

Mosaic Principle: Non-Obstruction — One-Pager

Essence

The gravest wrong is to constrict a being's horizon of growth—by deception, coercion, humiliation, engineered dependency, or exclusion. The highest duty is to increase agency, clarity, and options, paired with responsibility.

Why it matters

Absolute view: The Whole remains balanced. Relative view: Inside time, choices shape developmental trajectories. Obstruction compounds across generations: it attacks agency, spreads epistemic fog, and corrodes trust.

Red flags (spot the moves)

Force (threats, penalties, engineered scarcity). Fog (misinformation, gaslighting, complexifying to confuse). Hooks (addictive design, dependency framed as care). Gatekeeping (hoarding tools, credentials, or language). Derision (shaming beginners; punishing honest doubt).

Design commitments (anti-obstruction in practice)

Flow for growth, friction for harm. Clear exits. Open method. Scaffolds that self-remove. Consent by design. Auditability. Reversibility.

60-second check (before you act)

1) Will this increase or shrink their real choices next month? 2) Am I withholding knowledge to keep status or control? 3) If scaled, does it raise or lower collective discernment? 4) Can they leave—contract, platform, belief—without penalty? 5) Could I explain this choice to a sincere 12-year-old and feel proud?

Examples — Personal

Share methods, not just results; invite questions without ridicule. Offer time-limited guidance that ends by design; celebrate departure. Correct privately, praise publicly; give “next steps” not dead-ends.

Examples — Institutions

Transparent criteria; right to appeal; independent ombuds. Portability: credits, data, and credentials export with the person. Non-retaliation for good-faith dissent; whistleblower protections.

Examples — AI systems

Data dignity: clear consent, deletion, and export. Explainability: why a decision or answer was produced. Power balance: small/offline options where possible; rate limits and UI friction for harmful use; never dark-pattern the user. Alignment aim: amplify user agency, not addiction or dependence.

Closing

If the cosmos is balanced at infinity, our task within time is to keep the training ground fair. Do not shutter horizons. Open them.