

Who Is Huey P. Newton?

To some he is an accused cop-killer. But to those who know him, Huey Newton is a brilliant and forceful leader of the black community. As Minister of Defense for the Black Panther Party; Newton has proved himself one of the most moving articulators of the pain, the despair, and the aspiration of being a black man in America.

The case of Huey Newton and the circumstances surrounding the alleged shooting of an Oakland policeman are obscure and burdened by a prejudiced, one-sided news coverage that has already convicted him of first degree murder. But the facts which are known point to something different.

All Black Panther leaders have been subject to continual harassment and brutality, to attempts to "get" them on any charge possible--whether murder or a minor traffic violation. Further, after the incident, a seriously wounded Huey Newton was manacled and taken to San Quentin prison--an act not only illegal but against doctor's orders.

At this point the shape of the case is clear. Huey Newton has been found guilty, not of murder, but of being black--and even worse in the eyes of the establishment--of being a man of pride, acquainted with grief, a man who has lifted his head and refused to accept the white man's definition of what he can and cannot be. As a black man under sustained armed police oppression, who can condemn Newton for carrying arms in self-defense, for defending the black ghetto as best he can?

And now this man needs your help. The road ahead will be painful and its end unknown. Huey Newton faces recovery from gunshot wounds, then trial, and then the agonizing process of appeal. The desperate need is money--to insure that Huey Newton no longer remains a political prisoner--to insure an impartial trial--to guarantee Newton the simple right to life. As a citizen of conscience, you cannot afford to let this man be executed for defying white society as his own conscience dictates--so we appeal to you--give what you can to the defense of Huey Newton--let there be no more martyrs to racial injustice in America.



American Whites for the Defense of Huey P. Newton
2945 Ashby Avenue Phone 841-0439
Send funds to: Huey Newton Defense Fund
P. O. Box 318
Berkeley, Calif. 94701

TACTIC OF PERSUASION

William Lloyd Garrison

"There is not any instance recorded, either in sacred or profane history, in which the oppressors and enslavers of mankind, except in individual cases, have been induced by moral suasion, to surrender their despotic power and let the oppressed go free; but in nearly every instance, from the time that Pharaoh and his host were drowned in the Red Sea, down to the present day, they have persisted in their evil course until some sudden destruction has come upon them, or they were compelled to surrender their ill gotten power in some other manner. Of all oppressors and tyrants who have cursed and afflicted mankind, none have ever equalled the enslavers of the colored race --especially American Republican Slaveholders--in ferociousness of spirit, moral turpitude of character, and desperate depravity of heart. I regard their conversion, as a body, to the side of bleeding humanity, by appeals to their understanding, consciences and hearts about as hopeless as any attempt to transform wolves and hyenas into lambs and doves by the same process. Their understandings have become brutish, their consciences seared as with a hot iron, and their hearts harder than adamant."

(Courtesy of the Black Panther News)



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DOCTOR APOLOGIZES TO HUEY

I can remember nothing in my medical training which suggested that, in the care of an acute abdominal injury, severe pain and hemorrhage are best treated by manaculating the patient to the examining table in such a way that the back is arched and belly tensed. Yet this is precisely the picture of our current emergency room procedure which appeared on the front page of a local newspaper last week-end. Looming large in the foreground of the same picture, so large as to suggest a caricature, was a police officer. Could it have been he who distracted the doctor in charge of the cassette position the patient in this curious way?

Unusual as it was, this picture probably did not disrupt very much the pleasant weekend enjoyed by my neighbors nor disturb more than momentarily the consciences of my medical colleagues. To me upon whose mind's eye it is permanently engraved, this photograph is a portentous document of modern history: it represents an end and a beginning. Further, for me, there has been enough of listening, of reading, of pondering. The time has now come to speak, to act, to fight back.

I have read essays written by the patient, Huey P. Newton; I have heard him patiently and painstakingly articulating his ideas and his hopes to a parade of questioners; hour after hour he continues to address the convinced and the unconvinced alike without malice. I have listened to him paraphrasing the concepts set forth in Dr. Fannon's books in a dozen brilliantly succinct sentences. I have listened to him and marvelled that a young man of 25 years can interpret in such scholarly fashion the historic, socioeconomic, and political implications of the trend of modern society while I, on the other hand, after 43 years---17 of them spent in study at college and in post doctoral education---discover I learned little of human value and must begin again.

The beginning again for me dates from the last time I saw the patient, several weeks ago, in a discussion with group of people, many of whom came by, listened awhile, and left. One such young man called later in the evening to say that he was in jail. He had been detained by the police for what they suspected might be a minor infraction of the Motor Vehicle Code, mistaken, as it turned out, for they quickly determined that no law had been broken. Not content, the police undertook lengthy investigation which ultimately revealed that the young man had not satisfactorily replied to a charge of driving with invalid license ONE YEAR AGO. For this reason he was now jailed, with bail set at \$550. It took three hours to fill out the requisite forms; pay the requisite fees; and see the requisite people, in order to extricate this black boy from his cell.

Two days later I was driving with a friend on the highway when she was apprehended because of four concurrent infractions of the Motor Vehicle Code; including driving without a valid permit for the trailer we were pulling. Nothing happened in spite of the fact that we were detained momentarily some miles farther on for still another infraction---this time a moving violation---we still arrived home in time for dinner, two white ladies to their comfortable white neighborhood. My friend told me later her TOTAL bail for all of this lawlessness came to \$15! So please do not waste my time, my white brothers and sisters, in telling me that justice is dispensed equally under the law to all Americans. I will not believe you.

I apologize, Mr. Newton, for any aggravation or suffering inflicted upon you during the course of treatment of your injuries. I apologize for the subhuman conditions and horrors of the ghetto in which an immoral political and social system, a system, which makes it inevitable that men like you are gunned down in the streets of our town.

Mary Jane Aguilar, M.D.

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Huey Newton, Minister of Defense of the Black Panther Party for Self Defense, lies in the hospital at San Quentin State Prison, with a gunshot wound in his stomach, inflicted by an Oakland cop. An Oakland cop is dead and buried and a second cop lies somewhere in some hospital with three bullet wounds in his body. Huey has been charged with the murder of the first cop and the shooting of the second.

The shooting occurred in the heart of Oakland's black ghetto. Huey is a black man, a resident of Oakland's black ghetto, and the two cops were white and lived in the white suburbs. On the night that the shooting occurred, there were 400 years of oppression of black people by white people focused and manifested in the incident. We are at that crossroads in history where black people are determined to bring down the final curtain on the drama of their struggle to free themselves from the boot of the white man that is on their collective neck. Huey Newton knew that the chief instrument of oppression of black people in America is the police departments of the cities. Through murder, brutality, and the terror of their image, the police of America have kept black people intimidated, locked in a mortal fear, and paralyzed in their bid for freedom. He knew that the power of the police over black people has to be broken if we are to be liberated from our bondage. These gestapo dogs are not holy, they are not angels, and there is no more mystery surrounding them. They are brutal beasts who have been gunning down black people and getting away with it. They call this "justifiable homicide" carried out by an officer of the law in the line of duty. Black people understand that this is very true -- but not in the way that the lying mass media would have people believe.

The "duty" that these wretched jackals are carrying out is to keep the niggers in check; the peace that they are charged with keeping is the peace of the power structure, the peace of the Bank of America and General Motors. To perform their duty, they must necessarily disturb the peace of black people. In fact, black people have had no peace since the first day they sat foot on this bloody Babylonian soil called America. Peace is what black people seek, what they are determined to have. Peace is what is being withheld from black people.

Huey Newton is a child of Malcolm X. Malcolm said that we will get our freedom by any means necessary, and 20,000,000 black people heard his voice and concur in his message. Huey Newton heard Malcolm's voice and understood his message. 20,000,000 black people heard Malcolm's message and that same 20,000,000 feel exactly the same way about it as Huey Newton feels.

20,000,000 black people say that the cops are down wrong from the get-go and that Huey Newton is right. 20,000,000 black people say that Huey is not guilty of any crime, that he is now being held as a political prisoner, and they want him set free. We know that white people, the majority of them, neither understand this nor do they believe that black people really mean this. Some white people understand this, know it to be true and just, and they back black people up in their just demands for liberation and an end to the terror.

Huey Newton's case is the showdown case. It marks the end of history. We cannot go a step beyond this point. Here we must draw the line. We say that we have had enough of black men and women being shot down like dogs in the street. We say that we have had enough of cops being set free with a verdict of justifiable homicide. We say that black people in America have the right to self defense. Huey Newton has laid his life on the line so that 20,000,000 black people can find out just where they are at and so that we can find out just where white America is at.

We have reached the point in history where we must claim that a black man, confronted by a bloodthirsty cop who is out to take his life out of hatred for the black race, has a right to defend himself -- even if this means picking up a gun and blowing that cop away. Make no mistake about it: that is where we are at today. A cop is nothing but a man in a uniform. Through their propaganda and brainwashing of the people they

have us believing that there is something supernatural or special about a cop. A cop is a human being just like anybody else, he came into the world just like anybody else, and he can leave this world just like anybody else.

Every week, from every corner of America, we hear the reports of how some cop has shot and killed some black men, woman or child. We are sick and tired of hearing such news and we don't want to hear any more. The only way that is can be from now on is that there will be no more reports of black people being massacred or we want to hear more reports about more dead cops shot down by black men. There can be no two ways about it, there can no longer be a double standard, one for black people and one for white people, one for cops with guns and one for black men with guns. Either human life is sacred or it is not. If human life is sacred then we must demand that black life also be considered sacred.

On the very same day that the shooting incident involving Huey occurred, a 70 year old black man in Palo Alto had his head blown off by a cop, from behind, and he was unarmed. Yet there has been no outcry about that. There has hardly been a peep about it. Was this 70 year old black man's life sacred?

The racist dog Oakland cops say that this dead cop is the first one who has been killed "in the line of duty" in twenty years. Yet that same Oakland police force has shot and killed scores of black men and women in that same period. What about them? Don't they count? Who is keeping the statistics about them? And what are we supposed to do about that? Are we supposed to just sit back calmly and add another digit to the statistics everytime another black person is killed by an Oakland cop? We know that that is what they want us to do -- but we are here to say that those days are gone! Does everybody understand that? THOSE DAYS ARE GONE! THE DAY WHEN A COP CAN SHOOT A BLACK MAN, WOMAN, OR CHILD DOWN IN COLD BLOOD AND HAVE IT RULED JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE IS GONE FOREVER. FROM NOW ON WE SAY: ONE MAN, ONE LIFE!

Undoubtedly, the Oakland cops would be tickled pink if instead of having a dead cop and a live Huey on their hands, they had a dead Huey and a live cop. Black people all over America and around the world, and some white people in America and around the world, are glad for once to have a dead cop and a live Huey. But we go further and say that we want Huey to stay alive -- we go even further and say that we want Huey set free.

Let us make one thing crystal clear: We do not claim the right to indiscriminate violence. We seek no bloodbath. We are not out to kill up white people. On the contrary, it is the cops who claim the right to indiscriminate violence and practice it everyday. It is the cops who have been bathing black people in blood and who seem bent on killing off black people. But black people, this day, this time, say HALT IN THE NAME OF HUMANITY! YOU SHALL MAKE NO MORE WAR ON AN UNARMED PEOPLE. YOU WILL NOT KILL ANOTHER BLACK PERSON AND WALK THE STREETS OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY TO GLOAT ABOUT IT AND SNEER AT THE DEFENSELESS RELATIVES OF YOUR VICTIMS. FROM NOW ON, WHEN YOU MURDER A BLACK PERSON IN THIS BABYLON OF BABYLONS, YOU MAY AS WELL GIVE IT UP BECAUSE WE WILL GET YOUR ASS AND GOD CAN'T HIDE YOU.

We call upon the people to rally to the support of Minister of Defense, Huey P. Newton. We call upon black people and white people who want to see the dawn of a new history in this land. We call upon people who want to see an end to the flow of blood. We call upon people who want to avoid a war in this land, who want to put an end to the war that is now going on in this land. We call upon people to take up the cry: HUEY MUST BE SET FREE! 

-- Minister of Information
Black Panther Party for
Self Defense

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