

Disrupting Police Operations at Protests

From Snatch Squad Defense to Drone Jamming. How to Make State Control Fail in Real Time.



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Law enforcement operations at protests aren't about peace, they're about control. From kettling to facial recognition, the state's goal is to fragment, exhaust, and criminalize dissent. This guide maps ways to resist and disrupt those operations through collective coordination, tactical interference, and people-powered creativity.

This isn't about violence; it's about making repression unworkable.

OPERATIONAL TACTICS USED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT

- **Kettling (encirclement)**
- **Line formations with shields/batons**
- **Mobile bike or cavalry squads**
- **Snatch squads (targeted arrests)**
- **Surveillance drones, helicopters, and live facial ID**
- **Undercover operatives and provocateurs**
- **Sound, tear gas, flashbang, and LRAD use**

KEY PRINCIPLES FOR DISRUPTION

1. **Predict the Pattern** – Know how they move.
2. **Flood the Channels** – Obstruct their comms and optics.
3. **Confuse the Formation** – Use misdirection and fragmentation.
4. **Expose & Undermine Legitimacy** – Make their presence a liability.



TACTICS TO USE

1. ANTI-KETTLING TACTICS

- Scout and Map Exit Routes (before and during the action)
- Deploy Lookouts (“Skywatchers”) to spot perimeter shifts
- Use Quick-Fold Barricades (e.g. folding gates, shopping carts)
- Pre-stage Escape Gaps in Fences or Crowds
- Fake Retreats or Front-line Pressure Swaps to open kettles

2. SNATCH SQUAD RESISTANCE

- Yell “SNATCH SQUAD” Loudly when movement starts
- Form a Crowd Ring Around Targets to prevent access
- Use Human Shield Chains with Interlocking Arms
- Deploy Smoke or Strobes to Disorient
- Flash-mob Backlines to Pull Detained People Free

3. COMMUNICATION DISRUPTION

- Use Mass Cellphone Streaming to Jam Bandwidth
- Blast White Noise, Music, or Sirens on Multiple Devices
- Use Encrypted, Decentralized Radio Mesh (e.g. Meshtastic)
- Distribute Counter-Surveillance Flyers or QR Codes to Civilians

4. SURVEILLANCE DODGING & JAMMING

- Use Cheap Laser Pointers or IR Flashlights on Drones/Cameras
- Deploy Foil Umbrellas, Smoke Bombs, or Reflective Banners
- Obstruct Facial ID with Masks, Stickers, or Decoys
- Flash Bright Strobes at Cop Cameras During Close Confrontation

5. FORMATION CONFUSION

- Split the Crowd into Sectors with Decoys or Distractions
- Use Drums, Bike Blocs, or Loud Banners to Redirect Movement
- Lead “Ghost Marches” to Pull Police Off Main Action
- Deploy Flash Maps via Burner Apps to Trick Response Paths

6. RESOURCE DRAIN & OVEREXTENSION

- Stage Pop-Up Actions in Other Areas during main protests
- Feed Law Enforcement Misinformation via Public Channels
- Use Dummy Protest Announcements to Dilute Deployment



GEAR TO CONSIDER

- **Goggles & masks (anti-tear gas)**
- **Earplugs (LRAD defense)**
- **Heavy gloves (projectile defense)**
- **Bikes with mounted signs or shields**
- **Smoke sources (non-lethal obscurants)**
- **Faraday pouches / anti-tracking gear**

ROLES IN A DISRUPTION TEAM

- **Scouts:** Monitor law enforcement movement
- **Medics:** Quick response to injury, chemical exposure
- **Techs:** Block surveillance, maintain secure comms
- **De-Arrest Crew:** Prevent or reverse detentions
- **Diversion Crew:** Create misdirection and pressure points

TARGETS OF EXPOSURE

- **Badge-less Officers** – Document and post IDs
- **Unmarked Vans/Detention Vehicles** – License plates, vehicle make
- **Undercover Officers** – Behavior patterns, radio comms
- **Fusion Centers** – Publicize location and function

LEGAL COVER & POST-ACTION SUPPORT

- Work with jail support and legal teams
- Create arrest-tracking spreadsheets
- Support public campaigns targeting abusive officers
- File FOIAs for riot response plans or surveillance requests



CONCLUSION

When they show up in armor, they admit they're afraid. They fear your community, your solidarity, your joy, your chaos. We don't fight them to win, we fight so they lose. Every disruption makes their job harder and your freedom easier.

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