



# **NO VAT** **SELF-DETERMINATION, LAICITY** **ANTI-FASCISM, LIBERATION**

**DEMONSTRATION, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9 2008**

**venue: ROME, ITALY - Piazzale Ostiense at 2 PM**

Through 2007 the Italian women and LGBTQ liberation movements have carried out big public demonstrations – the *Rome Pride* in June 16<sup>th</sup> and the *Demonstration against manly violence on women* on November 24<sup>th</sup>. 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.

The strategic alliance between governmental politics and the Vatican, using gender-based violence (in/outside the domestic sphere) as a device of social control on women, lesbians, gays and trans\*, is instrumental to a progressive replacement of the welfare system with family-centred models and 'security' policies that restrict the rights of citizenship and legitimate persecutory and racist campaigns

In a synergic way, neoliberalism and the Vatican hierarchy – through historical revisionism and a normative conception, marketed as 'natural' – vindicate old and new forms of fascism and re-activate 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:**

- family-based, securitarian and prohibitionist policies that impose a predetermined moral vision in social policies, rejecting self-determination in bodies and life styles, and making citizenship rights object of market exchange;
- the dismissal of resistance and anti-fascism, the ideological re-writing of history, noticeable in Ratzinger's latest encyclical and the conversion of fascist and Franco's nationalist militants into martyrs;
- the attacks at self-determination and liberation of women and LGBTQs through a hatred-encouraging political plan that produces discrimination and organized violence;
- the alliance of institutional politics and the Vatican in securing privilege and attacking individual freedom;
- the withdrawal of secularism and the criminalization of unbelievers as of the movements which oppose to the Vatican secular power;
- the hegemonic project of the Catholic Church, in alliance with neoliberalism and the patriarchal norm.

## **WE MARCH AND ACT:**

- Against any form of integralism and fundamentalism,
- Against political exchange on bodies and rights,
- For the self-determination of women
- For the rights of lesbians, gays and transgender people and the acknowledgment of their full citizenship
- For the suppression of Italian ideological acts, lobbied by the Vatican and the repeal of the Italian Medically Assisted Reproduction act (40/2004), for the right to a free and responsible maternity,
- For norms against homophobia and discrimination, unrelated to securitarian policies
- For freedom of a responsible choice at any stage of life
- For public and secular education, for the abolition of religion courses in public schools and the cancellation of public funding to confessional schools
- For an enhanced and 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 deriving privileges (direct fundings, tax exemptions...).

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