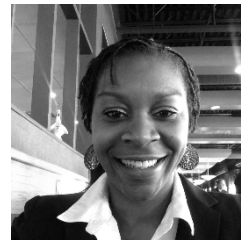


## **What Happened to Sandy Bland?**

### **LET'S FIGHT TO END THIS DEADLY RACIST SYSTEM!**

“Black Lives Matter” activist Sandy Bland, 28, was about to start a new job at her former college, Prairie View A&M. Then Texas state trooper Encinia pulled her over for failing to signal a lane change. He wrote a ticket, then quickly escalated things: threatening to “light her up” with a taser, ordering her out of the car, roughly arresting her and refusing to say why. She called a friend from jail, angry but hopeful. She arranged to get bonded out. Then, on Monday morning, July 13, she was found dead in her cell, apparently strangled with a trash bag.



We agree with Sandy’s friends that this was no “suicide” but another racist lynching. Sandy shouldn’t have been targeted. Or stopped. Or arrested. Or held on bail. She shouldn’t have been in that cell.

The FBI and Texas Rangers are supposedly “investigating” but there can be no “justice” for Sandy or the many, many other victims of racist police terror.

The capitalist legal system exists mainly to protect the wealth of the few from the masses who created it. The rulers are terrified that that we the masses will rise and fight for a society that meets our needs, not theirs. So they use the courts and cops, surveillance and violence, to try and scare us.

This racist terror intensifies during systemic crises, like now, as the rulers try to keep profits up by driving our standard of living down. Nearly 25% of all kids in the US live beneath the ridiculously low “poverty line.” Nearly 40% of all black kids are officially poor.

“Sandy was a soldier,” said one of her friends. She fought back. We should too! Isn’t that dangerous? Not as dangerous as remaining passive! We must fight to end this deadly racist capitalist system.

**Another world is possible:** A world without money, borders, exploitation or class. A communist world based on sharing work and its fruits “from each according to ability, to each according to need.”

On this foundation, with constant political struggle, racism and nationalism, and the very ideas of “races” and “nations,” will become relics of the past. When the masses rule, there will be no place for police who function as an occupying army.



#### **Racism is a cornerstone of capitalism.**

Without racist terror, capitalism couldn’t have spread from 17<sup>th</sup> century Europe, forcing the commoners of three continents into wage or chattel slavery. It couldn’t have expropriated and decimated indigenous populations in Africa and the Americas.

Without racism, imperialism couldn’t have extended the reach of capitalism to every corner of the globe. It couldn’t have massacred millions in the Congo, the Philippines, Algeria, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Iraq.

Without racism, capitalists couldn’t have defeated the rebellious masses when they rose up in Barbados, Virginia, Jamaica, Haiti, India, El Salvador, and England itself.

Without racism, a tiny handful of capitalist exploiters could not, today, maintain its deadly hold on the massive and mighty working class.

#### **To end racism, we must unite as one international working class to destroy capitalism.**

The rulers are waging an intense ideological struggle to hide this truth. They are throwing us some crumbs of reform -- like indicting a few killer cops -- to convince us that their system is worth fighting for when they launch their imperialist wars.

We can’t allow ourselves to be distracted or misled! We must struggle sharply to keep reformism, racism and nationalism from blinding workers to our common class interest in mobilizing the masses for communist revolution.

**We can best honor Sandy Bland’s memory by fighting to end the material basis of the racism that killed her. Let’s fight for a communist world in which all our lives will truly matter!**

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