This short document captures my personal vision of a *California Center for Creative Policy Options*. C3PO, to coin an acronym, is envisioned as non-profit organization that would use humility, empathy, and integrity to holistically balance:

- the academic nature of think-tanks,
- the advocacy of special interest groups,
- and the adaptability of political parties into a single institution that would effectively represent the diverse interests of all California’s residents to politicians, the press, and the public.
The underlying premise and operating principle of C3PO is something I call full-circle, or tripolar, thinking. That is, I believe the optimal way to understand and develop politics, policy, and process is to unify diverse concepts around a common purpose, as demonstrated on the next three slides.
This diagram presents an integrated way to understand the four major political identities in California (Democrat, Republican, Green, Libertarian) as emphasizing different aspects of Character, Community, and Reality. Thus, our first goal is find the “radical center” which best incorporates all those values by listening to, learning from, and synthesizing valid insights from across the political spectrum.
The next step is to use those insights to develop policies that maximize the effectiveness of all the various institutions of civil society. I believe government is neither the problem nor the solution – though it is a part of each. Rather, its role as Authority is to both support and channel the Industry of business and the Affinity of civic groups in service to our most fundamental institution, the human family.
Finally, these policies need to be developed and promulgated via a closed-loop process that equally values and mutually informs research, analysis, and communication. In turn, each of these must be shaped by a deep understanding of the diverse populations, personalities, and products involved; that is the only way to minimize systemic bias and ensure widespread acceptance of the resulting ideas.
I hope this brief taste of Radical Centrist philosophy has encouraged you to think in new ways about how to address California’s political challenges. For more information, please visit my web site or email DrErnie@RadicalCentrism.org

Sincerely,
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