POWER
FROM
BELOW

Strategic Resistance
ORGANIZING 101
• Organizing Models: one person does everything vs. nobody does anything, just talk vs. cooperative leadership
• 75% Relationships
• Skills and qualities: to engage others effectively
• Are you engaging the whole person?
• Do research, read website, what missions do they have? Do they have a “social justice” ministry? What is their history of support?

• Evaluate balance between clergy and congregation.


• Use their language! “Call on” “Lift up” “covenant” “resolution” “reconciliation” “justice” “prophetic” may win over people of faith more than “systemic” “hierarchy” “protest” “winning” “autonomy” “subverting power” etc.
SPECTRUM OF ALLIES
Spectrum of Allies and Opponents

Engage the active participation of the leaders and members of our own organization.

Tactics apply pressure on primary and secondary targets.

Discredit and weaken leading opponents.

Increase cohesion and activity within the supporters' camp.

Arouse doubts and conflicts within the opponents' camp.

Win over the middle.

Source: Adapted by Foltz/Global from "Spectrum of Allies" in Training for Change by George Lakey.
POWER MAPPING
PILLARS OF POWER
• If people withdraw support, those above cannot rule!
• Note that we did not list social functions such as the “economy” or “religion” as pillars of power. Pillars of support are the institutions and organizations that create and carry out social functions.
• These pillars are made up of individuals.
• It is critical for movements to find ways to influence the behavior of the people within various pillars of power, by: eroding their loyalty to your opponent(s), and persuading them to deny their skills and knowledge, material resources, and time to your opponent(s)
FIGHTING TO WIN
• What do we have that they want, that if we take away, we gain power?
• No friends are always friends. No enemies are always enemies.
• Don’t do actions just to do actions.
• Am I changing the power structure?
• Am I building my organization?
• Am I getting to concrete change?
• Are my tactics helping build the movement past a single campaign?
• When creating tactics, are you creative? Strategic? Thoughtful?
• Theory of Change
• Theory of Change is essentially a comprehensive description and illustration of how and why a desired change is expected to happen in a particular context.

• It is focused in particular on mapping out or “filling in” what has been described as the “missing middle” between what a program or change initiative does (its activities or interventions) and how these lead to desired goals being achieved.

• It does this by first identifying the desired long-term goals and then works back from these to identify all the conditions (outcomes) that must be in place (and how these relate to one another causally) for the goals to occur.

• The Outcomes Framework then provides the basis for identifying what type of activity or intervention will lead to the outcomes identified as preconditions for achieving the long-term goal. Through this approach the precise link between activities and the achievement of the long-term goals are more fully understood. Mission/Programs to Vision.

• This leads to better planning, in that activities are linked to a detailed understanding of how change actually happens.
IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL CONSTRUCTIVE PROGRAMS
• Is this basic need being fulfilled in our community or movement? Or is it lacking?
• Could fulfilling the need strengthen our movement?
• Does our community or movement depend on the opposition to fulfill this need? Would satisfying the need lessen our dependency on the opposition?
• Would fulfilling the need weaken our opposition?
• Does fulfilling the need directly resolve the issue or confront the current system that causes the issue?
• Can everyone participate?
• Is this basic need a good candidate for crafting a constructive program around?