

Appalled by the increase of the U.S. program of unmanned drone attacks in Pakistan and Afghanistan? Looking for a creative anti-war action your group can do this fall Oct. 7th-10th? Consider joining Foreign Policy in Focus, CODEPINK, Voices for Creative Nonviolence, and Pax Christi USA in planning and performing a Mock Drone Attack Action in your city to help raise awareness about the realities of these attacks.

What Is a Mock Drone Attack Action and How Can My Group Plan One?

PURPOSE OF THIS ACTION:

- The Mock Drone Attack's goal is to utilize "impromptu" street theater in order to simulate a drone attack. This action should capture the interest of both in-person witnesses and, after, internet viewers. This interest can then be harnessed to promote educational materials on the U.S. drone attacks happening in the Afghanistan-Pakistan war and provide pathways for more citizen resistance.

PEOPLE POWER:

- 30 people willing to do 5 minutes of choreography in 1 or more locations.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Location in your town where there is a lot of foot traffic.
- Materials: Video Recorder, Leaf Blower or Boom Box (or some other noise-generating device your group decides upon), Copies of the educational leaflet on drones (See Template)

THE ACTION: STEP BY STEP

- Convene your group at a nearby location (but not right where you want to perform the action) so as to go over last minute choreography and role-assignments before going to the chosen location. This will ensure attention is not drawn to the group before the action begins. Roles: 20 people to perform the action theater, 1 to operate sound cue, 4-5 to hand out leaflets, & 1-2 to video record. Decide what works for your size group.

(ACTION WILL LAST 5 MINUTES so people will remain interested and your video will be an attractive length):

- **Phase 1:** Make sure your camera is rolling as your group takes a moment to disperse themselves throughout the normal crowd at the location you have chosen.
- **Phase 2:** Turn on the leaf blower(s) (a sound similar to this has been described by those in Pakistan who have experienced drone attacks) or other sound-generating device your group decides upon. **THIS IS THE CUE FOR MEMBERS OF YOUR GROUP TO FREEZE AND HOLD THEIR POSITION for 30 SECONDS.** This should immediately draw attention to your group.
- **Phase 3:** Have your 20 street actors slowly and dramatically feel the impact of the "mock drone attack" and fall to the ground as citizens who are wounded or dead and then freeze in their ground position.
- **Phase 4:** As your actors remain in their position, have 4-5 people quickly disperse the leaflets that explain what has been witnessed and provides educational/action items on

drones.

REMEMBER ALL THESE PHASES SHOULD OCCUR IN A COMBINED TOTAL OF 5 MINUTES.

- If your group is willing, repeat the Mock Drone Attack Action at 1 or 2 more locations in your city to increase the number of locals witnessing it.
- **Wrap Up and Report Back:** Have the group gather at a location near to the action site to discuss their experience, talk about next steps, and share upcoming events in the community.

***Possible Variations on the Action: For Phase 1, have your group pretend they are at a wedding party or funeral--since these have been targets of drone attacks--and then proceed with action presented above.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES:

Before:

- Contact your local T.V. and print media to invite them to cover the action. Emphasize that this unique action is street theater that will provide a good “photo op” for them.
- Please note that besides inviting the media to attend, you do not want to “publicize” the action because what will make the Mock Drone Attack Anti-War Action effective is the element of surprise for those passing by.

During:

- Designate 1 person from your group to video record the action. This is how you will help to generate interest in the action over the internet and prompt people to learn more about the drone attacks.

After:

- Upload your video on YouTube and send it to your contacts with a short explanation and resources they can access. Please send us the link to your video so we can see (and promote) how the action is spreading across the country.
- Designate members of your group who are willing to write letters to the editor or blog about the action and the issue of drone attacks.

Scheduling an Action? Let us know the date, location, and time by emailing: gerald@vcnv.org

Send video links of your action to: amy@paxchristiusa.org

Thanks for your participation!

