Lisa’s Blockade Training notes

**Agenda**
- Deconstructing Blockades
- Discussion of Preparation and Practice
- Safety
- Hands on Demonstration

**What Does a Blockade Mean?**
- Form of direct action to interrupt business as usual
- Creating physical spectacle to draw attention
- Heightening crisis
- Show depth of commitment and urgency
- Asking society to make a choice

**Where is the best place to do it?** - brainstorm
- Entry way, access points, corridors
- Choke points
- Intersections
- Point of production/destruction
- Inside buildings – doors, revolving doors,

**When?**
- Decisions are pending
- Spotlight on issues
- Spotlight needs to be on issue
- Moments of opportunity
  - Global day of action - anniversay
  - When opposition holds events – Shareholders
  - Political leaders meetings – press conferences
  - Media moments – when things are open
- Blockade is a wild card and we don’t play it unless we have to. Need to escalate, form of increased pressure

**Who? Is blockading?**
- People directly affected
- People of passion, conscious
- People with privilege
- People who can – are able bodied.
- Trained, people who are prepared, practiced with contingency plans

**Why?**
- It works!
- Demonstrate power
- Gives hope
- Sends powerful message
- Can create change
II. Preparation and Practice – need to be security minded

Action Security
How do you operate with integrity to protect plan?
Defining
People will try to stop – level of conduct
Affinity Groups, consensus
Wobbly saying – CD is western world not illegal. 1st amendment right
Stick to story, never confess, never turn in a friend (build trust)

Agent of Repression – Ward Churchill
War at Home – Brian Glick
When an Agent knocks – CCR

Fear is their biggest weapon, Truth is ours. We have our rights.

Harrassment and Intimidations

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Pain Compliance – Place where nerves are close to bone or limbs in reverse direction.

General – relax, breathe, short term pain Verbally respond – you’re hurting me, stop. You don’t have authority, not flight risk

Demonstration Holds

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<th>Deal</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wrist Back, elbow forward, thumb in center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finger Digits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Under cheek bone on neck</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eyeball Gouge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neck</td>
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<td>Hair</td>
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Pepper Spray – toxic solvent that attaches to skin. Goggles, bandanas and vinegar or lemon

Gas Mask – can have scary, negative image, militants, dehumanizing – but can paint, decorate...and enables you to stay in the struggle!!!

Physical protection, relax, support, video

Action Safety
How to minimize people getting hurt on blockades (also have medic, media, and water)

Water and food – before and during
Relationship to Police
Dress Right
Have good gear – practice with it!!!
Support Team
Video documentation
Media – if desired

Art of Blockading
Never lock down to: moving vehicle or equipment, loud, noisy, heavy machinery
Objects that aren’t fixed
Never drugs or weapons
Prepare for time – diapers, catheter
Appropriate Tools – image we create

Body Blockades
Body Blockade Techniques – what are we projecting? Can whatever stuff we use, communicate through the picture. A picture related to the issue we are organizing on. IE – oil barrels painted no blood for oil. Or locked boxes in school desks – fund education not war....

1. Forming line – same clothing, sticker? open
   ● Hand in hand
   ● Link arms
   ● Lock wrists
2. Sitting – has more power, harder to move, less confrontational
   ● Back to Back
   ● Back to Front
   ● Line: open legs, saddle up, arms linked
   ● Legs linked
   ● Carpet
3. Circles - inward and outward
4. Body knot - knees up, arms up and cross, down and through leg to partners wrist
5. Spiral Twist – long line linked, front starts to turn into a circle. Line creates order and safety
6. Swarming – larges numbers of people quickly occupy space at strategic locations.

Tech Blockades

Create layers of defenses, prepare for theirs. Have strong support system. Tend to physical needs. Prepare for time.

1. U-locks: use for neck, bikes, door handles
   ● Started with anitnuke and earth firster’s, known as necktie
   ● Break through with diamond saw, Jaws of life. When cutting out...Talk to them about safety. Neck is fragile. Position into safe and sustainable position. Lock to doors, office furniture, equipment. Keep key on you and with a support person.
   ● Scouting Notes: measure, choose right tools for target.
   ● Practice, simulate, rehearse, Timing, speed can be crucial

Positions
Back to back joins.
U-lock extender – extra lock in link.
Human Octopus
Axels, underneath cars, steering wheels, window frames, gates, doors,

2. Cables – kryptonite Cable Lock
Goal for wrapping around waist and object.
Wrap – figure 8 with Two People
Cobra Lengths – encased kryptonite cable

3. Lock Boxes: hit the seas in 1986 with Greenpeace.
   3-4 inch steel pipe (schedule 40 thickness) (fits snuggly)
   Pin welded through center
   15 inch length of chain around wrist with nut and bolt – 1 in 5/16 diameter w/ lock nut
   Spring clip with open gate, cheap carabineer work with thumbs

Straight Boxes , Black Bears are angled. More range of motion. Cold glove pump fingers to keep circulations going

4. Concrete Barrels – box inside, willed with concrete.

Wrap Up - jail, medical, action planning etc dealt with in other trainings or need to put a few basics in here!!