



Workers Change the World

Enough is Enough.

The Cole Royal Commission is the latest of a series of attacks on the right of workers to organise.

They say they want to clean up the industry and make it competitive. But we know what they mean by 'competitive'. It means to be weak, to rely on the whim of your employer for a job and a safe working environment. We do not forget.

We remember that it was our struggles that won the conditions we benefit from today. It is working class solidarity and our union that make us strong. We refuse to go back to competing with each other.

We built this city, and this city runs because of us. We know our strength as a class. We will fight whoever tries to divide us and weaken us.

United we can win

The government and the employers are sowing the politics of division daily. Divisions can tear our class apart. The more divided we are, the weaker we are and the easier they will be able to make us work harder for less money. We have to put our interests as workers first.

We do not have to beg, we do not have to bargain, we do not have to play party politics.

It is our labour that keeps this system going, that produces the profits that allows the bosses to get richer. It is our right to demand our share.

Solidarity is our power

The attacks on the refugees are just another example of this government's divide and rule tactics. Identify a group, vilify and scapegoat them, then repress and attack their rights.

Scapegoating, nationalism and racism only serve to turn worker against worker by dredging up the politics of hate. This has happened before. The flags, the uniforms and the names might change, but the message of hate is always the same. They will go after the weaker groups first, and then, they will pick us off too.

The government has already said it is eager to follow the US into another war. War kills workers and destroys the products of our labour. It is the working class which ends up on the front lines and pays for the costs of the war effort. It has happened before, it is happening now and it's going to happen again unless we stop it.

United and strong, as workers, we have the power to defeat the politics of division, hate and war.

- **land rights for indigenous people**
- **for the right to organise and the right to strike**
- **refugees are workers, free the refugees**
- **job security not casualisation**
- **solidarity, not profits and war**

Workers Change the World

Support jailed Malaysian labour activist Tian Chua

Tian Chua was jailed under Malaysia's Internal Security Act (ISA) on 10 April 2001. Tian was the organiser of the Labour Resource Centre in Malaysia and a main activist in the democracy movement. He is in jail because he fights for the rights of all workers.

He led many protests and demonstrations, was arrested and suffered serious police brutality on a number of occasions. In August 2000, he was arrested prior to a demonstration and was brutalised by the police so badly that one of the lumbar of his

vertebrae fractured.

The Inspector-General of Police issued a statement after their arrest that Tian Chua and 9 other men were involved in an armed and violent plot to 'overthrow' the government. However, no evidence has ever been presented.

The ISA provides for 'preventative detention' without trial for an indefinite period.

The Act violates fundamental rights and is used against working class activists.



Send messages of solidarity to:

Tian Chua (ATP:2505)
Kamunting Detention Camp,
34009 Taiping,
Perak, Malaysia

For more information visit the SUARAM website:

<http://www.suaram.org>

Victorian Trades Hall Website:

<http://www.vthc.org.au/campaigns>

Support the right to organise and free Li Wangyang

Li Wangyang, was sentenced in September 2001 to ten years jail for 'incitement to subvert state power' after repeated attempts to get the government to pay for medical treatment that he requires due to mistreatment from an earlier sentence.

Li Wangyang's trade union activities go back to the 1970's when he helped to establish the Shaoyang City Zi Jiang Mingbao Society and in 1989 he helped to organise the Shaoyang Worker's Autonomous Federation.

In 1989, during the Government's crackdown on pro democracy protesters, Li was arrested and later sentenced to 13 years in jail for 'counterrevolutionary propaganda and incitement'. He was released in 2000

but due to severe mistreatment while in jail, Li suffered from continuing health problems. Li's sister, Li Wangling was sentenced to three years jail in 2001 for helping to publicise his case.

Currently Li Wangyang is being denied proper medical care while in detention and there are grave fears for his well being.

The workers of China need the support of a strong and active trade union movement. Jail or detention via re-education camps are inappropriate for people who organise to make workers aware of their rights and entitlements. Organising is not a crime.

Send messages of solidarity to:

Human Rights in China
350 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3309
New York, NY 10118
Email: hrichtina@hrichtina.org
Web: www.hrichtina.org

For more information visit the Victorian Trades Hall Website:

www.vthc.org.au/campaigns

The Human Rights Watch Website:

www.hrw.org

Australia Asia Worker Links
PO Box 264 Fitzroy Victoria 3065 Australia
Tel: 61 3 9663 7277
Email: aawl@aawl.org.au
Website: <http://www.aawl.org.au>



Australia Asia Worker Links was founded to build links between unions and labour organization in the Asia Pacific region. AAWL develops these links by organising union training programmes, solidarity exchange visits and by building campaigns to support worker's disputes and political prisoners in the region.

Listen to AAWL's radio show *Asia Pacific Currents* on 3CR (855AM), every Saturday at 9am.



AAWL meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm at Trades Hall.