

Towards a Discourse-Theoretical typology of left-wing political strategy

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Hegemony, Discourse, and Political Strategy

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DISCOURSE APPROACHES TO
POLITICS, SOCIETY AND CULTURE 97

PSAC
97
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Hegemony, Discourse, and Political Strategy



JOHN BENJAMINS PUBLISHING COMPANY





Second Edition

Hegemony and Socialist Strategy

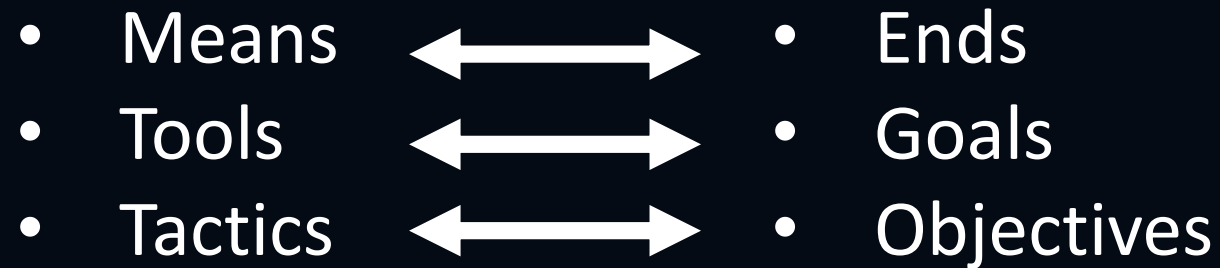
Towards a Radical Democratic Politics

Ernesto Laclau and Chantal Mouffe

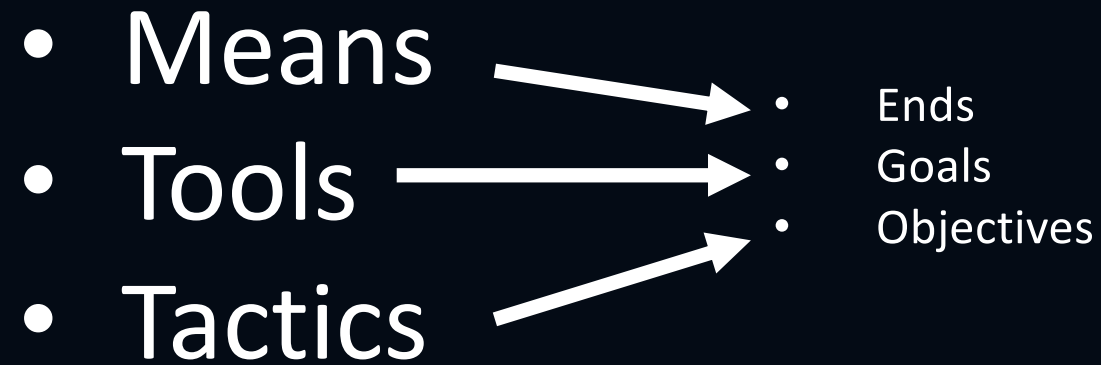




Towards a typology of left-wing political strategy



Cargo cultism as left-wing political strategy



Cargo cultism as left-wing political strategy

- Alien to the original tradition
- Unproductive imitation
- Fetishization in the hope of success
- Goals as nothing but the emanation of tactics

Cargo cultism as left-wing political strategy

- E.g. integration of corporate marketing and management strategies in left-wing political projects

Cargo cultism as left-wing political strategy

Construction of a “voter-centric” party with that is “lean and agile” and uses “a ‘hub-and-spoke’ model” in order to “aggregate and specialise core functions in the ‘hub’.” “Vital citizen-facing activities” are “to be delivered as close to voters as possible.” “Multidisciplinary teams” ought to “adopt a product-mindset using agile ceremonies, be empowered to make decisions and encouraged to focus on rapid prototyping, deployment and iteration.”

Cargo cultism as left-wing political strategy

- E.g. integration of corporate marketing and management strategies in left-wing political projects
- E.g. imitation of right-wing political strategies (tough on crime, anti-immigration rhetoric, economic frugality, *leftbashing*)

Utopism as left-wing political strategy



Utopism as left-wing political strategy

- Means as an emanation of ends
- Little reflection about 'how to win'
- Prefigurative politics
- Power as a corrupting evil

Utopism as left-wing political strategy

- E.g. exodus strategies, autonomism, anarchist communes
- E.g. degrowth movement
- E.g. lots of academic efforts and 'critique'

Machiavellianism as left-wing political strategy

- How to balance tactics and goals?
- How to maximize the expected social change (= chance of success x amount of change)?