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New Politics, New Hope : a Draft Manifesto

The Workers Party

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NEW POLITICS - NEW HOPE

A Draft Manifesto

An exciting new era in Irish politics is upon us - an era of progress and hope. From the dismal shambles of failure and corruption which surrounds us is emerging a new determination by the Irish people to create a different kind of society - a society of justice, opportunity and personal freedom. To realise this new hope and this new determination is the project of the XYZ Party.

The XYZ Party is a democratic, socialist party. It seeks to transfer power from the privileged elites of our society to the people at large. It demands that our resources be developed for the benefit of all, and not for a small minority. Equality of opportunity is a cornerstone of our philosophy. The XYZ Party opposes all forms of discrimination, and especially the most pervasive form of discrimination in Irish society - that against women. It is a party of peaceful coexistence and rejects violence, prejudice and sectarianism. It views the relationship between human society and nature as one of mutual interdependence rather than depredation.

The XYZ Party believes that the twin evils of mass unemployment and poverty can and will be overcome through a planned and committed mobilisation of resources. We aim to smash the corruption in high places which has produced wanton abuse of our national wealth. Accountability must be extended into all areas of public life - accountability of politicians to the electors; accountability of public servants to the citizens; and accountability of management to workers.

The XYZ Party is driven by the need to spread democratic institutions and practices throughout Irish society. Without a community prepared to demand its rights, there can be no effective progress to a just and fulfilling future. Parents must control their local schools. Residents associations must assert their right to fair treatment from local authorities. Communities must be able to protect their environment from unacceptable development. The right to divorce and information on pregnancy options must be established. Freedom from fear of ill-health must be made a thing of the past. Workers must achieve real involvement in the control of their workplaces.

Participation is central to the new politics of the XYZ Party. People have become understandably cynical about the opportunism and lack of principle which typify the political process in Ireland. Our aim is to restore the belief that, properly organised, citizens can effect real progressive change in their lives. The XYZ Party will pursue its objectives through a wide spectrum of activities. It will seek direct political power through elected representatives in the Oireachtas and in local councils. But it will also be a campaigning party on the ground, organising local communities and special interest groups in their fight for democratic causes.

~~The~~ we are seeking allies in the building of a new party.

The XYZ Party recognises the wide variety of groups in our society who are committed to the concept of social justice. We will seek the broadest co-operation with such groups in the pursuit of their aims. At the same time, we see a common thread running through these groups and the injustices which they seek to redress. This common thread is the need for fundamental change in the broader society of which we are all part. We therefore seek to draw these groups into the mainstream of political action through the promotion of alliances and through direct participation by individuals in our project.

Membership of the XYZ Party is open to all those, in Ireland and elsewhere, who share our objective of the democratic transformation of Irish society. It is a member-centred party which seeks to promote involvement, discussion and debate. It is democratic in its structures, and derives great organisational strength from an active and committed membership.

We believe that large numbers of Irish people are concerned about the state of public affairs in Ireland, but have felt unable to do anything about it. The XYZ Party provides the avenue whereby this concern can be turned into action. We must, and can, create a new spirit of purpose which will allow us to face courageously into the New Europe and the New Century. Outdated political structures and allegiances have not served Ireland well. The XYZ Party offers a New Departure which places the citizen at the centre of our society. We are determined to replace the culture of privilege and private power with a new democratic society based on participation and justice.

Join us in our project!

we look to the