



Towards a Socialist Aotearoa
**Programme of the New
Communist Party of
Aotearoa**





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Worth Fighting For

Rewi Alley

The world that we shall make
is free of exploiting classes,
without racism, without war. A world
now largely ruled by the few
who hold their own by special
brands of thought control,
will be changed to one where truth
is supreme; a world free
of poisoned air, polluted waters,
where every hill that ought to grow a tree,
grows one; where
rivers are controlled,
deserts made fertile again; where
mankind moves closer
in respect born of understanding
and in warmth; a world where
disease killers are cleaned out
and no longer shocked with
incurables rotting away; where
people learn how to farm the oceans
for the common good; become at home
in space as on the earth; a world
in which children are educated
for life, creatively, learning how
to live with nature and learn from

her; where art, music, culture,
reach heights undreamt of, inspiring
working folk, who make all, to take
new paths, scale new heights, find
new sources of power, and make
our whole earth into a garden ...
cleansing minds of murderous lusts
that always aim for selfish gain
a world in which every living
child is sure of love and protection,
with growing fingers turned
to the sheer joy of fashioning
better ways; where the dead hand
of the past is lifted; the incubus
of irrational thought swept away
so that man can reach out to the stars
sure of his destiny; a world that
the great majority of all people want ...
a world worth living for, worth struggling
for,
giving all for Man to be.

Beijing, January 19, 1970

1

2 *Rewi Alley (1897-1987) was one of the great New Zealand Communists of the 20th Century*
3 *and a member of the Communist Party of China from 1931 until his death. He fought in the*
4 *Chinese Revolution and helped lead China's socialist construction.*

5

6 **Our Situation: Capitalism Fails the Working Class**

7 Humankind is in transition between two social eras of history: capitalism and socialism.
8 Capitalism has seen humanity divide into two classes: the bourgeoisie and the proletariat, a
9 ruling class that controls the wealth and a class that must work if it wants to survive. In this
10 system, we see intolerable injustices done unto these workers - exorbitant rents that reduce
11 their already meagre wages further still, the theft of profits owed to the working class by
12 capitalist business owners and their lackeys, the police force. It's in this divide that New
13 Zealand finds itself today. It is here, with both feet planted firmly on the side of the working
14 class, that the science of Marxism-Leninism proves the most valuable resource possible in the
15 fight against the corruption and immorality of the capitalist system.

16 Capitalist relations began to take firm hold in New Zealand with the mass colonisation of New
17 Zealand by the British Crown. Today it has reached the advanced stage of imperialism and
18 monopoly capitalism, and continues to be chokehold Aotearoa's workers, whether Māori,
19 Pākehā or other tauwiwi. Most of our resources and industry are controlled by international
20 monopoly corporations.

21 Important sections of the New Zealand bourgeoisie are closely tied to foreign capital and
22 share the same class interests of subjugating the working class and extracting all they can out
23 of the Global South, particularly in Polynesia. New Zealand capitalism has, since its earliest
24 days, has been almost entirely reliant on foreign capital - initially that of the United Kingdom,
25 and today the United States.

26 **The Demise of Social Democracy**

27 New Zealand in the 1980s was an early adopter of neoliberalism. Under the guidance of the
28 Fourth Labour Government Roger Douglas as finance minister, all trade unionism was wiped
29 out with 2017 union density figures down -51% compared to their highest in 1980. The neo-
30 liberal economic reforms of the Fourth Labour Government were not unique in their content,
31 many of which were consistent with earlier and concurrent policies in Britain under Margaret
32 Thatcher and the United States under Ronald Reagan; and also with the Structural Adjustment
33 Programmes imposed by the International Monetary Fund on a number of countries. What
34 made them unique was that they were voluntarily undertaken by the supposed party of social
35 democracy rather than imposed by imperialism or a right-wing party; and the extent and
36 ideological nature of them. The effectiveness of its implementation is not to be underrated.
37 New Zealand adopted neoliberal policies at an even faster rate than in Pinochet's fascist Chile,
38 where the ruling party was backed by a recent military coup's power supporting them.

39 Under these capitalist reforms, New Zealand has seen social welfare plummet - the mass
40 privatization of public assets and services has seen the very richest of our national and
41 international bourgeoisie - landlords, CEO's, and financiers - grow their wealth to never-
42 before-seen heights of extravagance. This of course came at the expense of the poorest in our
43 society, with bus and train fares skyrocketing, public housing no longer available to those who
44 need it, and rental standards largely left up to landlords to self-manage.

45 This mass-sell period produced a playground for the international bourgeoisie who moved in
46 and bought up big sections of land and business in New Zealand. A brief period of prosperity
47 following this heralded the end of Aotearoa's 'old left'. The consequences of our ruling parties'
48 obsession with neoliberalism has been rising homelessness, poor employment conditions,
49 the dismantling of our radical unions, and countless early deaths at the hands of poor home
50 standards, underfunded healthcare and shaky job stability. Neoliberalism has murdered a
51 generation of our country's people, and the only blame placed is upon the ones who died for
52 'not being competitive enough' or 'not being smart enough' to cope with the unfair suffering
53 done to them.

54 Since the rise of neoliberalism, the majority of New Zealand industry has been shut down,
55 meaning we do not actually produce many goods ourselves and despite our global economic
56 position on paper, have quite low productive forces. Despite a small export of imperialist
57 finance capital, New Zealand's economy largely exports raw materials and imports
58 manufactured goods - typical of an economy subjugated by international finance capital.

59 This development has led to modern New Zealand becoming reliant on the US for military and
60 economic needs and sacrificing its political and economic independence because of it. From
61 the 5000 tonnes of yellowcake uranium passing through New Zealand ports each year to our
62 participation in the 5 Eyes surveillance bloc and the NATO Global Partnership, our
63 government is an active participant in US imperialism and the subjugation of the working class
64 and oppressed nations all over the world.

65 New Zealand's capital is shown to be accepting of this junior role through its dismissal of and
66 general opposition towards foreign socialist countries and movements of national liberation
67 and self-determination. In modern times, New Zealand has gone to war in Korea, Vietnam,
68 Afghanistan and Iraq - murdering the proletariat in these countries for monetary incentive at
69 the orders of the UK and the US. Both the left and right wing of the bourgeois government are
70 guilty of this, even the supposedly "radical" parties.

71 From the beginning of New Zealand's colonisation the interests of capitalists have clashed
72 with those of the workers, and this has manifested in a long history of labour struggle,
73 including that of our predecessor parties in the 20th century.

74 **History of exploitation – working class & Māori**

75 The growth of national identity following the end of World War One is largely what led to the
76 beginning of political independence from Britain and has manifested today as a strongly anti-
77 war and humanitarian general consciousness. This comes in stark contrast to the jingoism and
78 interventionism of the owning class in our country, who seek to protect their profits at the
79 price of all else. We see this today in places like Ihumātao, where Māori land is taken and used
80 by monopoly corporations.

81 In the 19th century, Britain was reeling with economic crisis. Colonisation served two useful
82 purposes: claiming new raw materials and exporting surplus labour (workers without work).
83 This was justified through race theory, which portrayed indigenous people as inferior.

84 However, direct Crown intervention in Aotearoa was expensive. Until the late 1830s, unofficial
85 actors – missionaries, traders and explorers – moved ahead of the Crown. The Crown only
86 became directly involved when they developed a scheme of selling land in the colonies to
87 prospective settlers, thereby funding colonisation.

88 To establish capitalism, the Crown had to transform the relationship between people and the
89 land. Whereas iwi and hapu lived off the land in a proto-feudal style of economic organisation,
90 capitalism required that the majority be separated from the land, forced to live off meagre
91 wages (a process that had first been carried out with the dispossession of European peasants,
92 such as the Highland clearances.). That required systematically depriving iwi of their land.

93 Initially, a fraudulent Treaty was intended to establish the basis for Crown and settler
94 ownership (with later struggles demanding that the Treaty be honoured). From 1840 to 1870,
95 the Crown and settlers engaged in "rampant expropriation" of the land, as well as setting up a
96 political infrastructure (with parliament established in 1854 on the British model). This
97 colonisation drive led inevitably to the Land Wars, as iwi were not keen to part with their land.

98 Māori were initially excluded from production, driven onto 'unproductive' land. Wage labour
99 was mainly provided by European settlers, until urbanisation in the 20th century led to more
100 Māori joining the urban workforce – 8% of Māori lived in 'defined urban areas' in 1926,
101 compared to 41.1% by 1996. By the late 20th century, urban and rural Māori would combine
102 forces in leading a new wave of resistance against the encroachment of neoliberalism and
103 capitalism.

104 As a people most exploited by the capitalist and neoliberal system, the liberation of Māori
105 must be a primary goal of any movement to bring equality to New Zealand. Socialism is the
106 only thing that can truly free the Māori from the chains of colonial slavery. At Ihumātao for
107 instance, Māori capitalist elders told the Māori leading the resistance to stop. These capitalists,
108 Māori or not, serve only the interests of neo-liberalism and neo-imperialism - co-opting their
109 titles and rank within society to further the influence of modern capitalism within groups
110 whose interests are diametrically opposed to it.

111 **Imperialism around the World**

112 The victory of US/NATO imperialism against the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR)
113 and the working class' gains after the Great October Socialist Revolution in 1989-1991
114 achieved the main goal of the global bourgeoisie since 1918. This, as JV Stalin predicted over a
115 half-century earlier, ushered in an "era of the blackest reaction in all the capitalist and colonial
116 countries".

117 Since the Gulf War began in 1990, the world has seen a near-unchallenged global domination
118 by the US and its NATO alliance. At the moment the United States has troops on every single
119 continent and over 800 international military bases. Between 2015 and 2017, US troops alone
120 fought in 76 different countries. This figure even excludes the countries where imperialism is
121 represented by local proxies - a number almost impossible to ever really pin down. This has
122 been expanded during the Obama and Trump presidencies with the strengthening of Bush II's
123 AFRICOM and the US presence on the African continent.

124 The current imperialist offensive takes a four-pronged form: military expansion and
125 aggression; colour revolutions in capitalist countries; neoliberal extractivist reforms pushed
126 down by the IMF and the World Bank; and attempted peaceful evolution and velvet
127 revolutions in the socialist countries. All four of these must be considered as part of one
128 cohesive strategy.

129 Military expansion and aggression remains a key part of imperialism's strategy. Several puppet
130 states such as Kosovo in Serbia, Rojava in Syria, 'American' Samoa and the Republic of Korea
131 are maintained exclusively through the US/NATO military presence.

132 Increasingly, however, the US and its imperialist allies are looking for other ways of ensuring
133 their global control and profit extraction that are not as blatant as an invasion after the mass
134 opposition to the invasion of Vietnam and the Gulf War.

135 Organisations such as the National Endowment for Democracy and other CIA slush funds
136 allow for US imperialism to attempt to topple governments and states from the inside-out

137 without having an open presence. This was first seen with the success of the 'peaceful
138 evolution' to capitalism in the Soviet Union and European socialist countries, and has since
139 been repeated in countries such as the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, where US-funded
140 colour revolution organisations such as Otpor! managed to collapse the legitimate Milosevic
141 government and bring a final end to Yugoslavia.

142 The 'structural adjustment' policies of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund
143 are another less-noticeable way in which imperialism takes control of Third World countries.
144 These countries, in need of financial aid often because of US imperialism's blockades and
145 sanctions, are forced to turn to the supranational organisations of US imperialism, which in
146 turn for giving 'aid' require the country to implement neoliberal reforms and restructure their
147 economy to favour the profits of the international monopoly.

148 What makes all of these so successful for the US/NATO imperialists is that they do not appear
149 to be warfare. Seemingly progressive politicians can talk about cutting the military budget or
150 closing military bases, yet the actual funding given to imperialism and overseas aggression
151 can meanwhile be increasing through the budgets of intelligence, foreign 'aid', etc. It is
152 important for modern-day anti-imperialists to be aware of all the different ways in which
153 imperialism functions.

154 **The Struggle of the Party and Masses**

155 **Struggle of the working masses post-1995**

156 The onset of neoliberalism saw the mass struggle of the 20th century almost entirely crumble,
157 thanks in part to the ineffectiveness and betrayal of the leadership of the working class: social
158 democratic, communist, or otherwise. The class collaborationism of social democracy and the
159 labour aristocracy, particularly within the unions, left the working masses powerless to fight
160 back against the betrayal of the Fourth Labour Government and its Labour Relations Act 1987,
161 and then the Employment Relations Act of 1991 which destroyed the union system formed by
162 social democracy. In 1985, 43.5% of the labour force was in a union. By 1998, this had dropped
163 to 17.7%.

164 In the twenty years since, the union movement has largely been unable to recover, despite
165 achieving some respite, such as the restoration of legal recognition for unions in 2000. In 2018,
166 only 13.29% of the labour force was in a union. The current active workers' movement is
167 centered around a few unions: FIRST Union, Unite Union, the New Zealand Nurses
168 Organisation and the two teachers' unions in particular have been prominent with strikes.

169 It must be noted however that these are all economic strikes, with political strikes largely
170 unheard of in New Zealand. Even mass demonstrations that serve a rather bland purpose, such
171 as the Australian Council of Trade Union's Change the Rules campaign, are not present in New
172 Zealand. When the Council of Trade Unions finds a campaign that goes beyond the scope of
173 workplace collective bargaining, it almost entirely takes the form of parliamentary advocacy.

174 Clearly, a genuine mass workers' movement is a long way from existing, and an important task
175 of Communists and all class-oriented workers is to not only claw back from the current
176 position but fight for new gains and a class-oriented, independent mass union movement.

177 Recent decades have also seen the continuation of various other popular struggles, such as
178 Māori rights, which has seen flashpoints such as the protests over the Foreshore and Seabed
179 Act of 2004 and over the attempted development at Ihumātao. The lack of significant success
180 in this struggle can be attributed to several factors such as the organisational and analytical
181 methods employed by these activists. Focusing almost entirely on race and not at all class and
182 often viewing capitalism as a Pākehā creation, the movement has taken the form of both
183 unorganised protest and bourgeois politics. The Māori Party created for this purpose does not
184 serve as any form of a national liberation movement but a party of Māori capital.

185 **The Party and a new mass workers' movement**

186 The New Communist Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist organisation, distinguished
187 from Trotskyist, Maoist or anarchist groups. These are usually notable for their "protest-left"
188 sloganeering, and adventurist tactics, typically manifested in appeals to government and
189 continued.

190 The New Communist Party is rooted in the working class, as the leading potential force for
191 revolution, while also being open to all who share its aims and ideas. The Party also seeks to
192 organise itself in every major area of economic, social, cultural and political struggle.

193 The task of every Communist and class-oriented worker is twofold: to strengthen the workers'
194 movement where it already exists, increasing union coverage and strengthening rank-and-file
195 power towards political struggle; and expanding the workers' movement where it does not by
196 creating new class-oriented unions.

197 This means that the New Communist Party of Aotearoa seeks to have a strong base in trade
198 unions – the main bodies of the class-conscious workers – and draw its membership from this
199 level. As part of this, we support the growth of trade unions and their expansion from
200 economic struggle into political and revolutionary areas.

201 **Revolutionary Community Unionism**

202 The New Communist Party also recognises that the proletariat exists outside the workplace
203 and that in order to be fully effective, we need to be backing the working class outside the
204 workplace. The Party has elevated the theory of the standard form of this organising, tenant
205 unionism, into a unionism of a new type – revolutionary community unionism.

206 The Community Union, as a mass organisation of working communities, should have the
207 capacity to focus on broader issues such as public works, amenities and community life as the
208 working masses see fit, not just tenancy agreements. In this way, the Community Union
209 should have the ability to develop into essentially proto-Soviet power channelled into the
210 form and name of a union. As it grows, Community Union branches will increasingly function
211 as democratic and popular organs.

212 The Community Union also plays an important role in uniting various class strata under the
213 leadership of the working class. The focus on the community in a broader scope than just
214 tenants allows for home-owning petty bourgeoisie a route to follow the working class in a
215 revolutionary struggle through their shared interest in a strong community with public
216 services and amenities. Unemployed people and beneficiaries who would normally not be
217 able to engage with a Communist Party and the workers' movement can also be brought in
218 through their own concerns about rent, housing condition etc.

219 **Structure of the Revolutionary Party**

220 The party is organised under the principle of democratic centralism, explained by the
221 following principles of organisation:

222 a) Leading organs of the Party at all levels shall be elected and shall be
223 responsible to the Party organisation or conference that elected them.

224 b) After free and thorough discussion, decisions taken by the Party shall be
225 implemented.

226 i. The individual is subordinate to the organisation.

227 ii. The minority is subordinate to the majority.

228 iii. The lower level is subordinate to the higher level.

229 iv. The entire membership is subordinate to the Central Committee and to
230 the National Congress.

231 c) Leading organs of the Party shall always pay close attention to the reports and
232 views of lower Party organisations and of the masses of Party members and they shall
233 constantly study concrete experiences and render prompt assistance in solving problems.

234 d) Lower Party organisations shall give regular and special reports about their
235 work to the organisations above them and of the masses of Party members and they shall
236 request instructions promptly concerning problems which require the decision of a higher
237 Party organisation.

238 e) All Party organisations shall follow the principle of collective leadership and
239 all-important questions shall be decided collectively.

240 This structure, developed through the Bolshevik Party's struggle, ensures that the Party is
241 democratic and able to decisively act and wage revolution.

242 The New Communist Party rejects revisionist theories of party building that liquidate its
243 proletarian or revolutionary essence. Many formerly proud Parties around the world have
244 turned to revisionism and have either been cost dearly or collapsed entirely.

245 Some notable revisionist trends in this area are playing down of revolutionary or communist
246 aspects of the party's identity in an attempt to be more presentable; abandonment of
247 democratic centralism; rejection of mass work purely in favour of Parliamentarianism; and
248 rejection of revolution in favour of a permanent 'democratic republic'. All of these are a partial
249 or full rejection of Marxism-Leninism and must be actively opposed in order for the New
250 Communist Party to have continued success.

251 **Revolution**

252 Socialist revolution in New Zealand must be made according to conditions in New Zealand,
253 and not an attempt in vain to import tactics from the Great October Socialist Revolution,
254 Chinese Revolution, Sandinista People's Revolution, etc. It is impossible to predict now how
255 the revolution will occur blow-by-blow.

256 However, there are some basic principles of revolution from Marxist-Leninist theory that are
257 unchangeable. One is that socialist revolution must replace the old state apparatus with a new
258 socialist one. The bourgeois parliament must be replaced by a workers' assembly, or Soviet
259 power; the repressive bourgeois army and police force replaced with a Red army and workers'
260 militia, etc.

261 It is important to clarify the specifics of the Leninist theory of "peaceful revolution". Because
262 of the epoch-shifting struggle a socialist revolution entails, forces of capitalism and reaction

263 will always seek to preserve or reinstate their dominance, politically and economically. The
264 revolution can proceed peacefully, and Communists should never launch armed struggle
265 unnecessarily, but as the Russian Civil War and the contras in Nicaragua and Venezuela among
266 other examples show, forces of reaction will always react violently to the shift in power
267 relations of a socialist revolution. To prevent the gains of New Zealand workers' in a socialist
268 revolution having a similar fate to the Popular Unity government in Chile, revolution must rely
269 not just on elections but on workers' power.

270 There also cannot be an 'anti-monopoly' stage of revolution aimed at breaking up the
271 monopoly bourgeoisie in preparation for socialist transition. In fact, the existence of
272 monopoly capitalism provides the objective conditions for a full-scale transition to socialism

273 **Socialism and Communism**

274 Socialism is the first (or lower) stage of communism. The defining characteristic of the socialist
275 stage is the dictatorship of the proletariat (DotP). The DotP, or socialist workers' republic, is
276 the state organised by the workers for their own interests in contrast to the dictatorship of the
277 bourgeois (led by the capitalist class). The DotP must be led by a vanguard party whose role is
278 to secure the revolution and maintain its integrity. Thus, the DotP function is to oversee the
279 withering away of the state and the transition to communism.

280 The character of the transition from socialism to communism, like the transition of capitalism
281 to socialism, cannot be predicted. However, under the guidance of the socialist state, the
282 cultural attitudes developed under capitalism that have negative effects (e.g. fetishising
283 wealth) will be unlearned. Therefore, the role of the socialist state is not only to change the
284 economic relations but also to guide its people culturally through socialism. It is only when
285 these attitudes are eradicated, on a large scale, that the withering away of the socialist state
286 can commence.

287 The economic structure of socialism is predicated on the workers owning the means of
288 production. In contrast, New Zealand is a capitalist state, where the means of production are
289 owned by the capitalist class (bourgeoisie). As a capitalist state, New Zealand has reached a
290 mature phase of capitalism. This phase has created a massive gap in wealth distribution. The
291 aim of a socialist economy is to redistribute this wealth, in order to raise the living standards
292 of the proletariat, and to return the means of production to the working class whose labour it
293 is indebted to. While no "developed" state has made the transition to socialism, meaning that
294 the construction of advanced socialism will inherently take a very different form to historical
295 and current examples, there are elements in theory and practice which can inform this

296 transition when the appropriate material conditions present themselves. This is because of
297 objective economic laws under both capitalism and communism.

298 **The National Question under Socialism**

299 As a settler-colony, an ethnic divide as well as a class divide has always been present in New
300 Zealand society. Capitalism in New Zealand since its full-scale development began in the
301 mid-to-late 19th century has extracted as much profit as it can from Māori, often stripping
302 them of their resources entirely, while simultaneously exploiting the working class, Māori,
303 Pākehā and tauīwi. Modern capitalism in New Zealand has also seen the development of an
304 imperialist Māori bourgeoisie waging class war against the multi-ethnic proletariat. This
305 intersection of ethnicity and class is why Marxist-Leninists say that the colonial-national
306 question is also a question of class struggle in the modern era.

307 Communists stand for unity of the working class, which by its very nature includes Māori,
308 Pākehā and tauīwi, against the entire capitalist system and the bourgeoisie of all ethnic
309 groups. Economically, this means the step-by-step socialisation of all parts of the economy
310 to an economy controlled by the entire people on the basis of "from each according to his
311 ability, to each according to his needs".

312 Residents of the Pacific Islands will be able to freely and fully live and work in Aotearoa New
313 Zealand without fear of deportation or official discrimination.

314 Culturally, socialism's abolition of national oppression means that restrictions placed upon te
315 reo Māori, tikanga Māori and the languages and cultures of other ethnic groups within New
316 Zealand will be swept aside. The New Communist Party supports policies to promote te reo
317 Māori, Māori cultural practices, and equivalent taonga from other Pacific and minority cultures.

318 This requires an entirely new, Communist attitude to and principles of race relations within
319 New Zealand based on friendship of peoples rather than an attempt to make capitalist race
320 relations better.

321 **Women's Liberation under Socialism**

322 The social oppression of women has long been demonstrated by anthropologists to coincide
323 with the development of private property and class society. The gender difference between
324 the two developed into a question of property and the deprivation of women of social and
325 economic equality. The modern question of women's liberation was only introduced by
326 capitalism however, as it destroyed the home-based economic system that had survived other
327 modes of production and brought women into the modern workplace on a mass scale for the
328 first time.

329 Issues such as the gender pay gap, parental leave, and misogyny in the workplace stem from
330 the basic laws of economics of capitalism and the bourgeoisie's desire to decrease workers'
331 wages by any means necessary so that their own profits can be larger. For this reason, the
332 capitalist ideological apparatuses, the newspapers, television, etc promote sexist and
333 misogynist social attitudes that divide the working class.

334 This means that amongst the proletariat, there is no genuine basis for conflict between
335 genders to exist. This conflict actually only aids the capitalists by dividing the working class
336 and limiting its potential for organised power.

337 The task of Communists and women's liberation is one and the same: socialism. Workers of
338 all genders must unite under the banners of socialism and the Party against the capitalist class
339 (also of all genders) and establish socialism. This requires an active struggle against male
340 chauvinism and the social poison of the bourgeoisie that turns proletarian men against
341 women. Because of this, the condition of women under socialism does not magically improve
342 overnight, but changes the economic laws and social basis to allow for genuine equality
343 between workers.

344 The New Communist Party therefore supports policies aimed at helping women to achieve
345 real equality under socialism, such as a transparent wage system which prohibits any form of
346 a wage gap in socialist industry and the vestiges of the private sector (while they exist), full
347 reproductive rights for women, an economic and social welfare programme aimed at
348 alleviating the socio-economic need for women to enter the sex industry, and measures
349 aimed at equalising women in fields which are male-dominated under capitalism.

350 **Gender and Sexual Liberation Under Socialism**

351 New Zealand, as a settler-colony, inherited a majority of its perspectives from the United
352 Kingdom. As a result, its attitudes to gender and sexual orientation, has developed from a
353 Western perspective that is in turn informed by capitalistic relations. This view is at odds with
354 the pre-colonisation Māori acceptance of the takatāpui community. This means that gender is
355 understood as a binary and that sexualities other than heterosexuality are considered deviant.

356 As Communists, who are informed by a materialistic approach to these issues, we understand
357 this to not be the case. Throughout history and cultures, genders and sexualities are have
358 existed in a plethora of ways. The attitudes towards the diversification of gender and sexuality
359 is resultant from capitalism's economic and family model. The LGBT community at large have
360 been understood by the bourgeois to interfere in this model. This attitude has only changed
361 within the capitalist class when it has been viewed as profitable to do so. Thus, from a

362 marketing perspective, the social pressures from LGBT activism have forced corporations to
363 re-orientate themselves and their image.

364 However, this is only a façade. The attitudes towards LGBT workers' in the workplace have still
365 retained the homophobic and transphobic attitudes of old. LGBT workers face many problems
366 such as threats of abuse from customers, fear of being fired for coming out as trans, inability
367 for their actual name to be used at work etc. These chauvinistic attitudes also exist amongst
368 the working class, imposed down by the bourgeois mass media and culture.

369 Similar to women's liberation, however, this attitude amongst the working class is a social
370 poison passed down by the bourgeoisie, and after the liquidation of the bourgeoisie as a class,
371 can begin to be phased out entirely. The position of socialist countries past and present, such
372 as Cuba or the German Democratic Republic, on the forefront of the LGBT rights movement
373 despite such a reactionary past, even at the beginning of the socialist era, highlights the great
374 potential socialism has for LGBT rights.

375 The New Communist Party supports policies such as strict protections of LGBT people against
376 homophobia and transphobia in the workplace, whether it comes from customers or fellow
377 staff; fully publicly-funded LGBT healthcare system with a significantly expanded transgender
378 health system; and protection against discrimination in housing.

379 **Socialism and the Environment**

380 Most of society has recognised that the climate crisis is one of the most pressing issues of our
381 time. Yet as any worker knows, not all of society has the same interests. The capitalist class,
382 driven by profit, wants to not only preserve their ability to make a profit but try and increase
383 them at the same time. This means that any action the capitalists take on climate change is
384 going to be one that further enriches them. That is their 'solution' to the climate crisis.

385 Bourgeois climate change action, so that they are allowed to keep making a profit, hides the
386 real causes of the climate crisis – themselves. Right now, capitalists are destroying the Amazon
387 Rainforest for farmland, destroying one of Earth's biggest tools in the fight to prevent
388 unsustainable CO2 levels in the atmosphere.

389 Environmentalism is also incompatible with the capitalists' desire for imperialist war, war
390 started only to ensure their dominance and capital access in countries all around the world.
391 The destruction caused by US/NATO bombing in Yugoslavia, Syria, Iraq and so many other
392 countries not only destroys so many people's lives but turns the natural environment into
393 bomb craters. The US military occupation of Japan post-WW2 which continues to this day is
394 decimating Okinawa's biodiversity.

395 The reckless oil exploration occurring on our own shores has led to the destruction of vast
396 amounts of wildlife and scenery. Oil drilling Inevitably leads to disasters such as the Rena,
397 which left a decades long legacy of toxins and leading to the death of over 2,000 sea birds and
398 destroyed one of New Zealand's most unique landscapes.

399 Furthermore, the Pike River Mine disaster showed us that the fossil fuel industry doesn't only
400 have no regard for the earth that provides it's mega profits, but that it's willing to show little to
401 no regard for the workers who risk their lives daily for these same profits.

402 The capitalists have already tried several entirely toothless programmes, such as the Carbon
403 Trading Scheme and the Zero Carbon Act. The left wing of the capitalists has turned to a new
404 scheme, the 'Green New Deal'. Despite their spin, this would be just as harmful to the ordinary
405 worker, and further strengthen the capitalist profit.

406 Under these schemes, public funds generated by taxing the workers' wage are funnelled into
407 the capitalist economy in another bail out under the guise of 'green innovation'. When market
408 collapse threatens their profits, they will take more money from the working class this way.
409 Even if companies funded are state-owned, this has little benefit to the worker. Whether
410 public or private, the worker has no say in how the company is run, and as John Key's asset
411 sales show, can just be sold off at a later date despite public opinion.

412 Capitalists have also begun to target Global South nations and further neo-colonialism
413 through these 'green' companies. Economic adjustment forced on these nations by the IMF,
414 World Bank and UN can now be done through an environmental lens: gutting domestic
415 industry deemed un-environmental to be replaced with Western companies deemed
416 'environmentally-friendly', i.e. allowing greater extraction of resources and profit back to the
417 West.

418 The US military is the single largest polluter in the world. It pollutes more than 140 other
419 countries – over 70% of the world. Capitalist solutions that hide the real cause of the crisis,
420 capitalism's drive for profit and US imperialism, are powerless to affect real change.

421 It is clear that socialism, and socialism's abolition of profit and war is the only solution to the
422 climate crisis. This involves abolishing profit and ensuring economic development is based
423 on the interests of the working-class, including a livable planet.

424 This kind of genuine environmental transition requires a workers' government to implement,
425 rather than waiting for scraps tossed down to us like the reformists. For this, the working-class
426 to organise itself as a class for its own interests to solve the climate crisis, rather than submit
427 to the capitalists' plans which, as already discussed, will not do anything to solve the problem.

428 **Proletarian Internationalism**

429 The attitude of the working class to the other peoples of the world and international relations
430 is completely different from bourgeois foreign policy. Economic interests of the imperialist-
431 capitalists mean that international relations are driven by a desire for a bigger market and
432 increased profit. Rather than the profit motive, the working class and the Communist Party
433 follow principles of proletarian internationalism and friendship both before and after the
434 revolution.

435 This means mutually supporting the working class of other countries against capitalism, even
436 the capitalists of your own country. The New Communist Party seeks fraternal relations with
437 other Communist and Workers' Parties of the world on this basis, as we can learn from each
438 other and work together in a shared struggle against capitalism.

439 An important part of this is friendship and internationalist solidarity with the socialist countries,
440 their working classes and Communist Parties. As the leading sections of the world working
441 class, the socialist countries, namely China, Cuba, Vietnam, Laos and Korea, come under the
442 most significant aggression from the leading sections of the world capitalist class: the US and
443 NATO imperialist bloc. All of them are taking a unique path to developed socialism based on
444 their material conditions and Party's political line and it is our role to respect that, support their
445 socialist construction and defend them from US/NATO imperialist aggression.

446 Socialist-oriented countries such as Venezuela, Nicaragua and Nepal are also important
447 subjects of solidarity as they face significant threats from the imperialist bloc while in a multi-
448 class state of transition into full socialist construction. The overthrow of the former socialist-
449 oriented governments in Grenada, Honduras, Ethiopia, Iraq, Burkina Faso, etc either by direct
450 US assault or by imperialist political intervention led to a significant decline in living
451 conditions, social welfare and economic prosperity as they plunged back into neo-
452 colonialism. The New Communist Party of Aotearoa supports their movement towards
453 socialism and fight against imperialism, while reserving special solidarity for the proletarian
454 elements within this movement who strengthen the role of Marxism-Leninism in their specific
455 scenario.

456 In international affairs we also support the national bourgeoisie in the role it takes as an anti-
457 imperialist force. No country deserves to be a US/NATO neo-colony, and the ability of a
458 proletarian Communist movement to develop in a neo-colony will always be significantly
459 more difficult than in a country governed by the national bourgeoisie against imperialism.

460 As part of this, we reject New Zealand's membership as a NATO Global Partner, in Five Eyes
461 and its security alliance with the United States, Australia, and other imperialist countries. A

462 country founded by imperialism, New Zealand's capitalist class has gone onto have a legacy
463 of imperialist brutality in countries such as Turkey, Samoa, Vietnam, Korea, Afghanistan and
464 Iraq.

465 Socialism in Aotearoa requires a policy of non-alignment and friendship focused on the
466 development of world socialism and world peace, which must require opposition to the
467 US/NATO alliance.

468 This absolute hostility to imperialism and commitment to supporting socialist countries and
469 anti-imperialist struggles, proletarian internationalism, is fundamental to any Communist and
470 a key policy of the New Communist Party.

