

Strengthen disaffiliation from the Socialist Workers Party, including affiliates

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Notes:

1. In 2013, accusations of rape and sexual misconduct within the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) surfaced, with around 700 members resigning in opposition to how the allegations were dealt with and subsequently covered up
2. In academic year 2014/15, Goldsmiths Students' Union passed an assembly motion to disaffiliate from the SWP and their student wing, the Socialist Workers Student Society, in opposition to this and to ensure solidarity with survivors
3. Stand Up To Racism, as well as other groups such as Unite Against Fascism, deny being affiliated with SWP despite being listed as one of their campaigns on their homepage, and having numerous other links including shared central committee members (Media Diversified, 2016)
4. Numerous liberation groups have spoken out against Stand Up To Racism, pressuring others and public figures to disaffiliate and not share a platform with them (ibid)
5. Approximately 97,000 people are raped every year in England and Wales, amounting to roughly 11 rapes per hour, and around half a million sexual assaults take place (Rape Crisis England and Wales, 2016)
6. 1 in 7 women students experience sexual and/or physical violence on campus in the UK (NUS Hidden Marks Report, 2012: 11)

This Union Believes:

1. Goldsmiths Students' Union has a duty to protect its members and prides itself on taking a proactive stance on issues of liberation and safe spaces
2. Violence is not just physical but can also exist symbolically, and the presence of SWP and its affiliates constitutes a form of symbolic violence against survivors, furthering their traumatisation
3. We cannot build an effective movement against racism and the far right without being intersectional, and this necessitates recognising the widespread issue of sexual violence and opposing those who perpetuate, deny or obfuscate its debilitating realities

This Union Resolves:

1. To continue and strengthen its disaffiliation from the Socialist Workers Party by extending this policy to its affiliates including, but not limited to, Stand Up To Racism and Unite Against Fascism

2. To practically apply this disaffiliation through various means, including asking them to leave when leafleting and removing any propaganda posted around campus

3. Campaign and promote other grassroots movements that tackle similar issues to those being capitalised on by the SWP and its affiliates, in order to strengthen an intersectional approach to liberation