



# THE CHANGE AGENT

in collaboration with

# SOUTHERNERS ON NEW GROUND



## CALL FOR ARTICLES: When We Fight, We Win (Issue #44)

**INTRODUCTION:** One thing we know about most adult learners is that they've had to "fight" to get where they are today. Whether it's to get to class, to stay in class, to earn money, or to take care of their families, probably every adult learner could talk about a time that they had to actively take on challenges to get where they are today. They may not always call it a "fight." But a fight could be just about any time you grapple with obstacles or forces that get in the way of realizing your goals. A fight could be any kind of active engagement with a person or an institution with opposing interests. A fight might even be a struggle with yourself—to overcome negative ideas that you have internalized about yourself, and the fight to be resilient in our daily lives.

**NEW FORMAT (FOR THIS ISSUE ONLY):** With this Call for Articles, *The Change Agent* in and *Southerners On New Ground (SONG)* are collaborating to explore the idea that when we fight, we win. To explore this theme, we draw from a book by the same name, *When We Fight, We Win* by Greg Jobin-Leeds and AgitArte. The prompts (text excerpts, images, and videos) are designed to get writers reflecting on what they've read, relating it to their own experiences or knowledge, and putting forth their own point of view. This new format supports the academic skill of responding to and commenting on a text in a way that is relevant, integrates new information or life experience, and contributes to an important debate. Immediately below, you will find general questions related to the theme.

**PLEASE CHOOSE** just *one* set of questions below to write about. *Or* see additional pages for writing prompts on specific issues—public education, LGBTQ rights, low-wage work, and housing.

### GENERAL QUESTIONS ON THE THEME "WHEN WE FIGHT, WE WIN":

1. Share a time you had to fight for something. For example, did you have to fight to come to school? Or to come to this country? Did you fight to gain something for your family or your community? Did you win the thing you were fighting for? If so, how? What steps were necessary? How did it feel to be fighting?
2. Describe how the process of fighting can be a win in itself—even if you didn't reach your goal. Did you make connections with others? Did you learn new things? Did you feel a new sense of power? Did you gain your voice or a sense of dignity by being in the fight? Be specific.
3. Reflect on who has fought for you or alongside you. For example, who in your life has been your biggest supporter? Is this person a family member, a friend, a mentor/teacher? Describe how you "won" when someone else also fought *with* you.

**ALL ARTICLES MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 4, 2016.** Include in all articles and emails the contact information for the student and/or teacher. Selections are made by *The Change Agent* editorial board. A \$50 stipend will be paid to each adult education student whose work is accepted for publication.

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