



# Message to all Workers on Their Day

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**Socialist Party USA**  
[www.socialistparty-usa.org](http://www.socialistparty-usa.org)

On this International Workers Day, the majority of the workers find themselves in a great dilemma. It is obvious that free trade and deregulation have caused millions to lose their jobs. Even the United States, once the major economic power of the world, is in the process of an economic collapse. Today, more than ever, is a time to consider casting off the chains of capitalist crisis.

The truth is that the majority of the workers understand very well the economic depressions are a permanent part of capitalism. The majority of the workers are intellectuals in an organic way. Without any type of formal economic education, they know what is going on because they are forced to live capitalist economics. It is irritating to hear so many socialist intellectuals pontificate that all workers have to do is realize that they are being exploited and it will light their revolutionary fire. Workers understand that they are being exploited, what is lacking is the organizational means to ignite the spark.

Creating socialism will not be easy. It will take much sacrifice. An egalitarian society will not arise in one day. Only a determined class struggle can bring about the kind of fundamental changes we need. We must first learn to abandon the trinkets and small concessions that capitalism offers us. We must create a vision of the society we want to live in and fight for it.

For the Mexicans and other Hispanics in the United States that work as undocumented workers, the economic crisis will bring great difficulties. President Barack Obama promised some type of amnesty, but you can be assured that this will not happen immediately. When it does it will come at great economic cost for the applicants and will have many complications. Meanwhile, immigrants will be made into scapegoats as racist conservatives circulate the notion that they are stealing "American" jobs. Violence by racist groups has already begun and may continue to grow. Immigrant workers will find allies in socialists because we understand that labor knows no borders – all workers are a part of our class.

This crisis presents opportunities to reestablish and enlarge the power of the unions and rebuild mass socialist political parties. But that decision to take action is yours as workers. You know socialism is the path to create a better society. You know there is a history of successful socialist political parties throughout the world. Socialism can once again deliver what working people need so desperately – a world of prosperity, justice and freedom!

**Long Live the Workers! \* Long Live Revolution! \* Long Live the First of May!**

# Wars Abroad, War at Home: Building a Socialist Feminist Response to U.S. Militarism and the Global Economic Crisis



In this period of rising unemployment and economic turmoil, an increasing number of people are being drawn to radical concepts and are ready to consider radical strategies for social change based on the link between the severe problems we face at home, the actions of the U.S. military world-wide, and the destructive nature of global capitalism.

Clearly, what we face right now are not only wars abroad, but also a war at home. In both cases, masses of people are living under siege as a result of actions by the U.S. government to perpetuate the inhumane capitalist system. In both cases, a collective, activist, response is called for: a response consisting of energetic, grassroots organizing based on a coherent analysis, a radical program, and internal democracy rooted in socialist feminist principles and practice.

To move forward, we must develop a plan of action along the lines of the pre-9/11 anti-globalization/anti-capitalist movement, but with the added perspective of the global economic meltdown, and with the will

to act independently of the Obama agenda.

Our demands should be inclusive, to reflect the interdependence of the local, national, and international crises we currently must deal with. These include the withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Iraq and Afghanistan, full-funding for domestic programs by taxing the rich and slashing the military budget, social and economic equity and justice, human rights and civil liberty guarantees, socialized health care, nationalization of the financial sector, and political independence from the Democratic Party.

As we proceed with this agenda, we need to be guided by the fact that women and people of color are disproportionately affected by wars, occupations, economic crises, and assaults on human rights and civil liberties.

These are bad times for increasing numbers of women—as workers, as caregivers, and as members of minority and immigrant communities. Due to the disastrous state of the economy, women face extra stress on the job and in the face of lay-offs. Besides that, they are even more responsible than usual for the social service needs of friends and family due to the budget cuts—and to Federal spending that continues to prioritize the costs of war and domestic surveillance and intimidation over the needs of people for housing, healthcare, education, and jobs. Indeed, due to foreclosures and lack of affordable housing, many women are struggling just to keep a roof over their heads.

These circumstances just worsen the underlying problems of gender inequality and ethnic and racial bigotry. Activism organized around “wars abroad and war at home” acknowledges this, while recognizing how strong and resourceful women and families have been, and continue to be, in the face of exploitation, discrimination, and harassment.

As we build our movement for fundamental social change, we must honor women’s strengths, demand women’s rights, and fight against those aspects of society that perpetuate oppression.

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