WHAT IS ACTIVISM?

“Actions and demonstrations taken to make social change.”

Student Activism is a useful tool for making an active response toward anything adverse to the safety or rights of students.

Throughout history, students have come together to demonstrate for a variety of reasons, including racism, economic inequality, and gun violence.

Well known examples of student activism include:
- The Greensboro Sit-ins
- The Tiananmen Square Protests
- The Black Lives Matter Movement

Helpful resources to consider before engaging in activism

Student Legal Services on-campus resource providing counseling, support, and information in regards to any potential legal issues.

UCSD Free Speech Website
Online resource providing information and tools for students to learn more about protections for free speech.

To view this pamphlet online and have access to highlighted links, please visit:

http://marshall.ucsd.edu/student-life/resources/index.html#Student-Activism

Protestors at Tiananmen Square, 1989
WHY DO UCSD STUDENTS PROTEST?

A look at the Compton Cookout

What has activism accomplished at UCSD?
As an example, after the Compton Cookout protests, the University implemented some of the students’ demands, including:
- Creation of the DEI program
- New student resource centers
- Permanent murals celebrating student diversity

UCSD students protesting against gun violence, 2018

2010

1. Several students sent out online invitations for the racist “Compton Cookout.”

2. The Black Student Union & other groups came together to demand that the University take a stand against on-campus xenophobia.

3. The University responded with a teach in, which the student groups found to be insufficient action, as this would only put a bandaid on the greater issue of racism.

4. Students came together to protest in the Chancellor’s office and throughout campus, demanding that UCSD take an active approach in fighting against on campus xenophobia.

THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE DEMONSTRATING

The First Amendment does protect student’s rights to protest. However, there are some restrictions:

1. Hate Speech is protected under the Constitution, however, some content regulations do apply.

2. UCSD PD enforces CA laws, rules, and regulations in regards to free speech.

3. There are certain regulations to when, where, and how students can demonstrate on campus.

Chicano Legacy Mural