

MA Defence: “Food Sovereignty as Multiple Resistances” By Heather Gies

Sibo Chen

School of Communication
Simon Fraser University

Our dear colleague, Heather Gies, successfully defended her MA thesis on September 19th, 2014. Here is the abstract of her thesis “Food Sovereignty as Multiple Resistances: The Honduran Movement in Global Context”:

Abstract

Food sovereignty reconciles the local and global in its creative political imaginary of the meaning of sovereignty within food sovereignty, which justifies and reconciles “multiple resistances.” This research explores the case study of the food sovereignty movement being advanced by campesino organizations in Honduras, as situated within the dynamic nexus of local and global movements, to explore communication—as discourse, lived experience, and strategic networking—in social movements and processes of social change, especially (food) regime change. In a movement that is both a land struggle and human rights crisis, movements engage in “multiple resistances.” This includes autonomous forms of struggle, participation in institutional politics, and the mobilization of human rights frames to address immediate needs while maintaining a long-term—and still evolving—project of food sovereignty based on democratized relations of production and access to resources, and a new collective rights framework rooted in community, nature, and “alternative” ways of living, working, and knowing.

Keywords

Food sovereignty; anti-neoliberal social movements; social movement communication; campesino movements; Honduras; Aguán Valley