

make

disruption fun



**un:
edge**

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1

***Focus on building
and/or bettering civil
society groups.***

Thinking through the principles of commoning infrastructures, complicating the notions of citizenship and relationality, and simply spending time with people (and more-than-humans) in groups of shared interest can be fun. Not all socio-political engagement needs to feel high stakes. Give yourself some time to imagine how common resources and abandonment of existing forms of ownership could add joy to you and those around you.

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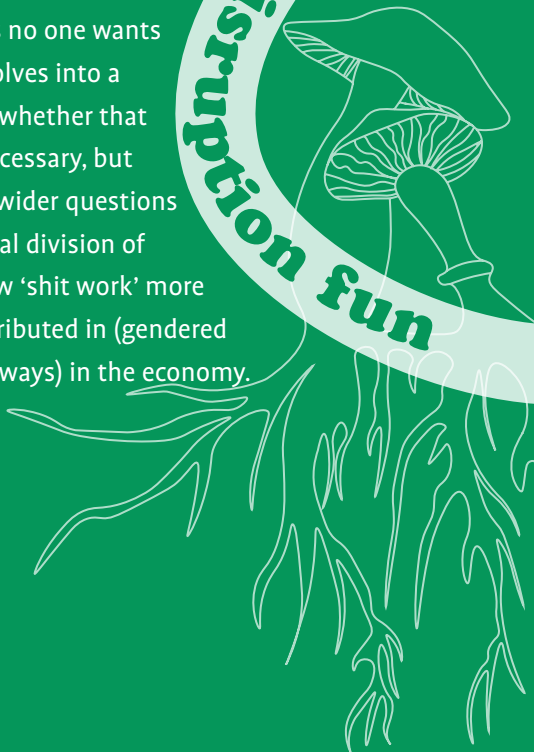
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2

***Consider a
'no-shit work' model.***

A “no-shit work model” (i.e. you don’t have to do something you don’t want to) has been proposed by the Post-Growth institute to ensure peoples’ creativity and strengths are valued. Of course, the obvious question is what about the jobs no one wants to do? This evolves into a discussion on whether that job is really necessary, but there are also wider questions about the social division of labour and how ‘shit work’ more broadly is distributed in (gendered and racialised ways) in the economy.

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3

***Encourage imagination
and play.***

Encourage imagination and play within your community. Sometimes this is as easy as giving people a tactile activity to do during meetings or dedicating an hour to eat food and chat. Ask the big questions. What kind of world do you want to see? Provide alternative narratives.

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4

***Acknowledge and value
the 'invisible' work.***

Ideally, no one's efforts, whether they're volunteer hours or the everyday maintenance of shared space, would go unnoticed. Still, making a point to acknowledge the value of someone's time and effort goes a long way. It can reinforce responsibility and relationality, which is foundational to any organisation or community.

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5

'Formalise' fun.

Include joy as resistance into your principles, manifesto, or other central documents. Joy is disruptive in exploitative systems. When you centre it in everything you do, along with more 'serious' aims, you give it gravity and help to prevent certain pressures that lead to burnout.

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6

***Be serious
about wellbeing.***

If you understand the significance of supporting wellbeing but still find high levels of burnout there might be a disconnect in the way that you want to operate and the way that you do. Of course, sometimes this is due to bigger structural norms. Still, embedding a concept of commons health and wellbeing into your everyday work and your team is a great way to show that wellbeing is more than just a buzzword.

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***Invest in
time together.***

Invest in time together to develop interests which might not seem directly related to the work you're doing, give people something to do with their hands, and feed each other. Building trust is essential in any community of people and trust can't be built if you don't spend time with one another. Finding time to just chat, without expectation, can be one of the hardest things to do but it's also one of the most important.

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