

On Monday 18th June the Professorial Board rejected the recommendation of its own advisory committee to appoint Liz Jacka and Jean Curthoys as teachers for the Women's Course in the Philosophy Dept: "Philosophical Aspects of Feminist Thought" Professor O'Neil, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, has made it known that he will endorse the decision of the Professorial Board. After a five month struggle the legal channels available for getting the course put on by its proposers have now been exhausted. Yesterday a meeting of students and staff of the Philosophy Department took the only step available to them - extra-legal action -and voted to go on strike until Liz Jacka and Jean Curthoys are appointed as teachers of the course.

#### **WHY THE STRIKE IN THE PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT CONCERNS YOU:**

As a student of this university, bureaucratic interference in education concerns you. Are what we learn and who teaches us to be decided by the participants in the learning process in accordance with their own criteria of relevance or dictated by bodies outside this process like the Professorial Board through such repressive decisions as the one the Philosophy Department now struggles against? If you have not already asked yourself about whatever it is you are learning: what am I learning this for - then it is time you did. If you want a reality-oriented, critical, self-managed education in which the intellect engages with real issues instead of wandering the maze of irrelevant issues and problems imposed upon you by the reward and punishment dispensers in our educational system - this strike concerns you.

The Women's Philosophy Course presents a challenge to the male-dominated academic tradition in that the insignificant extent of female participation in this tradition is one manifestation of the oppression of women which the course sets out to examine and critically evaluate from the position of the oppressed. The Professorial Board's veto is to no insignificant extent a response to this challenge.

**SUPPORT THE STRIKE IN THE PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT. FIGHT SEXISM AND BUREAUCRATIC INTERFERENCE IN EDUCATION.**

**Leaflet distributed during Philosophy Strike, University of Sydney, June-July 1973**