

## 26.03. Literature Seminar

Add anything you would like to discuss during the literature seminar. This should include relating the book to specific guests and/or (change) literature in the course, highlight missing elements and/or strengths and weaknesses of the book in explaining social change. Make sure to 'like' other contributions you would also like to discuss and we will include some of the most liked contributions in the seminar.

**ACTORS AND STRATEGIES FOR CHANGE** MAR 19, 2018 02:12PM

**ESMÉE RAMAAKER** MAR 23, 2018 04:43PM

### Privilege and Social Change

At our group discussions we concluded that the book was sometimes a bit 'snobbish' in the sense that it assumed that the readers audience could 'just take a gap year and create 'social change' – while we believed that a lot of individuals interested and driven by social change do not have the means to 'just take a gap year'. This view was also represented in the ways the author touched upon the idea of 'work' and choosing 'a good job'. It seemed that the book very much focused on the privileged few and it would be interesting to debate whether this is not an exclusive perspective. Should this inequality not be tackled to create social change and therefore the audience should be broader then implied in the book? What about inequality among social change movements? And how is social change reflected in other parts of the world? This furthermore relates to the fact that we as a group concluded that the book was very US focused.

**SOFIA NORBERG** MAR 23, 2018 03:14PM

### Ethical consideration

Massey brings up the social responsibility of acting in a social movement, and that deep consideration needs to be taken to what consequences movements give effect to. This may be obvious in cases where movements combat poverty or hunger where specific communities are affected but what about movements like activism, journalism-driven activism etc? Are we competent to assess ethical considerations in that context?

**JOSE PHINE** MAR 23, 2018 03:06PM

### The Future's Driverless Cars

The social change they would bring. Is it going to happen? How do the ethics work? Big change in infrastructure and social behaviour. Transportation time becomes more

'efficient' and would bring societal changes as well.

Some say driverless cars will result in fewer accidents and reduce death rates. This article also points out that people who are not able to drive today (old, disabled, etc.) would benefit.

<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/03/20/driverless-cars-arent-safe-or-ready-for-the-road-robotics-expert.html>

*<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2018/mar/19/uber-self-driving-car-kills-woman-arizona-tempe> - just because its relevant to this topic; this week saw the first fatal crash involving self-driving cars – LAURA MITCHELL*

**PONTUS ROSEEN** MAR 23, 2018 02:05PM

### Alternative societies

David Roxendals' solution to global warming is to build smaller communities and produce most things needed for life locally. In a a sense, such an alternative community could be considered a social movement. At the same time, it would be a social movement that aims to separate itself from society rather than influence it. Also it would, if successful have little interaction with the rest of society. How should we view this in relations to how Massey views social change?

**ELINA HEDMAN** MAR 22, 2018 10:59PM

### Individuals in the context of social change

As someone else mentioned, Kevin Anderson brought up the question of individuals when he stated that there is no real individuals since we all work together as a society. When we meet new people we change due to those experiences as our synapses change and we become a mix of each other.

This got me thinking as I was reading the concluding chapter of Ways of Social Change where Massey says that no matter what the drivers may be, social change would never

exist apart from individuals and groups pushing together for their goal (p.328). I get that Kevin Andersson did not mean that individuals never play important roles in social change. But I still think it is an interesting discussion to have. What are our roles, as individuals, in social change? What can we do to change the well known counterargument that is "it does not matter what I do since everyone else does it"? Can one individual spark a social movement? What does it mean to be an individual in this context?

**JOSEPHINE\_KALDOR\_4282** MAR 22, 2018 04:19PM

I would like to discuss free speech and 'giving voice' to social problems in order to achieve shared grievance and build momentum. Massey highlights this important but commonly overlooked aspect in chapter 5.

When it feels like our freedom of speech is beginning to become more restricted, especially on social media, (eg. Jordan Peterson and gender neutral pro-nouns, Yassmin Abdel-Magied on Twitter) - will it become more difficult to give voice to social issues? Will these actors of social movements begin to face more or less resistance?

Yassmin Abdel-Magied

[https://twitter.com/yassmin\\_a/status/929699504277872641](https://twitter.com/yassmin_a/status/929699504277872641)

Jordan Peterson

<https://libertarianchristians.com/2018/03/15/jordan-peterson-free-speech-missing-bigger-point/>

**VERA SCHUMANN** MAR 22, 2018 09:00AM

## Massey in Europe

When reading "Ways of Social Change" I was a little bit annoyed by the fact that nearly all the examples were US-based. For this reason, I would love to discuss the agents of change in a perspective outside of Europe. World Café tables could be great to gather input from different countries all over the world.

*Totally agree--our group definitely had the same critique*  
— KAYLA VAN CLEAVE

**KAYLA VAN CLEAVE** MAR 21, 2018 10:39AM

## No more shallow waters Massey, lets get deep!

I generally tend to critique Massey's broad sweeps of complicated topics (and at the same time understand that he is providing an outline of different kinds of social change).

So this week I thought I'd take the opportunity to contribute a piece that goes DEEP into a core part of sustainability: approaching coexistence in pluralist societies.

Specifically, this article argues how societies and individuals need to shift focus from "accommodating" and "tolerating" each other on a surface level, to the idea of "deep equality" and how we can work towards a better understanding of each other to create a resilient kind of sustainability.

*Nordic Journal of Religion and Society (2014), 27 (2): 89–111*

*Lori G. Beaman*

### DEEP EQUALITY AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO ACCOMMODATION AND TOLERANCE

*Abstract*

The call to manage religious diversity from various sectors has produced a response that has largely been framed in terms of tolerance and accommodation. It has also produced an over-reliance on law and legal solutions and a tendency to look to top-down, or vertical, solutions rather than the ways in which difference and diversity are negotiated in everyday life. Based on a wide range of data that highlights the themes of respect and similarity, this article proposes the concept of deep equality as an alternative to accommodation and tolerance. The article concludes by

**Beaman\_Deep\_Equality.pdf**

PDF document

PADLET DRIVE

**LILLY ZDANSKY COTTLE** MAR 21, 2018 09:18AM

## Making cash?

During the interview with Kevin Anderson, we discussed individual's roles in instigating social change. One thing he said really resonated with me was that "individuals don't really exist, we all work as a system. We're constantly evolving with every experience and with every new person we meet. These 'individuals' are the catalyst for wider social change".

I then shifted my focus to David Roxendal who could be considered to be one of these catalyst so of social change, and in our reading group discussion, I brought up the question of: "is it bad to make money off the social change you're working towards?"

(In reference to David doing paid guided tours etc.)

The book gave me the impression that individuals in social change movements are engaged because they are passionate about something, but perhaps didn't discuss being an activist as a career.

江崎友亮 MAR 20, 2018 04:56PM

A.I. and IoT will cause big social changes in several years. Then what kind of social movement would occur?(chapter5) Would Artivism be still useful for them?(Lisa Farnström) This book is relatively new(2016), but current situation is rapidly changing and we are reaching around the entrance of new period of technology (A.I. and IoT). Let's talk about near future.

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