The Power of Place-Based Community

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Tim Brochu

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The Power of Place-Based Community

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Architectural design services for residential, commercial, and healthcare clients in Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts.

ANARCHITECTURE podcast
the built environment of a stateless society
anarchism architecture infrastructure urbanism economy community
Exploring non-governmental approaches to the development of buildings, neighborhoods, cities, public space, infrastructure, and transportation.
The Power of Place-Based Community

- It Takes a Village
- Individualism | Community
- The Evolution of Community
- NH: Come for the Liberty, Stay for the Community
It Takes a Village

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The Power of Place-Based Community
It Takes a Village to Flush a Toilet

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SÁBADO

Saturday
It Takes a Village to Flush a Toilet

DOMINGO

Sunday

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LUNES

Monday

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Señores, Gentlemen,
It Takes a Village to Flush a Toilet

Señores, Gentlemen,
mi esposa my wife
It Takes a Village to Flush a Toilet

Señores,
mi esposa
en el agua

Gentlemen,
my wife
in the water
It Takes a Village to Flush a Toilet

Señores, mi esposa en el agua

¡ZAP!

Gentlemen, my wife in the water

ZAP
It Takes a Village to Flush a Toilet
Sí, electricidad. Yes, electricity.
It Takes a Village to Flush a Toilet

Sí, electricidad.  Yes, electricity.
Mucho electricidad.  A lot of electricity.
It Takes a Village to Flush a Toilet

Sí, electricidad.  Yes, electricity.
Mucho electricidad.  A lot of electricity.
En el agua.  In the water.
It Takes a Village to Flush a Toilet

MARTES

Tuesday

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MIÉRCOLES

Wednesday

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JUEVES

Thursday

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¿El agua es buena?  
*Is the water good?*
It Takes a Village to Flush a Toilet

¿El agua es buena?  
¡Sí, el agua es muy buena!

Is the water good?  
Yes, the water is very good!
It Takes a Village to Flush a Toilet

Bla bla bla el agua  ... the water ...
Bla bla bla potable ... potable ...
Bla bla bla la pompa ... the pump ...
Bla bla bla chlorinada. ... chlorinated.
It Takes a Village to Flush a Toilet

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...Y CADA DIA DESPUES

...and every day after

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• It Takes a Village to Flush a Toilet
• Individualism | Community
• The Evolution of Community
• NH: Come for the Liberty, Stay for the Community
Individualism | Community

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Individualism | Community

FREEDOM The ability to act according to your will
Individualism | Community

FREEDOM = The ability to act according to your will
LIBERTY = The ability to act without social consequences
Individualism | Community

FREEDOM The ability to act according to your will

= LIBERTY The ability to act without social consequences

+ POWER The technical means to act
Individualism | Community

Community empowers individuals
Individualism | Community

Community empowers individuals

- Knowledge sharing
- Division of labor
- "Safety net" assistance
- Network effects
- Power projection
Individualism | Community

FREEDOM = LIBERTY + POWER
Individualism | Community

FREEDOM = LIBERTY + POWER
Individualism | Community

\[ \text{FREEDOM} = \text{LIBERTY} + \text{POWER} \]

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Individualism | Community

Community is not collectivism
Individualism | Community

Community is not collectivism

• Community is a technical means to satisfying individual needs

• Individuals may voluntarily “sacrifice” their individual liberty to participate in a community (in exchange for greater power and freedom)
Individualism | Community

FREEDOM = INDIVIDUAL + COMMUNITY

Liberty + Power
Individualism | Community

\[ \text{FREEDOM} = \text{LIBERTY} + \text{POWER} \]
Individualism | Community

Collectivism is not community
Individualism | Community

Collectivism is not community

- Individual needs are subverted to the “common good,” which is neither common nor good
- Participation is mandatory, not voluntary
- Expansion through coercion, not persuasion
- Relationships are antagonistic, not cooperative
Individualism | Community

Individual liberty optimizes community

Liberated individuals make community stronger, and strong communities make us better individuals.
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Basis of Community:
PEOPLE
PLACE
PROFIT
PHILOSOPHY
The Evolution of Community

People-Based Community

- Tribal - Nomadic hunter-gatherers
- Individuals commit to a community of specific people
- Family, friends
The Evolution of Community

Place-Based Community

• Agricultural – Cultivation of private property
• Individuals commit to a community of people in the place where they live
• Neighbors
The Evolution of Community

Profit-Based Community

- Industrial – Urban agglomeration
- Individuals commit to a community of people who offer economic opportunity
- Co-workers, trade partners, business network, socio-economic class, brand loyalty
The Evolution of Community

Philosophy-Based Community

• Digital – Decentralization
• Individuals commit to a community of people who share their ideas and interests
• Deep, meaningful connections with cartoon avatars with fake names
The Evolution of Community

We have rediscovered community, but without the humanity
New Hampshire: Come for the liberty
Stay for the community
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