Philosophy Lecture: May 7, 2014 at 1:30
Subject: What is Power?

The observation and documentation of power has been widely studied and lies as a cornerstone of the social sciences. It is part of everyone's daily experience and runs the gamut from the mundane to the sublime. Few, however, have examined how power actually works. It is like a clock. Everyone can tell time and measure time without knowing how the clock works. When it comes to examining power, I want to attempt to look at the inside and see the works as if examining a clock.

Here is my conclusion: The definition of power requires linguistic examination of the grammar of power and its specific syntax. Such an examination results in a definition that "power" is a statement of an expectation expressed as a counterfactual conditional in a social context relating to human agency.

Two documents are attached. One is a paper in support of the conclusion and the other is a summary of what some other thinkers have said about power. After a brief lecture, you will have the opportunity to say whether or not the proposed definition is consistent with power in the ways in which you have experienced it.

Please try to read this essay prior to the lecture. It may provide some insight into why Socrates was executed by the Athenians for teaching philosophy. The lecture will run about 20-25 minutes. This leaves plenty of time for everyone to join the discussion afterwards. I look forward to your participation.

Regards,

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The Snowbirds are migrating.

They fly. They do not flock.

Unseen in the sky.

We get the place back.

Hooray!