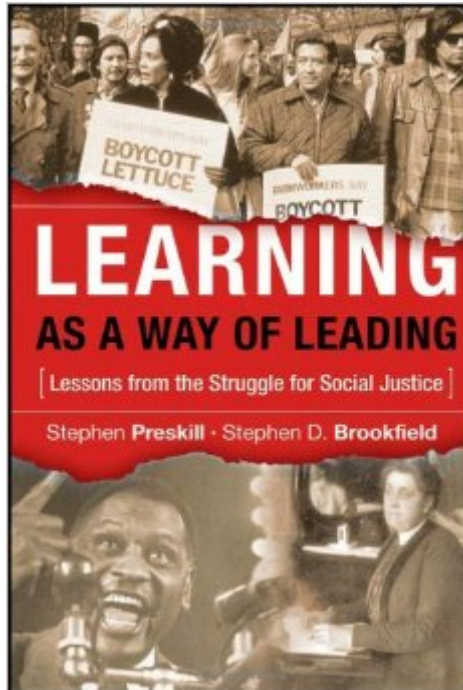


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Learning As A Way Of Leading: Lessons From The Struggle For Social Justice



Synopsis

This book offers a systematic look at the connections between learning and leading and the use of learning to inspire and organize for change. It explores two interrelated dimensions of learning leadership: the ways leaders themselves learn about leadership practice, and the way leaders foster the learning of those they work with. The book focuses on a number of important leadership activities and adopts a case study approach to illuminate how leaders themselves learn, how they impart knowledge to others, and how they support others in becoming more effective and enduring learners.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In contrast to most books on leadership I've read that focus mainly on white male business or military leaders, *LEARNING AS A WAY OF LEADING* makes a real contribution by exploring ONLY leaders in social justice movements. The authors examine a diverse group of movement intellectuals (including Cesar Chavez, Nelson Mandela, Ella Baker, Paul Robeson, Jane Addams, and Septima Clark) to investigate how they put learning at the heart of their work. I could quibble with the selection and would have preferred to have had some more recent examples included, but the book's central message - that being a change agent sort of leader means you've got to do a lot of continuous learning - is one I support. I've read quite a few books on leadership but never found one that views supporting the learning of others as the most important work leaders do. This book is also written well. It zips along and if the authors are sometimes too uncritical about their chosen

movement leaders, you forgive them (or at least I did) because their enthusiasm is contagious. These days so many people I talk to are cynical about politics and social action. But with the popularity of the Occupy Wall Street movement this book should get some good attention. It's a good read for anyone interested in social justice leadership.

this book is a wonderful experience to live through as the history of the civil rights movement is examined to help leaders today find ways to overcome struggle in the workplace and in organizations, especially in schools.

In *Learning as a Way of Leading*, Brookfield and Presskill provide a powerful model for an emerging approach to leadership. They provide specific and detailed examples of leaders in the United States who have accomplished critical, essential goals by appealing to the best in us. In most instances, these leaders have achieved their goals despite a serious lack of financial or official political resources. And the approach is not a miracle, but a model. In a country in which the political structure seems increasingly to fail the majority of citizens, this book, and the skills it describes, provide a way forward.

Excellent book - super helpful to my work with leadership development - and giving the leaders I work with a chance to define the type of leadership appropriate to their goals and the qualities of leadership that truly build community engagement for the long haul..

I love this book. I am inspired every time I pick it up and re-read a chapter and reflect on the exemplar. (I am a bit sheepish that I didn't know who a couple of the exemplars were. I'm so glad that I do now!) I have encouraged colleagues to adopt this book as part of required reading in their courses on leadership (in social change, education, adult learning) and the feedback about it has been very positive. The writing style is conversational and accessible, and this makes it an easy book to return to when I need a little motivation. I highly recommend this book!

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