



Poor People's Campaign

A NATIONAL CALL for MORAL REVIVAL

COVENANT OF NONVIOLENCE (SUMMARY)

"Nonviolent resistance is the most potent weapon available to oppressed people."¹

-- The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The PPC is firmly rooted in nonviolence and believes that nonviolent struggle is a way of life for courageous people. At all PPC activities, events, and actions, we seek to uphold our shared Covenant of Nonviolence. This is a summary of the Covenant guidelines:

- I will honor and respect the inherent worth and dignity of every human being. I will act with respect towards all.
- I will arrive and be present with a clear mind and centered spirit.
- I will actively support the leadership of people who are most directly impacted.
- I will actively build fusion unity across lines of division often used to try to divide us, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, class, geography, sexual orientation, immigration and documentation status, and gender and gender identity.
- I believe that by maintaining nonviolent discipline, I will contribute to upholding the integrity, vision, values, and goals of the PPC.
 - I will not use hostile language, swear, use insults, or engage in any aggressive, threatening, or intimidating behavior.
 - I will not use violence (verbal or physical) and I will not threaten violence in any manner. I stand for avoidance of violence and against the making of threats of violence.
 - I will not carry, possess, or use any weapons or anything that could be construed as a weapon.
 - I will not throw debris, waste, trash, or other items, and I will not harm, damage, or destroy any life or property.
 - I will walk with dignity, and not run, if I wish to leave an event or action.
 - I will not bring, possess, or use alcohol, marijuana, or illegal drugs at an event or action.
- I choose and commit never to wear a mask so that I can tell my story and truth about why the PPC is important to me in a public and accessible manner that promotes honesty and trust.
- It is important to the strength and success of the PPC that we maintain nonviolent unity, discipline, and rigor – tapping into a power and soulforce that exists within each of us. Accordingly, at all times, I will be firmly grounded in nonviolence as a philosophy, practice, and discipline and will strive to embody values of courage, inclusion, pursuit of justice, and love for all humanity.

¹ Martin Luther King, Jr., "My Trip to the Land of Gandhi," in *A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings and Speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr.*, ed. James Melvin Washington (HarperSanFrancisco, 1991), 25.