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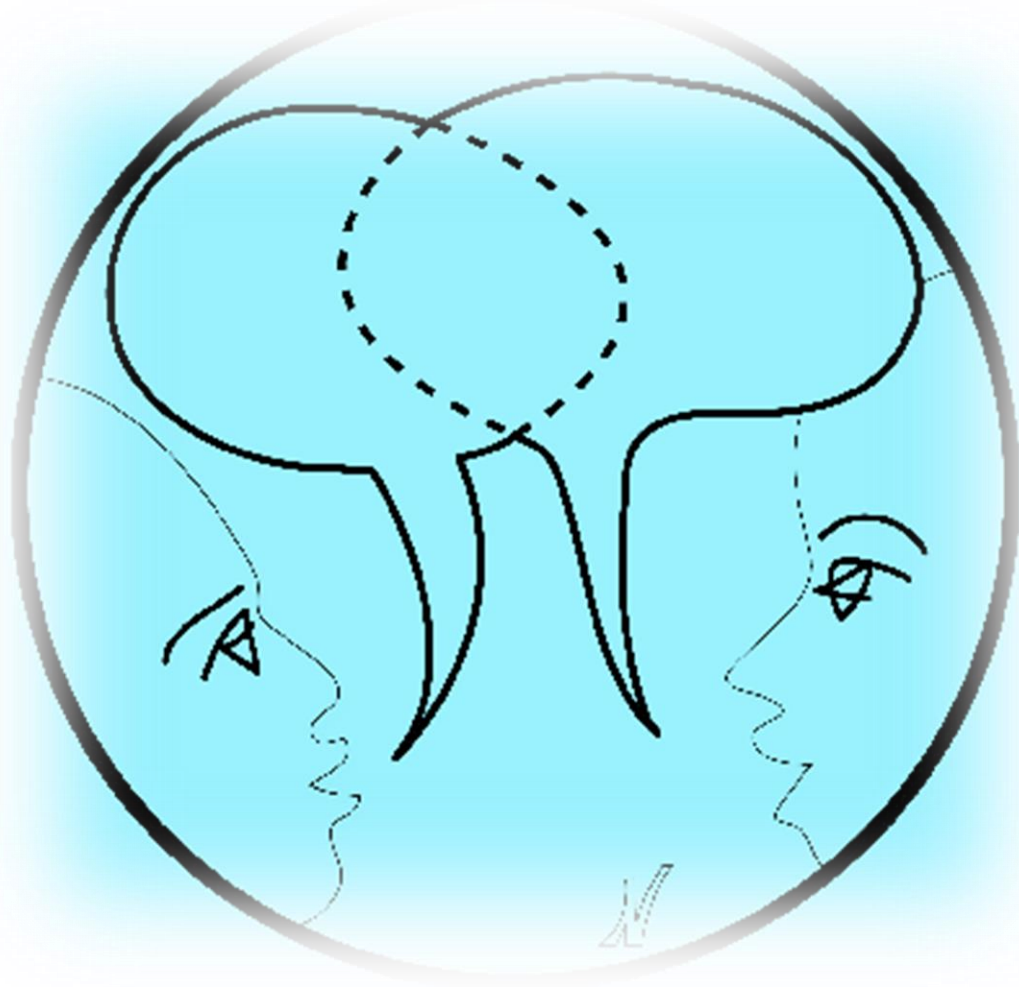
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**New times, new
forms of learning
– trade union
education for the
future**

GFTU Progressive Summit, 21st November 2015
Yarnfield Park Training and Conference Centre



Who we are...



Ros Chiosso



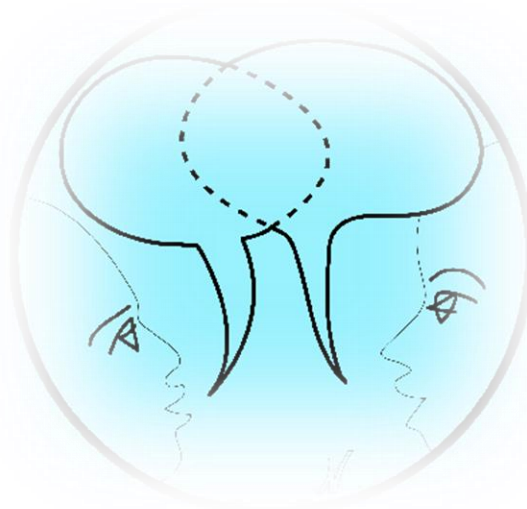
Mike Seal



Alan Smith



Christine Smith



Jo Trelfa

Aim of today's session



The Ends Justifies the Means

Niccolò Machiavelli
(1469-1527)

The means should be the ends in the making



Aim of today's session

- to share our perspectives on experiential learning and informal education approaches;
- to consider how best we learn in different situations, to stimulate discussion and action;
- to bring together the best of informal/union education, union activism and real life experiences.



Structure of the session

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Why we do what we do ...
 - Union activism
 - Approaches to learning

Short break

- 3) Informal education in action
- 4) Informal education and union activism
- 5) A plan for the future



How this will work

- Activities, discussion, reflection, engagement
- 'Guide on the side'



Conversation

1) When did you first stand up for something you felt strongly about?

... and ask yourself

2) Why did you do it?

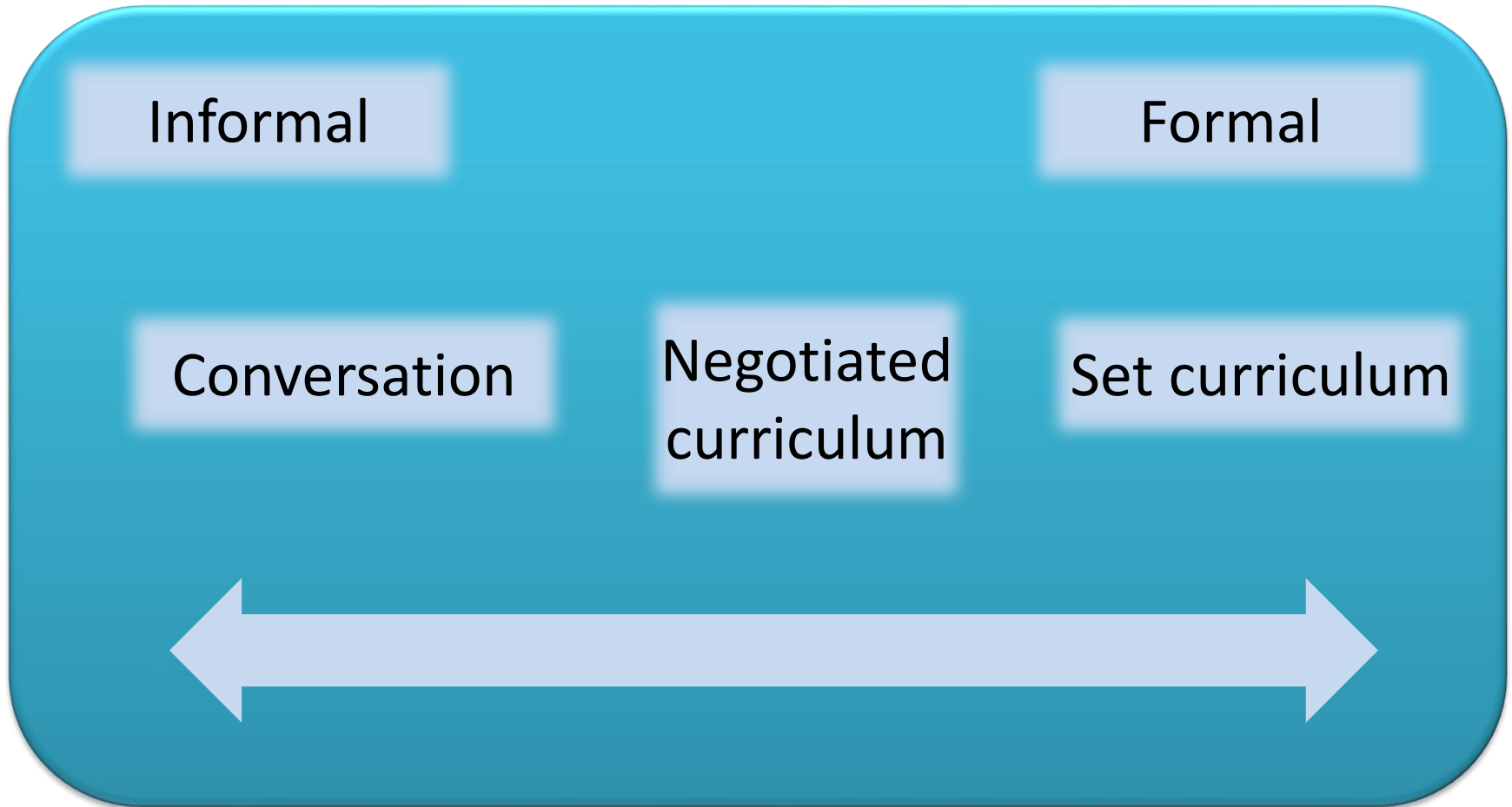
3) Where/how did you learn about the issue?

4) Was there anyone else involved and what was your relationship with them?

5) What was the situation / context in which you took action?

6) Is there / what is the link between this and your involvement in Unionism?

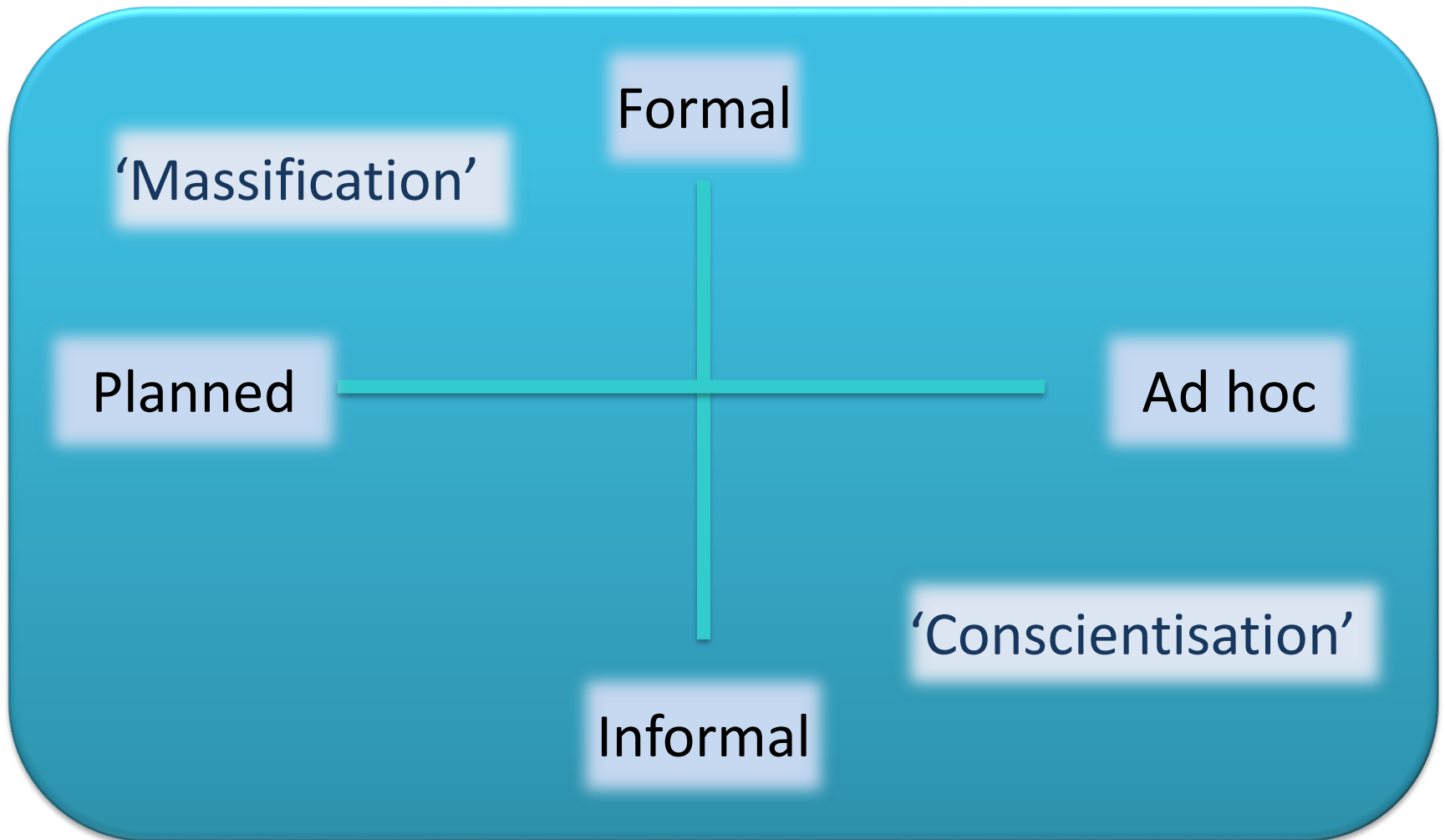
Informal / formal education



(Jefferies & Smith, 1999)



Informal Education as both an opportunistic and deliberative process



(Payne & Scott, 1982; Freire 1974)

The Royal Docks Community School and its proximity to ExCeL London

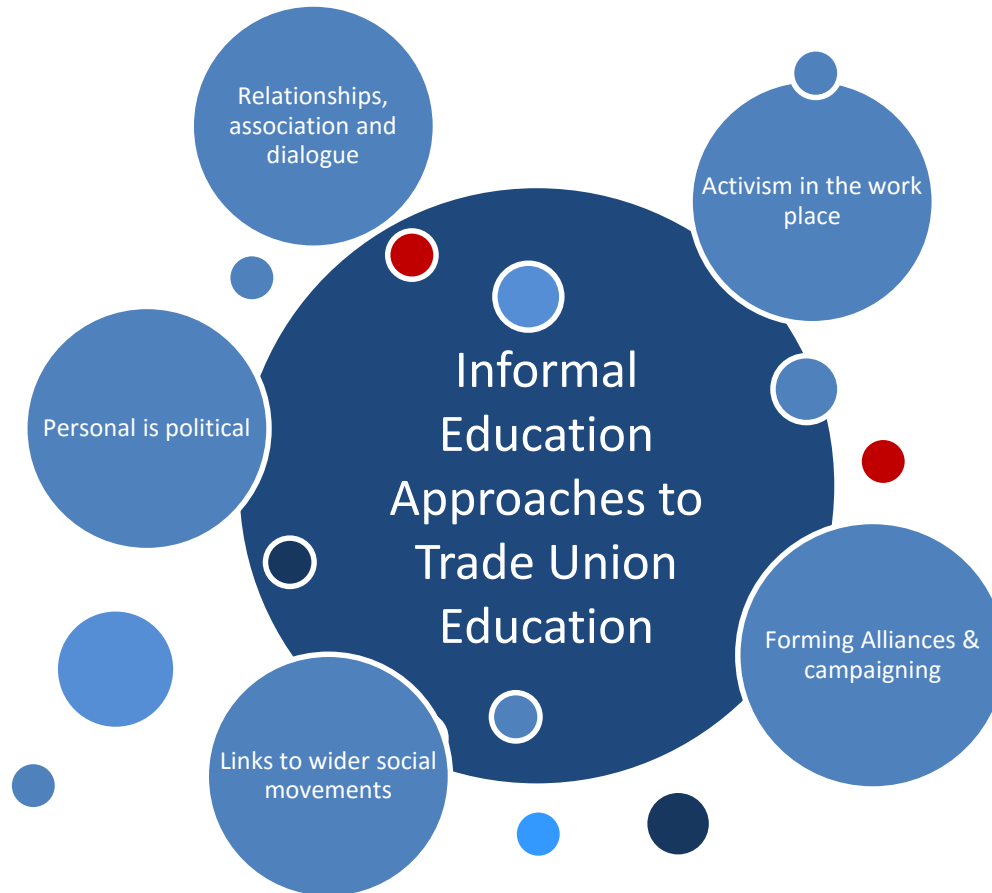




Conversation

- Where and how does the personal become political?
- How can we/all/GFTU help develop or construct learning for others that generates passion, moves them to act and thus makes learning more engaging ?
- What could/should Trade Union education look like?

Informal Education and Trade Union Education





- How does Trade Union education facilitate solidarity?
- What type of education do you want to provide as Unions?
- What is the role of GFTU in supporting you to do this?



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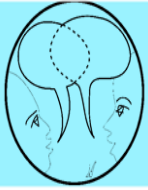
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Our job is to help people become truly conscious, understand the different worlds we live in, and develop a morality in the face of the evident amorality of our universe.

It is to teach people how to make up their own minds, and how to take control of the moment.

It is to teach choice. It is to help ourselves and others break free from our pasts, plan for the futures we want and resist the futures we do not want.

Our job is to teach defiance.

(Newman 2006:10)