

“Up Against the System!”

Investigating Systemic Problems;
Inventing Systemic Solutions

...

Thomas D. Lutze
2021 Honors Day Convocation



COVID-
19



Murder of George
Floyd



Contested
elections





Bloomington, IL

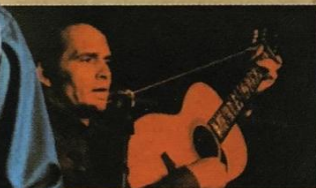


[illegible]

MERLE HAGGARD

OKIE FROM MUSKOGEE

RECORDED "LIVE" IN MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA



*And I'm proud to be an
Okie from Muskogee*

*We don't smoke marajuana in
Muskogee.*

We don't take our trips on LSD.

*We don't burn our draft cards
down on Main Street.*

*'Cause we like living right and
being free.*



“Sex, Drugs, and Rock & Roll”





Hope Church

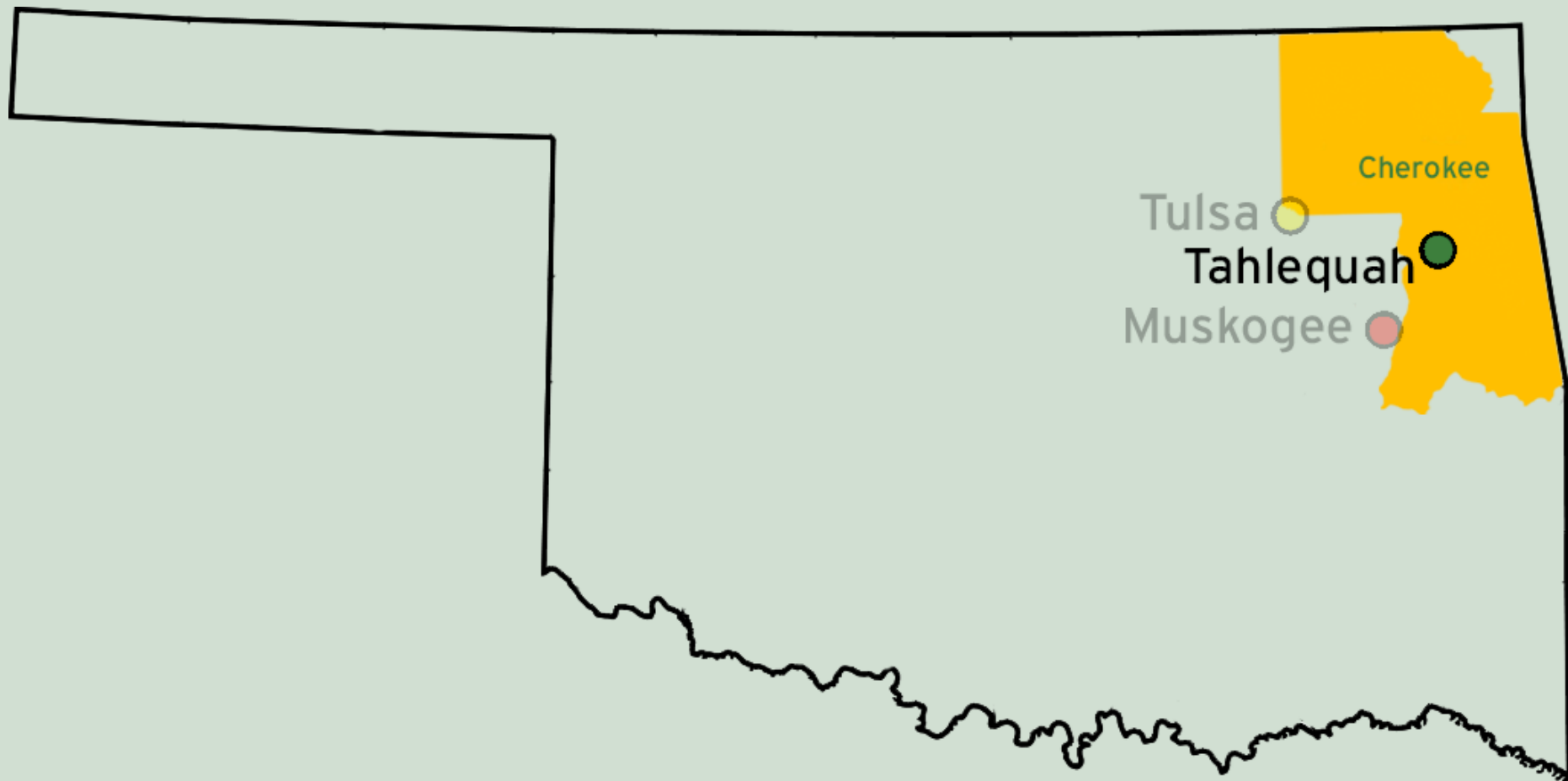


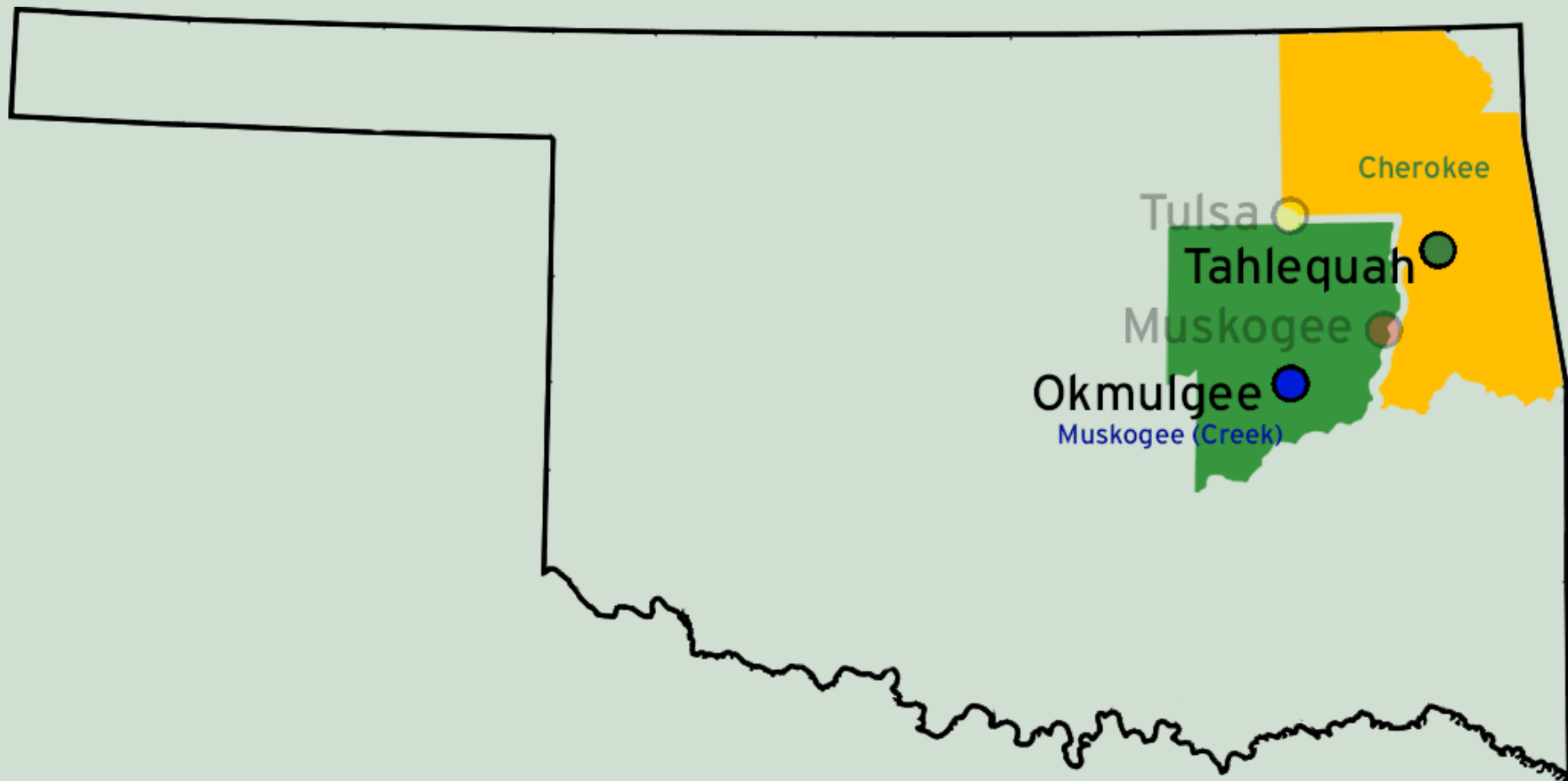
Tulsa ●

Muskogee ●











Greenwood

America's "Black Wall Street"

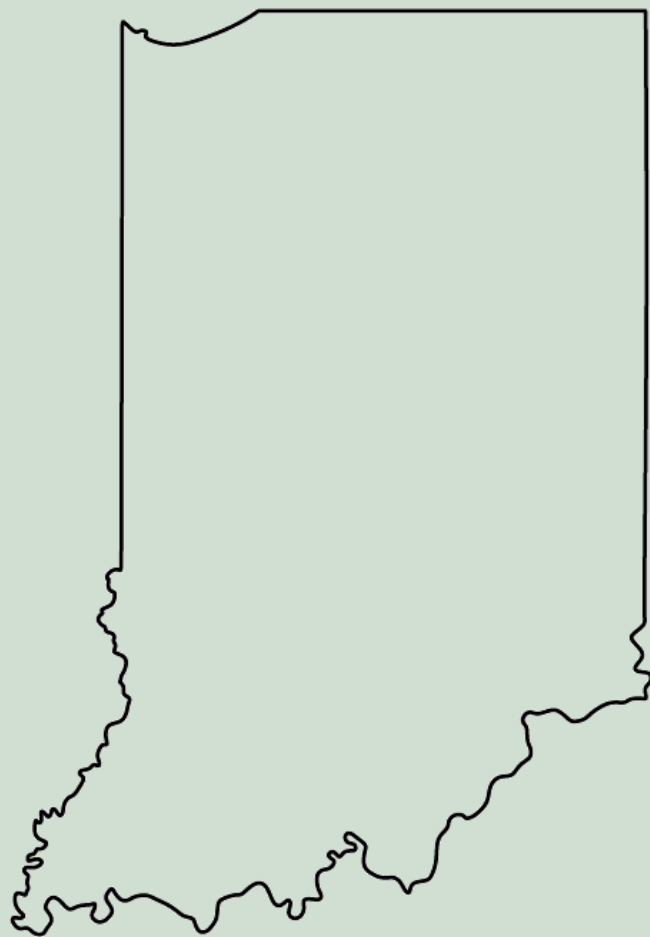


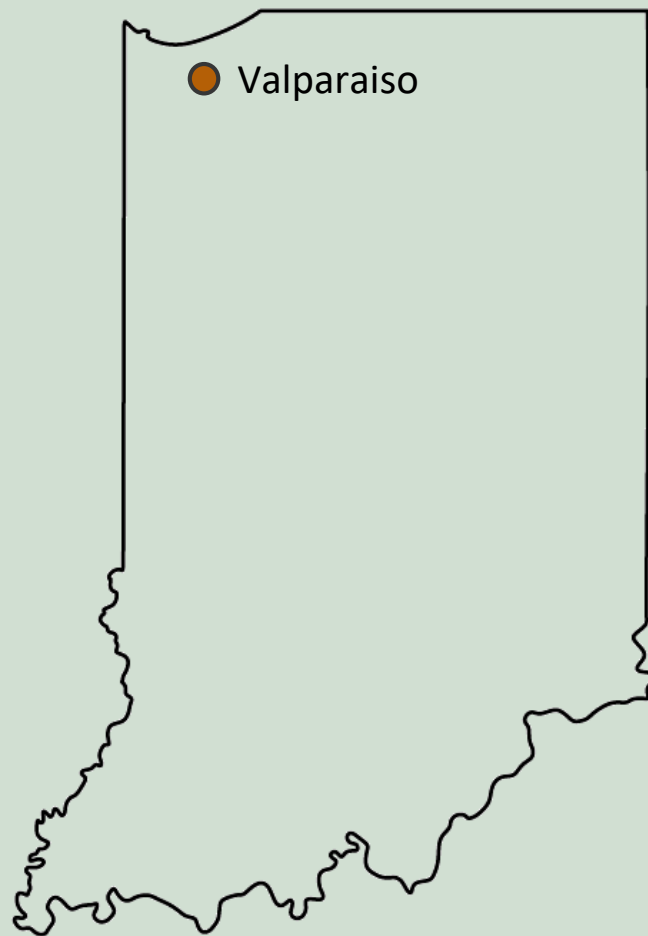
Greenwood

After the Massacre





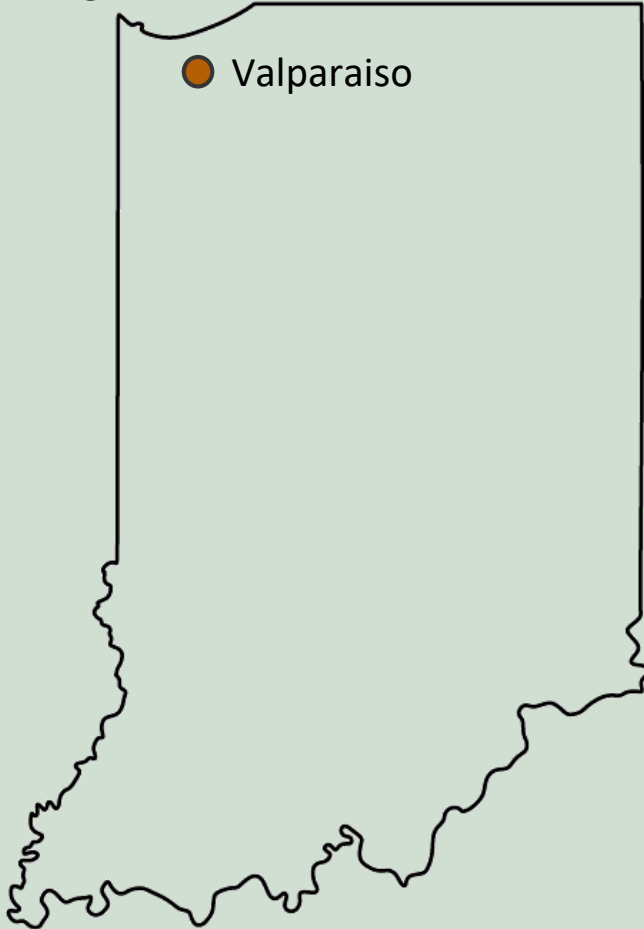




● Valparaíso

Chicago ●

● Valparaiso

An outline map of the state of Indiana is shown. A red dot is located at the top left corner of the state, labeled "Chicago". An orange dot is located in the upper central part of the state, labeled "Valparaiso". The map is oriented vertically with the north at the top.

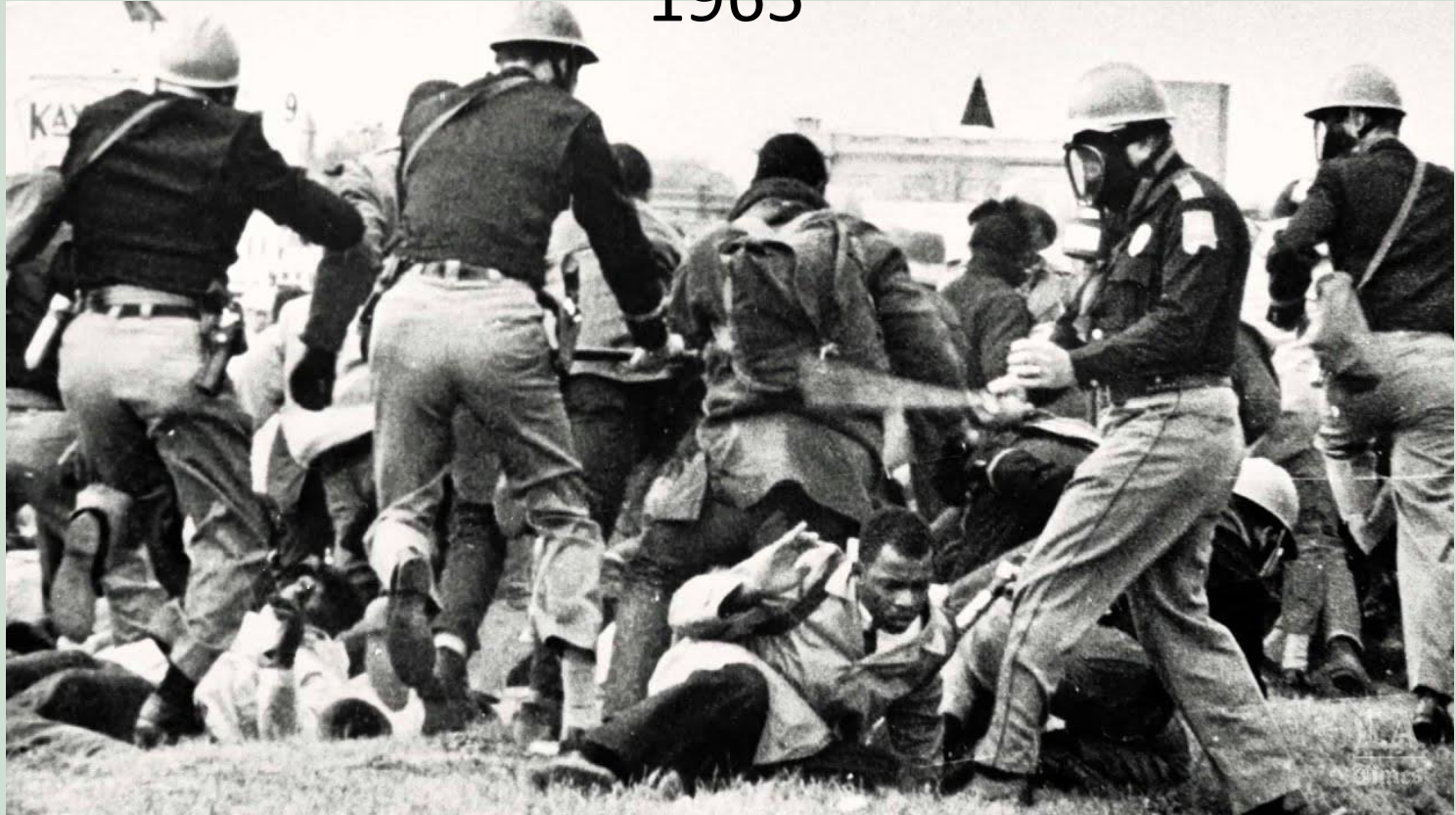


16th Street Baptist Church

Bombed by the Ku Klux Klan



Bloody Sunday. Selma, Alabama March 7, 1965



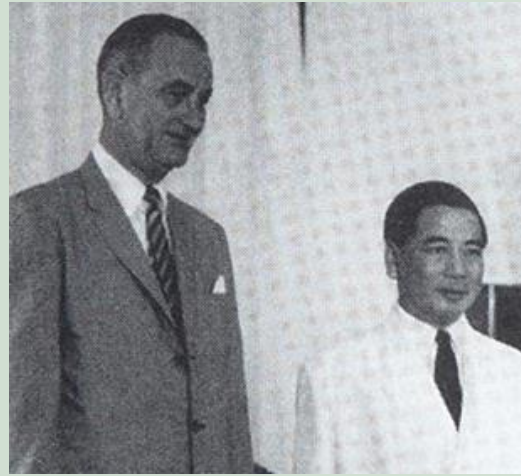


“There never was a moment in American history more honorable and more inspiring than the pilgrimage of clergymen and laymen of every race and faith pouring into Selma to face danger at the side of its embattled Negroes.”

- Martin Luther King, Jr.
March 25, 1965

Pete and Dad -
50 years after Selma to
Montgomery March





S. Vietnam's Dictators, 1954-1975



1965 - 189,000 U.S. Troops Deployed





“Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence”

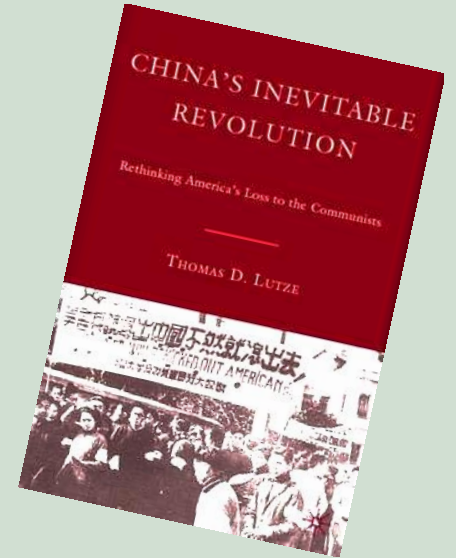
Martin Luther King, Jr., Riverside Church, New York, April 4, 1967



“Those who make peaceful revolution impossible will make violent revolution inevitable.”

- John F. Kennedy, 1962

Quoted by M. L. King, 1967



MLK on International Justice



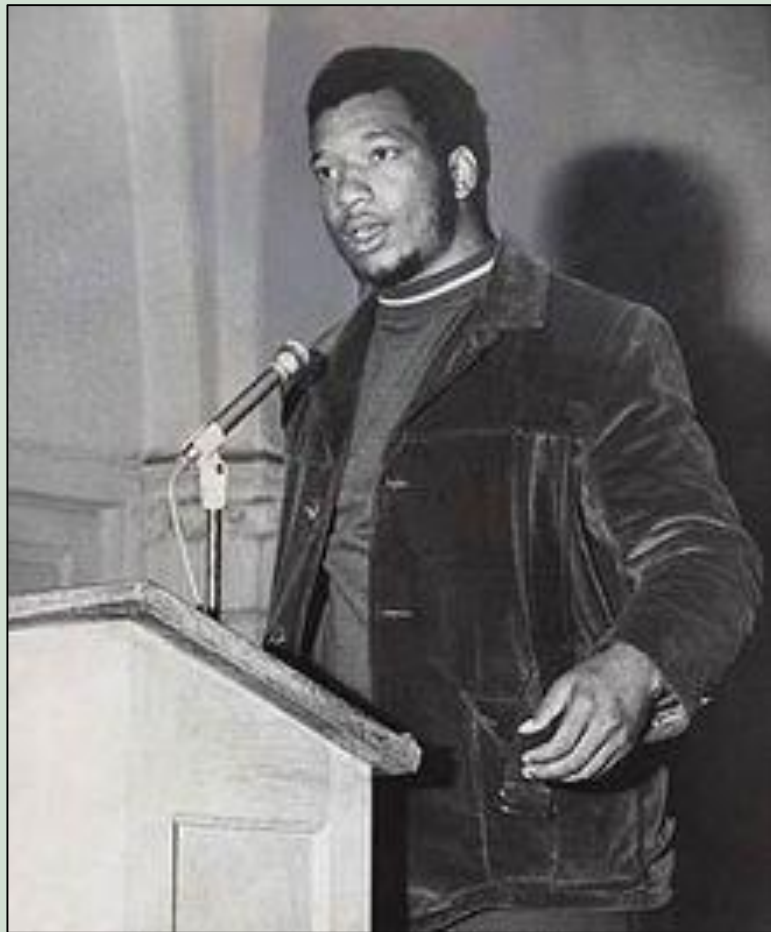
“A true revolution of values will soon look uneasily on the glaring contrast of poverty and wealth. With righteous indignation, it will look across the seas and see individual capitalists of the West investing huge sums of money in Asia, Africa, and South America, only to take the profits out with no concern for the social betterment of the countries, and say, ‘This is not just.’”







Fred Hampton



On Systemic Origins of Racism



“... Capitalism comes first and next is racism. [W]hen they brought slaves over here, it was to make money... It had to be capitalism first, and racism was a by-product of that.”

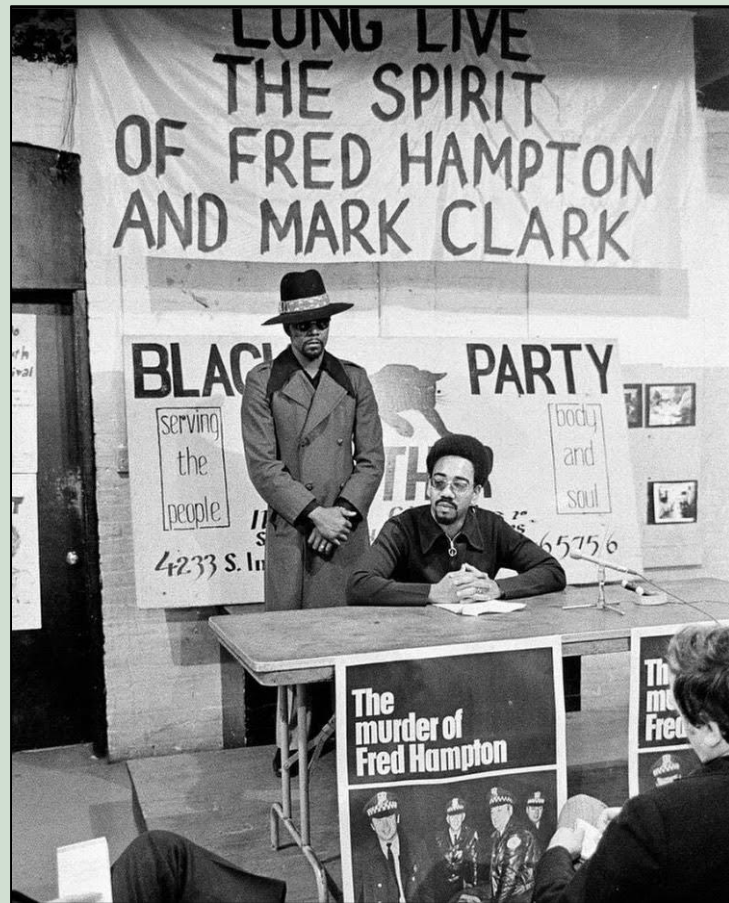
- Fred Hampton, Nov. 1969

Chicago's Rainbow Coalition

<u>Organization</u> <u>Button</u>	<u>Neighborhood</u>	
Black Panther Party stripe	African-American West Side	Black
Blackstone Rangers stripe	African-American South Side	Black
Young Lords stripe	Puerto Rican Lincoln Park	Brown
Brown Berets Brown stripe	Chicana/o Pilsen	
Red Guard Party stripe	Asian-American Chinatown	Yellow



Original Rainbow Coalition
button given to me
by BPP in 1969







Tinker v. Des Moines





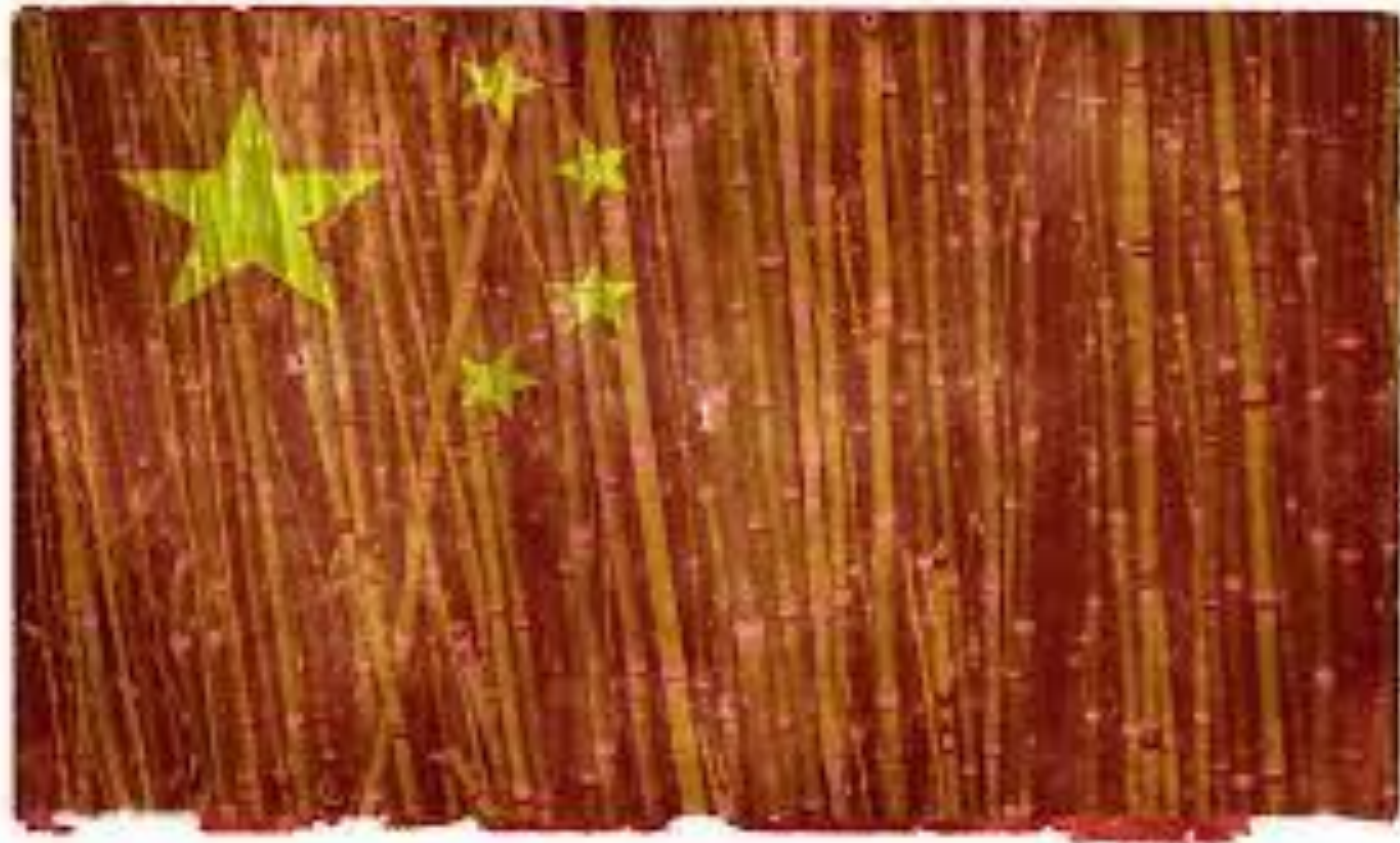


Anti-War Protests, 1967

Black Student Strike, 1968

University of Wisconsin





Systemic Changes in China

1. Empowering the laboring classes

Workers manage, managers work



2. Narrowing inequalities between men and women

Jobs outside the home, **land ownership** rights;

Childcare;

Paid maternity leave;

Reproductive rights; free access to birth control, abortion

Sharing of housework;

Freedom of marriage and divorce;

Eradication of sexualization of girls and women.



3. Eliminating elitism in education

Extending **opportunities for study** to those—**the poor, the peasants**—who had historically been excluded;

Launching **universal literacy campaigns**;

Eliminating college entrance exams; replace with community recommendations;

Emphasizing **experiential learning**;

Revamping **curricula to serve social needs and social justice**



4. Providing innovative, effective, affordable, accessible medical care



Combining best of Western and Chinese medical practices

Wiping out opium addiction, STDs, and schistosomiasis;

Exploring new uses of acupuncture;

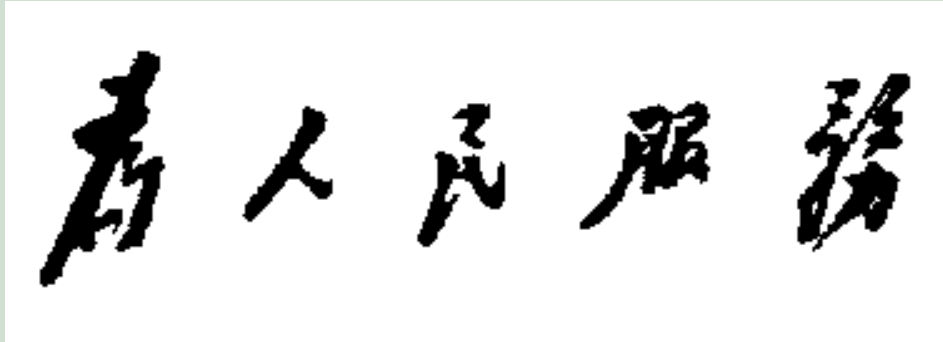
Establishing network of paramedics,, or “Barefoot Doctors,” to serve countryside;

Creating rural insurance cooperatives for universal coverage and low costs.

Paradigm Shift

from “**Maximize Profits**” (material incentive)

to “**Serve the People**” (moral incentive)



The above slogan, *Wei renmin fuwu* [Serve the People] was ubiquitous throughout China

African-Americans in China



NAACP co-founder,
author, and activist,
W.E.B. DuBois with
Mao Zedong, 1959



Black Panther Party
co-founder,
Huey P. Newton
1971



NAACP
activists,
**Robert F.
and
Mabel
Williams,**
1963



Vicki Garvin, 1967, Pan-Africanist, former
roommate of Maya Angelou, and associate
of Malcolm X during his 1964 Ghana visit.

China's Impact on the Black Liberation Struggle

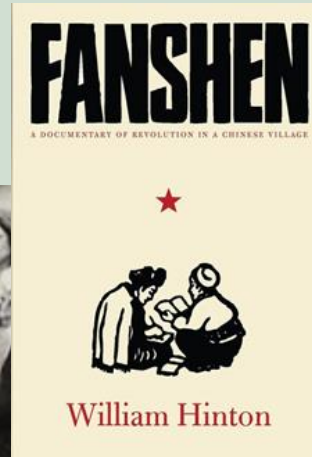


Black Panther Party members studying the writings of Chairman Mao



Black Panther Party Communications Secretary Kathleen Cleaver in front of two Chinese posters. The one on the right reads, quoting Mao, **"Resolutely support the just struggle of Black People in America"**

China's Impact on the Women's Liberation Struggle



Consciousness-Raising, a key feature of Second Wave Feminism in the 1960s and 1970s, was drawn from reading *Fanshen: a Documentary of Revolution in a Chinese Village*.

Below, slogan on banner is a quote from Mao Zedong



China's Impact on the French Intelligentsia



Co-creators of French New Wave Cinema,
Francois Truffaut (above) and Jean-Luc Godard (far
left)

Existentialist philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre (center)
and feminist philosopher Simone De Beauvoir

All sold *La Cause de Peuple* on the streets of Paris

Richard Nixon's Trip to China - February, 1972





First trip to China - March, 1973



The one computer at a university, circa 1970

Dial telephone





I Love Lucy

Dick Van Dyke Show

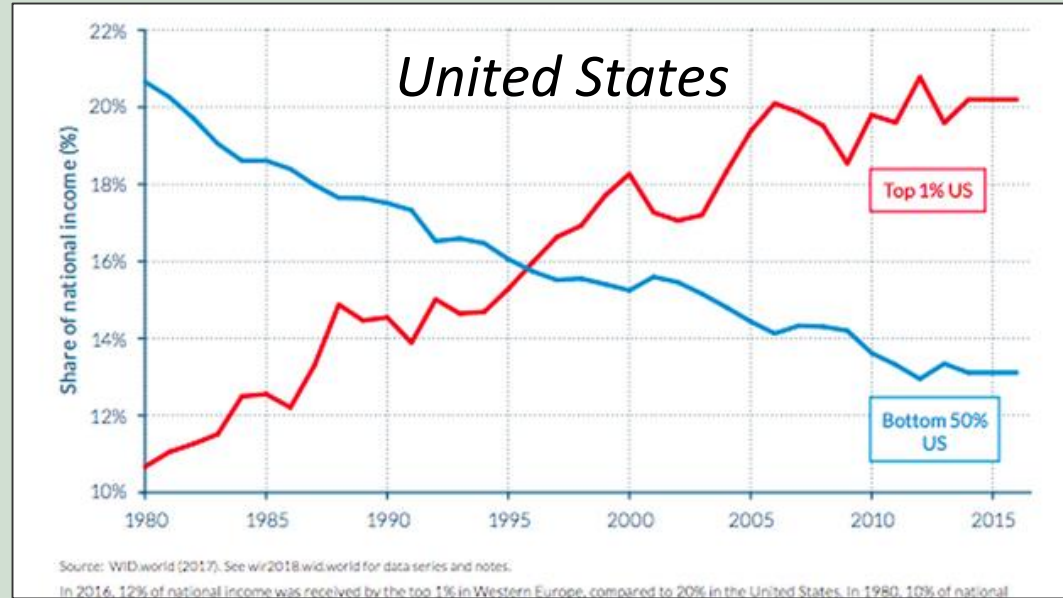


Global

82% of the wealth generated in 2017 went to 1% of the global population, while the poorest 50% of the world's people, 3.7 billion in number, received *none* of that wealth.

Oxfam

Wealth Gaps



In 2020 ...

“The world's 2,365 billionaires enjoyed a **\$4 trillion boost** to their wealth during the first year of the pandemic, increasing their fortunes by 54%.”

Institute for Policy Studies

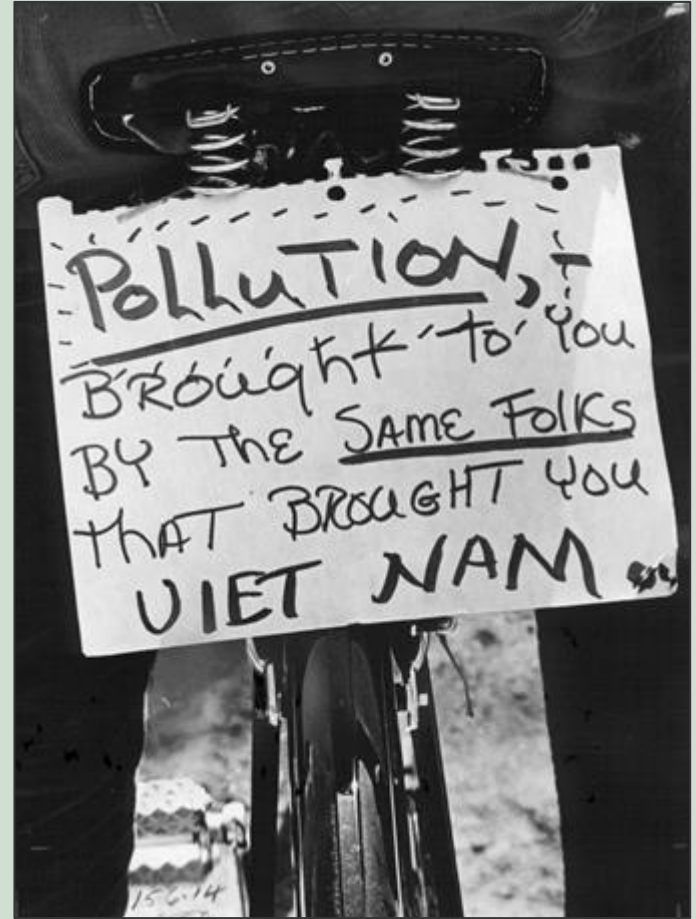


World's richest person, Amazon's Jeff Bezos



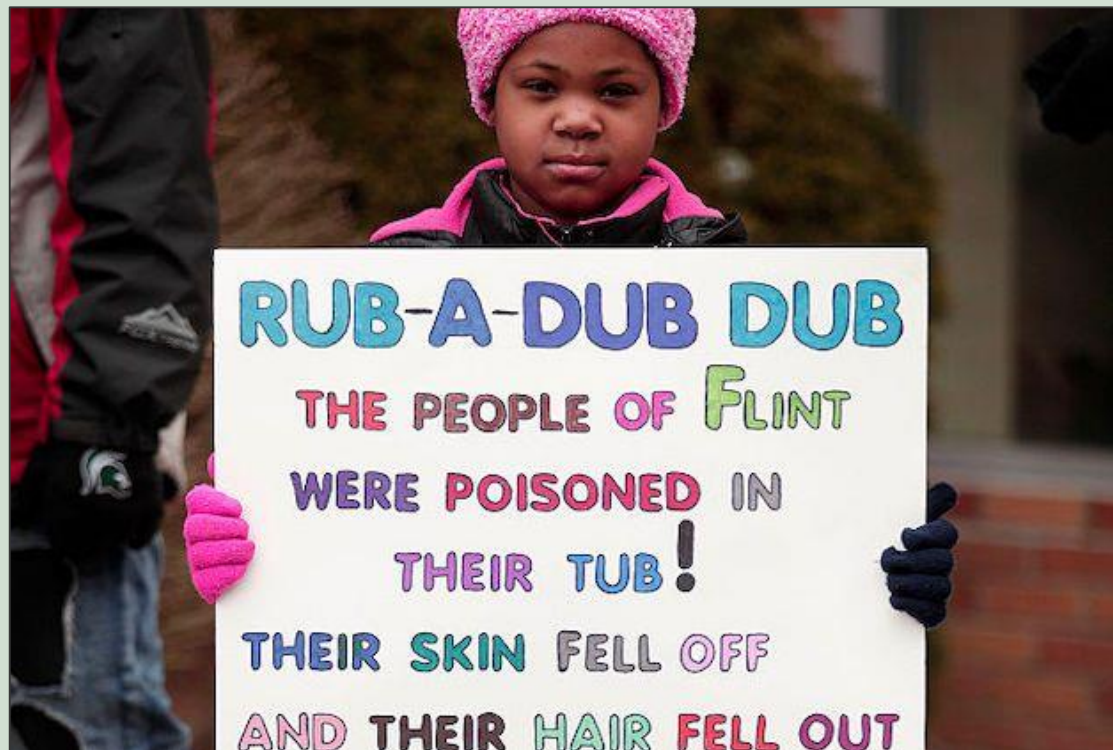
Chemically polluted Cuyahoga River on fire - 1969

1960s Environmental Movement





Flint, Michigan





Climate
change





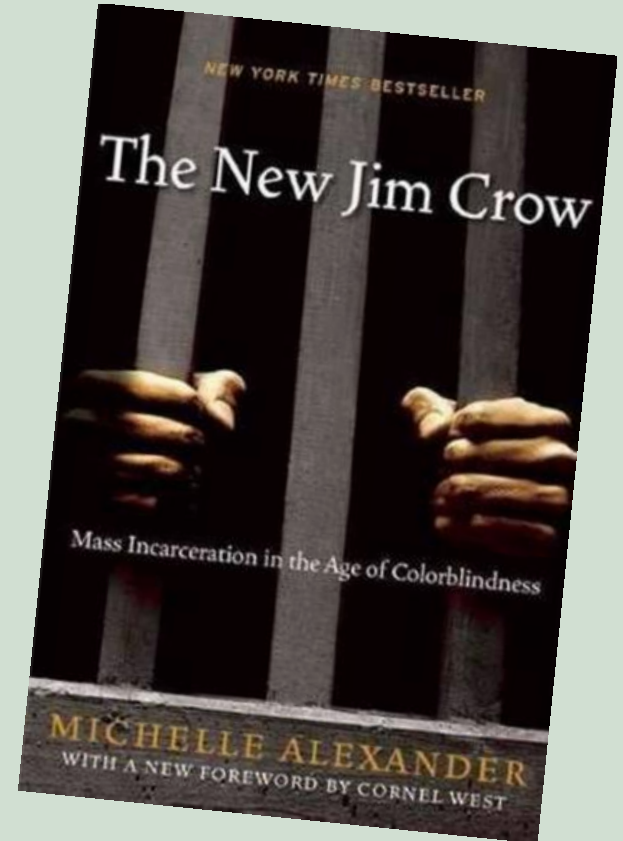
“Nearly **3 million American women** have left the labor force over the past year in a corona virus-induced exodus that reflects persistent pay inequality, undervalued work and antiquated notions of caregiving.”

- CBS News






Mass Incarceration



“Systemic” Problems

Wealth gap = ***Systemic plunder***

systems disruption (natural science)  ***Environmental crisis*** = ***Systemic crises*** (social science) *Earth*

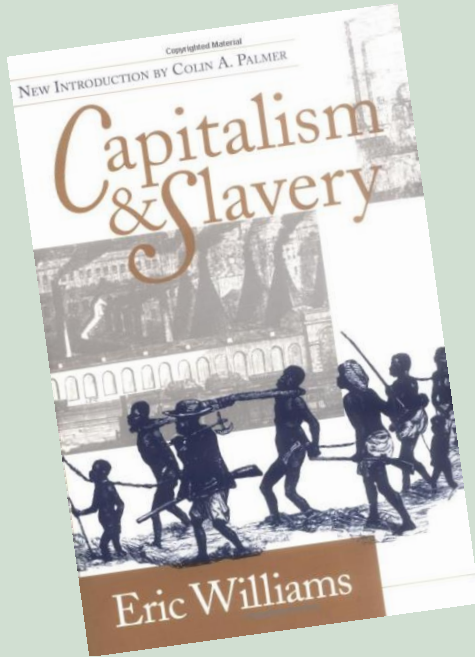
Gender inequality = ***System of patriarchy***

Racial subordination = ***Systemic racism***

3 Key Implications of the Systemic View

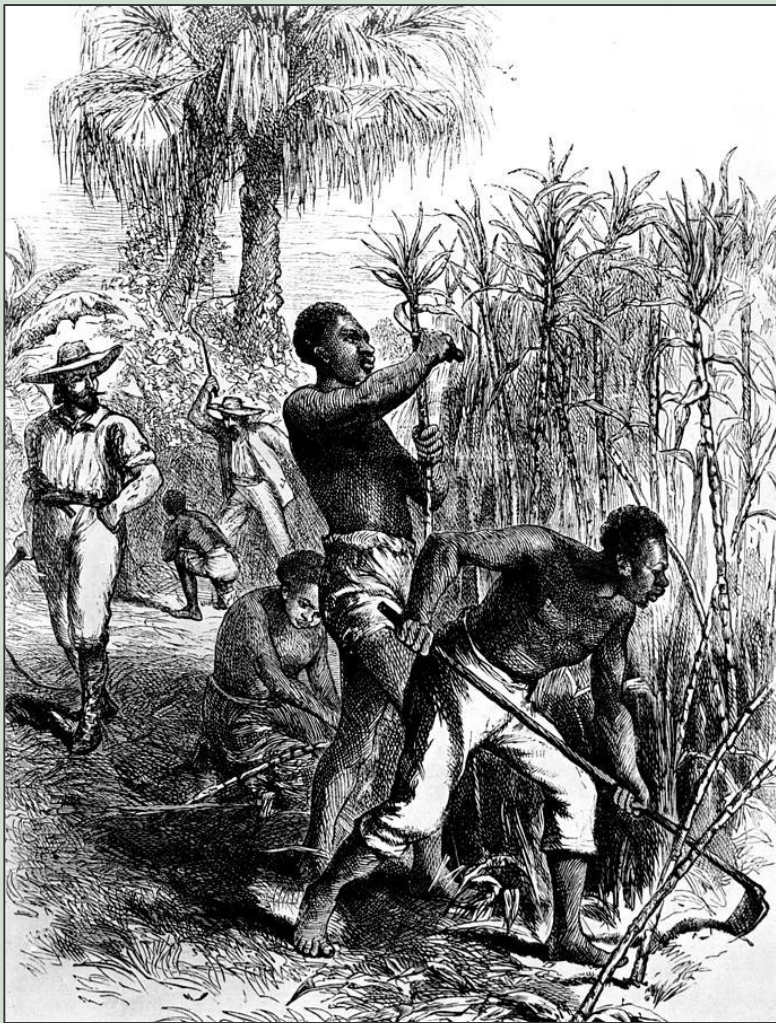
1. Forces beyond individual attitudes and behaviors shape, limit, and, ultimately, determine outcomes;
1. If the problems are not primarily individual, then individual efforts are not sufficient; the solution must rely on *collective* efforts;
1. Systemic problems demand systemic solutions.

Eric Williams on the origins of racism in the Americas



- Commercial capitalism needed tobacco, cotton, and sugar;
- Plantations made those products most profitable;
- Plantations called for slave labor;
- Rationalizing slave labor gave rise to ideology of racism.





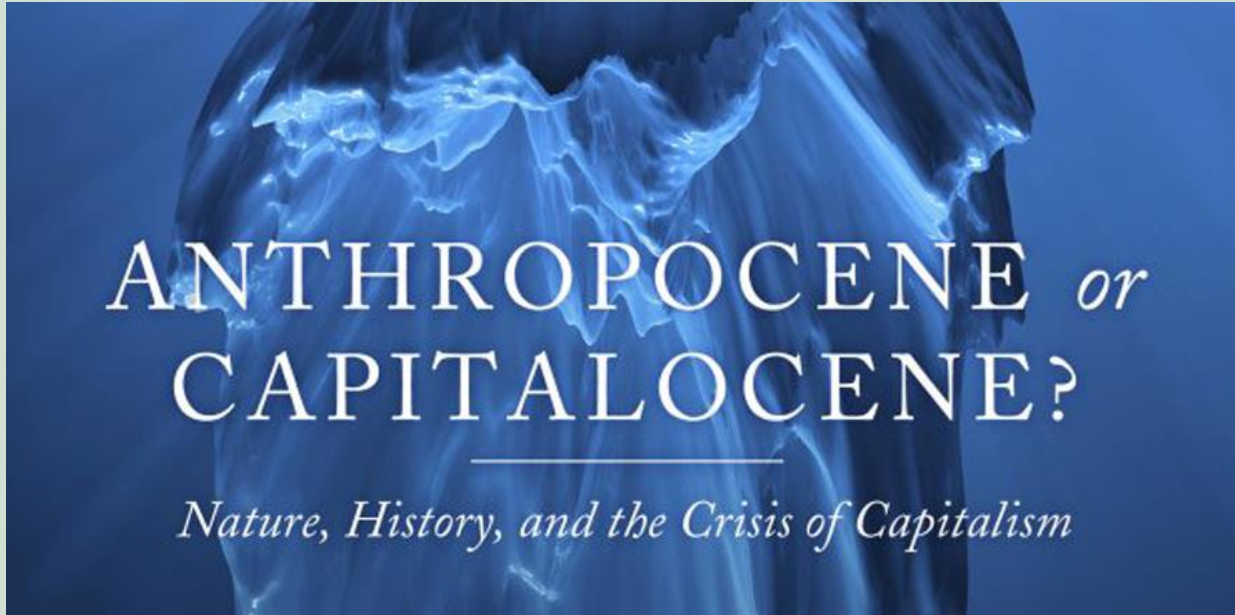
“Slavery was not
born of racism;
rather, racism was a
consequence of
slavery.”

- Eric Williams



March 7, 2021 - Prince Harry observed that racism in the royal family has “colonial undertones.”

Jason W. Moore on *Systemic* Causes of Environmental Crisis and Climate Change



The current environmental crisis is not a failure of a species; it is a failure of a system

Moore's Thesis

- Early capitalism required--materially--"cheap nature" to be exploited for gain;
- "Cheap nature" required that an ideological distinction be created between "man" and "nature";
- "Man" thus came to be identified as only white males, while women and colonized people were de-humanized and treated as part of "cheap nature," to be exploited just as were other "natural resources."
- "Cheap Nature" was crucial to the accumulation of capital that was needed to stimulate and support industrial capitalism and that yielded resultant environmental harms, including ultimately global climate change.

Honoring Those Professors Whose Jobs Were Terminated This Past Summer

Carole Myskofski, McFee Professor of Religion and 2001 winner of the Dupont Award;

Rebecca Gearhart Mafazy, Professor of Anthropology, 2017 winner of the Kemp Award, and executive committee member of IWU's Lambda of Illinois chapter of Phi Beta Kappa;

Chuck Springwood, Professor of Anthropology, recent president of the Central States Anthropological Society, member Phi Beta Kappa;

Scott Sheridan, Professor of French and Italian, Executive Committee member of the IWU Lambda of Illinois chapter of Phi Beta Kappa;

Chris Callahan, Professor of French;

JIN Tao, Associate Professor of Religion; and

Nawa Chaulagain, Associate Professor of Religion.



“Disaster Capitalism for Higher Education”

Steingraber '81

Poet, Author,

Environmental Advocate

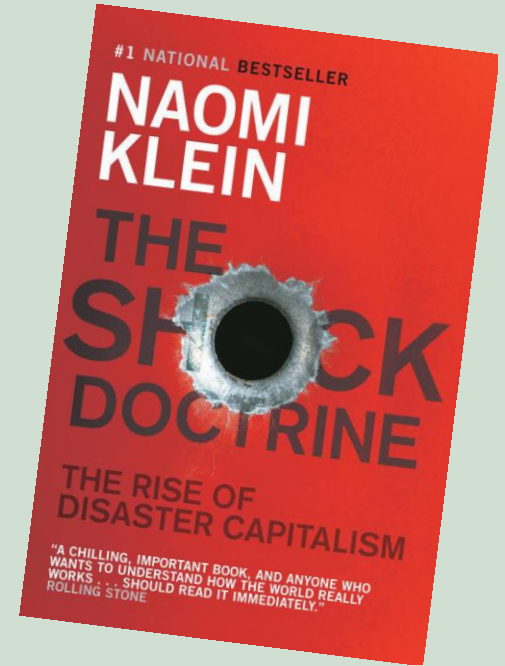
Sandra

Biologist,

Disaster Capitalism



The effort by private industries to take advantage of societal shocks in order to implement calculated, free-market policies that promise enhanced profits at the expense of the unfortunates who suddenly become victims of the economic force of “the invisible hand.”



Thank you!

Special thanks for editing
and technical assistance to

Nick Helten
Emma Gelbard
Abigail Jahiel
Ariana Jahiel
Nathaniel Jahiel

Dedicated to my dad

Karl E. Lutze

Lifelong champion of racial
equality and social justice

1920-2015