

SHARING OUR STORIES
in ART, Culture & Organizing

Carrollton,
Kentucky

Annual Membership Meeting 2017

August 25-27

General Butler State Park



**KENTUCKIANS FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH**

SHARING OUR STORIES
in ART, Culture & Organizing

KFTC 2017 Annual Meeting
August 25-27, 2017
Carrollton, KY

What is this zine about?

We made this zine about KFTC's Annual Meeting (our once-a-year, state-wide gathering) to offer the information from the workshops and speakers through a new channel. The theme of this year's meeting was arts and culture, so we also wanted to make a space to share some of what we created together. We gave members pages to fill out, like this one from Clare White (next page) and also collected information, art, and other ephemera. If you'd like more information or are interested in one of the workshops in here, your local KFTC chapter can host one. Just ask at the next meeting.

What is a zine?

Zines (short for 'magazine') are a Do-it-Yourself publication that you can make with limited resources and without the support of a publishing company. It's a collection of information or expression about a topic. You can use your zine to express whatever you want, without the influence of advertisers, editors, or other outside interests.

1. Some Questions & Answers

2. Workshops and descriptions and content

3. Some poems

4. Heather McGhee

5. Around the State

6. Poem on Charlottesville

7. More Workshop Content

8. Outdoor Afro hike

9. Next Steps

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What is Cultural Organizing?

Cultural organizing is about using our culture as a strategy for organizing. This includes using our art, music, and voices to share our stories.

Did you
SAY
Art

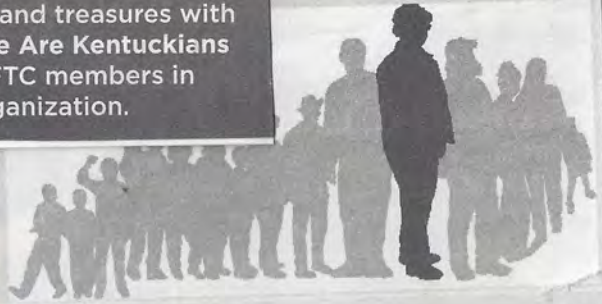
togetherness
in the
face of
terror

GROW YOUR SOUL

stitch the regions together
United We STAND
Divided WE FALL

WE ARE KENTUCKIANS

KFTC is made up of more than 10,000 members who together amplify our voices and fight for a better Kentucky. As individuals we bring our own talents and treasures with us to the organization. We Are Kentuckians is a series that profiles KFTC members in various aspects of the organization.



What is KFTC?

Kentuckians For The Commonwealth is a statewide citizens' organization working for a new balance of power and a just society. We use direct action to challenge - and change - unfair political, economic and social systems. Our membership is open to all people who are committed to equality, democracy and non-violent change. Join at www.kftc.org

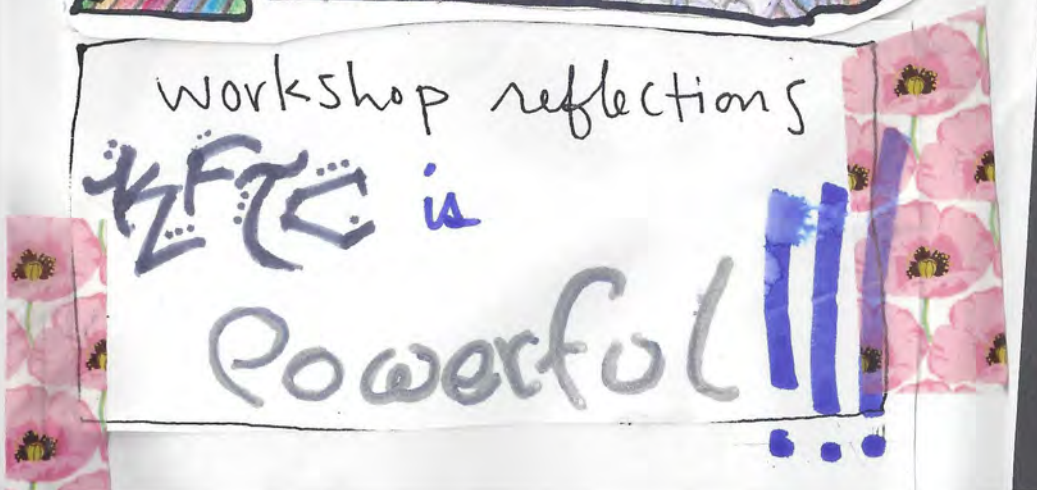
ARE You KFTCurious?



workshop reflections

KFTC is

Powerful!!!



YOUR VERY OWN

ANNUAL MEETING

ZINE PAGE

use this page to doodle, take notes, whatever! Drop it off at the merch table when you're finished, and maybe we'll put it in our Annual Meeting Zine!

PAGE BY:

Clare White

To-do:

- letter to the editor - respond to the letter about "anti-whites"
- make more stuffed animals for the 2018 Annual Meeting silent auction
- recruit a new KFTC member
- plan a kick-butt community art project for Georgetown's second annual Pride + Community Cookout!
- make Georgetown the 9th city in KY with a fairness ordinance

NEW
PALS
I MADE

Conner

Desmond

Erin

Daniel

Workshop reflections

Minimum

H.O.S.T.

Sharing food
builds
community

Young
people are
critical

Revitalizing
activism my

KFTC
is the best
thing about
Kentucky

Building a Powerful Just Transition and Climate Movement in Kentucky through Culture, Community and Action

This subject can be tough. Stories help bring us together, though.

State the prompt
wait for the first story
speak to what comes up.

move around the circle
folks can pass and the
story will come
back to them

actively listen

take a
minute to reflect
on the stories
silently

before crosstalk
beginning

3 min stories

uninterrupted

1 min signal

and wrap-up

sign

See
EmpowerKentucky.org
for more info on the plan

Story
Circle

by Bob
Martin
Cheat
Sheet

Empower Workshop description

This workshop is an opportunity to express what motivates you to work for a Just Transition to a clean energy future in Kentucky, and think together about ways to build a stronger movement in Kentucky. We'll learn about creative ways KFTC members and allies are engaging their neighbors, elected representatives and candidates about opportunities to Empower Kentucky. And we'll brainstorm ways you can take action locally to help grow political will for clean energy jobs and meaningful climate action.

Organizing for Good, Affordable and Accessible Health Care for All

We'll begin with understanding where we are right now in the ever-changing landscape of healthcare policy on the state and federal levels. We'll hear from people doing exciting work to engage and activate people to make quality health care affordable and accessible to all people. And we'll explore creative ways to do this work where we live.

Resisting Organized White-Supremacy through a Culture of Support

With the resurgence of organized white supremacist and white nationalist groups surrounding the rise of Trump, people of color and progressive activists are experiencing more fear and intimidation in doing organizing work than in recent memory. In this workshop, we will share our experiences, learn about the landscape of organized white supremacist groups in Kentucky, and explore ways to do anti-racist work in our communities while building a culture of security and support.

RESISTANCE BINGO

Resistance Bingo is the best way to keep everyone involved in resisting U.S. fascism & building power to defeat it. **When you win, we all win!**

2/4

 Shifted a conversation to organizing	 Joined a study group	 Volunteered	 Had a hard conversation with someone	 Was part of a strategy call/meeting
 Wrote a letter to the editor	 Created space for sharing art	 Made someone laugh	 Read about the struggle of a community	 Stopped an act of hate or prejudice
 Fed movement organizers	 Used my privilege to help others	 Get someone to play RESISTANCE BINGO	 Was a police liaison at an action/march	 Read the Movement for Black Lives Platform
 Played resistance bingo with friends	 Took down a white supremacist	 Hosted a resistance cultural gathering	 Set up ongoing donations to groups	 Went to a direct action training
 Signed an online petition	 Provided childcare	 Erased hate speech from public spaces	 Brought 2+ new people to a training	 Called someone to ask how they are

FEATURES 4 DIFFICULTY LEVELS: ☆ Outside Corners | ☆☆ Horizontal or Vertical Line | ☆☆☆ Diagonal Line | ☆☆☆☆ Black O

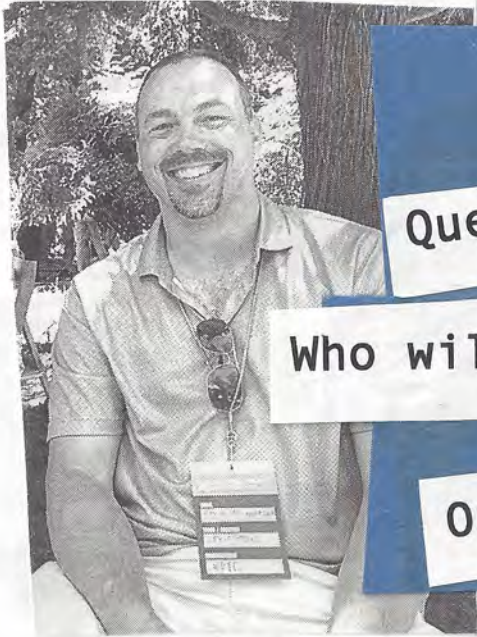
Go to bit.ly/resistancebingo for more cards and information.

This document has been adapted by Kentuckians For The Commonwealth for the "Resisting White Supremacy through a Culture of Support" workshop.

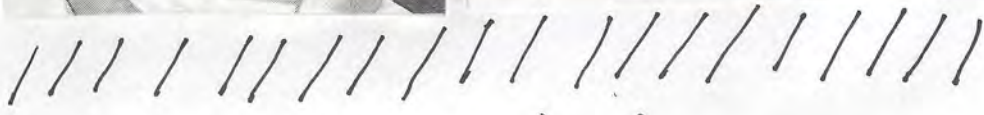


A HAIKU by Chris Woolery

↳ that's Chris!



Questions have Power
Who will we ask to design
Our energy future?



A HAIKU is a short poem in which the first line has 5 syllables, the second line has 7, and the last line has 5 again. We like to use haikus as an ice breaker to kick off meetings with creativity. Try it at your next meeting!

The Mountain, The Mayfly
By Margaret Ricketts

Say no one knows the date or the
hour, but actually that's only true

for those creatures who
refuse to kill themselves,

who don't have a execution date
set, which Black Mountain does.

This sours the past, the day we went
to Merton's monastery and I was so

entranced by the yellow ginkgo leaves
sheltering the ground. I despise the way

the mountain's demise alters the way I look
at my friends, who can only be human, so

much smaller and trailer, yet if you added
all of us together, one of us might

understand. Not everything can be pulled
and teased apart. Nothing much in my life

has pulled away from this tenacious, sticky
web of connection.



Racism is bad

for

White

People

Too.

"We do not have a true history.
We have a mythology of
American innocence and heroism."



cjaourpowercampaign "The idea that we can't invest in a #JustTransition, that we should not share resources, we can't have health care for all. WHY? Because we have been sold a [false] bill of goods: Zero sum competition between groups. That there is a pie that we're trying to get a bigger piece of and that means another group will get less. One group wins means another ones loses. Because there is this sense that progress for one will come at the expense of other. Racial justice is at the core of the American story that we have to create together," Demos' Heather McGhee,

Jessie @jessie0298 · Aug 26
"But we'll never be truly free

until those in bondage have
the same rights as you
and me."

#Hamilton #KFTCAM17

Good Stuff

Around the State

The first net-zero public school, Richardsville Elementary, was built in Warren County, Kentucky in 2010 with federal funds from the stimulus bill. All other new schools in the fast growing district are being built as highly efficient buildings that COULD be net-zero if and when there are funds available to install solar panels.

KFTC members in Lexington are researching and developing a campaign that will greatly increase the city's investment in clean energy solutions that deliver health and economic benefits to low and moderate income communities. They are developing a set of demands, including expanding the number of all-electric buses and increasing the city's investment in building energy efficient affordable housing.

After KFTC members and allies stopped a coal fired power plant from being built in 2010, we convinced the utility, East Kentucky Power Cooperative, to participate along side us in a "Clean Energy Collaborative." This group met quarterly to examine ways EKPC could use more energy efficiency and renewable energy. The most visible outcome of that effort is under construction right now. EKPC is building an 8.5 MW solar farm. Starting this fall, customers will be able to lease one or more panels and get credited for the power on their electric bills. KFTC members Tona Barkley and Steve Wilkins have each served as Vice Chair of this collaborative process over the years.

What's happening in your neck of the woods?

Members in Paducah teamed up with Paducah Bourbon Society and Paducah Cooperative Ministry to fund a grid-tied photovoltaic system for PCM's Fresh Start Village. This shelter for women and kids has 7 buildings, and enough funds, donated labor and equipment were raised to install an 8.14 KW system on the south facing shelter and a 5 KW system on a second duplex shelter. The teamwork of faith community and Kentucky culture is a prime example of great things that can happen with issue-based campaigns, such as sustainable energy for emergency housing.

MACED and several other non-profits have partnered to create a Clean Energy Apprenticeship Program that is paying a good salary and benefits to a cohort of people in eastern Kentucky for 6 months while they get on-the-job training and other certifications to work in the fields of energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Kentucky's lawmakers and energy regulators are getting a lot of pressure from major corporate players (Toyota, Coca-Cola, UPS, others) to develop more renewable energy options. Those corporations have adopted their own goals to become 100% powered by renewables over the next 20-35 years, and they are making it clear that KY isn't an attractive location unless our utilities and energy policies become much more favorable to renewable energy.

KFTC's own Empower Kentucky plan - released in April and available at www.empowerkentucky.org - shows that accelerating energy efficiency and renewable energy generation over the next 15 years is better for jobs, better for health, and better for ratepayers than the business as usual approach. AND the plan would invest nearly \$400 million in a just transition for affected coal workers and communities.

when they first came---
like an army of ghost birds
the tightening of their paper white jaws
the slap of metal onto muscle,
the woken memories of our grandfathers
the hot south spinning into sap
the taut cobweb of bracing knuckles
a symbol like a broken limb

the fear that repeats itself like water
the fear that repeats itself like water

what was lost---
the muttering of shoes onto sidewalk.
the breath in a priests mouth.
the view from your granddaddy's gun.
the coffee spilt on the klansmen.
the moaning of a flock of doves
the vinegar on a black bandana
the victory march.

what you did---
how the crowd grew out from the city like coral
how the car buckled on the bellies of your
friends
how it sounded like the throat of a rifle
how for once you remembered how to run
remembered asthma attacks and softball fields
remembered forest night-time fire drills
remembered the dewy pages of your history
books
terezin and ferguson and catalonia
remembered how every moment is deliberate:
fight or flight
fight or flight

what has become of all of it---
we learn to laugh at the ruins of a grim kingdom
there goes the dirty flag
there goes robert e. lee
there goes the sweet winds of virginia
there goes nina simone's lungs
I wish I knew how
how it feels
to be free

by Alice Beecher

August 12, 2017

Charlottesville, VA

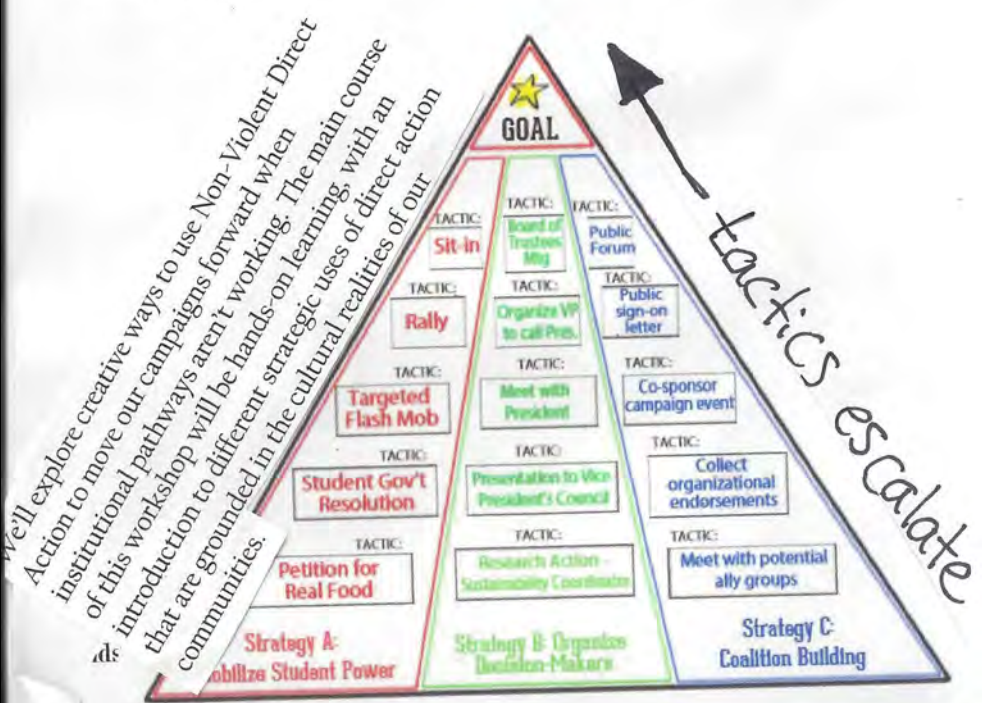
Nonviolent Direct Action: What to Do When Decision-Makers Don't Listen

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'S PRINCIPLES OF NONVIOLENCE



1. Nonviolence is a way of life for courageous people.
 - It is active nonviolent resistance to evil.
 - It is assertive spiritually, mentally, and emotionally.
 - It is always persuading the opponent of the justice of your cause.
2. Nonviolence seeks to win friendship and understanding.
 - The end result of nonviolence is redemption and reconciliation.
 - The purpose of nonviolence is the creation of the Beloved Community.
3. Nonviolence seeks to defeat injustice, not people.
 - Nonviolence holds that evildoers are also victims.
4. Nonviolence holds that voluntary suffering can educate and transform.
 - Nonviolence willingly accepts the consequences of its acts.
 - Nonviolence accepts suffering without retaliation.
 - Nonviolence accepts violence if necessary, but will never inflict it.
 - Unearned suffering is redemptive and has tremendous educational and transforming possibilities.

- Suffering can have the power to convert the enemy when reason fails.
5. Nonviolence chooses love instead of hate.
- Nonviolence resists violence of the spirit as well as of the body.
 - Nonviolent love gives willingly, knowing that the return might be hostility.
 - Nonviolent love is active, not passive.
 - Nonviolent love does not sink to the level of the hater.
 - Love for the enemy is how we demonstrate love for ourselves.
 - Love restores community and resists injustice.
 - Nonviolence recognizes the fact that all life is interrelated.
6. Nonviolence believes that the universe is on the side of justice.
- The nonviolent resister has deep faith that justice will eventually win.



WHAT TO DO IF ICE COMES TO YOUR DOOR



DO NOT OPEN DOORS

ICE cannot come in without a signed warrant by a criminal court judge. They can only come in if you let them.



REMAIN SILENT

ICE can use anything you say against you in your immigration case so claim your right to remain silent!

***Say "I plead the fifth amendment and choose to remain silent!"**



DO NOT SIGN

Don't sign anything ICE gives you without talking to an attorney.



REPORT & RECORD!

Report immediately: UWD hotline 1-844-363-1423.

Take pictures & video unless you're on federal government property.

Take notes of badge numbers, number of agents, time, type of car and exactly what happened!



FIGHT BACK!

Get a trustworthy attorney & explore all options to fight your case. If detained, you may be able to get bail - don't give up hope! Join your local team to defend yourself from enforcement!

unitedwedream.org/end

United We Dream

Immigrant Rights:

Taking Action on a

Moral Imperative

The rights of immigrants within our communities have been the center of a lot of focus lately. You may be wondering what you can do to help in this important work but are not sure where to start. During this workshop, we will learn together about creative solutions to intentional communication that builds community. Join other members as we shape a solid foundation for taking action within our own neighborhoods in support and solidarity with those directly impacted.



¡HAZ UN PLAN Y PELEA!

Si inmigración detiene a un ser querido, busca un abogado de confianza, y haz planes para que alguien cuide a tus hijos. ¡tu puedes pelear un caso de detención y tal vez recibir una fianza. Únete a un equipo local para defenderse de la migración.



¡REPORTA Y GRABA!

Reporta inmediatamente al 1-844-363-1423.

Toma fotos y videos, al menos que estés en suelo federal. Toma notas del número de placa, el número de los agentes, la hora, el tipo de carro, y exactamente que sucedió.



NO FIRMES

No firmes nada que te den los agentes de inmigración.



GUARDA SILENCIO

Tienes el derecho a permanecer callado/a. Si te confrontan agentes de inmigración, di:

"*Usó mi derecho bajo la quinta enmienda, y tengo el derecho a permanecer callado/a."



NO ABRAS LA PUERTA

La migración solo puede entrar a tu casa con una orden de arresto emitida por un juez de la corte criminal, o si tu le abres la puerta. ¡NO habrás la puerta!

EN CASO DE REDADAS ¿QUÉ PUEDES HACER?

unitedwedream.org/end

United We Dream

Telling Your Story for Visionary Resistance

Personal stories are a fundamental part of culture. It's where we start when we begin to make change. This workshop will give you the tools you need, in this moment of intense political resistance, to craft and share your personal story in ways that communicate your vision for a more just Kentucky. We'll learn how to spread these stories - from homemade videos to kitchen tables to town hall meetings - in ways that push on decision-makers and bring others into the movement to build a world that is good for all people.

What can I do among
family?

Consider: Who holds the power in the family? Who sets the tone for family interaction? What roles do children and elders play, and how might their words carry more impact?

TRY
THIS



APPEAL TO YOUR
SHARED VALUES ↓

"Our family has always stood for fairness, and your comments are unfair."

"Our family is too important to let bigotry tear it apart."

HARD CONVERSATIONS
ARE HARD.

(BUT IMPORTANT)

HONOR THE PAST

"When we were kids, Mom went out of her way to embrace differences. I'm not sure when or why that has changed for you, but it has for me."

CHANGE THE PRESENT

"When we were growing up we told 'jokes' about _____. As an adult, though, I advocate respect for others."

APPEAL TO FAMILY TIES

"I value our relationship so much — these remarks are putting distance between us."

REACH OUT

Who is your sibling most likely to listen to? A spouse? A parent? ASK for help!

offensive humor

o o o o o o o o o o

"Don't tell it. Please don't tell it."

① **DON'T LAUGH.** Meet a bigoted joke with silence, or body language that communicates your distaste.

② **INTERRUPT LAUGHTER.** "Why does everyone think that's funny?" Explain why the joke offends you, and share how it feels.

③ **SET BOUNDARIES,** if you're able. Prohibit bigotry in your cubicle, or office, or classroom, etc. Be firm! And get others to join in.

quote from Heather McGhee

SIBLING

We all do better when we all do better



Kelly Smith @kelly_smith72 · Aug 26

Tax code is purposely confusing to keep constituents in the dark and out of the process. #kftcAM17 #TaxReform



Kelly Smith @kelly_smith72 · Aug 26

Playing a tax game at #kftcAM17 to demonstrate how consumption-based taxes are unfair



4



**TAX JUSTICE
BUILDS A THRIVING**



Economic justice is a core part of all of KFTC's vision. That's why we work for tax reform that is fair, adequate and sustainable. We're approaching a moment of urgency for this work because Governor Bevin has announced that he intends to call a special legislative session this fall to change Kentucky's tax structure ways not aligned with our principles or vision. The playbook Gov. Bevin is working from lowers taxes on the wealthy and corporations, and asks a lot more from everyone else, even taxing groceries and medicine. Learn where the campaign is at and how you can join the fight for tax justice.

member Lauren Gabbard paints our banner

Shifting Power,

Generating Change:

**Grassroots Skills Workshop
on Deep Canvassing**

Learn the skills to participate in and lead others in deep canvassing as a strategy for building grassroots power. Deep canvassing expands upon conventional canvassing methods by creating a safe space for voters to share their personal experiences in order to come to their own conclusions about an issue. Deep canvassers create a space for face to face connection, processing, and empathy--foundational elements of cultural organizing. It's an effective way to not only work across lines of difference, but to also build and shift power in communities. Join us for this workshop to learn about what deep canvassing is, what it can do, and how you can use it in your community.

From Church Basements to Auditoriums:

Creating Agendas and Facilitating

Meetings in 2017

In this political moment Kentuckians are mobilizing and gathering up in larger numbers than ever before. How do you create a meeting space that is safe, welcoming and accessible to all? What do you do when twice as many people show up than you'd planned for? How do you include art and culture to create a space that's meaningful? Come learn tools and best practices for scaling up your meeting facilitation and agendas to meet the needs of the moment.

Upstanding Bystander 101: How to Stand

Up to Bigotry in Everyday Situations

This workshop will features stories, examples and discussion about how to stand up to bigotry in your everyday life in ways that help deescalate a situation, help targeted people feel safe and valued, and marginalize bigotry in public settings.

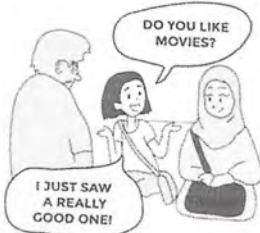
WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE WITNESSING ISLAMOPHOBIC HARASSMENT

A bystander's guide to helping a person who is being targeted



① Engage in conversation

Go to them, sit beside them, and say hello. Try to appear calm, collected, and welcoming. Ignore the attacker.



② Pick a random subject and start discussing it

It can be anything. A movie you like, the weather, saying you like something they are wearing and asking where they got it.



③ Keep building the safe space

Keep eye contact with them and don't acknowledge the attacker's presence. The absence of response from you two will push them to leave the area shortly.



④ Continue the conversation until the attacker leaves & escort them to a safe space if necessary

Bring them to a neutral area where they can recollect themselves. Respect their wishes if they tell you they're ok and just want to go.

CITY of BOSTON

This guide was originally written and illustrated by Masari (@masari). It was translated into English for the Middle Eastern Feminist. It was reformatted by the City of Boston with the artist's permission.



Mayor Martin J. Walsh

Members in the
upstanding Bystander
workshops did various
role plays to practice
deescalation tactics.





kentuckiansforthecommonwealth Thanks to our friends at Outdoor Afro Kentucky for inviting us to join their Healing Hike during #kftcam17. During the hike we learned about Sandy Dean, a Black woman who was enslaved on the land where we hiked and went on to be a leader in the Underground Railroad, and read nature inspired haikus written by Black poets.

Visit KFTC.org for more info

WHAT'S

#Smash
the
FASH

Let's Get
FREE

[[Action Steps]]
#RESTST

NEXT?

1. Become a KFTC Sustaining giver!
(online @ kftc.org)

2. Host a training like the ones in this Zine w/yr local chapter!

3. Friends!
This w/yr
SHARE

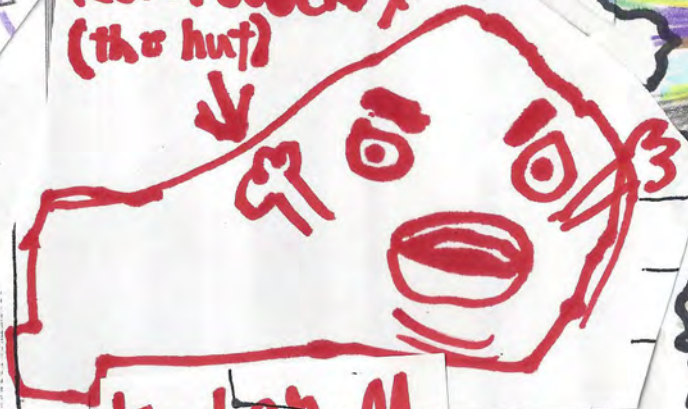
THE TRUTH

WILL SET

US FREE



Kentucky
(the hut)



Kaden M.

