

With automation, an employer can hire a woman for low wages, replacing a man or woman at decent wages.

Women are forced to work part-time because they cannot find full time work or cannot afford full time day care for their children. In many cases, 3 part time workers replace 1 full time worker - with no cost to the company for sick leaves, vacation pay, pension plans or decent wages.

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK and EQUAL JOB

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL BENEFITS BOTH

MEN AND WOMEN

Men and women must work together. Management has divided us by making it appear that our interests onnflict.

Women must organize to stop management from using them as cheap labor and from channeling them into low-paying "women's jobs".

Working people must unite to gain decent working conditions for all.

for more information contact
Vancouver Women's Caucus
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EQUAL PAY for EQUAL WORK

WOMEN KNOW they are discriminated against on the job

WOMEN KNOW they are paid less for the same or similar work, often disguised by management under different job classifications.

they are hired for the lowest paying jobs.

they are refused promotion and pay raises on the basis of sex.

"Women in the work force are sometimes treated as second-class citizens."

(from an ad sponsored by the federal Dept. of Labor)



Working women are just beginning to come together in Vancouver. We are beginning to stand up for equal pay, for the right to be treated as human at work, for our children's right to child care centres that are free in every way. Most of us are not in unions; we have no job security; we work at a few low-paid jobs that are considered "women's work"; we are isolated from each other and forced to compete with one another to get and keep a job. We are just beginning to understand the tremendous power that working women can have when we decide to act together.



At the beginning of this century, working women fought together for shorter hours, a living wage and the right to organize (some even shut down the textile industry of the east). Although we are not yet taken seriously, we have not yet realized our potential power, working women today have the power to shut down the governments, telephones, schools, hospitals - practically the whole country!

JOIN US ON SATURDAY AT STANLEY PARK!
We are mothers, office workers, students, hospital workers, taxi drivers . . .
We are also women involved in building the women's movement.
We plan to have a booth in the Park with women's pamphlets, a women's newspaper (The Pedestal), women's songs, and even women's balloons!

The solidarity of all working people, which is what May Day is all about, is particularly crucial to us as working women. Women who work in small groups in stores, offices, restaurants, factories, cannot win even minimal union protection and decent wages without support beyond our own small groups.



Workingclass solidarity can never be a reality so long as women workers are unorganized and defenceless. So long as women workers are not organized, we can be used by employers as cheap labor, to keep all wages down. Today the average woman earns 40% of the wages of a man with the same education. We are told that this is "natural" since a "feminine" woman is one who is economically dependent on a man and therefore doesn't need equal pay. In fact, there is nothing "natural" about it - but it is extremely profitable for companies that employ women. As well, a large proportion of working women are the sole supporters of their families and this discrimination places a particularly unfair burden on them.



Women will win the right to organize only if we act together. We must reject the image of women which tells us to compete for the favors of men, which tells us that trade unionism is for men only, which tells us that it isn't ladylike to stand up for our rights.

A strong independent movement of working women, which understands the common oppression of all women, can make an essential contribution to workingclass solidarity. Together, working women can be a powerful force in the struggle of all workers to take the industry we have built into our own hands; to abolish the system which makes women and children pieces of property, which pollutes and wastes our resources, which divides us by race and by sex.

The Working Women's Workshop of Women's Caucus is a group of women working on the problems of women at work (not all of us are working at any one time). . . If you are interested, call us at the office (684-0523) or call Pat (681-3964) or Jean (298-8430)

and subscribe to Vancouver's women's liberation newspaper THE PEDESTAL (the April issue is all by, for and about working women. . .)

TO SUBSCRIBE: send \$2.00 with this form to:
 PEDESTAL, 511 Carrall St., Vancouver

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