

need to struggle politically, outside the confines of "politics as usual"?

THE CRIMES OF YOUR GOVERNMENT

The crimes of your government are so deeply shocking that huge numbers of people in the U.S. want to put the hated Bush years behind. We must stop these crimes. But we can't vote them away.

YOUR GOVERNMENT, on the basis of outrageous lies, is waging a murderous, illegitimate and criminal war in Iraq, with other countries in its sights.

YOUR GOVERNMENT is openly torturing people, and justifying it.

YOUR GOVERNMENT puts people in jail on the merest suspicion, refusing them lawyers, and either holding them indefinitely or deporting them in the dead of night.

YOUR GOVERNMENT is moving each day closer to a theocracy, where a narrow and hateful brand of Christian fundamentalism will rule.

YOUR GOVERNMENT suppresses the science that doesn't fit its religious, political and economic agenda, forcing present and future generations to pay a terrible price.

YOUR GOVERNMENT is moving to deny women here, and all over the world, the right to birth control.

YOUR GOVERNMENT enforces a culture of greed, bigotry, intolerance and ignorance.

Who is going to stop the fascist re-making of

US society and endless war?

Only you – not your government – can bring any of this to a halt. If you want these crimes to end, don't put your hopes in empty promises of "change."

The whole world hopes to see the people in the U.S. break out of the killing confines of official politics and take things in a radically different direction.

No matter who the president is, **stop the endless wars!**

People of conscience must take responsibility for what their own governments do. As Gandhi said: "We must be the change we wish to see in the world."

Step UP as someone who won't allow these crimes. We must stop thinking like an American, and start thinking like a human being!



Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. -- Margaret Mead

We need an increasingly visible, independent political force of **RESISTANCE, PROTEST, and ACTS of CONSCIENCE** that people can join with and persevere with until this whole direction is stopped.

No Matter Who Becomes President, Only YOU Can Stop the Crimes of Your Government!

SUGGESTED ACTION

1. Join Camp Hope

Justice and Peace groups from around the U.S. will gather in Chicago's Hyde Park from January 1 – January 20 to support president-elect Obama's administration commitment to change business as usual.

www.camphope@vcnv.org

www.camphope2009.org (after Nov. 5)

2. Join Witness Against Torture Campaign

Witness Against Torture is excited to announce a new campaign to close Guantánamo and end torture by the U.S. Beginning on Jan. 11 with a nine day fast, the campaign will consist of a daily, sustained, physical presence across from the White House for the first 100 days of the new administration which begins January 20.

There will also be a weekly schedule of Executive and Congressional education, public teach-ins and film screenings, prayer and vigiling, direct action and public pressure.

www.witnesstorture.org/100days

3. Support Majority Elections with Instant Run-Off Voting

First, abolish the electoral college.

Second, voters simply vote for the candidates in their order of preference.

Third, if a candidate polls more the 50%, s/he is the winner. If not, the votes move down the line until we have a winner at more than 50%.

Majority elections with Run-Off Voting would make 3rd and 4th party candidates viable and force the two major party candidates to actually listen to the electorate. 100% public financing and paper ballots are also needed to clean up the election process. Without majority voting though, we are doomed to the tyranny of the American two-party system.

<http://www.afterdowningstreet.org/node/36669#comment-215999>

Note: Other peace leaflets produced by 8th Day Center can be found at www.8thdaycenter.org/resources/leaflets.html You may wish to use them for your own vigils, in classrooms, etc.

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AFTER THE ELECTION

If Barack Obama is elected, and then—in spite of his repeated promises of “change”—he continues the criminal agenda of the Bush Regime in some form, what will millions of Obama supporters do? Will they suddenly talk themselves into supporting these criminal policies, now that Obama is implementing them instead of Bush? Or, conversely, will they retreat into cynicism: “if all politicians are evil, I guess there’s nothing we can do”? **Or will they convert their anger and betrayal into determined resistance?**

We must be the change we wish to see in the world.

-- M.K. Gandhi

If, contrary to all poll indications, John McCain wins, will people accept what is almost certainly either another stolen election or a loud declaration of white supremacy? Will people cover their eyes, ears, and mouths as the fascist direction of our country escalates further? Will they sink into the depths of an even deeper demoralization, and even more pronounced pessimism in humanity, than we witnessed after the 2004 election?

Or will they see more clearly than ever the