WE ARE MARCHING BECAUSE. ...

Police brutality and mass incarceration are growing

Baltimore has become the capital of police killings! Since January, 2012, 16 people have been killed by the Baltimore City Police Department and not a single officer has been indicted. The epidemic of police terror and abuse are not confined to our city. The Malcolm X Grassroots Movement has documented that every 36 hours a Black person is killed by police agencies in this country. Police repression and racism go hand in hand with the mass incarceration of young people, mostly of color, who are locked away in prisons across the country.

We march to bring national attention to these issues and to demand community control of police and an end to mass incarceration. On May 11, 2013, we will link arms with the families of the victims of police killings to demand that the Justice Department charge killer police.

Poverty is deepening and the people need jobs, not jails

One out of every four persons in Baltimore City lives below the poverty level. Growing poverty due to continuing depression level joblessness in every major city in this country and in many towns underscores the need to revive Dr. King’s fight to end poverty. Justice-minded people everywhere must begin to prepare a united resistance to stop any and all austerity measures whether it comes in the form of cuts to social security, Medicare, unemployment or food stamps.

We must renew Dr. King’s call for “jobs or income now” and demand that the federal government:
1. bailout the people, not the banks;
2. provide a massive Works Projects Administration program to put the people back to work, and
3. through Executive Order place a moratorium on home foreclosures.

Workers rights are under attack

If the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. were alive he would be on the front line of stemming the tide of right wing attacks on workers and unions couched in the misleading language of “right to work.” Dr. King would have been leading sit-ins to win justice for low wage workers from Walmart to McDonalds. His last days were spent fighting for sanitation workers’ rights – this battle is yet to be finished.

On May 11th we will be marching to defend workers’ rights from Detroit to Atlanta.

Justice for all is needed

We will march to continue the ongoing struggle to stop racism, end attacks on immigrants, women and LGBTQ people.

We can no longer be divided from or consider a person as “illegal” simply because he or she has crossed a
border; the fight for justice is far from over when someone can be profiled and murdered because they are Black, Latino/a, Native or Asian; it continues when women are still denied equal rights and LGBTQ people continue to suffer from violence and bigotry.

**Fund education, health care and human needs, not war and occupation**

Dr. King proclaimed very accurately that “every bomb that falls on Vietnam, is a bomb dropped on our inner cities.” The names of the targeted countries and occupations have changed. What hasn’t is the growing trillions spent on the Pentagon that drain the wealth of this country and that could instead fund healthcare for every uninsured person, provide education for youth, stop school closings and provide jobs for all. Not only does war still threaten the people of this world, but the refusal to deal with ever growing evidence of climate change, and the insatiable desire to put profits before people, threatens the entire planet. The only way to build Dr. King’s beloved community is to end war and put people’s needs before profits.

It is urgent that we reclaim Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s legacy in this historic year to fight back against police terror, austerity measures, attacks on workers and student rights was voted and consented on at the December 15, 2012, National Peoples Power Assembly.

We in Baltimore invite everyone to join us – from Oakland to Atlanta, from Detroit to New York. Our problems are the same as your problems – let’s stand together. If you are interested in organizing your community, school, or union to be part of this effort call us at 410-500-2168 or 410-218-4835 or email Baltimore-PeoplesAssembly@gmail.com. To sign on as an endorser of this effort please contact us by phone or email.

**Boston – Providence BUS:**
Departure: Friday, May 10th, 11:00 PM from Roxbury Community College - 12 Midnight Providence
Returning from the March in the evening, arriving back in Providence and Boston early morning Sunday, May 12th. Info: 617-286-6574
Sign up for bus at iacboston.org/2013poorpeoplesmarchbus.html

**Boston PPA Planning Mtg:**
Sat Apr 27 6PM
Action Center
284 Amory St, Jamaica Plain, MA
(near Stonybrook on Orange Line)
617-286-6574
IACBoston.org

**initiated By:**
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