

LaRouche: Build a mass movement

Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. did not secure the Democratic nomination for President, but he is far from through campaigning for policies the nation must have in a time of grave crises. He will continue to build a mass movement around those policies, he told supporters in Atlanta during the convention.

During a private meeting with 15-20 organizers and political candidates from around the country who had traveled to Atlanta to take part in his convention effort, LaRouche stressed the quality of "impatient patience" as a necessary approach to building a mass movement in the United States.

LaRouche focused the meeting on *organizing method*, saying that the key is to lay the basis for "great acts" by people through prompting them into a series of "small acts," which he characterized as a process by which individuals build up their courage to do larger things. The establishment of briefing and intelligence networks is essential for this, said LaRouche. The American population is a "gutless wonder," he told the organizers, but it can be changed. Courage has to be created in them by the indicated method.

First, LaRouche proposed, take something many people can do in 5-10 minutes per week, for example, intelligence-gathering in their local area or region. This can be done as a "small act," without jeopardizing their jobs or going out on a limb politically. Individuals can do it even if they are terrified of taking other, overtly political actions or making a higher commitment. This can be done even by those on the outermost circle of the "concentric circles" characterizing the degree of support and activism among supporters of the "LaRouche movement" nationally. Those who can do more, will do more. In this process, individuals gain the courage to do more.

He stressed that the American people can be moved, but not by excessive demands. By helping to put together local and regional intelligence, individuals "will be getting one piece of the jigsaw puzzle, and they'll see how it fits into the total picture as we put together the national patterns. They'll see their effort in larger terms." In this way, there won't be any room for "wishful thinking" that such-and-such a situation, like budget cutbacks, infrastructure breakdown, food

shortage, etc., only affect their local area.

You have to be patient in building this process, LaRouche told the organizers, but with an "impatient patience." You can't make demands that people won't meet, but give them tasks that they can accomplish and will accomplish. That will bring them into the next concentric circle.

LaRouche also discussed the major crises facing the country including AIDS, the food crisis, and the financial collapse. He mentioned that the National Farm Organization (NFO) at a recent meeting decided to fake its statistics to come closer to the fakery of the Department of Agriculture. The reality, he said, is that people are not eating leafy vegetables due to drought. "Soon," he continued, "they will be lucky if they eat chicken or pork."

Five years from now, LaRouche said, 10% of the population will be infected with AIDS. Everybody will know someone or have some family member, relative, or friend with AIDS. If we wait until the situation reaches this point, it will be out of control.

LaRouche delivered a blistering attack on Democratic nominee Michael Dukakis's socialized medicine in Massachusetts as "socialized death," said LaRouche. "New England Life Insurance Co. is in on the scam; they own a piece of Dukakis. He's their creature. Dukakis is a murderer. Under his administration in Massachusetts, known medical procedures are being denied to patients and stripped out of hospitals.

Returning to the process of organizing, LaRouche pointed out that the leaders of the civil rights movement were "genuises" in building a movement. They knew they were dealing with frightened people. Their method of organizing had to be attuned to this fact.

LaRouche emphasized that the exchange of relevant information as a form of activity in which supporters on all levels can participate is an important component of the organizing process. This is a level on which every American can respond. They will say to themselves, "This is harmless, even I can do it."

You must call people to the battle on the level that they are willing to fight, LaRouche told the organizers. You must build a movement; it must be a mass movement, but built through a principle of concentric circles. Some people may inspire others. A person might say, "Hey, look at this other guy. He's doing the right thing. I'll back him." That's where it starts.

"Don't be too practical," LaRouche continued, but don't be too exotic either. American culture will evoke what can be evoked in the American population.

At one point, LaRouche was asked about mass demonstrations, to which he responded that such demonstrations have to reflect the organizing process, not be a substitute for it. He was also asked if publications should be made simpler to understand, to which LaRouche responded, "No. It's necessary to stretch people's understanding."