Summary

The focus of this perspective is on RELATIONSHIPS, POWER, and on understanding the STRUCTURES underlying situations. Ethicists using this perspective might examine these aspects of an issue:

1. Vulnerable Populations
   - Who makes up the most vulnerable populations?
   - Ethical analysis should focus on these populations, because how they are treated in a society reflects the morals of that society.

2. Importance of Experience
   - What are the personal and collective experiences of the individuals considered?
   - Knowledge that comes from experience is valuable

3. Underlying Structure
   - What is the underlying structure of the situation? (Looking at the structure gets us away from labeling ‘good’ or ‘bad’ people.)
   - How does the structure drive certain aspects of the situation? Is the structure itself oppressive?
   - What is being ignored? Is my attention being distracted? Should I be suspicious?
   - Who benefits? At whose expense? What is being left out?

4. Relationships
   - What are the qualities of the relationships?
   - ‘Right-relationships’ honor the dignity of human beings and are based on mutual benefit instead of domination.

Contributions

- Provides a balance to principle-based approaches
- Provides context

Challenges

- Power structures are not always evident
- Lacks rules or principles that are easy to apply