

# power in movement social movements and contentious politics

Power in Movement: Social Movements and Contentious Politics

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics** is a fascinating and complex subject that explores how groups collectively challenge, negotiate, and sometimes transform power structures. When people unite around shared grievances or aspirations, they create a dynamic force that can reshape societies, influence policies, and redefine political landscapes. Understanding the mechanics behind this power is essential not only for activists and scholars but also for anyone interested in how change happens in the modern world.

At its core, power in movement social movements and contentious politics reveals the interplay between collective action and authority. It highlights how marginalized voices gain traction, how dissent manifests, and how contentious politics serve as a battleground between different visions of justice, equality, and governance.

## Understanding Power Dynamics in Social Movements

Power in movement social movements and contentious politics is not just about numbers or loud protests; it's about the strategic use of resources, symbols, networks, and narratives to challenge existing power holders. Power here is multifaceted—it can be institutional, economic, social, or cultural, and movements must navigate these layers to be effective.

## The Different Faces of Power in Movements

When discussing power in social movements, it's crucial to recognize its various forms:

- **Structural Power:** The ability of institutions and systems to impose rules or maintain order, often favoring dominant groups.
- **Discursive Power:** Control over language and narratives that shape public perception and legitimacy.
- **Organizational Power:** The capacity to mobilize, coordinate, and sustain collective action through networks and leadership.
- **Symbolic Power:** The influence exerted through symbols, rituals, and cultural expressions that inspire and unify participants.

Each type plays a role in contentious politics, where social movements confront entrenched interests.

## **How Contention Arises: The Spark for Social Movements**

Contentious politics refers to the use of disruptive techniques—like protests, strikes, or civil disobedience—to challenge authority or advocate for rights. This contention often emerges from perceived injustices, inequality, or political exclusion.

Movements grow powerful when they tap into widespread grievances and frame their cause in compelling ways that resonate emotionally and morally. The framing process is critical—it shapes who participates, how issues are understood, and whether the movement gains broader societal support.

## **Strategies for Harnessing Power in Contentious Politics**

Understanding power in movement social movements and contentious politics means appreciating the tactics that activists use to amplify their influence. Movements rarely rely on a single approach; instead, they combine diverse strategies to leverage power effectively.

### **Building Networks and Alliances**

Social movements thrive on connections. By forming coalitions across different groups—whether based on class, ethnicity, gender, or ideology—they expand their base and resources. These networks facilitate information sharing, mutual support, and coordinated actions that can pressure authorities.

### **Framing and Reframing the Narrative**

Storytelling is a powerful tool. Movements must craft narratives that highlight injustice while proposing solutions. Effective framing humanizes issues, connects with broader values, and counters competing narratives from opponents or the media.

### **Utilizing Digital Platforms**

The rise of social media has transformed contentious politics. Online activism allows movements to mobilize quickly, reach global audiences, and document abuses. However,

digital spaces also pose challenges like surveillance, misinformation, and fragmentation, requiring savvy navigation.

## **Nonviolent vs. Violent Tactics**

The choice of tactics deeply affects a movement's power and public perception. Nonviolent resistance often garners sympathy and can disrupt systems without alienating potential allies. Conversely, violent tactics may reflect desperation or strategic calculation but risk delegitimizing the cause or provoking harsh repression.

## **The Role of State and Institutional Power in Contentious Politics**

Power in movement social movements and contentious politics also involves understanding the responses from state actors and institutions. Governments, law enforcement, and political elites hold significant power and often react defensively to social mobilization.

## **Repression and Co-optation**

States may use repression—arrests, censorship, or violence—to quell dissent. Alternatively, they might co-opt movements by incorporating demands superficially, dividing activists, or offering limited reforms to neutralize pressure. Recognizing these tactics helps movements adapt and sustain momentum.

## **Legal and Political Opportunities**

Movements often leverage openings within political systems, such as favorable laws, sympathetic politicians, or electoral cycles, to advance their goals. Strategic engagement with institutions can convert contentious politics into lasting change, even within constrained environments.

## **Case Studies: Power in Movement Social Movements and Contentious Politics in Action**

To appreciate the theory, it helps to look at real-world examples where power in movement social movements and contentious politics have played out vividly.

# The Civil Rights Movement in the United States

This movement showcased how strategic nonviolent protest, powerful framing around justice and equality, and building broad coalitions could dismantle institutional racism despite fierce repression. The movement's ability to harness moral authority and media attention shifted public opinion and policy.

## The Arab Spring

The uprisings across the Middle East and North Africa exemplified how digital platforms and mass mobilization could challenge authoritarian regimes. While outcomes varied, these movements highlighted the dynamic interplay of grassroots power and state responses in contentious politics.

## Environmental Movements and Climate Activism

Contemporary environmental activism illustrates how symbolic power—through global marches, striking youth activists, and viral campaigns—can bring urgent attention to climate change. These movements combine local protests with international advocacy to influence politics and corporate behavior.

## Insights for Activists and Scholars

Understanding power in movement social movements and contentious politics is crucial for designing effective campaigns and analyzing political change.

- **Adaptability is Key:** Movements must be flexible, adjusting tactics and frames as contexts evolve.
- **Power is Relational:** Success depends on how power is negotiated between movements and opponents, not just on resources.
- **Inclusivity Strengthens Movements:** Broad participation and diverse voices enhance legitimacy and resilience.
- **Long-term Vision Matters:** Beyond immediate victories, movements should consider sustainable change and institutional engagement.

These considerations help activists navigate the complex terrain of contentious politics and maximize their impact.

Exploring the concept of power in movement social movements and contentious politics opens up a richer understanding of how collective action shapes our world. Whether fighting for civil rights, environmental justice, or political reform, movements harness power in diverse ways, reflecting the creativity and resilience of human agency in the face of challenges.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is the role of power in social movements?**

Power in social movements is central as it shapes the ability of groups to mobilize resources, influence political decisions, and challenge existing structures of authority and inequality.

### **How do social movements exercise power without formal authority?**

Social movements exercise power through collective action, framing issues to gain public support, disrupting existing routines, leveraging social media, and forming alliances to pressure institutions and policymakers.

### **What is contentious politics and how is it related to power?**

Contentious politics involves collective challenges to elites, authorities, or cultural norms. It is related to power as it reflects struggles over resources, legitimacy, and control between challengers and established powers.

### **How does power asymmetry affect the outcomes of social movements?**

Power asymmetry often limits the capacity of social movements to achieve their goals, as dominant groups control resources and institutions; however, strategic mobilization and alliances can help movements overcome these disparities.

### **In what ways do social movements transform power relations?**

Social movements can transform power relations by raising awareness, shifting public opinion, influencing policy changes, creating new norms, and sometimes redistributing resources or political authority.

### **What strategies do social movements use to build and**

## **maintain power?**

Social movements build and maintain power through resource mobilization, framing their narratives effectively, building broad coalitions, engaging in nonviolent protest, and maintaining organizational structures.

## **How does digital technology influence power dynamics in social movements?**

Digital technology amplifies social movements by facilitating rapid communication, organizing protests, spreading information globally, and enabling decentralized leadership, thereby redistributing power from traditional gatekeepers to activists.

## **Additional Resources**

Power in Movement: Social Movements and Contentious Politics

**Power in movement social movements and contentious politics** is a critical area of study for understanding how collective action shapes societies, challenges established authorities, and redefines power dynamics. Social movements are not merely spontaneous gatherings; they represent organized efforts by groups seeking to influence political, social, or economic change. Contentious politics, a term often intertwined with social movements, encompasses a range of political activities that disrupt or challenge institutionalized power structures, including protests, strikes, and civil disobedience. Analyzing the mechanisms of power within these movements offers valuable insights into their efficacy, longevity, and impact on governance and policy.

## **The Dynamics of Power in Social Movements**

Power in movement social movements and contentious politics operates through complex interactions between activists, state institutions, and the broader public. Power, in this context, is multifaceted—it can be coercive, symbolic, structural, or discursive. Social movements harness different kinds of power to mobilize resources, gain legitimacy, and press for change. For example, symbolic power is wielded through framing issues in ways that resonate with cultural values, while structural power may involve leveraging economic or political institutions to create pressure.

The success of social movements often depends on their ability to navigate and contest power asymmetries. Governments and dominant social groups possess significant resources and mechanisms to suppress or co-opt dissent. Yet, movements that effectively use grassroots organizing, social media, and international solidarity can shift the balance of power. This dynamic interplay is essential to understanding contentious politics, where power is both exercised and contested in public arenas.

# Resource Mobilization and Strategic Framing

One of the core theories explaining social movement success is resource mobilization. Movements require tangible resources—money, labor, media access—and intangible assets such as expertise and legitimacy. Power in movement social movements and contentious politics is often linked to how well groups can pool these resources to sustain activism over time.

Equally important is the strategic framing of grievances. Movements must present their causes in compelling narratives that attract supporters and sway public opinion. Framing shapes perceptions of injustice and remedies, influencing who joins the movement and the response from authorities. For instance, the Civil Rights Movement in the United States effectively framed racial segregation as a moral and constitutional violation, enabling widespread support and political pressure.

## Contentious Politics: The Arena of Power Struggles

Contentious politics refers to interactions where ordinary people, often marginalized groups, engage in collective challenges against elites or institutions. These confrontations are arenas where power is visibly contested, making the study of power in movement social movements and contentious politics particularly salient.

### Forms of Contentious Politics

Contentious politics encompasses a variety of tactics and forms:

- **Protests and Demonstrations:** Visible public displays that draw attention to grievances.
- **Strikes and Labor Actions:** Economic disruption as leverage against employers or governments.
- **Direct Action and Civil Disobedience:** Nonviolent or sometimes confrontational acts that violate laws to highlight injustice.
- **Revolutions and Insurgencies:** More radical and sustained efforts to overturn political systems.

Each form represents different degrees and expressions of power exerted by social movements. The choice of tactic reflects the movement's assessment of its own power relative to the opposition.

# State Responses and Power Repression

Power in movement social movements and contentious politics is not unidirectional. States and dominant actors often respond with repression, co-optation, or negotiation.

Repression can involve police violence, legal restrictions, surveillance, or propaganda efforts. While repression aims to weaken movements, research shows it can sometimes backfire by galvanizing support and drawing international condemnation.

Negotiation and co-optation are alternative responses that attempt to incorporate movement demands into existing structures, thereby diffusing disruptive potential. This complex interaction underscores that power is relational and contingent—movements and states continuously adapt strategies in response to each other.

## Impact of Technology on Power Dynamics

The advent of digital technology and social media has transformed power in movement social movements and contentious politics. Online platforms facilitate rapid communication, coordination, and dissemination of information, significantly lowering barriers to participation.

## Digital Mobilization and Networked Power

Social media enables decentralized organizing, allowing movements to mobilize large numbers quickly without traditional hierarchies. This networked power disrupts conventional state surveillance and control mechanisms. Movements like the Arab Spring or Black Lives Matter have demonstrated how digital tools amplify voices and create transnational solidarity.

However, digital activism also faces challenges such as misinformation, surveillance, and platform censorship, which states and other actors exploit to counteract movement power. Understanding the dual-edged nature of technology is essential when analyzing contemporary contentious politics.

## Power Shifts and Long-Term Outcomes

Analyzing power in movement social movements and contentious politics requires attention to both immediate effects and long-term consequences. Some movements achieve policy reforms or institutional changes, while others may fade without tangible gains but still alter public discourse or inspire future activism.

The interplay between social movements and political institutions can lead to democratization, social justice advances, or conversely, increased authoritarianism if power is consolidated by elites. Factors influencing these outcomes include the movement's organizational capacity, alliances, state response, and broader socio-political

context.

## Comparative Perspectives

Comparing movements across different regions and historical periods reveals variations in power dynamics. For example:

- **Nonviolent movements** often rely on moral authority and mass participation to undermine legitimacy of oppressive regimes.
- **Armed insurgencies** depend on coercive power and control over territory but may struggle to achieve broad legitimacy.
- **Digital-era movements** harness information power but face challenges in translating online activism into offline change.

These distinctions highlight the importance of contextual factors in shaping how power operates within social movements and contentious politics.

Power in movement social movements and contentious politics remains a dynamic field that continues to evolve as societies confront new challenges and opportunities. Understanding the nuances of power—its sources, expressions, and limits—is essential for scholars, policymakers, and activists aiming to navigate and influence the complex terrain of collective action and political change.

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Sidney Tarrow, 2022-08-11 A fully updated edition of this classic study, now covering movements including the Arab Spring and the 2021 Capitol attack.

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Sidney Tarrow, 1994-07-29 From the French and American Revolutions through the democratic and workers' movements of the nineteenth century to the totalitarian movements of today, social movements exercise a fleeting but powerful influence on politics and society. This study surveys the history of the social movement, puts forward a theory of collective action to explain its surges and declines, and offers an interpretation of the power of movement that emphasizes its effects on

personal lives, policy reforms and political culture. While covering cultural, organizational and personal sources of movements' power, the book emphasizes the rise and fall of social movements as part of political struggle and as the outcome of changes in political opportunity structure.

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics: *Power in Movement*** Sidney G. Tarrow, 2014-05-14 This study of social movements explains their power by developing a theory of collective action.

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics: *Laskar Jihad*** Noorhaidi Hasan, 2018-05-31 An in-depth study of the militant Islamic Laskar Jihad movement and its links to international Muslim networks and ideological debates. This analysis is grounded in extensive research and interviews with Salafi leaders and activists who supported jihad throughout the Moluccas.

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics: *Arabischer Frühling*** □ *Transformationsprozesse und politische Umbrüche in der MENA-Region* Jan Kupka, Floyd Mecklenburg, 2014-11-24

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics: *Handbuch Poststrukturalistische Perspektiven auf soziale Bewegungen*** Judith Vey, Johanna Leinius, Ingmar Hagemann, 2019-09-24 Das Handbuch widmet sich erstmals systematisch und vergleichend der Frage, wie soziale Bewegungen aus einer poststrukturalistischen Perspektive analysiert werden können. Die Beiträge stellen verschiedene Ansätze vor und zeigen jeweils anhand eines Beispiels aus der Forschungspraxis, wie dieser Ansatz für die Analyse sozialer Bewegungen genutzt werden kann. Durch die Anwendung alternativer Methoden, die enge Verknüpfung von Theorie und Praxis und eine gesellschaftstheoretische Perspektive werden auf diese Weise neue Einsichten in den Forschungsgegenstand »soziale Bewegungen« möglich.

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics: *Die schöne neue Demokratie*** Donatella della Porta, 2020-03-11 Über die Krise der Demokratie wurde in den vergangenen Jahren viel geredet. Doch wie geht es weiter? Ist Rettung in Sicht? Donatella della Porta zeigt in ihrem neuen Buch als eine der weltweit besten Kennerinnen sozialer Bewegungen, welche progressive Kraft sie entwickelt haben und auch in Zukunft entwickeln können. Nicht auf die Eliten und die etablierten Parteien ist zu hoffen, wenn es um neue Ideen und Veränderungen geht, sondern auf Bewegungen und Protestformationen, auf Bürgerinnen und Bürger. So sind etwa in Spanien Podemos und in Bolivien Movimiento al Socialismo an die Stelle etablierter Parteien getreten. In Island und Irland wurden Bürgerversammlungen initiiert, die sich an Verfassungsprozessen beteiligten. Diese Beispiele zeigen, dass die Demokratie der ständigen Erneuerung bedarf. Und gerade in Krisenzeiten bieten sich Gelegenheiten für einen Wandel.

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics: *Zeitschrift für Kultur- und Kollektivwissenschaft*** Forschungsstelle Kultur- und, Thomas Telios, Mareike Kajewski, Markus Brunner, Lena Dierker, Franziska Haug, Tom Uhlig, 2018-05-15 Die »Zeitschrift für Kultur- und Kollektivwissenschaft« ist ein Forum, das auf der Grundlage der Kulturwissenschaft eine Kollektivwissenschaft entwickeln möchte. Diese angestrebte neue Disziplin lenkt den Blick auf das Kollektiv als Kulturträger und dient damit zum einen der praktischen Kulturforschung und gewährt zum anderen neuartige Einblicke in das Wesen des Sozialen. Der weit gefasste Begriff des Kollektivs tritt an die Stelle der traditionellen Gruppen- und Gesellschaftskonzepte und macht bisher verborgene Schichten menschlicher Gemeinschaftlichkeit zugänglich. Die Zeitschrift erscheint zweimal jährlich, wobei sich Themen- und Tagungshefte abwechseln. Heft 4/1 widmet sich den Verheißungen, Ambivalenzen und Fallstricken von Kollektivitäten. Die Beiträge schildern aus einer interdisziplinären Perspektive die politische Wirkmächtigkeit sowie die Konstitutionsbedingungen von Kollektivitäten. Zentraler Aspekt ist auch die grundlegende Ambivalenz von Kollektivierungsprozessen, die zwischen emanzipatorischem Versprechen und totalisierendem bzw. Differenzen nivellierendem Potenzial verortet sind.

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics: *Konflikte um die Aneignung von Land*** Louisa Prause, 2019-12-03 Louisa Prause vergleicht Proteste gegen

großflächige Landaneignungen zur Erschließung von industriellen Minen und agrarindustriellen Projekten. Sie zeigt Gemeinsamkeiten und Unterschiede zwischen Konflikten um Land in diesen beiden Sektoren auf und identifiziert die zentralen Mechanismen, über die sich der Zweck der Aneignung von Land auf Proteste auswirkt, anhand zweier Fälle im Senegal. Dieses Buch bietet neue Erkenntnisse zu Einflussfaktoren auf Konflikte um die Aneignung von Land sowie Anknüpfungspunkte für die politische Praxis hinsichtlich Herausforderungen sektorübergreifender Allianzen.

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics: Die Proteste gegen den libanesischen Konfessionalismus** Karolin Sengebusch, 2019-05-22 Antikonfessioneller Aktivismus im Libanon wurde bisher, im Gegensatz zum Konfessionalismus, von der Forschung kaum beachtet. Karolin Sengebusch untersucht die bisher größte Protestwelle gegen den libanesischen Konfessionalismus (2010-2012) und analysiert diese mit Konzepten der sozialen Bewegungsforschung und der politischen Differenz. Die Protestwelle zeichnete sich durch bestimmte Charakteristika aus, die auch in anderen sozialen Bewegungen beobachtbar sind: Die Aktivisten organisierten sich in sehr unterschiedlichen Formen von Parteien bis zu Graswurzelorganisationen, und verwendeten vielfältige Aktionsformen von Gesetzesentwürfen bis zu Clown Walks. Die Studie setzt diese unterschiedlichen Organisations- und Aktionsformen in Bezug zu den Politikkonzepten und Zielen der Aktivisten. Die Diversität der Formen kann dabei durch die Existenz verschiedener Ziele innerhalb einer sozialen Bewegung erklärt werden.

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics: Protestbewegungen im langen Schatten des Kreml** Oleksandr Mischke, Jakob Zabirko, 2020-04-30 Das politische Geschehen im postsowjetischen Raum ist immer wieder von Protestwellen geprägt. Ob nun die Massenkundgebungen auf dem Bolotnaja-Platz in Moskau sowie in anderen russischen Städten 2011-2012 oder der ukrainische Euromajdan (2013-2014) – in der Hoffnung auf eine bessere Politik und ein besseres Leben versuchen sich hier wie dort verschiedene Gruppen von Bürgern durch öffentlichkeitswirksame Aktionen das Gehör der Politik zu verschaffen. Dabei richten sich – und das nicht nur in Russland – die meisten Proteste direkt oder indirekt gegen den Machtanspruch des Kreml. Trotz oder gerade wegen ihres eruptiven Charakters wurden diese Bewegungen von unterschiedlichen gesellschaftlichen Akteuren mitgetragen; politische Eliten, politikferne Aktivisten, aber auch die Kirche, Kunstschaffende und Wirtschaftsvertreter sind im Kontext der Massenproteste durch eine Vielzahl von Verflechtungen und Konfliktsituationen verbunden, die Anlass zu einer interdisziplinären Untersuchung geben. Mit dem Rückblick auf die großen Protestbewegungen in der Ukraine und Russland (2012-2014) untersucht der vorliegende Band daher politische, soziale und künstlerische Formen von Dissens und Widerstand in den beiden postsowjetischen Staaten und beleuchtet dabei Problemfelder, die in der Forschung bisher kaum thematisiert wurden.

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics: Führung in sozialen Bewegungen** Pedram Shahyar, 2024-02-29 In dieser Arbeit werden Mechanismen von Führung und Repräsentation in sozialen Bewegungen untersucht. Dieses Thema ist ein blinder Fleck der Bewegungsforschung. Eingeleitet wird diese Arbeit von einem langen historischen Bogen, wie Führung in modernen sozialen Bewegungen gedacht und gemacht wurde: in der industriellen Phase der Arbeiter:innenbewegung nach der Französischen Revolution, in den Neuen Sozialen Bewegungen seit den 1960ern, und in der globalisierungskritischen Bewegung um der Jahrtausendwende. Danach wird konkret anhand des Mobilisierungsprozesses der globalisierungskritischen Bewegung 2005-2007 gegen den G8-Gipfel in Heiligendamm Führung anhand von Organisation, Framing und strategische Ausrichtung von Protest untersucht.

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics: Fragile kollektive Identitäten** Martin Wilk, 2020-10-06 Warum radikalisiert sich politische Akteur\*innen? Die Antworten darauf sind vielschichtig und werden nicht selten kontrovers diskutiert. Martin Wilk nutzt neuere Ansätze der Bewegungsforschung, um dieser Frage am Beispiel des US-amerikanischen »Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee« (SNCC) nachzugehen, das sich im Laufe der 1960er Jahre von einer gewaltfreien zu einer gewaltbereiten Organisation wandelte. Er zeigt auf, dass

insbesondere Ansätze, die sich mit der Konstruktion kollektiver Identitäten in sozialen Bewegungen beschäftigt haben, eine wertvolle Erweiterung unseres Verständnisses von Radikalisierungsprozessen bieten.

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics:** Die Transformation des Marburger Bundes Samuel Greef, 2012-07-11 Die streikenden Krankenhausärzte sorgten 2005 für großes Aufsehen. Ihre Forderung nach höherer Entlohnung und besseren Arbeitsbedingungen wurde von dem der breiten Öffentlichkeit kaum bekannten Marburger Bund unterstützt. Zuvor hatte ver.di als Multi-Branchengewerkschaft alle Beschäftigten im Krankenhaus vertreten. Dem Ärzteverband gelang es im Nachgang der Streiks, eigenständige, arztspezifische Tarifverträge durchzusetzen. Damit veränderte sich die etablierte, tarifpolitische Akteurskonstellation in den Arbeitsbeziehungen im Krankenhaussektor. Zugleich transformierte sich der Marburger Bund von einem berufspolitisch orientierten Standesverband zu einer Berufsgewerkschaft. Samuel Greef zeigt die Hintergründe des Ärztestreiks auf und analysiert den Transformationsprozess des Marburger Bundes sowie dessen Erfolgsbedingungen.

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics:** Comeback der Gewerkschaften? Stefan Schmalz, Klaus Dörre, 2013-10-02 Galten Gewerkschaften lange Zeit als Reformbremsen, erfahren sie heute eine steigende Akzeptanz und sind zu gefragten Gesprächspartnern der Politik geworden. Die größte Einzelgewerkschaft IG Metall verzeichnet Mitgliedergewinne, stattliche Tarifabschlüsse führen zu Reallohnzuwächsen. Dieses Comeback der Gewerkschaften koinzidiert ausgerechnet mit der schwersten Wirtschaftskrise der Nachkriegszeit. Die Autoren erörtern die Frage, ob die gewerkschaftliche Erneuerung eine nachhaltige Entwicklung ist. Neben betrieblichen Praktiken betrachten sie die Wiederbelebung gewerkschaftlichen Interessenhandelns im internationalen Vergleich.

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics:** *Making Their Place* Katja Guenther, 2010-04-29 The collapse of state socialism in eastern and central Europe in 1989 had a dramatic impact on women. Witnessing the loss of state support for their economic activity, the curtailing of their reproductive rights, and the rise of gender ideologies that value women primarily as mothers and wives rather than as active participants in the workforce, women across eastern and central Europe organized on a local level to resist these changes. *Making Their Place* brings to light how feminist movements in two eastern German cities, Erfurt and Rostock, utilized local understandings of politics and gender to enhance their possibilities for meaningful social change. The book chronicles the specific reasons why place matters, the importance of localized experiences during the socialist era, and how history shapes contemporary identities, cultures, and politics. What emerges is the fascinating story of the different ways people have struggled to define themselves, their values, and their understandings of gender in a period of monumental social, economic, and political upheaval.

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics:** *The Handbook of Political Sociology* Thomas Janoski, Robert R. Alford, Alexander M. Hicks, Mildred A. Schwartz, 2005-05-23 This Handbook provides a complete survey of the vibrant field of political sociology. Part I explores the theories of political sociology. Part II focuses on the formation, transitions, and regime structure of the state. Part III takes up various aspects of the state that respond to pressures from civil society.

**power in movement social movements and contentious politics:** *COVID Communication* Douglas A. Vakoch, John C. Pollock, Amanda M. Caleb, 2023-05-30 This book focuses on how we understand COVID-19—medically, socially, and rhetorically. Given the expectation that other flu pandemics will occur, it stresses the importance of examining how the public response is shaped in the face of global health emergencies. It considers questions such as how can pandemic language both limit and expand our understanding of disease as biomedical, social, and experiential? In what ways can health communication be improved through the study and application of rhetoric and the health humanities? *COVID Communication* fills a gap in the pandemic literature by promoting interdisciplinary analysis of communication methods, realized through a health humanities

approach. It centers human experience and culture within conversations about the biological reality of a pandemic. This volume will be a welcome contribution to the scientific investigations and practice of psychology and public health professionals. Interdisciplinary perspective New insights on how a pandemic is understood Highlights the relevance to important usually neglected relevance for psychology and public health professionals Endorsements of COVID Communication “In an era of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, COVID Communication provides a smart, urgent alternative to our collective downward spiral, not only offering a fiery critique of our selfish and self-destructive present but also providing galvanizing, positive visions of what futures we might hope for.” — Shailendra Saxena, King George’s Medical University, India; editor of *Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): Epidemiology, Pathogenesis, Diagnosis, and Therapeutics* “COVID Communication shows that the pandemic affects us not only because it makes us sick or ruins our economy, but also because of how it is spoken, written, and thought about, ultimately because of how it is socially constructed. An original and very necessary look to arm ourselves intellectually against the pandemic.” — Alberto del Campo Tejedor, Pablo de Olavide University, Spain; author of *La infame fama del andaluz* “The COVID-19 pandemic represented a global challenge that needed nations and their people to come together, find a joint response, and build a narrative that was clear, consistent, inclusive, and respectful of people. The reality, however, is that the responses to the pandemic reflected the ideologies of national leaders, political leaders, media outlets, and activists, leading to a fragmented and at times polarized global discourse. This important work examines the different narratives that circulated within the information environment to explore how these may have led to differing levels of trust in politicians, in science, and in one another. Through an analysis of rhetoric across diverse nations and platforms, the chapters provide a framework that is crucial for understanding the interplay between discourse, cognition, and behavior.” — Darren Lilleker, Bournemouth University, UK; co-editor of *Political Communication and COVID-19: Governance and Rhetoric in Times of Crisis* “This book presents a collection of must-read scholarly chapters that illustrate a panoramic view of how people from different countries and cultures communicate about this global pandemic. These chapters paint a rich canvas of thoughts, emotions, reactions, and actions through communication expressions, ranging from intuitive rhetoric and probing cartoons to emotional memes and creative advertising. The book is a great resource for aiding health communication scholars, instructors, professionals, journalists, and students in enhancing their COVID-19 research, teaching, practice, reporting, and learning.” — Carolyn A. Lin, University of Connecticut, USA; co-editor of *Communication Technology and Social Change: Theory and Implications* “In an era of cultural anxiety caused by the global pandemic and social unrest, COVID Communication could not be timelier. Presenting broad cross-cultural and multi-modal perspectives on media portrayals of the illness that has caused so much suffering and uncertainty, this insightful book offers a ‘rhetorical toolkit’ that gives us tools to navigate the maze of modern communication with a deeper understanding of the power of language in the time of social media. It is a perfect resource for classes on media literacy, while it is useful to anyone who wants to become a more active, independent, and secure consumer of the media in the age of information abundance.” — Katja Plemenitaš, University of Maribor, Slovenia; co-author of *Josip Hutter and the Dwelling Culture of Maribor* “COVID-19, as a disaster and series of converging crises, has forever shaped society. COVID Communication offers an easy-to-read, unparalleled academic-practitioner focus to help understand the cultural, social, economic, political, community health, and personal risk assessment aspects of communication during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. Together, in a ground- breaking analysis that enhances the rich intellectual tradition of the field of communications, each chapter in COVID Communication offers readers the opportunity to view multiple media sources and approaches that engender a deeper understanding of health information and communication during and after COVID-19 and its ensuing crises.” — DeMond S. Miller, Rowan University, USA; co-editor of *Community Disaster Recovery and Resiliency: Exploring Global Opportunities and Challenges* “With its twenty-one chapters exploring a wide spectrum of issues ranging from individual and social responses to the global coronavirus breakout to the divergent

narrative patterns identified from various countries, COVID Communication is indeed a timely and significant guide to understanding the recent pandemic. The collection makes the reader realize and acknowledge the multitude of complex, intersecting factors and processes that are relevant to comprehend the coronavirus pandemic and to cope with its various representations.” — Şemsettin Tabur, Ankara Yildirim Beyazıt University, Turkey; author of *Contested Spaces in Contemporary North American Novels: Reading for Space*

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