

How Do We Build a Movement: Peter Dolack

Theory derives from examining our experiences, both in our everyday lives and in movement work, and developing ideas out of these in opposition to the dominant propaganda — ideas that can be translated into concrete actions. Effective action, in turn, is impossible without organization.

“We are dealing with a political instrument adjusted to new times, an instrument that we must build together. ... We are talking about understanding politics as the art of constructing a social and political force capable of changing the correlation of force in favor of the popular movement, to make possible in the future what today appears impossible. We have to think of politics as the art of constructing forces.” ~Harnecker

“We must develop a process of popular construction and tries to instill solidarity-based humanist logics, not limited to simple economic demands — although these need to be included — but that advance the development of a more global, social project that encourages authentic levels of power from the grassroots.”
~Chibber

A successful movement will inevitably be a **coalition** organized to achieve specific goals while allowing participating groups to express their particular perspectives, neighborhood organizations uniting into bodies representing larger spaces of geography, advocacy groups and the creation of liberated zones are among others.

“By building organizations based on solidarity, rather than on bureaucratic chain-of-command, we build organizations that by their very existence help to bring a new kind of society into being.

These situations share a potential for human self-development to flourish beyond the normal limits set by exploitation, oppression, ignorance and isolation, creating institutions driven by human need rather than by profit and power”
~Lynd

“Central to a viable notion of ideological and structural transformation that enhance the ability of individuals to make informed judgments, and to provide frameworks for rethinking the relationship between the self and others based on notions of compassion, justice, and solidarity.” ~Professors Cox and Nilsen