Inside This Issue...

The INjustice System
The connection between slavery and mass incarceration is fairly obvious. The link is undeniable once you start living it. A dispatch from California State Prison reflecting on the centuries-old practice of subjugating African-Americans. Page 4

Our Stories
Minister Caliph Muab-el has spent the majority of his life fighting for the right to exist in a country that touts itself as the land of the free. As the Wisconsin chapter president, he's on the front lines of the fight for racial justice in America. Page 3

Mail Bag
Joshua Sprague, an incarcerated writer at New Hampshire State Prison in Concord, shares his first-hand experience with sentencing discrepancies and the inhumanity with which Americans treat their fellow citizens. Page 5

Democracy 2020: Election Special
Learn about how you can make a difference in your local elections by voting for or against important state measures this November 3. Page 6
All of Us Or None
Self-Determination
Pledge

As members of All of Us or None, we pledge:

• To demand the right to speak in our own voices
• To treat each other with respect and not allow differences to divide us
• To accept responsibility for any acts that may have caused harm to our families, our communities or ourselves.
• To fight all forms of discrimination
• To help build the economic stability of formerly-incarcerated people
• To claim and take care of our own children and our families
• To support community struggles to stop using prisons as the answer to social problems
• To play an active role in making our communities safe for everyone.

The following is a description of the cover image “Barack Obama: Perfecting the Union” by its creator, incarcerated artist Jamal Biggs.

This painting is a commentary on America and the continuing struggle to get it to live up to its promise of equality and freedom for all its people. Although Barack Obama is a main character in the piece, it’s less about him and more about the story of African-Americans and their efforts to break the chains of physical, psychological, and economical slavery. Obama’s election to the presidency was a significant step in this ongoing saga.

Slavery is juxtaposed to mass incarceration, paralleling its past form with its modern form. A newspaper reports the propaganda used to justify the mass incarceration, e.g., “War on Drugs.” “AEDPA: Suspends Writ of Habeas Corpus” refers to the 1996 Crime Bill and the signing of the Anti-Terrorism Effective Death Penalty Act by former President Clinton, which severely limited the use of the Federal Writ of Habeas Corpus by state and federal prisoners to challenge unconstitutional convictions and sentences, thus keeping people confined/enslaved.

A child sleeps on a chained, locked book entitled “Education,” representing the state of poor Black youth and the educational system. Education or the lack thereof is the cornerstone to breaking or continuing the cycle of slavery/imprisonment. MLK is depicted to suggest that overhauling our educational system should be the new civil rights agenda of today. The sleeping child represents the ignorance and unconsciousness of our youth. They are ignorant of their condition, ignorant about the importance of education, and ignorant because of a lack of education. Suggesting hope, the sleeping child holds the key to the lock which is analogous to young people today holding (being) the key (answer) to their future. However, if they remain asleep (ignorant), they’re assured to remain trapped in the cycle of drugs, violence, imprisonment, and death, represented by the prison cells, firearm, crack pipe, and syringe.

Obama’s profile is juxtaposed to Abraham Lincoln’s, whose profile is subtly rendered in the background, reminiscent of optical illusion artists I admire like Dali and Ocampo. Numerous documents are depicted being blown about by the wind, suggesting that they are just meaningless pieces of paper if we don’t live up to their words.

If you would like to send feedback or contribute to the All of Us or None newspaper, please contact the Editor.

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Inside This Issue

Feature Story

You may be jaded by the insanity of the election cycle at this point. But local elections can pave the way for significant reforms – or make change harder. Check out the state ballot measures that stand to impact our community, for better or for worse and vote like your life depends on it. Because this year, it truly does. Page 6

Check your voter registration status at www.usa.gov/voter-registration. If you are on probation, on parole, incarcerated in a county jail or incarcerated in state prison in Maine or Vermont, you may still be able to vote. Check with your local Secretary of State or contact any All of Us or None chapter to see if you are eligible and to learn how to get your ballot.

The Injustice System

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Chapter Updates

All of Us or None chapters have been hitting the streets to help get out the vote. Some chapters organized registration days, others went door to door. Many targeted communities with large numbers of directly impacted individuals who may be voting for the first time. Check out photos from our recent events. Page 10

Cover Image: A Note from the Artist

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Unrest was brewing in Wisconsin. Yet another unarmed Black man had been shot—in the back, in front of his children—by law enforcement. Caliph Muab-el organized members of the People’s Revolution and All of Us or None Wisconsin to march in Kenosha to protest the brutality with which Jacob Blake had been treated by police officers.

On the second night of demonstrating, AOUON Wisconsin got a call from the mayor of Madison. Provocateurs were threatening to turn peaceful protests into violent riots and the mayor was hoping Caliph could provide security. It wasn’t the first time AOUON had been called on to keep the peace and so the security arm of the organization left for Madison, leaving the core membership to continue marching in Kenosha.

While patrolling the scene in Madison, Caliph got a call: His people had been ambushed by a white supremacist militia group shooting from rooftops. Caliph and the security team rushed to the scene. They’ve designated three central leaders to vet demonstrators and weed out provocateurs. They’ve also designated a team that protects women and children at the core of demonstrations are secure. They have a security arm of the Madison Organizing in Strength, Equality and Solidarity (MOSES), which elected Caliph to be its vice president. Caliph grew the local MOSES membership from a handful to over 10,000 members and he found himself at events with some of the larger civil rights organizations in the country, including All of Us or None. He met Dorsey Nunn, co-founder of All of Us or None, who encouraged him to start a Wisconsin chapter.

“I decided I needed to do more to enhance the people’s movement, to have an entity that is controlled by us and makes sure our voices are liberated,” he said. “We have a robust and active chapter here and it recently spawned into another chapter in Madison.”

Caliph has structured the Wisconsin chapter into three tiers of members: boots on the ground, organizers and policy advocates.

“We need people on the ground to make the noise, the organizers to direct that energy and the people on the third tier to make sure policymakers can hear us in our own voices without any clutter.”

This summer forced Caliph to evolve the chapter once more. Racism had become normalized and things had escalated from people hurling racial slurs at Caliph and his comrades to taking aim with loaded weapons.

“We’re in a pressing time where our president perpetuates volatile tactics and divisive behaviors,” Caliph said. “We’re in a country that doesn’t value the lives of Black people and so we’re being gunned down by police unjustifiably.”

“We only hear about so many names, but, make no mistake about it, this is an epidemic and a mass genocide,” he continued. “The structural racism and overt racism is in our faces and it’s come to a place where we’re not safe.”

Caliph and other organizers recovered their missing members who were snatched up in Kenosha and restructured to ensure demonstrations are secure. They have a security team that protects women and children at the march. They’ve designated three central leaders to vet demonstrators and weed out provocateurs.

“We have to train our people in a different way, because it’s not just about peacefully assembling,” Caliph said. “Those rights aren’t being honored. If they were they wouldn’t be bombing us with tear gas, shooting at us or rolling through crowds with tanks.”

Caliph became a jailhouse lawyer. He had mentors who were former Black Panthers and members of the Nation of Islam who directed him to books about his people’s history and institutional racism.

“I learned how the system was designed to wipe us out,” Caliph said. “The difference between myself and everyone else who read those books was I took that knowledge and started organizing and executing a plan for change.”

He started his mission inside, connecting with organizations on the outside devoted to, as he describes it, “real causes and real dispositions.” When he was released, one of those organizations, Voices Beyond Bars, helped Caliph get an apartment and find employment. With a sense of stability, he began speaking at events all over the country about disrupting the school to prison pipeline. He ultimately developed a youth program called Breaking Barriers to engage young people by providing them with resources.

“I learned how the system was designed to wipe us out.”

He also started a “Circles of Support” reentry program, bringing 40 to 50 people together each week to discuss barriers to reentry and how to overcome them. The program contributed to a 75% drop in the local recidivism rate and caught the attention of the Madison Organizing in Strength, Equality and Solidarity (MOSES), which elected Caliph to be its vice president. Caliph grew the local MOSES membership from a handful to over 10,000 members and he found himself at events with some of the larger civil rights organizations in the country, including All of Us or None. He met Dorsey Nunn, co-founder of All of Us or None, who encouraged him to start a Wisconsin chapter.

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There are 2.3 million people behind bars in America; more than the entire population of the Bahamas, Bahrain, and Barbados combined, more than the Republic of Cyprus, or the Commonwealth of Dominica, and three times the population of Dominica (World Almanac, 2015). Put another way, the U.S. population is the largest carceral state in the entire world, yet we only host 5% of the world’s population.

African Americans and Latinx people disproportionately represent the dominant prison population. The great prison expansion of the U.S. began in the 1970s. Some would argue that white repression was retaliating against uppity Negroes who had just rammed the Voting Rights act of 1965 down their throats. The spirit of domination is a motherF..ker!

The truth is that control and subjugation have always been the goal of white separatists and slave owners. It all began with the unique construct of American slavery, and though disguised in various social cloaks through the centuries, the primary aim was, and is, domination of colored bodies; the secondary goal is labor and financial exploitation. America was built on the painstaking labor of enslaved Black people, and the white power structure continues to exploit the 99%.

The literal blood, sweat and tears of Black men, women and children constructed the abusive abodes that are called plantations. Black slaves built the cities of Atlanta, Durham, Jackson, and so many more. They were not compensated. Instead, they were viciously beaten, maimed, and even killed for having the audacity to dream, to strive forward, to make an attempt at the same meager freedom the dogs on the plantation enjoyed.

There was a dichotomy between the value of the slaves. The slaves were worth less than a dog. Financially their flesh was gold, but their bodies were completely expendable. Millions upon millions of slaves died under the brutal conditions, while the plantation owners built million dollar empires that still exist today.

When slavery was finally laid to rest, the equally exploitive practice of sharecropping replaced it. Sharecropping invited former slaves to return to those traumatic plantations with the promise of earning a slight profit and a livable wage farming the land of their former masters. Subjugation prohibited slaves from learning to read or figure mathematics. As a result, their former masters ensured the business books reflected deficits, rather than profits, guaranteeing indebtedness. Black slaves were slowly being indentured, beholden to their former masters for huge sums, often for life terms or near life terms.

Convict leasing followed, with vagrancy and other laws for landless Blacks. They were accused of offenses we’d call misdemeanors today: loitering, trespassing, disrespecting a white man by not lowering their heads in passing. Blacks were sentenced to years and decades for these “crimes,” pushed back into hard labor, often for life.

Then came the great prison expansion, almost immediately after the successful passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act. In 1970, the American state and federal prison system held a total of 200,000 souls. By 2016, the state and federal prison system held 2.3 million, with another 6 million people on probation or parole and 68 million with some sort of criminal record (from “The Meaning of Life: The case for abolishing life sentences” by Marc Maurer, 2018).

Race is a social construct, as are criminal definitions. One man’s misdemeanor is another man’s felony, and, unfortunately, that one man, that one labeled a minority, is shackled and subjected to those felonies, disproportionately subjected to prison and disenfranchisement. Nearly half of the American prison population is serving life, or virtual life, sentences.

For far too long, these nefarious social constructs have been used to subjugate, marginalize and dominate people of color. It is past time to deconstruct these fallacies of human harm and damage and cut the chains that link old plantations to modern prisons. We have seen how civilized life is without plantations. Makes you wonder what life could look like without prisons. How about institutions that help people, institutions without cages, to self-improvement and betterment?

Delbert Williams is a pseudonym for an incarcerated writer who describes himself as a “repentant prisoner who has been incarcerated for three decades. He makes amends by mentoring youth within the [prison] facility where he is housed and donating money to youth organizations.”

Breaking the Chain from Plantations to Prisons

LIES THAT FOUNDED IT ALL

By Delbert Williams

Last month, we introduced you to incarcerated artist Scott Smith a.k.a Scotty Scott, who drew “COVID Creature.” This month, Scotty sent a new drawing, special for the November election.
I’m sending this letter to your organization because I feel as though prison is not being well represented or heard. We have no voice. I think the biggest reason behind this is because no one seems to think about the criminal justice system. Not until they’re stuck in it, and, at that point, no one will listen to them either. Now you’re a criminal. Now you can’t be trusted and you don’t matter. You probably deserve it, they’ll say.

First of all, there is nothing fair about the justice system. When an alleged crime happens, anyone present at the time becomes one of two things: a witness or a suspect. If you help the cops and prosecution to convict someone else, you’re a witness. If you decide to “plead the 5th,” now you’re a suspect and you get charged as well.

Even though there are laws in place that strictly prohibit any attorney from offering anything of “value” to a witness for their testimony, this is still a routine practice. “Anything of value.” What is of more worth, more value, than your freedom? Than your life? I can only imagine that cases would go much differently if a defense attorney could offer witnesses the same promise. This is why over 95% of cases are convictions through plea bargains. There is no choice in a game that is fixed.

Even with this atrocity going on in the criminal justice system, there’s more. Sentence disparity. A manslaughter conviction in the state of California will get you four years. In the state of New Hampshire, the same crime will get you 30 years. Hampshire, the same crime will get you four years. In the state of New Hampshire, when the law changed for sentencing juveniles to life without parole, it affected two guys in my unit. One of them was a well-off white kid. He killed two people. At resentencing he received 20 years to life for each murder. The other guy is a very dark Spanish kid and poor. He killed one person. At resentencing he received 45 to life. He received more time for one homicide than the other guy did for two. How can that be?

There is no choice in a game that is fixed.

Or how about myself? I received a life without parole sentence for a crime I committed after being awake on drugs and alcohol for six days. After I’d been robbed three times, I mistook a cellphone for a gun and instinctively shot a man out of nothing more than self-preservation. The same mistake that police officers make all the time. The winners are the writers of history. It’s always justified for a police officer? Why are we held to a higher standard than the powerful? Because the powerful always rename, reassign to convicted people.

One of the big problems is that power corrupts. Remember the Stanford Prison Project? Take all this police brutality movement going on right now. You could fire every cop in America, hire random people to fill the positions… in 18 months they will be doing the same thing. If being a police officer is to “serve,” why are they not polled like jury duty. Then they could be polled, polygraphed and sent to the academy and, in a year, kicked loose. That way, they get out before the power corrupts them.

The very idea of prison is inhumane. To lock another person in chains, to cage them like an animal, speaks volumes to what mankind really is. We are the slaves of society. Once convicted, we can be forced to work for free. If we refuse, they can put us in chains and in solitary confinement. Slavery was not abolished like people think. It was renamed, reassigned to convicted people.

Why is the whole country so content with enslaving us? Why? Because a corrupt system said we did something wrong? Are people not aware that the narrative for any story is always written by the powerful? Because the powerful always win, and the winners are the writers of history. It’s not like people in here earn freedom from these places through rehabilitation. That’s got nothing to do with it. People need something to hate, and we’re it. People want a villain, they want a bad guy, so they don’t have to dwell on the bad guy within themselves. But most of us are not “bad guys.” We’re just people who made a mistake. No one cares until they’re sitting where I am, and when that day comes, they will call out for forgiveness and mercy, but no one will hear them either. America: Land of the free, home of the incarcerated.
Election season is exhausting, adding hot air to an already unseasonably hot Fall. But even if you’ve given up on the presidential election, even if you’ve given up on the McConnell’s or Pelosi’s, we beg of you not to be so jaded as to ignore the important local measures that will have an immediate and direct impact on your communities.

Part of the strategy for election season is to induce exhaustion, to just overwhelm people with nonsense so that they allow November to come and go without exercising their voice. Do not allow this to happen. Voters this year have an opportunity to decriminalize marijuana in four states, meaning fewer future incarcerations and an opportunity for people currently languishing in prison for using marijuana to apply for resentencing. This year, voters have the power to strike “slavery and involuntary servitude” from their state constitution, and remove the confederate symbol from the Mississippi flag. And as loudly as they can cry YES to these crucial reforms, voters can also say NO to criminal justice reform rollbacks that are proven to reduce the prison population and increase public safety. They can say NO to amendments that will make it harder for citizens to initiate ballot measures and impede direct access to democracy.

Check your voter registration status at www.usa.gov/voter-registration. If you are on probation, on parole, incarcerated in a county jail or incarcerated in state prison in Maine or Vermont, you may still be able to vote. Check with your local Secretary of State or contact any All of Us or None chapter to see if you are eligible and how to get your ballot. This November, vow to make an impact and vote like your life depends on it. Because this year, it truly does.

**Proposition 16**
A NO vote on Proposition 20 rejects an attempt to roll back significant gains in making the justice system more equitable. The non-partisan Legislative Analyst’s Office forecasts that Prop 20 will cost taxpayers tens of millions of dollars per year on prison spending, while rolling back effective, proven criminal justice reforms that voters have already passed. It poses to cut back on rehabilitative programs in prisons as well as mental health programs proven to reduce recidivism rates. It would also cut significant victim support programs. Former Gov. Jerry Brown said this about Prop 20: “Prop. 20 wants to basically eliminate all hope in the prison. Men who have given decades will have no chance to earn their way back to society. And that’s fundamental to any kind of criminal justice system that while you impose punishment, you make room for redemption and rehabilitation in the prison.”

**Proposition 20**
Criminal Sentencing, Parole, and DNA Collection Initiative

**Measure 110**
Drug Decriminalization and Addiction Treatment Initiative
When we talk about "defunding the police," Measure 110 is a good example of what part of that might look like. A YES vote on Measure 110 supports making personal non-commercial possession of a controlled substance no more than a Class E violation (max fine of $100) and establishing a drug addiction treatment and recovery program funded in part by the state's marijuana tax revenue and state prison savings. The latter includes all the money the state would save from reductions in arrests, incarceration, and official supervision -- an estimated $24.5 million over a two-year period.

**Proposition 17**
Free the Vote Initiative
A YES vote on Proposition 17 would restore voting rights to Californians on parole. Felony disenfranchisement silences 30,000 people in California who have completed their sentences. When they have a say in their future and the future of their children, our democracy becomes stronger. Restoration of voting rights also leads to an increase in public safety. In 20 states where people on parole can vote, the recidivism rate is lower than the rate in California. Felony disenfranchisement emerged from Jim Crow laws that sought to suppress the vote of minorities in this country. By voting YES on Prop 17, California can cut ties with systemic racism.

**Proposition 16**
Repeal Proposition 209 (Affirmative Action ban)
A YES vote on Proposition 16 is a vote for true equality. If approved by voters, Prop 16 would lift California’s ban on affirmative action. California is one of only nine states that bans affirmative action as a tool to fight discrimination. By restoring affirmative action, we can end discrimination in hiring, employment, contracting, and education for women and people of color.

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**Oregon**

**California**

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About the Artist: Feature Story Background

The background image for our feature spread this month was drawn by Minister Chavelo Borden, an artist incarcerated at New York State Prison in Buffalo. Borden and a group of comrades have started the A Touch of Love campaign, which he describes as such:

The A Touch of Love campaign is a campaign to end hostilities, hate and war within our national communities and social groups. As we embrace solidarity nationally, our goal collectively is to bring new energy to the forefront of our lives as we come together and share our stories, testimonies, and words of encouragement for the greater good. The campaign is 100% voluntary and volunteers are being sought nationally for aid in the furthering of this campaign. Everyone deserves A Touch of Love. Love is a conqueror. Let’s prove it... together!

To learn more about Borden’s campaign, email ChaveloBorden@yahoo.com.

Montana
Initiative 190
Marijuana Legalization and Tax Initiative
A YES vote for I-190 supports the decriminalization of marijuana in Montana. This initiative seeks the legalization of marijuana for adults over the age of 21, imposing a 20% tax on marijuana sales. It would also allow for the resentencing or expungement of marijuana-related crimes.

Utah
Amendment C
Remove Slavery as Punishment from Constitution
By voting FOR Amendment C Utahns have the chance to end the injustice of slavery in the state once and for all. In 2019, State Representative Sandra Hollins sponsored H.J.R.8, which strikes down the exemption clause allowing for slavery and involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime. Both the Utah House and Senate passed it unanimously, setting it up for Utahns to vote for the amendment in 2020. A FOR vote will signal that this immoral and outdated language is no longer acceptable in the state’s most important legal document. It also properly aligns Utah’s constitutional language with the values of its citizens.

Colorado
Proposition 113
National Popular Vote Interstate Compact Referendum
The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact (NPVIC) is a group of states that have pledged their electoral votes to the winner of the popular vote, with the intention of nullifying the Electoral College. In order to do so successfully, the group would need to be composed of states totaling 270 electoral votes. Colorado, which has nine electoral votes, joined NPVIC in March 2019, when Senate Bill 42 passed out of the legislature and was signed into law by the governor. It was put on the ballot after a referendum petition was filed by Mesa County Commissioner Rose Pugliese and Monument Mayor Don Wilson. A YES vote on Prop 113 would codify the state legislature and governor’s decision to join the NPVIC and give the state’s nine electoral votes to the presidential candidate who wins the national popular vote once the compact reaches the required threshold of 270.

Arizona
Proposition 207
Marijuana Legalization Initiative
A YES vote on this ballot initiative would legalize the possession and use of marijuana for persons who are at least 21 years old, enact a tax on marijuana sales, and require the state Department of Health and Human Services to develop rules to regulate marijuana businesses. Prop 207 would also allow anyone convicted of certain marijuana-related crimes related to possession, consumption, cultivation, and transportation to petition for the expungement of their criminal record starting on July 12, 2021. Former Arizona Gov. Fife Symington, a Republican, has endorsed the measure, saying, “Today the evidence is overwhelmingly clear: criminalizing law-abiding citizens who choose to responsibly consume marijuana is an outdated policy that wastes precious government resources and unnecessarily restricts individual liberty.”

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**Midwest**

**North Dakota**

Initiated Constitutional Amendments Approval (SCR 4001)
A NO vote on this initiative opposes the use of legislative power to overrule the voice of the people. Through Senate Concurrent Resolution 4001, state senators hope to dilute voter power by requiring any citizen-initiated constitutional amendment passed by voters to be submitted to the legislature for approval. Should the legislature reject the people’s decision, it is placed on the ballot again and becomes effective only if approved by voters a second time. A NO vote rejects the assertion that legislators can veto the voice of the people they’re meant to represent.

**South Dakota**

Constitutional Amendment A
Marijuana Legalization
A YES vote supports a constitutional amendment to legalize the recreational use of marijuana and require the South Dakota State Legislature to pass laws providing for the use of medical marijuana and the sale of hemp by April 1, 2022. Interestingly, this initiative was filed by Brendan Johnson, former U.S. Attorney for the District of South Dakota.

**Nebraska**

Amendment 1
Remove Slavery as Punishment from Constitution
Nebraska voters have an opportunity to abolish slavery in all forms by voting FOR “A constitutional amendment to eliminate slavery or involuntary servitude as a punishment for crime” (it’s a mouthful, we know). In 2019, the Nebraska legislature unanimously passed a constitutional amendment to eliminate slavery from the state constitution. In 2020, voters in Nebraska have the chance to finish the job. Voting FOR the amendment will remove the exception clause that allows slavery as punishment for a crime. That means the state constitution will simply say: There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in this state.

**Oklahoma**

Question 805
Criminal History in Sentencing and Sentence Modification
A YES vote supports the prohibition of outdated and harmful sentence enhancements. Question 805, if passed, would prohibit criminal courts from using a person’s past non-violent felony convictions to impose a greater (enhanced) sentence when sentencing a person convicted of a non-violent felony. This initiative also provides for sentence modifications for eligible individuals serving or set to serve sentences that were enhanced based on past felony convictions. This is essential legislation in a state that incarcerates its citizens at a rate of roughly 70% longer for property crimes and 79% longer for drug crimes compared to elsewhere in the nation.

**Mississippi**

State Flag Referendum
A YES vote for this referendum would replace the current state flag with one absent of the confederate symbol. This is a far cry from something like removing slavery from the state constitution, but it is a significant recognition and rejection of slavery by voters in the state.

**Michigan**

Proposal 2
Search Warrant for Electronic Data Amendment
A YES vote for Proposal 2 supports a constitutional amendment to require a search warrant to access a person’s electronic data and electronic communications. This constitutional amendment passed out of the state legislature with unanimous, bipartisan support. “Information stored in your cellphone or personal computer is no different than the paper document stashed in your home file cabinets and desk drawers,” the Detroit News editorial board wrote in support of the proposal. “Government should have a very sound reason to peek at that information, and should have to explain the reason to a judge.”

**Kentucky**

Constitutional Amendment 1
Marsy’s Law Amendment
A NO vote on Constitutional Amendment 1 would keep Kentucky’s already robust victims rights intact without adding problematic expansions that infringe upon due process. Kentuckians are asking voters to add Marsy’s Law to the state’s constitution. However well intentioned, the so-called victim’s bill of rights law has drawn criticism from defense attorneys, prosecutors and even victims rights advocates. According to a report by the Marshall Project in 2018, “prosecutors and victims’ rights groups complain that its provisions can hinder investigations and dilute services for people who need it most. Defense attorneys argue it upends the presumption of innocence, giving alleged victims a say before it has been established that there was a crime in the first place.”
Question 1

Name Change Amendment

A YES vote supports amending the Rhode Island Constitution to remove “Providence Plantations” from the official state name. It currently appears in the state’s Oath of Officers and Article IX (Commissions). Similar to the Mississippi flag proposition, this symbolic gesture could have larger implications should it pass. Rhode Island Rep. Anastasia Williams said in support, “When you have more than 10,000 Rhode Islanders showing up in a pandemic for a march calling for an end to police brutality and to affirm that Black Lives Matter, we can take this ugly, painful word out of the name of our beautiful state.”

Public Question 1

Marijuana Legalization Amendment

Question 1 is the first legalization measure that a state legislature has referred to voters. In Illinois and Vermont, the state legislatures passed bills to legalize marijuana. The other nine states (and D.C.) that have legalized marijuana did so through the ballot initiative process, in which campaigns collected signatures to place their issues before voters. There is no initiative process in New Jersey.

Amendment 4

Require Constitutional Amendments to be Passed Twice Initiative

It’s ironic that the initiative to have voters jump through additional hoops to make constitutional changes is on the ballot with the same amendment designation as the 2018 measure that restored voting rights to 1.4 million returning citizens in Florida. The 2020 version of Amendment 4 does the opposite: It makes democracy less accessible, and this time for all Floridians. It does this by requiring voter-approved constitutional amendments to then win a supermajority at a second general election to become effective. As it stands now, constitutional amendments initiated by citizens (such as the 2018 Amendment 4), become effective once they win a supermajority vote. According to the Orlando Sentinel Editorial Board, “If No. 4 passes, back-to-back campaigns would become far too expensive for grass-roots organizations that want to change the constitution, while the opponents would get an automatic do-over. Citizens would be thrown out of the amendment ballgame, and the backers of No. 4 know that.”

A young girl at an All of Us or None rally in Wisconsin. Photo courtesy Caliph Muab-el
Chapter Updates

All of Us or None chapters are working to GET OUT THE VOTE!

Below: AOUON Los Angeles/Long Beach helped register voters and promote Proposition 17. Right: AOUON St. Louis canvased neighborhoods to help people register to vote.

Left: Darryl Poole (white t-shirt) with his family, all decked out in “Yes on 17” masks. Darryl spent 30 years in California state prison. Today he is a taxpayer who contributes to society and advocates for restoring voting rights to formerly incarcerated individuals—but is denied the right to vote himself. Center: Tia Ryans, President of All of Us or None Northern New Jersey at a voter registration event. Right: All of Us or None Orange County at a voter registration and information action.

Vote YES on CA Proposition 17 this November and restore voting rights to 50K Californians on parole

free the vote 2020.org

Paid for by Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
Resources & Events

Coronavirus Resources
Supporting directly and system-impacted people during crisis
https://www.beyond-prisons.com/covid19

Safety manuals for individuals in state, federal and California correctional facilities
prisonerswithchildren.org/Coronavirus

COVID-19 Mutual Aid (Newark, NJ)
https://www.allofusornone-northernnj.com/covid-19-newark-mutual-aid

Abolish Slavery National Network
Join the national movement to end slavery in America
Learn more at abolishslavery.us

All of Us or None
Yes on Proposition 17
Voter Registration Guest Speakers DJ Open Mic & More
Florin Square 2251 Florin Road, Sac 95822

Free The Vote 2020
Free The People On Parole To Vote
Saturday, October 10, 2020 | 1pm to 4pm
Entertainment • Free Food & Drinks • Media & Community Booth

All of Us or None Monthly Virtual Membership Meeting
Every Third Thursday
6:30pm to 8:30pm PT

Participatory Defense
On Zoom
Link: https://bit.ly/2zJeITN
Password: 1MybWU
A community organizing model for people facing charges, and to help communities impact the outcomes of cases and transform the landscape of power in the courtroom.

Fighting with you and your loved ones to protect our people from the criminal court system.
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All of Us or None Membership Form

YES, I want to become a member of ALL OF US OR NONE!

Name & Number:

Institution:

Address:

County of Origin:

I can organize & facilitate group meetings
I can help with membership
I can distribute materials & resources
I can address & pass along feedback

Mail this form & any questions to: Willard Birns/AOUON
4400 Market Street
Oakland, CA 94608

Bertolt Brecht (1898–1956)