

WHAT

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SDS

Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) is an independent radical organization dedicated to the fight for basic social change in this country. What is basic social change and who will bring it? Basic social changes in this society involve ending poverty and establishing an equitable distribution of wealth, putting control of national, state, and local institutions into the hands of the masses of people whose lives are directly effected by those institutions, destroying racism, and bringing an end to imperialism and its social, economic and political exploitation. Such changes require a broad based movement of working people, poor people, minority people, students, etc. A fault of many SDSers has been to hold too narrow a view of how nation wide social change will come about as seen in an emphasis on "student power." Students are one segment, a very important segment, of the movement for social change. From students come intellectual leaders and organizers and a movement to challenge the role of the university as a perpetuator and even instigator of imperialism and social injustice.

SDS stands for an end to imperialism. Imperialism is the control and exploitation, directly or indirectly, of another countries social, economic, and/or political institutions through such means as media control, capital investment, puppet governments, the CIA, and the Armed Forces. SDS is opposed to working within the Democratic or Republican parties since both are controlled by imperialists (big businesses) and cannot therefore be forces for basic social change no matter how "liberal" they may appear.

We reject the idea the universities are isolated academic institutions. Universities across the country, including San Francisco State are perpetuating imperialism, racism, and the Vietnam War. San Francisco State is training military pilots in its AFROTC program. The minority student population was declining until organized student pressure forced a change last year. While corporate profits soar working peoples' wages are eaten away by inflation. At San Francisco State we have an established business department yet there is a lack of labor history and union organizing classes. Classrooms are producing intellectual apologists and cynics rather than people who recognize problems and work for change. Universities function in the interest of the corporate elite whose main interest is not in meeting the social needs of the people but in amasing profits.

Some continuing and newly suggested working groups are the labor committee, anti-draft organizing, women's caucus, department caucuses, classroom organizing, and agit-prop theater. There is also a discussion group being formed for new people interested in SDS.

FIRST MEETING

WED. 25th

NOON