



What is broken windows?

Broken windows is the NYPD policy of searching and harassing people on the street without cause (also known as stop-and-frisk) and aggressively ticketing and arresting residents for minor offenses.

Why should we get rid of it?

The vast majority of those targeted by broken windows are Black or Hispanic,¹ and no link has been established between this policy and a decrease in major crimes. Broken windows requires police officers to meet monthly quotas.² To meet their quotas officers must give out arbitrary tickets, turning residents into revenue sources for the city, and must search people on the street who have done nothing wrong, treating all of us as potential criminals. Officers must also make unnecessary arrests, contributing to mass incarceration. Broken windows encourages over-aggressive policing, which leads to police brutality and the death of innocent victims like Eric Garner and Akai Gurley.

Will crime rise if we get rid of broken windows? I want my streets to be safe.

No! In late December and early January, NYPD officers were told to suspend broken windows and make arrests only when 'absolutely necessary.'³ Their intent was to show that crime would rise without aggressive police tactics. But that didn't happen! In fact, crime fell during that period compared to the previous year!⁴ Broken windows is not crime reduction, it is police harassment.

JOIN US FOR A DAY OF ACTION AND SAY NO TO THESE INJUSTICES!

January 15, 2015

THE 86th Birthday of Dr. King

1:00-2:30pm at the African Burial Ground near Foley Square

4:30pm Gather at City Hall

www.peoplespowerassemblies.org

www.occuevolve.com

Sources: ¹<http://www.nyclu.org/content/stop-and-frisk-data>

²<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/21/nyregion/stop-and-frisk-trial-focuses-on-claim-of-arrest-quotas.html>

³<http://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2014/12/the-benefits-of-fewer-nypd-arrests/384126/>

⁴<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/01/05/nyregion/how-much-new-york-police-arrests-and-tickets-have-declined.html>