

# Power Analysis



*Working Towards Grassroots Power*

**S**trategic **C**oncepts in **O**rganizing and **P**olicy **E**ducation

AGENDA • Research, Training and Policy Education • Los Angeles Metropolitan Alliance • Strategic Initiatives

1715 W. Florence Ave Los Angeles, CA 90047

(323) 789-7920 • [www.scopela.org](http://www.scopela.org)

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# What is Power?

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**the ability or capacity  
to achieve a  
collectively agreed  
upon goal.**

# BASIC ASSUMPTIONS OF POWER ANALYSIS

- 1. Power relationships are unequal right now and this is a key part of the cause of Problems & Conditions.**
- 2. Power is being exercised and there is an Agenda at work. We have to develop strategies to address this.**
- 3. A more systematic way of understanding Power and how it is exercised is necessary to making long term social change.**

# PURPOSE AND USES OF POWER ANALYSIS

- 1. To create a picture of the political/power landscape in order to understand how & by whom power is exercised to cause and maintain problems & conditions we seek to change.**
- 2. To develop more effective strategies for winning progressive social change.**
- 3. To develop long-term Political Agendas and Strategies.**
- 4. To select Issues and Campaigns.**
- 5. To provide Political Education and Training for Grassroots Leaders, Members and Allies.**
- 6. To Track & Refine Campaign Strategies.**

# POWER ANALYSIS GRID

**SOCIAL JUSTICE  
AGENDA**

Competing Agenda,  
Positions, Policies, etc.

**OPPOSING AGENDA**

10  
Decisive  
Decision  
making Power  
or Influence

8  
Active  
Participant in  
Decision-  
making

6  
Power to have  
Major  
Influence on  
decision-  
making

4  
Taken  
into  
Account

3  
Can Get  
Attention

2  
Not on  
Radar

**Vertical  
Axis:  
Amount of  
Power**

**Horizontal  
Axis: Position  
or Perspective  
on competing  
Agendas**

Die Hard

Active Support

Inclined Towards

Inclined Towards

Active Support

Die Hard

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# STEPS TO DEVELOP A STRATEGIC POLITICAL LANDSCAPE POWER ANALYSIS

