

It's about time: The IIPE Takes Over the White House

Step #1, the candidate: Sit down for dinner with Betty Reardon tomorrow night and convince her to run for President of the United States as our "Peace Education Party" candidate in the 2016 elections. In this dream she says yes, and she is delighted. We are all delighted.

Step #2, the campaign: we can shift our knees at the table to face Lilliana Cotto-Morales. We will need a campaign manager, won't we? And I think we can be certain a campaign for the Peace Education Party (PEP) will be nothing less than a social movement.

A social movement for which millions of US citizens will only realize once they've become aware of it that they have been wanting for decades.

The campaign full speed ahead, we will have attracted the attention of some very wealthy people who become PEP members . . .

Step #3: Fundraising. Anita, Janet and Tony use their good lucks, persuasive charm, and New York connections to have Bill Gates and other various deep-pocketed donors give "just a few billion dollars, that's all."

Ironically, this money, or Tony's salsa prowess will eventually be used, in part, to break Wall Street and the money system all together. Meanwhile, Fuad and Erin, each of them with a clearly serious "woo" factor going on, will lead the grassroots fundraising effort.

Step #4: V-Day. Yes it is November of 2016 and the US American people have spoken. The Peace Education Party has a new president in Office, and their first woman.

It's about time, isn't it? . . .

A celebration is in order. Heather, Mika and Shadrack we need a party!!! Light up that jukebox and show us how to get down! To express my joy, I'll sing the blues!!

Step #5: Building a new government. Betty needs a cabinet, doesn't she? That White House is a big house. And couldn't the US benefit from having some non-US citizens in there? After all, the US needs to listen to others.

It's about time, isn't it? . . .

Thus our secretary of Peace Education will be Alicia Cabezudo. Say goodbye to HarperCollins publishing and hello to Paulo Freire, oh students of America.

It's about time, isn't it? . . .

And from "sea to shining sea" Kanti and *Nuestra Escuela* can free the next generation from the colonized mind,

And what to do with that military budget? Let's keep some money there just to convert all of their resources into a massive global community service organization. But otherwise let's cut it by 95%.

It's about time, isn't it? . . .

New money can be used to support new departments that truly address the needs of the US, creating a better society that promotes better values around the world.

Afifa, Tamara, and Irma can lead a department of Gender and Sexuality ensuring the equal rights the LGBTQIA community deserves!

It's about time, isn't it? . . .

And public health. Let Liza be the new secretary of health! Health care should be about cherishing any human being's life?

It's about time, isn't it? . . .

Who needs the NSA or FBI? We shall replace them with the FPI. The Family Peace Initiative led by Anna and My Teh, helping families to communicate nonviolently, building peace where it needs to start first. *In our own minds, in our own homes.*

And wouldn't you say Olivia and Constanza are already so ready to lead? A new Department of Youth, for youth, led by them!

It's about time isn't it? . . .

We will invite Casa Pueblo and the students of EDRA to lead the effort to restoring the natural environments of the Americas and the rest of the world.

And did we forget our sense of fashion? Oh no. Carlos-Eduardo, Judith and Maria can lead the all-important peace fashion efforts. Let us not forget we can practice peace and look damn good doing it!

And might we say the current US department of justice is not always quite "just"? Our co-secretaries of the Department of *Restorative Justice* shall be Jose Raul and Erin bringing healing to a society and breaking the cycle of violence so deeply part of the US American culture.

It's about time, isn't . . .?

And finally, with peace minded, not ambassadors, but cross-cultural interpreters to the rest of the world . . .

With Loo to Europe and Yuri to East Asia, with Claudel to Africa and Susana to middle and south America, with Pratibha to South Asia and Luda to Russia

we can start to imagine a US that does not start wars but promotes peace, true peace, positive peace, peace you can feel in your bones, the peace of a liberated mind and spirit, the peace that mother Nature intended.

It's about time, isn't it? . . .

Yes, it's about time.