NO MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES, REAL CHANGES WILL COME, AND THE GREATEST PERSONAL REWARD LIES IN OUR INVOLVEMENT AND CONTRIBUTIONS, EVEN IF IT MAY APPEAR THAT NOTHING SIGNIFICANT OR OF IMPACT REALLY HAPPENED DURING OUR TIMES, BUT IT DID, BECAUSE EVERY SINCERE EFFORT IS AS SPECIAL AS EVERY HUMAN LIFE.

HUGO PINELL

Dignity and State of Mind: An Obituary

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Information Guide 2020
Free for Prisoners
NINE PERSPECTIVES FOR PRISON ABOLITIONISTS

Perspective 1: Incarceration is usually regarded as a penalty, but it is not. It is a form of punishment used to control our behavior. It is also a way of life, and it is not a way of life. It is a way of life that is not our own, and it is not our choice.

Perspective 2: The idea that incarceration is a reform tool is misleading. Incarceration does not reform people. It traumatizes them.

Perspective 3: Incarceration is not a tool for social control. It is a tool for social exploitation. The state uses incarceration to control the poor, the marginalized, and the oppressed.

Perspective 4: Incarceration is not a tool for social justice. It is a tool for social inequality. The state uses incarceration to maintain the status quo.

Perspective 5: Incarceration is not a tool for racial justice. It is a tool for racial control. The state uses incarceration to maintain the racial hierarchy.

Perspective 6: Incarceration is not a tool for economic justice. It is a tool for economic exploitation. The state uses incarceration to maintain the economic hierarchy.

Perspective 7: Incarceration is not a tool for gender justice. It is a tool for gender control. The state uses incarceration to maintain the gender hierarchy.

Perspective 8: Incarceration is not a tool for environmental justice. It is a tool for environmental exploitation. The state uses incarceration to maintain the environmental hierarchy.

Perspective 9: Incarceration is not a tool for human rights. It is a tool for human control. The state uses incarceration to maintain the human rights hierarchy.

We believe that incarceration is a form of violence, and we believe that it should be abolished.
Revolutionary greetings to all freedom fighters, abolitionists, and supporters for prisoners' human rights.

On a Southern U.S. plantation (prison), Jailhouse Lawyers Speak (J.L.S.) was founded by a group of revolutionary-minded jailhouse lawyers who united as a cadre by collectively reading the writings of George Lester Jackson. This original group of comrades make up the practicing central committee. Today J.L.S. is a national collective of imprisoned persons—members of the oppressed prisoner class—who fight for human rights and the abolition of the prison-industrial slave complex by providing other prisoners with access to legal education, resources, and assistance.

Our focus is on challenging the legal regime that dehumanizes prisoners and to educate fellow members of our oppressed class about the law and its racial violence. We aim to educate and engage the public at large about the human rights violations of prisoners held captive in the United States settler colony, while in turn working in solidarity with prisoners around the world.
WHAT IF I DO TODAY?

CONNECT WITH THE WORLD FOR CHANGE.

and ORGANIZING SKILLS to

PRISONERS MUST USE THEIR OWN VOICE

done by prisoners speaking out and acting up

centered through methods of imprisonment and neglect. The idea of

Malcolm X: "by any means necessary."

We respect, encourage, and wholeheartedly condone

PUBLIC SAFETY WHAT ABOUT

ALTERNATIVES? WHAT ARE THE

CONSIDERED HARMFUL OR DANGEROUS.

WHAT CAN I DO TODAY?
We are leading by example. Members of JailsHouse Lawyers Speak participated in the nationwide prison strike of 2016 by having a rep at the organizing table when Kenetic Justice of Free Alabama Movement (F.A.M.) called, promoted, and carried out the plan.

On August 19, 2017, J.A.S. organized one of the largest prisoner solidarity events in recent years, the "Millions For Prisoners March" with the "Millions for Prisoners' Rights" — to be amended and repeated, transformed into a legal, indelible human incarceration and state-procured civil/social death.

On August 21st 2018, we spearheaded the national prison strike with a list of ten demands. These national demands were formulated and agreed upon by key prisoners organizers incarcerated in several states.

1. Immediate improvements to the conditions of imprisioned persons and prison policies that recognize the humanity of imprisoned persons and women.
2. An immediate end to prison slavery. All persons imprisoned have a right to a place of detention in their state or territory for their labor.
3. Abolitionist vision means that we must never be afraid of prison. That is not an isolated prison, but a building model that can represent the collective and the political, and that our participation must be in a non-violent way.
4. An immediate end to prison slavery. All persons imprisoned have a right to a place of detention in their state or territory for their labor.

Abolition is both a powerful organizing tool and a long-term goal.
Dare 2 struggle, dare to win!

Uluru sasai (Freedom Now)

Carry it on!

3. The Prison Litigation Reform Act must be rescinded, allowing imprisoned humans a proper channel to address grievances and violations of their rights.

4. The Truth in Sentencing Act and the Sentencing Reform Act must be rescinded so that imprisoned humans have a possibility of rehabilitation and parole. No human shall be sentenced to Death by Incarceration or serve any sentence without the possibility of parole.

5. An immediate end to the racial over-sentencing, over-sentencing, and parole denial of Black and Brown humans. Black and Brown humans shall no longer be denied parole because the victim of the crime was white.

6. An immediate end to racist gang enhancement laws targeting Black and Brown humans.

7. No imprisoned human shall be denied access to rehabilitation programs at their place of detention because of their label as a violent offender.

8. State prisons must be funded specifically to offer more rehabilitation services.

9. Pell grants must be reinstated in all US states and territories.

10. The voting rights of all imprisoned humans serving prison sentences, prior conviction, and so-called "ex-felons" must be restored.

Representation is demanded. All voices count.

Today these demands are our platform. They grew out of a long struggle that has been ongoing in the prisons since the abolition of genocide, racial domination, and oppression, and the fulfillment of social revolution. There is no such thing as the "worst" state or federal prison. Why? Because they are all prisons, sites of human incarceration, with differences only by degree. Our unity is national and fight is increasingly becoming international. Know your opposition.
As a member you will have IMMEDIATE NATIONAL SOLIDARITY for concerns in your state and facility from our ranks and accomplices nationally. You will automatically be authorized to use the Jailhouse Lawyers Speak logo and name in representing yourself or committee at any time. All state and federal J.L.S. committees are free to initiate actions in line with our political principles without approval. We encourage all potential members of Jailhouse Lawyers Speak to organize with outside organizers in your region to agitate and disrupt the local status quo. We are not trying to save the prisons. Only ourselves and those around us in the same chains.

When you join the ranks of “open” membership, the national prison strike 10 demands are automatically a part of your platform. Promote them in the prisons, to local outside organizers, and to lawmakers.

You do not have to be a jailhouse lawyer as we are. But we do strongly encourage you to learn and know the prison rules, regulations, and any related laws about any concern you may raise. For instance, if you're organizing to challenge or change sentencing laws, you must read that particular portion of the specific law being complained about. It's important that we relay this information to as many imprisoned people as possible.

J.L.S. was formed knowing that we need a national organized network to bring about the desired result we are

the 13th Amendment officially made prisons the state and government owned slave quarters. We view these “demands” as a means to further an agenda to dismantle the prison-industrial slave complex.

J.L.S. has developed friendships and allies around the country and across the waters. They respect the demands of the prisoner class to sit at the decision-making table in the abolitionist movement. They understand and agree with the desire for our voices to be heard and once again be the leaders in our own movement. Due to this acceptance you will find our voices heard across the world, and people picking up to act on our call.

No one can explain what is going on in prison better than a person in prison. No one desires a radical change in sentencing laws more than a prisoner. No one wants to see the prison, jail, and detention-center walls fall more than a prisoner.

**How do prisoners join this resistance movement?**
Open and Closed Membership

In addition to joining J.L.S. as an individual or a J.L.S. committee, there are two ways that you can register.

1. Traditional closed membership - identity is withheld.
2. General open membership - identity not withheld.

The contact address herein listed is for general open membership only. If you are a part of an already existing formation inside, we welcome you to join us. We are all prisoners regardless of affiliations. Unity is the key.

Registration

In order for an individual to register as a member of J.L.S. and receive the J.L.S. open membership card, you will need to write us at the following address with your request for membership:

Jailbreak Lawyers Speak Open Membership Office
PO Box 411304
Knoxville, MO 64141

Committees

In order to form a committee, the person would need to write us with three additional names of who would serve in one of the following roles: chair, co-chair, secretary, and treasurer. Members must include their position on the committee when writing J.L.S.:

- George L. Jackson,
  1971

"Settle your quarrels, come together, understand the reality of our situation; understand that fascism is already here, that people are already dying who could be saved, that generations more will live poor butchered half-lives if you fail to act. Do what must be done, discover your humanity and your love in revolution."