

# REFORMISM DOESN'T SOLVE QUEER OPPRESSION

We have hate crime laws. We have “gay marriage”.  
*Haven't all our problems been solved?*

In 2013, Stonewall surveyed LGB adults in Britain and found that one in six has experienced a hate crime in the *last three years*. The Crime Survey of England and Wales estimates that there are 39,000 sexual orientation hate crimes per year, and found that around 42% of sexual orientation hate crimes involved physical violence. That's to say nothing of the *even worse* hate crimes that trans people face, and the disproportionate rate of **depression, homelessness, anxiety, poverty and suicide faced by all queer people**.

So the hate crime laws that have been in place for over a decade haven't worked. Why?

To understand why, it's crucial to first understand that *society isn't as it currently is because of pure chance*. There are identifiable reasons, and if we take a proper look at history and the fundamental structure of society, we can uncover these reasons and propose *real* solutions.

Friedrich Engels showed in *'The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State'*, an early and ground-breaking work on anthropology, that **the root of patriarchy lies in class society** (today represented by capitalism) and the exploitation of women's reproductive capabilities and labour. Going further, we can see that **the root of queer oppression is in patriarchy** because patriarchy needs rigid gender roles, rigid gender divisions, rigid sexualities, and rigid families to function, but queer people are a threat to this. Cis-hetero women, cis-hetero men, and the typical cis-hetero family are the ideal to patriarchy because it enables the exploitation of women. **Capitalist-patriarchy has no need for queer people who don't fit in to its rigid structures.**

So the problem of queer oppression can't be solved by the police when it's the police who protect and represent the capitalist state, and it's capitalism that's the cause of modern queer oppression in the first place!

What is to be done, then? How do we solve queer oppression once and for all?

**We need to get to the root of the problem: capitalism.** Fundamental change for a fundamental problem; radical change for a radical problem. Nothing less. **We need revolution, the forcible overthrow of capitalist-patriarchy**, the conquest of power by the poor and oppressed of the world. **We need communism** — a classless society where the economy is directed according to human need rather than profit.

Under communism there would be no need for the private family. Marriage and any other legal distinctions between different types of relationship would be done away with. We would transition to a collective life where everyone in the neighbourhood is considered a parent of every local child, and there would be no opportunity for the parental abuse that so many young queer people face to occur.

Under communism there would be no more poverty. There is more than enough wealth to feed, water, clothe, house, and educate everyone in the world. In Britain, there are 10 empty houses for every homeless household. If we shared the money of the world equally between every single inhabitant, young and old, everyone would get \$14,293 per year. Yet 80% of the world lives on less than \$10 a day.

The *only* reason there are poor people right now is because wealth is hoarded by the rich countries and rich people, and taken from the poor countries and poor people.

The struggle against poverty, the struggle against queer oppression, the struggle against patriarchy, they are all interconnected. **The oppressed and poor have a world to win, and nothing to lose but their chains.**

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