

## Nottinghamshire Left Unity

### Resolution - Childcare

Left Unity supports the inclusion of women and carers at all levels of organising and strategy development.

In recognition of this, Left Unity will provide free, on site crèche facilities for those members who book places ten days in advance of national meetings.

### Resolution – Sex Workers

Amnesty International is a charity that ostensibly works to end violations of human rights. Yet, Amnesty International UK are proposing to adopt a policy position which advocates for the decriminalisation of punters and pimps across the world. This policy flies in the face of extensive research indicating that areas where prostitution has been fully legalized have led to more violence and an increase in trafficking. For example, after legalization in Australia, the percentage of illegal brothels increased 300%. In New Zealand, legalization expanded the illegal sector to make up 80% of the sex trade industry. In Germany, the safety of women within the sex industry was not improved through full legalization. Furthermore, both human trafficking and organized crime increase in areas where prostitution is decriminalized.

Amnesty has chosen to ignore all of this information and instead decided that the rights of johns and pimps who wish to exploit and use women are more important than the human rights of women to live free from this exploitation.

We condemn Amnesty's proposed prostitution policy and instead call on Amnesty to support the Nordic Model which decriminalizes women in prostitution but criminalizes the johns and pimps. This has been shown to decrease violence against prostituted women, dramatically decrease the number of prostituted persons, and to provide a way out of prostitution for those who wish to leave.

### Resolution - Tactics

In times of severe government cutbacks and serious attacks on the economic rights/living standards of the working class, the disabled, women and others, it is quite understandable and politically defensible that the national campaigns and agitational material of Left Unity put particular emphasis on economic issues. And for the foreseeable future, this emphasis should continue.

But in coming months and years, Left Unity should give increased emphasis to campaigning around more political issues, whether 'old' issues or 'newer' ones. It should apply a critical socialist, feminist, environmentalist AND anti-discrimination analysis, whenever possible, to policy and campaign development.

These leading issues should include racism (e.g. demonising of immigrants), sexism and opposition to feminism (no shortage of examples), militarism (e.g. the use of drones), state surveillance of all types (e.g. those exposed by Edward Snowden), other abuses of state power, the selling of private medical information to corporations, international solidarity (e.g. invite the Palestinian women's football team here for a tour; watch Greece very closely and assist if we can), cultural and consumption issues, the meaningless and alienation of much work carried out under capitalism, and similar issues.

When opening up such fronts, working with other groups on these and other political issues, and reaching out to new sectors, especially younger people, we should: a) strive to put forward a critical socialist (NOT liberal) analysis; b) experiment with and develop more creative/catchy political tactics than traditional 'pass-out-a-leaflet-and-hold-a-meeting-with-a-speaker' campaigns.