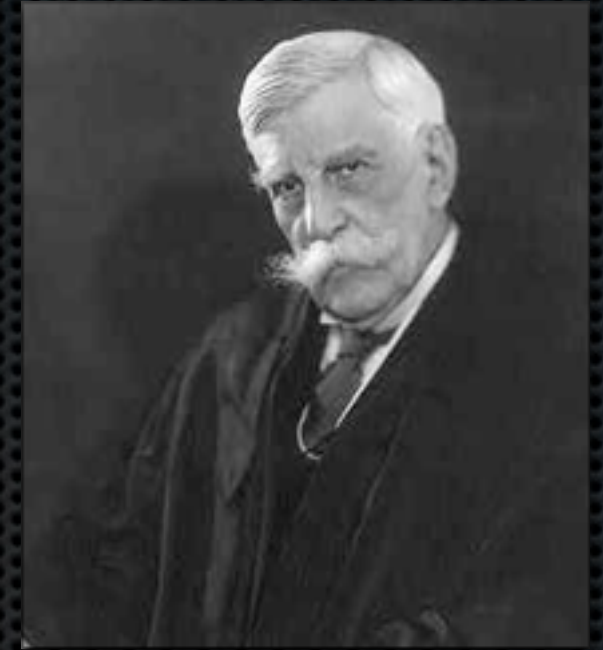


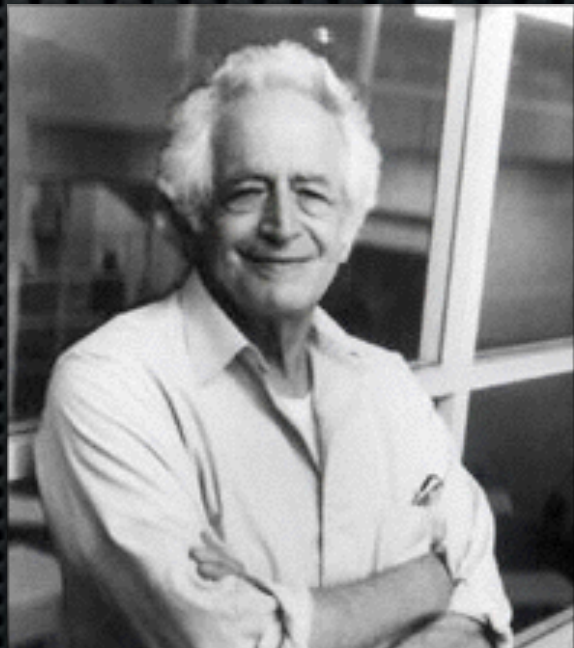
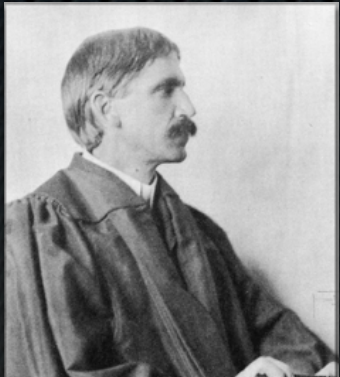
Dewey & Pragmatism

PHIL 4310: Philosophy of Technology

Week 15

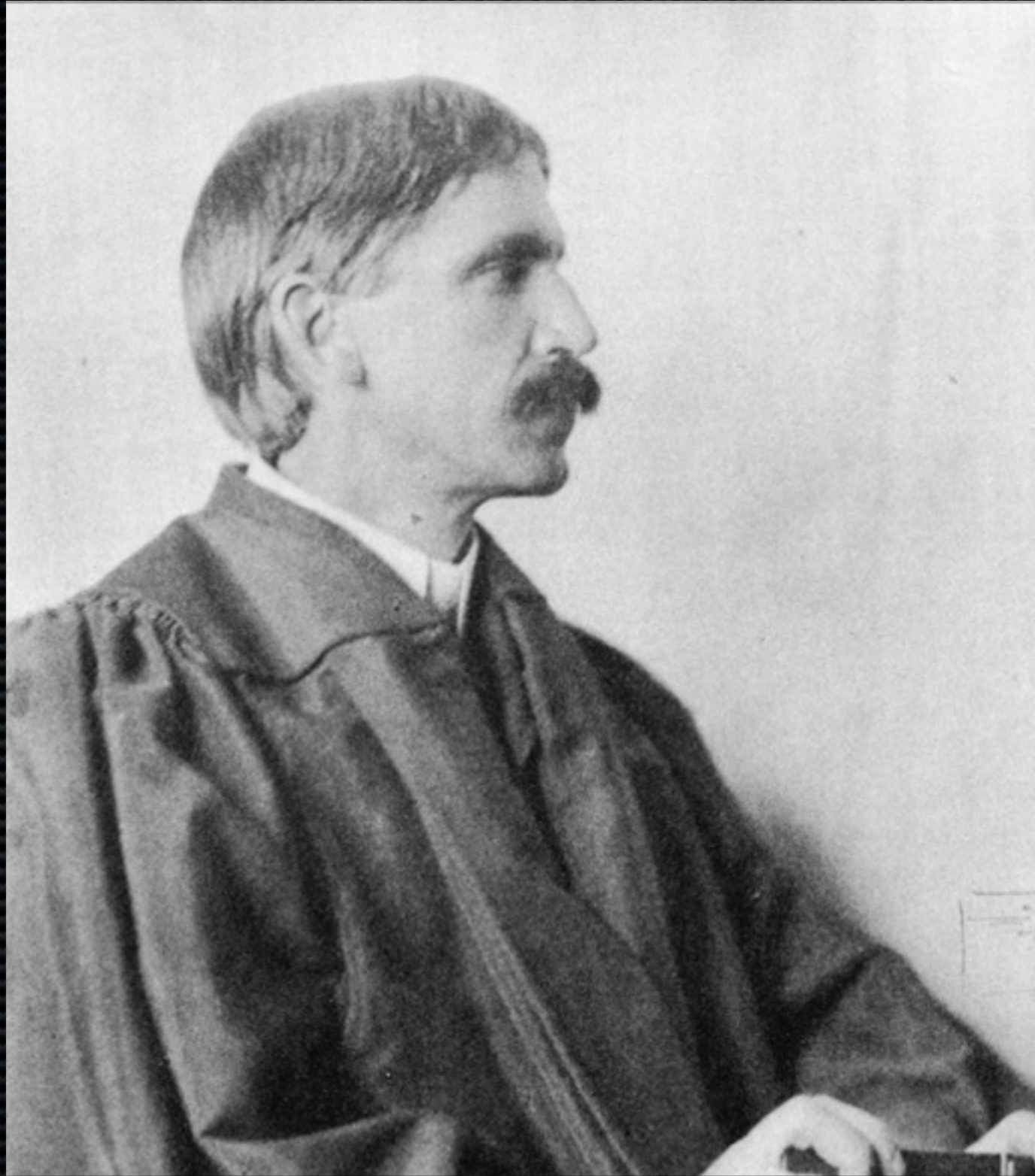
what is 'pragmatism'?





practical consequences

John Dewey (1859-1952)



technology

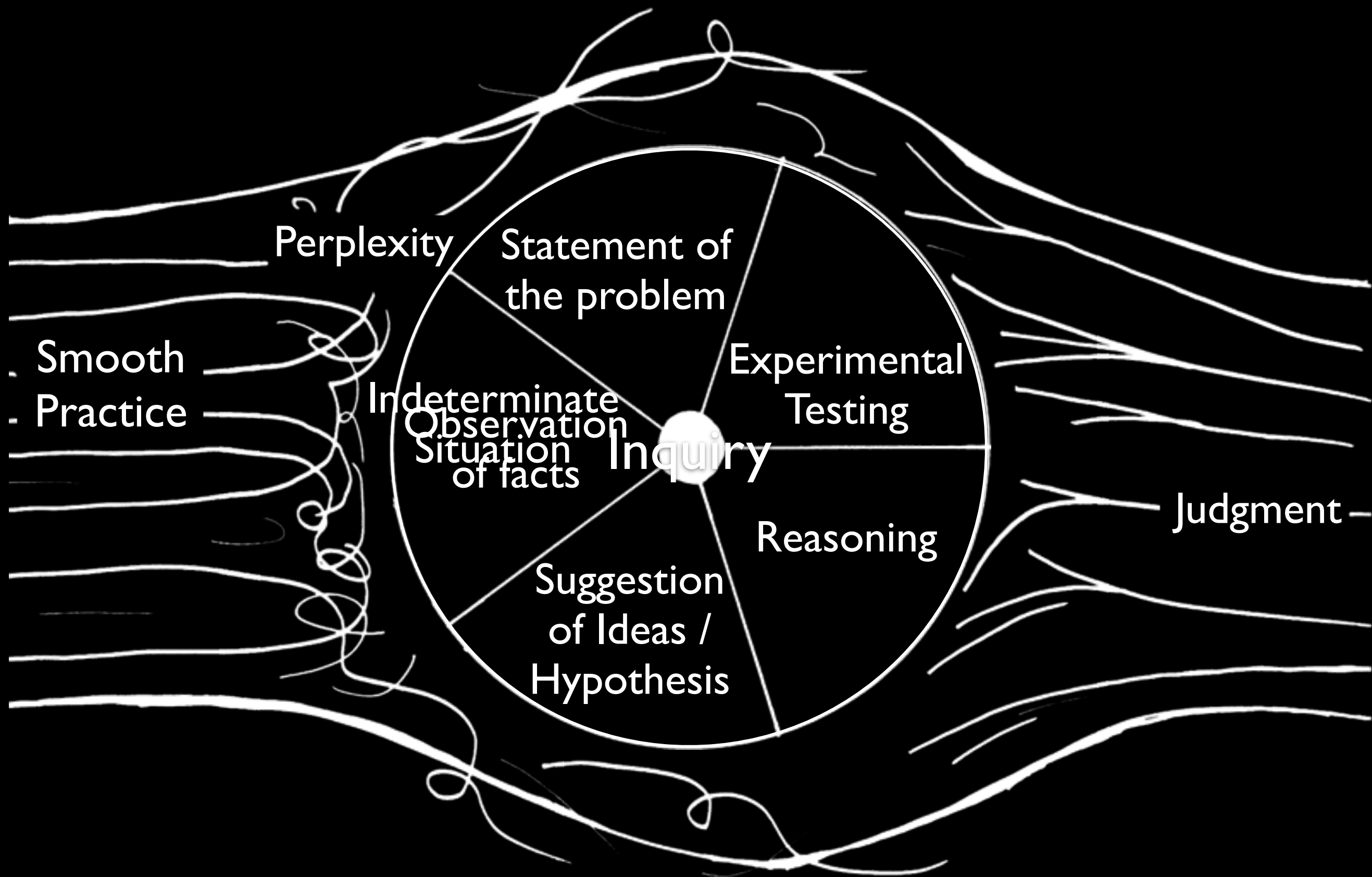
	Cognitive	Non-cognitive
tools and artifacts	technology	technical
no tools and artifacts	non-instrumental cognitive	non-instrumental and non-cognitive

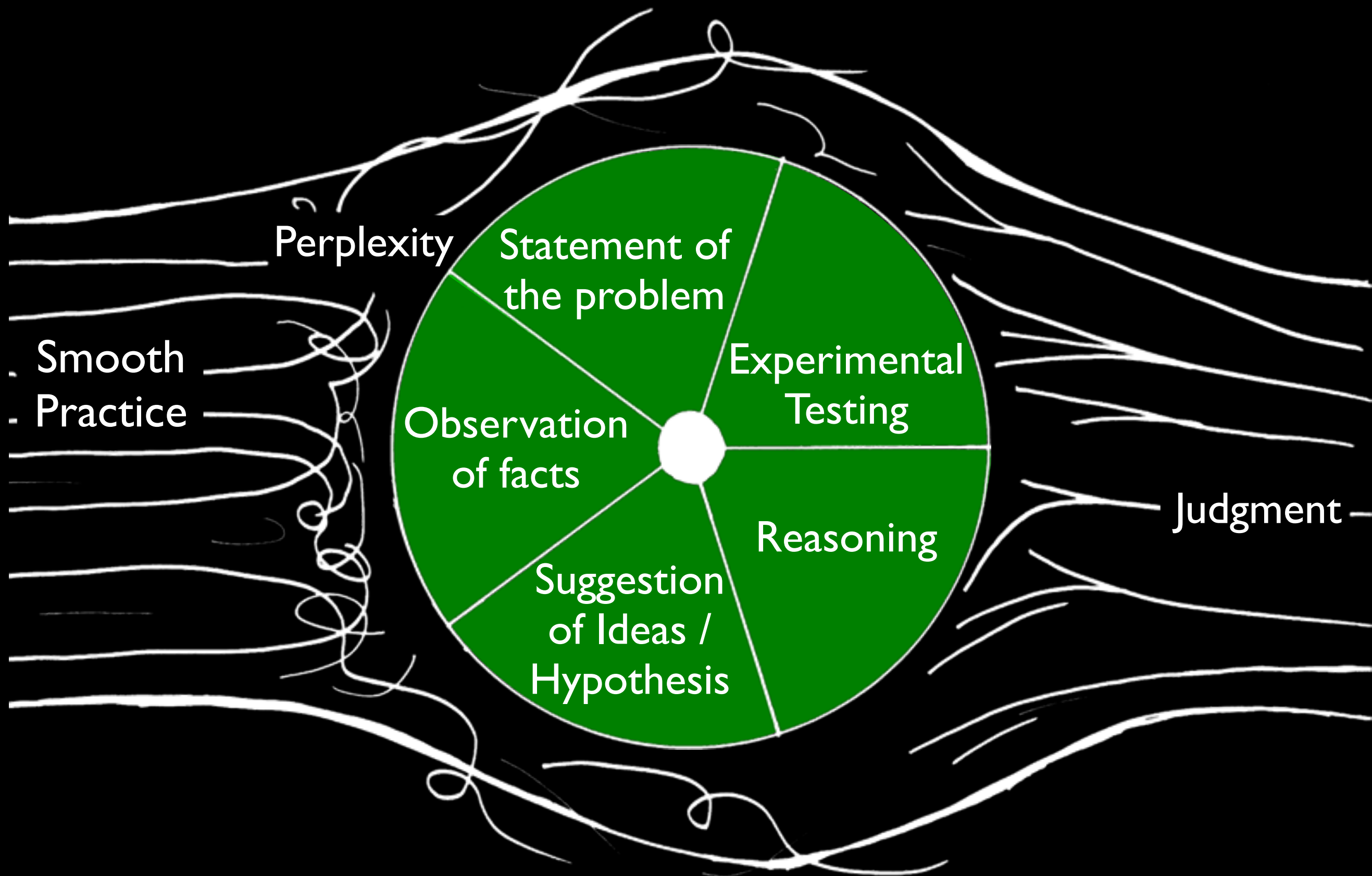
	Cognitive	Non-cognitive
tools and artifacts	technology	technical
no tools and artifacts	non-instrumental cognitive	non-instrumental and non-cognitive

“technology involves more than just tangible tools, machines, and factories... [it involves] the invention, development, and cognitive deployment of tools and other artifacts, brought to bear on raw materials and intermediate stock parts, with a view to the resolution of perceived problems.” (p. 44)



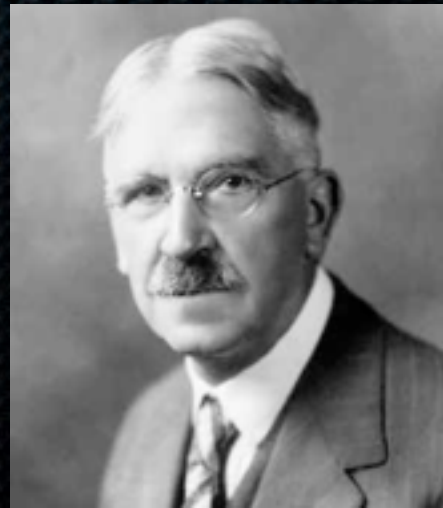
The Theory of Inquiry



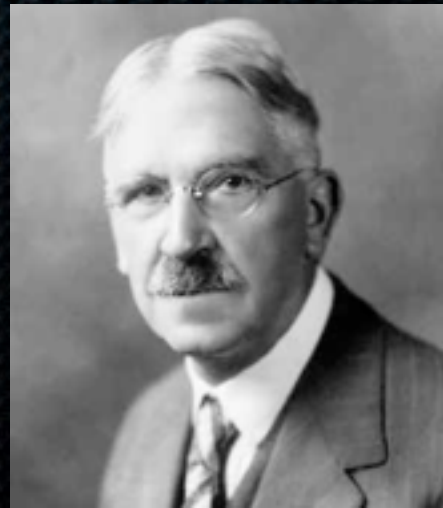


the problem of
science & technology

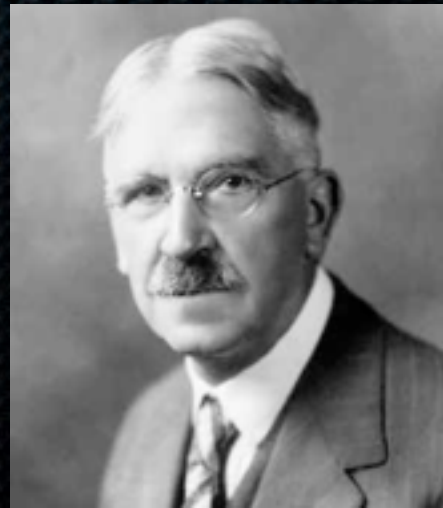
“The significant outward forms of the civilization of the western world are the product of the machine and its technology... whether in the family, the factory, the state, or internationally, **science is by far the most potent social factor in the modern world.**” (p. 200)



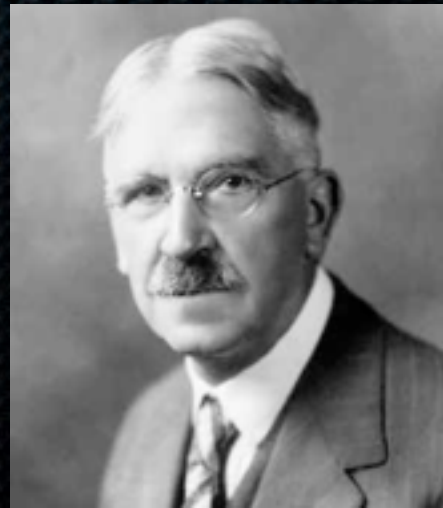
“It operates, however, through its **undesigned effects** rather than as a transforming influence of man’s thoughts and purposes.” (p. 200)



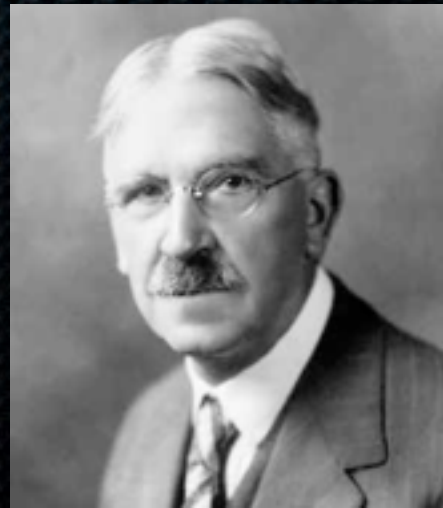
“Externally, science through its applications is manufacturing the conditions of our institutions at such a speed that we are **too bewildered to know what sort of civilization is in the process of making.**” (p. 200)



“Till now we have employed science **absentmindedly** as far as its effects upon human beings are concerned. The present situation with its **extraordinary control of natural energies** and its **totally unplanned and haphazard social economy** is a dire demonstration of the folly of continuing this course.”
(p. 202)

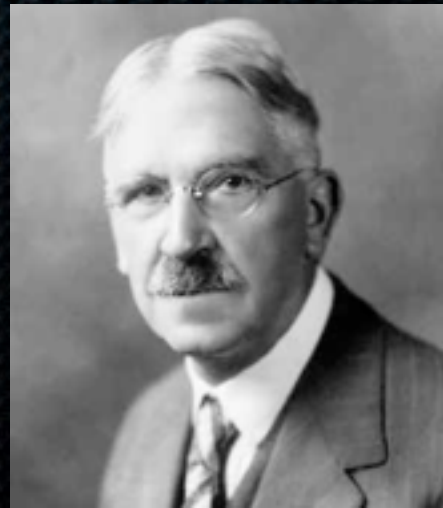


“...our physical science has far outrun
our social knowledge... our physical skill
has become exact and comprehensive
while our humane arts are vague,
opinionated, and narrow.” (p. 204)

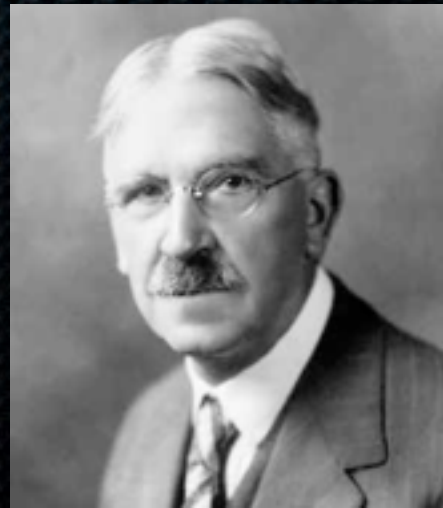


neutrality

“Science is an instrument, a method, a body of technique. While it is an end for those inquirers engaged in its pursuit, in the large human sense it is a means, a tool. For what ends shall it be used?” (p. 200)

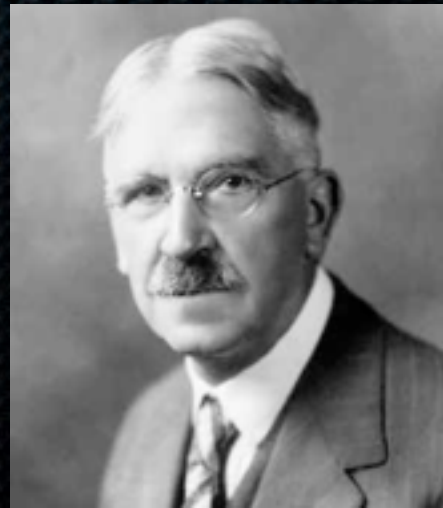


“The beginning of wisdom is, I repeat, the realization that science itself is an instrument which is indifferent to the external uses to which it is put.” (p. 201)

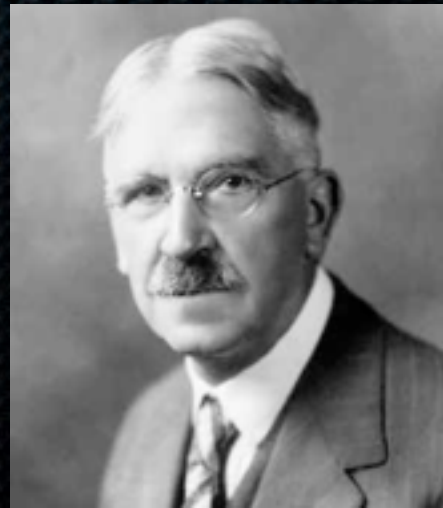


technoscience and society

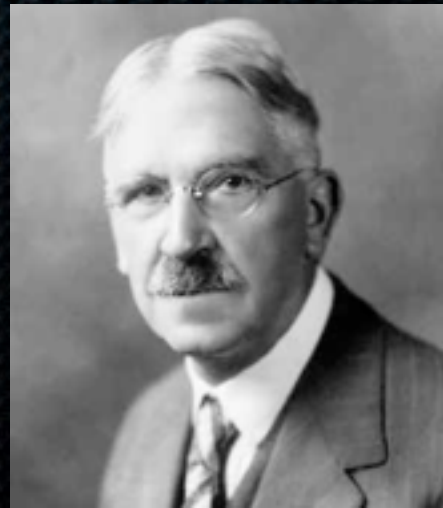
“Shall we try to improve the hearts of men without regard to the new methods which science puts at our disposal? There are those, men in high position in church and state, who urge this course.” (p. 201)



“They trust to a transforming influence of a morals and religion which have not been affected by science to change human desire and purpose, so that they will employ science and machine technology for beneficent social ends.” (p. 201)



“But there is another alternative: to take the method of science home into our own controlling attitudes and dispositions, to employ the new techniques as means of directing our thoughts and efforts into a planned control of social forces.” (p. 201)



“The doctrine that the most potent instrument of widespread, enduring, and objective social changes must be left at the mercy of purely private desires for purely personal gain is a doctrine of anarchy. Our present insecurity of life is the fruit of the adoption in practice of this anarchic doctrine.” (p. 202)

