



POST OFFICE BOX 110034 BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11211

Updates for May 31st

14 May - Cries Of the Lost

In the wake of the Ferguson uprising, Joshua Williams was arrested and imprisoned. Please read his latest writing below.

MORE:

by Joshua Lamar Williams (*San Francisco Bay View*)

For those who lost their loved ones to the hands of cops – I feel your pain. For those who cry those tears of pain – I see your tears. I know some nights it feels like you don't want to go on without that person in your life. Well, I'm here to say you got this.

I know it might hurt. Not might – I know it does hurt, losing somebody you loved or even birthed.

I'm here speaking from my heart because right now it cries out for justice for the families who suffer that pain. I'll stand and fight with you. This is not just any fight. This is a personal fight.

I say that because every bullet that struck your loved ones sent a message to you from the cop that did it, saying he or she don't give two fucks, and that fatal shot said they want war. So I say we bring it to them.

I speak to the cops across the world when I say how would you feel seeing your people lying dead in the street with bullets all in their body, knowing you watched that person grow up and you might have changed their Pampers.

I'm saying it doesn't feel good. It doesn't feel good walking down that church walk to see your baby laying cold in a casket. You can't hold them, laugh with them. It's not going to keep happening at all.

How can y'all cops sleep at night knowing y'all killed a kid – a 12-year-old kid at that? If you don't remember his name, here it is: TAMIR RICE. How y'all going to kill a teen going home from the store with a black hoodie on. If you don't remember his name. Here it is: TRAYVON MARTIN.

What about the two people who yelled they can't breathe? I know you cops remember them. I do: GEORGE FLOYD and ERIC GARNER. I say rest in power and peace to all the soldiers who died from the hands of police.

The police have all that blood on their hands and their family's hands. They can't wash it off.

I want to say this to all the families that lost somebody due to police. I'm sorry you had to go through this but be strong. I know you heard that so much, it's like – how strong can I be? I know it's a lot and it is a long fight, but I'll be here with you.

Thank you for your fight, thank you for your strength that you show each and every day. I sit in prison and think of ways to fight harder for you all every day and when I get out at the end of this year, Dec. 5, I'm going to take the fight directly to the streets again. It's no brakes on this fight, just gas. Love y'all.

You can comment on this speech if you like and if you have any personal stories of your own and would like to write me about something the police did to you or your loved one, send them to me. Thanks to all my supporters. This could not happen without y'all, everybody across the globe. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

16 May - New York Anarchist Black Cross' US Prisoner List

We update out illustrated guide to political prisoners and prisoners of war at least once a month and Unoffensive Animal shared some nice words about our efforts...

MORE:

The New York Anarchist Black Cross has published an up-to-date list of USA political prisoners and USA prisoners of war, alongside their charges and addresses to which you can send letters.

In the list, as well as Earth Liberation folks like Jessica and Marius, there are prisoners locked up for their work on black liberation, anarchist action and anti-police action. Every single one of those people listed was locked up because of their involvement in the fight for a better world. Some of them have been behind bars for decades, and all of them deserve support and solidarity.

We would love for you to have a look at their list, choose a couple of people and write a little something to send them a letter. It doesn't need to be something very profound, you can talk to them about your day or your favourite place in the world. Describe to them a good walk with a dog companion, your favourite restaurant or that time you almost got caught dumpster diving behind the apple store!

Many folks celebrate the anonymous reports that Unoffensive Animal publishes, but only a small percentage of those will write a letter to a prisoner, who could've once upon a time sent one of those anonymous reports! So today is the day, write a letter to someone locked up, help them open a window to the outside! If you have a group of friends, why not organise a letter writing evening? Meet up, have some snacks and write letters to multiple prisoners that then you can combine postage for. Makes things extra easy!

17 May - Talking Back

A look at the evolving movement to defend the Atlanta Forest and how people can push back on evolving police and media narratives attacking the struggle.

MORE:

by Committee for the Defense of the Offensive (*It's Going Down*)

"We are on the timeline in which everyone loses," a friend once said. It always felt that way. Even though we always tried, all of us, our victories were always innovations in methods, in discourse. Something is changing. In the forest. Across the city. Even more, it's as if an astral plane has opened up. This plane, if it exists, seems to spiral outward in every direction. Everything is growing from one simple fact: we really intend to win. We won't let them take everything from us, to pave over everything with condos and parking lots.

Hundreds of people ride dirtbikes and ATVs on a Sunday afternoon, giving shared meaning and purpose across three generations of small-time mechanics and adventurers. Music pulses through the trees as small groups find their way down the walking path, dimly lit by glow sticks, dancing beneath the stars for free; no doorman, no cover fee. On the edge of town, apartment complexes split the cost of bounce houses so that all of the children can celebrate birthdays together, sharing food and community in the warm Georgia sun, despite whatever challenges the work week holds. In innertubes and inflatable mattresses, thousands of people float slowly down the Chattahoochee with their roommates and friends, drinking beers in the cold water, a welcome joy from the downtown traffic.

This is the real Atlanta. The City in the Forest. And it is in danger. Of displacement, demolition, defeat. Everyone knows it. And we are fighting back.

And it is precisely this fight-back, this generalized determination to live a free and joyous life, that has produced so much resistance to the destruction of the South River Forest, the construction of Cop City and the Blackhall soundstage monstrosity. If you depended on the news, you would never know any of this.

Perhaps it is not too early to say that the media spin against the current movement (which will be driven completely by whatever public relations firm the Police Foundation hires) will be poorly written and unimaginative. So completely has the consolidated media apparatus degraded over the last forty years, one can hardly imagine that police spokespersons, editors, or city representatives will manage to construct fascinating, clear-headed, or invigorating lies. Since the articles are all hidden behind paywalls, the real talking points must be reducible to headlines and captions alone. Lucky for them, considering that the articles are all filled with embedded Tweets, misattributions, and inane quotations. Unless actual writers are given control of these companies, they will surely be totally replaced by decentralized social media platforms in a decade.

WHAT THEY ARE LIKELY TO SAY

We can already imagine the headlines they will serve up to the TV-viewing public. These headlines will be dully crafted by uncreative people, because they are not designed to describe reality, nor to induce critical thinking; rather, the dominant media culture fabricates wholesale a consumer base for its commodified information system. It is the consumer who is carefully constructed, and not the prose, nor the images, nor even the headlines.

In this sense, the architects of this system are not actually writers or orators, they are more like advertisers, infamous for their poor taste. Even in this, even in the art of advertising, they are driven to the lowest and most generic market share, the middle road, the center of all opinions. Which is to say, they speak to nobody. They address a hypothetical audience. Only Fox News has managed to identify a real niche, even if they are all lunatics. The situation is pathetic. We can imagine an engaging informational system controlled by informed humanity as a whole, providing informed insights and research to people who need it produced by a community of peers and especially creative individuals. Instead, we suffer from the mind-numbing drivel of the ruling-class double-speak.

Some likely stories from the coming days, which will only add to the general stupefaction of the public:

- “City Officials Say Outsiders Behind Local Protests”
- “Community Members Divided About New Public Safety Center”
- “Officials Say Criminals Have Hijacked Local Protest Movement”
- “New Plans Reduce Carbon Footprint of Public Safety Center”
- “Public Workers Struggle to Protect Local Business as “Activists” Attack Police”
- “New Facility Aims to Teach Officers Less-Lethal Techniques”
- “Construction Company Under Attack, Just Trying to Do Their Jobs”

In just a few hastily-delivered “reports,” it would not take long for the Police Foundation to lull thousands of people to sleep. Aside from tiresome prose and excessive repetition, consider the ridiculous and drab photos they post of the South River Forest (Welaunee). It’s hard to even imagine how they capture such ugliness from such a place. It doesn’t take long to find beautiful and captivating photography and films on the internet. Better still, it takes no time to venture into the zone oneself, especially now that it has attained a rather impressive autonomous status vis-a-vis the City Government.

Tarkovsky, a world and forty years away, captures the South River Forest in much clearer terms than the *Atlanta Journal Constitution*: “I don’t know what’s going on here in the absence of people, but the moment someone shows up, everything comes into motion. Old traps disappear and new ones emerge. Safe spots become impassable. Now your path is easy, now it’s hopelessly involved. That’s the Zone. It may even seem capricious. But it is what we’ve made it with our condition.” This is likely the feeling all living beings have down there, but you would never know it by reading the reports.

Condolences to those who have heard the Police Foundation directly speak about this place. Perhaps this is the actual skill of the state-driven reporting strategy: convince perfectly reasonable people to believe in something empty and ridiculous.

WHAT THEY WANT YOU TO THINK

Imagine life if you actually managed to conform to the absurd demands the bureaucrats whip together with their clumsy talking points and half-baked speeches. You could have all the freedom to think, as long as it doesn't affect your life. You could express any idea, except for something true. You could do anything you want, as long as it was insignificant. You could sleep wherever you want, except for in the shade of some trees. Imagine having everything except for the people and places you love. They want us to plan for the future, while they torch every inch of the free Earth.

That some intelligent and captivating people are openly refusing this arrangement should surprise no one. It should go without saying that the average person does not even hear the strange and idiotic things the police compel journalists to say. But both the police and journalists constantly speak anyway. They are obsessed with us, but we are not concerned with them. So humiliating this must be for all of the repressive forces gathering against the movement today. The reign of the police is truly confirmed when the revolutionaries can imagine nothing greater than a veritable fight with the boys in blue.

But we do not suffer from a lack of imagination. Rather than embrace a back and forth with the shock troops of the system, the current movement has ripped the mask off the Cop City project completely, targeting contractors, visiting the homes of CEOs, sabotaging infrastructure, embracing truly enthusiastic partisanship in the city, the forest, and all places of creative and collective life. When it has been necessary or opportune, the forces rising against the Police Foundation have not missed the chance to drive law enforcement out of the forest completely. This has been, by no means, the primary factor driving the current struggle, which will tend to become more ambitious and totalizing the more it advances. Naturally, this has been upsetting for those pushing from the other side of the barricades.

Attacks against this movement are completely generic. "Defend the Forest" (or however they will decide to name the forces taking shape all around them) will simply be the whipping post against which the stupefying pressure of the system will soon direct itself. This pressure, tested time and again against the Black struggles, the labor strikes, the wild resistance movements of the last 400 years, has some standard features and characteristics, and it also encircles all of us daily, beaming constantly from our phones and laptops. In general, the coming coverage is designed to pathologize free and brave people in the eyes of spectators so that the use of outright violence against them seems more reasonable.

They do not intend to isolate or discredit a specific group or movement, although that is what they say. Media operations are designed to give the impression, to give all of humanity the impression, the sinking feeling, that significant and lasting social transformation is impossible. If that were really true, they would not put so much effort into propping up the status quo with tazers and batons.

WHY THEY WILL FAIL

It is likely that our movement has brought more people to the forest in the past year than have visited the zone in the past decade. Furthermore, the research conducted by participants feels overwhelming. Typically the bureaucrats rely on movements losing themselves in discourse and political formalities. Not this time.

The Police Foundation still thinks they are building the Cop City. That is the real comedy. Brasfield & Gorrie and all the other contractors will obviously drop out of this development because all of the obstacles that lie before them.

The government believes they will win because they believe that money can buy strength. They will lose specifically because they do not understand that you cannot simply create power with annual budgets and a

bit of technology. For every tool they have, we have something cobbled-together, something open-source, something free or discovered. They spend millions on what we neutralize for practically nothing. They are victims of the commodity system; they believe that their weapons and body language trainings will give them the competitive advantage they need to rule everything. If those weapons and those trainings were any good, they would have no way of knowing, because commodities are not exchanged or sold based on their usefulness, but on their commercial value.

You cannot rule what you do not understand. You can only exterminate it, ignore it, incorporate it, or succumb to it. These dynamics we understand quite clearly. Our information is better, our imagination superior, our writing cleverer. They work for paychecks and a bit of prestige. We are fighting for the things we love. For these reasons, we will win.

PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES

We have digressed from our original intent. We set out only to address the aesthetic shortcomings of mass misinformation. Naturally, there are reasons for those shortcomings, so it's understandable they would come up here. In any case, we believe that future stories about the movement, generated with the interests of the Atlanta Police Foundation in mind, could benefit from a new dose of creativity and genius. Since that is not likely to emerge from the opposing camp or the "intelligence" grifters they hire from the internet, it seems we will have to develop them ourselves. Here are a few headlines that may attract new followers to the cause of tyrannical police omnipotence:

"Trouble in Paradise? Experts Say Internal Disputes May Destroy Local Movement."

A question is always popular in the context of click-bait coverage. Furthermore, this kind of framework allows readers to forgive themselves for not participating in the movement, since it's already full of disputes and hardships. Shame being so greatly available in the world, this is really a headline with mass appeal. At the same time, the movements decentralized nature seems to build diversity into its development strategy. Highlighting shortcomings may only lead to new mutations.

"Who is Behind the Movement Against the Police?"

This framing has plenty of benefits. Most of what needs to be said is already in the headline: some conspiratorial group (maybe a wealthy banker you can imply without stating directly) is controlling protests, therefore the protests are not really sincere; this specific phrase doesn't name the movement, so it doesn't drive the viral nature of what's occurring; it recenters law enforcement in a movement that seems to imagine an entirely new set of priorities and possibilities for society as a whole. Still, perhaps it's not wise to kick the beehive given that movement researchers seem readily capable of tracking down paper trails and conflicts of interests among their opponents.

"Racial Justice, or Anarchist Extremism?"

This is not a discourse, but it still has a lot of potential. For one thing, it implies that radical politics and anti-racism have nothing to do with one another and could lead the reader to believe that radicals were strange interlopers, instrumentalizing the common concerns and experiences of millions of people. In Atlanta, this kind of framework could go far, because the power structure is maintained by so many grifters. Second, it reframes the most popular radical currents in US movements as something frightening. Cheap tricks perhaps, but probably sufficient for alienated audiences. On the other hand, millions of people across this region remember the uncompromising revolts for Black life triggered by the murders of George Floyd, Rayshard Brooks, and too many others. This particular lie would have to leap this tall hurdle to gain genuine traction.

"Squatters Leave Litter in Local Forest They Claim to Defend"

Even though the Cop City and Blackhall soundstage complex would destroy the forest completely, it is always good to point out contradictions wherever you can. People are always looking for reasons to criticize things, and if you can manage to make them think that the people who are defending the forest are actually destroying it, this will probably be good enough for someone who needs a convenient excuse. Careful though. If people think too closely about the health of the land, this kind of story just may backfire.

“Leaked Information: Are Local ‘Activists’ Mimicking Russian Cyber-Warfare?”

Once again, a question mark. In this case, probably necessary because obviously the answer is “no.” Happily, the reader may not read it correctly and since they obviously will not open this poorly-written screed, they will believe they read an article saying Putin was behind the protests. Scare-quotes around the word “activist” is a fast way to demonize and discredit the enemy. Finally, pulling in unrelated hot-button issues allows local journalists to mobilize popular sentiment for the sake of sheer demagoguery. Careful not to push too hard in this direction. Some forces in the movement seem to benefit from the perception that they are frighteningly powerful with recourse to vast networks of support.

“Advocates Say New Police Training Facility Will Help Ease Racial Concerns in Policing.”

This is the big one. In the previous decades, it is Black struggles specifically that have formed the main vector of social discontent. Social anger tends to pool into this low spot in the room of American democracy. If the Police Foundation can somehow convince people that opponents of police militarization are the real racists, then surely they could escalate operations against them, goose-stepping all of us into their unhappy future. This is a hail mary. If it works, it could be the death blow. The issue is that millions of young people already mock this framework on social media.

If the Police Foundation cannot engineer new mythologies about their project, they will continue to lose at every step. The movement to oppose Cop City has already made several serious victories in this regard, and consistently retains the initiative on information gathering and reporting. The current struggle will likely attract OSINT/OSINV specialists and independent researchers. This couldn’t come at a worse time for the Police Foundation, for Brasfield & Gorrie, for the mayor’s office, and for all of the bureaucrats who rule by spreading confusion and deceit everywhere.

In order to keep the path clear, we will need to retain an honest perspective of what risks and obstacles we face on our long walk to victory. Let the truth be our frontline, and everything else will follow automatically.

17 May - Line 3 Pipeline Water Protectors' Criminal Cases Being Dismissed

In the past few weeks, a number of water protectors have seen criminal cases dismissed by prosecutors in so-called Northern Minnesota for alleged actions taken to stop the Line 3 pipeline in defense of the water, the climate, and the treaty rights of the Anishinaabeg people.

MORE:

by Global Land Alliance (*Popular Resistance*)

Violating Anishinaabe treaty territories in Minnesota, the new stretch of Line 3 was approved without full consent or proper impact studies, threatening safe water sources for millions. It carries the carbon equivalent of 50 coal plants. More than 68,000 Minnesotans testified against this plan.

Over 1,000 arrests were made during the nine months of construction. These individuals put their bodies on the line to stop Enbridge's Line 3 pipeline, a massive tar sands project that threatens the state's lakes, rivers, aquifers and wild rice beds. Police forces – directly funded by Enbridge – have responded to this massive movement with surveillance, harassment, physical torture (“pain compliance”), and trumped-up charges, including felonies. In this time of climate catastrophe, governments must listen to water protectors instead of criminalizing and prosecuting them.

The Canadian energy transportation corporation, Enbridge, funded and collaborated with the police force in northern Minnesota, and we currently understand have paid for \$8.6 million for costs associated with arresting and surveilling water protectors, including recent news of Aitkin County Sheriff billing 4,800 hours to Enbridge.

More recently, water protectors have seen a large number of their criminal cases dropped by prosecutors. A water protector said this of her dropped charges:

"We are proud to have stood in solidarity with the Anishanaabe people and do our small part in saying that Enbridge should not be allowed to further destroy the earth. Enbridge, with a history of over a billion dollars of damage to Anishanaabe waters and lands, is guilty of climate crimes against humanity and all beings. The police and judicial system are directly implicated with this subjugation of Mother Earth and her Indigenous caretakers, having received what we now understand to be \$8.6 million dollars from a private company to terrorize water protectors.

In the face of a global climate crisis, our governing bodies have chosen to protect the interests of capital, not humanity. We live by the delusion that profit is boundless, while the resources that sustain us, our water, our land, fossilized fuels deep underground, even our own families – are very much finite. To the prosecutors, attorney general, police officers, DNR, army corps of engineers, President Biden– What will your legacy be, to your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, as we face this climate crisis together? What is it that you love, and how do you want to be known for protecting it?

What will it take for the law of the land to protect life on Earth, and the fragile human beings that we are? We urge the state to do what's right and to drop all charges."

To learn more about the "Drop The Charges" campaign and the broader campaign to stop line 3, visit StopLine3.org and follow the Giniw Collective, Migizi Will Fly, Honor the Earth, and Resist Line 3.

19 May - We're Out Here for Them: Uprising Support Website Update

An update on George Floyd uprising defendants and a call for people to get involved in supporting long-term prisoners.

MORE:

It's been nearly two years since the George Floyd uprisings spread across the country, confronting the structures of white supremacy and police violence in ways not seen for at least a generation. It's also been seven months since we launched **UprisingSupport.org** to collect and share information about people imprisoned or facing imprisonment for their participation in the uprisings.

The website currently has info for over 20 people who are in jail or prison for their alleged activities during the uprisings. Half a dozen other people who were previously in custody and listed on the website have been released since we launched.

Many of the people featured on the website don't have organized or public-facing support crews. Often we only become aware of their cases through media about their arrests and sentences. We reach out directly when there's no obviously organized support crew or organization. If there is someone from or in your area who you see on the site, unless it says they have a support team it's safe to assume they don't, and could benefit from people reaching out and possibly organizing a support team in collaboration with them.

We really want to see more people stepping in to organized anti-repression and prisoner support efforts. The cycles of movement and conflict have been speeding up and intensifying – we are now heading into a long hot summer of struggle around bodily autonomy, reproductive freedom, and women's/queer/trans liberation. Through all this, the repression does not relent. Already the capacity of people currently doing anti-repression and prisoner support organizing is stretched thin. But this organizing is central to building long-term resilience into our struggles.

If you want pointers for getting started, the Resources page on the website compiles a lot of information about *how* to do anti-repression and prisoner support organizing. We know this might be a new area of organizing for some and we want to help people build up their skill set.

We've focused our efforts so far on reaching out to individual prisoners and their support crews if they have them. This is a slow and often laborious process since a large number of people on the site are not connected directly to support groups or organizations with public facing information. We have been sending letters to uprising prisoners we can locate asking if they want to be listed on the site, contacting people and groups doing support work, and more. Recently we've started doing more general outreach and publicity around the site (keep a lookout for our stickers!), and have an eye toward more of this in the future. Many people already have been thankful to learn about the website and information it compiles. This appreciation humbles and warms us.

Additionally, we are extremely grateful to everyone who has reached out to tell us about cases they've been following, friends and relatives they've been supporting, updates about prisoners they've reached out to, and more. We literally could not be doing this project without these contacts and updates. As a small collective, we can't actively keep up with the literally hundreds of uprising cases and prisoners across the country.

The collection of people listed on the website is not definitive, but it is a start and we will continue to reach out to those we learn about and maintain/update the information of those we have listed. If you are supporting someone, please don't hesitate to send us updates on their cases, prison sentences, and transfers: UprisingSupportSite@protonmail.com. It really helps us keep information current.

20 May - Donate to the ABCF Warchest and support long-time political prisoners!

The Anarchist Black Cross Federation (ABCF) initiated the Warchest program in November 1994 to send monthly donations to Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War who have been receiving insufficient, little, or no financial support during their imprisonment.

MORE:

Its purpose is to collect funds from groups and individual supporters and send that money directly to commissary accounts of vetted Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War (PP/POW) monthly. From inception to date, we have distributed over \$158,000 in funds.

Ways to Donate:

Venmo: TimFasnachtABCF | CashApp: \$timabcf | PayPal: paypal.me/abcfwarchest
Check or money order: made out to Tim Fasnacht, Post Office Box 8682, Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17604
Tax-deductible via fiscal sponsor (for tax deductible gifts of over \$500): make check out to GLACTS, mail to Philly ABC, Post Office Box 8643, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19101

Check out the ABCF warchest video: tiny.cc/Warchest_Video

21 May - Dr. Mutulu Shakur denied parole

On May 16, 2022, Dr. Mutulu Shakur was denied mandatory parole by the U.S. Parole Commission.

MORE:

This is the ninth time Dr. Shakur has been denied parole by the USPC, and the second time he has been denied mandatory parole.

Dr. Shakur received support for his parole from former Bureau of Prison staff, sitting Members of Congress, and religious and community leaders. Despite this extensive support for his release and his dire medical condition, the USPC determined that:

“After consideration of all factors and information presented, at this time, the Commission is denying your release under the standards at 18 U.S.C. §4206(d) for the following reasons: The Commission finds that there is a reasonable probability that you will commit a Federal, State, or local crime if released.”

Dr. Shakur’s legal team will be appealing this decision, and along with Dr. Shakur Families and Friends of Mutulu Shakur will be exploring all possible next steps in the struggle for his immediate release. This is a protracted effort and we will continue to work for his release until we win.

24 May - 50 Strategies of Revolution

New writing by Dan Baker--enjoy!

MORE:

Modern media portrays anarchists as insane mass murderers. We cannot allow profit driven capitalists to define us – we must engage with the public and define ourselves through direct acts which benefit our communities. Every guerrilla insurgency that has failed was isolated and alienated from the very same community they relied on. Spies and undercover cops infiltrated, and continue to sabotage, revolutionary movements. They continue to do so by providing bomb making materials and encouraging passionate activists to go too far. Any direct action worth doing in secret is too dangerous to discuss with even one other person. Everyone has beloved friends, family and even pets and careers, many allies have addictions and health problems, and all these can be used as leverage to turn lovers into informants. Every government in existence regularly abducts and tortures people. The future of kinetic resistance is lonely, but this is only one facet of effective activism.

We should not discourage the brave and passionate. At the same time, we should encourage the cowards and the compassionate. Put suspected informants and spies to work distributing food and planting crops. Never speak of illegal projects with them. The stakes are so high – if we fail to stop racist genocide, profit driven wars, and enslavement of prisoners, and the subjugation of women, foreigners, queer and trans friends, animals and plant life, the climate will change in a dramatic way that we cannot survive. This is an appeal to your self interest, and your concern for your loved ones and neighbors. The so-called “Post Apocalyptic Wasteland” portrayed in media already exists in the Ukraine, in Syria, in Iraq, Palestine and for the poor worldwide – even and especially in the slums and ghettos of the U.S.A.: there are sprawling homeless camps, squatters, refugees, roaming convoys of rubber tramps and more, all escaping large wildfires and posses of violent cops.

So how do we change the world?

There are so many ways to change the world that fill me with hope for the future, humanity and nature. These are listed here and will then be discussed in detail, except where self-censorship is practiced to protect friends and avoid further oppression and enslavement at the hands of the state. They go both ways.

Throughout history the demonic power of words have been abused to sow confusion, and hijacked to demand freedom. Religion has also been used to enslave, and to resist colonization. “Magic” rituals have persisted despite inquisitions. The idea of a soul has been colonized to tax believers – and to inspire slaves to demand equality. Ethics and morality have domesticated passionate people. Enslavement and exploitation have followed in the footsteps of animal husbandry and housewivisation to selectively breed physical and psychological traits of obedience to domination in men, women and so-called livestock. The concept of acquiring skills has been totally denigrated by the image of mastery, the submission to authority, the division of labor and hyper specialization of skills. We have psychologically separated ourselves from reality by calling humans “people” and all other life “nature.” Cities corral a work force but also provide sanctuaries of social development and rebellion. Vices destroy health and fund revolutions. Drugs are used as leverage, but can heal, and enhance the performance of athletes. Prostitution can be criminalized, be degrading under pimps, or it can be liberating for self-employed sex workers while dismantling illusions of hetero-normative village structures that are perpetuated by zealots of the mythological god of Abraham.

Renunciation has both put people in workhouses and provided another way for oppressed women, asexual people and the poor to reject capitalism. Begging also humiliates the poor – and highlights a peaceful way to refuse the accumulation of material possessions. For the proud robbery, especially of the rich, has long been an equalizing force that strikes fear into the hearts of the greedy, but the rich also rob the poor. The creation of oases in the midst of dystopian police states give hope to children, adults and the elderly while providing protected sanctuary for animals and sick, injured and homeless people. Guerrilla gardens, cultivated in urban areas, provide food in nutrition deserts, without asking the state for permission. We can study the successes and failures of personalities like Ghandi, Che Guevara, Mother Theresa, Mao Zedong, Abdullah Ocalan, Nesrin Abdullah, Emma Goldman, Lucy Parsons, Voltarine deClayre, John Brown, Malcolm X, Huey Newton, Martin Luther King Jr. and Angela Davis – and then imitate and modernize their strategies.

We have seen missionaries operate as the vanguard of colonial expansion – and as medics. Hare Krishnas and Catholics collect information for various nation states but have also supported alternative options for people stuck in poverty, and workers' rights organizations have sprung up from these misguided religions. The nihilist perspective can encourage people to resist even in the face of seeming hopelessness. Indigenous peoples have spearheaded resistance in northern and southern hemispheres worldwide while modernizing their struggle and preserving their culture. Musicians and artists preserve the spirit of ages of activism, providing beautiful and emotional expressions of the triumphs and traumas we witness and experience. People share their homes with modern underground railroads, providing safe houses, transportation, disguises and a stable supply of nutrients for abused women, refugees, freedom fighters and falsely accused people and political prisoners on the run from fascist slave catchers and death squads. Groups like the Animal and Earth Liberation Fronts (ALF & ELF) actively sabotage and destroy property that is used to destroy ecosystems and kill plants and animals.

So-called vagrants renounce mainstream society without selling out to religious power structure, living a full-time life of protest, in groups like the Rainbow Gathering. Smugglers and drug dealers undermine capitalism by creating their own economies – ironically by imitating the dirty cops who criminalize them. The cultivation of so-called illegal plants, specifically psychedelics like cannabis, DMT, peyote and mushrooms, help people overcome addiction, trauma, fear of death and mental illness, especially the lies of profit driven economies, religions and hierarchical power structures. Party culture has a similar effect, to a lesser extent.

The use of birth control and contraceptives allows women to have bodily autonomy and helps the poor and working class to influence the population of workers available to the manipulative ruling class, which allows us to demand higher wages and better living conditions, along with reimbursement for transportation to and from work, medical care, housing and education. Conversely the Irish Catholics have weaponized their ban on birth control to increase their numbers to better combat Protestants who are sympathetic to oppressive, racist British colonizers. Rioting and the destruction of property has been a leveling practice employed by the poor and marginalized to redistribute direly needed resources back to the communities who produced them.

Armed patrols of areas, communities, nature preserves and territories empower people to protect themselves, endangered species and their homes and gardens. By crossing borders, traveling and connecting with so-called foreigners worldwide in person and online we live as one family, without borders and imaginary divisions which are used to divide and dominate us. Destroying all barriers, walls, fences, enclosures and hedges is not only a powerful mindset and life's task, it is our moral obligation to humanity, and it can be done digitally and physically.

Protests and strikes, at work and at home, regarding women's unpaid housework and emotional and sexual labor, are devastatingly effective, and force the ruling class and their enforcers to come to the negotiation table or face the loss of their precision profits and luxuries, which rightfully belong to the workers. Sex is both an intimate pledge between lovers, partners and parents, and a perfectly normal and healthy past time

for consenting single adults, which dispels stress, myths and prejudices by awakening natural and primal urges that contradict bigotry and racism.

Disregarding gender norms loosens the grip and influence of the patriarchy and helps people to explore aspects of themselves that they previously rejected due to gender identity, like flexibility and emotional intelligence in men and strength and aggression in women, as well as people who experience, or don't experience, gender in unique ways.

Heresy can be practiced to disprove the wrath of mythological deities and to expose the tyranny of so-called religious leaders, who are the only real source of "divine" retribution.

Humor and satire are very effective weapons for activists, because any tyrant who cannot be mocked has become far too powerful to remain, and all leaders must be thoroughly and daily criticized in order to prevent them from accumulating more power than the weakest member of their community.

Rudeness must also be welded against those who have come to power by counting on the polite nature of communities who fail to mock their ridiculous and irrational claims, such as the authority and divinity of any scripture.

As debt is again criminalized, we see students and other weaponizing debt by refusing to pay for student loans and then demanding loan debt forgiveness, effectively attacking loan sharks and socializing higher education.

Occupying spaces, like squatting, is a crime of necessity, which allows the displaced to politicize their poverty and transform suffering into a form of protest that forces the wage slaves, drones and enforcers of class division to be aware of, and interact with, the homeless they try to ignore.

Physical fitness, exercise, yoga, martial arts and a healthy diet and lifestyle help to strengthen, empower, unite and make people happy, while opening people's minds and lowering resistance to new ideas and ways of thinking – racists and fascists regularly occupy and recruit at gyms so we should do the same.

Social medias are another crucial aspect to modern activism and must be utilized and occupied to reach hearts and minds.

Learning multiple languages to fluency is a fundamental part of building international communities and movements. Communication is the most important step when moving towards any ideal in practical ways.

Offering self-criticism to a core group of close friends, every day, is one of the most effective forms of self-development and personal growth, as much as offering and receiving criticisms, without arguments, is a necessary process for team building.

Finally, the making of self-fulfilling prophecies, vows and predictions, has been shown to be a way of planting seeds that can bear fruit long after we are gone.

This work will be dynamic, changing over time and in response to input, questions and criticisms. Please send letters to discuss these topics with me, and practice and bring up these subjects in your community, except for any which are illegal. Any activism too dangerous to discuss with others should be kept to oneself.

Understand that this work is being closely monitored by fascist enforcers of class division and oppression. We live in a time and place where ideas and words have been criminalized by hypocrites who claim they occupy the moral high ground. Even reading this could be a "crime."

I write this from prison, sitting in a cell, having been falsely charged and then convicted of a crime I did not commit. What more can they do to me? They can take my life, but a life of slavery, based on myths and lies, in subjugation, where my existence is criminalized and I am ritualistically humiliated by strip searches, this is not a life worth living. Any one of you can also be targeted at any time, for standing up for civil rights, for the hungry, the poor and the homeless. Based on the fact of real tyranny, right here, right now, we truly have nothing to lose.

Please know that I am not suicidal or planning to disappear when I get out of prison. If I die or come up missing know that it was the work of the state or their lap dogs. I plan to live a long, happy life, in my community, free. Together we will build a better world where all are happy and free!

24 May - Renewed campaign for Kamau Sadiki

The family and community of Baba Kamau Sadiki are renewing efforts to support and free him.

MORE:

Today we ask that you read up about Kamau and follow our social media accounts to stay up to date on ways you can support him. Check out our new updated website: freekamau.com
facebook.com/FreeKamauSadiki | twitter.com/FreeKamauSadiki | linktr.ee/FreeKamauSadiki

24 May - Indigenous land defender sentenced

Indigenous land defender Will George has been sentenced to 28 days in jail for his actions protesting the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion.

MORE:

The court found that Will George and other protesters breached a court injunction ordering them to stop blocking access to a Trans Mountain terminal in Burnaby. The Trans Mountain pipeline, along with the court where the hearing took place, is located within Tsleil-Waututh territory, the nation of which Will George is a member. Yet, supreme court Justice Fitzpatrick, who provided the sentencing, admitted during the hearing that she did not know the location of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation.

26 May - Sundiata Acoli freed after serving nearly 50 years

Amazing news! As always, please read corporate media with a critical eye.

MORE:

by Arun Venugopal (*Gothamist*)

Sundiata Acoli, a former Black Panther Party and Black Liberation Army member who was convicted in the 1973 shooting death of New Jersey State Trooper Werner Foerster, was freed Wednesday after nearly a half-century in prison.

Acoli, 85, imprisoned for his role in one of the Garden State's most notorious crimes, left South Woods State Prison and moved in with his daughter in Brooklyn, his attorney, Bruce Afran, told *Gothamist*.

"He's very happy to be with his family," Afran said. "He's with his grandson right now in fact, and spending time with him. And I think it's a wonderful thing he's experiencing but it's going to be somewhat difficult."

Acoli, who was sentenced to life in prison, had been turned down for parole eight times since first becoming eligible in 1993. His release was set in motion by a May 10 ruling by a divided New Jersey Supreme Court. The only question was when he would be freed.

The court ruled 3-2 that the parole board had failed to determine that Acoli was likely to commit another crime if released and concluded that "Acoli's record over more than a quarter century has been exemplary."

Acoli has cardiac issues and is losing his vision, Afran said. He also suffers from memory loss. He added that Acoli is remorseful for his role in Foerster's death.

"He was very movingly understanding of the tragedy that had happened. He even said to the [parole] board, 'I know Trooper Foerster's son lost his father. My children at least still have me even though I've been away,'" Afran said.

"He genuinely expressed this deep feeling of sympathy."

Afran said Acoli would not be made available for comment.

New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy wrote on Twitter at the time of the court ruling that he was "deeply disappointed" Acoli would be released. "Our men and women in uniform are heroes, and anyone who would take the life of an officer on duty should remain behind bars until the end of their life," Murphy said.

In an earlier statement, New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association President Patrick Colligan had called the court's decision, "a slap in the face to every officer."

A broken tail light

The tragedy unfolded May 2, 1973.

Acoli, formerly known as Clark Edward Squire, was in a car with two other members of the Black Liberation Army – James Costan and Joanne Chesimard – when they were pulled over on the Turnpike by Trooper James Harper for a broken tail light. All three in the car were armed.

Foerster arrived for back-up and frisked Acoli, finding a handgun. A gun battle ensued that left Harper injured and Foerster and Costan dead. Foerster had been shot four times though it's still unclear who fired the fatal shots, court records say.

Acoli has maintained that he lost consciousness after being grazed by a bullet during the shootout and doesn't recall what happened that night, court records show.

Chesimard, who now goes by Assata Shakur, escaped prison and fled to Cuba. She remains on the FBI's most wanted list.

The question before the high court wasn't Acoli's guilt or innocence; it focused on whether the parole board had followed the law in its assessment of Acoli.

"This is a decision of humanity and a recognition of the importance of the rule of law," Afran said after the high court's ruling. "The killing of a police officer is always something we abhor but the court here has said that when a man has demonstrated that he has changed and he has put behind him that history, we must now give him the benefit of the rule of law."

'Rule of law requires'

Acoli's lawyers said their client hadn't had any infractions for the last 25 years of his imprisonment, completed over 100 programs and counseling sessions, and taught a course to younger inmates about "rational thinking and emotional control."

The Supreme Court wrote that the parole board was entitled to deference "but not blind deference" and had failed to show what crimes it feared Acoli would commit at his age.

“However despised Acoli may be in the eyes of many because of the notoriety of his crime, he too is entitled to the protection of the law — and to the fair and impartial administration of justice. That is what our commitment to the rule of law requires,” Justice Barry Albin wrote.

Acting Attorney General Matt Platkin, a Democrat whose office opposed Acoli’s release, reiterated those objections in an earlier statement. When Acoli was convicted, state law still allowed people who killed police officers the possibility of parole. That no longer is the case.

Will try to speak out

Afran has described his client as “committed to the violent revolutionary movement back in the '60s and early '70s,” but who long ago abandoned any intention to seek change except for peaceful means. And his life in prison for the last 40 years demonstrates that.”

Afran said Acoli would continue to be an activist, “to the extent his age and health allow him to, and I’m fairly confident he will try to speak out on issues.”

Rosa Foerster, the slain trooper's widow, moved to Florida years ago. Someone who identified himself as Foerster’s nephew and a Florida sheriff’s department sergeant wrote a reflection on Foerster’s Officer Down Memorial Page, commenting in part: “I guess a person that is willing to kill a New Jersey State Trooper out of pure hatred doesn't present a danger to the public? I miss you and continue to think of you often.”

May 26th - Sundiata is Home!

DONATE: secure.actblue.com/donate/bringsundiataacolihome

Comrades, on May 25th, Sundiata Acoli walked out of prison into the arms of his family and loved ones! We knew this day was coming but wanted to ensure it was official and that we saw it with our own eyes. As you can imagine, after 49 years, Sundiata is finally able to spend time with his family and we want to make sure we respect these precious moments. To that end, we will be asking our supporters to hold off on requesting meetings with him until he can get settled and his family can love up on him by themselves. We'll announce an official homecoming celebration in the coming weeks.

In prison, there's no 401k, no savings plan, and no pension. It's up to all of us to provide that. We ask for your generous support to allow Sundiata to enjoy his years of freedom with the financial stability he deserves.

26 May - The 1990s Law That Keeps People in Prison on Technicalities

How the Supreme Court expanded the most important law you've never heard of.

MORE:

by Keri Blakinger and Beth Schwartzapfel (*The Marshall Project*)

If you even half-paid attention in high school history class, you might be forgiven for thinking that federal courts are the most powerful courts in the land. After all, they’ve been responsible for landmark rulings about everything from abortion rights to school desegregation — disputes so well-known, the cases are household names: *Roe v. Wade*. *Brown v. Board of Education*. Despite those high-profile decisions, when it comes to protecting prisoners’ rights and avoiding executions of innocent people, the top courts in the land are oddly impotent.

Earlier this week, the Supreme Court told Arizona prisoner Barry Jones that even though four federal judges agreed he may well be innocent of the 1994 murder that sent him to death row, the high court couldn’t overturn his conviction or stop Arizona from executing him. (Jones had argued he was hindered by poor lawyering at multiple stages of his case.)

In a 6-3 decision on Monday, in a case titled *Shinn v. Martinez Ramirez*, the conservative justices said they couldn't do anything about it, because of one wonky law passed by Congress in 1996 and signed by then-President Bill Clinton. Misleadingly called the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act, the law was created during the tough-on-crime '90s, to keep violent prisoners from getting released on what politicians called technicalities. But now, experts say the law actually keeps innocent people in prison on technicalities — and most of the cases it affects have nothing to do with terrorism or capital punishment.

In these cases, the importance of finality outweighs any claims the prisoners might make, the court's conservative majority said. "Serial relitigation of final convictions undermines the finality that 'is essential to both the retributive and deterrent functions of criminal law,'" Justice Clarence Thomas wrote.

While many judges and prosecutors complain about the length of the appeals process, these days there are few defenders of the 1996 law — other than state attorneys general who prosecute appeals in federal courts. "Lots of people are stuck," said Christina Mathieson, director of the National Habeas Institute, which advocates for prisoners in these cases. "The gates to the federal courts are closed."

Here are five things you should know about the law known as AEDPA ("ed-puh"):

1. It was created after the Oklahoma City bombing.

The idea that federal courts could provide state prisoners with an added layer of protection from state government overreach dates back to the founding of our country. The framers envisioned federal judges as a safeguard to ensure rogue states weren't ignoring the U.S. Constitution.

But in the 1990s, with crime rates and death penalty approval ratings both at historic highs, a small but vocal minority of Republicans had had enough of what they saw as prisoners filing endless, frivolous appeals that deprived victims of the finality they deserved. They wanted to set stricter filing deadlines, narrow the claims state prisoners could ask federal judges to review, and limit the power of federal judges to overturn state convictions.

When Timothy McVeigh bombed a U.S. federal building in Oklahoma City in 1995, Republicans had recently swept the midterm elections, and Clinton saw an opportunity to work with incoming House Speaker Newt Gingrich on a tough-on-crime initiative. The "Effective Death Penalty Act" — part of Gingrich's legislative agenda — was rolled into Clinton's Antiterrorism Act. The newly-created AEDPA passed both the House and Senate by wide margins, even as then-Senator Joe Biden sought, unsuccessfully, to hold back some of the law's more onerous provisions, warning that it would keep innocent people in prison — though he ended up voting for it anyway.

2. The law makes it harder for many prisoners to win appeals.

Understanding why this is true requires a bit of background on how appeals work. Most criminal cases — more than 95% — go through state courts. But if someone wants to keep fighting their conviction, they can take the case to federal court.

But the 1996 law made it a lot harder to do that, adding complex technical restrictions for both prisoners and judges — changes that Brian Stull, a senior staff attorney with the ACLU Capital Punishment Project, likened to "chutes and ladders and Byzantine procedures that a prisoner has to navigate."

As a result, far fewer prisoners were able to get federal courts to consider — much less agree with — their claims of prosecutorial misconduct, inadequate lawyering, and other problems with their trials. In 2009, one study found that before the 1996 law, between half and two-thirds of state prisoners sentenced to death had their arguments vindicated in federal court. Afterward, that number fell to 12%.

3. The law was intended to speed up death row appeals, but failed.

Before the 1996 legislation took effect, people in prison didn't have an exact deadline for how long they could wait to bring their claims to federal court, according to Rob Dunham of the Death Penalty Information Center.

“You just couldn’t unreasonably delay,” he said.

But now, prisoners have just one year to prepare and file their federal appeals. If that sounds like a long time, remember that death penalty cases often require intense investigations to track down witnesses and uncover new evidence. As a result, prisoners regularly lose their one shot at a federal appeal just because the clock has run out.

A *Marshall Project* investigation in 2014 found that 80 death row prisoners had missed the one-year deadline and their chance at an appeal in federal court — sometimes by just a single day — due to mailing or filing mishaps.

Despite the problems the one-year deadline can cause, it’s failed to correct the problem it aimed to solve: The average time between sentencing and execution has doubled since AEDPA passed.

4. It doesn’t just affect terrorism and death penalty cases.

The name “Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act” is a bit of a misnomer. Although the law affects both terrorism and death penalty cases, it also affects other criminal appeals, including everything from drug crimes to murder. By some estimates, more than 99% of prisoners affected by AEDPA have not been convicted of terrorism or sentenced to death.

In part, the law’s effect is so broad because of the long-standing lack of investment in indigent defense — when poor defendants are provided lawyers. Public defenders are generally “under-qualified, under-compensated, and under-resourced,” says Christina Swarns, Executive Director of the Innocence Project. This makes it hard for them to put up a vigorous defense at trial or on appeal, which requires tracking down witnesses, gathering documents and consulting experts. This lack of investment, in turn, makes mistakes and oversights more likely.

“There is no fair fight at the front end,” Swarns said. “For this demand for finality to have integrity, we have to make damn sure what we’re doing on the front end is working. And we know it is not.”

5. It makes federal courts less powerful.

AEDPA changed the balance of power in criminal appeals. Federal judges can no longer overturn state court decisions — even those that violate federal law — except in very narrow circumstances.

“If you’re a federal judge, you can’t disagree or overrule an obviously wrong ruling in state court simply because it wasn’t wrong enough,” says George Kendall, a death penalty attorney who has argued before the Supreme Court.

In the case the Supreme Court decided this week, a second man, David Martinez Ramirez, argued that the state of Arizona violated his Constitutional right to an effective lawyer when they assigned him an attorney who failed to look into the developmental delays and egregious abuse he suffered as a child — evidence a competent attorney would have used to persuade the jury that he deserved life in prison instead of death. An appeals court agreed Arizona violated the Sixth Amendment by appointing an attorney who admitted she was not “prepared to handle ‘the representation of someone as mentally disturbed as ... Ramirez.’”

Still, the Supreme Court said his death sentence should stand because he didn’t follow the correct procedure in filing his appeals.

27 May - “Like Mercury” – for Dan Baker, aka Alishare

The following is UK-held political prisoner Toby Shone’s open letter in response to Dan Baker’s statement of solidarity

MORE:

Alishare, I heard your message of solidarity, thank you, it gave me strength. I would turn the energy with this open letter, and I hope to kick a brick from the walls. One more time. In a flurry of black feathers and lunar wisdom, a murder of crows delivered your statement and those wily crows told me about your situation in FCI Memphis. I want to add on to this dialogue and talk about three anarchist comrades imprisoned in Italy.

The first is Anna Beniamino who is serving a 17-year sentence for the Scripta Manent case in a high security regime in Rebibbia prison (Rome). The Scripta Manent case involved the arrest of 7 anarchists accused of subversive association with terrorist intent and a series of direct actions claimed by the Informal Anarchist organization. An absurd farce with obscene conclusions.

The second comrade I want to mention is Alfredo Cospito who has been locked up since 2012 for the Adinolfi case for which he was sentenced for nearly 11 years and is now waiting for the confirmation of another sentence of 20 years for the Scripta Manent case. Alfredo was recently struck with the legislature 41 bis, special security regime. Each month, he can only receive either one phone call (10 minutes) or one visit strictly with family members with glass and recorded; he can only walk in the yard with maximum 3 other prisoners previously approved by prison security; he cannot receive books, censorship is applied to his correspondence (number of letters per month is extremely limited), and he has a very limited amount of items which he can keep in his cell. Several international agencies have continuously condemned the 41bis prison regime as torture.

The third comrade I want to mention is Juan Sorroche. On the date of the international day of with long-term anarchist prisoners, June the 11th, Juan will face a court hearing in Treviso. Juan is on trial accused of an attack against an office of the Lega Nord political party claimed by the “Cell Haris Hatzimihelakis/Black International (1881/2018)” that happened in August 2018. Juan who was already serving time for other judgements, is now facing a long sentence in this other political trial. Like all the imprisoned anarchists around the world, these three comrades deserve the support and solidarity that the international anarchist movement can give them.

The repression we face is evidence that our struggle has validity, and the enemy is threatened and reactive. Even though we are locked up, our lives continue. Our inner world is still infinitely rich and diverse as we confront our experience. We are part of the same lost continent, and we discover freedom – in our indestructible hearts. Alishare, with our letters, we create an Atlantic bridge where all of us can meet and learn from each other. We anarchists tread the same yards, we hear the same keys and slamming doors, but we discuss, and plan and we don't give up. Dialogues between us are important, as needed as those we have with those outside.

I tell you of some of my news. Maybe it is because of the solidarity efforts of comrades outside, but I was able to receive a few letters, postcards, and a book: “Sara – Prison Memoirs of a Kurdish Revolutionary” by Sakine Cansiz. I don't know who sent me the book but they have my sincere thanks. I received a few letters from Philadelphia ABC sent in the last two months, and a couple of cards from Brighton ABC, and a parcel from NFA ABC in London. That as well as a few other letters, all arrived in the last few days. I still have a lot of correspondence that I have not been given, as well as books. G4S are lying in the face of all this by claiming I have “no mail”, and saying that books are not permitted. In Bristol prison, I was able to receive a copy of “My Pesticiferous Life” by Claudio Lavazza before the administration censored my mail. I recommend Claudio's book, reading it, is like getting a big hug from a dear friend who helped you to escape.

Whilst I was in Bristol, comrades from Italy sent me a lunar calendar which was forbidden to me. All anarchists should come to know the pleasure of the Dark Moon. For an alphabet in flames, let the pen reach into the void.

Free Eric King. Free everyone.

11 Jun - Letter Writing in the Park for George Floyd Uprising Defendants

WHAT: Political Prisoner Letter Writing in the Park

WHEN: 2:00-4:00pm Saturday, June 11th

WHERE: Prospect Park – Lincoln Road/East Lake Drive, east of the Terrace Bridge (see nycabc.wordpress.com for a map)

COST: FREE

MORE:

Join NYC ABC and Page One Collective on Saturday, June 11th for a letter writing in the park! We will be highlighting some defendants and prisoners of the George Floyd uprisings. We also encourage folx to write to those included in the June 11th International Day of Solidarity.

We will be meeting at Prospect Park in Brooklyn, the same location we host Running Down the Walls each year.

From the Q train, get off at the Prospect Park stop. Walk to Lincoln Road and turn right into the park. We'll be about 700 feet away.

We will have surfaces to write on, pens, paper, postage, and information on the people we're writing. Just bring yourself! And a friend!