

issues

A Newsletter of the Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center

**SPRING
2010**

National Deficit and Military Spending

Did you know that military spending is one of the third largest parts of our national budget? By some estimates it outweighs Social Security and Medicare/Medicaid spending. Defense spending estimates range from 20-54% of the federal budget, a massive amount on either end of the spectrum (see charts on page 9). If the United States possesses any serious commitment to controlling our spiraling debt, defense spending cannot remain untouched, yet ignoring that fact seems to be the method of choice. Obama's three year spending freeze that does not touch the military spending will only contribute to a 3% savings of the estimated three-year deficit accumulation.² The special interests of military industrial complex that the U.S. has let take control of our national budget since World War II seems to have complete control over attempts to reduce the deficit. The National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform that was ordered by the president earlier this year will have to address the issue of massive defense spending if they want a realistic shot at reaching their goal of shrinking the deficit to 3% of GDP,³ down from 2009's 10%.⁴ To do this they must reverse the trend of the relationship between military spending and the national budget.

Many argue that military spending creates jobs. This is true to an extent, but it is by no means the best use of government funds for job creation. The Institute for Policy Studies calculates that \$1 billion spent on defense creates 8,555 jobs, while \$1 billion creates 19,795 jobs if spent on mass transit, 17,687 if spent on education, and 12,833 if spent on healthcare. In addition, investments in education, transportation, and health clearly lead to a less costly and more just future—while investment in war simply leads to destruction.

This presents a real opportunity for the peace movement in Cincinnati and around the nation. In a time of two ongoing wars, there is a chance to widen the base of support against outrageous defense spending to individuals who might not have otherwise been engaged. Peace for peace's sake is enough for many of us to speak out and act in its support, but that does not mean we should ignore the fiscal benefits of peace.

Continued on pg 10

Innocence in Ohio

There have been 139 exonerations from death row in the United States since 1973. Derrick Jamison was the 119th and the 5th in Ohio. Derrick is from Cincinnati Ohio. Recently Derrick has become quite famous overseas, after a top Spanish newspaper, El Pais, included a lengthy article with compelling photographs of Derrick and 20 other U.S. death row exonerees. The article starts out with an endearing picture of Derrick, wearing one of his many Reds hats. The photo has a quote from Derrick, "I was one hour from being executed only one hour away from death, one hour from being murdered. Do you understand what I'm saying I was one hour from being killed." Derrick was falsely accused and convicted of murder in 1985 and handed a death sentence. 20 years later he was finally freed.

Continued on pg 8



Inside . . .

Anniversary Celebration	10
Death Penalty... can't	pg 8
Deficit Spending... can't	10
Dialogue update...	7
Immigration...	3
Intern Thank You...	12
<i>ISSUE PAPER—JOBS 5/6</i>	
Nuclear Energy...	2
Peace Programs...	4
Phon-a-thon 2010...	8

Nuclear Power – Not Again

Some, perhaps not many people, remember that day in October, 1983 when C.G.&E announced the cancelation of the Zimmer nuclear power plant, then 97% complete. Cost estimates had gone from \$230M to \$3.4B. Poor construction and quality assurance were obvious problems. The concerns about evacuation in case of accidents, containment of radio active waste, health concerns, ecological consideration, etc. were brought forward by local activists, and the Three Mile Island nuclear disaster had happened several years before. Nuclear power would not come to Cincinnati – we thought. Now it is on the agenda again.

Here are some facts about nuclear power generally agreed upon.

Advantages:

1. Nuclear power generation does emit relatively low amounts of carbon dioxide (CO₂). Therefore the contribution of nuclear power plants to global warming is relatively little.
2. This technology is available, it does not have to be developed first.
3. It is possible to generate a high amount of electrical energy in one single plant.

Disadvantages:

1. The problem of radioactive waste is still unsolved. The waste from nuclear energy is extremely dangerous and it has to be carefully looked after for several thousand years. (10,000 years according to United States Environmental Protection Agency standards). We still haven't cleaned up contamination from past radioactive leaks.
2. It is technically impossible to build a plant with 100% security. The consequences of an accident would be devastating for human beings and for all nature. Exposure to radiation causes disease and death.
3. Nuclear power plants as well as nuclear waste could be preferred targets for terrorist attacks.
4. Radioactive waste produced in the generating of electricity can be used for the production of nuclear weapons.
5. Uranium is a scarce resource. There is only enough to last for 30 to 60 years, depending on demand.
6. The time frame for planning and building of a new nuclear power generation plant is 20 to 30 years. It won't happen quickly and it is expensive. The projected cost to build a large plant in Florida came in at 12-18 billion.

Nuclear energy isn't a safe, clean, sustainable source of electricity. It isn't renewable. Instead of solving our problems, many the same as in the 80s, it creates new ones - dangerous ones. The power industry knows what we know and is still spending an incredible amount of money and time lobbying for nuclear energy and for federal help paying for it. The owners of existing nuclear power plants want to prolong the life-span for existing nuclear plants. They are more lucrative than building new nuclear plants and very dangerous. It's all about money!

For those who love the earth and its human and non-human inhabitants nuclear energy there are moral, spiritual and practical reasons to work for sustainable, safe energy. Nuclear doesn't qualify.

Source: Timeforchange.org



Intercommunity Justice & Peace Center

Founding Sponsors:

*Sisters of Charity
Sisters of St. Joseph of Medaille
Sisters of Mercy
Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur
Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg*

Sponsors:

*Anawim Community
Cincinnati Mennonite Fellowship
Comboni Missionaries
Dominican Sisters of Hope
Franciscans, St. John the Baptist
Province
Glenmary Home Missioners
Institute of Secular Missionaries
Sisters of Divine Providence
Sisters of Notre Dame of Covington
New Jerusalem Community
Ursulines of Brown County
Ursulines of Cincinnati*

Staff:

*Kristen Barker
Nick Caprino
Alice Gerdeman, CDP
Sara Haines
Eunice Timoney Ravenna*

Intercommunity Justice & Peace Center

*215 East 14th Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
Phone: (513) 579-8547
Fax: (513) 579-0674*

*E-mail: info@ijpc-cincinnati.org
WEB page: www.ijpc-cincinnati.org*

The Economics of Immigration

Have you contacted your legislators about immigration reform lately? If your answer is "no" please do so. If your answer is "yes" please do so. They need to hear from constituents often. Perhaps some facts based on economics will catch their attention.

There are three basic choices the federal government can make around immigration reform and both sides agree reform is needed. Let's look at each.

1. **Comprehensive Immigration Reform:** This would create a way for undocumented immigrants already living in the U.S. to be legalized. Immigrants would register, pay an application fee and a fine. They would have to pass a criminal background check, learn English and pay any back taxes they might owe. In return immigrants would have full labor rights, legal status and eventually U.S. citizenship. Future levels of permanent and temporary immigration would be based on the demand for labor. Studies project that if enacted, the gross domestic product of the U.S. would increase at least 0.84%. This amounts to over \$1.5 trillion cumulative over the next 10 years. Both native-born and newly legalized immigrants would see their wages rise. This scenario does not include the increased rates of home ownership and small business formation both of which would boost the U.S. economy.
2. **Program for Temporary Workers Only:** This would create a new temporary-worker program that encompasses both immigrants currently unauthorized both living in the U.S. and future immigrants. Neither group would have the possibility of permanent status or citizenship. Immigrant workers in this scenario would have limited labor rights. Historically, this has driven down wages and productivity in industries that employ large numbers of immigrants. More immigrants would be needed to produce the same level of output. Under this plan the U.S. GDP would increase .44% or \$792 billion over 10 years.
3. **Mass Deportation:** The U.S. would deport over 4 million immigrant workers and their dependents. This action would reduce the U.S. GDP by 1.46%. That is a loss of \$2.6 trillion to the U.S. economy. Wages do rise for less skilled native-born workers but they fall for higher-skilled natives and the U.S. economy loses a large number of jobs. Not included in these statistics is the cost of deporting so many people. That is estimated conservatively at \$230 billion over 5 years.

The current enforcement only policy that is now ineffective and costly. The number of unauthorized immigrants has increased drastically since the early 1990 with a small reduction the last few years. The U.S. Border Patrol's budget has increased by 714% since 1992 to \$2.7 billion in FY 2009 and it doesn't work. A study done by the University of California, San Diego found that from 92% to 98% of immigrants keep trying to cross the border until they make it. They see no other options economically. However, our Southwestern border has become more lethal. A report by the ACLU and Mexico's National Commission on Human Rights estimates that 5,607 immigrants died crossing the border between 1994 and 2008. Stronger enforcement has encouraged the people smuggling business. Fees have tripled. The high costs and physical risks of unauthorized entry means that immigrants stay longer and more settle permanently.

It seems clear that Comprehensive Immigration Reform is a necessity. The facts above don't mention the suffering of families separated by deportation, the fear people experience who must live hidden in society, and the much poverty and violence in their countries that drives people to flee. Everyone has much to gain. We cannot allow petty politics, prejudice and ignorance have control over real good.

There is a chance that a few Republicans may join Democrats who favor reform. The timeline, as it stands, is to introduce the bill in the Judiciary committee by the end of April, have it move through hearings and to a vote and on to the whole Senate by late May/early June. Then the House of Representatives would take it up. It is an election year. Act now.

Much of the information in this article came from "Raising the Floor for American Workers: The Economic Benefits of Comprehensive Immigration Reform" by Dr. Raul Hinojosa-Ojeda and published by the immigration Policy Center. The entire report can be found on the Justice For Immigrants website.

Before You Enlist Update



Adopt a School

IJPC has been working on spreading informational packets filled with life after high school options and things to know “Before You Enlist” so students can make an informed decision about military enlistment. We have focused on specific under-resourced high schools that are excessively targeted by military recruiters. The schools (Deer Park, Finneytown, Holmes, Mt. Healthy, Newport, Virtual, Western Hills, and Woodward) were chosen using Freedom of Information Act data along with teacher student ratios, guidance counselor to student ratios, and percentage of students receiving free and reduced lunches. Teams of volunteers have been gathered and trained to present the informational materials to guidance counselors, librarians, career support people, and social workers at these schools. We have had exciting progress at some of the schools, and we are excited for more!

Mt Healthy

Great things are underway at Mt. Healthy! Before You Enlist (BYE) Volunteers led by Karen Arnett have met with Mt. Healthy High School’s principal, the parent advisory committee, the librarian, and tabled at a career fair during which they had many positive interactions with teachers, parents, and students. New opportunities are bubbling up. People are getting informed about military enlistment and other opportunities. Volunteer outreach and school response has exceeded our expectations!

Community Friends

The Community Friends have been quite busy with Adopt a School in the past couple of months. After experiencing an Adopt a School presentation and training session in February, the Community Friends have chosen to adopt Virtual High School. IJPC is thrilled for this development since Virtual is not a traditional high school and may require a more creative approach to present the “Before You Enlist” materials. Community Friends are making progress at Virtual, and we look forward to further developments there!

Northern Kentucky

Members of the Buddhist Peace Fellowship and of Northern Kentucky Justice and Peace Committee received Adopt a School training in early April, and have chosen to take on Newport and Holmes High Schools! They are a very talented and engaging group that will surely make an impact in these schools.

Looking for more volunteers to Adopt A School

IJPC is looking for more volunteers to help spread the “Before You Enlist” materials and information. If you or your group wants to get involved with an already participating group, or if you want to help take on another school in our list (Deer Park, Finneytown, Western Hills, and Woodward) please let us know. We welcome you to see a no obligation presentation about Adopt a School if you would like more in depth details before committing to a training session. You can call IJPC at (513) 579-8547 or email Nick at nick@ijpc-cincinnati.org.

Cincinnati Public School (CPS) Policy to Eliminate Recruiter Abuses

At the current moment, Cincinnati Public School District (CPS) does not have a uniform policy for recruiter presence in schools. Consequently, CPS schools experience varying amounts of recruiter pressure. No Child Left Behind legislation requires that military recruiters be given as much access to students as college recruiters, but at many schools, the military is given preferential access.

IJPC hopes to change this by introducing our CPS Policy to Eliminate Recruiter Abuses. This policy would create uniform guidelines in all of CPS to make sure that military recruiters are given the same access as college or career recruiters, not preferential access.

Building a Strong Coalition—We need you!!!

The IJPC Peace Committee (meeting every third Wednesday at Peaslee Neighborhood Center from 7-9pm) has refocused our school policy efforts towards building a large, strong coalition supporting the Policy to Eliminate Recruiter Abuses. Along with circulating hard copies of letters of support, we are asking parents, students, teachers, and concerned citizens in the Greater Cincinnati area to sign the letter of support online at Change.org. To sign, simply go to change.org, search for "Cincinnati military recruiter," and our letter will show up. Change.org is a very safe site that will not distribute the information you give to anyone besides IJPC. Please help us reach our goal of 1000 signatures!

Look to Sam Groark's Streetvibes Article for more detail!

Our own IJPC Intern, Sam Groark of Xavier University, published an article in Streetvibes taking on the problem of military recruiter abuses and preferential treatment in Cincinnati High Schools. Check out the article in the March 1, 2010 issue.

Accepting Recruiter Stories

If anyone has stories of recruiter abuses and/or harassment, please let IJPC know. Hopefully these sad but true accounts of what is happening to some high school students will influence others to keep it from happening to anyone else. Please email nick@ijpc-cincinnati.org or kristen@ijpc-cincinnati.org or call IJPC at 513-579-8547 if you would like to share any info.

You are invited to join us for a brown bag lunch date with Rep. Driehaus' aides every third Wednesday of the month to talk about money for jobs not war. Meet up at IJPC at 11:30 and we'll travel together.

RSVP to 513-579-8547

Peace, Jobs, and Justice Go Together

I
S
S
U
E

P
A
P
E
R

“The stakes could not be higher. Mass unemployment and growing inequality threaten our democracy. We need to act—and act boldly ... Our republic must offer working people something other than the dead-end choice between the failed agenda of greed and the voices of hate and division and violence.” said AFL-CIO president Richard Trumka on April 9th.

The United States economy is in the midst of a very slow, jobless recovery for millions and a very quick restoration of wealth, power and privilege for the top rungs of the corporate sector. This has significant repercussions for American society. Despite our economy being mired in the deepest recession since the 1930s, people in the top 1% continue to own as much wealth as those in the bottom 90%. While Wall Street got bailed out after speculating wildly, getting involved in credit default swaps and derivatives, driving the US economy over a cliff—Main Street did not. The foreclosure crisis continues with over 3.4 million families foreclosed on in the last year, unemployment reaching 9.7%, and underemployment remaining at 16% with a short-fall of 11 million jobs. In Polarized America, the authors, who are political scientists, demonstrate how inequality feeds directly into polarization and how polarization in turn creates policies that further increase polarization.

How unfair has our tax system gotten?

The Great Recession has exacerbated the effects of a 50 year trend of tax cuts benefiting the wealthy. According to United for a Fair Economy report Shifting Responsibility, “Over the last half-century, America’s wealthiest taxpayers have seen their tax outlays, as a share of income, drop enormously, by as much as two-thirds for the highest-income grouping the IRS tracks. Meanwhile, the share of their household income that middle class Americans pay in federal taxes has increased slightly.”

The situation for corporations is even more surprising. According to a Government Accountability Office study, two-thirds of U.S. corporations paid no U.S. income tax between 1998 and 2005. Walmartwatch.com lists dozens of ways that Walmart evades taxes. General Electric is another glaring example. Despite generating \$10.3 billion in pretax income in 2008, they ended up owing nothing. In fact, it recorded a tax benefit of \$1.1 billion.

Deregulation devastates –Can we trust banks to regulate themselves?

In addition to the tax trend allowing greater concentrations of wealth, government deregulation over the past 30-40 years has gutted the real wealth of the economy in favor of high stakes gambling on the stock exchange. Alan Greenspan, who fought regulation of derivatives and other financial instruments, admits that he put too much faith in the self-correcting power of markets and in the ability of banks to regulate themselves. Greenspan said: “I have found a flaw in the model of how I perceived the world to work for 40 years. If the facts change, I will change.” In commenting on the financial meltdown, he placed blame particularly on the Wall Street companies that bundled subprime mortgages into pools and sold them as mortgage-backed securities. Greenspan said that evidence shows that global demand for the securities was so high that Wall Street companies pressured lenders to lower their standards and produce more “paper.”

Economy shifts from manufacturing to financial sector

During the last quarter century, manufacturing, for a century a pillar of our economy, slipped from about 25 percent to just 12 percent. In contrast, the US financial sector rose from 11-12 percent of the economy in 1980 to a stunning 20-21 percent by 2004-2005. How sustainable is an economy based increasingly on making money from speculation? What happens to us as a culture and a people when we move away from making money by building things or growing things and move towards making money by gambling and speculating?

Violence , Profit, and Jobs

Street gangs learned long ago that in order to get people to agree to grossly unfair financial arrangements, you need force and the threat of violence to accomplish these ends. The US military has sometimes been forced to act in this role. As Marine Corps Major General Smedley Butler said in 1933 , “It may seem odd for me, a military man to adopt such a comparison. Truthfulness compels me to. I spent thirty-three years and four months in active military service as a member of this country’s most agile military force, the Marine Corps. I served in all commissioned ranks from Second Lieutenant to Major-General. And during that period, I spent most of my time being a high class muscleman for Big Business, for Wall Street and for the Bankers. In short, I was a racketeer, a gangster for capitalism.” Smedley Butler recognized the need to defend the nation and did so honorably but called for clear limits. “I believe in adequate defense at the coastline and nothing else. If a nation comes over here to fight, then we’ll fight. The trouble with America is that when the dollar only earns 6 percent over here, then it gets restless and goes overseas to get 100 percent. Then the flag follows the dollar and the soldiers follow the flag”

Peace, Jobs, and Justice Go Together

So then, how much of military spending is defending the nation versus following the dollar? Evidence continues to mount that the invasion of Iraq was not a military necessity. Economic analysis shows that it was a bonanza for many defense contractors. If we want our tax dollars to fund job creation and not war, then we have to consider the following: For every billion of dollars spent for the military, approximately 8,555 jobs are created. In contrast spending that same billion dollars could create 19,759 mass transit jobs, 17,687 jobs in education, or 12,833 jobs in healthcare according to the Institute for Policy Studies.

What's at Stake?

Disillusionment grows as unemployment continues and inequality rises. . As Franklin Roosevelt said, "Demoralization caused by vast unemployment is our greatest extravagance. Morally, it is the greatest menace to our social order." But there is reason for hope. As Richard Trumka says, "I am a student of history, and now is the time to remember our history as a nation. Remember that when President Franklin Roosevelt said, 'We have nothing to fear but fear itself,' other voices were on the radio, voices saying that what we really needed to fear was each other – voices preaching anti-Semitism and Nazi-style racial hatred." Is this a similar moment? We hear voices of hatred, racism, and homophobia echoing throughout talk radio, at some tea party rallies, in the halls of Congress. Are forces of greed trying to capitalize on people's economic pain and vulnerability, to turn people with similar interests against one another, to maintain an economic structure that works for the few and not the many?

Brief History of Mass Movements

The good news is that we have a proud history of people coming together and uniting in collective action at times of economic pain and anger. Through mass movements, people have pressured government to establish Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, schools, libraries, transit systems, federal and state parks, Civil Rights legislation, and the GI bill to name a few. Movements during the Great Depression led to the creation of the New Deal Public Works Administration which employed 8.5 million people to build hydropower projects like the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Grand Coulee Dam, to build or improve over 800 airports, 124,000 bridges, 125,000 public buildings, including schools, hospitals and post offices and produced over 650,000 miles of roads. The WPA artist project produced over 10,000 mosaics, murals, songs, and writings. African Americans were employed by the WPA at double their percentage of the population. "Government has a final responsibility for the welfare of its citizens," President Franklin D. Roosevelt told Congress in his annual message in 1938. "If private cooperative effort fails to provide work for willing hands and relief for the unfortunate, those suffering hardship through no fault of their own have a right to call upon the government for aid. And a government worthy of the name must make a fitting response."

Time for Movement for Jobs & Economic Justice

In the face of 11 million jobs lost, it is past time to pressure the government to step up. In January the AFL-CIO, in the name of a wide coalition of people's organizations, called for a massive campaign to fight for jobs. This campaign brings the power, resources and organizing experience of the labor movement, together with major civil rights, religious, environmental, peace, women's, student, human service and other people's groups, to bear on this critical issue and can be the catalyst to mobilize millions of suffering and angry people into needed action. The new coalition, called Jobs for America Now, has issued a five point program, aimed at shifting the nation's priorities toward creating millions of jobs, relieving suffering and revitalizing our economy. It calls for the federal government to:

- Extend expiring unemployment and health benefits for another year.
- Rebuild the nation's infrastructure & schools. Invest in mass transportation, green technology & energy efficiency.
- Provide aid to state and local governments and school districts to maintain vital services and jobs.
- Directly fund federal employment with competitive wages targeting distressed communities when the private sector fails to provide necessary jobs.
- Use TARP funds for Main Street to create jobs with loans to local banks and businesses..

Right now, the coalition is urging all to support the George Miller's H.R. 4812 Local Jobs for America Act that would target \$100 billion in job creation dollars toward our country's hardest hit communities to keep teachers in the classroom and first responders on the job, and to create new jobs. As Richard Trumka says, "But we are not just talking about how to create jobs, we are talking about how to pay for them. Wall Street should pay to clean up the mess they made, and we are supporting four ways for the big banks to pay—President Obama's bank tax, a special tax on bank bonuses, closing the carried interest tax loophole for hedge funds and private equity, and most important, a financial speculation tax levied on all financial transactions—including derivatives—that would raise over \$150 billion a year, according to the Congressional Budget Office."

United for a Fair Economy has a document called [Shifting Responsibility](#) that shares a Tax Fairness plan aimed at generating over 450 billion dollars a year. In collaborations with groups like United for a Fair Economy, there are many organizations currently evaluating economic policy surrounding job creation to be able to explore potential solutions.

If we want to oppose the hatred and racism that is so thick in the American political landscape right now, we need to work for economic justice and demand jobs that will help rebuild our unstable infrastructure—long-term jobs with wages and benefits that support families. Now is the time we must invest in the economic security of the future.

Loving Our Immigrant Neighbor

A "how to" workshop designed to provide information and answer the practical questions faced by all

Are you concerned about immigrant people living in the Greater Cincinnati Area?

Do you seek information in order to form an opinion?

This may be just what you are searching for ...

Get the FACTS not the SPIN ...

Includes presentations by:

Human Right Advocates

Immigration Lawyers

Recent Immigrants

As well as updates on local, state and national legislation.

Nonviolent Conflict Intervention Training

Take one practical step towards a less violent world.

This workshop will introduce techniques you can use when faced with a conflict that might turn nasty or violent. By defusing the immediate situation, you create a space that gives everyone time to understand the root of the conflict and to resolve it in a peaceful way.

The one-day workshop is filled with hands-on exercises and role-plays that will introduce you to:

- Basic nonviolent communication and conflict resolution methods
- How you can use these skills when you come across conflict in your daily life
- How local and international peace teams use nonviolent strategies in larger conflicts

Curriculum developed by Nonviolent Peaceforce North America.

When: Saturday, July 10, 9am-4pm

Where: Peaslee Neighborhood Center (215 E 14th St)

Cost: \$25- includes materials and lunch

RSVP: Kristen Barker at 513.579.8547

Dialogue - Now More than Ever!

Dialogue has always been important, but the heat of political and social discourse in our country has raised its value. IJPC is committed to continuing emphasis on dialogue through its Days of Dialogue project. Here's what we've been up to lately :



Dismantling Racism Teen Speak Out Series

On March 10, 47 youth of diverse races and backgrounds joined together at St. Vivians for an amazing dialogue on racism. One of the organizers, Pat Youngblood, said she "was floating" to see her dream for such a dialogue come true. Two more dialogues in this series are scheduled for April 17th and May 1st.

Kenton County Politicians Seek Dialogue

IJPC was invited to facilitate a dialogue for local elected officials, candidates, and city administrators in Kenton County, Kentucky. The result of our partnership is "Northern Kentucky Forum: How Local Governments in Kenton County Can Work Better Together." Its purpose is to draw out insights about what obstacles exist to effective governance in Kenton County and how local governments in the county might best work together. This dialogue will be held April 24th. It was highlighted in an article on Northern Kentucky.Com.

Mark your calendars for May 1st!

Our Day of Dialogue on **Capitalism: A Love Story** is shaping up to be an exciting multi-class multi-racial dialogue. It will be on Saturday, May 1. Doors open at 5:45pm at the Laborer's Union Hall, 3457 Montgomery Rd. Get the scoop on what's happening with local jobs from the AFL-CIO, the Interfaith Worker Center, and the AMOS Project. Enjoy a chili-fest while viewing clips from Michael Moore's Capitalism: A Love Story. We'll round out the evening by talking and listening to one another. This event is free and open to the public. Spanish Translation and Childcare will be available with RSVP. Call us at 513-579-8547.

See you at the Freedom Center on May 12!

In light of their current exhibition, the Freedom Center has selected our proposal for a "Day of Dialogue: The Effect of Lynching Photographs on the Nation's Healing Process." Join us on May 12 from 6-8pm at the Freedom Center. RSVP to 513-579-8547.



Our **sincere thanks** to all the facilitators, trainers, and others who have helped build and grow this program that others are now seeking!!

Derrick Jamison

Continued from front page

He has received no compensation or assistance in finding a job and housing. Both of Derrick's parents passed away while he was in prison. He has missed out on 20 years of his life and now no one will give him a job, but he is not bitter. He says that "everyday feels like Christmas" when he wakes up in an apartment in downtown Cincinnati and not on death row. If you ask Derrick why he is not angry and bitter he says that he can't let anger control him because that type of attitude is what put him on death row; the anger and vengeance that saturates our society is what makes the death penalty possible. Derrick recently has been speaking out more and more. He attended the NCADP conference in January. He is a part of Witness to Innocence. He recently went to Texas



and helped and spoke at an alternative spring break trip for college students. Soon he is traveling to Madrid to meet all his adoring fans.

Death Penalty Program Update

NCADP Conference

Families That Matter members, Cincinnati OTSE members and IJPC staff all had the opportunity to attend the 2010 National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty Annual Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. We were all blessed to share in such a rich experience. The conference's theme this year was Training for the Long Run. We all attended enlightening workshops and heard inspiring and informative speakers. Debbie Bibler, Sister Alice, and Sara Haines led a workshop on working with death row family members. Debbie shared her heartbreaking yet inspiring story about her son being put on death row. Theresa Lyons and Gloria Slaughter [FTM members] were also present at that workshop and were able to also meet and share with others. We met wonderful people who are working hard to end the death penalty.



Write-a-thon The Cincinnati chapter of Ohioans To Stop Executions recently held a write-a-thon in which people were invited for an evening pot luck and fun filled night of writing letters to Ohio's Governor Ted Strickland and to the legislators in their district. Some letters were about particular cases, but many were about the flawed death penalty system as a whole and the need for a moratorium and study. Attendees also signed petitions for all death row inmates who have an execution date set.



Samantha Wade, IJPC anti-death penalty intern, and her friend write letters to the Governor.

FAMILIES THAT MATTER IS READY TO ORGANIZE FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

Families That Matter was privileged to be able to attend a week long training in Chicago put on by the Midwest Academy. The training is called "Organizing for Social Change." FTM members are more prepared than ever before to move forward with our strategic plan—in addition FTM peer leaders are confident and energized to train new leadership!



Debbie right after graduating from the weeklong community organizing training.

Thank You

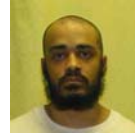
Special THANKS to all of our generous donors who made the **2010 Phon-a-thon** an amazing success. Each year we rely on our friends to support us during our only annual fundraiser—this year was no exception. Your support allows us to carry out the programs that are so important to you and your community. Know that we take great care to serve as responsible stewards of your contributions. Thanks for partnering with us in the name of justice, in the name of peace!

If you didn't receive an invitation to give—we'll gratefully accept your donation at any time. Donate online at www.ijpc-cincinnati.org or mail to 215 E. 14th St Cincinnati, OH 45202

Three More Lives TAKEN

ABDULLAH SHARIF KAAZIM (VERNON SMITH)

was executed on January 7th in Ohio. He was a devout Muslim who denied his last meal and prayerfully fasted to prepare himself. His last words were a Muslim prayer. He repeated four times in Arabic, "There is no God, but God and Mohammed is his prophet."



MARK BROWN



was executed on February 4th in Ohio. He is survived by four teenage children. Mark made no final statement.

LAWRENCE REYNOLDS

After Lawrence attempted suicide and resuscitated he was executed one week later on March 16th. Lawrence's last words were for this "flagrantly flawed system" to "stop the madness."



Upcoming Execution Dates & Reasons for Clemency



Darryl Durr—Execution Date April 20, 2010

- Darryl has been denied DNA testing!
- His trial counsel failed to object to improper jury instructions.
- There is no physical evidence to connect Durr to the crime!



Michael Beuke—Execution Date May 13, 2010

Michael has transformed from the person who committed these senseless crimes against innocent victims into a person of exceptional value to his community with the prison system and to society. Michael is repentant and remorseful.



Richard Nields—Execution Date June 10, 2010

- Nields's counsel was ineffective during trial.
- The counsel failed to investigate and present mitigating evidence.
- There was prosecutorial misconduct during the penalty phase that violated Nields' constitutional rights.



William Garner—Execution Date July 13, 2010

- Garner's IQ is estimated at 76 and his attorneys have argued that he is mentally retarded and received an inadequate education.
- Garner's low intelligence made it impossible for him to comprehend his Miranda rights, which include warnings about the right to remain silent and the right to a lawyer.



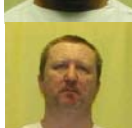
Roderick Davie—Execution Date August 10, 2010

- Davie was illegally enticed to confess despite repeated refusals to waive his Miranda rights.
- The police persisted not only after a refusal to sign, but even after Davie expressly invoked his right to silence by refusal to talk.



Kevin Keith—Execution Date September 15, 2010

No physical evidence links Keith to the crime and there are claims of newly discovered evidence that point towards **innocence**. The key witness didn't exist (law enforcement made false claims).



Michael Bengé—Execution Date October 6, 2010

We deeply sympathize with the family and friends of Judith Gabbard, but we respectfully offer that another death will neither heal nor resolve this tragedy.

To sign each petition go to <http://www.change.org> and search for their names—Thank You

Contact Governor Strickland tell him to commute these sentences
Governor's Office Riffe Center, 30th Floor 77 South High Street Columbus, OH
43215-6108 Phone: (614) 466-3555

Join us! Ohioans To Stop Executions Cincinnati Chapter
meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7pm.
We meet at Peaslee Neighborhood Center,
215 E. 14th Street.
Come to learn more and take action to stop executions.

Join us to Celebrate 25 years of
 Celebrating
 Educating, Advocating and Organizing for
 Peace and Justice

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday September 25th,
 6 pm—10 pm

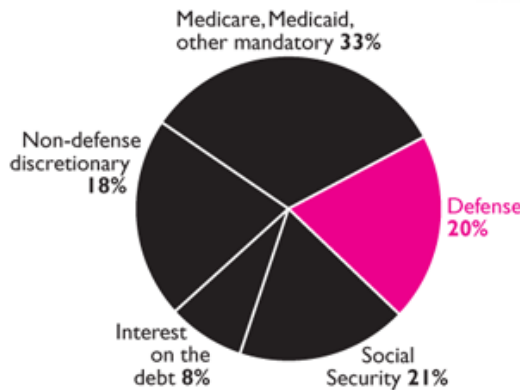
At Purcell Marian High School

Dinner, Entertainment and Silent Auction

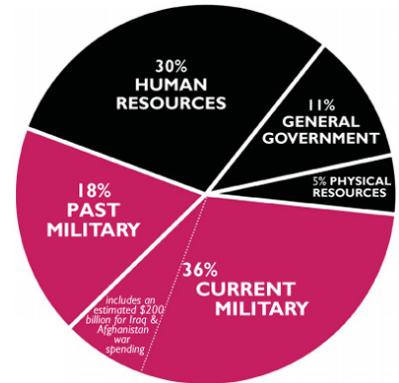
Deficit con't

Unfortunately, money serves as the driving force of many of those in power, but this detail can be used to the nonviolence movement's advantage. The cost of Afghans', Iraqis', and U.S. soldiers' lives depends on it.

Charts on the Distribution of Federal Funds



Source: Congressional Budget Office for FY2008



Source: War Resisters League

Article sources
¹War Resisters League and Congressional Budget Office.
² Calmes, Jackie, "Obama to Seek Spending Freeze to Trim Deficits," *The New York Times*, January 25, 2010

WEEKLY AND MONTHLY EVENTS:

- MONDAYS** **WOMEN IN BLACK** 4:30 pm; Island on Central Pkwy & Vine; Alice Gerdeman: 513-579-8547
- 2nd TUESDAY** **CINCINNATI - OHIOANS TO STOP EXECUTION MEETING** 7-8 pm—IJPC Peaslee Center, 215 E. 14th Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 Sara Haines, 513-579-8547
- 3rd WEDNESDAY** **IJPC GENERAL PEACE COMMITTEE** 7–9 pm; Peaslee Neighborhood Center, 215 East 14th St. Kristen Barker, 513-579-8547
- 1st THURSDAYS** **BENEFITS RIGHTS ADVOCACY GROUP** Noon– 1:30 pm; Contact Center 1212 Vine St; Lynn Williams 513-381-4242
- NORTHERN KENTUCKY JUSTICE & PEACE COMMITTEE** 7 pm; Mother of God Church, 119 W. 6th St. Covington, KY
- FRIDAYS** **WOMEN IN BLACK VIGIL IN NORTHSIDE** 4:30-5:30 pm; Hoffner Park (Blue Rock & Hamilton) Elizabeth Motter: 683-2340
- NKY PEACE BELL VIGILS** Vicki Dierig 859 291 9579
- 3rd FRIDAYS** **IRAQ MORATORIUM: NEIGHBORHOOD PEACE VIGILS**
 NEWPORT AND MOUNT HEALTHY 4:30-6:00 pm;
 Call for details (513-579-8547) or see IJPC web site calendar <http://www.ijpc-cincinnati.org/calendar.htm>
- 2nd SATURDAYS** **AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL** 2-3:30 pm; Panera Bread in Hyde Park, 3806 Paxton Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45209 Please confirm that this meeting is happening as scheduled by contacting Laura Osborn Coffey at (513) 734-6043, or lozcoffey@cs.com
- 3rd SUNDAY** **STUDENTS AGAINST RACISM TOWN HALL THINK TANK** 3-5 pm; Essex Place 7610 Reading Road Contacts: Akosua Favors & Ben Sea via e-mail at star@nku.edu or revol-radio@hotmail.com.

Find this event listing and more on our updated events calendar—starting mid May at www.ijpc-cincinnati.org

Art ~ Spirituality ~ Solidarity Events and Resources

April 28 7:00pm **Islamic Art in India During the Mughal Period**
Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati, 8092 Plantation Drive
Reservations required. Call 513-721-ARTS or go to www.cincinnatiartmuseum.org

April 30-May 1 **The Art of Deep Listening: A Compassionate Communication Training**
New Thought Unity Church, 1401 E. McMillan St., Cincinnati, OH 45206
The training will be led by Jeff Brown, certified NVC trainer and Director of Compassionate Communication of Central OH.
The cost is \$35 for Friday, \$95 for Saturday, or \$110 for both Friday and Saturday.
Contact: www.nvcoho.org, Jennifer@heartfeltcommunication.com, or 614-558-1141

May 1 9:30am – 11:50am **Mornings of Spirituality- I've Got Your Back**
Mt. Notre Dame Spirituality Center, 701 E Columbia Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45215 513 761 7636

May 1 8:30-11:30 AM **The Sacred Art of Listening [Part II]**
FEE: \$30/session; \$55 for both sessions - \$15 non-refundable deposit applied to total cost
Session held at the Sisters of Charity Motherhouse, 5900 Delhi Road contact Micki Trentman at 513 347 5449

May 2 3pm – 4pm **"We are Here!" Children's Concert**
Freedom Center, 50 East Freedom Way Cincinnati, OH 45202 513 333 7500

May 6 7pm – 9pm **"Silence and Being: Thomas Merton's Interest in Buddhism"**
St. Monica~St. George, Parish Newman Center, 328 West McMillan Street, Cincinnati, OH, 45219 513 381 6400

May 7 7pm – 9pm **"There is No God but God: Thomas Merton's Interest in Islam"**
St. Monica~St. George, Parish Newman Center, 328 West McMillan Street, Cincinnati, OH, 45219 513 381 6400

May 8 11:30-3pm **International Mothers Day: Hopes and Fears of Immigrant Mothers**
Millcrest Park, Norwood Food, music and activities

May 9 1pm **Mothers Day Celebration** Burnett Woods and Hyde Park Square
Call Kristen at IJPC 513 579 8547 Burnett Woods mother of Iraq Veteran will read excerpt from her book "Skin in the Game"

May 12 Day of Dialogue **The Effect of Lynching Photographs on the Nation's Healing Process**
At the Freedom Center Call IJPC for details 513 579 8547

May 28 7:30-9:30pm **How does it feel to have Skin in the Game** Book Signing by Peggy Logue
Final Friday Open House at IJPC call Kristen 513 579 8547

Starting mid May please visit our newly launched web site—a comprehensive events listing will be available.

Immokalee Workers Need Your Help
You helped improve their conditions working with YUM (Taco Bell),
McDonald's and Burger King ... now they need your help with Kroger

Activists urge Kroger to protect human rights of tomato pickers in Florida

Florida tomato pickers earn 40-50 cents for every 320 lb bucket of tomatoes. A worker must pick nearly 2.5 TONS of tomatoes just to earn minimum wage for a typical 10-hour work day. Since 1977, there have been seven federal slavery prosecutions in Florida's fields. Last December, two farm employers in Florida were sentenced to 12 years each in federal prison for what US Attorney Doug Malloy called "slavery, plain and simple." Activists are now looking to Kroger to address the sub-poverty wages and abuses faced by the farm workers who pick our tomatoes.

As a major purchaser of Florida tomatoes, activists are demanding that Kroger work with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), an internationally recognized farm worker organization, to ensure fair wages and conditions for those who pick Kroger's tomatoes. Yum Brands, McDonald's, Burger King, Subway, Bon Appetit, and Whole Foods are already working with CIW to improve pickers' wages and enforce a code of conduct against abuses.

Activists strongly encourage Kroger to:

- Pay an additional penny per pound for tomatoes purchased to directly increase the wages of tomato pickers;
- Implement an enforceable code of conduct to ensure safe and fair working conditions for farm workers, including zero tolerance for modern-day slavery;
- Ensure a voice for farm workers in monitoring improvements and reporting abuses.

Please write to CEO David Dillon to urge Kroger to work together with the CIW to ensure human rights and fair wages for those who harvest the tomatoes sold in Kroger stores: The Kroger Co., 1014 Vine Street, Cincinnati, OH, 45202 or tell your local Kroger manager that you support the CIW.

*Intercommunity Justice
& Peace Center
215 East 14th Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202*

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
Paid
Cincinnati, OH
#7244



Dialogue on Capitalism: A Love Story



Saturday, May 1

Doors open at 5:45pm

Laborer's Union Hall (3457 Montgomery Rd)

Get the scoop on what's happening with local jobs from the AFL-CIO, the Interfaith Worker Center, and the AMOS Project. Enjoy a chili-fest featuring clips from Michael Moore's *Capitalism: A Love Story*. We'll round out the evening by talking and listening to one another.

Free and open to the public.

Let us know you're coming – Call 513-579-8547.

Spanish Translation and Childcare available with RSVP.

Dinner will have vegetarian option.

Program runs from 6-8:30pm.

Sponsored by the Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center Day of Dialogue Project

IJPC could not do what we do so well without our friends—you our committee members, office volunteers, annual donors etc etc etc

In this Issue we want to highlight a central group who keep our office and our programs moving along—**our college interns and volunteers!** On average IJPC enjoys 2,700 hours of student support each year. Our thanks for making the 2009/2010 year so productive—Samantha Groark of Xavier University, Daniel Hagerstrand of The University of Cincinnati College of Engineering, Morgan Miller of Xavier University, Samantha Wade of the University of Cincinnati and Anne Wessel a Church of the Brethren volunteer.



Sam

INTERNS



Dan



Ann