

submission. For another thing, unemployed, part-time, and seasonal workers are kept in a service pool by the bosses for when they want to expand their industries.

Housewives and children of employed and unemployed workers are also part of the working class. Housewives are unpaid laborers, doing domestic work, including the raising of the next generation of workers. Children are workers' dependents who are being brought up and trained to be future workers.

The working class is an international class. Although divided into different countries because of past and present capitalist rule, it stretches all over the world. It is a class that cuts across both oppressor and oppressed nationalities, across Black, Asian, Latin, and white. It is composed of men and women, straight and gay, young and old, skilled and unskilled, organized and unorganized, employed and unemployed.

In short, the working class is those who produce all the wealth in society.



The Ruling Class

How do you know who is a member of the ruling class in this society? Does it include the foreman who rides herd on you all day? Or is it composed of people higher up, like the plant manager who stays hidden in his office all day as he directs production?

No, the ruling class hardly goes near its property these days. In fact, it hasn't really run its own businesses for the past 100 years! The ruling class, which we call the *bourgeoisie*, is made up of a handful of billionaire parasites, who use the profits they steal from the workers' labor and use that money to further increase their own power. The foreman, plant manager, policeman, judge, newspaper editor, and politician are all the hired agents of the ruling class. (Sometimes a member of the bourgeoisie will take on one of these jobs when they don't feel they can trust anyone else, like Nelson Rockefeller, for example.)

The ruling class is the tiny minority who own the machines, the plants, the offices, the trucks and trains, and the raw materials that are necessary for production. All these materials and equipment are called the *means of production*.

By owning the means of production, the capitalist is able to control almost everything in society. The worker must work for