As the crisis of Allan Bakke, would-be medical student, is being considered by the U.S. high court, struggle against the Bakke decision (handed down by the California Supreme Court) is growing from coast to coast. The Bakke decision is upheld the affirmative action programs won in the struggles of national minorities in the late '70s will be in serious jeopardy. (See Revolution, October 1977 and January 1979)

On October 8 demonstrations involving thousands were held in numerous cities. The actions, called by the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision (NCOBD), were a new high point in the battle to build the struggle against the Bakke case and, after the October 22 demonstration in Kent, the RSB is the Midwest, South and East is making plans for building a broad national campaign around the Bakke decision. While the RSB will continue to endorse and build for regional actions called by the NCOBD—although a handful of reactionary forces have thus far prevented the RSB from joining the NCOBD—it is also necessary for the Brigade to play an independent role and bring out a fuller analysis of what's behind the Bakke decision.

**Actions Coast to Coast**

**Bakke Case Under Heavy Fire**

At the University of California in Berkeley, over 2500 students were arrested. A rally was held where speakers from the Chicano Studies program and the RSB spoke to the demand to smash the Bakke case and protest the class interests behind the attacks on national minorities. The struggle against racism and national oppression is. The tone of the NCOBD action in Oakland was that racism and national oppression are picked up by the masses to one degree or another, while racist ideas and bourgeois ideology in general are picked up by the masses in one degree or another, the source of national oppression is the capitalist system itself, which cannot do without the oppression of others. And unless the bullseye is firmly hung on the bourgeoisie and nationalism is very important and protracted. Some recent movements have also restricted the number of medical school places available to keep the price for their services dear—without the percentage of minorities admitted be as least equal to their representation in the population. In this way, quotas can be a weapon to force the bourgeois educational apparatus to accept minorities into higher education. Still it would be wrong to exalt a "quota system" everywhere and always as a cure-all for inequality and national oppression.

The struggle to defeat the Bakke decision, whose heart is the fight against national minorities, is very important and protracted. Some recent movements have also restricted the number of medical school places available to keep the price for their services dear—without the percentage of minorities admitted be as least equal to their representation in the population. In this way, quotas can be a weapon to force the bourgeois educational apparatus to accept minorities into higher education. Still it would be wrong to exalt a "quota system" everywhere and always as a cure-all for inequality and national oppression.

The anti-Bakke movement has had broad participation. The NCOBD, were a new high point in the battle to knock down affirmative action altogether. These reactionaries are saying that "affirmative action is fine" but quotas, under any circumstances, are not. They point out that quotas have been used in the past to segregate national minorities—thus quelling revolutionary struggle against national oppression and atrocities. This is, of course, but quotas have also been used to include religious and national minorities. The Bakke decision is not only antithetical to the struggle against national oppression but is also antithetical to the struggle to break up the capitalist system itself, which cannot do without the oppression of others. 

**Quotes**

The main argument of the reactionaries is that quotas run counter to the "equal protection clause" for individuals in the Constitution. This is a baseless argument denying the fact that the real question involved is the social question of inequality and national oppression. Their "fair and just" solution to this dilemma is to leave it dead. The success of affirmative action programs, in almost all cases, requires a concrete, quantified job. The struggle to defeat the Bakke decision is in danger of becoming weakened or misdirected.

Climbing off Cemen's decision to support affirmative action in principle but attack the use of quotas, many of the pro-Bakke forces have been hitting at quotas in order to knock down affirmative action altogether. These reactionaries are saying that "affirmative action is fine" but quotas, under any circumstances, are not. They point out that quotas have been used in the past to segregate national minorities—thus quelling revolutionary struggle against national oppression and atrocities. This is, of course, but quotas have also been used to include religious and national minorities. The Bakke decision is not only antithetical to the struggle against national oppression but is also antithetical to the struggle to break up the capitalist system itself, which cannot do without the oppression of others. 

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