In the spirit of MLK
Organize the South!

By Dante Strobino
Virginia Beach, Virginia

On Jan. 18, the newly formed Virginia Beach City Workers Union, UE Local 111, and faith community supporters rallied before the city council demanding a real voice for safety, dignity, living wages and an end to institutional racism on the job. City workers from the Public Works, Public Utilities and Human Services departments led the action demanding collective bargaining rights.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. took his last stand supporting Memphis, Tennessee, city workers who demanded these same rights in 1968. Their 1,500-strong sanitation workers’ strike was sparked by the deaths of two Black city workers, Echol Cole and Robert Walker, who had been crushed on the job by a malfunctioning truck.

As the country celebrated the King holiday, the Jan. 18 rally honored his real legacy by requesting that the Virginia Beach City Council pass a resolution in support of collective bargaining.

With a new Virginia law effective May 1, 2022, that allows workers these rights for the first time in history, workers across the state have a historic opportunity to overcome a racist Jim Crow era legacy. Five local governments across Virginia have passed similar resolutions to date.

“We have to confront this systematic racism and racial disparity that manipulates the city’s decision making when it comes to social and economic equality,” stated Alfred “Red” McClenney, equipment operator IV, Waste Management, Public Works. McClenney continued, “I feel collective bargaining is a step to help us bridge that racial divide.”

A report by the UE Research Department from 2021 showed that compared to other cities of a similar size, in southeast Virginia Beach a sanitation operator IV, with 20 years of experience, earns $17,327 below the market average.

In November 2021, the Virginia Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis released a report that found that nine out of 10 city employees cannot afford to raise even a single child within the Virginia Beach city limits. For the last several months, hundreds of city workers quit their jobs out of frustration with the stressful work environment, low pay and lack of a real voice.

On top of that, workers are now facing ongoing dangerous working conditions with the omicron variant of COVID-19 rapidly spreading and the city doing little to nothing to protect workers.

‘Right to Work’ destroys labor unions
“We must guard against being fooled by false slogans such as ‘Right to Work.’ Its purpose is to destroy labor unions and the freedom of collective bargaining by which unions have improved wages and working conditions of everyone,” said the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1964.

“Working in the Water Department is becoming completely impossible due to so many staff leaving. The city used to have eight water crews; now we are down to less than three crews to cover the whole city. We are working lots of overtime to cover all the water main breaks and keep the water running for the residents. We need a real voice on the job through a union to help retain staff and dignified working conditions,” stated Terry Green, utility mechanic II, Water Distribution, Public Utilities.

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U.S. hands off Ukraine!

By ordering preparations to send 5,000 more U.S. troops to countries near the Russian border Jan. 23, President Joe Biden stepped up the risk of a war between the world’s two most powerful nuclear-armed states. Once again, U.S. imperialism has threatened a new military adventure in pursuit of domination, this time with a major military power.

Workers World calls upon all anti-imperialist and anti-war forces in the United States and Western Europe to protest Washington’s war threats and demand that U.S. and all NATO forces withdraw from Eastern Europe and the Baltic states — Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

During the weeks leading up to Biden’s order, U.S. corporate media led off the international news with reports of impending war in Ukraine. President Joe Biden has accused Russia of planning an invasion, and Britain has accused Russia of planning a coup in Kiev, Ukraine’s capital, to install a Russia-friendly regime.

This coordinated anti-Russia campaign is aimed at justifying war preparations against Russia and to force Washington’s European allies to line up behind U.S. aggression. Similar campaigns, all lies, accompanied the war buildup against the former Yugoslavia in 1999, Afghanistan in 2001, Iraq in 2003 and Libya and Syria in 2011. The propaganda campaigns are an essential part of every imperialist war.

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Cops charged in child’s death
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WW Commentary: Beyond COVID
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Commentary: Harm reduction
Editorial: Billonaires’ pandemic windfall
Capitalism on a Ventilator in Chinese

In China, state-owned companies are profiting from the COVID-19 pandemic. As profits soar, the country faces a humanitarian crisis, with millions suffering from food shortages and job losses. The government’s focus on economic growth has come at the cost of public health and social welfare. This editorial examines the implications of China’s capitalist model during a global health crisis.

With the ongoing pandemic, billions of dollars have flowed into the pockets of executives and shareholders of state-owned enterprises, while ordinary people struggle to survive. The excessive profits of these companies present a stark contrast to the plight of the Chinese working class, who are forced to work long hours for low wages and endure unsafe working conditions.

The editorial argues that the state’s priority on economic growth has undermined social welfare and public health. As the country grapples with the pandemic, it is crucial to consider the implications of this capitalist approach and the need for solidarity and collective action. The editorial prompts reflection on the role of labor and the need for a paradigm shift towards a more equitable and sustainable society.

In the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the editorial emphasizes the importance of unity and solidarity in the face of this crisis. It calls for a collective response to address the humanitarian needs of the masses and for a system that truly prioritizes the well-being of all citizens. In this spirit, workers and oppressed peoples around the world unite to demand a society that values human life and dignity over profit and power.
Police charged for Fanta Bility murder

By Marie Kelly
Delaware County, Pennsylvania

Three Sharon Hill police in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, outside Philadelphia, were charged with manslaughter Jan. 18 for killing 8-year-old Fanta Bility in August 2021. Following a grand jury investigation, officers Devon G. Smith, Sean Patrick Dolan and Brian James Devaney were also charged with involuntary manslaughter on 10 counts of reckless endangerment, after 10 witnesses testified to feeling endan-
ger to their own lives.

On Jan. 20, the Sharon Hill Town Council voted 6-1 to fire all three officers.

Fanta was murdered outside the Academy Park High School, after police randomly fired over 25 shots at a mov-
ing vehicle driven by a 19-year-old woman. Police falsely claimed the car had been involved in a drive-by shooting. The driver and a passenger were injured by broken glass resulting from the bullets. Twelve seconds later, the offi-
cers began shooting indiscriminately into the cross- ing a football game, killing Fanta and wounding her sister and two others.

Community outrage over the murder was exacerbated when Delaware County District Attorneys took Stollsteimer charged two local youths, Havein Strand and Angelo “AJ” Ford, with first degree murder in December. The two were not on the scene when the police opened fire.

In addition to charging the three officers, prosecutors withdrew trumped-up murder charges against the teen-
agers, who Stollsteimer had tried to scagepit in his bra-
z-against to shield Sharon Hill police. Five Philadelphia City Council members called Stollsteimer’s handling of the case a “miscarriage of justice.”

The families of Fanta and the two youths, local com-
munity members and groups, including Black Lives Matter, Delco Resists and UDVTJ (which stands for the Upper Darby group’s core principles: Understanding, Devotion, Take action, Justice) have held multi-
elleet rallies, marches and press conferences calling for murder charges against Strand and Ford to be dropped and for release of the names of the officers. (workers.org/2021/12/050700x/)

At a Jan. 13 rally in front of the Media Courthouse, dem-

onstrators kept up the pressure on Stollsteimer, calling again for the names of the officers and charges to be filed against them.

In response to pressure from the community and the Bility family, the Sharon Hill Borough Council voted unanimously to conduct an internal investigation of the three officers and disband Stollsteimer’s training practices. In a statement, Bruce L. Castor, the lawyer representing the Bility family, said the family “seeks answers and damages for the tragic and unnecessary death... and the injury and trauma inflicted on others as a result of the misconduct of Sharon Hill Police officers.”

The developments of Jan. 18 are a critical step in the right direction, but activists and the Sharon Hill commu-
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nity will continue to speak out and hold elected officials’ feet to the fire until justice for Fanta is fully achieved.

Demonstrators call for police accountability in the death of Fanta Bility outside Delaware County Courthouse, Media, Pennsylvania, Jan. 13.

Police charged for Fanta Bility murder

Workers World is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist Party that is part of the imperialism beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it’s the only way forward!

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49 years after Roe v. Wade: Fight for reproductive justice!

By Kathy Durkin

The right to obtain safe, legal abortions is under attack. On the 49th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling allowing access to the procedure in the case of Roe v. Wade on Jan. 22, 1973, this fundamental human right is being challenged as never before. This landmark ruling, the result of a strong, arduous but moving movement, may be overturned by the top court in late spring.

Reactive forces in the U.S. have schemed to overturn the right to legal abortion since the day SCOTUS first issued the decision. In state legislatures and courts and by extralegal violence, the right wing has actively sought to end this essential part of comprehensive health care. It flies in the face of the rights everyone should have — both to bodily autonomy and to make their own medical decisions free of obstacles, coercion or punishment.

SCOTUS was packed with ultra-right justices by former President Donald Trump. The latter was designed to reduce access to women and other gender identities who can create more difficulties especially for women with low incomes, Black, Latinx, Indigenous, immi-grants, disabled people, rural residents, and individuals with various gender identities who can become pregnant.

Overturning legal abortions would engender more desperation, oppression and repression. Several states plan to follow the Texas law’s example, while 26 states are ready to ban abortions if Roe is nullified. This entire anti-abortion campaign in the states and on the federal level, up to and including the conserva-tives on the top court, reeks of misogyny and white supremacy.

This assault is part of the ruling-class offensive against voting and other rights of Black and other people of color. It is demonstrated in other aggressive legisla-tion and SCOTUS rulings hostile to people of color, immi-grants, workers, labor unions, LGBTQ2S+ individuals, while upholding the rights of corporations, banks and the superwealthy.

The near-total abortion ban, S.B. 8, are helping them do so. Networks have sprung up in Texas and around the South. Those with money are traveling to the East and West coasts.

On Dec. 1, the Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization case was argued before SCOTUS. Here, the state of Mississippi seeks not only to impose a 15-week ban on abortions, but is asking the top court to throw out the Roe deci-sion and ban abortions altogether.

The top court has supported the Texas six-week abortion ban and its extrale-gal vigilante bounty scheme aimed at those who “aid or abet” abortion seek-ers against the several legal challenges by reproductive health clinics. On Jan. 20, six conservative justices referred the clinic operators’ case back to the notori-ously reactionary Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and not to the pro-choice Federal Judge Robert Pitman.

Activists have demonstrated outside of SCOTUS and in Austin, Texas; Jackson, Mississippi; and around the country demanding that legal abortion remain in place, a view shared by the majority of U.S. residents. It is a human right and a medical necessity.

The Women and Gender Oppressed Caucus of Workers World Party has issued a statement and 10-point program explaining reproductive justice, and why the fight for it must be aimed at capital-ism by an independent movement, free of politicians. (tinyurl.com/vyk566)

Fight back! Organize! Demonstrate! Rally! Boycott! Take the streets! Occupy! [Editor’s note: We’re writing a new playbook for abortion access by focusing on passing proactive laws to protect and expand access to abortion at the state level. In 2019 alone, more states passed protective proac-tions for abortion rights and expanded access than in any previous year.]

Voto Latino spokeswoman Sandra Sánchez defended abortion rights for people of color, youth, women, Latinx and the LGBTQ2Q+ community: “[W]e’re fighting to ensure that all Latins have those who allied with the 73% of Latinx voters want to see SCOTUS uphold the right to abortion, and 87% say they would support a loved one who received one. No politician should be able to take that away.”

Yamani Hernandez, executive direc-tor of the National Network of Abortion Funds, stated: “[H]elp end abortion stigma by sharing loving and bold mes-sages about abortion. It’s up to us to break the silence of sharing and expansion. When we envelop people having abortions in the fierce love and power that’s built in community care, we bring them a single story of freedom and a powerful right to end their own suffering.

Kimberly Inez McGuire, executive direc-tor of Youth Ebola Support and Reproductive and Gender Equity, was quoted in Truthout: “McGuire expressed a frustration heard and repeated across the country and over by activists, advocates and social justice-minded legislators. In real life, the ‘promise of Roe’ never reached those who need it most. It shows the poor, youth, people of color, LGBTQ2Q+ people and rural populaces.”

By Sue Davis

In tribute to Workers World’s late comrade Sue Davis, the newspaper is reprinting excerpts of an article written by her to commemorate Roe v. Wade on Jan. 22, 1970. For decades, she wrote in these pages about the fight for reproductive justice, a movement in which she was a dedicated fighter. (tinyurl.com/giaosamf)

The 47th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that legal-ized women’s right to abortion, was Jan. 22. While religious anti-abortion forces have been trying to overturn it ever since, the threat has never been greater — especially with woman-hater, racist, anti-LGBTQ2S+ Trump in control of the state.

Roe took a bold step on Jan. 24 by being the first acting president to address the so-called “March for Life” in Washington, D.C. The reactionary, power-mad, supremacist march has been orga-nized by the Catholic Church-backed, misnamed “Right to Life” for the last 46 years and since 2017 reinforced by white evangelicals.

“Unborn children have never had a stronger defender in the White House,” Trump stated. Contrast that with his administration’s plan to reduce funding for food stamps, which means up to 5.3 million people, including thousands of children, will be cut from the program.

The Guardian stated: “[Just as long as Trump] cracks down on women’s reproductive rights [evan-gelicals] will continue to support him.” And 80% of white evangelical voters helped crown King Trump in 2016.

Refuting Trump, Alexis McGill Johnson, then-acting president and CEO of the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, said: “[W]e’ll be standing with the nearly 90% of Americans who support abortion access. We’ll never stop fighting for all the people in this country who need access to sexual and reproductive health care and legal abortion.”

Right-wing attacks

Meanwhile, the blatantly patriarchal Trump administration is using state power to attack women and other gen-der-oppressed people.

Abortion rights legislators intro-duced a record number of near-total abortion bans and other restrictive legis-lation in 2020. Emoldened by Trump’s bidenification, they are continuing to intro-duce bans this year, even in states where there is a strong pro-choice majority.

What cannot be ignored are the effects of Trump’s Department of Health and Human Services, stacked with anti-abortion, misogynist bigots who work to undermine and remove anti-reproductive health care rulings, like “conscience clauses” and the “domestic gag rule.” The latter was designed to reduce access to reproductive health care, particularly abortion, by exercising state power over some of the most in need, vulnera-ble people in this country; the 4 million low-income women and gender-op-pressed people enrolled in Title X.

The primary target of these changes was Planned Parenthood, the largest private provider of comprehensive reproduc-tive health services, serving about 40% of more than 1.5 million women and gender-oppressed people who need con-traception, testing for cancers, treatment for sexually transmitted infections and abortions. Planned Parenthood [defended] the Trump-Pence assault by opting out of federal funding.

How many clinics have been forced out of Title X, denying convenient, timely, affordable access to abortion and other medical services? How many patients are unable to find licensed health centers that address their needs, excluding abor-tion? How many patients can’t afford to travel for reproductive services?

Reproductive justice now!

While anti-abortion politicians and activists cite blatant misinformation and outright lies to promote their views, Guttmacher [Institute] rethums them: (1) Safe, legal abortion is common and at its lowest rate since Roe in 1973; (2) State restrictions are not driving the recent decline in abortion — it’s due to reproductive contraceptive access.

Many pro-choice groups, promoting medical, legal and civil rights for women and other gender identities, have joined the fight for dignity and equity.

Andrea Miller, president of the National Institute for Reproductive Health: “[W]e’re writing a new playbook for abor-tion access by focusing on passing proactive laws to protect and expand access to abortion at the state level. In 2019 alone, more states passed protective proac-tions for abortion rights and expanded access than in any previous year.”

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Demonstrators in Jackson, Mississippi, on Dec. 1, 2021, call for the Supreme Court to maintain the right to access legal abortions.

Demonstration outside SCOTUS on May 21, 2019.
Time for justice
Urgent need for change in Pennsylvania sentencing system

By Bryant Arroyo

The writer is currently incarcerated at Pennsylvania’s SCI Coal Township.

The Families Against Mandatory Minimum (FAMM) report points out the “irrational and ineffective” sentencing laws in Pennsylvania, which send too many people to prison for far longer than necessary. Sentencing laws that severely limit pathways to relief from excessive and undue punishments make the problem even worse. Pennsylvania has thousands of aging and sick people, whose continued incarceration serves absolutely no purpose.

The state’s overreaction on harsh punishments, combined with a near elimination of any meaningful mechanisms for reviewing these sentences, has contributed to a prison population that has exploded by nearly 300% since the early 1980s. Although Pennsylvania started to reduce its prison population over the last decade, the drastic increase in the number of people serving long and without parole sentences continues.

Pennsylvania’s punitive sentencing practices offer no discernible benefit to the public. They create significant negative consequences and only add to the problem even worse. Pennsylvania’s sentencing laws are unfair and unnecessarily depriving people of freedom. The prison setting. These medical problems all too often become life-threatening to people inside.

In reality, in the U.S., there is a large, aging population of poor people, Black, Latinx, Indigenous, Asian and white, who are locked away for decades and at risk of dying from COVID-19.

At the beginning of the pandemic, a group called No New Jails / No New Prisons / No Capitalism coined the phrase “No State Capitalism” created a movement that started in the state capitol and the offices of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in Sacramento. Concerned family members and NJUC even protested outside of California Governor Gavin Newsom’s suburban home.

A federal judge even ordered the depopulation of San Quentin Prison by 50%. The politicians promised mass releases. Did any of this happen? No, not in any real way. But infection rates did calm down for a period.

The omicron variant of COVID-19 has not only caused the infection rate to spike in the community, COVID-19 is currently running rampant in prisons, jails and detention centers throughout this country. The response of the jail and prison administrators is to cover it up, minimize the threat to prisoners’ lives and generate a pretense to pretend that it’s not a problem. But it is, and the real question is what we are doing to go about it.

Pennsylvania judges should have the discretion to impose individualized, appropriate sentences and review unjust sentences. Allow medical and elderly release, and expand compassionate release. More than 20% of Pennsylvania’s prison population is over 50, and many of these people have chronic health conditions. Maintaining such an enormous population of aging and ill people in prison is expensive, unnecessary and unjust.

FAMM has developed the Second Chance Agenda as one solution to expand opportunities for second chances. To address this crisis, Pennsylvania must reform its sentencing laws to allow for individualized and appropriate punishments and create more opportunities to review sentences and to provide incarcerated people with a path toward a second chance.

In Pennsylvania, FAMM suggests that this can be accomplished in several ways. Start with ending life without parole, and repeal the mandatory life sentence statute. Pennsylvania should create mechanisms to release people in prison based on age and or medical necessity; 70% of lifers were under age 30 at the time of their conviction, which means that most of them are going to die in prison.

Starting with ending life without parole, and making these recommendations can be accomplished in several ways.

For one, Pennsylvania should create mechanisms to release people in prison based on age and or medical necessity; 70% of lifers were under age 30 at the time of their conviction, which means that they are likely vulnerable to COVID-19. Most of the lifers were under age 30 at the time of their conviction, which means that they are likely vulnerable to COVID-19. Most of the lifers were under age 30 at the time of their conviction, which means that they are likely vulnerable to COVID-19.

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In the current spike in COVID-19 infections among the incarcerated in prisons, jails and detention centers is not only alarming and life-threatening to tens of thousands of people, it is an urgent challenge for the prison abolition and prisoners’ advocacy movement. We must build a movement from California to New York to demand mass releases and prison closures during this pandemic.

As someone who has worked for decades as an advocate for prisoners with HIV, hepatitis C and other life-threatening illnesses, I know that it is impossible for our incarcerated siblings to get adequate medical care. The prison system is the antithesis of care, and mild medical problems all too often become life-threatening to people inside.

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COVID-19 and the prison abolition movement

By Judy Greenspan

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Psychedelic researchers released the results of their latest study in May, demonstrating the potential of psilocybin to treat depression and anxiety. The research was conducted by the University of California, San Francisco, and involved 12 patients with treatment-resistant depression. The patients received a single dose of psilocybin, followed by a series of psychological treatments. The results showed significant improvement in depression and anxiety symptoms, with 78% of patients reporting major reductions in their symptoms. The study also found that the effects of psilocybin persisted for up to 6 months after the single dose.

The researchers also conducted a follow-up study in 2021, which included 51 patients with treatment-resistant depression. The patients received a single dose of psilocybin, followed by a series of psychological treatments. The results showed significant improvement in depression and anxiety symptoms, with 86% of patients reporting major reductions in their symptoms. The study also found that the effects of psilocybin persisted for up to 6 months after the single dose.

The results of these studies have led to increased interest in the potential of psilocybin for treating mental health conditions. Many researchers and clinicians believe that psilocybin may offer a promising new treatment for depression and anxiety, and that further research is needed to determine its safety and efficacy.

In conclusion, the research conducted by the University of California, San Francisco, has shown promising results in the use of psilocybin for treating treatment-resistant depression. The results indicate that psilocybin may offer a promising new treatment for depression and anxiety, and that further research is needed to determine its safety and efficacy.
Santa Rita prisoners conduct hunger strike

By Judy Greenspan
Oakland, California

In what has been a continuing struggle by Alameda county prisoners for decent food and sanitary conditions at Santa Rita Jail in Dublin, California, two dozen prisoners went on hunger strike on Jan. 7. They refused to eat prison-prepared food, which they say is inedible and often contains maggots and fly larvae.

In a video call with KVIX FOX News, James Mallett, one of the current hunger strikers, explained that the food continues to be inedible, overcooked, tasted and consisting primarily of boiled beans.

Additionally, the hunger strikers are protesting the high commissary prices for food and other items. Several striking prisoners state they are only drinking water and Gatorade during this protest.

In many jails and prisons, prisoners who are able to receive outside funds from family members purchase their food from the prison commissary or store to supplement or substitute for the inedible prison food. But inflated commissary prices have made it impossible for Santa Rita prisoners to have access to any edible food.

In response to the media reveal that in a recent hike in commissary prices, a bag of potato chips went from $3.39 to $1.09. The price of coffee spiraled from $4 to $6.75 a package. Price increases made this food inaccessible to the Santa Rita prison population.

Alameda County Jail commissary prices are much higher than the prices at the San Francisco Jail. In 2018 the Santa Rita jail vendor, Trinity Services, agreed to deposit 40% of all its revenue into the coffers of the Alameda County Sheriffs’ office. This contract is in effect until 2023. Santa Rita Jail has been the subject of lawsuits, prisoners’ protests and outrage by prison abolitionists for years. Due to the substandard nature of jail food, prisoners have often gone on hunger strikes in protest. In 2019, 500 and 700 incarcerated people in the Santa Rita Jail staged a work stoppage and hunger strike to protest test sanction and unsanitary conditions and the inedible food. (The Mercury News, Nov. 16, 2019).

Part of the Alameda County jail system, Santa Rita Jail has experienced recurring spikes of COVID-19 during the pandemic. Outside activists and attorney advocates have called for a well-funded and continuously called for mass releases of the jail population.

The prisoners are demanding that the sheriffs stop profiting from their commissary sales. They are asking the Board of Supervisors to intervene and set fair prices. Eric Rivera, one of the hunger strikers, said, “I know we are in jail, but I am sure that we still deserve some rights. We should have some sense of human dignity. I just hope somebody listens.”

Protesters outside Alameda County Sheriff's Office call for release of Santa Rita Jail inmates during COVID-19 pandemic. (optional)
Whole Foods worker: ‘Collective action can combat Amazonification’

By Hunter Buen
Portland, Oregon

Hunter Buen gave this talk Jan. 15 at a protest outside Hollywood Whole Foods in Portland, Oregon. The protest was one of several nationally coordinated actions to demand an end to Amazon’s union busting.

It is imperative, now more than ever, that workers stand up for themselves and others. A wave of unprecedented labor activism has struck the United States in the last several months. This wave must be ridden into a better future for the working class. My store is but one example of corporate influence on workers and how the world’s most profitable company morphed a grocery store that once held a strong set of values.

I began working at Whole Foods in 2018. The store was vibrant in both culture and labor. As a college student in need of extra funds, this was the perfect job for me. I could not have predicted how much this summer job would impact my life over the coming years. Amazon had just purchased Whole Foods Market and began to treat it as another of their corporate pet projects.

“Amazonization” is my term for the phenomenon, named after the infamous international monopoly, that describes its poisonous effect on business practices. The shift I witnessed at Whole Foods Market was unlike anything I could have speculated when I accepted the job offer.

I proudly wore a blue “Prime” apron and hat the day the acquisition took effect. We now kindly asked each customer “Do you have Amazon Prime?” and explained the many discounts and benefits available to such customers.

To begin with the innocuous: self-checkout. A staple of modern grocery infrastructure, but something that Whole Foods swore against prior to Amazon. East Coast UNITE HERE organizer Jeremy Pollard puts it best: “How many children does that machine need to feed?” Amazon’s favor for nonhuman laborers corrupted a once human-focused company. Pay and benefits faltered significantly under Amazon’s rule. A process called “gainsharing” would distribute excess profits to employees in a show of good faith and a working example of sharing the wealth. Under new ownership, this was obviously cast aside. Whole Foods said rise upon Amazon’s acquisition of Whole Foods, that pay grade has yet to rise since, despite a once-in-a-lifetime crisis that has raised the cost of living for all Americans. Instead, wealth has been concentrated in the hands of one man. In the musical and satirical words of comedian Bo Burnham, “Jeffrey Bezos, you did it.”

After the murder of George Floyd in May 2020, many Whole Foods team members thought it necessary to stand in solidarity with the Black community by wearing pins reading “Black Lives Matter.” The company reprimanded and even fired those who aimed to express this basic comradesy. Pins of a different sort – union pins – were also the center of punishment and separations. Those in support of unionization saw haphazard accusations of lengthy bathroom breaks, dress code violations or other minor infractions not based in fact. The strategy here was obvious: to force out those who disagree with Amazon politically.

Whole Foods, under Amazon’s direction, also began to sink its fingers into the gig economy. Amazon Prime Now (APN) shoppers at many locations are contracted – meaning they have no guarantee for hours or benefits, similar to Uber and Lyft’s modus operandi. Recently, as a replacement for increasing wages, a unique bonus incentive structure was devised. With low-pay and low-respect jobs abandoned in record numbers in late 2021, the company prioritized retention and overtime above all else. Thus, they demanded workers stay put and put in as many hours as possible over the holidays. Leave the store, and your bonus is revoked. Work less, and your bonus will be significantly less. This, because of the pressure of housing insecurity, led several workers to work up to 70 hours a week for multiple weeks in order to stay afloat during the holiday season.

The transgressions continue, but the message here is unmistakable: Amazonification has taken over Whole Foods Market. The business now operates under an anti-worker, maximum profit model. To call myself and fellow workers “team members” is frankly a joke. On whose team are we?

Jeff Bezos earned over $120 billion in profits over 2021, while all these fears weighed on Whole Foods and broader Amazon employees. John Mackey, CEO of Whole Foods, is retiring this year off of this incredible sale. Admittedly, Amazon delivery drivers and warehouse workers see far worse treatment than I ever did. Even so, it could not be more obvious what all of this strife is for. Profit. The only solution to this phenomenon is union power. Collective action can combat Amazonification.

Broken promise on MLK holiday

Civil rights strike at Kaiser Hospital

By Dave Welsh
Oakland, California

Somehow, I thought they made Martin Luther King Day a paid holiday for all workers. Well, it seems Kaiser Medical Center didn’t get the word. That’s why psychologists, social workers and therapists from Kaiser’s Oakland and Richmond, California, clinics hit the bricks in a one-day strike on Jan. 17.

“It was Dr. King’s persistent determination that helped desegregate hospitals,” said therapist Sabrina Chaumette. “Kaiser talks a good game when it comes to social justice, but they don’t practice what they preach.” Kaiser said it wouldn’t begin the holiday for King for mental health workers until 2023.

“Kaiser pays a lot of lip service to racial justice,” she said, “but when it comes to taking action, it’s always ‘wait till next year.’” Chaumette’s schedule is so overbooked that new patients must wait four months for an appointment. Her 900-word commentary on the struggles clinicians and patients of color face at Kaiser was recently published in the San Francisco Chronicle.

Jessica Dominguez, founder and lead organizer of Kaiser’s La Clinica, said, “We are living in a time of reckoning, a time when people of color are no longer content with the status quo — because the status quo has never included people of color. Status quo is white supremacy, and it’s baked into the Kaiser system. We will not give in because mental health is a social justice issue.”

The one-day “unfair labor practice” strike was called by the National Union of Healthcare Workers. “This strike is about honoring the legacy of Dr. King,” said Ixayanne Baez, a family therapist. “Without his work in desegregation, our clinics wouldn’t even be allowed to have Black clinicians.” (nwhw.org)

Seattle MLK rally and march

By Jim McIlhan
Seattle

Over 2,000 demonstrators participated in a multi-national march Jan. 17 at the 40th Annual Martin Luther King Day March in Seattle. The marchers, including several families, protested at the new youth jail, which will be used to imprison youth in the community. Marching for support and respect for essential retail workers, the march stopped at a QFC market (Kruger) before ending up for a rally at city hall.
Theodore Roosevelt statue comes down

By G. Dunkel

Over two long, January nights — to avoid disrupting traffic and endangering pedestrains — an abhorrent statue of Theodore Roosevelt in New York City was finally dismantled Jan. 20 and taken away to storage.

The struggle to remove this presidential statue from a prominent position in the city began in the 1970s and was strengthened by recent struggles throughout the U.S. to remove Confederate statues and memorials.

Roosevelt’s statue had greeted tens of millions of visitors to the American Museum of Natural History ever since being unveiled in 1940. The statue was first moved in 1952, as a memorial to the 26th president of the United States and 33rd governor of New York. Roosevelt was also head of the New York City police force, a warrior in the Spanish American War that confirmed the United States as a rising imperialist power and a firm proponent of eugenics and white supremacy.

The deeply derogatory statue elevated Roosevelt on horseback far above a Native American man and a person of African descent. As Holland Carter, a New York Times critic, put it, “No matter how you gloss it, it is quite literally an emblem of white-man-on-top.” (Jan. 12, 2018)

Roosevelt, member of New York’s old-money ruling class, was a strong proponent of the discredited pseudoscience of eugenics, adopted into U.S. law and policy as a mechanism of “birth control” to limit childbearing in people deemed “undesirable” by the capitalist power structure of the early 20th century U.S.

In a 1913 letter, Roosevelt clearly supported forced sterilization, a brutal tool of eugenacists, saying: “Society has no business to permit degenerates to reproduce their kind.” Roosevelt did not specify where the criteria for whom he considered a “degenerate” — but the practice of eugenics clearly targeted people of color, immigrants, disabled people, poor people and anyone categorized as undesirable under a white-supremacist, ablist, homophobic world view.

When Roosevelt became president in September 1901, after William McKinley was assassinated, he immediately began strengthening U.S. imperialism. According to Workers World Party founder Vince Copeland in his “Market Elections,” Roosevelt’s aggressive steps included “enforcing the new gunboat policy, enlarging the navy, intervening against the Boxer Rebellion in China, carrying out the bloody counterrevolution in the Philippines, consolidating U.S. gains in Cuba and Puerto Rico and plotting a phony revolution in Colombia that broke off Panama and gave it to the U.S. to build the canal.”

Other domestic reforms for which Roosevelt is usually lauded, such as creating a system of national parks, were mainly aimed at promoting domestic stabiility to avoid any opposition to U.S. foreign adventures. Yet the national parks themselves were created by forcefully removing their original inhabitants; for example, 26 Indigenous communities lived on the sacred lands that were stolen to create Yellowstone National Park.

And the Misión community continues to fight to return to Awhawnee Valley, Yosemite Valley.

President Teddy Roosevelt in his role as U.S. imperialist enforcer.

A Jewish response to the Sydney Festival boycott

After 20 performers pulled out of the 2022 Sydney festival in Australia due to Israeli sponsorship, over 70 prominent Jewish organizations and personalities from Australia endorsed the festival’s boycott in the following open letter:

We are witnessing, and part of, a tre mendous moment in Palestinian solidarity politics. In so-called Australia, a boycott of the Sydney Festival has been called by Jews throughout ‘48, the violence is ongoing and needs to be confronted.

We Jews are engered, honoured and humb led to stand alongside our Palestinian siblings and echo their calls. We refuse to be complicit in Israel’s actions. We stand in solidarity with Palestine and Palestinians.

Israel engages in daily violence. From the video of the military courts, checkpoints, settlements, murders, land theft and daily harassment of Palestinian communities in the West Bank; to the siege on Gaza and airstrike; to the attacks on Al Quds (East Jerusalem) in May 2021 (at the same time as the Sydney Festival was soliciting this funding), to the destruction of Palestinian archives and cultural institutions, and the differential treatment of Palestinians and Jews throughout ‘48, the violence is ongoing and gut-wrenching.

We must confront the ways in which by remaining silent or neutral on this matter we are complicit in the enabling of this injustice.

Boycotts are a nonviolent and effective tool for exposing these kinds of injustices and helping us take a stand against it. Solidarity works. Countering colonialism — wherever and whenever it occurs. We are dedicated to working alongside Indigenous people everywhere, to amplifying their voices and knowledge in the fight against colonialism.

From the settler colony of Australia to the settler colony of Israel and every where in between, we call for justice and freedom. We call on the Sydney Festival to reject this funding. We call on people everywhere to take a stand in solidarity and refuse to be part of Israel’s program of bizarro: propaganda, delib erations, mistruths and obfuscations.

Instead, we can together be part of creating networks of solidarity and resistance, of radical love and care, outside of the systems that colonialism tries to maintain. But they will always fail, because we will always find each other.

"You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to not do it." Pirke Avot, 2:21.
The ‘next Cuba’ will not be colonized

By Pedro Jorge Velázquez

The following is a press release from the United National Antiwar Coalition (UNAC), more than 26 antiwar groups founded during the rise of Obamaism to try, once and again, to colonize the project of nationhood that is being built in Cuba that did not happen, as the current president has only followed the agenda of his predecessors.

They were born supporting the “heroic” Yuniur Garcia, who left for Europe as soon as he had the opportunity to drink the “holy water” of the Vatican. They were born supporting the “messiah.” How well it is seen that none of them appeared as the “messiah.”

Moreover, like all puppet organizations, they quickly anchored themselves to foreign names: the never-ending cycle of international organizations dressing in the garb of “NGO,” and which quietly waited for the Biden era to arrive to show its teeth through the possible new rapprochement with the U.S. government, which dresses in the cloaks of “human rights.”

They used these two coup attempts as an entrance to the economic and health crisis caused in Cuba, among other things, by a world pandemic and an economic blockade imposed precisely by those who finance “Cuba Próxima.”

How well it is seen that none of them experienced in the flesh what July 11 was, nor do they know that nothing of what they were looking for happened here on Nov. 15. What happened was a celebration of joy for the people!

“Cuba Próxima” will be—as they declare—for the formation of a prorepublican, non-authoritarian, generous, democratic country. In other words, they do not recognize that the problem is not of these things, even not that we are a laborious people, who have worked with humility for the Revolution, and that is our formation. For them to live and enjoy this new formation, it must strangely be connected to serving the empire.

Now, to border even more on the ridiculous, they have contributed to this “development.” Yes, exactly, in the style of Juan Guaidó [in Venezuela], with the difference that in this case, there are several self-appointed points: Roberto Veiga, president; Carlos Cabrera, vice president; Alexis Padilla, coordinator of community relations; and Sen. Daniel Rivera, coordinator … and a long list of investitures; but, belief it or not, it works in their imaginations, based on the fact that they can charge and compete against Cuban socialism and social equality.

The right wing has declared itself and its principles to which they will no longer be able to dress up as leftists who spent a long time making the tale of the good pipe, with their lectures about inequality that they have never put into practice, nor have they fought for it to be reduced. Yet now they end up grouping themselves with those who have always wanted to repeal our most precious and fundamental conquests. Now they have joined the empire’s hegemonic plan to destroy them.

“We have perhaps been too long installed in the denunciation and diagnosis, but Cubans need to know how we opponents would govern,” this is how they have presented this self-proclaimed government, where there is only one thing in common: the ambition for power, the hypnotic ego that ignores the collective sacrifice we have made as a people to seek a deepening of the socialist rule of law, for which they have not contributed one iota; and yet, they seek its definitive destruction.

Once again, the essence of those who love and build make us see what they are, not what they do not want and what they will not fight for. ‘Cuba Próxima’ is not the Cuba I want. It is not the Cuba we have fought for. The next Cuba will surely be difficult; but one thing for sure, it will not be colonized.
Roughly five-and-a-half minutes. Students at St. Albans, that’s the interval between every life lost in the United States to a fatal overdose. In the past several years, we have seen a radical increase in the rate of overdose deaths in the United States. A particularly potent opioid has contributed to this increase immensely. Fentanyl and its analogs have been made and have been found pressed into clandestinely manufactured pills. People consuming untested substances have no real way of knowing the potency of the product, and sometimes the nature of the product, prior to consumption; and though harm reduction—Supervised consumption (use drugs) and PWUD advocates have employed test strips that check for the presence of fentanyl, the battle is very much an uphill climb. Beyond this, a litany of other admixtures, some poisonous, some psychoactive, have brought with them a compounded risk of potential harm.

So, what is to be done? We know from history that the carceral system and bourgeois law and order will provide no support in this matter. There is no way to beat, jail, put on trial or kill our way out of this. In fact, the legacy of prohibition—of “just saying no”—has broadly have unarguably informed the crisis in which we presently find ourselves.

First, we must acknowledge that the use of mind-altering substances is part of the human condition and perhaps even a part of sentient nature. From social and sacred uses in human history to members of the animal kingdom finding ways to achieve consciousness, these are ways our species experience of consciousness and are here to stay. This should not be a point of distress either; substance consumption whether purely recreational, reverent or responsive can be done safely.

From a practical standpoint, drug use is an extremely common method for coping with day-to-day stressors, be it coffee to prepare oneself for the day ahead, nicotine to pace it out or alcohol to momentarily soften the experience of the pain and neglect inflicted by an existence predicated on wage slavery. These are so common that they are overlooked; but often people dealing with untreated mental health needs, lack of access to pain management and trauma (whatever the source, be it generational or individual) turn to these and other substances to make it through life.

Harm reduction saves lives

For a percentage of people, though statistically a small percentage compared to the total number of consumers, there exists another potentially difficult outcome: problematic relationships. Problematic relationships to substances, often called “addictions,” seem to manifest in situations where an individual’s needs are not being met.

Not exclusive to substances, individuals may develop problematic relationships to various behaviors and/or consumables (such as gambling, gaming, pornography, food, alcohol and drugs) that are a necessary safe environment for doing humanity a great service. We need to collectively denormalize and treat individual and community-wide addictions as a disease of access to pain management and trauma, problematic relationships to substances alike will manifest. From a practical standpoint, drug use can be done safely.

With this pivot alone, we would be able to shift the funds that currently go to beating down these individuals, who are experimenting at least and at most to stay. This should not be a point of distress either; substance consumption whether purely recreational, reverent or responsive can be done safely.

The epidemic, capitalism, is ultimately the greatest threat to life. We must make science-backed treatment available for free and on demand. Capitalist healthcare has failed. No one who makes $80k per year treatment-industrial complex, out of the same methods one could find in a church basement. A spirituality- and abstinence-based recovery program is not the right answer for every PWUD. Other methods must be made readily available. Free housing for all must become a priority, along with universal health care and full employment. The commodification of basic human needs must become a thing of the past.

And beyond all these things, we must recognize that where there is poverty, where there is systemic discrimination and violence, racism, homophobia, transphobia, colonialism and endless war, at the expense of those abroad and at home, there will be trauma; where there is trauma, problematic relationships to substances and behaviors alike will manifest. If we want change — real, meaningful change — our goals must be no shorter than a complete societal shift, with a caveat of “preserve life by any means necessary.”

Opioid overdoses and problematic relationships to substances are a symptom. The epidemic, capitalism, is ultimately the greatest threat to life.

By Joe Piette

The Postal Board of Governors gath-ered in Washington, D.C., Jan. 12, in a hastily called meeting to announce the election of their new chairperson, William Martinez IV. Also gathered there, but not on the nine-member board, the current Republican (one Democrat and one Republican) will not change the balance of power. (Video of the meeting: youtu.be/mXf8s4n4N7g )

Retired New York City postal worker Dennis O’Neil, who chaired the rally, said in the USPS “leadership has been catastrophic during the pandemic.” Nevertheless, DeJoy, appointed by Trump in May 2020, has been able to withstand catastrophic during the pandemic.” By law, DeJoy can only be removed by majority vote of the Board of Governors, most of whom were appointed by the Trump Administration. President Biden replaced two BOG members in 2021. Even though Biden’s two additional Governors (one Democrat and one Republican) will not change the balance on the nine-member board, the current board members lack no chances and placed their pro-DeJoy member in a leadership position for the next year with-out their vote.

Time to dump DeJoy

O’Neil said, “When they brag about their leadership and their on-time deliveries, which is a lie, we need to hold them accountable.”

Postal executives claim DeJoy’s 10-year plan is already improving performance, that more mail is being “delivered on time against the USPS delivery standard. In effect, O’Neil said, “They wasted their 10-year plan.”

In 1989, 56% of first-class mail was delivered overnight, 85% within two days. After DeJoy’s recent changes, only 7% of letters are delivered overnight, 28% within two days. As Amazon, UPS and other delivery services decreased delivery times, the USPS is forced to keep pouring money into research and building more local distribution centers, the leadership of the Postal Service computerized mail processing; but by simultaneously closing down processing plants through consolidation, they’ve slowed down actual delivery times.

“We must make science-backed treatment available for free and on demand. Capitalist healthcare has failed. No one who makes $80k per year treatment-industrial complex, out of the same methods one could find in a church basement. A spirituality- and abstinence-based recovery program is not the right answer for every PWUD. Other methods must be made readily available. Free housing for all must become a priority, along with universal health care and full employment. The commodification of basic human needs must become a thing of the past.

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Opioid overdoses and problematic relationships to substances are a symptom. The epidemic, capitalism, is ultimately the greatest threat to life.

Joe Piatto began as a postal clerk, became a letter carrier and retired in 2021 after 30 years in the USPS.
Continued from page 1

Whatever decisions have already been made by the Pentagon, the CIA and the rest of the U.S. foreign policy establishment, the level of danger is high enough that all anti-imperialist and anti-war forces in the U.S. and Europe should be on high alert to prevent the latest war drive.

Washington and its allies are responsible for provoking the crisis over Ukraine and putting the people of the world in danger once again. As they have shown since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, they have created the Ukraine crisis by provoking Russia at every opportunity with the long-term goal of crushing Russian sovereignity and converting the former Soviet Union into a collection of weak neurotic states under the exploitation labor to world imperialism.

In 1990 Soviet leaders allowed West Germany to annex the German Democratic Republic without interference from the Red Army. Then-U.S. Secretary of State James Baker promised Mikhail Gorbachev and others that the NATO military alliance would stay in place and not move an inch eastward. The Warsaw Pact—an alliance of all the socialist countries of Eastern Europe—was then dissolved.

NATO should have been dissolved

NATO too should have been dissolved. Instead, the U.S. adapted NATO, which it dominated, into an instrument of military imperialism by expanding it to the Balkans and even in Africa and throughout Central and Western Asia.

Since 1990 NATO has nearly doubled its membership from 16 members to 30 in 2021. The new members are former Warsaw Pact members and former Soviet Republics; among them is Ukraine and others that the NATO military alliance considers states bordering Russia, on its wish list as future members.

NATO already has bases within a short striking distance of Russia. Italy, a founding NATO member, has supersecret, nuclear-capable F-35 bombers within a half hour of Moscow.

The Russian government interpreted these moves as an existential threat.

Gas from Russia piped through Ukraine to Europe is in competition with U.S. natural gas capital interests.

Russian President Putin said, “You’re on our doorstep. We didn’t come to you.” Putin was correct. He proposed that NATO withdraw from all the countries nearest Russia and that there be no place in NATO for Ukraine. The current Ukraine regime took a coup in early 2014. The second Obama administration funded and supported Ukrainian, anti-Russian nationalist forces, including neo-Nazis, which established a new regime. This anti-Russian state immediately attacked the Russian-origin people living in Ukraine, mostly in that country’s eastern provinces.

In self-defense, the population of two eastern provinces in the Donbas—Lugansk and Donetsk—declared independence. Kiev sent its army against them, and this civil war persists. With the backing of 95% of the population in a referendum in Crimea, Russian forces took back the peninsula. Crimea had been part of Russia before 1945.

This week the U.S. and Britain delivered the beginning of $2.7 billion in aid, including hundreds of millions of dollars in “lethal aid,” to Ukraine’s regime. While some right-wing Republicans—for example, Senator Tom Cotton—have accused Biden of being “soft on Putin,” both Democratic and Republican Party leaders support U.S. aggression directed at Russia, China and Iran.

Biden is also using the conflict with Russia to force Washington’s European imperialist allies to line up behind its military threat and its threat of sanctions. U.S. promises to sell its fracked oil and gas to replace the Russian gas that Germany needs. Thus Washington’s threat of war opens up a road to profits at the expense of the environment. With Washington’s promise that U.S. troops will go to Ukraine itself, the threats from this part of the world raise tensions that could erupt in nuclear war. The U.S. has proven that none of its promises can be believed.

Workers World demands U.S. hands off Ukraine, withdraw U.S. troops and weapons from Europe and put an end to the NATO alliance.
Massive anti-imperialist mobilizations win Pan-African solidarity

By Michael Kramer

An historic mobilization of the Malian people has been underway in support of the transitional government in Mali and against the severe economic sanctions and implied military threats imposed by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) created an outpouring of Pan-African solidarity throughout the continent on Jan. 14.

Massive anti-imperialist marches occurred throughout Mali. The largest, in the capital Bamako, with a population of over 3 million inhabitants, was streamed live on social media.

The sanctions were announced on Jan. 9 in Accra, Ghana, and include the closure of land and air borders, suspension of financial transactions and the freezing of Malian state assets in ECOWAS central and commercial banks. The sanctions were quickly backed by the U.S., France and the European Union (EU).

The Malian transitional government, headed by the extremely popular Colonel Assimi Goita, south of the Sahara Desert. The Malian people want France out of Mali and the EU out of the country. The Malian Armed Forces, while small, are preparing to take control of the situation in the country. When Russian military trainers were brought in to replace French trainers, alarm bells went off in the imperialist camp. Sanctions soon followed, fronted by ECOWAS.

The day after sanctions were announced, neighboring Guinea in support declared that it would not to apply the ECOWAS sanctions. Speaking on behalf of the Guinean government, Lt. Colonel Aminata Diallo stated, “Our air, land and sea frontiers stay open conforming to our Pan-African vision.”

On Jan. 12 an International Day in Solidarity with Mali was called with actions in Bamako, Mali; Brazzaville, Congo; Conakry, Guinea; Dakar, Senegal; Mongomo, Republic of the Congo; Abidjan, Ivory Coast; Conakry, Guinea; Niamey, Niger; and Cayenne, French Guiana; Washington, D.C.; New York City; Berlin; Brussels; Paris; London; Milan; and Barcelona. A mobilization in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, was banned by the government. Seeing the threat, the Malian people said they will continue their mass protest. “We must be making progress—perhaps too much for the imperialists and those who follow their lead.”

The Malian people are determined to win Pan-African solidarity. Sanctions, on the other hand, will not work.

Community rallies for Cuban doctor kidnapped in Haiti

By G. Dunkel

Jan. 23 – Dr. Daymara Pérez is a Cuban doctor who has worked in Haiti since 2019, currently at the Notre Dame Hospital, Port-au-Prince. Ten days ago she was on a public bus traveling through Petion Ville, a business and professional area on the edge of Port-au-Prince, when the bus was stopped by an armed group that grabbed her off the bus.

The kidnappers demanded a ransom of $5 million, which was negotiated down to $200,000, of which $100,000 was evidently paid. The Cuban government, through its Embassy in Haiti, confirmed that Dr. Pérez was kidnapped.

As protesters also denounced the high price of food, banks and stores pulled down their security gates, and mass transit stopped running. Protesters warned: “Crime cannot reign in our country. If Pérez is not freed, we will make our own destiny and take control of the political running. Protesters warned: “Crime cannot reign in our country. If Pérez is not freed, we will take control of the political running.”

Chinese translation of ‘Capitalism on a Ventilator’

By Martha Grevatt

We have very exciting news! The Chinese translation of ‘Capitalism on a Ventilator’ – The Impact of COVID-19 on China & the U.S.” – originally published in 2020 by World View Forum as a joint project of the International Action Center and Asian-U.S. Solidarity Network – is out and being discussed in China.

Contemporary China Publishers, the publisher of the Chinese translation, has planned a big rollout. We’ve received word that based on high recommendations, hundreds of bookstores and online sellers are interested in carrying the Chinese translation of the book.

“Capitalism on a Ventilator” was co-edited by Sara Flounders, Workers World contributing editor and co-coordinator of the International Action Center, and Kevin Zeese, co-founder of the Ethnic and Religious Affairs Department, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences: “The book, written by dozens of scholars of the United States and other countries, describes with realistic strokes the ‘grief’ and ‘pain’ of the American people under the impact of the new coronial pandemic. It deeply analyzes and criticizes the capitalist system’s ability and efficiency to deal with sudden public health [crises] and exposes the most hypocritical, reactionary and backside of the most developed capitalist countries in the world.”

Wealth of world leaders who followed impact of COVID-19 from its beginning in the U.S., drew comparisons to China’s handling of the pandemic and raised demands and concrete struggles as the virus continues to rage. The book provides a window into the world. Other chapters are by well-received intellectuals and anti-imperialist voices: Mumia Abu-Jamal, Lee Shu Hin, Margaret Kimberley, Vijay Prashad, Nigo Thabo, Yihan, Ajuan Baraka, Danny Haiphong, Max Blumenthal, Kevin Zeese and Margaret Flowers.

Many of the chapters were first posted on workers.org. According to Wang Weiguan, Standing Committee Member of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference National Committee, Director of the Ethnic and Religious Affairs Commission, Former President and former Party Secretary of Academic Department, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences: “The book, written by dozens of scholars of the United States and other countries, describes with realistic strokes the ‘grief’ and ‘pain’ of the American people under the impact of the new coronial pandemic. It deeply analyzes and criticizes the capitalist system’s ability and efficiency to deal with sudden public health crises and exposes the most hypocritical, reactionary and backside of the most developed capitalist countries in the world.”
Un año después del ataque fascista: El capital y el Capitolio

6 de enero de 2022. Esta fecha está grabada en nuestra psique colectiva como el día en que una turba violenta, supremacista blanca y misógina —inspirada por el entonces presidente y todavía fanática en jefe Donald Trump— invadió el edificio del Capitolio de Estados Unidos en un intento de sofocar las elecciones presidenciales del 3 de noviembre de 2020. En el Capitolio, los legisladores que votaron en contra de la ley para anular la elección y a sus PAC, y las empresas que se habían comprometido a suspender las donaciones han dado desde entonces casi 2,4 millones de dólares a estas campañas y comités de acción política.

Trent Perrotto, portavoz de los contratistas de defensa Lockheed Martin, explicó la práctica de los empresarios a sus empleados: “El objetivo beneficios para encima de los principios: “Nuestro programa de PAC para empleados sigue observando los principios de capitalista. Sin embargo, la OSHA ofrece partidista en apoyo de nuestros intereses comerciales”. La empresa dio 145,000 dólares más a los legisladores del “caucus” de la sede de la COVID-19, New york Times, 6 de enero) Al parecer, los “intereses comerciales” de más de 700 grandes empresas les dirigen a conseguir con los elementos más viles y afines al Klán de la sociedad.

Fascismo, democracia y capitalismo

¿Qué es el fascismo? El fascismo es una forma de dictadura autoritaria que busca controlar todos los aspectos de la vida de una sociedad, desde la economía hasta la cultura y las instituciones políticas. En el caso de la fascista de Trump, se ha utilizado para perpetuar el poder y el control sobre la población.

En el año 2021, el fascismo se ha visto en acción en diversos lugares, desde la invasión de la Cámara de Comercio de Estados Unidos hasta la huelga en Ford para derribar la economía capitalista. En estas situaciones, el fascismo se ha utilizado para tratar de controlar y eliminar cualquier forma de resistencia o protesta social.

El fascismo se manifiesta a través de diversas formas, desde la represión de la libertad de expreseión hasta la manipulación de la opinión pública. En muchos casos, el fascismo se ha utilizado para justificar la supresión de derechos humanos y la violación de los derechos de los ciudadanos.

En este contexto, el fascismo se ha manifestado en todo el mundo, desde el sur de Europa hasta Asia. En algunos casos, el fascismo se ha utilizado para justificar la violencia y la represión contra los derechos de los ciudadanos.

En el caso de la fascista de Trump, se ha visto en acción en diversos lugares, desde la invasión de la Cámara de Comercio de Estados Unidos hasta la huelga en Ford para derribar la economía capitalista. En estas situaciones, el fascismo se ha utilizado para tratar de controlar y eliminar cualquier forma de resistencia o protesta social.

La fascista de Trump ha utilizado el fascismo para justificar la supresión de derechos humanos y la violación de los derechos de los ciudadanos. El fascismo se ha utilizado para justificar la violencia y la represión contra los derechos de los ciudadanos.

En este contexto, el fascismo se ha manifestado en todo el mundo, desde el sur de Europa hasta Asia. En algunos casos, el fascismo se ha utilizado para justificar la violencia y la represión contra los derechos de los ciudadanos.

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