

# WELCOME TO THE APOCALYPSE

AN ORIENTATION PACKET - PART 1



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS · UNGOVERNABILITY 101  
PROTEST SURVIVAL & ETIQUETTE  
EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

# Congratulations!

You've made it to the Apocalypse 2017. This orientation packet will help you navigate perilous encounters with fascist pigs, trump-zombies, and the prison industrial complex. This guide includes important information about your right to resist, assemble, and organize for a more beautiful world. We realize that there is nothing normal about our current political situation. Our most powerful response to fear, misinformation, and the dangerous rhetoric of white nationalism and patriarchy is to become completely ungovernable. Form deep bonds with your communities, care for each other, find creative practices to bring your vision to life.

# What are your rights?

First and foremost, you have the right to free speech and assembly in public spaces. If you are stopped by police:

- » Point out that you are not disturbing anyone else's activity and that your actions are protected under the First Amendment.
- » You have the right to refuse a search. They may pat you down under reasonable suspicion clause, but you have the right to refuse further search of your possessions and your body. Vocalize that you refuse further search and wish to contact your lawyer and remain silent.
- » In the state of California, you have the right to refuse to show your ID to police officers unless you are pulled over in a vehicle or have been arrested.
- » Police officers must show their badge number and identification. If they are not displaying this information for whatever reason, do not be afraid to record them.
- » If you are stopped, you have the right to ask why you are being detained. If you are not under arrest, you have the right to leave.

# Protest Etiquette

At the end of the world, we find each other. As we tap into the power of our communities, always remember to travel these worlds with a sense of openness, vulnerability and compassion. Here are some ways for us to put our bodies where our politics are with intention and gratitude.

**GET INFORMED** on a variety of issues and not just the issues that impact you personally. Research critical issues and ways to get involved in your neighborhood, talk to different local organizers, or join a student group!

**MAKE SPACE.** Be aware of what chants are getting the most air-time. Make sure those who are most vulnerable in this political climate have their voices and concerns heard the loudest. Check your privileges and use your voice to uplift more marginalized people in the crowd. Be an accomplice, not an ally.

**BE CONSIDERATE.** Don't take pictures or videos! You do not have people's consent to have pictures of them at a politically motivated event. You can unintentionally place people in danger by photographing them at a protest.

**CARE FOR EACH OTHER.** Protest are loud, crowded, and can get rowdy. Some people are affected by this more than others so keep a look out for folks who look scared, lost, confused, or hurt. Extend a hand if you have the energy; we're all in this together!

BE VIGILANT. We must stand up against a militarized police force that continues to terrorize black/brown/undocumented/queer/trans/vulnerable communities. Their presence exacerbates tensions and fears. Respect the ways in which people suffer at the hands of the police and do not cheer for them, shake their hands, or make them feel welcomed within this space.

## Emergency contacts

ACLU of Southern California

213-977-9500

[www.aclu-sc.org](http://www.aclu-sc.org)

Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles

800-399-4529

[www.lafla.org](http://www.lafla.org)

Southern Poverty Law Center

888-414-7752

[www.splcenter.org](http://www.splcenter.org)

## Finding an attorney

- » [www.lsc.gov/what-legal-aid/find-legal-aid](http://www.lsc.gov/what-legal-aid/find-legal-aid)
- » [lawhelp.org](http://lawhelp.org)
- » [probono.net](http://probono.net)
- » [www.nlg.org/referral-directory](http://www.nlg.org/referral-directory)

# Protest Survival

We should not be afraid to make our voices heard, but we must be diligent in our preparation. Here are a few things to keep in mind before you head out for protest.

- » Bring water and snacks! Make sure you keep your energy up and are hydrating—especially if it is hot.
- » Have some cash on you for bus fare or unforeseen emergencies.
- » Wear long sleeves, long pants, and comfortable shoes.
- » Have an ID with you and make sure your family and friends have copies of appropriate documents in case you are arrested.
- » If you need to hide your identity from potential pictures, videos, or run-ins, a bandana over the face works just fine!
- » If you are with an organization, make plans for who is willing and able to be arrested. Those who volunteer should place themselves in front of those who cannot be arrested or are more vulnerable to excess violence from police and jails.
- » Have the number of an attorney who you know supports this type of work written on your body in case you are arrested and need to make a phone call.

# In case of police violence

- » No contacts! Tear gas and other chemicals can melt contact lenses to your eyes.
- » No sunscreen or lotion. Tear gas and other chemicals can stick to the skin easier.
- » Wear long sleeves, long pants, and comfortable shoes.
- » Natural fibers are best for clothes if you have them because they are less likely to ignite if you are in close proximity to fire.

If things get out of hand and you need to leave the situation: get off of the streets by going into a restaurant or store. If you cannot or do not wish to get off the streets, go with the flow of traffic. DO NOT try to push against the direction of the crowd. If you can, avoid public transportation as those are the systems most likely to be shut down and/or policed.

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