



If the Government think fit to proclaim down political breakfasts....then we will resort to a political lunch....a political dinner....tea....until suppers also be proclaimed down.

Daniel O'Connell, 1775-1847

Daniel O'Connell was not just an important Irish political leader, the most prominent of the first half of the nineteenth century, he was an important figure in the development of parliamentary democracy both in Ireland and in Europe.

See <http://www.innatenonviolence.org/pamphlets/nonviolence.pdf>

The quote above comes from 1830 when O'Connell formed an Anti-Union Association which was immediately declared illegal by the British government. The point is that the tactics of movements for change have always to stay one step ahead of what authorities allow—or indeed expect. When political marches were made illegal in the era of President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines in the 1980s, protesters held a political jog—the same flexible approach to campaigning as O'Connell advocates above, though a different century and part of the world.