



David Rockefeller thanks the media

Description

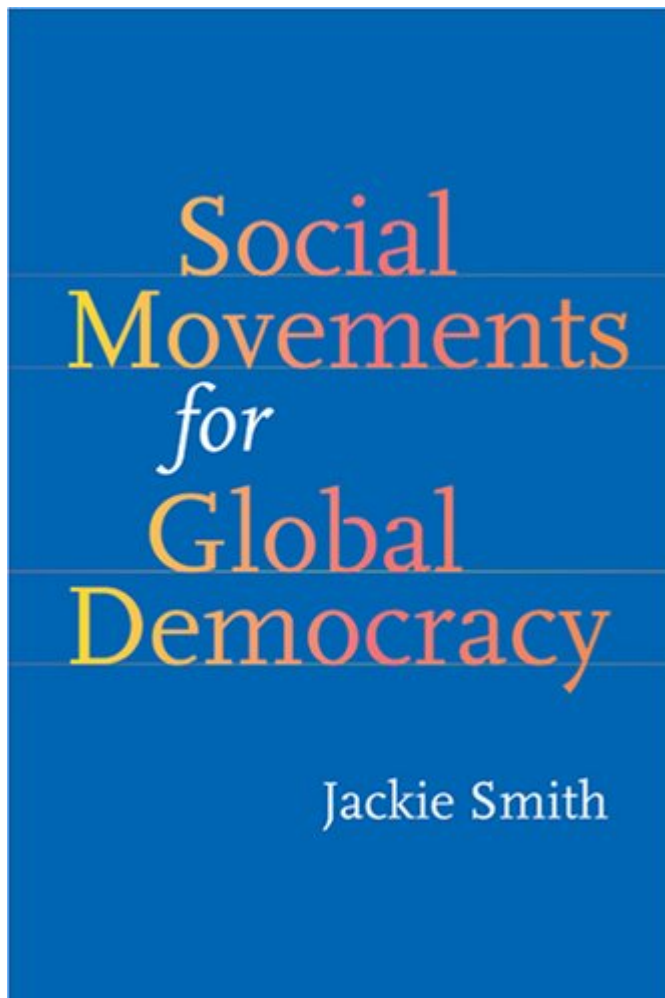
David Rockefeller addressed a Trilateral Commission meeting in 1991 with these words:

We are grateful to The Washington Post, The New York Times, Time Magazine, and other great publications, whose directors have attended our meetings and respected their promises of discretion for almost forty years. It would have been impossible for us to develop our plan for the world if we had been subject to the bright lights of publicity during those years.

(Kent 2005, p. 66)

Kent, Deirdre. 2005. *Healthy Money Healthy Planet: Developing Sustainability Through New Money Systems*. Nelson, New Zealand: Craig Potton

See also





and the United Kingdom were using national counterterror legislation and other non-democratic methods against peaceful protesters at global economic meetings in Washington and elsewhere (Ericson and Doyle 1999). Police and neo-liberal proponents alike do not tend to differentiate between fundamentalist militants and the deliberately nonviolent activists promoting a more tolerant and inclusive global system.⁴ As O'Neill observed, from the point of view of authorities, transnational protest is just one of the threats to which they must respond, on par with terrorism, football hooliganism, and transnational organized crime (O'Neill 2004: 243). While police certainly face a challenge in managing the variety of threats to public safety and order that large protest gatherings pose, the more recent discourse in core democracies has tended to criminalize dissent and subordinate the protection of free speech to the maintenance of public order.

In the aftermath of these and subsequent protests at the sites of international meetings of the World Bank, the IMF, or the WTO, governments have opted to move their meetings to remote places that are more easily insulated from protesters. Protected by governments that limit political freedom and by settings that are far less accessible to cash-strapped activists, governments have opted for even greater secrecy in an effort to avoid opening economic decision making to greater public scrutiny. The need to insulate officials from the public so that they can hold such meetings demonstrates a lack of institutional legitimacy that cannot be remedied by refusing to expand opportunities for public participation in these institutions. Such secrecy is not new: [David Rockefeller](#) addressed a Trilateral Commission meeting in 1991 with these words:

We are grateful to *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *Time Magazine*, and other great publications, whose directors have attended our meetings and respected their promises of discretion *for almost forty years*. It would have been impossible for us to develop our plan for the world if we had been subject to the bright lights of publicity during those years. (Kent 2005: 66, emphasis added)

Smith, J., Karides, M., Becker, M., Brunelle, D., Chase-Dunn, C., & Della Porta, D.. (2015). *Global Democracy and the World Social Forums*. Global Democracy and the World Social Forums, 2nd Edition. Routledge

Plain numerical DOI: 10.4324/9781315636375

[DOI URL](#)

[directSciHub download](#)



Show/hide publication abstract

"The world social forum quickly became the largest political gathering in human history and continues to offer a direct challenge to the extreme inequities of corporate-led globalisation. It has expanded its presence and continues to be an exciting experiment in global and participatory democracy. The book's contributors have participated in world social forums around the globe. Recounting dozens of dramatic firsthand experiences, they draw on their knowledge of global politics to introduce the process, its foundations and relevance to ongoing transnational efforts toward democracy. This second edition of global democracy shows how the forums have developed since their inception in 2001 and how they are now connected with other global movements including Occupy, the Arab Spring and beyond."

Guzman-Concha, C.. (2012). Jackie Smith, Social Movements for Global Democracy. *International Sociology*, 27(5), 661–664.

Plain numerical DOI: 10.1177/0268580912452372c

[DOI URL](#)

[directSciHub download](#)

Swiss, L.. (2009). Jackie Smith, Social Movements for Global Democracy.. *Canadian Journal of Sociology*, 34(2), 518–520.

Plain numerical DOI: 10.29173/cjs6096

[DOI URL](#)

[directSciHub download](#)

Markoff, J.. (2010). Review of "Social Movements for Global Democracy," by Jackie Smith. *Journal of World-Systems Research*, 310–315.

Plain numerical DOI: 10.5195/jwsr.2010.443

[DOI URL](#)

[directSciHub download](#)

Category

1. General

Date Created

March 2022

Author

web45