

# 6c. Movement Building & Organizing

## *Session C: Breaking Rules to Make the Rules*

**Total Time:** 2 hours, 35 min

### Learning Objectives/Desired Outcomes:

*Participants will leave this workshop with...*

- Analysis of when it makes sense to break the rules
- Historical knowledge of the factory takeovers in Argentina
- Critical analysis of the systemic and social barriers to the solidarity economy project of focus
- Ideas on advocacy, organizing and movement building efforts that could break down barriers and expand support for a solidarity economy
- Plans for implementation of PAR project with power building tactics

### Materials

- Computer and video projector, screen
- Youtube version of “The Take” LA TOMA with Spanish subtitles:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bpRjxJH6qQc>
  - Or a copy of the actual dvd (even better)
  - Here is the youtube version in English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sug7bWxTuSo>
- Flip chart paper
- Enough markers for everyone to have one

### Preparation

- Prepare a poster with the following discussion questions for the documentary, “The Take”
  - What “rules” did not make sense for working class Argentinos?
  - How did they “break” the rules?
  - What new rules are they establishing?
  - What strategy and tactics are they using to make sure their new rules are made formal?
- Prepare 4 posters with the following prompts for the poster walk:
  - What rules are currently not serving the development of a solidarity economy in our community?
    - Laws
    - Family expectations
    - Social expectations
    - Economic assumptions
    - Political rules

- ❑ What are some creative ways we can challenge the rules of the survival economy in SF?
- ❑ How can we use the PAR project to begin questioning and even challenging the rules?
- ❑ Roles and responsibilities for PAR project - SIGN-UP!

## Agenda

### 1. OPENING CIRCLE & FIREBUILDER (Seeds) = personal connections

<p><b>Opening Circle: When Rules Don't Make Sense</b></p>	<p><b>Time: 25 min</b></p>
<p><i>Instructions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Share the goals for the session, emphasizing that we'll be looking at what it means to break the rules to make the rules</li> <li>2. Break people up into groups of three to discuss (10 min)             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Are there times when it is okay to break the rules?</li> <li>b. Do you have any examples from your own life?</li> <li>c. What are some examples from history when people broke the rules into order to make new rules? What can we learn from that?</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Ask each group to be prepared to share out 1-3 ideas about when it is a good idea to break the rules (2 min each)</li> <li>4. Reflect with the whole group: What are the different kinds of "rules" we have in our society?</li> </ol>	<p><i>Purpose:</i></p> <p>To get people reflecting on what they already know about breaking the rules to make the rules (connect to past knowledge)</p> <p><i>Facilitator's Notes:</i></p> <p>Some example of different kinds of rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Laws</li> <li>● Family expectations</li> <li>● Social expectations</li> <li>● Economic assumptions</li> <li>● Political rules</li> </ul>

### 2. BRIDGE EXERCISE (Planting the seeds) = connecting personal experiences to the big picture + BIG PICTURE LEARNING (Sun and Water) = New learning/big picture content

<p><b>Video &amp; Discussion: Break Rules to Make Rules</b></p>	<p><b>Time: 1 hour</b></p>
<p><i>Instructions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Before watching the video, review the discussion questions with the group so they know what to be looking for (have them written on a poster or whiteboard)</li> </ol>	<p><i>Purpose:</i></p> <p>To gain knowledge and inspiration from the Argentine workers who are building a solidarity economy by taking</p>

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Watch the first 30 minutes of “The Take.”</li> <li>3. Discuss the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What “rules” did not make sense for working class Argentinos?</li> <li>b. How did they “break” the rules?</li> <li>c. What new rules are they establishing?</li> <li>d. What strategy and tactics are they using to make sure their new rules are made formal?</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>over the factories shut down by big bosses because they were no longer profitable</p> <p><i>Facilitator Notes:</i></p> <p>Some ideas to save time during class and to give people the chance to watch the full film (1 hour, 30 min):</p> <p>→ Ask everyone to watch the documentary on their own (on youtube) before coming to class</p> <p>→ Have a special film screening and dinner the night before</p>
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**3. CREATING CONTENT (Harvest): Analysis and/or action steps**

<p><b>Poster Walk: Connecting and Planning</b></p>	<p><b>Time: 1 hour</b></p>
<p><i>Instructions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have the following posters hanging on easy to access walls</li> <li>2. Give everyone their own marker</li> <li>3. Introduce each poster to the group so they understand the prompts</li> <li>4. Let the group know they will have 30 minutes to write down their ideas. Let them know this is NOT a silent exercise - they can talk and discuss ideas at each poster</li> <li>5. POSTERS <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What rules are currently not serving the development of a solidarity economy in our community? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Laws</li> <li>ii. Family expectations</li> <li>iii. Social expectations</li> <li>iv. Economic assumptions</li> <li>v. Political rules</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p><i>Purpose:</i></p> <p>To apply lessons from the last exercise to the local context and continue planning for PAR</p> <p><i>Facilitator Notes:</i></p> <p>Feel free to revise the questions to meet the specific focus on your PAR project.</p> <p>For the last poster (Roles and Responsibilities of PAR Project - SIGN-UP!) make a list of the roles and responsibilities for your given PAR project and indicate how many people are needed for each.</p> <p>During the poster walk, mingle with the group, asking probing questions to encourage critical thinking. Feel free to add your own ideas as well and be</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. What are some creative ways we can challenge the rules of the survival economy in SF?</li> <li>c. How can we use the PAR project to begin questioning and even challenging the rules?</li> <li>d. Roles and responsibilities for PAR project - SIGN-UP!</li> </ul> <p>6. After the 30 minutes, invite everyone to take a look at what they see on the posters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. What stands out?</li> <li>b. What's missing?</li> <li>c. Which of these rules is most essential for us to challenge?</li> <li>d. What strategies and tactics would be most effective in our community?</li> <li>e. How do these thoughts impact how we want to carry out our research and how we want to publish our results?</li> </ul>	<p>available to answer questions people may have</p> <p>Some additional prompts that might be helpful in getting people to think about creative tactics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Who currently has the power to change the rule?</li> <li>→ How can we build our own power?</li> <li>→ What community assets can support this?</li> </ul>
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**4. CLOSING CIRCLE (Saving Seeds) = Reflection**

<p><b>Transforming rules</b></p>	<p><b>Time: 10 min</b></p>
<p><i>Instructions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Form a circle and thank everyone for their participation and their willingness to challenge the rules that don't make sense.</li> <li>2. Ask, <b>What is one thing you can/will do within your family and/or friends or workplace that will help challenge one or more of the old "rules" that goes against a solidarity economy and start cultivating new agreements that support it?</b></li> <li>3. Let people popcorn out different ideas.</li> <li>4. Remind everyone that <b>the solidarity economy starts with us, with how we interact with family, friends, co-workers. From there, it spreads out into how we organize strategic allies within our communities. You all now have the foundational skills to begin challenging the rules of the survival economy, so we can come together for the solidarity economy</b></li> </ol>	<p><i>Purpose:</i></p> <p>To personalize the effort to break the rules to make the rules</p> <p><i>Facilitator Notes:</i></p> <p>This might be the last official workshop, so feel free to add whatever additional acknowledgements, ceremony, announcements, etc. so people feel compelled to continue the work together</p>