Non-Violent Protest

- Most anarchists see violence as *tactically misguided* – it’s a tool of the state
- **Godwin and Proudhon condemn it in principle** – attracted to the principles of non-violence instead (particularly the pacifism developed by Tolstoy and Gandhi)

Non-violence is appealing because...

- Reflects a respect for humans as *moral and autonomous creators*. Optimistic view of human nature thus dictates that other people are *treated with compassion and respect*
- To refrain from using force, especially when subjected to intimidation and provocation, demonstrates the *strength and moral purity of one’s convictions*

However...

- Anarchists who believe in non-violence have *shied away from mass political activism*. Instead, they prefer to *build model communities* that reflect principles of cooperation and mutual respect. They hope that anarchist idea will be spread by *inspiring others*. 