

SOCIALISM 2017



SOCIALIST IDEAS TO BUILD A WALL OF RESISTANCE AGAINST TRUMP AND THE 1% AND CHANGE THE WORLD

a weekend
of political
discussion &
debate

tickets & info:
socialism2017.net
020 8988 8777

November
Sat 11th
&
Sun 12th

Institute of Education,
20 Bedford Way,
London WC1H 0AL

Hosted by the Socialist Party



WHY YOU SHOULD COME

WE NEED CHANGE

This world needs changing. Eight people own more wealth than the poorest 50% of the world's population! That obscene inequality is the reality of what capitalism in crisis means for our lives in the 21st century.

Capitalism is a system where a tiny minority of people own the majority of the wealth and where a handful of companies dominate the economy. They do not suffer its consequences: poverty, low pay, poor education. Capitalism means environmental destruction and the catastrophe that brings for our health and that of future generations; it begets war and terror; and with capitalism comes racism, sexism, homophobia and discrimination.

The politicians who defend this system – from Trump to May to the Blairites who attack Jeremy Corbyn – are incapable of solving the problems in our lives.

Millions of people are seeing the need to fight back – shown on the historic Women's Marches in 637 cities and towns across the world on the day after Trump's inauguration. What ideas can help this movement become powerful enough to make the change that's needed? What change is needed?

A socialist society would be able, through democratic planning the use of the world's enormous wealth and resources, to provide decent jobs, homes and services for everyone.

LESSONS FOR TODAY FROM THE 1917 RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

At Socialism 2017 we will discuss the Russian Revolution 100 years ago. 1917 provides a powerful example of how it is possible for the working class and poor to take their destiny into their own hands and transform the world. We will be discussing the impact of the revolution, including on women's rights, on art and technology, on people's lives all across the world and also why the Soviet Union degenerated into dictatorship.

This will be a series of shorter sessions - 50 minutes each - aimed particularly at school & college students.

BIG IDEAS IN BITESIZE

But Socialism 2017 will not be a history lesson! It is focused on the burning questions our movements face. How can we kick out the Tories? Can Jeremy Corbyn win? What role can workers and young people play in changing the world? Do we need parties? What about terrorism? How can we defeat racism, sexism, homophobia?

What is socialism? What is Marxism? Is a socialist revolution possible in our lifetime? Will it work this time? Is there an easier way to change the world?

IDEAS FOR BUILDING OUR MOVEMENT

One theme of the weekend will be the question of uniting the workers' and socialist movement internationally to build a powerful force that is capable of changing the world. International speakers and visitors from the Socialist Party's sister parties in the Committee for a Workers' international will attend. The CWI is in the process of unifying with Izquierda Revolucionaria on the basis of Marxist ideas.

Socialism 2017 will bring together working class fighters, trade unionists and youth and student activists, anti-cuts campaigners, those who want to find out about socialism and Marxism, and people who want to change the world, for a weekend of discussion and debate on the alternative to capitalist crisis.

THEMES OF THE WEEKEND

Programme can be subject to change

- Lessons of the Russian Revolution for today
- Corbyn, Labour, and the fight for a working class political voice
- Protectionism and free trade
- Marxism – ideas to change the world
- What do socialists say about Brexit?
- Building solidarity, defending refugees, fighting deportations
- The working class, the gig economy and technology
- Global capitalist crisis, conflict and revolution
- The NHS and the battle against privatisation
- Will we see socialism in our lifetimes?
- Fighting discrimination – racism, sexism, caste oppression, homophobia
- Crisis in trade unionism – can they turn left?
- Environmental crisis in the age of Trump and more!

Registration: Registration will open at 12.30pm on Saturday and 9am on Sunday

Workshops: Workshops will run from 3pm to 5pm on Saturday and 10am-12noon and 1-3pm on Sunday. **Rallies:** The main rally will be on Saturday 6.30-8.30pm with a closing rally on Sunday 3-4.30pm

HOW DO I GET A TICKET FOR SOCIALISM?

The best way to get tickets is online or through Socialist Party members you know. There is a 20% discount on tickets until 1 September. Prices are:

- Golden ticket: £60 waged, £40 unwaged or low waged (includes entry to the entire weekend and one night in a central London hostel)
- Weekend: £32 waged, £16 unwaged or low waged
- Saturday: £20 waged, £10 unwaged or low waged
- Sunday: £20 waged, £10 unwaged or low waged
- Rally only: £5 (no discount available)

ESSENTIAL SOCIALISM
2017 WEEKEND INFO

WHERE CAN I STAY FOR SOCIALISM?

We have booked beds at the Clink 78, 78 King's Cross Rd, WC1X 9QG and at the Clink 261 261-265 Gray's Inn Rd, London WC1X 8QT. Book by 6 November for those who buy a Golden ticket. On the website you can request free accommodation which may be on the floor or sofa of a London Socialist Party member. Email us at socialism@socialistparty.org.uk if you have any queries.

STUDENT OFFERS!

- Freshers' discount: £10 wknd / £5 day
- School students discount: £6 wknd / £3 day



WHERE DOES SOCIALISM TAKE PLACE?

Both the workshops and rallies for Socialism take place at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, WC1H 0AL.

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

There's a free crèche throughout the workshops and the rallies which you can book up until 6 November

SUBSCRIBE TO THE SOCIALIST

Weekly paper of the Socialist Party
www.socialistparty.org.uk/main/subscribe



SUBSCRIBE TO SOCIALISM TODAY

Monthly magazine of the Socialist Party
www.socialismtoday.org/subscribe



leftbooks.co.uk

At the Institute of Education there will be a book shop, stalls, opportunities to find out about joining the Socialist Party and a poster exhibition of political cartoons by Alan Hardman, artist for the Militant



IS THERE DISABLED ACCESS?

We make every effort to ensure that the Socialism weekend is accessible for all. If you have any particular needs or questions please call us on 020 8988 8777. For those with mobility issues, transport and assistance is available. Please get in touch.

1917revolution.org

The Committee for a Workers' International (CWI) has launched a website dedicated to commemorating and celebrating the 1917 Russian Revolution. The site contains CWI archive material on the Russian Revolution, as well as some writings by Lenin, Trotsky and other leading Marxists from the period and also eyewitness accounts.

Over the course of 2017 the website will add:

- Monthly articles on the developments of the corresponding month in 1917 and their implications.
- Thematic articles - on women, the national question, art, youth, etc.
- Articles on the impact of the revolution in different countries and regions.
- Events to mark the anniversary will be publicised



JOIN THE 1917 SOCIALISTS! 2017

Text JOIN with your name & postcode to 07761 818206

e: join@socialistparty.org.uk

t: 020 8988 8777

a: Socialist Party,
PO Box 24697,
London E11 1YD

Come to meetings in your area to discuss and debate all these ideas.

See: www.socialistparty.org.uk/whatson

 /CWISocialistParty

 @Socialist_party +
@Socialism2017



SPEAKERS TO BE CONFIRMED
see socialism2017.net for updates



Over the years our fantastic line-ups of keynote speakers have included Peter Taaffe, Socialist Party general secretary and former editor of Militant; Hannah Sell, Socialist Party deputy general secretary and author of *Socialism in the 21st Century*; Kshama Sawant, outspoken socialist councillor in Seattle and a leader in the fight for \$15/hr min wage; and trade union leaders, anti-cuts campaigners and many more.