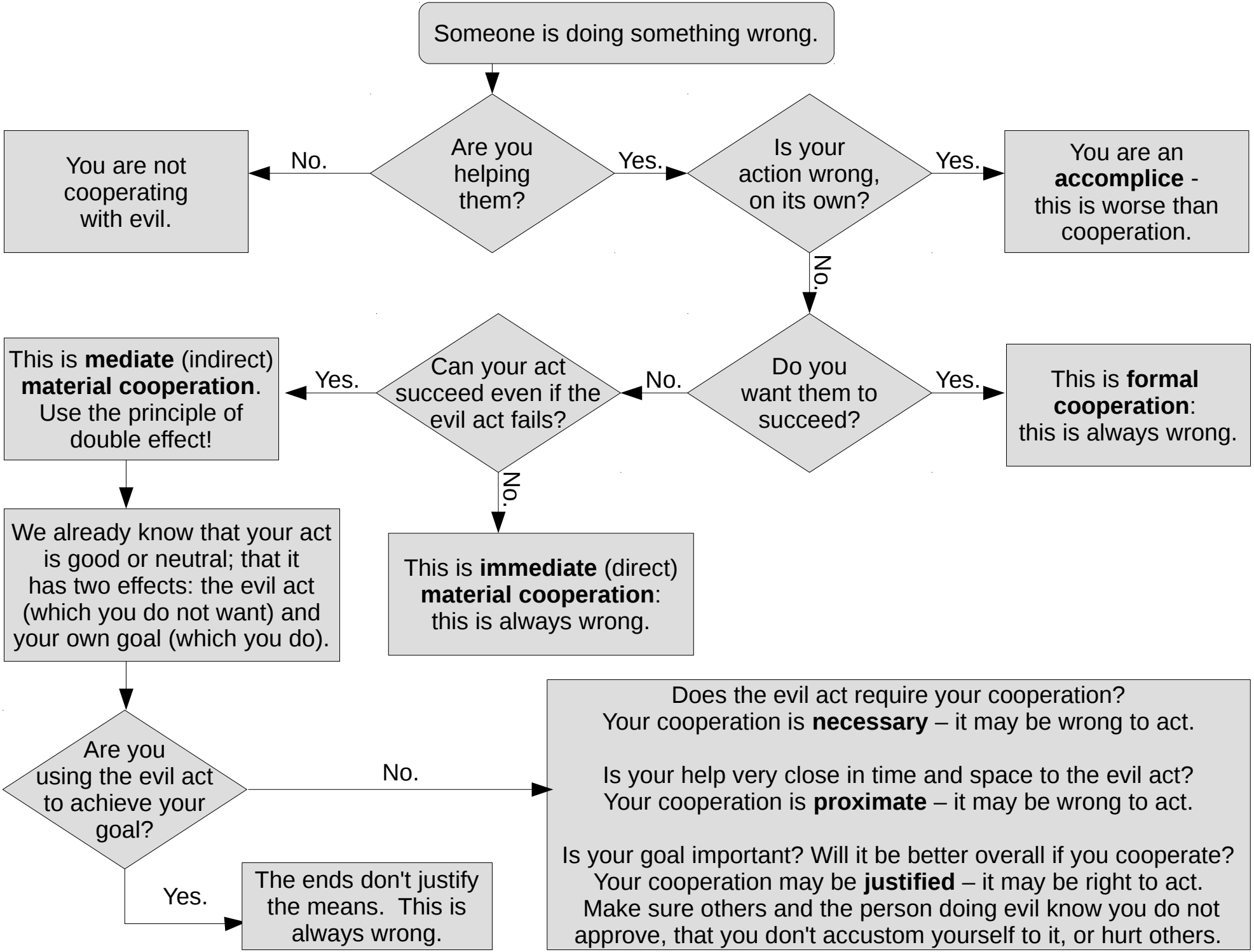
Someone is doing something wrong.
Are you helping them?
No.
You are not cooperating with evil.
Yes.
Is your action wrong, on its own?
Yes.
You are an **accomplice** - this is worse than cooperation.
No.
Do you want them to succeed?
Yes.
This is **formal cooperation**: this is always wrong.
No.
Can your act succeed even if the evil act fails?
Yes.
This is **mediate** (indirect) **material cooperation**. Use the principle of double effect!
No.
This is **immediate** (direct) **material cooperation**: this is always wrong.
We already know that your act is good or neutral; that it has two effects: the evil act (which you do not want) and your own goal (which you do).
Are you using the evil act to achieve your goal?
Yes.
The ends don't justify the means. This is always wrong.
No.
Does the evil act require your cooperation?
Your cooperation is **necessary** – it may be wrong to act.
Is your help very close in time and space to the evil act?
Your cooperation is **proximate** – it may be wrong to act.
Is your goal important? Will it be better overall if you cooperate?
Your cooperation may be **justified** – it may be right to act.
Make sure others and the person doing evil know you do not approve, that you don't accustom yourself to it, or hurt others.