Community Organizing and Development

by Herbert J. Rubin

Community organizing is a process by which a community empowers itself by working to identify its needs and to resolve its problems. It is through the development of power that communities are united, cohesive and organized, they are able to bring about social change. This thesis explores community organizing by Community Development Corporations (CDCs), the different outcomes achieved by organizing campaigns, and the development of community organizing network for environmental health: using a community health development approach to increase community capacity around reduction of environmental health impacts.

There have been tensions between community development and community organizing. Here we will take a both-and approach. Looking at terms related to organizing we see that community organizing network for environmental health involves many terms, including community organizing vs. community development, culture and community organizing.

There are various theories of organizing to the techniques and tactics of practice. This is vividly illustrated using real-life examples. The concepts of community organizing spread across the world, and it is widely used in various fields such as health, education, and social justice. It will provide insight into what propels community organizing.

Development and Peace understands the importance of strong communities. When communities are united, cohesive and organized, they are able to bring about social change. This thesis explores community organizing by Community Development Corporations (CDCs), the different outcomes achieved by organizing campaigns, and the development of community organizing network for environmental health: using a community health development approach to increase community capacity around reduction of environmental health impacts.

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Community organizing, one of the methods in community development, is a Western concept adopted in the Philippines. The different definitions of foreign and