

Introduction

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In this Introduction, I provide an overview of the contributions to this special issue of *Theory in Action* focusing on anarchism and democracy. The remainder of the Introduction focuses on Concepts and Terms, “The Democracy Problem”, Transitions to Anarchy, and Democratic Institutions, and concludes with a discussion about the historical progress of anarchism, and the concept of prefiguration. It is argued that gradualist strategy provides a more effective strategy than prefiguration, and a more promising vision for the advancement of freedom and equality. [Article copies available for a fee from The Transformative Studies Institute. E-mail address: journal@transformativestudies.org Website: <http://www.transformativestudies.org> ©2020 by The Transformative Studies Institute. All rights reserved.]

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I. DEMOCRATIZATION AND ANARCHIST PERSPECTIVES

Why Focus on Anarchism and Democracy?

This issue of *Theory in Action* focuses on the interrelationship between democracy and anarchism. Why dedicate an entire issue to this topic? One reason concerns the current historical moment, and what is arguably a window of opportunity for anarchist progress. However, to realize this progress, advocates of anarchism will need to analyze its relationship with liberal democracy – either as a complete alternative or an

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