

14 Charles Lane  
New York, N. Y. 10014  
November 19, 1971

To the Political Committee

Dear Comrades,

For your information, Debby Pope is a member of the Proletarian Orientation Tendency.

Comradely,

*Jack*  
Jack Barnes

420 Hawthorne Avenue  
Oakland, California 94609  
November 11, 1971

NOV 13 1971

Socialist Workers Party  
Jack Barnes  
14 Charles Lane  
New York, New York

Dear Comrade Barnes,

I am writing to request advice and clarification on a certain aspect of party-youth relations. I have recently re-read Comrades Bolduc and Seigle's contribution to the 1969 SWP Convention discussion, "On Party-Youth Relations: Setting the Record Straight," which I assume to be a statement which the Political Committee and yourself were in agreement with, at least at the time. I also attended the 1971 SWP Convention where Comrade Frank Bohem, National Chairperson of the YSA, made a statement on Party-Youth relations. As nearly as I can recall, Comrade Bohem's remarks indicated that party members in the youth organization were and are subject to supporting as well as carrying out decisions of the Party convention in the YSA, and are, at least in that respect, subject to Party discipline in the YSA.

Comrades Bolduc and Seigle, however, include the following statement in their document: "Fender asks, does this mean that Party members in the YSA leadership are not subject to direct supervision, direction and control of the Political Committee of the SWP?" Bolduc and Seigle reply: "Yes, Fender, that is exactly what it means."

It would seem to me that this latter statement can be interpreted to mean that SWP members in the YSA are not bound by Party decisions in terms of their youth activity, since they are not acting under the supervision, direction and control of the P.C. (which is the major decision-making body of the party between conventions and plenums.) In light of these two, seemingly contradictory statements I would like clarification on the rights, responsibilities and correct procedures for Party members in the YSA to follow during pre-convention discussion in the YSA. In particular: 1) Is it correct for SWP'ers in the YSA to submit resolutions counter in line to those submitted by the YSA NEC? 2) Is it permissible for SWP members in the YSA to vote for or give verbal support to such counter-resolutions if submitted by non-party youth? 3) Is it permissible for SWP members to raise any type of objections to YSA NEC resolutions verbally in the YSA?

I wish to make it clear that at this time I have no intentions of writing any such counter-resolutions, nor am I aware of any being written (either by Party or non-party youth.) I do feel, however, that this is a question which could arise at some future point and think that it is one which deserves and requires further political clarification from the party leadership at this point. I am looking forward to hearing from you in the near future on this matter.

Comradely,  
*Debby Pope*  
Debby Pope  
Oakland-Berkeley SWP

cc: Nelson Blackstock  
Oakland-Berkeley Branch Organizer