

DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 13, NO. 170.

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1912.

ONE CENT.

EDITORIAL

ORTHODOXY FOR FAIR.

By DANIEL DE LEON

A CORRESPONDENT to the New York *Evening Post*, who signs himself (or is it herself?) “Veritas,” falls over the women who demand the suffrage with the charge that “their work in the world is sadly neglected, else the need for juvenile courts would be less, and evil resorts would not flourish to such an extent.”

It can not be denied that the Suffragists’ posture in denying, or ignoring the class struggle opens the door for the slander of “Veritas.” Nevertheless, slander it remains, and worse than slander.

The need of juvenile courts and the existence of evil resorts are social crimes that can in no way be laid to the door of Woman, any more than they can be laid to the door of Man. These social crimes are flowers on the Upas tree of class rule; at present, of capitalist class rule.

The Capitalist Class of social crime-breeders is a hermaphrodite. It consists of men as well as women; of women, as well as men. Capitalist males, as well as females; females, as well as males, profit by the iniquities of which “evil resorts” and “juvenile courts” are but two of the myriad manifestations.

If the breadwinners of the working class were not plundered by the hermaphroditic Capitalist Class; if the bulk of the wealth produced by the Working Class did not plump into the pockets of the male-female class of capitalists, but found, instead, its way into the pockets of workers; then, juvenile courts would go out of business.

If working girls were not paid the impossible wages they now are paid by the male-female Capitalist Class; if the latter did not find their profit in just such impossible wages for working girls; then, “evil resorts” would cease to be.

If “Veritas” is a male, then, his argument illustrates his racial orthodoxy: it is

as old as the Adamic story, which throws the blame upon Eve.

If, as it is quite likely, “Veritas” is a female, her argument illustrates her class-orthodoxy: it is as immoral as class-orthodoxy is, which ever affects morality, yet breeds and battens on immorality.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official website of the Socialist Labor Party of America.
Uploaded May 2014

slpns@slp.org