(5) given out at party-building conf June 1977 + as an example of how SUB does ~~a~~ sum-ups of its practice + help in developing theory.

SUM-UP AND ANALYSIS OF CLUW IN BALTIMORE, SUB'S ROLE

This analysis will include a brief description of CLUW work; the main problems and contradictions in baltimore cluw that led to our decision not to work in; and lessons learned.

Brief description: 3 people in SUB were very active in CLUW for ov er a year. Most people know how CLUW was set up nationally, mainly by bureaucrats, so I won't go into. The Baltimore CLUW chapter started out quite good. There were a number of rank and file women from industrial jobs, a number of black women active. There weren't that many buraqucrats. In the beginning Communist women worked together, no one Communist group dominated. We had regular programs, worked on two major projects, supporting Murphy's strike to get union contract, and picket at unemployment office. We 3 SUB women were on steeering committee, one chaired action com. 2 others responsible for program commiettee. About a year after CLUW's beginning in Baltimore, things changed a lot, lost its rank and file members, now is just a few Communists, mainly all OL women and bureacrats. Our analysis will speak to why this happened.

MAIN problems and contradictions:

The main problem of CLUW locally, presently, is that it doesn't speak to the primary needs of w.c. women. We think that w.c. women see the primary problem arund themselves to be their problems as workers in general, not their particular problems as women workers. Women workers do face particular problems as women on job, around day care, maternity, job promotions, sex discrimination, but these are not usually their primary concerns; rather wages, working conditions, lay-offs, etc. the problems that face both men and women workers are. The problem is that CLUW is designed to speak more to the particular problem of ~~women~~ being women on the job; therefore, does not speak to the primary needs of w.c. masses ~~of~~ women therefore not involve masses of w.c. women. CLUW never really grew. Initially there were some rank and file women, and it looked like it had a lot of potential for growing. Also for a period of time we worked on some projects that spoke to problem of women as workers- need for a union, unemployment. But as OL took over CLUW more and more, they pushed to restrict CLUW work more to just particular problems of women workers as women. Therefore, we can conclude that the principal

contradiction in Baltim re CLUW was:
dealing with the problems of women workers as workers vs. dealing with the problem of women workers as women on the job. The latter aspect became more and more dominant, so that CLUW was speaking less and less to the primary needs of women. ~~That is why in the long run not that many w.c. women became involved.~~

~~The~~ Another major contradiction was between the bureacrats and rank and file in CLUW. Nationally, the bureacrats were the ones to start CLUW, and they still have the control nationally. At the conventions there is this constant battle between rank and file and bureacrats, and the latter usually wins. Like they have successfully managed to prevent women in organizing drives from being members of CLUW. But ~~een~~ the contradiction exists in the Baltimore chapter, also. Though the bureacrats are in a minority here, they push a bureacratic approach, like the main emphasis on fund-raising, saying building CLUW as an org. was more important than building a w.c. movement or dealing with the problems of unemployed women. There had to be so much energy put into defeating the bureacrats nationally and locally, that it hardly seemed worth it.

The third major contradction was; the sectarianism of one COm org-~~vs~~(OL) vs. the non-sectarianism of other COm. orgs. We realize this is a contradiction within the broader contradiction of the unity of Com vs. the disunity of Com. OL, incredibly sectarian, reached the point of virtually refusing to work with other Com. org. They wouldn't meet with SUB to discuss strategy as Communists, they united with bureacrats to defeat other Com. groups like SUB (which supposedly they considered revisionist.) They allowed bureacrats to red-bait us, not deal with as Communists themselves. They ran out other ~~er~~Com. org because of their domination. They would being 10 OL people, no rank and file, not do much work. They ran out many rank and file pepple when they joined with bureacrats to keep people in org. drives from voting on whether to endorse Coalition. After endless struggle to ~~defeat~~ prevent CLUW from endorsing Coalition by dishonest means(going along with bureac5rats red-baiting, saying ~~Charter~~ charter could be taken from CLUW if endorsed Coalition, saying Coalition didn't deal with special problems of women) they are now using CLUW to build their unemployment group, Fight Back. Other Communists, including SUB, seriously tried to build CLUW in a non-sectarian way, to no avail.

And finally, there was a fourth problem. Those of us in SUB were doing much of the work of CLUW, (3 on steering com. I hged of action com. 2 in charge of program com0, an incredible amount of shit work; did most of work of trying to bring rank and file people, etc.) amd yet we ended up having very little way, not being allowed to vote, continually shit on. OL, on other hand, did hardly any work except for 1 person, but had the say because dominated in #'s and people allowed to vote. We might state this contradiction as SUB women doing most work vs. SUB women having ~~least say~~ leadership.

Finally, there was the problem of all of us women in SUB being in non-union shops, so that CLUW did not speak to the needs of women we knew . CLUW was designed for union women, prevents women in non-union shops from voting. In addition, K& S felt couldn't bring people from work because of security around union drive.

Some STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF CLUW, MORE OUR ROLE IN IT:

Strengths: We in SUB worked real hard, involved rank and file people. We did some good actions, when had more say, like support of Murphy's, though it had definite weaknesses, unemployment picket. SoWe organized some good program.

Weaknesses: It was hard to find actions that mobivlized a lot of people (w.c. women), a real mass issue that just concerend itself with women workers. Later on there was too much emphasis on programs.

CONCLUSION: Due to the above problems, of CLUW not speaking to the needs of, involving enough w.c. women, our SUB women having to put so much energy into fighting bureacrats and OL; and CLUW because of these things declining instead of growing and developing, we decided not to work with CLUW anymore.

LESSONS LEARNED:

1. We failed to do enough analysis of CLUW while involved. We didn't use our criteria and analyze whether CLUW was speaking to needs of masses. Therefore, before we put a whole lot of energy into a mass work form, we need to analyze more carefully whether it meets our criteria, one of which does it speak to where masses are.

2. We learned that at this time in history , it is extremly difficult to work with OL because of their sectarianism and opportunism. They have even refused to meet with us to talk about problems of working together. So before we try to work with them again, we should give it serious consideration.

2. A mass organization that is started by bureacrats, or has a # of bureacrats has serious limitations. So much energy has to be spent struggling against bureacrats, that it seriously hampers the org. moving forward. Of course, one could argue that bureacrats run unions, and we work in unions, but that is because unions are the main org. of w.c. masses. CLUW is just one tiny org. that has hardly any w.c. masses in it.

3. We learned that it is really important to be cautious about being open as a Communist to a union bureacrat, no matter how progressive she-he might seem. Even when a bureacrat seems so progressive, it is important to remember that their salary comes from an International, very anti-Communist. T was open with Minnie, bus agent of Laundry Workers who seemed very anti-Communist, open, for rank&file. She ended up using that against us, for that reason wouldn't support Coalition, would prevent LAundry Workers, A.P. Randolph from supporting. She said onee when she supported SNCC, International threatened to fire her.