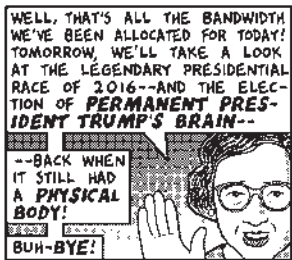
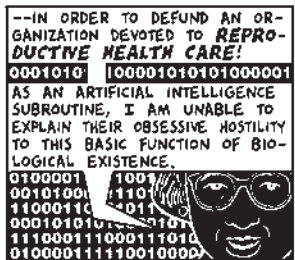
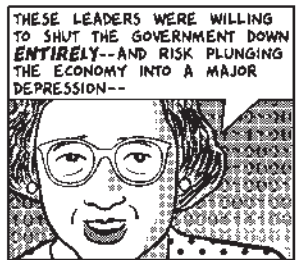
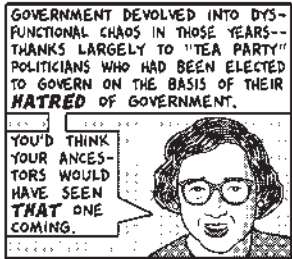
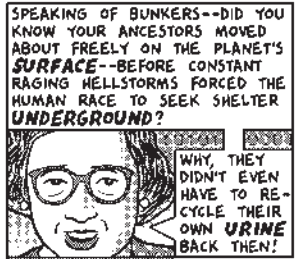
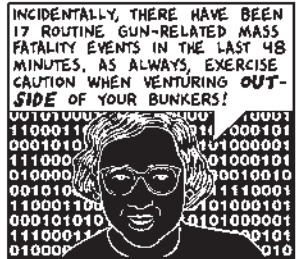
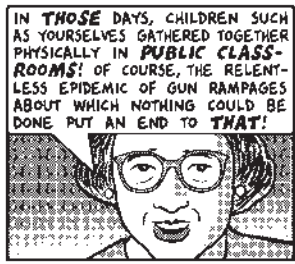
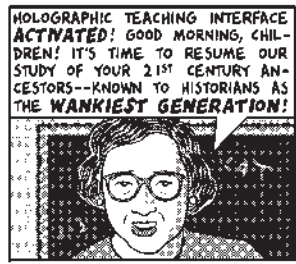


THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



NEW SUNDOWN LAWS

Would the mayor have thanked the chief for arresting Rosa Parks? Structural violence is so pervasive it is canonized into public law, societal attitudes and police practices.

In response to a weekly police report, Eugene's mayor thanked the chief for removing a small group of homeless veterans and disabled people off unused public land, referencing a team of 20 EPD officers plus animal control and Public Works personnel dispatched to move them to "nowhere." She also wrote of her "appreciation" for removing homeless youth from Kesey Square, lamenting they had only moved across the street.

She failed to praise the chief for arresting a felon with a loaded gun, a parole-violating registered sex offender or a man accused of credit card fraud, all included in the report.

Cities used to reserve a portion of the public buses for "colored people." However, today Eugene reserves 100 percent of park land for recreation; leaving no "back of the bus" for poor people who have no shelter.

Under the unwritten sundown laws, people of color were escorted out of town at sundown under threat of arrest. Today sundown laws have morphed into "quality of life laws" in which the poor are chased out of town 24 hours a day with selectively enforced laws.

That is structural violence in a nutshell.
Jean Stacey
Eugene

OUT OF BALANCE

When I read that the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) wants to let trophy hunters kill even more cougars than in the past, I was shocked. The hunters are not killing cougars to get a source of food; rather, they are killing them in order to display a stuffed, dead cougar. I'm sorry, but I just don't think that's justification enough for this loss of life. Furthermore, the argument that killing cougars increases deer populations for hunters (who want

to kill more deer) also doesn't stand up. These arguments are out of balance as is the approach ODFW is taking, as it uses taxpayer money to subsidize lethal methods of predator control that we as voters and taxpayers twice voted against.

Proposed is that ODFW agents be allowed to kill cougars with painful traps called "neck snares." A majority of Oregonians voted to ban dog hunting, and yet government "volunteer" hunters will be allowed to use hounds to hunt cougars! That's a total end run around what we voted for.

I have just written the Department of Fish and Wildlife and told them I don't want cougar hunting expanded. Their email address is odfw.commission@state.or.us. I encourage readers, whether you are concerned about how your tax dollars are spent, whether your vote is taken seriously or out of care for animals, to also contact ODFW.

Debra Merskin, Ph.D.
Eugene

MY LIBRARY STORY

Besides our public schools, there are no institutions that do more to cultivate a culture of learning than our wonderful public libraries.

Shortly after my son was born we began visiting the library on a weekly basis. My son has always loved to be read to. I can hardly remember him ever turning down an opportunity. Now in the second grade, he is a voracious reader, tearing through middle-school level books sometime in one night. Some evenings he emerges out of his room (well after lights out) with an ear-to-ear smile holding a book up in the air proclaiming that "I've finished it!"

It wasn't long after we began visiting the library that I started to bring two large bags to fill. To this day, I hook a bag around my shoulder and slowly poke through the aisles filling bag number one and then bag number two, usually scoring about 50 books! While I'm packing my bags, my son and daughter peruse the shelves,

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