

Youth workers  
engage  
“radicalized” young  
Muslims

## **Struggles for success**

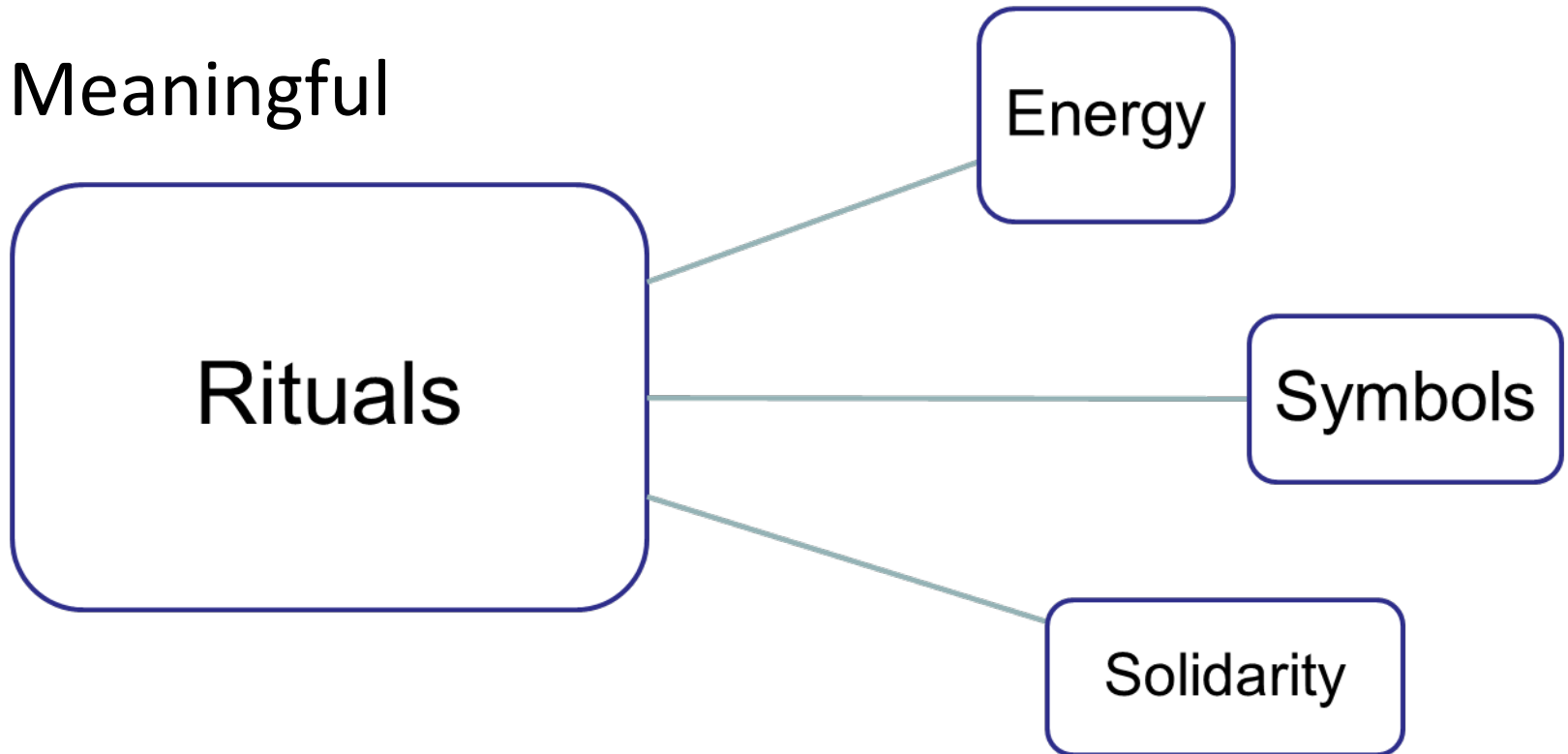
Sebastian Abdallah

# Overview

- The perspective
- The analysis
  - Of young people's struggles and search
  - Of youth workers' contributions
- Some issues

# The perspective: Rituals & meaning generation

- Meaningless / empty
- Failed ritual
- Meaningful





# ENERGY EMOTION

Rhythms &  
patterns of  
success



# IN INTERACTION

*‘what kind of energy are you?’*



# SUCCESS

creativesthings.com



**WHAT PEOPLE THINK  
IT LOOKS LIKE**

# SUCCESS



**WHAT IT REALLY  
LOOKS LIKE**

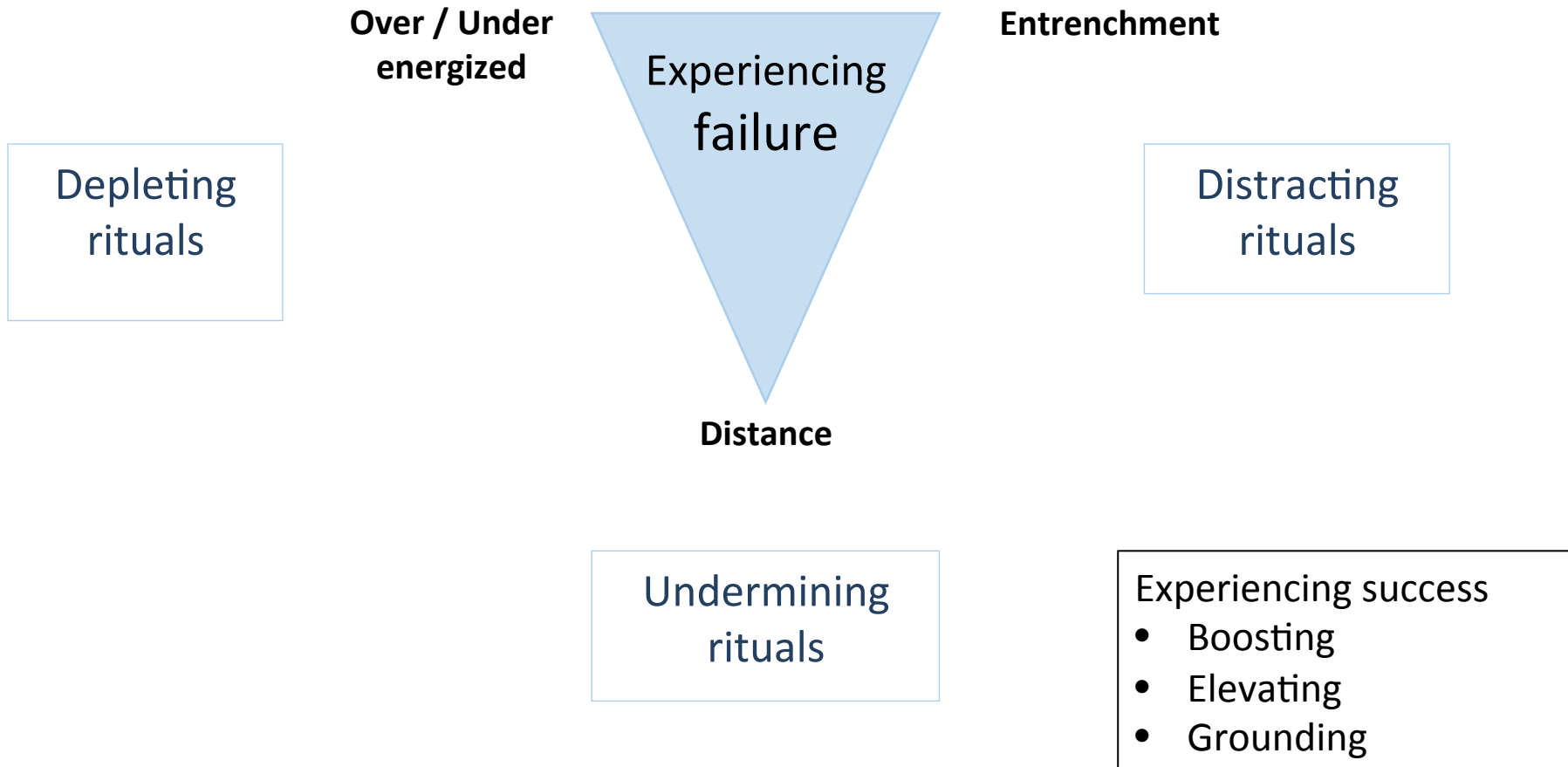


# Components of success-experiences

- *Boosting*
  - ‘owning the moment’
- *Elevating*
  - ‘getting somewhere’
- *Grounding*
  - ‘belonging somewhere’
- Tensions
- Fatalism => initiative



# The context: Debilitating rituals





# “Radical” interactions

Thrill-seeking

Energy for energy's sake

Ideal-driven marvel

*‘There must be a better way’*

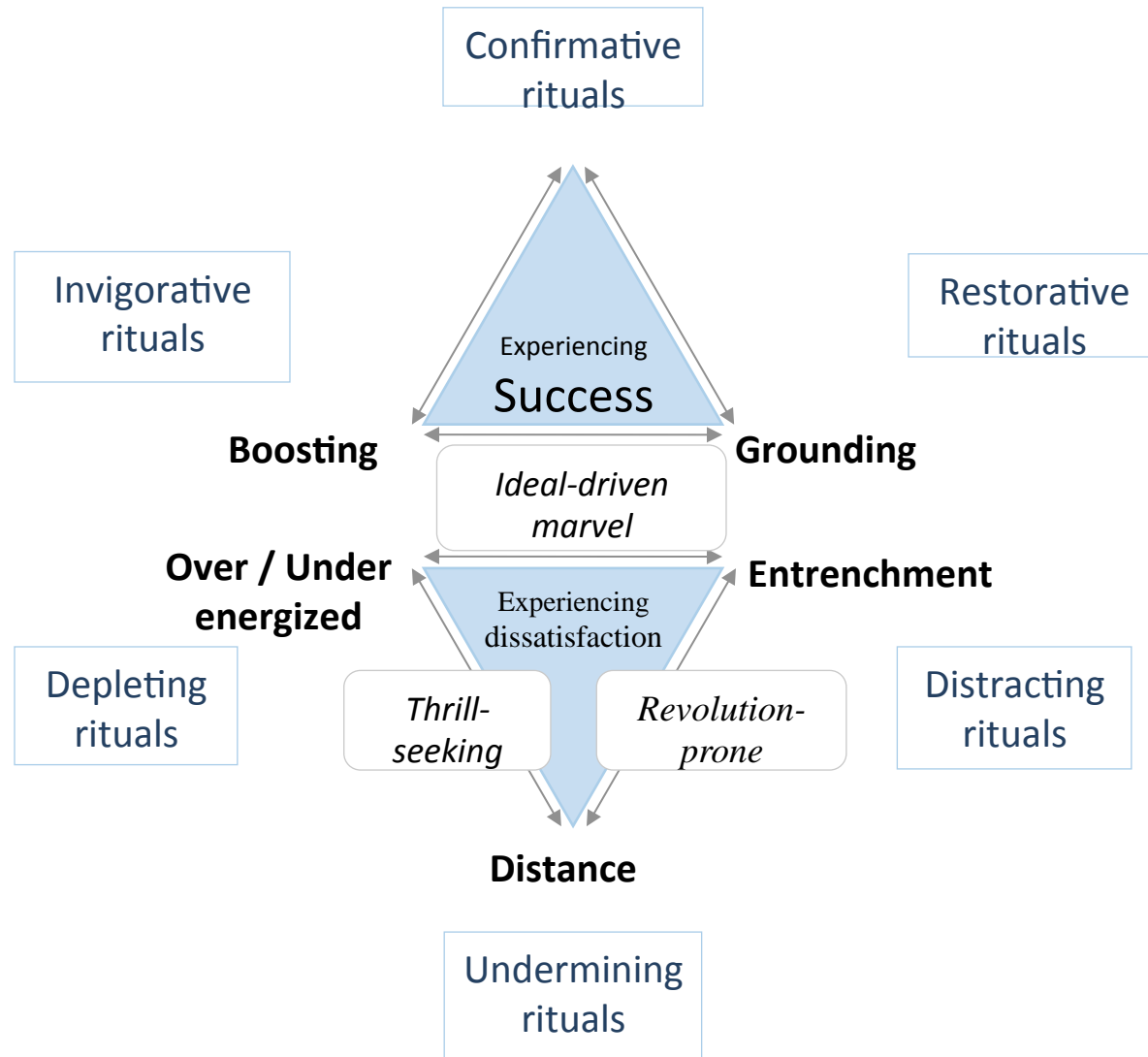
Revolution-prone

*‘Actions speak louder than words’*

# Constructive rituals with “radicalized” young Muslims

- “maintaining casual contact”
- “standing beside them”
- “exploring life opportunities”
- “challenging ideologies”

# Debilitating vs. Constructive rituals



# Youth workers' contributions. Types of constructive rituals

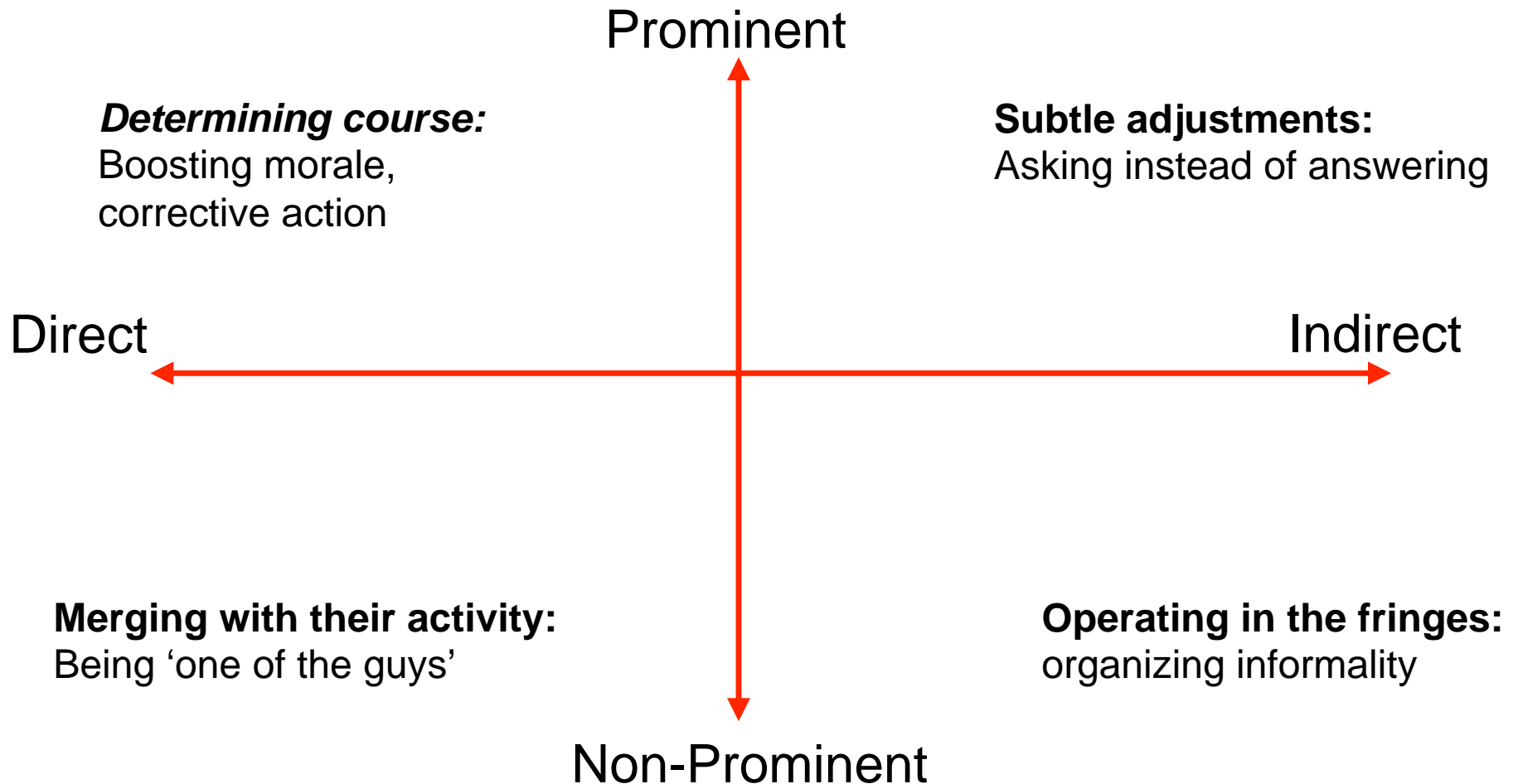
- Restorative
  - Calming/disciplining
  - Reflection
- Invigorative
  - Encouraging
  - Offering perspective
- Confirmative
  - Complimenting
  - Celebrating



experiencing success

- Boosting
- Elevating
- Grounding

# Analyzing youth workers' contributions prominence and directness



# Normative issues

- Entrenchment and disengagement
  - Who started?
- Productive vs. unproductive
  - According to whom?
- Operating in tensions