

**THE  
WORLD  
CAN'T  
WAIT!**



**DRIVE  
OUT THE  
BUSH  
REGIME!**

**ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, GEORGE W. BUSH SIGNED  
HIS TORTURE BILL INTO LAW.**

From now on, anyone in the world he or his Secretary of "Defense" say is an "enemy combatant" can be arrested anywhere in the world, held without ever seeing the "evidence" against them, and not have the right to face their accusers in court. And, at the heart of it all, they can be tortured under what Bush will rightfully claim is the "law of the land".

**WEAR ORANGE! NO TORTURE! NOT IN OUR NAME!**

With the passage of the Military Commissions Act, Congress has effectively ratified torture and indefinite detentions, stripping away the right to habeas corpus. This is indeed a further leap on the road towards fascism: what has existed in the shadowy world of clandestine action now has the openly declared mantle of official, legal approval. That which you will not resist and mobilize to stop, you will learn - or be forced - to accept. If we do not want to be a nation of torturers, there must immediately be visual displays of opposition to the Military Commissions Act and the torture and indefinite detentions. To that end, over the next month World Can't Wait is calling on you to:

**YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS NOW CODIFIED TORTURE.** The new law does not prohibit the government from using "alternative interrogation techniques" that include sleep deprivation, extreme cold, personal degradation, waterboarding (simulated drowning), "temporary" disablement, and psychological disorientation. The new law grants George Bush the sole authority to decide what torture is. Abu Ghraib and the secret renditions were horrible. But to take the next step and write such practices into law is even worse — qualitatively worse.

Your government has officially shredded constitutional promises of basic and fundamental rights to due process — taking a huge step towards replacing the rule of law with the arbitrary rule of men. The new law will give the president the right to hold people indefinitely without charging them, and without review from the courts, nullifying habeas corpus rights. Congress has now passed legislation that denies defendants the right to see evidence used against them, and allows the use of "evidence" gained through torture. It forbids anyone to invoke the Geneva Conventions in any civil case or habeas corpus proceedings undertaken against the U.S. government, and, according to some experts, it may also forbid this in criminal cases.

Your government — which already holds over 14,000 people overseas without charges — has dramatically expanded the scope of who it can detain to include people anywhere in the world, including within the U.S. People can now be declared an "unlawful enemy

combatant" simply for providing what the president decides is "material," including financial or indirect support for hostilities against the U.S.

Your government is rewriting the law on crimes against humanity to exclude itself, incurring the contempt and hatred of people all over the planet.

Few in Congress made anything but the most token show of opposition, as leading Democrats let Bush set the agenda, staying silent when it mattered, refusing to filibuster, then voting no only when the die was cast.

This unprecedented legalization of torture is part of a package coming from the Bush regime. That package includes an atrocious, nightmarish occupation of Iraq and now the ominous threat of war against Iran. It includes an assault on critical thinking and serious motion toward a theocracy. It includes the criminal response to Hurricane Katrina. It includes a systematic attack on women's reproductive rights, and the demonization of gay people and denial of their basic human rights. It includes the scapegoating of immigrants and severely repressive new legislation aimed at them.

And it gets worse with every passing week. As the call for The World Can't Wait—Drive Out the Bush Regime states: "The Bush regime is setting out to radically remake society very quickly, in a fascist way, and for generations to come." With this legalization of torture, who will now deny that? The stakes are clearly enormous.

If Not Now, When? If Not Us, Who?

**THIS MUST HALT!** This entire package must be repudiated, and the whole direction of this country must be reversed. "The point is this: history is full of examples where people who had right on their side fought against tremendous odds and were victorious. And it also full of examples of people passively hoping to wait it out, only to get swallowed up by a horror beyond what they ever imagined. WHICH ONE WE GET IS UP TO US." — From the call "The World Can't Wait! Drive Out the Bush Regime!"

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