

STAYING SAFE AND SECURE

WHILE MAKING GOOD TROUBLE

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

It's more important than ever to take online security, data privacy, and physical safety seriously. Here are some tips to protect yourself and your group so you can confidently fight extremism in your community.

ONLINE TIPS

- **Create a group email address** instead of using your personal one. It helps keep things organized and gives you a layer of privacy.
- **Use encrypted apps** like [Signal](#) to share sensitive information.
- **Secure your Zooms** by using waiting rooms or passcodes to prevent unauthorized guests.
- **Be thoughtful about event signups** by keeping the exact location private and sharing it only with confirmed attendees 24 hours beforehand, if feasible.
- **Vet new members** and set up a welcome message on the discussion board of your group's page that says you will reach out via email before allowing them into your group. This will give you time to ask if other members know them, look at their Facebook pages, and do other research.

IN-PERSON TIPS

- **Meet in private spaces** whenever you can.
- **Use a check-in system** at meetings, and don't be afraid to ask someone to leave if they seem off.
- **Have an emergency plan** and know how to quickly and calmly disband if needed.
- **Buddy up** and walk in and out in pairs or groups—it's not just safer, it's also more fun.



- **Exchange phone numbers** so group members can stay connected. Make sure they have yours, too.
- **Build relationships with local law enforcement (when possible!).** It's okay to ask for a little backup when you need it.
- **Show visual unity** and help newbies identify who is like-minded by wearing matching shirts, buttons, etc.
- **Go live on social media or film during public meetings,** such as school boards
- **Be cautious about newcomers.** It's okay to ask questions and take your time before bringing someone into sensitive conversations.
- **Consider safety tools** like a personal alarm that emits a loud noise and flashing light to draw attention.
- **Train together.** Watch this Red Wine & Blue [harassment training video](#) and consider taking [de-escalation and bystander training](#) from Right To Be, which grew from addressing public street harassment to ending harassment in all its forms and has solid de-escalation training.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU'RE THREATENED: DON'T PANIC—HAVE A PLAN

1. Stay calm and ask the agitator to leave. Repeat as needed, and don't engage beyond that.
2. Film the encounter or have someone else do it. Just the sight of a camera is sometimes enough to end the threatening behavior.
3. Call 9-1-1 if you feel threatened or harassed.
4. Let Red Wine & Blue know. We've got your back, and your story could help keep others safe, too.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AT PROTESTS AND RALLIES

Visit the [ACLU](#) for more details and to [print out Know Your Rights cards](#) you can hand out at events.

