



# The Olive Branch

Week of September 20, 2013

## Veganism and Global Hunger

Global hunger affects nearly a billion people across the globe. From a young age, many of us have been taught not to waste our food, with the entreaty that, "There are kids across the globe who would love to have what you are eating right now!" We are taught to monitor how much we eat in a way that directly relates to global hunger, regardless of whether finishing a serving of broccoli actually has any connection to the food intake of children across the globe. In light of this, it seems strange that the majority of American society does not tend to connect the content of a typical American diet to the issue of global hunger.

However, from a sustainability perspective, it is evident that the typical American diet is far from beneficial on a global scale. The average American consumes approximately twice the recommended amount of meat per day, and many dieticians claim that even the recommended amount is far too high. The cost of growing meat is high, too. Globally, we feed 756 million tons of grain to farmed animals per year. According to Peter Singer, a bioethicist at Princeton, that grain could be used far more effectively if given to the 1.4 billion people living in extreme poverty. If this were done, each of those billion individuals would be given more than twice the amount of grain necessary to survive. The food crisis, according to Singer, is not actually a crisis at all. Rather, he claims that the wealthy of the world, including Americans, have taken far more than our share.

The food crisis is not going away, and the demand for meat has increased dramatically over the past twenty years. As developing countries become more Westernized, their demand has increased as well. The world population is also expected to increase

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# Veganism Continued



to 9 billion by 2050. With a current population unable to be supported by demands for meat and a rapidly increasing population, the crisis will only become worse if change does not happen quickly. In light of these statistics, what should the response from wealthy nations and their citizens be? A growing trend of vegetarianism, veganism, “Meatless Mondays,” and other cruelty-free diets has been found in American and other diets, and as more research is conducted, the effects of even reducing meat consumption are startling.

According to [alternet.org](http://alternet.org), if everyone in the U.S. went vegetarian for a single day, we would save 100 billion gallons of water, 1.5 billion pounds of crops, and 70 million gallons of gas. On an individual scale, the impact of one person switching to a vegetarian diet saves over 1,000 meat meals per year. In turn, the crops used for that meat could be used to produce 12,000 vegetarian meals if properly utilized. The impact of reducing or eliminating meat from our diets is huge, and we have the ability to pursue the solution on a daily basis. For more information, see:

[http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2012/08/13/too-much-protein-diets-\\_n\\_1772987.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2012/08/13/too-much-protein-diets-_n_1772987.html)

[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/27/weekinreview/27bittman.html?  
pagewanted=all&r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/27/weekinreview/27bittman.html?pagewanted=all&r=0)

[http://www.alternet.org/story/134650/  
the\\_startling\\_effects\\_of\\_going\\_vegetarian\\_for\\_just\\_one\\_day](http://www.alternet.org/story/134650/the_startling_effects_of_going_vegetarian_for_just_one_day)

*Ashli Godfrey*

# Spotlight:

## Howard Zinn



Howard Zinn, born in 1922, was one of the United States' most outspoken authors, activists, historians, and professors during his time, and continues to leave a legacy which will not be forgotten. Zinn grew up the child of Jewish immigrants in the United States. His parents were not educated, but they made sure young Howard was able to get ahold of literature so that he would have a better opportunity in life. When he was older, he joined the U.S. military in order to fight fascist regimes. Years after the war, however, Howard Zinn made the startling realization, through interviews and research, that the very napalm bombs he threw out of a plane killed hundreds of Czech civilians and ruined the lives of countless families. After this revelation, Zinn firmly became anti-war.

After his stint in the military, Howard Zinn went on to attend New York University and Columbia University and eventually earned his PhD. in history. It is after his time as a student, though, that Zinn began to focus his efforts on becoming a civil rights and anti-war activist. He accepted a job at Spelman College, the nation's first black women's college, teaching history, and was a mentor to student activists there. Once, he joined these activists in a sit in of the Georgia State Legislature, which was segregated. In 1963, Zinn was dismissed from the university for siding with students on the issue of segregation.

Following his dismissal, Howard Zinn wrote an important book criticizing the United States' military involvement in Vietnam. Some scholars, including Noam Chomsky, consider this book to be the first publication to decry the war so loudly and succinctly. In an amazing act in 1968, Zinn traveled with Reverend Daniel Berrigan to Hanoi, Vietnam, on a diplomatic mission to free three American POWs. They were successful, making the mission the first successful release of POWs from Vietnam since the strike began. He refused to pay taxes because he was in such staunch opposition to the war.

# Spotlight Continued...

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In 1971, Zinn and Noam Chomsky released a volume of books that they co-edited and annotated called *The Pentagon Papers*, which were leaked documents regarding the U.S. military's affairs in Southeast Asia. Eventually, Zinn was called as an expert witness at the trial of Daniel Ellsberg, the person responsible for the leak. Zinn spoke to the jury, explaining that the documents did not contain any information harmful to the security of the country and that they were simply embarrassing to the government, as they revealed many mistruths provided to the American people as to the goings on of the war.

On July 30, 2010, it was revealed through the Freedom of Information act that the FBI had been spying on Zinn for a number of years. They designated him a threat to national security in the 60s, a categorization that meant that in the case of a state of emergency, Zinn could have been arrested without cause.

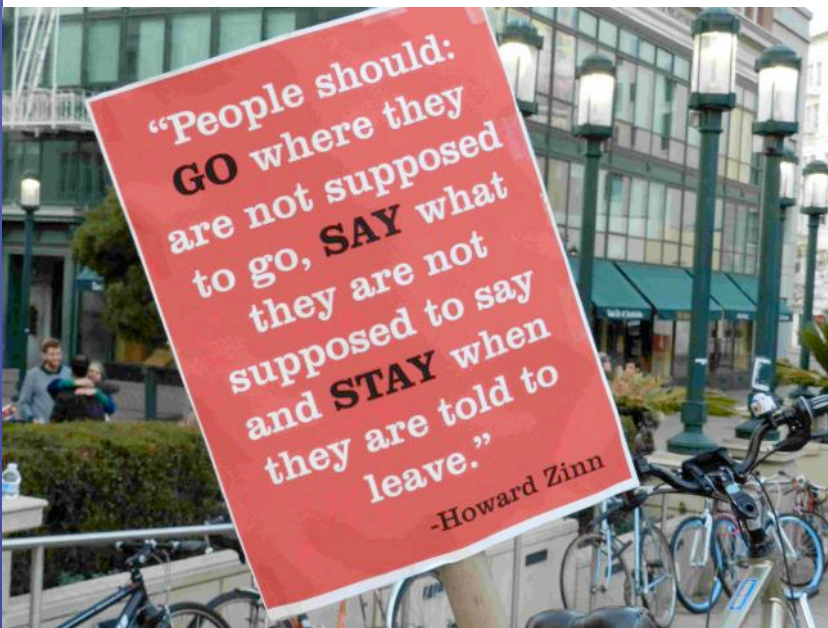
Howard Zinn's most controversial and widely-read book is called *A People's History of the United States*, a textbook meant for grade-schoolers which forgoes the tradition of glorifying powerful industrialists and minimizing the struggle of minorities and women, and instead addresses the triumphs and tragedies of those ordinary citizens throughout history who managed to do extraordinary things. The book has been banned by many

schools, including all K-12 schools in Indiana.

In July 2013, it was revealed that during his time as governor, Mitch Daniels ordered that the book was not to be taught in the state's schools, and relatedly requested a "cleanup" of college courses. To add insult to the situation, the emails that were released indicated that Mitch Daniels was pleased to hear of Zinn's death; in them he says "This terrible anti-American academic finally passed away." All of this news came as Daniels stepped up as president of Purdue University this summer. Many identify the correspondence as a blatant act of censorship which should be punished. David Detmer, former student of Zinn and

Purdue professor, says he sees no evidence of Mitch Daniels ever having read the book.

There will be a read-in of Howard Zinn's work on November 5 at Purdue University. Refer to the Off-Campus events page to learn more.-Katie Munn





# On Homeland Security

*On Homeland Security* is an upcoming art show, scheduled for the month of February at The Cup (The Village of Muncie), that will focus on the instability and fear accompanying the still expanding War on Terror. The show strives to highlight the many faces that insecurity takes at home and abroad. Possible themes include: surveillance, extrajudicial detention centers, drones, and suspension of civil rights here and around the world.

Local artists, writers, and performers of any media who are interested in participating in this exhibition or the associated video and website are welcome to submit pieces by **October 15th, 2013**.

For more information or to make a submission, contact Mary Ogle ([ogle.mary@gmail.com](mailto:ogle.mary@gmail.com)).



# **Syria: Complex Crisis and Polarizing Solutions**

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Come to the **BSU Peace Center's** discussion  
on **Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>** at 7:00 PM



**Who:** Tarek Kteleh, MD (Medical Consultants of Muncie & Vice President Syrian American Medical Society), Malek Sadehh, MD (Meridian Health Services, Muncie), and John Peterson, MD (Family Practitioner & Muncie Center for Integrative Medicine)

**What:** Discussion Series

**Where:** Arts and Journalism Building Room 175

**When:** Monday, September 23, 7 PM

# On Campus Events

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## **International Conversation Hour (ICH)**

This program is designed to help international students practice English, learn studying skills and classroom culture, and make American friends. We recruit both domestic and international students from the BSU campus. Through interactive discussion, they can normalize their experiences and decrease their isolation, worries, and stress as well as get support from American students. They will also learn different kinds of study skills to help them succeed at Ball State University. We hope through students' participation, domestic students will learn about different cultures without studying abroad and international students will increase their sense of belonging to BSU and adjust to their transition from their countries to BSU better.

Time: Every Tuesday, 6-7:30 pm

First three meeting Location: 8/27, 9/3, and 9/10 will meet at the Studebake East, Multi-purpose Room

Please feel free to bring your friends to join us. If you have any questions, please email Pei-Yi Lin, at [plin@bsu.edu](mailto:plin@bsu.edu).

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# Off-Campus Events

Peace & Unity Festival Indianapolis: Saturday, September 21, 2013

11:00 AM-3:00 PM at 222 East Market Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

**PURPOSE:** This is a grassroots effort to organize a peaceful global march for peace & unity on the International Day of Peace - Saturday, September 21, 2013. This occurs concurrently with the Observation of the International Day of Peace, a day that the United Nations calls on all combatants around the world to lay down their arms and to give peace a real chance; a day to reflect and consider how best to break the vicious cycle of violence that conflict creates.

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Open Streets Indy: Sun., Sept. 29, 12-5 p.m.

As part of the White River Festival, Indianapolis will have its very first Open Streets Indy. Although the initiative has been around for several years, beginning in Bogotá, Colombia, and known as "ciclovías," the idea is the same. Open Streets will temporarily close the street to all automobiles so that people may use the street instead for walking, cycling, dancing, playing and socializing. While Open Streets events are obviously great for social activity, they are also celebrated for being environmentally friendly, economically sound and for serving public health as a whole. Free.

<http://www.openstreetsindy.org/>

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Read-In: November 5, 2013

Purdue University will be holding a read-in at which the works of Howard Zinn will be read. Speakers include Staughton Lynd historian, conscientious objector, peace, labor and civil rights activist, and long time collaborator of Dr. Zinn, Anne Wright, retired US Army Colonel and former US diplomat who resigned in 2003 in opposition to the Iraq war, Anthony Arnone, Writer, Film maker and co-editor with Howard Zinn, *Voices of a People's History of the United States*, and Alex Lichtenstein, Professor of History, Indiana University. More information will follow in October.



# Grants and Fellowships

## **United States Institute of Peace Annual Grant Competition**

This Grant Program supports peacebuilding projects such as educational or research institutions and civil society organizations that are managed by nonprofit organizations. Every year, the USIP awards 20-25 grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$120,000. USIP may provide grant support to nonprofit organizations and individuals—both U.S. and foreign—including the following: institutions of post-secondary, community, and secondary education; public and private education, training or research institutions, and libraries. The next deadline for the annual grant competition is October 1, 2013.

Visit <http://www.usip.org/grants-fellowships/annual-grant-competition> for more info.

## **The Jennings Randolph Senior Fellowship Program (USIP)**

These are awarded to scholars, practitioners, policy analysts, policy makers, and others to spend 9-10 months in residence at the USIP during which time they will reflect and write on international peace and security challenges. Citizens of any country are able to apply. The program beginning in October 2014 is now open. Visit <http://www.usip.org/grants-fellowships/jennings-randolph-senior-fellowship-program> to learn more.

## **Rotary Peace Fellowships**

The Rotary Foundation provides these fellowships to fund master's degree or professional development certificate study at one of the six Rotary Peace Centers. Recipients of this fellowship promote peace, cooperation, and successful conflict resolution on both the national and international levels. Visit <https://www.rotary.org/en/peace-fellowships> to learn more.

# Peace Organizations

## **Social Justice League**

I am Morgan Ulyat, the president for Social Justice League this year. Below is a short description of our organization:

The Social Justice league strives to better the world through awareness, local involvement, and fundraising for worthy causes. We aim to bring greater awareness of social justice issues to Ball-State and the community. Join us to explore both domestic and international issues and to confront and combat injustices.

Our club meets every Thursday at 5 p.m. in the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies. We can be reached at either [sjl@bsu.edu](mailto:sjl@bsu.edu) or [bsu.social.justice@gmail.com](mailto:bsu.social.justice@gmail.com).

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## **Timmy Global Health**

Timmy Global Health is a nonprofit organization based out of Indianapolis that seeks to eliminate healthcare disparities worldwide. At Ball State, our chapter works through the academic year to raise awareness, money, and medical supplies for our annual trip to Ecuador during spring break.

Contact Info: [bsutimmy@gmail.com](mailto:bsutimmy@gmail.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BSUTimmy>

Meetings: Tuesday @ 7pm. Education Resource Room 1 in the Bracken Library Basement

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## **Delivering Educational Support to Kenya**

Delivering Educational Support to Kenya (DESK) is a student-led organization designed to assist students in Kenya. In Kenya, all students are required to have a school uniform to attend school. Unfortunately, some families are not in a position to buy school uniforms or school supplies for their children. To help these families, DESK organizes various fund raising activities to raise money to buy school uniforms and supplies. Some of these activities have been bake sales, calendar sales, and boxed lunch sales.

# Peace Organizations

## Continued

Contact email: [desk@bsu.edu](mailto:desk@bsu.edu)

Fall 2013 Meeting Dates & Times:

September 23, 6-7pm in TC 542

October 28, 6-7pm in TC 542

November 25, 6-7pm in TC 54

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### **Ball State TOMS**

Our club is directly affiliated with the TOMS company. Our main goal and focus as a club is to raise awareness about the company and what they do. We do this through sponsoring and holding several events throughout the school year. We meet every Wednesday night at 9 PM in Bracken, room 401.

Contact info: [TOMSCLUB@bsu.edu](mailto:TOMSCLUB@bsu.edu)

Taylor Cardini, President

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### **Students for Responsible Consumerism**

Students for Responsible Consumerism aims to educate consumers about their relationship with products and the corporations that make them. Our mission is to make students aware of the socioeconomic and environmental influence of their purchases. We foster consumer activity that promotes ethical products that avoid exploiting labor or the environment.

Our club meets Tuesdays at 5 p.m. in the Student Center, Room 308. We can be reached at the following emails: [src@bsu.edu](mailto:src@bsu.edu) or [responsible.consumerism.bsu@gmail.com](mailto:responsible.consumerism.bsu@gmail.com). This is our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/responsibleconsumerism>, and we also have a tumblr page: <http://responsibleconsumerism.tumblr.com/>.

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# Peace Organizations

## Continued

### **Ball State Circle K**

Circle K International (CKI) is the premier collegiate community service, leadership development, and friendship organization in the world. CKI blends community service and leadership training with the opportunity to make friends. Our motto is: "Live to Serve, Love to Serve!" Our club offers weekly service opportunities and larger service events for those who wish to become involved.

Our club meets every Tuesday evening at 7:30 in WB 136.

Club email: [ballstatecki@gmail.com](mailto:ballstatecki@gmail.com)

Club Website: <http://ballstatecki.weebly.com/>

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### **Vegan Association**

The Vegan Association is a judgment-free zone for Ball State students, employees, and alumni who are vegan and wish to positively promote a life free from animal products. We are a campus-affiliated network dedicated to the support, promotion, and education of people regarding veganism.

Meeting information can be found on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/354765237926317/members/>

Email: [jlgilbert3@bsu.edu](mailto:jlgilbert3@bsu.edu)





310 North McKinley Avenue  
Muncie, Indiana 47306

Phone: (765)285-1622

Email: [peacecenter@bsu.edu](mailto:peacecenter@bsu.edu)

The Center for Peace and Conflict Studies is an interdisciplinary knowledge unit devoted to conducting research on various forms of structural and direct violence and conflict, and also dedicated to implementing projects that employ nonviolent strategies to resolve conflict.

Our programs include:

- Mediation training and services
- Meditation classes
- The Brown Bag lunch speaker series
- The Muncie Interfaith Fellowship
- The Social Justice League on-campus organization

To get all the latest updates on activities and news from the Peace Center, follow us on Twitter @bsu4peace or “Like” our Facebook page!



If you or your organization would like to submit content or information about an event to be included in our newsletter, please email Tacianna Oliver at [tpoliver@bsu.edu](mailto:tpoliver@bsu.edu) or Katie Munn at [ksmunn@bsu.edu](mailto:ksmunn@bsu.edu).