

Notes from a former student organizer, 10+ years in the game

- 1) **Meta knows it's the news.** Scrolling is functionally equivalent to flipping channels. & the revolution will not be televised (Gil Scott-Heron). They wiped a lot of BLM/2020 stories off peoples' archives for a reason. It's a dangerous tool *because* it can be so effective. But the master's tools won't bring down the master's house. (Audre Lorde)
- 2) Don't forget that Black/Native liberation movement and communities **BEEEN** here n **BEEN** sayin everything already
- 3) The "US" is the same project/methods as "israel" (just 500 years down the line and gone big time global) >> especially if you are a settler here, no matter what holocaust your people were running from, unfortunately
- 4) **Palestine will be freed by the Palestinian Resistance; our job is matching their energy**—cuz nothing less than #LandBack on Turtle Island will end all these genocides.

CURRENT WINS

A slew of solidarity encampments rising rapidly across the nation and internationally!

This is huge, after the stagnation

of march after march, and temporary (ie symbolic) blockades, and smaller precision strikes like blocking boats, etc.

Higher education is big business, so given we live in an oligarchy, it's encouraging to see these businesses take a hit.

Especially on Turtle Island, these places have been weapons of western hegemony, selling ideals of expertise, eugenics, and elitism via racism, classism, displacement, and exclusion.

Post-industrial schooling teaches us how to be obedient and hopeless, while the Ivys et al are more insider finishing schools than they are educational. We all know this; we can do better.

Instead of institutional standards, theory, and how to write a paper, students and supporters are learning real world skills like how to run an occupation, de-arrest your comrades, deal with cops and agitators, etc..

GOALS

>>> EYES ON THE PRIZE! It's cathartic and feels like SOMETHING is happening after months of impotent marches but until we get real results, don't let the process get hyped to be the win.

+ NOT ALL THESE ENCAMPMENTS ARE EQUAL

and as movements grow, they are more vulnerable to cooption, dilution, distraction, etc.

>>> As many of the student encampment demands declare, it's not enough for institutions to divest, we want to leverage this disturbance of capital to end the genocide / de-legitimize the academy.

>>> Escalation = not asking and waiting for institutions to do stuff, but creatively cornering them into submission. Ex) escalate occupying a building by tearing it down piece by piece til demands are met. Tear down as many as needed. Get creative and dare to be bold!

Surprise them with your daring and quickness.

REMEMBER,

1b.) Whatever we feel rolling eyes at FB/Whatspp/local news, IG etc is our gen's version in every way. **KEEP THIS IN MIND** as we let Meta play such a **huge role in our movements!**

Looking exciting \neq being exciting.
Exciting now \neq staying exciting.

Dealing with cops \neq escalation \neq victor

THEY KNOW when to w more or less strategically respond violence.

These marches have been soft af compared to 2020 FOR A REASON. Stay suspicious—if in doubt, go see it yourself.

2b.) **Where is the flow of capital?**

capital includes PR, attention, platform, influence, etc

>> All institutions of a settler state are made to protect and elevate the state. These institutions are where the flames of revolution go to die—as in they've had practice. Universities have long been anti-revolutionary, anti-Black, oppressive forces of exclusion, displacement, erasure, eugenics, etc.

Now that all the violence that's been happening in the streets enters campus, we see big mobilizations. Consider: What's that about?

>>> When big names gather, that's at least a yellow flag. Consider: clout, algorithm, funds/attention capital. Ex) already we see the same big orgs that kept us relegated to tame walks (aka "shut downs") week after week til the MASSIVE momentum diluted into righteous frustration over the impotence of rallies (aka "actions"), start to shift their tune. Take note. **Think for yourself and eyes on the prize—nothing less than the end of the US Empire to end domestic and international genocide.**

3b & 4b.) As a whole, we're (75 years &) 7 months late to the **Palestinian Resistance** (many of whom are would-be or former students and academics themselves).

indigenous resistance here + globally & the Black liberation movement been shown us, just in the last decade (George Floyd uprising, Stop Cop City, Standing Rock, Ferguson, etc.), how to go beyond a march.

Now that we've re-realized, again, calling, marching, voting is all bullshit, PLEASE don't EVER forget! The Earth needs us to move faster.

Don't let "educators" (really, influencers), orgs, and **graphics/good memes**—any big voice platforming on Meta—shape how you think and feel. Many are saying good shit but there no experts in this work; everyone's only human, with blind spots, egos, and distractions. **Nothing can replace solid personal politics built on rigorous, flexible, critical thinking; self discipline, self inquiry/work.**

>> Be wary of big social media campaigns giving false sense of victory/progress. While empowering and exciting, victory must be measured by changes and results—**don't let 2020 repeat (ie "unprecedented" uprisings that led to...more cop cities).**

GETTING INTO IT W THE PIGS AIN'T ENOUGH!

Getting arrested isn't inherently radical, tho it can be radicalizing. **Don't mistake excitement and optimism for progress and don't mistake progress for results!**

SUGGESTIONS

Since the conception of this zine to now, already people have wised up to the fact that sitting in the lawn isn't enough—if it feels like a picnic, then iz a picnic. **Escalation**, ie occupying buildings, damaging property, etc. (anything that makes it so school cannot just continue operating, this year or next, and forces the institution's hand) **is the real goal.**

^ if the encampment gets shut down, replace it asap. keep escalating

>> because the real goal is bring down the state: **LAND BACK.** and if we want to poach one business at a time, consider spreading these here-til-we-get-results occupations to arms manufacturers and dealers, politicians' residences, etc as well >> everyone claiming these schools rising up are the beginning of the end aren't exactly wrong, **they have potential but only if:**

- The movement reflects on anti Blackness, forwarding/self-excusing of applicable settler behaviors, et al within the movement to be able to more effectively move forward, to **be in solidarity with efforts current and past**
- We recognize calls for de-escalation as liberal distraction >> **go ahead and google "CIA Simple Sabotage Field Manual" and notice** when rambling speeches, language policing, calculus of "appropriate", and such tactics are being weaponized, even if by not knowing better (which is ok, if we learn to stop)
- **Don't let big orgs/names etc who gain any capital, including attention/clout, dilute the movement/tactics.** Recognize the diff btween tame, obedient, impotent rallies and "shut downs" or "actions"; temporary, clumsy, leaky labor withdrawals and "general strikes"; temporary, symbolic sit-ins and "occupations" >> **we gotta do the thing or recognize symbolic as symbolic**

Don't let false victories distract you
concessions, compromises,
future votes, etc.
=/= victories

^^ protect your liver (anger organ)—don't bother being outraged by the wrongdoings of police/people in power it's such a waste of time! There's so much political education and skill scaling up to focus on. How many times are you going back to this toxic relationship and being surprised they are still hypocritical, toxic, and abusive cmon girl get up. ignore/fight them like we ignore/fight zionists and never expect the authorities to protect you. hold each other close.

AVOID ASKING FOR DONATIONS THAT COULD BE GOING TO PALESTINIANS! BE RESOURCEFUL / SELF-SUFFICIENT! PRIORITIZE DONATING TO ESIMS AND PALESTINIANS

"Settle your quarrels, come together, understand the reality of our situation... that generations more live live poor butchered half-lives if you fail to act." —George Jackson

This is (N) America—material excess + trash production is our disease so make sure to organize redistribution as many campuses are built on top of or just next to marginalized communities. Clean up and take care of the Earth on principle, not as an afterthought.

train for continuing escalations...medic knowledge shares, police formations and how to break thru them, de-arrest tactics, but also how to kill the state...from george jackson to foraging

As scary as it is to face violence and arrest—this is what change costs. Yes, sounds cold, but also written with awareness of the pain/injury/trauma/loss potential and incurred. What we have been seeing at CUNY, Columbia, Humboldt, Emory, UCLA, etc. are exactly how to graduate from picnic (which the NY schools def had a phase of being)—**it's what we need as often as it takes til demands are met, we are and have been in a domestic war we're largely not fighting back and we need to let them know we're not backing down.**

Just as Palestinian children can see the cowardice of "israhelli" tanks and soldiers, **we gotta let em knw that they can't scare us.** We outnumber them. Our collective political education has come a long way since last time (2020) and **we're at least 7 months late to matching the energy of would-be students, profs, etc. of the Resistance Forces** risking their entire lives for the Liberation struggle living in a famine and running in flipflops. **We can do this.**

^^ cops often opt for big time suppression to set the tone and then falling back to the usual sit back and watch things quiet down especially as school year ends (which is almost always when these escalations/occupations end up happening) --now you know and can act accordingly

^ as a "random" unaffiliated with any orgs (by principle), advocating for escalation may rub people the wrong way, especially organizers tryna keep ppl safe and those who have already suffered the consequences of being made examples of. but escalation is the only way. Even in the last week or so, people are recognizing this more and recognizing that de-escalation is liberal distraction and this is a great step forward for the movement. About damn time

DON'T FORGET

Looking exciting \neq being exciting. Exciting now \neq staying exciting. **Dealing with cops \neq escalation \neq victory.**

Don't mistake excitement and optimism for progress and don't mistake progress for results!

Nothing can replace solid personal politics built on rigorous, flexible, critical thinking; self discipline, self inquiry/work.

Always ask: Where is the flow of capital?

Escalation = not asking and waiting for institutions to do stuff, but creatively cornering them into submission, by any means necessary. **Surprise them with your boldness**

If it feels like a picnic, then iz a picnic. The death of this effort will be in letting it turn into another rally, which have been so often mis-called "actions" but if we just scream and shout together until we get tired like every other march....it's gonna end up w the same nothing result.

EYES ON THE PRIZE! The only real end to global genocide is and always will be Turtle Island liberation!