The

## RabbleRouser

Committee for a Revolutionary Communist Party in Australia

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# Don't Stop With Hanson & Howard... ALL THE WAY IN THE FIGHT AGAINST RACISM!

The groundswell of militant opposition against the racist filth spewed out by Pauline Hanson, is truly excellent. With a solid history of struggle against those Nazis out-of-uniform, National Action, Adelaide saw more than 12,000 people take to the streets in two separate demonstrations on June 12. The links that anti-racist activists have made between Hanson's infantile babble and the more sanitised racism of the Federal government is a good thing which however divides into two.

The people must be clear on who our enemy is.

Running dogs like Pauline Hanson come and go. They are as much creatures of the imperialists' media as they are the voice of ignorance and back-woods prejudice. Remember Bjelke-Petersen? But what remains is the system based on oppression that is Australian imperialism.

No one could genuinely argue that getting rid of Hanson and Howard is going to remove racism. Only a fool would believe that a Labor government would or could usher in self-determination for the Indigenous peoples of Australia and an end to the scape-goating and oppression of immigrant proletarians.

So why should anyone active in the just struggle against racism and national oppression allow the movement to limit its goals to bringing down the Howard government? The phoney socialists' chant of "Hanson, Howard, Out-Out-Out" has the pathetic subtext of "Beazley's Labor, In-In-In".

It is a searing indictment of all Australian parliamentary parties that the racist barbarism this system metes out to Indigenous people has continued to thrive, ballot after ballot. Bums on seats in parliament might change after an election but the power of the Australian monopoly capitalist ruling class to enforce its bourgeoisie dictatorship does not.

What is it going to take to rid Australia of racism and national oppression?

A serious answer to this serious question has at its core the recognition that it is only possible to do away with all forms of oppression and exploitation by bringing down not only the government but the entire rotten system.

### A PLATFORM OF LIES

#### **"ONE NATION"**

Under the guise of the equality of the individual in general, bourgeois democracy proclaims the formal or legal equality of the property owner and the dispossessed, boss and worker, exploiter and exploited, in words of gross—deceit.

In truth, the Australian national interest is the Australian imperialists' interests. There is no common interest between the workers and oppressed on the one hand and the Australian bourgeoisie (monopoly capitalists) on the other hand.

#### ABORIGINAL LAND "RIGHTS"

The redneck attack on the struggle of Australia's Indigenous peoples for genuine land rights is utterly dishonest. It a key weapon in the bourgeoisie's ideological war to secure the national oppression of Black people.

In the 1970s and 80s Labor Governments passed Land Rights legislation which gave certain land use and control to certain Indigenous groups. Although outwardly supportive of Aboriginal people such legislation reinforced the Australian imperialists' national oppression of Aboriginal peoples. For example, land rights legislation in the Northern Territory retains absolute ownership of that land in the government but gives certain 'rights' to Aboriginal people. If the government ever repealed the land rights legislation, the land automatically reverts to the government.

The High Court's decision in the *Mabo* case and the previous Federal Labor Government's Native Title Act which was designed to give statutory effect to *Mabo*, legalised the theft of Indigenous lands. Native title in Australia means nothing more than the possibility of Aboriginal people claiming only limited portions of land the Australian imperialists do not want: swamps and deserts.

In Mabo, the High Court left open the question of whether native title can coexist with pastoral leases. In the Wik case the High Court ruled by a majority that native title can co-exist with pastoral leases but that if there is any conflict pastoral leases (owned overwhelming by big-time capitalists and not family farmers) is to prevail over native title.

#### **AUSTRALIA IN THE WORLD**

Australia is one of the handful of rich oppressor countries, and has been ever since the era of imperialism. From imperialist infancy at the turn of the century, Australia grew into an imperialist country in its own right. Australian imperialism has always manoeuvred for its own interests through close alliances with the larger imperialists. That these alliances have been unequal doesn't mean Australia is "oppressed" by the US or other major imperialists.

#### **IMMIGRATION**

It is a cruel lie that Asian (and other) immigration causes unemployment in Australia. This is a bourgeois 'divide-and-rule' tactic. Away with all racist immigration controls! Unity amongst the workers and oppressed the world over is a necessary precondition for doing away with all forms of exploitation and discrimination.

#### DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT IS A MUST

The Committee for a Revolutionary Communist Party in Australia (CRCPA) is dedicated to an "old" idea: the proletariat of all countries rising up in great waves and overthrowing all forms of oppression and exploitation. An "old" idea certainly but an idea which has lost none of its vitality or urgent necessity since Marx and Engels issued their famous call.

The imperialist system we live under is based on oppression and exploitation — here and all over the world. This system can't be repaired in the interests of the majority. No real change for the better can come about until this system is overthrown. Without political power in the hands of the grassroots people, all schemes to do away with oppression and exploitation are dreams.

Communism's founder, Karl Marx, once referred to revolution as "that old mole". And like the animal who burrows beneath the surface only to unexpectedly reappear when it must, communist revolution may be forced underground for a time, but is bound to burst forth again and again because only communist revolution can finally end oppression and exploitation in all forms.

The first great attempt of the proletariat to overthrow the bourgeoisie and establish the rule of the proletariat and masses was the heroic armed uprising which founded the shortlived Paris Commune in 1871. While the battle was still raging in a Paris darkened by the smoke of gunfire, Marx declared: "But even if the Commune is crushed, the struggle will only be postponed. The principles of the Commune are eternal and cannot be destroyed; they will declare themselves again and again until the working class achieves its liberation".

Today, the myth of the imperialists' New World Order is breaking down, the clash of arms is sounding in nearly every corner of the globe, and currents of rebellion and revolution are swirling beneath the surface and increasingly bursting forth.

The downtrodden are compelled to resist oppression. But resistance is not enough. The proletariat and oppressed peoples must wage revolution, seize power through revolutionary violence and establish their rule, their dictatorship, as part of, and in the service of the world revolution.