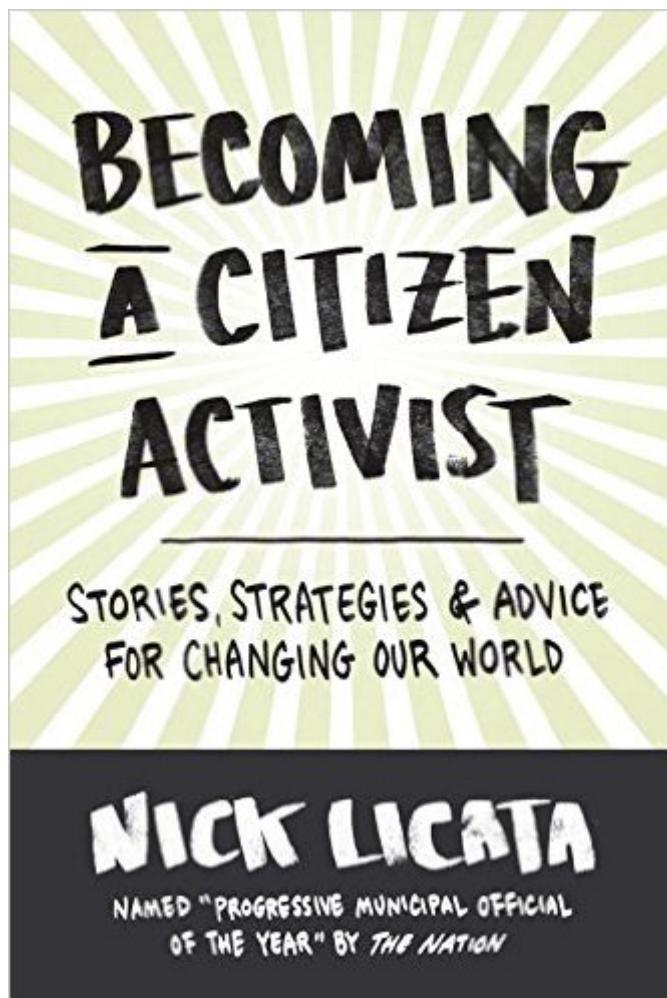


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Becoming A Citizen Activist: Stories, Strategies, And Advice For Changing Our World



Synopsis

Recent waves of social activism like the Occupy movement and Black Lives Matter show that you can fight city hall--or any other powerful entity for that matter. Now comes the playbook for citizen activists wanting to improve the world around them from Nick Licata, admired Seattle city councilmember and one of the city's most effective leaders of political and social change since the 1960s. In this smart and powerful book, Licata explains how to get organized, congregate power, and master the tactics for change. He is insightful in comparing effective communication with methods that just don't work. Licata's observations on the intricacies of power will empower any activist who wants to make a difference in today's world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The subtitle is: "Stories, Strategies & Advice for Changing Our World". So, based on these goals, I would say that, yes, there is useful advice and there are encouraging stories, but that, no, there is not much in "strategies" for how to actually do things (hence, the four stars). The format of the book is to teach us strategies through sharing real life stories. Maybe that would work for some people, but for me I needed more details and specific steps. Clearly change involves leadership and not everyone is a natural leader. For those who see the need, but may not have that natural leadership talent, specific strategies to follow become all the more important until a natural leader comes along. (yes, we can say decision making is collective, but I believe groups usually work best with

leadership, even the benevolent, inclusive kind). Licata says the goal of his book is to take you "from wanting change to initiating change." He also wants to help "minimize failures and maximize successes". He wants people to embrace the idea that even if they're not public officials they can change their communities for the better. For this reason, most of the book is a collection of the "stories", case studies to learn from and be inspired by. These are varied, from the fast food workers who want higher wages to a national change like marriage equality. He urges you to look for things around you in the community that can be improved, and to remember that small changes are important in peoples' lives, not only big ones. He goes into communication methods--more interested in traditional print media than social media.

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