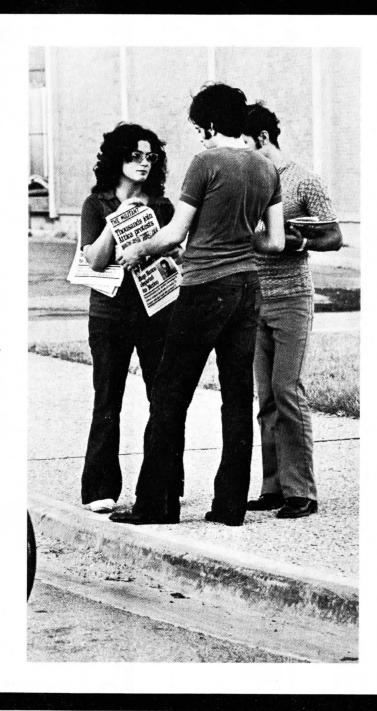
# the organizer



Campus and High School Sales

> Socialist Summer Schools

# the organizer

## Organizing Campus and High School Sales

A primary step in establishing the YSA and its ideas on campus or in a high school is regular sales of *The Militant* and *ISR*. Many locals do not now organize sales to campuses or high schools in which the the entire local participates. It is important that we turn our attention nationally to organizing these sales and begin to increase greatly the number of *Militants* sold on campus.

The Militant provides the best means to present consistently, week after week, our ideas to thousands of radicalizing youth interested in alternatives to the status quo. Many will be attracted to the Jenness-Pulley campaign and will want to follow the progress of the campaign through The Militant. Getting The Militant and ISR into the hands of student activists helps to lay the political base for upcoming struggles on campuses and in high schools where the receptivity

to the YSA's ideas is strongest.

Regular sales is one of the best ways to recruit new campus locals or fractions. When breaking onto a new campus or on a campus with only one or two YSAers, selling The Militant and ISR is one of the most productive activities we can undertake. Our press can reach out to more people than is possible for an individual or a few YSAers on a campus. It brings YSAers into contact with others who can be involved in activity and recruited. The Militant and ISA provide a basis for discussion of our perspectives and their application.

Sales is one assignment that all YSAers can and should participate in. The Organization Report to the YSA convention projected that every local's *Militant* bundle size should just about equal 10 *Militants* for every YSAer in the local and that locals begin to sell this number and increase it from there. This projection is based on the participation of each member in sales work.

An example of the success of sales when an entire local or branch is organized to participate is plant gate sales. When plant gate sales are tried, the entire local is usually organized to take part. Key plants are picked out and schedules

are arranged so that YSAers sell at specific times and places.

The YSA should apply the same organizing efforts to the campuses. We can single out the most important campuses and high schools and begin to organize *daily* sales there. As regular sales are established at certain times and places, we can begin to build up a clientele and encourage these people to subscribe to our press.

It is important that the leadership of the local organize regular sales to encourage the participation of the entire local. Regular sales reports to the entire executive committee and weekly motivations in local meetings will help to keep sales in the front of everyone's minds and ensure that careful attention is paid to organizing regular sales. Charts that show the number of *Militants* and *ISRs* sold by each YSAer during the week or mobilizations for sales at special campus events are special effects that will encourage the participation of the entire local.

In order to involve non-campus YSAers in the sales on campuses, a regular schedule can be drawn up that will list certain campuses, times, and places for the non-campus YSAers to sell. Scheduling regular times and places for every YSAer to sell is important in increasing participation in the campus sales.

Several hints for organizing sales have come from locals that regularly sell *Militants* on campus. Their ideas will be helpful to other locals in organizing campus sales.

The New Brunswick local regularly goes through the dorms at Livingston College. Door-to-door dorm sales enable the local to sell its entire bundle each week (see article this issue).

The University of Texas fraction meets every Monday. A bundle of *Militants* is brought to each meeting to be signed out by the fraction. They then have them all week to sell between classes or at special meetings.

The Queens College fraction of four in New York sells an average of 50 *Militants* each week. Most of the bundle is sold in the cafeterias by starting at one end and systematically working

through the room, table by table. They also suggest that it is a good idea to find out which areas are good traffic areas on campus that would be good for sales. They keep a list of when and where each YSAer's classes are in order to help schedule sales times.

According to the top salesperson, *Militants* are sold for three to four hours a day, five days a week. The fraction is beginning to find that there are a few people that regularly buy and read *The Militant*. When a salesperson finds someone that has bought *The Militant*, he or she asks what they think of it and encourages them to buy it again.

The ISR will be particularly valuable to show people that are familiar with The Militant. We will want to point out articles that may be of particular interest to the person and encourage them to read certain articles if they have particular questions. It is always a good idea for everyone that signs out Militants to sell to take along a couple of ISRs also. When someone buys The Militant, they should also be shown the ISR.

The Sales Handbook, Part III of Organizing the YSA, will be helpful to locals in organizing their sales. The new weekly Militant column "The Militant Gets Around" will be useful in exchanging information on successful sales interventions. One important area locals should keep in mind when reporting experiences is high school sales. We will want to be able to report how the sales were organized in different areas, whether Militants were sold inside or outside the school, and so on.

LESLIE DORK
YSA National Office

#### **Organizing a Small Local**

#### . . . sales

Four of the eight YSAers in the New Brunswick local attend Livingston College, a school in the New Jersey state university system. Our campus *Militant* sales so far have been well organized and a source of income. The campus fraction has completely sold its bundle of 40 *Militants* every week by setting aside one evening a week for concentrated dormitory sales.

Every Tuesday evening between 7:00 and 8:00 three members of the campus fraction meet in one YSAer's room to discuss which dormitory to sell in. We start our door-to-door selling around 7:30 or 8:00.

One important advantage of door-to-door sales is that the personal contact allows a greater opportunity for political motivation of the paper and discussions with potential buyers. We ask the prospective reader whether she or he is familiar with *The Militant*. We explain that it is the best radical newspaper in the country and that it carries articles on the antiwar, women's liberation, Black and Chicano nationalist, and labor movements. Then we mention that it costs only a quarter, and is well worth the price.

If the salesperson is simultaneously aggressive, friendly, and obviously enthusiastic about *The Militant*, the customer often finds it difficult to resist buying a copy. We have found that the percentage of people willing to buy *The Militant* is much greater with personal contact in door-to-door dorm sales than in an anonymous selling situation, such as sales at cafeteria or movie lines

where the prospective reader can easily walk past the salesperson.

In different parts of the country an obstacle to organizing dorm sales has been prohibitive regulations. At Livingston College we have had no problem with restrictive regulations, but at Rutgers College—also part of the state university complex in New Brunswick—we once ran into a particularly zealous student advisor, who quoted university policy against solicitors. That evening we simply moved to another section of the dormitory and continued to sell. However, we are currently trying to get a permit to sell at Rutgers.

We have found that three YSAers going door-to-door can sell 35 *Militants* in about two hours. We save the other five copies for the campaign literature table we set up at Livingston College every Wednesday. We motivate each person that stops at the YSJP table to buy and read *The Militant*.

We expect to continue to sell out our weekly bundle of *Militants*, and we plan to increase our bundle size shortly. We also expect that our regular *Militant* sales work will be reflected in the growth and strengthening of the campus fraction this spring.

#### . . . finances

The New Brunswick YSA was chartered in February and currently has eight members. We have paid particular attention to finances and have good prospects for raising money. We have concentrated so far on five main areas of finances.

Our present sustainer is two dollars per YSAer per week. Only one YSAer in the local has a full-time job and three members are high school students. Local members understand the importance of making regular sustainer payments, and in March, \$48 was collected in sustainers.

To supplement our sustainer base we have sought donations from people that are sympathetic to the YSA. In March, the local raised \$23 through donations.

The attention the local pays to sales has resulted in a couple of regular categories of income in our budget.

Regular weekly sales of *The Militant* have been a source of income (see article above). Any local that organizes sales with the perspective of selling their entire bundle or even 70 percent of it will find sales in the income category. Sales of *The Militant* in March netted the local a profit of over \$19. March *ISR* sales gave us a profit of \$1.75.

We have also had successful literature sales, especially at Livingston College. We set up literature tables weekly and also at special events. For example, at a teach-in on political prisoners, we sold over \$12 of Pathfinder literature, campaign material, and posters. At a conference on Latin America that was attended by radical professors, we set up a Pathfinder table for two days and sold over \$30 of literature. Altogether, we made \$67 on literature sales in March.

Also, on Sunday evenings between business meetings and educationals the local serves dinner for \$1.25 per person. So far, much of the food

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has been donated by YSAers or their parents. Although sometimes YSAers complain about the quality of the meals, meals are a source of extra income—in March we raised \$13 by sponsoring Sunday dinners.

We also have arranged two speaking engagements for honoraria at Livingston College through

the regional speakers bureau, and we are helping to arrange for speakers at other schools in the area. In April, the New Brunswick YSA plans to supplement regular fund raising by holding a book sale.

The New Brunswick local's attention to finances has shown positive results. First, we have no large debts. Second, the local has paid 83 per-

cent of its fund drive quota and will surpass its original pledge of \$150. But the most important result of the stable financial situation is that it allows for the expansion of all of our political work.

WILLIAM WARRICK New Brunswick YSA

#### **Socialist Summer Schools**

Each year the YSA and Socialist Workers Party organize "socialist summer schools" in all the regional centers. These summer schools are the best vehicle our movement has found for the intensive education of our cadre, and they will be a focus of activity for the entire YSA this summer.

The summer schools are especially exciting for YSA members in regional locals and at-large areas, because they provide an opportunity to participate in classes with more experienced YSA and party members. Most of the summer schools will include special lectures by national leaders of the SWP.

Education on the basics of Marxist theory and questions of revolutionary strategy and tactics is essential to developing revolutionary cadre, and is as important a part of the YSA's political activity as sales, antiwar work, or anything else. Nevertheless, education is often neglected in the press of other activities.

For this reason the summer schools take on extra importance. The summer schools are so successful not because activity in the mass movement slows down significantly during the summer, but because the classes are planned as a regular part of local activity and every YSA member plans

her or his schedule to be able to attend the classes and do the reading.

This year the summer schools will culminate in the Socialist Activists and Educational Conference to be held in Oberlin in August. The suggested subjects for the summer schools tie in with the planned educational sessions at Oberlin. Each of the local summer schools will be taking up at least two or three of the topics listed below:

The United Front vs. the Popular Front
The Transitional Program
Revolutionary Socialist Electoral Policy
Revolutionary Strategy in the Labor Movement
Stalinism

Course outlines for these classes are being prepared by the National Education Department of the SWP and will be sent to locals by the first week in May.

**Principles of Leninist Party Organization** 

The summer schools are primarily internal education for the YSA and SWP—they are not elementary classes on our basic ideas. However, locals may wish to invite YSJPers or other prospective members to attend, and participating in the

summer schools can help recruit these people to the YSA.

Some YSAers for one reason or another will be unable to move into regional centers to attend summer school, but they should make education a priority during the summer anyway. YSA members in this situation may be able to commute to some class sessions (usually held twice a week) or get tapes or speakers from the regional center. In addition, copies of the course outlines may be ordered from the National Education Department of the SWP (14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014). Taped lectures by leading socialist educators and the Education for Socialists bulletins are also available from the National Education Department. (A list of these bulletins appeared in the March 3 YS Organizer.)

The development of YSA cadre that will take place through the summer schools and the Socialist Activists and Educational Conference will be vital preparation for the fall offensive.

ANDY ROSE
YSA National Chairman

### **AAJP** in Detroit High Schools

The Detroit campaign committee made a special effort to reach Black high school students with the SWP campaign during Andrew Pulley's Detroit tour. Our work was extremely successful—190 African-Americans endorsed the campaign during the tour. The national campaign now has a total of 330 Black endorsers concentrated in three Detroit high schools (see YS Organizer, March 10, 1972).

The number of Black endorsers gave the Detroit local unique opportunities for African-Americans for Jenness and Pulley (AAJP) work in the high schools. The campaign committee decided to concentrate its energies on building an AAJP in one high school in order not to overextend its forces and to build a strong base from which to work. A citywide AAJP meeting was called to determine in which school there was the most potential for AAJP activity. We sent a mailing to all AAJPers in Detroit and phoned or met with the most active campaign supporters.

Unfortunately, many endorsers received the mailing, which was sent bulk rate, after the meeting had been held. Also, the Detroit YSA head-quarters, where the meeting was held, is in a very

poor location. As a result, the meeting was quite small. However, the AAJP endorsers that came to the meeting were from Mumford High School, so we decided to concentrate on building campaign activities at Mumford.

At the meeting we projected a class series to be taught by local SWP candidates on topics such as the need for a Black party, Black students and the Vietnam war, and the role of women in the Black liberation struggle. The classes will involve the Free Angela Davis Committee and the Association of Black Students at Mumford. The first class will be held at a church near the school to make it easy for AAJPers to attend.

One problem we face in starting the classes at Mumford is getting the AAJP recognized. The Detroit Board of Education has a rule restricting political clubs in the high schools that denies the right of a number of student organizations to be recognized. As a result, the AAJP cannot hold meetings or do anything in its own name at Mumford until it is recognized. Campaign supporters are trying to get a sponsor for the AAJP and, if necessary, will launch a student rights fight to get recognition.

We have been successful in involving AAJPers from Mumford in the regular SWP forums and other activities of the campaign, but the real gains will be made when we can organize directly at Mumford.

We have also sent a special forum mailing to all AAJPers in Detroit, and plan to send regular mailings that include items such as the "Open Letter to Shirley Chisholm" and Jenness and Pulley's statement on busing. The specific activities that we are encouraging AAJPers to participate in include leafleting for forums, the April 22 antiwar demonstrations, and Abortion Action Week, and selling The Militant with YSAers. The AAJPers have also been encouraged to establish anti-STRESS committees in their schools. (STRESS-Stop The Robberies Enjoy Safe Streets-is a special police unit that is given almost unlimited powers in the Black community in Detroit. STRESS agents have already killed or wounded several Blacks. See The Militant, April 14, 1972.)

MACEO DIXON Detroit YSA

#### Socialist Fundamentals Education Series

The Seattle education committee has worked out an educational series that seems to meet the needs of our local. Since most of the YSAers in the local have not had extensive education in the principles of our movement, we felt that the most pressing need was for classes on the basic concepts of socialism. We decided on an educational series based on several fundamental socialist works, including Introduction to Marxist Economic Theory, Socialism: Utopian and Scientific, Imperialism: the Highest Stage of Capitalism, the Communist Manifesto, and Socialism on Trial. In addition, we scheduled one class on the worldwide youth radicalization.

The classes are held after YSA business meetings to enable all YSAers to participate. Instead of a lecture format, the teacher gives a brief introduction and then encourages discussion around a prepared list of questions. The class is not bound to these questions, and YSAers often bring

up other questions and remarks. We have found that this format stimulates discussion, particularly among new members.

Attendance at the classes is not considered an assignment, however, all YSAers are encouraged to attend. Each week in the executive committee report the organizer briefly motivates the class scheduled for that week and the importance of educating our membership. During the intermission between the business meeting and the class, YSAers are reminded to buy the reading material for the next class.

The classes have aroused so much interest that sometimes the discussion lasts over two hours. Newer members often discuss the readings between classes, which stimulates interest in education and reading in general.

We feel it is helpful for new YSAers to study the basic readings in Marxism as a part of a class series that includes thorough discussions with more

experienced YSAers. This avoids a mechanical interpretation of the ideas presented and helps in applying the readings to today. In Seattle, our education committee meetings are open to anyone who has proposals or ideas in order to encourage feedback from YSAers on the educational program and to keep in touch with the needs of the local.

LISA POTASH Seattle YSA

#### YSA Materials for the Spring

YOUNG SOCIALIST STRATEGY FOR '72

The pamphlet Young Socialist Strategy for '72 is the most important of all the recent materials. It includes the reports and resolutions approved at the Eleventh National Convention of the YSA. The new pamphlet contains the decisions made by the YSA on its political perspectives and tasks for the coming year. Young Socialist Strategy '72 is valuable both for YSAers' reference and as a recruitment tool. By reading the convention resolutions and reports, a person will be able to gain a much better understanding of the YSA's positions on the different struggles going on today. YSAers can point out specific sections that will be of most interest to activists in the women's liberation, Black, Chicano, antiwar, and student movements. YSJPers will be especially interested in the YSA's program, and should be encouraged to buy the pamphlet.

We want to sell the Young Socialist Strategy for '72 to every activist we come into contact with through campaign activities, renewal teams, regional work, campus literature tables, and work in the mass movements. This pamphlet will play an important role in recruitment work as one of the tools we should use to convince people that they should join the YSA. Young Socialist Strategy for '72 is 108 pages and costs \$1.25. For orders of 10 or more, the cost is 75 cents each. If orders have not already been placed, locals and at-large members should send the coupon below to the National Office as soon as possible.

BUTTONS AND POSTERS

The YSA's buttons and posters have a wide appeal among radicalizing youth and are excellent fund raisers.

The "Repeal All Abortion Laws" buttons and women's history posters sell particularly well on campuses and at meetings where there are many women in attendance, as well as on all literature tables. By offering a special discount at the last WONAAC Conference in Boston, over 100 sets of the women's history posters were sold. The response to the ad in *The Militant* for both the buttons and the women's history posters has been very good. Wherever possible, locals should try to get free ads for these materials in the campus and women's liberation press.

The "Self-Determination for Palestine" buttons have been ordered by several Arab Student Organizations. YSAers should attempt to get Arab groups and committees that are involved in the defense of the Palestinian liberation struggle to take consignments of these buttons. Of course, they should also be prominently displayed on YSA literature tables.

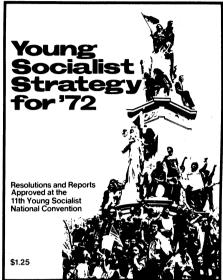
The Malcolm X poster and the "By Any Means Necessary" button also sell very well, especially at activities that are scheduled on special dates such as May 19, Malcolm X's birthday.

Among the most popular materials the YSA produced have been the Attica buttons and posters. Already 7,500 "Mylai, Kent, Jackson, Attica" buttons and over 3,000 posters have been sold.

The order form below lists all the buttons and posters the YSA N. O. has in stock. Locals and at-large members should be sure to have an adequate supply of materials for spring activities.

By having well organized sales of the YSA's buttons and posters and the new Young Socialist Strategy for '72 pamphlet, locals will be able to introduce new people to the YSA and use the materials to raise money for the YSA.

#### LOUISE GOODMAN YSA National Office



YOUNG SOCIALIST PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM  LOCAL OR AT-LARGE AREA  ADDRESS	BUTTONS (red button and YSA button: 15c under 20; 10c for 20 or more. Bring Me Home Alive: 30c under 20; 18c for 20 or more. All others: 25c for under 20; 15c for 20 or more. Discounts apply for any order that totals more than 20 buttons.)
Young Socialist Strategy for '72 (\$1.25 ea. for less than 10; 75c ea. for 10 or more)	NUMBER COST  1. "Repeal All Abortion Laws"  2. "Self-Determination for Palestine"  3. "YSA": red on yellow  blue on green
POSTERS (Women's History Set: \$2.00 under 20; 60c for 20 or more.  Recruitment poster: 15c under 50; 7c for 50 or more. All others: 50c for under 20; 20c for 20 or more.)	black on tan 4. "By Any Means Necessary" 5. "Bring Me Home Alive" 6. "Viva Che": red green
Women's History Set     Recruitment Poster-Reasons to Oppose Capitalism     Malcolm X     Attica	orange  7. Red button  8. "Bring the Troops Home Now"  9. "Mylai, Kent, Jackson, Attica"
5. Arab Revolution 6. Viva Cuba	All orders from at-large members or from locals that owe the National Office more than \$100 must be PREPAID.

#### Speakers Bureau '72

Speakers Bureau '72 has been in operation only a month and a half in the New York-New Jersey region (see The YS Organizer, March 3, 1972). In this short period of time, Speakers Bureau '72 has arranged contracts on a number of campuses and is establishing itself as a source of radical speakers. YSAers around the region have participated in lining up speakers on their campuses.

#### **EVALUATION AND PROJECTIONS**

The following is a summary of the first major evaluation of this work, projections for April and May, and some initial thinking about summer activity.

Four pieces of material have been printed so far—a folded leaflet, two one-sided promotional leaflets, and a business reply post card. The first mailing, which included the folded leaflet and a business reply card, went to every college and prep school in the region addressed to "Speakers Bureau, c/o Student Government." Not one call, reply card, or letter came in response to this 500 piece mailing.

The second mailing—which included all three leaflets and the business reply card—was addressed to "President, Student Government." Unlike the first mailing, a good number of calls, return reply cards, letters, and requests for speakers were received. Apparently many schools do not have speakers bureaus or at least do not call

them that; but most do have student government presidents. Once the mailing reaches a student government president, she or he can see that it is delivered to the appropriate committee.

#### CAMPUS VISITS

A representative of the speakers bureau has begun to visit campuses to line up speaking engagements. It was felt that personal contact would be the most fruitful approach, and experience has already shown this to be true. So far, four campuses have been visited and speaking engagements have been scheduled at all of them. Time is spent most productively when several appointments are scheduled in advance.

For example, the University of Connecticut was visited recently. The day before the visit, appointments were set up with the student government president and the heads of a committee and student group that had sponsored speakers in the past. The speakers bureau representative went straight to the student activities office in the student union and made appointments with the chairpeople of the Women's Radical Union, Puerto Rican Student Movement, International Students Club, and the campus Vietnam Veterans.

These visits were valuable in several ways. The leaders of these organizations were familiarized with the wide range of speakers the bureau had to offer, and in many cases the students seemed to be impressed with the bureau's seriousness and

genuine interest in building the movements for social change.

During April and May, we plan to continue these visits and also to send out another full mailing. The mailing will be sent out soon because student government leaders have just been elected and money is being budgeted now for fall speakers programs. Also, another promotional leaflet stressing topics relating to the November elections, such as "The Power of Youth in '72," "Options for Antiwar Action in '72," and "Women's Political Power in '72" has been prepared. The mailing will be sent to student government presidents at every college and prep school in the New York-New Jersey region and to every person that has been contacted by the bureau this semester.

The cover letter will encourage them to schedule appointments with speakers bureau representatives to plan future speaking engagements and films. A couple of summer meetings have already been set up by telephone.

During the summer when most schools are not in session, we expect to be able to schedule a number of speakers. YSAers who set up literature and campaign tables at summer schools, sign up endorsers, and organize YSJP meetings on campuses will also be able to take *Speakers Bureau* '72 literature with them to distribute.

CATHY PERKUS Lower Manhattan YSA

#### **Abortion Referendum at UW**

Washington is the only state that has liberalized its abortion law by popular referendum. The law states that it is not a crime for a woman to have an abortion, but it restricts a woman's right to choose by requiring her husband's or parents' permission if she is married or under 18 years old. The law permits abortions to be performed in clinics as well as in hospitals. The abortion committee at the University of Washington (UW) planned a campaign to bring the issue of a woman's right to choose to the center of public attention on campus.

The student medical clinic provides free gynecological services. The abortion committee decided to raise the demand for abortions to be performed at UW's Hall Health Services. It was felt that this demand, together with a campaign around a woman's right to choose would provide a focus for abortion work.

The student government elections provided the campus abortion committee with an opportunity to reach the student body. A referendum question calling for abortion on demand at Hall Health Services was placed on the ballot by the abortion committee. Through the referendum, abortion became a central issue on campus. The abortion committee saturated the campus with publicity. In addition, the *UW Daily* opened its columns, editorial pages, and letters to the editor

# the organizer

A WEEKLY ACTION PUBLICATION OF THE YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE, A MULTINA-TIONAL REVOLUTIONARY SOCIALIST YOUTH ORGANIZATION.

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page to debate on the question. Every candidate for student government office was forced to take a stand on the issue.

During the campaign "Birth Right," a campus anti-abortion group, anonymously put up anti-abortion posters showing fetuses in trash cans over the caption: "cancelled for life." Because of the vigorous campaign the abortion committee has been waging, "Birth Right" has finally agreed to debate the abortion committee. This will be the first such public debate since "Right to Life" lost the statewide abortion referendum two years ago.

Of the 30,000 students on campus, 4,000 voted in the election. Despite the fact that the referendum lost by 183 votes, the abortion committee made many gains through the referendum. It was the first public campaign around the demand for abortions at Hall Health, and it showed that abortion is still an important issue even in a state with a liberalized law. The referendum helped build a strong core of activists that will continue the campaign.

One lesson the abortion committee learned is that even in a state with a liberalized abortion law, there are still a large number of people that do not believe in a woman's right to choose. This shows that a continuing educational campaign is needed. In addition, the fact that the city and UW hospitals do not have the facilities to meet women's needs for abortions and that the few available clinics are overbooked requires a campaign around the need for abortions to be available to any woman.

The abortion committee is constantly trying to invlove new forces in the campaign for a woman's right to choose. On March 8, International Women's Day, an abortion waiting room, a reader's theater, and a women's abortion speak-out were sponsored by the group. Many of the women that attended these activities were new to the abortion movement.

The abortion committee is now researching the abortion facilities available in Washington and on campus to gather data to back up the campaign to make abortions available. As part of Abortion Action Week, the abortion committee will be gathering testimony from UW women that have had abortions. The major activity for Abortion Action Week will be a debate that the abortion committee hopes to involve a number of campus women's groups in building.

JANE STRADER LISA POTASH Seattle YSA