

## Session 7. Agenda, 10/16/03. Sociology 929. *Envisioning Real Utopias. Associations & Democracy*

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1. What, exactly, are “secondary associations?” What sorts of associations are included in AD? Where do they come from? (Zeynap, Linda)
2. *Constitutional Regulation*: What would the core constitutional rules of AD look like? (Cesar) How would associations authorized – who decides which are included and which are not? (Zeynap, Linda)
3. *Corporatism*: How different is AD from corporatism? Would this encounter the same problems as corporatism today? (Richard)
4. Does the state certification of Official Associations have the risk of freezing the process, creating rigidity, organizational conservatism, etc.? (Elizabeth)
5. Scope of AD
  - Is it really only useful in clear win-win situations where there are coordination failures rather than polarized conflicts? (Adam)
  - What decision-areas other than those discussed by C&R would be amenable to AD? Labor laws? (Cesar) What might be the theoretical criteria which demarcate the boundaries of appropriate AD policies?
  - How would AD deal with abortion, gun control, etc? (Adam)
  - How would the substance of policy really be different from traditional welfare state, Keynesianism? (Chang)
6. *Power of Corporations*: How does AD deal with the power of big corporations, especially TNCs? Are they so powerful as to negate any democratic advance through AD? (Matias)
7. *Adversarial associations*. Would associational democracy generate ruinous faction? (Stuart) Since oppositional/adversarial associations and movements are so important in progressive politics, how would AD deal with these? Is there a place for adversarial associations? (Cesar)
8. *Heterogeneity*: How does AD deal with increasing heterogeneity of interests and conditions of people? If increasing heterogeneity undermined social democracy, why doesn't this hurt AD as well? (Richard)
9. Can associations be designed for the purpose of functioning well in AD without thereby undermining their character as effective secondary associations (Offe Quote)? Can artifactual associations be effective? (Stuart)
10. Would there be a tendency for encompassing associations to be undemocratic? Would competing association be inefficient? (Zeynap)
11. Dynamic direction of AD: would there be possibilities to develop into a wider utopian project, or degenerate into a neoliberal state? (Adam)
12. Relation of AD to other forms of democracy
  - representative democracy
  - direct participatory empowerment: wouldn't this be better? (Adam, Stuart)
13. Is AD ultimately a state-centered reform project? How would the different levels of state – local, sectoral, national – be integrated? (Chang)