

# One POC View From The Heart

“POC”

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I am a person of color. I am against FTAA. I was there. I was maced. I was shot. I am not an Anarchist but “we are all fighting the same enemy.” And therefore we need to look at a more Sophisticated approach.

We need to find ways to meet and unite and agree on common grounds. We need to support each another and realize one set of actions greatly impacts the abilities of another group even before they are aware as to what is happening.

For example, how many poor people of color got jacked by the police when the protesters ended up being forced into their neighborhoods? I talked to the people standing outside their homes, the homeless and passer-by-ers. They were poor blacks, immigrants and Latinos. Many of them had no idea as to what was going on. Does this not concern us all?

Did anyone survey the city and the possible routs the police would force protested to retreat to? If this was done, was anything done to communicate with residents about the issues?

From what I observed the people took to the street to take a stand. The right stand. But the police took to the street and created their own direct action. We all know that story. We all saw what this country had directed the police to do when protesters take a stand. Knowing this is the trend for police action, we must begin to talk more. But not here. This is FBI-read material. This site [[www.ftaaimc.org](http://www.ftaaimc.org)] is not safe.

Just a footnote, the anarchist movement is one of the most infiltrated groups in the USA right now. You all better figure some things out real soon.

Back to taking the streets. We found that that police forced protesters to retreat to communities of color. I suggest that next time, there be a plan to spend some time in the communities for a week organizing the people who live there about what their city is proposing. That way, they can choose to get involved or at least have a heads up as to what is coming if the police direct the protesters in their direction.

I say this knowing that people of color did an outstanding job of self-organizing and self-educating for this gathering. Please note that people of color, were NOT seen in great numbers confronting the police. WHY IS THIS?

But back to my point, even though people of color were self organized the need for more people of to get involved is greatly understated. Look at how much money the unions spent on this event. Compare this to how much people of color we working with. I am not from Miami, but it was clear as day to me. More money should have been put into the communities of color efforts to get people informed and to turn out. But that is probably a local issue which should be addressed by the local Miami people of color organizers.

Given this and many other issues, we must create a more Sophisticated approach that will result in community people taking a stand together. Union people taking a stand. These Direct Actions can not be an anarchist lead action. If it is, the media and police will continue the same propaganda agenda.

As the United States wanted their 9-11 to go to war, the people need ALL PEOPLE to get attacked while standing united, to justify our own war against this corporate and military state. What line must this government cross before the people unite and take a stand? I am scared to know that answer, but I think most people will stomach a great deal more. How do we change this?

In review, I think we must be willing to do more unified WORK prior to any Direct Action. Direct Action is great for the people who are doing the action, but it can have major drawbacks on those innocent people who are just trying to live day to day. The people most affected by the FTAA.

We must collectively take on responsibilities for doing the WORK that is needed before a DIRECT ACTION. Think 100 percent through it. And PLEASE dialogue with local community people. You know how to contact the real community people. So do it.

I would also like to propose everyone re-think what roles should be taken on in supporting other communities. If people of color were to ask for a specific support role to be taken, will the people have the self-discipline to do it? Or will the temptation to take over, do direction action, or just walk away be too much?

We need to consider putting some of our energies into working with groups other than our own, just enough to reevaluate our direction and tactics. White people really need to think about this. You are SOOOOO NEEDED in all of this, but the roles must be reconsidered.

It is NOW, that we need whites to ASK how they can help and support and not be so damn paternal. Please do not be offended, I am talking in general. But we need every one of you to recognize this reality and support it.

I am convinced, this must be done for real change to take place.

It is my understanding that there was a recent POC gathering. Has everyone heard their voices? Has everyone talked about it? What role will everyone take? Will whites fear the truths? Will whites learn to be comfortable with a new and needed role?

Let the talks begin. May we all gather and take a next step. While we still can.

“We are at war and we can not rest until the war is won by the people. Do not get comfortable, it is a lie to be comfortable.”

P.S. My deepest respect goes out to all of you who took a stand. We are brothers and sisters. I especially want to thank the street medics for their selfless giving of attention to all those needed it. I was one of them you helped. You were fast to respond, kind, and dedicated to getting to the next person in need.

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