

The Civil Liberties Legal Defense Fund

67 Winthrop Street, Cambridge, Mass. 02138

Dear Friend,

Haldeman, Ehrlichman, Mitchell and Mardian -- Guilty!

And many conclude: "The system of justice is working."

Almost daily, we hear words like these from politicians, editorial writers and TV commentators - usually accompanied with a sigh of relief.

We are reminded that many Nixon administration officials have been indicted; that some have been convicted; and that Nixon's resignation has demonstrated the effectiveness of our governmental processes.

But why then, if our constitutional machinery is running so smoothly, did a Federal Judge in St. Paul recently dismiss charges against two leaders of the Wounded Knee occupation, saying:

"The prosecution in this case was guilty of misconduct; [his conduct] was certainly not in accord with the highest standards that we ought to expect of those officers that represent what I used to think was the majesty of the United States Government."

For the past seven years, law enforcement agencies have repeatedly tried to use the courts to silence political opposition: Spock, the New York Panther 21, Ellsberg, Harrisburg, Attica, Wounded Knee, to name just a few of the better known political trials.

And how is the justice system being abused?

- Prosecutors mislead grand juries into indicting dissenters as conspirators who "threaten national security."
- Infiltrators and provocateurs surface regularly as witnesses for the prosecution.
- Evidence necessary to the defense is withheld or altered.

During these seven years, while the government has used

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CLLDF

A tax exempt national civil liberties fund.

these kinds of tactics, the Civil Liberties Legal Defense Fund (CLLDF) has been at the forefront of the struggle to protect our liberties. Its support goes to those facing contrived charges, and to those whose rights have been systematically denied - women, minorities and prisoners.

And it's not just the well-known who receive CLLDF support. Hundreds of poor defendants and plaintiffs have received grants - people who receive little public attention, but whose lives and freedoms must be protected if ours are to be secure.

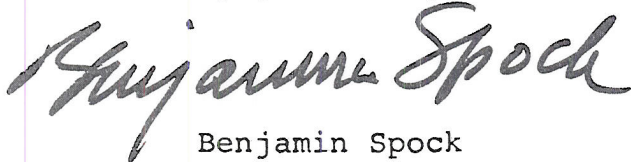
In many cases, CLLDF has been among the first to provide help to those facing 'new' civil liberties issues.

For example, in the late 1960's, CLLDF was one of the first organizations to financially assist those challenging the selective service and military laws. Now, in the mid 1970's, CLLDF is moving into the area of economic/civil rights by helping a tenants group in its court battle to block a closed-door decision to raise rents by as much as 25%.

Please take a few minutes to read the enclosed brochure. We think that you'll agree with us that CLLDF is an effective and innovative defender of our civil liberties.

Your tax deductible check for \$15.00, or whatever you can afford, will be put to immediate and worthwhile use.

Very gratefully,



Benjamin Spock
Pediatrician and Author



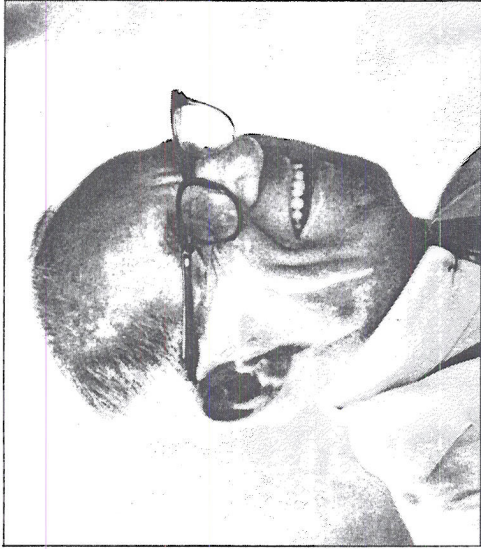
Denise Levertov
Poet and Teacher



Robert A. Rosenthal
Chairperson, CLLDF

P.S. The cost of eliminating duplication is very high. We apologize if you receive more than one of our letters. If you do, why not pass one along to a friend. CLLDF can use all the help you can give.

By filling out the enclosed envelope and sending it to us along with a check for \$15.00*, or whatever you can afford, you can be a part of CLLDF's essential work.



When the Justice Department came up with conspiracy, anti-war activists came up with CLLDF.

LBJ was under heavy pressure from anti-war people. He wanted them stopped. So he turned to the Justice Department, and they came up with conspiracy.

In 1968, Dr. Benjamin Spock and four others were indicted for conspiring to counsel young men to avoid the draft.

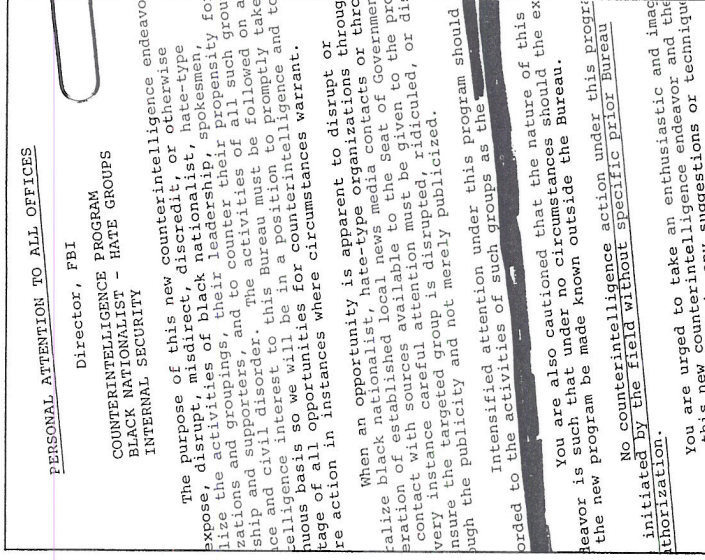
There was little experience then at providing for defense committees. Conspiracy indictments were new.

CLLDF became the first group to come to the defense of the 'Boston 5' — raising money for court expenses, and raising the legal issues of the trial.

Since then, we've all come to understand that the real conspirators were in the government; and they not only conspired against the anti-war movement, but against others protesting injustice as well. Indictment followed indictment.

Chicago. Catonsville. Harrisburg. New York Panther 21. Wounded Knee. CLLDF was there.

As long as law enforcement agencies keep coming up with these kinds of conspiracies, CLLDF is going to keep coming up with help.



The FBI called it COINTELPRO. Iberia Hampton says it killed her son.

In late 1969, after a successful nation-wide Moratorium, and a huge March on Washington, the anti-war movement was at its peak of optimism.

At the same time, the black movement was dealt a mortal blow. Fred Hampton and Mark Clark were killed by Chicago police.

But who really killed them?

Recent disclosures tell of an FBI program known as COINTELPRO (Counterintelligence Program), which was designed to disrupt what J. Edgar Hoover called "black nationalist hate groups."

Then, Fred Hampton's former bodyguard admitted that he was an FBI informer.

And then, the *Chicago Tribune* learned that his contact was the Chicago chief of COINTELPRO.

Lawyers representing the Hampton family

have come to CLLDF for help — to vindicate Fred Hampton, and to prove that the United States government conspired with the State of Illinois to kill him.



General Thieu wants these students back in South Vietnam. They want asylum here.

Vietnam. A war that won't go away.

Many think it's all over. For most people, we've either won, or we lost.

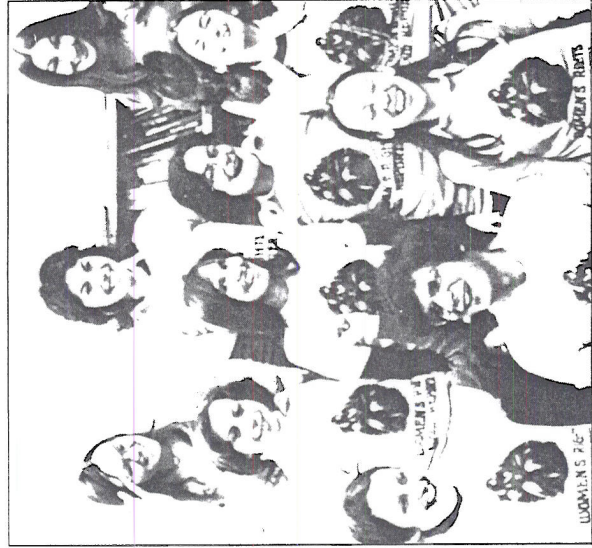
But the war is not over, and this group of Vietnamese students in the U.S. knows it isn't. For years, they've been telling us of oppression and torture in South Vietnam, and of the need to cut off aid to the Saigon Generals.

For their efforts, they are being arrested and dragged before deportation hearings. For their defense, they are seeking political asylum in the United States.

No, the war is not over. It's now being fought by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Seven years later, CLLDF finds itself returning to its earliest commitment — making sure that those who oppose America's role in Vietnam have the freedom to speak their minds. And to stay out of jail doing it.

*Your contribution is now tax deductible.



... and not only cases. CLLDF supports projects, too.

When the Women's Rights Law Reporter needed money to publish a quarterly on women's legal issues, they came to CLLDF.

In 1975, with prices and unemployment soaring, a 20% increase in rent could be devastating. When a Massachusetts tenants group came to CLLDF for an emergency grant to prepare a court battle to block the raise, they got it. At issue: the economic and civil rights of tenants.

And CLLDF made it possible for some other groups to publish information on selective service and military laws; and for community law offices to function without having to charge large fees.

In fact, CLLDF is the only civil liberties organization which allocates funds to legal projects as well as to cases.

It isn't enough to protect civil liberties on a case-by-case basis. People who make long-term commitments often need help, too. And by helping them, we help many.

Won't you help us maintain our 'people's'-foundation? For \$15.00, or whatever you can afford, you can do what most family and corporate foundations think is too risky. You can help protect civil liberties.

A partial list of cases and projects which CLLDF has supported.

CONSPIRACY	Boston 5	Massachusetts
	Catonsville 9	Maryland
	Chicago 8	Illinois
	Harrisburg 7	Pennsylvania
	Kent State Students	Ohio
	Panther 21	New York
	Oakland 7	California
WOMEN'S RIGHTS		
	Center for Women's Legal Studies	Massachusetts
	Women v. Connecticut	Connecticut
	Woods v. Welfare Board	Nevada
	Women and the Law Conference	California
PRISONERS RIGHTS		
	Attica Brothers Legal Defense	New York
	Prison Law Collective	California
	Soledad Brothers	California
	Charlotte 3	North Carolina
	Boston Bail Project	Massachusetts
INDIAN RIGHTS		
	Wounded Knee Offense/Defense	South Dakota
	Pitt River Nation v. U.S.	California
SELECTIVE SERVICE		
	U.S. v. Chavez	California
	U.S. v. Mulloy	Kentucky
	U.S. v. Sisson	Massachusetts
	Draft Information Centers	Nationwide
	Selective Service Law Panels	Nationwide
MILITARY		
	Cole v. Laird	Texas
	Cortright v. Resor	New York
	Ft. Jackson 8	South Carolina
	Military Law Project	California
	S.E. Asia Law Project	The Philippines
	Southern Legal Action Movement	Georgia
	U.S. V. Priest	Washington, D.C.
PUBLICATIONS		
	Minimizing Racism in Jury Trials	California
	National Draft Counselling Directory	Illinois
	Turning the Regs Around	California
	Women's Rights Law Reporter	New Jersey
OTHER		
	Harlan Coal Miners Legal Defense Fund	Kentucky
	Mountain People's Rights	West Virginia
	Community Law Offices	Nationwide
	People's Law Schools	Nationwide

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Officers

- Dr. Robert A. Rosenthal, *President*
- Mary-Bliss Matteson, *Treasurer*
- Dr. George E. Hein, *Clerk*
- Michael Segal, *Executive Director*
- Nancy Gertner, *Staff Counsel*

Your contribution is now tax deductible.

For a better idea of what CLLDF does.

"I've learned a lot of things throughout this trial . . . it's been a bad year for justice."

With these words, Judge Fred Nichol summed-up his dismissal of the charges against two leaders of the occupation of Wounded Knee.

And what had the Judge learned? That the federal prosecutor (whose job he once had), the FBI (an institution which he once "re-verified"), and the Justice Department (which he once served) had all conspired in his courtroom to deny Russell Means and Dennis Banks their constitutionally-guaranteed rights.



The Civil Liberties Legal Defense Fund (CLLDF), along with its supporters, has for years assisted poor people and others willing or forced to stand trial in the common struggle to protect rights and liberties.

Since 1968, hundreds of defendants, plaintiffs and legal projects have come to CLLDF for urgently-needed funds.

This brochure includes a partial list of some of those who have benefited from the support of CLLDF.

Through CLLDF, you can give to a wide range of people in need of your help, not always able to ask you for it directly, yet always involved with the vital issues which affect us all.