

Scandal at Miramonte Elementary School Shows That Capitalism is a Moral Sewer

EXCUSE TO DISCIPLINE AND FIRE TEACHERS

LOS ANGELES—A scandal at Miramonte Elementary School, one of the largest elementary schools in one of the poorest neighborhoods here, has been widely publicized. The students are latino and black. When the racist and abusive teacher took photos of his lewd acts involving students to a photo lab, the worker there showed them to the police. But it also came out that separate parents' complaints about this teacher, all of which went unheeded, went back twenty years and that there was an ongoing criminal investigation about this teacher last year! Now there's a complaint about a second teacher at the school fondling young students.

The school district removed, arrested and fired the two teachers. Then they removed ALL the teachers and other workers from the school, closing it for two days and making things worse. The district superintendent says teachers and staff will have to be investigated and reapply to return to the school next year. He also promised to streamline the process of firing teachers.

This is taking place during a nationwide campaign of blaming teachers for the failure of capitalist education. New evaluation systems grading teachers on how well students do on standardized

tests and making it easier to fire teachers who fight for better education were already planned. The district is taking advantage of the sick behavior of two teachers to discipline all teachers in a fascist attack meant to browbeat teachers into sticking to the patriotic standards the bosses impose in the current capitalist crisis.

Parents and students first demonstrated for action against the molesting teachers. The next day they demonstrated to keep the good teachers, who "go beyond" in helping the students. For the many teachers who are committed to the students, the way to "go beyond" is to fight to destroy this sick capitalist system and replace it with a communist system that promotes healthy collectivity to meet the needs of workers and our children everywhere.

Who should we trust?

"It's fair that they removed them all from the school to take time and investigate the whole thing," said José in a discussion about Miramonte.

"One never knows; there are a lot of psychos out there," added Yvette.

But what causes this sort of anti-social behavior? "Maybe the teacher that did those things because he was sexually abused himself," said Andrew.

"There seems to be a cycle. The movies that are shown and all the things that are around us," responded Jessica.

"Actually, more security in the schools and the classrooms is needed and the children should be taught to speak up," concluded Samuel.

More security guards is not a solution. We can't rely on the capitalist sys-

tem which creates abusers to protect us from them. Look at the pillars of capitalism, like the Catholic Church with priests molesting children, and the US Senate pages molested by Senators.

Capitalist ethics vs Communist ethics

Capitalism is a sick, anti-worker system that destroys some people and makes some anti-social, sick and crazy. Capitalism promotes individualism and selfishness. This is capitalist ethics.

In contrast, communist ethics rely on collectivity and sharing: "from each according to commitment; to each according to need." By eliminating exploitation and competition, we'll create and sustain a fulfilling, healthy society. In a communist society, there's no way the abuser could have hidden his abuse for twenty years. The masses will rapidly detect and take care of abusers like this!

The capitalists force us to live in a fragmented society. They also force divisions based on so called "race" and "nationality." As long as capitalism continues, incidents like those at Miramonte will continue.

In communism, we'll be actively involved with neighbors, co-workers and class mates in producing, building and organizing society to meet our needs, depending on each other for everything. We'll all live, work and learn together in collectives free of violence, competition, and human degradation. At the first sign of anti-human behavior people will mobilize themselves to investigate and struggle over whatever issue may arise. Communist ethics based on mass understanding and commitment to our class will be the basis of the new society.

How do we get there? Fight the attacks by mobilizing the masses for communism now, reading studying and writing for **Red Flag**. Establish **Red Flag** distribution networks in the factories, barracks, schools and neighborhoods. Put the ICWP's manifesto Mobilizing the Masses for Communism into the hands of workers and youth everywhere.

