

P.O. Box 471 Cooper Station  
New York, N.Y. 10003

January 29, 1975

TO ALL ORGANIZERS AND AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

Over the past several years, International Women's Day, March 8, has become established as a day for organizing activities on campuses and in cities throughout the country focusing on different aspects of the women's liberation movement.

This year has been declared International Women's Year by the United Nations. Already, many organizations have begun to map out plans for March 8. We will want to take advantage of opportunities open to us by building these and initiating other activities on March 8. In some areas, YSA members have been involved in these planning meetings. In other areas, while great sentiment exists to build large programs and events, no organizing has taken place. Wherever possible, we will want to work with other organizations -- women's liberation groups, campus organizations, radical groups -- to build activities.

On some campuses, March 8 activities may focus on local struggles ranging from defense of women's right to abortion to support for the ERA. In other areas we can help to initiate forums or teach-ins on defense of women political prisoners, the fight against layoffs as they affect women or other issues.

We have seen in past years that there is a lot of potential for drawing new forces into activity around International Women's Day events. Where there are activities being planned, the YSA will want to get in on the ground floor. Where no organizing has begun for March 8, we will want to be aggressive in working with other women and initiating activities.

By participating in the planning of International Women's Day activities, YSA members can come in contact with many young women who will be interested in our analysis of the causes of women's oppression and in listening to our socialist ideas.

Coalition of Labor Union Women

At the Jan. 17-19 National Coordinating Committee (NCC) meeting of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) in St. Louis a resolution was passed overwhelmingly to initiate a campaign against "inflation, unemployment and depression." This resolution calls for a shorter work week, with no reduction in pay, no wage controls, no speed-up, more union jobs through public works programs and other demands.

The NCC voted to launch this campaign with demonstrations on March 8 in cities around the country where CLUW chapters exist. The campaign is also to include public forums and teach-ins in the week of April 28-May 3. These activities will be an important step in building CLUW as an organization that fights for the needs of union women and will provide CLUW with an important tool for reaching out to the entire union movement.

Sentiment for building the March 8 demonstrations is high in CLUW chapters around the country, and in some areas concrete plans are underway for the demonstrations.

Where we have members in CLUW, we will want to participate in the planning of these demonstrations and help to make them as broad as possible.

### International Defense of Women Political Prisoners

The January issue of Ms. magazine featured a section on the plight of women political prisoners around the world. Nationally and internationally there exists a great interest among women to defend victims of repressive regimes -- particularly those in Chile, Spain and South Vietnam. On some campuses there is interest in planning activities that focus on the defense of these women. These activities can be very successful and the YSA should help build them.

The U.S. Committee for Justice to Latin American Political Prisoners (USLA) has been involved in a campaign for the defense of women political prisoners in Chile since the Sept. 11 coup. Recently, USLA initiated a campaign for the defense of political prisoners in Spain, including two women, Lidia Falcon and Genovieve Forest. These campaigns have helped to win many women to actively participate in USLA.

Where these activities are taking place, we will want to encourage USLA to be involved in the planning of the program. An USLA speaker at such a program can present women with a way to defend victims of political repression. Not only can such a speaker talk on the plight of women political prisoners around the world, but they can win new supporters for the cases and involve new forces in the defense campaigns of USLA.

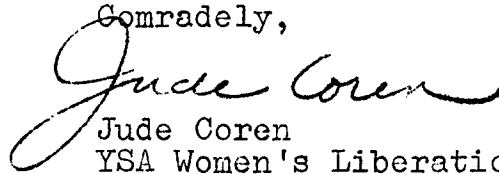
### Women's Evolution

The March issue of the International Socialist Review will feature a debate between Evelyn Reed and a professor who disagrees with Reed's theory presented in Women's Evolution. The ISR will also feature other articles of special interest to feminists. The March 14 issue of The Militant (which will be sold on March 8) will have a review of Women's Evolution by Mary-Alice Waters. The Young Socialist will also have a special feature for International Women's Day.

We will want to be sure to organize sales of the Young Socialist, The Militant and the ISR at these events, as well as setting up literature tables featuring Women's Evolution and other literature on the women's movement and socialism.

Materials and reports from local areas on March 8 activities should be sent to the YSA National Office.

Comradely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jude Coren". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Jude Coren  
YSA Women's Liberation Director