

“Public Square Conversation: Personal Power and Collective Action”

May 20th, 2025 - Takeaways

EDUCATE/DRAW ATTENTION:

- Educate people
- Get your message (e.g. Gaza) on Youtube
- Hand out Know Your Rights cards
- Wear buttons to get responses from people
- Explore creative actions like cyclists traveling across the U.S. for Gaza, veterans fasting for Gaza
- Connect on popular issues like Medicare For All that appeal to both left and right - Medicaid cuts, millions will lose coverage
- Avoid just tuning things out
- Study models from around the world
- Learn about and advocate for a peace tax fund

ORGANIZE, PROTEST, NONCOOPERATE:

- Mass uprising like what happened in S. Korea to restore democracy
- Participate in a General strike
- Withdrawing taxes as an organized campaign. Putting money elsewhere for communal support.
- [Witness at the Border – Blue Triangle campaign](#)
- Join groups like Indivisible, Jewish Voice for Peace, etc
- Boycott Barclays, Sodastream, other companies (BDS)
- Refuse to have an image of yourself taken at the airport
- Hold more street protests, support students who are afraid to protest
- Switch to a browser that doesn't save search history, like Duck Duck Go
- Hold a dramatization - Die-in, etc.
- Remember that taking action, asserting ourselves, makes us feel like citizens
- *MAY 31ST: Demonstration for supporting Medicare For All - 30 E Randolph (Blue Cross Blue Shield building).*
- *JUNE 14TH: Protest at Daley Plaza - No Kings Day*
- *JUNE 20TH: Divest Campaign protest at 180 N LaSalle. Pritzker and the IL Treasurer have invested in Israeli bonds.*

ELECTORAL:

- Organize to lobby in Springfield to overturn IL's anti-BDS law
- Pressure Sen. Duckworth to sign onto a resolution to let food into Gaza - S.R. 224
- Call the White House (202-456-1111), Tuesdays & Thursdays from 2 to 4 pm Central time
- Prepare for midterms in swing states
- IL Senate vacancies, three representatives. Many candidates are running - lobby them. What are the candidates' stances on Palestine/Israel?
- Organize in the Democratic Party, or outside it in another party
- Get on the mailing list of Abdelnasser Rashid to learn what's happening in Springfield re: Gaza.