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**UR
PE**

**Union for
Radical
Political Economics**

278 West 19th Street, #3
New York, New York 10011
May 10, 1975

Maria Rosa Della Costa
Via Bartolomeo Criscofori, 35
Padova, Italy

Dear Ms. Della Costa:

Enclosed is a copy of the tentative women's program for the annual Summer Conference of URPE. We are a national organization of women and men, both academic and non-, who are interested in teaching, organizing and publicizing issues of radical political economy.

At previous summer conferences sessions were decided upon on an ad hoc basis, depending primarily on which particular people attended the conference. Ultimately the lack of preparation undercut the value of spontaneity. It was not a very satisfactory experience for those who came.

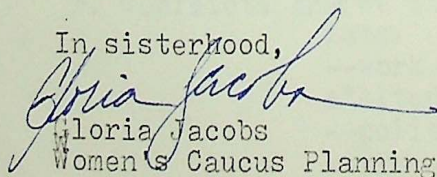
This year we'd like to structure the program a little more. We hope that by inviting women, a few months in advance, to present papers on topics within our tentative framework, we will not only ensure interesting sessions, but have a better chance to explore issues and themes - relevant to women, economists or not - in an organized, comprehensive way.

Your work on a marxist theory of housework is particularly relevant and would generate interesting discussions; we'd love to have you present a paper at the conference, if it's convenient for you. I spoke to Sylvia Federici who said she thought you might be coming to the States this summer. If so, I hope you'll be able to make it to the conference. It's scheduled for the week of August 17-24 at Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio. Last year's attracted over 300 people - this year, in view of the early preparation, we hope to have many more.

If you are interested - and able to present a paper, we'd appreciate hearing from you as soon as possible - July 1, the very latest? In any case, it would be nice to know what you think of the tentative program - any comments are more than welcome.

Thanks!

In sisterhood,


Gloria Jacobs
Women's Caucus Planning Committee

Women's Program for the URPE Summer Conference*

I. Theoretical Framework:

A. What didn't Marx see, and why not?

1. Capital - workshops in feminist readings:
 - accumulation and population relationships (VOL.I, Chap.25)
 - reproduction of the labor force, including housework, childcare, husband-maintenance, other services
 - surplus value - relevance for women?
2. Subsequent economic issues:
 - consumption as work (that women do) e.g. Galbraith
 - housework as work that women do
 - human capital, (as theorized by bourgeois economists)

II. Historical and Empirical Research:

A. What can we learn from historical writings?

1. Knowledge of past events, societies, revolutions:
 - US history, including New Deal, Depression, World War II
 - demographic relationships affecting women-births, age, etc
 - successes and failures of previous women's movements intl
 - limitations of data due to selection, compiling problems.

B. How can we use empirical research, and for what?

1. Work being done now with particular strategies in mind:
 - e.g. Nelson and Wertheimer from Cornell, and
 - Dalla Costa's wages for housework
 - combatting job segregation, sexism, discrimination
2. Women in socialist countries - facts, and relevance to us:
 - Cuba, China, Vietnam, Chile
 - Soviet Union, Eastern Europe

III. Strategies:

A. What is still unexplored in movement writings?

1. Survey of the literature in order to discover ^{theoretical} new/directions -
 - economics, anthropology, psychoanalysis
2. "Feminist analysis" - what does it mean, how do we use it?

- B. Conflicts that we experience as feminist/socialists and socialist/feminists:
- work (academic, other) vs. political responsibilities, attitudes and projects
 - political (leftist, other) vs. feminist strategies, attitudes, and projects.