

Social Economy

Discussion on Maria Peredo and Murdith McLean: "Social Entrepreneurship: A critical review of the concept", and on David Bornstein: "How to Change the World: Social Entrepreneurs and the Power of New Ideas"

SOSC 1341- Introduction to the Social Economy

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In David's Journal on "How to Change the World: Social Entrepreneurs and the Power of New Ideas" from the book "Restless People." pp. 1-10, his main thesis is that numerous people from several countries - including the United States, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Hungary, India and Bangladesh - who have advanced systemic change and shifted behavior patterns and perceptions. They have ideas for attacking problems, Bornstein points out, and are unwilling to rest until they have spread their ideas throughout society.

Peredo and MacLeans paper undertakes an analytical, critical and synthetic examination of "social entrepreneurship" in its common use, considering both the "social" and the "entrepreneurship" elements in the concept. On both points there is a range of use, with significant differences marked out by such things as the prominence of social goals and what are thought of as the salient features of entrepreneurship. The paper concludes with the proposal of a suitably flexible explication of the concept: social entrepreneurship is exercised where some person or persons aim either exclusively or in some prominent way to create social value of some kind, and pursue that goal through some combination of recognizing and exploiting opportunities to create this value, employing innovation, tolerating risk and declining to accept limitations in available resources.

This weeks readings helped me understand that social entrepreneurs are people with powerful ideas to improve other people's lives who have implemented these ideas across cities, countries and, in some cases, the world. These are the doctors, lawyers, engineers, teachers, journalists and parents who solve social problems on a large scale and have a profound effect on society. Bornstein points out that they are usually not famous, and are

usually not politicians. They are the people who create a transformative force that addresses major problems in the pursuit of a vision, and they will not give up until they have spread their ideas as far as possible.

A video on Social Entrepreneurship <https://youtu.be/JeXYeDmusFU>