



Cultural Strategy Discussion Guide

This discussion guide accompanies Power California's [Until We're All Free: A Case Study in Cultural Strategy](#). The following questions are intended for group dialogue, and we encourage you to read the Primer and dig into these questions with peers, allies and colleagues.

Cultural Strategy is a holistic field of practice and an ecosystem that engages all aspects of cultural life and all avenues of social change making to transform society for a just, viable and liberatory future. Since Cultural Strategy is inextricable from cultural work, artists, creatives and cultural workers are key agents of cultural strategy. *Cultural Strategy is HOW we get to cultural justice.*

Cultural Justice is the healing and remedying of the historical erasure, suppression and marginalization of people's artistic and cultural practices. Cultural Justice restores ways of living, being, and sense-making that systems of oppression steal from us.

Discussion Questions

Q1. How is culture work - the labor of producing creative, cultural experiences through practices like food, ritual, play, art-making, healing arts, dance, music and more - currently valued at your work? How are cultural practices resourced and supported?

The 10 characteristics of Cultural Strategy from the Primer are: arts integration; visions, values, and worldview; power shifts; narrative shifts; discovery versus dissemination; prefiguration; issue development and definition; new normals; stickiness and sustainability; and organizational integration.

Q2. In reviewing the ten key characteristics of cultural strategy, which characteristic(s) could be more easily practiced in your work, tribe, organization or community? Why?

Q3. In reviewing the ten key characteristics of cultural strategy, which characteristic(s) would be challenging to enact, integrate or practice in your work, tribe, organization or community? Why?

Q4. How do you currently engage with cultural workers, producers and activists through your work? What inequities, assumptions and power dynamics are at play?

Q5. What policies or practices would need to change in your work, tribe, organization or community in order to support some cultural strategy interventions?

Q6. Which people need to be cultivated, convinced or organized at your institution or in your network in order to encourage the acceleration of cultural strategy?

Q7. Mapping Your Network for Cultural Strategy Collaborators:

In your local or field-wide network, who are possible allies or partners for cultural strategy in the following categories:

- Issue experts:
- Funders and philanthropists:
- Policy or advocacy experts:
- Grassroots or community-based organizations:
- Cultural organizers:
- Arts and cultural organizations:
- Content producers:
- Artists:
- Fandoms:
- Communications and messaging experts:
- Narrative strategists:
- Storytellers:
- Media experts:

For additional resources and readings, please visit the Resources page on the Cultural Strategy Primer at <https://powercalifornia.org/reset-project#primer>. You can also download the Until We Are All Free Case Study at: <https://powercalifornia.org/reset-project#case-study>.