

ALL OUT ON THE 8TH - YOU CAN'T PAY THE BILLS WITH LOVE !

Nurses are in the forefront of the struggle against women's work and women's pay.

Hospital work is women's work, housework, childcare, clerical work, waitressing, charring, at factory speeds. Nursing is looking after people, the very young, the old, the sick.

When we do this work at home we don't get any wage. And when we're nurses and do it on a 12-hour shift, running to keep up in overcrowded wards, they expect us to be satisfied with a pittance. IF OUR LABOUR WASN'T FREE AT HOME IT WOULDN'T BE SO CHEAP OUTSIDE. Student nurses take home £12-£13 for a 40-hour week. And after three years you get about £20 a week. Women's pay - for heavy work, long, unsocial hours and responsibility for other people's lives.

Prices have multiplied, and they still expect women to carry on working for no wage at home and for women's wages - pin money - if we have to take another job outside. They say it's "natural" for us. They tell us all the same thing: "Do it for love, virtue is its own reward." But low pay is not natural, and virtue will never keep up with inflation.

Nurses have been told they can't strike because the patients will suffer. But they've answered the government: "If the hospital system doesn't work, it's your fault, not ours." Patients are already dying because they're underpaid and understaffed. Women workers are always told, don't let your patients, or your family, or your customers suffer. We're supposed to suffer instead. THE NURSES HAVE BROKEN THROUGH THIS BLACKMAIL FOR ALL OF US. IF WE SUFFER, EVERYBODY SUFFERS, BECAUSE EVERYBODY DEPENDS ON US, MEN, WOMEN, CHILDREN, THE OLD, THE YOUNG AND THE SICK.

The government never thought that nurses would organise, demonstrate, threaten to strike, work to rule, walk off the job. But they have. They've shown their power to the government, and IF NURSES CAN STRIKE EVERY WOMAN CAN STRIKE. If nurses can win, every woman can win: housewives, factory workers, all women workers - all women!

If we work in a factory we think our conditions are different from hospital workers. If we work at home we think our conditions are different from factory workers. But we're all taking orders from someone higher up. We're all forced to do work we don't like. We're all faced with rising prices that we can't meet. Therefore we must join together.

Nurses in Brent are asking you to support their national day of action - the 8th July. Workers everywhere in Britain are making it their national day of action. Brent Trades Council are calling for stoppages on that afternoon - MONDAY 8TH JULY. There'll be a march through Harlesden starting from outside Park Royal Hospital (Central Middlesex Hospital) at 12:30. The government and every employer will be counting how many women come out of homes, shops and factories that day. The more of us there are, the more they'll be worried about our power when we make our own demands.

*** We demand more money for women workers in the home and out of it.
so we can afford decent care for our children and time away
from them.
so we don't have to do without in order to buy shoes for our
children.
so we can have steak for dinner instead of macaroni cheese. The
prime minister doesn't eat macaroni cheese.
so we can be more independent of bosses, governments and men.

*** We demand decent housing and decent schools.

*** We demand more free time away from the home, the factory, the office,
the hospital.

Come out on the 8th of July to demand more money for nurses, housewives
and all women workers. YOU CAN'T PAY THE BILLS WITH LOVE.

POWER OF WOMEN COLLECTIVE