



*Anarchist Black Cross Federation) and some prisoners sent me appeals to find them legal help, some demanded money – lots of it, every month, or they wouldn't consider writing or otherwise being involved with projects I was trying to initiate or others were only interested in having me hook them with nude pictures of woman companeras.”*

Being a POW and knowing other Political Prisoners of War, I can say that I'm certain that such requests as they had been asked of Robert Thaxton never came from a Prisoner(s) who came into the concentration camp system as a Political Prisoner of a Prisoner of War. I can't say the same thing for social prisoners (not all social prisoners) because I know some apolitical social prisoners as well as some politicised social prisoners who are only interested in meeting women and exploiting (the) concerned and vulnerable out there in the communities at-large, for money and material things. I also know some people at there in minimum custody who only show an interest in prisoners (apolitical as well as political) when they need the prisoners input to enhance their political careers, or some Left-Wing or Right-Wing “project” that they are working on.

(C) Credibility: In struggle, all that we have is our work. So it's essential that Sisters and Brothers who become involved in the area of Prisoner Support honour their word at all the times with prisoners, so that their credibility is never called into question by a prisoner or other outside sisters or brothers doing prisoner-support work.

From the inception of any involvement on the behalf of prisoners, outside Sisters and Brothers should assess their “resources,” themselves included, and honour all commitments that they make to prisoners. If for some reason they are not able to honour a prior commitment, let the prisoner know why by writing or visiting! If a Sister or Brother commits themselves to a writing correspondence relationship (which at times can be or become overwhelming), they should be prepared to answer all letters in a timely fashion. If for some reason they are not able to respond to a letter upon receipt, they should forward the prisoner(s) in question a postcard or a note, making them aware that their letter was received, and that the letter will be responded to in depth (if necessary) at a later date due to other commitments or immediate pressing problem(s) at hand!

From the inception of any involvement on behalf of prisoners, outside sisters and brothers should draw up an agenda of the things that they can and cannot do for a prisoner(s), and make the prisoner(s) aware of this when they establish contact with the prisoner. If the outside Sister or Brother is not interested in a personal relationship with the prisoner(s), she or he should make the prisoner aware of this without being shy or ambiguous. If a personal relationship does develop between people in maximum and minimum custody, so be it, because such relationships can be rewarding to both parties involved if they are honest with each other and don't live in an illusion.

