

PREVIOUSLY ON “MEDIA EDGE” (January-June 2015)

Episode #529 (June 27 – July 4, 2015)

"What Does My Headscarf Mean to You?"

Unconscious bias is a prevalent factor driving culture, causing us all to make assumptions based on our own upbringings and influences. Such implicit prejudice affects everything, and it's time for us to be more thoughtful, smarter, better. In this funny, honest TED Talk last December, Yassmin Abdel-Magied uses a surprising way to challenge us all to look beyond our initial perceptions.

"Reel Bad Arabs"

This devastating tour of the American cinematic landscape reveals an astonishing and persistent pattern of slanderous Arab stereotyping. Reel Bad Arabs exposes a long love affair with Arab villainy and buffoonery in American films.

"Peak Moment"

This two-part episode features a video tour of Gord and Ann Baird's edible landscape, which starts at the off-grid chicken house and yard, containing fruit trees that provide a protective canopy against flying predators. Roof rainwater becomes drinking water for the chickens, whose “rototilling” has prepared land now being planted in grains — for themselves and people. Their edible gardens make use of less-than-ideal growing spaces on a rocky knoll. Nook and cranny gardens optimize micro-climates -- water catchment for perennial plants, rocks that retain warmth to extend the growing period, and trees providing fuel, food and shade. They are transitioning away from the annual food plants. As more perennials get established, they're becoming foragers rather than cultivators. While the cob oven cooks food, it adds warmth to the wall it shares with the cob greenhouse. Inside, heat-loving plants are enjoying tropical warmth -- in Canada!

Episode #528 (June 20-26, 2015)

"Peak Moment"

After work Michelle Colussi's husband sits on the front steps, attracting visitors young and old. This bit of neighborliness encourages relationships which come in handy -- like bailing out one another's houses when the nearby creek flooded. Co-founder of Transition Victoria (BC), Michelle organized her neighbors to join in a five-week "Transition Street" initiative to discuss and improve household practices around conserving water, growing food, and reducing waste, energy and transport. She says we need projects at the street level on up to regional levels. We also need to shift values from the "I'll take care of me" ethic to valuing cooperation and collaboration.

"Street Corner Sweatshops...How the Car Wash Industry Abuses Workers"

The car wash industry in Los Angeles consisted of over 10,000 workers -mostly Latino -who report widespread abuses by management -including wage theft, denial of water, and sexual assault. In response, they formed the very first Bonus Carwasheros Union!

"From Danger to Dignity"

After more than a century of back-alley tragedies, a national movement to decriminalize abortion took root. FROM DANGER to DIGNITY combines rare archival footage with present-day interviews to weave together two parallel stories: the evolution of underground networks to help women find safe abortions outside the law and the intensive efforts of activists and legislators who broke the silence and changed the laws.

"The Children of Ibdaa - To Create Something Out of Nothing"

The lives of several adolescents in a Palestinian children's dance troupe from a West Bank refugee camp. They use their performance to express the history, struggle, and aspirations of their people.

Episode #527 (June 13-19, 2015)

"Peak Moment"

Farmer George Vojkovich's sustainable, organic operations include humane treatment of animals, biodynamic practices, a mobile harvesting unit, local butchers, and sales through farmers markets and their ranch store. "We were stunned...We have this little store. People started coming. The kids were autistic. They had Crohn's disease. He had prostate cancer, she had breast cancer. They sat at the tables and told us their problems — allergies, chemical resistant problems. They said, 'We came looking for clean food. Here we are.'"

"Let's Save the Last Pristine Continent"

2041 will be a pivotal year for our planet. That year will mark the end of a 50-year agreement to keep Antarctica, the Earth's last pristine continent, free of exploitation. Explorer Robert Swan — the first person to walk both the North and South Poles — is on a mission to ensure that we extend that treaty. In his October 2014 TED Talks presentation, he pleads with us to choose the preservation of the Antarctic for our own survival.

"The Fragile Promise of Choice"

Through vignettes from cities and rural areas around the country, this documentary examines how restrictive legislation, in an atmosphere of harassment and violence, affects the lives of abortion providers and the women who seek their services. The film features interviews with community doctors, women seeking services, clinic directors, clergy, and counselors. Their stories illustrate the increasing number of situations in which legal does not necessarily mean accessible.

"The Story of Stuff"

"The Story of Stuff" -- an animated documentary about the lifecycle of material goods -- is one of the most widely viewed environmental-themed short films of all time. Since its release in December 2007, The Story of Stuff has been shown in thousands of schools, houses of worship, community events and businesses around the world.

Episode #526 (June 6-12, 2015)

"Yoruba Richen: What the Gay Rights Movement Learned from the Civil Rights Movement"

As a member of both the African American and LGBT communities, filmmaker Yoruba Richen is fascinated with the overlaps and tensions between the gay rights and the civil rights movements. In a March 2014 TED Talks presentation, she explores how the two struggles intertwine and propel each other forward and dispels a myth about their points of conflict. A powerful reminder that we all have a stake in equality.

"Racism is Real"

Something is wrong when:

Black drivers are twice as likely to get pulled over by police;

Blacks are jailed six times the rate of whites;

Black male teens are 21 times more likely to be killed by cops than whites;

And we continue to do nothing about it!

"An Evening with Chris Hedges"

Chris Hedges, former Foreign Correspondent for the New York Times and columnist for Truthdig.com, gave a moving presentation to a capacity audience on November 1, 2013 at St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Sacramento, recorded by a Media Edge video production team. Hedges was part of the team of reporters at The New York Times awarded a Pulitzer Prize in 2002 for the paper's coverage of global terrorism. He also received the Amnesty International Global Award for Human Rights Journalism in 2002. The Los Angeles Press Club honored Hedges' original columns in Truthdig by naming the author the Online Journalist of the Year in 2009 and again in 2011. The LAPC also granted him the Best Online Column award in 2010 for his Truthdig essay "One Day We'll All Be Terrorists."

Episode #525 (May 30 – June 5, 2015)

"Glenn Greenwald: Why Privacy Matters"

Glenn Greenwald was one of the first reporters to see -- and write about -- the Edward Snowden files, with their revelations about the United States' extensive surveillance of private citizens. In his October 2014 TED Talks presentation, Greenwald makes the case for why you need to care about privacy, even if you're "not doing anything you need to hide."

"Reclaiming Their Voice: The Native American Vote in New Mexico"

This 2009 documentary -- directed by EMMY-winning filmmaker, Dorothy Fadiman -- documents ways in which Native Americans have been disenfranchised over centuries, in particular in voting representation. It chronicles the Laguna Pueblo tribe of New Mexico in their 2004 groundbreaking voter registration drive and the challenges they faced once Laguna voters arrived at the polls. The film also shows the Sacred Alliance for Grassroots Equality's (SAGE) fight to preserve parts of the sacred Petroglyph National Monument. The film is narrated by Peter Coyote and features interviews with members of the local Laguna community, including New Mexico House Representative, W. Ken Martinez.

Robin H. Levin, the Community Librarian of the Fort Washakie School in Wyoming, said of the film: "Emotions run deep when viewing this insightful political documentary. The story blends sincere efforts to achieve political clout with unfortunate results that, somehow, do not shut down the hopes of Native voters in New Mexico." In 2010, the film won the "Best New Mexico Film Award" at the first Duke City Doc Festival, which later became the Albuquerque International Film Festival.

"How Texas Shut Down a Prison"

Texas saved \$2 billion for taxpayers by cutting prison spending while making the state safer. Now it's time to renew those reforms. This video was produced in partnership with the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition.

"An Evening With Naomi Tutu"

Naomi Tutu, daughter of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, spoke in Sacramento at a 2012 event recorded by Media Edge. Tutu was educated in Swaziland, the US and England, and has divided her adult life between South Africa and the US. She has served as a development consultant in West Africa and a program coordinator for programs on Race and Gender and Gender-Based Violence in Education at the African Gender Institute at the University of Cape Town. She has also taught at the Universities of Hartford and Connecticut and Brevard College. The challenges of growing black and female in apartheid South Africa has led to her present avocation as an activist for human rights. Those experiences taught how much we all lose when any of us is judged purely on physical attributes. During her Sacramento appearance, she blended her passion for human dignity with humor and personal stories.

Episode #524 (May 23-29, 2015)

"Restoration"

RESTORATION is the fourth film in Green World Rising, a series of films aimed at moving the climate debate forward. The film focuses on how nature can protect the Earth from the harmful effects of climate change and how industrial design and science researchers can learn valuable lessons from natural systems.

"When we plug into the wisdom of nature and work alongside Earth's ecosystems, we discover new and exciting innovations. Many are already underway. It is this partnership with nature that will solve our most pressing climate concerns and create the building blocks of a civilization that works alongside nature, not against it," said Leonardo DiCaprio, Narrator of RESTORATION.

"Bernie Sanders"

Vermont Senator and recently-announced Presidential candidate Bernie Sanders spoke in Richmond, CA in November 2014. With a focus on Chevron's intrusion into local politics, Sanders takes on Citizens United and the Koch Brothers.

"TED Talks -- Gail Reed: Where to train the world's doctors? Cuba"

Big problems need big solutions, sparked by big ideas, imagination and audacity. In this talk, journalist Gail Reed profiles one big solution worth noting: Havana's Latin American Medical School, which trains global physicians to serve the local communities that need them most.

"Jazree's Court"

Jazree was like any other young kid: hanging out with friends and experiencing important milestones. She finished Elementary school and started the emotional roller coaster called puberty. She even started having crushes -- crushes on girls. All of these experiences impacted Jazree's future, but one experience overshadowed all others - Jazree's dad was sentenced to seven years in prison for possession of an unloaded firearm.

"World Peace is a Local Issue"

What happens when local citizens take on an international issue? OSCAR-nominated, EMMY-winning filmmaker, Dorothy Fadiman, documented the hard work and eventual triumph, of Palo Alto, California residents who move their City Council to change an entrenched position on a critical issue and pass a Nuclear Freeze Resolution. We see Senator Edward Markey introduce the freeze resolution in 1982, and again today, appealing to Congress to reduce nuclear arms. By showing what a determined group of people can accomplish, WORLD PEACE highlights the fact that international concerns are also local issues.

Episode #523 of "Media Edge" (May 16-22, 2015)

"Peak Moment"

"Our animals live in the pasture - birds, pigs and cows. Everybody gets to roam free in fresh air and sunlight...not only are they getting the food at its best, but they're also leaving behind the waste products that rejuvenate that grass and keep the system going." Farmer George Vojkovich keeps a close eye on his 600 cattle - the grasses they eat, and the soil and microbes that feed the grass. He rotates animals into different areas for grazing, supplements soil with minerals, and breeds only the healthiest animals. Learn about operations at this Pacific Northwest ranch, including egg production, packaging, and distribution of their locally famous products.

"War on Whistleblowers: Free Press and the National Security State "

This film highlights four cases where whistleblowers noticed government wrong-doing and took to the media to expose the fraud and abuse. It exposes the surprisingly worsening and threatening reality for whistleblowers and the press. The film includes interviews with whistleblowers Michael DeKort, Thomas Drake, Franz Gayl and Thomas Tamm and award-winning journalists like David Carr, Lucy Dalglish, Glenn Greenwald, Seymour Hersh, Michael Isikoff, Bill Keller, Eric Lipton, Jane Mayer, Dana Priest, Tom Vanden Brook and Sharon Weinberger.

"Let the Show Begin"

This film documents a 5 day international short film festival held in Baghdad in extremely difficult circumstances in September 2005. The young organizers of the event are determined to do something constructive and to assert a sense of creativity in a situation where daily violence traumatizes and paralyzes people.

Episode #522 of "Media Edge" (May 9-15, 2015)

"OverCriminalized -- Alternatives to Incarceration"

Homeless Hate Laws are spreading throughout the country. There are alternatives. OverCriminalized focuses on the people who find themselves being trafficked through this nation's criminal justice system with little regard for their humanity and zero prospects for actual justice. They are victims of unwillingness to invest in solving major social problems, and the consequent handing off of that responsibility to the police, the courts, and the prisons. They are the mentally ill, the homeless, and the drug addicted. Sometimes they are all three.

"Unmanned: America's Drone Wars"

Unmanned: America's Drone Wars, the eighth full-length feature documentary from Brave New Foundation and director Robert Greenwald, investigates the impact of U.S. drone strikes at home and abroad through more than 70 separate interviews, including a former American drone operator who shares what he has witnessed in his own words, Pakistani families mourning loved ones and seeking legal redress, investigative journalists pursuing the truth, and top military officials warning against blowback from the loss of innocent life.

"When Abortion Was Illegal"

This Academy Award-nominated film features compelling first person accounts which reveal the physical, legal, and emotional consequences during the era when abortion was a criminal act.

Episode #521 of "Media Edge" (May 2-8, 2015)

"Not Guilty -- You STILL Pay "

The United States is one of only TWO countries in the world that use a commercial bail system. There is a profit incentive to incarcerating people. There are some companies that are showing big profits that will tell you that things have never been better. You can fight back.

"Voices Across the Divide"

In this powerful documentary and oral history project exploring the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, interviews with Palestinians in the United States are woven together with historical photos and footage to create an intimate picture of one of the most complex conflicts of our time.

"Immigrants For Sale"

Immigrants For Sale is a ground-breaking documentary that goes inside the private immigrant detention industry, through the lens of those most impacted, the players behind the trade and the multi-billion dollar profits that fuel it all.

"Green World Rising"

Green World Rising is the 3rd film in the Green World Rising series. The film shows how we can be 100% off fossil fuels in a few decades. Narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio, presented by Thom Hartmann, directed by Leila Conners and produced by George DiCaprio, Mathew Schmid, Earl Katz and Roe Sharon Peled. Created by Tree Media with the support of the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation.

"The Story of Cap & Trade"

A fast-paced, fact-filled look at the leading climate solution being discussed on Capitol Hill. Host Annie Leonard introduces the energy traders and Wall Street financiers at the heart of this scheme and reveals the "devils in the details" in current cap and trade proposals: free permits to big polluters, fake offsets and distraction from what's really required to tackle the climate crisis. If you've heard about Cap & Trade, but aren't sure how it works (or who benefits), this is the movie for you.

Episode #520 (April 25 -May 1)

"The NRA vs. Pediatricians"

You wouldn't go to a gun lobbyist or a Smith and Wesson executive for advice about your health. But that's who is controlling our nation's response to one of the deadliest epidemics of our time: the public health crisis of gun violence. Thanks to gun-maker money, the NRA has managed to buy laws like Florida's notorious "Docs V. Glocks," which bars physicians from asking their patients about whether they have a gun in their home – let alone whether that gun is accessible to a curious toddler. It's time to end this epidemic. Doctors are the most trusted sources of health advice in America.

"Google and the World Brain"

The story of the most ambitious project ever conceived on the Internet. In 2002 Google began to scan millions of books in an effort to create a giant global library, containing every book in existence. They had an even greater purpose - to create a higher form of intelligence, something that HG Wells had predicted in his 1937 essay "World Brain". But over half the books Google scanned were in copyright, and authors across the world launched a campaign to stop Google, which climaxed in a New York courtroom in 2011. This film explores the dreams, dilemmas and dangers of the Internet.

"The Humor Times Presents Will Durst"

Media Edge presents excerpts from political comedian Will Durst's one-man show -- "BoomeRaging: From LSD to OMG" -- recorded at the 24th Street Theatre in Sacramento on August 23, 2013. According to Durst, the show is about the travails of being "chronologically gifted," or "what happens when acid flashbacks meet dementia."

Episode #519 (April 18-24)

"Hey, World! Let's Create a Nuclear-Free Future"

Nuclear abolition connects deeply with struggles to end and prevent wars, increase peace, and achieve economic and environmental justice in our local communities and around the world. Learn more and get involved! This short video promotes upcoming activities in New York City and around the world, which will include:

- An international peace, justice and environmental conference – April 24 & 25

- A major international rally, march to the United Nations and peace festival – April 26

- A 'Global Wave' of symbolic public actions in cities around the world to 'Wave Goodbye to Nuclear Weapons'
- Nonviolent demonstrations, protest actions and numerous side events to press demands for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, and for economic justice and environmental sustainability

- The presentation of millions of signatures on petitions calling for nuclear weapons abolition.

- Youth and student organizing

- An Interfaith Service for Nuclear Weapons Abolition

"The Ghosts of Jeju"

A shocking documentary about the struggle of the people of Jeju Island, S. Korea. Set in the context of the American presence in Korea after World War II, the film reveals horrible atrocities at the hands of the U.S. Military Government of Korea.

"Seeds of Freedom"

This film, narrated by Jeremy Irons, details how seeds, which have been the heart of traditional farming and natural biodiversity since the beginning of agriculture, are being transformed into an expensive, patented commodity used to monopolize the global food system.

Episode #518 (April 11-17)

"Hey, World! Let's Create a Nuclear-Free Future"

Nuclear abolition connects deeply with struggles to end and prevent wars, increase peace, and achieve economic and environmental justice in our local communities and around the world. Learn more and get involved! This short video promotes upcoming activities in New York City and around the world.

"Peak Moment"

In the two-part episode, Leila Darwish, author of Earth Repair, provides a grassroots guide to healing toxic and damaged landscapes. She talks about involving the local community, getting the soil and/or water tested periodically, and approaching the work with humility rather than "humans know best." Healers can use plants, microbes and fungi like mushrooms to extract, bind or break down contaminants. She is excited by the experimentation done by grassroots remediators, who are openly sharing their successes and failures. "It

shouldn't be on the [local] people to do the cleanup work, but if you have healing work that needs to be done, it should be with people who have the heart to do it."

"Second Chance Citizens"

What if you committed an offense and served your time in prison - now what? Unfortunately, there are enormous challenges to re-entry. One of the hardest is finding a job. The vast majority of employers won't even let a person with a criminal record apply. Parole requires a steady residence, but affordable housing requires background checks. There's a catch-22 at every turn. It's no wonder that approximately two thirds of prisoners are projected to be rearrested within the first three years of release. This vicious cycle makes our community less safe, greatly affects children of incarcerated parents, and gives a life sentence to men and women whose sentence is already over. "Second Chance Citizens" illustrates that this doesn't have to be the case. It's a success story of a man who re-enters society and supports his family due to an employer giving him a chance. This story can be re-created. This can happen all over America. Do you believe in second chances?

"Catching Fire"

Catching Fire tells a compelling story of how a small but committed group of local, tribal, state and federal land managers are bringing back the use of prescribed fire as a tool to protect communities and ecosystems across Northern California. It examines the use of fire by the Karuk Tribe of California, and the connection between the rise of megafires across the West and the last century of fire suppression. Drawing on interviews with fire scientists, tribal and federal land managers, and fire savvy residents from across the North State, this film provides insight on how our relationship to fire can be restored through strategic use of fire as a powerful management tool.

Episode #517 (April 4-10)

This episode marked the 10th anniversary of Media Edge! Each of the nine segments in this special episode premiered in 2005. Many of these segments voiced opposition to the U.S. invasion of Iraq and the re-election of George W. Bush, major reasons why we created Media Edge. This episode includes:

"Eyes Wide Open"

Media Edge producer Steve Kolb's multi-award-winning video about the "Eyes Wide Open" tribute to the soldiers and civilians killed in Iraq. This traveling exhibit stopped in Sacramento on March 29-31, 2005.

"A Quiet Neighborhood"

An anti-Iraq War display at a Sacramento home sparked an evening of demonstrations by supporters and opponents. Includes interviews with the homeowners, Virginia and Stephen Pearcy.

"Cindy Sheehan"

Cindy Sheehan, mother of a soldier killed in Iraq, raised her voice against the U.S. invasion/occupation of that country in an address to a Bay Area audience during a Memorial Day weekend event.

"A Song of Peace"

Media Edge producer Andy Markley's video of an August 17, 2005 rally in Sacramento to support Cindy Sheehan, accompanied by the lovely voices of "Harmonious Combustion" from the Sierra foothills.

"Speak Up! Speak Out!"

When George W. Bush was inaugurated in January of 2005, many Sacramento residents took to the streets in protest. Media Edge Producer Mary Brassell recorded their activities.

"Chew On This!"

"Chew On This!" was a monthly magazine segment within Media Edge during 2005. This program featured former City Councilperson Robbie Waters on the problems of big box retail stores; a frightening spoof about the issue of privacy; a video survey about the Iraq War; a bike safety reminder; and local musician Patrick Grizzell.

"Al Franken Show"

Before he became a U.S. Senator from Minnesota, Al Franken hosted a daily radio program on the Air America network. Franken took his show on the road to Sacramento on May 11, 2005, and a Media Edge crew recorded the live broadcast from Sacramento's Crest Theatre, which included Franken's interview with then-California State Treasurer and gubernatorial candidate Phil Angelides.

"Hear Our Voices"

Interviews with homeless youth, conducted in 2004 at Loaves and Fishes in Sacramento. According to the Urban Institute, children made up nearly 40% of the homeless population in the United States in that year.

"Wedding Album"

As Governor Schwarzenegger prepared to veto the state legislature's bill to legalize same-sex marriage, this video documents a brief window in time in San Francisco in 2004.

Episode #516 (March 28 – April 3)

Segment 1 -- "The Story of Broke"

The United States isn't broke; we're the richest country on the planet and a country in which the richest among us are doing exceptionally well. But the truth is, our economy is broken, producing more pollution, greenhouse gasses and garbage than any other country. In these and so many other ways, it just isn't working. But rather than invest in something better, we continue to keep this 'dinosaur economy' on life support with hundreds of billions of dollars of our tax money. The Story of Broke calls for a shift in government spending toward investments in clean, green solutions -- renewable energy, safer chemicals and materials, zero waste and more -- that can deliver jobs AND a healthier environment. It's time to rebuild the American Dream; but this time, let's build it better.

Segment 2 -- "The Story of Bottled Water"

The story of manufactured demand -- how you get Americans to buy more than half a billion bottles of water every week when it already flows from the tap. This film explores the bottled water industry's attacks on tap water and its use of seductive, environmental-themed advertising to cover up the mountains of plastic waste it produces.

Segment 3 -- "Dakota 38"

In the spring of 2005, Jim Miller, a Native spiritual leader and Vietnam veteran, found himself in a dream riding on horseback across the great plains of South Dakota. Just before he awoke, he arrived at a riverbank in Minnesota and saw 38 of his Dakota ancestors hanged. At the time, Jim knew nothing of the largest mass execution in United States history, ordered by Abraham Lincoln on December 26, 1862. "When you have dreams, you know when they come from the creator... As any recovered alcoholic, I made believe that I didn't get it. I tried to put it out of my mind, yet it's one of those dreams that bothers you night and day." Four years later, embracing the message of the dream, Jim and a group of riders retrace the 330-mile route of his dream on horseback from Lower Brule, South Dakota to Mankato, Minnesota to arrive at the hanging site on the anniversary of the execution. "We can't blame the wasichus anymore. We're doing it to ourselves. We're selling drugs. We're killing our own people. That's what this ride is about, is healing." This is the story of their journey--the blizzards they endure, the Native and Non-Native communities that house and feed them along the way, and the dark history they are beginning to wipe away.

Segment 4 -- "Peak Moment"

Farm coordinator Scott Behmer gives us a tour of a derelict lot transformed into a small urban farm. In an area with widely diverse demographics, work trade volunteers help in the garden and take vegetables home with them. The children's garden has "See, Touch, Taste, and Mint" beds with plants highlighting these themes. In the "Verma Composting" bin, kids get to be up front and personal with bugs and worms! Scott's advice for others: Be flexible. Adapt the garden to peoples' food preferences and time schedules. Seattle Community Farm is a project of Solid Ground in Seattle, Washington.

Episode #515 (March 21-27)

Segment 1 -- "To Prison for Poverty"

To Prison for Poverty documents the system that enables private probation companies to profit from charging excessive fees to low income people who can't pay small fines like traffic tickets. If they can't pay, they go to jail.

Segment 2 -- "PSR 2014 Scholarship Essay Contest Finals"

Last year's Scholarship Essay Contest, sponsored by the Sacramento Chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility, was recorded by a Media Edge crew on April 27, 2014 at the Dante Club in Sacramento. The winning essays were chosen from entries submitted by greater Sacramento area high school students that reacted to this year's prompt, a quotation from the late South African leader and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Nelson Mandela, who said, "Education is the most powerful weapon that you can use to change the world." After the ten finalists read their essays and were questioned by a panel of local community leaders, the authors of the top three essays (as determined by the panel) earned \$3,000, \$2,500 and \$2,000 scholarships, and the other seven each earned a \$1,000 scholarship.

Segment 3 -- "Nowhere To Go But Jail?"

As documented in this short video by Brave New Films, Salt Lake City decided to give homeless people supportive shelter instead of throwing them in jail -- resulting not only in an extraordinary amount of savings on tax dollars but also returning respect back to those who were living on the street.

Segment 4 -- "The Story of Stuff"

"The Story of Stuff" -- an animated documentary about the lifecycle of material goods -- is one of the most widely viewed environmental-themed short films of all time. Since its release in December 2007, The Story of Stuff has been shown in thousands of schools, houses of worship, community events and businesses around the world.

Episode #514 (March 14-20)

Segment 1 -- "How Martin Luther King's Dream Became a Nightmare"

When Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave the "I Have a Dream" 50 years ago, he had no idea Jim Crow would be replaced with another oppressive system: mass incarceration and the drug war. Nixon started the drug war just 8 years after King's "I have a Dream" speech. Both Reagan and Clinton continued it. In 2013 a study found that more black men were incarcerated than were enslaved in the 1850. It's our turn to dream how to end mass incarceration. If you have a felony on your record, it's harder to get a job and you also cannot get many forms of public assistance.

In Dothan, Alabama, T.O.P.S. is offering support for people just getting out of jail-everything from clothes to GED. This is one way to end mass incarceration. It is important to see the links between civil rights, voting rights, and the drug war.

This Brave New Films video was produced in partnership with the NAACP, NAACP of Alabama, National Congress of Black Women, Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, PICO, Healing Communities, V.O.T.E., Project South, The Ordinary People Society, Operation People for Peace, New Jim Crow Movement (Jax), YourBlackWorld, All of Us or None, Drug Policy Alliance, Dream Defenders, CURE, Advocare, Campaign to End Jim Crow, Legal Services for Prisoners with Children, Southern Coalition for Social Justice, and Direct Action for Rights & Equality (DARE).

Segment 2 -- "War on Whistleblowers: Free Press and the National Security State"

This film highlights four cases where whistleblowers noticed government wrong-doing and took to the media to expose the fraud and abuse. It exposes the surprisingly worsening and threatening reality for whistleblowers and the press. The film includes interviews with whistleblowers Michael DeKort, Thomas Drake, Franz Gatl and Thomas Tamm and award-winning journalists like David Carr, Lucy Dalglish, Glenn Greenwald, Seymour Hersh, Michael Isikoff, Bill Keller, Eric Lipton, Jane Mayer, Dana Priest, Tom Vanden Brook and Sharon Weinberger.

Segment 3 -- "Eating Mercifully"

This short film from the Humane Society of the United States explores Christian perspectives on factory farming. A growing number of Christians are changing their diet and consumer purchases because the way animals are

treated in factory farms is inconsistent with their beliefs. Some are demanding better treatment of farm animals, while some are simply leaving animals off their plates altogether.

Segment 4 -- "Carbon"

A short film narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio, "Carbon" shows how we can keep carbon in the ground through putting a price on carbon.

Episode #513 (March 7-13)

Segment 1 -- "Immigrants For Sale"

Immigrants For Sale is a ground-breaking documentary that goes inside the private immigrant detention industry, through the lens of those most impacted, the players behind the trade and the multi-billion dollar profits that fuel it all.

Segment 2 -- "Peak Moment"

"I spent five minutes spreading the compost on the driveway, two minutes sprinkling the seed, and maybe five minutes to harvest the whole patch. And I had maybe twenty pounds of nutritious leafy greens." From this spur-of-the-moment idea, plant breeder Carol Deppe spent decades finding the most productive "eat-all greens" varieties with edible stalks. With three or four crops a year in a bed no larger than 4x12 feet, you can produce a couple hundred pounds of greens. Deppe believes that this could revolutionize nutritious food production in urban food deserts, small plots and even commercial greens production.

Segment 3 -- "Over Troubled Waters"

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the largest estuary on the west coast of the Americas, is a national treasure being squandered by greed. In this visually rich documentary, Ed Begley, Jr. narrates the story of the battle being fought by the people of the Delta to protect the region they love and encourage saner water policies for all of the people of California.

Segment 4 -- "F-35: The Jet That Ate the Pentagon"

This video, produced by Brave New Films, sheds new light on the waste and failures of the Pentagon's F-35 Joint Strike Fighter program, including the extraordinary costs of the F-35 (the most expensive weapons system in history), critical design failings, "concurrent development," and extreme technical and performance issues. The video also highlights the role political contributions given to select members of Congress by Lockheed Martin and other defense contractors have played in keeping the F-35 off the budget chopping block.

Episode #512 (February 28 – March 6)

Segment 1 -- "Deport Hate"

Our current immigration system is broken. Deportations are at a record high, families are being separated, immigrant workers exploited, human lives are being lost at the border, there is rampant persecution and discrimination of immigrants and a continuation in the perpetuation of negative stereotypes and the criminalization of migration. How did we get here? How did we sacrifice basic human and civil rights in the name of political posturing, agendas and money interests? What can we do to reverse this?

Segment 2 -- "Outfoxed: Rupert Murdoch's War on Journalism"

Outfoxed: Rupert Murdoch's War on Journalism is a 2004 documentary film by filmmaker Robert Greenwald that criticizes the Fox News Channel and its owner, Rupert Murdoch, claiming that the channel is used to promote and advocate right-wing views. The film says this pervasive bias contradicts the channel's claim of being "Fair and Balanced".

Segment 3 -- "Outfoxed Effect -- Ten Years Later"

Ten years after the film "Outfoxed: Rupert Murdoch's War on Journalism" was released, "Outfoxed Effect" looks back in time and shows how things have not really changed.

Segment 4 -- "Omar is My Friend"

A student at Baghdad University works as a taxi driver to support his wife and four daughters. As he negotiates his clapped out taxi around checkpoints, tanks and traffic jams, he talks about work, lack of petroleum, electricity, having daughters in a male-dominated society, his personal aspirations and those of his society.

Episode #511 (February 21-27)

Segment 1 -- "Peak Moment"

"If you want to change something, don't attack the existing reality. Instead, build a new model that makes the old one irrelevant." Quoting Buckminster Fuller, David Van Seters believes the sharing economy will help make the current dysfunctional economy obsolete. Sharing is age-old, he says. Now combined with internet social media, it is becoming an unstoppable phenomenon. He cites examples of sharing rooms and homes, empty space in cargo trucks, tools, land, and even "waste" materials. Many people start a sharing enterprise to save money or get supplemental income for under-utilized assets. "But what causes them to continue is the surprising amount of benefit from community connections."

Segment 2 -- "Grounds for Resistance"

This documentary film is about Coffee Strong, a coffee shop located outside the gates of the U.S. Army base Fort Lewis in Washington: its importance for its most active members, active duty soldiers and their families, veterans of recent and past conflicts, and regional and national political movements. At the center of the film are the men and women whose experiences in the military and war compel them to commit themselves to help others who are serving or have served in the past. Each individual featured in the film exists within a nuanced tangle of conflicting emotions tied to pride, dedication to service, friendship, anger, disillusionment, sadness, and guilt. The film examines each one's stories from their decisions to join the military, their experiences of war, and their motivations for devoting themselves to Coffee Strong. It explores how their relationships with one another and their activist efforts to make a more peaceful and just world help them cope with their own experiences.

Segment 3 -- "Wild Versus Wall"

The Sierra Club border film, Wild Versus Wall, details the unique and diverse natural areas along the southern borders of California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas, and explains how they have been and will be affected by current and planned federal border policy and infrastructure, as well as the danger to our rights and safety imposed by sweeping new powers granted to the Department of Homeland Security.

Segment 4 -- "The Story of Solutions"

The Story of Solutions, released in October 2013, explores how we can move our economy in a more sustainable and just direction, starting with orienting ourselves toward a new goal. In the current 'Game of More', we're told to cheer a growing economy – more roads, more malls, more Stuff! – even though our health indicators are worsening, income inequality is growing and polar icecaps are melting. But what if we changed the point of the game? What if the goal of our economy wasn't more, but better – better health, better jobs and a better chance to survive on the planet? Shouldn't that be what winning means?

Episode #510 (February 14-20)

Segment 1 -- "Dying in Prison"

Roberto Martinez-Medina got arrested for not having a valid driver's license...he died in prison after being there for a month. The Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) staff in the housing unit had been told that he was ill, that he was vomiting. They saw him that morning and refused to see him again. His fellow inmates were cared for him because he couldn't get medical attention.

This CCA facility holds 2,000 men. Medina died because CCA didn't provide him the medical care he needed. The department of health was alerted and they refusal to do anything about CCA's neglect.

Segment 2 -- "Drug War Alternatives That Work"

The "War on Drugs" has been a complete disaster since 1971. Now police have alternatives to incarceration that actually help people - and save money for the taxpayers.

Segment 3 -- "Not Just a Game"

We've been told again and again that sports and politics don't mix, that games are just games and athletes should just "shut up and play." But according to Nation magazine sports editor Dave Zirin, this notion is just flat-out wrong. In *Not Just a Game*, the powerful documentary based on his bestselling book "The People's History of Sports in the United States," Zirin argues that far from providing merely escapist entertainment, American sports have long been at the center of some of the major political debates and struggles of our time. In a fascinating tour of the good, the bad, and the ugly of American sports culture, Zirin first traces how American sports have glamorized militarism, racism, sexism, and homophobia, then excavates a largely forgotten history of rebel athletes who stood up to power and fought for social justice beyond the field of play. The result is as deeply moving as it is exhilarating: nothing less than an alternative history of political struggle in the United States as seen through the games its people have played.

Segment 4 -- "Peak Moment"

In this two-part episode, we hear about preparation of an emergency survival kit from Tim Beale and Ann Pacey. They list essential areas to address, starting with financial records and ending with communications - including a plan to get back in touch with loved ones after an emergency. Their show-and-tell includes gear and advice for cooking, lighting, heat and power, food, water storage and filters, sanitation, clothing, and first aid/medical.

Episode #509 (February 7-13)

Segment 1 -- "Green World Rising"

Green World Rising is the 3rd film in the *Green World Rising* series. The film shows how we can be 100% off fossil fuels in a few decades. Narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio, presented by Thom Hartmann, directed by Leila Conners and produced by George DiCaprio, Mathew Schmid, Earl Katz and Roe Sharon Peled. Created by Tree Media with the support of the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation.

Segment 2 -- "An Evening With Angela Davis"

Social equality activist Angela Davis spoke to a capacity crowd at St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Sacramento on December 5, 2014. With recent events in Ferguson and New York on everyone's mind, Ms. Davis spoke eloquently about these and related concerns. A Media Edge crew was on hand to record this inspirational event.

Ms. Davis, 70, is a political activist, scholar, and author. She emerged as a controversial leader in the 1960s, associated with the Communist Party USA, and the Black Panther Party. Ms. Davis was arrested, charged, tried, and acquitted of conspiracy in the 1970 armed takeover of a Marin County courtroom— four people died in the incident. Ms. Davis is the founder of Critical Resistance, an organization working to abolish the prison-industrial complex. She is a retired professor with the History of Consciousness Department at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a former director of the university's Feminist Studies department.

Segment 3 -- "Vanessa's Eight Year Sentence"

This film follows a Bay Area teen with an incarcerated parent who is on the precarious edge of the system herself. When they took her mom away, Vanessa stopped caring. She acted out in school, got in trouble with the law, and ended up in a group home. When her mom only had a year left in her sentence, Vanessa was one small mistake away from violating her probation and ending up in juvenile hall. Imagine the mother walking out of the walls of prison, only to see her child step in.

Episode #508 (January 31 - February 6)

Segment 1 -- "Peak Moment"

Food entrepreneurs at Kirsten K. Shockey and Christopher Shockey encourage the cultivation of fermented food -- not only because it's healthy, but for the rich diversity of flavors. They show how easy it is to make sauerkraut: slice and salt cabbage, scrunch it to get brine, press into a jar, weight it down, let it sit for a few days. The Peak Moment team taste-tasted several of these live raw foods whose recipes are in their colorfully photographed book *Fermented Vegetables: Creative recipes for fermenting 64 vegetables and herbs in krauts, kimchis, brined pickles, chutneys, relishes and pastes.*

Segment 2 -- "TED Talks: Bryan Stevenson"

In an engaging and personal talk -- with cameo appearances from his grandmother and Rosa Parks -- human rights lawyer Bryan Stevenson shares some hard truths about America's justice system, starting with a massive imbalance along racial lines: a third of the country's black male population has been incarcerated at some point in their lives. These issues, which are wrapped up in America's unexamined history, are rarely talked about with this level of candor, insight and persuasiveness.

Segment 3 -- "Why Are We Using Prisons to Treat Mental Illness?"

Instead of helping the mentally ill, police often put them behind bars. See how one police department is making a positive difference. It's simple. Diversion programs work better than incarceration -- for everyone. In cities like Seattle, San Antonio, and Salt Lake City, we see that successful solutions are a viable option to help end serious social problems. These services alter the course of people's lives in a positive way and save taxpayers huge amounts of money. We cannot continue to isolate and imprison people who suffer from mental illness, substance abuse, or homelessness. We must treat them with compassion and care to better serve our communities and our pocketbooks.

Segment 4 -- "Koch Brothers Exposed: 2014 Edition"

This documentary shines a light on billionaires David and Charles Koch, who were handed the ability to buy our democracy in the form of giant checks to the House, Senate, and soon, possibly even the Presidency. It investigates where their money went and who their money hurt during the process leading up to the 2014 elections.

Episode 507 (January 24-30)

Segment 1 -- "Car Thief Cops"

Police officers are forcing people to choose between time behind bars or turning over their money and property - all without ever making an arrest. This video is part of the Prison Profiteers series produced by Brave New Foundation's Beyond Bars campaign in partnership with the ACLU and The Nation. Narration by Henry Rollins. Research help provided by Prison Legal News.

Segment 2 -- "Jazree's Court"

Jazree was like any other young kid: hanging out with friends and experiencing important milestones. She finished Elementary school and started the emotional roller coaster called puberty. She even started having crushes -- crushes on girls. All of these experiences impacted Jazree's future, but one experience overshadowed all others - Jazree's dad was sentenced to seven years in prison for possession of an unloaded firearm.

Segment 3 -- "The Internet's Own Boy: The Story of Aaron Swartz"

This feature film follows the story of programming prodigy and information activist Aaron Swartz. From Swartz's help in the development of the basic internet protocol RSS to his co-founding of Reddit, his fingerprints are all over the internet. But it was Swartz's groundbreaking work in social justice and political organizing combined with his aggressive approach to information access that ensnared him in a two-year legal nightmare. It was a battle that ended with the taking of his own life at the age of 26. Aaron's story touched a nerve with people far beyond the online communities in which he was a celebrity. This film is a personal story about what we lose when we are tone deaf about technology and its relationship to our civil liberties).

Episode 506 (January 17-23)

Segment 1 -- "Nowhere To Go But Jail?"

As documented in this short video by Brave New Films, Salt Lake City decided to give homeless people supportive shelter instead of throwing them in jail -- resulting not only in an extraordinary amount of savings on tax dollars but also returning respect back to those who were living on the street.

Segment 2 -- "How the Prison-Industrial Complex Kills People For Profit"

Failing to provide sick prisoners with needed care turns out to be pretty good for the profits of "correctional healthcare" corporation Corizon -- it's a "Get-Rich-Quick" plan that's actually killing people. This video is part of the Prison Profiteers series produced by Brave New Foundation's Beyond Bars campaign in partnership with the ACLU and The Nation. Narration by Henry Rollins. Research help provided by Prison Legal News.

Segment 3 -- "The 800 Mile Wall"

The 800 Mile Wall highlights the construction of the new border walls along the U.S.-Mexico border as well as the effect on migrants trying to cross into the U.S. This powerful 90-minute film is an unflinching look at the failed U.S. border strategy that many believe has caused the death of thousands of migrants and violates fundamental human rights. Since border walls have been built, well over 5,000 migrant bodies have been recovered in U.S. deserts, mountains and canals. Some unofficial reports put the death toll as high as 10,000 men, women and children. As a direct result of U.S. border policy, migrants are forced to cross treacherous deserts and mountains in search of low skill and low paying jobs in the United States.

Segment 4 -- "World Peace is a Local Issue"

What happens when local citizens take on an international issue? OSCAR-nominated, EMMY-winning filmmaker, Dorothy Fadiman, documented the hard work and eventual triumph, of Palo Alto, California residents who move their City Council to change an entrenched position on a critical issue and pass a Nuclear Freeze Resolution. We see Senator Edward Markey introduce the freeze resolution in 1982, and again today, appealing to Congress to reduce nuclear arms. By showing what a determined group of people can accomplish, WORLD PEACE highlights the fact that international concerns are also local issues.

Episode 505 (January 10-16)

Segment 1 -- "The Story of Citizens United vs. FEC"

An exploration of the inordinate power that corporations exercise in our democracy"

Segment 2 -- "The Story of Change"

This short video urges viewers to put down their credit cards and start exercising their citizen muscles to build a more sustainable, just and fulfilling world.

Segment 3 -- "An Evening With Chris Hedges"

Chris Hedges, former Foreign Correspondent for the New York Times and currently a columnist for Truthdig.com, gave a moving presentation to a capacity audience on November 1, 2013 at St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Sacramento, recorded by a Media Edge video production team. Hedges was part of the team of reporters at The New York Times awarded a Pulitzer Prize in 2002 for the paper's coverage of global terrorism. He also received the Amnesty International Global Award for Human Rights Journalism in 2002. The Los Angeles Press Club honored Hedges' original columns in Truthdig by naming the author the Online Journalist of the Year in 2009 and again in 2011. The LAPC also granted him the Best Online Column award in 2010 for his Truthdig essay "One Day We'll All Be Terrorists."

Segment 4 -- "Make a Better World"

A music video by Media Edge producer Michael Stavros, blended with the music of Maria Muldaur.

Episode 504 (January 3-9)

Segment 1 -- "Black Lives Matter"

In the wake of recent raised awareness about racial injustice and police brutality, the Sacramento chapter of the NAACP sponsored a march for racial justice on December 13, 2014. Similar marches took place that day in Washington DC, New York City, and several other locations throughout the United States. Media Edge producer Michael Stavros was at the Sacramento event and produced this video.

Segment 2 -- "To Prison for Poverty"

To Prison for Poverty documents the system that enables private probation companies to profit from charging excessive fees to low income people who can't pay small fines like traffic tickets. If they can't pay, they go to jail.

Segment 3 -- "An Evening with Dr. Joycelyn Elders"

Dr. M. Joycelyn Elders, 15th Surgeon General of the United States and first African-American woman Surgeon General, spoke to a Sacramento audience on September 5, 2014. Her presentation was made possible by the Bob & Dorrie Moon Lecture Series at St. Mark's United Methodist Church, and was recorded by a Media Edge crew for later telecast.

Segment 4 -- "When Abortion Was Illegal"

This Academy Award-nominated film features compelling first person accounts which reveal the physical, legal, and emotional consequences during the era when abortion was a criminal act.