

# **Force Field Analysis**

A force field analysis helps to think about forces affecting the movement including, but not limited to external groups, internal division, psychological powers and blocks. Through discussion with others, the force field analysis can help us tease out differences of perspectives within our group. It can thus produce a rich analysis of potential places of growth for the campaign.

## Steps:

- 1. Clearly identify the problem/campaign vision.
- 2. Identify forces contributing to the success and forces against success. (helpful to place in the following table format where everyone can see)

Forces for Success (+)	Forces Against Success (—)

- 3. Rate the impact/strength of each force (+10 to +1 or —10 to —1 as relative impact of force on movement; again, discussion is an opportunity for sharing insights with each other)
- 4. Think collectively about how to maximize the forces for success and how to minimize the forces against success. What are tactics (currently being used and especially those not being used) that can maximize our success.

#### Where tool comes from:

Created by George Lakey, Training for Change <www.TrainingForChange.org>.

### Here's a kinesthetic way to introduce the Force Field Analysis!

## Macro Strategy Exercise (Tug of War)

Based on Kurt Lewin's Force Field Analysis

#### How it's done:

This exercise is designed to embolden the imagination and enlarge possibilities, politicize everyone regarding macroforces in a dynamic way and to explore how your group and allies can influence the forces "out there".

The basic format is a tug of war, with rope which has multiple ends knotted in middle. Small teams are created, half of which identify a negative force in your group's environment and half identify a positive force. These can be negative and positive forces acting right now and likely to act in the near future. As each team identifies a force, it takes its place on positive or negative side of tug of war.

Then, action!

After one side wins, teams huddle; negative force teams ask selves how their power could be under-mined; positive force teams ask selves how their power could be enhanced.

Each team writes its conclusions.

All teams report to the whole the two most important ways (of enhancing or undermining).

Harvest learnings via newsprint.

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