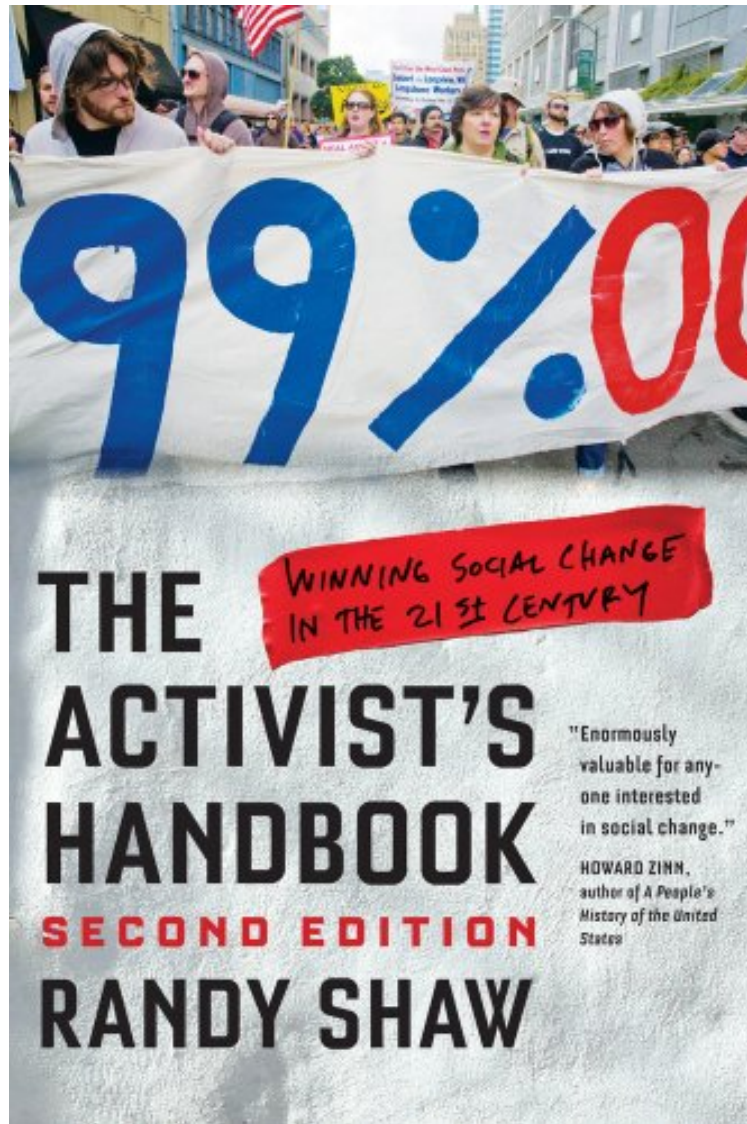


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# The Activist's Handbook: Winning Social Change in the 21st Century

Randy Shaw

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**Randy Shaw : The Activist's Handbook: Winning Social Change in the 21st Century** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Activist's Handbook: Winning Social Change in the 21st Century:

0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A useful book for urban planners By bobGood book by knowledgeable author. Aids in understanding urban development controversies. Good for both proponents and

opponents for urban development projects. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Buy The Other One.....By BlackHorseMedia Despite all of Shaw's boasting of "beating the system," the Tenderloin Housing Clinic is currently one of San Francisco's biggest slumlords. All but one of their properties are 100+-year-old vermin infested firetraps, with decrepit plumbing, wiring, and elevators. These buildings are used to warehouse the most vulnerable people in the City as "supportive housing." The problem is that the condition of these buildings causes or contribute to both physical and mental health problems for the people who live there. The bigger problem is that buildings that should have been replaced 50 years ago are now literally falling apart. And the worst part is that these buildings do absolutely nothing to address the causes of homelessness. Indeed, they don't even make a dent in the visible homeless population. The THC provides several cushy jobs for it's all-white Executive staff, and many low-wage jobs for the mostly minority workers. Nothing "revolutionary" about this. The most important tip in the book is a quote from Ernesto Cortes Jr.: "It's unfortunate that fear is the only way to get some politicians to respect your power. They refuse to give you respect. They don't recognize your dignity. So we have to act in ways to get their attention." Otherwise, there are plenty of self-congratulatory anecdotes, but this is no step-by-step guide for activists. That would be the OTHER book by the same title by Aidan Ricketts.

In this thoroughly revised and updated edition of *The Activist's Handbook*, Randy Shaw's hard-hitting guide to winning social change, the author brings the strategic and tactical guidance of the prior edition into the age of Obama. Shaw details how activists can best use the Internet and social media, and analyzes the strategic strengths and weaknesses of rising 21st century movements for immigrant rights, marriage equality, and against climate change. Shaw also highlights increased student activism towards fostering greater social justice in the 21st century. *The Activist's Handbook: Winning Social Change in the 21st Century* details the impact of specific strategies on campaigns across the country, from Occupy Wall Street to battles over sweatshops, the environment, AIDS policies, education reform, homelessness, and more: How should activists use new media tools to expose issues and mobilize grassroots support? When should activists form coalitions, and with whom? How are students like they DREAMers seeking immigration reform or college activists battling ever-increasing tuition costs winning major campaigns? Whether its by inspiring "fear and loathing" in politicians, building diverse coalitions, using ballot initiatives, or harnessing the media, the courts, and the electoral process towards social change, Shaw a longtime activist for urban issues shows that with a plan, positive change can be achieved. In showing how people can win social change struggles against even overwhelming odds, *The Activist's Handbook* is an indispensable guide not only for activists, but for anyone interested in the future of progressive politics in America.

"Its a remarkable, unsentimental record of modern Bay Area politics and causes, yet hardly belongs to a niche readership."