ATTACK
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The Voice of Respectable Moderation

PAY WHAT YOU WANT...
Most of us have no control over the decisions that affect our lives. At work, we're told what to do and treated like cogs in a machine. We risk our physical and mental health in their offices, their factories and their kitchens. Out of work, we're told what we should be doing and treated as useless people. Everywhere we go, we're treated like idiots, as if we can't run our own lives, as if we don't know what we want. At the end of the day, there is always someone telling us what to do: work, buy, walk... the big man ordering us about.

Many people on the left want to change this, but want to put the houses up against the wall. But they fail to see that the left is part of the problem as well. We're being told what to do - except this time it's 'masses' or 'proletarians', rather than by bosses or cops. Most left-wing parties base themselves on Lenin's idea of the party as the vanguard, the leadership, the vanguard of the masses. But that can't actually believe that we can run our own lives.

Lenin strongly argued that existing class people could never get it together to make a revolution. He said that we needed someone to do it for us - the professional revolutionary elite. The revolutionary party, Lenin argued, are the vanguard - the part of the working class that have the organization and resources to do the work. It's a completely different level of consciousness of the workers: it's not just wanting anything to do with the party.

Are they selling papers...?

One of their heroes, Trotsky (dead for over 40 years), said 'the Party in the last analysis is always right, because the Party is the sole historical instrument given to the proletariat for the solution of its basic problem'. So the Party is always good. And anything that the Party doesn't like or control is lifted up to the status of bad. And anything that is bad, must be anti-revolutionary because it is against the Party. And so it must be destroyed. Even if it means smashing working class struggles.

There are many examples of this. In Kronstadt (a naval base in Russia), the garrison rebelled in 1921. Four years earlier they had fought hard to get rid of the Tsar, the bosses, the cops - but they had ended up with this new set of bosses: Lenin, Trotsky and the Communist Party. So the working class of Kronstadt wanted another revolution. Trotsky just replied 'we will shoot you down like partridges'. And they did - in the army and they slaughtered up to 20,000 working class rebels for daring to defy the party. So much for the 'revolutionary' party. As far as the party is concerned, it is not the revolution that counts. That means that the party comes before the class.

Luckily, today's left-wing parties don't either have guns or power in this country, but their attitudes are just the same. There are tools to be used, and then thrown away. At Wapping, during the printworkers' strike, the paper sellers were more worried about selling their quotas than putting the boot in. Once, when a skip was being cleared to block the road, one paper seller came along: 'Anyone seen a "Militant"?'

A few years ago, during a fight with the police in Newham (East London), the WPG paraded up and down declaring 'Black and White, unite and fight'. This is exactly what was happening. Not because what they had told us to do, but because we knew what to do. And where they don't, Black mounting off, standing on the sidelines while we were struggling. It happens, and time again - when will they learn?

This is not to say that all members of left-wing parties are simply useful scum. Most members are working class people who genuinely want to get rid of all bosses. Because the parties are obvious, they get drawn into them. They can have the illusion of 'doing something' - but this is a mirage. And a lot of party members are quite willing to get stuck in and fight together with the workers, not just preaching. But the party and the party mentality remains - looking for power and trying to recruit. The real scum are at the top, the Cliffs, the Healeys and the Hatters of this world, all dreaming of being the next Lenin, the next person to shoot down thousands of working class people fighting for revolution.

Preparing to lobby the French government...

These great leaders will shit on their ordinary members just as much as they try to shit on us. Anyone who closes to question orders is silenced or expelled. Black groups are, at best, tolerated, or usually banned. Women's sections are closed down, or else only permitted as long as they do nothing. Everything is barred around the party. It's just good for the party! Like religious mystics, they bow down in front of the altar, all eagerly consult the book, rather than the party, the party, the party!

At a recent meeting to set up a national support network for strikers (along the lines of the miners' support groups), a party leader (Mr. G. Slaught- ter, from Workers' Press) was clearly heard saying to one of his hacks 'What we really want out of this conference is members. We should be looking to recruit'. It is so obvious - their precious party is more important to them than working class activity. And they are willing to sabotage that working class activity for the sake of the party.

Let's face it - the idea of a 'revolutionary party' is a contradiction in terms. It's like talking about a 'nice copper'. Coppers aren't nice and parties aren't revolutionary. Revolution will be done by the working class or not at all. What's the point of getting rid of one set of bosses and end up with another, telling us what to do and how to do it in the same time that we realised that the 'revolutionary' parties are part of the problem as all that they are concerned about is their own power. They have shot down the working class before and will shoot us down again if we give them a chance.

LENIN even got it wrong in Russia. His hope of a spontaneous revolution would be seen in his lifetime...and then it happened. And where was Lenin? Reading in his study while the working class were battling on the streets of Petrograd, kicking out their bosses. But Lenin rushed home and through a combination of lies, manipulation and terror, his Russian working class soon had a new boss: Lenin and the Bolsheviks.

Within a few years, the Russian working class were having to work harder than ever, many revolutionaries had been murdered (eg Kronstadt) and the Bolsheviks controlled supreme power. So much for 'all power to the working class'. That means, as far as the left-wing parties are concerned, the party is 'superior to the party'. Although they never say it, this is because they think that we are too small to do anything for ourselves. In this country, there are hordes of them on the market. Each trying to desperately sell themselves as 'the way: the right party' from the Socialist Workers Party to the Communist Party, from the Workers' Party to the Socialist Party, from the Communist Party to the Socialist Party. Power, they all say that they know the true way. Some of these parties are so irrelevant that they spend most of the...
AND THEY WONDER WHY WE HATE THEM...

In the last few years it has become fashionable to denounce the class divisions in this country. The Conservatives are always talking about a 'property' crisis' as if buying a council house puts us on the same par with company directors and millionaires. Meanwhile a lot of people on the left have started saying that the well-off middle class in Britain has 'disappeared' - which is all very convenient for these striped-glass socialists who are now free to buy their Cuban rum and Nicaraguan coffee and worry about 'causes' a million miles away from their own front doors. The truth is, despite the lies, despite the myths, despite the propaganda, Britain is still very much a class society.

'I have no interest in working...About once a fortnight we have a dinner party for 12 or 14 of our really good friends...I get a cook and a couple of waitresses in.' (Mrs. Fackelman, in 'The Times', 1986). 'I don't think I could eat every day if people put it in front of me. It's just what I have to do. I'm a single mother on social structure, 1983.' Last year we went out for a weekend a month (Mrs. Emma 'Twelve-Holidays-A-Year' 'Keepers of the Home', 1986). According to 'Breadline Britain', 13,000,000 people in Britain can't afford to go on holiday at all.

In 1985 3,100,000 people earned over £500 an hour - not per week, or even per day, but per hour. For a single person on Supplementary Benefit, that's about four months' money. 'It's alright in the summer, but in the cold winter they say you mustn't keep those damp shoes on. You've got to take two pairs of shoes. Sometimes you can't afford two bloody pairs of shoes'. (Sandra, interviewed in 'Breadline Britain'). How do these people survive on £500 would buy a hell of a lot of shoes. By 1985 the richest 10% were seven and a half times better off than the poorest 10%.

As for the rest of us, in 1983 there were 8,900,000 in this country living on or below the Supplementary Benefit level - which is the simply step-generating amount of £29.00 a week (£350 per year) for a 'single' person, and £68.00 (2012 per year) for a 'married' couple. It is reckoned that by 1988 this figure had risen to 11,000,000 - and it's still rising. Is there anyone still talking about a 'classless' society?

By 1986 it was thought that there were 26,000 people in Britain worth £1,000,000 or more. We're always fed bullshit about 'equality of opportunity'. 'I did it, so you can do it too!' What they don't mention is how useful it is to know the right people, go to the right school, and have a Daddy with a few million stashed away in Switzerland. When Olivia Channon overdosed on heroin in 1985, she had never lifted a finger in the whole of her pampered life; but, at the age of 22, she still managed to leave an estimated £500,000 in her will. The simple truth is that the vast majority of rich people come from rich families. The richest 1% own 83% of all the personal wealth in Britain. Their wealth is inherited wealth, based on the theft of our land, and the exploitation of our families in the past. Gerald Grosvenor, the 6th Duke of Westminster, has assets and property estimated at over 2,000 million. But he didn't get it by being citizen. Or by being a hard-working, honest, law-abiding, risk-taking. He got it by being born into the right family. Of course, now he's using that money to make even more money, by ripping us off. In their factories, their offices, their shops, their kitchens, we slave to survive while their bank balances get fatter and fatter.

Good noose

"The Royal family have the ability to be elegant in a headlong knave on a white horse."

In a way working class wedding

BANDON

FRIDAY 20TH APRIL

8.30pm

FREDDIE FLEE

TICKETS £3.00

We have found new homes for the rich.

Of course, there is the occasional toady to the Establishment, Gerald Ronson, the boss of Heroes (Britain's second largest private company) and Ocado (a stockbroker's friend and all the rest of it. We know that if there is the odd millionaire who really did start with nothing, these millionaires aren't self-made. We know that our wealth. They exploit us by selling us what we make or provide for much more than what we are paid. And if they are helped along the way to their first million by fiddling their tax returns, you can bet they won't be spied on, grassed up or raided at dawn as 'laid to squad'. The state steals far more through tax fraud than through dodge dodging, but it's OK to cook the books if you're rich. After all, the biggest thieves, crooks and swindlers are those who run this world.

£6,883 a day

A CITY merchant banker who specialises in dealing in Japanese shares is Britain's highest paid director, with total earnings of more than £32,500 a year.

Christopher Hensh, a non-executive director of Baring Brothers, tops a list published yesterday of 25 directors and chairman who earned more than £250,000. In its past financial year, barings paid Mr Hensh £2,352,782, which works out at £6,883 a day. He heads Baring Securities, a trader

In fact, after the prison and social control industry, the 'wealth business' is probably the fastest growing sector of British capitalism. Ralph "free-market" millionaire Halpern managed to win an 85% pay rise last year - bringing his salary to 1 million does of British cash to £1,040,000. And William Brown (of Walmsley Brothers) pulled in a cool £1,683,383. In the UK, of the total money. The wealth industry has been the so-called "golden handshake". This is a bonus system to made to bestow on the contracts are terminated. Sir Michael Eisner (see boss of Disney in America) tops the list; £233,000 from ICL in 1983, followed by £9,000 from Dunlop in 1985. I believe he has no problems buying shoes. The biggest

THEY might have said goodbye to the working class, but WE'RE STILL HERE. We still hate them, their money and their institutions. They can talk about mortgages, 'people's capitalism', shares, workers' co-operatives and the like until they're blue in the face - but we're still EXPLOITED and POOR, while they're rich and powerful and self-righteous. We've always hated them - for our poverty, our crap housing, our bad health, our slavery. We still hate them - for their dinner parties, their golden handshakes, their mansions, their power. And they wonder why...
TICKING THEIR BOXES

On Thursday 11th June another of our contracts came along. The democracy game: 15 ticks a lifetime, use them wisely but don't bank, for guaranteed prizes. Watching the results on television that night was a profoundly depressing experience. The blue boards were sweeping across the country, we were accused of cheating Kinock's victory. After 8 years they had got back in - again.

In some ways, it was obvious that the Conservatives would win. Many people have benefited from the last 8 years - more money, making a few bob on privatisations...and believing in conservatism. On top of this was the fear that many have experienced due to the rising level of unemployment and the spectre of the so-called 'alternatives' such as the Labour Party.

Despite the election, the economy still shows signs of reviving. For the last few years the economy has been in deep recession. And this has meant that the bosses have been forced to cut wages, increase productivity - essentially become more profitable. The days of happily negotiating with the boss are over. Now, the bosses are displaying their basic ruthlessness - as many people have learnt through their practical experience (the miners, unemployed people, etc).

GREAT MYTHS OF OUR TIME

(number 807): Lord Young (Minister for Employment and top Tory) said in May 1986:

"We've never had it so good for the 17% of us who are working". In actual fact, from 1979 - 1987 a mere 42% of the adult population was in work - while 45% were worse off and 13% unchanged. So much for the good life under the Conservatives. But we still believe their lies which hide the reality from us.

The bosses have got to tell us the 'realities of life' if they are to economically survive. Their profits depend upon us being further crushed. This has and will more and more force mainstream working class off work. Now the bosses are displaying their basic ruthlessness - as many people have learnt through their practical experience (the miners, unemployed people, etc).

It is this experience that is important, rather than theory or dreams. Self-interest is much more of a revolutionary force than any revolutionary theory. We are much more likely to fight if we have not been knocked out or had our confidence broken. And if our self-interest is to be successful, then it has got to be collective. Individuals on their own can't change much. It is capitalism that creates the preconditions for revolt: the ravished consciousness. And capitalism in this country is in trouble. If it has got to restructure to survive, to compete with the new economies such as South Korea, it will have to go.

Another reason that is important, rather than who voted for whom on 11th June. When self-interest is threatened, ideas very rapidly change. Just because several million people believe that Conservatism does not mean that all is lost. When the hard realities of restructuring and recreation directly affect people, then which particular box was ticked is soon forgotten.

But all this concentration on the Conservative Party is dangerous. They are not the only enemy. The Labour Party is as opposed to working class struggles and as strongly in favour of capitalism as the Conservative Party. Whenever in power, Labour has dutifully and willingly obeyed the needs of capital and the rules of the state.

It was Labour that introduced the Prevention of Terrorism Act, one of the most repressive acts available to the state. It was Labour's police who murdered Blair Peach in Southall. It was Labour who said in 1981 'tories and looters must be punished with all due severity'. It was Labour who did nothing for the 15,000 printworkers, countless other working class people. Life might be a bit better under Labour, but the structure of the state and the economy remain untouched.

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So much for 'democracy': the Conservatives only received about 30% of the votes of the 530 seats (about 25% didn't bother to vote - who can blame them?). But the Conservatives still got 100 seat majorities (about 60% of the seats). 30% - 60%... It doesn't seem to make sense.

But for many on the left even talk of struggle is optimistic. All they can talk about is the low level of strikes, the dominance of capital, the crushing of the labour movement. The social fabric is a cake, the Conservatives will eat it. Certainly, there are fewer strikes at the moment. Certainly, the situation might look bad if you have a defeatist outlook, if you can't distinguish between real and false opposition.

The ideology of Defeatism: the left cannot easily relate to the new labour because it is much more uncontrollable. They can't recruit during a riot. So they then ignore those developments. The left is just another obstacle to transforming our lives and our world.

This defeatism deliberately ignores the fact that the ferocity and intensity of struggles has dramatically increased. There is now a growing questioning of traditional limits such as trade unions and peaceful picketing. No longer are struggles conducted peacefully and mildly. Violence against the police, property and trade unions has become much more widespread after years of peace. The strikes have been more clearly revealed - it is now obviously class war. There has been a distinct rise in the level of self-activity and self-organisation which has enormous potential.

Obviously, this is not guaranteed success. Success can only come through mass struggles, a united working class and widespread practical solidarity. But it is a real step forward. A step forward that is much more important than ticking a box. Democracy is nothing more than a disguise for the ruling class. Real power is in the city, the boardrooms and the corridors of power. This is what must be challenged and fought. And our real power lies in our everyday lives, in our communities, in our workplaces. Not in some ballot box once every few years. As the economic crisis continues to deepen, more and more people are realising this through their own experience. Here is our potential for revolutionary change. THE VOTE CHANGES NOTHING - THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES.


PANAMA: The government proclaims a national state of emergency after 3 days of demonstrations.

WEST BERLIN: Autonomists and other protesters smash bank windows and fight cops in an anti-American demonstration on the eve of a visit by President Reagan.

SOUTH KOREA: Violent anti-government demonstrations continue with combat police besetting hundreds of rock-throwing protesters around the Christian cathedral in Seoul.

WALES: Police in South Wales call for reinforcements in their campaign to catch organised gangs of raiders who have hijacked over 10,000 worth of coal this year from trains travelling through the Rhondda Valley. Much of the booty from the raids is rumoured to be sold cheap or given free to those in need.

BRITAIN: Another victory for consumer choice as we are given the green light to elect our new bosses...
AIN'T GONNA STOP US NOW

Capitalism is a system in which a few have the power over the majority. In order to keep us from uniting and rebelling, we're divided into classes, so that we're either rich and powerful, or by each other.

So where do women fit into this? The trot would say that women's oppression is just to do with capitalism, and how it makes money out of women's feeding, clothing and looking after the workforce, buying the products they've produced, of their fathers and husbands, and so on. No one would point out that the whole thing goes on. Once capitalism is gone, they say, women will no longer be oppressed, once they've economically independence, there'll no longer be in chains. They forget one small detail on the way, which is that women's oppression started long before capitalist society developed, and so just changing the way wealth is shared won't liberate woman. What they stop at in questioning the whole idea of authority, they don't realise that power is not just to do with money.

Beyond the divisions of rich/poor, white/black etc is the division of power that runs through all these power relationships, and that is the oppression of women. We're better to be aware of the fight against the same thing, regardless of what class, colour or age they are. As women we're taught as though we don't really exist - we're not treated as persons, rather than men nor by ourselves. And so our suffering becomes invisible. 

The only way out is when we attack ourselves. That means to attack the men, to undo women's oppression. That means to attack ourselves. That means to attack the men, to undo women's oppression. For ourselves. That's it. It needs to be done. Women's oppression is real, and we can't stop it until we change the entire society.

If you see class in terms of how much power you have over your own life, then women definitely form a gender-class on their own, and one that includes half the world population. The difference is that while the working class says we, or black say we, as women a class do not say we. This is because they have no past, no history, no religion of their own. They have no solidarity through work and interest, because they live scattered among the masses, attached through where they live, housework, economic and social standing, and so on. 

This means that if the women are in the middle class, they then will feel solidarity with middle class men rather than working class women and so on. This makes our oppression different from any other.

As women we're being forced into a more and more desperate position at the moment, as the rich increase their oppression in a last attempt to contain us all. We are getting forced into even worse jobs then before, getting fucked pay for our drudgery. If we are home and on the dole we have to go on the road as tramps, with the extra consquences such as sexual harassment etc. more and more of us will be forced to sell our bodies on the streets. Our rights to our own bodies will soon be completely non-existent, as the few reforms that women in the past have shed blood and tears to obtain are being chopped away. As workers as a part, we are left to pick up the pieces, while the valium addiction soars to unknown heights, and new laws make us more and more economically dependent on men. One of the reasons why feminism has too often stayed in the background, is that women let men persuade them to let feminism be, to fight the 'larger causes' first. Of course this always led to women struggling conveniently being 'forgotten'. Anarchist men have been no different in practice - in the Spanish Revolution women positions didn't change much. We must believe we are on the left tell us, like 'feminism divides the working class'. (How patronising anyway)

We hope for the support of men who say they love freedom, but in the end our hopes lie with women. If we want to get rid of slavery, any oppresed group must be in charge of its own liberation, and in the interests of no be included with the interests of men, then the workers can be included in the interests of the employers. That means we should just sit back and wait for women to think everything out, and do all the work. In fact we're sick of listen to men talking to ourselves about how hard it is to be oppressors. If they really feel so bad about it, then they'll start by changing themselves. If we have to correct them, lecture them and remind them that we're people too, all the time, then it's obvious they never really wanted to change in the first place.

What we must do is organise around our specific experiences as women, in our streets, communities, workplaces, etc. By chatting ideas and experiences can be shared together, and give each other the confidence that we need so badly. We need to develop solidarity between ourselves, and to talk about the best ways for us to fight back. Whether we're fighting back in the workplace, in our streets - nothing our streets negro areas for the gasboard, bailiffs, cops, rapists, violent husbands, etc or wherever else we are, we'll get a taste of what taking our lives in our own hands means. Ultimately what we're fighting for, because however important they are, these are the emergent fights at all hierarchy, all leadership, all government and the whole idea of authority. Each situation shows best how she is oppressed, and what she wants to do about it.

Having said that all women are oppressed, it is of course important to realise this - that women identify with whichever class 'their men' belong to, and so the line that because we are all women we speak the same language is bullshit. In many ways middle and upper class so-called feminists conspire to make their supposed women liberato exclusive - their oppression is a lot more comfortable than ours, there rebellion is usually only a fight to be seen as equals with men, and thats as far as they go. They sell us down the river because our oppression guarantees a more comfort- able, if not free, way of life for them. After all, in a different society there will be no need for social workers... When they go on about how women are spiritual, non-violent etc, that has nothing to do with our lives. We realise that our fight inclu- des so much more than theirs. We'll never get a chance to become doctors and so on anyway, and even if we did it makes fuckall differences to our lives whether there's women cops, women judges and women prime ministers, because it's still the same shit they're dishing out. We want total revolution, an end to any form of power, any example of dominance and submission. While the middle class 'feminists' get neatly into the male dominated system, go off to become witches, to pray to the great Earth Mother, or to join the Le- bour Party, we are left to get raped in our shitty jobs, slummy streets and estates, at the bus stop and in the marriages we have to stay in because we've got nowhere else to go. Now we don't be- lieve that just because we shoot the rich and burn down their instigators, women will be magically free. Just like the rich who hold the ultimate power will not step down just because it all happened to if we say please, man will not give up their power over women unless they are forced to. And apart from the fact that we're obviously not going to lie back when we get raped and think oh well, things will be different after the revolution, we don't think things will be different after a revo- lution unless we start challenging male power NOW.

Our oppression runs deeper than class and racial boundaries. Here in this country, there, back home, and in the other women for as long as we remember. We don't know how exactly it came about, but ever since it happened, men have treated it with after life - before they were measuring Jewish skulls in Nazi Germany, men had already ethnically been measuring women brains to prove their su- periority through our supposed 'natural' inferiority. We are not just oppressed.
WHO ARE THE REAL CRIMINALS?

The typical image of a 'criminal' is some man lurking in dark places, preying on the defenseless members of the public. But that is because our rulers have defined our image of criminals through their media and their schools. The real criminals do not lurk in dark places. They work in the daytime and at home in plush board rooms. They swagger down the corridors of power.

They have stolen our land off us. They have forced us to work in their doughnut donuteries and offices. They only pay us a proportion of what we produce. The rest of our labour is stolen off us. That is theft. But according to our rulers it is "profit". It is not a crime. It is normality!

But of course it is abnormal to take back what they have stolen from us. If we dare to do that, then we are branded 'criminals'. What is criminal about shoplifting? What is criminal about defrauding a bank? What is criminal about turning over some mansion?

They try to persuade us that it's only a few "deviants". Socially maladjusted, bad upbringing. They never mention poverty, boredom or anger; they never mention the economic conditions. Because then we would realize that we are all potential shoplifters and bank stealers. Everyone takes something new and again - from work, from shops, from banks. And why not? It's ours to take.

THESE ARE THE REAL CRIMINALS


Half the population would turn a blind eye on crime

Only half of people in Britain would contact the police if they have pretty little stealing going on. According to a survey by the BMA, "The drunken man stealing a pocket handkerchief would only result in 50% of people contacting the police." So if we do not contact the police when we see a crime, perhaps we should not be surprised when we do not get caught.

They always get off because they make the laws. We are never so lucky. We are in prisons all over the world. For the crime of daring to live. For the crime of wanting to live. For the crime of refusing to endure their mindless invading war industry. For the crime of wanting to destroy some excitement. For the crime of getting back at the scum. For the crime of saying stuff your values, you are shit.

Few of us have any illusions about criminals. We know that it is not their fault to change society. But do we know that it makes life a bit better for us. And that comes straight from our practical experience. In the here and now, making the world a better place is not easy. We are not prepared to obediently wait for a revolution. We want to start living right now.

We know that not all crime is good. Any crime that hurts other working class people is shit. Whenever we steal from our own class, we are stealing from ourselves. We have got to break our chains, not strengthen them like the bosses do. Muggers and other anti-social criminals are just like the bosses - always stealing and terrorising us.

In their courts, reality becomes clear. British 'justice'. Don't make us laugh. How many bosses have been prosecuted for stealing our labour? And if they are ever prosecuted for corruption or whatever, just a slapped wrist and told not to be a naughty boy. But God help you if you are caught shoplifting or bodnapping. Hello prison, goodbye world.

What are we talking about? The real crime. The crime people really commit. The crime that really breaks society. The crime that really affects us. What we are talking about is not the things that are obvious to see. What we are talking about are the things we can't see. The things we are not allowed to talk about. The things people don't want us to talk about.

Making a case

To the Man God: O Great One, I have been tried by my enemies and have been blasphemed and lied against. My good thoughts and honest actions have been turned into bad actions and dishonest ideas. My home has been misrepresented, my children have been cursed and ill-treated. My dear ones have been backstabbed and their women mis-treated. O Man God, I beg that this I ask for my enemies shall come to pass:

That the South wind shall scorch their bodies and make them bolster and shall not be tempered to them. That the North wind shall freeze their flesh and numb their muscles and that it shall not be tempered to them. That the West wind shall blow away their life's breath and to them as they grow and that their fingers shall fall off and their bones shall turn to creme. That the East wind shall make their minds grow dark, their sight shall fail and their speech dry up so that they shall not multiply.

I ask that their parents and mothers from their further go on to seek them. They will not intercede for them before the great throne, and the wombs of their women shall not bear children for strangers, and that they shall become extinct.

I pray that the children who may come shall be weak of mind and paralysed of limb and that they shall themselves curse them in their turn for ever turning the breath of life from their bodies. I pray that disease and death shall be forever with them and that their worldly goods shall not prosper, and that their crops shall not multiply and that their cows, sheep, and goats and all their living beasts shall die of starvation and thirst. I pray that their houses shall be unroofed and that the rain, the thunder and the lightning shall find the innmost recesses of their homes and that the foundations shall crumble and the floods tear it assunder.

I pray that the sun shall not shed its rays on them in their behoveness, but instead it shall beat down on them and burn them and devastate them. I pray that the moon shall not give them peace, but instead shall deride them and demand that they shall beat the sun to shrivel. I pray that their friends shall betray them and cause them loss of peace, of mind, of a home, and their enemies shall assail them until they beg for mercy which shall not be given them, I pray that their friends shall forget how to speak in sweet words and shall declare that it shall be paralysis and that all about them shall be desolation, pestilence and death. O Man God, I ask that this I ask for my enemies shall come to pass, because they have dragged me in the dust and destroyed my good name; and with all my life and with all my dying curse the day that I was born. So be it.

This is sent to all men wears, all who control us, all the scum: your days are numbered - we gonna get you!"
JOIN THE UNION...

The first trade unions in this country emerged in the 19th century. To start with, they were banned and repressed by the state and the bosses as they rightly feared the power of organized workers. But soon this policy had changed to one of legalisation and negotiation. This change did not come through our bosses' decision; the workers' rights were good. It came because it benefited the bosses. The bosses realized that it would be much easier to negotiate with a few officials who were removed from the day-to-day reality of the working class than having to cope with a large mass of workers. Alongside this was the fact that the new trade unions strengthened the already existing divisions within the working class; in particular, the divisions of skill and different trades. The unions became the institutionalized expression of the working class discontent. The attitude of 'leave it up to them, they're the experts' became accepted.

One of the main 19th century unions, the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, claimed to 'endeavour at all times to prevent strikes'. Sounds just like Eric Hammond, Norman Willis, Bill Owens and all the 'courageous' but, despite this willingness to fit in with the bosses (who have cops of tea with them rather than cut off their heads), unions didn't benefit the working class. Social conditions improved and living standards rose. The bosses no longer had such total control in the workplace. But this was more the result of the struggle than the union, which was a result of workers STRUGGLING through the unions for these benefits. This history of struggle through trade unions and the resulting improvements has led to strong links between the working class and the unions. Links that have helped to prevent the working class asking for anything more than the scraps of the table - rather than the whole table. By only asserting that the bosses have the means that we have no guarantee whether they will be taken away or not. During times of recession (such as now), all our hard-won scrap is under threat and often removed: workplace rights, health care, education, and so on. The only real benefit will come through the destruction of the bosses. But this fact has always been obscured by trade unions. They can only talk of small gains, that if, of defenses rather than offense; of negotiation, not destruction.

Unions are opposed to any revolutionary struggle as they are a deeply embedded part of the social system. They are there to represent the class they would remove unions as much as it would remove the bosses. As far the unions are concerned, their role is to sell workers to capital - and to sell capitalism to the working class. A leaked document from the TUC made this clear. Struggles against the bosses are necessary, but that need the cooperation of workers if they are to succeed (January 1984). So much for opposition! So much for fighting! So much for refusing to bow down under the government. They don't even pretend to oppose....

WHOPPING STRUGGLES

At the moment workplace struggles are under massive attack. And in some respects, they are on the decline. Of course, there will always be workers fighting back against their bosses, but their chances of winning real gains get slimmer every year. This process has got very little to do with Tory union laws - and a lot to do with the long-term reshaping of British capitalism.

Recently the Electricians Union (Eagle) and the Society of Authors (SA) have both taken industrial action to defend the rights of their members to join a union and benefit from collective bargaining. The Electricians Union has been successful in defending the rights of its members to strike, while the Society of Authors has been less successful.

The left unites us to vote for the 'right' leadership - which usually means themselves. They speak in our names, and the people will rise up with cries of 'sell out!' But the real sell out occurs when we put any faith in unions. Trade unions stand firmly in our way. Whether the leadership, however extreme the state, always time and again they have either diverted or openly crushed working class struggles. Just by their very existence they stop us from thinking about the most fundamental issues. It means controlling everything our workers do, not allowing the union and the other self-organised leaderships to divert our energy and our anger. When the bosses have to negotiate with 600 workers or any more workers than the normal three bureaucrats at the tea party, then we might start to see something change. But this will only come about when we have finally disposed of trade unionism and come to believe in the power of our self-activity and self-organisation.

Build barricades - not unions.

The old heavy industries have collapsed as the bosses shift their money to the so-called 'Third World' countries, where labour costs are much cheaper. Generally, there has been an increase in the level of mobility, as more and more workers move from job to job (in the cities). The whole process of MONOPOLIZATION has made it much harder for mass struggles to develop. And where they have developed, as in the miners' strike and the printworkers' strike, they have usually remained on the defensive. There were moments in the miners' strike when we could have gone over to the attack, but on the whole we played it on THEIR terms: bosses' scabs in the pit-villages, when we could have been bosses' bashing cops all over the country.

So what went wrong? Perhaps the biggest failure in both the miners' strike and the printworkers' strike was that the original struggles were never really extended beyond the workplace where they began. At the end of the day, they were struggles fought by miners and printworkers. And if local governments are spending successful, it is vital that they are spread. No single sector of the working class can hope to win on its own, faced with the united action of the bosses and the state. When any strike explodes, the bosses are the first to realize that it is a CLASS war, and so they are the first to bully their differences and work together to crush us. If we try to stand up against them on our own, we haven't a chance in hell of winning.

But this isn't just another tired old call for other workers to come out on strike, or to learn that sort of speech-making to the party-builders and bureaucrats. The solidarity we need is one that is based on real, organized structures. Trade union solidarity means charity, moral support and collective discipline. It means THE WORKERS! What would have helped the miners more in the summer of 1984? All $200,000 donation from a trade union, or an explosion of strikes and riots all over the country? We don't want charity. We want solid physical support; one out, all out! Not 'all workers out on strike', but workers out of their jobs. Because struggles aren't something that stop at the printshop door or the pithead. You don't have to work in a factory, in an office or on the land to have a struggle. We are all working for something more. All our experience shows that it is struggles based in the COMMUNITY that are the most successful. Struggles waged by people who are paid for work, by people who do unpaid work, by people who can't get paid work, by people who don't want paid work.

Our strength lies in our community. The state knows that, they've tried to break us up at work, and now they're trying to fragment us at home. Local governments have billions of dollars on smashing up working class communities, especially in the inner cities (moving in yuppies, building new estates, re-routing roads, etc). They know that it is getting harder and harder to survive, our communities will come into their own, as a real focus for the struggle. During strikes we can aim for mass assemblies, meeting outside the control of the union (or anyone else), where EVERYONE can participate and where we ALL have an equal say in taking decisions (young and old, male and female, waged and unwaged, black and white, etc). Struggles like this can produce the real solidarity that was lacking with the miners and the printworkers. It is the only way that we can overcome the divisions they made, and start to build real unity. The effect could be DEVASTATING...
SMOWHERE IN NORTH LONDON, ONE LATE OCTOBER NIGHT. It is possible to hear the occasional roar, the clatter of a bottle, a cloud of smoke. The estate has been sealed off by the cops. They’re totally armoured up - shields, helmets, bulletproof jackets. But they’re still nervous. Probably glad that they’re not getting a battering on the front line. Whatever happened to Dixon of Dock Green? He’s probably in hospital recovering from head injuries.

After watching their nervous twitching for a while, we head off into the side streets. Soon we meet up with a large group, both black and white, mainly kids. A wall is knocked down, the bricks are broken up. The cops just stand at the end of the road, watching as the looting goes on in front of them. The white petrol bomb is thrown, with shouts of ‘Burn you bastards burn.’ The cops still stand - it’s raining concrete. Aunt Sally’s for our anger. For once, the positions are reversed: it’s the cops who are nervously shaking, it’s us who are arrogantly grunting our boots in their faces. Wonderful.

The streets are really ours tonight. People are looking at each other, laughing, talking, smiling. It’s one big party. Our separate cells that divide us have been broken down in a flash of anger and excitement, in mass popular joy. The enemy is so clearly revealed - the rich, the powerful, the frightened, the frightened, waiting for a stretcher. And we’re together, strong in our mass, able to make them cower in fear. London is ours; we are isolated and afraid individuals. We’re out celebrating. The positive release of anger is great - ‘this brick you f— good cunt’.

I go off down one of the side streets towards the main shopping street. Shop windows are smashed and goods thrown out into the street. And people are stealing things. We’ve taken so much shit off them, it’s well good to get them back.

SATURDAY 24TH JANUARY 1981, WITH A CLEAR HEAD we take to the streets. The minute we have taken stick from the police. On Saturday we got one back. Brilliant. They must’ve wondered what hit them, even the veterans of May 8th. For hours they had to sit there and take it, the noise of concrete on perspex deafened us, what must it have been like for them? It was too dangerous for them to have charged us as they would have liked. Many thanks to all the people ‘unconnected with the dispute’ who were right up there in the front, showing that they know quite well what the police are about and what they deserve from working class people. We need no excuses for hitting the police. Thanks especially to the football supporters from Millwall, West Ham, Chelsea and Charlton. You were an inspiration.

They chased us all over, up as far as Tower Hill and Commercial Road, but we always came back at them. Intensive mass lobbying of police cars and wagons. Damage on all sides. On Saturday we RAIDED THE STATION. We made it more expensive for them than ever to carry on trying to contain and kill off our fight. Next time they will try to call our bluff. Wynn Jones (top cop) is on record as saying he’s thinking of escalating police tactics. I’m ready.

BRIGHTON, APRIL 1981; All afternoon most people expected trouble of some sort. At about 5pm a plain clothes cop received the free gift of a brick on the head for wanting to search a black guy’s car. Up in Atlantic Road an arrest was attempted (apart from, of course, the fight). We have more than enough hatred and anger for that. What we do when we win is more exciting. The reality is that no amount of police can keep the f—ers off the streets isolated in the crowd. A window was smashed. Tension rose. Everyone. Then plain clothes cops appeared from the cop and joined the uniformed lot. Battle lines were now clearly drawn and the first barriers of bricks flew in the direction of the cops. They threw a few back and charged. At first we retreated a little but... REALISING THAT WE WERE MANY, THEY WERE FEW - we stopped. Then, spontaneously, the whole after- noon’s tension being released like a balloon we charged the lot. A mad stamped of adrenalin. War whoops. A scramble for bricks. I must have a brick. Where are the bricks? A hail of bricks. The cops are confused as they attempt to get back control. Puppets without a role. They look at us, at one another and around them themselves. From Them. From. Every. Down. Mayall. Road, leaving their vehicles in our hands. In the wheeling of a rioting eye the vehicles are smashed up and turned over. A light is instantly prov- ided and posed. Up goes a cop’s van. Wild cheers. Laughter. Dance of joy... Nothing I can write about can describe the exhilaration of breaking the wall that first police car went up in flames. From that spark it spread up and down Brighton like we charged the lot. A mad stampede of adrenalin, as if they could do anything they liked and get away with it... we felt so powerful for the first time ever.

LIES, LIARS AND MORE DAMNED LIES. In a riot, for once we are power- ful. We are on top. It’s well good to be able to make them afraid. We have to make them believe that we have in our pockets a gun or a knife or a brick. And now, believe it or not, we have to prove that we can carry them.

There are no ‘outsiders’ in riots. The media have invested this myth, be- cause there on f— doing it. They believe we have any way of carrying a weapon. In their papers and on their tv, they’ll call us ‘crazy, mad mobs and manipulated idiots’. They’ll claim we’re ‘mindless hoodlums’, ‘terrorising ordinary people’, raping and mugging old ladies. Reality is a bit different. In Putte- nam a man came out of his house and told us ‘It’s cool to take petrol out of their cars that don’t damage it’. There was no damage. Nor were other cars in the street. In the Brighton riot (1985) a shop had been burned and the curtain was on fire. There were no reports above the shouting of ‘Don’t be so fucking stupid’. So much for the ‘mad, blood-crazed rioters’. More like ordinary, caring people. No ‘isms’ no ‘isms’, just people who can’t tie it anymore and won’t take it any more. Just people fighting for our rights.

There are no ‘outsiders’ in riots. The media have invested this myth, be- cause they can’t. They believe we are capable of fighting back on our own. We don’t need any so-called ‘outsiders’ to whip us up into action...
TOP TEN TIPS FOR KILLING KOPS

Wear dark clothes, a mask (hijab, scarf, etc.) and gloves are essential.

Think for a minute. You may need to leave your house if you are going to get caught. You will die in this country, in a recent investigation. You may think that it is not worth while to leave your house, but it is.

Think of tools you may need.

If you are caught, try to make a run for it. If you are caught, you will be killed.

Think of the fun and dressing up, and kick your boots, the fun begins. Check your pockets don't contain any addresses or dodgy info.

Ammo. Don't hang about speculating, keep your wits about you, with a small crowbar and a screwdriver scratch away at the door. Banging the, zip it up, keep breaking them - until they're small enough to throw. There's nothing worth than a shortage of ammo.

Break down walls, make piles of bricks ready for charges. Throw bricks, bottles, molotovs, whatever you can.

Catalyst is amazing (but be careful about print - ball bearings are a real scream). Keep your wits about you.

Baricades. Anything works, bins, beehives, camp cars and vans, scaffold, rubbish, settees, fence posts, skips, anything you can find. Drag into the road and burn them. Even just bricks scattered in the road prevent the cops moving in quickly.

 Smash glass, make the rough as quick as you can. Cars and vehicles, as much as they have to be towed away - brilliant baricades.

Get to work quickly, your own initiative you will find the police.

It's a scream building baricades with 30 people or so. Remember it's important to act very quickly.

Looting. When you are looting in the windows, stand back, make sure there's no glass ready to fall on you. Get in there and form a chain, get the goods out and into the street as quick as you can.

You perfectly legal to loot if the government is not clear who they are. You don't need permission to get what you need. If you want to get what you want, don't get caught.

After the Chapeltown disturbances, June 1987.

Boltscrews, open up steel shutters, so does collective brute strength. Surely it's important for us to get as much out as we can. Looting takes the wait out of wanting. Be aware of cameras, smash them in with crowbars. Making sure all is well (be no-one lives upstairs), why not burn out the place. Banks are handing our misery worldwide, from Chile to South Africa to Moss Side, think globally, act locally, burn them out. International solidarity.

If it looks as though something is going to go off, pop round and see your close friends, work out a plan to see to shelter in, to smash mollies, hidey holes for looted gear, coppers' heads, etc. Read street maps, know the area, plan baricades and tactics.

Agree time to meet back, perhaps when things are quiet, to coordinate and to get to know a good solicitor (although hopefully there will be no need for any solicitors).

Get food to those detained - but be careful. The cops can quite easily grab people visiting.

Get involved with prisoner support groups and defence campaigns. It is not a one night struggle. Support each other - babysit to allow parents to rest.

Solidarity is strength. In Europe, the rioters organise their own aid teams - first aid is essential. You can't go to hospital with a truncheon wound.

Cops often pick people up from hospitals.

Targete. Banks, shops (don't slit on your own doorstep), shops, job centres, rich bastards, I'm sure we all know who and what to attack.

Traffic lights: smash them in. This is smart because it slows down traffic and so holds up the cops. Also do over street lamps - make the area dark (that is a disadvantage to the cops, they can't see what we're doing and they don't know the area as well as we do).

Firework: get saving them. Rockets are as good as ball bearings when it comes to surprise attacks, also boat flares (or smoke bombs), Nitromons paint stripper (it really fucking burns, it will melt plastic sheeting - burn the baricades of the ruling class (the police)).

Be conscious and watch out for those acting suspiciously; don't get separated. Remember that cops have infra-red cameras.

Rapists and muggers should be dealt with immediately; street justice.

When resting in a safe house, listen to the cops radio. Weigh up whether it's worth going out again; if you've had a good listenings why not call it a day. Have a laugh with your friends, put your foot up, have a bite to eat, a cigarette, a beer, read a book, write a book, have a lovely life, celebrate it, live it to the full, fight it back.

MARCH AGAINST ANYTHING.

a message from your organisers

WE WELCOME EVERYONE TO TODAY'S DEMONSTRATION. We expect it to be one of the largest this country has ever seen. Let us march as one to show our governments how cross we are and about the state of the world.

But for this demonstration to be effective, we must march with dignity and unity. Comrades, a DISCIPLINED march is essential, if we are to avoid losing the support of the media, the international press and the police. So please remember to follow the rules of the demonstration (see overlay). And please obey all commands given by the stewards and the police, who will be working together throughout the afternoon to ensure peace.

At the end of the march, there will be a long rally, with speeches by several very important people. After the rally, please disperse as quickly as possible and make your way home peacefully. Unfortunately there will be certain individuals attempting to instigate violence and rioting. IGNORE THEM. The demonstration is of the utmost importance. Without it, everything will collapse.

WITH YOUR CO-OPERATION, WE CAN MAKE TODAY A MASSIVE SUCCESS, AND START BUILDING FOR A REPEAT PERFORMANCE NEXT YEAR.

MARCH AGAINST ANYTHING

Rules & Regulations

During the course of the afternoon, some of you may find frustrated and powerless. In order to help you all keep a reasonable distance between yourselves and other marchers, we ask all marchers to form a reasonable distance between themselves and other marchers. This is the only way to prevent groups of people becoming aware of their collective strength. The march will be flanked on both sides by uniformed stewards. Please do NOT break the formation, and do NOT, on any account, attempt to communicate with passers-by, without prior authorisation from the public sub-committee.

It is vital that we walk slowly and with dignity, in order to preserve our passivity, RUNNING IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN.

Unfortunately there will be people here bent on disrupting today's demonstration. They will encourage you to express your anger directly, rather than through the proper political channels. They may try to destroy property (ambulances, government buildings, police stations, large shops etc.). They may launch unprovoked attacks on the police or on passing bus drivers. They may even suggest that you join in burning down Parliament. COMRADES, WHAT DO THEY SAY? JOY, JOY, JOY! IF you spot any extremists, do not approach them, but inform stewards or the police who are authorised to take appropriate action.

Today's events are the culmination of months of planning aimed at achieving maximum impact, as a gesture of solidarity with the people on whose behalf we are marching. Beware of people 'enjoying' and 'supporting' this march, as these things are as important as today's protest. You may see people nowhere, helping, about, refusing to behave in a peaceful and passive manner. You may even want to do these things yourself, RESIST THE TEMPTATION. Comrades, it is ORDER, DISCIPLINE and RESIST THE STRAIN! which will bring victory, not the false expression of our desires.
THE PRICE IS RIGHT ... WHEN WE NICK

Supermarket bosses find checkout gas gave away $200,000 in free food

If you do get nicked red-handed, be nice and sopolitic - it might get you a bit of a caution. If you are fined, the fine could be up to $100 - second time a lot more and by the third time it is obvious that you are a hardened criminal (or doing something very wrong in that you're getting caught too often), and you are probably looking at a short prison sentence. But if you nick regularly, this can get very expensive. For example, if you steal every day you can collect $20 a day - so what? REGARD it as an occupational hazard and make sure that you've got more than they can ever take. Don't let shopping become a full-time job. Some shoplifting fever takes over in your delight at discovering the free market. This can be dangerous as it undermines caution and carefulness.

There are other ways at bypassing the cash tills: smash and grab, shoplifting (as 'stashing' and so on. If you can get away with it, why not do them? But always remember that shoplifting should not become just another illegal income. The shop-owners, not our freebies and help other people (as well as encouraging them to join in). Shoplifting is not just about consuming - it is about surviving in a world controlled by the rich.

Dave Whippet and Charley Leggin. Try to hold of a scheme called 'The Price is Right', on which this article is based. It goes into shoplifting in a more detailed way. Worth reading.

BOYCOTT THE WORLD

The act of boycotting is an inherent part of consumer choice. Wherever we participate in the consumer market, we exercise our right to boycott a particular product. Boycotts, which have become a common tool in protest movements, are often seen as an effective means of achieving social change. They are also a form of political action that allows individuals to use their purchasing power to influence corporate behavior.

As part of a class project, three high school students, Gayle Young, Chris Mayer and Scott dehaan's, were challenged by the store manager to stop them off in full view. They thought we'd leave the store worth of merchandise," said Richard Baran, a consumer group leader. "They shoplifted from more than 100 customers in the store during the three hours and at least 50 of them saw the whole thing. Many of them were standing next to the shoplifters. They got one dirty look, but the rest of the customers who either looked away or walked off, I'm pretty amazed.

When the goods have been lifted, don't leave immediately. Walk around, act natural, most people get caught because they act guilty. What are you 'guilty' of? Taking from the rich? By walking round the shop, you can see whether you are being followed. If you are sure that this is happening, then return all the items. You can't be asked to leave - if you have actually left the store. Once you're out, remove all the price labels. If you're nicked later, the cops can't prove anything. It is illegal and you cannot be convicted when you are actually seen shoplifting (or you have been seen by someone with a cop) to the cops dropped 3 charges before court, although I did not get the goods back. Remember: no confessions equals fewer convictions. The only way they can get you for stealing goods from other shops is if you tell them you did.

The second type of lift involves (translated as literal 'valuable'). Big stores can only use this when it's cold, but some people sweat by bags. Keep your eyes open - it's best not to be seen by anyone. Don't forget that most people are more interested in their own shopping than you... and they are more interested in you, perhaps they are store detectives. When the food is cold, just slip the item away. Don't hesitate for too long as your nervousness might be noticeable. Be confident and pick up to the bag.

Going with other people can really improve your tally. Someone can distract the assistant (by asking obscure questions), someone can cover you (from cameras, other people, etc) and someone is the bag person. The bag person carries around all the goods so that if you're caught, you have got nothing on you. The bag person never goes into the shop and always makes sure you are out of the store. Going out with other people is more fun as well. And if the worst comes to the worst, it's easier to fight off or shoot out store detectives, cops and other inefficient individuals. It helps if you can work out a code between yourselves. It's a bit pricey here, let's try Tescos', (translation being watched, had fuck off.)

It's the summer sales! So much more fun (and cheaper) when we all go together.

store advantages disadvantages
small shop Hidden away, few people.
staff able to see you.
not good for service.
sup markets

Age

Wrinkles left behind
Articulate people

Life at the market

chain stores

"Alternative" layaway

Hard sell assistants.
departed

and

sex

of

wears

Bag

Winning or losing

Better security

But still end in theft.

It's good to plan shoplifting. Know the shops, know the staff and have a cost ready for the goodies. And it is good to wear the right clothes: fitting is crucial. As for more security is concerned, most of it is based on the reality of security. Cameras are a pain for shop staff to watch - most of the time there are just there to intimidate, when really no-one is watching them. But don't steal right in front of a camera. There might be someone watching, able to notice the act of theft. Bloopers and tags are more of a problem. They are mainly used on clothes and it's obvious when a shop has them as there will be detector units at the doors. The problem is that these devices can be removed from the goodies by either ripping them off or cutting round them with a sharp knife. Remember to hide the knife before putting your bags on and that said you Chang-fang rooms are a good place to remove the tags. Often, when a store has got bloopers, their other security will be poor - so if you can remove them, you are well away.

Mirrors are pretty useless. Again, don't take them for granted (especially if there are a lot of more questions about). But don't be put off by them. Often you can cover your theft with your body or the shop shelves. If something is wireless (electrically expensive equipment such as televisions), the best we can think of is grabbling and running. But no doubt a better way will be thought of. Large stores and big department stores are probably the greatest threat (apart from our internal bar- riers of course). Store detectives must be extremely boring people to be able to call out detectors and automatically get left the store. Once you're out, remove all the price labels. If you're nicked later, the cops can't prove anything. It is illegal and you cannot be convicted when you are actually seen shoplifting (or you have been seen by someone with a cop) to the cops dropped 3 charges before court, although I did not get the goods back. Remember: no confessions equals fewer convictions. The only way they can get you for stealing goods from other shops is if you tell them you did.
AND DESTROYING OUR WORLD!

WELL, I'M F***ING SICK OF SITTING BACK AND TAKING THIS CRAP!

IT'S TIME TO FIGHT BACK TIME TO START TAKING BACK CONTROL...

CAME I JUST STICK MY NOSE IN AND SAY A FEW THINGS ABOUT POWER AND CONTROL....

A LOT GOES BACK TO WHEN I WAS A KID, GROWING UP IN FEAR OF MY DAD...

NEVER SEEING MYSELF AS THE WORLD THROUGH MY OWN EYES...

AND ALWAYS SCARED OF MY GAMES, MY DISCOVERIES, MY EXPERIMENTS, IN CASE "DADDY" DIDN'T LIKE THEM...

AND THEN IT WAS ON TO SCHOOL AND "TEACHER" INSTEAD OF "DADDY"...

...AND ALWAYS SCARED OF MY GAMES, MY DISCOVERIES, MY EXPERIMENTS, IN CASE "DADDY" DIDN'T LIKE THEM...

...ANOTHER FATHER-FIGURE, AND ON AND ON AND ON WITH MODELS WITH BOSSES, EVEN WITH FRIENDS...

...EVERYWHERE I TURNED, AUTHORITY!

SO I'VE NEVER REALLY BEEN IN CONTROL OF MY OWN LIFE OR MY OWN BODY...

...AND I SUPPOSE THAT'S THE FAULT OF ALL MY "FATHERS"...

THEY TOLD ME THAT IF I KEPT QUIET AND DID AS I WAS TOLD...

A DANCE OF MEN, A MERRY-GO-ROUND OF POWER....

SOMEBODY ALONG THE LINE, "I GOT LOST...."

LOST MY BODY, I LOST MY SELF...

I BECAME TOUGH, LOGICAL, COMPETITIVE, DOMINATING, VIOLENT, SELFISH.... A REAL MAN!....

THE ONLY WAY I COULD GET TO FEEL IN CONTROL OF MY BODY WAS BY GETTING CONTROL OF OTHER PEOPLE'S BODIES. WOMEN'S BODIES....

THEN ONE DAY, I WOULD GET OTHERS TO KEEP QUIET AND DO AS I TOLD THEM THEY WERE TOLD...

...AND ALWAYS SCARED TO DEATH OF MEN.... MY RIVALS.

AND ALWAYS LOOKING TO WOMEN FOR SEX, FOR SUPPORT, FOR LOVE....

WHAT'S WITH YOU? WHILE THERE'S STILL DOGS IN THE STREET? NO F**KING CHANCE!

...AND ALWAYS SCARED TO DEATH OF MEN.... MY RIVALS.

THEN, WHEN I MASKS STARTED TALKING ABOUT "REVOLUTION" INSTEAD OF ABOUT "POLING BIRDS", NOT REALLY CHANGED THE SAME OLD RIVALRY, THE SAME OLD HIERARCHY....

WITH WOMEN STILL AT THE BOTTOM, AND WITH MEN STILL NOT DARING TO LOOK AT THEMSELVES OR AT EACH OTHER....

...WE'RE AS TRAPPED AS WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN - FRIGHTENED OF GETTING SO FRIGHTENED OF OUR OWN BODIES....

...AND ALWAYS SCARED TO DEATH OF MEN.... MY RIVALS.

WOMEN HAVE BEEN FIGHTING BACK FOR YEARS - IT'S TIME WE STARTED TO HELP THEM CHANGE ALL THE SHIT....

...WE CAN'T GO ON TALKING ABOUT "LIBERATION" WHILE WE'RE LIVING OFF THE BAGS OF WOMEN....

HOW ARE WE REALLY GONNA "SMASH THE STATE" WHEN WE MEN ARE STILL TOO SHIT-SCARED TO LOOK AT OUR OWN MIRRORS....

...AND WHO KNOWS MAYBE A WHOLE LOAD OF FUN LIES AROUND THE CORNER!

...AND WHO KNOWS MAYBE A WHOLE LOAD OF FUN LIES AROUND THE CORNER!

MEN FIGHTING PATRIARCHY CAN'T BE ABOUT GUARD.... IT'S ABOUT RESPONSIBILITY, ACTUALLY TAKING OUR LIVES INTO OUR OWN HANDS....

DEN! WE WANT TOTAL REVOLUTION! CHANGING EXISTENCE IS USELESS UNLESS WE CHANGE OURSELVES AT THE SAME TIME....
The question of the ongoing struggle in Ireland is one of the most important issues facing British people, whatever their class. It is also the most misunderstood aspect of the present Irish situation, with many ascendant 'enlightened' people and organizations either unable or unwilling to realize its importance to our people, as if the lessons learned from it. Almost every aspect of modern state repression comes directly from Britain's experience in Ireland. It is a lesson we must learn if we are to avoid the Irish struggle in these very limited terms, that is at least something. But more importantly than being unenlightened, we must also be uninterested in becoming involved in what is a matter of social justice for the Irish people. The struggle against British rule in Ireland is not a matter of interest, but a matter of survival. The British army and police forces have been fighting in Ireland for over 300 years, and this struggle is not just a matter of survival, but a matter of our fundamental rights as a nation.

This struggle began during the Great Famine of the 19th century, when the British government suppressed the Uprisings in Dublin and other parts of Ireland. The British army and police forces have been fighting in Ireland for over 300 years, and this struggle is not just a matter of survival, but a matter of our fundamental rights as a nation.

The Irish people, therefore, have a right to fight for their freedom and independence. This struggle is not just a matter of survival, but a matter of our fundamental rights as a nation.

Over the last 80 years, there has been a continual struggle of Irish people against British rule, although they have sometimes been led by elements of the British class. In the early days, the Irish people were always met with repression. After the most successful period of resistance, Britain was forced to agree to a truce of the South of Ireland and Northern Ireland. The Irish people were always met with repression. This struggle began with the 1916 Easter Rising, which was followed by the establishment of the Irish Republic. The Irish people have always been met with repression. The British army and police forces have been fighting in Ireland for over 300 years, and this struggle is not just a matter of survival, but a matter of our fundamental rights as a nation.

So what happens when people take advantage of this trust for their own interests? Because of the war, the social, political and economic situation in Ireland is very difficult. People are often living in poverty, and many are unemployed. In recent years, many have taken to the streets and the streets to express their anger and frustration. The IRA's actions have been seen as a way of expressing this anger and frustration.

The IRA has been involved in many different types of activities, from violent protests to more peaceful demonstrations. These actions have been met with repression from the British government, but this has not stopped the IRA from continuing its activities.

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As anti-imperialists, we can only support one solution to the above problem: the removal, forced or otherwise, of British forces from Ireland. This is not just in the interests of the Irish people, but also in the interests of the British people. The British government's actions in Ireland have been motivated by a desire to maintain its imperialist interests, and this has been at the expense of the Irish people. The British government's actions in Ireland have been motivated by a desire to maintain its imperialist interests, and this has been at the expense of the Irish people.

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The only class system you'll encounter when you join the force.

When you join the police, it's who you know that counts.

To us, your social background means everything.

We're very influenced by the colour of your skin, your class and your attitudes.

If you're black, poor or gay, forget it - we're the people we hate.

To become a good police officer, ideally you have got to be prejudiced, right-wing, white and a man.

As well as being a thorough-going bastard.

Have you got a strong fist? Can you beat people up efficiently? And, most importantly, can you learn new ways of fighting?

We'll find you out soon enough when you're on the streets.

We'll help you develop from being a human being to a fully fledged robot.

After that, promotion through the ranks is based on performance.

Arrests, masonic handshakes and bigotry all help. Shooting a five year old kid is another advantage.

We're looking for potential thugs who are quite happy defending the rich and powerful.

People who don't mind getting bricked for a brick like Murdoch. People who think an empty grave is a small price to pay for a smart uniform, a company car and a choice of lethal weapons.

As society disintegrates, you can rest assured that there will always be a future for people like you. If you think you can take it drop us a line and we'll prepare your coffin.

TO FIND OUT MORE: HUG 4 25 014 MIRENE 273 4319 OR WRITE TO: THE RECRUITING OFFICER, THE METROPOLITAN POLICE, SAVERS, HARDWICK HOUSE, 257 MIDDLEX RD, LONDON UK.

CONTACTS

Clapton, London, EN: ‘Wildcat’ (Box W, 78 Piccadilly, Manchester, M1 2BD); ‘Direct Action’ (c/o Ravens Press, 78 Piccadilly, Manchester); ‘Socialist Worker’ (PO Box 82, London, E3 3LA). None of these papers are particularly brilliant. Some are better than others. But if you can cut through the bullshit, they can all be useful in some way or another. And if you want more copies of ‘Attack’, write to Box BM 6897, London, WC2N 3XX. Please send enough money to cover postage and tell us how many you want.

IF WE'RE NOT ASKING FOR THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD, WHAT ARE WE ASKING FOR?
WHAT TO DO IF A FRIEND GOES MAD

This is an attempt to give some practical advice on a problem most people don’t have much experience of but is becoming prevalent among those on the margins of society. Most people realize that caring someone off the street physically in the booby bin is, if anything, worse than handling them over to the real police. It’s difficult to think of an alternative when faced with an essentially exhausting and terrifying situation.

I HAVE NEITHER ILLUSIONS NOR DELUSIONS, DOG, MY PROBLEM IS THAT I EXIST DAY AFTER DAY IN GRIM REALITY.

PSYCHIATRIST

What is madness? Well, we’re all, and that certainly includes me, pretty peculiar in one way or another. Madness is a word we use in a society where there is a great deal of oppression — that is we don’t have real control over a lot of things in our lives. We have to conform to what those at the top of the hierarchy think we should do, whether we work or in other relationships. That is what is known as alienation. However, people aren’t really free to talk about this as it affects them directly in their actual relationships at work and elsewhere. Imagine trying to talk openly about who makes decisions at work; you would be fired for it.

No, a lot of people’s feelings about their lives are kept suppressed, and only come out in madness, in explosions, on riots. What represses this, the language of those on top, is ideology; in other words lies which serve to disguise reality. People who try to express themselves openly about what they feel are likely to experience hostility and rejection and, if they push it too far, actual violence.

Anyway, the more people try to open up about their feelings, the more fear they cause in other people, and in themselves. That increasing fear, paranoia, sense of loss of spiritual in a hostile world, leads to the extreme perceptions of reality and desperation known as madness.

The kind of threatening ideas that mad people have about the world are very rational, in fact often much more rational assessment of their situation than people in the community that those which most of us consider normal. That doesn’t mean that they’re entirely correct, but the fact that they are a much deeper and frightening insight into life than are afforded us is very threatening. As the ‘mad’ person, and those around him or her who are frightened, we are likely to feel more terrified, violence breaks out, with the mad person afraid of what the others will do to him or her, and seeing them in extreme terms. There is a lot of punching and kicking and smashing of objects, and sometimes the thoughts of the mad person are so scrambled up that their whole concept of language and ability to form coherent sentences, or string sentences together, breaks down completely, which is terrifying for them.

Fear multiplies as people get less sleep, and is at its highest that people, despite their moral scruples, feel they can’t cope and hand the person over to the police. All is well, what else be done about this situation? The first thing that needs to be pointed out is that nothing should be done without consulting the mad person concerned, and they have total authority in every decision. That doesn’t prevent you pointing out the situation and making suggestions to which they can say no. This can be frustrating, but is very important to them in restoring to them the power of control and autonomy that they probably been threatened or invalidated in some way, making them feel in a false place.

Firstly, the situation needs to be faced as a problem that needs organised action. The more people involved, the better. A small number of people, however much more likely to suffer from fear and exhaustion, a large number of people, acting separately as a community, has the resources to cope. If the person madness has arisen out of the relationships within which they were involved, it may be that the people he or she quarrels with, his or her family, need to be there for help, or he or she may feel safer if he or she goes to stay in a neighbour’s house somewhere else where they have a space to see who they want or be alone. Madness is often due in a lack of safe space.

In the past I have organized a role of people to be with the person at all times, but it occurs to me that I have never asked them if they wanted to be with the person or be alone. In situations of emergency it is often difficult to communicate with someone who is mad and you end up taking decisions for them, which is, but good and sometimes unavoidable. You should ask their permission first, though. Anyway, in this situation the people concerned are at a lot of support, both emotionally and physically, with good food and money. It’s important to make sure that everyone eat well.

In dealing with the person it is very very important to constantly reassure them that they are safe and that no-one is going to harm them, as doing anything to them against their will. Madness is basically about fear, and when people realize they’re safe, they calms down, and this can take a month or more. Never use violence against someone who is obviously being violent because they’re terrified. You can restrain someone by holding them until they calm down.

It’s very important to be honest with them, and not to put out what you think and feel, especially if you feel scared or threatened by them. Probably a lot of the reason they went mad was because people were emotion-ally dishonest to them. Ultimately, if people are given enough love and care and someone to talk to, however frightening it is, it will eventually come right. It is also a good idea to go off to the country as it’s much more peaceful, and people can let go without fear of the police.

Ultimately, if you can’t cope or communicate with them, you can have them put in a fairly soft, room. Try smiling at them. It works wonders. So does giving something they want. Even if you don’t understand at all where a person is at, if you just pet them with you over a period of time and listen, you will eventually piece together some kind of meaning. But it takes patience and experience to know how to cope with these ideas and talk someone through them. You can only learn by making -- it’s just life experience, there’s no special theory to learn.

The kind of reality that someone is in when they’ve gone mad is very far from that of normality but it is rational and what you have to do is try to understand that rationality in its own terms and try to build a bridge between it and your own. It’s important to realize that a mad person’s way of perceiving and describing the world is just as valid as your own, but the way they have used language to describe reality has become more and more complex and metaphorical as they have felt what they are saying is invalidated by others. It’s important to not invalidate their reality in any way -- that is liable to make them feel worse because they feel they can’t communicate with others - but to store communication by more or less agreeing with what they are saying.

However, the problem is not their version of reality is different from yours, the problem is that they are afraid they will be harmed or rejected as a result of their unusual perceptions. It takes confidence to accept them at you. You have to start chilling with what your and explore what people mean by statements like ‘I am God’ and the came to the conclusion. I mean you can’t know when someone is God if they’re happy with it and it just because you are to accept it. Ultimately fact it’s probably going to be very expensive of a lot of unhappiness that they want to share with someone else.

You have to go mad with them for a bit to help them make sense of their lives and come back down to earth. It will be worth the effort for both of you.

If someone has been carried off to the criminal hospital, the more people who go to visit them the better, especially as mad patients are much more prepared to let someone go if they know there are people who will take care of the person and who will cause them trouble if they don’t, let them go. I know of a woman who was kidnapped (not against her will) against that of the authorities by about 80 of her friends and who is now, 2 years later completely OK, but obviously that needs good preparations. Don’t take any bullshit from psychiatrists or nurses although play them along if you think they might let the person go. Get the person to sign forms saying they don’t want Electro-shock Therapy (ECT) and heavy tranquillizers, make sure the psychiatrists get copies and know you will take them to court if they force them or even try to use any other harm that might come to them.

Many patients in mental hospital, behave has got little to do with the fact they’ve gone mad but has to do with the concentration and large amounts of psychiatric drugs on their brains. Psychiatrists deal with their patients in such a way as to help patients sort out their problems, but by trying to obliterate their problems with chemicals and electricity, they force them to make what psychiatrists perceive normal.

Shattered police in rest home

By Michael Hersell

Skins is causing the thin blue line of London police to snap. The evidence is to be found on page 16, where a 51-year-old constable, having been cardio-respiratory, was found dead. She had been working in the psychiatric wing.

While police officers may average 12-15 hours a day, they do not often have adequate recreation, eating or sleeping arrangements, thus depleting their physical and mental reserves.

The home, where officers stay on average 12 days a month, is hopelessly inadequate in the face of the mounting evidence that sick leave taken each year can cost 77.7.18 working days in 1986.

But when they crack up...

ha ha ha...

Classifications like schizophrenic and manic depression are ways of generalizing behaviors in an arbitrary way irrelevant to people’s actual concrete problems, and are psychiatrists’ way of avoiding having to work out what their problems are. The fact that these classifications are not really non-sense and they don’t have much to do with people is shown by the reality that psychiatrists often diagnose different diagnoses to different individuals. Psychiatrists are pretty much up people who have worked out what their problems are, and have suppressed their own human sensitivity because they feel threatened by other people’s problems, and have to suppress them.

CONTD.
Forbidden Love

Too often we forget that we have grown up in this society. We might be rebelling against certain things, including our conditions or our desires for adventures, but we still have been shaped by this society. Schools, newspapers, friends, parents, churches, television: they have all influenced us into a certain frame of mind. They don't want just one single attitude (which would be impossible to do). Rather, they want us to be rebellious against the society. The complexity of our personality, but a whole range of feelings, thoughts, and beliefs that are conditioning. It is very difficult to lose them all - at least we can talk about obedience, isolation, division, fear, asceticism, basic conservatism and so on.

That these attitudes are inside our heads and are a major barrier to transforming our lives cannot be denied. Our desires for a 'better life' are desires for living together as equals, living in harmony, living for pleasure, controlling our lives. The process of how we reach our desires and beyond is polarized. There is a lot of activity in therapy and a lot in straight political work, but nothing much in between.

When we fight, we can lose our strength, our energy, our life and our life. We are not unfolding and unthinking monsters - but they are thinking, working people - and that means revolution. That is the only way we will be able to free ourselves.

But capitalism will not go away just as you attack the state and the bourgeoisie out there, whilst forgetting all the roles and attitudes that have been imposed upon us by society's conditioning and that we have accepted to some degree. Or else we will be left with the same situation of workers, and in ways towards each other which benefit our existence and our rules, to have to start valuing each other rather than devaluing ourselves and the people around us.

The group of breaking down the divisions between ourselves and therefore making our groups and activities more effective and effective in the contest. This is not some liberal rubbish. It can be a lot of our own without being formalistic - as long as playing games does not become formalistic in itself. We can see how we oppress ourselves and others, and start to learn our real ways of relating, so that we can play 'power games' with each other, we put each other down - more radically than that. We've got to relax, to love each other - even while still the cops.

Of course we have to challenge and heal all the accumulated rubbish in our heads, and be aware of how this affects our personal ways of relating. We have to realize that we are living in a capitalist society - otherwise our activities will be forever frustrated. We cannot be 'non-violent', 'living in harmony' or whatever while we still suffer capitalism. Capitalism will not go away just because we pretend we are free. Capitalism will only be destroyed by a mass working class movement - and that means revolution. That is the only way we will be able to free ourselves.

But capitalism will not go away if we just take the state and the bourgeoisie out there, whilst forgetting all the roles and attitudes that have been imposed upon us by society's conditioning and that we have accepted to some degree. Or else we will be left with the same situation of workers, and in ways towards each other which benefit our existence and our rules - to have to start valuing each other rather than devaluing ourselves and the people around us.

There is no monopoly on truth. None of us is any better than anyone else. If we are different in any way, it should be believing in doubt. But the reality of day-to-day life is that we don't have to act as if we know certain things are right. But too often, we often end up believing our own lies. We walk around pretending to know it all, but really knowing little. We become another elite.

Too often we treat other people as pawns to be manipulated. We rarely hear it said openly, that the underlying attitude is one of 'they haven't reached our level of enlightenment, comrades'. The opinion that a lot of people show towards revolutionary ideas has nothing to do with so-called 'working class conservatism' and a lot to do with the way revolutionaries look down on ordinary people. In a hierarchical society, we are all conditioned in one way or another to respect the structure. For 'revolutionaries', this can be the 'foolish' people who are yet to realise the 'correct' way.

However it might be denied, this sort of bigoted self-righteousness is the same as the arrogance of squatters who sneer at tenants, because they pay rent (recent graffiti in North London read 'Squatters rule OK. Pay off tenants') to the simplistic and patronising tone of the left-wing papers. We must not accept, and try to educate people - as folly is too difficult, to understand already. We talk about 'organising our own lives', without really realising that a large number of people can't afford it, that they aren't young, free and single.

And within our own groups, we are too smug, too complacent. We sit around, happy that we know-it-all, paring each others' backs and congratulating ourselves on seeing through all the lies. As if millions of people haven't seen through it already. Too often we cut ourselves off with our arrogant righteousness. Criticising people for voting Labour. Feeling superior because our reality is so much more comfortable and because most of us don't have to worry about our wages being cut and our money being cleverly laid out. We are painting ourselves into a corner. The more self-righteous we get, the more isolated we become. And that's just a dead end.

There will be revolution made by the masses of the workers. There's no easy group, no matter how 'correct' their analysis may be. Most working class people know only too well who their enemy is. They don't need any 'revolutionary' approved leaders to come down and tell them. And of course when the working class rebels in a massive way (Russia 1917, Britain 1971, Mexico 1936, Hungary 1956, France 1968, Poland 1980, South Africa 1983+...), where are all the so-called 'revolutionaries'? They did nothing to expose the 'correct' analysis on the working class.

But working class rebellions don't just happen once in a while. There is constant resistance every hour of every day, from go-slow to stop work, from organising collectives to standing up to the system. All this, workers. They don't need any 'revolutionaries' to do the job. Their own experience of the revolution will be enough for them. They don't need any advice on how to take over the world from the 'revolutionaries'.

But working class人们 are fighting back, trying to win back something from the system. The most important thing that 'revolutionaries' wonder why the working class hasn't developed enough 'consciousness' to join their party or to enter their photo. The truth is that most people ignore revolutionaries, because revolutionaries ignore most people.

If the revolution ever emerges, it will come from the midst of the working class. From people's anger and imagination. From communities linked together and looking for something more. We can be part of this. We should not wring our hands and ask for help. There is too much that has yet to be learnt, much still to be shared. There is no monopoly on truth.

NEW GODS, NEW MASTERS

If someone is on tranquilizers, try to persuade them to come off it otherwise they'll just be a vegetable for the rest of their live, but warn them that they will probably go mad again sooner or later because they haven't sorted out the original problem. They'll be very scared and disinhibited for a few days when they're coming off.

So that's it. Madness is basically about terror, the terror of not being accepted or exposed to violence because your ideas are different and other people find them emotionally difficult. It is the terror of doing non-assimilated 'philosophy', philosophy in direct relation to reality, instead of what passes as philosophy in our universities. That's why to academic philosophers, with the exception of Foucault, madness is a taboo subject.

The best therapy on this 'North Face of the Truth' is the love and care of one's friends - though usually when people go mad it's because people are being false to them in some way and are trying to deny it by calling them mentally ill. The best way to help someone who has gone mad is to face your own terror, and be honest about your feelings.

These are the addresses of some organised groups in this area: New Idea, 150 Harley Street, London, W1; Campaign Against Psychiatric Oppression, c/o Bev W, 115 Harlesden Road, London NW10; Black Rock for Alternatives to Psychiatry, c/o Steve Tuckfield, 50 Marlborough Rd, London, N14; TheOTES Group, 669 Hackney Rd, London E2; MAN, 80-86 Middlesex St, London, E1; The Four Faced City and 'Britain from below' group, both by Derek Letting (two novels on madness) and 'The Politics of Experience and the Bird of Paradise' by R.D. Laing.
GETTING AWAY

It is important if we are involved in any illegal activities to know how the cops catch people. This article is an attempt to pass on a few of our experiences in getting away with it and getting caught.

First of all, there is the officer of the law the key to success. Don't be stupid. Does everyone really need to know what you are doing? The more people who know, the more chance you have of getting caught. Remember that careless talk costs lives (for a few years inside). So although there is a very strong temptation to publicly celebrate your successes...stay silent.

The authors at work.

When you actually go out, try to fit in with the surrounding crowd. Don't go out unless you need some James Bond style. And if at all possible, leave any equipment at the target (well hidden of course) - it is safer to do this than carrying it round at night. But some people strongly disagree. Be confident and assured. If you look nervous, then you will be much more noticeable. You have every right to be out at 2am!

Think carefully about the targets. Are there any security cameras? Are there any alarms? These can be dealt with. What is the frequency of police patrols? Where is the best time to go (eg when pubs shut, etc). Always prepare at least one escape route in advance. And have a cover story just in case you get stopped - 'I wanted to go star gazing officer'.

If you are going out with other people, make sure that everyone fully trusts each other and feels happy and mentally prepared. If you don't feel up to doing it then don't do it. Trust is not something that magically appears overnight. It takes months, if not years, to build up. Don't try to rush it. Strength and confidence are often the key factors to success. And success in what counts.

When activity is being discussed, it is best not to do it in your own home as the cops can bug places through the telephone or directional microphone. This does not happen very often - but why take the risk and it is good to start being prepared. Go to the local park and chat about the weather, how much petrol you will need and so on. If you have to make anything, you should do that elsewhere as well. Making devices will always leave forensic traces that the cops would love to have. Don't make it easy for them.

On the actual night, you should clean your house thoroughly. There is no point in them burning you for stolen property or finding evidence for previous lane activities. Just don't do anything over the telephone. That is really asking to get caught. And don't be tempted by romantic illusions into using clandestine codes - that only proves that you are involved in something. Nothing should be written down either.

It is worth remembering that disguises can change your appearance quite considerably. The odd moustache, beard, make-up, wigs, glasses, different clothing, can really distract people from who you really are. As the actual target, there must be no forensic traces left. In particular, those rare fingerprints. All equipment must be completely cleaned - and not just rubbed down, but washed in white spirits (or methyls, alcohol, etc) and then rubbed down.

The cops can pick up other traces such as hair, blood, sweat, skin-type, etc. But none of these are as hopeful as fingerprints. It is fingerprints that have got to be dealt with. Obviously, there is no point in leaving any other traces: wear a hat, don't drop any cigarette butts, don't bleed all over the place. The cops can also pick up traces off clothing (eg fragments of glass). Afterwards, all clothing must be thoroughly washed. If you feel any desire to claim responsibility for an act, then think again - any claim made can just give the cops more evidence (eg voice prints on telephone, handwriting, fingerprints, etc). Sometimes, recognizability can be assured too (eg the Animal Liberation Front). But it is best to regard ourselves as vandals of the world. And anyway what we do often requires no explanation.

Most people do get away with it, but sometimes we are caught. Unless we are caught red-handed ("bang to rights"), the cops will probably not have that much evidence. They will be hoping for a confession from you to nail up the case. Don't give them the satisfaction. But then keep your mouth shut. And if you do talk, then never mention any other names. That is called granting and in the 6 Counties you get sent to jail.

It must be remembered that if you can endure several hours of intense harassment from the cops, then you might be saving yourself a few years behind bars. The crucial rule is to stay silent and remember that it will not last forever (although it might seem as though it will). But if the cops have picked you up and you knew that they have absolutely no evidence, then do talk: give them a good cover story, without mentioning other names or houses. Staying silent does prove to the cops that you know the score.

It can be a lot of fun. The petrol burning them back. We've taken years of shit from them, so why shouldn't we have some revenge? If you do decide on this course of action, then be sensible, be careful and be clever. Don't make silly mistakes. Remember that it is your own personal freedom that is at stake. Good luck and happy burning.

The awful dodger

For further information, read 'Without A Trace', 'Interviews with Animal Liberation Front Activists' (both very difficult to get hold of, but ask around).

GOOD NIGHTS OUT

Our friends often desire the have a bit of revenge on those in power. The need to physically our hatred and our anger is to express this anger - that is enough justification for 'good nights out'. But such nights do reward the scum how much we hate them. And it can pres- sure them into giving us a bit more space to survive in.

First of all, it is vital to be careful and aware. Don't blindly jump into anything. Know what you're doing. If you're going out with other people, be sure that you fully trust them. If you don't, then don't go out with them. Study the target beforehand and work out how you're going to hit it, escape routes and so on.

Window shopping is a good way to start. This can be done with a cutout (Black Widows are highly recom- mended, with ball bearings), the odd good old brick or a hammer. Try to hit the window in a corner - it will break more easily and makes less noise. A recent development has been the use of etching fluid. It permanently etches the window and makes no noise at all. But it can be diffi- cult to get hold of, due to the cops realising how useful it is. Check out local art shops - and say you're an art student (disguise yourself as well). If you want to attack cars, paintstripper (available from most car maintenance shops) is marvellous. Very quiet - and a lot of damage. Looks particularly good on Rollers. Punching the tyres (do at least two due to the spare), supergluing the locks (including the petrol cap), putting sugar in the petrol tank and messing around under the bonnet are also very effective.

To burn out a car, the petrol can is replaced and the car turned over. Addition of a match...boom! (This is a very good tactic in a riot - burning vehicles make excel lent barricades). Alternatively, pour petrol either inside or over the car, add a few firelighters (to give it that extra punch), match...boom. petrol is a very useful aid in satisfying your burning desire for revenge. Most buildings burn very nicely if petrol is added to them. You only need 1-2 gallons (about 4 to do hundreds of thousands pounds worth of damage...good profit rate). The simplest way is to break a window, pour in the petrol and then light it with a rag

SICK OF SIGNING ON...

VANDALS paint petrol storms through a smashed window and get an earful from officers about the North Circular. Firemen are given a general briefing on the E3/5 bombs by the DHSS's briefing.

Vandals of the world ignite!

Molotis (known and loved by millions as 'petrol bombs') can also do the job. Fill a glass bottle (eg Uni- gate style) half full with petrol, put a piece of rug soaked in petrol in the neck, light - and throw very quickly. To spice up this mixture, you can add washing up liquid, or bits of polystyrene foam, for that special longer burn (like homemade napalm - make 'em cry). Also, try sodium tablets (University/Polytechnic chemistry labs) taped to the bottom; add water into the petrol and it should explode on impact, greatly lessening the danger to the thrower. Molotis are a favourite drink (cops love them) at street parties - they can guarantee a hot time. It must be stressed that petrol is very dan- gerous. It's a good idea to practice if you ever get the opportunity (eg describe throwing a petrol bomb in the wall.

A good way to topple cars is through metal spikes. These spikes can be made in a small piece of (12cm - 15cm long, 5mm-8mm thick. Both ends are lined to sharp points and then cut about 5cm in. This produces 4 points which are bent onwards. Whichver- ever points the spike falls, there will always be one point sticking up. The points are strong enough to go through nearly all tires. Scaib trucks love them.

If you want to annoy someone (eg rich sourcumb, slab, etc), then simple, concealed harassment is very effective. Ring them up all the time (especially early morning - they really like that), fill out coupons for them (eg book clubs, catalogues, etc), send them hate mail, order taxis, hearse, wreaths, a ton of compost for them - it's your revenge on everyone up the wall.

These are some of the things that we have done. And very satisfying they've been too! So if you're feeling bored, frustrated or tired of taking all their shit, there are a few ways that you can get back at them. But don't forget that it is still no substitute for mass social revolu-
In the last few years 'ecological issues' have suddenly become very trendy. Even Thatcher and her cohorts talk about 'conservation'. Have our rulers dramatically realised that the earth cannot go on taking all the pollution and crap forever? That we cannot use our fields and seas as dumping grounds for our toxic waste and expect to get away with it.

I rather doubt it. I think that they have simply realised the level of public concern over pollution. So in order to diffuse this concern (and maybe win a few votes in the process), they have produced, like some magician, a few very minor changes. Wow - lead-free petrol. That will really change the general situation. That will certainly stop any repititions of Seveso, Bhopal, Chernobyl and all the other countless environmental disasters.

In Bhopal some 3000 people were slaughtered and 20,000 were permanently disabled. One victim said 'we thought it was the plague.' But, according to the Wall Street Journal (the US equivalent of the 'Financial Times') the benefits outweigh the costs of $1500 people have lost their heads and it is the line they always come out with. And billions of US dollars (US dollars are owned by the people). and all the other big business vampires continue to rise.

In this country there is a lot of talk about nuclear power. We should all be worried that this would rather affect their profits. And that's what counts, don't forget. Not our lives or our health. Their profits. And what about all the chemicals they use? It helps them to produce more in the short term. They don't care about the long term, the dust bowls, the destruction of the topsoil that doesn't figure in their balance sheets.

In many workplaces, we are being exposed to harmful chemicals, but to make our workplaces safer would mean higher costs. That means fewer profits. That's what counts. Remember that we are nothing to them. Our safety to them is meaningless to them. Our rate of productivity is everything to them. Millions of working class people across the world have died early deaths because of the dangerous conditions they have been working in - and it's still going on. Capitalism is dangerous to our mental and physical health.

On a global scale, we have got to start thinking about this continued demand to expand - grow, grow, grow is all we ever say. When will they learn that the earth is finite? That they cannot continue screwing our earth for everything they can get? That it is our earth that supports us, not some faceless bank or pieces of paper money. WE CAN'T EAT MONEY. This massive industrial civilisation is slowly excreting us to death in its crap and its general filth. From nuclear waste to asbestos, from chemical additives in food to destruction of the Amazon rain forest, our lives are being crushed by one massive as well as the nuclear waste to asbestos, from chemical additives in food to destruction of the Amazon rain forest, our lives are being crushed by one massive as well as the nuclear waste to asbestos, from chemical additives in food to destruction of the Amazon rain forest, our lives are being crushed by one massive...
ON THE ATTACK...

If you’re looking at ‘Attack’ for a description of the correct path to international revolution, you’re wasting your time. There are no ‘right’ answers here, no ‘correct’ analysis, no organisations to join. The aim of ‘Attack’ is simply to help spread some ideas and give a few practical hints to those who want to inspire, provoke and inflame. We are not fooled into thinking that ‘Attack’ has some crucial part to play in the struggle for revolutionary change. We are not in the religion trade and we don’t give a toss for ‘organisations’. We want ‘Attack’ to be questioned and challenged. A lot of stuff for this paper has been taken from elsewhere. We don’t believe in copyright, and we don’t want credits. It’s your paper now; use anything here for whatever you want (unless, of course, you’re a rich bastard, cop, boss or any other lump of scum).

Everything we say here comes from our own personal experience, from what we have seen and from what we have done. We are not an ‘organisation’ of any kind, and so we have no principles that we don’t violate. For us, what matters is working class self-activity, and the more people live their own way to fight back against their oppression on their own terms. Unity and solidarity will not magically come about by lining up behind the ‘right’ leadership or platform. It’s all much more complicated and it all back that our so-called ‘differences’ become irrelevant. We are not working class because we are divided, we are weak, we are black and white, we are old and young, we are struggle, and we are walls like these colleges.

Sadly there is no short-cut to revolution. Our struggles can only start wherever we are. There is nothing here about South Africa, South Korea or Nicaragua. That is because we don’t believe in international revolution. It’s because we’re not really interested in spreading the gospel about ‘solidarity’. We think that real support for the working class battle against their oppression is to be found in the streets and not around the world means taking on our own ruling class. If we turn to more solidarity with the peoples of South or Soweto, the enemy is on our streets too...
The struggle is here, because the struggle is everywhere.

Although we hate capitalism and want revolution, the ideas in ‘Attack’ are only one side of our lives. We are not ‘political junkies’ and we know that there is more to life than politics. There is caring and sharing, opening up to people around us, having a good time, lending a helping hand, having a whip-round when someone’s sick...

Things like love, warmth, friendship, respect are just as important as bricks and mortar. We are human beings, not robots working 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to smash the State. Even though putting together ‘Attack’ took a good two months, it was not attack or a duty. It was a pleasure - and that’s pretty revolutionary in itself.

If you look in the papers of the Left, we’re always presented as victims. There are never any photos of us attacking cops, just photos of us being beaten up. Never any hint of us fighting back, just images of us as passive objects. This is no accident. The so-called ‘radicals’ are as scared of our potential as the bosses. The truth is that we’ve never been victims. We are angry and we’re fighting back. Our collective potential is massive... We’re not defending, we’re on the attack!


THE THEROY OF BOREDOM

In societies where modern conditions of production prevail, all of life presents itself as an insensate accumulation of spectacles.

What the fuck does this mean? An immense accumulation of spectacles? Why do certain people feel the need to work and talk in these terms? It’s a stream of complex and shallow phrases that bears no relationship to the lives that we live. It’s one intellectual talking to another.

Instead of playing intellectual games, we should directly relate to reality. Instead of mouthing off about ‘capitalism’, how about describing where we live, work and play?

Last time I worked, I fucking hated it. Not only was it boring as hell, the boss was an hour late. And I got fuck-off money, so I packed it in. More people can relate to that than someone ruminating about the diameter of the capitalist mode of production.

There is a reason behind these mind-games. It’s called egoism, theory as weapon, showing how clever you are. I can remember a friend of mine saying that theory made her feel thick. A victory for one individual’s ego. A defeat if we want to really change this stinking society.

These intellectual classes with their long words, incomprehensible phrases and elaborate theories are just trying to cover up their personal failings. They need to dominate - so they do it with intellectual theory.

THE LATEST PARALIAN FASHIONS

This has been put together by a small bunch of people, with the help and support of a slightly larger group. Although we are small in number, we have managed to put out something as big as this by working hard and having a good laugh. It can be done! We don’t for one minute think that this is perfect. There are as many contradictions here as anywhere else. We’re not ashamed of those contradictions (why should we be!) and we’ve tried not to cover them up with slogans or cliches. We haven’t been able to include something on everything that matters; there’s nothing here on fascism or racism, housing, childcare and a million and one other aspects of our lives. We had limited time, limited contacts, and limited experience...

We have printed 10,000 copies of ‘Attack’ which cost us about £600. It was collectively charged because of the large printrun, and because we used a ‘webfed’ press - one fed by a huge reel of paper, rather than by simple sheets. We spent about £150 on type-setting (converting word-processing files to cut costs) to give us a variety of sizes and styles, and to line all the writing up in newspaper columns (something that a typewriter just can’t do). Finally we spent a further £50 on photographs, making a total cost of about £500. A hell of a lot of money... but we raised it ‘one way or another’...
ROAD TO NOWHERE

We have a history of struggle and resistance. But we also have a history of following the rules and the laws that they have laid down for us. Even though these rules rarely always run against our own interests. In the First World War, millions of working class people were sent to the front, bringing up their kids as they themselves were being brought back. The shirt is handed down. We internalise our oppression, obeying their orders without thinking, accepting our position as natural. It's the biggest con-trick in history. A class system, once built on hierarchy and power, can only function as long as those it exploits accept their exploitation.

Sexual repression is as much part of the family as Grandad with his slippers. And it's all tied up with patriarchy (male dominance) which gave us the monogamous marriage and repressive morality. It has been developed and perfected over many centuries. As an ancient Greek philosopher, Plato, hit the nail on the head when he said that 'the most holy marriages are those which are of most benefit to the state'. Finessing the knot has come to mean tightening the noose around our own necks.

Inequality is not natural. We are all born equal. As human beings we are all of equal value. We have different abilities, different understandings and desires, but we are still human beings. Inequality is the lie they use to explain our wealth and our poverty.

So why do most of us, when we're stuck, when there's no place to steal food? When we're shipped off to war, why don't we usually just say 'strikers'? And why, when we're pushed around, why don't we usually light back? From a very early age there are powerful patterns that shape our lives. In learning to obey our parents, we learn obedience in general. In learning to obey the rules and any idea of pleasure is ruthlessly stamped out. Many parents are horrifically abusive towards their children. And how many kids have been so brutalised and frightened marauding? For most parents, the child-rearing years are one long struggle against sex and pleasure.

As children, we normally react to all this authority by repressing our sexuality, not expressing it, not feeling pleasure with punishment. Everything we do something nice and fun, we expect to get told off for it. These internal obstacles are strengthened by external authorities like school and society. The suppression of the natural sexuality of the child makes the child apprehensive, shy, obedient, afraid of authority, 'good' and 'adjusted' in the authoritarian sense; it paralyses the rebellious forces because any rebellion is laden with anxiety...The result is fear of freedom, and a conservative, reactionary morality (Wilhelm Reich).

In this way, the dominant cultural patterns (acceptance of slavery) are transmitted from generation to generation. Our own history shows us how men bring up their kids as they themselves were brought up. The shirt is handed down. We internalise our oppression, obeying their orders without thinking, accepting our position as natural. It's the biggest con-trick in history. A class system, once built on hierarchy and power, can only function as long as those it exploits accept their exploitation.

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BOLSHEVIKS AND BONKING

Before the October Revolution in Russia, people's sexuality was crushed by reactionary currents, basied up and expressed by legislation. The wife 'owed unlimited obedience to the husband'; parents could have their children imprisoned for 'wiltfully disobeying parental power'; only religious marriages were legal and young people needed parental consent. In December 1917 all the legislation supposing sexuality was swept away; men and women were released as equals, divorce was made readily available, abortion was legalised, as was homosexuality.

There can be no social difference between women and men. Men are not stronger, more intelligent or dominant. The women. Some women are stronger than some men. Some women are more intelligent than some men.

The end result of all is mass neurones and the mass misery of sexual repression. Poor sexual play is replaced by the demands of a moralising long as dollying our needs and our desires. If we are to really change this society, our economic and political system, we need to change the way we use them. We need to have them have got to be revolutionised. Revolution is a total transformation of our everyday lives, in work, at home, in play and in bed. It has to be total, or it will simply mean the replacement of one authority by another.

The bulk of our lives is occupied by our relationships with other people. Most people don't devote themselves to politics or 'class struggle'. But is this ever considered in the pages of Militant, 'Socialist Worker' or 'Attack'? We are all so damaged by sexual repression that we are usually too pre-occupied to talk openly about our needs and desires. So we talk about industry and government and struggle, not as much less threatening. Struggle and sexuality aren't separate things. What's the point in struggling to change the system if we're not struggling against the boss in our own lives? No. It's only by the struggle that abortion has become more acceptable, that 'illegitimacy' has stopped being an absolute crime, that gay men and lesbians have been more able to support each other in coming out, and that women have become more independent. The struggles have only just begun. Our rulers are looking back with all their new morality. And if the Mary Whitehouse approach won't work, they'll try to package sex up as a commodity and sell it back to us. Pornography, advertising, the pink economy of the gay scene and the rest, are just as alienating and repressive as all the more blatant forms of exploitation. We want to seize back our bodies. And we want to stop believing that all this shit is the natural order of things.

This article is based on a pamphlet by Maurice Brinton called 'The Frac- tional in Politics'. Also worth reading are books by Wilhelm Reich (but beware of crap).

The world, Lenin upheld 'healthy bodies, healthy minds', the Mary Whitelhouse of the Russian Revolution. It was Lenin and the Bolsheviks who obsessively concentrated on 'decoration', argued that propaganda for sexual freedom was a 'diversion from the real struggle'. The new months had come, dressed in red and ready to suppress any life-affirming activities.
BURNING HATRED

People are puzzled. Questions are asked in Parliament. Social workers write long articles. The papers carry "shock horror" headlines. No-one can understand it, everyone despair. What can we do? Why are they doing it? It wasn't like this in my DAY. Get a job! Get off the streets! You're sicko!

"Catch this you filthy scum".

Our role in this society is to be cogs. Obdient, well-trained, hard-working cogs. Nothing more than that. Cogs in the assembly line, cogs in the office, cogs in the shops, everywhere else. Cogs working, cogs consuming, cogs accepting, cogs spectating... well, fuck that. We're not interested in a life of boredom, a life of frustration, a life of misery. We want to be somebody.

They say 'get a job'. A job? More like slavery. You can stuff your crappy jobs. If we want money, then we will just have to find ways of getting some. It can be done - and it's a damn sight better than working for a living. What's more, it's fun, it's thrilling. How many jobs can you say that about?

We feel intense boredom with this society. We don't want more money, fewer hours, nicer houses, bigger parks, local democracy. We want adventure. We want passion. We want an end to all this terminal boredom that forever surrounds us, crushes out our spirits and our lives. Sure, we won't say no to all these goodies - but they are not going to do anything about the essential problem: boredom.

From the cradle to the grave this is a society of boredom. Our desires, our hopes are smashed to smithereens by the huge weight of boredom, by the cogs, by the shops, by the jobs. We're not interested in being forced into their stupid fucking holes. We're not interested in being just another cog. We want to live passionately, we want to laugh, to run wild, to live free from all their constraints and barriers.

We'll now - the British ruling class are renowned for their readiness to listen to the voice of reason...

Again and again they try to pinpoint us out. They warn the others. Dangers, outside agitators, Libyan-trained Moscow hit squads and so on. Well, we've got news for them - and they already know it. We're not few, we're many, we're all over this rotting dump of a country. From every town to every factory, from every shop to every city, we are there, full of burning hatred, full of boredom, full of desires for something more, full of unwillingness to accept what you have planned out for us.

Of course they know this. They only have to read all the police reports on the hundreds of small riots across the country, the level of sabotage at work, the amount of shoplifting, the increasing turnover of jobs. But they don't want us to realise our enormous potential. They don't want us to realise how many people are severely pissed off with what we are supposed to accept. They want us to keep fighting each other. That's the way they survive: divide us up and then rule us.

Sometimes they want to talk to us about it. Highly paid social workers, sociologists, psychologists - whatever their title is, they are all rich, plump and self-satisfied. Now tell me, why did you want to stab that police officer in the stomach? They try to baffle us with all their long words, their intellectual minds, their special terms. Well, fuck that. We're not interested in being specimens for you to observe. We hate you. It's that simple, there's no need for long words, just one word: hate.

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