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Thousands March Nationwide in Support of a Feminism for the 99%

On Wednesday, March 8th, International Women's Day, women and our allies joined the International Women's Strike with over fifty events in more than thirty cities. In Alexandria, VA; Chapel Hill-Carrboro, NC; and Prince George's County, Md, **so many teachers joined the strike that school shut down.**

In New York, thousands packed Washington Square Park to hear from a diverse group of speakers including Jamara Mychelle Wakefield of the Movement for Black Lives, Betty Lyons, activist for Standing Rock of the American Indian Law Alliance, speakers from the Red Umbrella Project for sex worker advocacy, Nour Obeidallah of Sanctuary Campus Campaign, and more.

The rally was celebratory and defiant, with some of the loudest cheers reserved for speakers advocating unionization in women's workplaces, strikes for fair wages, and direct action to support feminist goals ranging from equal pay to full abortion rights to the protection of families threatened by deportation. The crowd's response was that of women fed up with calling their representatives. We will organize our own resistance to an administration that poses an immediate threat to the women of this country.

At a time when wages are falling and the social safety net is being shredded, women are being asked to work harder outside the home and handle more care work inside the home. Bad policy is being built higher and higher on the backs of women. Something has to give. **On March 8, women said: we will not be the shock absorbers of your bad policy. We're on strike.**

The post-rally march began at 6:00 with the banner held by strikers including Betty Lyons and several members of the NY State Nurses Union. The march visited several symbolic sites, including the Stonewall Inn, the Varick Street Immigration Court, and the African Burial Ground. The march ended at Zuccotti Park, the home of Occupy Wall Street. **As women streamed into Zuccotti Park around 8:30 PM, they chanted "we are the 99%!"**

Women feel the brunt of bad policy first, and women know what they and their families need. "We demand more than the reversal of Trumpism," said Cinzia Arruzza, a member of the national planning committee for the strike. "Our [platform](#) demands a radical redistribution of power and resources; today, women have endorsed that program."