Overview of Social Invention

Introduction
There are many forms of change. Same change comes incrementally over time and like a stream relentlessly carving its way through bedrock, incremental change can, overtime, create dramatic effects.

Other change occurs more dramatically, and like the power of a flood can cause equally dramatic effects in a fraction of the time. This type of change is called transformational change.

Transformational change is concerned with changing the status quo for the common good. The focus is on changing the systems, laws and institutions that maintain the power and privilege of those at the center of culture for the benefit of all, especially those on the margins of society.

Definition
Social Invention is a form of transformational change that inspires individuals, institutions and communities to nobler behavior. Social inventions animate change often in the form of a new law, bill, act, or organization. These changes often call people higher levels of moral engagement with those who would otherwise be marginalized by society. Ideally overtime a social invention might eventually cause a shift in heart and raise the behavior of individual to higher moral standards but the immediate goal is to change behavior.

Forms
- Law, Bill, Act
- Institution
- Idea
- Movement
- Community

Points of Origin
- Grassroots
- Social / Civic Leaders
**Examples**

We can better understand the concept social invention my citing examples. Here is a list of ten.

- Yellowstone Preservation Act (1882)
- Pure Food and Drug Act (1906/1911)
- Women’s Suffrage (19th Amendment to the Constitution 1920)
- The National Labors Relations Act (1935)
- Child Labor Laws (1938)
- Air Pollution Control Act (1955)
- Civil Right Act (1964)
- Voting Rights Act (1968)
- Endangered Species Act (1973)
- Persons with Disability (1990)

Many of these social inventions were augmented by public will that came as a result of corresponding social movements.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Social Movement</th>
<th>Related Social Invention</th>
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<tr>
<td>Progressive Movement (1890-1920)</td>
<td>Pure Food and Drug Act (1906/1911)</td>
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**The Work on Our Watch**

In these difficult and deeply promising days we live in at the dawn of a global century, what social inventions could we create to: honor the children, respect the elderly, treasure diversity, renew Mother Earth, inspire economic common sense, and advance global justice and peace?

**Imagine a social invention that could advance transformational change relative to your passion?**