

FILMING PROTESTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS



FILMING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS CAN BE DANGEROUS
SAFE. BE ETHICAL. BE EFFECTIVE.

PREPARE



Assess your data + internet connection.
Have a trusted contact's info stored or handy.
Password protect your phone - avoid TouchID.
Charge your batteries and free up storage space.
Encrypt or delete sensitive data if there is risk of confiscation.

ENSURE A GOOD SHOT

If safe, move closer to record details - avoid zooming in. Keep the sun and any additional light to your back. Keep your shots steady and hold for 10 seconds. Get in close for good sound.



FILM THE DETAILS

Document police or protester violence. Film identifying details like police badges, license plates, weapons, etc. Also film hateful chants, signs, threats, etc. Make the video easier to verify by filming street signs and landmarks.

FILM THE ACTION

Get a variety of shots to show protest activity and the size of the crowd. Anonymize protesters by filming feet, backs or with blurred focus.



TELL THE STORY

Add context and capture personal stories through interviews with consenting marchers. Ensure those you film are aware of how and where the video will be used. Discuss potential safety risks. If anonymity is needed, film their hands, cover their face or use editing software.

PROTECT YOUR MEDIA

Store the original files in a safe place. Share a copy with a trusted friend via email, text, or handoff of media card. Always consider your own and others' safety before sharing the video publicly.



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