



# Getting the Message Across

A problem today exists with direct action and what exactly it is we're trying to say. Many times we find ourselves in a black bloc marching in a demo. That's good if you want to show support, but if you plan on doing actions AND being in the bloc, your nameless face could be named.

Marching and showing ourselves openly is good, but marching and then destroying something on a whim is not thought out and can be dangerous to yourself or others, especially if someone in the bloc has warrants, has government already monitoring their actions, or just doesn't want to get arrested. Our actions shouldn't be based around what we want the media to see either.

Actions should be specific and clear as there to be no discrimination to what the point of the action was, no matter what the media shows on tv. Direct actions should be harder hitting and planned out a little more. By reading this guide and discussing actions in a more planned and orderly fashion, hits will be EFFECTIVE and getting away with it will be a whole lot easier.

The sole purpose of this guide is to bring up how important effectiveness actually is. The A.L.F. has been effective for over 20 years, so using their proved methods as guidelines should help us gain that which we so desperately need as anarchists. effectiveness. So, if we follow more strict guidelines, quicker actions, timely hits, and most importantly being anonymous, our actions will be made clearer for all who should read them.

# Forward

Before you even consider undertaking any action, read this entire guide, then read it again.

Know every detail inside and out, particularly those parts regarding preparation and security.

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# Legal Disclaimer

This guide is for your information, entertainment, and general interest only. It is not meant to encourage the activities described within. We're just writing this for the heck of it.

We would never ever dream of encouraging someone to use the proven-effective methods presented within to break, dismantle, or otherwise tear down the walls of imprisonment in its many forms. We'd much rather you sit at home watch TV and remain Apathetic.

# Who are Anarchists?

People who strongly believe that there IS another way can call themselves anarchists. There are many different belief systems and ideas but for us to coexist as a whole we must all agree on one thing: that the system that we live under gives us all reason to question its authority.

We must also agree that All people in all life castes and situations are as much of a part of the revolution as we are and even though some may not be aware of this fact, its a duty to make aware the injustices and pain that beings all over the world face and fight for those who have no voice or otherwise are frightened to speak up.

There are no leaders, no offices, and no official memberships or formal organizations. Anyone who believes strongly in direct action for the purpose of education, awareness, and causing money-hungry corporations who devour the world to go under even with the smallest amount of damage, can call themselves an anarchist.

## **A Few Guidelines**

To Stress that our freedom is at stake every day in all forms. To reveal the atrocities and injustices committed against us all behind conference room doors by performing non-violent direct actions. To inflict economic damage to those who profit from the misery and exploitation of all beings. To take all precautions against harming any human or non-human during this process.

Any actions involving violence against any human or non-human animal are not and should not be those of an anarchist.

## **Are You Ready for Direct actions?**

Direct action is nothing to take lightly. The moment you carry out your first action you are at risk of being arrested. Direct action is very demanding, physically and mentally. Are you in top physical shape? If you were being chased by a police officer, could you outrun him? Could you scale a barbed wire fence? Living under the constant stress of possible arrest can take its toll mentally as well. Any activist should remain drug and alcohol free, as these things decay physical and mental ability, give the police another reason to investigate you, and waste money better spent on supplies. Some activists will also limit their association with mainstream groups, as to remain less visible to police investigations.

## **Finding People to Work With**

One of the most important steps towards getting involved in direct action is finding people to work with. In any action you are putting your freedoms on the line, so you must be positive you can completely trust the people you are working with. It is essential to find people who will not sell out you or the movement should an arrest occur. You should always work with people who you know well, people who you know you can rely on.

Security is an important issue in direct action so people with a tendency to brag or who won't be able to keep their mouth shut are a bad idea.

Starting your own "cell", or direct action "team", is better than joining an existing one, since if you know of an existing one, their security obviously isn't so good. Asking someone if they want to get involved is never an easy thing to do. Bring up the subject in a general way and see how the person feels about direct action first, and move on from there.

Cells usually should consist of 2 to 5 members. Use the minimum number of people needed for each action, but do not forget the importance of look outs. Having extra people unnecessarily puts them at risk. One person should be chosen as the leader of the group. This doesn't mean that person has any special power or privileges, and it often won't come into play at all. But if during an action, things go wrong, someone will need to make split second decisions, and in this case there is no time for democracy.

Progress as a group, starting with minor actions to get used to each other, discussing after each action what went well and what didn't, and discussing how to improve and hit harder.

## **Getting Started**

Before you even think about undertaking any action, read. Know this guide in and out. Before you do anything you'd better know how to do it right, or you may wind up in a lot of trouble.

As with anything, the first time is the hardest. So start small.

If your first action is breaking into a huge factory with high security you are going to have problems. Start by gluing locks or using some spray paint. You can go about finding a target a few different ways. First, you may want to decide what kind of establishment you want to target- a sweatshop factory, a store that specializes in sweatshop made items, a fast food restaurant, a corporate building ?

If you are planning on getting involved in direct action you are hopefully already aware of various human rights issues and probably know where and how to find whichever kind of abuser you want to target. Your local activist groups may know abusers in the area, but keep in mind that local groups are the first people the police will question. The easiest way to find a target is to let your fingers do the walking. A phone book can direct you to all your local exploiters.

Once you've begun and know what you are doing, go big.

The more actions you take part in the more likely it gets that you will get caught, so be sure that when you hit, you hit hard.

## **Planning**

After selecting your target, become familiar with it. You may want to study a road map and become familiar with the surrounding area. You should first visit the site in daylight. Park well away in a non-suspicious place, like the parking lot of a large store or a side road with many cars. Approach on foot and get as close as possible. Take a good look around (without looking suspicious!) and think about how you are going to do whatever it is you are going to do. Once back to your car, draw a map including everything you can remember.

Now it is time to draw your exact plan. Leave nothing to chance. Figure out every detail and be certain that everyone is completely familiar with every detail. You don't want to find yourself at the site trying to get your act together. Next, return to the site once more before your action, this time at night. Follow your route to the site just as it will be during your action. You can think of this as a dress rehearsal. Get as close to the target as you can. This should also be as close to the time of day your action will take place (actions are obviously almost always carried out at night), so that you can see what security and other factors are in effect at that time.

Always plan for things to go wrong. Know what you will do if you come in contact with a security officer or police. Know which way you will run, if you will go as a group or alone, and where you will rendezvous. These recommendations are general. For something as simple as gluing lock, less intense planning is needed.

For something as complex as a raid or ect, a lot more planning may be necessary.

## **Preparation**

Consider leaving your immediate area for actions: repeatedly working close to home can be a tip off to police. Also be sure not to keep a regular schedule of days and times your actions take place- if the police establish your pattern its one more thing they can use to catch you.

If you choose to report your actions, don't name your specific group, if so, the police will know just what actions are carried out by your group, making finding you easier. Always have a story set if stopped by the police. Know where it is you will say you are coming from and going to. If you are going to be using your car for actions, remove all bumper stickers. Also be sure all lights, license plates, ect. are OK. Drive carefully and legally. Don't give them reason to stop you. Be sure to have enough gas before leaving for an action, so you don't have to stop on the way.

Clothings important as well. Wear nothing with identifiable markings. Consider many targets are equipped with security cameras, and always assume the one you are hitting is. Any tattoos should be covered, any piercing covered or removed.

You want to wear dark colors, but all black can look suspicious, so just keep it dark but not unusual. Ski masks are commonly employed during direct action, but be ready to ditch them if need be- they can be quite incriminating, especially on a summer night. A hooded sweatshirt, a baseball cap, and a scarf are a better idea in some locations. On high risk operations you may want to get some oversized shoes from a thrift shop to avoid leaving tell tale footprints. Stuffing the toes will make them wearable.

Another option is to keep a pair of shoes used just for direct action with your tools at a safe house. If this is the case, only put them on while on the way to an action and take them off on the way back, as not to leave corresponding footprints around your house or on your carpet. Wearing socks over your shoes or covering the soles in duct tape also works well against footprints.

For actions where the police are going to be investigating more heavily, even hairs and fibers on clothing may be a problem. In this case you can buy clothes from a thrift store just for that night, and throw them away afterwards.

Another possibility on a high risk operation is to wear boiler suits, which cover all your clothes, and can be removed quickly after back to the car. Always wear gloves and be mindful of fingerprints. Be careful of using thin latex gloves, since fingerprints can be left through them. Put one pair over another if you chose to use them. Fingerprints will also be left on the inside of the glove, so if you use them, dispose of them separately from any other evidence.

Be careful whenever purchasing equipment for an action. Buying a gallon of bright red paint a block from home and dumping it on the McDonald's two blocks away the same day is not a good idea. Purchase everything far away

from home and always with cash, as well as long before an action is to take place when possible.

Be careful of using materials that will give away where you are from. For instance, if using newspapers in an arson attack far from home, using your local paper will be a dead give-away.

Wipe everything you are taking with you completely to remove fingerprints, in case anything is dropped or has to be left behind. You have to scrub hard to remove prints, and some soap or rubbing alcohol may help. Clean everything as if it is going to be left behind, since sooner or later something you didn't plan to leave will drop. For this same reason you should take as little as possible with you, and connect whatever you must take to your body.. rubber band through your belt loop with each end attached to your key chain will keep it secure, even if you are being chased and have to go headfirst over a fence, etc.

Even if you don't touch something while purchasing it by wearing gloves for instance, wipe it anyway, so it cant be traced.

Obviously, do not have drugs, weapons, or anything else illegal on you or in your car during an action. If you are using tools such as crowbars or bolt cutters, sharpen or file them after every action, since slight markings on the tool can leave traceable markings on what is opened. Also, never keep tools at your home.

If you are keeping tools used in actions, store them at a safe house. A safe house is the house of a person not involved in the actions at all, someone who the police would never investigate. Never buy cheap tools, especially if you are using walkie talkies, your freedom is on line, so go for the quality equipment.

## **Security**

The government is actively monitoring activists, so watch your back. They are opening mail and tapping phone lines, so never ever, ever say anything incriminating over the phone , mail, or email. Always assume that you are being watched and your house may be searched at any time (they have gone as far as dismantling heating ducts while searching the houses of suspects, so never assume anything is hidden well enough). Discussing direct action works on a need-to-know basis. Never tell anyone anything that they do not absolutely need to know.



Never discuss actions with people not involved, for your safety and theirs. If someone asks you about your group, say that you aren't involved, but you have heard or read about it. That way you can discuss the group without incriminating yourself.

If someone says something incriminating over the phone, quickly excuse yourself and hang up before they can get another word in, then explain to them what they did wrong next time you see them in person. Keep in mind that homes, cars, and anywhere else can be bugged. Try to discuss actions in areas that are secure (where nobody can hear), but that they would be unable to bug. Take a walk through the woods, for instance.

Except for the purpose of improving your group and its effectiveness, once an action has taken place, never discuss it again.

The damage was done, the point was clearly made, and that's the important thing. Bring up old "war stories" is an unnecessary risk. All this may seem like paranoia, but the government will go to any length to stop us. Besides, it's better to be a little paranoid than be in jail.

## **Effectiveness**

Start small then move to bigger things. Even the simplest actions take practice to get right, so try one thing at a time until you've gotten it down.

Once you've mastered the small things use them in combination to really ruin an exploiters day. Think about possibilities of combining breaking windows and paint bombs for instance. Be sure to start with the quietest parts when doing a number of things. What is outlined here are general methods used by the A.L.F. Every situation, location and building is different, so after checking over your target, you should both modify these methods based on the specific target and message, and feel free to be creative and come up with new ways to do damage. Creativity will make you more effective, harder to catch since you are less predictable, and make whatever security they come up with less effective.

## **Windows**

Windows are probably the easiest target available in most situations, yet large windows can cost hundreds, making them an ideal target. Glass etching fluid (hydrofluoric acid) is available in some large arts and crafts stores. Be sure to buy out of town on specialized items like this.

Its a liquid or cream that eats through the surface of glass. If you can get a hold of some, put it in some kind of squeeze bottle, one of those plastic lemon ones for example, and off you go. If you get the cream it can be applied with a paintbrush, allowing slogans to be written on the window. Its potent stuff, so be careful not to get it on your skin. Working quickly at the target you'll probably make somewhat of a mess with the bottle, so bring a plastic bag to throw it in after you are done. Its a quick and relatively safe way to cause some financial damage. A less expensive but much noisier method is simply smashing windows. It is loud so get ready to run.

Aside from throwing a brick or rock, a popular way to do this is with a sling shot. They are available in many sporting stores. The advantage of a slingshot is that you don't have to be right next to the window to break it. Sling shots can even be effective from moving cars. Try to fire symmetrical objects such as ball bearings or nuts. Rocks or bolts will be hard to control due to their lack of aerodynamics.

Whatever you shoot, be sure to wipe them for fingerprints first. It is always your responsibility to be certain there is nobody in or near the store that you could injure while firing. Shooting from totally inside the car (as in, don't hang out the side) will make detection a whole lot harder. Air guns (a.k.a. BBguns) are another option. They don't do as much damage to the window as a brick might, but they are very quick, can be used easily from inside a car and are very quiet. You can easily roll up to a store stop in front for a second, roll down the window, take a shot, and leave. Unless someone is standing right there nobody will notice a thing. Most of the time they will leave a small hole with a spider web crack, about the size of a silver dollar. Occasionally they will completely shatter a window though, so be ready for it.

There are generally two types of BBguns. The first look like rifles, and are manually pumped. The second look like handguns, and are powered by CO2 cartridges. The cartridge only costs around \$2 each and will give you around 150 shots. The advantage of the CO2 style is that they are generally semi-automatic. Using such a device you could take out over a dozen windows in a couple of seconds. They do look like real guns though, so if the police roll up, drop them immediately or risk getting shot.

The other option for breaking windows is a hammer. Tiller's hammers are the best because of their pointed design they can be found in most hardware stores. Windows, especially shatter proof, are tougher than they seem, so use a hammer of some weight.

The best time for this is a stormy night, the lack of visibility and noise of the storm providing excellent cover. You'll naturally think to hit windows in the center, but this is actually its strongpoint. Always go for the corners, as this is the weakest points.

Another option with windows is glass glue, which permanently sticks to glass to glass. Attaching a piece of glass with a slogan painted on the inside will require them to replace the whole window.

## **Shutters**

People in more urban areas are probably familiar with stores lowering metal shutters over the windows while closed. After having windows smashed, a target store in a less urban area may do the same. If you are dealing with the kind of shutters that are a grid, or bars, etching fluid, sling shots, or BB guns will still work fine. Its also possible to simply lock any kind of object to the shutter, making it impossible to open. Sometimes they wont use all the holes for locks that are available on the shutter. If this is the case, put your own lock on there.

Make sure its fingerprint free first. More difficult are the full shutters that don't have any holes. Hitting the shutter with a sledgehammer may work in both damaging the shutter, and possibly breaking the window if they are close enough together.

A more subtle method of dealing with full shutters is gluing the shutter locks, which you can see under the gluing locks section. If they have been dumb enough to only put a shutter over the min window and left a smaller one, like on a door, uncovered- break that one, then reach in and break the main one.

## **Vehicles**

Vehicles are another easy target. There's a great number of ways to do damage to them.

When doing a set of things to a vehicle, start with the quieter parts. Tires can be slashed. An ice pick, sharp knife, or anything of that sort will work. Tires especially on trucks, are tougher than they seem, so use something thick and strong that wont break or bend. Putting a hole in the side wall will make it impossible to repair. A pair of pliers can also be used to yank out the stem (the thing you put air in), which will also flatten the tire. A large screwdriver can damage a radiator by punching holes in it.

Sand in the fuel tank can cause a good deal of damage if you are careful to show no signs of tampering and the vehicle is run. Using sugar does not work as well since it may merely block the filter and not get into the engine. If you are going to use sugar, use cubes instead of granulated, as its easier to handle. Sand can also be used in the crankcase. About 10 or 15 mothballs in the gas tank are equally effective.

One way to cause major damage is to go underneath the vehicle, locate the oil pan, punch a hole in it, or remove the drain plug, and carefully collect the oil in a container as to leave no sign you were there. Once the vehicle is driven a couple of miles the engine will seize, doing as much as a couple thousand dollars damage.

If you can get to the engine , break anything breakable and cut any wire you can. Be sure not to cut the Brake cable though, unless you are going to give warning that you have. Drano poured into the radiator will eventually eat through the copper tubing, destroying the vehicles cooling system.

A pound of salt will do the same. Plaster of paris or BBs in the carburetor also results in heavy repair bills. With trucks, there are generally leaves on each side that open the hood, which will tilt forward. If you cant get to the engine, you can also cut what you can from underneath. Bring something heavy-duty like small bolt cutters, as regular wire cutters wont be able to handle metal cables and such. Either paint or paint stripper can do some damage to the paint job. Windshield wipers can be broke off, headlights and windshields smashed or painted with etching fluid and locks glued. Windshields are made to deflect rocks kicked up on the road, so only more direct methods of breaking them, such as a hammer, will work.

## **Gluing Locks**

Gluing locks is one of the quickest, easiest, and safest forms of direct action, and one of the most commonly used. The idea of gluing locks is that time is money, and if you can keep an abusers business closed, even for a short time, that's money lost. Properly glued locks will require a locksmith to fix, and they aren't cheap either. In order to glue a lock, get a tube of glue, ideally the kind with the long, sharp tip, or the kind in the syringe. Approach your target, be it store or vehicle and put a small piece of wire or similar object, less than a fingernails length into the lock, insert the glue tube into the lock and fill the lock with glue.

Once the glue dries, It will be practically impossible to open. Some glues are effective, some aren't. Get some cheap locks and test some out for yourself until you find what works. in order for a glue to work well it must be thick enough as to not run out of the lock, and dry solid, not rubbery.

Also consider drying time. Hardware stores have a wide selection of various glues, so try to find something with both these properties.

## **Paint**

Paint is often a good way to get your message across and do some damage. Vehicles, billboards, and buildings are all printable. Spray paint is one option. Splashing paint out of a container of some sort is another. Plastic soda bottles will work well there.

To get more range you can put a hole in the top and screw it back on then spray through it. Paint-bombs can be constructed by simply filling Christmas ornaments or light bulbs with paint. Light bulbs take some work, but are easier to come by. Cut off the bottom part of the metal, below the glass. Very carefully break out the bottom part of the glass, by the filament, inside the remaining metal ring. You can use a screwdriver for that. The advantage of such paint-bombs is that they are surprisingly quiet. Be positive they are print free first though. Always transport them in sealed plastic bags, in case one ruptures.

Balloons can be used too but they tend to not work as well. Paint can be inserted into soda bottles, ornaments or bulbs using a turkey baster. Always mix paint about 50/50 with water or paint thinner so it splatters better. Paint on glass is easy to get off, but getting it on wood, metal or stone exteriors is a lot more effective. Large markers can also work.

Super-soaker type water guns filled with a paint/water mixture are effective as well. They sometimes leak and drip so keep them in a plastic bag before and after a hit. Its impossible to wash all the paint out afterwards, making it good evidence if found, and possibly clogged after a few uses. Bearing this in mind it may be a good idea to buy one and use it one night on a number of establishments, and dispose of it. Just remember that paint is a messy business and has a tendency to get everywhere, including all over you.

## **Sponges and Toilets**

This is one of the few actions undertaken actually inside the abusive establishment, and while they are open none the less. This can be risky for heavily involved activists, but its a great action for those looking for simple and more low level things to do.

If you are able to get access to an exploiter/abusers toilet such as stopping in a fast food restaurant to use the bathroom here's a quick and easy way to do some damage.

Get a sponge, the bigger the better. Big fluffy ones are better than hard square ones. Get it wet and then wrap it tightly in string and let it dry. Remove the string and it will stay in its compact shape. Once in the water the sponge will expand to its previous size. Simply drop it in, flush and hopefully clog up the toilet. if it gets deep in to the pipes first, this can turn into a very expensive problem. Lacking a sponge, lots of their toilet paper can clog a toilet as well. It is easier to unclog, but still a minor nuisance.

## **Telephone Lines**

Telephones are the most neglected way to easily cause a business to lose money.

Once you find an exploiter/abusers building, locate the phone lines coming out. Attach a weight of some kind to a strong rope, toss it over the line, grab both ends and pull.

Another option is to climb the pole its going to and cut it. Either way, businesses rely a lot on their phones and this is an easy way to take them out of commission. If you see any wires, phone lines or other, at ground level, just yank them out or cut them. Careful it is electrical (ed: most business intrusion alarms on will be set off by cutting telephone lines as economic criminals regularly cut phone lines before breaking into a shop, the alarm may also be silent.)

## **Security Cameras**

Places that get hit a number of times may install security measures such as cameras. Don't let this deter you. As long as you are well covered, the best they can do is give them a general height of the people involved, which doesn't mean much. What they actually do for establishment is the opposite

of what they are intended. Instead of protecting them, It gives you something else to break. Security cameras are expensive, and not all that hard to destroy.

Aside for open cameras, look for boxes or spheres, which sometimes house cameras. They are generally up high, around ten feet up. Flood light systems are another thing you might see pop up. If you want to hit the place again but you're not to fond of all the light, try a slingshot to take them out of commission. Just remember that if the do install a security system, that means money out of their pockets, which is what you wanted anyway. It also means you're being effective, so keep it up. Just be careful not to hit the same place too often or they'll be waiting for you.

## **Arson**

Arson is a big, and dangerous step up in direct action. It can be very dangerous in a number of ways. Arson is a very serious crime, so before considering it you'd better be aware of the possible consequences if caught.

Fire is also terribly dangerous, so the utmost care is needed when starting one. Its necessary to be positive that no human or non-human animals will be hurt in the blaze.

It is also dangerous media wise. Arson carries the heavy tag of "terrorism" and must be used wisely as not to discredit the entire movement. As dangerous as arson is, it is also by far the most potent weapon of direct action. One of the first arson attacks in the US was against a new research lab at U.C. Davis doing over 4 million dollars in damage.

When constructing your incendiary device, be careful! Consider the source of information you are using. Never, ever, ever use The Anarchists Cookbook. This was put together by an individual purposely using faulty recipes in order to kill or injure people following the book.

Never use information off the Internet either, as much of it is from The Anarchist Cookbook or other unreliable sources. Just use common sense. If you are planning on using arson, there are many devices and techniques you can use. You should thoroughly explore your options especially in the department of safety and detection before making plans.

# Getting Through Locks

In some actions, breaking in is an essential part of the action. Locks can be dealt with in a number of ways. If you are going to be attempting to get by a lock you should take a close look at it, possibly when you check out the site your first time during the day, or more likely your second time at night. Then try to get the exact same kind of lock and see what works. You can try to pry them open with a crowbar, or cut them with bolt cutters.

The other way through a lock is to use an electric powered drill and a new 1/8 inch high speed drill bit. Depending on the hardness of the lock it may take more than one bit. Never buy cheap drill bits- they'll let you down. Most keyed locks are pin-tumbler types. In this kind of lock, a number of spring loaded pins are pushed up when the key is inserted can turn and the lock opened. In many locks, parts are made of brass to prevent corrosion.

Fortunately, brass is a relatively soft and easily drilled. A drill can be used to destroy the pins along the shear line. Be careful not to drill too deeply. since this can damage the locking bar making it impossible to open. Drill only the depth of the keyway, which is 3/4 inch in most padlocks, and 1 inch in most door locks.

A "drill stop" is available in most hardware stores, can be used to pre-set the depth required. Once the lock has been drilled out, insert a pin, such as a nail into the lock to press the remains of the pins above the shear line. You may have to insert the drill a few times to chew up bits of pins that are interfering with opening. Finally, using a flat-head screwdriver, turn and open the lock.

This operation takes practice, so get a few cheap locks and work on it first.

The other way to get past doors is to just go through them. Prying them open with a crowbar, knocking them open with a sledgehammer, are two ways. Another way is to cut a hole through the middle of the door just big enough to fit through. A row of holes drilled with a thick drill bit is one way to do this. portable power saws are another. The advantage of this method is that if the door is alarmed going through the middle may not trigger the alarm.



## Dealing With The Police

The following holds true for both being arrested, Or just taken in for questioning. When performing direct action, arrests at some point are inevitable, so you had better be prepared for dealing with the police. Although it is true that the more actions you do the higher your chances of arrest get, and some forms of direct action are more risky than others, there is still a chance you will be arrested during your first action, no matter how minor, so be prepared.

The general rule in dealing with police is to say nothing. Keep in mind that these people go to school to learn how to trick you into incriminating yourself and others. They are also avid liars, and will say anything to try to trick you

Realize that every word out of their mouth, no matter how friendly, innocent, or unrelated it may seem, is said with the goal of getting evidence against you. Just keep your mouth shut. They may try to threaten a statement out of you.

They may say they will keep you in longer if you do not talk. A lie. If they see they are not going to get what they want out of you they eventually will give up. If they see you may talk they will keep pushing until they get what they want. They may threaten you with physical violence. They may even use physical violence against you. Do not fight back. Face it, your are in a police station, surrounded by cops. You aren't going to win. If you do try and fight back you will get yourself a charge of assault on a police officer against you, and some hefty jail time. Its not worth it.

If attacked, try to roll into a ball and protect your head with your arms. If you can get into a corner, do so. Police will only turn to violence if they think it will get you talking, so keep your mouth shut and you will keep safe. If given a phone call, do not say anything incriminating over the phone. Call your lawyer if you have one, if not call a good animal rights group and they will help you out with one.

By the way, no one has ever gotten off by giving police the information they wanted or by turning in others.

Its important for A.L.F. members to know their rights, since they are often in possession of incriminating evidence, and allowing a search to happen when you don't have lo could be disastrous.

When dealing with a police officer it can fall under one of three categories. The first is consensual contact. This means that you are not being held, are free to go if you choose, and you do not have to talk to the officer. This is the state you are in if they have no solid reason to suspect you of any crime and just want to talk to you.

In this situation you should politely excuse yourself and leave, since talking to the officer will give him the chance to look for spray paint on your fingers, etc.

The next stage is detention. This means that they have reason to suspect you, but not enough to arrest you on. In this situation you can not leave, but of course should answer "no comment" to any questions. In order to hold you in detention they must have SAF, or Specific and Articuable Facts.

Then of course there is arrest, which requires a "high level of suspicion" that you have committed a crime. Only once under arrest can you be searched, otherwise they must present a search warrant. In any situation, if they begin a search, you should clearly and repeatedly state that you object to it. Of course, most cops do not follow the rules, but knowing them can both scare a cop (once you say Specific and Articuable Facts they'll know not to mess with you) and legally protect yourself.

## **Federal Agents and Grand Juries**

The same holds true for speaking to federal agents and when called to testify at a grand jury. A grand jury is an idea out of English government, originally used for one government group to investigate the actions of another. They were banned in the UK in 1933. In the U.S. it is used to target and get information on citizens, particularly those involved in social justice movements such as the animal rights movement. A federal agent will call a grand jury, and people will be subpoenaed.

If called you will be either the target, meaning the person they are trying to indite, suspect, meaning not the target, but still suspected of illegal activity, or a witness, meaning you aren't suspected, but they want information out of you. Grand juries are meant to lead to indictments, but only one. Rod Coronado, has ever come about. They are more often used to get information on groups like the A.L.F and the people involved.

In a grand jury setting you basically have no rights. You have no right to remain silent, no right to have a lawyer present. You may only have a lawyer outside the room, contactable by phone. If you refuse to answer their questions you can be placed in jail for up to 18 months.

There is a way to beat them though. Resist, resist, resist.

When the grand jury is called. refuse to show up. As soon as the agent is out the door after delivering the subpoena, call every activist you know and tell them what is happening. If they aren't familiar with grand juries, explain it to them, Call every animal rights group you know of. Be sure to contact less deeply involved people as well and inform them of what to do, as these are the people they will target first, since they are more likely to speak.

Call a press conference and speak about what is happening. Have a protest outside their federal building. Grand juries are clearly unconstitutional. The last thing they want is publicity. Speak out about this injustice and never, ever say a word to them. This is exactly what was done when a grand jury was called in Syracuse recently, and the grand jury quickly disappeared.

Resist, resist, resist.

## **Reporting Actions**

If you choose to report your actions to a support group, send news clippings or your own report, including the date, place, and what was done. Write the reports on plain paper using block capital letters, or a publicly accessible typewriter or computer, like the ones available at a library. Photocopy the report a couple times at a public copier to obscure details making it harder to trace.

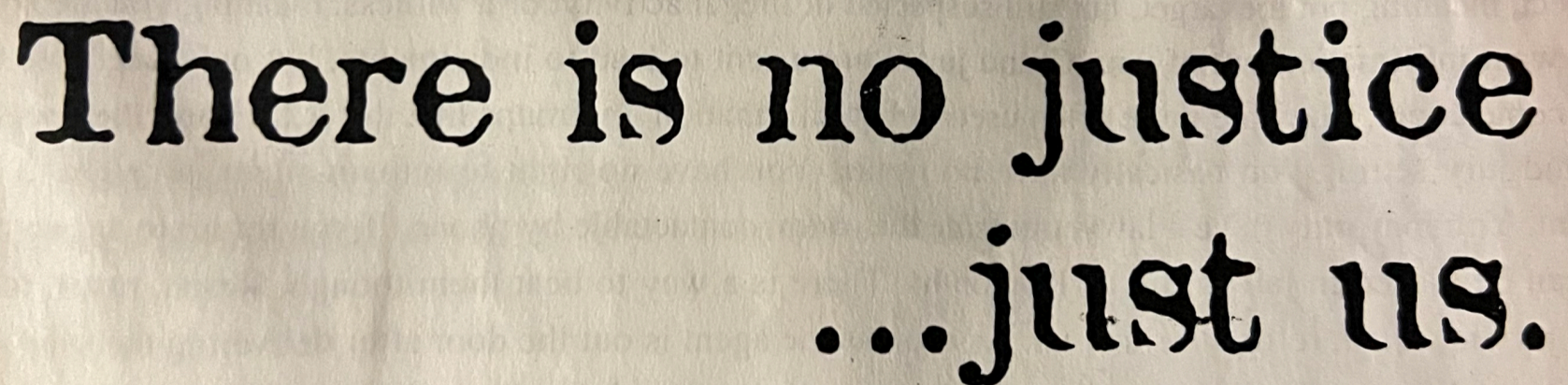
If handwriting it, you may want to have more than one person write each letter. For an A, have the first person write the /, the second write the I, the third write the -, making a complete letter A. This will be much harder for them to trace.

Be certain not to leave fingerprints on the envelope, paper, or stamp.

Obviously don't sign the report or include your address in the report or put a return address. Spell everything correctly, since certain spelling errors are often common to certain individuals. Wet the envelope glue and stamp with a sponge, don't lick them.

Assume whatever you send is first opened and read by the government.

You can also report actions or claim responsibility via the internet. Send your communiqué through an anonymous re-mailer. The message will be sent through multiple servers and will reach its destination in a day or two. (One such re-mailer is at <https://www.anonymizer.com/3.0/services/remailer-simple.cgi>) Use a public computer so there is no trace of the message on your hard drive. Visit <http://security.tao.ca> for info on internet security.

A photograph of a piece of aged, yellowish paper with handwritten text in a black, serif font. The text is arranged in two lines, with the second line indented to the right. The paper shows signs of wear, including a small hole on the right edge.

There is no justice  
...just us.