#### A National Call for Moral Revival

CENTRAL KENTUCKY COUNCIL FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE

by Margaret Gabriel, Editor

The Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival is active in 32 states, but the activists in Kentucky feel a special connection to the campaign because Lyndon Johnson launched the 1964 War on Poverty after sitting on a Martin County, Ky., porch with Tom Fletcher and his family. Each of the participating states is organizing activities based on the needs of that state, according to Tayna Fogle, who is one of three co-chairs of the campaign in Kentucky.

Tayna also works as an organizer for Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, which has been instrumental in the promotion of the campaign because of the similarities of their missions. "The PPC focus in Kentucky has been on health care, pensions and taxes, which KFTC has been working on for 36 years," Tayna said.

The efforts of the Poor People's Campaign in Kentucky have drawn national attention because activists were denied access to the Capitol, the only state participating in the campaign that has drawn such action.

When they arrived at the Capitol in Frankfort on June 4 and on June 11, activists were told they could only enter two at a time, which they saw

Gun Violence In America as of 6-27-18

(excluding suicide)

2018 (year to date)

Killed 6,996 Wounded 13,288

**2017** (annual)

Killed 15,612 Wounded 31,217

Source: www.gunviolencearchive.org

as a violation of their constitutional rights. When they were told they could gather on June 18 if they obtained a permit, Tayna refused, saying they had no need for a permit because of their constitutional right to gather in the rotunda.

"I've been in the governor's office many times," she said. "But last Monday was the first time I ever had that door closed in my face."

Tayna said the 40 days of action in Kentucky developed a feeling of community among protesters in the state. "In Kentucky, we learned that if something affects you, it affects me," she said. "We organized people of all economic levels, races, all walks of faith, and ages."

Forty days of action for the PPC



July 2018

Tayna Fogle

launched on May 14 and culminated with a rally in Washington, DC on June 22. Two buses of activists from Kentucky attended the rally. Tayna will report on the rally for the August issue of *Peaceways*.

### CKCPJ supports PFLAG

Because June was PRIDE month, CKCPJ is promoting the mission of PFLAG. When it was established in 1973, the PFLAG acronym stood for Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. Since then the group has expanded its support to include bisexual and transgender people. This text is from the home page of the PFLAG website:

"People who attend come from different levels of acceptance – from scared and confused to comfortable and supportive. All are welcome no matter where you are in your journey or family struggle, no matter where you live.

- We are a support group for parents, families and friends with loved ones who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or questioning.
- We are LGBTQ persons who want to be a part of a supportive community.
- We are straight spouses with LGBTQ partners.
- We learn about LGBTQ-related issues in our families and in our society.
- We have meetings that are safe and nonjudgmental where attendees and conversations remain confidential.
- Through support, education, and advocacy we foster dialogue, create safe environments, and open hearts and minds so that our LGBTQ family members and friends can live in a world that is safe and inclusive.

"Research and experience overwhelmingly show that LGBTQ youths with accepting families and strong support networks have better outcomes than those who do not, with respect to virtually all measures of health and well-being. This fact is the underlying motivation for PFLAG."

## Statistics about gun violence do not include suicide. Reader believes they should

by Steve Olshewsky

In last month's article about gun violence in schools, Penny Christian, vice president of the 16th District PTA and a member of the CKCPJ *Peaceways* committee was quoted: "Ninety percent of the solutions to school violence start at home and in the neighborhoods. The council's charge is not to figure out how to keep kids from getting shot, but to keep them safe before they even get in the building." An inset reported 15,612 gun deaths nationally in 2017, and another 5,740 in the first five months of 2018, but these numbers do not include suicide deaths caused by guns.

Child safety, in the home or elsewhere, is much more dependent upon restricting access to guns than the highly publicized third-party shootings suggest. If Penny's stated charge is taken seriously, or if anyone cares "to figure out how to keep kids from getting shot," the role of guns in suicide must be soberly considered.

More children are killed by guns in their own hands than in the hands of others. Even if not allowing for the tragedy of accidents, gun access arguably encourages children to take their own lives.

The numbers are staggering whether or not the argument is entertained, so start with the bare facts. The same source cited last month as reporting 15,612 gun deaths in 2017 notes that another 22,000 (41 percent more than the first number) suicides using guns are not included.

More people use guns to kill themselves than all other methods combined. It should be no surprise that suicide rates reflect the rates of gun ownership (see inset).

These suicides occur disproportionately among juveniles. Again, guns are the modality of choice among teenagers.

A Houston study reported that in 2001 about half of young people who survived a suicide attempt made their attempt within five minutes of their first impulse to do so (24 percent) or within another 15 minutes (a second 24 percent). Ninety percent of suicide survivors never again attempted suicide.

The immediacy and finality of a gun presents gun ownership as the primary suspect in most juvenile suicides. Harvard's Chan School of Public Health reports extensively on the overwhelming case that a lethal environment shapes

individual behavior. https://www.hsph. harvard.edu/magazine/ magazine\_article/gunssuicide/

In a hospital, unable to stop my finger from bleeding, the doctor's first question was if I smoked cigarettes. What did that have to do with my finger? The doctor said smoking is the number one health hazard within my power to change. Perhaps doctors should ask patients if they own a gun.

The August issue of Peaceways will include a response from Penny Christian concerning Steve's question.

| VARIABLE                              | States with<br>the Highest<br>Rates of Gun<br>Ownership | States with<br>the Lowest<br>Rates of Gun<br>Ownership |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Average<br>population<br>2001–2005    | 49 million  | 50 million   |
| Percent of<br>households<br>with guns | 47  | 15   |
| Total firearm<br>suicides             | 16,577  | 4,257  |
| Total<br>nonfirearm<br>suicides       | 9,172   | 9,259  |

Source: Miller, M., and Hemenway, D. "Guns and Suicide in the United States." New England Journal of Medicine. 2008: 359:672-3.

#### The Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice

Board of Directors: Rebecca Ballard DiLoreto, Rick Clewett, Bilal El-Amin, Mary Ann Ghosal (secretary), Heather Hadi, Randolph Hollingsworth, Rahul Karanth, Steven Lee Katz (treasurer), Richard Mitchell, Bruce Mundy, Steve Pavey, Nadia Rasheed, Rabbi Uri Smith, Teddi Smith-Robillard, Craig Wilkie. Peaceways Staff: Margaret Gabriel (editor); Penny Christian, Gail Koehler, Betsy Neale, Mary Ann Ghosal, Jim Trammel (proofreaders). The views expressed in Peaceways are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of CKCPJ.

Member Organizations: ACLU-Central Kentucky Chapter; Ahava Center for Spiritual Living; Amnesty International, UK Chapter; Bahá'ís of Lexington; Berea Friends Meeting; Bluegrass Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO; Bluegrass Domestic Violence Program; Bluegrass United Church of Christ; Catholic Action Center; Central Christian Church; Commission for Peace and Justice, Catholic Diocese of Lexington; Gay and Lesbian Services Organization; Humanist Forum of Central Kentucky; Hunter Presbyterian Church; Islamic Society of Central Kentucky; Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass; Kentuckians for the Commonwealth; Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, Central Kentucky Chapter; Kentucky Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights; Kentucky Resources Council; Lexington Fair Housing Council; Lexington Fairness; Lexington Friends Meeting; Lexington Hispanic Association (Asociación de Hispanos Unidos); Lexington Labor Council, Jobs with Justice Committee; Lexington Living Wage Campaign; Lexington Socialist Student Union; Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church; Newman Center at UK; North East Lexington Initative; One World Film Festival; Students for Peace and Earth Justice (Bluegrass Community and Technical College); Peacecraft; The Plantory; Progress (student group at Transylvania University); Second Presbyterian Church; Shambhala Center; Sustainable Communities Network; Union Church at Berea; Unitarian Universalist Church of Lexington; United Nations Association, Bluegrass Chapter.



Peaceways is published 10 times a year by the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice, 1588 Leestown Rd., Ste. 130-138, Lexington KY 40511. The next issue of Peaceways will appear in August. Deadline for calendar items is July 15. Contact (859) 488-1448 or email peacewayseditor@gmail.com.

### Calendar for Peace & Justice

The council seeks to promote dialogue as a path to peace and justice. Consequently, we announce events that we do not necessarily endorse.

#### Mon., July 2

**Lexington Advocacy Team** 6 p.m. Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Lobbying efforts to prevent war (especially nuclear) with North Korea.

#### Tues., July 3

**CKCPJ Peace Action committee,** 5:30 p.m. Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Ongoing discussion of schools, non-violence training, summer youth jobs, and other peace-related activities.

#### Fri., July 6

Black Lens Summer Film Series
7 p.m. Lyric Theatre, 300 East Third St.,
Lexington. Where the Wild Things Are. Free.

#### Tues., July 10

**CKCPJ single-payer health care committee,** 5:30 p.m. Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Discussion will include promotion of the single-payer health care concept, how it will benefit citizens, and how it can be promoted to lawmakers.

#### Tues., July 10

PFLAG Central Kentucky, 6:30-8:30 p.m., St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 2025 Bellefonte Dr., Lexington. June was PRIDE month across the globe. Lexington's PRIDE Festival just keeps growing. What is it like to be a part of this community and to be surrounded by supporters? Let's talk about our PRIDE experiences.

#### Tues., July 10

M L King Neighborhood Association Meeting 7 p.m. Living Arts and Science Center, 362 N. Martin Luther King Blvd, Lexington

#### Fri., July 13

**Black Lens Summer Film Series** 7 p.m. Lyric Theatre, 300 East Third St., Lexington. *The Butler.* Free.

Support CKCPJ by linking your Kroger Plus card to #16439 at krogercommunityrewards.com

#### Mon., July 16

CKCPJ steering committee meeting,

5:30 p.m. Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Discussion will include planning for the upcoming committee meetings, proposals for new initiatives and continuing action.

#### Thurs., July 19

William Wells Brown Neighborhood Association meeting, 6 p.m. William Wells Brown Community Center.

#### Fri., July 20

#### Funk Fridays featuring C The Beat,

6 p.m. Lyric Theatre, 300 East Third St., Lexington. Familes can enjoy family fun time. Starting at 8 p.m., the event will officially begin in the Deweese Street Community Room. Tickets \$5, children 12 and under free. For more information, contact the Lyric Theatre box office. To purchase tickets, call (859) 280-2218.

#### Fri., July 27

#### **Black Lens Summer Film Series**

7 p.m. Lyric Theatre, 300 East Third St., Lexington. *Star Wars: Rogue One.* Free

#### Sat., Aug. 4

Back To School Rally 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Various locations, Lexington. Sponsored by the YMCA, the rally at Shiloh Baptist, 237 E. Fifth St., is one of 16 rallies that will be held throughout Lexington that day. They will include such activities as bingo, inflatables, guest speakers, crafts and games. Distribution of backpacks and school supplies will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For the location of a rally near you see ymcaky.org.

#### Mon., Aug. 6

**Lexington Advocacy Team** 6 p.m. Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Discussion of the lobbying efforts needed for the end of 2018 and the beginning of 2019.

#### Tues., Aug. 14

PFLAG Central Kentucky, 6:30-8:30 p.m., St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 2025 Bellefonte Dr., Lexington. Topic TBA, but the speaker will be followed by a confidential support group meeting.

#### Tues., Aug. 7

5:30 p.m. Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Ongoing discussion of schools, non-violence training, discussion of the summer youth jobs program and its effectiveness, and other peace-related activity.

#### Tues., Aug. 14

**CKCPJ single-payer health care committee,** 5:30 p.m. Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Discussion will include promotion of the single-payer health care concept, how it will benefit citizens, and how it can be promoted to lawmakers.

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William Wells Brown Neighborhood Association meeting, 6 p.m. William Wells Brown Community Center

#### Mon., Aug. 20

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5:30 p.m. Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Discussion will include planning for the upcoming committee meetings, proposals for new initiatives and continuing action.

#### Fri.-Sun., Sept. 7-9

**Roots and Heritage Festival.** The festival will be celebrating its 30th annivesary with weekend events and activities at the Lyric Theatre and along Elm Tree Lane.

Afflict the comfortable; give comfort to the afflicted.

# FACTFULNESS: Ten Reasons We're Wrong About the World– And Why Things Are Better Than You Think.

By Hans Rosling, with Anna Rosling Rönnlund and Ola Rosling. April 3, 2018. 329 pages. Flatiron Books, New York.

Reviewed by Jim Trammel

Quickly now: What percentage of the world's one-year-olds have received any kind of vaccination? 20 percent, 50 percent, or 80 percent?

The correct answer (you'll get it in a minute, quit fidgeting) is the most startling of the eye-openers in this instant *New York Times* bestseller since its April publication date. It's the most exciting read on statistics since *Freakonomics*, and I eat this stuff up.

In addition to the statistics, Rosling will leave you encouraged about the state of the world, and likely slice up your thinking to more closely resemble that of Bill Gates, who has championed and distributed this book to world-changers all over the globe.

You listen to news media (who over-dramatize), politicians (often clueless beyond their agenda), and people with a cause (who slant facts their way), you're not getting facts you can rely on. And you're subject to errors of interpretation inspired by generalizations, fear, or mistaken expectation of how trends develop. Warped data leads to flawed judgments and bad policy. You pay for believing anything that isn't true.

Income is the key to understanding the world, Rosling says. There are basically four strata: Level 1 is dirt-poor, no-roads, drinkable-water-is-miles-away poverty. On Level 2, you probably have a bicycle and some kind of footwear. On Level 3, things are better still – you have a refrigerator, and you likely went to school. And Level 4 is most of us (not all) here in the U.S. and other countries, where we have almost anything we want and more than we need.

People of these levels live in the same way, whatever their other differences. And Rosling underscores the business consequences of wrong economic assumptions. Most of the world's population growth will take place over the coming years in Africa and Asia only. Businesses trying to sub-divide niche markets in affluent Level 4 countries while overlooking the needs on Levels 2 and 3 for basic versions of their products and services are missing a vast

All right, that promised answer: Eighty percent of children have had a vaccination by their first birthday. This has relevance to business, because getting chilled vaccines from the maker all the way to a child's arm requires a "cool chain" of refrigeration and transportation technology that also would make economic development possible on levels 2 and 3. Businesses, however, have been slow to take advantage.

This question is part of a 13-question quiz (available at gapminder.org/test/2017). He gave it many times all over the world. He got an obvious kick out of repeatedly citing the superior record posted by theoretical chimpanzees reacting with pue guesswork, They would have scored a predicted 33 percent randomly guessing at the three-answer questions. (Only 17 percent of Americans got the vaccination question, so don't feel bad if you missed it.)

Rosling's lifetime of study and inquiry ended in 2016, but his son and daughter-in-law continue his work. Their digital contribution is the development of "bubble charts" — animations where bubbles grow, rise and fall along the horizontal and vertical axes of a chart. The most famous is the world health chart you see here. The vertical axis is longevity, the horizontal axis is income; the bubbles rise toward the top right, where most income means longest life.

I'm also glad to have read this book for the reason of its subtitle. Things are really demonstratably far better off in the world than we might have thought from the exceptions that make the news.

Bad things are way down: HIV infections, death penalty countries, legal slavery, violent crime, ozone depletion, leaded gasoline, smallpox (gone!). Good things are way up: women voting, democracies, new



music and movies, literacy, harvests, and even ownership of guitars, reflective of the increasing positive influence of arts and culture (except perhaps when I pick one up).

That things are getting better does not negate that sometimes they are still bad: Rosling uses the example of a premature baby in a neo-natal intensive care unit, who is in a bad way to be sure, but at the same time can be improving. The trend is the important feature.

The remainder of the book goes over some familiar logical errors we are prone to in processing information: susceptibility to drama, the misleading isolated statistic without context, the trends we expect to increase in the straight lines but don't, mistakes made because we generalize about groups *via* stereotypes, and so forth.

The book's major contribution, though, is the four-level worldview that is now driving Bill Gates' charitable efforts. We have fortunate times ahead of us if we can avoid generalizing about world poverty and take Level-headed actions based on factual awareness.

Reviewer Jim Trammel feels boxed in by a particular set of six numbers, at least two of which are deficient at any one time: His bank balance, weight, blood sugar, available time, sleep hours, and percentage of charge left on his cell phone battery.

# MONTHLY MEETINGS

# Submissions to Peaceways

Articles submitted to *Peaceways* should show an awareness of and sensitivity to the CKCPJ's mission and concerns.

Feature articles should be no longer than 500 words, unless you are willing to have the piece cut to fit one page of *Peaceways* text. Pieces will be edited for clarity.

Please include references in the text for all quotations, statistics, and unusual facts. End-notes or footnotes are not used.

Please query submissions to peacewayseditor@gmail.com before writing a feature article intended solely for *Peaceways*.

For all submissions, the author's name, address, and phone number should appear on the body of the submitted text.

If you submit material that has been published or which you are also submitting to other publishers, be sure to indicate this. Also include information about your relationship to any organization or issue mentioned in the article for inclusion in a biographical reference at the end of the story.

Submissions should be made in Word format *via* email. Book reviews are usually solicited by the editor, but we welcome inquiries from potential reviewers.

Submission deadline is the 10th of each month. *Peaceways* is published monthly except January.

**CKCPJ Steering Committee Meetings,** third Monday, 5 p.m, Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave. More info: (859) 488-1448 or peaceandjusticeky@gmail.com. All are welcome.

**Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Peace,** every Thursday, 5:30 - 6 p.m. at Triangle Park (corner of Broadway and Main Street) in downtown Lexington. Contact Richard Mitchell, (859) 327-6277.

Migrant Network Coalition, first Monday, noon - 1:15 p.m., GLOBAL LEX, 1306 Versailles Road, Lexington. Contact Lindsay Mattingly, lmattingly@lexpublib.org, (859) 231-5514.

**PFLAG Central Kentucky,** second Tuesday, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. LGBTQ individuals of all ages, family members, friends and allies are welcome. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 2025 Bellefonte Dr., Lexington. Visit info@pflagcentralky.org or (859) 338-4393. Speakers followed by confidential support group meeting.

**Bluegrass Fairness of Central Kentucky,** second Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Lexington Public Central Library, 140 E. Main St., Lexington. Contact Craig Cammack, chair, (859) 951-8565 or info@lexfair.org.

Wednesday Night GLSO "Heart to Heart" discussion group, 7 p.m., Pride Center, 389 Waller Ave., Lexington. GLSO operates Kentucky's only Pride Center, where they have quietly provided services to the GLBTQQIA community for decades. More info, Pride Center hours. and other links at www.glso.org.

**Humanist Forum of Central Kentucky,** first Thursday, 7 p.m., Great Hall of the Unitarian Universalist Church, 3564 Clays Mill Rd., Lexington. The Forum is a Chapter of the American Humanist Association. Meetings are open to people of all beliefs willing to express their opinions in a civil manner. Child care is provided. Contact President Staci Maney, staci@olliegee.com or (859) 797-2662.

**Kentuckians for the Commonwealth,** third Thursday, 7 p.m., Episcopal Diocese Mission House at Fourth St. and MLK Blvd, Lexington. Contact Beth Howard, (859) 276-0563.

**NAMI Lexington Support Groups,** every Sunday, 2:30 - 4 p.m. Participation Station, 869 Sparta Ct., Lexington. Call (859) 272-7891 or visit www.namilex.org.

**Christian-Muslim Dialogue Program,** fourth Saturday, 10 a.m. - noon. All are welcome. Locations vary, call (859) 277-5126. The Christian-Muslim dialogue promotes understanding and mutual respect between Christians and Muslims.By exploring moral, cultural and political factors shaping the current context, the program promotes personal and collective responsibility to build a more just and peaceful world.

**Dance Jam,** every Tuesday, 5:30 - 7 p.m., Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave. Move to the extent you are able. Sponsored by Motion Matters, \$7 per session to cover space rental. Contact Pamela, info@motionmatters.org, (859) 351-3142.

**Movies with Spirit,** second Friday of every month. Unitarian Universalist Church, 3564 Clays Mill Road, Lexington. Potluck at 6 p.m., film at 7.

**National Action Network,** third Thursday each month, 7 - 8:30 p.m. at the Central Library, Lexington.

Showing Up for Racial Justice, second Tuesday of the month, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Wild Fig Coffee and Books, 726 N. Limestone, Lexington.

To include a regular meeting of your organization in this space, contact Margaret Gabriel, peacewayseditor@gmail.com.



The Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice 1588 Leestown Rd., Ste. 130-138, Lexington KY 40511

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# We are a new, unsettling force for liberation and we got nothing to lose but our chains.

Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival

#### Sophonisba "Nisba" Preston Breckinridge: A Visionary Woman

CKCPJ member Randolph
Hollingsworth has nominated
Sophonisba "Nisba" Preston
Breckinridge for recognition of
"Visionary Women: Champions of
Peace and Nonviolence," as part
of the National Women's History
Project.

Dr. Breckenridge (Nov. 30, 1865 - Nov. 30, 1947) was an intellectual, diplomat, suffragist, scholar, cofounder of the Women's Peace Party and the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago, and led a life of intentional progress toward her vision of peace and prosperity for all.

From the time of her first winning legal defense of an abandoned mother, she fought against the violence of poverty and injustice. She supported all women's rights, serving as a vice president for the National American Woman Suffrage Association.

At a time when women were seldom in public focus, Dr. Breckinridge was an early member

of the Women's Trade Union League in Chicago, and a cofounder of the NAACP chapter in Chicago.

Given her background of privilege, and the strict segregationist proclivities of her sister-in-law Madeline McDowell Breckinridge in Kentucky, one might imagine that she focused more on the needs of white women of some means. However, she continued to fight for women and children of color, joining the Urban League and the Association of Colored Women.

She was instrumental in establishing the Wendell Phillips Settlement for African-Americans in Chicago, and when race relations continued to devolve and violence erupted, she served on a city-wide commission to develop strategies for all Chicagoans to improve racial injustices.

When the war in Europe escalated, she was a crucial personal support for the elderly Jane Addams at The Hague and then in lobbying Congress amidst



controversy and derision.

At the same time she taught the first class in the U.S. on public welfare administration, an important profession that even today stands on the brink of solving the systemic race disproportionality for services to women and children.

Dr. Breckinridge is a powerful role model for women in areas of the U.S. still plagued by violence and endemic poverty. Her intellectual efforts, hard fought and finally honored despite the prejudices against her sex, led to very real and practical reforms in the study of social welfare systems, and we can point to the many degree programs in social work across the country that grew out of her efforts to professionalize this important professional discipline. Social workers continue to rely on her pedagogical innovation of using the "case method" in social work programs, and women and children today benefit from her leadership and the far-reaching impact of her work in the early 20th century.

