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SOLIDARITY WITHOUT BORDERS!

SOLIDARITY BETWEEN WORKERS!

ATTACKS ON IMMIGRANTS AND WORKERS ESCALATE!

"GIVE ME YOUR TIRED, YOUR POOR,
YOUR HUDDLED MASSES YEARNING TO BREATHE FREE,
THE WRETCHED REFUSE OF YOUR TEEMING SHORE.
SEND THESE, THE HOMELESS, TEMPEST-TOSSED, TO ME.
I LIFT MY LAMP BESIDE THE GOLDEN DOOR."

- EMMA LAZARUS

**PAGE 2 EDITORIAL:
FASCISM ON THE RISE
AND THE TASK OF
MARXIST LENINISTS.**



EDITORIAL - By: A. CASAL

THE RISING WATERS OF FACISM

"I heard the roar of a wave that could drown the whole world." - Bob Dylan, A Hard Rain's A-Gonna Fall

The rain is falling very hard indeed. In a move that might very well signal the reversal of the social-democratic trend in Latin America, open fascist Jair Bolsonaro was elected president of Brazil on October 28th. Using rhetoric very similar to that of his North American counterpart, Donald Trump, Bolsonaro campaigned on an anti-immigrant, anti-LGBTQ+, anti-abortion, and anti-environmental protection platform. Bolsonaro has stated his opposition to "secularism," and vowed to destroy the Left in Brazil.

Bolsonaro in Brazil, Le Pen in France, Alessandra Mussolini in Italy, Sneider in Hungary, Tyahnybok in Ukraine, Batten in the UK, far-Right, fascist and Neo-Nazi movements are on the rise the world over. Some are poised to take power. Some have taken power. In the United States, the proto-fascist Trump regime has given both implicit and overt support and encouragement to individuals such as Steve Bannon and Richard Spencer, and to organizations such as the Proud Boys. Right-wing and fascist-apologist "intellectuals" and media figures, such as Jordan Peterson and Ben Shapiro command high speaker's fees and find their scribbles on the bestseller lists. Incidents of racist and fascist-inspired violence are becoming a common occurrence in the United States. Indeed, the possibility of such violence is a daily reality in the lives of people of color, immigrants, LGBTQ+ people, and other oppressed and marginalized groups.

What is to be done?

The point that needs to be realized is that we are no longer talking of what to do to prevent fascism. Fascism is here. The time for debates as to whether or not fascists have the right to speak, march, or organize is past. Lives are being destroyed. Right now. As I write. The situation as gone from the danger of fascism, to the actual presence of fascism.

Organize!

Fascism will not be defeated by mere voting or by symbolic actions. The fascist wave can only be halted and reversed by active mass organizing. In the streets, the neighborhoods, the workplaces, working people must be organized to defend themselves against fascist violence. No amount of clever memes or electioneering for the Democratic Party will work. Voting has its place, but only as part of a larger strategy of mass mobilization and militant action and protest. Fascism will only be defeated in the streets, not online, and not in the polling booth.

This is the sacred duty of communists.

The time is now. The stakes are life or death. For ourselves, our loved ones, and our world. History is a harsh judge. And it will not forgive us if we fail.

Allow me to close with another Dylan quote:

"You better start swimming or you'll sink like a stone."

#COUNTMEIN: PERSISTENT NEW YORK WORKERS' STRUGGLE CONTINUES TO FIGHT



Photo: <https://www.facebook.com/CountMeInNYC/>

By: Ekim KILIÇ

On October 11th, union construction workers of the Hudson Yards came out to protest Related Companies CEO Jeff Blau outside of the Joseph Wharton Awards Dinner at the University Club of New York, where he was in attendance. Workers protested CEO Blau because of racism and sexism in the workplace, and the company's union-busting tactics.

Steve Perez, a member of Metallic Lathers & Reinforcing Iron Workers Local Union 46, was distributing flyers outside of the Awards Dinner to inform attendees about the company's mistreatment the workers. According to Labor Press report, Perez said that the fliers: "bothered them – like I was an inconvenience to them as they're going to a dinner with someone who's trying to take away my family's future."

The Hudson Yards redevelopment project is the largest construction project in North America and the largest private real estate project in US history. It is considered the largest development in New York City since the Rockefeller Centre, and it will have a significant impact on the NYC economy while creating thousands of new jobs. The site takes up more than 18 million square feet of commercial and residential space.

The impact the project has is considerable in New York. The Open shop agenda pushed by Related Co. may create a precedent for the expansion of the already growing open shop work model. The struggle of workers against the open shop model is crucial for future labor struggles that will take place in the city.

Since December 2017, workers have been fighting against the union-busting tactics of the bosses. Since then, workers have been regularly doing protests in front of the construction site every Thursday morning at 6 a.m 34th Street & 10th Ave. There are currently 4,000 workers in the site.

The open shop model pushed by project developers include both union and non-union construction workers on the same projects. This has resulted in the weakening of safety standards in many construction sites, and serious injuries and deaths as a result of unsafe working conditions.

Construction workers from different branches have a message: #CountMeIn. Since last year, their struggle has found more and more supporters as the movement advances. In addition to that, the workers have not limited their struggle to only their own site and union. They have appeared and brought attention to several labor events, such as Labor Day 2018 and the New School graduate students strike.



#CountMeIn

ON THE L'SIMCHA MASSACRE: ANOTHER DARK CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN ANTI-SEMITISM

By: Z. STEPHENS

It has been just over a week since a nazi walked into a synagogue and opened fired on the congregants of the L'Simcha who were there celebrating the ancient rite of the bris; a ritual that Jewish men have gone through for centuries. Since then there have been a multitude of responses from the Jewish community within the US, the Trump administration, and the nation at large.

Some gun stores are offering free arms for rabbis wanting to protect their congregants and Jewish holy spaces. Predictably, the Trump administration also responded to the massacre with president Trump taking to Twitter; announcing that his administration would combat anti-Semitism and that America as a nation needed to come together to "stop the hate." The murderer, Robert Bowers, 46, has pleaded "not-guilty" to the crimes he committed.

Responses from the Jewish community have been a quick mobilization against white nationalism, anti-Semitism, and groups have used this momentum to push forward with other campaigns, such as support for the refugees seeking to enter the US in the coming weeks. But within the context of all of this, has come much discussion about how such violence could happen in the first place and whom is truly responsible.

The media has been quick to dub Bowers as a "disturbed lone wolf" and proceeded with their usual protocol of stripping right-wing terrorists of all politics and social convictions. But if this were so, it would naturally present the question of "then why is this continuing to happen?" Such acts of violent anti-Semitism are not new - it was only 4 years ago on April 13th, 2014, during the Obama era, that the former leader of the 'White Patriot Party' (formerly Carolina Knights of the KKK), Frazier Glenn Miller Jr., 73, walked into Overland Park Jewish Community Centre, armed with a Remington shotgun and pistol, and opened fire killing a 14 year old child, his 69 grandfather, and a 53 year old occupational therapist who worked at the facility.

Fast-forwarding to January 10th of 2018 - the body of 19 year old Blaze Bernstein was found in a shallow, make shift grave, with over 20 stab wounds. It would later be revealed that he had been lured to his death by a member of the AtomWaffen division, a nazi terrorist organization, who was caught-released by the FBI for trying to obtain uranium for the purposes of making "dirty bombs" and of whom was responsible for 5 murders in 8 months between 2017-2018.

Only a month later did we see a nazi, whom had carved a swastika on his rifle, enter a predominately Jewish high school, in a Jewish community, open fire, killing 17 students and faculty members while injuring 17 more. After this massacre at Parkland it was shown that the shooter, Nikolas Cruz, then 19, was an active neo-nazi who's social media pages were littered with anti-Semitic ramblings, and conspiracy theories, some of which involved George Soros.

In yet another incident of violent anti-Semitism, a week before the L'Simcha massacre, 56 year old Cesar Sayoc mailed pipe-bombs to George Soros and several prominent Democrats. Sayoc of course being primarily motivated by the Sorosian conspiracy theory which originated on the political Right, and has since become endorsed by prominent Republicans, including president Trump.

Since taking office, not only has Trump officially endorsed the Sorosian conspiracy theory within the last 2 weeks - it was also revealed in 2017 that Trump had suggested that Jews in the US were creating false flag scenarios to frame members of the political Right. This was seen again in practice when Trump originally claimed that the 'MAGA bomber' was a hoax, and a false flag designed to botch Republican efforts to hold on to political gains in the mid-term elections.

In Illinois we saw a Nazi, Arthur Jones, former leader of the American Nazi Party, run under the GOP, win a primary and obtain 20,000 votes. Likewise we have seen numerous anti-Semites, white nationalists, and nazis run under the Republican Party, with varying levels of success. Milquetoast rebukes from the Republican establishment notwithstanding, the party itself has not so much as lifted a finger to halt this phenomenon and several Republicans, both politicians and rank-and-file members have even defended nazis, fascists, neo-confederates, and other reactionaries that have staged wide-spread demonstrations of violence and intimidation where the police often worked with the so called "alt-right" against anti-racist/fascist counter-demonstrators. In Seattle earlier this year, the police fired live explosives into a dense crowd of anti-racist/fascist counterprotesters, one of which nearly killed a counterprotester who was lucky enough to have been wearing a helmet at the time and had to be hospitalized afterward. Doctors remarking that it was fortunate that they were still alive.

None of this however has been an exclusive peculiarity of either Trump or his administration; several Republican politicians have engaged in similar anti-Semitic attacks or have peddled the Soros conspiracy theory. Notably, a Republican candidate for state senator in Connecticut, Ed Charamut, was distributing propaganda which portrays his Democratic opposition, Mike Lesser, (who is Jewish), as the "money grubbing Jew" trope, where they are holding wads of money with a crazed look in their eyes.

Similarly, the US government's international broadcasting agency, US Agency for Global Media, is currently under internal investigation after one of its stations, Radio Television Marti (which

describes itself as "promoting American ideals, and values" via its broadcasts to Cuba), aired a 15 minute piece detailing the conspiracy theories surrounding George Soros, referring to him explicitly as the "millionaire Jew." Which would mean the American government under Trump is directly responsible for American government agencies airing anti-Semitic propaganda.

The hyper-fixation on Jewish business and political dealings is also nothing new and has been a constant feature in American political discourse throughout the country's history. Jews have been blamed by the political Right for a whole variety of things whether it be the abolition of slavery, women's suffrage, desegregation, the rise of Communism and militant labor politics more broadly, and so on.

Likewise, outside of its narrative manifestations, structural anti-Semitism has been observed several times throughout American history. Such as the General Order No. 11 issued by Ulysses S. Grant which demanded that all Jews under his military jurisdictions in Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi be expelled from these areas under the unfounded conspiracy theory that Jewish merchants were working with the Confederacy.

Throughout the 19th and 20th century leading up to the 1960s, American colleges such as Harvard had formal Jewish quotas which limited the number of students admitted to the school. Yale for example, in 1935 accepted only 76 Jewish applicants out of a pool of 501. The celebrated physicist and Nobel laureate Richard P. Feynman ended up attending MIT as a result of being turned away from Columbia College in the 1930s.

We have also seen American news outlets such as the New York Times play a direct ideological role in the history of American anti-Semitism during its coverage of the 1902 Kosher Meat Boycott where the price of kosher meats was driven up so high by meat industry monopolies during the 'Gilded Age' that Jewish consumers, most of whom were working class, couldn't afford kosher meat products; the price had went up from 12¢ to 18¢ per pound of kosher meat. Jewish butchers then organized boycotts in an attempt to try to drive down the price of meats.

On May 15th, 1902, mass demonstrations were held, primarily being led by Jewish women, which the press reported as numbering 20,000 protesters. This was met with swift state repression by the police, where 85 Jewish protesters were arrested, 70 of whom were Jewish women. When covering this, the New York Times did nothing but further fan the flames of violent anti-Semitism by labeling the protesters, and in particular, the women leading the demonstrations, as a "dangerous class."

In 1913, factory superintendent Leo Max Frank was wrongfully convicted of the murder of 13 year old Mary Phagan in what would prove to be a show trial. In 1915 Leo Frank was allegedly "kidnapped" from prison by an armed group of "anonymous" men who later lynched him after the governor of Georgia, John Slack, commuted Frank's sentence from the death penalty to life in prison. Later it was found that the architects of his murder included former governors, lawyers, mayors, and so on, who carefully selected 28 men to perform specific functions related to their vocations with the murder plot. These included car mechanics, electricians, a lay preacher, telephone man, locksmith, medic, and an executioner.

Even in one of America's proudest moments, the victory of the Allied powers in WW2, Jews were again subject to structural anti-Semitism by the US military who continued the brutalizations and debasement of Jewish holocaust victims during the Allied occupation of the liberated territories as detailed in Robert L Hillard PhD's work 'Surviving the Americans.' Interestingly enough, IBM's involvement in materially aiding the nazis during the holocaust, Henry Ford's close relationship with Hitler, and other such histories aren't present in a lot of schoolhouse textbooks either.

In the historical record, the many dark chapters of American anti-Semitism are laid bare. Objectively, examining the history of Jews within the United States, one can only conclude the American anti-Semitism is part and parcel to American ideology as reflected in its own history and, also, in its current state as we speak. It is the institutional power structures and cultural norms within American society which made this history and present possible. Much in the same way that the latent anti-Semitism of Weimar Germany made the atrocities of the Nazis possible.

More broadly, within the Trump era we already have seen within the first couple of years of his presidency a sharp increase in anti-Semitic violence. Studies have shown that there was a 60% increase in anti-Semitic violence in 2018 compared to 2017. Given history it's clear that anti-Semitism is an inherent fixture of fascism; so as we begin to observe America's hard pivot rightward under the aspiring fascist president Trump, it is clear that we can only expect more and greater instances of violence in the years to come. Also given history, it is clear that Jewish liberation can only be achieved through the liberation of all people's through Socialist revolution. Now more than ever we must increase our efforts to organize our communities, to revive the militant Left of Jewish labor, and to push forward to Revolution - the holocaust that killed 60-70% of our people within Europe is a reminder of what will happen should we fail. We have stood at the precipice of annihilation for centuries, but we must never forget, we have outlived them. We Will Outlive Them.

HONDURAS WORKERS VICTIMS OF IMPERIAL RACKET



The so-called "caravan" of refugees from Honduras

By: L.ZORFASS

Across the United States, a conversation about a caravan of over 1,500 people from Honduras is on the lips of nearly every American and is saturated in our national media. The workers from Honduras are heading to the United States through Mexico via Guatemala. Both sides of the imperialist coin that is the American political establishment have been taking this humanitarian crisis for their own electoral purposes. But the caravan of asylum-seeking migrants is no accident, but a result of U.S. foreign policy, from both sides of the aisle, that seeks profit over humanity. Before taking a look at the inhuman and fascist rhetoric of the current administration against these migrants, it is important to understand why these people are risking their lives to cross the border. In order to do this, we must go back to the Obama Administration and Hillary Clinton's tenure as Secretary of State.

In 2009, a coup against the democratically elected president of Honduras, Manuel Zelaya, was carried out. Before the coup, Zelaya's government had made fast moves to left-wing policies. Zelaya's government had raised the national minimum wage, provided free school lunches for school children, nutritional assistance for young children, created scholarships for higher education, and created pension funds for senior citizens. While the country's wealthy and military were stirred by these policies, the final straw was with the motion by Zelaya to form a new assembly to change the constitution and fundamental law of the country, away from the constitution established by U.S.-backed military dictator Policarpo Paz Garcia in the 1980's.

In 2009, Honduran General Romeo Vásquez Ve led a military coup against the Zelaya government. General Romeo Vásquez Ve had graduated from the notorious School of Americas, a U.S. military establishment created to vet and train contras, guerrillas, and official agents of American imperialism. General Romeo Vásquez Ve was one such agent. The U.S. did not just serve a passive role in this coup by supplying the schooling for its leader but, directly was involved. The night before the coup U.S. officials met with coup leaders. After the coup was held, the international community called for the return of Zelaya. According to various emails from Hilary Clinton and the State Department, the goal of the U.S. was to back the coup, help it remain stable, and ignore the call for Zelaya's return. In her autobiography, *Hard Choices*, Clinton outright says, "In the subsequent days [after the coup] I spoke with my counterparts around the hemisphere, including Secretary Espinosa in Mexico. We strategized on a plan to restore order in Honduras and ensure that free and fair elections could be held quickly and legitimately, which would render the question of Zelaya moot."

But the elections and even day to day life in Honduras have been anything but free and fair. Blood now spread across the country. Thousands have been killed by the military junta that controls the country with U.S. support. Violence and censorship now rule the country. Since the coup, Honduras now has one of the highest murder rates in the world. Trade Union leaders and workers are high targets for the junta. Journalists disappear every day. Every kind of activist, from electoral to environmental has been slain by the U.S. supported junta. Government subsidies and services have been slashed leaving many in the country in unemployment and destitute poverty. The first time many tried to flee during to the United States following the coup, Clinton and the Obama Administration denied them entry and asylum.

The Trump administration has responded so far in a predictable way. It has painted the caravan of victims of U.S. foreign policy as an invading force. The administration and right-wing talking heads have labeled this group of migrant workers looking for asylum thugs, gangsters, rapists, drug peddlers, all with the goal to attack the American way of life. Trump, after already formally declaring himself a nationalist has already threatened to take away aid from the country, only to worsen the conditions behind the migration. The Republican party is attempting to profit from the humanitarian crisis by puffing its chest against these foreigners, declaring themselves yet again the border guardians of American freedom.

In reality, the migrants are poor workers and their families, fleeing the violence of the U.S. supported military dictatorship in Honduras, seek only a stable life where they may work and raise their children in peace. Yet, the imperialist U.S. refuses to take responsibility for its actions across the globe and in doing so only victimizes the Honduran people again.

It is up to the workers in the U.S. to not fall for reactionary propaganda against the caravan of migrants. The workers of the U.S. must stand in solidarity with these migrant workers—to oppose racist rhetoric against working people who only wish for a job, to feed and clothe their family, to live in peace, and to live a happy life. This is what all workers want. If American workers turn their backs on these migrant workers, the American working class turns its back on itself. The Trump government has been attacking American workers since its establishment. The government has been celebrating militarism for years. How long before American workers find themselves targeted by a reactionary militant government? To stand now with migrant workers is not just to push justice for the international working class, but to work to prevent such a crisis from coming to America's working class.

International solidarity between all workers!

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IMMIGRANT RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS: AN INTERVIEW WITH IMMIGRANT RIGHTS ACTIVISTS IN ST. LOUIS, MO.

By: K. PETTIS

At a time when national tension concerning our southern border is at its zenith, those in progressive circles are beginning to ask "what is to be done?" To attempt to answer that I met up with a group of working class activists from the Mexican immigrant community to ask what they feel about the issue. To ensure their continued safety I have changed their names for this article.

"What do you feel is the first goal an Immigrant Rights Activist should be shooting for?"

Sarah: "We need to keep the conversation going in every community but especially our own. The American public is very fickle and often times loses interest after a week or two of a major story. We need to make sure that the struggles of immigrant families is always on their minds."

do you think we can achieve that?"

Sarah: "Right now we are planning public vigils for people who have been killed at the border and are inviting everyone in St. Louis to come out and learn about what is going on right now and what needs to change."

"So what does need to change?"

Jack: "We need a fairer system of legal entry that does not look down on Working Class people and no special treatment to the wealthy who pay their way into citizenship. We must also ensure the safety of those people who are trying to immigrate and stop the brutal practices of Border Patrol and ICE. They are nothing more than the modern Gestapo."

"That is some massive changes, how can we bring those things about?"

Jack: "Most people believe that somehow reform will fix all of this and suddenly the politicians will rewrite the law and we should support people like the Democrats. This is wrong and only leads to confusion for people. The Democrats only say these things to get votes and don't truly care with some candidates like Claire McCaskill here in St. Louis openly against immigration reform and holds an even more reactionary stance on so called border security than some Republicans."

Sarah: "The real path to change will not be through voting but will come with revolution. Until then we can only continue to engage people about the issue and point out the problems we currently face while making things better for our

community on a day to day level. The goal now is survival."

"What are some unique issues that people who are undocumented face on a day to day basis?"

Jack: "Well everyday undocumented people get up and go to work. Some have gotten cars however its impossible for someone who is undocumented to get a Drivers License or insurance so if they are pulled over or get into an accident they not only face a severe ticket but possible detention and deportation. When they get paid they still are paying taxes only most of the services taxes pay for are denied them and they can never file a tax return. You can never dream of a future all you can worry about is making it to the next day. Its almost like living underground. You always have a feeling of paranoia anywhere you go because at any moment an ICE Agent can snatch you and you may never see your loved ones again. You can't cross back into Mexico either which means you can never see your family still there unless they make it across too. Its almost impossible to break the cycle of poverty especially because of the recent crackdown on DACA."

"What should people reading this do?"

Sarah: "Get educated about what is going on at the border and spread the word to as many people as possible. We need a mass movement of people that are not going to give up and let people die just because of an imaginary line in the sand. Immigrant Rights are Human Rights and must be defended by any means necessary. Do not settle for what these politicians allow us to have always fight for more. Fight for real Equality."



Honduran refugees make their way to the US border

VOTER SUPPRESSION AGAINST MINORITY WORKERS

By: L.ZORFASS

As the Midterm cycle nearly comes to close, the amount of people able to vote has decreased. This decline in registered voters is not out of apathy of the American public, or because the country is full of people who have had their legal right to vote taken away. The decrease in registered voters comes from the political and seditious schemes of politicians and the elite. This voter suppression is not attacking the American public evenly but, is, in fact, an attack on communities of minorities and working poor.

President Donald Trump, since the last Presidential election, has claimed that millions of people who voted were not citizens of the United States and that there were millions of cases of voter fraud. This is untrue. For example, Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach headed the Voter Fraud Commission created on this pretense. Kobach was only able to find nine cases of voter fraud and managed only one conviction. The commission was disbanded due to so many lawsuits against it, due to the fact that it had only been requesting voter information for people of color, particularly African-Americans.

Brian Kemp of Georgia also used this pretense to create "Crossguard", a measure to against the voter fraud that has shown itself to be racially motivated and predicated on falsehoods. Under this program, 700,000 voters were purged from being able to vote. The great majority of these voters are black. Many actions in the state to register voters have also been stopped by the state. In

Jefferson County, a bus of black senior citizens headed to register to vote was stopped by the state police.

These kinds of actions have become easier for states to carry out since the 2013 Supreme Court decision in *County v. Holder*. This ruling allowed states to change their voter screening and purging without the approval of the Federal Government.

In North Dakota, many Native Americans live on reservations and must use P.O. Boxes to receive their mail as their place of living does not receive mail delivery. New North Dakota law restricts voter eligibility to those with a residential mailing address, disenfranchising many Native American citizens.

This attack on the U.S. voter must not go unchallenged. The reactionary power interests are working towards keeping the minority vote, the vote of the most oppressed, exploited and targeted of the U.S. citizenry, out of the polls. The reactionaries fear that the numbers will put them out of office. The American elite fear a politically active populace. A passive citizenry has always been needed to maintain a liberal society. If the working masses of the country were to get politically involved, it would become very clear very soon that the political establishment is meant to work against them, and then the working masses will begin to work against it. The time to begin that process is now, in the face of fascist aggression, and the corruption of the last illusions of American democracy by the self-serving rich.

FASCISM IS NOT IN A SINGLE COUNTRY... IT IS EVERYWHERE



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This is also a time when the cry of 'No Pasaran' against Franco is heard. There is not only the experience of fascism but that of those fought against it.

It was easy enough to regard fascism as a local defect which emerged in Germany and Italy, and as a costly deviation described with appeal to the psychopathy of individuals like Hitler and Mussolini who undersigned the deaths of millions of people and destruction of many others in concentration camps and which has dragged Europe into calamity by causing a worldwide war resulting in the deaths of millions of people. So that such a defect "never again" was experienced, the world had later galvanised and had also treated it as though it was a cancerous cell severed from the healthy body. Within the optimistic atmosphere of the post-war years, as the years passed, fascism was an ominous and distant memory, a calamity overcame which rationality and intelligence would not allow recurring.

Yet the political current named reservedly as right populism is developing, leaving the space of optimism to deep concerns by forcing the results in each election taking place in countries which represent the cradle, symbol and the most advanced forms of Western Democracy. And as for millions of people whose lives have been destroyed by the neoliberal offensive packages implemented loyally by the 'leftist' or social democrat governments of the past and who regard the cost of war declared by their own countries in far lands and the poverty it led to as having to share their bread and work with migrants, vote for these parties. We are at a historical turning point where the dreams of beautiful bygone days pumped up by nationalist-populist-fascist parties accompanied by pledges of reinvigorating past empires have become substantially attractive for impoverished workers left without a future and direction. In Hungary and Poland, there are the governments of neo-fascist parties. France was on the brink of losing the presidency to Le Pen's party. In Sweden, considered as the model country of Western Democracy, fascism now occupies the political centre there too. The left-populist governments of Latin America are now leaving their place to their right-wing counterparts.

'THE MOST REACTIONARY, THE MOST CHAUVANISTIC, THE MOST AGGRESSIVE'

The current faithful of the swastika, emerging in the streets of Germany some 70 years ago, are now also more receptive to the directives and tactics of the world bourgeoisie's, to use Dimitrov's analysis, "most reactionary, most chauvinistic, the most aggressive" sections who have begun to revise the notion of "fascism in single country" on the basis of lessons of the ascending values of the age of globalism and who are intent on not wasting an opportunity like in the past. Fascism is now making an appearance in the guise of a world system. There must be some meaning to increasing frequency with which the swastika is seen, to the rise to the top of My Struggle in the list of bestsellers, to the possibility of open fascist mass festivals and to the migrant hunt.

However, it will be exceedingly limiting to conceptualise new fascism as the function of parties openly defining themselves as such or of their animated members. The police carrying out the midweek raids of the home and the party offices of Melanchon, the leftist leader of the France Unbowed alliance, which won almost as much votes as other parties in the last presidential elections in France, is aligned with the liberal

institutions of Macron who was ushered into power as part of a desperate attempt against Le Pen in the same elections. Melanchon's a-la de Gaulle riposte that "I am the Republic, I am a parliamentarian. We are not a gang," in conditions where the Republic is being destroyed not by the fascist party but by its liberal guardians itself struck as extremely romantic and nostalgic. In today's world when the states, no matter who the government is, have been degenerating democratic customs, and when the traditional system of law together with the parliament has been losing altitude thereby turning states into gangs one by one, we cannot bypass without also underlying the similarity between the cries of "we are the Republic, we are not a gang" and the reflexes of the main opposition [in Turkey] who, unaware of what is going on its own country, thinks it is still living in old Turkey, in the Republican regime.

And another thing we cannot bypass without underlying is the beginning of the spread of the conviction amongst ruling classes, who once could not rule without representational democracy, that there no longer are conditions necessitating rule by representational democracy, and the ensuing of states turning into gangs to differing dosages in different countries. In China, where public services are being either smashed or limited through the subjection of its own citizens to social security grading, even though it has never espoused a universal category of 'every citizen is born equal,' a gain of the French revolution, to the extent that it has been in European countries, at least the equality pledged by its recent ancestors who completed a revolution in 1949 is being undermined by a point-based system. As such, while a foul-smelling pipeline is being concocted to the channel opened by the children of Robespierre, Mao's bones are also somewhat pained.

It was the very same China who has detained Interpol's Chinese president and declared his resignation on his behalf to the world. The reason why the country of Confucius' grace could get so close to Saudi coarseness, that has made a name for itself with its normlessness and lack of tact and from which the kind of lack of recognition of any boundary can be expected as seen in the recklessness involved in kidnapping the Lebanese Prime Minister and killing a person in their consulate in Turkey, is the deterioration of the alignments of the world.

It is easier now to say that we cannot account for the contribution of the Turley's prime minister of the time (Tayyip Erdoğan) intent on overturning the order of inter-state relationships by insulting the erstwhile bureaucratic cadres running international relations, in other words, the diplomats, as 'mon cheers,' in the deterioration of the alignments by appeal to his personal habits and that his overtures coincided with the earlier hours [of this process] without the general tendency has been this evident. Trump is not citing practice in Turkey as an example of nothing. Or, for instance, he is not uttering words implying that the priority is oil and armaments and all kinds of trade in his statement that he cannot review the relations with Saudi Arabia because of Khashoggi.

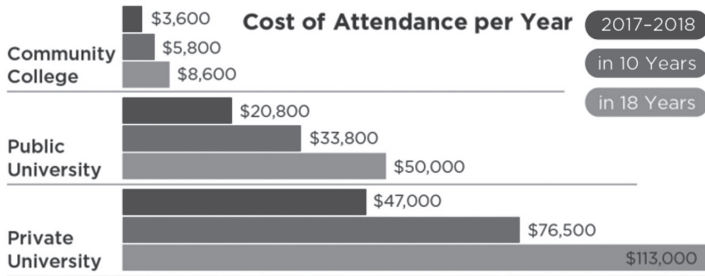
Since the acceptance of 'mon charism,' the kidnappings and killings of individuals by countries from others, confiscation of their property, erecting walls on borders, ringfencing geographies against migrants, living spaces to those who use it has been on the rise.

Hitler had claimed that fascism would last 1000 years. Yet when Nazism was crushed by the tanks of Red Army, its rule in power had lasted a grand total of 12 years. Another thing we understand now is that this grand claim was not only a haphazard one. That different wings of the class ruling the world always are bound with this very same duty whether it is expressed a bit earlier by some and a bit later by others. That, apart from periods when this duty is not pronounced due to class struggle, it ever remains as a tummy ache of savage capitalism latent in its body ready to alarm; relapsing quickly to run riot. The smashing of past gains without rule and tact, where all states turn into bandits... this is not local; the dream of a global fascism where no one can emerge as elements of a new balance, establish a multipolar world but the midwife of savage wars with potential to turn not only itself but the world into ruin precisely because of this, is provoking this relapse.

Despite all its irrationality, it seems that fascism has the judgement to derive lessons from its past. The sound of the scourge's steps strengthening its action with experience is now heard closer.

Yet this is also a time when Dolores Ibaruru's voice crying 'No Pasaran' against Franco resonates. There is not only the experience of fascism but that of those who fought against it too. Let us be mindful of this too.

THE MANY COSTS OF AMERICAN EDUCATION: AN INTERVIEW WITH WORKING CLASS, NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENT GARY MANNING



The cost of education, at even a community college, is on pace to put it well out of reach of many in just a decade.

By LENNON REED

Gary Manning is a non-traditional student attending a community college in Alabama. We sat down with him to discuss the intersection of the rising cost of college education and increasing numbers of students, traditional and non, returning to school to better their prospects in a job market we're told is booming. This has forced, as Gary highlights, many of his fellow students to work multiple service jobs while going to school, diminishing their academic performance and livelihood.

Tell us about yourself, where you are from, and a little bit about your background in the working field?

Hi! My name is Gary Manning, I am 61 years old originally from Georgia north of Atlanta. I have wondered around a little bit, lived in Montana for a few years and then North Carolina for a short time as well as living in Oklahoma for almost ten years until finally moving to Alabama because it was almost all the way home. My last job was working for Halliburton energy services where I did several jobs at their manufacturing center in Duncan Oklahoma. An interesting thing was the well that blew up out in the Gulf of Mexico, I was testing those values so I had Feds out there asking me about how those were tested. I wasn't working on the exact value that blew up but...that was BP's fault anyway! Other than that, over the years I've done a lot of different things I owned a pest control company in Georgia for while and drove a truck for a while...anything that paid the bills.

What are some of the difficulties balancing work and school?

That's one of the reasons why I've been so late about starting school. Many of the jobs I've had have been very physically demanding and left no room for any extracurricular activities but since the state of Alabama pays my tuition I was able to start attending class.

Can you elaborate more on how you acquire your financial aid?

I visited the advising office here at this institution and the lady who worked here told me that the state of Alabama pays for students over 60...why they do that? I don't know it should be anybody over the age of 16, not 60...but that's a different story.

Do you have a family, if so how do you meet the responsibilities of providing for them as well as meeting the responsibilities as a student?

Luckily I don't have a family to deal with, I have a wife and a Chihuahua...but I know many people around here, younger people that have families who I have a lot of respect for that are working, taking care of kids and going to school and I really admire

that because I was never able to do that. I couldn't have even imagined it back when I had kids at home! It's just too much to think someone would even have to be put in that position in the first place. In fact, I know one young lady in particular who has three kids, In my opinion she is too young to have kids but she has them and works two jobs as well as going to class regularly so I don't see here anymore. Hopefully her family is helping her out. If I was in that situation, I would have to be close enough to family.

What is your opinion on the cost of tuition and how it affected your choice to pursue an education?

My feelings on the cost of education are the same as a lot of other people. It seems almost as an "elite" thing to be able to go to a community college it seems because the cost is so high. I know a lot of these other students and kids are struggling, I see it all the time...they are leaving here then going to work. One person I meet goes to class here full time and then leaving and going to work at night... so I can imagine how that must be like. This county should be placing more emphasis on education. Why would you not want your people smart? Now this push towards STEM programs (Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) is good thing but it's just building robots. As far as myself is considered, the federal assistance is great but there needs to be a lot more of it and the senior program that they have in the state of Alabama is also very beneficial but it isn't available everywhere which is big part of the reason why I decided to come back to school. The costs are so prohibitive... I'm on disability and if I didn't have that assistance there is absolutely no way I could go back to school. Our country complains about business prospects and trade deficits in other countries like China and Japan but we don't educate our people. I've noticed in several science magazines and emails I get daily and whenever they come out with something big it's always a foreign sounding name. I'm not trying to imply racism here but we should have more people from here that are able to make these this discoveries.. It's usually always somebody from Germany.

What is your opinion on free tuition? And do you desire public and free education?

Absolutely! I'm one of those who is of the opinion that if you spend money on education you don't have to build all these prisons. Educated assist with population control and don't run into the issues were you have to go out and steal to pay for..whatever, simply because they don't have the money to do afford it. There needs to be a lot more equality in the way of opportunities in education then the way they do it now...It's wrong they way they do it now. The states would do well if they spent a little less money on prisons and little more money on schools. As a matter of fact, the Governor that just left this state recently (Robert J. Bentley) did just that for two years in a row. He took money from the education fund and put it into prisons...and I just don't get that. The one now, Kay Ivey, even she doesn't seem to have much interest in schools but they still claim that they do, but...follow the money. It's just ridiculous. I appreciate they have the senior program but they should have it for everybody. It would make more sense for me to have to pay and you (younger people) not to have to pay..what I'm I gonna do at 61 years old with a degree? Because for one thing i'm going to have to compete with you for job which is joke... rationally, its a joke. I just don't get it.

PEACE, EQUALITY, SOCIALIST DEMOCRACY

JOHN REED PAUL ROBESON WILLIAM Z. FOSTER ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN HARRY HAYWOOD

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EDUCATED PEOPLE ARE FREE PEOPLE

FREE CUBAN MEDICAL SCHOOL

Free Education For All!

MISTREATMENT OF WORKERS IN THE RIDESHARE INDUSTRY, A STORY FROM SEATTLE

By: L. GIERING

Lyft, Uber, and other rideshare drivers frequently drive during late night hours when demand is dominated by intoxicated passengers returning home from the bars. These are the most profitable times, but also the most potentially dangerous. Only weeks into her new occupation in August, Christine, a Lyft driver from the Pacific Northwest, had already twice faced accusations from drunk passengers claiming she was driving under the influence of alcohol. Industries dominated by customer feedback are notoriously precarious, and Christine's experiences underline the intersection of gender and class in the mistreatment of workers in the gig economy.

The first passenger attempted to make sexual advances on Christine and likely made the report out of spite for the rejection. Lyft placed Christine's driver account on hold shortly thereafter. Christine noted that the passenger failed to report the claim to law enforcement first, as they are supposed to – "my account was reinstated later that afternoon", she said to a group of fellow drivers in the ridesharing business, "but I was left distressed and upset at the fact that ANYONE, AT ANYTIME can make an accusation like this without any proof or evidence...just a simple text with a 1 star rating."

A week later, another intoxicated passenger became irate when Christine's phone lost its GPS signal while in an underground tunnel downtown, causing her to miss her exit. The passenger quickly became belligerent, leading to Christine pulling over and ordering him to leave her car. Immediately following, she rated the passenger one star and left a message for Lyft explaining what happened – "just like that AGAIN I am deactivated," this time permanently, apparently because the passenger had

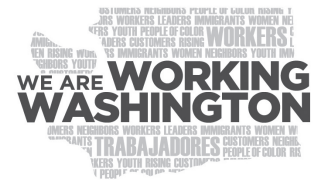
reported her of driving under the influence of alcohol, and also accused her of being in possession of controlled substances.

The reports in both incidents were completely fabricated. Christine told me that Lyft representatives were "impossible" to work with. She tried to appeal her deactivation, but they gave her the cold shoulder. She requested evidence, asked how they were conducting their investigation (if we are to believe that Lyft made any effort to investigate at all), and if Lyft would contact any of her previous riders for their experiences. She asked a Lyft representative several times to confirm if their policy does state that passengers must contact police before filing a report to the company, which he refused to answer.

"I have demanded they reactivate my account by advice of my lawyer or we will be filing a suit against Lyft and said rider for defamation of character and slander. This is not acceptable. If they do not call the police first as instructed by Lyft...their accusation should be dismissed and they should be banned from using Lyft services."

"We are supposed to be Lyft Partners...where is Lyft's support for us? All they have done is cause me financial and emotional distress."

Find out more about the struggle for workers rights in the gig economy by following and supporting Working Washington.



"HOLD THE BURGERS, HOLD THE FRIES, KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF OUR THIGHS:" FIGHT FOR 15 MOBILIZES TO FIGHT SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE.



Protesters outside a McDonald's in St. Louis, Missouri

By: K. PETTIS

11:45am on a Tuesday is rush hour for many fast food workers. The loud squawk of the headpiece signaling the next onslaught of hungry customers, the overbearing shouts from management, and the spray of grease coating the arms of the nearest worker as someone puts the fry in French Fry. All in all, fast food can be an extremely stressful job. Unfortunately, that stress can become unbearable when a worker not only has to worry about these conditions and low pay, but also fighting off unwanted sexual advances.

That is why on Tuesday, September 18th the Fight for 15 Coalition called for a strike of McDonald's workers. At the height of rush hour, activists and striking workers

descended upon a St. Louis McDonald's chanting slogans and carrying banners condemning the Corporation's lax enforcement of their "Zero Tolerance policy" towards Sexual Harassment. Testimonials were heard by workers who had been harassed and had their claims denied by management and had either been told to "Stop complaining" or had been seen as "problem employees" and had their hours cut as a retaliatory measure to silence them. Today though, they would not be silenced. One striking worker, by the name of Briana, gave their story of how advances turned to assault, and even then, their management refused to intercede. Not only would they not fire the individual perpetuating these acts, they forced Briana to work alongside their attacker stating that, "If you don't like it find another job." After testimonials were given and the chants subsided, the protest moved to a federal building in the heart of St. Louis' Downtown. There Briana was able to file a Sexual Harassment Lawsuit against McDonald's with the aid of a lawyer provided by Fight for 15.

However, many who have been in Briana's slip resistant shoes simply quit or are fired for speaking up, never getting justice for what has happened to them, not only at the hands of their attackers but also at the hands of an uncaring corporate bureaucracy that cares more about pushing burgers down consumer's throats than the well being of their own employees. This is an unfortunate and common theme in any industry under Capitalism and can only be ended with the destruction of a system that places profits over people. Nationally the Me Too movement has gained significant traction, so much so that you hear it being discussed at all levels of society. However, the focus on affluent high society members has meant that much of the core message behind Me Too has been lost in translation for the working class. It's great that a national campaign has removed many disgusting people from positions of power and these things should not be lost on anyone for the win that they are, but what about the workers who face these issues on a day to day basis at the lowest levels of society? Should Dr. Ford's testimony be any more important than that of Briana's? That is why it is so significant that organizations such as Fight for 15 take up this cause and bring the righteous assault on predators to the working class, showing that even workers can demand justice, fight for our rights, and win.

NO ERASURE OF LGBTQ+ PEOPLE!



Photo by rawpixel on Unsplash

By A. ZAFFIRO

On Sunday, October 20th, the Trump administration announced that it was considering adopting a strict definition of "sex," as it applies to anti-discrimination law. Under the proposed definition, gender will be considered fixed and immutable, with one's gender assignment at birth only being changeable after genetic testing. For transgender, non-binary, and intersex people, such as myself, this amounts to complete erasure from federal anti-discrimination protection, particularly Titles VII and IX. It's unclear exactly when this definition will be adopted, or how widely, but the Department of Health and Human Services has been leading the charge, with the Department of Justice following suit. The DOJ has already filed a request for the Supreme Court to legitimize workplace and housing discrimination against transgender, non-binary, and intersex people, and given the recent appointment of Justice Kavanaugh, it seems reasonably possible that this will come to pass.

This announcement threw our community into panic, which was further exacerbated by the lack of clear information coming out of the government and media regarding the proposed changes. For my part, I spent most of the 20th hastily looking up information on emigrating to Canada, and most of the 21st fighting off the intense desire to kill myself. Fortunately, the transgender community is nothing if not intensely supportive, and this, combined with the support of many other people around me, has helped me get through the worst of it. I worry about many of my trans siblings, however, who may not have the same kind of support I do. I strongly considered suicide because of this, and I feel it is very likely that others have actually done so. Regardless of where this policy goes from here, people have already suffered - and perhaps died - because of it, and that is a thing that the Trump administration, in its entirety, must be made to answer for.

In a perverse way, the change may not mean much in terms of how transgender, non-binary, and intersex people are treated by the government. The DOJ has refused to enforce workplace discrimination law for us since 2017, and guidelines for the treatment of transgender students have been withdrawn before this. The administration was already refusing to protect us from discrimination, so their actions are not my greatest concern. Rather, I'm much more worried about the possibility that this will be seen as a green light to transphobic individuals and groups to step up their harassment and abuse of our community. While local and state laws may protect some of us, there are many more who are living in areas where the authorities are, at best, indifferent (if not actually hostile) to us. As such, gender-related hate-crimes and abuses will likely go completely unaddressed.

These risks are not necessarily limited to transgender, non-binary, and intersex people. The underlying logic of the definition change is that "sex" only ever referred to assigned "biological" gender, and should never have been expanded to include gender identity *or sexual orientation.* Lesbian, gay, and bisexual people's protections are also threatened by this change, and will continue to be threatened, even if institutional measures are not overtly wielded against them. Even LGB people who may be transphobic should be paying attention, and setting their prejudices aside, if only out of a sense of self-preservation. This is a situation where the entire LGBTQIA community needs to hang together, lest we end up hanging separately.

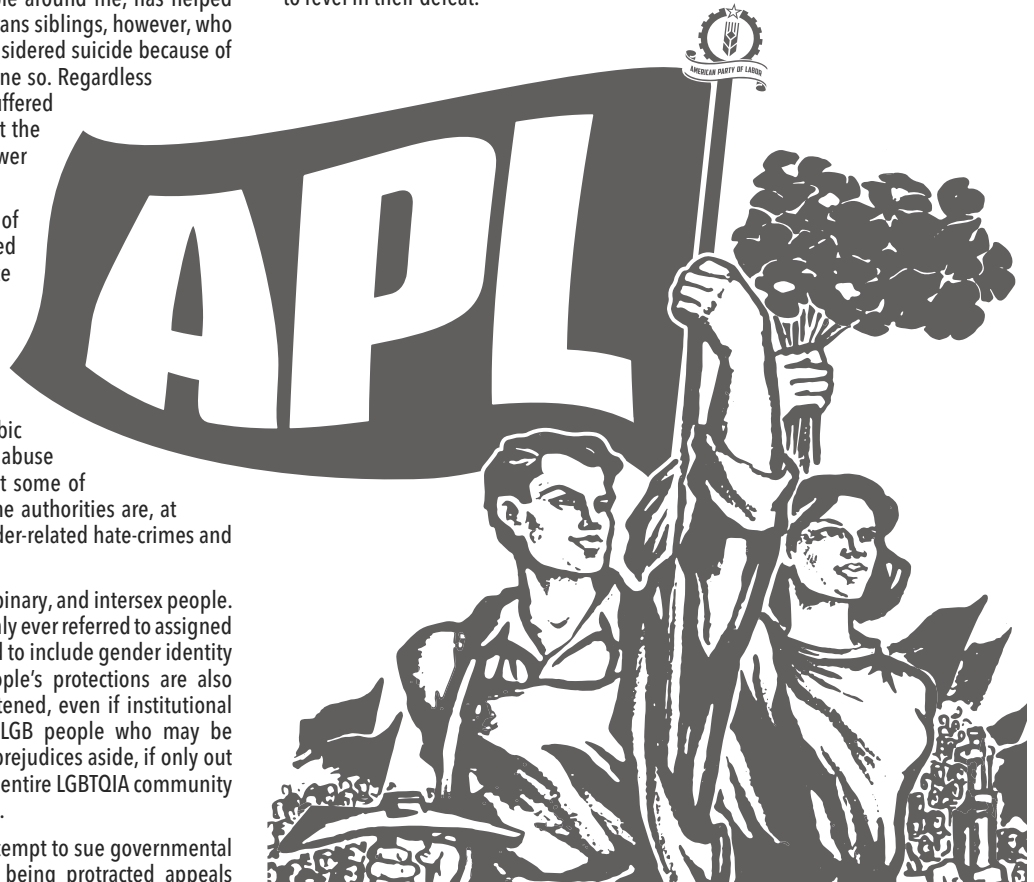
I particularly worry about the lack of legal recourse. Any attempt to sue governmental institutions and authorities over this will run a risk of being protracted appeals

reaching all the way to the Supreme Court, which is stacked in favor of the far-right. Under those circumstances, a lawsuit might actually backfire against us, and set a precedent that further entrenches anti-trans discrimination. I do not see any legislative help coming, either. Some Democrats have pushed the idea of an "Equality Act," which would amend the 1964 Civil Rights Act to explicitly include LGBTQIA people, but given the present state of Congress, it is very unlikely that they could pass it, and even less likely that they could overcome the inevitable Trump veto. Furthermore, for as long as I've been politically conscious, the Democrats' modus operandi has been to give away the proverbial farm in the name of "compromise" with the right, receiving nothing substantial in return. I feel certain that Democrats would abandon the idea, as soon as the Republicans raised their voices.

So, what is to be done? Honestly, this is a question that individuals will need to answer for themselves. The desire to leave the country is mounting within our community, and resources exist to help people do so, such as Rainbow Railroad, Rainbow Refugee, or AGIR (Action Gay, Lesbienne, Bisexuelle, Trans et Queer pour Immigrants et Refugies), which can help with immigration to Canada (and Quebec specifically, in the case of AGIR).

Comrades, you know your situation better than anyone else. If it is unsafe for you to remain where you are, then take whatever steps you need to, in order to get to safety. There is no shame in leaving. It would also be advisable for those staying to take some kind of self-defense lessons, and perhaps consider gun ownership. The authorities cannot be counted on to protect us, so we must protect ourselves, and each other. Consider joining or organizing LGBTQIA community groups. Get to know your siblings, and the resources available in your areas. Lastly, make sure that you're taking care of yourself, both physically and emotionally. You can't help anyone, if you can't help yourself, so be sure to take the time you need to be in the best state you can be.

Our communities have been through such oppression before, and we have survived. We survived the Nazis, who sought to destroy us. We survived McCarthyism, which sought to drive us into psychiatric hospitals and prisons. We survived bigoted violence, hostile authorities, and an indifferent public, and we will survive Trump. We will join together with our siblings, we will organize with those cisgender and heterosexual groups and individuals that will support us, and we will outlast our oppressors. No matter what that bloated toad in the White House says or does, we will survive it, because we are stronger than him, we are stronger than his supporters, and we will live to revel in their defeat.



INTERVIEW: ERNESTO A. ON THE ALIENATION OF DISABILITY



By G. BOSHCKA

Ernesto A., the subject of this interview, grew up Hispanic in a rough Chicago neighborhood, exposing him to some of the harshest living conditions in America. Torn between the influence of gangs, drug dealers, prostitutes, thieves, and ethically depraved financial opportunities, Ernest set the goal of honest work for himself because he saw the destruction that desperate criminality entailed. Ernest managed to move out of the city and graduated high school in the suburbs, but he never escaped the prejudice against his ethnicity and his inability to read.

After being laid off from working at a meat packing plant for many years, the search for employment has reached an indescribable level of difficulty due to the clash of an inability to read in an era of information which has completely disenfranchised a sizable chunk of the population. Imagine the difficulty of filling out any basic paperwork application and having to take the word of the person reading it to you, if they're willing to read it to you, before signing. Having your very means of survival up to the discretion of whoever is willing to help you is part of the harsh reality affecting everyone with a physical or mental disability under Capitalism.

Q: What is your name?

A: Ernest A.

Q: And how old are you?

A: Forty two.

Q: Do you have any labor, political, church affiliations?

A: No. I was in the butcher's union, but not any more.

Q: What is your living situation like?

A: Well, right now it's been tough, you know, with this medical stuff going on and trying to find a job. Trying to support my mom and my brother.

Q: Would some sort of functional public housing (not having a landlord) alleviate those kinds of problems?

A: Yeah. Sure.

Q: Do you think you would see an improvement in your family relationships if rent were not in the equation?

A: Of course. That would be one less major thing to worry about.

Q: What ethnicity do you identify as, and has it proven to be an obstacle in finding employment or housing?

A: No, y'know, honestly, but I gotta go with 'White' because I always noticed, like, the doors open more, like when people look at you as like a 'Caucasian Male' or 'White' instead of 'Hispanic' or 'Latino'. When you're trying to survive you gotta do what you gotta do.

Q: What level of education have you completed?

A: I graduated High School with two credits extra. But, I still have a learning disability. That's the kick of all this for me is that I have a disability with my whole reading stuff and again that's been a huge problem I can never escape from.

Q: What kind of a barrier has that been?

A: I'm used to old-school job interviews and stuff, you know? I didn't have to write stuff, you'd go in and sit down. Usually when you can get a foot in the door and show them you're a hard worker willing to get your hands dirty and not some priss and privileged person where the job is beneath them then they might be likely to hire me, but the problem is getting enough money to survive. If I'm upfront about my disability they might not even give me real work or, you know, look down on me for it.

Q: What type of work have you done?

A: I was a union butcher for fifteen years and then I also worked in security.

Q: What are your working conditions? Do you feel safe at your job? Do you earn a comfortable wage? Does your employer allow enough time for food and bathroom breaks?

A: Oh yeah, yeah, yeah everything was legit and it was good work for me. Everything was good, but then the business went under so then I had to re-work myself into the work environment again.

Q: What has your experience been trying to find work?

A: Everything has changed completely. Back when I was in school we didn't have cellphones, you know? The ones we had were as big as shoe boxes, and the only ones who had them were rich people. Everyone has a little cellphone that can do everything now. We didn't have online applications. Now you do an online application to show your credentials and it's a whole different situation. But this is the thing that's also very offensive, they use a computer software to try to weed out people. That's been very dehumanizing and discriminatory to me, you know? Because you cannot tell until the person is right there whether that person is going to be a hard worker or a decent person and who could be the best possible worker for your company. But they go by what the software dictates is the best and that's false and very wrong because it excludes a whole group of people who would have ten times the work ethic and would be ten times better for the job. This is where I think there's a grave injustice because the process is very superficial and discriminatory. When there's someone who can't read or write, we have technology to help people like that now; I was raised to value a person's character, and have strong work ethic, I am a firm believer in working hard, but people like me can't get past the barriers to apply to the job. Not everybody wants to sit around and live off the government cheese, every good person wants to be productive and be a part of society, but they'd rather force me into welfare instead of help me get to work.

Q: Do you have a political leanings?

A: No, I just wish our government would fight more for people who have learning disabilities like mine, because it's so overlooked. They look at the situation as just 'oh you have a problem, so just sit on your ass and we'll take care of you', but not everybody wants to live like that. Just give me the tools to work for myself and to be myself. They're not looking at the bigger picture, the more people who are productive the better the society is going to be, but if you don't educate them, you don't feed them, if you leave them out in the cold then they can't support themselves and it looks like a burden to society. They talk about taking away the medicaid and the food stamps, but they don't see that's going to hurt a lot of people who need the help. But they also just expect me to stagnate in the projects or stay at home because I'm 'disabled', but we all want to move forward in life. Everybody just wants to move up, progress, and improve their lives, but I can't do that without the tools to do it. They talk about the interests of rich vs. poor but they don't talk about my interests, working class interests you know? If they cut the safety nets then we go backward and what we need to do is move forward. There is a saying we had in church where they said 'if you give a man a fish he eats for a day, but teach him to fish and he eats for a lifetime' because the majority of people want to work and if they want to live in a bad situation they'll stay in a bad situation, but the rest of us want to work and improve our situation.

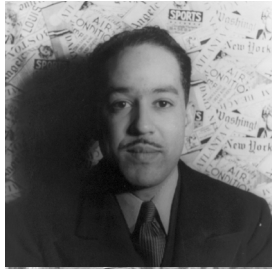
Q: Is there anything else you would like to comment on, or do you have anything additional to say?

A: Like I said, they gotta help and assist the people who need the tools to be put in a situation where they can do better in the world. They don't want to really improve, they want a divide of rich and poor with no united working class, they want to keep people divided so they keep their privilege. I get what they try to do, what they're trying to do, and what they call it is weeding out the herd, but they hurt and destroy countless lives and families by doing this. By just keeping it rich or poor, when we need to focus on getting everyone together and productive as a whole working class. Do we want it to get better? Or do we want it to get worse? The way I see it, things are gonna get worse. Things are going to get a lot worse until we come together with practical working class ideas to move forward. Not some political backstabbing or 'you scratch my back I scratch yours' diplomatic crap or political games; we need real solutions right now. I want to be a productive member of society, I don't want to be a parasite when I can be useful, of course there are people who really need the help, and god bless those people, but I just want the tools to be a productive member of society. Not everyone will be fortunate enough to do that, but I think we need society to provide a level of help that we could give everybody what they need to make sure they can get where they want to be in life. All those people who got all educated, who act very privileged, with their college degrees, pretend that work is beneath them or look down on people like me because they haven't walked in my shoes; it doesn't mean anything unless you do something with it, and that's where we need to apply that knowledge for some real practical solutions.

THE AMERICAN PARTY OF LABOR DEMANDS
Guaranteed Work and a Livable Income!
Socialized Healthcare For All!
Equal Rights, Pay, and Housing For All!
Free Education For All!

GOODBYE CHRIST

by Langston Hughes



Listen, Christ,
 You did alright in your day, I reckon –
 But that day's gone now.
 They ghosted you up a swell story, too,
 Called it Bible –
 But it's dead now,
 The popes and the preachers've
 Made too much money from it.
 They've sold you to too many



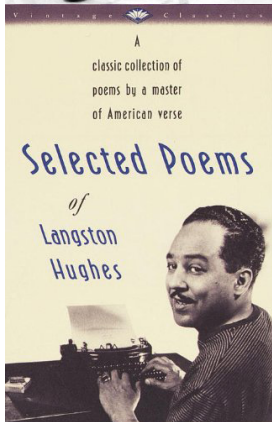
Kings, generals, robbers, and killers –
 Even to the Tzar and the Cossacks,
 Even to Rockefeller's Church,
 Even to THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.
 You ain't no good no more.
 They've pawned you
 Till you've done wore out.

Goodbye,
 Christ Jesus Lord God Jehova,
 Beat it on away from here now.
 Make way for a new guy with no religion at all –

A real guy named
 Marx Communist Lenin Peasant Stalin Worker
 ME –

I said, ME!
 Go ahead on now,
 You're getting in the way of things, Lord.
 And please take Saint Ghandi with you when
 you go,
 And Saint Pope Pius,
 And Saint Aimee McPherson,
 And big black Saint Becton
 Of the Consecrated Dime.
 And step on the gas, Christ!
 Move!

Don't be so slow about movin'!
 The world is mine from now on –
 And nobody's gonna sell ME
 To a king, or a general,
 Or a millionaire.



ON THE 101ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION: WHY BE A MARXIST-LENINIST?

In 1897, a man in the Russian Empire was 3x more likely to be literate than a woman, this disparity was completely eliminated by 1939.

Between 1962 and 1964, 40 percent of the chemistry PhD's awarded in the Soviet Union went to women. At that same time in the United States, that number was five percent. In 2006, that number was still lower than the Soviets' from the '60s.

Women in the Soviet Union were the first to receive paid maternity leave. After the fall of the Soviet Union, women's wages decreased to a mere 40% of their male counterparts.



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 CREATIVE PEOPLE TO SUBMIT
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AMERICAN PARTY OF LABOR.ORG
PEACE, EQUALITY, SOCIALIST DEMOCRACY
ALL POWER TO THE WORKING PEOPLE!

The American Party of Labor is...

a revolutionary working class organization. Our aim is to abolish the capitalist system and all its horrors by replacing it with socialism, a system based on the principle laid out by Marx, "from each according to his ability, to each according to his work." This is the first phase toward the higher phase of communism, defined by the principle "from each according to his ability, to each according to his needs."

Who Can Join? How Do I Get Involved?

Every working person who is sick of being abused by capitalism, is open to our plan for change, agrees with our Program and Platform and is over the age of 18 is welcome to join.

We recommend that you check out our publications page to get a more in-depth look at the Party. Another good place to look is our online library. The cornerstones of our Party are the works of Karl Marx, Frederick Engels, Vladimir Lenin, Joseph Stalin, and Enver Hoxha.

You can find everything that you should know about us here, and you can join online or contact us and connect to members in your area.

If we don't have a presence in your city, we'll get to know you and help you establish one.



“Long live the fraternal trust and fighting alliance of the workers of all nations in the struggle to overthrow capital.” - V.I. Lenin

Why is Marxism-Leninism the Best Answer? Can't We Regulate Capitalism or Try to Create Some Kind of Third System That Isn't Fully Communist or Capitalist?

One must understand there is an important fundamental difference between Marxism and other so-called anti-capitalist or "third way" theories. Marx, unlike many thinkers of his day, did not just see a problem with capitalism and start proposing an alternative system. Instead, he and his compatriots analyzed capitalism itself to understand how the system worked. Marx's ideas for revolution are based off of that analysis, not ideas he dreamt up on his own. Solutions to the problems of capitalism can only be reached by understanding and observing the system itself, not by dreaming up some wonderful Utopian alternative. As for regulating or restraining capitalism, this has been done many times before.

Oftentimes the governments of capitalist states must restrict the private sector for various reasons. The problem is that political power is still stacked in favor of the ruling class, and if you slap regulations on big business, they have every avenue and all the resources necessary to see those regulations overturned in the long run. What truly led to the collapse of the old socialist bloc was not that these countries followed Marxism-Leninism, which was ultimately too radical, but rather quite the opposite- that these nations all came under the impression that they needed more and more market style reforms, until they had more or less become capitalist countries.

Nowadays, ideas such as "21st century socialism" would have us do basically the same thing, if not less - regulate capitalism, nationalize some industry, and try to maintain a welfare state- without expropriating the ruling class, without giving the nation a clear direction for the future, and worst of all, without putting the working class in power. This kind of idea can only lead to temporary gains for the workers.

How is the American Party of Labor Different than Other Socialist, Communist, or Left-Wing Parties or Organizations?

First of all, the main difference is that we see the solution to the problems of the working class in revolution and the seizure of state power by the working class and its political organizations. The methodology by which we strive for revolution is Marxism-Leninism—that is, the scientific methodology of social/economic revolution first devised by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, and contributed to by figures such as Vladimir Lenin, Joseph Stalin and the late Albanian leader Enver Hoxha. This does not mean, however, that we look at these figures the way religions look at their own prophets, nor do we see their every written word as some kind of Holy Scripture or their every action as blameless and divine.

That being said, we critique their actions from the Marxist methodology of historical dialectical materialism, analyzing actions and events in their historical context, taking into account the benefit of hindsight and trying to avoid idle speculation about what could have been if certain events had or hadn't happened, etc. Because we uphold the general line of these figures, from Karl Marx to Enver Hoxha, we consider ourselves "anti-revisionist," and it is in this way that we differ from most communist parties or organizations in the United States.



Legalize Workers - No More Detentions, No More Deportations, Abolish I.C.E.!

Guaranteed Work and a Livable Income!

Socialized Healthcare For All!

Nationalized Healthcare!

Free Education For All!

Equal Rights, Pay, and Housing For All!

End All Wars of Aggression!

Abolish Private Prisons, Free All Political Prisoners!

No Platform for Fascists!

Abolish Profit Made By the Exploitation of Labor!

Our General Line.

1. The American Party of Labor comes from and represents the American working class. From time to time and place to place there may be individuals who are admitted to the Party who do not have a working class background, or are not currently considered to be working class by Marxist-Leninist ideology and principles. Such individuals are exceptions to the general rule, as they have in effect transcended their class through conscious application of Marxist-Leninist ideology.

2. The American Party of Labor maintains that value in society is produced by human action within the material world. That is to say, value is created by the consumption of labor power. The working classes, which have only their labor power to sell for their daily sustenance, therefore make production possible. We call for the reorganization of society to provide the means of production to the working class to be administered either under an elected or selected management or collectively through a council system.

3. The American Party of Labor demands the abolition of private property and that all means of production be in the hands of the working class. Profit under capitalism is extracted surplus value from the consumption of labor power and constitutes a theft from the working class by the capitalist ruling class. Under our system, the working class will be paid the full value of their production less the necessary deductions to support the state and its various cultural, economic and social support projects.

4. The American Party of Labor demands that all oppressed nations within the context of the American Empire, including, but by no means limited to, Indigenous peoples, Native Hawaiians, Guamanians and Puerto Ricans (within the context of Puerto Rico), be given national self-determination as to whether or not they wish to remain in the American socialist state, which shall be constructed on the remnants of the United States. We call for the end of the so-called commonwealth system in all U.S. imperial possessions. The nations in these political organizations should either choose to become a U.S. state or an independent country.

5. The American Party of Labor demands the cancellation of all current

debt held by developing countries to the U.S. These loans were not made with the intention of helping the people of these countries, but rather to enslave those countries with debt.

6. The American Party of Labor is a party against all imperialism. We are opposed to all wars of aggression on the world stage and all other threats of war and military intervention. We call for the immediate withdrawal of all U.S. troops from abroad. We stand shoulder-to-shoulder with all occupied peoples and with all nations living underneath neo-colonial regimes. We call for the end of foreign aid to Israel, Colombia and other outposts of capitalist and imperialist aggression.

7. The American Party of Labor is an internationalist party. All peoples around the globe struggling for their emancipation from their own systems of exploitation are our allies. We extend our hands to all revolutionary organizations guided by Marxism-Leninism worldwide and to national liberation movements of exploited peoples of all countries because our cause is one and the same.

8. The American Party of Labor demands the U.S. withdrawal from NATO and other imperialist alliances.

9. The American Party of Labor stands fully against the militarization of the U.S.-Mexican border. It supports the rights of immigrants and the ending of neo-liberal policies in other countries, particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean, that drive sustenance farmers off their lands and to the United States due to a lack of economic opportunity in their native countries.

10. The American Party of Labor has a more generalized list of our demands and positions in a separate document called the Party Platform.

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