



POST OFFICE BOX 110034 BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11211

Updates for November 20th

5 Nov - New York Times Missed Story on Police and White Supremacists

Over the weekend, the New York Times Magazine published a lengthy and in-depth piece on how U.S. law enforcement has willfully ignored the threat of white supremacist extremism for decades.

MORE:

by Natasha Lennard (*The Intercept*)

The author, Janet Reitman, takes an ostensibly deep dive into how law enforcement — particularly federal agencies — has neglected the growth of the violent far right, in part owing to Republican political agenda setting. For a story framed around a “blind spot,” though, the piece itself is hobbled by an egregious case of sightlessness.

The Times tells a story about law enforcement failing and struggling to deal with white supremacy. The elephant in the room, unmentioned by Reitman or any of the sources she chose to cite, is that U.S. law enforcement doesn’t do enough about violent racists because as an institution, U.S. law enforcement is violently racist and contains explicit white supremacists in its ranks.

It is not that the Times story doesn’t contain some bits of information that point to this obvious conclusion. Reitman goes as far as to call law enforcement’s indifference to white supremacist extremism “willful”; an entire section of the piece reports on how police regularly permit neo-Nazi violence at rallies, while instead targeting left-wing, anti-racist protesters. She notes how police have been seen posing for photos with the so-called alt-right, and briefly highlights an incident, first reported by Arun Gupta for *The Intercept*, in which a right-wing militia member aided officers from the Department of Homeland Security in arresting an anti-fascist protester.

Rather, the problem is that the larger framing of the piece ignores the deep and historic links between policing and racism. Throughout the Times Magazine article, a sharp line is drawn between police officers and the white supremacists they interact with — it’s a profound category mistake.

The opening paragraph of Reitman’s piece contains this anecdote about last year’s far-right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia: “A black man held an aerosol can, igniting the spray, and in retaliation, a white man picked up his gun, pointed it toward the black man and fired it at the ground. The Virginia state troopers, inexplicably, stood by and watched.” The main character of the piece, a Florida police officer, is then said to have “fixated on this image, wondering what kind of organizational failure had led to the debacle.” The fact that Reitman opens with a story that frames a black counterprotester as the instigator of violence is questionable enough. The broader problem with the article is that the Virginia state troopers’ inaction was far from inexplicable, and the organizational failures do not merit a sense of bewilderment.

It has been well-reported that not only is racism endemic to American police culture, but that, in the exact decades Reitman looks at, white supremacist groups infiltrated law enforcement agencies around the country. Somehow, in Reitman’s interrogation of the FBI dealing with far-right extremism, she fails to mention that the agency itself was internally investigating white supremacist infiltration in law enforcement.

“Although these right-wing extremists have posed a growing threat for years,” *The Intercept*’s Alice Speri reported last year, “federal investigators have been reluctant to publicly address that threat or to point out the movement’s longstanding strategy of infiltrating the law enforcement community.” Speri’s story was based, in part, on a classified FBI Counterterrorism Policy Guide from 2015, which noted that “domestic

terrorism investigations focused on militia extremists, white supremacist extremists, and sovereign citizen extremists often have identified active links to law enforcement officers.” (I reached out to Reitman to see if she was aware of The Intercept story, and if so, why she declined to include the information. This story will be updated if I hear back.)

Speri’s report cited numerous examples from the past decade of white supremacist police activity, including the case of a local sheriff’s department in Los Angeles that was found to have formed a neo-Nazi gang in 1991; a Chicago detective and rumored Ku Klux Klan member who was found to have tortured 120 black men while on duty (before eventually being fired and prosecuted); and cops in Cleveland who scrawled neo-Nazi graffiti in their locker rooms.

The Times piece has a passage on a joint 2009 assessment by DHS and the FBI, which warned of the growing white supremacist threat. The assessment caused outrage among adherents of the growing right-wing political movement known as the tea party, as well as conservatives in general; among other complaints, they took umbrage at the report’s claim that veterans were at high risk of right-wing radicalization. Then-DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano bowed to the pressure, disavowed the document, and apologized to veterans. But as the report’s lead researcher, Daryl Johnson, told Speri last year, “Federal law enforcement agencies in general — the FBI, the Marshals, the [Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives] — are aware that extremists have infiltrated state and local law enforcement agencies and that there are people in law enforcement agencies that may be sympathetic to these groups.”

The least we might expect from the Times story — which, according to the author, took over a year to report — would be for it to include federal agencies’ own admissions of white supremacist infiltration in policing. A true reckoning with law enforcement’s role in American white supremacy would address the dark and unfinished history of policing as a racist institution, from its birth in the slave patrols of the 18th century, to its historic presence in the KKK, to the innumerable instances of racism by the police and the continued threat policing poses to black life.

As if to provide an example of how to do it, the day before the Times Magazine story went live, the Washington Post published an article that detailed the systemic racism and misconduct of the police department in Little Rock, Arkansas, including the hiring of an officer who had attended a KKK meeting and went on to shoot dead a 15-year-old black child in 2012. The story of this officer, the Post’s Radley Balko wrote, “isn’t one of a rogue, aberrant cop so much as a glimpse into the police culture of Arkansas’s largest city.”

Reitman’s Times piece mentions that police have shown a tendency to target Black Lives Matter protesters above neo-Nazis, but declines to mention that Black Lives Matter — the central anti-racist movement of our time — is a movement against racist police brutality. Reitman’s piece reads as if the message of Black Lives Matter — that white supremacy undergirds U.S. policing — has fallen on deaf ears.

Meanwhile, Reitman did manage to include a comment from Nate Snyder, a counterterrorism adviser to the Obama administration, recalling local police officers asking for help fighting neo-Nazi skinheads. “They’d be like, ‘Thanks for that stuff on Al Qaeda, but what I really need to know is how to handle the Hammerskin population in my jurisdiction,’” Snyder said. This no doubt took place, but to include this information and leave out explicit police involvement with neo-Nazis and their racist fellow travelers paints a misleading picture of generally well-intentioned local cops, stymied by Washington’s priorities.

I’m not suggesting that Reitman or the editors involved with the story intended to give police or white supremacists a free pass. Compared to some of the Times’s more sympathetic coverage of Trump-emboldened white supremacists and the administration’s racism, this article made a point of stressing the contemporary threat of the far right and appeared to aim, in good faith, to point a finger at the government. But for an investigation with the alleged purpose of unveiling the “whys” of law enforcement’s treatment of white supremacy, it is more than an oversight to ignore that the call has been coming from inside the house. It is journalistic malpractice.

6 Nov - We Were There to Protect the Water

At 19 years old, Dion Ortiz left his birthplace of San Felipe Pueblo for Denver. His basic plan was to escape the bad habits he'd picked up. After a few months, he landed a construction job, but didn't see much else on the horizon.

MORE:

by Aaron Cantú (*Santa Fe Reporter*)

Before he could settle in during the summer of 2016, his friend mentioned a gathering happening at the Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North Dakota, about nine hours northeast of Denver by car—something about an oil pipeline, and protecting the water. Ortiz only had a week to decide.

The decision to go, he learned last month, would lead to a 16-month prison sentence, making Ortiz the second person from Northern New Mexico imprisoned for actions while taking part in the protests.

"Even just hearing about Standing Rock, I didn't know much more than what they told me was going on," Ortiz tells SFR over the phone from inside a county jail in North Dakota. "I didn't look it up or anything. But I decided to drive up here with them anyway."

On Ortiz' first full day at Standing Rock over two years ago, private security forces hired by Energy Transfer Partners, the company installing the massive Dakota Access Pipeline, attacked water protectors with security dogs. The dramatic images gripped the nation, and plunged Ortiz into a movement he says gave him a new sense of purpose.

As the number of people swelled and temperatures plunged through the winter, Ortiz integrated himself into the camp as a basic handyman, helping people set up their tents and distribute materials for people to stay warm. Throughout his five months there, he met Indigenous people from all over the world.

"It was cool to experience Native American culture up here, and it was really great to hear the songs they sang and the different prayers they had. I met a few Mayans and Aztecs, too," he says.

The encampment's numbers reached 10,000 at its height, yet diminished in the winter, and the media's attention drifted elsewhere. But Ortiz didn't leave until early February 2017, shortly after President Trump signed an executive order allowing Energy Transfer Partners to complete construction of the pipeline.

"It didn't matter how much people were there or weren't, we knew why we were there: We were there to protect the water like everyone was doing," Ortiz says. "Everybody collaborated in the way where we stood together, which made the movement strong."

Since that time, Ortiz has been incarcerated in four different lockups and rehabilitation centers, and is currently waiting to be taken to the Terre Haute Federal Correctional Institution in Indiana. With time served, he expects to be released in April at the latest.

The trouble started for Ortiz shortly after he left the doomed protest encampment to stay with friends in Oregon. That month, the federal Department of Justice unsealed an indictment that charged him and several other Indigenous men each with two counts of using fire to commit a felony during one day of particularly intense protest. Ortiz, now 22, was also indicted on two counts of civil disorder, but the fire charges each carried a 10-year minimum sentence.

He was put on pre-trial release a month later, in March, and returned to San Felipe to live with his family. The combination of stress about his upcoming trial and being back in a toxic environment, Ortiz says, eventually led to what he calls "a relapse," in which he abused prescription painkillers. It showed up in a urine test reviewed by his pretrial services officer, as did cannabis.

The relapse led to more jail time.

Court records show that US Magistrate Alice Senechal of North Dakota issued a warrant for his arrest Sept. 15, 2017. Ortiz spent the next five months, until March 2018, imprisoned at the Sandoval County Detention Center. He was then transferred to the New Moon Lodge residential treatment center in Ohkay Owingeh, where he stayed until July.

That month, he traveled back to North Dakota to submit a non-cooperating change of plea: guilty to one count of civil disorder in exchange for the other charges being dropped. He immediately went back to jail there, and on Oct. 22, Ortiz was sentenced to 16 months, and subsequently transferred to another North Dakota jail.

Sending a person to jail for relapsing while they're facing uniquely difficult circumstances is indicative of how the criminal justice system "foments further chaos" for people struggling with substance abuse, says Bernie Lieving, an advocate for community-based opioid treatment.

"Relapse is part of the recovery process," Lieving tells SFR. "We don't have resources for people who are young and facing prison time for, essentially, political reasons. That was political activism."

Ortiz doesn't, in fact, see his charges as political, because he doesn't even consider what he did to be political: "To me, doing what I was doing, it didn't seem much of a political matter."

Ortiz is one of three people, all Indigenous, who are serving time in federal prison on charges stemming from the months-long standoff—though his sentence is the shortest, according to the Water Protector Legal Collective. Hundreds were arrested only to see their charges dropped, and only a handful have been sentenced to jail or prison time. Another Indigenous man, Michael "Rattler" Markus, will surrender to the Bureau of Prisons for a 36-month sentence on Nov. 26.

Ortiz' mother, Christina Ortiz, says her son's participation at Standing Rock was consistent with the reverence for the Earth she tried to instill in all her children. She attended her son's sentencing hearing last month.

"It's just the way we got brought up and how we appreciate our lands," Christina tells SFR. "It's not like he did something childish like hold up a convenience store. It was something well worth doing, so I'm very proud of him."

Ortiz plans to return to San Felipe once his sentence is complete. He hopes to enroll in school and study auto mechanics there. Without the anxiety of a looming trial, he thinks he'll return far wiser than before.

"I have changed as a person, my perspective and where I want to be," Ortiz tells SFR. "I'm so young, I can achieve what I want to achieve—so that's what I'm shooting for."

7 Nov - Water Protector Wins Appeal at North Dakota Supreme Court

The North Dakota Supreme Court ruled in favor of Water Protector Rebecca Jessee, reversing her lower court conviction arising out of a November 15, 2016 prayer walk in commemoration of missing and murdered Indigenous women.

MORE:

via Water Protector Legal Collective

Jessee and 26 others were arrested close to a railway track near Mandan. They had attempted to access a DAPL construction site to pray and participate in a ceremony aimed at calling attention to the adverse social and health impacts of the oil industry and "man camps" – temporary housing for oilfield workers that

become havens for gendered violence and human trafficking of Indigenous women and girls. Law enforcement blocked the group at the railroad tracks, ordered them to disperse and proceeded to arrest them.

WPLC volunteer attorney Melinda Power, who argued the appeal before the five Supreme Court justices on September 7, 2018 in Bismarck, ND, called the decision “a good victory for Rebecca Jessee, everyone arrested on November 15th, and for Water Protectors generally.”

The court ruled that Jessee’s mere presence at the railroad tracks did not constitute “tampering”. The opinion, written by Justice Daniel Crothers, states that “...no evidence supports the finding Jessee was tampering with Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway property based on her passive presence on railroad property. Jessee did not alter the railroad tracks in a harmful manner.”

Power noted that the court also acknowledged the goal of the people who had gathered for the prayer walk that day was to go to the pipeline construction yard, and, by making that finding, implicitly found that the railroad tracks were not the intended destination of the walk.

“That had been a contested fact,” she said. “This ruling undercuts the lower court’s conclusion that people were trying to interfere with the railroad tracks. The Supreme Court acknowledged that the group’s goal was to get to the construction yard, but they were stopped at the railroad tracks by police.”

Pleased with the positive outcome, Jessee praised her defense counsel for “speaking softly and carrying a big stick.” Jessee says she stands with Water Protectors adding that the “the elephant has not left the room.” In fact, her partner will appear today in Bismarck for his own appeal hearing.

Power expects this ruling to be useful to other WPLC attorneys defending Water Protectors arrested on the same day. She pointed out that at the trial level, no documentation had been introduced that the train stoppage ordered by law enforcement caused any monetary loss or any delay in service.

“There was no documentary evidence or testimony presented to the court, that any costs to the railroad were directly attributable to Ms. Jessee or any other defendant,” she explained.

Power praised the Court’s opinion, “They did their research and found good North Dakota law that defines what tampering is. As I argued, tampering requires that there be a harmful change or alteration. I give the Supreme Court a lot of credit for their commitment to researching North Dakota law and applying the correct legal standard.”

9 Nov - xGOD-FREEx

We’re always glad to see new writing from the folks we support and animal liberation prisoner Walter Bond has been prolific of late. Please take the time to read what he has to say and maybe use it as the basis for starting, or continuing, a correspondence.

MORE:

The first time I was ever caught for arson was in 1997 when I broke into and burnt a huge pentagram into the altar at the united methodist church, across the street from the police station, in Mason City, Iowa. I remember when I lit the pentagram how the butane flickered blue for a solid three seconds before the bright yellow flames rose and leapt from the carpet. It really was a beautiful sight to behold.

In the monotheistic religions we find the origin of the filth and saturation of human supremacy. A cursory look at genesis in the ‘holy’ bible gives us the impression that god created the whole universe, all of creation, the Earth, Animals and everything that could ever be extracted from the air, soil and water all for the use and abuse of man.

How spectacularly egotistical! How phenomenally megalomaniacal! What insane vanity! To think that all things are put here for our utility and are at their best only when becoming useful to us. Why, the whole point of life is to simply rise to the level of being crushed under our feet! Convenience in the extreme.

It is this primary idea of supremacy, that gave way and legitimized the institutionalization of slavery, patriarchy and hierarchy that came to plague all open societies ever since. In fact we find this primary idea as a theme that gets repeated over and over again in all the world scriptures, sagas and religious mythologies. It is the unquestioned given. The first step that is always overlooked.

In the koran we read that Iblis is turned to Satan because he has the audacity to question god about why he plans on putting a being, man, in charge of the Earth when mankind is such a wicked and selfish mess. For this Iblis is cast out upon which he vows to stand against humanity directly in their path of religion. How glorious then is Satan! He seems to me to be the primordial Animal rights activist as he places Animals and the Earth above man and god, well done! Too bad he didn't spit in god's eye on the way out the door just for good measure.

Of course, all this is only so much theater. Just as was my burning a pentagram in the altar of an upper middle class white church so many years ago. One does not combat Santa Claus by believing in Krampus, no! To do so is to fall right back into the same stupid games of delusional fantasy. The only way to truly combat fantasy is with reality.

And the truth is that (drum roll please): lo and behold all this is fraud! The catholic pedophile is no more holy than the secular pedast! The hindu fakir is no less a lying greedy con artist than the ponzi scheming capitalist. The santero and priests of vodun see no more in their false pattern recognitions than do the so-called psychics, palm readers, numerologists, astrologers or paranoid schizophrenics! No meat eating mystic, no native or indigenouness hallucinogenic drug addict has anything more sacred to offer than can be experienced at practically any house party, on any given night, anywhere in america!

The truth is you live and then you die and that is the end of you! We all came from the same place, the womb, and we all will go to the same place, the dirt. The moment after death will be the same as the moment before your birth, you will not exist.

Nor is human life even sacred. The Earth deals in an abundance, not scarcity. Just as with all life. In fact, at this point in our evolution people have become a positive nuisance, numerically speaking, a blight on the face of Mother Earth, and a terror to all else that lives.

So what is the point of life?

Well, if you are an Atheist you get to decide what life will mean to you. Like an adult you can discern from the relevant information, separate fact from fiction and chart your own course. And if that's too much for you (as it is for most people) you can grab a hold of the crutch of fantasy. You can become like all true believers in the lie, a pusillanimous mental gelding that retreats into a world of nonsense, chanting and hysterics. But don't expect the rest of us to believe, pay lip service to, or even respect your pathological shibboleths.

It also must be stressed that it's time for a full reversal of what passes for 'morality' of a religious nature. All this nonsense about 'traditional family values,' sexual normalcy, the sanctity of (human) life, fetuses, zygotes...whatever. All these self righteous and archaic ideas of what is 'natural' are pure fiction. And it is fiction of a particularly dangerous variety in this day and age of global warming and over population. The truth is that the less people, the better.

Why? because from the point of view of the Earth, as well as the vast communities of life She sustains, humans, since the advent of the industrial revolution have been killing the planet for the sake of our 'way

of life.' So obviously, our way of life must change. That is far more reasonable than oh, I dunno, killing the Earth and all life upon her.

What is best for the totality, the diversity of species is my reason for what's right. What will help the Earth survive is the foundational support of my 'morality,' and I use the term loosely. Not belief in some mythical airy beings that roam around the cosmos making things out of no things. Nor is it some pile of trash scripture that dictates trite and shoddy proverbs of behavior originated by out and out charlatans!

No, and once again no! Let us usher in, and champion an age of abortion, birth control, homosexuality and euthanasia. Let's spay and neuter ourselves instead of our 'pets!' Lets allow the rinderpest that is humanity to decline, to wither and rot on the vine so that the Earth may take her time and heal from the plague that was wrought upon her by the infection of the non-Vegan. And let the very Idea of god, the supernatural, and every form of its imposition be destroyed and held in nothing but utter contempt.

11 Nov - Take Action For Political Prisoner Kamau Sadiki

We have since heard from Kamau's direct support community that immediate action is no longer necessary, but think including the timeline is useful for showing the strength of organizing for our imprisoned comrades.

MORE:

From Kamau's daughter:

Freddie Hilton AKA Kamau Sadiki #115 06 88

Urgent! ASMP wants to amputate my father's ankle. He needs a wound care specialist, not amputation!

Call and write today!

Contact- Call Write Letters:

Chief Medical Facilitator Dr. Mary Alston

Augusta State Prison

3001 Gordon Highway

Grovetown, Georgia 30813

Warden Ted Philbin: 706.855.4700

November 14th - Update on Black Panther Kamau Sadiki

Thank you all for the overwhelming response of calls, letters, faxes, and social media posts on behalf of Kamau Sadiki. They flooded the offices of both warden Ted Philbin & chief medical facilitator Dr. Mary Alston. Due to these efforts, Kamau has met with and scheduled a future appointment with a chronic care doctor.

However, we must stay vigilant & let them know that we are watching, due to the terrible history of this so-called medical prison.

November 14th - Please Call Augusta State Prison And Ask Them To Not Amputate This Man's Foot! (UPDATED!)

by Robyn Pennacchia (*Wonkette*)

Hello Wonkers! How would you like to feel like you're doing something good today without even having to leave the comfort of your scratched-up pleather La-Z-Boy? Well, the NYC Anarchist Black Cross wants YOU to call Augusta State Prison and ask them to please not amputate the foot of prisoner Kamau Sadiki, whose daughter says he only needs a wound specialist. And so am I, because that is freaking horrifying.

From NYC ABC:

URGENT: Prison medical facilitators want to AMPUTATE Kamau Sadiki's foot, when what he needs is a wound care specialist. CALL 706.855.4700, reference Freddie Hilton, #115 06 88 (Kamau's state name). DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN! Please let us know what response you get.

Kamau Sadiki, formerly known as Freddie Hilton, is a former member of the Black Liberation Army and the Black Panthers who was convicted in 2003 of the 30-year-old murder of Officer James Richard Greene. Sadiki has maintained his innocence, and his supporters believe he is innocent and a political prisoner -- and that the real reason he is being held in prison is because he won't help police apprehend Assata Shakur, with whom he shares a child.

Here is what the late Safiya Bukhari, another former BLA member/ Black Panther (whom you may recall from efforts to free Mumia Abu-Jamal) and Claude Marks wrote about his case at FreeKamau.com:

In 2001, following increased interest in terrorism, one such former BLA member gave a statement about the 1971 murder after being detained during a traffic stop. With no eyewitness testimony and no physical evidence, the State based its case entirely upon the statements of three former BLA members who were present in Atlanta at the time of Officer Green's murder. Mr. Sadiki was arrested in 2002 in Brooklyn, New York some thirty one (31) years later after the murder.[...]

Among the many issues raised in his appeal, Mr. Sadiki is urging the court to reconsider her exclusion of the testimony of John Thomas' former wife, Ignae Thomas, wherein she was present during two conversations where others admitted their participation in the murder of the officer. Mr. Thomas who is now deceased, made statements exonerating Mr. Sadiki and stated that he had nothing to do with the shooting.[...]

The government and police, knowing that he suffers from Hepatitis C, Cirrhosis of the Liver and Sarcoidosis they told Kamau that unless he helped them capture Assata Shakur that he would "die in prison." The police told Kamau that if he worked with them and "got Assata to leave Cuba" and go to some other country where they could apprehend her that they would not prosecute on the false police killing charge. Kamau's two daughters and grandchildren are devastated by the absense of their loving, hard-working father (he supported them by working for the telephone company in New York for over eighteen years), and are active in efforts to release him.

There isn't exactly a ton of information available on his case online, the way there is with Assata Shakur and Mumia Abu-Jamal. Without a clear picture of what actually went on, without transcripts, without contemporary reports? I can't say for a fact if he is innocent or guilty. Though I would hardly put it past Georgia police to frame a Black Panther for murder -- and with a case that old? Let's just say I have my suspicions. I'd like to think that if such an arrest/conviction happened now, there would be more information available and it would be more heavily scrutinized than it was in 2001 when he was initially arrested.

What I do know, for sure, is that no one should have their foot amputated without their consent, and certainly not if there is literally anything else that can be done. What I do know is that a lot of incredibly fucked up stuff goes on in US prisons and jails and it's not talked about nearly enough. There's not enough transparency.

This kind of thing, by the way, is what the term "daylight is the best disinfectant" actually refers to -- not to poorly conducted interviews with neo-Nazis that focus primarily on their snazzy outfits.

So please, take a moment and call 706.855.4700. They'll probably just send you to voicemail like they did with me every day this week (even when I said I write for Wonkette!), but prisons need to know that if they try do this kind of thing to people, it's not going to be swept under the rug. They need to know they are being watched.

UPDATE!!!!!!!:

Replying to NYC ABC:

I wrote an article about his case today and some people have left info on what they heard when calling in the comments, if that is at all helpful. <https://t.co/0hdRyTOnKh>

NYC ABC Replying to @RobynElyse:

Thanks, Robyn! We received an email a few minutes ago letting us know that due to public pressure, mainly phone calls to the warden and medical facilitator, #KamauSadiki is scheduled to see a chronic pain specialist.

Thank you all so much for calling!

November 16th - Update on Kamau Sadiki

From an email sent by Kamau Sadiki to his daughter:

First, and and always, peace and love to everyone.

I sat down with my chronic care doctor and we came to an agreement on future options concerning my feet. I'm scheduled for the first phase of the options that my chronic care doctor and I had agreed to. In fact, it should be tomorrow.

16 Nov - Help Bear Runner have a Visit with Leonard Peltier!

An American Indian Movement elder, with terminal cancer, is trying to see Leonard Peltier for the first time in twenty years.

MORE:

I am sending you all a Go-Fund-Me that I hope you all can put some money in to help Edgar & wife get to Tampa, FL to make the trip to USP Coleman to see Leonard Peltier.

They haven't seen each other for over 20 years or so. Please do what you can to make this happen.

Lakota Elder Edgar Bear Runner was recently diagnosed with terminal cancer. Throughout his entire life, Edgar has devoted himself to his people and all Indian People everywhere. As a member of the American Indian Movement, he took part in many demonstrations which included participation in the Wounded Knee Siege of 1973. When Leonard Peltier and others fled for their lives after three men were killed on the Jumping Bull Compound, Edgar provided Sanctuary for them until they could be evacuated safely. Since Peltier's unjust conviction, Edgar has always lent his firm support to Leonard and would like to visit Leonard in prison before he makes his transition. To help pay for his expenses to travel from South Dakota to Florida, this Go Fund Me has been created. Please give whatever you can so that Edgar can see his brethren before he will no longer be able to. From our hearts to yours, THANK YOU!!!

gofundme.com/reunify-two-elder-warriors

25 Nov - Jane Addams Circle

WHAT: Mental Health Walk-ins

WHEN: 6-6:30pm, Sunday, November 25th

WHERE: The Base – 1302 Myrtle Avenue Brooklyn, New York 11221 (directions below)

NOTE: The Base is on the ground floor, is wheelchair accessible, and has a gender neutral toilet.

COST: FREE

MORE:

Jane Addams Circle invites those with mental health needs or questions to visit the Base every Sunday during walk-in hours between 6PM and 6:30PM. Anyone is welcome!

Jane Addams Circle is a small anarchist collective made up of professional social workers and psychologists who believe that to have a true and sustainable culture of resistance we must be able to maintain our mental health. We know everyone has sustained some emotional damage from this society and that we must find a variety of ways to undo this damage for us to be able to struggle effectively for our revolutionary dreams and passions with others. Struggling with emotional issues limits our ability to connect with others and to effectively enact the change we need in the world. Stigmatizing or refusing to deal with mental health issues in ourselves and in our community is weakens our struggle.

29 Nov - Rebellion In Patagonia

WHAT: Film Screening

WHEN: 7:30pm, Thursday, November 29th

WHERE: Spectacle Theater–124 South 3rd Street, Brooklyn 11249

MORE:

REBELLION IN PATAGONIA represents a sterling work of Anarchist memorialization bravely brought to the screen by its director, Hector Olivera. Based on Oswaldo Bayer's historical novel *Patagonia Rebelde*, about an anarcho-syndicalist labor union's insurrectionary uprising against the Argentinian elite in the 1920s, which was banned and publicly burned in the 70's along with the aforementioned feature film adaptation.

The film begins with an anarchist-led hotel workers' strike so successful one forgets how the working class could ever lose sight of its inherent collective strength. But soon after the workers' victory, cold reality swings back into sharp focus as the landowners conspire with the government to violently repress the strikers and rollback the gains made, a turn which the strikers had not foreseen. A cautionary tale for trusting state powers to uphold hard-won gains in worker's rights.

For decades, Argentinian politics swung between the Nationalist populism of Juan Peron and a series of military coups, eventually centrally coordinated under Operation Condor, aimed at suppressing the socialist elements that made Peron so widely popular.

In 1976 the military seized power once again, ushering in a brutal 7 year dictatorship in which the film was banned, Bayer, Olivera, and several of the film's actors were blacklisted, and Cepernic was imprisoned. In jail, he asked his warden if he deserved such cruel treatment simply for being a member of a Left-of-center party. "No, you're not a prisoner because of your affiliation," the warden reportedly said. "You're a prisoner because you allowed *Rebellion in Patagonia* to be filmed."

This film will be followed by a special MACC Encore Program at 10:00 and is part of *Burning Frame*: a monthly anarchist film series.

Come join us for a welcome respite from endless organizing work. The past two years have been a whirlwind: exhausting, invigorating, and ever ripe with potential. It can be difficult to find moments of pause and reflection when in the thick of it. Especially when "it" refers to the rise of fascism on a global scale with any number of future cataclysms hovering just past the horizon. But we digress.

The films in this series (presented as double-features) have been specially chosen by anarchists for anarchists, but really anyone far left-of-center in their beliefs and actions will find much to identify with and mull over. Come for the great works of radical political filmmaking, stay for the generative discussions, or even just to commiserate about how little has fundamentally changed over the past 50 years (the span of time which the films in this series will cover). The overriding hope is that these films, and their authentic representations of successes, defeats, and the messy work of direct action will help grant us the willpower and imagination to break through cycles of repeated structures.

To butcher the title of a great film for the sake of a mildly applicable pun: "Throw away your dogma, rally in the cinema."

30 Nov - NYC 2019 Certain Days Launch Party!

WHAT: Launch Party

WHEN: 7:30-9:30pm, Friday, November 30th

WHERE: Interference Archive–314 7th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11215

NOTE: Interference Archive is on the ground floor, is wheelchair accessible, and has a gender neutral toilet.

COST: FREE

MORE:

Join us for the *Certain Days: Freedom for Political Prisoners Calendar* launch party! The calendar is in its 18th year and is a joint fundraising and educational project between outside organizers in Montreal, Hamilton, New York and Baltimore, in partnership with a political prisoner being held in maximum-security prison in New York State, David Gilbert.

This year's theme is "Health/Care," and features art and writings by David Gilbert, Bec Young, Radical Indumentaria, Aviva Stahl, Debbie, Mike and Chuck Africa, Roger Peet, Addameer Prisoner Support & Human Rights Association, Leah Jo Carnine, Suzy Subways, Farha Najah, Ashanti Alston Omowali, Alec Ixnay Dunn, Barbara Zeller, Hikaru Ikeda, Giselle Dias, Micah Bazant, Justice for Alisha Walker, Fernando Martí, Sins Invalid, Tom Manning, Dave George, Laura Whitehorn, Frizz Kid, Abolitionist Law Center, Cindy Milstein, and more.

Local contributors to this calendar will be speaking about their art and articles printed in this year's calendar. We will also have copies of the calendar for sale and holiday cards for political prisoners for you to sign.

This event will take place on the 19th anniversary of the Seattle protests that successfully shut down the World Trade Organization (WTO) meetings in 1999. We will have some audio and images playing from that historic moment.

This event is co-sponsored by NYC Jericho, ProLibertad Freedom Campaign, NYC ABC, NYC Free Peltier & Samidoun Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network.

More info at certaindays.org

Order the calendar at burningbooks.com/products/certain-days-2019-calendar-awakening-resistance

1 Dec - K-12 Radical Education in NYC: a collaborative investigation

WHAT: Presentation and discussion

WHEN: 3:00-5:00pm, Saturday, December 1st

WHERE: Interference Archive—314 7th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11215

NOTE: Interference Archive is on the ground floor, is wheelchair accessible, and has a gender neutral toilet.

COST: FREE

MORE:

Radical education on the K-12 level also has a rich history in New York City, dating back as early as 1901. This two-hour event will be split into two parts: the first hour will be a presentation covering the definition and a brief history of radical education in New York City (including a love affair and an attempted bombing) and a look at the current state of radical K-12 education in New York City. The second hour will be a collaborative workshop, discussing realistic ways in which to get involved in radical education and children's rights in our city today.

This event will be facilitated by Alexander Khost, a children's rights activist living and mischieving in Brooklyn. Alexander is involved in various radical education projects in New York, including Friends of the Modern School, an organization that maintains the history of and supports current projects involving anarchistic education.

Possible advanced readings for this discussion (not required, but shared here as a resource) are:

The Children's Civil Rights Movement self-directed.org/tp/the-childrens-civil-rights-movement
What Does it Mean to be Educated? self-directed.org/tp/what-does-it-mean-to-be-educated

The Overprotected Kid theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/04/hey-parents-leave-those-kids-alone/358631

The Six Optimizing Conditions of Self-Directed Education self-directed.org/sde/conditions

Differences Between Self-Directed and Progressive Education psychologytoday.com/us/blog/freedom-learn/201706/differences-between-self-directed-and-progressive-education

2 Dec - B&P + SRLP Holiday Card Party

WHAT: Card Party

WHEN: 12:00-3:00pm, Sunday, December 2nd

WHERE: Sylvia Rivera Law Project (SRLP)–147 West 24th Street, 5th Floor, New York 10011

COST: FREE

MORE:

Come write, decorate, and send holiday cards to Sylvia Rivera Law Project's 150 Prisoner Advisory Committee members and to Black and Pink NY inside members!

Spread love and warmth to our LGB-TGNC+/PLWH incarcerated family while building community together. We've heard from our incarcerated members that receiving a holiday card lets them know they are not forgotten, even if they're locked away from friends and family. We are so appreciative that you are part of this effort.

Please bring postcard stamps or cash to donate if you're able to help cover the cost of postage. We'll also be selling copies of the beautiful 2019 Certain Days: Freedom for Political Prisoners calendar for \$15 each--perfect for a gift or for your own planning in the new year.

Space is wheelchair-accessible. Food will be provided. Email nyc@blackandpink.org with any questions.

9 Dec - Send Love Through the Walls 2018

WHAT: Send Love Through The Walls Holiday Card-Writing For Political Prisoners

WHEN: 3:00-8:00pm, Sunday, December 9th

WHERE: 263 Eastern Parkway, Apartment 5D (Direction Below) phone: 718.783.8141

COST: FREE (Donations to cover the cost of stamps greatly appreciated)

MORE:

In what many prisoners have told us is their favorite event of the year, Resistance in Brooklyn and NYC Anarchist Black Cross again join forces to bring you the annual holiday card-writing party for U.S. held political prisoners, prisoners of war, and prisoners of conscience. This event is always a lot of fun, the food outstanding, the camaraderie lively, and the handmade cards flat out amazing. This year will be no different. So plan to bring your friends, your creativity, and a healthy appetite. We'll have updates on the pp/pow campaigns as well as paints, markers, crayons, and envelopes.

Directions:

Getting to 263 Eastern Parkway is simple:

From the 2/3/4/5 or Franklin Avenue Shuttle:

Franklin Avenue Stop: Walk west on Eastern Parkway (away from Franklin Avenue, toward Classon Avenue). We're about half a block down on the north side of the street. When you go into the building, take the elevator to your left.

For more information, contact:

Resistance in Brooklyn– resistanceinbrooklyn07@gmail.com

NYC Anarchist Black Cross– nycabc@riseup.net