

# RISING UP ANGRY

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A Revolutionary Organization Committed to Building a New Man, a New Woman, and a New World.

## ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE



SOME OF THE WITNESSES WHO GAVE TESTIMONY AGAINST THE SLUMLORDS, THE GUTMAN BROTHERS, AT THE "PEOPLE'S TRIBUNAL"—OVER 400 PEOPLE WERE THERE.

IT IS CLEAR THAT THE WHOLE SYSTEM WE ARE FORCED TO LIVE UNDER PUTS THE PROFITS OF THE FEW OVER THE LIVES OF THE MANY. THE ONLY WAY WE WILL STOP THIS IS BY BLACK, WHITE, BROWN, YELLOW, RED, YOUNG, OLD, ALL THE PEOPLE, GETTING TOGETHER AND FIGHTING FOR BETTER HOUSING, BETTER WORKING CONDITIONS AND BETTER LIVES.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE!

# IS OURS TO BUILD

## CHICAGO LIGHTHOUSE ROBS BLIND BROTHERS AND SISTERS

My name is Mike Perry, 23 years old, and I am blind. I was born with glaucoma so I have always been blind. I went to St. Hilliary's (they had braille classes for awhile), St. Mathias, Illinois Braille and Sight Saving School in Jacksonville, Illinois up until my last year. After that I went to a place of employment for visually handicapped people - so-called, the Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind, 1850 W. Roosevelt Road.

First, let me hip you to something. It ain't for the blind. What I mean is, if they are for the blind how come they hire people who can see (sighted people) and pay them a living wage - at least minimum wage - when they pay us way below minimum wage. In fact, when you start there in the training section, they pay \$.80 an hour! When I started there three years ago they paid \$.75 an hour! Maximum wage here is \$1.40 an hour... and you get that only after you serve your time in the training section.

It's general factory work. Assembly line, machine shop jobs... they have contracts with companies like Western Electric, Skilcraft, Hotpoint. We do a lot of the same work as sighted people in other factories... as well as work set up specially for visually handicapped people. Slave labor! (There are several "sheltered workshops" in Chicago, and the Chicago Lighthouse is one of the "best" of them! Other places pay even less.)

The Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind is funded by community charitable organizations. They get money from contracts with those companies. With what little they're paying us (people who have multiple handicaps get paid even less before they get into the workshop training section. There are some people who get paid \$.40 an hour!) that money must be going to other people - people who run the place, the administrators. It's been reported that the head administrators get \$25,000 a year in salary.

You'd think that anyone who went to work there cared about people (sighted people). But in fact they think that visually handicapped people are inferior. And anybody who offers criticism is told that they need psychiatric treatment. When I quit they told me I was sick and needed psychiatric treatment. All because I told them that I thought I had gotten a dirty deal.

When I first came there they told me I had a lot of potential. That there was no reason why I would be working there the rest of my life. They promised me that if I got my production up to maximum wage there (\$1.40/hr.) that they would find me a job in industry. I worked 'til I got it up to maximum wage. They told me about a darkroom training course at Triton College. I went there for nine weeks. When I finished the course I got in touch with the man who trains visually handicapped people at Passavant Hospital for X-ray developing. He refused to take me in on the training program because of reports from the Lighthouse about my grade and high school inappropriate behavior. The thing was, that the Lighthouse promised not to give these records out - that that was in the past and forgotten about. It was a dirty deal. So I told them that. And they told me that I needed psychiatric help! Instead of helping me, they screwed me up.

Now I sell gum on the streets. My hours are from 11 to 2 and 4 to 6, and sometimes in the morning, 7:30 to 9. I work on State and Madison, State and Randolph, Dearborn and Washington, Lincoln and Belmont and down by the IC train station. I make more money than I did at the Lighthouse, but it isn't any great pay. It snows, gets cold, real cold. I feel that if that's the way to survive then that's what you got to do. But I would rather work in industry, have a regular job.

Since I get around a lot and pay attention to what's going on, I know what's happening pretty much. But it's hard to get books and papers that tell what people are doing to change this country written in braille. So we're going to change this.

We made a tape of this issue of the paper. We're going to transcribe it into braille copy. And then get it to our friends and anyone else who reads by braille that wants a copy. (If you'd like to help, call Rising Up Angry, 472-1791.) That way many more people can read Rising Up Angry - People's Revolutionary News!

We're part of this country - and we're going to build it too!

**CIRCULATE TO EDUCATE  
EDUCATE TO LIBERATE**

## A Poem to Herman Gutman

Dear Slumlord

Slumlord hide your face  
Yes, hide it in disgrace  
You ought to be arrested  
Because your property is atrocious  
Your buildings are infested  
With rats and mice and roaches  
My eyes with tears you're filling  
As you spread your filth and dirt  
It's my PEOPLE that you're killing  
And you know that really hurts  
But soon the People will have the power  
And we'll bring you to your knees  
And in our finest hour  
Rid CHICAGO of your disease!



Herman Gutman - Slumlord!

## It Costs Money to Save Your Life

The other night I saw on the news that Baxter Laboratories, a huge company, had spent \$5,000 for a new stretcher that has systems on it for treating heart attacks. The newscaster said three people in the plant had heart attacks last year, and they all died because the ambulance didn't arrive soon enough.

The news said that 500,000 people in the US have heart attacks every year, and 300,000 of them die before they get to the hospital. If this stretcher had been available it could have saved many of those lives.

It really made me mad, because I know that the stretcher won't be free for all the people, and most poor and working people who have heart attacks won't get to use it. People will go on dying just because that stretcher costs \$5,000.

## Good Food For Everyone, In China

One of the many lies we are told about life in the Peoples' Republic of China (Red China) is that the people have not benefitted from the revolution. As more and more Americans have been traveling to China, these lies have broken down. Joseph Alsop is a famous news paperman, certainly not sympathetic to communism, who is in China now. Like most Americans who have gone to China, his understanding of what life is like in that revolutionary society is changing. Here's his impression of one small aspect of life in New China:

"...I had always supposed that good cooking was one of the first victims of every revolution, along with wicked landlords and feudal exploiters. But this is far from true in China...Peking has an amazing wealth of "popular" (popular means for all the people not just the rich) restaurants. And in these you eat rather better than you can in the best of the New York establishments where



\$25 per person is a normal charge for luncheon.

"Eating in these places is odd, for they are genuinely popular - jammed with working people and lacking the smallest outward pretension. Yet they offer excellent meals for about 50 cents a head. They cheerfully produce genuine feasts of incomparable variety and subtlety, for a couple of dollars a head, with wine included. Weight watchers with a weakness for miraculous bargains should avoid Peking."

It's not odd that a country dedicated to serving the needs of the people would make good food available at very low prices. What is odd, is that in the U.S., the richest country in the world, food is so expensive and there are people starving to death. We can learn a lot from China.

**ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE**

The People's Tribunal of the notorious slumlords, the Gutman brothers, was held on Thursday night, November 30th. Over 400 people, including tenants in Gutman buildings and concerned residents of the Uptown area, came out to voice their disgust, not only with the conditions that exist in Gutman buildings, but with the bad housing conditions that exist in communities throughout the city.

The campaign to put the Gutmans on trial before the people started with the deaths of three people in two months, in Gutman buildings. Jennifer LaBarge, 2 years old, was killed at 4108 N. Kenmore because Gutman refused to fix the broken safety glass on the elevator door. On September 24th, Jennifer was playing in the hallway when she stuck her head through the missing window in the door. The elevator came down on her head. Eric Roy, 23 months old, was killed at 3717 N. Pine Grove because a radiator in the baby's room had been removed and Gutman never replaced it or had it capped. When the heat came on for the first time on October 7th, Eric was scalded and suffocated in his room. Bill Stein, 29, was killed in the Shel Drake Hotel, a Gutman building at 4520 Clarendon. An electrical fire broke out in Bills room on November 11th. The fire started at his front door. Bill tried to escape through his kitchen door, but the door had been nailed shut from the outside (a common practice at the Shel-drake) and Bill was found dead huddled next to it.

These deaths, combined with the fact that the city government and appropriate city agencies did nothing to investigate these incidents, forced the people and the Rising Up Angry Legal Program, to investigate the

conditions of the Gutman buildings. We found the Gutman brothers owned between 125 - 150 buildings across the city; 40 - 50 of these buildings in Uptown. Most of the Gutman buildings in Uptown are pretty much the same. They are furnished apartments, from 1½ to 3½ rooms, and the rent ranges from \$20.00 to \$40.00 a week! The conditions in the apartments are unbelievable. Plaster falling and chipping paint, exposing children to lead poisoning; windows broken and cracked, some just fall out because the frame is rotted; exits nailed shut; inconsistent heat; flooded basements; fire escapes blocked off with barbed wire, boards, and bars; exposed electrical wiring; holes in walls; no garbage collection; rats and roaches; and in one apartment, every time it rains the bed has to be moved because of a hole in the roof and the ceiling is just about to cave in. These are not extreme examples, but exist in every one of the Gutman buildings. The first building the "people's inspectors" went to was at 4108 N. Kenmore. As soon as we got in the door Herman Gutman asked who we were and what we were doing there. We told him we wanted to see the elevator where Jennifer LaBarge was killed. He then started screaming and yelling at us, saying we couldn't be in his building - and then he called the police. The police came and told us we had to leave and if they saw us on Kenmore again, they'd arrest us. Even though we had a right to be in the building, we know from the beginning the police weren't going to help us. We then started a petition circulating in the different Gutman buildings. A lot of people expressed interest in "getting" Gutman.

Herman Gutman then started his own campaign to keep us out of his buildings. Man-

agers wouldn't let us in and would try to intimidate, not only us, but the tenants who dug what was happening. They threatened us with baseball bats, screw drivers, or anything they could get their hands on. These tactics didn't work because we had so much support from the tenants in the buildings. The next thing we heard from Gutman was crying. He couldn't stop us with threats, so he figured he'd buy us off. He offered a "sizeable sum of money if the organization (RUA) calls off the dogs." He was told that phoney tears and big money couldn't bring three people back to life. He then went back to his tactic of having his managers call the police anytime they saw us on the inside or outside of his buildings. As a result of this, two of our people were arrested in front of the Gutman building at 4536 - 40 Magnolia.

Gutman then personally started on his tenants. He offered them money if they would tell him where the petitions were, or turn them over to him. Mrs. Strohfled, from 4520 Clarendon, who was burned out of her apartment there, was offered \$50 by Gutman to pay for the damage done to her clothes and furniture (even though the damage came to well over \$200) and to go around the building and tell people that Mr. Gutman was a good man and people shouldn't come to the "People's Tribunal." She refused - and Gutman is now legally trying to evict her.

After we were arrested and harassed by the police, the next thing we heard was Sgt. Bullerman from the 19th District and Lt. Weisman from the 20th District wanted to be negotiators in the dispute between us and the Gutmans. We didn't need any negotiation - we needed a State's Attorney to do his job -



SOME OF THE WITNESSES GIVING TESTIMONY AGAINST THE GUTMANS, WHO WERE CONVICTED BY THE JURY. THE PEOPLE. BELOW ARE SOME OF THE DANGEROUS VIOLATIONS IN GUTMAN BUILDINGS.



Over 400 people  
the People's Tribunal  
the notorious  
Gutman brothers  
on trial by the

people  
trial



we definitely didn't need any negotiating pigs.

In the last few days, before the Tribunal, many tenants were told they better not come. But, the fear of the rotten slum hell-holes the people live in was greater than the terror of the Gutmans and his hired thugs and managers.

Bill Bonner, from Rising Up Angry, opened the Tribunal by saying, "This meeting isn't just to deal with Gutman, it's to make an example of the lowest form of life - the slumlord. We will not stop with the Gutmans, the Dolans, the Steins, or the Uptown National Bank, who have in trust one third of all the property in Uptown. We will not stop until the slogan Good Housing Is A Human Right becomes a reality." Bill then read off the demands: (1) The Gutman brothers be arrested and prosecuted under the Reckless Conduct and Criminal Housing Management sections of the Criminal Code. (2) That the buildings be brought up to standards set by the municipal housing code. (3) That the appropriate city agencies such as Public Aid, Department of Buildings, and elected representatives, begin to carry out their job of serving in the interest of the people, rather than protecting the interest of slumlords, like the Gutmans.

Aldermen, people from the Bureau of Housing, and other politicians attending the meeting, were then introduced - but before doing so - Bill Bonner made the promise that if our demands aren't met, we will be down to visit everyone of them.

Then, the People's prosecutors were introduced: Mark Kadish and John Hyman. Mark said, "Ladies and Gentlemen of the jury, we intend to prove tonight the Gutmans guilty

of Reckless Conduct and Criminal Housing Management, not by what we say, but by the evidence presented by our witnesses." He and John then questioned the over 20 witnesses about the conditions of the buildings and how they felt about the Gutmans.

The witnesses, made up of past and present tenants and managers of the Gutman buildings, had much to say. Rev. Bob Dickey, who lives at 922 Eastwood, told of how he and his family had been beaten up in the hallway by Gutman's thugs. He and his family were beaten because they complained about the condition of the building and had a list of over 100 violations of the Housing Code dealing with his building.

Joyce Lovell, the manager of the Gutman building at 4310 Clarendon, told of how she had been a manager for over 5 years, but that the Gutman buildings were the worst she had ever seen. She then said she would not go back to work for Gutman. Buck Hanks, a former manager of 927 - 29 Wilson, told of how he had been the manager of the building and it was sold to Gutman. As soon as Gutman bought it, he came in and told Buck and his wife, Ann, to start painting all of the 64 units and he would pay them \$90 a month, but they would have to pay \$32 a week rent. Before Gutman owned the building, they received \$400 a month and the rent was free. When asked what he thought of the Tribunal, Buck said, "It should have happened 6 years ago."

There were many more witnesses whose horror stories convinced the jury. When asked the verdict by the People's prosecutors, the decision was unanimous - the people convicted

the Gutmans.

Bob Lawson, from Rising Up Angry, then said that it was clear that the Gutmans put the profit from their rotten buildings over the lives of Jennifer, Eric and Bill. He said that the building department put their bribes over our people's lives and that the police defend the rights of the criminal slumlords and arrest the innocent people's investigators. He said that the whole system puts the profits of the few over the lives of the many and the only way we will stop this is by "Black, white, brown, yellow, red, young and old, getting together and fighting. Fighting for better housing conditions, working conditions, and better lives. All power to the people!"

The demands were then read off again and it was made clear that this is not the end, this is the beginning. We will have good housing! If the politicians do not move on Gutman - we, the people, will move on the politicians.

**GOOD HOUSING IS A HUMAN RIGHT!  
ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE!**

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP ON THE "GOOD HOUSING IS A HUMAN RIGHT" CAMPAIGN: CALL RISING UP ANGRY - 472 - 1791, or SEND IN THIS FORM:

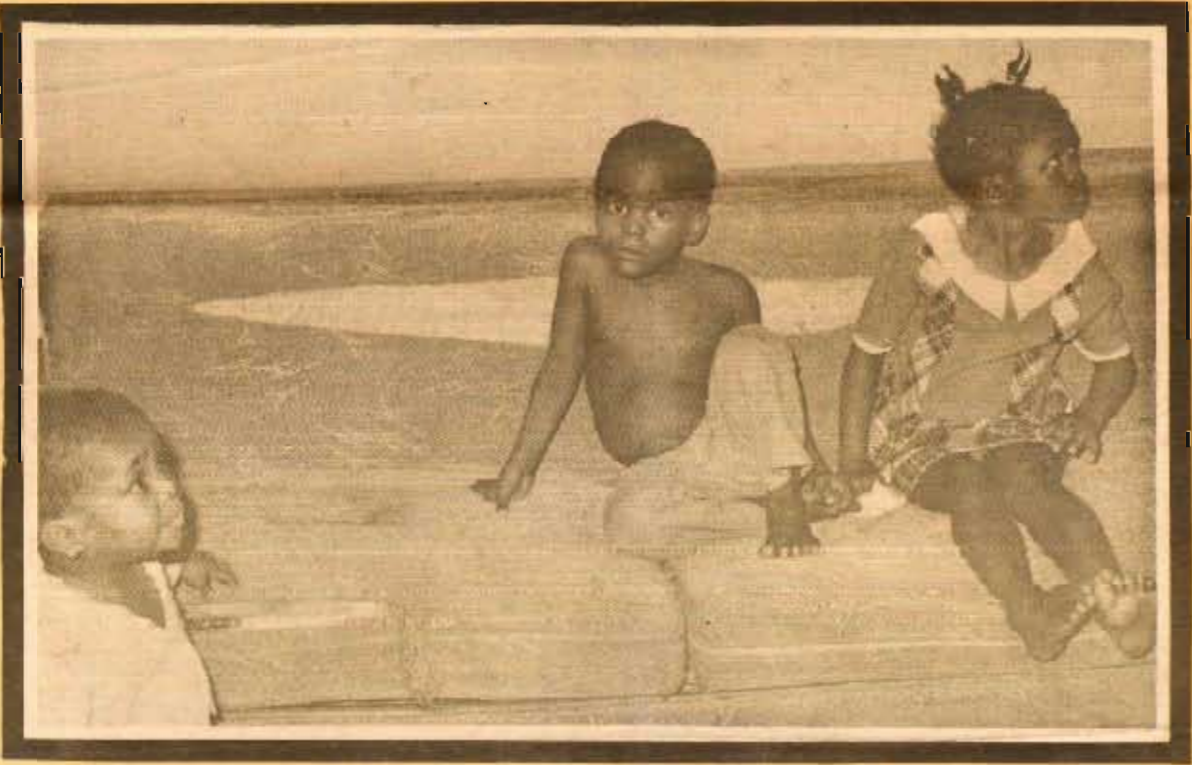
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

RISING UP ANGRY/BOX 3746 MDSE. MART/CHGO 60654

# People came to Tribunal where slumlords, managers, were put on the people's Tribunal



A FURNISHED APARTMENT IN A GUTMAN BUILDING. THE TENANTS LIVED THERE ONE WEEK. BELOW ARE PICTURED MORE VIOLATIONS THE PEOPLE ARE FORCED TO LIVE WITH - SOME DIE.



TWAS DA NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS  
AND ALL THROUGH THE FLATS  
CREATURES WERE STIRRING  
MICE, ROACHES AND RATS....



THE CHILDREN WERE SLEEPING  
ALL UNDER THEIR BEDS,  
SO IF THE PLASTER FALLS DOWN  
IT WON'T HIT NO HEADS....



THE STOCKING ON THE FIRE  
ESCAPE DOOR WAS NO JOKE-  
WE COULD GRAB THEM IF  
DIS FIRETRAP WENT UP IN SMOKE..



WE AWOKE IN THE MORNING  
AND GOT QUITE A SHOCK,  
CAUSE A 15 POUND RAT  
WAS STUCK IN THE SOCK



THE KIDS LET IT OUT  
AND STUFFED IT WITH FEED  
THEY SAID, "USE WHAT YOU GOT.  
TO GET WHAT YOU NEED."



SIX SHORT DAYS LATER  
THE LAST DAY OF THE YEAR  
HERE COMES OUR SLUM-LORD  
TO FILL US WITH CHEER.



WHEN HE CAME IN THE DOOR  
THE KIDS BROUGHT OUT HIS GIFT  
THIS MAN STARTED DROOLING  
IT WAS SO HEAVY TO LIFT



HE TORE OFF THE WRAPPINGS  
THIS DUDE HAD NO FEAR...  
THEN OUT JUMPS THE PRESENT  
AND BIT OFF HIS EAR....



SINCE HE LEFT US THAT PAY  
NO WORD HAS HE SENT  
AND SINCE HE AINT FIXED DA BUILDING  
WE'RE WITHOLDING THE RENT



## RIGHT ON BOOKS

It's that time of year again when Americans give each other presents. We feel this provides us all with a good opportunity to help educate our loved ones. We have listed here a number of books that would make valuable, inexpensive gifts. We will fill mail orders promptly, send out gift certificates, or come by and examine our complete selection at 2744 N. Lincoln Ave. All profits from these sales will go to the Rising Up Angry Serve The People Programs, so that your gift will benefit the people.

RIGHT-ON BOOKS  
2744 N. Lincoln Ave.  
Chicago, Ill. 60614  
11 to 6 everyday



partial list of recommended books:

P.O.W. - Smith	2.95
Away With All Posts - Horn	2.45
Fled Star Over China - Snow	2.45
Fanshen - Hinton	2.95
Selected Works of Mao Tse-Tung	10.00
Four Volumes	
Blood In My Eye - Jackson	1.50
Autobiography of Malcolm X	1.50
To Die For The People - Huey P. Newton	1.95
Wretched of the Earth - Fanon	1.45
Labor's Untold Story - Royer	2.45
Autobiography of Big Bill Haywood	2.65
Sisterhood Is Powerful - Morgan	2.45
Black Elk Speaks - Neihart	1.50
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War Chief Joseph - Howard	2.65
The Forest - Pomeroy	1.85
The Enemy - Greene	1.95

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