

INFUT ON TRE FAERTY AND WOMEN (FOCUS ON ELECTION) -W.CAPE GENDER  
DEPY . NOGOLIDE NOJOZT

It is mo=ztly tundamental for the SACP gender desk to note that  
gender iszues were not being consolidated within the Parrrty.

At this time it is Âclear that South Africa is approaching a long  
awaited period of elections. It is also clear that we, in the  
Party, have not done enough to make these elections a success and  
a victory to our.struagles. We need to consider this stages of  
elections and realise our aims and objectives of our long time  
struggles. s

We also need to acknowledge that these elections 4o not guarantee  
an effective rhange in our country and that means that we as  
"communis! \* have a lot do. In other words we are still standing  
with our key. role te play, that is, â\200\234strategisingâ\200\231 towards  
getting a propet. way th â\200\230socialismâ\200\231 .

Tt 35 tiue Lhar the Party will need to ensure that there 18 a  
thorough Jemociatic process towards elections in order to ensure  
that rthe Party tollow & Lyrepnds that will cÂfulminate into the  
Narional Nemocratic Revolution., It lis important to note that the  
Party addresses one o! the main long standing or marginalised  
fegsues, that is A qgue-stion of the role of women within the  
strugule Aand the women's electoral agenda,

In nmy own view, the SACP has not done enough in addressing the  
gendel issues, parrrticular the womenâ\200\231s issues. A venue to expand  
and rconsclidate women's isanes has nat heen widely opened. A  
mechanism to cÂchallenge particular has not been thoroughly  
concretely followed, much as it ls understood that this is an  
ongoing process but le:c s have been done to encompass both men and

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following needs gre implemented,

1. THEORETICAL. PERSPECTIVES including gender relations as an  
integral concepr is adopted and implemented.

2. ENTATLING FQUAL PARTICIPATION Âof both men and women at all  
levels.

2. THE ROLFE OF THE PAKTY in building equal participation,  
affyrmative action and gendear policy in pliminating gendaer  
inequalityen,

4. The role ol the Party in stimulating organisation amongst  
worKing class women {to quote an lssue\ debate on customary

~h effects the majoricty of working class women in the

law) wihiis

political involvement of the Party iln emancipating these  
wmens, empower them and putting challenging diviaiona againsr

sexism aud racism. (Interventlon on gender struggles, women's  
rights, sociral and 2cÂOonomic emancipation)

Farty's role 1n developing gender sensitivity within our

alliance partners Atructures, Womenâ\200\231s Coalition, Cosatu

Women' s Forum And other womenâ\200\231's issues Lo be addressed at all  
levels of soclety.

6. The commitment of Election Manifesto to non-sexism, ensuring presence of working class women within the electoral list as was resolved by the CC in putting weight and strategic value to SA working class.

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On those points the Western Cape gender dept proposes that the  
above points be discussed and put forward to our broad branch  
meetings as well as 10 our CC-meeting. These we consider as the  
shortcomings and failures of our Party pertaining to women  
emancipation., 200\231

I further propose that ground work be done for long term gender  
related issues and embark on campaigns challenging patriarchy.

Attached is our programme which we did not implement due to some  
of the problems reflected above,

RECONSTRUCTICK AND DEVELOPMENT (anc woMENâ\200\230S LEAGUE  
RECONSTRUCTION CONFERRNCE 23-08-93 - 26~-09~-93)

Understanding rhat our Reconstruction and Development Programme will guide us from aparthe d to freedom, being a plan that will integrate onr policies and play a role in a democratic state. We, the W.Cape geuder dept ., supports and endorse the demands in the RDP of Cosatn and need to ensure their implementation in transitional context of GNUK.

As a PFarty which strives for democracy and a programme for all progressive participataion Âf the left, we consolidate the RDP and discussion on negotiations and for as long as sexism, racism, capitalism and apartheid exist we'll fight.

We need to make sure that the state will accomplish an extensive afâ\202-irmative zction programme at large and land reforms be made on those women who have long been excluded from equitable access to land and whose labour have subsequently been exploited.

Women needz to be allocated land and customary constraints on women re land needas to bhe removed,

Considering wowmen has been in the majority every where their is A peed to develop prodar: r ams empowering them, educate them and end discriminatory practieas hased on sex, colour, marital status, morality ur aationality.

Consider all women's rights (Women's Charter) and workers rights.

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PROPOSED GENDER COMMITTEE PCA

Firstly it is important to note that gender encompasses both men  
and women in the Party.

The Party has taken gender issues as of vital importance in  
empowering women within its structures and at the struggle  
at large. This cannot be resolved overnight, but an ongoing  
programme.

The Gender structure in our region has met to restructure the  
present committee so as to delegate tasks accordingly, to make  
sure that all branches are actively involved in all gender  
activities. Elect a gender co-ordinator within the branch to work  
hand in hand with the Regional Gender Committee.

Lastly, we have proposed the Programme Of Action following these

aims and objectives:

1. A need to look at the six months POA and how we measure our  
achievements within.

2. A need to clarify the Gender Department objectives in longterm  
and short-term basis.

3. A need to look at how to link with other gender conscious  
organisations, such as the ANC and Cosatu.

4. A need to look at community issues like campaigns that are  
taken up by the community.

5. A need to look at building a Party profile.

Taking the above aims and objectives into consideration, the  
Gender Department proposed the following P.O.A.

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Cdes,

Please find attached an ANCWL discussion document . It has important significance for us and therefore need to discuss and enrich it. I suggest we include it for discussion in our

Friday, 15th January meeting.

The League has also invited us to participate in a workshop to be held in Joburg on weekend of 22nd to 24th January 93 to finalise positions on the same issue.

In addition we need to discuss the Coalition in preparation for 2 the February Council to which we must send a delegation.

Issues related to the Coalition are:-

- Reviewing its mandate to include for instance things llike Violence.
- Its time frames need to be reviewed.
- 'The Constitution. !
- The implications of the withdrawal of Cosatu.
- Research and work done so far.

We also have a report from the Womenâ\200\231s Ministry workshop in Durban attended by Cde Zou and myself. There are important discussions that need to follow this workshop and our meeting may if time allows tackle some of these.

The meetng will also have to receive reports from comrades on the regional visits and discus the programme for 1993.

The meeting is scheduled for 4.30pm - 6.00pm Friday, 15th January at the SACP office.

THE FUTURE IS SOCIALISM.

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THENJIWE MTINTSO.