

**INFILTRATION,
"BADJACKETING,"
& AGENT
PROVOCATEURS**

When the state injects informants into activist groups. These infiltrators gather intelligence, create internal dissension, or incite illegal activities. "Badjacketing" (or "snitchjacketing") is when an infiltrator intentionally generates suspicion that legitimate activists are state informants. Agent provocateurs are covert agents who deliberately encourage violent or illegal activities and tactics.

"BLACK PROPAGANDA"

An FBI term denoting the use of fabricated documents designed to forge schisms or prevent solidarity between activist organizations. These false documents purportedly originate with one organization and are sent to current or potential allies. These controversial, offensive, and sometimes vicious documents are meant to foment dissension between the groups.

**PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS
& HEARINGS**

Public prosecutions and hearings can land dissidents in jail or engulf them in legal hijinks that sidetrack their activism. Current supporters and potential allies are discouraged from putting forth dissident views. Prosecutions and hearings publicized in the mass media reverberate outward into the public sphere.

**EMPLOYMENT
DEPRIVATION**

The threat or actual loss of employment due to one's political beliefs or activities. Some dissidents are not hired in the first place because of their political beliefs.

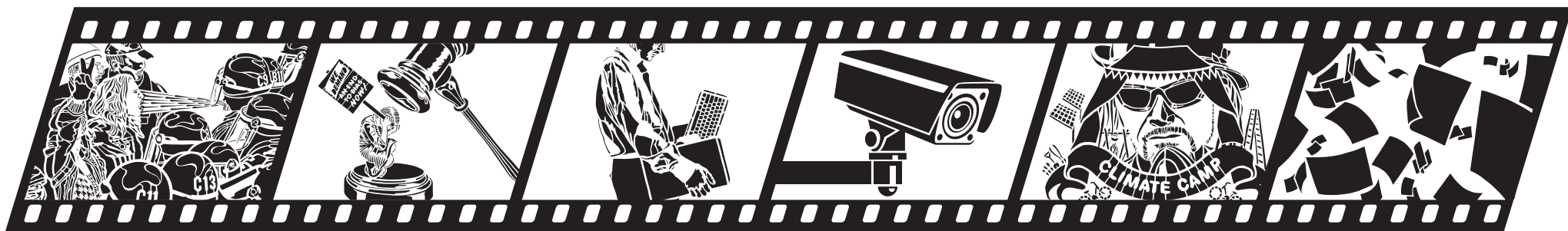
SURVEILLANCE

Surveillance might be concentrated, as in spying, or diffused, such as the accumulation and storage of information about individuals and groups. It might take the form of internet monitoring, electronic surveillance, wiretapping, and mail opening.

DIRECT VIOLENCE

Beatings, bombings, shootings, and other forms of violence carried out by the state against dissident citizens. The bullet and the baton.

"AWARENESS IS TWO STEPS AHEAD



**12
MODES
OF
SUPPRESSION**



PARANOIA IS TWO STEPS BEHIND"

— KIM MARKS, ACTIVIST

**HARASSMENT
& HARASSMENT
ARRESTS**

The state arrests activists for minor charges that are often false and sometimes based on obscure statutes that have remained on the books, buried and dormant but nevertheless vessels for legal persecution.

from Jules Boykoff's *Beyond Bullets: The Suppression of Dissent in the United States* (AK Press 2007)
DESIGNED BY KATHERINE BALL

**EXTRAORDINARY
LAWS OR RULES**

Another form of legal suppression, the state promulgates and enforces exceptional laws and rules to tie up activists in the criminal-justice labyrinth.

**MASS MEDIA
MANIPULATION**

There are two major types of mass media manipulation: (1) story implantation whereby the state makes use of friendly press contacts who publish government-generated articles verbatim or with minor adjustments, and (2) the state's strongarming of journalists or editors to withhold unwanted information from reaching publication.

**BI-LEVEL
DEMONIZATION**

When the state links a domestic dissident or group to a demonized foe from the international arena. These links are based on ideology, ethnicity, race, or other categories—they may or may not be real. Nevertheless, the linkage is proliferated through the media and makes activists vulnerable to other forms of state suppression.

**MASS MEDIA
DEPRECATON**

When the mass media portray dissidents as ridiculous, bizarre, dangerous, or otherwise out-of-step with mainstream USAmerica. This is not so much a conspiracy as dutiful adherence to journalistic norms and values.

**MASS MEDIA
UNDERESTIMATION,
FALSE BALANCE
& DISREGARD**

When activists and the state come up with discrepant estimates of crowd sizes for protests, marches, and other activities, the mass media tend to accept the state's lower numbers. The mass media may also falsely balance dissidents with counter-demonstrators. Many dissident efforts never make it onto the mass media's agenda or are buried in the minor sections of the newspaper.