Archive


Geer provides the historical backdrop for Swamp Gravy, citing many of the obstacles that the company had to face to achieve its success today.


Pearce praises Swamp Gravy for its unique local integration of residents and its attention paid to economic, environmental and social differences that generate change.


Shuman outlines the requirements for a localist situation. In this case, he highlights ownership of the company, its relationship with other local markets and the social progress it has impacted within the community.


The official Swamp Gravy site highlights the company’s mission statement and expected impact within community. In particular, the website provides explanations for how the company has strengthened the economy by crossing the boundaries of class, race and social standing.


This website provides empirical evidence that puts Swamp Gravy’s impact into perspective.


This article provides numerical data and background information on Swamp Gravy that proves that the company serves a local purpose.

Felicetti compares and contrasts the concepts of localism and the transition movement, citing that the distinct differences are important for truly understanding localist movements.


Hess questions if localism can contribute meaningful solutions to social/environmental problems by just “opting out” of the global economy. He argues that localism must be rooted in a larger project to construct an alternative to a global based economy.


Kox argues that localism is not as effective as it seems at first. He comments on localism’s limited ability to influence and resist global economy or ensure social responsibility and argues that local movements must stop avoiding political struggle and trying to create utopias. Rather, the movement must confront the spread of global capitalist power in a local space.


Kurland and her colleagues interview numerous local organizations and present a set criteria that they believe local businesses should meet in order to be considered a localist movement. They then relate the localism movement to real life applications such as politics, the environment and the economy and attempt to define what local means exactly. Its audience is for people who are looking to understand a clear definition of localism.

**Research Question**

It is established that Swamp Gravy should be considered a localist movement, due to its ownership, its purpose and its relationship with its local community. However, despite this assertion, it’s important to consider whether Swamp Gravy is actually a localist movement rather than a Transition movement (grassroots community initiative that seeks to build resilience in response to economic instability. What is the effect of Swamp Gravy on people’s perceptions of those apart from their race and has the Swamp Gravy plays helped in making people feel empowered individually or as a community (mob mentality). In addition, what are the community perceptions as to how Swamp Gravy has responded to economic obstacles and do these subtle distinctions set Swamp Gravy apart as a localist movement rather than a community initiative?