### Why the Socialist Party?

The Socialist Party is a democratic socialist organization. We see socialism as a new social and economic order in which workers and consumers control production and community residents control their neighborhoods, homes and school and the production of society is used for the benefit of all humanity, not the private profit of a few.

We see the working class in a key and central position to fight back against the ruling class and its power. The working class is the major force worldwide that can lead the way to a socialist future – to a real radical democracy from below.

We stand in opposition to all forms of oppression including but not limited to racism, sexism, ableism, and homophobia.

We are a multi-tendency organization. We orient ourselves around our principles and develop a common program, but our members have various underlying philosophies and views of the world.

Our tactics in the struggle for radical democratic change reflect our ultimate goal of a society founded on principles of egalitarian, non-exploitative and non-violent relations among all people and between all peoples.

We advocate for independent political action outside the Democratic and Republican parties.

# Socialist Party USA



"A woman's place is in the struggle."

- Assata Shakur



## Working Class Women

Over a century ago, Friedrich Engels wrote about the dissonance of the idea of the proletarian woman. With the expanding capitalistic society and booming industry, women achieved the ability to work outside the home and earn their own money. However, the work inside the home was still dependent upon women. Therefore, there was no women's revolution. Women were still oppressed within their homes by their spouse and societal duties. In the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, the feminist movement took hold of most of the Western world. Women demanded equal pay, reproductive rights, and more. But while this movement spread like wildfire, it did little to lessen the oppression of women. The Equal Rights Amendment was never ratified and Roe V. Wade, which passed in 1973, is still constantly attacked by politicians throughout the United States. So, what has been accomplished since Engels chronicled the plight of women over one hundred years ago? Capitalism has not liberated women but made us compromise our ideals at home, work and elsewhere. For radical change, we as women must move forward toward a socialist future.

# Eliminate the "Boy's Club" Mentality

It's not hard to feel like you're on the outside of any political structure. And while SPUSA lays out points in its platform to combat sexism, it still happens. In our capitalist society, things like toxic masculinity are so heavily ingrained in our minds, it's not surprising that it can trickle into our inner circles. That does not, however, excuse that behavior. You may find yourself in situations where you're "mansplained" to, where your authority is questioned, or where another member speaks over you at a meeting. These things will probably happen. But it's important to not let this behavior slide. Often, women ignore when this happens, maybe thinking that addressing it will cause further damage. The only way this toxic behavior can be rectified begins with you speaking out. From there, your comrades can learn. Another way is through education. Again, this is not easy. When you look at the most infamous revolutionaries, they're almost all men. But there were women all along. Rosa Luxemburg, Eleanor Marx, and more. Just remember that we all have a place in the revolution, and it's time that we move to the forefront of the revolution.

### Revolutionary Women

- Emma Goldman. June 17, 1869-Mary 14, 1940. Anarchist who illegally distributed birth control, encouraged men not to register for the draft, and incited riots. She is credited with helping develop anarchistic theory in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- Rosa Luxemburg. March 5, 1871-January 15, 1919. Marxist who cofounded the Spartacus Campaign and openly criticized democratic socialism.
- Angela Davis. January 26, 1944– Present. Communist who was in the Black Panther Party in the 1960s. She is a co-founder of Critical Resistance and works to abolish the prison industrial complex.
- Claudia Jones. February 15, 1915– December 24, 1965. Communist who worked diligently to fight in favor to increase the female presence in Marxism.

For more information about Socialist Party
USA visit:

www.socialistpartyusa.net