DON'T CALL THE POLICE

FEBRUARY 2016
ARTISTS, ACTIVISTS AND ORGANIZERS OF COLOR IN CHICAGO SHARED THEIR EXPERIENCES, THOUGHTS, AND VISUALIZATIONS OF ALTERNATIVES TO CALLING THE POLICE IN BOTH THE U.S. AND THE UK. WE HOPE THIS ZINE GIVES YOU INSPIRATION AND INFORMATION TO THINK ABOUT ALTERNATIVES TO CALLING THE POLICE THAT COULD POTENTIALLY WORK IN YOUR OWN DAILY LIFE.

TW: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

THIS ZINE WAS MADE IN FEBRUARY OF 2016 DURING A ZINE-MAKING 101 WORKSHOP, HOSTED BY MONICA TRINIDAD, CO-FOUNDER OF BROWN AND PROUD PRESS.

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capitalism; a corrosion continually cutting and casting away humanity from humans and singing from songbirds; the constructor of walls and fences hollowed-out between hearts and souls. We are lost. In the midst of the suffocating mist of lost words but we breathe in and with a heavy sigh breathe out the infinite galaxy and spirits of our ancestors we are one. We re-tune our heartstrings to the symphony of the sea soaking the shores of our souls we breathe.
Every member of my family has experienced domestic violence. We knew this and we talk about it but the answer to dealing with it is always calling the police. So what do you do when although your partner is abusive, they are undocumented and is already in deportation proceedings?! They them in deportation proceedings?! They hurt me but I knew that having them detained and deported is not what will bring me peace and healing.

I called my family that night. That was my answer. That night we had argued about... well who knows now... but they became aggressive towards me and towards themselves. I felt afraid and left our apartment. I knew they could follow so I had to call someone. I called my primo who picked me up and took me to his apartment. I felt safe because he just picked me up, no questions asked and provided a safe and warm place for me that night.
cycles are hard
to break.
repetition.
routine.
our neighbor would get
drunk + use drugs. one
time he came home +
broke things in his house +
scared his children.
the next day my dad
talked to him about the
repercussions of his
actions. told him
about his experience.
in our house
they found
shelter.
a safe
haven.
my mami would
provide shelter for
my auntie from
her abusive husband.
he would come, drunk
home.
and she + her children
would come to our house.
Patient's family:

* Sitting at the edge of the bed asking myself when you would wake up. Worried about police. Worried about ICE. Please wake up from your coma.

**

Physician—Whatever happened to patient confidentiality? Who do I call about the cost?

Why am I being forced to call ICE?

HIPAA?

Stop treating us as just bodies.
TELL US EVERYTHING

...but will you listen
you shouldn't have to prove your sanity to no one

friends help friends
problem-solve
mental health concerns
I never called the police on him

But the thought crossed my mind when he yelled so loud the neighbors heard

I never called the police on him

But the thought crossed my mind when he forced me out of his car in an area far from home

I never called the police on him

But the thought crossed my mind when he left bruises on my wrists and collarbone

I never called the police on him

But the thought crossed my mind when he screamed at my roommate over our intercom

I never called the police on him

But the thought crossed my mind when I remembered he was trying to get into medical school to become a doctor

But one day I teamed up with my mentor and threatened a restraining order on his ass

I never called the police on him

But sometimes just the empty threat of it can be enough.
Laying in bed...imagining it was all a nightmare...wishing it was all a nightmare...

Shadows on the ceiling.

What if they take all of us away...

I just wish he would disappear...

Mom just needs a bit of courage...strength, use her loud voice...

Can't call the cops when he's undocumented...
Black

Bottmmmm

Magic
Guaranteeing the survival & care of all peoples.
will be based on collective commitment to
an ideology of the threat of violence.
It
Where safety & security is not premise
Alternative Ways
DON'T LOOK FOR A SMILE HERE!!!

I stopped smiling at cops
They always stare at me
Never a smile on their faces.

"They will protect you,"
said no one ever
With skin the color of mine.

"Esperamos por dos horas y
nunca llegaron!" dijo mi madre
When her car was broken into.

(I wonder if they would have showed
when the man gave her a black eye.)

I refuse to smile to someone
I can't rely on.
That my mom can't rely on.
WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU ARE APPROACHED BY A PREVENT OFFICER

A PREVENT OFFICER IS OFTEN A POLICE OFFICER WHO IS CONTACTING YOU BECAUSE OF A REFERRAL BY YOUR DOCTOR/NURSE/TEACHER/PROFESSOR/SOCIAL WORKER BECAUSE YOU HAVE DEMONSTRATED SIGNS OF EXTREMISM (OPPOSITION TO BRITISH VALUES).

THEY WILL VISIT YOU AT HOME/SCHOOL/WORK FOR A 'CHAT'. IF YOU SPEAK TO THEM THEY MAY ASK YOU QUESTIONS ABOUT SYRIA, PALESTINE OR TERRORISM EVEN IF YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THEM. THEY MAY ALSO ASK YOU IF YOU PRAY OR READ THE QURAN. THE WAY YOU ANSWER MAY GET YOU LABELED AN EXTREMIST.

DON'T WORRY! YOU HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING WRONG. UNLESS YOU ARE BEING DETAINED YOU CAN REFUSE TO SPEAK TO THEM WITHOUT A LAWYER.

SEARCH BOYCOTT PREVENT FOR MORE INFO.
Getting to know your neighbors

Don't let an emergency be

your first time meeting

A familiar face in a hard time

goes a long way.

Invite them over for

tea

Is it

make your presence known!