

FREE ALL PROSTITUTES FREE ALL PRISONERS

The WOMEN'S BAIL FUND recognizes that prostitution is one of many forms of oppression and that prostitutes are fucked over by the economic and legal system. Therefore, we make the following demands:

I. WE DEMAND AN END TO ARRESTS FOR ALL "CRIMES" OF SURVIVAL, INCLUDING PROSTITUTION.

Acts for which people are arrested are defined as "crimes" by laws which function to protect the interests of those with power. In reality, these acts (for example, prostitution, drug addiction, theft, forgery) are a reaction to the powerlessness and oppression of the people whose resources and labor have created the wealth of the class which makes the laws. Those who are most oppressed--third world and poor people--are also those who are most often arrested, sometimes for doing nothing at all.

The real criminals are never punished. The U.S. government is not sentenced to death for genocide in Vietnam. Industries are not punished for polluting the air and water, for annihilating our forests, for poisoning our food. The men who control the large corporations are not put behind bars for cheating the worker out of the profit of his daily labor.

When the Women's Bail Fund bails women out of Rikers Island, we do not consider their charges as a criterion of who to bail out because all the acts for which women are arrested are results of their oppression.

II. WE DEMAND AN END TO PRE-TRIAL DETENTION OF ANY KIND, i.e. BAIL, PREVENTIVE DETENTION, OR ANY SYSTEM WHICH IMPRISONS ANYONE WHO HAS NOT BEEN CONVICTED OF A CRIME.

People are jailed, often for months, before they are tried merely because they have neither money nor connections to bail themselves out. These people are penalized for being poor. To a poor person, \$100 can be as hard to raise as \$100,000.

The Women's Bail Fund bails women out of the Women's House at Rikers with money that we raise.

III. WE DEMAND A SYSTEM OF JUSTICE CARRIED OUT BY THE PEOPLE IN THE PEOPLE'S INTEREST.

It is self-evident that no black person should be tried by a white jury, no woman by a male jury, no poor person by a middle class jury. No one should be judged by a person whose interests are antagonistic to their own.

Many women know that they won't receive justice by appearing in court. Those who, despite this, choose to appear are offered legal assistance by the Women's Bail Fund.

IV. WE DEMAND THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF ALL PRISONERS.

We support the demands and struggles of all inmates to change the intolerable conditions under which they are forced to live and the unjust system that put them there.

The Women's Bail Fund opposes the imprisonment of prostitutes. We also oppose the imprisonment of johns and pimps. We demand equal justice for all people, not equal oppression for men.

THE WOMEN'S BAIL FUND JOINS IN THE STRUGGLE FOR A SOCIETY IN WHICH NO WOMAN IS FORCED TO BE A PROSTITUTE.

This can happen only in a society in which

--people have viable economic alternatives and aren't forced into "crimes" of survival.

--drug addiction (which is currently foisted upon those people who have the most reason to be dissatisfied) does not force women to walk the streets to support a habit.

--women's bodies are not regarded as commodities.

Only when power is no longer concentrated in the hands of a few will these forms of oppression be eliminated and the needs of the people be met.

The Women's Bail Fund exists as a concrete expression of our solidarity with women in prison. We call upon all our sisters to join us.

THE WOMEN'S BAIL FUND

BOX 637, COOPER STATION, NY, NY 10003

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- Enclosed is my donation of \$_____.
- I would like to work on the Women's Bail Fund.
- I would like to raise money for the Bail Fund.
- I have contacts with women inside Rikers Island.
- I would like a packet of writings collected by the Women's Bail Fund.
- Enclosed is 70 cents.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____
