

The Foreign Women's Group  
Postboks 1749 Vika  
Oslo 1  
Norway

Oslo, 12th October 1982

Dear Anwar,

As we have discussed with you earlier, the Foreign Women's Group, (FWG) is arranging a one-day festival on 31st October in Oslo. The aims of the festival are to create understanding among immigrant women and to counteract the myths prevailing in the Western societies of the passivity and the low political consciousness of black women. Through various cultural and political activities such as song, dance, film, theatre, speeches, appeals and information, we want to expose racism as well as imperialism and to find common strategies with which to fight discrimination.

The festival is arranged by FWG in cooperation with individual women and women from national organisations. The organisers are women but the festival is open to men and women, Norwegians and immigrants.

The black immigrants in Western Europe are facing racism and discrimination on the part of the authorities as well as in everyday life. The extreme situation of blacks in Britain today is of concern to blacks everywhere in Europe. The situation in Norway may not be as serious as that in Britain but there are definitely similarities and a basis for discussion from which we can learn much from your experiences - both as regards an understanding of racism and as regards the organisation of immigrants against structural racism.

In connection with the festival, we would like to invite you to speak for about 20-30 minutes on racism and the situation of black women in Britain. It is completely up to you what you talk about in this context.

We have arranged a press conference with you and a representative from Paestina on Friday, 29th October so we would very much like you to come to Oslo on Thursday, 28th October in the evening and stay until Monday, 1st November. In addition to the festival and the press conference we want to arrange a small informal gathering of Pakistani and Indian women on Saturday, 30th October. At this gathering, we would like to discuss the specific problems concerning Asian women in Europe.

Travel expenses and accommodation will be covered by FWG. As to who buys your ticket, this we can discuss on the telephone.

We enclose our manifesto as orientation about the group.

Looking forward to seeing you,

Foreign Women's Group

For FWG,

Helen Thackwell.