

# is your paycheque a secret?



"... and of course we don't discuss salaries ..."

So ends the usual job interview.

## BUT WHY NOT?

There are reasons the employer doesn't want us to talk about wages:

- \* The woman at the next desk, who does the same job, is paid \$100/month more or \$100/month less.

So long as we don't discuss wages, we can't even know of this injustice, let alone do anything about it.

- \* All of us are underpaid. We earn from \$100 to \$400 less per month than women union members who do similar work. Very few of us earn enough to support families, although many of us must. Skilled clerical workers and bank employees earn only about half of the average wage in B.C.

The employer wants us to act as individuals, not as a group. If we started discussing wages together, we might start doing something about it - together. When we go in one at a time to ask for a raise, it's one individual against the whole company. But if we all got together and demanded a raise, we'd have some power.

The Service Office and Retail Workers Union of Canada (SORWUC) was formed with the understanding that working women just can't "get ahead" as individuals. We need each other. We need to organize, to act together, to win better wages and working conditions, respect for our skills and equality in the work force.

For more information, send this form to SORWUC, #1114-207 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, or phone us at 684-2834.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Workplace \_\_\_\_\_

(all replies in strictest confidence)