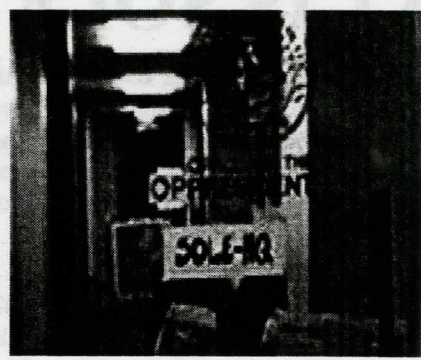


SOLE

STUDENTS ORGANIZING FOR LABOR AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY



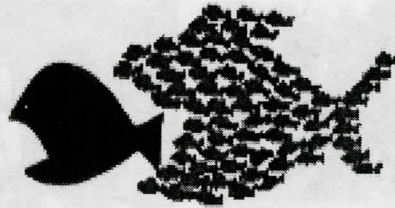
What is SOLE?

SOLE stands for Students Organizing for Labor and Economic Equality. SOLE is a student organization at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor that campaigns for social and economic justice locally, nationally and internationally.

5-10 students founded SOLE in the Fall of 1998 after returning from exciting Union Summer organizing experiences in Denver, New Orleans, Flint and other places.

SOLE operates as a local labor solidarity group that is also a prominent member of the United Students Against Sweatshops, a coalition of more than 200 student groups fighting to end sweatshops in the \$2.5 billion collegiate apparel industry.

SOLE promote s sustainable solutions for problems within an increasingly inequitable global economy by building coalitions with student groups, unions, faith-based and human rights organizations, whether that means a living wage for garment workers who make U-M apparel or making the World Trade Organization work for working families.



What has SOLE done in the past?

Anti-Sweatshop Education, Organizing, Sit-ins, and Historic Victories: since early 1999 SOLE has been a leader in the student movement to end sweatshop labor in the industry that makes collegiate apparel. By educating the campus about the terrible abuses in the garment industry and through organizing SOLE has won historic concessions from the University and hundreds of companies. SOLE occupied the Fleming Administration building for 51 hours in March 1999 to force President Bollinger to adopt strong code of conduct to protect workers who make U-M apparel. During a 3 day "sweat-in" in the dean's office this past February, SOLE made sweat-free SOLE T-shirts and convinced the U-M to join the Worker Rights Consortium, a group that will inspect factories that make college apparel. SOLE has worked with students on hundreds of other campuses such as Wisconsin, Harvard, Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgetown to end sweatshops in the U.S. and abroad.

Labor Solidarity: SOLE has supported a number of workers' struggles in Ann Arbor and in the Detroit Metro area such as the locked out Free Press and News workers and the Graduate Employees Organization (GEO) that represents graduate students instructors at U-M. SOLE has done international solidarity for workers in Los Angeles, Central America and Asia.

Ann Arbor Living Wage Campaign: Last year SOLE worked with community and labor groups to convince the Ann Arbor City Council to vote for a resolution that would insure that all direct or indirect employees of the city earn a living wage. Although Ann Arbor's Republican Mayor vetoed the resolution last year, it is likely that when she steps down this year a newly elected Democratic Mayor will support the resolution and take a stand for working families and students in the community.

Protesting Unfettered Corporate Globalization: Members of SOLE have attended many of the recent mobilizations for global social and economic justice at the World Trade Organization (WTO) meetings in Seattle last November and at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank protests in Washington, DC last April. Members of SOLE also attended the Republican National Convention protests this past August.