

Where We Stand

The dead-end of capitalism

The capitalist system is based on violence, oppression and brutal exploitation. It creates hunger beside plenty. It kills the earth itself with pollution and unsustainable extraction of natural resources. Capitalism leads to imperialism and war. Saving ourselves and the planet depends on finding an alternative.

Socialism and workers' power

Any alternative to capitalism must involve replacing the system from the bottom up through radical collective action. Central to that struggle is the workplace, where capitalism reaps its profits off our backs.

Capitalist monopolies control the earth's resources, but workers everywhere actually create the wealth. A new socialist society can only be constructed when workers collectively seize control of that wealth and plan its production and distribution to satisfy human needs, not corporate profits – to respect the environment, not pollute and destroy it.

Reform and Revolution

Every day, there are battles between exploited and exploiter, oppressor and oppressed, to reform the system – to improve living conditions. These struggles are crucial in the fight for a new world. To further these struggles, we work within the trade unions and orient to building a rank and file movement that strengthens workers' unity and solidarity.

But the fight for reforms will not, in itself, bring about fundamental social change. The present system cannot be fixed or reformed as NDP and many trade union leaders say. It has to be overthrown. That will require the mass action of workers themselves.

Elections and Democracy

Elections can be an opportunity to give voice to the struggle for social change. But under capitalism, they can't change the system. The structures of the present parliament, army, police and judiciary developed under capitalism and are designed to protect the ruling class against the workers. These structures cannot be simply taken over and used by the working class. The working class needs real democracy, and that requires an entirely different kind of state – a workers' state based upon councils of workers' delegates.

Internationalism

The struggle for socialism is part of a worldwide struggle. We campaign for solidarity with workers in other countries. We oppose everything which turns workers from one country against those from other countries. We support all genuine national liberation movements.

The 1917 revolution in Russia was an inspiration for the oppressed everywhere. But it was defeated when workers' revolutions elsewhere were defeated. A Stalinist counter-revolution which killed millions created a new form of capitalist exploitation based on state ownership and control. In Eastern Europe, China and other countries a similar system was later established by Stalinist, not socialist parties. We support the struggle of workers in these countries against both private and state capitalism.

Canada, Quebec, Aboriginal Peoples

Canada is not a "colony" of the United States, but an imperialist country in its own right that participates in the exploitation of much of the world. The Canadian state was founded through the repression of the Aboriginal peoples and the people of Quebec.

We support the struggles for self-determination of Quebec and Aboriginal peoples up to and including the right to independence. Socialists in Quebec, and in all oppressed nations, work towards giving the struggle against national oppression an internationalist and working class content.

Oppression

Within capitalist society different groups suffer from specific forms of oppression. Attacks on oppressed groups are used to divide workers and weaken solidarity. We oppose racism and imperialism. We oppose all immigration controls. We support the right of people of colour and other oppressed groups to organize in their own defence. We are for real social, economic and political equality for women. We are for an end to all forms of discrimination and homophobia against lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgendered people. We oppose discrimination on the basis of religion, ability and age.

The Revolutionary Party

To achieve socialism the leading activists in the working class have to be organized into a revolutionary socialist party. The party must be a party of action, and it must be democratic. We are an organization of activists committed to helping in the construction of such a party through ongoing activity in the mass organizations of the working class and in the daily struggles of workers and the oppressed.

If these ideas make sense to you, help us in this project, and join the International Socialists.



MARXIST FORUMS



Toronto Revolutionary Book Club and Film Screening

China: Empire Rising
Tuesday, December 13
Discussion of readings: 6:30pm
Film showing: 7:30pm
Speaker: Sara Marlowe
Readings: "China's Strike Wave" by Simon Gilbert, available at <http://www.isj.org.uk/index.php4?id=125&issue=107> and "China's Century" by Charlie Hore, available at <http://www.isj.org.uk/index.php4?id=50&issue=103>
Film: "The World", which looks at the lives of young migrant workers
For info and location: 416.532.8176
Organized by the Toronto West branch of the International Socialists

Ottawa

**Was McGuinty Right?:
Religious Arbitration and
Women's Rights in Ontario**
Thursday, December 15, 7:30pm
Speakers: Khadija Haffajee, Richard Fidler and Chantal Sundaram

121 Lamoureux Hall
University of Ottawa
English presentation, bilingual discussion/Présentation anglais, discussion bilingue
info: gosocialists@yahoo.ca
Organized by the Ottawa/Gatineau branch of the International Socialists

Vancouver

What's Wrong With America?
Wednesday, January 25, time TBA
Speaker: Amber Urquhart
Langara College
info: 604.765.2580
e-mail: is_langara@yahoo.ca
Organized by the Vancouver branch of the International Socialists



FUNDRAISERS

Proceeds go to support Canadian delegation to
World Social Forum in Caracas, Venezuela, Jan 22-29

Pape/Danforth

The Trial of Santa Claus

Prosecution and Defence: John Riddell and Kelly Holloway
Join us for a fundraising dinner (vegetarian friendly), and be prepared to act as part of the jury in the trial – has Red Santa sold out to corporate capitalism?

Saturday, December 17, 4:00pm
Cost: \$10.00 - 20.00 (sliding scale)
Call for location: 416.972.6391
e-mail: marxism@sympatico.ca



Toronto Centre/U of T Club

The World Social Forum and the Fight against Neoliberalism

Friday, December 16; meal at 7:00pm, talk begins at 8:00pm
Speakers: Erin George and Ian MacDonald
Includes a vegetarian friendly dinner. Cost: \$7.00 - 20.00 (sliding scale)
Call for info and location: 416.972.6391
e-mail: international.socialists@utoronto.ca

WORLD SOCIAL FORUM 2006

CARACAS • KARACHI • BAMAKO

The World Social Forum is an open meeting place where social movements, networks, NGOs, and other civil society organizations opposed to neoliberalism and a world dominated by capital or by any form of imperialism come together to share their ideas and network for effective action

www.forosocialmundial.org.br • fsmcaracas@forosocialamericas.org

RESISTANCE BOOKROOM

Ideas for the struggle

Books on Marxism, anti-imperialism, anti-capitalism, environmental issues, oppression and more

OPEN SATURDAYS
11am to 5pm, Trinity St Paul's Centre
427 Bloor Street West

For further info on store hours and events, please call **416.924.9042**

You can also find us in the following cities:

call 416.924.9042 for contact info

Abbotsford, Edmonton, St. Catharines, London, Mississauga (ismississauga@yahoo.ca), Scarborough, Oshawa, Belleville (isbelleville@hotmail.com), Kingston, and Halifax (halifaxsocialists@hotmail.com)

EVENTS LISTINGS

Toronto

Video Premiere - Let Them Stay: Voices of U.S. War Resisters in Canada

Saturday, December 10, 7:00pm
Innis Town Hall, University of Toronto
With special guests: Common Threads Choir, Sara Marlowe and US war resisters, including Darrell Anderson, Patrick and Jill Hart, Jeremy Hinzman, Brandon Hughey, Ryan and Jen Johnson
info: www.resisters.ca
e-mail: resisters@sympatico.ca
tel: 416.598.1222

Support Professor David Noble's Grievance against York University

The university trying to defame him because he published information showing how the Zionist members of the University's Board of Directors strive to silence any campus activity critical of Israel.

Attend the arbitration hearings of December 14 and December 20 which are being held at 10:00am at the Arbitration Centre, 390 Bay Street Suite 400 (Queen subway station)

Climate Chaos: Report Back from the Montreal Climate Conference

Monday, December 12, 7:30pm
Speaker: Dylan Penner
Bloor Street United Church, McClure Hall
300 Bloor St W. (Just West of St. George Subway Station)

Includes a screening of MAKE G8 HISTORY, short film by ACT for the Earth and the Toronto Video Activist Collective of the protests against the G8 in Scotland
tel: 647.438.7068

e-mail: campaigns@actfortheearth.org
Organized by ACT for the Earth

Demand Pensions for Peace: Picket of Canada Pension Plan

Wednesday, December 14, 5:00pm
Canada Pension Plan Headquarters
1 Queen Street East (at Yonge)
tel: 647.438.7068

e-mail: campaigns@actfortheearth.org
Organized by ACT for the Earth

Ottawa

International Human Rights Day: Stop Secret Trials in Canada/Abolish Security Certificates/Stop Deportation to Torture

Saturday, December 10, 1:00pm
Parliament Hill
info: justicepourmohamedharkat@yahoo.ca
web: www.nowar-paix.ca

Vancouver

Full Day of Action on Security Certificates: International Human Rights Day

Saturday, December 10
Rally from 12 noon – 2:00pm
24-hour vigil ending at noon on
Sunday, December 11
Vancouver Art Gallery, Robson entrance
info: www.stopwar.ca

War Resisters Home for the Holidays: Celebrate the Holiday Season with U.S. War Resisters in B.C.

Saturday, December 17, 11:00am
Main Hall, Hewett Centre
949 West 49th Avenue
There will be music, merriment, refreshments and gifts. Rumours are that Santa Claus may make an appearance to welcome Josh and Brandy Keys' four young children, and the other resisters as well. Everyone is welcome – in lieu of admission or gifts, donations to the War Resisters Support Campaign will be gratefully accepted.

Waterloo

Screening: Wal-Mart – The High Cost of Low Prices

Thursday, December 15, 7:00pm
Princess Twin Cinemas, 46 King St North
tel: 519.725.4888
e-mail: kwndp@web.ca
Tickets are available at the door, at a cost of \$5.00 each. Contact the theatre at 519.885.2950 or via www.princesscinemas.com