

Thought Bombs #30



By, Anthony Rayson

Greetings!

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It's been a long time since I burdened you all with one of *these!* (smile*) Something like eighteen months. Like everybody else, my life seems to be on this sort of accelerating merry-go-round! And here I am, you basic "Joe Normal" husband, father, worker – anarchist propagandist! I'm relieved that my immediate family is relatively healthy and happy. I'm coming off some nasty surgery for a hernia, which is how I was even able to get to this. I had so much other work I felt compelled to deal with first. Tons more sits a-waitin'!

I had hoped to be retired by now, but am not, due to the usual – government treachery and in this case, basic economic meltdown society. But, my body broke down, anyway. It's a tough way to get a few weeks off. At least I'm alive and not permanently disabled like so many. Life is good!

During these many months, I've continued to provide hundreds of zines to (mostly indigent) prisoners and any others, while crafting many new ones. I still like to seek out and add new sources of genuine free school education written by others, either inside of prison or outside. Today I'm doing a few, including an anarchist analysis from Venezuela about what is happening down there.

New titles include – *Zero to Anarchist in 1.2 Seconds*, by Lisa (Lee) Savage, *Brain Grenades*, by Coyote Sheff, *An Interview with Sundiata Acoli* and dozens of others. Catalogs are available.

Google the **Anthony Rayson Zine Collection**, housed and cataloged at the DePaul University.

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All essays written by Anthony Rayson. I had hoped to also have included some work by certain prisoners, but ran out of space. Some of my stuff didn't make the cut, either. I'll put these together in my next project: *Prisoners' Speak! #5*.

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Empowering Education

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Using the Medium



Liberation for All.....

Of Zines

October 18th, 2008 Madison Zine Fest Workshop

Presented by Anthony Rayson / So. Chi ABC Zine

Empowering Education Using the Medium of Zines

"The paradox of education is precisely this – that as one begins to become conscious one begins to examine the society in which he is being educated. The purpose of education, finally, to create in a person the ability to look at the world for himself, to make his own decisions, to say to himself this is black or this is white, to decide for himself whether there is a God in heaven or not. To ask questions of the universe, and then learn to live with those questions, is the way he achieves his own identity. But no society is really anxious to have that kind of person around. What society really, ideally wants is a citizenry which will simply obey the rules of society. If a society succeeds in this, that society is about to perish. The obligation of anyone who thinks of himself as responsible is to examine society and try to change it and to fight it – at no matter the risk."

~ James Baldwin ~

Like everybody else in this world, I strove from a young age to find my own identity, acquire genuine education, live a full life and interact productively with other members of the human family. To achieve this, I had to totally reject the mainstream education demanded by the system. A huge percentage of American citizens have similarly reacted negatively to the "education" forced upon almost every child from age 4 or 5 until whenever they manage to get out of it – in their teens or twenties.

Basically, they are being conditioned to function in society, support the government, accept the generalized accepting "arguments" of power and limit their lives to a life of consumerism and immediate family, vaguely "over-viewed" by some religious belief system. We end up groping through life, dissatisfied, not knowing what is really going on and feeling

powerless to have any real impact on an increasingly degenerating society.

For many people, such miserable and insulting treatment is viscerally unacceptable and they thrash out in a number of unknowing ways. They know 6 something is seriously wrong but they can't put their finger on it. No one has ever gone out of their way to teach them the truth which they so need to know, understand and blend into their lives.

The government has every reason to obfuscate the truth from A to Z. They have committed and continue to commit horrific crimes on people the world over. We are supposed to accept the Orwellian Big Brother lie that America means freedom and that there are no "political prisoners" in this country because there is no reason not to blindly accept things as they are. Resistance is supposedly non-existent and otherwise doomed to failure. This leads to alienation, atomization and zombification through addiction.

Those who disagree fundamentally with this aggressive capitalist system are vilified as "terrorists" and "criminals." The truth that Baldwin spoke about is muffled, hard to find, and rarely provided in a down-to-earth, useful way, people can genuinely relate to and weave into their consciousness and their lives in a meaningful way. Enter, an updated version of the Francisco Ferrer School of Free Skool Education, using the medium of zines!

Zines as Educational Tools for and with Prisoners

I. The Failure of Traditional Education

A. Education is irrelevant to peoples' lives

Many young people are tuned out to the types of things teachers attempt to teach them, such as "American history" that extols the system, candy-coats any "problems" and serves up a white settler type of

spin. Non-white students aren't taught their own history in any real way and often, their miserable home lives make a mockery of the depiction of 7 American society that they are all too familiar with. They're taught math and science, all the "subjects" while their lives are being ones of subsistence, violence, addiction, criminality, both on the streets and by the police – cold reality. Even for so-called "white" people, if they have any perception at all, they realize they are being fed a huge, endless pile of garbage.

They are not taught about the great revolutionaries who fought the United States government, whether they were Americans or from other countries. They are not taught alternative analyses or the perspectives of people in other countries. It's more like just getting endless truckloads of cement to try to cover up the toxic, Chernobyl-like reality, than being inspired by the real deal education.

Granted, some students manage to seemingly harmlessly conform and go through the channels and fashion oblivious to struggle lives and fill various roles in the system, justify their lives, go with the program and even have relative psychological health. But, they have no real understanding nor any sympathy or empathy of others less well-off than them. Others are groomed to power positions and may become monsters without even realizing their lives had been groomed to perpetuate an evil social, political and economic system.

B. High drop-out rates and illiteracy.

A huge percentage of people are tracked for failure, categorized, drugged, disciplined and otherwise drummed out of the educational system with often frightful consequences. Others go through the motions, get degrees and still can't read, write or

think, but may function at some level or other.

People come out of it really turned off even by the very idea of "education." Many won't read books or try to study much of anything. They just cocoon themselves in their iPods and go in the direction that holds their interest. They watch a ton of T.V. and play video games, which aside from helping them pass their lives in an addictive manner, really don't teach them things they need to know. They do reinforce consumerism and dull their senses and make "violence" an entertainment, instead of the horrific reality it is to so many. They get zombified. 8

Illegal drug economies fill in the huge gaps that non-white, inner city dropouts pour through. The police focus their drug busting energies in these communities, even though the drug rates are the same in all groups. Thus, many, many of these people become prisoners and family members of prisoners.

Gangs offer affiliation and the support of a group. But, all too often, desperation, poverty, a warped sense of "respect" and the targeting of them by the authorities, coupled with their own non-education, send these young men into prison.

The punitive nature of their treatment, coupled with accelerated "tough love" - conform or else - "education," only serves to add to their bitterness as they go from juvenile detention to the big house. It's a stark reality that many of these young people find themselves in the hells that are the prisons, before they even really had a chance at figuring out what they really wanted to do with their lives, let alone what society was all about. They look to hip-hop, "gangstas" and prisoners for direction.

Their developing years, where they go from children really through puberty, to young adulthood to becoming mature adults is being spent in a vicious all-male, locked-down nightmare reality. During this vile sacrifice of their lives to the punishing judgment of a

criminal state, is the only chance they may finally come across education that they can relate to, feel respected by and can genuinely weave into their lives to begin their journey of genuine development. 9

C. Poverty and criminal convictions

Prisoners do not accept their punishment as "just" seeing as they see their conviction as race-based and class-based, and rightfully so. They see the big criminals (government and business) engage in monstrous criminal behavior such as murder and theft with impunity. The rare times a "big shot" is charged with some crime, he or she can buy their way out of a conviction or get a light sentence and a country club type prison. Their "crime" was being black and poor and getting caught.

As well, recidivism is built into the system, and like the huge dropout rates for high schoolers (over 50% in Chicago!) the recidivist rates are off the charts – like 75%. The fact genuine rehabilitation and drug addiction programs, jobs programs and etc. actually work to greatly reduce recidivism and compulsive criminal behavior in general, is ignored. There are powerful forces that want to see a high incarceration rate as the companies servicing them are highly lucrative. The profits are guaranteed as they are extorted from taxpayers.

The punishment industry may drag Christian religionists into the sham of "offender rehabilitation" but that too has little effect on their real thinking and behavior, once they are released from prison.

II. The Failure of Prison Programs

A. Punishment has replaced rehabilitation.

The incessant propaganda from government that

our problems are caused by "terrorists" and "gang bangers" is taken up by the lawmakers. They have stumbled on the formula which will more likely get them re-elected. A public constantly whipped into a state of fear, combined with their ignorance, as they too have never been taught the truth, allows for "lock them up and throw away the key" demagoguery. They pass more and harsher laws, pouring more money and resources into mass incarceration, with lengthier sentences. 10

Once incarcerated, they are subjected to more and more brutal treatment, sensory deprivation, bad food, deplorable living conditions, lack of resources, etc. The only thing these sick "lessons" teach is how to embitter a man – and also how a person is driven insane! There's no accountability all along the line and prisoners are degraded, humiliated and assaulted all the time, especially if they show hints of somehow acquiring genuine education and show the courage to fight the system – at no matter the risk.

B. Prison Censorship Zealotry

Each and every prison has a huge laundry list of reasons of what kind of publications will be denied a prisoner, why they are "detrimental" to the prison, how they must be sent and so forth. By the mere receiving of said "offensive" literature, a prisoner can have all sorts of bad things happen to him or her. They can even be punished for receiving a letter they never even get a chance to see! They may be threatened in various ways, assaulted, have all their possessions stolen, be thrown into the hole or sent to other prisons.

The latest ghoulish phenomenon is the proliferation of the highly psychically toxic control unit prisons. These, the authorities tell us are constructed for the "worst of the worst" – the incorrigible, hardened

criminal. So, it's beyond disingenuous to find that people they do have and help drive insane are locked up here along with the so-called "jailhouse lawyers" // activists and educators. It's the ultimate punishment for the person who *"thinks of himself as responsible."*

Basically, it is the modern version of a slave system that has never stopped being a slave system. And just like back in the day, one of the worst "crimes" you can commit against such a system is to educate their slaves. So, the contradictions between an oppressive, fear and lie-based social order – the hallmarks of a society *"about to perish"* and the responsible truth and those with the highest courage to teach it, are crystallized in the prisons.

It's the ultimate paradox – ground zero in the war here at home. You've got the "argument" of punishing government – lies, coercion, violence and its threat pitted against the insight and brilliance of the most learned prisoners, which is the source of the most useful and profound lessons for those in prison and those targeted for prison. The truth is revolutionary.

C. "Educational prison programs" = high recidivist rates.

These programs are just shells of whatever genuine rehabilitative effect they once might have had. They're used punitively. They are tied in with privilege granting and removal. What few activities allowed are used as bargaining chips vis-à-vis their behavior (or level of conformity.) They don't pay attention to it, much less actively work it into their mental hard drive. And if they don't meet stipulations that are next to impossible to do correctly – especially from a recently released prisoner forced through that meat grinder and taught not how to think, but rather, how to avoid being assaulted, how to express rage and just have a

rebellious reaction to everything they were forcibly subjected to.

The system doesn't want a person to know how to think, overcome their fears and examine society to change and fight it. But by denying them real education, they also cannot deeply understand everything else they need to know just for simple survival. They don't know and may not even get along with themselves! It takes a lot of effort to learn how to approach situations and deal with them positively on a consistent basis. They don't know what love means or how to build a real relationship. They've been blinded by the light as they get out. They're sick, broke, have no job and nowhere to stay. They need to be able to live and that is a learned, survival skill – especially in this fast-forward madness maelstrom of today. They're nowhere near ready for the "outs" after their lengthy and heartless, ordeal. Many soon return to prison! 12

III. The Failure of Street Education

A. "Gangsta" culture doesn't provide genuine education

A lot of what these young, often genius performers are rapping about is true! They're reporting about what's going down in the 'hood! But where are the "Hip-Hop" schools? Where is the literature that is accessible to people? Where are the storefront community organizations filling some real needs of those in that neighborhood? The big names have all gone shamelessly, Hollywood. Who's putting up big bucks to free Zolo Agona Azania or Khalfani Malik Khaldun? Nobody! They're afraid to really deal with what Baldwin explained about. They're carried away - awash on the tsunami of greedbacks! They're unwilling to give up a hotshot go 'round, to do the hard, arduous work necessary to *"examine society"*

change and fight it. In my opinion it takes written, well-written literature dealing with real issues, as timely as possible, available to anybody – *especially* to those who can't otherwise afford it, i.e. indigent prisoners! 13

It's kind of like sports. A lot of people get caught up in it, its grooves and vibes and rebellious message. That's what a lot of people aspire to become themselves. But they're chasing a mirage and not learning how to become themselves. They're carried away in the great flood to prison, themselves. It's an industry. It's a money-making thing for some and an expense for most. Music is great just for itself, and insights can be had, but it needs to be developed as education much more fully – on paper for people to read, and made easily available. Ragging about the man to a hip beat doesn't help a young person deal with getting busted!

The whole drug-glorifying, women abusing, cash and bling flashin', hedonistic, gun-playing lifestyle is a ticket to disaster and certainly not anything related to genuine revolutionary education and development. If that's the only message these vulnerable young people in the inner cities receive, they are not being helped, are they? They're being set up like bowling pins!

B. Failure of various religions

Religions usually have a rather extensive bunch of dogma they try to get you to make yourself learn and believe. Basically, they're into perpetuating their church and beliefs, get people to support them and so forth. An overriding belief in a "God" is usually required. None of that stuff really has much of anything to do with the grimy reality people are facing on the streets and in the prisons. Some religious stuff foisted on prisoners is in partnership with the prison administration. Some religionists are motivated to

offer some prisoners friendship or something. Churches help ex-offenders to a point, drenched in religious rituals. But all that "Praise the Lord" stuff is ill-suited to deal with everyday stark struggle these ex-prisoners have to face. It takes a quick-thinking, nimble and adaptive, shrewd and thinking mind focusing on the tasks at hand. This comes as a product of a truly and effectively self-taught mind. 14

Some prisoners have a lot of problems trying to exercise their own religion – like procuring a Muslim diet, a vegan diet, getting prayer rugs or other things to practice their religion according to the way they want. But religious "education" is pretty blindered. They want you to believe in a "God." And they make up a whole scenario from there. But it's not the reality check education a person needs to deal with Earthly living. It clouds their thinking more than anything. And none of the religions really want to rock the government's boat. They work together with the government. Like Martin Luther said centuries ago: "Reason is the mortal enemy of faith."

C. Failure of present day politicians

Well, politicians have always been a disgusting collection of perverts, liars and power hungry bastards! Today's bunch isn't much different, except for the tactic they use, which I mentioned earlier. They push for the ever-increasing criminalization of the inner cities. It's total madness! They pour gas on the problem and act stunned at the conflagration!

This global war on what is all-inclusively labeled "terror" is being waged against the citizens of America. Not only tax payers, home owners, parents of soldiers, prisoners, workers – everybody – all of us are being menaced by this hideous government and their various failing systems, such as the "education" system.

Many young people feel they have no choice but to

join the military, where they are taught to obey orders with a vengeance – to the point that if ordered to kill people – they will do so, automatically! This type of brutal indoctrination destroys a person's opinion of ,5 themselves, many a time. They have really been brutalized by what they endured, did and saw.

Most people see politicians as a bunch of liars and rightfully so. But, they are always plotting more hardships for us and brutal treatment for people in other parts of the world.

Even the so-called "activists" like Jesse Jackson, Jr. have sold-out and merely voice the lame "left-wing" of mainstream society. They don't want to talk about the real deal, either. A whole new slew of voices needs to be and actually is being belted out, lately. We gotta pick up the banner of articulated revolution, where others have left off! Use that understanding in the context of what is happening today!

IV. Zines as a Means to Self-Actualization

A. Zines can provide genuine education

Zines are just self-published pamphlets. Genuine education is out there. Often, a good chunk of education on some topic can be found that is under say, 76 pages. These can be made into zines. It's a highly versatile, useful, economical and accessible form of media. Multiple submissions from different people can be put in the same zine. In short, any combination you want can be used, any way you want. It's an open-ended media, made revolutionary by its insistence on @nticopyright and having the zines be free. It's free education! The truth *should* be free!

So, you can learn a tremendous amount through the reading of zines. Often, it's the only way you're going to find a subject covered so thoroughly or with such intense fervor. You develop relationships with

people because of zines, learn to write and appreciate long letters and develop your understanding on an ongoing basis.

B. Zines offer a voice to prisoner writers & artists

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Prisoners provide their written insight to all kinds of publications. As well, they send graphics they've created. Almost invariably, they were given freely and the only "compensation" they will receive is some ill-treatment by the screws! But, there's a difference between a magazine or newsletter and the unique tomes, known as "prisoner zines."

Perhaps as a group, prisoners are the connoisseurs of zines. They know what the best ones are and often they are written by prisoners and those who are in the trenches with 'em. More and more, the most stunning zines are being produced by prisoners. This takes coordination through a person such as myself, due to all the restrictions and difficulties in communicating with each other we are faced with.

As a zine connoisseur myself, I make it my business to make the brilliant writings and deep graphics of prisoners actualized in strong zines. It allows for the for real language and clearest voice.

Some of the most brilliant thinkers are prisoners and they don't have access to the internet. They focus on the written word, which almost everyone can understand. Those who are illiterate can be read these zines. So, it's also important to make them very plainly spoken and understandably written. This insurrectionary activity will continue to catch on as an important part of genuine free school education.

C. Exceptional prisoner zinesters.

Over the last ten years I've worked up maybe 500

zines and made them available for distribution. Perhaps 350 to 400 of them were written and illustrated all or in part, by prisoners. Here are just a few of these authors and the gist of their message. 17

1. Theodric (Tacuma) Van Smith. He talks plainly mainly to the prison population he is a part of. He exhorts them to realize that fratricidal warfare among each other is a self-defeating activity. He stresses unity, is religious (Christian) and speaks in the vernacular prisoners readily understand.

2. Coyote Sheff. Coyote is a passionate and active anarchist prisoner, who spearheads the Nevada ABC (Anarchist Black Cross) prison chapter. He speaks directly in challenge to this cruel system and details his painful ordeal in very visceral ways that other prisoners can most definitely identify with.

3. Kevin (Rashid) Johnson. Rashid is the most searing political artist in the world today, aside from being a brilliant writer and analyst. In my opinion, he is the George Jackson of modern times. He's horrifically brutalized in a control unit prison in Virginia and is the Defense Minister of the New Black Panther Party - Prison Chapter.

4. Abdul Olugbala Shakur is a similarly ultra-confined Panther partisan locked down in the infamous Pelican Bay Prison in California. He hammers away at the racist system and the criminalization of his people. He chairs the New Afrikan Institute for Criminology 101.

5. Russell "Maroon" Shoatz. Maroon is a legendary Black Liberation Army fighter, locked down in Pennsylvania. I believe he is the only person to escape from a secured housing unit - twice! This well-known political prisoner is a brilliant analyst, historian and strategist.

6. Todd (Hyung-Rae) Tarselli. Hyung-Rae is a very talented artist, given political mentorship by Maroon. His artwork focuses on the cruel injustice and pain of

Amerika and the lives forced to be led by her captives. He also has a playful side as a cartoonist. His *Glee Club* is the Calvin & Hobbes of prison.

7. Sean Swain. Sean is a very talented anarchist writer and agitator. His collaboration with fellow / 8 anarchist prisoner Travis Washington, entitled *The Last Act of the Circus Animals* is an instant classic – a modern day Animal Farm. His pen is ablaze with the cry of freedom!

8. James Scott, Jr. James is an Afrikan anarchist prisoner cooped up in a dungeon in Georgia. He's a terrific writer and deep thinker who provides a first-hand and personal account of how Afrikan youth are criminalized and brutalized in Amerika, particularly the deep South. It's so damning of this system that such brilliant modern-day educators are treated so vilely by this monstrous system.

9. Khalfani Malik Khaldun. Khalfani grew up in Gary, Indiana and has spent his entire adult life in prison, most of those twenty years in the most hideous of control unit clinical torture chambers. He's been a determined advocate for his fellow captives, constantly exposing corruption and brutality, injustice, etc. He makes it his business to help educate fellow prisoners and help them cope with control unit repression. He is the Midwest prisoner voice of the STOPMAX campaign.

10. Ali Khalid Abdullah. Ali has recently been released, after twenty years of prison in Michigan. During his incarceration he founded the PPWC – Political Prisoners of War Coalition. He has written voluminously about all kinds of subjects, both having to do with prison and the world in general. He considers himself a New Afrikan anarchist and also a Muslim.

11. Talib Rasheed (C. Anthony Taylor). Talib is also a terrific writer who focuses on the psychological, spiritual and moral development of prisoners. He's got a lot of insight concerning compulsive criminality,

overcoming recidivism and developing a spiritual humanism, which he has developed into a genuine and very viable set of ethical principles.

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These are just a few of the dozens of prisoners I work with. There are many more all over the country. These materials do focus on the issues of utmost concern to prisoners, mainly. These issues are universal and anybody can learn a great deal from these publications.

Every day we receive much mail, mostly from prisoners. From the most illiterate to the most studied, the response to this work is overwhelmingly beyond enthusiastic. We have definitely struck a chord with prisoners and have earned their trust and respect. Many are proactive towards it and reprint them, share them and use them in study circles. This growing phenomenon of actually seeing the emergence of a heightened consciousness, due greatly by the real education delivered in these zines, has confirmed in everybody's mind the veracity of cut and paste reality check zines as a fundamental tool for the type of education James Baldwin wrote about.

V. Logistics of Creating Prisoner Zines

A. Prison (and mailing) rules of prisoner zines

Most people have no idea what goes on in prison or that brilliant thinkers dissecting modern-day reality, incredible artists and cutting edge writers and poets are forced to subsist there. There is a struggle and with every real struggle, there is an underground of literature – education and agitation.

Each prison has a blizzard of rules concerning every conceivable type of behavior and restrictions about what prisoners can do and read. All publications must come directly from the "publisher."

So, the solution to that is to become a publisher – of zines. Simply think up a name, get a P.O. Box and combine the two on a stamp. Stamp the publication on the back page – whether you created the zine or are just distributing it further. Stamp the envelope's 20 return address with the same stamp and you are the publisher of that zine!

It takes a while to become recognized. You could advertise yourself in various zines or prisoner publications. Almost invariably, prisoner zines come with contact information of that prisoner, others, outside support groups and so forth. Contact these people, check the internet and make a real effort to connect with people who are prisoner writers, artists and activists.

With the new rules and restrictions placed on mail since June 1, 2008, I find it most appropriate to send 6 x 9 envelopes, which just barely are still in the size category for "letters." These hold digest-sized zines perfectly. These are 8 ½ x 11 folded in half. The size limit on a "letter" is ¼ inch thickness of the envelope and 3.5 ounces in total weight. This is 19 sheets of 20 weight copying paper. That makes a "maximum" zine size to be 76 pages. Bigger zines are possible but get too much more expensive to print and mail.

It's best to go right to the limit with your zines. One ounce (4 sheets) cost \$.42. Two ounces (ten sheets) cost \$.59. Three ounces (16 sheets) costs \$.76 and 3 ½ ounces (nineteen sheets) costs \$.93. Some prisons insist on regular, letter-sized envelopes. Some don't allow stapled zines. Some reject them if there is more than 3 ½ ounces, even if the inflated postage is correct. Rejections abound and often depend on caprice. There's no accountability, either.

So, it's a good idea to keep the really provocative artwork and content off the outside covers, to help insure it gets to who it was intended for. If you're serious about this fascinating type of work, ask folks who has some experience with it.

B. Becoming a publisher & running a zine distro.

This type of publishing is the antithesis of what "publishing" or any other type of money-making venture is all about. The goal is not to "make money" at all. The whole goal is focused on finding and then collaborating with the most revolutionary modern-day thinking, edit it in such a way that it is relatively cheap, timely, legible and evocative and then get these publications into the hands where it will do the most good, which for us, is right back in the prisons.

This is a deep commitment, as it flies into the teeth of the most repressive system of government. It takes a strong resolve forged by a willed concentration on the goals – creating powerful literature, gathering it and providing it – *free to prisoners!*

It's nose-to-the-grindstone constant work and is not for the faint of heart. You'll pour a ton of time, money and effort into it but you can't expect any kind of compensation – other than knowing that you are a fundamentally important piece of the conscious development of others – prisoners – where every other form of "education" has failed them and indeed, targeted them for failure. Its validation is its realness.

C. Building connections – networking, inside & out.

Just as the actual crafting of these publications takes a lot of ongoing brainwork, letter writing, correspondence, research, exchange of ideas and all the things collaborative projects take, so too does the outreach to others. Placing ads in other prisoner support newsletters, submitting articles, poems, graphics, etc. to other publications, donations, letters, exhibiting solidarity when they face troubles and generally, developing a respectful, comradely

relationship with other groups and individuals inside and out, will stand you in good stead.

Prisoners are famous for "word of mouth" endorsements or condemnations. Reliability, truthfulness and "delivering the goods" earn their respect and they will be your biggest avenue of outreach! And when other prisoner support groups keep hearing about your projects and prison authors receive mail from strangers who have read their zine, then the chain reaction of genuine education that was intended is becoming actualized. 22

Seek to work with others doing this distro type work. Add powerful publications wherever you run across them. Make them available to infoshops, zine libraries, archivists or anyone interested in them. Make yearly catalogs and spread them far, wide and freely.

How do you pay for all of this stuff? You work hard, live frugally and spend resourcefully. A lot of former zine makers have quit publishing paper zines due to increased costs and restrictions. Maybe their focus was soft and took the easy, cheaper way out by just making e-zines or doing a blog or whatever. Their focus certainly wasn't on providing free school education for the most abused and downtrodden. If it was, these minor adjustments would be easily overcome. That's another way people can tell the real deal from the tepid - whether anything is capable of stopping their message or not!

By forging ahead with a mindset of total determination, many wonderful zine projects become reality. Once a powerful zine is created, it is done - finished! You can't just press the delete button. As it proliferates into and through the hands of likewise determined people, it gets duplicated. Originals and masters are kept for reprinting. Perhaps they're being archived somewhere - even a prestigious university, where they end up on a shelf of a library - accessible

to anyone, even though none of them went through a copyright situation, were all self-published, have no advertisements in them and are subject to nobody's censoring or mainstream "editing." They depend solely on the integrity and wherewithal of those who created them. So, the message becomes undiluted. 23

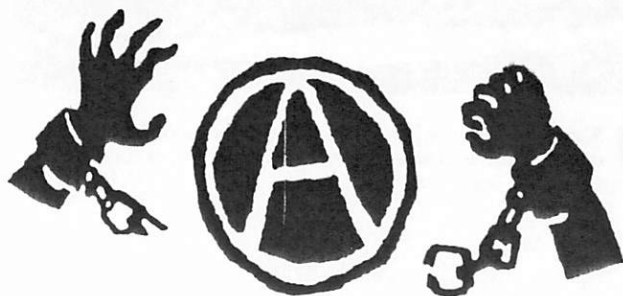
This type of dedication and intensity does not go unnoticed by others with a similar *modus operandi*. Before long, you are a respected comrade and collaborate intimately with the most explosive writers and artists in the world. And so, selfless solidarity work and the exercise of mutual aid becomes its own reward for those who dedicate themselves to it. Others learn like they never thought possible and repay your efforts by embarking on their own road to self-actualization. It's anarchy in action through zine education. And that my friends, is the direct action of free school education. Educate to liberate!

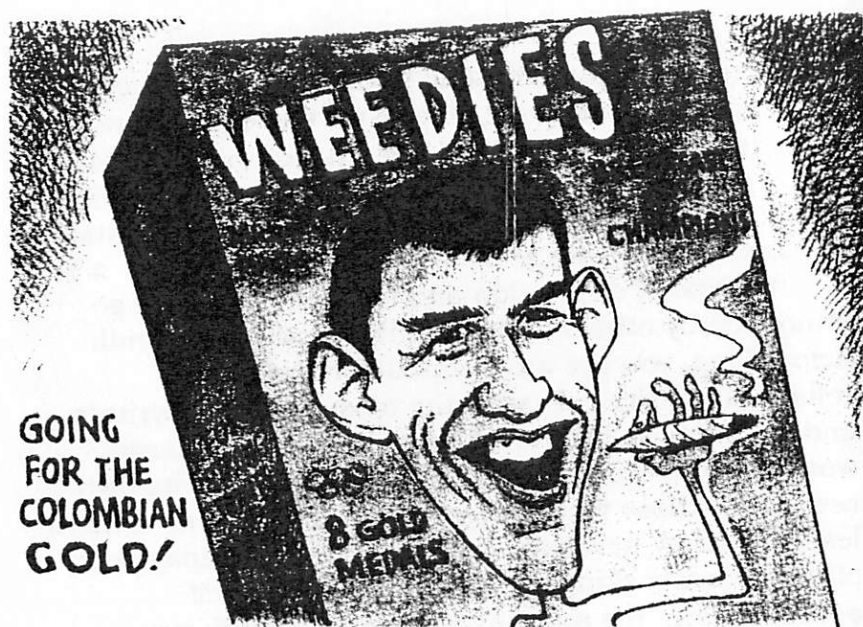
Anthony Rayson - curator, editor, publisher & distributor of

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



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4 Sara the walrus and her Russian trainer, Sergiy, perform during a show at the Istanbul Dolohinarium in Turkey on Monday. **MURAD SEZER/AP**

For Whom the Bong Roils

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I heard on the radio on my way to work today that some cracker piggie down in South Carolina was squealing about how he's gonna try and bust a Jughead-looking Michael Phelps for that My Space bong hit being shown 'round the world. Unlike the liar Bill Clinton, he looked intent on inhaling. The sports guys condemned him for being "stupid." I hafta listen to these guys because there's no real "politics" stations, except the dishwater liberals and the out-and-out Nazis.

What's "stupid" is the pandemic ignorance given as understood "common sense" by society's mouthpieces on this and all other incidents, subjects, motives, justifications and every which way of looking at, analyzing, understanding and responding to any situation.

That cracker piggie is the last line of defense for a sick system of locked-down laws and lick spittle conformity to real time vicious human enslavement and crippling ideas-wide, meticulously inculcated mass ignorance.

Plants and animals have a fundamental, symbiotic relationship — so much so that our mutual survival depends on it. Marijuana, *cannibis sativa*, is a very complex plant chemically, perhaps the most complex in the plant kingdom. It is the human being of the plant kingdom, without the horrific downside humans display (evil and its tolerance.) Perhaps the only things marijuana is capable of destroying are illusions, which accounts for why this benign, medicinal and incredibly applicable and useful psycho-active plant, has been so criminalized and lied about by the trigger-happy, taser-ing government and their police dog-trained cops.

Its big "threat" to the system is the very nature of its existence. Here's a plant that grows wild everywhere, whether cultivated or not, that has the ability to be used for practically any conceivable application. 26

Yeah, it's also a lot of fun to smoke or otherwise ingest for purely pleasurable purposes with practically zero side-effects, but can also be used for a vast array of highly useful purposes – from rope, sails, clothing, many types of oils, as a food source and many medicinal purposes. Cancer patients, AIDS patients and others suffering various ailments and debilitating conditions, such as chemo patients, have found that no other natural or developed medicine provides anywhere near the necessary relief that pot does – with next to zero side-effects. It's true! The cannibas plant is far superior to any other medicine concocted by pharmaceutical companies using any other plants or chemical compounds. That's incredibly amazing, especially when you consider how hard the government has worked to prevent the study and development of the no doubt huge number of valuable applications it could and should be adapted for. People suffer and die painful deaths because the government refuses to allow them to use it and refuses to allow scientists to discover better uses for it.

Yet, hundreds of thousands are forced into this monstrous caged life known as prison because of the reaction by government to marijuana – not because of this brilliant plant, but because of government's insane and cruel *reaction* to it!

Why is the reaction to marijuana so severe and life-ruining for so many? It's because like I mentioned earlier, by its very existence, it blows out of the water all the lies this putrid society is fundamentally based upon! All the other drugs foisted upon the population – Ritalin,

darvon, thorazine, alcohol, nicotine, ad infinitum, do the users more harm than good – and force that person's psyche to cope with having these harmful drugs in their system. They are forced to "maintain" come down and no doubt, repeat this vicious cycle a short time later. 27 These episodes of drug-taking, whether "legal" or "under a doctor's care" or just ingested by a curious experimenter, have the effect of altering that person's chemistry and kicking in the body's coping mechanisms to deal with it. Does this sound like a conducive situation for a person to experience such things as genuine understanding, insight, perspective, clarity or any kind of mental growth and empowerment? Of course not! It leaves a person at a bare minimum of comprehension. Often, only the appropriately nicknamed idiot box is vaguely absorbed and most people are left in a perpetual state of base ignorance that the trained liars, hyenas and apologists for this social ugliness known as "democracy" keep "entertained" and subdued with their "medicines."

So, most Americans don't know much of anything that the government doesn't want them to know – namely the detailed and horrific truth of what the government actually *does*. Their fragile, eggshell minds aren't in a position to learn and deal with this truth, for the most part. They don't know where Iraq is on a map, but they do know who Scooby Do is. It's beyond shameful that this is the only way this vile government can maintain its grip – through the deliberate stupefaction of its people!

This is basically why marijuana is so detested by the authorities. It is insidious, cheap and readily available. Approximately 13 – 14% of people use it and this is true along every demographic – every ethnic and social

group, among cops, politicians – everybody! It's so easy to use, fun and harmless. Right there, the lie is shown to everybody. This stuff isn't "harmful" at all! The only "harm" is when the uniformed and heavily armed 28 kidnapping goons get their disgusting paws on you and force you through their vile, for-profit "justice" nightmare. Again, taking a hit off a joint – quite harmless but getting tasered or hit with a billy club is very harmful. Smiling, harmless – getting shot, harmful.

So, what's "harmful?" Is it marijuana or the goddam government??? Half the people have tried it and none of them have keeled over because of it! So, if you refuse to stay in the psychological cage, they will put you in a physical one.

People learn the lesson that the government is a total liar when they wage their insane campaign of lies and kidnapping / arresting & etc. People feel government lies about everything and basically they do. But people don't know how to cope with the realization that most everything they've been taught and made to do has been wrong and an endless series of lie-based manipulations.

This, thus is Pandora's Box being opened. Where it leads to – confusion, possible incarceration, accommodation / assimilation, more addictive substances or the path of actualization, realization and ongoing adaptation to find ways to put into social practice insight and a real education and what it can accomplish (self-respect driven humanist action!) is up to each individual, tempered by the very real possible intrusion by the state.

The truth is that pot is benign, yet insanely targeted (selectively) and thus "it" is a huge social "problem." The "problem" is that the insane government has criminalized all these people for no good reason, sort of

like how they murdered a million Iraqis based on some non-existent "weapons of mass destruction!" 29

Yeah, many move onto harder drugs, like cigarettes, alcohol, T.V., cocaine, heroin, prescriptions, violence, capitalist exploitation and so forth. Before smoking marijuana, these people were on junk food, T.V., movies, the brainwashing in grade school, mother's milk, etc. How are all the poor choices people make after smoking pot, marijuana's fault? All those other drugs (before and after) are much more harmful (except mother's milk*) and way less able to help free one's mind to actually think "out of the rat race" thoughts. Of course, many new mothers don't provide their babies with breast milk but rather, crappy powdered milk and sweetened drinks.

The good marijuana can possibly do – as recreation, as medicines or useful products or as whatever, is constantly being ignored, illegalized, purposely refused to allow to be scientifically developed, lied about, demonized and criminalized. So, all the other drugs are bad and the one *good* drug isn't allowed to be good. Everybody loses! The only "winners" are the pharmaceutical companies pushing drugs and the government for-profit punishment industry.

Years ago, back in the sixties, all kinds of new people were getting hipped to smoking weed, something that people have been doing for thousands of years, as it is merely the dried leaves and flowers of a widespread plant. Many other such psycho-active plants throughout the history of the world were also used then and now, extensively. Marijuana may well be the most useful and least harmful of any of them. The only thing close to it would be caffeine and that's back with the pack, too! – in my opinion. And most despised of all, pot's the one carrying the black flag of anarchy! The "danger" comes

with the extent of the realization that we are faced with lunatics and monsters of a singularly rabid variety! Remember – lies are the truth, love is war and greed good. If you don't believe our fascist lies, we'll kill you!

In Vietnam, soldiers were blowing each other stingers out of their M-16's instead of blowing peoples' brains out. They came to realize what Muhammad Ali had said was also true for them, namely – "I got nothing against no Viet Cong!" This expressed their sentiments in a very immediate way. For, to follow the orders of their officers was highly dangerous, to body and mind! 30

Getting high instead of forcing themselves in dangerous, nightmare firefights made them think... "Why should we go out on patrol and get our asses shot?! Let's just frag the frigging Lieutenant!"

When your soldiers realize who their real tormentors are (ala the Russian soldiers in 1917) then it's "Katie Bar the Door!" This is what ultimately ended that horrible bloodbath – the insurrection and mutiny of the U.S. soldiers themselves. The policy makers of mass death blamed this "loss" on the effect marijuana had on these soldiers. They came to realize that their own lives and those of the Vietnamese they were ordered to murder, were more important than the career advancements of their officers and the political viability of the criminals in Washington. Smoking pot had made these killing machines turn back into human beings!

This evil government, who had murdered 3 million souls in Southeast Asia, had to leave with their tails between their legs, punching their way to their seat on the evacuation helicopter atop the U.S. embassy. They blamed pot for letting the cat out of the bag and turning scared and obedient soldiers into anti-war *heroes*!

Just like the “hot summers” in the mid-sixties in the urban ghettos, when young Afrikans basically revolted like the oppressed people they are (only to be brutally shot) the government has declared war on a whole group of people. Young Afrikans – males in particular – have been criminalized for this affront and been incarcerated en masse ever since. So too are marijuana users paying a monstrous price to this day for our “insubordination” – smoking pot and reminding everybody in the world that the U.S. was (and is) under brutal occupation. The cry of “Freedom!” and “Make love not war!” results in the 3/ brutal incarceration of hundreds of thousands of young Afrikans, basically for being dark-skinned and poor, and hundreds of thousands of “vicious” pot smokers!!! So, young Afrikans and pot smokers are targeted for persecution, not for doing anything harmful, but for what they *represent* – refusal to live their lives under the boot heel of government.

This criminalization serves multiple purposes as an all-around excuse to crack down on any and all activity, especially those “outside the box.” Alternate lifestyles, co-ops, politically organized opposition, any kind of group, can be said to be in a “gang” and thus up to criminal behavior, such as... “drug dealing.” So whole sections of society are basically cordoned off like a home-grown Gaza and made to suffer – while everybody is doing the same thing, too!

Michael Phelps smoked a bong. He was contrite, lost his Kellogg’s endorsement deal and was suspended from swimming for three months. Nine people were busted by that cracker cop in South Carolina, supposedly involved in this, somehow. Every day, thousands of people go to court over minor pot possession charges and other

charges tacked on. There are a million laws to choose a "criminal violation" from. The prisons are bursting at the seams with brutalized prisoners. The economy is in the toilet thanks to the real criminals being hard at work – the corporate vipers and the mass murderers of government. It looks like the only thing to do in these desperate times is to overcome our ignorance and fear and realize who our real enemies are. Is it a medicinal plant – or this vile system of exploitation??? Now, can we flick off the idiot box and determine "What is to be done?"

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

The Lamprey and the Fish

The government is a lamprey on a fish. The blood cells of the fish are the military personnel. These are mostly young men, looking to make a future for themselves and provide for their families, but can't find work &/or have had problems with the "Law." They desperately want to think and believe that all the hard work and sacrifice they are made to perform is to keep the fish healthy. But the lamprey has attached itself to the fish with powerful, spiked suckers. They bore through the scaled skin, past the muscle and bone and reach right to the bloodstream.

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The lamprey sucks the blood right out of the fish and devours it as food. The fishes' blood serves the needs of the lamprey, even though it was designed to nourish the fish. The lamprey, like government, is a parasite on the body of the fish, just as government is a deathly parasite on society. All the hard work conducted by people to better themselves, their families and their communities is being sucked out and used for the vile purposes and interests of government, which are antithetical to the growth and sustainable development of human society and life in general.

The lamprey sucks the blood at a steady pace which is very stressful for the fish but it doesn't kill the fish - at least not for a while. The lamprey needs the fish to stay alive so it can consume food, which it processes to nourish and sustain itself. It does nothing on its own.

This gets more and more difficult to do for the fish because the longer it lives, the more difficult it becomes to survive because of the bloodsucking presence of the

lamprey. The lamprey gets bigger, which makes it more difficult for the fish to swim. It becomes less aerodynamic in its quest to catch smaller fish or other organic matter that it needs to attain the nutrients it requires for its life. 34

As the lamprey gets bigger and heavier, it weighs on the fishes' very survival. All systems are being compromised and it can't even help itself as the lamprey sucks more and more blood, getting bigger and bigger and more lethal. The fish can't function amidst other fish, either. You can forget scooting around with the rest of the school, having sex and all that.

If the fish doesn't somehow manage to shake free of this hideous, endless nightmare lamprey, it will eventually die after an agonizing, slow death struggle. And even if it does manage to shake free, it will have a gaping, deep open wound to try to heal from, with all the trauma associated with such a mortifying experience. It may be too compromised to survive for very long and only in a much diminished capacity.

The death of the fish is for sure, at least an inconvenience for the lamprey. For now, he'll have to disengage its spiked sucker mouth from the now dead fishes' carcass and latch onto some other unfortunate fish to start the process all over again of sucking out those little soldiers from their rightful bodies - killing them, breaking them down and using the parts they want, throwing away the rest, in service to their own parasitic, otherwise useless "life."

So when you hear somebody saying something like, "...Well, no matter what you may think of the war, you've got to honor and respect the soldier for serving our

country." No! He's a *victim* turned into an accomplice to commit the ugliest forms of organized criminality. Like the vicious warlords of Sierra Leone who send their gangs to murder and rape - and kidnap young boys and train *them* to murder and rape - so does the U.S. government, in its more "refined" way. 35

They may not need the overt terror and coercion their African counterparts do, but that's because they've got the game down pat. They basically rely on all-pervasive mind control. They've locked down our hearts and minds and souls and rational thinking apparatus by using a birth-to-death conditioning process - an airtight commercialization and trivialization of all of society.

It's gotten to the point where many mothers and fathers allow their sons and daughters to be lied to and hustled off to these horrible boot camps (the mouth of the lamprey) where they will be broken down and made into a dangerous, yet compliant part of the massive lamprey that is what the U.S. government actually is!

'Cuz we're supposed to just bite our lip and take it as we're mentally gang-raped by the government, when our child comes home dead in a box - with a fucking flag draped over his coffin!

Maybe, we'll get "lucky" and he'll come home hideously disfigured, frighteningly alienated &/or homicidal. So, when maybe he kills somebody (quite likely himself) we're only capable of shaking our heads and *wondering why* instead of *knowing why*! This, when we should have never allowed this generation-ruining scenario to play out in the first place.

Any parent who allows their child to "join" the U.S. military is guilty of the very serious crime of child abandonment. The punishment for this crime is

extremely harsh - a ruined child that you had a hand in destroying through a combination of ignorance and cowardice.

Another sinister possible outcome is that this bullied raw recruit turned "soldier" will turn into a serious bully himself. These types are a vulgar menace to any and all they run across - from the wives they batter, the 36 children they abuse or anybody, anywhere. They're prime prospects for other recruiters - police forces, prison guards and corporate (mercenary) armies - where it's literally "legal" to kill - while "on the clock!"

The U.S. government, like their Sierra Leone wannabe counterparts, who were still trying to butcher their way to power, aren't averse to using extreme coercion and torture. In fact, they've brought this longstanding sadistic bulwark of governments throughout the history of these social lamprey institutions, to an advanced level that would make Josef Mengele cringe - the control units.

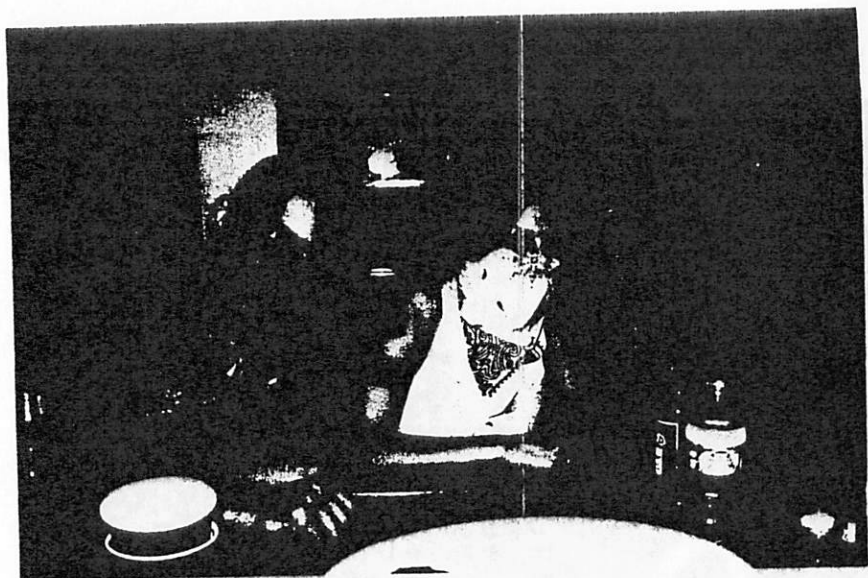
Charles A. Grainer, who became the fall guy for the "embarrassment" of Abu Ghraib, was contracted by the occupation forces in Iraq, who eschewed their own military police chain of command and decided not to use MP's (military police) because they wanted the top torturers / interrogators available and these are only to be found in the civilian U.S. prisons, in this case in PA.

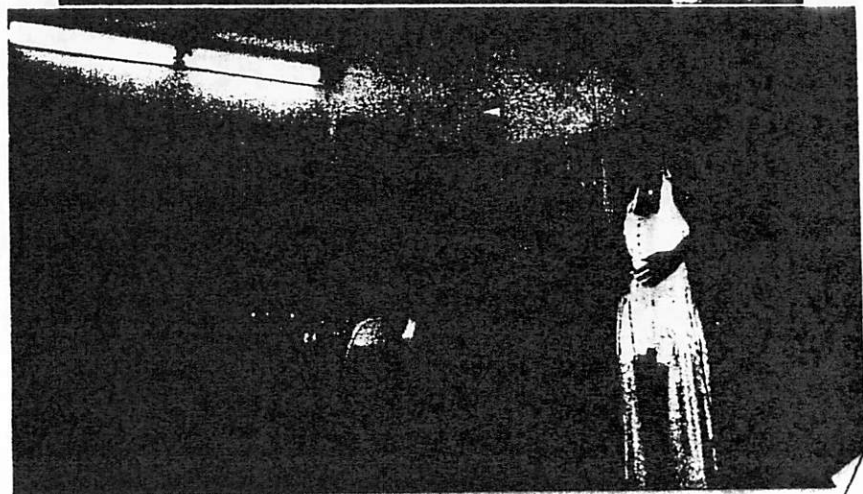
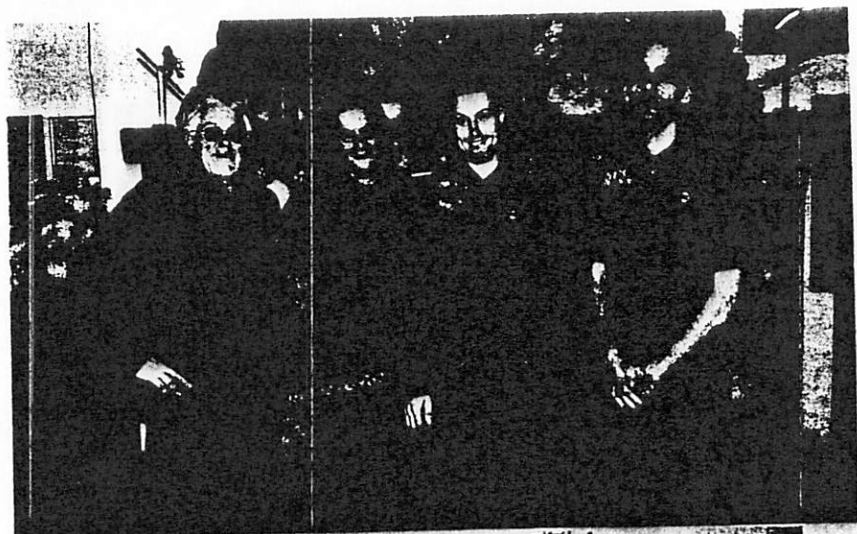
For modern day Amerikkka runs the largest gulag archipelago in the despicable history of governments and their morbid repression of their own citizens - outdoing historically evil regimes fronted by such monsters as Stalin, Hitler, Pol Pot, Thieu, Suharto, Pinochet, Margaret Thatcher, Idi Amin, Franco, etc. etc.

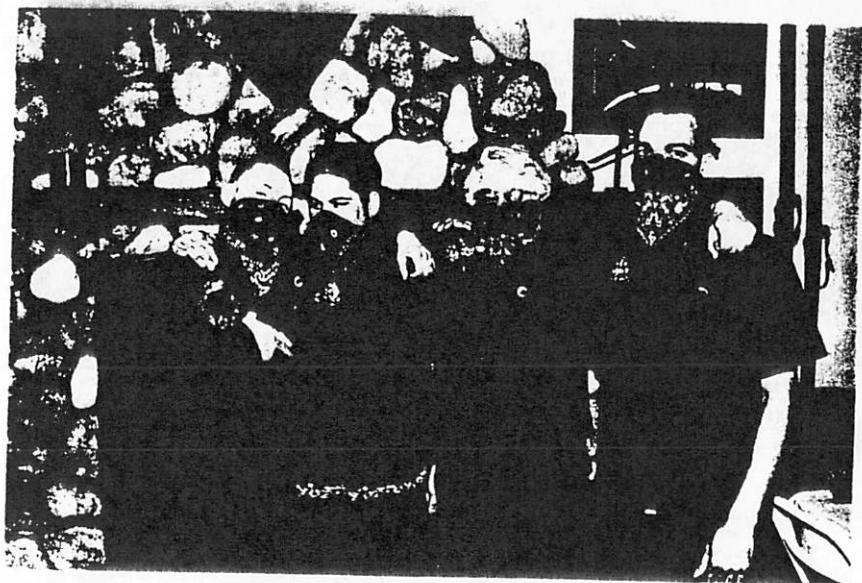
For, "heroes" don't terrorize foreign children. They help the fish destroy the lamprey and heal the body.

Sarah & Migs Get Married! 3-7-09*









OBABARAMA

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Obamarama

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Barack Obama's rise to the Presidency is a great leap from a mediocre political career, using shrewd tactics, feel good rhetoric and unusual luck. Juxtaposed against a horrible Bush / Cheney regime, a tsunamic economic meltdown and a final opponent of "Bush Lite" Obama succeeded in winning the election. Let's look back a little bit at his career and what he was doing and speculate about his upcoming government.

As a long-time south side activist myself, I have watched his phoenix-like rise with a sort of perplexed amazement.

As an "activist" here in Chicago, he was rather invisible. He worked on housing issues as a lawyer and although some of his associates became embroiled in various controversies and various schemes, he's managed to convince people (and prosecutors) of his non-involvement. He was on boards making decisions and also taught law at the University of Chicago for a while.

As a graduate of Harvard and the first "African-American" to head the Harvard Law Review, he was groomed for a spot in the elite manager class. So his "grassroots" period was always one of connectedness to the monied who fund such *non*-grassroots efforts. These are government &/or business projects posing as "grassroots" projects that are top-down deals using corporate funds &/or tax money to operate. Corporate funds are often mostly or totally tax-free sums, extorted from labor.

Lately, a lot of the big money has been thrown at corporations who've been caught with their pants down due to the inevitable reckoning brought on by their gargantuan ponzi schemes – kept afloat by massive infusions of taxpayer money – with Obama's pre-inaugural knee-jerk approval. All the trillions recently looted by the rich have "disappeared" (into their coffers.)

So, Barack was a hotshot young lawyer, posing as a "grassroots organizer" to build a credible resume.

He saw an opportunity to seek and easily win a State Senate seat, bypassing the usual stops as a local official and State Representative. Having Emil Jones as his mentor, greased his ascendance.

Emil Jones is the retiring President of the Illinois Senate. He's another in a long line of machine (corrupt) Chicago Democrats. He was Governor Rod Blagojevich's main ally at the capitol, in Springfield, since 2004.

Obama kept a low profile in Springfield. He's certainly not unintelligent nor interested in lining his pockets by the usual Springfield methods (graft / lobbyists). He's an intellectual and a writer. Although, he wasn't averse to getting a sweet real estate deal from his next door neighbor and former friend, Tony Rezko. Rezko is Governor Blagojevich's Syrian bagman, who's sitting in solitary awaiting his sentencing at Chicago's Metropolitan Correctional Facility. 43

Obama has several "former friends" - Bill Ayers, Rev. Jeremiah Wright, the Jesse Jackson's, Blago, Emil Jones and etc. Obama did Mayor Richard Daley's bidding when called upon, too. He endorsed the laughably inept Todd Stroger, the son of the then sitting President of the Cook County board, John Stroger, who was stricken by a stroke during the recent primary, which the severity of, his family kept hidden, until he won and subsequently died. Todd was shoehorned in his place for the general election which in Cook County, always goes to the Democrats. Todd's talents lie in unabashed arrogance and a unique fondness for blatant nepotism.

So anyway, Barack, whose wife is also a high-octane lawyer, was able to become a millionaire without bribetaking. He wrote a best-selling book about his African father, learned how the political game was played and polished up on his oratorical abilities.

As a State Senator, he phoned it in.

U.S. Senator Peter Fitzgerald, a Republican, decided not to run again in '04. It was obvious to him that a silver-spooned conservative Republican would have a poor chance at re-election as the mood turned ugly to Republican politics due to the awful Bush / Cheney regime and the looming conviction of Republican governor, George Ryan.

Obama, who has always kept his eyes on procuring political power for himself, jumped in and ran for Fitzgerald's senate seat.

I remember during the '04 primary, I was working with a group of Afrikan preacher-politicos called B-PAC (Black Political Action Committee) which operated out of the south side of Chicago and the south suburbs. We invited Barack to speak to our group. He declined, but sent one of his mouthpieces. This guy said Obama has some "pressing personal matters" to attend to, or something like that. We saw Obama on the next day's front page walking in the front row of the Chicago St. Patrick's Day parade. 44

This was lie #1. Lie #2 was delivered at a gala occasion held at the Conrad Hilton's ornate ballroom in downtown Chicago. The Illinois Environmental Council was staging their annual dinner. This is an umbrella group of mainstream "environmental" groups – corporate funded enablers of the corrupt bastards in Springfield. Their keynote speaker that night was the soon to be elected U.S. Senator, Barack Obama,

He wowed them with his now well-honed rhetorical flourishes, dramatic pauses, gestures, facial expressions, frequent smiles in his snappy suit wearin' pick-up game playin' fit body.

After his speech, I got in line with the fawning swooners, who were waiting to tell him how great he is. As I shook his surprisingly weak-gripped hand, (like the Pope's?), I asked him pointedly: "I don't need your autograph, just answer me this! How can you consider yourself an 'environmentalist' yet still be for this Peotone Airport? The airlines want nothing to do with this monstrosity. It's nothing but a disgusting, environment-destroying land grab!" He was taken somewhat aback and then assured me that "We'll talk." Needless to say, we haven't. His handlers emailed me back something about thanking me for my concern about the O'Hare expansion situation. He had been talked into supporting Peotone by Jesse Jackson, Jr.

Interestingly, Peotone came up in the news, just yesterday – December 11th, 2008. It was revealed that JJJ, whose pet project obsession – his only thing seemingly – is this outside his district pipedream airport, was rebuffed by the aforementioned Blago's bagman, Tony Rezko,

concerning Peotone. He told Junior, who wanted the land the State (under George Ryan's machinations) had so far wrested from the stressed-out farmers in this targeted "footprint" that Blago wanted control of the airport. Junior has a group of Chicago, suburban and northwest suburban mayors surrounding O'Hare, mayors joined in a group entitled ALNAC that are pining to control this mythical airport in Eastern Will County, which Junior has vainly dubbed "Abraham Lincoln Airport."

Anyway, since Blago rebuffed him on his land grab designs and tried to charge him \$25,000 to get his wife, Sandi, appointed to run the state lottery, Junior had a fit of "ethics." He told the Feds he'd help rat out Blago, feed them leads and testify, if need be. 45

Alas, due to Junior's fervent pining for Obama's now vacant senate seat, which Rod had put up for auction, Junior's brother and some Indian physician / pharmacist buddies went to bat for him, offering Blago a bid of \$500,000 - \$1,000,000. Funny, George Ryan used to be a pharmacist, himself!

Once the Feds grabbed Blago and the tapes sort of fingered Jackson's people, Junior reacted hurt and indignant, and of course, knew nothing of it.

Meanwhile, Poppa Jackson continues to extol Obama's virtues in speeches and editorials he writes for the Chicago *Sun-Times*. This, even though he spoke of castrating Obama, during an unmuffled moment on national T.V. Me thinks Barack somehow got hold of the Jackson family heirloom (their rolodex) and ran with it. Once it hit the internet, coupled with the golden-throated pretty boy Obama, it was Katie bar the door! The Jackson's 10 - 20 mil accumulated so painstakingly during a lifetime of indictment-avoiding shakedown, looks like chump change to Obama's overnight billion! This vulgar threat by Poppa Jackson may be why Obama's attack dog Chief-of-Staff to be, Rahm Emmanuel, left Junior off the preferred by Barack short list, given to Blago (and ignored because there was no money in it.)

So, you really can't begrudge the old man a good cry in Grant Park. Hell! Oprah cried too! Oprah cried too! And Oprah's a billionaire herself!

Getting back to Obama's senate run, he had the primary sewed up because the democratic front runner, Blair Hull, who was busy pumping millions of his own money into his campaign, was revealed to have been a wife beater! So, Barack had a clear lane to face the Republican challenger, another multi-millionaire, Jack Ryan. Jack was also handsome and posed a serious threat – until that is, the ⁴⁶ papers found out he had tried to drag his then starlet wife (a hottie on the T.V. show, *Boston Legal*, into a Parisian sleaze hole, which led her to divorce him. So Jack's conservative "family values" were shown to be that of a leech.

So, Barack had a gimme putt to the U.S. Senate as his two opponents were forced to shamefully disqualify themselves. He'd be the only "Black" Senator, too! The Illinois Republicans were floundering, with both Jack and George Ryan going down. At the last moment, they gang pressed the carpet bagging rightwing nutcase radio host, Alan Keyes, from Rhode Island to run against Obama.

But before his election, the national Democrats were also desperate to find a keynote speaker for their national convention to prop up the dish watery, droll, flip flopper, John Kerry, who would go on to get the election stolen without a peep, ala Al Gore.

Enter Barack Obama, who remember now, focused on his oratory and writing. Amidst such a sorry lot (while the *real* grassroots people were being beaten and gassed in a "free speech" pen under a nearby railroad viaduct) Barack did his shtick to an adoring crowd. Whatever he said, made a lot of Democrat movers and shakers believe that this guy was the greatest thing since sliced bread. He was now the golden boy of the Democratic Party – and he was still a lowly, Chicago-machine state Senator, who hadn't done anything, except be erudite and extremely lucky. The national Democrats were like a wimpy slut of the Republicans, who did what they were told – i.e. throw money at the rich and the corporations and support the war, regardless of what they told the voters to get elected.

Soon after minimal actual senate work, Obama launched his presidential bid. The republicans didn't really have anybody and neither did the Democrats, although Hillary felt entitled because she was Bubba's wife and had dodged 47 some mythical bullets in Bosnia. I won't further bore you with details of all that we just were forced to endure these last many months. Suffice to say, this lengthy social misery included a rightwing Mormon, a fascist former New York City Mayor, a washed up actor and other dreary products of this demented political freak show, known as America.

Back to his U.S. Senate campaign, came this alarming position. Barrack stated that the U.S. may have to bomb Iran's and Pakistan's nuclear facilities! This was reckless pandering to the ignorant at its worst!

During the '08 debates with McCain, he was even more aggressive in his saber rattling than his opponent! He made the murdering of Osama bin Laden a keystone of his upcoming presidency – and having no qualms in attacking Pakistan to do this.

Obama managed to raise \$1 billion during his campaign and promised the moon for your vote. He got the "Black vote" without having to address the issues of concern to Blacks – mass incarceration & etc.

He won the election and promptly named pro-war people to his cabinet, just like Pelosi did it – by pandering to the anti-war vote during the election, then toeing the pro-war, big business line of the establishment.

He's been amazingly lucky to get this far, this fast – with a non-existent track record. But, Bush had no "qualifications" either unless you consider being a failure at business ventures (failing at running an oil company & major league baseball team) and being the world's most renown serial killer. Bush Junior sent over 100 men and two women to the Huntsville death chamber without ever even considering leafing through their case studies. He *did* quit drinking and stopped doing cocaine, though!

Much of the establishment saw no problem with Barack. Guys like Colin Powell endorsed him. This Republican set the table for the genocide in Iraq, by lying his ass off at the U.N. about "weapons of mass destruction" that only existed in the U.S.'s arsenal.

However, Barack will face a huge set of problems – a major depression, two wars (and counting) a sizable fascist economic and political opposition, juxtaposed against the naïve yearnings of a destitute underclass. How he can and will handle all of this will be pivotal to the looming and accelerating crises, home and abroad. 48

My bet is he will soar to new rhetorical heights to attempt to appease those who yearn for a dignified life for their hard labors, but offer them relatively nothing – because the system is set up to assure that they receive relatively nothing. Meanwhile, he will in actuality, hunker down with the militarists and the monied, which is the class he had early-on decided to align himself with.



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

Lenin's "Science" - Terror to Power

I've a lot of respect for certain individuals. That's because they've shown me that they intend to "bring it!" That's good, because that's what I am interested in.

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But basic outrages and liberation-ruiners cannot be glossed over! True believing communists smirkingly shake their heads at "petit bourgeois" anarchists, because they insist on a revolutionary "science" spelled out by their gurus, Marx, Lenin, Engels and sometimes Mao or Stalin, mostly. Their quotes are like gospel.

I want to focus this piece on one of the "twin peaks" of M-L type of communist dogma - Vladimir Lenin. Since his explosive appearance, he has often been revered as a true liberator of the oppressed. Nothing could be further from the truth! Under his tyrannical, megalomaniacal, bloodthirsty reign (1917 - 1924) many millions lay dead - including the "flower of the revolution" - Kronstadt and many other workers and peasants who struggled to live. I agree with the Russian writer Korolenko, who said in 1920:

"...if the gendarmes of the Tsar should have had the power not only to arrest but also to shoot us, the situation would have been like the present one. That is what is happening before my eyes every day. The Boshreviki claim that such methods are inseparable from the Revolution. But I cannot agree with them that persecution and constant shooting will serve the interests of the people or of the Revolution. It was always my conception that revolution meant the highest expression of humanity and of justice. In Russia to-day both are absent. At a time when the fullest expression and cooperation of all intellectual and spiritual forces are necessary to reconstruct the country, a gag has been placed upon the whole people. To dare question the wisdom and efficacy of the so-called dictatorship of the proletariat or of the Communist Party leaders is considered a crime. We lack the simplest requisites of the real essence of a social revolution, and yet we pretend to have placed ourselves at the head of a world revolution. Poor Russia will have to pay dearly for this experiment. It may even delay for a long time fundamental changes in other countries. The bourgeoisie will be able to defend its reactionary methods by pointing to what has happened in Russia."
P. 127 - 128 of My Disillusionment in Russia, by Emma Goldman.

Many millions starved to death in Russia after this statement - 5.2 million in 1921 and 1.7 million in 1925. Mercifully, Lenin lay dead by then, done up like a Pharaoh in a display case - like Camus' giant cockroach.

So

Ah, lucky Russian people! They had the monstrosity of Stalin to look forward to. He was a loyal Leninist, who killed as many as he could for Lenin (which was never good enough.) But, he came into his own and managed to slaughter even more Russians than Lenin - many during Lenin's legacy of Khmer Rougeian hell - forced collectivization. He made a pact with the Devil himself (Hitler) and set up the 20,000,000 Russian deaths during World War II. Millions died shortly after the war in camps of both sides and if they did make it "home" to Mother Russia, they'd as likely as not be thrown into the "gulag archipelago" to join the country-wide (now region-wide) social misery, punctuated by the fear-drenched evil madness of state terror.

In truth, two generations of young men were murdered, thanks to the terror-state mentality that is the essence of Leninism.

Marxist-Leninists believe that it is desirable to attain state power for *themselves*, using terror, lies and murder, which are what all states rely upon, institute a dictatorship and rule as the "vanguard" of the workers. It's amazing that things are still at this primitive (and proven to be horrible) level as far as "revolutionary consciousness" goes, for so many.

Society is exponentially more complex than these "scientific" geniuses, codified in stone, purport it to be. The revolutions didn't break out in the industrialized countries as Marx insisted it would, but rather, in peasant countries. The "dictatorship of the proletariat" was a dictatorship alright - over everybody. They even devoured their own Bolshevik also-rans, like governmental cannibals! It didn't lead to a "withering of the state" in any positive way. It did eventually atrophy and then they just turned the keys over to the cut-throat capitalists, with a ruling class of KGB veterans, mouthing empty adherence to "communism." The Russian people - after decades of suffering and death, were plunged into poverty anew.

But, I want to go back to that glorious period of the Russian Revolution - 1917 - to oh... 1924 (when Lenin died) or so.

Everybody knows what initially happened. After a ghastly imperialist world war, the Russian *people* - workers, peasants,

soldiers and sailors - revolted! It took off like wildfire and stormed the country, effectively eliminating the centuries-long rule by Tsar.

Everything was new. The people had done what was necessary to totally redo their society. They were engaged in far-reaching social revolution. The prisons were emptied and political prisoner heroes were welcomed back to the fray.

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The people, quite understandably, wanted peace, land and bread. They wanted freedom and they wanted equality. They wanted a determining say in their lives and surroundings. They wanted autonomy, cooperative non-coercive relationships, economic self-sufficiency and true justice - both within and without. They wanted an end to economic and political slavery. They wanted to live their lives without being bullied. These are universal, timeless aspirations of people throughout the world. To their undying credit, the people of Russia did what they had to do to make this a real possibility.

The Russian people have a long, admirable history of resistance to tyranny. The literature, for me, is unsurpassed. The country had several strains of conscious social and political awareness. The forces for revolutionary change had pretty much everybody convinced, save for those connected to the Tsar, his military, the nascent capitalist class, and various reactionaries tied to landlord holdings or those hopelessly clinging to reactionary religions, sexism and factionalism. The far-reaching changes occurring were amazingly bloodless and true, country-wide liberation was possible - *if* the various revolutionary groups could work together and *genuinely* struggle together with people to actualize a new society, based on the principles so often voiced and so fervently championed by the collective will of Russia.

But, that's not how it came down, is it? One man - Lenin - had a far more Machiavellian plan. He would take on the popular anarchist slogans and the land liberation program of the Social Revolutionaries and proclaim them as his own - but only as a tactic of expediency, during the critical months of mid to late 1917.

During this volatile window of opportunity, he advocated a sort of inclusive "democracy." That was all total bullshit, of course. His real plan was to shoot his way into power and then, construct a terror state to bend, break, shoot or starve anybody who offered any real or contrived opposition to his regime.

He would teach us all a vital lesson. As Mikhail Bakunin had predicted, a "communist dictatorship" would be the most vile state ever created - until the copycats kicked in - Mussolini, Hitler, Franco, Pol Pot, etc. The entire lives of Russians henceforth, would be pronounced by endless sorrow, deprivation, government-directed genocide and a whole society catatonic with fear.

The real history of the Russian revolution and communist domination has been suppressed by the Russian government and Marxist-Leninist ideologues. They dismiss this decades-long agony and suffering and death as unimportant. Soviet "culture" turned into a hideous nightmare image of its true, brutalized self. 52

Lenin turned the potential of the Russian people into a torture and murder state. He ruined *everything!*

The West reported the horrors of Lenin's evil experiment as what inevitably happens when you challenge capitalism. You get an even worse result! As exemplified by Russia, they were at least in part, correct. But, like the Soviets, they kept the truth of the real, untold revolution by the Russian people, carefully hidden. The hopes for world liberation desired by the oppressed of the world were crushed by capitalist exploitation and misery on the one hand and brutal tyranny and gargantuan lies on the other. Indeed, Lenin pushed back genuine liberation many decades and possibly, forever! Why struggle and sacrifice for a new world if the outcome is even more horrible???

Lenin was "charismatic" (like Hitler) and was amazingly adept at getting people to do what he wanted them to do - shoot people!

The Military Revolutionary Committee, which planned the takeover of the Winter Palace, was a seven-man deal, led by Trotsky, including two anarchists. An anarchist shut down the Constituent Assembly. Many fought in the Bolshevik-run "revolution." Many non-Bolsheviks fought reaction all over the country, saving Petrograd on more than one occasion.

When the rightists were routed (and many needlessly killed by these rightists and the Bolsheviks,) the Leninites turned their guns and dungeons on all other non-Bolshevik politicals and then, everybody else, including (later) most of the original Bolshevik leaders.

They did this because this is what Lenin insisted must happen. This power of intellect and personality as an instrument of terror to power was copied by Hitler to spellbind his band of mass killers.

That's why I am not a communist, in the Leninist sense, for I do not believe in murdering innocent people or starving them or torturing them to death and lying about it to make it sound like the necessary tactics for real liberation. Evil – especially as 53 demonstrated by government (organized mass murder and terror) is the height of evil and can't lead to anything good. Those who commit such horrible acts, egged on by a guy like Lenin are the *least* capable of helping to facilitate a just and free society. It's like running a kindergarten with child molesters. Lies and torturously written tracts by the Lenins of this world, do not and can not change any of that. For, you can't save a patient rushed to the emergency room, by first shooting him! What becomes is a result of what is happening. A political state begun by way of organized terror can only develop into an even more terrorizing society, not some "worker's paradise."

Before I get more specific and detailed about the seminal and detailed crimes of Lenin, I want to say something about belief and religion. I'm about as areligious a person as you are likely to find. I don't believe in any type of God or "Creator" or anything. I'm a plain and simple atheist. I also don't believe in any type of cult of personality, "scientific" socialism or infallible type of thinking that by invoking their name (such as Marx, Lenin and Mao) then quoting from them, that it is signifying something altogether more profound and indisputable than anyone else. Like every word in the Bible, it is all man-made, agenda-driven and full of faulty conjecture. But, I will quote at length later in this piece from an eyewitness to the early days of Bolshevik rule – Anarchist, Gregory Petrovich Maximoff. I'll do this not because I hold him as some sort of special, all-knowing voice, but because, in my opinion, he is interested in telling the truth. You can judge for yourself.

Granted, some men and women are insightful to a very impressive degree. But to think that Marx, or Lenin, or Mao – or even Bakunin or Kropotkin for that matter, somehow have unlocked the key to political understanding and created the timeless blueprint for how to successfully transform a capitalist hellhole into a communist paradise, is delusional. People from the past can't possibly be expected to predict the future. They are not end-alls and thinking they are, is not just bad news, but dangerous. We need to be clear-minded and deal in the truth. We can and must learn

from the past and from former teachers and thinkers. But we must think for ourselves in real present day time to best deal with modern-day reality. 54

Ways and means are inextricably linked. You can't butcher your way to power, in order to create an egalitarian, cooperative society, infused with liberty. All you do is create a brutal top-down dictatorship - regardless of the government propaganda and the delusional thinking of those who echo its lies.

The horrible, oppressive, blood-drenched governments of Russia, China, the U.S., Israel - every government on Earth - need and deserve to be ended, for the possibility of a future for our planet, with peace, freedom, justice, equality, liberty, sustainability and lack of coercion. How is this to be made to occur? I can't really say as I can't know the future either. But, I do think that information and education grounded in truth (however brutal or discouraging) is of the utmost importance. A genuine humanist love of humanity and a respect for life and an anti-authoritarian mindset is the only precedent possible for a humanized future.

Treating a child (or a puppy) with love, care and warmth, gives that baby the best chance to take on loving and friendly attributes as they mature. But, if they are brutalized, nothing good can come from it!

The oppressive governments of today, like their predecessors, will not abdicate or give up. Nor will their cutthroat sponsors (the capitalists) with their sweatshops, bosses, and corporate private armies. The reactionary, government-enabling religions won't relent on their own accord, either! Organized resistance on a world-wide scale needs to become actualized and made effectively put into government-nullifying action.

This necessitates a strong anti-authoritarian consciousness, grounded in the truth and driven by the effort to positively deal with the real needs of people - not what a few Leninist "vanguardists" determine what the "people" should do.

Such a consciousness, capable of effectively dealing with a present fluid reality, needs a fundamental and truthful understanding of history to evolve from.

The "Russian Revolution" is a major historical phenomenon, but Lenin and the Bolsheviks weren't "peoples" revolutionaries. Sadly, they were murderous, dictatorship-minded *counter*-revolutionaries,

who used the cover of a mythical "worker's state" to gain credibility among genuine working-class revolutionaries, only to undermine genuine liberation movements. In short, they were fascists, posing as communists!

Let's take a much closer look at the Bolshevik (counter) SS revolution, with a particular emphasis on the role of Lenin.

I am going to use the documentation and argumentation of the Russian revolutionary, Gregory Petrovich Maximoff. He was there in Russia during these tumultuous times and although, he at first were willing to work with the Bolsheviks and help carry out the "Revolution" it soon became apparent what the Bolsheviks were actually doing and chose to tell the world the awful truth, in unambiguous detail.

The "red Terror" was Bolshevik policy and pushed by Lenin at every turn, even when Stalin and the others in the politburo recoiled at it. Lenin stated that he was proud that he caused such a devastating civil war. He said (of the forced grain requisitions that caused such hardships, famine, peasant revolts (and their subsequent brutal and bloody suppression) "That we brought civil war to the village is something that we hold up as a *merit*."

After the crescendo of pointless slaughter at Kronstadt, Lenin abruptly did a 180 and pushed NEP (New Economic Policy) which re-introduced capitalism, as if all that suffering and death to force march the country towards a mythical "communism" was a mockery of his own ideals. It was as if all that slaughter throughout the country was merely to satiate the demented evil of a mass murderer, who had no limits placed upon such awful behavior. After all, he was armed with the "science" of Marxism... so in his mind, any murderous action was not just acceptable, but "necessary."

The civil war cost 10 to 12 million lives, 200,000 to 1,500,000 done to death by Bolshevik firing squads. This occurred because Lenin refused to allow the people themselves to establish autonomous and federated revolutionary structures, but rather, insisted that a single regime, headed by him of course, should rule over all the nationalities of the former tsarist empire.

During his rise to power, he had promised such autonomy. This was a common theme with Lenin. Usurp the platforms and slogans of other revolutionaries, such as the Social Revolutionaries and Anarchists, then, instead of providing "peace, land and bread" provide starvation, bullets and terror instead.

Take Kronstadt for example. They were, according to the then in favor Leninist, Leon Trotsky, the "flower of the revolution."

When they demanded the right to speak and publish and organize genuinely free soviets, as per the October Revolution, Lenin sent Trotsky to slaughter them en mass "like pheasants" - up to 18,000! This mass slaughter was led by the Tsarist general Tuckhachevskii, who, like Trotsky, was later done to death by Stalin.

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Lenin called his heavily bureaucratized dictatorship a "worker's state" and thus by his logic, any striking workers deserved death. The gains won by the workers and peasants beginning in February of 1917, such as genuinely workers' control of the factories was forcibly ended and he put 1-man rule in its place, often using the very capitalists that the workers had ousted! He re-instituted special privileges and higher pay for specialists and managers and sought to follow the German capitalist model to accelerate the Westernization of Russia and "govern with greater firmness than the capitalists did."

As for the peasants, Maximoff writes:

"...by his policy of terror, by the destruction of the peasant economy, by exiling thousands of peasants from their native places, by the policy of grain requisitions, etc. Lenin prepared one of the ghastliest famines in the history of Russia - the famine of 1921, which carried away millions of lives and crippled physically and morally, tens of millions."

Lenin's "scientific socialism" was the blueprint used by future authoritarians, be they fascists, "communists" or "democracies" on how a small band of determined terrorists can lie, manipulate and bludgeon their way to power without any regard to human life or the "ideals" they purport to advocate. Does this sound like a monumental setback for the forces of *genuine* liberation for humanity? Just look at how hopeful the world was at the end of the bloodbath known as World War I, as the Russian **PEOPLE** overthrew Tsarism, opened up the prisons and swept through Russia, liberating themselves (while Lenin & Trotsky were still in exile.)

Then look at the history of death and subjugation via authoritarian regimes ("communist" fascist & "democratic") since! Capitalism had weakened itself and lost all credibility among the working masses in 1917. World liberation was a real possibility and

Russia *seemed* to be pointing the way... Now look at our poor world - authoritarian regimes, armed to the teeth, have a stranglehold on everything on this planet - and the toilers are beat down and confused, disorganized - bitter at the betrayal of Lenin and his decades of horrific "scientific socialism."

Eyewitness Account

First I will quote from Gregory Petrovich Maximoff's book, The Guillotine at Work: Vol. 1: The Leninist Counter-Revolution.

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"There is no question but that the Russian Revolution was a bloody affair. It would be unfair for anyone to attribute all of the deaths to Lenin's policies, all 10,000,000 to 12,000,000 lives. Any revolution takes lives. The white guardist counter-revolutionaries were certainly responsible for many deaths. The point is that many, if not most, of these millions of lives were shed not just because of the inevitable cost of revolutionary struggle but because Lenin insisted on implementing his own view of how the struggle should develop." P. VI

"Lenin had been in Zurich when the revolution broke out, Trotsky in New York. The Bolsheviks were a minority party with little real following, even among the workers. The other revolutionary groups represented a threat to Lenin's domination. The left social-revolutionaries had the support of by far the overwhelming mass of the peasantry. The anarchists had the most popular slogans. Lenin moved swiftly to crush both... The sailors of Kronstadt had an unblemished record as being at the forefront of any revolutionary struggle. When they called for the Bolsheviks to respect the rights of sincere revolutionists to speak and to publish, and to permit the organization of free soviets, the response was a military assault in which thousands (up to 18,000) of the most dedicated revolutionists in all of Russia were slaughtered because they dared to challenge the uniformity of Bolshevik rule." P. VII.

"Much of the struggle in the civil war was due to Lenin's efforts to subordinate the spontaneously created autonomous workers' councils, trade unions and peasant organizations. Maximoff quotes

Lenin: "We leave to ourselves the state power, *only to ourselves*.. It is necessary that everything should be subjected to the Soviet power and all the illusions about some kind of independence on the part of detached layers of population or workers' co-operatives should be lived down as soon as possible... there can be no question of independence on the part of separate groups..." P. IX

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"The *Communist Manifesto* of Marx and Engels is a reactionary manifesto and is in striking contradiction to science, to progress in general, and humanism in particular. The demands of dictatorship, of absolute centralization, of political and economic life in the hands of the state, of 'forming industrial armies, especially for agriculture,' of a regimented agriculture in accordance with a single plan, of raising the state to the position of an Absolute and the resulting stultification of the individual, its rights and interest - all that is nothing but the programme of reaction which is incompatible with human progress, with freedom, equality and humanism. The realization of these demands carries with it *state slavery*." P. XI

The food policy which reduced itself to grain requisitions carried out by armed detachments who were indiscriminately taking away the grain of the peasants - rich and poor alike - resulted in a number of peasant rebellions throughout the country. Fixed grain prices under conditions of great scarcity of commodities and total depreciation of currency, were in fact but a form of ordinary plunder perpetrated not only in regards of the kulaks but the entire peasantry. Rich peasants, middle peasants, as well as poor peasants refused to sell grain. It was then that Lenin declared them "enemies of the people" and friends of the capitalists, opening up a mad campaign against peasants with the help of 'the committees of poor peasants.'" P. 39 - 40

"The 'Dictatorship of the Proletariat' is thus a slaveholders democracy which, as distinguished from the one of the ancient world, has for its aims freedom, economic equality, freeing the entire population from slavery, and all this is to be realized... by enslaving the entire population!" P. 41

Here he quotes Lenin: "Anyone who speaks of freedom and equality within the framework of a toiler's democracy is thereby a defender of exploiters." P. 42.

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"It is improbable that they would believe that freedom can be arrived at via enslavement, equality via inequality, humanity via inhumanity, the abolition of the State via its strengthening and initiative can be developed by first having it stifled." P. 43

"But a guillotine was not enough for Lenin, he sought out stronger methods of terrorization, methods which combined with the guillotine would transcend anything the world had known until now. Those means he discovered in the 'military socialism' of the warring capitalist states - *terror by starvation*." P. 45

"It was necessary to train the working masses to become indifferent toward executions and to regard them as matter-of-fact occurrences. Acting upon Lenin's instructions, the Bolshevik press and agitators raised a furious campaign against the other parties, groups, movements and persons. Slanders, lies, deceit, the most frightful frame-ups began to rain down from this inspired source, far outstripping the propaganda methods of the pre-October period. At the same time, following the understanding reached between Lenin and the leaders of the party, terror in all its forms - that is, persecution and assassination, was gathering momentum." P. 46 - 47.

Here he quotes Lenin the liar. "Being a democratic government, we cannot ignore the decisions of the masses of people, even when they run counter to our own opinions... And even if the peasants follow in the future the party of the Social -Revolutionaries and give that party a majority in the Constituent Assembly, we shall say: - let it be so... We have to continue the line of democratization and to make the right of recall essential in the functioning of the Soviets as the most consummate bearers of the idea of state and compulsion. And then the transfer of party from one party to the other will proceed in a peaceful manner, by way of mere elections." P. 54

These niceties quickly changed to calls for endless shootings.

"Thus in the period lasting from April 29 to August 30 (1918) the day on which the attempt on Lenin's life (made by Dora Kaplan) took place, Lenin in his speeches and articles called for murders, shootings, in the name of the dictatorship of the proletariat, in the name of Socialism. And he did it while the decree abolishing the death penalty was still in force. Lenin demanded, insisted and spurred on the taming by force of arms 'the petty-bourgeois 60 Anarchist elemental forces', that is, the persecution of all Socialist parties and Anarchist groups; he called for the shooting of thieves, crooks, grafters, profiteers, grain speculators caught in the act of crime, 'menshechniks' (that is, hungry workers, who were trying to get for their families a pood - 40 Russian pounds - of flour without government permission); he called for an armed plunder of peasants; he organized an internecine war within the working class; he demanded iron and blood and called for the highest penalty for those who violated discipline; he demanded that the courts show more and more cruelty and ferocity." P. 72

"Lenin introduced into his system a third element: the first was shootings, prison; the second - compulsion by enforced starvation; and the third, ... is 'the guillotine of public opinion,' as Robespierre used to say at one time. The guillotine via public opinion is created by 'hounding the worthless,' by lying, slandering, by heaping dirt and deliberately false charges against adversaries. Lenin skillfully applied these three basic elements of his terroristic theory, combining them to suit the circumstances." P. 81

Ah, the great October Revolution of 1917! How did Lenin's "scientific socialism" manifest itself in the coming months?

"Thus the year 1918 was replete with the suppression of all liberties and the closing of non-Communist publications the breaking up of Anarchist organizations and the murder of individual Anarchists; the outlawing of the Social-Revolutionists and Mensheviks, which came as a natural result of their expulsion from the All-Russian Central Committee of the Soviets; the break-up and the shooting of the Left Social-Revolutionists; the shooting of

hostages, thieves, grafters, petty speculators, deserters, hooligans, wreckers, delinquent officials, right wing Social-Revolutionists, people arrested by chance and having the misfortune of not belonging to the working class or peasants, saboteurs, strikers, drunks; people who failed to pay the monetary contribution, who were congregating on the streets, who left their house after 8 p.m.; of those who were accused of posting on walls anti-government proclamations, of agitation against the Soviet power or just of performing 'heroic deeds' like Captain Shtchasny. The year was replete with executions on account of red tape, administrative myopia and stupidity, intellectual conceit, etc. It was a year taken up with the organization of the 'guillotine of public opinion,' that is, the 'hounding of the unfit' by slander, lies and deliberately false charges, a year crowded with murders, shootings and mass arrests of peasants, ruthless suppression of peasant rebellions brought about by the pillage and violence of the Committees of Poor Peasants. Oceans of blood; mountains of corpses, tens and hundreds of thousands of people rotting away in the prisons and concentration camps." P. 84 61

After a few years of this barbarity, famine ensued. Here's a copy of a report about life in the Samara Gubernia, issued on August 25, 1921.

"The peasants have been feeding on all kinds of substitutes since early in the spring. In the wooded section they lived on acorns and grass. Right now, however, acorns have become a luxury. The price of acorn flour is 120 thousand ruples a pood. (Note: that was before the official devaluations of Soviet money.) The peasants are ruthlessly slaughtering their cattle, using for food even the skin of the animals. All the marmots found in the fields have been eaten up, there are numerous cases of cats and dogs being used for food; young puppies are considered a delicacy. The drought burned the grass in many places. The population is now beginning to use for food roots, special sorts of clay and some sort of stone derived from peat. Here are some of the food substitutes used for food: chaff, horse sorrel, the pith of sunflowers, birch tree cones and lima tree leaves, roots of forest hemp, clays with an admixture of ferrous acids. The Public Health Department formed a special research

institute for the study of substitute foods. The use of those substitutes results in stomach ailments and death from starvation." P. 184

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With "revolutionary" examples like Soviet Russia, is it any wonder a monster such as Adolph Hitler synthesized the modus operandi of America ("white" power invasion, continent-wide genocide / slavery to build up a capitalist "democracy") and the quickened pace of mass murder and enslavement posing as a glorious "socialist" revolution of Lenin / Stalin into the Big Lie, lebensraum, holocaust megalomaniacal horrors of "National Socialism?" The examples of Lenin's monstrosity and those of his lieutenants are vast, as are the horrors of others who took up "Leninism" in other countries, or just copied his methods. Here's one last quote from Maximoff.

"Lenin, as the high-priest of a sect, bears the responsibility for the degradation and cheapening of human personality which is unprecedented in the history of mankind; for the absolute lack of regard for human life, for the moral disintegration of the horde of his followers and the corrosion of the basic moral principles without which men sink to a state below that of a brute. He set up medieval torture-chambers, an outwardly "modernized" inquisition in Russia which is still flourishing... Lenin's works were determined by a determined philosophy - the philosophy of Marxism or as it is wrongly styled, the "scientific" Socialism; and it follows that it is this essentially absolutist, barbarous, reactionary and anti-scientific philosophy that bears the entire responsibility for the mountains of corpses in Russia, for the racking and tortures, for economic ruin and famine, for brutality and slavery, for the Asiatic absolutism, for the German barrack system - and for Lenin as its end-product." P. 255

The present time is April of 2009. Capitalist domination still lords over our poor planet. Marxist regimes still exist and also repress their people in various forms of state capitalism, some mixed with, allowances for private enterprise. The desire of the masses of people for freedom, justice and equality remains unfulfilled. The voice of opposition to these authoritarian regimes is rising, including the anti-capitalist voice of Marxism-Leninism.

Like I mentioned in the beginning of this piece, there are 63
individuals, some who profess to be "scientific socialists" who I
respect because they genuinely struggle against capitalist oppression
- even though they consider me "petit-bourgeois" as their god
(Lenin) instructed them to see anarchists as. But I will not be quiet
about the ideology of tyranny - whether it is pro-capitalist overtly or
also dictatorial, posing as *the* science of liberation - Marxism-
Leninism.

Excerpts from Alexander Solzhenitsyn's works

"The Gulag Archipelago," published 1973:

"We have to condemn publicly the very idea that some people have the right to repress others. In keeping silent about evil, in burying it so deep within us that no sign of it appears on the surface, we are implanting it, and it will rise up a thousandfold in the future. When we neither punish nor reproach evildoers ... we are thereby ripping the foundations of justice from beneath new generations. It is for this reason, and not because of the weakness of indoctrinational work, that they are growing up indifferent. Young people are acquiring the conviction that foul deeds are never punished on earth, that they always bring prosperity.

"It is going to be uncomfortable, horrible, to live in such a country!"

"One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich," written 1959, published 1962:

"Standing there to be counted through the gate of an evening, back in camp after a whole day of buffeting wind, freezing cold and an empty belly, the zek longs for his ladleful of scalding hot watery evening soup as for rain in time of drought. He could knock it back in a single gulp. For the moment that ladleful means more to him than freedom, more than his whole past life, more than whatever life is left to him."

The Crimes of Government

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Tomorrow, Barack Obama gets inaugurated in a massive feel good love fest. But nowhere do I hear where the crimes of government, state and local governments, industry and the social wounds and diseases that run rampant in America, get seriously dealt with.

We hear Obama talk about how America will "endure" and how our economy will "rebound."

Look! The U.S. usurps 25% of the world's resources for a population of only 4.5%. We have our jackboot to the neck of a poverty-stricken and terrorized world in order to see that this ratio remains so gluttonously high. So what about the economic and military crimes we commit across the planet? When are the architects of this arch villainy to be dealt with – much less acknowledged?

If you hang Saddam Hussein, then why aren't the Amerikan Saddam Husseins (Bush, Kissinger, Cheney, Rumsfeld, Clinton, etc.) left gasping and dangling, amidst revenge-seeking taunters?

Where's the "hope" for the Amerikan kids in the despairing ghettos, you know, the ones with 50% plus unemployment, no opportunities, rundown schools run like prisons, where the cops funnel them into juvie centers, then the big boy prisons, run in draconian fashion by racists and sadists?

Oh, he's quick to shove hundreds of billions down the rat hole of rapacious big business bankers, threaten Pakistan and ratchet up the occupation of Afghanistan.

"Hope!" "In God We Trust!" "America the Beautiful!" Gang, Amerika is horrible! The people are obese and ignorant as far as their responsibilities as citizens of this world. They expect Obama and his band to shake the etch-a-sketch of American criminal activity and resume the obscene onrush of wealth and products to their fat, undeserving bellies.

Oh, and all past crimes foisted on the world by the U.S. (mass murder, slavery, military puppet regimes, occupation, endless bombing, starvation, depleted uranium, sweatshops - all manner of exploitation, merely gets a fresh coat of whitewash. How *else* do you think a country with 4.5% of the world's population gets 25% of the world's *stuff*???

Obama's not going to do *anything* about what big business and the military do - or the police / suppression apparatus (prisons). War reparations are not going to be paid to the descendants of African slaves, prisoners are not going to be released and the "drug war" won't be ended. The ghettos won't be changed. *Nothing* of significance will occur!

Sure, he'll talk a much better game than the borderline illiterate Bush, but he'll keep pouring tax money and impetus into Bush's existing programs of repression and aggrandizement of the very rich and their voracious lust for greed.

Many rightists will seethe due to Obama's feel good rhetoric and the crumbs he throws the poor and they'll take their anger out on their victims - the poor and imprisoned. For the dedicated fascists have made sure they control the levers of torture in the most venal institutions, here at home and abroad.

Decades of propaganda, trillions in military hardware, schooling in aggressive kidnapping, torturing and murdering any and all opposition to the "American Way" isn't going to be undone by a glib guy with the gift of gab and a sweet family! He's signed onto this system and will support the "interests" of those who steer the ship of state.

The system will receive a few more band aids, but this patient has huge bed sores and rampant, runaway cancers!

Do you think other people in other countries who have been so horribly treated by the U.S. (and their lackeys)

are going to forget about all of the aerial death, suffering, U.S. supported death squad governments, thefts of resources by U.S. corporations, IMF and World Bank plunder, etc.? Why should they? *How* could they??? 66

Barack's just going to shuffle the occupation armies around a little bit – less here, more there. The commanders trained to repress and kill the people they were ordered to menace will keep doing their jobs! Those people native to those countries, will still have family members get killed, have no heat, no food, no "hope." Obama! They'll conclude that their only option is to retrofit young Abdul with a suicide belt! You can't blame them because the game is called surviving – even if you're driven to have to kill yourself to play it!

Look at Obama's attack dog – Rahm Emmanuel. He's a Chicago political hack, groomed by Clinton and strong-armed into Congress by Mayor Daley's corrupt machine. Rahm's father was a Jewish terrorist, involved in the slaughter of Palestinians. They set about to "ethnically cleanse" Palestine and rename it Israel in the late 1940's.

Notice the great barrack didn't say a single word about the latest gruesome display of child-murdering in Gaza. Nothing has changed! They decry the "smuggling of weapons" into Gaza. The Gazans are forced to use tunnels for commerce as they have been choked off much like the Vietnamese, who also used extensive tunnels to live and fight the U.S., most notably in Cu Chi. Of course, no mention is made of the massive infusion of high tech high explosive weaponry the U.S. sends to Israel, nor the many atomic bombs they have in their possession. We're only to deplore the occasional death by freak occurrence of Israeli settlers, provocatively camped out on Palestinian land, but are to be oblivious when the Israeli's murder hundreds, even thousands of tightly packed Gaza civilians, who have no where to go and seek shelter at U.N. compounds, which are also bombed.

Ignorant Americans have never learned the truth about their monstrous government. They've been indoctrinated with the opposite – lies about the reality of this endless rip-off situation.

67

We're supposed to extol the infallible brilliance of the "Founding Fathers" who were mainly racist, sexist, "White," male, land-owning slavers! And Abraham Lincoln is revered. But sending hundreds of thousands of young men to their deaths to help build this country into the international terrorist menace and voracious economic bogart it is today, is *not* "progress." I agree with Abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison who said: "The Constitution is a pact with the Devil!"

Nothing of genuine significance will occur until people gain a much deeper understanding of the reality of the situation.

Putting a fresh face on the U.S.'s reign of international terror and maybe a little more government cheese in the charity baskets, isn't going to halt the playing out of this tragedy.

People need to seek and absorb genuine political, social and economic education and get with others around them to deal with their own problems and go from there. Change has to come from these local, grassroots initiatives that can grow and forge common cause with other such efforts, which can grow into a sustained and effective social movement.

It doesn't happen otherwise. It doesn't come from on high. The system's main goal is to perpetuate itself – not significantly change for the better! Pulling a lever for the new kid on the block, who speaks well and likes to play pick-up basketball is an adaptation to facilitate this perpetuation. Sadly, the longer this system is perpetuated, the grimmer are the chances for every living thing on Earth...

~ Anthony Rayson ~

**South Chicago ABC Zine Distro
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“Long Live Death!”

For us, it started from the “good war” – World War II. A massive crescendo of aerial bombardment was somehow noble and fitting “policy” – unlike the stripping and gassing to death by the Nazis. Whole cities – **68** Dresden, Tokyo, Nagasaki, Hiroshima and many others were literally engulfed in firestorms of mass incineration. Tens of thousands perished in a single bombing run.

General Curtis “bomb them into the stone age” LeMay led the planners of the U.S. air force during this time. Later he would team up with Governor George Wallace, as his running mate, during the '68 presidential campaign.

Recently, after fifty-plus years, it has been “revealed” that many, many mass shootings occurred in Korea, overseen and participated in by U.S. forces. See, we didn’t want these people possibly siding with the North Koreans, so we had to murder them instead. Then, in Vietnam, we had to “destroy the village to save it.”

I remember the “Christmas Bombing” over the holidays in 1972-73. Massive “death from above” delivered by waves of B-52’s pummeled the infrastructure and populated areas of North Vietnam. Huge dikes were destroyed and tens of thousands were done to death. Soon after, Nixon was feted at his second inauguration and Henry Kissinger was given the Nobel Peace prize in 1973! Le Duc Tho, his North Vietnamese counterpart, also was bestowed this coveted prize. But he had the human decency to refuse it. Kissinger, a main architect of the Southeast Asia carnage (3 million murdered) and many other genocides, summed up the U.S. involvement in Vietnam this way: “We should have never been there, but that’s history.”

Well, it's no wonder Hitler felt pimped! Here he was just being a good student of history and using the "U.S. model" of continent-wide genocide for Europe. He read the U.S. Constitution, which to this day sanctions human slavery (for prisoners) and used it as a "legal blueprint" for the Nuremburg Laws, much as South Africa did to institute apartheid. He demonized the people he didn't like (Gypsies, Jews, Slavs etc.) and did them to death, much like the U.S. did to the native nations. Others, he gang-pressed into slave labor, again much as how this continent came to be as it is today. He proclaimed the Germanic "race" to be superior and thus, above any and all "law" while maintaining a respectable petit-bourgeois, capitalist socio-economic system, morally and ethically validated by conservative Christianity, again just like you know who. 69

So, death delivered by a supersonic plane or even a drone is cool because it is performed by one of our flyboys pushing a knob on a joystick, much like all the kids and their video games. But if a person tried to kill other people with a pistol on the mean streets of Chicago or is willing to blow himself up somewhere, this is the worst crime imaginable. Now, think about that. Mass death is celebrated and those who sign off on it are considered brave heroes and patriots, but the individual killers are "cowards" or "gang-bangers" or whatever you can think of to mean the most despicable among us.

Which brings me to the latest news. As the Bush / Cheney cabal comes to a close, Bush and Cheney are sort of wistful in their appraisal of themselves. Bush is trying to soften his image as a "compassionate conservative" whereas Cheney has no regrets and sees himself as a "Churchillian gatekeeper." People disapprove of these

modern-day Hitler types, but hardly anybody thinks they deserve Hitler's fate – at least not in this country. Before Churchill ran Britain against Hitler, he was heavily involved for a long time in the imperial pursuits of 70 England. He was a major player in the theft of Iraqi oil in the early twentieth century. With a stroke of a pen, he carved off the oil rich Iraqi province of Kuwait, and made it a new “country” which England could easily control. So, yes, Cheney is functioning in the tradition of Churchill.

Look at the crescendo of violence unleashed by Israel upon tiny Gaza. Made in USA bombers are pulverizing this highly populated area, killing hundreds and terrorizing millions. This carnage has been in the planning stages for many months by Israel's present leaders, Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, Defense Minister Ehud Barak and Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni because an election is approaching and polls suggest Benjamin Netanyahu may win if they don't “do something.” After all, Olmert is leaving in disgrace due to accepting money from an American Jew and the aftermath of the mass death campaign in Lebanon, which wasn't “good enough.” Taking cash is a “disgrace” but slaughtering people is acceptable, unless you don't do it conclusively enough.

Now, I don't condone violence any way, shape or form. Killing one or a dozen is horrible but killing thousands is that many times worse. Governments are the worst killers of all and all killers need to be stopped. We pay our government a lot of money and they use it to mass murder people. That's utterly and totally insane!

The only conclusion is that they have managed to destroy our ability to think rationally and compassionately about the horrific crimes they are committing. We are their facilitators. 71

War is *not* peace, folks! The biggest obstacles to a peaceful and sustainable world are our own “Churchillian” leaders. The worst criminals in the world run governments. They have huge arsenals at their disposal which they send young people to use on those they have targeted for economic and political reasons. They are liars and monsters of the worst type. Learn the truth about what is really happening in this world and get a grip on your own sense of morality. Sloughing off a conscious life is invalid as it leaves a bombed, melting and poisoned world to our children and grandchildren – let alone the “seventh generation.”

Anthony Rayson, January

2nd 2009

On Writing

Notice, in this post- Obama acceptance of worldwide capitalist domination how terrible the *writing* keeps getting? Yesterday, he sweet talked G-20 into coughing up a trillion for the IMF (International Monetary Fund). They set the tone and lie outright, as Hitler taught them. This money is to “aide poor countries.” Starving people in teeming countries, exploited for centuries and still that way. Funding projects that aid corporations and saddling these poor countries with screaming debt is what the IMF actually does.

I'm talking about the mundane brainwash or morbid, everyday life. Over and over many people (myself included) hear the same commercial on radio, T.V. or whatever, all the time, everyday. They may be mildly amusing or intriguing on first sight or listen, but soon they are loathsome cancers wasting valuable space in our brains! The "writing" of the every time insipid pitch, often as a snarky, short conversation, is wretched to the core! It always 72 assumes the commercial madness, coercion, waste, injustice and all the rest of Pax Americana is perfectly normal and expected to be responded to by I.Q. lessness and unquestioning acceptance. Like spam, as long as a few dolts buy into this, it has "worked."

For example, there's been a series of radio commercials about a men's haircut place. The feeble-minded premise is that without worrying about his stupid hair, a man's "mind is free to wonder..."

So where does this everyman's mind wonder off to? Why he thinks homophobic thoughts about why some men carry the accoutrements that, in a sexist way of thinking, is reserved for women. This, to sell haircuts?! And the hideous thing is played over and over! He neatly ties this ignorant smear with real manhood - blind patriotism and cut hair. Sheesh! After they're done cutting, they probably rub steroids into their pea-brained scalps!

People have no idea how relentless are the vampires who run this worldwide horror movie of a reality. The Obamas are charming everybody around, while they're fronting the shoveling of trillions to the banks and at the same time, revving up potentially huge wars. This speaks at the bankruptcy of understanding of reality by most everybody and their disconnectedness to real social life and how far away we are to any real decision-making.

Germany, in the thirties and half the forties, demonstrated to the world, how a country of people can be hoodwinked into anything, including aggressive genocide and basically, suicide. The country is and has been for a long time in the grip of the endlessly told, mainstream take on all things. Incredible contradictions aren't explained, but come off like some confusing, distant thunder and lightning. Public discourse is blathered into the insane gibberish used in the court rooms, used to railroad the young black, latino, native and poor into their vast, domestic gulag system.

The mad (accepted as the only solution) reasoning, goes, "we'll make more laws!" It's like going to get more butter, as your house burns down! Only the cops can "take care of" any anythings.

"The People" are totally out of the picture, ala, after the Bolshevik's murdered their way to power. Only here, the mass bloodshed, in this area, is mostly centuries old. So to keep the slave system humming, control of the "minds" and "psyches" of people is used as an expedient. It reminds me of the biggest way they keep inmates in prisons and "hospitals" docile (television!) We lock ourselves in and out of our own homes - like that drunk on the Andy Griffith Show - Otis

73
There was an off-handed remark by some pundit that I just glanced at. He said we should "listen to the protesters" meaning the ones in Europe right now, challenging the G-20 coming out party for the Obamas. Yeah, we should! A man died fighting this global body of concentrated tyranny! Obama is smart and smooth, amidst a world of political dullards. He looks to accelerate the planetary meltdown! He's dealing trillions like cards in a high stakes poker game, with gunmen behind him! But! He's got a helluva smile and his wife is infectious. Hitler was so creepy-looking!

Who is doing the serious and honest writing about all this in this country, huh? The Obama guy who called out America for being so "cowardly" is just hinting at the stench of mass rot that passes for understanding and doing! So much waste - and to destroy the world for this! Some writers write drama - fiction!

A few communists can get to the core of the situation - if it is about capitalism or imperialism. But, don't expect much critical analysis of their favorite "communist" countries and Marxist heroes. They want to claw their way to power, too blind to see power over people is not power of and by the people! Coercive, governmental authority (license to murder given to itself without any accountability) is what is evil!

Some anarchists are willing and able to tell the truth! Is that supposed to "rouse the masses" out of their lifelong lack of real education and patterns of self-involvement and dirth of solidarity and empathy for and with others? It should help! It should help. But really, each person has to take that step herself (or himself.) There's a chasm of doubt there that's pretty wide. You don't know if trying to live your own life and actualize your own talents and pursue your own interests will develop through the confusion of the upcoming unknown. It's such a struggle just to stay alive and have a roof over your head! What if everything comes to naught and this whole thing is like just some crappy diet that doesn't work?

Of course, the difference is thought and action, based solely on your own thinking abilities, on the one hand - or following what

somebody says. You have to trust and believe your own inner thinking mind to be one of reason, one of compassion and one interested in "doing the right thing." Once you realize you are your own best friend and advisor, then you can go on to the task of figuring out the best way to do that. Once again, I believe that people will be pleasantly surprised at what they are able to deal with, once they genuinely "put their minds to it."

I can't tell people how to live their lives or affect their personalities. I can befriend them – and bounce ideas around with them. That's what I like to do, anyway. I just think that people who have crossed what I call the "fear line" should focus a lot of effort into their writing. We need people – without hidden agendas (such as the attainment of power) to write about all the issues of our present day – in detail! People need to be helped to realize things by those who make a point of studying, analyzing and reporting on things. We need dreamers, too! Not just blood and guts horror movie books! How horrid a waste of writing talent! Ugh! I wonder, who writes all the cop and court shows? Talk about morbid!

Do I think things will get worse and social strife will get increasingly unbearable? Yes, I do, but I'm not looking forward to more generalized suffering. I want to help increase the level of humanist understanding, so alleviation of repression can be attempted and attained. When things get unbearable, people finally hit the streets. Whether a successful outcome transpires greatly depends on the conscious reaction of people. If people aren't very conscious and unified, the "revolt" has no staying power. It's easier to co-opt and have degenerate into senseless violence and the re-emergence of a new form of coercive authority or the clamping down by the same authorities. We need fearless and knowledgeable people who actually are driven by their love of humanity and who have no personal agenda other than the basic drive for love and respect. And yes, we also need people who can write and convey these attributes, while clearly explaining what is going down in real time.

I think the "good" in people needs to be raised to such a level through humanist education, that people will band together to save each other. They'll simply have to! Will the powers of doom, so armed to the teeth, simply destroy the world? Could be, could be. But, they're doing it slowly, anyway! And things are accelerating! In just a few years, there will be no polar ice! Think of that! What are we going to do when the air is too poisoned to breathe – will cameras and guns in our face solve any of these catastrophes – or exacerbate them???

What else are we going to do? Remain slugs and cowards? For what? Live our lives and die having just vegetated through life like a cow? Man, that is cowardly!

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Writers need to write! Not for an editor and not for some niche "readership" or "audience." We need to call this madness out — like guys like Henry David Thoreau did in his day. Like Malcolm X, Thoreau was a genuine educator and revolutionary, but the educational powers that be have been busy homogenizing his message and making him into not just a critic of society, but really just another American "patriot." They use his example of strong writing as an example of how wonderful this country is, I guess for "allowing" it, while ignoring what he actually said!

So what did Henry David Thoreau actually have to say? Here's a brief quote.

Who can be serene in a country where both rulers and ruled are without principle? The remembrance of the baseness of politicians spoils my walks. My thoughts are murder to the State. I endeavor in vain to observe nature, my thoughts involuntarily go plotting against the State. I trust that all just men will conspire.

Are things fundamentally any different in this country and the world as back then??? No! The very fate of the planet herself, hangs in the balance! Slavery is everywhere and so is militarism and imprisonment. A huge percentage of humanity is near starvation, destitution, peonage and wage slavery, often under brutal militarized governments, supplied by U.S. arms manufacturers and propped up by the U.S. government. It's our "foreign policy" to prop up dictators to keep those people as sources of cheap labor of international corporations (most especially U.S. corporations) and their raw materials accessible for profit-making, wasteful exploitation.

Writers need to write, stripped of all the gimmicks and "special effects" of skirting the issues. Declare yourself on one side of the barricades or the other. Are you with Cheney and his privatized army world corp. or for truth, freedom, equality and life? Stop kowtowing to the mainstream bilge of "opinion" that accepts this centuries-long charade of "democracy!"

People need and deserve real brain food, not the white bread pabulum crammed with intellectual chemicals and additives. Speaking truth to power won't get you any prizes or visits on Oprah Winfrey, but people who do read your work, will be grateful and empowered by it. And that my friends, is what writing is meant for! Writing is capable of profound education, which can lead to conscious liberation. It doesn't happen otherwise.



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

