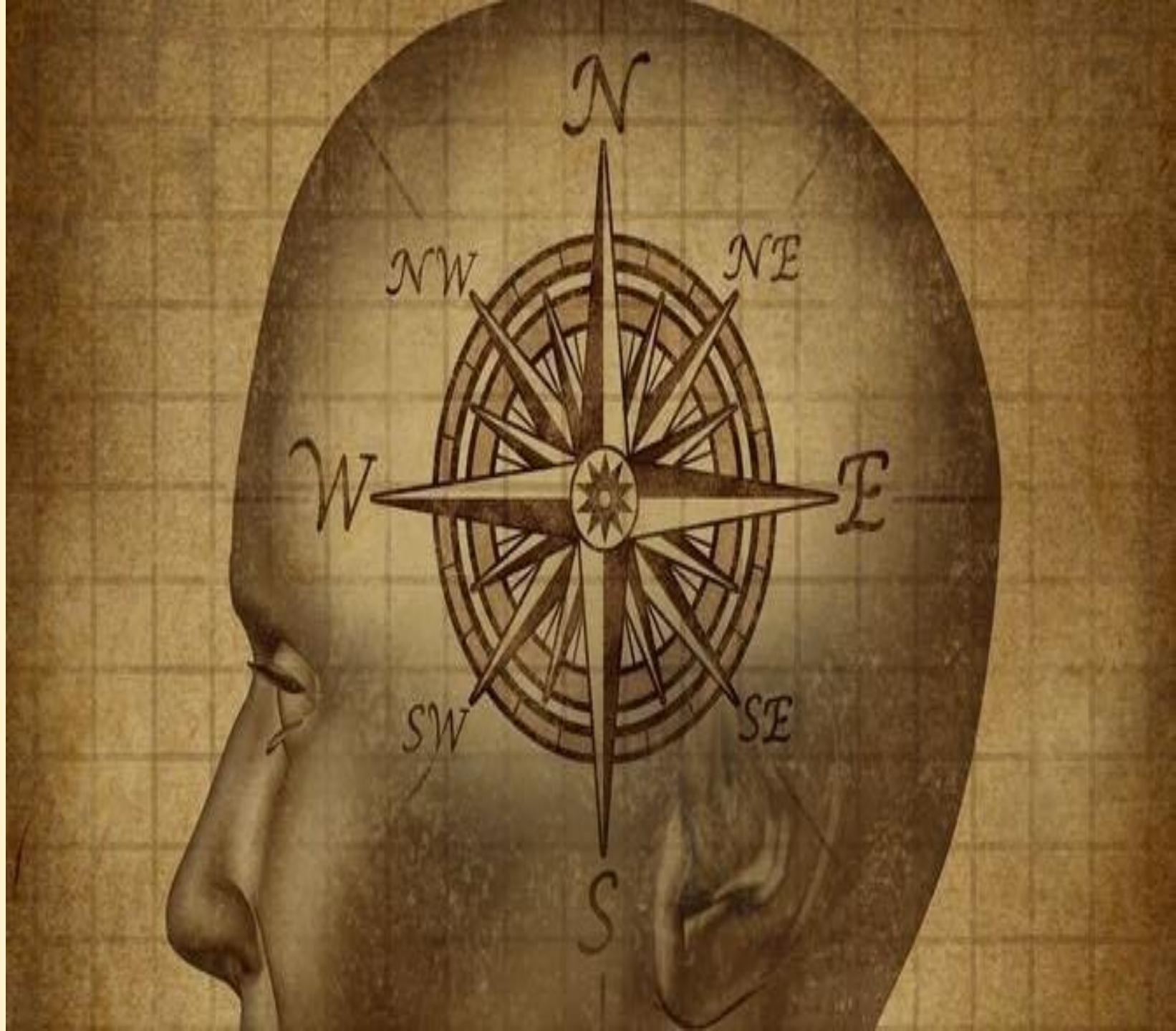


*The Urgencies
of Democratic
Education:
Public Spheres and
Moral Compasses*

Martin Laba, Ph.D
Simon Fraser University
Vancouver, Canada





Democracy has to be born anew every generation, and education is its midwife.

- John Dewey, *Democracy and Education*, 1916

Education is the
antidote to
authoritarianism,
disinformation,
and other forms
of “organized
lying”.

Image:
The Demagogue, 1946,
José Clemente Orozco



MEDIA LITERACY

Digital Literacy

INFORMATION
LITERACY



Ethical Literacy

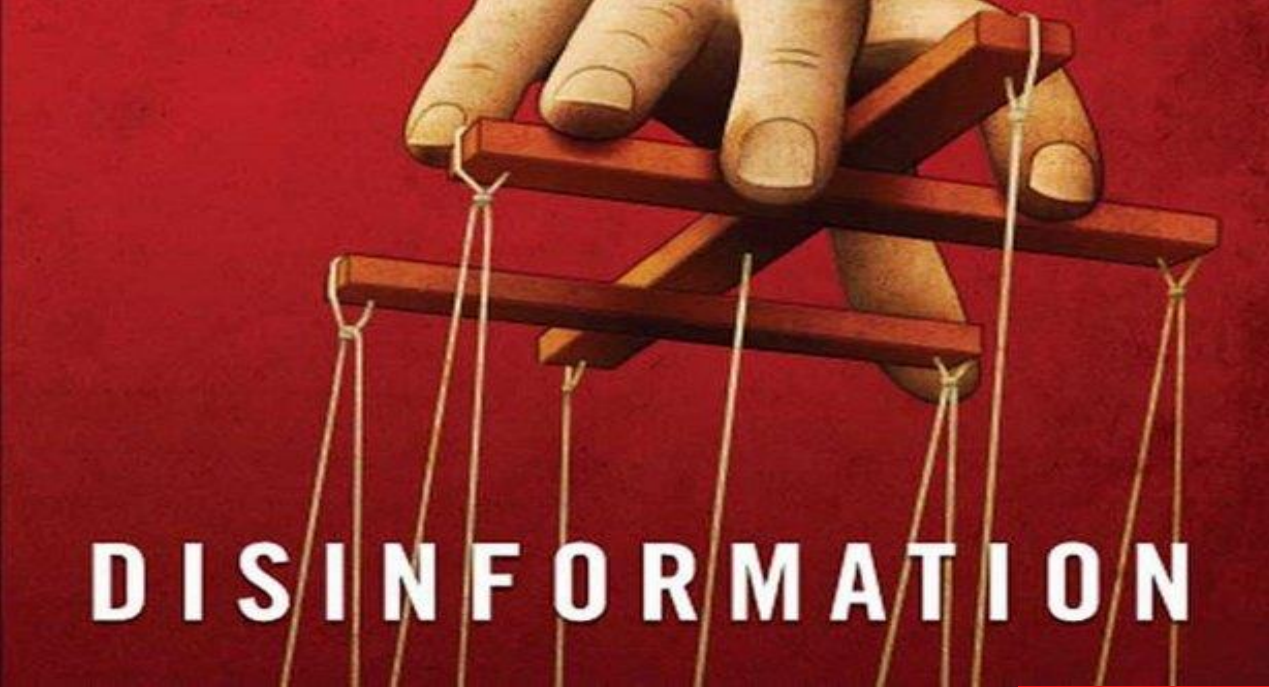
CIVIC LITERACY





THE ATTENTION/ PLATFORM ECONOMY

The superabundance of information has a corresponding scarcity or poverty of time and attention.



DISINFORMATION

SURVEILLANCE
CULTURE



AUTOCRACIES



There is no such thing as neutral education. Education functions either as an instrument to bring about conformity or freedom.

Paulo Freire, *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* (1970)

PRAXIS

The unbounded
classroom

Experiential learning

Public issues and
participatory learning

The moral and civic
project of education

CONCLUSION



*Love is in the Air, Flower Thrower, Banksy,
Jerusalem, 2005*

*Education, in the final analysis,
is really about the production
of agency.*

Henry Giroux, 2019