LEELAH ALCORN WAS MURDERED ASHLEY SHERMAN WAS MURDERED

Leelah did not step into traffic. She was pushed.

By her parents. By Christian conversion therapy. By a sick society that wants to see trans women dead.

This is no surprise to those of us who are already excluded and oppressed by this world. The police, the courts, and prisons do their work imprisoning and murdering trans women of color every day. Priests, homophobes, psychiatrists, politicians, and parents commit daily brutalities against trans women in the form of legislation, religious persecution, pathologization, bashings, and rape.

When we are murdered, there is no end of those who wish to speak for us, to push our anger toward reform, inclusion, and pacifism. For this, we have nothing but contempt.

Christianity cannot be reformed. The prisons cannot be reformed. The courts cannot be reformed. The police cannot be reformed. They can only be destroyed.

We must ask why there has been no response to the murder of Black trans woman Ashley Sherman in Indianapolis in October 2014. We must ask why there is no uproar over the captivity and enslavement of trans women of color by the prison-industrial complex. We must ask why trans women of color, homeless trans women, and trans women who attack their oppressors are ignored by the gay establishment.

We will mourn for Leelah, but not passively and not exclusively. Her death is another act of war against trans women: one among many. We will no longer sit idly by while our lives are taken from us. We will fight by any means necessary to destroy our oppressors and reclaim our lives.



TRANS LIBERATION by any means necessary



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