
Negro Resolution Adopted by Indianapolis Convention [adopted August 1, 1901]

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Whereas, The negroes of the United States, because of their long training in slavery and but recent emancipation therefrom, occupy a peculiar position in the working class and in society at large;

Whereas, The capitalist class seeks to preserve this peculiar condition and to foster and increase color prejudice and race hatred between the white worker and the black, so as to make their social and economic interests appear to be separate and antagonistic, in order that the workers of both races may therefore be more easily and completely exploited;

Whereas, Both the old political parties and educational and religious institutions alike betray the negro in his helpless struggle against disfranchisement and violence, in order to receive the economic favors of the capitalist class; be it therefore

Resolved, that we, the Socialists of America, in national convention assembled, do hereby assure our negro fellow worker of our sympathy with him in his subjection to lawlessness and oppres-

sion, and also assure him of the fellowship of the workers who suffer from the lawlessness and exploitation of capital in every nation or tribe of the world; be it further

Resolved, That we declare to the negro worker the identity of his interests and struggles with the interests and struggles of the workers of all lands, without regard to race, or color, or sectional lines; that the causes which have made the victim of social and political inequality are the effects of the long exploitation of his labor-power; that all social and race prejudices spring from the ancient economic causes which still endure, to the misery of the whole human family; that the only line of division which exists in fact is that between the producers and the owners of the world — between capital and labor; and be it further

Resolved, That we, the American Socialist Party, invite the negro to membership and fellowship with us in the world movement for economic emancipation by which equal liberty and opportunity shall be secured to every man and fraternity become the order of the world.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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