



Sometimes your politics will be used to assess if you're trustworthy. While this may seem daunting, it can be an important part of building mutual understanding and solidarity.

Some activist groups teach and train but many will expect you to be up to speed.

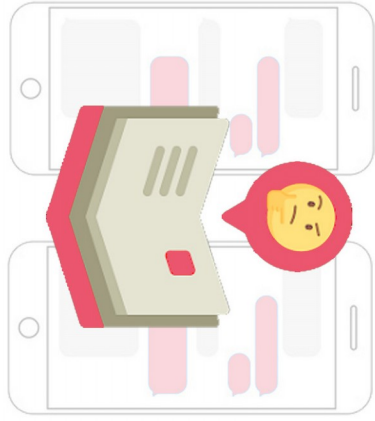
We don't learn much in school about systems that shape our lives like capitalism and nation states. How is capitalism is different from other economic systems, or how are nation states different from ancient civilizations? We're not taught where these systems came from nor how or when they developed.



Unfold this zine for sources to help you get started! <3



Activist language changes quickly! As groups change their understanding of an issue (or as mainstream culture co-opts terms and ideas), activists will make up new words.



Joining activist groups can be a lot at first. It's OK if you don't know all the words and references people use to discuss and plan.

If you're intimidated by social justice jargon and organizing culture this zine is for you <3



ACTIVIST CULTURE SHOCK

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Series Three: Group Profiles
TBA

Series Two: Case Studies
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04: Empowerment

03: Building Solidarity

02: Activism Culture Shock

01: Getting Started by Getting Involved

Series One: Preparation

Mobilize Series

Learning about history, theory and current events is an important part of activism.

TIP: Learning about how political power works can be uncomfortable or upsetting - this is normal and to be expected!



Power works best when it's hidden and can convince those exploited to identify with the interests of those in power. Sometimes systems of power are very violent. Sometimes you learn you're contributing to that violence - or are subject to it.

It's OK to take your time to digest difficult material. Keep listening, keep learning, keep an open mind.



As you learn, you will encounter disagreements with other activists. This is totally normal!



There can often be tension over:
- what co-organizers owe each other
- how change happens e.g. whether to modify a system (reform) or scrap it (abolition)
- how to build solidarity... and more!



You will learn to navigate this with experience. Activism and coalition are not safe spaces.

Sometimes, there's a culture of fear - people scared of saying the wrong thing. Some activists may also pressure others to take certain actions before they're ready. Ask yourself if a group welcomes members' questions and criticisms and if they respect others' boundaries and differences.

in *witty*.



survival

Stay true by aiming for long-term solidarity, having compassion and being aware of power. Again, the skill to address common tensions comes with experience! We will discuss this more in a future zine ♥

Book – **Film/TV** – Magazine – *Other* [hint: some sources available at the library via Kanopy or Overdrive; search for book titles with pdf]

NATION STATES & COLONIALISM

- The Kurdish Women's Movement (2023, Dilar Dilik)
- The Hundred Years' War on Palestine (2020, Rashid Khalidi)
- Our History is the Future (2019, Nick Estes)
- **Concerning Violence** (2014; Franz Fanon)
- **Life and Debt** (2001; Jamaica, IMF)
- **Kanehsatake** (1993; Indigenous)
- Imaginary Communities (1983; Benedict Anderson)
- **The Battle of Algiers** (1966; Algeria, France)

LABOUR & CAPITALISM

- *More Perfect Union* (US-focused)
- *Labor Notes* (US-focused)
- Essential Work, Disposable Workers (2023, Mostafa Henaway)
- **Sorry We Missed You** (2019; gig labour)
- **Sorry to Bother You** (2018; race, capital)
- **We the Workers** (2017; Chinese activists)
- **Pride** (2014; queer & miners solidarity)
- Caliban and the Witch (2004, Silvia Federici)
- **The Take** (2004; Argentinian autoworkers)
- **The Corporation** (2003)
- **Live Nude Girls Unite!** (2000; sex work)
- The Origin of Capitalism (1999, Ellen Meiksins Wood)

MODERN SUBJECTS

- Elite Capture (2022, Olúfẹ́mi O. Táíwò)
- Policing Black Lives (2017, Robyn Maynard)
- Foucault: A Very Short Introduction (2005, Gary Gutting)
- Are Prisons Obsolete (2003, Angela Davis)
- Scenes of Subjection (1997, Saidiya Hartman)
- *Peggy McIntosh, White Privilege* (1989)
- **Born in Flames** (1983; feminism, socialism)

ORGANIZING

- **Briarpatch** (anticolonial/anticapitalist)
- **Hammer and Hope** (Black, intersectional, US)
- **Lux Magazine** (feminist, intersectional, US)
- **Gal-Dem** (Black, intersectional, UK)
- *Working Class History Podcast*
- The Tenant Class (2023, Ricardo Tranjan)
- **Judas and the Black Messiah** (2021; Black Panthers)
- **Knock Down the House** (2019; AOC)
- **Hunger** (2008; Irish hunger strike)
- **The Spook Who Sat by the Door** (1973; Black liberation)

CLIMATE JUSTICE

- **Esther & the Law** (2023; Ogoni 9)
- How to Blow Up a Pipeline (2021, Andreas Malm)
- **There's Something in the Water** (2019; environmental racism)
- **Merchants of Doubt** (2014; corporate lobbying)

RADICAL CARE

- *Irresistible Podcast*
- Radical Intimacy (2023, Sophie K. Rosa)
- Ordinary Notes (2023, Christine Sharpe)
- Noopiming (2021, Leanne Betasamosake Simpson)
- Uses of the Erotic (1978, Audre Lorde)

PUBLISHERS

- Radical Publishers Alliance (Verso, Pluto Press, AK Press, etc.)
- Krisis Munter Press
- Hajar Press

Tips: Try to learn about a broad range of topics and see what connections you can draw between them. Take stock of the backgrounds of the authors you're learning from and try to grow a diversity of sources.