



STOP LAPD SPYING COALITION

Grassroots Community Self-Defense

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES



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**Stop LAPD Spying Coalition
Principles Zine**

"It is our duty to fight for
our freedom.
It is our duty to win.
We must love each other
and support each other.
We have nothing to lose
but our chains."



-Assata Shakur

1.

Grassroots Community Self-Defense is a labor of love.
It means a group of individuals and organizations coming together to protect the life-affirming rights and needs of our communities. We join in struggle to resist, organize, and defend against the national security police state and state-sanctioned violence, and to advance the following principles grounded in our collective liberation.



2.

POWER IS WITHIN OUR COMMUNITIES:

We affirm that power is within community and not with state and federal governments, or profit driven and war mongering corporations. We build power by being clear in our demands that instruments of state violence be abolished, not just reformed or refined. We commit to the abolition of all state interventions that prevent our full autonomy and liberation.



3.

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL:

We shall not tolerate any abuse, oppression, repression, or violations made against any member of our community. We must fight together with marginalized communities to abolish all systems of oppression.



4.

FUNDAMENTAL NEEDS AND RIGHTS:

From the land to the people,
every being has fundamental
needs and rights. We honor the
sacredness of life when we fight to
ensure everyone's basic
necessities are met, including
healthy food, clean water,
housing, clothing, education,
healthcare, dignity, safety,
movement, expression.



5.



OUR STRUGGLES ARE INTERCONNECTED:

We collectively recognize that
movements centered around race, class,
gender, sexuality, nation, and disability
are inseparable and intertwined. (i.e.
struggles against racism in the U.S. are
inherently connected to liberation
movements around the world such as the
struggle against Zionist apartheid and
genocide of the Palestinian people.)

6.

COMMITMENT TO BLACK LIBERATION:

We must confront our
personal and our
communities' anti-
Blackness in the fight
for Black liberation.



love is...

calling out anti-Black behavior in
oneself and the community.



COMMITMENT TO TRANS, FEMME, GENDER NON- CONFORMING AND LGBTIQ LIBERATION:

We must confront our personal
and our communities'
homophobia, transphobia, anti-
LGBTIQ sentiments, and hateful
and harmful policies.

**COMMITMENT TO LAND
RECOGNITION THAT
EVERYONE IN L.A. AREA LIVES
IN TONGVA/GABRIELENO
AND CHUMASH LANDS:**

We are migrants, refugees, diasporic, displaced and enslaved peoples. We respect, acknowledge, and join the fight by native peoples to preserve their land and its resources in so-called Los Angeles and beyond.



This is stolen native land.

9.

**COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT +
FUND COMMUNITY DEFENSE
AND BUILDING A CULTURE OF
RESISTANCE:**

We will engage in collective learning with our communities about the state apparatus for surveillance, criminalization, and counter-insurgency.

We will resist and support non-compliance with laws, policies, procedures, and actions that violate our communities' right to live dignified lives, such as: any registries based on race, ethnicity, sexuality, gender, or religion, invasions of privacy, and/or searches or seizures, and any and all deportations, detentions, and incarceration.



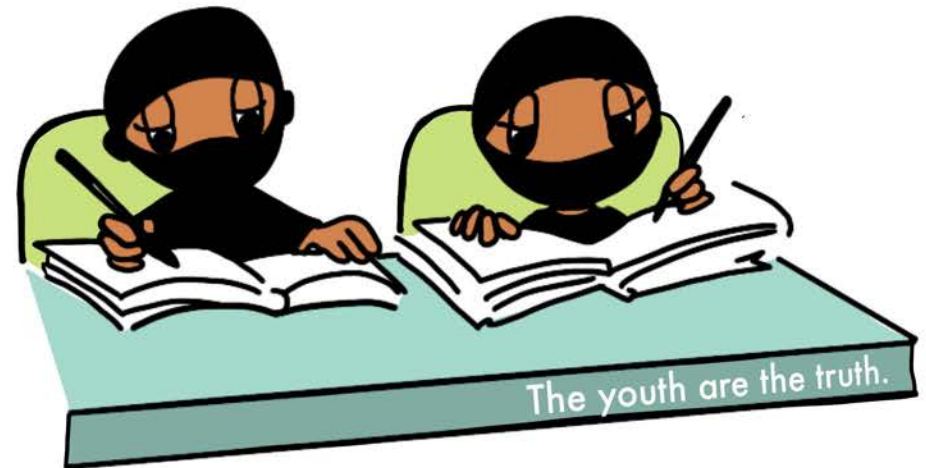
10.

HOLD NON-PROFIT GROUPS ACCOUNTABLE:

We shall call on our communities to hold non-profit groups, foundations, and social justice and community-based organizations accountable for any collaboration with the state, which takes power away from our communities and keeps trying to reform a system that will harm our people, as it was always intended to do.



11.



ORGANIZE TO RESIST AND DEFEAT FASCISM, COLONIALISM, IMPERIALISM, CAPITALISM AND GENOCIDE:

We are committed to organizing from a perspective that understands the systemic oppression our communities face.

12.

COMMITMENT TO INTERNAL STRUGGLE AND TRANSPARENCY:

We shall strive, on an ongoing basis, to identify any contradictions within the various collaborating groups/peoples, which both protect people from harm and use transformative/restorative justice to resolve conflict.

We shall strive towards centering survivors and resolving interpersonal and communal violence as it happens. We remain committed to (un)learning and sharing lessons learned.



13.

COMMITMENT TO ASSESS OUR LANGUAGE:

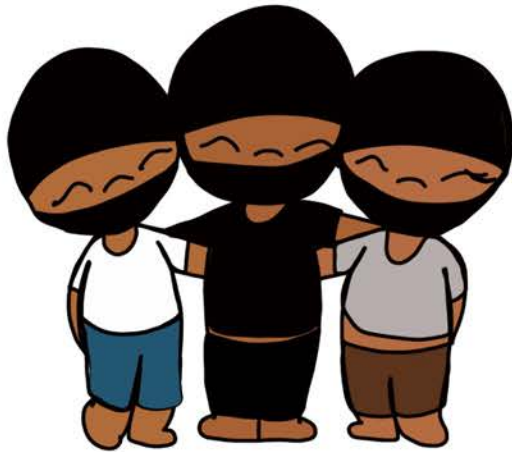
We shall build power within our movement and communities by assessing and evaluating our language and challenging messages that seek to harm. We refuse to use state tactics we've been taught throughout our lives and work to unlearn what we were conditioned to accept.



14.

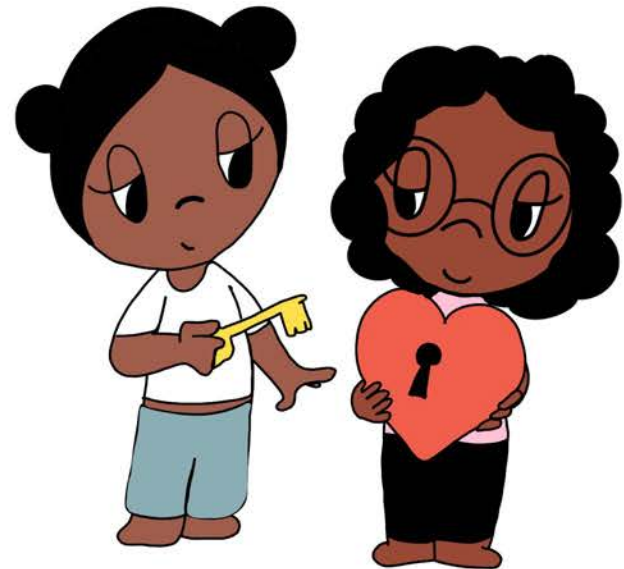
OPERATIONAL UNITY AMONG COLLABORATING GROUPS:

We are committed to working together
and creating affinity groups that share our
principles and concerns to create a
common front in defending our
communities.



15.

love is...



principled.

16.