



# Women and Socialism: Essays on Women's Liberation

By Sharon Smith

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Thirty years have passed since the heyday of the women's liberation struggle, yet women remain second-class citizens. Feminism has shifted steadily rightward since the 1960s. This collection of essays examines these issues from a Marxist perspective, badly needed today.

*Women and Socialism* locates the source of women's oppression in class society, arguing that only a movement integrating the fight for women's liberation with a struggle against a system that puts profit above human needs can end women's oppression—along with all other forms of inequality.

**Sharon Smith** is the author of many articles on women's liberation and the US working class. Her writings appear regularly in *Socialist Worker* newspaper and the *International Socialist Review*.

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“Sharon Smith’s work, spanning decades of events affecting women, provides a valuable and uncommon perspective on the oppression and liberation of women. The book covers both theory of women’s oppression and the history and politics of women’s movements. Her understanding of the grounding of women’s oppression in class society, her vision of solidarity among women and men, and her critique of ideologies of sexism and the rollback of the gains of the women’s movement are tremendously important contributions to women’s studies. More than that, the accessible writing and incisive assessment of the movements gains and losses are indispensable for activists for women’s liberation today.”

—**Dana Cloud, Associate Professor, University of Texas, Austin**

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#### **About the Author**

Sharon Smith is the author of *Women and Socialism*, also published by Haymarket books, as well as many articles on women's liberation and the U.S. working class. Her writings appear regularly in *Socialist Worker* newspaper and the *International Socialist Review*.

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