

THE COMMUNIST WORKERS PARTY OF AUSTRALIA

PARTY PROGRAM

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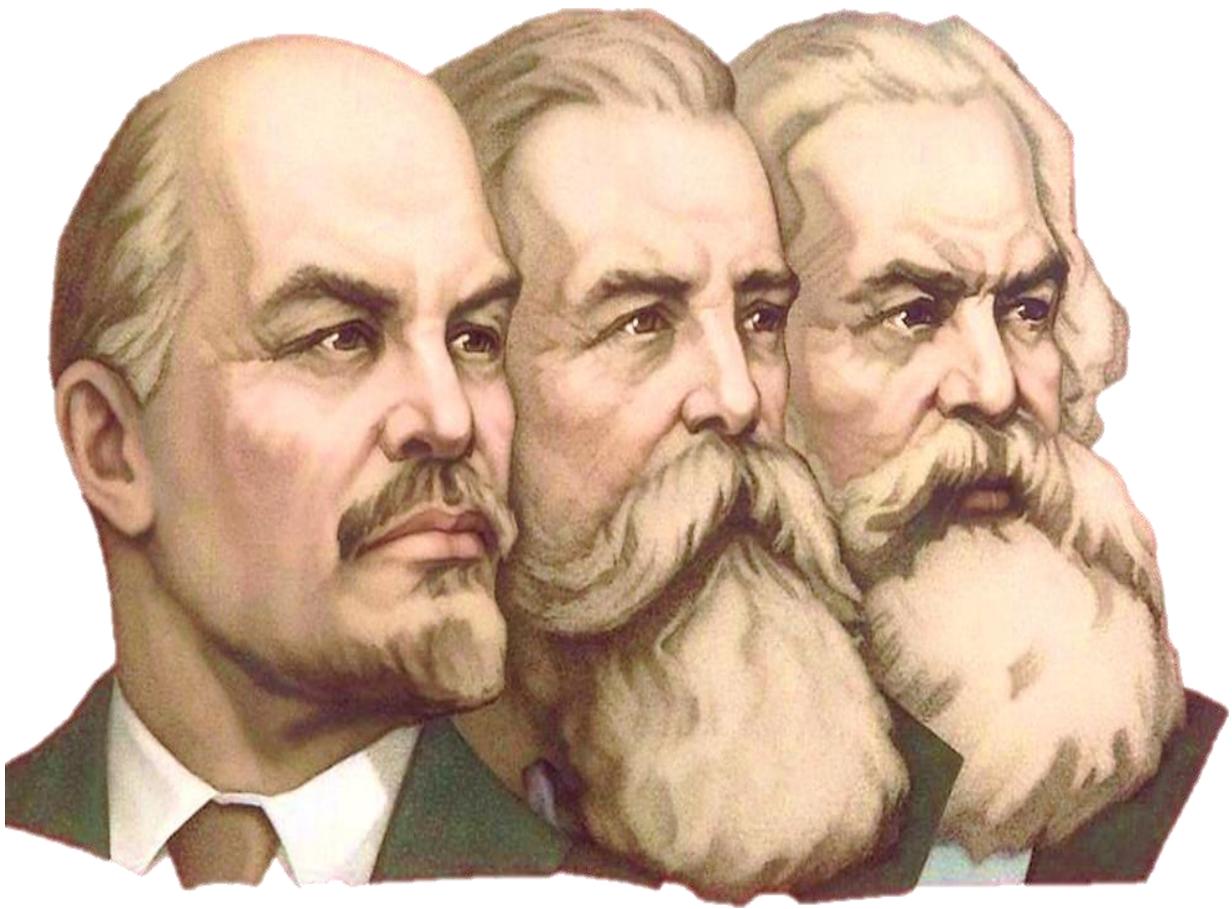
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The Communist Workers Party of Australia, Party program.

Preamble

The working class and big business, the employing Capitalist class, have nothing in common. There will be no peace as long as hunger and want are found among the millions of working people and the few, the employing class, have all the good things in life. Every member of society should be able to live and to develop as a human being, free from concerns that their needs will not be met. With the aid of productive technology, society should be able to deploy human labour in a planned and organised way to provide for all basic needs. The only way to achieve this is to change our socio-economic system to a Socialist system and then to Communism, a higher form of Socialism.

PART 1: Capitalism and the working class in Australia

Workers in Australia are being squeezed into a meagre existence as work is becoming more and more organised on a casual or temporary basis and ‘real wages’, what one can purchase with your wage, is increasingly lowered. Where one wage could support the basic needs of a family, in the late 1950’s to 1970’s, now the wages of two individuals is insufficient. Penalty rates have been withdrawn and there is rising under-employment and unemployment. The hard fought for working conditions, that Australian’s previously enjoyed, are being whittled away with many workers no longer receiving sufficient pay, any holiday pay, sick leave or even regular breaks.

Even conservative economists recognise the desperate situation of the working class and now use the term ‘the precariat’, to describe the precarious nature of employment in Australia. Hired and fired at the behest of Employers, workers can no longer rely on full time positions as stable employment. The idea of ‘the precariat’ is nothing new, Karl Marx and others described this desperate and unsettled position, of sections of the working class hired and fired purely on the

basis of the needs of the Capitalist production, as being part of the 'Reserve Army of Labour'. This insecure work, places enormous stress on working families in their struggle to feed, clothe and house themselves and is a catalyst for other social problems.

Conservative estimates are that for every position of employment in Australia, there are more than another six people seeking employment. Often hundreds of people are applying for the one position. The Australian government relies on questionable employment figures, collected in such a way as to exclude the bulk of people from them. The government therefore attempts to hoodwink the Australian public regarding the seriousness of the problem relegating those unemployed or under-employed people to a low priority. Even worse the Australian government, places all blame on the individuals who find themselves in the position of being under-employed or unemployed, rather than looking at the problem as systemic. Unemployed and under-employed people, in Capitalist countries around the world, are used as a 'reserve army of labour', a ready workforce to be hired and fired at the behest of, and for the requirements of, the very wealthy Capitalist class.

In Australia mounting pressure is being placed on individual unemployed or under-employed people, via new rules and regulations, as a form of legalised coercion. This is undertaken to ensure workers' willingness to accept lower paid work and poor conditions, and as a form of immediate control. Unemployed and under-employed people are increasingly finding themselves forced into unfair conditions in exchange for a meagre income for casual employment and even for welfare payments. These unfair conditions include the imposition of meaningless programs and courses with no guarantee of employment at the completion. These unemployed and under-employed people are constantly threatened with being 'breached', in having their funds withdrawn from welfare payments, often based on bureaucratic mishaps like forms not being filled in correctly or appointments missed. Those who have jobs are finding that they are increasingly being asked to perform work outside of paid hours, are bullied, are low paid and are continually threatened by possible redundancy or being sacked. This denigration and discrimination, against members of the working class, must cease!

The way to change this continual struggle for a meagre existence, for the better, is to change the socio-economic system. This change would be from the present one, designed solely for the purpose of profiteering, to one where the wealth of Australia is evenly distributed for the benefit of the working class, to benefit the majority. This change would initially be a change to a Socialist system and then to a Communist system. For this change to occur, we need to change property relations in favour of the collective ownership of the means of production.

Under Socialism the means of production of big businesses, infrastructure, tools, basic materials and profits are all owned collectively either by the state, or via more direct collectives. The profits from big businesses, under a Socialist system, will be redistributed for the benefit of the community in general. Under a Socialist system the profits will be placed back into infrastructure, increased wages and social services, instead of being hoarded by wealthy individuals to benefit their opulent lifestyles.

The existence of private property in the means of production and distribution, carried over from earlier societies from before the emergence of industry, prevents a planned economy and therefore the property system, which is toxic and inappropriate, must be transformed to ensure that production and distribution serve the needs of the people. This is called the Transition to Socialism.

Capitalism has outlived its usefulness

The Capitalist system has outlived its usefulness. Whilst the change in social structure from Feudalism to Capitalism was initially a step forward, under Capitalism workers were allowed greater freedom of movement, under Capitalism workers are still overtly used as wage slaves at the behest of the very wealthy. Although there were initially advancements in science and technology, the Capitalist system now holds back any progress in new technologies and scientific discoveries in favour of profiteering. The patent system allows Capitalists to buy inventions and shelve them preventing those discoveries from coming into fruition. Science, new technologies, health research and Education are particularly under-funded in Australia. Many scientists find they must travel abroad to be able to continue in their given scientific field. The Australian Government has no separate minister for science and science has been relegated into the Jobs and innovation portfolio. According to the 2016 report in 'news. Com' there was a 'mass exodus from the scientific and medical research community' overseas from Australia. In the 2020 Australian Government budget, there was some extra funding for medical research, due to the Covid19 pandemic, however, the funding for healthcare, medicines and science falls far short of what is required. Universities are particularly under-funded with many staff finding themselves made redundant. Members of parliament, in Australia, are holding back new innovations in alternate energy at the behest of the fossil fuel industry. In a Socialist society funding for science and technological advancements, that would benefit society as a whole, would be a priority rather than science for the advancement of the profits of stockholders, CEO's and multinationals.

Relocation of the workforce and Racism

Under the Capitalist system we have seen the relocation of much of the Australian workforce overseas. Australian based companies and Multinational corporations either move overseas completely or have sections of their workforce overseas, often in sweat shops or call centres. These relocations overseas are in order that these large corporations do not have to provide the same wages and conditions of their Australian counterparts thereby increasing profit margins by paying their workers less. At the same time Australian Capitalists have been undermining the wages of workers via 457 visa holders, with under-paid workers from overseas. There has been a direct correlation with increasing racism in Australia and these moves, by the Capitalists, as Australian workers increasingly feel that they are in competition with underpaid workers from overseas. The Communist Workers Party recognises the plight of every worker, no matter their origin of birth and we recognise that our enemies are not workers from overseas, who want the opportunity to work, but are the Capitalists who exploit them. The Communist Workers Party of Australia condemns the further exploitation of workers in this way. The Communist Workers party supports equality in wages regardless of country of origin in Australia.

Companies also hire workers from overseas to have a readymade, qualified and experienced workforce. These companies excuse themselves from their responsibility for training or contributing to the training of their workers. Although there are many well-qualified and experienced workers, from overseas, the appropriateness or level of expertise and training of some is not guaranteed and problems have arisen due to dubious qualifications leading to dangerous conditions at work. Conversely many workers from overseas, with appropriate or high-level qualifications, find it difficult to have their qualifications recognized. Many appropriately qualified workers from overseas, like many Australian born workers, have found themselves in positions of employment well below their level of expertise or qualification. Although the Communist workers party does not rule out the employment of people from overseas with expertise, where there is the genuine need, we condemn the use of overseas labour purely for the purpose of lowering wages and conditions in Australia. The Communist Workers party supports on the job training and other education in order that workers are fully equipped to carry out their functions. At all times the Communist Workers Party of Australia has solidarity with workers from every country and we welcome immigrants here where there is a genuine need for workers or within the normal immigration process and those that are seeking asylum, the genuine refugees.

The level of immigration should be allocated in line with all available proper scientific data regarding population sustainability including water, food and other resources. Our immigration policy should cater for those in great need first, real asylum seekers, family reunions and oppressed peoples from dictatorships and fascist/fascist-like regimes.

Multinational Corporations

The most significant feature of present-day monopoly capitalism is the dominant place of Multinational Corporations. Rapidly expanding international finance capital, for investment and speculation, is destabilizing national and regional markets and the global capitalist system. The struggle for global supremacy, among an increasingly small number of giant Multinational Corporations, is rapidly accelerating. These Multinational Corporations often wield greater economic power than national governments and economies. Both the concentration of wealth through corporate mergers, acquisitions and partnerships, along with the growth of impoverishment on a world scale, means that uneven development is an inherent feature of all stages of Capitalism and this is reaching unprecedented dimensions under the impact of Capitalist globalization. In spite of their current economic and ideological power, and due to internal contradictions, Monopoly Capitalism is afflicted by a systemic crisis from which ultimately it can't extricate itself from, including an all-pervading economic, political and cultural crisis. Capitalists seek to resolve this crisis through intensified exploitation, aggression and war. The Communist Workers Party opposes all Imperialist wars, exploitation and aggression towards workers and other countries.

State-Monopoly Capitalism in Australia

Finance capital subordinates the Australian economy more and more directly to its interests and control. The integration of the interests of finance capital with the state, the governing bodies including legal and policing bodies in Australia, includes the extension of corporate control to all sectors of economic and political life. The government, while seemingly independent of specific corporate interests, has become predominantly the political instrument of a small group comprising the top monopoly capitalists for exercising control over the rest of society. Finance capital uses the state to provide orders, capital and subsidies, and to secure foreign markets and investments. This can clearly be seen in regards to Energy policy, where the interest of mining companies has dominated policy to the point where billions of taxpayers' dollars have been spent on infrastructure, tax fuel rebates and other subsidies to the exclusion of recent scientific and technological innovations in alternate energy. Taxpayers money is being spent to support multinational giants, as opposed to the general

population and both state and federal governments are attempting to outlaw all opposition to Multinational Corporations via draconian anti-strike and anti-protest legislation.

Monopoly capital supports the expansion of the Public sector, in services and enterprises only when it serves their interests. Monopoly Capital may support the bail out large corporations, to allocate public monies to the private sector via infrastructure and tax rebates or occasionally to placate the public. However, in Australia, more often Monopoly Capital, promotes the privatisation of public infrastructure and services. The Australian government has cut back many public services including energy, healthcare, communications, roads and transport. Education and welfare are now in the process of privatisation.

State Monopoly Capitalism undermines the rights of workers, unions and government. The state, our governing bodies including police, courts, defence forces and government run bureaucracies, are used to redistribute income and wealth in favour of monopoly interests through the tax system, the courts and legislation to drive down wages and weaken the trade union movement. The Communist Workers Party staunchly supports those unions who continue to fight for the rights of the working class and differentiate between those unions and the unions where the leadership has become corrupted and now represent the interests of the bourgeoisie. The Communist Workers party will continue to support fellow unionists who continue to fight for worker's rights and will condemn any union leadership who sell out workers to the bourgeoisie. At the same time, we actively encourage our members to participate in their unions and for our members to actively encourage unions to be more militant in their actions regarding protection of the rights of workers.

The Australian government has, for all practical purposes, outlawed strike action and is now attempting to legislate against any form of dissention or protest. These anti-worker pieces of legislation must be opposed by every party member including those pieces of legislation that overtly undermine the right of protest and dissention and any other move towards a dictatorship or Fascist-like state. We actively encourage our members to participate in Anti-Fascist actions or groups and we will encourage efforts towards united fronts against attacks on workers and the rights of individuals to express opinions. However, we must differentiate between the right of an individual to express opinion and hate speech. There can be no total 'freedom of speech', particularly when the so-called 'freedom of speech' means 'freedom' to incite violence, spread hatred and to promote genocide and racism. The Communist Workers Party condemns any hate-based violence or incitement to hate-based violence.

State-monopoly capitalism has even undermined the basis of traditional bourgeois Democracy in Australia. The subordination of the state to the interests of finance capital erodes the already limited role of elected government bodies, federal, state and local councils. Big business openly intervenes in the electoral process on its own behalf via donations, lobby groups, advertisements and indirectly through a network of pro-corporate institutes, 'Think Tanks' and by other means. It uses its control of the mass media and educational institutions, to influence the ideas and attitudes of the people to blatantly influence election results. State-monopoly Capitalism corrupts the democratic process through the buying of politicians and officials. It tramples on the political right of the Australian people to exercise any meaningful choice regarding leadership, legislation or any local, state or federal decision making on behalf of the public.

Australia is subject to the intrinsic contradictions of global capitalism. Australian finance capital is today largely interlocked with those in the U.S. and U.K. and other countries. Multinational corporations are now working outside the bounds of any national borders or interest other than to appropriate money for their shareholders. The imposition of neoliberal policies, especially so-called free trade agreements, has intensified this process. Australian monopoly groupings control some sectors of the economy but international finance capital, primarily Multinational Corporations, control substantial parts of the Australian resource, manufacturing, mining and service industries. These high levels of foreign based ownership have deepened the structural distortion and regional inequality of the Australian economy. Important decisions on investment policy, technological change, plant closures and redundancies are often made outside of our borders. No sector of Australia's economy is free from Multinational influence and there has been a rapid centralization of wealth into the hands of an extremely small group of conglomerates and Multinationals and, as a result, the Australian economy is highly monopolized.

In the current conditions of capitalist globalization, international finance capital also requires institutions of regulation ratified and supported by the imperialist states, to protect and advance their interests. It has amplified the role of existing international capitalist institutions such as the World Trade Organization (WTO), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and World Bank to enforce its global Hegemony. The North American Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA], the Free Trade Area of the Americas [FTAA], the European Union [EU], and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation [APEC]) are to protect the interests of the respective imperialist centres. The Australian government has been actively attempting to form TTP's, Trans-Pacific Partnerships and more recently the 'Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnerships' (CPTPP). These powerful international structures undermine national and state

sovereignty thus giving rise to new conflicts and contradictions in the system of monopoly capitalist regulation. The TPP's, or CPTPP's, the promotion of 'free trade', is designed directly to undermine previous wage and conditions agreements and even government, as they give more power and control to Multinational Corporations. These agreements will undermine the sovereignty of Australia and perhaps even give the right to Multinational corporations to be able to sue our government if they bring in any legislation not in their interest.

Regardless of its forms, the principal aims of the modern Monopoly Capitalist State are the preservation of the capitalist system and especially the enrichment of monopolies. This includes the suppression of the working-class movement and its revolutionary vanguard, and the attempts to crush the remaining Socialist countries and National Liberation struggles around the world.

As the economic crisis deepens, the nature of finance capital increasingly wields its coercive arm. The state and its institutions do not stand above social conflict, they are part of it. The state is partisan, active, and increasingly an authoritarian force on the side of finance capital. More and more the state intervenes directly to attack and undermine collective bargaining, the right to strike, to picket and to organize. In Australia direct strike action has been virtually outlawed with unions being forced to ask for permission to strike with the threat of fines and jail time if they strike without permission. There is a steady increase in the use of the police and the courts. Vital democratic reforms, to protect and extend the rights of labour, women and immigrants and to combat racism and discrimination, are systematically being blocked and dismantled. The hard fought for Anti-discrimination legislation of the 1980's, has been dramatically weakened. Deregulation, privatization and the dismantling of decades-old labour laws and benefits, are a central part of the assault.

The corporate media are becoming an ever-more sophisticated and powerful instrument to manipulate public opinion by parroting pro-monopoly propaganda, filtering out conflicting news and analysis and silencing expressions of anti-capitalist dissent. The limited free flow of information on the internet, is seen as a threat to this corporate control of mass media and as a result new regulations are being put into place in order to silence any form of dissent away from the main stream. The Communist Workers Party must attempt to combat the indoctrination of the Australian public by finance capital by constantly educating the public and party members. Party members must educate themselves in Marxism-Leninism. The party must also engage in the constant propagation of party educational material to the public via all forms of medium including social media, leafleting, documents, the development of a regular bulletin or party magazine or newspaper, videos, statements or other material or mediums.

State monopoly and Imperialism threatens peace between countries

The collaboration between the most reactionary sections of U.S. and Australian monopoly is clearly revealed in foreign policy. The deliberate subordination of Australia to U.S. imperialism commits Australia to the U.S. war policy through ANZUS and a network of other “defence” agreements. These powerful international structures undermine national and state sovereignty, thus giving rise to new conflicts and contradictions in the system of monopoly capitalist regulation. The economic and military integration, pursued by the dominant section of finance capital, has turned Australia into a military launching pad for the U.S. military industrial complex. In pursuit of maximizing profits, the Australian government and Multinational corporations are prepared to sacrifice the country’s economic and political sovereignty. American bases and military exercises have not only been substantial in the US militarisation of the South China Sea, but also render Australia a target for any conflict brought about by U.S or Multinational Corporations’ interests. It is in the Australian workers’, the Australian people’s interest, to see that American bases are removed from Australian soil and for Australia to have a more independent foreign policy. There will be no absolute Peace whilst Capitalism is in existence. It is in the working class, the majority interest to transition to a Socialist system where peaceful co-existence can be achieved.

Australian Capitalism attempts to divide the working class

The Capitalist government and finance capital actively encourage the dividing of our working population by means of discrimination and inequality via class, race, xenophobia, gender, immigration, education and more recently by age. The Capitalist class attempts to divide our younger and older generations, blaming older Australian working class, the ‘baby boomers’, for economic downturns, perceptions of ‘greed’ and environmental disasters and, equally incorrectly, ‘Millennials’ are blamed for perceived lack of motivation to find work. Such incorrect notions are designed to deflect and confuse workers away from the contradictions of the Capitalist system. Whilst a portion of ‘baby boomers’ enjoyed better living conditions, all workers were, and are, exploited in the Capitalist system. Many older workers were forced to endure dangerous and unethical working conditions such as working with asbestos and lead, with many older workers still dying of asbestosis and lead poisoning. Many older Australians were factory workers, piece workers, miners or workers in the maritime industry and others who suffered a variety of injuries from inappropriate and dangerous equipment, due to the lack of appropriate

regulations. Many older Australians also do not own their own homes and many, particularly older women, are finding themselves recently homeless. Older Australians should not be blamed for the decisions of government which led to the reliance on the fossil fuel industry. Equally incorrect is the perception that 'Millennials' lack the motivation to find appropriate work. With the official figure for unemployment and under-employment combined currently at 18.3% ,and this figure does not include those engaged in education, clearly motivation isn't the deciding factor if a young person can't find work, there just isn't enough employment to include everyone. Although the immediate problems of the different generations may have slight variations, the basis of these problems is still the Capitalist system itself, still exploitation at the hands of the Capitalist class. Our common enemy is not previous or later generations, is not the people from overseas who may want to work here, is not those with differing gender identities, our enemy is the Capitalist system itself that allows for the hoarding of the majority of wealth into the hands of the few, our enemy is the Capitalist class who would divide our community.

United action against fascism

Racist and neo-fascist organizations are currently permitted to operate with relative freedom in Australia and these organisations often receive support from the most reactionary elements within the ruling class. Preying on fear, insecurity, weak economic conditions, and the low level of class consciousness among certain sections of the Australian people, these right-wing groups promote prejudice, race hatred and fascist ideology to divide the working class. These moves towards fascism should be actively opposed by all party members. Our party members must oppose any legislation or action taken by government or other federal or state authorities, used in such a way as to intervene on behalf of the state to suppress the general population, the working class and national struggles of the Australian people. Our party members must oppose any legislation or action which moves the state apparatus towards a fascist or fascist-like state. Party members are actively encouraged, wherever possible, to join with united actions against fascism.

The Environment is a Working Class Issue

The Communist Workers Party of Australia recognises the presence of climate change worldwide. The preservation of our environment is a working class issue for, without a properly conserved environment, there will be no working class as ultimately there would be no human beings. The destruction of our local environment is having a direct effect on the ability of farmers to grow food and has lengthened the period of intense bush fire hazard directly threatening homes, lives and businesses. Continued pollution is having a widespread effect

on the health of everyone, especially workers. Workers are being affected as a direct result of air pollution and we have seen the re-emergence of black lung in the mining industry. People have directly been affected by water table contamination from a fire-retardant chemical used at defence bases in NSW, Queensland and other areas. The Communist Workers Party of Australia supports anything that will assist in the preservation of a clean, safe and healthy environment for the Australian people. The Communist Workers party of Australia will support any efforts to preserve our environment including the support for alternate, clean energy and scientific research towards that goal. Without protecting our environment, the world is headed for a major catastrophe which will affect all human beings including workers. It is the duty of party members to involve themselves in local actions regarding the environment.

Our first people's, Australia's indigenous peoples

The Communist Workers party will support any treaty or other agreement, made in consultation with our first peoples including the Uluru statement from the Heart, that will improve the life of our first peoples. Under a Socialist system we would put an end to Aboriginal deaths in custody and other forms of discrimination against our original peoples. We would include representatives from our first peoples in any form of government. All first peoples would be offered well paid and appropriate work in a Socialist system and we would ensure equal good quality education for all. We would support any continued education in first peoples' culture. We must end the discrimination against our first peoples and offer due compensation and support to those peoples. Any actions of significance to our first peoples in a Socialist system, would be with full consultations with our first peoples.

The Communist Workers Party supports the immediate redress of historic injustices to our first peoples. This must include preferential treatment in the provision of housing, health care, education and job creation. Furthermore, immediate achievement of national rights, just and early settlement of land claims and self-government will help to improve the prospect for the future development of our first peoples, a process that the Communist Workers Party of Australia fully supports.

PART 2: The Transition to Socialism and Socialism in Australia

Socialism is a system where the banks, factories and major industries are bought under public ownership for the greater good, where profits are no longer in command. It's where everyone can be lifted up from poverty through greater material abundance. It's through this that society can move to the higher stage, Communism, where a state apparatus is no longer required. Australia can only become a Socialist Country when Capitalist property relations are abolished. The abolition of private property, in the means of production and distribution, is impossible under a Capitalist state. Under the Capitalist system our constitution, laws and regulations guarantee that a small number of individuals benefit from the work of the majority. In order to change this, we need to change our Australian constitution, laws, regulations and property relations. It is not in the interest of the small minority of Capitalists, who have the majority of the wealth, or those aspiring to be large Capitalists, to change the system. It is the working class, the majority, that will benefit the most from a change to Socialism and therefore it will be the working class and their allies, that will most interested in changing the socio-economic system to a Socialist one. The transition to socialism requires the taking of state power by the working class. It is the working class, including the reserve army of labour, the under-employed and the unemployed workers, who suffer the most from the Capitalist system and have most to gain from Socialism. Socialism will benefit the majority of the Australian people including the Reserve Army of Labour, the workers who underemployed and the unemployed.

Control of the state and the organs of the state, by the working class and its allies, is what is meant by the dictatorship of the proletariat. This is a dictatorship only in the sense of having ultimate control of both the government and the constitution. Dictatorship of the proletariat is the dictatorship of the many, the working population, the majority, over the few very wealthy Capitalists. At the government level this 'dictatorship' of the proletariat is the rule of the majority over the minority of very wealthy people, a dictatorship over those who want to hoard wealth purely for themselves. This majority, workers rule, is a Socialist democracy.

Under a Socialist system the means of production, multinationals, large businesses, banks, schools, hospitals, and other infrastructure will be collectively owned and run by the state or by direct collectives. The means of production will be socialized in industry, energy & water supply, telecommunications, construction, transport, import and export trade. Under a Socialist system many small businesses will still function as small businesses.

Café's, small shops, taxi's, smaller manufacturing and car mechanics may function pretty much as they are, depending on the will of the people, with the provision that all workers pay and conditions comply with state set salaries, which would be vastly superior to the salaries they are now subjected.

The Capitalist press and both government and private education, actively encourage the misconception, that under Socialism and Communism all personal property will be abolished, this long encouraged belief is incorrect. Under a Socialist system working families will still own their accumulated personal items such as and including their personal homes, cars, jewellery, musical instruments etc, unless those personal items exceed past a certain level only reached by the very wealthy, where it is excessive, and the level of excess worked out by the consensus/vote. There may be limitations on properties, or cars etc worked out by consensus/vote of the people. Such scaremongering, by the Capitalist class, is quite deliberate as they do not want you to discover the egalitarian nature of the Socialist system, the fact that Socialism benefits the many.

Rather than confining freedoms, the Socialist system allows individuals more freedom to pursue their interests as all basic needs, food, clothing, housing, healthcare and education will be taken care of and the struggle just to survive will end. Under a Socialist system, workers will have more free time to pursue creative, cultural, sporting, family time or other pursuits with lower hours of work required and higher wages or welfare payments. All the basic needs of people will be addressed in Socialism in Australia. Under a Communist system, a higher form of Socialism, there will no longer be a need for private ownership of some items, as they will be provided by the state. For example, many people may wish to opt out of home ownership under a Socialist or Communist system, as all people will be guaranteed housing and a choice of housing options will be readily available dependent only on available resources. Under a Socialist or Communist system, moving to a new area will be much easier as people will not have to rely on the ebb and flow of the Capitalist housing market. In Australia we have vast resources, there would be no scarcity of housing, healthcare or education under Socialism or Communism and no scarcity of food, entertainment or cultural pursuits. The only limits to the higher form of Socialism, being Communism, would be those limitations of science, technology, nature and resources as people would work collectively, for the common good.

Neither Socialism nor Communism are utopian constructs, there are limitations to what human beings can, or will, be able to achieve in any given period. Under Socialism or Communism there will still be environmental issues like droughts and fires, resource limitations, distribution issues, community issues

and health problems to deal with however, scientific Socialism and Communism, removes the impediments that are currently preventing society from collectively moving forward. Socialism and Communism removes the things that are currently preventing us all from being able to deal with these issues, the main impediment being the hoarding of wealth into the hands of the few.

The Banks/ Financial sector

In order for a planned economy any government needs to have control over the financial sector, to do otherwise invites inflation, deflation and the kinds of chaos, money laundering and corruption we have seen in the financial sector recently in Australia. The banking sector should be there for the people, not for the interests of those who would profit from it like bankers, CEO's, shareholders and big business. Workers today are encouraged to invest in stocks and bonds, and workers' superannuation funds have become an important pool of capital for investment and speculation on the stock and money markets. This increases the capitalists' access to additional funds for investment, while creating the illusion that workers have some "say" in economic decisions and corporate policy. In reality, "people's capitalism," is a ruse and the capitalist class retains exclusive control.

Under a Socialist system we would Nationalise the banking system, which is nothing to fear, from 1817 to 1960's our banking system was dominated by the Bank of NSW and after the 1930's depression many of the banks were state run. The Federal Government established the Commonwealth Bank in 1911 which then set up branches throughout Australia and dominated both city and country areas. With a nationalised banking system, the government would have total control over interest rates, mortgages, and other banking products and this would be organised to benefit the majority, instead of shareholders and investors. With a Nationalised banking system, we would have greater planning ability and a fairer deal for all ordinary families who bank with them. As the government would be in direct control of the banking sector, the government could immediately decrease the interest on credit cards and mortgages allowing people enough time to be able to pay off any outstanding debts, or even cancel some debts if required, according to the will of the majority. With the control of the financial sector any profits from bank accounts, normally added to the private banking sector, would go back into the government funds to be used to fund public services.

Employment

All people will be guaranteed work, and well-paid work, in an Australian Socialist system. In Australia we are at such a well-developed level, in terms of resources, manufacturing and tools, that this will easily be achievable. In Australia we had full employment for more than 30 years, between 1945 and 1975, when the government intervened to guarantee full employment by increasing public services and infrastructure, supporting manufacturing and by protecting local industry through some Tariff protections. With a Socialist system, not only will jobs be guaranteed, but there will be a choice of readily available employment options for people. Unlike under the Capitalist system, where automation means redundancies, automation will not affect full employment under a Socialist system, except to make menial and dangerous tasks easier and safer or to increase production overall. In a Socialist system automation equates to shorter working hours with greater pay and allows workers to satisfy jobs which are currently under-allocated like in medicine, science, education, or welfare positions like homecare, nursing and counselling. With increased automation in a Socialist or Communist system, there will be increased entertainment, arts and participation in other social pursuits.

Regarding workforce allocation, the number of people employed in certain occupations, there are a myriad of social welfare, community and other jobs that are either not covered at all or are under-allocated in the Australian Capitalist system. In a Socialist system you would not be forced to wait in long queues for doctors, as many more doctors, specialists and dentists would be employed, including in hospitals and local clinics. In a Socialist system community need is the basis for employment instead of profit. In a planned economy the government would train enough people for certain tasks. If a Socialist government found themselves in the position where there were too many people employed in any occupation, people could be retrained or offered alternate employment, at government expense.

In a Socialist system need and production are correlated, there wouldn't be the waste that currently plagues our technology, or the inbuilt obsolescence designed for profiteering, therefore we would have less pollution and more preservation of our resources. Consumers would also be able to acquire products more suitable for the Australian environment and people. Our people would have clothes that are well made and fit the shape of our people, cars

suitable for the Australian environment and well-made products to last. People would find there would be greater flexibility in changing their workplace as well.

The Workplace

Under a Socialist system, the workplace would be divided into large collectively organised businesses and farms and smaller businesses like shops, restaurants, taxis etc. All very large businesses and multinational corporations would immediately be collectivised. In this transition process all workers would be encouraged to continue to work in their normal workplaces where possible. The workers at each workplace would be encouraged to select, from their ranks, workplace committees in order to be more directly involved in the decision-making process at work. Regular workers organising meetings will be encouraged as would worker participation in all aspects of their work. Workplaces would collectively decide which people are best suited for management positions. The gap between the salaries of workers and managerial roles would decrease, as the salaries of workers increased, and higher managerial staff would receive a realistic wage in line with effort and hours required in their positions. Small businesses would be encouraged to collectivise or to form co-operatives voluntarily via pointing to the advantages of doing so including shorter working weeks, less stress, longer holidays, assistance with loans, bookkeeping and purchasing power and other requirements.

Just some of the benefits of collectives and cooperatives are as follows; all workers have a role to play in the decision-making process, in this way they are more democratic than other Capitalist business forms. As workers will have a decision-making role, they will be more invested in the success of the business. A collectively decided amount of the profit may be added to the wages of workers thereby increasing their buying-power and improving their overall living standard. Workers will have a say in how much money is spent on infrastructure, materials, wages, safety and any other area of the business. Since workers will benefit directly from the proceeds of their work, they will be more invested in ensuring the business succeeds which will lead to lessened absenteeism and a heightened sense of job satisfaction. All management will be accountable to the workers and therefore they will be more inclined to listen to suggestions, innovations and inventions from workers and will be forced to listen to the concerns of workers. Businesses will be run more efficiently since management will be accountable to the workers and this will equate to improvements in the production process. Workplaces will be safer for workers since they will have direct control of workplace health and safety and it is in their interest to ensure workplace safety. Increasing production will have a

direct correlation to the wages of workers overall and therefore any innovation or invention will be welcomed. There will be collective problem solving rather than having to rely on the competence of one individual or group of board members whose motivation, under Capitalist styled workplace, is often decidedly different to workers. The collective way of working fosters friendly relations between workers as they realise that they are working for a common goal. Grants, loans and other financial concerns, and planning, will be collectively shared and therefore will be less burdensome to individuals as will bookkeeping, organising salaries and other paperwork required. With collective purchasing power there will be a huge reduction in running costs with greater potential to bulk buy materials and equipment. There will be limited, if any, liability to individuals legally or economically, unless there is some form of corruption or negligence involved. Personal belongings will be safe from any liability. There will be improvements in communication between workers and management since the adversarial contradiction between the profiteering of management, stockholders and business owners, and the workers will no longer exist. Workers and management will have stable employment as the death or mental health, or other problems of individuals will not prevent the workplace from continuing. Collectives allow for the possibility of a shorter working week, better conditions at work and better wages, along with the exclusion of bullying behaviour of middle management or company directors. Rather than working in a small business, where you might have limited relaxation time, work long hours and have few holidays, with collective ownership your relaxation periods and holidays will be assured. Other benefits could include workplace-based childcare, counselling, gym and recreational equipment and other services as per the decisions of the collective.

Other small businesses could remain operating as per normal, depending on the will of the people, with the provision that they increase the working wage of their employees and conditions in line with the rest of the country's development. The government may decide to offer subsidies to assist with wages and conditions where appropriate.

Housing

In Sydney, Melbourne and other towns and cities in Australia, there are currently units and homes unutilised or under-utilised whilst many people are living on the streets. This can't be allowed to continue. The Communist Workers Party of Australia calls on the government to immediately seek to utilise these empty buildings, to house all homeless people in Australia. In all Australian cities and towns there are also empty shops and business spaces. Under the current Capitalist system, greedy investors, owners, or real estate managements refuse to allow people to occupy these spaces with reasonable

rent, waiting for higher returns or pitting them against their taxation. In Australia it means that small businesses can't flourish under the weight of high rents and people in the rental housing market are paying very high rents. Many of these spaces are left vacant leading to entire areas that are underutilised, which is damaging for the economy as a whole. The Communist Workers Party of Australia calls on current governments to immediately cap the price of retail and housing rentals.

In a Socialist system there would be a large increase in public housing and, subject to the will of the people, people would still own their hard fought for and paid off over-time, homes. We would outlaw the ownership of multiple homes. The number of homes, houses, properties one could own, would be decided by the workers, by the majority of Australians. All empty buildings would be filled with people working, socialising or the homeless. Under a Socialist system we would eradicate homelessness. Under Socialism we will guarantee a place, a home for all.

Healthcare

Under a Socialist government the emphasis will be on public healthcare. Proper healthcare, readily available to the public, including Specialist healthcare, will be a priority. Depending on the will of the people there will be either fee free or a nominal fee charged for pharmaceuticals. Under a Socialist system the waiting time for appointments in Australia will be reduced markedly as more doctors, nurses and other healthcare staff will not only be trained, most likely fee free, but also will immediately be employed directly after training. All public hospitals will receive increased funding and healthcare providers will actively be encouraged to look at people as a whole human beings, instead of separated anatomical structures, working together with patients to improve overall care.

Education

Under a Socialist government all education will be publicly owned. Schools will be reinvigorated by the collective approach rather than teachers, students and school bodies being dictated to by the needs of big business or Capitalist government run bureaucracies. Teachers, other school staff, along with representative student bodies, will work collectively to alter the school environment to a more interesting and satisfying environment for students and teachers alike. With the means of production collectively owned, the state, will be able to afford a massive injection of funds into education. Private schools will become public institutions however, subject to the will of the people, efforts would be made for the smooth transition to publicly run education so as not to disrupt the learning of current students. We would propose, to the people,

that those students, who currently attend private schools, continue at that location but the institutions themselves become public institutions and the apparatus; gymnasiums, swimming pools, science laboratories etc., be shared with the local public education students and institutions until the public schools can be upgraded with equal equipment and infrastructure.

Some parents have opted for private schools, for their children, due to the lack of funding, equipment, infrastructure and sometimes the bullying behaviour of some students in public schools. Under a Socialist system we would ensure that there was a massive increase in funding, equipment and infrastructure in public schools therefore lifting the standard of public schools across the board. Rather than shuffling poorly behaved students from one school to another, we would allocate enough staff, specialists and other resources, including the lowering of the teacher to student ratio, to address any behaviour problems. As teachers, students, parents and executive staff will be working together, problems, particularly in regard to class sizes and bullying, will be eliminated. A socialist government may also decide to bring in government funded school lunches for all children and to alter all school canteens to healthy food canteens.

Under a Socialist system all education would be fee free. Returning to study or pursuing new courses will be actively encouraged. Universities and TAFE colleges would actively be supported with increased funding and increased availability of courses. There will be increased full time staff in these educational institutions. These institutions will be run collectively with all staff involved in the decision-making process overseen by government.

Agriculture and Food

Under a Socialist system a wide variety of easily affordable, and even perhaps subsidized food, will be available to all. Large multinational owned farms and larger farms will be immediately collectivized. The workers already employed on these larger farms, will be encouraged to continue to work there. Small farmers will be encouraged to collectivize on a voluntary basis or perhaps to form cooperatives, depending on what the majority decides.

Some incentives for participation in cooperatives on farms are;

- a) the reduction of the cost of production through collective cultivation work and collection of agricultural products,
- b) the protection of agricultural production from certain natural phenomena through the state infrastructure and scientific and technical support,

- c) the concentration, storage and preservation of agricultural products and its transport via the central state mechanism,
- d) the even distribution of labour time, on a yearly basis, through the extension of mechanization and central coordination to deal with unforeseen weather hazards.
- e) the reformation of the countryside with urban features regarding general education, fully equipped health centres connected with hospitals in the nearest urban centres, cultural infrastructure, transport etc.

The allocation of water under a Socialist system would be evenly distributed, with environmental needs taken into account. In Australia, the allocation of water has been hijacked by the very wealthy and biggest farms, leaving the less wealthy and often smaller farms, bereft of water. This is particularly the case around the Murray Darling river area where corrupt dealings dictate water allocation.

The production of food, the allocation of water and housing people will be a high priority, particularly in the initial stages during the transition period towards Socialism. It is important that we encourage people with expertise in these areas remain in these industries and we must ensure that ongoing support is provided and that water, machinery, scientific and technical support is allocated equitably.

Roads and Transport

In a Socialist system, in Australia, priority will be given to public transport. There will be an increase in the number of trains and buses, and the frequency of public transport. People will be actively encouraged to use public transport via low fares and greater frequency. We will propose, to the people, that we re-introduce staff on train platforms and bus stops to make public transport safer for public use. Wherever possible trains, or planes, will be used to transport bulk products, with trucks increasingly used for shorter distance transport. These shorter carting distances will not only provide for better road safety but will be advantageous to truck drivers as the shorter distances improve their occupational health and safety, as well as family relationships. There will be an increase in the building of bicycle tracks and roadways to make this form of transport safer for those who wish to partake of this form of transport.

Equal opportunity and equality in law and the legal system

The Communist Workers Party of Australia supports equal opportunity and rights for all. Our policies include positive discrimination quotas and equal pay for women, first peoples, the LGBTQI community and other cultural minority groups. Under a Socialist system, to ensure that women and other groups have equal opportunity and equal pay, there would be penalties for anyone who displays discrimination. Depending on the will of the people, these penalties may include fines and other penalties for paying women less than men for equal work, and fines and penalties for people who display discrimination towards people from different ethnicities, or cultures, or regarding gender or sexual orientation. We would support pay rises for work that is traditionally undertaken by women, including the very important areas of childcare and Education, and would make their pay equivalent to other positions of employment. All childcare, with exceptions for people who look after fewer children in their homes, would be publicly run or run by collectives with appropriately qualified staff. Workplaces would be encouraged to include childcare at their place of work or close by where possible. We would recommend that parents, who choose to stay at home to care for children, be covered by the welfare system, regardless of their spouse's work status in order to ensure that parents do not lose out financially by having to support and look after children. Under a Socialist system all peoples would have equality under the law and equal access to legal support.

Older Australians and those suffering illness and disabilities

Under an Australian Socialist system, the people would collectively decide on an appropriate retirement age. The Communist Workers Party of Australia would recommend a retirement age of 60 years or older, with older people having the choice regarding when they wish to retire. There will be laws preventing the discrimination or abuse against elderly people or those with disabilities. Elderly people, who suffer illness, will be supported via the welfare system and will be given appropriate and easily affordable housing and care. There will be more options regarding housing for elderly people, this could include group homes, where the elderly themselves run the group home or participate directly in the decision making. According to the will of the people, the elderly who are sick and suffering will be given the right to die a painless death with informed consent. Homecare for the elderly and for those suffering from illness or disability, will be publicly run. Group homes will be available

for those young people who suffer illness with other similar aged persons. People with disabilities will be entitled to all the benefits of a Socialist system including easily affordable housing, supported living, disability services and guaranteed employment opportunities where appropriate. People with disabilities will be entitled to full welfare support including housing, food, workers, medicines and medical appointments, all paid for via the state. The Communist Workers Party of Australia would recommend that temporary relief and support be made available for those suffering from temporary illness and do not have family support, or sole parents who must also look after children. Temporary assistance in shopping, doctors' appointments or mental health appointments will be recommended. We would also recommend more doctor to your door services. There will be numerous employment opportunities in this area and the more people work the better it is for the economy.

Entertainment, Culture, Art, Sport and Recreational activities

All large entertainment entities, including large film groups, theatre and sporting activities will be cooperatives or collectivised under a Socialist system. There will be room and provisions for some smaller groups, enterprises and individual artists. As the profits from the labour of all, will go back into public infrastructure and works, money would also be injected into the Arts. Discussions would occur between local and national government bodies and collectives regarding how best to support visual and performing artists in general. All visual and performing artists would actively be encouraged to attend, and take part, in collectives to discuss and make decisions regarding the arts accordingly. Visual and performing artists will be actively supported including any tuition needed for little or no fee. The Communist Workers Party would consider, and propose, many means of support including perhaps a system where the locality groups can decide where and how arts funding should be spent with the introduction of grants for the arts for each respective town or area.

In the current music industry, Australian artists are choked by overseas interests, particularly in terms of airtime on radio, television and other media, this will be altered under Socialism in favour of local artists. Radio stations are currently only required to air 20% Australian artist content, which often leaves Australian artists out in the cold. A Socialist system would ensure that local artists are supported which would mean reversing airtime in favour of local artists. Other actions would be looked into, according to the will of the people, like the removal of poker machines from venues and the increase of public funding for music and performance venues.

Under Socialism the opportunity to play sport will be given to all with publicly run facilities instead of privately run entities. There are already many sporting facilities in Australia that could easily be turned into public facilities. Many of the private and public schools also have sporting facilities that could be opened up for the use of the general public, as well as for students. Sporting facilities would be built or acquired for public use including gyms, swimming pools etc. Given the availability of ready-made sporting facilities in Australia, if any fees were required at all for use of these apparatus, we would anticipate they would be minimal nominal amounts with the majority of sporting facilities fee free.

As society develops deeper into socialism, there will be even greater funding for culture, sport and recreation. From Socialism where people's basic needs, food, housing, clothing, healthcare and education are met we will move towards Communism, where both needs and wants are met, this will include more recreation time, and facilities and entertainment for people. The whole point of Socialism and Communism is to form a socio-economic system where people are capable of, and do work together, for the common good.

Part 3: Reforms Vs Change and participation in Elections

Although the Communist Workers Party would agree to any positive social reforms, that benefit the working class under the Capitalist system, including better working conditions, gender and cultural equality, to improve the environment and better conditions for our first peoples, we understand that all and any reforms can be rolled back at any opportunity by the Capitalist class. We recognise that the only way to make permanent changes, for the benefit of the working class, is by changing the system to a Socialist one. We have seen the hard fought for better working, and other conditions, eroded in Australia. Our forebears enjoyed holiday pay, penalty rates, sick leave and family leave, however, increasingly workers no longer have those rights in Australia. Whereas under the Whitlam government education was fee free, now the public must pay direct fees, as well as through our tax system for education.

The only way to end this continued struggle with the Capitalist class, for better pay and conditions, is to change the socio-economic system, to change how wealth is distributed, to change permanently to a better way of life, to change to a Socialist system and then to a Communist system. Without changing the nature of power, the way wealth is distributed within the Capitalist system, these struggles will unfortunately continue. The Communist Workers party will support any reform in favour of workers in Australia, will support anything that

benefits the many however, we recognise that the only way to make a permanent change is to change our socio-economic system. We do not subscribe, to the revisionist view, that Capitalism can be changed from within, it can't, as has been demonstrated time and time again. It can not be reformed permanently under Capitalism as at the earliest opportunity, it can be changed back by the Capitalist class. The only chance to have a consistent change, for the better, is to change our socio-economic system permanently to a Socialist system.

Elections

By offering the appearance of a “free choice” during elections, purely between the political parties representing capitalist interests, and by its control of the agencies that influence public opinion, the main stream media, education, advertising etc., the capitalist class has been able to maintain its class rule. This includes the state financing of election expenses for the biggest political parties, which are increasingly similar on the main questions of concern to the Australian people.

According to the Australian Electoral Commission political parties are eligible for ‘election funding’ from Australian taxpayers if they receive over 4% of first preference votes in an election. The money given to political parties is “*calculated by multiplying the number of votes obtained by the current election funding rate*”. The current funding rate was 270.479 ‘cents’ in the Batman by-election in 2018. The Australian Labor Party received \$99,644.46, the Greens-Victoria received \$91,219.04 and the Australian Conservatives received \$14,797.91 from public funds. These figures, for just one electorate and one election, equals \$205,661.41 of taxpayers’ money. It is clear this money equates to an extraordinary amount of money when magnified to a whole Federal election. This funding was organised, with the dominance of the two major parties, the LNP and the Labor party. A new party, the Greens, had arisen and had won some seats in parliament. This funding allows the mainstream parties to have a considerable advantage.

These election funds, together with donations from large corporations, makes it increasingly difficult for any smaller parties to compete in elections therefore the entire process is even less than a normal bourgeois democracy with smaller parties and individuals unable to compete, unless they have enormous corporate donations behind them. The donations that large corporations give to the major parties, are often done so with the expectation that their needs, not the needs of the Australian public, will be favoured.

Important policy and state affairs are often removed from the parliamentary arena and instead are decided by Cabinet, or its non-elected officials in the state apparatus, by appointed judges and courts, or in conformity with the terms of bilateral and multilateral agreements imposed on the Australian people often influenced by foreign multinational corporations and foreign countries. Australia has seen Prime ministers change, not by public vote, but by internal politics of the political parties, together with outside interests from Multinational Corporations and the Capitalist owned press. A growing alienation from bourgeois politics is developing among working people for all these reasons.

The main role of Communist Workers Party of Australia members, in standing in the bourgeois social democratic election process, is for the purpose of agitation. Any member who is elected should be mindful that their purpose is largely to agitate, to expose the Capitalist system and in exposing the Capitalist system to truly represent the concerns of the Australian workers and disenfranchised workers, the Reserve Army of Labour. Whilst supporting any reform that has positive affect for the working class, we must understand that those reforms can easily be undone by the Capitalist class. We must not condemn the Australian working class to infinite struggles with the Capitalist class just for a meagre existence, we must change the socio-economic system if we wish to end the constant struggle for better pay and working conditions and a better life in general for the Australian working class.

The Communist Workers Party will participate in the bourgeois election process when it can be used to further our goal of changing the system, however, this will be done in the full knowledge that you can't change the system from within, that any effect individuals might have on a bourgeois democracy would be severely limited. We would participate largely for agitation and to expose the Capitalist system itself. We will support any parliamentary reform that benefits the working class and oppose any so-called reform that is of harm to the working people. At all times we would be aware that our role in parliament would be to expose the Capitalist system for what it is, undemocratic, corrupt and there purely for the purpose of allowing for the exploitation of workers by big business. The only time the bourgeoisie allows for social reforms, that may be of positive affect for workers, is when it suits their interest or very occasionally to appease workers, often to prevent an overthrow of government.

Part 4: The Role of the Communist Workers Party of Australia

The long term goal of our Marxist-Leninist political party, the Communist Workers Party of Australia, is the achievement of Communism based on the theory of Scientific Socialism as put forward by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels as further elaborated by Vladimir Lenin and many other comrades since.

Our goal of Communism in Australia is for the emancipation, the liberation of Australian workers and people from the dictatorship of capital. Our goal is to liberate workers from the current dictatorship of the Capitalist class, finance capital, multinationals and imperialism, and for the establishment of working class rule, a dictatorship of the workers, of majority rule over the smaller group of Capitalists that currently hoard the wealth of our nation for themselves.

Socialism and the higher stage being Communism, represents a bright future for humanity however, it won't be established automatically, it has to be worked on and prepared for. The only class which can be the instrument for bringing into existence communism is the proletariat, the Working Class and their allies. The proletariat is the most consistently revolutionary class, for they alone have an interest in the elimination of, not just one system of exploitation of one human being by another, but of all exploitation.

The working class cannot fulfil its historic mission unless it has its own, robust, well organized and theoretically equipped party, a Communist Party.

The proletariat, the working class and their allies, cannot even begin to take the first steps in the direction of the overthrow of Capitalism and the establishment of Socialism , the lower stage of Communism, unless they are armed with revolutionary theory. *'Without a revolutionary theory there can be no revolutionary movement...the role of vanguard can be fulfilled only by a party that is guided by the most advanced theory'* (V.I.Lenin)

In addition to advanced revolutionary theory the proletariat must possess, must create, a revolutionary organisation, an organisation that can lead workers to victory, a vanguard, a class-conscious and well organised detachment. Without such a party the Australian proletariat, the working class and their allies, has no body of its own to represent and fight even for its immediate interests, let alone the overthrow of Capitalism.

The Communist Workers Party of Australia is guided by the principles of Marxism-Leninism in its world outlook as well as in its day-to-day activities and is guided by the following principles;

In the sphere of organisation, the party follows the principles of Democratic Centralism. Democratic centralism combines the maximum of democratic discussion and participation of the membership in Party life, with the obligation to carry out majority decisions and execution of these decisions. It includes full discussion, by the entire membership, of the policies necessary to advance the aims of the Party's program. Decisions as to what these policies must be are made by majority votes which are then binding on all members. This enables the Party to act as a united whole in all conditions of the struggle.

Unity derives from agreement on the Party Program and the Constitution of the Party and the recognition that while differences may arise, as to how best to advance the aims of the program under changing circumstances, there must be unity of action in executing decisions once they are made by majority vote. All Party members must carry out Party decisions, the minority must abide by majority decisions, and lower organizations must carry out decisions of higher organizations.

Discussion regarding Party Policy must always be encouraged. Principled criticism and self-criticism, carried out in a comradely and objective manner, consolidates solidarity and unity of the Party, and enables it to strengthen its ties with the working class. Any tendency to suppress or evade principled criticism is detrimental to the Party and must be opposed. All members have the right to be treated with respect and must be shown respect at all times. All members have the right to put forward their arguments uninterrupted from anyone who disagrees with their argument or proposal. At all times, the behaviour of comrades is to be of the highest ethical and behavioural standards.

Factionalism will not be tolerated in the Communist Workers Party of Australia. Factionalism is when a group within a Party, manipulates party decisions or elections for the benefit, or at the behest of, a group outside of Democratic Centralism and outside of properly constituted party committees or branch meetings. Factionalism occurs where a group of people decide to influence elections by deciding, between themselves, who to nominate and vote for. Factionalism also occurs where a group similarly decides to influence the outcome of meetings/decisions by deciding, between themselves, outside of the formal meetings/decision process. Factionalism is simple manipulation of the formal processes, is very damaging to the Communist movement and will not be tolerated in our party. *Please see our constitution for the rights and duties of members in regards to this point.*

While participating in elections for agitational purposes, it is the duty of every party member to expose bourgeois parliamentarianism, which although an advancement over medieval institutions, is reactionary as compared with the dictatorship of the proletariat. The two-party Capitalist system gives only the semblance of a form of democracy in the choice of one over the other, however, both parties represent the Capitalist class and their interests.

‘The working class cannot simply lay hold of the ready –made state machinery and wield it for its own purposes’ (V.I.Lenin) The Capitalist system is heavily weighted in favour of the wealthy Capitalist class including laws, legislation and regulations therefore the entire system needs to be dismantled.

The Communist Workers Party of Australia will wage a relentless and uncompromising struggle against all forms of social democracy, and its variants, including Right Revisionism, Left Sectarianism and Trotskyism as these lead to a furthering of the Capitalist system and the continuation of the subjugation of the working class by the Capitalist class, and Liquidationism. It is because the Communist movement, previously established Communist organisations in Australia, have increasingly fallen into revisionism and therefore liquidationist tendencies, that the first Communist Workers Party of Australia cell/branch was formed on the 1st of May 2016 after seeing the need for a steadfast Marxist-Leninist based organisation in Australia.

Whilst resolutely adhering to the principles of proletarian internationalism, in its struggle for the establishment of a state of the proletariat, the party shall expose and oppose all imperialist exploitation, oppression and subjugation of peoples of oppressed countries. The party shall render all possible political, moral and material support to national-liberation movements everywhere, including the struggle of the Palestinian People for national self-determination and Independence, for the expulsion of Imperialist occupation and the reunification of Palestine. This party firmly adheres to Proletarian Internationalism and recognises and supports the struggles of working-class peoples internationally. We express our support and solidarity with movements for national liberation and socialism internationally.

The Communist Workers Party firmly believes that immigration is not the cause of unemployment, under-employment or other ills of the Capitalism system in Australia. These problems are solely the result of the failings of the Capitalist system itself and Imperialist policies. Current immigration policies and asylum legislation put forward by the right wing, including right wing members of parliament, have one real goal: the division of the working class along spurious bourgeois notions of race. In this way the Capitalist class attempts to divide the

working class and weaken the working class's ability to organise itself and to wage a revolutionary struggle for the overthrow of Capitalism.

Capitalists, the Capitalist system and Capitalist governments attempt to divide our working population via means of discrimination and inequality, by class, race, xenophobia, gender, immigration, education and more recently by age. The Communist Workers party steadfastly adheres to the principle of equality of working people, men, women, and the LGBTQI community of all national and cultural backgrounds. The party will resolutely fight against all forms of discrimination regarding gender, sex, sexual orientation and bourgeois notions of race. Nor will we differentiate against those regarding spiritual preference, where it doesn't present a conflict with Marxism-Leninism. Whilst steadfastly adhering to the principle of equality of working people of all national, racial, religious and gender backgrounds, the party will resolutely fight against all forms of discrimination.

The party is the vanguard for the conquest of the state, the organs of the state and the means of production. The two particular requirements for this event are, first, a general uprising of the Australian people and secondly, the determination of the people to continue the processes of transition until socialism has been established in Australia.

The party undertakes four distinct, but related, tasks to advance the transition to socialism in Australia.

These tasks are:

- To organise the working class and its allies, with a view to the effective taking of state power and the means of production.
- To promote knowledge of scientific socialism.
- To agitate for better conditions for the working class, including the disenfranchised working class, otherwise known as the Reserve Army of Labour.
- To participate as a party in numerous agitations applying Marxist-Leninist principles to the political struggles within Australia's capitalist so-called democracy.

The first of these four tasks is the most important. Agitations on issues are a means of improving conditions and the class consciousness of the Australian working class. However, only the abolition of capitalism itself can satisfy the

party and all education and agitation **MUST** be with our goal of taking state power and the promotion of socialism in mind and must be actions that will further this cause.

Our immediate tasks are:

- To form Marxist –Leninist cells that can be transformed into branches, particularly in each large population locality
 - To hold regular education classes in Marxism-leninism and to make new recruits aware of our constitution, their rights and duties as members.
 - To fight for and concentrate our agitations and/or actions on working class issues such as the opposition to the casualization of the workforce, pay cuts, austerity measures, poor conditions and the harassment of those underemployed and unemployed workers.
 - To support the collectivisation of the workplace and to encourage the taking over of any viable business. Here we refer to viable businesses that go out of business or move overseas, these we should encourage to be taken over by the workers themselves.
 - To oppose any anti-worker or fascist like legislation and to support pro-worker and anti-fascist movements.
 - To fight for the nationalisation of our banks and other public services, and to reverse any move to privatise social services and education.
 - To support the working class internationally.
 - To support any move to protect our environment.
 - To oppose any Imperialist wars including moves by the U.S to destabilise the South China Sea, and to oppose U.S bases on our soil.
 - To oppose any racism or legislation that is discriminatory, or any discriminatory act against any minority group and to support equal opportunity for all including in wages regardless of gender, race or sexual orientation.
- * The Communist Workers Party of Australia must also develop a regular bulletin, magazine or newspaper or internet news to distribute to the public.

All Communist Workers Party of Australia members should undertake and take charge of their own Marxist-Leninist education, along with ensuring that they attend Party education classes. Marxist-Leninist education, along with its practical application, is essential in our task of moving the party further forwards towards a Socialist future.