

Integral Mission: Remedy for Dependency?

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Global Connections
Relief and Development Forum
18 November 2010

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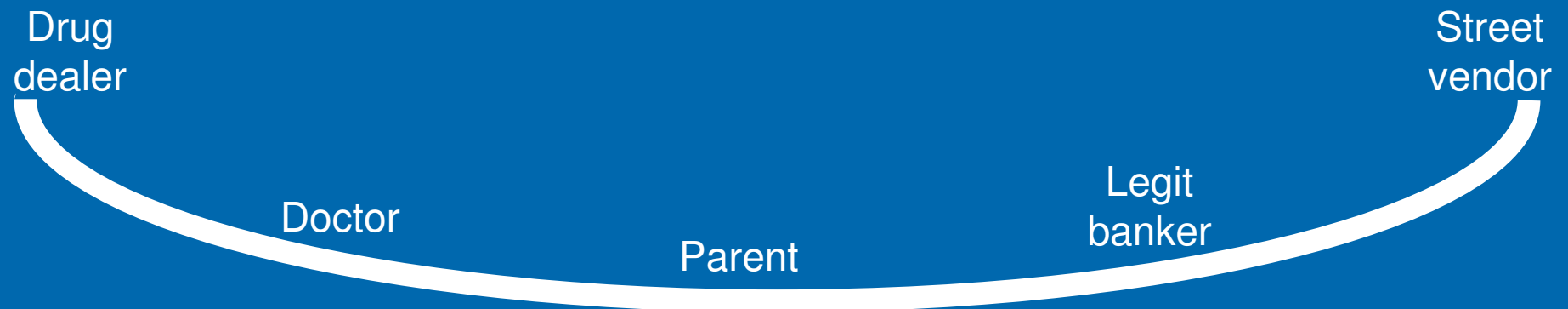
Two stories



Almost too topical . . .

- Reform of the welfare system
 - Cost
 - Dependency culture
- The moral baggage of dependency
 - Creating/perpetuating dependency can be seen as neo-colonialism ☹
 - Breaking/avoiding dependency can be seen as economic rationalism ☹ ☹

Five models of dependency



Dependency: pre-existent and ubiquitous

Traditional culture has its patrons and providers in diverse dependency models

- Capricious spirits
- Employers, landlords or masters
- Traders and moneylenders
- More recently, family working in town or overseas

Different motives, same result?

Are we in the relief and development industry, substituting the doctor model for the drug-dealer model of dependency?

- Public motives

- Humanitarian
- Evangelistic
- Social action
- Libertarian/
anti-capitalist

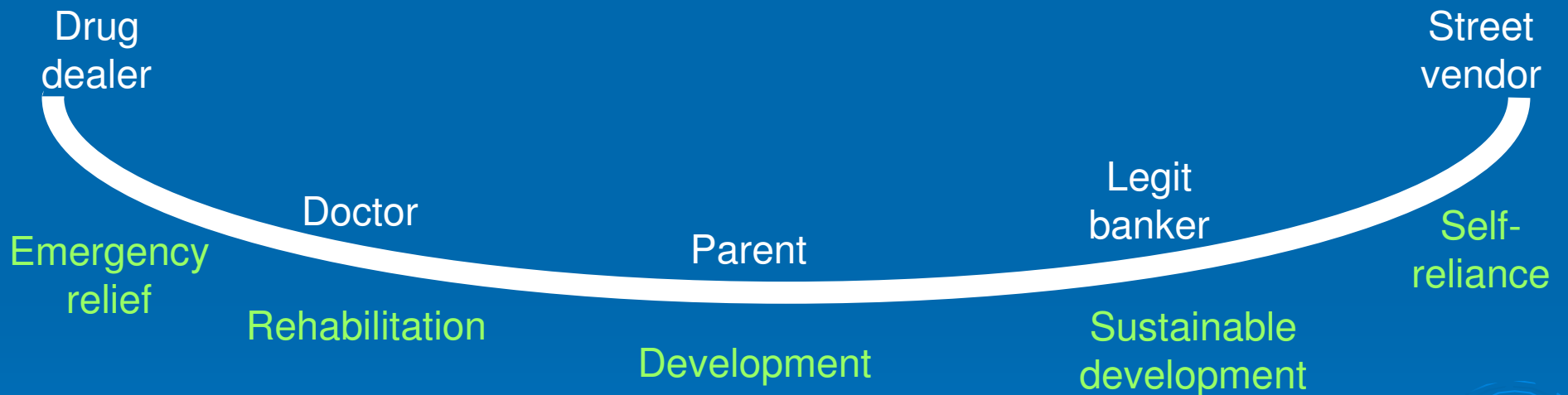
- Hidden agendas

- Results
- Careers
- Speed
- Paternalism
- Guilt

Different motives, same result?

- Unintended outcomes: “side-effects”
 - Financial and economic dependency
 - Eco-decline
 - Conflict
 - Cultural erosion
 - Social stratification and breakdown
 - Corruption and/or marginalisation

Models of dependency and of intervention



How can relief work minimise dependency?

- Starting with the end in mind
 - Linking Relief, Rehabilitation and Development (LRRD)
- Using local resources, skills, knowledge at the earliest stages

Mission and dependency

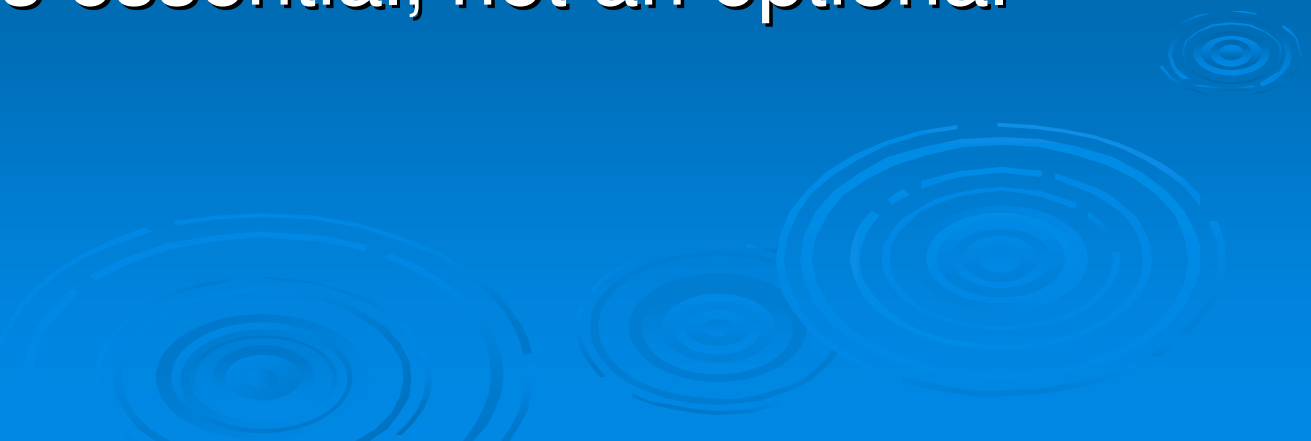
- Much mission work has been carried out in the drug-dealer and doctor models
- Can we break away from these models with an integral mission approach?

Integral mission

- Latin American roots
 - Liberation theology
 - Dependency theory
- Modelled on the life and ministry of Jesus
 - The five modes of interaction



Integral mission

- Integrated proclamation and demonstration
 - Focus on the poor and marginalised
 - The local church is the central context of IM
 - Advocacy is essential, not an optional extra
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Questions for discussion

- What specific attributes of the “same old” aid and development interventions have created or perpetuated dependency?
- In what ways are the approaches of the Genesis Project and REAP program minimising dependency?
- How could a “re-orientation” of our practice into the core of integral mission change these patterns of dependency?

Integral mission and dependency

Prepared to live in the community

Making use of local assets

Helping them to realise their own potential

Local ownership – their project

Integral mission is not a 3 year project

Relationships are key

Money transfer is too often power transfer

Integral mission Mark II

- A trinity of compassion
 - pastoral
 - provision
 - prophetic
- A vision that is specific to each context
- Mobilizing the church
 - Greatest respect to the weakest parts
- Challenge of igniting and catalysing national and local movements towards IM

Useful books

- Dave Andrews, *Compassionate Community Work*
- Merfyn Temple, *Zambia Stole My Heart*