

AUGUST 2016

*Serving the Olympia community and*

*the cause of social justice since 1990.*

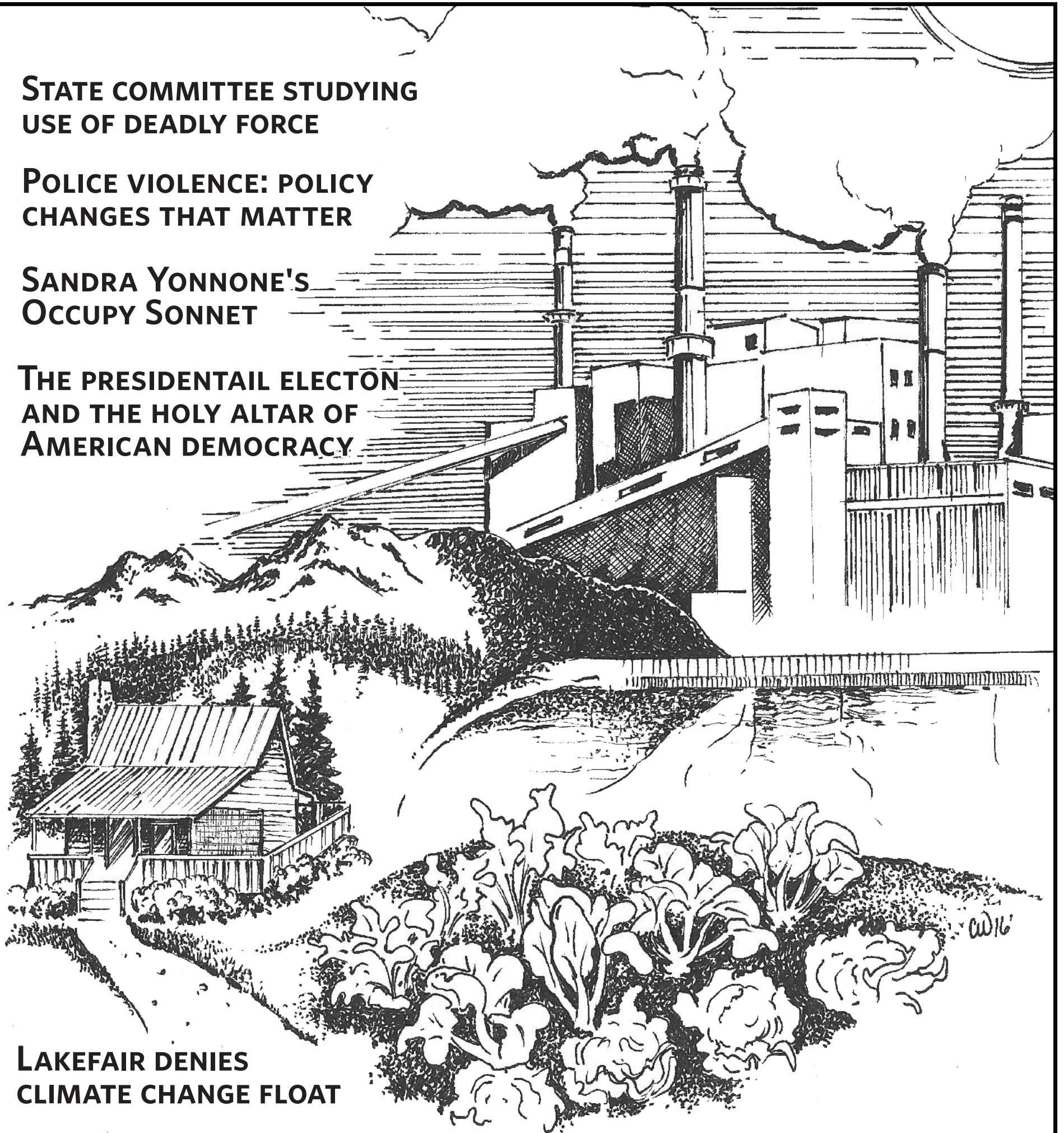
# WORKS IN PROGRESS

**STATE COMMITTEE STUDYING  
USE OF DEADLY FORCE**

**POLICE VIOLENCE: POLICY  
CHANGES THAT MATTER**

**SANDRA YONNONE'S  
OCCUPY SONNET**

**THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTON  
AND THE HOLY ALTAR OF  
AMERICAN DEMOCRACY**



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**AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PORT OF OLYMPIA AND THE CITY OF OLYMPIA**

**CONTROVERSIAL BUS AD GETS GREEN LIGHT FOR SEATTLE STREETS**

**WORKS IN PROGRESS**  
ESTABLISHED IN 1990 BY THE  
THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION

*Works In Progress* is a free, all volunteer-operated progressive community publication based in Olympia, Washington. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of Works In Progress and are solely those of the authors.

**Submissions**  
Please send text as Word attachments. Artwork and photos can be sent electronically or we can scan them for you as camera-ready/black & white.

*Works In Progress* is committed to stories misrepresented or ignored by the mainstream media. We value local, well-researched news stories, accounts of personal experience and reflections by local authors. Opinion pieces, also valued, are often best supported by facts, examples, and sources, and we encourage writers to include these elements to submissions. We're also looking for graphics, poetry, cartoons, and articles that push the boundaries of conventional journalism.

WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions. For editing purposes, please enclose your phone number. Articles may be reprinted. Please cite sources.

If your issue isn't being covered in *Works In Progress*, it's because you aren't writing about it! (Or haven't found someone else to cover it!)

Send submissions to [olywip@gmail.com](mailto:olywip@gmail.com) or mail to Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507-0295.

**Governing Tool**  
The following statement is part of the Editorial Policy and is the governing tool for the Anti-Discrimination Clause:  
*WIP will make every effort to work with the contributor of material considered by WIP to be offensive in order to reach a mutually agreed upon resolution, but WIP reserves the right as a last resort to edit or not print submitted material.*

**Mission Statement**  
Our aim is to confront injustice and encourage a participatory democracy based on economic, social, and environmental justice. Works In Progress is dedicated to providing a voice for those most affected by the exclusionary and unfair practices that seek to silence the oppressed.

**Anti-Discrimination Clause**  
We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all those oppressed in this society and their issues. However, if and when we should make a mistake in this regard, we expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

**Back Issues**  
WIP is archived on microfilm by the University of Washington Library. Some issues are held in the Timberland Library system. The last five years are online at [www.olywip.org](http://www.olywip.org)

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**Submission Deadline**  
**Monday, August 22**  
**[olywip@gmail.com](mailto:olywip@gmail.com)**

**Proofreading Meeting**  
Saturday ♦ August 27 ♦ 1 pm  
**Lacey Timberland Library**  
**(in the group study area)**

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**On the front cover —**

Inspired by the Olympia Confronting the Climate Crisis Lakefair float depicting climate chaos and it's opposite.

Graphic Artist: Craig Williams

# If you are a Sanders or Stein voter, don't let anyone bully you into voting differently

Joe Nilsson

*Every generation needs a new revolution.*  
—Thomas Jefferson

*Dissent is the highest form of patriotism.*  
—Howard Zinn

There are 244 million Americans of voting age. Some 81 percent of us, about 198 million, are women, millennials, or persons of color. Of the remaining 46 million of us who are white males over the age of 35, a decent chunk are progressive to moderate in their political leanings. With a potential electorate characterized by these demographics, if Hillary Clinton is unable to defeat a racist, sexist, serial liar and provocateur who speaks at a fifth grade level, and has been ensconced on the lowest level of Maslow's scale of human development for his entire 70 years, Hillary Clinton's shortcomings as a candidate and individual, and only those shortcomings, would be responsible for a loss.

Every political candidate must earn my vote through ethical behavior, demonstrated consistency, policy positions that are the closest approximation of my values and views, demonstrated good judgement, and by running a campaign in a manner that demonstrates respect for voters, an ability to listen, and a recognition that maintaining the status quo in terms of those with extraordinary wealth and/or corporate influence over all levels of government has all but destroyed our Democracy and turned it into an Oligarchy. By every one of these criteria, both Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump have failed to meet my standards. Conversely, Bernie Sanders has met every one of my criteria. From what I've seen of her, so does Jill Stein. I would have voted for Senator Sanders if he were either the Democratic Party or Green Party nominee. That no longer appears to be a choice.

I will vote for Jill Stein, the presumptive Green Party Candidate. I will not be voting for Secretary Clinton or Mr. Trump under any circumstances.

I do not say this lightly. I have voted for the Democratic candidate for President

every election since my first vote in 1980. I have always considered myself a Democrat and I still do.

I was the youngest County Democratic Party Chair in Washington State upon my election. I've campaigned for scores of Democratic candidates over a 35 year period and contributed thousands of dollars to their campaigns. I was a Washington State Democratic Party Official for eight years. I was a Party Leader Elected Official Delegate to the 1992 Democratic National Convention for Bill Clinton and I cast one of 379 Votes for

The truth of the matter is the Democratic Party is about to nominate a presidential candidate who is functionally a Pro-Fracking, Wall Street Republican with strong hawkish tendencies on military and foreign policy matters.

Clinton in the Electoral College in 1996. But as I've become more progressive, informed, and thoughtful in my later years, the Democratic Party at the national level has become almost entirely dominated and controlled by an oligarchy of the uber wealthy, corporate interests, and major media outlets that see their news divisions as profit and entertainment centers rather than to inform and report in an unbiased fashion.

The National Democratic Party of 2016, like it's evil, hideous National Republican Party twin, is influenced and shaped far less by working men and women and their hopes and aspirations and needs than it is by corporations, billionaires, the financial sector, and lobbyists with eight figure retainers and compensation packages.

This must change and it will change, but Hillary Clinton is not the means to change it. She is a product of and the embodiment of the oligarchy. Let me be blunt: She and her husband have received over \$200 million of influence and access payments masquerading as speaking fees and control a massive self-promotion vehicle supported by \$Billions that represents itself as a charitable foundation but spends the vast percentage

of its budget on administrative overhead and promoting the Clintons. The truth of the matter is the Democratic Party is about to nominate a presidential candidate who is functionally a pro-fracking, Wall Street Republican with strong hawkish tendencies on military and foreign policy matters. Clinton's pending nomination is a testament to the warped priorities and evolution of the National Democratic Party apparatus from a protector and advocate for working families and the middle class to a pliant tool of Wall Street and Billionaires.

I don't want my nieces and nephews or their peers dying in any more ill-conceived, unnecessary wars to prop up despots, enrich oil companies, or the serve the military-industrial complex's need for ongoing warfare.

I don't want the chasm that is economic inequality in this nation to grow any wider.

I don't want a president who tells us to think small and that we can't do big things.

I don't want a president who takes the side of the insurance industry and opposes single payer health care.

I don't want a President who is politically in bed with the fossil fuel industry.

I don't want a president who has a history of supporting horrible trade deals.

I don't want a president who has a habit of repeatedly changing his or her political positions on major issues, apparently for purely political self-interest or political gain.

I don't want a president whose campaign is primarily based on self-aggrandizement, ego, "inevitability" or because it is "his or her turn."

I don't want a president who 60 to 70 percent of the American public don't trust and don't like.

No, for these and many, many other reasons, I won't be voting for either Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump. I would have proudly voted for Bernie Sanders. Now, I will gladly vote for Jill Stein. The revolution continues. Not me, US.

If Not Bernie, than Jill.

HAVING HAD ALL THE MIRRORS REMOVED FROM HIS HOUSE TO AVOID ACCUSATIONS FROM THE PRESS THAT HE WAS VAIN AND NOT A MAN'S MAN AND HAVING HAD ALL HIS WINDOWS FILLED IN WITH CEMENT TO PREVENT HOME INVASION FROM BLACKS, MEXSLIMS, FAGS AND HIPPIES WHO WERE AFTER HIS GUNS, HIS WHITE WOMEN AND CHRISTMAS, ITSELF, REPUBLICAN UNCLE SAM SUDDENLY HAD ALL THE PROOF THAT HE NEEDED TO BELIEVE THAT HE WAS RIGHT ABOUT EVERYTHING



TRADITIONS  
CAFÉ & WORLD FOLK ART

Brass and Bead  
Necklace  
Women's fistula  
rehabilitation  
project,  
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India  
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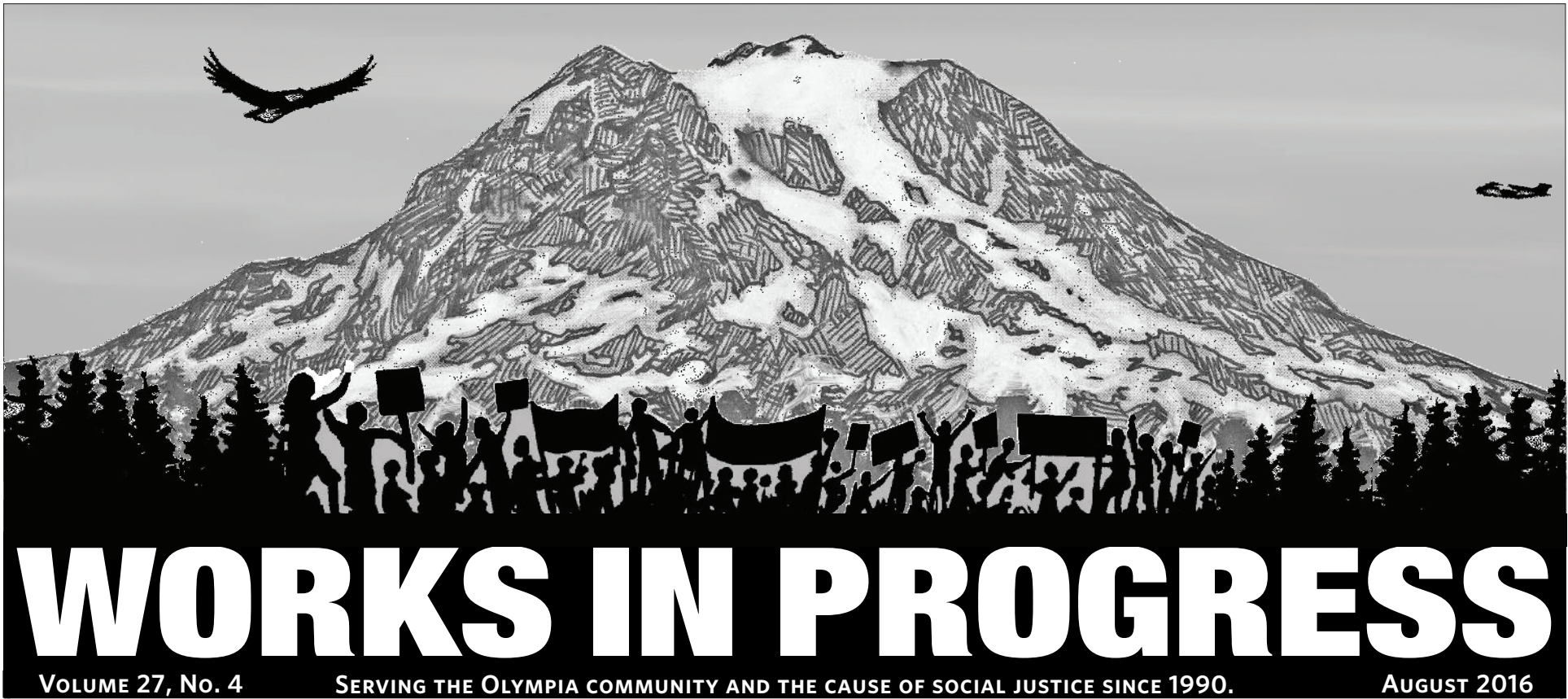
Handbag from  
recycled  
grocery bags  
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India  
Asha Imports

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Ghana  
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**WORKS IN PROGRESS**



# WORKS IN PROGRESS

VOLUME 27, No. 4      SERVING THE OLYMPIA COMMUNITY AND THE CAUSE OF SOCIAL JUSTICE SINCE 1990.      AUGUST 2016

## Legislative committee examining police use of deadly force law

Janine Gates

Tuesday, July 12-- “I do believe that this issue is not an either-or...you can be a complete advocate and supporter of law enforcement as I am, and you can also be an advocate for community safety. I think the common ground we all share is to have a safe community. Everyone wants to go home to their families at the end of the day and I think if we keep that in mind as we go through this process, it would be very helpful,” said Gloria Ochoa-Bruck, Washington Commission on Hispanic Affairs.

Ochoa-Bruck’s words at the first meeting of a joint legislative task force on the use of deadly force in community policing on June 28 takes on new meaning as feelings of insecurity, tension, grief and outrage increased and challenged Americans this week. Later in the meeting, Ochoa-Bruck said, “If you take away the badges, what does that look like? There are apparently two very different standards....”

In response to the five police officers killed in Dallas and for the recent police shootings of Alton Sterling in Louisiana and Philando Castile in Minnesota, the work of the joint legislative task force should be made all that much more urgent.

### Task Force on Use of Deadly Force in Community Policing

A bill signed into law by Governor Jay Inslee in April, ESHB 2908, created the 26 member task force on the use of deadly force in community policing.

The 26 member task force buckled down June 28 for their first meeting, which lasted three hours without a scheduled break, in a hearing room at the state Capitol Campus in Olympia.

About 35 people observed the proceedings, including members of Olympia area community groups such as the Faith Action Network, Interfaith Works, Unity in the Community, and the League of Women Voters. Local law enforcement observers included Thurston County Prosecutor Jon Tunheim and staff members of the City of Olympia police department.

The task force will review the history of Washington State’s law, best practices used by state and national law enforcement agencies, examine the wide range of reporting requirements, and current training curriculum and practices and use of force policies.

Staff briefly reviewed ESHB 2908 and explained when police use of deadly force is justifiable under state law.

Goodman confirmed that one of the main reasons the task force convened is to examine the use of deadly force by law enforcement and whether or not the law needs to be changed and to look at ways in which law enforcement establishes relations with communities.

“....I’m here because our community depends on law enforcement and we’re all here interested in keeping the peace. We recognize that police officers have a difficult job and we all have a stake in law and order.... This effort here today is not

about good cop, bad cop, or placing blame, it’s about coming together to build and strengthen trust within our communities and within the law enforcement community....I’m here to listen and learn and come to a solution that works for everybody,” said Timothy Reynon, a member of the Puyallup Tribal Council, representing the Governor’s

Office on Indian Affairs.

Conversation around the issues echoed their representative positions and issues discussed nationwide, leading one task force member, Gabriel Portugal, representing the Latino Civic Alliance, to be ready within an hour’s

“as long as it takes.”

The committee has until December 31 to meet at least four times to discuss a wide range of issues related to the statewide use of deadly force in community policing and produce a report of their findings.

Despite the tight timeline in which to conclude their efforts, the group was not split up into subcommittees, nor expectations provided or requests made to committee members.

Future task force meetings will be held July 26, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm and September 13 at 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm at the Washington State Criminal Justice Training

Commission in Burien. Details for another meeting, scheduled for November, are to be announced.

“I want Washington State to lead the nation in the process to help build trust and reciprocity between communities that feels underserved and the law enforcement that serves them,” said

► **COMMITTEE**, continued on page 12

“If you don’t have a knot in your stomach, we’re not doing it right. I want to use the Che Taylor and Antonio Zambrano-Montes cases as a springboard to learn from each other.” Cynthia Softli of the Black Law Enforcement Association of Washington.

time to start making motions and move forward.

But task force chair Roger Goodman (D-45) was not to be rushed, wanting to hear thorough introductions and lay the issues on the table, making sure all were heard.

Goodman said the task force will be inclusive, respectful, and deliberate, for

## Orlando was more than an incident, it exposed a landscape of violence

### Southern Movement Assembly

**Editorial note:** This article is a collaborative statement from Southern Movement Assembly leaders. While it is dated because of printing deadlines and addresses a Southern audience, we felt that its contents are useful beyond Orlando and all the other acts of violence of the past month. WIP recommends this article as an important read.

### Our hearts break in two directions

One heartbreak is the violent deaths and injuries of so many young, Latinx, Puerto Rican, and Black gay, queer, trans, lesbian, and bisexual people who were massacred at the Pulse nightclub’s Latin Night in Orlando, Florida on June 12, 2016. That heartbreak

is bound up in the horror that a place of sanctuary and culture was marred and twisted into a place of fear and death. We mourn as part of the queer community and as part of movements that organize for racial and immigrant justice,

This massacre was a direct result of an economy based on surveillance, security, and militarized violence; a heightened social hostility and aggression; and a War on Terror that ushered in a permanent state of racist militarization and preemptive prosecution.

movements that organize with Muslim families, movements contending with displacement and colonialism in Puerto Rico, and movements inspired by young people fighting for their lives.

The other heartbreak is because

we know, from every crisis we have weathered thus far, that this crisis, this disaster of hate and violence will be manipulated to expand agendas for profit, political power, and deeper oppression during a moment of

collective grief and outrage. Rather than making swift moves toward real public safety, healing, or access to care, the political landscape shifts to reinforce violence, economies of scarcity, and global warfare.

This massacre is more than an incident that can be compared or contrasted with other horrific massacres. This massacre is not an aberration, and these are not isolated incidents or random tragedies. Part of our heartbreak is realizing that this massacre is an obvious extension of the historic roots of this country

► **ORLANDO**, continued on page 14

# U.S. prisoners call for coordinated work stoppage

Last month prisoners across the US released a call to action announcing a nationally coordinated prisoner protest on the anniversary of the Attica prison uprising. On the heels of a similar announcement of an April 4 work stoppage issued by Texas prisoners, the call to action states that “Slavery is alive and well in the prison system, but by the end of this year, it won’t be anymore.” It calls for prisoners to “to stop being a slave, to let the crops rot in the plantation fields, to go on strike and cease reproducing the institutions of your confinement.”

The coordinated strike is called for September 9th 2016, the forty-fifth anniversary of the most infamous prisoner revolt in US history. The announcement references Attica repeatedly, comparing recent upsurge of prisoner protest movements (from historic work stoppages in

Georgia and Alabama to massive hunger strikes in California) to the years of prisoner unrest surrounding the flashpoint of the Attica rebellion.

Every state’s corrections department utilizes prisoner labor to reduce overhead costs by either requiring prisoners to maintain the facilities, or outsourcing their cheap labor to a wide variety of private contractors. Many corporations, from Honda, to McDonalds, to Whole



Foods pay departments of correction for the cheap labor of their prisoners. If the coordinated work stoppages are successful the cost of operating prisons across the country would skyrocket overnight, throwing state budgets and the political system into crisis.

The call speaks directly to prisoners, encouraging them to protest and refuse to be slaves any longer, but it also speaks to activists, friends and families outside of prison, describing the coming work stoppage as “a protest against the school-to-prison pipeline, a protest against police terror, a protest against post-release controls.” These supporters are encouraged to participate in “organizing... spreading the word,

building the networks of solidarity.”

The call was issued collectively by anonymous prisoners claiming to represent “one voice, rising from... Virginia to Oregon.” Various websites released the call simultaneously, including SupportPrisonerResistance.net and [iwoc.noblogs.org](http://iwoc.noblogs.org), the website of the Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee, a subcommittee of the revolutionary labor union the Industrial Workers of the World, or IWW. Activists associated with those websites have promised ongoing support for the prisoners’ activities leading up to and following the September 9th action date. They plan to create regional convergences, protest rallies, and a widespread general education campaign around issues of

prison slavery and mistreatment. The full announcement can be found at [SupportPrisonerResistance.net/](http://SupportPrisonerResistance.net/) To get involved: <https://olympiaiww.wordpress.com/> —prisonerresistance

## EPA admits airplanes contribute to climate change, slow on emissions rules

WASHINGTON - After nine years of delay, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency officially acknowledged in a so-called “endangerment finding” that planet-warming pollution from airplanes disrupts the climate and endangers human welfare. But the agency failed to move forward on rules to actually reduce aircraft emissions.

“EPA officials finally acknowledged airplane pollution’s obvious climate threat, but they’re still not actually cutting the airline industry’s skyrocketing emissions,” said Vera Pardee, senior counsel at the Center for Biological Diversity. “After nearly a decade of denial and delay, we need fast, effective EPA action. The Obama administration must quickly devise ambitious aircraft pollution rules that dramatically reduce this high-flying hazard to our climate.”

“The endangerment finding documents the magnitude of airplanes’ contribution to climate change, but EPA fails to take steps to address these harms,” said Sarah Burt, staff attorney at Earthjustice. “We will continue to use the power of law to compel EPA to put in place standards that actually reduce harmful pollution from aircraft.”

“People should not have to choose between mobility and a healthy climate,” said Marcie Keever, legal director for Friends of the Earth. “The EPA’s nine-year delay on regulating aircraft emissions failed the American people. Now it’s time for the Obama administration to issue a strong rule, to hold the aviation industry accountable for its significant contributions to climate disruption, and to act immediately to curb air pollution worldwide.”

The Center and Friends of the Earth, represented by Earthjustice, first petitioned the EPA in 2007 to regulate carbon emissions from aircraft under the federal Clean Air Act, which requires the government to issue emissions standards for any aircraft pollutant that “may reasonably be anticipated to endanger public health or welfare.”

The EPA finally began evaluating the climate risk of airplane pollution in 2014, shortly after environmental organizations filed a notice of intent to sue the agency for failing to reduce aircraft emissions.

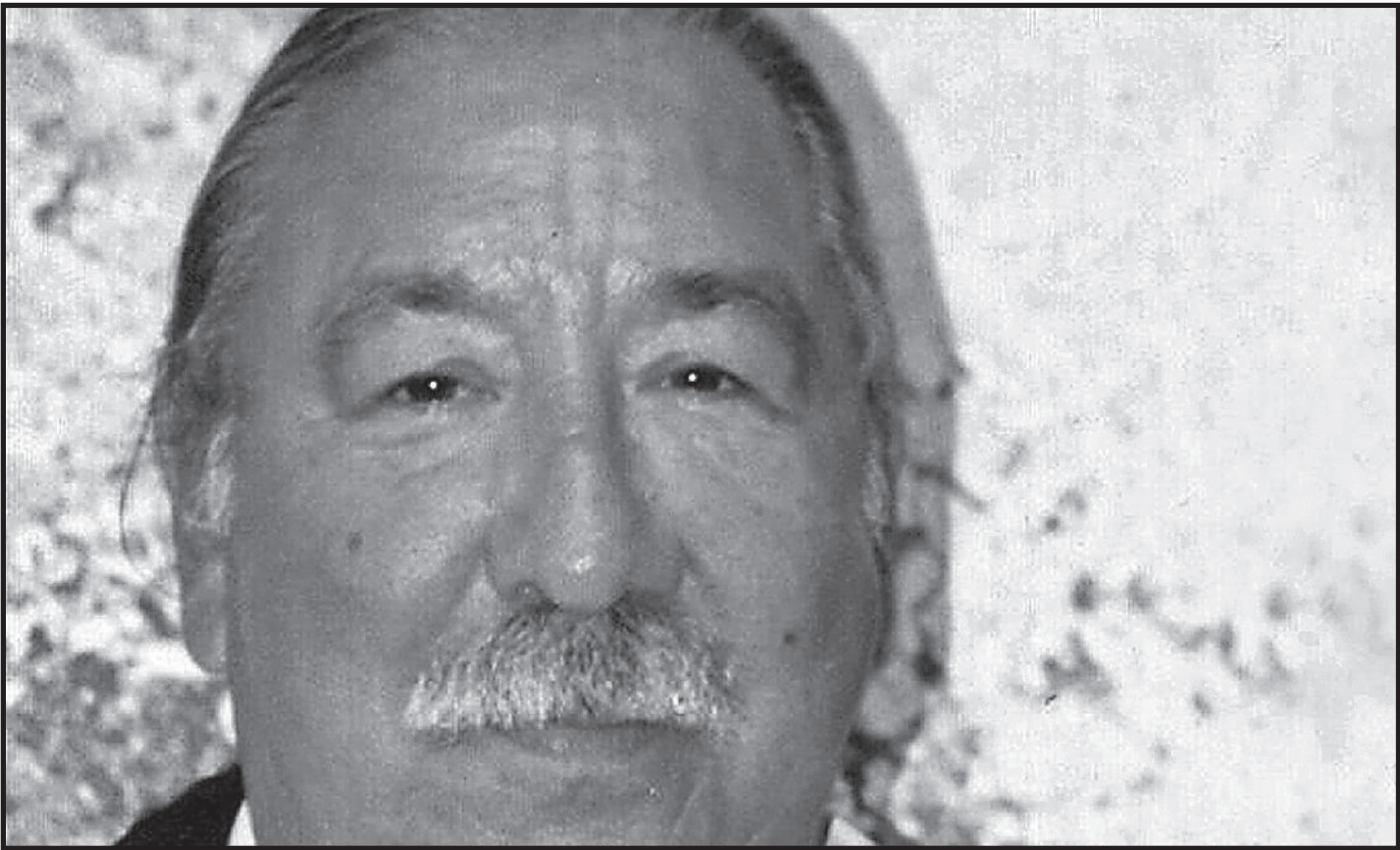
Airplane greenhouse gas pollution is growing rapidly. If commercial aviation were considered a country, it would rank seventh after Germany in terms of carbon emissions. Airplanes could generate 43 gigatonnes of planet-warming pollution through 2050, consuming more than 4 percent of the world’s remaining carbon budget, according to a recent Center report.

Studies show aircraft emissions could be reduced dramatically. A recent International Council on Clean Transportation report showed that some of the top 20 transatlantic air carriers can drive down greenhouse emissions by as much as 51 percent using existing technology and operational improvements.

The first international standards for carbon pollution from airplanes recommended earlier this year by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) are years behind the existing technology curve, would not reduce emissions from new planes beyond business as usual and would not even apply to any in-service aircraft.

“Decisive EPA action on airplane pollution is critical to catalyzing change on a global scale,” Pardee said. “Aviation’s threat to our climate is too big and growing too quickly to be ignored.”

—Earthjustice



# Free Leonard Peltier

## Call the White House today!

### 202-459-1111

## Amnesty International calls for urgent action

“Leonard Peltier, a member of the American Indian Movement, has been imprisoned in the USA for over 40 years despite concerns over the fairness of his trial. His attorneys have filed a clemency petition with the Obama administration. [After being denied parole in 2009], he will not be eligible for consideration for

parole again until 2024.” (Amnesty International) According to his daughter, Kathy, Peltier “has become very sick and has an abdominal aortic aneurysm. The Federal Bureau of Prisons says it won’t take care of it until it gets even worse...His freedom would mean that he can get the help he actually needs.”

# www.whoisleonardpeltier.info

# A secular humanist response to the Orlando shooting

Dani Burger/Marco R. Rossi

In the weeks since the shooting in Orlando we have felt anger, sadness, and heartbreak for the victims whose lives were violently ended and for the families who were forever changed. With Orlando, the epidemic of gun violence in the United States seems to have reached new heights. Each mass shooting has made the ones before it all the more horrific as we wonder, where next? Who next? This recent attack is so intermingled with issues of race, sexuality, and religion that it has been impossible not to feel that the United States is inching toward a social cataclysm.

The accounts of survivors huddling in the bathroom stalls of the Pulse nightclub were terrifying. Not only did Omar Mateen unleash a barrage of bullets onto nightclub patrons, but he also followed survivors into cornered areas - presumably hoping to kill as many people as possible; to make the world a “better place.” These actions

are almost unspeakable, but can we write them off as the work of a devil? Mateen himself was not without his humanity. It important to remember that he was someone who was told, before he could probably understand, that members of the homosexual and transgender community were sinners who should not be allowed to live and that they could make his children gay with a ‘homosexual agenda.’ That if he

Let’s first challenge our own beliefs and then challenge the belief systems around us that cage, accuse, and denigrate. We can no longer let people share ignorant messages on social media, or memes that generalize populations of individuals.

were gay, he should hate himself. That if his children were gay, they would be punished for eternity. Whatever mental health issues Mateen had, his brushes with fanatical Islam did nothing to ameliorate them. This hatred

was equally encouraged by Christian counterparts who frequented the Florida radio waves with pontifications against gay marriage and fears of transgendered individuals using bathrooms. After the tragedy at Pulse nightclub, some pastors and imams—and even a Hasidic Jew—responded with sermons condoning the massacre. Mateen pulled the trigger, and insanely loose gun laws provided him with the weapon, but a culture of homophobia and transphobia spewed forth from hidebound theologies gave him his hate. Like too many of the horrific acts of terrorism we have witnessed, the shooting in Orlando is a symptom of a culture of divisiveness and hatred, which may be turned on oneself, on other people, or both.

We can no longer accept and tolerate that culture. Let’s first challenge our own beliefs and then challenge the belief systems around us that cage, accuse, and denigrate. We can no longer let people share ignorant messages on social media, or memes that generalize populations of individuals. We must no longer permit institutionalized intolerance.

We must all remind ourselves that human beings are more important than dogmas and ideologies. We must become the change we wish to see by telling people who you are. Religion, especially its most fanatical elements, must be criticized; public policy, especially concerning gun control, must be based on science and common sense; the dignity of each person must be affirmed and celebrated throughout our culture. That starts with each of us. Now, it is time mourn, but after that, it is time speak out.

*Dani Burger is the administrator on the Olympia Atheist Community Facebook page and Marco Roasaire Rossi is a member of the American Humanist Association.*

A society that has more justice is a society that needs less charity.  
—Ralph Nader

## Special Events

**Olympia CopWatch**  
Every Thursday, 4 pm  
Traditions Cafe

We collect stories in oral, written, or video formats and use these to compile an on-going document of interactions between the officers of the OPD and the public for whom they are charged to serve and protect.

**Have a Heart Market (MMJ Farmers Market)**  
Every Sunday 11-5  
Pauli G’s Pool Hall  
528 Devoe St. NE, Olympia

Come to the Have a Heart Market and stock up on local artisan cannabis products at the best prices in Thurston County. Talk directly to grower and processors and buy handmade local glass. Medical Marijuana laws change on July 1, 2016 and patient access will be limited. Must be 21, have MMJ authorization and ID.

**2016 Season West Olympia Farmers’ Market**  
Tuesdays, 4-7 pm  
West Central Park  
Harrison and Division

Hosted by the West Central Park in Olympia’s Westside Neighborhood.

**YWCA Women and Business of Achievement nominations due**  
Friday, August 5, no later than 5 pm  
[www.ywcaofolympia.org](http://www.ywcaofolympia.org)

YWCA Olympia will once again honor women throughout the South Sound who have inspired and shaped the community and celebrate outstanding businesses that recognize that the value of women in the workplace is simply good business.

Nomination forms and an online application will be available on the agency website.

**OMJP Port Meeting**  
Wednesday, August 10, 7pm  
Traditions Cafe  
300 5th Avenue SW, Olympia

Some public records

Part 3 Potluck at Traditions. We don’t want to go extinct hungry, right?

Really Really Free Market will be there.

Informative movies and discussion.

## Of Slaves

Dealt with a rough hand by the way society is structured  
Because you are black you are at a disadvantage  
Is what they told me  
I mean I am black in White America, but hardly paid the color green  
  
I have a problem with a lot of what you said  
I am not a product, I am done being someone else’s second option  
My body is not a product  
It’s so easy to respect sex workers, I like women and I’m surrounded by loneliness constantly  
To take the blame off of them and put it on me is ridiculous  
Fuck them, and that way of thinking  
Me showing my body doesn’t deem me less deserving of respect than a woman or a person who doesn’t. period  
It’s great that you respect what I do, but your view of me is shit  
Comparing me to junk food doesn’t seem like respect at all, and people aren’t products that others can just consume

Of exploitation comes the confines of Abraham’s proclamation  
Towards the wilderness’s deforestation  
To the fields of slavery deportation  
James Earl Ray will attempt to assassinate my declaration  
Byron De La Beckwith will attempt to lynch my message from American’s legislation

Do you remember Hariette Moore and Harry?  
Because you are black you are at a disadvantage, does that sentence seem scary?

The FBI used COINTLPRO agents  
And now that Malcolm’s dead we wonder why from the White Man’s station

Society, and men especially should encourage women to advocate for themselves  
It’s important to let women know that they have a voice and that they have a right to tell men that they are not comfortable with being treated inappropriately  
Therefore, women must begin to feel more confident, not only with expressing consent, but for voicing their own opinions too

-- Darrell Herbert

Bio: Darrell Herbert is a recipient of a National Silver Medal and Gold Key, presented by the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards of 2014. His poetry has been featured in numerous publication such as Writers- Black Artists Connected Blog, Yellow Chair Review, and Media Blast Press.

Keep Olympia’s progressive community vibrant. Support the Community Sustaining Fund by saying...



...when you check out at the Olympia Food Co-op!

Military use of the Port in 2016

# An open letter to the Port of Olympia and the City of Olympia

Lawrence Mosqueda, Ph.D

It has been brought to the attention of the residents of Olympia and other locations that the Port of Olympia is planning to allow the use of the Port again for military shipments. As you will recall, the last time this occurred in 2007, there were many protests and disruptions that were very costly to the Port, the City of Olympia, and many other people in the region. [Please see the article “10 Days That Shook Olympia,” *Counterpunch*, November 15, 2007]

These protests were not against service members or military personnel per se. These protests were against the illegal wars in Iraq and Afghanistan from 2001-to the present.

The public relations ploy that these wars are “over” hardly needs to be refuted. Wars that were illegal and unnecessary in 2007, have not been justified to be “legal” in 2016. The policies that the US has followed under the Bush and now Obama administrations have proven to be illegal disasters that only increase insecurity for the American people and the globe.

I remember quite distinctly in 2007, when I had a meeting with the Port commissioners to discuss the illegality of the wars, that one of the commissioners stated that he did not know if the war was legal or not, but that this was a business deal that the Port needed. This is unacceptable and sounds like the excuse that one is “only following orders” from those who outrank him. If you have questions as to the illegality of your actions, as elected officials you have an obligation to be sure of your actions and act with integrity.

If you recall, during 2007, the 10 days of protest were quite costly to the Cities of Olympia, Tacoma, and Aberdeen. News reports at the time discussed that hundreds of thousands of dollars were spent to police (and abuse) the citizens of Olympia, Tacoma and the region who were exercising their first amendment rights to “peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

I recall that the military stated that it was not going to pay extra for the police. If I remember correctly, at that time the extra cost of the police was borne by the local citizens. The cost to the city



Stryker convoys rolling through Olympia on Plum Street, May 2006. Photo: Sandy Mayes

of Olympia was reported at \$112, 168. One news report that stated the Port was going to compensate the city of Olympia about \$70,000 for the use of the police. [The *Olympian* article from August 15, 2010, “Plea for protest policy”]

While I believe that the main issues are the illegality and immorality of the wars, there are several questions that I have. I am requesting that these be answered in a reasonable time and certainly at least a month before any military shipments are scheduled to be shipped through the Port of Olympia.

This is a formal request to the Port of Olympia and the City of Olympia. It is made under the State of Washington’s Open Records Laws.

1. Please submit itemized records of the costs and amounts for police activities that were incurred concerning the Olympia Port Protests in October and November of 2007.
2. Which government entities paid and what amounts to and/or from the City of Olympia, including the cities of Tumwater, Lacey, other cities assisting Olympia?), by the State of Washington, and the Port of Olympia (or other Ports)?

3. Did any branch of the United States Military (JBLM or other federal agency, such as Homeland Security) compensate the city of Olympia and/or the Port of Olympia for the cost of security, and if so, what amounts?

The public relations ploy that these wars are “over” hardly needs to be refuted. Wars that were illegal and unnecessary in 2007, have not been justified to be “legal” in 2016.

4. Please provide the contracts between the Port of Olympia and branches of the US military in 2007.
5. What are the current plans and provide contracts between the Port of Olympia and branches of the U.S.

military for 2016 and 2017?

6. What are the current plans between the Port of Olympia and the City of Olympia and other local governments for compensation or re-imbursements for costs associated with any planned military shipments in 2016 or 2017?
7. What are the current plans (2016-2017) for the military use of the Port for shipments *out* of the Port and/or for shipments *into* the port? If *out* of the Port, what is the final destination? If shipments are *into* the port what was/is the point of departure?
8. If the shipments are coming *into* the Port from a war zone, what are the guarantees that the shipments are free from Depleted Uranium (DU) dust or otherwise? This is important not just for the workers at the Port but also the citizens of Olympia and the region if contaminated hardware and equipment is shipped through the city.

All of the above are important issues and concerns, but the main issues I want to emphasize are the reasons for past and possible future protests—i.e. the illegality and immorality of the current wars. To make this point in more detail, I refer you to a letter I wrote to the Port and the Olympia City officials on March 25, 2010 when there were reports that the Port was again to be used for military shipments. I will copy that letter here since there have been many personnel changes on the Port and the City. The

arguments here have stood the test of time and I stand by the information provided. This 2010 letter, unfortunately, is still very relevant. I have Bolded portions of the letter that I want to emphasize for 2016 (parts II, III, and V). There are many references and links within this letter and I would be pleased to provide you with

more data upon request.

*Lawrence Mosqueda is a professor emeritus at The Evergreen State College.*

A copy of his 2010 letter to the Port and City of Olympia is online at [olywip.org](http://olywip.org).

## Fridays from A Woman in the Crossfire

In her book, *A Woman in the Crossfire: Diaries fo the Syrian Revolution*, Samar Yazbek describes how in Syria the mosque became an instrument and embodiment of the power needed by opponents of the Assad Regime -- somewhat similar to the role played by the church in our Civil Rights movement. As the Syrian people's revolution against the regime evolved from March - July 2011, the people found ways to communicate important stages by naming Fridays.

Some of the names...

- Friday of Dignity
- Friday of Steadfastness
- Friday of Perseverance
- Friday of Rags
- Friday of Defiance
- Friday of the Children of Freedom
- Friday of the Tribes
- Say No to Dialogue Friday
- Get Out Friday
- The Fall of the Regime Friday

Maybe this strategy would serve us well as our resistance evolves.

--Dan Leahy

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## Shared Waters, Shared Values

# A day to strengthen opposition to ecocidal project

Wendy Tanowitz

On July 8, the Quinault Indian Nation organized a canoe and kayak flotilla that landed at the Hoquiam River above where it empties into Grays Harbor Bay. The day's activities served to strengthen and mobilize opposition to the proposed expansion of an oil storage terminal

Westway currently operates a bulk oil terminal at the Port of Grays Harbor, and is proposing an expansion to receive about 50,000 barrels of crude oil per day.

("tank farm") in Hoquiam by Westway Terminal Company. Westway currently operates a bulk oil terminal at the Port of Grays Harbor, and is proposing an expansion to receive about 50,000 barrels of crude oil per day from train shipments—oil that would then be loaded onto ships for export to Asia. Two proposals for new crude oil terminals in Grays Harbor have already been defeated. The decision on whether to issue a permit for an expansion ("retrofit") of the oil terminal rests with two co-lead agencies: the Washington Department of Ecology and the City of Hoquiam. The period for public comment has closed.

The flotilla was followed with a native drumming and chanting circle and a march to Hoquiam City Hall for a rally with speakers, including local officials and members of the Quinault, Quileute, Sami, Makah and Lummi nations.

Adding to the no-brainer for denying



Photo: Wendy Tanowitz

this permit is the fact that Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge (GHNWR) is located in the 20-mile shallow waterway that would be traversed by huge ships hauling crude oil for shipment to Asia. GHNWR is one of four major staging areas for migrating shorebirds in the Pacific Flyway. Hundreds of thousands of shorebirds gather here in spring and fall to feed and rest. In the event of an oil spill, the journey of these migrants and their ability to feed would be foreclosed.

With this and dozens of other reasons for the permit to be denied, where is the benefit? The very few beneficiaries of such a potentially-catastrophic fossil fuel enterprise downplay all the risks and pump

up—with misleading and false statistics—the creation of "good-paying jobs." Attorney Fawn Sharp, President of the Quinault Indian Nation, has the facts: "We commissioned an economic study and concluded about 10,000 jobs are at risk ... tribal and non-tribal fishermen and tourism-related [jobs] are in jeopardy."

To learn more, visit: <http://www.standuptooil.org/grays-harbor/>

*Learning about climate change and its myriad faces has led Wendy to looking into the Pandora's Box of fossil fuel dependence, extraction and transportation. She feels that, since all politics is local, we have a chance to stop at least some of these ecocidal projects.*

## An expanded terminal promises few jobs while threatening existing ones and the environment

Larry Thevik

I have been a commercial fisher for 45 years. I am the Vice President of the Washington Dungeness Crab Fishermen's Association. I'm also speaking on behalf of the Washington Trollers' Association, the Westport Charter Boat Association, and the Coastal Coalition of Fishers—a fifteen-member coalition of commercial fishing organizations, coastal charter operators, and coastal shellfish growers.

According to a University of Washington report, marine-resource-dependent jobs account for 30-35% of the Grays Harbor and Pacific counties workforce. A Port of Grays Harbor study states that approximately 2,300 jobs and \$230,000,000 dollars annually comes just from fishing activity in Westport.

As everyone knows, Grays Harbor needs more jobs but our members have concluded that the benefits from the terminals simply do not measure up to the risks they bear. The new jobs expected are not that many yet the potential threat to existing jobs is huge.

Grays Harbor is the fourth largest estuary in the nation. It is a major nursery area for Dungeness crab and is considered an essential fish habitat for many other species. According to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, "Grays Harbor is an area particularly sensitive to the adverse effects of oil spills. If there were to be a spill, the volume of product considered would likely lead to a catastrophic loss of habitat. And the potentially affected area could be much larger than just the Grays Harbor vicinity. The Exxon Valdez spilled 11 million gallons and damaged

1,300 miles of coastline. The Nestucca oil barge, spilling "only" 231,000 gallons off Grays Harbor, killed 56,000 seabirds and left a surface sheen from Oregon to the north tip of Vancouver Island. Laden

and winter gales blow strong and often. Unless a spill occurs during daylight hours, at a slack tide and in calm seas, booming will offer little defense against a spill. Booming may work well in some



Black-bellied Plover: *The Bird That Was Lost* by Tieander Olson, first grade, Beacon Elementary

tankers transiting Grays Harbor will haul up to 15,000,000 gallons each.

The [Washington State] Department of Ecology claims Washington has the best spill response plans in the country. While that may be the case, the plans are still painfully inadequate for a major spill in Grays Harbor. No matter how high the paperwork is stacked, oil spill response plans and spill response assets are simply not up to the task. Booming—our first defense when a spill occurs—loses effectiveness in strong currents and rough water. Ebb tide currents in Grays Harbor regularly exceed 3.5 knots. Fall

places, but not in Grays Harbor. If Grays Harbor is targeted for the shipment of Tar Sands oil, much of that oil will likely sink in an accident, rendering booming useless and our estuary destroyed. A major oil spill in or near Grays Harbor will travel fast, it will travel far, it will not be contained, and it will not be recovered.

Hauling trainload after trainload of highly volatile crude oil through our communities; storing it near a population center, in a Tsunami Zone, on sites subject to liquefaction; shipping it through a sensitive estuary; and then transiting over the "second worst bar on

## On the third anniversary of the Lac Megantic tragedy

July 6, 2016 -- In this week commemorating the tragedy of July 6, 2013, we, militants of Lac Megantic, affirm our solidarity with the militants of the West Coast and its first nations, who, like us, are challenging the transportation of oil over obsolete rail lines. In this third year since we became aware of the dangers inherent in transporting oil by train, everything having to do with keeping people safe remains to be done.

The derailment of June 3, 2016 in Mosier, Oregon reminds us that we are right to insist that the rules be changed. The oil industry must stop expanding and redirect itself toward a reduction of activity; must lessen rather than increase the transportation of oil. Also, it is essential that the governments of the Canada and the United States adopt stricter standards and rules covering railroads.

I know that we are all working for a common cause and that working for the public good forces us to confront the established order. Public security must be the first priority of our legislators. Our struggles are important and, in memory of the forty-seven victims of Lac Megantic, we continue to fight.

—Jacques Gagnon  
Citizens Committee of the Lake  
Megantic Region, Quebec

Translated by Dan Leahy and Bethany Weidner

the west coast" is a recipe for disaster. Despite the Port's approval and advocacy, this "jobs creation" plan is a bad one. Hardly a more perfect poison to kill existing jobs could be concocted. Our associations agree the potential for damages far exceed the benefits the terminals would provide. The profits will go elsewhere, while the risks remain with us.

While it is true that tribal and non-tribal fishers often disagree on how to allocate our shared waters and shared marine resources, it is also true we are united in our resolve to preserve those resources—our survival and our futures depend on it.

Working together, we the citizens of Grays Harbor, and our neighbors across our State, must stand against sacrifice, re-claim our destiny, and—speaking with one voice—take our fate back from the hands of poorly informed decision-makers and from big oil.

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# Controversial bus ad gets green light for Seattle streets

## The Ground Zero Center

On June 23, and continuing for eight weeks, 14 Seattle Metro downtown buses are displaying the following paid advertisement declaring "Twenty miles west of Seattle the largest concentration of deployed nuclear weapons in the United States." Included in the advertisement is a map showing the proximity of Seattle to Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor, home port for eight of the Navy's 14 Trident nuclear powered submarines.

The statement in the ad refers to the combined number of nuclear warheads deployed on Trident D-5 missiles on SSBN submarines based at Bangor and nuclear warheads stored at Strategic Weapons Facility Pacific (SWFPAC). More than 1,300 nuclear warheads are deployed 20 miles west of Seattle at the Bangor submarine base.

King County Metro was initially hesitant to run the ad, and questioned the accuracy of the statement of fact regarding the number of nuclear weapons at Bangor. Hans Kristensen, director of the Nuclear Information Project at the Federation of American Scientists, provided corroboration of the statement. Kristensen provides the public and government agencies with analysis and background information about the status of nuclear forces worldwide and the geopolitical implications of nuclear weapons.

The bus ads are an effort by Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action, a grass roots organization in Poulsbo, Washington, to reawaken public awareness of the dangers of nuclear weapons.

Ground Zero member, Rodney Brunelle, said of the bus ad campaign, "We hope to generate a measure of citizen interest, and to begin a public discussion of nuclear weapons in the Puget Sound region. In this election year the danger of nuclear weapons ought to be a topic of discussion."

### The bus ad

The bus ads measure 30 inches tall and 144 inches in length and are posted on the sides of 14 Metro buses in downtown Seattle. The blue lines show

routes that are scheduled for buses with the ads and the black lines show routes of buses that may carry the ads.

On March 11, 2016, the 10th bi-annual Nuclear Deterrent Symposium was held in Silverdale to discuss the future of U.S. strategic forces. Rear Adm. Charles Richard criticized opposition to the Navy's \$100 billion plan for 12

formation was leaked to the media in March 2004.

- Public responses from governmental officials to the 2003 missile accident were generally in the form of surprise and disappointment.
- Due to ongoing modernization and maintenance programs for warheads at Bangor, nuclear warheads are rou-



June 21 at 2nd and Madison in downtown Seattle. Photo: Mira Leslie

new replacement SSBN submarines [ballistic missile carrying, nuclear-powered submarines] proclaiming, "It's a matter of priorities." The new SSBNs would replace the submarines at Bangor. Rear Adm. Richards noted that the USS Ohio arrived at Bangor in 1982 to much protest and stated, "We have taken that [nuclear weapons] out of the national psyche."

### The issues

- The U.S. is currently spending more on nuclear weapons programs than during the height of the Cold War.
- The U.S. currently plans to spend an estimated \$1 trillion dollars over 30 years for rebuilding the nation's nuclear facilities and modernizing nuclear weapons.
- The *New York Times* reported that the U. S., Russia and China are aggressively pursuing a new generation of smaller and less destructive nuclear weapons. The buildups threaten to revive a Cold War-era arms race and unsettle the balance of power among nations.
- The U.S. Navy claims that the SSBN submarines on patrol provide the United States with its "most survivable and enduring nuclear strike capability." However, SSBNs in port and nuclear warheads stored at SWFPAC are likely a first target in a nuclear war. The latest Google imagery shows three SSBN submarines on the Hood Canal waterfront.
- An accident involving nuclear weapons occurred on November 2003 when a ladder penetrated a nuclear nosecone during a routine missile offloading at the Explosives Handling Wharf at Bangor. All missile-handling operations at SWFPAC were stopped for nine weeks until Bangor could be recertified for handling nuclear weapons. Three top commanders were fired but the public was never informed until in-

tinely shipped in unmarked trucks between the Department of Energy Pantex Plant near Amarillo, Texas and the Bangor base. Unlike the Navy at Bangor, the DOE actively promotes emergency preparedness.

- Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action and Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility are involved in an environmental lawsuit against the Navy's second Explosives Handling Wharf at Bangor. As a result of the lawsuit, plaintiffs discovered that while the Navy insisted the second wharf posed no new safety risk at the base, the federal agency responsible for explosives siting refused to grant approval. The case was filed in federal court in June 2012 and is currently pending in the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals.
- On December 14, 2015, the Navy filed a lawsuit in federal court to block the release of emergency response

plans that might benefit the public in the case of a nuclear accident at Bangor. The lawsuit is still pending.

### Nuclear weapons and resistance

In the 1970s and 1980s, thousands demonstrated against nuclear weapons at the Bangor base and hundreds were arrested. Seattle Archbishop Hunthausen had proclaimed the Bangor submarine base the "Auschwitz of Puget Sound" and in 1982 began to withhold half of his federal taxes in protest of "our nation's continuing involvement in the race for nuclear arms supremacy."

One Trident SSBN submarine at Bangor is estimated to carry about 108 nuclear warheads. The W76 and

W88 warheads at Bangor are equal respectively to 100 kilotons and 455 kilotons of TNT in destructive force. One submarine deployed at Bangor is equal to more than 1,400 Hiroshima sized nuclear bombs.

On May 27, 2016, President Obama spoke in Hiroshima and called for an end to nuclear weapons. He said that the nuclear powers "...must have the courage to escape the logic of fear, and pursue a world without them." Obama added, "We must change our mindset about war itself."

*Founded in 1977 and located on 3.8 acres adjoining the Trident submarine base at Bangor, Washington, The Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action offers the opportunity to explore the roots of violence and injustice in our world and to experience the transforming power of love through nonviolent direct action. We resist all nuclear weapons, especially the Trident ballistic missile system.*

## Ground Zero events

Numerous activities with the historic peace vessel, the *Golden Rule* and Veterans for Peace throughout the summer.

**July 24 to August 9: The annual Interfaith Peace Walk** led by Bainbridge Island Nipponzan Myohoji Buddhist Temple.

**August 3: Ground Zero Peace Fleet** with the *Golden Rule* in Elliott Bay .

**August 6: From Hiroshima to Hope** event at Green Lake commemorating the victims of the Hiroshima bombing 71 years ago.

**August 7 and 8: The Annual Ground Zero Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration** at Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action with a vigil and nonviolent civil resistance at entrance to Bangor.

**August 9: Boats by Bangor** is a flotilla of small boats--the *Golden Rule* and other sail boats--in the waters of Hood Canal out past the perimeter of Naval Base Kitsap Bangor.

Please check our website at [www.gzcenter.org](http://www.gzcenter.org) for updates.

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Responding to police violence

Policy changes that matter

Emily Lardner

The most recent incident I've seen of a police officer shooting a Black person was reported by Nika Wright on July 19 on the Common Dreams website. According to Wright, and now more widely across news sources, Charles Kinsey, a caregiver at a group home in North Miami, was shot in the leg by a police officer while he was lying on his back, arms stretched straight overhead, fingers straight, clearly holding nothing. Kinsey was trying to talk an autistic client into coming back home. The widely-circulated video shows Kinsey on his back with his hands in the air, head up in a version of a curl so he can plead with his client, who is sitting near him, to lie down. We can hear Kinsey saying to the police that guns aren't needed, and we hear him pleading with his client to lie down. He says and does nothing threatening by any measure. Even so, a police officer shot him in the leg. In a second video, we see Kinsey lying on his stomach, handcuffed. So, too, is his client. Apparently, Mr. Kinsey was forced to lie on the hot Miami pavement for 20 minutes in that position, bleeding, before he was taken to a hospital.

Afterwards, Kinsey told reporters that when he was searched for weapons, he asked the officer who shot him why: "Sir, why did you shoot me?" In response, the officer said, "I don't know." (Commondreams.org, July 21, 2016)

Perhaps the officer didn't know why he chose to shoot an unarmed man who wasn't threatening him. What he does know is that he won't be prosecuted or penalized for making that decision. Writing for CNN, Laura Coates, former assistant U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia and trial attorney in the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, argues that the legal language of "deference"—inserted by the Supreme Court—blocks successful prosecution

of cases brought against murdering police officers. She writes, "Supreme Court precedent requires that we defer to the judgment of police officers in determining the amount of force necessary to apply in the performance of their duties."

**"Normal" police practice defensible in court**

In practice, Coates explains, this means that when prosecutors bring cases against police officers forward, they discover they must prove that the officer acted not according to a standard of reasonable behavior for civilians, but

while his client, sitting cross-legged, looks at the toy truck he is holding in his hands.

The need for split second decision making is why the Supreme Court took the position that we have to defer to a different standard for judging police behavior. No one argues that policing is easy, nor that police don't find themselves in dangerous situations. But, parallel to the Catholic Church's longstanding, ineffective effort to "handle" the epidemic sexual abuse committed by priests internally, on their own terms, police departments' records for self-policing are bad. Much more common are incidents where racist officers move from one department to another—Cleveland police officer Timothy Loehmann, who shot 12-year-old Tamir Rice. Equally common are reassignments—the officer who falsely arrested Sandra Bland, Brian Encinia, is on desk duty.

Writing for the National Catholic Reporter last summer, Mariam Williams argued that studying the Catholic church's response to the abuse crisis can help us learn to combat police terrorism:

“Like priests who were shuffled to different parishes to cover their abuse, these law enforcement officers are shielded by personnel decisions that don’t require they be held accountable for their actions.”

“by what another officer would do.” When the officer who shot Kinsey said he didn't know why he shot an unarmed man who wasn't threatening him, he likely did know that police officers shooting black men passes for "normal behavior" in this country. He doesn't need a reason—he just needs a norm to justify his behavior.

That's the line John Rivera, president of the Miami-Dade County Police Benevolent Association, took later in the day after the shooting happened. Rivera called it an accident. According to the *Washington Post*, in addition to claiming that the shooting wasn't intentional, Rivera also read a statement written by the officer who shot Kinsey. In it, the officer justifies his action by saying he did what he did in a "split second"—even though the video tape lasts 2.5 minutes before any shots are fired, and in that time, all that is happening is Kinsey calling to both the police and his client,

“Like priests who were shuffled to different parishes to cover their abuse, these law enforcement officers are shielded by personnel decisions that don't require they be held accountable for their actions. Taxpayers pay survivors of police abuse in civil lawsuits, but the officers continue working as if nothing happened.”

One thing that helped bring the abuses committed by members of the Catholic Church to light was the long overdue public outcry in support of those who had been abused, coupled with the insistence that abusers be held to account—and not just the abusers, but also their superiors who protected them.

In the current circumstances, it's nearly impossible to successfully prosecute police officers who shoot people. A significant factor is the "deference" standard—the legal precedent that protects police officers from being judged by the same reasonable standards that apply to all us. Laura Coates argues that until this changes, the shootings will continue, and so too will the outrage against them:

“Without a legal hook, there can be no meaningful check on an abuse of police power. Protestors are angered by the realization of this futility, and their resulting impotence. Powerlessness is as cancerous as power is addictive. It fuels a desire to reclaim a sense of power, and take the law into your own hands.”

**Moving towards more police accountability in Washington**

A ballot initiative is underway in Washington State to try to make it easier to prosecute officers who use deadly force. Currently, we have some of the most protective legislation in the U.S. when it comes to judging police officers' actions. According to our RCW, if officers use deadly force "without malice and with a good faith belief," they cannot be prosecuted.

How do you prove that an officer's use of deadly force was accompanied by "malice"? If you can't make that case, the

officer can't be charged. Since that case can't be made—no one can witness the officer's actual state of mind at the time of the shooting, officers can't be charged.

I-873 would change that, striking the phrase "without malice and with a good faith belief" from the RCW.

Initiative Measure 873, filed May 20, 2016

AN ACT Relating to the use of deadly force by a law enforcement officer or peace officer; amending RCW 9A.16.040; and creating a new section.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. (1) Washington state has the most regressive laws in the United States regarding the use of deadly force by law enforcement officers. Under the current law, it is impossible to prosecute a law enforcement officer in a use of deadly force crime.

(2) RCW 9A.16.040(3) states that an officer who acts without malice cannot be held criminally liable. However, malice is a state of mind, and cannot be proven. Therefore, the statute as it exists provides a foolproof shield against prosecution of an officer regardless of the circumstances in which deadly force is used.

(3) This act petitions to remove the "without malice and with a good faith belief" clause in the statute.

(3) A public officer or peace officer shall not be held criminally liable for using deadly force ((without malice and with a good faith belief that)) if such act is justifiable pursuant to this section.

Lisa Hayes, Olympia resident, is leading the statewide initiative campaign, which needs 250,000 signatures by December 30, 2016, to make it onto the 2017 ballot. The sponsoring organization, Washington for Good Policing, has about 25,000 signatures as of this writing.

Writing in support of I-873 in the South Seattle Emerald on July 18, Cliff Cawthorn points out that between 2005 and 2013, 213 people were killed by police officers in Washington State, and only officer faced charges, which were later dropped due to the malice clause. He notes that Native Americans are subject to police brutality more than any other group per capita.

Collecting signatures and supporting I-873 feels like a very mediated response to the horrific pattern of police violence against people of color in the United States. Much more needs to be done to right the wrongs of structural inequality and systematic racism. Ta-Nehisi Coates, in his typically insightful and acerbic style, writes in July 2016 issue of *The Atlantic* that "the policies which the police carry out are not the edicts of a dictatorship but the work, as (Joe) Biden put it, of 'the greatest democracy in the history of the world.'" He asks us to focus not just on implementing better policing procedures, but to tackle the larger and more important work of "building the kind of equitable society in which police force is used as sparingly as possible." I agree—and I also think we need to support the change in our RCW proposed by I-873. The un-prosecutable acts of violence have to stop.

*Emily Lardner lives and works in Olympia, Washington.*




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# Lakefair Parade float depicting climate change denied entry by organizers

Janine Gates

The carnival rides and games, food, parade, and fireworks are all highlights of Capital Lakefair, a five-day festival that began 59 years ago in downtown Olympia.

It's gone through a lot of changes over the years, but maybe there's room for just a little more change.

About 100 entries from around the Northwest for the parade on Saturday night were submitted, including flashy motorized floats from Northwest-area community festivals, school marching bands, drill teams, and a few groups

In response to the denial, members of the group quickly organized to place the float on Percival Landing near The Kiss statue.

advertising their for-profit businesses, but a modest, homemade two-piece float was not allowed to participate.

Designed by members of the Olympia Confronting the Climate Crisis group, an oil train derailment is depicted under the section titled, "CO<sub>2</sub> = Climate Chaos," which features a lot of black paint, train wheels that really move and flames made out of cardboard.

The other section depicts a happy scene with children and families playing near clean water, raised garden beds, and a solar powered house under a rainbow.

After organizers could not get an explanation for the denial from Lakefair executive director Dennis Williams, group members reached out to local media to make their case.

*King 5 News* contacted Williams, who told that news organization that the floats were political in nature. Williams did not respond to an emailed request for information from Little Hollywood.

"The floats were made specifically for the Lakefair Parade—all stated



Above: A float created by members of the Olympia Confronting the Climate Crisis group was not allowed to enter the Lakefair Parade. Instead, the group parked it on Percival Landing and educated the public about fossil fuels, recent oil train derailments, and provided a more sustainable, alternative vision of the future. Photo: Janine Gates

limitations regarding the parade were related to politician limitations as stated on the Lakefair website," Rod Tharp told Little Hollywood.

In response to the denial to participate, members of the group quickly organized to place the float on Percival Landing near The Kiss statue, and staff it during Lakefair hours of operation. They explained the scene and climate change issues to passersby.

Tharp, a member of the climate crisis group, and a former small residential contractor and carpenter, designed the

floats and worked with several others to create the two-piece, educational, multimedia float. He has lived in Thurston County since 1975.

"If we don't solve the climate change issue, all the other issues—social justice, equality of all people, and peace—will become more serious. All these are related so we are working on all of them, but climate change is our top item," he said of the group.

The theme for this year's Capital Lakefair is Community Hearts Fly!

"We are an accepting community—

that doesn't make sense. We're so progressive here. We line Fourth Avenue and Capitol Way with rainbow flags showing our pride and we can't have a rainbow float in our Lakefair parade to show community spirit?" said one woman who saw the float and was told it wasn't allowed in the parade.

"Hey, at least you get to be out here showing people this longer than being in the parade," said a young man.

"I've been concerned about pollution and the destruction of the environment for about 30 to 40 years and my parents built a solar-powered house in the '80s in Maine. I used to work for Homes First! but now I'm retired and have the time and resources to help out," said Todd Davison, as he staffed the float on Friday.

The group is part of the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation and has been active in Olympia for almost six years. It meets every third Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. at the Olympia Center, and is known for its colorful signs and props at peaceful protests and events.

Bourtai Hargrove, a member of the group who staffed the floats on Friday and Saturday, said the floats took about three weeks to make. She and other members of the group have also testified for divestment of state retirement funds in fossil fuels at meetings of the Washington State Investment Board.

"This float is about protecting future families," said Sue Langhans, who was also helping to staff the float on Friday and Saturday.

*Janine Gates, Olympia, is a freelance writer and photographer, and has an Olympia news blog, Little Hollywood, at [www.janineslittleshollywood.blogspot.com](http://www.janineslittleshollywood.blogspot.com).*

Capital Lakefair is a non-profit, volunteer organization. It takes a tremendous amount of effort to pull it off, and many local organizations rely on the proceeds from their Lakefair food booths to fund their year-round community activities. To find out more information, go to [www.lakefair.org](http://www.lakefair.org).



Above: Todd Davison is a new member of the Olympia Confronting the Climate Crisis group. He helped create the float scenes, and educated passersby about climate change issues on Friday. Photo: Janine Gates

### Virginia court ruling leaves hundreds of thousands disenfranchised

August 22 -- In a 4-3 ruling, the Supreme Court of Virginia held that Gov. Terry McAuliffe's proclamation restoring the right to vote for people with past felony convictions is unconstitutional. In response, New Virginia Majority, a local grassroots group, and Advancement Project, a multi-racial civil rights organization, issued the following statement:

"Today's ruling presents another unfair hurdle for access to the ballot, and reaffirms the Commonwealth's Jim Crow legacy," said Tram Nguyen, Co-Executive Director of New Virginia Majority. "It is difficult news for members of the community, who for months felt redeemed and that they had a voice. Excluding Virginians from the ballot, even after they've paid their debts to society, is a cruel, inhumane reminder of past mistakes. Today's ruling validates entrenched interests in the Virginia General Assembly bent on silencing a large swath of Black Virginians in order to maximize their political power. Going forward, the same organizing energy that went into creating Gov. McAuliffe's proclamation will translate into a vigorous push for the access to the ballot we deserve. Virginians have sacrificed too much for the right to vote, dating back to the early days oaf the Commonwealth. We will not stop the fight now."

Organizations such as New Virginia Majority have worked to expand access to the ballot box for years. NVM's advocacy and organizing was key to Gov. McAuliffe's proclamation, which could have restored voting rights for up to approximately 206,000 Virginians.

Further, opponents of rights restoration are ignoring the countless benefits afforded by it, including reduced recidivism rates.

"For years, we have worked alongside impacted people who wanted to restore their political voice. With this ruling people who have paid their debt to society will continue to pay," said Judith Browne Dianis, Executive Director of Advancement Project's National office. "As a result of a broken and discriminatory criminal justice system, 1 in 5 Black Virginians cannot vote. We will continue to support organizing efforts to secure the right to vote for them and others."

The 63 percent of Virginians agree that Governor McAuliffe made the right decision by restoring voting rights for people with prior felony convictions. "It is disappointing that voters of color again stand to be disproportionately denied the right to vote by an archaic law rooted in Virginia's history of white supremacy," said Eddie Hailles, Jr., Advancement Project General Counsel. "The right to vote should be sacred, and it is disheartening to see politicians use the courts to deny it to hundreds of thousands of Virginians."

—Advancement Project

# Baton Rouge, Falcon Heights, Dallas

Linda Burnham

A thick strand in the history of U.S. policing is rooted back in the slave patrols of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Patty rollers were authorized to stop, question, search, harass and summarily punish any Black person they encountered. The five- and six-pointed badges many of them wore to symbolize their authority, were predecessors to those of today's sheriffs and patrolmen. They regularly entered the plantation living quarters of enslaved people, leaving terror and grief in their wake. Together with the hunters of runaways, these patrols had a crystal clear mandate: to constrain the enslaved population to its role as the embodiment and producer of massive wealth for whites and to forestall the possibility that labor subordinated to the lash might rebel at the cost of white lives.

How far have we come, really? Having extricated ourselves from a system of bottomless and blatant cruelty we have evolved a system that depends on the patty rollers of today to constrain and contain a population that, while no longer enslaved, is ruthlessly exploited, criminally neglected, and justifiably aggrieved. Ruthlessly exploited by the low-wage industries that depend on ample supplies of cheap labor, by the bottom feeders of capital—pay-day loan companies and slumlords come to mind—by the incarceration-for-profit industry, by the municipalities that meet their budgets by preying on poor people, generating revenue by way of broken taillights, lapsed vehicle registrations and failures to signal.

Criminally neglected by policy makers—152 years' worth and counting—at every level of government. And so our education policy appears to be: starve the public system until it collapses and to hell with the children whose parents have no alternative. Housing policy stubbornly stacked against the development and maintenance of low-income housing. Jobs policy that, against an ideological backdrop that touts personal fulfillment and prosperity through honest effort, reduces grown men to selling loosies and cd's on street corners to provide for their families.

Justifiably aggrieved because we still must assert, against the relentless accumulation of evidence to the contrary, that Black lives matter.

And all this on top of the foundational failure to financially repair or compensate the formerly enslaved or their descendants.

So today's patty rollers are expected

to contain any overflow of bitterness and anger on the part of the exploited, neglected and aggrieved, maintaining order in a fundamentally – and racially – disordered system. Their mandate is as clear as that of their forefathers: to constrain a population whose designated role is to absorb absurdly



high rates of unemployment and make itself available for low-wage, low-status work without complaint, much less rebellion. Those who fear a spiraling descent into disorder, know this: we are merely witnessing the periodic, explosive surfacing of entrenched disorders we have refused to face or fix.

Our narratives and debates about good cops and rogue cops, better training and community policing are

if the long years before the emergence of the various movements for Black lives have taught us anything, it is this: our purported partners in dialogue simply turn their backs and leave the table as soon as the pressure is off.

important but entirely insufficient. No doubt the patty rollers of the 1850s could have been trained to rein in their brutality. Given the gloriously diverse dispositions of our human family, patrollers likely ranged from the breathtakingly cruel to the queasily reluctant enforcers of patent injustice. All that is, at bottom, beside the point. Whether cruel or kind, restrained or rogue, their job was to police—and by policing, maintain—a barbaric system.

Today's police can be better trained to recognize implicit bias, to dial back on aggression and deescalate tense encounters. All to the good, as far as it goes. But none of it changes their core mandate in poor Black communities: to control and contain, by any means necessary, a population that has every reason to be restive and rebellious.

■ ■ ■

"Was he colored?" That's what my grandmother would say whenever she heard news about a criminal act. She knew that if the alleged perpetrator were "colored" his criminality would be read not simply as the act of an individual, but as an expression of an ingrained racial tendency. Somehow being Black meant that the actions of every random thief, rapist or murderer who was also Black redounded to you and your people. I imagine most Black families had a version of "Was he colored?" And I wouldn't be surprised if Muslim American families have an equivalent expression today. Untying the knot of individual culpability and the consequences of racial belonging is nowhere near as straightforward as it might seem.

I was on a dance floor on Thursday night, desperately trying to shake off the news from Baton Rouge and Falcon Heights. My phone was in my back pocket and, like an idiot, when it buzzed with an incoming text, I left the

dance floor and stepped outside to the news from Dallas. Though the action was still unfolding, I immediately surmised that the shooter was "colored," and that he had been trained by the U.S. military.

It has fallen to President Obama, time and again, to make sense out of the incomprehensible and bind the wounds of a nation apparently bent on self-destruction. In the aftermath of Dallas, Obama quickly condemned the despicable violence of a demented, troubled individual. The president's intent was clear and laudable. He sought to defuse tensions by definitively asserting that the shooter's action was not associated with a political movement or a particular organization, that his murderous deeds should in no way be linked to African Americans in general. He struggled to shift the focus from "Was he colored?" to "Clearly he was crazy, right?"

But before boxing Micah Johnson up and setting him aside as deranged and demented, it's worth asking a few questions. Honestly, good people, did anybody in their right mind—that is, not troubled or demented—think that the police could continue to pick off Black people at will and on camera without producing a Micah Johnson? And is troubled and demented shorthand for "traumatized by repeated exposure to the graphic depiction of the murder of people who look just like me?" Or for "agonized by the fact that the officers of the law who placed a handcuffed man in the back of a van and snapped his spine in an intentionally "rough ride" were neither held criminally accountable nor labeled troubled and demented?" Or for "depressed beyond imagining and haunted by the ghosts of the men and women whose lives were snatched by the side of the road, down back alleyways, and in precinct stations from one end of the country to the other before the era of cell phone video?" Or for "pierced through the heart by the voice of four-year-old Dae'Anna, comforting her mama?" Because if demented and troubled is shorthand for any of that, then Micah Johnson may have been a lone gunman, but he is far from alone.

That whoosh you heard on Friday morning was the sound of people rushing to condemn the Dallas shootings, or to extract condemnations from others. There is, of course, no moral justification for gunning down police officers. And retaliatory violence aimed at the armed representatives of the state, beyond being a suicidal provocation, also shuts down all avenues for advancing the cause of racial justice. But there is a lot of room for reflection between the cheap polarities of condemn or condone.

So here we are, once again, with calls from all quarters for dialogue across the racial divide. But if the long years before the emergence of the various movements for Black lives have taught us anything, it is this: our purported partners in dialogue simply turn their backs and leave the table as soon as the pressure is off. This moment calls for the vigorous defense of our right to continued protest and the intensification and elaboration of multiple movements for Black lives—for the sake of our ancestors and the generations to come. And for the sake of this country that is our home.

*Linda Burnham is an activist, writer and strategist who has been engaged in social justice movements for a very long time.*

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# Actions of men and women in the greatest democracy in history

Enrique Quintero

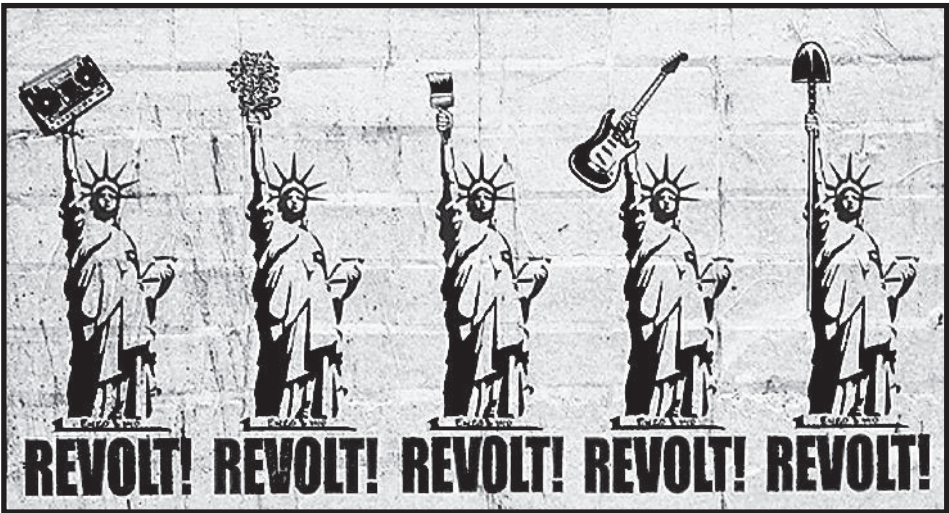
## The actions of men and women, part 1

The Argentinian writer Jorge Luis Borges once stated that heaven and hell seem to be out of proportion because, according to him, the actions of men do not deserve so much. That may be case for divine justice ruling the afterlife, but when it comes to the national leaders we choose, we definitely deserve the political consequences of our actions. America, which according to Joe Biden is “The greatest democracy in the history of the world” has nominated, one more time, the bi-cephalous monster of corporate capital to rule the nation, under the illusion that choosing one of the two official talking heads, either a Republican or a Democrat nominee, is the best we can do, and it is the best American democracy has to offer. We have failed, one more time, to distinguish between what is truly beneficial to us, and what we have been told by others would be beneficial to us.

If Borges has it right, hell and heaven should be spared as consequence for our actions, political and otherwise; but in the mean time, either Clinton or Trump is about to happen, both which will perpetuate the current material conditions of inequality for most Americans, and this situation cannot be spared or ignored. It is certainly not ignored by the upper one to ten percent of the population which, given the national trend towards the concentration of wealth in the last few decades, expects to become even wealthier than before. This disturbing scenario of inequality belongs neither in heaven nor in hell—it lives here, in the social reality of the planet and the nation in which we live. This precarious situation is about to be legitimized, one more time, with the civil blessing of the vote of men and women cast on the holy altar of American democracy.

## The actions of men and women, part 2

As things are now, electing Trump or Clinton in the fall has little to do with improving our chances to right the social injustices resulting from the current version of U.S. democracy. This government, in its latest form, finds itself wrapped in an aureole of foreign wars and the internal militarization of the economy and civil society, resulting in profound economic disparity and irrationality; lack of appropriate health care, social services, housing, and education; ecological irresponsibility and violence; and



racism, mass incarceration and police violence, particularly directed against African American people. The greatest democracy in the history of the world indeed!

Ironically, at the same time, in the last decade we have witnessed the largest and more radical expressions of resistance and opposition to the current

of capitalism through radical but still doable transformative measures.

## The actions of Bernie Sanders

The two most important resistance and struggle movements that have emerged from the current crisis are Black Lives Matter and the movement agglutinated around the Bernie Sanders

campaign, the former ultimately informing the latter in significant ways. Both movements have effectively addressed the problem of radical rhetoric and radical pragmatic critique of capitalism in their specific political platforms. In the case of Sanders, his call for a “Political Revolution” incorporated specific measures aimed at starving important policies,

institutions, and structural power of the capitalist state. Among others: the abolition of income and wealth inequality, free college education, getting big money out of politics, establishing a minimum living wage, combating climate change, and taking measurable steps toward racial justice, fair and humane immigration policy, women’s

rights, the creation of an AIDS and HIV-free generation, LGBT equality, Medicare for all citizens, and so forth. Part of Sanders success, I believe, was because his sympathizers understood his version of ‘democratic socialism’ as altruistic, humane, and just, but at the same time attainable, and politically possible.

Through the very nature of their programmatic platform, Sanders’ supporters, and Sanders himself, up to the point of his endorsement of Clinton, managed to avoid the false dichotomy of class interests represented by Republicans and Democrats. To illustrate how the symbiosis of big capital is not exclusively located within the Republican party, Jennifer Roesch, writing for Jacobin, reports that a “poll of millionaires was revealing: Clinton leads the pack with 31 percent of millionaires supporting her”.

Sanders’ last action, his endorsement of Hillary Clinton, is based in his genuine fear about what Trump represents in his open displays of racism and bigotry. But as Roesch observes in the same Jacobin article, “if our side succumbs to panic about Trump, we miss the greater dangers we face. It is the “war on terror” carried out by a democratic president for the last eight years that has created the breeding ground for racism and terrorism. It is the devastating social and economic crisis wrought by austerity that creates the conditions in which right-wing scapegoating can seem to provide the answers.”

## The actions of men and women, part 3

On Tuesday, November 8, 2016 men and women in this country will be in a position to decide whether their votes will be trapped within the logic of “lesser-evilism” or whether they will be able to transcend the two-headed, nearly Siamese twins of corporate America. In order to do so, we must continue working for an independent Left to transform this nation. Heaven and hell may be out of proportion for our political mistakes, but the judgment of history will be hard to ignore.

*Enrique Quintero was a political activist in Latin America during the 70’s, then taught ESL and Second Language Acquisition in the Anchorage School District, and Spanish at the University of Alaska Anchorage. He currently lives and writes in Olympia.*

This disturbing scenario of inequality is neither in heaven nor in hell—it lives here, in the social reality of the planet and the nation in which we live. This precarious situation is to be legitimized, one more time, with the civil blessing of the votes of men and women cast on the holy altar of American democracy.

conditions of American capitalism. From the Occupy movement, to Black Lives Matter, from the national Council of Indigenous People (The Red Nation), to multitudinous marches demanding regulations on global climate change, culminating with millions—particularly young men and women—supporting the socialist democratic platform of Bernie Sanders. All of these political occurrences combined express the constant germination of social discontent and an almost instinctive elucidation of better forms of struggle among the masses. They also express a different type of action executed by men and women, actions that seek to transcend the soporific banalities of the dominant political discourse. As Jordan T. and Christina Heatherton, editors of “Policing the Planet: Why Policing Crisis Led to Black Lives Matter” (Verso 2016) point out, this feeling and conviction about the importance of political transcendence is perhaps best captured by the last line of the Council of Indigenous People’s program: “For Native peoples to live, capitalism and colonialism must die”. The problem is, of course, how to expedite the extinction

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# Entre el cielo y el infierno y las acciones de hombres y mujeres

Enrique Quintero

## Las acciones de hombres y mujeres, parte 1

El escritor argentino Jorge Luis Borges dijo alguna vez que el cielo y el infierno parecen estar fuera de toda proporción, ya que, según él, las acciones de los hombres no merecen tanto. Ese puede ser el caso de la justicia divina gobernando la otra vida, pero cuando se trata de los líderes nacionales que elegimos, sin duda merecemos las consecuencias políticas de nuestras acciones. Los Estados Unidos, que según Joe Biden es "La mayor democracia en la historia del mundo" ha nominado, una vez más, al monstruo bi-cefalo del capital corporativo para gobernar la nación, bajo la ilusión de que la elección de una de sus dos cabezas oficiales, ya sea el candidato republicano o demócrata, es la mejor de las posibilidades, y a su vez es lo mejor que democracia estadounidense tiene que ofrecer. Hemos fallado, una vez más, en distinguir entre lo que es realmente beneficioso para nosotros, y lo que otros nos ha dicho sería beneficioso para nosotros.

Si Borges tiene razón, el infierno y el cielo se deben escatimar como consecuencia de nuestras acciones, bien sean políticas o de otra índole; pero mientras tanto, Clinton o Trump están a punto de convertirse en realidad. Ambos, estan estructuralmente condicionados a perpetuar las condiciones materiales actuales de desigualdad para la mayoría de los estadounidenses. Esta situación no puede ser ignorada. Ciertamente, no es ignorada por sus principales beneficiarios, el diez por ciento de la población, que dada la tendencia nacional hacia la concentración de la riqueza en las últimas décadas, esperan enriquecerse aun mas que antes. Este escenario inquietante de la desigualdad no pertenece ni en el cielo ni en el infierno -vive aquí, entre nosotros, en la realidad social del planeta y del país en el que vivimos. Esta precaria situación está a punto de ser legitimada, una vez más, con la bendición civil de los hombres y las mujeres que depositaran en el sagrado altar de la democracia estadounidense.

## Las acciones de hombres y mujeres, parte 2

Tal como están las cosas, la elección de Trump o Clinton en el otoño tiene poco que ver con la mejora de

nuestras posibilidades para corregir las injusticias sociales que resultan de la versión actual de la democracia EE.UU. Este gobierno, en su forma más reciente, se encuentra envuelto en una aureola de guerras en el extranjero y de la militarización interna de la economía y de la sociedad civil; lo que resulta en una profunda disparidad económica e irracionalidad social; falta de atención adecuada de la salud, servicios sociales, vivienda y educación; irresponsabilidad ecológica; violencia policial, racismo y el encarcelamiento masivo especialmente de la población afroamericana. La mayor democracia en la historia de la humanidad en verdad!

Irónicamente, al mismo tiempo, en la última década hemos sido testigos de las mayores y más radicales expresiones de resistencia y oposición a las condiciones actuales del capitalismo estadounidense. Desde el movimiento Occupy , a Black Lives Matter, del Consejo Nacional de los Pueblos Indígenas (The Red Nation), a marchas multitudinarias que exigen regulaciones sobre el cambio climático global, culminando con millones - en particular de hombres y mujeres jóvenes - que apoyan la plataforma democrática socialista de Bernie Sanders. Todos estos acontecimientos políticos combinados expresan la germinación

Este escenario inquietante de la desigualdad no pertenece ni en el cielo ni en el infierno -vive aquí, entre nosotros, en la realidad social del planeta y del país en el que vivimos. Esta precaria situación está a punto de ser legitimada, una vez más, con la bendición civil de los hombres y las mujeres que depositaran en el sagrado altar de la democracia estadounidense.

constante de descontento social y una elucidación casi instintiva entre las masas de mejores formas de lucha. También expresan un tipo diferente de acción ejecutada por estos hombres y mujeres, acciones que buscan superar las banalidades soporíferas del discurso político dominante. Como señalan Jordan T. y Christina Heatherton, editores de "Policing the Planet: ¿Why Policing Crisis Led to Black Lives Matter" (Verso 2016), este sentimiento y convicción acerca de la importancia de la trascendencia política es quizás mejor capturados por la última línea de programa del Consejo de los pueblos indígenas: "para que los pueblos nativos vivan, el capitalismo y el colonialismo deben morir". El problema es, por supuesto, buscar la forma de acelerar la extinción del capitalismo a través de



medidas radicales y transformadores que sean realizables.

## Las acciones de Bernie Sanders

Las dos más importantes movimientos de resistencia y de lucha que han surgido de la crisis actual son Black Lives Matter y el movimiento aglutinado en torno a la campaña de Bernie Sanders. Este ultimo siendo influenciado por el primero en muchos aspectos significativos. Ambos movimientos han abordado con eficacia en sus plataformas políticas especificas el problema de combinar una retórica radical con una crítica pragmática igualmente radical del capitalismo. En el caso de Sanders, su llamado a una "revolución política" incorpora medidas específicas dirigidas a ‘matar de hambre’ políticas e

instituciones importantes del poder estructural del estado capitalista. Entre otras: la abolición de la desigualdad de ingreso y de la riqueza, educación universitaria gratuita, eliminar el rol del gran capital en la conducción de la política, el establecimiento de un salario mínimo vital, la lucha contra el cambio climático, la toma de medidas en busca de justicia racial, una política justa de inmigración, derechos de la mujer, la creación de una generación sin sida y libre de VIH, la igualdad LGBT, Medicare para todos los ciudadanos, y así sucesivamente. Parte del éxito Sanders, creo, fue porque sus simpatizantes entendieron su versión de "socialismo democrático", como altruista, humano y justo, pero al mismo tiempo posible y políticamente realizable.

Dada la propia naturaleza de su plataforma programática, los partidarios de Sanders, y él mismo Sanders hasta el punto de su apoyo a Clinton, lograron evitar la falsa dicotomía de intereses de clase

representados por republicanos y demócratas. Para ilustrar cómo la simbiosis del gran capital no se encuentra exclusivamente dentro del partido republicano, Jennifer Roesch, escribiendo para Jacobin, informa que en una "encuesta de millonarios fue muy reveladora de esta situación: Clinton encabeza la lista con un 31 por ciento de millonarios que la apoyan".

La última acción de Sanders, su apoyo a Hillary Clinton, se basa en su temor acerca de lo que representa Trump y sus abiertas expresiones de racismo e intolerancia. Pero como Roesch observa en el mismo artículo de Jacobin, "si nuestro lado sucumbe al pánico sobre Trump, ignoramos al mayor peligro que enfrentamos. Es la "guerra contra el terrorismo" llevada a cabo por un presidente democrático durante los últimos ocho años que ha creado el caldo de cultivo para el racismo y el terrorismo. Es la crisis social y económica devastadora causada por la austeridad que crea las condiciones en las que un chivo expiatorio creado por la derecha parece que pueda proporcionar las respuestas".

## Las acciones de hombres y mujeres, parte 3

El martes, 8 de noviembre de 2016 hombres y mujeres de este país estará en condiciones de decidir si sus votos serán atrapados dentro de la lógica de "mal menor" o si serán capaces de trascender a los dos gemelos siameses hijos del capital corporativo norteamericano . Con el fin de hacerlo, debemos seguir trabajando por una izquierda fuerte e independiente capaz de transformar esta nación. El cielo y el infierno pueden estar fuera de la proporción de nuestros errores políticos, pero el juicio de la historia va a ser difícil de ignorar.

*Enrique Quintero, un activista político en América Latina durante la década de los 70, enseñó ESL y adquisición de segundas lenguas en el Distrito Escolar de Anchorage, y español en la Universidad de Alaska Anchorage. Actualmente vive y escribe en Olympia.*

## Little Hollywood

A blog about the local news and events of and around Olympia, Washington.

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Tip or story idea? Email Janine Gates at Ja9gates@aol.com

"Sometimes people hold a core belief that is very strong. When they are presented with evidence that works against that belief, the new evidence cannot be accepted. It would create a feeling that is extremely uncomfortable, called cognitive dissonance. And because it is so important to protect the core belief, they will rationalize, ignore and even deny anything that doesn't fit in with the core belief."

—Frantz Fanon, Black Skin, White Masks

► **Committee**, cont. from page 1  
Goodman.

Zieger said he was recently involved in an incident on May 1st in Seattle. He and a couple of bicycle officers were surrounded by 50 – 70 individuals wearing masks and throwing objects. He said he was hit by a piece of cement or a rock and injured.

“At the time I was struck, that entire city block was unprotected because now it became a violent situation... all the officers could do was protect themselves and wait for others to come in and rescue the officers. A rock can be a deadly weapon. Another inch lower and I would have lost my eye...”

Zieger said he was out of work for six weeks and still suffers pain and headaches as a result. Use of deadly force against the protesters would have been justified in that incident, he said.

Only Washington State law provides a defense against prosecution when a police officer acts “without malice and

making assumptions.

Starting with law enforcement recruitment, retention, training, and disciplinary methods, and taking a critical look at data collection, Goodman said he wanted to learn more about how Washington State’s statute came about, and that as a result of their conversation, their “to-do” list will get longer.

“....Do law enforcement agencies have the diversity and reflect the community that they serve? You have to collect the dots before you can connect the dots....The use of force reports would help provide that information,” said Goodman. Goodman said that he heard that fewer than two percent of public interactions with law enforcement involve use of force.

“That’s really a small percentage...they are really very rare,” said Goodman.

“That depends on the validity of the reporting,” responded Laura Daugaard, representing the Public Defender Association of Seattle. Daugaard

because that’s where we can learn statewide what’s going on. We have to look at them critically...to see what’s going on within those communities and what happened with those prosecutors and why they made those decisions,” said Fe Lopez, representing OneAmerica, an immigrant advocacy group.

“There’s a lot of passion in this room. If you don’t have a knot in your stomach, we’re not doing it right...I want to use the Che Taylor and Antonio Zambrano-Montes cases as a springboard to learn from each other,” agreed Cynthia Softli of the Black Law Enforcement Association of Washington.

Law enforcement representatives were often coaxed by Goodman to enter the conversation, but when they did, they represented their agencies well.

Snohomish County prosecutor Mark Roe, representing the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, said he has never felt like his hands were tied to not prosecute an officer if

committee back two and a half hours and 200 years, as some members of the committee and many audience members audibly groaned.

**I-873 – Not this time**

Andre Taylor, the brother of Che Taylor, the man killed in February by Seattle Police officers, was present in the audience, as well as Che Taylor’s wife, Brenda.

Andre Taylor moved to Tacoma four months ago from Los Angeles and is now working on Initiative 873 - Not This Time, which concerns the use of deadly force by “law enforcement officers, public officers, and peace officers.”

The initiative petitions to remove the “without malice and with a good faith belief” clause in state statute. Several state legislators have endorsed it and United States Congressman Adam Smith (D-9) endorsed the initiative in June.

After the death of his brother, Taylor said he didn’t believe in shutting down and now has a good relationship



Photo: Janine Gates

with a good faith belief that such act is justifiable.”

Malice is defined in law as “evil intent.”

Another police related bill heard during the 2016 Legislative Session, HB 2907, would have removed language from RCW 9A.16.040, which states that an officer who acts without malice cannot be held criminally liable. It did not pass out of committee. That bill, sponsored by Representative Luis Moscoso, (D-1) was spearheaded by members of the Black Alliance of Thurston County.

Amnesty International calls Washington State’s law regarding use of deadly force as the “most egregious” in the nation.

explained how reporting systems vary widely.

**Che Taylor and Zambrano-Montes cases**

Task force members also challenged Goodman’s direction when exploring their scope of work.

After the shooting deaths of Che Taylor of Seattle on February 21 and Antonio Zambrano-Montes of Pasco in February 2015 had been mentioned by committee members several times, Goodman said he didn’t want to hear those cases retried.

Several committee members responded, saying that the lessons of those officer involved killings must be

the facts warranted it.

“...I understand angst about “malice.” There is a huge continuum about use of force...between hands on them and everything in between.”

He described the procedures used by a multi-agency response team and their protocol for a major incident. He said a lot of the task force’s work will be about public perception and confidence.

“There have got to be better ways to avoid altercations,” he said.

Mason County Lieutenant Travis Adams, representing the Washington State Fraternal Order of Police, responded that law enforcement is specifically called to go to the incident.

“We are thrust into a situation that a civilian is not....”

## What is our primary intent for being here? I think there is a lack of leadership within our police forces that allow certain things to go on where an officer can treat our citizens worse than a military treats our alleged enemies...

discussed and analyzed and that there is much for the committee to learn by doing just that.

Zambrano-Montes, a farm laborer with a history of mental illness, was shot by police in February 2015.

“....Within five minutes and 15 seconds, he was shot 17 times with 45 caliber bullets. Eight of those bullets killed him. The prosecutor declined to bring charges...it’s real difficult for a prosecutor to take a case like that... Yes, there are times officers need to use deadly force, there’s no question about that. The concern we have as a community is accountability and so prosecutors don’t have their hands tied by language in the statute,” said Gabriel Portugal, Latino Civic Alliance.

Che Taylor was killed by Seattle police in February and the case is still under investigation.

“To the data issue, we have to look at those cases...and the case in Olympia....

Showing that law enforcement protocols have changed, Rich Phillips, representing the Washington Council of Police and Sheriffs, said that the science of memory, recall, action, and reaction is evolving very rapidly.

In the old days, the standard law enforcement reaction after a critical incident was, “no comment.” Now, they are out ahead of the curve to help with perception and provide what they know, but it is not an exact science.

Captain Monica Alexander, representing the Washington State Patrol, said it was important to establish trust before an incident happens.

“After an incident, everyone goes to their corners—let’s have that relationship before the incident.”

Jorge Baron of the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, responded by saying there is a racial disparity as to the subject and use of deadly force.

“How do we avoid those situations?” he asked. Baron said he took a test and discovered that he held an implicit bias against African Americans.

The conversation was flowing at a pretty good clip until a comment by Senator Kirk Pearson (R-39), saying that as a man of faith, he did not have any bias against anyone.

The comment seemed to set the

## Death by cop count

The US government has no comprehensive record of the number of people killed by law enforcement.

*The Counted* is a project by *The Guardian*, counting the number of people killed by police and other law enforcement agencies in the United States throughout 2015 and 2016, to monitor their demographics and to tell the stories of how they died.

*The Guardian* counts police fatalities through traditional reporting on police reports and witness statements, by monitoring regional news outlets, research groups and open-source reporting projects such as the websites Fatal Encounters and Killed by Police.

The database combines Guardian reporting with verified crowdsourced information and is the most thorough public accounting for deadly use of force in the US and is frequently updated by *Guardian* reporters and interactive journalists.

In an ongoing investigation into the use of deadly force by police by *The Guardian*, African American males between the ages of 15 and 34 comprised more than 15 percent of all deaths logged this year, despite making up only 2 percent of the total U.S. population. Their rate of police-involved deaths was five times higher than for white men of the same age.

Also according to *The Guardian*, paired with official government mortality data, this new finding indicates that about one in every 65 deaths of a young African American man in the U.S. is a killing by police.

### How does the US government count killings by police now?

The FBI runs a voluntary program through which law enforcement agencies may or may not choose to submit their annual count of “justifiable homicides,” which it defines as “the killing of a felon in the line of duty.”

Lacking a baseline in reporting systems, there are wide fluctuations in the number of agencies choosing to report figures. Faulty reporting by agencies that do report has resulted in partially informed news coverage pointing misleadingly to trends that may or may not exist.

Between 2005 and 2012, 1,100 of the 18,000 police departments in the country reported a “justifiable homicide” to the FBI.

The FBI system counted 461 justifiable homicides by law enforcement in 2013, the latest year for which data is available. Crowdsourced counts found almost 300 additional fatalities during that year.

*The Counted*, upon its launch on June 1, 2015, had already found close to that number of killings in just the first five months of 2015.

—Janine Gates

### Task force conversations

Representative Goodman encouraged an open, freewheeling conversation between members. Feedback moved swiftly as participants articulated their viewpoints.

While Representative Goodman asked the group several questions that helped frame the conversation, some were quick to not allow him too much freedom in

with Seattle Police Chief Kathleen O’Toole. Taylor says he thinks it’s a problem if there are those on the committee who don’t think we have a problem.

“....What is our primary intent for being here? I think there is a lack of leadership within our police forces that allow certain things to go on where an officer can treat our citizens worse than a military treats our alleged enemies and that’s power....If we don’t recognize there is an issue in this country as Americans, then we have a problem. We have to fix it.... I believe that we have an opportunity in Seattle, Washington to do something and create a blueprint for the rest of the country...The more we inform people about the way our law is written, they are in shock. My job is to bring the information to the people. And I would hope, as we get this law changed, that this group we have here (the task force) is not being left behind because we’re moving forward and it’s going to get done,” said Taylor.

The 26 member committee is composed of Representative Roger Goodman (D-45) and Senator Kirk Pearson (R-39), who will take turns chairing the meetings, Representative Dave Hayes (R-10) and Senator David Frockt (D-46) and representatives of the Washington State Fraternal Order of Police, Washington State Patrol, The Tenth Amendment Center, Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, Public Defender Association, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Association of Washington Cities, Washington State Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, Black Alliance of Thurston County, OneAmerica, Disability Rights Washington, Washington Commission on Hispanic Affairs, Washington Council of Police and Sheriffs, Latino Civic Alliance, Washington Commission on African-American Affairs, Criminal Justice Training Commission, Governor’s Office on Indian Affairs, Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, Black Law Enforcement Association of Washington, Washington State Association of Counties, and the Council of Metropolitan Police and Sheriffs.

*Janine Gates, Olympia, is a freelance writer and photographer, and has an Olympia news blog, Little Hollywood, at [www.janineslittlehollywood.blogspot.com](http://www.janineslittlehollywood.blogspot.com).*

For more information on the task force, HB 2907, HB 2908, Amnesty International’s report, “Deadly Force: Police Use of Lethal Force in the United States,” City of Olympia police issues, community policing, Karen Johnson, the Black Alliance of Thurston County, race, bias, and related topics, go to Little Hollywood, [www.janineslittlehollywood.blogspot.com](http://www.janineslittlehollywood.blogspot.com) and type key words into the search engine.

You don't make progress by standing on the sidelines, whimpering and complaining. You make progress by implementing ideas.

—Shirley Chisholm



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# Baseball is the worst...

Caleb Lardner

Today is warm spring day, the end of school is drawing nearer and nearer, and my homework load is getting lighter and lighter. In fact, spring just happens to be my second favorite time of the year. I would like to say that it’s my favorite time of the year, but the coming of spring also means the coming of baseball season, and that’s just a downer. You see, I strongly dislike baseball, and within the next two columned page of size 9 font writing, I’ll tell you why.

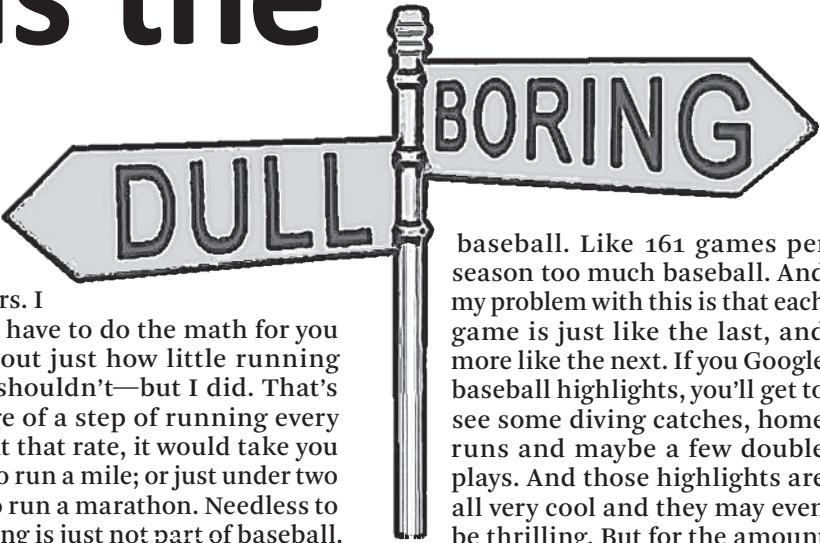
Let me start by saying that baseball players are some of the most non-athletic athletes in professional sports. They don’t have to eat right, or do any of the physically demanding tasks that other professional athletes have to do in order to earn playing time.

In fact, one of the hardest part of other sports, running, is just non-existent in baseball. While searching for a source to back this up, (as I’m trying to make this at least a little rooted in fact). I stumbled upon a Gizmodo article which compares the average distance run by players in sports ranging from soccer, to football to—yeah, you guessed it—baseball.

In the article the author starts addressing the idea of running in baseball with an oh-so-telling, “Ah-hahahahaha. Seriously? C’mon, cut it out.” He goes on to say, “most baseball players won’t run 100 yards during the course of a game unless you count the slow trot on and off the field between innings.” Now let me tell you, as a member of the Mayfield High School track team, I have friends who can run 100 yards in less than 12 seconds. The average baseball game takes around

three hours. I shouldn’t have to do the math for you to figure out just how little running that is. I shouldn’t—but I did. That’s an average of a step of running every minute. At that rate, it would take you 52 hours to run a mile; or just under two months to run a marathon. Needless to say, running is just not part of baseball.

And I know that if you like baseball even in the slightest, you’re probably frustrated right now; you’re probably countering my argument with something along the lines of Caleb, baseball players have to hit a 2.9 inch ball which is hurling through space at



baseball. Like 161 games per season too much baseball. And my problem with this is that each game is just like the last, and more like the next. If you Google baseball highlights, you’ll get to see some diving catches, home runs and maybe a few double plays. And those highlights are all very cool and they may even be thrilling. But for the amount of baseball games played in a season, baseballs more thrilling moment’s come few and far between.

Also, one of the silliest parts of baseball to me, a part widely regarded by fans as a bonus, is that the game can go on forever. There is no max inning that decides a tied game. No, instead, they all just have to step back out onto the field and carry on. The longest baseball game ever played lasted eight hours and 25 minutes, and took place over the course of 33 innings. In the time it took for that baseball game to end, you could have worked an entire shift at a nine-to-five job, watched four good movies, or walked a marathon—unless you were going at baseball pace, that is.

For me, these are some of my bigger reasons why baseball sucks. Because of its nine innings-slow moving structure, and the incredible level of difficulty that it takes to score points, coupled with its seemingly unending season and its potentially unending games, makes baseball my least favorite sport. But, I do concede that baseball is wildly popular, and I know that the Indians are having a pretty good year right now. And I guess that if people baseball a fun thing to watch and talk about, there’s nothing wrong with that. Just don’t expect to see me at a game.

*Caleb Lardner, a high school student, is not a baseball fan.*

One of the silliest parts of baseball to me, widely regarded by fans as a bonus, is that the game can go on forever. The longest baseball game ever played lasted eight hours and 25 minutes, and took place over the course of 33 innings.

upwards of 90 mph, with a wooden bat 2.6 inches thick, in order to just open the door to the possibility of scoring; so just because baseball doesn’t have lots of running, doesn’t make it extremely easy. I bet you couldn’t hit the ball.

Well, little voice in the back of your head, I agree that it’s probably really hard. And you’re right I couldn’t do it. But the thing is, neither can they. The average baseball player hits the ball 27 percent of the time. On any given pitch, chances are the batter is going to get a strike, which makes it exceptionally hard to stay interested in a game for over three hours. Baseball takes drawn out, low action games to the extreme-and that’s coming from a soccer fan.

Furthermore, baseball players play too much baseball—waaay too much

# HRC supporters turn on progressive media

*Our survival is on the line.*

As we all know, the US presidential campaign has divided many in the progressive community.

Our news team has worked hard over the last year covering the Democratic presidential primary. Many of our long-time supporters are not happy with us and our extensive coverage of Bernie Sanders’ campaign. They are Clinton supporters and they hoped we would be covering a coronation - and not a hard-fought primary campaign. And, they are letting us know.

Here’s just a sampling of what some of our larger past donors have been writing to us:

- "I have been a supporter (including substantial financial support!) for many years. Why have you wasted so much space on Bernie Sanders? What has he ever accomplished?"
- "I had donated to you before, but no more—I guess I’m not a Pro-



- gressive. I am a Hillary supporter.“
- "I have donated generously to CD for years but now I’m with Hillary.”
- “I would love to throw you a few

We are proud of our team’s news coverage and analysis of the political revolution that swept the nation and continues to be a hopeful and powerful force for change. We wouldn’t change a thing.

- bucks as I have done in the past, but I am a Hillary fan. Contributing at this time will not be possible.”
- "It’s time for women who have worked hard to get their chance.

Sanders had no substantial long-term vision and he didn’t offer much in Congress over 30 years! He was a bum till he was 30, while HRC worked circles around him.”

We are proud of our team’s news coverage and analysis of the political revolution that swept the nation and

continues to be a hopeful and powerful force for change. We wouldn’t change a thing.

But—because we rely on our readers for support, we can’t afford to lose any of our funding base. Since we don’t have corporate sponsors or sell advertising, we are left with one solution. We must find new donors, and we must ask those who are still with us to step up.

If you have appreciated our campaign coverage and want progressive, independent media to survive, we need your help now. Our fundraising projections for 2016 are way off. If our fundraising doesn’t improve, we can’t continue.

—CommonDreams.org



ways that are not always easy to see.

The trauma of the people inside Pulse, their friends, families, and loved ones cannot be imagined. The trauma of fear, shock, and anger is also a shared experience that is generational, deeply embedded in survivors of oppression, displacement, warfare, and violence. The experience of collective grief, expressed in the recent rallies, vigils, dialogues, art, and social media is overwhelming. We applaud the efforts of Equality Florida and local leadership in Orlando creating incredible response and processes to support, heal, and distribute resources.

We all have unique roles to play, and we offer an assessment of the landscape in order to understand how to protect and defend our communities in times of great crisis. One effect of trauma is hyper-vigilance. When we experience trauma, we become super aware of our surroundings as a defense mechanism. In this time of collective trauma, the SMA calls on movement actors to harness a strategic hyper-vigilance to move from this moment into our collective movement power.

Let us be hyper-vigilant when we come together, not to police one another but to listen. Let us investigate this landscape, thoroughly. Let us take the time for careful reflection and foster a clear understanding of the terrain, forecast how state violence will be reinforced and expanded, and name what is at stake for all of our communities.

Let us also build from our strengths. Investigate and support the existing

Occupy Sonnet

Because everything is broken in this country of squandered and pillaged dreams, even the sonnet's usual bliss can't right it all in fourteen jagged lines. When all remains said and undone, this sonnet will list like the Andrea Doria, mortally wounded off the stone coast of New England, her swaying lifeboats unhinged from their davits, the democracy too far and few between governments, banks, and poets to save everyone from the preened power's drowning. So this sonnet ends

—Sandra Yannone

sanctuary spaces in your own location and community. Create spaces for engagement and dialogue that allow people opportunities to be in alignment, beyond allyship. Let us queer our political work in honor of

the ones we have lost. We celebrate queer resistance to state violence and over-policing of our public spaces, Pride events, and nightclubs. Let us participate in organized work to initiate the development of a new landscape.

**The long slow build**

Southern communities began building together long before this attack, and we will continue to build a social justice movement powerful enough to contend with this current landscape and fundamentally transform our world. There are thousands of people who are part of the work of the Southern Movement Assembly and have worked to initiate visionary agendas through the Southern Peoples Initiatives that address the root causes of violence, poverty, racism, homophobia, and transphobia. We cannot move forward from this massacre without understanding our position, and we believe that we are stronger together.

We honor and carry with us the many we lost on that Saturday night in Florida. We carry with us the movements that walked out of high schools all over the South for the Jena 6 in 2007, the movements that rallied in the hundreds of thousands for Trayvon in 2013, the movements for the decolonization of Puerto Rico, and the movements of Muslim and Arab families that have refused to be silenced and intimidated every day since 2001. We remember the many we have lost around the world as we begin to craft a better one.

*Southern Movement Assembly is an alliance of Southern organizations to develop shared analysis and implement strategic action plans across the United States South. [www.southtosouth.org](http://www.southtosouth.org)*

**Lawsuit filed against loophole allowing evasion of malpractice payment reporting**

Public Citizen filed a lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia to force federal agencies to act in ensuring that health care providers are not allowed to evade medical malpractice reporting requirements

The “corporate shield loophole allows physicians and other health care providers to avoid having medical malpractice payments—made on their behalf—reported to the National

Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB). The loophole deprives hospitals and state licensing boards of vital information needed to protect patient health and safety.

Public Citizen’s complaint urges the court to compel the U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services (HHS) and its component the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to act on a May 2014 citizen petition to close the loophole.

In that 2014 petition, Public Citizen requested that the agency amend the NPDB regulations to require that

all reports of medical malpractice payments be submitted to the NPDB in the name of any health care practitioners on whose behalf the malpractice payment is made, whether or not the practitioners are named in the claim or action. In the more than two years since the petition was filed, the agency has neither granted nor denied the requested action.

“It is well past time for HHS to issue a rule slamming the door on this loophole, as it should have done when it first acknowledged the problem more than 15 years ago when the agency issued a proposed rule to close the loophole. The agency later withdrew the proposal, leaving the loophole open,” said Dr. Michael Carome, director of Public Citizen’s Health Research Group.

Current NPDB rules, which are not consistent with the federal statute establishing the NPDB, created the “corporate shield loophole.” It allows a practitioner to avoid being reported to the NPDB if a malpractice victim agrees to dismiss the practitioner from a lawsuit or claim, leaving a hospital or some other corporate entity as the sole defendant. Such dismissals often

occur in response to a request from attorneys for a self-insured hospital or other corporate entity that employs the practitioner. The loophole is used to allow the practitioner who was alleged to have committed malpractice to avoid having a report of a malpractice payment made on his or her behalf submitted to the NPDB.

The NPDB is used by state licensing boards, hospitals and health maintenance organizations to conduct background checks to determine whether a doctor or other health care provider has been sanctioned for misconduct by a hospital, had his or her license to practice curtailed, or had malpractice payments made on his/her behalf. The goal of the NPDB is to protect patients from those who provide substandard or negligent care.

“The NPDB was created to ensure patient safety by providing a comprehensive, reliable information center concerning the malpractice payment and disciplinary history of physicians and other health care practitioners,” added Carome. “The corporate shield loophole makes the NPDB’s information less complete, less reliable and less useful.”

—Public Citizen

# Watch powerfully informative interviews on your computer

For more than 29 years the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation has been producing powerfully informative TV programs on important issues. You can watch our current program and more than 150 of our previous ones through the Olympia FOR’s website at your convenience even if you don’t watch our current program on TCTV cable channel 22 in Thurston County (Mondays 1:30 pm, Wednesdays 5:00 pm, Thursdays 9:00 pm).

Simply visit [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org),

click the “TV Programs” link, and scroll down past the thorough description of the current month’s program. Previous programs are listed chronologically. Click the link for the program you want to watch. Also, next to each program’s link is a link to a thorough description of the program that you can read by clicking the “Word” or “pdf” link.

You can watch more than 150 programs through [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org). These were new in 2016:



## August: “How Science and Art Explain the Carbon Cycle and Climate”

This month’s TV program helps people understand the climate crisis – and powerful solutions – in fresh ways. Three knowledgeable guests combine easy-to-understand science and visually explicit art to help us explore the carbon cycle as a crucial but often neglected aspect of the climate crisis. We present the carbon cycle in some fresh ways that non-scientists – and people of all ages – can easily understand. We also show how these fresh insights can help us choose practical remedies to reverse the damage and make our climate more sustainable.

**July:** “Nisqually Canoe Journey” – Explores a powerful regional tradition organized by our region’s Native American and First Nation tribes. Tribal members paddle traditional dugout canoes from throughout our region and converge at the location of a different tribal host each year. The 2016 canoe journey will bring about 110 traditional dugout canoes to Olympia, hosted by the Nisqually Tribe. The website for this year’s canoe journey – [www.paddletonisqually.com](http://www.paddletonisqually.com).

**June:** “TPP and Other ‘Free Trade’ Schemes Endanger Us All” -- For decades presidents and Congresses of both big political parties have been pushing for “free trade” schemes that promise jobs and prosperity. But when enacted these schemes have actually produced the opposite. Instead of “free” trade we need “fair” trade that protects workers, consumers, environments, and human rights.

[WWW.OLYMPIAFOR.ORG](http://WWW.OLYMPIAFOR.ORG)

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