

America: Read This

A message of hope from the Green Party (www.gp.org)

Who is this message for?

Americans who have realized that President Bush lied to us about why the US invaded Iraq... Americans who are concerned at the disappearance of American jobs, benefits, and health coverage... Americans who want a secure, free America and a healthy planet for our children and our children's children...

A message from the GREEN PARTY to every American

We invite every American, regardless of political party, to read this—
and make up your own mind.

JOIN the REVOLUTION!
BECOME A
CARD-CARRYING
GREEN!

When you become an active supporter of the Green Party of the United States, you'll receive our spanking new card, which shows the world that you stand committed to time-honored progressive values like liberty, equality, democracy, justice, personal responsibility and focus on the future. In addition, you receive a Green Party button and bumper sticker, a one-year subscription to the Green Party quarterly newspaper, Green Pages, plus all of the information you need to get involved and active as a Green today!

— the Future is Green!

GREEN PARTY
OF THE UNITED STATES

www.gp.org • 1-866-4I-GREEN • P.O. BOX 57065, Washington, D.C. 20037

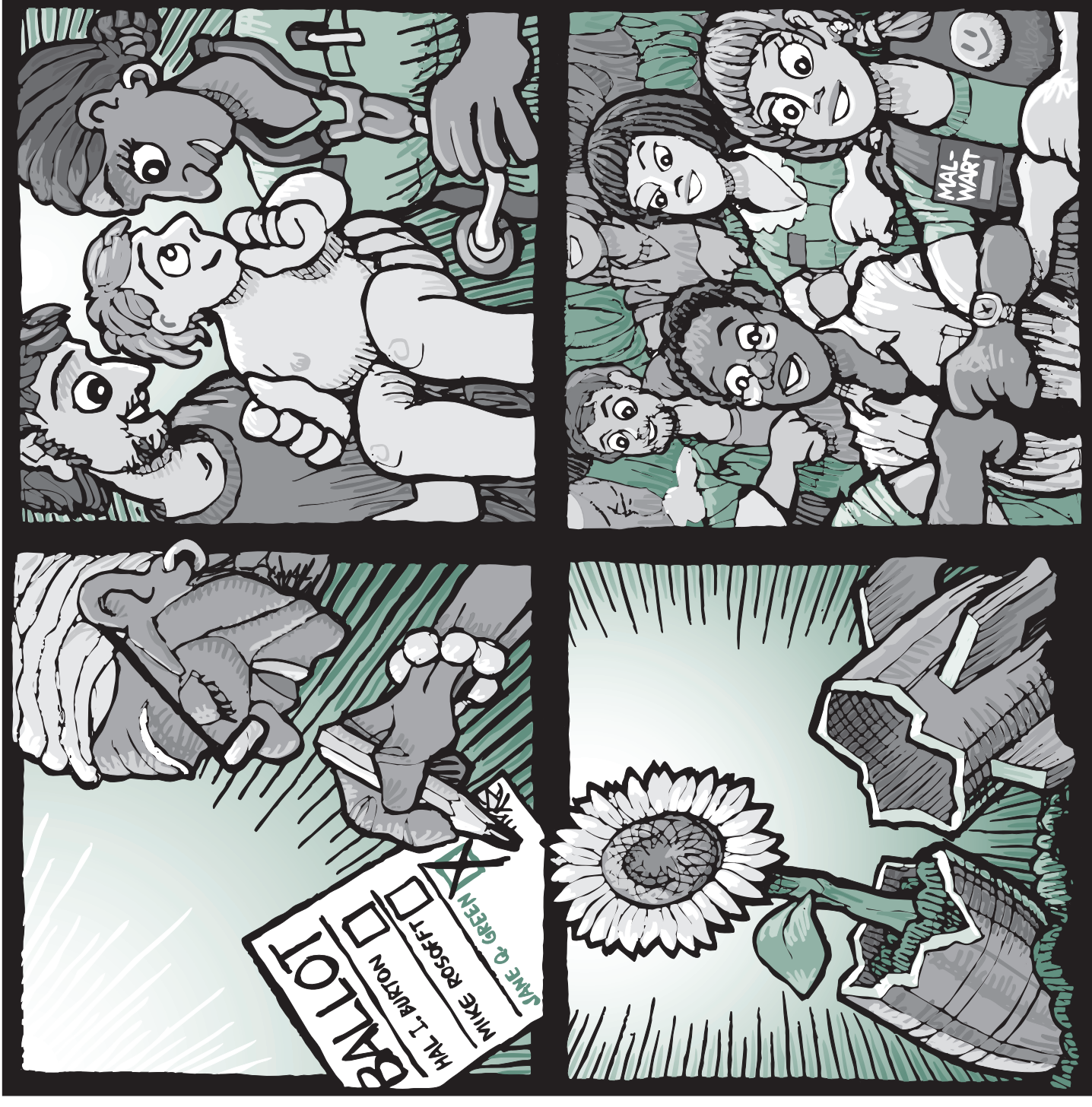


Green Party of the United States
PO Box 57065
Washington DC 20037



WWW.GP.ORG

GREEN PARTY
OF THE UNITED STATES



DEMOCRACY IS COMING to the USA...

Where is America headed?

Millions of Americans are concerned about the direction of our nation. Even before the 9/11 attacks, it was clear that our precious freedoms, rights, well-being, and future faced growing threats. Too often, it's clear that Democrats and Republicans serve corporate lobbyists, CEOs, and wealthy stockholders instead of Americans who work for a living.

We're losing our democracy.

In 2000 and 2004, Republicans allegedly obstructed thousands of voters (mostly African Americans and young people) in Florida, Ohio, New Mexico, and other states. In 2000, the US Supreme Court told us that no national right to vote exists. Democrats and Republicans have designed ballot access rules to keep out third party and independent candidates, and passed laws, such as the 1996 Telecommunications Act, which allows a few large corporations to own and control the media.

We're losing our freedoms.

Corporations spy on us and keep records of our finances, health, and other private details of our lives. The Supreme Court's 2005 decision on eminent domain allows public officials to take away our homes to give the land to other private citizens or corporations. The "Patriot Act" allows law enforcement officials to ignore the US Constitution's guarantees of free speech, free-

dom from unwarranted search and seizure, and due process. Many Democrats are now ready to surrender to Republicans on the right of women to make decisions about their own bodies.

We're losing our health care.

The United States has the best medical technology in the world, yet it's the only industrialized country without universal health care. 45 million Americans have no health coverage, and millions more are under-insured. Older Americans can't afford to get their prescriptions filled. Meanwhile, HMOs, insurance firms, and drug manufacturers contribute hundreds of thousands of dollars to Democrats and Republicans to make sure that their corporate profits are safe, while Americans are denied quality health care.

We're losing our jobs.

In the 1940s, '50s, and '60s, strong unions ensured good jobs with good wages, workplace protections, and benefits. But in the 1990s, Democrats and Republicans in Congress and the White House began to approve international trade agreements like NAFTA that are causing jobs, workplace protections, and benefits to vanish. Democrats and Republicans in Congress voted for bankruptcy bills that hurt families in financial difficulty, but benefit credit card companies and other financial firms. Working people have to pay their share in taxes, while cor-



Malik Rahim (front, left) a longtime Green Party leader, New Orleans resident, and Common Ground Collective co-founder, thanks a volunteer for helping to clean out homes during a week of work in the Big Easy.

Photo: Daniel Starling/ Green Pages

porations and the wealthy get huge tax cuts, loopholes, and handouts.

We're losing our security. The US invasion of Iraq has turned

millions of Iraqis and other people around the world against the US and its allies, motivating more acts of violence by extremists. By making Iraq the target of a US attack, the Bush Administration has failed to bring the real perpetrators of 9/11 to justice. The 9/11 hearings proved that the Bush Administration ignored indications of an impending terrorism threat.

We're losing our sanity. The "War on Drugs" has been used to turn many young people into criminals. Hundreds of thousands of Americans have been imprisoned for using marijuana—which is far less dangerous than alcohol. President Bush has betrayed the trust of the American people by launching a war based on false premises: WMDs that didn't exist, forged evidence of nuclear weapons deals, deceptive claims that Saddam Hussein was in league with al-Qaeda. With nearly 2,500 US troops and tens of thousands of

Iraqi civilians dead, no end is in sight for the US occupation of Iraq. The Bush Administration tolerates torture in Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo Bay and imprisons people without charges or evidence — disgracing the US in the eyes of the world.

We're losing our future. Both the Clinton and Bush Administrations blocked Kyoto measures to curb global warming. America's dependence on oil is creating more greenhouse gases that threaten our children and grandchildren. Democrats and Republicans in office are seeking to privatize water, education, transportation, and other vital public resources and services — turning the US from a nation ruled by and for the people into a nation ruled by and for the corporations.

There's hope.

We don't have to accept business as usual.

In the 1850s, Americans outraged at the institution of slavery established a new political party—the Republicans—which became a major party when Abraham Lincoln was elected in 1860.

At the beginning of the 21st century, America is in a new crisis. The two-party system has failed us. Corporate contributions and influence over both Democrats and Republicans has corrupted our democracy. Instead of challenging President Bush's fraudulent reasons for invading Iraq, Democrats joined Republican in surrendering Congress's power to declare war to the White House in October 2002, in violation of the US Constitution.

As the Democratic Party moves further and further away from its traditional principles, the Republican Party is growing more extreme. The US no longer has a real opposition party.

What's scarier than four more years of Bush? Forty more years of Bush vs. Kerry!

It's time for a new political party that's dedicated to justice, the health of the earth, peace, and future generations: THE GREEN PARTY.

For \$36.00 a year* you can be a card carrying Green. Along with the card you will receive a subscription to our quarterly newspaper *Green Pages*, a Green Party button and sticker, and the materials and contacts you need to help build a powerful, progressive Green Party.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Employer: _____ Occupation: _____

Federal law requires political committees to use their best effort to collect and report the name, mailing address occupation and employer for each individual whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year. Contributions from the following individuals and entities are prohibited: corporations, labor organizations, national banks, government contractors, people under 18 years of age, and foreign nationals.

Check or Money Order enclosed (Make Check payable to the Green Party of the United States).

Please Charge my Credit Card or bank card.

Card number: _____ exp (mo/yr) _____

Half of your contribution will be shared with your state's Green Party.

*\$36.00 is roughly equivalent to the \$1.00 paid for a one year membership in the Populist Party of the 1890s. The Populist Party was a multiracial, progressive, grassroots third-party of working people which agitated for many popular progressive reforms. The Green Party of the 21st century continues the Populist's fight for citizen empowerment and progressive reforms at all levels today.

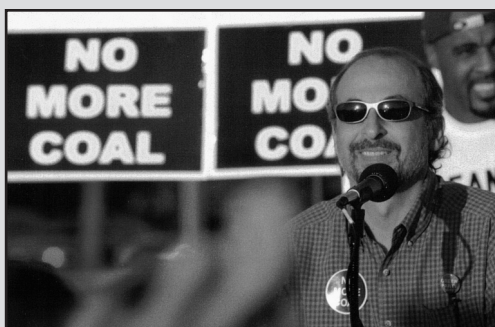
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"The Green Party is making a difference across the country. We are activists who do the real hands-on, day-to-day work to change our communities for the better. Here in DC, the Statehood Green Party is working hard to improve public schools and make quality healthcare and affordable housing available to all. In the spirit of NAACP leader Ella Baker, the Green Party is building up local leadership that can do what it takes to solve problems and build stronger communities."

Renee Bowser

Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4D (Washington, DC)



"I am 47 years old and have never voted for a Republican or Democrat for President. I have always felt that the actions of two major parties represent their interests rather than the interest of the People. Since its formation, I have voted Green as my personal values are closely aligned with the four pillars of the Green Party — Social and Economic Justice, Grassroots Democracy, Ecological Wisdom, and Grassroots Democracy."

Pete Karas

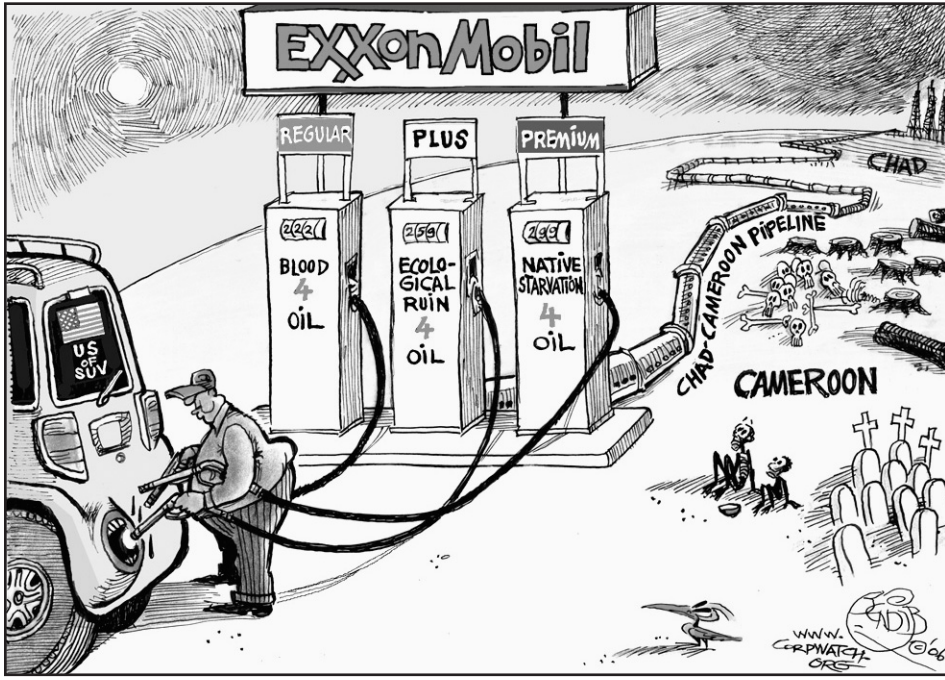
Alderman, Racine, WI

"I see the GP as a political vehicle for change toward a more sustainable society, that is one that balances economic, social and environmental benefits so that present needs can be met without reducing the ability of future generations to meet their needs. I serve on the community college board because I care about providing access to quality education to all who need it; an educated citizenry is the key to a sustainable society."



Hilary Bradbury-Huang, Ph.D.
Board of Trustees, Pasadena City
College (Los Angeles, CA)

Top 10 Reasons to Go Green



Cartoon: Khalil Bendib, www.bendib.com

1 The Green Party takes no money from corporations.

Every election year, Democratic and Republican candidates receive millions of dollars from corporate contributors. As a result, they use their public office to serve the interests of wealthy, powerful corporations instead of working Americans. The greatest threat to democracy today is from the power of corporations, which control everything from our health care to neighborhood development. The corporations already own two political parties—it's time that We the People have our own party.



Illustration: Mike Flugenock/D.C. Statehood Green Party

2 The Green Party strongly opposed President Bush's invasion of Iraq, while Democrats lined up in support.

Greens demand that US troops be brought home safely and immediately, while Democratic leaders like Hillary Clinton urge Bush to send more troops.

In October 2002, a bill passed by Republicans and Democrats transferred war power to the White House, in violation of the US Constitution. While most Democrats fell for the Bush Administration's fraudulent reasons for the invasion, Greens called the war a violation of US and international law. Over 2,000 American service members and tens of thousands of Iraqi civilians have been killed because of the Bush Administration's deceptions. In 2003, the Green Party called for the impeachment of President Bush. Greens have a vision of America based on peace and respect for freedom, law, and human rights, instead of military invasions, aid for dictators, and torture.

VOTE PEACE—VOTE GREEN

What is national health insurance?

Every democratic country except the US guarantees its citizens health care. It's time to make health care a human right for all Americans!

The Green Party calls for National Health Insurance, which would provide coverage for every American, guaranteeing quality health care and medicine regardless of age, income, or prior medical condition. National Health Insurance allows full choice of physician and hospital, and would cost most Americans a lot less than they now pay for private HMO coverage or insurance.

Powerful corporate HMOs, insurance firms, and drug manufacturers contribute hundreds of thousands of dollars to Democrats and Republicans to make sure we don't get National Health Insurance. The 1993 Clinton Plan for health care reform was not a "universal health care" plan—it would have left insurance corporations in control of our health care!

It's time to elect people to public office who support National Health Insurance! For more information, visit gp.org (Green Party) or pnhp.org (Physicians for a National Health Plan).

3 The Green Party demands an end to the US dependence on oil, coal, and nuclear power.

Instead, it calls for safe and clean alternative energy and conservation to stop global warming from harming future generations.

Democrats and Republicans have both called for increased drilling, and Republicans favor drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Both parties also favor nuclear power, which Greens call an expensive and severe security risk.

4 The Green Party calls for national health insurance.

This means coverage for every American, regardless of income, residence, age, or prior medical condition.

National health insurance will guarantee quality health care for all, with full prescription coverage and choice of physician and hospital—at a fraction of the cost of the current system. Greens note that the US is the only democratic nation without such a health plan. Unfortunately, most Democrats and Republicans prefer to keep health care under the control of insurance companies and HMOs, whose demand for profit has left 45 million Americans without health coverage.

5 The Green Party supports living wages for every working American and strong, democratic unions.

The Green Party supports repeal of Taft-Hartley restrictions on workplace organizing, comprehensive workplace safety regulations, benefits, and secure pensions. Democrats and Republicans have repeatedly sided with corporate owners, signing trade agreements (NAFTA, FTAA, etc.) that damage labor rights and the environment, and favoring credit card companies over working people who face debt.

6 The Green Party calls for a halt to "War on Drugs" and demands sane drug laws.

The War on Drugs—waged by both Democrats and Republicans—has destroyed the lives of hundreds of thousands of young people, African Americans, Latinos, and poor people, locking them up in prison on minor charges. Greens call drug abuse a health problem, not a crime, and urge immediate decriminalization of marijuana, especially for those who need it for medical purposes.

7 The Green Party says that corporations have no right to take people's homes.

Democrats and Republicans have used eminent domain to remove people from their homes in favor of developers and real estate firms that want to build hotels, shopping malls, expensive condos for residents who'll pay higher taxes, and big stores like Wal-Mart. Greens criticized a recent Supreme Court ruling (*Kelo v. New London, 2005*) that increases the power of eminent domain to condemn private homes, while Democrats mostly supported it or remained silent.

Eminent domain Legalized theft

Originally, "eminent domain" meant the government's limited power to take over your property (your private home or small business) for public purposes, such as a new road or school.

In June 2005, the US Supreme Court issued a new ruling expanding government's power of eminent domain. Under the *Kelo v. City of New London* decision, local and state governments can take your home or small business away from you to give to another private owner or corporation.

Your local or state government may now evict you from your home in order to allow someone else who might provide a higher tax base to move in. Working people face loss of their homes to enable rich people, shopping malls, or sports stadiums to take over their property.

The Green Party calls this legalized theft.

Unfortunately, Republican and Democratic officials accept huge gifts from real estate interests that want to clear out neighborhoods for new development. In the wake of the Supreme Court decision, the choice between voting for a Green (who accept no corporate contributions) and voting for a Democrat or Republican in some races might spell the difference between keeping and losing one's home.

Elected Green officials and Green community activists all over the US have opposed attempts to use eminent domain to evict homeowners, tenants, and small businesses, most recently in Brunswick, Ga., and Brooklyn, N.Y.

Fixing democracy

Abraham Lincoln called democracy "government of the people, by the people, and for the people."

Millions of Americans no longer bother to vote, because they feel voting is useless and the usual choice of Democrats vs. Republicans has little effect on their lives.

The Green Party calls for important steps to restore the power of the people:

- **Proportional Representation**, to ensure that minority populations as well as majorities get fair representation (More information: fairvote.org)
- Legislation guaranteeing our **right to vote** in national elections
- **Paper ballot trails** to verify all votes and **open-source software** in all computer voting machines
- **Instant Runoff Voting**, to ensure that election results reflect the will of the majority of voters (More information: fairvote.org)

8 The Green Party helps community leaders run for public office.

The Republican and Democratic Parties have placed too many millionaires and corporate CEOs in public office. It's time to elect working people who will serve working people.

9 While Democrats remained silent, Greens challenged vote manipulation in Ohio and New Mexico on Election Day, 2004.

After John Kerry quickly conceded, Greens led the campaign to collect evidence that votes from African Americans and young people were obstructed or altered by Republican officials in Ohio in order to throw the election to Bush, and initiated the recount campaign. More information: www.votecobb.org

10 The Green Party is dedicated to the power of people to control their own lives.

The Green Party won't retreat on privacy rights, women's reproductive rights, gay rights (including same-sex marriage), and other rights and freedoms because of pressure from religious extremists and corporations. Many Democrats have compromised on all these issues, and voted for repressive Republican legislation to limit people's rights.



Green New Paltz, NY mayor Jason West solemnizing same-sex marriages in 2005.

Photo: Susan Zimet

THE GREEN PARTY

www.gp.org

The party of HOPE

The party of the 21st CENTURY



El Futuro es Verde

Los candidatos y los miembros del Partido Verde de los Estados Unidos han hablado en oposición a leyes en contra de la inmigración, y están participando en varias manifestaciones y otras acciones para protestar la legislación punitiva, tal como House Bill 4437, dirigida en contra de inmigrantes indocumentados y de los que les ayudan.

“Los inmigrantes no son el enemigo. Vienen a los Estados Unidos por la misma razón que otros han venido aquí a través de la historia—para una vida mejor”, dice Joni LeViness, un miembro del Consejo de Cooperativas de Oklahoma y delegado del Partido Verde Nacional. “La razón por la cual hemos visto una inundación de inmigrantes indocumentados recientemente es que el Tratado de Libre Comercio Norteamericano, pasado en 1993, ha drenado la economía mexicana, destruido los pequeños negocios mexicanos, desposeído a los campesinos de sus tierras, desplazado a los trabajadores y rebajado los salarios a favor de las corporaciones de Estados Unidos.”

El Partido Verde de los Estados Unidos se esfuerza a considerar los asuntos de la inmigración desde un punto de vista internacional, tomando en cuenta estándares internacionales del trabajo, del ambiente y de los derechos humanos.

Los Verdes abogan por la terminación de sanciones al patrón, que lastiman a los trabajadores indocumentados y también a trabajadores nacidos en los Estados



Illustration: Mike Flugelock/D.C. Statehood Green Party

Unidos (especialmente los de color). Un programa justo y equitativo de la legalización proporcionará el mismo acceso a trabajadores de todas nacionalidades, no vinculado a un programa específico para empresarios o “guest workers”. Los programas que ofrecen un estatus temporal para el trabajador deben incluir la opción de residencia permanente para los inmigrantes ya en los Estados Unidos y la protección de los ahorros del trabajador inmigrante.

“Les pedimos al Congreso y las legislaturas de los estados a rechazar las leyes que convierten a la gente en criminales por buscar una vida mejor para sí mismos y sus familias”, dice Carol Brouillet, candidato Verde para el Congreso en el Distrito 14 de California. “El Congreso debe regular a los que están en puestos altos que abusan el poder, en vez de atacar a los miembros más vulnerables de la sociedad que han sido mal pagados y explotados, y que han hecho el trabajo más duro para poner el alimento sobre nuestras mesas”.

The Future is Green


Green Party candidates and members across the U.S. have spoken out against proposed anti-immigration bills, and are participating in various rallies and other actions to protest punitive legislation, such as House Bill 4437, directed at undocumented immigrants and those who assist them.

“Immigrants aren't the enemy. They're coming to U.S. for the same reason people came here throughout history—for a better life,” says Joni LeViness, Green Party of Oklahoma Cooperative Council member and delegate to the National Green Party. “The reason we've seen a flood

of undocumented immigrants recently is that the North American Free Trade Agreement, passed in 1993, has drained the Mexican economy, destroyed small Mexican businesses, dispossessed farmers from their land, uprooted workers, and depressed wages for the benefit of U.S.-based corporations.”

The Green Party of the United States strives to consider immigration issues from an international standpoint, taking into account international labor and environmental standards, and human rights.

Greens advocate an end to employer sanctions, which hurt both undocumented



10 Valores Principales

- Democracia de base
- Justicia social
- Sabiduría ecológica
- No violencia
- Descentralización
- Economía con base en la comunidad
- Feminismo
- Diversidad
- Responsabilidad
- Enfoque hacia el futuro

workers and also U.S.-born workers (especially those of color). A fair and equitable legalization program will provide equal access to working people of all nationalities, not tied to a specific employer or guest worker program. Programs involving temporary worker status must include the option of permanent residency for immigrants already in the U.S. and protection of migrant worker savings.

“We call on Congress and state legislatures to reject laws that turn people into criminals for seeking a better life for themselves and their families,” says Carol Brouillet, Green candidate for Congress in California's 14th District. “Congress should police those in high office who abuse power, rather than attack the most vulnerable members of society who have been underpaid and exploited, and have done the most back-breaking labor to put food on our tables.”



10 Key Values

- Grassroots Democracy
- Social Justice
- Ecological Wisdom
- Nonviolence
- Decentralization
- Community-based Economics
- Feminism
- Diversity
- Responsibility
- Future Focus



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South Central Farm
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