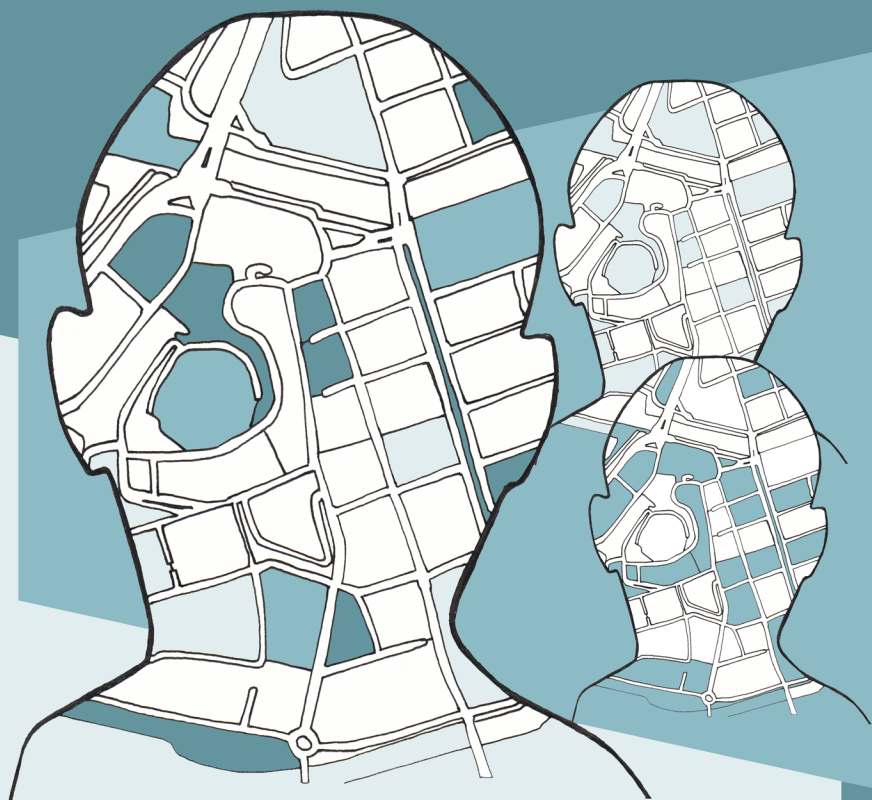


# FROM ARROGANCE TO INTIMACY

A HANDBOOK FOR ACTIVE DEMOCRACIES



ANDY WILLIAMSON & MARTIN SANDE

# Table of Contents

Foreword	i
Acknowledgements	v
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	
You Are Here	3
Why Write This Book?	7
How to Use This Book	12
A Co-creative Project	14
<b>WE NEED ACTIVE DEMOCRACIES</b>	
Situating Democracy	19
What are Active Democracies?	24
Moving From Arrogance to Intimacy	32
<b>HOW WE BECAME DISCONNECTED</b>	
A Problem of Language	43
Civic Disconnection	46
Psst... Want Some Evidence?	51
The Problem with Think-Tanks	56
A Brief Warning about Digital Panaceas	61
<b>ENABLING NETWORKED DEMOCRACY</b>	
Situating Online Engagement	67
The Benefits of Digital Engagement	71

The Weak Ties of Social Media	77
Embedding Digital Advantage	84
Education is a Critical Component	91

## **A FRAMEWORK FOR TRANSFORMATION**

Co-creating Order From Disorder	97
Re-energising Democracy	104
Bridging the Strategic and the Tactical	109
Why Personal Engagement Matters	113
Grounded Leadership	122
New Public Spaces	125
The Evolution of Digital Engagement	128
Opening up our Data	133
We Need to Transform Organisations Too	142

## **ROAD MAP FOR ACTIVE DEMOCRACIES**

From Engagement to Action	147
Making Participation Count	151
Innovating Alongside the Organisation	158
Lean, Agile and Active	165
Building Resilience, Planning for Failure	171
Get to Know Your Audience	177
Understanding Influence and Value	185
Frame Your Campaign	193
Politics Needs to Change Itself	196

## **INVITATION TO CO-CREATION**

Join us in the Conversation	205
About the Authors	209
Index	211

# FROM ARROGANCE TO INTIMACY

A HANDBOOK FOR ACTIVE DEMOCRACIES

We have a problem, too many of us feel that democracy is broken. We distrust politicians, despair at the rise of bureaucracy and feel ignored when it comes to the decisions that affect our lives.

Our democracies have become arrogant and controlling.

It's time to take democracy on a journey towards a new world of intimacy and co-creation. To go from outmoded ways of decision making to ones that support dynamic, organic and pro-social ways of connecting, conversing and deciding.

We need to create networked, active democracies and this book is about how we make that happen.



**Dr Andy Williamson** is the Founder of Democratiser. He works globally to re-imagine leadership, strengthen democracy and transform engagement, working with parliaments, governments and civil society.



**Martin Sande** is a creative thinker and facilitator based in Gothenburg, Sweden. He brings a strong desire to enable new ways of meeting the complex issues facing society and organisations. He does this through Co-lab by Preera.

BUY THE BOOK OR E-BOOK AT  
**ACTIVEDEMORACIES**  
ALSO AVAILABLE FROM AMAZON