



# Public dimensions of our private lives

Organising in a Pandemic:  
Session One

# What is organising?

A few concepts:

- Organising is about leadership and leadership development (not positional leaders, all of us as leaders)
- Build power to then use power

How do we become leaders?

- Knowledge: know thyself, learn how to act powerfully

# Organising in a Crisis

Lessons from the Global Financial Crisis:

- **Barcelona** (full story in Episode #1 ChangeMakers Podcast (Making the Impossible Possible, it is the second story in that episode))

# Break out groups: Rounds

What are the public dimensions of your private lives?

- Find a **facilitator** for your break out group
- Give everyone a **minute** to think of a story
- **Go around** the group, each person 2-3 mins, facilitator takes time it so everyone gets a go - stop people at 3 mins
- If you have time - any themes or questions to share with everyone?
- Facilitator puts theme/question into the group chat when you return

# Public dimensions

Thanking Joe Chrastil from the US North West Industrial Foundations for developing these concepts.

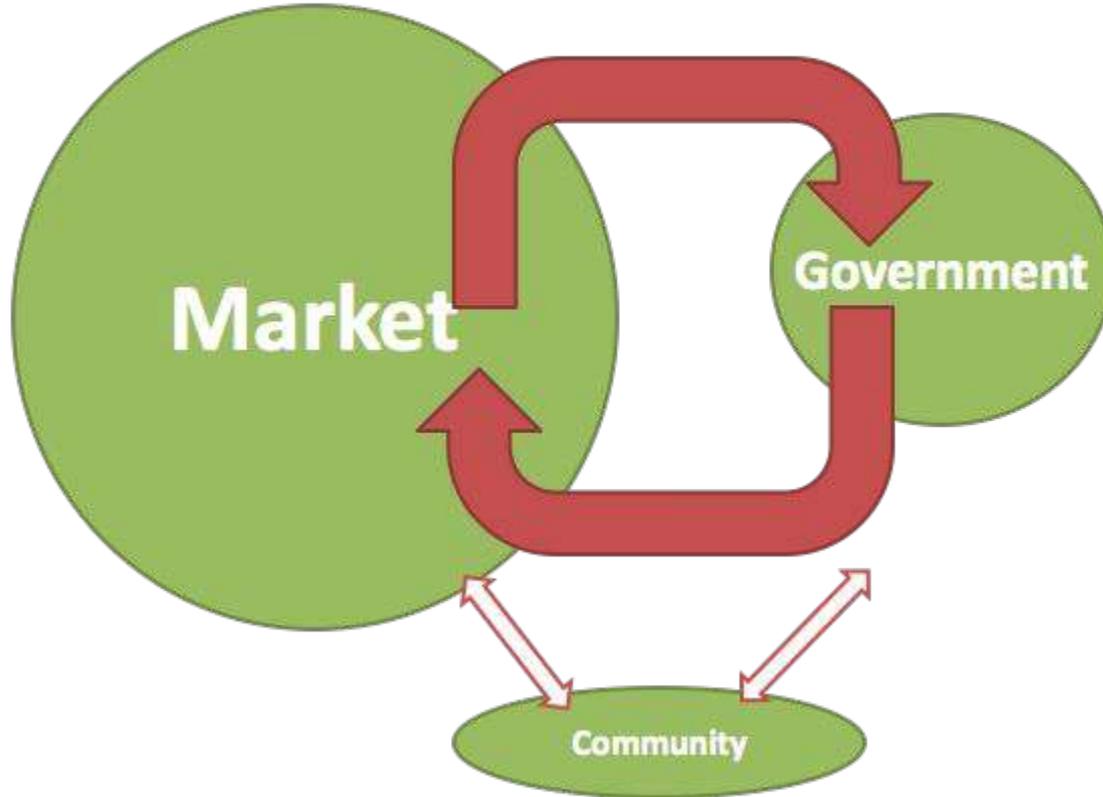
Acknowledging the Sydney Alliance and Queensland Community Alliance who teach and practice these ideas in their broad based community organising.



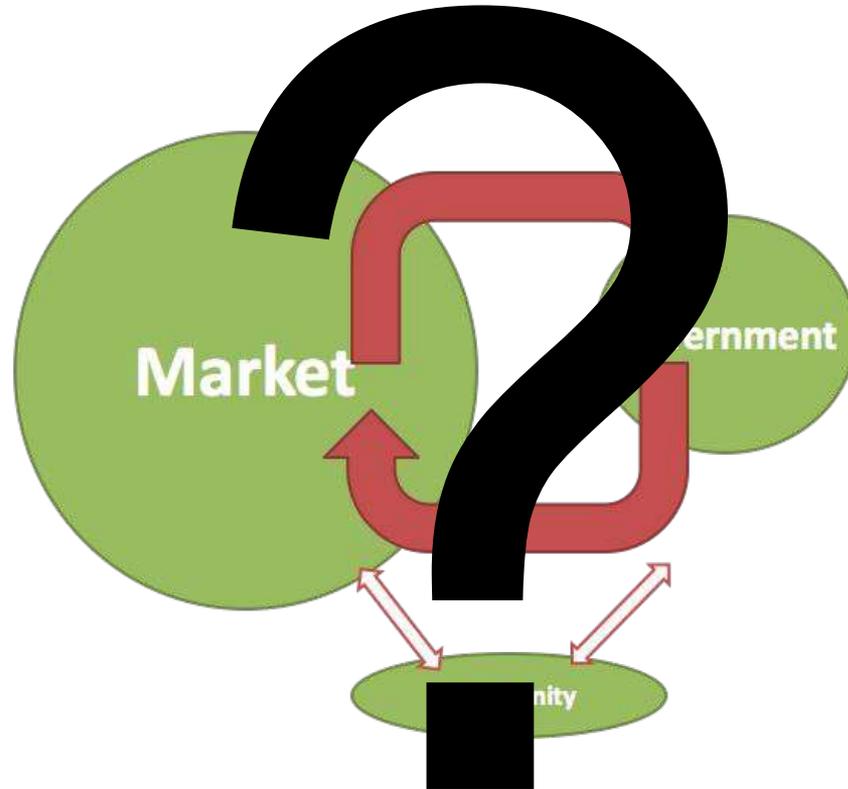
# Democratic Public Arena



# Public Arena pre-Pandemic

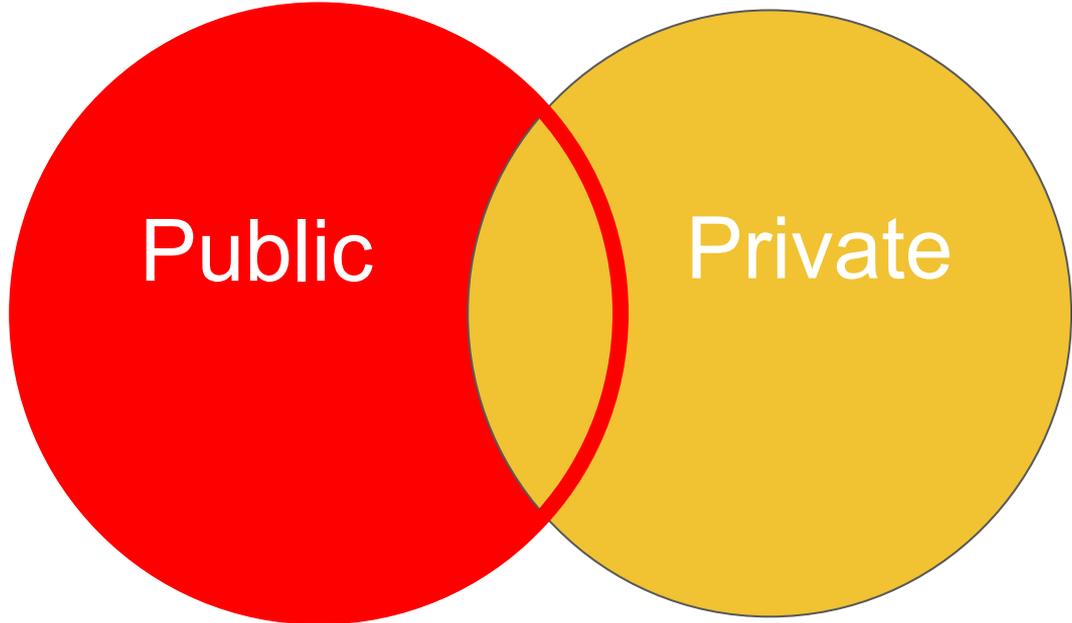


# What next?



# How does the public arena relate to now?

- The dimensions of this crisis don't just relate to a virus but to the public arena - and presence or absence of public resources it provides
- These are the public dimensions of our private lives
- But expressing this is hard, often shift from extremes (intensely personal - intensely public)
- Grounding crisis in day to day experiences - can open the public arena and politics to new people, because it shows why it matters



Public

Private

# When we see pressures as individuals

**We see ourselves**

**VICTIM**

**CLIENT**

**RUGGED**



**We act in public**

**OVERWHELMED**

**ANGRY**

**REACTIVE**

# When we see pressures when connected with others

**We see ourselves**

**LEARNERS**

**CREATORS**

**LEADERS**



**We act in public**

**HOPEFUL**

**POWERFUL**

**PROACTIVE**

# What does this mean for us?

1. We need to make space for these conversations in our organisations and networks
2. We can work on this ourselves - reflectively - asking what are the public dimensions shaping our lives now (and in the past too). Build our public narrative
3. Use this approach to engage others
4. Use this approach to shape the issues that we work on, the solutions we seek to this crisis

## Break Out Group Two

In what ways do these ideas shift how you think about yourself and what you are going through at the moment?

How could this concept be useful for your work?

# Final notes

A follow up email will be sent with:

- Reading/listening
- Survey
- Slides and a link to the recording
- Sign up details for next session: Friday 17 April, 1pm - 2:30pm AEST

**Next session: When everything changes, can everything change? Exploring power and big shifts in the economy, climate, democracy as we negotiate a new world.**

# About the Presenter

## Amanda Tattersall

Amanda Tattersall is the host of the ChangeMakers Podcast that features social change stories from around the world. She previously co-founded GetUp and founded the Sydney Alliance, bringing Saul Alinsky style community organising to Australia. She wrote the globally focused “go to” book on coalition strategy (Power in Coalition, Cornell University Press), and has been involved in many social movements – student, union, peace, and refugee movements. She has a Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Sydney in city-based citizen activism and is based at the Sydney Policy Lab.

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[ChangeMakers Podcast](#)