

Bloomington on the 14.9.73

Dear Comrade

Right now the problem of our differentiation with the LTF is the question of the E.R.A. It seems to be a real good issue because even a new comrade (3 months) who is not in any tendency and some other revolutionaries who were in the NAM can't support the ERA. We have a kind of "Women in Action" in Bloomington (20 people) that the last LTF comrade (who left) wanted very "open." In 10 days we are going to decide if we support or not the ERA. Right now the other YSA women and me don't support it but an LTF woman is returning; we may have some trouble. But I think we can win because we already explained a lot of things inside "Women in Action": A, -1) Generally what's _____ in the fight for a bourgeois law. How it is useless: for example the Blacks have equal rights...etc. What is the reality. 2) we are not against equal rights but against the ERA. which can put the women's movement in the hands of the democratic party.... 3) A bourgeois law can have no effect without a concrete struggle in each factory. We made concrete projection how here to develop the help for the clerical workers who are trying to organize...etc.... B) 1) the content of the law

In the ISR of April 73 Dianne Feeley explains that the women already got "the equal Pay Act of 1963" and no discrimination of hiring with the "Civil Rights Act" in 1964. (!!!) with no results

The consequences are that the only things which stay in the ERA are the negative ones. for example: a) the lose of the protective legislation.

b) the draft ~~question~~ for women!

I already explain in "Women in Action" the danger to support this without any political content. What kind of draft?...Also a lot of women are pacifists. They don't want any draft at all.

Also problem of lobbying (a woman from Indianapolis just arrived supporting it)

and problem of the scedule. If one wants to support the ERA one shall have to support tthe rythme of the congressmen. For example I hears that in Georgia they don't want to speak about it before three years!!!!

We have a lot of new comrades in the YSA who are open. But right now we can specially count of these women who don't support at all the ERA. I spoke a lot with one of them on other problems. Also we spoke a lot with the two comrades who were in the NAM. They are coming to read IT documents. (They did not want to join the YSA last year because of its right wing policy in SMC and women's movement) They said that the comrades who split from I.S. are near us.

The dues are from Paula, Bill and I. We shall try to send more next month.

Paula received her letter from madison but nobody understood what was the meeting.

Can we read the YSA-IT declaration in the local now?

Can you tell us exactly what are "our rights" in the YSA debate as SWP at large and YSA members?

Paula is working on the National question she will send "documents" to N.J. or Madisan.

for such meeting