

# OCCUPY MOVEMENT

## A CONSTRUCTIVE FAILURE

The Occupy movement, a worldwide protest against the disproportionate political and economic power held by large corporations, was seen by most as a failure, considering it didn't change the power dynamics it stood up against. We cannot, however, judge the movement's success as plainly as that. Occupy might not have been able to change the world but it made us believe that change is not as utopian as it might have seemed before. Uniting people in over 951 cities and 82 countries, the movement must be considered, at least, as a "constructive failure", as the first somewhat successful effort towards real worldwide change, one first step from which we can learn in order to take the next one.

Anything that people can articulate can only be articulated within the language of the current political discourse and that entire political discourse is already too small and that's why making explicit demands kind of reduces the movement and takes the heart out of it.

Charles Eisenstein

"It's really hard to create community if the underlying knowledge is we don't need each other. So people kind of get together and they act nice, or maybe they consume together, but joint consumption doesn't create intimacy. Only joint creativity and gifts create intimacy and connection."

Charles Eisenstein

NO DEMANDS

NO LIMITATIONS

JOINT CREATIVITY

HORIZONTALISM

NEW SOCIETY MODEL

CREATING COMMUNITY

HOW  
CAN  
WE  
CHANGE THE  
WORLD?

"These are movements shouting "No!" to an increasingly untenable situation. What is being created in this space of the "no" is yet to be decided; for sure, it will be something created collectively, horizontally, and with care."

Marina Sitrin

"One effect of the occupy movement has been to spontaneously create small social systems of solidarity, mutual support, cooperation, cooperative kitchens, libraries, health services, general assemblies in which people actually interact. That's something pretty much missing from the society."

Noam Chomsky

What we learned from Occupy, and also with the Arab Spring, is that revolutions happen when people lose their fear. So I think the main trigger for the next revolutionary movement will be a contagious mood that spreads throughout the world and the human community. For me, the main thing we need to see is activists abandoning a materialistic explanation of revolution—the idea that we need to put people in the streets—and starting to think about how to spread that kind of mood, how to make people see the world in fundamentally different way.

Micah White