

Dr. Simon Granovsky-Larsen
University of Regina, International Studies 303,
“Social movements and alternatives to global capital”

This assignment was given at the end of a course section focused on social movement strategies and tactics, which were explored in large part using the book *Beautiful Rising: Creative Resistance from the Global South*. *Beautiful Rising* is intended as a handbook for successful grassroots organizing, and it doubles as a fantastic introduction to the inner workings of social movements. The full text of the book, along with its companion *Beautiful Trouble: A Toolbox for Revolution*, is available online in interactive format. Students approached the assignment from a place of familiarity with social movements, then, but without much background on second wave feminism or Canadian women's movements. They were encouraged to spend a few hours exploring and reading in the Rise Up! archives, and that experience produced a number of outcomes: the students learned about women's movements through their own, self-guided learning; they were introduced to the process of archival research (which opened up some interesting conversations later on, both about methods and about the importance of first-hand perspective in primary texts); and they were able to apply their other learning about social movements into some critical assessment. In the end, I was very happy with the students' work and the realizations they came to about the importance and impact of second wave feminism

Rise Up! Action Assessment (10%)

This assignment asks you to assess an action taken by a Canadian women's movement. In order to complete the assignment, you will read material from *Rise Up! A Digital Archive of Feminist Activism* alongside the book *Beautiful Rising*.

Choose a social movement action taken by a Canadian women's movement, as found in the *Rise Up!* archive and as identified through your archival reading and our classroom discussions. Then assess the action according to the criteria used in *Beautiful Rising*. You may also choose to find additional material on a specific action by using the newspaper archive databases listed under Databases > Journalism on the University of Regina Libraries website.

The assessment should be written by explaining the following elements (available as a form on UR Courses).

- Archival source(s) used
- Description of the movement actors, and of the action assessed
- Analyze the action in light of *Beautiful Rising* entries, paying particular attention to tactics and methodologies
- Why it worked and/or Why it didn't work
- Concluding observations

Form to be filled out and submitted by students:

Rise Up! Action Assessment

Student name:

- *See syllabus for assignment details*
- *Use this form to complete the assignment*
- *Write answers in paragraph form*
- *In-text citations are only required for any sources other than *Beautiful Rising* and the Rise Up! archive (references for additional sources should be listed after the concluding observations)*

1. Archival source(s) used (provide full reference, including URL):

2. Description of the action assessed, and of the actors and targets involved:

3. Analyze the action in light of *Beautiful Rising* entries, paying particular attention to tactics and methodologies.

Your answer to this section should be a few paragraphs in length, and should make direct mention of tactics and methodologies mentioned in the book, and how they relate to your researched action. You may also make mention of theories and principles from *Beautiful Rising* (we haven't read those sections yet, but they are mentioned with each entry in the stories section).

4. Why it worked and/or Why it didn't work:

5. Concluding observations:

6. References (if citing material other than *Beautiful Rising* and Rise Up! archive)