

MURDER THE AMERICAN WAY

On the death of Stanley “Tookie” Williams How his murder by the state fits America’s Master Plan

Tookie Williams’ first crime was being born black and poor in America – his death sentence was already designed by just that alone. Twenty-four years on death row in prison is torture – death could be a release – and twenty-four years in prison **is** a lifetime – most black youth don’t get to live that long on the street.

Tookie Williams chose to spend his twenty-four years of living death doing something about the wretched conditions the black youth of America face, by showing them the hopelessness of gang-banging and offering them alternatives. While the state-sponsored murderers ended his life, they did not end his living. He lives on through his writing and his taped interviews, which continue to give hope and inspiration to those who would otherwise have none.

Stanley “Tookie” Williams’ greatest crimes in America were his abilities and talents as an organizer of black youth in America. Because he founded the notorious Crips gang and developed it into an organization of such magnitude, he became an enemy of the State and a target of the forces of the outlaws who rule America.

Like Tookie Williams, a long list of African-American men have been assassinated because of their abilities to educate and organize poor and black people, giving them clear and meaningful objectives which better serve their well-being.

Such is the case with Fred Hampton, who was murdered along with his comrade Mark Clark, in their sleep in Chicago, by a police death squad. Fred Hampton was assassinated because he was a Black Panther and the best organizer in the city. As well as implementing Black Panther party programs, like the Free Breakfast for Children Program and the Free Health Clinic, Fred worked with the many diverse groups of Chicago to bring about unity in the community. He brought about a truce between the Blackstone Rangers and the Gangster Disciples, two of the city’s most powerful and dangerous gangs. Only 21, and an articulate, spell-binding speaker, Fred Hampton was able to politically educate these groups and make them aware

of who their true enemy was. Then these gang members stopped focusing on each other and, having developed some political consciousness, stopped dealing drugs. This greatly affected the profits of the underworld, which made their money by trafficking in narcotics, guns and other contraband, particularly in the Black communities of Chicago.

History shows us that whenever a leader emerges who can organize the Black community in an effective and meaningful way, he is murdered or “gotten rid of” by American corporate power brokers.

All one has to do is take a look at the not-too-distant past to see the bloody history of the US government-sponsored and financed murders of black community organizers. Look at the cold-blooded murders on the UCLA campus of Alprentice “Bunchy” Carter and John Huggins. Bunchy Carter was a former LA street-gang member who turned into a revolutionary community organizer and both he and John Huggins were Black Panther Party members. The lies reported to the public were that their murders were the result of a rivalry between the Black Panther Party and Ron Karenga’s US organization for control of UCLA campus student funds. True, the US organization did commit the murders, but on orders from the American government’s Cointelpro (Counter Intelligence Organization Program).

Within the walls of America’s prisons, George Jackson was targeted for death, not by “legal” execution for his original crime, but by the US government, because of his ability to get the attention of inmates in prisons all across America and also to reach and enlighten people on the outside of those walls. George got prisoners and others to understand the political system that kept them locked up and the reasons why. For thousands of prison inmates, George pointed the way out of the self-hate and mind-numbing brain-washing mandated by the prison system and created by the corrupt American capitalist system. The ever-so-weak lie about his murder fed to the public was that “he was attempting to escape” from a maximum security prison. The world knew George Jackson was way too smart to do that. This was another premeditated murder by State killers.

In 1965, the murder of Malcolm X occurred. Malcolm was one of the Black community’s most effective organizers. The government-controlled news media would have the public believe that Malcolm was killed because of a feud with Nation of Islam. Malcolm was murdered by hired government-sponsored assassins because he began to organize and teach

people from the broad cross-sections of America and reach people across racial and religious lines. Because of Malcolm's teachings, poor and oppressed people in America learned why they were wanting and jobless, while others got rich and powerful.

In 1968, we saw the State-sponsored murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Memphis, Tennessee. The FBI and the US government had long wanted him dead but had to wait, for fear of spontaneous back-lash from Blacks and many other people of all races and religions in America. The US power structure "put up" with civil rights protests and ensuing changes, voter registration, and the integration campaign, chiefly because they were meaningless to them in that they cost them nothing. In fact, integration put more money into the American economy by allowing Blacks to eat at restaurants and lunch counters. By integrating schools and other public facilities, State governments were granted more federal funds.

What marked Dr. King for certain death was what occurred when he decided to organize poor people and others for a march in Washington, D.C. He reached out to leaders of Native American, Chicano, and poor white groups to plan an event that was never to be. The murder plot was set in motion as soon as Dr. King announced he would work to bring about an end to the Vietnam War. To put an end to war is to put an end to war industry profiteering. It is well-documented that the federal government used its fascist agency, the FBI, to lie, spy on, and conspire to murder, Dr. King. For years they had wanted him dead, not only because he was such an amazing organizer of Black and poor citizens, but because he had exposed America's hypocrisy to the world.

To cover their tracks and cool off angry black people, who wanted to burn America down, a patsy was offered up as Dr. King's killer. He was a poor, dumb, redneck petty thief by the name of James Earl Ray. Ray confessed to the killing because he was promised fame and fortune. What he got instead was being thrown into prison with a bunch of black inmates waiting for the chance to kill him. He soon decided, "I did not do it" and changed his plea to "not guilty".

Then there is the case of Tupac Shakur, the rap artist and actor, another unsolved murder. He was shot down under the bright lights of Las Vegas, right after a Mike Tyson fight, with many people around, yet nobody saw anything, and no one knew anything. The police reaction was to say, "Let's

just call it black-on-black crime, a Hip-Hop land killing”. The police’s hands were clean, except to those who knew Tupac’s history and knew he was the child of a former Black Panther. The agents of Cointelpro had watched him all his life and had seen him rise from gangster-rapper to hip-hop icon. Tupac’s art truly took a turn as he exposed the harsh realities of the day and young people began to listen and relate. Those young people included white kids. We know that whenever that happens, the black influence has got to go. If it’s political and it influences America’s white youth, it’s death. At the very least, it means disgrace, jail, and/or loss of wealth. Just think about what happened to Michael Jackson, Kobie Bryant, and P-Diddy.

The most blatant repression was leveled against Bobby Seale and Huey P. Newton because of their multi-racial organizing in communities across the US. FBI director, J. Edgar Hoover, made the public statement that the Black Panther Party was the “greatest threat to the internal security of the country”. This gave police agencies the OK to launch an all-out effort to kill the members of the Black Panther Party and destroy it.

In closing, we know that because of the recognition given to Tookie Williams, such as being nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his accomplishments despite being behind bars, and because of his ability to reach out and change many young people’s perspectives through his books and interviews, he was mandated to die. His state-sponsored murder was simply another example of how America’s fascist power structure will not allow the survival of any Black leader of consequence who can organize and educate poor, oppressed and disenfranchised people in America.

It is important that we keep Stanley “Tookie” Williams alive in our memories and take up where all these slaughtered leaders have left off – we must continue to speak out and educate the masses, seek out new leaders who truly represent our interests, and recognize who the real enemies of all the people in America are.

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