

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

*Thought Bombs #24  
 Cover Art by Todd Taylor*



## Greetings! Here's an Introduction

It's already early June. Since last October, as usual, I've put together several zines, mostly as an editor and organized &/or just participated in several actions, as usual. On Martin Luther King's actual birthday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, we picketed the Land Acquisition office in Matteson, IL. Two days later, on the official Monday holiday, our union SEIU local #73, picketed the 'Taj Mahal' - the imposing corporate-style edifice of the Tollway. Both days were one-two as the coldest days of the winter! The Tollway had been called the 'worst employer' for the second time in five years - rather impressive in a huge megalopolis! As for the Land Acquisition Office, new pressure had been put on the 'footprint' residents by IDOT and the various circling hyenas yapping for a piece of the speculative action, down here in Peotone. Everybody should know these folks aren't going to cave in to this.

On Lincoln's Birthday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, we picketed the Rainbow PUSH headquarters on the southside, as Jesse Jackson, Jr. scolded Mayor Daley about corruption and pushed the Peotone Airport. This building was built to look like the Justice Department, in Washington. On the front is an actual dollar sign (\$) giving one and all a good idea of what the Jackson's are really all about. Jesse Jackson, Jr.'s 'mentor' as far as congressional politics are concerned, is the unctuous, longtime reactionary, Henry Hyde!

The cops wouldn't let us assemble across the street, but pushed us about a block away. The reason was an obscure 'ordinance' stating a picket line could not be formed within a block of a 'service' and a half hour before and after it. What Jesse Junior was doing (preening, mainly) was considered a 'service.' Ugh! Also, we couldn't use our 'half-mile howler' according to another obscure 'ordinance' that the cops said they never enforced, but that PUSH asked them to, today.

Pretty sorry comedown from Martin Luther King, Jr. days, this Jesse Jackson, Jr. display of political gutlessness - hiding behind the cops and a bunch of free speech squashing 'ordinances!' We had middle-aged people and a few quite elderly people forced to wait around quite a while in the snow and slush, but we didn't go away, like they were hoping. There was a strong media presence covering Junior, so it kinda worked out perfect. I had a strong statement I read as they were coming out and they filmed and interviewed us. It made a reality check counterpoint to the scripted showboating of Junior. It's pathetic that he claims to be a 'progressive' yet his main endeavor is being the main shill for this pointless airport out in Peotone. The same could be said for that fraud of a 'progressive' poster boy, Barack Obama. They've whored themselves out to the establishment!

In March, my homey and I went to Cincinnati for the Solidarity Conference. That was cool! We had two complete large tables to spread zines out with, as did the Cincinnati Books 4 Prisoners Crew. In April, four of us were invited to Beloit College to participate in a forum on the prisons. Besides myself was JoNina Abron, longtime activist and former editor of the Black Panther paper, Jack Slowriver of the Books to Women Prisoners project, in Chicago and Randy Ryder, executive director of Fresh Start, transitional housing for recently released prisoners. He brought a recently freed, longtime inmate, who is incredibly talented as a rapper. His words were so powerful, the tears would role down your cheeks!

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My situationist buddy, Ken Wong, he of Strange Attractor fame and his zine, Twilight in Turkey, organized a sweet gathering, focusing on Black Punk. Six bands played after they showed a very sweet film about their music. I tabled that, too and even gave a beat up card table to the Midwest Books to Prisoners folks. Finally, we were able to get out of the country. We rented a car and motored up to Montreal for the big Anarchist Bookfair. I tabled there and did a 2-hour workshop with the Montreal Anarchist Black Cross Federation folks. I was happy about it as maybe fifty people came, listened and participated. Zines, zines and more zines! We stuck several dozen 8 1/2 x 11 copies of prisoner artwork up and down the stairwell. These were mostly the work of Rashid, Todd (Hyung-Rae) Tarselli and Richard, Hall, Jr. Someone put two giant color enlargements of Rashid's piece, depicting a police pig and a corporate pig being hung.

That was very nice and the Montreal ABCF folks could not have been more accommodating to us. It's important that serious anarchist prisoner supporters, such as ABC Network and ABC Federation work together and build up resistance, inside and out. It was great to get a breather from the U.S. pressure cooker. Those people are slower, nicer and more real.

Last weekend, my old buddy, Mr. D. who is a magician, threw a party. It was a sort of reunion thing, so everybody was around fifty. That was nice. I got to talk to several folks I hadn't seen in decades, including one of my closest friends as a kid, Paul Stamper. He was always trying to get people to become blood brothers with him and still was talking about it. Actually, I think he's the only guy I am a blood brother with!

The huge toll hike kicked in January 1<sup>st</sup>, yet negotiations were going nowhere. Us collectors voted 94% to authorize a strike, if need be. Too soon the union caved in and agreed on lay-offs for the first time, ever and other givebacks, for a modest wage increase. I was hoping for a strike. During this massive construction season, a strike would have paralyzed the entire commerce of the Midwest. But so few workers, much less union officials, really had the stomach to go through with it. So, we sacrificed the jobs of the youngest among us - not a pretty sight.

It's summertime now and everything is green and we go swimming at a lake a lot. The boys are almost done with school and looking forward to their freedom. I am going to Lawrence, Kansas in a few days to share ideas and work with like-minded, serious prison abolition anarchists. Sure, it's not the safest way to go, but it has to be among the most rewarding ways to put your anarchist principles into action! Maybe we'll start a brain workers' union! Also, some professor out East (Syracuse, I believe) is writing a book on ELF & ALF and asked me for a submission. That's 'Slaughterhouses.' They edited it somehow, but herein is my full statement, in all its annoying fervor and incorrectness. All the while, I relaxed by hanging with my family and brothers and following the Illini basketball team, the Chicago Bulls and now, the White Sox, although I don't have and won't ever pay for, cable.

Take care! Anthony Rayson

Contact PARC / P.O. Box 339 / Berkeley, CA 94701  
Ask for their Prison Activist Resource Directory

Twitch-Entropy  
ABC Legal Services  
2900 La Fayette Avenue #2  
Austin, TX 78722  
512.478.7666  
twitchon@hotmail.com

Anarchist People of Color  
C/o Ernesto Aguilar  
P.O. Box 667233  
Houston, TX 77266-7233

California Anarchist Prisoner  
Solidarity (CAPS)  
P.O. Box 22449  
Oakland, CA 94609  
caps@riseup.net

Red Heart Warrior Society  
P.O. Box 4362  
Allentown, PA 18105

Midwest Books to Prisoners  
c/o Quimby's Bookstore  
1573 N. Milwaukee Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60622

MPLU Support  
Leemputstraat 29  
2600 Berchem  
Belgium  
www.mplu-support.tk  
info@mplu-support.tk

Prison Books Program (Boston)  
c/o Lucy Parsons Bookstore  
1306 Hancock Street, suite 100  
Quincy, MA 02169  
617.423.3298 (no collect calls)  
www.prisonbookprogram.org  
info@prisonbookprogram.org

Chicago Books to Women Prisoners  
Serving prisoners in Illinois, Ohio,  
Indiana, Mississippi & Florida.  
C/o Beyond Media Education  
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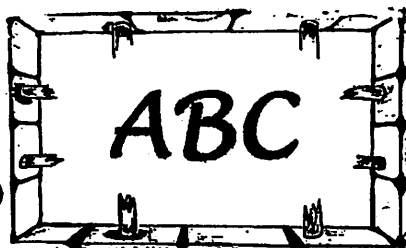
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Edited by Anthony Rayson free to prisoners*

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The latest issue of *Off The Hook*, newsletter of the MPLU (Missouri Prison Labor Union) May 2005, is now available. Back issues, many other prisoner publications and strong political zines are available through So. Chicago Distro.

## Slaughterhouses and Prisons For All The Animals

Capitalism can only provide the "freedom" of the charnel pit and the "democracy" of the mass grave. Driven by slavery of all sorts - prison, chattel, contract, wage, sexual - you name it, the "market" is vicious and fights over the meat. Animals are treated ghastly, Mengele-esque. Or more accurately, like Tyson. Their species are altered genetically and in general, a gruesome life of many kinds of suffering are punished upon these innocent victims. They're crammed into tiny cages, constantly raped for breeding purposes and have their offspring likewise forcibly fattened, confined, drugged and hurried up for slaughter.

The only check on this monstrous behavior at this stage of resistance is retribution, because anything goes in capitalism and you can literally choke the life out of your prey and sell them to be devoured or have their skins be smarmily worn as adornments, in the never-ending quest to maximum profits. It's the "miracle of the 'free' market." The laws "regulate" this holocaust of for-profit suffering and butchery. "Animal cruelty" only applies if you abuse a pet. Otherwise, you can have a mountain of carcasses as a by-product of your enterprise.

Of course, it doesn't stop at the torturing and murdering of four-legged animals. People are animals too, subjected to the horrors of forced imprisonment, slavery, starvation, all manner of unnecessary suffering, experimentation, commodification - as are *all the rest of life* - plants, fungi, bacteria and viruses. It's really an amazing reality that the people of the present Earth must deal with. It's very complex and the technology of brainwash and behavior modification are highly refined. It thus takes a response of equal intensity and clarity, bubbled up from the underground up! For, life itself - a very orgiastic panorama of options, *is* based on "mutual aid" - not the "survival of the fittest" like we've been lyingly led to bogusly believe. Evolution couldn't happen without cooperation. But, extinction - especially nowadays in the age of the neutron bomb, which kills people but leaves buildings intact - *is* a distinct possibility, as a lying, dying murdering system goes through their disgusting death throes.

We're *all* gravely threatened by the otherworldly murderous intent and "star wars" capabilities of the U.S. system of neo-con warlord wannabes. These evil entities are most notably, the state - politicians, lawyers, judges, cops, prosecutors, wardens, jailers, capitalist string pullers and so, sickening on. *Every last one of them* is a fascist enemy! Large corporations predominate and set their agenda in their mahogany boardrooms for their sycophantic media and the other means they use to instill compliance and acceptance. Academia, even "radical" nests are centers for the intellectualization of genocidal policy! Vulgarly of reality is supposed to be calmly, unthinkingly accepted by those watching their family members die in front of their faces, because of this. After all, we have the "freedom" to intellectualize about it. Ugh! They develop the "research" that enables worldwide "efficient" capitalism. Let's not forget. NAFTA and the World Bank are there to "solve" the problems of third world "poverty." Hitler, no wonder you were so damned jealous. Your dream of a "Master Race" has been realized. Zeig Halliburton!

experience, and those who did were left permanently scarred. The resulting alcoholism, suicide, and the transmission of trauma to their own children has led to a social disintegration with results that can only be described as **57** genocidal.

Published by City Lights.

<http://akpress.org/2004/items/killtheindiansavetheman>

COINTELPRO PAPERS: DOCUMENTS FROM THE FBI'S SECRET WARS AGAINST DISSENT IN

THE UNITED STATES, Ward Churchill and Jim Vander Wall  
An essential document. Reproducing many original FBI memos, the authors

provide extensive analysis of the agency's treatment of the left, from the

Communist Party in the 1950s to the Central America solidarity movement in

the 1980s. Ward Churchill's substantial new preface updates the cases of

several incarcerated Black Panthers and analyzes the events at Ruby Ridge

and Waco, as well as the war on drugs and terrorism. Published by South End

Press.

<http://akpress.org/1996/items/cointelpropapers>

A LITTLE MATTER OF GENOCIDE: HOLOCAUST AND DENIAL IN THE AMERICAS, 1492 TO

THE PRESENT, Ward Churchill

Here, with his trademark style of cavalier humor blended with incisive

analysis, Churchill examines the definition of genocide--in legal as well as

cultural terms--and demonstrates that holocaust and denial have a specific

American history that reaches back 500 years and continues into the present

day. Published by City Lights.

<http://akpress.org/1996/items/littlematterofgenocide>

FROM A NATIVE SON: SELECTED ESSAYS ON INDIGENISM 1985-1995, Ward Churchill

The capstone collection of his most important and unflinching essays during

this period, exploring the themes of genocide in the Americas, historical/legal (re)interpretation of the processes of conquest and

colonization, literary/cinematic criticism, and the positing of indigenist

alternatives to the status quo, for which he has become increasingly

well-known. Published by South End Press.

Things have been pretty busy in the AK warehouse since we last sent you an email. As most of you probably know, AK Press author, Ward Churchill has been taking some heavy fire as a result of an essay he wrote about the 9-11 attacks. In 2003, he turned that essay into a book that we're proud to have published: *On The Justice of Roosting Chickens: Reflections on the Consequences of U.S. Imperial Arrogance and Criminality.*

Funny thing, though: despite all the media coverage, very little of this debate has focused on the book itself...or, for that matter, on the content of any of Ward's numerous, well-researched books. In an effort to replace this logic of sound bites and character assassination with some informed discussion, we offer the following Ward Churchill titles for your consideration. Read 'em and make up your own mind!

*ON THE JUSTICE OF ROOSTING CHICKENS: REFLECTIONS ON THE CONSEQUENCE OF U.S.*

*IMPERIAL ARROGANCE, Ward Churchill*

The "Most Peace-Loving of Nations" has been engaged in brutal military campaigns in every corner of the globe, unceasingly, since its inception. Ward Churchill contextualizes U.S. aggression and the most effective response to it yet--the attacks of Sept. 11th--meticulously chronicling both U.S. military campaigns--domestic and foreign--from 1776 to the present and U.S. attempts to violate, obstruct and/or subvert International Law from 1945 to the present. This is a heart-wrenching history of senseless butchery and democracy deterred.

<http://akpress.org/2003/items/onthejusticeofroostingchickens>

*KILL THE INDIAN, SAVE THE MAN: THE GENOCIDAL IMPACT OF AMERICAN INDIAN*

*RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS, Ward Churchill*

From roughly 1880-1980, Native American children in the United States and Canada were forcibly taken from their families and relocated to residential schools. The stated goal of this government program was to "kill the Indian to save the man." Half the children didn't survive the

All aspects of coercive social life, such as the schools, the military, - even culturally, such as at sports events, or the radio, T.V., movies, etc. show us the constant, repletion-hammered, re-enforcement of the "goodness" of their lied about cause - the Washington-run, global international terrorist campaign of pillage, theft, extermination and lies. Those allowed to be left alive, should wear our McDonald's beanie and bleat when prompted, as specified. We get the "privilege" to dig our own graves, while we live a regulated life in service to our oppressors' addiction to wealth accumulation.

Of course, the authorities call their bombs, jails, guns and factories "counter-terrorism." Don't forget that we're wedded to this frenzy, this lust for murder, by being forced into "feeling" the friendly fire. We're supposed to be so proud when dead bodies of U.S GI's trickle back to the states, (under orders not to be photographed) as the severely injured melt into the shadows of suffering. Talk about "animal abuse!" And just think of the "cradle of civilization" - modern day, Iraq. Bombed and poisoned and forced with infanticide, more invasion, occupation, degradation and constant bloodshed and suffering - yet they live on. All the animals there no doubt are suffering terribly, too, unless under the care of normal people. The whole system of for-profit torture must end! It's modern day, worldwide slavery - believe or not. How can we *not* resolve to join the struggle???

Hugo L. A. Pinell is a still alive comrade-in-arms of the legendary George Jackson. Here's what he has to say about how this system devastates our society. This is taken from a foreword he wrote for a new publication, entitled "George Jackson Lives!" which I'm presently editing.

*"Our oppression and dehumanization and our living conditions worldwide, are worse than ever because we are dealing with the most vicious, malicious and inhumane forces in history. They control just about every aspect of our physical and social lives, and that is a reality we can't deny or ignore. But as agonizingly painful as this reality is, the biggest damage these monster criminals have inflicted upon our humanity is the one done to our mental faculties, through a systematical and dogmatic process, generation to generation."*

From this psychological imprisonment flow all the degradations we must live through. Ecocide is the result of a world economic system based on predation, which stems from the fact that the natural social and psychological relations that insure a normal, sustaining environment, where people, animals, land, water, etc. are in synergy, have been conquered and codified into law.

Before the "white man" came to this hemisphere, native peoples lived, to a large degree, as natural anarchists. They had basic respect for the land, never even considered "owning" it and had reverence for the land, water, plants and animals. In fact, the example of the "noble savage" served as the font of inspiration for the great European thinkers, (anarchists) articulating an alternative to the emerging slave-based, capitalist systems slowly choking the natural, organic cultural, social and economic life out of Europe and now, the world. Prisons began as factories and police forces were created to capture slaves and suppress workers. This is still their

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function today. They still basically take their orders from the corporations, who orchestrate the goings on in Washington, state capitols and counties.

Subjugation can't function amidst a society of thinking, feeling people who haven't had their humanity lobotomized. Education, knowledge, truth and the brave people who make them their life have been made "illegal" in a way. "Gangs" "anarchists" "terrorists" are all buzzwords that people almost automatically accede to not involve themselves with whoever the government is targeting.

It was against the law to educate slaves. Their native culture was beaten out of them and servility, Christianity and hopelessness was hammered into them. The same goes today in a much more sophisticated, all-encompassing manner.

From the minute a child is born, he is deluged with never-ending television and social suffocation. Normal human activity is filtered through a buy and sell daily life, and an intellectual torpor and vapidity that passes for social life. Even families aren't really families, as the parents are busy slaving in the rat race, the kids are being taught nonsense and order-obeying in schools and their "free" time is gobbled up by the idiot box, movies, and games that trumpet the fascist cry of "long live death!" It's de facto illegal to actually live your life and reach your potential, because the minute you start to liberate yourself, you'll come to realize that necessarily, your energies must now be focused on resistance to this global monstrosity.

So, we live in a society of androids - people oblivious to their very own best interests. I read a story about a gung-ho moron in a murder gang of the government, who reveled in the "opportunity" to mass murder people in Fallujah. Like many soldiers, he was a deadbeat, lost soul, a step ahead of the state kidnapers. His favorite thing was Tupac Shakur. Tupac railed *against* the U.S. slave government, not *for* it! But that was lost on him. He was killing men, women and children in Iraq and being told he was a "hero." The German Nazis made a science of the "Big Lie" and advanced the "science" of mass brainwash. One of the prioritized moves the U.S. made after murdering so many people in the forties, was to snatch these groundbreaking manipulators up and put them at the head of their nascent CIA and other oppressive and propaganda systems. They competed with Russia, who had the same idea - a country-wide, lie-based, system of capitalism, militarily aggressive towards others and repressive at home. Russia had Stalin, Italy had Mussolini and the U.S. had John Foster Dulles.

All aspects of our lives are targeted, with the goal of no-think sheepish acquiesce to the wilting of our own lives and the Time Machine-like response to any and all sirens, when the system wants us to do something, whether it be to cheerlead for mass murder, working obediently in factories, allowing ourselves to become their killers, jailers and kidnapers, or whatever. Treating people in this manner, the stewards of a sustainable future for all life forms, is just the human reflection of the treatment accorded the rest of the ecology of Earth. Species extinction, mammoth amounts of pollution and radiation poisoning, slash and burn, strip mine mentality towards resources, the decimation of our lungs, the Amazon, and so forth are causes and effects of the oppression placed upon people. It's at the crux of our whole problem.

Greetings fellow (T.U.E.L.N.), (E.W.N.A.I.C.), and (R.H.W.S.) members..

Heju,

My name is David "Black Coyote" Parrish. I am writing this on behalf of the (TUELN) Turtle Clan and Chief Barry "Standing Bear" Hayes.

Recently while watching C-Span 2 and the events surrounding the 2<sup>nd</sup> term inauguration of George W. Bush, I couldn't help but notice, (as I'm sure some of you also did) the thousands of people lined up along the parade route protesting. This immediately caught my attention. I learned that this protest was organized by a group called the (A.N.S.W.E.R.), coalition, (Act Now Stop War End Racism). As I continued to watch, I was greatly impressed by the wide diversity of speakers from all sorts of racial, cultural, religious, and political backgrounds all gathered together promoting common causes.

- ◆ The End of The War Iraq.
- ◆ Bring Our Troops Home.
- ◆ The Impeachment of George W. Bush and subsequent Trial for violating the Geneva Convention, War Crimes and Inhumanities, and for starting and promoting a "War of Aggression."
- ◆ The declaration of the "Patriot Act" a Unconstitutional.
- ◆ Violations of our rights as free Americans to speak freely and live without fear of harassment, persecution, or possible unjust imprisonment by a tyrannical government.
- ◆ The U.S. government's persistent past and present persecution of indigenous people all across the world.
- ◆ This governments continuous efforts to forcibly install its policies on the whole of the world through lies, deceit, subterfuge, force, or outright genocide for the sole purpose of raping Mother Earth of her natural resources.

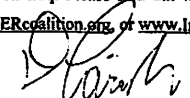
Along with jobs, health care, education, and racism, these were just a few of the issues expressed by representatives of hard working Americans everywhere who are just downright sick and tired of it all.

As Native Americans, we have felt the crushing blows of persecution. Our sons and daughters, mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters are also fighting and dying in Iraq, For What? We need to bring them home.

Our people are struggling, starving, and dying on reservations and slums here in America. Our people live without adequate jobs, housing, healthcare, education and RESPECT. When was the last time these stories were featured on the National News Networks? Our people are still being unjustly imprisoned, and are suffering persecution inside the Iron Houses of America. When will it end? We need to stand and be heard.

It is for this that I am calling upon all of our brothers and sisters, Indian and Non-Indian alike, all across America. Lift up your voices and support your fellow man. The A.N.S.W.E.R. coalition has started a growing world-wide network to Act Now Stop War End Racism. They are organizing peaceful rallies and protests in state capitals and local communities across the nation to gather together on March 19<sup>th</sup>, the anniversary of the U.S. "Shock and Awe" attack on Iraq. Please find out what you can do to show your support in your hometown by logging on to [www.ANSWERcoalition.org](http://www.ANSWERcoalition.org), or [www.ImpeachBush.org](http://www.ImpeachBush.org). We are not alone, Stand and be Heard.

Sincerely,

  
David "Black Coyote" Parrish

  
Chief Barry "Standing Bear" Hayes  
Serima Turtle Clan T.U.E.L.N.

**Freedom of Religion** is an essential human and democratic right. Every effort should be made to accommodate the prisoners' right to receive **Spiritual Guidance and Instruction** from authorized representatives of their particular faith group and to participate fully in the rituals and celebrations of their tradition.

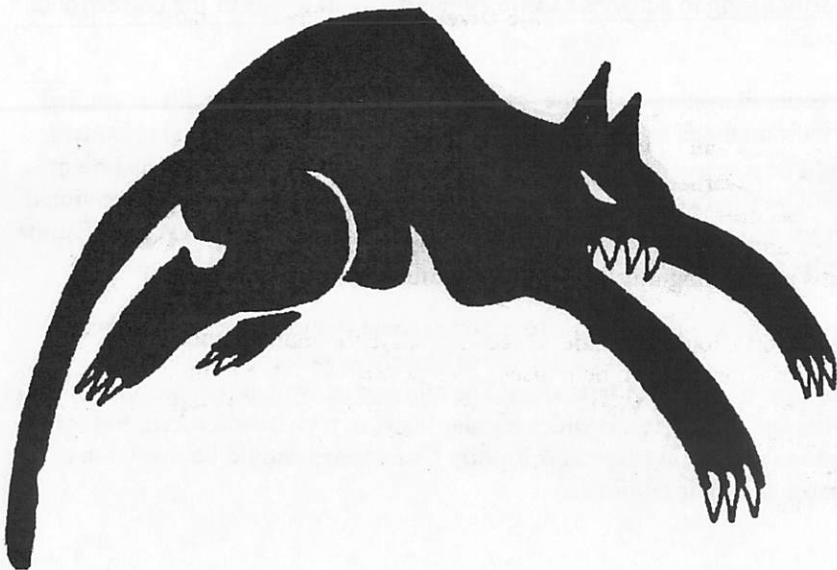
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**Traditional Native American Spiritual Practitioners** should have regular access to a **Sweat Lodge** and an **Inter-tribal Circle** and program guided by an approved representative of the **First Nations**. They should be allowed to possess **Medicine Bundles** in which to keep their **Sacred Items** and to wear long hair, headbands and medicine bags.

**Faith Based Initiatives and Culturally Specific Programs** aimed at rehabilitation should be encouraged and subsidized to provide a variety of approaches to help those with **Drug and Alcohol Related Problems, Anger Management Issues** and to promote **Non-Violent Conflict Resolution**. Prisoners should be permitted to attend different services and programs to seek out what will work for them.

**Political Education** by the full spectrum of parties and organizations should be permitted, and candidates for political office should be permitted to campaign inside the prisons. **Political Literature** and periodicals of all tendencies should be allowed in.

The goal must be to promote **Good Citizenship and Spiritual, Psychological, and Emotional Health and Balance**. Being a "**School of Liberation**" means freeing people from the negative effects of oppression so that they can reenter society and be positive assets to their communities.



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Drugs play a huge role in this too, because many drugs have a strong effect on our thinking and behavior. Heroin was brought in from the Marseilles Mafia in the wake of the massive bloodletting of WWII. Air America was the world's largest airline during the Vietnam genocide and they routinely brought a flood of heroin into the States, sometimes inside the bodies of dead GI's! I remember seeing pictures of junkies sprawled on stairwells, when a particularly pure dose was brought in. Cocaine and crack were brought in to the inner cities, once again, at the direction of the U.S. government, to destroy the environment of the Black community.

It takes 500 times as much powdered cocaine (white) as crack (black) to get the same mandatory sentence. Crack is a very strong debilitating drug that ruins community. Making it so hyper-illegal, makes it very easy to round-up whoever the police are ordered to round-up, in that community, in particular. It's the epitome of the term "racist drug law." With no other real "legal" form of commerce, dealing drugs are forced to be a major part of the economic life in the 'hood. Even though most of the drugs are sold to white people, it is black people who are imprisoned and murdered because of them. Black women are now torrenting into prisons, leaving their young children without mothers, in a slave-like acceleration of the punishment industry. An environment without love or hope is a doomed environment. Add the fact that these communities also suffer the lion's share of industrial waste dumps and inferior everything, and you have a systematically degraded environment.

Fundamental to the "war on drugs" is the U.S. government's attitude towards marijuana. This plant is the most complex chemically, in the world, is the most useful, and quite possibly, is also the most vilified and illegalized. Hundreds of thousands of people are rotting in prisons because of it, depriving their communities of their energy and good will. It's demonized because it doesn't debilitate the mind and can't be controlled by the government. People can grow it anywhere, inside or out. It de-connects people from the madness of "reality" and thus, is dangerous, as people talk and relate to each other "outside the box" of psychological and legal restraints.

The potential positive uses of marijuana are not allowed to be seriously (legally) pursued. These include clothing more durable than cotton, food, fuel, a cornucopia of medicinal applications and last and most frowned upon, recreational uses. By making this wonder drug so wildly illegal and denying it to be usefully applied, we are stuck with a horrible alternative. Extremely poisonous fossil fuels that are non-renewable, are our main sources of energy. A genocidal military occupation, world-wide really, is choking life to commandeer these sources preferred by the oil-based industries.

Most ubiquitous are the legal drugs. Huge industries push dope on people for every dreamt up malady imaginable. New "diseases" are being conjured up all the time and powerful, expensive drugs are being churned out of the labs to deal with them. Basically what these drugs do is turn the user into a heart beating control unit. School kids on Ritalin, moms of valium, "troubled teens" on haldol - you name it, people are on drugs for it. Old people carry around whole bags full of pills they can barely choke down every few hours.

And like everything else, the prisons are the centers where control and oppression are supreme. Prisoners are strapped down to be forcibly drugged, put on torture chamber units, where the intent is to literally drive them insane! Pregnant prisoners are strapped down *while they are delivering their babies!* Yet, illegal drug use - marijuana, cocaine, heroin - in prison, could very well be more rampant than outside of prison. Prisons aren't about "crime control" they're about for-profit repression and are, in fact, a huge, government-run, criminal enterprise, wildly profitable and completely paid for by the ripped-off taxpayers.

Think about these prison environments for a moment. People screaming day and night, rape and the spread of serious diseases, such as AIDS, hepatitis, venereal diseases and everything else is epidemic, as if deliberately cultured in a Petri dish. Violence, longing, bitterness, hopelessness, self-loathing are coupled with the schooling of criminality. Useful programs, under this madhouse environment, have been gutted. There's no real rehabilitation, no re-entry programs. They are left to live or die in this minimalist warehouse situation.

Then, after often many years consuming the prime of their lives, they are lucky and spit out of their dungeon, they are shoved into the glare of day, without any clothes, housing, job or money with a vast array of laws and stipulations pretty much guaranteeing they will shortly return for some parole violation or new "crime."

That is a never ending poisoning of the environment of these communities. First you snatch the young, dynamic men and alarmingly women, force them through this horrible prison hell and dump them back into the community, shell shocked, embittered set back further from being a positive asset to the community. In Amerika, they torture and try to kill the *spirit* of people, whereas in El Salvador, the U.S.-trained authorities were allowed to go all the way - torture and kill and leave the mutilated bodies for the vultures to pick over at the dump sites - just like the U.S. perfected in the Phoenix Program in Vietnam. For, a community cannot live without spirit - without hope of genuine humanity.

Today is March 6<sup>th</sup>. In yesterday's Chicago Tribune, a spokesman for the Chinese government was quoted as saying, "*No country should exclude itself from the international human-rights development process or view itself as the incarnation of human rights that can reign over other countries and give orders to the others.*" It was also stated that the U.S. "*frequently commits wanton slaughters during external invasions and military.*" This would seem pretty obvious, but it was presented as outrageous talk, so brainwashed and beaten down have they made most all Americans. How can a sustaining environment be achieved under such conditions?

We know that capitalist industry is like a heroin addict in that to continue on, it must expand, as its whole modus operandi is driven by the quest for profits and not what the world actually needs. Mountains of non bio-degradable garbage, plastics, metal, radio-active material, etc., etc. continue to accumulate, wasting our dwindling natural resources. Wars and talk of more wars are quickly looming. It's an across the board ecological and social tsunami in the making.

How can we at least begin to stop this death ship from hell? I contend that yes, we are at war, or rather being attacked by the U.S. government mainly and the worldwide system

rights to those who have been convicted of a felony. We must raise the battle cry of "**NO INCARCERATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION!**"

We must amend the 14th Amendment to end involuntary servitude for all and put Slavery behind us. No one should be forced to labor against their will nor be paid less than the Minimum Wage. No one should be denied the protection of occupational health and safety laws.

Prisoners should be accorded the right to form and to join Labor Unions, and they should not be used in union busting schemes. The unions should be involved in Vocational Training and in setting up Parole Plans and finding employment for ex-prisoners upon their release back into society.

Human Rights Watch Organizations should have full access to the prisons and be allowed to closely monitor conditions to help identify and end abuses. Deprivation of Food, Medicine, Blankets, Clean Clothes or Personal Hygiene as punishment must be abolished. Beatings and Torture, or forcing prisoners to fight one another, must not be tolerated. Administrators and guards who commit crimes upon prisoners must be Arrested and upon conviction be themselves placed in correctional facilities for reeducation and rehabilitation.

Members of racist, terrorist organizations, such as the KKK, should be discharged, and screening of guards should be instituted to weed out those Psychologically Unfit for their vocation. Nepotism must be abolished.

Increases in salary and benefits to attract a higher caliber of correctional officer should be accompanied by Higher Educational Requirements and More Extensive Training. Greater emphasis should be placed upon minority hiring to achieve Ethnic Diversity at all levels of the correctional system.

Correctional systems with the lowest Recidivism Rates should be studied and their methods emulated. Good conduct, by both guards and prisoners, should be rewarded and Positive Reinforcement rather than punishment should be stressed. Respect and Civility should be cultivated. Correctional officers and inmates should address one another as "Sir" or "Mam." Ethnic Insults and baiting must be strictly prohibited.

Every effort should be made to accommodate the maintenance of Family Units. Prisoners should be housed as closely as possible to their families. Frequent Conjugal Visits should be allowed as well as Telephone Contact at Reasonable Rates. Besides regular visits in a visitation room, Private Sessions with Marriage and Family Councilors should be available to inmates and their families.

## Draft Joint Resolution on Prisoners' Rights by the Red Heart Warrior Society and the Black Brigade

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If it is true that Creator has endowed us with certain inalienable rights, among which are the right to "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness," then the State is wrong to take these rights away from us. Capital Punishment is wrong. Taking our Voting Rights is wrong, and restricting our pursuit of education, culture and religion, beyond the necessities of security, is also wrong.

We do not argue that by transgressing upon the rights of others we have incurred a Debt to Society, but this debt cannot be paid by mere incarceration nor by punishment. It can only be paid by Service to the People after reeducation.

We accept that The People have the right to make laws to ensure their security and promote the general welfare of Society and to restrict the Liberty of those who violate these laws to effect their reeducation and rehabilitation. However, this right is not unlimited. These laws must meet a Constitutional Standard and must be enforced fairly and impartially without regard to race, sex, creed or class. Cruel and unusual treatment must not be imposed, nor may people be robbed of their Human Dignity.

The Democratic Revolution begun in America in 1776 is still unfinished. The evils of Feudalism and Slavery have yet to be fully uprooted and abolished. Racism, Sexism, Class Privilege and Class Oppression continue to plague society and are the root causes of social dysfunction and crime. Poverty and social inequality are the result of Class Exploitation and the domination of society by an oligarchy of the rich and powerful.

Their dictatorship is concealed behind a facade of "Democracy" that is not "Government of The People, by the People and for the People." It is therefore incumbent upon The People to wage relentless struggle to continue the Democratic Revolution to achieve Social Justice and Liberty for all.

To pay our Debt to Society, we must transform ourselves to become Servants of the People in the waging of this struggle. Therefore, we must transform the Iron Houses of Oppression into Schools of Liberation to prepare ourselves for this struggle.

This struggle must be waged on both sides of the razor wire. It must be waged in the Courts of Law and the Court of Public Opinion.

Key to this struggle is the establishment of Universal Suffrage, including for prisoners and those who have done their time in states that deny voting

of exploitation in general. I also find a lot of truth in the maxim, "the first victim of war is the truth and the second is the children." Where do we find these victims - the truth and the children? Where does the government take the greatest pains to keep us from accessing? It's the prisons, folks!

Many of the most articulate and courageous thinkers and 9 doers are the most locked down and kept from us. Once they raise their voice, they can expect severe repression - beatings, transfers to control units and supermax clinical torture chambers, forced drugging, shackling, and other unique to the U.S., techniques. As well, a huge percentage of the young men from the most oppressed communities - Blacks, Latinos and Native American men, and increasingly women, have been ensnared in big city round-ups and throughout the country, really. In reservations, rural communities, along the U.S.-Mexican border, suburbs - anywhere, people are continuously being fed into the maws of Mammon for their for-profit punishment industry.

So, really, the vibrancy of these communities, even though separated sexually, exists in the prisons of America, today. Everything is concentrated from the violence and cruelty, to the love and insight. Meanwhile, the community they came from is left without direction, fearful, subjected to low-level occupation, surveillance, economic hardship, constant brainwash, desperation and ignorance. Grassroots groups have a terrible time trying to get off the ground to do genuinely useful community support work. For, the young lions and the wise elders that they so vitally need are in prison! The captives' families have a difficult, daily struggle just to keep on keeping on!

That is why those of us who have battled through this lifetime of lies and have regained our ability to think, overcome our fear and are thus capable of contributing our unique talents and interests for what people - (and all other social animals have always done) - naturally feel compelled to do, volunteer their services for the community, should focus on the prisons. This is where the Kevin (Rashid) Johnsons and the Jeffrey Leurs are at! To rebuild our communities and develop serious resistance requires that we collaborate closely with these brave and brilliant prisoners.

Another debilitating lie the government constantly hammers into us is that prisoners are our worst enemies, when in fact they are culled from our own families and communities. Mostly, they comprise poor people of color convicted of non-violent, often victimless "crimes." Yet, every night on the news, the big headline story is about the latest gruesome murder. But, of course, you never get the same treatment of the innumerable victims of the government killing machines, the industrial accidents or what happens in the prisons, where people die like flies behind the razor wire. We believe and work for the man, just like the slaves did - in between revolts! Incarceration itself is a vast crime against humanity and of nature! No other animal does this to itself or others. It's anti-life and meant only to oppress, instill fear and keep a monstrous regime in power.

To successfully overcome this horrible reality will require a reversal of this brainwashing process. We must break out of our atomized existence and learn to be real people again. All the struggles in the world are connected and it takes effort to seek out those who are knowledgeable about them and sow connections. Solidarity, a basic anarchist tenet, is extremely important. There's power in numbers and that's what it will

take to unmask this sham government for what it truly is - 10  
criminal beyond comparison.

As government is increasingly targeting activists and organizers, such as Ward Churchill, Anarchist Black Cross, and others, more and more of these people will become prisoners. For truth is powerful and is considered like water to a wicked witch. So, go to the prisons for the real truth and assume whatever garbage you see and hear from governmental mouthpieces are lies, because, almost invariably, they are.

Prisoners have experience with deprivation, lack of resources, repression and so forth, and these coercive tactics will increasingly be forced upon those of us on the "outs." Prisoners have adapted to their situation in ways that we need to learn from. How do you cook food on a heater? How do you barter coffee, stamps, food, and various services to get what you need? How do you adapt to such a restrictive situation and still keep your sanity and sense of self? How can such a repressive environment be tolerated and how can contributions to our brothers and sisters still be made? We need to know how to do these things!

One thing that really frustrates me is the obliviousness of outside people to the powerful education that prisoners are capable of. I focus a lot of my attention helping get the word out of the gulags (and back in.) They know what the deal is and they are grateful when they come across this vital, empowering information. They start study groups and read zines until the pigs confiscate them and then they write their own. People on the outs seem to care only about how "professional" a zine looks and not what the ideas are screaming about! Who is really in prison here, mentally? Every day, life on the "outs" is a poisoned pen of sheep, who don't know their ass from a hole in the ground. Without the humanity, freedom and counsel from conscious prisoners, I'd be in a constant state of dread and despair, personally.

The labs where monkeys (and mice and all kinds of animals - dogs, you name it,) are forced to have gruesome experiments done on them which will destroy their life, is, was and always has been, duplicated by people, on prisoners! Mengele learned his techniques from his august mentors and colleagues - from places like Indiana and California, who came to Germany to teach him their techniques. After the massive slaughter of animals, (most gruesomely humans,) the victors of world war II (the U.S.) snatched up the best and the brightest German "scientists" to learn the latest techniques in everything from developing hydrogen bombs to the latest in sensory deprivation in the clinical prisons and madhouses. Restraint techniques, subduing people in crowds, - many of these evil police tactics we're seeing more of today - high-frequency concussive blasts into crowds, tazers, mass pens of "pre-emptive" arrestees, etc., are developed after experimentation on prisoners! Who better to learn from than the initial victims themselves?

The modern technology of sadism, brainwash, control, atomization and obfuscation is an ever-expanding and all-encompassing field of "research." The shock and awe ghastliness of this government knows no bounds and the tens of millions of murdered human bodies vaporized in various Nagasakis or left to be eaten by starving dogs in Fallujah, bear grim testament to this constantly being reinforced fact! The U.S. is fascist, or if you prefer, "democratic" which only means militarized corporatism. Sham elections don't affect that.

# Half of migratory birds in Chicago may disappear

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## Many heading north as the globe warms up

BY GARY WISBY  
*Environment Reporter*

More than half of the Chicago area's migratory birds could vanish in this century because of global warming, two wildlife groups warned Wednesday.

Further loss of already depleted wetlands — vital habitat for birds, fish, insects and small mammals — could also occur in the area and in Illinois, the report says.

Many species already are shifting northward in response to climate change, said Douglas Inkley of the National Wildlife Federation, who chaired the Wildlife Society committee that wrote the report.

"The range of some migratory birds has moved north 60 miles in the last 20 years," he said in a teleconference. "Some are arriving three weeks earlier than before."

Threatened and endangered species are especially vulnerable. "One study showed that by the year 2050, up to one-third of them could be 'committed to extinction,'" Inkley said.

### Deadly timing

Estimates of the loss of migratory birds in the Great Lakes region are as high as 53 percent, the report said. That might be partly offset by other migrant birds colonizing from outside the region, reducing the net change to 29 percent. The only U.S. region with larger numbers is the eastern Midwest, with a 57 percent gross and 30 percent net loss.

Steve Packard, director of Audubon-Chicago Region, said warblers that nest in Canada and winter in the Brazilian rain forest come through the Chicago area when the oak leaves are out in order to eat caterpillars on the trees' leaves.

"Already, when they come



**Yellowheaded blackbirds, like this one at Moraine Valley State Park, are in danger of losing their prey, dragonflies.** —AL PODGORSKI/SUN-TIMES

through at the wrong time they die in huge numbers," Packard said. Incongruities caused by climate change will kill many more, he said.

Another dangerous effect is a mismatch in timing of the breeding of birds and their prey, the report said.

Birds and other wildlife may not be able to shift northward because "migratory corridors may already be closed off by urban sprawl, cities and agriculture," Inkley said.

Most climate models project lower lake levels toward the end of the century, threatening wetlands.

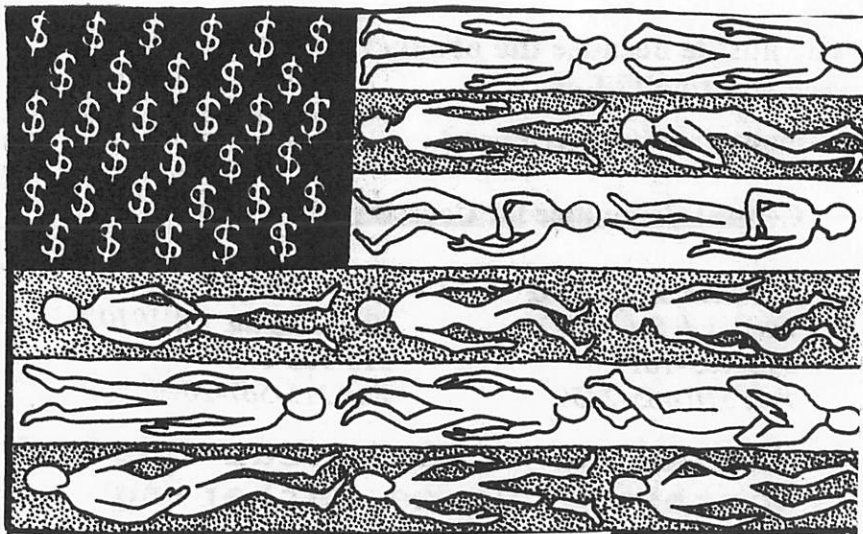
Those provide food for birds such as the endangered yellow-headed blackbird, which dines on dragonflies that breed in the water. Fish spawn there, too, becoming food for birds and small mammals like otters.

"Lose the wetland and you disrupt the food chain," said Carl Becker of the Illinois Nature Conservancy.

Illinois has lost 90 percent of its wetlands since settlement times. "When you have major shifts in climate, it could really be a knock-out punch," Becker said.



HELL NO PLEASE DON'T GO  
PLEASE DON'T KILL FOR TEXACO



Like everybody else, I feel the pressure and bear witness to the carnage and suffering experienced throughout our world, *because* of this extreme aggressor nation. Personally, I gravitated to dealing almost exclusively with the prisons, // *because* it became more and more clear to me, that this was "ground zero" on the assault on Americans by the system. It's the "black hole" of society, and the government gives for itself, constitutionally sanctioned slavery - to this day - so anything goes in these dungeons! Court cases brought forth by prisoners enslaved at their gulags have been dismissed by no less than the U.S. Supreme Court citing this clause in the Thirteenth Amendment of the Constitution that sanctifies human slavery for prisoners.

So, if you make basically any anti-capitalist activity "illegal" (and many ones that are capitalist but not under a government-sanctioned "legality") you've an unlimited source (or potential source) of slaves to work with. Then, top it off with the knowledge that there is no accountability, nor economic responsibility for this slave industry (human incarceration.) For, all expenses have been, are and will be *paid for* by the longtime governmental extortion racket, known as "taxes." Just like evolution, or technological advances bring forth stronger animals or faster cars, so too does repression evolve and streamline itself.

The folks with the brightest minds and who therefore are the most giving to their communities' citizens are often singled out for particular torment, as *physical prisoners*.

Torture and murder animals - torture and murder humans, after you've *slaved them to death*. It's an abomination upon the very soul of humanity! If you want to abolish slavery, torture and murder of animals, you want to abolish thy nation's *dungeons*. *Down* with the lock down of our bodies and minds!

These are serious times and we are greatly in need of careful, lucid, well-written, deliberately crafted to be empowering, instruction and guidance, which is most clearly articulated by the warriors suffering in these gulags. We can rise above our fears, develop effective working habits and operate with a *driven* determination. Humans must learn and sort of "train their brain" to usefully apply their energies to the greater good of their community. Animals do this instinctively. People need to learn how to be themselves (anarchists.) Animals, if left unmolested, always are already. People would

be too, if given half a chance and allowed to be themselves as individuals, who are naturally interested in mutually supportive, non-coercive community. Being forced to function as lie-bred order-obeyers and soylent green fed consumers is the opposite of genuine freedom and real life.

The marvelous brainpower human animals possess gives us the *possibility* to transcend this predatory social environment. But the baser instincts of power and greed which drive the small few who orchestrate this worldwide death march are holding our minds and bodies hostage, just like the animals they exploit. We must cross the fear line and develop ourselves. Work your brain and decide where your greatest talents and interests lie and weave your gifts into the social struggle. Mutual aid will see us all through, but it only works if you seriously apply yourself!

It's all part of the struggle for liberation - be it human, animal or Earth herself. People, wrenched from poor, often black neighborhoods, are a fundamentally necessary part of that slaughterhouse environment this system requires to keep creaking

along. Take away a third of our young black men in their twenties - in some areas the percentage kidnapped is well over 50%! - and then warehouse them in countless prisons, and your "environment" - the 'hood - has been effectively decimated. Family members have no brothers, sons or husbands to deal with the virtual occupation and forced immiseration of their "expedient" communities of people. 12

Increasingly, it's the young women, mostly mothers of young children, who are wrenched from the embrace of their families and forced to languish in a cage! The government is a menace to life itself!

Black folks face the extreme, but all of us are likewise being menaced and targeted, as this system devours everything in its path. So, we need to look to the most oppressed in this nation (Blacks, natives, women, undesirables of every stripe) and assimilate their analyses of their experiences, so we can thoroughly build a conscious counterforce of life, love, liberation and giving humanity!

Where is the Panther-like strength going to come from, if all our young black men are targeted as "gangstas?" What are their children going to do??? What *more* can the grandmothers do? It's Warsaw Ghetto treatment in the US! "Jobs" are a cruel joke, as these insatiably greedy bastard mega-corporations have skipped town, to Mexico and now on to China for super-exploitation. State of the art factories are now sophisticated sweatshops. But, the horrendous working conditions are often "animal-like." Alienation is pandemic!

These stalags are everywhere nowadays, particularly in rural areas, the really expansive ones, and affect everybody! They kidnap their young bounty usually in urban areas, as opportunities for round-ups for a million and one "violations" of their pro-slavery laws, abound. Rural areas have been besieged by corporate farms and the government pretty much has people where they want them - atomized, television-watching worker bees, to afraid to even know their neighbors much.

Prisons come and the glowing promises turn into nightmares. A brother we were able to help parole (a real rarity) in Alabama, was telling me about a struggle they were having to try to prevent to erection of a prison. He said at first, the prison builders claimed they were constructing a strip mall! The politicians, gutless wonders as ever, never fail to crow for this greased wheel deal, of a prison as a means of "economic development" in rural communities. The whoring-out of these hyenas gets shriller and ever more hoarse, so naturally, we must all acquiesce, as our conservative press tries to - disdainfully - explain to us. Put your "bring them home" ribbons on the back of your SUV and don't think anything of it. Condoleezza Rice, George W. Bush and Paul Wolfowitz will "take care of things." Kissinger is always there for "advice" thank G-O-D! A prison is the kiss of death to a community.

They bully the whole country (and less convincingly, the world) with an unhealthy, deliberately ruinous, wasteful, oblivious and punishing mindset. They also pollute pitilessly and "legally" cut local deals so they can maraud over all areas, economically and culturally. I'm talking about all the industries, factories, prisons, animal farms, military centers - all of it! Our hard work is exploited for profits, then taxes, so industry and government can ruin our communities, force us into being their jailors and soldiers and wreak devastation on our brothers and sisters all across the globe. Democracy in bloodthirsty action!

Gulf wars. Whether it's atomic testing in the 1950s, Agent Orange during the war against Vietnam, or experimental vaccines and toxic weapons in the Persian Gulf, the military shamelessly destroys the health of its personnel -- and then does its best to downplay and ignore their suffering. 49

### **Joining the military is hazardous to the environment.**

The U.S. military is the single largest and worst polluter in the world, from toxins at bases to nuclear-tipped missiles to the destruction of ecosystems from South Vietnam to the Persian Gulf. And in today's military, the tanks and weapons are coated with depleted uranium from toxic nuclear waste!

### **Joining the military is hazardous to our lives.**

The "adventure" in the commercials is code for war, the "discipline" code for violence. The military trains recruits to employ deadly force, yet recruiters rarely discuss the dehumanizing process of basic training, the psychological costs of killing, or the horrors of war.

**The ads lie because the product is lethal -- not just to you, but to all of us.**

**mailto: info@objector.org**

### **Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors**

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**Thanks to CCCO. Local contact  
Northside Peace Gathering  
events found on Calendar at  
chicago.indymedia.org**

### **Joining the military is hazardous to people of color.**

During the Gulf War, over 50 percent of front-line troops were people of color. Overall, over 30 percent of enlisted personnel but only 12 percent of officers are people of color, who are then disciplined and discharged under other than honorable conditions at a much higher rate than whites. When recent studies showed a slight dip in young African-Americans' (disproportionately high) interest in the military, the Pentagon reacted with a new ad campaign. They're targeting Latino youth with special Spanish-language ads. The recruiters' lethal result: tracking high achieving young people in communities of color into a dead-end, deadly occupation.

### **Joining the military is hazardous to women.**

Sexual harassment and assault are a daily reality for the overwhelming majority of women in the armed forces. The VA's own figures show 90 percent of recent women veterans reporting harassment - a third of whom were raped. Despite the glossy brochures that advertise "opportunities for women," the military's inherent sexism is evident from sergeants shouting "girl!" at trainees who don't "measure up," to the intimidation of women who speak out about harassment and discrimination - not to mention military men's sexual abuse of civilian women in base communities.

### **Joining the military is hazardous to your civil rights.**

If you aren't willing to give up your rights, the military isn't for you. Once you enlist, you become military property: you lose your right to come and go freely, you're ordered around 24 hours a day, and you can be punished by your command without trial or jury. Free speech rights are severely limited in the military. You can be punished for being honest about being lesbian, gay or bisexual. Worst of all even if you hate your job, you can't quit.

### **Joining the military is hazardous to your health.**

The military can't guarantee you'll be alive at the end of your eight-year commitment: they can't even promise you won't be desperately ill from "mystery illnesses" like those of the Vietnam and Persian

we're forced to participate with the time of our lives and our labor in our own ecocide and castration of our children's future at gunpoint and parrot how much we like it. It's kind of like how Stalin got his erstwhile comrades to crow about how great he was and how criminal they were, before he summarily murdered them. 13

Recently, the state of Illinois was going to grace a poor black farming community in Kankakee County, with a women's prison. This was in Hopkins Park. They thought that they could use this to balm over centuries of slavery and institutional racism by bestowing a beautiful prison in their face. Well, guess what! The citizens responded with some seriously militant and conscious direct action! They formed a group called P.A.T. - *Pembroke Advocates for Truth*. Pembroke is the township they live in. Their newsletter, *Insight*, was the joyous rarity in activism - funny as hell and dead right on! They didn't cotton to the idea that they should welcome a prison, so that they could live next to their city (of Chicago, mainly) sisters, forced to live in cages, away from their children and other family members. They saw it, rightfully so, as monstrous and another example of the oppressive nature of this settler, cracker Empire!

Do you begin to see the poisoning of the thinking of so-called "white people" that lays the decades-long foundation for the acceptability of not just racism and slavery (even of themselves) but even species extinction and the accelerating suffocation of our planet? Check the facts.

It's madness beyond belief. It's like 1984 twenty years later. But, we're only supposed to "go along" with Iraq? "Support our troops" as they occupy, brutalize and murder a whole country full of people. After all, they need "democracy" genocided into them. Iran has 55 million people - over *two times* that of Iraq. Pakistan has hundreds of millions of people, as does Indonesia.

These religious cultist crusaders (I'm talking about the *Christians!*) are embarking on a *homo sapien sapien* species extinction campaign! And like the jungles of Southeast Asia, forever poisoned by the U.S. or the Danube River or throughout Iraq, (which were nuked,) all other species of animals and plants are also facing an ongoing, ever more deadly holocaust, as well. It's a life and death struggle.

Anyways, I'd like to get back to Hopkins Park. Despite the fact that these folks vehemently rejected this project, poor though they continue to be, it was started anyway. Initially, it was planned to happen directly across from an organic farm. Due to agitation, it became known that this piece of land - the first piece actually sold to a state government for a prison by any state in decades (all other land had been "gratefully" ceded by municipalities) - was actually a sweetheart land deal between the crooked Governor, George Ryan and billionaire Kankakee developer, Tony Perry.

They're waist deep in the mega-sprawl project of the "Peotone Airport" as well. These two projects were linked, both in the principles pushing for it and the collaboration of those fighting against one or the other, or both! Both were assaults on the environment, the flora and fauna and communities of citizens. They're all connected in the ultra capitalism practiced in the U.S. They literally "get away with murder" - mass murder and never get called to account. The animal breeding farms and torture centers and slaughterhouses are run

with the approval and regulation of the government. *Money* is what they care about, not lives.

With the poor soil these black farmers were shunted off to, as they are surrounded by farms - white farms - with better soil, they developed a feel for organic farms, sort of like what Cuba was necessarily forced to learn how to do, as the never-ending embargo dried up supplies of fertilizer and equipment. In fact, they've hosted farm groups from Cuba. They have a Caribbean-style consciousness and host a wonderful event every summer called "Marcus Garvey Farm Festival."

A prison always has its glaring lights on twenty four hours a day. Most have guard towers, with shotgun toting guards. This would ruin the natural lifecycle of these organically grown vegetables. Plus, the dumping of sewage, added to the excessive pollution caused by this dreadful economic system of mass incarceration, and your area will become flooded with *problems*, not "solutions!" Your "prison town" environment has been degraded in the most depressing of ways. Your area will henceforth be known for human suffering and misery for the "cause" of profits instead of whatever vibrancy it once possessed or the human potential that is forever squelched by this demented society.

Natural habitats of animals are also forever being menaced by this unrelenting paving of farmland and the introduction of diesel and gas-spewing vehicles into beforehand peaceful, pastoral productive farmland. Everything, alive or dead - even inorganic - has a price on it and is subject to the danger the system clumsily and wantonly causes!

Any way you look at it, it's a horrific abomination and never-ending crisis situation. So, I would suggest that people take this huge inter-connected subject of the viability of our Earth very seriously, think of your children and all the other kids (much less the next seven generations - like the Indians take into consideration.) Don't be afraid to develop your loving contributions and good-heartedness to yourselves, your families and all the other creatures on this good, blue, green, yellow and brown earth! Long live *life* and growth! In other words, live your life as you *deserve!*

Those who have gained useful knowledge must become the serious educators for others. Free Skools must be a fundamental part of all activist activity, in my big-mouthed opinion. The knowledge is accessible, through websites, zines, distros, tapes, etc. We should seize the media and adapt what is useful to the situation at hand, as we continually, "raise some fucking issues" as Lorenzo Komboa Ervin puts it.

I guess I call it "agitation-education." Our fellow humans are all being treated like minks on a farm, in one form or another. To liberate them means to be supportive of them and help them rekindle their sense of self. A person who overcomes his fear of the state, is an animal finally freed and capable of anything!

~ Anthony Rayson ~ Prison Abolition Anarchist ~

P .O. Box 721, Homewood, IL 60430

anthonyrayson@hotmail.com ChicagoABC.org

# Before You Enlist

Joining the military is hazardous to...



**your humanity.**

You've probably heard the recruiter's sales pitch -- travel, training, money for college. Sounds pretty good, doesn't it? All advertising does. But if military life doesn't live up to the advertising, you can't bring your enlistment agreement back to the recruiter for a refund. You're in for eight years of your life (including inactive reserve duty). You wouldn't buy a car without looking under the hood. Don't enlist before you check out the reality of military life that lies behind the glamorous television ads and glossy brochures. Check it out carefully.

## WARNING: Joining the Military Is Hazardous To...

Military recruiters tour the country selling a dangerous product with glamorous ads, just like tobacco companies or drug pushers. The ads promise opportunity and adventure -- but don't believe the hype.

Joining the military is hazardous to your education.

The military isn't a generous financial aid institution, and it isn't concerned with helping you pay for school. Two-thirds of all recruits never get any college funding from the military. Only 15% graduated with a four-year degree.

"President Bush made a comment a week ago, and he said 'bring it on.' Well, they brought it on, and now my nephew is dead."  
- Mary Kewatt, aunt of a U.S. soldier killed in Iraq, on Minnesota Public Radio



—AL PODGORSKI/SUN-TIMES

## Students protest academy at Senn

Even a last-minute walkout by hundreds of Senn High School students Wednesday couldn't persuade Chicago School Board members to drop a plan to put a U.S. Naval Academy program in the school. PAGE 10

What about going to school while you're in? Many GIs report that military life leaves them too busy and exhausted -- and doesn't really make time for them to go to class.

### Joining the military is hazardous to your future.

Joining the military is a dead end. After you've spent a few years in the military, you're 2 to 5 times more likely to be homeless than your friends who never joined. And, according to the VA, you'll probably earn less too. The skills you learn in the military will be geared to military jobs, not civilian careers; when you come out, many employers will tell you to go back to school and get some real training. As former Secretary of Defense Cheney declared, "The reason to have a military is to be prepared to fight and win wars....it's not a jobs program."

## Wal-Mart wants longer hours for truck drivers

Joins others in pushing for 16-hour day

BY LESLIE MILLER

WASHINGTON — Wal-Mart and other retailers are lobbying Congress to extend the workday for truckers to 16 hours, something labor unions and safety advocates say would make roadways more dangerous for all drivers.

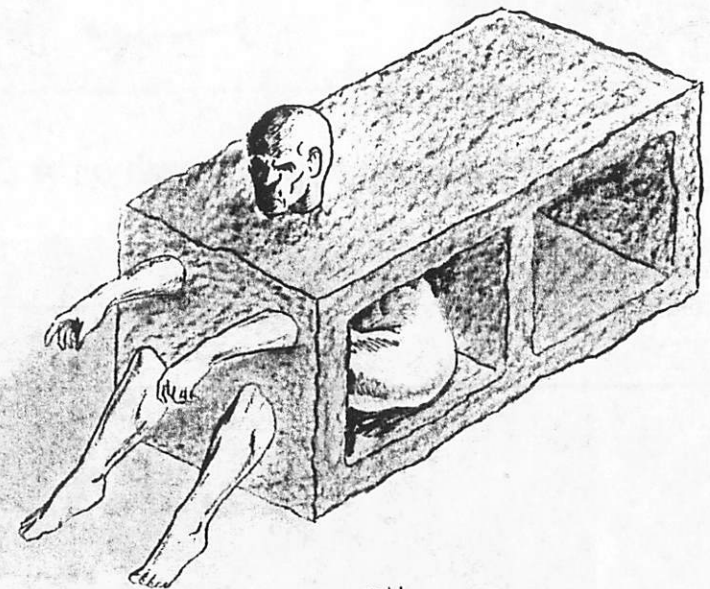
Rep. John Boozman, an Arkansas Republican whose district includes Wal-Mart's headquarters in Bentonville, is sponsoring a bill that would allow a 16-hour workday as long as the

trucker took an unpaid two-hour break.

"Truckers are pushing harder than ever to make their runs within the mandated time frame," Boozman said. "Optional rest breaks will reduce driver layovers and improve both safety and efficiency."

Current rules limit drivers' workdays to 14 hours, with only 11 consecutive hours of driving allowed, union leaders and safety advocates say. That gives truckers three hours to eat, rest or load and unload their trucks.

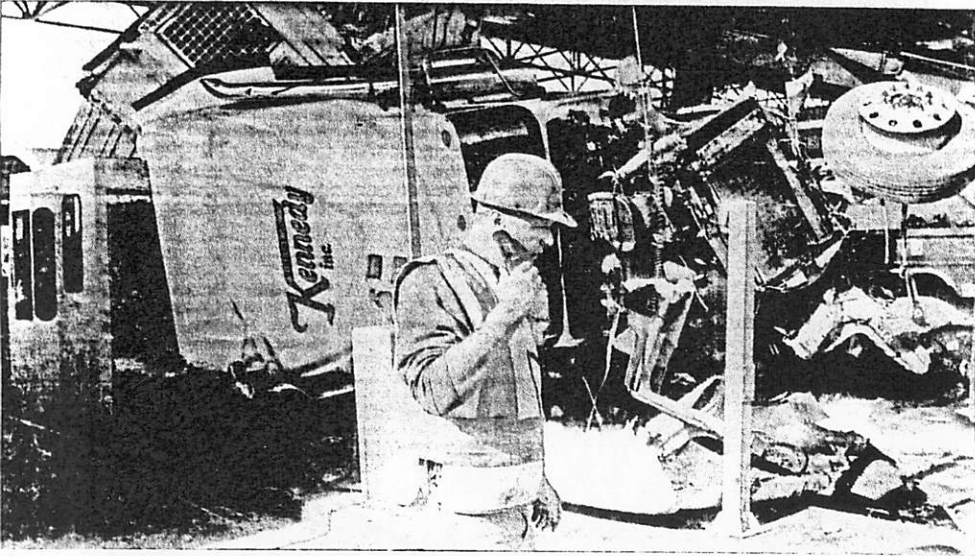
Critics of the proposal accuse Wal-Mart of trying to fatten its profits by forcing truckers to spend more time waiting at the loading dock without getting paid. AP



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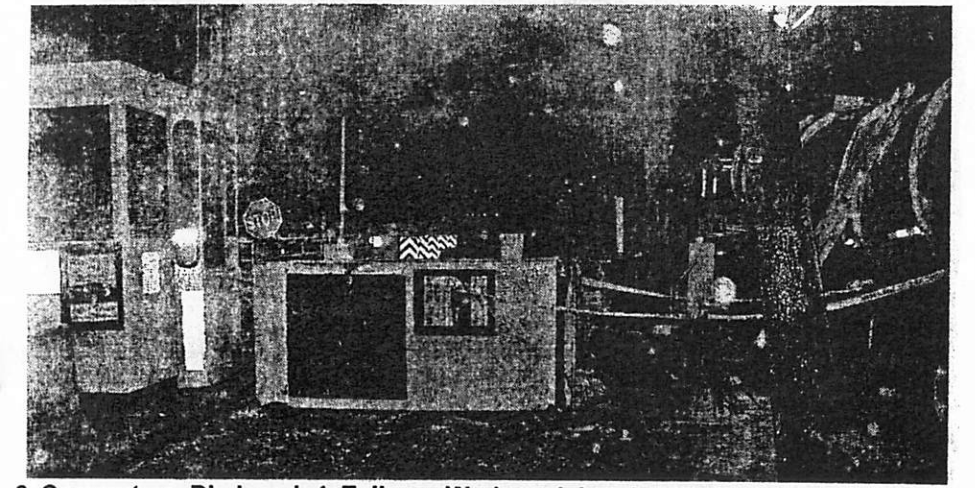
Questions & Comments Welcomed

# BABY, PREGNANT MOM KILLED



A state worker surveys the site where a semitruck crashed into a tollbooth and crushed a car, killing two of the five people inside. Story, Page 3A. -HARRY A. COMPTON/DAILY SOUTHWESTERN

## Tollway Workers Face Injury & Death on A Daily Basis



2 Commuters Died and 4 Tollway Workers Injured 11/6/04 when tractor-trailer plowed into a Tollbooth and rolled over onto a car.

More than 40 Tollworker injuries have occurred in the last several years due to accidents on the Tollroad.

I would advise anyone willing and able to attend college to do so for higher learning, but I would also say, "don't equate information and perfunctory learning with education." If we do not come out of the classroom with a constructive-humanistic worldview, rooted in genuine understanding and truth, then we are not truly educated. And, since the American school system is not designed to give us a constructive-humanistic, internationalist worldview, it does not truly educate us. We must therefore supplement and advise others to supplement. We must weave through propaganda, and wade through areas of science and fact that are not placed before us. In other ways, we must become perceptive enough to know when blanks need to be filled in. And above all, we must engage ourselves and *question* whenever we are urged to by intellect or intuition, or both. Understand that truth is not always static, but often dynamic and expansive. It can only grow on us and in us if we are searching for a deeper understanding and expression of it.

Rely on your self for the best education. The school system is part of the means to that end. Do not let it be the end in itself.

*"When the student is ready, the teacher will appear."*  
~ A yogic saying

*"Whenever the educational process is accompanied by a dishonest suppression of facts and truths, relevant to the point at issue, it becomes pure propaganda. But even without such dishonest intentions there is, in all exchange of ideas, a certain degree of unconscious suppression of facts or inability to see all the facts. That is the very reason the educational process cannot be trusted to resolve a social controversy."*

~ Reinhold Niebuhr, Moral Man and Immoral Society



The Constitution offers us the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. But the political-economic system denies the majority the ability to exercise these expressed rights. Farmers in America don't have the right to grow as much food as they want, then give it to the poor and hungry. Who among us has the right to be hired by an employer? Who has the *right* to food, clothing, and shelter? When you really examine things, you realize that the government is against us living within a society that *guarantees* the fulfillment of even *basic human necessities*, let alone addressing these necessities with enough justice and respect that they are *experienced as rights* instead of privileges. How is it, then, that the system survives with so much inequity? How do so many observe so much suffering in society and turn their heads away from it? It is possible because of pathological-individualism, i.e., *the belief that "I" am all that matters, and as long as I can take care of "my" needs the world is okay*. I first coined this term in, *A Call To Humanity*, and it seems quite clear that pathological-individualism and pathological-materialism go hand in hand, one giving rise to and/or reinforcing the other.

But the question still remains, what relationship should the educational system have with society in general? Should it be graduating disciples of indoctrination, propaganda, or pathological-individualism? Is the educational system serving the *best* interest of society? From my personal experience as a college student, I would have to say no. There are not enough questions asked and thoroughly answered about the type of socialization process we go through as citizens of the USA. The principle intent of any legitimate system of education must be to equip students with the intellectual, moral, and social exposures necessary for them to improve the overall human relations of society. No status quo should be condoned, or viewed as an end within itself, as long as pervasive inequities exist in society, i.e., inequities that can easily be corrected by a government using its potential to serve the people, instead of being served by them, which we have too much of in history; people serving the corrupt and unjust wants and needs of governments who ultimately have no more than the interest of themselves, corporations, and the ruling elite at heart.

My position is not that the current education system be trashed, but that it be allowed to evolve a greater depth, meaning, and purpose in its overall relationship to humanity. I enjoy the college experience and appreciate the good intent of teachers, but at the same time there is a need to look beyond the classroom, and, to perceive the sociological effects of it. There is a need for reform in much of the required curriculum. I question why physical anthropology, dealing with genes, chromosomes, and DNA, is not a basic requisite to acquire an associates degree? Information and knowledge of this subject would dismiss several false and/or pseudo-scientific ideas about sex, race, gender, and evolution that currently fuel biases, prejudices, and social discriminations across society.

I know that a lot of truth and scientific *facts* are being suppressed across the country, and world for that matter, because schools and teachers are intimidated by the idea, or actual attacks from, some religious terrorist. Schools and teachers feel too threatened to expose the truth as much as they themselves are informed about it. Even as I write this, the scientific fact of evolution is under attack by people who falsely claim to have evidence of intelligent design, and, who claim that intelligent design is scientific. The fact of the matter is that the notion (and it is no more than a notion) of intelligent design is about as scientific as the Inquisition was holy.

Education and all educational systems should have one primary goal. That is, to inform and enlighten all students about the realities of the societies and world we live in. The intent being, that students become more willing and able participants in human, social progress and economic justice than those who came before them as students and members of society. Education, once again, is supposed to be about the best interest of society and humanity in general. Only in this way do we become better able to transcend the shadow of history, and thereby understand the nature of men and women who would deny us the truth, and propagate falsehoods, as a weapon against the oppressed and exploited.



## SEIU Local 73 MLK DAY XI

Our 11th year of protest against an unjust employer

**MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 2005**

**4:30 — 5:30 PM**

17

**CONTRACT RALLY AT THE  
ILLINOIS STATE TOLL  
HIGHWAY AUTHORITY**

**2700 Ogden Ave, Downers Grove, IL**



### Our Tollway Workers Are Fighting for Their Jobs!

The Tollway is threatening our members with big layoffs as they convert to open road tolling. We're bargaining a new contract, and management is refusing to include the all-important clause that guarantees our jobs will not be eliminated because of the introduction of electronic equipment.  
**OUR MEMBERS NEED OUR HELP TO WIN JOB SECURITY.**

**LOCAL 73**



**Warm Up at Our MLK Celebration**

**After the Demonstration**

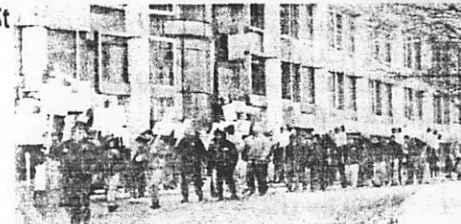
**Holiday Inn in Glen Ellyn**

**1250 Roosevelt Road**

**6:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

**Complimentary pizza and beverages.**

St



**Tollway management has a dream — to make our lives a nightmare!**

January 17, 2005 — MLK Day XI  
**300 Rally at Tollway Headquarters  
 to Demand a Fair Contract**

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**Don't Bypass Us for I-Pass —  
 No Layoffs!**

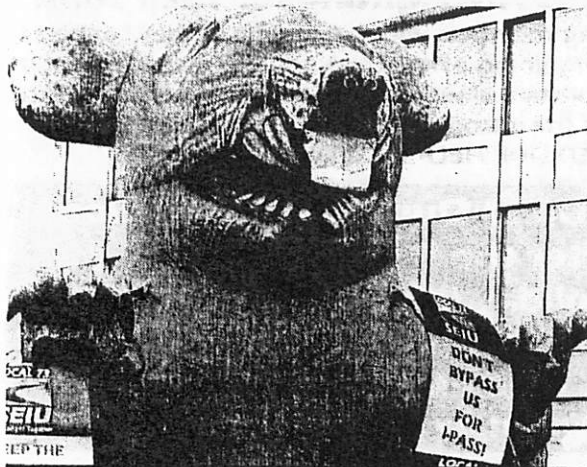
What a great turnout at our MLK XI rally — and it was bitterly cold! Tollway members came out in big numbers to let the Authority know we mean business about a fair contract that includes the all-important job security clause. The giant blow-up rat in front of 2700 Ogden Avenue said it all. The protest was covered widely in area newspapers and on five TV stations. Authority spokespeople repeatedly told the media that the Authority needed the flexibility to lay people off during this road re-make. But Owen Brugh, reporter for the *Northwest Herald*, reminded readers in his January 18th article that he had personally spoken to Executive Director Jack



Harman in August, when the plan was first announced, and Hartman had said, "Nobody will lose their job over this plan." That's what he told us, too, so why do they oppose including our "no layoffs due to electronic equipment" clause in our new contract?

Thanks to everyone who made it out there in the sub-zero weather. The Authority definitely got the message. At the January 19 bargaining session, the management bargaining team was streamlined to about half its size in what the Authority explained was an effort on their part to make faster progress. Management said they were willing to seriously discuss our issues, and not just rubber-stamp them "Rejected."

**LOCAL 73 VERSUS MANAGEMENT  
 Big Issues Stand in the Way of a Truly Fair Contract**



**IF YOU'RE NOT WORKING FOR THEM AT 4:30 PM ON MONDAY, JANUARY 17,  
 THEN COME OUT & WORK FOR YOURSELF.**

**ATTEND THE MLK DAY PROTEST AT TOLLWAY  
 HEADQUARTERS**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 2005 — 4:30 TO 5:30 PM  
 2700 Ogden Ave., Downers Grove**

**Your Local 73 sisters & brothers will be there to support you!**



**We're Hitting the Picket Line Because They're Putting Our Jobs On The Line!**

water each day. If a person believes that he can build or achieve self-esteem through a college classroom, then, his understanding of what self-esteem is is terribly deficient. So deficient that it is practically null and void.

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The truth is that "self-esteem is not something you achieve. It is something that you *acknowledge* with deep conviction." Self-esteem is the belief that you are innately worthy of being valued by yourself and others. That you are a human being worthy of acceptance, understanding, love, friendship, and respect. Self-esteem tells you that you deserve to succeed in life by accomplishing the goals and fulfilling the constructive desires that you have. It tells you that your worth and value are an end within themselves, and in no way dependent upon the idea of the greater or lesser value of others. It is called *self-esteem* because its essence rest within the self, and is not reliant upon anything you do or don't do. This leads us to the question of why self-esteem is so unacknowledged in a country like America? Well... it has a lot to do with capitalist culture and ideology. To begin with, capitalist ideology values property more than human life. We are considered to be only as valuable as the accumulated worth of our material possessions, or our earning power in comparison to that of others. The spirit of humanism plays hardly any role in how we perceive the value of other people. Society is plagued by what I call *pathological materialism*, i.e., the belief that life is a quest for material possessions; that human beings are a means to this end, and not an end within themselves to be accepted, loved, and valued.

If we do not come out of a two year or four year college experience with the idea of somehow improving the life of others, or making society better, then what is the purpose of that so-called education? What is the purpose of any learning if we do not learn the *truth* about the system and social, political, and economic forces that govern us? As far back as the 5<sup>th</sup> Century B.C, Greek philosophers asked the question: "What do we owe our government, and what do those who govern owe us?" How many in classrooms across America are asking today, "What *does* the government owe us?" A proposal to raise the minimum wage was recently voted down, yet ~~there~~ in congress who govern and pass laws have been receiving pay increases every year since 1988. Obviously these men, and few women, who are mostly millionaires don't feel that the government owes us a reasonable secure living wage. In 1977 the minimum wage was two dollars and ninety cents (\$2.90), today it is five dollars and fifteen cents (\$5.15). Do the math. The minimum wage has not doubled in nearly thirty years. How many students are educated enough to see the pure corruption and wickedness in this scheme?

We, even today, often hear that 'we' have the best government in the world. This is one of US history's biggest myths. It is a myth based on the idea that the US government gives us this right, that freedom, etc. Get real! People throughout history in America had to suffer, die, struggle, and *force* government concessions to be able to exercise every right and privilege they/we have. None of those things were extended to society out of the compassion or humanity of those who govern. It is the government that has the least respect for the US Constitution, and does not want to come anywhere near attempting to approximate the *ideals* in it. Too many of us have the illusion that the government is the constitution made flesh in the world. But, more and more, they fashion, amend, and interpret the Constitution as though it were a weapon to be used against the people. And it has been used as a dagger many times, despite many of the good ideals in it.

How many students come out of a four year college program having never read the Constitution? In fact, not even able to define words such as capitalism, socialism, and something as basic as self-esteem? What is education if its fundamental purpose is indoctrination and propaganda, as opposed to *humanization*? The problem is that the educational system can not humanize people and at the same time expect them to condone the existing political system and economic relations within society. Capitalism and humanism hardly jibe.

Talib Y. Rasheed

Before I enrolled in college, I was considerably self-educated, so I didn't expect to encounter a great deal of unfamiliar territory. For years, I had studied history, psychology, sociology, physical fitness, as well as taught myself passable English, and how to write. Well... as I have approached the end of my fourth semester, I am still waiting to be educated. I am still waiting to not be forced to study and memorize for test purposes, a bunch of pseudo-scientific theories that the average eighth grader would dismiss as "fishy-hogwash". What is the meaning and purpose of having students waste time and energy to read, take notes on, and memorize information that is proven false, and even absurd; information labelled as theory, yet, in reality is closer to the irrational concepts that arise from someone's grandiose illusions, and a search for glory that has taken a flight from everyday, obvious reality?

Last semester, I sat in a class of 21 students and asked the question, (relevant to a question from our textbook) "What is self-esteem?" Several tried, but no one could confidently answer the question. This semester, Spring 2005, and in a completely unrelated class, a teacher posed the question: "What is self-esteem?" Once again, here in a different class with different students, several tried, but none knew the actual definition of self-esteem! Two classes of college students didn't know the meaning of self-esteem. As in the previous semester, the first answer was: "It's how you feel about yourself." So, I asked, if I feel disgusted about myself, or hate myself, is that self-esteem?

In other classes, I have heard students comment that being in college helps them "build" their self-esteem. This, of course, is another revelation of how misunderstood the meanings of *education* and *self-esteem* are. To begin with, genuine education is not the repeated act of loading information into the short-term memory for a test, then forgetting eighty-percent of that information right after an exam, because you have to reload the short-term memory; for the most part, with information that has no value or personal importance to you. True education is essentially a discovery and *transcendence* process by which we, first and foremost, discover our basic humanity in common with others. It is a process that gives rise to social, psychological, and emotional transcendence, all of which allows us to humanistically rise above the biases and fetters of religion, ideology, so-called race, culture, and nationalism in relation to others. How is it possible for a racist, an ethnocentrist, a religionist, or nationalist, to call oneself educated? No. Such belief systems correspond with indoctrination, not education. With tradition – not progress.

I have observed a lot of propaganda being taught in classrooms. This doesn't necessarily accuse any teachers of being *knowing* propagandist; just that they teach what amounts to propaganda, because those who organize and fix the curriculums have an intent, unbeknownst to many teachers, to spread propaganda. That is the system! The information that students are exposed to must influence them toward the condonation or glorification of the status quo, and not toward political dissent. Propaganda is in opposition to education. When a student fixes his/her mind on a degree because of the advantage and opportunity it can offer in job status and earnings over the less-degreed masses, then the content of learning has little importance, and if the content of what is learned has little importance, what might we say about the *quality* of what is being conveyed to students?

What type of education system do you have when junior and senior college students actually cannot clearly and confidentially give the definition and meaning of self-esteem? That is like them not knowing they need to drink a certain minimum amount of plain

Fellow Collectors, Lane Walkers, Money Room Workers and *all* tollway workers - we should reject this contract and strike! We have a unique opportunity to address the whole nation! If we did strike, the over-the-road commerce grid of this nation would come to a halt! It would create chaos, for the managers would be swept away as if a U. S. of A. tsunami - and the truckers and lunch bucket Jane & Joe's would support us! Those responsible for this rip-off, dangerous and intolerable situation must be "outed!"

Governor Blagoyevich has tried to make a name for himself by declaring war on state workers. The Tollway wasn't called the "worst employer" by the union (for the second time in five years) for nothing! Tolls have doubled, tripled - even almost *quadrupled* for certain classes of vehicles. Danger has increase dramatically, as has stress and the never-ending harassment from the oblivious management. All of a sudden, we're supposed to be pleased as the union abandons their principles?? Our new brothers & sisters from every plaza are being forced from their jobs! Are we to accept being bought off like cheap whores (after paying into our pension?)

We have an obligation to stand and fight - to be real men and women and challenge the Wal-Martization of labor, in general. If this contract is approved, we'll still have the same vicious, ignorant "management team" in place! Who's to say, they won't continue their practice of degradation, intimidation and threats? What about the Safety Department? Are we supposed to forget they ever existed, like something out of Stalin's Russia? What about the *truth*?! With a new gag order, negotiated by the shameless union and the Authority, we won't be able to tell our story. How about barf bags for when the union & Authority nauseate us with their congratulations of themselves and each other? And, of course, the hyenas in the press will bark their company-loving approval. Soon enough, the union will jack up our dues, so they can build up a big pile of cash to throw at Blagoyevich - the same creep menacing us, other state workers and all other Illinois taxpayers. This nut thinks he's presidential timber! Let's whistle blow this fraud! We have our dignity & self-respect. Let's strike now!

<sup>1</sup> A thing learned

This little thumbnail sketch has been brought to you by a new group, called SCOFF (Supporting Citizens Of Family Farmers.) The STAND (Shut This Airport Nightmare Down) folks are helping those personally targeted by the state, county and township governments, the folks fighting O'Hare expansion and the Jacksons. They are being compelled to circle their wagons and deal with the potentially impending forced confiscation of their farms and homes. We think it is very important that other citizens not so directly menaced by this social predation, this long-standing political disease, come out in support of these people and the land they have been admirable stewards of, for these many years. We won't allow our neighbors and friends to be so assaulted!

Many so-called "environmentalists" are too gutless to be openly against the Peotone Airport, even though they know it to be an environmental disaster in the making, a huge boondoggle waste and so forth. They have been cleverly intimidated by the Jackson camp. We feel their advocacy has been completely compromised by such cowardice! They don't want to be inferred as "against progress" and "racist." This, even though this project is the brainchild of right-wing state Republicans, such as Henry Hyde, Gerald Weller, Aldo DeAngelis, George Ryan, "Pate" Philip and others, who cleverly snookered a young Jesse Jackson, Jr. into their circle. These are the types of people who have spearheaded the writing and enacting of genuinely racist laws that have translated in the warehousing of a phenomenal percentage of young black men, and increasingly, young black women into a massive gulag archipelago - U.S. style! George Bush has his Condoleezza Rice to front for his reactionary agenda and these creeps have Jackson!

Since Jesse Junior got hooked on this project, it has become his obsession. He's elevated it into a social justice crusade, which will solve a myriad of problems in the south suburbs, and (according to him) will bring up to 250,000, well paying, benefit laden jobs to the chronically under and unemployed. This nonsense has been swallowed whole by a sycophantic media, driven by the Southland crowd, heavily funded through IDOT grant money. Of the \$100 million already spent on the project, under 1% has gone to black contractors. Genuine projects to help destitute communities are non-existent!

SCOFF is not affiliated with any political party or candidate. We see both parties as being interchangeable. They both have the same, basically pro-corporation, anti-citizen agenda. We are genuine grassroots organizers and activists, not beholden to any grant money source, "sponsor" of any kind, or a sell-out organization like Rainbow-PUSH. We are motivated to action by genuine morality and concern for our fellow citizens and the state of our increasingly threatened environment, not on how much tax money of land we can steal. We don't hide behind the police and use the coercive powers of the state. Therefore, we are free in obedience as to what is right and have no fear of how we are perceived. As long as we keep telling the truth, we know other citizens will respect us.

We also want the citizens directly menaced by this abomination to know that there are some people, other than themselves, who realize this is a massive, state crime being perpetrated against them, and really, all of us. We will fight the liars, thieves and cowards by sound logic as well as by our physical presence. When the marshals are ordered to force families out of their homes, we will be there, too!

Down with disgusting, wasteful and immoral sprawl projects dressed up as social justice crusades! Down with all the governmental parasites and their sickening cheerleaders! Up with the truth, environmental sustainability, unmolested communities and real people with the courage to challenge these bloodsuckers and social hyenas!

Anthony Rayson, Spokesman for SCOFF  
P.O. Box 721, Homewood, IL 60430

(708) - 534 - 1334  
anthonyrayson@hotmail.com

What about people who say it's just "all talk!"

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Well, it is all talk, this particular project. But I do other things, too. We need both talk and action, of course. Those people who complain don't even talk, usually! They dis hard work and do nothing of importance, themselves! So, who cares what they say, think or do - not me! I'll just find people willing to do serious work. Prisoners are the *most serious!* They deserve to have their voices trumpeted loudly, instead of suppressed by a hideous gulag system of censorship and coercion, while the crybabies pooh-pooh everything and ignore this ongoing kidnapping holocaust. Uprisings are spearheaded by prisoners and former prisoners!

*Hmmm. So you think your work is so important. Aren't you just an egotistical jerk? Please stop agitating so damn much!*

Maybe so to some people, but I try not to be, after a fashion. Look, we all have deficiencies as individuals. Some people make themselves more pleasant than others. I'm a likable enough guy, it's just that I fly off the handle pretty easily - at least verbally. I'm kind of single-minded about this and yes, I think this stuff is very important. Other people think so, too! Most of my intensity is poured into work, not directed negatively to other people. I'm a bit sarcastic.

*Just as I thought - you're an idiot! May you roast in hell for all of this ass-kicking anarchist, prisoner literature!*

Thanks! It's obvious we're both sick of doing this interview.



of it free to prisoners, especially, but to anyone, really. People can read anything they want. I just thought people should have a place where writers don't walk on eggshells with their words. We're a "no bones about it" bunch of agitation! 40

*What's it supposed to accomplish, all these inflammatory publications? You could write boring crap and get paid!*

They are educational and empowering. They fortify people, get them unleashing their own ideas and picking up the pen, themselves. Study circles are formed, connections made inside and out, and ideas are presented. Conditions in prison are changing rapidly, as they are on the "outs" and those attuned to what is really happening and what to do about it, are often prisoners. We need to help "turn the iron houses of oppression into schools of liberation." It's where it's at.

White people can connect with oppressed communities, including the underbelly of the white working class, as hundreds of thousands of prisoners are so-called "whites" too. They should hook up with prisoner support groups, like us, and write to prisoners. A whole world opens up and proving oneself to prisoners and their families, legitimizes ones' actions in these oppressed communities, where often, every single person has a direct family member entombed. White abolitionists who "walk the walk and talk the talk" are much beloved and necessary, given this settler, "white skin privilege" society. Denouncing "whiteness" is to become a real human.

Social movements have revolutionary voices driving the thinking. Under such heavy brainwash as is meted out in Amerika, these rare voices are all the more essential. It's no coincidence that it was illegal to teach slaves how to read. They'll turn into rebels, like Steve Biko, and write about it, too!

I'm into thrilling literature being created *now!* I sometimes try my own hand at it, but the most explosively written and intensely revelatory literature is being written by prisoners. Who is writing about the drug war or the mass dragnets in the ghettos? Prisoners are the ones who know all the details and motives. What happens inside comes out to u, sooner or later, anyway. We're all under surveillance. We're all looked at as meat or somehow expendable, worthy of exploitation, maybe, but "collateral damage" if we in any way get in their way.

## Principal Pushers of Peotone 21

1. Aldo DeAngelis – Deceased Godfather of Peotone. Former Republican State Senator from Olympia Fields, who was heavily involved in land deals in the south suburbs.
2. George Ryan – Former Governor and Secretary of State, now under indictment for a wide-ranging array of corruption, while in office. He pushed landbanking through, during the Illinois First pork barrel extravaganza. It was hidden (\$75 million) in the all or nothing multi-billion dollar deal. Buddies with billionaire land developer, Tony Perry.
3. Gerald Weller – Gingrinchite Congressman from Morris, known for taking heavy money from national Republicans & business interests. Unremarkable, reactionary grafter. Recently married, he's now the son-in-law of the monstrous Rios Montt.
4. Jesse Jackson, Jr. – Silver-spooned Congressman from Chicago, obsessed with Peotone, ever since meeting with right-wingers, George Ryan, Jim Edgar, Henry Hyde, "Pate" Phillip and others to be cut in on the carcass of Peotone. Has no other real agenda to deal with serious southside issues. He's now the Doberman on this. Delusional.
5. Rick Bryant – Employee of Jesse Jr., serving as "Executive Director" of the group of Cook County Mayors, pushing for a "privatized" Peotone Airport, funded by the DuPage County mayors' groups in Bensenville and Elk Grove Village (who are looking to avoid O'Hare expansion.) He's got a little storefront office in University Park.
6. Christine Cochrane – She-devil of Monee Township, incompetent, yet lavishly paid to front for this project locally, who was demoted in favor of...
7. Brad Roseberry – Appointed by former Governor Ryan to oversee this project, who has since disappeared, implicated & mired in Ryan's scandals.
8. The Southland Development, Inc. / Southland Mayors & Managers, etc. – Business front groups, with interlocking directorates of boards of directors. Funded heavily through IDOT grant money, which allegedly gives predation, a "grassroots" legitimacy.
9. Will County Board – Fronted by new President, Larry Walsh, they are also looking to join in the feeding frenzy in Eastern Will County. Walsh used to oppose the airport.
10. Governor Rod Blagoyevich – "Little Boy on the second floor" taking his marching orders from Jesse Jackson, Jr. Menacing state workers, cutting jobs, pushing Peotone.
11. Jesse Jackson, Sr. - "Environmental" & master extortionist. Race card shark, with a haughty, dismissive attitude towards people, who has managed to amass millions, purportedly much of it invested in farmland. A sordid come down from Dr. King!
12. State Senator Debbie Halvorson - Initially elected opposing Peotone, defeating Aldo DeAngelis. Once in Springfield, she switched her allegiance. Cries crocodile tears while in the area, but is the pin-up girl when amongst the pro-airport crowd. Her daughter was recently hired by the Illinois DNR, while several dozen were laid off. Debbie is sleazy!

Peotone is (and always has been) a decidedly land-based offensive, cooked up by conservative state business and political operatives, such as the late Sen. Aldo DeAngelis, Henry Hyde, (to blunt efforts at O'Hare expansion) George Ryan, Pate Phillip, and others. They wanted to create a Tollway-like fiefdom in the south suburbs - a cash cow, which they jealously think O'Hare is for Daley.

Logic (or any accountability) never entered into it. You just keep taking Illinois taxpayer money and using it for such things as cooked up studies, paid mouthpieces, constant promotion and indoctrination into the need for this, how many hundreds of thousands of jobs it will magically create and how it will spearhead the solving of our social, economic and transportation problems. Try the "Big Lie!"

Congressman Jackson was cleverly brought into this circle and has since made it his personal crusade. Now, this sprawl agenda becomes a social justice cause and anybody against it must be some sort of racist or something else must be wrong with them! "Haven't you gotten with the program? Don't try to embarrass Rainbow-PUSH! They're progressive and do a lot of things for the community." I applaud them for what good they do, but you can't be legitimately considered a progressive, and an environmentalist and not only "be for" the aggressive confiscation of farmland around Peotone - award-winning farmland at that - but also be leading the charge to destroy this land! It's viciously hypocritical and socially predatory.

The Jacksons have taken it much further than mere support for Peotone. They are the Dobermans on this, barking for the state authorities to hurry up and confiscate our homes and farms - even before the FAA finishes their study on the feasibility of this turf battle disguised as a must-have "economic engine." They've gotten Governor Blagoyevich to make it the centerpiece of his State agenda, just as George Ryan did, a few short, corrupt years ago. We all saw the recent photograph of the Jesse Jackson's standing demonstratively in the front ranks at the State-of-the-State Address. That's what I call a "bully pulpit! It was total bull and the other legislators down there, need to seek out the real ramifications of this and put a stop to it!

Jesse Jackson, Jr. has gotten some Cook County mayors to circle overhead with him, funded by the mayors over in DuPage County - Bensenville and Elk Grove Village - who are fighting O'Hare expansion, by trying to drag us down with them, while claiming to be doing us a low-interest favor!

Yeah, on a personal level they may have been great guys, but they never got past their brainwash and fear of challenging the shit they were dealing with. Their lives were wasted, fighting for, instead of against, fascism. Literally, used to death! 39

People must learn the details of reality. Use their brains to learn and think and push themselves to work on the details of liberation. A connection to those really, physically, suffering and dying is very important. Their lives mean as much as ours or anybody else's! That, we must understand to our soul and this genuine feeling of connectedness should drive us to live our lives accordingly. War is being waged on us, as well! We will become our true selves, when we finally feel a part of the rest of the people of the world. We've been cocooned and held hostage psychically for hundreds of years, here! To get connected means to challenge the U.S. government, right from our catbird seat, in "white" America - the schools, suburbs, farms, little towns, cities, prisons - all over!

*Whew! Now I know why nobody will interview you. You talk too much. Here's another question. How come you rant so much? It's this "in your face" stuff we don't want to deal with.*

I don't pretend to be a researcher or whatever. I am an anarchist propagandist, an alarmist. It's an alarming situation, so I think it needs to be brought to peoples' attention, like a fire truck going by. A stark contrast to the mush being foisted on us all constantly is very important. For, there are two basic "schools" of politics - the truth and the liars, who also murder, steal, destroy, etc. We must overcome our intimidation to speak the unexpurgated truth, at all times. The literature of resistance must get more intensely political and articulate in a reality-check explosion of popular opinion. I'm an older gentleman, 51, so I've lived through decades of this stuff and have somehow survived. Now, I'd like to impart my observations to one and all, as I've made a life of thinking and writing, because early on, that's what I decided to do. Like everything else, what you like to do and practice doing, you get good at. I tried to get a handle on things and express my opinion in a concentrated, invective-laden mind blow - *because* things are so dreadful and folks are so catatonic.

I have a style, I suppose, reflective of my blunt, south side of Chicago, outlook. I like it, but I guess it's not everybody's cup of tea. For those who hate me or whatever, at least I also edit and publish a ton of stuff from other people and offer all

## Interview by/with Anthony Rayson

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Greetings!

Hello.

*First off, why the hell are you doing this - interviewing yourself?*

I just decided it was a good way to bring out ideas, posed as questions. What's the difference, if they're good questions?

*OK. Here's a question. How do so-called "white people" or "Euro-Americans" get connected to the revolution?*

Well, being thrust in the middle of this country, "whites" have a fundamental interest to see a livable future for our children and world. We deserve, like everybody else, to know the truth, live unenslaved physically and mentally, and act real in a genuine community, which none of us now have.

Anarchism is perfect, in my opinion, to help young white people jackhammer through a lifetime of lies, they've been fed, overcome their fear and begin to actualize their potential and pursue their interests, all the while helping others, being helped and loved by them and positively affecting their surroundings. This, of course, is the last thing allowed in this genocidal, slavery-based monstrosity called America. It is uniquely psychotic with the endless barbarity mixed with pious hypocrisy. Forcing people to have political amnesia affects all their thinking and has paved the way for their for-profit enslavement. "Whites" aren't free human beings, who live their own lives; they're wage-slave consumerists living stultified, t. v. - watching quasi-existences. They need liberation in countless ways, too! "Take back the night" and take back the living of your own life, too! Unshackle thy mind!

Also, "whites" are asked to be the brute force for these power-drunk, mass-murdering kajillionaires. They join the army, police, prison personnel, and so forth. They're brainwashed into devoting their lives into hurting others defending an evil, centuries-long, empire. This diminishes their lives, like the German soldiers - several million in World War II - laying dead all over the Eastern Hemisphere! What good was the living of their lives, killing and dying for Hitler?

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The Will County Board smells blood too, and wants in on the feeding frenzy. Nowhere in any of this are the basic needs of citizens in Peotone or anywhere in this huge south side area, being seriously addressed. Cuts are made, instead!

Even the *airline industry* is forced to be on the outside looking in, because they also want nothing to do with Peotone! The details get more galling and appalling, but not unlike many other aggressive, land offensives waged against citizens throughout the world, under the mantra of "democracy" and "progress." Social consciousness has really deteriorated when a land grab is looked upon as a positive development - when hurting your neighbor doesn't matter, and those in the cross hairs are looked upon with dismissive annoyance. Who would Martin be with, today?

You can't build up *your* community, by *destroying* a sister community! Your efforts would then have no basis in morality, and likely (as in this case) in reality. \$100 Million of taxpayer money has already been spent on this boondoggle, yet we're to believe, it will be done "privately" with no cost to the taxpayer?! Must you insult our ability to reason? Are we so completely cowed and easy to mislead?

It's so like Bush and Company forcing this war on us! Push and push and push until you get what you want - somebody else's already existing community - a campaign driven by the expansionist greed of well-connected corporations, dictating the politics and using the coercive machinery of the state to force their policy through. Bush has Condoleeza Rice fronting for his expansionist government and the pro-Peotone crowd has Jesse Jr. Hiding a wolf in sheep's clothing is fundamentally dishonest!

There are many, many reasons that this farmland airport is a terrible project. It is highly wasteful, unneeded and ecologically catastrophic. It's a major sprawl offensive that will affect many people and cause heavy tax burdens. The airlines will only use it at gunpoint, like in Denver. Mostly, it will be a huge money pit, but the real prize will already have been "bagged." They will have rustled the land and begun exploiting it for their own phantasmagoric purposes.

Since there is no accountability, it will increasingly suck in more scarce tax resources, which the state generally wastes as compared to genuinely benefiting citizens, anyway! Contracts, pay-offs - the whole bit - will substitute for school lunches, bus service, health care, and so forth. Like the Iraq war, only the rich, who are politically and economically (corporately) connected, will benefit. Land speculators, which PUSH may very well be involved in, look to make a "killing" in Peotone and are hankering for their

cut. The asphalt and concrete people, who heavily finance both parties, are idling their "weapons of mass construction." It's a sickening prospect for all of us! 24

To "dress up" the cause of Peotone as a campaign of social liberation, also hearkens to the constant harping by the Bush Administration and sycophantic mainstream press, that Iraq has been "liberated" and so thrilled with what we're doing (harshly and militarily occupying their whole country!) Elections at gunpoint - evictions at gunpoint!

An airport in Peotone isn't going to do anybody any good, except those who build it! Has even 1% of the \$100,000,000 already spent, gone to black-owned businesses? It's an extremely high-cost way to "create jobs." I'd have to call it, "the arrogance of power."

What needs to happen is a re-dedication by communities of citizens. We are the solvers of our own problems! Relying on the government, or PUSH, who has aligned itself with government, is detrimental to our social, economic and political health. Programs in our communities to re-vitalize them, must be initiated and implemented by young people, striving for a higher consciousness - a spirit of service which will be reciprocated, all grounded in studied awareness. We must overcome our fear, take the initiative and work with each other - with as little interference from the thieves and liars of government as possible! We need "People Power!"

Genuine, grassroots movements are constantly being born and renewed. Older groups, like PUSH, can bog down into a corporate structure and take on that lording, money-hungry mentality. It's all about the money and the bottom line, not people. Disinformation and a refined haughtiness define their modus operandi. Pro-airport meetings are not open and they have many connections and ties that color their agenda - outside the community. These are their business and political connections. Look how they have Blagoyevich and Obama crowing about Peotone! Yet Gary is already right there! It's about control and money, not need!

So, real citizens must come forward and call an injustice what it is - an injustice! We want to invite Barack Obama down to Peotone to meet with the citizens - something very, very rarely done down here! The important arguments surrounding Peotone and even the people in this area are avoided like a social disease by the powers that be. It's a very complex situation that the crafters of the through-the-roof job projections (and "minimal" cost!) claims of the Peotone backers, assiduously seek to avoid! Land, water, air, infrastructure, the massive upheaval from bulldozing, displacement of people and animals, the gobbling up prime

Down in Michigan, on June 18<sup>th</sup>, in the capital, Lansing, a prisoner support march will take place. Here's a newsletter from *Women For Freedom*, a chapter of Lifers of America, Inc. Also involved is the 37 Battered Women's Clemency Project. Anarchist Black Cross will have a welcome presence on this day, at least to those who aren't fascists and support our prisoners, because they know of the work that we do, with them and others. Push the issues with solidarity!

Don't be squeamish about taking zines, newsletters, brochures, art work, whatever. Take what you'll find useful or interesting and give what you can - somehow / someday.

Khalfani X. Khaldun is a determined fighter in Indiana. He was framed for killing a guard, so they try to make sport of him, but he challenges them with a remarkable spirit. Several of his works are available, as are a lot of others I won't have time to mention. Don't hesitate to write to these people. They're totally dedicated to the cause!

The anarchist-driven Missouri Prison Labor Union deserves special recognition. Jerome White-Bey, Sheik Mark Moore El, Bruce (Yero) Cummings and the others involved, have been literally, under siege *constantly* over this, since day one, which was several years ago. Almost invariably in the hole for fabricated "violations," these guys have "stayed strong!" Now, a chapter in Michigan has started and we're trying to get something going in the Texas dungeons. Legally, the U.S. government doesn't hide their intentions, for prisoners are literally *slaves* - according to their alleged "document of freedom" the (slavers') U. S. Constitution.

There are many small prisoner groups, support groups, study circles, politically conscious religious groups, vegans, and everything else you can think of. I've several zines of their work and projects. Addresses are in each booklet. I try to save for reprinting and distributing the most compelling and pointedly political lessons. But, we all gotta lighten up here and there (or you'll go *nuts!*) - so some of this out there stuff is funny as hell! Thanks for your time and attention. Come to Chicago, sometime! Cuz, I even do!

p.s. I'm glad that I'm not in Amerikkka, right now!

~ Anthony Rayson ~

Hi friends,

Thanks so much for ordering *Hearcheck!* We really appreciate your order and hope you like what you see. All proceeds are going to Free and Rob and hopefully, this zine will be successful enough for a second printing. Be sure to keep updated on both prisoners by checking out their websites at:

Jeff 'Free' Luers [www.freefreenow.org](http://www.freefreenow.org)

Rob Los Ricos [www.defenestrator.org/roblosricos](http://www.defenestrator.org/roblosricos)

thanks again, Friends of Jeffrey Luers [freefreenow@mutualaid.org](mailto:freefreenow@mutualaid.org)



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Now that I'm done ranting, I'll outline the work of some important prisoners and their initiatives. First, I would say, many deserving writers, poets, artists and/or revolutionaries that I've been lucky enough to have received work from, aren't fairly represented. I just am overwhelmed with manuscripts and sheaves of material, and am pressed for time. I'm looking at ways to increase my time to do this type of serious work and of doing it with more alacrity!

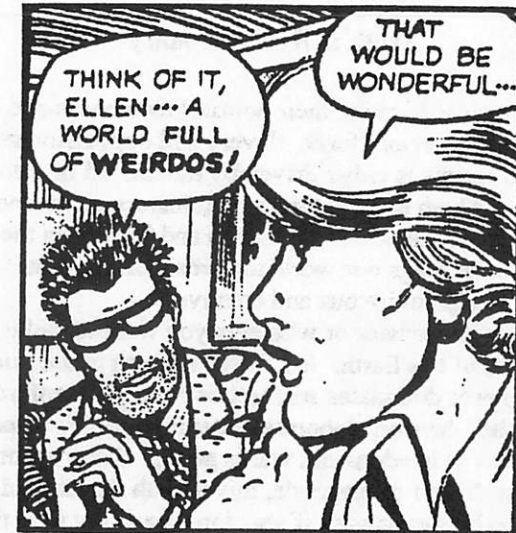
First, I would speak of Kevin (Rashid) Johnson, locked down in a super max hellhole in Virginia, home of Harper's Ferry. He's the strongest and most talented political artist in the world, a seriously important thinker/tactician and an uncommonly insightful historical analyst. His work is a must and the vicious repression he and his brothers have faced over at Red Onion (like at so many other prisons throughout the archipelago) is monstrous and must be challenged.

Secondly, is Clarence Anthony (Talib Y. Rasheed) Taylor, incarcerated in Indiana. He's a real educator and he focuses on the psychology of criminalization, of oppression, racism, lovelessness - the day to day coping, while living in a pathological environment. He's a sensitive humanist dealing with brutal reality in such a way as to comfort and assuage you as your insights increase by the reading and thinking about his beautifully written, yet concentrated social analysis and how people can best adapt his course of study with what we all are dealing with, all the time, in our own lives. It's incredibly important work! See for yourself - free of charge!

farmland, in short, the "liberation" of Peotone is really it's evisceration! Shut This Airport Nightmare Down!

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As Bush prepares to gut Amtrak and the airlines are flotsam and jetsam in their own industrial tsunami, Peotone is the *last* thing to be considered! But logic has left the building and those who know it are afraid to deal with it - partly due to the intimidation of the Jackson forces. They are masters at this type of psychological pressure, but bullies are proven to be cowards when you stand up to them! Peotone is not your cash cow. You can't have it!



So, we're here today on Lincoln's Birthday, to stand up to this nonsense and stress the point that the assault on Peotone is a predatory, corporate, hostile take-over, right here in our *w-a-y* back yard - Eastern Will County. We are under attack because this sacred land, this well taken care of land we live on, is the last piece of pristine farmland within an hour of the loop that hasn't been "Naperville-ized" and they can't wait to give us the Atlanta treatment - accelerated sprawl! Instead of solving problems it will generate more serious ones - just like you know where!

Anthony Rayson - "Footprint" resident and co-founder of STAND ~ Monee, Illinois 60449  
(Shut Thus Airport Nightmare Down) 708-534-1334

**Prison Activism in Focus**

A panel discussion about issues in prisons will be held on Friday, April 22, at 4 p.m., in Richardson Auditorium, in Morse-Ingersoll Hall. The panel will include several prison issues activists, including two former inmates of prisons. A reception will follow in the Fireplace Lounge.

**Truth is Revolutionary**

Thinking people choose to guide their political awareness and activity by one of two basic assumptions: coercion, force, slavery and oppression are acceptable or they are not. Human society is either driven by mutual aid or some form of predation. Examples of both abound throughout history and among personal relationships. One is sustainable and beneficial and facilitates the flowering of all things good and the other drags our world towards demise, destroying life and making it miserable instead of joyous and creative.

Amerika or Empire or Predator or whatever you want to call it, is the quintessential enslaver of this Earth. It's Hitler's dream come true. A white, ultra capitalist/Christian power dominates and acts as Naziesque enforcer. To some, this is a good thing and they develop elaborate systems to justify it and obfuscate the truth. To them, slavery is freedom and war is peace. Every second of all of our lives is bombarded with their propoganda, mixed with threats and countless examples of what can happen to you, if you don't go along with the program. The world gets bombs and we get bars. Their object is to kill hope of a better world, while reveling in obscene wealth and the "thrill" of oppressing humanity. I'm talking about the men behind the curtains - the policymakers. They may even have bought into the propoganda that they are doing the opposite - helping humanity. Paul Wolfowitz, recently appointed to the U.S. dominated World Bank, claims this group is interested in "ending poverty" when in fact, it does the opposite.

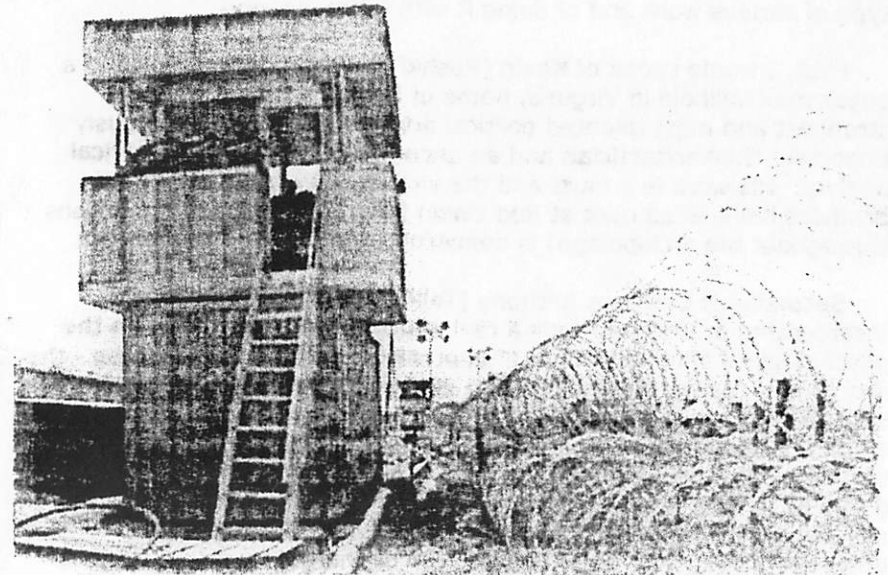
This makes for a deeply pathological society. The murder of tens of thousands, even millions of people is outside judicial prosecution, as committed under the aegis of the State, as is the theft of hundreds of billions of dollars by them and their corporate sponsors. Street crime, on the other hand, is viciously prosecuted to the point where we now have 25% of the world's prisoner population - 2.2 million souls - warehoused in dreadful torture chambers, where rape, violence and disease are pandemic. It's domestic oppression of the highest order. Abu Ghraib and Cook County Jail have similar objectives and tactics. They're meant to keep the poor people down! The punishment industry is ground zero in the war, here in the States. The most oppressed are also the most knowledgeable and insightful and that's why I work closely with them. I want to learn and disseminate the truth - to do my part.

prisoners! It's thrilling to help a prisoner develop a genuine anarchist understanding and watch that person "turn on." Seeing their gratitude and brave determination to seriously challenge their dreadful imprisonment and the torment this evil government forces upon the whole world of people, is powerful stuff. It can be among the main building blocks of sprouting cells of thinking and doing resolve, so needed to help organize the strategy and tactics, historical analysis, vibrant culture and talent - the *yearning* for freedom! Inside and out, we're all prisoners in countless ways and we're all in this together! It's just what is and we have to deal with it. It's people helping each other self-educate. It's giving your comrade a hand and vice versa. It's very important.

It's the black hole of society. It's the opening of Pandora's box! Prisons are the concentrated essence of this state, in the country called America, which is just south of here. You know, it's the place where runaway slaves and draft dodgers come from. I suppose their present-day crystalline image of the dominant state on Earth, is Abu Ghraib and the obliteration of Fallujah. It's not a pretty sight - the reality of this world that is - and it's often very dangerous, even tortuous psychologically, to attempt to grapple with it. *Too bad* because people are fighting and dying struggling against the United States government and we should be, too! The stakes are the same for all of us.

But, it shouldn't be intimidating. You'll find a whole world of humanity, once you start to write to prisoners, connect with them on various levels and develop into a person with a serious reality-check type grasp on what we are all confronted with. Mutual aid is a helluva thing!

Thankyou.



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We've a lot of work to do in a short amount of time. We're fond of looking back to the Spanish revolution to see a blazing blast of lightning of the potential of genuine anarchy. But that took decades of painstaking, nose-to-the-grindstone work, constant, community-based organizing and education, rebellions, insurrections - everything! What better way is there to connect to the communities in America today than through the loved ones that the state has kidnapped from them for their particular, sadistic punishment? You go where the need is the greatest!

To gain the respect of these conscious prisoners is very important and legitimizes our politics. But it only occurs through dedicated, constant, consistent and reliable work. It also must be unqualified. In other words, prisoners must have complete freedom to express themselves without political coloring from us. It must be authentic. After all, solidarity is a major principle of anarchism. It's solidarity in action. This doesn't mean we can't offer our own opinions, analysis and everything else. People deserve to have their say, without being interrupted. Let the readers decide in their own minds what they derive insight from and how they want to approach revolution. By taking this tack, I feel anarchy stands strong. Non-anarchist revolutionaries will gain respect for us as well, if we call out the cry of revolt!

People gain revolutionary consciousness via various avenues, depending on their experiences and education. Squabbling amongst ourselves solves pretty much nothing. It's demoralizing and anarchists are particularly known for their endless arguments. The way I see it, we've got to give each other plenty of slack and get over the small stuff. If you don't like someone, find someone else to work with. We're all on the same side of the barricades and we need all hands on deck to challenge this powerful monstrosity. If and when we succeed, we can deal with our differences then. Save your venom for the real enemy - the U.S. government! The world deserves to have Abolitionists in America put an end to this bloodthirsty predator, but soon!

I run an open-ended distro of revolution and education. I want to acknowledge an important mentor in my development. His name is Sean Lambert and he's a bi-sexual anarchist prison abolitionist out of New York. He opened my eyes to the incredible world inside the barbed wire and I'll be forever grateful to him for that. Sean, I love you, man! I still distro several of your zines, Brother!

Prisoners have been there for me in my darkest moments - often, even more so than my own family. When I need rejuvenation, I go inside and ask for some love to strengthen my resolve. So naturally, I return the favor, which brings me enormous satisfaction as well. It's a real community and we rely on each other, a lot!

Prisoners excel in all facets of knowledge and culture. The most powerful writers, artists, psychologists, researchers, poets, letter-writers and so forth, I have found to be prisoners. Being an anarchist, the strongest *anarchists* whom I feel the closest with, are also often

Prisoners are classified as slaves, sanctioned by the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution, which we've been told was meant to abolish slavery! This is the implementation of policy to neutralize the threat from the oppressed communities. Young Blacks have had their very existence criminalized. One third of *all* Black men in their twenties are either incarcerated, on probation or on parole. In some cities, this figure is well over 50%. Even the staid incarceration experts in the universities call it a "frenzy to incarcerate." It's a holocaust situation and most non-Black people don't even know or care. That's demented. A similar situation is forced upon others who aren't willing to be brainwashed and plugged obediently into the system, such as Native Americans, Spanish speaking people and young people. But, there is no such thing as "white people" and we too are human beings who should demand our own self-respect and not whore ourselves out to such hideous bullies. We're oppressed too, as wage-slaves, taxpayers and drones. A vacuous, hedonistic, materialist culture is a shameful price to pay for acquiescence.

Arrest, prosecution and incarceration are specifically very arbitrary, yet as policy, very effective in "maintaining order." With a million laws on the books, every single law-abiding person breaks many laws every single day and could be encaged because of them for the rest of their lives, if the authorities so decide to target them. The laws are also heavily weighted as to class and race. Poor people can't afford a lawyer, so they go to prison. Rich people "pull strings" or hire a slick lawyer to argue or buy their way out. If convicted, these few rich people receive light sentences and they serve them in minimum security prisons. The laws are specifically and virulently racist, as well. Crack cocaine, which the government flooded the Black communities with, as it did heroin earlier, is not only extremely debilitating, but is prosecuted 100 times more harshly than the powder cocaine, affluent whites prefer. Five grams of crack garners the same mandatory sentence as 500 grams of powder.

So, even though there are five times as many white, illegal drug users than Blacks, five times as many Blacks end up in prison because of them. That's a twenty-five times conviction rate, depending on the color of your skin. A similar situation exists for other "crimes." Malcolm X once said: "Show me a capitalist and I'll show you a bloodsucker!" Well, the bloodsuckers have moved their factories from the U.S. first to Mexico and now on to places like China for super sweatshop exploitation, in their never-ending drive to maximize profits, gut unions, reduce wages and benefits, and so forth. As Clinton implemented Reaganomics by gutting welfare, launching NAFTA and doubling the prison populations (after Reagan and Bush Sr. quadrupled them) illegal drugs became a fundamental source of income for those left in the "hood." "Lawlessness" is rampant, not unlike the prohibition era of the twenties. Drug dragnets and surveillances focus on the Black community, not colleges or white suburbia, hence the Black community is basically under police occupation, in their destitution. You can see it even in traffic courts, where the vast majority of the defendants are Black or Brown. They're "guilty" of DWB - driving while black! Prisons and war are about the only "growth industries" left!

Around the world, the U.S. continuously unleashes unrelenting tyranny and genocide upon the people, plants and animals of our planet. Tens of millions of people have been murdered throughout Asia, Europe, Africa and the Americas these

last several decades by the U.S. military or their trained and supplied local underlings. Billions of our fellow humans suffer at the brink of starvation, while vast amounts of food are fed to cows and otherwise wasted. They even have laws against retrieving thrown away food and providing it to those who need it in this country! With a mere 4 ½% of the world's population, the U.S. nonetheless usurps 30% of the world's resources. Yet, tens of millions of people are impoverished here in the U.S. and live in destitution, without medical insurance, decent housing, and so forth, while the few mega-capitalists graduate from millionaires to billionaires. It's the "profanity of reality." Recently, Bechtel, one of the primary corporations pushing this war in Iraq, tried to corner the market on water in the destitute country of Bolivia and only left when the whole country rose in outrage. That's sick!

Genuine, empowering, life-affirming education is all but non-existent, even to those who can afford it or know how to access it cheaply. People don't want to have to open up Pandora's Box and face reality square in the face. Dealing with the unavoidable conclusions is too scary. Fear, like during Stalin's tyranny, is almost physically palpable. The militarization of policing, surveillance, the often mandatory heavy sentencing for minor infractions, preventive detention, the massive police presence at demonstrations, the infiltration of activist groups, etc., makes a serious commitment to social justice work dangerous. They isolate activists from citizens and lump all their enemies together as "terrorists" or worse, "anarchists."

They say the first victims of war are the children and the truth. Recently, it was reported that since the latest U.S. invasion of Iraq (2003), twice as many children there are dying of starvation and preventable diseases. Brutal occupation is now "liberation." The phony reason of "weapons of mass destruction" has been twisted to mean a benevolent project to bring "Democracy" to these people treated as political children. Yet, Iraq is the cradle of civilization, not post WW II America. This latest "shock and awe" war comes after a devastating, otherworldly, fish-in-a-barrel, infrastructure destroying war in 1991 and twelve years of monstrous sanctions that snuffed out the lives out of several hundred thousand Iraqi children – 6,000 per month, which to the now celebrated former Secretary of State, Madeline Albright, was "worth it." Think of that, a high administration official endorsing massive, decade-long infanticide! Idi Amin has nothing on these mass killers!

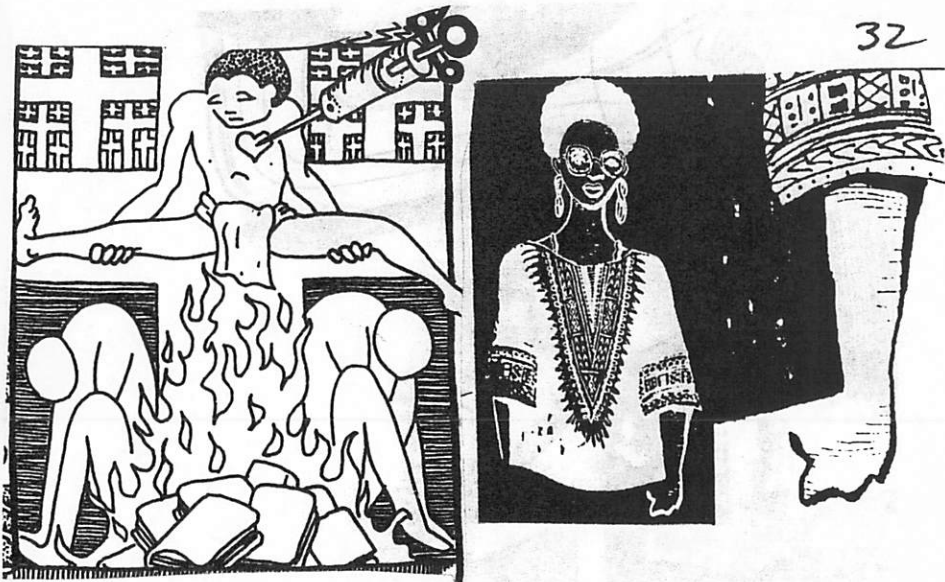
The whole world fears and loathes the U.S. with very good reason. They can see the polar ice caps melting and the Amazon "lungs of the Earth" being asphyxiated. They've seen the U.S. unleash nuclear war on Japan, Iraq and Serbia, without a hint of remorse. They've seen the many U.S.-trained death squad regimes ply their gruesome trade in East Timor, El Salvador, Vietnam, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Haiti, the Middle East, throughout Africa etc., etc. They've seen brutal dictatorships in the Philippines, Indonesia, throughout South America and everywhere else, propped up, trained and protected by the U.S. – as long as slave labor and cheap goods torrent back to the U.S., not to benefit the American people, but to be plugged into the rip-off, slave system of U.S. capitalism. These realities scream for world revolution! The rest of the world can't do it by themselves, as long as we keep aiding and abetting the Bushes and Cheney's of this world. For, even though Vietnam was able to force the U.S. to withdraw in ignominious defeat, the economic system of U.S.-based world capitalism survived, regrouped and expanded. We have a fundamental

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to fight the system, educate and assist their fellow prisoners and attempt to work with those of us on the "outs." Malcolm X and George Jackson didn't go to prison as political prisoners. Their crimes were being young, male and black. But they sure as hell *became* "political," while in prison!

As serious anarchists focusing on prisons, it behooves us to extend support to all prisoners, regardless of their political development, work closely with the educators and spread the truth far and wide, inside and out. Perhaps more importantly on a personal level is to absorb these teachings ourselves and have this heightened awareness drive our activities. For, the truth is revolutionary, empowering and motivating. I keep saying it, but it needs constant repeating. We must overcome our fear, just like the prisoners calling to us have, in the very teeth of oppression.

We all know how dire the situation is, that it will get worse and how heavily the American people are sedated with brainwash, drugs and a vacuous consumerist culture, saturated by the omnipotent brain melt of television. What better way to get through to these people than the ultimate reality check of America - the prisons? And who is better equipped to articulate these truths than the brothers and sisters wrung from the ghettos, barrios, reservations and working-class neighborhoods and forced to deal with this constant nightmare? As Malcolm said: "America means prison." Well then, let's get to the meaning of America!





## Empowering Prisoners

Amidst the suffering and oppression, prisons are schools and the most important teachers of rebellion are prisoners. Most of these instructors didn't get convicted of acts against the government, driven by their political consciousness. But, all prisoners are political, as incarceration is a major component of the state. Concomitantly, many prisoners thirst for a re-energizing awareness of self and society. It's a two-way street. We must learn from them and help teach those looking to learn. To do this, we must collaborate closely with revolutionary prisoners regardless of when they acquired their insightfulness and support them in their struggles against their captors.

Oppressed people have a natural awareness and desire to combat their oppressors, whether they belong to a political grouping or not. Look at Iraq. A major component driving the insurgency there, are the former prisoners of Saddam Hussein. Revolutions require fearless muscle!

With 2.2 million prisoners, there's a huge pool of potential revolutionaries, drawn from the prisons, in this country. So, it's no wonder that censorship is so heavy and political activity by prisoners is dealt with so harshly by the gulag authorities. It used to be illegal to educate slaves because of the fear that their knowledge would lead them to rebellion. The same holds true today.

The few incarcerated in this country specifically for their politics deserve our respect, attention and support, of course. But so do all the other prisoners, especially those putting themselves in harms way

responsibility as world citizens and it's only fair that we hold up our end. Cowardice in the face of such cataclysmic danger is the lowest form of life.

The war on the world has indeed come home. September 11<sup>th</sup> was surprising in its shocking effectiveness juxtaposed against a uniquely politically oblivious general population (heavily sedated with brainwash and drugs) as well as being one of the few retaliatory actions taken against the U.S. who has generated such suffering and misery in this world. Trillions of dollars spent on "defense" and the U.S. could do nothing for the hour and a half while these spectacular events were unfolding on live t.v.? Yet, they knew everything about these guys in the next day's newspapers. By sheer coincidence, I suppose, the Patriot Act and plans for the invasion of Iraq, were all prepped and ready to go. Mass psychology and manipulation have been raised to a science by these aggressors and we are being asked to pay for their bloodthirstiness, offer our sons and daughters as their cannon fodder and rat out those around us who are not white enough or who have the courage of genuine morality and attempt to resist the government in some form or other. Even just a free skool type educator like myself, has been under surveillance. I have had some of my group's meetings infiltrated. Anarchist education is a no-no.

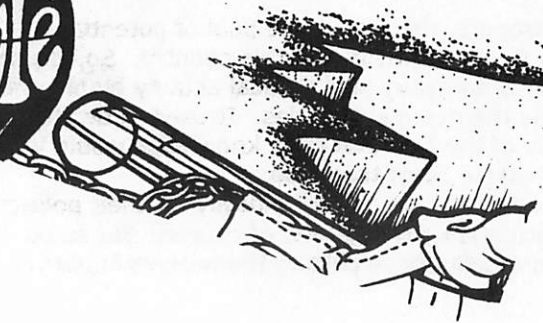
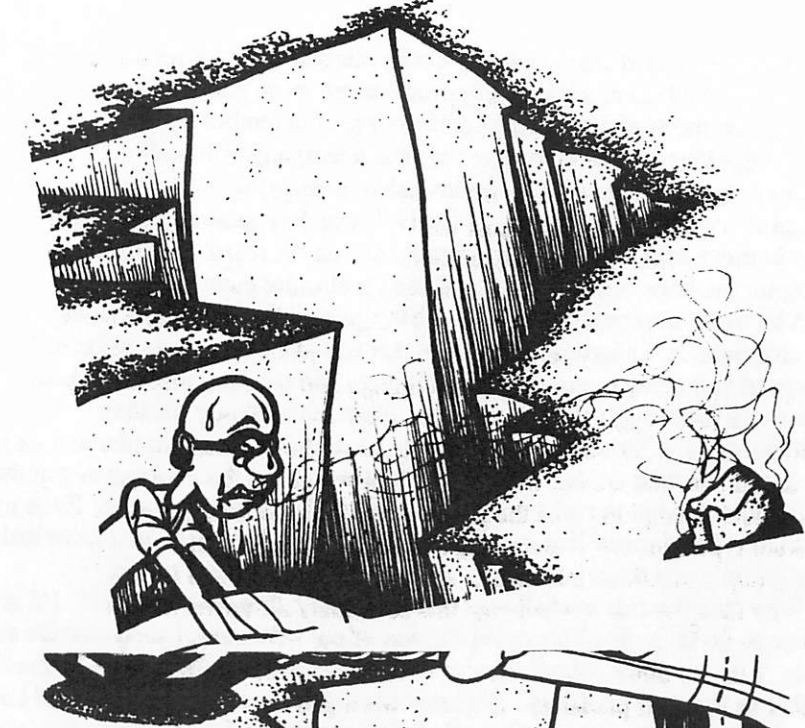
Why take the risk to challenge this seemingly all-powerful State? I'd answer because to do so is the ultimate expression of our humanity, based on truth and justice. Like all other animals, we're social creatures, who for survival, must band together to fight off predators. It's empowering to overcome our fear and join others doing the same. It's an incredible education and very life-affirming. It needs to be done. The whole world is relying on the American people to come out of their stupor and lethargy to throw off these monsters catapulting all of us towards extinction. America has shown it is vulnerable to such a commitment to consciousness and action, as shown by the upheavals of the sixties and early seventies. Outside countries, such as Korea, Vietnam and others have even fought the U.S. to a draw or defeated them, on the battlefield. All previous predatory empires have gone down, especially when the home front people refuse to be their killers and jailors. Our children and their children *demand* that we act!

Understanding and resistance to the Bush regime is increasing. Young people are less likely to be suckered into signing their lives away to the military, as they see so many being killed, maimed &/or otherwise ruined by signing up. As the government steps up their coercive, lie-based offensive against Americans, more people will feel the need to learn the truth. As people like Ward Churchill are being targeted, folks can peck into the internet and see who is being honest about things. It's a crucial time in history where the fate of the Earth literally hangs in the balance.

Depending on our resolve and level of effectiveness to rid humanity of these arch-criminals, rests the fate of life, itself. The truth is revolutionary.

Anthony Rayson, prison abolition anarchist –  
Statement at Beloit College Forum, April 22, 2005

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