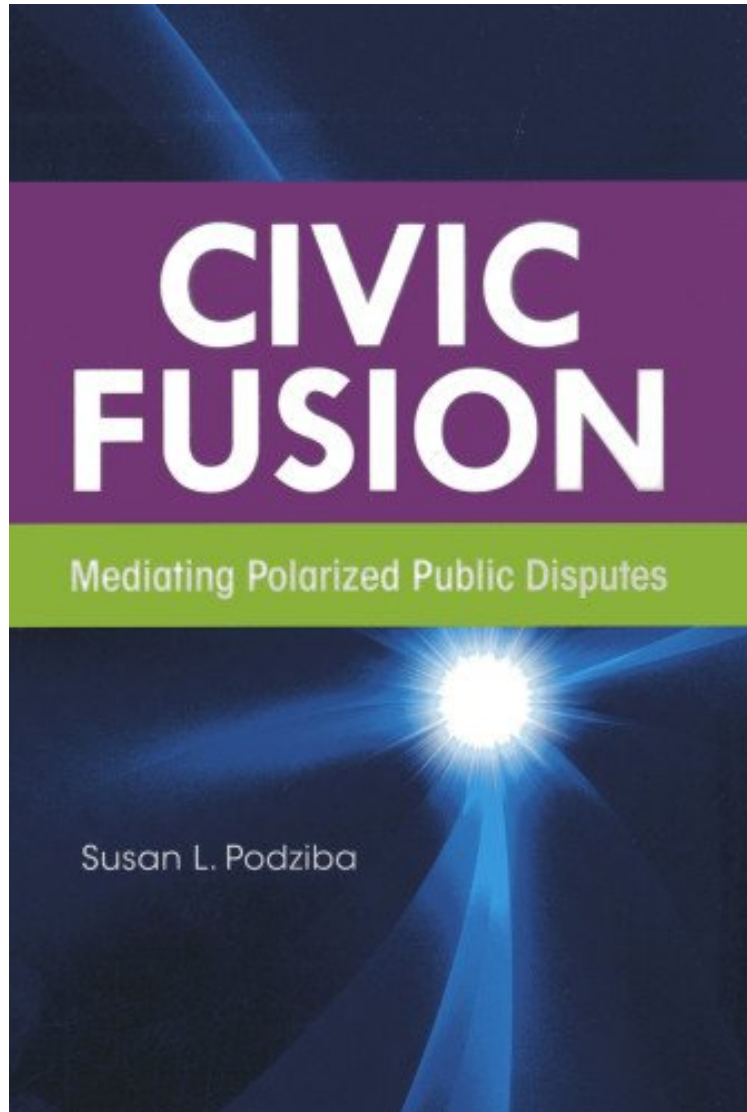


[Download] Civic Fusion: Mediating Polarized Public Disputes

## Civic Fusion: Mediating Polarized Public Disputes

*Susan L. Podziba*

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**Susan L. Podziba : Civic Fusion: Mediating Polarized Public Disputes** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Civic Fusion: Mediating Polarized Public Disputes:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Ivan ORMACHEAExcellent book! It gives you a full understanding of how to create strong liaisons between value-based opposing groups.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy GermanGreat0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Ron Friedmanthanks

Civic fusion occurs when people bond to achieve a common public goal, even as they sustain deep value differences. This book offers proven strategies for moving polarized parties to consensus solutions based on the author's 25 years of mediation and negotiation experience, including working with pro-life and pro-choice leaders after fatal shootings at women's health clinics, crane industry and union representatives to develop federal worker safety regulations, and citizens of a failed city that reclaimed their democracy by writing a consensus charter. Using these and other real-world examples, Civic Fusion guides readers through a provocative discussion about what mediators aspire to do, what they actually do, and what needs to be done to bring disparate groups of people together to reach agreements on complicated public policy questions. It provides innovative strategies for productive multi-party, multi-issue negotiations.

Susan Podziba has written a powerful and instructive book. Her career as a public policy mediator offers insights that go beyond anything else in print. Her ability to ask piercing questions in the best Socratic fashion, even of her own practice, make this an indispensable guide for anyone seeking to play a peacemaking role. - Lawrence Susskind, Ford Professor of Urban and Environmental Planning, MIT Co-Founder, Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School

Susan Podziba's *Civic Fusion: Mediating Polarized Public Policy Disputes* is a much-needed contribution. It offers a glistening synthesis of the practical, the theoretical, and the aspirational, and shines a beacon of realistic hope for improving democratic processes. It is written beautifully and with a rare combination of sophistication, clarity, and insight. I wish every mediator and everyone concerned about public policy would read it. - Leonard L. Riskin, Chesterfield Smith Professor of Law

The captivating conceptual framework of *Civic Fusion* is that given a properly managed and designed process, the right people in the room, a thorough understanding of context and stakeholders, and the right preparation and setting, that something new and powerful can arise from the collective that could not exist when stakeholders act alone. A must read for anyone engaged in mediation or complex conflict resolution processes. - Jacqueline Wilson, PhD, Senior Program Officer United States Institute of Peace Academy for International Conflict Management and Peacebuilding

I know that Susan is known as a mediator... but I think of Susan as a peacemaker. - Barbara Thorp, past director of the Pro-Life Office of the Archdiocese of Boston and participant in six years of talks led by Podziba, following fatal shootings at two women's health care clinics in Brookline, Massachusetts "We found it so good to talk to one another with the purpose of understanding, not persuading. I think we learned something fundamental that is worth sharing." - Melissa Kogut, another participant in the abortion talks and then executive director of Mass NARAL, the state affiliate of National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action

About the Author Susan L. Podziba has been a Public Policy Mediator for twenty-five years. Her clients have included the U.S. Departments of Commerce, Defense, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Interior, Labor, and Transportation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and U.S. Institute of Peace. She is listed on the United Nations Mediation Roster and has provided mediation training for the U.N. Department of Political Affairs. Ms. Podziba served as Fulbright Senior Specialist in Peace and Conflict Resolution at the Amsterdam Center for Conflict Studies at the University of Amsterdam, Netherlands, and has taught graduate seminars at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School. She currently lectures and consults internationally.