

of the many decreases, has become shoddier, wears out more quickly, or is repossessed before payments are completed.

In the struggle to secure personal property—the necessities and comforts of life—the working class will find it necessary to overthrow the institution of private property and put all the means of production under the control of a workers' government.



The Class Struggle

Workers and bosses are in continual conflict all over the capitalist world. Whether it's individual disputes on the job, strikes involving the organization of many workers, or the many social struggles that come from the division of society into rich and poor, the battle between the working class and the capitalist class can never be resolved by either reforms or repression.

What is the driving force of this struggle? It is the fact that workers produce more than they are compensated for—Marxists call this *surplus value*—and there is a constant tug-of-war between the bosses and the workers over this surplus. Workers need it to raise their standard of living above mere subsistence. Bosses need it to increase their profits.

It's in the interests of the bosses to keep wages low and prices and productivity high. These conditions maximize profits, allowing them to both expand and attract new capital. If they fail to do this, they are swallowed up by bigger, more profitable capitalist enterprises.

But for the workers, low wages and high prices mean hardship and sacrifices. High productivity usually means working harder and faster for the same pay.

Decent housing, transportation, wholesome food, and other basic human needs are of no concern to the capitalist rulers