

The Organizer

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY USA NATIONAL OFFICE

APRIL 2013

Socialist Party USA Points of Agreement

The following points represent the key ideas of agreement of the Socialist Party USA.

- 1) The Socialist Party is a democratic socialist organization. We see socialism as a new social and economic order in which workers and consumers control production and community residents control their neighborhoods, homes and school and the production of society is used for the benefit of all humanity, not the private profit of a few..
- 2) We see the working class as in a key and central position to fight back against the ruling class and its power. The working class is the major force worldwide that can lead the way to a socialist future – to a real radical democracy from below.
- 3) We stand in opposition to all forms of oppression including but not limited to racism, sexism and homophobia.
- 4) We are a “multi-tendency” organization. We orient ourselves around our principles and develop a common program, but our members have various underlying philosophies and views of the world. Therefore we reject vanguardism and democratic centralism.
- 5) We advocate for independent political action outside the Democratic and Republican parties.
- 6) Our tactics in the struggle for radical democratic change reflects our ultimate goal of a society founded on principles of egalitarian, non-exploitative and non-violent relations among all people and between all peoples.

The Socialist Party Needs Your Support

The Socialist Party relies on your support to keep us going. This has been a busy year and we need you to renew your membership on-time and consider a contribution toward our activist work. Please renew or contribution on-line or return the coupon enclosed.

Renew on-line at:

www.socialistparty-usa.net/join-us-or-renew.html

Make a donation on-line:

www.socialistparty-usa.net/donate.html

SPUSA 339 Lafayette St. #303 NY, NY 10012

The Socialist Party Joins the Call for April Actions Against Drones



The Socialist Party has endorsed the call by the Network to Stop Drone Surveillance and Warfare (NSDSW) for national protests against drones in April, 2013

We encourage locals to select one or more of the days in April listed below to organize actions in your community or region.

April 4-7: Drone Manufacturers

Identify and protest drone manufacturing facilities, using demonstrations, teach-ins and other actions calling for an end to drone attacks and an end to the manufacture of weaponized and surveillance drones.

April 16- 18: Drone Research/Training

Organizers around the country are encouraged to identify colleges and universities in their regions doing drone research and/or training of drone pilots and to call for an end to research and training related to drone warfare.

April 27 – 28: Drone Bases

Organizers around the country will be encouraged to organize protests at drone bases in their regions. People will be encouraged also to participate in demonstrations planned during this period at the Reaper drone base at Hancock Air Base near Syracuse, NY.

Party sponsored events will be posted on-line at www.socialistparty-usa.org/no-drones.html

The Organizer is the newsletter of the Socialist Party USA National Office. Subscriptions are free to members and sustainers. For bulk copies contact the SPUSA National Office at 339 Lafayette St. #303 New York, NY 10012. The Editor is Greg Pason, National Secretary.

Statement on Steubenville Rape Case & Verdict

Passed by the SPUSA National Action Committee



The horrific gang rape of a minor in Steubenville, Ohio and the subsequent show-trial and "slap on the wrist" punishment of a fraction of those responsible has done more to cement the reality of rape culture, victim-blaming and slut-shaming than years of feminist thought and activism could ever accomplish.

The abuse, objectification and dehumanization of women is inevitable under our current patriarchal system. The Socialist Party USA calls for a complete transformation of all systems of oppression, and the establishment of a radical socialist-feminist society where women are guaranteed the freedom and safety that are inalienable rights to all women and men everywhere. To achieve this is no easy task, and will take persistent hard work and solidarity between comrades within and outside the party.

Educate yourself and others from sources other than the corporate media, which has covered up, sugar coated and distorted the facts of this crime from the very beginning. The Steubenville police department and main stream media have ignored evidence and failed to report on the details of this crime, as well as the planning and motivation behind it, which were easily available to them through the proud boasting of the 'rape crew' responsible via social media.

Agitate by confronting sexism and discrimination around you, refuse to be pigeonholed by gender stereotypes, and ask the important questions about rape and violence against women even if they are not considered proper or polite conversation. Let others know that rape is not a joke and that silence is part of the problem. Without activists like Anonymous, occupy Steubenville, and the contributors to local leaks, many of the details of this crime may have been left uncovered.

The Organizer

c/o Socialist Party USA
339 Lafayette St. #303
New York, NY 10012

Organize by connecting with women's groups in your area to help victims of abuse, and work locally to change draconian rape and domestic violence laws. The three charged and convicted in the Steubenville rape case stated that they do not believe any of their conduct was illegal, and throughout the trial many commentators speculated on how the victim could have acted differently to avoid being raped. Misconceptions like this are still rampant in our society, and until this changes, there will be many more Jane Does. Support programs that educate young people about sexual assault, its true causes, and how to prevent it. We can turn anger into action, and together we can stand up and say **NEVER AGAIN**.

Celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Reconstitution of the Socialist Party USA



Help us celebrate by contributing toward the Party's Anniversary Fund Drive.

You can take out an ad in the anniversary journal (available on-line or for \$10 + postage starting in mid-May)

Or

Make a contribution and get a 40th anniversary "premium"

Check out: www.socialistorganizing.org

Ad journal deadline has been extended until April 10

Upcoming Events:

April 30, 2013: SPUSA Anniversary Press Conference

May 1, 2013: May Day/ Anniversary Events Start

June 8, 2013: Anniversary Forum- Minneapolis, MN

June 8-9, 2013: SPUSA NC Meeting- Minneapolis, MN