

angry PEOPLE

Lucky No. 13 \$1

FOR A STRONG
UNITED WORKING CLASS



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ANGRY PEOPLE

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ANGRY PEOPLE PREAMBLE

WHO WE ARE

Angry People are a group committed to spreading the ideas of revolutionary class struggle.

WHAT WE DO

As well as producing the paper we produce other propaganda such as stickers, posters, leaflets and t-shirts. We are active in our local areas and are involved in a range of struggles and campaigns. We are part of a wider struggle and to this end we network nationally and internationally.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

We believe everyone has a birthright to the basics in life these being, decent food, clothing, housing, health care, a livelihood and well-being. This society is not geared towards providing these things to all because it is divided up into classes. To redress this situation the working class must wage a totally uncompromising class war against the rich and win. The working class are a varied bunch of people who make up the bulk of the population. What makes us working class is not what pub we drink in, what clothes we wear or what car we drive. These are cultural aspects of the working class but not the defining factors. What makes us working class is that we all have a common enemy who exploits and oppresses us. We are everything the middle and upper classes are not.

WHAT DO WE WANT?

We want an end to the denial of our birthright and a chance to start building our lives, our communities and our society in a fashion that ensures society's resources are shared equally amongst all. We want to see the basis of society's structure as non-hierarchical. This means decision-making power must be equally accessible to everyone.

HOW DO WE GET THERE?

By combatting reactionary ideas that take root amongst the working class ie: racism, sexism, ageism and all forms of prejudice and bigotry. Encouraging working class people to organise themselves as a class to meet their own needs and desires. Involvement in the day to day struggles waged by the working class as equals and not leaders.



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PLAYING THE RACE CARD

The March election saw a number of openly racist, right wing individuals elected to office on a wave of anti-Mabo hysteria. They were Christine Hanson, who got in on an Independant ticket after being dumped by the Liberals; Bill Katter, a National Party candidate who claims "naturalisation ceremonies are dewogging processes" and Graeme Campbell, who'd also been dumped by his party, this time the ALP. He, too, stood as an Independant.

Firstly, let us explain what Mabo is. Eddie Mabo was a Murray Islander who fought and won a ten year legal battle for his peoples' right to ownership of their traditional lands. This is the now famous Mabo decision. What makes it unique is that the High Court has finally admitted, through such a decision, that the idea of 'Terra Nullius' was at best a myth and at worse a lie. Terra Nullius means 'empty land' and is the pretext on which British colonialists invaded Australia. By not recognising indigeneous people and their rights it became easy, both culturally and legally, to take and keep land traditionally belonging to the Australian Aborigines.

Now, as we've all seen over the past few years since the decision was made and Mabo was given legal credence, Aborigines have placed land claims in many parts of the country as you'd expect to take place following such a turn of events.

However, because the government and the media has failed to fully educate ordinary people as to what Mabo means in practice a hell of a lot of fear and speculation in the wider communities of the working class has started to run rampant. Knee-jerk reactions and racist slurs have come to the fore. The notion of land claims stealing the backyards of ordinary people and of people being herded out of areas following a successful claim is not based on any given fact. *But it is this lie that the Right are peddling in order to capitalise on the situation and recruit new members to their groups.*

Not one single land claim has been granted under the Mabo Act (Native Title legislation) to date. Only negotiated claims have got anywhere with Oyster Bay in Tasmania as an example in practice. Negotiated claims are unlikely to

guarantee any legal possession or ownership of lands.

The right wing, conservatives and racists, having picked up on this common misunderstanding and fear of uncertainty amongst the white working class, have exploited it to an enormous degree. Some pollies have used the uncertainty of freehold title under a Native Title Land Claim as the basis of their argument for a repealing of the Act - even though both the former Prime Minister and the current one have said that freehold title unilaterally extinguished Native Title. In simple terms, if you own your place or are renting it from

form. Hanson claims that Aborigines receive 'special treatment' at the hands of the government and at the expense of white people. She's playing the hardships of the white working class off against the Aboriginal community. By placing the blame on Aborigines as Hanson does, she has been able to convince enough people in her electorate that Aborigines are a privileged group who are getting it easy while the rest of us are struggling to make ends meet. She's talking crap, as what little benefits Aborigines do get from the government is what the white working class already have and are often able to take for granted. Hanson also reckons that Aborigines should "bear their share of guilt" because of an incident she claims took place where Aborigines cannibalised a group of Chinese miners in 1875. Quite bizarre really, what next Hanson? Even if such a thing were to be true it hardly excuses over two hundred years of slavery and murder.

It is almost certain that Campbell is running for AAFI and is to be their lone voice in parliament. It's more than probable that Campbell was trying to avoid any extra coverage of his blatantly racist views during his election campaign by running as an Independant because being associated with a group that openly calls itself Australians Against Further Immigration may have caused a voter backlash. As it was, he only just got home against the ALP candidate that replaced him. To corroborate this information on Campbell: large posters with "Australians Against Further Immigration - Vote 1 Graeme Campbell" appeared across Sydney during the election campaign. Who you trying to fool, Campbell?

From here on in, we're going to have to watch our backs as the conservatives try to divide us into racial or ethnic groups in order to capitalise on such a split in the working class. If we do not fight the racists we will find ourselves divided and alienated from one another, making us easy picking for bosses who want to drive wages and conditions down and for nazi thugs who are only too happy to pick us off one at a time.



someone who owns it (landlord or bank) then your home cannot not be siezed and you cannot be evicted.

Despite this legal guarantee, there is a general mood in some regional areas that is profoundly anti-Aboriginal. Mabo has been used as a tool to demonise Aborigines and their efforts to make a go of things by racists like Hanson, Katter and Campbell. All three, coming to power on this sentiment, are now seeking to consolidate their position.

Katter and other National Party backbenchers are going nuts trying to push their leader, Tim Fischer, into back flipping on his agreement with Prime Minister John Howard that Native Title and the Mabo Act continue in their present



SETTING OUR SIGHTS ON COMMUNITY CONTROL

The shooting in Tasmania seems almost made for media. Lone psycho with strange habits pulls out assault rifle in busy part of crowded tourist area in lovely conservative Tasmania. A nation mourns, psycho has his past paraded before the public by the media (including ex-girlfriend who tells all) and the mass debating on gun laws, looking a little boring for a while there, hots up. Once again, time to try and wade through the mess and try to get some sense out of it all.

Firstly the shootings. No matter how you look at it, innocent people being gunned down is evil. No point being cynical or flippant. There's just no making sense of this sort of insanity. For the victims, the ones who survived, the families and friends, there's no chin-rubbing philosophising or frothing-at-the-mouth ranting, just the despair and grief and the urgent need to support one another and give themselves and each other time and space to heal. A human tragedy by any account.

The media flogging of this human tragedy borders on the voyeuristic. A certain daily in Melbourne called it "the worst massacre in Australia's history". Odd thing to write for a state like Tasmania, who's own indigenous population was either killed off or forcibly deported to the mainland. Port Arthur, once a convict penal settlement, has already seen its fair share of human massacre in the last 200 odd years. But why let the truth get in the way of a good TV phrase and newspaper headlines?

Secondly, gun control. In light of the slaying's, this already contentious topic is now on everyone's agenda. Once again, debate is polarised between the stereotypes: right-wing, redneck and macho gun owners on the one hand and the 'concerned community' on the other, as represented by, of all people, the government and the media. No way is this issue black and white, but the distrust and anxiety the Port Arthur murders have inspired in many has made it difficult to voice an opinion on gun ownership and control that isn't so simplistic.

Let's get one thing straight, the automatic, semi-automatic, pump action and rimfire rifles that have been targeted for banning by the government can clearly be used as killing machines just as the nation saw at Port Arthur. We live in a society where weapons like this and many, many more are being manufactured by the capitalist arms industry to make money, often at the expense of human life. An effective ban on weapons could only be realised by the destruction of capitalism. The gun control laws will not stop people getting hold of the banned firearms. Prohibition will simply create a strong and steady black market where anyone who wants a self-loading rifle can purchase one.

gun control: what are the government's motives?

What's worse is that this black market and underground availability of these weapons will mean that even the most basic of requirements like passing a knowledge test and proving responsibility will disappear. Clearly in the case of drugs, prohibition has failed and with that in mind why should bans on certain types of guns be any different? Meantime, we have to deal with the fact that these weapons exist and that people want them.

Any prohibition on weapons is doomed to fail. It's now common knowledge that the rifle used to gun down people at Port Arthur was likely to have been handed over to Melbourne's Bayswater Police in the 1987 Victorian gun amnesty. We'll get to the coppers later, but even so, Martin Bryant had no license for such a weapon. The conclusion is obvious; gun laws or not, sick loonies who want these weapons will get them.

And it seems the police are only too pleased to assist. In *"The Daily Telegraph"* (11/6/96), ex-police officer Tony Baldock wrote to the letters column, "As a retired police officer I know from first hand experience that a number of weapons handed in during various firearms amnesties in NSW ended up in the private possession of police officers, either for their own use or for resale. A number of these surrendered firearms have even turned up in the hands of criminals and have been used in the commission of crimes". Well, as **Angry People** have always said, you can't trust the pigs. We must all consider the fact that while the public is being asked to hand in their guns, more and more weapons of every hideous description are being placed in the hands of the filth. From the recent spate of police shootings in Victoria to the introduction of capsicum gas spray (ever gotten chilli in your eyes?) to the paramilitary training police receive, it shows clearly that while ordinary people can't be trusted with guns, we're expected to trust the police who'll take the guns off us and flog them to professional crims and people-hating loonies.

But what about the right-wing loonies, the blatant gun lovers, the lone psychos? We read in *"The Sydney Morning Herald"* (18/5/96) that one individual, Jon Murphy, claims the part of a three thousand member underground army, the so-

called "Australians United for Survival and Individual Freedom", to protect us from, you guessed it, the Indonesians. How much of this is boasting on Murphy's part and how much of it is media bollocks, we can only guess. We don't believe that even if there are right-wing militias with caches of weapons buried away, that this is your typical gun owner. *The right-wing are quite vocal in the defence of "shooter's rights" (if no-one else's) but does that mean everyone who shoots is right-wing?* The right wing can't be brushed aside, but history has shown that if they get too bothersome, the state is only too ready to put them down. (The New Guard in Sydney in the early 30's had their share of police harassment).

The fact is, anyone, left-wing, right-wing or chicken-wing, who the state sees as a threat, will be dealt with accordingly. Right-wing extremists have broken strikes and attacked pro-working class radicals before (a situation viewed by the police as highly amusing) *but ultimately, the government wants a monopoly on violence.* Of course they love us to fight each other, but when it comes to challenging the might of the state, they're not going to care whether you read Marx or Mickey Mouse. If the right-wingers get their guns taken off them, who cares? But you just try arming yourself against the new improved

police force. *If that's what it comes to....*

The government is singling out all these weapons now but if they need to later, they'll totally disarm the civilian population. Why? Think about the industrial relations laws, the changes to social security, the ever widening gap between us and the rich and the police getting stronger and better equipped....*what are the rich and powerful thinking of?*

Angry People believe that if there's going to be any gun control, then it has to come from us, the working class. Only when the power of the land is in the hands of working class people will gun control have any real substance and meaning. Only when we, as a class, organise for a safer and saner society will weapons of destruction begin to truly be pushed aside and replaced with a genuine community spirit and neighbourly concern.

Only our communities can decide whether we want weapons or not and for what. Only when our lives are free of government restriction and of prejudices and paranoia can we seriously consider abandoning weapons and then it can be done the right way. **Angry People** are not gun lovers, we don't love violence, so logically we hate the state, the police and the system. Real change must come from below, by any means necessary.

The long arm of the law



is the repressive arm of the ruling class.

angry people

community control:

A LOOK AHEAD

The feelings about whether guns are needed or not are extremely diverse among our class. It makes good sense that our class should decide on the specific details of any gun control since it affects us directly.

Different communities have different needs: country towns and farming communities don't have the same requirements as urban cities and suburban townships. So only decentralised, autonomous decision-making can address those diverse needs.

Governments and their enforcement agents can never be totally accountable to us, hidden behind bureaucracy and vested interests. A strong, united working class with no need to exploit anyone can make accountability far more efficient and workable with methods that are our own. In this way, guns can definitely be held in check.

The capitalist system produces anti-social criminals. Self-managed working class communities would hold human need as central to its methods of organising. We may never find a 'cure' for every alienated, homicidal individual but self-managed communities would be more prepared and better equipped to deal with the unfortunate few than this uncaring, selfish, machine of a system.

In a self-managed society, huge numbers of weapons would not be produced and not be necessary. The type of culture and propaganda that fuels the anti-social few will no longer foul our minds. Education about firearms would become commonplace to lessen accidents and acts of stupidity. The knowledge gleaned from this education would contribute to the breaking down of the 'mystique' and 'aura' that currently surrounds guns and makes them attractive for all the wrong reasons.

A world that is aimed at caring for all, not just a wealthy minority, would profoundly change the way people thought and acted.

Who wants guns and for what?

We have people going to demonstrations saying they want to keep their weapons; here is a section of the community being portrayed as right wing influenced gun lovers. We also have people going to demonstrations supposedly supporting the Coalition government's new gun laws; but did they all vote for the Coalition? The point is that there is a difference of opinion on gun ownership. Who is the majority? Certainly not the government.

Guns have a psychology all their own. We know how farmers need them to cull feral animals and how they are used in recreational shooting; we also know that people use them to kill, maim and terrorise other people. Clearly, guns cannot be everywhere in everyone's hands. *Angry People* can't offer solutions to these problems as if we knew everything. But what we do have to say is this: It must be up to you, the people, to collectively and seriously work this out. The government clearly has no faith in you. The pollies have already made up their minds, for their own ulterior motives.

ARE GREENS JUST HASBEANS?

"Too many people on the planet, mate. Why else do you think people starve in Ethiopia".

"It's people. We're all to blame. What we need is tighter immigration laws to reduce the size of the population. That's the only way to save the planet"

I'm sure everybody has heard statements like these. The 'put-the-blame-on-ordinary-people' mentality. People with this mentality are abundant in universities. Both in the student and lecturer departments. Pen pushing dorks in university offices writing up their latest deep, deep ecology thesis on the planet and why all humans are to blame for it's destruction.

I find it disheartening when I walk out onto my street on a Wednesday morning only to find ten percent of households recycle their rubbish. What I find more repulsive is hearing yuppies on their high horse blaming the rest of us for the destruction of the environment. They have it all in their plush green neighbourhoods with parks and trees. Meanwhile the rest of us have to make do living near freeways and main roads, or living in cages they call commission flats. Recycling, chemical discharges, radiation, and countless environmental issues are not just trendy issues for 'concerned do-gooder' types. They concern every man/woman/child on this planet.

The fact that environmentalists generally seek to lay the blame for the destruction of the planet on all people shows up their complete lack of class politics and perhaps even the middle class backgrounds that seem so prolific in the green movement's hierarchy. The working class, who have always made up the bulk of the population since it's creation during the period of industrialisation are far from being the perpetrators of environmental destruction. Although it is clear we must all take responsibility for the planet where we can, it is blatantly obvious that it is wealthy owners of industry that are by far the biggest contributors to poisoning and pillaging the land, air and sea.

Loggers, miners, oil drillers, factory workers, farmers and anybody else who may work in an 'environmentally unsound' environment should be looked upon as potential comrades. They are not the enemy. A job is a job, whatever it may be. As workers (waged/unwaged) we have no choice in the matter. Unless you call living on the dole a choice. Try paying a mortgage off on \$150 a week, let alone put food on the table. Or perhaps you're one of those greenies who think we should all get green jobs.....if only! For most workers green jobs just don't exist in their areas and even if they did, right now there just wouldn't be enough of them to go round. Clearly, it's either work or suffer a life without a lifestyle. To escape this double-edged sword, some of us turn to crime.

Capitalists, industrialists and their cronies are the real enemy. They run the country and shake it around with disregard for humanity and planet. Because of their greed and desire for profit this minority of rich pusbuckets time and time again cause damage to the environment with little thought of the effects on others. Invariably, the consequences of pollution and destruction are endured by the working class in the areas they live in whilst the rich drive home to suburbs plush with trees and parks. After all, even the most staunch greenie would have a hard time trying to find a factory discharging industrial grade waste into a waterway in a well-to-do area. It just doesn't happen, does it?

YOUNG AND ANGRY?

Anarchism needs new blood and not just for the old vampires either

A group that often seems to get sadly neglected by anarchists in Australia of the 1990's is people under eighteen. Some anarchists do make an effort to involve the young dudes, but this tends not to be the trend. I think it was Bakunin who said that the very principles we put forward and affirm in our daily lives, have the greatest impact on young people (and if it wasn't him who said it, it sounds good anyway!). Here you have a group that is greatly oppressed by society: sexually, politically, legally, ideologically and economically.

The few slave-type jobs that there are in existence for people under eighteen involve appalling conditions and pathetic rates of pay. McDonald's is, of course, the greatest exploiter of young people, although supermarkets come a close second. A common occurrence in all these workplaces is a supervisor who resembles or actually comes close to the age of a young worker's parents. Increasingly, supermarkets are employing sixteen year olds on six day rotating rosters. It doesn't take a genius to work out that young workers are not in an environment where they are treated as adult workers and that in their uniforms that they are made to wear it's just like being at school or at home - and they get treated much the same. Financially they are no better off, most of their pay goes towards board and rent, which they formerly didn't pay.

Young people are encouraged by the education system to feel inferior to adults. Their efforts at self expression are dismissed as "rebellion" or are over-patronised by do-gooders, who are actually just as dismissive, only in a different way. There exists a very real ideology in society in regard to teenagers: the idea that somehow everything they do is all "growing up" until they are sanctified by reaching the age of eighteen. Any real achievement by young people is usually saddled onto surrounding adults and their 'guidance'.

Legally teenagers are oppressed, you have but to look at the extensive range of laws that govern their personal freedom. The

freedom to smoke, drink and to stay out late in some cities is restricted. Young dudes can't enter sacred alcohol shrines to see bands or watch certain movies because the federal censor's grandmother might be offended. Nor can they attain full driving licences, get credit, rent a house or choose what they want to learn. Naturally lots of people find ways around these and other legal barriers but it's ridiculous that they exist in the first place! It's also worth noting that statistically young people (after mental patients) are the most bashed by police.

Why do we leave it up to the council and church groups to provide positive stimuli for young people and open youth centres?

IMAGINE:

- pool halls
- pinball parlours
- football clubs
- radical libraries
- discussion groups
- dance parties
- workshops
- self-defence centres
- entertainment activities
- internet cafes

**ALL RUN AND SELF MANAGED
BY THE YOUTH BUT SET UP
BY ANARCHISTS**

There's also lots of laws governing a young person's sexuality. A complex set of do's and don'ts that boil down to "don't do it and feel guilty because you wanted too" are the order of the day. Nature seems to be encouraging the learning process of sexuality during puberty but all the State can say is "wait until you're one of our adults" and then work it out. Of course, lots of young people say 'fuck 'em'!!

A great deal of AIDS education and the 'scary' side of sex seems to be directed right slap-bang at the youth. Sex is pretty scary stuff at that age to begin with, scare campaigns just stuff it up totally. Then there's the ridiculous morality inflicted upon young people right from the word go, which most will

spend the next fifteen years learning to ignore and then totally disregard!

Teenagers are a disenfranchised group and politicians really only worry about their parents and not them. When the pollies salivate at the thought of power every four years come election time, the youth become an agenda item but nothing ever really changes. In my experience most fifteen and sixteen year olds would make great voters and possess open minds to make real changes, although perhaps not through rigged parliamentary so-called democracy. Maybe that's why they're not allowed to vote.

It's claimed that people in this age group lack the responsibility to make informed decisions - **BULLSHIT!** - they're just afraid of their nice, safe jobs being questioned. I guess this is also why youth wages are the lowest wages going. *If society expects someone to work for its benefit, then that someone must at least be given an equal say in the running of it.*

Society has its solutions to most of these issues. The government sets up youth councils and forums run by "responsible adults" but most of these groups are just attempts to encourage acceptance of the status quo amongst young people for the purposes of future voting and living. They build skate ramps and hold all-age gigs but do little else, which really only reinforces their perceptions that teenagers are just kids who are interested in nothing but playing.

Trotskyist groups try to fill the vacuum, seeing young dudes as party fodder and trying to get the to sell their party paper. The underhanded tactics of these sectarian groups seem to work best on young people. One such group is Resistance, the youth brainwashing arm of the Un-Democratic Socialist Party (DSP). One of the DSP's tactics to recruit the youth in Newcastle, and according to our sources, Perth and Sydney as well, has been to convince teenagers from dysfunctional families that the 'philosophy of the family is wrong' and that the reason they are confused about many things and

unsure of the future is because of this. To compliment their evil intentions they have gone as far as convincing people that they are gay or lesbian and because of this they do not fit in to the family unit or society at large. **Angry People** have no beef with a person's choice of sexuality, we're not saying that to be gay or lesbian is bad or wrong in the slightest. What we are exposing however, is the dirty tactics the DSP are willing to use in order to screw up a young mind only then to reassure that individual that the party is there for them like one big, happy family. A turn of events like this one seems to serve to sever the confused young person completely from family and friends and make them good trot fodder. I've met too many good people who've been fucked up by these arseholes when they were young and impressionable. Some make it through and become anarchists but unfortunately a lot toss in radical politics altogether.

So what can anarchists do to encourage young people to become part of our efforts or indeed, to make their own efforts in their own way? Well, maybe we could stop trying to explain the political correctness of not eating McDonald's and other such stuff and start looking for newer, 'less dusty' ideas. To change a society takes people who care and I can't think of a more emotional group who give a shit than teenagers. Why do we leave it up to councils and church groups to provide positive stimuli for young people and open youth centres?

Anarchists should be doing this. If the resources don't exist or can't be found then by all means we should infiltrate existing facilities and encourage them towards user self-control. Go and volunteer to be a youth worker (sounds sadly like a social worker doesn't it?), get into the apparatus and then throw a spanner into it or exploit it for the benefit of the cause.

Angry People believe that anarchism in Australia needs a big ingestion of new blood and that's not young blood just to keep the old vampires going either. What grows or becomes will probably be totally different from 'bookshop', 'punk' or 'the paper' anarchism and surely that's a positive thing. We need new ideas, new hope, new energy and the youth is where it'll come from.

THE KIDS ARE OUR FUTURE

How many of us have pain inside of us that we rarely speak about? Probably a lot of us. It's not the sort of thing you bring up in conversation generally, although sometimes it does come up and you can get a bit of torment off your chest.

My father beat me round. He would lose his temper and clobber me. Around the head and face sometimes, at other times, when I was younger, he'd belt me. At first it was over the backside but he'd lose control of himself and his anger and then he'd belt me and my brother across the legs and up the back with the leather belt he wore daily. Once he was so irate that he pinned me to the floor with his legs over my arms and slapped me continuously across the face for over a minute. I was still in high school at the time. About fourteen I think. It fucked me up real bad. Mum was screaming at him to stop but he wouldn't. Or couldn't. Afterwards I ran to my room, hyperventilating, in shock from the beating physically but more so from the emotional terror I had just experienced. My father scared me. He always scared me. He never showed love, compassion or understanding. Why? I asked myself over and over again. Was it my fault? Was I causing all this tension and distress in the family? I began to think that it was all my fault. That I'd brought all this violence onto myself.

The way dad spoke to me. He saw me as a burden on his shoulders. There I was eating his food, drinking his drinks, living under the roof that he had to pay for. He paid for almost everything and he believed that I just took it for granted. He was wrong about that. Strangely, I still loved him very much but this is the classic domestic violence scenario. The one who hurts you most is the one you are closest to. So many of us are trapped inside of this situation and although we are all looking for an exit we often don't find it because to do so means having real friends to help you get out - and in my situation being a kid didn't help.

Kids are just extensions of their parents it seems, with few rights and little freedom. If kids whinge about their treatment then they're ungrateful for what they've been given. Adults at times seem to lack an understanding of kids and stupidly respect the right of parents to treat their kids willy-nilly; children are people too, in their own right. They have their own lives, albeit naive or ignorant with plenty to learn. But it seems that adults respect the right of parents to treat their kids how they please simply because they are the kids' parents. While parents' must be given a wide ranging scope to bring up their children in the manner they deem fitting, the area of child upbringing needs to be brought into the public arena for scrutiny. If more parents saw how other kids were treated they may learn something - what to do or what not to do. Most importantly, if kids were brought up on a communal basis (nothing hippy in this idea) then parents' would not only receive a well deserved break from child-rearing through community child minding and labour sharing but would also gain valuable insights into how kids react to different situations. This would give parents' the opportunity of an objective viewpoint which they rarely have the time to arrange for themselves and give the kids the chance to reach out and meet some new (trusted) people.



FORCE OR SERVICE?

A few rotten apples or the whole bloody tree??

It came out in the media a few months ago, from the mouth of a police lagger, that police were getting paid \$100 spotting fees from security shutter businesses and it doesn't seem that this was a voluntary payment! There was some internal inquiry and a few cops got moved to different stations, but all in all, another police cover-up. In the recent state election, the Victorian Labor Party claimed it was going to set up a limited inquiry into payoffs the police were demanding from security shutter businesses. But it was simply a political point scoring exercise: shutter kickbacks were in the media and Labor had to latch onto something to get votes but they also had to be careful not to embarrass themselves if they did get into office and had to do an about face. *A full inquiry into the police force is something that neither political party want!*

Now that the Labor Party lost in its bid to become government, they want a full inquiry into the police force! Just as long as they can make some mud stick to the Liberal government, Labor will propose anything. But we all know that polities are the biggest hypocrites of them all and they would be doing all they could to avoid holding a full police inquiry if they were in power and the Liberals were baiting them with calls for an inquiry.

At the forefront of the resistance to any investigation into the police is the sad prick Police Bastard Danny Walsh. As secretary of the Police Association in Victoria he gets his ugly mug on TV and froths at the mouth about how ungrateful we

all are in criticising police. This is the man who claimed that a report on police assaults and bashings put out by the Federation of Community Legal Centres a couple of years ago, based on personal reports of people who had been bashed and framed by the police, was utter rubbish and should go in the bin!

The police hierarchy always claim their force is squeaky clean except for a few 'rotten apples'. But if we take what's come out of the Royal Commissions in NSW and Qld as only scratching the surface - and let's face it - there's so many back room deals and cover-ups going on in these inquiries that it's fair to say that what we get to hear is only the tip of the iceberg. It's more like the entire police force is a composted apple cart rather than a few rotten apples in the barrel.

The NSW Police Commissioner at the time, Tony Lauer, after losing the fight to stop any Royal Commission into police corruption, had some famous last words: "this Royal Commission will not find one bit of police corruption". Well good old Tony had to eat his own words when so many coppers came out and spilled the beans on bashings, bribes, drug dealing, paedophilia protection, frame-ups and verbals - you name it! Lauer resigned before the full impact of the Royal Commission had been felt and avoided a very damaging political sacking.

So when we hear old Danny boy crap on about how the situation north of the border is so different to what we have here in Victoria, let's remember Tony's words. Victoria Police have a long history of corruption. When Walsh came out and said that Victoria's finest (lowest!) have escaped the conditions that lead to corruption in Qld and NSW, someone should have given him a quick lesson in history - especially the 1970's Beach Royal Inquiry which found systematic corruption within the Victorian Police Force.

Royal Commissions aren't the answer to police corruption but it sure feels good to see pigs squirm. The pigs have made us squirm plenty of times in police cells and courtrooms! Royal Commissions, being run the middle class legal fraternity, come up with useless volumes of recommendations that are ignored by the government in office, no matter which party they represent or are half-heartedly acted upon to appease the media and special pressure groups, only to be watered down as the media move on to the next issue in a frantic bid for more paper sales!!

Inquiries into the Police are useful as they provide valuable information. Information is power and the best way to **KNOW OUR ENEMY!** It also puts the cops on the back foot and in the spotlight. They have to be careful about what they do. The pigs rely on secrecy and the lack of witnesses to get away with murder, frame-ups, assaults and theft. Public Inquiries force a bit of publicity into the day to day activities of the cops, although not much. They generally centre on a few 'big' issues and rarely look too deep. Then after all the

money and time has been spent, the government claim that they've weeded out the rotten apples, while the whole time, ignoring the real corruption that goes on: the fact that the police can do anything to you and get away with it!

The real police inquiry will not be in some plush office, with over-paid lawyers running around the place, speaking in double-talk that no-one can understand. It will be held in people's daily lives, as they communicate with each other about what their experiences with police corruption and police power are. This is the stuff **ALL** police inquiries ignore as it doesn't provide the sensationalism for the media and proves beyond reasonable doubt that police corruption is not just about a few dodgy pigs. It happens every day in hundreds of thousands of people's lives and it is this information that we will use to arm ourselves against the cops.

**CHEAT
LIE
AND
STEAL**

THE SHIT HAS

It certainly has! The Coalition government's new industrial relations laws have been unveiled. The award is to be scrapped, union powers reduced, unfair dismissal laws up the shit, strikes banned, the Industrial Relations court flushed and this is just the beginning.

The new package of reforms (some of those in the media call it 'revolution') only seem to be a sudden assault on workers' rights. The path was pretty much layed down by the previous government. You might remember the Labor Party (ALP), 'party of the workers', trade union back-up and all of that. Those bastards did then what this new set of bastards are doing now: helping out their mates in big business and keeping the country safe for international capitalism. The ALP broke unions, made concessions to bosses, fucked up social security and increased police powers. That's what a government is for.

The ruling class, as a class, are consolidating their power and are pushing for the type of workplace they need to keep their international money system going. It seems to be full steam ahead for the Free Enterprise Express.

The new laws strike directly at the heart of the trade unions, who have, for better or worse, been the main tool that workers' have had in their struggles with the bosses. Since we have been under the industrial thumb for most of this century it's been natural and common sense for us to organise in the workplace and the long established trade unions have been the recognised bodies of organisation.

Now we have the laws that outlaw the right to strike, the main weapon the union movement has, as well as disposing of the Arbitration Commission and the 'closed shop'. For many long time unionists and supporters in the community these laws kick hard at long fought for gains made over the past hundred years or so. The bosses, the government and the media all tell us this is "inevitable". Meanwhile unions, community groups and left wingers all call this "turning back the clock".

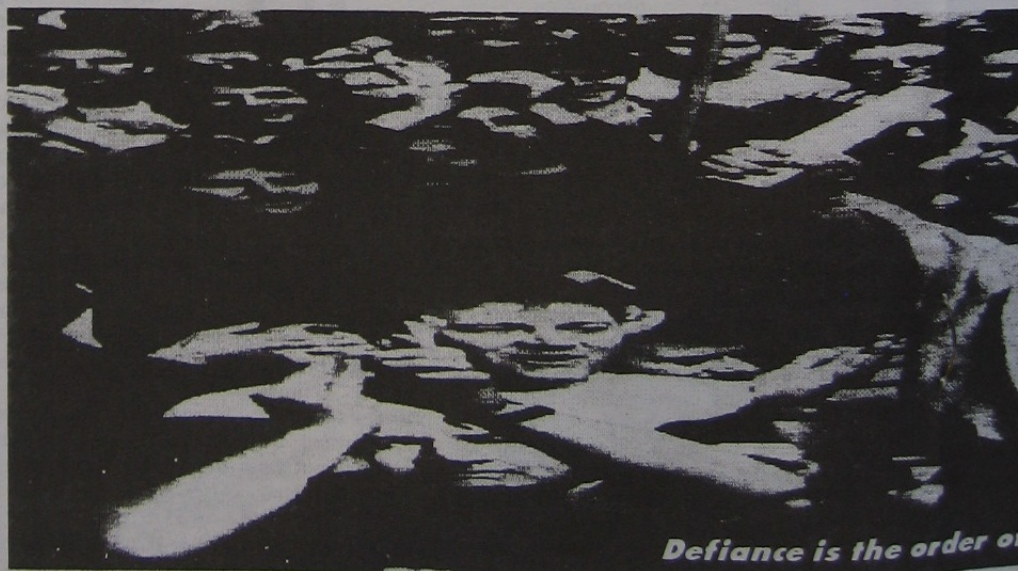
One thing Angry People can see: this is no time to mourn for the lost glories of the past or to lament the grim view of the future. While bosses cut into workers' rights, wages and conditions, arm up their police and try to force us into despondency there is still an urgent need to organise and fight back. It's not too late.

But how? Let's look at the

unions. For years trade union bosses and the bigwigs in the ACTU have been a respectable part of the system. A firm pillar of the Labor Party, they showed their true colours under the Labor government. The betrayal of the Builder's Labourers' Federation (BLF), ignoring the needs of outworkers, casuals and the unskilled, silencing militants which included jailing John Cummins of the BLF, agreeing to amalgamations that sapped the strength of the rank and file are cases in point. *If the appointment of ex-union bosses to shadow ministry portfolio's isn't a dead giveaway of how the top guns of the ALP look after their own at the expense of the workers', what is?*

The trade union structure is hierarchical, leaving little space for the rank and file to move in a direct way. It's also unaccountable as many rank and file workers will tell you. Trade unions have always had this

**STRIKES
BANNED**



Defiance is the order of

angry peop

HIT THE FAN!

RIKES
ANNED

problem and over in their days of militancy it was never militant enough to change society permanently for the benefit of workers', simply because it was never designed to do this. And yet it has been and today still is (although it's fast changing nowadays) how militant workers' in industries have fought their bosses against pay cuts, sackings and worsening conditions. Whenever a union fights back in a direct way and whenever there are strikes, pickets, occupations or on-the-job actions like go-slows, work-to-rule or sabotage, you'll find dedicated, risk-taking unionists.

Workers' join unions for the back-up of other workers and while many radicals grow disappointed with the union movement they elect to stay in, simply because there is no other credible avenue to organise for worker self management of the workplace. For this reason, unions are only as militant as

their rank and file and usually that militancy is much more than union bosses would prefer.

Right now it looks as if the union movement has had its day but the issues in the workplace remain as pertinent as ever. It seems to **Angry People** that necessity will dictate and new forms of class warfare will come to the fore. Already employers are saying in the media such as 'The Age' in Melbourne (11/6/96) that they "fear the rise of smaller, autonomous union groups" who take a more direct action bent. Hmmmm..... good idea boss! As to what form the struggle into the next century will take, we can only guess for now.

The only certain way forward is for greater solidarity and mutual aid among the working class. While these ideas can be seen as pie-in-the-sky, the possibility of real solidarity between working people is greater now, now that there is little else to turn to.

When we say solidarity what we are talking about is the day to day stuff. That means looking after the interests of the people you work with, having a concern for their welfare and helping when help is needed. Mutual aid is when practical support is given to those who need it. This could be anything from a whip-round to get food together for someone who's lacking this week to standing up for someone being harrassed on the job to standing up to the boss as a united force.

Many worker's may feel that their workplace is a far cry from such action. It's far too common for people to be divided and isolated, in a culture that promotes individualism (I'm the best, fuck the rest) and competition against fellow workers'. So the real work of trying to build a feeling of unity in the workplace has, in many cases, only just begun. In many ways we're back to square one and in any case the union movement has left too many industries and workplaces untouched, so for the working class and the organisers amongst us, it's back to basics.

Get to know each other, build trust, discuss issues, get organised and get active. This doesn't mean throw away what's already been built but new conditions will have to be met with new ideas. *The union movement may or may not survive, but in whatever shape, working class unity and action must be the mainstay or no-one will survive.*

CLASS VICTORY TO THE WORKING

the order of the day!

ry people

PRISONS

The following is a statement prepared by Ben Alterman for the Anarchist Conference held at La Trobe university (Melbourne) on June 8, 9 and 10, 1996. Ben is currently incarcerated in Loddon Prison, Castlemaine.

21/5/96

Prisons. When we hear or read that word we think of the stereotypical image all too often portrayed by the establishment's movie production houses that show prisons as hulky Victorian era architectural monstrosities inhabited by psychotic criminals who would wreck havoc on the community as soon as they managed to break their bars and walls.

However, as with most television portrayals, this picture is largely distorted. As anyone familiar with the Coburg (Victoria) area can testify, Pentridge prison is a particularly ugly monstrosity of an institution. But within its bluestone walls a large part of the three thousand people that are locked up by the government at any given time of the year and with the few exceptions that are repeatedly and grossly sensationalised by the establishment media, the majority of these people consist of youth and long term unemployed who have been made to feel like failures by the system that no longer requires their labour. Thus with no prospect of a worthwhile future, a great many of us either become self-destructive and resort to drug use, thereby becoming criminalised by the capitalist media and their puppet parliament or through economic desperation turn to property theft or Social Security fraud merely to survive.

This situation has been allowed to occur due to the nature of capitalism which regards the working class as nothing more than a commodity to be used as either a maker of corporate profits or as scapegoats to be portrayed by the establishment media as either "dole bludgers", "welfare cheating single mothers" or as "out of control" criminals in order to divert peoples' attention from the fact that the real parasites and criminals are companies like CRA/RTZ who are accessories in the genocide that is being perpetrated in Bougainville and West Papua by the PNG and Indonesian dictatorships or Shell which has financed and armed the Nigerian Police and military with weapons that are banned in most countries, in order for

them to crush the Ogoni people whose homelands Shell is destroying in their fervent quest for the almighty dollar.

When one brings up the subject of violent crimes you need only refer them to the exemplary record of Victoria's police force, which has a fondness for shooting distressed women in the streets of St. Kilda and Wodonga and has the unique distinction of having officers within their ranks that can shoot a man seven times with a six shot revolver without reloading his firearm. And these are just some of the twenty-eight or so executions that have occurred at the hands of the police in approximately the last ten years, which have been white washed either by the coroners or the supreme court since then.

Whilst many of us dismiss prisons as merely a tool for the preservation of the ruling class (which without a doubt they are), it doesn't detract from the fact that anti-social crimes do occur, although the root cause of these crimes and the reason for having prisons at all lies in the vast injustices that are endemic to this greed driven system. As such the only effective means of reducing crime is the establishment of a free, Anarchist society which can investigate the possibility of more effective alternative methods of dealing with anti-social crime and abolish the social and economic conditions that today lead many people into being sent to these prisons.

In the meantime, it is quite important that those of us that are political prisoners or Anarchist or political activists that are serving a prison sentence be recognised and supported by Anarchist groups and individuals in order to keep our spirits up and let the reactionary prison administrators know that if they try to silence political dissent within prison in their typically harsh manner, as they tried to do to me earlier this year, then their actions will be made known and protested against.

Thank you.

BEN.A.ALTERMAN
Loddon Prison
Locked Bag 3
Castlemaine
VIC 3450

SUPPORT CLASS WAR PRISONERS

- **send money so prisoners can purchase foodstuffs and other items from the prison canteen**
- **also send stamped envelopes (not sticky stamps) so that prisoners can write to people on the outside**
- **write letters of support and talk about yourself**
- **ask whether there is anything that you can do for the prisoner**

**THE REAL LITMUS TEST FOR ANY
REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATION
OR MOVEMENT IS WHETHER IT
CAN WITHSTAND THE JAILING OF
ITS MEMBERSHIP.**

SOLIDARITY IS STRENGTH

Ben Alterman, in jail since 1993, recently staged a successful hungerstrike against prison officials tampering with his personal mail and denying him access to radical publications. We encourage readers to get in touch with him and offer practical support.

*The more of us
you put behind bars.....*



The more we'll put the bars behind us!

And the loser is.... Sydney!

The government says there's not enough money for housing or welfare but they're going to spend billions on the Olympics. They say that this makes sense because the Olympics will end up bringing in money. Maybe they will, but for whom?

The people who're investing in the Olympics are mostly foreign and obviously rich. If you're a working-class Australian, you'll be waiting a long time for your share of the profits. Most Australians won't even be able to afford a ticket. Peoples' homes will be torn down to make way for sports facilities. Landlords will realise that they can make more money from rich tourists than from locals. People will end up paying through the nose to live in slums. Some families will end up on the street. Rents are expected to rise 600%. In Atlanta, host of this year's Olympics, some rents have gone up by \$2,000 per week.

There'll be extra policing, but it won't be protecting locals. It'll be like South East Asia; the tourists are allowed to more or less do what they like as long as they keep spending money. Poor people tend to get moved on, in case they give the country a bad image. In the Barcelona and Los Angeles Olympics the government laid on special buses to forcibly remove homeless people from the host city.

The government says the Olympics will create jobs. Most of these will be in the construction and tourism sector. The construction jobs will only last a couple of years until all the sites have been built. Construction workers and labourers lucky enough to get these jobs will face low rates of pay, "cost-cutting" conditions and will

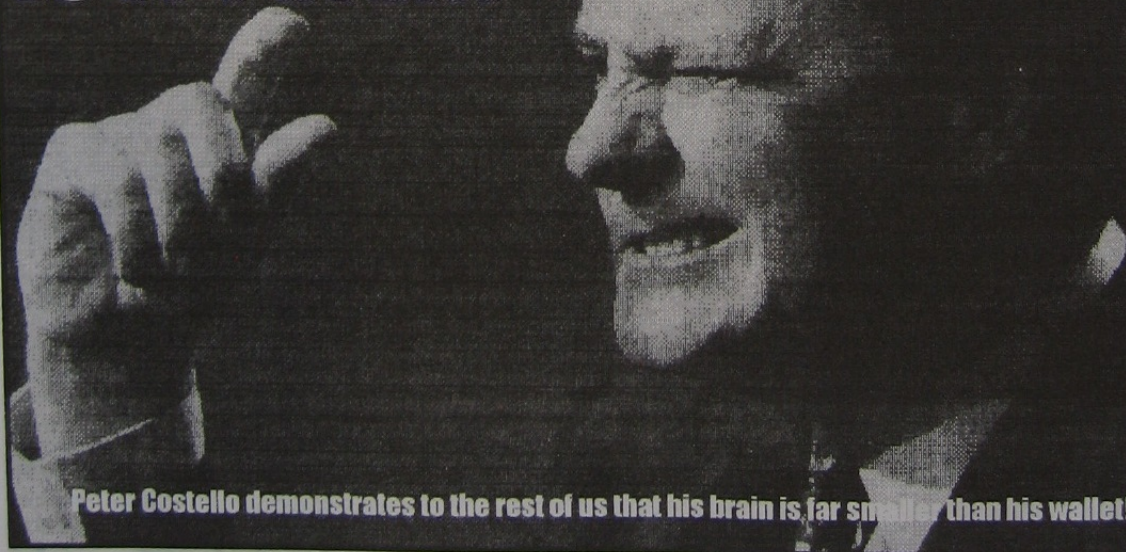
have to work fast, thus increasing the risk of on-site accidents and even deaths. The tourist jobs will only last a couple of weeks until the Olympics are over, and once again will have to work long hours for low pay. We'll be left with giant sports stadiums we can't use (unless they're hired out for concerts and such like; they certainly won't be considered as venues for the people), wondering what happened to all the money. The Melbourne Olympics weren't paid off for decades. Only one Olympics has ever made a profit.

All this might sound too gloomy, but it's all happened in past Olympics and it's already beginning here, especially rent increases. There's no honour in hosting the Olympics any more. They don't have anything to do with sport. They're nothing but a way of making money for those who already have too much.

What Can You Do?

- Resist rent increases. Organise rent strikes, support the squatting movement.
- Sabotage, whether on a large scale (on the job) or a small one (graffiti etc).
- Don't trust the political parties or the media. They are completely in the pockets of the developers and have no intention of giving the other side a hearing.
- Protest at every opportunity.
- In some countries, including this, it's not unknown for indigenous people to organise their own alternative Olympics in protest. This would be a good thing to organise and support.

HOW BIG IS IT PETER?



Peter Costello demonstrates to the rest of us that his brain is far smaller than his wallet!

Grow Your Own Dope!

PLANT A POLLIE!

In la-la land of Victoria, you have to hand it to Jeff Kennett. His antics and arrogance give us great comedy but they also show he knows how to play the game and play it hard. As the most hated man in Victoria to a large part of the population, he has proved that the Labor Party are useless, indecisive and about one hundred metres behind the play. After the Liberal Party and big business had finished celebrating the Federal Election coup, Jeff and his mates went into state election mode. A week before the election, it came out that Jeff's own kids had smoked dope. But like trendy uni students protesting whenever Jeff speaks at uni's, this media beat up was like water off a duck's back. An Advisory Committee into Drugs, set up by Jeff to investigate drug use in Victoria, had hinted at legalising dope in a media leak. Jeff did not confirm which way he would go. The important thing is that he did not positively dismiss this recommendation, which had his conservative buddies in a right tizz. However, it was election time and pollies do strange things around election time.

Many working class youth in the outer suburbs, many voting for the first time, voted for gambling and marijuana - which between Liberal and Labor - was Jeff!! Labor had their heads too far up their arses to even try to take some ground on this issue.

After the election, when the Committee's report came out, what did Jeff do? He said we should try legalisation out - to give it a go! What did Labor do? They umm'd and ahh'd all over the place and tried not to offend their middle class supporters by suggesting that legalisation was going too far. Labor Party leader, John Brumby, still believes in fines for people who are caught smoking dope! It's a case where Jeff totally cut the bottom from the traditional Labor Party base by

bill into Parliament that would legalise possessing twenty five grams and growing two plants in our backyards. The conservative forces in the Liberal Party shelved the bill, which really means that it was dumped. So Labor got its brownie points for trying to legalise dope and forcing the Liberals to show themselves as nothing more than a party with empty promises.

All in all, Jeff succeeded in getting voted in, young working and lower middle class kids got to see election hypocrisy at its best, the pollies got their jollies over their little political games but for the rest of us who lost faith in the system long ago, nothing's changed.

One thing that these pollies went on about in opposing legalisation which we also heard about during the gun debate is this myth of the 'silent majority'. The beauty of this line of argument is that a pollie can automatically claim majority support for one of their twisted and demented ideas simply by uttering the magic words - 'silent majority'. How can anyone argue the other way? How can you disprove this if the people that are supposedly supportive are silent?

The only way to find out is to let the people decide - let's have a referendum on the issue. Then we'll see just how 'big' this silent majority really is. And only then will the issues be decided upon by everyone and not by backward politicians pushing their own filthy morals and hidden agendas onto the rest of us!

Jeff Kennett's head could use a good smoking!

appearing to be more radical than the Labor Party. Consequently the Labor Party is currently a dribbling mess.

However, as much as all of us are hoping, dope will not be legalised and we will not be able to grow up to five plants in our backyards legally. The sorry ending to this saga was that Labor tried to score some political points by trying to take the initiative from the Liberals. They wanted to be the party that would legalise dope first and thus try to grab the support of those that voted Liberal for decriminalisation. They introduced a

ANGRY PEOPLE

In case you're wondering - YES, we are looking for new class warriors to join our ranks. We need people to be involved in the production of the paper as well as a range of street activity. What you do for **Angry People** is pretty much up to you but to be sure contact one of our regional contact points listed inside the front cover. Why stay isolated? C'mon and have a chat with us.

TOMORROW BELONGS TO US!

SPIRAL

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P (people) I (impersonating) G (god)

: 1960's Yippie slogan about police.

"His duties are many and possibly touch on every aspect of your daily life without you knowing it. It is his responsibility to safeguard your life and property". (The General Duties Of The Policeman/woman, N.S.W. Police Dept.)

With the huge amount of criticism being directed at the nation's police in the last few years as government bodies such as the Independent Commission Against Corruption (I.C.A.C.) air more and more of the coppers' dirty laundry, a lot of people are asking what's going on. What's happened to the nice, friendly officers who visited our schools and told us to trust them because they were our friends? Remember how we are told without the police "there would be chaos and unlawfulness" and society "wouldn't function"? If by "function" they mean running drug rackets, exercising and abusing almost unlimited power, unaccountability, treating ordinary people as an enemy (criminal) and trying to keep dissent, however minor, over the way 'our' society is run, to zero - then yes, the police do have a function.

In the 1700's the Industrial Revolution was in full swing, drawing peasants off the land into the cities to work in the new factories. This replaced working the land with industry as the main way of earning a living for most people. When the cities filled up with the new class of working people the land/factory owners began to worry, so many people crammed together could create volatile situations if they got out of hand and demanded a better lot. These workers had no rights to vote in elections or to form unions to combat the horrendous conditions they lived and worked under. They were often forced into 'crime' eg. taking a loaf of bread to feed their starving family. *The ruling class, then as now, didn't need to engage in 'crime' like this since they had stolen everything for themselves already.* Working class 'crime' was seen as threatening to the stability of society. Stability meant that those on the top of the income/capital ladder would stay there and make sure those who keep them there - the workers - stayed where they were - at the bottom. The rich used the excuse of social stability to keep the "criminal class" in check, which effectively meant forming militias, first from military sources, and later special civil police forces that would crack down on such destabilising things as labour organising or any action that empowered the working class.

Demonstrations by working class people were violently crushed. In the General Strike of 1842 in England the police force as we know it today came

into being, specifically to deal with working-class protest. In that strike the task of the police was to gain control of working class communities who were committed to physical force and "criminal" acts in pursuit of getting their most basic rights acknowledged by the state and land/factory owners. The civil police established that civil disorders were matters for them and not the military. *At no stage were the police used against the rich - they were a buffer zone between the rich and the lower classes - keeping the economic inequality where it was.*

After the appearance of police forces in London there was immediate outcry. Local parishes demanded their abolition because of the fear of threats to the liberty of the British people. A year later the Peel's Act was passed which legitimised the forming of a police body through Parliament. There were meetings of concerned groups all over London who passed resolutions denouncing the new police as an "outrage and insult" to the people. These same police military forces were, of course, the same ones who came to Australia to keep our relatives in line.

GUN CONTROL: DISARM COPPERS TODAY!

It's interesting to see how little the role of the police in keeping society divided and oppressed has not changed right up till today. Corruption within the forces is something else that hasn't changed and you can expect it to grow in an organisation where there is no accountability to the community we are told they protect. While the hypocrites in Parliament lament about the lawlessness of the population, we find that the biggest organised crime rings are operated by the police. They participate in and run drug rackets, insurance fraud scams, armed hold-ups, bribery, joint ventures with the criminal underworld, the list is endless.

I.C.A.C. has dragged up thousands of incidents of illegality within

the police forces of Australia. Just look at your daily paper to find new reports on the unlimited criminal involvement 'our boys' are taking part in. Those I.C.A.C. reports always end with the words "change must come from within". I.C.A.C. claims that change that doesn't come from within will be seen by the police as not motivated by them and therefore not relevant to them - it will just be a bunch of outsiders making decisions about their force. *Aren't they there for our benefit in the first place and as such should be accountable to us - we pay their wages through taxation.* It's this very attitude of us and them (police v. the rest of the world) that has created this monster of corruption in the first place. If change came from the outside that would be another example of us having the power to change things we are told are ours, but which in reality aren't.

Ordinary people need to put into practice their own policing ideas and not rely on some paranoid scheme like "Neighbourhood Watch" which works hand in hand with the police to create even more distrust in the community. The cops want us to treat every stranger as a criminal, every "suspicious" action as something for the police to deal with. *People involved in anti-social behaviour would change a hell of a lot more if they knew they were hurting their own kind.* Going to court, jail or getting fined is an alienating, inhumane way to treat people which makes 'offenders' hate the punishment process of society more and want to take revenge on that society. What you end up with is a vicious circle of crime, doing time, crime.

Getting to know our neighbours and our areas can be a good start to building a community that is respectful of its space and inhabitants. We must try to create a real community where cops aren't needed, create what structures and groups we actually need in our area and don't just take what's on offer from the state cause it sure as hell ain't there for our benefit. People need to be in control of their lives so we can act as responsible individuals taking others into account as well. Only when we build real community spirit will we be able to shake off the unhealthy dependency we've been forced to accept from government and get rid of corrupt parasites like cops who aren't here for us.

CURE FOR A HANG-OVER

I am one of those lucky enough to have a job, working for the local electricity supply authority. I am even luckier to have a work truck to drive to and from work. The car I used to have was your average panel van that held tools and gear to do my job. It saved me \$15 a week in transport costs to get to work, at one stage it saved me over \$30 a week; imagine paying \$30 a week on a weekly train ticket, people still do. The public transport 'service'?

It was not all great though, the truck was a target for break-ins. Even though it was not my truck I still felt some responsibility for it, and some of the tools were my own. I could understand someone breaking into it as electricity bills do have a habit of turning up at exactly the time you have forgotten about them and when you have absolutely no money, it's a conspiracy, no shit. They were probably trying to get a cut of some of the \$200 million profit the company makes, another great public 'service'.

Anyway it became a real drag waking up and noticing someone had stolen something or smashed a window trying to break-in. I was always looking out for it, whenever there was a noise at night I'd look out to see if someone was out there.

Being the victim of a crime is a really personal and distressing feeling. It really started to make me angry as I was being woke at night for nothing, every small noise would get my attention. I became really paranoid, which means that not only is this person stealing things from my truck but also my time and thoughts. I wished I could catch the person in the act so I could beat the shit out him and get some sort of personal satisfaction. More to the point I wanted the person doing this to realise that they couldn't get away with it forever.

In the end I was forced to swap cars to one that didn't look like a work truck. It was alright as I still had a car to use and it wouldn't be such of a target. I finally thought my troubles were over.

So one Saturday morning at about 6.30 I was woken by my girlfriend who was getting ready to go to work, I had come home after a big night out with my mates and had a shocking head-ache. I was laying in bed in a bit of a daze when I heard a noise outside, I didn't think it would be anything but I had a look anyway and saw someone trying to break into my car, I couldn't believe it.

I jumped out of bed, put some clothes on and ran to the front door. I opened the door and just ran straight at this bloke. He turned and was ready to run, but turned to look at me again and I was not going to let him

get away. I had played this scenario over and over in my head so I knew exactly what I had to, my actions had become instinctive. I ran at full speed and lowered my shoulder into his chest and tackled him, he fell on his back onto the road with me on top of him. I was now sitting on his chest and arms pinning him to the ground. I had waited for this moment for a while, the anger and adrenalin that was pumping through my body at such a rate that it made me shake.

"What the fuck do think your doing?" I yelled at him.

He just looked at me shaking his head from side to side saying "I'm just looking for loose change to get something to eat and drink, I've nearly got enough for a 300ml milk".

"You stupid bastard" I said.

This was not how things were supposed to turn out.

I got off him and just kept swearing and asking why this had happened like this, mainly to myself

"There's got to be a better way" I said.

He looked as if he was in his early 20's, unshaven, with torn and dirty clothes. Most notable was the cane he used to help himself walk around with.

"My friends said that you can find cars that are open and most have loose change" he said. I looked at the passenger side door, the lock was completely fucked.

"Well do you want something to eat?" I said.

"Your kidding, I've just tried to break into your car and your offering me something to eat" He replied and then started to cry.

"Please hit me" he pleaded. "It would make me feel a whole lot better" he said.

"Please hit me" he said again.

He was becoming really distressed

All I could say was "There has to be a better way". I was speechless. I turned and went inside.

I wanted to go back out and give him some change I had in my pocket, but I didn't want to reward him. The more I think about now, the more I wish I did.

In this particular situation, hopefully his conscious would play a bigger role than violence in making him think about who he was affecting with his actions. Overall not much damage was done, and both of us learnt something that morning, I hope

On a positive note, I did notice that my hang-over had completely disappeared.

UNITY IS STRENGTH!

The story above just goes to show that when dealing with anti-social crime it's not all black and white. Because you come face to face with real people and not fictitious characters in dreamt up theories you may well have to change the way you had wanted to tackle a certain situation. Robbing from your own kind is wrong and must be stopped, there's no doubt there. Prison sentences and beatings however, cannot be our only solutions to the blight of anti-social crime. It appears in this case, if we take the would-be thief at face value, that he was just trying to make ends meet. Many working class people are forced into crime just to survive the daily slog. With jobs becoming scarcer and wages going down as prices rise, it's not easy to get by. *But we can't turn on each other and we must not prey on other working class people.* What we need to do is stick together and help each other out; without these basics no trust can exist between ourselves and all else will fail. **IF YOU MUST STEAL TO GET BY ONLY ROB THE RICH!**

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ANARCHISM AND THE BLACK REVOLUTION

LORENZO KOM'BOA ERVIN

speaking tour IN AUSTRALIA

Lorenzo Kom'boa Ervin, former Black Panther imprisoned in the 1970's, is coming to Australia to speak his fiery words of wisdom.

With politics that are both Black and working class he's sure to inspire and inform.

Angry People are looking for expressions of interest from other social activists and interested parties who would like to work towards raising the necessary funds to bring Lorenzo to Australia and organise for (at least) an east coast speaking tour, (at best) a national speaking tour.

INTERESTED?

then contact Angry People at
PO BOX 108 ST PETERS NSW 2044
PO BOX 558 STH BRISBANE QLD 4101

angry people

LETTER of the issue

I recently picked up a copy of your magazine. I read through it and came to the conclusion it was an extremely informative, intelligent and interesting magazine. However, one of the aspects with the magazine I totally disagree with.

I happen to be fifteen years old. I still live at home. My father works from nine in the morning until ten at night. He studied for five years at university and managed to get a well paid occupation. My mother teaches art during the day and paints in her spare time. My parents can afford to send my older sister to university and my brother and I to school. It is because of this I am labelled "a middle class prick" by your magazine.

Both my parents are Democrats and would probably have agreed with most of the things written as well.

I can understand why you are pissed off with most middle class people but why say all of the middle class is fucked up?

I was recently bashed by a gang of Aboriginal people for the sixty cents that was in my pocket but I don't publish things like "kill all Aboriginals" do I? It's almost like being racist to me. Think about it.

Anonymous

We're pleased to be getting our message out to young people and pleased that you're inspired enough to take us up on an issue. Thanks for the compliments.

When we refer to the middle class, we are referring to a class of people and not necessarily each and every individual. The middle class, the group that implements the laws and policies of the bosses are usually better off than the rest of us financially. This is enough to piss off anyone. More than this, the middle class are those that push the ruling class' society on us. They get the privileges and they understand how the system works which to some of us is a complete mystery, especially those among us that don't speak English. The middle class are not neutral citizens, they are the administrators of capitalism.

We didn't call you "a middle class prick", we were referring to the obnoxious, vocal types who talk shit in front of working class people. Please understand that the lower

paid, under-employed workers like ourselves can only take so much from these smart arses before they have to be put back in their boxes. The type of students who play radical politics but can always fall back on their privileged background are a hindrance, not a help.

It seems to us that when times get tough, the middle class split and either end up in the shit with the working class, or side firmly with the bosses. In these cases, many 'middle class' kids, such as you label yourself, rebel against their background and prove themselves to be worthy comrades to the battlers. Many try to become the new leaders of the rising class war, so we have to be on our guard against potential new bosses (check the history of any revolution and you'll see what we mean). In the meantime, any middle class people who are truly on our side will prove themselves with deeds and not by what they say or write.

As for Aboriginals, most of them are dirt poor and have been shat on for over two hundred years. We don't think it's fair you got rolled for sixty cents and are aware that often working class people get preyed on by other workers (refer to our previous articles on anti-social crime). It's not just aboriginals who bash and rob; I personally have been rolled by nazi skinheads. Race and even class, don't determine if someone is a mugger.

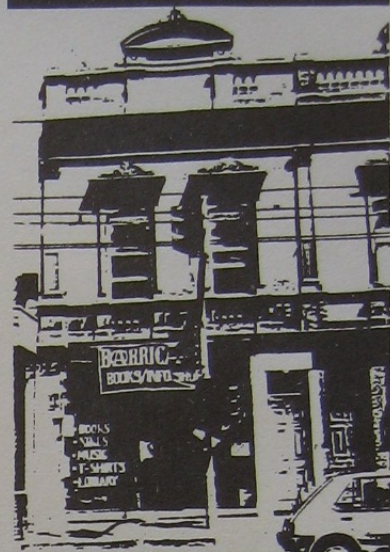
You didn't write a name or contact address; fair enough if ya want to remain anonymous, but if you'd like to pursue this issue further, please get back and we'll continue having dialogue.

POINT TAKEN

We've had a few letters regarding the Nexus article in the previous issue. One was an anonymous letter that simply said that 1. the USA supports Israel and not all Jews are Zionists and 2. many people, from racial and working class backgrounds, went to the nazi camps. Another mentioned similar stuff. We don't dispute any of this, what we take issue with is the 'conspiracy' bullshit being pushed by the right, that uses basic facts such as these to back up their racist propaganda. Although the nazi holocaust is generally seen as a nazi vs jews, other ethnic minorities such as Poles and Gypsies also suffered at the hands of the gas chambers.

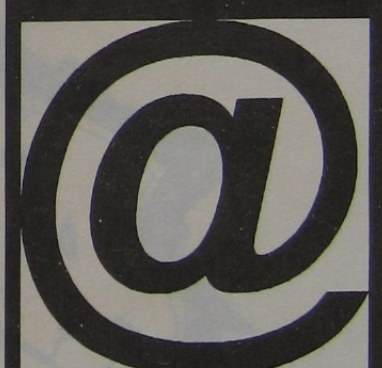
And like all fascist or nazi regimes, its the political opponents which must be first dealt with. Many communists and anarchists were sent off to nazi concentration camps.

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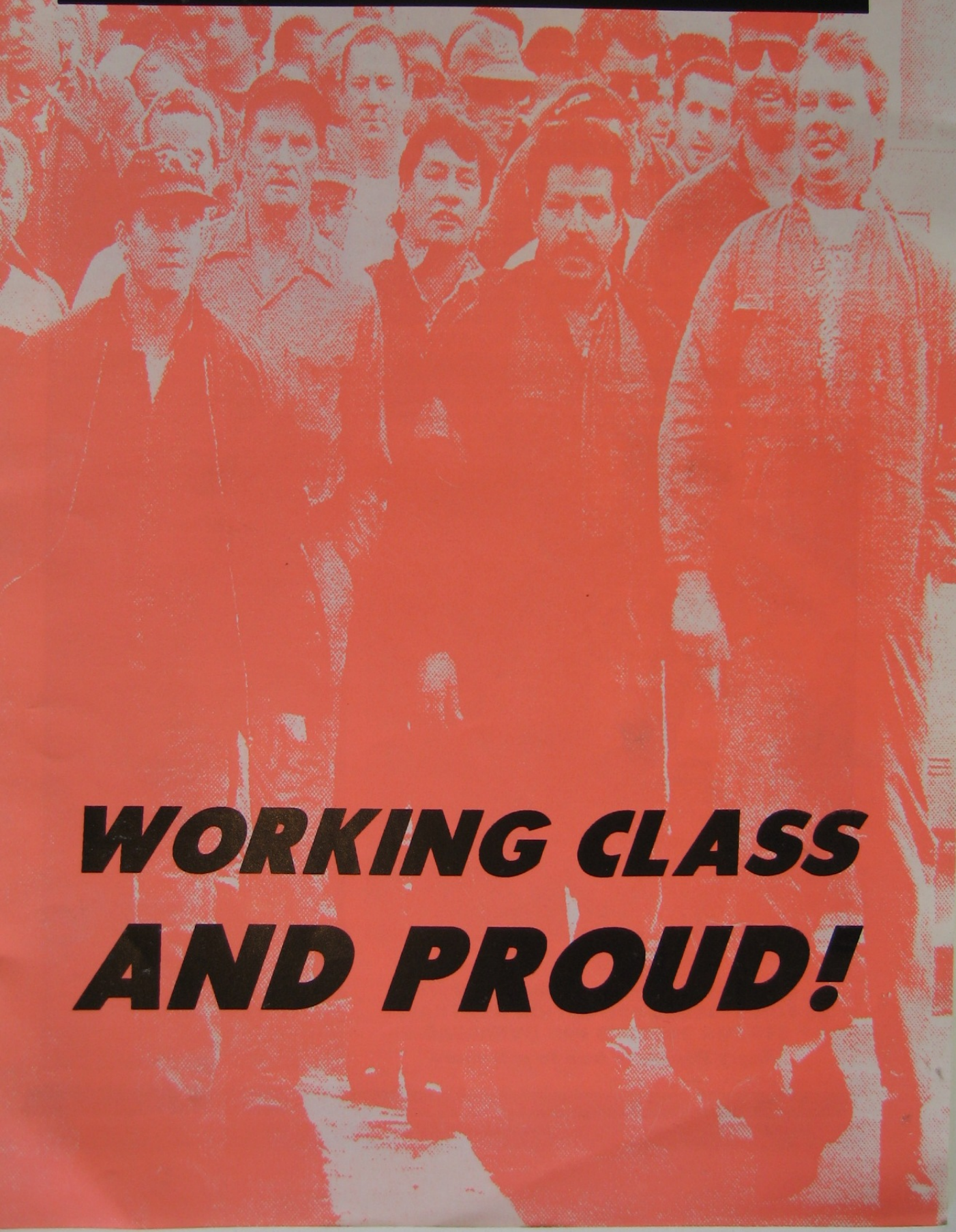
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No. 14

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FOR A STRONG
UNITED WORKING CLASS



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SOLIDARITY!

To continue to print and distribute this paper *Angry People* needs your support. Donations, no matter how big or small will be warmly received. Much of our material we distribute is given out at no cost and we fund this generally from our own pockets. We have no paid officials and all monies go directly toward the projects at hand such as the paper you're now reading, leaflets, stickers and so on. Your financial support will help *Angry People* continue to spread our anti-fascist, pro-working class message.

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ANGRY PEOPLE
PREAMBLE

WHO WE ARE

Angry People are a group committed to spreading the ideas of revolutionary class struggle.

WHAT WE DO

As well as producing the paper we produce other propaganda such as stickers, posters, leaflets and t-shirts. We are active in our local areas and are involved in a range of struggles and campaigns. We are part of a wider struggle and to this end we network nationally and internationally.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

We believe everyone has a birthright to the basics in life these being, decent food, clothing, housing, health care, a livelihood and well-being. This society is not geared towards providing these things to all because it is divided up into classes. To redress this situation the working class must wage a totally uncompromising class war against the rich and win. The working class are a varied bunch of people who make up the bulk of the population. What makes us working class is not what pub we drink in, what clothes we wear or what car we drive. These are cultural aspects of the working class but not the defining factors. What makes us working class is that we all have a common enemy who exploits and oppresses us. We are everything the middle and upper classes are not.

WHAT DO WE WANT?

We want an end to the denial of our birthright and a chance to start building our lives, our communities and our society in a fashion that ensures society's resources are shared equally amongst all. We want to see the basis of society's structure as non-hierarchical. This means decision-making power must be equally accessible to everyone.

HOW DO WE GET THERE?

By combating reactionary ideas that take root amongst the working class ie: racism, sexism, ageism and all forms of prejudice and bigotry. Encouraging working class people to organise themselves as a class to meet their own needs and desires. Involvement in the day to day struggles waged by the working class as equals and not leaders.

still black, still strong!

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW with

THE BLOCK RESIDENTS

The Aboriginal Community in the inner city suburb of Redfern, Sydney, has once again hit the news. It started with about forty riot police marching down the street, systematically kicking in doors, looking for some alleged car thieves, drug dealers or whatever other 'criminal' they could think of. This police action was applauded in the tabloid media as something that "had to be done", *but imagine if this happened in any other suburb of Australia.*

This action resulted in a meeting held between parts of the Aboriginal Community and the police on the 24th of January. NSW Police Commissioner, Peter Ryan, attended the meeting, no doubt aware of the great photo opportunities - or was it that great British imperialist instinct? Commissioner Ryan said that he'll fast-track the redevelopment of Eveleigh St, remove the crime and everything will be just right. Like hell it will.

Angry People went down to see what the residents thought about the situation as they were quite notably absent from any discussion in the media.

(male, aged 27)

Could you tell us a little about the history of Eveleigh St ?

"Thirty years ago we had black and white families living here. Christian, non-Christian, working people and times changed, people from the country areas come down, then there was alcohol. The Christian people's families, white and black moved out of the area and the drugs came into the area, then it just got worse from there, riots, bag-snatching, the whole lot. It's just gone over the years. They reckon it will get better but not with government money. Money, that's all it is about, money."

Why, what is the money doing ?

"Well see this is prime real estate so the government wants to close this down so they can make money out of it and the black people here don't want to go because this is the only sign that we've got. You know it is something we can identify with that will say that this is ours."

So the majority of people still want to stay here ?

"Oh yeah, cause this is our place, something we can call our own. The people, they don't want to move. The Mundines' (Aboriginal Housing Commission), they're alright driving around in their big flash cars, you know, and they've got nice big houses. We have got nothing and that's why they turn on their own people for money. Money, that's all it is, just money. Money speaks many languages, it's the root of all evil, mate. It's money and power. People got power, that's it, you got the power you got the say."

"REMEMBER IN THE PAPER AND THAT WHEN THEY SAID ABOUT ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY BLACKS PELTED POLICE WITH STONES AND BOTTLES AND THAT THERE! WELL WHEN THEY CHASED THE YOUNG FELLA INTO THE HOUSE THERE WAS A BABY LAYING ON THE BED. THE POLICE STEPPED ALL OVER THE BABY. THAT'S WHY THEY FUCKIN' BOTTLED THEM FUCKIN' COPPERS. THEY DO EVERYTHING THE WRONG WAY. BRINGING THE RIOT SQUAD DOWN AFTER TEN YEAR OLD BOYS, YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN, THAT'S WRONG."

Could you tell us about the police and their behaviour ?

"The police, they're the main problem. You see they've got their blue uniform on and they play their power games. Before last week when we had the trouble we hardly ever seen them, they hardly ever walked down 'The Block'. It's just they think they're above everybody else because they have that uniform on. It's a catch twenty-two, you're in a position where you're trying to protect something you think is your's and they're trying to take it away from you and they don't know, they haven't been where we've been. To walk down the street and that, you

know, I got to walk down the street with my hands in my pocket, that's because people think I'm going to rob their hand-bags or something. They don't know because they haven't been here. Police have got to get their attitudes right. We've been here for forty thousand years plus and like we're not asking for much, what we're asking for is a fair go, we're not getting that fair go that's why we retaliate. *When they treat us like dirt how do they expect us to act?* They've got their guns and batons, that's why we pick up bottles and bricks, because we're protecting ourselves, that's what they've got to realise, we've got nothing."

What do think will solve the problems of the area ?

"Work programs, youth camps, our own detox centres where we can relate to our own people. The money that they're spending should be spent in better areas. They talk about reconciliation but reconciliation isn't going to work with one party saying one thing and doing another. We've got Pauline Hanson, she's a big thing. She's saying a lot of things but who's going to pull her up, the Prime Minister isn't saying anything. Those kids in Ipswich that spat on her, well they got locked up because they retaliated, but she keeps getting away with it. Now it's just happening over and over again, it's just getting worse."

(male, aged 60)

"Why send fully armed battle trained policemen down here to arrest, eleven year olds and nine year olds? That is out of context with the law itself. We, the aboriginal race, the minority of this country, the owners of this country, we would like to see something done our way. So let them bring the welfare down here and we will amalgamate with them, we will help them do their job, legally, in the proper procedure and manner. If they come down with their welfare crew, we'll see that they can go any place that they want to go, arrest anyone they want to arrest, take them to court, give them their summonses in the proper procedure. If not then the mothers and fathers must go, if the children don't go. Use

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the law in the proper way, no bending it. And we'll clean up this mess."

(male, aged 28)

"Remember in the paper and that when they said about one hundred and fifty Blacks pelted police with stones and bottles and that there? Well when they chased the young fella into the house there was a baby laying on the bed. The police stepped all over the baby. That's why they fuckin' bottled them fuckin' coppers. They do everything the wrong way. Bringing the riot squad down after ten year old boys, you know what I mean, that's wrong. If they only take a little bit of time and a little bit of common sense they could get all this done properly."

(male, aged 13)

"When the coppers grab ya, they bash ya, give you a hiding.

There's a couple of detectives that when they catch ya, punch you in the face, they just do anything. I live here and there's other people from other areas, they come here and do snatches up top, making trouble for us."

What do you think should be done?

"I think the place should be knocked down."

Do you want to live here?

"No, I want to get away from this place. It's a pretty bad area, you always get pulled

over by police. Everywhere I walk. I get pulled over about six times a day. They'll pull me over, ask me questions, warrant check ya. You can't even walk down to the seven-eleven, coppers pull you over and search ya, strip search or take you to the police station, yeah the police are getting pretty rough."

(female, aged 23)

"When we were growing up, we used to go camping with the coppers, you know, that was good, one part of it. Now they can't wait to hurt us. A "D" car tried to run me over the other night, across the walk way, now I don't worry about throwing rocks and that at the coppers, swearing and that. They

couldn't give a fuck about us, when we do nothing wrong to them."

(female, aged 25)

"Just lately it's been a bit crazy, police wise and media wise. It's making the Aboriginals in the community angry because they're saying things like "gangs". There are no gangs here, and the Koori's are angry because it's Australia Day, we call it *Survival Day*, and that's getting the community upset, especially the older people. The police have just been hounding us non stop, just picking us up for no reason whatsoever, you know taking us in for little things like spitting and what not, you know everyone does that. They're not even attempting to talk to us, when they do it's a sarcastic attitude and of course we don't want to speak to people who are going to be nasty and non-believing."

people are drug users, it's just horrible to be asked 'where are you going?' The worst part is that they are so non-believing. It just makes you want to cry. We want a better relationship with everybody, in and outside the community."

(female, aged 35)

"I think the solution to our problems here on The Block is for organisations like the medical centre, the community of Redfern should come together, acknowledge that they have got a problem here and try and get to the bottom of it and try and help each other instead of sweeping it under the carpet. If we had a good talk we might be able to get something out of it but nobody wants to do that. There's too much money involved, there's too much and plus the Olympics, that's the reason why I think the police are pursuing the issue.

The government and the housing company, they're all conspiring with each other, they're all in it together. You know it just stands out and if anyone can't see that I don't know what's happening. I mean they reckon we got no education, but we know what's going on." (laughter)

Days after that meeting, the television current affairs programs once again showed us how to deal with the problems. Take some sports stars like South Sydney Leagues Club

Football Team and Kathy Freeman down to The Block. That should be the end of all the communities problems! Well at least Mike Munro was pleased with his effort. South Sydney halfback and aboriginal, Darrell "Tricky" Trindall, who grew up in the area was reported on television saying that as a kid he could remember being harassed by the police for nothing at all. Bet that wasn't part of the script.

It is now two months since that fateful meeting and absolutely nothing has happened. It is ironic that it had taken nearly 209 years to the day for another Englishman to travel to this country and try and solve the Aboriginal 'question'. If Commissioner Ryan does do



What are you hoping for in the future?

"I'm hoping for a better relationship with the police, but I don't see it happening because they don't want it to happen. There's a few Koori's who don't want it either but the majority do. We're really scared that we're going to have this taken off us to build a plaza and make everything look good for the year 2000. We don't want that, we're really scared. We will give it a clean and make it look pretty, but we really want this mission. The hardest thing to deal with is the media. The worst thing is that you can't even walk down the end of the street without being asked questions everytime we go out, or to be searched. Not all

still black, still strong!

anything positive, it will just show how inept the politicians in this country have been and if he doesn't do anything then it will be the same old story.

ATSIC, South Sydney Council and the Aboriginal Housing Commission have agreed to knock down parts and redevelop the houses on The Block. South Sydney Mayor, Vic Smith, was wandering around the street saying how he'll demolish a row of houses. *That was until he discovered that families were still living there. Aren't they lucky that he had a look.*

The Aboriginal Housing Commission wants to offer the families money to relocate in the suburbs and redevelop the whole site, renting the houses out at market rates. Where will this money then go? If people are relocated, it would surely mean that there would be no need for an Aboriginal Housing Commission because there will be no Aboriginals in the properties that they control.

It once again looks like organisations are empire building in pursuit of more money at the expense of the people they were supposed to protect. We shall wait and see. *But we won't be holding our breath.*

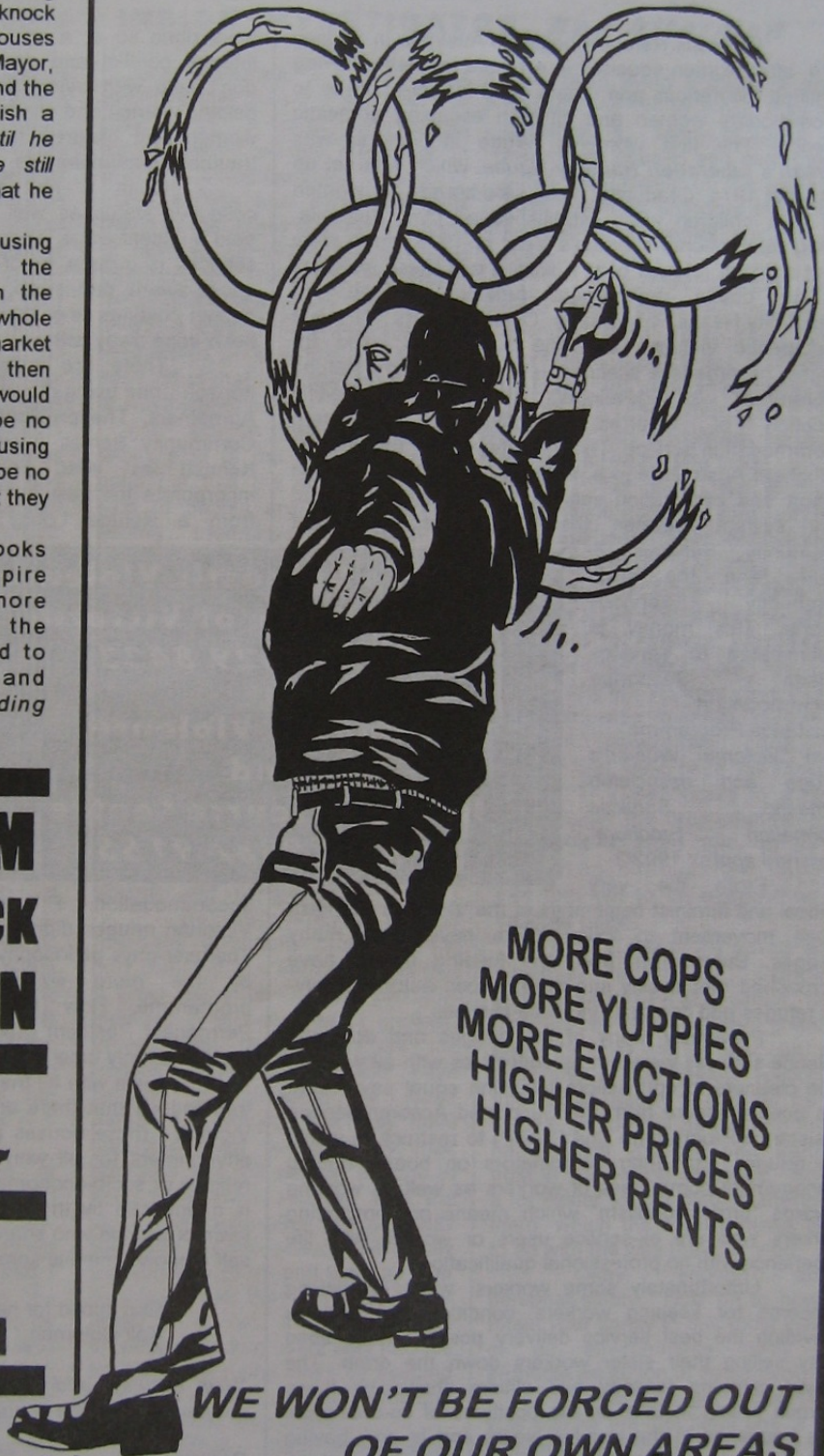
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**WE WON'T BE FORCED OUT
OF OUR OWN AREAS
WE WILL DEFEND OURSELVES!**

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WOMEN'S REFUGES

A Report from Victoria

"Womens Refuge's began in Australia in Sydney 1974, after women squatted in a house in Glebe, having identified the serious and urgent need for safe houses to accommodate women and children escaping domestic violence. The first women's refuge in Victoria was **Women's Liberation Halfway House**, which was set up in August 1974. Gradually, more safe houses for women and their children were established all over Australia. During International Women's Year in 1975, there were about a dozen refuges over Australia and these were the first to obtain government funding, through the Community Health Programme. Over the years, the issue of domestic violence and the subsequent need for refuges, became less silenced, and the Women's Refuge Programme was developed, including a specific allocation of recurrent funding for supported accommodation service. There are now over 150 refuges throughout Australia and a range of non-accommodation support and information service, funded through a tied grant system between the federal Department of Community Services & Health, and the state Community Services Victoria. This money is disseminated to services through Supported Accommodation Assistance Programme".

From "Victorian Women's Refuge and associated Domestic Services Information Brochure" published approx 1992/3

From the very political and feminist beginnings of the Victorian women's refuge movement to today, there have been many changes. Bureaucrats from the funding bodies have encroached mercilessly into the previous autonomously-run refuges and domestic violence services.

Previously many of the refuges and domestic violence services were run as collectives with all workers from cleaners to counsellors receiving equal pay. There has been pressure from the Supported Accommodation Assistance Programme Unit (SAAP) to restructure within the refuges e.g. bring coordinators on board, ridding management committees of workers as well as working towards "professionalism" which means not employing workers who are ex-service users or women with life experience with no professional qualifications.

Unfortunately some workers, while expressing concerns for keeping workers' conditions as well as providing the best service delivery possible have been busy selling their sister workers down the drain. The power climbing tenacity and elitism shown by these women willing to take on the positions of co-ordinators has happened in the last few years and is now having disturbing results. Contract positions are the name of the game with worker security of tenure a thing of the past.

There has been a massive turnover of staff and the workers that have managed to retain their positions

have done so at a cost. There has been much strife, internal conflict and demoralisation. All these feelings don't help with trying to do a very demanding job in helping women and children get back on their feet. These women and children have often been through many traumatic circumstances.

Quite a few services have retained their collective status as well as maintaining workers being paid a decent wage. Though what has happened in other services is quite a lot of hard won conditions including above-award provisions, while not coming out of the budget costings (e.g. time-in-lieu, stress leave, etc) have been done away with.

There are a few promising projects on the horizon - one being the work on an Enterprise Bargaining Agreement. The previous Award under the Social and Community Services Award was done away with under Kennett last year. Some refuges have agreed to incorporate the best in the Award with the suggestions from a Refuge Lobby Group to incorporate these

important provisions and have this agreement made acceptable to each refuge or DV Services Management Group.

Refuges in various areas are working together to fight back against government pushes for service amalgamations. There is also a push now for women going into refuges to pay for

accommodation. Previously the great majority of Victorian refuges didn't charge any accommodation fee. The user-pays philosophy is now being covertly accepted by the more conservative elements within the programme. How this will affect women without Permanent Resident Status and women with huge debt problems, only time will tell.

Even with all the problems mentioned above it is tremendous that there are still high security* refuges in Victoria - these houses provide a safe, free, supportive environment for all women irrespective of their culture, religion or socio-economic background. This environment is maintained by the extraordinary work of a dedicated team of women who share with the residents the idea that self empowerment is something we can all do together.

Stay tuned for happenings in 1997!
Kali Goldman

*High security: addresses are kept secret, and women are placed in refuge in areas that they are unfamiliar with.

Resources:

Video: *Elsie*, moving documentary about the first women's refuge established in Sydney, Australia 1974. 1996/Dir: Aviva Ziegler

**Women's Domestic Violence
Crisis Service of Victoria
Ph 03 9329 8433**

**Domestic Violence
and
Incest Resource Centre
Ph 03 9387 9155**

How to stay safe and sane in an insane environment.

by Angry People's INSIDE INVESTIGATOR, Ben Alterman

When I was first asked to write this it was meant to be just a guide on how to preserve your sanity when in prison. However I have since decided to include a few brief hints on how to stay safe as well as sane in here as a person's physical safety is of paramount importance in these places, and also has a strong bearing on how you cope with your incarceration psychologically.

So, you're an anarchist/activist/whatever and your in prison for the first time. You **ARE** initially going to notice that you don't fit in, that's not necessarily a bad thing, generally if you do find yourself fitting in straight away then you are either quick at adapting (that can happen) or you are beyond any help that this article can provide.

Now if you do find that you don't fit in straight away then you will have to be a little careful. A lot of the people inside haven't had much of a life beyond drugs, alcohol and violence and as such are not familiar with anarchist/activist type people and will probably hold beliefs quite contrary to your own. So that, coupled with basic ignorance could lead to some problems if you're not careful (the basic equation of ignorance = fear = violence). That being said you will find, as in all societies, some people who might not necessarily accept or understand your beliefs but will at least understand where you are coming from. And these sort of people can quite often become allies if not friends, which is a definite plus in a prison environment.

There are two types of prisoners that it doesn't pay to get too involved with straight away, those are the drug offender/young offender types. Now I know that I might alienate some people by saying this but this is supposed to be a practical guide to staying safe and sane in these chaotic places. And whilst it can be reasonably argued that these kind of people are victims of this divisive class ridden society that capitalism and authoritarianism holds so dear to its heart, you cannot assume that they will show solidarity

towards someone who now finds him/herself in the same situation that they are in. A lot of these people have survived on the streets or in prison by being incredibly ruthless in their dealings with people be they friend or foe. They also have a habit of reacting harshly to anyone who threatens the stability of the sexist, racist and homophobic little fantasy land that a lot of them weave around themselves in an effort to convince each other that they are the epitome of Australian manhood.

And on the preservation of sanity side of this subject I should point out that the above-mentioned kind of people are also constantly getting themselves involved in pointless little jailhouse intrigues which play right into the hands of the screws, and will drive any sane and intelligent person mad if they are daft enough to let themselves get involved. And the constant outpourings of sexist, racist and homophobic rhetoric that is part and parcel of this kind of mentality will nauseate even the most case hardened stomach.

I should however clarify what I mean by the terms drug offender and young offender.

By drug offender I don't mean the recreational drug user who only uses the less harmful drugs that a great many of us have probably indulged in at one time or another. What I am referring to are the (mostly) heroin users who have become so alienated by (what passes for) society that they have had their lives overtaken by their addiction and will step on anyone to keep themselves supplied with the stuff. Now quite often this mentality will carry on into prison where they will continue to try and walk all over people whether they are getting their drugs in or not, thus once again showing why drug users play into the hands of the ruling class by keeping prisoners divided and strengthening the position of the screws.

When I made reference to young offenders I was referring to younger prisoners in their late teens and early twenties, some of whom

have been living a cycle of abuse, neglect and crime since they were quite young. Many of these guys have been abused and neglected by either their family or the system or both, and had probably been street kids at some earlier point in their lives.

A number of those people have already developed into the drug offender type that I've already mentioned. But those that haven't can still be dangerous and quite prone to unprovoked or barely provoked acts of violence, so caution is the catchword here folks.

That being said however I must point out that some of these guys are more likely worth knowing than a lot of the drug offender category are. Once you have been in for a while you should be able to work out for yourself which of the younger prisoners are OK, and conversely the younger guys that are worth knowing generally mellow out towards newcomers once they realise that they pose no threat to them. This also works to a lesser degree with the drug-offender guys, though it is more likely to be the older drug offender type prisoners that turn out to be alright than the younger ones.

The rest of my advice about personal safety is **COMMON SENSE**, practise it at all times. Don't trust anyone until you have gotten to know them as well as you can, and even then a little healthy scepticism doesn't go astray. And as far as screws go you will be lucky to find a handful that you can only partially trust in your whole sentence. So it's a lot easier to just distrust the lot of them, which the screws make easy to do with the way they carry on.

Okay, enough about personal safety. Now on to how to retain your sanity in this most insane of all environments (with the probable exception of parliament).

When you get locked into your cell for the first night one of the first things you will notice is that you are **BORED**. Now I'm not talking about the run of the mill everyday boredom you experience on the

outside, like waiting for a bus that seemingly never comes, or waiting for the day when the police will pass the time of day with members of the working class while locking up capitalists and politicians for destroying the environment and victimising workers. No, this boredom is like nothing you will have experienced before, and it can be enough to drive some people mad.

When I was in prison in NSW I saw one person kill himself and another one attempt to do so because the poor fellows couldn't handle the idea of being locked in a tiny 12 foot by 7 foot cell with nothing to look forward to but mind numbing boredom for seventeen hours of the day for several years.

In a prison like Pentridge you get locked in your cell between the hours of 3 or 4 o'clock in the afternoon and about 8 o'clock the next morning. For the past six years or so the Victorian Office of Corrections has actually supplied television sets in every prison cell in Victorian prisons.

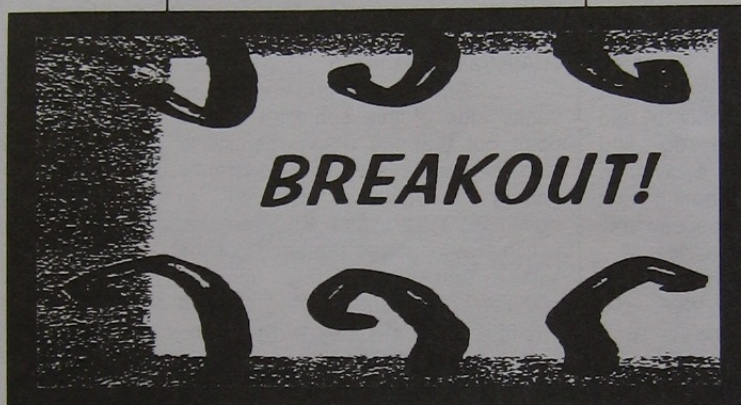
And while this goes some way to alleviating the boredom of prison life, a person can only watch so much of the bullshit that passes for entertainment on TV (after all, who really cares about the traumatic lives of "Melrose Place's" yuppie scum?), and while SBS and the ABC and Channel 31 do screen some shows that are worth watching, they certainly don't fill eight hours of every night.

So unless you want to turn your brain to mush by watching too much telly you have to find an alternative activity. Reading is everyone's obvious first choice. And I've got to say that I've read more in my time in prison than in the rest of my entire life. However you will not find much worth reading in what passes for prison libraries so you will need to have reading material sent in from the outside.

The good people of the Anarchist Black Cross have been exceptionally helpful towards me in that regard and have sent me copious quantities of books, pamphlets, newspapers and zines, which has certainly made my life all

the more bearable (thanks, comrades!)

A good thing for people on the outside to remember is that if they hear of someone having only just gone to prison then they should endeavour to get hold of their address and send them some reading material as soon as possible and also try and visit them at your earliest convenience, as the period immediately after a person's arrest can be the most stressful. On top of that there is the unfortunate fact that reception prisons traditionally have the worst library facilities in all prison systems and tend to have longer periods of lock down than other prisons (especially Melbourne's metropolitan reception prison).



However even reading can become a little tedious after a while so you have to find some other activities to keep yourself from going mad. Unfortunately though there aren't many other options, if you are fortunate enough to find yourself in a two-person cell then you can always converse with your cellmate, provided that he's a good conversationalist. But after a time you may notice that you are feeling a little claustrophobic and want to pretend that he isn't there. So your only other option is to write. Writing letters can pass the time and be somewhat therapeutic, so write to as many people as you can.

Somebody recently suggested to me that writing pieces like this is a good way to keep yourself from going insane, and of course he is quite right. Some of you that are reading this may be aware that I have written a few other articles whilst serving this prison sentence. And it's no coincidence that I started writing these articles when I was first being harassed by the management of Loddon Prison, which incidentally was in the first month I was there.

Writing those articles served the purpose of filling in time and giving me a feeling that I was still finding a way to combat the system that was doing its level best to grind me down.

So I heartily recommend that anyone finding themselves in the same situation do the same thing as there are plenty of subjects to write about and quite frankly if I can do it then anyone bloody well can. One thing you have to watch out for is the all pervading lethargy that prison can instil in the best of people which often makes the idea of embarking on such a writing project seem too big to undertake. However once you get started it's quite easy, and it's even easier when someone gives you a copy deadline to meet.

However it's not just the boring nights that can try your sanity. The days, as short as they are in these places, can also be nerve wracking to some degree. If it isn't the pre-pubescent carry-on of some of your fellow prisoners that drives you mad, then it will be the infuriating bullshit

that you have to put up with from the prison officers and governors. In fact it's usually the latter that causes the most problems.

If the prison authorities find out about your political beliefs then you could well be in for a rough ride. Particularly at the country prisons where the prison officers and governors have a tendency for somewhat fascistic attitudes and behaviour.

The staff and management of some of these country prisons have a particular liking for disobeying official Office of Corrections guidelines and making up their own rules as they go along. *One of their tricks is to try and deny politically orientated prisoners the right of access to political publications.* Well be advised people, they have absolutely **NO** right to do this. They may (and indeed have) try to justify the withholding of such publications on the grounds that they could be 'hazardous to the good order and management of the prison', but such a justification is still unadulterated bullshit.

Now I daresay that a good few of you readers have heard about the hunger strikes that I conducted in February and September of 1996. These actions were a result of the management of Loddon Prison deciding to withhold a number of political publications in what was transparently a payback action in retaliation for some articles that I had written about Loddon Prison and prisons in general (apparently these articles contained too much truth for the prison official's taste)

These hunger strikes did not spontaneously commence as soon as I found out about the withholding of the publications in question. In both cases I went through the usual bureaucratic channels of official protests/complaints. Unfortunately though, outfits like the State Ombudsman office really only exist nowadays to give the impression to the general public that there are avenues of complaint. When in reality the Ombudsman's office has neither the power nor inclination to take any concrete action on most prisoners' complaints, even less so when the question of corruption within the prison service is posed (hierarchical bureaucrats looking out for each other). In fact the only time the state Ombudsman makes a pro-prisoner decision is if it's only a small matter that won't get any of his fellow bureaucrats into trouble or if the decision has already been made by some functionary within the Office of Corrections (as in the case of my last hunger strike).

No, in fact I didn't start either of these hunger strikes until I had gotten so fed up with the wall of silence surrounding my complaints that I was either going to go stark raving mad or have to take some form of action. Now there is not a lot you can do along this line in a prison. You can wither lash out at people or property, which is just what the screws want as they are programmed to deal with such activity, or you can partake in a bit of dietary direct action.

The beauty of such peaceful protests is that most prison officers/governors don't have the faintest idea how to deal with it as their mentality is geared more towards dealing with loud and violent types of protests. So once you get past the first fourteen days, during which it is official Office of Corrections policy to ignore the hunger strike, you should start getting some action on your

complaint. And if your complaint is about something that the prison service has some control over then you should get something resembling what you originally demanded, particularly if you have the help of people on the outside who are willing to campaign and publicise on your behalf. The kind of bureaucrats responsible for these places don't like their thin veneer of respectability being exposed for what it is.

In mentioning those hunger strikes I wasn't trying to say that they should be a necessary part of a person's prison sentence. Quite frankly I believe that if you can do your sentence pretty quietly then that's the way you should do it. You are much better off doing your time safely without putting your life in danger and taking the risk of doing more time, then you can wait until you are outside where you can do a much better job of trying to change the world. All I am saying was that a person is better off taking this course of action than letting all that anger build up inside of them, as that is one of the many things that can drive you mad in prison. And who knows, you may well do some good in the process.

One last hint about preserving your sanity in these places is the use of humour. Humour has been used by people facing adversity for ages, so there is no reason why it should be any different in prison. Different people have different ideas about humour. My personal preference comes in the shape of being an irreverent shit-stirrer towards the prison authorities.

Prisons, being the chaotic places that they are, give people plenty of opportunity to be shit-stirrers. And over the years I have gotten myself into all manner of strife doing just that, you just have to make sure you don't get yourself into too much trouble by going too far.

One example of such activities was my telling my unit manager in Loddon Prison that I started writing those articles criticising the prison system as he had led me to believe that I wouldn't be allowed to have any political literature sent in to me so I figured that I should start my own (that remark left the unit manager red faced and speechless and left me with a silly grin on my face for most of the afternoon), another example occurred one night when I was so bored I grabbed a red pen and wrote

a little message to the prison censors on the top of about a dozen of my writing pads which said something along the lines that "the reading of anything written by an anarchist could result in the onset of a humanitarian nature which is not conducive to a long and successful career in the Office of Corrections" (ever since that night I have been including that message on the top of just about every letter I send out of here, just to let the prison censors know that I am thinking about them)

Now I know that both of those examples may seem rather paltry with little or no amusement value to those of you on the outside, but opportunities for laughs are few and far between in these traditionally mirthless places. So it really is a case of small things amuse in small environments (to warp a phrase). And unfortunately any particular funny examples of either myself or some of my fellow prisoners taking the mickey out of the fools that run these places would be better left unprinted when you consider how much attention the prison authorities pay to my articles when they come out, and the complete lack of humour they have.

My current favourite example of shit-stirring the prison authorities occurred a few months ago when I was working on the gardening gang here in Pentridge prison complex. One of my jobs was to go around with a lawn mover and tend to the lawns. And not being too fond of petrol driven motors on neatly clipped lawns that could be better utilised in the cultivation of vegetables, I decided to indulge in a bit of horticultural graffiti by mowing rather large @ symbols into these lawns. However, ever since I carved a thirty foot wide @ symbol in the prison oval I have been kept a safe distance away from all lawn mowers.

So there you have it comrades, a layperson's rough guide to prison physical and psychological survival. This is hardly a complete guide. However prisons being the complex bureaucratic and social structures that they are, it would take a small book to encompass all that could be said on prison survival.

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

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Sweet Charity?

Salvation Army or Starvation Army?

"I don't like Bible bashers, but the Salvation Army does a lot of good work." A lot of people who are against other religious groups won't attack the Salvation Army because of their reputation as a charitable group. In reality they're anything but charitable. They're a cult which uses charity to recruit people and get good publicity. They deserve the same contempt as any other religion.

A lot of people don't know that the Salvation Army is a Protestant sect in its own right. They have their own theology, mostly invented by their founder William Booth. If you want to join them you'll have to convert.

So what will you be converting to?

One Salvation Army member recently wrote to a local paper saying that the Salvo's didn't support a local tourist festival, the Winter Magic Festival, because "the Salvation Army believes that magic is of the Devil" (Blue Mountains Gazette 19/6/96). You'd better not learn any magic tricks, especially not with cards: gambling is 'of the Devil' as well. So are all the old favourites: alcohol, rock music and homosexuality, which they call a 'social disease'.

They don't keep their ideas to themselves either. One of the things that most people don't know about the Salvo's is that their charity is only a means to an end. William Booth set up the Army to fight "Alcohol, Atheism and Anarchy" - not to help poor people. He said that the important thing isn't "whether a man died in the poorhouse.....but whether his soul was saved." They claim that they don't try and convert people. However, they refuse to be involved in government programs that don't allow promotion of religion.

Far from being on the side of the poor, the Salvo's despise them. William Booth's wife, Catherine, described them as "the dangerous classes." They don't believe that people have a right to food and shelter. If someone doesn't live up to their 'moral' standards they're quite happy to refuse to help them.

Everyone seems to have a story about them. A woman I know in Canberra told me how she had some stuff to get rid of. She rang them and told them they could pick it up from her garage, but not to take any of the other stuff there. They not only took everything in her garage, when she went and saw them they refused to give any of it back! Another woman told me about an unmarried couple she knew that went to them for help. They were kept in separate dorms for days, lectured all the while, and finally sent away with nothing. Imagine what they would have done to a gay couple.

The Salvation Army has always exploited its workers. People doing community service with them aren't allowed to eat with other workers. They get thirty dollars for a five day, 8.30am to 4pm week. In some cases they're forced to live in Salvation Army shelters and then have to pay to do so. In these shelters they don't have locks on the doors, so that they can check up on you. Needless to say if they catch you doing anything they don't approve of they'll throw you out.

The regular workers don't have it much better. In 1991 they tried to fire all their Melbourne drivers. The drivers were given fifteen minutes notice.

They've always been a lot friendlier to the rich than to the people they're meant to help. In 1993 they issued a public apology and recalled six thousand copies of their paper 'The War Cry' after it called Macdonald's unhealthy.

The



Any spare change?

Salvation Army even despises its own members. They have to pledge "unquestioning obedience and sacrifice" to the small, unelected leadership. William Booth used to refer to his role as that of "dictator". They have a system of ranks, giving and taking of orders etc. Salvation Army members aren't allowed to marry 'civilians', officers are only allowed to marry other officers, and everyone has to get permission to go courting.

And of course there's the uniforms. All members have to pay and care for their own uniforms. They cost several hundred dollars. It can't be easy for their members who are on pensions to afford that.

With all this, it seems that no one will criticise them. It's worth noting that the Marxist group, Resistance, refused to print an earlier (and much milder) version of this article in their paper 'Green Left'. The Salvo's get free advertising, on prime time TV and billboards, schoolkids are encouraged to collect money for them and so on. It isn't just because they're a charity: for example, Community Aid Abroad gets nothing like the same treatment, even though they help a lot more people and without trying to convert them. In fact there's a few reasons why the powers that be do so much for the Salvo's.

First, the Salvation Army aren't interested in getting rid of poverty. They don't even think it's possible: the Bible says that "the poor will always be with us." If that's so, then it isn't really anyone's

fault - except maybe God's. *If you're a boss, if you exploit your workers or fire them when it suits you, if you're rich while other people are poor, then obviously you'd want everyone to think it wasn't your fault.* Second, the Salvation Army expects its clients (it might be better to say their victims) to be grateful for everything they get. Groups like Community Aid Abroad or Food Not Bombs say that people have a right to get enough to eat: they shouldn't have to prove themselves worthy to anyone with a bit of power. The upper class doesn't want working class people thinking that. Thirdly, the Salvation Army is organised just like society: a few people at the top set

policy for a few more people in the middle, who manage the 'clients' at the bottom. The people at the bottom haven't got any power and can't cooperate with each other because they are not organised. And again, that's just the way the upper class likes things.

In our society, a lot of working class people need and are going to need charity, just as a lot of working class people need the dole. But we don't have to be conned. Charity isn't free: you're supposed to pay with your self respect, and buy the lie that workers need the middle and upper class (the same is true about the dole).

Poverty is caused by exploitation: the rich are the problem, not the solution. They'd love a working class made up of grovelling Christians. But we don't have to give them what they want. If we get working on it now, one day we can get rid of the rich. Then we wouldn't need charity because no one would be poor. If we want to, we can show them that in one way the Salvo's are right - as far as the upper class is concerned, we really are the dangerous classes.

BEWARE: THE STATE HOODS!

"Statehood for the Northern Territory!" goes the perennial catchcry of NT politicians, particularly those of the government party, the Country Liberal Party, which has now been in power for twenty odd years. The Territory should be made a State, they say, just like New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania. Territorians should have the right to more say in their own affairs, rather than be ruled from Canberra and have to put up with the interference of southern politicians and bureaucrats.

A recent push for NT Statehood has come from NT Chief Minister Shane Stone in response to Victorian Liberal MP Kevin Andrews' bid to override the Territory's controversial *Rights of the Terminally Ill Act*, which permits voluntary euthanasia to be carried out legally with the written permission of two doctors and one psychiatrist. Stone says we wouldn't have this Federal meddling with Territory rights if we were to become a State. 'Fair enough', you might think. 'Why shouldn't Territorians have the same rights as people in other parts of Australia? Shouldn't the devolution of power be a step in the right direction?'

Let's take a closer look at the issue. Is Statehood for the Northern Territory what we really want? For a start we should be wary of politician's words, particularly the words of politicians like Shane Stone, a cunning, manipulative, racist, greedy lawyer. Such politicians

have long been passionate about Statehood, in contrast to normal people in the NT, most of whom seem to view it as rather a non-issue. So why are these politicians so keen on it? As usual, they reckon this change would give them more money and power, both for themselves and their rich mates. *We doubt it's got anything to do with the well being of Aboriginal, non-white and white working class Territorians!*

NEVER TRUST A POLITICIAN THEY ALWAYS LIE

The CLP government has long resented the Federal government control of the national parks at Uluru (formerly known as Ayer's Rock, in Central Australia) and Kakadu (in the Top End). The CLP sees this control as belonging rightfully to themselves.

Throughout the years of Federal Labor rule (1983 - 1996) the CLP did a lot of Canberra-bashing, laying the blame for social and administrative problems at the feet of the Federal government. Funnily enough, there's still some of this going on now even though there's now a Federal Liberal government in power who're supposed to be their allies. The CLP love to whinge about how Canberra's bureaucratic red tape is holding back the Territory's development. They blame everyone but

themselves for the problems. What a bunch of useless wankers.

Self-styled saviours of the Northern Territory, as the CLP like to see themselves, can't even get it together to build a railway from Alice Springs to Darwin! Darwin could certainly use a railway link with the rest of Australia but politicians have done nothing but TALK about it for the past hundred years or more (true!) which is probably about as long as they've been demanding Statehood.

Politicians are a sick joke, especially the NT variety: one government minister punched and headbutted a left-wing journalist in a bar, another government minister strangled an ABC journo with a microphone cord during a TV interview and a third gave a green light to the Cannonball Run high-speed road race in which a Japanese millionaire killed four people including himself when he lost control of his Ferrari at 260kph. *And it's these idiots who're demanding Statehood to give them even more power over our lives.*

If they ever get it, Aboriginal Territorians will have even more cause for concern. They already get a raw deal and with NT Statehood the Territory government would have a far greater power to deny them land rights and any other rights.

So-called representative government is an inefficient way to run society, when you stop to think about it.

STUFF STATEHOOD!

CIRCUS COMES TO TOWN

The Left had better pull their socks up quick smart if the organised racists are to be defeated.

The circus came to the Melbourne suburb of Fawkner on March 15. Complete with clowns, streamers, party hats, carnival music and balloons, the residents of Fawkner came out to see the carnival of 'communists, homosexuals and fringe malcontents' descend upon the headquarters of National Action.

Well that's the way National Action, a racist, white supremacist group, would like everybody to see it. The media coverage picked up on that theme and it seems that that's the way quite a lot of people may have seen it.

Basically National Action won their first victory against anti-fascists after their losses in Northcote and Brunswick, and the draw outside Victorian Parliament House. Showing initiative and foresight, the fascists in Tyson St, Fawkner got onto the roof of their bookshop, dressed in clown suits, with circus music blaring from speakers and threw lollies down onto the crowd. Socialist groups have always been quick to claim to have driven the fascists off the streets. Well not this time.

The demonstration was chaotic, or if you prefer, it was carefully planned by the organisers to delay the inevitable - physical confrontation. After the usual round of speeches, which included right-wing local Labour MP Kelvin Thompson, (who would have probably found more in common with his pals on the right, than with a bunch of left-wing rabble-rousers and unionists) a small group of people tried to march directly to the shop as the main contingent were marshalled AWAY in the opposite direction. After a period they reluctantly joined the main march. There was long stroll through the streets to paint over graffiti at a train station and then we retraced our steps back towards the shop. It seems quite a few people left during this period as it was obvious that the demo was a gathering for paper-selling and boring speeches. People had better things to do than waste time strolling around the suburban streets. *Could it be this was a tactic used by demonstration organisers to delay the inevitable - to best plan on how to minimise any confrontation or avoid it completely?*

When the march finally reached the National Action's HQ, the rally walked into a carefully planned trap. Police had cordoned off the front and side entrances, had strategically placed water filled plastic

barricades, the horses were there (which as usual waded into the crowd) and the Force Response Unit complete with video camera were on the roof next to the other clowns. There was no way that the shop could have even been touched, National Action had the height advantage for throwing missiles into the crowd and any non-perishable missiles thrown at the clowns on the roof were easily thrown back, with height providing greater force.

So what the hell was the purpose of the demo? The self appointed leaders had no idea, they immediately diverted the march down the road for more pointless speeches, which were drowned out by the anger of the crowd and the carnival music blaring from the rooftop of National Action's bookshop. Marshals berated the crowd for pushing and shoving with the police, when it was the cops that tried to grab people's protective headgear such as masks, balaclavas and scarves, and anyway who the hell was stopping us from getting to the shop?

An anti-fascist was arrested for assaulting a media cameraman who wouldn't stop filming him. He was shoved into the riot van. Two more anti-fascists were arrested for assaulting police as people ran around to the side alley once news of the first arrest was known. There seemed to be no communication, just pure confusion and frustration. The police offered to release the first anti-fascist arrested but only if the demonstration marched back to the park where the march had started, over 200 metres away! The self-styled leaders AGREED! Only on protest from the people did they put it to the vote, which resoundingly voted to stay put until they person was released. And he was, immediately!

All in all, a total farce, a media spectacle gone horribly wrong for the orchestrators - the socialist

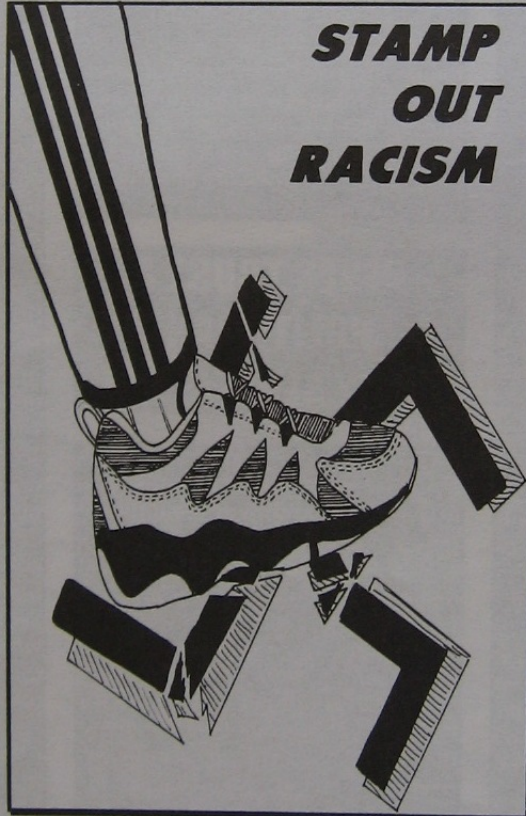
groups that make up the Campaign Against the Nazis.

And for those that missed it, the circus will be coming back for a repeat performance on April 19th. I hope the rides are better!

For all their wank on the historical destiny of the glorious socialist revolution, these lefties seem to be incapable of learning from history. In 1972, a group of anti-fascists stormed the HQ of fascists in the western suburb of Sunshine, and smashed everything they could get their hands on.

No Cops, No Media, No Circus, Job Done!

**STAMP
OUT
RACISM**





HANSON

THE WICKED WITCH OF IPSWICH

Is a mouthpiece for the rich

Pauline Hanson wants to divide the working class along racial and ethnic lines. She wants us fighting amongst ourselves so we never unite against the bosses and the rich who are the real cause of all our problems.

ANGRY PEOPLE PO BOX 108 ST PETERS NSW 2044

It's not a
and

BLACK

It's not just coincidence that conservative, racist and even fascist voices have come to be heard simultaneously. When Thatcher came to power in England in 1979 many voices on the political Right came to the fore. Both in England during the 80's and right here in Australia now conservative governments wish to create an environment where scapegoating is considered the norm. The blame for various social ills such as poverty, unemployment, housing shortages and lengthy medical waiting lists can then be apportioned anywhere other than where it belongs. These problems are actually the fault of the government which has failed to provide for us. They are also the fault of the rich who profit from the exploitation of the working class and therefore have an interest in maintaining the status quo.

The race debate that has swept across this country like an out of control bushfire has made everyone stop and think. However, scope of the thought provoked has been carefully bridled by the tabloids. The effect has been to restrict the national debate to a series of questions typified by those that follow. Do Asians take jobs? Do aboriginals really want to work? Are immigrants spreading disease? Multiculturalism: It might work in the big cities but will it work in the country? Is immigration bringing my wages down? Are all the foreigners on hospital waiting lists making me have to wait longer for my operation? How come I can't get a housing commission flat? How can it be fair that Aboriginal groups can ask the courts for land when I've got to save for five years just to get a deposit for a house? Why don't immigrants learn to speak English? While these questions are valid in the sense that all questions warrant an answer it is clear that they are all put forward with a specific goal in mind. That goal is to further the fostering of a perspective amongst working class people that is friendly to the new

wave of conservatism currently engulfing Australia.

The race debate could have taken many courses contrary to the one it did had national figureheads and journalists been willing to consult ALL of the population for their point of view. It would be fair to say that this national discussion is what the Coalition had aimed to achieve early on in government for two reasons. Firstly to establish a support base for a revival of the racist culture that characterised their previous reigns in power and which were forced underground by the Whitlam, Hawke and Keating Labor governments. Not that the Labor Party is any less racist in practice, they just go about things differently.

Secondly, Howard, Fischer, Costello and Reith are not just reacting to a turbulent political climate. They are in fact enacting a long term strategy that the Coalition and their conservative hangers-on have masterminded during the many years in opposition. *The initial phase of this strategy is to sow an undercurrent of animosity in the ranks of the working class to weaken our collective strength.* The idea is that if we are sold on the ideas of snobbery and indifference then we'll be far more inclined to turn up our noses or to look the other way when our fellow workers are taking a battering from the Coalition. In short: the race debate is being used by the Coalition as a stick to draw a line in the sand with bosses and white workers on one side and non-white workers on the other side. A split in the working class, through the building of animosity and the offering of

privileges to one (white) section of our class will see the completion of phase one in the Coalition's plan to conquer the working class completely.

This period will be followed by an escalation of the class war on both sides. So far the Coalition has taken the lead and picked off isolated sections of our class. The unemployed, immigrants, sole parent families, gun owners and the youth, in particular teenage sub-cultures have all been attacked since the Coalition came to power last March. They are planning an offensive against our class of an enormous proportion. However, it'll be some years yet before they reach their ultimate goal of a divided and disillusioned working class. In the

**MANY
COLOURS
ONE
CLASS**



short to mid term the Coalition will be happy to 'shoot at the stragglers' until they feel strong enough to go for the throat: the mass of organised workers who won't be picked off one at a time. It is becoming increasingly clear that this battle will climax into a dogfight between waterside workers and their main organising body, the Maritime Workers' Union of Australia, and the forces at the

**AND PROUD
WORKING CLASS**

angry people

s not all

and

WHITE

**MANY
COLOURS
ONE
CLASS**

disposal of the Coalition Parties: the state and federal police, the military police, the army and the reserves.

As it was pointed out earlier in this article, the questions that have made up the content of the race debate are carefully constructed so that the answers to them all point (roughly) to the same few things. You might even say the questions were 'loaded' as there are many questions that are just as relevant that haven't seen the light of day in any of the mainstream media. *Questions such as these.* Do jobs inherently belong to one social group such as white Australians? Do bosses really want to employ Aboriginals? Why are wages going down when profits are soaring? If hospital waiting lists are so long, why

scarce and therefore unemployment is equally reduced. While such an argument may seem convincing at first glance, it's important to look a little deeper at the 'jobs vs immigration' debate. For if unemployment was simply a question of mathematics it would have been solved long ago. The true cause of unemployment is the capitalist system that runs our lives. Jobs are restricted by the will of bosses and the marketplace. Under this system, full employment can never be realised due to the fact that in order for it to work the working class must be blindly obedient to our bosses, which we are not and never will be. *It's in our nature to stand up to an oppressor.* Because of this, bosses need a large pool of

unemployed labour from which they can draw upon to threaten us with the sack or even replace elements they consider undesirable, such as workplace activists and union organisers. Wages are kept down when a worker knows that he or she is expendable because they can be replaced at a moments notice. Fearing the sack, we often accept low pay with little or no complaint.

The capitalist system is forever going up and down, through boom and bust, recession and depression. Most bosses wouldn't bat an eyelash at putting hundreds of workers on the dole overnight if they believed it was necessary. Unemployment is a disease that has been thrust upon the working class by the bosses - it's through no fault of their own that many people can't find work. To place the blame on other workers,

such as Asian immigrants which the Australian racists are so fond of naming as the cause of many social ills, is wrong and just plain stupid. *But it goes further than that because blaming non-white workers for the problems that stare us all in the face causes divisions in our class.* And a working class that is divided will soon be defeated. Only unity amongst the working class of all colours can ever kill off the scourge of unemployment and the destitution that it brings.

To add to all this, it must be stated that the notion that jobs are inherently owned by white Australians is racist and white supremacist. Everyone needs a job to survive. The idea that white Australians should come first is a lie peddled by the Right to appease the genuine grievances that white workers have with the capitalist system. Unless the Right are able to win over the support of a section of the white working class they will fail in their war against the Left. They are well aware of this. The Right may claim that 'our jobs' are being taken away from us but you only have to spend a minute to ask yourself a few honest questions to get to the bottom of this. If they're 'our jobs' how come we get little say in the running of the workplace and so many of us are bored shitless with our jobs? Because they're not 'our jobs' at all. *All jobs are bosses jobs and they hire workers to do for them what they can't do for themselves.*



not open more hospitals and employ more health workers? How come there is a housing shortage but so many houses lie empty? Are white Australians prepared to learn a second language?

The Right put forward the argument that there are only so many jobs and too many people. Their answer is to reduce immigration so that labour becomes

and down, through boom and bust, recession and depression. Most bosses wouldn't bat an eyelash at putting hundreds of workers on the dole overnight if they believed it was necessary. Unemployment is a disease that has been thrust upon the working class by the bosses - it's through no fault of their own that many people can't find work. To place the blame on other workers,

**AND PROUD!
WORKING CLASS**

**CLASS WAR
NOT RACE WAR**

FIGHT THE REAL ENEMY!

**COPS, BOSSES, SCABS
AND RACISTS**

angry people

ANARCHISM AND THE BLACK REVOLUTION

This book reads like a very practical 'how-to' manual for achieving a realistic and desirable revolution. And it should! Lorenzo Kom'boa Ervin has a wealth of experience in the fields of organising the Black community of the United States, in more general activism and in publishing. He was a member of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in Eastern Tennessee and later joined the Black Panther Party when the two groups merged in 1967-68. This was the period of the Civil Rights Movement in the South where it had started to take hold and had then spread throughout the States. The Black Power Movement was forming in opposition to the watery demands of leaders like Martin Luther King, who was nevertheless assassinated by the U.S. government for asking for reforms. *The Black Panthers had a more sensible view of race relations in the U.S. - that they were living in the midst of a race war, one that had been going on for as long as Black's had been shipped to the country, perpetrated by the white rulers on the displaced Black population.* Lorenzo was a member of the Panthers and other Black revolutionary groups. He writes in **Anarchism and the Black Revolution**: "Basically, we would all choose to be pacifists. And like Dr Martin Luther King Jr counselled, we would rather resolve our differences with understanding, love and moral reasoning. We will attempt these solutions first, whenever possible. In the insanity that reigns however, our movement acknowledges the utility of preparedness. It is too dangerous a world to be ignorant of the ways to defend ourselves so that we can continue our revolutionary work..... We are forced to acknowledge that the North American progressive and radical movements have been too pacifist to be truly effective. We also realise that open groups that proposed cooperative change and were basically non-violent, like the I.W.W., were crushed by the government, and finally we have the unfortunate example of Dr King Jr himself..." Lorenzo was summoned

to testify before a grand jury on Black Power about "gun-running" charges against him and other SNCC activists. He soon learned the cops and the Klan wanted him dead if he wouldn't testify, so he left Hamilton County, Tennessee where the 'trial' was being held. The police and the FBI were then given "shoot to kill" orders (ending up in another "shot while resisting arrest" cover up no doubt). But Lorenzo fled the country by hijacking a plane to Cuba. Cuban officials later arrested and deported him to Czechoslovakia where American agents located him and tried to arrest him but to Lorenzo's credit he escaped. Later he was arrested, and taken back to the U.S. and tried before racists in a small town in Georgia and given two life prison terms.

In prison he didn't give up the struggle! He became a prisoner unionist, fighting for Black rights, jailhouse lawyer and a convert to Anarchism. He also served in the Control Unit in Marion, Illinois, at the time the most secure and notorious prison in the U.S. The publicity he received for his case and being a Marion prisoner ultimately helped him get out. An international defence campaign got him his freedom in 1983, and he hasn't looked back since.

In 1979 Lorenzo began to write a series of pamphlets designed to explain Anarchism to a totally new audience which included the new generation of anarchists. He criticised the North American Anarchist Movement for being too white, too middle class and too intellectual. These pamphlets were designed to spur a sagging Black movement forward and to serve as a kind of 'study guide' on the strategy and tactics that would bring about Black revolution. They were distributed and translated by the **Anarchist Black Cross** and other prison support groups all over the world. Years later Lorenzo saw the need to rewrite them and it's these new writings that have found their way into book form.

Lorenzo's discovery of Anarchism and anarchist ways of organising obviously came as a revelation after the cult-like leaders he had encountered during the Black Panther days. He expresses remorse for the Black Panther Party: "...which I feel partially failed because of the authoritarian leadership style of Huey P. Newton, Bobby Seale and others on the Central Committee. This is

not a recrimination against those individuals, but many errors were made because the national leadership was too divorced from the chapters in the cities all over the country and therefore engaged in "commandism" or forced work dictated by leaders. But many contradictions were also set up because of the structure of the organisation as a Marxist-Leninist group. There was not a lot of inner party democracy, and when contradictions came up, it was the leaders who decided on their resolution, not the members." He also criticises the civil rights movement with its alliance to Liberals in the Democratic Party and its call for reforms and democratic rights (within a capitalist framework) - remember those who make revolution by halves dig their own graves! "This self policing by the leaders of the movement is an object lesson about why the movement has to be self-activated and not dependant on personalities and politicians." Like the Zapatista's in Mexico, the Black movement can learn from its past, and the past of other revolutionary groups about how to organise most effectively, and how not to let a potential guerilla movement degenerate into sectarian in-group fighting or on a larger scale - civil war.

Importantly Lorenzo's writings contain a faith in oppressed communities doing it for themselves, solving their particular problems which only they know how to approach because of their life experience - not relying on another Lefty vanguard (or Anarchist one) to do it for them with well meaning arrogance. "Finally, like the Panthers, and contrary to today's Nation of Islam and it's spokesmen, we believe that there were historical, socio-economic factors which counted for both slavery and racism, not because whites are "ice-people", "devils" or other such nonsense. This system produces racism/white supremacy, and it is the capitalist system which must be destroyed to get rid of it. So this is who we are, fighters for human rights, self-determination and freedom for our own people and our class. The Panthers proved how dangerous Black revolutionaries can be to this system, now we will finish the job.... We must fight for our freedom, no one else can free us, but they can help us." We'll be with you all the way!

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UNION'S GOTTA GET RADICAL!

The divide and rule mentality of the bosses and lack of strong support from the union are part of everyday working life for many people. This was no exception at my former workplace.

I was employed by an Office Stationery/Printing Company in Sydney. In the industry it was a well known fact we were lowest paid (by just being on the award wage). For most workers it was a weekly battle to pay the rent, buy food, send the kids to school and try to pay off some of that loan for the car. Most of us lived locally and a few of us were in the union. But there was a general feeling of "there's not much we can change here".

Change was on the way regardless, with an American firm who had taken over some office stationary companies in each state. The plan was for us to merge with another company in NSW. Concern over our jobs led straight away to the call for the union to come in and sign people up. Management announced they foresaw that no one would lose their jobs. They claimed both sites would be kept open and it would be business as usual. Most of us thought this was utter bullshit (just like when Bob Hawke said "no Australian child would be living in poverty by 1990"). Sadly though, we were already divided when some workers took the bait that their jobs were safe and took no interest in unionising the workplace.

We had a Union Organiser with over 120 worksites to take care of.

Each meeting with us was interrupted by three or four mobile phone calls coming in. The impression we got was that he had too little time for us. He worked hard in getting us some extra money (eg tea money and shift allowances which was supposed to already be part of the award). We were losing focus of our main concern of trying to keep our jobs. Next thing we knew the Union wanted to negotiate an Enterprise Agreement with Management. What was the use of this if most of us could be made redundant in 6 months?

Management's plan was to change our workplace as much as possible. At first they used the softly-softly approach of being the 'worker's friend'. For

example a workplace constitution and vision were written up by Management. This was a wishy-washy statement of workers' rights, which was already covered under the award, that held high hopes for the company's future. It became perfect brain washing material for some workers.

Then there was the plan for 'Team Leaders'. This was where Management would appoint workers to lead certain sections of the warehouse. "It will be just like our Melbourne site where workers virtually run the warehouse" (!!!???) said one director. Of course, it didn't end up that way. Instead of "leading by example", it brought worker against worker as ego's clashed. Workers who were then considered troublesome by Management were served with verbal attacks - they were against 'company vision'!

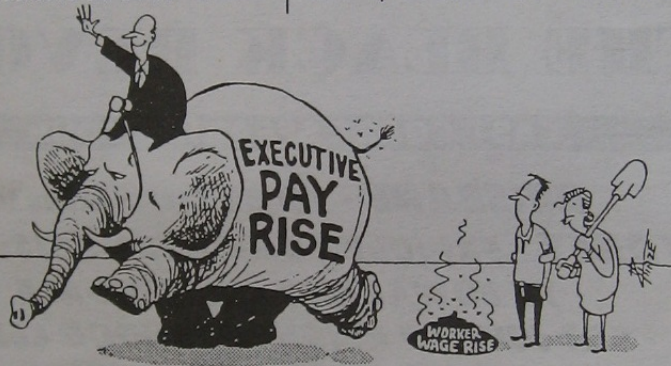
We were fighting for casual part timers and casual full timers to get permanent positions as some had been waiting for up to 18 months for this. The company would spread disinformation such as the nightshift workers performed better than the day shift workers or the other site was more efficient than we were. All were tactics used by the company to cause as much panic and confusion as possible in order to divide workers whilst increasing production. Company profits went up because one worker felt that s/he had to do

better/more than the next. *Extra work created extra profit but workers saw no extra pay!*

We once called our own strike (our union organiser didn't show up until later as he was too busy in the Industrial Relations Court). We had various demands and at last

we were getting some solidarity amongst ourselves. Some things were achieved. The company finally came straight with us about our site closing down. A redundancy package was worked out. A payout can be good. You can pay off some bills and try to survive until the next job if or when that job comes around.

I feel if we were more united in the workplace and there wasn't the feeling of isolation between workers and the union we could have achieved so much more. In the reality of company takeovers there always seems to be redundancies. However, we could have worked together far more than we did to stand up against the bosses and made it a better place to work.



Larry Flynt

Don't Believe the Hype

'The People vs Larry Flynt' is a movie about the publisher of the porn magazine 'Hustler'. It shows Flynt as a hero fighting for freedom of speech. It was nominated for two Academy Awards: Best Actor and Best Director.

But it doesn't tell the whole truth about Flynt. What made 'Hustler' different to magazines like 'Playboy' and

'Penthouse' wasn't so much that it was more explicit. 'Hustler's' speciality was violence against women. It showed women being gang-raped, in one case gang-raped and killed by concentration camp guards. There was a famous cover showing a woman being fed into a mincer. Larry Flynt's own daughter said the film was a lie, for showing Flynt to be against violence.

Hollywood has been quick to defend itself. The film's producer, Oliver Stone, attacked an American feminist who criticised the film. He said that "Larry is not into violence against women. He

puts them in a meat grinder as a joke. Doesn't she have a sense of humour?".

Not everything that's labelled pornography is degrading. It's also true that a lot of opponents of the 'sex industry' are just against sex. Idiots like Fred Nile are right into degrading women as long as it's done 'morally': *you never hear them call sweatshops degrading to women and for that matter, middle class feminists don't often either.* But, that doesn't make Flynt a hero. The sex industry is an industry like any other, and pornographers are bosses like any other. They couldn't care less about freedom of speech for its own sake. It's all about

making a profit and to hell with anything else.

And that's probably why Larry Flynt is capitalism's latest hero. He went boldly where no pornographer had gone before - into the fantasies of twisted people with money to spend. There's nothing wrong with sex, but there's a lot wrong with rape. And there's a lot wrong with a movie and a society that can't tell the difference.

NO APOLOGIES

Most people probably think of last years cavalcade to Canberra as a violent failure. I was involved in the Canberra 'riots', as the media called them. The violence was all carried out by police. I was kicked in the ribs by several police officers. They were throwing punches at people. I saw one man with his face cut and covered in blood. The police refused to give this man any first aid.

The media lied. There were no 'Moaist thugs' masterminding the 'riots'. There are about four Moaists in Australia, two of them in wheelchairs. The people who tried to get into Parliament House were a mixed group: unionists, Aboriginal people, uni students, left-wingers and young people generally. As for the shop owner who lost his livelihood during the storming of Parliament House: the shop is owned by Parliament and managed by the Public Service. 'Media Watch' was the only program on tele to report this.

We wanted to go into Parliament, supposedly the peoples' house, and make a peaceful protest. This would have embarrassed John Howard. The police actively supported the government against the people and did their utmost to keep people out of Parliament, even if that meant pre-empting a siege on Parliament by attacking demonstrators first.

The government and media had no intention of letting people make up their own minds in the aftermath of the 'riots'. I can see the same contempt in the yuppies that are destroying many of the capital cities. I can see the same contempt in the violence by the police and in the actions of the political parties and the union bureaucracy. This contempt deserves the label of 'thuggery' far more than anything that the angry people in Canberra did. I'm proud to have been involved in the Canberra protest.

Slave Labour By Another Name

As you might have heard, the government is bringing in a 'work for the dole' scheme. This means that people on the dole will be given jobs, but without getting any more money. It was going to only be for young people, but now it looks

like it'll be for all ages. They aren't saying how many people will be put onto the scheme.

The government says that unemployed people will be given jobs that won't compete with wage earners. One example given was painting rocks. John Howard says that unemployed people owe a debt. But who really wants to be repaid with painted rocks? What he seems to really mean is that unemployed people should be punished - he thinks they owe a 'debt to society' in the same way that they say prisoners do. However, he also says that unemployment is going to stay at at least eight percent in the near future: *there just aren't enough jobs*. So why punish people who can't find jobs because the jobs are not there? It looks like something is going on that we aren't being told about.

The union leaders have been very quiet about the scheme. In fact they haven't really protested at all. Just picture this: the government or a big company decides to lay off a few hundred workers. They want people who don't have a union, don't have the right to resign and who work for next to nothing. So they get a few hundred people to 'work for the dole'. In fact people could be fired from a job and then get put on the same job working for the dole. This scheme can be used to bust unions, drive down wages and end any rights for workers - even the right to quit - all in one go.

Two's Company Three's A Crime

The NSW Labor government has proposed a law which would allow the police to break up any group of three or more people in a public place. People wouldn't have to be doing anything wrong. Under the law, the police could also demand your name and address. If you don't go home when they tell you, or you won't give your name and address, they can arrest you. The Liberals and Nationals are supporting the State government.

The law is supposed to be aimed at gangs. But it doesn't say they can only use it on gang members nor does it indicate how police officers will identify suspected 'gang members'. They can use it to get all the young people off the streets if they want to. They can use it on homeless people. They can use it on Aboriginals (as if they don't hassle Aboriginals enough already). If the police decide they don't like someone, they can stop them going out of their house: every time they meet two or more people, they can take their names and send them home. *The biggest danger, however, has to do with strikes and pickets. This law will basically make every protest of three or more people illegal. And, as unemployment grows and wages and rights go out the window, that's probably what they have in mind.*

WORK FOR WHAT?

Politicians, Bosses, Company Directors and the Idle Rich would have to work for the dole under a radical plan unveiled by Angry People.

People who earned or possessed more wealth than they needed would have their excess wealth expropriated - to be distributed to the those who have little or none.

For every industrial homicide they caused, employers and managers responsible would be forced to work for the dole, using the same faulty and dangerous equipment and the same shoddy work practices that they forced their former employees to use.

Those responsible for environmental damage would be forced to work for the dole hand sifting through polluted lakes and rivers or hand digging contaminated land to clean up their toxic waste.

Angry People say that those who advocated, designed and implemented the vicious anti-social work for the dole scheme - created solely for those of the working class that were unfortunate enough to find themselves out of work - will be expected to earn their keep in society by a long period of work for the dole. After all, what's good for the goose is good for the gander! This would teach them dignity and respect for those who have nothing.

Angry People also launched their industrial strategy to coincide with the new work for the dole scheme.

Management of industry would be taken over by newly created Workplace Councils, of which all workers in the particular workplace would be invited to join. All members of these councils would have equal decision-making power over the manner and type of work to be employed in that industry.

Current management of industry would be laid off, and each of them would have to reapply to these new councils as an ordinary worker. Those former employers who could not find work would then be "breached" and forced into the work for the dole scheme.

Homeless people would also benefit under this plan, as landlords would be relocated from their houses to the run-down places they formerly rented out to tenants. This, combined with existing unoccupied housing, would free up decent housing for those that have none.

In Angry People's future vision, there is no place for class domination.

PEOPLE DEMAND AN END TO POLITICAL CORRUPTION!

Aussie upper class will stop at nothing to curtail any bid for further self-determination on the islands of Papua New Guinea and Bougainville.

The Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, Sir Julius Chan, has recently been forced out of office. The Army said they wouldn't support him and ordinary Papua New Guineans took to the streets, and together they organised a blockade of the PNG Parliament. Sixty Members of Parliament were kept inside for days by the protests. Before the protests, there was a motion calling on Chan to step down, while an inquiry was held into the corruption involved in hiring South African based mercenaries. The politicians chose not to remove Chan.

"We let you run our country for twenty years as a virtual dictatorship. Now we want to make you obey the law". These words were said by someone who was part of the blockade, and no doubt the sentiments were held by most Papua New Guineans. A lot of people felt that they could say what they really thought about the government for the first time. The people of PNG knew that the government was elitist and out of touch. For the duration of the protests, the two national PNG papers were flooded with letters telling of rampant corruption throughout the government and its services. There have always been very few prosecutions for misconduct in office, and indifference to these allegations have been a hallmark of the Chan government.

The Chan government had earned the hatred of the people for years, but what turned the PNG Army against Chan was the hiring of the Sandline mercenaries, who are based in South Africa and also have an office in London. It's important to remember that the Army intervened for their own selfish reasons. They were quite happy to fight a war of extermination against man, woman and child in Bougainville. All they were worried about was the fact that they hadn't been fed properly or paid for months. The PNG government were going to pay \$72 million to Sandline, which shows how far they'd go to get the copper mine

back. In fact, it'd be more accurate to say that Australian big business were prepared to pay to get their mine back: the Chan government was well known for doing what it was told.

While the polities of Australia and PNG were busy coming up with ways to confront a growing rebellion, there was the usual selective reporting and distortion of the reasons for the uprising in the media. The Daily Telegraph summed up the attitude of the Australian ruling class, when they used the heading "Mutiny Next Door". It implied, like a lot of reporting on the issue, that PNG was undergoing a challenge to parliamentary rule by a bunch of outlaws near our shores. Ray Martin of Channel Nine, ran a story on criminal gangs ('Raskals') during the crisis, implying that opposition to Chan's government was being perpetrated by anti-social criminals. Ray Martin's boss Kerry Packer, like the rest of the Australian ruling class, wants the dictators in our region to stay in power at all costs (as long as those costs are paid by ordinary people, of course).

The reporting also said that the Australian government might have given 'independence' to PNG too quickly. What they mean by independence is obviously a local government running things for Australian big business, without any 'inconvenient' local people getting a say.

The PNG government's business deals with Asia and Australia are making the rich richer (naturally!), while the indigenous people suffer poverty and murder - the fate of dispossessed people the world over. *The cry comes from the people: "If our country is so rich, why are we so poor?"* Despite billions of kina coming in from PNG's natural resources, the people see none of it. The medical and education systems spew out casualties faster than government officials can take bribes. Every year the education system spits out thousands of children onto the streets, without qualifications (about 10% of school students make

it past year 6). The infamous outlaw gangs, the Raskals, are the product of this system which has no place for them. PNG women are among the most likely in the world to die in childbirth, and their life expectancy is only 54 years. But Chan knew that he could ignore the wishes of the people: he had the backing of the Australian government and military. The only problem this time was that his own Army wasn't on his side. If the Australian Army had gone in 'to restore order', they would have had to have dealt with the PNG Army. There could have been a civil war, as well as an international one. None of which would have bothered the Australian upper class, who after all start wars rather than fight in them. But a war would have damaged the flow of cash to big business. A change of faces, without a real change in PNG's government, calmed things down without dealing with the actual problem: the exploitation of PNG by a cynical international upper class.

In hiring the Sandline mercenaries, the PNG government showed how low it would go: as one politician put it, "for three hundred years South Africans have been intimidating and killing black people". One placard carried in the protest outside Parliament said "Twenty-one years of corruption are coming to an end". But all that really came to an end was Chan's position as Prime Minister and that of two of his ministers. Chan still owns an airline company and a shipping company: capitalism can reward its puppets well. His personal fortune weighs in at more than 100 million dollars. With the wave of investment and business ventures by PNG in Malaysia, China and other South-east Asian countries has come a corresponding wave of corruption. Within PNG every MP in the 109 member parliament has access to a \$500,000 annual fund to spend as they see fit on projects in their electorate. Most see themselves as worthy projects in need of cash injections, and the resulting lining of

A Brief History of Bougainville

Bougainville is an island almost 10,000 square kilometres wide, located ten kilometres from the Solomon Islands. There are about 150,000 people living on the island - perhaps 10,000 people have died since the beginning of the war. It's recent history has been one of typical colonial rule. In 1899 Bougainville, then part of the Solomon's (a British colony), was detached and handed over to Imperial Germany who had New Guinea as part of their empire. In 1914 Australia took New Guinea off the Germans and made it part of Australian Papua. Up until 1975 Australia ran Bougainville as part of PNG. Needless to say the people of Bougainville were not consulted over any of their changes of fate - that isn't the colonial way! Around 1969 the people of central Bougainville learned that according to British-Australian law they did not own the land more than three feet below the surface of the island! This under-ground belonged to 'the crown'. This opened the way for mining companies to come in and exploit resource rich Bougainville for all it was worth. A giant gold/copper deposit had been found in the middle of the island in the early sixties. The concession to dig the ground was given to Bougainville Copper Ltd., better known as Conzinc Riotinto Australia (CRA), the Australian face of the multi-national giant Rio Tinto Zinc of London. Protests over the loss and spoilage of land was met with violent Australian-led police crackdowns. When PNG finally became politically "independent" in 1975 the people of Bougainville wanted independence too. They were told by the Australian government that they would become the PNG province of the North Solomon's.

Since 1972, when the PANGUNA mine went into production, the copper-tailings have been thrown into the Jaba river, killing it off. Compensation for the destruction of the inhabitants' lifestyle (about 1 cent in every 10 dollars of profit), has been paid to very few victims. In 1988 things reached an unbearable peak for the people affected by the mine; asking for more compensation and less environmental damage, they were met with derision, then ignored. So they took matters into their own hands, stole some dynamite, blew up the power pylons, and

halted production at the mine. Since May 1989 the PANGUNA mine has been closed. The Australian government response was to send Iroquois helicopter gunships, pilot warships, money, mortars, bombs, ammunition and army officers to protect their overseas financial interests. They linked up with the PNG army and police to crush the rebellion. They failed. The Bougainville independence movement became stronger, receiving support from Australia and internationally as atrocities committed by the PNG army slowly came to light. By March 1990 the newly formed Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA) had, effectively, won. The PNG army and their Australian advisers left the area.

On May 17, 1990 the Bougainville Interim Government (BIG) declared independence from PNG. It was, and still is, hard to know what is going on in Bougainville. A total blockade of the island by Australian and PNG warships and helicopters has been in place, preventing not only information, but food and medical supplies reaching the island. This accounts for the high death toll of the war, many of the dead being children. Most of the news of the war has been brought out by freelance journalists running the blockade at the risk of losing their lives. The blockade, which depends completely on Australian military, financial and diplomatic support, has a huge role in destroying the BRA/BIG's resolve. What can't be won in the jungles of Bougainville with an under-fed, under-paid military force will be fought by keeping essential services from the victims of this dirty war. Our government knows that the only way to keep the lid on this little Vietnam is by maintaining a blockade of the truth. The Australian government and military is fighting a war with first world technology against a guerilla force that is living in third world conditions and arming itself with relatively primitive home-made weapons. Women, children, and men are being massacred by our politicians, our taxes, and without most of us knowing about it. It's time to call these murderers amongst us to account.

(Thanks to Max Watts for information).

BOUGAINVILLE CONT'D.....

pockets can only be imagined in a country where polities are probably less accountable to their electorate than elsewhere. A combination of party loyalty and political bribery ensured Chan's survival for a few more days as Prime Minister. He appealed to nationalist sentiment and democratic process as ways of keeping the pressures of the people off him. Our Foreign Minister, Alexander Downer and his cronies in the Australian Government were appealing for a constitutional solution to the uprising, but the people of PNG showed that change, no matter how small, could come from a different direction. Let's hope our next Canberra "riot" will achieve as much....

HANSON GARNERS SUPPORT IN TOP END

Pauline Hanson, Australia's favourite racist and bigot held a public meeting in Humpty Doo, about 60km south of Darwin on the 1st of April. Approximately 200 - 250 people attended and the general mood was one of support for her policies. A small Neo-Nazi element was present and vocal. An equally small anti-fascist element was also present and vocal. Hanson, apart from addressing the grievances of the white working class with racist garbage is also able to capitalise on the fact that few politicians ever make it to remote parts of Australia. By showing up in these areas she is able to present a 'caring, in-touch' image to a potential support base who have been widely neglected by fat-cat, lard-arse polities primarily based in the big southern cities. Hanson advocated: 1. Abolition of Native Title 2. A halt to migration into Australia 3. Work for the dole 4. Compulsory military service for all youngsters, male and female, when they finish school. The Right have shown that they are prepared to take their politics to the streets.....now the Left must do the same. The fight can only intensify from here, so we must organise and prepare.

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Cut the dose!

Wendy Robertson, author of the article "Reactionary politics in anarchist garb" published in Green Left Weekly (25/9/96) ought to cut the dose of whatever she's on. Whatever has come to influence her state of mind during the writing of the article it certainly ain't common sense. While her comrades cry themselves to sleep as **Angry People's** allegations of manipulating the minds of young people rock their cosy lifestyles, Wendy has mustered the courage and wit to come up with a boring, predictable, half page of utter nonsense based on misrepresentation. She's accused **Angry People** of hating gay men and lesbians. She says we're homophobic. But really, this ignores the material that we have published by gay men and lesbians in our paper previously and runs contrary to our belief that sexual preference is an individual's choice. *The particular sentence that Wendy has based her allegations on can obviously be taken in two opposing lights. Being aware of this at the time of publication we made damn sure that the following two sentences dispelled any doubt or possibilities that the initial sentence may have left in the readers' mind.*

To push our point home to anyone who believes the trash written by Wendy and published by Green Left Weekly, pick up a copy of **Angry People #13** and read the article for yourself.

Ironically no one has complained to us about the article except for Allen Myers, editor of Green Left Weekly, who did so in a round about way by sending a letter to the Newtown Political Collective which delivered an ultimatum telling the NPC to either stop distributing **Angry People's** magazine because it's homophobic or the Green Left Weekly wouldn't publish any of the articles that the NPC had submitted for publication.

Wanting to get to the bottom of this, **Angry People** turned up the following Saturday morning at the Resistance Centre to raise the issue of homophobia and further put forward our allegations that the Resistance organisation has screwed up the minds of young people and in the specific instance cited in our article "Young and Angry?" they had endeavoured to convince one individual that they didn't fit into society because they were either gay or lesbian. It's the motives of an organisation such as Resistance that **Angry People** are questioning here. Young minds are at times confused and vulnerable and it is this weakness (due to lack of life experience) that the Resistance group exploit in order to build a loyalty to the party hierarchy much the same way cults build loyalty to a leader.

At the Resistance Centre we asked anyone and everyone to please explain the

homophobia nonsense they'd levelled at us. *Strangely enough, they really had a hard time doing so, with at least twenty(!!!) recruits trying to pin something on us. Not one individual could tell us where the homophobia was in our paper and not only did we have to provide them with copies of **Angry People #13** we also had to point out the article in question!!!!*

Angry People were able to present the author of the article "Young and Angry?", in person, to the Resistance group to explain, defend and account for the allegations made. Resistance however, stopped us from meeting Allen Myers by bullshitting to us with lines like "he's not answering his intercom". When we asked them to go upstairs and get him they refused.

Since our visit was prior to the publishing of the article in Green Left Weekly we have to wonder why no mention was made of it in that article.

Wendy Robertson's policy of selective quoting and the collective amnesia of her organisation can only make bigger fools out of them than they already are. You've made your bed. Now lie in it.

STREET TALK

November 23 saw a huge demonstration of five thousand people take to the streets of Sydney. We had come together to make public our stand against racism and acceptance of others' differences. Although the usual left wing parties had come out of the woodwork for the day what was unique about this rally was that an enormous section of the crowd were asian and not aligned to any left wing group. **Angry People** were able to distribute a thousand leaflets on the day which wasn't hard at all as our leaflet quickly became the most popular one present. The leaflet contained an article by us entitled "Playing the Race Card" and overleaf was a picture of Hanson with the words "WANTED DEAD". It was widely appreciated by asian people, from grannies to bubs, and many of these people chased after us to get a copy which they held up during the march for all to see. **Angry People** spoke to quite a few people present and also found that our leaflet made people laugh - which was important, as humour is a valuable means for getting our message across. The only criticism came exclusively from white people, who claimed we were 'just as bad as Hanson' or that 'violence doesn't solve anything'. Nearly all these people were involved in other left wing groups and had their own agenda's which would seemingly include patronising others and holding the moral high ground!



Do You Hate Politicians?

The case for community control

We live in a society plagued by rising prices, unemployment, racism, environmental destruction and poverty. Many people are afraid that their kids will never be able to find jobs. Many of the jobs there are, are poorly paid, frustrating and pointless. A doctor once said that no one ever dies wishing they'd spent more time at the office, yet people are encouraged to become obsessed with making money.

No one seems to know what to do. The Liberals and Pauline Hanson in particular, try and make poor whites blame other races. Aboriginals and boat people made the stock market crash? Not very likely is it? The Labor Party has become more and more like the Liberals. Some people say ALP should stand for Another Liberal Party. Once their leaders came from the working class, now they seem to be middle class trendies or even rich business people. As for the various groups based on the ideas of Lenin, the less said about them the better.

Most people don't think much of politicians. And with good reason: politicians don't seem to have any answers to unemployment, rising prices, child abuse, the environment or anything else. They can't create a proper public transport system let alone solve the big problems. Most people also see them as arrogant and out of touch. Even councils, which are supposed to help local communities, can be like this (as you'll know if you've ever tried to get them to do anything). The one thing politicians are good at seems to be making excuses.

None of this is anything new, nor is it limited to Australia. Early this century the American Alexander Berkman wrote that "the very essence of politics is corruption, sail-trimming, the sacrifice of your ideals and integrity for success." Clearly, this isn't a problem with one politician or one party, but with government in general.

The idea of having a government rather than allowing everyone an equal say, is to allow the 'best' people to make decisions: the experts in other words. But if the government is out of touch with everyday life, how can they be experts on it? How can a community know less about itself than a collection of people who've probably never even been there? The experts are not the political hacks and their hangers on. When it comes to your own life and your own community, YOU are the expert.

Then there's the argument that we get to choose our government. But we don't choose the judges, the police or the political advisers. We don't choose the ministry or the party leaders - that's done behind closed doors by political factions. And we don't, most importantly, choose the people who have the real power in our society - the upper class.

In law, everyone has exactly the same rights as Kerry Packer. If you want to sink millions of dollars into a major media network, then you have the right to do so. However, this doesn't mean much. It's obvious that society is divided by access to wealth and power - social class in other words. It's also obvious that most people don't have wealth or power. Even if they think of themselves as middle class, most people are actually in the working class. That is, the people who don't have the power to hire and fire - most blue and white collar workers, the unemployed, the unwaged such as stay-at-home parents and so on.

We're all supposed to have the same say. But it doesn't work that way. Our present 'democracy' ignores the wishes of the people in favour of the wishes of the rich and powerful, not least because the mass

media is owned by a tiny, powerful group. *When money talks liberty is silent.* That's why community control has to include economic control - in short, an end to class divisions. Political democracy means nothing without economic democracy (ie. an end to private wealth), just as the right to buy something means nothing if you can't afford it.

People and communities won't be able to control their own lives and solve their own problems as long as the rich and powerful can lord it over the rest of us. **Angry People's** answer is simple: abolish government and abolish private wealth. Instead of elaborate schemes invented by intellectuals, we want people to be able to co-operate and run their affairs without the corruption and inefficiency of politics and politicians, and without the divisions and conflict caused by the existence of social class.

We aren't idealists or utopian dreamers. The idealists are the people who think that government can be made to work for the people. Do you think that the rich are going to give away their money? Do you think that politicians can run your life better than you can?

Communities based on equality and free association have been set up and run before. It's always taken the guns of the wealthy to tear them down. Today, a Mexican group called the Zapatista's is putting these ideas into practice, taking on their government and that of the United States - and they're winning. We are only a small group right now, but it's better to have a future and no past than a past with no future. If the other team's a lot bigger, we'll just have to play better.

In any case, we have no choice. The environment is falling apart under the pressure of the greed of big business. If the human race is to have a future, it can't be the capitalist one. The choice is increasingly, literally,

'LIBERTY OR DEATH'

* It's important to note that ordinary council workers aren't responsible for this, any more than factory workers are responsible for the actions of factory owners.

WHAT WAS THAT?



John "I'm all ears" Howard

got somethin' to say?

angry people's **NEW AND EXPANDED**

LETTERS COLUMN

Dear **Angry People**,

Thanks for the copy of Lucky #13 of your mag. I like reading AP a lot and I reckon it's really informative. After reading the letter from that young guy in this issue though, I felt I might write as I feel reasonably similar to him. With most of the left wing stuff that is around I get this vibe of hate towards people with money displayed by threats to their life and belongings. This is more so with "CLASS WAR" than with your mag but I still think it's kind of wrong. I know that rich people are quite often pretentious wankers and deserve a kick up the arse (metaphorically) and I also know that if I had lots of money I would give it away rather than owning expensive belongings and living the 'good' life, but still I feel that it's kind of hypocritical to wage war against these people when the main aspect of a free society (I reckon) is to live together rather than widen segregation whilst attempting to close it (gee that was a long sentence). I feel that "bashing the rich" is not at all dissimilar to me being abused or bashed by close-minded people because I don't like them. I realise, however, that there is more thought behind the ideology that this, and as I am not from a real struggling background myself I find it kind of hard to sympathise with people who wish to deal with class separation violently (I know there is a lot of hate and spite but does it constitute violence??). My family have never been incredibly well off (though we are not at all in debt or anything) but I know some people with much more money than myself who are not at all up themselves - these people will grow up rich or semi-rich and then become the target of the class war which I don't think will exactly encourage them to join or aid the struggling members of the working class. Also I know people on the north shore who are quite decent - some are not even rich at all, and I feel that it's wrong that this part of Sydney is always condemned by left publications. As much as I agree with heaps that is said (especially in **Angry People**) I think some of the activists behind the magazines have been trapped in Newtown for too long and have picked up an attitude whereby anyone on the North Shore is really rich, capitalist and stuck up.

I hope this doesn't sound like too much of a whinge and please understand that I have great respect for **Angry People** and most of what I have said is more about the aggressively written publications. Some correspondence on this issue/issues would be kind of cool but I realise that you are probably quite busy.

I just want you to bear in mind (which you probably already do) that your magazine reaches out to people of many different backgrounds and if the ideology is to spread, which is obviously a desirable outcome, then the interests of different people need to be considered. If you could pass on this message to fellow publications that would be cool, unless you feel I'm talking out of my arse - which of course you are utterly entitled to do.

I suppose the whole idea of class war doesn't really agree with me although I'd be the first one to punch bastards in the kin of Murdoch and Packer (there's the good old hypocrisy again).

Anyway, after all that I've decided I want to buy a shirt, so that's what the enclosed money will be for. Please send me a largish Good Fascist/Dead Fascist shirt on black - cheers. I suppose if you disagree with what I've said in this letter than you could just keep the money - it's up to you then.

Thanks a lot and all my love and respect and stuff.

PS I really agree with your Sydney 2000 Olympics sticker. I think that seeing all the crap surrounding the Atlanta Olympics at the moment gives a scary perspective on what we will be going through in four years - when I'll be fresh out of college and trying to climb the corporate ladder in my shirt and tie and shiny shoes - ha, ha, only kiddin'.

Keep up the good work **Angry People**. Please take no offence or anything.

John

West Pennant Hills, NSW

G'day John,

Thanks very much for writing and for the \$, here's the shirt you ordered, wear it in good health and offend all the nazis in your neighbourhood.

What you wrote, like the letter we replied to in the previous AP, was asking a lot of intelligent questions and we respect that. Don't worry, we certainly weren't offended and also appreciated the compliments you made. The issue of class struggle in a class society is, of course, the mainstay of our paper. **Angry People** has always been "for a strong and united working class", and our paper is directed especially to working class people who, as we do, feel strongly about our position in this fucked up society. Being working class ourselves, the propaganda in AP reflects our feelings and ideas, and as anarchists we look for revolutionary solutions to the problems of capitalism and class. Our ideas are not based on abstract theories or opinion, they come from real life experiences. So, for us, class struggle is not something to be simply debated, it is a daily reality we experience and see.

Angry People doesn't advocate mindless violence against the rich. We have done and do advocate violence as a tactic only, and not simply for its own sake. It's not just a matter of people with wealth and power in society being "pretentious wankers". With those who run the system, the bosses and the wealthy, there is a definite hatred and antagonism towards our class. Classism exists, as surely as any other prejudice. And while there are people who won't share the wealth and hang on to their positions of authority and power, there will be imbalance, and so there will be conflict. *It is not the fault of the working class that this society exists, but it is up to us to do something about it.*

Bashing the rich, in reality, hardly ever happens except in times of open class warfare. It's not that it doesn't happen, of course, but seriously, compared to the ultra-violence that class society inflicts on people in terms of homelessness, poverty, lack of resources and amenities, starvation, bigotry, police brutality and so on, it's annoying that, in this country, the rich aren't lynched regularly. It is, of course, all right for people with power and money to enjoy lives without worry of rent, low incomes, crime (most victims of crimes being working class people of course), police brutality and so on. What we see is people's authority over us, so while we have to struggle, cut corners and lose out, rich scum can drive by in fancy cars, eat the 'best' food, live in the 'best' houses and lead the 'best' lives. For people with next to nothing, it's not a matter of mere "jealousy". *If you have nothing but the person next to you has everything, how would you feel?*

But of course our contempt for the rich goes beyond just that, even though a lot of people would find that too much. We firmly believe that everyone has the right to a decent life and that means having everything they need. We all need food, clothes and shelter. It isn't right that the few have more than they need and the rest have fuck all. So, our contempt for the rich is

angry people

also a hate for those who knowingly keep people in poverty. These bastards know what they're doing!

To attack class society is to attack the classes that preserve it. We write for the working class, for us. Working class people prey upon each other, while the rich prey upon us. We're calling to re-balance that.

We are also revolutionaries. That means that we work for a revolution. In such a time, the bosses and their armies of cops and reserves will wage a war, even more ruthless and bloody than they're waging now. They don't give a fuck about us. Our propoganda doesn't call for people from all classes to "come over" to anarchy 'cause it won't happen. The rich are quite happy with their status and are greedy enough to want more. They would probably laugh at a paper like **Angry People**; that is, until more people take us seriously. Our propoganda calls for the destruction of class society, and if people don't like it, we can't help that. Destroying class society, in real terms, means revolution. The rich understand this. We don't encourage them to join or aid the struggling members of the working class cause that's up to them. If individuals from the middle-class or even the ruling-class (some may hope) want to renounce their privileges and put action where their mouths are, best of luck to them. For us, there is no choice, no comfortable family background to retreat to, no connections in high society to rely on to get us out of trouble. If we're sacked from work, kicked off the dole, evicted from our homes, arrested or whatever, our only course of response is direct action.

The North Shore is overwhelmingly middle to upper class and so are the Eastern Suburbs from Bondi round to Double Bay. There are rich suburbs all over the country and while all the people living in these places aren't necessarily the enemy, a lot of them are. As for Newtown, it seems to me to be gentrified to fuck. I've lived in both rich and poor suburbs, but I can always tell quite easily who's genuine and who's an upper-class poser.

The question of violence is not easy. No one likes violence except for the police and fuck-ups. You write "I suppose the whole idea of class war doesn't really agree with me". Well, we're not too happy with the whole situation either, but it's pretty clear that class struggle goes on regardless of whether you, me or anyone "agrees" with it. We believe that working class people must **DEFEND** themselves against the violence of this society, and if there's individuals perpetrating violence, too bad for them if they cop it back. Of course it's not an easy, trivial thing to just gang up on a yuppie or wipe out a cop. We take what we say seriously and realise there's nothing trivial about violence. *We hate violence, but we're not prepared to tell people that change can come about without violence, because unfortunately it's not possible.* Again the rich know and understand this. They're the ones with the police, the army, private guards, the courts and the prisons at their disposal. We don't know of many working class citizen's militias active in Ausfailure these days (unless of course you count the right-wing "Christian Patriot" nutters who fantasise about putting down aboriginal revolutionaries or Indonesian invaders, which we don't). But when a factory owner or copper or even just a smug yuppie gets their comeuppance, it's a matter of celebration for us. Let others shake their heads and lament.

Anyway, we know that not everyone is into "bashing the rich" and that's good. Revolution is more than shootings and burnings, it's about creating a better world, and if all **Angry People** wanted was to shoot people we'd become serial killers. What we want is an end to class society and for everyone to have everything. That means using "any means necessary" (by the way, I advise you to check out what Malcolm X said on the question of violence) and still taking the question of violence seriously, without tossing the tactic all together into the too hard basket. Anyway John, that should be enough for now.

Dear Comrades,

I have noted with interest the recent-ish dispute between **Angry People** and Resistance over your article, and their's in Green Left Weekly a few weeks later. I realise how much of a lie their article was, purposely avoiding the fact that AP made a point of having no problem with a person's sexuality, and claiming that AP supported (quote) "traditional family values" (don't know where they got that one from). Which just goes to show what Leninist parties will do to con their readers into believing what they want them to believe. However I was still very suprised at your claims about Resistance convincing teenagers that they are gay and then becoming members. May I politely ask you what "contacts" you got your information from? I am an ex-member of Resistance and it seems quite strange from my experience that this would be something they would do. I would very much like to know more about this, as well as any

opinions you have of Resistance generally (of course, living in Perth, I hear nothing of what's going in the Left!)

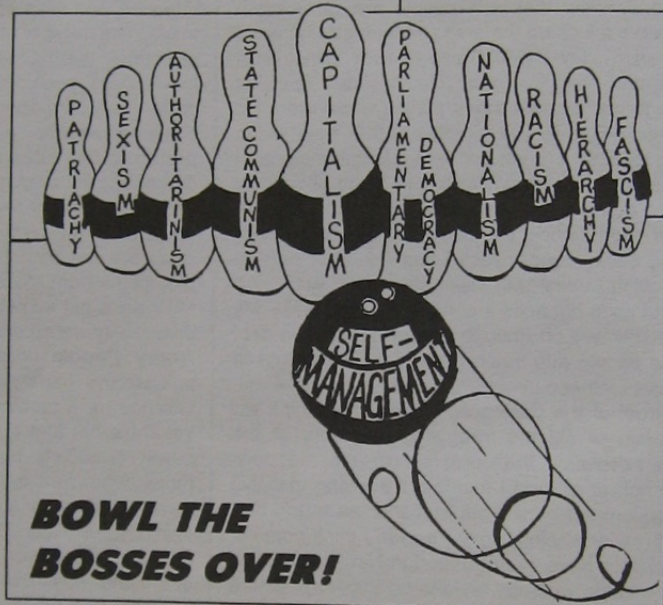
I read in the above mentioned article in Green Left, about a leading member of the Newtown Political Collective, handing out AP magazines at an anti-cuts rally, using the slogan "I didn't join the revolution to sell papers". Of course I don't mean to criticise this, but perhaps you would have more idea of what he is trying to say. Is he promoting direct action over selling newspapers and education?

Anyway I left Resistance

in September 1996 after realising that my ideas of true revolutionary socialism were not compatible with the Marxist/Leninist ideas. I guess I would now call myself an anarchist-communist. Do **Angry People** have an 'official' membership? I have been in contact with a few people here in Perth from AP and would like to find out more about how you organise, etc? Of course, being sixteen right now, it might prove to be a problem. Are you affiliated with any overseas group? Well I hope to hear from you soon, and good luck.

Toby
Duncraig, WA

G'day Toby,
In reference to our article "Young and Angry?", we were illustrating one of the many tactics that the Democratic Socialist Party have used to manipulate the minds of young people. **Angry People** are not saying that the DSP turns straight people into gay people. The instance cited in AP#13 was one of a number of instances in which young people had been mentally manipulated by older, more experienced members of the DSP. **Angry People** examined a number of case histories of young peoples' experiences whilst involved with the DSP. All individual's interviewed claimed that their main cause for concern was the DSP's cultish behaviour. **Angry People** is very much concerned with the way the DSP suck people in and spit people out faster than a drive-



thru at McDonald's. These people often feel used up and burnt out. **Angry People** believe that a political organisation must endeavour to look after its' membership and treat all involved with respect. (See our article "Cut The Dose" elsewhere in this issue).

The slogan "I didn't join the revolution to sell papers" was a darkly humorous title given to a pamphlet made by a member of the Newtown Political Collective. The pamphlet text was originally published in AP12 under the title "I Was A Teenage Socialist" written by an ex-member of the International Socialist Organisation. The article criticised the unfriendly nature of the group that the author had chose to devote time to.

After being alienated by the group (reasons are outlined in the article) the author left the group. The slogan you refer to is a bitter comment on the practice of pushing the party line and 'revolutionary' work like selling papers and recruitment drives at the expense of the comradeship of the individuals who make up the group.

Propaganda, including newspapers and magazines, are a must for all revolutionary groups. However, too often they become an end in themselves and not a means to educating people and inciting people to revolution.

In regard to the questions about **Angry People** - we organise on a democratic level with all involved given a say in how things are shaped. The amount of say you can have is roughly attributed to your level of commitment and involvement with the group. We don't have an elected leadership or central committee but instead opt to organise on the basis of common ground. This is **NOT** to say that we lack either direction or leadership. **Angry People** know where we are going. We have a number of people involved who are strong, reliable and committed characters who provide support and guidance for less experienced people who choose to become involved with us. We call these people 'natural leaders'. What differs **Angry People** quite starkly from the majority of left-wing groups is the fact that our 'natural leadership' won't be going anywhere without the support of the majority of the rank and file. People who find not listening to the concerns of others a worthwhile experience quickly find themselves outside before closing time! And what differs **Angry People** from the anarchists (of the present generation) is our commitment to organisation and an ideology that can be referred to and described to others, as opposed to vague references to freedom and human rights. Also, today's anarchist organisations seem to be a refuge for any single issue (or a collection of them) and they often lack any class analysis. *If you ain't got the class politics, you ain't got nothin'!*



ANGRY PEOPLE 15



watch out for the scratch 'n' sniff cover and the pop-up centre spread in the next issue.

Dear **Angry People**,

I've read the last few issues of your magazine and have decided to subscribe. I've enclosed some money for subscription and some stickers. Thankyou. It's good to see people who know the real enemies are and are actually doing something about it rather than just bored middle class people whining. Many thanks.

Jessica
Kulnura, NSW

Hi Folks,

I'm interested in finding out more about your organisation. I am so sick of the rich getting richer at our expense. In ten years we will be living in the same manner as Indonesian peasants while the rich will bet \$1,000,000 at a time at the casino. I have enclosed a stamp to help cover costs. Hoping to hear from you soon.

R. Matthies
Fanny Bay, NT

Evict the Squatters. Angry Arseholes more like. Unwashed Scum out of Newtown! Homes for the deserving not the bone idle! Far better to preserve our homes and heritage, Ned Kelly, than to set them alight in a drug-induced stupor. Have a bath, get a hair style, have a go and make something of yourself before you have a go at others!! Or just bugger off into the gutter.
Anonymous, Who Knows?

Once again we'd like to thank you and everybody else who has found the time to drop us a line and let us know what you think. With such an inspiring letter as the one you've written, we can hardly wait to reply. Perhaps you could get up out of the armchair and have a look out the window or better still stop and have a good look in the mirror because your head must be on backwards! It's obvious you ain't got the faintest clue about **Angry People**.

angry PEOPLE

love

receiving your letters
So Keep 'Em Coming!

**WE MIGHT EAT DIFFERENT FOOD
WE MIGHT WEAR DIFFERENT CLOTHES
WE MIGHT HAVE DIFFERENT CUSTOMS
WE MIGHT SPEAK DIFFERENT TONGUES**

**BUT WE ALL HAVE ONE THING IN
COMMON:
AN ENEMY WHO EXPLOITS AND
OPPRESSES US**

**ONLY BY RISING ABOVE AND BEYOND
PETTY DIFFERENCES
WILL WE BE ABLE TO SHAKE THIS
MONKEY OFF OUR BACKS**

**SNOBBERY AND INDIFFERENCE ARE
THE ENEMIES OF UNITY
JUST LIKE THE RICH AND THE BOSSES
ARE THE ENEMIES OF THE WORKER**

**LABOUR IS ENTITLED TO ALL IT CREATES
AND SINCE WORKERS CREATED IT ALL
IT'S ALL OURS!**

**OUR DIVERSITY NEED NOT DIVIDE US
TOGETHER WE CAN BUILD
UNITED COLOURS OF CLASS WAR**

**MANY COLOURS
ONE CLASS**

THE WORKING CLASS

