

Document 16.1: Quotations from Karl Marx, Mao Zedong, and Deng Xiaoping

Karl Marx:

When, in the course of development, class distinctions have disappeared, and all production has been concentrated in the hands of a vast association of the whole nation, the public power will lose its political character. Political power, properly so called, is merely the organized power of one class for oppressing another. If the proletariat during its contest with the bourgeoisie is compelled, by the force of circumstances, to organize itself as a class; if, by means of a revolution, it makes itself the ruling class, and, as such, sweeps away by force the old conditions of production, then it will, along with these conditions, have swept away the conditions for the existence of class antagonisms and of classes generally, and will thereby have abolished its own supremacy as a class.

In place of the old bourgeois society, with its classes and class antagonisms, we shall have an association in which the free development of each is the condition for the free development of all.

Source: Marx, Karl, and Friedrich Engels. *The Communist Manifesto*. Trans. Eric Hobsbawm. London: Verso, 1998.

Marx, Karl. *The Critique of the Gotha Programme*. Ed. C.P. Dutt. New York: International Publishers, 1938. 10.

Mao Zedong:

Every Communist must grasp the truth: Power grows out of the barrel of a gun.

In order to build a great socialist society it is of the utmost importance to arouse the broad masses of women to join in productive activity. Men and women must receive equal pay for equal work in production.

Sources: Mao Zedong. "Problems of War and Strategy," Nov. 6, 1938 in *Selected Works of Mao Zedong*, vol. 1. Beijing: Foreign Language Press, 1965. 224.

---. "Women Have Gone to the Labour Front," 1955 in *The Socialist Upsurge in China's Countryside*, vol. 1. Beijing: Foreign Languages Press, 1965.

Deng Xiaoping:

It doesn't matter if the cat is black or white as long as it catches mice.

Poverty is not socialism. To get rich is glorious.

Reform is China's second revolution.

Sources: "Cat" quoted in "The Comeback Comrade," by William R. Doerner. *Time*, January 6, 1986; "Poverty" from a speech in 1978; "Reform" from "Reform is China's Second Revolution," a speech in March 1985.