



VANISHING VALUES...

The Line between Privacy and Transparency - an editorial

This month has been another set of airings of dirty laundry on the anarchist Internet. With all the different ways that people have to air their issues with one another in a more-or-less public way, this is probably a good time to review some thoughts around privacy and transparency, as they pertain to anarchists, in the age of the Internet.

What is privacy and why do I want it?

When anarchists complain about other anarchists using Facebook (or Google) they aren't railing against our desire to be social or even to share information with each other. They are concerned that the context in which we are sharing, in which we are being social, is so out of our control, so circumscribed by the hosting company, that we have no idea who knows what about us. Our privacy is being sacrificed to sociability.

What is privacy? Privacy is the counterpart to the traditional anarchist value of voluntary association. I believe that cooperating with other people (with whom I have a personal relationship) is more beneficial than competing with them. I also believe that this relationship must be voluntary to truly be cooperative. When strangers are privy to information about me without my knowledge, that is not voluntary. A voluntary relationship is one where you get to choose what another person (or group) knows about you, *in context*.

The context of information gathering is heavily related to size and relationship. We are moving farther and faster away from "if I want you to know something about me then I tell you," into situations where whatever control you have over

who knows what is determined by checking (or not checking) the correct box at the correct time during your use of one service or another. Of course, the larger the information harvester, the harder it is to control your personal information. Not only because the size makes it more difficult to figure out where to say "no" or "yes" at the correct time, but because the larger the harvester, the more likely that your no or yes is irrelevant to the deals made behind the scenes in the name of things like National Security (tm). And as the suicide of the web-cammed college student illustrates, what about the issue of story-telling (ie if our friends know something about us, where is the agreement of what they should or should not share with others?).

The largest harvester of all is the State. The State does not ask for your consent nor is it interested in your cooperation¹. The State does have a cooperative relationship to other organizations of size (like Facebook and Google) with procedures in place to garner information from all of its true *cooperators*.

Transparency

Where privacy relates to self-defense, transparency is about ethical behavior. Transparency is the motivation for being clear with someone about your desire for them, how you behave inside your affinity group, how your *above ground* group interacts with the world, etc, etc.

Transparency is an anarchist principle for the 21st century. It reflects the reality of an era in which our daily lives involves a flood of information (rather than great physical toil), in which the ways we communicate with each other

are more likely to be texts, emails, and private messages rather than face-to-face conversations or hand-written letters.

The recent airings of dirty laundry have been great examples of transparency, of controversial actions being totally aired out in the open with no shortage of salacious detail and ambivalent hand wringing on every side of the issues discussed. What these incidents haven't been good examples of, is privacy. We, collectively, have provided our not-friends a great deal of personal information about specific individuals, and more importantly, specific kinds of situations that our space is vulnerable to.

Our not-friends have sophisticated tools to parse and shape vernacular, jargon, and approaches to the issues at hand that we should consider before future public discussions about them. The next "Anna" will read these threads along with finding clothes at a thrift store (<http://veganxjen.livejournal.com/4471.html>) (or will s/he just shop at American Apparel and wear skinny pants?).

Between us we should maintain a principled transparency. When it comes to the outside world we must work together to maintain our individual and collective privacy. These issues are more salient than ever when it seems like our greatest enemies are coming from within.

Be careful out there. The whole world is watching.

¹ It requires your participation but takes it with force.

FBI ATTACKS, CRIMINALIZATION, DEMONIZATION

Surge in Govt Repression: FBI Visits, Warrants, More

From Voice of the Voiceless

New AETA 4 DNA warrant

This week, Joseph Buddenberg of the AETA 4 was the target of a warrant for his DNA. A quote from the agent who authored the affidavit:

“I believe probable cause exists that Buddenberg was involved in the February 24, 2008 altercation at the L.H./J.R. residence in Santa Cruz....”

Buddenberg submitted himself to FBI agents this week, who took four swabs of DNA.

While the AETA 4 indictment was recently thrown out, this recent government offensive indicates the case is not yet over. The case, if continued, stands to be a precedent-setting Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act case with implications for all activists.

Carrie Feldman Re-Subpoenaed

Last week, Carrie Feldman was approached by FBI agents in Rock Island, IL, and handed a subpoena, ordering her to testify at the trial of Scott DeMuth. DeMuth is charged with a conspiracy role in the A.L.F. raid of the University of Iowa, in which 401 animals were rescued. The trial is set to begin on September 13th.

Feldman was previously jailed for four months after refusing to testify to the grand jury investigating the Iowa raid.

FBI visit

The FBI reportedly visited a former east coast activist last week, inquiring about an animal rights activist in Utah. The questioning appears to be related to the recent raid of an activist house in Salt Lake City.

Rod Coronado sent back to prison

Rod Coronado has been sentenced to four months in prison for a probation violation. A judge found him guilty of adding well-known Earth First! co-founder Mike Rosselle as a friend on Facebook, which the judge found violated his probation conditions, which bar Coronado from associating with anyone involved with Earth First! He was also found to have used a computer which was not approved by the probation department.

Another FBI Visit

An activist in Minneapolis was approached by two FBI agents at a gas station August 16th. The report does not

G20 defendant Alex Hundert re-arrested; Supporters denounce criminalization

September 18, 2010 – Toronto, Mississauga New Credit – G20 defendant and alleged ‘ringleader’ Alex Hundert was arrested by seven Toronto Police and RCMP police officers just outside his father’s home at 10:30 pm on Friday September 17, 2010. Hundert was returning from speaking on a panel at Ryerson University titled “Strengthening Our Resolve: Movement Building and Ongoing Resistance to the G20 Agenda.” Based on Hundert’s participation as an invited panellist at two recent events, the police are alleging that he is in violation of his existing bail condition to not participate in any public demonstration.

According to supporter and No One Is Illegal member Mohan Mishra, “We are outraged at Alex’s re-arrest. He was speaking at a panel discussion in a university classroom alongside professors, which is clearly not a public demonstration. This is yet another attempt to silence Alex, and is a strong indication of the police’s intent to criminalize ideas, dissent, and effective community organizing.”

Hundert is currently facing politically-motivated conspiracy and counselling charges in relation to the Toronto G8/G20 protests. He was pre-emptively arrested at gunpoint in a violent house raid on the morning of June 26th, before the protests began, and is being targeted as a member of the community group AW@L and Southern Ontario Anarchist Resistance.

Five other G20 defendants continue to remain behind bars, including Indigenous sovereignty activist Ryan Rainville of the Sackimay Nation.

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<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12208>

specify what the agents were investigating, or what information was sought. The person refused to speak to them, and drove away.

more at:
<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12096>

5 Myths about the Asheville II

On May 1, 2010, shortly before midnight, police responded to reports that people were breaking windows in downtown Asheville, North Carolina. A few minutes later they arrested eleven people, sweeping them off the sidewalk at random several blocks from the scene of the vandalism; when one asked why they were being detained, a police officer was quoted as saying that his instructions were to detain any young people in the area carrying bags or backpacks, or anyone who appeared to be breathing heavily.

Initially, each person was charged with ten misdemeanors for damage to property. With the eleven incarcerated, investigators used the next few days to scour the law books for any applicable charges they could tack on, eventually coming up with three felony charges for each individual: conspiracy, rioting, and damage to property over \$5,000 were added, and their bond was ratcheted up to \$65,000 a piece. Interestingly, each of the arrestees face exactly the same charges -- in other words, eleven people arrested at random are being charged with breaking the same ten windows, and folks who met for the first time in jail are being charged with conspiring together to commit specific acts of vandalism. Meanwhile, the Asheville Police Department held a press conference labeling all of the arrestees as “anarchists,” with police chief Bill Hogan stating that they were part of an “anti-government, anti-capitalist May Day movement” and that they were each “loosely, or perhaps closely, connected to an anarchist website.”*

Sensationalized coverage spread through news outlets all across the US, provoking shock and outrage. This outrage has been primarily directed against the arrestees, despite a lack of evidence connecting them to the vandalism. Why has this happened? And what’s really at stake here?

Myth 1:

“These Are Just Misguided Vandals.”

In theory, arrestees are innocent until proven guilty. In practice, police and reporters often conspire to convict them in the public eye long before trial.

much more at:
<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12193>

FBI Raids Homes of Antiwar and Union Activists

From KC Labor

Early Friday morning (9/24) coordinated FBI raids were carried out at the office of the Antiwar Committee in Minneapolis and the homes of several labor and antiwar activists in Minneapolis, Chicago, Grand Rapids, MI, and Raleigh, NC.

Some initial news reports:

Most, if not all, are open members of the Freedom Road Socialist Organization. While so far none have been arrested their computers, cell phones, along with boxes of personal papers and even books have been seized. The FBI says it is investigating their alleged connection to "Foreign Terrorist Organizations." Subpoenas have been issued for Grand Jury appearance in Chicago next month.

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12255>

FBI Files on Investigation of Iowa City Peace Activists Made Public

From Iowa Independent

David Goodner, a former member of the University of Iowa's Antiwar Committee, submitted a Freedom of Information Act request for files associated with an FBI surveillance of groups in Iowa City prior to the 2008 Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minn. What he discovered was the investigation was far more extensive than previously known.

Now, Goodner has turned over the files he received from the FBI exclusively to The Iowa Independent for publication.

As the documents show, the investigation into activities of peace groups in Iowa City involved staking out homes, secretly photographing and video taping members, digging through garbage and even planting a mole to spy on the peace activists up close. Known as the Wild Rose Rebellion, the protesters were described by the FBI as an "anarchist collective." In an interview with The Des Moines Register, the FBI defended its actions.

more at:

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12261>

Charges Dismissed for 3 RNC 8 Defendants

From Twin Cities Daily Planet

Luce Guillen-Givens, Monica Bicking, and Erin Trimmer can breathe a little easier after the Ramsey County Attorney dismissed charges brought against them as part of the RNC 8 prosecution. A fourth defendant, Erik Oseland, pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor -- consisting of talking about knocking over newspaper boxes -- as part of a plea bargain on August 27. The remaining four defendants (Rob Czernik, Garret Fitzgerald, Max Specktor, Nathanael Secor) are scheduled to go to trial on October 25.

According to an email from defense attorney Bruce Nestor, "The State has mailed plea offers to the remaining four defendants as it seeks to settle the case prior to the scheduled trial date of October 25, 2010." Nestor says he heard about the dismissals via a copy of an email to the court indicating that charges against the three would be "in the interest of justice."

Nestor noted that Ramsey County Attorney Susan Gaertner's office said the dismissal came because the trials would be costly and time-consuming.

"I don't think that Susan Gaertner should be allowed to hide behind this kind of justification," said Nestor. "For two years she and Bob Fletcher have claimed that the RNC Welcoming Committee was a criminal enterprise. It is absolutely shameful to charge them with conspiracy and terrorism charges and then dismiss those charges two years later because the trials are going to be time consuming. They [Gaertner and Fletcher] should stand up and say they were wrong."

The RNC 8 were arrested before the 2008 Republican National Convention began, and did not participate in any of the demonstrations or other actions during the convention. The prosecution is based entirely on the theory of conspiracy to commit crimes. That's the basis of the third-degree conspiracy plea by Oseland, whose testimony at the time of his guilty plea was about talking about knocking over newspaper boxes.

more at:

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12199>

Appellate Court Overturns 2001 Arson Conviction

From Seattle Times - Times staff reporter Mike Carter

The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals has ordered a new trial for accused Earth Liberation Front arsonist Brianna Waters, saying her 2008 conviction stemming from the May 2001 arson at the University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture was riddled with judicial errors.

The three-member panel unanimously sent Waters' case back to the U.S. District Court in Tacoma for a new trial.

...

The U.S. Attorney's Office declined to comment Wednesday on the ruling.

The 34-year-old Californian was sentenced in June 2008 to six years in federal prison and ordered to pay \$6 million in restitution by U.S. District Court Judge Franklin Burgess.

Writing for the panel, Judge A. Wallace Tashima said Burgess made a "number of errors," including allowing the jury to review "highly prejudicial" articles that Waters purportedly gave to another defendant, who pleaded guilty to the arson and testified against Waters in exchange for leniency.

more at:

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12188>

Scott Pleads Guilty to Lesser Charge

From Davenport Grand Jury

On Monday, September 13, 2010, Scott DeMuth pled guilty to one count of misdemeanor conspiracy to commit animal enterprise terrorism under the Animal Enterprise Protection Act for his role in the April 29, 2006 ALF raid on Lakeside Ferrets, Inc., in Howard Lake, MN. The plea was to a lesser included charge of the second superseding indictment for an action causing less than \$10,000 in damage, and carries a maximum of six months in prison and a period of supervised release. This is NOT a cooperating plea agreement; Scott has not been asked to testify against anyone else, nor would he do so.

more at:

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12177>

IDENTITY IS BLOWING UP (AGAIN/STILL)

The Latest Feminist Offensive

From Indybay

Not so long ago, some young women in Santa Cruz slashed the tires of the hated parking enforcement vehicles in the night, as nothing could better exemplify the slightly matriarchal character of authority under Empire. Masculinized women and feminized men are all that are left to us of the once eternal "gender roles". In this the police, sensing their emasculation, have tried to hush it up, but that won't work! A dying capitalism assumes the form of femininity as a last ruse, like the specialized female anti-insurgency squads in Afghanistan today. No matter! We have here turned the stereotypical assumptions concerning women into an offensive ground, the better to take the attack to capital and the state. No one ever suspects a lady. . .

"This action sets a precedent". Indeed, a different precedent, a different target, and a different action, for another type of feminism.

much love,
some ecstatic feminists

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12156>

Don't Believe the Hype: About the Assaults on "Assaulters"

Circumstances compel us to speak about the physical and rhetorical attacks by "feminists" on the "assaulters" JO in New York City and JD in Santa Cruz. We see that these actions have had a detrimental effect on anti-authoritarian thought and activity in the milieu, and we have the strongest suspicions that this was exactly what was intended. These attacks were not, except in a rhetorical and emotional sense, about patriarchy or rape, but about authoritarian leftist elements taking control of the radical student movements which emerged in those areas. Our reasoning is as follows.

First we observe the extremely vague yet implacable language with which the targeted individuals have been condemned. We are not here to defend these men's characters or discuss the incidents about which they were allegedly accused. Absence of evidence is not absence of evidence. We do find it telling that we can only say "allegedly accused" because the accusations have not been made public or even specified outside of an extremely narrow circle, and are supported only by the *argumentum ad baculum* ("might

makes right") and *argumentum ad populum* ("a bunch of other people live this is true, so it must be"). We find it telling that anarchists and leftists have colluded in the creation of juridical structures which are notably more authoritarian than even the U.S. criminal justice system, in which the accused has the right to be informed of charges and to speak to them and to one's accuser(s). These men both attempted to engage in dialogue with the people who attacked them, dialogue that was refused because their opponents wielded charges that were formulated specifically to be inherently not answerable.

Using the appropriately cop-like language of "assault," "perpetrator," etc., authoritarian feminists also avail themselves of doublespeak about "community" and "accountability." What can these words possibly mean when the situation they describe is that of masked vigilantes beating their political opponents and denouncing anyone who disagrees with them as rape apologists?

more at:
<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12211>

Why Women Should Join Political Organizations

From Miami Autonomy Solidarity - by Delores

In Miami Autonomy and Solidarity, we have discussions with people that might identify with the "left" in general to see where our political agreement lies; as well as to learn from each other with the goal of reaching enough unity to become members of MAS.

While these discussions have helped us engage with a lot of different people, and have lead to new membership, there is a noticeable hole in our group—a severe lack of women members. MAS has prioritized recruiting more women and we have had many continuous discussions with women from different backgrounds, yet none have joined.

For example, one of our members had been meeting regularly with a young woman involved in various social movements here in Miami but had reached

a certain point where the discussion stopped. Recently I was speaking with this young woman and she expressed to me that the person she had been meeting with didn't understand her because she was a woman and he could not see her perspective. Unfortunately, someone that could have over time become a potential member was lost.

...
"Why are there not more women in revolutionary groups?" This is a question that I often ask myself, and one that pushes itself into my consciousness during times like the Class Struggle Anarchist Conference where a woman utilizing the conference space randomly asked me if there was a men's conference happening that weekend.

more at:
<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12120>

IMF Resistance Network Consent Guidelines

Perpetrators of sexual violence/assault/harassment are not welcome in DC or any IMF protest organizational spaces. People who violate consent guidelines will be directed to leave IMF Resistance Network organizational spaces and housing arrangements. Survivors' participation is a priority of the IMF Resistance Network. If at any point in time you feel your consent has been violated or the presence of a perpetrator is preventing your full and active participation in this demo, the IMF Resistance Network encourages you to seek support. We invite you to contact the mental health support team, based in the medic clinic at the convergence space, or through e-mailing [medics\[at\]imfresistance\[dot\]org](mailto:medics[at]imfresistance[dot]org).

IMF Resistance Network
Sexual Consent Guidelines:
No Perpetrators Welcome!

much more at:
<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12120>

NC Rising 2: this is how we do it

From North Carolina Rising 2

North Carolina Rising 2, the second of a series of state-wide conferences, is taking place in Asheville, NC on October 8th-10th! It'll be a wonderful chance for anti-authoritarians of all stripes to meet, discuss our projects, form new friendships, look critically at the past, and discuss how to really begin the future. While we're putting the emphasis on informal networking and discussion, we've also planned some great workshops, and are inviting lots of great speakers to share their thoughts in three panel discussions: repression and counter-repression, contemporary anarchist practice, and social spaces in struggle. We're expecting them to be riveting debates for the ages, so don't miss your chance to be there!

Our website is ncr2.info; it's being updated frequently with more information. Email ncrising2@gmail.com to register—absolutely imperative if you'd like food, housing, or childcare.

more at:

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12197>

One Bank Attacked, Another Sabotaged in Tacoma, WA

From south sound indymedia

One bank was attacked and another sabotaged in Tacoma, Washington. One of them being Wells Fargo the main investor in GEO Group and the Northwest Detention Center, an immigrant detention center (prison) that sits comfortably in the Tacoma tide flats. "NO PRISONS (A)" was spray painted on the side of the building and 3 windows were smashed. Bank of America also had an ATM card slot glued. Bank of America is one of the three joint financial advisers (including Merrill Lynch and Barclays Int.) for GEO Group Corp.

In solidarity with all imprisoned, in all prisons, and for the destruction of the prison world,
Anarchists

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12089>

Condo Development Attacked, Bank Sabotaged in Seattle

Corp. The GEO Group Corp. is a private prison firm that is paid millions by the U.S. government to detain undocumented immigrants and other prisoners. This corporation runs the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma.

We hold no illusion that these acts of sabotage will cause these corporations to financially collapse tomorrow. Instead, we attack in order to bring about a small rupture in the social fabric of our daily lives, allowing us to express our own personal rage, and knowing that to remain on the offensive is crucial to both our struggle and our spirits.

In solidarity with all prisoners,

In solidarity with our comrades facing heavy repression in Chile,

In solidarity with the victims of police violence in Seattle and everywhere,
some anarchists

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12133>

A Bank of America's atm slots were superglued, and a nearby vacant condo development was decorated with graffiti reading:

NO CONDOS, NO PRISONS, FOR CHILE (A)

An outside hose was also left running into a sliding door in order to flood the lower level.

DWELL Development tears down existing homes and replaces them with expensive "eco-friendly" condos that further the gentrification of Seattle's neighborhoods. We find it ludicrous that these condos are located mere blocks from one of the most recent sites of Nickelsville, Seattle's tent city. And, in a world of dying ecosystems, the construction of "extremely energy efficient and environmentally friendly" condos means absolutely nothing.

Bank of America is one of the three joint financial advisers (including Merrill Lynch and Barclays Int.) for GEO Group

A Call Out from Amsterdam

The Dutch squatting ban is not a threat—it's an opportunity and a tool.

...and we like tools.

From the 1st of October, squatting will be illegal in the Netherlands. These are our last days of 'legal' squatting and the first days of our new lives as criminals. Unlike what's been claimed, the new law provides no solution for vacant houses but instead just gives more protection to house owners that love to speculate with their properties. In theory, squatting or simply being in a squatted house could very soon lead to up to two years in prison.

It is time to revolt against the squatting ban and the State with its repressive politics against everything that is not mainstream and commercial. We need to make clear that this law will not scare us and stop us from squatting. With all our actions, with keeping up living the way we do let's show that we are not afraid of their laws and their bans. This time they should really expect resistance. The time for action is now!

From the 25th of September and onwards several actions will happen throughout Amsterdam. The actions will start on the 25th of September with the Dam sleeping action. ([## General Strike in Spain](http://www.indy-</p></div>
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From Fire and Flames

A quick summary of today's general strike in the Spanish state, the 7th since the return of „democracy.“

-In Barcelona, groups of anarchists and autonomes took the opportunity offered by the thinly stretched police and the thousands of people on the streets to

a. carry out an attack on the Nazi library „Europa“ and leave it completely destroyed. Sadly, no pictures (at least as of yet).

b. carry out militant actions directed at either stores which refused to close their doors for the day, or particularly „representative“ symbols of capitalism.

In the course of the confrontations, barricades were erected, and at least one police vehicle was put out of action...

more at:

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12292>

media.nl/nl/2010/08/69094.shtml) There we will show the general public all the things we do in squats: people's kitchens, give-away shops, music, dance and theatre performances, crusty punk bands and everything in between.

more at:

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12194>

PRESENT & FUTURE PRISONERS

Communique of Anarchists who Attacked Russian Embassy in Minsk

From MPST ANHO

On the evening of 30.08.2010 a group of anarchists have attacked by Molotov cocktails Russian embassy in Minsk. One of the diplomat cars was burnt. By this action we express our fury and protest to the arrests and repressions against defenders of Khimki forest in Moscow.

While our friends are beaten up by fascist mercenaries, riot police are pressing and arresting innocent people – treats and arrests became everyday routine. Our friends now have to suffer in jails or live in fear to be imprisoned just because they fight for freedom, people and environment.

But bureaucrats and capitalists care just for their bribes and profits, they don't care what happens tomorrow, they are ready to abolish every protest or disagreement with cruelty. What comes next – the death squads?

We declare solidarity with our comrades and support only method of direct action, because government are afraid of power only and nothing else.

It is really funny to read some comments on Internet forums. Both clans, called “Government of Republic of Belarus” and “Government of Russian Federation” disgust us. Poor workers of both countries never take any benefit from this fighting for power. It is foolishly to imitate politicians. People, come to your senses! Is it really impossible to explain any act of protest by theories of conspiracy? We meet stealing and humiliation every day – but around there are only fear in the eyes and whisper in the kitchens. It is time to summon our forces and believe that we are worthy of a better life.

Free all imprisoned comrades! Stop political repressions! Down with officials, gangsters and policemen!

Human rights and social justice!

Additional Information:

minksolidarity@riseup.net

<https://belarus.indymedia.org/20695>

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12154>

The University is a Factory, Let's Treat It as One

From The Commune - By Sebastian Wright

Lecturers and students alike nowadays cynically describe university education as a ‘factory’. This is, of course, a term of abuse – just think of the disturbing image from Pink Floyd’s *The Wall* of a conveyor belt of comprehensive students dropping into the mincing machine and emerging as a string of sausages out the other side.

The notion of the University as a mechanised profit machine is where the term derives its critical force. When the philosophy department at Middlesex University was shut down, the ‘Save Middlesex Philosophy’ campaign’s occupation strung an enormous banner out of a first floor window reading: ‘The University is a Factory[.] Strike! Occupy!’ The slogan became the emblematic image of the campaign, and hanging above a neoclassical statue with fist pumped into the air, it endowed the campaign with an uncompromising, industrial proletariat aesthetic that served to reinforce its militant credentials.

An industrial struggle aesthetic out of sync with the educational idealism of the campaign?

Yet as the campaign wore on it became less clear how far the campaigners would be willing to take the slogan literally. As was almost inevitable, educational idealism crept back into the vocabulary—talk of the department’s outstanding research scores, of the nobility of the humanities against the dehumanizing levelling of business utility thinking, and suchlike proclamations, became rife. In speeches given at different campaign events both Tariq Ali and Paul Gilroy stressed the need to fight for ‘high quality education’ and advised a tactical coalition with conservative professors—and even that well-known man of letters, London Mayor Boris Johnson—in order to fight against the philistine effects of market pressures in higher education. The conclusion of the campaign, where the prestigious research centre housed in the department, the Centre for Research in Modern European Philosophy, was relocated to Kingston University, leaving some lecturers and all of the undergraduate students behind, reflected the drift towards the idealism of research over and above the University as a site of industrial struggle.

Anti-Police Prisoner Paul French Needs Letters and Money

As many of you know, on April 8th, 2010, an anti-police demonstration took place in Olympia, WA. Over 50 people marched through the streets as a part of the West Coast Days of Action Against Police Violence. 29 arrests were made. Police came in with pepperballs, batons, etc. to disperse a march -- you know the drill.

One of those arrests was Paul French (convicted of felony assault of an officer). Paul got several months and is in dire need of commissary. He is currently in debt to the prison for medical expenses and unable to buy anything from commissary (not even a toothbrush). To write to him, please write:

Paul Joseph French
C/O Thurston County Corrections
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW
Olympia, WA 98502

As with writing other prisoners, remember that what you say can hurt them. Don't send in anything aside from paper and don't write anything that could hurt them (don't discuss their case!).

If you would like to donate money, you can send him a postal money order in the amount of your choice. Folks in Olympia are hard at work trying to raise over a thousand dollars to pay for his expenses so please chip in.

Support our political prisoners!

Thanks,
Somebody in Olympia

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12220>

But is this attitude of treasuring the nobility of education against the mediocre levelling processes of educational marketisation the correct approach to take? Or should we rather accept that the University sector already operates according to Taylorist management practices and simply fight within this given arena for egalitarian principles and for self-management? At The Commune’s day conference, From Crisis to Upheaval, the session on University education flagged up a number of troubling trends, regarding which deciding between the above paradigms would seem crucial.

much more at:

<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/12289>