When the Trump/Pence Regime’s policy of family separation was first revealed last year, Coco Das and Sarah Roark wrote on RefuseFascism.org, “When held up against the United Nations definition of genocide, the actions of this regime are laying the groundwork for further crimes against humanity.” One year later the regime is still in power and its cruelty has metastasized.

The Trump/Pence regime is essentially torturing immigrants in concentration camps. Children are taking care of younger children, kept in “icebox” conditions, and denied basic hygiene and healthcare. People told to drink out of toilets. There isn’t enough air to breathe inside overcrowded facilities. Seven children have died.

This xenophobic attack on immigrants is the linchpin and battering ram of a larger fascist program

Torturing children and babies is not only an atrocity in its own right – it is the spearhead and battering ram of a whole fascist program being imposed on America by the Trump/Pence regime, with dire consequences for the people of the world. This is how fascism advances: dehumanizing whole sections of people and normalizing cruelty, preparing hearts and minds to look away as atrocities worsen. Trump’s “Make America Great Again” is a 21st century fascist program of Manifest Destiny – “America First” – wrapped in the flag and Mike Pence’s Bible taken literally, with a program of white supremacy, misogyny, and xenophobia.

Over a tumultuous 2-1/2 years, this regime has pushed its racist “Make America White Again” agenda forward through an atmosphere of chaos. It is reshaping the courts, working to overturn established rights including the right to abortion, threatening war against multiple countries, pouring fossil fuel on an already burning planet, and has repeatedly stated they may hold onto power past 2021 – regardless of the results of the next presidential election.