

RESISTANCE
RECESS

READY TO RESIST

RESISTANCE RECESS KICK-OFF CALL
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 8 P.M. ET (7 CT/6 MT/5 PT)

RSVP: [MOVEON.ORG/READYTORESIST](https://moveon.org/readytoresist)



WORKING FAMILIES
PARTY

PEOPLE'S
ACTION



INDIVISIBLE

MoveOn.ORG
GIVE ACTION

Tonight's Agenda

1. **Welcome:** Victoria Kaplan, MoveOn.org
2. **Update on Attacks on Immigrants and What We Can Do:**
Jeanette Vizguerra, Denver, Colorado
Jezebel Jimenez, Make the Road New Jersey
3. **February Recess - What to Expect and How to Have Impact:**
Ezra Levin, Indivisible Guide
Kristin Moline, Oregon's District 2 Indivisible Group
Costa Kokkinos, South Brooklyn Progressive Resistance
4. **Birddogging How-To:** Yong Jung Cho, #AllofUs
5. **The Resistance is LIVE!** - Rafael Shimunov, Working Families Party
6. **Closing** - Nelini Stamp, Working Families Party

Thanks to

you and 10s of thousands of us together!

IndivisibleGuide

#AllofUs

Daily Kos

Working Families Party

People's Action

Center for Popular Democracy



ResistanceRecess.com

Text JOIN to 668366 right now
for action alerts

RSVP for next Sunday's Ready to
Resist Call at
moveon.org/readytoresist



Jeanette Vizguerra

Denver, Colorado



- **Sign Jeanette's petition at:**
bit.do/jeanette

Take Action!

#NoRaids #NoBan #NoWall #NoNationalGuard

Get connected in your own community:

<http://reformimmigrationforamerica.org/we-are-all-america/>

Jezebel Jimenez

Make The Road- New Jersey

Take Action!

#NoRaids #NoBan #NoWall #NoNationalGuard

Get connected in your own community:

<http://reformimmigrationforamerica.org/we-are-all-america/>

- **Congressional Town Halls** - Demand Congress call on the President to END THE RAIDS & END PRIVATE DETENTION
- Join us in **solidarity actions at detention centers** across the country. Contact your local immigrant rights organization or check out [Reform Immigration For America](#)
- Demand your member of Congress join you at your action.

GET INVOLVED!

2/23 DAY OF ACTION to call on Congress to end raids and close private detention centers.

- **11:00 am - Action @ Elizabeth Detention Center**
 - **625 Evans Street, Elizabeth, NJ**, privately run immigration detention center where 300 immigrants from all over the east coast are held awaiting deportation proceedings.
- **1:30 pm - Rally @ Congressman Lance's (R-07) Office**
 - **425 North Avenue East, Westfield, NJ**

More info on our [facebook page](#)

MoveOn.ORG
DEMOCRACY IN ACTION®



INDIVISIBLE

RECESS HERE WE COME

TRAINING FOR FEBRUARY CONGRESSIONAL RECESS

JANUARY 21, 2017

INDIVISIBLE'S PRINCIPLES:

①

RESIST TRUMP'S AGENDA

We believe Trump's agenda is racist, authoritarian, and corrupt, and it must be stopped.

②

FOCUS ON LOCAL, DEFENSIVE CONGRESSIONAL ADVOCACY

We demand that our own local Members of Congress serve as our voice in Washington, DC.

③

EMBRACE PROGRESSIVE VALUES

We model inclusion, respect, and fairness in all of our actions.

INDIVISIBLE THEORY OF CHANGE

The Tea Party made two important choices:

It was locally focused

- Groups started as disaffected conservatives talking to each other online.
- Groups were small, local, and dedicated.
- Groups were relatively few in number.

It was almost purely defensive.

- Groups focused on defense, not policy development.
- Groups rejected concessions to Democrats and targeted weak Republicans.
- Groups focused on local congressional representation.

RECESS AND TOWN HALLS

What's recess?

- It's called "District Work Period" for a reason

What're Town Halls?

- In-person events where Members of Congress listen to their constituents in person
- **Their goal:** Crafting local image and getting positive press
- **Your goal:** Making them listen and encouraging resistance once they get back to D.C.

MAKING THE MOST OF TOWN HALLS

General tips

- Get Prepared and Make a Plan
- Ask good questions
- You can be a constituent and not a policy expert
- Be polite, but don't be afraid to be firm

INDIVISIBLE:

HOW TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL TOWN HALL

The week of February 17-26 is the first district work period ("recess") of the new Congress. Members of Congress (MoCs) will be back home holding public events and meeting with constituents. These meetings are a great opportunity for your group to remind your MoCs that they need to stand up for you—and that means standing up against the Trump agenda. Below are some tips on how to maximize this opportunity to influence your MoCs.

PREPARE

1. **Find out when your MoC's next public town hall event is.** Sometimes these are announced well in advance. But sometimes, although they are technically "public," only select constituents are notified about them shortly before the event. If you can't find announcements online, call your MoC directly to find out. When you call, be friendly and say to the staffer, "Hi, I'm a constituent, and I'd like to know when his/her next town hall forum will be." If they don't know, ask to be added to the email list so that you get notified when they do.
2. **Send out a notice of the town hall to your group, post the event on the [Indivisible Action website](#), and get commitments from group members to attend.** Distribute whatever information you have on your MoC's voting record, as well as prepared questions, to all group members.
3. **Prepare several questions ahead of time for your group to ask.** Your questions should be sharp and fact-based, ideally including information on the MoC's record, votes they've taken, or statements they've made. Thematically, questions should focus on a limited number of issues to maximize impact: right now, the proposed repeal of the Affordable Care Act is one of the most important. It is also critical for Senate Democrats to stand up to Trump's radical Supreme Court nominee, and for all MoCs to oppose his racist Muslim and refugee ban. Prepare 5-10 questions and hand them out to your group ahead of the meeting. Example question:

"I and many district families in Springfield rely on the Affordable Care Act. I don't think we should be taking healthcare away from more than 30 million Americans, and this repeal will create serious financial hardship for people who can't afford it. You haven't gone on the record opposing this. Will you commit here and now to vote no on repealing the Affordable Care Act?"
4. **Get connected to local press.** Research on [Google News](#) what local reporters have written about your MoCs. Find and follow those reporters on Twitter, and build relationships. Before you head to the town hall, reach out and explain why you and your group are attending, and provide them with background materials and a quote. Journalists on deadline—even those who might not agree with you—appreciate when you provide easy material for a story. Prepare to take videos—this will make your experience that much more newsworthy.

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MAKING THE MOST OF TOWN HALLS

4 suggested topics:

- **Repeal of Obamacare** – Oppose with district-level statistics
- **Extremist Supreme Court nominee** – Filibuster!
- **Muslim and refugee ban** – Congress should prohibit this
- **Release of Trump's tax returns** – Congress can do this unilaterally!

INDIVISIBLE

SAMPLE CONSTITUENT QUESTIONS FOR CONGRESSIONAL RECESS TOWN HALLS

The upcoming congressional recess is a big opportunity for local groups around the country to show their Members of Congress (MoCs) how serious they are about stopping the Trump agenda. To accomplish this, it's helpful for to have a consistent message for their MoCs during town halls, district office meetings, and phone calls.

It's impossible to cover every single issue you might care about directly with your MoC, but there are a few issues today that are as symbolic as they are potentially devastating to those affected by them. **These are the ones that Indivisible will be focusing on during recess.**

A mix of defense and offense. The hard truth is that we don't have agenda-setting power right now. Trump and his lackeys in Congress hold the reins. As local constituents, we have the power to respond, and you've already proved how powerful that response can be. But there are still opportunities to go on the offense once a while too—and we're suggesting both for this recess.

Three Issues on Defense:

- Defending the ACA/Obamacare
- Opposing Trump's nominee for the Supreme Court
- Opposing the Muslim and refugee ban

One Issue on Offense:

- Demanding that Trump release his tax returns

This document provides some sample questions to ask when you show up to your town hall over congressional recess. Use these verbatim, edit them to fit your voice, or make up a whole new set your own. We're just here to help—you're the leader here, so feel free to get creative. Good luck out there—we will win. We also have plenty of [scripts](#) here to use if you're also making calls next week.

FIVE GENERAL TIPS FOR CRAFTING TOWN HALL QUESTIONS

1. **Keep your eye on the prize.** Your job isn't to convince your MoC—it's to make him or her give you an answer or make clear to all watching that they refuse.
2. **Be a storyteller.** Incorporate your own personal story in your question. Keep in mind your audience is as much your neighbors and fellow town hall attendees as it is the MoC. Be honest, be vulnerable, and tell stories that matter.
3. **Make a concrete, verifiable ask.** The best asks are clear, actionable for the MoC, and easy to verify whether they followed through or not. If you ask any MoC "Will you fight for me?" Every single one of them will say "Yes!" and then go about their day. If you ask them: "Will

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THE GAMES MEMBERS OF CONGRESS PLAY

“Tele-town” Halls

- **Just one bullet on this: they’re a joke.** Do not accept these as an alternative to a real live town hall with your Members of Congress.

Hiding

- **Just what it sounds like.** They don’t want to face tough questions from their constituents...so they’re hiding.

THE GAMES MEMBERS OF CONGRESS PLAY

Constituent-Led Town Halls

- **Get a venue.** District office or outside venue.
- **Invite speakers.** Including the Member of Congress!
- **Publicize widely.** Let press know ahead
- **Prepare for a missing member.** Cardboard cutout or empty chair would work.
- **Record everything.** Pictures and video make the event real to everyone who couldn't be there.

INDIVISIBLE:

MISSING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ACTION PLAN

Former congressional staff explain how to make your Members of Congress more accessible

Where on earth has your Member of Congress gone? Something strange has been happening in the last month or so: Members of Congress (MoCs) from all over the country are going missing. They're still turning up for votes on Capitol Hill, and they're still meeting with lobbyists and friendly audiences back home—but their public event schedules are mysteriously blank. Odd.

This is happening for a very simple reason: MoCs do not want to look weak or unpopular—and they know that Trump's agenda is very, very unpopular. Remember: Every MoC wakes up every morning thinking, "How can I convince my constituents that they should reelect me?" That means MoCs are enormously sensitive to their local image, and they will work very hard to avoid signs of public disapproval from constituents. Some MoCs have clearly made the calculation that they can lay low, avoid their constituents, and hope the current storm blows over. It's your job to change that calculus.

This toolkit describes how local groups can make missing MoCs more accessible. MoCs are gambling that out of sight means out of mind. It will take some work, but their constituents have power win at this game. It means getting active, standing together indivisible, and getting local press attention on your MoC's cowardly behavior. This works—and this brief describes the nuts and bolts of getting it done.

Town halls are a basic part of our democratic heritage and every Member of Congress should have them. Over the year, a MoC's schedule is split between time "in session," when they're expected to be in Washington, DC attending to legislative business, and "recess," when they go back to their districts or states. These recess periods—also known as "District Work Periods" on the [congressional calendar](#)—which stretch from several days to several weeks at a time, are the designated periods for MoCs to be home engaging with constituents. The whole reason that recess exists is to make sure that MoCs don't lose touch with constituent concerns.

Town halls are a time-honored tradition for listening to constituents. Because MoCs can't possibly meet individually with all their constituents, they normally host public events like town halls or district office hours so that they can interact with many constituents. In addition to allowing constituents to communicate their views directly to a MoC, rather than through staff, it gives MoCs the chance to take the temperature of their constituents and discuss their positions in greater detail.

Now, some MoCs find the prospect of a town hall, or even a large group meeting, pretty scary. If they handle a controversial policy question or a heartfelt personal story poorly, a whole lot of people are going to hear about it. But, once again, **that's their job.** As a constituent, you deserve opportunities to share your views and personal stories about how policy affects your lives with your representative. And you also deserve opportunities to hear directly from your MoC about where they stand on the issues you care about. An MoC who's carefully tailoring their appearances to avoid hearing from people who disagree with them is an MoC who's not doing their job.

If your MoC has been "missing," whether that means refusing to meet with your group or refusing to hold a public event, here's how to track them down and hold them accountable.

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1

This woman drove 12 hours roundtrip to her rep's town hall and she has a message for the resistance



By Jen Hayden

Tuesday Feb 14, 2017 · 4:14 PM EST

129 Comments (129 New)

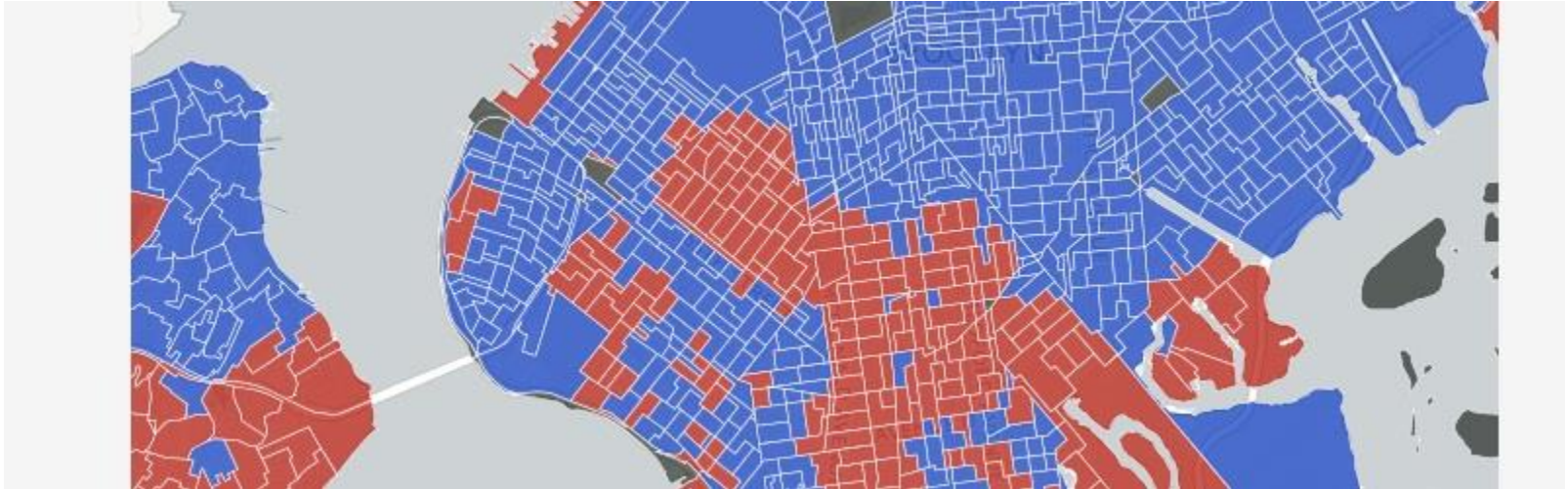


attribution: screenshot from sisterpersister video

Fight on, sisterpersister!

Costa Kokkinos

South Brooklyn Progressive Resistance



Catalyst Event: bird-dogging and protesting action organized by Bay Ridge for Social Justice and Fight Back Bay Ridge

“Protesters disrupt Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce forum to attack Muslim ban” - Brooklyn Daily Eagle

“Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Breakfast Turns into Forum for Travel Ban Protesters”
- Brooklyn Magazine



“Who Is Dan Donovan, New York City’s Only Republican Rep In Washington?”
- Huff Post

“You Don’t Represent Us’: Bay Ridge Congressman Targeted By Protesters At Chamber of Commerce Forum”
- Gothamist

“It’s Hard To Be A Republican In Brooklyn – Donovan’s Constituents Protest Chamber Event” - Bklyner.com

Planning tips for your tele-town hall action

- Create facebook event, share far and wide
- Media advisories
- One-pager →
- Who will take video/pictures/go Live on Facebook?
- Who will make audio recording of call?
- Police involvement

The Problem With Donovan's Tele-Town Halls

Congressman Dan Donovan represents the 11th Congressional District, which encompasses all of Staten Island and parts of Brooklyn, including Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights, Bensonhurst, and Gravesend. While it is the most politically conservative district in New York City, this is largely due to redistricting—also known as gerrymandering—in recent years that changed the layout of the district and its political leanings.

Donovan won his office with only 58.7% of the vote, and his is a “flippable” seat. His recent political activity has been of concern to many constituents. Donovan **supports Trump's Muslim ban** and **voted to undercut the Affordable Care Act at the budget level**.



For these reasons, many of Donovan's constituents have **requested a Town Hall to discuss the way he represents his district**.

Instead, Donovan has proposed a **TELE-TOWN HALL**.

Rather than meet constituents face-to-face to hear our stories, Donovan wants to engage only with pre-screened callers who ask softball questions.

What's the problem with a Tele-Town Hall?

- **Calls are pre-screened** by question, so representatives only need answer **easy or comfortable questions**;
- Callers can also be screened by area-code or address, which further **silences voices of dissent in gerrymandered districts** (like District 11);
- There is **no human element**, and constituents aren't seen as real people with valid concerns, just voices on a phone;
- Tele-Town Halls aren't regulated, so they allow representatives to **skirt regulations** concerning communications with constituents;
- **No reporters are present** and calls are not recorded, so there is **no accountability**.

TELL DAN DONOVAN HIS CONSTITUENTS DESERVE AN IN-PERSON TOWN HALL!

Brooklyn Office: 718-630-5277 / Staten Island Office: 718-351-1062 / DC Office: 202-225-3371

Constituents Sit In, Donovan Dials In

By Liena Zagare - February 17, 2017

👁 200

f Share on Facebook

🐦 Tweet on Twitter

G+

📌



FEB 16 Sidewalk Sit-in at Donovan Tele-town Hall

Public · Hosted by Costa Kokkinos and Sally McMahon

👤 Invite ✎ Edit ⋮

🕒 Thursday, February 16 at 6:30 PM - 8 PM
2 days ago

📍 7308 13th Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11228-2011, United States [Show Map](#)

About Discussion

✍ Write Post 📷 Add Photo/Video 🗳 Create Poll 📎

👤 Write something...



Irena, Mary and 7 other friends went

102	34	30
Interested	went	invited



Their narrative

As critics of Rep. Daniel Donovan have denounced his lack of town hall meetings, the congressman held a telephone town hall Thursday night, speaking to 14,000 constituents

They're not interested in a respectful exchange of ideas or even in allowing Congressman Donovan an opportunity to speak with them – they seem to want only to shout down any opinion different from theirs, " said his Communications Director Patrick Ryan in a [letter to the editor last week](#).

For those living in Congressional District 11, a new form just went up on Congressman's website for anyone interested in dialing-in to [future Tele-Town Hall meetings](#).

"Frankly, I think the disruptions we have been witnessing -- the shouting, the name calling -- is rude and unproductive, and it won't be tolerated on this call," he said.

He noted the "fake news" that people spread, specifically in the borough.

Not hosting any town halls since being elected in May 2015, the congressman doesn't have any plans to hold one now, as protesters are expected to turn it into a shouting match, not a forum for productive debate, his spokesman has said.

Our narrative

But the community organizers are not letting up: "We've come out tonight to show our representative that we want to see him in person to talk about his actions as a Congressman, the good ones and the bad ones," said Costa Kokkinos, a founding member of South Brooklyn Progressive Resistance. - Bklyner.com

Some activists demand face-to-face access to the Congressman, who voted for the travel ban impacting people from seven majority Muslim states, and wants to repeal the Affordable Care Act. "Because tele-town halls allow representatives to silence voices in gerrymandered districts like District 11, local activists invite constituents to rally while they participate in the tele-town hall," they say. - Huffington Post

A Trump supporter stopped by to ask what's the goal of standing outside like a bunch of idiots in the freezing weather? That Republican constituent of District 11 ended up standing with us for 45 minutes, working to find some consensus and agreement on issues very important to both the right and the left. We are asking Rep. Donovan to do the same – work with us. Meet us in public, in a real life town hall. Listen to us, and let us listen to you. - My letter to the editor

**#ALL
OF US**

**IT'S TIME
FOR AN
AMERICA
FOR ALL
OF US.**

**#ALL
OF US**

Join us at WeWillReplaceYou.Org

**Dear Democrats who
aren't resisting Trump**



#WeWillReplaceYou

**Sign the Primary Pledge at
WeWillReplaceYou.Org**

Take the Primary Pledge

I pledge to support primary election challengers against any Democrats who won't do everything in their power to resist Trump.

First name



Last name



Mobile phone



Email address



Zip code



I'M IN

**#ALL
OF US**

Birddogging is Easy!

- Goal- Elicit a Response.
 - Get Elected Official on-record.
 - Pressure and move them on issues!

3 Simple Tips

- Get Face to Face
- Know your punchline
- Be Persistent

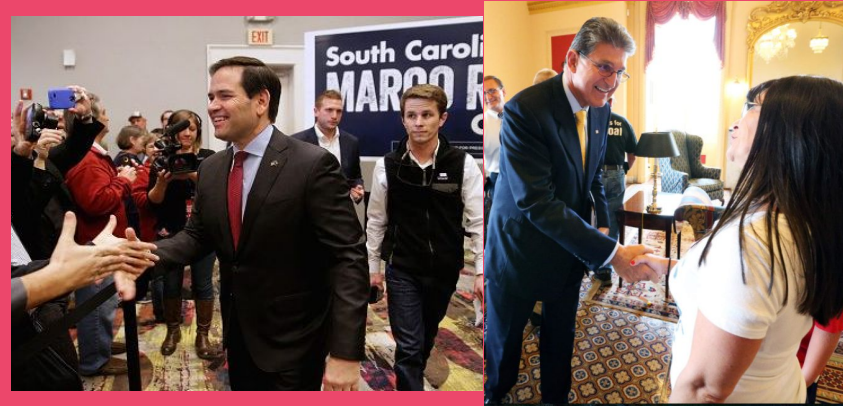
Get Face to Face: 3 scenarios

1. Q&A- Smile, Raise your Hand, Eye contact; Stand up.



Get Face to Face: 3 scenarios

2. Rope-line- Smile, extend your hand, don't let go :D



Get Face to Face: 3 scenarios

3. Large Crowd!- Chant a Question



**#ALL
OF US**

2. Know Your Punchline

1. Will you filibuster Trump's Supreme Court Nominee? Yes or No.
2. Will you stand with the American people and protect the Affordable Care Act? Yes or No?
3. Will you support an independent, immediate, bipartisan investigation into Trump's ties with Russia? Yes or No.
4. Will you do everything you can to resist Trump's entire agenda? Yes or No.
5. Will you publicly supporting impeachment if Trump is found to have broken the law or violated the Constitution? Yes or No?

3. Be Persistent

1. Ask the Question, again and again.
2. Don't let them get away without answering your punchline.

Prepare and Follow up

- Bring a group of friends. If there are more people prepared to ask a question, the more likely it is to have your question asked- and answered.
- If there isn't a video, it didn't happen. Another reason to bring friends and family!
- Go up to reporters at the event and tell them what the elected official said to your question.

Birddogging is easy and it works!



@RafaelShimunov

National Creative Director

ResistHere.org @ResistHere

Working Families Party @WorkingFamilies

The Resistance
is **Live.**





TXT 'RESIST'




TO 738674


The Resistance is **Live.**

Rafael Shimunov National Creative Director
ResistHere.org @ResistHere
Working Families Party @WorkingFamilies
TXT "**Resist**" to 738674






 **Working Families Party** was live.  
Published by Rafael Shimunov [?] · January 28 at 3:26pm · 





We are here at JFK airport demanding that visa holders and refugees JFK has detained are released! We will be here until all people detained are released. #Terminal4 arrivals. #NoMuslimBanJFK #NoBanNoWall



44,896,627 people reached 

16M Views

 Love  Comment  Share  

   339K Top Comments 

222,937 shares

The Resistance is **Live.**

Elements of good live video:

1) Technical

Pre Label & Pre Share

Prep your personal networks.

Power, Light, Sound, Orientation

Signal. Batteries. Cords. Find light or make it.

Feedback Loop

Are viewers telling you something? Keep checking. What are you telling them? Keep repeating.

Keep Rolling

An audience takes time to build. Start early before the action and don't stop.

Secret Weapon Your friends.

2) Inspirational

Individuals

Faces. Relationships. Interviews.

Crowds

Size. Movement. Relationship to opposition.

Tension

What's the primary tension? What are second and third tensions?

Truth

Break the "4th wall". Warts and all.

Your Voice

When to be a camera person, a reporter and a participant.

Rafael Shimunov National Creative Director

ResistHere.org @ResistHere

Working Families Party @WorkingFamilies

TXT "**Resist**" to 738674

3) Strategic(al)

Primary Takeaway?

What's the one thing you want viewers to remember long after the stream?

Access

What can you get that others can't?

Be Generous

This is a popular movement.

Give credit where credit's due in tagging and in highlighting who is at the action.

With tags, the camera, and your voice.

The Resistance is **OFF AIR.**

Common mistakes we make:

1) Giving up

You lose your signal.

It says you have a poor connection and people are commenting about how they don't see anything.

So you stop. *Why did you stop?* Keep going, walk around if you can, weather it out in case it comes back.

No one is watching.

If you did everything right, stick through it. (Video aligned?) Facebook favors the bold and committing here will flag you as someone who wants to live stream bad.

Friends only?

From a personal account, set it to public.

2) Complying

Authority

For actions specific to Town Halls and public officials in public spaces with zero expectation to privacy, you are the authority and are free to stream. If someone has a problem with that, you have a new **tension** to film.

Police & Security

Don't give security an excuse to end your stream. You're there for others to be witness. So chill and deescalate.

Unless you must be a participant, you're better off having degrees of separation between you and the drama unfolding. Think about your clothes. Who you're seated with. And if and when you should be chanting.

Rafael Shimunov National Creative Director
ResistHere.org @ResistHere
Working Families Party @WorkingFamilies
TXT "**Resist**" to 738674

3) Not following up

HD

Facebook streams low to medium quality video to move it faster. Often times, it will pop up at the end of a live stream to ask if you'd like to upload the HD version to replace the small one. I often miss it, and there isn't a way I know of yet to do it later.

Lifecycle

Not over after the event. You can download the video from FB and upload 2 minute parts of it to Twitter and Instagram. This can be many small clips tagging speakers, or linking to other relevant hashtags.

The Resistance is soooo **Live.**

Rafael Shimunov National Creative Director
ResistHere.org @ResistHere
Working Families Party @WorkingFamilies
TXT "**Resist**" to **738674**

1) Here for you

If you're planning to live stream on Facebook, message us via **fb.com/ResistHere** way ahead of time and let us know.

We have the tools to bring you a broad audience.

When you tag **#ResistanceRecess** we can find you and boost you.

If it's on a Tuesday,
#ResistTrumpTuesdays too for that movement.

2) Get more

Get more tips:

ResistHere.org/streaming

We'll be adding these slides, the recording of this section, and more detailed tools to our guide.

This is a living document and your feedback and experiences will continue to add to it.

Text "Resist" to 738674

We will stay in touch with you on local resistance around you.

3) Find joy

Lives are being torn apart, things look bleak, but we need joy to survive. And we need to survive to resist.

You can find joy in everything you do.

For me it helps to remind myself that making mistakes gets us closer to winning.

That I'm lucky to be part of this history.

I'm lucky to be able to tell kids what I did to stop this.

I'm lucky to find this family of people, you, who are awakened and are truly here for one another!

Closing with Song - Nelini Stamp, Working Families Party

Why are we in this situation

That brings us down

Can't you see we are losing patience

With oppression now

The people will rise the people will rise

The people will rise