

International Youth Rally Speech from Think Outside the Bomb
Submitted April 26, 2010; to be delivered May 4, 2010

I am Jennifer Nordstrom, an organizer with Think Outside the Bomb, the largest youth-led anti-nuclear network in the US. I work for nuclear abolition because I love this world—I love smelling lilacs, I love snuggling puppies, I love my little sister. I remember the first time I heard a Hibakusha speak, and recognized that nuclear weapons are hell on earth. I do this work because I believe love, this bliss and joy of life, can overcome the fear and hate that created nuclear weapons and their hell on earth. I believe our generation can raise the consciousness of the world—because the consciousness that created nuclear weapons will not abolish them.

This year, youth like us around the world are on the move organizing for a nuclear free future. This summer, Think Outside the Bomb is organizing a global convergence near Los Alamos, New Mexico where the nuclear industry began. Disarmament Summer is a cross-cultural alliance of youth working together to re-ignite hope from below and build a grassroots consensus-based nonviolent direct action movement. In partnership with the Tribal Environmental Watch Alliance, TEWA Women United, the Multicultural Alliance for a Safe Environment, Products of Atzlan youth group, and the Southwest Indigenous Uranium Forum, we are committed to collective liberation, a sustainable future, and an end to the cycle of nuclear violence.

Despite receiving a Nobel Prize for envisioning a nuclear-free world, President Obama is investing \$7 billion to construct 3 new bomb-making facilities in Los Alamos, Oakridge TN, and Kansas City MO. These facilities would quadruple our ability to make nuclear weapons. After a 30 year hiatus, the uranium industry has now applied to open or re-open 22 New Mexican mines, many on sacred sites, in direct opposition to a Navajo Ban. There are 30 applications for new nuclear reactors and the Obama Administration wants to underwrite at least three of them with our tax dollars. For too long, the US government and corporations have sacrificed the environment, health and well-being of indigenous and poor communities to secure access to resources through the threat and use of force. To create a nuclear-free future, we must undo a legacy of racism and violence.

Think Outside the Bomb is organizing Disarmament Summer to dismantle the nuclear industrial complex and build our nuclear-free future. We are organizing a week-long permaculture training encampment at the foot of Los Alamos, July 30- August 9. We will protest US nuclear weapons all week, as well as learn skills for creating the sustainable world we want to live in. Mark your calendars now, and come join us in New Mexico for global resistance to nuclear weapons. This camp will build to mass actions, including creative nonviolent civil disobedience, on August 6, the 65th Anniversary of the US atomic bombing of Hiroshima. All summer, we will be traveling around the US with the Think Outside the Bomb National Anti-Nuclear Tour. We are scheduled to stop in over 40 US cities, so host a tour stop to share knowledge and build a network of resistance through dialogue, music, and art. We are also organizing trainings over the summer, including an Earth Activist Training in permaculture (June 2 -5, Chimayo, NM) and Wise Fool Puppet-Making. Contact us to host a tour stop or get involved in New Mexico: disarmamentsummer@gmail.com; (+1) 408-676-8682. You can also find more information, register to come to the encampment or donate to TOTB on our website: www.thinkoutsidethebomb.org.