

Making it real ...the role
engagement plays in a
sustainable future

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The good news...Alan Fiske

Skill sets people use as they seek to relate to each other

- Communal Sharing (all affected by the transactions)
- Authority Ranking (pecking order)
- Equality Matching (you scratch my back)
- Market Pricing (bartering)

We know how to create community!



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Factors impacting on social networks

- Third of households in 2021 single person
- Family, community and neighbourhood may weaken or change
- Friendships based on work rather than neighbourhood
- Culture of individualism and social isolation
- Ghetto-isation may be increasing
- Continued rise of litigation culture weakens sense of personal responsibility



Challenges for engagement

- Not static or fixed but transitory: networks
- Based around a sense of belonging : more than being consulted or being called citizens
- Access to information and opinion from diverse sources shapes values, expectations and behaviour that challenges professional control: virtual communities
- Public services place greater emphasis on innovation and collaboration between users and providers



What is the answer?

- Education: through participation
- Education: in and through work
- Education: through life
- Harness the power of people, knowledge and capacity that exists in your universities

