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We are Democrats. We are Socialists : Speech

The Workers Party

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We are democrats. We are socialists. Our politics are rooted in a great democratic tradition. For us there can be no socialism without democracy. Our political task is to deepen and widen that democracy in order to create a free socialist society.

We put people first - before country, class, party, profit or privilege. Our aim is to build a society based on equality, justice, tolerance and pluralism. One where the free development of each individual is a condition of the free development of all.

Setting this goal requires a new departure. It requires a farewell to failed politics both left and right. We seek a renewal on the left and the formation of new democratic politics which transcends both labourism and leninism.

We want people and the communities in which they live to have the power to control their own lives. We are creating a party which stands with the PAYE worker, the unemployed, the poor, and with women and men, young and old, who want a better life for all.

Capitalism feeds on exploitation, greed and waste. It cannot provide a better life. We must replace it with a system which puts people and their environment first. And we must build an economy to serve the interests of society rather than society serving a system which enriches a few, provides a living for some and impoverishes many.

Our aim is to restore hope to politics. We will work with groups and individuals seeking progressive change. We recognize the potential for campaigning alliances on vital issues - unemployment and poverty, peace in Northern Ireland, womens and civil rights, the protection of our planet, and the exploitation of the Third World. Realizing that potential will mark a new beginning for Irish politics.