ENGLISH 309G: THE DISCOURSE OF DISSENT
A study of the social, historical, and rhetorical dimensions of collective action.

Fall 2004; Tuesday 7-9:50
Prof. A. McMurry
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Texts:
Persuasion and Social Movements, Stewart, Smith, and Denton [SSD]
The Rhetoric of Agitation and Control, Bowers, Ochs, and Jenson [BOJ]
Cultural Resistance Reader, Duncombe, ed. [CCR]

Assignments:
- 25% Optional mid-term
- 40% Group project: Create-A-Movement (includes key documents such as manifestos, speeches, posters, graffiti, artwork, slogans, songs, chants, news releases) + one “event” (video, theatre, demonstration, or other action) + in-class presentation
- Final exam: 25% (50%)
- Weekly response postings: 10%

Tentative Schedule:
Week 1: Introduction: Rhetoric as (Symbolic) Action
Week 2: Social Systems. SSD 1-3; CR Hill
Week 3: Assent and Dissent. BOJ 1-3; SSD 14
Week 4: The 60's: case studies in dissent. Youngblood; BOJ 4; SSD 4,5
Week 5: Leadership and Life-cycles. BOJ 6; CRR Ghandi, Hoffman, Rubin
Week 6: Tactics. SSD 7, 8; CRR Cosgrove; Levine
Week 7: Arguments and Narratives. SSD 10, 11; midterm
Week 8: Arguments and Narratives con't. SSD 12, 13
Week 9: Reds and Greens.
Week 10: Dissent and Everyday Life. CRR Scott
Week 11: Globalism: Resistance is Futile? CRR Frank; Fiske;
Week 12: Presentations
Week 13: Presentations

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