

W.I.T.C.H.: STARTING NEW CHAPTERS

ANYONE CAN START A CHAPTER OF W.I.T.C.H.; THE PDX CHAPTER WILL NOT GATE-KEEP PARTICIPATION, BUT WE WILL ONLY ALIGN OUR OWN COVEN WITH THOSE WHO SHARE OUR VALUES: YOU MUST BE ANONYMOUS AND INTERSECTIONAL.

W.I.T.C.H. PDX IS NOT GOING TO DIRECT YOUR ACTIONS, VISUALS OR WORDS. HOWEVER, WE CAN OFFER SOME ADVICE AND GUIDANCE TO HELP YOU GET STARTED.

- 1) DO NOT ORGANIZE ON SOCIAL MEDIA WITH YOUR REAL IDENTITIES EXPOSED. THIS INCLUDES PUBLICLY ASKING EXISTING CHAPTERS HOW TO JOIN ON INSTAGRAM ETC. - USE DMs. IF YOU'RE STARTING A CHAPTER, TAKE PEOPLE'S PHONE NUMBERS, ENCOURAGE THEM TO DOWNLOAD THE SIGNAL APP, AND COMMUNICATE SECURELY. (MEMBERS OF INDIVIDUAL CHAPTERS ARE NOT ANONYMOUS TO EACH OTHER.)

- 2) KNOW THAT AS A FEMINIST GROUP YOU MAY BE TARGETED FOR HARASSMENT. WE SUGGEST USING VPNs OR PROXIES. MAKE YOUR DOMAIN INFO PRIVATE IF YOU START A WEBSITE.

- 3) GIVE YOUR CHAPTER A UNIQUE NAME, i.e. W.I.T.C.H. PDX, W.I.T.C.H. ROSE CITY, W.I.T.C.H. BROOKLYN, W.I.T.C.H. LONG BEACH. INITIALLY, WE ENVISIONED A SINGLE CHAPTER FOR EACH CITY, BUT INTEREST IS HIGHER THAN EXPECTED. TO KEEP YOUR GROUP SIZE MANAGEABLE (WE RECOMMEND NO MORE THAN 30 MEMBERS), SOME CITIES MAY NEED TO SPLIT INTO SMALLER INDIVIDUAL CHAPTERS NAMED FOR NEIGHBORHOODS OR OTHERWISE DIFFERENTIATED. BE RESPECTFUL - INDIVIDUAL CHAPTERS WILL WANT TO DO THEIR OWN THING AND NOT BE MISTAKEN FOR EACH OTHER, ESPECIALLY WHEN THERE ARE MULTIPLE CHAPTERS PER CITY. AVOID COPYING ANOTHER CHAPTER'S ACTIONS. WHEN ENGAGING WITH THE MEDIA PLEASE MAKE IT CLEAR THAT YOU ARE ONLY SPEAKING FOR YOUR OWN CHAPTER AND NOT W.I.T.C.H. INTERNATIONAL.

IF YOU CAN'T FIND A CHAPTER TO JOIN, START ONE. WHETHER OR NOT YOU COMMUNICATE AND/OR WORK WITH OTHER W.I.T.C.H. CHAPTERS IN YOUR AREA IS UP TO YOU BUT ALWAYS PROTECT YOUR INDIVIDUAL CHAPTER'S ANONYMITY.

- 4) EXPAND YOUR CHAPTER BEYOND YOUR FRIENDS AND MAKE IT DIVERSE AND INTERSECTIONAL. IF YOU NEED TO - VOLUNTEER IN YOUR COMMUNITY TO FIND THE RIGHT PEOPLE. HOMOGENOUS GROUPS ARE BORING AND LESS EFFECTIVE. SPEAK FROM A VARIETY OF PERSPECTIVES. SPIRITUAL PRACTICE AS A WITCH IS HELPFUL BUT NOT REQUIRED. REMEMBER THAT WITCHCRAFT IS NOT JUST

WICCA OR EUROCENTRIC PRACTICES. WITCHES EXIST IN A BROAD RANGE OF TRADITIONS AND SOME WITCHES ARE JUST BAD ASS ATHEISTS. W.I.T.C.H. PDX IS OPEN TO WITCHES OF ALL GENDERS BUT WE ASK STRAIGHT CIS MEN TO TAKE A SEAT.

- 5) LIKE THE ORIGINAL W.I.T.C.H. MOTHER COVEN, W.I.T.C.H. PDX IS COLLABORATIVE WITH NO CENTRAL LEADERSHIP, LENDING EACH MEMBER'S VOICE EQUAL WEIGHT. HIERARCHY IS A PATRIARCHAL CONCEPT.
- 6) WORK HARD TO BE ANONYMOUS. THIS MEANS VARYING MEETING LOCATIONS AND NEVER TAKING OFF YOUR VEILS IN FRONT OF STRANGERS. GUARD ALL W.I.T.C.H.-RELATED MATERIALS CAREFULLY. DO NOT DISCUSS ANYTHING W.I.T.C.H.-RELATED ON YOUR PERSONAL SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS. ONLY REVEAL YOUR PARTICIPATION TO YOUR PARTNERS/BFFs/COOL MOMS. IF ANYONE ELSE ASKS, YOU'RE NOT PART OF IT. ANONYMITY IS POWER.
- 7) OUR COSTUMES DRAW A LOT OF ATTENTION. CONSIDER REFRAINING FROM JOINING EVENTS WHERE YOU MAY DETRACT FROM SPEAKERS OR THE INTENDED PURPOSE OF THE EVENT. DON'T HIJACK OTHER PEOPLE'S SHIT AND MAKE IT ABOUT YOU. OUTSIDE OF MARCHES, IT'S GENERALLY BEST TO PLAN YOUR OWN ACTIONS. FOR PROTESTS ETC., YOU MAY WANT TO CHECK WITH ORGANIZERS FIRST (THROUGH YOUR CHAPTER'S EMAIL) WHETHER YOUR PRESENCE IS DESIRED. WHEN IN DOUBT, SIT IT OUT. THINK OF OTHER WAYS W.I.T.C.H. COULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE CAUSE, LIKE POINTING TO FUNDRAISING EFFORTS ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND/OR ATTENDING AS UNVEILED INDIVIDUALS.

- 8) WHILE WE ARE HAPPY TO PROVIDE EXAMPLES FOR COSTUMES, ACTIONS AND RITUALS VIA OUR SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO EXAMINE WHAT RITUAL AND INTERSECTIONALITY MEAN IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY, AND TO CREATE CONTENT AND CRAFT RITUALS THAT REFLECT YOUR OWN UNIQUE POWER AND MEANING AS WELL AS OUR GREATER SHARED VALUES. WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE INDIVIDUAL CHAPTERS PUTTING THEIR OWN UNIQUE SPIN ON COSTUMES, MANIFESTOS, ACTIONS ETC. INSPIRED BY THE CULTURE OF THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITY.
- 9) WE SEE W.I.T.C.H. AS A MIX OF POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT, SPIRITUALITY AND PERFORMANCE ART INVOKING THE SACRED FEMININE. WE SUGGEST FINDING A GOOD BALANCE OF RITUAL, DIRECT ACTION AND ACTIVISM, WITH SATIRE AND HUMOR AS WELL AS SOLEMNITY AS APPROPRIATE. W.I.T.C.H. PDX REQUIRES ITS MEMBERS TO VOLUNTEER LOCALLY FOR INTERSECTIONAL CAUSES (AS INDIVIDUALS) BUT YOUR POLICIES ARE UP TO YOU.
- 10) YOU MAY USE OUR LOGO AND/OR MANIFESTO ONLY IF CREDIT IS GIVEN TO W.I.T.C.H. PDX WITH A LINK BACK TO WWW.WITCHPDX.COM. PLEASE DO NOT POST OUR PHOTOS TO SOCIAL MEDIA WITHOUT TAGGING US @WITCHPDX
- 11) WE ARE ALL DESCENDANTS OF THE ORIGINAL W.I.T.C.H. AND IT IS NOT FOR US TO COMMODIFY THEIR NAME THROUGH THE SELLING OF MERCHANDISE. IF YOU WISH TO FUNDRAISE, DIRECT SUPPORTERS TO THE EFFORTS OF TRANSPARENT, ACCOUNTABLE ORGANIZATIONS.
- 12) ONCE CHAPTERS ARE ESTABLISHED AND HAVE PERFORMED PUBLIC ACTIONS, THERE WILL BE

OPPORTUNITIES TO JOIN AN INTERNATIONAL W.I.T.C.H. ALLIANCE WITH POTENTIAL FOR SIMULTANEOUS GUERRILLA ACTIONS. HOWEVER, ALL W.I.T.C.H. CHAPTERS WILL REMAIN AUTONOMOUS.

- 13) THERE'S NO NEED TO RUSH. THINK EVERYTHING THROUGH. KEEP EDUCATING YOURSELVES, TAKE INEVITABLE CRITICISM FROM FELLOW ACTIVISTS GRACEFULLY, EXAMINE YOUR PRIVILEGES AND LISTEN TO THOSE WHO DON'T HAVE THE SAME PRIVILEGES. GROW AND LEARN. SUPPORT EACH OTHER. IT'S OK TO BE IMPERFECT. COMMIT TO IMPROVEMENT. WE'RE STILL LEARNING, TOO.

OUR VALUES

ANTI-RACISM – ANTI-FASCISM – ANTI-PATRIARCHY – INDIGENOUS RIGHTS – GENDER SELF-DETERMINATION – WOMEN'S LIBERATION – TRANS LIBERATION – ANTI-RAPE-CULTURE – REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS – SEX WORKER SUPPORT – LGBTQIA RIGHTS – ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION – RELIGIOUS FREEDOM – IMMIGRANT RIGHTS – ANTI-WAR – ANTI-CAPITALISM – DISABILITY JUSTICE – PRIVACY RIGHTS – WORKER'S RIGHTS

WE DISAVOW ANY INDIVIDUALS OR COVENS CLAIMING THE NAME OF 'W.I.T.C.H.' AND FAILING TO UPHOLD THESE VALUES.