



COMMUNITY POWER & RELATIONSHIP MAPPING

A GUIDE FOR CONGREGATIONS

This tool was created for use with the [Congregational Reproductive Justice Organizing Guide](#) from [Side With Love](#)'s UPLIFT Action campaign.

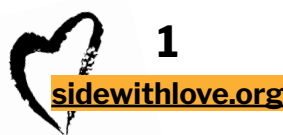


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COMMUNITY POWER & RELATIONSHIP MAPPING FACILITATION GUIDE (ONLINE)

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INTRODUCTION

What is Community Power & Relationship Mapping?

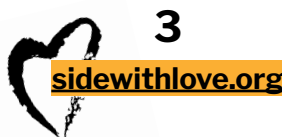
Traditional “Community Power Mapping” is a practice used to help map out people and power in a clearly defined community related to a clearly defined issue, goal, or campaign. With Community Power Maps, organizers can identify key stakeholders (such as individuals, institutions, organizations, and/or community groups) who have a relationship to the issue at hand. Each “stakeholder” is then assessed for the types & strength of **power** they have to influence the issue/goal/campaign, their **relationships** to (and influence on) one another, and their current or potential **stance** on the issue at hand.

Developing a Community Power & Relationship Map can help you answer the following critical questions as you and your partners build towards a strategy & action plan:

- 1) Where does power exist within our community?
- 2) What kinds of power do folks have?
- 3) Who is most likely to support your campaign/goal, and with what resources?
- 4) Who is most likely to oppose your campaign/goal, and with what resources?
- 5) What relationships can you strengthen or build to grow your organizing power?
- 6) What relationships can you leverage or target to shift others’ influence on your campaign/goal?
- 7) What other information do we need to gather to understand where power exists in our community and relationships regarding this issue?

Who Does Community Power & Relationship Mapping?

Community Power & Relationship Mapping (CPRM) is used by organizations, communities, and/or coalitions working towards social transformation and liberation. It can be called different things, such as “Power Mapping,” “Power Analysis,” “Community Mapping,”



“Network Mapping,” and more. By thinking through & documenting the stakeholders, power, and relationships within a defined context, those using CPRM:

- 1) Develop an in-depth picture of the **resources** available to & against their effort(s)
- 2) Gain a richer understanding of **opportunities** for action, change, collaboration, influence, interruption, & mobilization
- 3) Assess potential **gaps or weaknesses** that may threaten or destabilize their efforts and create avenues to address them
- 4) Identify new **partners or coalition members** whose values align with their work
- 5) Generate a clearly defined **plan of action** that is grounded in relationship & power

CPRM should happen in collaboration with others who are working towards the same goal. In starting out, you may begin with a core team within your congregation, and/or with trusted representatives from your congregation’s existing partners. In considering who to invite into your CPRM process, ask:

- 1) What do you want to know by the end of your CPRM session?
- 2) Who has reliable access to that information?
- 3) Who is most impacted by the issue you are addressing?
- 4) Who has been engaged in activities that relate to your goals?
- 5) Who is involved in the planning and implementation of your campaign?
- 6) Who might be opposed to or threaten your efforts?

Examples of Community Power & Relationship Mapping

Different issues, campaigns, and goals will approach Community Power & Relationship mapping in ways best suited for their intended outcomes. Some examples of Community Power Maps from different groups/organizations are:

- ★ [DC Abortion Services Power Map](#) (community-sourced on LittleSis)
- ★ [Sample “Restorative Justice Diversion” Power Map](#) from Restorative Justice Organizing Project (page 2)
- ★ [Interactive Community Power Map](#) from the Institute for Local Self-Reliance

DEFINITIONS

Stakeholders: A “stakeholder” in your Community Power & Relationship Map is anyone who has a stake in your particular issue or campaign. These can include those who have been key to creating the problem/issue you are addressing, those who have some power to address the issue but have not yet acted, those who are directly or indirectly impacted by the issue, and those who are organizing to address the issue. Stakeholders can be broken down into:

- ★ **Individuals** such as elected leaders (city, county, state, federal levels), community leaders (clergy, public/media figures, key organizers/activists, association leaders, etc), specific community members (your neighbor who is an OBGYN, a local grocery store manager, local artists, musicians, or photographers, etc), and more.
- ★ **Institutions** such as educational institutions (schools, colleges, museums, daycares, etc), medical institutions (hospitals, clinics, etc), financial institutions (banks, credit unions, etc), religious institutions (churches, temples, mosques, sanghas, etc), public institutions (libraries, police departments, fire departments, social services, etc.), large corporations, local businesses, and more.
- ★ **Organizations/Associations** such as nonprofit organizations, unions, neighborhood associations, interfaith coalitions, business associations, political associations, athletic clubs or associations, student-government associations, artist or musician networks, professional associations, etc.
- ★ **Community Groups/Networks** such as hobby-based interest groups, service/charity clubs/groups, neighborhood networks, LGBTQ+ community groups, supporter & survivor groups, unhoused community networks, etc.
- ★ **“Minimally Organized” Public Sectors** that capture groups of individuals with a shared experience or identity, but are not formally in association with each other, such as youth of color, midwives & doulas, unregistered voters, residents on a specific block, former abortion patients, etc.



Power: Within organizing frameworks, we know that power comes in many forms. When mapping community power and relationships, we can consider different ways stakeholders can influence our issue/campaign and/or each other using a variety of forms of “power.” These can include (but are not limited to):

- ★ **Economic/Financial Power** such as money, donations to individuals/institutions, budget-setting power, generational wealth, etc.
- ★ **Ideological Power** involves the ability to define reality and influence others to take on that definition of reality as their own, by mobilizing religious beliefs, beliefs about certain groups or communities, scientific evidence, education, media reports, etc.
- ★ **Political Power** includes the ability to pass or promote legislation as an elected leader, participate in an electoral process as a voter, influence political decisions as an individual, association, or institution, etc.
- ★ **Relational Power** includes the ability to use existing connections that are grounded in trust (such as family members, coworkers, previous organizing partners); known community connections, support, or leadership; shared interests or experiences;
- ★ **Tangible resources** can include access to physical facilities, transportation/vehicles, essential equipment, food, medication, etc.

Target: Some Community Power Maps include a specific individual or institution that a goal or campaign is explicitly trying to shift. These tend to focus on capturing the stakeholders, power, and relationships that can be leveraged to directly or indirectly influence the “target.” Examples of a “target” in a Community Power Map could be a specific city council member, a university provost, a corporation’s benefits lead, etc. These are individuals (and occasionally institutions) that can be clearly influenced by the relationships captured on the community power map.

Not all Community Power (and Resource) Maps need to have a target. If you are part of a team of coalition working towards a goal or trying to capture a better understanding of the landscape around a certain issue you have a particular stance on, you do not need to have a “target” you are trying to influence yet. The Community Power & Resource Mapping process can help you in identifying potential targets for future campaigns related to your broader issue/goal, as well as help you capture the network of stakeholders, power, and influence that could impact your organizing.



USING COMMUNITY POWER & RELATIONSHIP MAPPING

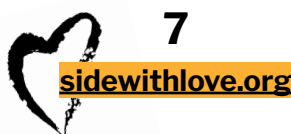
Establish Community Partnerships From the Beginning

Organizing for reproductive justice and access to abortion care services is not something your congregation can or should do alone. Early on in your process, you need to identify who you can be accountable to in your support of your broader community's mobilization for safe and equitable care. These partners could be your local or state abortion fund, a local clinic, your local interfaith coalition or Congregationally-Based Community Organizing Network (CBCO), a local network of abortion care providers, or another partner with whom you work intersectionality across issues. Identifying early on the community partners and/or members you plan to work alongside in shaping your goals, strategies, and action plan will help you build a more robust and useful Community Power & Relationship Map for your collaborative reproductive justice organizing.

Set Clear Goal(s) for Your Organizing

In the wake of the *Dobbs* decision, all of our congregations have a potential role to play in promoting reproductive justice in our respective contexts. The first step we must take in identifying what our contribution to the reproductive justice movement in our community is to develop a deeper understanding of the way in which reproductive justice is or is not present in our local community. In addition to assessing the legality of abortion services, what can we find out about the pregnancy care landscape? The access to different forms of contraception, general healthcare, childcare services, public transportation, etc? What financial or geographical obstacles exist in getting access to abortion care? Who and/or what are the main antagonists or obstacles to reproductive justice?

From there, your team can begin to outline the goals you and your partners have, and then further narrow down the roles & impact your congregation/team can have in achieving them. Do you want to pass legislation or a ballot measure that codifies the right to reproductive health care services, including abortion, into your state's constitution? Do you want to prevent the passage of a law criminalizing crossing state lines for care? Do you



want to support care seekers coming in from out of state with housing, transportation, and meals? Do you want to prevent the creation of “pregnancy crisis centers” in your community? These and many other concrete goals are examples of what your community might need, and will become clearer as you engage in conversation with your partners.

Identify Potential Targets

If you are entering into the Community Power & Resource Mapping process with a clear goal, you may also have an idea of the potential “targets” or “decision makers” that your future strategy might focus on. Perhaps you are attempting to shift specific elected officials into supporting your goal with a particular proposal or initiative. Maybe you are trying to shift a major local employer to include abortion covering in its insurance offerings to workers. Or maybe you are trying to have a prosecutor drop charges against someone who is being prosecuted for receiving care.

While a “target” is not essential to mapping out where power and relationships in your community exist, if you DO have a particular goal in mind with a clear player or decision-maker at the center, a map that looks at the ways relationships and power can be leveraged to influence them can be invaluable in your efforts.



USING THIS GUIDE WITH YOUR CONGREGATION/TEAM

Below you will find **two facilitation guides** for leading a Community Power & Resource Mapping session with your congregation/team - one for online facilitation if you are meeting virtually and one for in-person facilitation if you meet in-person. These are meant as outlines to support your conversation, and can be adapted to meet your team/congregation's needs.

Some things to keep in mind as you prepare to do this activity:

- ★ Remember that communities, resources, and power are constantly in flux, so revisiting your map at different times during your organizing can help in tracking that movement, new relationships, shifting opportunities for leverage, etc.
- ★ Ensure that everyone who is invited into the session is already in relationship with each other, has a clear understanding of the reality facing your community, and is aware of your campaign/movement goal(s).
- ★ Have a clear objective for your mapping session. Are you hoping to have a broader landscape of the network of community players and resources as they relate to your reproductive justice organizing? Or are you attempting to focus your mapping on ways to influence a particular target to win a specific campaign?
- ★ Keep in mind that you can go through this process in multiple iterations, inviting more or different people in for future mapping sessions to expand your understanding of the community power and relationship landscape.
- ★ If facilitating a virtual Community Power & Relationship Mapping session, test the tool(s) you will be using to capture stakeholders, resources/power, and relationships to ensure it has features that fully capture the information you are trying to gather
- ★ Leave space for participants who may need more time using the mapping tools, particularly in the online version, which may use unfamiliar technology for some.

COMMUNITY POWER & RELATIONSHIP MAPPING FACILITATION GUIDE (ONLINE)

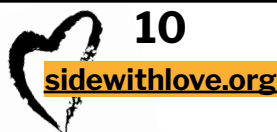
TIME: 120 minutes

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Virtual Meeting Software (Zoom, Google Hangouts, etc) With Screen-Sharing Capacity
- Online Whiteboard or Equivalent Coworking Space for Participants to Work Within During Session
 - (See [Pages 26 - 29 of this guide](#) for example of how to format an online map)
- (optional) Chalice or candle for chalice-lighting
- (optional) Slides with content indicated in “Facilitator Notes” column

AGENDA & DIRECTIONS

Time	Activity & Materials Needed	Facilitator Notes
10 minutes	Welcome & Introductions <u>Welcome</u> Welcome everybody into the space. You may choose to open with a chalice lighting or short reading, if appropriate for the community you have invited to participate in today’s mapping session.	<i>For virtual facilitation, you may choose to have the following on slides, if you feel they would be helpful for your gathered community.</i> - Introduction instructions - Agenda Outline - Key Definitions



Introductions

Go around the room and have each person introduce themselves. Invite them to share their name, pronouns, community they belong to as part of your coalition/team, and one thing they hope will come out of this time together.

Agenda & Goal for the Session

Share the agenda for this Community Power & Resource Mapping session. Inform participants that you will be doing the following:

- Revisiting/Clarifying the issue or goal(s) that your community is facing and your coalition has agreed to shape its organizing around
- Mapping out Community Stakeholders & Their Stances
- Mapping out Community Power & Resources
- Mapping out Community Relationships
- Assessing your Community Power & Relationships Map
- Outlining Next Steps for Community Engagement & Action

Key Definitions Review

Review what is meant by “Stakeholder” & “Power” before you begin mapping so all participants approach them similarly. Use content from the [Definitions](#) section above to guide that conversation.

5
minutes

Revisiting the Issue, Goal, and/or Target

Remind participants of the geographic specifications of your community map (Ex. neighborhood, municipality, city, county, state, etc), as well as the specific reproductive justice issue(s) they are addressing in their

Ideally, you and your gathered team/coalition have already done the research and built preliminary relationships that inform your



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	community based on your shared research. - Confirm that all participants agree about what your goal is. - If you are making a campaign-specific map that centers around a particular target for a concrete campaign, ensure that participants are in agreement on the target you have selected to map power & relationships around.	<i>awareness of the reproductive justice issue(s) facing your local community.</i> <i>You may wish to have slides identifying/outlining the issue(s) you are engaging, any broader goals, and/or any specific targets.</i>
20 minutes	Mapping Out Community Stakeholders & Issue Stances Direct participants to your “Stakeholders & Issue Stances” virtual co-working space (see Pages 26 & 28 in this guide for formatting suggestions) Identify the stakeholder “categories” you would like to use for this mapping session (See “Stakeholders” in Definitions section) Clarify how you will distinguish between the different “categories” of stakeholder you will be mapping. Methods include: - Using different colored “sticky notes” for each category - Using different shapes for each category - Using different fonts for each category Invite individuals to identify as many stakeholders in your community that have some relationship to the issue AND their understanding of where on the Support/Oppose scale they fall. - Ensure each stakeholder is added to the “Stakeholder Issue Stance Grid” (or your version of the same) in real-time	<i>If you are using a collaborative workspace like Zoom Whiteboards and inviting folks to edit it themselves with their contributions, make sure you have the space and person power to support folks’ use of the tools. Alternatively, you can share your screen and invite input vocally or through the chat as you edit the grid/board to reflect Stakeholders & Stances.</i> <i>You may choose to have the first 5-10 minutes of stakeholder & stance identification be an independent activity, to allow for individual brainstorming & different processing methods. You can then invite folks to share either why they</i>

Take time as a group to go through your collected & mapped stakeholders & their stances together to identify if:

- There are any others missing
- There are any that should be broken further down
- There are any that should be moved in their stance
- There are any that are unclear/more information is needed

put their stakeholders where they did and/or ask them to name them aloud so you can place them in a larger group discussion.

25
minutes

Mapping Out Community Power & Resources

Direct participants to your “Stakeholders Stances + Power & Resources” virtual co-working space (see [Pages 27 & 29 in this guide](#) for formatting suggestions)

Revisit your agreed upon definition of “[Power](#)” and any categories you may be breaking it down into to clarify who holds what kind of power (Ex: *financial, positional, ideological, tangible resources, etc*)

As a group go through each stakeholder you identified in the previous activity and determine:

- The different kinds of power they hold
- Where they fall on the “Most or Least Powerful” Scale
- Move each stakeholder into the spot on your “Stakeholder Stances + Power & Resources” grid that reflects their stance and power.

Take time as a group to assess if there are overall trends regarding the

relationship to power (and its kinds), stances, and kinds of stakeholders.

- (Ex - “Most financial resources on the map seem to be among stakeholders actively opposed to our issue/goal” or “The majority of resources among the major accomplices to our goal are ideological ones.”)

25
minutes

Mapping Out Community Relationships

Once your stakeholders are placed in the “Stakeholder Stances + Community Power & Resources Map,” you will name places of relationship between stakeholders.

As a group, identify how you would like to distinguish between the strength and nature of each relationship you note

- What kind of line shows a strong relationship? A weak one?
- What line colors do you want to use to reflect the “content” of the relationship (is it financial, is it political, is it collegial or familial, etc)?
- Do you want to include arrows to indicate if one stakeholder has power or influence over the other?

As a group, begin to name/draw the relationships you observe between stakeholders.

- Invite one individual to share at a time so others can share agreement or feedback.
- Keep in mind that one stakeholder can have multiple kinds of

Conversation and sharing of knowledge is encouraged here! Invite participants to respectfully offer any confirming or curious feedback on another’s assessment of a relationship between stakeholders.

relationships with another stakeholder, or multiple relationships of the same kind with different stakeholders

- Try to capture as much of the relationship information that you can, including strength, content, and “power direction.”

25
minutes

Assessing Your Community Power & Relationship Map

Once you have mapped known relationships between stakeholders, invite participants to reflect on the implications, using a “SWOT” (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities, & Threats) analysis. Some questions you can use to help guide your SWOT Analysis include:

During this section, you will want to spend about five (5) minutes on each part of the SWOT Analysis.

Strengths

- What are the existing strengths of our allies/accomplices in this effort? What forms of power do we have an abundance of in our movement together?
- Who are the most influential stakeholders on our side of the issue?
- Where are our strongest relationships?

If you are comfortable facilitating and notetaking, you can capture folks’ reflections on the questions. Alternatively, you may want to invite someone to be a note-taker for this portion so you can focus on guiding & monitoring the discussion.

Weaknesses

- What, if any, forms of power do we have a noticeable lack of among our allies/accomplices?
- Where are there potentially contentious or difficult relationships among our allies/accomplices?
- Are there significant gaps for representation/participation of certain kinds of stakeholders among our allies/accomplices?

Opportunities

- Where are there opportunities for building new or stronger relationships across existing or potential allies/accomplices?
- Are there certain “opponents” whose power could be weakened by a relationship we can leverage?
- Where are there resources and/or stakeholders that have yet to be intentionally mobilized to support our reproductive justice efforts in the community?

Threats

- Where do we see strongest relationships between stakeholders opposed to our efforts/goals?
- Are there relationships between “opponent” stakeholders and “ally” stakeholders that could be used by the opposition to weaken or destabilize our efforts?
- Are there stakeholders towards the middle of the map whose relationships may cause them to move further into oppositional territory with their stance and power?

If there is time, invite participants into further reflection on the content of this map as it relates to broader opportunities or challenges. Some prompting questions you can use:

- Are there upcoming events, elections, or holidays that might present an opportunity to mobilize stakeholders and power?
- Are there any surprising relationships that came out of this activity?
- Where are there still gaps in our knowledge around certain stakeholders, forms of power, and relationships?

10
minutes

Outlining Next Steps For Community Engagement & Action

After taking time to reflect on & assess your Community Power & Relationship Map, invite participants to develop next steps towards their stated reproductive justice issue(s)/goal(s):

Return to the reproductive justice issue(s)/goal(s) you had previously agreed upon to direct your planning. You can use the following questions to guide your reflection or develop your own.

- Which stakeholders do we need to prioritize & why them first?
- Are there relationships we need to strengthen (or weaken) immediately?
- Brainstorm potential methods of engagement and outreach that your team/coalition can utilize to build, strengthen, or leverage relationships (*Ex: one-to-ones, town hall meetings, public witness, media/publicity, etc*)
- Are there clear SMARTIE Goals that we can begin to identify based on this map and our broader goals around this issue? (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Timely, Inclusive, Equitable)
- What next steps do we as a team/coalition gathered today need to take to ensure ongoing communication, coordination, and accountability to our map-based goals?
- How will we distribute the information we have gathered here today for ourselves and who in our broader coalition, if any, do we want to share it with as well?

COMMUNITY POWER & RELATIONSHIP MAPPING

FACILITATION GUIDE (IN-PERSON)

TIME: 120 minutes

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Two (2) Large sheets of butcher paper open on two large surfaces
 - One labeled “Stakeholder Issue Stances” with a single horizontal axis reflecting different levels of agreement or opposition
 - One labeled “Stakeholder Stances + Power & Resources” with a horizontal axis reflecting levels of agreement or opposition and a vertical axis indicating power level (from “Least” to “Most”
 - **See [“Sample Community Power & Resource Maps in this Guide”](#) to see virtual examples of how to draw axis/grids on butcher paper)
- Post-it/Sticky notes or Construction paper squares of at least six different colors
- Markers & pens
- (optional) Chalice or candle for chalice-lighting
- (optional) Flipchart with content indicated in “Facilitator Notes” column

AGENDA & DIRECTIONS

Time	Activity & Materials Needed	Facilitator Notes
10 minutes	Welcome & Introductions <u>Welcome</u> Welcome everybody into the space. You may choose to open with a chalice lighting or short reading, if appropriate for the community you have invited	<i>For in-person facilitation, you may choose to have the following written out on a flip chart or projected onto slides, if you feel</i>

to participate in today's mapping session.

Introductions

Go around the room and have each person introduce themselves. Invite them to share their name, pronouns, community they belong to as part of your coalition/team, and one thing they hope will come out of this time together.

Agenda & Goal for the Session

Share the agenda for this Community Power & Resource Mapping session. Inform participants that you will be doing the following:

- Revisiting/Clarifying the issue or goal(s) that your community is facing and your coalition has agreed to shape its organizing around
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- Mapping out Community Power & Resources
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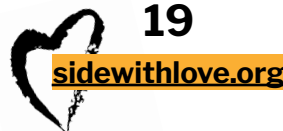
- *Introduction instructions*
- *Agenda Outline*
- *Key [Definitions](#)*

5
minutes

Revisiting the Issue, Goal, and/or Target

Remind participants of the geographic specifications of your community

Ideally, you and your team/coalition have already researched and built



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map (Ex. neighborhood, municipality, city, county, state, etc)

Remind participants of the specific reproductive justice issue(s) they are addressing in their community based on your shared research.

- If there is a goal that relates to the stated issue(s) or reality, confirm that participants are in agreement about what it is.
- If you are making a campaign-specific map that centers around a particular target for a concrete campaign, ensure that participants are in agreement on the target you have selected to map power & relationships around.

preliminary relationships that inform your awareness of the reproductive justice issue(s) facing your local community.

You may wish to have flip chart sheets or slides identifying or outlining the issue(s) you are engaging, any broader goals, and/or any specific targets.

20
minutes

Mapping Out Community Stakeholders & Issue Stances

Direct participants to the butcher paper labeled “Stakeholders & Issue Stances” (For formatting/design suggestions, see [Pages 26 & 28 in this guide](#))

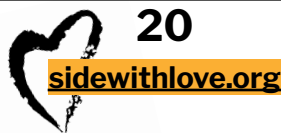
Identify the stakeholder “categories” you would like to use for this mapping session (See “Stakeholders” in [Definitions](#) section)

Clarify how you will distinguish between the different “categories” of stakeholder you will be mapping. Methods include:

- Using different colored “sticky notes” or paper for each category
- Using different paper shapes for each category

Invite individuals to identify as many stakeholders in your community that have some relationship to the issue AND their understanding of where on

You may choose to have the first 5-10 minutes of stakeholder & stance identification be an independent activity, to allow for individual brainstorming & different processing methods. You can then invite folks to share either why they put their stakeholders where they did and/or ask them to name them aloud so you can place them in a larger group discussion.



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the Support/Oppose scale they fall.

- Ensure each stakeholder is added to the “Stakeholder Issue Stance Grid” (or your version of the same) in real-time

Take time as a group to go through your collected & mapped stakeholders & their stances together to identify if:

- There are any others missing
- There are any that should be broken further down
- There are any that should be moved in their stance
- There are any that are unclear/more information is needed

25
minutes

Mapping Out Community Power & Resources

Direct participants to the butcher paper labeled “Stakeholders Stances + Power & Resources” (For formatting/design suggestions, see [Pages 27 & 29 in this guide](#))

Revisit your agreed upon definition of “[Power](#)” and any categories you may be breaking it down into to clarify who holds what kind of power (Ex: *financial, positional, ideological, tangible resources, etc*)

As a group go through each stakeholder you identified in the previous activity and determine:

- The different kinds of power they hold
- Where they fall on the “Most or Least Powerful” Scale
- Move each stakeholder into the spot on your “Stakeholder Stances + Power & Resources” grid that reflects their stance and power.

Take time as a group to assess if there are overall trends regarding the

For in-person facilitation, participants will be asked to move their post-it notes/papers from their spot on the “Stakeholder Issue Stance” paper to their vertically adjusted space on the “Stakeholder Stances + Power & Resources” paper.



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relationship to power (and its kinds), stances, and kinds of stakeholders.

- (Ex - “Most financial resources on the map seem to be among stakeholders actively opposed to our issue/goal” or “The majority of resources among the major accomplices to our goal are ideological ones.”)

25
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Mapping Out Community Relationships

Once your stakeholders are placed in the “Stakeholder Stances + Community Power & Resources” paper, you will name places of relationship between stakeholders.

As a group, identify how you would like to distinguish between the strength and nature of each relationship you note

- What kind of line shows a strong relationship? A weak one?
- What line colors/wave-lengths do you want to use to reflect the “content” of the relationship (is it financial, is it political, is it collegial or familial, etc)?
- Do you want to include arrows to indicate if one stakeholder has power or influence over the other?

As a group, begin to name/draw the relationships you observe between stakeholders.

- Invite one individual to share at a time so others can share agreement or feedback.
- Keep in mind that one stakeholder can have multiple kinds of relationships with another stakeholder, or multiple relationships of the same kind with different stakeholders

Conversation and sharing of knowledge is encouraged here! Invite participants to respectfully offer any confirming or curious feedback on another’s assessment of a relationship between stakeholders.



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- Try to capture as much of the relationship information that you can, including strength, content, and “power direction.”

25
minutes

Assessing Your Community Power & Relationship Map

Once you have mapped known relationships between stakeholders, invite participants to reflect on the implications, using a “SWOT” (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities, & Threats) analysis. Some questions you can use to help guide your SWOT Analysis include:

Strengths

- What are the existing strengths of our allies/accomplices in this effort? What forms of power do we have an abundance of?
- Who are the most influential stakeholders on our side of the issue?
- Where are our strongest relationships?

Weaknesses

- What, if any, forms of power do we have a noticeable lack of among our allies/accomplices?
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Opportunities

- Where are there opportunities for building new or stronger relationships across existing or potential allies/accomplices?
- Are there certain “opponents” whose power could be weakened by

During this section, you will want to spend about five (5) minutes on each part of the SWOT Analysis.

If you are comfortable facilitating and notetaking, you can capture folks’ reflections on the questions. Alternatively, you may want to invite someone to be a note-taker for this portion so you can focus on guiding & monitoring the discussion.



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a relationship we can leverage?

- Where are there resources and/or stakeholders that have yet to be intentionally mobilized to support our reproductive justice efforts in the community?

Threats

- Where do we see strongest relationships between stakeholders opposed to our efforts/goals?
- Are there relationships between “opponent” stakeholders and “ally” stakeholders that could be used by the opposition to weaken or destabilize our efforts?
- Are there stakeholders towards the middle of the map whose relationships may cause them to move further into oppositional territory with their stance and power?

If there is time, invite participants into further reflection on the content of this map as it relates to broader opportunities or challenges. Some prompting questions you can use:

- Are there upcoming events, elections, or holidays that might present an opportunity to mobilize stakeholders and power?
- Are there any surprising relationships that came out of this activity?
- Where are there still gaps in our knowledge around certain stakeholders, forms of power, and relationships?

10
minutes

Outlining Next Steps For Community Engagement & Action

After taking time to reflect on & assess your Community Power & Relationship Map, invite participants to develop next steps towards their stated reproductive justice issue(s)/goal(s):

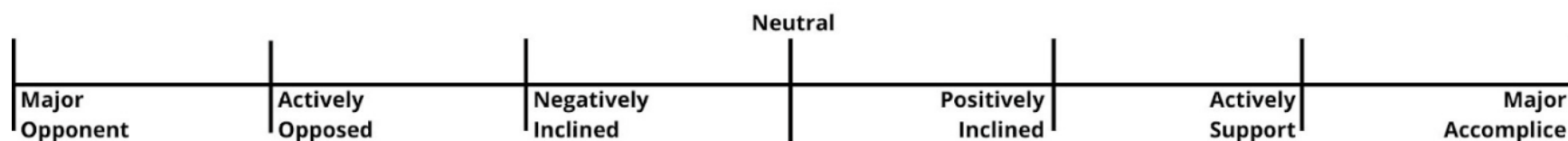
Return to the reproductive justice issue(s)/goal(s) you had previously agreed upon to direct your planning. You can use the following questions to guide your reflection or develop your own.

- Who are the stakeholders we need to prioritize in our efforts & why them first?
- Are there relationships we need to strengthen (or weaken) immediately?
- Brainstorm potential methods of engagement and outreach that your team/coalition can utilize to build, strengthen, or leverage relationships (Ex: one-to-ones, town hall meetings, public witness, media/publicity, etc)
- Are there clear SMARTIE Goals that we can begin to identify based on this map and our broader goals around this issue?
 - Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Timely, Inclusive, Equitable
- What next steps do we as a team/coalition gathered today need to take to ensure ongoing communication, coordination, and accountability to our map-based goals?
- How will we distribute the information we have gathered here today for ourselves and who in our broader coalition, if any, do we want to share it with as well?

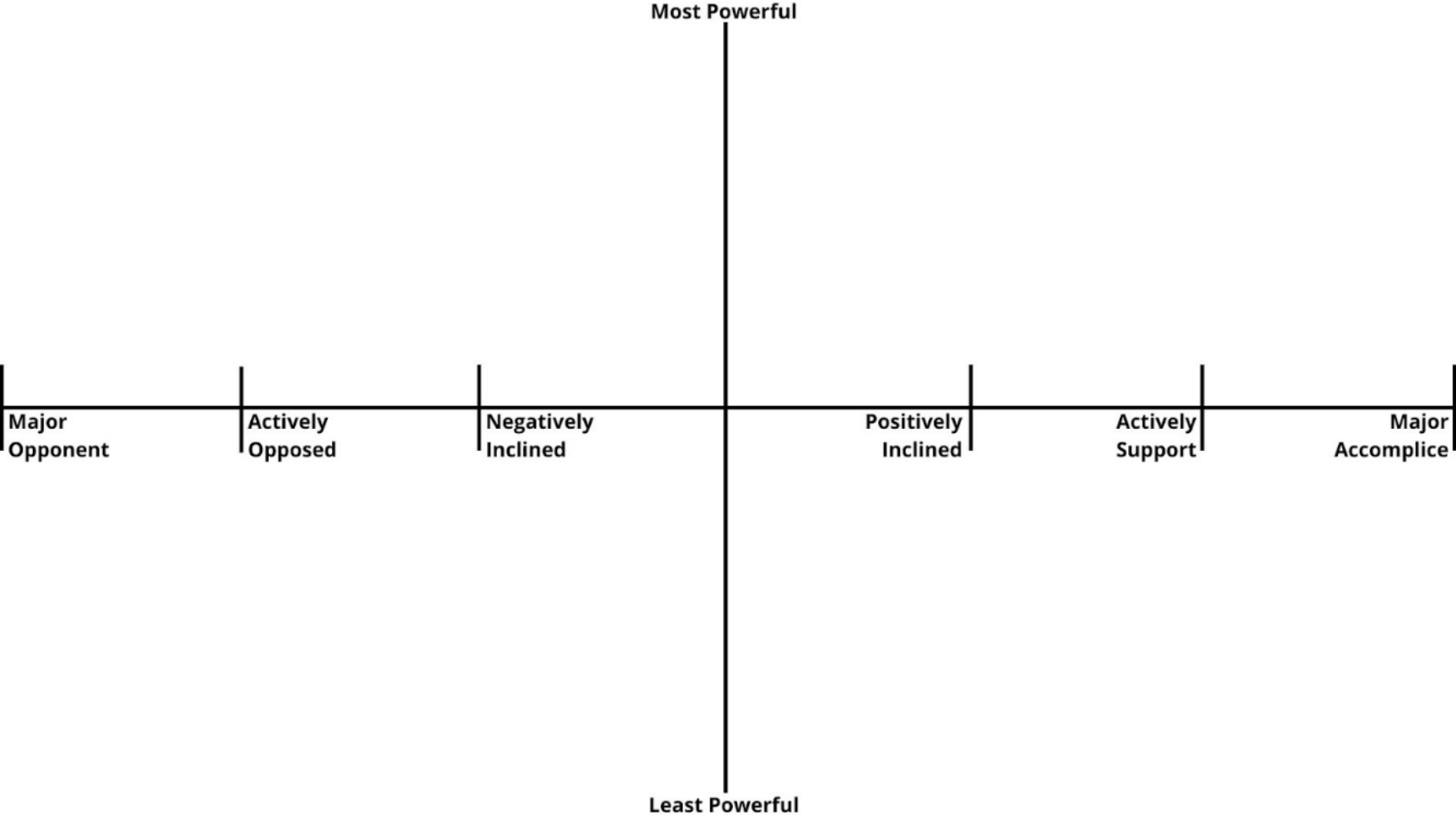
If you are comfortable facilitating and notetaking, you can capture folks' reflections on the questions. Alternatively, you may want to invite someone to be a note-taker for this portion so you can focus on guiding & monitoring the discussion.

COMMUNITY MAPPING TEMPLATES

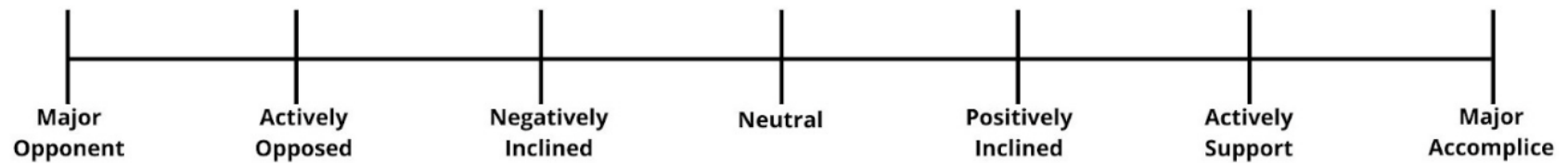
EXAMPLE STAKEHOLDER STANCE MAPPING TEMPLATE (Version 1)



EXAMPLE STAKEHOLDER STANCE & POWER MAPPING TEMPLATE (Version 1)



EXAMPLE STAKEHOLDER STANCE MAPPING TEMPLATE (Version 2)



EXAMPLE STAKEHOLDER STANCE & POWER MAPPING TEMPLATE (Version 2)

