

RALLY, COMRADES!

THE VOICE OF THE LEAGUE OF REVOLUTIONARIES FOR A NEW AMERICA

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Women Take on Profit-Driven Health Care

The rising motion of working-class women today is not just resisting oppression and exploitation but is on a path to break the chains that bind us to outmoded social and economic structures and relations. The necessity for universal, equitable healthcare and the full measure of reproductive justice are driving women into the streets, into congress, and into political action.

Working-class women, especially African American, those in the South, first-nation (Native American), immigrant, and those with disabilities are at the center of a traumatic vortex of healthcare insecurity, grinding poverty, and rising assaults on bodily autonomy. As healthcare corporations and government edicts employ algorithms of austerity that wipe thousands off Medicaid, food stamps, and even voting rolls, the necessity for the distribution of goods and services based on need becomes politically central to life itself.

“There is no such thing as a single-issue struggle,” the author Audre Lorde wrote in her book, *Learning from the 60s*, “because we do not live single-issue lives.” The 2018 midterm elections demonstrated just that, as record numbers of women ran for office and led grassroots organizations, unions, and more, as they hit the streets against austerity and gender-based violence. Women elevated the urgency to address the health impacts of climate change, concentration camps and family separation on the border, environmental contaminations, rising rates of suicides and addiction, and the chronic multifaceted traumas of poverty and racism.

Medicare for All! is center stage on this social agenda, signifying a polarity between the necessity for public ownership and a governmental guarantee of healthcare for all, versus corporate, private control of healthcare. Improved Medicare for All! eliminates private health insurance and replaces it with universal national comprehensive public financing for all healthcare needs. It is a compromise, in that the healthcare delivery system is not yet transformed but moves the dial by forcing the government to provide insurance for the public good, not corporate wealth.

The fight to expand Medicaid ignited electoral battles and remains a critical immediate demand. But Medicaid is crippled with southern regional inequality and is prevented from meeting the growing needs of the population, most notably the need to provide the full gamut of reproductive services that Medicare for All! includes, from comprehensive education, birthing support, to pregnancy termination if chosen.

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

A fierce counterattack targeting working class women was the follow up from the



CHICAGO, IL USA – JUNE 8, 2019: A large group of people gather for the first ever Medicare For All rally in downtown Chicago. Photo: ShellyShoots/Shutterstock.com

Midterm elections, especially the assaults on women’s bodily autonomy. Multiple states passed so-called “heartbeat” laws that effectively outlaw abortion.

These “heartbeat” bills are dog-whistles to ferment a social base for fascism and aim to overturn *Roe v Wade*. Georgia’s passage of the “heartbeat” bill garnered national attention coming on the heels of a Governor’s race fraught with voter suppression and refusals to expand Medicaid. The legislation bans nearly all abortion, declares the developing fetus a “person” with legal rights at six weeks of gestation. The law opens the possibility of murder charges for a pregnant woman who has an abortion, and a ten-year prison sentence for those that perform one. Alabama went even farther by banning all abortions even in cases of rape and incest.

This legislation is not pro-life. Georgia’s maternal mortality is the highest in the country and has gotten worse in the last few years at 37.2 deaths per 100,000 live births and more than twice as high for Black women. Rural hospital closures in Georgia are third highest in the country behind Texas and Tennessee. Pregnant women throughout the rural south often have to travel more than 60 miles to access prenatal or hospital care. Upward of 30 percent of rural Georgians are uninsured and 49.2 percent of all the uninsured live in the South. But the South is not alone in declining health outcomes. Shockingly the CDC reports that pregnancy related mortality in the United States has risen from 7.2 per 100,000 births in 1987 to 17.2 per 100,000 in 2015 and rising. A woman giving birth today is more likely to die in childbirth than

her mother was 30 years ago! The fight for life is the fight against poverty and for quality maternal healthcare.

Maternal health is not just about abortion rights, but rather a full picture of healthy communities and reproductive justice. This is summed up by the SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective, “as the human right to maintain personal bodily autonomy, have children, not have children and parent the children we have, in safe and sustainable communities.” In short, basic human needs, security, and freedom from want must be assured. It is a key reason why demands for federally guaranteed healthcare is at the center of campaigns led by working class, especially low-income women. That reality is driving political contention. Electorally, voter suppression in the South has been the response.

Since the evisceration of the Voting Rights in 2013, 868 voting precincts throughout the South have been shuttered, mostly in Black and Latino communities. The successful referendum of Florida voters to restore voting rights to former felons has been deci-

dated by Florida legislators, requiring those felons to pay fines and fees: in effect a twenty-first century version of the poll tax. Voter purges, “exact match” and other forms of voter disqualifications are still targeting already alienated impoverished southern counties. The connection between voter suppression, disenfranchisement through mass incarceration and the stunning increases in maternal mortality rates for women cannot be ignored. Reproductive justice requires not only ballot box democracy, but also true economic democracy and equality.

LIVING HISTORY

Control of women’s bodies is central to the rule of private property in the U.S. The supremacy of private property is rooted in slavery and the genocidal theft of native lands. The stomach-churning rape and forced pregnancy of female slaves was a staple of America’s slave system to secure the profits of plantations and their northern financiers. Children of slaves were not only future laborers, but also future commodities for mortgages, collateral and bonds, used to obtain money capital for the further expansion of slavery.

As labor-intensive agriculture succumbed to mechanization in the twentieth century, forced reproduction was turned on its head and replaced with forced sterilization. White supremacy found a powerful tool in the pseudo-social science of eugenics. The Southern Poverty Law Center found that between 100,000-150,000 poor southern women had been sterilized through 1973, half of whom were Black women. Twenty-five percent of first-nation women were involuntarily sterilized in the 1950s and 1960s. By 1968 one-third of Puerto Rican women of childbearing age had been sterilized.

From slave-based breeding, to forced sterilization, to today’s “heartbeat” laws of forced pregnancies, the overriding thread is control and domination of working-class women’s bodies. Abortion and privilege will always be available to the rich, regardless of laws. It is working class women, especial-

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Rising Spirit of Unrest

Inside Rally, Comrades!

The 2020 election process reflects how much the peoples of the world face common problems. Young people expressed this truth by organizing global events and protests to address fundamental climate and environmental changes. In "We Want Real Big Change," we note that many young people see that accumulating profit and private property into fewer and fewer hands is destroying the planet, placing human life in jeopardy.

Defense of the environment is linked to defense of human life, and to the struggles over housing, food and healthcare. The strategic challenge facing the American people is whether these struggles for basic needs will develop in political unity with specific struggles for the defense of migrants, youth, and women. The fascists are maneuvering to have them develop in isolation from, and opposed to, one another.

A movement to impeach the President has arisen, and according to "Fighting for Our Lives in the 2020 Elections," defeating Trump is necessary, but not sufficient. Uniting and mobilizing the millions of discarded workers around their demands for their basic needs is the path forward. They are the backbone of the resistance. They are being pushed into political participation by the fascist offensive itself, when it attacks the programs they need to survive and attacks the future of humanity itself. They have the power to rally all of society to the defense of democracy.

Our cover story, "Women Take on Profit-Driven Health Care" explains that working class women have been targeted by a fierce

counterattack as the 2020 elections gear up. Women elevated the urgency to address the health impacts of climate change, concentration camps and family separation on the border, environmental contaminations, rising rates of suicides, addiction, and the chronic multifaceted traumas of poverty and racism. Basic human needs, security, and freedom from want must be assured. It is a key reason why demands for federally guaranteed healthcare is at the center of campaigns led by working class, especially low-income women.

Vicious repression is making immigration another focal point of the 2020 election. "Fight Against Fascism, Fight for Immigrants" reports that the global hi-tech economy makes thousands of Central Americans openly trek towards the U.S. border. Fascists use this exodus as a rallying point to gather forces. Movement leaders know the government wants their struggle confined within ethnic limits, so they are using a new bilingual documentary to expose how conditions force millions out of Central America, and how our government

and corporate leaders created those conditions.

New technology is affecting the United States as well. "Advances in Economy Call for Revolutionary Change" explains how millions of workers in the U.S. are losing their jobs to labor-replacing automation. They are forced into the ranks of low-wage workers and the homeless. They represent a revolutionary social force, a new class, which needs basic necessities to be distributed according to need, not the ability to pay.

"Revolutionary Politics in the Era of Dying Capitalism" reminds us that socialist politics that are anti-communist have in the past, and can in the future, result in fascism. We understand that today's new class is objectively communist and that the problems it faces under private property, can only be resolved by a system which distributes the abundance based on need and that is communism. Revolutionaries must clearly propagate ideas that will educate the combatants and enlighten the movement as to its objective communist character. **RC**

Join the League of Revolutionaries for a New America!

Society can now create the abundance the new technology promises, and so a new world: a cooperative society, with this abundance distributed according to need. In spite of worsening economic conditions, nothing can be accomplished until the American people hold a vision of where they want to go and what they want to be. Creating and imbuing them with such vision is the overriding task of revolutionaries and the foundation of our organization.

Join us! For more information or a free information packet, email LRNA at info@lrna.org, or call 773-486-0028, or write LRNA, P.O. Box 477113, Chicago, IL 60647. Sign up and stay informed at rallycomrades.lrna.org/contact-us

EDITORIAL POLICY

Rally: to bring back together and put in a state of order, as retreating troops [to return to attack]

Comrade: a person with whom one is allied in a struggle or cause

Rally, Comrades! is the political paper of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America. In this period of growing motion and developing polarization, *Rally, Comrades!* provides a strategic outlook for the revolutionaries by indicating and illuminating the line of march of the revolutionary process. It presents a pole of scientific clarity, examines and analyzes the real problems of the revolutionary movement, and draws political conclusions for the tasks of revolutionaries at each stage of development in order to prepare for future stages. It is a vehicle to reach out and communicate with revolutionaries both within the League and outside of the League, to engage them in debate and discussion, and to provide a forum for these discussions. Articles represent the position and policies of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America.

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League of Revolutionaries for a New America

Today, whether through words or deeds, vast numbers of socially conscious people declare themselves revolutionaries in opposition to the degenerating social and economic conditions. The League's mission is to unite these scattered revolutionaries on the basis of the demands of the new class, to educate and win them over to the cooperative, communist resolution of the problem.

The demands of this new impoverished class for food, housing, education, health care and an opportunity to contribute to society are summed up as the demand for a cooperative society. Such a society must be based on the public ownership of the socially necessary means of production and the distribution of the social product according to need.

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**Visit the *Rally, Comrades!* website!
rallycomrades.lrna.org**

The *Rally, Comrades!* bilingual website provides online access to all issues of *Rally, Comrades!* It is a political resource for our readers, and provides up-to-date articles, statements and analysis of key questions of importance to revolutionaries.

Fighting for Our Lives in the 2020 Elections

The future of humanity and the survival of the planet depend on what we do. A movement to impeach the President has arisen, and not just for a phone call to Ukraine. For sure, collusion, obstruction, corruption, and bald-faced lying are his stock in trade. But above all, he deserves and needs to be impeached for his high crimes and misdemeanors against the American people.

- Trying to steal Medicaid from millions and reproductive rights from women;
- Unleashing mass murder in Charlottesville, Gilroy, El Paso, and elsewhere through racist rhetoric and propaganda;
- Destroying the earth, and robbing our children of their future;
- Imprisoning thousands in vile concentration camps for the “crime” of asking for asylum;
- Attempting to slash housing funds, make millions homeless, and then threatening to put homeless people in concentration camps too;
- Legalizing the brutal kidnapping of children from their parents, both at the border and in our criminal justice system;
- Putting billionaire cronies in cabinet positions to loot the treasury and destroy social programs;
- Appointing judges to legalize gerrymandering and voter suppression, to rob the American people of their right to vote;
- Conspiring with billionaires to starve public services with massive tax cuts.

Impeaching and defeating Trump is absolutely necessary, but not sufficient. The ruling class is using his presidency to consolidate a fascist social base, and impose its pro-austerity, planet-destroying, racist, anti-democratic agenda. It ultimately seeks the permanent installation of a corporate dictatorship, based on subjecting human beings to unlimited private property rights.

Fascism can and will be defeated. The starting point is to unite and mobilize the millions of discarded workers around their demands for their basic needs. They are the backbone of the resistance. They are being pushed into political participation by the fascist offensive itself, when it attacks the programs they need to survive, and attacks the future of humanity itself. They have the power to rally all of society to the defense of democracy.

But impeachment is not enough. Even Nancy Pelosi and Joe Biden support impeachment, and they themselves colluded in many of these Trump crimes. They will attempt to use the impeachment process to prop up corporate Democrats like themselves and divert attention from meeting the needs of the people. We dare not let that happen.

2020 ELECTIONS

The 2020 election campaigns are already a white-hot focal point for escalating social struggles for the necessities of

life and the future of the planet. Throughout the country, a new class of workers is being driven to the margins of the economy by automated technology. These desperate workers are forced into social struggle just to survive. Their awakening drove record voter turnout in the 2018 midterm elections. They are demanding that candidates address their burning concerns: health care, housing, water, gun violence, reproductive rights, the rights of women and immigrants, and the environment.

As these workers get involved, they move from resistance to leadership, making programmatic demands about structural problems. Programs of some of the front-runners in the race for the Democratic nomination for President are reflecting these demands. In particular the Green New Deal and Sanders Economic Bill of Rights are advancing practical, visionary solutions that confront corporate domination in both the Republican and Democratic parties.

ECONOMIC BILL OF RIGHTS

In today’s economy, the Sanders Economic Bill of Rights cannot be enacted without the political revolution his campaign has called for. The Economic Bill of Rights includes:

- The right to a job paying a living wage (including a federal jobs guarantee);
- The right to quality health care (Medicare for All);
- The right to a complete education (substantially lower student debt);
- The right to affordable housing (end gentrification and homelessness);
- The right to a clean environment (pass the Green New Deal);
- The right to a secure retirement (expand Social Security).

The election campaigns are a battleground and a school for revolutionary politics. As American workers gravitate toward the political arena, they are beginning to realize they have to unite on a broader basis than one neighborhood, or one workplace, or one ethnicity or religion. They are edging toward understanding that together they make up an entire class, a socioeconomic category of workers that has to come together to protect themselves against a corporate ruling class.

This process is called politicization. The first step is to join the fight for the unity of this new class, especially the recently dispossessed sector. That sector includes former industrial workers, people with disabilities, displaced professionals, women whose very bodily autonomy is under attack, and masses of unemployed and underemployed youth. By relying on the growing equality of their poverty, these groups, among others, can begin projecting their demands as a class, and begin to overcome the historic racial divisions created by segregation and discrimination. They can resist and defeat the government’s

We Want Real Big Change

From the Editors

The specter of global mass extinction confronts all of humanity. Young people, who are seeing clearly now that they face an imperiled future, are leading a massive global movement to demand that the world community take a stand against a system that is destroying the planet and humankind. A nurse from eastern France who joined the demonstrations in Paris, summed it up: “We can’t just have little changes, we want a real big change. We don’t want reforms, in fact, we want a revolution.”

These youth and the millions from all walks of life who are joining them are coming to recognize that it is the “system,” a global system, driven by the insatiable drive for profit and the ever-increasing accumulation of private property in fewer and fewer hands, that continues to exploit and destroy the planet and to place human life itself in jeopardy. That system, along with the class that rules it, must be overturned. The ultimate aim of the revolution that is already underway is to secure the future of humanity and the planet, by constructing a new system based on distributing the abundance that global society produces according to need.

This revolutionary movement includes addressing the challenges of climate change, but it is also so much more. There is no doubt that the world is in the throes of an epochal economic revolution. The introduction of laborless electronic technology into the production process is at the foundation of the crises we are living through today. At the same time a new class of workers, of which many of the young are a large part, is being created by electronic production. Globalization creates that new class everywhere, and it is the demands of this new class for the basic needs necessary to sustain life itself that is driving the revolutionary process.

The demand for the right to life itself is a summation of the fight for basic needs. The fight for food, homes, health care, education clean water and a safe and secure environment is the concrete program of the revolution. It envisions a future in which all of the needs of humanity and the planet upon which we reside are met, in which the pursuit of happiness prevails.

This new revolutionary class, which we see plays a leading role in the movement to save humanity and the planet, is a global class and is a global movement. Join the revolution! Become a part of the process to make real big change. Our future depends upon it. **RC**

frenzied campaign to racialize, divide, and destroy the social struggle.

ACCELERATING POLARIZATION

This process is widening the polarization within the Democratic Party, between its working-class masses and the corporate control they are challenging. Every step forward of the political revolution escalates this polarization, and the polarization in turn speeds up the revolution. Major divisions have developed around the 2020 campaign. One strategy is to defeat Trump by compromising with corporations and supporting status quo candidates like Biden. The other strategy is to defeat Trump by building on the working-class mobilization for basic needs expressed by the Sanders campaign in 2016.

Dramatic clashes have already erupted between leading Democratic candidates around Medicare for All, the Green New Deal, and mass incarceration. As the movement forces candidates to address working class issues, the middle ground is being eliminated. The ruling class increasingly embraces a fascist ideology and fascist social movement to maintain control. But fascism has no solutions to the automation, unemployment, student debt, lack of health care, and environmental destruction that the workers are facing.

WHAT WE ARE FIGHTING FOR

Government must either serve our needs, or those of the ruling class. The situation demands that we fearlessly confront the institution of private property itself, wherever it interferes with the rights of people to be able to live.

Corporate attacks on Medicare for All and other government programs defining them as “socialist” are ironically tying socialism to the question of government accountability to alleviate suffering and meet people’s basic needs. More and more people are understanding that socialism is not something “alien” or “un-American,” but something that may be necessary for housing, health care, education, and the pursuit of happiness.

We must promote a positive vision of the America that can be. Revolutionaries are both political warriors and thinkers, who introduce new ideas into the unfolding struggle, by participating and educating fighters in the course of the battle. The automated means of production today are advanced enough to provide health care, housing, and education for free. A society organized cooperatively and based on distribution of basic needs, could live in unity and at peace with the world. This is the time for determination, not fear. Fascism can and will be defeated. The starting point is joining the expanding movement of “frontline communities” fighting for their lives. **RC**

Fight Against Fascism, Fight for Immigrants

Our government's vicious repression of migrants and the movement against it are both becoming more intense, making immigration a focal point of the 2020 election. Meanwhile, an upsurge is also underway in the movements over housing, health care, education, and police shootings. The strategic challenge facing the American people is whether the movement for basic needs will develop in political unity with the struggle in defense of migrants, or whether they will develop in isolation from one another. Isolation would only help our class enemies, pit suffering citizens against suffering migrants, so that despite both movements growing, the country gets overwhelmed by an even greater growth of the social base for fascism.

The pages of *Rally, Comrades!* have carried the message that the anti-immigration movement is being used as a cutting edge of a new fascist social movement. Before the electronic revolution resulted in the destruction of the jobs and lives of millions, attacks on immigrants were launched to segregate workforces and communities, making it harder to unite against their employers. Today, these attacks aim to divert the fight against lost jobs, crowded schools, and crumbling infrastructure, by channeling it against immigrants instead of the ruling class.

Ruling class propaganda promoting that false solution to very real social problems has won over a diverse base of Americans of all colors, including some who were once immigrants themselves. Obviously, the raids immediately hurt immigrants, just as other attacks attempt to scapegoat youth or the homeless. But the overall strategic goal of all these attacks is the fascist reorganization of the political system. This requires building a fascist social base that believes it's the only way to deal with today's growing social crisis.

CENTRAL AMERICAN IMMIGRATION

Increased immigration from Central American countries like Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador has played a major role in the intensification of the struggle against their repression. The largest group of immigrants still comes from México, but the global hi-tech economy is leaving Central America's economy so far behind, that an even greater percentage of its population has been pushed outside of the capitalist economy altogether. Along with a similar, rapidly growing section of the U.S. working class, these people are the seed of a new class, whose survival is no longer guaranteed within a system dominated by private corporate control of new technology.

So desperate have Central America's migrants become as their resources shrink and as the U.S. government steps up its border enforcement, many have abandoned the increasingly costly border smuggling of the past and launched a completely new approach. They have organized into communities of thousands, who openly trek towards the U.S. border, in full view of the news media and police. It's been called "an invasion" by

Donald Trump. But those whose moral traditions tell them to defend people risking their health, freedom, and lives to increase their children's chances of survival call it a modern-day "Exodus" (see sidebar).

Confronted with this massive contest between life and death, every sector engaged in political motion over immigration has intensified its own activity. The fascist pole favoring more vicious repression is using the exodus as a rallying point to gather forces. In July, ProPublica reported that over 9,000 past and present Border Patrol staff had links to a Facebook page posting about the May 2019 death of a detained 16-year old Guatemalan: "Oh well" and "If he dies, he dies."

These violent fascists are abetted by elected officials from both parties who play an essential role in the development of fascism. For example, the Problem Solvers Caucus (PSC) in the U.S. House of Representatives, is made up of 24 Democrats and 24 Republicans, who voted for new border "security" funding, defeating Representatives like Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Rashida Tlaib. It is revealing that PSC's co-chair is New Jersey Democrat Josh Gottheimer, who worked for Bill and Hillary Clinton and for Microsoft. They have directed so much money towards Gottheimer that he is called a "Human Fundraising Machine" by journalists.

A tidal wave of protests happened across the country as the policy of separating migrant children from their undocumented family members began producing serious child illnesses and deaths.

The pole defending migrants against these forces has also stepped up its actions. A tidal wave of protests have occurred across the country, as the policy of separating migrant children from their undocumented family members began producing serious child illnesses and deaths. This resistance has now grown far beyond the ranks of the migrants themselves, and is becoming a key part of the fight for survival of the new class.

NEW CLASS, NEW VISION

The global hi-tech economy is creating a new class of the workers, people who are not just losing their immediate jobs, but, as the exodus reveals, they are being permanently separated from any connection to the economic system. Their struggle is objectively revolutionary, because unless they can break the new technology free of a ruling class using it for private benefit, impoverishment and suffering will greatly increase. No matter what anyone

New Film on Common Roots of Problems

The most conscious leaders of the movement against immigrant repression understand that the government wants to keep the resistance confined within community and ethnic limits, so they are taking their message beyond that. One example is by organizing viewings of *Eternos Indocumentados*, a new bilingual documentary video about the terrible conditions that force millions out of Central America, and also exposes practices of the American government and corporate leaders which created those conditions.

The corporate media only blames predatory gangs for the tide of Central Americans fleeing the region. *Eternos Indocumentados* has members of an Los Angeles based organization for Salvadoran ex-gang members explain how ill-conceived deportation drives in the 1980s actually worsened the poverty and gang problems in both countries.

Revealing such social issues at the root of immigration, *Eternos* touches on problems familiar to anyone struggling against the growth of poverty among U.S. citizens. It shows that these common problems have a common source, the ruling class that is in control both here and there. (<https://www.eternosindocumentados.com>)

calls it, breaking new technology and people free means envisioning the creation of a cooperative, communist society wherein society's production provides for people's needs.

In mid-July, when ICE announced raids targeting 2,100 undocumented immigrants in various states, immigrant rights organizations rapidly mobilized "Know Your Rights"

posals to deal with immigration will be put before the American people. One that challenges the very nature of immigrant repression is to eliminate Section 1325 of the U.S. Code, which makes it a crime to cross the border without legal authorization. Most people don't realize that being caught living in this country without papers is not an actual "crime," it's only a civil offense, like breaking a traffic law. A detained immigrant can be held until they can be deported, but they do not have to serve a set time in jail or prison. But being caught crossing the border illegally is a federal misdemeanor, and can be punished with a fine, a prison sentence, deportation, or all three.

The Bush and Obama administrations increased this criminalization of migrants, and by 2016 immigration cases had become the majority of all federal criminal prosecutions. In 2018 the Trump administration increased the separation of children, saying it was because their parents were "accused criminals." Activists are calling for repeal of this law, so unauthorized immigration is only a civil offense, which would not justify separating families. By September, fourteen of the twenty Democratic presidential candidates agreed.

While the sincerity of many of these candidates remains in doubt, the movement must pursue every means of preventing the criminalization of people for merely seeking to raise children in safety and economic security. That would help migrants openly take their place in struggles demanding that the government ensure housing, health and education for everyone. A united struggle for basic necessities is at the heart of the fight against the new form of fascism being imposed on us all.

Globalized production has thrown millions together in common suffering, regardless of national origin. People in America and across the world have the same needs and demands, and all are part of the same objectively revolutionary process. The League of Revolutionaries extends its hand of comradeship around the globe. **RC**

Revolutionary Politics in the Era of Dying Capitalism

“If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle.”

— Sun Tzu, *The Art of War*

SURVIVAL IS THE FIRST STEP

Capitalism is dying. Things are not getting better and millions have a sense of that. A sense that things aren't "right," cannot help those in the middle of the storm understand or survive it. To survive, people need a consciousness of what class or team they are on and who their enemy is. Then they can develop strategies and tactics to win. At the beginning of the twenty-first century we are in a deadly game that will decide whether human beings and life itself will survive on this beautiful planet. Class-consciousness is not optional in this situation. It is essential to survival.

What should be obvious is that to develop as a revolutionary requires study. When everything around us seems to be falling apart, the role of unity and consciousness cannot be overestimated. The unprecedented and growing equality of poverty in our country – a poverty that knows no color, sex, or nationality – is creating the basis for real class unity. Revolutionaries carry out the struggle for political unity wherever this equality of poverty exists. Nothing can be done without this unity and consciousness.

In Akira Kurosawa's film "Seven Samurai," bandits are plundering impoverished, defenseless villagers. They hire transient samurai warriors to organize the defense of the village. Some humor comes from the young fellow who thinks he's tough and ready to fight, but quickly finds out his individual egotism and bravery cannot win. Only conscious organization stands a chance. Today a new class of workers, created by human labor replacing technologies, needs to unite and become conscious that humans not needed under this system need a new system. Understand that or die.

DEBT CRISIS SPELLS DOOM FOR CAPITALISM

Our enemies appear to be invincible, like a gang of marauding bandits. They make all the decisions. They take all the wealth. They are ruining us. However, their weakness is that, like robbers who have taken it all, they are running out of places to rob. Desperate to make a profit, the enemy struggles to find profitable places to invest, so it is forced to speculate on debt. Throughout the world, bonds are being sold with negative yields. In the United States, the debt of the country is greater than the Gross Domestic Product, the value of all goods and services produced.

Individual debt is beyond any hope of clearing. College students face debt that they

will be forced to pay on until they are senior citizens or dead. The mortgage crisis, caused by unregulated banking speculation, is worse now than in 2007, because now the lenders are loaning money with only nineteen cents in bank reserve for every dollar they loan, versus the 45 cents reserve of 2007. Investors are trying to keep things afloat by investing in speculative manipulation of the debt. In Europe for example, banks are starting to loan money at below zero percent interest, in effect paying consumers to borrow money from them. President Trump is calling for the same to happen in the U.S. This is unheard of. This precedes a crash of shocking proportions. This speculation, or betting on a profitable return when there is no likelihood of that, is creating a volatile stock market roller coaster.

When everything around us seems to be falling apart, the role of unity and consciousness cannot be overestimated. The unprecedented and growing equality of poverty in our country is creating the basis for real class unity.

MARKETING THE BIG LIE

The underlying reason for this crisis is the leap to laborless electronic production. By eliminating millions of workers, the capitalist system has also begun to eliminate its own market. Tax breaks the capitalists get, and the bailout money they receive, is either hoarded or used to buy back their own stocks. That is what is keeping the financial system from immediately imploding. There is no trickle down, only fountains to the top.

Buying and selling – the market – means exchanging value for value. Each trader seeks to get at least an equivalent value in the deal. Profit relies on human exploitation. It is conservatively estimated that 800 million face unemployment globally by 2030. This makes it easy to see how a system based on exploitation will crash.

It is essential for the ruling class to try to control public opinion. They leave nothing to chance when it comes to what people think. Billions of dollars are spent to finance think tanks to spread the idea that capitalism is the best of all possible systems and the essence of freedom. Nearly all media and news services are owned and controlled by the capitalists for the purpose of telling you how and what to think. To see our way clearly to a revolutionary understanding on how to defeat the enemy is next to impossible, if we rely on what we know already, or what the enemy provides for us. Wishing won't help. Begging won't help.

Some people who call themselves revo-

lutionary suggest we can vote ourselves out of this mess. Some think worker co-ops will bring a new era of socialism and freedom. Some say because the movement of the new class is objectively moving toward a communist system, we simply need to bolster it up but don't need to educate the participants. Unfortunately, these nice ideas are cannot solve the problems of today and, if followed, will lead to defeat and destruction. That is because fascism has already been introduced into the equation.

A VICIOUS ENEMY

Fascism is the merger of the corporations and the State, ruling by force what can no longer be ruled by "democracy." Fascism is supplanting democracy in the United States. Law is for the benefit of the corporations.

enemy nor themselves. Fortunately, this can be rapidly remedied. Because a growing section of the population is falling into poverty (housing insecurity, food insecurity, health and medical insecurity) people are beginning to understand the commonality of the situation they are in. Like peasants besieged by bandits, unifying for defense is the only rational option. To do this our class – the new class of workers – has to overcome a lot of the historical divisions that have been used to keep us opposed to each other. We cannot pretend that real and gross inequalities for workers of color don't exist. Unity can only be forged in common struggle against a common enemy. Identity politics and separate strategies will not work. Building an unbreakable unity of our class will not be easy but is essential. It is the only thing that the enemy fears and they will go to any lengths to make sure that can't happen.

It is growing popular to identify oneself as socialist, with the caveat that one is not communist. It is important to note that socialism that is anti-communist will lead inevitably to fascism. The ruling class today understands this and entertains ideas that are "socialist." Fascism's history is full of national socialist constructs that were daggers aimed at the heart of the revolutionary movement. We understand that today's new class is objectively communist and that the problems it faces under private property, can only be resolved by a system which distributes the abundance based on need and that is communism. Revolutionaries must clearly propagate ideas that will educate the combatants and enlighten the movement as to its objective communist character.

Agencies and agents representing the interests of the ruling classes are formed and funded specifically to misdirect and confuse the movement. If you are doing effective propaganda to unite the class, you will know by the attempts made to refute or silence you. This is basic to the revolutionary process and should be expected. Success or failure depends on building a large organization of conscious revolutionaries, who are independent of financial and organizational ties to the ruling class. Serving two classes or masters is not an option. "Which side are you on?" remains a relevant question. The revolutionary class will support its own program financially and in every other way. Organizing around the communist vision of a new society is how we will win. **RC**

Sometimes a corporate criminal will receive a fine or a jail sentence, but that is "justice" for show. The corporate State is largely unaccountable, perpetrating war and ecological crimes throughout the country and world. The government represents those trying to violently preserve inequality in the world and their private control of all property that is necessary to run it. Everything we need to know about how the ruling class intends to deal with a threat to their property ownership is found in the cages and torture chambers at the southern border, and indeed around the world. They are violating all human rights of international law.

UNITY – THE ONLY WAY OUT OF THIS MESS

Our strategy is working class unity to defend ourselves and eventually overcome our enemy. We are at war today, but our side doesn't know it, neither understanding the

Join the Discussion

Articles in *Rally, Comrades!* offer revolutionaries a fresh perspective! They offer analysis and vision, and outline the role revolutionaries play in a strategy to achieve that vision. Share *Rally, Comrades!* with others, use it in your classes, discussion groups and study circles. Spread the vision of a new world and the possibility of achieving it.

Advances in Economy Call for Revolutionary Change

Labor-replacing automated technology is rapidly advancing, transforming and restructuring the jobs-based economy. These rapid advances in the economy are accelerating the growth of a new class of workers – those millions who are being driven to the fringes of the economy, or into complete destitution, out of the economy altogether. This new class of workers represents a new revolutionary social force.

Today, the United States has more than 8 million less manufacturing jobs than in 1980, decreasing from nearly 20 million to less than 12 million. The economy lost forty percent of its industrial manufacturing jobs base over the past 40 years at an accelerating rate each year. According to the International Federation of Robotics, robot density in U.S. manufacturing in 2017 reached 200 robots per 10,000 employees, representing a rate of six percent growth in each of the two previous years. This growth rate is projected to accelerate rapidly. Today, we are in the early stages of robots equipped with artificial intelligence being introduced into industrial production. In the near future these robots are expected to take over most industrial manufacturing processes.

The U.S. economy (in fact the world economy) is a jobs-based economy. It is a capitalist economy based on private property. This means that if you are a worker you need a job that pays you enough to buy what you need in order to live. Over the past four decades, millions of economically secure industrial workers in the U.S. lost their jobs to labor-replacing automation. They were forced into the ranks of low-wage workers that number in the tens of millions. Others joined the ranks of the homeless. Millions more will continue to be replaced and suffer the same fate unless the jobs-based economy is replaced by a needs-based economy. And this reality is not only facing industrial workers. It is facing tens of millions of workers in every sector of the economy.

The Federal Reserve's 2018 report on the economic well-being of U.S. households released in May 2019, found that 40 percent of American adults cannot cover a \$400 emergency with cash, savings or a credit card

charge they could quickly pay off. And in the February 2019 *New York Times* article entitled, "Tech is Splitting the U.S. Work Force in Two," we see the same conclusions: "Automation is splitting the American labor force into two worlds. There is a small island of highly educated professionals making good wages at corporations like Intel or Boeing, which reap hundreds of thousands of dollars in profit per employee. That island sits in the middle of a sea of less educated workers who are stuck at businesses like hotels, restaurants and nursing homes that generate much smaller profits per employee and stay viable primarily by

the jobs economy at all. Millions have never experienced an economically secure job.

More than half of all jobs in the U.S. today are in manufacturing, retail and sales, clerical and administrative, food service and food preparation, truck driving and transportation. Online shopping is already wiping out retail stores across the country. Almost 10 percent of the retail shops in the U.S. malls are vacant, as e-commerce takes its toll. Retailers have closed more than 5,000 shops in just the last six months. Clerical and administrative workers are already being replaced with computer program algorithms.

to trucks are scheduled to be replaced by 45-foot tall robotic carriers. And all of this is minuscule, compared to what is just around the corner, when 5G network technology and artificial intelligence (AI) get added to the labor-replacing equation.

A quick look at the near future shows how rapidly the economy is being transformed. In *AI Superpowers: China, Silicon Valley, and the New World Order*, Kai-Fu Lee, gives a simple explanation of artificial intelligence. He writes: "As deep learning washes over the global economy, it will indeed wipe out billions of jobs: accountants, assembly line workers, warehouse operators, stock analysts, quality control inspectors, truckers, paralegals and even radiologists, just to name a few... Within fifteen years, artificial intelligence will be able to replace around 40 to 50 percent of jobs in the United States... Rising in tandem with unemployment will be astronomical wealth in the hands of the new AI tycoons."

This short scenario is the reality we face in the very near future. It vividly shows how the rapidly advancing labor-replacing, automated technology is incompatible with an economy based on jobs and private property. Simply put, production without labor requires distribution of the social product without money. All of the current struggles for basic necessities of life, including housing, health care, education, and a clean environment are actually struggles for a human needs based, communist economy – the only economy that is compatible with the new automated technology and the abundance it creates.

The new class is the new social force being created by the rapidly advancing automated technology. Its needs, and its practical demands, are for the basic necessities of life to be distributed according to need and without money. Once the new class becomes conscious of this reality, it can play its historic role of leading society to a new world, a new cooperative society based on distribution according to need. Educating and uniting the new class and society around this vision is the overriding task of revolutionaries today. The future of humanity depends on it. **RC**

The U.S. economy is a jobs-based capitalist economy. Over the past four decades, millions of economically secure industrial workers in the U.S. lost their jobs to labor-replacing automation. The rapidly advancing automated technology is incompatible with an economy based on jobs and private property. Production without labor requires distribution of the social product without money.

keeping wages low. Even economists are reassessing their belief that technological progress lifts all boats and are beginning to worry about the new configuration of work."

A 2017 report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics found that the last two generations of workers (ages 16-38) make up 60 percent of all U.S. minimum wage workers. Add those who are unemployed or under-employed, working part-time, temporary, contingent, and gig jobs, and we find these younger workers make up a rapidly growing section of the new class. Many have never entered

Fully automated supermarkets and fast food stores are being designed. Amazon Go, with no checkout lines or cashiers are already fully operational. Kroger Supermarket and Microsoft have partnered to do the same. Walmart is using robovans that go from warehouse to warehouse. They are monitored remotely, one person to ten robotic trucks. The U.S. Postal Service is already testing long-distance, driverless trucks and Uber and Lyft are already testing driverless cars. Dockworkers at the Port of Los Angeles who transfer containers from ships

Women Take on Profit-Driven Health Care (Continued from page 1)

ly those who have been driven into absolute destitution, who bear the burden of lost bodily autonomy throughout our history. Overturning the roots of the exploitation and oppression necessitates the abolition of the corporate private property that feeds those roots. In the age of ubiquitous corporate digital technologies that can access the very biologies that make us human, revolutionary transformation becomes imperative!

TECHNOLOGIES: FASCISM OR FREEDOM

Today's technologies can resurrect the content, if not the exact form of historic eugenics, or can offer unimaginable possibilities for health and well-being. The use of

artificial intelligence in healthcare depends on collecting big data, gathered anonymously from patients' electronic medical records, genomic profiles, insurance and prescription records, and applying "predictive" algorithms to it. The algorithmic interpretations of these data are a reflection of existing society, including the biases of white supremacy, patriarchy and ruling class superiority. Human tissues may be collected from a variety of "routine" medical procedures and then bought, sold, and privately patented for development of corporate commodities, some redundant, some beneficial, but all only available for a price that's indifferent to need.

The magnitude of the myriad of data being collected is astounding. Research consortiums of university health

systems, hi-tech companies like IBM and Amazon, fostered by governmental policies, are pervasive. The speed and consolidation of the wholesale commodification of the resources housed in our physical bodies puts the antagonism of for-the-public-good-and-benefit versus the private accumulation of wealth in the starkest and most urgent terms.

Women who have the least are in the forefront of the movement to secure the necessities for all. The very struggle for a vision of liberation, reproductive health and healthcare for all is indispensable for political independence crucial to the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach the stars and change the world. Our time is now. **RC**