

STUDENTS FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY

DEMOCRACY WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION

* Membership is open to all who share our commitment to participatory democracy.

* Chapters are the basic local unit, pursuing autonomous programs on the campus and in the community; participating in the national and regional programs of the organization; participating in national policy decisions through elected representatives.

* The National Convention, held each year, is the principal forum for establishing policy and leadership for the coming year. Every SDS member who attends may vote. The Convention elects 17 national officers who, with elected chapter representatives, form the National Council, the chief administrative body which meets quarterly.

* The Regional Office exists to increase communication and cooperation between groups in this area as well as serve as a link between the West Coast and activity in the rest of the country.

* All members are kept informed of the organization's operations through the membership Bulletin; organized chapters receive bi-weekly mailings from the national and regional offices.

National Office:

1103 East 63rd Street
Chicago 37, Illinois
(312) 667-6050

West Coast Regional Offices:

924 Howard Street
San Francisco 3, Calif.
(415) 362-7922

702 West 27th Street
Los Angeles 7, Calif.
(213) 748-9045

West Oakland Community Project:

320 Henry Street
Oakland, Calif.
(415) 444-3587

New School:

924 Howard Street
San Francisco 3, Calif.
(415) 362-7922

_____ please detach

___ I would like to join SDS and enclose () \$1 initiation () \$2/yr. dues

___ I would like more information on SDS

___ I am interested in joining SDS staff () now () this summer

name _____

school address _____

permanent address _____



STUDENTS FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY!

A RADICAL NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS

THE PROGRAM...

NATIONALLY

SDS is a radical organization with 80 chapters and 12 community projects from the University of Maine and the ghettos of Newark to Berkeley and poverty-stricken neighborhoods in West Oakland. Last summer its 300 man staff continued to challenge existing structures and policies and to develop more radical and humane alternatives.

SDS's Economic Research and Action Project (ERAP) seeks the creation of an interracial movement of the poor to fight for social equality in a society with enormous mal-distribution of power and wealth. Although the issues may differ from city to city, the goal remains the same: that the individual share in those decisions determining the quality and direction of his life.

Last year, SDS helped to fill the vacuum left by the decline of the older peace organizations through its April March on Washington to End the War in Viet Nam and its protest against Chase Manhattan Bank's support of apartheid in South Africa. This year, education and action will center about an anti-draft program and the continuing protest against the war in Viet Nam.

On the campus, SDS's programs concentrate on university power structure research, the creation of student unions and the definition of the Free University. As with the rest of SDS programming the focus is on exposing the extent to which people are excluded from decision making in areas that

directly affect their lives. Last year SDS chapters organized most of the protest in the East and Midwest against university suppression of free speech and academic freedom.

SDS has also been active in the fight for civil rights either through direct action by its chapters or by serving as a Northern arm for the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee and the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. As with other issues, SDS does not believe that the civil rights battle will be won until a broadly based popular movement is able to achieve the democratization of America.

THE VISION...

"Students for a Democratic Society is an association of young people on the left. It seeks to create a sustained community of educational and political concern; one bringing together scholars, students and faculty.

"It maintains a vision of a democratic society, where at all levels the people have control of the decisions which affect them and the resources on which they are dependent. It seeks a relevance through the continual focus on realities and on the programs necessary to effect change at the most basic levels of economic, political, and social organization. It feels the urgency to put forth a radical, democratic program...."

from the SDS Constitution

ON THE WEST COAST

Until late last spring, SDS was based almost entirely in the East and Midwest. Now full-time staff are working in the South and West. On the West Coast people are now working out of two regional offices, a community organizing project and the New School.

The regional offices are developing campus and community programs around the war in Viet Nam, opposition to the draft, and university reform. While much of the programming is geared to national projects of SDS, such as the international student strike in December, regional activity is also being planned. In addition to a regional newsletter there will be extensive campus traveling to high schools and colleges.

The community project located in West Oakland seeks to build a movement of ordinary people to change Oakland. Last summer the organizers helped the people of a nearby public housing project form a tenants' league to demand their rights. Work is continuing with the league and with other people in the community around basic issues of jobs, housing conditions and the basic right of self-determination. Other projects will be started as staff becomes available.

The New School, which recently associated with SDS, will act to stimulate dialogue and cooperation between student movement activists and intellectuals and professionals. The New School is orienting its research and courses toward the needs of people who are involved in radical action, inside and out of the university.