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C-ville solidarity

Intro

The predator in Chief, Donald Trump, has defended far-right protesters at the Charlottesville rally, saying they were not all neo-Nazis and white supremacists and laying the blame for the violence equally on what he called the “alt-left”.

-Trump equated the violence of the racists with the bravery of the anti-fascists. He defended the Neo-Nazis when he should have been blaming his deputy assistant Sebastian Gorka for aligning himself with fascists organizations in Europe and Steve Bannon for purporting anti-Semitism and hate.

-The toxic combination of a far right that spans the range from open Nazis to people with access to key White House personnel produced the biggest show of force for American fascism in generations in Charlottesville.

-Trump gave license to the right and since his election, they have crawled from the sewers of bigotry

-For example, after the events on Saturday in Charlottesville, David Duke, the former leader of the Klu Klux Klan remarked:

“Thank you President Trump for your honesty & courage to tell the truth about #Charlottesville & condemn the leftist terrorists in BLM/Antifa”

-The hatred in violence is not on many sides but it’s coming from one side, the neo-Nazis, the alt-right, and the fascists. It’s coming from the police who intimidate immigrants, Muslims, Black people, and the poor.

-The terrorism is coming from the politicians who continue to defund American schools and healthcare.

What happened in Charlottesville?

-What happened in Charlottesville was white terrorism in the name of white supremacy

-What happened in Charlottesville was the celebration of Robert E. Lee, a white man who wanted to preserve the enslavement of Black people

-What happened in Charlottesville was racist intimidation by Neo-Nazis who brought their guns, rifles, clubs, and helmets

-What happened at Charlottesville was the murder of Heather Heyer, an International Workers of the World member and anti-racist

-What happened in Charlottesville was not unique but part of a broader history of settler colonialism, slavery, and occupation by the United States government

Solution

-This is the third year anniversary since Mike Brown's murder by the US police state and that sparked the Black Lives Matter movement in the US and internationally but the movement

-Liberalism cannot defeat the rise of the right
-The American Democrats cannot defeat the rise of the right
-We can!

-Our side is Ferguson, Standing Rock, the Dreamers, and Black Lives Matter
-Our side is Occupy when we were right to point out that the 1% profits from the backs of the working class
-Our side are the thousands of people who marched in the streets of New York City when the officer who murdered Eric Garner was acquitted
-Our side was standing outside the JFK airport after Trump's first Muslim ban when my comrades and I said, "not today"

From Saturday night through Monday, solidarity demonstrations were called in over 400 cities in the United States, an event that has become common since Trump's election last November.

-As a Black socialist, I believe that leftist and socialist politics that offer concrete solutions can be the foundation for defeating the right

We need to sustain that mobilization through Education, Organization and Agitation

-We need to lead teach-ins not just about the racist past but about a radical future that puts people before profits
-We need to form emergency responses so that if the right wing shows up to attack a person of color, a Muslim, or a Jew, that 100 of their friends will stand in their defense
-We need to agitate through mass protest to directly confront and defeat the rising far right which means raising the level of politics

Conclusion

In a NY Times article by Siva Vaidhyanathan:

"...They did not come to offer "speech." They did not come to engage in "debate." They came here to hurt us....This is not about "free speech." It never was. There is no "free speech" if anyone brandishes firearms to intimidate those they despise. You can't argue with the armed. The Nazis told us their intentions clearly on Saturday. This, to them, is about "blood and soil." They are serious. So are we..."

Finally: Mourn the dead, fight for the living. This is the time to unite and fight far-right terror.