

# Resources from Sarah Nahar

## September 23, 2020

**Video Recording** of the September 23rd session: <https://youtu.be/6HglUGj61Ck>

### **Understanding and Engaging Movements for Justice in 2020:**

A session led by Sarah Nahar on September 23, 2020 launched a four-part series. (Video of the session is here: <https://youtu.be/6HglUGj61Ck>)

In this series, Understanding and Engaging Movements for Justice in 2020, Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary is partnering with the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame to offer a series advocating for nonviolence as an effective strategy to resist violence and support movements for justice.

Voices from different streams of nonviolence—including communal nonviolence, liberationist nonviolence, and strategic nonviolence—will speak as witnesses to the power of nonviolence in action.

Learn more about the series, speakers, and topics -- or join -- by registering here: <https://www.ambs.edu/academics/witness-course>

## Resource List

### **Background:**

At the request of participants of the Sept 23 session, Sarah -- together with Jonathan Nahar -- assembled the following list of resources to build on and apply the topics of her presentation.

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**Lyla June Johnson's All Nation's Rise:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nr2VLi8jKww>

S.A.L.T.: A quick acronym to text everyone on **Community Security** duty when they see something...used by activists in Charlottesville to assess threat and risk level of white supremacist violence in the area.

- **Size** - how many people / description of people
- **Action / Activity** - what are they doing? Agitated? Armed?
- **Location** - Where are they? Where are they going?
- **Time** - What time is it? What time did you see them?

- Usually send photo if you can - know symbols and groups associated with them (example of third knights fascist groups more disciplined than young patriots so different threat associated with each group)

Small steps toward abolition: SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice) has published their resource, “[Community Safety for All: #DefundPolice Congregational Toolkit](#)”. Sign up here for access to SURJ with the majority: <https://www.showingupforracialjustice.org/>.

**Online Nonviolent Direct Action (NVDA) trainings with Christian Peacemaker Teams:**  
<https://cpt.org/participate/trainings>

**Election Guide/ How to stop a coup/ training** featuring Quaker George Lakey:  
<https://choosedemocracy.us/>

**10 steps to stopping a coup:**  
<https://wagingnonviolence.org/2020/09/10-things-you-need-to-know-to-stop-a-coup/?fbclid=IwAR3wY0lpxgcfqL6ZYW1xednsaFZ9pT3LDQ1LHvi84ofgFuO-tO29ZhQvf5k>

Political Research Associates field guide to **differentiate between violent right-wing groups:**  
<https://www.politicalresearch.org/2020/06/24/paramilitaries-your-protest>

Email [jonathanbrenneman15@gmail.com](mailto:jonathanbrenneman15@gmail.com) to be connected with the **2020 election-related materials**. These materials are geared toward activists planning sustained, diversified, and leaderful nonviolent direct actions in the case of a stolen election (this is not a guide for a street march). The guide offers resources for organizing in communities across the country. While all of the issues we currently face have been enduring since before the 2020 election, it may be a pivotal moment to build toward a vision of transformation.

When doing actions it's always crucial to think about the various **Points of Intervention** that are available and most strategic: <https://beautifulrising.org/tool/points-of-intervention>.

Consider your **messaging** carefully:  
<https://mediajustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/FramingGuidingQuestions.pdf>

SURJ's **messaging tips** for talking to someone who points out the “violent” response of the loud oppressed and not the silent oppressive violence of the system:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BQVqLVI-3zVb0VcsOZB7JKVaVsHllyjwM6cvdcqWHal/edit?link\\_id=4&can\\_id=3ecfdb5fdfa338bdcffd916817207e6&source=email-take-action-in-solidarity-with-breonna-taylors-family-and-the-louisville-community&email\\_referrer=email\\_935154&email\\_subject=take-action-in-solidarity-with-breonna-taylors-family-and-the-louisville-community](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BQVqLVI-3zVb0VcsOZB7JKVaVsHllyjwM6cvdcqWHal/edit?link_id=4&can_id=3ecfdb5fdfa338bdcffd916817207e6&source=email-take-action-in-solidarity-with-breonna-taylors-family-and-the-louisville-community&email_referrer=email_935154&email_subject=take-action-in-solidarity-with-breonna-taylors-family-and-the-louisville-community)

Stay tuned for the **Mennonite Church USA guide to police abolition** (October): Email [SuePH@mennoniteusa.org](mailto:SuePH@mennoniteusa.org) for more info, or if you can't find it on the website.

Heed the **call of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy to create values change for survival:**

Doctrine of Discovery Conference videos (scroll down for the sessions in order):

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC\\_5ljjVpNv7iulkBC7O-1hQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_5ljjVpNv7iulkBC7O-1hQ)

Addressing **theological racism**, particularly Christian Zionism: FOSNA Toolkit:

<https://fosna.org/CZtoolkit>

**What to do if an armed person comes to your rally to counter-protest:**

At your rally is not the first time you should be thinking about this question! Talk through it in your preparatory training, do role plays with regards to it. We suggest having people whose only role it is for the rally to be community security and to identify, de-escalate, and surround the armed person. They should be able to quickly coordinate with action leadership, and begin to implement their contingency plans. A quick suggestion though: if your action is SYMBOLIC, get everyone to leave the location. If your action is doing something DIRECT, then these are already part of the consequences you are willing to face while challenging the status quo for the greater good. (Also, further training is being developed for handling these scenarios, they are very case by case basis, and depend on what kind of weapons are involved how police are interacting with the various actors)

**Mennonite avenues to engage with transformation of the status quo nationally -**

Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery Coalition: <https://dofdmennon.org>

MCUSA Racial Justice fund: <https://form.jotform.com/41905689490163>

MVS: <https://www.mennonitemission.net/Serve/Mennonite%20Voluntary%20Service>

The **Intersectional Justice** coalition will release a statement in the coming weeks about **challenging white supremacy**.

(That's currently Pink Menno, MennoPIN, Mennonite Jewish Relations, Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery, and Christian Peacemaker Teams)

Email **congregational grief liturgies** that you create to [sarah.e.nahar@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.e.nahar@gmail.com) to be compiled.