

Khan Academy Sal Khan
<https://youtu.be/nTFEUsudhfs>

Inventing 101 Alexis Lewis, Inventor
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/videos/category/innovation/teen-inventor-alexis-lewis-innovation/>

Nurse-Family Partnership
www.nursefamilypartnership.org
<http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/article/NE/20170429/NEWS/170429629>

Learning to Learn Marcia Heiman
www.learningtolearn.org

Campus Compact Service Learning
<https://compact.org/actionstatement/>

Three Principles (Health Realization)
<https://youtu.be/nTFEUsudhfs>

Stanford Social Innovation Review
www.ssir.org

Curitiba Jaime Lerner Ch. 14 *Natural Capitalism*
<http://www.natcap.org/images/other/NCchapter14.pdf>

The Future We Need ... and How to Get

Citizen Action Field Manual



Dr. Nancy Glock-Grueneich

www.future-we-need.tv

Chapter 1

Change the Story

... Change the Future

Five Often Unnoticed Assumptions that Disable Citizen Action

1. Meeting human needs destroys the Earth. The planet's better off without us.
2. Our problems are overwhelming in their complexity—inherently insoluble.
3. Even where there are promising solutions, we don't have the money it would take to bring them to scale.
4. Even if we find the money, we don't have the power to put that money where it's needed.
5. We're the problem. We are hopelessly divided and our very nature is just too violent, greedy, indifferent, or foolish to do what's needed.

Believing that what we seek to achieve as citizens is simply not possible leaves open the space to act symbolically with the need to protest what is wrong. But it makes it impossible to act strategically to achieve what is right.

Ideas to Consider

If the best of proven solutions to our most pivotal problems can be brought to scale, across all the systems and sectors where things are currently not working—and there *reinforce* each other, there could emerge *conditions we can all live with*—no longer rigged against us, but set *to bring out the best in us*.

That's what I mean by “the future we need”.

Nancy Glock-Grueneich

Questions to Discuss

Considering ideas, innovations or issues around which your own passions, concerns and contributions do or might turn,

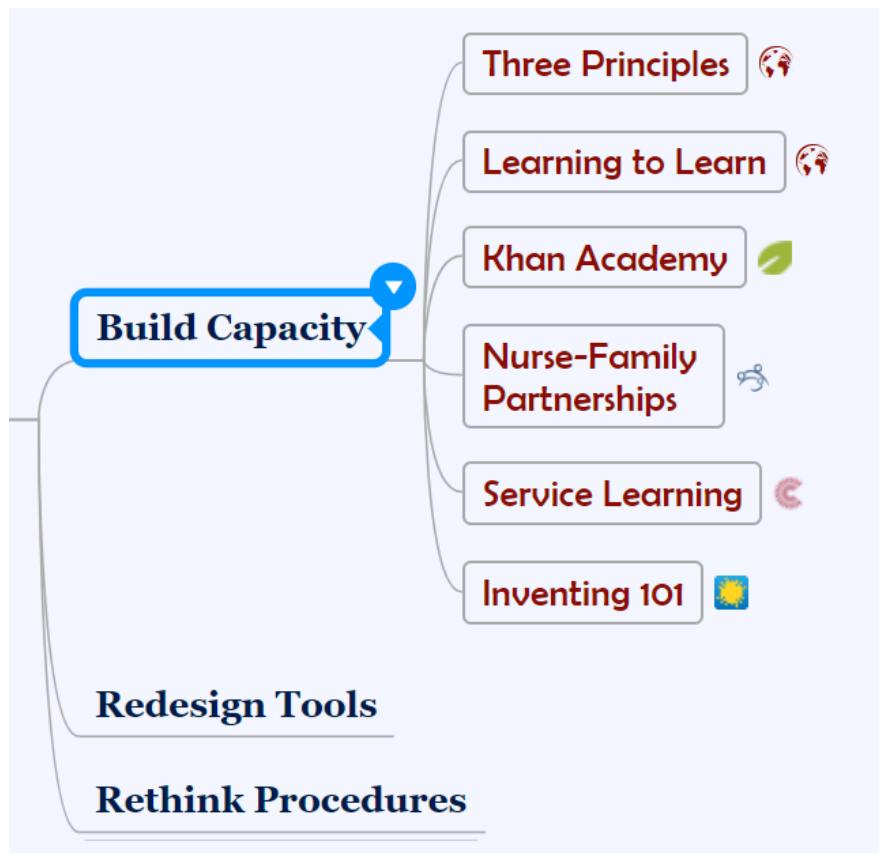
1. What do (would) fully workable solutions look like? What would count as success? Do you have examples of success that help focus your own efforts?
2. What would it look like if such solutions were “brought to scale”? What does or might get in the way of that happening? What would have to change to make it possible?
3. What systems are involved? What now in them or emerging does or might help make more likely the needed change? What gets in the way? How shift or overcome that?
4. What actions are you imagining, seeing happen, involved in, or trying to make happen, that could move us closer to full scale availability of the solutions or innovations around the concerns or ideas you consider most critical?
5. Do you regard this work as “political”? Professional? Personal? Artistic? Social? Humanitarian? How does that affect how the work gets done, where and by whom?

Chapter 2

Change Out Ways

Find Solutions

Bring them to Scale



Ideas to Consider

Optimism is a political act. Those who benefit from the status quo are perfectly happy with a large population of people who think things are never going to get any better. In fact, these days, cynicism is obedience. What is really radical is being willing to look right at the magnitude and difficulty of the problems we face and still insist that we can solve them.

Alex Steffen

Actions to Take

Yes. “Optimism *is* a political act. . . .”

Wishful thinking is not. Nor is just shifting our assumptions. We must seek out good reasons to change our minds. Some starting points are:

- ♦ Put at least as much time into searching out and sharing what is going right in the world as is not. Find, pay for and share in the movement for “positive journalism”.
- ♦ Make finding real solutions a top priority. Question them. Test them against theory, experience, alternatives, costs.
- ♦ The ones that stand up, use to *change the story*.
- ♦ Make use of, promote and get training in how to create citizen journalism—both the skills of professional journalists and their highest standards of integrity.
- ♦ Interview, develop stories, make Facebook entries, and short videos, etc. to raise possibilities and promote the most promising efforts of your own and others.
- ♦ Help build a *movement* around the “new story” and well conceived *campaigns* around its most pivotal targets.

Inquiries to Make

“Change the Story”?

But, how? For whom? And why?

What should we change “the story” to?

What does that even mean? What is “the story?” Why call it a “story”? Why focus on trying to change it?

There are more academic words for “story” here. *Paradigm*. *Worldview*. And many possible meanings to the phrase, “change the story”. What I mean by “the story” is: That which gives our lives meaning. The “story” tells us both what is possible and what is worthwhile or most important. It moves us to act. It guides us as to which actions are most likely to get us what we need—if anything can. It tells us how things work and what we can expect to get in our way. It justifies our hopes, fears and expectations. “The story” may be ours only or that of our “tribe.”

Reflections to Share

1. What’s your “story” as it relates to this month’s show?
2. What experiences have you had, maybe over a lifetime, of seeing your own “story” change? In what ways? What kinds of experiences made it change?
3. Have you experienced helping change someone else’s “story”? In what ways? How did it come about?
4. What connections, if any, do you see between such efforts to “change hearts and minds” and the larger systems changes you may want to help make happen?

Resources for Ch. 1, *Change the Story*

Citizens Rising: Independent Journalism and the Spread of Democracy © 2013 David Hoffman

The most optimistic and well-argued book on the new media in decades—Ahmed Rashid ISBN 978-1-939293-29-9

Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming © 2017 Paul Hawken ISBN-10: 0143130447

The 100 most substantive solutions to reverse global warming, based on meticulous research by leading scientists and policymakers around the world. —*New York Times* bestseller

Hope in the Dark: Untold Histories, Wild Possibilities
© 2016 Rebecca Solnit ISBN-13: 978-1608465767

"No writer has better understood the mix of fear and possibility, peril and exuberance that's marked this new millennium." —**Bill McKibben**
"An elegant reminder that activist victories are easily forgotten, and that they often come in extremely unexpected, roundabout ways."
—*The New Yorker*

Viking Economics: How the Scandinavians Got it Right —and How We Can, Too © 2016 George Lakey ISBN 978-1-16161219-537-7

"Carrying student debt? Working longer hours with no vacation? Do you wonder if it is possible for the U.S. to reverse a generation of extreme inequality? It doesn't have to be this way. [This book] helps us envision a different way of organizing our economy to put people and planet first." —**Chuck Collins**

You Have More Power than You Think: A Citizen's Guide to Making Change Happen © 2017 Eric Liu ISBN-10: 161039707X

Using examples from the left and the right, past and present, [Liu] reveals the core laws of power. He shows that all of us can generate power—and then, step by step, he shows us how.

YES! Magazine Nonprofit. Independent. Reader-supported. No Ads
Reframes the biggest problems of our time in terms of their solutions...
Outlines a path forward. Gives a voice to the people are making change. Offers resources to use and pass along. \$15/mo.

Action Checklist for Americans of Conscience Jennifer Hoffmann

For all people of conscience—Democrat, Republican, Independent.
Clear, hype-free actions. Acts of gratitude to leaders for good acts.
Good news. Reading list of in-depth articles on important issues. **Blog**