

Vision Questions

The real situation: What needs changing in the community?

1. Do you feel that all people's basic needs are presently being met in your community?
2. Are people's needs being met in terms of:
 - Education?
 - Access to meaningful and rewarding work?
 - Easy access to sensible and inexpensive transportation?
 - A healthy diet?
 - Adequate medical care and preventive health care?
3. How much say or influence do you feel the people in your community have over these areas as they affect their lives?

Vision: What would be ideal community / society look like?

1. Should some people direct and control others?
2. How could decision-making take place in this community?
3. How could resources be allocated?
4. How could people relate to each other (especially men and women, minorities and whites, young and old)?
5. What kinds of access should people have to their government?
6. What kinds of control should people have over their work life? How could the quality of work life be improved?
7. What kinds of economic structures would you envision that would allow this kind of change in the quality of work life?
8. How could people's educational, recreational and health needs be met?
9. How do you envision people's relationship to nature?

Analysis: Why is there a gap between the real and the ideal?

1. Does the problem lie in the political power and decision-making structure?
2. Does it lie in access to economic power and decision-making?
3. Is it due to unwieldy social and political structures whose enormous size keeps them from changing?
4. Who gains from the situation?
5. How do they gain?
6. Who loses from the situation?
7. How do they lose?

Strategy: What strategies can be developed to work toward solving the problem?

1. How can we as organizers and members of a community go about overcoming the obstacles which prevent us from realizing the quality of life which we envision?
2. What actions can we use to confront the problems and obstacles we have outlined in our analysis of the present situation?
3. What kinds of organizational, social and political structures can be used – not only to confront the present situation, but also the kinds of structures that could be used to implement and maintain the kind of life which you envision could exist in your community?
4. Who should be involved in the struggle?
5. What groups or individuals could be counted on for support?
6. How will you know when you're winning?
7. How will you know when you've won?

Source

Speeter, Greg (1978) *Power: a Repossession Manual. Organizing Strategies for Citizens*, Citizen Involvement Training Project, University of Massachusetts. pp.7-10.