

INFORMATION REGARDING CALLS PRESENTED AND/OR SUPPORTED BY
2013 RAINBOW ROUND TABLE

I TO ACCESS THE THREE WEEKLY CALLS via the Internet

A BBS RADIO Go To www.bbsradio.com ; click on Talk Radio Station #2; click on "64K Listen"

Thursday: 9 pm – 12:00 pm EST **Stargate Round Table** Host: **Marietta Robert**

Friday: 9 pm – 2 am EST **Friday Night Hard News** Hosts: **T & R**

Saturday: 4:30 pm – 2 am EST **History of our Galactic World & NESARA** **T & R**

Friday, Saturday: From **10 – 11 pm EST**, for one hour, the call moves to the Conference Call Line [PIN below] and then returns to BBS Radio.

- Use the following phone numbers to ask questions or make comments during the radio show.

530 – 413 – 9537 [line 1]

530 – 763 – 1594 [line 2 & 3]

530 – 746 – 0341 [line 4]

- **BBS Toll Free # in Canada, US** 1 – 888-429-5471 This # picks up the first available line.

B Conference Call:	1-213 -342-3000	Thursday PIN #	87 87 87#
		Friday PIN #	23 23 23#
		Saturday PIN #	13 72 9#

C Skype: **BBSradio2**

D Archives for the 3 Programs listed above:

- To access the **FREE BBS archives** for any of these programs:
 - Go to [BBSRadio.com/ Station 2](http://BBSRadio.com/Station2); scroll down; click on **Current Program Archives**
 - Scroll down to **Hard News on Friday with Tara and Rama**, and click on **"More Archives"**
 - Click on those words and you will be taken to the listing of all program archives, the latest one being at the top.
 - You can download the program to your own computer or listen directly.

- The **2013 website also has an archive section:**

<http://2013rainbowroundtable.ning.com/> look under the "Archives" tab for written notes.

II TO ACCESS OTHER CALLS SUPPORTED BY 2013 Rainbow Roundtable

A Sunday, Mondays: 9 – 10:30 EST **Cheryl Croci's Activation Calls**
By telephone only: 1 – 213 - 342- 3000; PIN 9467441#

B Tuesdays, 2nd & 4th of each month: **Ashtar on the Road**
9:30 – 11:00 pm EST Host is Fran; Susan Leland channels Ashtar & others
www.Ashtarontheroad.com

- Phone Number: 1 – 559 – 726 – 1300; PIN 163731#
- Call is free [except for long distance charges]
- Can also listen to the call via Skype

C Wednesdays: 7:00 – 9:00 EST **The Friends of The Aboriginal Moabite Nation Call**
By telephone only: 1– 712-432-0900 PIN 666238#
Replay # [good for 1 week] 1-712- 432-0990 PIN 666238#

Opening Meditation: Cheryl Croci

Housekeeping: Rainbird Thank you!

- BBS:**
- A listener-supported radio program; we can access program archives on BBS
 - We need \$ 300 each week; **this week, we need \$ 275.**
Many thanks to everyone for paying it forward!
 - Go to BBSradio.com/Station2; find the listing for True History call; find the **Paypal** button
 - BBS appreciates getting checks through the mail – no fees taken off by Paypal
 - **NO COST TO ACCESS THE ARCHIVES** for one of the 2 T & R PROGRAMS, or the Thursday night program: Stargate Round Table, hosted by MariettaRobert
 - Re: archives of the other programs on BBS: the money we pay to listen to someone else's archives is put towards our BBS bill!
 - The mailing address for those who do not like paying electronically:
BBS Network, Inc. [Please put "**Attention Don**" on the envelope.]
5167 Toyon Lane
Paradise, CA 95969
 - Sending a check to BBS means all your money is received; using Paypal incurs a fee..
- T & R:**
- T & R's rent for their new home is \$1000 / mo; due on 1st of the month – **PAID!**
 - They also need \$ for some bills, food, computer expenses.
 - We can donate via the Paypal button on the website:
www.2013RainbowRoundTable.ning.com
 - **Please notify them if you're sending something:** Koran999@comcast.com
 - Rama's mailing address for cheques, Money orders: Ram D Berkowitz
1704 B Llano St, # 249
Santa Fe, NM 87505
 - **phone contact** is via MariettaRobert: 317-773-0061
or by e-mail: stargatemarietta@gmail.com
 - **Remember you can book a session with Mother, as well!**
- MR:**
- Please remember to support MariettaRobert's show, too
- T:**
- **if you have any trouble hearing, there is an issue with the sound and it is an emergency so call this number: 1-888- 429 – 5471**
 - **if you cannot get through,** use this # 1-888 – 710-8061

T, R: thanks to all who assist – they need a little help for paying some bills
the miracle is they made it!

- BRING MORE PEOPLE – WE ARE GETTING CLOSE!
- Hardly any news last night: Chris Hayes was a repeat; Al Jazeera has less hours – we are moving into Labour Day, a 3 day banking holiday
- This fiscal year ends on Sept 30; Oct 1 becomes 2015 in gov't fiscal terms
- This is Labour Day means unions and jobs: where are the jobs?

HARD NEWS:

Camp Lovewave:

- re: hemp – will be legal to grow November can extract something from the plant and creating something as small as atoms and lay them in layers:
- we are going from carbon based lifeforms to crystalline life forms: in Atlantis, we were ????

- Played a talk of Parmahansa Yogananda in 1949 – he spoke of the galactics and explaining that we did not be afraid of these people: we did not need to split the atom and use it for death
- played Jim Carrey's commencement speech at Maharishi University of Management
 - R talked to him: we are in such a magnificent time to create joy on the planet
 - Talked about his movie Bruce Almighty and the idea of being gods for one day
 - Tom Shadeiac directed that movie and gave away all his wealth – he is thinking of building one of those tiny house, big enough for him and his animals; can hook it up to your truck and move it as needed.
 - Jim C also talked of the intensity and fear stuff on the planet: “fear porn” and pushing the river to try and create an atmosphere of instability and the impetus like in Ferguson to stir the pot – the police have been trained to instill fear in the people
 - Talked of the technologies which have come from the ABC agencies – going in the realm of look for families that have had brushes with the law, or people who are not in the middle of America
 - He said they took Robin Williams out because he got too close to the truth [“Weapons of Mass Destruction”]
 - Gerry Rubin and Abby Hoffman wrote a book in the 80s – does not condone the violence that they were talking of – can always talk and negotiate.
 - The man in Walmart who was shot had a toy B-B gun and they shot him: he was black – he was 23 and he had a child: his aura was clear: he was one of us
 - Jim Carrey said if he picked up one, they'd laugh; a black man gets shot!

Caller: they are trying to destroy the call today

- Giving them a heads up – everyone is starting to get together again
- He's the son of Osiris and Isis – here to bring them the call

T: he is not the only one: millions of souls were put through that one soul / entity so we would all get the experience of the ray of wisdom of that particular being

Caller: going to be a conference when everyone gets together – they will know when they hear it

- The Council of Change – also connected to the Council of Love

T: it is about more than any one of us, about Unity Consciousness

C: yes - finds we have the greatest pull;

T: When we are ready, the teacher appears - we all have particular gifts for particular purposes, and we need to remain in the divine place of humility and grace and wisdom because often, the student is the teacher for the one who thinks he/she is the teacher!

- Tells caller about the mis-interpretation of Jeshu's words:

This is the Way, the Truth and the Life, and by our example shall we be known **NOT** I am the Way, the Truth and the Life

C: yes; he knows christ's daughter

T: talks of lady Di who was Jeshu and Magdalene's daughter; she will back about 4 months after NESARA is announced

C: talks of Jeshu's father Joseph – meant literally he was the son of

T: the J is pronounced as Y – Yousef [Joseph] was an incarnation of St Germain

T: we are all incarnations – we all need to remember this; otherwise, it is just ego talking

C: trying to reach out to others, not always sure how

Iceland: the volcano there did not release a large amount of ash, but made a crevice 1 km long

Syria: number of refugees – over 3 million

Ukraine: at the UN, the Russian ambassador accused the ukrainian gov't of waging war against its own people. Said the uprising was a direct result of the reckless policies coming out of Kiev; they are guilty of war crimes.

- Barack is not tooting his horn; still flushing them out – yet the situation in Ukraine is not cool
- The 471 criminals in Congress that pretend to listen to their constituents, but they are beholden to the Koch Bros.
- As the caller said, it is imperative that we speak this truth and wake people up: will be working on getting some 30 sec blurbs ready to put on BBS
 - Try and find a place where you can go and speak: an integrated community where people of colour are included

Audio: Democracy Now

2014, Aug 29 **Heralding a National Trend? Enrollment Surges as NYC Begins Full-Day Prekindergarten for 50,000 Kids** [SEE BELOW]

2014, Aug 29 **Ukraine Crisis Escalates as Russian Forces Cross Border, NATO Moves to Expand in Region** [SEE BELOW]

2014, Aug 29 **Ferguson Crackdown Sparks Review of Police Militarization that Mainly Targets Communities of Color** [SEE BELOW]

Audio: All in with Chris Hayes **All In Aug 29/14**

Why is Louisiana sinking?

An eye-opening new report describes the ever-shrinking coastline of Louisiana, and why the state is losing a football field worth of land every hour. Bob Marshall joins Chris Hayes to discuss the problem.

<http://www.msnbc.com/all-in/watch/why-is-louisiana-sinking--323488835662>



Audio: A musician who goes to Syria to hear the chanting of priests and singers first hand
The neighbourhood where he recorded has been flattened – the music that used to be practiced there can only be heard on these tapes.

Audio: **All in with Chris Hayes**

Aug 29/14

Controversial St. Louis officer allowed to retire

All In has learned that Officer Dan Page, the St Louis County police officer who pushed a cable host on live TV, and made several inflammatory statements has retired with full pension and benefits.

<http://www.msnbc.com/all-in/watch/controversial-police-officer-allowed-to-retire-323486787641>

Audio:

Discussion about who the OathKeepers are
Time for the country to deal with systemic racial bias

Angela Rye, Jelanie Cobb, Rashad Robinson, Woody Kinett

Audio: update on Chris Christie story

MSNBC - Up 2014, Aug 30

What texts could reveal for NJ investigation

<http://www.msnbc.com/up/watch/what-texts-could-reveal-for-nj-investigation-323568707653>

WNBC's Brian Thompson describes what aide Regina Egea's text messages could reveal about the "Bridgewater" investigation and the Chris Christie administration.

Audio: Melissa Harris-Perry

MHP 08/30/14

The future of youth activism

Charlene Carruthers, National Coordinator of the Black Youth Project, joins to discuss the goals of the group and the importance of youth activism.

<http://www.msnbc.com/melissa-harris-perry/watch/the-future-of-youth-activism-323577923615>

How youth can create a sustainable movement

Mychal Denzel Smith, Nancy Giles and Karen Finney discuss how millennial can create a sustainable national movement for racial justice.

<http://www.msnbc.com/melissa-harris-perry/watch/how-youth-can-create-a-sustainable-movement-323572803894>

Defying standards of black respectability

Karen Finney, Nancy Giles, Mychal Denzel Smith and Dean Obeidallah discuss how over the years, clothing black bodies in "angelic respectability" has not saved black people from violence.

<http://www.msnbc.com/melissa-harris-perry/watch/defying-standards-of-black-respectability-323582531734>

Calls for justice amplified after Mike Brown

As a grand jury hears evidence in the shooting death of Michael Brown, the ongoing calls for justice from Brown's family and community have amplified the voices of others who are also seeking justice from the police.

MHP: 'Now is the time to teach, not hide'

In this week's open letter, Melissa Harris-Perry offers suggestions for a curriculum focused on Ferguson to Ed Hightower, a school Superintendent in Edwardsville, Illinois.

<http://www.msnbc.com/melissa-harris-perry/open-letter-how-teach-students-about-ferguson>

Audio: Redacted with Lee Camp

Episode #13: The truth behind MLK's assassination, how to stop the NSA, inequality out of control...

www.LeeCamp.net The official website of comedian Lee Camp.

Audio: Jim Carrey's Commencement Address at the 2014 MUM Graduation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V80-gPkpH6M>

Published on 30 May 2014

Maharishi University of Management (<http://www.mum.edu>) granted degrees to 285 students representing 54 countries. Jim Carrey gave the commencement address to Maharishi University of Management's class of 2014. The University Board of Trustees also presented Mr. Carrey with the honorary degree of Doctor of Fine Arts Honoris Causa, in recognition of his significant lifetime achievements as a world-renowned comedian and actor, artist, author and philanthropist.

About MUM

Maharishi University of Management (MUM) in Fairfield, IA is a private university featuring Consciousness-BasedSM Education. The accredited traditional curriculum offers bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in the arts, sciences, humanities, and business, but also integrates self-development programs. Innovative aspects include the Transcendental Meditation® program, one course at a time, and organic vegetarian meals. Visitors Weekends are held throughout the year. For more information, call the Admissions Office at 800-369-6480 or visit <http://www.mum.edu>

Audio: Billy Crystal Tribute Speech to Robin Williams 2014 Emmy Awards

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1OXoWcD_-mo

Billy Crystal gave an amazing tribute to Robin Williams at the 2014 emmy awards. The Robin Williams tribute at the 66th emmy awards was so beautiful. The Billy Crystal Robin williams tribute really inspired me so much wow! Billy Crystal honoring Robin Williams at the 2014 emmy awards was just so beautiful.

T: 2014, Aug 18 Ferguson Protests Erupt Near Grave of Ex-Slave Dred Scott, Whose Case Helped Fuel U.S. Civil War

Just miles away from the scene of the protests in Ferguson lies the grave of Dred Scott at the Calvary Cemetery on West Florissant Avenue. Born a slave in Virginia, Scott sued in a St. Louis court for his freedom. The case went to the Supreme Court, resulting in a landmark 1857 decision that African Americans were not citizens of the United States and therefore had no rights to sue in federal courts. The court described blacks as "beings of an inferior order, and altogether unfit to associate with the white race, either in social or political

relations, and so far inferior that they had no rights which the white man was bound to respect." The Dred Scott Decision is considered by many to be the worst decision in the Supreme Court's history. We discuss the case's significance with Kimberlé Crenshaw, professor of law at UCLA and Columbia University and founder of the African American Policy Forum.

Intro to the following article:

http://www.democracynow.org/2014/8/18/ferguson_protests_erupt_near_grave_of

Astrology: Richard

Mon last: new moon in 3 Virgo; Mars conjunct Saturn in 18* Scorpio

Tues last: Venus in Leo - square Saturn; Venus is moving fast right now - 1.25* per day

- Sun moves just under a degree a day; Sun opposite Neptune – we grew into that this week and maxed out on Friday

Sat: moon moved into Scorpio in the morning; the moon will slip between Earth and Saturn – it's an Occultation – it's like a conjunction though in that case, you can see both planets.

- An occultation means for a couple of hours, the moon slips between earth and Saturn; blocks Saturn's energy – like an eclipse; a chance for a bit of loosening of the belt: the belt that holds the 3D world together! just a couple of hours.

Mon: Moon goes into Sag

Tues: Moon still in Sag; Mercury goes into Libra at 1:40 am; should help things

- things have been intense with Mercury in Virgo – hoping for re-balancing with Mercury in Libra!
- Sun remains opposite Neptune for a few days – close enough to call it a trine to Mercury and Capricorn
- Sun is opposite Chiron for next 10 days and also opposite Neptune:

Sun opposite Chiron: the issues between the woundedness we all carry around and spirit; the implications are what our Higher Selves are working on; it's a Divine will component [sun] and wisdom component [Neptune which has a component of sun and moon and transmits wisdom; also dreaminess and escapism – also about consciousness]

Wed: moon goes into Capricorn

Thurs: moon conjuncts Pluto in the afternoon

Fri: just after noon, Venus goes into Virgo – moving fast; Moon goes into Aquarius at 8 pm

Moon slipping through Scorpio, going through Sat and end up here

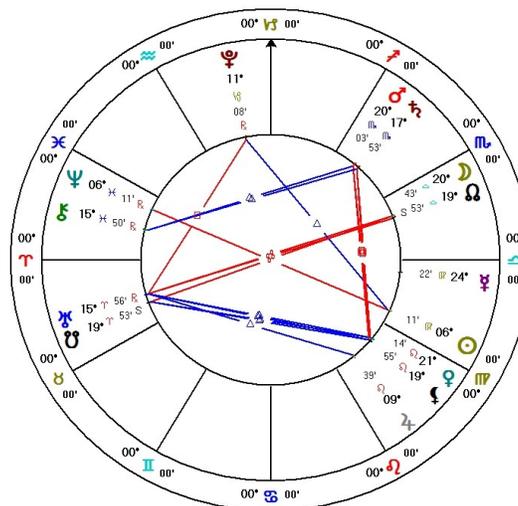
Mon: harvest moon at 17* Pisces, on top of Chiron

2014, August 26 Pele Report, Astrology Forecast

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=iE0emE_QS58

click here for the Sun Opposite Neptune astrology chart

Sun opposite Neptune
Natal Chart
 Aug 29 2014, Fri
 8:51:47 am CST -6:00
 San Jose, Costa Rica
 09°N56' 08.4"W05°
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 0°Aries
 True Node



Life is a celestial symphony,
Now wanting to be shared.
I'm one of many instruments,
Being polished, tuned, and prepared.

Feel it happening? I hope I stressed enough in this video the awe, the wonder, the amazement that awaits those who experience this grand symphony! It takes work, discipline, patience, honesty, on and on and on to create and share this new paradigm of reality.... BUT.... the results are gonna be FANTASTIC and the kids and their kids and their kids are gonna go WOW..... they did it!

So hang in there, especially for the next couple weeks and let go of those limiting core beliefs that are causing hurt, pain and suffering within and without. Time to look at it, own it, learn from it, let it go, and move on undaunted, unbeaten, and fully tuned! Injoy music this week by Jmwww.1upyo.com

Ri: with all that in mind, be kind to one another
• No other written material – Oracle Report on vacation;

Reading: **Méline Portia Lafont - A message From Robin Williams – 25 August 2014**
As channeled through Méline Lafont

Hi sweet friends,

Before sharing this personal message from Robin Williams, I want to explain how this all came to pass. Robin has been my favorite actor for as long as I know him as I felt such an attraction to his Spirit. We could all see through his vehicle and see the true nature as he is. He inspired many on this plane through laughter and joy. The day of his “departure” touched me deeply and felt as if a part of me was gone. I was deeply moved like many. I immediately called Archangel Michael to send him Love and to please bring him to the Light as he is an enlightened soul that did so much for the whole world through his Spirit.

When someone commits suicide, the soul goes to an astral plane created especially for such souls where they have to learn and respect life again. The souls are somewhat lost and not aware or conscious and linger in-between worlds on the astral plane. This is so for everyone that commits suicide: lightworker, awakened or not. This is why I was devastated to know he would end up there and we all know that the harshness of this world was one of the main reasons for him to leave the plane as Robin was very sensitive to that.

This is why I, and I am sure many of you, have send love and requested the Angels to send him to the Light instead of this astral world as he is such a beautiful lightbeing that has done so much for the globe and just could not bear the world’s cruelty.

I asked if I could connect with Robin as soon as I found out of his departure but Archangel Michael was not allowing this, as Robin was confused and lost at that time. Trying to understand what has happened.

If you understand the Astrological life chart of Robin, you can see that this type of exit was indeed already present in his chart (8th house) and that he was oversensitive and felt a lot of grief. Even the way and where it happened, can be seen in his chart through the influences of the Planets and signs. The overall energy is that he felt it all inside of him and was aware, just could not find it in the outer world and could not stand the harshness of this world.

A few days after listening to an excellent channeling from Robin Through Laura M. I was presented the opportunity once more to channel him. Archangel Michael informed me that Robin is being elevated to the Light instead of going to this Astral world, this thanks to all of the wishes and Light that has been send to Robin from those who are awake. That is why Robin is now more conscious and present to bring a message.

I checked and re-checked a few times before bringing this out, as I always want to make sure it is him. His energies were very tangible to me during this transmission and it felt him to me, with his being in my inner vision. I experienced a headache after this because I can feel his light is increasing but not at the plane yet of those I am used to channel. But nevertheless , a very beautiful soul with still a lot of grief.

He told me that he would “leave” for a while to go to a light retreat where he can come at ease again and let go of his grief, for he still carries a lot of grief with him that he now needs to let go of. From that point on he will receive the opportunity again to continue his journey and so that will be his decision as to what form, consciousness or plane he wishes to venture.

This being said, I only want to stress one thing: please do not think that leaving this plane through committing suicide is the way to be freed from what you wish to run away from on this plane as what you do not finish here, you always take with you in the ethereal plane and the next incarnation. It will be even harder afterwards. Taking your own life is having to go to the astral plane to learn and respect life again. It is feeling lost and it is not such a pleasant reality to be in. You do not go straight to the light! Robin was very fortunate that the entire world could see him as he is and that he is so loved, so that all of these prayers manifested this outcome for him. But seems he has seen though this all as well, at the time.

Love Méline Portia Lafont

Méline Portia Lafont ~ A message from Robin Williams 2014, Aug 26

(thanks to Karl for this image)



As channeled through Méline Lafont

Robin Williams:

I come to you with gratitude, gratitude for all you have been to me which is the polite nature of grace,

love, understanding and compassion. It has been an overwhelming process for me to experience, yet not to be grasped with the physical mind of the human perception for all is an extension of you in experiences. Now I see all that I could not see before. I see all the experiences in life as an extension of the human experience as to where knowledge comes in to be gained and to be pursued to gain back the Love one truly is and longs for.

I have not seen Love for a while and was lost, trapped in the dualistic Illusion mankind prevailed in. Although I searched for it through many ways and forms, I could not see. Not in the way I see it now. I was trapped in the forgotten space of Illusion as to where Love was experienced separately from the Self. Now I know better as I do see all in the extension of what truly is. I gained Love through laughter and pleasure, that what makes a human being smile with tenderness and care. It was my only way to deal with life and to get myself through it, I just laughed through everything even the worse cases just to get through the harshness and the bitterness of life, for there is much bitterness in this world.

Nothing should be so bitter and sober, as to where laughter comes in and sweeps up the long forgotten memory of what one truly is, cause laughter awakes the inner child within all and brings happiness in oneself.

I am mesmerized by the way humanity has changed already since my departure on such a short notice and it is just dazzling how much of the Earthly plane is shifting in gears, for nothing is truly being left untouched. I was touched while being there with you all, I was touched in so many ways through various sources but yet I could not find a way to stand for who I was in life. I was bombarded by many oppositions and delays of what I was truly standing for. I could not break through, I could not see how to get out of there; this fabrication of the human ego mind where there is only right or wrong, black or white, and strong or weak.

This fabrication left me feeling unreal on this planet as if I was the illusion living in reality, not knowing what was the solution to get out of that thinking. So I smiled myself through this and just let myself Be for a while, turning into a shadow of my being instead of being who I truly am. It is a harsh world out there and I did my part. I did what I did and there is no use in determining as to how and why I did this, there is only one part of me that could give you that sense of what was going on inside of me and it is what I now share with you all as I want you all to know that, truly, there is no better way of knowing than being in your heart during your journey.

When you get in your head, your ego will take a run with you through the most impossible ways so that you get nuts, and you truly will get nuts complaining that you cannot find a way out of this as your head has already turned you over to the impossible and the entrapped illusion inside of your head. It is like a labyrinth that never ends. The heart is the Key and it is there where Mona Lisa smiles, while knowing that whatever is going on worse case scenario, all is going to be fine when you are in your heart. No matter what harshness is surrounding you, and there is much upon the world I can assure you, smile in your heart and celebrate the joy within your own heart. Let yourself not be confused of what others think of you or may project upon you, it is purely distraction, it distracted me as well. It can get into the fibers of your being and heart, leaving you completely down and depressed as society puts another in-boxed image upon you, telling you how you need to be so that you play upon their rules.

It is about power and greed, nothing more in these heads. Step away from everything that is told to you from the mindset of the head. Step away from what they want you to be or to become in life. Step away from distractions and attempts to keep you disconnected from your heart, and be in your heart with a smile upon your face keeping that happiness of who you are alive. Be yourself, empowered and acknowledged from your heart and stand there proud, happy and confident about

yourself.

I can see now where you all stand in life and I can see now that everything surrounding me, surrounding you,(energies) are purely extensions of ourselves in higher levels of Love. The Love in here at this plane of consciousness is beyond what you encounter in life, it is so much more and vibrating. If I could give you a sense of what it is like, believe me I would but for now all I wanted to say is that you can step away from that which I could not at that time; and that is the harshness that is put upon you all from the illusionary systems of greed and power.

You can stand in your own power and it is the will of your own heart, to be that what you mean in life to yourself, to others. Disconnect from that which is nothing but distraction, harshness and greed, and stand in your own power from an observer perspective as when you become the observer by stepping away/detaching from what is going on in your life, you see everything so clear and strong. That is a knowing I have gained now even more as I am truly becoming myself again now, more and more.

Step away from that what is holding you in the power of greed and cruelty, from that what makes your heart cry, from that which brings up anger and confusion, and by all means I do not mean the way I did it, as that was my choice nothing to lead by example here, but by disengaging from the cruelty mankind applies in a variety of systems that makes you believe you need to fit in or need to be for someone's pleasure and entertainment or greed. Be in your heart and stay there, breathing out what is giving you a feeling of being disabled. Breathe in again your own power of Love, through joy and laughter and stay strong in your belief that you count in life.

Power over will is not the solution here on Earth, but Divine Will in co-operation is, where all are heard and allowed to speak their tongues of truth. I have spoken my truth in a way, but believed that all mankind will be pure laughter and joy again someday. It just was not right anymore for me to chase the laughter within everyone that have become this bitterness as I had met my own through the grief and the sorrow my brain has led me to believe to be truth.

I have gained your love, your support, your well wishes and so much more that I have found compassion again in my soul. Accompanied by angels and blessings I am being lifted up on my journey back towards my being. The world is not on a bad run, it is just running out of the bad that has been implied by the believers in the first place. It is darkness, I call it, in the where so much Light abides.

Thank you for everything you have done for my soul, it is appreciated beyond measure. It is a thank you and a blessing in return for all of your blessings upon my soul

Robin Williams

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<http://lucas2012infos.wordpress.com/2014/08/25/meline-portia-lafont-a-message-from-robin-williams-25-august-2014/>

Conference Call

finishes the reading of channeling from Robin Williams

T: even if the archons manifested in the room and helped him out, he still had a weakness there

- The Buddha said “Despair is not an option, suffering is optional!”
- The whole story of his death and the autopsy report is still to be revealed.

R: Dr Greer's wife has gone into complete remission! Help from the ships?

T: there are more healers in this area of Santa Fe than anywhere else on earth: the healing in combination with the arts community makes it a destination for AIDS patients and others

- Need to shut down nuclear plants and agri business for what they do to animals
 - iceberg lettuce is like a death knell to the kidneys
 - white bread – outrageous amounts of bleach in it! [no white sugar, bread, spaghetti, etc]

look up: organic kidney diet - **Dr Paavo Airola PhD**

Handbook of Natural Healing: how to get well – 1974

22nd printing – 1987 ISBN # 0-932090-03-6

Health Plus Publishers, Phoenix, AZ

- The gov't killed Dr Airola for what he knew about what they were doing.
- They used a needle and shot it into his leg as they went past; he died instantly

Basic Info on kidney diet: low protein and emphasis on raw fruits and veg

Avoid • spinach and rhubarb due to oxalyic acid
 • Chocolate and cocoa – they contain oxalyc acid – do not to eat

Good to eat: red potatoes, cukes, water cress, celery

- bananas – needs a bit of black around the top, not all black or not all yellow [not ripe enough]
- Papayas – both have healing properties

Maybe the form of potassium in bananas would be better for him

- Watermelon is good – eat it alone
- a small amount of soured milk and cottage cheese – goat milk
- raw untreated honey is excellent
- 5-6 small meals
- NO SALT AT ALL

- in an **acute condition** a juice fast for 2-3 mostly veg
 - watermelon – juice the entire thing: the flesh, the rind, the seed – excellent
 - drink plenty of veg broth
 - cranberry juice
- Avoid all smoke – no incense, none in the polluted world

EXERCISE -

- nephritis – Bright's disease: 1 week of juice fasting, then 1 week of goats milk , 3 x a day
 1 qt warmed up with 1 tbsp of molasses!
- Kidney bean pod treatment -
 follow the diet given above + kidney bean pod decoction
 Do this for 4 – 6 weeks

From Lyn: The Doctors Book of Food Remedies
Selene Yeager and the editors of Prevention
2007 by Rodale

There's a section about kidneys; also nice recipes

BBS

**Reading: Goliath: Life and Loathing in Greater Israel by Max Blumenthal
a book review**

[SEE BELOW]

Audio: Bruce Lipton – How to Live Heaven on Earth

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j3NbG6sjq7U>

Published on 24 Oct 2013

Hay House World Summit 2013

Bruce is interviewed by a colleague who is also a genetics biologist

Epigenetics is the new paradigm in biology, not heredity

- having a gene does not mean people will get cancer or any other kind of disease, illness –
- the genes are not giving people cancer, heart problems, etc – lifestyle has a profound effect: a negative way of responding to life can create the onset of illness
- What heals patient is belief in the drug; what harms the patient is the belief about the gene he/she carries for cancer or what ever it is. The power of belief works both ways – **we are not victims** in terms of a gene expressing itself in our bodies
- Negative thinking is equally as powerful as positive thinking.

Article: How Trayvon Martin's Death Launched a New Generation of Black Activism

Mychal Denzel Smith

published in **The Nation**

[SEE BELOW]

Audio: Max Keiser

[KR647] Keiser Report: Fast Food Tax Evasion

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=19FqgKh8rxc

We discuss Burger King, yet another company fleeing America for yet another 'free' healthcare nation, Canada. Meanwhile, back in America naked incidents are on the rise and, in Europe, suicide tourism rises four-fold. In the second half, Max interviews Trace Mayer about bitcoin, central banking and geopolitics.

Audio: Thom Hartman

Full Show 8/29/14: GOP Already Planning Next Government Shutdown

Tonight's "Big Picture Rumble" discusses the success of Obamacare, why the GOP is already threatening to shutdown the government again and the civil rights lawsuits against the Ferguson PD.

In tonight's "Conversations with Great Minds" Thom talks with Journalist David DeGraw, author of the upcoming book "The Economics of Revolution."

<http://daviddegrow.org/peak-inequality-the-01-and-the-impoverishment-of-society/>

Reading: D'yanni Ywahoo

Closing: Rainbird

INFORMATION RELATED TO THE NOTES

2014, Aug 29

Heralding a National Trend? Enrollment Surges as NYC Begins Full-Day Prekindergarten for 50,000 Kids

<http://publish.dvllabs.com/democracynow/ipod/dn2014-0829.mp4>

As the school year begins, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio is launching his signature initiative of full-day universal prekindergarten at public schools. More than 50,000 children have already enrolled and thousands of additional teachers have been hired. Democracy Now! co-host and New York Daily News columnist Juan González discusses how the program could transform public education in New York City, and potentially, nationwide.

Transcript

AMY GOODMAN: Juan, before we move on with our first segment, you have a very interesting column in the New York Daily News today.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: Yes, well I reported today on the — what is about to happen in New York City, one of the biggest and most of ambitious experiments in reforming public education in years in the United States. Starting next week, New York will be offering free full day prekindergarten classes to children in New York City. Until now, there has only been a small, mostly half-day pre-k program. The signature initiative of the new de Blasio administration is this universal pre-k. Effectively it adds an entire year to the school year of any child in the public schools because they will start school at four instead of five in kindergarten. Yesterday the Mayor announced 50,000 children have already registered for the new pre-k program.

That is an immense number when you think about it. The entire public school system of Seattle is only, I think, about 47,000 or 48,000 children. The city is actually adding 30,000 new children, there were 20,000 in pre-k last year, which is almost equal to the public school system — the entire public school system of Cincinnati. So, this is a huge endeavor. Thousands of teachers have been hired and trained, hundreds of sites at both community organizations and public schools have been identified. They have had to rush this all out only since March, which is when the legislature — the state legislature approved funding for the program after de Blasio lobbied fiercely for it.

So, it's a major, major change, not to mention the fact that countless numbers of parents who until now have had to pay for child care for their four-year-olds will now not have to worry about this extreme, large cost in their budgets of private childcare. So, it is a major change. If it succeeds, you may see cities across the country moving toward universal pre-k, full day pre-k. So it's going to be an interesting experiment. There are bound to be all kinds of problems initially with it, but I know that educators and reformers around the country are looking to see what happens with this pre-k program.

AMY GOODMAN: We will continue to follow it.

http://www.democracynow.org/2014/8/29/heralding_a_national_trend_enrollment_surges

2014, Aug 29 **Ukraine Crisis Escalates as Russian Forces Cross Border, NATO Moves to Expand in Region**

<http://publish.dvllabs.com/democracynow/ipod/dn2014-0829.mp4>

Guests Jonathan Steele, journalist at the Guardian where he once served as the organization's Moscow correspondent. He is the author of "Eternal Russia: Yeltsin, Gorbachev, and the Mirage of Democracy."

The United States and NATO are openly accusing Russia of sending combat forces into Ukraine as tensions continue to mount. According to the United Nations, nearly 2,600 people have been killed in eastern Ukraine since April in fighting between Ukrainian forces and separatist rebels sympathetic to Russia. On Thursday, at least 15 civilians were killed when Ukrainian forces shelled the rebel-held city of Donetsk. Meanwhile, a new Human Rights Watch report accuses the rebels of arbitrarily detaining civilians and subjecting them to torture, degrading treatment, and forced labor. On Thursday, NATO released satellite images that it says show Russian artillery, vehicles and troops in and around eastern Ukraine. We are joined from London by the Guardian's Jonathan Steele, the organization's former Moscow correspondent and author of many books, including "Eternal Russia: Yeltsin, Gorbachev, and the Mirage of Democracy."

Transcript

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: The United States and NATO are openly accusing Russia of sending combat forces into Ukraine as tensions continue to mount between the two countries following the coup in February that toppled Ukraine's elected government. According to the United Nations, nearly 2600 people have been killed in Eastern Ukraine since April and fighting between Ukrainian forces and separatist rebels so pathetic to Russia. That figure does not include the 298 victims of the Malaysian airlines plane crash.

AMY GOODMAN: On Thursday, at least 15 civilians were killed when Ukrainian forces shelled the rebel-held city of Donetsk. Meanwhile, a new Human Rights Watch report accuses the rebels of arbitrarily detaining civilians and subjecting them to torture, degrading treatment, and forced labor. On Thursday, President Obama addressed the crisis after NATO released satellite images they say show Russian artillery, vehicles, and troops in and around Eastern Ukraine.

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA: I just spoke with Chancellor Merkel of Germany on the situation in Ukraine. We agree, if there was ever any doubt, that Russia is responsible for the violence in Eastern Ukraine, the violence is encouraged by Russia, the separatists are trained by Russia, they are armed by Russia, they are funded by Russia. Russia has deliberately and repeatedly violated the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine. And the new images of Russian forces inside Ukraine make that plain for the world to see.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: President Obama also announced Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko would visit the United States next month. Poroshenko was elected in May to replace Viktor Yanukovich who was ousted in the February coup. Ambassadors from the 28 NATO countries and Ukraine are holding an emergency meeting today. At the United Nations, Russian Ambassador Vitaly Churkin accused the Ukrainian government of waging war against its own people by attacking cities in Eastern Ukraine.

VITALY CHURKIN: The current escalation in the Southeast of Ukraine is a direct consequence of the reckless policy of Kiev, which is directing war against its own people. With the support and under the influence of a number of states Kiev authorities have torpedoed all political agreements on resolving the crisis in the Ukraine.

AMY GOODMAN: To talk about the crisis we go to London where we are joined by Jonathan Steele, the former Moscow correspondent for The Guardian. He has is the author of many books including, "Eternal Russia: Yeltsin, Gorbachev, and the Mirage of Democracy." Jonathan Steele, welcome back to Democracy Now! What do you think is most important to understand about the crisis in Ukraine right now?

JONATHAN STEELE: I think it is that Russia is trying to prevent Ukraine joining NATO, which is, of course, what some people in the West, particularly in the Baltic countries and Poland and sort of neocons in Washington, would like it to do. I think the situation could be genetically escalated if President Obama now and at the big NATO summit that's going to be held in Britain next week would say that the U.S. respects the current strategic position of Ukraine, which is nonalignment, and would also say that there is no prospect of Ukraine joining NATO for the next at least 10 or 20 years. I think that would dramatically escalate the crisis. Putin would be immediately impressed and would be willing to make the concessions that are necessary.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: Jonathan Steele, what do you make of the fact that it has only been a couple of days since the Ukrainian President and Putin had a meeting that seemed to be — show promises of de-escalate in the entire crisis?

JONATHAN STEELE: I think it shows that they didn't actually show promises of de-escalating the crisis. I presume that Putin was very disappointed with Poroshenko's line in the private meetings and he's decided that he has to escalate the situation. You mentioned what Obama had said about Chancellor Merkel in his speech just a few hours ago. What he didn't mention was that Merkel has said publicly just in the last few days that there has to be a cease-fire, there has to be a political, not a military, solution and that Russia's interest cannot be ignored. This is very sensible stuff from Chancellor Merkel. Unfortunately, has not echoed publicly at least by President Obama and other NATO leaders. So, that's what I say is really important is to push for cease-fire, which the Russians have constantly called for, and get political negotiations which would guarantee the nonalignment in the future of Ukraine.

AMY GOODMAN: Speaking to reporters Thursday, President Obama said the U.S. will collaborate with its NATO allies in dealing with the Ukraine crisis, but he ruled out military action against Russia. This is what he said.

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA: We will continue to stand firm with our allies and partners that what is happening is wrong, that there is a solution that allows Ukraine and Russia to live peacefully. But it is not in the cards for us to see a military confrontation between Russia and the United States in this region. Keep in mind, however, that I am about to go to a NATO conference. Ukraine is not a member of NATO, but a number of the states that are close by are. And we take our Article Five commitments to defend each other very seriously.

AMY GOODMAN: I was wondering, Jonathan Steele, if you could respond to that and also in the U.S. media, you rarely hear Russia's side. What are Russia's interests?

JONATHAN STEELE: Well, I think it was interesting what he said about NATO. But, again, he missed the crucial point, which is that he should have said that he respects the nonalignment of Ukraine and sees no value in it joining NATO. Imagine what would happen if Canada or Mexico decided to join an anti-U.S. alliance? Obviously, the U.S. would be concerned. Russia has legitimate concerns about the expansion of NATO. We've already heard just in the other day the Secretary-General of NATO Anders Fogh Rasmussen was saying that NATO is now going to preposition stocks in Eastern Europe, and bring equipment in and have bases there. It is only further provocation to Moscow. There's a battle going on, clearly, within NATO between hawks and doves and Obama is sitting on the fence. He should come down the side of the doves and make his position clear, which is similar I think to what Merkel has done. But, even she has not dared yet publicly to come out and say she does not want Ukraine to join NATO.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: Jonathan Steele, what do you make of the media coverage in the West or the lack of media coverage over the carnage and civilian casualties in Eastern Ukraine as a result of the Ukrainian forces advancing?

JONATHAN STEELE: I mean, I'm very glad that in your report, at least, you put in the point that the U.N. has come out saying that the 2600 people, civilians, have been killed. That's more than were killed in Gaza in the recently month-long Israeli offensive. It is a huge humanitarian disaster and crisis going on. It is hardly ever mentioned in the Western media. These are U.N. figures. And as you also pointed out correctly, the U.S. says the majority of those casualties are caused by the Ukrainian army against civilians because they are trying to capture huge cities Donetsk, Luhansk where there are hundreds of thousands of people. Many have fled, but there are still hundreds of thousands remaining. Russia tried to highlight that whole issue two or three weeks ago

when it sent this humanitarian convoy from Russia into Ukraine. And what happened? The Ukrainians immediately said this is the pretext for an invasion, this is an invasion. Russians then allowed people to look into those convoys, the OSCE looked into it, the Ukrainian border guards looked into it, Western journalists looked into it. There is absolutely no sign of any military potential at all. It was simply humanitarian supplies. And eventually, it was allowed in — well, it wasn't allowed in, the Russians drove it in because the Ukrainians refused to give the paperwork that was necessary even though it was in no way military. So, Russia was trying to highlight the civilian casualties, which is also why they keep pushing for cease-fire. Unfortunately, the Ukrainian authorities insist on winning a military victory. First, they thought they could do it by earlier this week, which is their Independence Day. They had said they were going to "liberate Donetsk before Independence Day." But that hasn't happened. They should now recognize they're not going to win a military victory. Russia's latest actions show that they're going to make sure that the forces there, the rebel forces, are not defeated.

AMY GOODMAN: On Thursday, the U.S. and Russia had a heated exchange in the United Nations over the situation in Ukraine. U.S. Ambassador Samantha Power accused Russia of duplicity.

SAMANTHA POWER: Instead of listening, instead of heeding the demands of the international community and the rules of the international order, at every step, Russia has come before this council to say everything except the truth. It has manipulated, it has obfuscated, it has outright lied. So we have learned to measure Russia by its actions and not by its words. In the last 48 hours, Russia's actions have spoken volumes.

AMY GOODMAN: Samantha Power's Russian counterpart, Vitaly Churkin, blamed Ukraine for escalating the situation by not honoring political agreements. He also advised the White House to stop meddling in world affairs.

VITALY CHURKIN: Now the American ambassador said what kind of message can we send to Russia's neighbors? Well, I would suggest that we send a message to Washington. Stop interfering with the internal affairs of sovereign states. Stop trying to undermine a regime that you don't like. Restrain your geopolitical ambition. Then, not only Russia's neighbors, but many other countries around the world would breathe a sigh of relief.

AMY GOODMAN: That is the Russian Ambassador to the U.N., Vitaly Churkin. Before that, Samantha Power. Jonathan Steele, if you could respond to what they said and also talk about the NATO satellite imagery showing Russian troops in Ukraine and also the Russian troops who were allegedly captured by Ukraine and Putin saying that they were just on holiday in Ukraine.

JONATHAN STEELE: Well, I think every big power uses this strategy of so-called plausible deniability. That is what Russia has been doing up till now. I think Samantha Power has some legitimacy in saying that the Russians are obfuscating and even telling lies. It would be much better if Russia came out clearly and said, we have to defend these people because they're under attack, they have legitimate interests, but they're being attacked by their own government in Ukraine and we have come to their defense. We're not seeking to take over the whole of Ukraine, we're not seeking to separate Western — Eastern Ukraine from Ukraine and join it on to Russia. That would be a more honest way of handling it. But, that is the Russian position. When the Eastern Ukrainian leadership had this referendum two or three months to go about joining Russia, Putin said they should not hold the referendum. When the referendum nevertheless took place against his statements, they did not recognize the results of the referendum. So there's no evidence that Russia is seeking to, as it were, re-create the Soviet Union or the 19th century Russian Empire and seize this part of Ukraine. It is simply trying to defend people who have legitimate interests, who are worried about Kiev's very anti-Russian, including anti-Russian language strategy, and seek to defend them. So, I think it would be better if Russia was more honest. On the question of the prisoners, that may well be true that those people strayed into Ukraine inadvertently. There have been Ukrainian troops on the Russian side and the Russians have returned them without making a big propaganda fuss about it when they've lost their way. On the question of the satellite pictures which you asked about, I'm no expert on that. They look potentially convincing, but you would have to get more independent expert opinion on that. We know how in the run-up to the invasion, Colin Powell on the Security Council — was all kinds of photographs and things which turned out to be fakes. So, one has to be cautious on this, but, they may well be true.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: Jonathan Steele, what do you make of the calls for increasing economic sanctions, especially by the European Union, against Russia and the possibility that that might be effective forcing some kind of a diplomatic settlement to this crisis?

JONATHAN STEELE: Well, it hasn't been effective so far. So I don't think there's any reason to expect that more sanctions will be anymore effective. I mean, Russian policy has not changed, it hasn't softened. So, sanctions are not working. And there is great doubt in Europe about the counterproductive element of it, of shooting oneself in the foot. The Eurozone economy is now predicted not to grow this year. They have to downgrade their forecasts. It won't necessarily be negative growth, collapse in output, but it could be just a flat-line position, no growth. And there are many concerns, particularly in Germany, over that. Of course, Russia has retaliated by banning all food imports from the EU into Russia for at least the next year. That is having an effect on the European agricultural producers. So, it's a very dangerous tit-for-tat thing, which both sides can suffer. But, I don't think it is having any political effect, and therefore, should not be relied on.

http://www.democracynow.org/2014/8/29/ukraine_crisis_escalates_as_russian_forces

2014, Aug 29 **Ferguson Crackdown Sparks Review of Police Militarization that Mainly Targets Communities of Color**

<http://publish.dvlabs.com/democracynow/ipod/dn2014-0829.mp4>

Guests Kara Dansky, senior counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union and author of their new report, "The War Comes Home: The Excessive Militarization of American Policing."

President Obama has ordered a White House-led review of federal programs that fund and distribute military equipment to state and local police. Obama cited concern at how such equipment was used during the recent unrest in Ferguson, Missouri, following the police killing of Michael Brown. One of the BearCat armored trucks used during protests there was paid for with \$360,000 in Homeland Security grants. According to Pentagon data published by The New York Times, police departments have received tens of thousands of machine guns during the Obama administration, along with nearly 200,000 ammunition magazines; thousands of pieces of camouflage and night-vision equipment; and hundreds of silencers, armored cars and aircraft. Much of the equipment is used by police SWAT teams for what amount to paramilitary raids on people's homes. A new report by the American Civil Liberties Union examines more than 800 of these raids and found only 7 percent were for genuine emergencies. Nearly 80 percent were for used for ordinary law enforcement purposes like serving search warrants on people's homes. We are joined by Kara Dansky, a senior counsel for the ACLU and author of its new report, "The War Comes Home: The Excessive Militarization of American Policing."

Transcript

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: This week President Obama ordered a White House-led review of federal programs that fund and distribute military equipment to state and local police. He cited concern at how such equipment was used during the recent unrest in Ferguson, Missouri, after the police shooting of Michael Brown. One of the BearCat armored trucks used during this protest was paid for with \$360,000 in Homeland Security grants.

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA: There is a big difference between our military and local law enforcement, and we don't want those lines blurred. That would be contrary to our traditions. And I think there will be some bipartisan interest in re-examining some of those programs.

AMY GOODMAN: According to Pentagon data published by The New York Times, police departments have received tens of thousands of machine guns during the Obama administration, along with nearly 200,000 ammunition magazines; thousands of pieces of camouflage and night-vision equipment; and hundreds of silencers, armored cars, aircraft. Much of the equipment is used by police SWAT teams for what amounts to paramilitary raids on people's homes.

A new report by the American Civil Liberties Union examined more than 800 of these raids and found only 7 percent were genuine emergencies. Nearly 80 percent were used for ordinary law enforcement purposes, like serving search warrants on people's homes. The report is called, "War Comes Home: The Excessive Militarization of American Policing."

We're joined now from Washington, D.C., by its author, Kara Dansky, senior counsel for the ACLU. Welcome to Democracy Now!, Kara. What surprised you most by what's happening, and if you could relate what is becoming an awareness in the mainstream media that many if different communities have talked about for a while, the militarization of police? Ferguson has really brought it – exploded it onto the national media scene.

KARA DANSKY: Sure. Thanks for having me, first of all. Amy, I think that is exactly right. I think what has shocked so many Americans who are watching what happened in Ferguson is something that really reflects a much broader trend, which is the militarization of policing, which as you say, has been going on in certain communities in the United States for decades, fueled in large part by a series of federal programs that bring weapons and money to local law enforcement, mainly, to wage the war on drugs. Which has been unfairly and aggressively fought in communities of color, as I said, for decades.

So I do think that what we saw in Ferguson is shocking and I am encouraged that more and more people are coming to understand this phenomenon of militarization of policing but I think it is also important to understand that it does reflect a much broader trend that has been going on in America for some time.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: Kara Dansky, there have been generations now of conflicts between urban police departments and the minority communities in the United States. But as your report seems to point out, it is the weaponry that has changed, not the actual conflicts.

KARA DANSKY: Certainly, the weaponry has changed quite a bit in terms of the kinds of weaponry that Amy listed early on that the police are able to get free of charge from the Pentagon, through what is known as the 1033 program. Also the kinds of weaponry that local police are able to buy directly from weapons manufacturers with money that they receive from the Department of Justice and Department of Homeland Security. I think that that's right – I think that the kinds of weapons has certainly evolved and expanded in terms of what local police have access to and the kinds of weapons that they use in their arsenals.

It is also true, as you say, that aggressive policing has been going on for a long time in communities of color. I also think that the militarization trend reflects not only the kinds of equipment, but also a certain culture of militarism that we see permeating many police departments throughout the country.

AMY GOODMAN: This month, Pentagon spokesperson Rear Admiral John Kirby responded to criticism of the militarization of police to equipment transfers from the Defense Logistics Agency.

JOHN KIRBY: I will tell you though, that we have rigorous compliance and accountability standards, and biannually, the Defense Logistics Agency spot checks many of these local law enforcement agencies in the states to make sure that they're keeping proper account ability – inventorying – keeping an inventory of the equipment. But we do not legislate, we don't dictate, we don't mandate any kind of certain use. That is up to local law enforcement.

AMY GOODMAN: That is Pentagon spokesperson Rear Admiral John Kirby. Kara Dansky, your response?

KARA DANSKY: That is exactly right and it's a big part of the problem. We don't think the local police should be able to have unlimited discretion in terms of how they deploy military weaponry in American communities. The other thing that is important to note, is it is true that the Defense Logistics Agency is required to do some checks in terms of overseeing the inventory to make sure that local police departments are keeping track of the kinds of weapons that they get from the Pentagon. But it raises a question as to what happens when those inventories are not completed or when weapons go missing.

We know that a number of police departments across the country have been suspended from the program because they simply cannot account for some of the weapons that they got from the Pentagon. It is appropriate to have that kind of oversight, and to suspend departments that can't account for the weapons they get from the Pentagon, but it raises a really important question which is, what happened to those weapons?

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: I wanted to ask about some of these examples that your report cites. For example, if you could talk about the toddler who was severely injured in May in Georgia.

KARA DANSKY: Sure. This is a really horrifying case of something that happens routinely across the country, usually, not resulting in that kind of injury. But basically what happened was, a family was visiting extended family in a small town outside Atlanta, Georgia. They were asleep at about 3:00 in the morning, and the police decided to serve as search warrant on the home where they were staying.

They served that warrant at 3:00 in the morning. It's important to note that they were looking for a man they suspected of having about \$50 worth of drugs. They served the search warrant at about 3:00 in the morning, and they used what is called a flashbang grenade. This is a grenade that detonates a loud noise. There is an explosion, and it causes temporary blindness and deafness, as well as tremendous confusion by the people who experience it.

This flashbang grenade landed directly in the crib of sleeping Bou Bou Phonesavanh, critically injuring him. It was absolutely horrific. His sisters were in the room and watched this happen flash and experienced the detonation of the flashbang grenade. Then the officers came in and they held the family at gunpoint. When Bou Bou's mother tried to go to him, they yelled at her to shut up and get on the ground. They held the family gun point. They ordered Bou Bou's father to the ground. They held him there. And then it was hours before these parents were able to see their child.

So again, tragedies like that don't happen every day, but the kinds of tactics and weapons that are being deployed by the police in the kinds of raids we saw happen in Georgia are happening every day in America.

AMY GOODMAN: Kara Dansky, we want to thank you very much for being with us, senior counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union and author of the new report, "War Comes Home: The Excessive Militarization of American Policing."

http://www.democracynow.org/2014/8/29/ferguson_crackdown_sparks_review_of_police

By Melissa Harris-Perry

Among those asking questions about the police shooting of Michael Brown and the militarized response that followed, are young people hoping to pose those questions in a space where they are used to getting answers—the classroom.

So, I was all ready this week to send a scathing letter to a school superintendent in Edwardsville, Illinois who not only told his teachers not to discuss Ferguson if it comes up in class, but to change the subject if it does!

But he later went on to send a letter to parents assuring them that his directive was meant to offer the students clarity, not censorship, saying:

“It was not our intent to ignore the educational relevance of these events. However, we felt it was important to take the time to calm a potential situation at the high school and to prepare administrators and teachers to approach this critical issue in an objective, fact-based manner.”

Sounds like he just needs a little help with lesson-planning around Ferguson. And since I’m already in full professor mode preparing for the fall semester, I am more than happy to oblige in this week’s letter.

Dear Superintendent Ed Hightower:

It’s me, Melissa.

I know it’s not easy helping teachers to help students navigate the emotionally-charged events that unfolded in Ferguson. And it’s not like there is a ready-made curriculum for racial justice. One Alabama teacher has already shown how misunderstanding how to teach Ferguson can go horribly, horribly wrong. But it is crucial that you make the effort.

Because the classroom is exactly the space where young people should be examining their assumptions, exchanging ideas, and engaging in democratic deliberation over the complicated questions of race invoked by the events in Ferguson. Fortunately, Twitter has already provided teachers with a great headstart with the #FergusonSyllabus hashtag.

Educators around the country are using the hashtag to share resources—readings, topics for discussion, and activities to help students at every grade-level join meaningfully in the national dialogue about Ferguson. And Ed, I’d like to add to that list, and offer your teachers a few syllabus suggestions of my own.

History teachers looking to spark a dialogue about the complicated relationship of African-Americans to their American identity will find an invaluable assist in the words of Frederick Douglass from his 1852 speech making the case for abolition, “What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July?”

English classes can spend an entire semester reading Richard Wright’s *Black Boy*, and discussing how Wright’s reflections of his early life in the Jim Crow South still resonate today in the lives of Michael Brown and the protesters in his community.

In social studies, teachers looking to help students make sense of the activism in response to Brown’s killing can use PBS’s documentary about the murder of Emmett Till to get them thinking about how a single death can launch a movement.

Science teachers may want to consider sharing this historical document with their students. In his 1851

article, Dr. Samuel Cartwright, at the time a widely published and well-respected doctor, discusses his discovery of “drapetomania,” a mental disorder he claimed caused slaves to run away. After reading the article, students can explore the history of scientific racism, and how it continues to influence our thinking even today.

Now, some students may already be engaged with hip-hop music’s exploration of racialized violence. But music teachers can help them trace these themes across decades and genres of music by having them listen to and discuss everything from Public Enemy’s “Fight the Power” to Billie Holiday’s “Strange Fruit.”

So, see, Ed? There’s no need for your teachers to change the subject. Because what we do as teachers is to offer guideposts, context, and space for disagreement. We can teach our students not to be afraid of the unknown and the complicated, by confronting the hard topics as well as the easy. Now is the time to teach, not to hide.

Sincerely,
Melissa

P.S. #nerdland, we would love to hear more suggestions for “teaching Ferguson.” Please share your thoughts in the comments to your right, and on Twitter using the hashtag #FergusonSyllabus.

<http://www.msnbc.com/melissa-harris-perry/open-letter-how-teach-students-about-ferguson>

2014, Aug 21 **Book Review Goliath~ Life and Loathing in Greater Israel** by Max Blumenthal

Reviewed by Bob Dreyfuss, Contributing editor at The Nation, independent investigative reporter in Cape May, NJ, specializing in politics and national security

<http://mepc.org/journal/middle-east-policy-archives/goliath-life-and-loathing-greater-israel>

Nation Books, 2013. 512 pages. \$27.99, hardcover.
Spring 2014, Volume XXI, Number 1

There's a telling anecdote at the heart of Max Blumenthal's provocative new book. It takes place in 2009, when a dissident-minded tour guide at Israel's Holocaust memorial, Yad Vashem, takes visitors not to the usual end point on the tour, but to an overlook that allows the guests to peer down onto the site of perhaps the most infamous slaughter of Palestinian Arabs at the very start of Israel's existence. The guide, Itamar Shapira, tells Blumenthal that he "ushered them to the hillside and pointed them to the ruins of a village clearly visible in the valley below. Before the visitors was Deir Yassin, the site of the massacre of over one hundred Palestinian civilians during the 1948 war by the Stern Gang, a right-wing Zionist militia."

It's a poignant irony that a museum dedicated to the memory of Adolf Hitler's mass slaughter of Jews during World War II sits cheek-by-jowl with Deir Yassin, whose legend is a critical piece of the mosaic that makes up the Palestinians' own Holocaust, the Nakba (catastrophe), when hundreds of thousands were forced to flee their homes into refugee status. But Blumenthal, at great length, draws out the parallels he sees between the unspeakable atrocities that befell Europe's Jews and the cruelties visited upon them both during Israel's early years and more recently, and he underlines the point by arguing that the memory of the Nazi Holocaust is used cynically by Israel's leaders to sustain political support in Israel for a government that has moved inexorably since the 1970s in an ever-more conservative, ultraconservative and finally nearly "fascist" direction. "The lessons of the Holocaust have been imparted across the world to promote greater tolerance for minorities and marginalized social groups," writes Blumenthal. "But in Israel, they get routinely exploited to advance narrow nationalistic goals."

In case anyone might miss his point, Blumenthal names several of his chapters about the current state of affairs in Israel in a manner designed to spark outrage among pro-Israel partisans and many Jews and others who maintain a degree of sympathy for the Jewish state: "The Concentration Camp," "The Night of the Broken Glass," and — echoing Elie Wiesel's classic account of the Holocaust — "Night."

Shocking though such comparisons might be — and Blumenthal's book has drawn more than its share of bitter opprobrium from defenders of Israel across the political spectrum — it's not at all unusual for members of the liberal Zionist establishment inside Israel itself to draw parallels between fascism and modern Israel. Indeed, Blumenthal quotes many expressions of precisely that analogy:

Amnon Dankner, the former editor of Maariv, one of Israel's major newspapers, was moved to condemn what he saw as "neo-Nazi expressions in the Knesset" and "entire parties whose tenor and tone arouse feelings of horror and terrifying memories." David Landau, the former editor-in-chief of Haaretz, echoed Dankner, calling on Israelis to boycott the Knesset "to stand against the wave of fascism that has engulfed the Zionist project." And Uri Avnery, the famed Israeli journalist, politician, and sabra, warned, "Israel's very existence is threatened by fascism."

Of course, today Israel's body politic is nothing like the often idealistic, socialist-minded European Jewish refugees who were the original settlers in the decades before Israel's independence in 1948 and who dominated Israeli politics until the late 1970s. However, since the nearly unthinkable victory of Menachem Begin's Likud bloc in 1977— which also brought to power his partner Yitzhak Shamir, a former assassin with the aforementioned Stern Gang — the electorate has undergone a steady transmutation. While the descendants of the Ashkenazi Jews still populate Tel Aviv's trendy cafes and nightlife and hold sway in

academia, the new Israel also includes vast numbers of immigrant Jews from Arab countries and from Russia, Ukraine and other former Soviet-bloc nations. Many of the latter, Blumenthal points out, are Jewish in name only — sometimes not even that — and they've become reliable votes for a panoply of far-right, ultranationalist parties. In addition, the growth of religious fundamentalist parties, who regard the occupied West Bank as sacred biblical lands that belong to the Jews, has skyrocketed since the 1970s, and they often exhibit radical-right political views on a wide range of issues. It's no longer your grandfather's Israel.

As he did in *Republican Gomorrah: Inside the Movement That Shattered the Party*, in which Blumenthal swam in America's far-right sea to see what he might find, in this book he dives deep into Israel's far right, spending chapter after chapter letting the extremist partisans of modern Israel speak for themselves.

It is, by now, de rigueur for Israeli politicians to complain mightily about supposed "incitement" against Israel in the form of extreme and often anti-Semitic statements from the Palestinian side. In January 2014, receiving Secretary of State John Kerry in Israel, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a typical comment:

In the six months since the start of peace negotiations, the Palestinian Authority continues its unabated incitement against the state of Israel. This Palestinian Government incitement is rampant. You see it in the state-controlled media — the government-controlled media — in the schools, in textbooks, in kindergartens. You see it at every part of Palestinian society.

Had Netanyahu but read Blumenthal's book, however, he might have moderated those remarks. Whereas out-of-bounds comments about Israel by Palestinians can be found by scouring a few textbooks and obscure sermons by Islamists, the overtly racist and extreme "incitements" by Israelis, including from senior officials, members of parliament and leading politicians, and top rabbis are legion. Blumenthal, horrifyingly, recounts many.

Examples cited in *Goliath* include Ehud Barak, Labor party leader and minister of defense, who says that the Zionists have created "a villa in the jungle." Or Ovadiah Yosef, the spiritual leader of the Shas party and former chief rabbi of Israel, who says, "It is forbidden to be merciful to [Arabs]. You must send missiles to them and annihilate them. They are evil and damnable." Or Shmuel Eliyahu, chief rabbi of a city in northern Israel and a member of the Chief Rabbinate Council, who called for "carpet bombing" Gaza, adding, "If they don't stop we must kill 100,000, even a million." (Eliyahu also charged that the Vatican organizes tours of Auschwitz to train Hezbollah in how to wipe out Jews.) Or the widely cited book, *Torat Ha'Melech*, which greenlights the killing of babies: "There is justification for killing babies if it is clear that they will grow up to harm us, and in such a situation they may be harmed deliberately, and not only during combat with adults." Blumenthal attended a gathering of hundreds at the *Torat Ha'Melech* congress, led by rabbis and including activists from the radical nationalist *Im Tirtzu* ("If You Will It") movement and the openly terrorist Kach group that was founded by the late Meir Kahane.

Im Tirtzu, Blumenthal adds, serves as the street-level shock troops for the *Yisrael Beiteinu* party of Avigdor Lieberman, Israel's far-right foreign minister. Lieberman, described as a "gruff former bouncer and airport baggage handler from Moldova" who built his party as the voice for Russian and other East European rightists, serves as the guardian of Netanyahu's right flank. Lieberman famously proposed that Arabs living in Israel be forced to sign a "loyalty oath" to the Jewish state, and at a conference of *Yisrael Beiteinu* outside Nazareth, in the heavily Arab-populated Galilee, his supporters lustily chanted "Death to Arabs!" and "No loyalty, no citizenship!" (Death to Arabs! is the near-constant chant at soccer matches of the Beitar Jerusalem football club, whose No. 1 fan is Avigdor Lieberman.)

The Israel that Blumenthal describes is a scary place, in which everywhere one looks there are virulently racist, hatred-spewing xenophobes. In bars and clubs, in West Bank settlements, at boisterous rallies and anti-Arab, anti-immigrant demonstrations, and in social and political gatherings of all kinds, Blumenthal — often quietly allowing his interlocutors to assume that he's "one of them," even if he has to disguise himself

with a skullcap — lets the Israeli far right have its say. At a 2011 Jerusalem Day march, he watches as thousands of Israeli youth, joined by thousands more Jewish American youth, pour into the Muslim Quarter of the Old City shouting "Muhammad is dead!" and "Slaughter the Arabs!" In other cases, some too graphic to quote here, Israeli rightists use scatological, obscene and highly sexualized terms to describe the original inhabitants of Palestine.

It is, to be sure, not at all a balanced portrait of modern Israel. By Blumenthal's own account, many of the most extreme examples he cites were first exposed, widely analyzed and denounced in the Israeli media. Many of the most radical partisans of the extreme right find themselves denounced by mainstream politicians; even Prime Minister Netanyahu and his allies in Likud, while undoubtedly making use of their militancy and seeking their votes, keep some of the more unsavory elements at arm's length. Too often, Blumenthal disparages or speaks cynically about the "original Zionist left" and what he continually describes in one form or another as the old European, Ashkenazi Zionist establishment, sharply criticizing them for their fecklessness, their compromises, and most of all for their refusal to own up to Israel's Original Sin, the post-1947 destruction of Palestine and the ethnic cleansing, land seizures and massacres that stained the Zionist project from the start. It's true that there is a lot to atone for, going forward, but if there is ever to be a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, ancient (as in biblical) and not-so-ancient (as in 1948, 1956 and 1967), history will count for less than what's happening in the here and now, and on both sides. While the far right and the even more extreme elements that Blumenthal reports on are a chilling phenomenon, the jury's still out on whether or not they'll win the day.

Blumenthal seems convinced that the battle for Israel is over and that the forces of Avigdor Lieberman (and worse) are the victors. It's not an unreasonable conclusion, but it's by no means the only one to draw from Israel's long drift rightward. In a crucial chapter, Blumenthal writes of his encounter with David Grossman, a liberal Zionist and author of *The Yellow Wind*, a man who he says "played a seminal role in galvanizing the peace camp inside Israel." Blumenthal seemingly pokes fun at Grossman for his optimism about Barack Obama and his belief that Obama might pressure Netanyahu to make peace, and he seems put out by Grossman's insistence that Israel remain a Jewish state. They parted, Blumenthal says "cordially, but not warmly." In a coda to the chapter, Blumenthal briefly notes how in 2010 the "remnant of the original Zionist left," including people such as Uri Avnery, Shulamit Aloni and Yoram Kaniuk, rallied around a manifesto called "A Declaration of Independence from Fascism." It was a blunt and stirring document. To Blumenthal, however, it was an exercise in "nostalgia for a past that never was, and in despair about a fascist future its members seemed to view as inescapable."

Maybe — and maybe not. There's no disputing that dark forces have been unleashed within Israel. In the end, however, it is a nation-state with plenty of pragmatic politicians who recognize that their country is utterly dependent on aid and military support from the United States and Europe, and that Washington and Brussels have their own vital national interests at stake in the Middle East. Its generals and intelligence officials — as revealed most starkly in the documentary film *The Gatekeepers*, which focuses on six former chiefs of Shin Bet, the Israeli internal security service — recognize both the reality of Israel's dependence and the dangerous road ahead if there is no accord over Palestine. And its businessmen, who are less ideological than practical, often feel the same way. Does that mean that Prime Minister Netanyahu or his successor will feel compelled to follow what until now have been ideological constraints and obsessiveness about security, or is it possible that they will succumb to reality?

<http://mepc.org/journal/middle-east-policy-archives/goliath-life-and-loathing-greater-israel>

2014, Aug 27 How Trayvon Martin's Death Launched a New Generation of Black Activism

A host of new groups are reviving the grassroots fight for racial equality.

<http://www.thenation.com/article/181404/how-trayvon-martins-death-launched-new-generation-black-activism?>

Mychal Denzel Smith



(Illustration by Ryan Inzana)

On July 13, 2013, George Zimmerman was found not guilty in the murder of Trayvon Martin, an unarmed African-American 17-year-old walking home from a 7-Eleven. What The Washington Post and other media outlets had dubbed “the trial of the century” was over, with a deeply unsettling verdict. In the fifteen months between Trayvon’s death and the beginning of the trial, people across the country had taken to the streets, as well as to newspapers, television and social media, to decry the disregard for young black lives in America. For them—for us—this verdict was confirmation.

A group of 100 black activists, ranging in age from 18 to 35, had gathered in Chicago that same weekend. They had come together at the invitation of Cathy J. Cohen, a professor of political science at the University of Chicago and the author of *Democracy Remixed: Black Youth and the Future of American Politics*, and her organization, the Black Youth Project. Launched in 2004, the group was born as a research project to study African-American youth; in the decade since then, Cohen has turned the BYP into an activist organization. The plan for this meeting was to discuss movement building beyond electoral politics. Young black voters turned out in record numbers in the 2008 and ‘12 elections: 55 percent of black 18-to-24-year-olds voted in 2008, an 8 percent increase from 2004, and while a somewhat smaller number—49 percent—voted in 2012, they still outpaced their white counterparts. But how would young black voters hold those they had put in office accountable? And what were their demands?

This group, coming together under the banner Black Youth Project 100 (“BYP100” for short), was tasked with figuring that out. As with any large gathering, people disagreed, cliques were formed, and tensions began to mount. The organizers struggled to build consensus within this diverse group of academics, artists and activists. And then George Zimmerman was acquitted. The energy in the room changed.

“A moment of trauma can oftentimes present you with an opportunity to do something about the situation to prevent that trauma from happening again,” said Charlene Carruthers, one the activists at the conference.

Carruthers, a Chicago native, has been an organizer for more than ten years, starting as a student at Wesleyan University. She has led grassroots and digital campaigns for, among others, the Women's Media Center, National People's Action and ColorofChange.org. She heard all types of sounds emanating from the people in the room that day, from crying to screaming. "I don't believe the pain was a result, necessarily, of shock because Zimmerman was found not guilty," Carruthers said, "but of yet another example...of an injustice being validated by the state—something that black people were used to."

Some members of BYP100 went into the streets of downtown Chicago and led a rally. Others stayed behind and drafted the group's first collective statement. Addressed to "the Family of Brother Trayvon Martin and to the Black Community," it read in part: "When we heard 'not guilty,' our hearts broke collectively. In that moment, it was clear that Black life had no value. Emotions poured out—emotions that are real, natural and normal, as we grieved for Trayvon and his stolen humanity. Black people, WE LOVE AND SEE YOU."

The group recorded a reading of the letter and released the video on July 14, one day after the verdict. "That was the catalyst," Carruthers said, "that cemented [the idea] that the people in that room had to do something collectively moving forward."

* * *

The police department in Sanford, Florida, was slow to act in the aftermath of Trayvon Martin's killing. It took forty-five days for the police to arrest George Zimmerman; although he had admitted to killing Trayvon and had been brought in for questioning the night of the shooting, the police appeared to have accepted his word that he'd shot Trayvon in self-defense and failed to charge him. As the weeks passed, thousands of people took to the streets in frustration. One of them was Phillip Agnew, who worked at the time as a pharmaceutical sales representative. Along with a couple of friends, he organized a group of college students and recent graduates from across Florida for a three-day, forty-mile march from Daytona Beach to Sanford to demand justice for Trayvon. When the marchers arrived, Agnew said, the police sat down with some members of the group, who demanded that they arrest George Zimmerman and form a blue-ribbon commission to investigate the shooting. The department's response was to shut the police station down for the day. "That march solidified our bonds," Agnew said. Shortly thereafter, he organized a conference call with nearly 200 other activists to discuss how to pressure the police to arrest Zimmerman. This was the start of the Dream Defenders.

The day the verdict was announced, Agnew was in Miami, having dinner at a neighbor's house. Like so many others, he had followed the trial intently. Agnew got back home just as the verdict came in. "I saw George Zimmerman celebrating, and I remember just feeling a huge, huge, huge... collapse," he said. "I'll never forget that moment...because we didn't even expect that verdict to come down that night, and definitely didn't expect for it to be not guilty."

The injustice of the acquittal shook the Dream Defenders, and on Sunday morning, members of the group convened in Tallahassee, where they occupied the state capitol building. "We thought of the tactic before we even thought of what we were going to demand," Agnew said. Initially, that didn't matter: their mere presence in the capitol was enough to garner national media attention. Civil-rights legends like Jesse Jackson, Harry Belafonte and Julian Bond joined them, as well as hip-hop artist Talib Kweli.

"We were going on the fly a lot during that time," Agnew said. "But we knew we had to go to a seat of power and confront a person or a body of people that could give us what we wanted." Over the course of the monthlong protest, the Dream Defenders crafted "Trayvon's Law," an ambitious package of bills calling for an end to the school-to-prison pipeline and racial profiling, as well as the repeal of "Stand Your Ground," the self-defense law that had come under scrutiny after Trayvon's death. While the bills were not introduced, the Dream Defenders met with several supportive legislators to discuss them.

As a nation, we find ourselves celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of many of the achievements of the civil-rights generation, which won major legal victories against institutionalized American racism. We have commemorated (or will soon) the March on Washington, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Civil-rights leaders of the 1950s and '60s have become the African-American version of the Greatest Generation: throughout my childhood, I was taught to revere them. Each generation of African-Americans born after this period owes its opportunities for success to the brave men and women who organized on the front lines of violent racism and oppression to secure even a semblance of freedom.

But as I got older, the message became less about respecting our elders for their sacrifices and more about chastising my generation for not doing more. We were selfish and apathetic. Why hadn't we lived up to the standard set by our civil-rights-era forebears?

Despite its undeniable impact, the civil-rights movement didn't solve the issue of racial injustice. The world that young black people have inherited is one rife with race-based disparities. By the age of 23, almost half of the black men in this country have been arrested at least once, 30 percent by the age of 18. The unemployment rate for black 16-to-24-year-olds is around 25 percent. Twelve percent of black girls face out-of-school suspension, a higher rate than for all other girls and most boys. Black women are incarcerated at a rate nearly three times that of white women. While black people make up 14.6 percent of total regular drug users, they are 31.2 percent of those arrested on drug charges and are likely to receive longer sentences. According to a report issued by the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement, which used police data as well as newspaper reports, in 2012, a black person lost his or her life in an extrajudicial killing at the hands of a police officer, security guard or self-appointed vigilante like George Zimmerman every twenty-eight hours.

Carruthers and Agnew, both 29, are members of that post-civil-rights generation, as am I. We millennials are charged with continuing the fight against the system of racism that has been the defining component of the black American experience for centuries. We come after civil rights, after Black Power and after the hip-hop generation. And the perception that millennials are apathetic isn't entirely fair. We protested the war in Iraq. We volunteered our time in clean-up efforts after Hurricane Katrina. We took to the streets in support of the Jena Six. And we've joined organizations fighting for progressive causes. But this work had been taking place in isolated pockets. What millennials had yet to achieve was the formation of a sustainable national movement.

Then Trayvon Martin was killed. Protests sprang up all across the country, and his name became a rallying cry. Trayvon's death ignited something durable in a considerable number of black youth. Whatever apathy had existed before was replaced by the urge to act, to organize and to fight. Millennials were ready to build their movement.

* * *

The demise of the Black Panther Party in the mid-1970s left a void in black political organizing. The Panthers weren't without problems (the sexist nature of their leadership was a big one), but they represented the last gasps of a national black organizing that combined radical political education, direct action, youth engagement and community services. In the years since, racial-justice groups have struggled to effect change as profound as they managed to achieve during the heyday of the civil-rights and Black Power movements. The Rev. Al Sharpton's National Action Network is mostly visible to the extent that Sharpton is able to leverage his own platform and personality for the causes he cares about. The same is true of the Rev. Jesse Jackson and his Rainbow PUSH Coalition. Until Benjamin Jealous took over as president in 2008, the NAACP—the nation's oldest civil-rights organization—was battling perceptions of irrelevance. Under Jealous's leadership, the NAACP changed course, but the question lingered as to whether it was equipped to fight the new challenges faced by black America. The Malcolm X Grassroots Movement has existed since 1993 without much fanfare; the National Hip-Hop Political Convention, started

in 2004, fizzled. “The times we live in,” Carruthers said, “call for a resurgence of national black-liberation organizing.”

This past May, I traveled to Chicago for the “Freedom Dreams, Freedom Now!” conference, hosted by a number of organizations, including BYP100, on the campus of the University of Illinois at Chicago. The conference was intended as an “intergenerational, interactive gathering” of scholars, artists and activists commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of Freedom Summer and discussing contemporary social-justice organizing. The opening plenary featured a keynote address by Julian Bond, a co-founder of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and former board chair of the NAACP. He presented a history of Freedom Summer, the SNCC-led movement to register voters and get black people to the polls in Mississippi, before a premiere screening of the PBS documentary **Freedom Summer**, directed by Stanley Nelson.

But the aim of the conference wasn’t just to reminisce. It was a precursor to Freedom Side, a collective that includes members of BYP100, the Dream Defenders and United We Dream, an immigrant-youth-led organization, as well as more established groups like the NAACP and AFL-CIO. Before the conference, as part of the Freedom Summer celebration, the Dream Defenders hosted “freedom schools” throughout Florida, talking to young people about criminalization, mass incarceration and the school-to-prison pipeline. Voter registration drives were also held across the country.

The day after the conference ended, BYP100 hosted an organizer-training event at the University of Chicago. Early on, the attendees were split into two groups, and the two sides engaged each other in a call-and-response chant that referenced historical greats like Nat Turner, Angela Davis, Ida B. Wells, Mumia Abu-Jamal and Fred Hampton. But even as they paid homage to their history in song, these young activists had their eyes on the future. Members led sessions on personal narratives in organizing, how to handle interactions with police officers, and building political power.

* * *

“I think we’re seeing different types of organizing [taking] shape, and I think we’re going to continue to see that—especially with the evolution of social media and technology,” said Dante Barry, deputy director of the Million Hoodies Movement for Justice. The group, founded in 2012 by Daniel Maree, drummed up attention for a Change.org petition, created by a group of Howard University students, calling for a criminal investigation into Trayvon Martin’s death. It collected over 2 million signatures—at the time, the fastest-growing petition ever on the Internet. Barry, 26, joined the Million Hoodies Movement in October 2013. He points out that if not for social media, Trayvon Martin’s death could have languished in obscurity.

While the audiences for these new groups may not be larger than the older ones’—the Dream Defenders has more than 27,000 Twitter followers; the NAACP has over 74,000—the newer groups use Twitter to hear from, not just talk to, their members. The Dream Defenders hosts Twitter discussions about its key issues, including gun violence, the criminalization of black youth and the prison-industrial complex. Community cultivation is vital as these organizations take on the challenge of long-term movement building. In February, Agnew and others put together a Tumblr called “Blackened Out History,” featuring members’ artwork. “We were born out of [the Trayvon Martin] murder, but that didn’t become our focus,” Agnew said.

Trayvon Martin’s killing deserved all of the attention it eventually received, but elevating Trayvon as a singular martyr risks portraying the struggle of this new generation of activists as the exclusive domain of black men. That would repeat the missteps of past generations. While black women were often responsible for most of the practical work involved in organizing, they were poorly represented in leadership positions, and their concerns were all too frequently sidelined.

Carruthers sees this dynamic playing out today. “A lot of people rallied across the country in the aftermath of Trayvon Martin,” she observed. “Not as many rallied around the killing of Renisha McBride.” McBride,

age 19, was killed on November 2, 2013, in Dearborn Heights, Michigan. Looking for help after being injured in a car crash, she appeared on the porch of 54-year-old Theodore Wafer, who opened his front door and shot her. Wafer is white; his defense team argued that he believed McBride was breaking into his house. A rally was held that weekend, with local residents calling for Wafer's arrest, but the level of outrage and media attention didn't come close to what it was for Trayvon Martin.

"That's a reality," Carruthers said, "and as an organization invested in freedom and justice for all black people, we are equally as committed to elevating the stories of black women and girls." To this end, BYP100 uses a "queer, feminist/womanist and economic-justice approach" to consider issues from the position of how they affect the people most marginalized in their community. It's a deliberate rebuke to the charismatic male leadership that centers on the concerns of black men.

Just a couple of weeks ago, the streets of Ferguson, Missouri, exploded after 18-year-old Michael Brown was shot and killed by a police officer on August 9. Brown, who would have started college the following Monday, became the latest unarmed black person to be killed by police. In the wake of his death, and with little information forthcoming from the Ferguson Police Department, residents took to the streets, first for a vigil, later in protest. The underlying crisis—economic and educational disparities, the lack of political representation, constant harassment by the police—boiled over. Nights of unrest followed, characterized by the aggressive presence of a militarized police force as well as some rioting and looting, as the nation once again came face to face with its centuries-long tradition of criminalizing black bodies. In response to the shooting, BYP100 asked supporters to submit videos describing how they have been profiled or harassed by police. "Beyond our current frustration and anger, our memory hums as our ancestors call out to us. We will redeem their suffering through collective work for liberation," the group said in a statement. "Stoicism, respectability politics and piecemeal measures of progress are not working." Here, perhaps, is the new movement's first big test.

Editor's Note: This piece initially credited Daniel Marea with creating the Change.org petition calling for a criminal investigation into Trayvon Martin's death. In fact, a group of Howard University students created it. The text above has been corrected.

<http://www.thenation.com/article/181404/how-trayvon-martins-death-launched-new-generation-black-activism?>