

## **The Evolving Occupation Movement**

The Occupy Wall Street Movement refers to itself as the 99% because it represents the super-majority of the population that don't have the money to influence decisions made by their own government. The movement differs from many other movements in that it has no official leader, committee or voice. It is democracy in action.

The Occupy Movement is not affiliated with any political party, or aligned with any Candidate for elected office. Though we can certainly anticipate one political power base or another attempting to co-opt ownership of the movement.

The Occupation Movement is the bottom 99% on the economic ladder. Professionals, small business owners, the 'middle class', laborers, students, owners, renters, and the homeless. We are all neighbors in this movement, and we all have our unique vantage point from which we see the problems in our financial system and the undo influence financial interests has on our government. We all have our ideas on what needs to be done to "fix" it.

The Occupation Movement is meant to be a means by which common citizens may express their views about economic inequality, and the ramification of these inequalities to society, and the government. Together we are attempting to create a voice loud enough to be heard over the financial interests of the few (1%.)

Some of the misunderstanding of the 99% Movement revolves around the fact that there is no real figurehead to represent the millions of voices being spoken all at once. At this moment the important thing is that people are talking about issues and taking action. The multitude of ideas is very important in this young movement. This is the first "idea collection" phase of an ongoing movement. That is all part of the democratic process.

The goal of OccupySLO is to find a unique San Luis Obispo way, to implement the Occupy Wall Street Movement here in our County. We do not seek to emulate other cities Wall Street movement experiences. We hope for constructive dialogue, creative problem solving, and adaptive response to the unfolding financial situation in the United States, and the economic injustice we see everyday. We are looking for solutions to these, and hope to come up with a government more responsive to human needs in the process.

**So speak out! Get your ideas heard!**