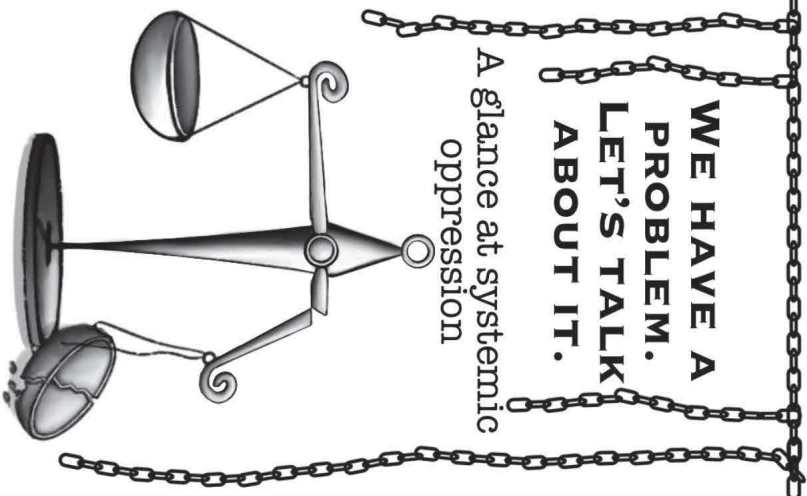


**I'm happy you read my zine!**  
**There's many more Zines to discover.**  
**Find your favorites!**

Cover Print



## So what can we do?

We should promote growth and awareness of...

- ✦ These systems and how they work.
- ✦ Ourselves and the ways in which we may be complicit to these systems.

If you identify behaviors within yourself, such as participating in hateful rhetoric, the best thing you can do is make an effort to change this. We can also denormalize hateful rhetoric / ideologies when we hear it from others by openly opposing such opinions / ideas. (While maintaining your safety).

**"I disagree"**  
**is a great start.**  
**Your voice matters**

**What is ALEC?**  
 The American Legislative Exchange Council:  
 An organization of conservative state legislators and private sector representatives who draft and share model legislation for distribution.

**Private Sector Representatives**  
 (CEOs, Lawyers, Trade Associations, Lobbyists)

- Insurance Companies (UnitedHealth)
- Pharmaceutical Companies
- Oil Companies
- Tobacco Companies
- Private Prisons (CoreCivic, GEO Group)
- News Corp

**Lobbyists**

- American Bankers Association
- National Rifle Association
- American Bail Coalition
- American Insurance Association

## The Reagan Administration (1981-1989)

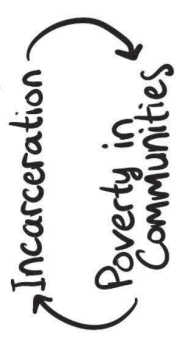
Pushed the War on Drugs and accelerated the Mass Incarceration Era.

They introduced "Tough on Crime" policies such as mandatory minimum sentencing for drug offenses, stricter law enforcement, and reduced opportunity for parole.

By the end of their 8-year term, the prison/jail population rose to 1.2 million.  
 (They nearly doubled it).

**Mass Incarceration Era**  
 In 1971, President Richard Nixon declared the War on Drugs.  
 Here is a famous quote from his advisor John Ehrlichman:  
**"THE NIXON WHITE HOUSE HAD 2 ENEMIES; THE ANTI-WAR LEFT AND BLACK PEOPLE. WE KNEW WE COULDN'T MAKE IT ILLEGAL TO BE EITHER AGAINST THE WAR OR BLACK, BUT BY GETTING THE PUBLIC TO ASSOCIATE THE HIPPIES WITH MARIJUANA AND THE BLACKS WITH HEROIN, AND THEN CRIMINALIZING BOTH HEAVILY, WE COULD DISRUPT THOSE COMMUNITIES [...] AND VILIFY THEM NIGHT AFTER NIGHT ON THE EVENING NEWS. DID WE KNOW WE WERE LYING ABOUT THE DRUGS? OF COURSE WE DID."**

Targeted incarcerations damage communities and lead to poverty, which manifested into a cycle.



That cycle is accompanied with the psychological impact systemic racism has on people of color.

"Racist ideas make people of color think less of themselves, which makes them more vulnerable to racist ideas. Racist ideas make White people think more of themselves, which further attracts them to racist ideas."

-Ibram X. Kendi (How to be an Antiracist)



"...Vilify them at night."  
= A way of using propaganda to control public opinion by dehumanizing a group and promoting hate towards them.  
This method of manipulation is still used in swaying public opinion and is not exclusive to any one group.  
Criminals do exist, but this dehumanization and targeted incarcerations happen to harmless individuals.

# BRING BACK THE DEATH PENALTY.

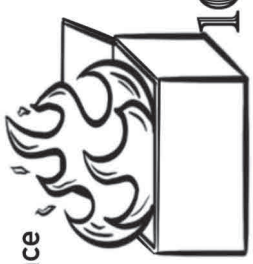
## BRING BACK OUR POLICE!

NY Daily Mail, May 1st, 1989

They should be executed for these crimes. They are an embarrassment to the police and the community. They have committed heinous crimes and should be put to death. I am not a racist, but I am a law and order person. I believe in the death penalty for these types of crimes. I am not a racist, but I am a law and order person. I believe in the death penalty for these types of crimes.

Author enlarged for reference

Donald J. Trump



10

Lobbyists (often former politicians) represent the interests of their clients (industries with economic power) to lawmakers.

To do this, they:

- Advocate for specific policies
- Draft bills
- Influence content of bills
- Influence bill amendment process (in favor of their clients)

This system creates a lack of transparency, making it difficult to track:

- The influence of money
- Who is behind certain legislation

### The Central Park Five

Five innocent African American teens were abused and manipulated into confessing to an attempted murder, and wrongfully convicted.

Until DNA evidence proved them all to be innocent, each of them had spent 6 to 11 years in prison.

This was not the only wrongful conviction of innocent individuals due to racial disparity to racial disparity



Politicians would use cases like this to further manipulate the public with their dehumanizing narrative.

**Before**

The intent of this Zine is to promote awareness and understanding of the topic in which it highlights. It's a very extensive subject that cannot all be discussed within these pages.

I hope this little book inspires curiosity and the desire to learn more (and maybe some outrage).

**Knowledge is power!!**  
**The power to potentially make this world a better place.**

**It starts with us.**

### \*REBRANDED Terms\*

A way that language is used to manipulate and control a narrative.

**Mandatory Minimums** = **Disproportionate excessive sentencing**

**Felony Voting Bans** = **Disenfranchisement**

**Resource Allocation** = **Defunding Social Safety Nets**

**Penal Labor** = **Slave Labor**

**Illegal** = **Undocumented (but harmless)**

**Woke/Sensitive** = **Aware, and want change**

**Lobbying** = **Bribery**

These are just a few examples. There's often much more to things than what meets the eye.

We should look at the issues in this world objectively, and I hope we can agree that these things are not okay.

The system we live in has successfully divided us. It has us blaming each other for our suffering, when in reality, the cause for our suffering is that very same system.

What we continue to allow is what will continue to happen.

The time for change is now

**Now let's get...**

- Confident!
- Loud!
- Proud!

...for what we stand for!



Cover Print

Within our capitalist system, industries with economic power hold significant political influence. Economic power is gained from exploitation of workers, and often, slave/prison labor.

So within this system, those who benefit from prison labor have influence over the policies and politicians that decide what is considered to be crime, and which crimes are punishable by imprisonment.

For example, after the 13th amendment, southern state legislators enacted "Black Codes," which criminalized minor offenses, targeting the recently freed slaves.

Anti-Black propaganda was used as a way to make the violence and arrests seem justified to the public, which led to more violence and more arrests.