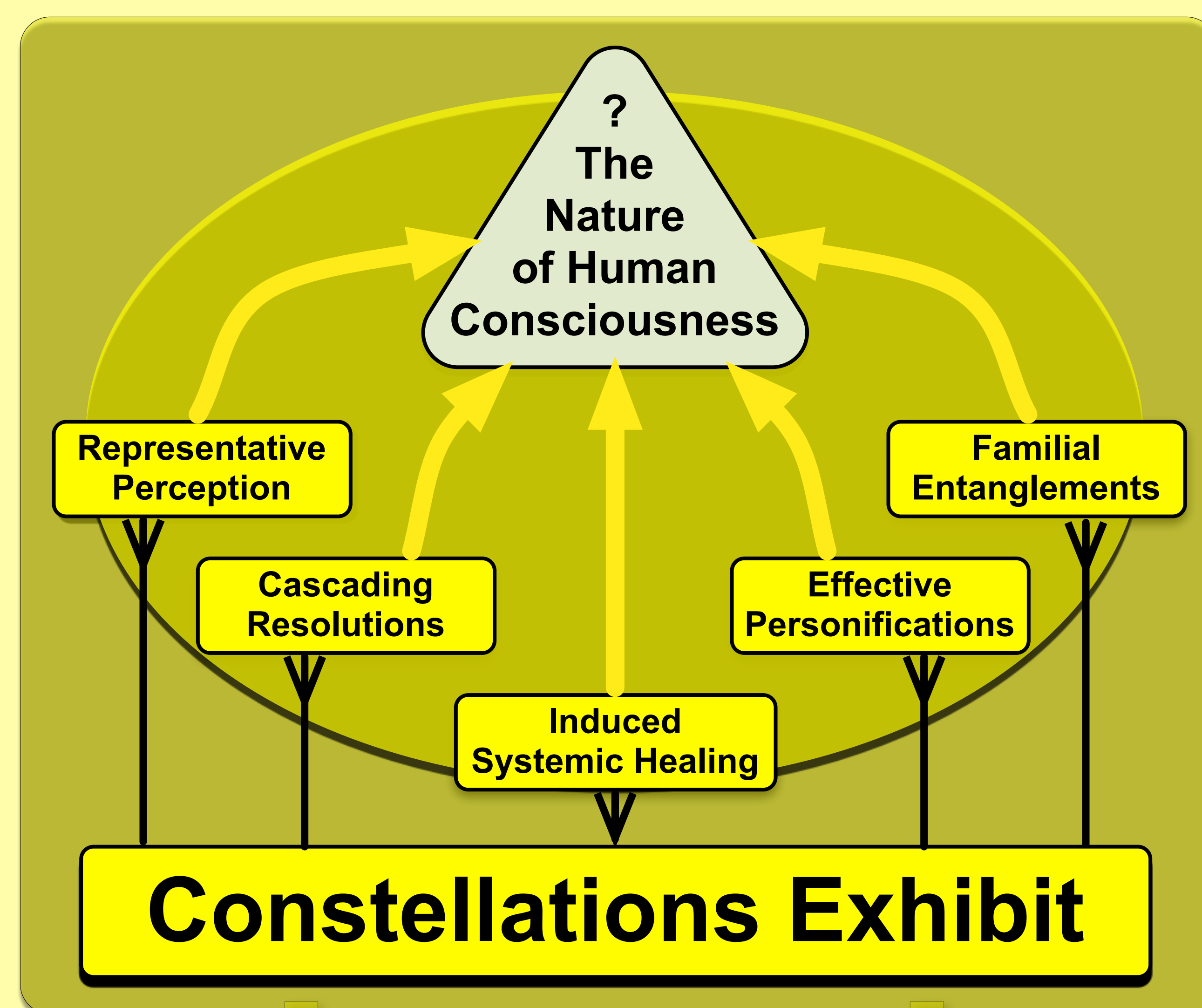
- a. **It has migrated quickly to businesses,** in Europe especially. It provides direction in complex organizational situations otherwise hard to quantify.
- b. **It works outside of workshop situations,** in 1-on-1's, using symbolic objects to lay out elements of the system.



D

How Are Constellations Emerging?

1. **German Bert Hellinger synthesized indigenous, philosophic, and therapeutic approaches over 35 years** (Hellinger 1998, 1999). The modality has been adopted and evolved since 1990 by 1000's of healers, consultants, & coaches worldwide. Growth leads in Europe, lags in US.
2. **Philosophic and methodological issues make careful studies rare, but positive** (Franke, 2003; Thomas, 2010). While not foolproof, the nature and frequency of the successes reported are too striking to ignore.
3. An **International Systemic Constellations Association** (ISCA, founded 2007) sponsors research and the World Congress, Copenhagen, May 2013. www.isca-network.org
4. **The Knowing Field** is an international, peer-reviewed, English language journal publishing articles on systemic constellations. www.theknowingfield.co.uk
5. An **active international, open email forum** can be reached at ConstellationTalk@yahoo.com, and an **extensive bibliography** at www.reddyworks.com
6. The **2011 US Systemic Constellations Conference** will be held **October 28-30, in San Francisco**. Dan Cohen is conference director. www.usconstellations.com



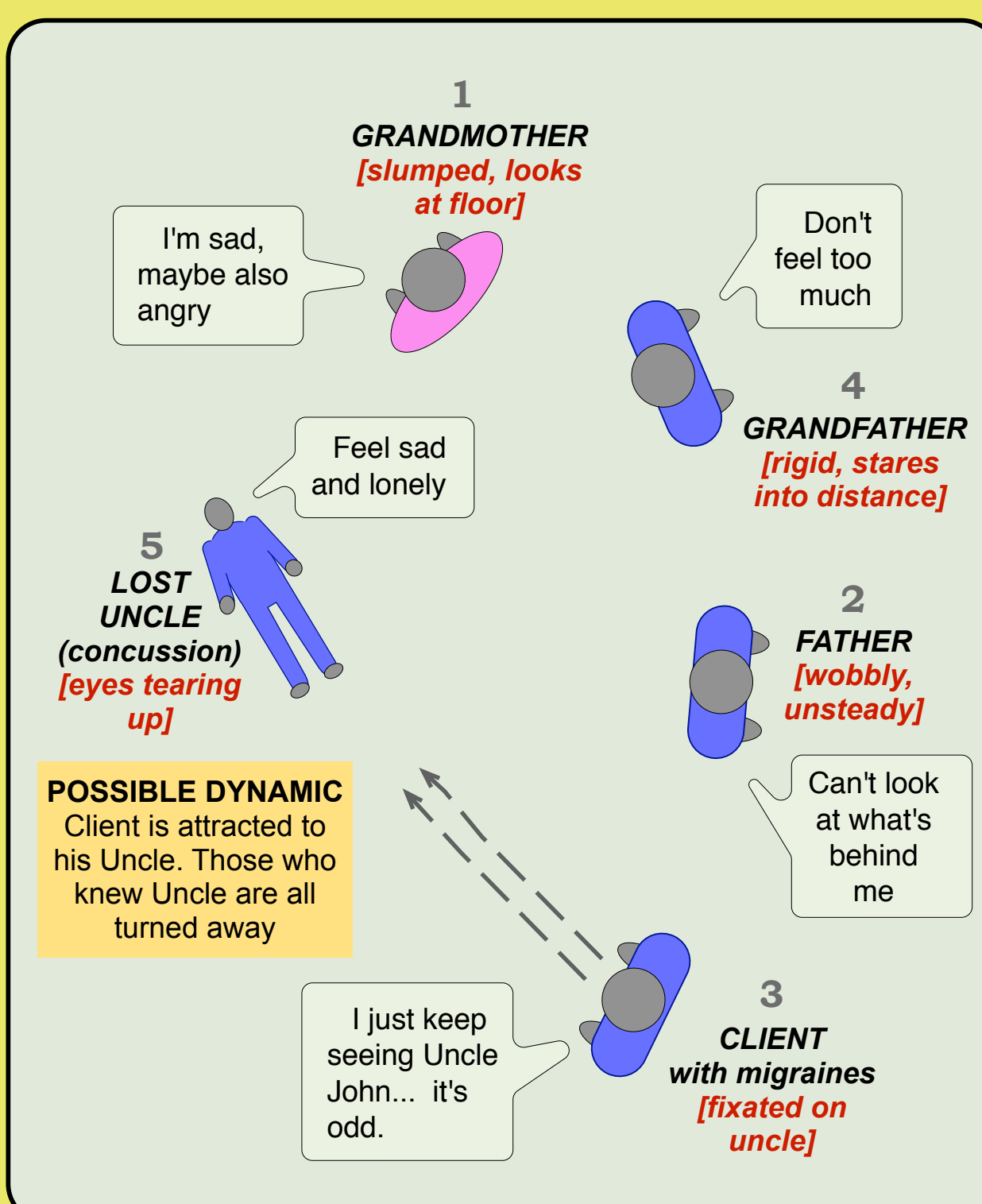
B

Consciousness-Related Effects Observed

1. **Representative Perception.** Complete strangers display feelings or traumas of absent or deceased family members **EXAMPLE--Representative for client's father feels one leg go numb; client then says, "Oh, Dad lost that in the war."**
2. **Familial Entanglements.** Client's lives are shaped by *unresolved* experiences in the lives of relatives who are at times unknown to them. **EXAMPLE--Client with incurable migraines finds that an uncle died young from an accidental head injury. Blame embittered the family thereafter. Client's headaches "remember" this disorder.**
3. **Induced Systemic Healings.** Patient and respectful restoration of harmony among those representing the system frees or heals the client. **EXAMPLE--Reps for parents of the lost uncle in (2) forgive each other, mourn their child's early death. Migraines tail off over two months.**
4. **Cascading Resolutions.** Resolutions produce often uncanny shifts in the lives of family members who know nothing of the constellation. **EXAMPLE--Rep for homeless, addicted son reconciles with the rep for his dead father in his mother's constellation. Totally unaware, he enters rehab**
5. **Effective Personifications.** Symbolic attachment to representatives of elements like "the disease" or "a new job" produces valid information and transmits effects. **EXAMPLE--Rep for Daughter's neuropathies attaches to Grandma, leaves constellation during resolution. They fade**

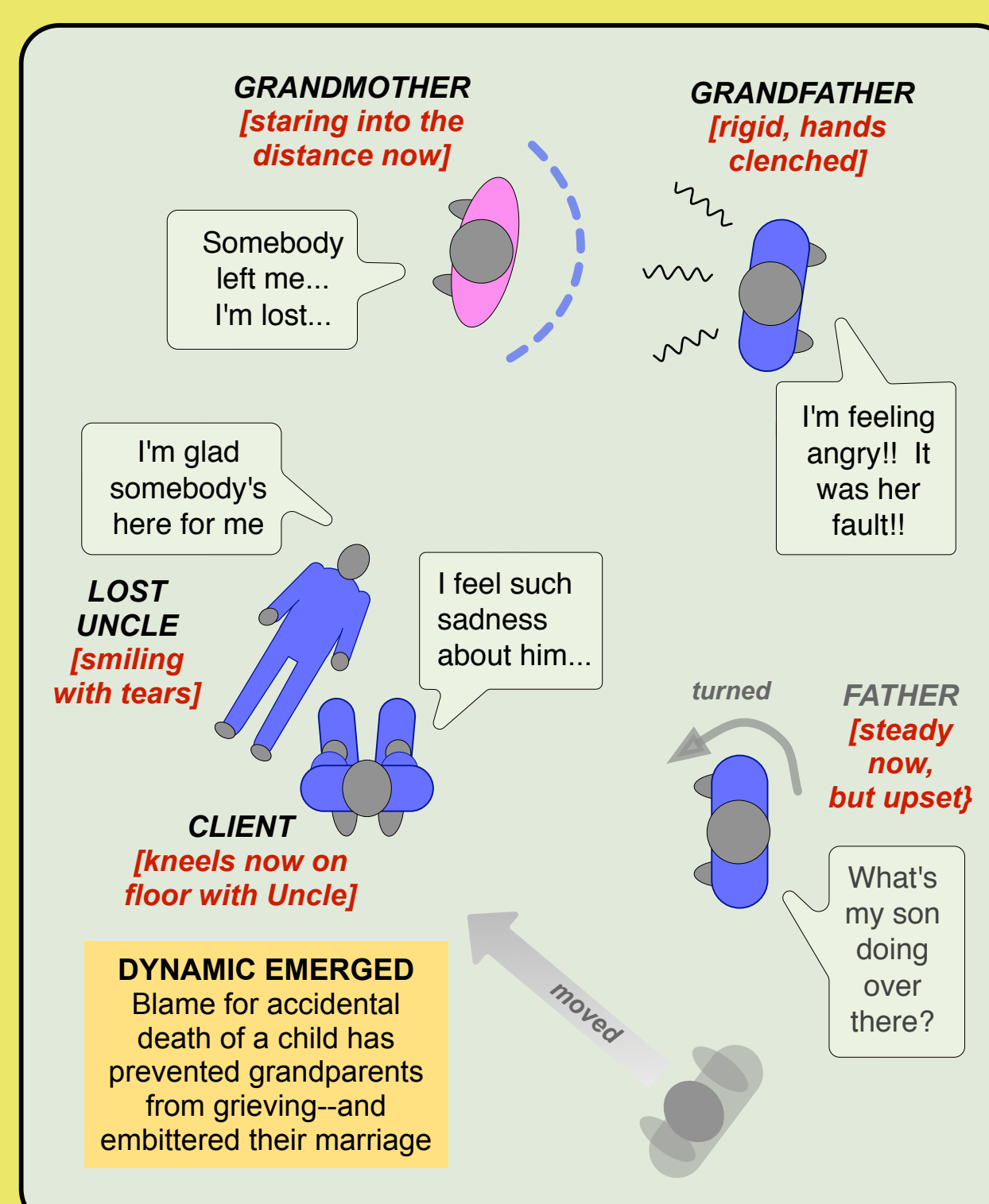
E

What Does a Constellation Look Like?



Mostly silent, reps feelings clarify. Allowed to move, they shift to the positions at right, and are asked how they feel. A DYNAMIC has EMERGED. Grandpa blames Grandma for the fall that killed Uncle. Anger and bitterness have prevented normal grief. Client carries it for them.

Constellation experiences are difficult to convey in either words or diagrams. Left is the SET-UP for a client with awful migraines, whose uncle died age 4 from an accidental fall to the head. In red are postures. In bubbles are their words. Numbers show who was placed on the floor first.



C

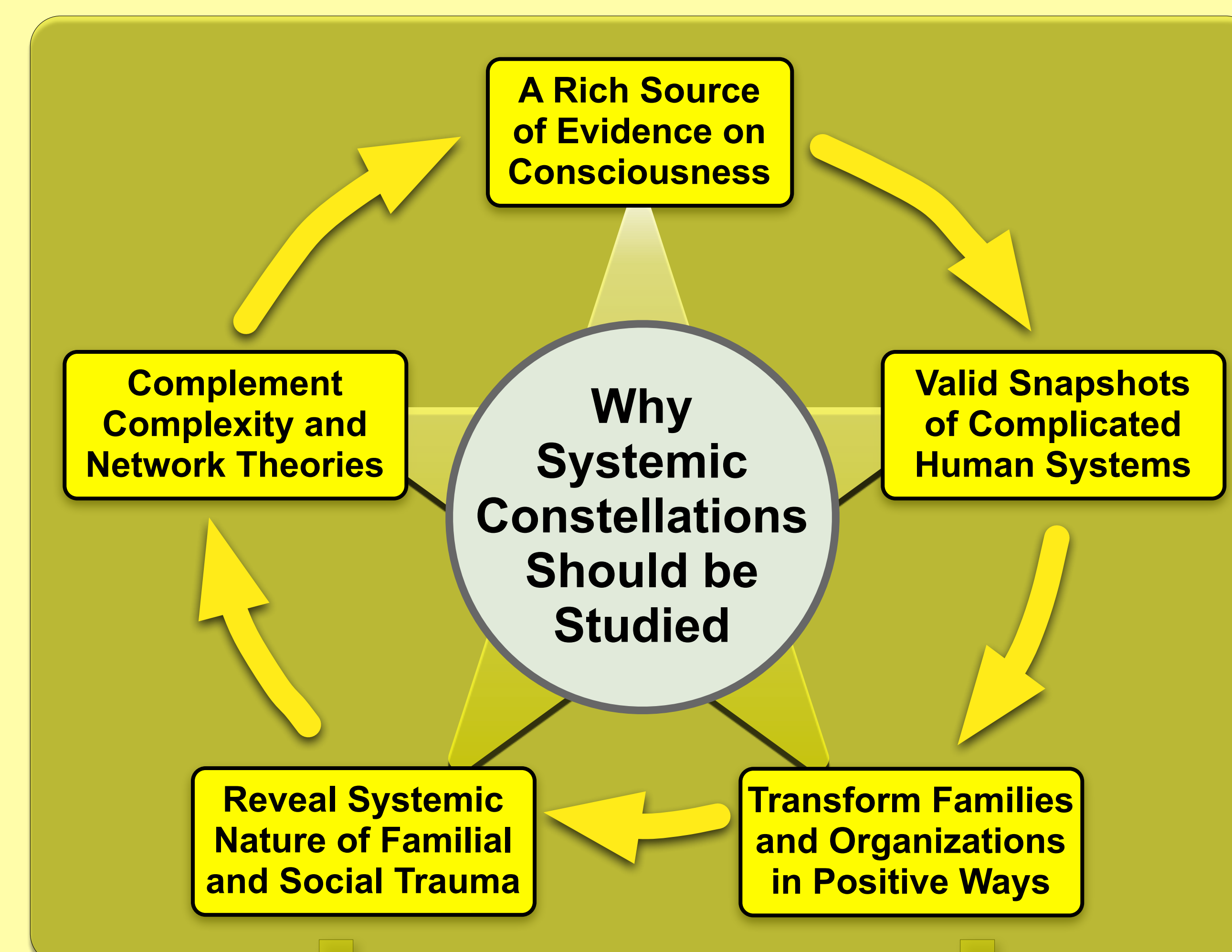
What Models Account for Constellations?

Prevailing objectivist, materialistic, reductionist views are hard pressed to account for these effects. Time, space, and human individuality may share a deeper ground.

Promising directions here involve:

1. **Entangled Minds.** Empirical work by Radin (2006, 2009), Sheldrake (1999, 2003), and much research summarized in McTaggart (2007, 2008, 2011) show similar non-local, atemporal, continuously-connected results.
2. **Universal Application.** Effects documented above appear to cross the boundaries between the human, animal, vegetable, and mineral (machine) domains.
3. **Four Central Variables.** Strength of these effects appears to relate to human ATTENTION, INTENTION, EMOTIONAL-URGENCY, and GROUP-COHERENCE.
4. **Quantum, Holographic Interpretations.** Pribram (1971) and Bohm's (1995) "holomovement," and other views of the zero-point field suggest a ground in *inseparable awareness*

At the same time, much more needs to be done. How is human subjectivity to be factored into such models so as to produce reliable results? How do we teach skills?



F

Why Investigate Constellations?

1. **Evidence About Consciousness.** Constellations combine all 4 factors--attention, intention, emotional urgency, & group-coherence. *Non-local, atemporal, continuously-interconnected effects abound. More, careful follow-up studies are needed to document these.*
2. **Systemic Snapshots.** Constellations provide valid overviews of crucial interactions in systems too complex for formal analysis. They are fast, simple, and inexpensive.
3. **Heal Families and Organizations.** Important human collectives are being transformed in positive, lasting ways.
4. **Understand Family & Social Trauma.** Their collective, and transgenerational roots (Rupert, 2008; St. Just, 2008).
5. **Combine with Quantitative.** Systemic overviews can also become guides to quantitative or computational study.

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