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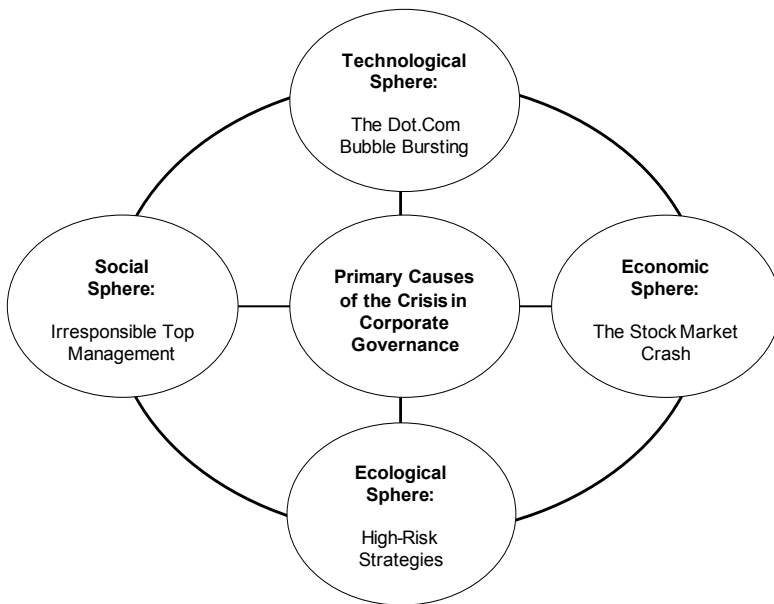
PART 0

# Introduction

## 0.1 Background

In recent years, the topic of corporate governance has gained prominence as a result of the large number of attention-grabbing corporate scandals at the board level. What was formerly a topic of interest to academics has become a burning issue worldwide for researchers and practitioners alike.

- In **practice**, there seem to be four reasons that account for the public crisis of confidence - about the economy in general and about chair-person and CEOs in particular.<sup>8</sup>



**Fig. 0-1.** Primary causes of the crisis in corporate governance

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<sup>8</sup> Taylor (2003:1).