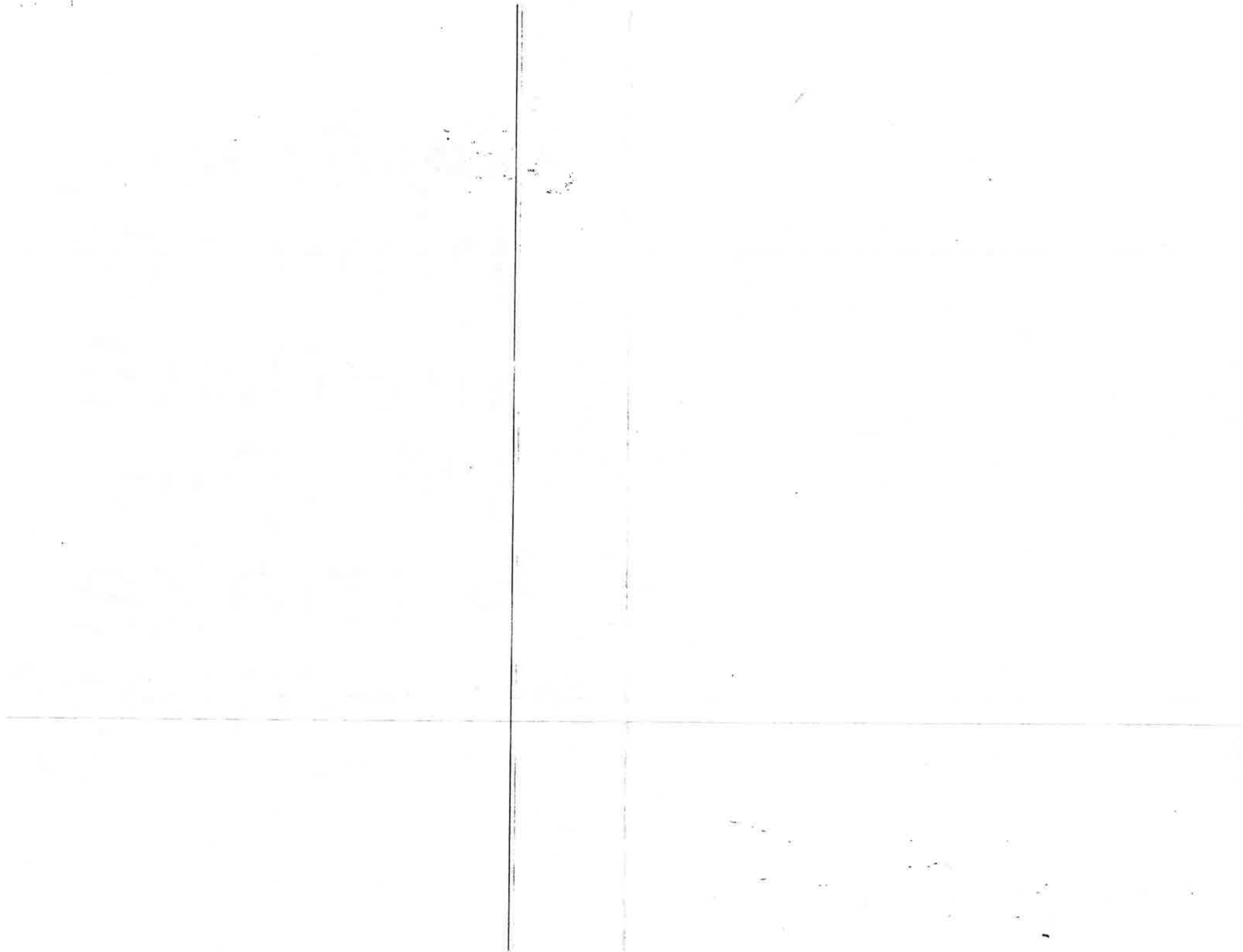


sometimes before going to a show you've got to equip yourself with the tools necessary to engage in conflict against scumbags: racists hipsters, macho bro punx, classists, and the enthusiastic guardians of cis, straight society.

stay fierce & unaccommodating!

destroy the scene:
how to
alienate
people
& make
enemies

Don't fall back!



**BROS
FALL
BACK**

DEATH TO BRO
CULTURE!
LONG LIVE
INTIMIDATING
BITCHES!
FOR A
TOMORROW
WITHOUT BROS!

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people will out themselves as misogynists and racists, people will try to alienate you, you may lose friends and people that you thought were allies, and people will try to convince others that you have baseless beef with ridiculous topics. From personal experience I can tell you that folks often get frantic and act more irrational than usual when confronted.

bro(s) & homies

bro(s) – the person/people who is acting a fool; who you're trying to alienate; your enemy
homies – your friends/people you know that got your back

other things to keep in mind

Sometimes the bro will come to you, say some bullshit straight to your face. Sometimes you have to approach a bro for some shit you witnessed from faraway. Have a plan for dealing with both of these scenarios – how are you going to let your homies know you need their help? How are you going to communicate with a bro/homies amidst a potentially loud set? How are you going to keep a bro from running away like the coward they are if your homies frighten them?

Encourage people to have 0 tolerance, encourage people to take action on their own, but be available (if you can, of course) incase people without homies are in a tight spot with a bro. Make sure not to be condescending or act like some type of savior – just let people know that if a conflict arises with a bro, you're on their side.

Ideally you and your homies develop a reputation. It might be intimidating to be “that guy,” a PC punk, a feminist bitch, but who the fuck cares? I aspire to book shows that are unenticing to bros, almost every other show space/promoter is available to and accommodates bros that want to bro the fuck out.

I advise against trying to “convince” any bro that they're a bro, engaging in meaningful conversations about hierarchy, power dynamics, and behaviors that replicate oppressive institutions. That said, it *sometimes* helps to have a homie that is willing to talk to a bro, especially if the bro is a performer that feels invested and/or entitled to participate in an event.

It sounds a little silly to talk about bros and [social] war in the same breath to a lot of folks, I understand that. On the real, though, once you engage in this conflict shit gets really real quickly;

get out & stay out: tips on kicking bros out of your space

You gotta have homies that are willing to deal with a situation getting ugly, escalating in a variety of manners. These homies can be vengeful babes, willing to throw down and hurt a bro, or good at deescalating an undesirably rowdy situation. Your homies don't have to be super confrontational and want to scream at/hurt/etc a bro, its helpful just to have friends that are willing to literally stand with you when you're trying to remove someone from a space. Unless you're ready or practiced at intimidating the fuck out of a bro alone, having the option to call for back up is really important.

Try simply asking? Unless you want to escalate the scenario (sometimes advisable), it sometimes works to be direct. Say something like, “The way you're behaving is unacceptable and you are no longer welcome in this space.” Depending on the situation, you may want to add details on the behavior in question, why you need them to leave, whether or not they are welcome back at a later time. Sometime a bro will be so caught off guard or embarrassed that they leave without question. Effortless success!

You can also try not so simply asking, aka asking but not actually. If you can tell from a particular bro's behavior that they won't leave just with a simple, neutral toned request, you may want to approach the situation with a bit more verbal brawn. Try saying something like, “What do you think you're doing?” or “You're on your way out, right?” If they answer your rhetorical question, go ahead and say something like, “I don't care. You need to leave right now.”

A bro's initial reaction can vary between childish, upsetting, and triggering for different folks. Generally its a fair assumption to think that things will escalate the longer they go on. Don't engage in pointless conversations that a bro will bring up after being called out! Don't be bro-pologist, don't let up the cold front, don't waste your time on someone who has already proven themselves to be a bro. Stick to your bottom-line: bro, go home!

Fuck moral integrity!!! Go ahead, gurl, lie to a bro. Tell them you got a baseball bat, tell them you'll explain what they're doing wrong, tell them you know they're crew and you're gonna let them all know what a bro they are.

If the bro doesn't leave, escalate! Some of the following might work: get in their face, call more friends over, get all of your homies to intimidate them, get the band/music to stop until they leave, grab the mic and describe what they did/what they look like and encourage others to help get them to leave.

If they aren't leaving on their own, escort the bro out. Ideally you and your homies are able to surround the bro(s), forcing them to move wherever the group moves, and walk them out the door and as far away as y'all find necessary.

If you make a bro feel like its everyone against them, they'll leave. Only the most stubborn of bros would stay at a place after they realize they have no friends. Make a bro feel like they're totally alone, make them feel like an idiot for slipping up, make them afraid of ever acting like a bro in any space again.

You ain't owe nobody shit! Wanting to be away from the shitty, oppressive behavior of bros does not obligate you to a cause of changing all of them for the better. Bros have to deal with their own baggage just as we all do. Don't let a wide-eyed, sad, confused bro convince you that you owe them any time! A show or a party is generally not a setting conducive to a deep conversation about anti-authoritarianism and how to unlearn years and years of socialization, tell that chump to google that shit when they get home.

some examples of how a bro will respond to being called out & asked to leave

ignore you; laugh at your demand; engage in petty argument (condescending tones used, bros being purposefully "difficult," bros in denial); plea for mercy with an apology ("I'm sorry you caught me being a turd," "I'm sorry, I won't do it again," "I'm sorry but I don't understand why you want me to leave," "I'm sorry you didn't think that was funny," "I'm sorry, I'm drunk," etc); anger/self-righteousness ("Fuck you, I do what I want," "My friends support my bro behavior," general unrelated insults, etc); confusion (bro entitlement to an explanation on why you want them to leave, playing dumb, real ignorance of the context of your qualms); scapegoat others/act like a victim.