

# Payday

An international network of men  
working with the Global Women's Strike

Newsletter November 2016  
More on [www.refusingtokill.net](http://www.refusingtokill.net)

*We campaign to defend military refuseniks, prisoners and whistleblowers,  
for a society which invests in caring not killing!*

## Historic Work Strike in US prisons

"This is a call to action against slavery in America," organizers wrote in an [announcement](#) issued in April and circulated inside and outside prisons nationwide, and that sums up the strikers' primary demand: an end to free prison labor.

According to the [Federal Bureau of Prisons](#), prisoners at federal facilities can make between 12 and 40 cents an hour for their work, while state prison rates can be higher or lower. In several states, including Texas and Arkansas,

inmates are paid no wage for their labor.

The [strike](#) started on 9 September and spread to 24 states. "There are probably 20,000 prisoners on strike right now, at least, which is the biggest prison strike in history, but the information is really sketchy and spotty," said Ben Turk, of the Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee, a chapter of the Industrial Workers of the World union helping to coordinate the inmate-led initiative from the outside. See our website for updates.



The 9 September was chosen because on 9 September 1971, prisoners took over and shut down Attica, New York State's most notorious prison.

## TRADE-UNIONISTS JOIN NATIVE PEOPLE



Protest led by Native people against the construction of the \$3.8 billion, 1,172-mile Dakota Access Pipeline continues. "Water is life", they say.

Despite [escalating police violence](#) and [AFL-CIO leadership](#) support for the pipeline, a delegation of [union](#) members from around the U.S. spent the weekend of October 29 at Standing Rock camp to join Sioux water protectors.

## Watch videos

*From Liverpool  
The World Transformed*

**Building the new  
movement from a  
grassroots women's  
perspective**

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**We should all be  
feminists**

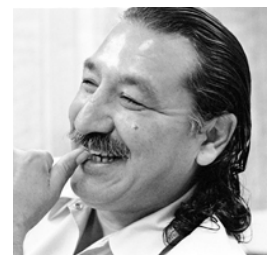
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**Sex, Race, Nation...&  
Class. What divides us?  
What can unite us?**

Watch Selma James from the Global Women's Strike, women speakers from organisations we work with, and men from Payday.



Payday has been supporting the Jeremy for Labour Campaign



Sign petition to President Obama to grant clemency to [Leonard Peltier](#), leader of the American Indian Movement wrongly jailed for 40 years

## DROP THE CHARGES - FREE CHELSEA MANNING!



Chelsea, a former US soldier, disclosed US and other governments' war crimes to Wikileaks. [Write](#) to her. Let her know she is not alone!

On 13 September, trans woman whistleblower Chelsea Manning ended a 5-day [hunger strike](#), after the U.S. military agreed to move forward with the recommended treatment for her gender dysphoria.

*"I hope this sets a precedent for the thousands of trans people behind me hoping they will be given the treatment they need."* said Chelsea.

However, the Army punished her with 14-day [solitary](#) confinement for charges directly related to her suicide attempt.

Chelsea [wrote](#): *"I am not alone in my struggle. Suicide pervades the trans community. The risk among our trans siblings with no or inadequate treatment is staggering."*

The demonization of trans people has led to over 40% [attempting suicide](#).

## Celebrate her birthday and protest on Sat 17 Dec

Called by Queer Strike and Payday men's network

As Chelsea Manning is appealing against her 35 year prison sentence, the US military wants to make an example of her to deter all whistleblowers and trans prisoners.

Organise an event or send a message/birthday card to mark the day!

So far, events in London, Philadelphia, San Francisco...

## SUPPORT JULIAN ASSANGE



On [14 November](#) Wikileaks founder, Julian Assange will be questioned at the Ecuadorian embassy over rape allegations which have been used to try to extradite him to the US where he would be punished for blowing the whistle on war crimes and corruption.

### Invest in caring, Not Trident!

The UK government plans to spend [£205 billion](#) to replace Trident nuclear submarine. Wouldn't this money better spent on the NHS and other caring?

Jeremy Corbyn has put forward a [Defence Diversification](#) which aims to transform defence industry work into socially useful work.

On 26 November, a [Conference](#) will discuss the 1971 Lucas plan - an attempt of this company's workers to put into practice this diversification.



## Support refugee mothers on hunger strike in Pennsylvania

In August, refugee mothers went on hunger strike at family detention centre in Pennsylvania to protest indefinite detention and the traumatic effects on their children who are with them. They wrote: *"We are 22 mothers who have been detained at Berks Family Residential Center from 270 days to 365 days with children ages 2 to 16 years old, depriving them of having a normal life, knowing that we have prior traumas from our countries."* You can send a message of [support](#).

## REFUSING TO KILL – OR TO BE KILLED – IS NOT A CRIME!

For information and to join the mailing list: [payday@paydaynet.org](mailto:payday@paydaynet.org)

Updates [www.refusingtokill.net](http://www.refusingtokill.net)