

breaking the chains

VOL. 9 NO. 1 SUMMER 2024



Study Guide

A Socialist Perspective on
Women's Liberation

01.

Introductions and guiding question

02.

Video and discussion

03.

Reading and discussion

04.

Final reading

05.

Closing and next steps



Agenda



Introductions

Tell us your name, pronouns, and how you're feeling about the 2024 Presidential election.

Guiding Activity

Take a moment to reflect on this quote by Shirley Chisholm who ran for President in 1972.

“The other candidates are going to be coming in here, or their campaign workers are and saying, 'Don't vote for Shirley Chisholm, because she has no chance to be President. Vote for somebody who can win.' Well if I can't be President, I can be an instrument for change. Why do you think people are running around saying I can't be President? They know I have the intellect and creative ability to put it together. That's why they are afraid. They know that I can't be bought; they know I can't be bossed. They know I can't be controlled. I am asking my brothers and sisters to give me a chance. The time has come when we no longer have to be passive recipients of whatever politicians of this nation may decree for us. We no longer have to remain disillusioned, apathetic, helpless and powerless. We now have a person who is willing to accept the snubs, the snide remarks, the humiliation and abuses because she dares to go against the tradition in this country—a country in which only white males can run for the Presidency. I am willing, because I understand.”



Guiding Question

This is the question we will return to throughout our study session to guide our discussion

**Why do socialists run in the
Presidential election?**

Watch and Discuss

Watch this video and take notes. What are your thoughts? What questions do you have?



Why We Need to Build A Socialist Movement

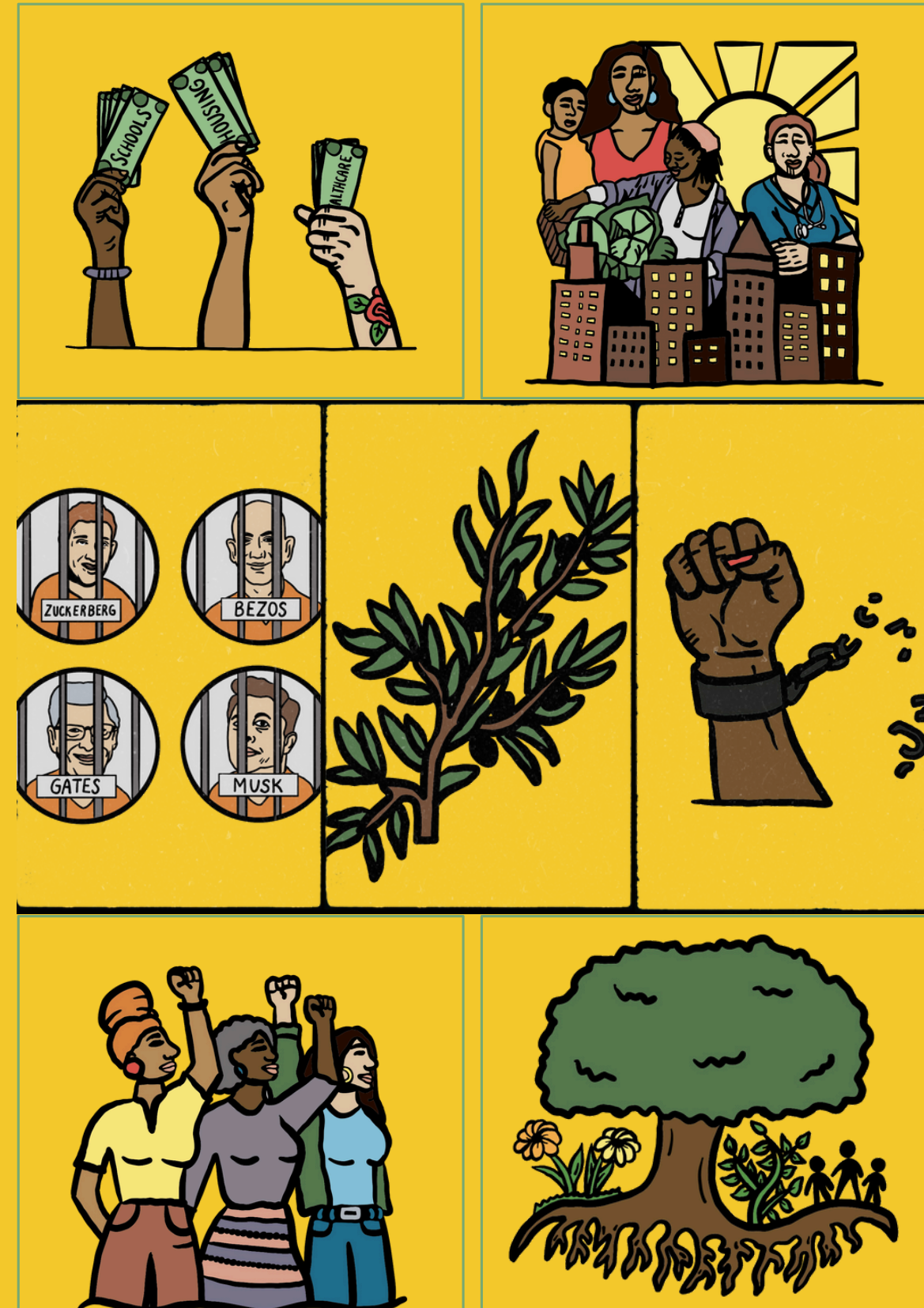
Every issue addressed in the Vote Socialist 2024 Program, and every injustice working people experience in society, boils down to the question of who has power. Our program explains what is truly possible in the first 100 days with a socialist government in power. The program is meant to ignite our imaginations and show, concretely, that another world is possible.

Instead of a tiny clique of billionaires and hedge funds running and deciding everything, the diverse working class needs to control the commanding heights of the economy and develop long-term plans to get us out of the mess the capitalists got us into. Working class people have all the resources and skills to meet the needs of the people and the planet, we just need the power to do it. Only a revolution, not an election, can end the rule of the billionaires once and for all, but this program shows how we can get started!

Read and Share

Assign each person to read one or two points of the Vote Socialist Program. After a few minutes, find a partner to discuss what you read. Then discuss as a group.

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Temperature Check

How are you feeling? Do you need a
break or should we continue?

Read and Share

Please take the next 10–15 minutes to read one of the articles listed below. Afterward, we will ask one person to give a summary of their chosen article, followed by a group discussion on the implications of all three:

**Revolutionary
optimism and
building a socialist
party**

pages 22–24

**Women's role in
building socialist
democracies**

pages 25–27

**Capitalist democracy
is a sham for all,
especially working
women**

pages 31–33

Group discussion:

Let's learn from each other

> **01.**

Summarize what you learned from the article you read. Take about 2 minutes to tell us the key takeaways.

> **02.**

In what ways is the United States not a democracy? What would be different about a socialist democracy?

> **03.**

Why is it important to build a multinational party that is experienced in struggle and trusted by the working class?

> **04.**

What is special about building a socialist movement in the United States? What makes it complicated? Why is it important?

pgs 7, 8, and 9

Reform, Revolution, and the Question of Elections



As a closing activity and to wrap up all we've discussed today, let's read the final section on page 36 "Toward a socialist future."

Final Excerpt

I ONLY VOTE FOR CANDIDATES WHO
FREE PALESTINE!

CLAUDIA²⁰ KARINA²⁴
FOR PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT

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CLAUDIA²⁰ KARINA²⁴
FOR PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT
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**Thank you for
joining us**

**VOTE²⁰²⁴
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