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The Next American Revolution: Sustainable Activism For The Twenty-First Century



Synopsis

A world dominated by America and driven by cheap oil, easy credit, and conspicuous consumption is unraveling before our eyes. In this powerful, deeply humanistic book, Grace Lee Boggs, a legendary figure in the struggle for justice in America, shrewdly assesses the current crisis—political, economical, and environmental—and shows how to create the radical social change we need to confront new realities. A vibrant, inspirational force, Boggs has participated in all of the twentieth century's major social movements—for civil rights, women's rights, workers' rights, and more. She draws from seven decades of activist experience, and a rigorous commitment to critical thinking, to redefine "revolution" for our times. From her home in Detroit, she reveals how hope and creativity are overcoming despair and decay within the most devastated urban communities. Her book is a manifesto for creating alternative modes of work, politics, and human interaction that will collectively constitute the next American Revolution.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If you are watching or participating in the events in Wisconsin, NJ, Ohio or Michigan, this book will challenge you to think about becoming a leader rather than a cheerleader. In the book, *The Next American Revolution: Sustainable Activism in the 21 Century*, Grace Lee Boggs and Scott Kurashige help us move from defensive protest thinking to the work of creating a cultural revolution and to

creating parallel structures for an American Dream of the 21 Century. [...]Too many on the left and among progressive forces are on the defensive. Fighting Back is not enough...This short book will become a foundation for thinking to guide movements in the 21 Century. Grace develops theory from practice and puts forward a vision to transform ourselves and our society. What can we learn from Martin and Malcom? These are the times to grow our souls? What can we learn from the crisis and pioneering practice in Detroit? What does a paradigm shift in education mean for our children and our communities? Grace and Scott end with a chapter entitled: "We are the Leaders we've been looking for! [...]This book is the basis for study circles in our unions, churches, community organizations, family circles and in our highschools and our colleges. In times of movement and great change, we need to think as well as act. This book unites thinking, reflection and doing.

This is not a how to or DIY book on sustainable community activism in the shadows of Urban decay caused by Economic Globalization but a personal account of sustainable community activism in Detroit. Boggs argues that public education is geared only to serve as college-university filters and feeders and with college AND because university education out of the reach for many of the city's poor the drop out in record numbers. Boggs argues that political agents are dynamic entities like MLK Malcolm X had to adapt to a dynamic socio-economic-political environment. Sustainable community activism must get the community involve in a major way and to get them interested activism must look to address concrete needs in that communities and provide a definable service or product to be justifiable. Boggs looks a partnering with others to achieve this. Food Security and Conflict dispute are two such community needs Boggs sees as needed. Boggs is not a Game Theorist or a Military General but she sees the heart of the problem and she knows a leader must win the hearts of his people before he can effectively lead them.

A really great book. Think all our country's problems will be solved in the next election. (or the one after that)? It's not going to happen. Change can only come from the bottom up, not the top down. Anyone that is concerned about the problems in our society should read this book. I got this book on Kindle and then purchased it in print too, so I could mark it with my yellow highlighter and keep it by my bedside to refer to over and over again.

The style is repetitive and ponderous. In fairness, Ms. Boggs did not write the book by herself. I watched her for an hour on PBS and found her to be wise and charming. This book does not do the late Ms. Boggs justice.

This text challenged my perspective on a number of issues. GLB identified a number of issues that I hadn't considered much as problems. I'm fairly persuaded, though. But it's rather light on the practical solutions.

I feel honored to just read about Grace Lee Bogg's life! What an absolutely amazing woman! Age is certainly no barrier to her as she continues the fight! If you want an inspirational read, this is it!

The insight into of the politics and cultural history is remarkable. Grace Lee Baggs brings the past and present into focus from a remarkable life perspective. She writes with skill and focus that makes the read a joy and incisive. She is remarkable.

Highly recommend for anyone who wants to work for a more just society. Her insights are refreshing for many of us who have been activists and are looking for a visionary approach.

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