

Capitalism and Socialism, Marx on Communism

As you're reading the selection from Karl Marx's *Manifesto of the Communist Party* (pp. 483-91), consider the questions below.

1. What is the "immediate aim" of the Communists according to Marx?
2. What does it mean to "abolish existing property relations" in Marx's view? What kind of property must be abolished in the communist revolution?
3. Why is capital "social power?"
4. How do the bourgeoisie think of the concept of freedom?
5. What does culture do under the domination of the bourgeoisie? What is its aim?
6. Where do the ideas and laws of the modern bourgeois age come from? What are these laws and ideas expressions of, according to Marx?
7. What misconceptions arise because of how the ideas and laws of our time originate?
8. How are women treated under capitalism? How would this change under communism according to Marx?
9. Were you surprised by the ten item list of the aims of the Communist Party? Did they seem more or less radical than you would think?
10. Do any of the ten aims of the Communist Party seem attractive to you? Why or why not? Do any seem unnecessary today?