

Historic memory

A mural with names

Massacred, murdered

The crying does not stop

AND they are strong.

Trauma and strength are not mutually exclusive

When horror is necessary

You know what you're fighting for

A better life

Human rights

Dignity

Respect

The writing on the wall is clear

Made in the USA

Stamped on the helicopter, armed forces

A cause of the violence, inequality

It's a systems problem

One for which the people must pay

One for which the people must find answers.



A new government

A narrow message of hate, scapegoating

It's simple, shallow

Love wins, but not in messaging

Don't think of an elephant

Acknowledging inherent complexity can appear paradoxical

Really everything is dialectic

Intersectional

Is it a shithole country?

Oh, actually, that's one in Africa

Says one old wealthy racist sexist homophobic privileged powerful Western white man

Now, that's not solidarity

That's not even nice

Those, too, are actions left to the people.

Solidarity

-Is that the newest buzzword?

Nah.

It's a verb, not a noun

-Sounding oftly buzzwordy...

It's a model of empowerment,

We know you are strong

You know your situation



-We know what's what
We are each experts of our reality
-Outside perspectives are a tool to better define, understand, change that reality
We learn from you, you learn from us
-Together we fight the patriarchy and savior complexes, inequality
Solidarity

-Solidarity
It's international, between and within communities, families, and groups
It's a microcredit program for women
A commitment to remembering how we got here
Because when we say *never forget*
All the the voices, all the stories
that go unheard,
[...].

Education,
Organizing,
Saying NO to mining
Me and you
Hold power to transform current realities
We aren't bound to injustice
Not locked in static
We listen, we're critical, we're compassionate
In dialogue

Dancing
Laughter
Activism
Bridges
Iguanas
There is struggle in beauty,
Beauty in struggle.

Juxtapositions are
Transformative
Dialectic
Fight capitalism and patriarchy
Vote for human rights
For democracy
With your ballot
Your words
Dollars
Money
Actions.



It's asking the University President
The leaders on campus
To take their shoes off
 Where are they made?
With the hope
 The one simple, yet massive hope,
That they will see,
That together we will learn
 That these are not the only shoes
 To think of the shoes of those making shoes
 That existing realities are simply, difficult
 Constructs
Because neutrality,
 There's no such thing.
It's siding with the oppressor

Hope and Change was a thing.
 It still is
They'll be agents of change
Not in it 'cause it's easy
Not clean
Not black and white
Not Right or correct or wrong
 A beautiful mess
It's cutting grass with a machete
 US Americans display much room for improvement
We have a lot to learn.
The sweat
Drips down your back
With time
Aching muscles
Relief of commiserating
 Of taking it on together
It's a hike in a forest
A forest of reminders
 It's there, *There There?*
The personal is political and the political is
devastatingly personal
 It's the murder of a sister, a family, a
community, a people
What is one life worth?
 Not as much as a smartphone
 Gold



Sugar
Indigo
Giving a shit

*when worth is dependent on your
Zipcode. Skin color. Ancestry. Sexual orientation. Gender
identity. Language. Ability. "Intelligence." Legal status.
[Insert identity that challenges the norm]

We are full beings!
Don't just cherry pick what you do and don't "approve"
We're not Designer Babies
yet

When you say there is not enough money to
End poverty
Address hunger
Provide a great, accessible education
Reduce violence
Fight war instead of fighting in wars



Well, you are wrong.
There's just not enough care.
The ethics of wealth
Technology
Globalization under a constructed system
A broken system,
Unsustainable with a
Thirst for greed

Power.
It is racist,
Sexist,
Based on Manifest Destiny
White Superiority
Heteronormativity
Othering
Patriarchy
Dominating land

There's no going back
No changing the past.
The genocide, pain, needless suffering, death.
And there is studying, learning, and criticizing our past
And there is moving forward
Don't just tell me what I can't do
I have a dream



Together

Let's draw a picture of what we *can* do

Give us hope

Paint us a world that is just,

Kind.

Where shoes do not stomp out lives, human rights, trees.

Where instead shoes are created in a new system

Of health, happiness, and justice

Let's reimagine

Let's walk that path, together

-Let's

