# Mary Douglas: Social Structure and Powers

Social structure: Manifest in particular situations (social dramas), NOT total, diff. degrees of awareness, substructures

#### Society consists of different configurations of:

Form/structure/order		<b>Formless/margins/disorder/non-structure</b> (both danger and power)
Well-articulated Strong, secular authority		Ill-articulated, ambiguous roles no formal authority
	uctural ro e, wife=w	oles (MB in vitches)

## **3** Kinds of Social/Spiritual Powers:

Formal authority	
<u>via Symbols (external)</u>	
Controlled	
Conscious	
on behalf of sociey	
white magic	
approved of	
assumed in office	

## Formless Person

in Psyche (internal) Uncontrolled Unconscious against society black magic disapproved of post hoc efficacy

### **Pollution**

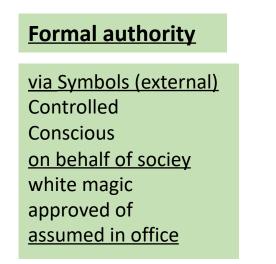
Inherent in structure intention irrelevant

on behalf of sociey

unleashed in action

# 2 Kinds of Spiritual Powers:

Biased to Failure (checks a person's authority/status) Biased to Success (enhances a person's power, can be contagious)



### Formless Person

in Psyche (internal) Uncontrolled Unconscious against society black magic disapproved of post hoc efficacy

Sorcery (biased to failure) Conscious Open to all, but mostly formal authorities

> Witchcraft (biased to failure) Unconscious Interstitial person

Baraka, Mana, Luck (biased to success) Uncontrolled

#### **Pollution**

Inherent in structure intention irrelevant

on behalf of sociey

unleashed in action