

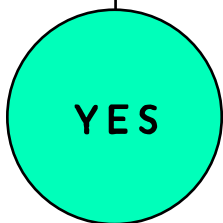
I SHOT A VIDEO OF POLICE VIOLENCE.

SHOULD I POST IT ONLINE?

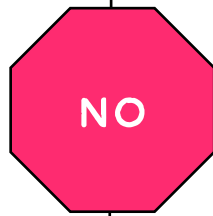
Sharing your footage online may have advantages like challenging false police/media narratives or even exonerating someone detained. However, it could put you or others at greater physical or legal risk. Footage of state violence can also trigger, distress, or

dehumanize Black, Brown, and Indigenous people who have been targeted by the violence of systemic racism and policing for generations. **Use this resource to weigh pros and cons and release your footage in a way that reduces harm and makes a difference.**

COULD POSTING THE VIDEO PUT YOU AT RISK FOR RETALIATION, ABUSE, OR PERSECUTION?



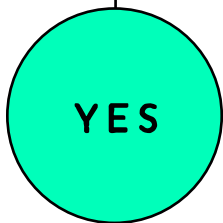
**DON'T POST !
REDUCE HARM
FIRST!!**



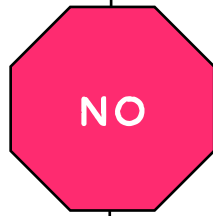
UMM NOT SURE ?

- 👁️ Read the experiences of people who filmed police killings and how the trauma and aftermath of documenting police violence impacted them. [What happened to the witnesses?](#)

COULD POSTING PUT OTHERS WHO APPEAR IN YOUR VIDEO AT RISK FOR RETALIATION, ABUSE, OR PERSECUTION?



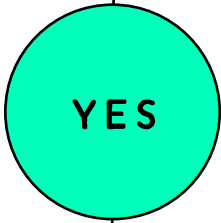
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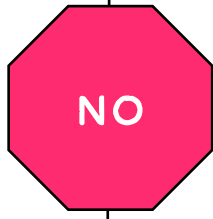
HOW COULD IT ?

- 👁️ In 2017, a man was doxxed and threatened after being wrongly identified as a neo-Nazi in social media videos of a white supremacist rally that he did not participate in.
- 👁️ Police have used activists' videos to identify and criminalize protesters.
- 👁️ Remember that race, immigration status, gender identity or prior history with the criminal legal system could increase one's vulnerability
- 👁️ DIG DEEPER:
 - [Assessing safety, security, consent](#)
 - [Equality Labs anti-doxxing guide](#)

DOES THE VIDEO HAVE IMAGES OF GRAPHIC VIOLENCE, VIOLATE ANYONE'S PRIVACY OR DIGNITY OR INCITE HATE?

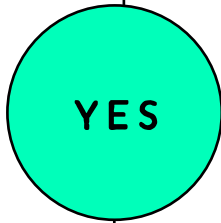


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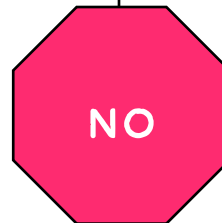
TIP
👁️ This can be tricky, especially since videos themselves can be traumatic to witnesses and viewers. [We created guidance to help.](#)

REMEMBER THAT ONLINE VIDEOS CAN BE TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT AND REPURPOSED. COULD YOUR FOOTAGE PERPETUATE HARMFUL STEREOTYPES YOU'RE TRYING TO COUNTER?



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REDUCE HARM FIRST!!**

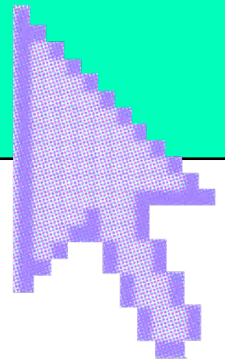
- 👁️ Share your video anonymously through a trusted journalist or lawyer
- 👁️ Before posting, consult a lawyer, the person filmed or their family
- 👁️ Blur faces (and identifying marks like tattoos, scars, or distinctive clothing) before sharing
- 👁️ Consider scrubbing metadata and [anonymizing your online footprint](#)



POST IT!

ADDITIONAL TIPS:

- ➔ [Blackivist 5 Tips for Documenting Movements](#)
- ➔ [Good practices for uploading human rights videos online](#)
- ➔ [EFF Surveillance self-defense for protests during COVID-19](#)
- ➔ [What is video metadata?](#)



POSTING VIDEOS OF POLICE VIOLENCE

LESSONS & CASE STUDIES

POLICE KILLING OF WALTER SCOTT, SOUTH CAROLINA - 2015



Timing can also be really important. Sometimes it can be more strategic to hold onto your video and preserve it as valuable evidence that helps prove something in court, for example. Other

times a rapid release could lead to immediate steps towards accountability.

Feidin Santana filmed a 3-minute video that captured police officer Michael Slager murdering Walter Scott, a Black man, by shooting him eight times in the back. Unsure of what to do, Santana got a lawyer and reached out to Walter Scott's family with help from the local Black Lives Matter chapter. He then released his footage three days later, just after Slager filed a false report about the incident. The national media picked up Santana's video, which contradicted the officer's account, and Slager was arrested the same day, ultimately sentenced to 20 years for murder. In this example, waiting before posting online was the safest, most effective strategy. This is an especially smart tactic in cases that don't already have a lot of attention. Watch this [video case study](#) to learn more

POLICE KILLING OF ERIC GARNER, NEW YORK - 2014



Assess the risks you might face releasing footage publicly. Eyewitnesses who document police abuse often face targeting and harassment which can lead to security and mental health risks.

Working with a trusted journalist or lawyer can help you release footage anonymously.

Ramsey Orta filmed the NYPD police killing of Eric Garner in 2014. After the incident Orta gave the NY Daily News exclusive rights to publish the video and granted them permission to credit him for filming the incident. The footage went viral, leading to massive global protests calling for an end to police violence. Unfortunately, after publishing the video Orta and his family were repeatedly harassed and targeted by police and their supporters in the years that followed. Orta has reflected that he regrets not releasing the footage anonymously and recommends that people seek legal counsel before exposing footage of a police killing. While Orta's footage was used in the trial against Officer Daniel Pantaleo, it took five years before the officer was fired. Eric Garner's family continues to fight for justice. Although not all video documentation leads to justice inside a courtroom, it can play an important role in exposing abuse, mobilizing movements and shifting the narrative around systemic violence. Read more about why it's important to keep fighting and keep filming.

MORE USEFUL TIPS

- Learn about your [Right to Record](#) law enforcement in the U.S.
- Livestreaming a protest? Do it [safely and reduce harm](#)

- Collecting and preserving videos? Learn about building a [video database](#)
- See all our tips and guidance on [Filming the Police in the U.S.](#)