

V. Socialism Will End Racism

The present economic system of this country, monopoly capitalism, is and always will be racist. Too much profit is made off racist discrimination for the ruling class of big businessmen to give it up. Their continued power and privilege depend on maintaining racism and on keeping workers divided and politically weak. Monopoly capitalism cannot allow equality.

Only under socialism will minority people achieve full liberation. A socialist society is not run for the profit of an exploiting class. Socialist society is run by the great majority of the people. They collectively own the factories, shops, offices and farms, operating them for the prosperity and basic interests of the working people, not for a narrow band of Rockefellers, DuPonts, Morgans and so on.

Capitalists make money off racist inequality; this motive does not operate under socialism, so discrimination is outlawed, equal pay is given for equal work, and other measures to enforce equality are carried out throughout society. The working class under socialism needs to mobilize the energies of all working people to build a new

world, and this requires everyone's full efforts. Skin color becomes irrelevant, and the variety of national cultures becomes a treasure of society.

Unemployment is an inherent feature of capitalism. No capitalist society has ever known sustained full employment. But under socialism there is no unemployment. Every able-bodied person's energy and talents are utilized. No capitalist stands between an unemployed worker and a closed factory, calculating whether a product could be sold for enough profit. Full employment and the job security it brings eliminate one of the greatest fears of workers that underlies racism.

Capitalism cannot allow minority people full and equal education, while socialism requires that all barriers to education be dismantled. Under socialism, the education of minority children is brought up to social standard—by correcting the racist allocation of resources to different schools, by opening up admissions to higher education to all, and by active programs to recruit minority people for the whole range of education and training in

a modern society.

The socialist program guarantees equality of languages in education as well as in industry, commercial activity and political life.

Under socialism, no capitalists will own banks and refuse to finance mortgages for minority people's homes. No real estate agents will confine minority people to ghettos for the profit of slumlords and "block busters." People will not be shoved out of their homes because some developer has a scheme for a big office building. Instead, cities can be rebuilt with decent housing; mass transit systems expanded; and shops, service centers and health facilities distributed throughout for the convenience of all. Gains in income after the abolition of racist discrimination and the outlawing of discrimination in housing will allow people to live where they wish.

Today, the capitalist newspapers, television, movies and other instruments of culture peddle both blatant and sophisticated racist attitudes. These means of communication will be publicly owned and operated under a government that has outlawed racist trash. Mass media reinforcement of racist attitudes will thus end. The working people will be able to tell their own stories instead of the capitalist lies, fantasies and worship of crooks, businessmen and superstars that surround us today.

Racist attitudes will not disappear overnight. But the material inequality of income, education, occupations, and living conditions will be reduced and eliminated, undercutting the foundation of racist attitudes. The basic profit interest of capitalism that sustains racism today will no longer operate, while socialism will be going through economic and political developments to build a society without discrimination or poverty. This guarantees the withering away of racist attitudes.

Most minority people belong to the working class. That is, they work for a wage or salary to make their living, or they are unemployed workers, or they are in the families of these workers. Socialism is the economic system of the working class. Minority workers will benefit like all workers from a planned, collective economy run not for private profit but for the needs of the producers themselves.

Socialist society is run by the working class. This includes full participation by minority people in the political system. Because socialism will only be achieved by the action of the workers themselves, we can be sure that once it is established, people will run their own society in the most democratic system in history. Gone will be the school systems of mostly black children run by mostly white school boards. Gone will be factories in Chicano communities owned by rich white businessmen in the hills who refuse to hire minority workers. Instead, minority communities will run their own institutions. This is an essential foundation for a united working class to carry out revolutionary changes throughout society.

All of the above is not a utopia. Confidence in socialism is based on the revolutionary struggle of millions of people. The key to complete victory over racism is a united working class. This great unity of the working class will be built in the course of the many struggles going on now against racism and national minority oppression. In battles against discrimination on the job, in the schools and in the community, the achievements are measured not only in the specific gains won and the reactionary attacks pushed back, but also in the growing realization of the goal. Only by fighting racism can the working class unite with a clear view of the way out of exploitation, and only by forging revolutionary unity can we eliminate the scourge of racism from

the United States. This is the process going on as one battle after another is fought against racism, heading toward the overthrow of the racist, capitalist class.

