

Ezra Klein has been quoted saying hospitals are going to go into bankruptcy, that doctors are going to be impoverished, and that simply did not happen in Canada. Canadian hospitals are fine, Canadian physicians earn very good livings, and in fact there’s no net migration of Canadian doctors to the United States, even though they could come if they wanted. They don’t want to. In fact, there’s very few Canadian patients who come to the United States to get care. And, again, many of them could if they wanted to; they live within 50 miles of the US border, by and large.

The way single payer works economically is by huge administrative cost savings. The Canadian single-payer system has administrative costs that are just barely half of what administrative costs in the United States are. The US spends 31 cents on every healthcare dollar on billing and administration, Canada spends about 16-and-a-half percent. That’s a very large difference in terms of administrative spending. Projected to the United States, we could say that a single payer would save over \$400 billion a year in administrative costs, and that’s the money that you use to pay for expanded care, both for the uninsured and for people who now have only partial coverage.

If we want real change, we need to mobilize to get that change. And that’s what politics needs to be about. It’s not about telling people you can’t have a good system because this private interest, like an insurance company and drug industry that are going to stop it. It’s been pretty well-known among the Democratic Party, and often said by Democratic Party leaders, including President Obama, that a single-payer system would be preferable if we could get it, if we were starting from scratch. And Mrs. Clinton said essentially the same thing. She has in the past called for a Medicare-for-all system. So this new idea that it’s too disruptive, this is something she’s only recently started to say.

the problem with the idea of incremental steps is you don’t get any administrative savings. If anything, the Obamacare legislation raised overall administrative costs in the United States. So the beauty of single payer is you get the \$400 billion in administrative savings; it allows you to jumpstart universal coverage without increasing total healthcare costs. But when you try to do things incrementally, every time you add new coverage, you don’t have a way to pay for it, because you have not gotten those administrative savings. So that’s the problem with the incremental approach. Whatever its political possibilities, it’s economically not possible, whereas a true single-payer system is.

We just published a paper in the American Journal of Public Health showing that nearly two-thirds of current US health spending is from taxpayers. So that figure would include not just Medicare and Medicaid and the VA, things people think of as government health programs, but two other items. First, the benefit costs of public employees, like teachers and FBI agents, which of course are paid for by the taxpayers. And the second thing is the huge tax subsidy to private health insurance, which people have been talking about in relationship to a Cadillac tax. But that subsidy is about \$326 billion a year that the taxpayers are picking up for private insurance.

So when you include government direct spending for programs, government spending for public employees’ benefits and that tax subsidy, lo and behold, you get to 65 percent of total health spending already being funded by the taxpayers, which is about to rise to 67 percent over the next decade. Sixty-seven percent, we’re not that far below the tax-funded share of, for instance, Canada’s single payer, where the taxpayers pick up about 71 percent of total health spending. So the increased taxes that are needed are not that huge. They would all be offset by decreases in premiums and out-of-pocket payments. But even just thinking about the taxes, we’re only talking about a share equivalent to about 4 percent of healthcare budget to get us to the level of taxpayer funding in Canada.

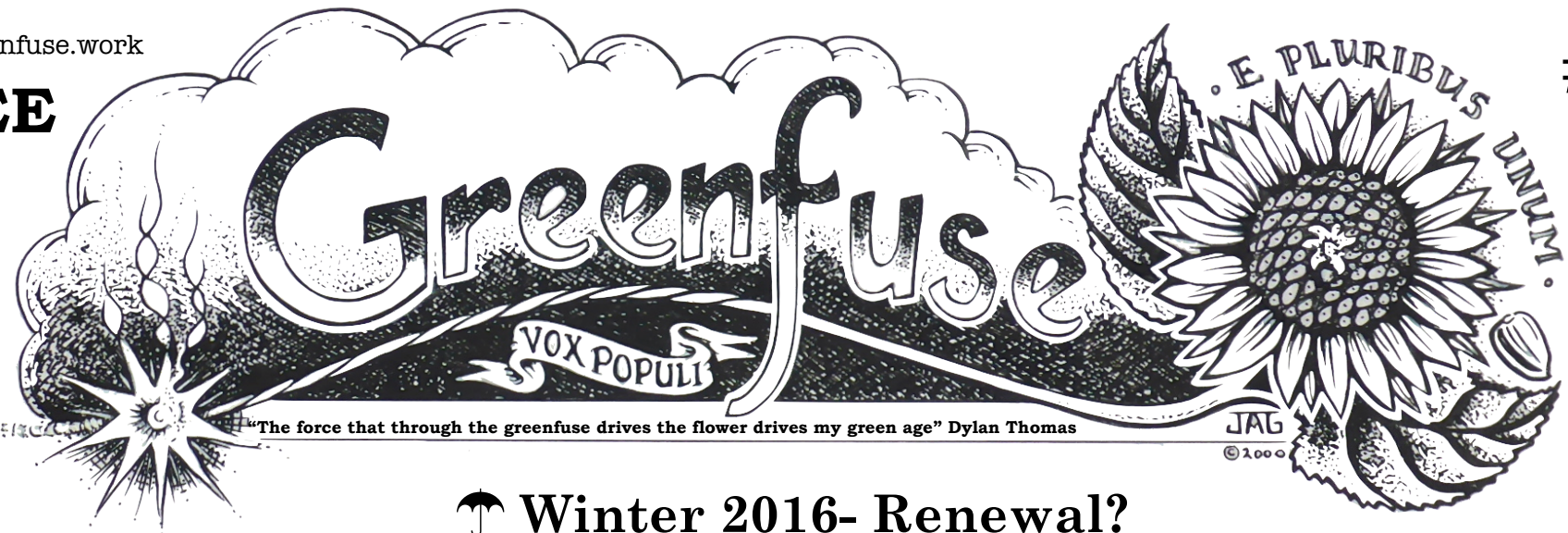


ground in Chiapas; for the moment we ask that you consider planting a food forest where you live and that you also donate what you can to the Zapatista food forests of Chiapas, Mexico. As a multi-species, organic, perennial system, food forests are beneficial to human beings everywhere and to our Mother Earth who especially needs help in this moment of deep capitalism-driven crisis and rapid climate change.

[www.schoolsforchiapas.org](http://www.schoolsforchiapas.org)

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in  
Humboldt  
Mendocino  
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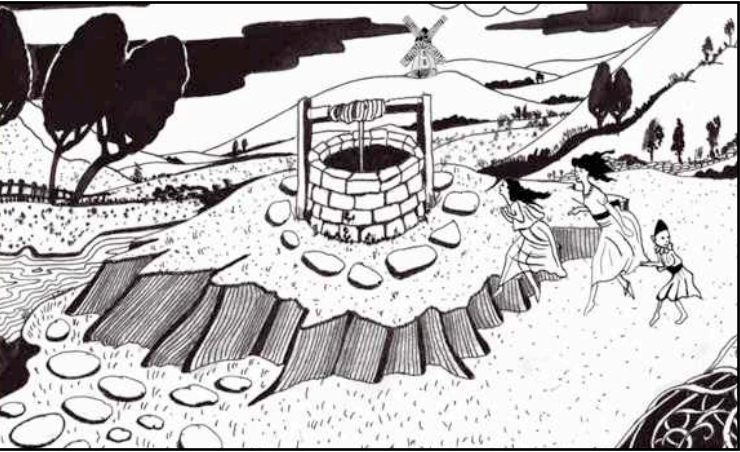


Dr. Steffie Woolhandler

We have real-world experience with a single-payer program in Canada. We also have some related experience with our own Medicare program; that’s kind of a partial single payer. Neither Canada’s single-payer system nor the Medicare system disrupted things. Neither of them broke the bank financially. In fact, there’s been almost no increase in Medicare costs over the last ten years, while private health insurance costs have continued to go up. In Canada, they’re spending about 40 percent less than we are. The doctors make plenty of money, the hospitals are doing just fine, and they have universal coverage. Their taxes are not much higher than what we pay in this country, and the higher taxes are more than offset by the fact that Canadian taxpayers don’t have to pay any premiums or out-of-pocket costs for most services. So the facts on the ground, experience in both Canada and the United States, say that a single-payer system is imminently doable from an economic point of view, and that it is not overly expensive. In fact, it’s significantly cheaper than what we have in this country. A single payer saves money by saying no to the insurance industry and by forcing drug manufacturers and device manufacturers to lower their prices. Again, this is not pie in the sky, this is something that’s done in Canada, that’s done all over Europe, where the government steps in and uses its bargaining power to get lower prices.

☂ Winter 2016- Renewal?

The well of deceit in Flint:



News of the poisoned water crisis in Flint has reached a wide audience around the world. The basics are now known: the Republican governor, Rick Snyder, nullified the free elections in Flint, deposed the mayor and city council, then appointed his own man to run the city. To save money, they decided to unhook the people of Flint from their fresh water drinking source, Lake Huron, and instead, make the public drink from the toxic Flint River. When the governor’s office discovered just how toxic the water was, they decided to keep quiet about it and covered up the extent of the damage being done to Flint’s residents, most notably the lead affecting the children, causing irreversible and permanent brain damage. Citizen activists uncovered these actions, and the governor now faces growing cries to resign or be arrested. Here are ten things that you probably don’t know about this crisis because the media, having come to the story so late, can only process so much. But if you live in Flint or the State of Michigan as I do, you know all to well that what the greater public has been told only scratches the surface.

1. While the Children in Flint Were Given Poisoned Water to Drink, General Motors Was Given a Special Hookup to the Clean Water.

Ancient Mayan Knowledge

In Chiapas Mexico the Zapatistas are reviving and recouping ancient Mayan knowledge to plant permanent food forests for the 21st century Beginning in 2015, Mayan students, education promoters, and other Zapatistas began the process of constructing 18 multi-species food forests at autonomous schools in several climatic zones of Chiapas, Mexico ranging from mile-high oak/ pine forests to lowlands rain-forest jungles. Food forests represent an ancient, alternative agricultural system which can provide food, medicine, and many other useful products through mimicking the ecology of a young forest. The ancient Mayan civilization was one of many cultures around the world which utilized perennial food forests to meet their basic needs. Food forests today represent both a revival and a recuperation of ancestral agricultural practices, it is also a practical response to the bankruptcy of contemporary commercial agriculture and food distribution systems. Within today’s modern Mayan communities, Zapatista educators, students, and activists are uncovering, documenting, and utilizing a rich reservoir of biological knowledge still practiced by their parents and grandparents, and have studied contemporary Food Forests in Australia, Canada, Great Britain, Mexico, Morocco, United States, and Vietnam.



» The Life & Times of the Greenfuse. «

Originally, this was a product of a very short-lived newspaper committee formed during a small gathering of **Green party** enthusiasts in **Garberville** during the build up towards the momentous 2000 presidential election. For a room of die hard progressive activists, desperate to create political change, creating a newspaper seemed a natural tool towards the goal of organizing. This appeal; To create media through the consensus process of the embryonic local Green chapter was however a bit of window dressing. The torch of media publication was in fact a foregone conclusion for cultural activist Kathy Epling and Paul Encimer. For Paul and Kathy As committed peacemakers, environmentalists and humanitarians, activism had always included creating your own media- Publishing your own news.

When the **Greenfuse** solidified, Kathy was quick to take on the task of Editor-in-chief and steered the infant rag away from the purely utilitarian political screed it may have become in those heady days of Green politics. The Green Party organization was on the move, but Kathy recognized that the Green Party had no monopoly on the ideals of a peaceful, environmentally sound humanitarian future, and was reluctant to devote the work of a regular publication to simply building a political party. With the never ending chaos of political, environmental and human tragedy in the world, the possibility of being too depressing was always a danger. I can personally attest to closing down emotionally during the spiral down the rabbit-hole that was the Bush years, and the predictable banality that followed. One can only say the same true thing a few hundred different ways before it seems ridiculously futile. Obviously the political/economic reality of the game table we share is rigged beyond hope. Finding hope had never been harder. Kathy's literary heart gave a soul to the project that included finding seldom heard voices, the victims of war, the eyewitness reports, innocents abroad and a diversity of thinkers, writers, and activist. With the new technology of the internet acting as a virtual wire service, the **Greenfuse** had no qualms about capturing relevant content where ever it could be found,adding local voices and issues, and distilling it down to say something important about people and the confusing world that confronts us.



## Greenfuse

A spirited collection of opinion & fact  
has been published mostly monthly,  
in Southern Humboldt  
& distributed through  
six Northcoast counties since 2000.

"Greenfuse bears witness to the love and enduring  
stubbornness of a small group of supportive,  
creative activist known as the: **Waking Dog Collective**-  
Unlike sleeping dogs, waking dogs never lie. The group  
includes a various assortment of beings, including some  
actual Dogs & Cats, Ravens in the air, and the memory of dead  
goldfish and humans."

Printing & distribution  
regularly outpaces financial resources.  
Our time is donated & our hearts are grateful for those who  
with pennies & carefully wrapped bills, with small money



Kathy called it: ***“A project of the Waking dog collective.”*** As a “founding member” of that collective I can tell you now; that is an elegant fiction. There were no staff meetings beyond passionate discussion, no editorial conferences beyond casual suggestion, and no schedules beyond deadline. The Waking dog collective is a dream, a vision, the poem of a rag-tag collection of fellow travelers, an extended family of activism & spirit that swirls around Paul and Kathy’s bookstore. The actual production was in their hands, on wrinkled recycled paste-up mechanicals- old school- actual cut and paste production, often into the wee hours to make the self imposed deadline, followed by a trek to the printer to wait while the archaic inky web press churned out another edition of inspiration and truth. I created the masthead and contributed art that set a style that Kathy pursued with graphic internet searches. The writing I contributed for a decade was a three part distillation of; historical observation, current affairs, and personal experience, and had the goal of supporting others waking interest, and was always accepted cordially, but I knew I had hit the mark and felt a sense of accomplishment when editor Kathy placed my piece in a prominent position.

Preaching to the choir was always a given with a project like this, but the goal was always that some turn of phrase, some historical precedent, or inspiring action or person could temper and strengthen the leading edge of progress towards a sharper wit, and a better world-

Perhaps teaching that tired well rehearsed choir just a bit more about the intricacies of harmony, or intonation.

more ➡➡



Write: [wakingdogs@greenfuse.work](mailto:wakingdogs@greenfuse.work)  
665A Redwood Drive Garberville CA 95542

FLINT- continued

8. Don't Call It “Detroit Water” — It's the Largest Source of Fresh Drinking Water in the World. The media keeps saying Flint was using “Detroit’s water.” It is only filtered and treated at the Detroit Water Plant. The water itself comes from Lake Huron, the third largest body of fresh water in the world. It is a glacial lake formed over 10,000 years ago during the last Ice Age and it is still fed by pure underground springs. Flint is geographically the last place on Earth where one should be drinking poisoned water. 9. ALL the Children Have Been Exposed, As Have All the Adults, Including Me. That's just a fact. If you have been in Flint anytime from April 2014 to today, and you've drank the water, eaten food cooked with it, washed your clothes in it, taken a shower, brushed your teeth or eaten vegetables from someone's garden, you've been exposed to and ingested its toxins. When the media says “9,000 children under 6 have been exposed,” that means ALL the children have been exposed because the total number of people under the age of 6 in Flint is... 9,000! The media should just say, “all.” When they say “47 children have tested positive”, that's just those who've drank the water in the last week or so. Lead enters the body and does it's damage to the brain immediately. It doesn't stay

in the blood stream for longer than a few days and you can't detect it after a month. So when you hear “47 children”, that's just those with an exposure in the last 48 hours. It's really everyone. 10. This Was Done, Like So Many Things These Days, So the Rich Could Get a Big Tax Break. When Governor Snyder took office in 2011, one of the first things he did was to get a multi-billion dollar tax break passed by the Republican legislature for the wealthy and for corporations. But with less tax revenues, that meant he had to start cutting costs. So, many things – schools, pensions, welfare, safe drinking water – were slashed. Then he invoked an executive privilege to take over cities (all of them majority black) by firing the mayors and city councils whom the local people had elected, and installing his cronies to act as “dictators” over these cities. Their mission? Cut services to save money so he could give the rich even more breaks. That's where the idea of switching Flint to river water came from. To save \$15 million! It was easy. Suspend democracy. Cut taxes for the rich. Make the poor drink toxic river water. And everybody's happy. Except those who were poisoned in the process. All 102,000 of them. In the richest country in the world.



**FLINT-** continued  
A few months after Governor Snyder removed Flint from the clean fresh water we had been drinking for decades, the brass from General Motors went to him and complained that the Flint River water was causing their car parts to corrode when being washed on the assembly line. The Governor was appalled to hear that GM property was being damaged, so he jumped through a number of hoops and quietly spent \$440,000 to hook GM back up to the Lake Huron water, while keeping the rest of Flint on the Flint River water. Which means that while the children in Flint were drinking lead-filled water, there was one — and only one — address in Flint that got clean water: the GM factory.

2. For Just \$100 a Day, This Crisis Could’ve Been Prevented. Federal law requires that water systems which are sent through lead pipes must contain an additive that seals the lead into the pipe and prevents it from leaching into the water. Someone at the beginning suggested to the Governor that they add this anti-corrosive element to the water coming out of the Flint River. “How much would that cost?” came the question. “\$100 a day for three months,” was the answer. I guess that was too much, so, in order to save \$9,000, the state government said f\*\*\* it — and as a result the State may now end up having to pay upwards of \$1.5 billion to fix the mess.

3. There’s More Than the Lead in Flint’s Water. In addition to exposing every child in the city of Flint to lead poisoning on a daily basis, there appears to be a number of other diseases we may be hearing about in the months ahead. The number of cases in Flint of Legionnaires Disease has increased tenfold since the switch to the river water. Eighty-seven people have come down with it, and at least ten have died. In the five years before the river water, not a single person in Flint had died of Legionnaires Disease. Doctors are now discovering that another half-dozen toxins are being found in the blood of Flint’s citizens, causing concern that there are other health catastrophes which may soon come to light.

4. People’s Homes in Flint Are Now Worth Nothing Because They Cant Be Sold. Would you buy a house in Flint right now? Who would? So every homeowner in Flint is stuck with a house that’s now worth nothing. That’s a total home value of \$2.4 billion down the economic drain. People in Flint, one of the poorest cities in the U.S., don’t have much to their name, and for many their only asset is their home. So, in addition to being poisoned, they have now a net worth of zero. (And as for employment, who is going to move jobs or start a company in Flint under these conditions? No one.) Has Flint’s future just been flushed down that river?


5. While They Were Being Poisoned, They Were Also Being Bombed. Here’s a story which has received little or no coverage outside of Flint. During these two years of water contamination, residents in Flint have had to contend with a decision made by the Pentagon to use Flint for target practice. Literally. Actual unannounced military exercises – complete with live ammo and explosives – were conducted last year inside the city of Flint. The army decided to practice urban warfare on Flint, making use of the thousands of abandoned homes which they could drop bombs on. Streets with dilapidated homes had rocket-propelled grenades fired upon them. For weeks, an undisclosed number of army troops pretended Flint was Baghdad or Damascus and basically had at it. It sounded as if the city was under attack from an invading army or from terrorists. People were shocked this could be going on in their neighborhoods. Wait – did I say “people?” I meant, Flint people. As with the Governor, it was OK to abuse a community that held no political power or money to fight back. BOOM!

6. The Wife of the Governor’s Chief of Staff Is a Spokeswoman for Nestle, Michigan’s Largest Owner of Private Water Reserves. As Deep Throat told Woodward and Bernstein: “Follow the money.” Snyder’s chief of staff throughout the two years of Flint’s poisoning,

Dennis Muchmore, was intimately involved in all the decisions regarding Flint. His wife is Deb Muchmore, who just happens to be the spokesperson in Michigan for the Nestle Company – the largest owner of private water sources in the State of Michigan. Nestle has been repeatedly sued in northern Michigan for the 200 gallons of fresh water per minute it sucks from out of the ground and bottles for sale as their Ice Mountain brand of bottled spring water. The Muchmores have a personal interest in seeing to it that Nestles grabs as much of Michigan’s clean water was possible – especially when cities like Flint in the future are going to need that Ice Mountain.

In Michigan, from Flint water, to Crime and Murder, to GM Ignition Switches, It’s a Culture of Death. It’s not just the water that was recklessly used to put people’s lives in jeopardy. There are many things that happen in Flint that would give one the impression that there is a low value placed on human life. Flint has one of the worst murder and crime rates in the country. Just for context, if New York City had the same murder rate as Flint, Michigan, the number of people murdered last year in New York would have been almost 4,000 people – instead of the actual 340 who were killed in NYC in 2015. But it’s not just street crime that makes one wonder about what is going on in Michigan. Last year, it was revealed that, once again, one of Detroit’s automakers had put profit ahead of people’s lives. General Motors learned that it had installed faulty ignition switches in many of its cars. Instead of simply fixing the problem, mid-management staff covered it up from the public. The auto industry has a history of weighing the costs of whether it’s cheaper to spend the money to fix the defect in millions of cars or to simply pay off a bunch of lawsuits filed by the victims surviving family members. Does a cynical, arrogant culture like this make it easy for a former corporate CEO, now Governor, turn a blind eye to the lead that is discovered in a municipality’s drinking water?

**FLINT-** continued page 14



**Kathy Epling**  
Editor & publisher, Poet, romantic, book lover, Mother, and nurturer of plants, animals and people; regardless of their flaws, troubles or station in life. A savior of the oppressed, friend to the friendless, and tireless activist for the good and right-  
The closest thing to Mother Theresa Southern Humboldt had, died suddenly June 14th 2015.

**K**athy is shockingly, and suddenly gone now, and a local motto that speaks to her simple pragmatism has been adopted:  
**WWKD- What Would Kathy Do? A: Publish!**

Independent thought and voices, the kind of thought and voices that questions authority, challenges assumptions, and provide the facts, insights, and testimony that inform decisions are a basic requirement of social progress. The dominance of internet and cable info-sources fill the need to some degree, but media literacy demands a level of awareness that recognizes that for-profit corporate organization of news and commentary as product, and the way it is delivered matters. There is a reason freedom of the press is specifically named as a basic right that government may not infringe.

***‘Sharing knowledge, practicing and sharing freedom of thought, and the free trade of ideas is the power we have.’***

**T**o sustain critical thought, our necessary option is to celebrate and encourage ideas, thoughts, and observation, and share them creatively.

With the dominance of the digital media-sphere, is there still a place for inky hard copy newsprint? Periodicals, ‘zines, newspapers, journals, rags, can be found- Without batteries! and become a synchronistic casting, a message-in-a-bottle.

**I**f you have ever been inspired by randomly found thoughtful words, are a seeker of truth, a peaceful warrior, and a giver of care; you are part of the **Waking Dog Collective-** *Pass it on.*

**www.greenfuse.work**

**-Joshua Golden**

**From: Prairie Schooner,**  
Volume 80, Number 3, Fall 2006

***The summer sun was bright  
sweet as licked candy those hot days  
Cooling our bodies in the green waters  
we closed our eyes. We believed  
even the sunlight loved us. All our  
games  
were dotted over with stars. We shone  
in each others light & turned & turned  
our hurts minor & kissed away.***

***It has been dark now for some time  
shadows taking our hands. One  
by one our friends are not here  
I can't see who it is, there, far  
in that cold shade, the golden leaves  
fallen all around, such tired children,  
who in that darkness calls us in.***

**-Kathy Epling.**







EVERY CHILD MUST READ

If you’re reading this sentence it means that somewhere, somehow, you learnt to read. Bravo! You acquired the magical skill of translating scribbles into language and making meaning from the print symbols on the pages and screens that permeate our lives.

It really is quite remarkable that a few scrawls on a page can make us weep with joy or seethe with rage as we engage with the heroes, villains and ideas of bygone or future eras. Imagine what your life would be like if you could not read. Imagine what school would have been like if you couldn’t read.

The human brain is hard-wired to acquire language and almost all children can learn to read in just a few years if provided with the right teaching, resources and encouragement. However, many children do not attend schools where these necessary conditions are present, children who cannot read and write properly by grade four end up playing catch-up for the rest of their school days. These children never quite grasp what is expected from them, even as they are told they are failing and must try harder.



In 2011 South Africa participated in an international study called PrePirls (pre-progress in international reading literacy study), which is aimed at assessing the reading ability of grade four children. The study examined a nationally representative sample of 341 primary schools drawn from across the country. The reason for choosing to assess grade four is not arbitrary, but rooted in an understanding of when and how children learn to read. The first three years of

schooling are regarded as the “learning to read” phase, when children acquire the ability to decode text and convert print symbols into language. In grade four they enter the “reading to learn” phase as they start acquiring new information through the skill of reading.

Children who cannot read properly by grade four are severely disadvantaged, because they cannot read fluently or read for meaning, and therefore don’t benefit much from higher grades. This places them in perpetual catch-up mode until they begin to approach graduation and drop out of school in grades 10 and 11, as 50% of South African students do. Unfortunately the results of PrePirls are truly sobering. In the bottom half of schools, an unbelievable 51% of students were completely illiterate! After four years of formal, full-time schooling,

What to do?

Firstly we have to get the basics right in the Foundation Phase (grade one to three). We need a national reading campaign where all stakeholders (parents, teachers, principals, government officials, the minister, the president) all rally behind this goal: “Every child must read and write by the end of grade three.”

This is the very same goal that Brazil used as the core goal for primary schooling — with much success. One prominent South African researcher, Elizabeth Pretorius, has identified four necessary criteria to ensure all children learn to read:

*‘Teachers need to understand when and how children acquire reading and comprehension skills, as well as understand how to teach reading;’*

- Children need easy access to interesting books in their own language and in English;
- Children need to be constantly motivated to read, with reading seen as a pleasurable activity by students and teachers, and
- Children need to be given plenty of opportunities to read in and outside of the classroom.

Nic Spaull is an education researcher in the Research on Socioeconomic Policy (ReSEP) group at Stellenbosch University. and a visiting scholar at Stanford University His research can be found at nicspaull.com/research/

EXPULSION BRUTAL DE 70+ MIEMBROS DE LA TRIBU EN HOPLAND

Policía tribal no permite que los miembros asistan a las reuniones en donde se deciden sus futuros.



Protesting expulsión February 23 under the Shokawah Casino sign. - Photo Terri Melendrez



Tribal police prevent members from attending meetings where their future is decided. -via Youtube video

BRUTAL DIS-ENROLLMENT OF 70+ PEOPLE FROM HOPLAND TRIBE

Since the birth of the casino movement, tribal councils across the state - including Mendocino county - have made up lists of who is *REALLY* a member of the tribe. People who have lived in a tribal community for decades have been taken off the rolls - making the distribution of profits higher for those deemed ‘real’ members. Sometimes the dis-enrolled person came from another tribal area in the past; sometimes the person is just on the ‘outs’ with the majority on the tribal council. Where do you go to challenge this injustice? In mid-January the Hopland tribal council voted to dis-enroll about 70 of the approximately 800 members - or almost 10% of the tribe.

Desde el nacimiento del movimiento del casino, los concejos tribales en todo el estado - incluyendo el Condado de Mendocino - han hecho listas de quién es ‘en realidad’ un miembro del tribu. Para realizar la distribución de los beneficios más altos para aquellos miembros considerados “auténticos” hay personas que han vivido en una comunidad tribal durante décadas que se han echado de las listas. A veces la persona que han expulsado vino de otra área tribal a un tiempo en el pasado; a veces la persona es un 'enemigo' de la mayoría en el concejo de la tribu.

Elenero pasado, el concejo de la tribu Hopland votó para echar para fuera cerca de 70 de los aproximadamente 800 miembros - casi el 10% de la tribu. . No hay lugar para ir a desafiar estas injusticias.

DAWN CHANCE,  
A POMO WITH THE  
HOPLAND TRIBE, SPEAKS OUT  
AGAINST DIS-ENROLLMENT'  
(partial statement)



Creator made us the guardians of the land we walk on, not the land assigned to us by settlers from Europe. Look inside your hearts -- your Pomo story is in there. Wake it up. Take on a part of our history and pass it to our youth. A power hungry council can take away your piece of paper, but they can NEVER take away what is in your heart. Sit and think for a moment, quietly sit, and think about what your grandma, great-grandma or oldest living elder would say about the current actions of our tribe.

Let us not take up a fight against ourselves, but let us look inside our hearts and keep our real traditions alive. Teach our children what it means to be native - to look after the land, the animals - to do no harm and to respect the life the Mother Earth provides for us. These are our ways, let us preserve this peace, not start a war against our brothers and sisters.

We fought the government for the land in Hopland so that our families would have a safe harbor in which to grow and flourish, not to pit family against family. I am truly saddened by the actions of our elected officials during the closed meeting. These actions are a crime against the traditions we hold inside our hearts.



DAWN CHANCE,  
MIEMBRO DE LA TRIBU EN HOPLAND,  
HABLO EN CONTRA DE LA EXPULSION  
(declaración parcial)

El Creador nos hizo los guardianes de la tierra que pisamos, no la tierra que nos asignieron los colonizadores europeos. Miren dentro de sus corazones - su historia Pomo esta allí. Despiértala. Asumen una parte de nuestra historia y pasenla a nuestra juventud. Un concejo tribal, hambriento de poder, puede llevarse su trozo de papel, pero nunca puede quitarle lo que está en su corazón. Sientense y piensen por un momento, sientesen en silencio, y piensen en lo que su abuela, bisabuela o el anciano más viejo que sigue viviendo diría sobre las acciones actuales de nuestra tribu.

No tomeremos una lucha contra nosotros mismos, pero mirremos dentro de nuestros corazones y manteneremos nuestras verdaderas tradiciones vivas. Enseñenle a nuestros hijos lo que significa ser nativa - cuidar la tierra, los animales - que no hagan ningún daño y que respeten la vida que la Madre Tierra y lo que provee para nosotros. Estos son nuestros caminos, conservar esta paz, no iniciar una guerra contra nuestros hermanos y hermanas.

Hemos luchado contra el gobierno por la tierra en Hopland para asegurar que nuestras familias tengan un lugar seguro en el cual crecer y florecer, no para enfrentar a la familia contra familia. Estoy realmente triste por las acciones de nuestros funcionarios elegidos durante la reunión a puerta cerrada. Estas acciones son un crimen contra las tradiciones que tenemos dentro de nuestros corazones.

⇐ KMEC Programmer Terri Melendrez broadcast voices from the dis-enrollment protest on **Native Ways and Music**. Every Monday from 4 - 5 pm on **KMEC 105.1** in the Ukiah Valley.

Escuche los lunes de 4 - 5 por la tarde en Radio **KMEC 105.1** en el valle de Ukiah.



# Frida Berrigan cut her hair in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

## I have the world’s worst hair cut.

It is uneven, hacked and does nothing to flatter my features. For the first few days after I cut it, my hair was also super dirty, sticking straight up with a Pomade of bug spray, sunscreen and Cuban dirt.

While so many in the United States were being driven to distraction by the biggest deals of a lifetime on Black Friday, I was in Cuba, taking a pair of scissors to my head as I looked down a mountainside at the U.S. Naval Base in Guantánamo Bay. I could see the base, which straddles the sparkling bay, cutting the Cuban people off from rich fishing waters and full access to their land. A representative of the Cuban government told us that the Department of Guantánamo lags behind the rest of the nation in economic development because they have expected an invasion to come from the base since 1903, when the United States seized the land. “Why invest in an area that is just going to be destroyed by bombs?” she asked.

Standing at this spot, I could see the sacred — mountains, valleys, rainbows, water, skies that almost sing with gorgeousness — and the profane — occupation, militarization, torture, abuse, indefinite detention. I was there with 13 other friends from **Witness Against Torture**. We were spending our Thanksgiving week far from our families, camping out at the Mirador overlooking the U.S. Naval Base. We were being hosted by the staff of La Gobernadora restaurant and lounge. From the look out, we could see the U.S. base that has occupied more than 100 square kilometers of Cuban land for over a century and imprisons 107 men in torturous conditions.

**We camped. We prayed.** We worked to transform a random international tourist spot — not to mention local make out spot, where the night staff drink rum from the bottle and blast *Reggaeton* music toda la noche — into a place to honor. We wanted to connect and extend ourselves towards the men our nation has demonized and forgotten — hoping our songs, chants and prayers were carried by the wind, refracted by the sun, swept along by the rain, and carried along by every bird that flew overhead.

After a while, though, I needed to do just a little more than fasting and camping. I needed just a little more suffering. I was here — close this exact spot — 10 years ago, when Witness Against Torture was born. That time, in December 2005, 25 of us walked about 100 kilometers from Santiago de Cuba to the Cuban military checkpoint that guards the entrance to a Cuban military territory that surrounds the U.S. naval base. We fasted then as well, camping out at the Cuban checkpoint and calling U.S. SOUTHCOM to request entry onto the base. That time, we hoped that the United States would press charges against us for traveling to Cuba, giving us an opportunity to put the Bush administration’s torture program on trial. They declined.

**What drew me back to Guantánamo?** What propelled me away from my husband and three small children during Thanksgiving week? I returned 10 years after our original mission because so much has changed for me — I am now a wife and a mother — and so little has changed about the criminal injustice of indefinite detention, abuse and torture.

**Relations** between the United States and Cuba have changed. Travel restrictions have loosened. Embassies have opened in both countries. We are not breaking any laws by being here, but we are

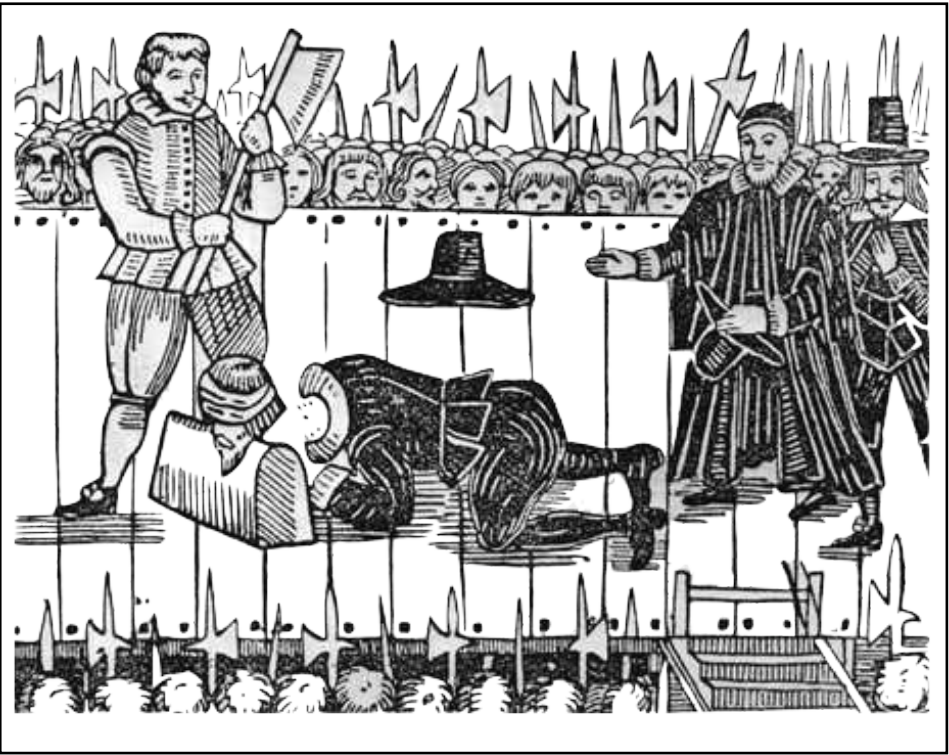
doing something no one has done before, and the Cuban people were with us. They are sick of being occupied, sick of being exploited, sick of Guantánamo being synonymous with torture the world over, when it should bring up visions of gorgeous beaches, fat healthy fish and rigorous mountain climbing.

*‘That’s why I needed a little more than fasting and camping.’*



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Clinton’s role in “sustaining America’s leadership in the world.” is exemplified by the military coup in Honduras in 2009,an operation perfectly in sync with Kissinger’s “World Order” **playbook**.



Since the 2009 military coup that ousted the country’s democratically elected **President Manuel Zelaya** The homicide rate in Honduras, already the highest in the world, increased by 50 percent from 2008 to 2011; political repression, the murder of opposition political candidates, peasant organizers and LGBT activists increased and continue to this day. Femicides skyrocketed. The violence and insecurity were exacerbated by a generalized institutional collapse. Drug-related violence worsened amid allegations of rampant corruption in Honduras’ police and government. While the gangs are responsible for much of the violence, Honduran security forces have engaged in a wave of killings and other human rights crimes with impunity.

**Under** longstanding and clear-cut U.S. law, all U.S. aid to Honduras except democracy assistance, including all military aid, should have been immediately suspended following the coup. On August 7, fifteen House Democrats, led by Rep. Raúl Grijalva, sent a letter to the Administration which began, "*As you know, on June 28th, 2009 a military coup took place in Honduras,*" and said: "*The State Department should fully acknowledge that a military coup has taken place and follow through with the total suspension of non-humanitarian aid, as required by law.*"

**The United Nations, the European Union, and the Organization of American States condemned the coup**, and on July 5, Honduras was suspended from the OAS. Despite this, however, both under Clinton and Kerry, the State Department’s response to the violence and military and police impunity has largely been silence, along with continued U.S. aid to Honduran security forces.

In her book “*Hard Choices*,” Clinton describes her role in the aftermath of the coup that brought about this dire situation. Her firsthand account is significant both for the confession of an important truth and for a crucial false testimony.

**First, the confession:** Clinton admits that she used the power of her office to make sure that Zelaya would not return to office. “*In the subsequent days [after the coup] I spoke with my counterparts around the hemisphere, including Secretary [Patricia] Espinosa in Mexico,*” Clinton writes. “***We strategized on a plan to restore order in Honduras and ensure that free and fair elections could be held quickly and legitimately, which would render the question of Zelaya moot.***”

**But** the official storyline, which was dutifully accepted by most in the media, was that the Obama administration actually opposed the coup and wanted Zelaya to return to office. **The** question of Zelaya was anything but moot. Latin American leaders, the United Nations General Assembly and other international bodies vehemently demanded his immediate return to office. Clinton’s defiant and anti-democratic stance spurred a downward slide in U.S. relations with several Latin American countries, which has continued. It eroded the warm welcome and benefit of the doubt that even the leftist governments in region offered to the newly installed Obama administration a few months earlier.

**Clinton’s false testimony** is even more revealing. She reports that Zelaya was arrested amid “fears that he was preparing to circumvent the constitution and extend his term in office.” This is simply not true. As Clinton must know, when Zelaya was kidnapped by the military and flown out of the country in his pajamas on June 28, 2009, he was trying to put a consultative, non-binding poll on the ballot to ask voters whether they wanted to have a real referendum on reforming the constitution during the scheduled election in November. It is important to note that Zelaya was not eligible to run in that election. Even if he had gotten everything he wanted, it was impossible for Zelaya to extend his term in office. But this did not stop the extreme right wing in Honduras and the United States from using false charges of tampering with the constitution to justify the coup. Today, the rule of law in Honduras still has not recovered from the coup that Secretary Clinton helped enable. That’s a key reason that refugees have fled Honduras to the United States, only to find themselves hunted by the Department of Homeland Security raids that Secretary Clinton supported before she opposed them.

With thanks to **Mark Weisbrot** co-director of the Center for Economic and Policy Research in Washington, D.C., and the president of Just Foreign Policy. & **Robert Naiman**, Policy Director at [www.justforeignpolicy.org](http://www.justforeignpolicy.org)



# HISTORY MATTERS:

## Clinton’s role in Honduran coup 2009

During a presidential debate, Hillary Clinton proudly stated that she is supported by former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger;

***“I was very flattered when Henry Kissinger said I ran the State Department better than anybody had run it in a long time.”***



El grotesco imperio- Alberto Beltrán (1927 - 1982)

While Ms.Clinton later focused attention on Kissinger’s role in “opening China to the U.S.” and his Nobel peace prize winning role in concluding the war effort in Vietnam; as national security adviser, then Secretary of State for President’s Richard Nixon & Gerald Ford. she conveniently ignored his widely known identity as an international war criminal who oversaw policies that led to the deaths of millions of people. His diplomatic resume includes:

While the Khmer Rouge was carrying out genocide in Cambodia in 1975, killing millions of people, Kissinger told the Thai foreign minister; ***“You should tell the Cambodians that we will be friends with them. They are murderous thugs, but we won’t let that stand in the way. We are prepared to improve relations with them,”***

Kissinger met with representatives from far-right Latin American dictatorships telling them the U.S. would help them **“to succeed”** in their campaign of systematic state terrorism against left-wing movements.

When popular Marxist leader Salvador Allende was elected president of Chile in 1970, Kissinger claimed that “The issues are much too important for the Chilean voters to be left to decide for themselves.” The CIA then orchestrated a violent coup that overthrew Chile’s democratically elected socialist government on Sept. 11, 1973

Then there was the matter of incitement and enabling of genocide in East Timor.

To his credit, during the following debate **Senator Bernie Sanders** had a rebuttal for Clinton, In stark contrast, Mr. Sanders declared:

***“I happen to believe that Henry Kissinger was one of the most destructive secretaries of state in the modern history of this country,”***

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HAIR- continued

**That’s why** I needed a little more suffering. And that’s why I opted to give myself the world’s worst haircut. As I sawed and hacked off hanks of hair, I recalled all the names we had read earlier in the day. The names and stories of 107 men still held at Guantánamo, many in solitary confinement, many on hunger strike, many still subjected to forced feeding.

**Mohammed Ahmad Said al Edah** is a 52- or 53-year-old citizen of Yemen. As of November 16, 2015, he has been held at Guantánamo for 13 years and 10 months. As of January 2010, the Guantánamo Review Task Force had recommended him for transfer to Yemen provided that certain security conditions were met.

**Abd al Malik Abd al Wahab** is a 35- or 36-year-old citizen of Yemen. As of January 2010, the Guantánamo Review Task Force had recommended him for continued detention. A parole-like Periodic Review Board later recommended him for transfer. As of Nov. 16, 2015, he has been held at Guantánamo for 13 years, 10 months.

**I wanted to get back to my kids**, my husband and my domestic routine. I yearned to wash dishes (and my hair) and read books. But I didn’t want to forget what we were able to do on that mountaintop. I didn’t want to forget what people of good will are able to accomplish. We established an outpost of prayer and

intention, and showed the world that people from the United States still care about what happens here.

**I wanted to leave Cuba with more than a sunburn**, a stomach ache and pile of really beautiful, moving photographs of our work here. I wanted to leave Cuba changed and doubly committed to changing the life circumstances of the men who are stuck in the worst form of hell — **life in limbo**. We are living in an age of borderless war, pervasive terror and prevailing fear. We can trace many of the origins of this to 2001, the launch of the U.S. war on the people of Afghanistan and the delivery of a planeful of Arab and Muslim men into U.S. custody on Cuban soil in 2002. Guantánamo — the wholesale shackling, torturing and confining of men without charge or evidence — was the beginning of a new and grim chapter in our nation’s history.

**I keep thinking** about what my children and grandchildren will ask me about this time when they are older. I want to be able to tell them that I stood on the side of the outsider, that I was not afraid, that I kept the flame of peace afire and held onto my humanity by never losing sight of anyone else’s humanity. That’s why I embarked on this journey, to be able to look my children in their big beautiful eyes and say, “I tried. I am trying.” But, the first thing they said when they saw me was, in fact,

***“Hi Ma, what happened to your hair?”***

