

Heated Words?

How We Talk about Climate Change

Martín Carcasson

Communication Studies

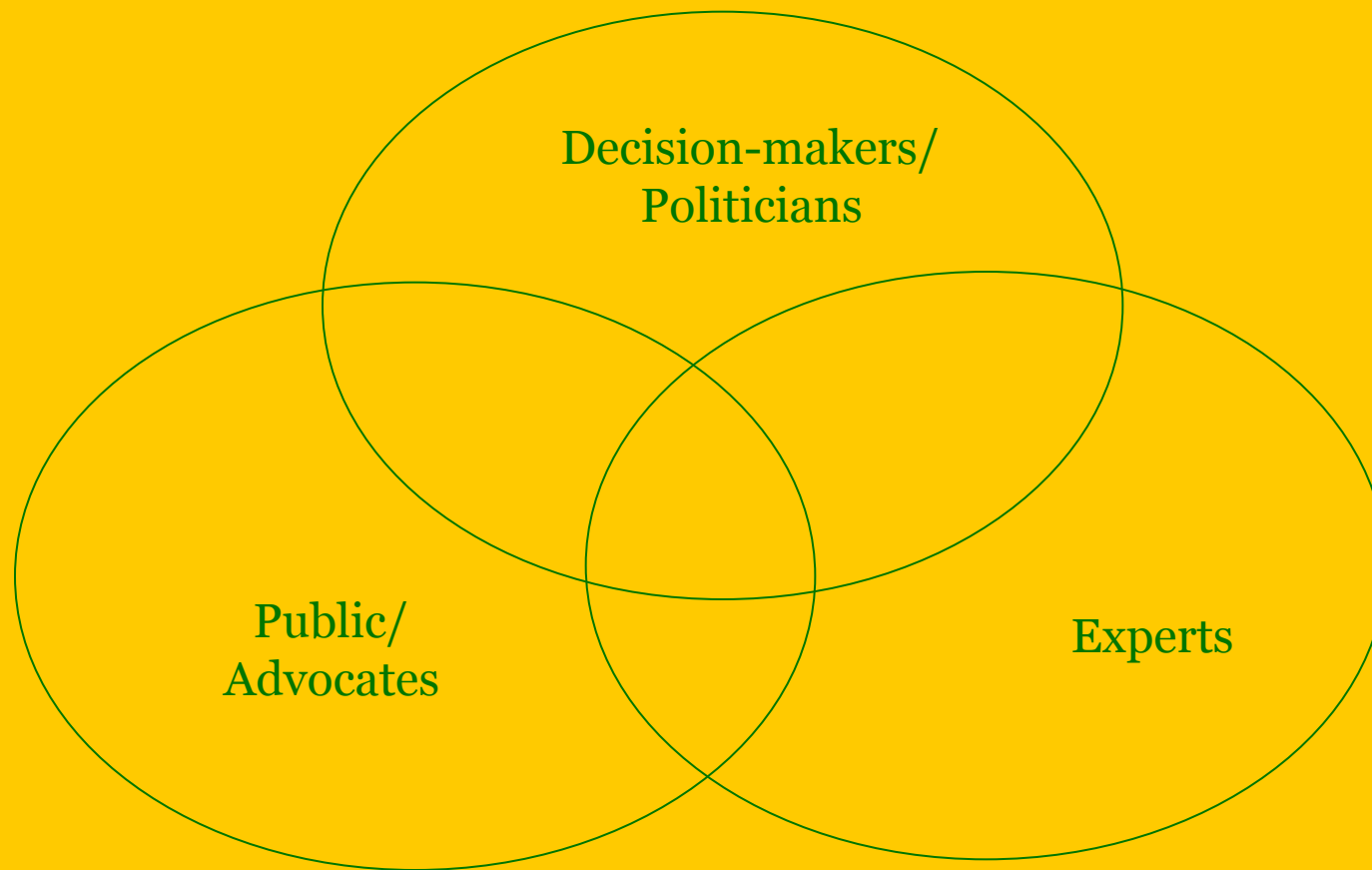
CSU Center for Public Deliberation

&

Jes Thompson

Human Dimensions of Natural Resources.

The Rhetorics of Public Policy



Argument Spheres and Luhmann's Frames

- Political
- Economic
- Scientific
- Legal
- Educational
- Religious/Moral

Using Luhmann's Frames to Improve Public Discourse

- Consider the inherent advantages and disadvantages to progress within each frame
- Realize the limited nature of the conversation by identifying which function systems tend to dominate the issue, and how people talk past each other
- Discover new possibilities by examining the issues through the other function systems
- Can be used from an advocacy or deliberative perspective

Dominant Frames, Limitations, and Possibilities with Climate Change

- The Scientific Frame
- The Economic Frame
- The Political Frame
- The Legal Frame

Martín Carcasson, “Global Gridlock: The American Presidency and the Framing of International Environmentalism, 1988-2000” In *Rhetoric and the Environmental Presidency* . Texas A&M University Press, 2004.

Moving Forward

- Avoiding/overcoming the traps of the scientific and political frames
- Continue enhancing the economic frame
- Internationalize the legal frame

- Expand the educational frame
- Considering the possibilities of the transcendent moral frame