



JOIN US ON THE SIXTH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE
MARION LOCKDOWN

CONFERENCE ON:

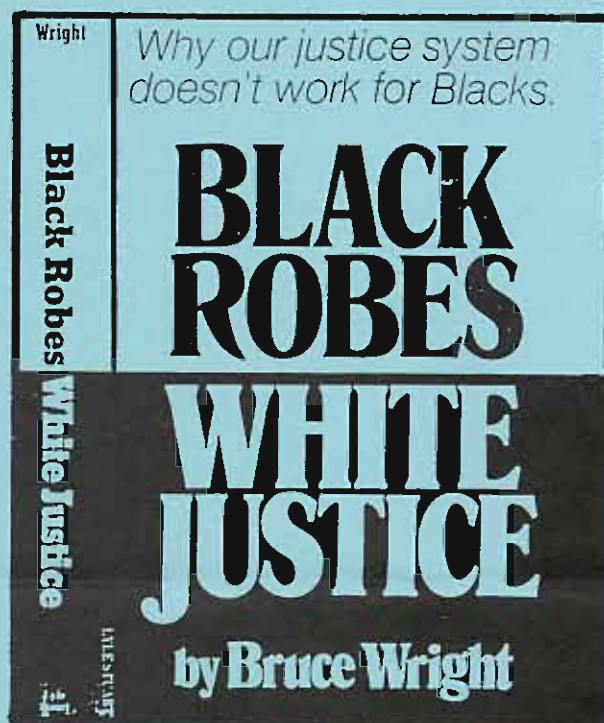
RACISM AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
JUDGE BRUCE WRIGHT

WORKSHOPS:

1. The War on Drugs and the Attack on Third World Communities
2. Recent Supreme Court Decisions
3. Marion Federal Penitentiary: 6 Years of Lockdown
4. Racism, Youth and Police Torture

Bruce Wright is one of the most outspoken judges in the United States—loved and admired by many, hated by others. Judge Wright has been a constant advocate of Black people's freedom. He became nationally known when he implemented a policy of refusing to use bail in a punitive manner, which has earned him the nickname "Turn-em-loose-Bruce." Despite attacks by the police union in New York City, which often pickets his courtroom and agitates for his removal from the bench, Wright has been re-elected for the past 16 years. In addition to his role as judge, Wright has always been active in the politics of protest, understanding fully that justice for Black people could not come out of a courtroom.



DATE: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1989 TIME: 12:30 TO 6:00 p.m.
PLACE: De Paul University, Schmitt Academic Center
2323 N. Seminary (near the Fullerton "El" stop on the Howard line)

Suggested Contribution: \$5

Childcare Provided

Wheelchair Accessible

Sponsored by: **Committee to End the Marion Lockdown**
National Committee to Free Puerto Rican Prisoners of War

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ARE MORE PRISONS THE ANSWER?

U.S. prisons currently hold more than 673,000 people. It is estimated that by the year 2000 the U.S. will hold over 1,000,000 prisoners and that over half of them will be people of color. In fact, Black people in this country go to prison at a rate eight times higher than white people and almost twice as high as Black people in South Africa. This conference will explore the relationships among racism, the criminal justice system, and current attacks on Third World communities. We believe that more prisons will not solve the grave problems of social injustice in the U.S. today.

This conference commemorates the sixth anniversary of the Lockdown at Marion Federal Penitentiary in southern Illinois. For us, the barbaric conditions at Marion embody all that is wrong with "criminal justice" in this country. Marion is the only U.S. prison ever condemned by Amnesty International for violating the United Nations' Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners. For the last six years prisoners at Marion have been subjected to 23-hour-a-day confinement in their cells. Those sent to Marion are primarily prisoners hated by prison officials: those who file "too many" lawsuits, who participate in work stoppages, and who insist on practicing their religions. Notably, Marion has always been used to incarcerate and attack political prisoners and prisoners of war—from Rafael Cancel-Miranda to Leonard Peltier to Sundiata Acoli to Oscar Lopez-Rivera.

We are deeply concerned because Marion has become a model for the expanding U.S. prison system. Its Control Unit concept has been copied by several states. Marion is a symbol that informs us that the Bureau of Prisons is willing to do anything it can to stifle dissent and to hold the cap on an expanding prison system that may explode at any moment.

Our goal is to put a stop to the madness that is Marion and to expose the racist nature of the "criminal justice system." We hope you will join us.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

REGISTRATION AND VIDEOS - Room 154	12:30 - 1:30 pm
WORKSHOPS	1:30 - 2:45 pm
The War on Drugs and the Attack on Third World Communities	
Jose Lopez - Movimiento de Liberacion Nacional	
Additional Speaker, To Be Announced	
Recent Supreme Court Decisions	
Affirmative Action - Stan Willis, Chicago Conference of Black Lawyers	
Reproductive Rights - Patricia Camp, Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights	
Prison Organizing - Michael Deutsch, People's Law Office	
Marion Prison	
Recent Developments - Jan Susler, People's Law Office	
The Attack on Political Prisoners and POWs	
- Lourdes Lugo, National Committee to Free Puerto Rican POWs	
Organizing Against the Brutality - Kimberly Fitzgerald, CEML	
Racism, Youth, and Police Torture	
Police Brutality on the South Side - Conrad Worrill, National Black United Front	
Police Torture and Terror - Jeff Haas, People's Law Office	
Schools as a Training Ground for Repression	
- Zulma Ortiz, social studies teacher at Clemente H. S.	
BREAK	2:45 - 3:15 pm
WORKSHOPS (repeat of above)	3:15 - 4:30 pm
KEYNOTE ADDRESS - JUDGE BRUCE WRIGHT	4:30 - 6:00 pm