

Popular Education Approach to Constituency Building: Core Principles

The Power of Circles



- Finding shared values
- Everyone has a role to play
- Multiple perspectives = wealth
- Non-hierarchical structures
- Networks of circles

Community Members as Experts



- People most impacted by issues analyze them and develop solutions
- Start with people's experience
- Build capacity as needed to tap into indigenous knowledge and leadership

Praxis



- The dynamic relationship between theory and action
- Community members reflect on their own experience, develop an analysis, plan for action, take action, reflect on action to deepen analysis for refined action

Critical Questions



- Are powerful in and of themselves
- Guide our organizing efforts
- Facilitating inquiry is core to building an active constituency

Relationship-building



- Transformational as opposed to transactional partnerships
- Speaking from the heart
- Sharing stories
- Cultural humility

Creativity



- Fundamental aspect of our humanity
- Activating creativity to solve issues builds long-term leaders

Power



- Tapping into personal power is essential for building collective power
- Collective power is necessary to challenge status quo
- Create opportunities for constituents to exercise power to achieve change



**Facilitating
Power**

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