

Guerrilla Journalism Guide

Narrative change moves people to take action based on their unique experiences and beliefs. SJPC uplifts the stories and lived experiences of our community members most impacted by social inequities to ensure that their voices are heard and their experiences are understood and centered. By connecting social issues to community impact we encourage people to analyze those issues through a social justice lens. It is our goal that this storytelling moves people to act on behalf of shared social justice goals with a shared understanding of what those goals are.

It is absolutely crucial that we hear from the community about their experience of living in Sacramento County - our understanding of social justice impacting folks living in the Sacramento community needs to extend beyond just analysis and report backs on government meetings.

SJPC's definitions to keep in mind:

Why are these definitions important?

SJPC will only publish testimony that is in alignment with our values and social justice perspective. The content requirements for these submissions are flexible - as long as your testimony is relevant to life within Sacramento County and experiences with social justice or injustice, we can share them through our platforms.

Social Justice

Social justice is a communal effort dedicated to building and sustaining a just and equitable society which upholds an intersectional framework and lens of analysis, addresses systemic discrimination, secures access and human rights, affirms the inherent value of each person, and provides for everyone's needs, especially those most marginalized.

Mission

We want to see a Sacramento County where all decisions that impact the lives of our most vulnerable are made with their needs centered, where an equitable and intersectional framework is adopted for policy making, and a shared understanding of social justice is easily accessible and understood by all.

Vision

A Sacramento community that has a shared definition and understanding of social justice including equity in access, opportunities, and grass roots decision making that is

empowered to advocate for and within the community, to hold elected officials and existing power structures accountable, and is equipped to take collective action in pursuit of more equitable outcomes.

The guerrilla journalism [form](#) is meant to serve as space to share your experience with social justice or INjustice in Sacramento County!

Instructions for submitting notes:

If you are sharing **written testimony**, you can find guidelines in this document. To submit your testimony enter it directly into the “Tell us your story!” box on the Guerrilla Journalism page & fill out the additional required information.

If you are sharing images or video as testimony, please use the option to upload your files at the bottom of the submission form. There is also an additional box to share any links you would like to include with your testimony. Make sure to give a description of the media you’re uploading, and its importance, in the “Tell us your story!” box. If you have more files to upload than will fit in this form, please instead email them to SJPC’s Program Coordinator at bella@socialjusticesac.org

Thank you so much for taking the time to lend us your expertise and perspective. Community input is integral to narrative change, and to building a base that’s equipped to tackle issues of social justice or INjustice in Sacramento County.

Our Program Coordinator will check-in with everyone who submits notes - as a disclaimer we cannot guarantee that submitted notes will be published publicly. You can reach out to the SJPC’s Program Coordinator with questions at any time. He can be reached at: bella@socialjusticesac.org

Testimony that is alignment with SJPC’s work & values will be published as submitted. They will not be edited in any way by SJPC staff.

We recommend typing your testimony out separately first, and then copying and pasting it into this form, in order to avoid losing all your work if something goes wrong with this webpage.

Guidelines for written testimony:

- Tell us the significance of the topic and how it is relevant to social justice in the Sacramento community
- Please write in your own voice, and keep it casual
- Tell your story as if you were telling it to a friend

- Assume the reader is totally unfamiliar with the subject you're writing about & explain everything as clearly and simply as possible
- Be specific about what you're discussing
- Avoid jargon as much as possible
- The first time you use any acronyms make sure to spell them out (e.g. say "Sacramento City Unified School District" rather than "SCUSD")
- Because there is no editing process for notes before they are shared, it is critical to be as clear as possible, so that as many people as possible can understand and engage with your story

Why do we have these writing guidelines?

- Because SJPC staff won't be editing or clarifying anything in the notes that are submitted, we need testimony to be as clear and coherent as possible before it's submitted
- We want to publish what you have to say - following the guidelines listed above makes it easier for us to share your testimony with the community
- If submission are out of alignment, or challenging to understand, we won't be able to publish them

What we use notes for (we may use them for any and/or all of these purposes)*:

- Informing blog posts or other written materials about the experiences of folks living in Sacramento County
- Sharing testimony over our socials and emails
- Guiding our outreach and educational efforts
- Creating educational social media posts
- **Submitting testimony doesn't guarantee that it will be published publicly, SJPC will only publish submissions that are in alignment with our values and vision for social justice in Sacramento*