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the System as well. The Civil Rights Movement illustrates the potential of a Coalition between a disadvantaged group working with Allies from a wide range of people colors. Everyone brought their own perspective and moral commitment to the struggle; and willingness to risk their own perspective and moral commitment to the struggle; and willingness to risk their lives that forced American Society as a whole to confront the ugly truth of Racism. Struggling to eliminate African American mass incarceration gives us a similar opportunity today. one of the defining social crises of our time.

As individuals and as groups our visions can only be partial. but work together brings multiple ways of analyzing oppressive structures, understanding the world, and "Imagining otherwise". So where do we begin?

Self examination, collecting facts, attitudes and images, empathic listening, and dialogue.

History illustrates both how tenacious and variable systems of oppression are and how dynamic and creative we must continue to be to rise to the challenges they pose.

I hope this essay will contribute to an ongoing dialogue about African American's people of color's mass incarceration in ways that can have more potent and sustained impacts for justice, fairness, and equality in our world.

African American incarcerated lives matter.

Furthermore As Long As Reducing The INCARCERATION RATE IS CONTINUED TO FISCAL PRESSURES, LITTLE ATTENTION, IF ANY AT ALL, WILL BE PAID TO THE ROOT CAUSE OF MASS INCARCERATION (RACISM), OR HOW CAGING AFRICAN AMERICAN (AND PEOPLE COLORS FOR PART OR ALL OF THEIR LIVES HAS REMOVED FROM THE COMMUNITY AND THE FAMILY THE ABILITIES TO SUSTAIN THEMSELVES FREE OF STATE AND CORPORATE DOMINATION.

ERADICATING MASS INCARCERATION ULTIMATELY REQUIRES STRUGGLES AGAINST ALL ITS FORMS, AND COALITIONS AMONG DIVERSE PEOPLE OFFER THE MOST PROMISING STRATEGIES FOR THE CHALLENGE. THEREFORE PRISONERS HERE IN WASHINGTON STATE AND THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO ENCOURAGE SOMEONE TO GET INVOLVED IN THE MOVEMENT TO BRING AFRICAN AMERICAN MASS INCARCERATION TO AN END.

THE IMPETUS FOR THIS MORE OFTEN COMES FROM INCARCERATED PEOPLE OF COLORS AND THEIR FAMILIES, BECAUSE THEIR LIFE EXPERIENCED OFTEN ALLOW THEM TO SEE MORE CLEARLY THE CONTRADICTIONS BETWEEN MYTHS AND REALITY AND LEAD THEM TO DEVELOP A CRITICAL PERSPECTIVE ON CRIME AND PUNISHMENT IN NORTH AMERICA. BUT, THOSE NOT DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY AFRICAN AMERICAN MASS INCARCERATION ALSO HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO ~~PLAY~~ PLAY IN CHALLENGING

Incarcerated Inmates Lives Matter  
Just a few years ago, the Crisis of Mass Black Men  
Incarceration was largely thought of as an invisible issue,  
talked about almost exclusively in abolitionist circles  
and no plantation prison yards. It is now part of  
the mainstream discourse. Publications and groups  
spanning the political spectrum, even presidential  
hopefuls in both parties, claim support for reducing  
the incarceration rate. Still, we must not be  
~~naive~~ naive.

Elite level alliances, the dominate voice,  
taped and stapled together by mounting  
fiscal pressures, are unlikely to result  
in more than a few modest reforms. To  
eliminate black inmate mass incarceration,  
which is leading to nothing but social  
devastation and the making of a permanent  
underclass, maximum cooperation and solid-  
arity is required on the part of incarcerated,  
and non incarcerated African American  
people. Here's the thing: As the incarcera-  
tion rate increasingly grew over the  
~~last~~ last four decades, so did the political  
influence and power of groups, organizations  
and institutions with vested economic interest  
in maintaining the world's largest penal  
system. It is unlikely they will allow the  
incarceration rate to be significantly  
reduced without a fight.