

**Presentation by Lee Stuart**  
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- A. Primary theological virtue is power
  - 1. The way to advance / put into action all the other virtues.
  - 2. How we get from the world as it is, to the world as it should be.
  - 3. We often have negative stereotypes of power – dominance (power over and against) and corruption.
  - 4. Jesus taught against this kind of power but modeled relational power (with, mutual, many).
- B. South Bronx Churches organizes for power
  - 1. Not for some specific end – it is not a movement.
  - 2. Among specific people with common values.
  - 3. It is legitimate power if both sides of the encounter grow - growth happens when you confront sin.
  - 4. Purpose of power is:
    - a. Recognition
    - b. Participation
    - c. Decision making
  - 5. Empowerment is top down vs. power, which is from God.
- C. Greatest virtue is anger
  - 1. You can't teach this – something has been taken from you and as a result you have experienced grief and intense pain.
  - 2. This can lead to violence, apathy or vision.
  - 3. If you have anger about real things then you can make a plan to get things to be the way they ought to be.
- D. There is a balance of power between three primary groups: public (government), private (market) and social sector (voluntary organization, churches, clubs)
  - 1. Power has predominantly gone to the private sector.
  - 2. Two ways to get power: organize people or organize money.
  - 3. Those in power don't need to deal with us, so we need to work together.
- E. How does South Bronx Churches organize?
  - 1. Members consist of institutions, congregations, parents, workers and tenants.
  - 2. Not just clergy but powerful lay leaders who get the church into prophetic action.
  - 3. Insist on consensus, which naturally excludes extremists and makes it more centrist.
  - 4. There are different issues that the group agree or disagree about – come to consensus on simple needs in the middle.
  - 5. Try to gather members and money – can't act in the world without money.
  - 6. Treat organizers as professional and pay them accordingly.