

OFFICIAL WRITTEN SUBMISSION TO THE 107TH SESSION OF CERD
by Julia Wright

A DEMOCRACY BLEEDING OUT ...

For Emmett Till, George Floyd, my lynched great uncle Silas Hoskins and so many others
unnamed ...

**On June 8th 2022, Mr Roy Guerrero ,Uvalde's only pediatrician, stated
as he addressed elected officials of U.S. Congress :**

***" You are the doctors and our country is the patient. We are lying on the
operating table, riddled with bullets like the children of Robb
Elementary and so many other schools. We are bleeding out and you
are not there."***

**I am not a doctor but I do not need to be one to know my country is
bleeding out.**

**A country that can allow a Uvalde after 311 000 children have been
exposed to mass shootings since Columbine.**

**A country where leftover tanks from foreign wars are gifted to "harden"
schools and police PR is used to place teddy bears inside to pacify
parents' protests.**

**A country that can allow the lynching of a Black child to go unpunished
for 67 years after his torture and death.**

**A country that coldly keeps closing the case even though a Law now
bears the child's name, even though that cold case sparked the civil
rights movement that defines our identity today.**

A country where our human rights are bleeding out.

1955 to 2020 to 2022 ...

Emmett Till to George Floyd to Buffalo to Uvalde ...

**That is 67 years or two generations in terms of our Black, Brown and
Indigenous deaths.**

**We, the contemporaries of George Floyd's murder, are still trying to
bring closure to Emmett Till.**

**And the death-bound cycle did not begin with the Tills, it began with
slavery and the white supremacy that still profits from its impunity.**

**In 1942, the year of my birth, in a suburb of Berlin, the
Wannsee Conference took place. Gassing the Jews, the homosexuals,
the gypsies, the political prisoners, the non-aryans, the mentally
challenged in small buses just was not working. The productivity of
death was too low. So the nazi higher-ups met to plan an improved
arithmetic of death with all the meticulous *procedure* of bureaucratic**

debate and detail, weighing the pros and the cons of modus operandi, signing, stamping and sealing documents legitimizing the final solution. All the conference time needed was taken to plan the acceleration of mass death.

The concentration camps were born.

Part of my maternal family went up in smoke.

When, as a descendant of the nazi holocaust and of enslaved Black paternal great grandparents of Choctaw lineage, I struggle to have the human rights of Mumia Abu-Jamal recognized and to have the shackles of Jacob Blake removed as he is rolled in from carceral surgery for 7 close range police bullets in his back, I am still told - we are told : "*Shackles are procedure*".

The *procedure* of "gifting" military assault weapons to local police - in spite of progressive lawmakers' repeated appeals - has been maintained as well as a toxic police culture exported to the world.

A country where the *procedure* to sell these same military assault weapons to children has not been reversed is a democracy on a drip.

A country that has still by some *procedure* not signed the Global Arms Trade Treaty is a democracy in need of help.

I wish to submit the possibility of a testimony in front of the OHCHR of five women who have been impacted in various egregious degrees by the militarization of our daily lives in the USA.

These five women whose names will be forthcoming have all made historical decisions and choices in the face of the police narratives designed to deprive them of their voice.

Would you hear them ?

In the post Roe vs Wade period in the USA, offering an international hearing to these women would be an uplifting symbol to all of us.

Covid-isolated from session 107 of the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination that is taking place 80 years after Wannsee, I appeal to you to look beyond the letter or the *procedure* of the law and see its spirit. The root meaning of "spirit" is breath. It was our African-American writer and scholar, W.E.B DuBois who said : "*Freedom is defined as the right to breathe*".

Thank you.

Yours respectfully,

Julia Wright

Endorsements as of August 2nd 2022 :

*** Professor Mark Taylor, Princeton Theological Society, Founder of Educators for Mumia**

***Mumia Abu-Jamal Health Committee**

***Released Elders Committee**

***Elaine Legacy Center, Arkansas**

*** Richard Wright Civil Rights Center, Arkansas**

*** International Committee for Solidarity with MAJ and Political Prisoners**

*** Reverend Dr Mary Olson**

*** Lennox Hinds, Esq, who set up the International Commission of Inquiry into Systemic Police Violence against People of African Descent in the USA - which Madame Michelle Bachelet quoted in her June 28th 2021 paper**

***Professor Elizabeth Nan Woodruff, African American Studies and Modern History at Penn State University, author of "American Congo"**

***Noelle Hanrahan, Esq, Prison Radio and Redwood Justice Fund**

*** Professor C.Liegh Nclnnis, poet and short story writer**

***Howard Ehrman, MD, MPH, Former Chicago Assistant Health Commissioner, former Assistant Professor University of Illinois, College of Medicine and of Public Health, People's Response Network**

*** Professor Joy James, author**

*** Sylvain Duez- Alesandrini, spokesperson for the Leonard Peltier Support group in France, Vice-President of the European Alliance for the Self-Determination of Indigenous Peoples and Coordinator of the International Center For Peoples' Culture (CICP).**

*** Aurelie Journée- Duez, EHESS anthropologist and President of the Committee of Solidarity with the American Indians (CSIA - Nitassinan)**

- * Henry Hagins, member of the Free Mumia Coalition.
NYC**
- * Dr David Birkin, Senior Lecturer, University of the Arts, London, UK.**
- * Kalonji Changa, Black August Resistance Movement, journalist on Black Power Media.**
- * Patrick Bobulesco, essayist, bookseller, member of the French "Libérez Mumia" Collective, Paris.**
- * Attorney Nkechi Taifa, Chief People's Counsel for the 2021 International Tribunal on U.S. Human Rights Abuses.**
- * Sam Anderson, NYC Coalition for Public Education**
- * Dr Ricardo Alvarez, MD**
- * Professor Paul Ortiz, Director of the Samuel Proctor Oral Program. President of the United Faculty of Florida - UF. Professor of History at University of Florida.**
- * Julian Kunnie, member Black Alliance for Peace and Indigenous Peoples' Movement for Self-Determination and Liberation. First Nations Enforcement Agency. Board member, National Council for Black Studies.**
- * Kim Kunnie, member of the Arizona Black Educators Association and of the National Educational Association.**
- * Laura Whitehorn, Release Aging People in Prison / RAPP Campaign**