

Agenda for a US People's Assembly

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adapted from **WHY WE WANT A NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY**

Interview with Berta Caceres Flores

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LAND & ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

1. Community sovereignty
 - a. Commons
 - i. we are against monopoly, not private ownership
 - ii. we need to establish a common vocabulary
 - iii. everything above the land or below it = commons
 - b. Mortgage paradigm = banks own us
 - c. Multinational corporate interference
 - d. Real community wealth
 - i. energy
 - ii. water
 - iii. biodiversity
 - iv. culture
 - v. knowledge
2. Multi-plural nations
 - a. Indigenous as future, not past
 - b. Languages – non-imperial
 - c. Culture ≠ superiority
3. Environmental justice
 - a. Rights of nature
 - b. Climate debt
 - c. Funding reparation

MILITARY OCCUPATION

1. Foreign wars and military bases
2. Military culture
 - a. Media – TV, movies, video games
 - b. Education
 - c. Business

SEPARATION OF CHURCH & STATE

1. Economically powerful fundamentalists in US & Israel
2. Is the Bible pro-imperialism and anti-sovereignty?
 - a. A people's history of the Bible from the view of the excluded
 - b. Sovereignty movements in Biblical times
 - b. The church's history in supporting imperialism
3. Indigenous religions and world-views
4. Belief in superiority is a cult, not a religion

HUMAN & ECONOMIC RIGHTS

1. Right of self-governance
 - a. Not just in words but in practice
 - b. Public dialogue
 - c. New constituent assembly
 - d. History of US constitution as bloodless coup
 - e. New constitution?
2. Rights of women
 - a. economic
 - b. social
 - c. cultural
 - d. sexual and reproductive
3. Economics

- a. free trade agreements
- b. new economy based on solidarity, cooperation, and horizontality
- c. communal economy to control predatory capitalism

RESOURCES: WATER, ENERGY AND AGRARIAN REFORM

1. Water
 - a. inalienable human right – prohibit privatization
 - b. control of rivers, lakes, subterranean sources, and rainfall
 - c. intersection with energy
2. Oil
 - a. importation
 - b. local sources in indigenous regions
 - c. militarization of oil-producing areas
3. Integral agrarian reform
 - a. land distribution
 - b. seeds and GMO's
 - c. export production

HEALTH & EDUCATION

1. Health care
2. Education
 - a. privatization by the oligarchy
 - b. corporate curriculum
3. Worker's rights

MEDIA

1. Radio and media
 - a. Serve the people
 - b. Strengthen popular, alternative, and community media

- c. Build democratic movement through this tool
- d. Democratize communication

LEGAL SYSTEM

1. New sociopolitical pact will re-found the legal establishment
 - a. new structure
 - b. new way of functioning
 - c. administer what it's supposed to: justice
2. Corruption and catering to politicians and MNC's
3. Prisons full of the poor

ARMED FORCES

1. Dissolution of the armed forces
 - a. trained to repress, to torture, to kill?
 - b. have done anything good for the people?
 - c. defend or destroy sovereignty?
2. Disband or construct a military of the people?

ROLE OF THE OLIGARCHY & IMPERIALIST FORCES

1. Identify how the oligarchy obstructs a free and just society.
2. Who are the oligarchy financing and overseeing deterrents to democracy like the coup? Should we stop using names for countries and classes if we mean a few individuals? Should we have a name that's easier to relate to?
3. What are the media techniques used by the oligarchy to buy public opinion? If we name these first, as the Shock Doctrine did, will it disarm them? How do they divide and crumble?
4. Anticipate what their response will be when the people start to fight back, to take back what is ours, to begin a deep, historic and also necessary struggle.

IMAGINING THE NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

1. Betting on the dream – difficult but not impossible
 - a. deepening the struggle
 - b. creating spaces for debate and analysis
 - c. defining the profile of the assembly
 - i. racial diversity
 - ii. gender and sexualities
2. Predatory capitalism – need to define patriarchy and racism beyond gender and race distinctions.
3. Cultural revolution – redefining our societies, our selves.

FUTURE OF THE MOVEMENT

1. Political crisis
2. Economic crisis
3. Popular movement
4. Learning from past successes
5. Coercion trying to get young people to join the troops
6. History of resistance is fundamental to recover and maintain
7. Entering a very difficult period, in which social movements will be further criminalized