

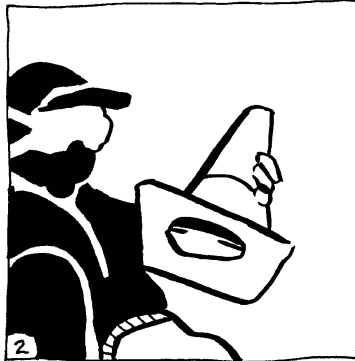
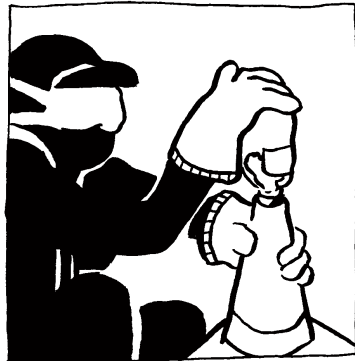
Tear Gas FOR PORTLANDERS

Rated PG-13 for:
clean language, expressive
pictures, and implied
violations of human rights

Contains one (1)
flawed chronology;
manufactured with
equipment that
processes tree nuts







TEAR

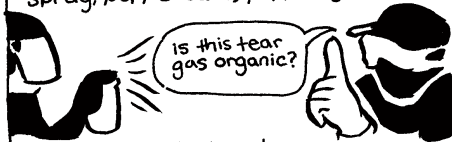
'Tear gas' is a broad category of substances that make the air spicy, generally used in effort to make a crowd disperse.

Common effects include:

- loss of vision, tearing
- excessive salivation

Chemical irritants categorized as 'tear gas' include:

OC gas, in forms like pepper spray, pepper balls, pepper grenades



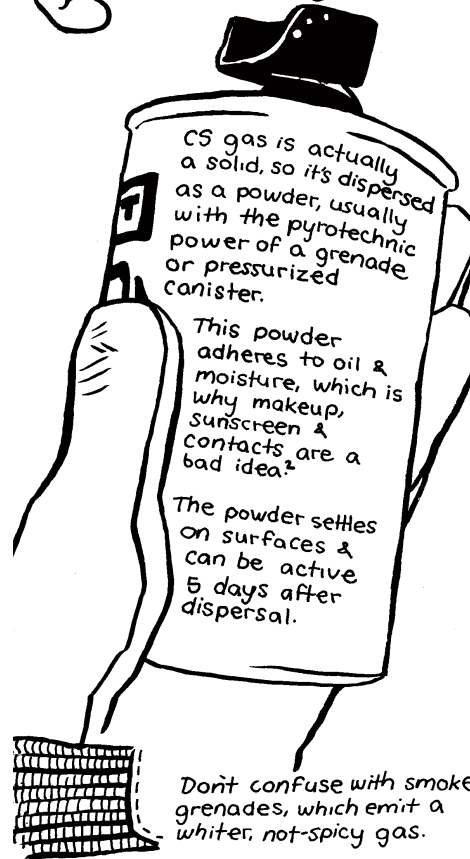
Tearing effect due to capsaicin from peppers!

CN gas, also sold as Mace

The most toxic of the commonly used tear gases, popularity has fallen since the 60s in favor of the perhaps quintessential tear gas: CS GAS



CS GAS



CS gas is actually a solid, so it's dispersed as a powder, usually with the pyrotechnic power of a grenade or pressurized canister.

This powder adheres to oil & moisture, which is why makeup, sunscreen & contacts are a bad idea.²

The powder settles on surfaces & can be active 5 days after dispersal.

Don't confuse with smoke grenades, which emit a whiter, not-spicy gas.

COUGH

CS gas & every other form of tear gas has been banned in warfare under multiple treaties, the first being the 1925 Geneva convention.³

The CDC recommends you seal all clothing that has been exposed to tear gas in bags, & have professionals dispose of them.⁴

Practical advice:

- Leave shoes outside for multiple days
- Wash clothing at least 2x
- Take a cold shower (hot water reactivates)
- Hydrate

Freeze

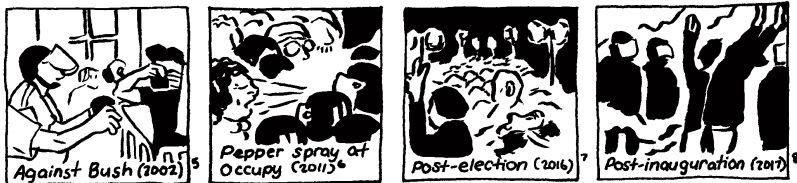


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TEAR GAS & THE



This is not the first time the PPB has used tear gas on protesters



CS T

On June 1st, PPB spent \$50,000, \$20,000 of it directly on chemical munitions. It's hard to tell how much they've spent overall.⁴

Riots?

"A person commits the crime of riot if while participating with five or more other persons the person engages in tumultuous and violent conduct..."¹⁰

- Oregon law

Justification

PPB claims they must use tear gas, because:

"If it's the choice between using CS gas and a fatality!..."

- PPB Deputy Chief Chris Davis

Where is their evidence that this is the case?

- MARCH 13th Breonna Taylor murdered by police
- MAY 6th Drejson Reed murdered by police
- 25th George Floyd murdered by police
- 28th First Portland protest
- 29th Tear gas used for first time; curfew imposed
- JUNE 2nd Curfew lifted
- 8th Lt. Charles Lovell appointed chief of PPB
- 9th Oregon District Court limits tear gas for 14 days
- 12th Rayshard Brooks murdered by police
- 15th Fence around Justice Center removed
- 17th Portland City Council reduce PPB budget by 3%
- 19th Arrests at Justice Center on Juneteenth
- 25th First use of tear gas after judge's order
- 26th Oregon Legislature passes bill; no tear gas but at riot¹³
- 30th Police declare riot outside PPB union building; proceed to riot; arrest journalists
- JULY 2nd EIK removed after fire damage
- 4th Battle of 4th of July
- 5th Feds noted outside Justice Center
- 10th Feds have explicit control over Portland protest response; person arrested for chalk line
- 11th Feds shoot unarmed man in head¹⁴
- 14th Feds kidnap people in unmarked cars
- 17th Portland returns to national news¹⁵

Partial Chronology^{16, 17, 18}

OUTRAGE



cataloging specifically tear gas related crimes against Portlanders!

IMPACTS

GENERAL:

- Eyes fill with tears, nose runs, salivation
- Burning pain in eyes and nose
- Difficulty breathing
- Inflammation of lungs
- Miscarriage, potentially menstrual irregularities^{11,12}

... AMONG MANY MORE

CANISTER:

- Severe burns, head injuries (potentially fatal)¹³

LONG TERM EFFECTS:

- Reactive Airway Dysfunction Syndrome (RADS, asthma mimic but unresponsive to treatment¹³)
- Chest pain, coughing, breathing difficulty for weeks¹⁴
- If gas released in confined space: death²⁰

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PROTESTERS

Reported lung inflammation, asthma attacks

Tear gas in particular is an equity issue in that, even when the PPB announces they will use tear gas before they release it, they don't leave time for sign language interpreters to relay the message, or for people who cannot run to leave the area; this effectively silences the voices of many people who have a right to make themselves heard.²⁴

This is not to mention the numerous injuries PPB inflicts on protesters.

PAGE

BYSTANDERS

- Tear gas is released downtown with no regard for the safety of houseless people



- Tear gas has impacted nearby drivers²¹

- Tear gas has seeped into residential homes; kids & pets vulnerable^{23,24}

- Tear gas or smoke bombs have been released around city buses.



- Multiple members of the press have been arrested at protests; press and legal observers are tear gassed.^{25,26}

PANDEMIC



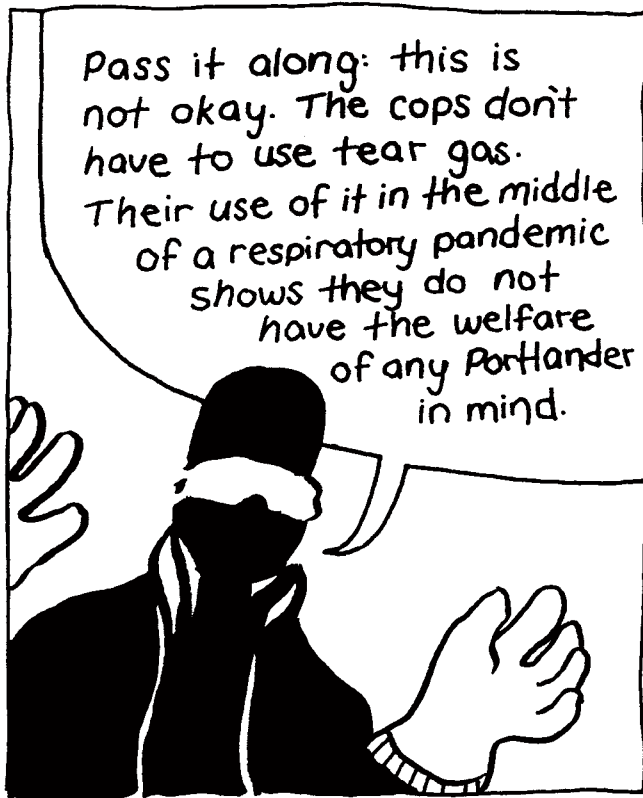
Impacts of tear gas are worsened in the era of COVID-19 because:

- Tear gas causes coughing, a top vector³¹
- Tear gas makes people stop following social distancing guidelines, as they remove masks and justly prioritize taking care of each other.
- Tear gas irritates the respiratory system, possibly increasing susceptibility to COVID-19, and worsening existing cases.³²
- Droplets propelled by tear gas grenades are approx. size of COVID-19 transmitters³³



ACTIVITY SECTION: discover & record your own crimes against humanity!

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Pass it along: this is not okay. The cops don't have to use tear gas. Their use of it in the middle of a respiratory pandemic shows they do not have the welfare of any Portlander in mind.



This is happening because a critical mass of Portlanders took the "bold stance" of proclaiming that Black lives matter, and we must end police brutality. Portland has a nasty history of racial injustice, and protesting can't fix that. However, by showing up and speaking out we can improve PDX's future.

Action Items

Learn

Read Don't Shoot Portland's tear gas report, and their other work

Educate yourself about racism, police and prison abolition, ableism and sex work decriminalization, and impacts of colonialism

Follow local journalists

Follow local activists and organizers

Donate

To mutual aid funds

To bail funds:

- The PDX protest bail fund
GoFundMe
- Defense fund
PDX venmo:
@defensefundpdx

To independent journalists:

tinyurl.com/yaz3kdbl

Support each other

Speak


Head out into your community and exercise your first amendment rights:
pdx-blm-events.com
& streets & inboxes near you.



Thanks for reading. See you next time!

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THANKS TO:  Don't Shoot Portland's "Riot Control Agents: Systemic Reassessment of Adverse effects on Health, mental stability, and Social Inequities" Authored by

Don't just take my word for it. Trusting a cartoon? Chump move.

Questions? Compliments?
Corrections?
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from headingnorther