

Resources for Citizen Activism 101– Making Change Happen

Strategies and Tactics

Becoming a Citizen Activist: Stories, Strategies & Advice for Changing Our World. Licata. Sasquatch Books. 2016

How We Win: A Guide to Nonviolent Direct Action Campaigning. George Lakey. 2018.

You're More Powerful than You Think: A Citizen's Guide to Making Change Happen. Eric Liu. 2017.

Community Tool Box <http://ctb.ku.edu/en>

All, but, especially, Conducting a Direct Action Campaign <https://ctb.ku.edu/en/table-of-contents/advocacy/direct-action>

How A Grassroots Effort In Vancouver Fought Big Oil — And Won. Mary Solomon. Feb 15, 2018.

https://www.opb.org/news/article/vancouver-washington-oil-terminal-grassroots-community-oil-companies/?utm_source=Sightline+Insitutue&utm_medium=?utm_source=Sightline+Insitutue&utm_medium=

New Rules for Radicals: 10 Ways to Spark Change in a Post-Occupy World. Robinson. Feb 1, 2012. Useful as general advice for any serious social change endeavor. <http://www.truth-out.org/opinion/item/6482:new-rules-for-radicals-ten-ways-to-spark-change-in-a-postoccupy-world>

Civil Disobedience and Non-Violence

198 Methods of Nonviolent Action Albert Einstein Inst. <http://www.aeinstein.org/nonviolentaction/198-methods-of-nonviolent-action/>

How Violent Protests Change Politics. Chotiner. New Yorker. 5/29/20.

https://www.newyorker.com/news/g-and-a/how-violent-protests-change-politics?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=onsite-share&utm_brand=the-new-yorker&utm_social-type=earned&fbclid=IwAR16O6-aHknQfWwFD6N2ImEIXGqOVh_veOWFV6TTQRzSLavtxGwKeb-Vn68

New Study Shows Riots Make America Conservative. Chait. 5/21/2015.

<https://nymag.com/intelligencer/2015/05/new-study-shows-riots-make-america-conservative.html>

Opinion: Mass civil disobedience is our best tool for climate fight. Zuckerman. 3/11/20.

<https://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/2020/03/opinion-mass-civil-disobedience-is-our-best-tool-for-climate-fight.html>

Want to Have an Effective Protest? Disrupt, Expert Says Sicorsky 11/1/2016.

<http://www.wupr.org/2016/11/01/want-to-have-an-effective-protest-disrupt-expert-says/>

A Guide to Effective Non-Violent Struggle. Centre for Applied Nonviolent Action and Strategies (CANVAS). 2007.

https://www.nonviolent-conflict.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/CANVAS-Core-Curriculum_EN4.pdf
[CANVAS-Core-Curriculum_EN4.pdf \(nonviolent-conflict.org\)](https://www.nonviolent-conflict.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/CANVAS-Core-Curriculum_EN4.pdf)

Know Your Rights. ACLU.

<https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights/>

Lobbying Advice / Communication with Legislators

Former Georgia House Minority Leader, Representative Stacey Abrams, on Effective Advocacy. 2011.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r1-np2iYxOY>

“Making a Difference” A Citizen’s Guide on How to Testify. Video from Oregon State Legislature. This video is good instruction for testifying at any government hearing, although some will be less formal than this.

https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/citizen_engagement/Pages/How-to-Testify.aspx

Oregon State Legislature Citizen Engagement Page. https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/citizen_engagement

How to Effectively Lobby Your Congressperson. Ellsworth. Nov. 15, 2016.

<http://theslot.jezebel.com/how-to-effectively-lobby-your-congressperson-1788958124>

Local Gov section customized for Washington County, OR

How to Petition Lawmakers, From a Former Congressional Staffer. Dwyer. Teen Vogue. 11/14/2015.

<https://www.teenvogue.com/story/how-to-petition-lawmakers-state-local-congressional-staffer-advice>

<https://www.teenvogue.com/story/how-to-petition-lawmakers-state-local-congressional-staffer-advice>

How to Most Effectively Contact Your Representative. Kal. Daily Kos. Nov. 14, 2016

<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2007/11/14/410611/->

What Calling Congress Achieves. Schulz. New Yorker. March 6, 2017

<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2017/03/06/what-calling-congress-achieves>

A Guide to Working with Members of Congress. American Hospital Association. 2019.

<https://www.aha.org/system/files/media/file/2019/12/Guide-working-with-congress.pdf>

Government - Federal

Congress.gov Find and track bills, legislators, committees <https://www.congress.gov/>

The Legislative Process. Videos of 9 areas of how Congress works. "Overview" gives a nice, well, overview!

<https://www.congress.gov/legislative-process>

USA.gov Basic citizen-oriented federal government site <https://www.usa.gov/>

LLSDC Legislative Sourcebook [Law Librarians' Society of Washington, DC]. Research guides

<http://www.llsdc.org/sourcebook>

My Congressional District – from the Census Bureau. Quick and easy way to find demographic and economic stats about your district. <https://www.census.gov/mycd/>

Government - State

Oregon State Legislature Main Page <https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/> [Feature to find your legislators, too.]

OLIS [Oregon Legislative Information Service]. The best way to: find bills, track bills, provide testimony.

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/202111>

Subscribe to emails from the state legislature. About bills, committee meetings and legislators.

https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/citizen_engagement/Pages/e-Subscribe.aspx

State of Oregon Boards List

<https://www.oregon.gov/gov/admin/Pages/Board-List.aspx>

How an Idea Becomes Law. Oregon State Legislatures. [Classic cartoon showing the process.]

https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/citizen_engagement/Documents/idea2LawEnglish.pdf

Oregon Government Ethics Commission also has a database of lobbyists

<https://apps.oregon.gov/OGEC/EFS/Records> **State of Oregon** also has a manual on lobbying for lobbyists.

Open States. [Non-governmental source] Because of its graphical nature, a nice way to get a quick snapshot of the state's legislature by chamber, including recently introduced legislation. <https://openstates.org/or/>

Initiative and Referendum Process

State of Oregon has manuals on the I&R process for those planning to do this.

For state I&R: <http://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Documents/stateIR.pdf>

For City, County and District I&Rs: <http://sos.oregon.gov/elections/Documents/countycitydistrictir.pdf>

Metro Elected Officials <http://www.oregonmetro.gov/regional-leadership/metro-council>

Metro Advisory Committees <http://www.oregonmetro.gov/regional-leadership/metro-advisory-committees>

Government - Local

Washington County Board of Commissioners <http://www.co.washington.or.us/BOC/>

Washington County Code and Charter <http://www.co.washington.or.us/CAO/CharterCode/index.cfm>

Washington County Community Involvement <http://www.co.washington.or.us/community-involvement-and-cpos.cfm>

Reports recommending changes to the City of Portland's government structure:

New Government for Today's Portland: Rethinking 100 Years of the Commission System. City Club of Portland. Feb, 2019.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1y74WRaWJA3j2QEYqsAOtZwcLOvT97VcZ/view>

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www.civichinker.info <https://www.facebook.com/Civics-for-Adults-1490728887922036/> 1/2022

The City That Works: Preparing Portland for the Future. League of Women Voters-PDX. Sept, 2019.
<https://lwvpdx.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/City-Gov-MASTER-REPORT-FINAL.pdf>

Oregon Open Primaries [effort to institute open primary elections in Oregon]
<https://oregonopenprimaries.org/>

Running for Office / Women Running for Office
Center for American Women in Politics. <http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu/>
Women in Elective Office 2021. Fact Sheet. Center for American Women in Politics.
<https://cawp.rutgers.edu/women-elective-office-2021>

General Public Policy Guides
Oregon Policy Directory Find analysis and advocacy from all perspectives on Oregon public policy. [For Oregon government agencies, see the [Oregon Blue Book.](#)] <https://researchguides.uoregon.edu/oregon-policy-directory>
American Policy Directory Find analysis and advocacy from all perspectives on US national public policy.
<https://researchguides.uoregon.edu/american-policy-directory>

Resources on Racial Equity
Community Tool Box Justice Action Toolkit
<https://ctb.ku.edu/en/justice-action-toolkit>

Merriam-Webster To Revise The Definition Of Racism After Receiving Recent Graduate's Letter. Mosley. 6/20/20
<https://www.wbur.org/hereandnow/2020/06/12/merriam-webster-racism-definition>

Equitable Development as a Tool to Advance Racial Equity
<https://www.racialequityalliance.org/resources/equitable-development-tool-advance-racial-equity/>

Racial Equity Toolkit: An Opportunity to Operationalize Equity. Goal: to integrate explicit consideration of racial equity in decisions, including policies, practices, programs, and budgets. Local and Regional Government Alliance on Race & Equity. <https://www.racialequityalliance.org/resources/racial-equity-toolkit-opportunity-operationalize-equity/>

Equal Justice Initiative. Goal: committed to ending mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the United States
<https://eji.org/>

Historical Perspective
The 28th Amendment to Restore the American Promise. Referenced in the workshop. Created to support an Amendment against Citizens United, the first part is a wonderful, succinct narrative of all the Amendments passed in the 20th Century. 2016.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K6igolnTvqA>

The Woman Who Took on the Tycoon. King. Smithsonian. July 5, 2012. [About Ida Tarbell taking on Standard Oil]
<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/the-woman-who-took-on-the-tycoon-651396/>

Jacob Riis: Revealing “How the Other Half Lives” co-presentation of the Library of Congress and the Museum of the City of New York. <https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/jacob-riis/riis-and-reform.html>

His Photos helped abolish child labor. Jessica Contrera. Washington Post. Sept 3, 2018. About Lewis Hine, another documentarian of conditions during the Gilded Age. [Access via library database.]

Theodore Roosevelt, Health Care Progressive. Patricia O’Toole. NY Times. Jan 6, 2019.
A good review of Roosevelt’s policies in the first decade of the 20th Century. [Access via library database.]
[Note: Articles not available on the web can often be acquired via your public library’s free research databases.]