

To hell with Trump and his foul mouth!

Defend all immigrants!

Join the Women's March, Saturday, 10 AM, Cal Anderson Park

Trump came into office spewing race hatred of immigrants, millions and millions of whom are women and children. This was part of his scapegoating and inciting violence against immigrants and national minorities in order to build a reactionary political movement to “keep them in their place” as super-exploited workers and to further strip them of rights. Trump then used this demagoguery to justify reactionary executive orders: the Muslim ban; the phased cancellation of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, DACA; terminating Temporary Protected Status (TPS), which affects 200,000 Salvadorans alone. But he's not done. Trump is using demagoguery to justify anti-immigrant legislation. In fact, it was in a bi-partisan meeting to make a legislative deal that Trump denounced immigrants from Haiti, El Salvador, and Africa as coming from supposed "shithole countries."

The Democrats denounced Trump for his racist tirade, but they cannot be trusted to actually defend immigrants. Although they're less extreme than the Trumpist Republicans, when in power the Democrats supported immigration reform bills that put “border security” first, i.e., more fences, walls and Border Patrol officers—which translate into more deaths in the deserts. And their much-

advertised “pathway” to citizenship—depending on the bill—involved living from 10 to 22 years as a second-class person, and it was a path filled with legal landmines. Meanwhile, Obama earned title of Deporter-in-Chief as he deported over three million people, a statistical record.

This was because the Democrats are *also* a party of the big capitalists, and the capitalists make extra profits by keeping millions of undocumented immigrants living under a reign of terror.

The interest of the working class is to stand against all this by building a class movement. If the Trumpists can deny legal rights to immigrants and throw them out, they will act more and more harshly against protesters, strikers, and other minorities. All working people should therefore join the fight to defend our immigrant sisters and brothers against deportations, and demand they be given full rights. To accomplish this, we should:

- Organize, organize, organize!
- Build groups that will keep the struggle going between large protests, and that will spread the truth to workplaces, communities, schools, and unions!
- Help turn the anti-Trump struggle into a class struggle! <>

Solidarity with the Iranian people! (excerpt)

The Islamic Republic may appear stable, but it has been decaying under the surface, and it has been shaken by one mass upsurge after another. There was the "Green Movement" in 2009 against the stealing of the presidential election by the hardliner Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. And for years now there has been a persistent series of labor protests, taken despite the lack of legal channels, the ban on independent unions, and the brutal punishments. Indeed it is notable that the recent

mass protests have been composed largely of workers and the poor while the Green Movement of 2009 had been largely based on the middle-class. ...

The mass protests show a radicalization of the working people, many of whom are opposing not just this or that faction of the theocratic ruling class of the Islamic Republic, but the regime as a whole. The country has changed since the protests of 2009

when large numbers of people took to the streets to demand that the moderate fundamentalist Mir-Hossein Mousavi be president instead of the hardliner Ahmadinejad. Today there are slogans against both hardliner Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and against moderate president Hassan

Rouhani.

(This is a very condensed version of an article from the Jan. 2, 2018 issue of the D/SWV list, which can be read at www.comunistvoice.org/DSWV-180102.html.) <>

The 100th anniversary of the Russian revolution: Nostalgia is not enough! (excerpt)

The Russian revolution couldn't have taken place without a struggle lasting years against those who wanted to reconcile with capitalism. These were those who advocated a mutilated or revised form of Marxism or socialism that left out the revolution.

But a new form of revisionism later arose within the communist movement itself. This was Stalinism, but also Trotskyism - despite their fierce fight against each other, Stalinism and Trotskyism resemble each other in many ways. Both Stalinists and most Trotskyists regard many oppressive regimes as socialist or workers' regimes, albeit perhaps ugly or "deformed" workers' regimes. This has created a situation in which many on the left have opposed the uprising against the Assad dictatorship in Syria or prettify the ugly Kim Jong Un regime in North Korea. The sad truth is that neither Stalinism, Trotskyism, anarchism, nor left communism takes serious account of the major changes in the world situation; these trends have ossified into sterile rigidity; they think the world will come to them and their catchphrases, rather than the left having to adjust to the world.

We supporters of the Communist Voice Organization come from a different trend of activists, one that originated in the mass upsurge of the 1960s. The clearest activists from that time knew that something was wrong with the supposed communism of the Soviet Union and the pro-Soviet parties, but differed on what should be built in its

place. The turbulent 1960s and 70s saw in the US such things as the struggle against the Vietnam war; the solidarity movement with the national liberation struggles in Africa and elsewhere; the great anti-racist movement; workers' strikes; the growth of the women's movement; etc.

This was not just a time of mass actions, but of the search for a proper revolutionary theory. ... We began to oppose the false communists as "revisionists", who had distorted Marxism in order to justify betrayal of the working class struggle.

This anti-revisionist wave was eventually defeated, and only fragments still exist. As a result, today the Stalinists and Trotskyists dominate what is regarded as the communist movement. In this situation, it has become fashionable to ridicule the anti-revisionist movement of the past, and the way it crumbled into pieces. But at its best, the anti-revisionist movement, or new communist movement as it was sometimes called, brought forward theoretical issues of vital importance; it gained support at many workplaces among workers fed up with the liberals and the labor bureaucrats; and it gave immense support to liberation struggles of many sorts.

(This is a very condensed version of an article from the Dec. 8, 2017 issue of the D/SWV list, which can be read at www.comunistvoice.org/DSWV-171208.html.)

Seattle Communist Study Group, January 17, 2018

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