



Next Left

developing revolutionary strategy

NEW YORK CITY FEBRUARY 29-MARCH 2, 2008

Our generation lives in troubled times. The occupation of Iraq, attacks on immigrants, the racist criminal justice system, declining standards for workers and defunding of public services show the system isn't working. At the same time, young people are struggling for a better world: through military and veteran resistance, on campuses, and in our communities and workplaces.

We're making noise and fighting back, but in order to win, our movements need a larger political vision - and a coherent grassroots orientation that unites individual struggles at their base, not just through slogans. Radical analyses can help us to identify the root causes of war, injustice and poverty, shape a clear understanding of the mechanics of social change, and develop strategies that don't sacrifice political principles for short-term victories. Working out effective real-world strategies won't be easy; our tasks are overwhelming, the left is fractured and marginal, and our enemies are strong.

Solidarity invites all young activists and revolutionaries to come together, assess where we're at — and how to get where we need to be! Hang out and learn with activists from the student labor movement and young union members, to military resisters and truth in recruitment, to radicals involved in community organizing.

SCHEDULE AND AGENDA ON OTHER SIDE . . .

REGISTER TODAY!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

E-mail _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Contact me about joining or starting a carpool from my area
- I need housing before Friday, February 29 or after Saturday, March 1
- I need child care during the conference (Please notify us as soon as possible)
- My dietary needs are _____
- I am allergic to _____ (for housing)

To register, please mail completed form and \$40 registration fee to:

Solidarity
7012 Michigan Ave.
Detroit, MI 48210

Registration includes workshops Friday evening through Sunday afternoon, housing Friday and Saturday, and breakfast and lunch Saturday and Sunday. Low income registration cost is \$25 for the whole weekend.

For more information or to ask about help with travel costs, please contact Isaac at nextleft@solidarity-us.org or 404-291-9686.

Sponsored by: **Solidarity** - a socialist, feminist, anti-racist organization (www.solidarity-us.org) and the **Rank and File Youth Project** - young radicals building a stronger labor movement.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29

5-7pm ***Do it from the Bottom Up!***

“How can revolutionaries organize and win reforms?” The weekend kicks off with a panel of activists from different social movements sharing recent successes and strategies to not just achieve short-term victories but develop working class leadership for long-term change.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

10am ***Our World Is Not for Sale! The Expansion of Neoliberal Capitalism & Popular Struggle: from France, to Latin America, to New Orleans***

Coming together in the Social Forums and on the streets, activists across the world have identified a common enemy: neoliberalism. We're making the links between our campaigns against gentrification, the militarization of our communities, the dismantling of public services, free trade and attacks on trade unions, but our struggles nonetheless remain scattered. What is neoliberalism, and how is it historically and ideologically rooted in the capitalist system? We target the system as a whole in our rhetoric - but how can we collectively fight it in practice?

12pm **Lunch**

1:30pm ***Privilege and Power: Building Democratic Movements to Challenge Racism, Sexism & Heteronormativity***

We aim to not only combat the oppression that pervades society, but also challenge in the daily life of our organizations. Building a truly democratic and united movement is impossible without these efforts. What are the differences between liberal and radical understandings of oppression? How do we avoid the pitfalls of tokenism, and build leadership and solidarity within our movements that reflects the society we want to live in? What do we have to learn from self-organized liberation movements to address privilege and power?

2:45pm **Break**

3:00pm ***Empire Today: Crisis of US Power, Crisis of the Anti-War Movement***

What is imperialism, and why do we need to understand it? Economic troubles and military over-reach threaten the stability of US Empire. At the same time, many young activists are “burnt out” on the anti-war movement. What are the challenges to US power - at home and globally? What are the challenges of reinvigorating the anti-war movement - and how can we develop strategy to do so?

4:45pm **Break**

5:15pm ***Workers' Power: Young Workers and a Militant, Grassroots Labor Movement***

Young radicals have become increasingly involved with the labor movement, and for good reason: unions are the largest and most potentially powerful mass organizations in the United States. However, union membership is declining, and the militant tactics that established organized labor are a distant memory to most US workers. How can a rank and file union orientation help build a labor movement that includes and fights in the interests of all working and oppressed people?

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

10am ***Beyond Resistance: Socialist Organization and Revolutionary Change***

Many youth working for social change are inspired by a revolutionary vision of human liberation. Belonging to and building socialist organization connects individual activists: to others around the country, to lessons and experience of previous generations, to theory and strategy to guide our work, and to friends and comrades for support and community. Join young Solidarity members to discuss the strengths and challenges of the socialist tradition - and how to create meaningful revolutionary organization that gives us something to fight for!

12pm **Lunch**

Interest Group Meetings in Anti-War, Labor, and Global Justice Movements

1pm ***Building Solidarity***

Continuing the morning session, breakout groups will discuss how to bring this weekend's ideas back home, build Solidarity chapters and study groups, strengthen local activism and develop links between movements.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, TO REGISTER ONLINE, OR FOR UPDATES ON THE AGENDA, CHECK WWW.SOLIDARITY-US.ORG/NEXTLEFT