

Crafting Change: Handmade Activism Past and Present

Crafting Change: Handmade Activism Past and Present explores the history of handmade activism, from the suffragettes to the present day. This book is a must-read for anyone interested in the power of craft to create change.



Crafting Change: Handmade Activism, Past and Present by Jessica Vitkus

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 266 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 45 pages
Lending	: Enabled



Handmade activism is a form of activism that uses craft techniques to create objects and experiences that raise awareness for social and political issues. This book explores the history of handmade activism, from its roots in the women's suffrage movement to its contemporary manifestations in the Black Lives Matter movement and the climate justice movement.

The book is divided into three parts. Part One, "The History of Handmade Activism," traces the origins of handmade activism to the suffragettes, who

used embroidery and other crafts to create banners and other objects that promoted their cause. Part Two, "Handmade Activism in the Present Day," explores the ways that contemporary activists are using craft to create change. Part Three, "The Future of Handmade Activism," looks at the potential for handmade activism to continue to be a powerful force for social and political change.

The History of Handmade Activism

The roots of handmade activism can be traced back to the women's suffrage movement in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Suffragettes used embroidery, needlework, and other crafts to create banners, sashes, and other objects that promoted their cause. These objects were used to raise awareness for the suffrage movement and to mobilize support for women's right to vote.

In the decades since the suffrage movement, handmade activism has continued to be a powerful force for social and political change. In the 1960s and 1970s, handmade activism was used by civil rights activists, anti-war activists, and environmental activists. In the 1980s and 1990s, handmade activism was used by AIDS activists, LGBTQ activists, and other social justice activists.

In the 21st century, handmade activism continues to be a vital force for social and political change. Handmade activism is being used to address a wide range of issues, including climate change, racial justice, and economic inequality.

Handmade Activism in the Present Day

Contemporary activists are using handmade activism in a variety of ways to create change. Some activists are using craft to create objects and experiences that raise awareness for social and political issues. Other activists are using craft to create objects and experiences that provide support and solidarity to marginalized communities. Still other activists are using craft to create objects and experiences that challenge the status quo and demand change.

Here are a few examples of how contemporary activists are using handmade activism to create change:

- The Guerrilla Girls are a group of anonymous feminist artists who use handmade posters, stickers, and other objects to raise awareness for gender inequality in the art world.
- The Pussyhat Project is a collective of knitters and crocheters who created pink pussyhats to protest Donald Trump's inauguration. The pussyhats became a symbol of resistance to Trump's misogyny and sexism.
- The Black Lives Matter movement has used handmade signs, banners, and other objects to raise awareness for police brutality and racial injustice. These objects have been used to mobilize support for the Black Lives Matter movement and to demand change.

The Future of Handmade Activism

Handmade activism has a long and rich history, and it continues to be a powerful force for social and political change. As the world faces new challenges, handmade activism will continue to be an important tool for activists and organizers.



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