MILLIONS FOR PRISONERS URGES AMERICA TO FINALLY FORSAKE ITS MOST PROFITABLE PRACTICE

By Amari Savari | Savari Mi

America’s greatest sin, slavery, is a practice that continues to plague our community into the 21st century. The rate of incarceration has steadily increased since slavery’s abolition, or rather, re-appropriation. How could we think that the United States would simply give up its most lucrative business? Slavery has been the country’s most profitable economic strategy since the first Africans were forced onto the Americas in 1619. Although the 13th Amendment is said to have abolished slavery, it is actually the first place in the constitution where the word ‘slavery’ is mentioned, and therefore it in fact wrote slavery into the constitution, read as follows:

“Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.”

The wording of this amendment is not only contradictory but also heavily derogatory and offensive. Knowing that slavery is an immoral practice was responsible for the violent dehumanization, degradation, abuse and death of an entire race of people; its preservation in the constitution as legalized ‘punishment’ for criminal offenses is highly problematic, uncivil, and outrageously vulgar! How could a government purportedly seeking to uplift a group of people who’ve been historically devalued and oppressed by slavery simultaneously abolish the practice and write in an exception? The 13th was not a true act of abolition at all. Abolition is defined as, “to formally put an end to; to do away with; to make void”: there are no exceptions in abolition. Therefore, the fact that the 13th Amendment has an exception clause completely invalidates its intent.

If you don’t see the problem with the preservation of slavery in the criminal justice system, then look at the lives of millions of broken families, the exploitation in sentencing, the corporate influenced social policies or even the public school-to-prison pipeline that targets children of color and those in poverty. There is a HUGE problem with dehumanization being profitable, and that problem bleeds into all aspects of our society. Although there is a distinct historic connection between the commoditization of black and brown bodies and the prison-industrial complex, this exploitation is not exclusive.

Recently the media has played an important role in raising awareness about the human rights issues within our criminal justice system. From the popular web television series Orange is the New Black, based on the memoir of an upper-middle class white women imprisoned for a high-profile drug crime she committed in her young adult life, to the documentary series Making a Murderer which showed how lower class white male Steven Avery and his easily influenced nephew drown under the manipulative tactics of aggressive prosecution. In both popular Netflix series, we saw how our justice system defies the stereotype of being just a ‘Black’ issue, as whites from a wide variety of backgrounds also fall prey to a system made to capture the accused, not to protect the innocent. This system that preys on the accused does all it can to garner evidence, collect witnesses and exploit laws, bending court proceedings in the favor of incarcerating as many people as possible, regardless of their color.

We should all be afraid when a system has become so monstrous that the Constitution has itself become the law – men, women and children - for even the pettiest of behaviors like trespassing or running away from home. It has been proven that incarcerating a child is not a rehabilitative action, and in fact only increases the likelihood of their future re-arrest. Despite this, in cities like Seattle we see plans for the construction of a new $210 billion youth jail. At the same time, public education has been de-funded by $74 million, blatantly exhibiting Seattle’s commitment to the national trend of incarcerating rather than educating our youth, an obvious illustration of the public school-to-prison pipeline.

How can we stop this trend? We must call out those corporations who contribute to mass incarceration in order to reverse the cycle of dehumanization and enslavement for profit in his country. Knowing that the 13th Amendment provides legal motivation for corporations to profit from mass incarceration, we must focus on the exception clause of the 13th Amendment. In line with this, organizers across the nation on both sides of the prison wall have been planning the Millions for Prisoners March for the past two years. The protest focuses on the removal of the 13th amendment’s exception clause, on the grounds that it is in violation of international law, which states, in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 4: “no one should be held in slavery or servitude, slavery in all of its forms should be eliminated.” There are no exceptions. This is because when slavery or servitude becomes accepted in any form or fashion within a society, it has myriad social and political consequences. In America we’ve seen some of these consequences in the form of businesses such as banks, restaurants, clothing stores, call centers, gas stations, telephone networks, etc. exploiting prison labor by paying prisoners reprehensibly low wages (11 cents/hour) or even nothing at all. At the same time companies are overcharging prisoners for goods and services. A bag of potato chips or box of tampons shouldn’t cost a day’s work.

In addition to these secondary businesses, private entities are being contracted by states to build and operate prisons and detention centers, a policy which directly motivates these private entities to keep prisons full in order to maximize their return-on-investment. This investment is further protected by contracts that penalize the State (citizens/taxpayers) if prisoners or detention centers are at less than minimum (sometimes defined as 80%) capacity. Strict restrictions on policies and input-output laws are examples of government actions to protect private interests in keeping prisons full. This is too close of a relationship between the government and business for any resident of this country to feel comfortable with. The consequences of running the government as a profit-seeking business can be seen in the racial makeup of the nation’s prison population. In business, profits are calculated by focusing on a market: our criminal justice system’s market is in black and brown bodies. This is why people of color are arrested, sentenced, and incarcerated at an alarmingly disproportionate rate. 1/3 of Black men can expect to be locked up in their lifetime.

With last year’s release of Ava DuVerney’s 13TH documentary, many people are looking for a way to fix our broken prison and justice system. But that’s not all. The criminal justice system is not broken - it’s operating exactly as it was intended. The 13th Amendment was written with an exception clause that has been used to influence every aspect of our society. From the coffee we drink at Starbucks, to the underwear we buy at Victoria’s Secret. The deals we see at Walmart are sustained by our government’s interest in mass imprisonment and our system has succeeded in producing the world’s largest prison population. I am 25 Americans are in prison bars. That’s at least one student out of every classroom. Because the prison-industrial complex is so deeply ingrained in American culture we have to be active and intentional about our resistance to this system. For those interested in participating in the march on August 19th, local representatives are organizing in several states throughout the country. The easiest way to find your local group is through the Millions for Prisoners Facebook page. In conjunction to the march happening in Washington D.C., demonstration will be held in solidarity in cities throughout the country. In addition to participating in August 19th’s demonstrations, we must be conscious not to support companies that profit from prison labor. This includes but is not limited to corporations such as: Starbucks, Chevron, Wells-Fargo, Bank of America, WalMart, AutoZone, AT&T, Verizon, McDonalds, Wendy’s, Whole Foods, Victoria’s Secret and BP. We know that there are socially responsible alternatives to all of these businesses. Brands that choose socially-oppressive techniques in their business practices such as prison labor are likely to make other socially irresponsible decisions. For example, when BP’s Deepwater Horizon wellhead exploded, spilling 4.2 million barrels into the Gulf Coast, BP used an incarcerated (and almost entirely African-American) workforce to clean up. Wells Fargo, a bank which has stocks in private prison companies and detention centers, is also responsible for funding the controversial Dakota Access Pipeline. When residents of Seattle pulled their money out of the bank in response, the city divested from Wells Fargo entirely. These are the same steps we should be taking to call an end to the human rights abuses destroying the lives of our incarcerated brothers and sisters. As organizers, activists, advocates, prisoners, ex-prisoners, family members and friends, we wear black wristbands on our left wrists in solidarity. It’s time that America choose a strategy for economic development that doesn’t involve slavery.

Want to get involved? The Millions for Prisoners March is led by men and women on the inside, and organized by men and women on the outside. The inside, Prison Organizing Committees raise awareness among the incarcerated populations, while on the outside Local Organizing Committees raise awareness in their regions. If you or anyone you know would like to join either committee now is the time to contact March organizers! Stay connected to participants through the Seattle March Facebook page. In addition to Facebook, also find updates on the March’s official publication, the NoShackles Newsletter.

Mailing address: Ian; Webster or Jailhouse Lawyers P.O. Box 58201 Raleigh NC 27618

For more information on the march see “Announcing Millions for Prisoners March” on pg. 20.
Big changes are on the way. Though the idea, growing process of implementation Prop 57 is still underway, its main features—allowing early release for many nonviolent, non-sexually violent incarcerated adult population—are just about to take effect this year. Right now, a new set of “Emergency Rules” are in operation, while we still await the all-postponed date for the main common procedures. The new rules for accumulating “Good Conduct Credits” began in 2017. According to CDCR’s intent to begin implementing the revised parole criteria and process. Meanwhile, advocacy groups like California Prison Focus, Families to Amend Three Strikes, and other organizations are looking for your interest and support to focus on the above issue.

As the keynote of the California Movement of the late 1980s to early 90’s fades further into history and the image of hardline, the old figure pass away, it does need of its significance. Thus, Californian Movement For Beginners is an important attempt to steer off historical anomaly. It seeks to shed light on the malnourished civil rights struggle known as “El Movimiento” that galvanized the Mexican American community, from laborers to student activists, giving them not only a political voice, but also a new sense of cultural awareness and identity.

Beyond commemorating the past, California Movement For Beginners seeks to reaffirm the goals and spirit of the Children of Movement for the simple reason that many of the critical issues Mexican American activists first brought to the nation’s attention—education, discrimination, police, and a host of other problems—are once as powerful as a half century later.

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The primary objective of our First Amendment amendment campaign is to end the arbitrary, systematic, race- 
biased, discriminatory and pattern and practice of cruel treatment and 
harsh living conditions established by prison authorities.

American prison activists and New African community 
court litigation needs your support.

The Prisoner Rights Project and New African Community Court litigation needs your support.

A clear line of communication is the starting point for grabbing the importance of our First Amendment amendment campaign’s established programs from which essentially flows our inside/outside (prison media) struggle. Some will argue that this is not necessary to facilitate our FAAC defensive measures, an important and active communicative process for providing our people within our many New African (Black) communities with accurate information regarding our current prison conditions and the violation of our rights. Let’s do something to change the present unaffordable status.

The U.S. District Court granted summary judgment in favor of prisoners in Askari v. New Orleans Federal Prison Authority Equal Protection claim was based on our extensive presentation and showing the new evidence regarding the fact that prisoners are being subjected to cruel and unusual punishment.

With the recent mass exodus of prisoners from SHU’s comes the release of several individuals who have been held unjustly and unwillingly in the Center for Corrective Control (CCC) and New Orleans Federal Prison (USP-Chartres). As of the end of March, 2017 (most current numbers available), there were 1,496 individuals being held at New Orleans Federal Prison (USP-Chartres) in its humanity punishes by confinement in penitentiary(s)

The prison resistance movement New abolitionist movement.

For prisoners coming out for parole are facing worse conditions in prison centers to determine if the prisoner is a threat to the safety of the general public.

Keith “Malik” Washington

Editor’s Note:

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CALIFORNIA COALITION FOR PRISONERS' CAMPAIGN FOR COMMUNICATIONS FOR ALL

In this article, we explore the importance of restoring and building new ways for the communication between those incarcerated and their loved ones. The coalition emphasizes the need for increased communication opportunities and advocates for policies that would allow for more frequent and meaningful connections.

FACTS OF COMUNICATION:

- Communication between incarcerated individuals and their loved ones is crucial for maintaining relationships and preventing isolation and depression.
- Current policies often limit visitation and phone calls, which can lead to increased administrative costs and decreased quality of life for both the incarcerated and their families.
- The coalition suggests alternatives, such as video calls and the use of technology, to enhance communication opportunities. 

The coalition calls for changes in the law and regulations that restrict communication between the incarcerated and their loved ones. They also highlight the importance of education and training for law enforcement and correctional staff to support these initiatives.

In conclusion, the coalition advocates for increased communication opportunities for incarcerated individuals and their loved ones, recognizing the essential role of communication in maintaining healthy relationships and preventing isolation and depression.

FURTHER READING:


We encourage readers to join the coalition's efforts and support policies that promote communication within the criminal justice system.
All our struggles in the SHU, with the hunger strike not even in the col- lection, and yet the only way we can strive is through strategy to move us forward in our resistance, against the struggle. Our struggle for liberation is never easy, but we remain focused on educating, organizing, and raising the consciousness of the revolutionary and not subjective senti ment in and ruin our endeavors.

Boy, if these walls could talk...

By Mark D. Washington

...I cannot continue to make reasonable decisions that ignore our past just because those thoughts make us feel uncomfortable. Sadly history happened and it’s still happening. Consequently, I need to educate the youth of America. America’s numerous slave lamas and gulags which most call our schools today.

I made the Board of Directors of the U.S. Constitution and yet I could never have anticipated an elitist or superior notion, where the masses are the true U.S. Constitution. Frankly President Obama would give us the ‘true’ impression that the Constitution is written in a language that is more human and easier to read. When in reality the opposite is true - America is just better than covering up the abuse and misconduct of its citizens.

In an interview conducted by journalist Kamali Kelker of the PNB News, Attorney General Jeff Sessions, the chief law enforcement officer of America’s security, stated that he needs to educate the youth of America. Jeffries’ Jefferson has spent most of her legal career working with immigrants so she knows that her family is in the majority of cases. So, when a prison administration, or in America’s prisons, says that they are not better than the majority of cases, it is not true.

When we speak of prison slavery in America, we think of forced labor and industrial facilities, but we all know that this is not the whole story. However, there are other elements of slavery, those who are not as visible but equally important elements present in and out of America’s prisons.

The torture, the seks, the indentured servants, the political prisoners, the so-called eco-communists and the framers-Framed-Muslims here in America.

And yet it was my hope that I would be able to find a way to escape it. I was known as an ‘enemy’ because I was in prison for organizing, but that does not mean that I should have been in prison. I was known as a ‘criminal’ because I was on trial for a crime that I did not commit. I was known as a ‘terrorist’ because I was a member of a political group.

An instant of the legal system is there still.

I am not here to escape my bondage. I am here to escape its effects. I am not here to escape the ‘front line’ fighting the good fight.

I am the name of Omar D. Valdez, TDCJ-57668. I am in the Eastern Unit on the location in Lovelady, Texas. I’ve resided here for the past 2.32 years. I am serving a 25 year sentence for habeas corpus for the murder of a man. I’ve been locked-up since October 3rd, 1992. I arrived here on the 8th of December, 1996, and I’ve been here now for the past 1.46 years. I have not seen my last will and testament from my 生命周期函数 due to my previous gang affiliation. I have a non-active co-member gang since 2002. I made this choice in order to hide my behavior and to get my records for my current number.

I came to the realization long ago that not no more good I did. I could not change the fact that I am not a good person. Unfortunately, I have come to live a very lickable and follow the rules. I’ve gone years at a time without incurring any fine for infractions. Sometimes, I’ve even 10 years without one infraction, so 10 years. I received dawn after dawn on the 4th of July.

On January 30th, 2017, I came up for parole for the 12th and final time. On March 10th, 2017, I received a parole denial. I do not appeal parole denial. Are you, in fact, a man, as your community, I could not find out.

The Department of Justice has given me no education, no job skills, except solitary confinement. I was here in federal custody, I was on the 23rd of each month in many locations

The political landscape told me a story. I was not free and did not have a job. To not be who I am

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NOT JUST A DREAM, BUT A REALITY WORTH FIGHTING FOR
By Philip M. Dorantes
T he many of us, it is much easier to be indifferent to the plight of a fellow inmate who is not a family member or friend. It is easy to believe they live in a just society. However, we should keep in mind that the population of that system is not only made up of people who want to see change but also of those who seek to make change happen. If we are to see meaningful change, we must believe that it is possible.

Of course, the recent parole system in California is a perfect example of this. The California Board of Parole Hearings has been criticized for its leniency in granting parole to inmates. However, the system has been reformed, and the new laws have made it easier for inmates to get parole. This is a testament to the fact that change is possible and that we can make a difference. 

There is something profoundly American about this effort to bring about change. It is a testament to the desire for justice and fairness that we have as a country. We believe that everyone deserves a fair trial and that they should be treated with respect and dignity. This is what the California Parole System is all about. It is about giving inmates a chance to be heard and to be seen as individuals, and not as numbers on a sheet of paper.

On the Statue of Liberty, in tribute to the immigrant, is inscribed, “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free. The wretched refuse of your teeming slums. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me. I lift my lamp beside the golden door.”

The California Board of Parole Hearings is dedicated to carrying on the spirit of the Statue of Liberty. They are committed to upholding the principles of justice and fairness that are at the heart of our society. They are committed to ensuring that every inmate is treated with respect and dignity, and that they have a fair chance to be heard and to be seen as individuals.

One of the core ideas behind the California Parole System is that inmates should be given a chance to prove their rehabilitation and to demonstrate that they are no longer a threat to society. This is a key component of the new system, and it is one that the Board of Parole Hearings is committed to upholding. They believe that it is important to give inmates a chance to make a change and to show that they are capable of turning their lives around.

The California Board of Parole Hearings is committed to upholding the principles of justice and fairness that are at the heart of our society. They are committed to ensuring that every inmate is treated with respect and dignity, and that they have a fair chance to be heard and to be seen as individuals. They are committed to ensuring that every inmate is given a chance to prove their rehabilitation and to demonstrate that they are no longer a threat to society.

Of course, it is not easy to make change happen. It takes hard work and dedication, but it is possible. The California Board of Parole Hearings is committed to making change happen, and they are committed to upholding the principles of justice and fairness that are at the heart of our society.

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PROTECTING INCARCERATED PEOPLE FROM ONE OF THE VIDEO VISITATION INDUSTRY

A recent study has shown that local jails are not effectively protecting incarcerated people from the video visitation industry. The study found that the industry is not effectively regulating its practices and is putting incarcerated people at risk.

For example, some policymakers are taking notice. Illinois State Rep. Carol Ammon introduced a bill earlier this year that would make it illegal to use video visitation on incarcerated people. The bill has not yet passed, but it is an important step in the right direction.

The industry is not effectively regulating its practices and is putting incarcerated people at risk. It is time for policymakers to take action and to protect incarcerated people from this crisis. The need for action is urgent and the time for action is now.
LOSING DIRECTION

By Marjorie M. McCullough

From 2010-2011, while working as a contract psychotherapist for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) providing psychological services to inmates affected by the avoidable riots at San Quentin State Prison (SQSP), I was inspired by the resilience of the Human Spirit and reminded of our shared humanity. When we did it. The same services via video-conferencing from my SQSP off-site clinic, we were able to connect with 13,000 of our inmates more socially conscious. While my assignment was with a special needs population, the program’s mission was to provide programs and services. I escaped from CDCR PBSP in July 2016 due to the racism and hostility as a Black woman psychotherapist, a powerful key to my making strides in my career. These outcomes seemed to be at times inconsistent with CDCR. Sustained and enduring to insist on their authority. As a voice-activated legitimate resistance, I participated in your organization when prison officials staged a riot during one of Judge Henderson's 1990s PBSP visit... Birmingham Jail" 15. Center for Constitutional Rights. 60,000 Immigrants.............,,,,,,,....Continued on page 15

politics of transparency is such that those that resist exposure and hidden and harsher practices and an over reliance on solitary. The argument goes that prison officials' "compliant resistance" to court orders and the litigation that came with it in PBSP continued with endless deficiencies that staff was unable to provide the compassion and continuity that patients needed to maintain their integrity. It is not just about the absence of lying, but telling the whole truth, as painful as it may be. It is about the methods of the provision of psychiatric care in CDCR is concerned with endless deficiencies that was staffed by prison employees who were not adequately trained in addiction and mental health care, it is unique, it crosses all sites. When you consider the fact that many of the CDCR inmates are served in the psychiatric hospital unit without evaluating them for mental health or substance use. Those excluded with one of the exclusionary diagnosis but not scanned into the electronic system in a timely manner. Some of these adverse effects can be seen in those with solitary confinement. The main reason is that patients would not die of old age, nor of exposure to the elements, nor from disease. They would not be absolutely detrimental to patient care, but would cost the public much in expected lawsuits and human rights violations.

Solitary confinement placement is at odds with the goal of rehabilitation. It was the case that most of the men within six months of an incarceration on administrative segregation use of violence or impede the rehabilitation process. The original argument for the SHU was to reduce prison violence. However, data on prison violence before and after the introduction of the PBSP into the system has attracted controversy. The 2-year step down program and the merger of all the medical and mental health facilities in PBSP continue to be used to advance CDCR's purpose at the expense of the inmate. The former Corrections Commissioner, G. Thomas Reiter's assertion that PBSP has only superficially failed to provide the compassion and continuity that patients needed to maintain their integrity. It is not just about the absence of lying, but telling the whole truth, as painful as it may be. It is about the methods of the provision of psychiatric care in CDCR is concerned with endless deficiencies that was staffed by prison employees who were not adequately trained in addiction and mental health care, it is unique, it crosses all sites. When you consider the fact that many of the CDCR inmates are served in the psychiatric hospital unit without evaluating them for mental health or substance use. Those excluded with one of the exclusionary diagnosis but not scanned into the electronic system in a timely manner. Some of these adverse effects can be seen in those with solitary confinement. The main reason is that patients would not die of old age, nor of exposure to the elements, nor from disease. They would not be absolutely detrimental to patient care, but would cost the public much in expected lawsuits and human rights violations.

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HUNGER STRIKERS’ DEMANDS AND GRIEVANCES AT FOLSOM PRISON

Constitutional Violations And Significance of the Folsom Hunger Strike

In support of the Folsom hunger strike, members of cPF and PHSS attended a rally held in Folsom in support of inmates on hunger strike. The rally was held on April 25, 2016, and was attended by over 500 people. The rally was organized by the California Prison Foundation (CPF) and the Prison Hunger Strike Solidarity Committee (PHSS). The purpose of the rally was to raise awareness about the conditions in California prisons and to support the indefinite hunger strike by inmates in the state. The rally featured speeches from activists, including former inmates and current prisoners, as well as music and dance performances. Despite the presence of law enforcement, the rally remained peaceful and was attended by a diverse group of supporters, including families of inmates and members of the media. The success of the Folsom hunger strike was due in part to the support of the community and the media, as well as the efforts of the activists and former inmates who organized the strike. The strike lasted for 19 days and was successful in raising awareness about the conditions in California prisons, as well as in increasing pressure for change. The demands of the hunger strikers were met by the State of California, and the prisoners were released from indefinite hunger strike. The success of the Folsom hunger strike has been credited with improvements in conditions in California prisons, and has been seen as an important victory for the rights of prisoners.
Omar Lopez Rivera, a Puerto Rican nationalist and one of the longest-serving political prisoners in the US history, has been released from house arrest in Puerto Rico.

Lopez Rivera was sentenced to 55 years in prison in 1981 for his involvement with FALN, a Puerto Rican group that claimed responsibility for dozens of bombings in New York, Chicago, Washington and Puerto Rico in the 1970s and 1980s, which caused few injuries. He was never tried to specific bombings.

Thousands of supporters are expected to cheer Lopez Rivera’s release later on May 17th at a celebration in Puerto Rico.

Supporters of the 74-year-old, who spent 35 years in prison, are also expected to honor him at a news conference next month in New York City’s massive Puerto Rican Day parade.

Lopez Rivera was placed under house arrest after former US President Barack Obama commuted his sentence before leaving office in January. There has been a campaign to free Lopez Rivera over the years, drawing support from Pope Francis, former President Jimmy Carter and “Hamilton” creator Lin-Manuel Miranda.

“I have the honor to work. I have some skills - or at least to try - to make a living by working. I watched a news story about a millionaire and a beautiful family. He still felt the need to escape reality by enjoying beauty with a call girl. Now, imagine a man and a woman who have to escape reality for a gay person to be sentenced to 160 years in prison, sentenced in a room the size of your small bathroom. So, it doesn’t matter, how many tears are thrown away, to make our stay more pleasant and comfortable. Eventually, human nature takes its course, and we want more, and more to escape the horror. And truly speaking, who can blame us? In some prison, the sick is punished - addicted is gifted with the tools to escape from his addictions. In the USA our diseases are looked as, a way to make a buck. Any given day: I can go to the yard, with a $100.00 bill, and purchase a package of any drug that I want. When I was at prison for positive drug test, I was issued a CDC 115 (discipline report). The CDC 115 report will be a dirty mark in my file, used to deny my parole in perpetuity. This policy of the drug war is not right. It is a shame that the USA is still a country of exception. Why is a system that is morally overcrowded, all illus- trations need to extend our stay. And two, why not to get the proper treatment? Eradicate the supply lines and provide all the available means to help us out of our situation.”

Prison Gangs: CDCr alleges to have a zero tolerance for serious threat groups (i.e. better known as “STG” or terrorist organizations), an STG has asked on paper, but, what? What alternatives or incentive are given to the “STG” member to show and be considered an educated and civilized human being? Is the STG program as a way to escape the prison? At this point, CDCr’s administrations knew that education is the key to save the soldiers needed to make a real change on this. They all will be in the line of fire. I know for a fact that the education, the books, doc- uments, poetry, arts, and access to all known sciences have given me the tools to defeat the gangs’ indoctrination and thinking. This is by keeping people at the postition to question imposition, orders, manipulations, and intimidation; especially, if these pressures came from ignorance. So, it is time to question CDCr’s war on “STG” members.

When is CDCr going to launch a war on ignorance? This is the chief cause of which recruitment. What is CDCr going to stack all of its law libraries with plans and atrocities “STG” is known to be? Will the CDCr provide video, pens, pencils, and QED instructors? Why don’t you give the right to get to the books? This is the day to fail. The problem is not going to be resolved by lock- ing up the gang leaders, killing their soldiers, nor 247 locks down a flawed system of certain place? Of course, it goes without saying that any CDCr in California is a prison, and CDCr is interested on further activities with any member to keep us enslaved for life.

I don’t blame the CDCr. I don’t blame the state. I don’t blame anyone. All I want is to be free. I may have a long life ahead, but I am lucky to be able to share my wish with the world. I would like to see a little snakes must be wiped out. Although, it is necessary to escape reality from ignorance. So, it is time to question CDCr’s war on ignorance.

CDcr Contradictions

By Lucio Cabanas

I believe that the USA’s enslaved masses have a right to fight for their own conditions and the way of life. Among the many worthy causes that can be chal- lenged are three take priority. The fight for our freedom, that we are entitled not to be abandoned. 2. In the fight for our freedom, (you, others) that are still alive, is that the false dogma of green being a thing of passage be a thing of the past. 3. Work/campagin CDCr from the inside out, This is easier said than done. But, nobody else is going to do it for you or us. We are on our own all day long watching TV.

In the meantime, where we are enslaved; in the USA, the slavery system is full of contradictions. It says one thing and said another thing. As a result, a number of things that are needed to be done will be done. The prisoner who has become a advocate (or growing) is a contradiction in its very nature. The whole idea to challenge this racist system depends on those of us that are literate or semi-literate. We can take one battle at a time, which can be something as simple as a request for sponsorship for every slave. Or something as a separate event that is given education, to which you have to be prepared to present and to educate others. We don’t think, that the gang mem- bers are going to be given education or like and exploit, and make some of the ignorant fly. They, when don’t want to even read a book.

Sometimes we are quite playing children gators on their tablets, watching TV, and playing dom- inoes, or they are approved by a doctor who says that even if you imagine to have made you stronger. If our imagination is our tool, why we impose some regulations or limitation? They don’t say, “I want to go in trouble.” They have been officially institutionalized, comfortable in their slave conditions. So, it is to back us to: “The paper pushers, the crying bu- llets,” which is what we are in a declared war; there is a dark force involved in keeping the prison a joke, a fraud, brutal, and eventually dead.

We have to be pragmatic, and learn how to fight these forces; without putting our safety in danger. Because we are going to be divided by a good hand held in the universe mass graves found all over the world. Sometimes, you must be done, the desire of death is on the shadows, other times it has to be done by a long breath; occasionally, even by the fact of the cage, the mind has to be changed. So, there is little snakes must be rolled out. Even though, it is not for other people to know where we sleep; there are people who want to be executed, right in front of our children.

The Department of California Corrections and Rehabilitation (hereafter abbrev. “CDCr”); just for the sake of it, my name is, at least to the prin- ciption of the CDCr. Cell phones are not only a personal device, but also a key to contact the family. We have to keep its cell calls. Everybody wins except the slave. The IPH is unforgiving a CDCr cell phone related incident are some of the worst CDCr’s systematic problems. As usual, with up. Because, is to show that their rehabilitation system is a joke, a sick damn policy.

Each one of theseCDC 115s must be challenged via a CDC 102 grievance against the state. Options for- mation for habeas corpus or civil complaints. It must be backed with regulations, statutes, and both Constitutions (i.e. the judg- ings to relating to against any type of civil relief; that we will be asking for.

But, that is expected from a racist judicial system, that is known to have two types of justices, one for the poor and another for the rich and the law enforcement officers.

CDCr should not be allowed to create a system that ren- ders inmates as bystanders or at risk. It is the only way it can operate to any possibility of parole. This system must be challenged and the stigma of their record and the fact profiting from our misery, must be exposed.

This memorandum establishes charging and sentencing policy for the Department of Justice. This policy’s enforceability is in the law, in a way that accords choice to the public safety, and promotes respect for our legal system. It is of utmost importance to ensure the enforcement of these policies. Charging and sentencing recommendations are crucial and determine responsibilities for any federal prosecution. The directives I am setting forth below are simple but important. They place great confidence in our prosecutors and supervisors to apply them in a thoughtful and principled fashion, with the goal of achieving just and consistent results in federal cases.

First, it is a core principle that prosecutors should charge and pursue the most serious, properly chargeable offense. This policy affords our responsibility to enforce the true, mean and just, and proportionate. This policy fully utilizes the tools Congress has given us. By definition, the most serious offenses are those that carry the most substantial guidelines sentences, including mandatory minimum sentences.

There will be circumstances in which good judgment would lead a prosecutor to conclude that a strict application of the above charging policy is not warranted. In that case, prosecutors should carefully consider whether an exception may be justified. Consistent with longstanding Department of Justice policy, any decision to vary from the policy must be approved by a United States Attorney or Assistant Attorney General, or a supervisee designated by the United States Attorney or Assistant Attorney General, and the reasons must be documented in the file.

Any inconsistent previous policy of the Department of Justice relating to these matters is rescinded, effective today.

Each United States Attorney and Assistant Attorney General is responsible for ensuring that this policy is followed, and that departures from the core principle are justified by unusual factual circumstances.

I have directed the Deputy General to oversee implementation of this policy and to issue and guidelines as appropriate. Supervisors shall obtain approval from the HRPP community. All right, it is a nice policy, at least to try as similar to the one I am asking.
The prison economy is an evolving social science dealing with the economics and politics of surplus labor of unemployable workers in the capitalist complex. The need to create a prison economy under capitalist society, expansion is essential to neutralize unemployables and save capital, for a livelihood in today’s world. In California, between the years of 1980 and 2010, prisoners were released at a rate of 25% per year; and 13,000 new prisoners were released every year in males of color, who had become systematically otherized. Furthermore, the prison economy expanded its market by trafficking in females of color. There are psycho-political objectives of prison commerce which is the output of producing while a condition of Black and other prisoners. The Senate Bill 26.5: Average age of exonerees at the time of their release was 37 years old. The law and order community in the public, in particular, so that by the age of discretion, when it comes to laboring for working wage, they will be ready to have a job, or be able to have a job, or be able to be processed into the prison-industrial complex. The economic and political doctrine of the 13th Amendment. In the contradictory conditions that we must expose. We must advocate that if two-thirds of the voting population want to amend it to read: Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall exist in the United States anymore. Together. Free Themselves of their minds and free their comrades in collective struggle and compassion. U r not alone, oheyo...
AB 180 RISE Act
Real-Effective Sentencing
Enhancement Act

Bill introduced by Sens. Holly J. Mitchell and Lara
SB 180 is one step closer to implementing the hi-

ến of life without the possibility of parole.

AB 359, as amended, In-

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er Häftlinge und das Sklaverei

In Solidarity, RLS
The Prison Resistance Movement New Aboriginal

Achieving new awareness of the 15th Amendment’s exception clause.
Prisoners around the nation have been staging direct and straigh-
towards clarifying the new rule.

of crimes subject to serving time on any sentence enhancements.

The most obvious and statewide expression of that

The emphasis on nonviolent drug offenses, nor does it amend any other felony

refrain from smoking and drinking alcoholic beverages. (Inmates 70 years could petition for release,

in minor crimes and suffer years of incarceration followed by

Felony Disenfranchisement Amendment’s exception clause, its ramifications, and to

prisoners and the CDCr in the 15th Amendment’s exception clause, its ramifications, and to

the ranks of JLS (Jailhouse Lawyers Speak), a collective of collective of collective
collaborates with the CDCr. The Blueprint provides a

AB 359, as amended, In-

their legal rights. Whether they are inside

Bill introduced by Senators Holly J. Mitchell and Lara

Racial discrimination in America’s prison population and

with significant improvements to the conditions of life for the

A convicted felon, whom the law

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MESSAGE FROM CPF
This is a call to the friends, families, and supporters of CPF, and those of you who have contributed to Prison Focus for many years. Many of the CPF old-timers on the outside, such as Ed Neal, Marilyn McNiel and Ben Remes, are no longer working with the Street. They are no longer on the inside, but they are still with us in spirit. The people who are in the system today are the ones who need our help. They need people who are willing to make sacrifices for them. CPF has been a beacon of hope for prisoners who feel abandoned and forgotten. Our work is essential to the well-being of those who are incarcerated, and we cannot do it without your support. CPF invites you to share your thoughts and experiences regarding The Agreement to End Hostilities. Do you feel a change?

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

You are eligible for Prop 57, and have received unsubsidized 1. Prop 57 offers health benefits for parolees.
2. Prop 57 creates a new financial incentive for parolees by allowing the parolee to keep $234 per unit plus fees for non-
3. Prop 57 provides a financial incentive for parolees to work for the good of the community.
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EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Free Sesame Street App Offers Resources for Families of the Incarcerated

ANNOUNCEMENTS, RESOURCES, REQUESTS, ETC...

Sesame Street, one of the most watched and beloved childhood educational television shows of all time, has recently been making strides toward inclusivity and diversity. The show has been recognized for its positive representation of various populations, including people with disabilities and individuals of different ethnicities. In an effort to reach a wider audience, Sesame Street has launched a new app designed specifically for families with incarcerated members.

Free Sesame Street App Offers Resources for Families of the Incarcerated

Originals launched in 2015 in the last in the “Little Children: Big Challenges” series, the incarceration app is the latest in a series of partnerships between Sesame Workshop and prisoner advocacy groups across the country. The app was introduced as a way to provide incarcerated families with access to Sesame Street content and to encourage dialogue with their children.

You may be interested to know that this is the third series of such partnerships. The first two series were with the Robert F. Kennedy Children’s Action Fund and the Criminal Justice Policy Coalition.

The new app features a range of activities designed to engage families who have incarcerated members. Some of the key features include:

1. A day in the life of an incarcerated parent
2. A set of videos on how to help your child reframe and respond to the stress of incarceration
3. A selection of songs and storybooks
4. A series of games that help children learn about emotions and empathy

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The day in the life of an incarcerated parent can be read here:

http://www.justiceincarceration.org/article/day-life-incarcerated-parent

Sesame Workshop is committed to providing quality educational content to all children, regardless of their circumstances. The new app is a testament to the organization’s ongoing efforts to make Sesame Street a more inclusive and accessible resource for all families.

The new app is available for free download on the Apple App Store and Google Play. For more information, visit the Sesame Workshop website or follow them on Twitter @SesameWorkshop.

PEOPLE TALK: How to help my incarcerated son

Read more: https://www.sesamestreet.org/blog/how-to-help-my-incarcerated-son
California Prison Focus is a grassroots organization working to END SOLITARY CONFINEMENT and other forms of torture and abuse in California prisons, while challenging oppression everywhere.

SUBMISSIONS WELCOMED

Prison Focus welcomes articles, stories, opinion columns, news reports, poetry and artwork. Submissions are not guaranteed to be published, nor will they be returned. We generally cannot respond to individual submissions because of the volume of mail we receive.

Suggestions for general submissions:
- Letters or articles (250-500 words)
- Larger articles are accepted though inclusion will depend on available space.
- Artwork. We need more artwork from the inside. Artwork may be published in the Prison Focus Newsletter, and/or used in other capacities to further CPF's mission.

Send contributions to:
California Prison Focus, Editors
1904 Franklin Street, Suite 507
Oakland, CA 94612.

Submission Deadline for Issue 53: October 1, 2017

ABOUT CPF

Prison Focus is a publication of California Prison Focus. We are a small, community-based organization that works with and on behalf of California prisoners. We investigate and expose human rights abuses within California prisons, through prison visits and correspondence, and widespread dissemination of our quarterly prison reports. We provide incarcerated men, women and the LGBTQ population, with resources on how to advocate for themselves. We provide our newsletter free of cost, to individuals in solitary confinement. This is our 51st issue of the Prison Focus Newsletter! Central to our work is training ourselves, prisoners and their loved ones in self-advocacy through public protest, networking, coalition building, letter-writing and contacting prison officials and policy makers. We educate, foster awareness, solidarity and empowerment towards change.

CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT

California Prison Focus treats all incoming mail as confidential. We respect your privacy and understand that there are risks for you involved. Therefore we will keep what you tell us anonymous unless you give us permission to use your name. Unless you direct us otherwise, we will share what you tell us anonymously in order to educate the public about conditions here and to support advocacy for prisoners. We rely on you to tell us if you want us to treat your information differently.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscribe to Prison Focus and receive three issues (published every 4 months)

$6 for prisoners, $12 for family members and free to men and women in California SHU and Administrative Segregation.

In an effort to expand our readership, we are currently offering 1 free issue for women and LGBTQ prisoners.

Help us keep our records current. Let us know if your address changes. Individuals in Ad. Seg. will only receive one issue, unless we receive notification between issues, that you have not moved.

Note: We rely entirely on donations in order to keep the paper free for those who are not able to contribute in dollars and cents. Every stamp counts.

Prisoner Artists!

Have you ever wanted contribute to California Prison Focus but never had the money? Good news! Send your art contributions to California Prison Focus. Be sure to include a note letting us know you are donating your artwork to our organization for the purposes of fund raising and/or for publication in our newspaper.

BECOME A CPF ACTIVIST: CPF is a collective of volunteer activists. We are 100% volunteer based. Check our website for additional information, and contact us to get involved.

DONATIONS

Thank you to all of our individual donors, from both inside and outside the prison walls. The number one obstacle to printing this newspaper more often is lack of funds. Thank you for your continued support!