

Sanho Tree



Sanho Tree is a Fellow and Director of the Drug Policy Project at the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, DC. The project works to end the domestic and international War on Drugs and replace it with policies that promote public health and safety as well as economic alternatives to the prohibition drug economy. The intersection of race and poverty in the drug war is at the heart of the project's work. In recent years the project has focused on the attendant collateral damage caused by the US exporting its drug war to Colombia, Bolivia and Afghanistan. He also studies the intersection of the War on Drugs and the War on Terror. Establishing humane and sustainable alternatives to the drug war fits into the IPS mandate as one of the major contemporary social justice issues at home and abroad. He has been featured in numerous documentaries (Coca Mama, Plan Colombia: Cashing in on a Drug War Failure, Held Hostage in Colombia, the ABC/John Stossel documentary on the drug war called War on Drugs, War on Ourselves) and has also appeared on Politically Incorrect with Bill Maher. Currently, he serves on the boards of Witness for Peace and the Andean Information Network.

Mr. Tree is also a former military and diplomatic historian and he has collaborated in the past with Dr. Gar Alperovitz on The Decision to Use the Atomic Bomb and the Architecture of an American Myth (Knopf, 1995). From 1996-97, he assisted entertainer Harry Belafonte and continues to work as an occasional consultant for him on international issues. He was also associate editor of Covert Action Quarterly, an award-winning magazine of investigative journalism. In the late 1980s he worked at the International Human Rights Law Group.