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WOMEN AGAINST THE CASTLE - CARR CONSPIRACY

This Bill is an attack on the whole working class, and that includes women: But women in industry have almost no representation on the shop floor. They have been ignored for years by men who call themselves militants. Now that we are all attacked these men expect us to join in defence of our class. And we will join. The question is: Are they going to join with us? If women are under attack, as we have been for years, then the whole working class is under attack. When women are forced to accept low wages, this threatens the higher wages that men have won through struggle.

If the man's paypacket doesn't feed the family, the first to suffer is the woman:

- She is the first to go without everything, from food to medical care.
- She is the one who has no choice but to work not only at home for no pay but also in factories and offices for low pay.

This Bill is the spearhead of an attack upon the working class: Unemployment is next. They have already begun to throw us out of jobs: They tell us that women don't "need" to work.

First, that is their excuse for offering women only the lowest paid jobs. And because we are discriminated against, we have no choice but to accept.

Second, what they think we "need" is only enough to survive on: Women in the last years have gone out to work for what our rulers call "extras"; to bring into our homes a few of the comforts that are THE RIGHT OF EVERYONE: Even so, because of inflation, we have been forced to stay in industry to cover the family's basic survival needs.

Third, millions of women are fed up with the isolation and boredom of their unpaid work at home. We NEED to live a social existence. We NEED to be free of financial dependence on men. But our only escape has been to be exploited worse than men in factories or, harem-like, in typing pools: Black women especially are confined to the lowest paid jobs, and for them nursing is one of the few alternatives

to factory work. Whatever work outside the home a woman does, she still has another job waiting for her when she gets home.

We have often had to wage our struggle for equal pay alone. As a result, the government was able to pass an Act which gives us equal pay/only on condition that we are night and day at the disposal of industry. If men had supported us this would never have happened. As it is now, in order to work we have to abandon our children.

We can only defeat the Industrial Relations Bill if we are a united force. The only basis for that unity is that the needs of every section of the working class are respected and fought for. The defeats of women have been the defeats of the whole class. THE TIME HAS COME WHEN MEN MUST REALISE THAT UNLESS THEY SUPPORT US IN OUR STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATION. THEY WILL NEVER BE FREE THEMSELVES.

We want men for the first time to share with us the raising of our children. We therefore demand A SHORTER WORK WEEK FOR ALL. Then nobody has to be sacked.

THE TIME HAS COME WHEN WOMEN MUST NOT WAIT FOR TRADE UNIONS OR ANYBODY ELSE TO WAGE THEIR STRUGGLE. We must organise in the community, in the factory, in the hospital, in the office -wherever we are.

OUR STRUGGLE IS AGAINST THIS BILL AND BEYOND IT,
AGAINST THE WHOLE STRUCTURE OF OUR SOCIETY.

WOMEN'S LIBERATION WORKSHOP

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