Freedom, Justice and Crime

More executions, longer jail terms, prosecution of minors as adults, revival of slavery in the form of prison labor for private profit ... Sometimes it seems as if the Democratic and Republican Parties are both just extensions of the District Attorneys' Association. They see violence as the only solution to any problem — the violence of executions, the violence of incarceration, police violence on our streets and in our communities.

We haven't seen such a wide expansion of the death penalty in over 100 years, since the southern planters adopted new brutal measures to keep down their former slaves. The real crime rate falls steadily, but repression is on the rise.

Capitalism and poverty breed crime and repression. Working class people are the primary victims both of street crime and of police reaction to it. There is something fundamentally wrong with a society in which prisons are the fastest-growing industry.

We are for

- democratically-controlled police review boards with powers of subpoena and discipline;
- abolition of the death penalty;
- treatment of prisoners as human beings rehabilitation, not vengeance;
- decriminalization of victimless activities including drug use and consensual sex; legalization of marijuana; an end to the phony "war on drugs," which is mostly a war on poor and working-class people;
- no unwarranted searches and seizures of persons and property;
- prosecution of the wealthy and powerful for their crimes against workers and the environment.

If you are against repression, police violence and the death penalty, it's time you joined the one party on the California ballot which consistently opposes them. We need to raise our registration to 86,212 to regain our place on the ballot. Register now in the Peace and Freedom Party.

PEACE AND FREEDOM PARTY

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You can register to vote if you are a U.S. citizen, live in California, are not in prison or on parole for a felony, are 17 years of age or older and will be 18 on the day of the next election where you live.