

STATEMENT RE MONTREAL POWER OF WOMEN COLLECTIVE

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- 1) That there is a consensus in the Network that the positions taken at the February conference on libertarianism, autonomy, leadership, wages, etc. -- and expressed more fully in Ruth's paper -- are Network positions, and
- 2) That the Montreal Collective is not in agreement with these positions from what they have said in their initial paper on the February conference and subsequent replies to Silvia's response.

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2) The principle of clarification at the local level should stand once the Network has taken a position and open debate in the Network is no longer necessary for the majority. In this connection we note that following the circulation of their first paper the Montreal Collective was assured several times that we in Toronto were ready to meet to discuss the differences they were expressing with the Network. It was not taken up except for a brief meeting with one of its members, from which no agreement resulted and after which still further divergence was expressed in the open letters to Silvia. This includes Susan Wheeler who, although she moved to Toronto shortly after the February conference did not respond to the Committee's offer to discuss political differences and the consequences for her working/not working with the Committee. Due to this lack of response we have had no contact at all with Susan and very little with the Montreal Collective despite our stated willingness to further clarify positions after the February conference. Because of this, we feel that the principle of local clarification of differences is especially important -- why should a group or individual who chooses not to discuss locally with those maintaining Network positions have access to valuable conference time only to force the entire Network over old ground?

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