

GATHER THE PEOPLE

Community and Faith-Based Organizing and Development Resources

www.gatherthepeople.org

OPPOSING IDEOLOGIES OF INFRASTRUCTURE SPONSORS

<i>Bottom-Up</i>	<i>Top-Down</i>
SOCIAL CONTRACT	DIVINE RIGHT
Governments are formed and exist by consent of the governed.	Certain individuals and classes rule because of special attributes.
COMMUNITY	MASS ORGANIZATION
Face-to-face relations are best for preventing and treating pathologies of modern social life.	Hierarchical organization is necessary and best to manage complex industrial societies.
POLITICS	TECHNOLOGY
Solutions to problems of social life are mainly political.	Technical expertise is the best way to alleviate social problems.
DIRECT ACTION	SOCIAL CONTROL
The public good requires large numbers of citizens to act directly in self-governance.	Citizen participation must be “guided” to ensure continued (private) capital accumulation.
SELF-HELP	SERVICE
Local initiative and cooperation best satisfy programmatic needs.	Mass organizations must provide programs and services under professional management.
DEMAND	NEED
Public resources should be allocated according to citizen demand.	Public resources are best distributed by expert definitions of need.
REDISTRIBUTION	DISTRIBUTION
Resources should be <i>redistributed</i> to permanently alter relations of power.	Resources should be <i>distributed</i> to relieve extreme human suffering and to buffer citizen discontent.
DEMOCRATIZATION OF SURPLUS	EXTERNALIZATION OF COSTS
Surplus accumulation from labor productivity should benefit the general public.	Public expenditures should continue to subsidize private wealth by assuming externalized costs.

Click [here](#) for more community and congregational development and organizing tools.

Help support the work of Gather the People with a tax-deductible donation by clicking [here!](#)