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AN ATTACK ON PROSTITUTES IS AN ATTACK ON ALL WOMEN

The recent attack on street prostitutes in San Francisco is one more attempt by the government to deny women access to money of our own. The supervisors are raising the flag of morality to justify their "cleaning up the streets". In fact, they are protecting the profits of the Union Square hotels which run their own pimping services. The supervisors' morality is not offended when big business pimps nor when the government takes its share through fines on prostitutes. It is only offended when we refuse to give them a cut. The power of the hotels, like that of all pimps, is threatened by the growing struggles prostitutes are making to abolish the laws against prostitution.

In many parts of the world governments are harassing prostitutes because prostitution exposes our sexuality as work which should be paid for. Recently stated by the English Collective of Prostitutes:

"Sex is supposed to be personal, always a free choice, different from work. But it's not a free choice when we are dependent on men for money. We women are expected to be sexual service stations, and because of that sex becomes a bargaining point between ourselves and men. When any of us sleeps with men, at least to some degree we are forced to consider what we are going to get in return for "giving"- money, the rent, or better treatment in other ways. Whether we enjoy it or not, we are making a calculation. Those of us who are prostitutes not only calculate, but put a price on our services and make men meet it. The line between paid and unpaid sex is a question of what we get in return."

Business makes money off our sexuality. Destroyed by the work they are compelled to do, men come to us for the sexual and emotional gratification they need to continue working, making profits for business. When we work outside the home, on top of housework, our bosses use our sexuality to please customers and make sales. The advertising industry is based on linking products with hints that our sexual "favors" go with them. Our lives are consumed so that business can profit.

More and more women are refusing to be exploited- to work in the home for free and to work outside the home for low pay. Wherever we are demanding our wages- from the Welfare Department, in the street, at the job outside the home- we are fighting for money for all our work.

Prostitution is one way of getting our wages. Although the government tries to isolate our struggles, we refuse to be divided. All work is prostitution and we are all prostitutes. We are forced to sell our bodies- for room and board or for cash- in marriage, in the street, in typing pools or in factories. And as we win wages for all the work we do, we develop the power to refuse prostitution- in any of its forms.

WE DEMAND AN END TO THE HARASSMENT OF PROSTITUTES. WE DEMAND THE ABOLITION OF ALL THE LAWS AGAINST PROSTITUTION.

ENDORSEMENTS

SAN FRANCISCO ENDORSERS:

Organizations:

Coyote (Call Off Your Old Tired :Ethics)
Concilio Mujeres
Haight-Ashbury Women's Health Clinic
Lesbians Organizing
S.F. State University Women's Center
Women's Litigation Unit
Women's Prison Study Group

CALIFORNIA ENDORSERS:

Organizations:

Cal State Northridge Women's Center, California State Universtty,
Northridge
CAT (California's Association for Trollops), Los Angeles
Feminist Women's Health Center, Los Angeles
Feminist Women's Health Center of Orange County, Santa Ana
Foothill Valley NOW, Pasadena
The Lesbian News, Los Angeles
The Lesbian Tide, Los Angeles
The Los Angeles Feminist Theatre
Nanny Goat Productions, Laguna Beach
Page I, Books by and for Women, Pasadena
Westside Women's Clinic, Santa Monica
Womencare, Feminist Women's Health Center, San Diego

Individuals: (affiliation for identification purposes only)

Estelita Grimaldo of Womantours; Dora Uranga; Brooks R. Walker,
Interim Minister, First Unitarian Church, Los Angeles

OTHER U.S. & INTERNATIONAL ENDORSERS:

England: English Collective of Prostitutes, London; The Falling
Wall Press, England

Massachusetts: Cambridge Women's Center, Cambridge
PUMA (Prostitutes Union of Mass.), Boston

Pennsylvania: The Pennsylvania Program for Women and Girl Offenders,
Philadelphia

Women's Law Project of Phildelphia, Phildelphia

Ohio: Iris Bishop, Cleveland Woman's Counseling, Cleveland

Lyn Hammond, Director, Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, Cleveland
Oven Productions, Cleveland

Wages for Housework Organizations:

Black Women for Wages for Housework, New York

Wages Due Lesbians: London, England; Toronto, Canada

Wages for Housework Committees: London, Englan; New York;
Toronto, Canada

Wages for Housework Groups: Bristol, England; Cambridge, England;
Boston; Chicago; Northern Ohio; Phildelphia.

This is only a partial list of endorsers. Due to the urgency
of the situation, we have chosen to release it immediately although
as of Jan. 27, endorsements are still coming in from across the U.S.
and internationally.

AN ATTACK AGAINST PROSTITUTES IS AN ATTACK ON ALL WOMEN

The recent attack on street prostitutes in San Francisco is one more attempt by the government to deny women access to money of our own. The city supervisors are raising the flag of morality to justify their "cleaning up the streets." In fact, they are protecting the profits of the Union Square hotels, which run their own pimping services. The power of the hotels, like that of all pimps, is threatened by the growing struggle prostitutes are making to abolish the laws against prostitution. The supervisors' morality is not offended when big business pimps or when the government takes its share through fines on prostitutes. It is only offended when we refuse to give them a cut.

In many parts of the world, governments are harassing prostitutes because prostitution exposes our sexuality as work which should be paid. As recently stated by the English Collective of Prostitutes:

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More and more, women are refusing to be exploited -- to work at home for free, and to work outside the home for low pay. Wherever we are demanding our wages -- from the Welfare Dept., in the street, at the job outside the home -- we are fighting for money for all our work.

Prostitution is one way of getting our wages. Although the government tries to isolate our struggles, we refuse to be divided. All work is prostitution, and we are all prostitutes. We are forced to sell our bodies -- for room and board or for cash, in marriage, on the street, in typing pools or in factories. And as we win wages for all the work we do, we develop the power to refuse prostitution -- in any of its forms.

WE DEMAND AN END TO THE HARASSMENT OF PROSTITUTES

WE DEMAND THE ABOLITION OF ALL LAWS AGAINST PROSTITUTION

Prepared by Wages for Housework-San Francisco and the Los Angeles
Wages for Housework Committee

* * * * * ENDORSEMENTS * * * * *

CALIFORNIA ENDORSERS:

Organizations: Cal State Northridge Women's Center, California State University, Northridge; CAT (California's Association for Trollops), Los Angeles; COYOTE (Call Off Your Old Tired Ethics), San Francisco; Feminist Women's Health Center, Los Angeles; Feminist Women's Health Center of Orange County, Santa Ana; The Lesbian News, Los Angeles; The Lesbian Tide, Los Angeles; The Los Angeles Feminist Theater, Los Angeles; Nanny Goat Productions, Laguna Beach; Page I, Books by and for Women, Pasadena; Westside Women's Clinic, Santa Monica; Womancare, Feminist Women's Health Center, San Diego;

ENDORSEMENTS CONTINUED ON REVERSE SIDE

ENDORSEMENTS (continued)

CALIFORNIA ENDORSERS (continued):

Individuals (affiliations for identification purposes only):
Estelita Grimaldo of Womantours, Los Angeles; Dora Uranga; Brooks
R. Walker, Interim Minister, First Unitarian Church, Los Angeles.

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Boston. Pennsylvania: The Pennsylvania Program for Women and Girl
Offenders, Philadelphia; Women's Law Project of Philadelphia. Ohio:
Iris Bishop, Cleveland Women's Counseling, Cleveland; Lyn Hammond,
Director, Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, Cleveland; Oven Productions,
Cleveland.

Wages for Housework Organizations (this does not represent all
Wages for Housework organizations but only those whose endorsements
were received as of January 27). Black Women for Wages for Housework,
New York. Wages Due Lesbians: London, England; Toronto, Canada.
Wages for Housework Committees: London, England; New York; Toronto,
Canada. Wages for Housework Groups: Bristol, England; Cambridge,
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States and internationally.

**WAGES FOR HOUSEWORK
SUELDO POR QUEHACERES DEL HOGAR
P. O. BOX 26325 EDENDALE STATION
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90025**