

1 Social Media, Social Changes

How have social media changed social relations?

1 #WhatLiftsYou ?

- A.** Look at the picture and describe it. What do you think the artist's goal is?
- B.** Listen to **MP3 n°62** and take notes about the artist, her artwork and her main goal.
- C.** Why has the artist chosen to do street art and share it online?
- D. Have your say.** What do you think of this initiative?



2 #Neveragain ?

- A.** Listen to **MP3 n°63** and take notes about what happened in Parkland (date / place / people / actions / consequences).
- B.** Why did the students choose to use social media to organise the protest? What are the advantages compared to traditional forms of media?
- C. Have your say.** Do you think social media can help to bring change? Use the cartoon on the left to develop your answer.

HELP!

Nouns

- activism
- criticism
- determination
- pressure group
- walkout = strike

Adjective

- effective ≠ useless

Verbs & expressions

- campaign for/ against
- demand action
- regulate
- rise up = stand up / rise up against sth
- spread awareness

3 New ways to rally people

- A.** Before reading, find general information about the document: type of text / topic / people.
- B.** Read the text. Explain what differences there are between protests today and in the past.
- C. Have your say.** Look at the cartoon (by British cartoonist Tom Gauld) on the left. What kind of activism is more efficient according to you?

From the Boston Tea Party, to the civil rights movement and Arab Spring, to Black Lives Matter and the North Dakota access pipeline, protests have shaped people's lives.

[Brendan] Dunn [a local activist] began participating in protests in 2003, before social media took over. He was bothered by how the world was evolving around him and wanted to do something about it. [...]

Dunn said the biggest difference he sees today from protests 15-plus years ago is that there are more demonstrations, social movements and protests today than at any given time in history. The way they are organized has been changed greatly by social media, but an entire movement no longer is headed by one person – such as the civil rights movement with Martin Luther King Jr. – being seen as the voice of everyone, he said.

"There is this sense of direct democracy – decisions are made in a more democratic fashion," he said. "It's not the same as the older organizations, where things were just decided from the top down or there's a hierarchy in place. There is more of a networking model of organizing. It's not just one leader, it's not just Martin Luther King coming as a savior. People, I think, are finally realizing that as great as Martin Luther King was, we are the change that we've been looking for."

Observer-Dispatch, 10 January 2017