

STOP RAPE! UPHOLD WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO SELF-DEFENSE!

Women must fight the brutality of rape utilizing any means necessary to defend themselves, their children or others who face attacks. We encourage all women to learn techniques of self-defense and to arm themselves against attacks. We know that as women aggressively defend themselves against rape, the number of rape attempts will decrease.

Rape does not stem from "naturally" aggressive and brutal men exerting control over "naturally" passive women. Our characters are shaped by a decadent capitalist society that has distorted everyone's sexuality. Capitalism exploits the basic human need for sexual fulfillment to sell its products and increase its profits, while it capitalizes on sexual repression as a control mechanism. The alienation from our sexuality and from our productive capabilities that capitalism perpetuates is the major cause of rape. The brutality of rape is bred in a decadent capitalist society that is obsessed with sex and violence.

Only under socialism will we be able to ensure permanent, positive steps towards eliminating the causes of rape. Socialist life and culture will encourage healthy and fulfilling relationships between all working women and men. Until we build socialism, though, we must be prepared to defend ourselves.

But we must not only defend ourselves against the individual rapist, but also against capitalist society that works to undercut all steps to liberate working women from the repression that capitalism perpetuates. Joanne Little's struggle to defend her right to self-defense was won only because thousands of progressive people militantly took up her fight for her life. So too, with Yvonne Wanrow and Inez Garcia. We must rally all working people to defend Wanrow's and Garcia's rights to defend against sexual attacks. Ironically, the "crime" for which these women are convicted is the exercise of the basic right to defend oneself and ones family.

Only by mobilizing the working class will we be able to eliminate the attacks by the capitalist system of "justice" on women's rights to self-defense. Only by educating all workers of the life and death struggles that many women face with rape, and by showing that women's struggles for the right to self-defense are part of the class struggle itself, will we be able to ensure the right of all women to defend against sexual attacks. A militant and united working class can ensure the right of all women to self-defense and begin the long struggle to build socialism and eliminate the ultimate causes of rape.

**FIGHT FOR YVONNE WANROW'S AND INEZ GARCIA'S RIGHTS TO SELF-DEFENSE!
BUILD SOCIALISM TO ERADICATE THE CAUSES OF RAPE!**



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