

Appendix D: Table for Identifying Potential Constructive Programs

Fill in the chart with yes or no answers. You may wish to add notes below with further details. If all your answers to the questions are "yes" for a particular basic need, you may have a potential constructive program on your hands. Write "yes" in the last column. If your answers were predominately "no", then it is possible that this basic need is not a good candidate for a constructive program. If your answers were mixed, simply write "maybe" in the last column.

Questions:

- Is this basic need being fulfilled in our community or movement? Or is it lacking?
- Could fulfilling the need strengthen our movement?
- Does our community or movement depend on the opposition to fulfill this need? Would satisfying the need lessen our dependency on the opposition?
- Would fulfilling the need weaken our opposition?
- Does fulfilling the need directly resolve the issue or confront the current system that causes the issue?
- Can everyone participate?
- Is this basic need a good candidate for crafting a constructive program around?

Basic Need	Lacking in community?	Strengthens movement?	Lessens dependency?	Weakens opposition?	Confronts issue or system?	Can everyone participate?	Potential constructive program?
Food							
Shelter							
Clothing							
Water							
Money							
Energy							
Communication							
Information							
Education							
Entertainment							
Other							

Examples:

Example 1: Salt Satyagraha Constructive Program in India 1930

Issue: Indian Independence and Ending British Rule

Basic Need	Lacking in community?	Strengthens movement?	Lessens dependency?	Weakens opposition?	Confronts issue or system?	Can everyone participate?	Potential constructive program?
Salt	Yes (1)	Yes. (2)	Yes.	Yes. (3)	Yes. (4)	Yes.	Yes

(1) It is lacking in the communities because of British Salt Laws.

(2) It strengthens the Independence movement by increasing the Indian people's self-reliance and self-rule.

(3) Undermines British authority and control. Also, economically impacts their profits from salt.

(4) Effectively removes British power by mass noncooperation and civil disobedience of their laws.

Example 2: Local Solar Grids - people installing community-wide grids because the coal-based public utility refuses to change.

Issue: Climate Change and ending fossil fuel use

Basic Need	Lacking in community?	Strengthens movement?	Lessens dependency?	Weakens opposition?	Confronts issue or system?	Can everyone participate?	Potential constructive program?
Energy (Solar)	Yes. (1)	Maybe. (2)	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes. (Sort of) (3)	Maybe.

(1) Energy is not lacking in our community, but it is being provided in an unacceptable way (through coal).

(2) Installing our own local solar grids requires civil disobedience to the unjust laws that grant electrical utilities monopolies. This program would strengthen our movement by giving us energy self-reliance, but it might potentially weaken the movement if we do not plan to confront the legal challenges that will definitely ensue.

(3) Everyone can participate, although there is a technical aspect that requires assistance from solar engineers. Everyone can help with the manual labor of installing and maintaining the system, fundraising for the panels, and encouraging the community to participate.