About the Ten Core Objectives for Social Change

Civil disobedience is not our problem; our problem is civil obedience. Our problem is that people are obedient all over the world in the face of poverty and starvation and stupidity...

Our problem is that people are obedient while the jails are full of petty thieves, and all the while the grand thieves are ruling the country. That’s our problem. (Howard Zinn)

Introduction

The purpose of this leaflet is to:

- Provide clear and articulate goals around which the communities in our nation can be organized.
- Prevent the movement from being isolated and neutralized by the 1%’s forces of repression.
- Increase momentum in the movement toward transfer culture.
- Firmly embed the movement in as broad a cross-section of the population as possible.
- Effect permanent, progressive, and substantive change in the nature and structure of U.S. capitalist society, and thus the world.

The Occupy Movement, in its myriad manifestations, has championed us all with their ideas and the courage of their convictions. If you had the power in your hands to change this world for the better through sheer cooperative effort alone, would you?

This platform is designed to alert you to the fact that you do possess that power. Our greatest power lies in our unity, cooperation and our organizational ability. It is now time to take the movement to its next evolution and ultimately to its inevitable conclusion: victorious revolutionary change.

Distribute this platform as broadly as possible. Share it at work, church, at the coffee shop, the gym, the street corners, rallies, mosques, art galleries, temples, and the college campuses of your community. If you are an Occupy- activist – these are your/our ideas – synthesized from every Occupy formation in the U.S., and several abroad. It is a tool to build a new society for the 99%, and a weapon to destroy the domination of society by the 1%.

Post it online, tweet about it, and rally around all those points and strategic efforts that most centrally reflect your vision of a world where the interest of the 99% govern society.

Join us- and together we will win.

This is a summary of the 10 Core Objectives. You can find a much extended version of these published in an essay on December 6, 2011, in the SF Bay View, titled: “California prison hunger strikers propose ‘10 core objectives’ for the National Occupy Wall Street Movement,” and online on: NCTTCorSHU.org. Compiled and written by The NARN Collective Think Tank: the General Assembly of Occupy-NCTT.

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The 10 Core Objectives for Social Change

1. We want full employment with a living wage for all people who will work, and for employment to be enforced as the right which it is.

2. We want an end to institutional racism, sexism, hetero-sexism (homophobia) and race- and class-based disparities in access to, and quality of, labor, education, health care, marital rights, criminal defense, political empowerment, technology and healthy food.

We recognize that equality is the birthright of all humans, men and women. Yet women continue to experience institutional inequality at every level of people activity, while hetero-sexualism (homophobia) continues to discriminate against entire segments of our population. There exists no articulable, principled basis upon which a human’s gender, gender identification, or sexual orientation should be the basis for institutional inequality in exercise or access to any right enjoyed by men or heterosexuals (i.e. wages, employment, opportunities, marriage/divorce rights, access to higher education, etc.). We recognize such institutional inequality is inextricably linked to the nature and structure of capitalist society and the puritanical, patriarchal authoritarian mass psychology that supports it.

3. We want decent and affordable housing for all people and for it to be enforced as the right which it is.

4. We want affordable and equal access to higher education for all and access to education that teaches the true history of colonialism, chattel slavery, repression of organized labor, the use of police repression and imprisonment as tools of capitalist exploitation, and the perpetuation of imperialism in the development and maintenance of modern U.S. power systems and corporate financial markets.

5. We want an immediate end to police brutality and the murder of oppressed people in the U.S., particularly in the New Afrikan (Black), Latino, immigrant and underclass communities and among those protesting in this nation.

6. We want an end to the expansion of the prison industrial complex, as a profit base – from our tax dollars – for the disposal of surplus labor and the poor.

7. We want an end to all corporate and financial influences in the political process in the U.S.

This also means the complete divestiture of all corporate assets and financial instruments (stocks, bonds, swaps, holdings, etc.) by any elected official as a prerequisite of assuming public office. All such assets can be placed in a blind trust managed by a committee selected by the people until the officials’ term ends. This is the only way to remove the incentiviation of corruption in the U.S. system.”

8. We want an end to imperialist wars of aggression and sending our youth off to kill and die to enforce the economic interests of big oil and other corporate concerns seeking new resources to exploit, new markets to open for sale of their goods and services and as an impetus to keep from addressing domestic ills.
9. We want a sustainable ecologically and environmentally conscious, bottom-up approach to economic development and labor-capital relations in the U.S. We recognize that the structure of the productive system in capitalist America is one that has, since the rise of the Industrial Revolution, consistently disregarded our environmental and ecological future in favor of an ever obsessive pursuit of super-profits.

We have been subjected to genetically modified organisms in our food supply, as droughts, increasingly powerful storms, sea-level rise, and depletions of arable land continue to contribute to the litany of human misery among the 99% while the corporations who are the primary contributors to this reality sit on trillions in cash reserves. We cannot speak of a “bottom-up” approach to economic development without making sustainable ecological and environmentally responsible production / distribution-methods the centerpiece of labor-capital relations. This will of course necessitate a transition in the motive force of the productive system from corporate profit of human need.

10. We want a more equitable distribution of wealth, justice and opportunity at every level of society, reflecting the objective reality that it’s the socio-economic, political, intellectual and cultural contributions of the 99 percent upon which this society stands.

Read the complete essay with explanations here:
Nctt-shu.blogspot.com/2011/12/california-prison-hunger-strikers.html

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More Articles by NCTT-Cor-SHU members on their website:

- CDCR’s Security Threat Group Pilot Program: a document intentionally designed to fail (Jan. 2013)
- Creating Broken Men? (December 2012)
- Don’t let the torturer define torture (Oct 2012)
- Update on our Pilot Program Block-Vote Democratic Initiative (Oct. 2012)
- Solitary Confinement Policies Revised Again (Sept 2012)
- Trayvon, Christian, Jason, Gerardo, Kendrec and nine children in Afghanistan: a discussion of race, violence and the authoritarian psychology (June 2012)
- A Day in the Life of a Revolutionary (May 2012)
- NCTT Corcoran SHU responds to new Security Threat Group management proposal (April 2012)
- Re-asserting the cultural revolution in the National Occupy Movement
- A discussion on strategy for the Occupy Movement from behind enemy lines (about the 3 Pilot Programs) (Feb. 2012)
- Justice Makes A Nation Great (Jan. 2012)
- Feeling death at our heels: An update from the frontlines of the struggle (Jan. 2012)
- California prison hunger strikers propose ‘10 core Objectives’ for the national Occupy Wall Street Movement (Dec. 2011)
- We dare to win: The reality and impact of SHU torture units (Nov. 2011)
- From the front lines of the struggle (Nov. 2011)
- Corcoran SHU prisoners join Pelican Bay hunger strike (June 2011)

Also from the NCTT-Cor-SHU Collective Think Tank:

Tree Pilot Programs:

1) the Closed Circuit Economic Initiative
2) the Sustainable Agricultural Commune
3) the Block-Vote Democratic Initiative

Available on: NCTTCorSHU.org