

Walking in the shoes of struggle

By Jiselle Hanna



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I was lucky enough to get my hands on an advance copy of *Talking Back*. I read it from cover to cover and found myself walking in the shoes of many of the comrades who have contributed to this publication.

As an internationalist and a socialist that devotes most of my time to organising internationally, I was particularly interested in the section, “A global lens.”

This section starts off with a piece from Maya Gonzalez, an undocumented migrant woman from Guatemala. Gonzales recounts her experiences of being a revolutionary in Guatemala, and I was

reminded of the risks and dangers many activists face in their struggle for a better world. Like her comrades in the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Colombia and many other parts of the world, Gonzales risked being extra-judicially executed or disappeared, for being a communist, and then faced racist oppression and discrimination as a migrant in the United States.

The pieces by Palestinian political prisoner, Farouk Abdel-Muhti, the statement by the National Comrades of Color Caucus arguing class warfare underpins the publication of anti-Muslim cartoons and the interview by Tamara Turner of Israeli-born socialist feminist, Raya Fidel, speak to issues very personal to me. I am an Australian-born Egyptian woman. These articles tell the stories and put forward a perspective on the current racist and Islamophobic offensive of governments across the world and remind us why we must keep up the fight.

Talking Back is being launched in Melbourne, Australia in May when I will be in South Korea, offering solidarity to the workers there who are facing the biggest fight of their life against the union-busting campaign of the Park administration. If I was at the launch, I would congratulate and commend the producers of this publication, encourage everyone to get a copy, and remind ourselves that whilst the fight for a better world is critical, so too is telling our stories.

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