

10 Things You Can Do To Support the Struggle for Prisoners' Rights:

1) Contact a prisoners' rights organization and volunteer your time. A comprehensive list of organizations is available from the

Prison Activist Resource Center Box 339, Berkeley, CA 94701

Phone: 510.893.4648, Fax: 510.893.4607

email: parc@prisonactivist.org

web: prisonactivist.org

- 2) Read and respond to newspaper stories. Write letters of encouragement for sympathetic editorials and challenge tough-on-crime op-eds.
- 3) Keep informed about relevant bills/laws and contact your representative to voice your opinion. The following organizations provide guidance in identifying and contacting lawmakers:
 - *Congress.org <u>congress.org</u>
 *Families Against Mandatory Minimums www.famm.org 202-822-6700
- 4) Come to demonstrations and other events as a show of support and to be connected to those who do this work.
- 5) Become informed about conditions of confinement and the movement against the prison industrial complex. Challenge those around you who subscribe to stereotypes about prisoners.
- **6)** If you are an employer, consider hiring former prisoners for job vacancies.
- 7) Invite a prisoners' rights activist to speak at your organization's (high schools, churches, universities, conferences) function.
- **8)** Make a monetary donation to a prisoners' rights organization. Most of these groups have very limited resources.
- **9**) Donate supplies (furniture, computers, equipment) to a prisoners' rights organization.
- 10) Become a pen pal to a person in prison.