

Peaceways

CENTRAL KENTUCKY COUNCIL FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE

May 2016

The Be SMART Campaign

Laura B. Johnsrude

Owning a gun is a personal decision, but responsible storage is a public safety issue. Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America advocates for public safety measures that respect the Second Amendment and also protect people from gun violence. To raise awareness and educate the public, Moms has developed the Be SMART Campaign to promote responsible gun ownership and reduce gun deaths.

Moms Demand Action has a chapter in every state and each chapter has volunteers trained and available to deliver a 20-minute presentation entitled “Be SMART: A Conversation about Kids, Guns, and Safety” to local groups and organizations — PTAs, book clubs, community centers, family reunions.

Since 1.7 million American children live in homes with guns that are both

loaded and unlocked, the Be SMART campaign has a huge potential audience. Especially since a Harvard study has shown that more than two-thirds of kids know where their parents keep their guns.

Every year, more than 400 kids aged 17 and under die by suicide with a gun, and around 100 children aged 17 and under die in unintentional shootings. The public can change these statistics by having open conversations about guns, kids, and safety.

Adults have a responsibility to protect vulnerable kids, to make sure children never have unauthorized access to unsecured guns. At a Be SMART presentation, we learn how to model responsible behavior around guns, how to inquire about



the presence of guns in other homes, how to recognize the risks of teen suicide, and how to spread the word so we can help change those grim statistics.

Join us in the campaign to reduce child gun deaths. Visit BeSMARTforkids.org to learn more and get involved.

The Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice has invited Moms Demand Action to give their presentation at the June 1 board meeting, and has invited the public to attend.

For more information, contact Carolyn Halcomb, chalcombKY@gmail.com.

Laura is the State Communications Lead for the Kentucky Chapter of Moms Demand Action.

Join CKCPJ for June board meeting

Readers of *Peaceways* are invited to join CKCPJ for its quarterly board meeting on Wednesday, June 1 at 6:30 p.m. at the Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Avenue, Lexington. The evening will start with a potluck supper.

The agenda for the evening will include reports from standing CKCPJ committees: the Peace Action Committee, the Housing Justice Committee, and the Lexington Working Families Campaign. Additional discussion will entertain suggestions about future directions for the council.

A member of Moms Demand

Action will present “Be SMART: A Conversation about Kids, Guns and Safety.” SMART means

- Secure guns in homes and vehicles
- Model responsible behavior
- Ask about unsecured guns in other homes
- Recognize the risk of teen suicide
- Tell your peers to be SMART

The Be SMART presentation is available to all groups and organizations.

Anyone interested in the work of CKCPJ is invited to attend. If you would like to add an agenda item, contact co-chair David Christiansen, davidcckj@gmail.com.

Gun Violence In America as of 4-24-16 (excluding suicide)

	2015	
Killed	13,293	
Wounded	26,826	
	2016	
Killed	4,016	
Wounded	8,097	

Source: www.gunviolencearchive.org

People of faith demand action to fix broken immigration laws

by Bishop John Stowe

Can you imagine children returning home from school and not finding their parents there? Kids waiting until past their bedtime and their parents still not coming home—and the children not knowing their parents won't be coming home because they have been deported?

As a pastor I have seen such situations, but many people in our nation do not believe that this happens here. In 2011 alone more than 5,000 children who are U.S. citizens were living in foster care after a parent's detention or deportation.

Year after year, and election cycle after election cycle, the United States has failed to pass comprehensive immigration reform. It seems that every time a serious effort is made to bring U.S. immigration law up to date, to correspond to real needs in the labor force, and to be humanitarian in the unification of families, a campaign of misinformed rhetoric, questionable data, and fear-mongering is unleashed. This

results in further failure to act and further hysteria about security at the borders.

There have been bi-partisan coalitions of business leaders, government officials, law enforcement personnel, human rights advocates, and religious leaders who all recognize the sanity and the necessity of making legal immigration a possibility for hardworking people who have a need to come to this country to survive and provide for their families.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, along with numerous church bodies, has spent decades advocating for fair immigration laws. There has been no call to do away with protection of the borders, nor any denial of the sovereign nation's rights to control its borders. The call has been to make the process fair and accessible for the benefit of all. This still has not happened.

Given the reality of deportations profoundly disrupting family life and

disproportionately punishing the working poor, President Barack Obama expressed exasperation with the congressional failure. He took executive action in the area of enforcement, clearly in the domain of the executive branch of government.

Before even addressing the merits of the president's actions, it should be noted that the president himself has been slow to address immigration reform, weak in pursuing it as a priority, and complicit in presiding over the greatest number of removals and deportations of the undocumented.

In November 2014, Obama announced executive immigration initiatives including the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) and expanded Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). These initiatives set very specific requirements to provide work permits for millions of undocumented immigrants. In February 2015, a federal court in Texas issued a national order putting these initiatives on hold. The Obama administration appealed to the Fifth District U.S. Court of Appeals, but a divided court, upheld the Texas federal district court's order. At the administration's request, the Supreme Court heard the case on April 18.

The Supreme Court should recognize that both Republican and Democratic presidents have issued numerous executive orders on immigration. Presidents have broad constitutional authority to set priorities for federal law enforcement agencies. Legal scholars of a variety of political leanings recognize that the president's actions are within the limits of his authority.

People of faith find repeated admonitions to welcome the stranger and protect the alien in the Judeo-Christian Scriptures and should be anxious to see the Supreme Court affirm the executive orders to allow 5 million more people to work without fear of family separation through deportation.

The immigration system by all accounts is broken, and the will to fix it has not overcome its many obstacles. Upholding the president's executive action to halt deportations will make a difference in many lives, and is the right, compassionate and fair thing to do.

Bishop John is the bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lexington. Reprinted with permission from the [Lexington] Herald-Leader.

If you shop at Kroger, you can support CKCPJ

The number of supporters who have linked their Kroger purchases to CKCPJ almost doubled in the first quarter of 2016 from four to seven. Thanks to everyone who took those few minutes to connect their Kroger Plus card to the Community Rewards program.

If you are a Kroger shopper and would like to participate, please grab your Kroger Plus Card and sign in to krogercommunityrewards.com. You will be prompted to link your card to a non-profit in the region, and if you would like to support CKCPJ please use the registration number 16439,

and please note that CKCPJ changed its address several months ago to 1588 Leestown Rd. Ste. 130-138, Lexington, KY 40511.

We have also been assured by Kroger that the company, including the Community Rewards Program, is committed to its policy of never sharing a customer's personal information. The privacy policy is key to Kroger's ability to support local organizations like CKCPJ.

We don't need much, but we do need a little bit to make sure that we are able to both keep the organization solvent and to underwrite the requests for funds that we receive from peace and justice groups in central Kentucky. The more households that participate, the more financial support the organization will receive from Kroger.

If you have not yet taken the opportunity to support CKCPJ in this way, now would be a great time to register.

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

Karen Conley new CKCPJ co-chair

by Margaret Gabriel, Editor

Karen Conley has accepted the invitation to serve as co-chair of the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice. She joins David Christiansen, fulfilling CKCPJ's tradition of sharing leadership responsibility equally between men and women.

Karen is a long-time activist who founded Kentuckians for Responsible Gun Legislation and is a strong supporter of Moms Demand Action. She is vice-president of the Kentucky Chapter of National Organization for Women and a member of

the economic justice committee of Kentuckians for the Commonwealth.

Karen has attended CKCPJ events and participated in the 2016 Peace Networking event with Kentucky NOW. Committees focusing on wage disparity intersect well with her work with and for women. She said, "I'd like to help in any way I can."

Karen grew up in Lexington, and after living in other places, including overseas, returned to Kentucky. She now lives on a five-acre farm where cats mingle with raccoons.

The Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice

Board of Directors: Rebecca Ballard DiLoreto, Karen Conley (co-chair), David Christiansen (co-chair), 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, 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 Initiative; 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.

CKCPJ Committee Reports

The Social Action Committee recently decided to limit its focus to its efforts on housing justice, according to committee chair Rick Clewett. Committee members decided on April 13 to launch lobbying and public education in September 2016.

Over the summer, Rick and various members of the committee plan to gather information and support from key members of LFUCG as well as elected officials, non-profits that work in the housing sector, and others.

Members of CKCPJ will receive ongoing information about the progress of the Housing Justice Project. The committee meets at the Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Avenue, Lexington, at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month. The date for the next meeting is Tues., May 10.

Lexington Working Families Campaign met at the Quaker Meeting House on April 19 to discuss the progress of a local ordinance designed to provide monitoring of wage violations in Lexington.

Currently the committee is identifying groups that can assist in the public awareness portion of the campaign and are in the process of contacting members of the Community Action Council, the Human Rights Commission, labor unions, Kentucky NOW, the NAACP, KFTC, and various faith communities.

With the assistance of Kentucky Equal Justice Center attorney McKenzie Cantrell, CKCPJ co-chair David Christiansen is creating a PowerPoint presentation that will be used during the awareness campaign that will be launched in late spring.

A particular point of focus will be the

higher minimum wage in Lexington, scheduled to increase to \$8.10 on July 1. The public education campaign will include information about contact resources to report if an employee is not being paid correctly.

To schedule a presentation, contact David Christiansen, davidccky@gmail.com.

The CKCPJ Peace Action Committee met at the Quaker Meeting House on April 20. The areas of interest for the committee are international peacemaking, advocating and educating about non-violent solutions to conflict, opposing militarism and military spending, and opposition to war, educating about climate disruption and advocating for sensible gun regulations.

The committee is currently working with members of Lexington's minority communities to identify people who can train trainers for non-violence projects. Trainees must be people who have "bought into" the value and practice of non-violence, not those dubious about the concept or process. The committee agreed that it is essential that trainers represent diverse communities in Central Kentucky, especially persons working with youth.

The committee is investigating Rebecca Glasscock's suggestion that CKCPJ move away from its campaign of gathering supporters for an official Kentucky "Peace Is Possible" license plate and produce a decorative plate to both promote the concept and raise needed funds for the work of CKCPJ. Discussion will continue at the May 18 meeting, 7 p.m., Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Road, Lexington.



Peaceways is published ten times a year by the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice, 1588 Leestown Rd., Ste. 130-138, Lexington KY 40511. Deadline for calendar items for the June issue is May 10. 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., May 2

Migrant Network Coalition, noon-1:15 p.m. GLOBAL LEX, 1306 Versailles Road, Lexington.

Tues., May 10

CKCPJ Housing Justice Committee, 7 p.m., Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Committee members will report on their ongoing efforts to gather information and support from members of LFUCG, other elected officials, non-profit groups that work in the housing sector, and other groups that work for and support fair housing.

Tues., May 10

PFLAG, St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 2025 Bellefonte Dr., Lexington, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Presenters from the GSA (Gay/Straight Alliance support group) at their high schools. Learn of the challenges facing LGBT teens and how they cope. We welcome LG-BTQ persons, family members, friends and allies, wherever you are in your journey or family struggle. Presentation, questions and answers in the first hour, followed by our confidential support group meeting. More information at www.pflagcentralky.org or call (859) 338-4393.

Mon., May 16

CKCPJ steering committee meeting, 7 p.m. Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Discussion will include planning for upcoming committee meetings and for the June 1 board meeting.

Tues., May 17

Lexington Working Families Campaign. 7 p.m., Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. The meeting will focus on the ongoing discussion of the minimum wage in Lexington, including the need for enforcement of the upcoming increase and monitoring and reporting wage theft.

Wed., May 18

CKCPJ Peace Action Committee, 7 p.m., Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Discussion topics will include non-violence training, possible decorative peace plates, and other peace-related topics.

Thurs., May 19

Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, 7 p.m., Episcopal Diocese of Lexington Mission House, 203 East Fourth Street, Lexington.

Sat., May 28

Christian Muslim Dialogue, Locations vary monthly. For more information about the May gathering, call (859) 277-5126

Thurs.-Sun., June 24-26

National Organization for Women, National Conference, Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill. The event will begin with NOW's Intrepid Awards on June 23. For more information or to register, see now.org.

Wed., June 1

CKCPJ, Board meeting and potluck supper, 6:30 p.m. Quaker Meeting House, 649 Price Ave., Lexington. Agenda will include reports from CKCPJ standing committees. Participants are encouraged to bring a dish to share. The meeting house has a microwave oven and outlets that can accommodate crock pots, but there is no stove top available. Please submit items you would like to take under discussion to David Christiansen, davidccky@gmail.com. The public is invited.

Sat. June 25

Lexington Pride Festival, Court House Plaza, 120 N. Limestone, Lexington. 11 a.m. The eighth annual family-friendly event will include a parade, vendor booths, food and festive environment.

Fri., July 1

Community Action Council, Summer Soirée, 21C Museum Hotel, 167 West Main Street, Lexington. Watch *Peaceways* for more information.

Your Event Here

Send information about your event to peacewayseditor@gmail.com. Send notification about June events by May 10.



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

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Are you interested in becoming more involved with
Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice?

Find out how that interest can be fulfilled
by attending a CKCPJ committee meeting in May.

Any and all meetings are open
to new and returning folks.

If you're not sure about which committee,
or aren't sure about the time you can commit,
feel free to come and listen.

Quaker Meeting House,
649 Price Ave., Lexington.

PFLAG welcomes all

by Linda Angelo and Jonathan Phillips

PFLAG Central Kentucky and CKCPJ are a natural fit. CKCPJ's central tenets include acceptance of diversity, dignity and human rights for all. Those principles are also central to PFLAG's mission of support, education and advocacy for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning (LGBTQ) people.

So, what does the PFLAG (we just say "P-flag") acronym stand for? Originally the letters signified Parents, Friends, and Families of Lesbians and Gays. We are proud of that legacy, but it no longer fully describes who we are. We recognize diverse sexualities and gender identities, and among our membership are LGBTQ adults as well as families who are advocating for their transgender children. Our meetings include allies such as faith leaders, counselors, activists, or people who wish to show support or learn more.

PFLAG's critical role is helping parents and family members—those who are bewildered and distressed, those who just want to get more comfortable or be better friends and family to their loved ones by learning all they can. Parents get additional knowledge and perspective from LGBTQ members and allies and support from other parents who understand the feelings and the challenges they experience. LGBTQ adults who have not experienced acceptance in their own families will find it at PFLAG. Others are there to remind us what their positive family experiences have meant to them.

PFLAG Central Kentucky is a welcoming family that offers wonderfully diverse perspectives. All of us look forward to a day when families will realize that their child who has come out as LGBTQ is the same child they loved yesterday. We know that acceptance and support from parents is the most crucial factor in the adjustment of LGBTQ youth.

PFLAG began in 1972 when Jeanne Manford took the step of marching alongside her gay son in New York's Pride Day parade. She was flooded with gays and lesbians asking that she talk to their parents, and PFLAG was born. Now there are hundreds of chapters around the world. For her lifelong advocacy work, Jeanne was awarded the Presidential Citizens

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MONTHLY MEETINGS

CKCPJ Steering Committee Meetings, third Monday, 7 p.m. 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, lmatingly@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. 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. at the Pride Center, 389 Waller Ave., Lexington. GLSO operates Kentucky's only Pride Center, where they've been quietly providing services to the GLBTQQA community for decades. More info, hours Pride Center is open. 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. Childcare 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 4th St. and MLK Blvd, Lexington. Contact Ondine Quinn, (859) 276-0563.

NAMI Lexington Support Groups, every Sunday, 2:30-4 p.m. Participation Station, 869 Sparta Court, 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 Pamla, 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.

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

It's Even Worse Than It Looks:

How the American Constitutional System Collided with the New Politics of Extremism

Thomas E. Mann and Norman J. Ornstein.

Basic Books, 2012 (Foreword and Afterword, 2013). 240 pages

Reviewed by Jim Trammel

Two government researchers with decades of experience on Capitol Hill, and of opposite political persuasions, have jointly come to the conclusion that the trouble with Congress and national politics these days is mainly the Republican Party. Well, stop the presses, we all knew that.

They examine in this book the dynamics of how this happened over the years since the debt ceiling debacles. Published in 2012, it was updated in 2013 (and now also 2014, retitled *It's Even Worse Than It WAS*, hoo boy.) They assemble a jigsaw puzzle that looks well put together except for one large missing piece, which I'll get to below.

A major player in the gridlock game is our own native Patron Saint of Government Inaction, Sen. Mitch McConnell; but he turns out to be only one of a blame-worthy triumvirate. Newt Gingrich, the authors allege, set up this poisonous state of affairs as a conscious strategy going back as far as his election to the House in 1978.

Rep. Eric Cantor got his moment, as one of the radical-right Young Guns, bringing the strategy of political hostage-taking to fullest, cruelest flower by withholding aid for victims of Hurricane Irene and other disasters as a bargaining chip.

Best supporting actor in this farce might be Rep. John Mica (R-Fla.), who threw 24,000 construction workers out of jobs and cost the nation \$300 million in lost taxes because he dug in his heels over the issue of subsidies to small local airports.

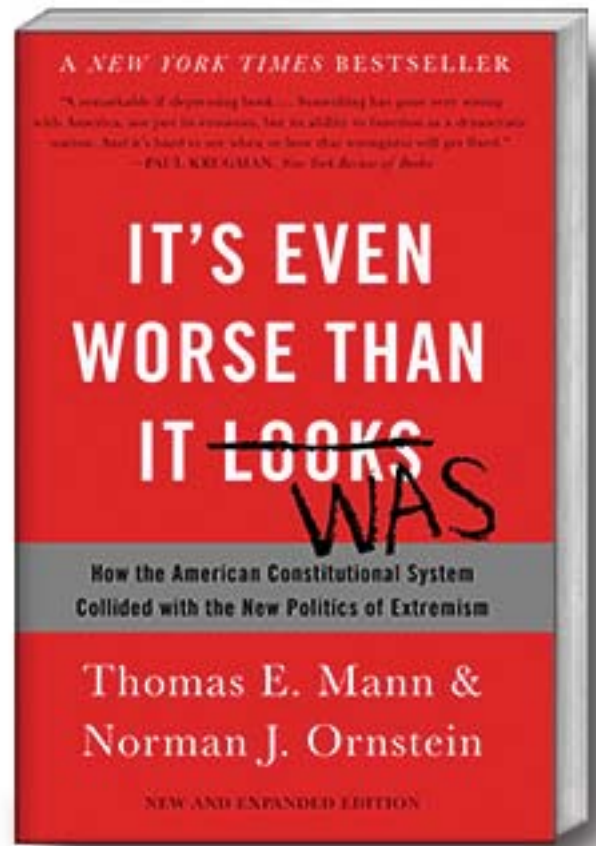
The authors like the parliamentary theory of government, preferring it to the American system of compromising to achieve goals. In a section of admittedly

impractical solutions to our American governance problem, they suggest shadow governments as in European parliaments—a whole out-of-office set of bureaucrats-without-portfolio, waiting to pounce and work their will the day they get an electoral majority, with utter disregard for the other party, which then takes their turn in the shadows.

Almost as impossible is their mandatory voting idea, patterned on Australia, where everybody votes or pays a small fine. Wouldn't fly, they admit. I don't think it would help much if we had it — far too many ignorant voters are already threatening to cast ballots.

Supporting currents in this river of filth include the media, complicit because they subscribe to false equivalency in their coverage. The authors' liken it to giving equal weight to the viewpoints of the hit-and-run driver and the victim. Here's an example: In 2010 a Senate bill, the DISCLOSE Act, would have forced identification of political donors who had been newly granted anonymity by the Citizens United Supreme Court decision. But the DISCLOSE Act was filibustered. All 59 Senate Democrats voted to end the filibuster, one short of the required 60. The DISCLOSE Act failed. "It died in Congress," was the popular media report, letting Senate Republicans wiggle off the hook.

Democrats bear a percentage of the fault for government inaction, but it's a smaller part, and mostly relates to the party banding together in 1987 to deny Robert Bork a Supreme Court seat. (And, children, Democrats didn't like Bork because he fired Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox back in the '70s, when your grandmother and I were in



college.)

Both Democrats and Republicans are becoming ever more stridently partisan, and even Independents these days are closet partisans (one poll the authors cite has only 10 percent of voters identifying as truly independent). But Democrats have never advocated shutting down the government, interrupting the flow of unemployment benefits and other social services, or defaulting on government obligations and causing a credit downgrade. The Republicans have.

In the film "Double Indemnity," Barbara Stanwyck's character says she and her partner-in-insurance-crime Fred MacMurray are both rotten. He replies, "Only, you're a little more rotten." Thus with the parties in D.C.

Oh, and the large puzzle piece the authors left out? They never once attribute to racism Republican resistance to President Obama's policies. Never mention it once. I computer-searched the text. A glaring omission. All you have to do is look around a little in Kentucky to discover that truth. But maybe they hide it better in Washington.

Reviewer Jim Trammel doesn't have the stamina for a filibuster.

"There is a higher court than courts of justice, and that is the court of conscience. It supersedes all other courts."
— Mahatma Gandhi

PREP Talks: Local Food, Food Security & Justice

By Kelly Duffy

Do you know the typical fate of three-legged carrots?

Have you ever heard of kohlrabi?

If your answer is “No” to either question you’re not alone. When Lexington’s Community Action Council hosted the second installment of its PREP Talks series (Prevent, Reduce and Eliminate Poverty) the audience was full of self-proclaimed “novices” when it came to knowledge of local food systems and movements. In an interactive Twitter poll, most said they were a “2” on a 1-5 scale. Thankfully, an informative panel of community advocates, activists, and foodies were on hand to educate.

The audience learned that most three-legged carrots, although perfectly safe and nutritious, ultimately end up as waste because they don’t meet supermarket standards of beauty. In fact, a THIRD of U.S. food ultimately ends up as waste. Appalling, right? France thought so.

The French Parliament recently made it illegal for supermarkets to waste food required them to donate or compost anything that is unsold. Community advocates hope to see similar legislation enacted nationally, but for now, GleanKY, a non-profit organization that helps combat food waste and hunger in Fayette County and throughout Kentucky, visits local grocery stores and farms to collect excess produce and distributes directly to

those who need access to it most.

Lexington Farmers’ Market encourages healthy consumption outside of the grocery store with produce born and bred right here locally. Their “Double Dollars” program allows customers who purchase food with SNAP benefits the opportunity to double their money. For \$10 they can get \$20 worth of produce, making fresh, local produce available and affordable for all Lexingtonians. The program enables farmers to be paid for their crops instead of having to donate or waste them.

Now, kohlrabi is a turnip cabbage that is a bit milder and sweeter than broccoli stems and cabbage hearts. Most people probably didn’t know that, but that’s why

people like Jim Embry are so important to our community. Jim helps neighborhoods cultivate community gardens so that people of all ages and backgrounds can not only identify food, but grow it for themselves. Dr. Keiko Tanaka works to educate University of Kentucky students on similar topics. She teaches sociology classes that help students understand the politics of food safety, localization, and health.

It seems that if utilized justly, there is plenty of food to go around. The real challenge is ensuring all Lexingtonians have a seat at the table.

For more information about GleanKY, see gleanky.org.

Kelly is an advocate and a board member of Community Action Council.



..... PFLAG

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Medal by President Obama in 2012.

Lexington has had several iterations of PFLAG. The current chapter began in 2010 and has a satellite chapter in Frankfort. There are monthly meetings with speakers, followed by our confidential support group (more information at www.pflagcentralky.org).

PFLAG Central Kentucky is researching its history in Lexington, so if you were involved (or know of someone) in an earlier PFLAG chapter please contact info@pflagcentralky.org or call (859) 338-4393.

Linda Angelo and Jonathan Phillips, parents of LGBTQ children, help make PFLAG a warm and welcoming place to receive and to offer support. Linda is current president and one of the founding members.

Submissions to Peaceways

Articles submitted for publication in *Peaceways* should show an awareness of and sensitivity to the CKCPJ’s mission and concerns. Articles submitted by non-Council members are encouraged.

We accept articles of varying lengths. News items (50-250 words) are welcome; announcements or reports of council-sponsored events (or events of council member groups) are likely to receive priority. Short personal essays reflecting an individual’s experience of peace- and justice-related events and community action or activism are encouraged, as well.

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- or footnotes are not used. We encourage

submissions to be queried to the editor at peacewayseditor@gmail.com before writing a unique 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 10 times a year.