

May 4, 2019

Dear Nadja,

I am in receipt of the NNJ NYC Abolitionist agenda and support the over-all objective... Social Change!  
As a Black gay incarcerated individual and one committed to advocating social justice I'm most willing to share my opinions and insight regarding the noted question.

However, due to my inability to answer some questions out of concern of sounding idealistic and unrealistic, I've chosen to make a statement which I hope to incorporate answers to some of your questions.

My vision of safety is an economically sound community based on respect for your fellow inhabitants where people show concern for one another, where needed services are available to provide for those most disenfranchised. Where outreach with compassion is shown instead of blind indifference. And having a security service learnt and empathetic to race, cultural, gender, sexual and economical sensitivity.

Said vision can be accomplished thru a steadfast commitment for change and reaching every segment of the targeted communities

- Many objective issues I favor and resonates strongly within me. Yet I'm truly in support of Community Reparation. True rehabilitative services, housing, employment opportunities and over-all means to help  
Instead of the "joke" of mental-health serv. and job training in prison, this is needed in the communities

the Transformative Justice Hubs I believe would be far more people productive and constructive for communities than incarceration.

The noted proposed services therein could really contribute to making a beneficial change in those most need lives.

The argument in support of <sup>\*</sup>eliminating money from the carceral system is sound and on point.

Such fines and fees are simply an incentive to incarcerate more of us.

<sup>\*</sup> However, some individuals will always be beyond redemption, rehabilitation or positive change.

Thus surveillance of individual/s, groups or gangs that consistently engage in dangerous anti-social behavior should be monitored. - Hence, if said person/s prove

to be incorrigible what would you propose being done with these individuals? - Personally I regrettably believe that a small prison system will always be needed. Though positive reform of that system will be required.

Again I support the noted issues in addition to commending and thanking you for your stand for positive change.

Being scheduled for release Feb 2020 I hope to continue my support upon my release.

In Solidarity

Sterling Fleming