

Poor peoples movements - why they succeed, how they fail

Pantheon Books - POOR PEOPLE'S MOVEMENTS AND MASS PROTEST

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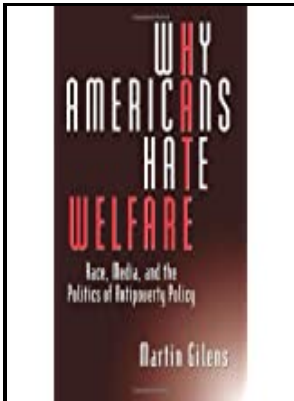
Working class -- United States -- Political activity -- History

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Poor People's Movements: Why They Succeed, How They Fail by Frances Fox Piven

The examples are too numerous to go through in detail, but to take their argument out of context and apply it to something like the movement for the treatment of AIDS proves their theory. The authors assert that political gains to the left are driven by protest that is eventually coopted into progressive organizational bureaucracy bogged down in electoral politics.

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The history sections show their age; there's been a ton of scholarship on the labor movement and the civil rights movement that would change the picture they paint in important ways. The libcom library contains nearly 20,000 articles. The authors of the classic *Regulating The Poor* assess the successes and failures of these two strategies as they examine, in this provocative study, four protest movements of lower-class groups in 20th century America: -- The mobilization of the unemployed during the Great Depression that gave rise to the Workers' Alliance of America -- The industrial strikes that resulted in the formation of the CIO -- The Southern Civil Rights Movement -- The movement of welfare recipients led by the National Welfare Rights Organization.

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However, after victories such as the New Deal and the Great Society, which expanded equal rights to welfare, power was dispersed with the expansion of the middle class. The initial chapter serves as a summary for the examples to follow.

Audiobook: Poor people's movements : why they succeed how they fail by Piven Frances Fox.

It's remarkable for the way it cuts through the shibboleths and assumptions of many social movement activists about how and why grassroots action can be important, while still maintaining a commitment to its value - in the right way, time and place.

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