_**j JAMES H. SHELBY JR.** X378305

There is no parts of slavery that should have been worthy of being preserved, especially governed by the Constitution of The United States, when the act of slavery was deemed so dehumanizing. Even under the term of the country's founding document, slaves were defined as three-fifths of a man, not a real, whole human being.

In America the most despicable act against a human being was salvaged in the most dehumanizing places, in America's Prison System. The degraded status of a certain class of people are justified by the XIII Amendment of The Constitution of The United States, which reads as follows:

XIII Amendment Section 1 "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction."

In a landmark decision by the Virginia Supreme Court, Ruffin V. Commonwealth 1871, the Courts put to rest any notion that prisoners were legally distinguishable from slaves. So prisons are akin to slavery, it has only taken a different form in an effort to soften societies view of the newly institution of slavery, while producing many of the same results and constraints of the time.

The whole Emancipation Proclamation Act signed by Abraham Lincoln becomes eradicated when African American Citizenship revert back to a life of servitude upon conviction, but instead of discriminating against a race of people now its legal to discriminate against a certain class of citizenry.

No human being should ever be owned by laws or customs, by anyone else or any institutions, instead of prisons capitalizing off of the human errors of fallen citizens, prisons should be used to produce productive citizens, upon their return to free society. Prisons are the devices employed to protect the institution of slavery, servitude is the ugly akin of slavery and symbolic of the dehumanization of blacks, for black people and now a certain class of citizenry, prisons invented ways to extend the terms of servitude, the "war on Drugs" became the method.

The War On Drugs is racial tension legally transplanted into predominately Black Communities in the postmortem of the Jim Crow era, which recorded having 3.2 million African Americans in slavery. However staggering this number is in itself, its nothing

when in comparison to the 3.5 million African Americans in prison as slaves under the XIII Amendment Section 1. Constitution of the United States. More than 6.7 million African Americans have been in forced servitude and still counting, in "The Land Of The Free."

In 1982 The Reagan Administration was casuistic at best, about the logistics of The War On Drugs, which allegedly was to make those predominately Black Drug infested neighborhoods into better Communities by ridding them of the onerous of both drugs and crime. I don't ever recall The Reagan Administration discussing any degree of subjugation, which is what is now riddled throughout America's predominately Black The War On Drugs has shackled predominately Black neighborhoods. cumulatively, with welfare restrictions which has handcuffed any that remain casualties of The War On Drugs. Without being able to earn wages and being hungry, is your reality, then selling drugs can be an irresistible temptation. With so many unfair welfare restrictions, can this society really continue to profess to concerned about improving and providing nutritious food, for low-income citizen's diet's? Whenever society get rid of the first line of defense against hunger, in an attempt to force self-reliance on those in dire need of welfare assistance, in an onerous fashion it becomes another "War" waged. Where is the humanitarian aid that America boastfully display upon the world stage, when the world is watching, in an effort to show the world how humane the United States is being, after a war has been waged on foreign soil, (where is this same humanitarian aid) for America's own predominately Black Communities?

Civil and Human Rights Violations give life to inevitable burdensome circumstances, in the predominately Black Communities and The War On Drugs, and the lack of entitlements, has only contributed to the euthanasia of America's already poverty stricken predominately Black Communities.

When viewed in this manner, how can African Americans simply be pleased that there is an African American Family in the White House? President Barack Obama, is only a symbol of self-accomplishment, in spite of the racial obstacles in America, not the resurrection of the entire African American race. While admiring President Barack Obama's self accomplishments, one tends to easily become oblivious to the omnipresent oppression upon Black America, the case now is not whether a denial or abridgment occurs but whether such discriminatory restrictions are on account of race and/or social division.

In the wake on The War On Drugs which has been on-going for over 🐲 years, America's

predominately Black Communities have been turned into replicated third world countries, with vacant and torn down buildings. The heart and soul of those predominately Black Communities are the schools and local Black owned businesses which have been conspicuously if not maliciously eradicated, and without the Black people to sustain these War Zone communities, there are ineluctably going to be even less resister voters in the aftermath of the War On Drugs in those particular districts, which in turn gives way to less reason, without political representation or complaints for political ambitious state and governmental officials to request, let alone provide any form of restoration or humanitarian aid, especially since any new development wasn't ever a part of the equation when The War On Drugs was waged against predominately Black Communities in 1982.

NOTE: REAGAN USHERED IN AND THE COMMERCIAL MEDIA POPULARIZED THE "WAR ON DRUGS" INITIATIVE (AS A MAJOR COMPONENT OF THE OVERALL "WAR ON CRIME" SCHEME) JUST BEFORE THE CRACK EPIDEMIC SWEPT THE URBAN POOR COMMUNITIES IN ALL THE MAJOR U.S. CITIES, CRIMINAL LAWS WERE ON THE BOOKS SPECIFICALLY TARGETING THIS DRUG BEFORE IT WAS EVEN IN WIDESPREAD USE. THERE IS CERTAINLY NO LACK OF EVIDENCE AND ADMISSIONS OF CIA, DEA AND WHITE HOUSE INVOLVEMENT IN TRAFFICKING TONS OF NARCOTICS INTO THE U.S. ON THE ONE HAND, WHILE PROFESSING TO OUTLAW IT ON THE OTHER.

Missouri was labeled "The Meth Capital" of the country, but because this illegal drug is made, sold and used by predominately White America, we've yet to even hear of a Meth Task Force being assembled in an effort to clear the streets of this Meth, let alone an all out War being waged on the scale, as was on the predominately Black Communities. The only effort to halt Meth production was to limit certain Key ingredients from being purchased in bulk. Yet, <u>baking Soda</u> was the only Key ingredient at the time added to powder cocaine, in order to make crack, yet the United States Government has not made one effort to stop or limit the sell of Baking Soda, which would have brought The War On Drugs, to a squelching halt, or at the least, no bigger issue than any other illegal drug. Meth and their labs have proven to be far more dangerous than all the other illegal drugs combined.

Has the hidden goal of The War On Drugs been so racially motivated with the intent to legally remove so many Blacks out of those predominately Black communities, into forced servitude and a life of second class citizenry? As a direct result of The War On Drugs, there would be no likelihood that any of those Black Communities will survive

and even if they did manage to survive, it will no doubt be in spite of and not due to either state or Government assistance.

In 2011, The Supreme Court Opinion of 1857 still holds firm, as they placed negros into slavery for their own benefit, is the same logistics The Reagan Administration used in 1982 to wage The War On Drugs, in those predominately Black communities, resulting in the frightful imprisonment of Blacks, for their Communities own benefit. In hindsight, this led to more Blacks being in prison, than ever recorded being in slavery.

Indentured servitude is still the dominant means of securing cheap or no expense labor, because prisons have a heavy reliance on indentured servants. Prisons throughout the country, has become a breeding ground for people with both greed and malice in their hearts, at the expense of both Civil and Human Right Violations. Racial bribery runs rampant throughout the prison system within this country, prison staff still deliberately and strategically extend special privileges to white prisoners, so that they are far less likely to form alliance with black prisoners, in order to prevent another Nathanien Bacon Rebellion in America's Prison System, as in Jamestown, Virginia in 1675.

At the rate of mass incarceration, actual rehabilitation of these often uneducated and lack of any relevant job skills, prisoners will not only aid in the reformation, of themselves, but rehabilitation is essential to it and to suppressing transgression.

The last stage of responsibility of The United States Criminal Justice System, should be to provide productive citizens upon their return to society, in order to continue their obligation to help protect and serve America's Communities, without doing so, the Director of Missouri DOC and Missouri Governor, are failing to accomplish the overriding goals of the State's Code of Corrections: Protecting the public's safety and restoring prisoners to useful citizenship. When Missouri DOC does not confer this security, it fails in its chief design.

Although the Government already offer businesses that are willing to employ ex-prisoners, provide Work Opportunity, and Tax Credit incentives. Missouri DOC could be doing more to help meet strategic goals of reducing recidivism and better preparing prisoners for re-entry. Missouri DOC should also allow those businesses that are willing to hire ex-prisoners, to set up actual job training/recruitment centers, inside the prison, to further job skills, experience and career choices, which would help to humanize the institutionalized, by changing their attitude and thus their behavior,

which is an important step towards both rehabilitation and surviving the rough transition from a life in prison, to a society full of life.

Job fairs should be held for employment placement opportunities, once prisoners are released to better transition into society. Missouri Vocational Education (MVE) in theory, alleges to meet this goal, but in reality its unilateral, with no real benefits for prisoners. Even RCA's don't give a Vocational score which will remain a level five(5), the five being the absolute worse, no matter if prisoners currently work for (MVE), or have worked for (MVE) in the past. So who does (MVE) really benefit?

In an effort to encourage employers to hire ex-prisoners, employers need to be made aware of The Federal Bounding Program in Missouri by contacting:

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MO. DIVISION OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

421 EAST DUNKLIN

P.O. BOX 1087

JEFFERSON CITY, MO. 65101

(573) 526-8217 / (573) 522-9496 (FAX)

The more dedicated Missouri Dept. Of Correction is, at promoting literacy with genuine educational opportunities and real job training, the more productive ex-prisoners will be at making important contributions to the communities which they return to and over all, making a better society, which gives prisoners and ex-prisoners, positive self-image and confidence in their ability to perform their newly acquired education and/or job skills.

It is generally known that the "Revolving Door" problem of recidivism, exists partly due to a prisoners lack of both education and skills to cope with a society that has moved on while he/or she has been in prison. In the past, before the country's economic problem took center stage, elected officials addressed the recidivism problem by telling society that the best solution, was to lock up more criminals for longer periods. Now due to budget shortfalls, many states are seeking to trim their Department of Correction budget.

Now, society has a real conscientious decision to make and not be deceived by self interest politicians. The flaw in The War On Drugs" and "Mass Incarceration" is that "NOT" every prisoner will remain in prison forever.

In the interest of Justice society must demand that Mo Dept of Correction uphold it's obligation to not only warehouse prisoners in a negative and unproductive dynamic of imprisonment, but to help protect and safeguard the lives and property of the

citizens in their respective cities, by actually mandating more real rehabilitational programs and start holding prison administrations responsible, that oppose that which shall be enforceable in the same manner as otherwise provided by law, or removed from their position based on performance or lack thereof, because The Dept. Of Correction is the last opportunity to turn bad decision making errants into productively thinking citizens, before they are being released back into society, because after all, most prisoners return to communities everywhere. Now you choose which ex-prisoner you want, one that's productive or destructive, either way society pays, now how much depends on your position on rehabilitation programs and unlimited education opportunities and being mindful of America's and Missouri's founders ideologies, that "The Rights and Liberties we enjoy can only be preserved by ensuring an educated citizenry."

How ironic is it, that "In The Land Of The Free," America has the most citizens incarcerated, more than in any other part of the world, even in an era of all of these Civil Rights Groups, Prevention and Protection Acts all of these acronyms has lost their prospective bite to were Civil Rights violators deem them only as a bowl of bitter alphabet soup and the violated see them as being as effective as putting a band-aid over an gunshot wound.

It is no coincidence that during the Reagan/Bush (Sr.) era, during which the incarceration rate quadrupled, these administrations initiated an outright attack on domestic social programs while simultaneously and effectively criminalizing the character of urban youths, knowing that urban youths would suffer the most under budget cuts to social programs; leading to greater levels of frustration, desperation, and insecurity within urban communities. But with the schemes implemented under NSC/46, any urban reaction would likely take the form of urban black-on-black exploitation and violence within their own communities, instead of conscious resistance against the Government. In 1982 Reagan cut \$44 billion in social spending and another \$19 billion the next year. Reagan and Bush Sr. had succeeded in transforming the previously liberal Supreme Court into a conservative one, that has proven most hostile to Civil Rights for minorities and prisoners. Under Bill Clinton ten million poor people were kicked off welfare with little option for finding work in a continuously shrinking job market; he then put more police on the streets than any previous administration to ensure the stead disposal of the desperately poor into the nation's vast prison system, -- indeed, the world's largest prison system.