

The Myth of ~~Techno-Evolution~~

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Mediation

Unmasking the linguistic category error
at the heart of transhumanist rhetoric.

The Borrowed Prestige of Biology

“Transhumanism often borrows the prestige of biological evolution to describe what is more precisely technological mediation.”

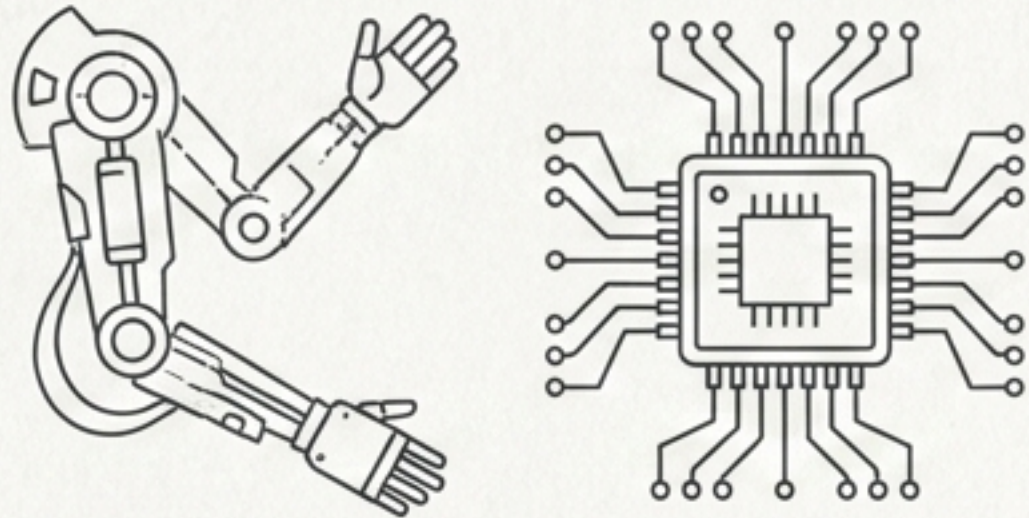
Requires forensic verification. ^

The narrative of the future frequently frames wearable devices, implants, and physical integrations not just as advanced tools, but as the next step in human evolutionary descent.

Mistaking the Edit for the Blueprint

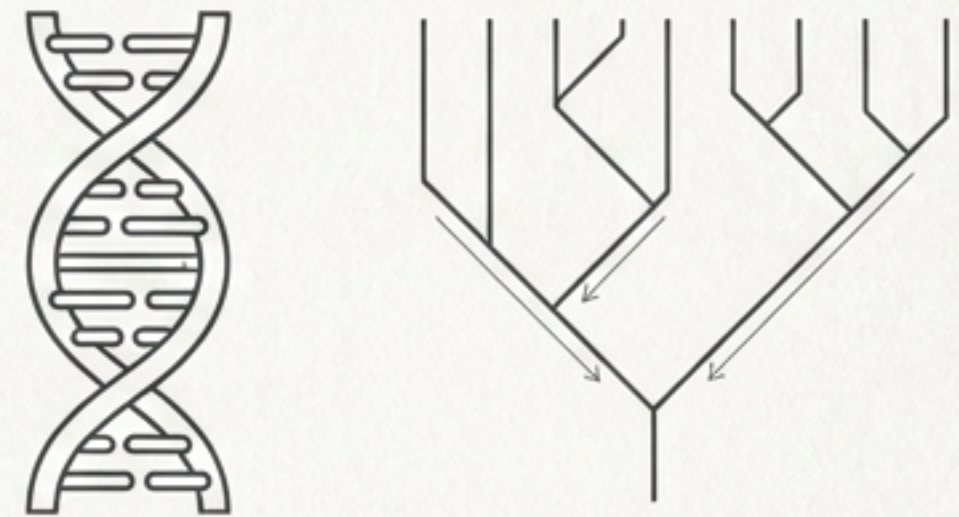
The Category Error

[Acquired Modification]



Changes made to the lived organism.

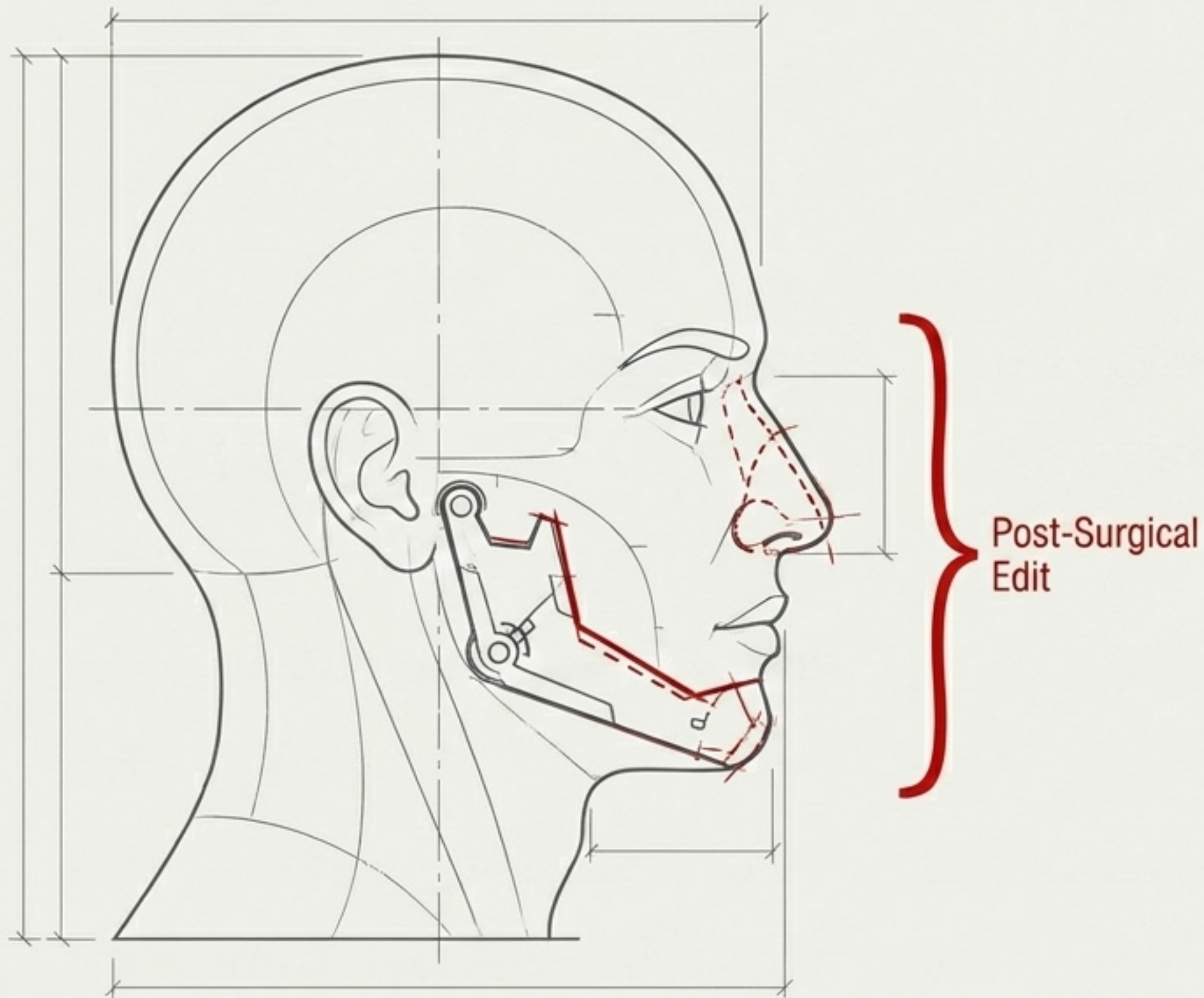
[Inherited Transformation]



Changes made to the reproductive line.

Technology is not heritable. An implanted device may alter the individual, but it does not thereby alter biological descent.

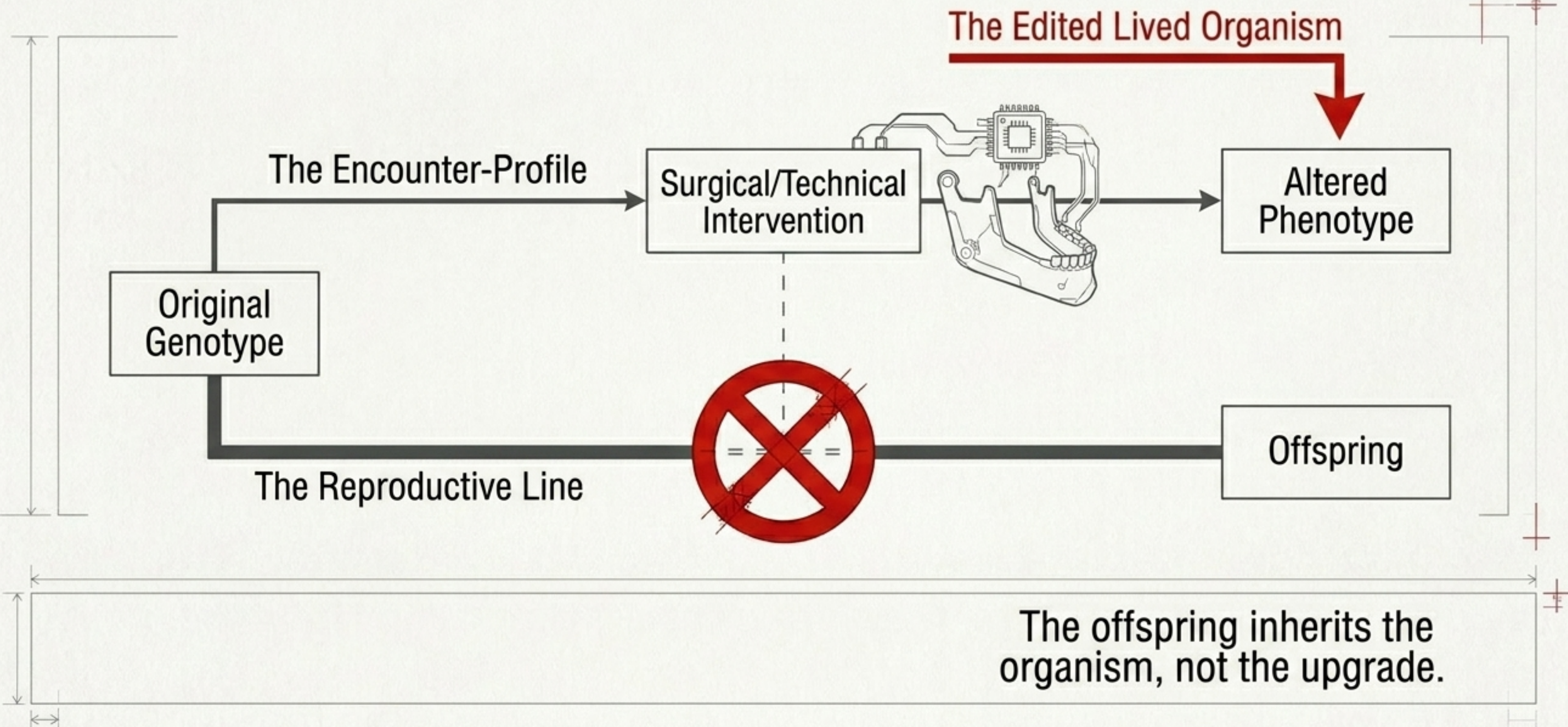
The Rhinoplasty Principle



No one sane thinks a nose job rewrites the germline.

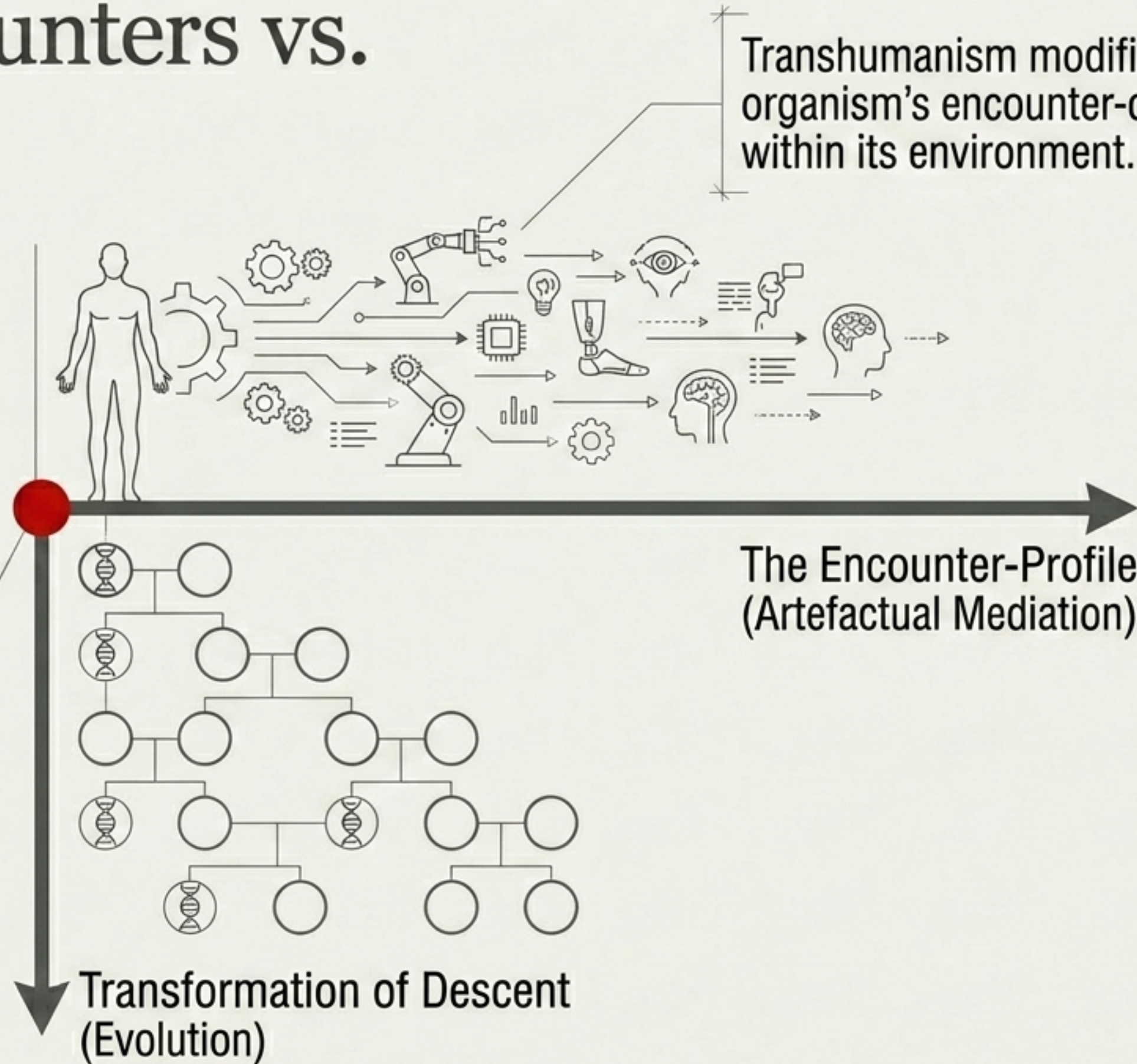
- Rhinoplasty changes the presented phenotype, not the inherited genotype.
- The child inherits the developmental instructions, not the parent's post-surgical edit.
- A prosthetic is to evolution what rhinoplasty is to heredity: an alteration of presentation, not descent.

The Inheritance Bypass



Horizontal Encounters vs. Vertical Descent

Transhumanism modifies the organism's encounter-capacities within its environment.



Transhumanism claims to operate here. It does not.

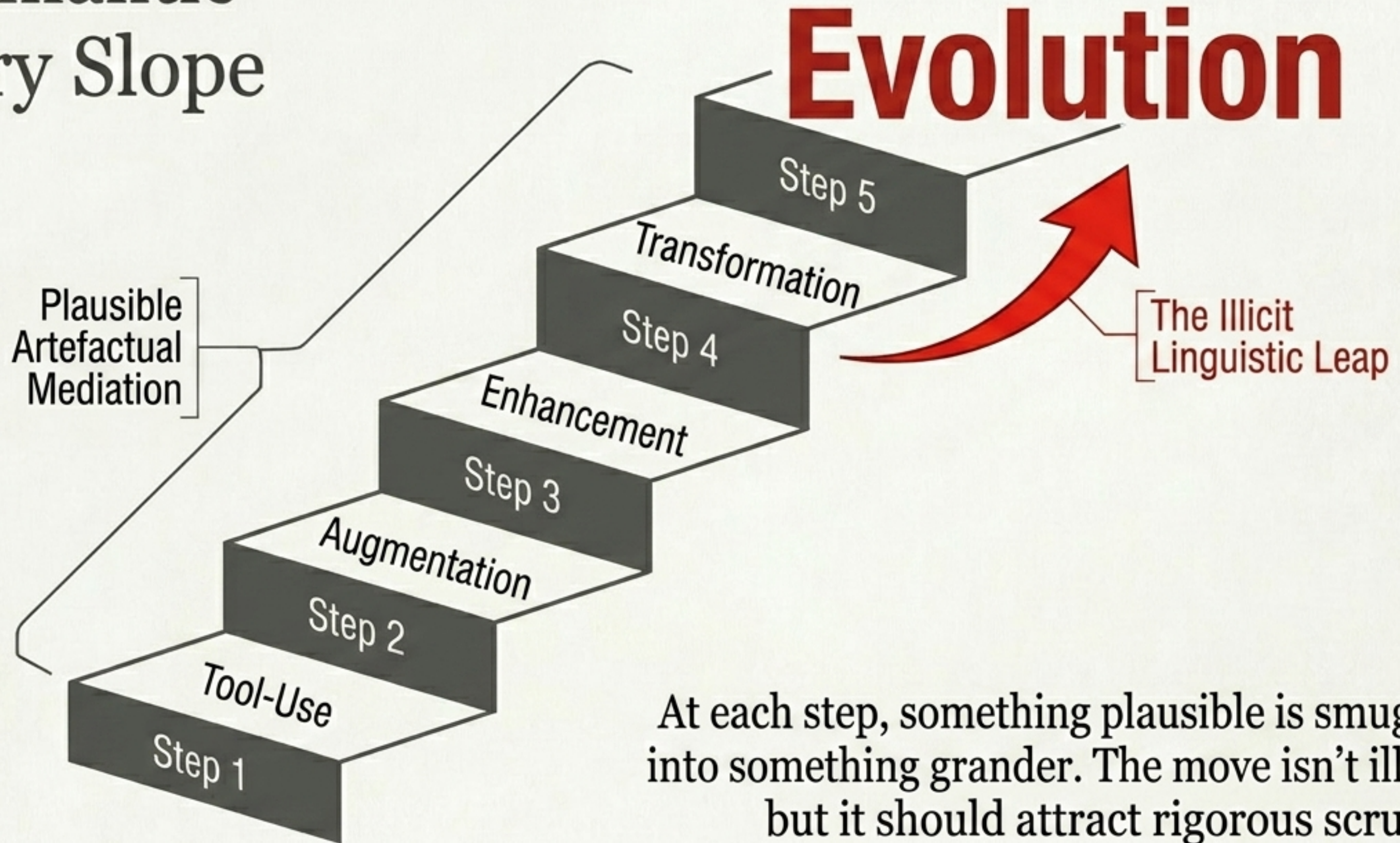
The Encounter-Profile
(Artefactual Mediation)

Transformation of Descent
(Evolution)

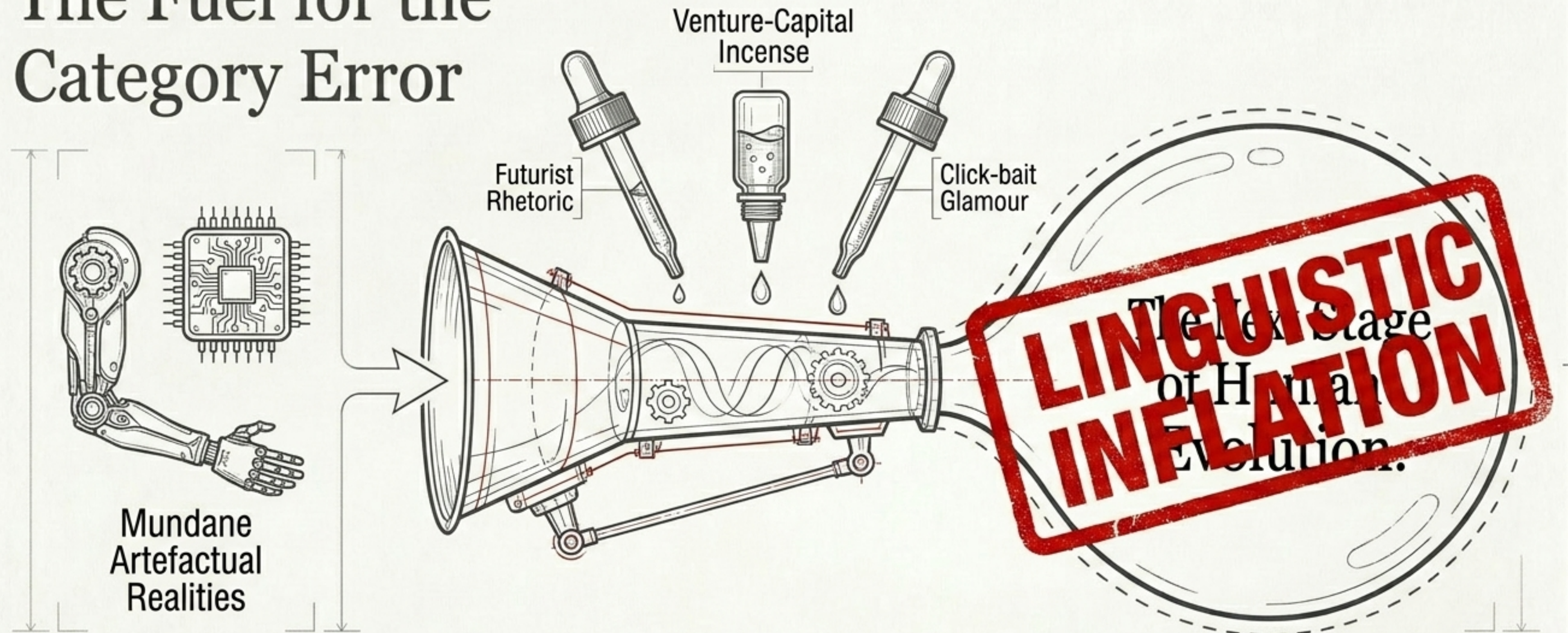
The Diagnostic Matrix: Sorting Reality from Rhetoric

	Technological Mediation (The Reality)	Biological Evolution (The Rhetoric)
Target of Change	The Lived Organism.	The Reproductive Line.
Domain	Phenotype / Encounter-Profile.	Genotype / Lineage.
Mechanism	「 <u>Artefactual / Acquired Modification.</u> 」	「 <u>Genetic / Inherited Transformation.</u> 」
Examples	Neural implants, exoskeletons, prosthetics.	Natural selection, genetic heredity.

The Semantic Slippery Slope



The Fuel for the Category Error



When a modification is sufficiently glamorous, the rhetoric inflates to meet the demands of prestige and funding.

Drawing the Defensible Boundary



Calling these practices evolution without specifying the relevant register trades illicitly on the authority of biology.

The Synthesis: Reality Stripped of Rhetoric

What has actually happened is that an organism's encounter-capacities have been modified by artefactual mediation.

✓ The practice is technological.

The practice is ~~technological~~.
The practice is ~~amored~~.

✓ The augmentation is individual.

↪ The augmentation is ~~individual~~.
is ~~individual~~.

✓ The label of "Evolution" is an illusion.

The term evolution is doing illicit rhetorical work, masquerading a change in function as a transformation of descent.

~~EVOLUTION~~

Replace with:

Augmentation

The expansion of existing capabilities.

Prosthesis

The addition of artefactual components.

Mediation

The technological interface between organism and environment.

Tool Evolution

The iterative improvement of external artefacts.

Cultural Inheritance

The non-genetic passing of knowledge and systems.

Niche Modification

The alteration of the lived environment.

These terms may lack the venture-capital incense, but they possess the virtue of accuracy.