

**press  
review****DEMAGOGY AND THE REALITY  
OF THE CONDITION OF THE WOMAN IN THE CAPITALIST  
AND REVISIONIST COUNTRIES**

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The bourgeois and revisionist constitutions solemnly proclaim the «equality» of the woman at a time when her more elementary rights are blatantly disregarded in everyday life. «Equality» only in words and inequality in deeds, sham «emancipation» and oppression and disparagement of the woman — this is the reality of the bourgeois and revisionist society. In the bourgeois and revisionist countries the woman is the object of savage discrimination in all fields of life. The bourgeois and revisionist theoreticians make up all sorts of theories to justify the negation of the right of the woman to work, the obstacles raised to bar her from enjoying her right to education and her political rights. «Disorder, vice, uncleanness, the hooliganism of teenagers, all this is the direct result of the woman's participation in work,» theorize these supporters of capital in a vain effort to explain away these phenomena typical of the crisis-ridden capitalism, the closing down of factories and workshops and the throwing of thousands upon thou-

sands of workers, women, in the first place, into the street.

Now it has become common practice for women to be the first to be thrown out of work when factories or workshops shut down, or working personnel is made redundant. From reports in the Western press, about 7 million women in the different countries of Western Europe are unemployed. One in 3 young women is jobless in Britain; 40 per cent of the women fit for work in Spain and about 50 per cent in the United States lead the life of housewives, to quote only some examples. But the conditions of working women are no better, since no rights such as the right to pay, or social insurances are not given by the owner of the factory or workshop they work in. Thus 5.5 million working mothers are often obliged to leave their children of the pre-school age in the streets so as not to lose their jobs, and this because places in kindergartens and day nurseries have been drastically reduced recently.

Another aspect of discrimination between man and wo-

man is that the woman is paid less for equal work with man, although she may be just as or better skilled than her male counterpart. In the USA, for instance, women are paid 46 per cent less than men. On top of this, work is stepped up in such a manner as to destroy the bodily and mental abilities of women. One typical aspect of the high degree of exploitation of women in the American capitalist society can be found among the American women miners who, besides doing a kind of work which is prohibited by the American Constitution, are put in extremely heavy jobs, without protection at all, in galleries where they have to crawl for hours on end pushing heavily loaded carts. The cause of this grave situation, of this inequality, is not the «man and woman conflict», as the ideologists of the bourgeoisie make out, but the capitalist system itself, which oppresses and exploits the broad working masses, and the women along with them, to the marrow, under which the life of man, and especially of the woman, are worth nothing, in which

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profit is placed above any feeling or law.

But discrimination in the economic field is only one aspect of the gloomy life of women in the capitalist and revisionist countries. The other aspect is that they are discriminated against in the educational, political and social fields. Ignorance and illiteracy accompany the masses of women all their lives in the capitalist world. According to recent data, 60 per cent of the 814 million illiterate in the world today are women. The plight, to which the capitalist system has reduced women, forces them to seek other ways of making a living which destroy them physically and morally.

«The capitalist system, which sanctifies private pro-

perty, a system of the economic and moral enslavement of man,» has said Comrade Enver Hoxha, «weighs heavily on everybody, but more particularly and barbarously on women.» This is being ever more convincingly proved by the reality of the women's life in the capitalist and revisionist countries, a reality which cannot be covered up even by the most subtle and refined demagoguery reported to by the imperialist and social-imperialist powers and superpowers at the World Conference on the problems of women on the 35th anniversary of the founding of the UNO, in Copenhagen.

The revolutionary situation created in the world today has enveloped the women, too, who are becoming ever more

aware day by day not only of the true causes of their lamentable conditions, but also of the absolute necessity of the struggle they should wage side by side their men and brothers for the attainment of true equality. Thus it why women today are to be found fighting on the barricades of the class struggle, beside the proletariat, taking part in powerful protest manifestations which are shaking the foundations of the capitalist system. This enhancement of the political consciousness of the mass of women, of this great force of progress, proves that their emancipation, their true liberation cannot be attained on the peaceful road, but through resolute struggle against the system of oppression and exploitation.

