Mission:

Many social movement leaders and civic activists realize that this is an important moment for building new capacities and coalitions – going well beyond the professionally led and often narrowly focused efforts that proliferated at the end of the twentieth century. Organizational experience has piled up, and new ideas and technologies abound. SSN scholars in this Working Group have done cutting edge research on citizen engagement, participation, and mobilization. Their work helps to
diagnose the current state of American civic engagement and highlights promising potential improvements for civil society in many realms. They are well-positioned to prepare briefs, media contributions, consultations, and public presentations that both diagnose the challenges citizen activists and groups are facing and suggest specific steps the activists and groups can take to meet the challenges and seize opportunities in local and national arenas.

Projects:

- Civic engagement OpEds and interviews by Working Group members
- SSN briefs on civic engagement by Working Group members
- "Civic Engagement between Elections" Washington Post article collection

Members:

Co-Leaders

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- David Karpf, Assistant Professor of Media and Public Affairs, George Washington University

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