



# WORKERS PARTY

*socialist, secular, anti-sectarian*

Email Bulletin 8 March 2018



## INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY

### *Forgotten Rights - Forgotten Women*

Northern Ireland is still dominated by socially conservative voices and these continue to have an adverse and traumatising effect on local women. The Northern Ireland Assembly does not trust women to make choices about their own bodies and their own fertility.

The Workers Party recognises that women have the right to control their own bodies, including their fertility, and to pursue all reproductive choices.

This is fundamental to any reasonable concept of gender equality in order to achieve full political, social, and economic equality with men.

#### **Second class citizens**

We also oppose the paternalistic attitude that regards women as second class citizens incapable of making their own decisions and strongly condemn those who engage in anti-choice harassment and abuse.

We support a full programme of secular sex education for schools, free access

to contraception, proper health and social care for pregnant women, the provision proper health and social care for pregnant women, the provision of appropriate free and quality child care facilities and adequate support for single and low income parents.

#### **The right to choose**

We believe in a woman's right to choose and support the provision of accessible, free, safe and legal abortion in her own country which will include practical facilities to support women seeking an abortion and quality post-abortion care.

**But where were the rights of women in the recent political negotiations?**

No party drew a red line, or any other coloured line, under the rights of 50 per cent of the population.

**EQUAL RIGHTS EQUAL PAY  
THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE**



#### **A class issue**

Abortion is a class issue. The repressive abortion legislation in both the Republic and Northern Ireland discriminates disproportionately against working class women on low incomes and girls from less well off families.

#### **Pro - Choice**

Abortion, including the abortion pill must be decriminalised. The Eighth Amendment must be completely removed from the Irish Constitution and accessible, free, safe, and legal abortion services must be available to women in Northern Ireland and the Republic.