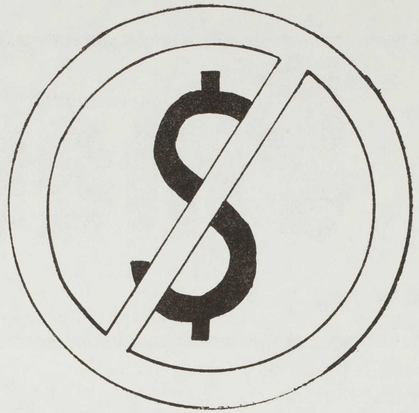

The "Libertarian" Party

On Nov. 4, I talked to a friend, someone who I know has a good heart, and he told me he voted for Ed Clark of the Libertarian Party. I was shocked; dumbfounded, speechless. Then later that night, after the 4-year death ritual was over, I saw four libertarians (with Ed Clark buttons on), in coat and ties, discussing the best way to go to "Reagan's victory celebration." If only my friend could see this; here's the Libertarian party revealing its true colors.

As a libertarian communist (or anarcho-communist) I feel compelled to disassociate myself completely from the so-called "Libertarian party." (here's the first contradiction—how could real libertarians organize in the form of a party with a chairman and all that bullshit) The purpose of this short article will be to expose the incredibly reactionary nature of the "Libertarian" party and hopefully persuade progressive people that this is not a group to be supported.

What would happen if the Libertarian Party's platform was implemented. As a worker you would definitely lose out big. Sure your taxes might go down, then again all the safety regulations that have been imposed on the owners, because of the suffering, courage and even deaths of past workers in struggle would disappear(the abolition of all safety regulations is a key libertarian demand). There would literally be a return to the sweat shop. From now on enforcement of worker safety would be up to the capitalist whose only concern is profit; not the worker. Minimum wage would also disappear so we could compete on the "free" marketplace like slaves at an auction. Since there is always a reserve of unemployed people under capitalism, competition for jobs would drive wages incredibly low. Again the capitalist benefits, not the workers.

You'd better not be a poor person if the libertarians win. Food stamps, health care and welfare would all be abolished. Poor people would be left to suffer while the corporate owners, who no longer have to pay taxes, grow even richer. Hmmm sounds pretty suspicious.

Libertarians, being amoral, take no stand on racism. People could do anything they wanted with "their" sacred private property. There could be a return of segregated restaurants, clubs, etc. There would be an end to all affirmative action programs (as totally inadequate as these programs are in combatting racism) third world people would once again not get hired, accepted or promoted etc.

Finally, as far as nuclear power is concerned, the Libertarian party believes that the Price Anderson Act should be repealed (thereby ending government subsidies); however, they are not against nuclear power. Corporations can do anything they wish; including building nuclear power plants. The Libertarian party does not discuss the moral arguments concerning the due social consequences of nukes. They only argue that "government should not interfere with business."

The list of complaints against the Libertarian party is endless. These are only some of the more obvious ones. I too am against government because the state controls people and people should be free to control their collective destinies. The Libertarian party, however, is not for people controlling their own lives, but rather they are for people being completely at the mercy of the corporate capitalists.

Instead of discussing community control of resources—with workers running workplaces, black people controlling black communities, red people deciding the fate of native communities, and humans protecting the Earth—the Libertarians spew out this anachronistic shit about letting "free" enterprise and the "natural laws" of the marketplace solve our problems. Well there's nothing free about "free enterprise." It means wage slavery, domination by bosses, and hierarchy (as well as countless other problems). As Karl Marx and many others proved there's nothing "natural" about the "laws" of the marketplace. These "laws" are, infact, a form of social organization which benefits the few who own the means of production and who control the government to serve their own interests. The Libertarian party does not discuss putting an end to hierarchy, exploitation or alienation. Instead they wish to return

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to "laissez-faire" capitalism of the 1880's in which the masses of people suffered while the capitalists grew fat.

Lets' be clear about what we want - what I want * freedom for myself, humanity and the earth. The Libertarians want domination and exploitation. Unless you're a corporate capitalist, or soon to become one, you should not support the Libertarian Party.

RLS.

hos·tage / has-tij /=a person held by one party in a conflict as a pledge that promises will be kept or terms met by the other party

In a time when the media constantly flashes reminders of a particular 52 hostages we should not forget America's other captives. In fact, all americans are held captive, economically, morally, ethically and politically. In every sphere of our lives we confront a conflict of interest, and are forced to submit in order to survive.

Millions of us go to work every day for the corporate capitalist system. And every week we receive only a fraction of what was produced in the form of wages. And with these wages we are forced to "buy" back what we built. Certainly our interests are to produce the things we need or desire. Yet the workers/people are never consulted as to production, method, levels, quality, or goals manufactured. Thus, there is a conflict created; we must work to survive buy why should I work so that a few stock holders get fat. But what other recourse is there but to trade my personal economic strength for survival?

At least when I get off from the forty hour week, I can drive home and do whatever I like. That is anything that's not morally upsetting. Drink as much as you like, but don't light that joint. Love whoever you want, just make sure you don't touch anything, especially on the same sex. And if you persist in any deviant behavior, our friend neighborhood moralists have arranged your rehabilitation in a nice warm cell for you. But after all isn't that what you deserve? They wouldn't create laws against it if it was good moral behavior.

Let us not forget our "representatives," I mean someone must believe in them. We have to face the facts. The state wouldn't draft young americans for pawns. Why would the state ruin millions of lives with military service, or control our destinies in any manner if it were not in our interests?

In the long run I guess the 52 hostages aren't so bad off. On the one hand they receive everything they need. And on the other, millions of people realize their plight and are willing to fight to help them win their freedom. It's a pity these same freedom fighters don't realize their own dilemma.

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