

DATT IDEOLOGICAL & ORGANIZING TRAINING READING GUIDE

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Our people's ongoing struggle for liberation requires the expansion and strengthening of the ideological and organizing training across networks. This is crucial for us to do the work of attempting to gain some means of survival (reform) as well as extend expertise in service to larger decolonial grassroots movements (revolutionary action). This cannot be achieved without a consistent form of coordinated strategic organized action on a regular basis. Aimed at producing preventative measures and contributing to the establishment of distribution of resources in the hands of the people (the collective) to decrease reliance on the settler colonial state. And that work is not limited to Africans but also to other colonized peoples whose racialization is co-constituted with ours, whose colonization is tied to ours historically and structurally. Organizing for and with our communities is not only crucial but also the best option we have for the liberation we seek. The abolition of private property relations & the seizing of the means of production from capitalists will not come without an organized and not just a mobilizing force.

I would like to see us organize regular work study groups this academic year to begin a regular political education process. Many of those who came before us; who we hold in high esteem in the activist community; all spoke of the importance of political education. This begins with the basics, not grand theory (which must be practically applied for it to be accurate). We must learn HOW to think, not WHAT to think. Beginning political education work study groups with texts on building arguments, strategic thinking, creative problem solving, & then moving on to other texts is crucial then to this process. If we can collectively start working groups we could very quickly find the premises we need to better organize and meet the basic needs and legitimate expectations of others as well as ourselves. But that requires that we first look to history (which is filled with strategies, tactics, and struggles). We must look at what our ancestors did & even see their mistakes & what they left for us to take up & continue to do. This must all be done in the context of the diverse histories of how the world came to be what it is today. We must then be good students of history and structure.

This document provides a list of texts that can provide an overview of the history of social problems, specifically with the goal of placing politics in United States/West within the context of world history. The goal is to provide a larger context for understanding colonialism, race/ism, cishetpatriarchy, capitalism, etc.. The assigned readings will not necessarily always be an entire book, mainly chapter excerpts but I do encourage everyone to read/re-read these texts in entirety to ensure that they have a good understanding of the larger arguments presented. The goal is for readers to gain a systematic understanding of human action within the context of Eurowestern modernity as well as prior to it so they understand that harmful ideas, systems, & actions can be abolished to make way for liberatory ways of being.

STARTING POINT: 15-30 minutes of reading a day [Totals out to anywhere from 1 hour & 45 minutes of reading to 3 hours & 30 minutes of reading a week]

READING RESOURCES:

- How to read a book a week - http://www.theverge.com/tldr/2016/9/25/12284400/how-to-read-more-books?utm_campaign=theverge&utm_content=entry&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter
- 3 simple steps to mastering any new subject - <http://www.sciencealert.com/this-nobel-prize-winning-physicist-has-3-simple-steps-to-mastering-any-new-subject>
- AAPRP Ideological Training Packet

Ethics/Principles:

A 21st Century Ethical Toolbox by Anthony Weston
Creative Problem Solving in Ethics by Anthony Weston

Critical/Systematic Thinking & Creative Problem Solving:

A Rulebook for Arguments by Anthony Weston
Thinking in Systems: A Primer by Donella H. Meadows

Organizing [Strategies & Tactics]:

Rules for Radicals by Saul Alinsky
Playbook for Progressives by Eric Mann
Building Powerful Community Organizations by Michael Jacoby Brown
How to Re-imagine the World: A Pocket Guide for Practical Visionaries by Anthony Weston
The Black Panther Party: Service to the People Programs by Dr. Huey P. Newton Foundation

History:

Black Marxism by Cedric J. Robinson
Pre-Colonial Black Africa by Cheikh Anta Diop
African Religions & Philosophy by John Mbiti
The World & Africa by W.E.B. Du Bois
Traces of History by Patrick Wolfe
An Indigenous People's History of the US by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz
Capitalism & Slavery by Eric Williams
The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism by Edward Baptist
A People's History of the United States by Howard Zinn
How Europe Underdeveloped Africa by Walter Rodney
Black Reconstruction in America, 1860-1880 by W.E.B. Du Bois
Colonialism/Postcolonialism (3rd Edition) by Ania Loomba
The Transit of Empire: Indigenous Critiques of Colonialism by Jodi Byrd
The Settler Complex by Patrick Wolfe

Decolonization & Militant Resistance:

The Wretched of the Earth by Frantz Fanon
Handbook of Revolutionary Warfare by Kwame Nkrumah
Orientalism by Edward Said
The Colonizer & the Colonized by Albert Memmi
Decolonization & the Decolonized by Albert Memmi
The Dialectics of Liberation by David Cooper et al.
Stokely Speaks: From Black Power to Pan-Africanism by Kwame Ture/Stokely Carmichael
A History of Pan African Revolt by C.L.R. James
Red Skin, White Masks: Rejecting the Colonial Politics of Recognition by Glen Coulthard
Consciencism by Kwame Nkrumah

Race/ism:

Race: Are We So Different by Alan Goodman, Yolanda T. Moses, & Joseph Jones
Racial Formation in the United States by Michael Omi & Howard Winant

Fatal Invention by Dorothy Roberts

Gender, Sexuality, & Cishetpatriarchy:

The Origin of the Family, Private Property & the State by Frederick Engels

Gender and Power: Society, the Person, and Sexual Politics by R. W. Connell

Doing Gender by West & Zimmerman [ARTICLE]

The Invention of Women by Oyeronke Oyewumi

Black Sexual Politics by Patricia Hill-Collins

Black Feminist Thought by Patricia Hill-Collins

Sojourning for Freedom: Black Women, American Communism, and the Making of Black Left Feminism by Erik McDuffie

The Combahee River Collective Statement

The Straight State by Margot Canaday

Indigenous Men & Masculinities edited by Robert Innes & Kim Anderson

Our New Husbands Are Here: Households, Gender, and Politics in a West African State from the Slave Trade to Colonial Rule by Emily Lynn Osborn

Male Daughters, Female Husbands: Gender and Sex in an African Society by Ife Amadiume

Gender Trouble by Judith Butler

Women's Liberation and the African Freedom Struggle by Thomas Sankara

Imposing Decency: The Politics of Sexuality and Race in Puerto Rico, 1870–1920 by Eileen J. Suárez Findlay

Evolution's Rainbow: Diversity, Gender, and Sexuality in Nature and People by Joan Roughgarden

Capitalism & Socialism:

Capital Volume I by Karl Marx

A Companion to Marx's Capital by David Harvey

Capitalism & Slavery by Eric Williams

Communist Manifesto by Karl Marx & Frederick Engels

Revolutionary Path by Kwame Nkrumah

Pan Africanism:

Pan Africanism: Politics, Economy & Social Change in the 21st Century edited by Tajudeen Abdul-Raheem

Consciencism by Kwame Nkrumah

Class Struggle in Africa by Kwame Nkrumah

We Are the Heirs of the World's Revolutions: Speeches from the Burkina Faso Revolution 1983-87 by Thomas Sankara

Neocolonialism: The Last Stage of Imperialism by Kwame Nkrumah

Black Africa: The Economic & Cultural Basis for a Federated State by Cheikh Anta Diop