

A Guide to
**Non-Violent
Direct Action
(NVDA)**

including:

- why non-violence?*
- how does it work?*
- historical examples*
- maintaining discipline*
- and
- frequently asked questions*



Based on the writings of Gene Sharp. For more information, read Sharp's *Dictatorships and Democracy*. For historical examples, see the films *The Singing Revolution* and *The Freedom Riders*.

 **Why** 
Non-Violence?

Once force has been deployed, the original issues often become obscured and are forgotten.

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Non-violent means are widely perceived as more legitimate and have greater potential for gaining support, especially among third parties, passive supporters of the opponent, and members of the grievance group not yet participating in the struggle - precisely the people whose shifts in loyalty determine outcomes. The degree to which the population at large helps the combatants is key.

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Non-violent action achieves a variety of strategic objectives, for example: winning sympathy and support; reducing casualties; and inducing mutiny in opponents' troops and supporters;.

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The framing must be changed from 'not fighting back' to *fighting back in a different way.*

We must adhere to our own 'weapons system' (nonviolence) because we will never be able to match their violence - we must be able to pick our own battleground. Do not meet the opponent on the level he is equipped for! Rather, use a weapons system designed to your own advantage. We have no money, no power, no mass media, no internet giants, and no political party. NVDA was designed for people in exactly our situation.

How does it work?

By drawing out the struggle

Drawn-out struggle creates more opportunities for victory for the underdog and draws more public attention to the existence of the struggle. Non-violence prolongs struggle more than violence does.

By eroding the consent of the governed

Power depends on the consent of the governed. That is, a group or person's power only works because most of the population either goes along with it, or doesn't actively resist it. We are trying to get everyone else to withdraw their consent. NVDA is designed to get the majority of the governed to withdraw their consent. Consent to gender identity ideology can take many forms. For example: showing up at protests favoring the lie that is "trans rights"; Introducing or not resisting gender identity ideology in schools; stating one's "preferred pronouns", and so on.

If all these people currently going along with it were to revoke their consent and participation, gender identity ideology would collapse, because the majority would no longer be fueling it. NVDA seeks to change the minds of bystanders not just for ideological support, but for the material gains that follow.

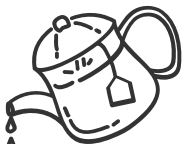
By neutralizing the power of violence

Violence is removed not by yielding to it or replicating it but by eliminating its effects - by remaining firm. The shortest way to end brutalities is to demonstrate that they have no effect on diminishing the movement.

Non-Violent Action in History



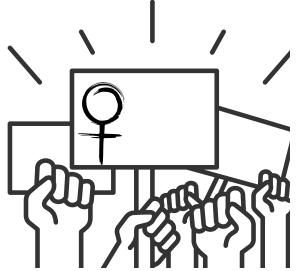
The American colonists initially used non-violent resistance in separating from the British. They refused taxation; refused British imports; formed independent parallel institutions; severed all contact; and, most famously, dumped tea into the harbor (the Boston Tea Party).



The American Civil Rights Movement used non-violent direct action in many forms: bus boycotts, lunch counter sit-ins, the freedom rides, and more. Even children and teens successfully participated. Remaining peaceful in the face of violent repression revealed the true nature of the racist regime and created public outrage

The labor movement was once famously brutal and violent, and met even more brutal repression from employers. That violence once associated with the labor movement has been replaced by legitimizing strikes. Now, when we think of the labor movement, it's strikes we think of as the default action.

These strikes take many forms: walkouts, picketing, and more, and they're a serious risk to employers. They're no less effective for being non-violent.



Non-Violent Discipline

Remember - many people are only looking for an excuse NOT to support the movement. All participants must be fully on board or withdraw from that specific action. Knowing your limits and stepping back is an honorable choice.

Staying safe is not the objective in an NVDA action. The objective is to make the violence of those in power visible to the public. NVDA actionists are deliberately drawing the inherent violence onto themselves in order to make it more visible.

Therefore, attempting to stay safe actually undermines the strategy.

There's more to non-violence than just not punching someone in the face. Don't speak to or engage with counter-protestors. Instead, sing or chant together. Don't shove back: hold your ground or back up. Don't even look at the opponent.

Counter-violence or 'self-defense' is ineffective because: 1. Women are typically outnumbered. 2. Women are on average less physically strong. 3. Using counter-violence against men tends to result in escalation, not reduction, of the violence.

Your sisters in protest did not consent to escalation.

Agent provocateurs hope to incriminate the whole group or provoke wider violence which can then be blamed on you. Don't play into their hands!



F.A.Q.

Q: I'm not a pacifist, so why should I use NVDA?

A: NVDA doesn't actually have anything to do with pacifism, or with compromise and negotiation. It's not about morality or spirituality either. It's about the fact that *non-violence is more strategically effective for a group in our position*. It works because it makes the existing violence visible, breaks through the psychology of the oppressed, and ultimately removes the popular support on which the powerful depend.



Q: Why are feminists asking women to martyr/sacrifice themselves?

A: The risk of injury is not for its own sake. It is for strategic value, and should be endured only to the extent that it is useful to the movement. If you aren't comfortable with that, that's fine. Do something else. But the reality is that no movement has won without suffering physical injury. In fact, women are *already* suffering under gender identity ideology. NVDA aims to put an end to this violence.



Q: Where does NVDA end and self-defense begin?

A: Non-violent discipline must be maintained for the duration of the action. See page 5 for why counter-violence isn't typically effective self-defense, as well as for why staying safe isn't actually the goal.

