



2008 Republican National Convention -- St. Paul, MN



2008 Democratic National Convention -- Denver, CO

TWO PARTIES ONE POLICE

Minneapolis is bidding to host the 2012 Democratic National Convention. Some are saying that things would be different this time because it's the Democrats instead of the Republicans. Perhaps there would be friendlier riot cops, organic pepper spray, and hybrid paddy wagons. The Democrats wage the same wars, enrich the same corporations, and crush dissent with the same violence as the Republicans, why would their convention be any different? The preemptive raids, barbed wire fences, and police violence that came to town with the RNC are an integral part of any large political spectacle, without exception. They are necessary to protect the rich and powerful from the rest of us. Even if you consider yourself a Democrat, these conventions are for the party elites, not for you or me.

But we can still stop them! Take action before it's too late! Don't let them transform downtown Minneapolis into a military fortress. Stand together in resistance to all state repression, no matter which party is responsible.

DNC DO NOT COME

for more information or to get involved, go to NoDNC.org

Some Reasons Why the DNC is Bad for Minneapolis:

- ☠ The convention would bring an excessive police presence to our city. Many people felt like they were living in a police state during the 2008 RNC. Police misconduct and brutality accompany all such events.
- ☠ Control of the police will be taken over by the federal government, which will make it difficult to hold officers accountable to our communities.
- ☠ There will be increased militarization of local police through training and new weaponry.
- ☠ Excess stockpiles of chemical weapons and high-tech equipment ranging from cameras to rubber bullet guns will be left for use in our communities on a daily basis for years to come.
- ☠ Expenses from trials and civil law suits will continue for many years after the convention. Civil and criminal cases are still pending from the 2008 RNC nearly two years after the convention.
- ☠ There is a burden on local governments, which are already strapped for money. Not all costs are covered by federal grants.
- ☠ Local businesses are disrupted by security measures and street closures. Loss of business often means loss of wages as well.
- ☠ Local residents have their lives disrupted, as streets are closed, transit is rerouted, and sections of the city are closed to the public.
- ☠ The convention will bring to town thousands of people who believe in the use of violence to accomplish their goals, such as most of the convention delegates. War criminals, including the president and Congressional leaders, will also be coming to town.

Some Reasons Why Minneapolis is Bad for the DNC:

- ☠ People in Minneapolis have already experienced the police violence, heavy-handed crowd control tactics, and suspension of civil liberties that accompany all modern political conventions.
- ☠ Many local Minneapolis businesses are struggling to keep their doors open. Businesses in St. Paul were promised increased revenues during the RNC, but many saw their shops virtually closed down once the fences went up.
- ☠ Minneapolis recently enacted cuts to the fire departments because of budget shortfalls. We can't waste money on a convention when we can't pay for basic civic services!
- ☠ Many cities take drastic measures to prepare for conventions, even going so far as to remove iconic fixtures and trees from the streets. Minneapolis has many beautiful sculptures, fountains, and trees downtown--and we want to keep them!
- ☠ St. Paul still has cameras on most downtown street corners and most of their \$2 million arsenal of chemical weapons is left over to be used on poor people and communities of color.

**Want to help help save Minneapolis
from the DNC?**

Come to the next organizing meeting!