



**CALL FOR THE NATIONAL BREAK THE MEDIA BLACKOUT SUMMIT!
THE TIME IS NOW! MARK YOUR CALENDARS (Nov. 18/19 1994)**

Nearly 60 million people in the United States today are locked in a cycle of poverty. Their numbers grow daily. Efforts by poor, working, and homeless people to fight back against the full fledged governmental assault on our survival are rarely publicized. This assault takes many forms -- welfare cuts, layoffs, police brutality, and increased censorship. Struggling artists, writers and poets, musicians, broadcast and alternative news leaders who dare to align themselves with the real struggles of poor and working people in this nation are also targets for assault.

Throughout the country poor people are fighting poverty (by protesting welfare cuts; demanding jobs at livable wage; taking over vacant, foreclosed, government-owned properties; demanding a right to treatment for health care needs and addictions; demanding food for the hungry). THE NEWS OF THE FIGHT-BACK ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZED STRUGGLES BY POOR PEOPLE DOES NOT GET THE COVERAGE IN THE MAIN STREAM MEDIA THAT IT WARRANTS OR DESERVES. THERE HAS BEEN A VIRTUAL MEDIA BLACKOUT OF OUR STRUGGLES.

IT IS TIME FOR CONCERNED MEMBERS OF THE BROADCAST MEDIA, JOURNALISTS, ENTERTAINERS, AND ARTISTS TO JOIN WITH POOR AND HOMELESS PEOPLE TO "TAKEOVER" RESPONSIBILITY FOR GETTING THE NEWS OF OUR PLIGHT AND OUR FIGHT TO THE PUBLIC!! WE MUST HOLD THE MAINSTREAM MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY ACCOUNTABLE FOR ITS WILLFUL NEGLECT AND/OR DISTORTION OF OUR ISSUES. IT IS TIME THAT WE MARSHALL THE TALENT AND RESOURCES WITHIN OUR OWN RANKS (OUR OWN CONCERTS, NEWSLETTERS, BROADCASTS, THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS) TO RAISE CONSCIOUSNESS AND MONEY FOR OUR STRUGGLE. IT IS TIME TO BREAK THE MEDIA BLACKOUT!!

ARTISTS, MUSICIANS, THOSE INVOLVED IN ALTERNATIVE OR UNDERGROUND BROADCASTS AND MAGAZINES/NEWSLETTERS ARE ENGAGED IN AN ONGOING FIGHT AGAINST CENSORSHIP. THEY ARE CONFRONTING THE SAME FORCES WHO PROMOTE THE OPPRESSION OF POOR AND WORKING PEOPLE. WE MUST FORGE A STRONGER LINK AND COMBINE OUR ENERGIES IN A COLLECTIVE FIGHT BACK STRATEGY.

THIS IS A CALL TO YOU! MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL BREAK THE MEDIA BLACKOUT SUMMIT ON NOVEMBER 18TH AND 19TH, 1994.

DETAILS ON THE SITE, CONFERENCE AGENDA AND REGISTRATION WILL BE FORTHCOMING BY SEPTEMBER 30, 1994. THE PLANNING COMMITTEE IS STILL OPEN TO YOUR IDEAS AND INPUT!! ITS TIME TO PLAN, THINK, AND ACT TOGETHER! YOUR HISTORY AND INVOLVEMENT INDICATES THAT YOU KNOW THERE IS A NEED FOR SUCH A SUMMIT.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE WRITE, FAX, OR CALL THE ORGANIZATIONS LISTED BELOW:

National Annie Smart Leadership Development Institute
c/o Dignity Housing
7208 Germantown Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19119
(215) 242-3140/Fax (215) 242-3382

Editor, Voices from the Front
c/o Dignity Housing
7208 Germantown Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19119

National Union of the Homeless
Editor, Union of the Homeless National News
3410 Garfield
Kansas City, MO 64109
(816) 924-4408



Please complete this form and return it to the **Break the Media Blackout Summit**.
Mail to: National Annie Smart Leadership Development Institute, c/o Dignity Housing, 7208 Germantown Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19119

() Yes, Count me in this struggle! I want to attend the Summit. Add me to the mailing list to receive more info on the **Break the Media Blackout Summit** as it becomes available.

() I will not make the summit, but may be able to make a contribution. Send ideas or make donations payable to Dignity Housing (Annie Smart Leadership Development Institute).

Name _____

Organization/Area of Work _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____