

YOU ARE HERE:
BUILDING CAPACITY, BUILDING
POWER FOR MEANINGFUL
COMMUNITY CHANGE

The Praxis Project

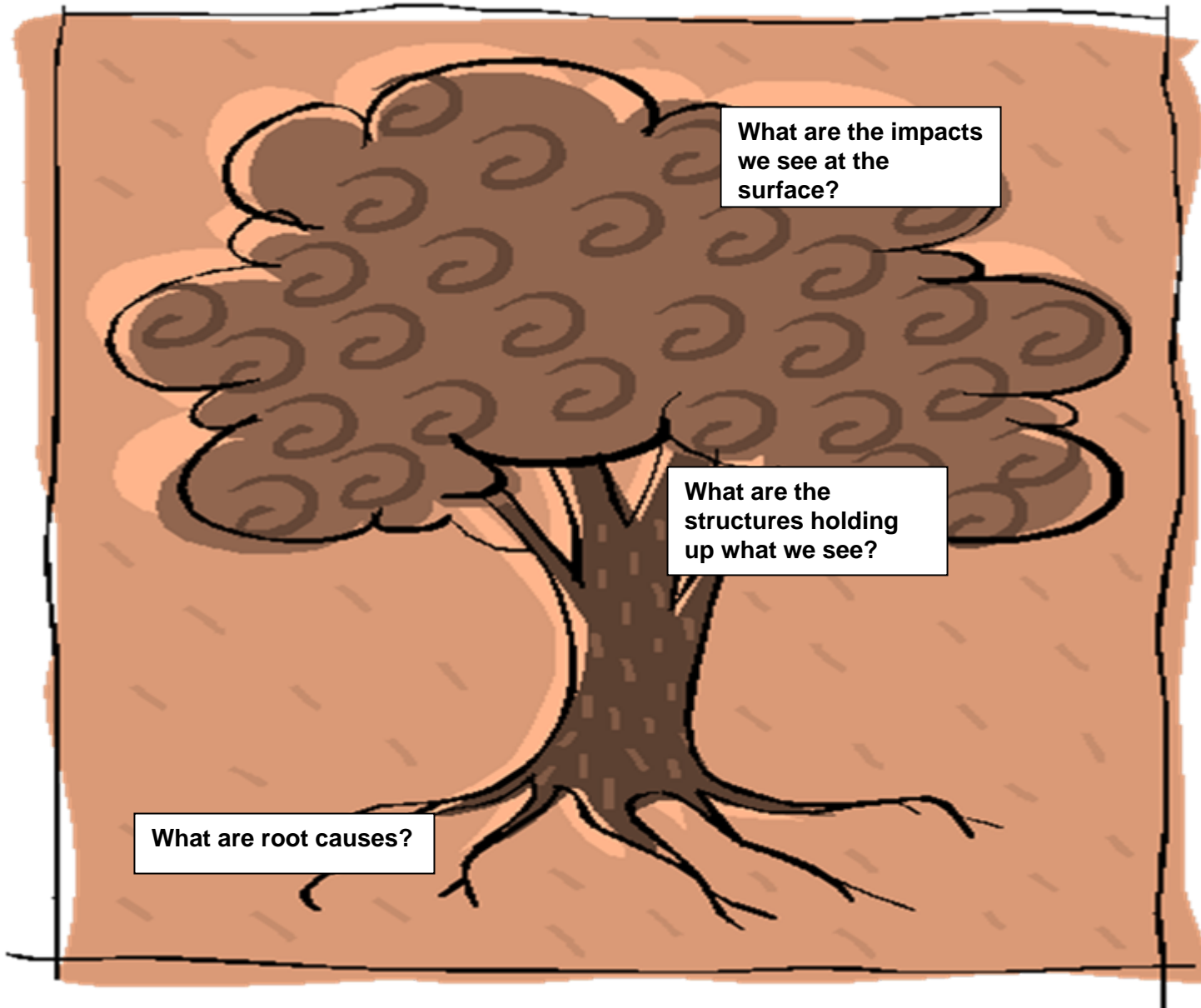
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

- A. People need to know better (Information gap)
- B. People need to do better (Behavior/culture gap)

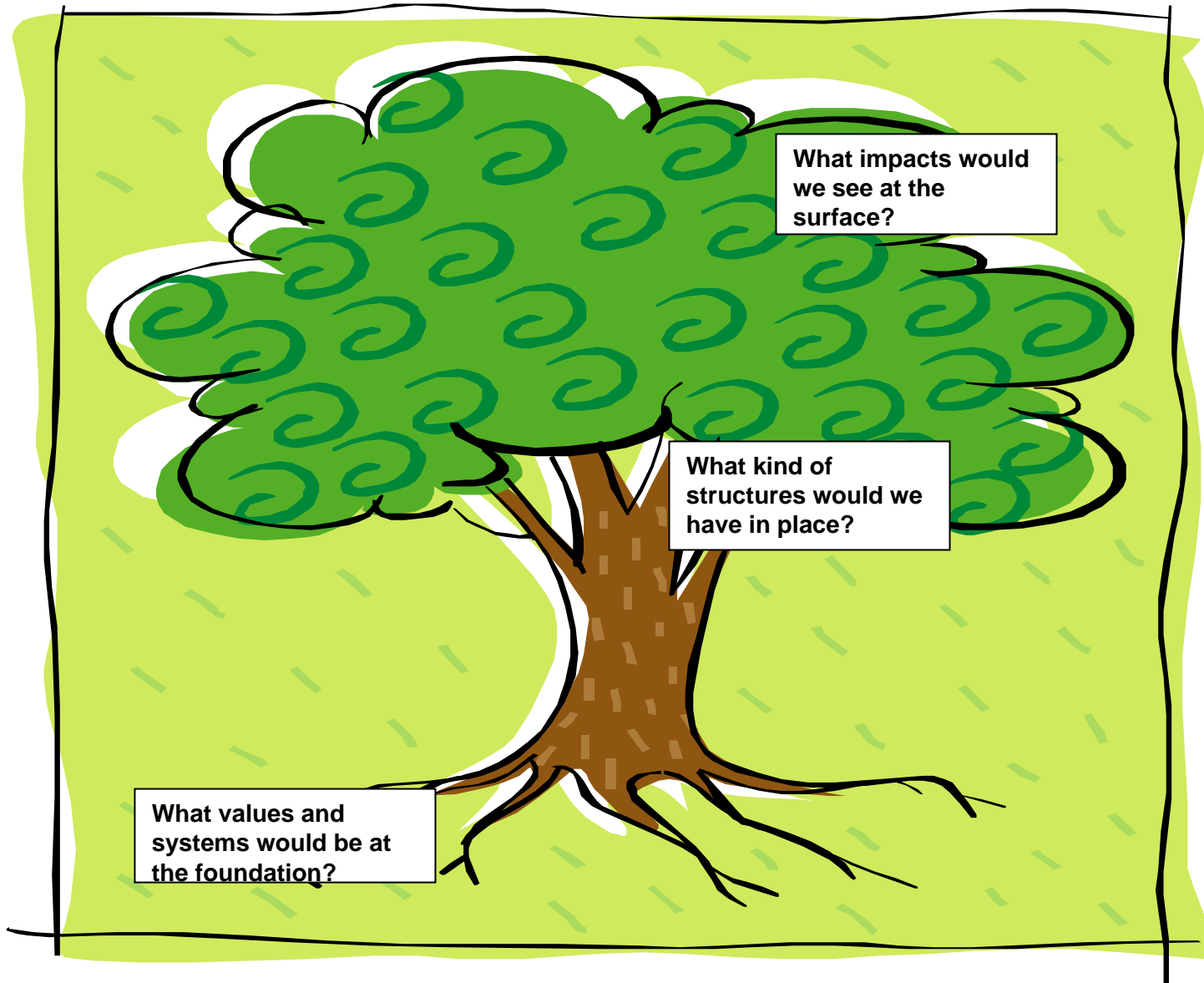
OR

- C. Our people need better -- power and influence -- *and* some folk need less (Power Gap)

Reflection: How do power relations shape health today?



Reflection: What would society look like with health justice?



What impacts would we see at the surface?

What kind of structures would we have in place?

What values and systems would be at the foundation?

Focus on Individual Responsibility Makes Structures Invisible

Fred, your butt is getting huge.



Who can we sue?

It's no joke. Trial lawyers are suing restaurants and food companies because their clients eat too much.

Find out more about the attack on personal responsibility at:

www.ConsumerFreedom.com

YOU
ARE T
STUPID

...to make your own food choices. At least according to the food police and government bureaucrats who have proposed "fat taxes" on foods they don't want you to eat. Now the trial lawyers are threatening class-action lawsuits against restaurants for serving America's favorite foods and drinks.

We think they're going too far.



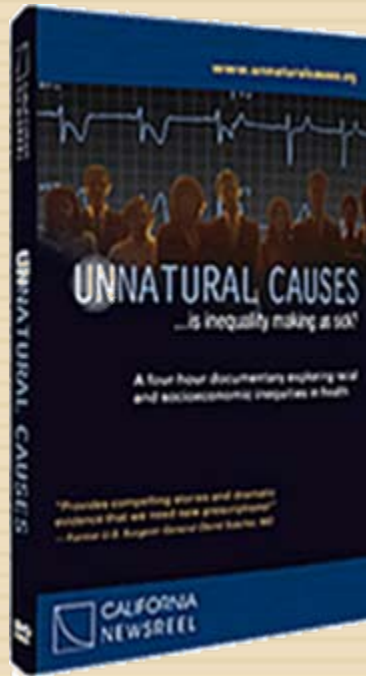
It's your food. It's your drink. It's your freedom.

Find out more about attacks on your favorite foods and drinks at

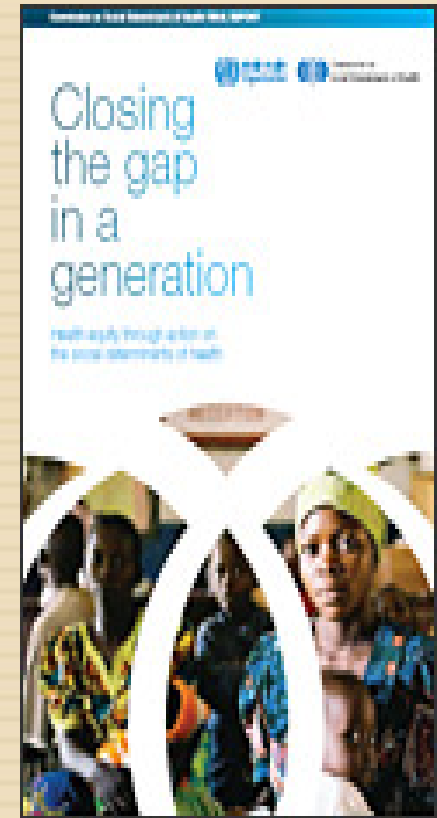
ConsumerFreedom.com

Q: CAN WE REALLY
CHANGE CONDITIONS
WITHOUT CHANGING
STRUCTURES?

A: probably not



Michael Brennan with a laptop from the "Unnatural Causes"



The evidence is overwhelming that environments, policies and other social determinants matter

Q: What are social determinants?

A: Housing, education, equality, employment and income, democratic participation and more...

What makes a Health Justice approach different?

Traditional Approach

- Single issue focus on individual behavior change and “cultural” context
- Primary strategies: education and programmatic interventions by professionals targeting those affected
- Funding to service providers and researchers
- TA delivery is “vertical” and short term and static

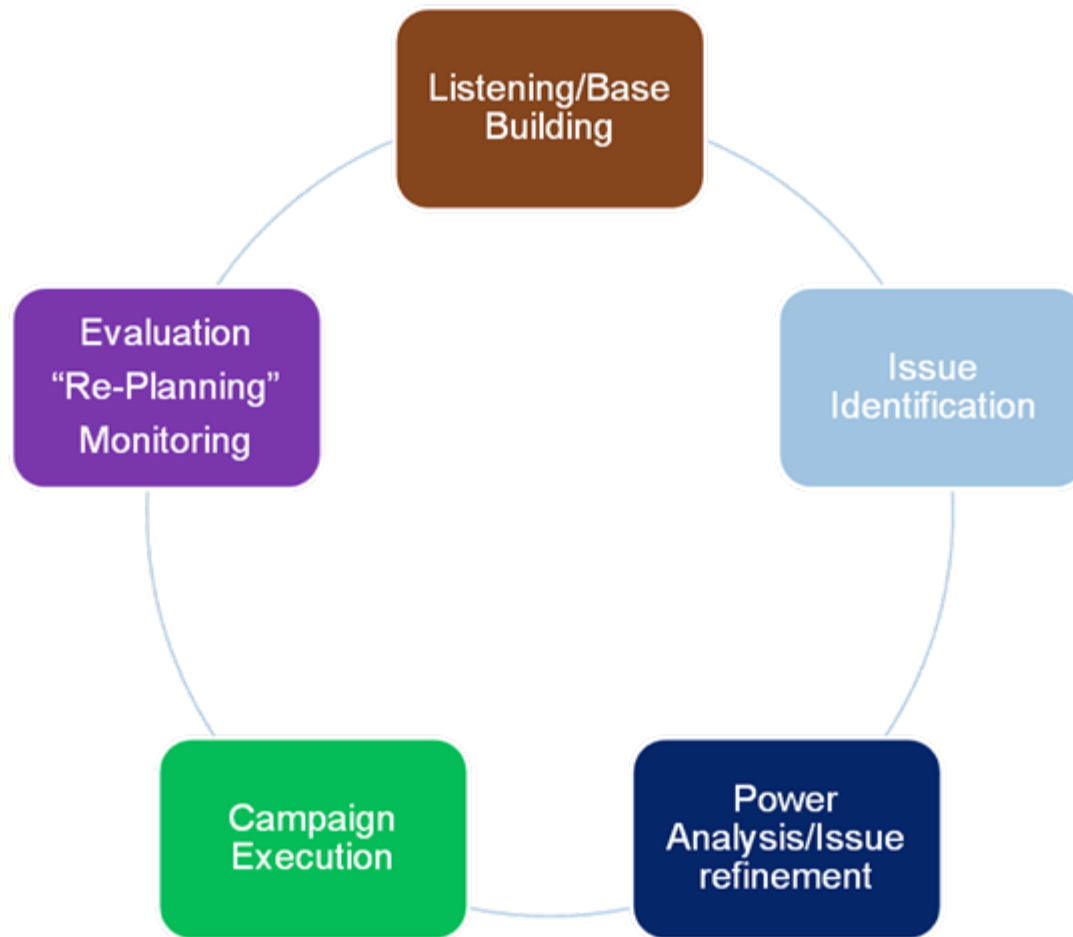
Health Justice Approach

- Multi-issue focus on policy and environmental change that takes into account social contexts shaped by racism, sexism, privilege, power, etc.
- Primary strategies: organizing, media and policy advocacy by those affected targeting decisionmakers
- Funding to community organizing, advocacy and research to change power relations, the environment
- “Circular” TA support: mutual, long term relationships; movement building approach

Q: Where do we begin?

A: Developing strategies and infrastructures that support healthy communities including **movement building for health justice.**

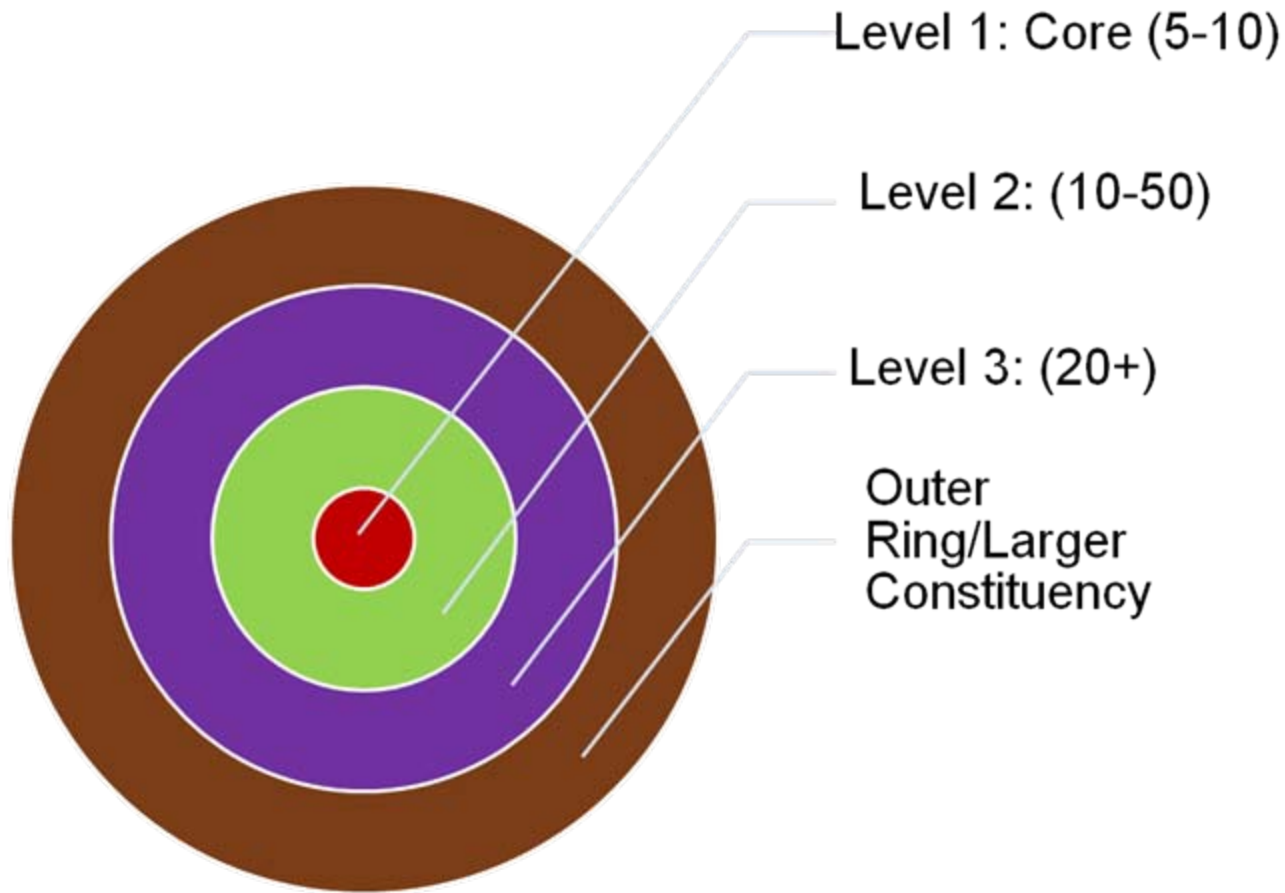
On the Road to Policy Change



reflection

- Where am I along the continuum?
- What challenges do I face moving forward?
- What would help me go all the way?

Thinking differently about our networks



reflection

- Who is in my core?
- Who are the people/groups in the next levels
- What do they care about?
- Where is the common ground?

Q: How do we know when we get there?

A: We
Are...

- building power and agency
- expanding network and capacity
- changing conditions
- shifting public discourse so more people “get it”
- increasing resources and support for our communities



Thank you!

Visit our site to learn more including info on training and funding opportunities.

The Praxis Project
www.thepraxisproject.org