

# **PART's Perspective: Everything That Has A Beginning, Has An End**

by Michael Novick, Anti-Racist Action-Los Angeles/People Against Racist Terror (ARA-LA/PART)

A study of previous efforts to carry out a fundamental and thorough economic, political and social transformation in the interest of human survival, freedom and dignity teaches us that such efforts, in order to succeed, must be based on facing reality, on a concrete analysis of concrete conditions, as well as a loving, caring commitment to and understanding of the psychological and emotional state and needs of the human beings who make up the society needing change and the elements within that society seeking to change it, or to resist that change.

What can we learn from the concrete analysis of the concrete involved in the recent tragic loss of life in the condominium tower collapse in Miami? Concrete, which is omnipresent in the urban structures and paving, the continent spanning bridges and highways, and the gulag of prisons of contemporary US society, is an amalgam, far less durable than the stone it was meant to emulate. It erodes and disintegrates much faster than any naturally created rock or stone. And not just in Miami, where it is subject to the corrosive effects of heat, moisture and salt air -- all increasing above normal ranges because of planetary heating. Everything made of concrete starts falling apart as soon as it is built. What's more, the main ingredient used to make concrete -- sand -- is in increasingly short supply.

According to a recent report on CNBC, "Sand is the primary substance used in the construction of roads, bridges, high-speed trains and even land regeneration projects. Sand, gravel and rock crushed together are melted down to make the glass used in every window, computer screen and smart phone. Even the production of silicon chips uses sand. Yet, the world is facing a shortage — and climate scientists say it constitutes one of the greatest sustainability challenges of the 21st century." Pascal Peduzzi, head of the United Nations Environmental Program's Global Resource Information Database in Geneva told the press, "We just think that sand is everywhere. We never thought we would run out of sand, but it is starting in some places. It is about anticipating what can happen in the next decade or so because if we don't look forward, if we don't anticipate, we will have massive problems about sand supply but also about land planning."

Given the criminal nature of capitalist production generally, it is unsurprising that much of the sand already being used is obtained illegally through environmentally destructive theft. Desert sand is unusable for construction purposes in either asphalt or concrete; it is too smooth and round. Beach sand requires too much processing to remove oceanic salt, which rapidly corrodes and weakens the steel rebar reinforcement supports inside the concrete, making them brittle. The best sand for construction purposes is angular, irregularly-shaped fresh water sand from river beds -- and vast quantities are needed not just for new construction, but to replace the aging stock of concrete in existing roads, bridges, prisons and other construction projects. This demand has been met by unlicensed and unregulated dark-of-night dredging that has resulted in the documented undermining of bridges in New York State, and more widely, according to construction expert Oldemar Meneses, in "erosion in rivers and coastlines, and changes in the water's pH levels. It also threatens marine fisheries, biodiversity and the availability of fresh water. When digging sand, the mud from the riverbed mixes with the water, which hinders animals' food supply." He adds that as natural sand is exploited without concern for the wider environmental impacts, "it has become a major global sustainability challenge."

This unsustainable exploitation of a natural resource for construction doesn't even take into account its use as feed stock for glass and computer chips. In other words, the office tower skyscrapers of glass and steel, and the computer networks that fill them, along with the massive server farms that make Google and Amazon possible, are built on sand, fully as much as the crumbling condominiums of Miami Beach, and equally as threatening to human life and planetary survival. This is both literally true and an apt metaphor for the nature of settler colonial capitalist imperialism -- it is a system based on insurmountable and irreconcilable internal contradictions, built on a lie and an illusion of so-called white supremacy and on the self-destructive basis of exploitation and privatization of nature, poisoning the very soil, seas, stone and air vital to survival. But the long history of failed efforts to overcome this system make it clear that efforts to do so without critically and self-critically addressing white supremacy, internalized and institutionalized racism and settler colonial identification with the empire and the oppressor, are also built on sand and doomed to failure. Only a deeply anti-racist and anti-colonial analysis and commitment, based on a close examination of reality, can overturn this system and replace it with one more suitable to planetary and human survival.

Diagonally across the content from the terrible toll in the Miami collapse is the deadly heat spike in the Pacific Northwest, another product of human hubris and the destructive environmental impacts of capitalist industrial operations and practices. Temperatures of 116 degrees Fahrenheit in Portland OR are unprecedented in recorded history, and are not just the result of a transient weather anomaly, the so-called "heat dome" over much of the western US, but of the global heating caused by runaway



**What lessons can be learned from tragic condo collapse in Miami?**

carbon gases, CO2 and methane, being spilled into the atmosphere by fossil fuel combustion, agricultural and animal husbandry practices, and the intentional and wild-fired caused deforestation, which are all accelerating.

It was a truism, when I was growing up in NY that "It's not the heat, it's the humidity." Weather reports in NY always gave the wind-chill factor in the winter, when high winds made low temps feel colder, and the THI - temperature-humidity index - in the summer, when dampness made the high temperatures feel more unbearable. But Matthew Lewis, writing on twitter, @mateosfo, informs us that the interrelationship between heat and humidity is real, and poses threats, not just to concrete structures, but to human survival on the immediate short term individual scale. He writes: "We need to start talking about heat, human survivability/habitability, and climate change. Key term to know: The wet bulb temperature: the temperature + relative humidity at which water stops evaporating off a "wet" thermometer bulb. If the air is sufficiently humid (saturated with water vapor), evaporation will no longer cool the bulb, and it gets continuously hotter. This matters for humans, because our bodies regulate heat via evaporation: sweat glands carry heat from body to the skin surface, where it evaporates, dissipating heat into the air. As long as you stay hydrated (and take salts), you can stay cool at high temps. Dry air has essentially infinite capacity to absorb moisture, so, humans can survive in very high temps if the air is dry - though when you get up into the high 120's and above, you'll start seeing hyperthermia death among children, the elderly, and infirm. Wet bulb takes a minute to grok because it's not about heat, per se. It's about the absorptive capacity of air. A wet bulb temperature in the mid-80s F can, and does, kill humans. Heat waves in the EU & Russia in 2003 and 2010 killed



**Farmworkers have been dropping and even dying from the heat in PNW and elsewhere-screenshot from UW film.**

over a hundred thousand people at ~ 82 F. If sweat won't evaporate, our body temp rises, continuously. And when body temp hits ~108, we're dead. For a vulnerable person in wet bulb temp, this takes much less than an hour. Up until the last ~ 40 years, wet bulb temperatures were extremely rare on this planet. But now we're seeing multiple wet bulb temperatures per year in multiple locations. By mid-century, parts of the Southeastern U.S will see weeks of wet bulbs every year. This is quite bad. Thousands of people will die on each of those days. This is an active area of climate science and resilience study: <https://research.noaa.gov/article/ArtMID/587/ArticleID/2621/Dangerous-humid-heat-extremes-occurring-decades-before-expected>. Many of the places humans currently live on the planet are on their way to being functionally uninhabitable by humans."

The intersecting and mutually-reinforcing feedback loops of the artificial over-abundance of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere also include rising sea levels, more intense storm surges, and higher coastal humidity, that are eroding beaches, requiring replacement sand and the construction of sea-walls to protect private homes and other

infrastructure. Yet another factor we have written about repeatedly is ocean acidification, the absorption of CO2 by the seas that creates carbonic acid and changes the pH of seawater, destroying the phytoplankton at the base of the marine food chain, and bleaching and destroying the coral reefs that provide habitat for an enormous variety of marine life. Simultaneously, run-off from capitalist agricultural pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers create deadly algae blooms and anoxic dead zones in coastal waters fatal to other marine life and human seafood sources. Meanwhile the capitalist parties in the US squabble over how to finance infrastructure repairs without even beginning to examine the nature of the construction or the threats to it. Even the most progressive policy solutions, such as the so-called Green New Deal, fail to really examine, let alone solve, the underlying problems of land theft, resource depletion and toxic impacts on the environment of the so-called American Way of Life.

In addition to an analysis of the objective material realities of this system, we need to understand the subjective factors in human consciousness and the emotions of the people who in our relationships and individual and collective activity make up this and other societies, and cumulatively the impact of human life on the planet. Like water acted on by gravity, or electrons reacting to a difference in charge, humans tend to seek the path of least resistance. Yet **more resistance**, consciously generated by humans, is what is needed to overcome the pressures and threats imposed on us. How do we marshal that resistance? By using other aspects of human nature, such as the need and desire for affinity, for collaboration, that has evolved along with life, from unicellular microbes to sentient, socially-conscious communicators with a grasp of history and the capacity to shape it, along with our physical environment. We must use that capacity to overcome despair and defeatism. Fear can paralyze, fear can stimulate hate and aggression, but fear is also a well-evolved survival mechanism that can identify danger and stimulate timely collective action, calculated risk-taking that produces strategies and tactics for overcoming threats and problems.

Caring, nurturing and educating are also part of human nature, evolved for the survival of a life form with a long gestation and maturation period and few if any inbred and instinctive behaviors. Humans crave and need connection. Humans are curious, investigative creatures with the power of imagination and the capacity of self-sacrificing love. And as Che Guevara told us, at the risk of embarrassment (also a notably human characteristic), true revolutionaries are guided by great feelings of love. So our path forward must be shaped by both a clear-eyed recognition of the enormous threats posed by the settler colonial capitalist world system we live in, and an aspirational vision of the kind of world we want and need to make, a sense of what we are for that will motivate and enable us to make a break with the identification with the oppressor and of the mental chains that keep us confined and exploited.

Steven Biko of the Black Consciousness Movement in Azania/South Africa under apartheid/colonialism said, "The greatest weapon in the hands of the oppressor is the minds of the oppressed." We must use our hearts to free our minds, and our asses will follow. The poet Richard Lovelace said, in another context in 1649, "Stone walls do not a prison make, nor iron bars a cage." In this carceral society, in which many of the people reading this are locked in concrete dungeons behind steel bars, and many millions of potential readers more are trapped by our own backward thinking into accepting the idea that competition, hierarchy and exploitation are the natural order of things, it behooves us to remember the reality with which this essay began -- that concrete is porous and crumbling.

No empire lasts forever, least of all one built on a lie. The power of the people is greater than the man's fatally flawed technology.

# Liberation Penology: Our Strategy of Transforming Prisons into Schools of Liberation

by Kevin Rashid Johnson (2021)

The Revolutionary Intercommunal Black Panther Party's (RIBPP) Ministry of Justice has a particular focus on work surrounding the prisons and transforming them into "schools of liberation." Strategically this means promoting proletarianizing prisoners as a form of 'rehabilitation' and envisioning the guiding principles we would apply to remolding people if revolution were won today. But of course to win the masses to taking up this struggle we must begin with principles that they grasp.

## Proletarianizing Prisoners and Extending Democratic Rights to All

If we start from the bourgeois premise of democratic rights (civil rights) for all then the status of prisoners as "slaves of the state" as embodied in the 13th Amendment must change. So what must we change to accomplish this?

Eradicating prisoners' slave status and proletarianizing them calls for advocating for their full voting rights and right to join trade unions and political parties and organizations, freedom of speech, freedom of communication (including with other prisoners). We must of course continue the fight to amend the 13th Amendment to strike the clause that allows the enslavement and involuntary servitude of prisoners.

From the human rights perspective, we must call for an end to the death penalty (legalized lynching), torture, beatings, sexual abuse, and denial of contact and conjugal visits. Conjugal visits are an especial concern for Black people. Mass incarceration, which is disproportionately targeted at our communities and most fertile aged males, takes on a literal genocidal character, where we are prevented in huge numbers from reproducing.

Reducing ('controlling') or eliminating the population of a targeted people by increasing their death rate and reducing their birth rate is the basic strategy of genocide. This is typically carried out by killing off and removing the most virile-aged males from the group. In this particular, U.S. mass incarceration directly violates the International Convention Against Genocide, which is seldom spoken of, even in protest circles.

We must struggle against this condition, and revive the petition to charge the United States before the U.N. and in the court of world opinion with genocide as begun by Paul Robeson and continued by Malcolm X.

This includes exposing and resisting the destructive and disruptive impact of U.S. imprisonment on our communities, by removal of huge numbers of our men and breaking up our families. Which continues the "welfare" policies begun in the 20th century of pushing proletarian fathers as mutual providers and role models out of the Black urban communities, by limiting needed government subsidies to single mother households. Consider in many jails and prisons in underdeveloped countries, where racism isn't a component of imprisonment, spouses and entire immediate families are permitted to live with prisoners inside the facilities.

We must advance the right of prisoners to work, to be paid a fair wage, to be represented by a union, and to collectively bargain over the sale of their labor power.

Prison labor must be discussed and promoted from a standpoint of social relevance not punitive and slave servitude and corporate profiteering. It should meet social needs that require little capital investment such as construction and maintenance, and doing useful projects in the community, like building and repairing schools and public housing accommodations.

## ***In the U.S. the prison movement should be built and incorporated into the United Front Against Imperialism.***

The guiding principle of our work is that oppression and abuse (which inhere in the existing prison system) is bad for people, making them destructive and unstable, and liberation is good. In propagating this line guards must be induced and won to free themselves of bad ideology and actually want to contributing to sorting out what is good and bad as it affects people's mental health.

Our concept of "Liberation Penology" is a spinoff from "liberation theology" but aimed at taking on and refuting the bourgeois schools of criminology and penology that do nothing to positively change people or solve the problems of "crime," antisocial behavior, and the mental health crisis in the developed world that is responded to in Amerika by warehousing the mentally ill in prisons.

We must demonstrate and present a coherent analysis and practice that demonstrates the causes of antisocial behavior and that imprisonment doesn't work, and offer up the model of proletarianization as rehabilitation, combining productive work with education and positive socialization.

Learn more about the Jericho Movement mentioned in this piece at <https://thejerichomovement.com>



## Liberation Penology in the Underdeveloped World

In the Third World context we should focus on the worst cases of inhumane prison conditions and practices and hinge on the U.N. Declaration of Human Rights.

Conditions in Afrikan prisons are the worst. They are virtually death camps, vastly overcrowded, disease ridden, violent and corrupt.

Next to the U.S., South Afrika imprisons the highest percentage of its population. The Prison Industrial Complex is growing there and getting high tech, while most of Afrika is low tech.

None of Afrikan prisons meet the U.N. criteria for basic human rights. Exposure of these horrors can be used to indict neocolonialism and imperialism and the current regimes' failures to build socialism.

Many could be freed if there were a bail fund, for \$20 or \$50. A people's bail fund could be set up with labor exchange, where prisoners work off the debt and replenish the bail fund.

A paralegal service could get many defendants out of their cells. Basic reforms could be won like letting prisoners out of their cells to grow vegetables, drill wells, and set up windmills to pump water. As Serve the People programs, the mass organizations could set up soup kitchens and medical clinics to provide nutritious meals and medical care to prisoners inside the razor wire. Many of these basic resources (medical care, clean water, and nutritious meals) aren't available in Third World prisons.

On a grander scale, the RIBPP can create people power to carry out New Democratic revolution creating dramatic reforms coming in from outside through work in local communities and families, and working in unity with revolutionary communist parties leading People's War in the rural areas. The foods grown by prisoners can supply the soup kitchens in both the prisons and the communities.

The Party working in all countries can help obtain medications to treat prisoners in the Third World with AIDS, HCV, malaria, STIs, etc. The Party can also recruit among medical professionals and medical students, to help develop barefoot doctors trained from the youth and prisoners.



## Prison Mass Organizations

Our prison organizing must work in solidarity with prisoner support organizations and help support and develop their work.

First there is the Jericho Movement which specializes in dealing with the political prisoner issue. Second is the general Human Rights Coalition (HRC) which is generalized to deal with the gamut of prison issues. Then there are others like Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee, Prison Lives Matter, Jailhouse Lawyers Speak, Free Alabama Movement, and others, that work to address various prison related issues that can be brought under the HRC.

The purpose of the Party's work with the Jericho Movement is:

Solidarity in relationship with existing Political Prisoners/ Prisoners of War (PP/POWs);  
Link up younger generation of activists with PP/POWs;  
Prepare for legal defense of PP/POWs of the future;  
Revive the campaign to charge the U.S. with genocide against Black people and other oppressed nationalities, of which mass incarceration is a component part.  
In the course of this work we want to lay the basis for building revolutionary youth organizations, recruit law students and young lawyers and build up a war chest for legal defenses.

With the HRC we want to support building the organization into an international mass organization of prisoners, their families and supporters, to:

Amend the 13th Amendment;  
Extend universal suffrage to include prisoners and ex-prisoners;  
Abolish the death penalty and other forms of cruel and unusual punishment;  
Redefine prisoners' rights in accordance with status of "citizen prisoners;"  
Defend right to transform prisons into "Liberation schools;"  
Facilitate close relations between prisoners and families and communities.

The HRC should be built to include all organizations working with prisoner right issues (more or less) and be built into an internationally recognized voice of the oppressed. Ideally these organizations could be brought under the umbrella of the Panther Solidarity Movement, embracing the 10 Point Program.

We have previously elaborated the Serve The People programs which the PSO (previously the Black Brigade) should develop within the prisons.[1]

## **Dare to Struggle Dare to Win! All Power to the People!**

### Notes

[1]Kevin "Rashid" Johnson, "Applied Panther Love: Organizing the Black Brigade Within and its work Within the Razor Wire Plantations" <http://rashidmod.com/?p=28>

# DEADLINE ON DEMOCRACY AT PACIFICA RADIO

People who were members as of April 7, 2021 of one of the Pacifica stations (WBAI in NY, WPFW in DC, KPFT in Houston TX, KPFK in southern California or KPFA in Berkeley have until July 7, 2021, 11:59pm ET (10:59pm CT, 8:59pm PT) to cast their NO vote on a critical Bylaws revision that would fundamentally and irreversibly undermine democracy and diversity at the listener sponsored radio network. See <https://elections.pacifica.org>

In a separate election (that would be terminated if the Bylaws change passes), people who were members as of June 30 of this year can run or nominate others for delegates of the listeners and staff on the Local Station Board of their station until July 14, 2021, 11:59pm ET (10:59pm CT, 8:59pm PT).

Anti-Racist Action-Los Angeles/People Against Racist Terror (ARA-LA/PART) is backing a NO vote on the Bylaws change in solidarity with BIPOC programmers and producers around the network. They and we see the proposal as a manifestation within a “progressive” media institution of the same white supremacy and voter suppression that are operating in the corporate political duopoly and the US electoral system.

Some examples of the voter suppression and gerrymandering going on within Pacifica:

The proposed “New Day” bylaws would segregate the unpaid staff, mostly community-based producers and programmers of color, into a new third class of membership, with disproportionately less representation, and the likelihood that staff at three or more of the stations have no representation on the national board.

The proposed Bylaws would strip the elected Local Station Boards of any oversight authority regarding station management, budget or programming decision-making processes.

The proposed Bylaws would appoint four national officers to dominant positions for three years on a new national board with control of all the foundations assets, while preventing anyone from the east coast stations from serving as officers, and allowing the board majority to cement its control with additional appointees. They would impose a top-down, elitist chain of command over station staff and management. The new Bylaws would create a number of single-seat, winner take all elections that the same majority, perhaps from a single station, could dominate, in place of the current system of proportional representation that guarantees some minority representation on the Local Boards and national committees.

## MUMIA ABU-JAMAL SPEAKS ON DEMOCRACY AT PACIFICA AND ENDORSES A NO! VOTE ON THE BYLAWS REVISION

Given the history of Pacifica, Pacifica you know was founded for a specific purpose and it was to create something that was really quite remarkable in its time, and as we see, in today’s time: to resist the corporatization of radio, and to give the freest expression for the people, a kind of radio democracy. And anything that challenges that, of course I and many people who think along those lines, would have to oppose it. So I would say if you’re thinking about keeping Pacifica, as the rare treasure that it is in radio, vote. NO on the [bylaws] elections upcoming. And understand that this is a continuing struggle that it’s happened over years. And if you do not resist this corporatization, a real radio treasure will be lost and lost forever.

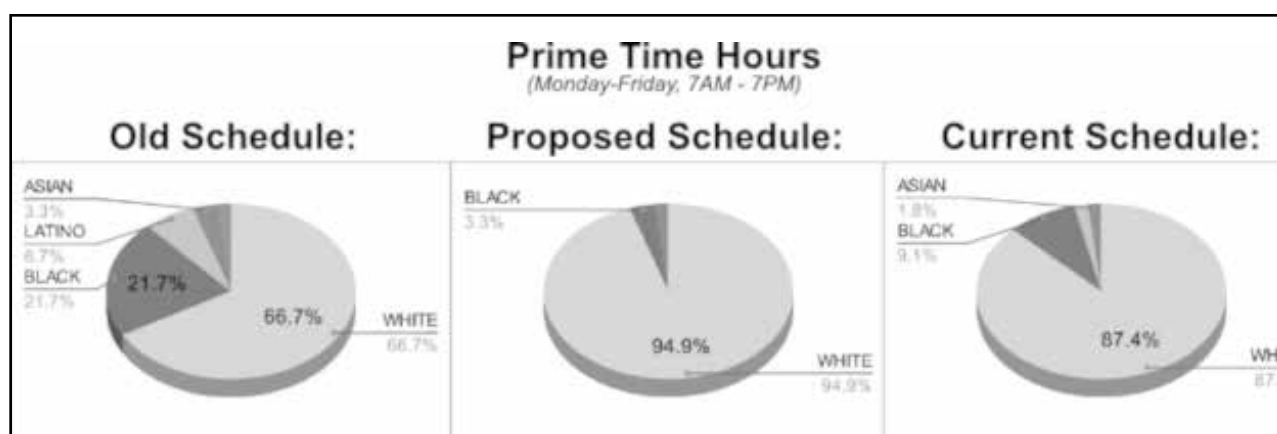
[There’s] something called position, you know, in real estate where you are, it’s more important that what you are. The same is true of radio, your position on the dial. Your frequency is very, very important and these frequencies were established, long before FM radio, became the presence that it is today. So corporate forces, looking at it from a capitalist perspective, are licking their chops to acquire those frequencies so that they can sell soap, so that they can sell stuff, so that they can make more money, not make up minds but to make more money. So it’s more important than [ever]. You know, Pacifica has always been and for decades now, the places where people could hear voices that were chopped out of. and cut out of corporate radio: radicals, organizers, agitators, professors, thinkers, stinkers, people from a wide variety of social movements, were able to find space, in an area where there was very little space. And that encroachment on the commons of radio is continuing. So, ideologically, market forces must be resisted because they are not “normal.” They’re an encroachment and a growing force against Free Speech, social movements, to[wards] the marketization, the corporatization of the air. So keep free air, keep Pacifica being what it is. Keep free air free. From imprisoned nation, this is Mumia Abu-Jamal.

## WHAT HAPPENED TO HUMANITY

by prisoner Tasha Palmer-Brown #X08650, CCWF, POB 1508, Chowchilla CA 93610

Obstacles are chances for change. 2020 was full of obstacles, but what’s changing? There are currently over 2.2 million people incarcerated in the US. Conversely, the crime rates are comparative to other industrialized countries, but they have far fewer people in prison. Mass incarceration was the system’s “remedy” for emancipation, and has tentacles in racism.

The abuse of power perpetuates the catastrophic cycle of poverty, crime and incarceration; felony convictions



These pie-charts, prepared by Rodrigo Bravo of KPFT’s Nuestra Palabra, shows the pre-existing disproportion in programming at the Houston Pacifica station and the impact of a recent attempt to “white-out” BIPOC programmers. BIPOC communities are 75% of the population in Houston, and now only about 5% of the programming.

Not surprisingly, these Bylaws changes are backed by the same people who engineered the illegal shutdown and takeover of WBAI in NY, removing all local programming and replacing it with “Pacifica Across America” piped in from KPFK and KPFA. It took legal action by to overturn that. The proposed Bylaws are backed by the same people who recently attempted a whitewash of programming at KPFT in Houston, the most diverse, fastest growing and youngest big city in the US, where almost all the BIPOC programmers were taken off the FM dial and relegated to the HD channel, which has almost no listeners. The same proponents of New Day were involved in firing a former GM at KPFK, removing most of the new shows she introduced with Black female hosts, and shutting down the People’s School of Broadcasting she developed to welcome and train community based unpaid staff.

It is crucial to the future of the non-commercial, non-profit educational foundation and stations, to defeat the Bylaws proposal, and then elect anti-racists and anti-imperialists to the Local Station Boards in all five signal areas, which include the top three media markets in the US, and the financial, political, energy, entertainment and digital capitals of the US.

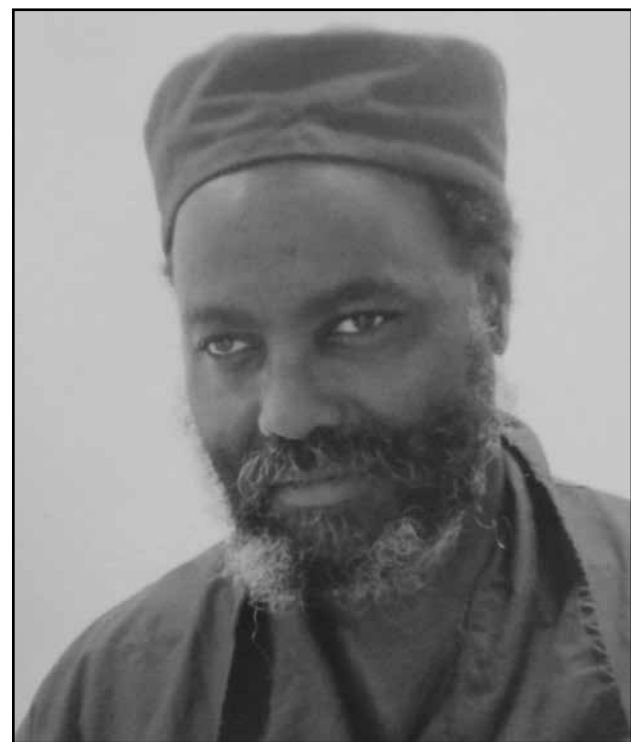
This enormous potential impact (combined with over 200 affiliated community and college stations all around the US and beyond that share content with Pacifica) can only be realized if the Pacifica Foundation and its constituent stations adopt a clear stance against racism and militarism, in accordance with its mission: “In radio broadcasting operations to engage in any activity that shall contribute to a lasting understanding between nations and between the individuals of all nations, races, creeds and colors; to gather and disseminate information on the causes of conflict between any and all of such groups; and through any and all means compatible with

the purposes of this corporation to promote the study of political and economic problems and of the causes of religious, philosophical and racial antagonisms. “In radio broadcasting operations to promote the full distribution of public information; to obtain access to sources of news not commonly brought together in the same medium; and to employ such varied sources in the public presentation of accurate, objective, comprehensive news on all matters vitally affecting the community.”

In about 2003, the Foundation adopted a set of democratic Bylaws defining Pacifica as a membership organization, in which its listener and staff members elected delegates to Local Station Boards which then constituted a national board from all five stations -- a unique democratic media institution. The proposed Bylaws change would essentially reverse that and return to the days of a self-perpetuating national board with the prospect of selling or swapping station signals to produce cash. The WBAI and KPFA signals are both on commercial part of the FM dial. The KPFK signal, strongest west of the Mississippi, and its reach from San Diego to Santa Barbara is coveted by NPR powerhouse KPCC. The Bylaws change would no doubt also cement a narrow political spectrum in the programming, adhering to the confines of the US corporate-dominated political and electoral system.

Michael Novick of ARA-LA is currently the chair of the KPFK Local Station Board, which voted to oppose the new Bylaws, along with the LSBs at WBAI and WPFW. He intends to run for re-election to the LSB if the Bylaws change is voted down and the Local Station Board elections proceed, along with a slate of predominantly BIPOC people backed by the Grassroots Community Radio Coalition. More information is available at

<https://pacificafightback.org>



handcuffed, because he’d been sound asleep when prisoners were told to exit their cells for a cell search. To cover the abuse, he was written up and placed in solitary.

Does one cease being human by entering the penal dungeon? Should the 8th amendment read: “Cruel and unusual punishment is allowed if you break the law? If someone is kicked in their face when they are already on the ground in surrender, we can’t simply shake our heads.

If we are apathetic, there is blood on our hands, too. Nobody else can keep the community safe but the community itself.

further exacerbate disenfranchisement. As a system-impacted person of color, I know first hand that structures in society predispose people to certain conditions, and restrict their access to the power to change them.

I committed a crime when I was 15, although my criminality did not persist into my adulthood, I continue to be held prisoner for profit (a slave under the 13th Amendment). Suffering and atrocities behind these walls lead me to question who the real criminals are. Do all lives matter except ours?

One incident a prisoner shared with me: He was snatched from bed and beaten by C.O.’s while

# NUESTRA AMERICA IS A CAULDRON OF

## Leftist candidate wins Peruvian Presidential Run-Off Vote

From reports on Telesur English

Leftist teacher Pedro Castillo reached 50.12% of the valid votes cast in Peru's recent presidential run-off election, ahead of the Fuerza Popular (FP) candidate Keiko Fujimori, daughter of the former dictator and convict, who gained 49.87% of the ballots. Peru's ex-President Ollanta Humala (2011-2016) stated that the proclamation of Peru Libre (PL) candidate Pedro Castillo as president-elect could not delay any longer.

Humala stressed that the official results of Peru's June 6 elections point to Castillo as the next president and that sowing doubts about this process is not democratic.

However, the National Elections Jury (JNE) is in the process of resolving a series of requests for annulment presented by FP, before proceeding with the proclamation of a President-elect. Meanwhile, Castillo has expressed that he awaits the official results. "There are neither losers nor winners, today we are one family", the PL candidate stated.

The Plenary of the Peruvian National Jury of Elections (JNE) declared on Monday as unfounded ten other appeals filed by Keiko Fujimori's political party, Fuerza Popular, regarding the nullity of the electoral records. The confirmation of the JNE comes after Fuerza Popular presented the previous week the nullity of a prior set of ten electoral records alluding to alleged irregularities, which were not argued by the party of the ultra-right presidential candidate.

In the morning, the JNE, with the participation and incorporation of Victor Rodriguez Monteza, heard the testimonies of the legal team of Fuerza Popular defending its position of nullity of the minutes of the regions of San Martin and Huancavelica. Still, the instance declared the request as unfounded. However, the National Jury of Elections authorities agreed to refer the complaints of Fuerza Popular to the Peruvian Public Prosecutor's Office to investigate the alleged offenses regarding the vote count of the second round of the presidential elections. The appeals proceedings were suspended after the unexpected resignation of prosecutor Luis Arce Córdova; as a product of his decision the Plenary of the JNE was left without a quorum.

[As TTT was going to press], the JNE had another hearing where the plenary will process another eight requests for the annulment of minutes presented by Fuerza Popular. Meanwhile, social organizations continue to gather in Lima, demanding the proclamation of Pedro Castillo as the new president of the nation.



Schoolteacher Castillo is resisting the erasure of his electoral victory by the right wing.

## Brazilians to Protest Against Bolsonaro July 3

Compiled from reports on TelesurEnglish.net

On June 30, the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies will receive an impeachment request against Bolsonaro. Also on June 30, the Brazilian Supreme Court will deliver a key judgment on the future of the demarcation of indigenous lands. As hundreds of indigenous people camp in Brasilia, protests are spreading across Brazil, in over 200 cities, charging Bolsonaro with genocide. Officials are simultaneously advancing a Senate inquiry into the federal government's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic. According to Iago Montalvão, president of the National Students' Union, "the new facts show more concrete elements in a case of corruption in Bolsonaro's government and even reinforces its genocidal nature because it was corruption with vaccines to save lives."

The government of neo-fascist Jair Bolsonaro is bracing for another national demonstration summoned for July 3 as the Fora Bolsonaro (Bolsonaro Out) Front announced that it would be back in the streets to demand the resignation of the far-right president. "The struggle of the masses is the decisive element in opening the process of Bolsonaro's impeachment. We want to use the rally on July 3 to send a message to the President of the (Lower) Chamber, Arthur Lira," the representative of the national coordination of the Landless Rural Workers Movement (Movimento Sem Terra - MST) and Frente Brasil Popular João Paulo Rodrigues explained.

Brazil Lawyers Order (BLO) intends to bring President Jair Bolsonaro, who keeps his irresponsible handling of the Covid-19 pandemic in Brazil, to the International Criminal Court for crimes against humanity. According to the Rede Brasil Atual portal, the International Court in the Netherlands has already convicted in all its history several world leaders for crimes against humanity, including genocide. BLO will wait for the final report from the Parliamentary Investigation Commission (PIC) to assess the government's management on the pathogen to direct their actions to world courts.

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## Meet the communists who now govern Chile

by Vijay Prashad, Taroa Zuniga Silva

Javiera Reyes, who is 31 years old, is the new mayor of the Santiago municipality of Lo Espejo in Chile. "I grew up in a home where [former President of Chile] Salvador Allende was always the good guy," she told us, "and [military dictator] Augusto Pinochet was a tyrant. That marked my life." Reyes' comment reflects the old divides that have convulsed Chile's politics since General Augusto Pinochet's coup d'état against former President Salvador Allende of the Popular Unity coalition on September 11, 1973.

Almost 50 years have gone by and yet Chile is still influenced by the legacy of that coup and of the Pinochet dictatorship, which lasted from 1973 to 1990. The May 2021 election that propelled Reyes to the mayor's office in Lo Espejo also voted in a new Constitutional Convention to rewrite the Pinochet-era Constitution of 1980. Reyes' victory and the gains made by the left alliance to shape the new Constitution suggest that it is Allende's legacy that will shape the future and not that of Pinochet.

Reyes is a member of the Communist Party of Chile (PCCh), which has rooted itself deeply in Chile's society over the past 109 years. A PCCh leader—Daniel Jadue—will be the left's candidate in the presidential election to be held in November 2021. Jadue, like Reyes, is a mayor of a municipality in Chile's vast capital city of Santiago (a third of Chile's 18 million people live in Santiago). In the May 2021 election, he was re-elected to the mayoralty of Recoleta, which he has governed since 2012.

"There is a historical continuity in [PCCh's] policy," Jadue told us, "with the same horizon—updated, of course. No one is thinking of taking up statist projects [again] or socialism as it has been tried, but there is undoubtedly a historical continuity, and we are in one way or another participants in the dream of the people who in the 1970s sought to build a fairer country and who today seek exactly the same thing."

#### Vote without fear

Jadue leads in the November 2021 general election polls to replace Chile's right-wing President Sebastián Piñera. Already, the press has started reporting about the various stances taken by Jadue during his life, particularly his association in the 1980s with Palestinian activism. The smearing of candidates of the left has become part of the electoral process in Latin America: the extreme-right press in Ecuador said that the left-leaning candidate for president, Andrés Arauz, had taken money from the Colombian left-wing guerrilla group ELN (National Liberation Army). The right-wing press also reported that Peru's current presidential candidate Pedro Castillo, who is leading by a narrow margin, was similar to Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path), which is a guerrilla insurgency in Peru. Jadue dismisses these claims made against the leftist candidates. "I want my entire record to be visible because I have nothing to hide," Jadue said when he spoke to us.

The communists participated in the elections held on May 15 and 16 under the slogan Vote Without Fear (Vota Sin Miedo). This slogan comes from a long history, which is part of the party's legacy. The PCCh was banned, and its members were subjected to persecution over three periods: 1927-1931, 1948-1958, and 1973-1990. Pinochet's dictatorship killed thousands of communists, including many key leaders. A swath of Chile's society was gripped by fear brought about by Allende's socialism, which was essentially a result of the hatred cultivated during Pinochet's dictatorship. During this time, it takes courage to stand with the communists.

Fear of communism has been diminishing, Reyes told us, because the PCCh elected officials have shown their constituents efficiency and compassion through their governance. Jadue's Recoleta has become a showcase, with a municipal pharmacy, optical shop, bookstore and record store, open university, and real estate project operating free of any profit motive under Jadue's vision as the mayor of the municipality.

Javiera Reyes says that her communism is rooted in her "conception of a municipal government that starts with the universalization of rights and the capacity to create conditions for a good life." The project of municipal socialism starts with "health, education and common spaces," says Reyes. It is a project that is "democratic and open to the community."

Unlike Chile's right-wing mayors, the communist mayors in Santiago such as Reyes, Jadue and Iraci Hassler (who was elected in May 2021 to the mayoralty of Santiago Centro) put the role of women at the core of their policies, including mechanisms to tackle violence against women. They want to create a society without fear in the broadest sense possible.

#### Penguin Revolution

In 2006, students across Chile protested the privatization of education. Their mass struggle was called the Penguin Revolution because of their black-and-white school uniforms. "The Penguin Revolution in 2006 was my first [introduction] to politics," Reyes told us. Reyes and Hassler both participated in the massive protests in 2011 and 2013 over the inequalities that marked the secondary and university education in the country. Reyes joined the PCCh during that period. Other students who are currently Chilean politicians, such as Camila Vallejo and Karol Cariola as well as Hassler, were already communists.

Student demonstrations came alongside manifestations and strikes by workers from all sectors. Their protests rattled the elite consensus, which since the fall of Pinochet in 1990 had not attempted to write a new Constitution for the country or bothered to formulate a path out of neoliberal suffocation.

In October 2019, high school students protested the rise of fares for public transport. This wave of protests, which is ongoing, began to define Chile's political life. With the slogan "it's not 30 pesos, it's 30 years," the students have highlighted the need for a new Constitution.

#### A New Chile

Chile has the lowest electoral participation rate in Latin America. After 17 years of dictatorship, trust in the state structures had practically disappeared. Voting was compulsory until 2009, although registration to vote was not compulsory. Young people did not register with the electoral service (Servel). The demand for a new constitution was a wake-up call for the youth. Data shows that more than half of Chile's young people between 18 and 29 years of age voted in the election, with women constituting 52.9% of the voters.

Women and young people will shape the Constitutional Convention, just as women and young women in particular—such as Reyes and Hassler—have taken over the mayors' offices. The 155-member Constitutional Convention is filled with young people like Reyes and Hassler, a sizable section of the left. The right wing was unable to win one-third of the convention, which would have given it veto power. This means that the new Constitution, which will be drafted in the next nine months, will have a progressive character.

On July 18, Jadue faces a primary against Gabriel Boric, another student leader and now a leader of the Frente Amplio (Broad Front). All indications suggest that Jadue will prevail over Boric and then meet the candidates of the right in November. He will be the third communist to run for the presidency, following Elías Laferte Gaviño (1931 and 1932) and Gladys Marín (1999). If the polls are accurate, Jadue will be the first communist president of Chile.

This article was produced by Globetrotter: <https://globetrotter.media/>

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# ANTI IMPERIALIST CLASS STRUGGLE

Daniel Jadue, Javiera Reyes of Chilean CP



## STRIKERS ACROSS COLOMBIA ARE DEMANDING TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE

By Tom Power and Cruz Bonlarron Martínez, Labor Notes [Excerpt]

<https://www.labornotes.org/2021/06/defying-police-violence-strikers-across-colombia-are-demanding-transformational-change>

What started as a Colombian protest against a regressive tax bill has become a national strike against police brutality and poverty. The administration of President Ivan Duque has already pulled back the tax reform and the finance minister has resigned, but people are angry and marches and road blocks continue. Unions, student groups, and other organizations have formed a National Strike Committee which is negotiating with the government, demanding transformational change.

Among the strike committee's demands are guaranteed health care during the pandemic, a universal basic income, and a commitment to protecting domestic industries. Protesters are blocking roads and commerce to create leverage, which the government claims is causing shortages of basic goods.

"As a union, we are in agreement with the strike," said Yolman Zuleta, the secretary of the Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores de la Agroindustria de Colombia (National Union of Agribusiness Workers of Colombia, based in the northwestern Urabá region). "It's what we have to do so that people pay attention to what we are demanding.

"They were going to put a sales tax on every one of the products of the basic family basket, and it's already difficult for people to feed themselves on the minimum wage as is. If they want to raise the price of food, it's going to get even worse." Poverty has gone up seven percentage points since the start of the pandemic, with 42.5 percent of the population now below the poverty line. Unemployment remains stubbornly high at 14 percent.

### Police Violence Against The Strike

The state met these protests with bullets. According to the human rights organization Indepaz, 67 people were killed between April 28 and May 31, many allegedly by the Colombian security forces and some by unidentified civilians who some activists believe are affiliated with right-wing paramilitary groups.

The human rights organization Temblores has counted more than 3,700 acts of police violence over that period. The government says only 17 civilians have died. Fifty-five U.S. Congresspeople demanded a suspension of military aid to Colombia, as images circulated on social media of police firing on crowds and collaborating with armed civilians to repress the protests. The UN, Human Rights Watch, and even the Organization of American States have publicly condemned the violence.

Colombia has traditionally been one of the most dangerous countries in the world to be a trade unionist. Colombia is once again on the International Labor Organization's blacklist, which lists the worst violators of workers' rights. The American coal company Drummond is being investigated by the Colombian transitional justice system for financing the far-right United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC) paramilitary group, which in 2001 committed high-profile assassinations of coal union members. The banana multinational Chiquita Brands admitted in 2007 that it had financed the AUC to the tune of \$1.7 million dollars. Demobilized paramilitary commanders in Urabá have said union members were targets.

## Statement from the Gathering of Resistances and Rebellions,

which took place on June 19 in the community of El Rebollero, Cuatro Venados, Oaxaca.

<https://itsgoingdown.org/statement-gathering-of-resistances-and-rebellions-oaxaca/>

To the Zapatista Army of National Liberation  
To the National Indigenous Congress  
To the Indigenous Governing Council  
To the Squadron 421  
To the Free and Independent Media

Gathered in El Rebollero, the lands of resistance in the municipality of Cuatro Venados, Oaxaca, as communities, organizations, collectives and individuals, we greet you and share our thoughts.

Concerned by the situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, such as the limitations to carry out our community and regional assemblies, the silent advance of capitalist megaprojects, and the reorganization of our mobility and our territories, we announce:

Those of us present this June 19 reaffirm our categorical rejection of the advance in mining projects throughout the state of Oaxaca. We know that there are at least 355 mining concessions approved up until this year of 2021. In these lands of El Rebollero, there are at least three concessions covering more than 6000 hectares to extract gold and silver. We call on all of the communities to be alert. In San Pablo Cuatro Venados, we also denounce the constant aggressions from armed groups, who have fired high-caliber weapons, and through acts of violence seek to dispossess us of our territory to give way to the exploitation of the three mining concessions.

In the community of San José del Progreso and surrounding communities, the Cuzcatlán mining company, which has 31 concessions that cover 64,000 hectares, is advancing in the exploitation of gold and silver. Furthermore, the Assembly of the Chontal people denounce the Zapotitlan mining concession, which is threatening the region. Also in the Southern Sierra, more than 120,000 hectares are concessioned to the company, Altos Hornos de Mexico, in an area inhabited by different communities, considered the second largest iron ore deposit in the world.

In addition to the mining concessions, there is also so-called "clean energy" projects which are causing death and destruction. For example, the hydroelectric project "Paso de la Reyna" in the Southern Sierra, and others in Rio Cajonos, in the Chinantla region, where six hydroelectric dams are projected, with nine more in the La Lana Rivera.



Other communities are facing the same threats from other projects, like the exploration and practice of biopiracy by multidisciplinary research teams who arrive to the communities to appropriate ancestral knowledge. This is the case in the Sierra Mazateca where different foreign groups have been present. The Mazateca region is also on high alert due to the presence of paramilitary organizations that function as the armed wings of certain political party interests in the region.

We also want to share that the entire state of Oaxaca and the country is suffering a process of territorial reorganization through programs of land regularization like PROCEDE, FANAR, and RRAJA, as well as protected natural areas and reserves where often times our communal statutes remain invalid.

In the case of the Istmo de Tehuantepec, different communities who at first accepted the wind turbine projects, have been forced into agrarian conflicts. In this region, grand capital is advancing forcefully. The Interoceanic Train, which connects the ports of Salina Cruz and Coatzacoalcos, is only part of it. Beyond that, they have projected at least ten industrial parks, more wind farms, and the reorganization of our communities to march at the speed of the market and capital. From this space, we denounce the four arrest warrants emitted against our compañeros who have resisted the imposition of an industrial park in the community of Puente Madera, San Blas Atempa. We demand these arrest warrants be removed. We also demand the end to the harassment against other brothers who resist the imposition of megaprojects in Oaxaca and the rest of the country.

Those of us participating in this assembly sharing our pain and resistance, we pertain to the following language groups: Chatino, Chinanteco, Chontal, Mazateco, Mixteco, Triqui, Zapoteco de Valle and Zapateco del Istmo. We join the process of resistance maintained by the Indigenous peoples of Mexico and the world, and we salute the grand journey that our Zapatista brothers and sisters have begun in the Europe of below, who carry our word and our heart. We reject the institutional racism and contempt of those who have denied passports to our Zapatista brothers and sisters and of the National Indigenous Congress.

Freedom for political prisoners!  
Free Fidencio Aldama and Fredy Garcia!  
End the militarization and para-militarization of the Indigenous Communities!  
Never more a Mexico without us!  
--Assembly of Resistances and Rebellions of Oaxaca in the community of El Rebollero

## On-Line Resources for Turning the Tide & ARA-LA/PART:

You can find archives of *Turning the Tide* at <https://antiracist.org> that go back more than 30 years, or subscribe to the ARA E News. In addition, there are several Facebook pages, such as [facebook.com/tideturning](https://facebook.com/tideturning), and [facebook.com/intercommunalsolidarity](https://facebook.com/intercommunalsolidarity).

You can follow @ara\_losangeles on Twitter [antiracistaction\\_la](https://twitter.com/antiracistaction_la) on IG, and the De-Colonize LA! blog at [ara-la.tumblr.com](https://ara-la.tumblr.com).

# “It’s Been A Nightmare”: ‘White Boy Summer’ Tour Starts In Disaster

## White Nationalist Nick Fuentes To Host Fundraiser For AZ GOP Rep. Paul Gosar in Phoenix

Nick Fuentes, White nationalist leader of the *Groyper*s, a group that grew out of the Alt-Right, participated in Charlottesville + January 6th in DC, is launching a road trip. [pic.twitter.com/dF1TkMe0Ml](https://pic.twitter.com/dF1TkMe0Ml)  
— It’s Going Down (@IGD\_News) June 27, 2021

Nicholas J Fuentes, host of the white nationalist *America First* stream, famous for Fuentes telling Black people to get over Jim Crow laws and laughing about murdering interracial couples in video games, set out on a two week “White Boy Summer” road trip on June 26th, 2021. Fuentes booked a fundraising gig with Arizona Rep. Paul Gosar on July 2nd, but since he is barred from flying after publicly accosting flight attendants, Fuentes devised a road trip stunt. [pic.twitter.com/v7CEp0Xvvs](https://pic.twitter.com/v7CEp0Xvvs)  
— It’s Going Down (@IGD\_News) June 28, 2021

Leaving Chicagoland during flash floods put Fuentes and Jaden McNeil (a former Turning Point organizer who went full-on open white power) behind schedule by six hours. When they arrived at the first stop in Des Moines, IA, fans responded by telling the *America First* host to just keep driving. Fuentes’ next scheduled stop was Omaha, NE. Again he didn’t stop for fear of antifascists getting wind of his stunt. They drove on to Denver on June 28, and Las Vegas on June 29. “We drove through



Fuentes wearing shades to hide his tears.



three time zones, I don’t even know what time it is,” Fuentes stated on a stream while inside his Las Vegas hotel room.

Unite the Right marcher + J6th participant Nick Fuentes along with his white nationalist “Groyper”s in *America First*, which includes former members of other white nationalist + neo-Nazi groups like *Identity Evropa*, is doing a fundraising event with GOP Congressman Paul Gosar. [pic.twitter.com/sJhh1trvJW](https://pic.twitter.com/sJhh1trvJW)  
— It’s Going Down (@IGD\_News) June 29, 2021

It seems though that Fuentes has not been having a good time. On Twitter he wrote, “*White Boy Summer* is under attack.” As of this writing, Fuentes still hasn’t had an actual tour stop public event, but says there are upcoming events planned in Phoenix, AZ and Houston, TX. “It’s been a nightmare from beginning to end,” Fuentes stated on his most recent stream.

In a post on social media, Fuentes wrote that he would be hosting a fundraiser for GOP Rep Paul Gosar on July 2nd in the Phoenix area, which led to swift condemnation of Gosar on social media for his links to white nationalists.

“We’re excited for the big fundraiser on Friday and we have another fundraiser the following week,” stated Fuentes, and claimed he would be in several cities in the coming two weeks doing various meet-ups.

## Vehicular Homicides Show Complicity of State with Violence-Prone Racists and Reactionaries

### Murder in Minneapolis

Deona Marie Erickson was killed protecting a protest of racist police murders with impunity on June 13 in Minneapolis when a driver crashed his car at her speed into hers as she sat on the ground nearby. She was gravely injured, revived, but died at the hospital. This is the culmination of right wing efforts around the country to legalize vehicular homicide against protesters who block streets.

It’s Going Down and Crimethinc have issued a powerful joint statement about this:

<https://itsgoingdown.org/the-culture-of-vehicular-attacks-on-the-murder-of-deona-marie-erickson/>

Excerpts:

On June 13, a driver attacked a demonstration in Minneapolis, killing Deona Marie Erickson. This is the result of years of right-wing efforts to normalize—and even legalize—vehicular attacks. Now the corporate media has ceased to prioritize covering them, paving the way for more killings. In dialogue with our comrades at It’s Going Down and on the ground in Minneapolis, we have prepared the following reflections on the implications of this.

Shortly before midnight on June 13, while demonstrators gathered at Lake Street and Girard Avenue to protest the murder of Winston Smith by sheriff’s deputies and US Marshals, a man named Nicholas Kraus drove his SUV into the crowd at high speed, killing Deona Marie Erickson. One Black anti-fascist militant who was on the ground at the time of the attack reports that it was clear to those present that it was an intentional attack: “You heard his engine from three blocks away.”

According to Unicorn Riot: Deona Erickson’s car was parked on the side of the street in a way that would protect the people who were gathering. She was sitting down on the sidewalk about 15 feet from her car moments before

the perpetrator smashed directly against her car at a very high speed. Witnesses say she was then hit by her car and sent flying. Street medics on the scene resuscitated her but she later died at the hospital. <<snip>>

Today, legislators around the United States are taking steps to criminalize protest activity, introducing a wide range of anti-protest bills. Foremost among them, Oklahoma and Florida lawmakers have passed laws guaranteeing civil and criminal immunity to drivers who hit demonstrators with vehicles, effectively granting vigilantes the right to crash cars into demonstrators. At the same time, Florida has introduced penalties of up to 15 years imprisonment for blocking traffic.

The message is clear enough. In short, lawmakers and police seek to crack down on pedestrians acting collectively to oppose state violence, while extending additional privileges to drivers who act individually to support state violence via their own attacks. The official institutions of the state have failed to leverage enough violence to suppress movements against police violence and white supremacy, so they are deputizing others to do so—a longstanding counterinsurgency strategy reflective of the colonial heritage of the United States. <<snip>>

Far-Right Murderers And Centrist Beneficiaries  
Nicholas Kraus, a man with a history of domestic violence and abuse, is representative of the sort of dysfunctional, alienated men that far-right provocateurs aim to weaponize to carry out stochastic attacks on social movements.

This is effectively a watered-down version of the same strategy that ISIS has used in the Mideast in territories it does not control: taking advantage of the desperation, prejudice, and mental health issues of an entitled but disenfranchised population, the far right aims to disrupt popular mobilizations through consistent but deniable terror attacks. Their goal is to raise the risks of public organizing to such an extent that it becomes hard for movements to maintain momentum, in order to support state repression while opening up space for fascist groups to recruit and mobilize. In Turkey, this approach helped the despot government of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan to crush

what had been powerful social movements. The ultimate beneficiaries of this are not just far-right politicians, but also centrist capitalists who do not wish to see fundamental changes that could threaten their power.

Vigilante attacks are also advantageous for the city officials who would like to present themselves as “neutral” while suppressing the protest movements against the murders that the police they oversee regularly carry out. Vigilante attacks enable these officials to change the subject from the violence of the institutions they represent back to the question of how to “maintain order.”

If the goal of those who seek to encourage vigilante attacks is to discourage movements based in direct action, this dovetails with the goals of city officials who seek to use the Non-Profit Industrial Complex to buy off a layer of activists to oppose and undermine effective strategies from within the movement. In that regard, one of the most important ways to prevent the attackers from achieving their goals is to preserve the horizontal, grassroots structure of movements against police, while continuing to emphasize systemic forms of white supremacist violence alongside vigilante attacks.

No sooner was this analysis published in our ARA E-News, it was reinforced in another tragic vehicular homicide directed at an LGBTQ Pride march in Florida, one of the states that has decriminalized striking protesters with vehicles, while further criminalized disruptive expressions of free speech.

### Driver crashes into crowd at Pride parade in Florida; 1 dead

<https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2021-06-19/driver-crashes-into-crowd-at-pride-parade-in-florida-1-dead>

ASSOCIATED PRESS JUNE 19, 2021

WILTON MANORS, Fla. — A driver slammed into spectators Saturday evening at the start of an LGTBQ Pride parade in South Florida, killing one.

## 100X100 Campaign to Increase Publication Frequency of Turning the Tide

Over its 30+ year publishing history, *TTT* has been published in magazine format, as a 24-page tabloid, and from time to time on a bi-monthly basis, six issues a year. For the last few years, economic necessity has dictated that we guarantee four 8-page issues a year. To restore bi-monthly publication, we launched a fund-raising campaign we’ve dubbed “100X100.”

We are still looking for one hundred people who will donate \$100 a year, or \$10/mo, to make it possible for *TTT* to resume publishing six issues a year, and continue mailing about 1700 copies of each issue into the prisons. You can donate online at <http://gofundme.com/eugzgg>. Help it go viral!

*Turning the Tide* doesn’t print itself, or mail itself. Some prisoners who get the paper contribute a few stamps. Often, they pass the copy of *TTT* that they received from hand to hand, cell to cell, or they send in the names and addresses of half-a-dozen or more other prisoners. **Prisoners, if you can find donors or subscribers outside prison to subsidize your sub, that would help a lot!**

If you’d like to see *Turning the Tide* more frequently, if you want to contribute to breaking down the walls of isolation and separation imposed by the prison system, please contribute. If you can’t manage \$100 all at once, you could donate \$10 a month. But any donation you make can help. Postage costs for a single issue of *TTT* are \$1000 and climbing. If you can’t donate yourself, please help spread the campaign via your social media, to your Facebook friends, Twitter followers, and email contacts. Everything helps. Nobody makes a dime from working on *TTT*.

If the campaign is successful, we will resume publishing every other month in 2020. Postage is our biggest expense. Nobody gets paid at *TTT*. But the Postal Service is not so generous. We have a handful of people who are sustainers, making a monthly donation, a larger number of people who subscribe once a year or so. Right now, we are at about 10% of our goal. LA area supporters could set up house meetings, where the editor will pitch to your friends for support. The future of *Turning the Tide* is in your hands. Now, while you’re thinking about it,

go to: <http://gofundme.com/eugzgg> and donate, or use paypal to [antiracistaction\\_la@yahoo.com](mailto:antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com) if you prefer. Then share it with your contacts. With your help, *Turning the Tide* can step up to the “urgency of now” -- the necessity for radical organizing, educating and analyzing to respond to the growing crisis of the Empire -- endless war, police terror with impunity, mass incarceration, colonialism, ecological devastation that will shortly become irreversible.

If you think *TTT* is a useful tool in the struggle for people’s power and a new world, please donate today. If you wish, you can also just send cash, check or money order to

**Anti-Racist Action, PO Box 1055, Culver City CA 90232.**

# End Police Associations

by Black Lives Matter LA  
<https://endpoliceassociations.org/>

## Police Associations Are Not Real Unions

Unions are vital. They ensure fair wages and collective bargaining for millions of people. Unions build solidarity among working class people. Unions move us forward into a future grounded in equity and justice. We are 100% for unions.

But here's the deal: police associations provide protections to cops who perpetuate violence, racism and white supremacy. Police associations claim to protect police in support of public safety, but the statistics say the opposite. The police are one of the leading causes of death for Black people.

Rather than fight for fair wages and working conditions, police associations use collective bargaining to negotiate for the right to kill and abuse our communities with impunity.

We can't create safe communities when police are allowed to kill and abuse their power without consequence. That starts with real labor unions removing cops from the House of Labor.

## UNJUST & UNFAIR

### Dishonest Bargaining

Police associations have bargained away the rights of everyday people, negotiating for the right to harm and systematically tear down our communities.

### Unchecked Power

Rights like qualified immunity protect police from being held liable for constitutional violations, such as the right to be free from excessive police force.

### State-Sanctioned Violence

After gaining these protections, state-sanctioned violence



increased significantly, leading to an additional 70 civilians being killed by police per year within just 10 years.

### Killing Our Communities

Police officers killed 1,127 people in 2020. That's an average of three people per day every day for an entire year.

### The Racist System

Black people were 28% of those killed by police in 2020 despite being only 13% of the population.

### Pilfering The Public Purse

Police associations consume a tremendous share of city budgets, sometimes, upwards of 50% of unrestricted funds, diminishing the funds available for vital community resources.

### Bullying And Bribing

Police associations use their deep pockets to elect corrupt representatives and enact laws that harm communities and make them less safe.

In Los Angeles, demonstrate with BLM-LA every Wednesday at 3:00 PM at 1313 W. 8th St, across from the L.A. Police Protective League.

## Cops Brutalize, Arrest Queer Marchers on Anniversary of Stonewall Uprising

by Tatiana Cozzarelli <https://leftvoice.org>

Early Sunday evening, after the Queer Liberation March and the Stonewall Protests' Pride March, the police brutally arrested eight people. We must fight for the charges to be dropped, against the racist police and for the right to free, public space.

Just one day before the 52nd anniversary of the Stonewall uprising, which was a riot against the police led by trans women of color, NYPD cops brutalized and arrested marchers as well as a street vendor. People poured into Washington Square Park after the marches. After individuals allegedly moved barricades, the police arrested, brutalized, and pepper-sprayed eight people.

Journalist Janus Rose told Gothamist, "The park was packed and people were just hanging out and having a good time after the Queer Liberation March. Then all of a sudden we started seeing dozens of police vans circle around the park with their sirens and lights flashing, pedal

## NICARAGUA: BUILDING THE GOOD LIFE (BUEN VIVIR) THROUGH POPULAR REVOLUTION

By Margaret Flowers, Popular Resistance [Excerpts]

As I traveled in Nicaragua on the recent Sanctions Kill delegation, one thing was clear, social transformation (revolution) requires both political power and participation by the people. Without political power, revolutionary programs will not have the material resources they require. Without the participation of the people, revolutionary programs, even with resources, cannot be put into practice and defended.

Right now, Nicaraguans have both and they are making great progress in building a new society or as it is often referred to in Latin America, 'Buen Vivir,' (the good life). They are demonstrating what we mean when we say "transforming society to put people and the planet over profits." And this is one of the reasons why the United States is targeting Nicaragua through hybrid warfare including a misinformation campaign, direct interference in the politics of the country and economic attacks. It is clear the United States is already working to undermine the upcoming presidential election in Nicaragua scheduled for November 7, but that is a necessary topic for another day.

I will focus on two aspects of the ongoing Sandinista revolution in Nicaragua: building power through organizing peasant workers and building a multicultural society that respects the sovereignty of Indigenous Peoples. Both contain lessons for activists in the US.

In 1979, the same year that the US-backed Shah of Iran was defeated, the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN), which began in the 1960's, overthrew the Somozas and was finally able to start putting its 13-point socialist program into practice.

to the metal." Videos on Twitter show swarms of police in riot gear surrounding the park. Some officers pepper-sprayed people who were merely standing around.

Four people were charged with disorderly conduct, and four more with resisting arrest, obstructing administration, and criminal possession of a weapon. This highlights that 52 years after the Stonewall uprising, the police remain a racist force of repression against the most marginalized amongst us. It proves that even though they now drape themselves in rainbow flags and even "apologize" for the brutality shown at Stonewall in 1969, they are the same racist, brutal force that they have always been.

But times have changed. The police don't repress wealthy, white gay men at expensive parties — they repress working-class queer people of color crowded in the streets, and the unhoused people who spend time in the park. In a city with more empty apartments than unhoused people, the capitalist state still pretends that it's impossible to provide housing for those who need it. We call bullshit.

Although there were setbacks during the US-backed Contra War of the 1980s and the neoliberal period from 1990 to 2006, in the past 14 years, Nicaragua has made major achievements that other poor countries and many a rich country like the US have not been able to make.

Their successes include access to free education from preschool through the university level for all people, universal healthcare, land ownership, a pension, the empowerment of women, youth, and marginalized populations and more. Nicaragua has a primarily popular economy composed of cooperatives and small farms and businesses. It has achieved food sovereignty with 90% of the food consumed being produced locally and a growing agricultural export market. It is building infrastructure, particularly roads, electricity, and potable water. Currently, over 98% of homes have electricity and 75% of that comes from renewable sources. Almost one-fourth of the energy produced is geothermal as Nicaragua is a land of volcanoes.

It took many decades to create the conditions in which these achievements could be made. The struggle to put the Sandinista revolution into practice and to defend the gains continues. Both the FSLN and the Rural Workers Association (ATC) are integral parts of that struggle.

The Rural Workers Association officially began forty three years ago this week, although the work to start organizing and unionizing peasant workers began in the early 1970's at the same time that the FSLN was growing. In my interview with Fausto Torres, who has been with the ATC from early on and currently serves as the Secretary of International Relations, he explains

In the past few weeks Washington Square Park has become the center of protests. As youth of color, activists, and unhoused folks attempt to enjoy the free public space, the police have increasingly begun to repress, arrest, and brutalize the people in the park. This is part of the continued gentrification of the West Village at large — the wealthy people in the neighborhood don't want to see unhoused people or radical youth outside their doorstep or expensive bars.

The NYPD already announced a 10 p.m. curfew for the park in order to justify their repression against the many people — mostly people of color — who hang out there. But on Sunday, thousands of people broke curfew in an act of joyous defiance.

But this is not enough. We must demand, organize, and mobilize for the charges against those arrested to be immediately dropped. We must fight for the end to the Washington Square Park curfew and an end to the racist police. And we must fight for the right to free, public space.

that the ATC and FSLN were born out of the same struggle with the ATC being composed of workers and the FSLN providing a political platform rooted in worker empowerment.

After the Somoza dictatorship was overthrown, it was the ATC that made the agrarian reform, which transferred land from large landowners to over 120,000 peasant families, a reality and helped to defend those land gains. The ATC provided literacy programs and helped new land owners learn to make their small farms productive. Some land owners formed cooperatives. After the [US-inflicted] Contra War, the ATC facilitated a reconciliation process between people who fought on both sides. Today, Sandinistas and former Contras live and work side-by-side in many communities and belong to the same cooperatives. The ATC continues to organize rural workers and educate them about labor laws and it has special programs for youth and women.

In the early 1990's, the ATC globalized its peasant movement by founding La Via Campesina, a member organization that currently operates in the Americas, Africa, Europe, Asia and Oceania and represents over 200 million rural families who are working to build a democratic and non-exploitative society. In addition to peasant workers, La Via Campesina members include migrants, landless peasants, and human rights defenders. There are four major areas of work: land reform, food sovereignty, peasant culture and socializing common goods. As an organization, it operates through collective leadership and participatory democracy. La Via Campesina values gender equality, youth participation, diversity, discipline and international solidarity. It is anti-capitalist, anti-imperialist and anti-patriarchal.

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# TURNING THE TIDE

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## #END POLICE ASSOCIATIONS!

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- ### UPCOMING EVENTS:
- ★ July 4: The Farce of July by XRF in DTLA: Temple St. Pedestrian Bridge
  - ★ July 7 - Deadline to Vote NO! on anti-democratic Pacifica Bylaws change
  - ★ July 14 - Bastille Day, Deadline for KPFFK Local Station Board nominations
  - ★ July 26 - Anniversary of the Cuban Revolution: End the US Embargo Now!
  - ★ August 29 - Anniversary of the Chicano Moratorium
  - ★ Sept 6 Harbor Labor Day March and Rally, Banning Park, Wilmington CA

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