

TIP SHEET



SEE IT
FILM IT
CHANGE IT

FILMING IN TEAMS: PROTESTS, DEMONSTRATIONS, RALLIES

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

Filming with a partner or team allows you to capture multiple angles and perspectives. This can lead to more compelling video and may provide better evidence in a court of law.

BEFORE

- Consider the intended audience and what shots you want to capture.
- Discuss and establish the roles of each team member. Assess the risks associated with each role, such as arrest or injury. Confirm that the filmmakers accept these risks.
- Develop an emergency plan in case violence breaks out or a team member is injured.
- Determine how the team will communicate, e.g., by SMS or walkie talkies.
- Set the date and time on the camera(s).



DURING

- Designate a point person or partner to carry essential materials such as extra batteries, media cards, or emergency contact details. The partner can also maintain communication between team members, search for compelling shots and assist with interviews.
- Everyone should document the date, time and location and identify who is filming.
- Capture contextualizing details like the size of the crowd, police badge numbers, or license plates.
- Be intentional with your shots and hold the camera steady.
- Maintain regular check-ins with the team to ensure everyone is safe.
- If anyone is arrested or detained, other team members should attempt to film the incident and alert support networks.



AFTER

- Consolidate media and pass on to an editor, provide additional details about the event if necessary.
- When uploading and sharing the footage, add context and details in the description, tags and title of the video. This will make your video easier to find and use.
- If necessary, blur faces of subjects to protect their identity.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

CAMERA 1 – FILMS DETAILS AND ACTION SHOTS

■ RESPONSIBILITIES

Film the action as close as possible, focusing on details of the protest and any incidents of police or military violence. Capture details and identifying information such as faces, police names, badges, vehicles and license plates.



CAMERA 2 – FILMS IN THE CROWD

■ RESPONSIBILITIES

Film within the crowd to get a sense of the action. Try to keep Camera 1 in the shot to maintain context and provide additional angles. Before filming, Camera 2 should determine whether or not to replace Camera 1 if arrested or detained.



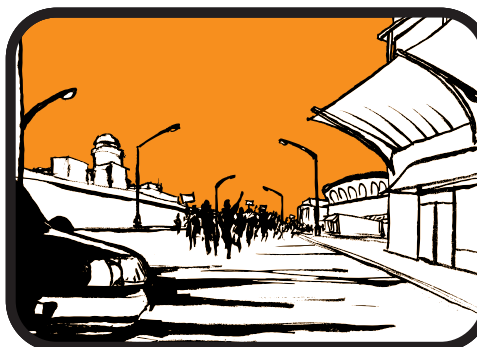
CAMERA 3 – FILMS ESTABLISHING SHOTS

■ RESPONSIBILITIES

Film at a distance to capture the full scope of the event. If safe, document the location and movement of police or military. Consider filming from a window, balcony or roof to get an aerial perspective. Camera 3 should communicate any major developments to teammates, such as approaching military vehicles, a new formation or acts of violence.

■ ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT

Camera with good zoom, tripod, monopod or stabilizing surface



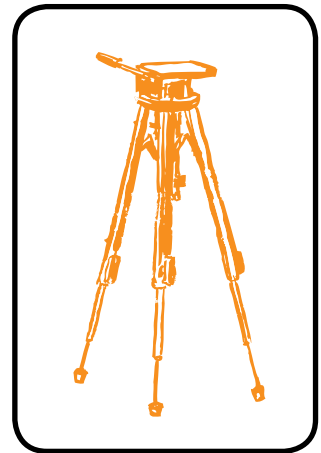
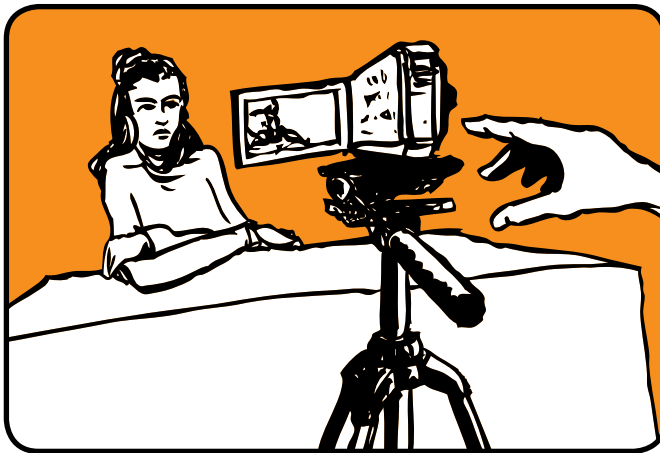
CAMERA 4 – FILMS INTERVIEWS

■ RESPONSIBILITIES

Provide contextualizing details through interviews with consenting protestors or eye-witnesses. Ensure those you film are fully aware of how and where the video will be used. Discuss potential safety risks if the video is to be shared publicly, online or with authorities. If anonymity is needed, film interviewees' hands while they speak, have the subject wrap their face in a scarf, or adjust the focus to blur the image.

■ ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT

An external microphone, tripod or monopod are recommended.



EDITOR & UPLOADER – COLLECTS, SAVES AND SHARES FOOTAGE

■ RESPONSIBILITIES

The editor collects, analyzes and saves the footage. When uploading the videos, they should incorporate the date, time, location and event information into the videos' title, description and tags. They can also add informational title cards within the video and blur faces when anonymity is needed. See instructions for using the YouTube Face Blurring tool here: <http://bit.ly/yt-faceblur>

■ ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT

Internet access and external hard drives for backing-up footage.

■ PARTNER

Ideally, editing is done by a team of two or more. One person reviews the raw footage while another focuses on editing the selected clips, saving and sharing the footage. Additionally, a partner can communicate with the filming team to get additional footage as needed.