

Democracy and Jane Addams's Social Ethics through the Lenses of Pragmatism and Hickman's Technology

Patricia M. Shields
Political Science
Texas State University

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Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy (SAAP),
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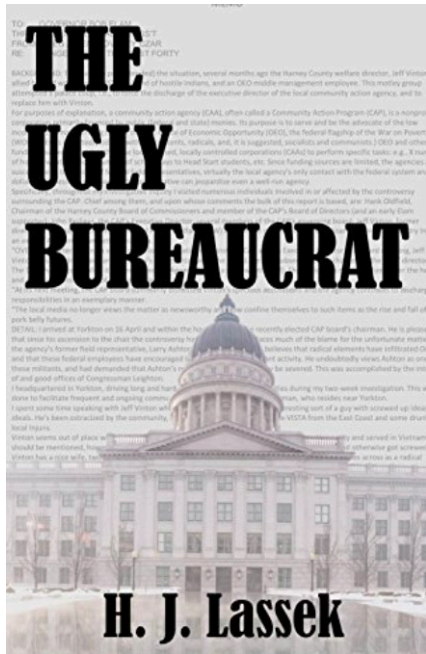
This presentation uses the lenses of pragmatism to explore participatory democracy and the social ethics of Jane Addams.

It applies these concepts using examples from public administration. The contributions of Larry Hickman inform the discussion throughout.



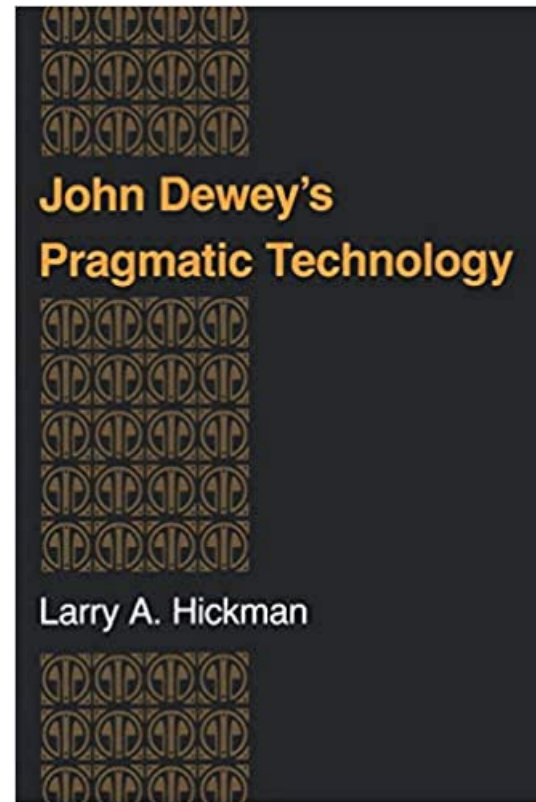
- Steeped in Utilitarianism
- Rigorous theory and methods
- Market

- Missing a philosophical stance (public service, efficiency)
- Lacked Rigor
- Politics



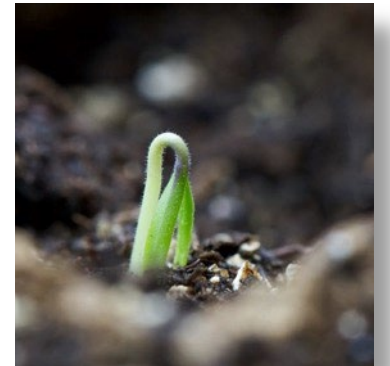
The provision of a minimal level of welfare to every member of a society through a corporate capitalist economy regulated by a centralized state directed by administrative experts, which even when it works betrays an identification of the good with the goods. (**Westbrook, 1991, p. xv, *John Dewey and American Democracy***)

Found Pragmatism



Public Administration deals with the stewardship
and implementation of the products of a
living democracy

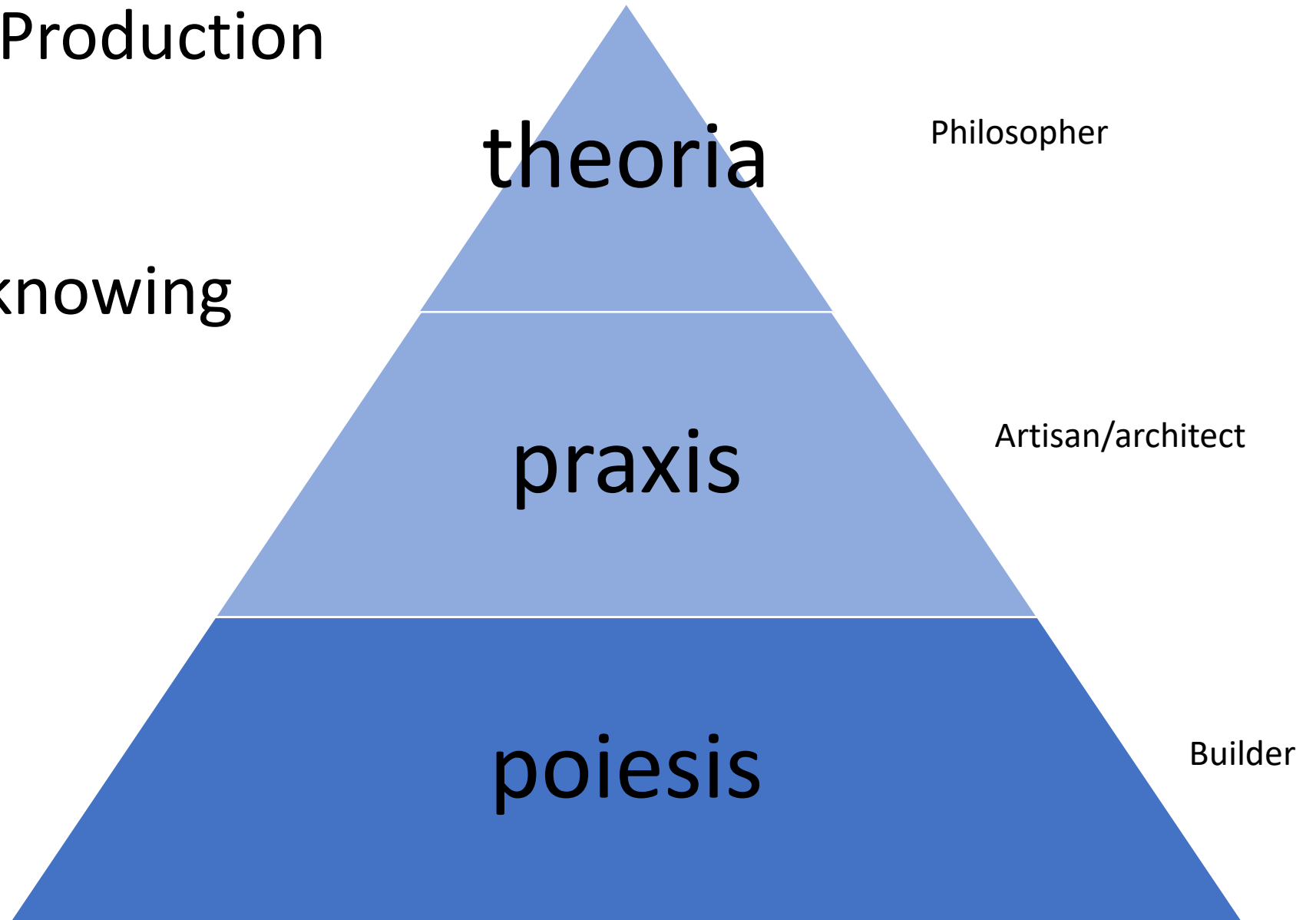
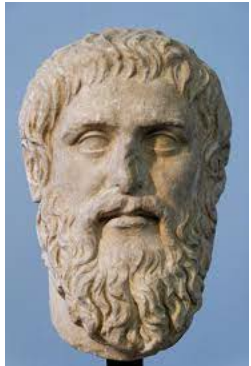
Inspired by Dewey and Hickman

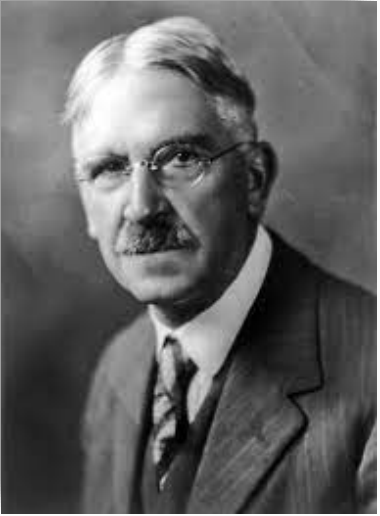


Theory, Practice, Production – Ch. 5 *Dewey's Pragmatic Technology*

Theory, Practice, Production

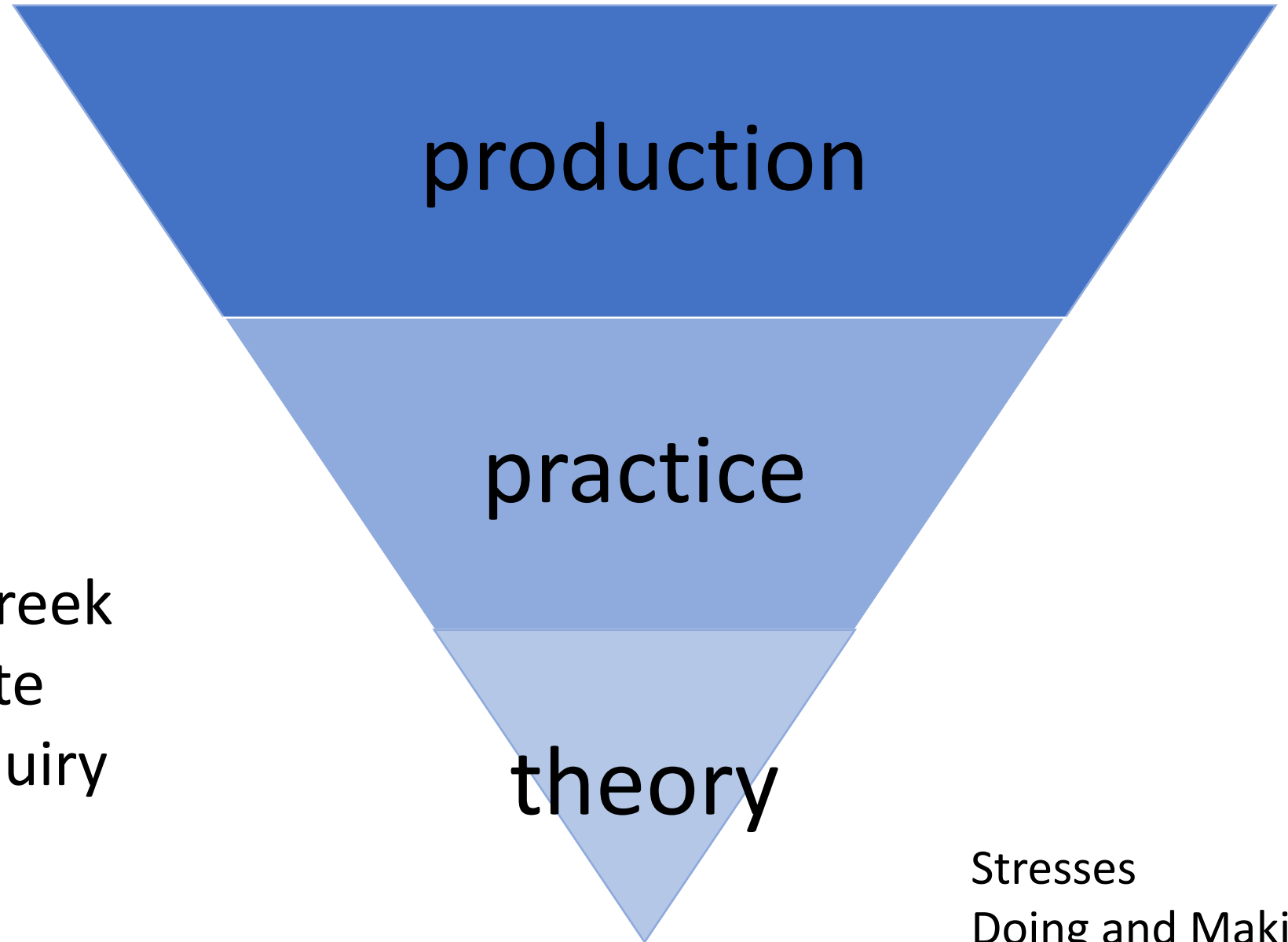
Ranking ways of knowing





John Dewey

Problems with Greek
Failed to stimulate
experimental inquiry



Stresses
Doing and Making

Public Administration -- implementation

Implement (designing, build, production)

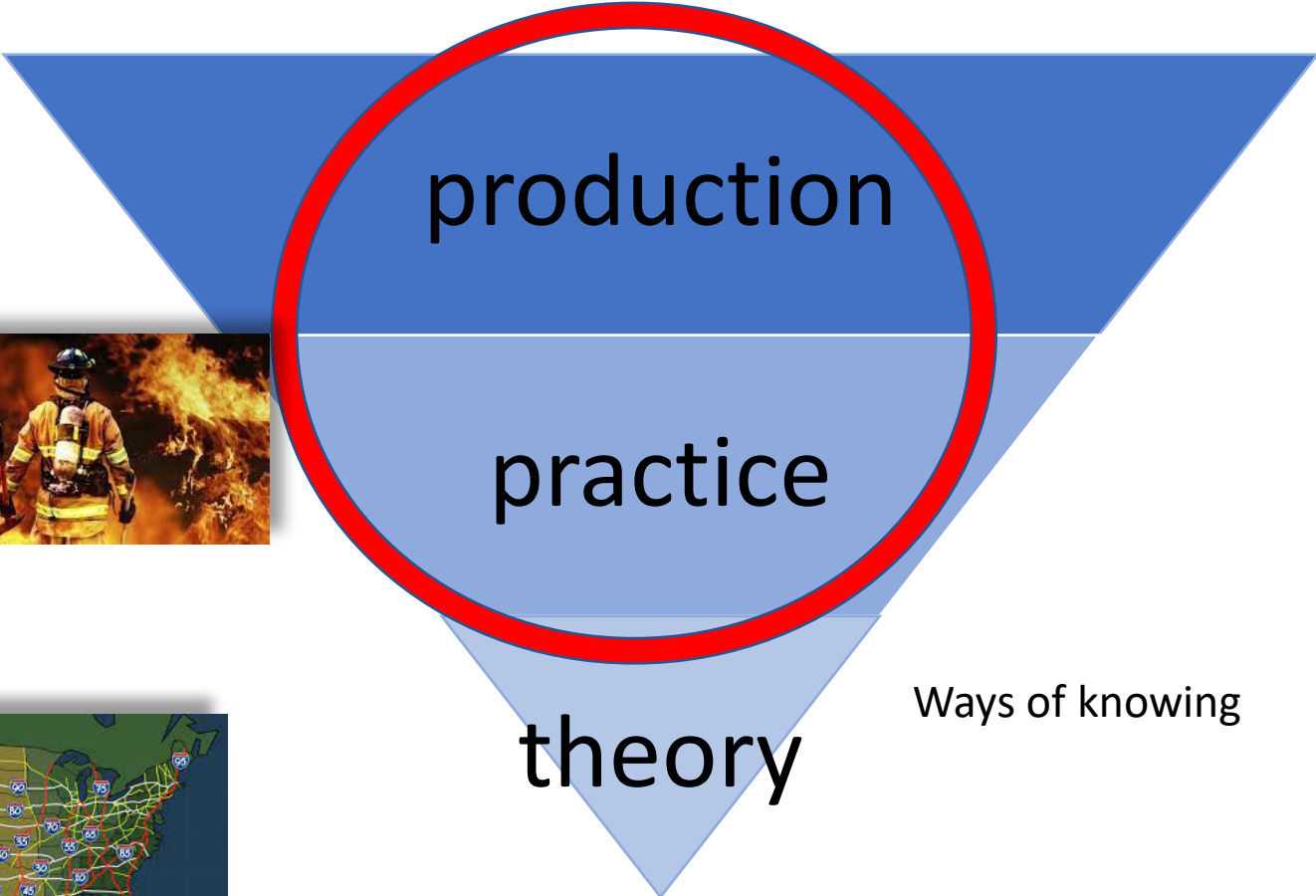
Involved with the **making and doing** of public policy



Experience



Inquiry logical part of implementation



Doing and Making

Public Administration -- stewardship



Concerned with **Values**

Efficient, ethical use of resources

Finance

Human resources

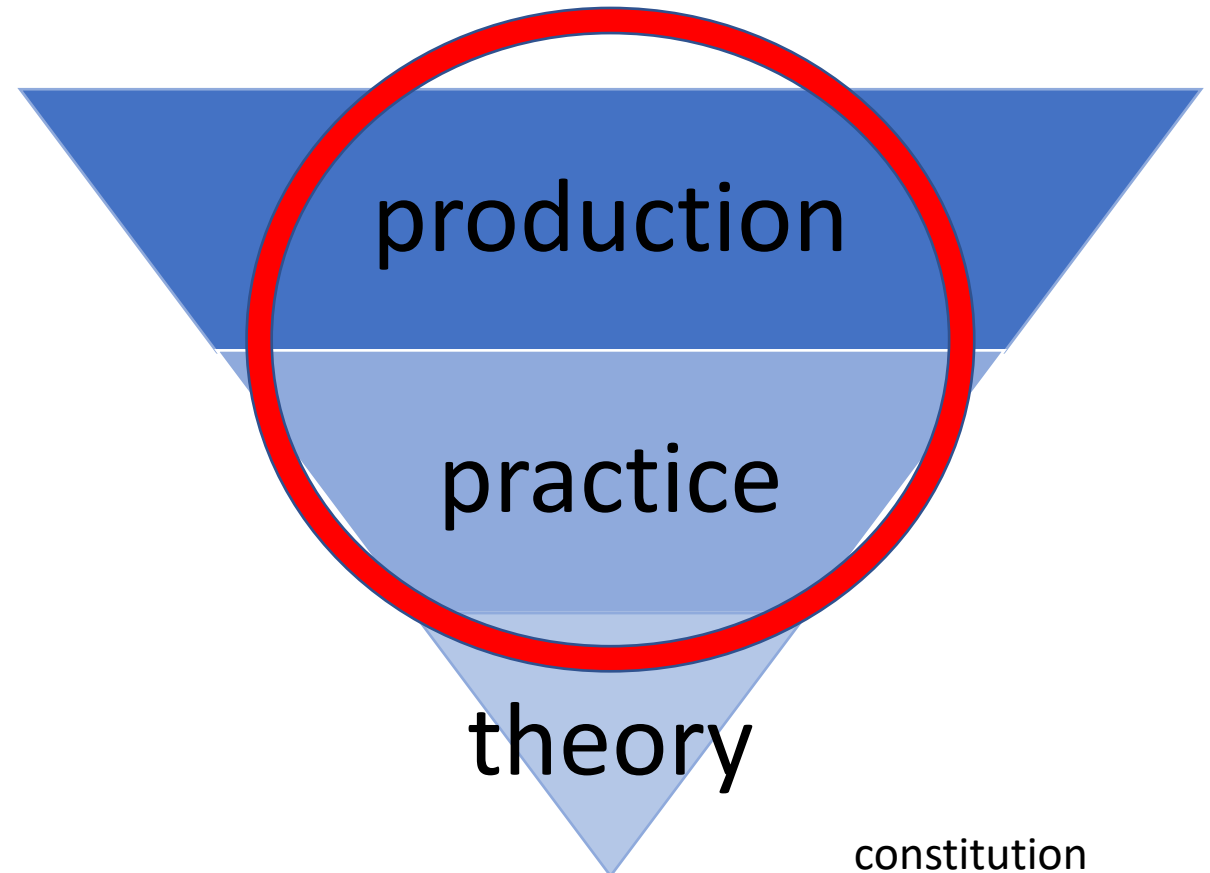
Democratic Values

Liberty

Equality

Justice

Rule of law



Public Administration – Products of living democracy

What are the **products** of a living democracy?

Items that are produced or constructed

bridges

space ships

food safety

laws

foster care

police force

courts

mail delivery

safety regulations

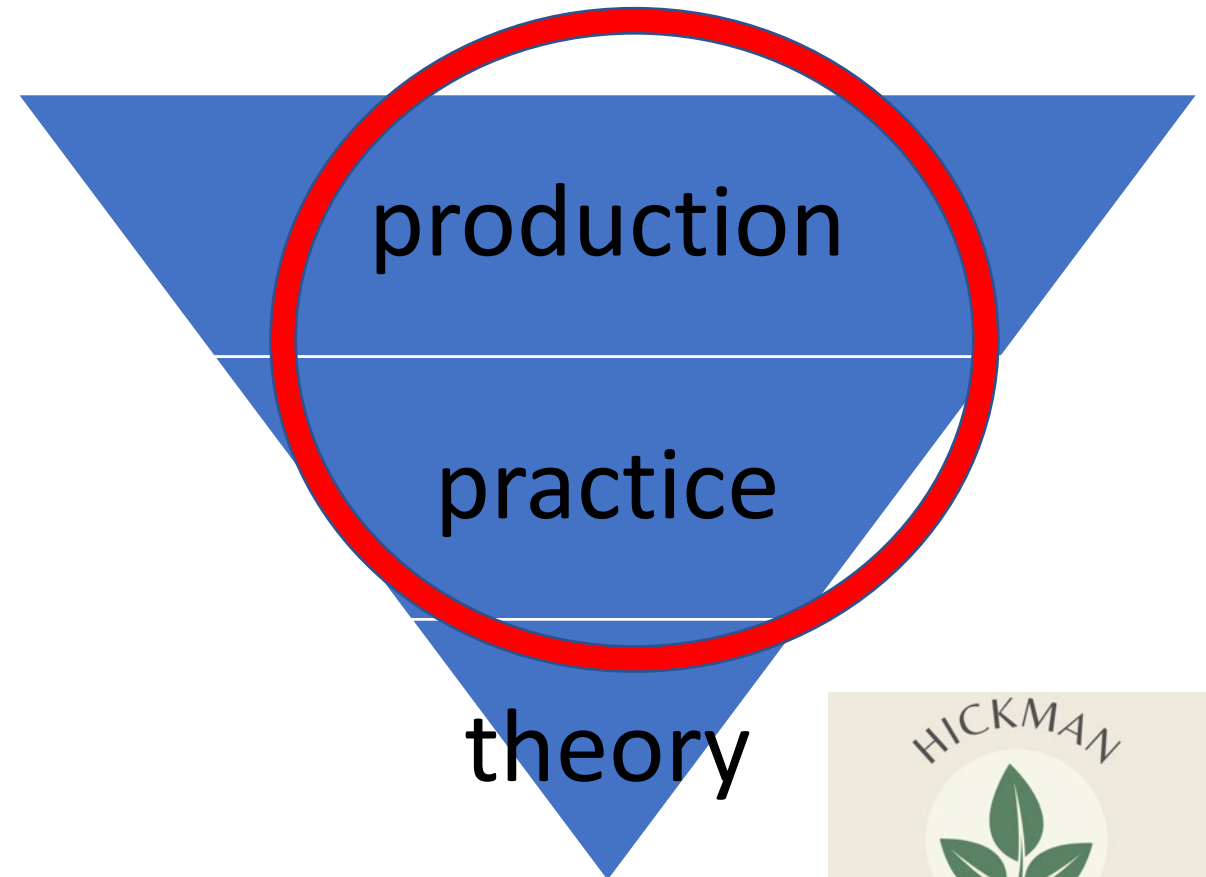
education

road maintenance

sewer system

Covid vaccines

elections





Dialogue Series --- Product of living democracy

Public Administration – Products of **living democracy** and imperfect

Democracy that is organic, living, evolving,
connected to political systems and not connected (creative, participatory)



John Dewey

“Democracy is a way of life”

Dewey, *Creative Experience*, 1939



Jane Addams

It is most difficult to hold to our **political democracy** and to make it in any sense a social expression and not a mere governmental contrivance, unless we take pains to keep common ground in our **human experiences**.

Addams *Democracy and Social Ethics* 1902

Political decision makers

formally authorize the **products**



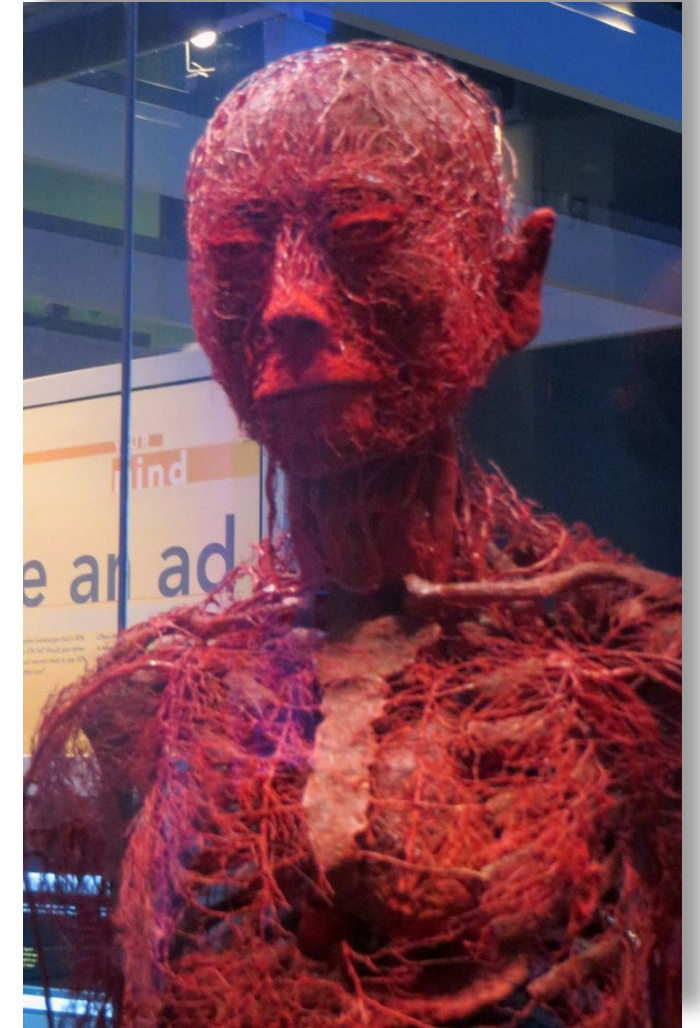
Citizens

use the **products**

Mediating Function

PA has the potential to **put pragmatism to work**





Public Adm reaches out into the **experiences of everyday life**

influence making and doing around **products** of democracy

Context for millions of problematic situations - inquiry



Urbanization

Industrialization

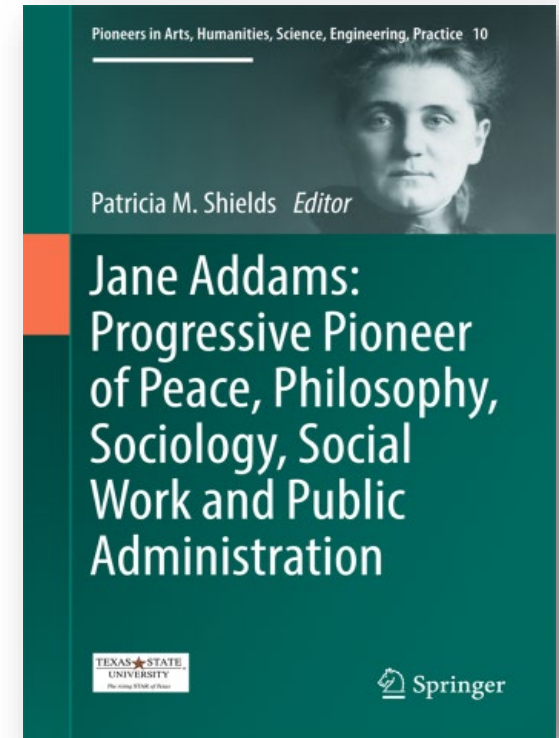


A world desperately in need of reform

1880s – 1930s

Who was Jane Addams??

- Leader of a large, innovative non-profit organization
- Author and speaker
- Democratic Theorist
- Leader Suffrage movement
- Nobel Peace Prize Winner
- Founder of Social Work
- Founder NAACP and ACLU
- Activist Social Reformer
- Garbage inspector
- Feminist Pragmatist
- Public Philosopher



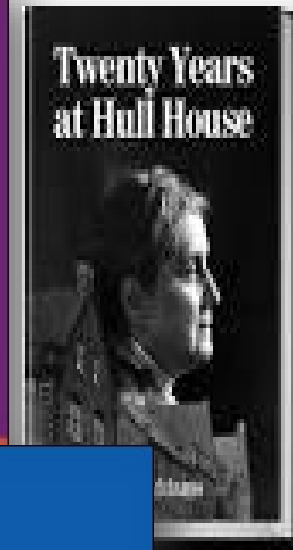
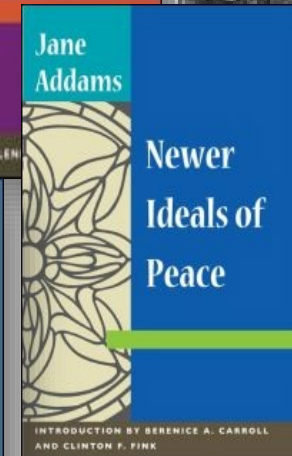
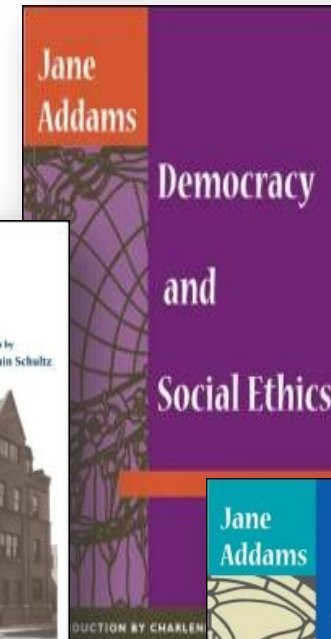
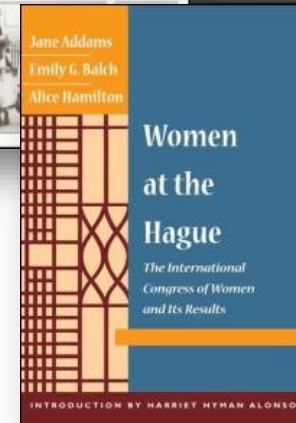
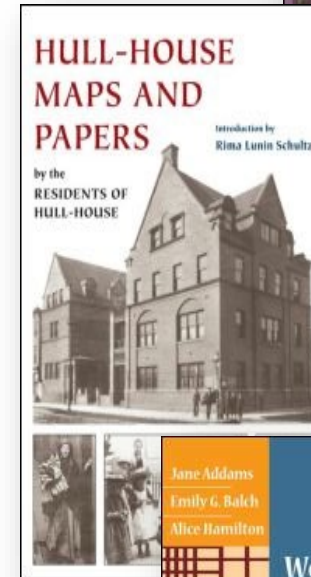
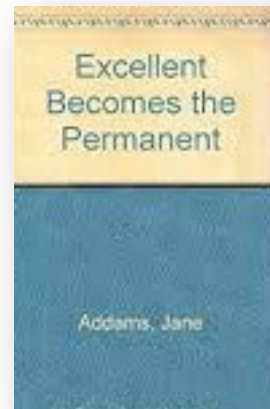
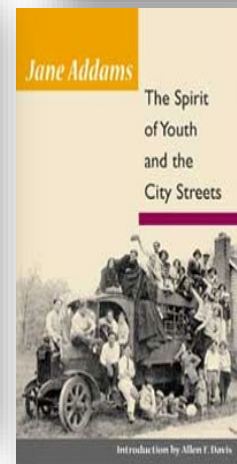
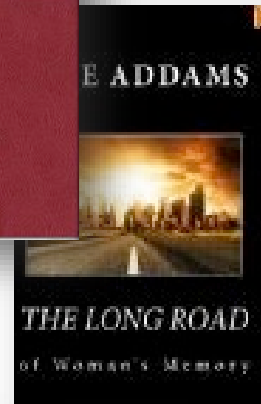
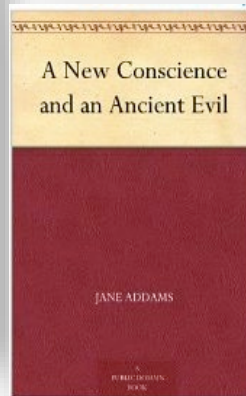
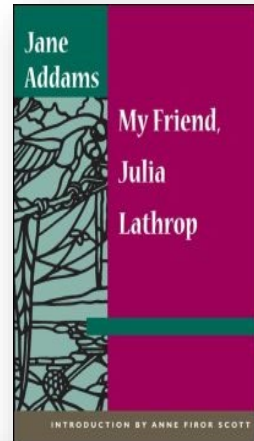


Jane Addams's Funeral
Steps of Hull House



1860 - 1935

Noted Speaker - Author



Leader Settlement Movement

1880s – 1920s

Problems of
Industrialization & Urbanization

Poverty

Health – Sanitation

Health – Industrial accidents

Education



Settlement House
Residential reform initiative

Inspired by trip to
England's **Toynbee Hall**

University students help
solve problems

Top Down model of reform

Adapt for US – Place for Women to Serve

- Find Women a respectable place to live
- Worked with networks of women's clubs.
- Visited Churches



Hull House



Found Large Home Industrial/Slums of Chicago

Hull House Charter

- To provide a center for a higher civic and social life;
- To institute and maintain educational and philanthropic enterprises
- To investigate and improve the conditions in the industrial districts of Chicago



Addams, Twenty years at Hull House, 1910

To be --- tangible expression of **democratic ideal**

Addams, Subjective Necessity of the Settlement, 1892



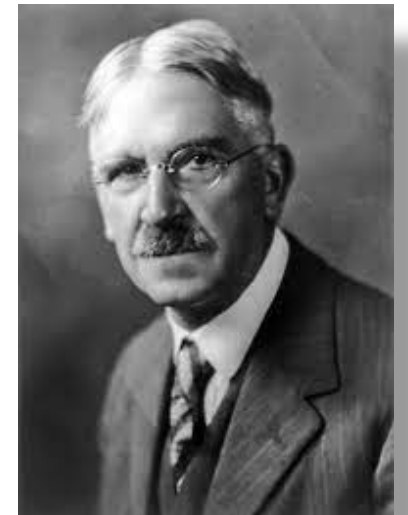
Immigrant Community
Labor/management disputes
Lab – conflict resolution

Hull House (Chicago)

Residential Community Center
Primarily Young Women (6-25)

Bottoms up model of reform

Participatory democracy



A house stands on a busy street
Its doors are opened wide,
To all who come it bids good cheer,
To some it says, Abide.

—JANE ADDAMS



Welcoming place for
immigrant neighbors



Hull House Activities

drama classes,
day care programs,
coffee house/theater,
art and labor museum,
Sunday concerts/choir,
over 25 clubs,
meeting rooms for organized labor,
cooperative apartments for young women
College Extension courses
Voter Registration
Speaker series....

“the identification with the common lot which is the essential idea of **Democracy** becomes the source and expression of **social ethics**.” *Democracy and Social Ethics, 1902*

Bottoms up incubator of democracy

Clubs

- Organizing meeting
- Running a meeting
- Programing
- Succession
- Democratic processes
- Planning
- Maintaining records
- Civil/productive discourse
- Problematic Situations/
inquiry



Hull House Boys' Club



Greek Mother's Club

Making and Doing

First in Chicago to establish a public

- bath
- gymnasium
- kitchen
- playground
- swimming pool



Democracy is belief in the ability of human experience to generate the aims and methods by which further experience will grow in ordered richness.

John Dewey (1939) *Creative Democracy*



Making and Doing

Bubble up from the bottom



Poorhouse vacation

Daycare



The **task of democracy** is forever that of creation of a **freer and more humane experience** in which all share and to which all contribute. Dewey, *Creative Democracy*, 1939

Hull House



Ideas emerged from
This feminine experience
Feminist Pragmatism

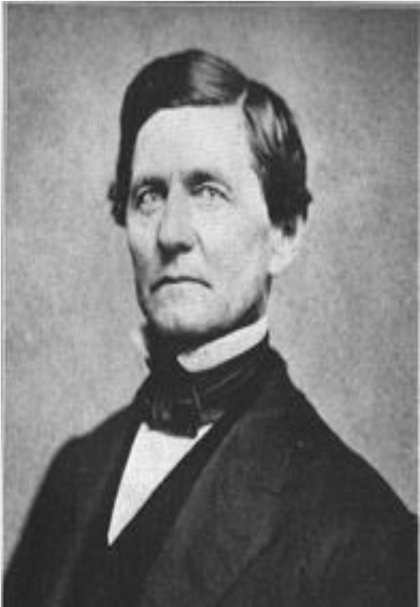
Incubator of ideas
Feminine Standpoint



Put pragmatism to work

Ethics

Paternalism



John Huy Addams

Man of integrity strong **Individual Ethic**

Paternalism is NOT democratic

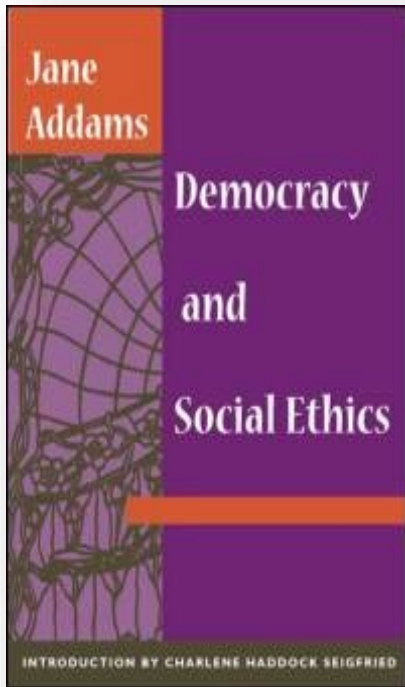


Family Claim



Duty
Moral Absolutism

Social Claim



1902



Sympathetic Understanding

Problem of Poverty

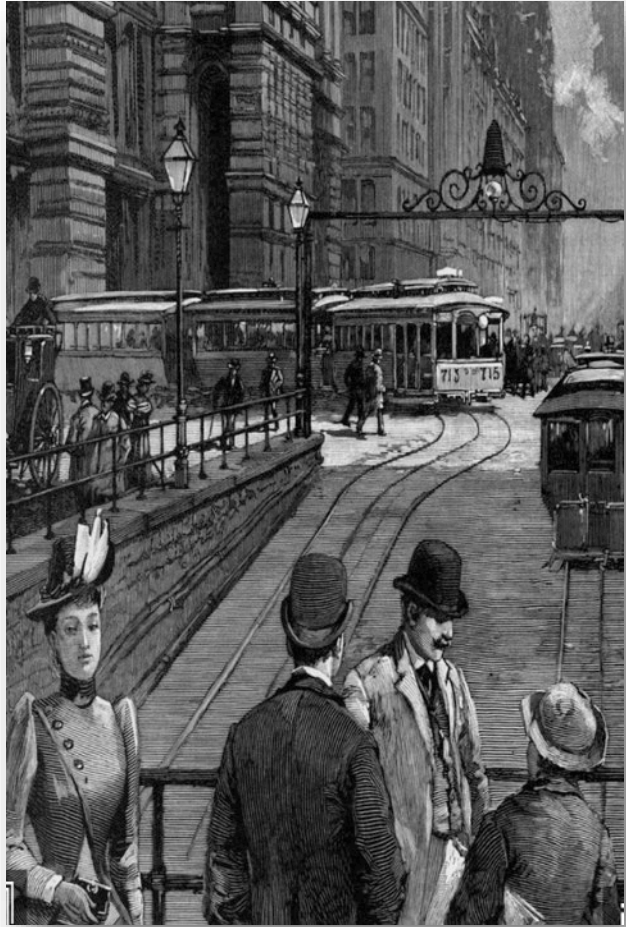


Friendly visitor job to reinforce
individual ethic

Social Justice – move outside private sphere
recognize problems with the system - REFORM



Thrift, cleanliness, avoid vices,
Avoid Laziness, save.



Criticized Two Models of City Government



City as Citadel

Valued soldiers

Devalued Women & Children



City as Efficient Business/Industry

No concern for health and safety

Lack of care for children

Social Darwinism

Municipal Housekeeping

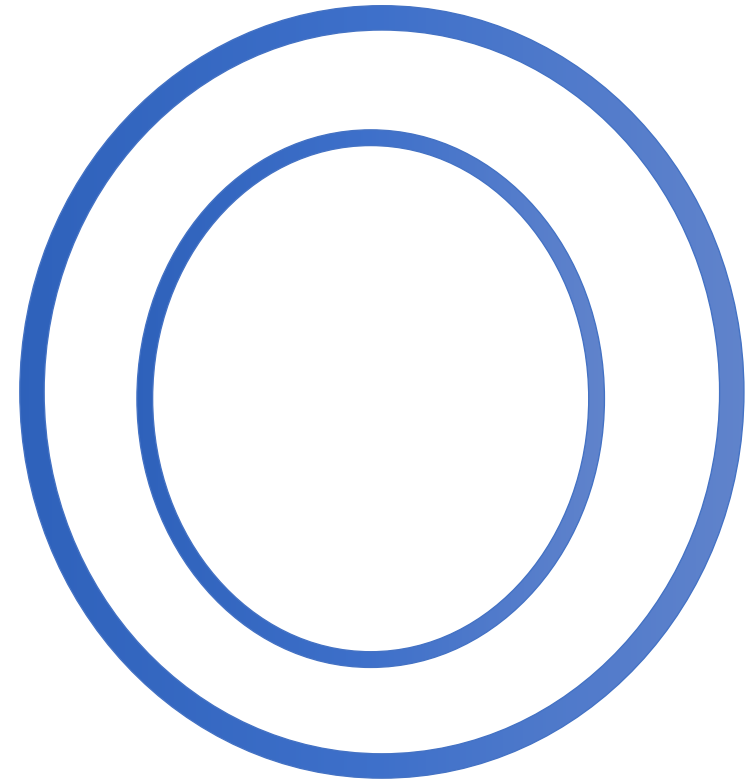


Take women's skills
into a new sphere

Embrace a social
claim

Argued in favor of a
more caring model of
city government.

Lateral Progress



Use model of home instead

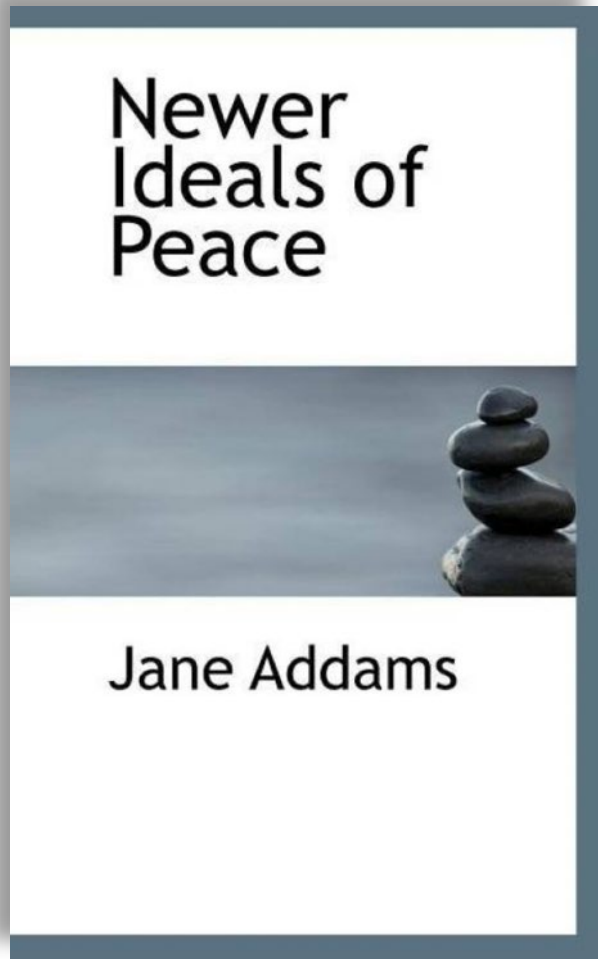


Municipal Housekeeping

Clean Streets
Clean Water
Safe Meat/Food
Safe Clothing
Safe Children

Care vs. efficiency/protection

Making and doing

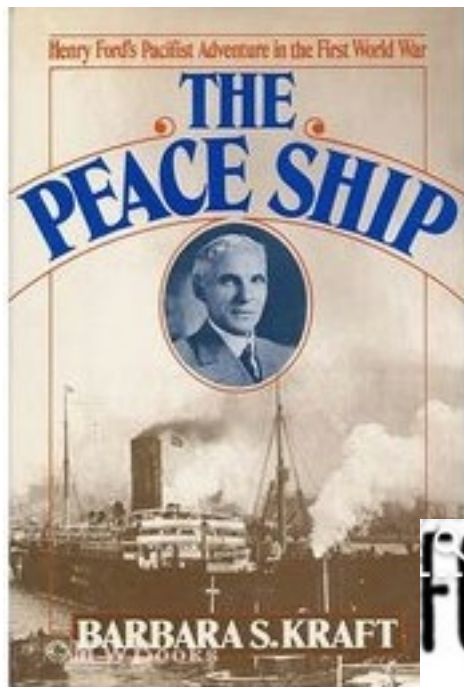


1907

Peace in the here and now – city government

Chapters

- Survival of Militarism in City Government
- Protection of Children
- Utilization of Women in City Government
- Passing of the War Virtues – Courage
(international implications)



Peace Movement (1890s – WWI)

Establish International Law and Order
Peace good for Business

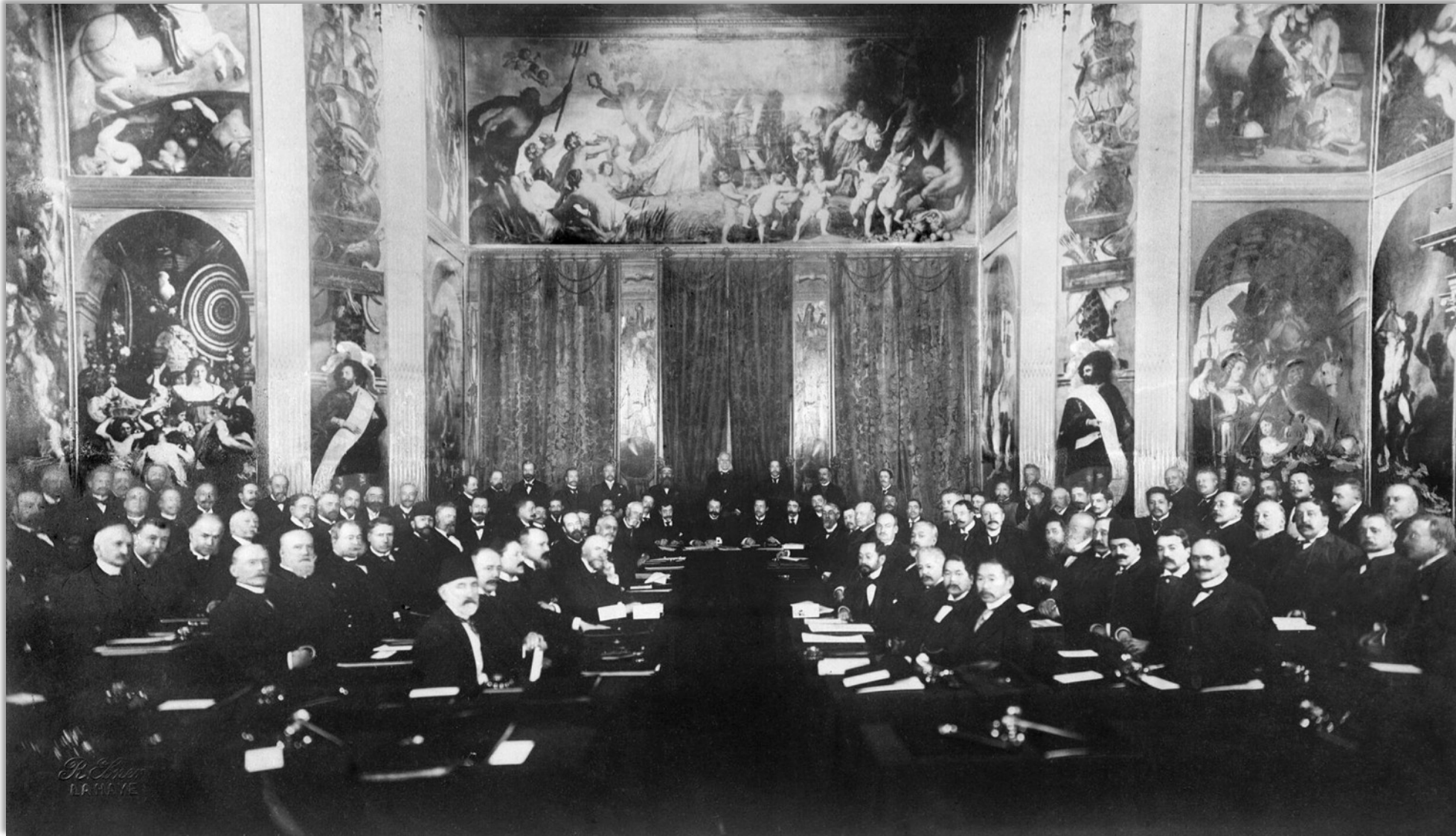
Peace Organizations (Elite)
Social conservative
National political figures
Important Businessmen

FORD ASKS EDISON TO GO ON PEACE SHIP

Armed With Stack of Approving
Letters, Magnate Hopes to
Win Support.

NEW YORK, Nov. 25.—Henry Ford
went to Orange, N. J., today to per-
suade Thomas A. Edison to join peace
advocates who are to sail December 4

Presidents (Taft, Wilson)
Secretaries of State (5)
Andrew Carnegie



1899 Hague Peace Conference
(1907)

Legal Framework for Peaceful settlement of disputes

WWI and expanding social claim

1914 - 1918

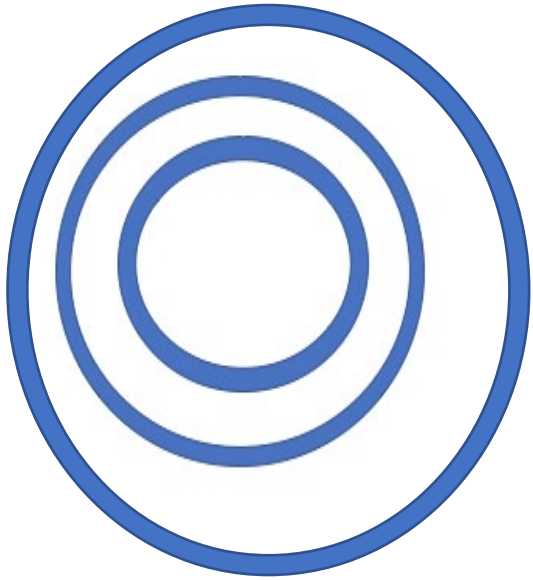




Woman's Peace Party established – **Jane Addams** Leader

Leader of the Peace Movement

Social Claim



April 1915



International Peace Congress of Women at the Hague

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF WOMEN

THE HAGUE — APRIL 28TH TO MAY 1ST 1915

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

14

- Begin peace negotiations immediately
- Organization “Society of Nations”
- **Acknowledge women’s suffering during war**
- **Give women right to vote**
- **Women participation in Peace Processes**

Jane Addams Public Timeline



1889

Celebrated



1915

Demeaned
Traitor
Communist
Silly old woman

DOJ Surveillance

Lost Historical Memory

1935

Work on
Peace lost



Warrior

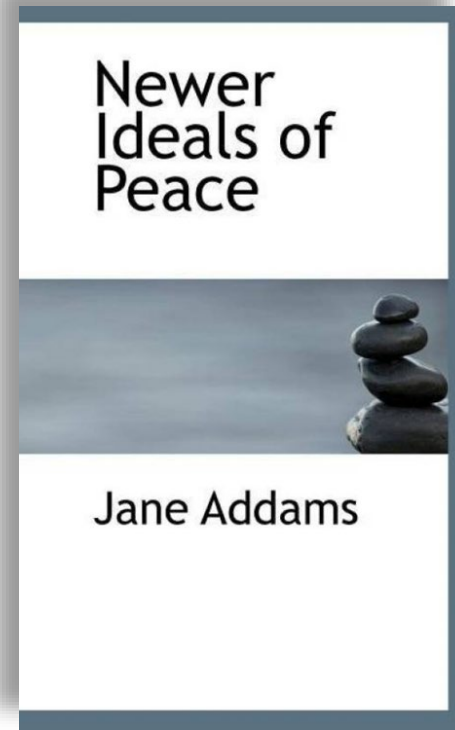
Peacekeeping Missions



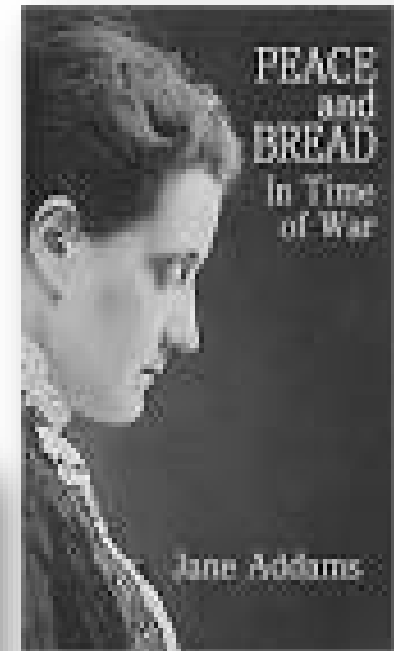
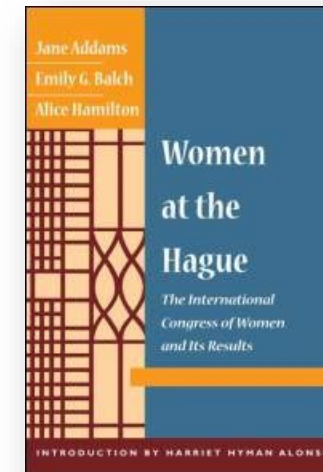
Peacekeeper

Doing and Making

Investigate her
work on Peace



What was her concept of peace?





“Peace Research:
Just the Study of War”*

Negative Definition of Peace

* Gleditsch, N. Nordkvelle, J & Strand, H. (2014)

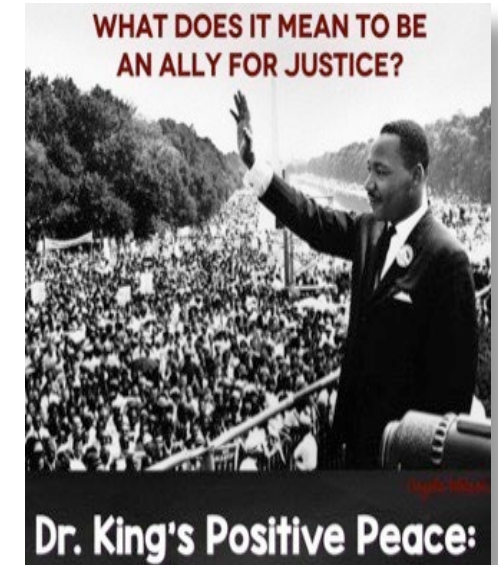
Problems with Negative Definition



1. Shifts focus from peace to violence.
2. Focuses on a short run end state.
3. Divorced from the dynamics of relationships.
4. Shifts attention away from underlying causes of violent conflict.

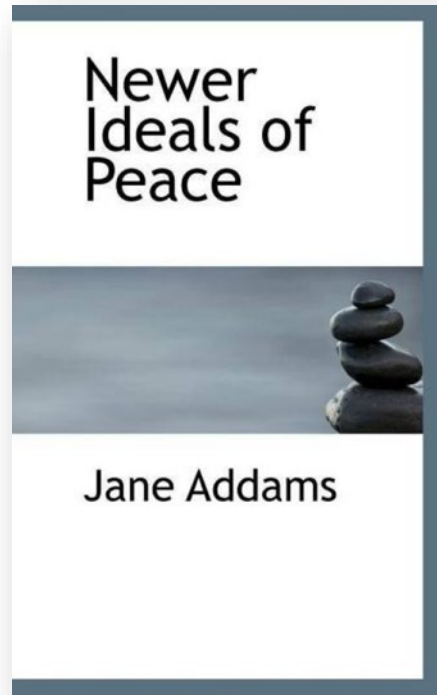
Positive Peace

- Nonviolent and creative conflict transformation.
- Uneven long run focus.
- The fabric of the kind of society to which we aspire.
- Integrity, wholeness and well-being that arise from justice.
- Humanity toward others.
- Openness to a widely conceived social claim.



Where does Addams Fit?

Spoke of a Positive Peace



Manifestation of her Social Ethics

Apply to peacebuilding
Apply to Public Administration





Feminine sensibility

PeaceWeaving

1. Relationships

Transform enemies into friends

Making and Doing

2. Avoid Rigid Moralisms



Friend/enemy
good/evil
Victory/Defeat
Good/Bad

3. Sympathetic Understanding

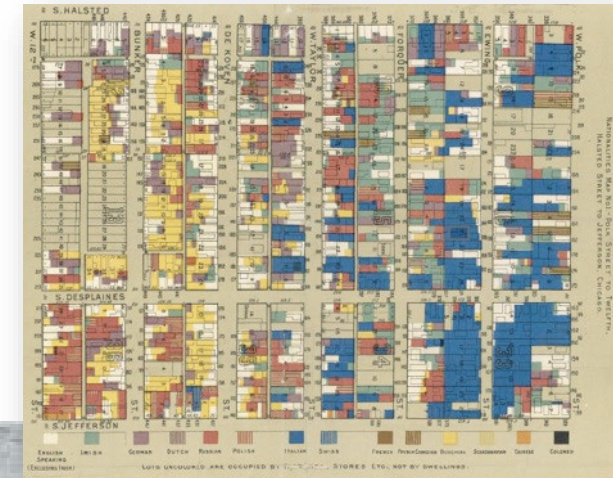


How build
relationship

Openness to Perplexity

4. Community of Inquiry

1. Practical Problems
2. Scientific Attitude
3. Participatory Democracy



5. Lateral Progress



Duty toward the less fortunate – Social claim



Public Administrators as
Peaceweavers.

PeaceWeaving

– building the fabric of peace by emphasizing relationships. These positive relationships are built by working on practical problems, engaging people widely with sympathetic understanding while recognizing that progress is measure by the welfare of the vulnerable. (Shields & Soeters, 2015)

Return to Hickman connection



Peaceweaving

Importance of **Making and Doing**

“**Building** fabric of peace”

“**built by working** on practical problems”

generates ongoing **experience**
and inquiry

Addams

“engaging people widely with
sympathetic understanding”

including a community of inquiry

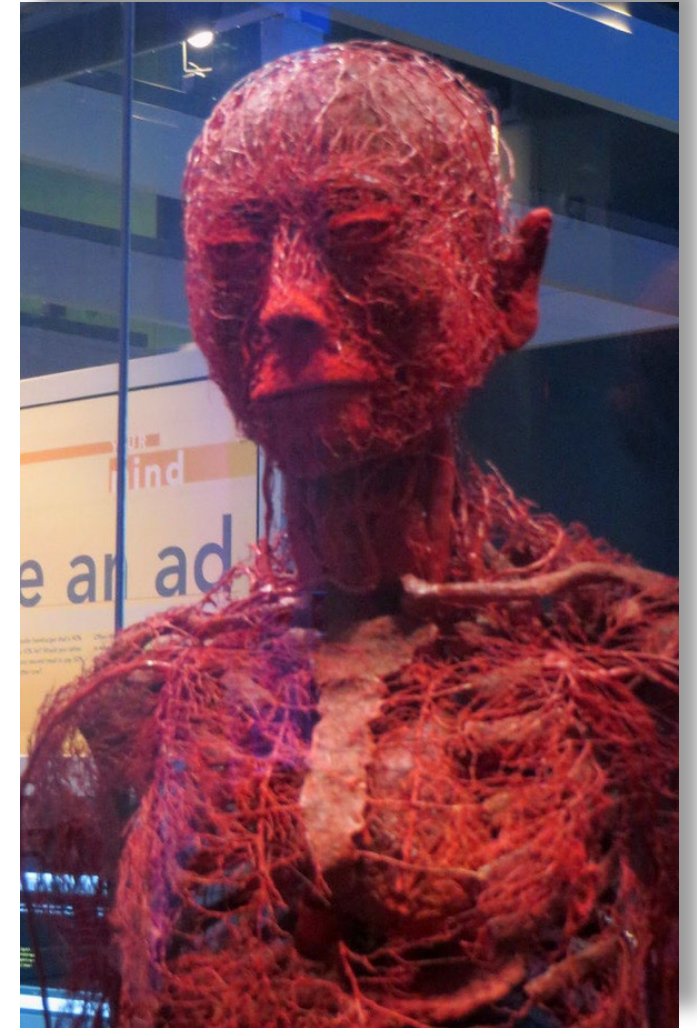
Democracy as a way of life

Peaceweaving

- Relationships
- Room Flexible belief systems
- Sympathetic Understanding
- Work on Practical Problems (COI)
- Care about welfare of Students, Lecturers, staff,



Dialogue Series --- Product of living democracy

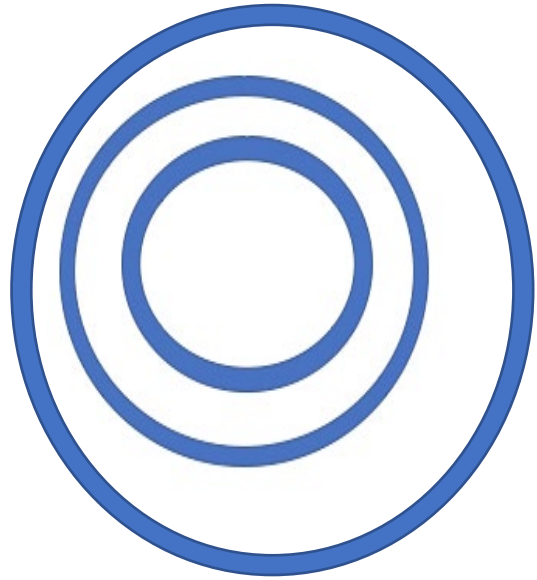


Public Adm reaches out into the **experiences of everyday life**

Peaceweaving throughout the system

Fractal nature of PA

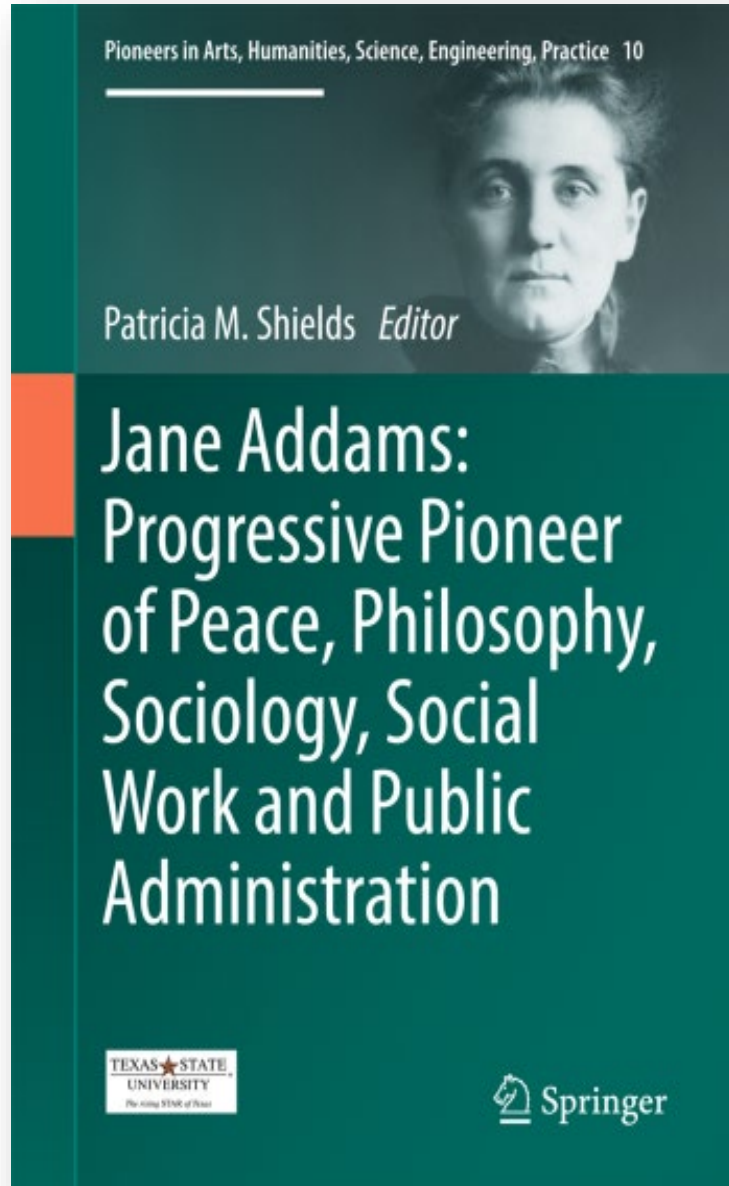
Applied to World Stage



Social Claim



International Peace Congress of Women at the Hague



Commentary and Dialogue

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