Grand Challenges in Librarianship

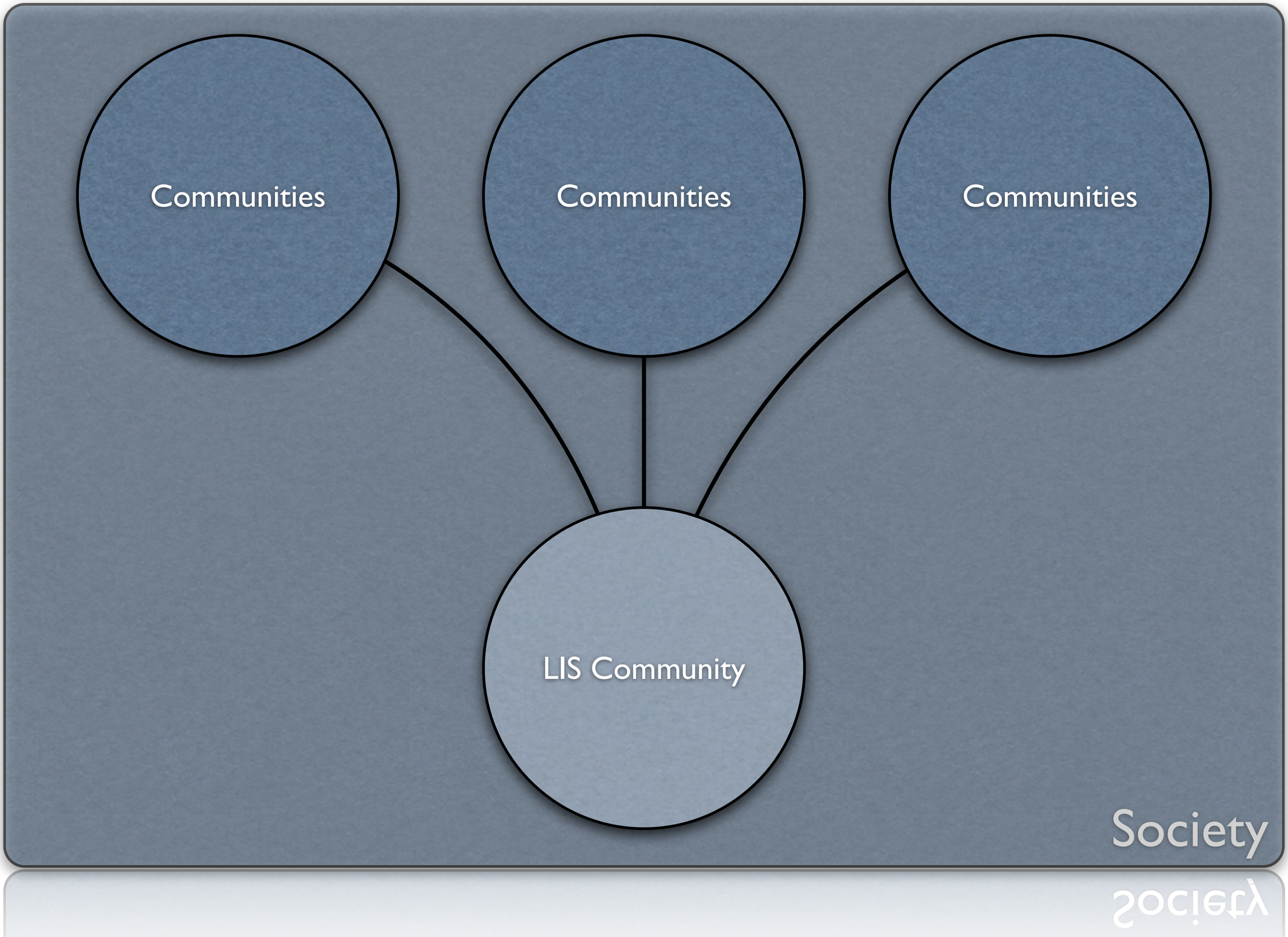
R. David Lankes
Professor and Dean's Scholar for the New Librarianship
Syracuse University's iSchool

Grand Challenges

- A Societal-Level Problem That is Solvable and Has High Potential Rewards

Andrew Dillon, University of Texas
Mary Stansbury, University of Denver
Sam Hastings, South Carolina University
David Lankes, Syracuse University
Tula Giannini, Pratt Institute
William Schickling, Polaris

Corrine Hill, Dallas Public Library
Annie Norman, Delaware State Library
Martha Reid, Vermont State Library
Anne Craig, Illinois State Library
Mary Chute, IMLS


Communities
Communities
Communities
LIS Community
Society

Communities

Communities

Communities

Problems

LIS Community

Society

Communities

Communities

Communities

Problems

Solutions

LIS Community

Society

Lifelong Learning
P-20 First generation to not do better than their parents
P-20: Preparing Students to Engage in an Academic Culture
P-20: Higher Education: Fixing an Increasingly Broken Model
How to Credential Knowledge

The Science of Facilitation
From Disintermediation to Facilitation (librarian, educator, curator, journalist, publisher)
Representing and Organizing Complex Knowledge
Processing Massive Scale Data

Community
Balancing Local v. Global Perspectives
Identity (personal, community, etc) in a connected society
Local Concerns (Environment, Economy)
Engaged Citizenry (Democracy)
Transferring Local Information to the larger society

From Consumers to Participants
Move away from information as something to be consumed to something to nourish society (civic contribution)
From Jobs to Monetizing Knowledge Work
Equality of Access for the 21st Century (who owns the information/walled gardens of access to cultural knowledge)

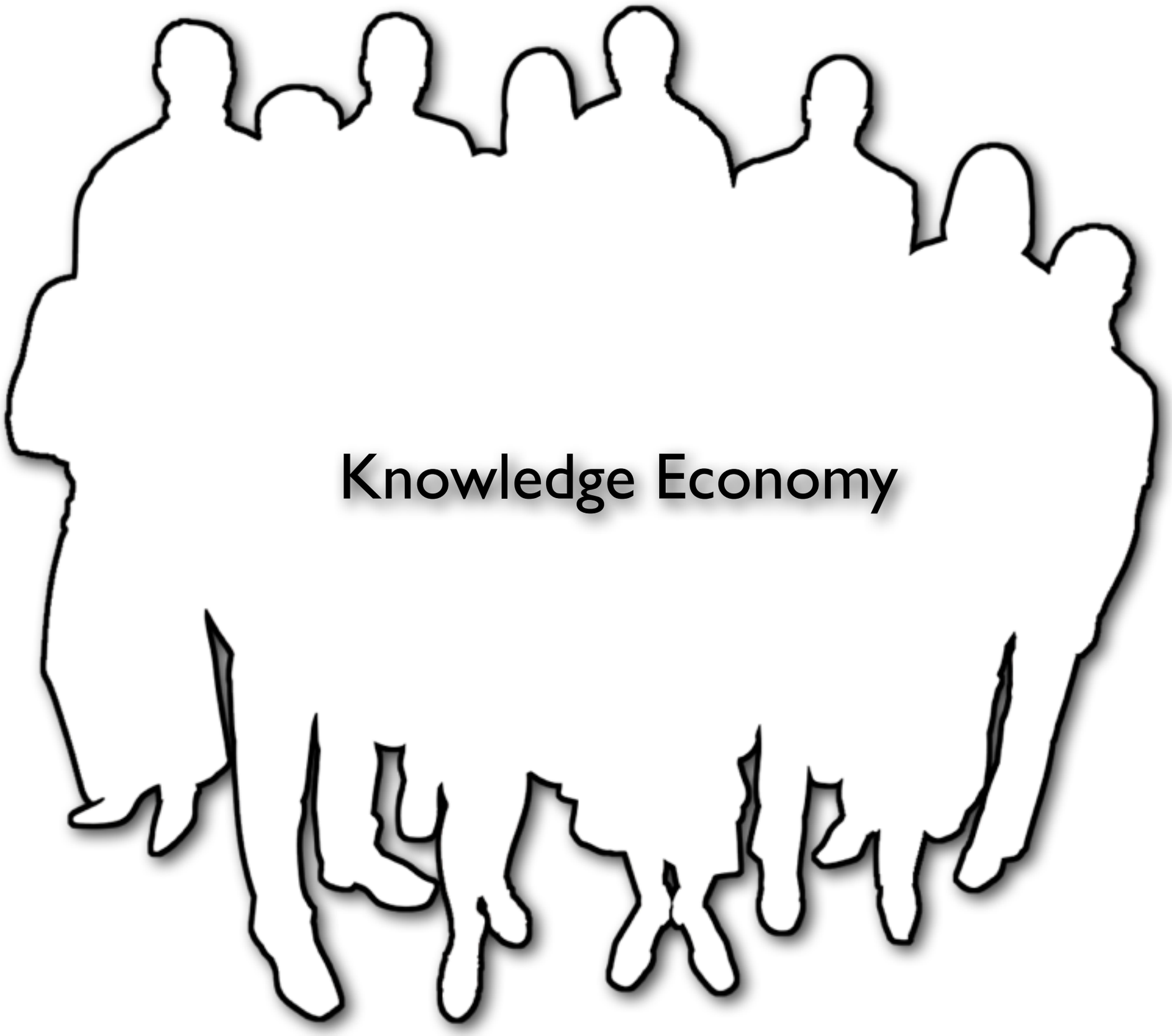
Pressures for Change: Demographics, Changes in the Marketplace, Networks

Knowledge Society

How to accept multiple ways of coming to a solution - truth by consensus

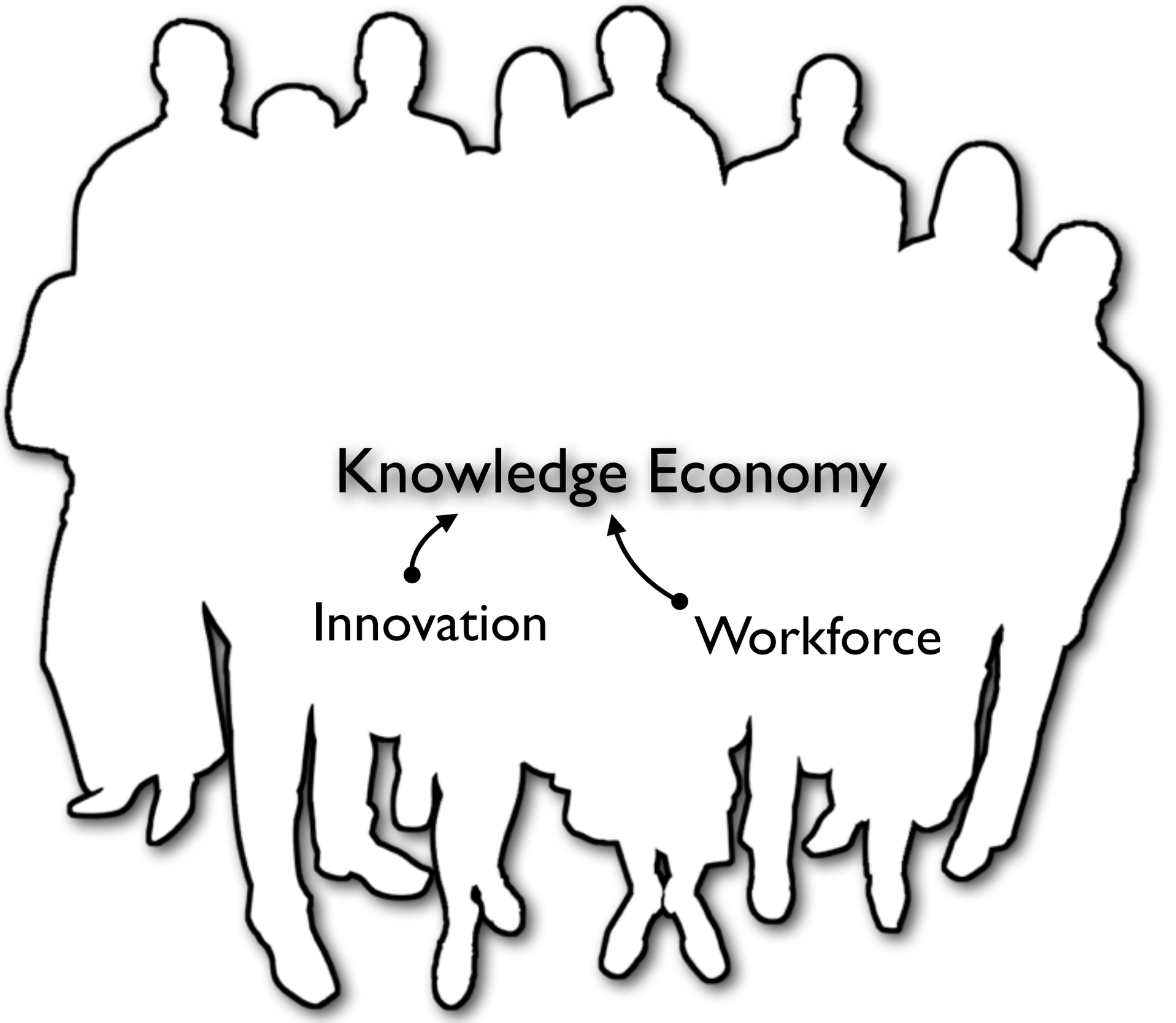
Knowledge Society

How to accept multiple ways of coming to a solution - truth by consensus



Knowledge Society

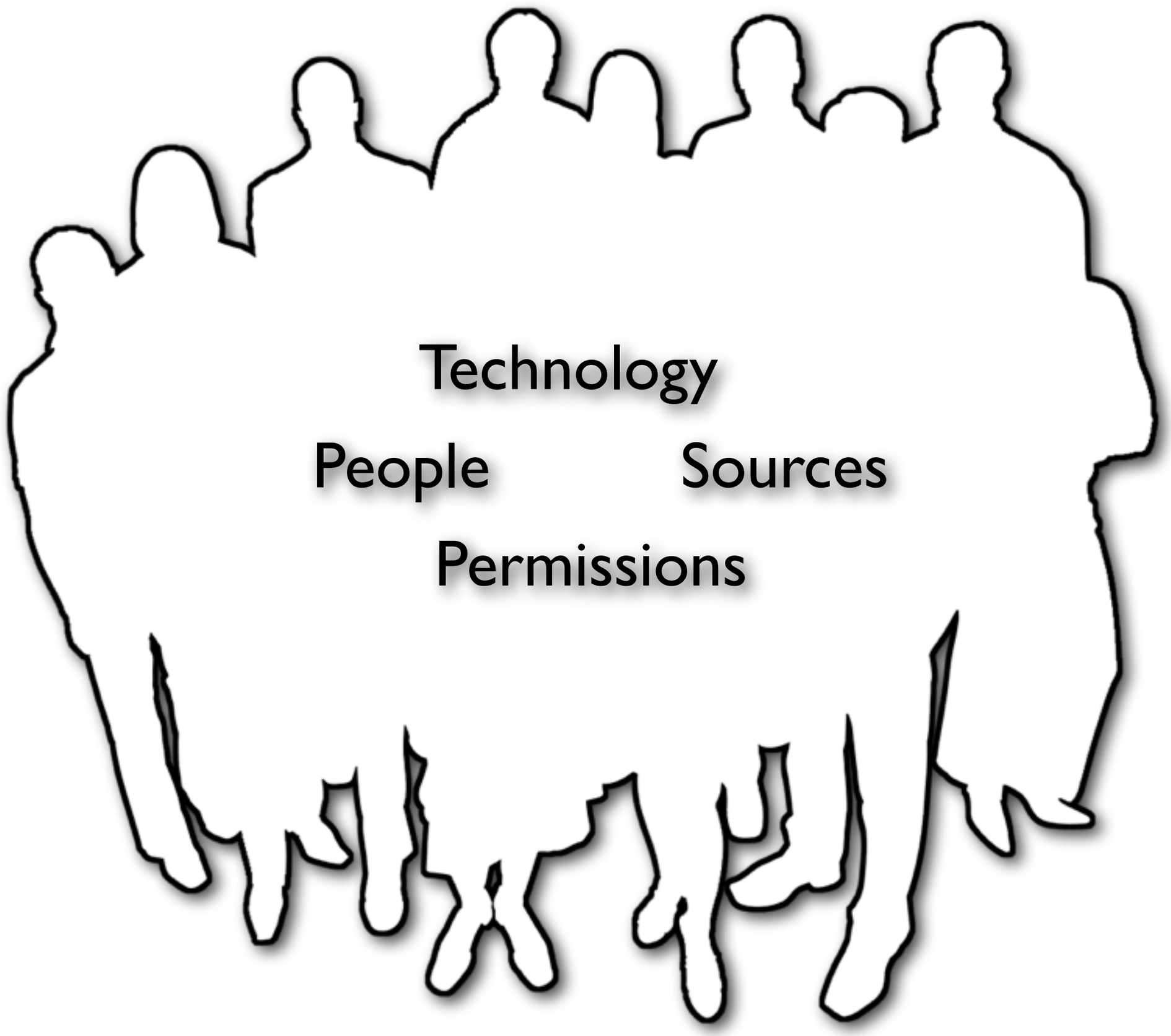
How to accept multiple ways of coming to a solution - truth by consensus



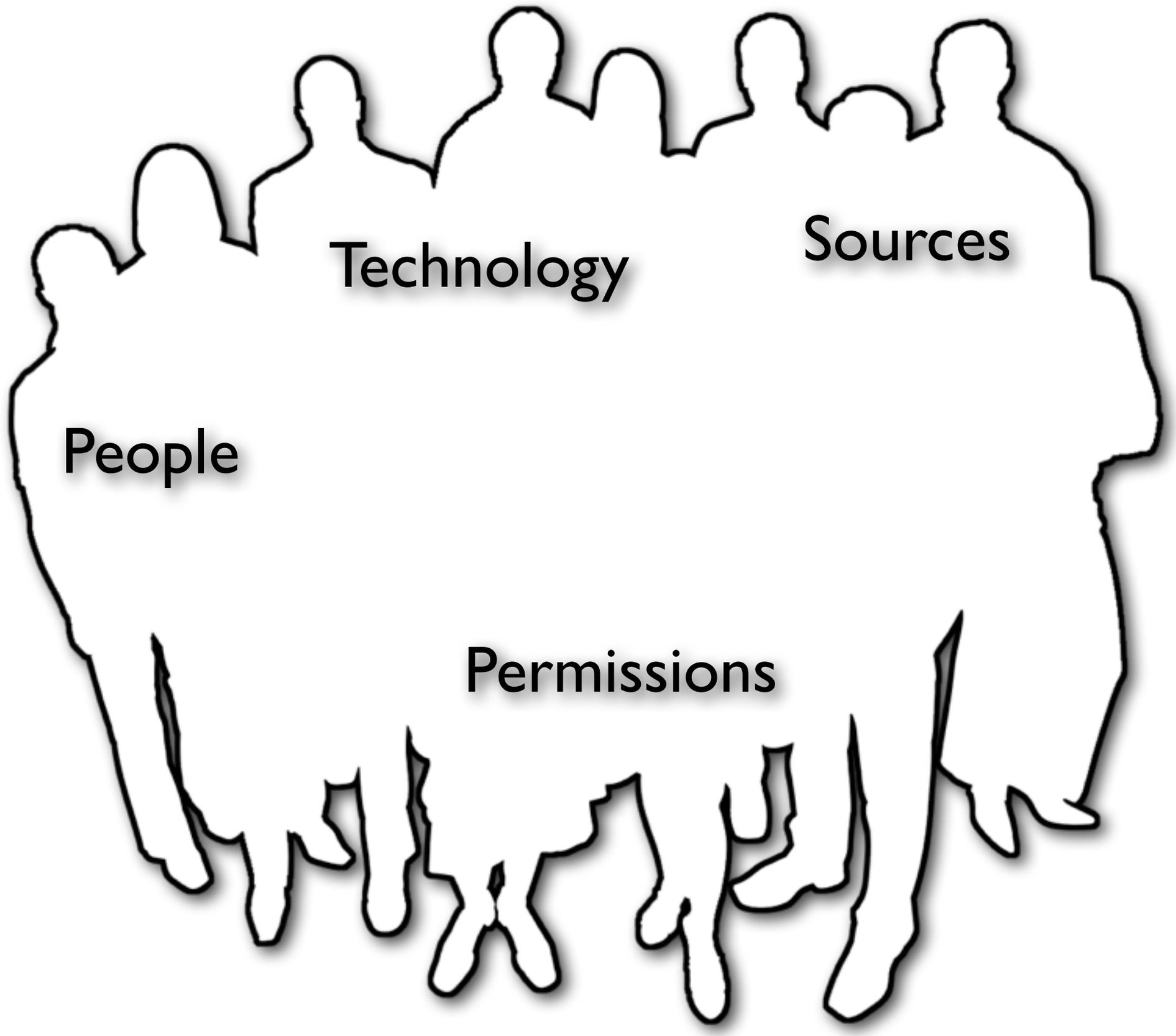
Knowledge Society

How to accept multiple ways of coming to a solution - truth by consensus

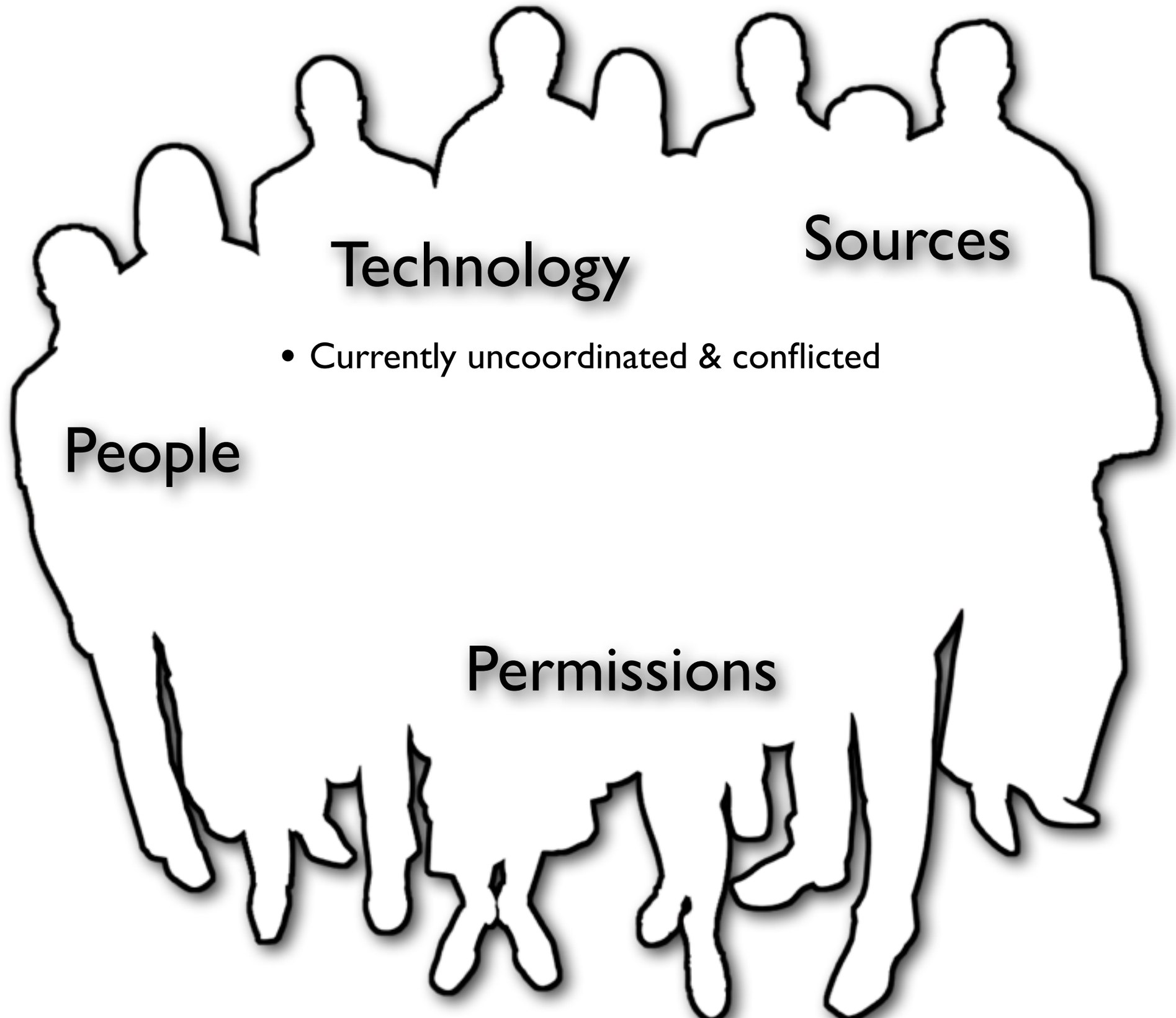
Knowledge Infrastructure



Knowledge Infrastructure

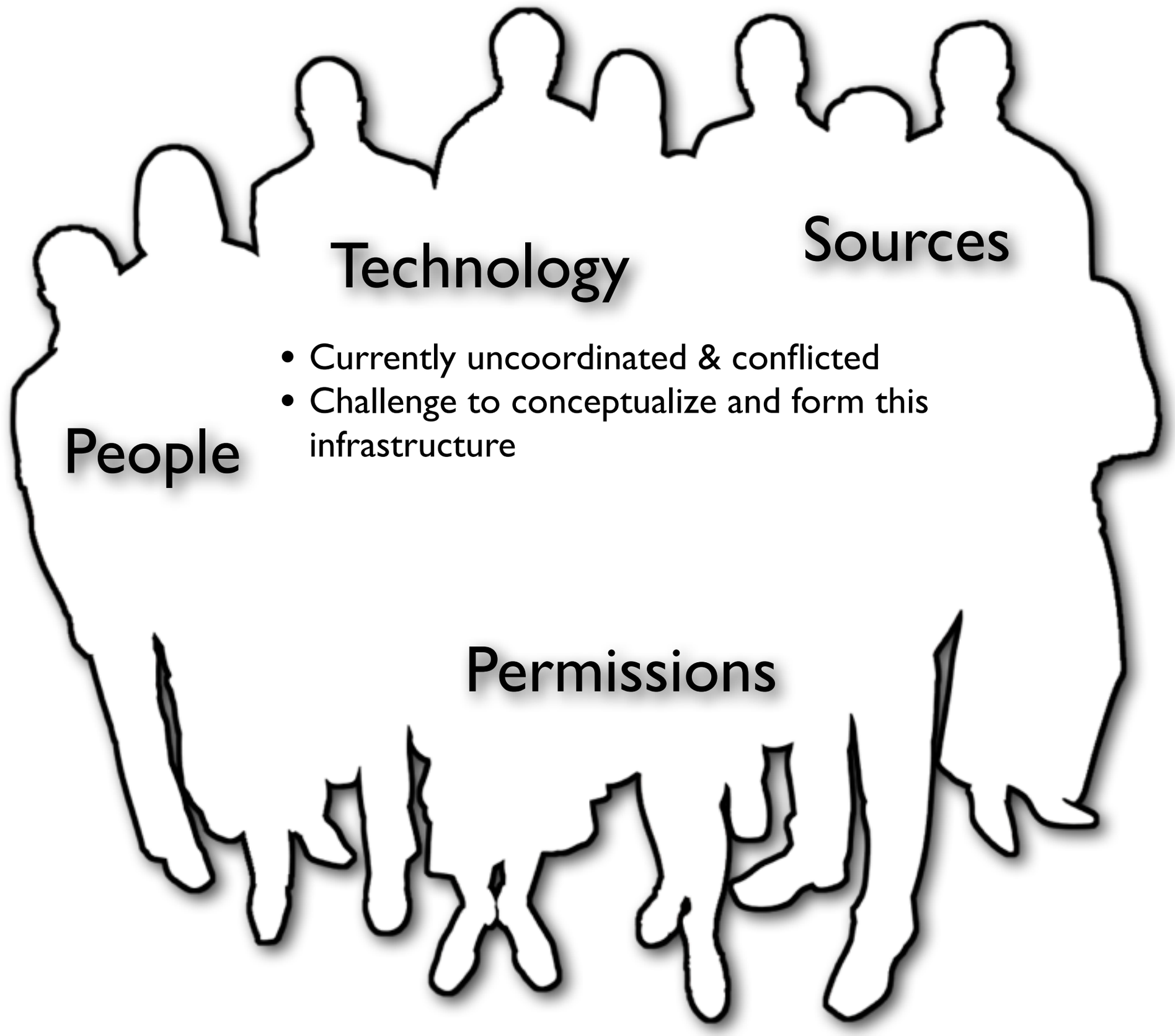


Knowledge Infrastructure



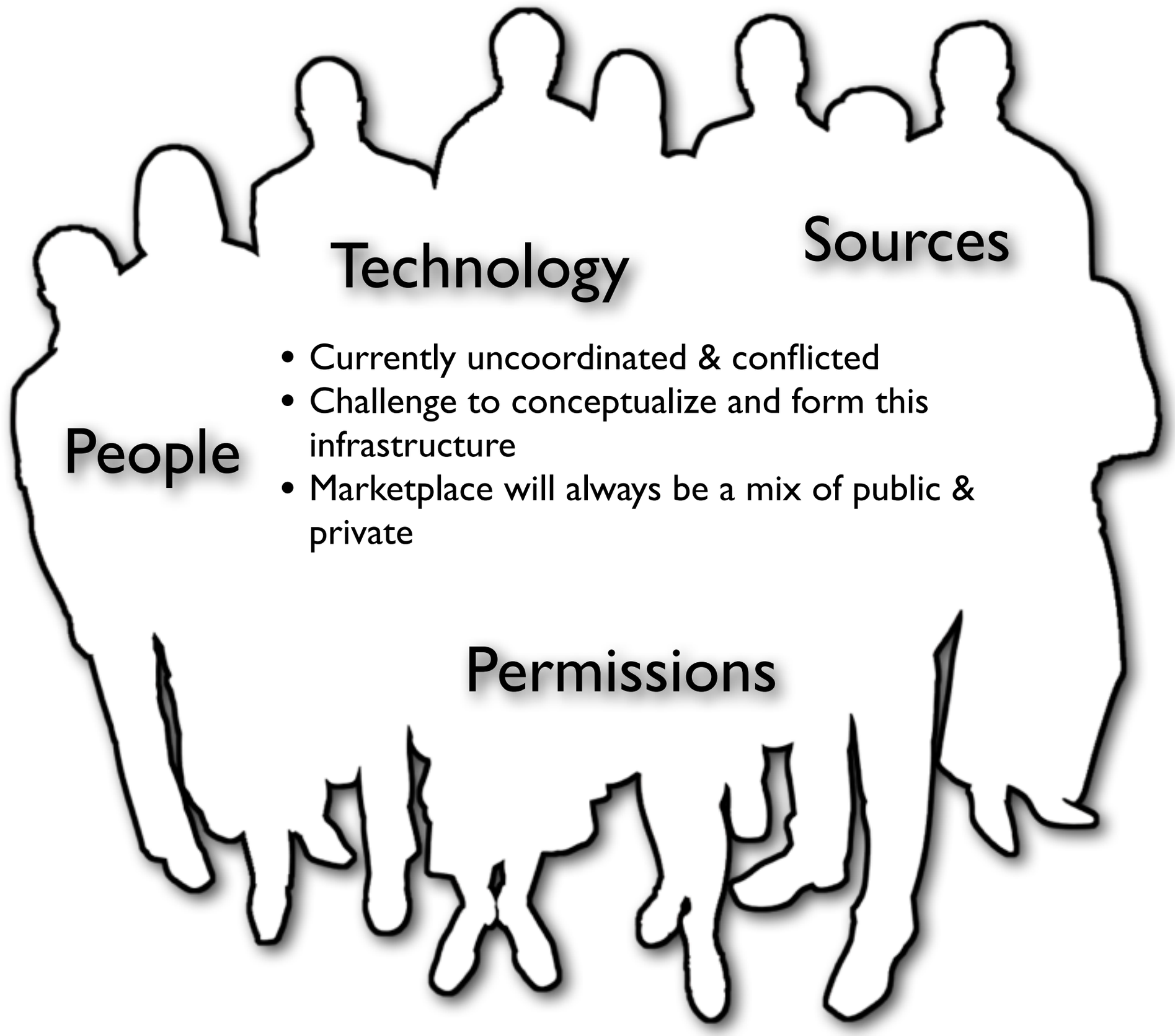
- Currently uncoordinated & conflicted

Knowledge Infrastructure

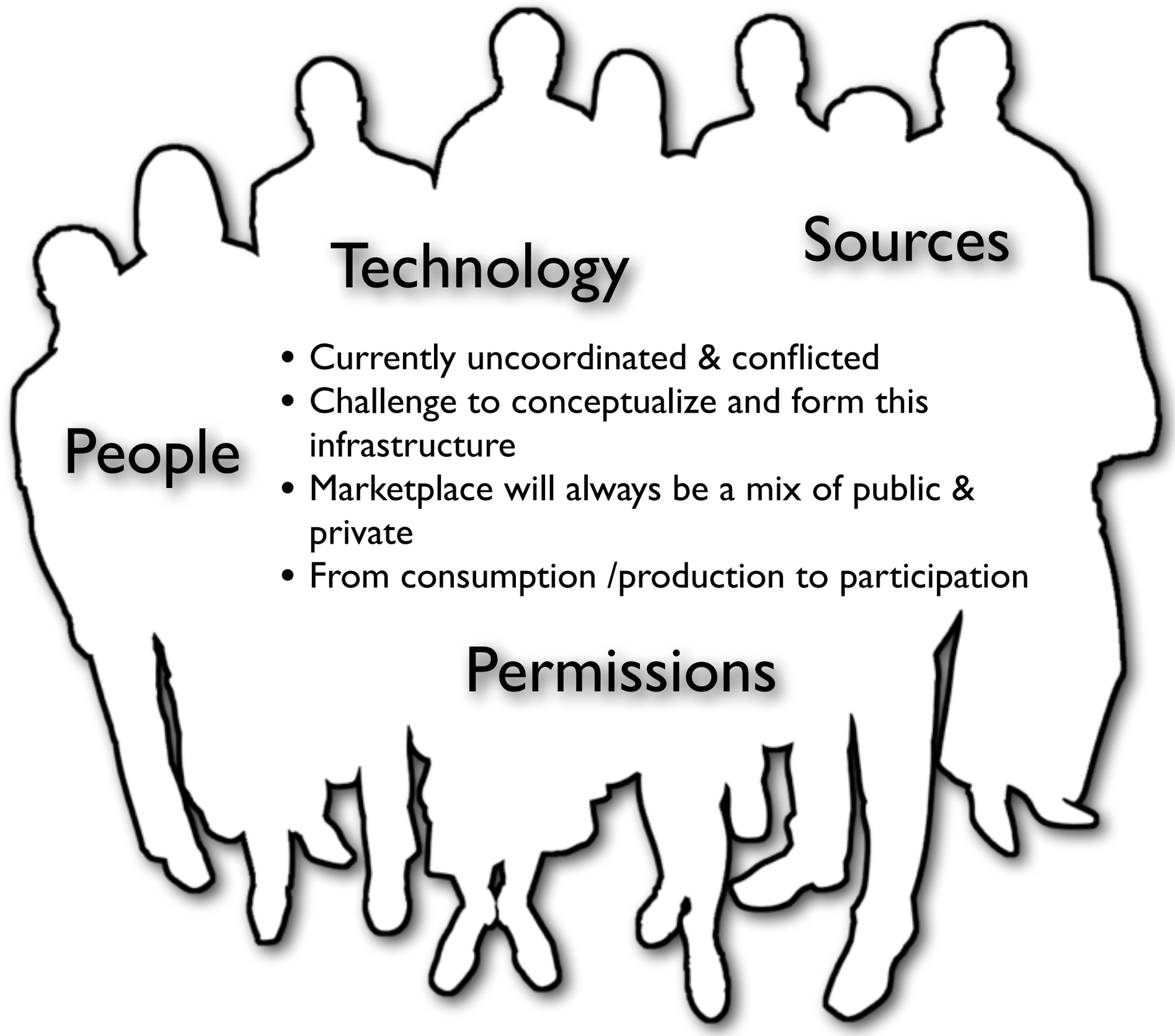


- Currently uncoordinated & conflicted
- Challenge to conceptualize and form this infrastructure

Knowledge Infrastructure



Knowledge Infrastructure



- Currently uncoordinated & conflicted
- Challenge to conceptualize and form this infrastructure
- Marketplace will always be a mix of public & private
- From consumption /production to participation

The Grand Challenge:

Coordinating the Knowledge Infrastructure to Unlock the Potential and Passions of Society