

My name is Ras. I am a Maximum Security inmate at America's 6th largest jail, Alameda Counties Santa Rita County Jail, located in Dublin, Ca. To add my two cents about our current President it appalls me how President Trump's glitzy bravado, ruthless tactics, vulgar language, illegitimate practices, and grandiose claims got him into office. It is cacophony mainly because president trump is capricious, caustic, and his actions seen dilettante. As he used his charisma to woo mainly conservative republican Americans, his equivocating language and lack of equanimity demonstrates how immature he is for the office and his disregard for all humans, no matter race at a whole. Some will make election 2016-2017 as the biggest fiasco in American History. The way he finagled his way this far is completely daunting. His character shows that he is indelicate and he portrays hedonistic and Machiavellian qualities.

The election has left large parts of the country in malaise. Being known as a cunning mercenary, president Donald Trump is not one anybody should address lightly, he must be approached with caution. Many of his non sequitur comments made during the election demonstrate my point. We need a leader that is more wholesome and less ostentatious. The rude way he ostracized immigrants, Muslims, and women shows he is a paradox. The focus on immigrants was a red herring. So many people paid attention to the presidential election that it took focus away from others running, for seats in Congress, the House of Representatives, city, state, and local positions. January is yet to be over and the ACA (Affordable-Care Act) has already been repealed.

As I understand we must give our "new president" a chance. It disregards those who never had a chance to begin with, mainly those in rural areas, low income communities, inmates, prisons, ex-convicts, mentally and physically disabled, and highly diverse multi nationality or ethnic communities. Some of the new cabinet members have little to no experience at all, for example, Ben Carson, Rex Tillerson, Stephanie McMahon, Elon Musk, and Mike Pence. Our nation is crying out for reform. Racial tension is rising from east to west. Muslim-Americans are being scrutinized and forced to live in duress. The list of negatives vs. positives is nearly endless. It seems those who work so hard are getting the last amount of recognition. Here in California gentrification in many neighborhoods is on the rise. Government aid and services are getting cut left and right and many Americans are struggling to maintain. Jobs are not the only thing America needs; we need effective, local, city, and state government agencies that are for the citizens, tax payers and soon to become nationalized citizens. Our taxpayer money needs to be allocated more effectively and efficiently. Education is on a spiral down from public students and the cost for private education is on the rise. It seems our children and upcoming generations are in a struggle for sustainability. In reply to the 3 questions asked:

How do you think you, your community, and imprison/incarcerated people will be effected by Trump and his cabinet?

We will be affected tremendously. The industrial prison complex is a multi-billion dollar goliath. Our government makes more money off incarnated people than regular citizens. With the lack of rehabilitation programs, and more government money being taken away from current programs, the effects are catastrophic. More single-parent homes, higher rates of crime, higher rates of drug abuse, higher rates of homelessness, and slower rates of improvement; with so many broken home, the

domino effect is much worse, where as if there were more programs, families could benefit and have a chance/possibility at better outcomes. The trump regime will probably be vicious and unscrupulous.

Given this political moment, what are methods of resistance to repression that could be made inside and out of jails?

More programs like Jericho, Delaney Street, Job Corps, and AmeriCorps. Maybe a merger between programs such as St. Vincent Du Paul, Glide, ACLU, Meals on Wheels, Salvation Army, Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and others. The unity between these programs and businesses with common goals and opportunities could increase awareness, opportunities, bring more unity through service, and build new reform, community reform, and community building workshops for the forefront.

What can be done on local levels to build self-defense, service the people, or develop alternate structures of care and governance?

A large community registry that would hold various workshops led by volunteers that would come together on current issues within the immediate communities; stipend many or fundraisers for representatives to speak out at the capitol in Sacramento on Bills that effect the community, awareness walks to grasp the attention of the taxpayers to show were their money is being spent and allocated and empowerment with incentives to get youth involved and spread awareness. It all starts in the community. The more aware people are, the more public demonstrations, the more people will pay attention, and possibly get involved. We need community centers open, community forums, and platforms for people to address current needs and get it to the city and state government to voice current concerns. It starts with awareness and dedicated people. We should also reach out to private businesses to make change and help that are changing the scope of our communities. I.E Tesla, Google, Pandora, Genentech, Facebook, Uber, Salesforce, Adobe, VMware, Intuit, Cisco, Stryker, Netflix, all of these major companies right in the Bay Area that could make small effects and big impacts on the surrounding communities that they source work from. Many people work hard in the bay area and seems they have very little to show for it. It's time for change

-Ras