Frames (Rein/Schön 1994)

Disagreements and Controversies

- policy disagreements: „disputes in which the parties to contention are able to resolve the questions at the heart of their disputes by examining the facts of the situation“ (Rein/Schön 1994: 3)
- policy controversies: “are immune to resolution by appeal to the facts” (ebd.: 4).

Policy Controversies are “disputes in which the contending parties hold conflicting frames. Such disputes are resistant to resolution by appeal to facts (...) because the parties' conflicting frames determine what counts as a fact and what arguments are taken to be relevant and compelling” (ebd.: 23).

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Frames

- “the perspective by which we see reality and act on it” (Rein 1983:97)
- “define the boundary between evidence and noise” (Laws/Rein 2003)
- are not “merely an explicit value position but also a view of the world” (Rein 1983.: 99)
**Policy Frames**: “a normative-prescriptive story that sets out a problematic policy problem and a course of action to be taken to address the problematic situation”

**Institutional Action Frames**: “the beliefs, values, and perspectives held by particular institutions and interest groups from which particular policy positions are derived” (Rein/Schön 1994.: xiii)

**Metacultural Frames**: “the broadly shared beliefs, values, and perspectives familiar to the members of a societal culture and likely to endure in that culture over long periods of time, on which individuals and institutions draw in order to give meaning, sense, and normative direction to their thinking and action in policy matters” (ebd.: xiii)