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# In Creative Problem Solving Does Projection Influence the Press?

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SUNY-Buffalo State  
International Center for Studies in Creativity

*In Creative Problem Solving, Does Projection Influence the Press?*

A Project in Creative Studies by  
Eugene Ravenell

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment  
of the  
Requirements for the Degree of Master  
of Science

April 2017

## In Creative Problem Solving, Does Projection Influence the Press?

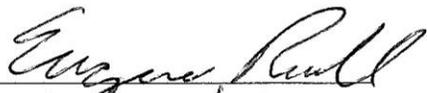
**Abstract**

What this project aims to achieve is using creative problem tools with the notion that Projection (in relation to circumstances in our environment) causes us to push against our press. Using Projection (mental images), can we find solutions to problems efficiently? Samples of CPS tools and their uses will be explained. "Projection" meaning and inner-works of our brain function will show an illustration that will be clarified as to how individual's cognitive functions react to stimulus'. Projection is a simulation of a scene, place, and time. It is reasonable to ask that if, based on our environmental factors like press (environment), attitudes, and emotions, do we Project or re-create mental pictures in our mind that help move us forward whereby we solve problems deliberately to overcome our environment beforehand.

Sir Isaac Newton's third law of motion proves what humanity does to push against the press. Projection including future think (prospection), remembering the past, considering the viewpoint of others (theory of mind) and navigation is proven as fact according to figure two. We instinctively Project images in our mind to solve problems and find solutions that derive from our environment/press. It's almost like playing and replaying a video. Ekvall's ten questionnaire will be mentioned. The Visual Thinking process and PPCo tool uses, helps us prioritize visual pictures we Project that drive us to find a creative solution, goal or wish. There will be samples of what our mind perceives when faced with press challenges and issues based on our circumstances.

"Prospection" concepts will be examined. Mentioned is how moods, behaviors and emotions could play a role in our decision making on environmental factors positively or negatively. To support this I will share the father of brainstorming's view on mental imagery and what he believes humans use innately.

Key words: Projection, Press, Prospection Visionary Thinking, Visionization, Creative Problem Solving.

  
4/9/19/2017  
Date

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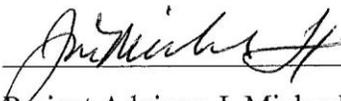
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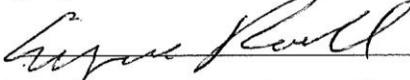
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First and foremost, I'd like to thank my wife for being a strong influence as a result of me going for a higher education degree. With her believing in me, I could achieve anything. I don't know what other path I would have taken as it pertains to life choices. I am gratified that I chose this program. I like to thank faculty and friends at Buffalo State College for making an impact in my life so I could help others reach their full potential. I set out to become a public administrator and found getting a master's degree in creativity quite fascinating when I looked at the creativity programs catalog. Gerard Puccio PhD, John Cabra PhD, Susan Keller Mathers PhD, Roger Firestien PhD and Jon Michael Fox M.S. and other wonderful personnel have taught me to be creative, imaginative, and innovative for a lifetime. I appreciate their time and effort in making sure I received the best that the Creative Studies program, had to offer. They have taught me skills that I've discovered help me get to my goals more effectively. I can now problem solve and teach others in and out of the classroom with confidence. And last, I'd like to thank my wonderful children who have been encouraged by me to be "creative deliberately."

Dedication

This project is dedicated to my loving wife and children.

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| Does Projection Influence the Press? | 7 |
|--------------------------------------|---|

## Table of Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Introduction  | 8  |
| What Does Projection Mean?  | 9  |
| Rhodes Defined Person and Press                                       | 10 |
| Third Law of Motion and the Press                                     | 12 |
| Prospection   | 14 |
| Brain Functions While Projecting                                      | 15 |
| Dr. Goran Ekvall Ten Dimensions of the Creative Climate Questionnaire | 17 |
| Alex F. Osborn & “Applied Imagination”                                | 20 |
| The Press (environment)   | 22 |
| Creative Problem Solving Tools and Press                              | 24 |
| Visionary Thinking Tool in CPS  | 24 |
| PPCo use in Visionary Thinking  | 29 |
| Summary   | 31 |
| References  | 32 |
| Figures   |    |
| Fig 1. Sir Isaac Newton   | 11 |
| Figure 2. Brain functions while Projecting                            | 15 |
| Fig 3 Alex F. Osborn  | 19 |
| Fig 4. Lake View Town   | 26 |

## Introduction

During the course of obtaining a Master of Science degree in Creativity at Buffalo States Creative Studies' curriculum, I've become interested in the possibility that Projection in creativity and how we push against our environment. Projection in this case means the ability to project one's thoughts, consciousness and emotions out of body. The body is physical but projection of mind extends beyond it. I dove deep in this project to find what projection is and how its relation to press issues has a lot to do with the ideas or the decisions we make. Could the environment have an effect on what we project? Could it be linked to our attitudes? When I mention environment, I mean the Press.

The third P in creativity is press. For example, you are in a circumstance where you are lost in the woods and its dark (the woods are your environment/press). The only light you see is your cell phone that is losing power. The fact that you are lost is the (press) pushing in on you. What do we do when our environment seems to limit our solutions? You are fully aware that you are lost (conscious thought). Your emotions (fear, anxiety, paranoia, and hopelessness) follows next, what then your attitude. What would you do to get home? By Projecting you think and envision several different ways to escape the woods in a matter of seconds (at least this what I do deliberately when faced with dilemmas). Could there be more to this than we already think? Based on Newton's Third Law of Motion, for every action there is a reaction, the environment/Press is pushing on you. By default, something has to push back. Could it be Projection? Could it be the powers of visualization and envisioning a projected outcome help you push against the Press and assist you to find a solution to getting out of the woods?

Do we visualize a mental picture or a desired future state? Do we visualize our past and present? Our ideas spark mental images as we rifle through them and as we preview a future

desired goal. This happens when we dream or focus on a solution. This altered state I call *visionization*. It is the use of Creative Problem Solving, focusing on dreams, visions, and making them a reality.

The key is to visualize a mental image of a person such as preparing for a presentation. The more you rehearse, the more you become familiar with the presentation as if you already presented it. What you have done is project yourself in your mind at the event giving the presentation. Visionization emphasizes goals and objectives plus opportunities. Your wishes and desires for yourself manifest through focusing on what is important to you through mental imagery. Creative Problem Solving (CPS) is a process that is used to increase the possibility of the processing and implementation of applicable interrelationships of information our brains contain and continually captivates. Its repeated application results in what is called a creative attitude. Creative Problem Solving tools help to uncover new ways to view (envision, project), define and/or approach challenges, desires, problems or dilemmas to achieve effective, implementable resolutions.

In addition, your emotions and attitudes play a key role whereby our feelings may be linked to solutions that could help us solve a problem or hinder them. Furthermore, I stress that using Creative Problem Solving tools work in aiding an individual or groups to solve probing questions like above mentioned title of this project.

### What Does Projection Mean?

The word Projection means in this case the act of visualizing an idea or an objective reality. This includes an estimate or forecast of a future situation and trend based on a study of present ones is another meaning. The synonyms for Projection are forecast, prediction, prognosis,

outlook and expectation. When thinking about the future, we mentally Project ourselves into that alternate reality.

Gathering information proposes envisioning the future remembering the past, regarding the viewpoint of others, and some forms of navigation, reflecting the workings of the same core brain network. These abilities emerge at a similar age and share a common functional structure that includes frontal and medial temporal structures they are related with planning, intermittent memory, and slow cognitive states. I posit that these aptitudes, studied separately, rely on a common set of processes by which past practices are used adaptively to imagine viewpoints and events beyond those that arise from the direct environment.

#### Rhodes Defined Person and Press

As it has been researched, a person(s) or group(s) are creative. This branch leads to a person(s) within an environment (press) system that welcomes a person(s) or group(s) knowledge, experiences, personalities, visions, imagination, and skill set. These key ingredients dictate how much a person or group can produce (in general). “The term person, covers information about personality, intellect, temperament, physique, traits, habits, attitudes, self-concept, value systems, defense mechanisms, and behavior” (Rhodes, p. 307). The press (environment) is that in which a place, work climate, and culture influences creative behavior and thinking. A person might be a perfect fit for the job but if certain environmental factor play a negative role, then creativity doesn’t flourish for the organization and the person willing to work. This is simply your environment pushing in on you. “The term press is the relationship between human beings and their environment” (p. 308). The press moves in on you due to a place, cultural influences (religion), that steer our behavior and ideas (Rhodes, p. 308).

Some of us absorb data which is the action of the Press. Then we react. We fight for positive consequences as we “Project” our thoughts, imaginations visions, and ideas into our minds for a desired outcome. It is as if we are visualizing an outcome that inspires us to make the right choice. What did we just do? I believe we created outcomes with assistance from the ingredients of the four Ps as leverage, to arrive at “Projection.” The key word is Projection. I believe that this is not elaborated on enough and is what we do unconsciously. What do you think?

The person is how you view yourself in every way. Questions like how do I look, am I being mean? These are assurances as to how you are viewed by the public. At this point you are projecting an image (how they see you) of yourself to others. The key word is image. “The product quality is how well people provide creative ideas given the circumstances of their Press.” (Puccio, p.34).

The process as it relates to projection is visioning ideas, thoughts, and mental pictures of what it will take to get answers, opportunities and leads. Some of us see (visualizing mental pictures) several outcomes ahead based on our environmental climate. The key word is see.

### Third Law of Motion and the Press

#### Sir Isaac Newton's Third Law of Motion



Fig 1. Sir Isaac Newton

(<https://www.bing.com/images/search/view=isaac+newton>)

Newton's Third Law of Motion states that “for every action there is always an equal and opposite reaction” (Newton, 1643). In scientific terms the Third Law is the notion that if an object is pushed or pulled, the object will “push or pull” equally in the opposite direction. Example, if someone lifts a heavy object, they use force to push it up. The object could be heavy because it is producing an equal force downward on the lifter's arms. The weight is relocated through the lifter's legs to the floor. The floor presses upward with an equal force. If the floor pushed back with less force, the person lifting the object would fall through the floor. If it pushed back with more force the lifter would fly into the air thus no gravitational pull. So why am I

discussing this discovery? It is to connect the dots so that it may link our environment as to what we Project in problem solving.

There is a link between Newton's Third Law of Motion as it pertains to Projection. Situation: You need to plan for an unexpected trip. You are short \$500 and need to get to your destination in the next two days. So, what's happening? You are the object feeling the press pushing in on you. At this point you work hard on a solution to get the money needed. This is you pushing against your press. In this instance, it's the unexpected trip and the need for you to get to your destination in two days. This is your environment closing in on you as time progresses. I believe that our mind start Projecting pictures from start to finish, as a way to get to your destination.

Pictures project and flash through your mind as to where you see yourself. You are mentally traveling to your destination. Before this happens, your mind starts to put in motion pushes that help you find several ways to obtain the money to get to your destination. Your environment closes on you because of time and lack of resources.

Many times, with scenarios like this one, people get stuck and the press closes in. The person stays back inside his/her box where things are familiar, never striving for goals, dreams, and wishes. Your environment just dictated where you should be (inside the box) because you enabled the Press to push you in. In Creative Problem Solving, mental images are brought to light in a form of challenge statements. Here's the question: In what ways, might I receive funding to go on an unexpected trip in the next two days? According to Newton if the environment pushes in on you, you have to push back. Projections are your push force. You are by default with Projection, exerting an equal and opposite reaction. The challenge statement is: In what ways, might I obtain funding to go on an unexpected trip in the next two days? The Third

law of motion has to be realized in order to create problem solving techniques to the above challenge statement.

### Prospection

Using Projection methods is a similar cousin of the term *prospection*. It requires a shift of perception from the immediate environment to the alternative, imagined future environment, and that the imagined event is referenced to oneself. Prospection involves first-person perspectives and third-person (observer) views in which one sees (D'Argembeau, & Linden, 2004).

Prospection is the act of thinking about the future that can involve conceptual content and affective states. Although difficult to establish, I pose that prospection is common, adaptive, and is used during decision making, navigation plus shared reasoning. Decision making is the cognitive process ending up with the selection of a belief among other potentials. Decision making is a process that is a continuous process joined in the interaction with the environment/press. Every decision-making process produces a last choice. Decision making may or may not cause action.

Decision making is the process of identifying and choosing alternatives based on the values and preferences of the decision maker. Thus, prospection has been called sporadic future thinking (Randy, 2007), memory for the future, pre-experiencing, mental time travel and imagination. Prospection shares similar processes with other cognitive acts that require Projection of oneself from the immediate environment to alternative perspectives. I call this process re-creation. Re-creation is the state of creating again or anew. Projection is a simulation of a scene, place, and time. It is reasonable to ask that if, based on our environmental factors like press (environment), attitudes, and emotions, do we Project or re-create mental pictures in our

minds that help move us forward whereby we solve problems deliberately to overcome our environment beforehand? Furthermore, prospection is the act of thinking about the future and is the ideal example of Projection. The thought of planning shortfalls in patients who had frontal lobe lesions led to an understanding of the foundation of prospection. In the mid-19th century, Phineas Gage, (a man whose frontal lobe was injured during an accident with a tamping iron), discovered that there were constructions in the human brain involving the development and implementation of personally and informally actions of behavior (Damasio, 1994).

### Brain Functions While Projecting

The illustration below shows four parts of brain activity (Randy, 2007). Fig.2 (A) Remembering the past, Fig. 2 (B) Conceiving the viewpoint of others. Fig. 2 (C) Theory of mind. These abilities emerge and share a common structure that includes the frontal and medial temporal Fig. 2 (D) systems, that are associated with development and intermittent memory. Projection in illustration two shows activity in the brain when we project. This reign of the brain lights up. This activity happens when we are trying to find alternatives to events in the immediate environment (also dreams, meditation, and yoga). We can shift our perspective from the present to vivid memories (projected pictures) of our personal past, conceive what others are thinking and imagine ourselves in situations before they happen (Vincent, 2006). I refer to the ability to shift perspective from the immediate present to alternative perspectives is Projection.

Each image displays the midline of the left hemisphere with brighter colors, indicating regions of increased activation. There is a remarkable correspondence in activation during remembering

(A) Development & intermittent memory.

(B) Prospection.

(C) Theory-of-mind.

(D) Tasks.

Projection has many uses and underlies the flexibility of human cognition and behavior. This equips us with abilities to make social implications and anticipate the beliefs and actions of others. In this instance, Projecting prepares us to look at several different alternatives at moment's notice plus be socially sound and listen to others perspectives, attitudes and actions of what they do to project (communication, mood, problem etc.).

Fig 2 Brain Functions while Projecting

Fig. 2 (A) Remembering

Fig. 2 (B) Prospection

Prospection

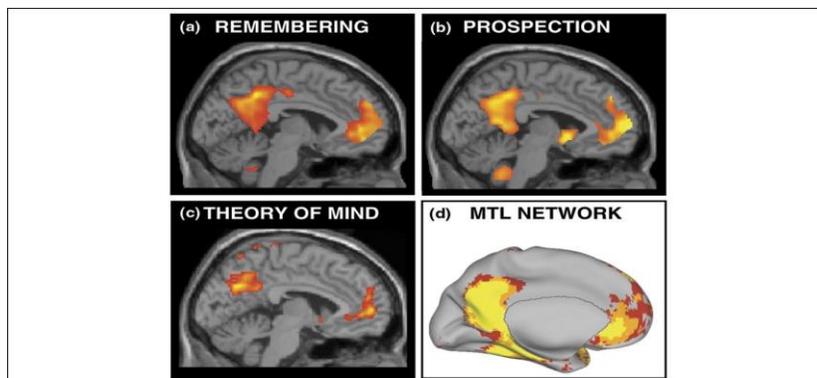


Fig. 2 (C) Theory of mind

Fig. 2 (D) MTL Network

Randy (2007)

Moreover while concluding this method or convergence during Projection, it extends to lateral parietal regions (not shown), located within the inferior parietal lobule near the *temporal-parietal* connection. Within subject studies there is a requirement to determine the extent of the overlap. Data in Fig 2 (A) Remembering and Fig 2 (B) Prospection, (Addis, 2007), Data in Fig 2. (C) Theory of mind, (Saxe, 2003), Fig 2. (D) MTL Network is the cortical areas that functionally

correlates with the *medial temporal lobe* (MTL). MTL network overlaps the regions that are recruited during the multiple forms of Projection. Fig 2. (D)(Vincent, 2006).

This network involves frontal and medial temporal parietal lobe systems that are related to planning and sporadic memory. I hypothesize that Projection at its core, brain function enables mental exploration of alternative perspectives based on our past and present experiences. It helps us solve problems based on environmental factors. The processes of the network are characterized by a personal, interior mode of mental simulation difference to insights and visions.

Dr. Goran Ekvall     Ten Dimensions of the Creative Climate Questionnaire

Professor Emeritus, Industrial and Organizational Psychology University of Lund-Sweden

Dr. Ekvall was an academic researcher in the area of climate for creativity and change as well as leadership behavior and values that encourage creative productivity. His unique research background as an industrial psychologist started with his extensive work in employee suggestion systems in the early 1960's. He is widely published and has worked with a variety of international organizations.

Dr. Ekvall (1987) identified 10 dimensions of the creative climate. Nine are them are positively correlated and one negatively correlated that distress creativity in administrations. This is a ten-numbered questioner that is scored and measured. Ekvall's conceptions have been validated by frequent studies in the United States and worldwide.

What are the ten dimensions of a creative climate?

A. Challenge

B. Dynamism

- C. Playfulness & Humor
- D. Freedom
- E. Risk-Taking F. Idea time
- G. Idea support
- H. Trustfulness & Openness
- I. Debate
- J. Conflict (negatively correlated)

(Ekvall, 1996)

I will only elaborate on two dimensions. One is Trust and Openness. This means focusing on the safety of the emotional and trusting environment. Example, if your boss praises the work that you do and others on a continuum bases, then you and staff will feel comfortable in generating new ideas for the company. The person will not feel fear or ridicule because the lines of communication have been open (thus the term openness). If trust is established, the workers do not feel stress or negative vibes from the environment (work place). In addition, emotionally, everyone feels appreciated and significant. The attitudes become more pleasant and the workers create a happy environment. This is where team work thrives. On the other hand, if trust and praise are missing then feelings of fear, exploitation, and being made fun of, happens. Ideas get put on the back burner, and employees start to feel that their safety is in jeopardy. The point is that when these two environmental factors prevail, we Project positive images that show imaginative ideas, feelings and emotions. When the opposite occurs then we Project negative images that causes us to react to the situation(s). We in turn push against the negativity within the environment to go back to what the safest emotional state is (inside the box).

Emotions are a complex marvel consisting of a reliable purpose of the state of affairs in relation to the state of the subject and points of adaptation. Apart from the cognitive aspect, this phenomenon includes behavior, physiological changes and expressions (facial expression, voice, attitude, feelings), and implementation of emotions in the nervous system. Emotions fulfill useful, regulating, classifying, existential, and inspiring functions.

Emotions capture the world as either positive or negative, important or unimportant, and are used to determine and assign allowances. They emerge routinely and are difficult to control. To some extent, they are influenced by our environment. If our emotions react to our press, how is it accomplished? Our inner emotions play a part in the mental pictures we Project. If we are feeling sad we could vision pictures of disparity in our minds that may be gloomy and display a dark overcast. If a person is happy images that may come to focus maybe bright colors, happy people, or a vision of a past happy occasion.

Another dimension is *Idea Time* (think time). When we think usually what happens is some humans visualize thoughts in visual format that raises questions or figures out how to solve a problem with many options. Example, in the environment of high idea time, we challenge and address solutions to problems more effectively.

Mental images of challenges formulate (from data) in our mind's eye that clearly shows different scenarios on how to create a solution. Idea time can be used in every facet of our environment to help us stop and think before making decisions that block ideas that are overlooked.

In time, many ideas come into play before the developmental and implementation stages of Creative Problem Solving. This method is a surely pushes out the press in a most effective way.

Fig 3 Alex F. Osborn



<https://www.bing.com/images/search?q=alex+f+osborn>

### Alex F. Osborn & “Applied Imagination”

Alex F. Osborn (1953) was the father of brainstorming. In his 1953 edition of *Applied Imagination*, he discovers that our imaginations are images we see in our mind’s eye. In chapter three, titled “Creative and Non-creative forms of Imagination”, he covers three types of imaginations and its application to problem solving. He explains the dream state as being a form of uncontrollable imagination. What he conveys is that when we dream we vision solutions to problems in the present and future without any control over it (Osborn, 1953, p. 28). He believed that we could Project into our past to help solve problems based on our past decisions. He tells us the story of a day while sitting at the dinner table when he was a young child, he started to feel faint and landed on the floor. His father ran to his aid immediately to wipe his face with water. Osborn said there was a dream-like state he entered that was full of pictures and images (Osborn, 1953, p. 29). Osborn said within what would take place in the real world in an hour, was seconds when he stood up. He found that there was more action in this state than a real-life drama. Osborn concludes his story by saying that our imaginations are like magic. We can dream close to 2,000 words in just two seconds. Could we be Projecting images in our mind that help us find solutions? What did he project about in two seconds? Here is another discovery I made during

my research of this project. Osborn was a firm believer in the term “Visual Imagery.” His definition is, “The power to see things in the mind’s eye” (Osborn, 1953, p. 30). How fascinating to read that the father of brainstorming believe that we see or Project images in our mind like a projector, that may help us look at solving a problem at will. He goes on to say that this is a talent that humans can create to produce mental picture of anything! I only have two words for this finding, fascinating & provocative.

Do you see or Project images in your mind? There are many forms of visual imagery, for instance speculative imagery. For example, you lay down in your bed, outside or on a beach. You have never been to Niagara Falls before. As you think about it more, suddenly while looking up you towards the sky, you imagine what the experience is like. You see the large water fall, people, maybe birds. You Project a solid picture in your mind’s eye as if you were there. I usually practice this in a meditative state. There is “reproductive imagination” where a person sees the past and it enables us to bring pictures back into our mind. This may prove to be another form of Projection. One other sample I’d like to mention, in one sentence, it is the notion that we use structural visualization. In this form, we have a sense of our mind’s eye blueprint of a solid object. Example, when we have car trouble, we see the car and blueprint the object in our mind as to where the problem could be. This happens even if we know nothing about the car. Many times, our mind tries to find ways to get the car fully functional again until we solve the problem. I call this “Troubleshoot Projection.” All three of these examples are mental images we project in our minds. Most of us have the ability to project on demand. We certainly can solve problems in an influential Projected environment deliberately. In many ways, I think Osborn would support what I’ve explained as it pertains to “visionization” methods we use in our everyday life.

### The Press (environment)

There are three kinds of press, close environment, social-external psychological press, and internal-psychological press. Social-external psychological press is attitudes that are well defined as learned, global calculations of a person, object, place, or issue that effect thought and act (Sison, 2008). The internal-psychological press is the inference that an individual is acting a certain way because something about the person (attitudes, atmosphere, or character). The third is the close environment, which includes everything that is physically present to the individual at a given moment. For example, the close environment of a student in a classroom includes her/his desk, the other pupils, the teacher, the chalkboard, the windows, and a doorway. Even though each may affect his behavior and attitude and would be represented in his life-space (Lewin, 1935), they belong in the macro rather than the close environment. This means that the even with physical elements within your setting could press in because of physical objects in your surroundings. Hence, learning the lesson the teacher is conducting, pushing outward to receive the data. A major absence in most environmental studies is that time in a particular setting. It is the independent rather than the dependent variable. Noise levels, job pressures and divorce can affect your environment upon performance. Such experiments leave no space for one of the most mutual reactions to threat in the animal world, like running away. If a street on the way to the office is run-down, our instincts is to find another route. The mind projects a clear path to other roads that are safe to drive. Two studies conducted by Maslow and Mintz 1956, explains the dependent rather than the independent variable was completed by (Maslow, 1956). Their studies were conducted so that laboratory aides could test in one of three different types of rooms: a modern office, an average appearance, and a janitor's ugly storeroom in an unkempt condition. It was found that an examiner in the ugly room finished testing quickly rather than the examiner in

the nice-looking room. Yet most of the students did not mention anything different about the testing rooms when they were interviewed after the experimentation. They concluded that approaches to the study of environmental changes influence and are limited by the fact that the environment tends to affect people. Could our ever-changing press effect our thought patterns and judgments? The press (environment) is that in which a place, work climate, and culture influences creative behavior and thinking. A person might be a perfect fit for the job but if certain environmental factor play a negative role, then creativity doesn't flourish for the organization and the person willing to work. This is simply your environment pushing in on you. "The term press is the relationship between human beings and their environment" (p. 308). The press moves in on you due to a place, cultural influences (religion), that steer our behavior and ideas. Some of us absorb data which is the action in the Press. Then we react. We fight for positive consequences as we "Project" our thoughts, imaginations visions, and ideas into our mind for a desired outcome. It is as if we are visualizing an outcome that inspires us to make the right choice. What did we just do? I believe we created outcomes with assistance from the ingredients of the four Ps as leverage, to arrive at the fifth "Projection." The key word is Projection. I believe that this is the missing link. What do you think?

The person is how you view yourself in every way. Questions like how do I look, am I being mean? These are assurances as to how you are viewed by the public. At this point you are projecting an image (how they see you) of yourself to others. The key word is image. "The product quality is how well people provide creative ideas given the circumstances of their Press." (Puccio, p.34).

This process relates to projection is visioning ideas, thoughts, and mental pictures of what it will take to get answers, opportunities and leads. Some of us see (visualizing mental pictures) several outcomes ahead based on our environmental climate.

### Creative Problem Solving Tools and Press

I will explain what Creative Problem Solving is and what tools can be used to get you “unstuck” due to the pressure of your press by Projecting. What is Creative Problem Solving? Creative Problem Solving (CPS) is a process and an expressive model that practices divergence and convergence in each of its stages (Isaksen, Dorval, and Treffinger, 2000; Miller, Vehar, & Firestein, 2001; Noller, Parnes, & Biondi, 1976; Osborn, 1953; Puccio, Mance, & Murdock, 2010). It is also a problem-solving process that is a deliberate and cognitive. Creative Problem Solving originated in the 1940’s, by Alex Osborn. CPS has experienced nonstop research and growth by scholars such as Noller, Parnes, and Biondi (1976), Isaksen, Dorval, and Treffinger (2000), Miller, Vehar, and Firestein (2001), and most recently by Puccio, Mance and Murdock (2010). While each stage introduces different names to the process, the basis of CPS has continued to be an active balance of convergent and divergent thinking.

### Visionary Thinking Tool in CPS

There are many tools and methods that support stages of the process. Its purpose is to use these tools that help guide you. I discussed the unexpected travel story previously. Our challenge is to find out what tools may be useful. Your environment is pressing in on you in this challenge. The tool I would recommend is Visionary Thinking and its subsets. Visionary Thinking is relating a vivid and tangible picture of the anticipated future. In exploring the vision, you have to

develop a vision of a desired outcome. The thinking skill tools in visionary thinking are: visual explorer, imaginary journalism, and cartoon storyboarding.

**Visionary Thinking** allows individuals or small groups to view novel ways to solve a problem.

In this case of the unexpected trip, I was able to envision pictures (as if they were real) to visualize how to address the challenge statement. Visionary thinking is like a daydream that is something imagined that inspires a person to run a marathon, or become a mountain climber. The mind-body connection goes to work to figure out how to do it. The enthusiasm, drive, and will to work, to hope, and to believe in possibilities is the power of an *idea, a dream, or a vision*.

Visionary Thinking helps you visualize and tackle problems differently from perspectives that you didn't think of before.

The pluses in using Visionary Thinking is that I can view some novel ways to solve a problem. In this case, I was able to use a picture to visualize how to address the challenge statement. Another plus is it helps you vision the problem from many perspectives that you didn't think of before.

This is an advanced tool used in CPS that gets an individual that is stuck become "unstuck" when faced with challenges they can't solve therefore Project against the Press. With this tool and its sub-tools, many problems can be solved with organization and confidence to seek wild and novel ideas that may give you that "Aha!" moment. I think we Project these pictures in our mind as well as using CPS tool that increase the chance for I think we project these pictures in our mind as well as using CPS tool that increase chances for success. This tool helps you push against your press faster and easier.

**Imagery Journalism** is a tool for your challenge from a question to a newspaper-like headline with a small group of about five people. As a warm-up, pass out visual pictures to the group. Everyone shares a two-minute story about a challenge chosen. Then the group talks about a headline challenge they have picked for three minutes each person. One person from the group chooses a headline. The headline reads: “Attention! Ravenell receives \$100 to get to his destination.” With a marker write the headline on a flip chart then jot a detailed paragraph below the headline. You can visually express what yourself and the group perceived happened throughout your arrival to your destination. Your group expresses their visions about the headline and paragraph and builds off of each other’s visions. This tool within visual thinking helps to stretch your imagination further therefore creating a map to Project the headline into reality.

**Storyboarding** is a tool that helps you generate a vivid image of a desired goal (before you begin clear your mind and relax). It maps a path to your goal in a bordered (six-box) cartoon direction-finding aid. Map out where you are going (in the last square) to be in the future. Where you are now (in the first square). In-between turn-points (fill-in the remaining four) Then, potential blocks. After reviewing the blocks list challenges that might help you overcome them. Use statement starters, How to? How might (Forsha, 1995)?

When finished using the above-mentioned tools, you can use a tool developed by (Firestien, c.1980) Pluses, Potentials, Concerns and overcoming key concerns.

**Visual Explorer** is story telling about a perceived vision using pictures I will give an example of how Visual Explores is used.

Fig 4. Lake View Town



[www.bingimages.search/picture](http://www.bingimages.search/picture)

In this picture, I see a village with buildings, mountains, boats, water, and the sky. The buildings represent to me a solid foundation. In supporting the challenge statement earlier, I must have a solid ground to stand on with as little distractions as possible. I must remain solid, calm and strong throughout (complications) that which may come. Visual Thinking is the go-to tool. Sometimes things in life can knock your foundation loose. This can stifle your future plans and slow up progress, inviting negativity of some sort. Maintaining a solid foundation gives you a fair chance to concentrate (focus) on where you desire to be.

The mountains represent rock-hard ground that holds and protects any balance it supports. In other words, I mean that I must have security in my life at all times to protect myself so I could be brave enough to proceed forward in the path of life that balances itself out.

On this mountain are grass, trees, wildlife and rocks. In reference to grass I see, it means of course, the elements in my environment may assist or hinder my growth. By being aware of my press, this would establish a solid state of consciousness (self-awareness) so I could push against it such as the mountains.

The rocks represent milestones such as achievements and progress. The sky represents to me a life cycle that continues. By looking up, I can visualize infinite possibilities to push forward

(against the press). The trees are a representation of the tree of life. This means that trees are a constant reminder for me to remain healthy and embrace what may come. There others, like the trees in this illustration who are trying to make a future for themselves (progress and life stages).

The boats represent long journeys once traveled and future travel in my lifecycle. This means to me that there will and has to be many rivers, oceans, and lakes that I have to travel so I can have an opportunity to discover new things that expose me to create new thinking that allows for ideas to flourish. Upon this journey, there are calm waters as well as rough waters (in the picture) during my travels. In other words, there will be challenges (past & present trials) to face by reaching my desired goals before situations settle (experiences and challenges).

Some obstacles may be easy to solve and others may just be out of my control to understand or engage in. This is what I think mankind faces on a daily basis in life's excursions. Many of us face the consequences of the uncertainty of whether they have the ability to face the rough waters life brings (negative & positive). Many people are able to survive many challenges or drifting waters in the sea of life.

Upon gazing at this picture, I realized that there could be many things happening behind the scenes that just aren't visualized. Visionary thinking helps you think or visualize many novel thoughts and ideas that come to mind. This method allows you to think outside the box and explore many possibilities ever imagined (many and novelty ideas).

The water represents currents that flow to each village, town or city we occupy. The water keeps things at a certain level so you can travel down the path of life you wish to travel, with direction (CPS Tools). The waters in this picture means that I am a part of a whole that is equal to the land in different dimensions. This means that despite a different environment, I can

develop the ability to change, in any given situation or place the ability to achieve success (pushing your press outward). Visionary thinking allows people to tell a story that they visualize from a tangible image.

The sky, I interpret is a vast place of opportunities along the way that I must take advantage of during my path. “The Sky’s is the Limit!” which we have all heard and understand its intended meaning. I like to coin the term “The Sky’s Unlimited!” The sky in this picture to me represents to me how in this spacious environment, I can travel to new heights. This can enable me to reach my goal steadily level by level. This tells me that I have unlimited access to the tools that help me reach above and beyond a successful and desired future (unlimited opportunities).

This is an example of one way to use a tool coined Visual Thinking. I can now visualize an outcome of many different possibilities and opportunities of my choosing. This picture represents to me a place where I want to be in the future. It is vivid, lively, colorful and serene. Places like this stretch my imagination like no other. It also addresses other challenge statements never thought of. Visionary Thinking, Visual Explorer, Storyboarding, Imagery Journalism and PPCo ways to address a challenge statement. These helpful tools serve as a guide to solving problems that push you to Project. In other words, these tools lead groups and individuals to meeting their goals with divergent and convergent methods seeing future outcomes clearly, by using Projection.

### PPCo use in Visionary Thinking

You can use a PPCo tool developed by (Firestien, c.1980) Pluses, Potentials, Concerns and overcoming key concerns.

PPCo is one affirmative judgement tool.

Pluses Actions -Verb Statements

It creates opportunities

It sorts out things clearly

It helps me gain employment

It helps me visualize the challenge from a different perspective

It sparks many novel ideas

Potentials

Some potentials I have found in using the visionary thinking tool are as follows

It might open unlimited opportunities.

It might spark forward progress towards the outcome.

It might cause me to get involved in family matters.

It might contribute to Novel and Many Ideas.

It might compel me to use excursions. (CPS Tool).

It might cause me to reflect on experiences and challenges.

It might make me assess my progress and life stages.

Concerns

How might I limit my time limit towards my goal?

How might I research and learn what's been unsuccessful?

How might I limit distractions in moving forward?

How might I get the people on board (family support)?

### Overcome key concerns

Brainstorm ideas to overcome your top concern.

*Note:* The PPCo was originated in the early 1980's by Diane Foucar-Szocki, Bill Shephard and Roger Firestien.

### Summary

The hypothesis I'm sharing is to ask the question if Projection is when we visualize mental images in our minds regarding an idea, objective reality or circumstances (past, present) the how do we react to finding solutions to problems. In essence, some of us Project images in our mind to visualize people, places and things as we are submerged in our environment/press. Life's pressures or decisions we make can "cave in on us" at any given moment. Our environment always pushes in. This causes us to react or give in. Sr. Isaac Newton's Third Law of Motion captures the inner-works of how our environment influences our decisions based on our reactions as the press closes in on us. Our thoughts change with environmental circumstances. Internally, our attitudes affect the thought process as well. In this project, I have shared some Creative Problem Solving Tools that will assist you push against your press. There are many more tools you can use but that is for a future project. The images that we visualize walk us through the future and sometimes past experiences, goals, and wishes. Isaac Newton's

Third Law of Motion teaches us that there is a reaction caused by an action (in this case, our environment). A common structure such as the frontal and medial temporal areas hold visual memories that many visualize to help find solutions to problems or dilemmas. Conceiving the viewpoint of others allows us to put ourselves in the other "person's shoes" to understand (see,

visualize) one's point of view (Ekvall, 1987) identified 10 dimensions of the creative climate (in a work environment setting), producing in a questionnaire that is scored and measured within organizations. Ekvall's questionnaire has been practiced and proven to be valid for many years and still uses today (proven reliable). Osborn's book *Applied Imagination*, has captivated our mental-image process, that some of us create, summed up in just one chapter. *Creative Problem Solving* provides tools necessary to fight against the press or environmental factors that are caving in on us. Tools like Visionary Thinking addresses areas that have not been tried before by the individual. Once trained, the person can execute a plan with tools that have been proven to work over and over again – using carefully the PPCo. You can address the challenge in your press more effectively.

I leave an open discussion, research and arguments as to whether Projection influences our Press. My hope is that Projection opens a new paradox and adds a novel paradigm.

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