READY TO RESIST
RESISTANCE RECESS KICK-OFF CALL
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 8 P.M. ET (7 CT/6 MT/5 PT)
RSVP: MOVEON.ORG/READYTORESIST
Tonight’s Agenda

1. Welcome: Victoria Kaplan, MoveOn.org
2. Update on Attacks on Immigrants and What We Can Do: Jeanette Vizguerra, Denver, Colorado
   Jezebel Jimenez, Make the Road New Jersey
3. February Recess - What to Expect and How to Have Impact:
   Ezra Levin, Indivisible Guide
   Kristin Moline, Oregon's District 2 Indivisible Group
   Costa Kokkinos, South Brooklyn Progressive Resistance
4. Birddogging How-To: Yong Jung Cho, #AllofUs
5. The Resistance is LIVE! - Rafael Shimunov, Working Families Party
6. Closing - Nelini Stamp, Working Families Party
Thanks to you and 10s of thousands of us together!
IndivisibleGuide
#AllofUs
Daily Kos
Working Families Party
People’s Action
Center for Popular Democracy
Text JOIN to 668366 right now for action alerts

RSVP for next Sunday’s Ready to Resist Call at moveon.org/readytoresist

ResistanceRecess.com
Jeanette Vizguerra
Denver, Colorado

● Sign Jeanette’s petition at:
   bit.do/jeanette

Take Action!
#NoRaids #NoBan #NoWall #NoNationalGuard

Get connected in your own community:
http://reformimmigrationforamerica.org/we-are-all-america/
Take Action!

#NoRaids #NoBan #NoWall #NoNationalGuard

Get connected in your own community:

http://reformimmigrationforamerica.org/we-are-all-america/

- Congressional Town Halls - Demand Congress call on the President to END THE RAIDS & END PRIVATE DETENTION
- Join us in solidarity actions at detention centers across the country. Contact your local immigrant rights organization or check out Reform Immigration For America
- Demand your member of Congress join you at your action.

GET INVOLVED!

2/23 DAY OF ACTION to call on Congress to end raids and close private detention centers.

- 11:00 am - Action @ Elizabeth Detention Center
  - 625 Evans Street, Elizabeth, NJ, privately run immigration detention center where 300 immigrants from all over the east coast are held awaiting deportation proceedings.
- 1:30 pm - Rally @ Congressman Lance’s (R-07) Office
  - 425 North Avenue East, Westfield, NJ

More info on our facebook page
RECESS HERE WE COME

TRAINING FOR FEBRUARY CONGRESSIONAL RECESS
INDIVISIBLE’S PRINCIPLES:

1. RESIST TRUMP’S AGENDA
   We believe Trump’s agenda is racist, authoritarian, and corrupt, and it must be stopped.

2. FOCUS ON LOCAL, DEFENSIVE CONGRESSIONAL ADVOCACY
   We demand that our own local Members of Congress serve as our voice in Washington, DC.

3. EMBRACE PROGRESSIVE VALUES
   We model inclusion, respect, and fairness in all of our actions.
The Tea Party made two important choices:

**It was locally focused**

- Groups started as disaffected conservatives talking to each other online.
- Groups were small, local, and dedicated.
- Groups were relatively few in number.

**It was almost purely defensive.**

- Groups focused on defense, not policy development.
- Groups rejected concessions to Democrats and targeted weak Republicans.
- Groups focused on local congressional representation.
What’s recess?

• It’s called “District Work Period” for a reason

What’re Town Halls?

• In-person events where Members of Congress listen to their constituents in person
• **Their goal**: Crafting local image and getting positive press
• **Your goal**: Making them listen and encouraging resistance once they get back to D.C.
MAKING THE MOST OF TOWN HALLS

General tips

• Get Prepared and Make a Plan
• Ask good questions
• You can be a constituent and not a policy expert
• Be polite, but don’t be afraid to be firm

INDIVISIBLE:
HOW TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL TOWN HALL

The week of February 21-23 is the first district week period ("Dweek") of the new Congress. Members of Congress (MoCs) will be back home holding public events and meeting with constituents. These meetings are a great opportunity for your group to remind your MoCs that they need to stand up for you—and that means standing up against the Trump agenda. Below are some tips on how to maximize this opportunity to influence your MoCs.

PREPARE

1. Find out when your MoC’s next public town hall event is. Sometimes these are announced well in advance. But, sometimes, although they are technically “public,” only select constituents are notified about them shortly before the event. If you can’t find announcements online, call your MoC directly to find out. "When you call, be friendly and say to the staffer, "Hi, I’m a constituent, and I’d like to know when [his/her] next town hall forum will be." If they don’t know, ask to be added to the email list so that you get notified when they do.

2. Send out a notice of the town hall to your group, post the event on the Indivisible Action website, and get commitments from group members to attend. Circulate whatever information you have on your MoC’s voting record, as well as prepared questions, to all group members.

3. Prepare several questions ahead of time for your group to ask. Your questions should be sharp and fact-based, ideally including information on the MoC’s record, votes they’ve taken, or statements they’ve made. Thematically, questions should focus on a limited number of issues to maximize impact. Right now, the proposed repeal of the Affordable Care Act is one of the most important. It is also critical for Senate Democrats to stand up to Trump’s radical Supreme Court nominee, and for all MoCs to oppose his racist Muslim and refugee ban. Prepare 5-10 questions and hand them out to your group ahead of the meeting. Example question:

‘I and many district families in Springfield rely on the Affordable Care Act. I don’t think we should be taking healthcare away from more than 30 million Americans, and this repeal will create serious financial hardship for people who can’t afford it. You haven’t gone on the record opposing this. Will you commit here and now to vote no on repealing the Affordable Care Act?’

4. Get connected to local press. Research on Google News what local reporters have written about your MoCs. Find and follow those reporters on Twitter, and build relationships. Before you head to the town hall, reach out and explain why you and your group are attending, and provide them with background materials and a quote. Journalists on deadline—even those who might not agree with you—appreciate when you provide easy material for a story. Prepare to take videos—this will make your experience that much more newsworthy.

www.indivisiblepolco.com | www.facebook.com/Indivisiblepolco | gdi@indivisible
INDIVISIBLE: BY FORMER CONGRESSIONAL STAFF FOR THE RESISTANCE.
MAKING THE MOST OF TOWN HALLS

4 suggested topics:

• **Repeal of Obamacare** – Oppose with district-level statistics

• **Extremist Supreme Court nominee** – Filibuster!

• **Muslim and refugee ban** – Congress should prohibit this

• **Release of Trump’s tax returns** – Congress can do this unilaterally!

INDIVISIBLE

SAMPLE CONSTITUENT QUESTIONS FOR CONGRESSIONAL RECESS TOWN HALLS

The upcoming congressional recess is a big opportunity for local groups around the country to show their Members of Congress (MoCs) how serious they are about stopping the Trump agenda. To accomplish this, it’s helpful to have a consistent message for their MoCs during town halls, district office meetings, and phone calls.

It’s impossible to cover every single issue you might care about directly with your MoC, but there are a few issues today that are as symbolic as they are potentially devastating to those affected by them. These are the ones that Indivisible will be focusing on during recess.

A mix of defense and offense. The hard truth is that we don’t have agenda-setting power right now. Trump and his lackeys in Congress hold the reins. As local constituents, we have the power to respond, and you’ve already proved how powerful that response can be. But there are still opportunities to go on the offense once a while too—and we’re advocating both for this recess.

**Three issues on Defense:**

- Defending the ACA/Obamacare
- Opposing Trump’s nominees for the Supreme Court
- Opposing the Muslim and refugee ban

**One issue on Offense:**

- Demanding that Trump release his tax returns

This document provides some sample questions to ask when you show up to your town hall over congressional recess. Use these webinar; edit them to fit your voice, or make up a whole new set on your own. We’re just here to help— you’re the leader here, so feel free to get creative. Good luck out there—we will win. We also have plenty of action here to use if you’re also making calls next week.

**FIVE GENERAL TIPS FOR CRAFTING TOWN HALL QUESTIONS**

1. Keep your eye on the prize. Your job isn’t to convince your MoC—it’s to make him or her give you an answer or make clear to all watching that they refuse.

2. Be a storyteller. Incorporate your own personal story in your question. Keep in mind your audience is as much your neighbors and fellow town hall attendees as it is the MoC. Be honest, be vulnerable, and tell stories that matter.

3. Make a concrete, verifiable ask. The best asks are clear, actionable for the MoC, and easy to verify whether they followed through or not. If you ask any MoC “Will you fight for me?” Every single one of them will say “Yes” and then go about their day. If you ask them “Will...
THE GAMES MEMBERS OF CONGRESS PLAY

“Tele-town” Halls

• Just one bullet on this: they’re a joke. Do not accept these as an alternative to a real live town hall with your Members of Congress.

Hiding

• Just what it sounds like. They don’t want to face tough questions from their constituents...so they’re hiding.
Constituent-Led Town Halls

- **Get a venue.** District office or outside venue.

- **Invite speakers.** Including the Member of Congress!

- **Publicize widely.** Let press know ahead

- **Prepare for a missing member.** Cardboard cutout or empty chair would work.

- **Record everything.** Pictures and video make the event real to everyone who couldn’t be there.
This woman drove 12 hours roundtrip to her rep's town hall and she has a message for the resistance

By Jen Hayden
Tuesday Feb 14, 2017 4:14 PM EST

129 Comments (129 New)
Costa Kokkinos

South Brooklyn Progressive Resistance
Catalyst Event: bird-dogging and protesting action organized by Bay Ridge for Social Justice and Fight Back Bay Ridge

“Protesters disrupt Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce forum to attack Muslim ban” - Brooklyn Daily Eagle

“Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Breakfast Turns into Forum for Travel Ban Protesters” - Brooklyn Magazine

“You Don't Represent Us’: Bay Ridge Congressman Targeted By Protesters At Chamber of Commerce Forum” - Gothamist

“It’s Hard To Be A Republican In Brooklyn – Donovan’s Constituents Protest Chamber Event” - Bklyner.com

“Who Is Dan Donovan, New York City’s Only Republican Rep In Washington?” - Huff Post
Planning tips for your tele-town hall action

- Create Facebook event, share far and wide
- Media advisories
- One-pager
- Who will take video/pictures/go Live on Facebook?
- Who will make audio recording of call?
- Police involvement

Congressman Dan Donovan represents the 11th Congressional District, which encompasses all of Staten Island and parts of Brooklyn, including Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights, Bensonhurst, and Gravesend. While it is the most politically conservative district in New York City, this is largely due to redistricting—also known as gerrymandering—in recent years that changed the layout of the district and its political leanings.

Donovan won his office with only 58.7% of the vote, and his is a “flippable” seat. His recent political activity has been of concern to many constituents. Donovan supports Trump’s Muslim ban and voted to undercut the Affordable Care Act at the budget level.

The Problem

With Donovan’s Tele-Town Halls

For these reasons, many of Donovan’s constituents have requested a Town Hall to discuss the way he represents his district.

Instead, Donovan has proposed a TELE-TOWN HALL.

Rather than meet constituents face-to-face to hear our stories, Donovan wants to engage only with pre-screened callers who ask softball questions.

What’s the problem with a Tele-Town Hall?

- Calls are pre-screened by question, so representatives only need answer easy or comfortable questions.
- Calls can also be screened by area-code or address, which further silences voices of dissent in gerrymandered districts (like District 11).
- There is no human element, and constituents aren’t seen as real people with valid concerns, just voices on a phone.
- Tele-Town Halls aren’t regulated, so they allow representatives to skirt regulations concerning communications with constituents.
- No reporters are present and calls are not recorded, so there is no accountability.

TELL DAN DONOVAN HIS CONSTITUENTS DESERVE AN IN-PERSON TOWN HALL!
Constituents Sit In, Donovan Dials In

By Liena Zagare - February 17, 2017
As critics of Rep. Daniel Donovan have denounced his lack of town hall meetings, the congressman held a telephone town hall Thursday night, speaking to 14,000 constituents.

They’re not interested in a respectful exchange of ideas or even in allowing Congressman Donovan an opportunity to speak with them – they seem to want only to shout down any opinion different from theirs, ” said his Communications Director Patrick Ryan in a letter to the editor last week.

For those living in Congressional District 11, a new form just went up on Congressman’s website for anyone interested in dialing-in to future Tele-Town Hall meetings.

"Frankly, I think the disruptions we have been witnessing -- the shouting, the name calling -- is rude and unproductive, and it won't be tolerated on this call," he said.

He noted the "fake news" that people spread, specifically in the borough.

But the community organizers are not letting up: “We’ve come out tonight to show our representative that we want to see him in person to talk about his actions as a Congressman, the good ones and the bad ones,” said Costa Kokkinos, a founding member of South Brooklyn Progressive Resistance. - Bklyner.com

Some activists demand face-to-face access to the Congressman, who voted for the travel ban impacting people from seven majority Muslim states, and wants to repeal the Affordable Care Act. “Because tele-town halls allow representatives to silence voices in gerrymandered districts like District 11, local activists invite constituents to rally while they participate in the tele-town hall,” they say. - Huffington Post

A Trump supporter stopped by to ask what’s the goal of standing outside like a bunch of idiots in the freezing weather? That Republican constituent of District 11 ended up standing with us for 45 minutes, working to find some consensus and agreement on issues very important to both the right and the left. We are asking Rep. Donovan to do the same – work with us. Meet us in public, in a real life town hall. Listen to us, and let us listen to you. - My letter to the editor
#ALL
OFUS

IT'S TIME FOR AN AMERICA FOR ALL OF US.
Join us at WeWillReplaceYou.Org

Dear Democrats who aren't resisting Trump

#WeWillReplaceYou

Sign the Primary Pledge at WeWillReplaceYou.Org

Take the Primary Pledge
I pledge to support primary election challengers against any Democrats who won't do everything in their power to resist Trump.

First name

Last name

Mobile phone

Email address

Zip code

I'M IN
Birddogging is Easy!

- **Goal- Elicit a Response.**
  - Get Elected Official on-record.
  - Pressure and move them on issues!
3 Simple Tips

- Get Face to Face
- Know your punchline
- Be Persistent
Get Face to Face: 3 scenarios

1. Q&A - Smile, Raise your Hand, Eye contact; Stand up.
Get Face to Face: 3 scenarios

2. Rope-line- Smile, extend your hand, don’t let go :D
Get Face to Face: 3 scenarios

3. Large Crowd!- Chant a Question
2. Know Your Punchline

1. Will you filibuster Trump’s Supreme Court Nominee? Yes or No.
2. Will you stand with the American people and protect the Affordable Care Act? Yes or No?
3. Will you support an independent, immediate, bipartisan investigation into Trump’s ties with Russia? Yes or No.
4. Will you do everything you can to resist Trump’s entire agenda? Yes or No.
5. Will you publicly supporting impeachment if Trump is found to have broken the law or violated the Constitution? Yes or No.
3. Be Persistent

1. Ask the Question, again and again.
2. Don’t let them get away without answering your punchline.
Prepare and Follow up

- Bring a group of friends. If there are more people prepared to ask a question, the more likely it is to have your question asked- and answered.
- If there isn’t a video, it didn’t happen. Another reason to bring friends and family!
- Go up to reporters at the event and tell them what the elected official said to your question.
Birddogging is easy and it works!
The Resistance is Live.
The Resistance is Live.

Rafael Shimunov  National Creative Director
ResistHere.org @ResistHere
Working Families Party @WorkingFamilies
TXT “Resist” to 738674
The Resistance is Live.

Rafael Shimunov National Creative Director ResistHere.org @ResistHere Working Families Party @WorkingFamilies TXT “Resist” to 738674

Elements of good live video:

1) Technical

Pre Label & Pre Share
Prep your personal networks.

Power, Light, Sound, Orientation

Feedback Loop
Are viewers telling you something? Keep checking. What are you telling them? Keep repeating.

Keep Rolling
An audience takes time to build. Start early before the action and don’t stop.

Secret Weapon Your friends.

2) Inspirational

Individuals

Crowds
Size. Movement. Relationship to opposition.

Tension
What’s the primary tension? What are second and third tensions?

Truth
Break the “4th wall”. Warts and all.

Your Voice
When to be a camera person, a reporter and a participant.

3) Strategic(al)

Primary Takeaway?
What’s the one thing you want viewers to remember long after the stream?

Access
What can you get that others can’t?

Be Generous
This is a popular movement.

Give credit where credit’s due in tagging and in highlighting who is at the action.

With tags, the camera, and your voice.
The Resistance is **OFF AIR.**

Common mistakes we make:

1) **Giving up**

You lose your signal. 
It says you have a poor connection and people are commenting about how they don’t see anything.

So you stop. *Why did you stop?* Keep going, walk around if you can, weather it out in case it comes back.

No one is watching.
If you did everything right, stick through it. (Video aligned?) Facebook favors the bold and committing here will flag you as someone who wants to live stream bad.

Friends only?
From a personal account, set it to public.

2) **Complying**

**Authority**
For actions specific to Town Halls and public officials in public spaces with zero expectation to privacy, you are the authority and are free to stream. If someone has a problem with that, you have a new tension to film.

**Police & Security**
Don’t give security an excuse to end your stream. You’re there for others to be witness. So chill and deescalate.

Unless you must be a participant, you’re better off having degrees of separation between you and the drama unfolding. Think about your clothes. Who you’re seated with. And if and when you should be chanting.

3) **Not following up**

**HD**
Facebook streams low to medium quality video to move it faster. Often times, it will pop up at the end of a live stream to ask if you’d like to upload the HD version to replace the small one. I often miss it, and there isn’t a way I know of yet to do it later.

**Lifecycle**
Not over after the event. You can download the video from FB and upload 2 minute parts of it to Twitter and Instagram. This can be many small clips tagging speakers, or linking to other relevant hashtags.
The Resistance is soooo Live.

1) Here for you

If you’re planning to live stream on Facebook, message us via fb.com/ResistHere way ahead of time and let us know.

We have the tools to bring you a broad audience.

When you tag #ResistanceRecess we can find you and boost you.

If it’s on a Tuesday, #ResistTrumpTuesdays too for that movement.

2) Get more

Get more tips:

**ResistHere.org/streaming**

We’ll be adding these slides, the recording of this section, and more detailed tools to our guide.

This is a living document and your feedback and experiences will continue to add to it.

**Text “Resist” to 738674**

We will stay in touch with you on local resistance around you.

Rafael Shimunov National Creative Director
ResistHere.org @ResistHere
Working Families Party @WorkingFamilies
TXT “Resist” to 738674

3) Find joy

Lives are being torn apart, things look bleak, but we need joy to survive. And we need to survive to resist.

You can find joy in everything you do.

For me it helps to remind myself that making mistakes gets us closer to winning.

That I’m lucky to be part of this history.

I’m lucky to be able to tell kids what I did to stop this.

I’m lucky to find this family of people, you, who are awakened and are truly here for one another!
Why are we in this situation
That brings us down
Can't you see we are losing patience
With oppression now
The people will rise the people will rise
The people will rise