

Puerto Rico study

2 parts -

read what you can - first part - video of Puerto Rican Prisoners of War in Pleasanton and discussion

read the rest - second part - discussion on history of colonialism, resistance and women's participation in Puerto Rico.

Questions

- ① The history of Puerto Rico is a history of colonialism. It's also a history of resistance. What have we learned from the readings and videos. Why is both the colonialism & resistance kept from us. What is the U.S. afraid of? Why is Puerto Rico so important to U.S. imperialist interests?
- ② The 2020 plan coupled with the US government's continued mass sterilization of Puerto Rican women (over 40% at present) will eliminate most of the island's population and leave it as a wasteland. This is genocide." Why is the U.S. directing a sterilization program in Puerto Rico. (Tinti Deyá Massol's article, in particular, talks about this.)
- ③ What is the role that women have played in resistance? What is their role in the independence movement? Why is there so little awareness and support for Puerto Rican Independence in the left?
- ④ The P.D.W.'s have been singled out and subjected to inhumane & misogynist treatment by U.S. prison authorities. "Alejandrina and other women prisoners are particularly subjected to degradation - precisely because they are women who are willing to fight for the freedom of their nation; How do we respond when we see women being attacked for being strong and political? Where do these women get their strength? What can we learn from them?"