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Jane Addams and Systems Design: What might we learn?

Lake, Danielle

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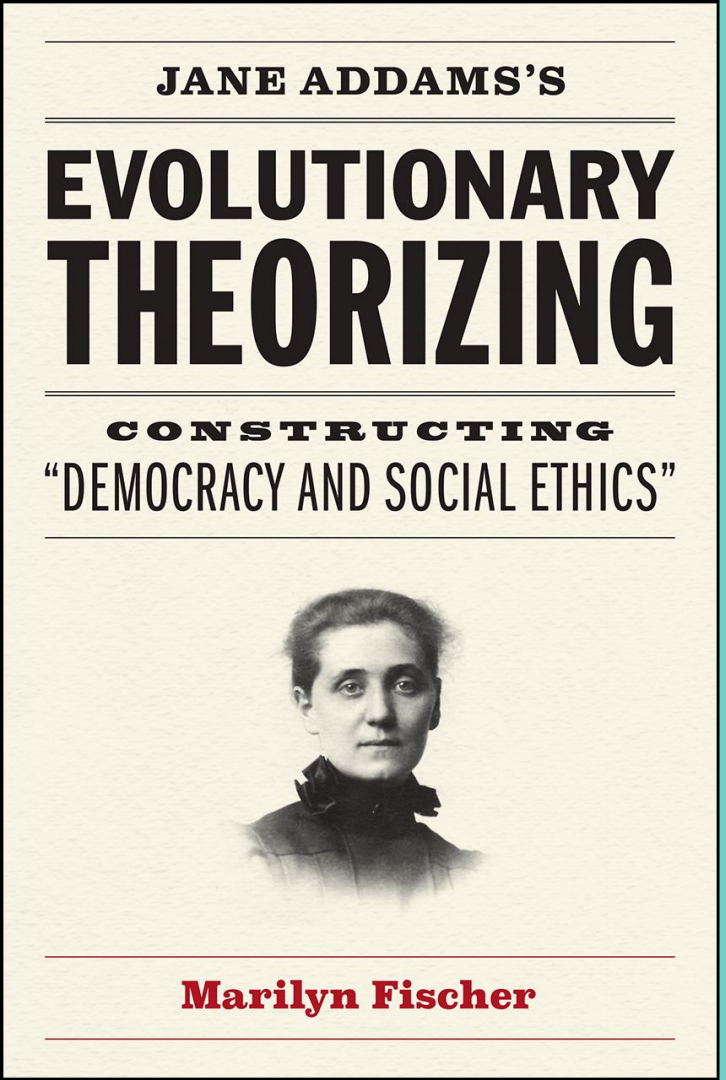


Jane Addams
& Systems Design

What might we learn?

RSD10 2021: Danielle Lake, PhD

Director of Design Thinking
Associate Professor
Elon University, NC USA

What *More* Do We Have to Learn?

1. Participatory & Situated Engagement

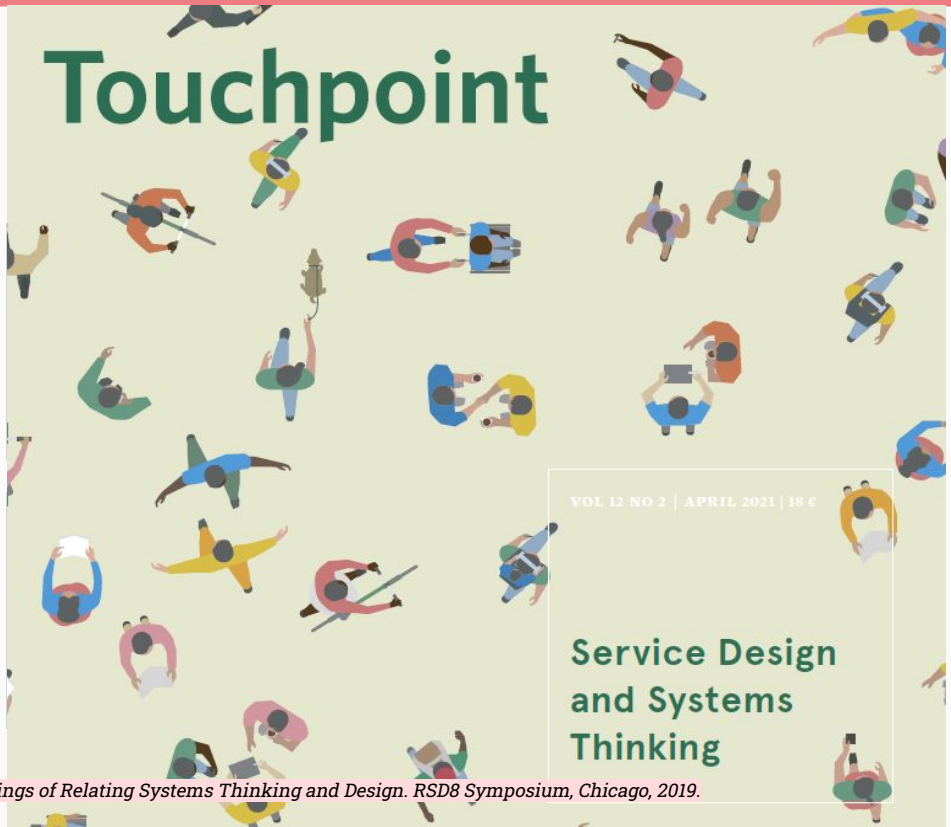
2. Historical & Geographical Mapping

3. Rhetorical Framing

Wicked Problems ***BY DESIGN***

"The world is on its way to ***ruin*** *and it's happening by* ***design****"*

Mike Monteiro, Ruined By Design, p. 10



Vink, J., Wetter-edman, K. & Koskela-Huotari. Designerly Approaches for Shaping Social Structures. Proceedings of Relating Systems Thinking and Design. RSD8 Symposium, Chicago, 2019.

Escobar 2017

Birgit 2021

Brown & Lambert 2013

Vargo & Lush 2016

Grimes, Vink, Harvainen & Vink 2021

Buchanan 1992

Vink 2021

Dixon 2020

Creative Reaction Lab 2020

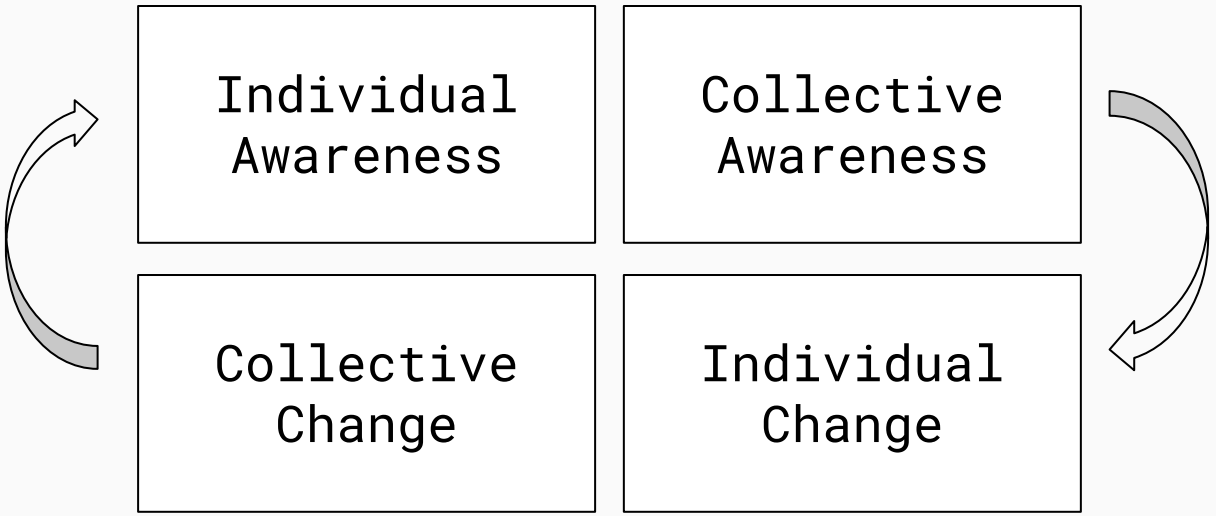
Jones & Van Ael 2022

Culver, Harper & Kezar 2021

Constanza-Chock 2020

Anaissie, Cary, Clifford, Malarkey & Wise 2020

Internal & Institutional *DESIGN*



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Jane Addams

A System Designer ?

Labor Rights

Immigrant Rights

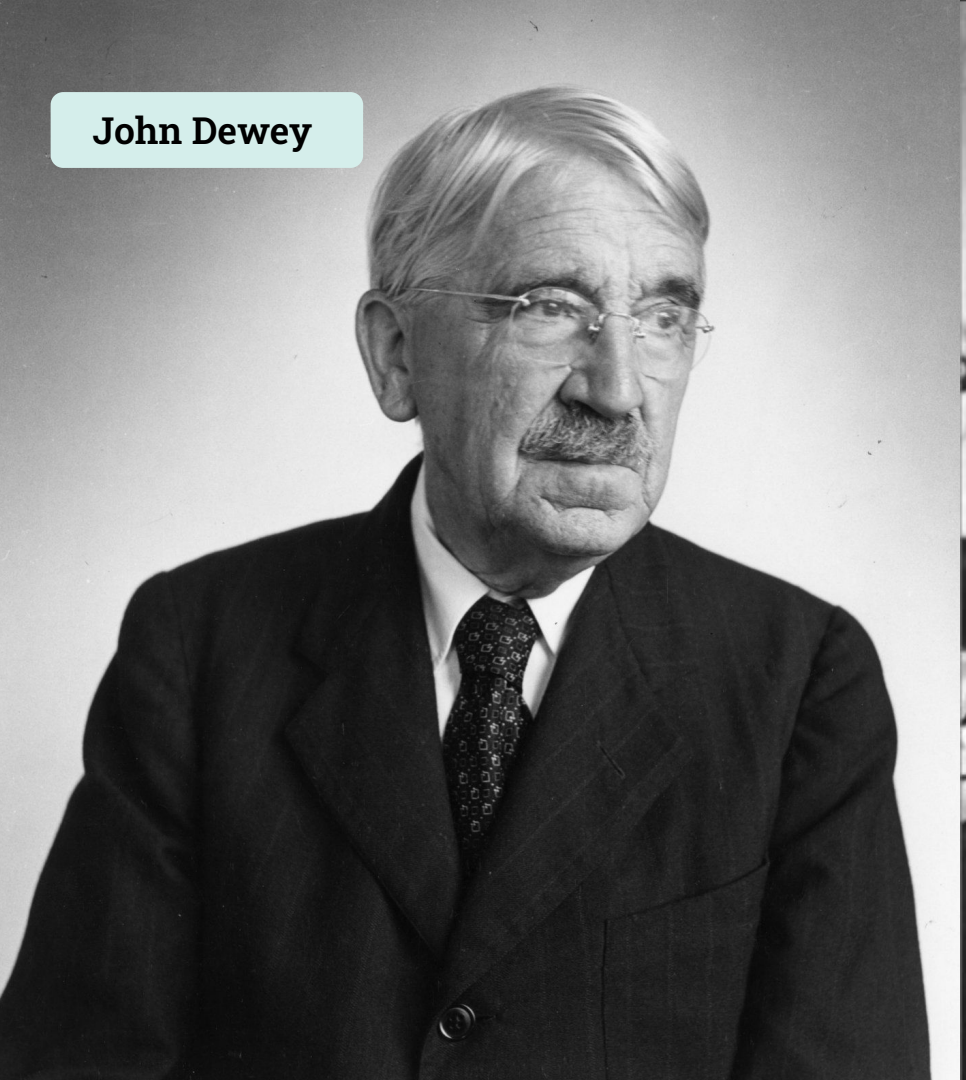
Women's Rights

Children's Rights

International Peace

Food Justice Efforts

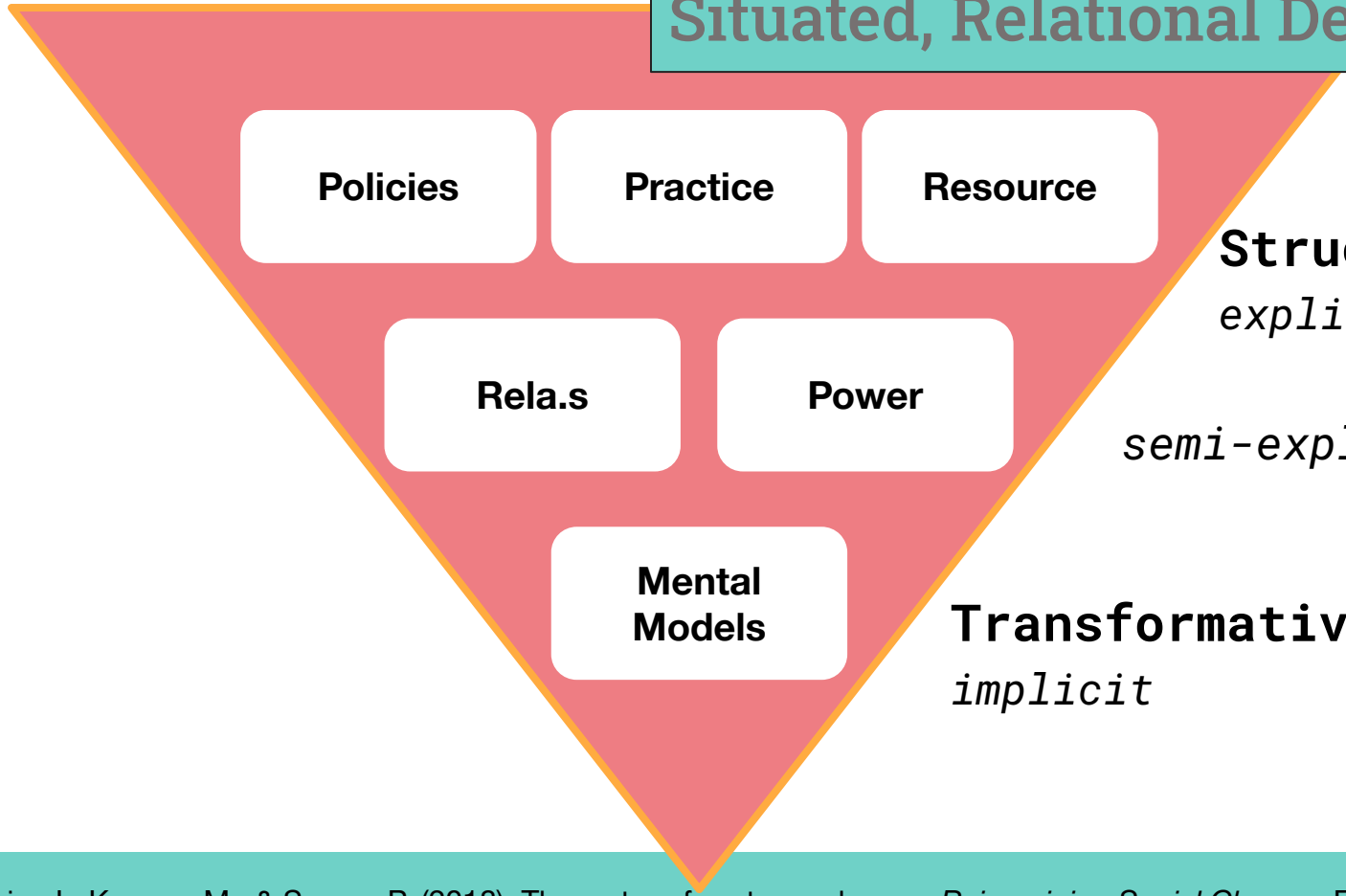
Early Twentieth Century
Chicago, United States, World



John Dewey

Jane Addams

Situated, Relational Design



Structural Change

explicit

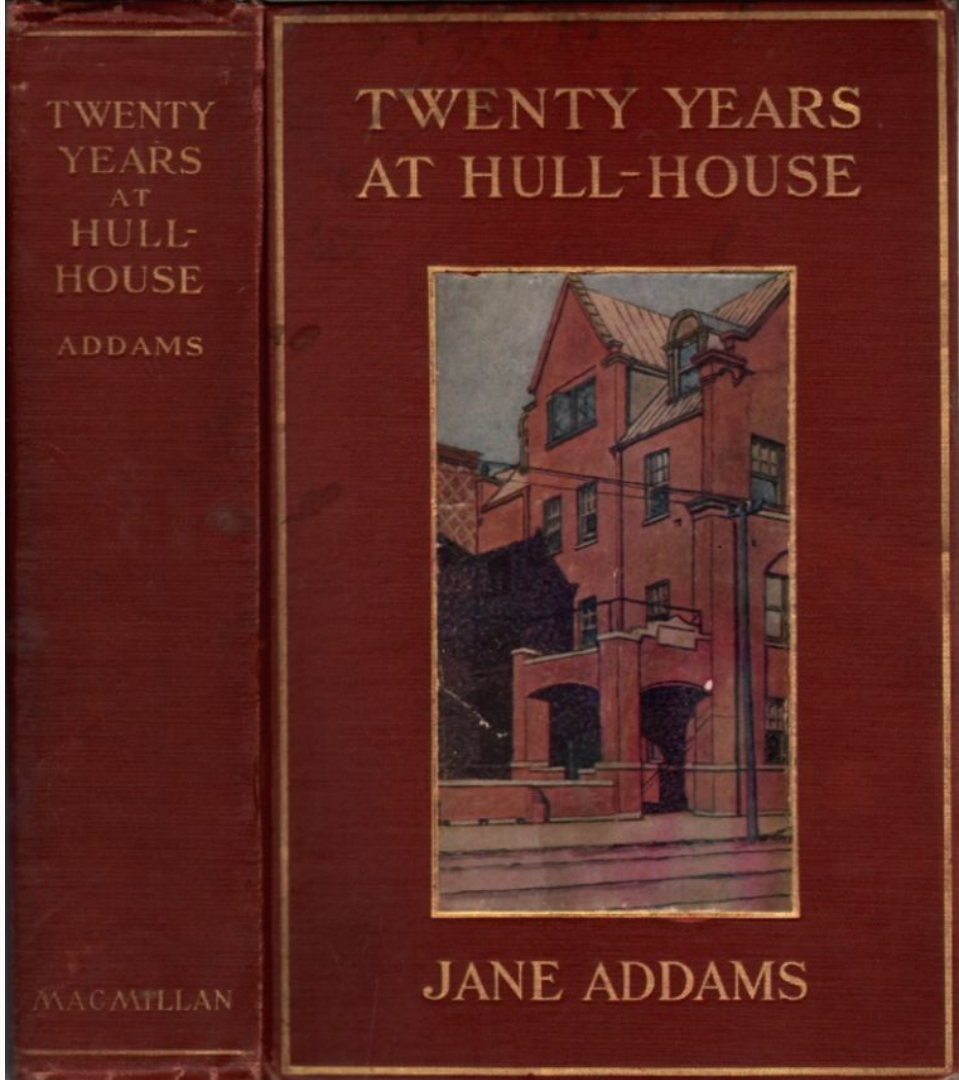
semi-explicit

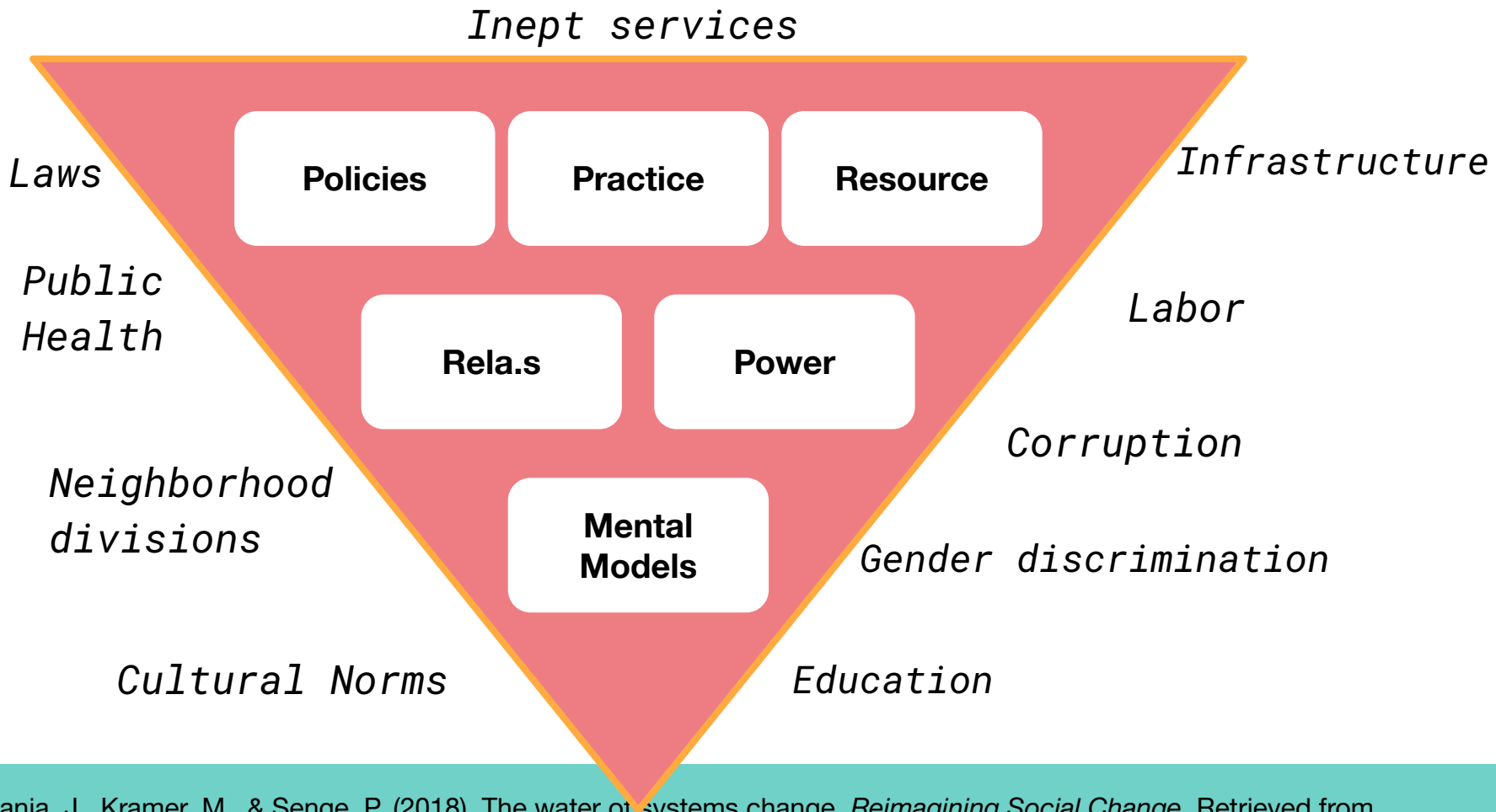
Transformative Change

implicit

Kania, J., Kramer, M., & Senge, P. (2018). The water of systems change. *Reimagining Social Change*. Retrieved from http://efc.issuelab.org/resources/30855/30855.pdf

Gender Discrimination →
Inadequate Infrastructure →
Cultural Norms →
Ineffective Laws →
Inept Services →
Corruption →
Housing & Tenement →
Public Health Regulations →
Transportation Failures →
Educational Practices →
Labor Policies →





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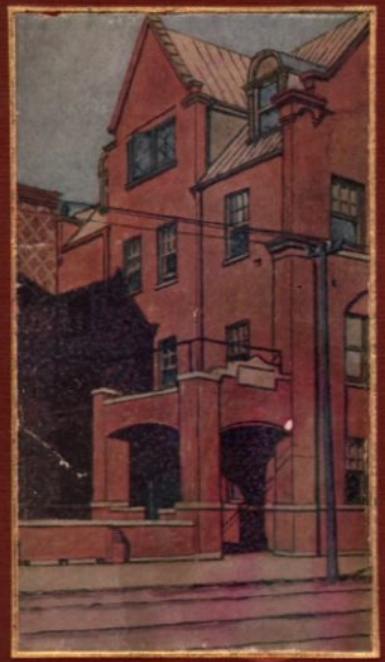
TWENTY YEARS AT HULL-HOUSE

ADDAMS

MACMILLAN

TWENTY YEARS AT HULL-HOUSE

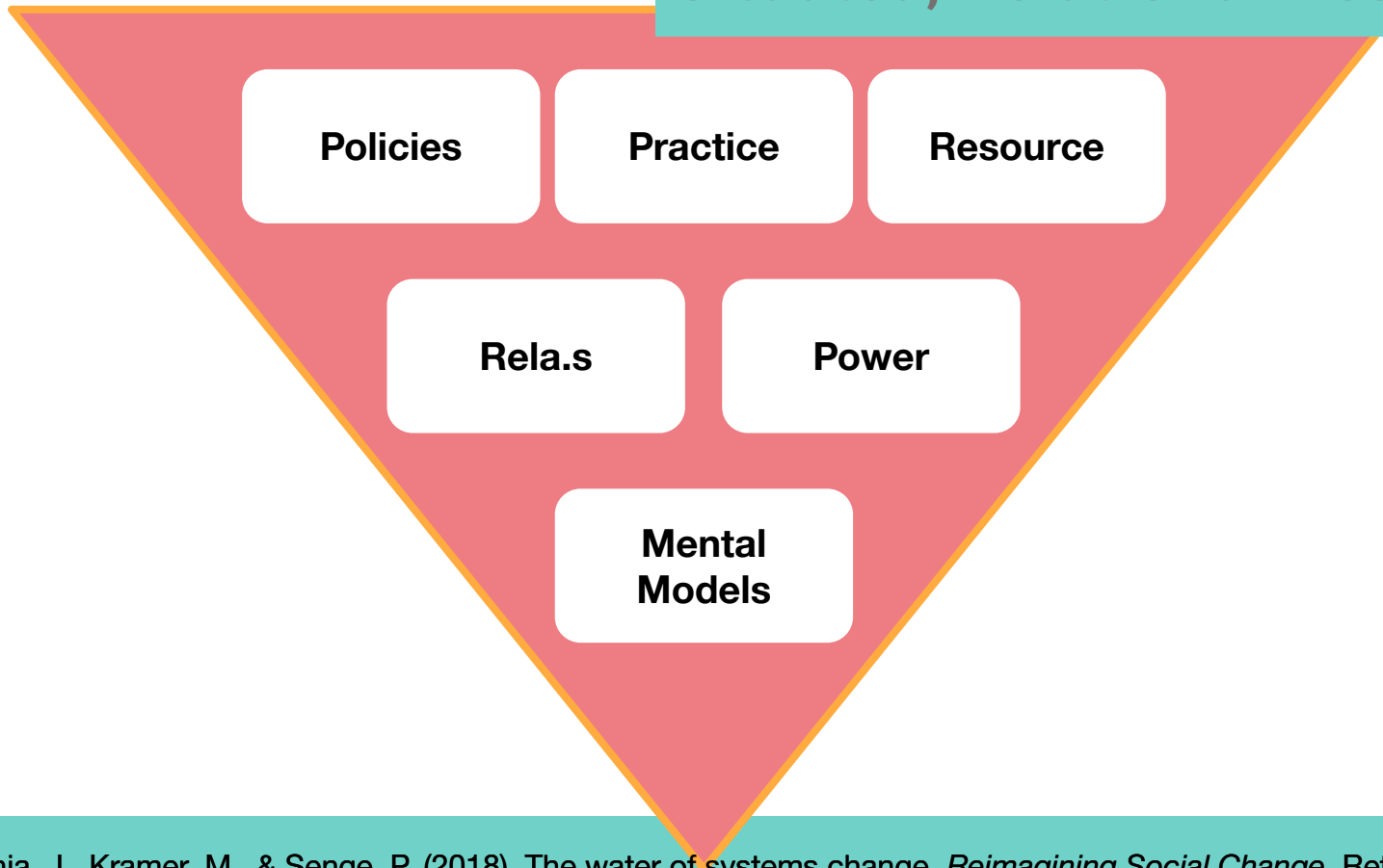


JANE ADDAMS

Situational Paradoxes

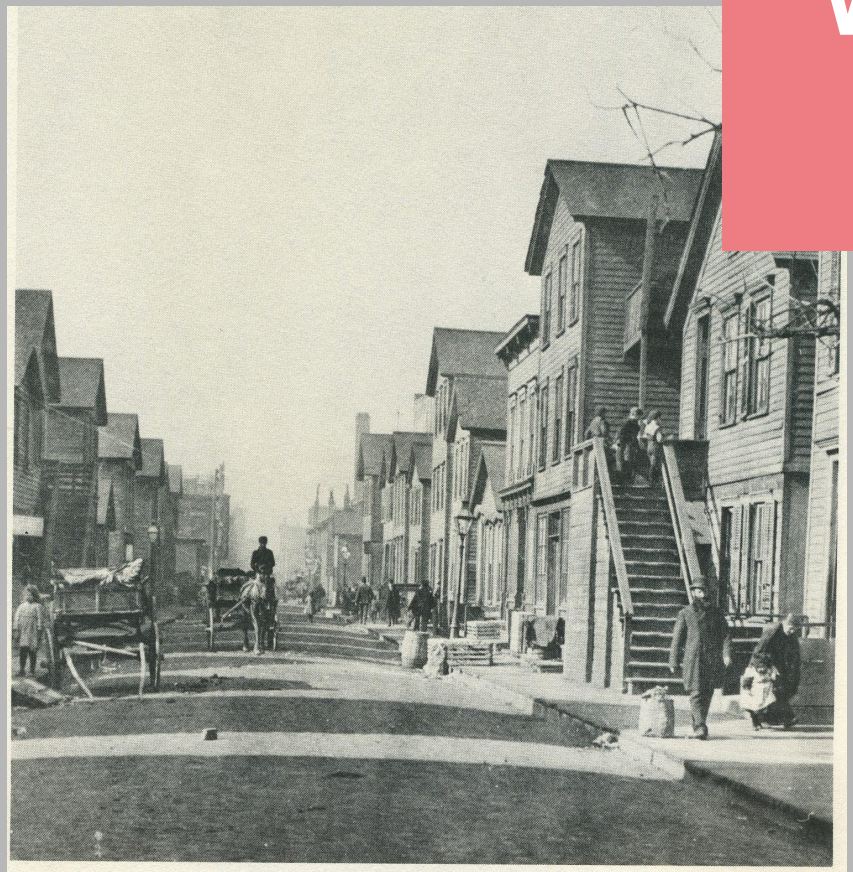
Resistance	Apathy	Loss	Outrage
Judgement	Defensiveness	Disdain	Indifference

Situated, Relational Design



Kania, J., Kramer, M., & Senge, P. (2018). The water of systems change. *Reimagining Social Change*. Retrieved from http://efc.issuelab.org/resources/30855/30855.pdf

What do we have to learn?



A typical street in the Hull-House neighborhood at the turn of the century.

Historic

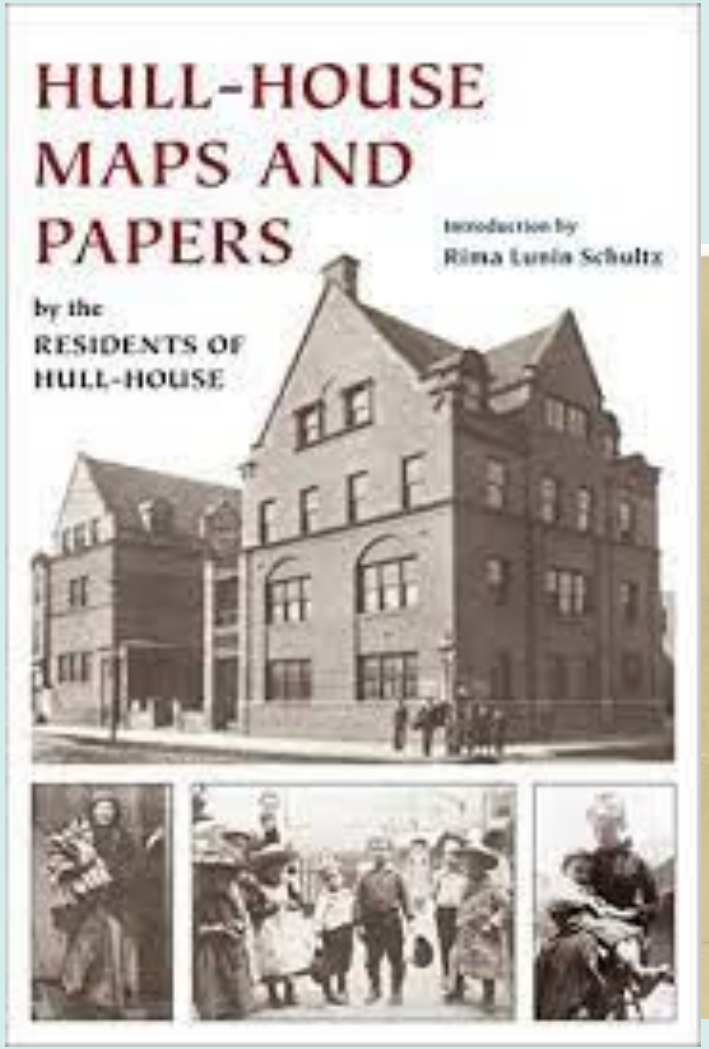
Geographic

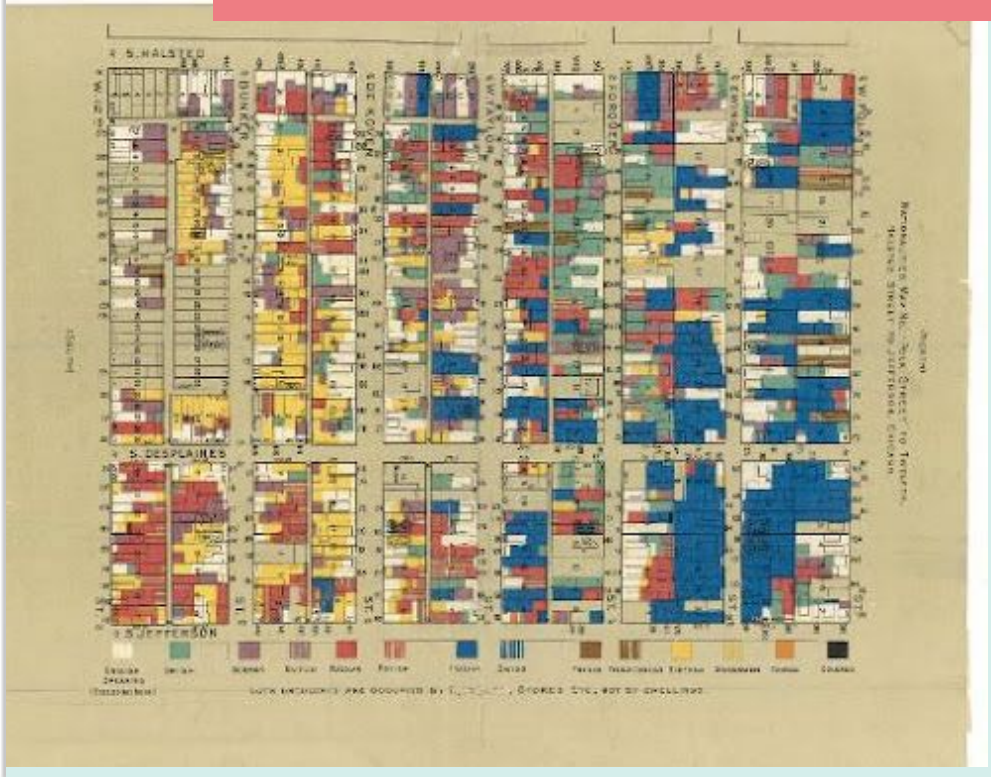
Relational

Design

Historic, Geographic, & Relational Design

Historic, Geographic, & Relational Design





Synthetic Imagination

See: *Jane Addams's Evolutionary Theorizing: Constructing "Democracy and Social Ethics"* (2020)

Move at the Speed of Trust:

Slow, Messy, Non-Ideal

Cultivating Change

Propinquity

Situate Amongst & Between

Historic & Geographic Mapping

Collaborative Modeling

Synthetic Imagination

Shared Narratives