

# why students should support the campaign for a new workers' party

IN Britain every year, 200,000 babies - one third of all those born - are born into poverty. In total, 9.7 million people live below the poverty line in this the fourth richest country in the world! The gap between rich & poor is wider than ever, and it's growing. In education, top-up and tuition fees has seen the number of working class students taking places fall due to the fear of crippling debts. For those working class students who have worked hard to get to university and face a mountain of debt as well as insecure, low-paid part-time work in order to get by, the world looks very different than for the minority of rich kids with a silver spoon in their mouth. Many are legitimately angry about the situation they face and the poverty and inequality they see in Britain and around the globe.

## Mainstream Politics

But when you look to political parties, what do you see? There's no difference between the three main parties; it's their policies that help spread inequality & exploitation! Since 1997, New Labour has overseen massive cuts in the NHS and attacks on our public services. Blair and Brown gave us tuition and top-up fees! They took us into Afghanistan and Iraq. This government is one of the most unpopular in history - with the vote of only 36% of electors - but it's clung onto power so far because in most area of the country there is no alternative for working class and young people to vote for. Blair is on his way out, but Gordon Brown, the most likely candidate to replace Blair, is no better; it was Brown who announced the new generation of Trident nuclear missiles and a pay freeze for public sector workers. The Tories and Lib Dems are just the same - they are all parties of big business in favour of selling off our public services to the highest bidder and increasing privatisation of education through academies and trust schools. We need a party that represents the majority - the working class - and stands firmly against privatisation, cuts, tuition & top-up fees and war.

## Corrupt politicians

Many young people rightly see mainstream politicians and parties as corrupt and undemocratic. When the Labour Party leadership doesn't like a decision at their conference, they just ignore it! In the cash for honours scandal it came out that Dr Chai Patel, who owns Priory

Healthcare, lent £1.5 million and donated £100,000 to Labour. Within weeks of the loan he was told that he would be nominated for a peerage. He has advised the prime minister's office on private sector involvement in the NHS while taking home £443,000 as chief executive of Westminster Health Care. Mainstream politicians can be bought & sold. This has led to many young people in particular turning away from party politics.

## Unite the campaigns!

However, a new generation is starting to fight back against the governments attacks. Some are taking part in campaigns to save their local hospitals or to stop cuts in education; others to stop the occupation of Iraq; young workers have taken strike action to defend their jobs from government cuts; young people and students are involved in campaigns against climate change and world poverty. But there is no political organisation, on a mass scale, that links all these issues up and provides a national voice to help them fight. We believe we should work to bring these campaigns together in a new and completely different kind of party - a party that stands for the millions not the millionaires! For a new party to win the support of many who are turned off by today's party political squabbling while the establishment parties are united on the big issues of cuts, closures and privatisation it would have to be clearly open and democratic, but also a fighting organisation offering practical support to workers and youth in struggle.

## Campaign for a New Workers Party

The Campaign for a New Workers Party (CNWP) was launched in March 2006. So far over 2,500 trade union and community representatives have signed the declaration for a new party. This May, supporters of the campaign will be coming together to discuss the way forward and how we can fight for an independent political voice for workers and young people. If you've had enough of fees and debt, sick of low pay and long hours and disgusted by war and occupation, then the Campaign for a New Workers' Party conference is the place to be to discuss what we can do to fight back!

[www.cnwp.org.uk](http://www.cnwp.org.uk)

I would like more information about the CNWP

I would like to sign the CNWP declaration

I would like to attend the CNWP conference and enclose £5 fee

Name.....Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Telephone.....E-mail.....

please make all cheques payable to 'CNWP and return to CNWP, PO Box 858, London E11 1YG

# campaign for a new workers' party



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**"New Labour my arse!"**



Ricky Tomlinson confirmed to speak at Campaign for a New Workers' Party conference!

Ricky Tomlinson, TV's Jim Royle and a long standing trade union activist, will be speaking at the CNWP conference this May. Ricky recently spoke at a local CNWP event in Liverpool. At that meeting, over 250 people crammed into the Casa Club to hear Ricky talk about the campaign to clear the name of the Shrewsbury pickets.

The Labour Party is a party for the bosses now - as Ricky puts it, "New Labour, my arse!" If you want to join the fight back and campaign for a real political alternative for working class people then make sure you're at the CNWP conference on 12 May!

- ➔ No to tuition and top up fees! Fight for free education for all.
- ➔ For a living wage for all - no exemptions on the basis of age!
- ➔ No to Trident nuclear weapons! End the occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan!
- ➔ No to racism and discrimination - oppose the divisive BNP!
- ➔ For a new mass workers' party!

## campaign for a new workers' party conference

**Saturday 12 May 12 - 5 pm**

(registration opens at 11am)

University College London, Gower Street

to find out more go to:

**[www.cnwp.org.uk](http://www.cnwp.org.uk)**