I. Constellation of Power and its Universalization

"Our understanding of power, its goals, instruments, scope, determines the possibilities, strategies and tactics, for challenging it."

A. Charles Derber: Welcome to the Revolution" Universalizing Resistance for Social Justice and Democracy in Perilous Times

1. Power is rapidly becoming ubiquitous

2. It is conquering everything: systems of governance, social institutions, cultural systems and individual psyches: universalization of power

B. Universalization of power

1. Extreme Inequality

2. Universalizing Global Control

3. Universalizing Corporatism

4. Universalizing militarism

5. Universalizing ideological control

6. Universalizing western ways of knowing

7. Universalizing ecocide

8. Universalizing existential threats to all life

II. Universalizing Resistance

"Universalizing resistance is a distinctive form of activism--a special form of resistance. It seeks to mobilize massive unifying popular power against the apocalyptic power of the system itself--seeking to transform the system itself and bring a new just and democratic order. It brings people together into intertwined movements focusing on issues such as economic insecurity, climate change, racism and militarism."

A. The system must be the target.

1. Resistance needs to universalize

2. The universalized system affects us all

a. we all become functions of capital/ consumer society

b. we all are powerless under authoritarian "democracy"

c. we all will be victims of ecocide

d. nuclear war knows only the end of everything

3. System cannot be reformed, reforms will be reversed (New Deal)

4. Can't settle for piecemeal changes, they are counter-revolutionary.

B. Must create mass base

1. majority support progressive issues.

2. need to articulate a world view to bring in labor

3. an example of mass-based resistance is in When Poetry Ruled the Streets

4 "silo" movements divide us, and those in power watch with amusement as we fight each other

C. Build a "movement of movements"

1. convergence

2. 1999 Battle of Seattle

E. Build a global "movement of movements," as power universalizes all of the following become possibilities for creating universal resistance

1. anti-nuclear

2. environment

3. labor

4. anti- austerity

F. Articulate a world view that includes the inherent value and ethical rights of all living things

1. Re-imagining Nature

2. Deep Ecology

G. Fight corporatized education: education as activism

H. Movement must embody the values it seeks to achieve, democracy, equality, what it means to be human, solidarity, compassion.

II. Two Questions

A. Historically, when does a revolution emerge? What are the social conditions?

1. social strain

2. social dislocation

3. breakdown in power elite

4. cognitive liberation

B. How much time do we have?