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in recent days, we've heard of proposed settlements in civil suits involving big pharmaceutical companies, the very sources of opioid products like oxycontin, that has left tens of thousands of people gripped in the hold of addiction. similarly, these products have led to tens of thousands of deaths. some 70,000 annually. according to some reports, no man or woman on death row has come close to such a tally. & no corporate exec. no matter his legal liability, has come even close to such a fate,

this is especially vexing when we consider the ravages of the drug war, which has fueled mass incarceration for decades, young men, wearing hoodies & baseball caps turned backward, engaged in retail sales of untaxed drugs in the ghetto & tenement streets of america, for this they have been attack by police & federal agents with all the ferocity of war. in fact, it was a war, & people were treated like enemies of the state, & cast into prison for at least decades, some for life

enter big pharma, which launched drugs upon america on an industrial scale, & made billions to boot! consider this simple fact: in one year, more americans have died from corporate opioid products, than the number of americans who died in vietnam, after 10 years of war! for retail sellers of drugs, decades in prison await; for wholesale drug merchants, civil suits are the state's responses, since when is the killing of thousands of people a civil tort? when we witness the parameters

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of the drug war, we see it had
nothing to do with drugs - &
everything to do with state
repression of the people, those
from the ghettos & barrios of
america.

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