



ROME, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9 2008

NO VAT

**SELF-DETERMINATION, LAICITY, ANTI-FASCISM,
LIBERATION**

NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION

venue: ROME, ITALY - Piazzale Ostiense at 2 PM (to be confirmed)

Through 2007 the Italian women and LGBTQ liberation movements have carried out big public demonstrations – the *Rome Pride* in June 16th and the *Demonstration against manly violence on women* on November 24th. Their spirit integrated standing for self-determination and fighting against reactionary attempts to impose deceptive models based on the reproductive family and against interference of the Vatican hierarchy in the public debate.

In fact, gender-based violence as a device of social control on women, lesbians, gays and trans*, in/outside the domestic sphere, pairs with the wiping out of public social security and the deriving instrumental use of families.

The alliance between governmental politics and the Vatican is producing a progressive replacement of the welfare system with backward-looking, family-centred models and illusory 'security' policies that firstly restrict the rights of citizenship and legitimate persecutory and racist campaigns.

The ground for exchange between the Vatican hierarchy and neoliberalism is historical revisionism, with particular reference with old and new forms of fascism: a normative conception, marketed as 'natural' that re-activates infamous forms of violence and oppression on subjects which are non compliant with the dominant thought.

Self-determination, secularism, anti-fascism are our practices of re/ex/sistence and liberation

WE DENOUNCE:

- The alliance between the Catholic Church and Italian politics, focusing on the set up of family-based, 'securitarian' and prohibitionist policies, on the elimination of public social security and on the rejection of self-determination and citizenship rights
- A process of historical revisionism (backed by the Vatican as well) that discards resistance and anti-fascism, converts fascist and Franco's nationalist militants into martyrs and aims at an ideological re-writing of history, as noticeable in Ratzinger's latest encyclical
- The attacks on self-determination and liberation processes through a political plan of incitement to hatred that produces phobias, discrimination and organized fascist violence
- The criminalization of the movements which oppose the Vatican secular power and the withdrawal of secularism
- The ever-increasing support of the government in granting the Vatican large economic benefits and fiscal wavers
- The global hegemonic project of the Catholic Church, through its alliance with neoliberalism and the patriarchal rule

WE MARCH AND ACT:

- Against any form of integralism and fundamentalism
- Against political exchange on bodies or rights
- For the suppression of Italian ideological acts, lobbied by the Vatican

- For freedom of a responsible choice at any stage of life
- For the rights of lesbians, gays and transgender people and the acknowledgment of their full citizenship
- For the self-determination of women
- For the repeal of the Italian Medically Assisted Reproduction act (40/2004)
- For a public and secular education system, for the abolition of religion courses in public schools and the cancellation of public funding to confessional schools
- For an enhanced, secularly managed Public Health Service
- For a public welfare and social security system, corresponding to the real needs of people
- For the abolition of the Lateran Concordat (1929) and the derived privileges (direct fundings, tax exemptions....).

NO VAT! SELF-DETERMINATION, LAICITY, ANTI-FASCISM, LIBERATION.

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