

## **Candidate Statement, Herb Shore**

I grew up in a very left-wing household in Brooklyn. My earliest political activity was in 1960 in Cambridge, Mass; picketing a Woolworth store to get them to desegregate southern lunch counters. DSA has been my major political activity since its founding in 1982.

I am a Marxist of a rather squishy sort. For me the prospect of overthrowing capitalism is not even its major appeal. Rather, it is that socialism leads to a world view where a different and a better world is possible. In Marxist jargon, humanity can become the subject, rather than the object, of history.

My main goal for DSA is that the general progressive community should come to think of socialism as a normal and acceptable part of the political environment, rather than some exotic or foreign import. San Diego DSA should interact in a constructive way with the broad economic and social justice communities of San Diego; i.e., 350.Org, The Center on Policy Initiatives, Progressive Democrats of America (PDA), the Single Payer Healthcare Movement, the ethnic minority, women's and LGBTQ movements, and progressive elected officials. I support the idea that we should make Healthcare Reform a major priority activity of our chapter.

I fully support the notion that our chapter should be a multi-tendency organization, and that members should feel at home whether they are hard-core Marxists, left social democrats, communitarian socialists, religious socialists and so on.

## **DSA San Diego Steering Committee Candidate Questionnaire, Herb Shore**

Democratic Socialists believe that both the economy and society should be run democratically to meet human needs, not to make profits for a few. We are a political and activist organization, not a party; through campus and community-based chapters DSA members use a variety of tactics, from legislative to direct action, to fight for reforms that empower working people. Do you agree? If no, explain.

*Yes, especially “non-reformist reforms” that do more than just reform the existing system, but point the way toward a better system.*

Will you have the time and energy to make a significant commitment to the Steering Committee given the other commitments in your life?

Yes

Why did you join DSA?

*It is open, non-dogmatic, combines idealism and pragmatism.*

What other organizations do you belong to or have belonged to that influence your identity as an activist/organizer? Do you currently hold office within any other organization(s)? If yes, which organization(s)?

*I am a dues paying member of the Sierra Club, ACLU, NAACP, the San Diego Maquiladora Workers Solidarity Network, 350.ORG, etc. I don't hold a leadership position in any of those. I maintain contact with other long term DSA members who were part of the Unity Through Diversity Network at the national convention.*

If elected to Steering Committee, what are some areas upon which you'd like to focus?

*Single payer health care, electoral politics, immigration defense, keeping DSA an open, tolerant, multi-tendancy organization.*

What ideas do you have to ensure that Steering Committee decisions are made democratically?

*Bringing important decisions to the general membership. Decisions that are made in between general meetings should be reported to the membership as soon as possible.*