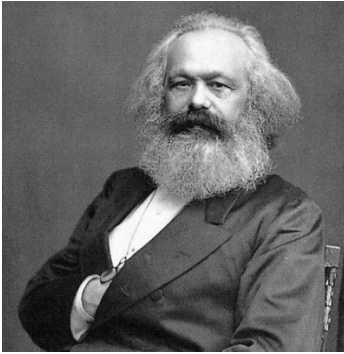


Towards Marxist-Leninist Unity



A Journal of Discussion and Debate



Vol. 1, No. 6
April, 2020

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To see the reasoning for publication of TMLU, please see the article “Why ‘Towards Marxist-Leninist Unity’” in the first issue on the web-site below. Though we believe that a Party must have ideological unity, we occasionally include progressive articles from groups with varying views.

Comments, criticisms and articles are welcome. The next issue of TMLU is scheduled for mid-June so material should be sent in by late May.

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Some Preliminary Comments on the Consequences of the Coronavirus for the United States

By George Gruenthal

This article is just what it says in the title: some preliminary comments. It is not meant to be a definitive statement, but simply one that deals with aspects of the situation that have mainly not been dealt with by the bourgeois press. That is also why there are more footnotes than usual, to make clear that we have not invented any statements in this article.

As of April 13, there have been 555,371 people infected, of whom 22,056 have died¹, with 80% of the deaths over the age of 65.

In China, where the virus apparently started, the virus has now peaked and almost all (except of course those who died) have recovered. (The CIA claims that these numbers are not correct, but based on what evidence? Also, why do they not also claim that the U.S. figures are also not correct, though possibly in the other direction?)

In comparison, in the 2018-2019 season over 34,000 people in U.S. died from the ordinary flu.² And this number was relatively low; in the 2011-12 season there were some 56,000 flu deaths.³

Further, there is evidence that almost everyone who is tested for coronavirus and subsequently dies is considered to have died from the virus, even if it they died from other causes, and apparently they are not autopsied for cause of death.⁴

Those who are forced to work under crowded conditions, public transportation workers and those who have to take public transportation to work are in greater danger of contracting the virus.

There are many political reasons and consequences for the restrictions that have nothing to do with the coronavirus. Many cities are either on lockdown or have curfews that make it difficult or impossible for people to get together. The Pentagon is sending some military staff to underground bunkers in case normal government functions become impossible.⁵ There is discussion of a possi



Protest by nurses and doctors at Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx on April 2 demanding Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

ble declaration of martial law.⁶ And it is possible that the November elections could be cancelled or postponed. (The primaries in some states, including New York, and the Democratic Convention, have already been postponed.)

The restrictions are leading to the further atomization of society and particularly of the working class. Not only can one not have street protests (although they are not strictly illegal as long as “social distancing” is maintained) but one cannot organize, except through the internet (which if nothing else opens one entirely to electronic surveillance).

There has been a huge increase in unemployment, due to both the cyclical crisis of capitalism and the pandemic. The New York Times estimates it as 13%, higher than any time since the Great Depression.⁷ The fact that many companies are continuing to function with many fewer workers shows that the unemployment rate will not go back to “normal” after the crisis is over. Also the closing of small businesses is leading to increasing concentration of capital.

¹

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/world/coronavirus-maps.html>

² <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/burden/2018-2019.html>

³ <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/flu-season-2017-2018.htm>

⁴ <https://www.valleynewslive.com/content/misc/Sen-Dr-Jensens-Shocking-Admission-About-Coronavirus-569458361.html>

⁵ <https://www.rt.com/usa/484389-military-underground-bunkers-coronavirus/>

⁶ <https://www.newsweek.com/exclusive-inside-militarys-top-secret-plans-if-coronavirus-cripples-government-1492878>

⁷

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/03/upshot/coronavirus-jobless-rate-great-depression.html>

Another important effect of replacing face-to-face class with “virtual” classes is that it not only allows the ruling class to cut down on the number of teachers; it also prevents them from leading protests. This is especially significant given the important role of teachers’ strikes in the U.S. in the last few years.

Much of Trump’s \$2.2 trillion bailout (\$500 million) will go to big corporations, besides additional amounts to specific industries (such as \$50 billion in grants and loans to the airline industry and \$1 billion to the auto industry).⁸ Also, there was an earlier \$1.5 trillion to Wall St. to “Prevent ‘Unusual Disruptions’ in Markets”.⁹ The \$1,200 check to most people (though not including undocumented immigrants) will be a small but welcome relief, but the increase to unemployment insurance to raise the relief from 50% to 100% is only scheduled to last for four months.

The virus kills mainly the elderly. This will decrease the amount spent on Social Security, allowing for more money spent on “useful” items such as arms manufacture and wars of aggression.

In China the virus has basically been curbed. Schools and other facilities in parts of the country are reopening; production will increase there while it is still declining in the U.S. as are stock prices. This will speed up the time when China will become the #1 world economy.

In the U.S. there have been many strikes against the lack of health measures for workers. One was at an Amazon warehouse in Staten Island, where ten workers came down with the virus. Other strikes were at Instacart and Whole Foods.¹⁰ This shows that working class people are not willing to risk their lives for capitalist profit.

We must demand free universal health care (as proposed for decades by recently-deceased former Representative from Michigan John Conyers, not just “Medicare for All,” as proposed by Bernie Sanders. Medicare still leaves seniors and the disabled paying 20% of huge hospitalization bills themselves).

Other immediate demands that can be made include: free testing and care of all who may be infected with the virus; ensuring sufficient supplies of ventilators, masks, etc. for all hospitals and clinics, and ending all sanctions for medical supplies. This would include allowing the import of the Interferon drug that Cuba has developed and been using around the world.¹¹ Further, we should also call for the release of all non-violent prisoners, including all those in immigration detention.

At this period, there is an increasing division within the ruling class.

One section, led by Donald Trump, wants to re-open the economy as soon as possible. This is not because he is opposed to unnecessary restrictions on working people, or because he wants to bring back jobs (many of which will not come back anyway), but because he wants to revive production in order to be able to compete with China, as part of his slogan to “Make America Great Again.”

The other section, of which New York Governor Andrew Cuomo is becoming a chief representative, wants to go more slowly in re-opening the economy. In this, they want to continue and increase restrictions on working people, which makes their organizing more difficult.

Working people, on the other hand, must step up their organizing, for health care and jobs, against police brutality at home and wars of aggression abroad. In the long run, they must fight for a socialist society run by and for the workers, not to preserve the present capitalist society, which is run by and for the rich to preserve their maximum profits.

⁸ <https://nypost.com/2020/03/27/heres-a-breakdown-of-the-2t-coronavirus-bailout/>

⁹ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/fed-to-inject-1-5-trillion-in-bid-to-prevent-unusual-disruptions-in-markets-11584033537>

¹⁰ <https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/business/2020/03/30/coronavirus-safety-drives-strikes-amazon-instacart-and-whole-foods/5086135002/>

¹¹ <https://www.newsweek.com/cuba-drug-fight-coronavirus-us-sanctions-1493872>



In New Orleans, a car caravan was organized in early April calling for the release of prisoners



*Strike by workers at an Amazon warehouse in Staten Island, NY, on March 30.
One of the key organizers of the strike, Chris Smalls, was fired for this.*

March 18, 2020

New Orleans Hospitality Workers Demand Income Replacement During Pandemic

From our comrades in the New Orleans Hospitality Workers Alliance, their demands of the city to meet the immediate needs of workers during the COVID-19 emergency:

List of Demands

1. **Immediate expansion of unemployment insurance.** *Change the current eligibility to include those who stay home during this crisis, who do not have paid leave. This should extend to all gig, independent contractors, and freelance workers.*
2. **Expansion of Medicaid to all who need health care.**
3. **Expansion and an increase of food stamps to all workers and families in need.**
4. **Testing, ER visits, and treatment for COVID -19 must be free for all and administered at conveniently located test centers that are geographically dispersed.** *Expansion of testing must be done urgently*
5. **Issue an order that no workers be fired for staying home**
6. **Immediate closure of restaurants, retail shops and bars with a guarantee that when the establishment reopens workers will get their jobs back.**
7. **Those who choose to keep working at essential places like pharmacies, hospitals and supermarkets should be given full protective gear.**
8. **Order a state-wide halt to evictions, foreclosures, water, electric and internet cut offs.** *(Including student loan payments and credit card debt.)*
9. **People without homes should be provided shelter and utilities necessary to protect themselves from both contracting and spreading COVID-19.** *(We have enough houses to shelter every person in the city, and we demand that anybody in need of housing is granted access to one of our numerous uninhabited units.)*
10. **Establish a system for no cost food and other necessities distribution to quarantined people or areas and to sick or self-isolated households**
11. **Price controls put into effect to shield workers from the disruptive effects the virus has on the global economy.**
12. **Establish easily accessible centers to replace breakfast and lunch for all students.** *(Currently New Orleans has only set up one school each on the East and West banks. Closing the schools without many food centers will create massive hunger for Louisiana's children.)*
13. **Waive citizenship requirements for state and local benefits to ensure all workers have the option to stay home and effectively contain the virus.**
14. **Immediate release of migrants in detention camps and incarcerated people not convicted of violent crimes.** *(These sites are overcrowded with limited access to healthcare. This will improve containment of the virus and cannot be ignored. Provide remaining prisoners with free phone calls as visits are being stopped and deposit money in their commissary accounts especially as prisoners must buy their soap, etc.)*
15. **Guarantee replacement income for all (on top of the expansion of unemployment)**

The eyes of all workers in Louisiana, who are very aware of the huge inequality between legislators and government official's income and health coverage, are on the actions of the government. This is the time to suspend state and local corporate tax exemptions to provide resources for these measures. Suspend the city charter which gives \$180 million dollars in tourist taxes to private companies, suspend the \$300 million dollars in public funds that is being used for a private convention center hotel and the millions being used for the super dome renovation.

These public funds MUST be redirected towards this crisis immediately!

We hope you will carry out the responsibilities to the people of our state and work expeditiously to enact these necessary measures.

Sincerely,

The New Orleans Hospitality Workers Alliance
504.444.9096, www.NOHWA.org

COVID-19 Has Further Exposed an American Capitalism in Fascist Decay

By J. Palamede on March 24, 2020

Lieutenant Governor of Texas Dan Patrick has sparked controversy with his recent call for people to be put to work to “save the economy,” going so far as to say that grandparents should be willing to risk their lives for the economic future of their grandchildren. It is easy to write this off as the murderous musings of a reactionary Trumpite looking in terror at his stock portfolio, but such thinking is hardly isolated in American politics at the moment, and reflects the general fascist creep that has been occurring since 9/11, the patriot act, and the inhumane persecution of immigrants.

While many on the left still refuse to reckon Trump and his movement as a proto-fascist one, openly on the move towards fascism, and underplay the meaningful differences in the way the American state has exercised its terroristic chauvinism against immigrant communities since 2016, these new developments and political rhetoric in the era of COVID-19 push the debate further. All of our lives have fundamentally changed, and the political body of the country has begun to reflect this.

There are two key aspects of this economically-driven death-wish rhetoric that reflect the fascist decay of American capitalism. First, Dan Patrick and many Trumpites reflect the cynical “reason” that was at the heart of 20th fascist barbarity and is the heart of 21st century fascist apologetics. Fascists always seek to portray efforts to prioritize human life at economic or national expense as the product of decadent, weak liberalism that lacks the stomach to achieve true success. Sure, for the Dan Patrick’s of the world, thousands of elderly people will die, but how many, they ask disingenuously, will suffer from an economic recession? Killing thousands for economic gain, in such a construction, is actually good for the country, because it saves many millions from financial destruction. Our fate and the fate of stockholders are the same fate—the age-old Reaganite, trickle-down myth. But who, ultimately, did the American state help in the last recession? Did they offer mortgage relief for those who lost their home? Student loan forgiveness for graduates who couldn’t find a job? No, they offered trillions to corporations. We are asked to risk our lives, the lives of our parents and grandparents, for the good of the nation—but we know from experience who suffers and



Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, who recently urged people to “get back to work” to save a flagging economy,

who doesn’t during the crises of capitalism. We understand that the cynical reason of fascists is but a rhetorical flourish meant to obscure the prioritization of economic gain for the ruling class over human life. Hitler may have been a tyrant, the fascist apologists say, but at least he was good for the economy!

Second, arguments like Dan Patrick’s demands that we stratify society into “productive” and “non-productive” people, a necessity for fascist criminality. The elderly, rendered to be “unproductive,” must be spent like currency in yet another stimulus plan for the rich. We shouldn’t be fooled into thinking such an understanding is unique to COVID-19, and only applicable to its particular qualities (higher mortality rates amongst older population, for example). This kind of thinking is the bedrock of fascist attacks on those with disabilities and mental health issues, groups who were among the first to be killed during the holocaust, and on who Zyklon B was given its test runs after the Wansee Conference. The economic conditions created by COVID-19 have accelerated this fascist descent, such that a political leader can openly advocate for huge swaths of the American population dying to save the economy and be defended by the right wing establishment, but this differentiation between productive and non-productive people has long been at the heart of

the American fascist creep. Immigrants are abused and killed at the border because they are portrayed as leeches who do not pay taxes yet use social services like education and welfare (both flagrant myths). Capitalism in decay must seek to sow separatism in the working classes who might unite for its destruction, it must create a difference between those who are “productive” and “unproductive.” It must convince us that we have less in common with an elderly person who has worked their entire life than we do with venture capitalists on Wall Street. It has been the breaking up working class solidarity, and turning different sectors

of the working class against each other that empowered fascists to commit their greatest crimes.

We must be unafraid to label a politics that partakes in a cynical reason that happily trades lives for stock gains and seeks to turn workers against each other for corporate gain what it is—fascist. Capitalism, facing a resurgent socialist movement and internal crisis, is turning to its last bastion. As workers, and socialists, it falls to us to press through the anxiety, despair, and isolation many of us are facing, and redress ourselves with new vigor and ingenuity to the task of destroying fascism, once, and for all.



Tanks in the streets of La Paz, Bolivia, ordered in by the fascist coup regime.
From *Tinta Roja (Red Ink)*, Organ of the Revolutionary Communist Party of Bolivia)



People buying vegetables at a crowded market on Tuesday in Secunderabad, India. Indian Prime Minister Modi has instituted lockdown allowing people to only go to the market for 3 hours (6 AM to (AM).

This will obviously make the markets evenmore crowded.

The pandemic isn't equal: Coronavirus hits the poor at most dangerous rate

April 5, 2020, Stephen Millies



The Covid-19 pandemic is devastating New York City. Forty-five refrigerator trucks are serving as mobile morgues to store the bodies. As of April 3, 51,810 people have been infected.

Inmates in the Rikers Island prison are being offered \$6 per hour to dig mass graves on Hart's Island off the Bronx. That's the site of Potter's Field, where a million people too poor to afford a funeral had their bodies dumped.

What's happening in New York City is being repeated in Detroit, Chicago, New Orleans and Los Angeles. The coronavirus is ripping through the South with Black people suffering the most. About one in ten deaths has occurred in the adjoining states of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia.

The Pentagon is seeking 100,000 body bags. The government's stockpile of personal protective equipment — a life and death matter for health care workers — is almost depleted. But the Immigration and Customs Enforcement gestapo conducting deportation raids are guaranteed N95 face masks.

A hundred racist attacks against Asian Americans are occurring every day. Trump incited these attacks by

calling the coronavirus "the Chinese virus." We should call it the Trump virus.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo has taken advantage of the pandemic to roll back bail reform and ram through Medicaid cuts in the state's budget.

Cuomo calls the virus "the great equalizer." That isn't true even if his own brother, CNN host Chris Cuomo, caught it. It's certainly false with the city's wealthy and powerful fleeing to the countryside.

It's not just density

There's nothing equal about this pandemic. The coronavirus has been much worse for New York City's Black and Latinx communities. Orthodox Jewish communities in Brooklyn have been hard hit.

This writer lives two blocks from the Corona, Queens, N.Y., neighborhood where Louis Armstrong lived. Its 11368 ZIP code had 947 cases of the coronavirus as of April 1, the most of any in New York City.

Experts say New York City has been hardest hit because of its density. Nearly 9 million people live on about 300 square miles of land.

Corona, Queens, is crowded with 41,768 people living per square mile. Nine out of a thousand people there — nearly one percent — have been infected.

Murray Hill — ZIP code 10017 — on midtown Manhattan's East Side is even more crowded, with 51,775 people per square mile. Yet the neighborhood's infection is just a third of Corona's.

The difference is that while Corona's median household income is \$45,964, the figure for Murray Hill is \$100,652, over twice as high.

Adjoining Corona in Queens is Elmhurst (ZIP code 11373) with 831 cases and Jackson Heights (ZIP code 11372) with 492 people infected. The Elmhurst Medical Center is being overwhelmed.

All these neighborhoods are immigrant communities with many service and construction workers who had to continue going to their jobs while the pandemic was gripping the city.

Black and Latinx neighborhoods in the Bronx, Brooklyn and Manhattan have also been hard hit. The eastern Far Rockways in Queens, home to four largely Black housing projects, have 436 cases.

The capitalist government is covering up the impact on Asian, Black, Indigenous and Latinx communities. Maryland lawmakers are demanding a breakdown of those who've caught the virus.

Social distancing an impossibility

Medical experts recommend that people keep a "social distance" of six feet from each other. How are the 2.2 million prisoners locked up supposed to follow that advice? Cook County Jail in Illinois already has 213 prisoners with the virus.

For thousands of prisoners across the country, the coronavirus will be a death sentence. Activists like those in the Chicago Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression

are fighting to free the most vulnerable prisoners.

The hundreds of thousands in homeless shelters are also not able to keep six feet from each other.

Social distancing is also impossible for the hospital and other "essential" workers taking overcrowded buses and subways in New York City. Ten members of Transit Workers Union Local 100 have died of the coronavirus.

Many essential workers who are risking their lives are among the lowest paid. The 3.6 million cashiers have an average annual income of just \$22,430.

Experts are recommending that trips to the food store be limited to once every two weeks. How many working-class families can do that? Not the ten million workers who have already been fired.

Density and lack of social distancing won't account for all the deaths. We're told to wash our hands, yet 141,000 Detroit families have had their water shut off since 2014. Service hasn't been restored for thousands.

It's worse on the Indigenous reservations. Forty percent of Navajo nation households aren't connected to a water pipe. They have to haul water to their home.

Overcrowded housing has skyrocketed because of rising rent. Many families are forced to move in with relatives.

Between 1980 and 2010, the number of these doubled-up families increased almost four-fold, 1.15 million to 4.3 million. (2012 U.S. Statistical Abstract, Table 59). Social distancing is impossible for them.

Millions of housing units are kept off the market to keep the rent high. A people's movement is needed to seize them.

Homeless families in Los Angeles have taken over over 12 empty homes. We need to follow their example.

From Making Sex a Choice to Making Nationality/Race a Choice A Continuation of an Idealist Viewpoint

There has been a significant trend in the left that considers that a person's sex (not sexual orientation) a matter of choice, not biology. It would not be long before this viewpoint would be carried over to making race or nationality a choice. This is happening even with otherwise progressive groups..

The group Struggle for Socialism / La Lucha por el Socialismo (Struggle-la-lucha.org), in its March 4, 2019, issue, printed a good article calling for freedom for Kevin Cooper. Cooper is an African-American on death row who was framed in the murder of four white people in California in 1983. The only problem we have with this article is that the presumed killers are called "three **white-presenting** men," and further on, again, "the actual killers, all **white-presenting**" (our emphases). How can this be understood except as making race or nationality a choice.

<http://www.la-flamme.org/index.php/bibliotheque-du-pcb/679-le-pcb-denonce-la-volonte-genocidaire-des-imperialistes-de-reduire-la-population-africaine>

Translated from the French

Philippe Noudjenoume

First Secretary of the Communist Party of Benin

President of the Patriotic Convention of the Left Forces.

Address 31

To The People of Benin within the Country and in the Diaspora!

To People of the Whole World



Benin will not serve as a land for testing the anti-Covid-19 vaccine and the deadly vaccines of the Imperialists!

People of Benin!

Citizens of the World!

On the French television channel LCI on April 2, 2020, Jean-Paul Mira, professor of medicine and Head of the Resuscitation Department at Cochin Hospital in Paris, and Loch, Director of Research at INSERM (National Institute of Research and Medical Studies) made remarks that were at the very least shocking and inadmissible for the human conscience. They simply state that it is necessary to test anti-coronavirus vaccines in Africa. In other words, to make Africans "laboratory rats" for the big pharmaceutical companies. It is rumored that African countries have already accepted this sordid and criminal operation. From everywhere, there was a massive reaction against the attempt. Even the government of Patrice Talon (President of Benin – *translator's note*) through his spokesperson had to declare: "it is out of the question that they will come here to test... a vaccine that could have hazardous results on the Beninese population". Very good! The protest clamor was so strong that the two experts tried to backtrack, getting themselves into more trouble: "Sorry, if my words were not clear" – so they say!

But if the above statement has any merit, it is to make public the intentions (expressed or not) and the practices of the States and international institutions against the African people for a certain number of years with the tolerance, if not the complicity of the leaders of our countries.

Already a few months ago in Paris, "a conference brought together a panel of white participants, to think about more effective ways to reduce the black population in Africa. One of the conference organizers, a historian and associate professor of African history, Bernard Lugan said: "Population growth in Africa is a threat to European civilization ... **I do not recommend dropping**

a nuclear bomb on the Africa, but we cannot wait to see this population growth close to Europe. This is a danger we must take seriously....The Plan is to more closely organize private and public organizations in the Western countries to provide money and logistics for faster and more effective actions to curb the "frightening" growth of the African population" (CPCM Social Networks Forum of March 3, 2020).

Everyone has heard the declaration of French President Emmanuel Macron as soon as he came to power on the "demographic danger" in Africa. African heads of state relayed this statement and even called for a conference on African demography. However, a simple comparison with other continents shows that the African continent, due to slavery and colonization, is the least populated continent on the planet; that Niger, Mali, Chad and Mauritania together, with an area of 4.8 million km² together have only 64 million inhabitants, while the European Union with an area of 4.5 million km² (slightly smaller) has 446 million inhabitants, that even the forested countries such as Gabon, Democratic Congo, Congo Brazzaville do not have a greater population with 3 million km² with hardly more than 94 million people (Source UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund, WorldFactbook). So where is the problem? Why these loud shouts about (against) demography in Africa? Is this in the interest of the African people? No way.

People of Benin!

Citizens of the World!

These are not simple statements with which we are afflicted, the words are preceded and followed by practices and programs minutely concocted by the most noble international institutions in the world (WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF, USAID – US Agency for International Development, AFD – French Development Agency), to reduce the African population. They do it through

vaccines without the knowledge of the people. They will vaccinate for everything: polio, tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough, hepatitis, etc. The Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) follows one another non-stop. And with our consent. Is this beneficial? It is not sure. The case reported by the Catholic Episcopal Conference of Kenya in 2015 has never been denied. Under the guise of vaccinating girls against tetanus, organized by the WHO and UNICEF in Kenya, the vaccine was found to contain "24 to 37.5% human chorionic gonadotropic beta hormones (BhCG), an amount large enough to cause sterility in patients." (International Voltaire Conference Network, "WHO and UNICEF have sterilized third world populations under the guise of vaccination", February 26, 2015).

One cannot help but point out "The Coast Project", developed by the white racist authorities of South Africa, a biological and bacteriological weapons program targeting only the black population in order to sterilize the black women of that country. We cannot ignore the historic example of the genocidal extermination carried out in Argentina where of nearly twelve million blacks in that country at one time, there are currently only 150,000 Afro-Argentines!

The black race is the scapegoat of humanity.

The fashionable slogan is, "demographic dividend". What is the demographic dividend? It is rapid economic growth resulting from changes in the age structure of the population of a country, due to a decline in fertility and mortality. However, we know that without meeting certain conditions (monetary, educational, linguistic, ownership of the means of production, production and distribution of wealth, etc.), even with the decline in fertility, no economic development is possible. How can one work to reduce our populations when at the same time, the French Treasury is confiscating our currency? Speaking about the human factor, reducing the number of mouths to feed while completely obscuring the pillaging of the wealth of the population by the great imperialist powers is simply genocidal. If Niger's uranium and gas and oil revenues went to the people of Niger, if the people of Niger had monetary sovereignty, the country's 23 million inhabitants would live in comfort and development.

People of Benin! Citizens of the World!

In Benin, are things better? Certainly not. We cannot say this mainly because we do not know the independent structures of control of vaccines such as the good initiative of the Catholic Episcopate of Kenya. Nothing can ensure the safety of the vaccines that we give to our children. For example, how do we know that the vaccination crusade against the Human Papilloma Virus against cer-

vical cancer in girls aged 9 to 13 years operated from May 24 to 26, 2016, under the aegis of UNICEF, is safe for our children.

The aim to reduce the African population is so manifest among our Dominators that they use all pretexts to achieve their ends. For this, they disguise these operations with apparently noble humanitarian intentions. They never say that they want to reduce the population. They simply say that it is "to reduce maternal mortality by spacing births"; that "it is to avoid unwanted pregnancies". They say, "It is to reduce pregnancy in the school environment." With these arguments, who is going to be against it? We applaud and we move on. Housewives are sterilized without the husbands giving their opinion, leading to serious family problems. Girls 14-years old are extensively sterilized in schools. The officials of the village health centers (as at Mono under the direction of the Departmental Director of Health), are asked by the village chiefs to call on women to come to be sterilized. It is free; but if the woman wants to have the undo the sterilization, then she must pay money! In other words, sterilization is free, but de-sterilization costs. However, the harmful effects, for example, of the use by women of pills and other contraceptive methods are now known: "breast cancer, stroke, depression, endometriosis, reduced libido, food allergies" (See Sabrina Debusquat in her testimonial book "I Stopped Using the Pill" (Paris-Match October 28, /2017)

In this operation of African depopulation, another method is used: **the cesarean**. Cesarean section has been adopted despite side effects! Who would be against caesarean section to save the lives of our women in labor? No one. Still it would have to be used only in cases of extreme necessity. Because, as we read in "Science and the Future" number 873 of November 2019: "The intestinal flora of babies born by caesarean section have fewer bacteria beneficial for health. And as S. Laibi says (The bankruptcy of the modern world, 2013):" There are risks for babies born by caesarean section...: respiratory distress, death, etc." without hiding the negative consequences for the woman who have had caesareans. But the other consequence is that the same woman cannot have more than three caesarean sections. What a boon for those who want to "limit" births (to three children); how good this is? And for this, the donors are ready to finance free access. We rely on family planning with the ABPF (Beninese Family Planning Association) in control. Funding for this is coming.

Have we ever seen anything free from developed countries to poor countries? Never. Everything that is free is poisoned.

The consequences are already being felt in Benin. In certain regions of our country, we are already seeing a worrying deceleration of the population due to a severe

decline in births. In the commune of Athiémé (Mono) for the districts of Atchannou and Kpinnou, the growth rate between censuses (RGPH – General Census of the Population and Environment – of 2002 and RGPH 2013) is 1.81%, the lowest rate in the department of Mono, in which the growth rate is 2.5% for an average national rate of 3.25%”. The sterilization campaigns of organizations like the ABPF have gone through this.

The devastation has begun.

The objective in reality is to reduce the African population by a eugenics and genocidal plan. Did the many diseases ravaging Africa just happen? The new diseases, AIDS, Ebola, Lassa, etc. and cancer, female and male infertility, diabetes, etc. Yesterday was the yellow peril, today it is the black peril to be fought by the dominating Powers, which amounts to racism. Ultimately, depopulate Africa to occupy our territories.

People of Benin! Citizens of the World!

In the light of all these considerations, for a simple question of precaution and humanitarianism (because whoever is bitten by a snake fears the earthworm that is said to be in Benin), the following ethical requirements should be imposed:

1 – Benin will not serve as a land for testing the anti-Covid-19 vaccine.

2 – I can affirm today with regard to all the investigations both national and international, with regard to the exponential growth of various degenerative diseases, cases of cancer, male and female infertility etc., that a

Cotonou, April 21, 2020

good number of vaccines inoculated on our African populations, are legitimately suspected of causing health problems, that they are poisons to reduce fertility and carry out genocide in Africa. As a result now,

3 – Any vaccine, before being injected into the population, must be checked by an (independent) Scientific and Bioethics Committee made up of biochemists, virologists, doctors, etc. responsible for monitoring all vaccines and publishing the results before any inoculation in Benin. **Without this precaution, anyone will have the right to object to such unmonitored vaccination operations.**

4 – The “family planning” system as organized in Benin under the leadership of Organizations such as USAID with the American NGO PRI (Population Resources Institute), UNFPA, AFD etc. with their Beninese instrument, the ABPF is suspected to be a major genocidal criminal operation, an operation to drastically reduce the Beninese population, with the active support and complicity of the various governments of Benin.

5 – All family planning must meet the following conditions:

a – Undergo analysis and monitoring in advance by the Independent Bioethics Committee of substances to be taken or placed in women, with the results made public to the population.

b – All family planning decisions and their consequences must be carried out with the consent of the two spouses, the woman and husband, for the harmony of Beninese couples.

Lee Camp, Anti-Imperialist Comedian

Below is a selection from a chapter in his book, *Bullet Points and Punch Lines*. It is important that we have revolutionaries who know how to use humor in the struggle.

The Pentagon and Microsoft Are Quietly Hijacking All US Elections

Good news, folks! We have found the answer to the American electoral system!

Why do we need an answer? Well, our electoral system is... how do you say... a festering rancid corrupt needlessly complex rigged rotten infected putrid pus covered diseased dog pile of stinking dying cockroach filled rat shit smelling like Mitch McConnell under a vat of pig farts. And that’s a quote from the Lancet medical journal (I think).

But have no fear. The most trustworthy of corporations recently announced they are going to selflessly and patriotically secure our elections. It’s a small company

run by vegans and powered by love. It goes by the name “Microsoft.” (You’re forgiven for never having heard of it.)

The recent headlines were grandiose and thrilling:

“Microsoft Offers Software Tools to Secure Elections.”^

“Microsoft Aims to Modernize and Secure Voting with ElectionGuard.”

Could anything be safer than software christened “ElectionGuard™”?! It has “guard” right there in the name....

No to Biden! No to Trump!

For a Party of the Workers, Communities & Oppressed Nationalities!

By George Gruenthal

Since Sanders decided to stop campaigning and urged people to vote for Biden, all progressive and democratic (with a small “d”) forces have a choice to make.

We are strongly opposed to any support for Biden (or any other substitute Democrat). But this is not enough. There should be a broad-based progressive alternative, or those who do not want to support Biden will mostly just stay home.

We propose that such an alternative should be based on trade unions, community and oppressed nationality groups, including the forces that supported Sanders in the primaries.

Such an organization should have a program that includes the progressive demands that Sanders raised, such as free universal health care and free public university education, but more. It should call for an end to police brutality, an end to wars of aggression, dismantling of all military bases abroad and the return of all troops (and mercenaries). The military budget should be slashed drastically (which would pay for the free health care and education programs). The program should also demand an amnesty for all undocumented workers and the release of all those in immigration detention. Non-violent prisoners should be released and alternatives found to incarceration.

As Biden frequently makes incoherent speeches, it is possible that he may be replaced by a more “presidential” candidate. New York Governor Andrew Cuomo seems to be being groomed as such a candidate. We must oppose such a candidacy, while exposing the fact that this would be a candidate that nobody voted for,

We should also recognize that there will be many people who will object to this because they are afraid that such a third party will make it easier for Trump to win. Even if we do not agree with this view, we should take it into account. This can be done by running candidates only in “safe states,” that is, either those (such as New York and California) where the Democratic Party has a strong enough majority that a third party will not allow Trump to win, or those in which Trump would win anyway.

Lenin raised similar tactics in different circumstances, in running communist candidates in Britain: “We would put up our candidates in a very few but absolutely safe constituencies, namely, constituencies where putting up our candidate would not give the seat to the Liberal and lose it for the Labor candidate.” (*‘Left-Wing’ Communism, an Infantile Disorder*, Chapter IX.)

There were some left parties who had called for tactical support for Sanders in the primaries, a position we thought was correct. However in this new situation in which Sanders has already capitulated to the Democratic Party establishment (as was to be expected), what will they do now? Some will put forward their own candidates. For example, the Party for Socialism and Liberation is running the team of Gloria La Riva and Leonard Peltier, on a socialist program. Although in general this is fine, at a time when many people are looking for a broad alternative to Trump and the Democrats, we think that to run candidates who are barely known outside their small party (except of course for Peltier) is sectarian. The most sectarian of these is Socialist Action, which is running Jeff Mackler for President. The main problem is not their program, which is fine as a socialist program, but that they are not even making any serious attempt to get on the ballot. Anyone who wants to vote for him must do so as a write-in, but Socialist Action does not even let its supporters know this (see, for example, the article on their website:

<https://socialistaction.org/2019/07/06/jeff-mackler-for-u-s-president-in-2020-socialist-action-campaigns-for-socialism/>).

There is also the Green Party, which does have ballot status in many states (which means it can run candidates without having to get signatures). However, though it contains disparate forces, it is generally politically weak, and is mainly known as just an environmental party. It also does very little outside running candidates in elections. The type of party that we need should be an activist party, which takes part in and even attempts to lead all mass struggles.

Of course, it is almost impossible for a new progressive party to be formed in the barely six months until the elections (if they are not postponed or cancelled “due to the coronavirus”). But it is possible for local groups to run a presidential candidate in their state and local candidates in their area. However, this must be done with a national perspective. In 2016, we raised this with practically every lower and middle level trade union official and rank and file union member that we had contact with, and the vast majority were sympathetic to this idea. At that time, nothing came of this. We hope that this time it can be taken up by broad-based groups, including trade unions.

On March 8, We Women Workers Fight Together With the Men Workers

112 years after that March 8, 1908, when 129 workers died, burned to death in the Triangle Shirtwaist textile factory in New York, who went on strike and on that day they marched to demand a 10-hour day, wages equal to that of the men and better hygienic conditions, women continue to be oppressed and exploited by capitalism.

In Mexico it is estimated that there are 12 million women farmers, whose average salary is \$998 per month, \$33 per day. Oppressed at home and exploited at work, we proletarian and working women do not have minimum rights such as to abortion; we are forced to use home methods or clandestine clinics. In the world, 47,000 women die every year due to the ban on safe abortion, and 5 million are seriously injured. Until now, [in Mexico] only in Mexico City and Oaxaca is abortion legal.

We are experiencing a process of social decomposition, with 10 femicides a day; savage capitalism takes

advantage of our indecision to organize ourselves in the struggle of the proletariat for our liberation. We must lay the foundations for the liberation of working women, increasing our strength and ensuring the success of the activity and struggle of the women's movement, without falling into radical and separatist feminism that only understands oppression as patriarchal, since this is a movement that does not seek to challenge the rules of the game of capitalist society.

The world movement of Working Women's Day, proposed in 1910 by Clara Zetkin at the Second International Conference of socialist women and approved by more than 100 delegates from 17 countries, is a watershed for the building of a new society, which will lead to a new emancipated woman.

Only the proletarian revolution will really change the class material and social conditions of women. The creative capacity of the working masses will obtain true equality in a society without classes.

**Now is the time for the Proletarian Revolution!
Now is the time for the emancipation of women!**



Women's March, Mexico City, 2020

El 8 de Marzo, luchamos las trabajadoras unidas con los trabajadores

A 112 años de aquel 8 de Marzo de 1908 donde mueren calcinadas 129 obreras de la fábrica de Cotton en Nueva York, que realizaba una huelga y en ese día realizarían una marcha para exigir una jornada de 10 horas, salario igual al de los hombres y mejores condiciones higiénicas, las mujeres seguimos siendo oprimidas y explotadas por el capitalismo.

En México se estima que hay 12 millones de campesinas, cuyo salario en promedio es de \$998 mensuales, \$33 diarios. Oprimida en el hogar y explotada en el trabajo, las mujeres proletarias y trabajadoras no contamos con derechos mínimos como el aborto, somos orilladas a utilizar métodos caseros o en clínicas clandestinas. En el mundo mueren anualmente 47,000 mujeres por causa de la prohibición del aborto seguro, 5 millones quedan gravemente lesionadas. Hasta ahora, sólo en la Ciudad de México y en Oaxaca el aborto es legal.

Vivimos un proceso de descomposición social, con 10 feminicidios al día, el capitalismo salvaje se aventaja

con nuestra indecisión para organizarnos en la lucha del proletariado por nuestra liberación. Debemos sentar las bases para la liberación de la mujer trabajadora, incrementando la fuerza y asegurando el éxito de la actividad y la lucha del movimiento de mujeres, sin caer en el feminismo radical y separatista que sólo entiende la opresión como patriarcal, ya que este es un movimiento que no busca impugnar las reglas del juego de la sociedad capitalista.

El movimiento mundial del Día de la Mujeres Trabajadora propuesto en 1910 por Clara Zetkin en la Segunda Conferencia Internacional de mujeres socialistas y probado por más de 100 delegadas de 17 países, es un parteaguas para la construcción de una nueva sociedad, que dará lugar a una nueva mujer emancipada.

Sólo la Revolución proletaria cambiará realmente las condiciones materiales y sociales de clase para las mujeres. La capacidad creadora de las masas obreras, obtendrá la igualdad verdadera en una sociedad sin clases.

¡Ahora es por la Revolución Proletaria!
¡Ahora es por la emancipación de la mujer!



Marcha de Mujeres, Ciudad de México, 2020