

On December 21st, so-called patriots attempted to break into a state legislative session in Salem, Oregon. They shattered the doors of the state capitol building & maced police officers. These actions exemplify a growing narrative shift in which Right-wing self-deemed patriots are criticizing the police. While this might seem hopeful, these hypocritical actions are consistent with the history of the extreme Right & White nationalist groups here in Oregon. The Willamette Action Collective believes it is essential we remember that both the police & the extreme Right are dangerous threats to any lasting liberation.

These patriot groups depend on White nationalist-based conspiracy theories to anchor their ideology, & while many of these conspiracy theories acknowledge the failings of our government, they lack any analysis of race, class, & the related forms of systemic oppression. Instead these Right-wing conspiracy theories rely on a binary sense of good-vs-evil, scapegoating, demonization, & apocalyptic aggression. Because they're not grounded in a material analysis, it's easy for these groups to change who they perceive as evil, who they scapegoat & demonize, & who is the recipient of their aggression. This often includes various authority figures. It should not surprise us that they can show aggression toward cops. Violently engaging with police does nothing to lessen the racism, chauvinism, nationalism, & fascism celebrated by these groups. While it may be tempting to celebrate their demonization of the oppressive police state, we must not ignore the dangerous bigotry so ingrained in their conspiracy theory-based ideology. Only by understanding the mechanism oppressing us will we achieve a lasting liberation free of all forms of bigotry. We furiously condemn the bigotry & misguided ideology of all extreme Right groups! We demand total abolishment of the police state!



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