

# Working Women Speak Out!

## *Organizing for Social Change*



### SPEAKERS:

**KATHARINE BEEMAN**, Women's Committee Coordinator, CNTU Local at Loto Quebec; member, Gauche Socialiste.

**JAIME MARONGE**, Health care worker; member Don Mills NDP.

**CONNIE MURTON**, Union organizer (YMCA cleaning and clerical workers; Town Inn chambermaids and kitchen workers); past NDP North York school board candidate.

**Saturday, March 17**

**7:30 P.M.**

**International Student Centre  
33 St George Street (near College Street)**

**Donation \$2**

**Sponsored by: Socialist Workers Collective**  
For more information call: 535-8779





## for Women's Liberation and Socialism

As the recovery-that-never-was fades from memory, one thing is quite clear:  
Nothing short of socialist transformation of society is required in order to make women's emancipation possible.

So long as capitalism survives, the hard fought-for rights of women are constantly eroded and undermined--especially, as the capitalist politicians say, 'when times get tough'.

Women's access to decent-paying jobs, equality in the workplace, affordable childcare services, full reproductive rights and health care, and adequate housing are under vicious assault.

In response, feminists, socialists and others have come together to FIGHT BACK!

Although we fight to defend all of our past gains, history demonstrates the utter bankruptcy of relying on reforms.

We should rely only on our self-organization and our capacity to struggle. Only united, mass actions of an independent and militant women's movement, joined by its working class allies, can stem the current tide of social 'take-backs' by governments and employers.

But just as important is the need to develop a political perspective and an organization capable of leading struggles in the direction of ridding the world of the system that is the source of exploitation, oppression, poverty and war.

Clearly, the oppression of women did not begin with capitalism. It began with the earliest division of human society into classes and the establishment of the family as the basic unit of class society.

But capitalism is the present and last form of class society that humanity is obliged to overthrow.

Only in a socialized economy, under the democratic control of working women and men, will it be possible to eradicate the capitalist sexual division of labour, cornerstone of women's oppression, by transferring the social and economic functions borne by the individual family to society as a whole.

The Socialist Workers Collective stands for just such a democratic, socialist and feminist future. Without a revolutionary organization, rooted in the working class, to educate, organize and fight for that future--it won't happen.

And we are equally convinced that without the mass participation and leadership of women there will be no socialist transformation. Because without women's liberation, there can be no socialism worthy of the name.

In the meantime, we battle for equal pay for work of equal value; affirmative action for women in hiring and layoffs, especially in non-traditional jobs; free 24-hour childcare facilities; free abortion on demand and the legalization of free-standing abortion clinics fully covered by medicare; an end to the harassment of lesbians and gays; and an end to sexual stereotyping in the media.

In our struggle against pornography and violence aimed at women and children, we oppose reliance on the repressive apparatus of the bourgeois state (e.g. more police, censorship laws) and advocate militant, direct mass action against the exploiters.

We participate in building the independent women's movement, and join with it in combating all forms of legal and ideological discrimination against women and homosexuals--lesbians and gays.

If you agree, we ask you to join us.

## **SOCIALIST WORKERS COLLECTIVE**

412A College St., Toronto, Ontario M5T 1T3 or call: 535-8779

Visit our bookroom, located on the second floor, one block east of Bathurst St., on Lippincott, open every Saturday, 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.