

I know this is late, but I just want to say that the use of tear gas here in Eugene on that night we had the looting was absolutely unnecessary and dangerous. I live in an apartment on Broadway. In the small hours of the morning that night I awoke to what I thought was my neighbors TV blasting some video game too loud. I got up and left my apartment to see who it was and was startled to find that as soon as I reached the stairway overlooking the street, I saw a peaceful protestor standing in the road facing down what I later learned was a military vehicle being used by EPD to disperse the "looters" there were no looters in front of my building. Within a few seconds, the woman on the street was forced to dive out of the way to avoid a teargas canister being launched at her. These are explosive devices. They could do a lot of damage if they catch someone. There are still scorch marks on the street in front of my building. I am ashamed to say that I did not stay. I rushed back inside and closed all my windows. I later foolishly left the back door not too long after to see if I could see what was going on, and was instantly hit with a wave of gas.

I've seen the footage from that night in the surrounding block. There were no looters left. They ran the moment the police showed up. It was just peaceful protestors exercising their right to free speech. They were clubbed and beaten. They were gassed. I am a relatively healthy young man, but I know that there are elderly people in my building. What if they had their windows open and didn't know what was going on. It's dangerous to deploy CHEMICAL MUNITIONS, "non-lethal" or not, especially in a residential area where people live. The moment the police began using these measures, they betrayed my trust. I don't trust EPD anymore. I had heard horror stories before, but now I'm certain. I respect anyone who puts their life on the line to protect their community. but the actions of many law enforcement entities in the city, state, and country are unconscionable. I beg of you to take their toys away. They are dangerous and terrifying. I will trust no police officer to come to a disturbance like that again. Not until limits are applied. I can't, and we can't afford to.

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