

Socialist Party USA



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Democratic socialists are vocal in our defense of all Americans (including those with whom we disagree). In our opposition to despotism, totalitarianism and exploitation, we can lay legitimate claim to the American Revolution of 1776. Just as the early American revolutionists believed that the welfare of the people could not be served by a corrupt monarchy, so we believe that the long-term well being of the people of the United States (and the world) cannot be best served by capitalism. Unlike the early American revolutionists, we do not limit the involvement in our movement to men of wealth, and we do not advocate taking up arms against the government. Like these early revolutionists, democratic socialists will be successful in one day.

*A Lot of
What's Best
about
America
is ...*



SOCIALIST

Don't believe it? Take a look...

Socialism = Social Security

The Social Security program was created long after the Socialist Party proposed the idea in 1901. In those days, retirement and death were often one in the same. A civilized society doesn't throw old people away if they can no longer work, but supports, respects, and values them. *That's socialist.*

Socialism = Job Safety

"Safety First." Sound familiar? It should. But you might not know that it is the motto of the United Mine Workers Union — a union that Socialist Party member Mary Harris "Mother" Jones helped organize. Back in those days, miners supported the roof of a coal mine with their own wood, on their own time. Now you have the right to a safe workplace. *That's socialist.*

Socialism = Equal Rights

The Socialist Party was calling for equal rights for African-Americans as early as 1932 — long before equal rights became acceptable to the Democrats or Republicans. When black and white share croppers banded together in the first biracial labor union, Socialist H.L. Mitchell organized it.

In World War II, when U.S. citizens were put in concentration camps, just for having Japanese ancestors, the Socialist Party raised its voice in opposition while the Democrats and Republicans kept silent. When Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. made his famous "I Have A Dream" speech, he shared the platform with two prominent Socialists: African-American labor leader A. Philip Randolph, and Socialist Presidential candidate Norman Thomas.

When San Francisco dockworkers refused to unload a South African freighter in 1985, socialist and labor activist Bill Edwards organized the action. A civilized society has equal opportunity for all. *That's socialist.*

Socialism = Family Farms

A family farm is owned by the people that work it, not by some corporate shareholder who has never seen the place. A family farmer conserves soil because the future is as important as today. *That's socialist.*

Socialism = Peace

Socialists have long opposed senseless killing. Union activist Eugene V. Debs, Socialist organizer Kate Richards O'Hare, and many others were jailed for speaking out against World War I. War creates profits for the wealthy people who make bombs and guns. War has created more than half of the national debt that is bankrupting this country. War kills children, animals, and other living things. Decent societies prevent war. *That's socialist.*

Socialism = Full Employment

Business needs high unemployment, because the more desperate unemployed people there are, the lower business can force wages. In a

healthy society, every able person has meaningful work and no one is discarded. *That's socialist.*

Socialism = Public Education

People need to be educated if they are to participate in self-government. A free society provides equal education for all, not poor education for the poor and decent for the rich. Educated children build the future. *That's socialist.*

Socialism = Health Care

Of the industrialized nations, only the United States continues to deny their people universal health care. Access to health care is as much a basic human right as the right to vote — and just as necessary for democracy. *That's socialist.*

Socialism = Democracy

Socialists support political and economic democracy. We think that a democratically run economy is just as necessary as political democracy. Working people should have a genuine say in the day to day economic decisions, which directly affect their lives — in their workplaces, schools, institutions, and communities. *That's socialist.*

“The strongest bond of human sympathy, outside of the family relation, should be one of uniting all working people of all nations, tongues and kindreds.” — Abraham Lincoln