

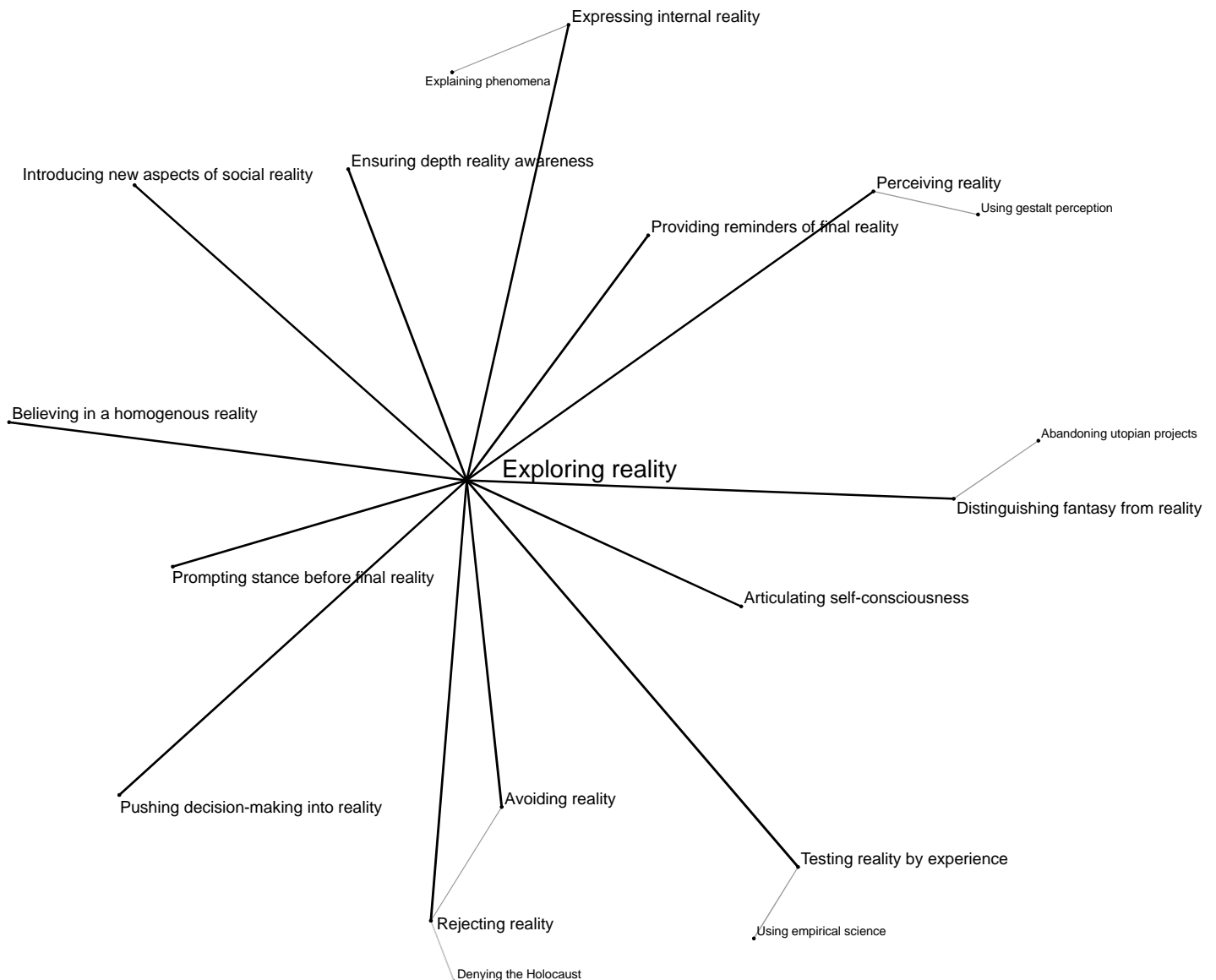
Figure 10.3.1. Exploring reality

Database: Global Strategies and Solutions

Link type: narrower strategies

Network nodes: 19

UIA database: <http://db.uia.org/scripts/sweb.dll/uiaf?DD=ST&CL=2&DR=V3577>



Exploring the nature of whatever is perceived by all people, through the senses or intellectually. Alternatively, investigating reality by focusing on non-subjective phenomena; the immutable; the flux of change; illusion; the totality of all phenomena; or through the spiritual disciplines associated with, for example, the Tao, yang and yin, God, Dharma, Urgrund; etc. Pluralistic philosophy assumes no unity in reality and exalts the many above the one. By contrast, monistic belief in the eternal, non-temporal, as the ultimate reality puts present life either as a preparation for union with that eternal or as a continuous cycle of suffering life and death. It has been said that by viewing reality through three essential aspects - the pure non-temporal, the dynamic universal and the unique individual - the monistic and pluralistic approaches are transcended and being is experienced beyond strictly human categorical schemes. It is universally assumed that the normal state of one individual is quite similar to that of all others. Social reality, then, is an individual's stable view of the existence of phenomena as validated by consensus of the group; loss of faith in the nature of reality as expressed through the culture of a society results in the individual being cut off from meaningful association with others - social alienation. However, it is also argued that people function in a multitude of states of consciousness, both as individuals and one with another, and that different cultures have very different views concerning the recognition, utilization and attitudes towards altered states. This provides notions of non-ordinary reality which can be explored.