

GOV. EDGAR AND THE ILLINOIS TASK FORCE ON CRIME
AND CORRECTIONS ARE TRYING TO TURN ILLINOIS
INTO A STATE OF PRISONS—
WE CAN'T LET THEM DO IT!

PROGRAM AND DISCUSSION:

Rev. Jorge Morales - Pastor, Christ Congregational Church;
Independentista; founder of the Center for Community and
Leadership Development

Toni Moore - Chicago Conference of Black Lawyers

Bernie Noven - School reform activist; President of the Board of
Parents United for Responsible Education (PURE)

Joey Mogul - member of CEML; leader of working group
to oppose Gov. Edgar's Task Force

And others . . .

TIME AND PLACE:

SUNDAY, MAY 16TH, 1993, 7:00 PM
DEPAUL UNIVERSITY, ROOM 254
SCHMITT ACADEMIC CENTER
2323 N. SEMINARY

\$3 DONATION REQUESTED
CHILDCARE PROVIDED
WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE



ACTION:

DEMONSTRATE

AT THE STATE OF ILL. BUILDING
(CLARK + RANDOLPH)

FRIDAY, MAY 21ST, 1993 NOON, SHARP!

OPPOSE EDGAR'S PLANS TO BUILD MORE CAGES.
NO CONTROL UNIT PRISON FOR ILLINOIS.

SPONSORED BY: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO FREE PUERTO RICAN POWS
COMMITTEE TO END THE MARION LOCKDOWN

MONEY FOR HUMAN NEEDS—NOT PRISONS!

What If You Lived In A State That Was So IL. That Headlines Like These Appeared?

"Social program cuts in Ill. among the sharpest: survey" (Craines Chicago Business, February 15, 1993). "Last year's budget cuts in Illinois welfare programs ranked among the most severe in the nation . . ."

"Illinois Rapped for Cuts in Aid to Poor" (Chicago Sun-Times, February 10, 1993). "For the second consecutive year, Illinois was singled out on Monday for its harsh treatment of poor people."

Illinois is found to have the 46th worst infant mortality rate in the US and is 35th worst in overall child health (Center for the Study of Social Policy)

And What If At The Same Time

the Illinois Task Force on Crime and Corrections was appointed by Gov. Jim Edgar to find solutions to the prison crisis, a crisis of over-crowded prisons brought on by a twenty year binge of "law-and-order" insanity, centered around the "war on drugs," now admitted to have been a war on Black people. And what if Edgar stated he wanted the Task Force to find alternatives to more cells. And what if instead, the Task Force is proposing that seven new prisons be opened, including the conversion of a high school into a prison in virtually all-Black East St. Louis. And what if the Task Force is also proposing that the state spend over \$100 million to build a control unit prison?

Well, You Do Live In That State. If You Don't Like It, Write in Protest.

Gov. Jim Edgar
207 State House
Springfield, IL 62706

Racist U.S. prison system

It is a well-established fact that prisons and control units do not prevent crime or make any real contribution to society. What they do is imprison people of color at the highest rate in the world. In fact, Black people in the U.S. are imprisoned at a rate that is five times higher than the rate at which Black people are imprisoned in South Africa. In Illinois a Black person is 14 times more likely to go to prison than a white person – one of the highest ratios in the US. And what is the Task Force recommending – why, more prisons including a control unit.

What are control units and what are they really for?

Control unit prisons are under permanent "lockdown conditions": Prisoners are confined to 6'X10' cells for 23 hours per day. For one hour per day the prisoners are allowed to "exercise" in an area the size of a few cells which often is not even outdoors. There is no congregate dining or religious services. There are no contact visits. Phone calls and reading material are severely restricted.

Control unit prisons are allegedly for violent prisoners but in reality are often used for political prisoners and dissidents – those who struggle against the brutality and racism of the prison system and are thus hated by prisoncrats. Control unit prisons have been found by national and international organizations, time after time, all across the country, to violate the human rights of those they cage.

The proposals of the Task Force are obscene! We hope that all concerned individuals will join us as we confront the Task Force in its efforts to turn Illinois into a fortress of prisons. Voice your protest. Write Gov. Edgar today!

To work on this campaign, contact us at:

Committee to End the Marion Lockdown

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