

The Seven Problems as Doctrinal Containers

The Seven Problems are the primary diagnostic containers through which Malone Doctrine organizes major threats to African American security, development, representation, and institutional power. They are not intended to describe every individual hardship or reduce all community conditions to seven simple causes. Their purpose is to provide a stable structure under which specific problems can be classified, studied, corrected, and converted into doctrine.

The seven containers are:

1. government oppression;
2. institutional discrimination;
3. social racism;
4. political misalignment;
5. strategic misdirection and arrested development;
6. misrepresentation and representative capture;
7. lack of organization.

Together, they describe an interacting system of external pressure, internal vulnerability, failed correction, and insufficient counterpower.

Their condensed relationship is:

Oppression creates disadvantage. Institutions reproduce it. Social racism rationalizes it. Political misalignment fails to correct it. Misdirection diverts the response. Misrepresentation obscures legitimate interests. Weak organization prevents the accumulation of durable counterpower.

Why Containers Are Necessary

Without doctrinal containers, writing can become reactive and scattered. Each new controversy may produce an isolated essay, rule, slogan, or proposal without a clear relationship to the larger system. Similar issues may be treated repeatedly under different names, while important gaps remain unnoticed.

The Seven Problems prevent this fragmentation.

A container establishes a field of inquiry. It allows many specific issues to be grouped according to the mechanism producing the harm rather than according to the personalities, political controversy, or news event through which the problem became visible.

For example, school exclusion, grading manipulation, employment barriers, banking discrimination, and medical neglect may occur in different institutions. They can nevertheless be examined under **institutional discrimination** when organizational authority and administrative procedure are the principal mechanisms.

A false community spokesperson, celebrity intermediary, externally selected nonprofit leader, and political surrogate may appear unrelated. They belong together under **misrepresentation and representative capture** when the common problem is unauthorized control over collective identity or interests.

The container identifies the doctrinal jurisdiction.

The Containers Are Broad but Not Vague

Each problem is intentionally large enough to hold many cases, but each has a distinct operative focus.

Government Oppression

This container concerns the use, withholding, or administration of public power in ways that subordinate, expose, or fail to protect African Americans. It includes law, enforcement, public administration, surveillance, taxation, education, courts, regulation, and official nonperformance.

Its central question is:

How does government power create, preserve, or fail to correct disadvantage?

Institutional Discrimination

This container concerns discrimination exercised through schools, employers, financial institutions, housing systems, healthcare organizations, nonprofits, professional bodies, and other institutions controlling critical pathways.

Its central question is:

How do organizational rules, discretion, records, and procedures restrict access or produce administrative attrition?

Social Racism

This container concerns the cultural attitudes, informal relationships, narratives, double standards, and social practices that rationalize unequal treatment and protect larger systems from accountability.

Its central question is:

How does the surrounding culture excuse, normalize, conceal, or reproduce racial harm?

Political Misalignment

This container concerns political loyalty, representation, policy, coalition, and leadership that fail to produce adequate protection or material advancement for African Americans.

Its central question is:

Why does political participation fail to convert population, votes, loyalty, and moral claims into accountable power and measurable results?

Strategic Misdirection and Arrested Development

This container concerns defective guidance, false promises, ideological distraction, poor mentorship, concealed standards, wasted developmental time, and the diversion of people away from productive pathways.

Its central question is:

How are African American attention, ambition, trust, and labor directed away from competence, independence, and institutional development?

Misrepresentation and Representative Capture

This container concerns unauthorized claims to speak for African Americans and the elevation of externally useful intermediaries as community representatives.

Its central question is:

Who defines African American interests, by what authority, for whose benefit, and under what system of accountability?

Lack of Organization

This container concerns fragmentation, unstable movements, weak institutions, lost knowledge, poor coordination, personality dependence, and failure to accumulate durable counterpower.

Its central question is:

Why are shared interests and resources not converted into permanent institutional capacity?

External Threats and Internal Capacity

The Seven Problems are not identical in function.

The first three primarily describe the external environment:

- government can impose or withhold public protection;
- institutions can reproduce disadvantage through administration;
- social racism can rationalize and conceal unequal treatment.

The next three describe failures of correction and direction:

- political misalignment fails to convert participation into protection;
- misdirection diverts development and response;
- misrepresentation obscures interests and transfers representational authority.

The seventh describes the enabling capacity problem:

- lack of organization prevents effective resistance to the other six.

This makes organization more than one problem among several. It is also the principal means through which the remaining problems can be monitored, challenged, survived, and corrected.

An individual may identify oppression.

An organization can preserve evidence and coordinate a response.

An individual may encounter discrimination.

An organization can compare cases and identify a pattern.

An individual may reject misrepresentation.

An organization can publish an authorized position.

An individual may receive defective guidance.

An organization can create vetted mentorship and alternative pathways.

Organization converts private awareness into durable counterpower.

Classification by Mechanism

Specific issues should be classified according to their primary mechanism, not merely their subject matter.

A school-related problem may fall under government oppression if caused by public law, under institutional discrimination if caused by school administration, under social racism if maintained through unequal expectations, or under misdirection if defective guidance diverts the student from a viable pathway.

One case may involve several containers.

This overlap is not a defect. Complex problems often operate through several mechanisms at once. The drafting task is to identify:

- the primary container;
- secondary interacting containers;
- the mechanism controlled by each;
- the separate responses required.

The containers organize complexity without pretending that social problems operate in isolation.

From Container to Doctrine

Each container should produce vertically developed doctrinal columns.

A specific issue is placed within the proper container and developed through:

**Problem → Mechanism → Harm → Required Condition → Response → Implementation
→ Rule → Principle → Axiom**

The resulting authority is then reconciled with the rest of Malone Doctrine.

Over time, each container may hold:

- diagnostic articles;
- adopted axioms;
- governing principles;
- maxims;
- rules;
- procedures;
- authorized interpretations;
- implementation guidance;
- Primer essays;
- case studies and evidence;
- institutional programs;
- measures of success.

The container therefore becomes a permanent development field rather than a single chapter or essay.

Preventing Category Inflation

Not every inconvenience, disagreement, or personal failure should be elevated into one of the Seven Problems.

A condition belongs within a strategic container when it is sufficiently consequential, recurring, structural, institutional, or capable of producing broader harm. Personal responsibility remains important. The existence of structural problems does not remove individual moral agency.

The correct analysis distinguishes:

- personal misconduct;
- isolated error;
- recurring institutional mechanism;
- systemic condition;
- strategic threat.

This prevents the containers from becoming excuses for imprecision or from absorbing every negative event into a claim of oppression.

Preventing Doctrinal Drift

The Seven Problems also protect the scope of Malone Doctrine.

New articles and provisions should identify which problem they address, what mechanism they govern, and what measurable correction they seek. Material that does not fit the containers may still be valuable, but its relationship to Doctrine should be examined before it is elevated into normative authority.

A proposed issue may reveal:

- a missing subcategory;
- an interaction between existing containers;
- a genuinely new strategic problem;
- material better suited to the Primer;
- an institutional matter governed by a charter rather than Doctrine.

The framework may evolve, but it should not expand casually.

Measures of Progress

The Seven Problems allow doctrinal and institutional progress to be evaluated.

Government oppression declines when public power becomes more constrained, transparent, and accountable.

Institutional discrimination declines when access, standards, and review become more consistent.

Social racism loses force when hostile attitudes possess less authority, access, and material leverage.

Political alignment improves when support becomes conditional and produces measurable results.

Misdirection declines when people obtain verified guidance and complete productive pathways.

Misrepresentation declines when representation becomes authorized, precise, and accountable.

Organization improves when institutions preserve leadership, knowledge, resources, and succession.

These measures connect diagnosis to implementation.

Governing Principle

The governing principle is:

Malone Doctrine shall organize major community threats through stable doctrinal containers defined by their operative mechanisms, strategic harms, required conditions, and institutional responses.

The corresponding drafting rule is:

Every material doctrinal project should identify its primary problem container, distinguish related mechanisms, and demonstrate how the resulting authority contributes to correction of the larger condition.

The Seven Problems create order within a large body of work. They prevent isolated cases from becoming random doctrine, preserve the relationship among problems, and direct institutional attention toward conditions that materially affect African American survival, development, representation, and power.

They are not the final answers. They are the permanent containers through which answers can be engineered, tested, organized, and accumulated.