



The Denver Doo-Doo Accord

A Non-Pooliferation Treaty for the 2008 Democratic National Convention

Preamble

The non-partisan group Normal Citizens Rising Against Poo (hereinafter “NoCRAP”) has called for all interested parties to commit to a moratorium on the public throwing, spraying, smearing, hosing or inducing of excrement for the week of August 25-29.

Recognizing that recent assertions regarding the possible utilization of feces and urine as projectile weaponry or crowd control methods during the 2008 Democratic National Convention has created alarm in many quarters that the city of Denver could be drenched in human waste throughout the event;

Moved by the implicit desire of police, demonstrators, delegates and the people of Denver to avoid unwilling contact with said waste;

Resolved that a multi-lateral agreement is needed to end the speculation and paranoia that has plunged so many seemingly reasonable minds into the sewer;

Declaring that together, we can begin a new era of convention planning, free from the threat of urine and feces;

The undersigned have agreed to the following:

ARTICLE I — Terminology

1. “Feces” shall be representative of: poop, poopy, caca, shit, turd, crap, defecation, scat, dung, excrement, excreta, ejecta, diarrhea, dookie, doodie, molotov craptail, duece, stool, shite, hot carl,

2. “Urine” shall be representative of: piss, pee, pee-pee, kidney juice, wee, wee-wee, wizz, tinkle, piddle, golden shower.

ARTICLE II — Background

1. The Crap Cannon

i. In May, after the Denver Police Department denied requests that it disclose the list of tactical equipment being purchased prior to the DNC, rumors surfaced in the activist community that law enforcement could unleash a high-tech infrasonic weapon that causes crowds to lose control of their bowels. The device, known

to South Park fans as the “Brown Note,” is a complete myth and does not exist.

ii. Still, the topic was picked up by FoxNews as a national news story about Denver’s “crap cannon” and has since circulated widely on the internet. The unfortunate cannon title has been taken literally by some and misinterpreted as a projectile contraption that will fire feces or hose sewage onto demonstrators as a low-tech effort to clear the streets.

iii. Again, no such weapon exists.

2. Urine Bombs

i. Security officials, meanwhile, have been warning that activists may use urine and feces in attacks against delegates and police in attempts to disrupt and shut down the convention. Secret Service and Denver Police claim that protester tactics could include urine filled into cups, Super Soakers, balloons, plastic bottles and spray bottles. They regard feces as a threat since it could be flung onto passing convention-goers, heaved in bags behind police lines, splashed indiscriminately from buckets or smeared on one’s body to prevent arrest.

ii. Vague references have also been made to “urine bombs,” “feces bombs” and “blood bombs.”

3. Fecal Falsehoods

i. Officials reference past protests in other cities where they say such tactics have occurred. But substantiated examples of urine or feces being utilized at protests are rare. So rare that a NoCRAP search of a news database turned up zero reports of human waste being thrown on police or anyone else during past political conventions in the U.S. — and just a handful of reports of such incidences occurring at the thousands of mass protests that have happened around the world since the infamous Seattle WTO protest in 1999. Several of the accounts of law enforcement being pelted with urine were later proven untrue by local media, and in only one case was a person actually arrested. (Charges he urinated off a bridge onto

an officer passing on a boat were later dropped.)

ii. NoCRAP could not find any instances to suggest that a feces bomb or urine balloon has ever been used at a modern political protest.

iii. Regardless, local politicians and convention planners are bracing city employees and the public for numerous feces and urine-related scenarios, no matter how fantastical. In July, health officials issued a special memo to police and emergency workers detailing the possible hazards of “blood and other [body] fluids that may be thrown at police during demonstrations.” Members of City Council have mused to reporters about protesters dumping pails of feces on themselves or using spray bottles to spritz urine onto 16th Street Mall pedestrians.

iv. Fox31 News referenced an anonymous source in a story about a “house full of urine” that firefighters learned was “being stored to throw at police.” But Denver Fire spokesman Phil Champagne says that department has no knowledge of any such urine house.

4. Effects on Policy

i. Local political leadership still believes that the danger of urine and feces is so acute that Council is rushing into law a proposed ordinance to ban the possession of “noxious substances” at demonstrations.

ii. Essentially, this will give officers the ability to search the bags, vehicles and liquid containers of anyone they suspect might have the intent to thwart crowd dispersal measures with feces or urine.

5. Declarations

i. Even the most militant anti-DNC groups tell NoCRAP that they are completely baffled by the hysteria being generated over urine and feces as a protest tool. They say they are not planning, nor do they know of anyone planning, to incorporate human waste into their direct action repertoire.

ii. In short, it’s disgusting — and largely ineffective as a tactic. The exact same is true for a hypothetical sound weapon whose sole purpose is to induce defecation among rioters.

iii. Deputy Chief of Operations Michael Battista, head of DNC security for Denver Police, felt compelled to break his vow of silence on equipment purchases to announce that the city was not going to use anything resembling a crap cannon on protesters.

ARTICLE III — Dangers of Pooliferation

1. Despite direct statements by police and protesters, fears about feces and urine at the DNC doggedly persist. The real

present danger is if the mere perception that the other side possesses urine and feces weapons or technology leads groups and law enforcement to actually seek out Weapons of Mass Defecation.

2. Unless there emerges a system of mutual deterrence, the fecal arms race could spread to rouge individuals, disgruntled delegates, politicians, media commentators — resulting in a situation whereby a small fecal event could trigger an all-out excrement war.

ARTICLE IV — Fecal Rights

1. Recognizing that, for some, excrement has a long history as a form of protest and free expression, this agreement should not be seen as a judgment or prohibition on the use of feces and urine in the following communities:

- the captive primate community (non-human)
- consenting fetishists
- disgruntled prisoners
- psychiatric patients
- avant-guard artists

ARTICLE V — General Provisions

1. The undersigned shall:

i. recognize and respect the other’s right to not unwillingly come in contact with urine and feces;

ii. refrain from the threat or use of force with feces or urine weaponry;

iii. refrain from joining, assisting, promoting or co-operating with any coalition, organization or alliance of a protest or security character, the objectives or activities of which include launching aggression or other acts of hostility against the other by use of urine and feces;

iv. abstain from the use of any sonic device or musical instrument with the intent to cause an individual to spontaneously defecate unless that person has given prior written consent;

v. refrain from participating in the practice of Scatolia, the act of smearing feces on oneself, in any public or private location unless permission has been granted by the property owner or proper permits obtained from the city.

Article VI - Final Clauses

1. The Parties acknowledge that mutual understanding and co-operation in excrement-related matters will form a significant part of their multilateral relations and will further enhance expectations for convention cleanliness.

To sign on to the Denver Doo-Doo Accord log on to <http://blogs.westword.com/denver/>