

Action Guidelines – Queer Rising, New York City

ACTION DETAILS:

1. What is the action?
2. Is there an affinity group put together for this action or campaign?
3. Does the action need to happen on or by a specific date?
4. Does the action need to happen at a specific location?
5. Does the action involve a legal public protest such as a picket, a march, or a rally?
6. Will other groups be involved with the action?
7. Is this a single action, or a campaign of multiple actions?
8. Does it involve risk of arrest? If so, is a legal team assembled?
9. What is the detailed media strategy and who is on the media team?
10. Supplies / preparation needed?
11. Let's ROLL
 - a. What is the date?
 - b. What is the time?
 - c. What is the location?

LOGISTICS:

1. Who / what is the target or focus, and why?
 - a. What basic research has been done on the target?
 - b. What's the best way to put pressure on the target?
 - c. What past actions have been conducted against the target?
2. What is the bottom line demand?
 - a. Has a demand letter been written / delivered?
 - b. Has negotiation been attempted? Result?
 - c. What other outreach has there been?
 - d. How will success be measured?

3. What basic groundwork has been done on the problem to be addressed (research, study groups, workshops, conferences)?
 - a. What are the identified “weak points” in the opposition target?
 - b. What other general information has been assembled?
4. What are the goals (short, medium, and long term)?
 - a. Short range:
 - b. Medium range:
 - c. Long range:
5. What are the strategic considerations
 - a. Who is on our side?
 - b. What allies do we need to succeed?
 - c. How can they be reached?
6. What stage is the campaign in? (as applicable)
 - a. Investigation and research
 - b. Negotiation and arbitration (meeting with opponents, issue ultimatum)
 - c. Public forums, letters to the editors, etc. (basic public education)
 - d. Picketing, leafleting, etc (public contact with opponents)
 - e. Demonstrations, rallies, marches (show strength, build numbers)
 - f. Limited strike (involving those immediately affected).
 - g. Boycott (if appropriate)
 - h. Limited noncooperation (by those most immediately affected)
 - i. Massive illegal actions (noncooperation, civil disobedience, direct action)

NONVIOLENCE

Queer Rising engages in nonviolent direct action for queer rights. The spirit and practice of nonviolence, as described by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. still guides us today:

1. Nonviolence is resistance to evil and oppression. It is a human way to fight.

2. It does not seek to defeat or humiliate opponents, but to win their friendship and understanding.
3. The nonviolent method is an attack on the forces of evil rather than against persons doing the evil. It seeks to defeat the evil and not the persons doing the evil and injustice.
4. It is the willingness to accept suffering without retaliation.
5. A nonviolent resister avoids both external physical and internal spiritual violence — not only refuses to shoot, but also to hate, an opponent. The ethic of real love is at the center of nonviolence.
6. The believer in nonviolence has a deep faith in the future. The forces in the universe are seen to be on the side of justice.

APPROVAL PROCESS

Most action proposals will have to be presented at 3 Queer Rising meetings to provide sufficient time for discussion and refinement of the proposal. Actions that need to happen more quickly will be handled on a case-by-case basis. At the 1st and 2nd presentations, the group will vote on whether to continue discussing the proposal at the next meeting. At the 3rd presentation, if the action sponsors are ready, the group will vote on the action.