

# An Analysis of Six Power Ladders, Wheels, and Progressions

Date and time

Wed 24th Jun 2020, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm PDT

*"Join Us"*

*Co-creating our future stories  
of Hope & Action*

*A "glocal" Asset & Strengths  
Based (un)Conference*

*June 24-25 2020*

HOSTED BY  
GLOBAL ASSET  
& STRENGTHS  
BASED  
PRACTITIONERS

[WWW.THEUNCONFERENCE.NET](http://WWW.THEUNCONFERENCE.NET)

Name of person who took the notes: Megan Ginn

Email of notetaker: [megan.ginn@crncfl.org](mailto:megan.ginn@crncfl.org)

Please return these notes to: [ivis.garcia@utah.edu](mailto:ivis.garcia@utah.edu)

## Capturing the learning:

1. Take a screen shot of your group



2. Write down the names of people: David Cohen, Dr. Joe Carson, Brother John Muhammad, Magdalena Ugarte, Megan Ginn
3. Discuss the ladders – Leave black the 3 you do not discuss (see below one ladder per page)
4. Overall reflection questions (if you have more time in your session)

4.1. What were some of the stories and experiences shared?

- individuals shared how the ladders had been implemented in their work or how they could see the ladders in their work if it was just introduced

4.2. What were the key themes that emerged from these experiences?

- that collaboration can be a term used incorrectly when it may just be communication

4.3. What was your most significant learning from this session and why?

- one of the significant learnings of the group was how important it is to move our sector to empowering and including individuals in the process

4.4. Was there anything that surprised or challenged you?

## 5. Sherry Arnstein's "Ladder of Citizen Participation"

### 5.1.1. What is its history?

- created in 1969, during civil rights movements and urban renewal were going on
- sherry arnstein was consultant for HUD around urban renewal
  - was trying to make sense of what was going on around her
  - her main contribution was not looking at participation as a monolith but as a ladder
  - participation moves and gets better
  - decision making power expands

### 5.1.2. How it has been used by participants?

- can see it in the spectrum of food selection organizations
  - mobile food drop - no choice in food
  - food pantry - choice in food
  - neighborhood food co-op - choice and ownership of food

### 5.1.3. What is great about the ladder?

- can see how focus groups checks a box but doesn't inform the approach
- this helped to unpack participation and frame collaboration as something different
- holds people as accountable for if they are truly engaging their community
- people learn how they may be working together but not collaborating

### 5.1.4. What are its shortcomings and how it could be improved?

- now sometimes it can come across as dated
- it assumes power can be given to people instead of communities know a lot and have many resources that are ignored by gov't and other power holders

## **6. South Lanarkshire Council's "Wheel of Participation"**

6.1.1. What is its history? - this ladder was not discussed

6.1.2. How it has been used by participants?

6.1.3. What is great about the ladder?

6.1.4. What are its shortcomings and how it could be improved?

## 7. The International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) “Public Participation Spectrum”

### 7.1.1. What is its history?

- simplification of Arnstein’s ladder
- adapted by municipal gov’ts in Canada
- can become accredited by IAP2 for training in this

### 7.1.2. How it has been used by participants?

- 

### 7.1.3. What is great about the ladder?

- it helps people to decide at what level they want to have participation in the project/ endeavor
- it forces gov’ts and those who use this to be honest about what level they have
  - you can’t just be informing and claim to be empowering

### 7.1.4. What are its shortcomings and how it could be improved?

-



**8. The Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) Institute's "Citizen Power Ladder" developed by Jody Kretzmann and John McKnight**

8.1.1. What is its history?

8.1.2. How it has been used by participants?

8.1.3. What is great about the ladder?

8.1.4. What are its shortcomings and how it could be improved?

## **9. Deborah Puntteney's "Resident Power Progression"**

9.1.1. What is its history?

9.1.2. How it has been used by participants?

9.1.3. What is great about the ladder?

9.1.4. What are its shortcomings and how it could be improved?



**10. "Residents and their Associations: A Power Ladder" Jody Kretzmann, John McKnight, Sarah Dobrowolski, and Deborah Puntenney**

10.1.1. What is its history?

10.1.2. How it has been used by participants?

10.1.3. What is great about the ladder?

10.1.4. What are its shortcomings and how it could be improved?