

A PRIMER

expose this
sham democracy:

DISRUPT the DNC!

DENVER [AUGUST 24-28, 2008]

WE VOTE **NO** to war and occupation.

WE VOTE **NO** to capitalism.

WE VOTE **NO** to racism.

WE VOTE **NO** to gender binaries.

WE VOTE **NO** to prison.

WE VOTE **NO** to eco-devastation.

*Bring your love and your rage,
because it is in the depths of these emotions that our true
humanity lies - bring your love to build up our communities
and bring your rage to tear down the walls.*



the democrats won't...

STOP THE WAR || END THE OCCUPATIONS || ABOLISH PRISONS || CREATE JOYOUS
SELF-SUSTAINING COMMUNITIES || DESTROY CAPITALISM || RE-WILD THE EARTH ||
TEAR DOWN THE BORDER WALLS || END WHITE SUPREMACY || SMASH THE POLICE STATE

...but we can

DNCDISRUPTION08.ORG

news, updates, strategy and more



because the Democratic Party serves the same interests and goals as the Republican Party—any politician who has a chance at the candidacy is subservient to these corporate, capitalist, and imperialist values. Real freedom and autonomy is not simply choosing between two predetermined “options.” Instead, it is about creating our options in the first place.

because resisting two-party electoral politics means confronting both heads of the monster.

because the Democratic Party will continue to do all it can to expand and maintain globalized industrial capitalism and the exploitation and oppression this system demands.

because not to challenge and confront this system, the Democrats’ role in it, and the celebration of domination that is the DNC is to grant them our approval and support.

because we’re tired of the Democrats co-opting social movements that are creating genuine transformation and turning them into sterile platforms used to garner votes, while continuing to maintain the status quo.

because this is an opportunity for anarchists, anti-authoritarians and others who want a world without imperialism, patriarchy, war, racism, and capitalism to cooperate in mass actions that will show ourselves and the world the power we have when we come together in resistance and creativity. We will take this momentum and the new relationships that grow out of solidarity and cooperation with us as we form stronger and tighter networks.

because the Democratic Party, and the corporate juggernaut and military machine that are inseparable from it, has no right to our streets, our homes, and our lives. In Denver, we will confront this leviathan, while creating the worlds we want to live in.



who the f**k are we?

You may wonder by this point, who is putting this zine out? We are Unconventional Denver, a group of local activists who have come together under the banner of Unconventional Action and have taken on the mantle of organizing anarchists and anti-authoritarians in Denver and nationally for the DNC protests. We have hosted multiple national consultas to discuss goals and strategies for approaching these protests in a constructive and new direction, and have taken the lead in developing strategies and a plan for the week of protests. We are committed to making this the most successful DNC protest ever and making sure everything is set up and ready to go when all you lovely folks get to town, as well as interfacing you all with local projects in Denver and making sure you have the on the ground support you need. Don’t hesitate to contact us for any of your DNC disrupting needs. Honest, we’re good folks!

unconventional denver contacts:

unconventionaldenver@riseup.net

myspace.com/unconventionaldenver

www.unconventionalaction.org

www.dncdisruption08.org

also, for securish emails, denverlogistics@hush.com

★ JULY 12 - 18, 2008

UNCONVENTIONAL ACTION

CAMP

unconventional denver is inviting you ★

to an action camp in the foothills of the Rockies. Come join us for a week of direct action training, medic training (put on by the world famous Colorado Street Medics), know-your-rights training, and a day of DNC strategizing. While camping with our comrades somewhere near Denver, we’ll learn the tactics necessary to successfully confront the DNC and the police and corporate state the convention represents.

Bring camping equipment, a strong desire to determine your own destinies, and a friend or two (or just plan on making some friends at the camp).

unconventionaldenver@riseup.net for more information and RSVP

SEE YOU IN THE WOODS!



what's radical about denver? and why we want you to visit!

Denver, located smack dab between the Rocky Mountains and the Great Plains, separates east from west and is a stomping ground for many good folks who traveled through and never left. We are a diverse city with a large and vibrant radical scene with active groups addressing immigrant and native people's rights, police brutality, gentrification, sexual assault, and homeless discrimination. As well, we sport a radical bike collective, two FNB servings a week, an anarchist variety show and many other strong projects aimed at building a community independent from government and hierarchical political structures.

On the demonstration side, Denver has a long history of activism in the streets. Our biggest demonstration ever was over 100,000 people for immigrant rights on May Day 2006, where people spontaneously took to the streets and paraded through downtown when the park holding the rally proved too small for our numbers. We are also host every year to the Transform Columbus Day (TCD) protests, lead by Colorado AIM, where we use creative direct action to shut down or delay the Columbus Day parade (aka Convoy of Conquest). This year alone we had over 80 arrests and stopped the parade dead in its tracks for over two hours. We have a well organized and tight knit community of dedicated activists who are working hard to prepare for the DNC.

denver also has a police force with a very full resume



- Fresh from practicing their pain compliance holds on non-violent protesters at last year's TCD events!
- with experience in surveilling and harassing local activists into the "Denver Spy Files!" Specializing in monitoring threats such as the Quakers, Food Not Bombs, and the Peace and Justice Center!
- Tending to gun down folks in the street and in their homes! Who coincidentally are all unarmed folks of color!
- 2100 local cops! + 50 million for security! = lots of fancy toys!

Come and visit, get to know all the rad stuff, be a part of making Denver history, and be prepared for Denver's "finest".



call to action

disrupt the dnc!

ANARCHISTS AND ANTI-AUTHORITARIANS:

Join us in Denver, Colorado, August 24-28th, as we engage in coordinated direct action against the Democratic National Convention, its corporate sponsors, and the military/police occupation of public space. Respecting diverse tactics and the autonomy of affinity groups and individuals, Unconventional Action has created the following framework to maximize our impact as we confront the DNC.

Unconventional Action's strategy at the Democratic National Convention will hold the Democratic Party accountable for promoting environmental degradation, the enforcement of arbitrary borders, war and occupation, attacks on the poor, and racist policing. We will expose that no matter which party you vote for, your vote is for war, ecological devastation, and increasing disparity between rich and poor. Anarchists and Anti-Authoritarians are urged to engage in a broad variety of tactics to disrupt fundraising events and prevent Democratic delegates from putting on the spectacle they claim as democracy. Unconventional Action will honor and support autonomous actions while coordinating a highly publicized assault on the pagentry, violence, and abuses of the Democrats and the two-party capitalist system.

POINTS OF **UNITY**:

reject all forms of hierarchy

commitment to non-hierarchical, consensus-based organization

embrace a diversity of tactics

do not condemn any action on the grounds that it is illegal alone



While we've got 500 (or 5000) of our closest friends in town this August, we've got a ton of things we want to get done.

- shut down, disrupt, or delay the convention
- storm convention events
- dismantle Denver's capitalism, gentrification, and eco-devastation networks
- feel our movement's power as a confrontational force
- make direct action a threat again
- bring our international anarchist movement back into the public consciousness
- build momentum for the opposition to the RNC
- ensure that the DNC is a thing of rowdy beauty
- turn the DNC's festivities into our own
- bring the direct action that meets the needs of local communities
- continue multiracial coalitions with multiracial turnouts
- stop racist development and the targeting of immigrant communities
- further Denver anarchist community's ties with other local struggles.
- have such a good time and create something so magnificently awesome that no one will ever want to leave. ever.



what we will provide

Unconventional Denver and other groups are committed to making this convergence a success in every way, not just our actions. So we've been working overtime pulling together some of the necessary components to help make this awesome. Here's just a few-

medical Colorado Street Medics Association fucking rocks! from paper cuts to amputations (please don't!) they are ready to take care of you and make sure that your whole body is well.

legal the People's Law Project is pulling together some of the coolest, downest, awesomest people you'll ever meet to protect you in the courts and in the streets.

food Food Not Bombs- need we say more? Delicious, Free, Vegan, and made with a little something special we call anarchy

convergence center we'll have a kickin' convergence center where everyone is welcome. It will be a great place to get plugged into

everything going on, as well as see old friends and meet new ones.

safer spaces Unconventional Denver is finding space specifically to be set aside as safer space. Already planned are safer spaces for people of color, trans and queer folk, wimmin, and survivors. We hope for them to be a short distance from the convergence center.

accessibility We are committed to making our convergence facilities accessible for all bodies.

housing a couple of groups are working on getting housing for the tens of thousands of people who will be attending the DNC protests. Keep your ear to the ground for more information!

Unconventional Denver has a sexual assault policy in place for all organizing, spaces, and actions leading up to and during the convention. Sexual assault will not be tolerated in any shape or form. Please visit dncdisruption08.org for the complete policy.

There are other logistical things we are working on, like Denver transportation, a caravan to the Twin Cities and more. Some of it we can't tell you more about because the information hasn't been released yet and some of them aren't together enough to announce them. So keep an ear out for all the cool things going on in Denver.

are you ready yet?

As convention time approaches, we all need to begin preparing ourselves for the weeks of protest and travel that are coming. It's important that when we are in the streets, we're as prepared as possible for all the action that might be happening. Here are some ideas from Unconventional Denver of what you should (already be) do(ing).



CONTACT UNCONVENTIONAL DENVER!

let us know that you're coming, how many people, and what you are interested in so that we can help plug you into the different strategies going on. unconventionaldenver@riseup.net or denverlogistics@hush.com.

CALL YOUR NEIGHBORING ACTIVISTS!

why go into the streets with just your affinity group? Call a couple friends and get a cluster going. You can even put out a call for a regional consulta to help with the planning!

TALK TO YOUR NEIGHBORS!

go out and help them with their gardening and take the opportunity to tell them why you're coming to Denver! They'll probably support you!!!

FUNDRAISE!

aside from money to get to the conventions, there are other costs to consider too. Whenever you put yourself into arrestable situations, it's always good to have a little sumthin sumthin set aside in case of bail. And you never know when that luxury cruiser of yours will revolt...

PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE!

if you're planning a specific action, do a couple dry runs. If nothing specific yet, just start brushing up on some of your skills- I'm sure there's a greedy capitalist somewhere in your town!



come if you've been to a zillion protests **something old**

Can you hear it? Put your ear to the ground, listen to the rustle of the leaves, the background noise of your dreams : something different is going down this summer, and you're going to want to be in on the fun. We've been keeping on the down low the past few years - healing, community projects, processing the past, reassessing our strengths. Many of us have been waiting for the moment to once again rise up and strike at the heart of the machine. We've had a chance to rest, we've learned from our mistakes, it's now or never to get back in the streets. We're going to Disrupt the DNC, Crash the RNC, Roadblock I-69, Treesit the University of California, and then we're going to bring the whole fucking thing down.

This summer is ours. We're going to be big, we're going to be fierce, and we're going to win.



and if you've been to none **something new**

Seattle? Quebec? Cancun? You've heard the myths. You wish you'd been there. You've never been to a mass action and thinking about it makes you a little scared and a lot excited. Harness the fear, ride the excitement, and be a part of the next chapter of the history that's being written at this very moment. If you don't know what it feels like to hold an intersection with a tight group of your friends, while the capitalists sit stuck in their bus unable to reach their convention center... If you've never experienced a crowd of a hundred new friends swarming a street and forcing police to retreat.. If you haven't prepared food for hungry protesters and then seen the grateful smiles of a thousand satisfied bellies...

Bring your new ideas, bring your enthusiasm, bring it. DNC Denver is the next big thing and you can be here with us to make it happen.



now until august: *Just because delegates aren't here yet doesn't mean you shouldn't get here early! Come to Denver, meet the locals, scout interesting downtown sites, and help us get it all together to make this the best convention ever.*

august 2008



DENVER, COLORADO

sunday 24th

MARCH AGAINST OCCUPATIONS AND MILITARIZATION! Begin the day with a massive anti-war march. We'll be in the streets in solidarity with all who oppose imperialism and its tools of war and occupation.

SPACE RECLAMATION: Following the march, we'll reclaim space somewhere in Denver. In a city under police occupation, we'll take space back from the capitalist elite and create our own autonomous space, highlighting our ability to create horizontal systems of organization. While celebrating, we'll get to know each other and our community. We'll tell stories, party, and conspire. Not forgetting that profiteers of imperialism use Denver as a headquarters, affinity groups are encouraged to autonomously target these corporations.

monday 25th

MARCH AGAINST PRISONS: FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS! A morning Freedom March demanding an end to the prison industrial complex and freedom for the many political prisoners currently incarcerated for their acts in defense of the earth, animals, and fellow human beings:

NO BUSINESS AS USUAL: In the evening, clusters, affinity groups and individuals take action against major fundraisers, delegate parties, restaurant outings and corporations using the DNC to sweeten their position with the party. Picture restaurants, hotel lobbies, theatres, and other mid-size venues: Opportunities abound for subversive pranks, over-the-top theatrics, anti-capitalist extravaganzas, and whatever else you can think of.

tuesday 26th

MARCH AGAINST WALLS AND BORDERS: NO ONE IS ILLEGAL! A historic convergence of Latino and Chicano communities, Immigrants and their Allies will be taking place in the morning. We will be in the streets making connections between the walls that separate nations, people, genders.

BLOCKADE THE SPECTACLE: WE VOTE NO! Delegates will be meeting in the afternoon to finalize their platform and we will be standing in their path. Coordinated technical blockades, street theater, and other diverse actions will shut down the flow of delegates to the Pepsi Center while supporting those trying to infiltrate their messages inside. As the DNC reaffirms its agenda of co-optation, subverting democracy and protecting corporate and imperialist power, we will bring their party to a halt.

wednesday 27th

ACTIONS AND ALTERNATIVES: NO WARMING! All day creative direct action to stop the direct causes of global warming and the corporations profiting from environmental destruction. Let's demonstrate alternatives so that people can see another way of living opposed to our consumer lifestyles which are destroying the planet. Possibilities include: shutting down polluters, targeting corporations in Denver funding Democrats and destroying the planet, bike blocs, guerilla gardening, simplicity enforcement, consumer re-education, and anything your creative little hearts can think of to show the world another way to live.

thursday 28th

MEDIA SAVVY ACTIONS: END WHITE SUPREMACY! Today we will engage in visually stunning, media attracting actions targeting the Democrats' complicity in racism in Denver and nationally through gentrification, police brutality, criminal injustice, the prison industrial complex, etc. We will target institutions and corporations that force US imperialism and racism on the rest of the world, as well as those that inflict it upon us.

Tonight we will party, sleep, and support our comrades before heading to Minneapolis to disrupt the RNC...