

NBRPC (2022) RESOLUTIONS

Be It Resolved:

1. That the National Black Radical Political Convention (NBRPC) supports the creation and development of independent Black radical political parties and other mass formations attempting to influence the electoral arena. **(Platform)**

Whereas, the struggle for Black Political Power, including the running of candidates for local, county, state, and national office, is a question of shifting the balance of power from the existing capitalist system controlled political electoral structures to the masses of Black and oppressed people, be it therefore resolved that:

- a. The NBRPC will support and encourage Black and oppressed communities to be organized at the base, including by precincts, electoral districts, school districts, city, county, state, and nationally, to increase its power and influence.
- b. The NBRPC will support and encourage Black and oppressed communities to organize mass based social movements around issues important to those communities as the basis of impacting all levels of the electoral process.
- c. The NBRPC will support and encourage Black and oppressed communities to adopt Black radical political candidates for office from the ranks of the Black working class, progressive activists who have served the interest of the community, and/or from the same in other oppressed nationalities — stemming from their organized mass based social movements targeting issues important to those communities.
- d. The NBRPC recognizes that the building of these mass social movements and organizations targeting issues at the base may take the form of but not be limited to local, county, state, regional, or national political parties or other forms of mass organization.

- e. The NBRPC will include in its work education on the importance that all of these mass social movements be independent of the democratic, republican, or other capitalist political parties and institutions.
2. That the NBRPC supports the creation and development of independent Black radical unions and labor organizations. We encourage Black workers to be organized by industries inside their work places and unions historically, such as the League of Revolutionary Black Workers. **(Platform)**
3. That the NBRPC endorse and supports the Palestinian liberation movement, their right to self-determination and the Palestinian peoples' right to return. **(Platform)**
4. That the NBRPC endorse and actively supports open primaries and ranked choice voting as more inclusive and democratic tools for electing political representatives and increasing voter engagement. **(Strategic)**
5. That the NBRPC Support Black radical, revolutionary and Pan-Africanist Movements on the continent of Africa and throughout the African Diaspora (for example, Haiti) who are continuing the fight against colonialism, neo-colonialism and for the genuine liberation of Africans (Blacks) from the remnants of Euro-American imperialism and colonial exploitation and oppression. **(Platform)**
6. That the NBRPC calls for the closure and dismantling of the United States military apparatus and network of military bases in Africa dubbed the U.S. African Command or (AFRICOM). **(Platform)**
7. That the NBRPC support and endorse Black radical political candidates who are utilizing the ballot line of the Democratic Party, but who are clearly not a part of the Democratic Party bureaucracy and/or establishment. NBRPC support and endorsement will be based on a candidates standing within their community (history, organizational connections and development, social practice) and their public recognition and support of the NBRPC. **(Strategic)**
8. That the NBRPC officially endorse and support the campaign of Carla 'Coffee' Wright for the U.S. Senate. **(Position)**
9. That as part of the task associated with creating a newsletter, the NBRPC will organize and convene a committee for that purpose and to develop other media. **(Strategic)**
10. That, in furtherance of a NBRPC core principle (freedom for all political prisoners), the NBRPC provide mutual aid support for political prisoners as well. **(Strategic)**

11. That the NBRPC endorse the **Spirit of Mandela** movement (<https://spiritofmandela.org/>)
(Position)

12. That the NBRPC endorse the **Peoples Senate** initiative. **(Position)**

13. That the United States settler state was established by war and violent theft of Indigenous land, and importation of enslaved Africans who were forced to provide free labor using systematic, unspeakable physical violence such as lynching, rape, race riots, torture and murders by police forces. **(Strategic)**

- ✓ Whereas, These forms of violence constituted the method in which structures of settler colonialism, white supremacy and racial capitalism were established, reproduced and thrived, and are the methods by which the U.S. capitalist state maintains its dominance globally using military interventions to control the labor, land and mineral wealth of the vast majority of the world's peoples; and
- ✓ Whereas, In the contemporary period, the structural crisis of capitalism in its neoliberal form has resulted in a crisis of legitimacy for capitalist rulers making the use of force a more permanent and obvious strategy for maintaining their dominance; and
- ✓ Whereas, Vast amounts of the people's resources are now required to be directly transferred from the people to the pockets of the transnational corporations that make up the military industrial complex that requires military spending now at over \$800 billion per year; and

Therefore, be it resolved that:

It is clear that we are at war and that in order to be effective and not confuse the reasons and methods for participating in bourgeoisie forms of democracy administered by the settler-state, it is necessary to incorporate the following approaches:

- a. Message framing - There can be no ideological ambiguity – electoral campaign work must be clear with language that cannot be co-opted by the state or opportunists.
- b. Radical/revolutionary engagement must unequivocally identify issues, their source, and the radical approach for addressing those issues. With that approach not only are forces clear with their consciousness raising activity, but everyone that is engaged will be clear where you stand.
- c. Struggle is for power not reform. We make demands against the state and system, but as part of a longer-term programmatic process for winning power. Participation in electoral system must be seen as an aspect of the process of building dual and contending power.

- d. The entry point for participating in electoral process must be through organization. We must reject candidate centered politics. Engagement with electoral system by Black/ radical forces must be informed by a collective power-building strategy that is part of a broader strategy for building independent popular power. Individualistic, candidate-centered politics lack accountability and are inherently corruptible.
 - e. Issue discrimination – focus on issues that if won will reflect a significant shift in power to the people.
 - f. Focus on local races – county commissions, city councils, school board, mayors. The emphasis on the local is connected to the inevitable disintegration of the U.S. state. With the possession of some degree of local state power, we will be able to maintain some support for the independent non-state structures that we must build. The rationale for this is that as a settler colonial state, the U.S. is and has always been a fragile and inauthentic state that will unravel as its’ legitimation crisis deepens.
14. That, Patriarchy is a system of exploitation and oppression of women, creating unequal power relations between women and men in society, the workplace, the community, the home and the family. It upholds capitalism and imperialism as systems of exploitation and national oppression as well as white supremacy and male domination. **(Platform)**
- a. And whereas: Within already oppressed communities, patriarchy is embedded as a socialization process creating a culture of male supremacy in its various forms;
 - b. And whereas: Patriarchy also enforces male supremacy in the form of heterosexism resulting in the oppression of humanity based upon sexual orientation, gender identity, ableism, and other non-conforming expressions of life;
 - c. And whereas: Patriarchy distorts family structure under male supremacy fostering that a man as the head of a household or family as the only “legitimate” and/or healthy form of a family unit;
 - d. And whereas; Patriarchy denies the right of children to be protected against all forms of exploitation, abuse, powerlessness, poverty, and voicelessness;
 - e. And Whereas: Patriarchy is co-constitutive with notions of property and racially gendered capitalism and colonialism and has violently replaced matriarchal systems in Africa and the
 - f. And whereas: Patriarchy is a form of top down, leader-centered, undemocratic, and dominating power often characterized by violence;

- g. And whereas Patriarchy in addition to its central purpose to dominate and exploit women and particularly Black women, also has a commitment to dominance and exploitation through violence that places Black men and boys at great risk from the State and one another;
- h. And whereas Patriarchy is something we all must unlearn, we must commit to including anti-patriarchy in our liberational educational program;
- i. And whereas Patriarchy offers “women” and “property” as synonymous terms, we understand the overturning of Roe v Wade as its logical extension and that is the ongoing violation to bodily autonomy of women, femmes, gender non-binary;
- j. We, therefore call upon all liberation movements and social forces seeking transformation of society to end capitalism, imperialism, and patriarchy and to defeat these oppressive systems and to end all manifestations of such in the form of Women’s oppression, homophobia, transphobia, queer oppression, ableism, and the like;
- k. And that the National Black Radical Political Convention (NBRPC) adopt and uphold this resolution as a guideline to its work to build black radical political power in Black communities across the US and beyond.....

15. That the political work and community engagement of the NBRPC be conducted and processed through the international lens of Self-Determination according to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, article 1, which reads in part:

‘All peoples have the right of self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.’ **(Strategic)**

16. That in regards to AB3121 (California Reparations Task Force), the NBRPC supports the following:

- a. Freedom of Political Prisoners to be included as part of Reparations.
- b. Funding and fiscal support for Youth Organizers from impacted communities.
- c. Active and visible Community Representatives must be included as members of the Reparations Task Force itself. **(Position)**

17. That the NBRPC recognizes the severity and persistence of chronic fratricidal violence within the Black community as an issue that must be addressed. **(Platform)**