

## POLICE INTERACTIONS

The following advice has been offered to the campaign regarding interactions with police in the case of direct action occurring at the Obi Obi Creek site.

- A good point to remember: The people you are protesting against have a legal right to be there.
- Cornerstone/Woolworths are the baddies not the employees.
- Employees are doing what they are told and have a legal right to do.
- Police, if present, are only there to prevent a breach of the peace and any other misdemeanors or more serious matters that normally arise at these sorts of protests. The majority of them probably wish they were somewhere else. Giving them a hard time achieves nothing.
- Talk to them, be polite, aggravation and loud voices achieve nothing but can get both sides upset and tempers to rise. Do not resort to name calling-it might make you feel better but achieves nothing of a positive nature.
- Dress conservatively, be polite it makes it much harder to arrest someone if you have been chatting to them earlier and the more mature people look and act like their mum and dad. Subtly put your case, do not harangue them.
- Passive resistance if necessary i.e. linked arms and sitting down are much harder to deal with. Stay limp - an inert body is much harder to lift.
- Beware of wrist locks which are a come-a-long manipulation of your hand and wrist - they hurt and there is a fine line between a sore wrist and more damage. If you struggle the consequences of injury are your fault.
- A little bit of overacting for the cameras if you are being filmed might get you some airplay i.e. "ouch you are hurting me" etc. would only be useful if you are not struggling
- Any resistance to being moved will probably result in some minor injuries - bruises etc. If you are not prepared to accept them - don't go.
- If you are filming use a telephoto lens or stay at a distance where you are not interfering in the process of arrest or action. You may end up being arrested and that's the end of you film career for the day and other missed opportunities.
- Security guards are mostly a different kettle of fish. Stay off the Property and I believe they would have no power to move you. They will generally be

much rougher than police.

- Dogs - security trained dogs will have no qualms about biting you. Police dogs/handlers are better trained. Illegal drugs should not be taken to the site. Any influence of these drugs may cause you to do things you would not normally do. Some police dogs (not generally German Shepherds) are trained to detect illegal substances. **DO NOT TRY TO PAT THEM.**
- You have already proven you will get media coverage. Remember the idea is to make Cornerstone/Woolworths look like the baddies not you.
- Do not give the viewing public who are probably on your side up to a point, any reason to switch allegiance.
- If you are arrested and taken away there are just less people available to make a point. Do not count on charges being thrown out again. The police should be briefed and better prepared than last time.
- Young children have no place at a protest **UNLESS** they remain with their parents at the edge of the protest where they can be removed quickly if necessary. The time between a peaceful and agitated protest can be very short and apart from the safety of your children you will not get any sympathy for endangering children no matter how strongly you feel.
- **DO NOT USE SIGNS AS WEAPONS WHEN YOUR TEMPER/FEELINGS GET THE BETTER OF YOU. TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND RELAX.**