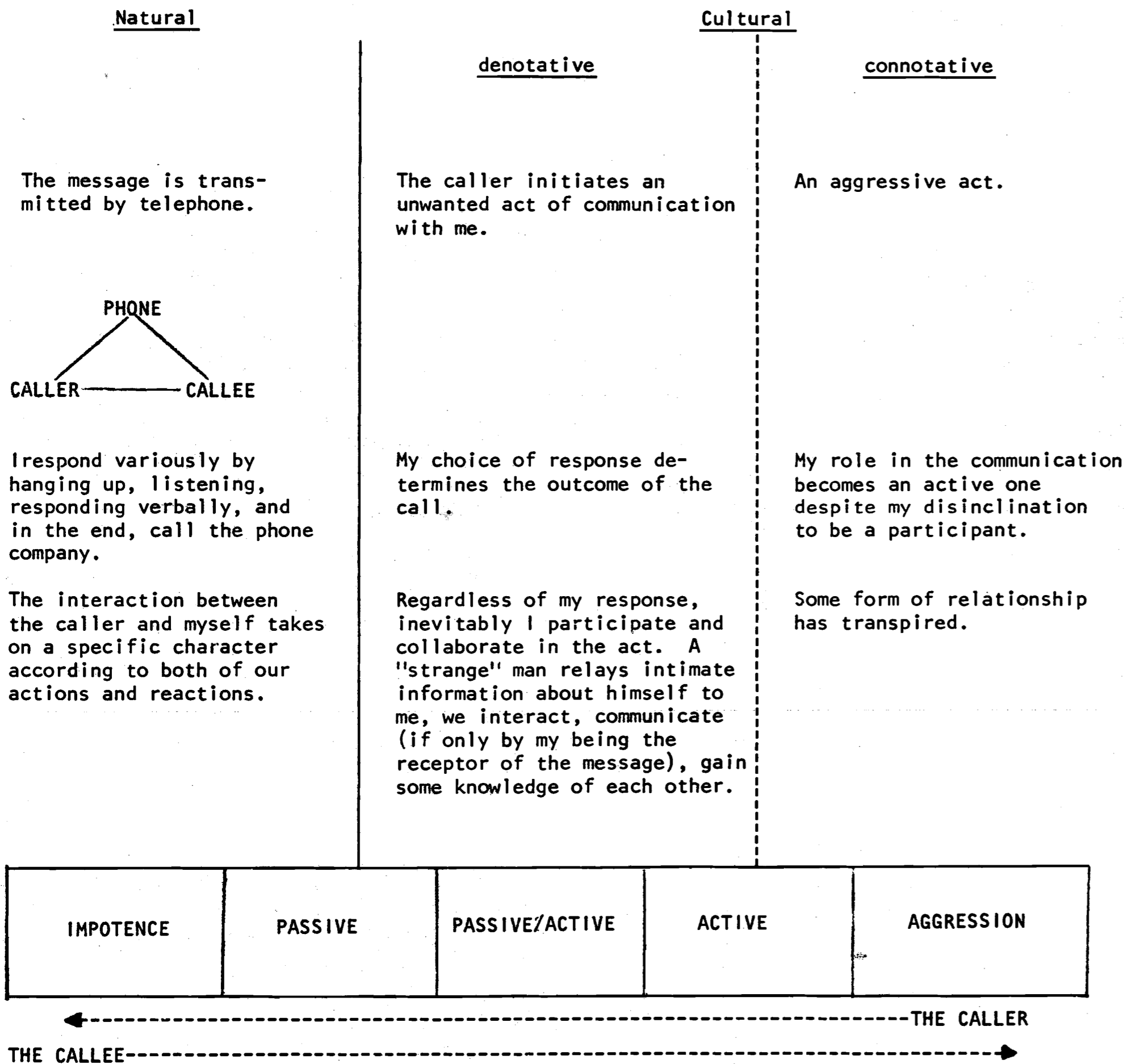


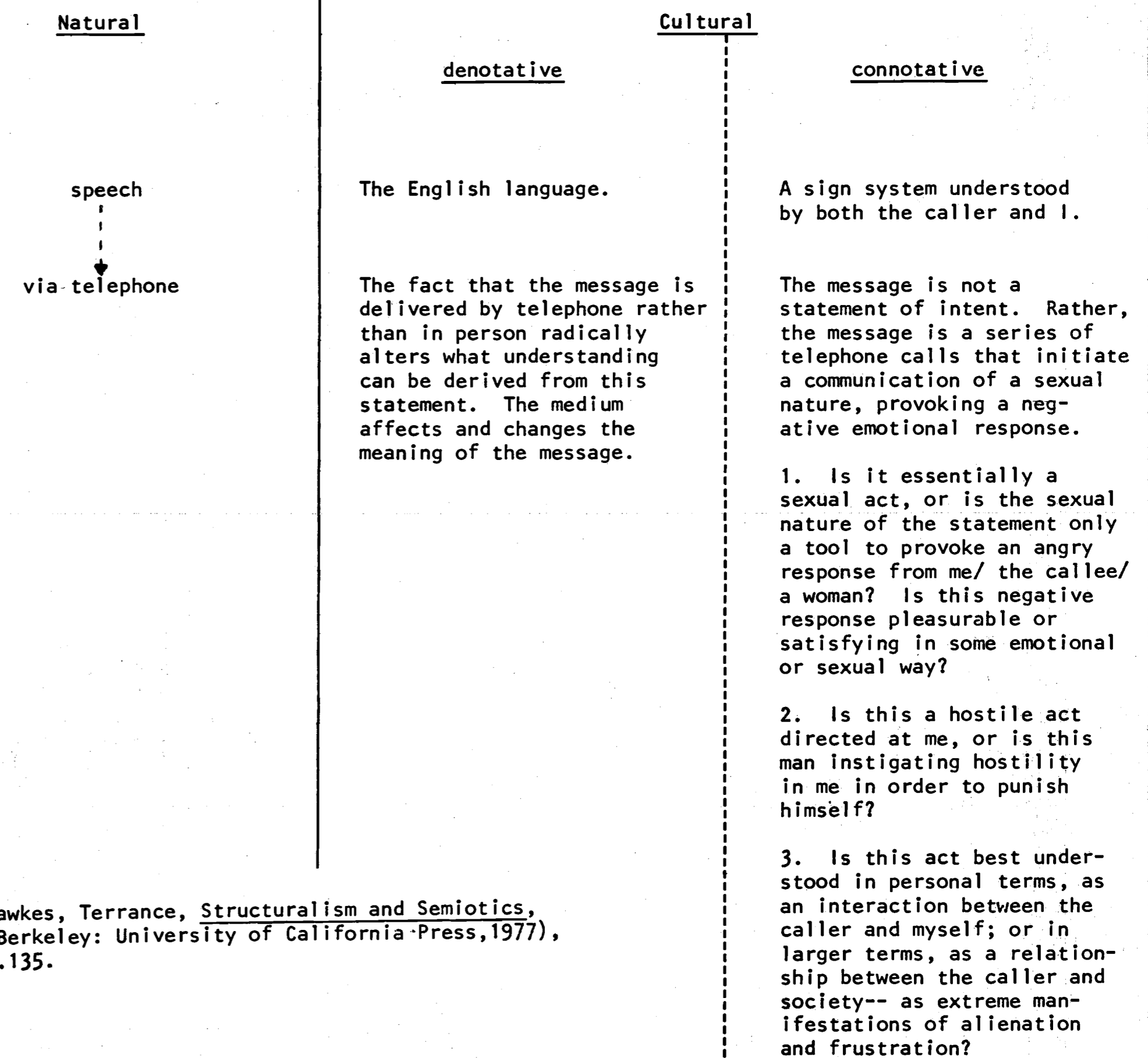
THE CONTACT



To what extent can one presume a connection between impotence and aggression? Is this a compensatory act or a symptomatic act? We play off one another. We have exchanged roles.

THE CODE

The signs may be produced either organically, by the body, or instrumentally, by means of a technological extension of the body. Language is the most 'pure' organic semiotic system. Every aspect of it signifies, and it is produced solely by means of the body. When the extension of the body, which we call a medium, causes one organic factor to become dominant over the others (the telephone has this effect on the voice; silent film had the same effect on the body gesture) then it will inevitably affect the nature of the discourse. That is, the medium will begin to affect the message. When this takes extreme form, we find ourselves confronted, not with a medium which simply transmits a pre-packaged message, but with an autonomous semiotic system, with a 'life'-- that is, with messages-- of its own.*



*Hawkes, Terrance, Structuralism and Semiotics, (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1977), p.135.