

# A DANGEROUS IDEA

IN ANY COUNTRY, CLASS...  
WHO HAS POWER?

NONVIOLENT FORCE  
How do dictators lose  
power to nonviolence?

WHOEVER  
HAS THE  
MOST GUNS

TEACHERS!

WHOEVER  
HAS THE  
BIGGEST  
GUNS!

WHOEVER  
HAS THE MOST  
MONEY!

MY DAD'S  
BOSS?

PARENTS!

NO, THE  
COOLEST  
GUNS!

NO, THE  
POLICE!

DUH, THE  
GOVERNMENT.

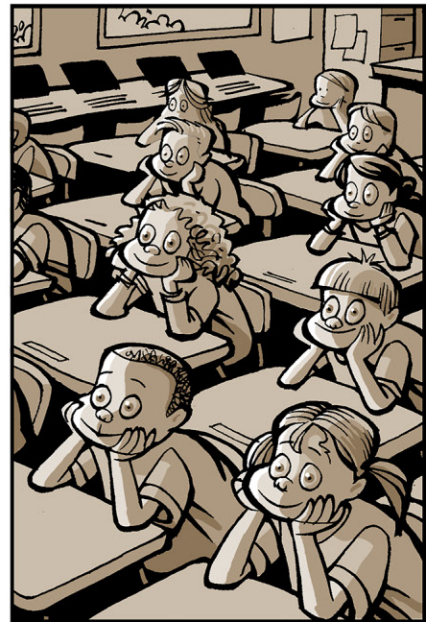
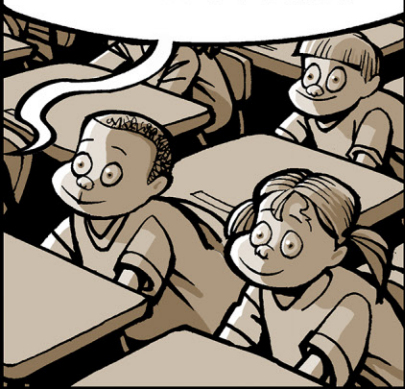
THE  
MAN!

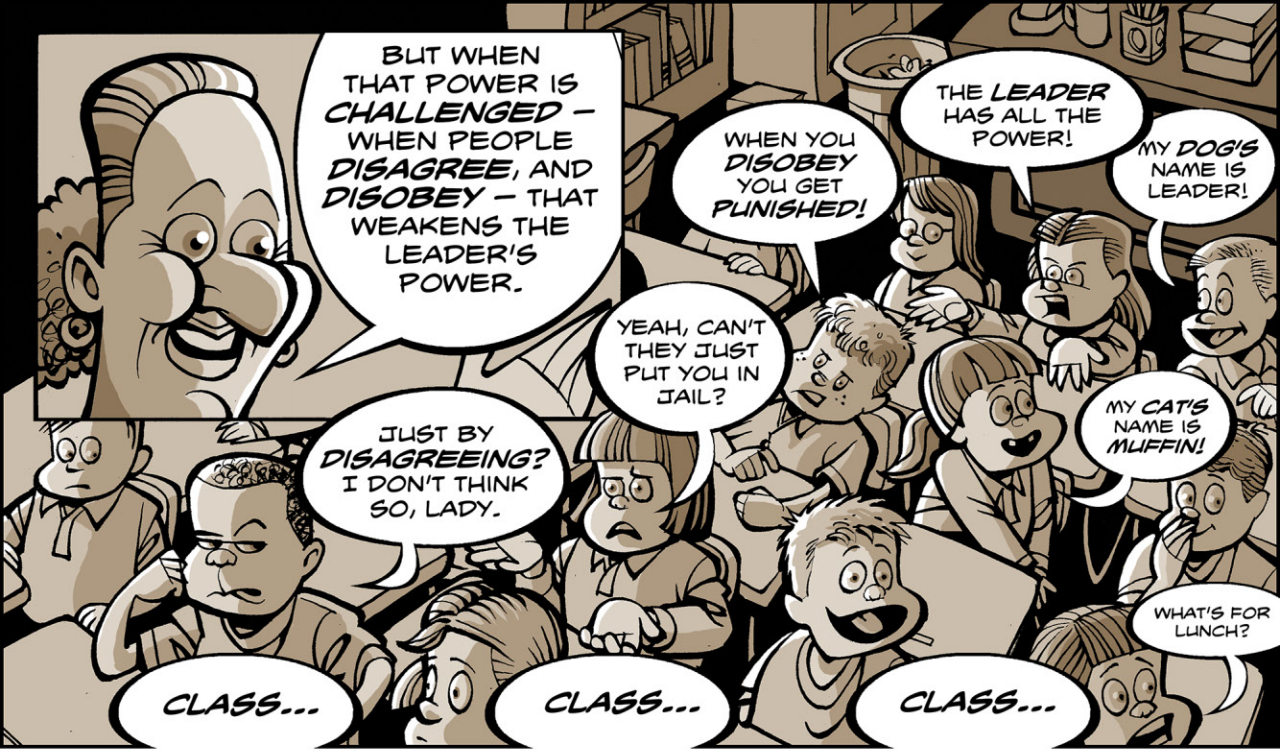
FREE-  
MASONS?

BY KIRK  
ANDERSON  
WWW.KIRK.CO

THE BIG IDEA  
BEHIND NON-  
VIOLENT FORCE  
IS THAT POWER  
DOESN'T COME  
FROM LEADERS,  
BUT FROM THE  
PEOPLE THEY  
LEAD! WE CALL  
THIS IDEA "THE  
CONSENT OF THE  
GOVERNED."

SEE, AS LONG AS THE  
PEOPLE **AGREE** WITH  
THEIR LEADER,  
AND **CHOOSE** TO OBEY, THAT  
LEADER HAS **POWER**.





BUT WHEN THAT POWER IS CHALLENGED — WHEN PEOPLE DISAGREE, AND DISOBEY — THAT WEAKENS THE LEADER'S POWER.

WHEN YOU DISOBEY YOU GET PUNISHED!

THE LEADER HAS ALL THE POWER!

MY DOG'S NAME IS LEADER!

YEAH, CAN'T THEY JUST PUT YOU IN JAIL?

JUST BY DISAGREEING? I DON'T THINK SO, LADY.

MY CAT'S NAME IS MUFFIN!

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

CLASS...

CLASS...

CLASS...



**CLASS! I NEED YOU TO PAY ATTENTION!**



LOOK, CAN PEOPLE WHO DISOBEY JUST BE THROWN IN JAIL? SURE, A FEW TROUBLE-MAKERS CAN ALWAYS BE EASILY SPLIT APART AND ISOLATED.



**BRANDON! JAMES! YOU'RE NOT GETTING RECESS OUTSIDE WITH THE REST OF THE CLASS!**



... BUT IF ALMOST ALL OF THEM ARE MAKING TROUBLE, WELL... IT'S DIFFICULT FOR A LEADER TO DISCIPLINE EVERYBODY, ALL AT ONCE!



**CLASS! CLASS!**



DOES ANYONE ELSE WANT TO LOSE THEIR RECESS?!

ANYONE?!

I DIDN'T THINK SO.



**BETHANY AND AMANDA!  
GET BACK IN YOUR SEATS!  
YOU KIDS ARE DRIVING  
ME CRAZY!**



OKAY THEN...

WHEN THE PEOPLE

MS. PHELPS?

I DON'T SEE HOW JUST BEING UNCOOPERATIVE IS GOING TO MAKE AN AUTHORITY LOSE CONTROL.

GAAAAAHHHHH

I'M SORRY, WHAT WAS THE QUESTION?

... NEVER MIND...

WHERE WAS I... A RULER CAN'T ISOLATE EVERYBODY... BUT THEY CAN MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF SOME... TO SCARE THE OTHERS...

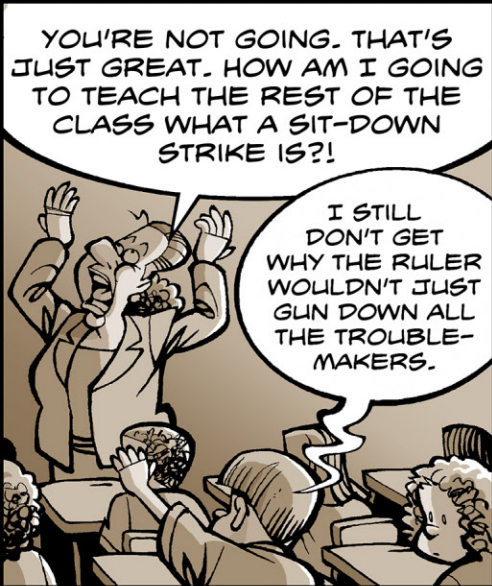
**I HEARD THAT! THE ENTIRE BACK ROW, TO THE OFFICE!**

... BUT YOU CAN'T SEND EVERYBODY TO THE OFFICE... TO JAIL! I MEAN... TO JAIL... IT'S SIMPLE LOGISTICS!

≡SNORT≡  
≡GIGGLE≡

THAT'S NOT FAIR!

WE'RE NOT GOIN'!



YOU'RE NOT GOING. THAT'S JUST GREAT. HOW AM I GOING TO TEACH THE REST OF THE CLASS WHAT A SIT-DOWN STRIKE IS?!

I STILL DON'T GET WHY THE RULER WOULDN'T JUST GUN DOWN ALL THE TROUBLE-MAKERS.



BECAUSE SHE'D LOSE HER JOB!

OH... WHAT I MEANT WAS...

... SURE, THEY CAN USE VIOLENCE ON THEIR OWN PEOPLE...



BACK ROW! I SAID TO THE OFFICE!!



... BUT THEN THEY'D ONLY LOSE WHATEVER LITTLE LEGITIMACY THEY HAD LEFT!



... WHICH JUST ENCOURAGES EVEN MORE PEOPLE TO TURN AGAINST THE LEADER.

THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!



IF YOU SEND THEM OUT, YOU'LL HAVE TO SEND ME TOO!

HEY, YEAH! AND ME!



OH, REALLY? WELL LET ME REMIND YOU, I CAN FLUNK YOU! I CAN EVEN HAVE YOU EXPELLED!

CAN YOU EXPEL ALL OF US? OR WOULD YOU ONLY LOSE WHATEVER LITTLE LEGITIMACY YOU HAVE LEFT?



HOW DID I LOSE CONTROL TO A BUNCH OF CHILDREN?!

MS. PHELPS? I DON'T THINK WE'RE READY FOR THIS LEVEL OF RAW POWER.

YOU ARE NOT THE BOSS OF ME!