

Can a band of prehistoric hunters, a soccer-mom carpool, a billion-dollar corporation, a criminal conspiracy, and a modern government all be analyzed using the same principles?

This book is about a theory of alliances. The premise is that most human interactions can be viewed as alliances whereby the members contribute resources in order to attain one or more mutually desired objectives that can be achieved (i) only through a combined effort, or (ii) more efficiently and/or effectively through a combined effort. This theory can be used to analyze current events and history as well as the reader's individual circumstances.

**THIS BOOK INCLUDES COVERAGE OF THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:**

- The four essential elements of all alliances.
- How alliances combine resources to attain mutually desired goals.
- When an alliance effort makes sense and when it does not.
- When is individual action appropriate and when is it not.
- How alliances form, change, and terminate.
- Decision-making processes for alliances.
- What limitations are imposed upon all decision makers?
- The traits of successful alliances.
- Is it possible to be in an alliance and not realize it?
- The various categories of objectives typically pursued by alliances.
- How alliances slide into illusory alliances and outright tyrannies.
- How individuals can be deceived into believing that they are members in a mutually beneficial alliance.
- How do a democracy, a sovereign, an oligarchy, and a tyranny differ?
- When might an individual rationally tolerate living under a seeming tyrant?
- Does esprit de corps or an alliance's history affect its performance?
- Can history be viewed as the growth, development, and demise of alliances?
- Can alliance theory be used to understand history and current events?



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A Theory of Concerted Human Behavior

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