



WORKS

The Second Step: Organizing After the Protests

Anon

(2020)

"Rioting is the Language of the Unheard."

Martin Luther King Jr.

Where We Are.

We march, we shout, we cry out, we anguish, and yet justice has not come for our Black brothers and sisters who had been murdered.

As of September 2020 we as a people dedicated to a political struggle are at a standstill, lost of any political momentum. Rather, more people keep being murdered with no arrival of justice in sight. More families and communities are destroyed by the police and the government daily, yet we march on. To what avail? Let's think about the routine of the average protestor in 2020 since, and even before, the George Floyd protests. Many folks hear about upcoming protests in or nearby their areas and travel an hour or so, meet up with a crowd, listen to a few speakers, march for a few more hours and then go right back home with no real action having been made or conclusion being reached. The routine is not always the same, sometimes people riot, get arrested, brutalized, maimed, or even all three. But outside of waiting for the next facebook or twitter update telling them where the next protest will be, nothing else is done. Protest in, and protest out, people will march, riot, and chant with unwavering energy and fervor. The events in Portland and the rest of the country since George Floyd's death demonstrate the lengths people will go to fight and work together. Yet it always stops at the protest; there is no organizing past this. It's as if our solidarity, our spirit and our love to fight vanish once we get in our cars and leave for home.

This is not to say the organizing efforts of BLM and other solidarity movements are not commendable to the highest degree. The struggle of People of Color in their communities, and fighting in their communities, is the core of liberation struggle which builds societies. However people cannot but ask the question of why even after so many months of protests nothing has happened. There is this privileged and entitled view of protestors regarding change, that their efforts alone

