

Section 10: Working for Social Justice: Visions and Strategies for Change

Further Resources

Film and Video Resources

Envisioning social justice/liberation

The fourth world war. (2003). [DVD; 1:08]. Big Noise Films. New York.

This is a film about the struggle of poor and working-class people all over the globe who must battle both large corporations and oppressive governments to survive and win basic human rights. Filmed in the streets of Mexico, Korea, Argentina, Palestine, Quebec City, and other locations all over the world, this is an emotional and very politicized look at glaring injustice and the emerging movements that seek to combat it.

A town of hope. (1995). [Videotape, 0:46]. Films for the Humanities and Sciences.
<http://www.films.com>

An ex-convict turned counselor narrates the story about a camp that teaches tolerance to adolescents. Using encounter groups, role play, and other intensely emotional exercises, counselors create an environment that fosters dialogue and unity among the various racial groups.

This is what democracy looks like. (2000). [DVD; 1:12]. Big Noise Films. New York.

This film, shot by 100 amateur camera operators, tells the story of the enormous street protests in Seattle, Washington in November 1999, against the World Trade Organization summit being held there. Protestors from all around came out in force to make their views known and stop the summit.

This is what free trade looks like. (2004). [DVD; 1:04]: Activist Media Project. Los Angeles.

Designed as a companion film to *This is what democracy looks like*, this is one of the first activist films to carefully explain how free trade operates. It does so from the perspective of the Mexican experience.

Educating oneself; consciousness raising/education for liberation; critical pedagogy.

Fundi: The story of Ella Baker. (1986). [Videotape: 0:36]. First Run, Icarus Films. New York.

By looking at the 1960s from the perspective of Baker, the "godmother of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee," FUNDI adds an essential understanding of U.S. civil rights. It reveals the instrumental role that Ella Baker, a friend and advisor to Martin Luther King, played in shaping the American Civil Rights Movement. The dynamic activist was affectionately known as the Fundi, a Swahili word for a person who passes skills from one generation to another.

Kids with differences. (1998). [DVD, 0:23]. Program Development Associates.

Features three different programs used to provide upbeat and thought-provoking video that breaks down stereotypes of children with physical differences and promotes discussion to educate peers.

A litany for survival: The Life and work of Audre Lorde. (1995). Independent Television Service (ITVS). San Francisco.

Profiles the impact of her life on fellow poets and activists.

Yuri Kochiyama: Passion for justice. (1994). [Videotape, 0:58]. YK Project.

<http://www.wmm.com/filmcatalog/pages/c110.shtml>

Documents Kochiyama's story from her days in an internment camp for Japanese Americans during World War II to living in Harlem and meeting Malcolm X. Her experience living in the camps and then moving to Harlem profoundly influenced her activist life. We also see her today speaking to young people about Mumia Abu-Jamal, David Wong, and the prison industrial complex.

Dialogues across difference

Color of fear. (Parts 1 and 2). (1995). [VHS, part 1 is 1 hr. 30 min., part 2 is 55 min.]. Stir Fry Productions, <http://www.stirfryseminars.com>

Eight North American men, two African American, two Latinos, two Asian Americans and two Caucasians were gathered for a dialog about the state of race relations in America as seen through their eyes. The exchanges are sometimes dramatic and put in plain light the pain caused by racism in North America.

Last chance for Eden. (3 parts). (2002). [DVD, 4 hrs. 30 min.]. StirFry Seminars & Consulting, <http://www.stirfryseminars.com/store/index.php>

Nine women and men have an honest and emotionally charged conversation about how racism and sexism have affected their lives and families.

Promises. (2003). [DVD, 1:46]. Independent Television Services. <http://www.promisesproject.org/film.html>

Explores the nature of living in the Palestinian–Israeli conflict and tells the story of a few children who dared to cross the lines to meet their neighbors. The seven children featured in the film offer a refreshing, human, and sometimes humorous portrait of the Palestinian–Israeli conflict.

The way home. (1999). [Videotape, 1:32]. World Trust.

Over the course of eight months, 64 women representing a cross-section of cultures, (Indigenous, African American, Arab, Asian, European American, Jewish, Latina, and

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Multiracial) came together to share their experience of racism in America. With uncommon courage, the women speak their hearts and minds about resistance, love, assimilation, standards of beauty, power, school experiences, and more.

What's race got to do with it?: Social disparities and student success. (2006). [DVD, 48 min.]. California Newsreel, <http://www.newsreel.org/>

This film chronicles the experiences of a diverse group of college students over the course of a 16-week dialogue program. They probe and confront each other about such issues as underrepresentation, the limitations of multiculturalism, social equity, affirmative action, and their own responsibilities for making a difference.

Taking action and creating change

Books not bars! (2001). [DVD: 22 min.]. Teaching for Change, <http://www.teachingforchange.org>.

A documentary about the inspiring youth-led movement against the growth of the prison industry in the U.S. After two years of collaborative campaigning with the Ella Baker Center and other groups, the “Super-Jail for Kids” proposal in Alameda County, California, which was on the verge of becoming one of the biggest per capita youth jails in the country, was derailed in part by the efforts of the Books Not Bars! campaign.

Holding ground: The re-birth of Dudley Street. (1996). [Videotape: 0:58]. New Day Films. New Jersey.

A cautionary tale of urban policies gone wrong and a message of hope for all American cities. In 1985, African American, Latino, Cape Verdean, and European American residents in Roxbury, MA united to revitalize their community. The Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative went on to gain national recognition as residents fought to close down illegal dumps, gain unprecedented control of land from City Hall, and create a comprehensive plan to rebuild the fabric of their community. Through the voices of committed residents, activists, and city officials, this moving documentary shows how a Boston neighborhood was able to create and carry out its own agenda for change.

Global village or global pillage? How people around the world are challenging corporate globalization. (1999). [Video Clip, 28 min.]. Teaching for Change, <http://www.teachingforchange.org>

Shows constructive ways that ordinary people around the world are addressing the impact of globalization on their communities, workplaces, and environments. It weaves video of local and transnational activities, interviews, music, and original video comics to show that, through grassroots organizing combined with mutual support around the world, ordinary people can empower themselves to deal with the global economy.

Traces of the trade: A story from the deep North. (2008). [DVD, 1 hr. 26 min.]. California Newsreel, <http://www.newsreel.org/>

Katrina Browne tells the story of her forefathers, the largest slave-trading family in U.S. history. This film challenges the myth that the South is solely responsible for slavery as Browne’s ancestors were Northerners. The film follows Browne and nine family members

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on a remarkable journey that brings them face-to-face with the history and legacy of privilege her family and New England received and continues to receive.

Welfare Warriors. (1997). [videotape: 0:36]. Vision Quest Film and Video Production. Huntington, NY.

Welfare Warriors is a grassroots movement of single mothers on welfare. Through lobbying, public speaking, and direct action, the women dispel the negative myths about welfare mothers and assert that "an attack on poor women is an attack on all women."

Alliances and coalitions

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Morristown: In the air and the sun. (2007). [DVD, 60 min.]: Appalshop, <http://appalshop.org/>

Filmed over an 8-year period in the mountains of east Tennessee, interior Mexico, and Ciudad Juarez, the film provides an authentic expression of workers who speak about their lives, work, disappointments, and hope. The documentary travels to the U.S.-Mexican border (El Paso-Juarez) to create understanding of factory flight out of Morristown and to interior Mexico to look at the forces that cause immigration. Morristown ends with a stunning union victory at a large poultry processing plant in Morristown, Tennessee.

Precious knowledge. (2011). [DVD, 70 min]. Dos Vatos Productions, Inc.

<http://www.preciousknowledgefilm.com/>

The movie illustrates what motivates Tucson High School students and teachers to form the front line of an epic civil rights battle. While 48% of Mexican American students currently drop out of high school, Tucson High's Mexican American Studies Program has become a national model of educational success, with 93% of enrolled students graduating from high school. Arizona lawmakers are trying to shut the program down because they believe the students are being indoctrinated with dangerous ideology and embracing destructive ethnic chauvinism.

Rebels with a cause. ([DVD, 1 hr. 50 min.]. <http://www.sdsrebels.com>

A feature documentary about the hopes, rebellions, and repression of the 1960s as told by members of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS).

A town of hope. (1995). [videotape, 0:46]. Films for the Humanities and Sciences.

<http://ffh.films.com/>

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An ex-convict turned counselor narrates the story about a camp that teaches tolerance to adolescents. Using encounter groups, role play, and other intensely emotional exercises, counselors create an environment that fosters dialogue and unity among the various racial groups.

This is what democracy looks like. (2000). [DVD; 1:12]. Big Noise Films. New York.

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Voices and the history/herstory of social movements

Carved from the heart: A portrait of grief, healing and community. (1999). [videotape. 0:30]. New Day Films. Hohokus, NJ.

Demonstrates the enormous power of mutual support, culture, art, and ceremony in enabling a community to face tragedy, provide support to its members, and find a path to healing.

Fundi: the story of Ella Baker (1986) [Videotape: 0:36]. First Run, Icarus Films. New York/

By looking at the 1960s from the perspective of Baker, the "godmother of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee," FUNDI adds an essential understanding of U.S. civil rights. It reveals the instrumental role that Ella Baker, a friend and advisor to Martin Luther King, played in shaping the American Civil Rights Movement. The dynamic activist was affectionately known as the Fundi, a Swahili word for a person who passes skills from one generation to another.

Graduating Peter. (2003). [DVD: 1:15]. HBO Home Video.

Continues the story of Peter Gwazdauskas (*Educating Peter*) by providing a more in-depth documentation of Peter confronting depression, loneliness, and the limitations of his disability. It also shows Peter emerging from his shell, gaining acceptance from his peers, and enjoying classic high school moments. The film is a testament to those on the frontlines fighting for Peter's rights, especially his mother, Judy. In meeting after meeting, she checks in with Peter's teachers, makes plans for his transition to high school, and later, into the community, and struggles to treat his complex medical problems. Through it all, Judy is there for Peter, waging a constant battle to build the best future for her son.

A litany for survival: The life and work of Audre Lorde. (1995). Independent Television Service (ITVS). San Francisco.

Profiles the impact of her life on fellow poets and activists.

Rebels with a cause (Former members of the Students for a Democratic Society share their stories) [DVD, 1 hr. 50 min.]. <http://www.sdsrebels.com/>

A feature documentary about the hopes, rebellions, and repression of the 1960s as told by members of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS).

Viva la causa: The story of Cesar Chavez and a great movement for social justice.(2008). [DVD: 0:39]. Montgomery, AL: Teaching Tolerance..

Tells the story of how the powerless stood up to the powerful and gained their victory, not by violence and weapons, but by their strong will.

Walkout. (2007). [DVD, 1:51]. HBO Home Video.

Is a feature film based on a true story of a young Mexican American high school teacher, Sal Castro. He mentors a group of students in East Los Angeles when the students decide to stage a peaceful walkout to protest the injustices of the public school system. Set against the background of the Civil Rights Movement of 1968, it is a story of courage and the fight for justice and empowerment.

Watts, then and now, 1965–1991. (1998). [Videotape, 0:47]. Films for the Humanities and Sciences. <http://ffh.films.com/>

This program examines the socioeconomic conditions in Watts that have made it an ongoing hotbed of violence. Community activists and long-time residents, along with younger residents, address the question of why riots occurred in 1965 and 1991—and what can be done so that they do not happen again.

Yuri Kochiyama: Passion for justice. (1994). [Videotape, 0:58]. YK Project.

Documents Kochiyama's story from her days in an internment camp for Japanese Americans during World War II to living in Harlem and meeting Malcolm X. Her experience living in the camps and then moving to Harlem profoundly influenced her activist life. We also see her today speaking to young people about Mumia Abu-Jamal, David Wong, and the prison industrial complex.

Internet Resources

Visioning social justice/liberation

Catalyst Project

<http://www.collectiveliberation.org/>

A center for political education and movement-building based in the San Francisco Bay Area. They are committed to anti-racist work in majority white sections of left social movements with the goal of deepening anti-racist commitment in white communities and building multiracial left movements for liberation.

Labor/Community Strategy Center
<http://www.thestrategycenter.org/>

A think and action tank for regional, national and international movement building based in the city of Los Angeles. Their campaigns, projects, and publications are rooted in working class communities of color, and address the totality of urban life with a particular focus on civil rights, environmental justice, public health, global warming, and the criminal legal system. Their membership consists of people of color, women, immigrants, workers, LGBT people, and youth.

Project South
<http://www.projectsouth.org/>

Acts as a regional hub for leadership development, **movement-building**, and long-term strategy development within community-based organizing for racial and economic justice. They work directly with **young people, intergenerational collaborations, Southern-based organizations, communities affected by social control and violence, cross-regional alliances**, and in their Atlanta and Southeast **membership base**.

School of Unity and Liberation
<http://www.schoolofunityandliberation.org/>

The School of Unity and Liberation (SOUL) is a school to build a movement. They work to lay the groundwork for a strong social justice movement by supporting the development of a new generation of organizers rooted in a systemic change analysis, especially people of color, young women, queer, and transgender youth and low-income people.

Southwest Organizing Project
<http://www.swop.net/>

The Southwest Organizing Project (SWOP) is a statewide multi-racial, multi-issue, community based membership organization with the mission of working to empower communities to realize racial and gender equality and social and economic justice.

United States Social Forum
<http://www.ussf2010.org/>

The U.S. Social Forum provides a space to build relationships, learn from other's experiences, share analysis of the problems communities face, and bring renewed insight and inspiration. It will help develop leadership and develop consciousness, vision, and strategy needed to realize another world. It is a conference of sorts that seems to happen every three years with the next one coming in 2010.

World Social Forum
<http://www.wsfindia.org/>

The World Social Forum is an open meeting place where social movements, networks, NGOs and other civil society organizations opposed to neo-liberalism and a world dominated by capital or by

any form of imperialism come together to pursue their thinking, to debate ideas democratically, formulate proposals, share their experiences freely, and network for effective action.

Educating oneself; consciousness raising, education for liberation/critical pedagogy

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GlobalLocalPopEd

<http://cjtc.ucsc.edu/globallocalpoped/index.html>

This clearinghouse banks profiles of organizations doing effective popular education that links global and local issues, tools and games that dozens of organizations have used in their curriculum, and resources that will help you formulate your own popular education.

Highlander Research and Education Center

<http://highlandercenter.org/>

Highlander serves Appalachia and the South with programs designed to build strong and successful social-change activism and community organizing led by the people who suffer most from the injustices of society. Through popular education, participatory research, and cultural work, Highlander helps activists to become more effective community educators and organizers, informed about the important issues driving conditions in communities today.

Movement Strategy Center

<http://www.movementstrategy.org/>

The Movement Strategy Center was founded to help local campaigns to increase their impact by forming powerful alliances that could affect state-level policy. The center continues to help build a more strategic, collaborative and sustainable progressive movement for racial injustice.

Project South

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The Ruckus Society

<http://www.ruckus.org/>

Working with a broad range of communities, organizations, and movements—from high school students to professional organizations—Ruckus facilitates the sharing of information and expertise that strengthens the capacity to change our relationship with the environment and each other. They either bring activists to them (at Training Camps or Skillshares) or they go to them (community-requested tailored trainings). These trainings contain cerebral elements as well as physical, classroom-style instruction for action planning, communicating with the media, building leadership and political analysis, and nonviolent philosophy and practice.

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United for a Fair Economy

<http://www.faireconomy.org/>

They are a movement support organization that raises awareness that concentrated wealth and power undermine the economy, corrupt democracy, deepen the racial divide, and tear communities apart. Their strategies are: using media outlets, holding face-to-face economic literacy education, and providing training resources to organizations and individuals who work to address the widening income and asset gaps in our country.

Dialogues across difference

Everyday Democracy

<http://www.everyday-democracy.org/>

They are committed to helping communities develop their own ability to solve problems by exploring ways for all kinds of people to think, talk and work together to create change. Their services include: how-to materials for organizing dialogue-to-change, issue-specific guides, facilitator training guides, and self-assessment tools on racial dynamics and community change relays real-life stories of resulting changes—in individuals, in relationships, in institutions, and in public policy. They also organized a national conference in 2008.

Hope in the Cities

<http://www.hopeinthecities.org/>

For nearly 20 years, Hope in the Cities has supported citizens working to build more just and inclusive communities by creating conditions of trust where people of different racial and social backgrounds, or divergent political or religious views, are empowered to speak honestly about their experiences and find common interests where once there were divides.

International Institute of Sustained Dialogue
<http://www.sustaineddialogue.org/>

An independent tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) organization formed in collaboration with the Kettering Foundation, the Institute helps citizens around the world to transform their conflictual or destructive relationships and to design and implement sustainable change processes.

National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME)
<http://www.nameorg.org/>

An organization that brings together individuals and groups with an interest in multicultural education from all levels of education, different academic disciplines and from diverse educational institutions and occupations.

National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI)
<http://ncbi.org/>

The National Coalition Building Institute is an international, non-profit, leadership training organization based in Washington, DC. Since 1984, NCBI has worked to eliminate racism and all other forms of prejudice and discrimination throughout the world.

National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation (NCDD)
<http://ncdd.org/>

The “dialogue and deliberation community” is a loose-knit community of practitioners, researchers, activists, artists, students, and others who are committed to giving people a voice and making sure that voice counts. They have also held four biennial national conferences.

The National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ)
<http://www.nccjtwma.org/>

The National Conference for Community and Justice, founded in 1927 as The National Conference for Christians and Jews, is a human relations organization dedicated to fighting bias, bigotry and racism in America. They promote understanding and respect among all races, religions and cultures through advocacy, conflict resolution and education. Their services include: ANYTOWN, which is a five day social justice residential camp for high school students, and BRIDGES, a two-day prejudice reduction program for middle and high school students.

National Conference on Race and Ethnicity (NCORE)
<http://www.ncore.ou.edu/>

An annual conference designed to provide a forum for discussion, critical dialogue, and exchange of information as higher education institutions search for effective strategies to enhance access, social development, education, positive communication, and cross-cultural understanding in racial and ethnic diverse settings.

Public Conversations Project

<http://www.publicconversations.org/>

Aims to reduce hostility in public squares and promote effective communication within organizations and communities. It also provides workshops, publications, meeting designs and customized trainings that teach people how to use its dialogue methods.

Southern Poverty Law Center

<http://www.splcenter.org/>

The Southern Poverty Law Center was founded in 1971 as a small civil rights law firm. The website is designed to provide readers with news reporting, commentary, real-time criticisms, scholarly information and the results of research, and to teach concepts of fundamental fairness and tolerance.

University of California Intergroup Relations Program

<http://www.igr.ucla.edu/>

Presents resources and details of intergroup dialogue courses and other program activities offered by the Bruin Resource Center at UCLA.

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Social Justice Education Concentration Intergroup Dialogues

<http://people.umass.edu/educ202-xzuniga/>

Presents resources and details of an intergroup dialogue multi-section undergraduate course offered at UMass-Amherst.

University of Maryland Office of Human Relations Programs

<http://www.odec.umd.edu/WE/index.html>

This university offers an intergroup dialogue program titled, Words of Engagement. It is an initiative of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. It brings together groups of students from various social identity groups with a history of tension or conflict between them. Facilitated by trained and experienced facilitators, participants confront those tensions in order to build bridges across groups.

University of Michigan Program on Intergroup Relations (IGR)

<http://www.igr.umich.edu/>

Is a social justice education program on the University of Michigan's Ann Arbor campus. IGR works proactively to promote understanding of intergroup relations inside and outside of the classroom. Multidisciplinary courses offered by IGR are distinguished by their experiential focus, teaching philosophy, and incorporation of dialogical models of communication. On this site you will find information on academic and co-curricular initiatives, program history and philosophy, and resources related to social justice education.

University of Washington, Intergroup Dialogue and Action Idea Center

<http://depts.washington.edu/sswidea/>

This center, housed out of the University of Washington, offers intergroup dialogue courses for undergraduate and graduate students, trains social work students in intergroup dialogue facilitation, and disseminates curriculum development and conducts research.

Syracuse University Intergroup Dialogue

<http://intergroupdialogue.syr.edu/>

Presents resources and details of intergroup dialogue courses and other program activities offered at Syracuse University