

Challenging Injustice, Fighting for Liberty

ACLU OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ANNUAL REPORT 2004/2005



Enlighten the people and tyranny and oppressions of body and mind
will vanish like spirits at the dawn of day. — Thomas Jefferson

We are happy to share with you the ACLU of Southern California's 2004-2005 annual report. While many of our so-called leaders indulge in the politics of division and distraction, the staff of the ACLU of Southern California, under the guidance of our dedicated boards of directors, have been busy reaching out to challenge injustice and fight for liberty, from the shores of the Pacific to the Inland Empire, from Sacramento to prisons outside of Baghdad.

Guided by principles, not polls, we do the hard, unglamorous work of protecting those who are suffering injustice or whom the system has failed. One of the largest ACLU affiliates in the country, we are fortunate to have a diligent legal and policy staff who fulfill our mission every day in courtrooms and communities across California. Our commitment stems from the belief that "equality, liberty and justice for all" is more than a slogan. It is a profound promise that we *all* must turn into reality.

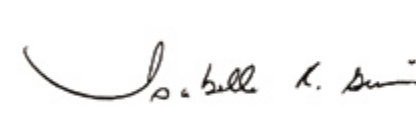
These pages will give you a window into the diverse nature of our work. Think of it as a scrapbook highlighting a select few victories in areas like education, voting rights and privacy. Victories *you* helped make possible by your support.

Nationally, we have fought to stop the federal government from using a time of crisis as a pretext to erode our constitutional rights, and, since California often sets the tone for the rest of the nation, we have been

working hard to defend personal liberty and promote sane public policy here in the Golden State.

A publication like this can only provide snapshots focusing on a small sampling of the vast range of issues we confront. There is so much more we wish we could tell you about in detail: our successful efforts to stop housing discrimination and to promote freedom of speech in our schools; our ongoing efforts to protect your privacy and defend reproductive rights; our victories in advancing equality for lesbian and gay couples and preventing illegal deportations; our long-standing battles to reform the wasteful, unjust "three strikes" policy and to ensure healthcare for the millions of Californians who are without medical care or who are only one or two medical bills away from financial ruin.

We are so proud to serve this community and the values that we all hold dear. Remembering always that an injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere, we will keep working hard, every day. We will work to help create a society that honors the dignity of every individual, the health of every family, whether large or small, and the well-being of every community. Thank you for being part of our team. With your support we will continue to advance the promise of "equality, liberty and justice for all" because *your* freedom is *our* business.



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Freedom's Fight *Reaches* from *Bookstores to Iraqi Prisons*

As we looked at the consequences of the ill-advised PATRIOT Act, the ACLU of Southern California had to figure out a way to explain how actions in Washington, D.C. impacted local communities. With President Bush pushing for renewal and expansion of the act's most controversial provisions, we launched the *Your Book, Your Business* campaign.

The ACLU/SC's design team created a variety of informational brochures, bookmarks and postcard mailers that helped spell out the PATRIOT Act's threat to our privacy and our freedom. Then we hit the streets, with ACLU/SC staff giving public talks and meeting with as many community groups, students, librarians and activists as we could.

Central to our efforts was the *Your Book, Your Business* campaign, a multi-media outreach consisting of a poster designed for use in bookstores and libraries, and the www.sunset215.org website, set up to spread information and generate letters to Congress.

The poster caught the attention of the American Booksellers Association, which joined in our effort and asked that their website — www.readerprivacy.org — be included in the campaign. The ABA also shipped the posters to bookstores nationwide. The poster was featured at booths at the recent Book Expo America, the premiere trade show for the book industry, and the *Your Book, Your Business* slogan showed up in press stories in diverse outlets ranging from the *Salt Lake City Tribune* to *The Book Standard*.

The project was funded by a generous grant from ACLU/SC member Marjorie L. Fasman who, seeing our success at reaching out to public libraries, was so enthused that she offered to fund an expansion of the campaign to bookstores.

Our work fighting the egregious expansion of government powers under the PATRIOT Act continues on many fronts. The ACLU has brought lawsuits against government officials over the torture scandal, and remains one of the lead organizations attempting to protect the rights of detainees held in Guantanamo Bay and other facilities throughout the world.

The ACLU of Southern California's most recent victory came when our efforts secured the release of Cyrus Kar, a Los Angeles documentary filmmaker detained for 55 days in Iraq under false allegations he was an enemy combatant.

Kar, a veteran of the US Navy, his cameraman, and the driver of the taxi they were in were all accused of insurgent activity when washing machine timers were found in the taxi. Kar was held at both Abu Ghraib and Camp Cropper, a military prison near the Baghdad airport, for weeks, despite the FBI's knowledge that he was not involved in insurgent activities. He was denied access to a lawyer, and communications with his family were severely limited and monitored.

YOUR BOOK YOUR BUSINESS

BALANCE THE
PATRIOT ACT.
SUNSET 215.

The PATRIOT Act — A massive law the government keeps telling us is going to save us from terrorism. It gives federal authorities the right to monitor

your on-line activity
your medical records
your hotel records
what you read
who you talk to on the phone

with a secret court order.* Without reasonable suspicion. Or probable cause. Anyone asked to turn over your personal information during this fishing expedition — your boss, your medical provider, bookstores, libraries — is forbidden by law to tell you about it. And the law doesn't allow you to challenge this in court.

*Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act

www.sunset215.org
www.readerprivacy.org



This poster is funded by Marjorie L. Fasman





Days after being held as a detainee in an Iraqi prison, filmmaker Cyrus Kar, and his aunt, Parvin Modarress, spoke at a press conference at the ACLU of Southern California.



A small selection of the print media coverage of Cyrus Kar's story.

Liberty has never
come from the
government.
Liberty has always
come from the
subjects of the
government.

— Woodrow Wilson

The ACLU/SC filed a lawsuit in federal court against top U.S. officials for violating federal and international law, in addition to Kar's constitutional rights. One day before a hearing before a federal judge was to take place in Washington, D.C., military officials released him from custody.

Kar's story appeared on the front page of several major papers throughout the country, including *The New York Times* and the *Washington Post*. Legal Director Mark Rosenbaum was interviewed live on CNN and conducted interviews with the BBC, NPR, the Associated Press and several other national and international radio and TV stations. Once Kar returned to the United States, he was inundated with requests for interviews from around the world. He and Rosenbaum appeared live on CNN and "Good Morning America" and they conducted in-depth interviews with several newspapers, radio stations and television stations. Kar is now working to raise money to finish his documentary on Cyrus the Great.

Meanwhile, the ACLU/SC is pursuing a Freedom of Information Act request against the FBI, the Department of the Army and the Department of Defense for all records pertaining to his case.



This flyer detailing PATRIOT Act concerns and the fixes offered through the SAFE Act, is one of many educational items created by the ACLU of Southern California this year.



“Cecilia,” the plaintiff at the center of the education discrimination lawsuit at Antelope Valley High School, holds her daughter.

A Young Mother Rejects Second-Class Education

All Cecilia wanted to do was have the same chance at opportunity as everyone else. A junior at Antelope Valley High School, Cecilia was ready to take on the challenges of college prep and honors courses that would put her on track toward a solid future. But she also had a little girl, and under the rules at her high school, if she wanted child care while pursuing her education, she could not take courses at the regular high school. She was relegated to a virtual study hall that offered no classroom instruction, no college prep or foreign language classes.

That is how the California School Age Families Program (Cal-SAFE) operated as administered by the Los Angeles County Office of Education and the Antelope

Valley Union High School District. It forced pregnant and parenting teens into a sub-standard alternative education program.

“I wanted to continue taking the college preparatory courses that I was taking before my daughter was born,” Cecilia said. “Because I have a daughter, I need those opportunities even more.”

The ACLU of Southern California filed a lawsuit on behalf of Cecilia and all other teen parents in the Antelope Valley who want more than an independent study option in the Cal-SAFE program. Defendants agreed to allow Cecilia to attend classes at the regular

high school without losing access to child care services while the lawsuit is pending.

At a hearing in early July 2005, and in an order issued later that month, the court strongly indicated that it agreed with plaintiffs that the education offered to students in the Cal-SAFE program is not comparable to those offered to students in the comprehensive high school, and thus violates Title IX. The court denied defendants’ motion for summary judgment, stating that “a rational fact-finder could certainly conclude that the educational program offered by AV Cal-SAFE is not of comparable quality to that received by students attending the host campus.” The court ordered further briefing on two technical issues involving the enforceability of the Title IX regulations. In the meantime, the parties have resumed settlement discussions and plaintiffs hope that the matter can be resolved without further litigation.

Cecilia is proud to be part of the effort. All she wants, she said, is “the same chances and opportunities as everyone else.”

Fighting violations of Title IX is just one part of the ACLU/SC’s efforts on behalf of women’s rights. We are also taking a key leadership role in the fight to defeat Proposition 73, the Parental Notification Initiative, which is one of the initiatives set to appear on the ballot during the November, 2005 special election.

We believe all parents rightfully want to be involved in their teenagers’ lives, but we also know that good family communication can’t be imposed by government.

Proposition 73 would actually put our teenage daughters at risk. Scared pregnant teenagers, forced with telling their parents or going elsewhere for an unsafe, illegal abortion, may choose the unsafe path. Even teenagers who have good relationships with their parents may not come to them about something as sensitive as pregnancy. And sadly, some teens live in troubled homes, their parents might be abusive, or worse.

The ACLU/SC has joined the California Medical Association, The California Nurses Association, The League of Women Voters, Planned Parenthood and millions of parents in this effort to stop this dangerous initiative.

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

— Nelson Mandela

Standing Up For Those *Locked Down*

Every month, between 1,200 to 1,600 complaints from inmates in Los Angeles County jails fill the intake voicemail at the ACLU of Southern California. The postal service delivers about 15 letters each week from other inmates complaining of conditions within the jails.

To some, just the fact that these people are in jail means that their complaints — and perhaps their lives — don't matter. But 70 percent of inmates in the county's jails haven't been convicted of anything. They are awaiting trial. And even if they are officially convicts, that doesn't mean society — or the Constitution — should condone human being forced to sleep on unsanitary floors, denied basic medical care, or put at risk for diseases (such as staph infections) that flourish in unhealthy conditions.

The ACLU/SC Jails Project is one way of ensuring Los Angeles County upholds its constitutional obligation to treat its jail inmates with basic dignity instead of simply discarding them as soon as they get behind those walls.

In 1977, the ACLU/SC sued the County of Los Angeles over conditions in the jails (*Rutherford v. Block*). In the federal court judgment that was ultimately upheld by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in 1983, the ACLU/SC was granted the right to actively monitor conditions in the jails.

Headed by Jails Project Coordinator Jody Kent, who oversees a handful of volunteers and interns, the team visits every county jail facility, including the inmate unit at USC's hospital. Often on the road, Jails Project workers try to visit jails two or three times a week.

"If you break it down, we're dealing with low income people who can't afford bail, most of them are minorities, and 70 percent are innocent according to our justice system," Kent said. "They have rights. It comes down to this — they aren't all guilty, [and] those who are shouldn't be treated like dirt. I advocate to get these people showers, meals, beds, and [the] medical services they need to live. I believe every human deserves that degree of dignity and respect."

Improving the conditions for inmates leads to reduced tension and a lesser potential for violence within the jails, which provides greater protection for the law enforcement officers working at the facilities. Through Kent's work, the ACLU/SC is able to work to improve conditions for inmates.

Though reforming the county jails is a daunting task for such a small group of people, the ACLU/SC Jails Project has its share of significant accomplishments. We have developed a method of tracking complaint patterns and following up to secure a resolution. We helped design a new policy for the Men's Central Jail that requires supervisors to check that elements of Rutherford compliance — such as clothing exchange,



An inmate at the Men's Central Jail in Los Angeles. (Photo has been digitally altered to remove identifying tattoos.)

showers, and recreation — are conducted on the schedule mandated by the court, thus improving the jail's internal accountability. We played a key role in launching the Jail Advocacy Task Force, a coalition of 25 organizations working together to improve conditions for inmates. We also conducted an innovative inmate voter registration drive to promote and protect inmate voting rights.

"No one else has the unlimited access to the jails that we have. Our very presence is important because we provide

oversight, and with that comes accountability," Kent said. "I've been told by inmates that they feel safe when I am there. We are a necessary watchdog to improve conditions, help individual inmates, and advocate for systemic change in the system."



This drawing was created by an inmate on a wall of the Men's Central Jail in Los Angeles.

Every man is better than his worst act.

— Sister Helen Prejean

LOS ANGELES COUNTY HAS:

- 19,500 inmates
- 7 different facilities
 - 2 Downtown
 - 1 in Lynwood
 - 4 in Castaic
- 70% of those inmates have not been convicted
- 30% include those sentenced to county jail, who are waiting to be transferred to state prison, or who have violated parole

MOST COMMON INMATE COMPLAINTS:

- Inadequate medical care
- Sleeping on the floor due to overcrowding
- Inadequate mental health services

OUR APPROACH:

- Attempt to resolve as many problems as possible while in a facility, such as leaking plumbing, broken phones, access to cleaning supplies.
- Send daily faxes of complaints to jails officials to address individual needs.
- Compile reports to track how long it takes officials to respond, and to identify areas with chronic ongoing problems.
- Convene meetings with jail officials to address policy issues and systemic problems.



Jails Project Coordinator, Jody Kent speaks with an inmate at the Men's Central Jail in Los Angeles.



Rosa Villaseñor led the fight against institutional bias against LGBT students at Washington Preparatory High School.

When I dare to be
powerful to use my
strength in the service
of my vision, then
it becomes less
and less important
whether I am afraid.

— Audre Lorde



Lesbian Teen *Speaks Out* and Brings Change

In June, the Los Angeles Unified School District admitted that the treatment LGBT students endured at Washington Preparatory High School was intolerable, and agreed to a settlement mandating three-year training for all staff and students, as well as the middle schools that feed into the school. In addition, the school will conduct surveys of students and staff to assess changes to the school climate, with necessary follow up to improve school life for LGBT students and staff.

This victory in *Ramirez v. LAUSD*, a lawsuit brought by the ACLU of Southern California, is widely seen as one

of the best gay rights settlements of its kind anywhere in the United States. And none of it would have happened were it not for Rosa Villaseñor, a teenager who decided she had had enough, and, through her school counselor, got in touch with the ACLU/SC.

At Washington Prep, LGBT students endured being called “unholy” and “sinners” by teachers and staff. Students verbally and physically attacked peers who were gay or perceived to be with impunity. The assistant principal wouldn’t allow the gay/straight alliance to announce its meetings over the public address system,

saying its very existence was “inappropriate.” One of Rosa’s teachers mailed a letter to her home to out her to conservative Catholic parents.

Now that she’s 18, Rosa has cast aside the pseudonym she used as the case worked its way through the courts. At Washington Prep she was president of the It’s Okay Club, the school’s gay/straight alliance, a group she resurrected in part to find others like herself to talk to and offer mutual support.

“In the 10th grade, my music class, everybody in there, including the teacher, was homophobic,” she said. “Every other word that came out of their mouth was, ‘You’re such a faggot,’ ‘That’s so gay.’”

Other LGBT students were so afraid at school they would beg Rosa to pretend that their personal travails happened to her, because at least she wasn’t afraid to speak out. She refused to do that, but she understood where they were coming from.

“There’s a lot of kids who get beat up for this, and no one knows about it,” Rosa said. “And it’s not reported as a hate crime, it’s reported as a fight.”

Rosa’s been feted for her bravery in many corners. Her senior year, the National ACLU selected her as one of 10 seniors throughout the country for leading challenges to injustice. She thinks the accolades are nice, but she’s a little baffled by all the attention.

“This is like everyday life to me. It was hard for me to stand up against the school, but I don’t see myself as special,” she said. “It’s something that has to be done at one point or another. I’m not going to keep pretending to be something I’m not just to get along.”

Knowing the ACLU/SC was in the fight to help bring about lasting, substantive change at Washington Prep gave Rosa extra confidence, she said.

This fall, Rosa will begin studies in business administration at Cal State, Northridge. Right now, her dream is to open a chain of salons and spas targeting the politically aware. It’s her way of one day giving back to the organization that stepped in to help her and other LGBT young people who felt they had no voice, and no one who cared.

“I want to be one of those donors that can give them \$100,000 and not even think about it,” Rosa said. “I want to be able to not only stand by you and march, I want to be able to be there financially. I figure the best way to get there is to start my own business and get rich.”

Our work continues. June 2006 will likely bring ballot measures for a constitutional amendment that would prohibit same-sex couples from marrying *and* repeal existing domestic partnership rights. As part of the steering committee for Equality for All — a coalition created in advance of the other side’s signature gathering — we are determined to stop efforts to advance an agenda of discrimination.

Unlocking the Vote of Inmates and Ex-Offenders

Many Californians believe that arrest or imprisonment means that the right to vote is forever lost. As the song said, “It ain’t necessarily so.” California does bar those felons in prison or on parole from voting. But once someone has paid their debt to society, he or she is free to re-register and reclaim their right to vote in the state. And those who are arrested but have not been convicted, even if they are in jail awaiting trial, may vote like everyone else.

Our vote is our voice on the leaders, laws and judges that help shape our lives. It’s a basic right, fundamental to all other rights. That’s why the ACLU of Southern California spent the summer and fall on two precedent-setting projects designed to help Californians reclaim their rightful place in the political process.

“Unlock the Vote,” the program we created to enable those in custody throughout Los Angeles County to register and vote from jail, is the first of its kind in California.

For this program, we partnered with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, the County Registrar, the League of Women Voters, and a coalition of community advocates. We conducted massive personal outreach to all of the county’s jails, as well as outreach to families and friends of those in custody. We also spearheaded the creation of the “Guide to Inmate Voting,” which presents eligibility requirements and the specific process for registering and voting in the jails in an easy to understand format.

“Unlock the Vote” was such a success it is being used by our national office as a model for replication throughout the country. The California Secretary of State’s office was so impressed by our effort that it is recommending it as a model for other counties. Even the legislature noticed — Assemblyman Mark Ridley Thomas used the program as a model for voting rights bill AB 821. That bill would require counties to design and implement programs to register inmates to vote in county jails and inform those convicted of felonies that they can re-register once their sentence and parole are completed.

The second program, an educational effort targeting the estimated 120,000 ex-felons who comprise California’s parolee population, informed the community how and where ex-offenders could register once their parole is finished.

The ACLU/SC distributed voting rights information to churches and advocacy organizations, addressed community groups, co-sponsored voter registration drives, and participated in press interviews.

That program also included radio spots on popular urban and Spanish-language stations, exposing nearly three quarters of a million radio listeners to the voting rights message in the course of two weeks.

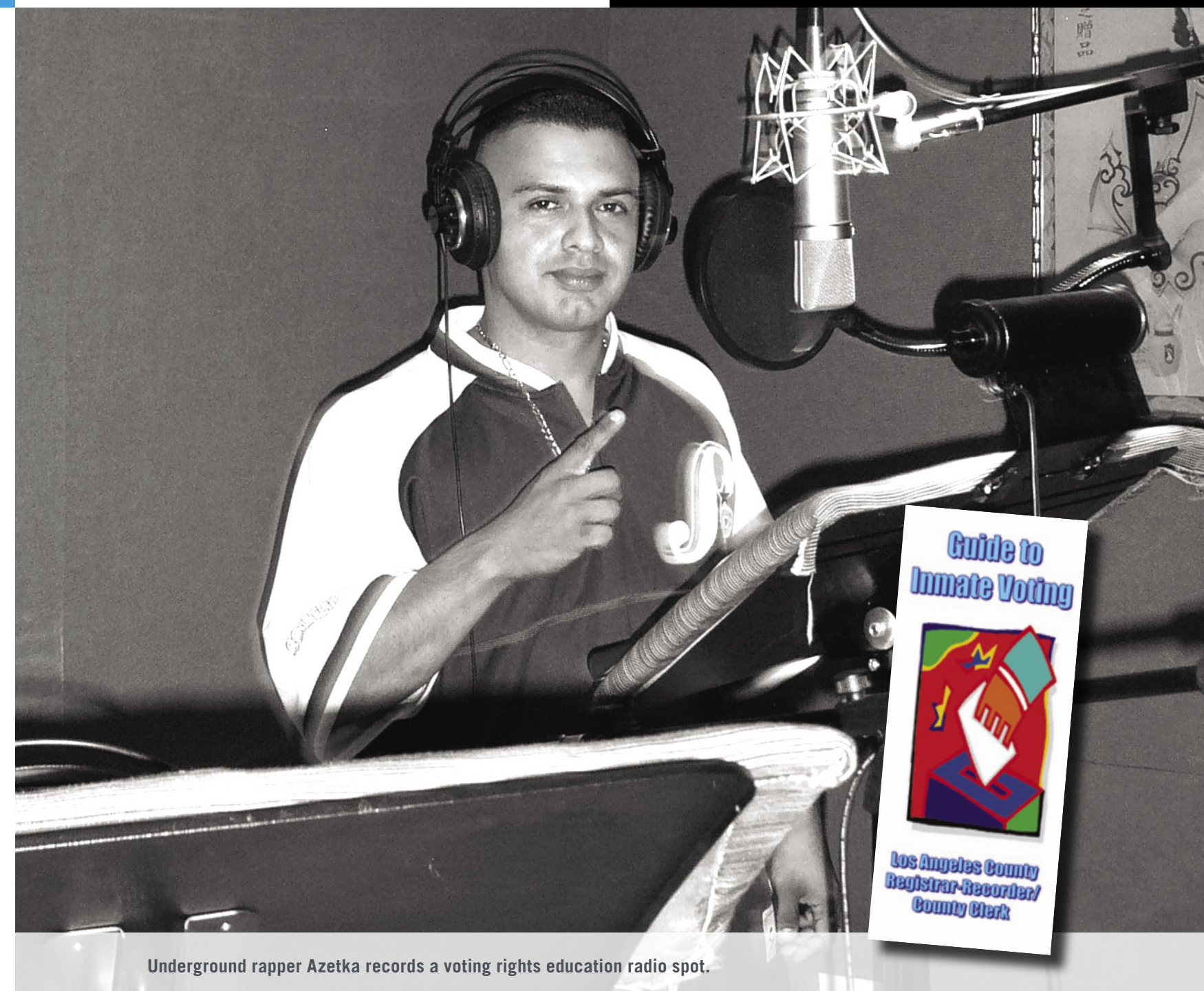
The English version featured reality television personality Judge Greg Mathis, of the “Judge Mathis Show,” who went from gang banging as a troubled youth to gavel banging as a Michigan judge. The Spanish version

featured rising bilingual rapper Azteka, an East Los Angeles native who spent years in the California Youth Authority before turning his life around through music.

Our work ensuring that people have the power to express their will at the polls will continue in high gear in the coming months. Three key provisions of the Voting Rights Act expire in the summer of 2007 unless Congress acts to renew them. These provisions serve to deter discrimination against minority voters. Without them, existing discrimination will worsen and needed voices will be shut out of the political process.

The right of voting for representatives is the primary right by which other rights are protected. To take away this right is to reduce a man to slavery, for slavery consists in being subject to the will of another.

— Thomas Paine



Underground rapper Azteka records a voting rights education radio spot.

Helping Communities *Challenge* Schools That Fail

When the landmark settlement of *Williams v. California* was announced in August, 2004, it marked the end of one part of a long struggle. Our job now is to hold California's schools accountable if they continue failing their most vulnerable students.

The lawsuit, one of the largest ever undertaken by the ACLU of Southern California, demanded the state provide students with critical basics for education: clean and safe schools, up-to-date textbooks and qualified teachers.

"Everyone who is a part of the public school system will be affected by this, whether it's a teacher, a student, or a community member," said Teresa Virgen, the ACLU/SC's racial justice organizer. "I find that people, once they know what this means to them personally, are excited about how much great change can come in the long run and especially when they learn that they can take action to make change at their school."

In all, the settlement provides nearly \$1 billion toward a remedy: \$800 million for emergency repairs in the lowest performing schools; almost \$138 million for new instructional materials for schools ranked in the bottom two tiers; and \$50 million to evaluate the facilities needs of the lowest performing schools and create a system for county superintendents to provide critical accountability oversight in these schools.

Now the ACLU/SC's focus is on reaching those most affected by the settlement and getting the word out about using the complaint process. Several times each month, Virgen travels to speak to community groups, parent organizations and students about what the settlement means and how they can use the system set up to handle complaints. Presenting in Spanish or English as the audience requires, her talks, multimedia presentations and brochures are doing a lot to help school reform become a reality. Virgen also trains community members so they can reach out directly to their peers.

Knowing about the complaint system means a student can get a book she doesn't have, a parent can get a leaky school roof fixed quickly, and the community can directly participate in the fight to get more qualified teachers into their schools, Virgen said. It's work that touches her heart.

"I was one of those kids who attended an overcrowded school and I understand what it means to be part of the struggle," she said. "I sometimes explain in my presentations that their community is my community, too, and that although I won't directly be affected by the changes, I am confident that my little brother (and niece and nephew) will be able to benefit from something so great."



A wood-block floor of a classroom at Mark Keppel High School in Alhambra is falling apart in this 1999 photograph.

Education costs money, but then, so does ignorance.

— Sir Moser Claus



A typical drinking fountain at Mark Keppel High School in Alhambra.

THE ACLU OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HAS DEVELOPED SEVERAL TOOLS TO HELP THE COMMUNITY ENGAGE IN THE WILLIAMS SETTLEMENT:

- A detailed “Know Your Rights” brochure explaining the complaint process. Available in English and Spanish.
- A model complaint form.
- A toll free number where calls are returned within 48 hours.
- The website www.decentschools.org, with materials available for download, facts, figures, status updates, district information, reports and email contact. Key materials are provided in Spanish.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT
TO A CLEAN AND
SAFE SCHOOL

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT
TO HAVE A BOOK TO USE
IN CLASS AND AT HOME

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO
A QUALIFIED TEACHER

*This brochure explains
how to use the new
Williams complaint process
to enforce these rights.*

WILLIAMS v. CALIFORNIA

CURRENT AS OF AUGUST 12, 2005

CONOZCA SUS DERECHOS

USTED TIENE EL DERECHO
A UNA ESCUELA
LIMPIA Y SEGURA

USTED TIENE EL DERECHO
A UN LIBRO PARA USAR EN
CLASE Y PARA LLEVAR A
CASA PARA TAREA

USTED TIENE EL DERECHO
A UN MAESTRO CALIFICADO

*Este folleto explica como usar el nuevo
proceso para hacer quejas sobre los
temas de Williams para hacer cumplir
estos derechos.*

WILLIAMS contra CALIFORNIA

ACTUALIZADA EL 20 DE ABRIL, 2005

WHAT WE DO & HOW WE DO IT

The government of the United States is built on two basic principles: (1) majority rule through democratic elections; and (2) protection of individuals from any attempts by the majority to curtail individual liberties and rights, as spelled out in the Bill of Rights.

The Constitution and Bill of Rights set the ground rules for individual liberty, which include the freedoms of speech, association, and religion, freedom of the press, and the right to privacy, to equal protection of the laws and to due process of law.

The ACLU was founded to defend and secure these rights and to extend them to people who have been excluded from their protection.

OUR WORK CAN BE CATEGORIZED AS FOLLOWS:

FIRST AMENDMENT – The rights of free speech, free association, and assembly, freedom of the press and religious freedom, including the strict separation of church and state.

EQUAL PROTECTION – The right not to be discriminated against on the basis of certain classifications, such as race, sex, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, disability, etc.

DUE PROCESS – The right to be treated fairly, including fair procedures when facing accusations of criminal conduct or other serious accusations that can lead to results like loss of employment, exclusion from school, denial of housing, cut-off of certain benefits or various punitive measures taken by the government.

PRIVACY – The right to a zone of personal privacy and autonomy.

GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS THAT CONTINUE TO STRUGGLE FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES – The extension of all the rights described above to those who are still fighting for the full protections of the Bill of Rights, including women; immigrants; the poor; people of color; transgender people; members of minority religions; people with disabilities; lesbian, gay, or bisexual people; the homeless; prisoners; and children in the custody of the state.

We accomplish the above by lobbying, public education, and litigation.

Former National ACLU Executive Director Ira Glasser first penned the basic version of the above framework in 1982.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

The ACLU of Southern California needs your help in protecting the civil rights and civil liberties of all Southern Californians. This important work is made possible by thousands of members and supporters across Southern California. These generous individuals comprise an unparalleled force of activists, unified in their commitment to civil rights and civil liberties.

THERE ARE MANY WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT THE ACLU OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:

BECOME AN ACLU MEMBER.

Add your voice to the more than 45,000 members in Southern California and 500,000 ACLU members across the nation! Annual memberships cost \$20 (\$30 for a joint or family membership) and connect you to one of the largest activist networks in Southern California. Call (213) 977-5216 or join on our website, www.aclu-sc.org.

BECOME AN ACLU FOUNDATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SUPPORTER.

The ACLU Foundation of Southern California depends on contributions, both large and small, to fund the dozens of cases and public policy campaigns it supports each year. The ACLU Foundation of Southern California is a 501(c)(3) organization, making your contributions tax deductible. Your contributions can be made in cash, by check or credit card, in stock or bonds, and can be made in honor of someone else through a ‘tribute gift.’ Call (213) 977-5222 for more information.

DESIGNATE THE ACLU FOUNDATION AS A BENEFICIARY IN YOUR WILL.

Join other members of the ACLU DeSilver Society in providing for the ACLU of Southern California in your estate plans. You can:

- Name the ACLU as a beneficiary on your insurance.
- Designate the ACLU as the beneficiary for part or all of your estate.
- Start an annuity plan that pays you income in exchange for your gift of \$10,000 or more.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CHARITABLE ESTATE PLANNING, PLEASE CALL (213) 977-5226.

Your contributions make twice the impact.

All contributions (unless otherwise designated) are shared with the National ACLU in support of smaller ACLU affiliates in states where there is little support for defending civil liberties and civil rights.

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[†]Deceased

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Racial Justice Director and Okrand Wirin Attorney
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Public Policy Associate
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Staff Attorney
Policy Associate
Intake Coordinator
Senior Counsel
Development Director
Paralegal
Associate Director
Staff Attorney
Full Charge Bookkeeper
Membership and Development Coordinator
Director, Orange County Branch Office
Racial Justice Organizer
Public Policy Associate

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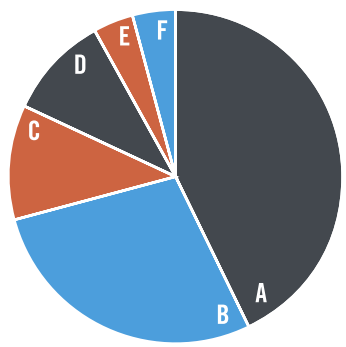
Francisco Lobaco
Vivek Malhotra
Ken Russell
Valerie Small Navarro

Legislative Director
Legislative Advocate
Administrative Assistant
Legislative Advocate

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

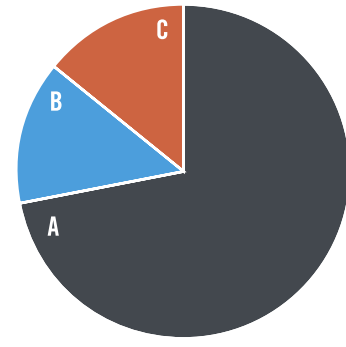
ACLU FOUNDATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

SUPPORT & REVENUE



SUPPORT & REVENUE*	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE
A. Individual Contributions	\$2,043,743	43%
B. Bequests	\$1,323,335	28%
C. Court Awarded Fees	\$524,533	11%
D. Restricted Foundation Grants	\$453,125	10%
E. Interest & Other	\$185,015	4%
F. Budgeted Transfers	\$203,166	4%
SUPPORT & REVENUE	\$4,732,917	

EXPENSES



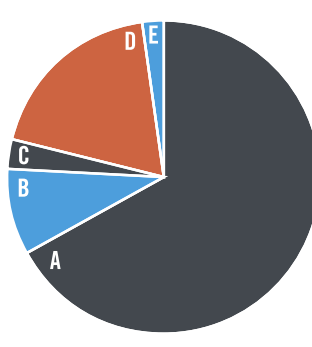
EXPENSES	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE
A. Program Services	\$2,820,554	72%
B. Fundraising	\$538,528	14%
C. Management & General	\$532,579	14%
EXPENSES	\$3,891,661	

**Represents net of sharing with the National ACLU Foundation of contributions and bequests. The National ACLU Foundation bequests shares totaled \$4,390,315. The Affiliate Bequests Fund shares totaled \$ 1,317,093. An additional amount of \$338,923 is restricted to the Trust for the Bill of Rights fund. Grants awarded to the ACLU Foundation are restricted and earmarked for specific purposes.*

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

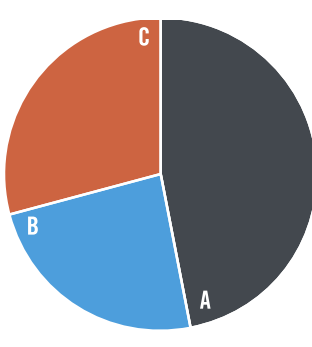
ACLU OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

SUPPORT & REVENUE



SUPPORT & REVENUE*	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE
A. Membership Dues	\$720,274	67%
B. Bequests	\$99,399	9%
C. Interest & Other	\$26,693	3%
D. Events	\$208,732	19%
E. Budgeted Transfers	\$20,835	2%
SUPPORT & REVENUE	\$1,075,933	

EXPENSES



EXPENSES	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE
A. Program Services	\$431,162	47%
B. Fundraising	\$225,949	24%
C. Management & General	\$265,102	29%
EXPENSES	\$922,213	

**Represents net of sharing with the National ACLU of dues, contributions and bequests. The National ACLU shares totaled \$321,602. The Affiliate Bequests Fund shares totaled \$95,231.*

All figures provided are unaudited at time of publication. Complete, audited financial statements for the year ending March 31, 2005 by Sanders, Kalvin, McMillan, et al., may be obtained by writing to the ACLU/SC at 1616 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, Ca. 90026-5711.

Enlighten the people and tyranny
and oppressions of *body and mind*
will *vanish* like spirits at the dawn of day.
- THOMAS JEFFERSON

Challenging *Injustice*, Fighting for *Liberty*

**ACLU OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
ANNUAL REPORT 2004/2005**

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The ACLU of Southern California is composed of two separate corporate entities, the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California and the ACLU Foundation of Southern California. Although both the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California and the ACLU Foundation of Southern California are part of the same overall organization, it is necessary that the ACLU of Southern California have two separate organizations in order for the ACLU of Southern California to do a broad range of work in protecting civil liberties. This annual report collectively refers to the two organizations under the name "ACLU of Southern California" or "ACLU/SC."