An aerial photograph of a city at dusk, showing a dense urban landscape with numerous buildings and streets. The sky is a deep blue, and the city lights are beginning to glow. A large yellow rectangular box is overlaid on the upper portion of the image, containing the main title text.

How do you organise change in cities?

A smaller yellow rectangular box is overlaid on the lower portion of the image, containing the author's name, affiliation, and social media handle.

Amanda Tatterall
University of Sydney
@amandatatts

Spatial Myopia

Power of Cities

- Where you build people power is a source of power
- Cities are some of the hardest places to organise - diversity
- Urban age
- Cities spread ideas
- Cities shape the fate of the world

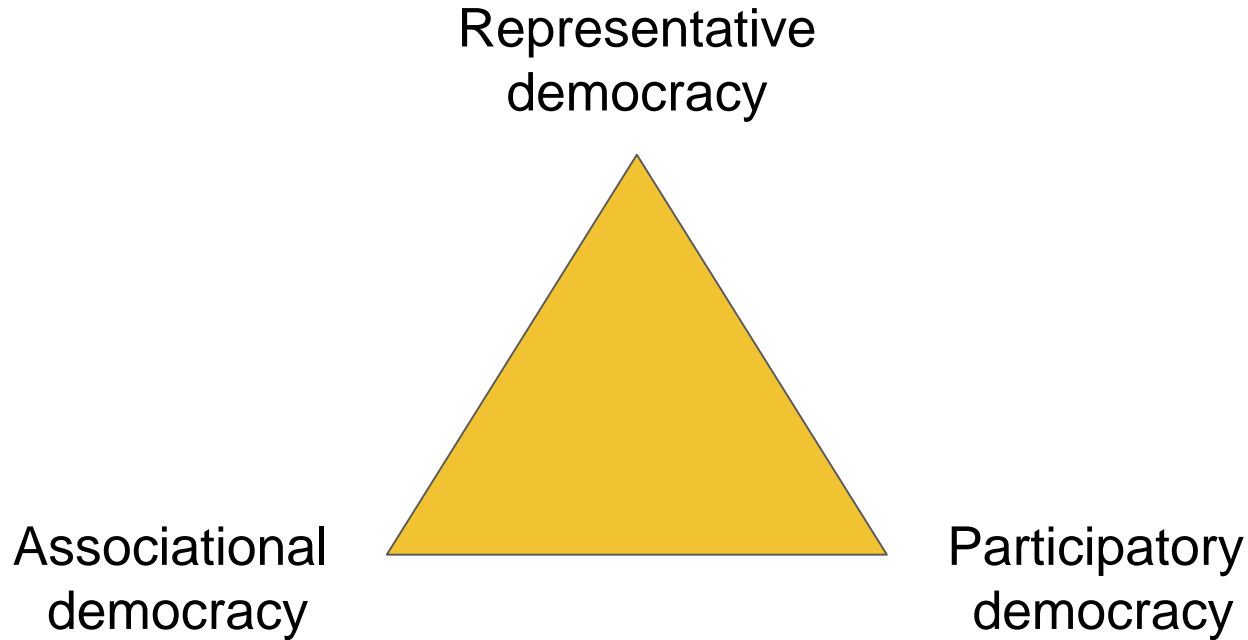


How about democracy?



Can the **city** provide an answer
for **democracy**?

Forms of Democracy



Representative Democracy = Barcelona

- Mass evictions
- La PAH - housing organisation
- 15M - mass social movement
- Housing campaigns, petition failed
- Established Barcelona en Comu - Welcome Barcelona political party
- Won CITY government twice (cf Podemos)



Associational democracy = London Citizens

- Broad based community organising
- institutions like churches, unions
- Institutions anchoring democratic life
- Living wages, housing
- Sister to Sydney Alliance



Representative Democracy = Barcelona

- Mass evictions
- La PAH - housing organisation
- 15M - mass social movement
- Housing campaigns, petition failed
- Established Barcelona en Comu - Welcome Barcelona political party
- Won CITY government twice (cf Podemos)



Participatory Democracy = Hong Kong

- Long history - Tiananmen, Sediton, mass city protest (no universal suffrage)
- Umbrella 2014 - fixed occupation
- Be water 2019 - fluid claiming space, leaving space
- Digital organising
- Limitations?



More....

Cities research: www.organisingcities.com

ChangeMakers Podcast - stories on the city

- Barcelona - ep 1
- Hong Kong - eps 12, 22, 23
- Cape Town - ep 14

