

# Make A Difference, Change Lives

Teachers of Accounting at Two Year Colleges

TACTYC 2015 Conference

May 15, 2015

G. Peter and Carolyn R. Wilson

Slides will be posted at

[www.navigatingaccounting.com/presentation/presentations#Teaching](http://www.navigatingaccounting.com/presentation/presentations#Teaching)

# Make A Difference, Change Lives

## Build Confidence

"Community college can really build confidence in students that aren't 100 percent sure when they start, that they can do it..."

You're going to have all sorts of obstacles, all sorts of reasons to walk away – is your reason for being here bigger?"



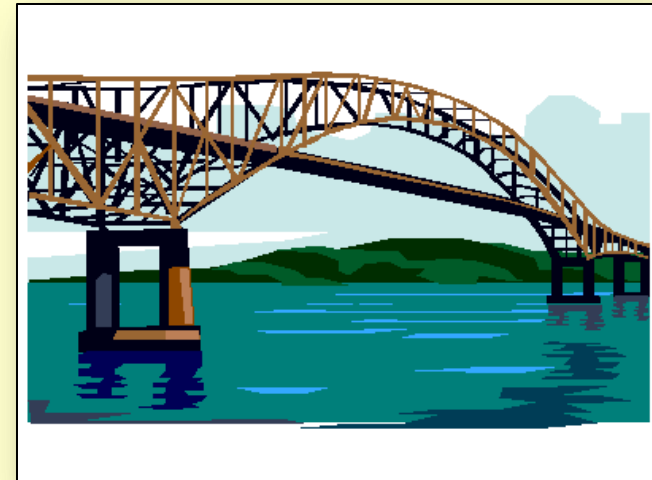
4 Types of People Who Benefit From Community College

[www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/articles/2014/01/29/4-types-of-people-who-benefit-from-community-college](http://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/articles/2014/01/29/4-types-of-people-who-benefit-from-community-college)

# Make A Difference, Change Lives

## Build Bridges

"Whether students come directly from high school or through other life experiences, community colleges then can propel students ..."



Empowering Community Colleges to Build the Nation's Future

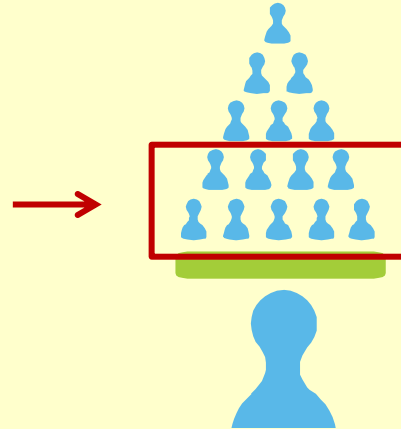
[www.aacc21stcenturycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/EmpoweringCommunityColleges\\_final.pdf](http://www.aacc21stcenturycenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/EmpoweringCommunityColleges_final.pdf)

# Make A Difference, Change Lives

## We All Need to Up our Game

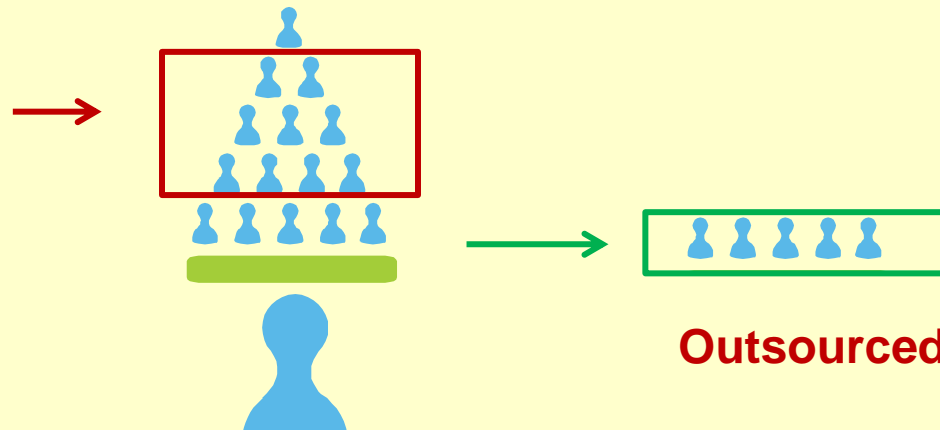
### Today

Thinking skills  
needed for job



### Future

Higher thinking skills  
needed for job



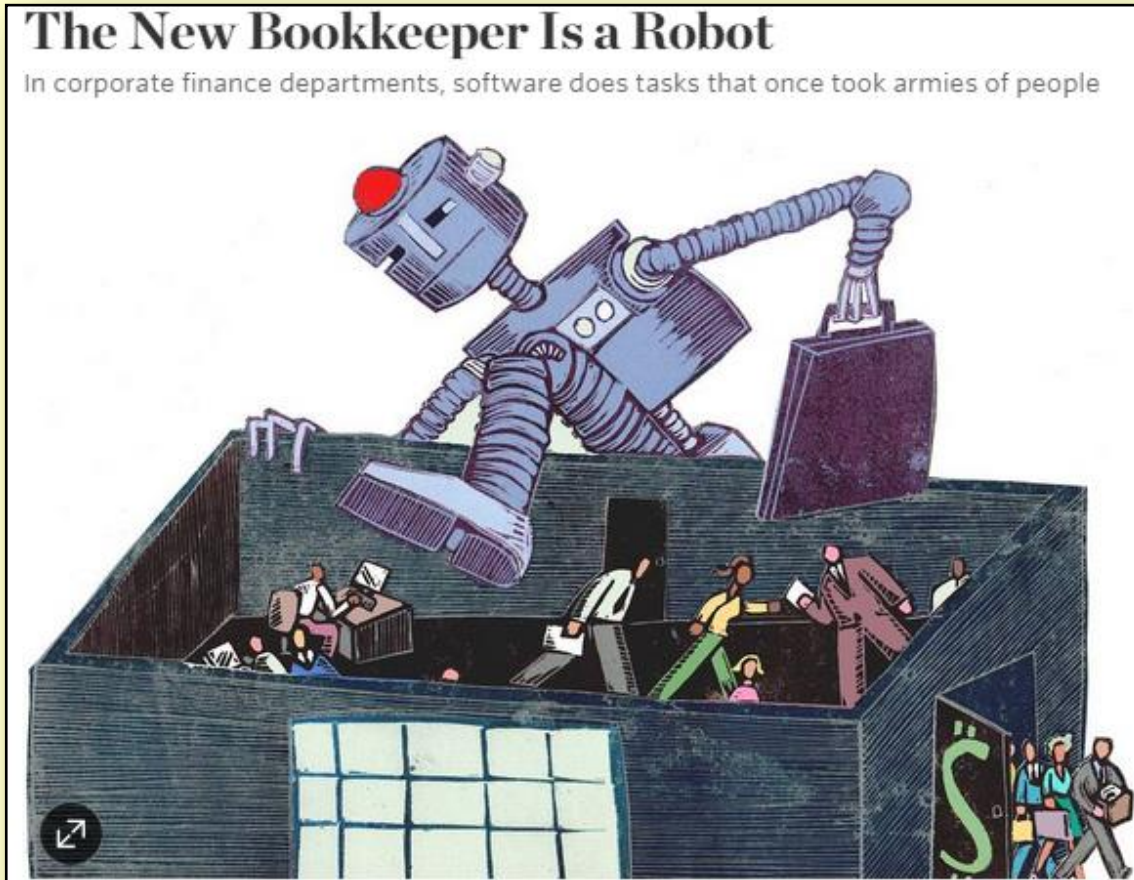
# Make A Difference, Change Lives

## We All Need to Up our Game

### The Future is Now

#### The New Bookkeeper Is a Robot

In corporate finance departments, software does tasks that once took armies of people



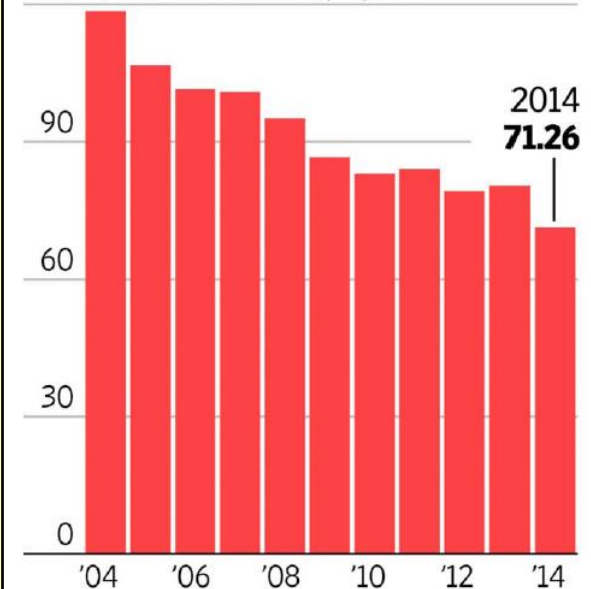
The Wall Street Journal, May 5, 2015

[www.wsj.com/articles/the-new-bookkeeper-is-a-robot-1430776272](http://www.wsj.com/articles/the-new-bookkeeper-is-a-robot-1430776272)

#### Financial Squeeze

Median staffing in corporate finance departments per \$1 billion of revenue\*

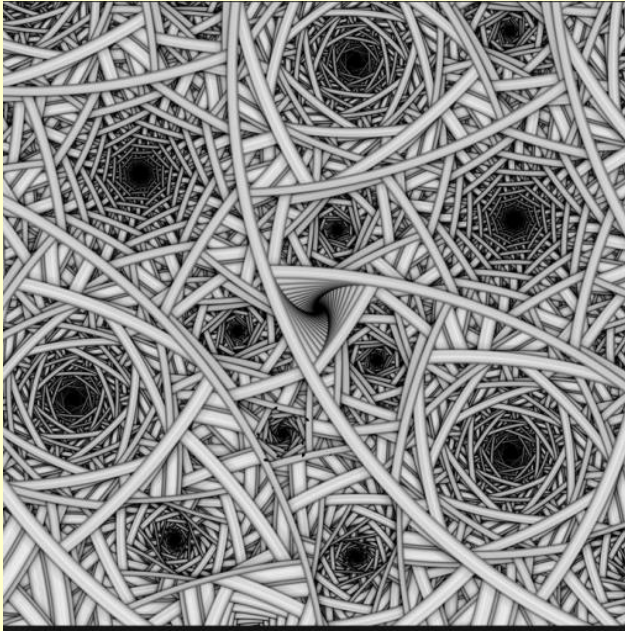
120 full-time finance employees



\*Based on data from a subset of the 2,000 largest companies in the world. The average company size was \$20 billion in annual revenue.

# Make A Difference, Change Lives

## Simplicity on the Far Side of Complexity



<http://integral-options.blogspot.com/2013/03/eric-storm-and-beth-meredith-beyond.html>

**“I wouldn’t give a fig for the  
simplicity **this side of  
complexity**  
but I’d give my life for  
simplicity on the **far side of  
complexity**”**

*Oliver Wendell Holmes*

# SIMPLICITY ON THIS SIDE

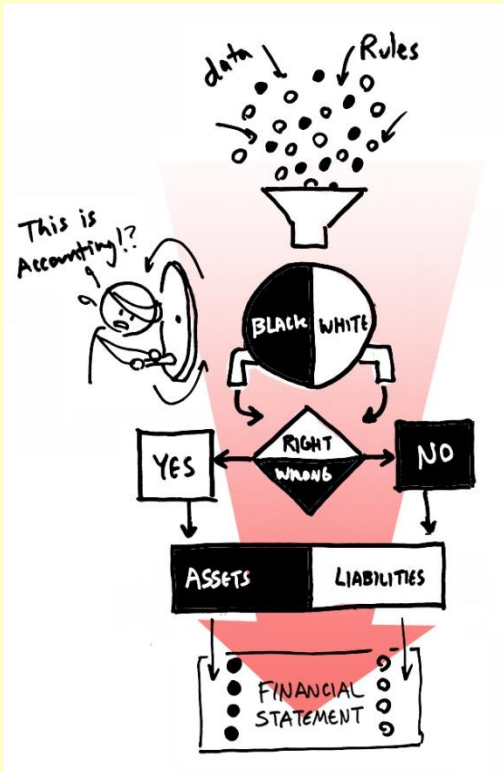
OF COMPLEXITY



Simple but shallow



Perception



# SIMPLICITY ON THE FAR

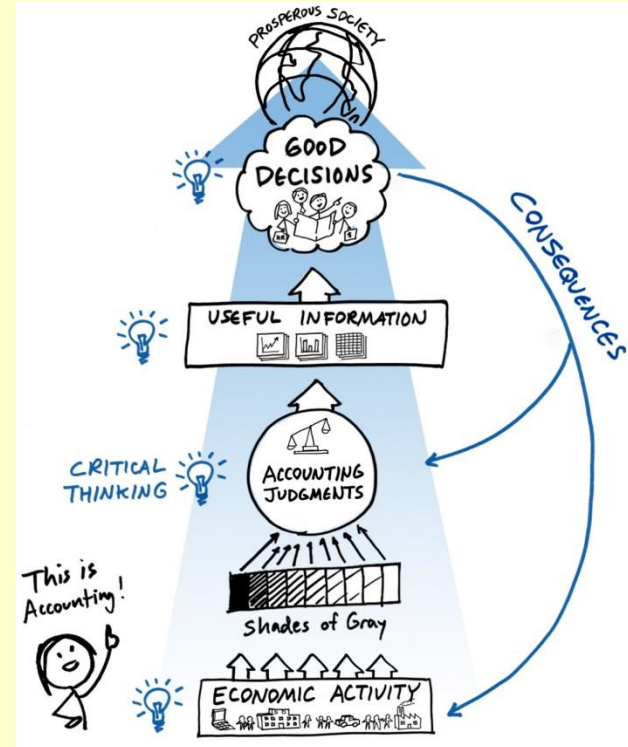
SIDE OF COMPLEXITY



Simple yet deep



Reality



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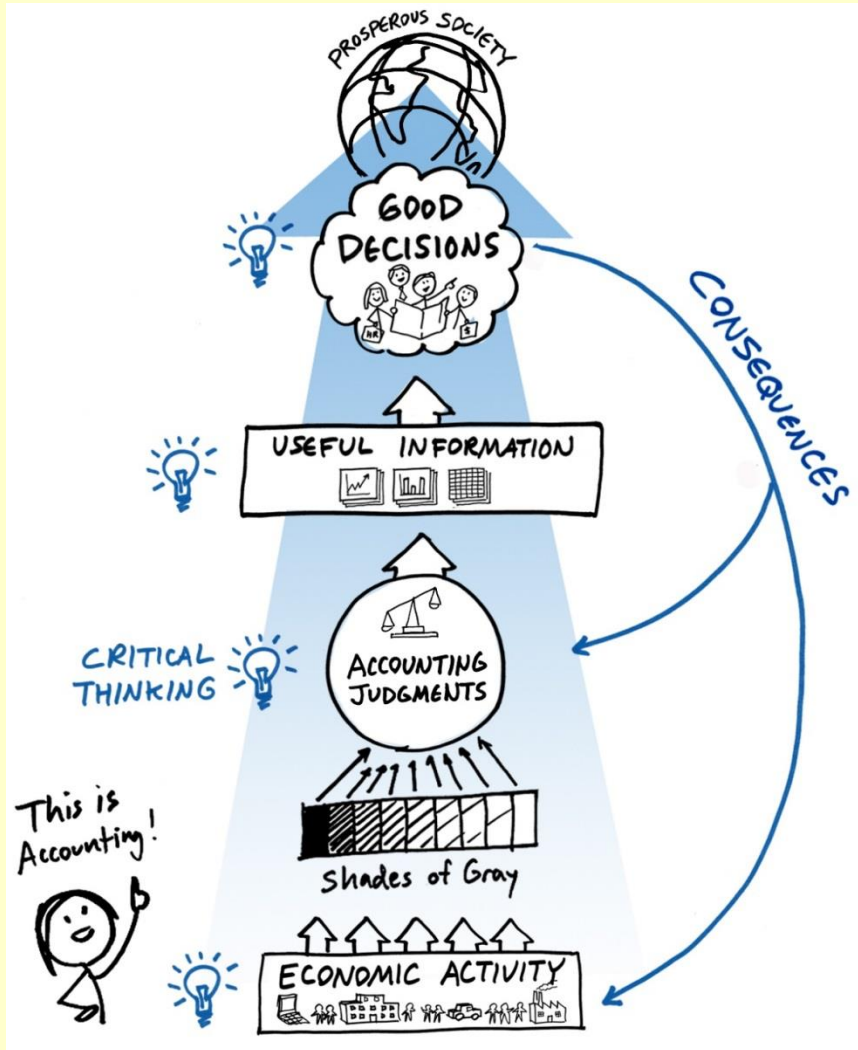


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Make A Difference, Change Lives

# Make A Difference, Change Lives

## Pathways Vision Model

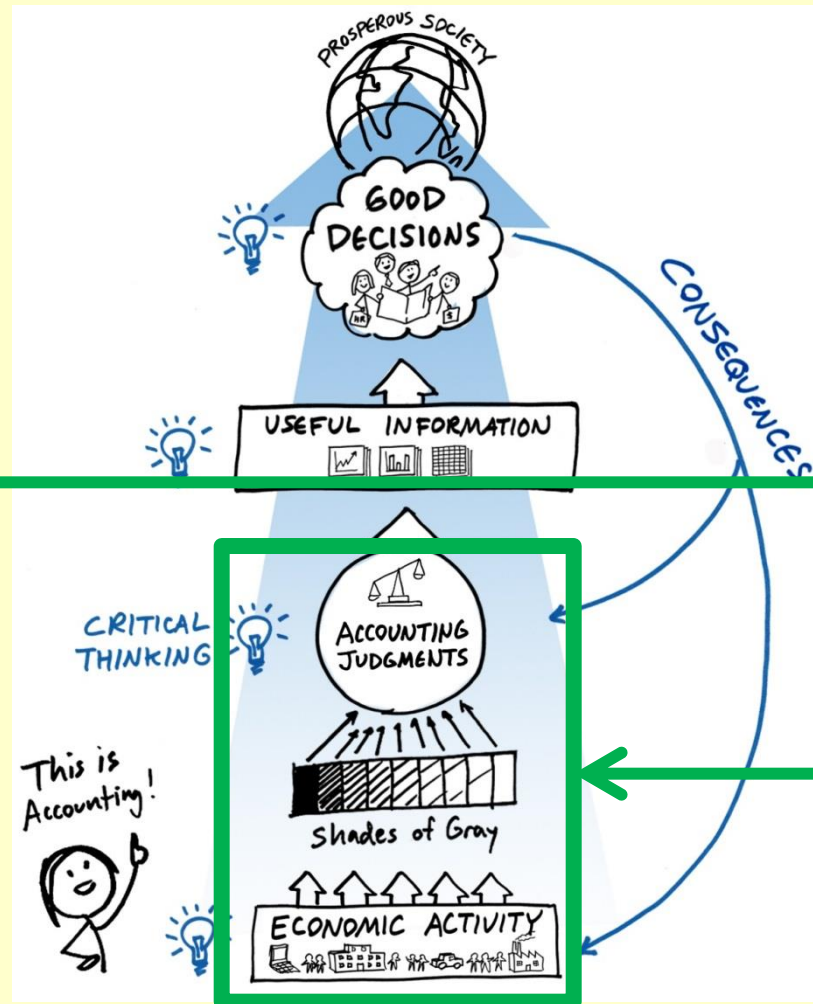


- Inclusive
- Interdependent elements
- Simple, yet deep



# Make A Difference, Change Lives

## Pathways Vision Model



Outsiders

Insiders

Reporting entity



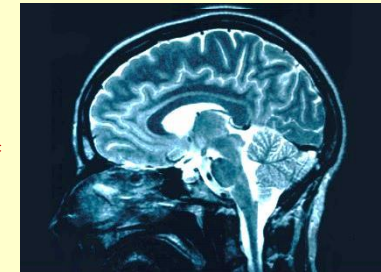
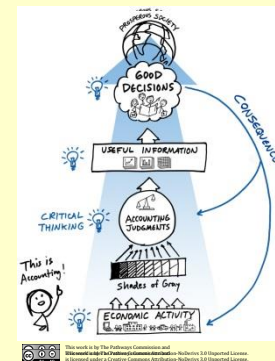
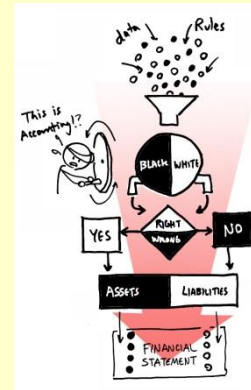
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# Make A Difference, Change Lives

## Simplicity on the Far Side of Complexity

Balance Sheet	
Assets	■
Liabilities	■
Owners' Equity	■

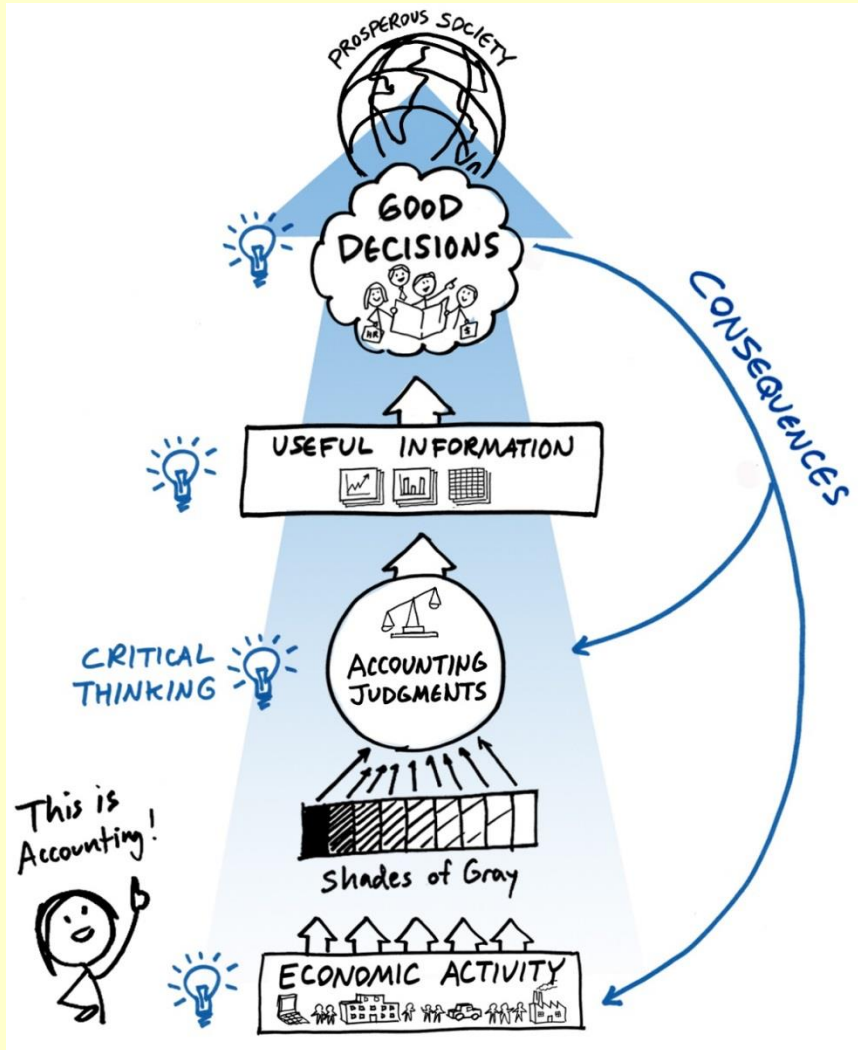
**Picture of  
company's  
financial health  
at reporting  
date**



**A balance sheet is a fuzzy, but useful, picture of a company's financial health at a reporting date, if properly interpreted.**

# Make A Difference, Change Lives

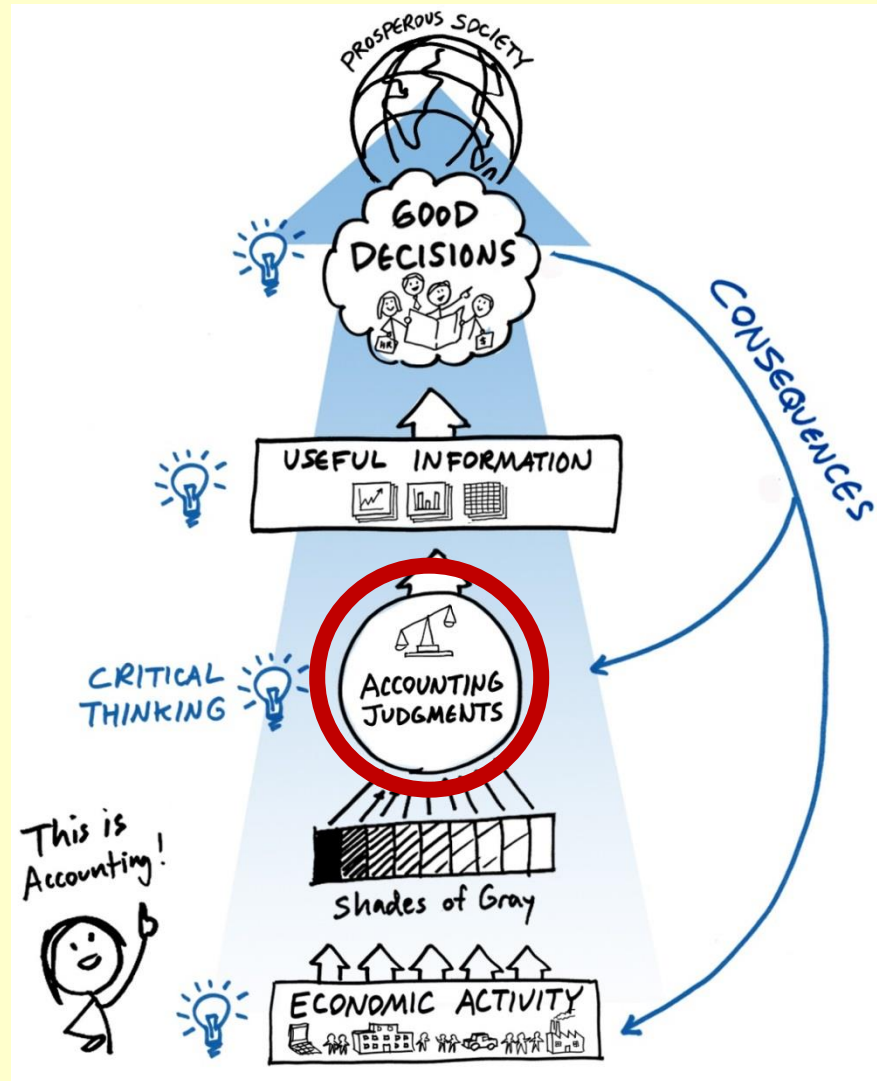
## Pathways Vision Model



- What's 1 thing you teach?
- Where is it in the model?
- How could you stretch it to other elements?

# Make A Difference, Change Lives

## Accounting Decisions

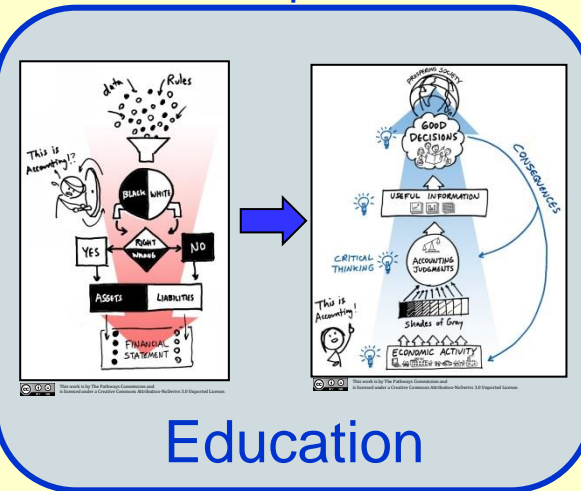
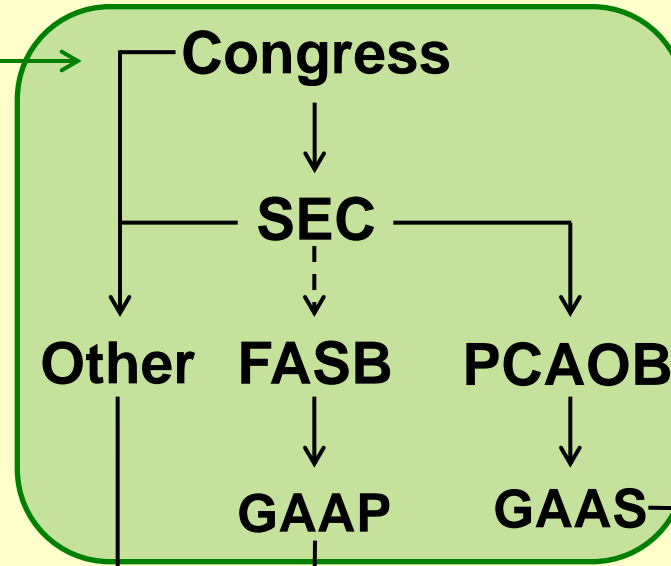
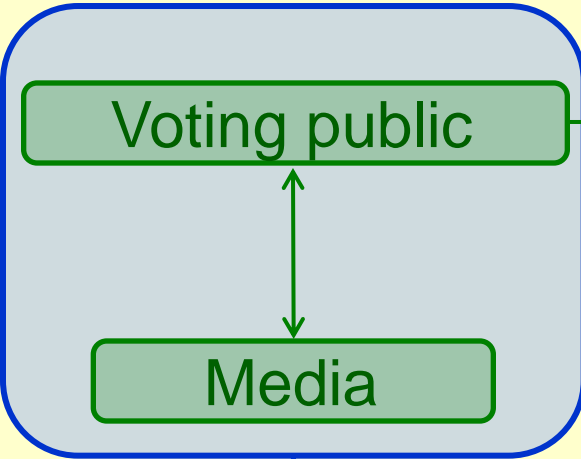


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# Who Makes Accounting Judgments?

## Decision Making Hierarchy

### Outside organizations



Auditors

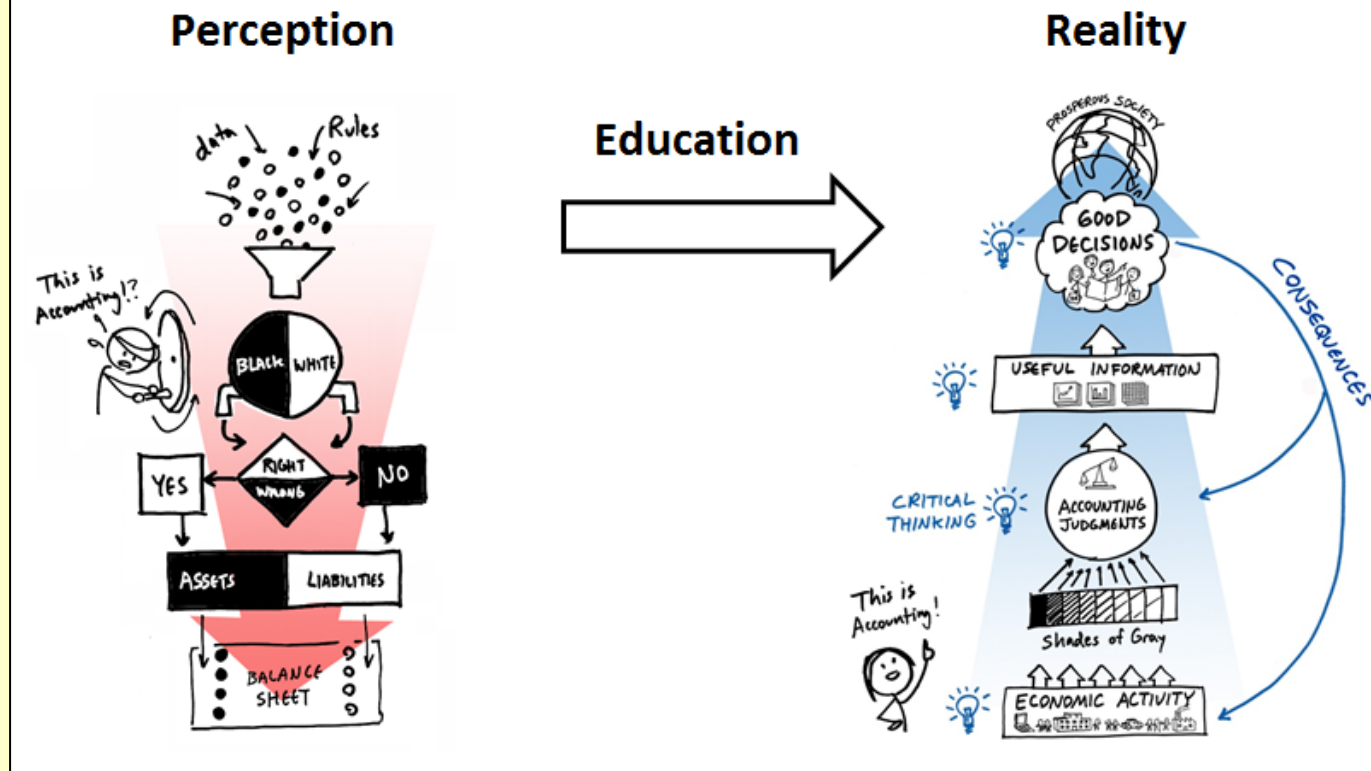
Reports → Users



# Make A Difference, Change Lives

## Overall Goal

As educators, our goal is to shift the perception towards the reality.



Make A Difference, Change Lives

***Take your passion and  
make it happen!***

***“Flashdance...What a Feeling” by Irene Cara***