



DISSENTERS

ACTION PLANNING TOOLKIT

#BOEINGARMSGENOCIDE WEEK OF ACTION

April 18th - 24th

APRIL 18TH - 24TH
#BOEINGARMSGENOCIDE
WEEK
OF
ACTION

**RISE UP AGAINST BOEING'S WAR
PROFITEERING IN CHICAGO
& AROUND THE WORLD!**

bit.ly/bagweekofaction



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#BoeingArmsGenocide Week of Action Overview

Boeing Arms Genocide is a campaign dedicated to forcing Boeing HQ out of Chicago and ending Boeing's legacy of profiteering off of war abroad and in our communities. Since Boeing announced they would be moving their HQ to Chicago in 2001, the City of Chicago has paid them \$29 million in tax reimbursements; many institutions in Chicago, including Chicago universities and CPS, also have partnerships with Boeing. Even though the city's contract with Boeing has ended, we know we still have a long way to go to end Boeing's bloody legacy.

During the Boeing Arms Genocide Week of Action from April 18th - 24th, we're encouraging Chicagoans to rise up and take action against Boeing's continued war profiteering in Chicago and around the world to demand that institutions divest from Boeing and reinvest in what our communities actually need to be safe. By engaging in direct action that disrupts business as usual, we can reject Boeing propaganda and influence public opinion and decision makers to take power, partnerships, and profit away from Boeing in Chicago. Join us virtually, in community actions, or in our citywide rally as we take this opportunity to oppose Boeing's presence in our city and redirect the support of our institutions towards life-affirming resources and services.



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Our **goals** for the Boeing Arms Genocide Week of Action are to:

- Expose how Boeing fuels and profits from endless war and militarized oppression globally and in our own communities
- Demand and end to Boeing's weapon manufacturing and the building of the drone facilities in Illinois
- Mobilize as many Chicagoans as possible to discover local ties to Boeing in their communities and take action to dissolve those ties
- Pressure institutions like Chicago-based universities to divest from and end their partnerships with Boeing
- Amplify recent campaign victories against the Boeing HQ and visualize further wins



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How to Take Action

As a **small group of activists**, a **Dissenters chapter** or other **campus based group** →

- [Plan an action](#) on your campus calling on your institution to divest from war & militarism! See the [menu of possible actions](#) below for ideas!
- Organize a workshop on campus to educate your community about militarism and profit from war.

As an **organization** →

- [Endorse the Week of Action by filling out this form.](#)
- Plan an action in your community calling on your institutions to divest from war & militarism! See the menu of possible actions below for ideas!

As an **individual** →

- Spread the word about #BoeingArmsGenocide using this [outreach toolkit!](#)
- Make a [donation](#) to support youth-led organizing against militarism.
- Attend our #BoeingArmsGenocide citywide rally (Thursday, April 21, 4-6 PM, Millennium Park, Randolph & Michigan, North Boeing [Arms Genocide] Galleries)



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Planning a #BoeingArmsGenocide Action

Here are a few **steps to action planning** below to help you know where to start! ****[We also suggest you check out Dissenters Action Planning Worksheet here to help you figure out the various elements of your action!](#)****

1. [Ground in your Goals](#)
2. [Choose a Tactic](#)
3. [Land the Who, Where, When](#)
4. [Invite Your People](#)
5. [Take Action!](#)
6. Debrief

Menu of Possible Action Tactics

We encourage you to get creative when choosing a tactic that works! Ask yourselves: *What will best communicate our message to our audience? What will agitate and reach our target? What is the best way to inspire others? What do we have the capacity to pull off?*

Here are some ideas! Click the links to see more details about each tactic & some examples in the Appendix of this toolkit.

- [Banner Drops](#)
- [Chalking & Street Murals](#)
- [Rally + March](#)
- [Letter Delivery](#)
- [Cafeteria / Student Center Disruption](#)
- [Blockade](#)
- [Sit-in / Occupation](#)
- [Walkout](#)
- [Bird-Dogging](#)
- [Noise Demo](#)
- [Call In Action](#)
- [Vigil / Altar Build](#)

See [Gene Sharp's 198 Methods of Nonviolent Protest & Persuasion](#) and the [Beautiful Trouble Toolbox of Tactics](#) for even more ideas!



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Spreading the Word & Advancing #BoeingArmsGenocide Narrative

[Use our #BoeingArmsGenocide week of action OUTREACH toolkit for sample language you can use to promote your event and the overall Week of Action!](#) Inside you'll find sample social media posts, email language, and graphics.

[**DOWNLOAD #BOEINGARMSGENOCIDE WEEK OF ACTION GRAPHICS HERE!](#)



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Assessing Risk

“There can be no consequential action that does not accept risk...If there were such a thing as an action that produced real change without real risk, there would be no reason not to do it—and people would thus have done it already, bringing about the change in question. The risk-free changes already happened. A collective abolitionist politic understands that if we want consequential change for all we must accept risk..

***Respect the risk tolerance of others.** Political struggles and social movements often arise from communities with sustained experience of risk and repression. This may lead to risk aversion; it just as commonly leads to a readiness for direct action. Anti police movements provide perhaps the clearest example of this. The most under threat are often the most committed to revolutionary struggle. Solidarity with such movements begins not in taking jobs as risk managers but in struggling alongside to the best of your capacities...*

There is nothing more high-risk than delay. The risk will simply be shifted onto someone else.” - [Reflections on Risk from UC Cops Off Campus \(see full statement at the link\)](#)

Here are some **tools to help your group assess, mitigate and stay informed about risks** in the context of taking action on and off campus:

- ❖ [Tips for Digital Security](#)
- ❖ [Contact your local National Lawyers Guild chapter to invite Legal Observers to your protest or to find representative for someone arrested at a protest.](#)
- ❖ [Civil Disobedience at Public Universities from the ACLU of Northern California](#)
- ❖ [Security Culture for Activists Toolkit from The Ruckus Society for more tips!](#)



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Appendix

Check Out These Examples for Inspiration!

Banner Drop

A visual hung or affixed to a highly visible location in order to amplify a message



Resources: [Beautiful Trouble](#)

[The Ruckus Society - Direct Action Creative Visuals Manual](#)

[The Ruckus Society - Balloon Banner Manual](#)

[Destructibles Banner Drops](#) and [Banner Hoists](#)

Chalking & Street Murals

Using chalk, paint, or other mediums to write or draw messaging or an image onto the ground, on walls, or on other surfaces



Resources: [Destructibles Chalking](#)

[Destructibles Stencil-Making](#)



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Rally + March

A rally is an assembly of people that have come together to amplify a message and demonstrate their support for an issue. Rallies may feature MCs, speakers, music, props, signage, chants, and even performances. Rallies may or may not be accompanied by marches, where masses of people make their way through the streets and other thoroughfares amplifying messaging with signage, chants, props, and other audiovisual components.



Resources: [Beautiful Trouble - Mass Street Action](#)

Letter Delivery

A tactic where participants deliver a letter or other document to a target or set of targets. The letter may be linked to a petition or otherwise be representative of the will of the people.



Resources: [Beautiful Trouble - Creative Petition Delivery](#)



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Cafeteria/Student Center Disruption

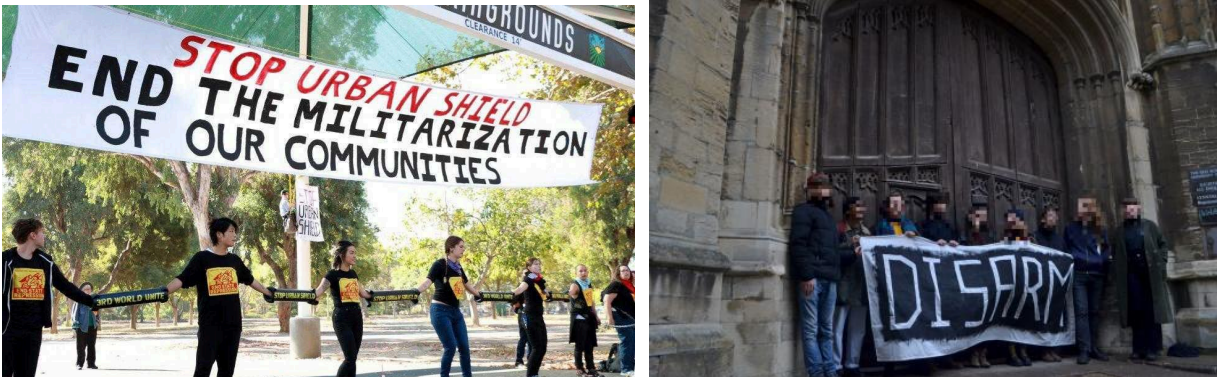
An opportunity to amplify your message on campus by disrupting busy spaces to make an intervention on business as usual.



Resources: [Beautiful Trouble - Creative Disruption](#)
[#BlackBrunch Manual](#)

Blockade

A tactic where participants block access to a location. Blockades may be formed with peoples' bodies, bodies attached to various kinds of equipment, and/or simply objects that are difficult to remove (e.g. heavy objects or lots of a different kind of object).



Resources: [Beautiful Trouble - Blockade](#)
[Destructibles - Lockboxes](#)
[The Ruckus Society - A Tiny Little Blockades Booklet](#)



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Sit-in / Occupation

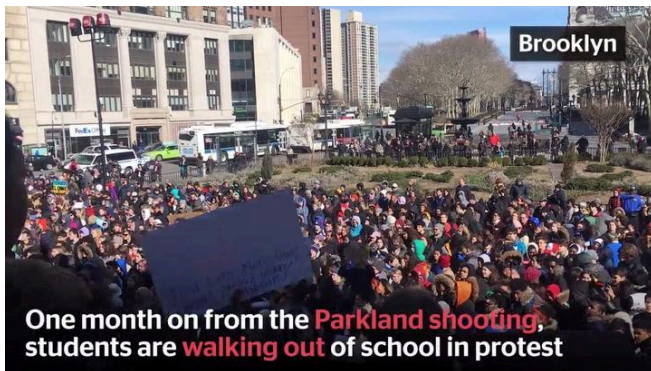
The occupation of a space of significance to the target by action participants. These actions may have a predetermined length or continue until the target meets the demands.



Resources: [Beautiful Trouble - Occupation](#)
[UltraViolet Guide to Sit-Ins](#)

Walkout

A tactic in which participants, typically students or faculty, walk out of their classes while school is in session in order to join a larger action calling attention to the issue.



Resources: [Beautiful Trouble - Distributed Action](#)

Bird-Dogging

A tactic in which participants pursue their target wherever they are in order to force the target to pay attention or respond to their issue. This usually involves gathering some information on where your target might be when (e.g. speaking engagements, meetings, or other events)



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and/or familiarizing yourself with your targets' routines. The same person or persons does not need to be present at each instance of bird-dogging for it to be effective, so long as the messaging is consistent.



Resources: [Backbone Campaign - Bird-Dog Manual \(Excerpt\)](#)
[Beautiful Trouble - Media Jacking](#)
[Center for Biological Diversity - How to Bird Dog](#)

Noise Demo

A tactic in which participants use noise in order to disrupt business as usual. Speakers, bullhorns, pots and pans, and anything else that makes a loud noise may be used.



Resources: [Beautiful Trouble - Cacerolazo \(noise-making protest\)](#)
[American Friends Service Committee - How to plan a car caravan/noise demo](#)



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NOISE DEMO

This tactic can be done from vehicles. It can also be done from surrounding buildings, or out in the open, maintaining physical distance.

1. Decide on target location and amplified sound form (e.g. car horns, noise makers, recordings).



2. At the chosen time and location, play sounds loudly.



Call-In Action

A tactic in which participants call targets nonstop, forcing them to pay attention to the issue. This is an accessible action that many people can participate in, regardless of location.



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PHONE JAM

This tactic involves many people calling a target at once and repeatedly for a specific and strategic time.

1. Decide on time/day and messaging.
2. Develop and share a suggested script for people to support what they say.
3. Call your target (on all the numbers they have) and deliver the messaging.
4. When you get voicemail, leave a message AND continue to call until someone answers the phone.

THE RUCKUS SOCIETY
ACTIVELY UNREST

BLACKOUT
TRAINING | ACTION SUPPORT | ON-SITE COORDINATION

Resources: [Beautiful Trouble - Phone Banking](#)
[Beautiful Trouble - Phone Blockade](#)

Vigil / Altar Build

Mourning and remembrance as protest. The creation of a physical sacred space (e.g. an altar) in order to remember those whose lives have been lost due to the issue at hand. Altars may be standalone or accompanied by a vigil, which typically involves speaking and/or activities that those present may take part in.



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Resources: [Beautiful Trouble - Artistic Vigil](#)

[Beautiful Trouble - Lamentation](#)

[Black Feminist Future - Community Altar Building Toolkit](#)

[Check out this slideshow of examples, tips, and resources for more inspiration!](#)