

WWP Guidelines for Comrades Living with Comrades

It is not uncommon within revolutionary political organizations for members to have overlapping relations, including living together. In order to ensure that optimal conditions exist for comrades to participate in the class struggle and to help in avoiding or minimizing personal conflicts, insensitivities, demoralization and factions, the Party must have guidelines in place to assure as best we can healthy interpersonal relations.

Some of these guidelines include:

- Establishing shared agreements ahead of time regarding expectations, rent payment (or non-payment if crisis situation), length of living arrangement, etc., can help head off development of unhealthy dynamics - especially in situations where comrades are housing others in their own living spaces.
- Not pressuring or encouraging comrades to provide “emergency housing” to comrades in crisis, as this should be a personal decision. With the permission of the comrade in question, however, other comrades can be informed of what is needed to see if other comrades are in a position to help out.
- Party internal discussions, not public venues, can help address interpersonal conflicts that may arise in a shared housing situation.
- Party email lists and public meetings should not be used for personal fundraisers.
- Grievances should not be aired publicly with people outside the Party, including following the Party’s social media protocols.
- Where disagreements cannot be resolved in the branch or with the branch’s Field Staff representative, comrades can appeal to the Party Commission on Relations and Culture for a resolution.
- The Party will put forth its best effort to show solidarity with those members facing housing/employment insecurity. The main priority, however, for the very limited Party resources or those of individual comrades, must go towards party campaigns and struggles. Unfortunately, party resources cannot resolve crises caused by capitalism. We must acknowledge that one’s personal crisis cannot be solved based on the material resources (whether that’s a stable job with income, housing, food, transportation or other) from just one or two other comrades. The Party can make efforts to help comrades but expectations should be realistic, based on our material conditions.

As much as possible, comrades must practice consultation when comrades are entering a situation where they are living together. This allows for room for discussion as needed.