FOUR GRAND THEORIES OF SOCIAL CHANGE
(Bennis, Bennett, Chin & Corey, The Planning of Change; Appelbaum & Markham, Theories of Social Change)

1. Evolutionary
   * social Darwinism or social evolution
   * a smooth, cumulative change process
   * a linear increase over time of complexity and adaptability
   * often normative--a pro-change or pro-innovation bias
   **"neo-evolutionary" approach recognizes multilinear processes

2. Equilibrium
   * systems approach; cybernetics assumes a tendency to homeostasis (uniform state or middle ground), instability will be compensated for to restore balance

3. Conflict
   * assumes that change is endemic, a part of social life
   * consistent with the works of Marx, Engels...
   * and Hegel: all societies are divided into thesis/antithesis --> synthesis --> T/A --> S --> T/A --> ["pure" communism]

4. Rise and Fall
   * individual cycles of growth and decay
   * decay occurs after a society has reached its potential