

Ten Commandments / Commitments for Canadians - Final Draft

1] Quick List - Ten Commandments¹

1. **Get Trained.** It's like first aid training, but for citizens resisting military occupation.
2. **Form Small Groups.** Small group solidarity supports courage. We can't do this alone.
3. **Disobey Orders.** Mass disobedience will frustrate the invaders, demoralize soldiers, and make it impossible to govern us.
4. **Don't Work.** If you have to work for a complicit company, your labour is power. Work badly, slowly, or not at all - until the companies take a stand.
5. **Boycott Everything.** Boycott all the companies that support the current regime. This includes travel, sports, academia, media.
6. **Shun Ethically.** We'll need to cancel Canadians who collaborate with the U.S. regime. Key caveat - cancel with fairness & kindness.
7. **Recruit Fence-sitters.** Persuade neutral civilians to join the resistance.
8. **Befriend U.S. Soldiers.** Friendly persuasion can encourage regime forces to mutiny.
9. **Practice Solidarity.** Support victims of US oppression, including refugees.
10. **Maintain Nonviolent Discipline.** If we maintain nonviolent discipline it will help erode the morale of invading soldiers and erode legitimacy for the invasion within the U.S.

¹ Ideally, The first two commandments are before an invasion/occupation. The last eight are during an invasion/occupation (with prep beforehand).

2] Longer List - Ten Commandments

1. **Get Trained.** There's so much we can learn from people who have resisted oppression - both within our own country, and beyond. Let's learn from them. It's like first aid training, but for resisting military occupation.
2. **Form Small Groups.** From army units to AA support groups, experience shows that small group solidarity gives individuals strength to endure the unendurable. Resisting and persisting in the face of U.S. invasion can't be done alone.
3. **Disobey Orders.** If the U.S. invades, we need to be ready to refuse to obey. Mass disobedience will frustrate the invaders, demoralize soldiers, and make it impossible to govern us. We need to start getting ready for this now.
4. **Don't Work.** There are many companies that support the U.S. regime. If you work for them (*and sometimes you have to*), your labour is power. Work badly, slowly, or not all all - until these companies take a stand.
5. **Boycott Everything.** Again, there are many companies that support the U.S. regime. Boycott all of them. Don't stop. We've already been doing this - let's keep going until these companies take a stand. This includes travel, sports, academia, media..
6. **Shun Ethically.** There will be Canadians who collaborate with the U.S. regime, and they must be held accountable. But let's do accountability fairly. Even Gandhi advocated shunning collaborators - but only in ways that were ethical & compassionate.
7. **Recruit Fence-sitters.** Besides collaborators, there are fence-sitters - people who aren't for the invasion, but aren't resisting either. It's our job to reach out to these folks, dialogue with them, and urge them to get in the game. We need them. We can't resist alone.
8. **Befriend U.S. Soldiers.** Be friendly with those with guns invading our country? Yes, and for good reason. History has shown soldiers can be turned - and we can help with that. Soldiers are more likely to defect, withdraw, or just look the other way at opportune moments if they don't feel threatened.
9. **Practice Solidarity.** The harm that ICE has done to communities across the US is a warning sign of how the US will treat any communities it occupies. If the U.S. invades we know that are people we love who will be at risk - non-citizens, people of colour, LGBTQ+ folks, Indigenous folks, and more. We must stand in solidarity.
10. **Maintain Nonviolent Discipline.** This may seem like idealism, but it's rooted in pragmatic, strategic considerations. Nonviolent action allows people of all abilities and levels of commitment to resist together. If we maintain nonviolent discipline it will help erode the morale of invading soldiers and erode legitimacy for the invasion within the U.S.