

L1972
May 19 1968
Sm-11

COALITION TO ABOLISH STRESS

STRESS is a direct and murderous attack on the Black community of Detroit.. We demand that the STRESS officers be brought to trial for the murders of the 15 victims and the assault of numerous other victims lucky enough to be only wounded. Reform or modification of the STRESS program will not end the murderous or racist character of STRESS. Only the complete, total, and immediate end to STRESS will end the killing. The petition and injunction launched against STRESS are legitimate efforts to end it and should be supported. However, STRESS will not be abolished and the power of Lucas and Gribbs will not be halted only in the courts, but in the streets! Because STRESS is a racist threat to the Black community, the African-Americans of Detroit must bring their social weight into action in defense of their lives. No sheriff, court or jury will end STRESS unless Blacks and all others opposed organize themselves into massive, legal demonstrations, rallies and protests demanding an end to STRESS. We seek to build a Coalition of the broadest forces possible around the demand "END STRESS NOW!" and urge all Black Detroiters and others to participate in the decision making and building of the coalition and actions needed to end STRESS: with the aim of making the streets truly safe for Blacks in Detroit.

Submitted by:

Denise Glover, Black Belt Enterprise
Terry Cammon, Postal Street Academy
Maceo Dixon, Socialist Workers Party
Clarence Elam, Black Hand Society
James McNeil, Southeastern Black Caucus
Lonnie Dee, Black Panther Party
Sonebeyetta Amungo, Republic of New Africa
Clayton
~~Artz~~ Artz, Young Socialist Alliance
Pam Washington, Mumford Committee to Free Angela Davis
Larry Simmons, HPCC
Trudy Hawkins, Mumford African-Americans for Jenness-Pulley
Portia James, WSU

For over 400 years Black people have been struggling for survival in America against various forms of oppression. The leadership of these struggles have implemented various tactics to be applied to our liberation. Because we have not been able and still not able to control our own lives, others are doing just that: either programming us or snatching the life out of our beings.

STRESS is only another aspect of African-Americans being controlled, oppressed and killed. Understanding that of the 15 victims of STRESS 14 were Black; understanding that all of us are potential victims of STRESS; it is imperative that the entire Black community be mobilized into a powerful force to immediately abolish STRESS. Only the visible of thousands and tens of thousands of African-Americans and others can bring a halt to the "legal" murders that are running rampant.

Therefore it is proposed that this anti-STRESS coalition build a demonstration bringing out the Black community and others who support our demand for the immediate abolishment of STRESS.

It is proposed that this demonstration be called for May 19th, Malcolm X's Birthday. To strike out and rid ourselves of one aspect of our oppression is a true tribute to Malcolm X.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. Anti-STRESS committees should be organized in the high schools, within Block-clubs, unions, at our jobs, campuses, churches, within other organizations or wherever possible.

2. These anti-STRESS committees should organize rallies, teach-ins, press interviews, picket lines and speaking engagements to reach the broadest sectors of the Black community possible, and reach out to the rest of the Detroit community. The coalition should publish literature and material getting out the word on the true character of STRESS. These are means to build May 19th and build enthusiasm that we can and will succeed in abolishing STRESS.

3. We must continually reach out to other organizations and individuals to endorse this demonstration as well as invite them into our coalition on the basis of the principles we have laid down.

Submitted by:

Denise Glover, Black Belt Enterprise

Terry Cammon, Postal Street Academy

Maceo Dixon, Socialist Workers Party

Clarence Elam, Black Hand Society

James McNeil, Southeastern Black Caucus

Lonnie Dee, Black Panther Party

Sonebeyetta Amungo, Republic of New Africa

~~Lee~~ Artz, Young Socialist Alliance

Pam Washington, Mumford Committee to Free Angela Davis

Larry Simmons, Highland Park C.C.

Trudy Hawkins, African-Americans for Jenness-Pulley

Portia James, Wayne State University