Are You A Change Maker?

Do you want to develop equitable, effective, self-protective civic-political agency?

TEN QUESTIONS FOR PARTICIPATORY POLITICS

01 Why Does It Matter to Me?
What do I care about? What is your passion? Where does it come from? Start with the questions and interests you. Your friends already can’t get enough of and connect that engagement to civic and political themes.

02 How Much Should I Share?
What kind of mix should you take for the things you care about? Consider how much you should share. Which part of your persona do you want to be shared publicly? Help your community consider how different audiences react to their stories and how a post might impact them years down the road.

03 How Do I Make It About More Than Myself?
How can you and your community take 5 from “I to “we”? Help your users think of themselves as part of something bigger. Can you expand the network of engagement for yourself and your users by actively rewarding authenticity, accountability, networking, and bridge-building across social divides?

04 Where Do We Start?
Go where your peers go. Can you make use of spaces where you and your friends and associates already gather to connect and pursue shared interests?

05 How Can We Make It Easy and Engaging?
Remember that some engagement is better than none. When are the opportunities for light-touch engagement that is potentially powerful in itself and also a possible gateway into deeper involvement?

06 How Do You Get Wisdom from Crowds?
In true investigation and critique, create openings for your friends, associates, and even strangers to dig in, verify, challenge, and contribute to the knowledge-base you provide, and stay open to evolving purposes.

07 How Do You Handle the Downside of Crowds?
Be prepared for possible to stay and do things you don’t like in your shared spaces. The goal is to keep your community open and democratic, and that also means predicting it from those who misuse that freedom and opportunity.

08 Are We Pursuing Voice Or Influence Or Both?
Sharing awareness is key. Is it already an important civic and political action, do you also trying to drive change beyond that point? You’ll need that raised awareness to elevate civic and political engagement over time.

09 How Do We Get From Voice To Change?
Is your goal to convert voice to influence over polities, institutions, or concrete practices? If so, you’ll need to move beyond raising awareness to mobilize specific actions on the basis of the attention you manage to get.

10 How Can We Find Allies?
How can you engage with power holders in a way that benefits your cause and also empowers you? Find connected allies who can provide mentorship and broker on your behalf, being creative in your methods, and co-opt allies in a variety of places—sometimes beyond the usual suspects.