Minimum Definition of Revolutionary Organizations

Since the only purpose of a revolutionary organization is the abolition of all existing classes in a way that does not bring about a new division of society, we consider an organization as revolutionary which purposefully pursues, with consequence, the international realization of the absolute power of the workers' councils. That power has been outlined in the experience of the proletarian revolutions of this century: Russia 1905, Turin 1920, Kronstadt 1921, Asturias 1934, Catalonia 1936 and Hungary 1956. It is power without mediation.

Such an organization makes a unitary critique of the world, or is nothing. An understanding of "unitary critique" necessitates a total critique of all geographic areas where various forms of separate socio-economic powers exist, as well as a critique of all aspects of daily life.

Such an organization sees the beginning and end of its own project as the complete decolonization, the complete liberation of daily life. It aims not at the self-management of the existing - world, but at its un interrupted transformation.

Such an organization embodies the radical critique of political economy, the supersession of the commodity and of wage-labor.

Such an organization refuses to reproduce within itself any of the hierarchical conditions of the dominant world. The only limit to participating in its total democracy is that each member recognize and appropriate, as their own, the coherence of its critique: this critique has to be both in the critical theory, as such - and, in the relationship between the theoretical and practical activity. A revolutionary organization radically criticizes every ideology as separate power of ideas (as reification) and as ideas of separate power (of personified alienation). It is at the same time the negation of any of religion's leftovers (e.g.. altruism) and of the
prevailing social spectacle which - from mass-information (e.g., news-media) to mass culture - monopolizes communication among people around a unilateral reception of the images of their alienated activity. The organization dissolves any "revolutionary" ideology by revealing it to be a sign of the failure of the revolutionary project, as the private property of the new specialists of power, as the imposture of a new representation which erects itself above and outside the real proletarianized life.

The category of totality (of the global critique of daily life) is the final judgment of the modern revolutionary organization - and so, the organization is - in the end, a critique of all politics: it must aim explicitly, through its victory, at the dissolution of itself as a separate organization.

(Adapted version of the "Minimum Definition of Revolutionary Organizations", which - in its original form, was adopted by the 7th Conference of the Situationist International in July, 1966 - and which was later re-issued by The Enraged in France May, 1968.)

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