

Dissent in the US: Increasing Police Repression of Protected Protests

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Habana, Cuba, 2023

The background of the slide is a grayscale image of the Statue of Liberty's head and crown, with the crown's spikes radiating outwards. The image is semi-transparent, allowing the text to be clearly visible.

1st Amendment of the US Constitution

The right to protest is fundamental to our democracy and sacrosanct.
The Founding Fathers.

*“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; **or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances”**”*

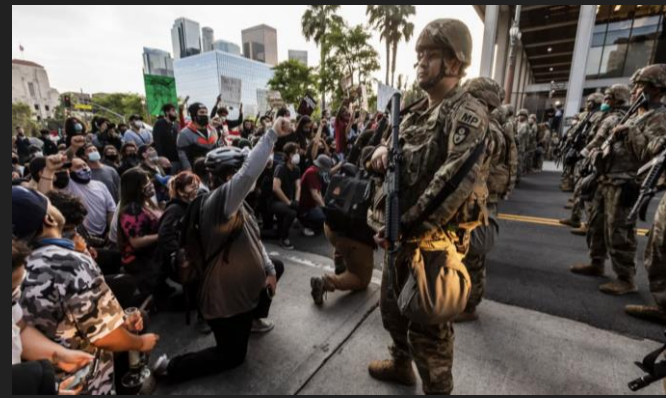
Los Angeles Uprising 1992





Protests Against Police Brutality & Racial Inequality

- Black Lives Matter
- Police Accountability
- Defunding the Police
- George Floyd Protest



Dakota Access Pipeline at Standing Rock

Protest Against the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL)
Camp was Established to Prevent Construction of Oil Pipeline:

Resist Water Contamination (Water is Sacred)

Protect Sacred Lands

Respect Indigenous Land Right Treaties

Demanded Free Prior and Informed Consent (DRIP)

Environmental Review



Police Repression



- Less than Lethal Projectile
- Tear Gas
- Mace / Pepper Spray
- Baton Strikes

Human Rights Violations Criminalizing Dissent

- Resisting Arrests
- Obstruction of Justice
- Disorderly Conduct
- Unlawful Assembly
- Designating Organizations as Terrorist Organizations





Recommendations

- Mandatory Use of Body Cams
- Demilitarization of Police
- Retrain and Educate Officers
- Officer Accountability
- Re-imagine Policing

The Final Word

“An unjust law is itself a species of violence.
Arrest for its breach is more so.”

— Mahatma Gandhi

