Think Twice Webinar 1: Grounding

Webinar recording

TAKE THE PLEDGE

If you are resolved to think twice before calling the police, take our Think Twice Pledge, and receive ongoing support and resources from AFSC.

RESOURCES

- AFSC North Star Vision: Imagining a world without prisons and policing
- Reformist Reforms vs. Abolitionist Reforms (Critical Resistance)
- One Million Experiments: Community based projects that expand our ideas about what keeps us safe
- Don’t Call the Police: Community-based alternatives to police in your city
- Video: History of Policing in America: Throughline/NPR
- AFSC’s Community Safety Beyond Policing project + webinars
- AFSCX Bystander Intervention tips for verbal de-escalation
## AFSC Think Twice tips...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions to ask yourself if considering calling the police</th>
<th>I won’t call the police</th>
<th>I still need to think this through</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If I call the police will that create more harm?</td>
<td>Yes, I can deal with this.</td>
<td>No, I need to respond.</td>
<td>Is it worth it to ask lethally armed police to respond to something like loud music?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Is this situation more of an inconvenience?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Can I talk the situation through with the other person?</td>
<td>Use verbal de-escalation if necessary</td>
<td>I need back up</td>
<td>Simple verbal de-escalation tip: Distract, Direct, Delegate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Is there a friend or neighbor I can call to help?</td>
<td>Yes, I’ve been building community with others who want to avoid calling the police</td>
<td>I need a professional</td>
<td>Create a Think Twice safety text thread. With one text you can reach multiple people who might be able to come and help.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Can I call an emergency response hotline?</td>
<td>Yes, I’ve done my research.</td>
<td>No, I need immediate professional help</td>
<td>Research local emergency hotlines in your area and store the info in your phone for future use.</td>
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</table>

If you have to call 911 ...

- Let people in the vicinity know if you call 911 so that they can leave if they feel unsafe.
- Defer to an injured person’s autonomy before calling 911.
- When law enforcement arrives have the person who is least vulnerable to police violence or criminalization interact with them.