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Seven Hundred Anti Wall Street protestors arrested on Brooklyn Bridge by [Ritika Sharma](#)

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Nearly 700 anti-Wall Street protesters were arrested Saturday after they spilled onto the Brooklyn Bridge and disrupted traffic during one of their demonstrations.

The arrests ensued after the large group of marchers, strayed from the bridge's pedestrian footpath and headed across the Brooklyn-bound lanes, blocking car lanes, forcing the New York Police to shut down the bridge for several hours.

Most of the people rounded up for disorderly conduct were issued court summons and then released after a few hours. The march was peaceful but the police over-reacted. Witnesses described the scene as chaotic with police officers surrounding protesters using orange mesh netting and randomly arresting men and women mostly Latino and African Americans.

A police spokesman stated, "Over 700 summonses and desk appearance tickets have been issued in connection with a demonstration on the Brooklyn Bridge late this afternoon after multiple warnings by police were given to protesters to stay on the pedestrian walkway, and that if they took roadway they would be arrested. The police assert the arrests came only after the marchers were given ample warning to stay clear of the roadway. The arrests ensued after the large group of marchers, strayed from the bridge's pedestrian footpath and headed across the Brooklyn-bound lanes, blocking car lanes, forcing the New York Police to shut down the bridge for several hours.

"Some complied and took the walkway without being arrested. Others proceeded on the Brooklyn-bound vehicular roadway."

Witnesses described the scene as chaotic with police officers surrounding protesters using orange mesh netting and randomly arresting men and women mostly Latino and African Americans.

Conflicting reports:- According to some protesters, the march was peaceful but the police over-reacted. Witnesses described the scene as chaotic with police officers surrounding protesters using orange mesh netting and randomly arresting men and women mostly Latino and African Americans.

David Cancino who was on the bridge stated, "They showed up in their riot gear, they showed up swinging batons for no reason, and they just started hand-picking people in the front lines: anybody who was in front who was black or brown was automatically thrown to the floor. If your face was covered with a bandana, or even if you held up a peace sign they were throwing you on the floor."

Meanwhile, the police assert the arrests came only after the marchers were given ample warning to stay clear of the roadway. The arrests ensued after the large group of marchers, strayed from the bridge's pedestrian footpath and headed across the Brooklyn-bound lanes, blocking car lanes, forcing the New York Police to shut down the bridge for several hours.

Paul Browne, the chief spokesman of the New York Police Department, stated, "This was not a trap. They were warned not to proceed."

The anti-Wall Street protests:- The anti Wall Street group are protesting against issues ranging from police brutality to union busting and the economy. Many celebrities like Michael Moore, Russell Simmons, Susan Sarandon, Lupe Fiasco, and Cornel West supported the protests.

The march began about 3:30 p.m. from Zuccotti Park in downtown Manhattan where the protesters have been camping for over two weeks.

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