INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS



WHAT WE STAND FOR

and

WHAT WE DO



This pamphlet was written to answer the questions of those who have thought about joining the I.S. It gives a broad overview of our policies as well as the entire range of activities that members are involved in. It was not meant to answer <u>every</u> <u>question</u> that people raise about the I.S. Instead, it was written as a basis for discussion between I.S. members and interested friends.

> Louisville International Socialists

THE I.S. : INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISTS

The I.S. is an activist revolutionary socialist organization. The ideas we fight for today grew out of the experience of the revolutionary working class and communist movements of the early 1900's. In the black, student and women's liberation movements of the '60s our comrades revitalized and fought for the ideas of revolutionary Marxism and officially formed the International Socialists in 1953.

Since then we have been in the process of changing the I.S. into a revolutionary workers' organization which participates in the daily struggles of the working class. We fight to build a revolutionary party capable of leading the movement to overthrow the rotten capitalist system and replace it with socialism - a workers' democracy.

The I.S. today is a national organization with our national office in Detroit and branches in the following cities:

> Berkel/, CA Bloomington, EM Boston, MA Chicago, IL Cleveland, OH Detroit, MI Los Angeles, CA Louisville, XY Madison, WI New York, MY Portland, OR San Francisco, CA Seattle, WA St. Louis, MO

We have approximately 250 members. The I.S. exists internationally. In Creat Britain the I.S. is an industrial workers organization about 4,000 strong. We have fraternal relations with organizations sharing similar politics in France, Italy, Australia, Canada and Sweden. In addition, the I.S. in this country has fraternal relations with a newly formed revolutionary youth organization of roughly 50 members - The Red Tide.

II

WHAT WE STAND FOR

WHAT AND HOW WE ARE FIGHTING. . .

1.5% of the population in this country own 85% of the corporate wealth. . . The cost of retooling Fords for a new line of cars is bigger than the annual national budget of Columbia, South America. . . More people will die this year from the effects of starvation than from any other cause. . . Today in the city of Detroit alone hundreds of thousands go hungry and unemployment is over 20%. . . And Gerald Ford wants to cut back social services to save the government a little \$\$\$\$.

It has been the same all through history: poverty, hunger, violence have been all that the majority of humankind could expect. What makes it a crime now is that it is all unnecessary. We have the means to abolish poverty now - what stops us is <u>capitalism</u>.

<u>Capitalism</u> is a system in which everyone serves one goal - <u>profit</u> for the capitalist class. Human needs mean nothing. Humanity has lost control of its own history: we are ruled by a system which we have no control over.

Under <u>socialism</u>, society and production would be organized by people themselves for satisfying human needs and enjoyments. In other words, it would mean real democracy where people would rule, instead of a blind system run by a tiny class of parasites.

The working class is the key to change. Ford hates Chrysler; one food chain hates all other food chains. But the only strength workers have is their <u>unity</u>. Also it is the workers who produce the wealth and profits on which capitalism is run. Here is a story to illustrate this:

Visitor in Factory (ViF): 'What did you just tell that man to do?' 'I told him to hurry up.' Boss: ViF : 'What gives you the right to do that?' Boss: 'I pay him \$25 a day and expect him to work as fast as he can.' ViF : 'Where do you get the money to pay him?' Boss: 'I sell products.' ViF : 'Who made the products?' Boss: 'He did.' ViF : 'How many dollars worth does he make in a day?' Boss: 'About \$60 worth, less costs.' ViF : 'So really you don't pay him \$25. He pays you \$35 to tell him to work harder. 'But I own the expensive machinery.' Boss: ViF : 'And how did you buy these machines?' Boss: 'I sold products and bought them.' ViF : 'And who made those products?' Boss: 'Shut up! He might hear you.'

The class struggle under capitalism is the struggle inside the factories between the bosses and the workers for this surplus product. Trade unionism, worker militancy, politics - they all come from this basic fact of capitalist life. In the face of worker militancy the bosses introduce productivity drives, speed up, forced overtime and layoffs to maintain and deepen the exploitation of the workers.

That is why the real struggle for socialism cannot take place in our congress or newspapers. It has to take place on the shop floor, the 'point of production,' the root from which capitalism grows.

There is no democracy inside the factory gates. If there were, it would hit the system in the guts - it would hit profits. Under socialism production would be controlled by the producers - the workers - organized in democratic workers' councils.

The trouble is, all of this is not so obvious to most people. As Marx put it, the ruling ideas of any age are the ideas of the ruling class. Everyone living knder the system is affected by these ideas which seem like 'common sense.' They come from the press, the TV, the schools. Once it was enough to tell workers, "You're better off poor: you stand more of a chance of going to heaven." Now in the face of deep economic crises we hear talk about the 'public interest.' We're told, "We're all in it together - we all have to sacrifice." But it's not our system, not our crisis, and we shouldn't have to pay. It's the same old class war - bosses against the workers. We're not in it together!

Because not everyone has the same ideas, the same understanding of all this, we need to build a <u>revolutionary</u> <u>workers party</u>. In any group of workers there are always some who have a fuller grasp of their class position and who understand how the government is owned and controlled by the bosses. These workers provide ______ basic class leadership. They must be united so that their actions are not wasted. They must be trained as <u>cadres</u> - clear, conscious militants able to take a correct lead on their own. These cadres will lead the rest of the class in the fight ahead - the fight to overthrow capitalism and to build a real workers' democracy.

OUR POLITICAL PRINCIPLES. . .

Independent working class action.

Socialism must be achieved by the independent action of the working class. The liberation of the class can be won only by the struggles of workers themselves, not by liberal politicians or so-called 'socialists' who promise to do it <u>for</u> us.

Mass organizations of the working class.

The trade unions today are the only mass organizations of the working class. In spite of the corrupt sell-out policies of their official 'leaders,' the unions were originally fought for and created by workers to protect themselves in the tooth and nail struggle with the bosses. We fight to <u>take them back</u> from the union bureaucrats and to make them democratic, fighting tools that will defend us in our day to day battles over wages and working conditions. We fight for rank and file control, we support all union struggles against the employers, and we back the fight of non-union workers to be represented by the union of their choice. We are 100% rank and file trade unionists.

Bureaucratic Collectivism - the so-called socialist countries.

The first successful socialist revolution was made by the Russian working class in 1917. But the workers' revolution was isolated and eventually destroyed by a counter-revolution led by Stalin. Under Stalin, the new ruling class in Russia invaded Eastern European countries and set up the same kind of oppressive system. In countries like China and Cuba, revolutions occurred which were not revolutions made by workers, but rather military takeovers by intellectuals claiming to represent the working class. We call these countries 'bureaucratic collectivist.' Industry is nationalized under the control of the Party bureaucracy which itself becomes the new ruling class. In all of these so-called 'socialist' countries, the ruling classes are as oppressive and exploitative as under capitalism. Workers have no right to strike or to form their own political parties. There is no freedom of assembly, press, or speech for the working class. These countries are no closer to socialism than capitalism is. We stand opposed to capitalism and bureaucratic collectivism.

Socialism from below.

We call for worldwide working class revolution to replace the dying capitalist and bureaucratic collectivist systems. We stand for a socialist society in which the working class democratically makes all political and economic decisions through its own organizations. We stand for a society in which the wealth produced by our labor will be controlled collectively by workers and used to meet human needs - to produce a decent life for all.

Internationalism and class unity.

A socialist revolution in one country alone cannot survive. The forces of international capitalism would isolate, attack and destroy it. To win socialism in any country the revolution must be international. We fight for solidarity and cooperation with workers and unions in other countries. We oppose all immigration controls, protectionism ('buy America'), and strikebreaking by workers in one country or union against those in another. We oppose imperialism and fully support the liberation struggles of oppressed peoples in this country and worldwide.

<u>Racism</u> and <u>sexism</u> are tools of the capitalist system to divide the working class. The socialist revolution requires a unified working class, but unity only on the basis of full political and economic equality. We seek to win white workers from their racism and male workers from their sexism. We defend the right of all oppressed groups to organize themselves independently. We defend the right of oppressed nations to self-determination. International capitalism can only be defeated by working class unity and international socialism.

The overthrow of the capitalist state.

The state (government) is a weapon of capitalist class rule and it must be smashed. Its institutions like the congress, army, police and courts cannot simply be taken over by the working class to build socialism peacefully or gradually. The newspapers, schools, and the smooth slogans of the politicians are all used to make us believe we can change society by working through <u>them</u> and by voting. In reality, every 4 years we have 10 minutes of democracy to cast our vote for the capitalist party that we want to repress us for the next 4 years! Besides this, the capitalist state defends and protects the wealth and private property of the bosses - the Fords and the Rockefellers. The armies, police and national guards are used daily to break up strikes, attack revolutions abroad, and discipline workers who are forced by subhuman conditions to steal in order to live. The working class revolution must destroy this old state and create one of an entirely different kind. It will establish direct rule of society by the masses of people based on workers' councils elected at the workplace.

Building the revolutionary party.

To create socialism, the most class conscious and militant sections of the working class must be organized into a revolutionary party. The party does not represent an elite to rule over the workers 'in their interests.' It is a political force helping to organize workers and leading them to seize state power and control society as a class. The activity of the I.S. is directed toward building such a party. Building a rank and file movement based on the principles described here strengthens the consciousness, self-confidence and organization of the working class, and is the road by which a revolutionary party will be built.

III

STRATEGY FOR OUR DAILY WORK

The history of capitalism is the history of economic booms and busts, depressionsyewars, fascism, and mass starvation for most of the world. After the second world war, the American capitalists came out on top controlling the world economically and militarily. By pouring millions into military spending they were strong enough to stick their noses into everybody's business and temporarily keep the economy stable. But defense and arms spending what we call the 'permanent arms economy' - is waste spending. Millions of dollars are now poured into arms for the capitalist governments while millions of people starve. You can't buy a nuclear warhead at the corner drug-store, and effen if you could you still can't eat it. The world crisis of capitalism is emerging again. Prices have soared, wages have dropped, and the bosses and their politicians have launched an all-out attack on the living standards of the working class in order to protect their profits.

The strategy of the I.S. is to fight back! The rank and file workers' movement that we build and participate in is the only agent for change. And the revolutionary party that we work to build out of that movement, through the unions and on the shop floors, is the only weapon in the hands of the working class for smashing this rotten system and building a new one. These are some of the practical demands and policies that we fight for and put into action in our daily work as revolutionary socialists and I.S. members:

- * For the policy of class struggle unionism. This means we recognize that the majority of workers, including most militants are not yet conscious revolutionaries. When we fight for class struggle unionism, we are fighting to reintroduce the basic concepts of revolutionary Marxism to the U.S. working class - ideas like class struggle, workers' control, class solidarity, and the need for independent political action by workers (our own party). The principles of class struggle unionism that we apply in our everyday work form a bridge from trade union practice to revolutionary politics.
- * For rank and file control of the unions. No secret negotiations. All contracts to be voted on by mass membership meetings. For rank and file committees to lead the struggle when union officials refuse to fight, and national opposition caucuses in the International unions.
- * Abolish all anti-labor legislation. No restriction on the right to strike, picket or boycott.
- * Defend working conditions. No control on wages. Against unemployment, layoffs, and speed-up. 30 hours work for 40 hours pay to fight unemployment. We demand the right to a job at union wages for everyone. Organize the unorganized. Nationalization of industry without compensation and under workers' control.

- * Equality for all oppressed peoples. Full support to their liberation struggles. For the right of the black community and other oppressed peoples to defend themselves. Against all forms of racism, police harrassment and discrimination. For independent organization by black and other specially oppressed workers to fight for their own demands. Independence for Puerto Rico.
- * Abolish all forms of sexual oppression. For complete social, economic, and political equality for vomen. Free quality 24 hour childcare, birth control and abortion. For a working class women's liberation movement. End discrimination against gay people.
- * Against imperialism, East and Vest. Against all nuclear weapons and imperialist alliances such as NATO and the Marsaw Pact. For unconditional support to all national liberation movements, against both U.S. and Russian imperialism. We support the military victory of the National Liberation Front over U.S. imperialism in Vietnam, but we give no political support to the anti-working class dictatorship the NLF represents.
- * No support to Republican, Democratic and Vallaceite parties and candidates. For an independent political party of the working class, based on the unions and controlled by the rank and file, to struggle against the capitalist parties.

IV

HOW THE I.S. WORKS

DEMOCRATIC CENTRALISM: OUR ORGANIZATIONAL THEORY

As revolutionaries, we want our revolutionary organization, and eventually the party we will build, to be democratic and to allow full discussion on each important issue we have to deal with. On the other hand, we are not a talk shop. We do not give our time, energy, money and skills just to bullshit. We come together only to provide leadership for our class in its daily struggles and to convince our class, educate it, prepare it for overthrowing capitalism and setting up a workers' government. So when a decision is made, we all stick by it. Just as the working class must stand united against the bosses in order to be effective, the I.S. must stand united before the working class. If we appear wishy-washy and have several positions on each issue, we will never gain respect from other workers. This is why democracy inside the I.S. is so important. In a democratic discussion, we can fight for our ideas and try to convince a majority of our comrades why our ideas are right. But after a vote is taken, everyone must work to put the decision into practice. Only by trying out the idea in the real world, can we test it. This can be summed up by the slogan, "full freedom of discussion and criticism, but unity in action."

But it's not enough for the I.S. to democratically decide what it thinks and what it will specifically fight for. Because without a leadership to ensure that the decision is carried out and to handle all the details of putting the decision into action, it won't get done. This is why we take the election of I.S. leaders very seriously. We want the most skilled, experienced, disciplined, competent leaders possible. We elect them to do what we want them to do. And we elect them because we agree with their ideas about how to do it. The leaders of I.S. branches and the national leaders must make daily decisions about our I.S. work. It is absolutely necessary that we trust them and that they have our full support in daily carrying out the strategy we have dictated to them at our convention and branch meetings. As members, we can have final say over everything. However, if we insist as members on challenging every decision that our leaders make, then there's no sense in having leaders because we're stopping them from leading. Our leaders should be democratically challenged when they fail to provide leadership, not when they try to provide it.

<u>Real</u> democracy means making a decision and doing whatever is necessary to carry it out. And there can be no real democracy without leadership, without centralizing the tasks of carrying out a decision. There can be no effective leadership unless members support their elected leaders and follow their lead. Likewise, leaders must be willing and able to lead. We call this theory of revolutionary organization 'democratic centralism.' To us it is a principle that guides a revolutionary group of only several hundred, and it is one that will work as well with a revolutionary party of tens of thousands.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

The I.S. National Convention is held once a year in Detroit in the summer or early fall. Prior to the convention delegates are elected by each branch. They are elected according to their political positions on issues to be taken up at the convention. Branch size determines the number of delegates allowed. Where a significant minority exists on an important issue, they also are allowed delegates to represent their point of view.

Documents and resolutions at the convention do two major things: They further develop and update our revolutionary Marxist theory, and/or they put forward practical strategy for building the working class movement and the revolutionary party during the coming year. The convention is the disciplined expressed will of the majority of the organization. It is the highest and most important policy-making body of the I.S. Since we're not just a talk shop, it is crucial that the democratic decision of the convention are defended, enforced, and carried out by the other leadership bodies and the membership.

The National Committee (NC) meets in Detroit four times a year to plan shortrange strategy and to provide leadership for the organization in carrying out convention decisions. Major decisions unable to wait until the next convention are also made by the NC. The NC is roughly 20 people from around the country, elected at the convention on the basis of their political ideas and their political leadership in the I.S. Further, the NC appoints whatever national officers it deems necessary including National Chairperson, National Secretary and Workers Power editor.

The National Executive Committee (EC) meets weekly in Detroit - its members all live there. There are roughly a half dozen members on the EC; they are elected by the NC. The EC guides branch internal and external work, oversees the production and political viewpoint of Workers Power, and acts on organizational problems. And on a daily basis the EC is the national leadership of the I.S. There are two national commissions, each composed of two or three appointed comrades. They are the <u>Homen's Commission</u> and the <u>Black Commission</u>. Their tasks are similar. They coordinate national contact work among these two specially oppressed groups. They provide the daily leadership for I.S. intervention into the struggles of blacks and women. It is a primary task of the I.S. to recruit large numbers of comrades from these two groups and to further train and educate these comrades to become real leaders of the I.S. And it is the task of these commissions to oversee the day to day details of this process. The <u>Homen's Commission</u> also heads up the I.S. <u>Momen's Caucus</u> composed of all women comrades. The Caucus meets at every convention and at the NC meetings to develop and put forward proposals affecting women and their leadership role in the organization.

As the bi-weekly newspaper of the I.S., <u>"orkers Power</u> (PP) presents our analysis and position on current world, national and local events. It presents the full range of our politics from international to trade union and shop floor issues. It is used as an organizing and educational tool by I.S. members in their daily work in building the rank and file movement. It is written primarily for industrial workers and it reports on rank and file struggles in the unions and workplaces. UP is one of the most important public faces of the I.S. In the coming period - given the economic crisis and the rise in worker militancy - we plan to double the circulation and go to a weekly paper. We expect VP to become one of our most important tools for winning workers to the politics of the I.S.

BRANCH ORGANIZATION : Louisville

The political and organizational leadership of the branch is centered in the <u>executive committee</u> (Exec). The Exec is made up of 3 - 4 members elected periodically. The Exec makes sure that the decisions of the organization are carried out. This includes overseeing MP and contact work and education for the branch. The Exec provides an analysis and strategy for I.S. work locally. The Exec is the branch leadership body. It is responsible for responding to and finding ways to overcome any problem that holds back the effectiveness of the branch. It does this by organizing branch discussions, coordinating fraction work and soliciting input from individual members.

Fractions are the basic structure of the branch - the core of our daily I.S. work. Currently our fractions are: AFT (teachers), CUA (telephone), CLUW (Coalition of Labor Union Women), UFW (farmworkers), and a Black Fraction (for organizing our work in the black community). In addition, two other fractions are in the preliminary stages - UAW (auto), and IBT (teamsters).

Fractions meet regularly (weekly or bi-weekly) to plan strategies and tactics for building rank and file struggles in the unions and workplaces locally. They are also linked up to fractions in other branches. National coordination is particularly important in the case of fractions which have built or which participate in national opposition caucuses in the unions - United National Caucus of the UAW and United Action in telephone are examples. It is through fractions that our major contact work takes place locally. A <u>contact</u> is anyone who we think it is possible to recruit. In fraction meetings we discuss contacts and attampt to work out ways for bringing them closer to joining the I.S.

The <u>women's caucus</u> is another vital part of branch functioning. It consists of all the women comrades in the branch (presently a minority) and meets biweekly to take up the following matters: CLUW work, women's industrialization, Women's contact study group, recruitment of women, sexism in the branch, and

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strategies for building both the skills and confidence for taking on real political leadership responsibilities in the branch and in our external work.

Other organizational functions are carried out by individuals appointed by the Exec, such as Treasurer, Educational Director, Contact Coordinator, VP coordinator and Convenor of the Exec.

V

I.S. MEMBERSHIP AND WHAT IT MEANS TO JOIN

THE SPECIFICS: What's expected of members in the Louisville branch.

Every branch member is expected to:

- 1. Attend bi-weekly branch meetings. The branch meets every other Sunday, usually from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Any necessary branch business is taken care of. Branch meetings are training sessions for I.S. politics. The main portion of the meeting is devoted to structured discussions about local I.S. work. These discussions are meant to train our members to are argue our politics more effectively at their workplaces and unions, to clear up questions people have about how to put our politics into practice, and to review and evaluate our ongoing work. Also, branch meetings are the one official time when comrades can find out how our local I.S. work is going in other fractions. Because of all these things, comrades should consider attendance at these meetings an important responsibility.
- 2. <u>Become an active member of one of the local I.S. fractions appropriate to</u> your workplace or where you eventually hope to get a job.
- 3. <u>Participate in the branch educational program</u>. All branch members either teach or take classes on Marxism, revolutionary politics and labor history on a continuing basis. Members usually meet to do this in pairs, every other week. Topics for the current class series include: Communist Manifesto, Marxist economics, Russian Revolution, Revolutionary Party, Selfdetermination, Imperialism, Blacks, Women, American working class history, and China.
- 4. Sell Workers Power. The paper is sold weekly at assigned industrial locations and to contacts. The quota recently set by the National Office is 20papers per member. Selling the paper is an important responsibility, since it provides a way to make contact with fellow workers, to discuss our politics and to spread the influence and ideas of the I.S.
- 5. Pay monthly dues. Material (financial) support is an important part of membership. Our money goes to support the ongoing work of the organization nationally and locally. A part goes to the National Office to pay for publications, salaries (VP staff, national officers, office personnel and branch organizers), national rank and file conferences, office rent and equipment, etc. The rest stays in the branch treasury to cover the costs of our work here (printing, speakers, travel, mailing, supplies, etc.). The dues schedule in effect currently is based on a percentage of each member's monthly take-home pay after deductions:

Take-home (net)		Percentage
\$200 -	\$333	\$3 33 5%
\$334 -	\$600	6%
\$601 -	over	7%

No member pays less than \$7.50 monthly, since that is the amount of the national dues paid by the branch on a per/member basis. (NOTE: This dues schedule is temporary, pending a new standardized dues structure currently being worked out by the national leadership. In all probability, dues for members on the lower end of the income scale will be lowered, while at the upper end (\$500 and above), they will remain about the same.)

<u>Deductions</u> include (1) childcare expenses: daycare, medical and estimated food and clothing costs for children; (2) child support payments and/or alimony; (3) other exceptional monthly expenses or debts which can be discussed with the branch treasurer. Since the branch takes full responsibility for childcare during branch and other related (union, fraction) meetings, babysitting costs for these are deducted in full <u>after</u> figuring percentage totals. Other expenses in the name of the I.S. can be deducted with the approval of the Exec.

6. <u>Contribute money and/or time to fund-raising projects for the Annual I.S. Fund</u> <u>Drive.</u> The fund drive takes place each fall, over a 10-week period and each branch is required to raise or contribute approximately \$100 per member.

JOIN US!

The I.S. is open to all who agree with our basic ideas and actively work as members of our organization to achieve them. Joining is a committment to expanding the membership and influence of the I.S. in the working class movement.

The form and extent of activity will of course depend on individual circumstances. A shop steward at Harvester will have lots of chances to involve workers in shop floor struggles and caucuses in line with I.S. policy. Whereas a newly hired worker or a member in a non-industrial job won't be able to do as much of this kind of work. But each according to his or her situation and ability works hard to extend the influence of the group and popularize its class struggle policy.

In most cases, the objectives of industrial comrades should be to build <u>rank</u> and <u>file caucuses</u> inside the workplace based on our ideas and strategies. These caususes, under I.S. leadership, should become the effective rank and file opposition inside the union, always fighting for class struggle policies and against the sell-out policies of the union bureaucrats. Leaflets, petitions and regular rank and file bulletins are some of the tools used by our caucuses to make this fight.

The I.S. has a network of <u>industrial fractions</u> for guiding our work and intervention in the major unions and industries. UAN (auto), IBT (teamsters warehouse and freight), and CMA (telephone) are our industrial priorities nationally. We also have an AFT (teachers) fraction, and some comrades are working now to build a national fraction in steel. I.S. members working in other places are encouraged to try to relocate or "industrialize" - to get a job in one of the priority industries. Only insofar as we build a strong membership and national presence in these unions and industries can we begin to expand our work and influence to others. Besides fighting for our ideas and winning workers to them, the other important responsibility as an I.S. member is bringing your own experience to the decision making process. This means discussing and relating the problems of special oppression and the day to day class struggle to the organization and always trying to bring I.S. into the arena.

Our task is not easy. There are no short cuts to socialism. It's a job that sometimes seems impossible because we"re still small. But for the first time in 30 years, a large layer of worker militants are open to the ideas of revolutionary socialism because capitalism is forcing them to consider alternatives. And the current depression is only the tip of the iceberg of the coming world capitalist crisis. Today the I.S. is the only revolutionary organization capable of leading the fight inside the unions and the communities for decent living standards. Workers are beginning to join the I.S. because they want to build the organization that has proved that it can fight and win in daily struggles. They are joining the I.S. because the I.S. has successfully built national opposition groups in the telephone and auto unions, published a national class struggle journal for auto workers on how to rebuild their union, formed unemployment councils of employed and unemployed workers to push the unions to fight back, and sponsored rank and file conferences for militants to meet other militants and to exchange ideas on how to fight on and off the shop floor. They join the I.S. because it's the I.S. that has built along with them rank and file newspapers and newsletters and opposition caucuses in all the major industries and unions, and, because <u>Norkers</u> Power is the best working class newspaper in the country - the only paper committed to building the rank and file movement to take back the unions and make them weapons of class defense. They join us because on the shop floor and in WP we defend and fight for the rights of blacks, women and other specially oppressed groups. They join us because they realize they need to build a revolutionary party just to defend and maintain working conditions. But more than this, workers join us because they have learned it boils down to the question of which class will rule - ours or the bosses? We need a party to lead the working class to state power.

Building that revolutionary party will require painstaking effort and sacrifice. The opportunity is upon ; us and it can be done. In the next few months, in the next year, the basis for that party must be laid. As Karl Marx put it over 100 years ago, we really have nothing to lose but our chains. And we have a world to win.

So join us.