The Myths of Innovation

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Fallacy of Composition

...when one infers that something is true of the whole from the fact that it is true of some part of the whole
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Innovation Fallacies

- Innovation ≠ Big Invention
- Innovation ≠ Entrepreneurship & Business
- Innovation ≠ Making For All
- Innovation ≠ Technology
Innovation ≠ Big Invention
Innovation Equals Invention

- Shot Clock
- 3 Minute Pop Songs
- Credit Hour
Innovation Equals Invention

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- Shot Clock
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Innovations are Time Sensitive
Innovation ≠ Entrepreneurship & Business
Innovation
Innovation
Innovation

Entrepreneurship

Capital
Innovation

Entrepreneurship

Capital

Risk

Networks
Innovation

Entrepreneurship

Capital

Risk

Networks

Access to the Multitudes
Innovation

Entrepreneurship

Capital

Risk

Networks

Access to the Multitudes

Marketplace of Ideas
Innovation ≠ Making For All
The Truth of the Maker Movement

“According to a survey conducted by Maker Media, 8 out of 10 Makers are male. Their median age is 44. Their average household income is $106,000. Nearly 83 percent are employed, and 31 percent have job descriptions that fall into scientific or engineering categories. 97 percent are college graduates and 80 percent have some post-graduate education.”

http://www.salon.com/2013/07/26/the_maker_economy_cant_fix_everything/
Innovation ≠ Technology
Internet use over time by teens and adults

% within each age group who go online

Source: The Pew Research Center’s Internet & American Life Project surveys. All teen data comes from separate surveys of teens and their parents. Methodological info for each survey is available at: http://pewinternet.org/Data-Tools/Download-Data
“Much of this frenzy of access is facilitated by mobile devices. Nearly three-quarters of teens have or have access to a smartphone and 30% have a basic phone, while just 12% of teens 13 to 17 say they have no cell phone of any type. African-American teens are the most likely of any group of teens to have a smartphone, with 85% having access to one, compared with 71% of both white and Hispanic teens.”

-Pew Foundation
There Is No App To Overcome The Barriers Of Race, Class, Sexual Orientation, And Gender, And App Building Won’t Either

The Children Of Ferguson Were Hungry And Librarians Fed Them

The Parents Of Baltimore Were Without Diapers And The Librarians Provided Them

Public Libraries Were Created Out Of A Quest For Societal Equality - Any Innovation Initiative Must Further This Cause Or Libraries Simply Become An Agency Of Elite Solutions Not Agents Of Change
While We’re On the Topic of False Equivalencies
Innovation and Maintenance

Hail the maintainers

Capitalism excels at innovation but is failing at maintenance, and for most lives it is maintenance that matters more

by Lee Vinsel & Andrew Russell

https://aeon.co
Innovation Across the Organization

Administrators
Librarians
Staff
Volunteers
The Myths of Innovation

Slides & Conversation at: www.DavidLankes.org