

The Organizer

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY USA NATIONAL OFFICE

November 24, 2014

Socialist Party USA Statement on the Ruling from the Ferguson Grand Jury

By the Socialist Party USA National Action Committee 11/24/2014



The mask is off. We have seen behind the curtain. American Imperialism has come home to roost, and it is wearing a badge.

The grand jury decision in the case of Darren Wilson -- the officer who shot Michael Brown, an unarmed 18-year-old African American man six times -- is another tragically clear indication that the people of the United States are the targets of a brutally racist and oppressive system that has multiple definitions of "justice" dependent on one's class position. Racism, police brutality, and oppression have received pardons. Again.

The deaths of Michael Brown, Eric Garner, Trayvon Martin are tragedies, but not isolated incidents. Such deaths have become disturbingly frequent in an era of increasing police militarization, decreased police accountability, and continued racial profiling.

Police departments have reacted with increasing force in response to protests stemming from public outrage caused by the deaths of these men, and many others. Across the country, many police officers have demonstrated their willingness to harm innocent civilians with impunity. These are not mere accidents, but rather the predictable result of aggressive 'shoot first, ask questions later' policies that allow police officers to use lethal force with little consequence.

The Socialist Party USA stands in solidarity with the family of Michael Brown. We denounce Jay Nixon and call for his removal from office, and for Darren Wilson to be held accountable for his criminal acts.

We stand by those who have taken to the street to demand justice for these men and all the victims of police brutality and systemic racism. We support non-violent efforts to confront the growing police state in the US and condemn the constant harassment and brutality that communities of color and working-class people face.

The people have received their marching orders. Together, we can and will fight for the changes that deliver equality, peace, and justice for all. Nothing short of universal equality, peace, and justice is acceptable.

From the SPUSA statement of Principles:

Bigotry and discrimination help the ruling class divide, exploit, and abuse workers here and in the Third World. The Socialist Party works to eliminate prejudice and discrimination in all its forms. We recognize the right of self-defense in the face of attacks; we also support non-violent direct action in combating oppression. We fully support strong and expanded affirmative action programs to help combat the entrenched inertia of a racist and sexist system which profits from discrimination and social division.

People of color, lesbians and gays, and other oppressed groups need independent organization to fight oppression. Racism will not be eliminated merely by eliminating capitalism.

From the Socialist Party USA Platform:

- We call for the ultimate replacement of the police with community residents trained in conflict resolution who live in and serve the community under community control.
- We are committed to the creation of a pluralistic society that defends and promotes a multicultural/multiethnic presence in both the public and private spheres. The Socialist Party rejects the social construction of race and we commit ourselves to the eradication of racism.
- We strongly support affirmative action, civil rights, and anti-discrimination laws and programs to end institutional racism.

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Socialist Party USA Points of Agreement

The following points represent the key ideas of agreement of the Socialist Party USA.

- 1) The Socialist Party is a democratic socialist organization. We see socialism as a new social and economic order in which workers and consumers control production and community residents control their neighborhoods, homes and school and the production of society is used for the benefit of all humanity, not the private profit of a few..
- 2) We see the working class as in a key and central position to fight back against the ruling class and its power. The working class is the major force worldwide that can lead the way to a socialist future – to a real radical democracy from below.
- 3) We stand in opposition to all forms of oppression including but not limited to racism, sexism and homophobia.
- 4) We are a “multi-tendency” organization. We orient ourselves around our principles and develop a common program, but our members have various underlying philosophies and views of the world. Therefore we reject vanguardism and democratic centralism.
- 5) We advocate for independent political action outside the Democratic and Republican parties.
- 6) Our tactics in the struggle for radical democratic change reflects our ultimate goal of a society founded on principles of egalitarian, non-exploitative and non-violent relations among all people and between all peoples.

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www.socialistparty-usa.net/join-us.html
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c/o Socialist Party USA
339 Lafayette St. #303
New York, NY 10012

SPUSA ANTI-DRONE CAMPAIGN



CAMPAIGN AGAINST MILITARY DRONES

Help the Socialist Party USA build a Campaign Against Military Drones, a project of our Anti-War Campaign. Actions, events and materials will be posted on line.

www.socialistparty-usa.net/no-military-drones.html

SOCIALIST PARTY ACTION/PRIORITY CAMPAIGNS

Anti-War Campaign

web: www.socialistparty-usa.net/anti-war-campaign.html

e-mail: anti-war@socialistparty-usa.org

Ecosocialist Campaign

web: www.socialistparty-usa.net/ecosocialist-campaign.html

e-mail: zestysession@gmail.com

Campaign to End the Prison Industrial Complex

www.socialistparty-usa.net/end-the-prison-industrial-complex.html

e-mail: aj.segneri@gmail.com

Labor/Living Wage Campaign

www.socialistparty-usa.net/labor-and-living-wage-campaign.html

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