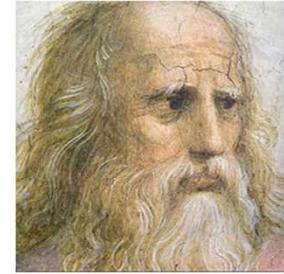






*You are young, my son,
and, as the years go by,
time will change and even
reverse many of your
present opinions. Refrain
therefore a while from
setting yourself up as a
judge of the highest
matters.*



(Plato, Laws, 477-399 AD)

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Asked when he started to embrace radical Islam, Amir refers to a public demonstration in which a police officer reproached him with the following words: "you should not be here, you are an imposter and not even a real Muslim".

(Formers & Families, 2015)



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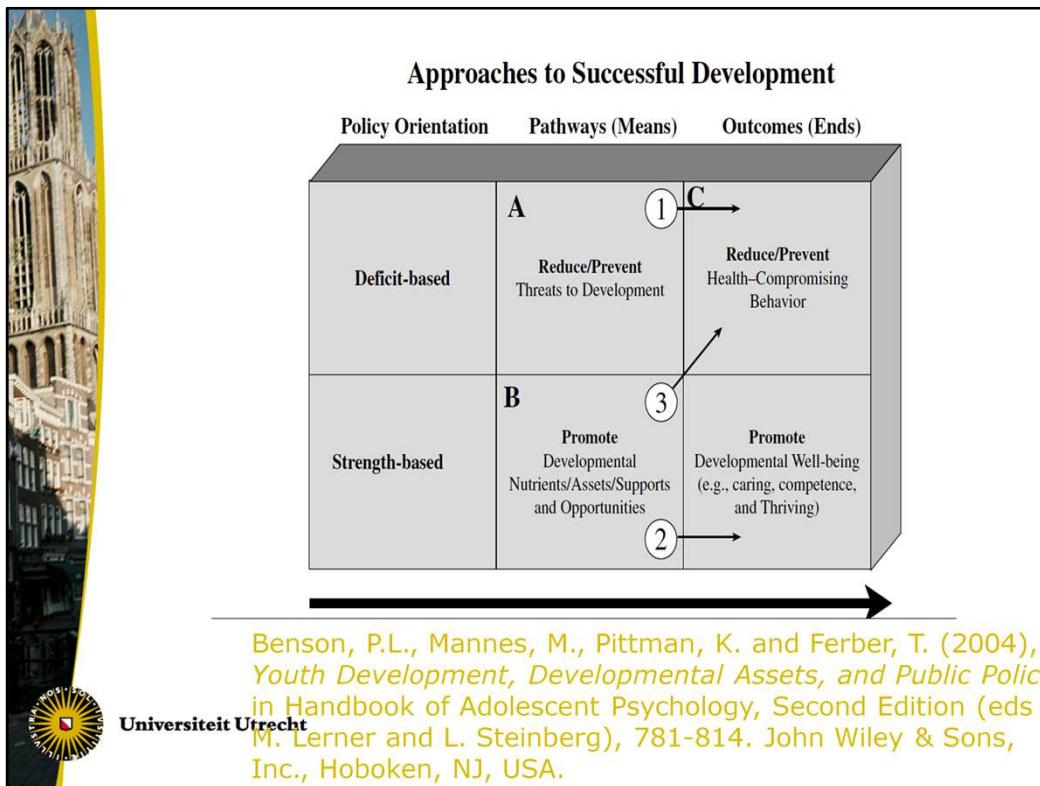


*The challenge posed
by adolescence is a
problem for
international politics
and individual
psyches alike.*

(Kristeva, 2011)

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Meet Chaib

- +
- Runs the cheapest fitness school in the country
- With a team of very engaged volunteers
- Reaches out to 180 young individuals, every year.
- Moral Authority
-
- Has difficulties connecting with formal authorities
- Too popular to get organization done
- Envy from sector
- Unfamiliar with the system

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Dit is Chaib

Makes up for everything that these kids do not get from home

Accessible

Adressed the entire person: spirit AND body (anima sane in corpore sana)

Invites, gives responsibility

Show uncertainty/struggles

As a barrier between public opinion and youth and between extremists and youth.

Offering limits

BUT

Chaib has difficulties connecting.

Too popular to get organization done

Envy

Unfamiliar with system

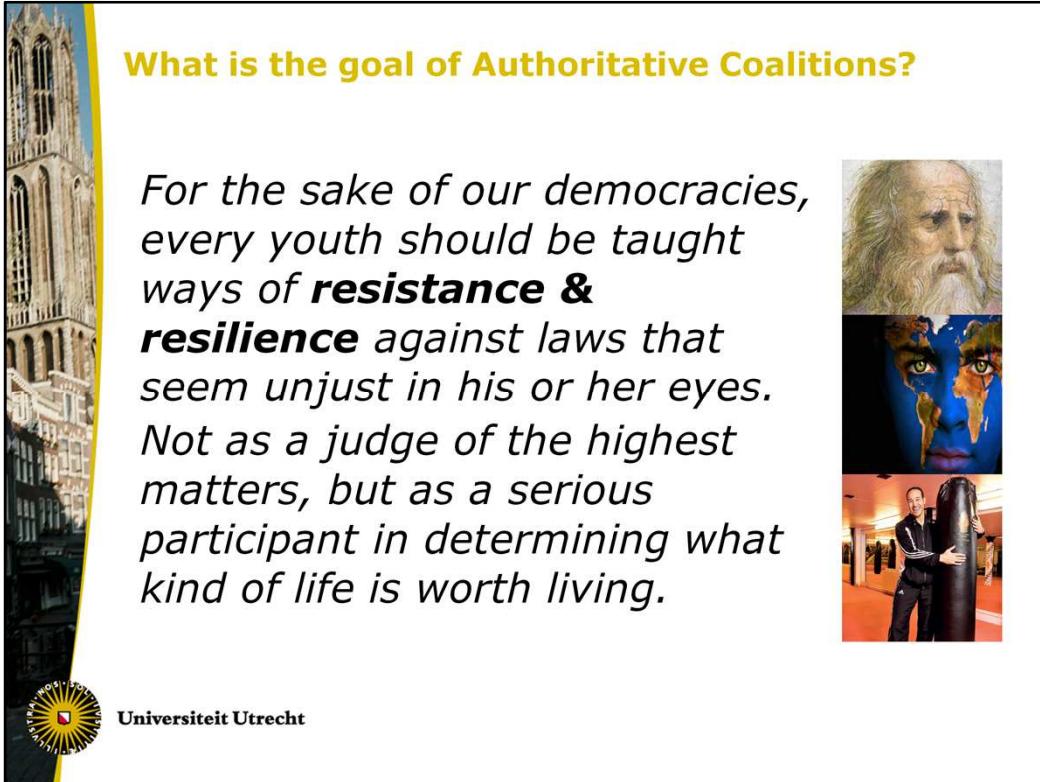
Moral authority, no formal authority

Authority without a link, in need of a node? That can help in bridging life world and system world (Habermas)



What does an Authoritative Coalition look like?

- Built between institutional and private stakeholders.
Shared agenda: fostering balanced identities, acknowledging each others differences backgrounds/motives.
- **Particular types of Relationships**
 - Moral authority: guidance (exemplars)
 - Empathy: attention (sincere)
 - Possibility of participation: agency (thrill)
- Functions as a **buffer** between polarised public opinion and youth; and between propaganda and youth.
- Not afraid from radicality. They do not signal and outsource the solution but **engage** with youth who feel uncertain or superior in a moral (not moralistic) dialogue. If necessary they know who to call (youth care or police).



What is the goal of Authoritative Coalitions?

*For the sake of our democracies, every youth should be taught ways of **resistance** & **resilience** against laws that seem unjust in his or her eyes. Not as a judge of the highest matters, but as a serious participant in determining what kind of life is worth living.*

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More reading?

- Sieckelinck, S. (in press). Towards a Pedagogy of the Fanaticized Spirit. In: Smeyers ea.: *International Handbook of Philosophy of Education*. Dordrecht: Springer
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- Sikkens, E., Sieckelinck, S., San, M. van & De Winter, M. (forthcoming). Parental Reactions towards Radicalization. *Child & Family Social Work*.
- Sieckelinck, S., De Winter, M. (red.) (2015). Formers & families: transitional journeys in and out of extremism in the UK, Denmark and The Netherlands. *Report for the European Commission*.
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- Sieckelinck, S. & De Ruyter, D.J. (2009). Mad about ideals? Educating children to become reasonably passionate. *Educational Theory*, 59 (2), 181-196.