

BY ERIN FONG
IN COLLABORATION
WITH EMILY ANDREWS

how to
recognize
it and take
action

FLIGHT FASCISM

OTHER RESOURCES

"40 Ways to Fight Fascists: Street-Legal Tactics for Community Activists" zine
SPENCERSUNSHINE.COM/2020/06/21/FORTWAYS

Hope Not Hate
HOPENOTHATE.ORG.UK

Institute for Research and Education on Human Rights
IREHR.ORG

Political Research Associates
POLITICALRESEARCH.ORG

Southern Poverty Law Center
SPLC.CENTR.ORG

Western States Center
WESTERNSTATESCENTER.ORG

Anti-Defamation League
ADL.ORG

Christians Against Christian Nationalism
CHRISTIANSAGAINSTCHRISTIANATIONALISM.ORG

08. Remove and replace far-right propaganda.

- ★ Remove harmful/extremist flyers, stickers, etc., from places like colleges, neighborhoods, churches/religious groups, and music venues.¹⁰
- ★ Replace with your own flyers, art, stickers, etc. This shows that you won't tolerate fascism in your community and that victims have your support.

09. Make it hard for far-right groups to meet.

The First Amendment protects free speech from government interference, but it doesn't require private property owners to allow hate groups to use their spaces. You also have the right to urge venues like event halls, concert spaces, or restaurants to deny bookings from extremist organizations.¹¹

10. Create educational initiatives.

Host and attend public talks, reading groups, and classes to explore the nature of fascism, the current form of the far right, and ways to resist it. Consider virtual meetings as well.¹²

04. Build a support network.

- ★ Organize with like-minded people and distribute art, zines, and flyers together.
- ★ Support one another by asking how they're feeling, how you can support them, and planning hangouts.
- ★ Seek out and learn from those who have fought against fascism in their own countries. Engage in conversation about how to respond to current events and create tactics to address them.
- ★ Create safe houses for the vulnerable.

05. Vote with your wallet.

- ★ Support businesses that publicly resist fascism. Your money = power.
- ★ Protest businesses that don't align with your values. This will deflate their influence and show that their support of an autocrat doesn't go unnoticed.
- ★ Know where your dollars go. The everyday businesses you support may be donating to politicians and causes you don't align with. Check out goodsuniteus.com to see how businesses spend their profits on political contributions.

EXAMPLES FROM TODAY

Authoritarianism and illiberalism: Trump appears unabashed about his dictatorial leanings, though he performs under the guise of "cleaning house" in the government. His own former chief of staff said the president approaches his role like a dictator, with little respect for individual rights and differing opinions.⁴

Racism and xenophobia: He unapologetically stokes prejudices and spouts hateful rhetoric against marginalized groups and other countries. The MAGA playbook emphasizes "America first" rhetoric—that the U.S. is for "true" Americans only, and immigrants are unwelcome.

Evoking religion to appear noble: At his election victory speech on November 4th, 2024, Trump said: "Many people have told me that God spared my life for a reason. And that reason was to save our country and to restore America to greatness, and now we are going to fulfill that mission together."⁵

"Blood and soil" nationalism: Trump often refers to the U.S. as an occupied country that needs to be "taken back." He openly suggests using the military to control American citizens by force, much like the tradition of military dictatorships like Pinochet in Chile.

¹⁰ Sunshin, S. (2020, August 27). "40 Ways to Fight Fascists: Street-Legal Tactics for Community Activists," page 11. spencersunshine.com/2020/08/27/fortways

¹¹ Sunshin, S. "40 Ways to Fight Fascists: Street-Legal Tactics for Community Activists," page 12.

¹² Sunshin, S. "40 Ways to Fight Fascists: Street-Legal Tactics for Community Activists," page 18.

⁴ Bird, T., Kelly, S., & Musso, J. (2024, October 23). Trump meets definition of a fascist, his former chief of staff says. Reuters. reuters.com/world/trump-prefers-dictator-approach-former-chief-staff-says-2024-10-23/

⁵ King, Ryan (2024, November 6). Trump harks back to authoritarianism attempt in election victory speech. "God spared my life for a reason." nypost.com/2024/11/06/trump-meets-trump-harks-back-to-authoritarian-attempt/

"... Ever since Mussolini, he was the first to call democrats the real tyrants, and fascism was going to be freedom. Fascism was going to make Italy great again. That was a slogan, as was drain the swamp."

Trump took that from Mussolini as well.⁷



⁷ Dickinson, T. (2024, November 6). American Authoritarianism: How Ben Will Use the 'Drain the Swamp' Slogan. truthout.com/articles/american-authoritarianism-how-ben-will-use-the-drain-the-swamp-slogan-2024-12355764/

