

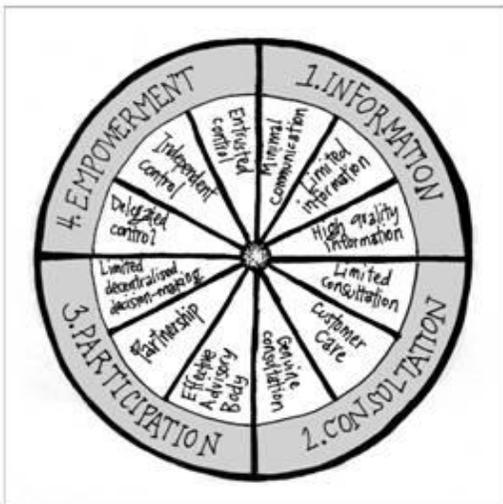
Name:

Date:

This assignment you will give you a chance to apply what you have learned from your readings on community and community participation and envision alternative scenarios for the South Central Community Garden (SCCG). Community Participation may be defined as:

“A process by which people are enabled to become actively and genuinely involved in defining the issues of concern to them, in making decisions about factors that affect their lives, in formulating and implementing policies, in planning, developing and delivering services and in taking action to achieve change” (WHO Regional Office for Europe, 2002; 10).

On Tuesday we watched the film “The Garden ” telling the story of how the SCCG gained and lost their land. The example of the SCCG may be seen as an example of a lack of community participation within the city government. How might the situation have been different if the City of Los Angeles had adopted a practice of community participation? Using the Wheel of Participation I would like you to imagine how the situation might have played out differently if the city had adopted any one of the 4 levels of participation.



Sarkissian, W. and N. Hofer (2009). Kitchen Table Sustainability: Practical Recipes for Community Engagement with Sustainability. Sterling, Earthscan

With a group of students you will be given the task of envisioning an alternative scenario using one of the 4 levels of participation below (from your reading) and described in greater detail on the attached page. This will be your opportunity to envision an alternative future for the SCCG. Think of the four stakeholder groups: gardeners, soccer field advocates, business, and city council. Given your assigned level of participation, what would interactions between the stakeholder groups looked like in forming the garden in the first place? What would have happened if the city had implemented your assigned level of community participation during the conflict over the land? After you have envisioned your scenarios, summarize them below and share them with the class. Also summarize the scenarios of other students below. Turn in this assignment at the end of class.

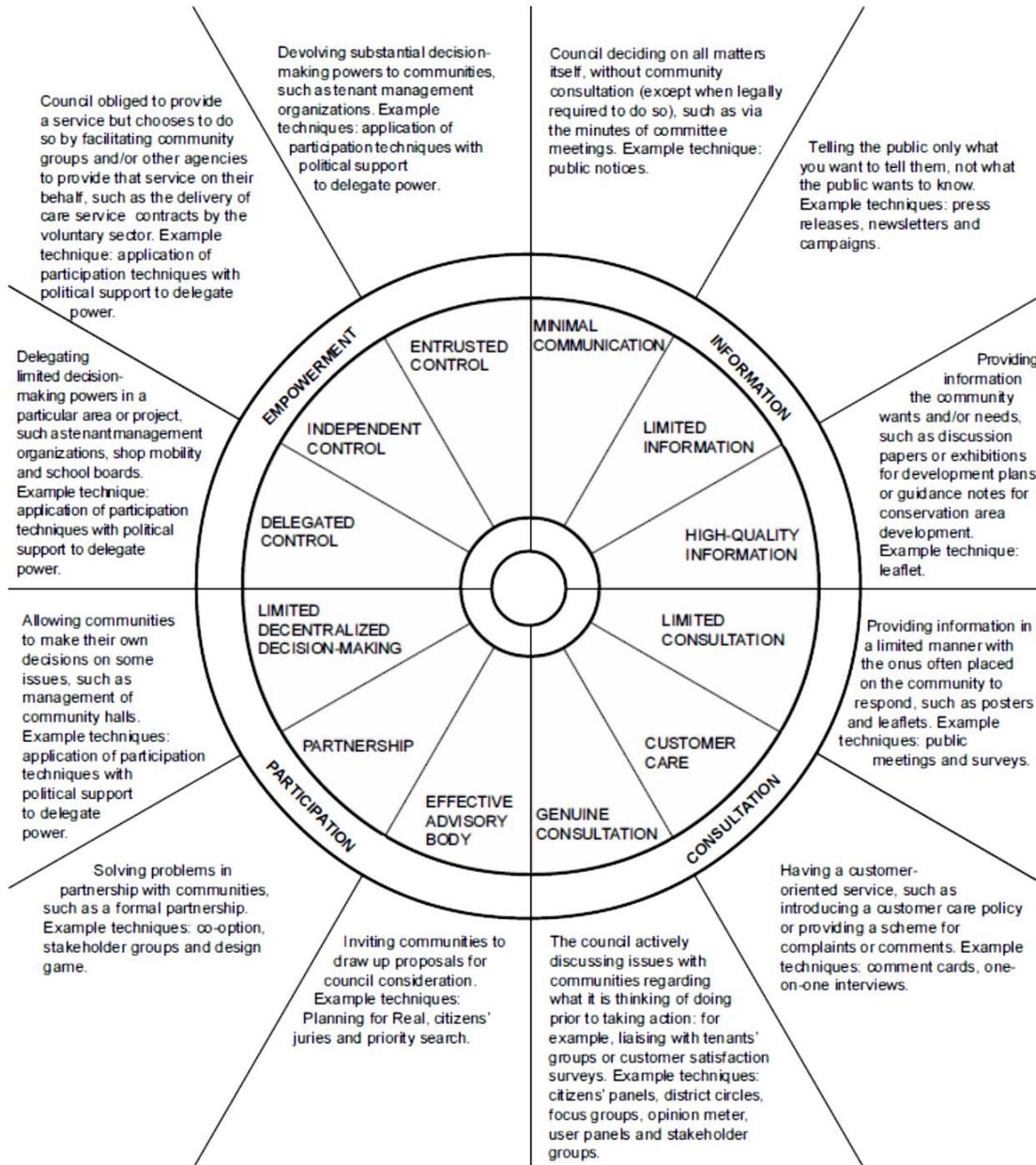
Your assigned section of the wheel \_\_\_\_ (from your group discussion)

Summary of Section \_\_\_\_ (from class discussion)

Summary of Section \_\_\_\_ (from class discussion)

Summary of Section \_\_\_\_ (from class discussion)

**Fig. 2. The wheel of participation**



Source: adapted from Davidson (67)

**Fig. 1. A ladder of community participation: degree of participation, participants' action and illustrative modes for achieving it**

Control	Participant's action	Examples
High ----- Low	Has control	Organization asks community to identify the problem and make all key decisions on goals and means. Willing to help community at each step to accomplish goals.
	Has delegated authority	Organization identifies and presents a problem to the community. Defines limits and asks community to make a series of decisions which can be embodied in a plan which it will accept.
	Plans jointly	Organization presents tentative plan subject to change and open to change from those affected. Expects to change plan at least slightly and perhaps more subsequently.
	Advises	Organization presents a plan and invites questions. Prepared to change plan only if absolutely necessary.
	Is consulted	Organization tries to promote a plan. Seeks to develop support to facilitate acceptance or give sufficient sanction to plan so that administrative compliance can be expected.
	Receives information	Organization makes plan and announces it. Community is convened for informational purposes. Compliance is expected.
	None	Community told nothing.

Source: adapted from Brager & Specht (66)