Not a riot — REBELLION!

By Monica Moorehead

June 1 — A militant, youth-led uprising, ignited by police terror, has swept across the United States like wildfire, and is now entering its second week. Even Trump’s proudly declaring himself the “law-and-order” president by threatening the presence of federal troops in many cities — and the present catastrophic COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in over 102,000 U.S. deaths and rising — have not been able to contain this uprising sparked by a horrific videotaped police murder exposed on May 25 for the whole world to see.

For almost nine minutes, George Floyd, a 46-year-old Black man, was tortured and then lynched by Minneapolis police as he lay face-down and handcuffed in the street. One police officer pressed his knee into Floyd’s throat while two police officers pinned him down on his stomach. Before Floyd completely lost consciousness, he was yelling “I can’t breathe” and calling for his late mother. Floyd was initially detained after being accused of using a counterfeit $20 bill.

Even though the police officers — Derek Chauvin, Thomas Lane, J. Alexander Kueng and Tou Thao — were fired after the incident, none of them were immediately arrested and charged with Floyd’s death.

An independent autopsy on June 1, paid for by the Floyd family, found that police were responsible for his death by “medical asphyxia” when he was deprived of oxygen to the brain for almost five minutes. He died at the scene, not at the hospital. This autopsy’s findings contradict the initial findings released by the Hennepin County medical examiner, which claimed that pre-existing conditions caused Floyd’s death, not homicide by cops.

On May 26 protests began to erupt in Minneapolis and other cities demanding justice for Floyd and arrests of the officers. In an audacious act on May 28, youth torched the Minneapolis Police Department’s Third Precinct headquarters, where the four officers had worked. Dozens of curfews declared in many cities — backed up by the presence of local and state police and the National Guard — have not deterred young people from exercising their right to stay in the streets to let their outraged voices be heard, even if they had to take arrests for “civil disobedience,” if necessary. Thousands of people have been arrested for breaking curfew over six days of political outrage, expressed by burning cop cars and shutting down bridges and interstate highways.

Even reporters from mainstream media — CNN and MSNBC have either been detained or indiscriminately hit with rubber bullets and pepper spray, along with protesters. Isolated incidences of young people, including children, being tased, pepper-sprayed and knocked down by riot police were caught on videotape and continued.

Defend resisters! Defend the uprising!

People are rising up, rising up against police violence! Smoldering rage ignited in a firestorm throughout the U.S. when police lynched George Floyd in Minneapolis on May 25. Immediately there was public outrage, after seeing how white supremacists killed Ahmaud Arbery as he jogged through his neighborhood and after invading police shot Breonna Taylor to death in Kentucky while she was asleep in her own bed. All were Black; all are dead.

The videotape of Floyd being lynched by a cop during long minutes of deliberative strangulation propelled thousands and thousands of people — multinational, multigendered workers and oppressed people of all backgrounds — into the streets. The people held the racist “justice system” and the cops accountable. The Third Precinct building in Minneapolis — where the four cops who killed Floyd were stationed — was burned down. In Nashville, Tenn., the city hall and courthouse were set on fire. Cop cars were overturned and burned in New York City, Rochester, N.Y., Philadelphia, Atlanta, Cleveland, Los Angeles and elsewhere. And, yes, “property” was damaged, the property of capitalist banks and big chains — Wells Fargo, Starbucks and AutoZone torched and other buildings caught in the spreading blaze.

For centuries in the U.S., white supremacists — as agents of the state or as vigilantes like the Ku Klux Klan who “work hand-in-hand” with the state (sometimes one and the same) — have lynched African-American people and other people of color with impunity. To this very day, it is almost impossible to get a charge of murder — much less a conviction — when a cop kills a person of color “in the line of duty.” It took four days of countrywide protests and physical rebellions to get just one of continued.
Workers World
A communist newspaper, a collective organizer

By Minnie Bruce Pratt

This is a slightly edited version of a talk given during the “What Road to Socialism?” webinar held by Workers World Party on May 16.

When I first started writing for Workers World/Mundo Obrero a few weeks ago, I decided to write it to you that older comrades always told hir, “Remember, no Party action is over until it’s written up for the paper!” That’s because the newspaper is an integral gear in Workers World Party’s Marxist-Leninist democratically centralized process. That perspective comes from V. I. Lenin’s 1901–1902 book, “What Is to Be Done?” In one section, “Plan for an All-Russia Newspaper,” Lenin sharply argued that a national revolutionary newspaper was needed to effectively accomplish communist organizing in the vast territory of imperial Russia, including its conquered nations.

Lenin argued against social democratic proposals that there should be only local individual newspapers. These democratic socialists predicted that a party structure—and ultimately revolution—would somehow coalesce (1) out of these, small separate efforts.

Instead, Lenin advanced a structure for a national revolutionary communist newspaper. First, comrades report on the facts of local conditions from far-flung and disparate locations to the national newspaper. Next, national editorial and political comrades analyze that information from a Marxist perspective to glean insights into the overall current state of the working class under imperialist capitalism.

Finally, through the reports chosen and the analyses developed for the national newspaper, the theoretical impact of local reporting circulates back to organizers and readers. They then undertake the next round in revolutionary action—and reporting.

Over a hundred years ago, Lenin described the working class as the “scaffolding erected around a building under construction” that marks the contours of the structure and facilitates communication between the builders, permitting them to distribute the work and to view the completed results achieved by their organized labor.

When Workers World Party was established in 1959, the founders followed Lenin’s lead in immediately establishing Workers World as a national newspaper, with the struggles of incarcerated people as an integral part of the global working class.

You can read those stories and more in Workers World/Mundo Obrero every day at workers.org—where as Marxist-Leninists, we “write it up for the paper”!

Pratt, born and raised in Alabama, is an anti-racist, white, Southern lesbian and one of the managing editors of Workers World/Mundo Obrero newspaper.

Workers World is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenderal and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it’s the only way forward! Colonialism 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 repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQ+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and imprisonment. The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people’s movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at—and challenge—the capitalist system.

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 capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you’re interested in Marxism, socialism and fighting for a socialist future, please contact a WWP branch near you.

Workers World Party on May 16.

If you are interested in joining Workers World Party contact: 212.627.2994
Striking packinghouse workers win signed agreements for safety

By Jim McMahan
Seattle

Immigrant workers, on strike against Washington state fruit packinghouses since May 7, won another victory on May 26. The workers negotiating committee came out from Allan Brothers with a signed agreement and their fists held high.

The Latinx workers in Yakima have won three signed agreements so far with the nonunion companies. The workers in Yakima Valley made their mark by joining a growing working-class movement for basic health and safety on the job and against racist disrespect by the bosses. The fruit packers are still striking two obstinate and racist bosses.

On May 26, the striking workers caravaned to Olympia, the state capital. They went to Gov. Jay Inslee’s mansion and the state Department of Labor and Industries. They brought over 200 safety complaints against their bosses and demanded better standards from the state government.

Yakima County has the highest rate of COVID-19 cases on the West Coast. (tinyurl.com/7yez3jam) The agreement at Allan Brothers won increased safety measures in the crowded packinghouses and includes masks, plastic shields and a $1-an-hour raise. Negotiating committee member Agustin Lopez said, “I am very happy, because employees will go back to work with their heads held high and with a lot of pride.” (tinyurl.com/yd7dgtew)

On May 30, an 85-car solidarity caravan from the labor movement drove to the picket lines in Yakima and Seattle, the Tri-Cities and Spokane. Larry Brown, president of the Washington State Labor Council AFL-CIO, told strikers that unions have to fight against the murderous police racism of Minneapolis, while understanding that packinghouse workers are also part of the struggle against racism.

Essential im/migrant workers fight for justice

Since May Day, im/migrant workers, many considered essential, have protested against being completely excluded from the CARES Act. Passed by Congress and signed by Trump, this $2 trillion legislation does not include any of its funds to big business. But not one cent of the $1.2 trillion of any unemployment compensation was given to undocumented workers!

Thousands more essential workers are now coming to Yakima for the cherry harvest and later the apple harvest. The packinghouse workers and their supporters have complained loudly to the government about lack of safety in the agricultural industry.

State regulations allow for farmworkers to be double-bunked in rooms of up to 15 workers. Farmworkers are ble-bunked in rooms of up to 15 workers. Farmworkers are

Economics behind the rebellion

Between March 18 and April 10, over 22 million people lost their jobs as the unemployment rate surged toward 15 percent. Over the same three weeks, U.S. billionaire wealth increased by $282 billion, an almost 10 percent gain.

— Institute for Policy Studies.

Trump, WHO and the pandemic

By Deidre Griswald

Smack in the middle of the biggest pandemic in a century, President Donald Trump has announced he is withdrawing the U.S. from the World Health Organization.

One would expect Trump’s decree to bring an outcry from all the people here who specialize in public health. That’s happening, but it’s not getting the news coverage it deserves.

What gives the White House occupant the power to disregard the medical community and do all the countries in the world that rely on WHO’s expertise to battle multiple diseases? Does Trump join imperial Rome’s Nero in pissing out dictators just for the gratification of his ego? But there’s more to it than that.

What’s the motivation for Trump’s move? Clearly, it’s not to protect the health of the population. Just the opposite. COVID-19 is a worldwide problem. People in the U.S. will benefit when a vaccine against COVID-19 is made available, no matter which country’s scientists are able to come up with it.

U.S. fatalities from COVID-19 are the highest in the world of any one country. It has killed more than 106,000 people here as of the end of May. And already tens of thousands of workers in the U.S. have lost their jobs, due to the economic disruption caused by the virus.

It is a matter of extreme urgency that a breakthrough be made to prevent further spread of the disease.

Recently, the WHO announced measures to stimulate international cooperation in the development of a vaccine to counter COVID-19 and to make it available to all countries. That is exactly what the wealthy U.S. pharmaceuticals do not want.

Poorer countries are extremely worried that when a cure or preventive medicine is found, it will be patented by one of the U.S. pharmaceuticals and sold at a price that can bankrupt not just individuals, but nations themselves.

The one bright spot right now is that scientists in the People’s Republic of China are working hard on creating a vaccine, and China has announced that it will be made available to the world.

This pandemic makes it clearer than ever that we need to get rid of the capitalist system that profits the very few at the expense of everyone else. A system that can plan economic development to satisfy human need, not corporate greed.
Marc Lamont Hill

‘Outside the logic of the Prison’ on Mumia’s birthday

By Marc Lamont Hill

These slightly edited remarks on the need to move away from prisons for resolving the problems of society and ending prisons were given April 21 at the “U.S. Empire vs. Political Prisoners” webinar teach-in sponsored by Mobilization4Mumia and held in honor of the 66th birthday of political prisoner and revolutionary Mumia Abu-Jamal.

It’s such an honor to be here tonight, surrounded by so many brilliant thinkers and courageous activists, freedom fighters who have been long distance runners, and political prisoners who have made the ultimate sacrifice, giving their all, their very bodies to the struggle.

Tonight what brings us together is the 66th birthday of our dear brother Mumia Abu-Jamal, one of the great freedom fighters, one of the greatest truth-tellers that we’ve ever seen—and a political prisoner.

Since 1981 we’ve been battling and fighting and struggling to liberate Mumia. Mumia is such a passionate voice, such a courageous voice, we need him so desperately.

And we’re gonna continue to fight until he’s free. If anybody knows Mumia, they know that he wouldn’t want us here talking about him. Mumia would want us to talk about his case, but he’d also want us to put his case in the context of everybody else.

Mumia is being held under the most absurd, violent and ugly circumstances that we’ve seen. Just last week, people received a phone call saying that he had been taken to the hospital with COVID-19, making us think that he’d been given a death sentence. That’s the type of cruelty and the type of evil that the prison industry, and the prison specifically targeting Mumia Abu-Jamal, demonstrates every single day.

It’s not just about Mumia, because right now we are in a human rights crisis. The prison system must not only be a resolution to that crisis. It has already been called to do so.

We call for the release of all political prisoners right now because it is the right thing to do. But we also make a bold call, a more radical call, and that is the abolition of prison itself.

Moving outside the ‘logic’ of prison

We must move into a moment that no longer uses the prison as the resolution to our social contradictions. The prison must no longer be a resolution to that harm that is done. The prison must no longer be the solution to all of our challenges in society.

We must call for the end of prison construction right now. We must call for decarceration. That means we must be able to let people out of prison immediately. We must call for ex-carceration. That means we have to stop putting people in prison. That means we have to legalize things, that means we have to dismantle laws that criminalize. We have to decrim, get rid of this logic of criminalization. We must think about restraint of the few. We must think about how we can protect society from harm that is done, but outside the logic of the prison.

And we must build a caring community. We must develop the resources and the infrastructure; we must find ways to protect those who are vulnerable. We must find ways to invest in those who have not been invested in. We must find ways to provide food, clothing and shelter for every single person.

That’s what this is about—what abolition is about. But we not only have

BEHIND THE WALLS

Resistance roundup

By Mirinda Crissman

Prisoners are acting to protect themselves and each other in the middle of the global pandemic as they protest inhumane caged conditions and seek their freedom. They will continue to do so as we move toward the resolution to COVID-19 since late March.

The frequency of this resistance clearly demonstrates that prison conditions are rapidly deteriorating in the present health crisis. As the prison responder group Free Them All Connecticut says, “Jail and prison walls can’t contain the spread of the virus. What is on the outside will be on the inside, and what happens to our communities on the inside will affect us all.” (freethemallct.org/about)

May 20: Hunger strike at Florence Correctional Center, Ariz.
May 19: Sit-in protest at Shelby County Jail, Tenn.
May 14: Uprising at Georgia Diagnostic and Classification State Prison
May 11: Disturbance at Redgrade Correctional Institution, Wis.
May 10: Uprising at Covington County Jail, Ala.
May 9: Work stoppage at Northwest Detention Center, Washington, D.C.
May 8: Hunger strike at North Lake Correctional Facility, Mich.
May 6: Group escape from Ouachita Parish Work Release, Monroe, La.
May 6: Food strike at Marion Correctional Institution, Ohio
May 4: Protest at Dillwyn Correctional Center, Va.
May 3: Protest at Catahoula Correctional Center, La.
May 2: Five disturbance at Cummins Unit, Ark.
May 1: Uprising at Bristol County House of Correction, Mass.
May 1: Uprising at Southern State Correctional Facility, Va., during May Day protest outside the walls
April 30: Strike carried by ICS detainees in Women’s Unit, Adelanto Processing Center, Calif.
April 29: Uprising at Cook County Jail, Chicago
April 28: Refusal and attack on guards at Cook County Jail, Chicago
April 22: Disturbance at Westville Correctional Facility, Ind.
April 22: Protest at D.C. Central Detention Facility, Washington, D.C.
April 20: Protest at Franklin Medical Center, Columbus, Ohio
April 20: Disturbance at Bridge City Center for Youth, La.
April 19: Disturbance at Gus Harrison Correctional Facility, Mich.
April 19: Attack on guard at Sumter Correctional Institution, Busnell, Fla.
April 17: Disturbance at Pendleton Correctional Facility, Ind.
April 16: Escape from Columbia Correctional Institution, Wis.
April 14: Prisoners attack guards, attempt to free others at Cook County Jail, Chicago

Marc Lamont Hill

Long-term abolition goal, we need to exercise abolitionist principles right now because COVID-19 has created a human rights crisis that amplifies the already existing human rights crisis.

To live in a U.S. prison right now is to live with a death sentence. Whether you’re there for three months or six months, whether you’ve gotten a life sentence, you are on death row right now if you’re in a U.S. prison. The type of social distancing that the best medical experts—not the president, but the best medical experts—suggest can’t be exercised in prison. The type of protection that you want to be able to engage in, you can’t in prison.

So anybody who’s incarcerated right now doesn’t even have the means to defend themselves. What they’re getting is cruel and unusual punishment. In areas of the world right now, infection rates were 1 and 2 out of 1,000. Then you go into Rikers Island in New York City, and you got 54 out of 1,000.

Can you imagine being anywhere in the world with 54 out of 1,000 people as the infection rate, and not see that as a human rights crisis? Unless it’s poor people, unless it’s Black people, unless it’s Brown people. Free all political prisoners!
Cleveland action demands prisoner release

By Martha Grevatt

Cleveland

May 29 — Today a combination car/pedestrian protest in downtown Cleveland called for the Cuyahoga County Jail to release more prisoners and end “inhumane treatment.” Similar actions have been taking place around Ohio, which has the highest COVID-19 prisoner death rate in the country. This demonstration was called by organizing the Coalition to Stop the Inhumanity at the Cuyahoga County Jail.

Protesters hung on the bars as they looked down at a large group of people in solidarity. Dozens of cars, with taped-on messages of “Free them all” and “RIP George” plastered on their windows, drove by in Cleveland police—Rice in 2014 and Franklin this year. George is George Floyd.

Brunswick, Ga. It took police two months to arrest an unarmed jogger who was shot to death in Brunswick, Ga. In 2006, police in Cleveland shot and killed 12-year-old Tamir Rice while he was at a basketball court with his father. Secret Service agents and local police had shot and killed Ahmaud Arbery, an unarmed jogger who was shot to death in 2020 while he was birdwatching in New York’s Central Park. And Christian Cooper, a Black man, was stopped by police in 2020 for allegedly disturbing the peace when he attempted to drive a wedge between par- ticipants in the uprising, labeling many Black protesters “peaceful” and many white protesters “anarchists.”

These apologists for the ruling class are fearful of how far and how deep this rebellion could go in rupturing the fragile capitalist system, already reeling from the coronavirus pandemic and the ongo- ing economic crisis.

Protesters have taken a knee in the streets in solidarity with former National Football League quarterback Colin Kaepernick, who first took a knee in 2016 in opposition to police brutality. This uprising has also had a ripple effect around the globe, with solidarity actions in cities in Africa and the Middle East, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Britain, Germany, Iran, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand and elsewhere.

Liberal bourgeois and reactionary politi- cians and their media mouthpieces are attempting to drive a wedge between par- ticipants in the uprising, labeling many Black protesters “peaceful” and many white protesters “anarchists.”

This rebellion needs political solidar- ity, not isolation! That is reason enough to demand: No police state! No military dictatorship! Amnestiy for all arrestees! Withdraw the police and National Guard! No justice! No peace! ☐

Cleveland, May 29: ‘Release prisoners and provide resources.’

Not a riot — REBELLION!

Continued from page 1

Donation to Workers World

"Inmates need Workers World papers. When you lock up, you need an intellectual light to shine through the darkness of state oppression. If you are a free person reading today, also, you care about the struggle against mass incarceration, please take out a subscription for an incarcerated person. It means more than you could possibly imagine."

—Masaki Motema

You can donate a subscription to Workers World Patreon to get an inmate — today at patreon.com/wwp/.

Workers World is an independent, revolutionary communist paper that began publication in 1959, and has grown to be published weekly in print and daily on the web. We are committed to build- ing solidarity among workers and oppressed peoples around the globe. For that reason Workers World has always provided FREE subscriptions and other radical printed materials to prisoners in the U.S. One is three subscribers to Workers World is a person who is currently behind bars — in hundreds of pris- oners across dozens of states.

WE NEED YOUR HELP to provide even more pris- oners with FREE subscriptions to Workers World. We receive hundreds of phone calls, letters and subscription requests from prisoners. In addition to the work we do to fight racism, imperialism, gender and white supremacy, we also depend on your support.

We need your help to keep the resources we provide for prisoners. We are committed to publishing the best of the world and international news. We are committed to building solidarity among workers and oppressed peoples around the globe.

Donate now is an immediate way you can help fight this racist, capitalist system and empower our readers to demand the rights for all. Donate today at patreon.com/wwp/

Marxism, Reparations and the Black Freedom Struggle

An anthology of writings from Workers World newspaper. Edited by Monica Moorehead.

Racism, National Oppression & Self-Determination • Black Labor from Chattel Slavery to Wage Slavery • Black Youth: Repression & Resistance • The Struggle for Socialism Is Key • The Struggle for Socialism Is Key • The Struggle for Socialism Is Key

Again Today? Anniversary of the 1965 Watts Rebellion

Download it from workers.org/books.

Also available at major online bookstores.
Historic uprising resists racism, killer cops

George Perry Floyd (1973 – 2020)
Breonna Taylor (1993 – 2020)

Pensacola, Fla.
PHOTO: STRIVE

West Virginia
WW PHOTO: OTIS GROTEWOHL

Around 400 people in solidarity with the growing rebellions—a majority Black youth—rallied outside a Wheeling, W.Va., police station. Other rallies were held in Huntington, Charleston and Parkersburg.

Los Angeles
Los Angeles demonstrators, May 30.

Chanting ‘Black Lives Matter,’ ‘No Justice, No Peace’ and demanding an end to police brutality and the many injustices faced by Black and Brown people, over 5,000 people of diverse backgrounds gathered in downtown San Antonio, Texas, on May 30.

San Antonio

Oakland, Calif.
The Justice for George Floyd and Breonna Taylor Car Caravan in Oakland, Calif., brought out more than 7,000 cars and thousands of people with handmade signs.

Salt Lake City

Grady County Jail, Okla.
Prisoners inside the Grady County Jail in Chickasha, Okla., rally for George Floyd.

Cleveland

Over 8,000 people marched on the “Justice” Center Complex in Cleveland on May 30. Protesters ranged from youth of color to whole families, including young children with small signs calling for justice. Even after police escalated their attack on the protest, thousands of youths who stayed downtown into the evening showed great courage by countering police attacks.

Salt Lake City

Los Angeles

American Indian Movement activists, Minneapolis, May 27.

Minneapolis, May 27.

Minneapolis
The Justice for George Floyd and Breonna Taylor Car Caravan in Minneapolis, May 27.

San Antonio

Pensacola, Fla.

American Indian Movement activists, Minneapolis, May 27.
Historic uprising resists racism, killer cops

By Workers World Philadelphia bureau

On June 1, while taking photos at a Justice for George Floyd march in Philadelphia, Joe Piette, whose photographs appear frequently in the pages of Workers World was intentionally targeted by police.

This is one of many reports of journalists, including photographers and camera crews covering the George Floyd protests, being purposely targeted and injured by police, often with rubber bullets.

Piette told Workers World: “As cops were shooting tear gas and rubber bullets at nonviolent protesters, a cop shot a rubber bullet at me, destroying my camera and injuring my hand.

“As a retired U.S. Postal Service letter carrier, I’ve donated my photo skills to many progressive community organizations free of charge over the last decade. My photos of the June 1 protest, plus thousands of other photos of community events, can be viewed at tinyurl.com/yd9jqps8./

“My goal was reached in just hours. What I don’t need for the camera will be donated to the Philadelphia Bail Fund.” (tinyurl.com/yd9jqps8/)
Solidarity with all LGBTQ2+ workers!

By Ezra Echo

This is a slightly edited version of a talk given during the “What Road To Socialism?” webinar held by Workers World Party on May 16.

The LGBTQ2+ working class looks like my gay, bisexual, and trans comrades who are facing even more harassment than they ever have while working. The LGBTQ2+ working class looks like the imprisoned lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people whom we have to release, especially in the midst of this viral pandemic and are dying as a result of it. The LGBTQ2+ working class looks like all the homeless LGBTQ2+ people who have—will overcome this murderously system of capitalist health care.

I appreciate being given the chance to speak on such a crucial topic as health care in the so-called United States. Many comrades have already spoken of the current conditions within the health care sector, living under capitalism. We all know: Capitalists are using the pandemic as an opportunity to monopolize and undermine what few rights we have and bleed workers dry.

For the most part, current efforts to organize health care workers around the capitalist system have been limited to trade unionism, with the bulk of health care work being done by so-called “independent contractors.” This is a cultural one. The U.S. medical system is a brutalized system of capitalist health care. Workers here have—will overcome this murderously system of capitalist health care.

Women & gender-nonconforming people: Nothing to lose but our chains

By Phebe Eckfeldt

This is a slightly edited version of a talk given during the “What Road To Socialism?” webinar held by Workers World Party on May 16.

In his book “High Tech, Low Pay,” Sam Montana, a late Workers World Party chairperson, talks about how technology has diminished the number of skilled workers compared to unskilled workers, changing the social composition of labor. So there are more women, Black, Latinx and LGBT2Q+ people in the workforce. This means fewer unskilled workers, and their influence is lessened. The political leadership has shifted to the working class elements — those who know intimately what racism, sexism, ableism, misogyny, bigotry and xenophobia are. They are more left, more conscious and more militant.

An estimated 47 percent of the workforce is women. Sam Montana calls this the “feminization of labor.”

Women and gender-nonconforming people are literally fighting for our lives!

Consciousness about class, race, capitalism and imperialism is rising; it is starting to take leaps and bounds — and finally lead to actual action.

Women begin to realize they have nothing to lose but their chains. In the past century of years, according to Socialism Takes Root, there have been uprisings and taking bold action, demanding justice, dignity, respect and a living wage. They are prisoners, sex workers, teachers, hotel workers, nurses, immigrants, Black, Latinx, Indigenous, Asian, and Dalit. And they are reproductive justice fighters, mothers taking over abandoned housing and many others.

Every day women are fighting against sexual abuse, harassment and violence. Women are viewed as private property. Some women fight every minute of every day just to stay alive. They have dealt with post traumatic stress disorder from living under capitalism.

But let us gain courage and strength by looking back on centuries of women’s humanity when there was a matriarchy, meaning the “absence of male supremacy,” the absence of patriarchy. If we look back at all of human history as 365 days, one year’s time, the matriarchy existed for 360 days! Please don’t forget this.

V. I. Lenin, leader of the Russian Revolution, said: “It has been observed in the experience of all liberation movements that the success of a revolution depends on the extent to which women and gender nonconforming people take part in it.”

Through our work in the Party, we can bring women together. We can listen, deep-organize, educate and empower each other. We can establish Women’s Working Committees. We can revitalize the Women’s Fightback Network.

The coronavirus has highlighted what we know: Socialism is the medicine we need. The International, and all the unions and the universal anthem of the working class and oppressed the world over, proclaims: “The earth shall rise on new foundations.” We have been taught. We shall be.

Eckfeldt (she/her) has been a member of the WWP Boston branch for over 40 years. She is a mother of three, a nurse, a retired member of the Harvard Union of Clerical and Technical Workers, and a member of the Women’s Fightback Network in Boston.

Organizing health care for patients, not profit

By Taegan

This is a slightly edited version of a talk given during the “What Road To Socialism?” webinar held by Workers World Party on May 16.

The movement is spreading because we need health care. This is a slightly edited version of a talk given during the “What Road To Socialism?” webinar held by Workers World Party on May 16.

The U.S. claims to be a democracy, but this claim is in direct conflict with the reality of class struggle. The wealthy ruling class, which owns most of our economy through the stock market and banking system, also has complete ownership of our electoral process. The politicians we elect are the servants of capitalists, who will never do anything to harm the interests of their masters.

This is not a democracy; it is a dictatorship of the rich. True democracy would reflect the popular will of the masses, the bulk of whom belong to the working class. Socialist revolutions aim to take control of the means of production — the factories which we own — and establish rule by the working class. That’s why workers’ assemblies are the most important, because they can become an engine of workers’ democracy and workers’ control over the economy.

The history of socialist revolutions is the history of political base-building. Before the October Revolution of 1917, workers’ organizations and political parties controlled their political and economic lives. This went beyond unionizing. Workers’ councils, even without the sanction of the government, demanded and fought many important political questions of the time. They were the government of a state unto themselves, a workers’ state that fought for the interests of their class.

Just as in 1917, the problems we face today can only be solved by a united working class. We need workers’ assemblies to take control of our economy. We need health care and housing to fall under the control of workers’ assemblies. If a business decides its workers are essential, then it’s essential that workers’ assemblies control that business. This is what we mean by “workers control all power to the workers’ assemblies.”

Comrades in Workers World Party’s Durham branch have already taken the lead in building workers’ assemblies. There, workers are banding together and vowing to organize the South. And that movement is spreading.

We need to have solidarity now more than ever with all our LGBT2Q+ comrades.

Echo (they/them) is a transwoman, Emergency Medical Technician trainee and member of the Central Texas branch of WWP. She is a veteran of the U.S. Navy who hopes to live in a world where workers and the oppressed are free to live without fear of the state.

Motema (he/him) is a contributing editor of Workers World Newspapers and a member of Workers World Party’s New York City branch.
Workers unite to fight racism, cops, pandemic

By Sue Davis

There has been a groundswell of worker solidarity with protests against the racist police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis on May 25.

First, reports came in from Minneapolis that some bus drivers had refused to cooperate with cops in using public buses to transport people arrested during protests there. Bus driver Adam Bruch told Payday Report: “As a transit worker and union member, I can’t transport my city and radical youth [to jail]. An injury to one is an injury to all. The police murdered George Floyd and the protest... is completely justified and should continue until their demands are met.” (May 30)

Soon the Minneapolis Transit Service canceled service completely. “Many [drivers] are unwilling to do anything for the police and put themselves in harm’s way for the police that created this mess to begin with,” wrote Eric Burch.

Bus drivers in New York City, represented by Transport Workers Union Local 100 in the Amalgamated Transit Union, also did not cooperate with the police. A video of a bus driver refusing to transport people arrested during protests in front of police officers went viral Friday night, May 29.

J.P. Patao, vice president of Local 100, was quoted in VICE as saying: “We didn’t come to this city to die... I told the Manhattan Transit Authority our workers won’t be used to drive cops around. That’s in solidarity with Minneapolis bus drivers. Our members do not work for the NYPD. We transport working families of NYC.” (May 29)

International President of the Amalgamated Transit Union John Costa issued a statement condemning Floyd’s death: “Our members — bus drivers — have the right to refuse to work they consider dangerous or unsafe during the pandemic; so do Minneapolis bus drivers — our members — have the right to refuse the dangerous duty of transporting police to protests and arrested demonstrators away from these communities where many of these drivers live. This is a misuse of public transit.

“If any good is to come of this, we in the labor movement and the nation must unite with the systemic cycle of injustice, racism and hatred that plagues our country.” (May 28)

Statements condemning the murder of George Floyd and calling for justice were also issued by Richard Trumka, president of the AFL-CIO; Mary Kaye Henry, president of the Service Employees (SEIU); and Bill Hochstetler, director of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME). Critical changes need to be made now to protect transit workers and riders, so do Minneapolis bus drivers — our members — have the right to refuse the dangerous duty of transporting police to protests and arrested demonstrators away from these communities where many of these drivers live. This is a misuse of public transit.

If any good is to come of this, we... The Washington Post ran a detailed article May 31 revealing that more than 100 workers in the $800 billion grocery industry are experiencing a pandemic; Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 443 in St. Paul, Minnesota, is demanding improved safety, especially more masks and gloves. “We have people who are scared to go to work because they’re afraid of dying,” Veronique Chauvin, steward of UFCW Local 443 in St. Paul, told the Minnesota Public Radio. “These are people who make $11 an hour working in a food processing plant, and they’re supposed to work with knives and sharp objects.”

The unofficial tally of worker actions and strikes in Payday Report has grown from 230 since March 1, including a group of fast food workers who went on strike in Oakland, Calif., after they were asked to wear dog diapers as masks. Primary sources are Payday Report, May 28-30, which led to other sources. Information from social media via Labor Against Racist Terror contributed to this article.

Larry Kramer, 1935-2020: An appreciation

By Shelley Ettinger

I joined ACT-UP/ NY soon after it formed, in the spring of 1987. Thirty-three years later, I still have vivid memories of the weekly meetings, which crackled with the electric energy of hundreds of angry people who demanded entry into the first-floor meeting room in the LGBTQ Center in Manhattan.

Many, probably most, had not been political activists before AIDS erupted. Now, as the issues were debated, strategized in that rundown old building on West 33rd Street, they were creating a new movement, one that would make history and save lives. The task was enormous; to force the government to take action on AIDS, to fund medical research, to attack the pharmaceutical industry to take real action to combat AIDS.

Tens of thousands were dying. Most were gay men and people of color. By 1987 the AIDS epidemic had been raging in these communities for years. The poorest, those with least access to medical care, were failing last. People were dying, out of address books, trying to go on, to stay alive, with no hope of support or aid from any official source.

There were no effective treatments. There was no national strategy to educate people about methods to prevent the spread of HIV. The president, Ronald Reagan, had never once spoken the AIDS word in public.

Meanwhile, anti-gay and racist violence was on the rise as reactionary forces whipped up fear and scapegoat campaigns.

The context for when Larry Kramer stepped up and started the movement that would change everything.

Movements are made up of many people. Mass struggle is just that, a mass understanding, and no one individual account can capture the complexity of what happened. But Larry Kramer was the leader we needed at the height of the AIDS crisis.

A few years earlier, as AIDS emerged as a deadly threat, Larry had been one of the founders of Gay Men’s Health Crisis. GMHC developed into a community service organization – vital, but not, Larry saw, sufficient. AIDS was a real, bare-knuckled, no-holds-barred fight had to be waged.

And so Larry Kramer, along with a few others, founded the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power. It quickly developed and grew. Taking lessons from the Civil Rights Movement, the anti-war movement and of course the LGBTQ+ movement, the young organizers who soon assumed leadership fashioned ACT UP into a street-fighting powerhouse.

ACT UP/ NY’s first big action took place March 24, 1987. Hundreds poured onto lower Broadway in the early morning hours, targeting Big Business as the source of the AIDS neces- sity for AIDS-based discrimination and the failure to develop and fund affordable AIDS treatment drugs.

The call to action proclaimed: “No More Business As Usual!” The goal: to shut down Wall Street. And we did just that. I was one of over 100 people arrested at the Wall Street action that morning. While cops dragged us off, hundreds more stayed, chanting the newly minted and now famous ACT UP slogan: “Act up! Fight back! Fight AIDS!”

In the months and years following, the AIDS activist movement would carry out many militant actions. They barricaded and sat in at pharmaceutical company head- quarters. They crashed medical conferences and corpo- rate board meetings. They disrupted reactionary religious events. They stood their ground, and action, and eventu- ally they won real change.

Rage at oppression

So who was Larry Kramer? He was first and foremost a gay man. His bitter, painful experience of gay oppres- sion drove everything he did. His rage, his furious, pas- sionate, sexual rage at this societal, national, international rage against him, this is what he carried in his work, literary and political. He was a radical, and a true militant.

In ACT UP meetings I knew Larry only as an angry speaker, up in the front of that first-floor room at the center of the heads of the people as they easily reached out to friends. Term friends tell of a different Larry up close and personal, a kind, sweet, loving soul.

I was a witness to Larry’s rage, to the sense of loss for a few years before he died. After not seeing Larry in person for decades, I ran into him at a deli one afternoon in the Village. I knew he typically worked several major illnesses; he seemed bent and frail. I said hi and introduced myself as someone who’d been in ACT UP in the early years. He peered up, straightening his spine, giving me the widest, warmest smile, and reached for a hug. For some reason we both got a little teary-eyed. We chatted a bit, then said goodbye.

Larry was a Jewish child of the Depression. Later in life he was comfortably financially. He was never a revo- lutionary. But he always considered himself an outsider, a radical, a true militant.

“While Jobs With Justice supports the strikers’ right to strike and has called on employers to meet their abusers and oppressors.” (May 30)

“A real, bare-knuckled, no-holds-barred fight had to be waged.” (May 28)

As a transit worker and union member, I can’t transport my city and radical youth [to jail]. An injury to one is an injury to all. The police murdered George Floyd and the protest... is completely justified and should continue until their demands are met.” (May 30)
Defend resisters! Defend the uprising!

Continued from page 1

Floyd’s killers arrested. He was not even charged with first-degree murder, while the three cops who assisted the killer are still walking free.

All this after a ruling-class propaganda campaign is underway to shift attention and responsibility away from the state, as the main instigator of violence against the people, and instead blame protestors.

State authorities, like the U.S. president, are defaming the rebellion protests to divert attention away from those who are trying to split the movement by denouncing the “radical left”—anarchists and anti-fascists (afist), whom Trump has declared a “terrorist organization.” The state's apologists are trying to split protestors into good “peaceful” people and bad “violent” people, white youth versus Black youth, and “law-abiding” protestors versus those who were only harming property. And there is the key word. The ruling class will let millions die, as long as their property— and the state system that props it up—is left unchallenged. When cops kill, they are virtually untouchable because the “duty of police is first and foremost to beat down working and oppressed people and to maintain public order by taking the prof- its or property of the capitalist class.

No future under capitalism

The protesters are overwhelmingly young people who are working or unem- ployed, who are of oppressed nationali- ties, who are gender-nonconforming. This is the protest that has been touched by COVID-19 pandemic, they are losing jobs in the unprecedented economic crisis or risking their lives to keep “essential” goods moving. Big business, the state and all “law-abiding” people can’t pay rent and are being evicted from their homes or are sick, maybe dying, because health care is just for people with money. They face a bleak future, if they survive the present.

As in the middle of this storm of oppression, the cops keep occupying, demonizing and killing them, their loved ones, their co-workers, members of their communities. These youth are eyewitnesses to some of these deaths, or they see them on video tape over and over, becoming consumed with the question of what happened to George Floyd or Breonna Taylor could happen to them.

This young generation is the new noth- ing-to-lose-but-their-chains generation, and they are leading the battle against the murderous state.

They—and we—need active, strategic solidarity to win.

Already there have been inspiring exam- ples: Union bus drivers across the U.S.— whose wages are of color—refused to transport arrested protesters. A young white woman in New York City knocked a bicycle cop to the ground after he punched a young Black woman protestors. The Minneapolis school board severed ties with the city’s police force—a break in the school-to-prison pipeline. Countless peo- ple everywhere are contributing to bail funds for those arrested in the protests.

As the state ramps up brutal attacks on demonstrators with tear gas, pepper spray, rubber bullets and armed troops, our solidarity must be sustained.

More solidarity would be if state National Guard members everywhere refused to occupy their friends and neighbors with military force. For white demonstrators, more solidarity would be to go to protests and accept the leadership of Black organiz- ers. More solidarity would be joining with oppressed Black, Brown and Indigenous people to defund and dismantle the police, to challenge an unjust legal system and fight to free all those imprisoned.

A new generation is leading—in racism and for justice, against dead-end existence under capitalism and toward a better world. They are not “rioters”—they are resisters. Act in solidarity with them and their uprising—now!

Against police violence and capitalism

To rebel is justified

By Monica Moorehead

Workers World salutes all the brave pro- testers in Minneapolis, currently ground zero against police terror. We also salute those activists in Los Angeles, Memphis and other cities who are marching, protesting and testing the points of the movement. The corporate media rush to say that a “riot” has occurred.

The corporate media call the May 27 pro- test in Minneapolis a “riot.” In a speech on March 14, 1968, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. defined that term, saying, “A riot is the language of the unheard.” Following his assassination less than a month later, King defined that term, saying, “A riot is the language of the unheard.”

The long unheard Black community in Minneapolis only needed a spark—Floyd’s execution—to arouse its collective anger. All it took was that moment to show police occupation, harassment, beatings and arrests—and rise up. Even the sta- tistics justify their anger: Of those who were shot in Minneapolis from late 2009 to May 2019, some 60 percent were from the Black community—though they make up only 20 percent of the total population.

Righteous protesters broke the win- dow of the Three Precinct headquarters where the four fired cops were once based. They picked up tear gas canisters the cops targeted at them and threw them back at the police. They burned or expropriated goods from AutoZone, Target and other businesses.

A class view of violence

Once the protests moved from “peace- ful” on May 26 to direct action on May 27, the corporate media rushed to defend the capitalists’ sacred private property and labeled some protestors “violent.”

Workers World—sign up today! To support the Marxist voice for LGBTQ2+ rights

Forever since the Stonewall Uprising erupted June 28, 1969, Workers World has taken to the streets to struggle against homophobia and all forms of discrimina- tion, persecution and violence against les- bian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and gender-nonconforming communities.

WW has consistently backed up activist- coveragewith analysis. In the early 1970s, we ran a series of articles that quickly led to the publication of the book “Roots of Lesbian and Gay Oppression: A Marxist Analysis.”

In the 1990s, WW Managing Editor and globally recognized transgender leader Lee Anne Feinberg wrote a series of articles later published in pamphlet form as “Rainbow Solidarity in Defense of Cuba.” They were followed by the series “Lavender & Red” about socialism and the LGBTQ2+ struggle.

In 2012 Feinberg wrote in defense of African American transgender woman CeCe McDonald, who was charged with manslaughter after defending herself from a.INTERACTIVE CONTENT FROM WORKERS WORLD

Support the Marxist voice for LGBTQ2+ rights

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Brazil's Trump

Bolsonaro’s ‘biggest threat’ to COVID response

By Martha Grevatt

On May 9, The Lancet medical journal, in assessing the COVID crisis in Brazil, wrote that “perhaps the biggest threat to Brazil’s COVID-19 response is its president, Jair Bolsonaro.” When questioned by journalists about the country’s high rate of infection, Bolsonaro had answered “I don’t know.” So what? Do what you want to do?” This is a politician who takes great pride in being compared to U.S. President Donald Trump.

Now Bolsonaro’s Trump-like response to the pandemic has contributed to Brazil having the second-highest confirmed COVID-19 cases in the world—the highest being the U.S. As of June 1, almost 315,000 Brazilians are known to be infected.

Bolsonaro has also parroted Trump’s denial of climate change. He has deliberately allowed climate-related fires to destroy wide swaths of the Amazon rainforest, displacing Indigenous communities and threatening the “lungs” of the planet.

New Orleans, like many cities in the U.S., has been regularly provided by management. Sanitation workers in New Orleans are fed up with long pay, low hours and hazardous conditions. Their problems are magnified by the COVID-19 pandemic which has officially killed nearly 1,000 people in the city’s metropolitan area.

Close to 20 city sanitation workers who work for Metro Disposal, a private company, held a protest on May 5, demanding hazard pay due to the increased risks they face doing a pandemic. “The workers are paid only $10.25 an hour and want a pay increase to $13 an hour. They are demoralized, bent over, personal protective equipment as well, which they say has not been regularly provided by management.

One of the workers explained, “They give us masks that are ruined after a couple days and nothing for the rest of the week. We get work gloves but no latex gloves. If we are cut, we can get infected.”

Over the past several decades, New Orleans, like many cities in the U.S., has experienced the privatization of a large number of public services. They have been sold off to private firms that operate for profit and often cut corners to increase their profits’ bottom line.

While the city was still under a mandate to enforce a curfew following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, all New Orleans public schools were hastily privatized, making the city the first in the country to have an entirely privatized education system. This privatization trend continued to consume other city services as well, including sanitation.

Prevention the best medicine

Sanitation workers are an integral part of the city’s health care system. Their role could be viewed as just as crucial, or even more crucial, for public health than the role of medical workers. Sanitation workers prevent diseases at their source. And as the coronavirus pandemic has clearly shown, prevention is the best medicine.

In socialist Cuba, where the public medical system faces shortages of certain medicines, devices and supplies due to the U.S. blockade of the island, preventive medicine plays a much bigger role.

The Cuban health care system has highly positive results. It delivers high life expectancy and low mortality rates. Cuba is among the countries with the lowest number of cases per 100,000 inhabitants. The Ministry of Public Health recently announced that the country had achieved the goal of containing the virus, with fewer than 100 deaths and 3,000 cases.

By contrast, Cuba, which has been a liberated socialist country since 1959, is being left behind as a result of the U.S. blockade. The U.S. government has imposed a trade embargo on Cuba since 1960, preventing the country from importing vital goods and services.

In response to a massive outpouring of frustration from the community over the firings and use of prison labor, the parent company released a statement saying: “Metro Services Group has long been an advocate of helping people who had been incarcerated return to society in a meaningful and productive way. Metro makes no apologies for this policy as a core element of our commitment to being a good corporate citizen.”

This public relations statement attempts to cover up the company’s exploitation of prison laborers and ignores its refusal to recognize the sanitation workers’ union—but it doesn’t fool anyone. This shows how critically important it is for labor and community organizations to show solidarity with sanitation workers and incarcerated workers and demand fair wages and treatment for them all.

By Joshua Hanks

Striking New Orleans sanitation workers fired, replaced by private prison labor

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En una grave crisis económica, lecciones de los más oprimidos

Continúa de la página 12

Luchar por sus vidas no es una metáfora, sino una verdad literal, ya que los trabajadores “esenciales” de bajos salarios que están en el frente del mismo, enfrentan el peligro de la muerte e intentan lograr el seguro de vivir. No queremos que se nos olvide que el Plan Bolsonaro, con sus mentiras y violaciones a los derechos humanos, también significa la destrucción de la vida de millones de trabajadores. Y en nuestros países, tenemos el mismo problema: la destrucción de millones de vidas por el neoliberalismo, la corrupción y la inacción de los gobiernos.

Lo más importante ahora es recordar quiénes lucharon durante siglos contra el colonialismo, la esclavitud y el capitalismo. Estas son las “cadenas de la esclavitud” y las lecciones de lucha que nos han dado los combatientes antes que nosotros es apuntalada por la lucha de los trabajadores de hace unos días. “Un trabajo es un derecho! ¡Un salario justo es un derecho! ¡Liberarse del racismo y de la discriminación es un derecho! ¡La comida es un derecho! ¡La salud es un derecho! ¡Liberarse del imperialismo y neocolonialismo—es el producto de siglos de colonialismo, explotación y opresión de los pueblos—es un derecho! ¡El progreso es un derecho! ¡El trabajo es un derecho! ¡Un salario justo es un derecho!”. Como dice el Manifiesto Comunista.

La Revolución Cubana, que se cumplen ya 51 años, es el ejemplo más claro de que el imperialismo y neocolonialismo no son problemas de los países en desarrollo, sino que son la historia de todos los países, incluyendo los de Europa y América del Norte.

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¿Quiéres justicia para George Floyd? ¡Encarcelar y condenar a policías asesinos!

Por Monica Moorehead

27 de mayo - Fue un día muy duro. Otro hombre negro capturado en video, primero, siendo brutalizado y luego asesinado por un oficial de policía blanco.

Fue hace casi seis años cuando, el 17 de julio de 2014, millones de personas vi- ron un horror cuando Eric Garner, de 43 años, fue estrangulado por un oficial de policía blanco de Staten Island, Nueva York, a la vista de Marku Barthé. Parece repetirse, “no puedo respirar”, antes de morir de un paro cardíaco.

Desde ese trágico día hasta el verano de 2020, el alcalde y el comité de Policía de Nueva York tardó cinco años en despedir al policía asesino Daniel Pantaleo, quien, hasta ese momento, había estado en “licencia admi- nistrativa” y aún en la nómina.

Un gran jurado optó por no acusar a Pantaleo por asesinato en primer grado, pero 99% de los ciudadanos considere- raron que el oficial en video había estado implicado en el crimen. La policía, en cambio, había asegurado repetidamente, “no puedo respirar”, antes de morir de un paro cardíaco.

La policía no existe bajo el capitalismo para “proteger y servir” a la gente. La policía existe para proteger y servir a la propiedad privada de la clase dominante reforzando, de manera represiva, la supremacía blanca desde arriba, especial- mente la guerra desproporcionada contra las personas de color.

La única justicia real para Eric Garner, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd y otros del mundo es abolir la policía. Eso sólo puede ocurrir, primero, el encarcelamiento de policías asesinos y, en último instan- cia, la abolición del capitalismo a través de una revolución socialista que de una vez por todas se deshaga de las leyes de la sociedad para proteger los intereses de todos los oprimidos.

¿Quiéres justicia para George Floyd? ¡Encarcelar y condenar a policías asesinos!

En una grave crisis económica, lecciones de los más oprimidos

Estados Unidos se encuentra en una cri- sis económica histórica y aplastante, ace- lerada por la pandemia de COVID-19. Si bien las cifras de empleo informadas el 21 de mayo que la tasa oficial de desempleo era del 14,7 por ciento, ese 14,7% no refleja la realidad. Contribuye a la tasa de desempleo real de los EE.UU. ahora era del 22,4 por ciento.

Esta es la tasa de desempleo más alta de EE.UU. desde la Gran Depresión de la década de 1930. Hasta el 21 de mayo, 38,6 millones de personas habian solicita- do la ayuda de trabajo de los servicios de la esencia. Eso no incluye las personas que están buscando trabajo.

En trabajos de pobreza de bajos salarios, dos tercios son mujeres. Además, dos tercios están aumentando, desde trabajadores en las industrias de servicios, como las cárceles, los tribunales, los militares, etc., que existen por encima de las leyes de la sociedad para proteger los intereses de la pequeña y super rica camarilla que administra las ganancias de Wall Street.

Estos intereses son diametralmente opuestos a los intereses de miles de millo- nes de trabajadores y personas oprimi- das, una clase global que no posee nada pero se ve obligada a luchar diariamente por el derecho a las necesidades humanas básicas para vivir y prosperar: empleo, vivienda, atención médica, alimentos, educación y mucho más.

La clase dominante depende del brazo extralegal del estado para defender sus intereses. Es por eso que la policía toma una posición de no intervención hacia los neofascistas armados que exigen la rea- pertura de negocios durante la pandemia. Pero están más que dispuestos a atacar a los manifestantes que exi- gen justicia para las víctimas de la bruta- lidad policial, como Rodney King en 1991, Michael Brown en 2014 y George Floyd esta semana. La gente conecta cada vez más estos puntos.

No hay justicia ni en EE.UU. ni en la mayoría de los países de todo el mundo. A nivel global, la mayoría de los trabajadores y personas oprimidas pueden ser enviadas a: WW-MundoObrero@workers.org

Correspondencia sobre artículos en Workers World/Mundo Obrero

Por Monica Moorehead

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