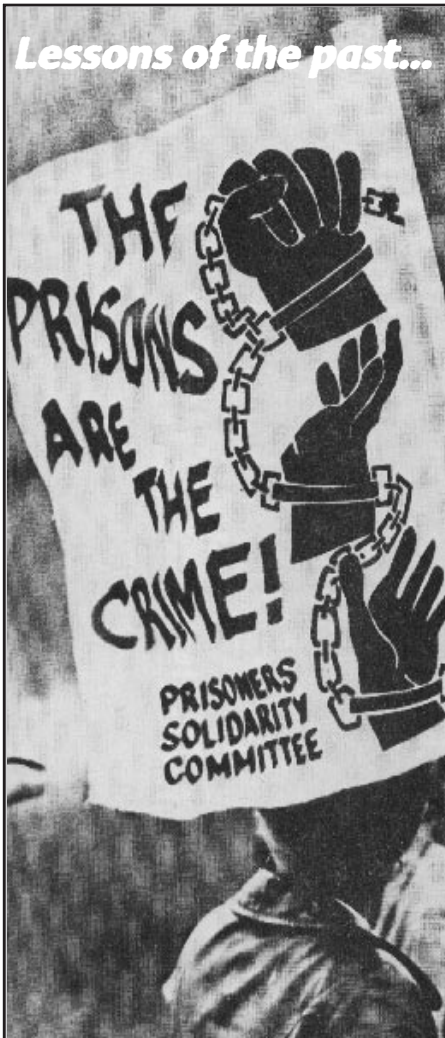


Prison Activist Resource Center

the year in review 1999



Attica Solidarity demonstration, circa 1972

In the 1960's and '70's, a thriving movement for prisoners' rights was able to confront injustice and to institute educational and rehabilitative programs in many prisons and jails across the country. These efforts were an integral part of the larger progressive and revolutionary movements for social change. Despite the repression and serious decline in progressive activism that occurred in the 1980's, activism for social justice and human rights is again on the upswing.

"We are striving for a society in which prisons would not be needed and could not be justified. In order to counter the institutions which devalue and destroy the human spirit, we must organize and agitate on every level, and in every arena."

- from *Criminal Injustice: Confronting the Prison Crisis*

The Prison Activist Resource Center, founded in 1994, is a grassroots collective project. PARC provides practical support for educators and activists by producing materials and building networks for action that expose human rights violations and fundamentally challenge the rapid expansion of the prison industrial complex.

Education is the Key

PARC educates in a variety of ways and arenas. In June, PARC collaborated with other grassroots organizations to organize a teach-in connecting the issues between prison labor, sweatshop labor, and workfare. The teach in consisted of panels, workshops, and a speak out, and was a groundbreaking effort to make these crucial connections in our globalizing corporate economy.

To continue educating the broader community and ourselves, PARC holds monthly video, potluck and discussion nights, where everyone is welcome. Topics range from Puerto Rican Prisoners of War

to HIV and medical neglect in prisons.

PARC is currently organizing a series of high school lesson plans on topics relating to the prison industrial complex. In the SF Bay Area local volunteers will teach the curriculum at various high schools, and the materials will be distributed nationally to prison activists for their area schools.

PARC has hosted informative and inspiring literature tables at numerous events in the SF Bay Area and other cities. This fall we will send out student organizing packets to college campuses across the country to support and



PARC members at a recent anti-racist training. One of our steps towards self education and building a stronger organizing community.