

# Movement for a New Society

1006 South 46th Street Philadelphia Pa 19143

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Dear Friend,

The renewed bombing of Indochina has confirmed some of our worst fears about the election results. Many activists are feeling helpless -- even hopeless. One easily feels overwhelmed by the rigidity of the American system, by its resistance to change.

The war is no more a "mistake" than enduring poverty and racism. Injustice is built into the American system so completely that only the nonviolent power of a mass radical movement can dislodge it.

Building such a mass movement has been neglected in favor of the immediate, pressing issue -- disarmament, racial discrimination, the war, health care, poverty and welfare rights, environmental destruction. Yet none of these issues can be solved without changing the system itself. That means doing our homework: analyzing the system, developing alternatives both in theory and in concrete form, agreeing on a strategy for change.

Clearly, a different kind of movement for change is needed, one which will empower us rather than leave us in despair. Empowerment comes when activists get together with concentrated energy (instead of liberal scatter) and with care for each other (instead of hard-hearted politicking). The enclosed brochure shows the dimensions of the Movement for a New Society network which, in our experience, supports and affirms us as activists and as human beings.

MNS supporters are using our new materials, acting in local communities, sharing financially to help the network grow. (We appreciate the sharing of over \$5000 in response to our fall appeal.) In this letter we ask you who have not yet joined a group in the MNS network:

- Could your affinity group or alternative institution join the MNS network, for mutual aid and deepening commitment to fundamental change?
- If you are not already part of a group of nonviolent radicals, could you work with others to start one?

The Movement-Building Collective here in Philadelphia may be able to help. We can put you in touch with others in your area who are interested. We can help get trainers to your area for workshops on the skills and knowledge necessary to move in new directions. We can share manuals and other practical resources.

We hope your group, or group-to-be, will explore the hopes and risks in joining a network which is trying to move toward a new society.

*Bert Lacey* *Blair Lacey* *George Lacey*

for the movement-building collective

