

## We Demand a New Birth of Freedom in 2022

The 2020 U.S. elections were the most important since the Civil War and Reconstruction era, and the elections in 2022 promise to be even more momentous. They are happening in the midst of a social and constitutional crisis that has sharply escalated since 2020. Digital production of goods and services is changing the nature of work, forcing more and more people to fight just to be able to meet their basic needs. As a result, in less than two years, the ruling class has responded with the attempted coup of January 6, the coordinated state-by-state campaign against voting rights and the right to protest, the attack on the electoral process itself, and the judicial coup carried out by the U.S. Supreme Court, culminating in its rulings of June 2022. While extremely dangerous, this crisis is also a great opportunity.

What is happening is the deepening progression of fascism and the destruction of democracy. Fascism is a process of the ruling class replacing one state form of class domination (electoral democracy) with another (violent dictatorship). It is a sign that the rulers are objectively on the defensive. The explosion of artificial intelligence, automation, and financialization is creating a society where workers are literally no longer needed. A private property system based on maximizing profits cannot and will not support workers it no longer needs. But people cannot and will not allow government to deny their basic needs, life, and liberty without a battle. And history shows that when people become conscious and politically organized, they win what they are fighting for.

### RULERS ON THE DEFENSIVE

In California, for example, billionaire executives and corporate media launched a massive campaign against San Francisco's courageous reform district attorney, Chesa Boudin. By wildly exaggerating the crime rate and blaming Boudin for every social problem in the city, the media persuaded 55 percent of voters to recall him. In turn, it trumpeted this nationally as a repudiation of reimagining police and of the entire George Floyd rebellion of 2020.

The reality was completely different. In fact, progressive district attorneys won two other Bay Area elections and two corrupt sheriffs were thrown out by first-time candidates. In Oakland, opponents of school closures drove a school board member and the county school superintendent out of office, and Moms4Housing are fighting to determine the outcome of the November mayor's race. Los Angeles prison abolitionist Eunisses Hernández defeated a longtime incumbent for a seat on the City Council as

part of what the Los Angeles Times called a "progressive tidal wave." Overall, progressives made astounding gains all across the country throughout the long primary season.

All these repressive laws and Supreme Court decisions are not just random attacks. They are part of a systematic effort to maintain ruling class power, privilege, and income by besieging American society. A look at the major pro-corporate, anti-democratic organizations such as the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) and the Heritage Foundation reveals a comprehensive, unified economic and social agenda encompassing attacks on voting rights, abortion rights, religious freedom, environmental regulations, immigrant rights, gun control, "critical race theory," and virtually every other issue affecting the basic needs of our people.

What this shows is that the rulers are not just attacking regulations and laws that challenge their bottom line. They are rolling out political tactics designed to misdirect, confuse, discourage, and vanquish any opposition of any kind.

### MASS UPRISING

The Supreme Court reversal of *Roe v. Wade* in particular is so vile and tyrannical that it has sparked visceral resistance on a scale only beginning to be apparent. The imposition of forced pregnancy and denial of bodily autonomy and reproductive freedom are attempts to nullify constitutional protections much deeper than just the "right to privacy." The court, state legislatures, and possibly Congress (if Republicans win in November), are seeking to reinstate forced reproduction reminiscent of chattel slavery. Banning abortion imposes the most degrading forms of second-class citizenship on women and pregnant people and forced religious compliance on anyone with a different religious view of when human life begins. Its aim is to suppress any and all independent thinking and paralyze resistance with religious fatalism.

The *Roe v. Wade* reversal is every bit as significant as the 1857 *Dred Scott* Supreme Court decision that provoked a mass uprising against the expansion of slavery, and ultimately led to the Civil War and its abolition. The role of revolutionaries in particular is to point out its class and racial impact. Half of those who receive abortions today are below the poverty line, including disproportionate numbers of African Americans. Denial of abortions prevents people from accessing education, forces them into teen motherhood and often into marriages that are harmful to them.

Fortunately, the defeatism preached by the media and Democratic Party leadership



Washington, D.C. Aug 28, 2021: Marchers for Voting Rights

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is not slowing the movement. On July 11, a coalition of reproductive freedom organizations in Michigan submitted 753,759 signatures on an initiative to guarantee the right to abortion services – by far the largest number of signatures ever collected in the state's history. The August 2 Kansas primary vote was a spectacular landslide victory for reproductive justice. The Poor People's Campaign released a "Seven Steps Before the Midterms" declaration promising not only massive voter mobilization but a September civil disobedience campaign to demand action to end poverty. The many organizations that led Georgia's record voter mobilizations in 2018 and 2020 are gearing up for yet another campaign.

Although the forms of struggle are

different, the lessons of the Civil War and Civil Rights eras remain true. It is imperative to vote, but not apart or aside from the battles in the streets. President Biden's call to "vote, vote, vote" is clearly insufficient when corporations are moving to rig and/or overturn elections, and armed mobs are threatening elected officials. The periods leading up to and during the Civil War were characterized by alternating elections and armed clashes, and the revolutionaries advanced their cause when they fought in both, as they did in "Bleeding Kansas." A century later, the Civil Rights Movement was comprised of boycotts, sit-ins, marches, legislation, direct action, voter registration drives, and rebellions in the streets.

*Continued on page 6*

*Rally!* is the political paper of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America. It reaches out and into the rising social and spontaneous struggle, where influencing consciousness is critical. To widen its appeal for that role, LRNA's 2022 Convention decided to change the paper's name from *Rally, Comrades!* to *Rally!*

## CONTENTS

Abolitionist Class Fights for Democracy, Threatens Private Property	2	Whose Kids? Our Kids! The Attack on Public Education	4
Repression against the Homeless Is an Attack on All	3	Revolutionary Transformation Today: Excerpts from the Political Resolution of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America	5
From the Editors: Unity of the Class, Unity of the Americas	3		

# Inside: Abolitionist Class Fights for Democracy, Threatens Private Property

## Inside Rally!

Only a few months ago it appeared that the big mouths of private property were going to sweep the November 2022 midterm elections. As the elections approach, those big mouths have gotten smaller and quieter. The Kansas primary result in August was democracy's answer to the Supreme Court's overturning of *Roe v. Wade*. The court's ruling failed to demoralize the people's movement against fascism. Instead, the movement is re-energized. As the article "We Demand a New Birth of Freedom" declares: "The fight for democracy and for our basic needs calls for both electoral campaigns and any and every form of mass disobedience imaginable to stop the dictatorship." We still hear Dr. King telling us: "How long? Not long, because no lie can live forever. How long? Not long, because you shall reap what you sow. How long? Not long." Democracy is the abolition of fascism.

Private property is the legal and political framework of capitalist society and the seedbed of fascism. Historically, abolitionism has its revolutionary roots in ending U.S. slavery that built global capitalism. Today, our class requires the abolition of the police State and the private property of a corporate class that the State is organized to protect. It cannot satisfy its needs within capitalism. It must abolish all forms of social oppression. It must abolish private property. The growing unity of an abolitionist working class frightens the ruling class. The rulers respond

by trying to pit workers against each other and relying more on police terror to control society. But the powers who represent private property cannot solve the endless new problems threatening the future of capitalism. Revolutionaries use this understanding as their guide to action. Revolutionaries understand that the displaced workers emerging from capitalism's own digital economy are the very ones able to lead the fight to transform society for everyone. The League of Revolutionaries for a New America's strategic focus is on the political unity of the new class. To abolish fascism is to break the chains of capitalism.

"Whose kids? Our kids!" The sound of that chant continues to be heard across the land as public education comes under fascist attack. Our article shows that there has never been a more momentous time to redefine public education than now. Yet there has never been a more important historical moment for young people to fight for a society that includes their leadership. Children have a right to learn the truth about U.S. history and to learn critical thinking skills. They have a right to multi-cultural literature and art, to play, to explore, to use their imaginations and expand their horizons. Further, today's generation of young leaders envision a future when "strong, healthy, clear-thinking people rise in common to address the merging crises that today threaten humanity and the planet." Fascism is about abolishing public education. Young revolutionaries are about abolishing fascism.

"Repression Against the Homeless Is an Attack on All" states that a full-time worker

would have to make more than \$20 an hour to afford a one-bedroom apartment while the federal minimum wage has been stuck at a ridiculous \$7.25 an hour since July 2009. Many homeless people work one or two jobs, with little prospect of ever escaping homelessness. Meanwhile, governments redirect funding for housing and social services to – who else? – the police. That is because in the United States today, the billionaire rulers comfort the comfortable and afflict the afflicted. It is no wonder that in times like these come abolitionists like the Moms 4 Housing movement in Oakland, California. With support from the community, that group took over and housed a family in a foreclosed property owned by one of the country's largest real-estate speculators. And then one of those moms ran for a seat on the City Council and won. She has placed a measure on the ballot authorizing Oakland to build 13,000 units of housing for low-income people. More broadly, whether we are housed or unhoused, employed or unemployed, housing for all regardless of ability to pay is what will abolish fascism.

The article "From the Editors" reports the United Nations International Immigration Program has called Latin American migration the world's deadliest and that 3,745 deaths have been recorded since 2014 along the southern U.S. border. That is the highest death rate along any single border in the world. What is more, in 2021 the United States government set an all-time high of 122,000 children taken into custody without their parents, according to the human rights organization Vera. As our country observes

Hispanic Heritage Month, we also mourn the 53 migrant workers who died last June in the back of a semitrailer truck. The bloody southern border is the tragedy of our class, in which workers are displaced by a rapidly changing economy maintained by increasingly fascist control. Capitalism's international borders do not protect people; they protect private capitalist property. Abolition of that property is the vision of one world and one humanity sharing peace, unity and abundance. **R**

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

## EDITORIAL POLICY

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

*Rally!* is the political paper of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America. In this period of growing motion and developing polarization, *Rally!* 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 to 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 with other revolutionaries around the demands of the working class, especially the class of displaced workers, and show how the solution is a cooperative, communist society, where social wealth is owned in common and distributed according to need.

The demands of this new impoverished class for food, housing, education, healthcare 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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# Repression against the Homeless Is an Attack on All

All over the country, the repression against unhoused people is being amped up. Instead of putting resources into housing people, monies people vote for (intended to help people get housing) are going toward police harassment and into breaking up tent communities where people are trying to shelter themselves and protect each other. Instead of housing those who are unhoused and providing supportive services for those who need them, at best the powers that be erect a few sheds, or 'tiny homes,' usually far from services. That gives them an excuse to raid tent camps, to round people up into dangerous mass shelters, often one large tent crowded with cots and surrounded by razor wire.

In Sacramento, CA, the city has been executing multiple sweeps of encampments, involving three to five thousand people, though shelters are filled to capacity. Crystal Sanchez of the Sacramento Homeless Union reports that one such sweep "displaced an 87 year-old veteran, while confiscating his RV. They left him in a chair with what he had on his back." A federal judge recently ordered a stay to stop the removal of an Oakland, CA encampment where several hundred people live in tents and home-built structures. This is one of at least a hundred homeless encampments in this gentrifying city, that has seen much organizing and resisting, from tent occupations of civic centers to housing takeovers.

Los Angeles has an estimated 70,000 homeless people in the county, and 40,000 in the city itself, many living on so-called 'Skid Row' downtown, where the notorious LAPD is often seen harassing and brutalizing those who live on the streets. In July, the Los Angeles City Council approved an amendment to an existing code which increased the number of places where homelessness is criminalized. According to Services Not Sweeps, 'Further criminalization and withdrawal of available public space, often close to nearby support systems, targets the unhoused rather than the roots of homelessness,' without meeting a single one of their needs. A broad coalition of groups are organizing resistance against these mean and ineffective laws, demanding that the government house people instead of attacking them.

## CRIMINALIZED TO DEATH

The recent brutal heat waves across the country (and the globe) have claimed the lives of countless unsheltered victims. In Phoenix, Arizona, "two thirds of the deaths involved people who live unprotected outdoors in the arid desert city where temperatures soar well into triple digits" (Associated Press). And during a recent frigid winter, people who had set up their tents near downtown Denver, Colorado were chased away and re-treated to a nearby river, where several died of exposure.

Most recently, the state of Tennessee passed a law making it a felony to camp "without permission" on government property. The first arrest under this law was of a young Knoxville woman, Cynthia Dawn Rose, 32, taken into custody for camping under a

## The debate over homelessness – which has been going on for decades – is becoming white hot.

bridge. The police cited as evidence of the felony "pillows and blankets." As other people were chased away she refused to leave, saying she would "when there was somewhere to go." This heartless law, pushed onto the people of Tennessee by Republican lawmakers, is so extreme and such a violation of basic rights that it is even causing outrage in local city governments.

This shows the level of criminalization of people whose only crime is the inability to afford a place to live. It has been calculated that a person working full-time would have to make over \$20 an hour to afford a one bedroom apartment anywhere in the US, where the federal minimum wage has been stuck at a ridiculous \$7.25 an hour for over a decade. Many homeless people work one or two jobs, with little prospect of ever escaping homelessness. This affects men, women and children, single people, veterans, and families and students of all ages. Rents have risen everywhere - as much as 40% in some cities in the past year.

Increasing economic and social instability is tearing the fabric of society from top to bottom, as new strains of the pandemic hit people with unequal ferocity, along with inflation, sky-high rents, and the permanent

replacement of workers by automation, algorithms, and AI. The reality of the growing number people who have lost their homes, or who soon will, is clashing with the extreme financialization of housing and rents, along with the rising cost of living.

## ORGANIZING AGAINST THE ATTACKS

The debate over homelessness – which has been going on for decades – is becoming white hot. Real estate and other private property interests are doubling down on their argument that homelessness is caused by bad people – people who use drugs, are mentally ill, lazy, or simply criminal. But millions of people don't buy this and are fighting back through organizations not only of unhoused people, but also tenants, unions, community organizations, coalitions, and especially voters.

These groups include Services Not Sweeps in Los Angeles, Our Reno, Denver Out Loud, 'First they came for the homeless' in San Francisco, Moms 4 Housing in Oakland, and Union of the Homeless locals across the country, and organizations in Boston, Chicago, Miami, Atlanta, Kansas City and elsewhere, from cities to small towns.

Moms 4 Housing, based in Oakland, two years ago organized the takeover of a foreclosed-on home owned by one of the country's largest real estate speculators. The self-described 'collective of homeless and marginally-housed mothers' put themselves and their children into the house, with support from the surrounding community. Caroll Fife, one of the mothers who organized this action - which was seen as a model across the country - ran for Oakland City Council and was elected over an incumbent. On her agenda is legislation for the November ballot that would create 13,000 "low-rent" units of housing.

As more working people fall on hard times and can't afford a roof over their heads, this human rights issue becomes one not just of compassion but of self-interest. We must all have the right to the basics, to what we need to survive and thrive, whether we can 'afford' them or not. This means that the government must fund and build enough low or no-cost decent housing for everyone's needs and workers must hold our elected officials accountable to serve all the people.

Many people throughout society are standing up and demanding the end to attacks on homeless people and that all be housed. We are all in danger, not just materially but morally and spiritually, unless we organize for an end to homelessness, meaning social transformation to a cooperative, socialist order where housing and all we need is a guaranteed right. **R**

## From the Editors: Unity of the Class, Unity of the Americas

### From the Editors

On January 28, 1948, 28 migrant farmworkers were killed in an airplane crash which inspired folk singer Woody Guthrie to write, "Deportee [Plane Wreck at Los Gatos]," a song that revolved around the invisibility of the dead. In 2017, author Tim Hernandez wrote the book *All They Will Call You* to address a piece of that injustice by telling the story of the passengers onboard that plane. Also in 2017, the U.S. Border Patrol recorded 298 other migrant deaths. According to the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA), that was not even a particularly bad year: 2021 saw the highest recorded death toll in two decades at 557.

On June 27 of this year, 53 migrant farmworkers died in the back of a semi-trailer truck, and we learned no more about them than we did about the anonymous farmworkers mourned by Guthrie. The United Nations International Immigration Program reports that Latin American migration is the deadliest in the world, with

the 3,745 deaths recorded along the southern U.S. border since 2014, the highest death rate along any single border in the world. That is the same border where the human rights organization Vera reports that 2021 saw an all-time high of 122,000 children taken into U.S. custody without their parents. When we consider the secrecy involved in undocumented migration and the exploitative conditions faced by migrants on both sides of our border, we know we are only able to quantify a sliver of the loss.

Our art cries out against this injustice. Just two days before this tragedy, Puerto Rican musician Residente received the grand prize at the Cannes film festival in France for the video that accompanies his song "This Is Not America," an explicitly sympathetic response to Childish Gambino's No. 1 hit "This Is America." Accompanied by poignant images such as (in the video) a mother breastfeeding her baby through a border fence, Residente's lyrics declare America to be everything from Tierra del Fuego to Canada, making plain that the United States is brutalizing our own.

That is a perspective worth observing as the United States celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month in September and October, commemorating the start of the 1810 Mexican War of Independence against Spain that would touch off revolutions that made Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua independent as well. At that time, northern Mexico extended from Texas to Oregon.

To understand the centrality of Hispanic Heritage to American culture is to understand the potential unity of our working class. Our bloody southern border is the tragedy of our class, in which workers are displaced by a rapidly changing economy maintained by increasingly fascist control. Whether using the tools of overt racism or the kind of imperialist muscle that backfired with June's historic boycott of the Summit of the Americas by Mexico, Bolivia, Honduras, and Guatemala, our rulers have nothing to offer but divisive lies, indifference, and violence. On the other hand, our displaced class is bound together by the truth of our history, the mix of our cultures and the beauty and sanctity of human life. **R**

# Whose Kids? Our Kids!

## The Attack on Public Education

As public schools enter their third year of COVID, public education as a system is staggering on the ropes. Since 2020, more than half a million teachers have left the profession. Public school teachers all report that last year's challenges for student sociability and mental health were not functionally addressed. This year will be as challenging as the last two.

There has never been a more momentous time to redefine public education. Powerful forces intend to dismantle public schools and are launching a broad political attack. This is an issue that will cripple all of society if we allow it to proceed. Nor has there ever been a more important historical moment for young people to fight for a society that includes their leadership.

The fight is for a different vision of the future, a future where strong, healthy, clear-thinking people rise in common to address the merging crises that today threaten humanity and the planet. In opposition, a well-organized and directed fascist offensive operates to weaponize real issues into fake ones designed to foment anger, fear, and distrust. Fascism requires a mass movement to justify the open dictatorship of corporate power.

In July, Betsy DeVos, who was Trump's highly destructive secretary of education, and Laura Ingraham of Fox News renewed calls for abolishing government control of public education and replacing it with "parental choice." Texas Senator John Cornyn even tweeted that the Supreme Court should reverse *Brown v. Board of Education*, which would reinstitute Jim Crow segregation.

### OPPOSING PUBLIC EDUCATION

Fascism undermines public education because schools historically strive to produce people who think. Funded by billionaires like the Koch brothers, the attack on science and learning intends to abolish public education, a way to ensure the public remains powerless and obedient. They proclaim "parent rights" to curtail what children are allowed to learn.

Parents have always had the right to participate in community decisions about education, but they have never had an individual right to veto what their child will learn. The United States has long recognized that education is a public good that must be guaranteed by the government. The law accepts that children have different needs than their parents. The government sets basic educational standards that apply to public, private and religious schools. Even home schools do not have absolute parental rights over what and how their children learn.

Children have a right to learn the truth about U.S. history and to learn critical thinking skills. They have a right to multi-cultural literature and art, to play, to explore, to use their imaginations and expand their horizons. Children have a right to robust health

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Education is always political because it is a battle over ideology, knowledge, power, and the future.

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education, which includes information about sexuality and sexual orientation, so that they can grow into healthy adults, instead of being hobbled and shamed for having human impulses.

In the privatized marketplace, the only individual rights you have depend on how much money you have. Hence the rights of children, like most rights, are bare shadows of what they should be. The United States is the only country in the world that is not a party to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child! The United States incarcerates more children than any other country. Now the attack on youth is moving from the streets to the schools.

The horrible massacre in Uvalde occurred because politicians dare not control assault rifles, since this would hurt the profits of gun corporations. School districts have likewise been stampeded to spend billions of dollars to militarize schools with corporate security systems that turn schools into prisons. Schools have likewise become markets for profit-making tech platforms that determine the content of public education with very little public discussion.

### STATES' RIGHTS SET UP SCHOOLS TO FAIL

States' Rights block the ability of the federal government to develop a national approach. The U.S. Constitution permitted states to block federal power because slaveholders worried that federal power might free the slaves. States' Rights have been used to block health care, unions, school funding, and environmental protections. States' Rights are the foundation for more than a century of Jim Crow terror in the South. The attacks take different forms, depending on the state, guaranteeing a patchwork quilt of how public education is sabotaged. However, in every case, these notions allow corporations to move in and abolish democracy in our schools.

Rural schools across the country are on the verge of collapse because, absent a federal system, local communities must pay for their schools. But in rural areas there is a limited industrial base or no taxes on outside corporate companies so there is little revenue. Most states offer minimal funding to rural school districts. These districts lack modern buildings, have little broadband, and often do not even have clean water. Instead of improving schools in West Virginia's small communities, the state is consolidating them into larger schools, forcing children from several communities to endure long bus rides. As one educator in West Virginia said, the

policy is "stack them deep and teach them cheap."

Here the legacy of the high stakes testing regime, pushed by both Bush and Obama, comes home. Rural schools often do not do well on such narrow, standardized tests; then the state steps in to "close failing schools." Mississippi has seized control of 20 districts.

Since the Oakland, California, school district was taken over by the state in 2003, it has closed 20 public schools and opened more than 40 charter schools. Every school it closed has a majority of Black or Brown students. When school board members voted to stop closing schools last year, the county superintendent threatened to replace them and stop paying their salaries. The majority on the school board folded and now intend to close six more schools by the end of this school year.

The battle is over whether the community or the corporations will control the schools. Hundreds of speakers at every Oakland school board meeting since January have demanded that no schools be closed. Parents, teachers, and the community have occupied Parker Elementary since it was closed, making this the longest school occupation in U.S. history.

Oakland is the poster child for the new "rentership society" that corporations are imposing across the country. Sixty percent of rental housing and 90 percent of rental apartments in the city are controlled by corporations. The city is financing massive market-rate housing in communities where families have lived for generations. These communities are what is left of the old industrial era working class that has been made redundant by technology. As rent goes through the roof, the school district closes the schools that anchor these communities. Real estate developers move in, take over the closed schools, and reopen them as charters or even as private rental housing!

School vouchers, like charters, speed up the death spiral of public schools by draining money away from public education. Arizona has just passed the country's most extreme voucher law. This law gives parents a \$7,000 per child voucher to move out of public schools. The voucher is a debit card that can be used to pay for private schools, religious schools, homeschool expenses, tutoring, online classes and now "micro-schools."

West Virginia has proposed a Hope Scholarship voucher of \$4,300, which can be used for micro-pod and parochial schools. This violates the state constitution. Teachers, parents, and students are fighting this

through an injunction.

Micro-schools emerged during COVID, when small groups of affluent parents pooled resources to hire teachers. The Orlando (Florida) Sentinel in 2017 found massive voucher expansion led to the creation of low-cost and low-quality "voucher schools." These were private schools that were inexpensive enough for low-income parents to cover tuition expenses with voucher funds alone, but so poorly regulated that repeated problems arose. Schools were set up in decrepit strip malls, violated health and safety requirements, and hired teachers without credentials. Such micro-schools often take the money and disappear. Vouchers, charters, and micro-schools re-establish segregated schools since they claim to be private and no longer under public control.

### TAKING THE OFFENSIVE AGAINST FASCISM

Government in the United States is mostly under the control of corporations and their private property. Fascists rally the genuine anger of people against the government, and then project that the way forward is a corporate dictatorship, like slavery was. The reality, however, is that only government can guarantee basic human rights and needs. Revolutionaries today recognize that the people must compel government to do this.

Tyrants tried to destroy ideas quite often in the past, but the people with those ideas revolted against them and destroyed them instead. Education is always political because it is a battle over ideology, knowledge, power, and the future.

Once people recognize that buzzwords simply disguise corporate business plans, they reject these notions and take the offensive. This step requires revolutionaries to regularly expose the specific concrete issues of class, white supremacy and political power that lurk behind every school crisis, and that block our imagination and ability to unite for our kids and for their future. **R**

### Join the Discussion!

Rally! articles offer revolutionaries a fresh perspective! They offer analysis and vision, and outline a strategy to achieve that vision. Share them with your friends and other revolutionaries, get together and talk about the ideas. Spread the vision of a new world and the possibility of achieving it. Join us!



# Revolutionary Transformation Today: Excerpts from the Political Resolution of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America

The global ruling class that controls the tools and technologies of society has pushed humanity and Nature to the brink. For over a decade now, and in the face of a pandemic, the people of the world, including the United States, have been in rising rebellion against the capitalist class. As a result, the ruling class turns to fascism to use anger and fear to divert and confuse the rising working-class movements. Fascism is the open terroristic dictatorship of corporate power, carried out by the State apparatus. It requires a mass base recruited from those who are or could embrace the fascist alternative. The growth of this mass base is apparent today. The fight against fascism is a fight for basic human needs for all, for democracy, for the control of government, and for the future of humanity and the planet. By taking the offensive to defeat fascism, the working class can pass over to the offensive against capitalism and private property, the seedbed of fascism.

Economic exploitation and class society have inflicted harm on Nature to the point where the Earth and its climate can no longer sustain life for many species, including the human one. Murderous pandemics and famine, hurricanes and drought, disastrous heat and fires: All are intensifying inequalities in society. All are wreaking destruction and contamination, compelling massive migration, and igniting wars. Danger and promise face humanity and the earth.

For hundreds of thousands of years humans lived in harmony with Nature. The development of class society transformed property used in common into private property owned by a dominant class that exploited labor and land; resulting in the ever-escalating destruction of natural resources and land and impoverishing the majority of human society.

As U.S. society confronts this destruction, the capitalist class is weaponizing all forms of patriarchy, gender inequality, white supremacy, and every other inequality within society. It agitates political and ideological polarization to the point of violence. At the same time, human society now has the scientific and material wherewithal to overcome

all forms of private property and inequality among human beings. Realizing the full, free, and equal potential of human development along with the healing of the planet is within view for the first time in human history.

Colonialism's plunder and desecration of Indigenous lands and genocidal policies against Indigenous peoples and then capitalism's industrialized agriculture and production took their toll on Nature, including humanity. From the coal mines of England to the cotton plantations in the U.S. South, from the rubber plantations of Malaysia to the gold mines of Mali, capitalism stole the resources of the world at the expense of Nature and the peoples of the world.

Chipping away at the effects of this destructive rift between human society and Nature is not enough. It is time to get to the cause of the problem, to put an end to all inequalities within society and the assaults on Nature. The only way to heal the destructive rupture is the abolition of private property as the organizing framework of society.

## **DANGER OR PROMISE: WHICH WAY WILL SOCIETY GO?**

That future will depend on what people understand and do in response to the ravages directed by the global ruling class.

We have never been here before. Society is on the verge of world historic changes. Today the micro-chip is rapidly displacing workers, revolutionizing how the needs of society are produced. Private wealth accumulation by the few, based on labor of the many, approaches its limits. Investors must find ways to accumulate wealth other than exploitation of labor.

In sum, we are in the midst of an economic revolution that is even bigger than the industrial revolution. The invention of the microchip and electronic production began a process that is step by step replacing the need for human labor, a process that has been sped up by the pandemic. Digital technology, such as computers, apps, artificial intelligence, robotics, and other forms of automation, are replacing and restructuring work, slowly ending capitalism, an eco-

omic system that depends on the buying and selling of labor power. Production without labor demands that the goods produced be distributed without money. The method of production is at war with the method of distribution.

Nevertheless, an immense legal and political superstructure protects relationships of private property, allowing investors to abuse Nature for private gain. Legal changes in the U.S. in the last 20 years gave financial institutions access to new areas of investment, including water, copper, and other minerals. Financial investors speculate on the rate at which polar ice and glaciers are melting. Melt or no melt — speculators win. Legal and political changes are putting Nature under the control of corporations and financial investors and speculators.

## **TECHNOLOGY AND THE NEW DISPLACED ABOLITIONIST CLASS**

In the Spring of 2020, COVID threw as many as 50 million people out of work in the United States, adding to decades of havoc among America's working class. COVID forced capital to demonstrate how information technology and artificial intelligence can make a remote workforce "normal." At the same time the pandemic drastically expanded the large segment of underpaid, often part time and contingent workers it now named as "essential" — but whom it treated as disposable. The pandemic laid bare and exacerbated a process already well underway. According to Time magazine, since 1974 about \$50 trillion was "transferred" from workers to the top 10% of the population. In the first 12 months of the pandemic, North American billionaires increased their wealth by \$1.3 trillion. Vaccine producers Pfizer, Moderna, and BioNTech are making \$65,000 every minute from selling their vaccines to the richest countries, while only about 2% of the people in the world's poorest countries have been vaccinated.

New means of production produce new classes that establish new ways of relating to each other. Robotics and electronics have been disrupting industrial employment

for decades. The disruption is accelerating. Every arena of work is affected. Despite rosy reports of a lower unemployment rate, the labor participation rate — those working or looking for work in relation to the entire working age population — is only 61.6% (May 2022).

Labor replacing technology has not only destroyed whole categories of jobs, but the jobs that are left have been radically restructured. By 2010, about 40% of the workforce was made up of contingent workers — that is, part time workers, on call or temp workers, gig workers, and contract workers. In the early stages of the pandemic, involuntary part time workers totaled 11.9 million.

There are many ways we could describe this very large and diverse section of the working class created by robotics: In all its various levels of precariousness, contingency, and dispossession, and inclusive of immigration status, ethnicity, race, gender or sexual orientation, "disposable" and "expendable" best describe how capital has tried to drive this class to its knees. The rulers are, step by step, taking away every right and material benefit from a growing segment of the population, from democratic rights and education to the air we breathe, water we must drink, housing, and food we need to survive.

But this class is not merely a passive object of ruling class whims. Nothing describes this class's historic mission, in relation to the private property that has dispossessed it, better than "abolitionist." Historically, abolitionism has its revolutionary roots in ending U.S. slavery that built global capitalism. Today, our class requires the abolition of the police State and the private property of a corporate class that the State is organized to protect. It cannot satisfy its needs within capitalism. It must abolish all forms of social oppression. It must abolish private property.

The political direction in which this class will move — indeed is moving — is not guaranteed. Horrified by the specter of the growing unity of an abolitionist class, the ruling class

*Continued on page 6*

## **Join the League of Revolutionaries for a New America**

The goal of all revolutionaries' work today is to give the American people a vision of what is possible. It is a vision of a world where no one has to fight another for the daily bread of existence. It is a vision where cooperation and fulfilling the needs of humanity are the guiding principles. It is a vision that

satisfies the deepest yearnings of the people for peace.

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](mailto:info@lrna.org), or call 773-486-0028, or write LRNA, P.O. Box 477113, Chicago, IL 60647.

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# Revolutionary Transformation Today: Excerpts from the Political Resolution of the League of Revolutionaries for a New America

Continued from page 5

concentrates on their twin pillars of domination: setting the conditions for some workers to fight others; and putting in place the mechanisms for the use of force and violence.

The whole society is reacting to this change. The capitalist class, in its full political power, reveals its utter disregard for human life and public safety. As society lurches from crisis to crisis, capitalism faces problems beyond its capacity to solve. The old status quo is collapsing. The center cannot hold. These escalating crises mark a social process that is irreversible.

A developing fascist government, where corporations have become merged with the State, serves the needs of the corporations to protect their ability to amass wealth, their private property. The ruling class will not pay to feed, house, clothe and educate workers they no longer need. How will the people understand this, and how will they respond? While the economic relations develop more or less on their own – that is objectively – the understanding of the people is the subjective side of the process. Here revolutionaries do our work to keep the movement on track. Armed with the understanding that private property must be abolished as the organizing framework of society, this new class uses this knowledge as a guide to action.

The demands for housing, adequate food, medical care, and education – regardless of ability to pay – are not simply utopian ideas. Distribution according to need rather than who can pay is not only possible; it is necessary to resolve the crises we face today, which is why these are demands for the abolition of capitalism, private property, and private profit. That makes the new displaced class growing from the digital economy an abolitionist class. It is a new social force that is uniquely capable of leading the fight to transform society for everyone.

Distribution of goods and services based on need, and the contribution of each person to society according to their ability is the definition of communism. This is a practical solution to the problems facing the new displaced class and society today. Only a cooperative society based on a communist economy can make the rational decisions that will unleash a future of regenerative abundance for humanity and life on earth.

## RISING SOCIAL MOVEMENT

A rising social movement is going beyond

Only a cooperative society based on a communist economy can make the rational decisions that will unleash a future of regenerative abundance for humanity and life on earth.

simply blaming the corporations. Workers are bringing their demands against the State. Like the water protectors, they are compelled to fight to transform society into public ownership of the new tools of production and communication. Nationalization, i.e., the fight to have the government take over privately owned industries (such as health care, water, or energy) and run them in the interests of the people accelerates this movement that threatens private property and thus terrifies the ruling class. In response to a rising social movement the rulers unleash a fascist offensive. The assault disproportionately targets Black, Indigenous and people of color, as well as women and LGBTQIA people. Systems of domination like the patriarchy are an integral part of the capitalist structuring of society, and an important pillar of fascist ideology. Re-entrenchment of the patriarchy always accompanies fascist advance.

The U.S. Supreme Court decision striking down Roe v. Wade will disproportionately affect low-income women and women of color who will bear the brunt of this ruling. This is another fascist thrust that attacks not only reproductive health and justice but also the very notion of bodily autonomy.

The Supreme Court's decision imposes the doctrine of "states' rights" on the country. The failure of Congress and the Courts to protect the right to vote and to extend the Voting Rights Act confirms this intention.

The escalating social crises have remolded the class of displaced workers more and more into a social force that is driving forward an objective revolutionary movement. The spiraling consequences of technological unemployment make it clearer and clearer that we cannot solve the rest of our social problems unless we meet the demands of those being rejected by the private property economy.

It is time to get to the cause of the problem, to put an end to the inequalities with-

in society and the assaults on Nature. What stands in the way of our displaced and abolitionist class — and indeed, the whole working class — as it strives to meet its basic needs? The rule of corporate private property and the political power that enforces it. This is the last stand of the ruling class.

## POLITICALLY COALESCE THE BROAD SOCIAL STRUGGLE

Today all sections of society are reacting to the disruption of its economic foundation. Institutions and ideologies that, in the past, held society together can no longer do so when its foundation is crumbling. The shreds of our democracy can barely hold this country together. The broad movement has to fight for that democracy. As we struggle within that broad front, we aim to develop the political consciousness that this ruling class is not fit to rule, and that it can be and must be displaced.

The League's mission is to unite with other revolutionaries around the demands of the working class, especially the class of displaced workers, and show how the solution is a cooperative, communist society, where social wealth is owned in common and distributed according to need.

To accomplish this mission, the League's tactic is to carry out the struggle for political unity where the growing equality of poverty exists. The fight for class consciousness and unity has to be carried on by the revolutionaries throughout the country, within every section of the working class. As workers begin to gain class consciousness, they will politicize those around them. Today the workers can take no steps forward apart from

resolving the problems that confront the displaced as a whole, unity based on what is practical, real, and possible.

Our strategic focus is on the political unity of the new class. Consciousness lags behind the objective changes we are observing. Recognition of the necessity for that kind of unity is a result of consciousness. The task will not be easy because we are confronting centuries of national, ethnic, and racial divisions. They can only be overcome through intellectual struggle linked to daily experience. Every struggle of the class must be used to explain the meaning of their activity, to show them a vision of the cooperative society that is possible and a strategy to get there.

It is in the process of the movement's realization that the State does not represent its interests that demands for new solutions arise. Revolutionaries work within this process to develop the stages of consciousness along the line of march — from scattered economic struggles, to united political struggles against the State. Within the fight for the immediate aims of the workers, revolutionaries keep their sights on the solutions.

The solution, the actual program of the new displaced class is the abolition of private property relations — economic and social relationships based on private profit instead of human need. This abolition of private property is frequently referred to as communism. This communism is neither an ideal to which reality will have to adjust itself nor an idea to which people are to be won. It is neither an ideology nor a specific political form of the last century. It is a practical and necessary transformation that can and must be achieved if humanity and the planet are going to survive.

Revolutionary transformation is possible when the angry, displaced, and terrorized cease seeing themselves simply as the victims of their rulers. When we act with vision and political clarity to secure the goals of our struggle, we become active agents of history, who can secure the imperiled future of humanity and the planet. The LRNA commits its energies to making that possibility a reality. **R**

## We Demand a New Birth of Freedom in 2022

Continued from page 1

The fight for democracy and for our basic needs calls for both electoral campaigns and any and every form of mass disobedience imaginable to stop the dictatorship. History has shown, and the victories of the worldwide revolutionary movement confirm that fascist dictatorships are unstable and destined to

fall. As Dr. King said, "However difficult the moment, however frustrating the hour, it will not be long, because truth crushed to earth will rise again. How long? Not long, because no lie can live forever. How long? Not long, because you shall reap what you sow. How long? Not long." **R**

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