

The First Nations Peoples have a glorious history of militant resistance. Today, they continue their long struggle by resisting the onslaught launched by monopoly capitalism, threatening their remaining lands, sacred sites, and resources.

There is a growing unity in their struggle for land rights, for sovereignty over rich resources, for their culture and self-government, which has resulted in some significant victories.

At the same time, however, Indigenous militants and activists are being subjected to severe forms of repression from the B.I.A. and F.B.I.

Indigenous leaders of past political movements have been murdered, jailed unjustly, and subjected to targeted harassment.

In years past, a number of unsolved and un-investigated murders of First Peoples, some committed by police against members of the American Indian Movement.

This occurs within the context of the general oppression, such as the fact that as high as 35% of First Nations women have been sterilized without their consent as recent as the 1970s.



## PARTY OF COMMUNISTS USA

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## Indigenous Peoples Commission

PCUSA
Party of Communists USA



A crisis exists for the Peoples of Indigenous Nations in North America. Indigenous Peoples of America and Alaska are fighting for their very survival against the power of State-Monopoly Capitalism.

Today they are victimized by powerful transnational corporations' wanton exploitation and destruction of their lands and natural resources. The U.S. Government's neo-colonial policies in First Peoples' affairs are in full cooperation with Monopoly Capital.

This results in a protracted epidemic of labor exploitation, astronomical unemployment, extreme social and economic deprivation— a history of social and cultural genocide.

The existing conditions are justified by the racist and national chauvinist ideology of the U.S. ruling class. These conditions serve as a cover and pretext for the continued lucrative plunder of Indigenous Nations' lands, resources, and labor.

The Party of Communists USA stands and defends the immediate demands of the oppressed Indigenous peoples of America, Alaska, Hawaii, and U.S. territories.

The full rights of Northern First Nations Indigenous Peoples:

- To be officially recognized as distinctive independent nationalities with full sovereignty over their respective lands.
- · Recognition and expansion of treaty rights.
- Reserve for the right to self-determination and national separation.
- Complete jurisdiction and control of legal powers on matters of criminal law and justice.
- To the expansion and retention or creation of land bases on the basis of material needs for current and future generations.
- Reclamation and ownership of Heritage, Religious, Sacred, Ancestral, and other culturally significant sites and artifacts.
- The right to use their respective Languages, Religions, Customs, Traditions, and the Sanctity of Religions.
- Full jurisdiction of natural resources, fishing/hunting, and mineral rights.
- Full monetary compensation of the total value of previous and current resource extraction and appropriation at the behest of monopoly capitalism.
- Restoration and clean-up for industrial pollution sites and environmental damages from the current and past government and capitalist activities.
- Full monetary compensation and healthcare assistance for victims of industrial pollution sites.
- End of economic Trade restrictions for exports and imports.
- . End the violence against Indigenous women and girls.
- · Release of all political Indigenous prisoners.

## **Today's Reality**

Poverty is exceptionally severe for those on reservations. The overall population of Indigenous Peoples is living below the federal poverty line of 28.2 percent. One in four indigenous Americans and Alaskans are living in poverty. In 2020, the median income was \$40,315 for all Indigenous American families.

The official overall unemployment rate in 2018 is 25.4%. However, the official rate hides real unemployment, ranging up to 80% for those living on or near reservations and rural villages; 45% when those with temporary employment are included.

Only 59.6% are in the workforce in 2018, compared to 62% for Black people and 71.8% for white people. Tens of thousands of Indigenous workers remain part of what Marx termed "the Lazarus layers of the permanently unemployed."

