

POINTS OF INTERVENTION WORKSHEET

This exercise is intended to help grassroots activists identify points of intervention in both physical and cultural/idea space where they can take action in order to make change. Points of intervention are places in a system, be it a physical system (chain of production, political decision making) or a conceptual system (ideology, cultural assumption etc.) where action can be taken to effectively interrupt the system. The first four points are physical locations in a system while the final point—assumption— is in the story of the system you are targeting. This can often be layered on top of one of the first four physical points through a “reframing action” or sometimes a point of assumption might be an entirely different location (symbolic site, location of anniversary, a previously invisible part of the system etc.) In the first column identify where the point exists in your campaign and in the second explore ideas for how to stage some form of intervention at that point. What type of action could you do? How would it help reframe the issue? These are just five general points of intervention perhaps there are other points in the system you are confronting? This exercise is intended to encourage holistic strategic analysis. Be creative!

THE POINTS OF INTERVENTION	IDENTIFY THE POINT	INTERVENTION IDEAS
<p>Point of Production Factory, crop lands. The realm of strikes, picket lines, crop-sits, etc.</p>		
<p>Point of Destruction Resource extraction such as logging, mines, etc. Point of toxic discharge, etc. Realm of road blockades, tree-sits, etc.</p>		
<p>Point of Consumption Chain stores, supermarkets. Places where customers can be reached. The realm of consumer boycotts and markets campaigns.</p>		
<p>Point of Decision Corporate HQ. Slumlord’s office. Location of targeted decision-maker.</p>		
<p>Point of Assumption Challenging underlying beliefs/control mythologies such as: environment must be sacrificed for jobs, or poor people are lazy. Could also be actions tied to cultural moments such as anniversaries or pop culture trends. Or prefigurative actions that actualize alternatives, like transforming an empty lot into a garden, turning a government office into a day care center, etc.</p>	<p>What is the assumption we’re challenging?</p>	