

# HACTIVIST AKA CREATION IS CRUCIFIXION

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## TACTICAL MEDIA ANARCHIST COLLECTIVE AND SKILLSHARE NETWORK

**HACTIVIST** is an international tactical media education and activist training organization and collective. Hactivist attempts to reclaim intellectual property through the subversion, interception or theft of communication systems currently being used by power structures to socialize, detain and restrict the autonomy of all individuals. Hactivist reverse engineers or creates toolkits for activist use, assists in temporary or permanent theft of media transmittal structures, organizes resistance efforts across genres of sub cultural and deviant movements, and provides free technical education and skill sharing for activists and revolutionaries. The current structure was instituted in 1999 through the combined efforts of the international tactical media group The Carbon Defense League (est. 1997) and the political punk/noise group Creation is Crucifixion (est. 1997). This organizational structure supports a concept for tactical media activism that follows the equation  $THEORY + PROJECT + NETWORK = RESISTANCE$ . Problem areas in communication and media system structures are corrected by developing an idea for why activists should or could reclaim a system or tool (THEORY). With a problem identified, the next step in the equation is to develop a project idea that may take the form of a new tool or simply a reclamation instance (PROJECT). The project provides an outlet for activist energies and provides focus for a network of members. This answers the question of how to reclaim a tool or a system. The next step in the equation is to use sub cultural networks currently in place to rally interest in projects and gain new membership by identifying individuals with a similar passion or skill set (NETWORK). Creation is Crucifixion serves as the main method for dispersal of Hactivist information to activists with its continual travel and involvement within the political punk, hardcore, and noise scenes. Through these three steps, Hactivist allows itself to expand continually to meet the needs and efforts of all those individuals involved (RESISTANCE).

Hactivist serves as a skill share network that is accessible to all activists. The network is still being developed but once in place will facilitate the production of a much wider range of projects. Projects originate from any member or area. Events are constructed and activities organized through the network. Through this expansive network, people of all subcultures unite to form a strong resistant force. All members of Hactivist then claim collective ownership of all or any of the efforts of

each other. The reward for this form of organization is a more vibrant and exciting anarchist collective. Projects attempt to provide activists with a sense of fun or excitement that is easily forgotten. The efforts work towards a collective freedom from work and a limitless arena for creativity.

San Francisco serves as the home base of the Hactivist collective warehouse space. This space is currently being developed and will be open to the public and fully operational by January 2002. Branch locations of Hactivist are being established in Ann Arbor, MI, Philadelphia, PA, Richmond, VA, Amsterdam, Netherlands, London, UK, and Auckland, New Zealand.

The Hactivist warehouse space will serve as an educational hub. Members from around the world will spend month long residencies at the site learning the Hactivist organizational structure and pattern for growth. Each localized warehouse space will provide as needed instruction in disciplines such as Linux home computing and networking, computer programming, electronics and robotics, critical theory, legal rights, and home publishing. Class costs will be kept to a bare minimum (most likely under \$5 US a class) and instructors will be group members volunteering time. A public computer cluster will be available on the premises for use by students and Hactivist members. With nearly 15 members living on site at the SF location, the space will provide a nearly round the clock facility for creativity and education. The warehouse space is in desperate need of funding to establish itself in the bay area. We are currently accepting sponsorship.

Hactivist SF also runs a publishing house for tactical media materials including music, noise, art activities, and books. A quarterly magazine detailing Hactivist activities will be distributed through this publishing house as well.

Currently support for Hactivist comes from RTMark for legal and financial assistance and Autonomedia collective for media material distribution. We are always seeking new sponsors to help facilitate the Hactivist network.

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