

Prisoners' Speak! #5

(Autumn 2009)



INTRODUCTION

Greetings! Here's another issue of *Prisoners' Speak!* Some of your favorite writers, such as Coyote, Lee Savage, Sean Swain and Omowale A. Shabazz are well-represented, but this time we feature several new voices. Plus, this is about half poetry. It's illustrated by a couple of artists, Cheweteo A. Berry and Paul "Kali" Hickman, whose work I have not published before, too.

A few weeks ago, Omowale sent me a book entitled: Pedagogy of the Oppressed, written by Paulo Freire, from Brazil, back in the seventies. It's kind of like, a Franz Fanon, Wretched of the Earth, for the Western Hemisphere, focusing on the learning of liberation! What Freire spelled out, I felt like I had sort of stumbled onto, through trial and error. Here are some quotes.

"...Who are better prepared than the oppressed to understand the terrible significance of an oppressive society?... The pedagogy of the oppressed is an instrument for their critical discovery that both they and their oppressors are manifestations of dehumanization... In order for the oppressed to be able to wage the struggle for their liberation, they must perceive the reality of oppression not as a closed world from which there is no exit, but as a limiting situation which they can transform... true solidarity with the oppressed means fighting at their side to transform the objective reality... avoidance of dialogue with the people under the pretext of organizing them... is really a fear of freedom."

Each One, Teach One - In the Trenches! ~ @nt

Table of Contents

1. Don Callahan – Letter, Harold' Thompson's Obituary, Trust is Un@merican	4
2. Coyote Sheff – Buried Alive, Solitary Enslavement, That's What Happens	8
3. Lee Savage – You Don't Have to be a Rocket Scientist: Solitary Confinement = Torture	12
4. Sean Swain – Racial Profiling, Let's Water-Board Dick Cheney, Immigration On Political Violence, On Patriotism	20
5. Omowale A. Shabazz – When Do We Act in Our Best Interest	28
6. Walter Johnson – Globalization	35
7. John Phillips – Size 13 On Our Neck... Resist the Liars!!! The Other Shoe Has Dropped.	40

PRISONER POETRY SLAM

8. David Ray Martin – Black as the Night, Parallax, Priceless	43
9. Devin Baker – PLUTOCRACY	45
10. John A. Rodda – Pursuit of Happiness	46
11. Rodney Williams – Genocide, Disorder	46
12. Preston Smith – My Own Poetry	49
13. Dale Pachta – Poverty, Promises, Robeson County Blues, The Voice of the Enemy, Unnamed	50 64
14. Tashunka Raven - Robeson County Blues, Red River Rebellion, Ghost Dance Blues, Neutron Bomb Blues	51
15. Richie McBee – Chemistry 101, Evolve	53
16. Tami Tomscho – Heartbreaker, Neighbors	56
17. Demeyan Watie – The Rule of Fools	57
18. Demetri Williams – "It's All True"	59
19. Robert Wimberly – Excuses, Rookie Cop (AKA Fascist Bastard), The Noise is Silencing, Fire in 1964 (From Reading <u>Mississippi Burning</u>)	60
20. Samuel Karim - "Kismet," Mind Over Matter, I Know!!!	62
21. Mary "Sibi" Uloho – Women Inside These Walls, What Black History Means to Me	66
22. David Mayeski – Untitled Short Essay	69
23. John Neff – "Open Letter"	70
24. Joshua Hollis – "A Compilation of Thoughts"	72
25. Unknown -- Invictus –	74
26. Timothy Trujillo – I AM POVERTY	75

* Cover Art by Cheweteo A. Berry. Other illustrations drawn by Paul (Kali) Hickman

Cheweteo & I are working on a zine entitled, *The Aztek Soldier*. Paul is
The Deputy National Spokesman for the White Panther Organization (WPO)

Cheweteo A. Berry #920722
Washington State Penitentiary
1313 N. 13th Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 99362

Paul "Kali" Hickman #EB-6074
SCI Greene
175 Progress Drive
Waynesburg, PA 15370

Published on 10-25-2009, Edited by Anthony Rayson, *Free to Prisoners*, @nticopyright

11-12-08

Mr. Rayson,

Hello! My name is Don Callahan but everyone calls me "Calli." Anyway, the reason I'm writing now is because we have lost a mutual friend. Mr. Harold Thompson died yesterday. I was his only cell partner in years whom he felt a friendship with & we were very close.

I'm also Irish & an anarchist since I was a young child. We shared views & spoke of many things & we had just started on my case because he no longer does law work but knows I was railroaded. 4

About 3 weeks ago they changed his medication & he had been complaining of dehydration & being disoriented.

The powers that be stalled & put off medical appointments & yesterday I took him several items such as cases of drinks & boxes of teas because he was so thirsty & I found him leaned against the wall looking like he didn't know where he was or who I was & I went to get help for him & they took him out in a stretcher.

About 4 hours later, Internal Affairs came to take pictures & that means he wouldn't be back & I was informed he had passed. I tried all I could to get his property or as much as I could because he didn't have a cellmate & I knew the officers would just keep stuff & throw away the rest & now that he's gone, I can say I didn't want them going through his stuff.

He had a lawsuit on the state for denying him medical treatment & lying on forms from another incident & I know all of it has vanished & I feel like something has to be done & I don't know how to go about it but they killed him, maybe not on purpose but the system's inadequate self-serving structure & policies has murdered a good man & I will fight for his name, but I need help.

I'd recently drawn him a lot of new paintings for him to auction.

I'm a tremendously talented artist & I'd like to do something with it to help commemorate my "Uncle Harold" as I call him. He said you were a good man. I'm very worried Harold's passing might go unnoticed for a time & I can't allow that.

Thank you for your time.

C@lli

Tiocfadn Arca!

Harold Thompson's Obituary

By, Calli

5

I met Harold last year. I'd been to the hole and was put in the cell with him upon my release. I was upset because he was "the grumpy old guy" that no one talked to. He was the library man for the unit & I had been to his door several times and must agree, he was grumpy. "What do you want? OK. Here. Go away," was the extent of conversation with Harold. He had so much stuff, paperwork, books, art supplies, etc. There was no room to walk. I moved all my stuff in & we just stood there. We had all the police in the cell, listening to our complaints but they wouldn't move us because they only move on certain days.

Later that night we started talking & he shared with me all his zines & network & tapes that were smuggled out of an Irish prison. We found out we had too much in common to not get along.

After a few days, you'd have thought we had known each other forever! We acted like a couple of teenagers, horse playing, cussing, just acting foolish. He'd jump up & punch on me & act much younger than he was. I could see he still had the same heart as he had when he was younger.

When it came time for me to move, he told me that he hadn't had a friend in so long, he wished I could stay, but we had too much stuff for one cell. After I had moved, I still went to visit him from time to time. He made copies of all his Irish music for me, which I have put away.

The day that he died, he called me to his cell & told me that he was really thirsty, but other than that, he felt fine. I took him a 6 pack of Cokes & a few minutes later, he said he was going to see the nurse.

Later that night, internal affairs & the unit team came in and started packing his stuff up & from experience, I knew what had happened.

I didn't know what to do, I was his only friend in here & it seemed like I should do something.

All I could do was watch the other inmates & keep them from thieving his belongings. I still ended up having to go "retrieve" some things I found out someone had. I still have them.

Harold was fixing to help me with my case, even though he hated doing legal work, but we never got the chance. b

I ended up putting a couple of tattoos on him, in color & really nice. A Panther roaring & ripping out of his chest to cover some old school heart & name & an angel wrapped in an Irish flag, playing the harp. I feel I made the last few months of his life a little more pleasant & bearable – under the circumstances.

He said several times, he seen a lot of himself in me. I'll take that as a compliment from an older & much wiser person.

So wherever Harold is, I hope he knows he will be missed & is still thought of. He was my friend.

~ Calli ~

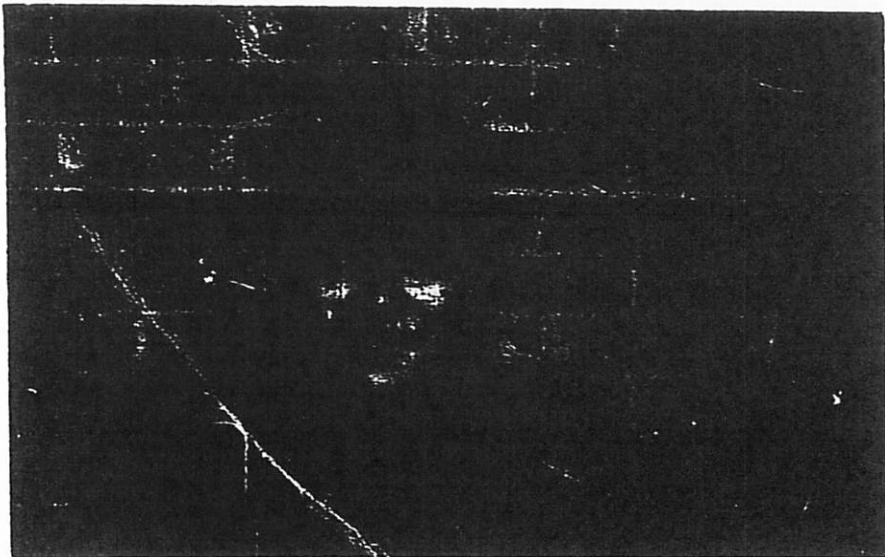
Don Callahan 297161

WTSP

P.O. Box 1150

Henning, TN 38041

Rest in Peace, Dear Irish Anarchist Brother!



Trust is Un@merican

I was reading somewhere once that the Dutch are the happiest people on Earth. How they measure that I'm unclear, but they base the decision on having a government they "trust." Or, so is their claim, still seems doubtful.

The people say they come together better as a whole because they have a solid foundation on which to build. It's supposed to equal a smooth operation (having a dependable government.) Naturally, it affects the community and peoples' actions and behaviors - for the "better" of course!

I can see how it would make a difference if our government could be trusted.

On the other hand, Amsterdam is there, so maybe all that comes from a guy in an internet café with ambition and rolling papers. I still agree.

Over here, in the "land of the free" our rights are being stripped away. "They" pass a law, we obey. "They" do wrong, we do nothing. "They" raise our taxes, we pay. "They kill," we pray. Land of the free? Janis Joplin said it best.

We suffer as a whole because government officials lie, cheat and steal - everything they prosecute us for! It's no wonder there was the American Revolution. Not only do they break the law but tear apart everything they stand for. Just because they know more about the law doesn't make them anymore worthy of mercy. When is enough, enough?

I don't buy the fact that in a Democracy, we have the power to elect our government.

The people who are really in charge are in the shadows. Our "elected officials" are the puppets put there for misdirection and to give us a false sense of security. People know it, they just choose to ignore it because as individuals, they feel weak up against the bigger government.

There are way more of us, and some of us work for them. Like I mentioned earlier, the American Revolution was when everyone realized it,

Well, I wrote this Lil piece, just to give you some insight on my thoughts.

Calli

....We sit in these cells like dead bodies sit in cemeteries Death fills our lungs, fills our minds, fills our hearts and fills our souls as it lurks and lingers and seeps through the concrete. Our minds go numb and our spirits fade into inactivity. We sit here waiting to waste away, erode, dissolve, and disappear into the cracks of the cement.

Solitary confinement. What an evil concept, what a wicked notion, what a clever way to destroy a man without even laying a finger on him. Solitary confinement -- the murderer of minds, hearts, and souls. The person who designed such an evil conception must've had murder on his mind and hate in his heart.

We die alone in these cold cells, as our hands stretch out to clutch concrete, but fail miserably to hold anything in their grasp other than the death-stenched air. We die alone -- a lonely, miserable, suffering death. We die alone.....

Northwest Chicago ABC Zine Distro
P.O. Box 154
Fox River Grove, IL 60021
www.chicagolandanarchistcollective.info

COYOTE
ELY STATE PRISON/
NEVADA

Your heart turns into stone, your soul turns into ice, and your mind turns into jelly. That's what happens when you sit and sit and sit in one of these cells, that's what happens when love leaves you, its what happens when you stop trying. Its a constant cycle of torture. Its a constant battle, a never-ending struggle. One day you feel good, the next day you feel bad. You go through so much conflict and turmoil with yourself, it nearly kills you. You can feel a deep sense of mental anguish and a deep sense of spiritual torment. It hurts so bad, it tears you up into little pieces, it scars you, and it destroys you inside.

You're filled with hate, rage, and vengeance. You want to kick the pigs head in, the same way they kick on your door. You become suspicious of others, and paranoid. You begin to think they're talking about you, you think they're out to get you, out to rob, steal, or cheat you. You're losing your fucken mind.

That's what happens when you sit and fester and marinate in one of these cells for hours at a time, days at a time, months at a time, years at a time. That's what happens when your heart stops finding a real reason to beat, that's what happens when you quit resisting. Your heart breaks a thousand times, you lose your cool. You lose your mind, your soul freezes and you die inside, you fucken die.

My name is Coyote and my heart still beats with love and resistance. But there's been times when it would skip a beat or two, or three...

For their catalog send \$2.00 to:

THE PERFECT TEN LIBRARY

P.O. BOX 5356

PITTSBURGH, PA 15206

They can be reached at 412-258-5587. I hope your readers find this as useful as I have.

You Don't Have to Be a Rocket Scientist: Solitary Confinement = Torture

12

Introduction

After recently receiving a letter asking if I'd like to contribute to *Prisoners' Speak! #5* and being notified that my Anarchist Brothers have been inquiring about me – that they are donning their “battle regalia,” of course I had to join the fight and don my own...

First, allow me to introduce myself. I am a female anarchist and a “no-holds-barred lesbian educator / agitator / activist.” My name is Lisa Savage although my comrades and my ever-supportive, radical life / soulmate, Laurie, affectionately call me “Lee.” I am a 40 year old female (political) prisoner being held captive against my will and tortured on a daily basis in Florida's only Solitary Confinement – Special Security Housing Unit / Closed Management (CMSHU) for women.

Most free-world people don't realize that such a place of pain and humiliation exists, thus they cannot fathom the abuse in its myriad of forms which is dispersed *without* thought nor concern for the mind and life being irrevocably impaired by such actions.

I am here today to bring this hidden truth to light...

As I've discussed previously in my zine, *Savage Realities*, there are women who we call our wives, mothers, daughters and grandmothers suffering under some of the heinous and insidiously contrived conditions that can be imposed by Florida's Department of Corrections.

These women are hidden from societies' eyes, thus seriously marginalized. Also, women in “CM” are not mentioned, left out of articles on solitary, and many investigative reports ranging from physical abuse to psychological effects of being in solitary confinement. This is still another crime against those women who are held in isolation. Yet, sadly enough this is happening across the U.S. without much outside protest.

The designated torture chambers, be they modernized, still rely on the old Nazi techniques and cage these affective women away from any semblance of a “real life” and decimate their inherent abilities to function on any level other than primal...

Let's define the following words: torture and solitary confinement. Webster's dictionary defines “torture” as 1) the

intentional infliction of severe pain 2) pain and mental anguish – to subject one to torture.

Terry A. Kupers, M.D. defines solitary confinement as:
“Security Housing Units (SHU’s) *within* security prison units, 13 where the prisoners are LOCKED in their cells nearly (or for) 24 hours per day and are cell-fed.”

Now that we have a very base description of torture and solitary confinement, allow me to build upon this foundation so you may see the truth – that solitary confinement *does* equal torture.

Control Units or Close / Management Security Housing Units (CMSHU’s) are based on the 1970’s West German “Stammheim Model.” The purpose is blatantly political in nature, as reinforced by the *U.S. Bureau of Prisons Official Criteria for Incarceration*, which states verbatim: “(A) prisoners past or present affiliation, association or membership in an organization which attempts to disrupt or overthrow the government of the U.S. or whose published ideology includes advocating law violations in order to free prisoners.”

But, how does this correlate with women prisoners housed in Florida’s CMSHU?

In 99.99% of CMSHU placement of women in Florida – *it doesn’t!*

The truth be known that women are placed in this torture chamber with *no connection* to the U.S. Bureau’s official criteria for incarceration. Women are placed here for various insubstantial reasons but all with the same “*end result*” achieved.

The majority of women prisoners in CMSHU are “strong-willed.” So thus, they are targeted as a “potential threat.” It is this “ghost” with no substance that keeps the SHU for women up and running and expanding.

The truth is *less than 1* in the past 140 women to enter and be released from Lowell C.I. Annex’s CMSHU has been placed on this classification status for serious crimes while in prison. Crimes such as murder or staff or inmate or gang affiliations, extortion or introduction of drugs into the facility – these crimes just don’t exist here!

The women I have encountered in my few years of solitary are not gang members or affiliated with organizations that undermine or disrupt the government – that is, unless you consider being a “lesbian” a covert action to undermine or deconstruct the government. The majority are caged and tortured (remember that *mental anguish is torture*) because they (women) will not become

docile slaves for DOC, to work under extreme conditions, which the state, federal and local government allows – and *expects* these women to work in 3rd world sweatshop conditions with no pay, no air conditioning and no relief.

Many of the women I have encountered have been abused and debased before prison, now the assault on them continues at the hands of the DOC, while these “survivors of abuse” are hidden away from the eyes, hearts and minds of society. 14

Truth is, a woman can become CM status, if the guards and/or the administration don't like them for one out of a hundred prejudices. Then, yes they are stuck in hellish conditions and there are only 3 ways out of the CMSHU... 1) release from prison (expiration of one's prison term) 2) suicide or 3) when the administration decides to release them back into prison life – general population. It is this last condition which promotes torture.

The Administration controls these women in every way possible. The object of CMSHU is to produce in women prisoners a sense of being totally at the mercy of and be dependent upon their captors.

The John Howard Association stated: “Through a year or more of sensory and psychological deprivation, prisoners are stripped of their individual identities in order that compliant behavior patterns can be implanted – a process of mortification and depersonalization.” The techniques involved have been described by the Amnesty International chart on penal coercion.

In the *New Yorker*, on March 30, 2009, an article entitled “Hellhole” stated that any period of time *over* 10 days has detrimental psychological effects on captive prisoners. Solitary confinement produces lowered and abnormal brainwave patterns within the first 10 days of such torture...

So, it's safe to say that the CMSHU women prisoners have been virtually “hand-picked” to have their mental faculties disturbed and impaired. Please consider the implications and ramifications of such impairment on the women and on the communities, once they are released back into society.

This is a very expensive price to pay for some minor violation of DOC's rules or because the women exude love and happiness and other women prisoners admire them...

CHART ON PENAL COERCION

15

General Method	Effect	Variants
1. Isolation	Deprive victims of all social supporters, of the ability to resist. Develops intense concern with self. Makes victim dependent on captor.	Complete Solitary confinement, complete isolation Semi-isolation, group isolation.
2. Monopolization of perception	Fixes attention on immediate predicament. Fosters introspection. Eliminates stimuli competing with those controlled by captive. Frustrates all actions not consistent with compliance.	Physical isolation Darkness or Bright Light, barren environment, restricted movement, monotonous food.
3. Induced debility exhaustion	Weakens Mental and physical ability to resist	Semi-starvation, exposure, exploitation of wounds, induced illness, sleep deprivation, prolonged constraint or interrogation forced writing, overexertion
4. Threats	Cultivates anxiety and despair	Threats of death, threats of non-return, threats of endless interrogation.
5. Occasional indulgences	Provides positive motivation for compliance. (But) hinders adjustment to deprivation.	Occasional favors, fluctuations of attitude, promises, rewards For partial compliance.
6. Demonstrating omnipotence	Suggests futility to resist	Confrontation, pretending cooperation taken for granted, demonstrating complete control over victim's fate.
7. Degradation	Makes cost of resistance appear more damaging to self-esteem than capitulation. Reduce To "animal level" concerns.	Personal hygiene prevented. Filthy, infested surroundings. Demeaning punishment, insults, and taunts. Denial of privacy.
8. Enforcing trivial demands	Develops habit of compliance.	Forced writing, enforcement of minute rules.

The Amnesty International Report on Torture in 1983 displayed a clear and concise chart on "PENAL COERCION" – the general method and variants of such methods, and the effects experienced by those targeted and caged prisoners in U.S. prisons. 16

Allow me to be direct in this information so there will be no misunderstanding of what exactly is happening to the seriously marginalized women hidden in these places of horror.

Note: Less than 1/3 of 1% of the women's prison population are being held captive under such conditions, so these cruel acts, crimes against them, go unnoticed and unchallenged.

As you can see, there are numerous variants for each general method of "torture" and still others not expressed on the previous chart.

So allow me to give you, the reader, a clear depiction of my solitary confinement on a daily basis. I will now describe other methods which have been, are now and certainly will remain in effect here at Lowell Correctional's CMSHU.

One of the most effective tactical implications of non-violent torture I experience *every day* is simply being housed (caged) with women who are currently suffering from active psychosis.

Since the guards haven't been able to crush my spirit and steal my humanity while housed at CMSHU, they now have decided to pile the psychotic women prisoners 3 deep on one side of my cell, 4 deep on the other and then placed 1 directly above me on the top tier. So, out of 8 cells, there is only one quiet and sane prisoner, *me!* To add insult to injury, the guards confiscated my radio so I cannot drown out the incessant yelling, banging on the cell doors and screaming. Flooding of their cells is quite frequent – at least 2 x's per week and chemical agents are routinely administered to these impaired women.

So, I must suffer the gassings with "Black Jesus" and "The Mojo" (nicknames of chemical agents) because I live beside these women. The funny part is the women are so out of touch with reality that they don't even feel the effects of the gassings... Thus, they continue to disrupt the quad.

I've had officers say, "Wow, Savage! You haven't went off yet!?" This confirms my belief that Administration and upper officers have purposely moved these women beside me.

I must make clear that 5 of the females have just returned from the TCU-Psychiatric Facility in South Florida and are supposed to be "STABLE."

It is a travesty to watch normal, healthy women deteriorate with *induced mental illness* which is caused by the CSMHU officers and the design of the unit itself.

In 1962, Dr. Edgar Schein described the methodology for achieving "compliance" in an address to all federal maximum security prison wardens in Washington, D.C.:

"In order to produce marked changes in behavior, it is necessary to weaken, undermine, or remove supports for old attitudes. I would like you to think of brainwashing not in terms of... ethics and morals, but in terms of the deliberate changing of human behavior by a group of men who have relatively complete control over the environment in which the captives live... (These changes can be induced by) isolation, sensory deprivation, segregation of leaders, spying, placing individuals whose willpower has been severely weakened into a living situation with others more advanced in thought reform, character invalidation, humiliation, sleeplessness, rewarding subservience and fear."

17

The results of these heinous and cruel acts upon prisoners may be "SHUPTSD" (Security Housing Unit Post Traumatic Stress Disorder). The "SHU Syndrome" is a little known form of psychiatric decompensation, with a quickly rising incidence.

Psychiatrist Stuart Grassian coined the term "SHU Syndrome." He examined a large number of prisoners during their stay in segregated, solitary confinement units and concluded that these units, like the sensory deprivation environments that were used in the '60's, *tend to induce psychosis*. Even those prisoners who do not become frankly psychotic, report a number of psychosis-like symptoms. These include but are not limited to:

1. Massive, free-floating anxiety.
2. Hyper-responsiveness to external stimuli, including a "startle response."
3. Perceptual distortions and hallucinations in multiple spheres (visual, auditory, olfactory).
4. Derealization experiences.
5. Difficulty with concentration and memory.
6. Acute confusional states, at times associated with dissociation features, mutism, and subsequent partial amnesia for those events.
7. The emergence of primitive, ego-dystonic aggressive fantasies.

8. Ideas of reference (paranoia) and persecutory ideation, at times reaching delusional proportions.
9. Motor excitement, often associated with sudden, violent destructive or self-mutilating outbursts.
10. Reduction of symptoms upon termination of isolation.

18

All of this pain and suffering is for a purpose, the purpose of capitalist advancement. Just like in the era of chattel slavery, there is a class of people dependent on the poor, and on bodies of color, and (increasingly) women – as a source of income.

The U.S. didn't abolish slavery. They simply transferred it into the prisons. Prison slavery in the form of involuntary labor is real, every day!

So, women in CMSHU are mostly here for standing up for their basic human rights and refusing to be slave labor, or being an individual. The horrors they face are very real. I live in these conditions every day. The conditions and practices that prisoners face are in violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Convention against Torture, and the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination. U.S. prison practices also violate dozens of other international treaties and fit the United Nations definition of genocide.

The only way these deplorable conditions will be eradicated is by prisoners and free-world people uniting and fighting for change. You must reach into us and help us win this battle. Lives are at stake.

I believe that we have the power to evoke change and make our communities safer without the use of solitary confinement. After all, solitary confinement *does* equal torture!

In Loving Struggle,

Lee Savage

Lisa "Lee" Savage, #959277
T-Dorm, Quad 2 Annex
CM Level I
Lowell Correctional Institution
11120 Northwest Gainesville Road
Ocala, Florida 34482-1479

* Lee has been transferred
to "minimal" security
(i.e. the "outs.")
S.I.P. Savage
Independent Press
P.O. Box 5453
Gainesville, FL
32627-5453

savageindiepublishing@activist.com

Reference materials used for this article are:

19

Terry A Keepers, M.D. "The SHU Syndrome and Community Health"

Biderman's Chart on Penal Coercion (Source: Amnesty International Report on Torture 1983)

U.S. Bureau of Prisons – Official Criteria for Incarceration

The John Howard Association

1962 – Dr. Edgar Schein's address to all federal maximum security prison wardens in Washington, D.C.

Selected excerpts from a speech by Bonnie Kerness (Coordinator, Prison Watch Project, AFSC) at the War and Health Conference, Emory university, School of Public Health 2/2003 Survivor's Manual by AFSC

If you'd like to join the fight to end solitary confinement and related forms of torture in U.S. prisons, write:

National STOPMAX Campaign

AFSC

1501 Cherry Street

Philadelphia, PA 19102-1479

www.afsc.org/stopmax

For more information on prison and their effects:

The Real Cost of Prison Project

5 Warfield Place

Northampton, MA 01060

Real Cost of Prisons Project publishes 3 comic books ("Prison Town – Paying the Price", "Prisoners of a HARD LIFE – Women and their Children" and "Prisoners of the War on Drugs") are available free to prisoners or others working against mass incarceration.

Radical Rabbit Distro

P.O. Box 2748

Tucson, Arizona 85702

Sq. Chicago ABC Zine Distro

Publisher & Distributor

P.O. Box 721

Homewood, IL 60430

Anarchist zine "Cracks in the Concrete" and other items. Write for a free catalog.

RACIAL PROFILING

"You'll get your freedom by letting your enemy know that you'll do anything to get your freedom; then you'll get it. It's the only way you'll get it. When you get that kind of attitude... they'll call you an extremist, or subversive, or seditious, or a red or a radical. But when you stay radical long enough and get people to be like you, you'll get your freedom."

—Malcolm X, 1964

"The time has come to change the tones of submission into tones of defiance ...I received my freedom from heaven, and with it came the command to defend my title to it... I don't respect this law— I don't fear it— I won't obey it! It outlaws me, and I outlaw it..."

—J.W. Loguen, 1897, Fugitive Slave Act Opponent
and Son of Escaped Slave

The debate over police racial profiling is truly puzzling. Of course police racially profile. It's their job. It's what they do.

If there still exist any Pollyannas out there who expect police to be egalitarian thinkers appropriately addressing unfortunate instances of social deviance for the greater good, they probably have a hard time grasping how racial profiling is an integral part of a cop's job. They simply don't realize that all of that feel-good fluff they believe has about as much substance as the Easter Bunny. The truth is, police really serve as occupying forces in the Black colony. They serve social, demographic, economic, and political agendas through their inordinate presence in the Black community and they serve it for a wealthy, white establishment under the guise of domestic "law enforcement."

Probably, during the Nazi occupation of Denmark in World War II, Nazi soldiers saw themselves as engaging in a "police action." When Danes refused to go along with orders and they disrupted the program, it became necessary for the maintenance of law and order to take a few Danes out into the street every so often and shoot them. After all, they had to maintain order. Nazi order. Nazi order imposed on others.

I can't imagine that Nazis ever randomly shot fellow Germans in Copenhagen. Likely, they only punished Danes. It would seem that "profiling" always accompanies occupation and colonization.

Returning to the question of racial profiling of Blacks in the United States, it is essential to recognize that the Black population in America is composed largely of the African slave diaspora, refugee descendants of so-called "freed" slaves. They are now confined predominantly into

ghettos and bantustans, not necessarily by directly legislative means such as in South Africa during Apartheid, but just as effectively through more indirect economic and social means; Blacks in the U.S. are relegated a second-class status and often a Third-World living arrangement. As a segment of the population, they have been denied full integration and have been rounded up into impoverished inner-city colonies. Cops are the occupying forces sent into these colonies to maintain order. Rich, white order. Rich, white order imposed upon poor Blacks.

So, in the proper context, this debate over racial profiling practices is really quite laughable. To say that cops in Philadelphia or Cleveland or Oakland target Blacks is like saying U.S. troops stationed in Baghdad are targeting Iraqis. Or that U.S. troops stationed in Kabul target Afghans. Of course they do.

21

It's their jobs. It's what they do.

* * *

Let's Water-Board Dick Cheney

By Sean Swain

In an interview with Larry King, former Minnesota Governor (and Special Forces vet) Jesse Ventura asserted, in reference to water-boarding, that if he had an hour alone with Dick Cheney, he'd get the former vice-president to confess to the Sharon Tate murder. His point, of course, was that the information gained from Cheney's torture of choice rarely gains credible, usable evidence. Ventura didn't mean that Dick Cheney was secretly responsible for the killings attributed to the Manson Family.

Still, the visual image is quite interesting—Cheney in his suit and tie duct-taped to a back-board, his head covered with a hood while buckets of water pour into his crooked face, interrogators demanding answers to their questions... It inspires the idea that perhaps Jesse Ventura should be appointed to lead a special water-boarding commission to investigate the activities of the former vice president. Whatever confessions of malfeasance Ventura would extract (apart from the Sharon Tate murder) could then be used as evidence before the secret tribunal that would decide how Cheney should be executed.

Did I say "how"? I meant "if"—if Cheney should be executed...

It's not a big deal. I mean, water-boarding isn't torture, it's simply "an enhanced interrogation technique." So what better way to get to the bottom of Cheney's role in a number of shady dealings, from out-sourcing energy policy to Enron and Halliburton to cooking the intelligence on weapons of mass destruction; from his fabrication of false connections between Al Qaeda and Iraq to his planting of false, unsourced information in the media to get them to beat the drum for war; from his approval of extraordinary rendition and torture to his "outing" of former intelligence asset Valerie Plame to silence her husband's political opposition.

Come to think of it, Ventura will need much longer than an hour. Between the normal choking, gasping and sobbing, he's got a lot of material to cover. He may need a few weeks.

Could there be a more appropriate subject to water-board than Dick Cheney? Given his long train of tyrannical abuses during his tenure as George W. Bush's brain, and given the serious threat to security in terms of blow-back created by his idiocy, there could be no more important terrorist to subject to enhanced interrogation techniques than The Dickster himself. His misguided and irrational military romp through the Middle East killed more Americans than 9/11 and generated deserved fear and hatred of the U.S. worldwide; his use of state power to silence critics and distort truth has undermined the very premise of popular will. No one has ever been a greater menace to peace, security and democracy. How far-reaching was his criminal, treasonous plot?

We need Jesse Ventura to strap his ass to a water-board and get him to spill the beans.

Once he confesses to all the nefarious plots that everyone now only suspects he hatched (and the Sharon Tate murder) we can provide him a fair and impartial trial by secret tribunal, where secret witnesses will give secret testimony, and secret advocates will present secret evidence to a secret trier of fact.

Then we shoot him. Is there anything more American than that?

Of course there will be those bleeding-heart mamby-pambies who will make excuses for him and snivel about human rights, but this is no time to get soft. We can't cut and run. It will only embolden our enemies. We have to prove our Cheney-Approved Justice Process works. For an executioner, we should get that poor sap Cheney shot in the face during that "hunting accident." He'll have plenty of motivation to return the favor after he reads the transcripts of Cheney's water-board confessions on the matter. Once he admits he was the nexus to all of those conspiracies (and the Sharon Tate murder) we'd have to have him executed for treason (and the Sharon Tate murder).

Anything less would be... unAmerican...

22

IMMIGRATION

The popular view in the U.S. holds that legal immigration should be regulated and illegal immigration should be eliminated or at least greatly curbed by vigorous enforcement of borders. The U.S. has a long history of trying to control immigration— with tragic consequences.

The St. Louis, as one example, sailed from Germany and, having been rejected throughout South America, attempted to enter port in the U.S. Due to strictly enforced quotas, the St. Louis was rejected and, with nowhere else to go, the captain turned the ship around and headed back to Germany.

Every single soul aboard the St. Louis was summarily murdered in the concentration camps. Not one passenger survived.

The U.S. had already taken its quota of Jews for the year when the St. Louis arrived in our port, so there was no room at the proverbial inn. But it isn't like we marched those poor innocents to the gas chamber or something. No. We marched them back across the Atlantic. The Nazis took them from there, marching them to the gas chamber.

So in the name of legality and immigration control, the U.S. government participated indirectly in the Nazi Final Solution. We didn't murder those people; we just left them nowhere else to go.

Proponents today who support immigration enforcement and border control would argue that the example of the St. Louis does not compare to our current reality. And they would be right. The current reality on the U.S. border far surpasses the tragedy of the Holocaust of Nazi Germany in its scope and duration.

Today's borders, particularly the southern border of the U.S., are used only for the control of movement of people. And not all people. Just poor people.

We have a militarized border between the U.S. and Mexico but we have no comparable militarization between the U.S. and Canada. Why? Because we have poor people trapped in Mexico who would gladly abandon that poverty zone in order to feed their children and, on the flip-side, you don't have many Canadians streaming across the border. The reason is, their standard of living is higher than ours.

So, at its basis, border control is really "poor people control." We use fences and shotguns to force poor people to stay where they don't want to be.

Money crosses the border. So do products. Only poor people cannot cross borders. We force them to live in pockets of poverty and we put up fences because poor people do not have the same rights or privileges as money and products.

The truth is, the capitalist economy needs these artificially-manufactured pockets of poverty. Corporations have desperate people willing to work in sweatshops for pennies a day. It increases the profit margins and the concentrated wealth of the richest five percent, the scumbags during all of us to slavery.

Borders are weapons. Those weapons murder poor people by the millions. The fence separates the "haves" from the "have nots." Then, to make matters worse, the U.S. corporations take advantage of the desperate poor on the wrong side of the fence and the U.S. government bribes and coerces corrupt government officials in order to rob those poor regions of what resources they do have. If any of those poor countries refuse to submit to rape and pillaging, we "intervene." We intervened in Chile, for example, when we murdered duly-elected President Salvador Allende, a Socialist. We replaced him with a military dictator, Augusto Pinochet, one of the top-five bloodiest tyrants of the twentieth century. We killed more Chileans than the conquistadors, slaughtering his own people by the thousands, and we made that happen; Pinochet stayed in power by relying upon American lawyers, guns, and money.

God bless America.

23

The U.S. attempted to assassinate Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez. We tried to kill Fidel Castro dozens of times. In fact, the border has been used as a political tool with regard to Cuba more so than with any other country. The U.S. has enforced an inhumane embargo against Cuba for decades and then, in 1979, President Carter made an exception to Cubans, permitting them to enter the country. (Thousands came, and the U.S. used that event to demonstrate how unhappy Cubans are with Castro's government. But nobody stops to ask how many thousands would pour into the U.S. if, say, the same exception was extended to Mexicans. Chances are, the majority of the Mexican population would migrate north.)

So with the artificially-generated poverty generated largely by U.S. corporations, combined with the artificially-manufactured political repression sponsored largely by puppets of U.S. intelligence services, border enforcement equals the murder of millions trapped on the wrong side of the not-so-proverbial fence.

The bodies you can stack there over the duration of border enforcement far surpass the piles of corpses the Nazis could stack. Plain and simple.

As if that wasn't bad enough, no one in the U.S. can claim they do not take part in the slaughter. None of us are absolved. Just like during the Nazi Final Solution where all of the German people reaped the material benefits and each therefore bore their share of the collective guilt, so it is with us.

When proponents of border control contend it is not our fault the people south of the border live in such dire straits, they are lying. It is our fault. It is our fault because our country stole all of Mexico's arable land, the areas we now call California, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada and Texas. We stole their land and then put up a fence and kept them on the side without food. With our tax dollars, the government buys bullets and guns and helicopters for patrolling that fence and we put our moral support behind this grand, murderous proposition that we should keep all of our wonderful luxuries on this side of the fence and all the suffering poor on that side of the fence.

You can give people fish and feed them for a day. You can teach them to fish and feed them for a lifetime. Or, you can build a fence and say, "Fuck 'em," and let the poor starve while they watch you eat all of the fish yourself. The third option is the American option.

See, there's a calculus at work here. In the backs of all of our minds we realize we have it so good because we have more than our share, because there are places in the world where people have less than their share, because of corruption and greed that enriched the few, and if we tear down the fences we know that would be a first step toward a level playing field where everyone would have a better shot at getting what they have coming. On some level, we know our inflated standard of living is propped up on the backs of starving children somewhere in the world, that we have the luxury of getting sloppy-fat at the expense of somebody somewhere going hungry. In a world of limited resources, we like having more than our share; we like having an oven and a microwave, having two computers, having a television in the living room and the bedroom. We want two cars. We love to super-size it, to get two pizzas for the price of one, to stuff the fridge with all kinds of wonderful junk that two-thirds of the world cannot afford.

And we build a fence to keep the poor from coming in and taking our shit from us... well, really, their shit, the resources that we've managed to swindle from them through tricks of economics and global capital. So, we support border control; we applaud measures that keep the starving and desperate on the other side of a fence so we don't have to be confronted with the reality of our greed and their suffering. And on some level we live in the constant fear that

maybe someday those hordes of starving people might get a little more assertive, will storm that fence, and will come flooding into our world with righteous rage, taking back what has been withheld from them for so long.

But the question I pose to you is: Shouldn't they?

ON POLITICAL VIOLENCE

24

In junior high school, the history teacher depicted in graphic detail the bigger picture of devastation wrought by the German Third Reich. We showed films that caught the horrifying images of the systematic and indiscriminate murder of millions of Jews, Gypsies, Poles, Slavs, and others. The Russians, we learned, had lost ten million people on the German front alone, an entire generation lost to the senseless meat-grinder of modern, technological warfare.

I remember that teacher posed a question to us students: What if we could go back in time, knowing what we know now? What if we could go back to 1936 and we would be standing on the sidewalk along the parade route as Hitler's convertible passed in the motorcade?

With just a pistol, with just maybe a single shot, we could spare the lives of the millions upon millions marched to death camps, all of those who would be murdered in a grisly and barbaric conflict. We could save the lives of countless millions more who would live in the next generation, those eliminated by the madness of Nazi megalomania. With a single act of political violence, we could change history, prevent a world war, save millions upon millions. We could possibly prevent the Cold War that began as the world war ended, a Cold War that cost billions in nuclear armaments that otherwise could have been spent on health care and education and the improvement of people's lives.

Most people accept the morality of killing Hitler by assassination. Generally, most people accept the morality of political violence—almost everyone. We accept the use of guns and bombs and assassination and destruction of government facilities. We recognize that there are circumstances under which political violence becomes a "necessary evil," as a legitimate means by which someone may prevent greater evil. The example of Hitler and his potential assassination is one obvious example but there are, tragically, unlimited examples.

Americans generally accept the morality of the Founding Fathers' political violence. Reduced to subjugation under tyranny, forced to pay imposed taxes without representation, they had a right and even a duty to rebel against a government not of their own choosing. We accept they had the right and responsibility to establish a new order based upon their own freedom.

As Americans we accept a common origin rooted in political violence, we accept it as a central ideal, as an article of faith in something very close to a secular religion. So the question put to us is not whether or not we believe in the legitimacy or morality of political violence. We do. The question put to us is one regarding conditions—whether we suffer at any given time from the necessary and intolerable conditions that justify the use of political violence. The question put to us is: Have we, like the generation of the Founding Fathers, found ourselves reduced to slaves under tyranny?

And this is where we traditionally run into another long-held article of faith, one that holds that tyranny cannot happen here; we are free; power lies in the hands of the people.

In reality, we have a large accumulation of wealth in this country in the hands of a select few. Roughly 5% of the population owns more than 85% of the wealth—and money is power. So, with that concentration of economic power, a significant few can purchase political power. They purchase the political parties and they fund the candidates, and those parties and candidates soon project platforms that reflect the interests not of the common people but the wealthy whose interests they truly serve. Those candidates, when elected, pass laws that protect the interests of the wealthy; the government leaders dance with the ones who brought them... and bought them.

So who represents you? Who represents your interests? Certainly not their government with laws to protect the rich and their profit margins, to make it easier for them to get further ahead at the expense of everyone else. You are "everyone else." And that means the power you relinquish to government is wielded to keep you in your place.

The government serves the hoeses, not the workers; it bows to the wealthy who own the food, serving as a shotgun pointed at the poor and hungry who might otherwise reach out to get their fair share.

By any rational measure, government is violence. Government is force. It maintains laws that it imposes upon you not by persuasion, not by convincing you that the laws are good and just and necessary. No. The laws are enforced by armed contingents, troops with guns and clubs and the latest technology, trained to "keep the peace," even if that peace requires violence and bloodshed. This "peace" that they keep is not your peace.

Governments are weapons the wealthy point at the poor. Laws are weapons. Police and soldiers and judges are weapons. Guns and billy clubs and prisons— those are weapons pointed at you in your daily life.

That is violence. Government is violence. It is a state of violence when you must go along with a program "or else," when you must submit to a state of affairs that someone else dictates "or else." It makes you a hostage and a slave who must toil for others' benefit; for the benefit of the wealthy for whom you make profits, for the benefit of the government to whom you pay taxes, taken from your check to pay for the bullets to load the shotgun pointed in your face before your check even falls into your hands.

Violence.

And if you do not go along with the program, if you do not continue to sweat and bleed and sacrifice your children at the altar of war for those who own you and own the rest of us, then they have a cage for you. They will put hands to you and force you into a smaller cage and then a smaller one, until you submit. They will break you or they will kill you or they will drive you mad. But you will not disrupt their program. Period.

This is a state they call "freedom," this state of ever-present threats of violence imposed upon you, this constant imposition of slavery.

We currently live in a state of continuous and constant political violence. In this situation, the violence is simply unilateral: It is inflicted from the top down. You are the victim of it, disempowered, while the aggressor, the enemy, those who engage in the unilateral violence have no intention of ever stopping.

Given this reality, you do not objectively have the luxury of "peaceful coexistence." In a situation where a bully is taking your lunch money, there is no peace even if you do not resort to direct violence; it is a situation of confrontation, of implicit violence based upon the threat the bully represents. So, your choices are limited to choices of violence. You can participate in (1) a situation where government imposes its violence upon you continuously and you passively accept it, or (2) a situation where the government's violence is met with a violent response.

And, really, it would be unfair to characterize the two choices as morally equal. They are not. If you recognize the reality of this situation, if you recognize the state of constant violence that the government maintains, then a non-response, one out of fear and cowardice and laziness is not morally equal to action on behalf of yourself and others who are under attack, under the yoke of the State.

Given our objective reality, we have a duty to engage in political violence. If we do not, we are nothing more than passive accomplices to our common enemy's butchery of ourselves and our loved-ones, thrusting our idle hands into our empty pockets rather than grabbing the cold steel of shotguns. In such a case, we deserve to be ruled and enslaved by threat and violence, by the absence of our own courage, action, and defiance.

ON PATRIOTISM

Don't wanna be an American idiot,
One nation under the new mania
Information age of hysteria,
The subliminal mind-fuck America...

--from "American Idiot,"
by Green Day

Some famous dead guy once said that patriotism is the last
refuge of scoundrels. What I think he meant was, the low-down
cowards who run the whole, rotten system pull our strings and

get us to march along with their sinister program by appealing to our love of country if they can't fool us with any of their other parlor tricks and platitudes. It's the tactic of the 26 obscenely rich control-freaks to keep us pointing rifles in the direction that makes them the most money, taking advantage of our naive willingness to bleed cheaply. Patriotism is a pile of lies told so often, a program ingrained so deeply, that as adults we don't even harbor thoughts of stringing up the bosses, priests, and politicians who wave the flags, plan the wars, and crack the whips.

Patriotism is a kind of chauvinism, a myth of national superiority spoon-fed to impressionable children, a nationalized pride that "our dad can beat up your dad," a distorted proclamation that we are better than others and God is on our side. It justifies whatever barbarity we inflict upon others and validates our prosecution of war crimes for whatever others may do to us... whether we had it coming or not.

Patriotism is a fine and moving speech delivered by a privileged and educated pitch-man standing on a soap-box made of the bones of slaves and tribal chiefs. It is a joke in poor taste whispered conspiratorially in country-clubs of the ruling elite, "A Black man, a Latino, and a piece of white-trash went to war...", and the joke always ends with three flag-draped coffins, a huddle of fatherless, poor kids, and the wealthy old buzzards laughing so hard they drop their beloved money-bags and piss themselves.

Patriotism is the scale to weigh our individual and collective ignorance, the yard-stick by which to measure the depth of our loyalty to our class enemy, the oppressor who compels us to pick his cotton. It is likewise the measure of our disloyalty to ourselves.

Freedom and patriotism are incompatible. We cannot celebrate liberty by hugging our chains and the profiteers who shackled us, waving flags manufactured in WalMart-sponsored sweatshops. Patriotism will continue to butcher true freedom until its blood-weary victims unite in their renunciation of allegiances to all national plantations in the immortal words of Nat Turner, "A fire in the master's house is set..."

27

* * *



WHEN DO WE ACT IN OUR BEST INTEREST

The American financial markets, specifically, investment and loan firms, have been hard hit by the predatory lending practices that 28 occurred in the housing market. For the last year the housing market has been in a downward spiral with no immediate end in sight, yet was held in check by a wish and a prayer, but now the greedy and exploitive practices of lenders has threatened to burst through to affect other aspects of the economic system. This occurred in my humble opinion because the financial markets have been monopolized by mammoth corporations who dominate high segments of the economy, and once these companies got into financial trouble, it triggered a domino effect that had the potential to cause devastating and far reaching consequences for the global financial system. So to restore a semblance of balance and to ward off a possible depression, the American government, or more correctly, the American taxpayer, was forced to rescue the various floundering investment and loan firms, most notably, Fannie Mae, Freddy Mac, and AIG (American Investment Group), Lehman Brothers and Bear Stearns were allowed to fail and Bank of America bought out Merrill Lynch.

These private financial institutions have made huge profits for their CEOs, Board of Directors, and other investors, but now that the market has deteriorated, the public is called upon to support a bailout, another word for a financial rescue, that is estimated to cost between half a trillion to a trillion dollars. The American people should be outraged that private individuals were allowed to make millions of dollars of individual wealth, live a grand lifestyle, send their children to the finest schools in the nation and then turn around and demand, no extort, taxpayer's dollars to reward their irresponsibility and negligence in fulfilling their obligations. This governmental bailout at taxpayer expense is exceptionally

shameful when considered in light of the fact that the government has consistently neglected to provide health care to all the nation's people and an educational system capable of preparing our children for the challenges of the twenty-first century. 29

Yet the most outrageous aspect about this governmental bailout is that the government, thru it's elected representatives, are allowing the american taxpayers to purchase the bad loans and mortgages without any guarantees or collateral to secure the trillion dollar loan the government will need to secure the eighty-percent of AIG. ~~Another thing about this bailout is that it is~~ not only for american financial institutions, but for foreign institutions and investors doing business in america as well. What this really amounts to is the american taxpayer being prostituted by their own government to stabilize foreign investments while giving the american citizens absolutely nothing in return for rescuing these private investment institutions from financial ruin. This is a bad business investment that congress shows signs of gladly endorsing at taxpayer expense, and with exceptional speed.

This is just one more example of the government supporting the richest people in america at taxpayer expense. This capitalistic system provides enormous profits for financial speculators with safety net when they fail. Then the american taxpayers are called upon to provide socialistic bailouts. This must seem truly ridiculous for the millions of struggling americans trying to figure out how to put gas in their cars and food on the table, while praying that none of their children get sick. Something is inherently wrong with a system that allows the most privileged people in society to exploit those not as privileged, and then when the schemes devised by the privileged go

wrong, the non-privileged are required, no, forced, to pay for the clean up. This is a lose-lose situation for america's working and middle class people.

30

This entire social structure is falling apart right before america's eyes, and the failing financial markets are just one more symptom of a systemic problem within this country. Just look around, the educational system doesn't work, the political system doesn't work, the judicial system doesn't work, and the financial system doesn't work. But the government and its duly elected representatives keep us sidetracked and focused on the symptoms instead of the causes. Because if we focused our attention on the causes we would see that the entire social system has outlived it's usefulness, its no longer relevant in a technologically advanced global community. The present social structure is basically the same as it was when it arrived in this country from Great Britain. The political, economical and judicial systems now in place are just outgrowths of the systems that were embraced by the founding fathers of this country, and it is no way humanly possible that the founding fathers could have foreseen the direction that this country would take, it was beyond their wildest imagination, yet here we are in the twenty-first century still holding onto those outdated methods, ideologies, theories and principles. Its time to eradicate all these outdated methods, theories, ideologies and principles, and create new ways of doing things, because its evident that the old ways are no longer viable or functional, they just don't work.

So what do we do and how do we do it? Okay, well the first question that many people may have is: "how do we go about creating new ways or methods of doing things that

will guide and direct our thinking and actions as we go about establishing new structures and systems to replace the old and outdated ones." This is a legitimate question to which we respond: "by our social practice". What we mean by our social practice is this. If we know that something needs to be done, we go about doing it. And the success or failure of our actions will determine if the way or method chosen for a particular task is beneficial or detrimental to the goal or task trying to be accomplished. If our social practice is beneficial, it will result in the successful accomplishment or completion of the particular goal or task, and then we can choose to adopt the social practice as a way or method of doing thing in the future. Likewise, if the social practice proves to be detrimental or unsuccessful, we would then choose to reject or disregard that particular way or method of doing something as unproductive. This is how we suggest going about creating a social practice that aids in developing the new ways and methods of doing things, as well as analyzing the methods utilized by prior social struggles and modifying or adopting successful tactics for use in our cause.

When we start communicating about eradicating whole structures and systems, we realize that this task is not something to be taken lightly, it is a serious endeavor that most likely will require changing our whole approach to changing social problems, because many of society's problems are either cultural, traditional, ideological or philosophical. Stated another way, society's problems are fundamental and foundational, meaning that they are embraced within the value system and woven into the very fabric of what America is conceived as being.

What we propose doing is initiating the process of transformation to bring america into the realm of what it can be. This is not some utopian or visionary dream, what this is meant to be is the first stage of engaging the people in serious dialogue about where they want america to go into the future, while at the same time realizing that this will require reaching across all social barriers (race, religion, income, education, gender, etc.) as we know them, to begin the hard work of changing america. And only those who are willing to do the necessary and essential work of bringing about the transformation of america will have a voice in the direction this endeavor takes. 32

The next question may be how do we start or where do we start from. Again, this is a legitimate question, and our answer is that we start from where we find ourselves; right here, right now. We begin by talking to our families because sacrifices will have to be made within the home, because the ideas you have for changing america may not be the same ideas your spouse may have or your children may have. Yes, we must include our children because the future of america belongs to them, not us. Once we make a determination of who is willing to struggle within our own household, we should then compile a list of the issues important to us. What we mean is, what do we think would make america better. But before answering this question we have to be reflective as well as practical and realistic. What we mean by this, is that we have to think outside of the individualistic model where it's all about me, mine, and I. We have to begin to see things as us, we, and our, and consider what is in the best interest of america and not what is best for me, this is the prescription we suggest

20 August 2002

Parallax

Vaguely I remember holding my breath

Events swirling like eddies, seizing time in its grasp

Today would be the day my mother would abandon me

And all I could do was stand there in shocked disbelief

Like an entombed insect, staring out from its amber window.

Did it ever occur to you that I needed you?

What three-year-old doesn't?

I didn't have the strength or soundness of mind to wander

Couldn't you have found a small spot in your heart for me?

In those short years I had somehow outgrown my usefulness

My potential was negated

Like a child who steps into the path of a drunken motorist.

I can't go back...

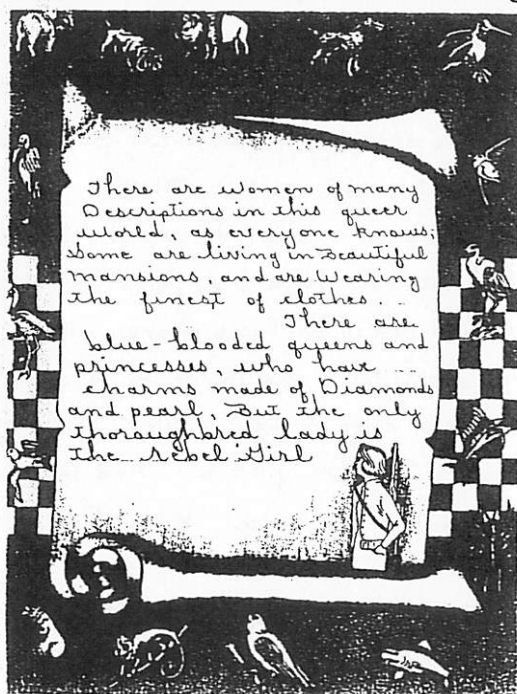
44

people adhere to. So once we get our house in order and see what's important in our house, we begin talking to our neighbors. We assert that this is the beginning of taking responsibility for society, and while different homes, neighbors and cities may use different techniques, models, or methods to spread the message of transformation, the overall objective will always remain the same, that being changing America. 33

So in conclusion, let me just say that it should be abundantly clear to any thinking person that society as we now know it, is on the verge of a drastic transformation. The only question that remains is who will guide and direct the transformation. We the people, or that gang of bureaucrats in Washington, D.C., or our State legislatures or city council, because, really, all of them for the most part have contributed in some form or fashion to the plight that faces the country today. I mean,

responsibilities over to people who we know do not and will not, act in our best interest. So we need to stop the blame game and empower ourselves. We begin doing this by acting on this endeavor at the local level and then moving outward to reach more people, and in this way we create and develop the effective ways and means to educate ourselves and our neighbors; 34 clarify exactly what the overall objectives and issues are; create, develop and implement new values, traditions, theories, ideologies and philosophies; and through these actions bring about a fundamental transformation in ourselves and within society at large. The time to act is now! So lets get busy and begin the work of changing amerikz.

Omgowok A. Shabazz, #244104
RMSI / 3-B-202 (Sin Freddean)
7475 Cockrill Bend Blvd.
Nashville, TN. 37209-1048



As globalization colonizers move into underdeveloped areas of the world, they privatize public services, raise the prices for those services, usurp the land, exploit the population, and turn the natives into wage-slave human resources. All sold under the guise of "Free Trade Agreements" and "Stability". The term stability has served for a long time as a propaganda code word referring to "A favorable orientation for the political elite." Favorable not to the populations, but to foreign investors and global managers. The gap between the pampered, lazy, parasitic elitists, and the common working class proletariat is growing ever more wider with each passing day. This gap of inequality is built into the social order of things and sadly enough, it's generally accepted by the proletariat as the way things are. Before the whole world ends up as global slaves to the ruling class, I believe, a Tsunami of anti-capitalist *Peoples' Education* needs to wash over the people, flooding them with new ideas to form and create consciousness, a sustainable society, equality, and reduced dissent among the population of the world. I'm calling for an education for freedom, not subservience.

The real purpose of this education should be to produce not just "useful citizen," but "free men" in an autonomous, independent, and completely self-sufficient society. Rulers have always taken extreme measures to suppress and control the education of the population. They know better than anyone else their power is based almost entirely on the school curriculum, and they therefore insist on retaining their monopoly on it. When they control the people's thoughts through a socially engineered education, they know they can control dissent, opposition, and resistance. The true function of educating the population should be to create a consciousness of an alternative reality from the one they currently know. The reality is that people are inherently good and we all instinctively have the ability to govern ourselves by collectively collaborating together in developing citizen-driven services without being exploited by a select few "privileged" people. A

teacher should encourage self-learning to allow each child the opportunity to develop in his/her own way rather than force a pre-determined program of brainwashing upon them. The curriculum must be founded wholly upon the scientific development of reason, and not faith based; upon the development of personal dignity and independence, not upon piety and obedience; upon the cult of truth and justice at any cost; and above all, upon a respect for humanity and the natural right to be totally free from oppression. Some argue that economic development is the best method for serious social transformation. I agree with that to a certain point; however, it absolutely *must* be coupled with education. If economic industrial development is brought in before educating the people first, or at least simultaneously, they will only end up as wage-slaves exploited by the Corporations. These corporations are running straight to those countries where labor is cheaper, resources are local, pollution control is almost non-existent, and the population is so poor they're ready for pretty much anything. The de-facto world government— 36 internationalized industrial economy run largely by transnational corporations and supranational banks—are creating their own governmental structures like GATT (General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs), NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement), the IMF (International Monetary Fund), the World Bank, and the G8 Meetings (Group of Eight Industrialized Nation) to systematically take over the world, one economy at a time. All wrapped up neatly and packaged under the harmless sounding term "Globalization." One of their favorite propaganda lies is to tell the public Free Trade Agreements are bringing in needed jobs to people in underdeveloped countries normally suppressed by corrupt governments, and bring in much needed infrastructure to those areas, but this isn't sustainable, nor is it completely true, and will eventually do more harm than good. The truth is that today's new Free Trade Agreements are actually "Protectionist policies" for multi-nationals and their investors who come into an area and usurp the local, regional, and even national resources, starting with the privatization

of public utilities such as electric and water services. A great example of what can happen when the public is conscious, happened a while back in Cochabamba, Bolivia. 37 A large American Corporation named Bechtel privatized Cochabamba water services after being granted a contract to expand services. Without ever expanding, they raised service prices by over 300%. Soon, people could no longer afford basic services and still meet other needs. A close friend of mine who lived there at the time was eventually forced to sell his land off just to feed his family. The people finally became wise and united collectively to force the Bolivian government into canceling Bechtel's contract. They ran the corporation out of town and immediately established an alternative water system which is now ran by a government/community worker hybrid that is completely sustainable. This is only one example from many of what is possible when people are taught a different world is possible, and come together in direct action by way of mutual aid, voluntary cooperation, voluntary association, solidarity, organized labor unions, and most importantly, when they are given the ability to make knowledgeable consensus decisions for their community.

People simply have no awareness of the system of power under which they are indeed suffering. Vacuous class and race-based laws are creating criminalizing behavior reactant to intolerable conditions. Aggressive policing against the poor are social realities which create convicted, demoralized, and oppressed cultures. As a result, as intended, they turn against the government. No one is born a terrorist. It is a phenomenon that is inevitable if you disfranchise and exclude millions of their very basis of life, livelihood, and freedom. Terrorism is the scream of the voiceless, poor, desperate, socially isolated, and illiterate people of the world with no hope, and no future. Those who stand to lose their power over these people will have the world believe terrorism is based wholly upon twisted ideologies instead of in equality and dissent, but I would like to imagine I'd have a hard time finding anyone who would be against freedom, equality, and democracy in an

educated world. Hating the corporations and government who supposedly "serve" them will never resolve anything. Educating the people and changing the imperialists into transparent, accountable, and responsible servants of a democratic humanity resolves everything.

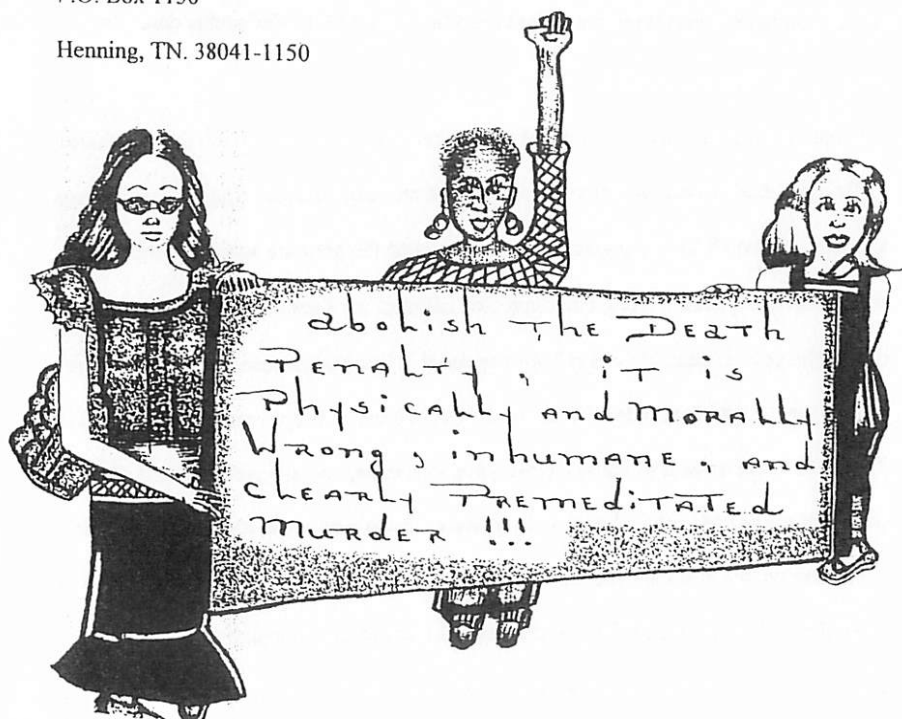
There's no doubt about it folks, globalization is here to stay for as long as people are kept in the dark to its consequences. Teaching people how to create their own sustainable economies through a massive program of peoples education will create the much needed consciousness required in the under developed countries of the world, and thereby reduce inequality, dissent, and terrorism throughout the rest of the world. We were all born free, but we will never realize freedom as long as people are being exploited somewhere in the world. It's time we support a better world through education.

Walter Johnson 231380

Student ID # 20493900

P.O. Box 1150

Henning, TN. 38041-1150





Children, youths, are
like seeds planted in soil.
Proper cultivation, care,
love, attention, patience,
and education, will ensure
a healthy growth!!!



Each and every day we are bombarded with images and messages that bigger, better, faster, more, is what we all should seek. Commercials and movies, music videos that depict the newest, slickest cars on the shiniest rims. and souped up engines. Small computers that can be carried anywhere and pull internet connections out of thin air, while cellphones have cameras that you can use to record real time pornos on. (I know, I've seen one myself) The message is constantly pounded into our psyche and the result is a country of greedy, self serving, excessive people. Overweight children stuffing their face at the checkout line with twinkies while begging their mothers to take them to McDonald's. Yet in a neighborhood not two miles from that same piglet of a kid is a hungry person who relies on a government check or survives on nothing at all. Drugs are in every single high school in this country, hard drugs, yet these specific drugs are not grown or manufactured in this country. I've seen an entire generation of people rotting in prisons, dead from overdoses, women selling themselves and looking like skeletons, and people turned into animals in pursuit of these drugs. So the question I ask is how can the government keep out terrorists and biological weapons that are easily concealable, keep out illegals? Yet drugs are on every fucking corner, in every fucking high school, in all the clubs and bars. Its all about money, the whole supposed war on drugs is a big sham. The money they piss on law enforcement, the money they piss on prisons, on court systems, on programs. They all get in on the action and its one big party at our children's expense.

How is it that in Afghanistan they are producing and exporting more heroin now that American troops are there than ever before? You tell me, I won't even say it. Look at the privatization of the military, its as if America has 10 branches instead of 4. Even if Obama pulls out the troops in 2011, you better believe that Blackwater U.S.A. will still be there along with some some special forces to over see the puppet government. Capitalism is all about expansion and making more capital, this country has globalized and has become an octopus with tentacles that have seemed to extend all over the globe. Just as an example of how this country is controlled by corporate heads with corporate interests in money and not people, lets look at some popular past political figures and their real interests. Dick Cheney (Halliburton), Peter Aldridge (Aerospace Corp.), Army Sec. Thomas White (Enron), Navy Sec. Gordon England (General Dynamics), Air Force Sec. James Roche (Northrop Grumman). Now you may ask whats the big deal, but if someone has a business interest that may influence a decision like whether we invade a country (ie Halliburton/Iraq) this is a conflict of interest. The growing private military corporations such as Blackwater U.S.A., AND Triple Canopy, and the other war profiteers are now in the business of war. The fact that these people also hold powerful positions in office in Washington is a serious cause for concern.

Now we have 2.3 million people in prison in the United States and this is another example of privatizing that has gotten out of control. they are expanding and this is another beneficiary of the drug joke, that is because people are living large off this system. Aramark and companies like this will get a contract and control the commissary and serve the meals. what ends up happening is they serve the smallest and nastiest meals to force the prison population to buy the maximum amount of commissary. The commissary is like buying quarter bags of chips for a dollar and candy bars for a dollar fifty, oodles and noodles for a dollar a piece. Plus the prisons get their money for each prisoner, not to mention the lawyers, judges, stenographers, clerks, CO's, its all so pathetic when alot of these young guys are here for non violent offenses that were drug related (drugs the crooked gov. let in).

Some of you may be thinking, what is the point of this guy's rant? Well, that this current system is a brutal machine and people are nothing but slaves to it. Even the people out with there daily grinds, who slave for their little belongings that only own them in the end, with their debt. They run the rat race and are always distracting themselves from the pathetic existence they live. Very few are really alive, and thankfully there are even those few. This country is one big sound bite one big reality show, a joke. The upper 1% most richest people in this country are the parasites, and they never worked a day in their life and never will. They sit back and collect on our sweat and blood, and we sit in this gutter and twitter or watch American Idol. This is not a conspiracy theory, this is reality! Bush gave these people tax cuts! For God's sakes they are the richest people in the whole world and he cuts their taxes. They put their radio pundits on the radios and push the agenda while calling the poor the parasites. They pick the presidents, they decide how much to allow the common person to obtain so as to keep us asleep and so they maintain their power and wealth.

The wars and plunder that we are witnessing these greedy, power hungry men to orchestrate and mastermind is utterly appalling in its complexity and magnitude. The growing interest in the Caspian Sea Basin has been the prime motivator of the vilifying of Iran. The Caspian Sea sits in between Iran, Russia, and a host of old satellite states that used to be part of the Soviet Union. The United States has shown an increasing interest in Azerbaijan. The reason is the fact that Dick Cheney's energy task force estimated oil reserves in Azerbaijan's and Kazakhstan's sectors alone equaling 20 billion barrels. As of then Russia controlled most exporting of this oil. In September 2002 construction of a pipeline began, and in 2003 the Bush administration helped overthrow president Eduard Shevardnadze of Georgia because he did business with Moscow and granted new drilling and pipeline concessions to Russian firms. He also obstructed Washington's grand pipeline plan which was a mortal sin. All this while laying claim to Iraqi oil and masquerading it all as the liberation of Iraq. 41

What set the groundwork for this imperialistic and gross power grab was September 11, 2001. When you look at this conquest for the world's oil and natural resources in context with the privatization of military contractors which gained incomprehensible ground economically during the years of 2000 and on, what comes to mind is that the expansion that has taken place is incredible. As explained before the goal of capitalism is expansion and throughout history war has been a key tool for the expansion of capitalistic societies. The seeking out of new markets, capital, and goods is often the motivator, not to mention the boost to the economy at home.

Some people might say so what? Americans live comfortably. Are you serious? Americans are constantly being exploited and put in fear of all kinds of imaginary enemies in order to push an agenda. Americans are victim of government cover-ups and drugs flooding neighborhoods as our youth die and are imprisoned behind them. The government lies so much that its now not only tolerated but expected. Americans have been so indoctrinated and gullible that people still believe that 9-11 was a tragic terrorist attack only. Blind to the fact the this was the springboard for plans that were in place for a decade. They have now "legally" taken our rights to privacy but have more control over our lives than ever due to the PATRIOT ACT. It is so glaringly obvious that we have no say so as to the path this country is on, yet people are in somekind of You tube trance.

So this brings us back to the question why do we see a pounding of advertisement and movies , videos, and messages that bigger, better, faster, and more is what we all need? The reason is that we are nothing but workers and consumers and we have put the capital we make back into the system or else it breaks down. So naturally we are constantly told "buy this" "renew that" "upgrade all of it". Not to mention food, and bullshit that is slowly killing us, but they don't care because the rich are sitting back getting fat in there mansions never doing a days work because the money makes itself. They suck the system and the people of the earth, and the resources of the earth, and they don't stop and will not ever until we rise up and stop them. How many times are we going to stand by and play spectator to these poor countries that are so rich in natural resources be exploited and blown all to hell, women and children as well as young men.

" The masters of the government of the United States are the combined capitalists and manufacturers of the United States." ---Woodrow Wilson

Stephen Kinzer, a New York Times correspondent stated in a dispatch about the private American citizens looking to make money off Azerbaijan oil. "...reads like a roster of the National Security establishment. Among the most prominent names are former Sec. of State Henry Kissinger, James Baker III, Dick Cheney(of course), former Senator and Treasury Lloyd Bentsen, former White House Chief of Staff John H. Sununu, and two national security advisers Brent Scowcroft and Zbigniew Brzezinski". We the people is a joke and its time that people collectively realize that and stop living in denial.

In 2005 Congress passed an appropriations bill and what was buried inside this bill is terrifying. Buried inside was an amendment authorizing a national ID card called "REAL ID." It takes form in state drivers license cards. The driver's photograph is converted into a biometric grid consistent with the details and features of your face, this forms a kind of "face print" unique only to you.

Now in stadiums, shopping malls, airports, government buildings, and some city streets there are, or soon will be cameras that are able to read this face print and recognize you through software such as, but not limited to, FaceEXPLORER, and LI/Visage. So if the government has an interest in you or wants you for whatever the reason these eyes in the sky are soon to be everywhere.

42

Wait a second!!! Did I just wake up in some Orwellian nightmare? Is anyone reading this for the love of whoever!!!!???

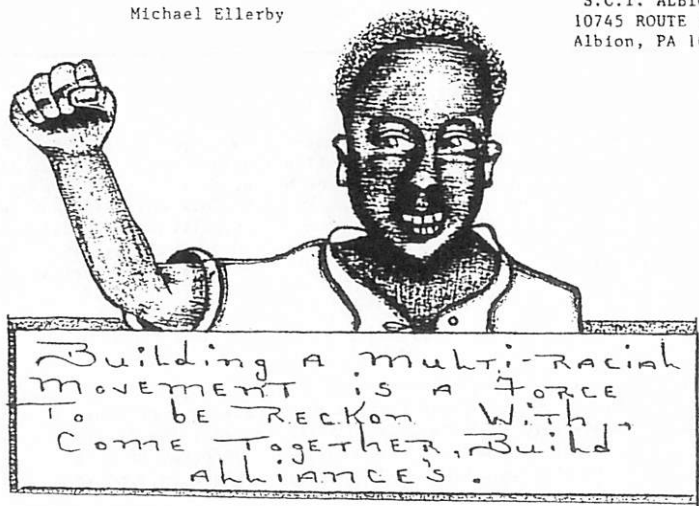
So now we have On Star, and cell phones that can track us down like somekind of homing device but now we have to deal with cameras that can actually recognize us. I thought that the Fourth Amendment of that joke Constitution stated somewhere that we are to be secure in our persons. Look around you, the other shoe has dropped and folks, its a size 13.

PITTSBURGH PENNSYLVANIA, APRIL 4, 2009, Three Pittsburgh Police officers were gunned down answering a domestic call in the Stanton Heights section. The officers Eric G. Kelly, Stephen J. Mayle and Paul J. Sciuillo were shot with an AK-47 in the young man's home. Of course there has been parades and memorials that interrupt regularly scheduled programming everyday since. I'm sorry for the families loss but lets face it, in this city alone the police have been taking the lives of unarmed individuals for years and years. Not one memorial service for those young men and recently a 12 year old boy in Uniontown PA named Michael Ellerby was shot in the back by an Iraqi war vet / State Trooper. He also was unarmed and I was stomped by these thugs in uniform and watched them plant drugs on a friend of mine while they laughed in our face. I've watched helplessly as a police chief lied on the stand under oath at a trial I was involved in. This man who had a gun battle with these pigs for over four hours has my respect and you better believe that when they get done with him in this crooked city, he'll wish he would have died in the shootout instead of surrendering. His name is Richard Poplawski and I would like all who read this to have a moment of silence for good ole Rich and wish him the best with his upcoming courtroom battle. The media is crucifying him in the papers and governor Rendell has already stated that he'd sign his death warrant in an instant. Yes the District Attorney Stephen A. Zappala is seeking the death penalty. Funny how in the State's case two wrongs do make a right. Murder is wrong, even defending your home against state sponsored thugs. So the state will kill ya. PATHETIC.

Oh yeah, the officer who shot the 12 year old boy in the back in 2003 is still on active duty. Somehow his own who investigate wrong doing found nothing wrong with chasing down and murdering a 12 year old boy in cold blood. The message? Murder is okay when the police do it.

R.I.P.
Michael Ellerby

JOHN PHILLIPS HR6086
S.C.I. ALBION
10745 ROUTE 18
Albion, PA 16475-0002



Prisoner Poetry *SLAM!*

Black As The Night

43

Tame as a chain, I sit and Wait
Alone, always alone
Circling the sun
Man has cast me aside
Like a condom full of frustration
The years have come and gone
I've grown accustomed to the distance
But it fills me with dispair all the same
And what will my response be?
If only they could wear my shoes for a day
The misery would burn their brains to a crisp
The desperation would eat away their very soul
They'd convulse like a fish out of water
And I'll be damned if they still wouldn't understand
Poetic justice is the finest dish I can serve
Shall I serve it hot or cold?
Will there be enough to go around...
The morning begins like a methodic machine
The shuffle of feet pass back and forth
Mere robots that only respond to programming
With eyes as blank and empty as their existence
And in my corner I sit; watching, Waiting
For I know my time will come
In the inky black of night I'll move
Soft as a whisper
Into the sweet night air, I'll breath freely
The elements my only companion
I'll rise up, black as the night.

- David Ray Martin

But the blonde social worker was a nice distraction
Driving me around town, buying me a batmobile toy car
Finding refuge in the cool comfort of a Steak n' Shake restaurant
For a brief moment I felt important, wanted
Answering questions while I played with my new toy.
Over the years I've created a thousand different childhoods
Pretending I had a real mom and dad
One prevalent theme: they really did love me.
With age comes the cruelty of time
Decay knows like rats on a stale peanut butter cracker
Odd intervals exposing that dour loneliness,
Pestering a tired old man.
If only I could reject the rejection that encompassed me
Maybe I could've held it all together.

-David Ray Martin

the educational systems that are failing in virtually every
urban area in America are the direct result of the individual
State legislatures, so lets not all point our fingers at Washington.
D.C., work needs to be done right where we stand. Likewise
For the judicial systems in the various States that don't work,
that is, unless you are poor and uneducated, then they work
just fine. But look at how those big, powerful, Patent CEO's
who make millions and steal millions more, never see the
inside of a jail cell, much less the inside of a penitentiary
yet some poor kid who robs a gas station for fifty bucks,
gets a life sentence. Is that justice? And lets not forget
the economy or the job market either. Both of these issues
can also be addressed at the State level, so all the blame
should not be placed on the Federal bureaucracy alone. We
first need to blame ourselves for surrendering our social

Priceless

45

To mold one life
To do what's right
To hold the hand that none dare to
To sacrifice so that another's dream may come true
To go where no one has gone before
To expect more.
Society doesn't set the limits, you do
There are many colors in the rainbow,
And many paths in which to travel
Ultimately, only you can choose.
To stand in the face of death
To love enough to give your last breath
To forgive despite your pain and suffering
To create something out of nothing.

PLUTOCRACY

-David Ray Martin

Money doesn't grow on trees
And we have mouths to feed
Stuck in a Plutocracy cloaked in democracy
Politicians and their Orwellian double speak
"An Empire for Liberty"
Public relations over reality
Where's the recognition of humanity
Where's my equality and prosperity
Where's our civic responsibility
Ideas of liberty and human dignity
Ours is a wounded national psyche
In denial in the shadow of our national story
To change the world is my exercise in futility

~ Devin Baker #63357
ISCI 16A 51A
P.O. Box 14
Boise, ID 83707

PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

46

**REMEMBER WELL FOR THIS IS TRUE
YOUR HAPPINESS YOU MAY PURSUE
BUT DON'T GET YOUR HOPES UP TOO HIGH
ITS POSSESSION THE STATE WILL DENY**

**WHEN YOU DO APPROACH ECSTASY
THEY'LL TAKE AWAY YOUR LIBERTY
WHEN HYSTERIA AND FEAR IS RIFE
THEY'LL LOCK YOU UP FOR ALL YOUR LIFE**

**SUCH INALIENABLE RIGHTS
IN DARK AGES WINK OUT LIKE LIGHTS**

JOHN A. RODDA

Genocide

Da steel teardrop within the skin of an oppressed soldier hoping for freedom. Remains by the eyes of pain: seeing death by mental reflections of war as a product and victim of dried blood stains on the street corner of his past neighborhood: dreaming of another route away from which had him submitted to the arms of corrections. Disrupted by an element placing him in an unconscious state whereas violence becomes the keys to his fractured world: constant screams baring his soul and dignity as he tries to escape the nightmares of life in prison for a shootout inflicted by colors of the ghetto: murder for a

blue rag and my brother is dead because of red:
genocide has proven to be reality as it consumes
us!

47

Within this world of corruption and epidemics. A little child sits and waits for her mother's arrival from work. Two blocks away a woman is taking her last breath from a creasing bullet to her abdomen: a seed who has not yet been developed, will never see a trial of life. Hours past and the only siren is of a police car and no paramedics. A poor young "20" year old dies at the hands of gang violence within the harsh covenants of LA: this is life and has been for ages. Black folks have been burned. Hanged. Shot. Stabbed. Abused and just plain outright degraded. But we continue to assist in what I call genocide: genocide is the grim reaper of every ghetto across the globe and still rising.

As the planes collided into the monuments of Amerikkka, people from all over the world watched in amusement, disbelief and fear. Having had a major blow like that. Brought tears to the United States: the President is quick to speak of revenge on something the U.S.A. has been doing for years (*terrorism*). Death to who's responsible for this act of diabolicalness: no information shared amongst the branches of law and security. So the country suffers for a planned operation set by the government. Obviousness is only the answer of supreme power. Thousands die and the most highest is yet to surface: genocide has claimed the fame of its glorious twin

towers. Thank you George W. Bush!!!

An invasion of Afghanistan for heroin and Iraq for oil. A perfect excuse to do what the law has been doing for years "stealing from the poor to feed the rich"; the perfect excuse to rape and sodomize innocent foreign people. Children will suffer morally because of the friddled mines of cavemen: seeing a child decapitated brings a thrill to the hearts of the United States armed cowards! *Genocide*

Rodney Williams #K-77155
D - 1 - 148 low
P.O. Box 4670
Lancaster, CA 93539

- Disorder -

You know, I turn the page,
And see too many things.
Social distress, mental poverty,
Allowing our government tyrannical reigns.
Democracy 's become demobilized.
Epitaph's written before ones time.
Individuals led with covered eyes.
No longer just the poor committing crimes,
Mind sets are sought out,
To tranquilize the sadness of lives.
A syringe injecting poison,
To die slowly is what we decide.
Propaganda rips away our every view,
Insuring the blood to spill.
Closed minds & blinded eyes,
To ignorance,
They appear skilled.

My Own Poetry

49

If people minds were all conscious,
and never was any fried.

If everyone made right choices,
without some advice or a guide.

If everyone had confidence,
and no doubt inside their mind.

If everyone was fair,
and didn't take sides.

If our hearts stayed moist,
and never was any dried.

If everyone person honesty was tried.

If people felt safe,
and never had to hide.

If everyone cared, and nobody cried.

If everyone loved, and nobody lied.

If everyone shared,
and swallowed their pride.

Would we see the day,
when nobody spirit died.

Preston Smith 04103000
Tuscan Federal Corr. Complex
P.O. Box 24550
Tuscon, AZ 85734

= Poverty =

50

Cold, dark, angry, hardened streets,
where the hungry & abandoned form new breeds.
Each eager, anticipating patiently,
The moment to be freed.
Feeding off of every source,
Innocents gone scarce within their world.
No feelings left, no remorse.
Once precious, no longer daddy's lol' girl.
Babies are slowly dying,
From a lack of concern.
As families struggle on, being tortured & burned.
A single soul dying a thousand times,
Within these broken lives.
Secluded's the easiest word, for now,
As cold streets are filled with cries.
Icy winds chill the deepest of bones,
A broken family, out of love— alone.
Dark alleys, hide their evils,
A decaying world— our cost.
Tears fall as loved ones pass,
And time continues to move forgetting all, dissipating the
past, leaving nothing left to lose.

- Promises -

Congressional man will you lend us a hand,
Or have you forgotten about the hard working men?
Slaving all day to barely maintain,
Blistering hands and hearts of pain!
Look down one time and open your eyes,
Remember we're here, the ones you despise.
For the betterment is what you say,
But the terrorist, it's then you pay.
Too many hungry far more than food,
As sideways glances show your thoughts through.

Walk away once again, that's how it goes.
When war brings money, the poor'll fade your blows.
Genocide of the "Not so rich",
That once proud lady, done turned to a bitch!
Is it possible to prove that your heart is true.
Give us your ear,
Instead of just commanding,
The poor to listen to you.

51

Dale Pacht 1118197
Gib Lewis HS
P.O. Box 9000
Woodville, TX 75990

Robeson County Blues

Henry B. Lowrie led guerrilla wars for dignity of Lumbee
Nation's core,
Henry B. Lowrie led guerrilla wars for dignity of Lumbee
Nation's core,
His exploits and "disappearance" are legendary Robeson
County folklore!

Hatcher and Jacobs exploded like solar flares in Tar Heel's
Robeson County,
Hatcher and Jacobs exploded like solar flares in Tar Heel's
Robeson County,
Rekindled the visions of Henry Berrie Lowrie's war against
the state's bounty.

Tashunka Raven

Red River Rebellion

Riel's Metis Nation rebellions were like two earthquakes near
forty-ninth parallel,
Riel's Metis Nation rebellions were like two earthquakes near
forty-ninth parallel,
Batoche was noble "last stand" for Riel's and Dumont's
northwest Canada freedom bell.

Kintpuash was a hail of fiery lead, waged heroic last stand in
Lava Beds,
Kintpuash was a hail of fiery lead, waged heroic last stand in
Lava Beds,
Modoc Nation was an immortal flame of courage and hope
for all nations Red!

Tashunka Raven

Ghost Dance Blues

Wovoka's Ghost Dance was an electrifying message from
the Paiute heaven,
Wovoka's Ghost Dance was an electrifying message from
the Paiute heaven,
Ghost shirts were to be powerful and prophetic like the holy
number seven.

Tashunka Raven

NEUTRON BOMB BLUES

Who'll live in the Longhouse after the neutron bomb
explodes?
Who'll live in the Longhouse after the neutron bomb
explodes?
It'll still be standing, that's what I've been told.

Who'll dance on Thunder Mountain if no Shalako's left alive?
Who'll dance on Thunder Mountain if no Shalako's left alive?
And no more Ghost Dancin', and brother that's no jive.
Who'll sing "Mishe Sepokni" on the banks of the Mississippi
River?
Who'll sing "Mishe Sepokni" on the banks of the Mississippi
River?
When the last Choctaw's been dissolved by that Atomic
Fever.

Who'll preach the Dreamer Cult again in Wallowa Valley?
Who'll preach the Dreamer Cult again in Wallowa Valley?
Wyakin'll be so lonely, there'll be no sacred rally. 53

Son-Of-Light and Child-Of-The-Waters, come with your
powerful medicine!

Son-Of-Light and Child-Of-The-Waters, come with your
powerful medicine!

Gather all the monster-slayers against the Neutron Sin.

Who'll live in the Longhouse after the neutron bomb
explodes?

Who'll live in the Longhouse after the neutron bomb
explodes?

Maybe the ghost of Hiawatha, that's what I've been told.

Tashunka Raven

Chemistry 101

I'm out of control.

And uncorrected.

If only I could give back my soul.

And have it perfected.

I'm a mad chemist.

Manufacturing perversity.

I go to a clandestine university.

Called the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

And today, fellow freax.

I'm doing laboratory experiments.

With epiphanies and visions.

Alas, I've got black ink bubbling.

In Tiffany flasks.

With society types.

Watching me behind Marti Gras masks.

They want their issue.
But have no idea what I've been through.
Or what it feels like.
To have gunshots blast.
Travel.
Then hit you.
So I say fuck 'em.
And if you don't like the bullets.
I'm shootin'.
Duck 'em.
For I'm equipped with a full clip.
And the tip of my tongue.
Is a combat knife.
That I use to cut my way through.
Life.

54

I'm out of control.
And uncorrected.
If only I could give back my soul.
And have it perfected.

Evolve

My prison-view is panoramic.
Goddammit.
Death to the country-ass cowards
that planned it.

I'm sitting at a concrete desk
in a federal penitentiary.
And Life's but a fading memory.
That I reflect on to pass away the
days.
But, I feel inside out and lost
within this corporate maze.

My name is eight digits,
and I'm livid.
A castaway thrown off the island
of the free.

Where the brave rant and rave.
But it's cool.
Fuck those fascist pigs anyway.
I'm a new me.
And I wake up everyday.
Screaming anarchy.

55

Aren't you tired of all the
Lies and hocus-pocus.
Well, if no,
Look through my eyes and focus.
Listen to my fickle diction.
And the friction I couse in Society
Motherfuck Bush and his Luciferian sorority.
I'm slicing my way through America
with a word sicle.
In search of his body.

I'm anti-everything revolving around this clown.
And I don't give a damn about Washington D.C.
are the establishment.
Are you picking up what I'm puttin' down?
I lace everything I say this way.
With abolishment and severity.
So create a new program
And get with it.
Come underground
and learn some perversity.
Where I can confound you.
Drown you in The Fountain of Knowledge.
Then have you resurrected.
Perfected.
With a revolutionary vision.
So you can envision
a world with no moon or sun or people.
Just the remnants of institutions
and broken church steeples.

Because that's the sad future
of this planet
If "We the People"
don't wake up and save it.

56

My prison-view is panoramic.
Goddammit.
Death to the country-ass cowards
that planned it.

Richie McBee #05628-017
USP Florence
P.O. Box 7000
Florence, CO 81226

Heartbreaker

There is a place
In your heart
Where you feel
The loss and hurt
As deep as it ran
Because you always
Forgive the man
Who has the key
And left you outside
To walk around
Alone for a while
Almost like
One of your children
Who you will never hate
And that is why
It will break your heart
And stays
To be another kind
Of emptiness and pain
Because you do not forget
The man who left you
Outside for awhile.

Staring through backyards
Of a past
That I remember walking through
Held by that chain
Of memories.
Shabnka mean white
In another language
And she was almost or before chains
Of our neighbor's yard
Were left behind in the rain.
Shabanka was never my pet
And almost witchcraft
To see it in a woman.

Tami Tomscho
R80165
P.O. Box 7283
Champaign IL
61826

The Rule of Fools

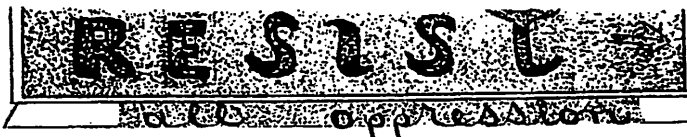
When they tell me to line up for breakfast, lunch and dinner.
Barely feeding me enough to live as I grow thinner.
I simply say,
I subjected myself, to the rule of fools.
When they say I have to sit or stand for count day and night.
And recreation is not definite, just a might. I remind myself
that,
I subjected myself, to the rule of the fools.
When daily I'm told when to shower and lockdown in a cell.
Told when I can use the phone and they play with my mail.
In my head I yell,
I subjected myself, to the rule of fools.
When they look down on me from their glass covered perch
And throw all my things around walling it cell search.

58

I think, "it doesn't hurt", because
I subjected myself, to the rule of fools.
When I'm talked to bed, abused and mistreated,
And the lie of a guard gets me convicted.
The phrase I reply is,
I subjected myself, to the rule of fools.
When the walking cameras expose my intent,
To push for equal and better treatment.
I have to admit,
I subjected myself, to the rule of fools.
When my twenty-fours look the fame for long periods at a
time,
The doe says, "Oh, you look just fine"
All I hear in my mind is,
I subjected myself, to the rule of fools.
Why do they have to do their most,
To make my life that of a ghost.
I've accepted responsibility and punishment for my part.
So why does the rule of fools have to be so hard.
Isn't it good enough I'm away from my family and loved one,
And that I may spend my last days in prison.
With a gavel in his hand,
The judge pounds down on the stand.
Did that make them forget I was human too?
When I was subjected to the rule of fools.



Mr. Demeyan Watie #268136
CrossRoads Corr. Center
1115 East Pence Road
Cameron, Missouri



"It's All True"

59

It is eva' so hard to watch the stealthy creep of the
"Arch-Enemy"—listen to me closely!
Weakness becomes strong only when weakness succeeds
to the Sublime Throne;

Albeit, powa' does not rest with the weak but rather' it
expresses itself in the totality;
Truth is now-a-days passionately rejected and disowned by
an eerie army of zombies and clones;

On the witches stage we have the lack-wit and the
lunatic following' the dictates of a Satanic script;
Then, we have the misfit and the soul-sick given to mischief
and all manna' of dirty trick;

And, atop of this, we have the fear-ridden and the
ignorant in masquerade.

We got the so-call Gangsta' and the gay-blade too-buck
wild, lawless, and lewd;

They all livin' in this bizarre world of heinous crime
and untruth;

Then we have the vainglorious fool who is notorious fo' tryin'
to convince you...of the lie!

And we must hasten to mention the evil and the fake
who whistles, withdraws, and, then, hides;
Lord! I done died a thousand thousand time to see what I
see and to be what I be;

And I have seen the strange Beast with 2-heads and
a millions eyes—eva' and always watchin' me;

I have seen the Javelins of Jealousy and the darts of envy
thrown by the wanna' beez;

Then, there is the actual practice of sorcery— it is thought to
either' corrupt me or destroy me;

Hatas' and hell-raisas' standin' in the way so as to
provoke me...and you, too;

And even though it all sounds like a fairy tale, it ain't— its all
true.

Demetri Williams #T-23856
R.J. Donovan
Facility 1-Build-2-Cell-236up
P.O. Box 799001

Excuses

60

Have you heard the news today?
It said you were in an unconscious state.
You're losing all grasp of reality.
Choosing to waste your life watchin' fuckin' T.V.
Don't care about current events unless its on the tube.
Dwindling your mind away believing in media hype for who.

(Chorus)

Excuses, a numbering screen is taking over your life.
Excuses, your destroying your mind and giving into their lies.
Excuses, turning into a mindless android.
Excuses, if you don't stop now, you'll fall into the void.

(Repeat Chorus)

You'd rather poison your mind with false realities.
Using the R.V as a crutch to escape your insecurities.
Torturing yourself believing a life that's not real.
Spending wasted time observing actors who don't feel.
Losing control and letting the T.V think for you now.
What's next? Accept the brainwashing and government's beat down.

Rookie Cop (AKA Fascist Bastard)

Rookie cop, rookie cop,
Walkin' around like some badass macho fuck.
Rookie cop, rookie cop.
Brutality's your vengeance cuz you suck.

(Chorus)

You're the type of motherfucker with no life.
Became an enforcer cuz you were robbed with a knife.
Now you walk around with a clipboard in hand.
Pathetically throwing your authority around and shouting
commend.

Rookie cop, rookie cop.
Did you grow up idolizing false heroes?
Rookie cop, rookie cop.

61

Your life was nothing before and now you're less than zero.
Are you satisfied with meaningless accomplishments?
Do you get off on causing torment?
Is it some kind of hidden perverse fantasy?
I'd really like to know cuz it bugs the fuck out of me!

The Noise is Silencing

I no longer can express my individuality.
Kept locked away in this prison storage facility.
Pools of sharks surround me in a cold-blooded frenzy.

(Chorus)

Take a look in between the cracks of these depressing walls.
Then maybe you'll realize the shock when your world begins to fall.

It's a never-ending test to prove your masculinity.
Failure's not an option when you're fighting for a chance to be free.

No matter where you turn, you'll be sized up with a closed mind.

If you're lucky, you'll survive leaving institutional morals behind.

That split second taught me a lesson as I pay consequences of that crime.

Fire in 1964 (From Reading Mississippi Burning)

Your family taught you your whole life to hate.
So blinded by ignorance, you can't even think straight.
Grew up brainwashed and now a hatred machine.
Finding sanctuary in your racist political asylum beliefs.

(Chorus)

62

It was a long hot summer in 1964.
Lynching innocent humans cuz their color wasn't like your's.
Burning visions of pure AmeriKKKan race.
Accomplishing only a hypocritical reality of disgrace.

Tyrannical lunatic thoughts of world domination.
Can't grasp acceptance that he didn't succeed in his
genocidal devastation.
Instead you burn crosses to instigate and cause fear.
You're just shadows of your callous selves, headed for
impending disaster.

Robert Wimberly 131184
CCCF 2-A 4120
6564 State HWY 96
Olney Strings, CO 81062-8700

"KISMET"

MISPLACED in the process was the conquered
warrior lost in the trees...

But what has this life come to?

I don't want to be standing in the shadow of my
mistakes...

But what has this life come to?

I could have been so many things from activist to
engineer and at this point I haven't become a damn thing.

But what has this life come to?

I woke up and took off the chains...

Struggling with my main purpose of being powerless and labeled a failure by my own and it hurts but this life has come t me over coming the steal gates of this hell I'm living in to become the light in which I shine to be the man that my mother and sister dreamed of me being and the father in which my kids need me to be. So today I stand on my own as a warrior in a fight to defy the odds that stand before me in this life that has come to me being a...

REAL BLACK MAN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Mind Over Matter

You holla about 24 & Prison Break that shit is fake fox trying to mold your mind. This reality you want to live is only a fib created only for one reason: to divert the mind and keep your ass with all this time and the same frame of mind. So stop being confused, this is why they sell us those down tube fool to interject dreams and wishes into the mind and prophecies you to keep our money on the bottom line to keep that 7% of the country rich doing all that big time social shit not giving a damn about the urban mix just trying to fix your homes with TVs and DVDs all the way to your new P.C. Man, these people is creepy. So stop going for all the deceit B, because this here shit is way way beyond me. I'm only trying to see the streets, not the guilt. Y'all got to fell me....

I Know !!!

I know I ran away and came back and tried to change faces but I still had a mind of a teenage run-away whose Daddy left when he was just trying to find his way...

I know you were a full-grown woman when I was still fronting thinking I was on something not even knowing you were a real Queen with life-long dreams, looking for a king with a theme and not a boy who plays with toys and looks for street fame to only come up lame and a shame...

I know it took me a minute to become a King with generation dreams and only speaking Vercious to the black Queen of my dreams even though It may be to late to take her on that life-long date, I have to still captivate the ruler of this independent state of cohesion tryina not to commit treason without reason only trying to make this great synergy feel alive and I would love to be immortalized without any lies...

YES MY Queen, it's a great theme and t's good on the inside of my oasis with so much comprehensive basis. Yes my LOVE Allah grace it and I'm gracious.

64

Samuel Karim #R-10346
P.O. Box. 112
Joliet, IL 60434

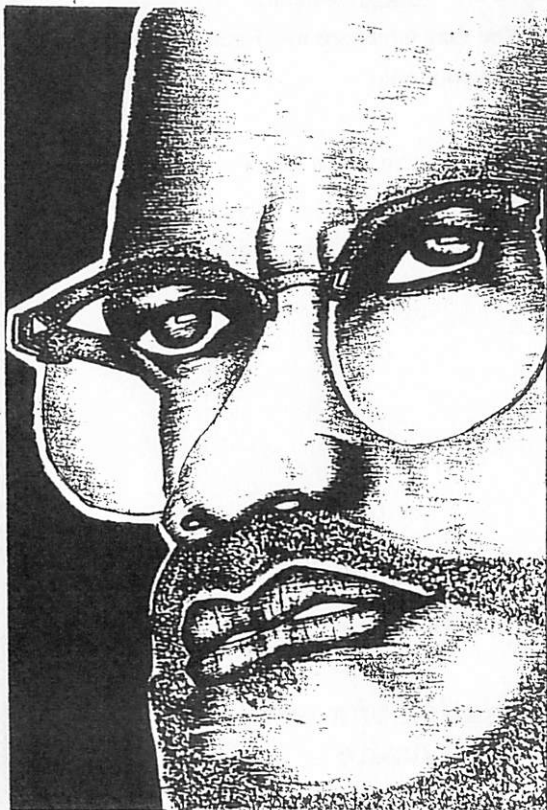
The Voice of the Enemy

Through the voice of the enemy,
On thoughts turn fearful,
Our fears transform into reality.
Through the voice of the enemy,
Our fantasies are fixed on last,
The last creating love individuality.
Our enemy, as it stoically stands,
Never leaves nor moves an inch,
Yet, remains possessive to it's habitat.
The insecurities that dwell within,
Form too many emotional conflicts,
Every step of the way you're in combat.
Battling to control it just once,
As it endlessly roams, ceaselessly,
It burrows in, conquering a home.
The enemy is of ourselves,
The voice is the minds we own,
Forever remaining embedded,
It'll never leave you alone.

Unnamed

65

I am finding myself as losing my mind!
Am I drifting away, lost with time?
Too many heartaches, living inside.
Regrets build sorrow with nowhere to hide!
Tears always close, as memories appear.
No-one know all, the personal few.
How many will go before it's done?
Will you be next in ones sad song?
The wisdom given yet guidance denied.
For youthful way a mother cries.
Why.....?
Why.....?
Always seems to learn a little too late!
And, is there a place called the pearly gates?
Will It all end as I open my eyes?
Or does it remain, I'm too tired to fight.



Dale Pachta 1118197
Gib Lewis HS
P.O. Box 9000
Woodville, TX 75990



Women Inside These Walls

66

Women, sisters, wives, daughters, cousins and friends.

Where are you inside these walls?

As, I look at these cold bricks, I know there is cement and mortar inside.

But, as I see each hole, crack and chip, I feel the eyes of many women looking at me. They stare even when I sleep.

They can see all the events my eyes have missed inside these walls.

These women have seen death, sickness, fears, tears, turmoil, hurt, pain, and hunger.

Only the women inside these wall can be called to witness all the actual downfalls that have occurred within these walls.

As my tears flow down my face, and my heart feels a pain that makes it race.

I wonder if I'll be looking out one day at my "ONLY" daughter?

Who knows, I may see one of yours? You may never see me, Because I might be gone. But, truly dear sisters, I too can feel your pain.

Cry if you must, Allah got us!!!

Remember if you ever come inside these walls, you might see me.

Because the place I'm in is called PRISON.

If you decide to come, look at the bricks. Look hard and feel the stares, see if you can find the "Women Inside These Walls."

Written by: Mary "Sibi" Uloho #464534

PO Box 26

St. Gabriel, LA 70776

What Black History Means To Me by Mary Uloho

Black history is the revolution of a people
with the will to live and the desire to be free.

-Tortured with whips, chained and shackled and dreaming of a rebellious reaction.

67

- Blood flooded before we would let go of what we'd one day come to know as freedom.

- Being the first (1st)...Pioneering through life, exploring, conquering and achieving is why we can celebrate this "month" of Black History.

- Because all of our famous leaders like Martin Luther King-Father of the Civil Rights movement, Malcolm X-one of the most famous Muslims in the American history, Rosa Parks-she is the reason we can ride on the front of the bus and my most favorite Harriet Tubman-the conductor of the Underground Railroad created by William Still in 1850, just to name a few.

~I to have a "Dream", but it's the continuation of our Black History.

~ Because when I close my eyes. I can actually see the "pain" and "suffering" of my forefathers.

~ I can see the brutal, mangled bodies hanging from the trees on display for everyone to see.

~ Saying all the while, "that could have been me."

~ But, when I open my eyes and look around. I see mothers, daughters and sisters surrounded by ~~barbed-wire, bricks and steel~~ in this place called prison.

~ Now, I'm wondering if my "ONLY" daughter will read this history about me one day?

~ What is the message we're sending to our family tree? Or are we just hanging around shooting the breeze?

"Open Letter"

70

It has been more than a decade for me stuck in this place of walls, violence and oppression, but I refuse to lose myself here. I haven't allowed myself to give up. Survival is at the heart of me and even at my most vulnerable times when hope seems absent, I **RISE**. My **message cannot die** – **PERSEVERANCE**. This is an omnipotent force in my life that drives me and defines me... And I'll always breathe the burning air of resistance and seek change.

Every word I utter is a piece of me and everything I do comes from my soul – be it a physical act or one with my pen / voice. I count myself a member of **CODE**. There are no so many of us in any place at any given time and we need more brethren! I believe wholeheartedly in my cause grounded in realism and a desire to rise up, but I am oftentimes confined without recourse except to suffer my circumstances by myself. I can't win alone wearing this uniform never taken seriously or respected. I also know these things and no obstacles tossed before me will stop me. **I WILL ALWAYS TRY!!**

My cause is change and to climb from the gutters of humanity, but it's hard in here without help and I implore any in society who hears my pleas to take a step in the right direction to make a difference. It takes **ALL** to effect change and to better this world. Awareness must be spread and our efforts unified under common goals. I need you whoever you are – inside prison or outside. Take a stand with me.

Until I lay in a box, this body will fight the mechanisms of adversity. I will still choose my battles and nothing here will be strong enough to hold the truth

back, because I'll make it known in every venue I'm given...

71

I rarely dwell on the minutiae of my life or things I can't change. I'm not depressed or derailed by constraints. I don't fall victim to hopelessness or allow authoritative words conform me. Prison has never been able to subdue my heart and soul or imprison my purpose. I refuse to let it and no matter how long or short my future is, I will live each day the best I can trying to help others who want to do the same, because a day of life is a gift and may turn into the best day of our entire existence. I just patiently await that day that will come – never fearing it. I am tired of these faces that turn away from us when we suffer humiliation and degradation like a third world country. We are supposed to be CIVILIZED. Yet, our destinies will visit us heedless of our circumstances and we can't stop it – only prolong the inevitable. I don't try to interfere – I embrace it and strive for things to be better tomorrow for me and those worthy to walk next to me...

This place has also helped me. Being shut away and shunned by humanity has both matured and strengthened my resolve. I've seen the worst of the worst as well as the best, most loyal comrade. In them lived the seed of revolution and a heart of solidarity. I know it also lives outside prison and I need help in finding it. For, I embrace any siblings of those things and seek any waving that banner of change... My fight is everyone's fight...

I speak these words in the hope a kindred spirit or advocate of my message hears me. I wish to continue to LEARN and spread culture / understanding / code of honor. And I want others to LEARN so we can reshape

the world! Lend a hand and be informed. Let me reach out to others in here and out there. I am an activist of many words / ideas and this is my greatest medium. I am trying to do more than exist! With my freedom stolen from me so early, it has become my quest to LEARN and know solidarity. Now, at 31, I believe I'm a rock of truth / discipline. I am often called "hardened" but I stand up for EVERYTHING I believe in. I hide nothing with tactics and am what I am.

72

I'd love to hear from anyone who shares my plight and wants to help me in my goals. I want to think beyond conformity and complacency and try to help others do the same... Please contact me.

John Neff #54213
P.O. Box 1989
Ely, Nevada 89301

"A Compilation of Thoughts"

Must we continue to let these bastards brutalize and destroy the whole world just because we are afraid that our efforts wouldn't meet the approval of those the way we hoped?

How utterly insane is that? Don't be afraid of rejection or ridicule – or even of brutal suppression. Be afraid of not trying at all. It doesn't matter if you're Captain America or a hillbilly from West Virginia, if you're not part of the solution you're part of the problem. Try, get better, seek assistance and be part of the international chain reaction of revolutionizing our relations with each other and disarming those who would factor into the equation of their profit – making a billion starving children and a doomed planet!

It's time to lead, follow or get the hell out of the way!

No matter what you label yourself, the key point is that you recognize the current status quo is outdated and severely destructive to any social improvement.

The primary challenge of social change is not in convincing your friends and neighbors of your cause's validity. The problem is getting them to be at all impassioned either way... fighting lethargy is the killer. We all have fallen into the idea that either this cause or that one, is unworkable. Why? Because nobody has ever encouraged us to become part of the solution to our own problems. 73

The elites are more than happy to sit back and watch us waste what few dollars we have on items that will break, or be obsolete, in a short period of time. They also are tremendously happy to watch us destroy ourselves in substance abuse, because it helps to eliminate one more of our opinions or votes, and offers them greater ability to construct more penal colonies, where they can use us as yet another example of why the proletariat must be controlled by the bourgeoisie... The cycle is continual, and if we don't take advantage of the opportunity to eliminate their leverage, then we are willfully submitted to their oppression...

What we need to do is educate ourselves intensely about present day reality, recent history, how others are living and what we need to learn how to do to function without the modern-day amenities.

The best way to change the people's thinking is to change their literature.

This is the number one job we need to do as a prerequisite of any kind of successful social revolution, change people's thinking and therefore, their behavior.

We need to learn skills and become self-sufficient. We need to get to the point of giving a damn as much for the liberty of others as we do for our own.

In fact, our own liberty is incomplete unless everyone else enjoys that same amount of liberty. Our liberty is only as real as that experienced by the lowest of the low.

Each person needs to figure out the best way that he or she can be most effective and content with their efforts. A lot of things are not much fun to have to do. Some are a lot of fun. The trick is to do what is needed and still make it exciting enough to want to keep doing it and not feel put upon or get burned out from.

We all must find our own comfort level and be satisfied with our own terms. For, if we know the work we are doing is important, it doesn't much matter what others, who aren't aware of it, think about it.

We should keep getting better and raising the level of argumentation.

74

Strive to speak more succinctly and do the work more efficiently.

So, seeing as our liberty is so false really, we can only enjoy it by striving to help others acquire the liberty that is rightfully theirs. Otherwise, you're suppressing your conscience!

Never be satisfied!

Joshua Hollis 188023 F2 – 11U

I.D.O.C.

Plainfield Correctional Facility

727 Moon Road

Plainfield, IN 46168-9400

- Invictus -

**Out of the night that covers me
Black as the pit from pole to pole
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.**

**In the fell clutch of circumstances
I have not winced nor cried aloud
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloodied but unbowed.**

**Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the horror of the shade
And yet the menace of the years
Finds, and shall find me, unafraid.**

**I matter not how straight the gait
How charged with punishments the scroll
I am the master of my fate
The captain of my Soul.**

I Am Poverty

75

I am the one without shelter, the one left to swelter, I am the abused with no choices to choose. What do I got to lose? I am the one who hungers, the one who thirsts - the so-called worst of the worst. I am the one who will ride in a hearse first. I am the forgotten, the misbegotten, considered rotten. I am the sick, the diseased, the depraved, and the deprived. I am the one to be thought the lesser by the oppressor, I am the repressed. I am the one who is passed by and passed on, I am the one they claim wants a handout with my hands out. They say I am the helpless Therefore I am worthless...

But I am the one who is wise to society's lies, I am the one who is strong in heart and rich of mind. I am the one who is not blind, And I am not resigned to fall in line. I am The one with understanding and insight. the one who will fight and shine a light in the dark. I am the one who leaves a mark, the one who cries out and demands to be heard. I am the One who spreads the word, I am the one who knows struggle and continues to strive. I am alive and refuse to go unrecognized! I am the many, I'm worldwide, and I am Something you cannot hide...

I AM POVERTY"!!!

Timothy Trujillo P-32319
C2-131

CSATF/State Prison at Corcoran
P.O. Box 5246
Corcoran, CA 93212

South Chicago ABC
Fine Distro
2010



Satiya Burkhardt

"A people without a
knowledge of their past
history, origin and
culture, is like a
tree without roots."



P.H.



South Chicago ABC
Zine Distro
P.O. Box 721
Homewood, IL 60430