

THERE'S NO MONEY IN IT

CLAUDIA, MUNICH, GERMANY

I graduated in Munich two years ago with a degree in Media Studies. After that, I applied for lots of jobs in film and television. I know it's a competitive area, but I didn't get any interviews! Not one! Everyone wanted me to have work experience, but how can you get work experience if nobody gives you a job?

In the end, I took unpaid work with a public relations company. To begin with, I hated it.

At the moment, I'm organising the European distribution of a new German film.

I'm not happy about working for no money, and sometimes I think the company is exploiting me, so I'm looking for other work. I can't live without pay for another year!

SULOCHANA, KERALA, INDIA

I'm a housewife but I'm also working for an organisation that's fighting for women's rights. I don't get paid, but I don't mind because we're hoping to make our government pay housewives like me a fixed salary and a pension for the work we do in the home. Venezuela did something similar a few years ago.

Women play an important role in building the nation. Without mothers and wives at home, men need to do more work - and this takes more energy. But men don't understand this and that's why we're organising ourselves.

Let's see how men survive on their own then!

JEROME, SIERRA LEONE

I worked as a doctor in a small town in Switzerland for almost thirty years and I retired five years ago. To begin with, I enjoyed it, but I soon got bored. Then I saw an advertisement for Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) and applied. They offered me a job working in Sierra Leone and I moved here nine months ago. They paid for my flight and they pay my rent but basically, I'm working for nothing.

I'm not complaining, though. It's amazing! I'm having the best time of my life. Life can be very hard for people here, but everyone has a really positive attitude. Now, I'm doing some training with local doctors and advising them on how to improve services.