

SOME QUESTIONS

- (1) [Do you want to say that a woman who does not see her oppression as part of the capitalist oppression has no right to protest it? That a woman who is beaten by her husband, and when she runs to her family beaten because of running away, and when returning, beaten for having run away, has no right to join a movement which aims at protecting her, without realising the economic cause of her being mistreated?]

I know of a woman who was beaten for having miscarried (the man had "spent money on her"). Although she was suffering from sickle cell anemia, (the reason for the miscarriage) the hospital staff had to plead with the husband not to punish her too much. But I forgot, you find wife beating a laughing matter, because wives are more kissed than beaten. Wives are also circumcised, so that sex is not enjoyable for them. Sex can also be abused. Have you thought about what an agreement is, when it is reached by beating one party into submission? You said you won't get involved with wife-beating, because by the time you intervene they have reconciled. Can you imagine an adult existence where you have to fear personal punishment for your actions, like a child, and have to make personal concessions to be permitted something? (if I get good marks at school, you will let me watch TV) Or if you agree that it is nonsense to deny a woman the right to protest against such an existence if she does not see it as a symptom

of capitalist exploitation .

(2) -- do you want to argue that a woman who is part^{of} or active in a purely feminist movement has no right to join a revolutionary movement?

Or do you want to say that women's movement won't be successful if it does not fight capitalism? If this is so, we must certainly come to the point where only revolutionary demands will be the next step. The more reason to encourage us to push on!

I think, both (1) and (2) cannot possibly be your direction of argument. As for whether I consider women's exploitation apart of capitalist exploitation, this is something ^{my} may have wanted to find out from me. I should answer that it is, to a great extent, but it goes deeper than that. I can imagine a socialist and a Marxist and a Revolutionary and a Fascist, and a capitalist male answer to a woman who wants to write a paper but the children demand attention: "Please do look after the children, I am not a woman to do that". I can also imagine men rape women for no economic reason. I can also imagine any male protest household chores by saying he is not a woman. I can also imagine a Marxist Revolutionary considering wife-beating a laughing matter, and nothing which is in the way of justice and freedom. There will be men who will find our aims justified, but many more who will ridicule or oppose them. This is for men to decide. For us it is to continue our struggle for justice and freedom.