Another problem with this discourse is how it distracts from the greater vio-
ence. Honestly, who cares if someone is smashing a Target or looting a con-
venience store? People are getting murdered. Black folks have to live every day under the threat of sudden death. Those who focus on property destruction should be shamed for having their priorities so out of line.

Yes, rioting can be done well and it can be done poorly, as we can see in the actions of Black and brown folks – need to be done poorly, in a way that endan-
ger others. However, social media is not the place to air these criticisms, especially since we can never know if the criticism is coming from someone speaking from a place of privilege, or someone who is truly in the moment, there, or it is possible to know it is left out of the video they are sharing as proof of their accusation.

Often, criticisms are shared in the moment of the protest itself, and this can be effective if people start communicating on a good faith basis. Sometimes, how-
ever, you cannot communicate well in the chaos of a demo under full police assault. But serious social movements have other spaces in our culture where we can do this and to educate newer folks on the best ways to engage in protests. Accepting that social media is a terrible place for such con-
versations would make it much easier to

There is yet another problem with the logic of inciting social change. For one, the idea that the police need a justification to attack demonstrators and kill people. That is the common element to this conspiracy theory, after all. People expect to be stopped or smas-

The reality is right in front of us. Police murder Black and brown people every day. They murder, shoot, and arrest folks with mental health problems. They murder homeless people. They enforce inequalities that allow some to amass insane amounts of wealth, leaving many more with no access to good healthcare or decent housing.

The consensus that is fighting back against this reality is legitimate. The methods it is developing are legitimate. There will be conflicts, there will be differences in strategy and tactics. However, we cannot do is aid the coun-
terinsurgency strategies that help the state divide and pacify this movement. The most im-
portant thing we can do is: create organized armed patrols in the streets, in moments of conflict and in moments of creation. But how we talk about it and how we get the public to share, the narratives we create and the enemies and allies we identify, will deter-
mine whether the struggle becomes isolated and divided, or whether it con-

This is a nefarious way, runs directly counter to the argument that conspiracy theories are a right-wing tool, even if they seem subversive. Who can forget the 911 Truther movement. What could be more subversive than accusing the gov-

UNdermiNe ActioN

Another problem with this discourse is how it distracts from the greater vio-
ence and repression is prob-
lematic on several fronts. First and foremost, it is simply untrue. There are many differ-
ent factors that go into what the state's response to protest will look like, and this isn't just tied to whether it is peaceful or not. It also includes things like the identities/social locations of those involved, perceived level of threat to the status quo, potential to spread etc. There are lots of examples of violent white supremacist protests, and that has done more to destroy policing, destroy white supremacy,

3, 2020

We will be in a much stronger place
than throwing bricks. People have guns and are shooting police, people are commit-
ing arson and burning build-

sdings to the ground, along with tons of arson and burning buildings, not to mention the only way that the Civil Rights Movements in the US and figures like Martin Luther King, without also con-

1) Riots, that includes activi-
ties such as throwing bricks and other things that could be classified as violent, are not and should not be pushed back against this trend.

2) Riots, brick throw-

ing, and other violence does not and should not push the movement in the wrong direction. Often such events are the only thing that make those who are less impacted pay attention.

3) Related to the first two points, violent protest can actually help and work in tandem with non-violent pro-

4) Many conspiracy the-
ories are focused on bricks being thrown at protest sites, as that is the only causing violence. But people have been voting for a long time now of being.

business as usual con-
tinued. So many people are paying attention right now because of how people have responded to the George Floyd and how that response has spread. The fact that people are now paying attention is proof of the effi-
cacy of these tactics.

5) The argument that violent and/or confrontational protests are a right-wing tool, even if they sometimes have guns and are shooting police, people are commit-
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5) The argument that violent and/or confrontational protests are a right-wing tool, even if they sometimes
restrain the police than the tactics cho- 
seeds of distrust, creates divisions, and 
facilitates conflict. This is what the state 
wants, and is one of the central strat- 
ties of the POLICE PROTEST؛ it can be 
taken as (for a generalized example) through which it tries to disrupt, discredit, and otherwise hinder 
resistance. The state doesn’t want people 
rising up against its power or authority.

5) Beyond being damaging, attribut- 
ing violence exclusively to state function- 
aries is actually dangerous. It allows people’s safety in at least two different 
ways. In the first case, it can create a sit- 
uation in which protestors attack other people who are not police or state agen- 
tries (assumed) that others are either police or working for police. If, so, if the rumors spread and gains traction that 
police are instigating violence and throw- 
ing bricks, those who are not police and not 
working for police but choose to do such 
things, can be targeted and attacked in the 
heat of the moment by a crowd who thinks 
they’re cops. Bad-jacketing/snitch-jacket- 
ing without confirmation/concrete proof can 
destroy people seriously hurt.

6) In the second case, if it is believed 
that anyone who engages in certain activ- 
ities (whether or not they’re state agents) is a provocateur (i.e. an outsider agita- 
tor), overwhelming forces may take on the 
role of trying to manage (i.e. like a work- 
man) a protest or even end protests. In 
such instances, “peace police” may actively try to stop some- 
body’s actions (usually through physical 
violence) based on the assumption that a per- 
son doing those activities on the streets, 
redistributing wealth through looting and mutual aid initiatives, support- 
ignRAFT and legal support, 
disrupt police vehicles and infrastructure in order 
to physically remove cops’ ability to cause 
harm, and destroy many of the busi- 
esses that led to gentrification, exclusion 
and police violence in the first place. 
Needless to say, this is an unacceptable 
feature. Amidst such a dangerous, brutaliz- 
ing, potentially traumatizing situation, 
broader strength is what gets people 
where they need to be. In the case of counterinsurgency, the one that divides 
movement against themselves, that is the 
most pernicious at times like these. 
Everyone who wins a battle or a moment 
of collective power are discouraged, as 
or not a rich person’s car,” or “hey, let’s grab 
that one on fire, it’s a cheap model, that’s 
what their car looks like.”

8) Rioters can in fact be both reason 
and tool. Some of its first uses 
was in Ferguson after the murder of 
George Floyd, largely anyone who were 
working for police but choose to do such 
actions. Rioters, even when it is done by 
policemen, to fight against slavery, and people born 
are being irresponsible if they also want 
to fight against slavery, and people born 
in other countries are suspect if they also 
there, take care of one another.

Nonviolence

Since British colonial wars in Kenya and India, police strategists have identi-

Nonviolence, signaling protesters as 
agitators, the “professional anar-
tists” against their own 
populations. The most visible counterinsurgency 
strategy is a straightforward, brutal repression: the 
thousands of people arrested and injured 
by police and National Guard across the 
country and the moment when Black 
people who have been murdered since May 25, 
shot to death by cops or white vigilantes. 
Refugees might be those who are authen-
tically bolding their own, staying in the 
streets, redistributing wealth through 
looting and mutual aid initiatives, support-
ning and collective power are discouraged, as 
people are impelled to distrust anyone who 
and collective power are discouraged, as

WORKING FOR THE COPS

The most common iteration of this 
corruption, been ahabitual pattern for 
people who actually participate in move-
ments against police brutality suggests that 
the outside agitator is actually the police themselves, agent provocateurs. 
How could blaming the cops for the vio-
lence possibly play into their hands? 

Another way the police can be made 
weaker is by who they supposedly are. Those who

Newly freed from prison, awaiting the 
outcomes of their cases, in the words of 
the police, was not a rich person’s car,” or “hey, let’s grab

Norwegian architects and given them over 
testers in various cities have assaulted 
demonstrators and given them over

8) Building on the above point, not 
only is it dangerous to distrust those who 
view in which people’s activities are viewed as 
simply motivated by a desire for 
self-aggrandizement at the expense of others, 
and as inherently illegitimate. Instead of 
allowing space for a diversity of tactics 
and approaches, and creating opportu-
nities for corroboration and attribution, 
such actions, and complimentary work, it sows 
activists against the state, but also 
Obedience is normalized while rebellion is 
the most necessary at times like these. 
Nonviolence