### Online Advocacy

# Online Campaign Tactics







### Who is Aspiration?

- Aspiration helps nonprofits and foundations use software tools more effectively and sustainably.
- We serve as ally, coach, strategist, mentor and facilitator to those trying to make more impactful use of information technology in their social change efforts.
- www.aspirationtech.org/services



#### Goals

- Discuss the limitations of online organizing
- Brief review of steps to develop an online campaign
- ▶Go over "moves" made by online activists
- Most importantly, answer your questions



## First Things

- This training is envisioned as a dialog
  - We want your input as much as possible
- Please ask questions early and often
  - Especially if and when we use technical jargon, terminology and concepts you don't know
- It will only be as valuable for you as you make it!



#### Caveats of Online Tools

- Can take a lot of time
  - ▶ Time = Money
- Big corporations who want your data
  - You are the product
- ► There are billion of tools
  - Which ones do we need?
- ► Tools change EVERY. SINGLE. DAY.
  - How can we keep up?





#### Caveats of Online Tools

- Keep your data footprint small
  - Simplicity is Power
- Big corporations who want your data
  - OK to use "Boundary Tactics" if they fail nice
  - Done well, new tactics CAN earn media
- Beware of data integration issues
  - Plan early for tech divorce

## Limitations of Online Organizing



- Digital divides
  - Never forget who is left out by "e" strategies
- Trust relationships are best built in person
  - Online organizing is most effective when it leverages established social networks and communities
- Each community and campaign is different
  - Your mileage will vary

## Online Campaign Development



- ► Goals & Audience Assessment
  - Do you really know who you're talking to?
- Publishing Matrix
  - Do you have a model for when to use what tool?
- Message Calendaring
  - ▶ Is all online messaging on a unified calendar?
- Tracking & Listening
  - Which techniques are working?

#### Four Processes



#### **Audience Assessment**













Tracking & Metrics





**Message Calendar** 





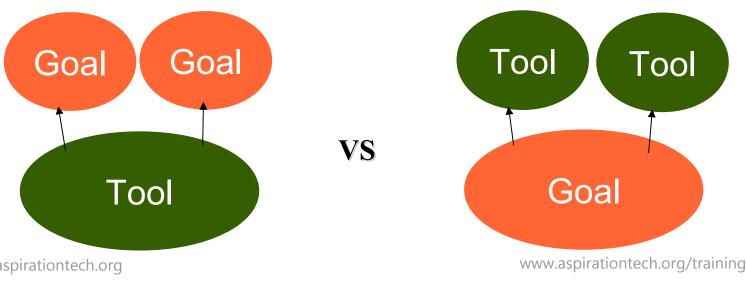
## Developing Campaign Goals

- Influence Decision Makers
- Mobilize for an Event
- Build Community
- Educating an Audience
- Raising Money
- Building your Base/Supporter Database
- Increasing volunteer engagement



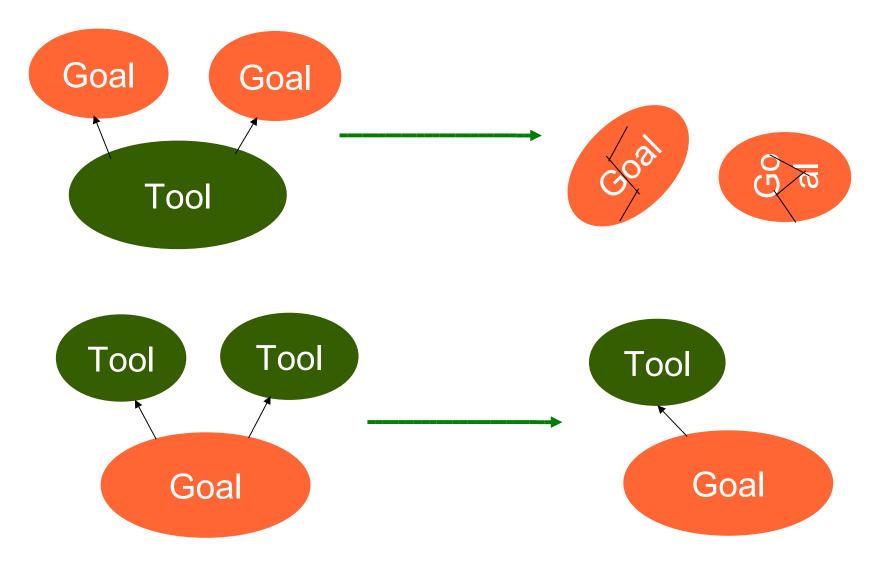
### What are your goals?

- Measurable
- What does success look like?
- ►Tool-Agnostic
  - Make sure your communications plan stays in tact when the tool you are using fails you





## Tool Agnostic?





#### **Core Tool Checklist**

- Content Management System
  - Manage your web site (Wordpress, Drupal)
- Constituent Relationship Manager (Supporter Database)
- Email Delivery Tool
- Online Action Platform
- Donation Processing
- Social Media

## Developing Tactics for Your Goals



- Online campaigning is about actually engaging your supporters in what you are doing
  - Online and offline need to be synchronized
- Online tools are a means to build relationships with your base and make a difference in your on the ground work
  - e.g. Get email address, message on FB, sign a petition

## Developing Tactics for Your Goals

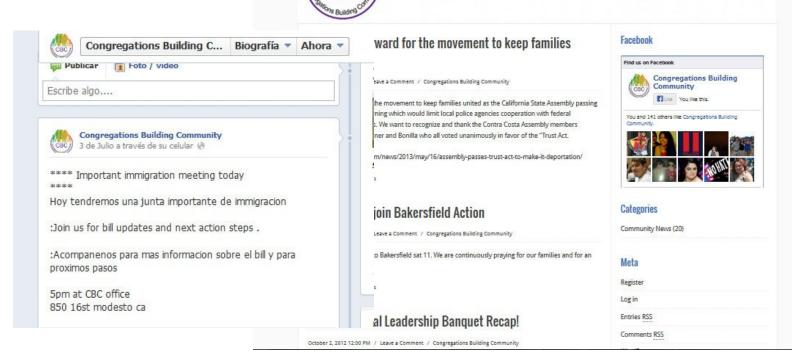


- A tactic is a plan, procedure, or move you can take to help achieve your goal
- Your tactics depend on who you are trying to reach
- You don't have to be an "online activist" to have an online strategy
- Let's take a look at some online "moves"...



- Meet people where they are at
  - Create messages for different platforms

**Congregations Building Community** 





#### ► Get Creative

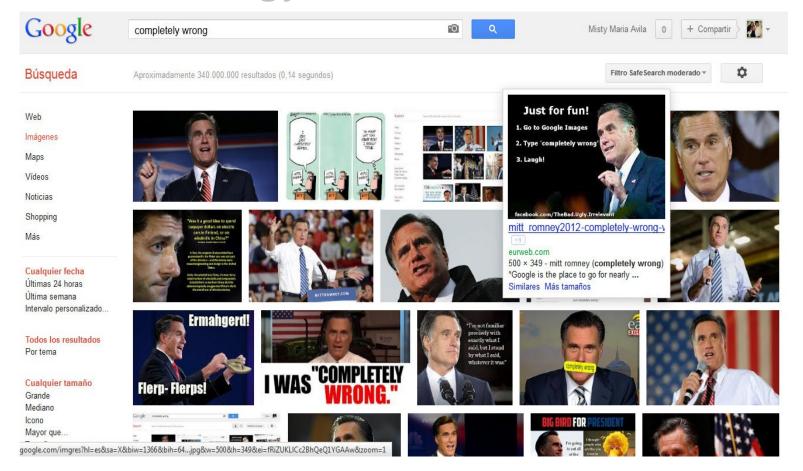




Mobilize established networks



Use technology





#### **Bottom Line**

- Online tools aren't a magic bullet
- You need:
  - An measurable goal
  - A compelling message
  - Effective tactics to realize your goal
  - A plan for engaging supporters and well-defined ways for them to plug in
- eAdvocacy is more about organizing and organizational challenges than tech challenges



#### Thank You!

▶Questions?

Comments?



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