Smash White Supremacy & Police Brutality!

REVOLUTION

Defend the Community!

We need a different kind of world - of organizing to stand against Fannie Mae, the government and the court system. Home defense but now, things are looking hopeful. We consider this new outcome the result of a different kind of organizing that Lela and her allies have undertaken to create an eviction free zone.

An important struggle on the Eastside of Detroit has the look of being won. Fannie Mae, the lending giant, has been attempting to evict Lela over a mortgage taken out by her grandmother in 1978. Her neighborhood has become a symbol of the social crisis across the city. The last few years has seen a mass transfer of wealth from working people to the banking industry; one person in this neighborhood pays a social cost for injustice. We consider this new outcome the result of organizing that Lela and her allies have undertaken to create an eviction free zone.

Detroit's Eastside Fight

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While we strongly advocate and participate in movements for justice for victims of police murder and brutality, we cannot just continue to respond to each tragic injustice - we need to promote and build for community self-defense. Beyond monitoring the police and providing security for the movement and certain neighborhoods, community self-defense projects can begin by addressing some real issues that lead folks to call the cops today such as domestic violence and mental crises. These projects must be open to democratic discussion and decision-making and accountable to the communities they are based in. In fact we need an understanding of what we are up against and which of us it will take to win.

For us, as anarchists, that means a revolutionary strategy, controlled by the grassroots (not by top-down leaders), against this system of exploitation and oppression and the government and police that protects it. It’s a big task, and Community Self-Defense is where we begin. – King (Minneapolis M1)

Chicago: Moment of Crisis

Chicago is in crisis. Gun violence is out of hand, schools are underfunded, rents are up, and pollution plagues poor neighborhoods. Two-thirds of residents now oppose Mayor Rahm Emanuel even though he was just re-elected last spring. The day after Christmas, police shot and killed a 19-year-old college student and a 55-year-old mother of five, both black. Major social struggles erupted in 2015, and have created an opening for bigger movements in 2016.

First the election. Emanuel won, but it took two rounds. Elections don’t solve fundamental social problems, and Rahm’s main opponent was hardly a radical alternative. Still, the runoff highlighted anger against policies that help the rich at the expense of poor and working people.

Then came the fight over Dyett High School, which sits empty after decades serving an all-black neighborhood. Rahm wanted to turn the school into a charter school to bring in millions of dollars in corporate money. While we strongly advocate and participate in movements for community self-defense, we also know that these movements need an understanding of what we are up against and what it will take to win.

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