

Hegemony, Discourse, and Political Strategy

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Hegemony and Socialist Strategy

Towards a Radical Democratic Politics

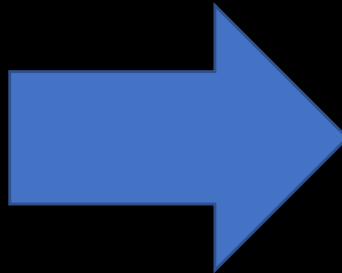
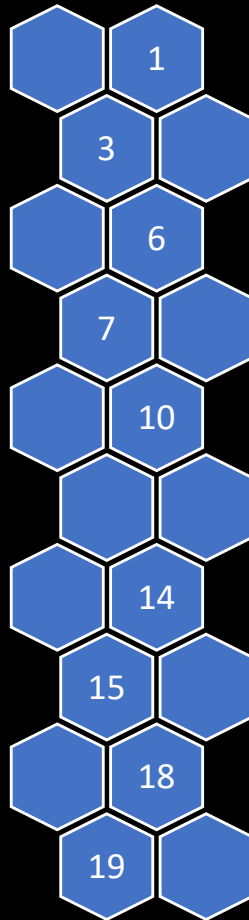
Ernesto Laclau and Chantal Mouffe

**Why does the Left
keep losing at
politics?**

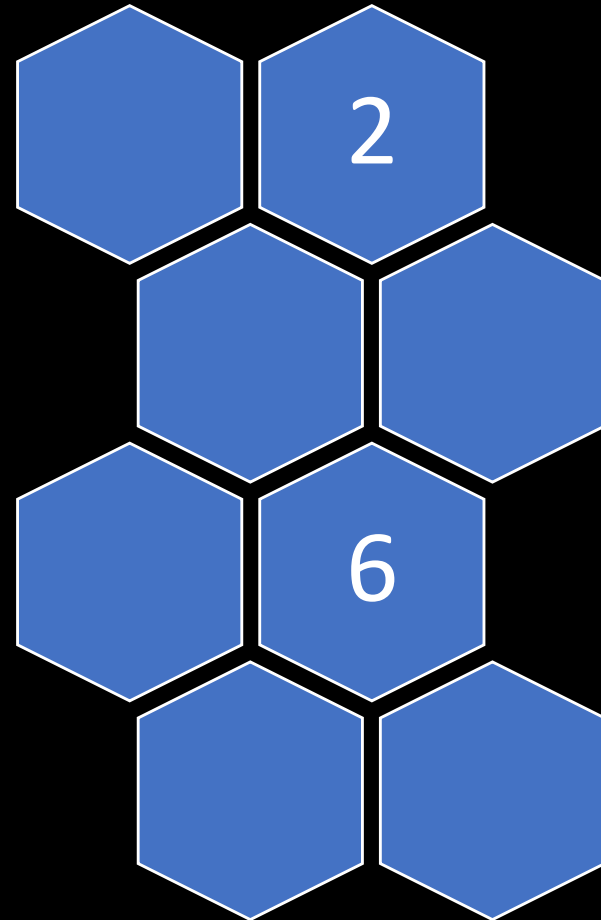
ESSENTIALISM



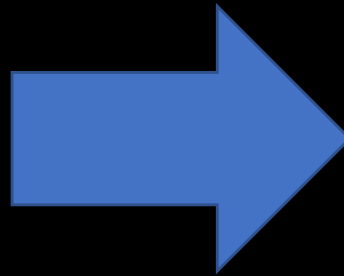
Contextual considerations



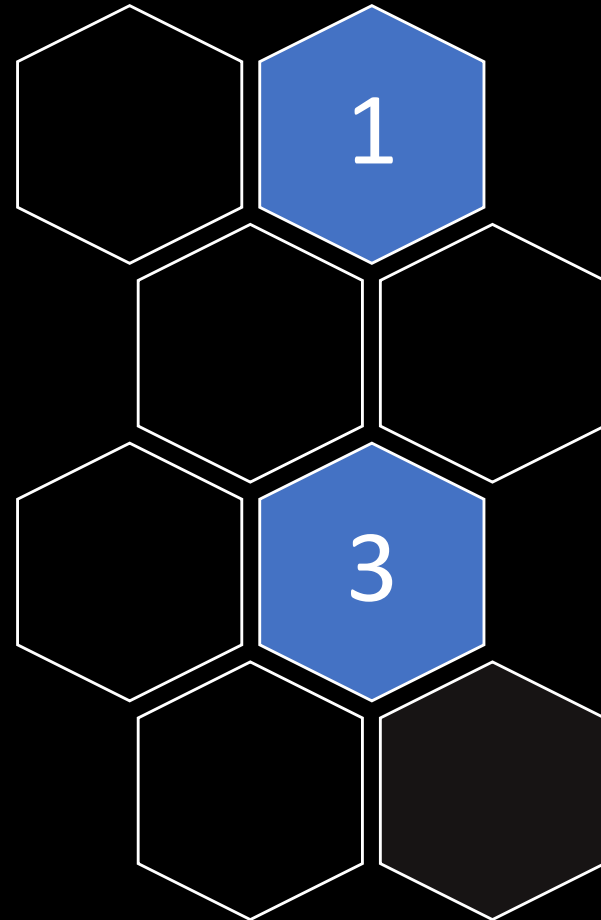
Political strategy



Contextual considerations



Political strategy



Political strategy

- The core assumptions of most left-wing social theories “ease” and expedite political change
 - E.g. the inherent class structure of society completes a necessary condition for a proletarian revolution
 - E.g. Marxism’s portrayal of the economy sketches a society ripe for change

⇒ Risk of ‘analytical laziness’

⇒ Anti-essentialist *tabula rasa* forces the Left to think about how to win politically, as nothing automatic





hegemony



contingency