People imprisoned in torture units are going on Hunger Strike July 8th, 2013.

The Hunger Strike is organized by prisoners in an unusual show of racial unity. The Hunger Strikers have developed Five Core Demands:

1. An end to long term solitary.
2. An end to the illegal and immoral use of secret informants.
3. An end to punishing whole racial groups for an individual's actions.
4. Improve conditions to meet basic humane standards for physical and mental health.
5. Provide educational programs.

“Solitary confinement is not some sort of cathartic horror of blazing nerves and searing skin and heads smashing blindly into walls and screaming. Those moments come, but they are not the essence of solitary. They are events that penetrate the essence. They are stones tossed into an abyss. They are not the abyss itself…

“Solitary confinement is a living death. Death because it is the removal of nearly everything that characterizes humanness, living because within it you are still you. The lights don't turn out as in real death. Time isn't erased as in sleep.”

-Shane Bauer, one of the three American hikers imprisoned in Iran after being apprehended on the Iraqi border in 2009. He spent 26 months in Tehran's Evin Prison, 4 of them in solitary.

-You often become a product of your environment. If it's devoid of any sense of humanity and moral redemption, it is going to produce a product of like values. Many prisoners upon release are emulating the lack of humanity and redemption displayed daily by their captors; unfortunately, society suffers as a result via reoffending. That's a deliberate ploy designed to guarantee their return and the survival of the prison industrial slave-complex.”

-Abdul Olaghala Shakur, s/o James Harvey, C-48884, PBSP SHU D1-119, P.O. Box 7500, Crescent City, CA 95532