An Evening In Solidarity with the Zimbabwean Revolution

Speaker from ZANU

Slideshow, Speaker, & Discussion

Sylvia Baraldini, a delegate from the May 19 Communist Organization who recently returned from a month in Zimbabwe, where she observed the elections and participated in the Independence Day celebrations, will show slides and speak. A local representative of ZANU will also speak.

Cultural Event; Literature; Bakesale; Childcare

Friday, July 25, 8 PM

Boston YWCA, 140 Clarendon St.

Donation: $3
On April 18, 1980, Zimbabwean people celebrated independence and the end of the white settler colony of Rhodesia. This victory, won through 16 years of people's war against the white settlers, marks a turning point in the liberation of all of Southern Africa. Through the mobilization of the entire people, led by the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU-PF), Zimbabwe won its independence and made a tremendous advance in the worldwide struggle against imperialism.

The participation of 10,000 women freedom fighters in ZANU's Liberation Army (ZANLA) was critical to this victory. Faced not only with the system of imperialism and white supremacy, but also with a historical culture which viewed women as property without rights, Zimbabwean women fought to overcome centuries of oppression and played leading roles in the war to free their nation. When ZANU(PF) put forward the slogan "Liberation Through Participation," women responded in great numbers and joined the people's war in every capacity.

The ZANU Women's League is committed to insuring the involvement of all Zimbabwean women in what are currently its key tasks: national reconstruction and the continuing struggle to secure the victory from the constant threat of U.S., British or South African attacks. Therefore, it is a key priority of the League to establish the National Institute of Women, designed to develop women's leadership and skills and train them to set up women's centers throughout Zimbabwe. These women's centers - community institutions for political education and training - along with land distribution and health care programs, are a key aspect of consolidating people's power in Zimbabwe and healing the devastation wreaked by the war.

This defeat of white supremacy in Rhodesia raises issues very relevant to struggles here where the Ku Klux Klan and all forms of white supremacist terror have again become widespread.

Like the women of Zimbabwe, Black and Third World women play a leading role in their people's struggles against white supremacist atrocities such as the recent fire bombing of a Black home in Brighton. The struggle also continues against police terrorism and Klan atrocities and the devastation brought about by urban removal.

As the imperialist system is forced to intensify these attacks, the lives of all women, and particularly those of working class women, are profoundly affected as we struggle to keep our families and communities alive. Now is the time to fight these white supremacist attacks and the systematic rise of women's oppression necessary for imperialism's survival. Fighting to build anti-imperialist solidarity with women in Zimbabwe helps us clearly define our enemy as imperialism and our strategy for liberation: we must build a revolutionary anti-imperialist women's movement!

This program is part of the National Campaign in Solidarity with the ZANU Women's League, undertaken by a coalition of groups committed to raising $15,000 by Labor Day for the National Institute of Women in Zimbabwe. Please join us and support the campaign.

Sponsored by the Women's Committee Against Genocide as part of the National Coalition in Solidarity with the ZANU Women's League.