

# #WESTRIKE 8 MARCH 2018 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

'Because I am trying to establish links between the present and the past, I have chosen to use the term feminism in a broad sense, to mean a very large, long and complex tradition calling for the 'equality', 'elevation', or 'emancipation' of women, but often disagreeing within itself about how to achieve that.'

Ellen DuBois, *NLR* 186/1991, p.23.

## **Petrograd, 8 March 1917, the beginning of the Russian Revolution:**

'there was a peaceful women's demonstration on International Women's Day. The women decided, against the advice of all organised political groups, including the Bolsheviks, who expected the police and troops to be called out and futile bloodshed, to go on strike. But when the women sent delegations to the factoryiest

thousands came out and were joined by working-class and middle-class housewives who were affected by the shortage of food and high prices. The army was called out but did not fire on the women. Encouraged by their success workers came out onto the streets in great numbers the following day.'

Sheila Rowbotham, *Women, Resistance and Revolution*.1974, p. 131.

# womenstrike.org.uk