Congresswomen condemn White House racism

On July 16, the House of Representatives passed a resolution stating that Trump’s tweets were racist. All Democrats and four Republicans voted for the resolution. More to come.

By Monica Moorehead

The white supremacist and misogynist Trump has opened up another vicious, racist verbal war. This time it is against four progressive Congresswomen of color — Reps. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (N.Y.), Ilhan Omar (Minn.), Ayanna Pressley (Mass.) and Rashida Tlaib (Mich.). They are, respectively, Puerto Rican, Somali, African American and Palestinian. Omar and Tlaib are also Muslim. All four are Democratic Party members.

The four have been aggressively outspoken against the Trump administration’s xenophobic raids, deportations and detention of thousands of migrants, including children, since they won their congressional seats in 2018. They have especially ratcheted up their criticisms of Trump following public visits of several politicians to extremely overcrowded detention centers where migrants have been denied the right to shower, nourishing and plentiful food, medical care and much more.

Trump told the women in his tweets to “go back and help fix the totally broken and crime infested places from which they came. If they are not happy here, they can leave.” Ironically, Omar is the only one born outside the U.S.

At a joint July 15 press conference, all four representatives responded to Trump’s attacks. Rep. Omar stated, “This is the agenda of white nationalists. This is his plan to pit us against one another.” She also connected Trump’s attacks on them to his attacks on Black athletes who have denounced social injustice, his objectification of women and his disparaging remarks about developing countries.

A week prior to Trump’s attacks, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), opened up an attack of her own on the same four representatives. The attack was in response to their opposition to a $4.6 billion House-sponsored border bill that Democrats were pushing in an attempt to appease Trump, who was threatening to shut down the federal government for a second time if building his new border wall was stalled again.

In a New York Times interview, Pelosi remarked about the four: “All these people have their public whatever and their Twitter world. But they didn’t have any following. They’re four people and that’s how many votes they got.” (July 6)

In truth these four “no” votes represented the sentiment of millions of people, who are adamantly opposed to building any new wall or any milder-sounding but still-restrictive immigration policy.

Rep. Tlaib said in an ABC News interview, “We know what it feels like to be dehumanized. We know what it feels like to be treated like that. And it’s not just us. It’s all of our people.”

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Growing signs of deepening global capitalist crisis

By Ben Carroll

The aggressive posture of U.S. imperialism in decline, coupled with the fracturing of long-standing imperialist alliances, is contributing to concerns among ruling circles of an impending economic contraction and revealing divisions among the ruling class.

In an effort to contain and undermine China, the U.S. has opened an expanding trade war, with tariffs targeting key sectors of the world’s second-largest economy. U.S. imperialism’s desperate attempts to capture markets and regain an advantage over China are revealing emerging divisions within the ruling class here. They focus on Trump’s imposition of tariffs on Chinese products and his continued threats to raise them even higher. These efforts are causing fear among some sections of the ruling class that a prolonged trade war may end up negatively impacting their capitalist plunder of the world.

That is on top of the brutal and racist war Trump is waging on migrant workers, which has been accompanied by the threat of tariffs of up to 25 percent on imports from Mexico.

The threat of U.S. war on Iran looms as the U.S. seeks to expand its export of oil and natural gas. Nearly a third of the world’s tanker-carried oil and petroleum passes close to Iran through the Strait of Hormuz. The U.S. Energy Information Center describes the Strait as “the most important chokepoint for the world’s oil industry.”

Tendency of rate of profit to fall and capitalist overproduction

An article in the June 11 New York Times pointed out: “Corporate profits may be particularly vulnerable right now. Revenue overall is growing faster than earnings. In the first quarter, sales rose about 5 percent from a year earlier, while profits declined 0.4 percent .... [and] that dynamism is expected to persist in the next few quarters ... suggest[ing] companies have little ability to increase their bottom lines by expanding profit margins.”

The key discovery of Karl Marx’s is that the capitalist system is a contradiction that leads to crises of overproduction and the tendency of the rate of profit to fall. This system is driven by competition among the owners of capital to carve out wider markets for their commodities and expand production. If they do not, they will be gob- bled up and taken over by other capitalists who succeed in doing so. This leads the capitalist class to invest more and more capital into the process of production itself, includ- ing more efficient machinery for the production of commodi- ties while reducing the amount of labor needed. But profits are derived from the value that workers produce above and beyond what they are paid.

At first, the capitalists using the more efficient technology get a competitive edge. But eventually, the new technology, requiring fewer workers, becomes the industry standard.

Marx called the capital invested in plant and machinery “constant capital.” Its cost is pretty much the same for all capitalists in the same industry and is incorporated into the value of the commodities produced. What the bosses pay out for the human labor consumed in production, however, is called “variable capital” because it varies depending on how much the bosses can squeeze out of the workers by speeding up production and reducing wages. The more the bosses spend on machinery, etc., in order to replace workers, the greater the ratio of constant capital to variable capital. But profits come from variable capital — the exploitation of labor. So spending more on machines and less on labor eventually causes the rate of profit to fall. This is a key contradiction of the capitalist system.

While the quote from the New York Times does not in and of itself indicate this phenomenon, it is an interesting revelation when taken as a whole. Based on official his- torical data compiled through 2017, the rate of profit in... Continued on page 11

Contact a Workers World Party branch near you:

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational, and multigendered orga- nization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it’s the only way forward! Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the never-ending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repres- sion. It leads to immiseration, LGBTQ oppres- sion and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are gobbled down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought strug- gles by people’s movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensifi ed attacks on the multinational, multigendered and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at – and chal- lenge — the capitalist system.

We need an alternative: a socialist economy because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should belong to and be controlled by the working class. It is time to point the blame at — and chal- lenge — the capitalist system.

The WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capital. People need the money that goes into capitalist hands.
Queer Liberation March resurfaces spirit of Stonewall

By Brenda Ryan
New York

At least 45,000 people joined the Queer Liberation March here on June 30 in an exuberant and powerful celebration honoring the legacy of queer liberation struggles, past and present.

Organized by the Reclaim Pride Coalition, the march and following rally renounced the commercialization of the annual Pride event, which has been dominated by corporations. There were no corporations, floats or police contingent in the march. Rather, it was interspersed with immigrants, the Black Lives Matter movement and all oppressed people.

Held on the 50th anniversary of the historic Stonewall Rebellion, the march followed the route of the first Pride march and captured its spirit. It began at Sheridan Square Park in the West Village and went up Sixth Avenue to Bryant Park, where a second wave of participants joined, and then continued to Central Park.

There were sit-ins along the route, one of which protested the confinement of people with HIV in immigrant detention centers and trans Latinx contingent and groups supporting abortion rights and Palestine marched, as well as contingents opposing U.S. wars and militarization.

Workers World Party, People’s Power Assemblies NYC and Shut It Down led the march.

Marchers reclaim Pride from corporations and cops. WW PHOTO: BRENDA RYAN

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Serena Williams and Megan Rapinoe
Fighters for racial and gender equality

By Monica Moorehead

Powerful women athletes are using their popularity and influence to speak out against various forms of social injustice. Two of them are Serena Williams and Megan Rapinoe.

Serena, generally known by her first name, is regarded as the greatest woman ever to play tennis. Since 1995, when she was a teenager, the African-American icon has won 23 grand slam titles – including the Australian, French, Wimbledon and US Open, multiple times. In the Open era, only Margaret Court of Australia has won one more grand slam title – for a total of 24.

Now, just one month shy of her 38th birthday, Serena has played her way into three major finals since the birth of her daughter, Alexis Olympia, almost two years ago. She was in the first trimester of her pregnancy when she won the 2017 Australian Open. During her remarkable 20-plus-year span of playing tennis, Serena has been outspoken against the racist and sexist abuse she has endured on and off the court. Along with her older sister, Venus, who has won seven grand slam titles.

During the 2018 Wimbledon, Serena was accused of cheat- ing by a male referee, who took away a point and then a whole game, when she protested the allegation. During her 2016 US Open finals, Serena was referring to the International Tennis Federation’s banning of Nastase from their events for his verbal, sexist abuse of British women tennis players. She and Kaepernick took a lot of crit- icism for their stance, including from Donald Trump, but neither one of them has wavered. Kaepernick has been denied the right to play football since his heroic act. The attacks on Rapinoe have continued.

She and Kaepernick lived in the chant “Sex work is work!” They urged the movement for queer and trans liberation to defend all workers against exploitation and police repression.

During the BNP Paribas Open in Indian Wells, Calif., which Serena won in 2001, she, as well as Venus and their father Richard Williams, were called the racist N-word epithet repeatedly. In protest, she decided to boycott the event until 2015.

Serena has been viciously objecti- fied for many years, both racially and sexually, for wearing tennis outfits that proudly show her muscled body built. The descriptions are so repulsive and hein- ous they should never be repeated. They reflect how Black women have been and still are degraded as being hypersexual in a society dominated by white supremacy since the days of slavery.

During Serena’s pregnancy, Ilie Nastase, a former grand slam winner from Romania, referred to her unborn child with the statement: “Let’s see what color it has. Chocolate with milk?” (New York Times, April 23, 2017) Serena’s response to Nastase’s racist inflamma- tion statement on Instagram: “It disappoints me to know we live in a society where people like Ilie Nastase can make such racist comments toward myself and unborn child, and sexist comments against my peers. I am not afraid unlike you. You see, I am not coward. Does my sassiness upset you? Why are you beset with gloom? You may shoot me with your words, ... you may try to kill me with your public accusations, but it is I who will continue to do so going forward, as a protest. Rapinoe stated her reasons for not singing the anthem in an essay for The Players’ Tribune in 2016. “I haven’t experienced over-policing, racist prof- iling, police brutality or the sight of a family member’s body lying dead in the street. But I cannot stand idly by while there are people in this country who have had to deal with that kind of heartache. There is no perfect way to protest. I know that nothing I do will take away the pain of those families. But I feel in my heart it is right to continue to kneel during the national anthem, and I will do whatever I can to be part of the solution.”

Rapinoe and the rest of the U.S. soc- cer team rank No. 1 worldwide. The team, which is multinational and multigen- erational, has put ongoing pressure on the Loan Tran, a queer trans organizer from Durham, N.C., expressed solidarity with the Central Park Five, who in 1989 were wrongly convicted and sent to prison for crimes they did not commit, and with migrants being forced out of their homes.

“Don’t we think it’s time to shut down those concentration camps at the bor- der?” Tran asked. “The crisis at the bor- der is a crisis of capitalism, it’s a crisis of imperialism, it’s a crisis of colonialism. The thousands who are being forced to come to the fake U.S.-Mexico border are coming as a direct result of the pillage and plunder and exploitation of their resources and communities. The thou- sand coming to the border are owe- repurposes for the wealth that has been stolen from them for decades and for centuries.”

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 Serena Williams and Megan Rapinoe: another powerful voice for social justice

Black former San Francisco 49ers quar- terback Colin Kaepernick, during the 2016-17 National Football League sea- son, began to take a knee while the U.S. national anthem was played in order to protest racist police brutality. That inspired Megan Rapinoe, an openly les- bian member of the U.S. Women’s Soccer Team, to take a knee for the same cause, including for gender equality.

She and Kaepernick lived in the chant “Sex work is work!” They urged the movement for queer and trans liberation to defend all workers against exploitation and police repression.

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 Following her loss to Simona Halep at the Wimbledon champion- ship match on July 13, Serena was asked during her press conference whether she should concentrate on pro playing tennis and not on activ- ism. Serena replied: “The day I stop fighting for equality and for peo- ple that look like you and me and will continue to do so going forward, as a protest. Rapinoe stated her reasons for not singing the anthem in an essay for The Players’ Tribune in 2016. “I haven’t experienced over-policing, racist prof- iling, police brutality or the sight of a family member’s body lying dead in the street. But I cannot stand idly by while there are people in this country who have had to deal with that kind of heartache. There is no perfect way to protest. I know that nothing I do will take away the pain of those families. But I feel in my heart it is right to continue to kneel during the national anthem, and I will do whatever I can to be part of the solution.”

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As workers demand ‘Health care, not wealth care!’
Hedge funds move to kill vital community hospital

By Joe Piette
Philadelphia

Pressure is growing on Philadelphia and Pennsylvania officials to find a way to prevent hedge fund owners from shuttering Hahnemann Hospital. At the same time, hospital managers are moving to close down functioning facilities as the company looks to ensure its future viability.

Hahnemann has continued to insist that the hospital will remain open.市 The company also fired store manager Lukas Weinstein for standing in the way of terminations. and refusing to give the names of those workers when the hospital closes. Many more workers who provide services to the hospital also stand to lose their jobs.

Individual members of the Communications Workers; American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees; American Federation of Teachers; Service Employees; Teamsters; and other unions have taken part in Save Hahnemann rallies. A massive turnout of thousands of people, Buffalo Democratic Socialists of America, and Colliers International.

If all the diverse communities who have ever benefited from Hahnemann’s care are not heard, then there will be no way to prevent the ‘anti-work’ policies of Hahnemann from continuing to harm the community. will make it even harder for those with mini-

By Ryan Lockwood
Buffalo

The Western New York SPoT Coffee chain has become the center of a pro-union protest now in its second week. Following the successful unionization of its Rochester location in May, SPoT fired Phoenix Cerny and Phil Kneitinger for attempting to bring the union to Buffalo shops. The company also fired store manager Lukas Weinstein for standing in solidarity with his co-workers and refusing to give the names of those attending union meetings. The company has given no other pretext for terminations.

The workers’ reaction has been swift. Picket lines at SPoT locations around Buffalo were set up by SPoT employees and the�

Downtown Buffalo scene of anti-war protest

As thousands of people gathered in downtown Buffalo July 13 for a food festival, the Buffalo AntiWar met them with chants call- ing for an end to U.S. sanctions and threats of war against both Iran and Venezuela. The protesters demanded, “No to another war! No more death!”

As the troops home now! Bring all the troops home now! They also demanded the government “Stop the war at home — stop the raids and deportations! Close the concentration camps!”

Participants in the Buffalo AntiWar group were activists from the Erie County Green Party, U.S. Friends of the Soviet People, Buffalo Democratic Socialists of America, and the Peace & Justice wing of the Western New York Peace Center, Workers World Party and the International Action Center.
Solidarity in the fight against white supremacy

Part 2: Toppling statues of the Confederacy

The Sixth International Assembly of the International League of People's Struggle took place in Beijing June 23-26. Founded in 2001, ILPS is a coalition of more than 200 anti-imperialist mass organizations from around the world that promotes, supports and develops the struggles of the peoples of the world, including the workers, peasants, women, youth, professionals and other sectors of society against the ideological, political, military, economic, social and cultural domination and attacks of imperialism and reaction. Loan Tran, who attended as a representative of the International Action Center, spoke at the assembly. Part 2 of Tran's remarks, slightly edited, are presented below. For more information about ILPS, see ilps.info.

With this context in mind, the struggle against white supremacy is central to the class struggle being waged by workers and the oppressed in the U.S. It's not just that one cannot happen without the other; it's that, especially in the case of the U.S., these struggles are one and the same.

Part 2: Toppling statues of the Confederacy

In 2016, following the shooting of Keith Lamont Scott, a 43-year-old Black man in Charlotte, N.C., the mass protests poured into the streets under the banner of Black Lives Matter—which really poured into the streets under the ban of the Charlotte police.

The demonstration was an outgrowth of slave patrols. Keith Lamont Scott, a 43-year-old Black man, was merely evolutions of slave patrols.

In 2016, following the shooting of Keith Lamont Scott, a 43-year-old Black man in Charlotte, N.C., the masses poured into the streets under the banner of Black Lives Matter—which really took off with the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

There are many challenges, of course, in building this kind of mass movement in the U.S. where more and more labor is atomized. And workers are largely alienated from each other as the result of the capitalist development of technology and an emerging “gig economy.” This muddies the role and responsibility of multi-national corporations that are not seen as employers, but as simply service providers—like Uber or Lyft, for example.

Direct action in Durham

Two days later in Durham, N.C., in solidarity with Charlottesville, our comrades organized a demonstration in front of a Confederate monument which stood in front of the old courthouse. The monument was erected in 1942—a period in which the Black community of Durham, much like in other cities across the country, such as Kansas City, had made significant economic and cultural advances.

The Confederate monument stood in front of the building that many Black people have to walk by each day. It stood as a message that they were not welcome there and that despite their successes in that town, white supremacy was still law and only white people would be allowed to benefit from capitalism.

In a tremendous show of people power, that Confederate monument was literally toppled in 2017 as hundreds chanted, “You can’t stop the revolution!”

The days and weeks that followed the monument toppling saw statues being torn down, removed, defaced and vandalized across the South—from Baltimore to New Orleans.

In response to this revolutionary wave across the region, the KKK openly called for a demonstration in Durham, N.C. Their numbers were small compared to the thousands of oppressed people who came out into the streets to confront them, while they were sheltered by the local police in the courthouse building.

We knew that this struggle was never just about statues: It was about using white supremacy as a tool for bourgeois-class rule. It was never about cheap pieces of metal or copper, it was about underscoring that there is a class which benefits from the exploitation, degradation and murder of another class. And to be clear, the class that benefits is very much the class founded by white, slave-owning men. The class that is exploited is very much the class founded by racially oppressed workers.

We should consider the concentration camps at the U.S.-Mexico “border” a monument to white supremacy. We should consider the same of the prisons, of dilapidated public housing, of deadly manufacturing companies, of underfunded schools, of outdated and unlived public infrastructure from roads to the water pipes in Flint, Mich., for example.

Black communities are going on five years without clean drinking water. These are precisely the conditions that ensure that oppressed people do not rise up.

Those of us with allegiances to the toppling of the monument in Durham waged a campaign that highlighted that “fighting white supremacy is not a crime,” as we faced felony charges for this necessary action. We organized a People’s Tribunal Against White Supremacy where community members were able to testify about the real crimes taking place; attacks on workers, attacks on Black people, attacks on migrants, attacks on affordable housing, attacks on public education, and more.

The law is not the last word

So much of white supremacy is codified into the law. In this particular case, there was yet another preemption law that had been passed in 2015 preventing local government from removing Confederate monuments. As a result, a People’s Tribunal Against White Supremacy was approved by the state general assembly.

But just because something is law, clearly, as we know, doesn’t make it real. If anything, it reiterates to us whom the law is made for. Ultimately all the felony charges were dropped, but only because we were able to stand up and fight and draw on the decades and centuries of anti-racist organizing in the South against racism and white supremacy. If you break the so-called law, you must have the political cover and solidarity of a mass movement.

There are many challenges, of course, in building this kind of mass movement in the U.S. where more and more labor is atomized. And workers are largely alienated from each other as the result of the capitalist development of technology and an emerging “gig economy.” This muddies the role and responsibility of multi-national corporations that are not seen as employers, but as simply service providers—like Uber or Lyft, for example.

Some of this inchoateness is a result of a weak, mainstream, bureaucratic labor movement that continues to fail behind on unemployment benefits and is unable to build a fighting class and the need to integrate key struggles for national and social liberation. Some of this is a result of the deepening capitalist crisis which is quite literally killing people—whether the killers be politicians, police, landlords or bosses.

Buffalo, N.Y.

Indigenous tell truth at Santa Maria display

A replica of the Santa Maria, one of Christopher Columbus’ ships, was put on display in Buffalo’s Lake Erie harbor July 13. Reacting to the occasion, Haudenosaunee activists and their allies were present to tell the truth about the ship. They explained that rather than just being an innocent town’s attraction, it was a commemoration of the genocide, slavery and theft of Indigenous lands that began with Columbus’ original voyage. As one spokesperson explained, the arrival of the ship was not just a moment in history, but an attempted genocide that continues today. A delegation from Workers World Party attended in solidarity.

Report and photo by Ellie Dorritie
By Martha Grevatt

With each shocking photograph, the reality becomes ever clearer: The U.S. government is holding migrants in concentration camps. The latest images came after Vice President Mike Pence himself toured two camps. Hundreds of men, so densely packed into a cell they cannot even lie down, cry out, "No shower!" Children are sleeping on concrete with only emergency mylar blankets for bedding.

Pence first tried to claim the detainees were well-treatment, but after seeing another camp even he acknowledged, "This is tough stuff." Reporter Josh Dawsey found the camps' stench "horrendous." Adults and children were denied blankets, mats, pillows, food and hygiene items. Mats were taken away from children suffering with head lice after one of them lost a comb. Young children were caring for infants. (Washington Post, July 12)

Images and stories have gone viral and the horrors are public knowledge. U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet condemned the conditions, saying, "This should never happen anywhere." (Al Jazeera, July 9)

New York Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez initially came under fire for characterizing detention centers as "concentration camps"—she later retracted her statement, saying it was a "hyperbole" meant to highlight the cruelty. Nevertheless, Ocasio-Cortez initially came under fire for characterizing detention centers as "concentration camps." (Planned raids in New Orleans were called off because of the approach of Hurricane Barry.)

Immigrant rights advocates and attorneys conducted a widespread, well-organized "Know Your Rights" educational campaign leading up to the announced raids. Volunteers patrolled streets, monitoring ICE presence. Chicago City Council member Rossana Rodriguez Sanchez organized 160 community members into neighborhood brigades, while "ICE catch-ers" roamed Metro Atlanta. With these preparations in place, where ICE cops did knock on doors, they were ignored or turned away when they failed to produce a warrant. Most of the nine cities reported no arrests; the latest ICE tactics were reportedly a scaled-down operation over the course of the week.

Nevertheless, the threats of arrest, detention and deportation created a climate of fear and intimidation among immigrant communities. Immigrants stayed home from work, avoided shopping, skipped church services, and in general stayed inside on July 14. The atmosphere remains tense in the nine targeted cities as ICE cops could return over the next week with arrest warrants in hand.

With no advance warning, ICE agents knocked on doors in Immokalee, Fla. The Coalition of Immokalee Workers has won successful boycott campaigns against fast-food chains and is currently boycotting Wendy's for its refusal to join the Fair Food Program. While no one was arrested, the attempted arrests were a menacing act against farmworkers. Meanwhile, the horrors at the border continue. On July 14, Ohio Sen. Sherrod Brown was denied entry to children’s detention camps in Texas by Customs and Border Patrol agents, while Trump fired off blatantly racist tweets against Congresswomen of color Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Ilhan Omar, Ayanna Pressley and Rashida Tlaib, all of whom call for closing the camps.

The masses speak: ‘Close the camps!’ The July 12 call for actions to close the camps brought out masses of outraged people. Protests took place in 700 to 800 U.S. cities and around the world. The number of people participating ran from the hundreds to the thousands. Homemade signs bore familiar slogans — "No human being is illegal," "Close the camps." "Never again is now." But many who brought signs were new to activism. Here are just a few examples of the coordinated outrage that was replicated from coast to coast. Demonstrations continued through the weekend, building momentum for grassroots efforts to thwart the raids.

The biggest banner at a vigil at the main intersection of the small town of Richmond, N.Y., read, "Hudson Valley Strong — Power through action." People in the area turned out about 80 strong, many coming from a service in a local church. The handmade signs, more than a few written on the backs of signs supporting Planned Parenthood, included messages like "Our Line in the Sand: Child Torture" and "Immigration is not a crime." While many of the cars passing by honked in solidarity, the best moment was when a large FedEx truck passed with...
the driver leaning hard on a loud horn. A large crowd, demanding closure of immigrant detention camps, blocked traffic for over an hour and a half at a busy intersection in downtown Buffalo, N.Y., on July 11. Trapped at the front of the line of traffic was a UPS truck driver. While protesters refused police demands to let him through, this African-American union member honked support for the protest and gave demonstrators high-fives.

Police arrested nine activists. Before the demonstration, a smaller group occupied Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer’s office and presented a list of demands. “We are here to demand action from our leaders,” said protest organizer Rachel Ablow. “As an American Jew, I am horrified to see history repeating itself and feel compelled to join many others, including Holocaust survivors, in demanding the closure of the camps.” (News release from Justice for Migrant Families)

Nearly 1,000 demonstrators took to the streets of Philadelphia, shutting down major roadways in the heart of the city. Workers World Party’s contingent marched under the banner of “Abolish ICE, the Police, and the Pentagon,” drawing widespread support. Chanting, “Free the Families! Close the Camps!” and demanding the abolition of ICE and closure of the local Berks detention center, activists marched around City Hall and then to the local Department of Homeland Security headquarters, which is the most active and aggressive ICE office in the country. They also demonstrated outside the “Round House,” where the notorious Philly Police Department is headquartered, linking the struggle of migrants and refugees to that of prisoners and Black and Brown workers in the U.S.

In Cleveland, 1,000 people filled Market Square Park for a nighttime candlelight vigil where a multinational, multigenerational crowd chanted, “Close the camps” Homemade signs included, “Deport the racists” and “Queer as in abolish ICE.” About 30 people participated in a rally at Seville Park in downtown Pensacola, Fla., on July 7. The protest was hosted by Strive, the local transgender advocacy group; Workers World Party; Party for Socialism and Liberation; and Dream Defenders. Speakers, one for each group, stressed the need for all protests against ICE and its attacks on im/migrants to take an internationalist, proletarian approach to liberation. They urged looking beyond reformist measures and insisted on the abolition of ICE. Participants discussed possible plans for future resistance, including a bus trip to the Texas/Mexico border and a fight to shut down Pensacola’s local Border Patrol office.

In Aurora, Colo., over 2,000 people protested jailing immigrants, separation of families, deportations and the threats that refugees are facing. They marched 2 miles to the Aurora Processing Center, a detention facility run by the private Geo Group, east of Denver, where Lights for Liberty was holding a vigil. Cheers for the speakers could be heard inside the center where more than 1,500 immigrants have been detained without bail for months and cannot get out. Protestors banged on the doors and screamed, “Tear it down!”

A young woman told Workers World how her husband was deported and she now has two children to provide for. It will cost $15,000 to try to bring him back, money she does not have. Protesters in Portland, Ore., held a “week of action,” rallying outside and marching into Microsoft and four Portland banks to demand they divest from ICE, Bank of America and Suntrust said they would divest, but that the process will take months to complete. Other banks targeted were PNC and Bank of the West. Businesses were forced to shut and lock their doors for hours. Demonstrators told workers to call their managers and tell them to end their contracts with ICE or the protests would continue. ICE contracts with ICE or the protests would continue. ICE contracts with Microsoft use Azure Government software.

On July 12 over 1,000 people gathered in front of the ICE detention center, then marched through downtown Portland demanding: abolish ICE, stop corporate profiteering, reunite im/migrant families and end the inhumane conditions at the detention centers. The July 12 “Lights for Liberty” actions were mainly initiated by Democratic Party-oriented organizations such as Indivisible, with the goal of activating voters ahead of next year’s election. “Veto him [Trump] out” was one of their chants.

Growing section of working class in solidarity with im/migrants

The massive turnout over the weekend shows a growing section of the working class is repulsed by the stamp of racism and xenophobia emanating from the White House and is deeply concerned about the attacks on im/migrants. This in itself is progressive, despite the Democratic Party’s maneuvering to direct anti-racist sentiment into electoral channels.

Unions are taking a strong position against bigotry. The United Steelworkers explained in a July 6 statement: “This is about human decency. This is about recognizing that many of the people coming to our borders seeking asylum are workers.”

Referring to the campaign to get major hotel chains not to contract with ICE, UNITE HERE International President D. Taylor said: “We’ve gotta do action at every one of those hotels. We’ve gotta turn up the heat … we’ve gotta get off our asses and get off Twitter and get in the streets where this evil is going on.” (Daily Kos, July 12) Marriott and Choice hotels have announced they would decline any request from ICE to house detainees.

Trump’s policies, designed to mobilize a racist base for his 2020 election campaign, have the unintended consequence of provoking widespread resistance.

John Catalinotto, Julianna Cordray, Ellie Dorritie, Ted Kelly, Johnnie Lewis, Lyn Neeley and Viviana Weinstein contributed to this article.
Trip set for Aug. 18-29
Seeking truth about Venezuela’s food production
By John Catalinotto

An organization in the United States has scheduled a 10-day trip to Venezuela in late August that could help people find answers to important questions: Are there shortages in the struggling Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela? For how long? What is the cause of these shortages? What is the role of U.S. sanctions in the shortages? How are the Venezuelans responding to the challenge? These are essential questions for political activists in this country, especially for those who want to remove U.S. imperialism’s foot from the backs of the people of the world, including Venezuela.

Since January, Washington has stepped up its aggressive campaign against the legitimate Venezuelan government led by President Nicolás Maduro. The U.S. propped up an inept puppet, Juan Guaidó, who declared himself the country’s interim president. But the Trump gang’s repeated attempts to carry out a coup and break up the Bolivarian Armed Forces have failed miserably, due to the mass resistance of the Venezuelan people and the loyalty of the armed forces.

Washington appears to have moved toward long-term subversion. The U.S. is disrupting Venezuela’s economy and undermining the advances the country has made through its Bolivarian Revolution. Washington’s political and economic pressure is coupled with its military intervention in Venezuela’s oil sector. While the article does mention that U.S. sanctions caused the fuel shortages, it nevertheless asset the Maduro government’s policies, blaming them for the crisis.

The media campaigns make it doubly important that the Alberto Lovera Bolivarian Circle of New York and its spokesperson William Lovera are organizing an August trip. This is well-known to WorkEditors World readers as a long-term and consistent internationalist. The Bolivarian Circle pulled together a trip from April 26 to May 5 this year, which happened to coincide with the April 30 coup attempt. U.S. activists on the trip were able to send back eyewitness accounts of how the Venezuelan people were coping with the emergency, rebuffing imperialist lies.

Plans for August trip

The trip this August will provide an opportunity to learn what is happening in Venezuela and to bring that message back to the people of the U.S. Here are excerpts from the Bolivarian Circle’s description of the coming trip:

“What’s going on right now in Venezuela? Come see for yourself how Venezuelans are coping with U.S. economic sanctions designed to cause a social implosion. Sensationalized reports of Venezuelans eating zoo animals and rotten garbage present a distorted picture of what is happening in Venezuela. The media also omit serious analysis of the role of the food distribution programs known as CLAPs run through a government-community partnership reaching millions of Venezuelans.

“There is no doubt, however, as indicated in a recent report by the Center for Economic Policy Research [April 25], that the U.S.-imposed sanctions are indeed causing collective hardship and even death. “Join us for a special delegation (August 19-28, 2019) to the stunning oil and gas rich country. “We are coming to Caracas, the capital city of Venezuela, in partnership with Sustainable Agriculture of Louisville (SAL), a U.S. Food Sovereignty Alliance member, invites historians, artists, videographers, writers, political analysts, health professionals, agricultural production experts and other activists to join a delegation to Caracas, Venezuela this coming August. “Witness: communities organizing themselves in the face of manufactured food shortages to grow and distribute their own food; participatory democracy in action through community councils, ‘communes’ and other forms of citizen organization; community-run art, media, education, health and nutrition efforts; alternative markets and fairs featuring homemade products and agro-ecological agriculture; local, historical and cultural sites, and other reclaimed public spaces.

“Come bear witness to the effects of the economic warfare and the sanctions against the Venezuelan people imposed by the Trump administration. As well as the inspiring resistance to these, as Venezuelans push for food sovereignty in response to crisis. See the real ‘threat’ posed by Venezuela as living proof that another world is possible. As one Venezuelan proverb states, ‘Venezuela is not a threat — we are hope!’”

The trip will start and end in Caracas, with visits to the states of Miranda and Aragua. For more information, email cbalbertolovera@gmail.com or estebanbartlett@gmail.com, or call 022-415-1080.

By Mike Kuhncken

The latest book by human rights attorney Dan Kovalik, "The Plot to Overthrow Venezuela," is a critical primer on this country, especially for those who want to remove U.S. imperialism’s foot from the backs of the people of the world, including Venezuela.

This is the fourth title in Kovalik’s “Plot” series, starting with "The Plot to Overthrow Bolivia" and "The Plot to Overthrow Iran". This series exposes U.S. foreign policy, including the role of the food distribution programs known as CLAPs run through a government-community partnership reaching millions of Venezuelans.

The majority of U.S. media outlets often act as stenographers for the White House or defend this potential call for war. Media coverage has been generally one-sided, with limited commentary on the impact of the Trump administration’s policies. The book provides a critical primer on this country, especially for those who want to remove U.S. imperialism’s foot from the backs of the people of the world, including Venezuela.

As Kovalik correctly emphasizes, “The battle for Venezuela is not just a battle for the petroleum-rich country. None of us can stay neutral on this issue. And given the nefarious designs of the U.S. upon Venezuela, the suffering is already here and will surely continue.”

"The Plots to Overthrow Venezuela" is now available from Hot Books, an imprint of Inksmith Publishing.
Puerto Rico

U.S.-appointed education overseer arrested for corruption

By Betsey Piette

In the fall of 2018 a people’s wanted poster surfaced in Philadelphia, describing city native Julia Keleher as a “ruthless, mercenary hired gunslinger in public education; proven to be completely ignorant about the Puerto Rican values, culture, history, literature and language of the children under her mandate.” Keleher had been appointed Puerto Rico’s Education Secretary in January 2017 under the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management and Economic Stability Act (PROMESA).

The wanted poster was a phenomenon. On July 10, Keleher and five others—including Angela Ávila-Marrero, the former head of Puerto Rico’s Health Insurance Administration (ASHE), and Fernando Scherrer-Cailleau, managing partner of the prominent accounting firm BDO—were arrested for conspiring to channel more than $13 million in federal funds to organizations with which they had personal ties.

The six named in the grand jury indictment—Ávila Velázquez Fiol, Keleher, and five others—were charged with committing fraud in excess of $13 million in federal funds through education department contracts to BDO from January 2017 to April 2019. The indictment charges that BDO then subcontracted with other companies to perform the services, in violation of the contracts and also inflating the costs. Keleher and two others were charged with conspiring to defraud more than $13 million in federal funds through education department contracts to BDO from January 2017 to April 2019. The indictment charges that BDO then subcontracted with other companies to perform the services, in violation of the contracts and also inflating the costs. Keleher and two others were charged with conspiring to defraud more than $13 million in federal funds through education department contracts to BDO from January 2017 to April 2019. The indictment charges that BDO then subcontracted with other companies to perform the services, in violation of the contracts and also inflating the costs.

As news of the federal investigation began to surface in April, Keleher and Ávila-Marrero both resigned their posts. Keleher’s attempt, at the time, to portray herself as a “heroic fighter against the island’s anti-reform forces” was met with derision by opponents, who stormed her office and voiced opposition with the hashtag #JuliaGoHome.

‘Hired to break the system’

Despite her lack of education experience, Keleher was paid $250,000 annually as Puerto Rico’s “Education Secretary.” Her monthly salary was 9 times that of the average teacher in Puerto Rico. She is in lockstep with the destructive policies promoted by Trump-appointee Betsy DeVos, now U.S. Secretary of Education with a mission to privatize education.

In April 2018, Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rossello responded to a question by a reporter from the University of Pennsylvania’s Penn Gazette magazine asking why Keleher was hired: “Very bluntly, we asked her to break the system and rebuild it again.” (thepenn gazette.com, April 23, 2018)

During her tenure Keleher introduced an unpopular strategy of closing public schools. The local DoE budget was cut by half a billion dollars. In 2018 PROMESA demanded an additional $200 million in cuts, including $80 million from special education. Rossello continues to champion Keleher and her push to devastate the island’s education system, leading to calls for her resignation. When Hurricane Katrina struck, Keleher used the disaster to push for more privatization and charter schools. She followed a pattern established in 2005 in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, when New Orleans fired most teachers, closed almost all public schools and replaced them with charters.

Following Hurricane Maria, parents and teachers came together to repair schools and juggle classroom lineups as many families were still living in programmer aid. Things were slowly moving back toward normal—until Keleher struck. Teachers were laid off, hundreds of schools were closed, and children, including those with special needs, were packed tightly into classrooms. When they protested these “reforms” in street demonstrations teachers and students were brutally attacked by police.

Without ever visiting them, Keleher chose to consolidate 40 percent of public schools, many of which were in good shape despite Maria. Several included classrooms to accommodate special needs students, residents were denied access to vital drugs and workers in general to cheer them on.

Congresswomen condemn White House racism

Continued from page 1

like to be brown and black in this country. And I’ll tell you right now, we’re not afraid to speak out against injustice. I’m very disappointed that the corporate media are willing co-conspirators in covering up the real threat—U.S. imperialism.

We know you read Workers World to get the real story, free of imperialist lies and crimes. But Workers World needs your help to do our job. Join the WW Supporter Program, founded 2 years ago to help build the only revolutionary socialist weekly in the U.S. that’s printed, as well as the web.

For a donation of at least $75 a year—much more if possible—members receive a year’s subscription, a monthly letter about timely issues and five free subscriptions to give to friends. Write checks, either monthly or once a year, to Workers World and tell them, with your name and address, to 147 W. 24th St., 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10011. Or sign up to donate online at workers.org. We’re grateful for your support—Workers World—sign up today!
The right to control what happens to your own body and to make medical decisions for yourself is one of humankind’s universal rights, established in 1948 by the United Nations.

But as of July 11, 4 million poor U.S. women and nonbinary people, predominately those of color, are being denied that human right. According to a Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals decision, the Trump-Pence revised rules for Title X can go into effect in 49 states (except Maryland) until cases against the rules are resolved in various courts.

This is the first attempt to turn the Title X health care program, designed in 1970 to promote gender and class-equality for all individuals, totally into its opposite.

The first change to Title X was in 1976, when the Hyde Amendment placed a huge burden on Title X patients by prohibiting federal payment for abortions for anyone except survivors of rape or incest or women whose health was endangered by pregnancy. Currently 17 states elect to cover Title X abortions with state funds.

Now, this new domestic gag rule prom-otes a theologically based, anti-com-prehensive-health-care program that prohibits all Title X-funded health care clinics from discussing abortion options. And those providing abortions must set up prohibitively expensive separate facili-ties with different accounting procedures.

In addition, for the first time this revision specifically references funding to “crisis pregnancy centers” and faith-based organiza-tions so they can more easily promote their backward anti-abortion, pro-“natural-family-planning,” anti-LGBTQ+ programs.

Nationally known Black politician Stacey Abrams coined the term “forced reproduction” to describe the anti-abortion law recently passed in Georgia. It aptly applies to the Trump-Pence attack on Title X recipients.

This deeply reactionary move by the patriarchal, anti-working-class state — with its right-wing, white-supremacist, patriarchal, anti-working-class state — is establishing rules in its for capitalists worldwide. Meanwhile, those millions and billions came from.

At the same time, Acosta’s proposal at least wanted to bury the anti-abortion law in aircle of other, more damaging rules. Epstein’s trading on the vulnerability of those millions and billions came from.

The wrongdoing that sent Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta out the door might not, at first glance, seem to be related to labor or work or workers.

When Acosta was U.S. Attorney for southern Florida over a decade ago, he brokered a deal for multimillionaire Jeffrey Epstein to escape some federal charges. Epstein’s crime? Recruiting hun-dreds of underage girls into sex traffick-ing at his luxo Miami mansion.

Epstein was controversially sentenced, on the lesser state charge of “soliciting women,” to 13 months in a Florida prison until cases against the rules are resolved. Epstein’s current defense lawyers argue he is not guilty.

The phrase “without coercion” actually exposes the violent truth of the connec-tion between labor and wealth and the exploitation of women and other workers by capitalist bosses.

Epstein’s very wealth gave him the power to pressure and even to “corrupt,” vic-tims assert, to both exploit and also vio-lently assault and rape.

Most of us would surely guess that the resolution in the Epstein case for his use were trying to survive on the edge of difficult economic conditions. In Epstein’s capitalist logic, the girls were getting a “fair bargain” for some short-term work. But there is no fair bargain, or level playing field, between a man who can offer his private jet as bail bond security, and young girls, some simply isolated and lonely, some merely trying to feed and clothe themselves.

Epstein’s actions, and the protection given by Acosta as a U.S. Attorney, show the old hand-in-glove of capitalist power sheltered by state power in order to protect its profit makers. Epstein’s trading on the vulnerability of young girls is despicable — and Acosta is equally complicit.

In the 2020 fiscal budget Acosta issued in April, he proposed an 80 percent reduction in funding for the International Labor Affairs Bureau. The ILAB is a U.S. agency in the Department of Labor that investigates and prosecutes human traf-ficking and sex trafficking. Experts were clear the proposed reduction would effectively end many federal efforts to curb trafficking. (tinyurl.com/yyg3f2f5)

The ILAB is a U.S. state agency. Its mis-sion statement may say one of its goals is “to promote a fair global playing field for workers.” But that means the ILAB will promote “workers’ rights” only to facili-tate U.S. capitalist profit making.

We know that the exploitation of women and others in sex work reaps untold hundreds of billions of prof-its for capitalists worldwide. Meanwhile, the supposed government “protection” against sex trafficking is still not going to lie to patients.” (July 11)

The 2018 historic strike by McDonald’s workers against sexual abuse emphasized how these conditions can make sexual demands as a required part of the “job description” for any kind of work. The #MeToo movement has made public, reportedly saw a spike in sexual harassment.

The #MeToo movement is part of the living wage wars. The right-wing, white-supremacist, patriarchal-dominated U.S. society.

It’s time to recognize the intersection-ality of oppressions and show solidarity in the unified fight for a world where the human rights of all people are promoted and honored.

The U.S. Secretary of Labor resigned last week, July 12. Maybe you didn’t notice? Just another turnover in the Trump administration.

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Elections in Greece: What happened and what’s next

By G. D unkel

New Democracy, which the big busi- ness press calls a center-right party, won the July 7 election in Greece with 39.8 percent of the vote. It has 158 seats in parliament—a comfortable majority that let it form a government, allowing the leader of ND, Kyriakos Mitsotakis, to take over as prime minister on July 8.

Syriza, a social democratic party that describes itself as the Coalition of the Radical Left, came in second with 31.2 percent. It had been running the gov- ernment since January 2015 when it was elected on an anti-austerity platform.

There are reasons for Syriza’s decline. Its prime minister, Alexis Tsipras, held a referendum July 5, 2015, in which 61 percent of the voters rejected the draconian conditions that the Troika—the International Monetary Fund, the European Central Bank and the European Commission—had imposed on Greece for it to qualify for a third bailout loan. Just 10 days later, the Tsipras govern- ment reached an agreement with the Troika for a three-year bailout, with even harsher austerity conditions than the ones rejected by the voters. For the election this July 7, Syriza had to run on its record. The center-right ND, however, could rely on promises to make life better, even though Greeks know that ND was involved in the first two bailouts; and that Kyriakos Mitsotakis is the son of a reactionary, anti-working-class prime minister and the brother of a former right-wing mayor of Athens. Mitsotakis wants to “improve” the job market by making the work week seven days long, privatizing hospitals and health care, and cutting social security.

While disgruntlement with Syriza might have been the reason for a sharp increase in abstentions, which reached 42 percent, Syriza appears to have ben- efited from workers and progressives choosing it as the “lesser of two evils.” However, it has lost a great deal of credi- bility by at first running as an opponent of austerity and then, when it was in power, adopting very harsh policies.

The ND was also able to win because it picked up votes from some right-wing par- ties, like ANEL and POTAMI, which had lost so much support they didn’t even run in the election. The ND votes were concen- trated in the petty bourgeois and bourgeois areas around Athens. But there does not appear to have been a major shift to the right among Greek workers.

The victory of Syriza in the 2015 election had been hailed both in Europe and North America as a victory of the left, as a big step forward for social democracy. Besides numerous articles in newspapers and magazines and numerous sym- posia, there was even a book, “The Syriza Wave” by Irish leftist Helena Sheehan, that described “the surging and crushing” of the Greek left.

Serious economic challenges

The ND government is going to face serious economic challenges. Between 400,000 and 600,000 of Greece’s edu- cated and skilled workers, unable to find decent jobs, have left in the past 10 years. The economy has shrunk by a quarter during that time. Unemployment is at 18 percent and poverty— already at 35 percent—is increasing. Greece’s bail- out creditors have rejected a call to ease strict budget targets.

ND’s economic “solution” is obviously going to increase misery for Greek work- ers. That means it will have to confront the Greek Communist Party—which for over 100 years has consistently opposed Greek capitalism—as well as the powerful and militant Greek trade unions.

The KKE came in fourth in the elec- tions, with 300,000 votes (5.3 percent) and 14 seats in parliament. That is very close to what it has received in the past few elections. The KKE is closely tied to PAME, the All Workers’ Militant Front, a union with 800,000 members, and has participated in many of the general strikes and other labor actions over the past five years.

A KKE July 8 statement on the elec- tion contains this pledge: “The votes of the KKE will be utilized from tomorrow morning in every workplace, neighbor- hood, in the schools, in the universities to organize struggles in order to block new measures, in order to bring relief to all who suffer.”

Growing signs of deepening global capitalist crisis

Continued from page 2

the U.S. has declined substantially over the last few decades. After the capital- ist economic crisis in 2007-08, as jobs were slashed and the means of produc- tion destroyed, the rate of profit recov- ered somewhat and peaked in 2014. It has been on a relative decline ever since.

That contradiction leads to the crisis of overproduction—which is where the capitalist system on a worldwide basis is currently based. The anarchic nature of production under capitalism and the need to expand in order to increase profit leads to the overproduction of commodities—more than what people need, but more than can be sold—which in turn causes the system to eventually fall into depression. Workers and the oppressed know all too well what this means: mass layoffs, cut- backs, austerity and a wholesale attack on our class, particularly the most oppressed.

It can also be a time of explosive and dynamic struggles of the working class as the depravity and inhumanity of the capitalist system are on stark display in these crises. Elevating global solidarity on a class basis, which resists and confronts the many ways the ruling class attempts to divide workers with racism, sexism, anti-LGBTQI+ bigotry and other walls of oppression, will be key.

It’s up to communists and revolutionaries to lay the foundation to raise revolu- tionary class consciousness and organiza- tion to intervene in these crises and to help point the way forward for struggles that can resolve the contradictions of the capitalist system by prosecuting the class struggle and socialist revolution.

Capitalism at a dead end: Struggle orientation needed

There is widespread speculation that the Federal Reserve will cut interest rates at least once, and perhaps several times, before the end of the year. 2020 is a presi- dential election year, and Trump will do all he can to prevent an economic crisis before then, which would certainly van- quish his chances of re-election.

Trump plans to hold the Republican National Convention in Charlotte, N.C.— despite the fact that sections of the ruling class may be forced to reluctantly admonish Trump for his more odious comments and policies, he has brought them lavish profits and most will likely be happy to oblige him to undertake any measures to safeguard his re-election and their profitability.

What will Trump do, however, if a con- traction occurs before the election? The dangers are very real of war, increased attacks on the most oppressed, including migrants, LGBTQI+ people, women and people of color, or other drastic measures to distract from an economic crisis.

The capitalist system is on life support, and has relied upon intervention from the central banks to keep it afloat. A new cri- sis of the system is not a question of if, but when.

The impending capitalist crisis threat- ens to be violent and devastating for workers and oppressed in the U.S. and around the world, who already face a batter- y of attacks every day.

As in every previous crisis, Wall Street will do all it can to place the burden of the crisis on the backs of the workers. The 2020 elections will be (and already are) used to demobilize the struggle. We must be prepared to mobilize on a global basis in our class interests to direct the fury of the workers and the oppressed against the capitalist system itself.
El 29 de junio, el candidato Beto O’Rourke convocó una presidencia han aparecido en Houston para protestar. para el feriado del 4 de julio. Decenas de miles en todo mentos” convocada por MoveOn.org en las oficinas cen -parte de una campaña nacional para “Cerrar los campa- en un discurso en contra del cuatro de julio contra los indignado aún más. Los eventos para cerrar los centros estado ampliamente expuestas al mundo, la gente se ha destruidas en la frontera en 2018, han habido docenas y docenas de protestas, marchas y mítines en Houston contra las políticas racistas de la frontera de Trump.ughters y “intervenciones” de los Estados Unidos en América.

Por Minnie Bruce Pratt

El ataque intensificado contra las mujeres, la justicia de género oprimida y la justicia reproductiva, denun- ciada como “vigilancia policial” por la activista y defen- sora de los derechos reproductivos Michelle Goodwin, ha alcanzado un nuevo nivel de violencia en Alabama. El 2 de julio, el estado de Alabama, que en julio de 2009, cuando el caso de la Sra. Lisa Montgomery se separó por primera vez, iPERI creó una ley que permite que las víctimas de violencia sexual fueran consideradas víctimas y que las víctimas de violencia sexual fueran consideradas víctimas de violencia sexual.

Criminalización del aborto/aborto involuntario

La declaración policial original refleja la ola de leyes racistas anti-mujer, anti-pobres que ahora definen y ata- can a las poblaciones embaucadas como simples recipien- tes de la violencia. Esta es la razón por la que la defensa de Alabama, fiscal de distrito local del estado, declara que el 4 de julio, después de un ataque ininterrumpido de leyes de “derecho a la vida” a nivel estatal, basadas en creencias religiosas y no científicas. Estas leyes se basan en la interpretación de los Estados Unidos, legisladores que defienden las leyes no declaran abier- tamente que admiten su intención prejuiciada, sino que empuñan el odio del racismo con el pretexto de defen- der el “derecho a la vida”.

Dirigido a mujeres pobres de la raza negra

La hipótesis de esa posición fue desenmascarada, una vez más, a través de la información explorada exten- samente en una columna del 3 de julio en Birmingham News. En el reciente informe, las mujeres negras tienen casi cuatro veces más probabilidades de morir en el parto y el emba- razo que las mujeres blancas. Esta es la disparidad racial más amplia en la salud de las mujeres en los EE. UU. Las razones van desde el racismo estructural al prejuicio individual, desde la negativa a los estados a ampliar la cobertura de Medicaid para las personas pobres, hasta el racismo médico prácticamente sin embargo pero real como el que experimentó Myra Powell Montgomery, Alabama. Perdió fetos genéticos a causa de un aborto espontáneo a las 26 semanas, y empacados de sangre y con dolor, fue llevada al hospital por conductores de ambulancia que nunca encendieron la sirena. Ese es el caso de emergencia, se sentaron en cada señal de alto y luces rojas y nunca excedieron los límites de velocidad. La acompañó un paramédico que revisaba su telé- fono durante el viaje terriblemente lento y luego se negó a autorizar su traslado a un hospital con una unidad neonatal.

La evaluación del estado de Texas de sus muertes maternas mostró que el riesgo para las madres negras era alto independientemente del estado civil, el nivel de educación o el acceso a un seguro privado. Las mujeres negras con bajo nivel de educación son el doble de mujeres a tasas más altas que las mujeres blancas de su misma clase. 

Aquellos que defienden las leyes no declaran abier- tamente que admiten su intención prejuiciada, sino que empuñan el odio del racismo con el pretexto de defen- der el “derecho a la vida”.

Acciones para ‘Cerrar los campamentos’ se aceleran en Houston

Por Gloria Rubac

Desde que las familias de inmigrantes empezaron a ser destruidas en la frontera en 2018, han habido docenas y docenas de protestas, marchas y mitines en Houston contra la políticas racistas de la frontera de Trump. Pero ahora que las condiciones brutales dentro de los campamentos de concentación han finalmente estado ampliamente expuestas al mundo, la gente se ha indignado aún más. Los eventos para cerrar los centros de detención se llevan a cabo a un ritmo acelerado. Houston FIRE (Lucha por los migrantes y refugiados en todas partes) ha protestado recientemente en la ofi-icina del Senador estadounidense John Cornyn, participó en un discurso en contra del cuatro de julio contra los campamentos y participó en un centro de detención federal en el centro de la ciudad.

La protesta del 2 de julio en la oficina de Cornyn fue parte de una campaña nacional para “Cerrar los campa- mentos” por la organización de las familias centrales de congresistas que regresan de Washington, DC para el feriado del 4 de julio. Decenas de miles en todo el país acudieron a estas protestas.

Algunos de los demócratas que se postulan para la presidencia han aparecido en Houston para protestar. El 2 de junio, el candidato Beto O’Rourke convocó una marcha en Houston. En la marcha, una mujer que no ha sido identificada, que alberga a menores no acompañados. Casa Susun está dirigida por Southwest Key, una organización sin fines de lucro noticia que cobró cuentas de avisos de infracción por parte de los reguladores estatales durante las inspecciones realizadas durante los últimos tres años.