

Working Together for Social Change: Workshop on Collective Action and Group Dynamics

Week 8 – Thursday – November 15th 4:00-5:30

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When does group work “happen”?

In what context are groups situated?

Entering community

- Welcoming
- Transparency

Sustaining engagement and doing the work

- Accountability and roles
 - Taking notes
 - Creating roles
 - TO DOs and check-ins

Exiting community

Decision-making and transparency

- Ethic of agreement
- Ethic of participation
- Form and structure

Leadership

Facilitation

- What principles guide your style?
- What does a facilitator do?
 - Holds process
 - Focuses

- Makes visible/create awareness of things known to the group
 - Synthesizing
 - Helps guide what needs to be in meeting space and what can be delegated outside of meeting space
- Before meeting roles
 - During meeting roles
 - Tools
 - Stack
 - Straw poll/temperature check
 - Intentions
 - Naming
 - Synthesizing
 - “I” orientation to your perceptions

Further Resources

Hilary, M. and Russel, J.K. (2011) *Organizing Cools the Planet: Tools and Reflections to Navigate the Climate Crisis*. PM Press.

Freeman, J. (1970). *The Tyranny of Structurelessness*. Print/Zine/Online:
<http://struggle.ws/pdfs/tyranny.pdf>

Kaner, S. (2007). *Facilitator’s Guide to Participatory Decision-Making*. New Society Publishers.

Starhawk (2011) *The Empowerment Manual: A Guide for Collaborative Groups*. New Society Publishers.

Bobo, K. A., Max, S., Bobo, K. and Kendal, J. (2010) *Organizing for Social Change: Midwest Academy Manual for Activists*. The Forum Press.

Occupy Wall Street – Technology Operations Group. (2011) “Three Complaints About OWS”. Online:
<http://tech.nycga.net/2012/01/05/three-complaints-about-ows/>.

Seeds for Change (UK) - Consensus and Facilitation:
<http://www.seedsforchange.org.uk/free/resources#grp>

The Change Agency (Australia) – Social Action Skills:
http://www.thechangeagency.org/01_cms/details.asp?ID=60

Starhawk (USA) – Resources for Activism Trainers:
<http://www.starhawk.org/activism/trainer-resources/trainer-resources.html>

Lisa Fithian, Organizing for Power (USA) – Resources and Trainings:
<http://organizingforpower.wordpress.com/organizing/>