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 allow 2 weeks for shipping

TO ORDER mail check, money order or well concealed cash to: (payable to ATTITUDE)
 short-sleeves-\$13 long-sleeves-\$16 jacket-\$24 XXL please add \$1 per item
 all prices include postage via USPS for priority mail add \$3 or we will ship cheapest ground
 UPS and FEDEX available col. no credit cards

nice and clean
 black tee with two color print
 white and red.
 SIZES: M / L / XL / XXL



follow leader
 comes on natural colored tee
 with black ink and red brains
 SIZES: L / XL / XXL

ate
 e black
 ning
 mbol
 / XXL
 eve
 XL



poor klanman
 black or white suit (give preference) with
 its color design on back and pocket logo



unity tee

ANTI-RACIST ACTIO

SOUTH CHICAGO
 ANTI-RACIST ACTION

P.O. Box 721, Homewood, IL 60430
 ARA_S_Side@HOTMAIL.COM

*"Mankind will not be free until the last
 king is strangled by the entrails of the
 last priest." - Diderot*

ANTI - RACIST ACTION PRIMER

January 10, 1999

TOPICS COVERED

1. Introduction to Anti-Racist Action
2. How to Start a Chapter
3. Staunchly Pro-Feminist
4. Pro Queer
5. Copwatch Programs
6. Nazis, Klan, Fascists & Christians
7. Fascists, Anti-Fascists & the Media
8. How to Fight Racism
9. Fundamentals & History of Anarchism
10. Amerikkkan Prisons
11. ARA News from the U.S. & Canada
12. Contacts & Zine Distro Information

"HOPE ALSO LIVES IN OUR HEART!"



5. Counterculture. Dynamite zine of the APF (Anarcho Punk Federation) Info / contacts / anarchy. Crasshoie Collective / P.O. Box 73 / Odenton, MD 21113 donation

6. US Against THEM #9 Unbridled d.i.y. anarchist zine. Mark is ready! Info on anarchy, bands, contact info. & more. donation
Mark E. / 107 Occum, 83 Windham St. / Willimantic CT 06226

7. CHIAPAS Beautifully hand-lettered 1/2 digest-sized zine explaining the reality of Chiapas in plain, heart-felt language. You want this zine. Alanti Molina & Michael Ismerio. San Diegans For Peace In Mexico / 3909 Centre St / San Diego, CA 92103 FREE* ⁵⁹

8. The Need For Meat Is Propaganda. 42 full-sized pages of d.i.y. vegetarian truth. Member of South Chicago ARA, Joe Kilcoyne is a passionate animal rights advocate. Tons of information, recipes and reasons to go vegetarian. H. S. edu. at its finest! \$1.00

9. INSISTERHOOD #4. Eight paged digest-sized hand-lettered feminist zine dedicated to exposing the bible for the misogynic tripe that it is. Beautiful, passionate, convincing. Contact Rebecca Watkin / RR#1 Heather Site C 69 / Sechelt British Columbia / VON 3A0 / Canada donation

10. Anti-Airport Alert #4. Sixty paged digest-sized newsletter of STAND (Shut This Airport Nightmare Down) The far south Chicago area of longstanding farm communities has been threatened by destruction for a mega-airport complex (3 x's the size of O'Hare!) Grassroots citizen's group is fighting the state and their drooling business manipulators over this greedy sprawl threat. NO AIRPORT! rural_stand@hotmail.com \$1.00
Shut This Airport Nightmare Down P.O. Box 433 / Monee, IL 60449

11. I also have various other pamphlets, flyers and goodies that I will add to larger orders. From 5 to 16 ounces the postage stays at \$1.24, anyway. Happy ordering*

SOUTH CHICAGO ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS INFORMATION

1. Decidedly Radical. Twelve page digest-sized zine of thoughtful, intriguing essays by Frank J. Atwood. Frank is a veteran of the anti-Vietnam war guerrilla theatre milieu. Write him at Frank J. Atwood #62887, Arizona State Prison, P.O. Box 3400, Florence, AZ., 85232 \$1.00

2. PRISON a testimony. Twenty paged digest-sized d.i.y. zine about what it feels like to have compassion for prisoners. Sara is a volunteer working with prisoners on a theatre project and this is her cry of love. Sara Lindsay Falls, 209 N. Thayer, Ann Arbor, MI 46109 \$1.00

3. In the trenches... 32 page digest-sized zine of essays and communiques from Ali Khalid Abdullah one of the leaders of the Political Prisoners of War Coalition. Intensive analysis of the racist prisons (& society) from one fearless and vocal prisoner. Ali Khalid Abdullah #148130 / S. C. F. / 9625 Pierce Road / Freeland MI 48623 \$1.00

4. Anarchist Black Cross Federation Brochures
a. The Anarchist Black Cross Federation Who we are / What we do & why
b. Building PP/POW Subsistence Programs
ABCF Box 8532, Paterson, N.J. 07508-8532, (973) - 375 - 0994

Revolt! Early & Often / Live Free / Remain Active / Smash Racism*

New Titles*

1. Does Killing Iraqis Get Easier? Report by Kathy Kelly of Voices in the Wilderness given to the Confronting Whiteness Conference, Nov, 7th 1998, shortly before she returned to Baghdad to witness Clinton/Albright's latest sabre-rattling. Donation

2. The LEVELER. For Class War Anarchism. Terrific anti-racist/anarchist analysis on a number of the most important questions that we face. Reports worldwide. P.O. Box 712191, Los Angeles, CA 90071 the_leveler@hotmail.com

3. ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS FEDERATION CATALOG Awesome collection of booklets written by the courageous and the brilliant. Essential material from the exemplary men & women behind bars for their political beliefs & activities. \$1.00

4. Revolt! Against All Authority Sweet anarchist zine from Chad and the folks at the Break the Chains Distro, P.O. Box 5144, San Luis Obispo, CA 93403 \$1.00

5. Capitalism. Legalese of prison reality. Box 73481, Davis, CA 95617 \$1.00

South Chicago ARA/ABC Zine Distro

A. ARA Zines and Pamphlets

1. SOUTH CHICAGO ARA ALERT #1. Sixty page digest packed with information, rants, news stories, poems, letters, cartoons, pictures, etc. Aiming to inspire & influence anti-racist action. South Chicago ARA / P. O. Box 721 / Homewood, IL 60430 \$2.00
 2. TURNING THE TIDE, Journal of Anti-Racist Activism, Research & Education. Solidly researched news and analysis of important anti-racist information. Essential. P.A.R.T. (People Against Racist Terror) / P. O. Box 1055 / Culver City, CA 90232 \$2.00
 3. ARA NEWS. Largest circulation of any zine in the country! Often the first connection to the ARA-Net. Solid zine of ara news, clippings and contact info. A genuine public service. Columbus ARA / P.O. Box 82097 / Columbus, OHIO, 43202 FREE*
 4. FIGHTING WORDS. The Street Zine of Anti-Racist Action. Solid information about the work of the Minneapolis ARA. P.O. Box 80239 Minneapolis / MN 55408 donation
 5. ANTI - RACIST ACTION (ARA) Introducing the ARA-Network Fall 1998. Brief description of the activities of a dozen or so ARA chapters in the U.S. & Canada. <http://www.ara.net.org> Columbus ARA / P.O. Box 82097 / Columbus, OHIO, 43202 ara@coil.com 614-424-9074 donation
 6. PAMPHLETS From ARA Toronto, P.O. Box 291 / Station B / Toronto, Ontario / M5T 2T2 / CANADA
 - a. RELIGION & REACTION The Rise of the Christian Right in North America
 - b. On the Prowl! An Intro to ARA. This is a full-fledged zine
 - c. Fascists, Anti-Fascists & the Media
 - d. How to ID a neo-nazi boneheaddonation
 7. ACTIVE TRANSFORMATION Volum2 Issue #1 A Direct Action Anarchist Newspaper. Solid anarchist / ARA paper out of Michigan. Anti-fascist and very action oriented. Dynamite! READ THIS! P.O. Box 11508 / Detroit MI 48211 or P.O. Box 6746 / East Lansing, MI 48826 donation
 8. FIGHT THE WHITE. This is a zine I did for the Confronting Whiteness Conference held at the University of Chicago, November 6 - 8, 1998. Sixty digest-sized pages power-packed with intensity. My premise is that "white" society is cultureless & soulless. In fact, "white" people do not exist. Racial categorizing is capitalist pseudoscience used to divide the working class. \$2.00
 9. SOUTH CHICAGO ARA ALERT #2. Sixty paged digest-sized number with a ton of info on the fight for gay rights, genocide in Iraq, the drug war, skinheads in Vegas, etc. Lots of graphics and contact information. \$2.00
 10. Anti-Racist Action Primer. Sixty paged digest-sized zine filled with information and analysis on the work of ARA. Info on what ARA stands for, the fascist threat, pro-queer, staunchly feminist and anti-authoritarian. Extensive analysis of racism and anarchism, its history and principles. Contact information also. \$2.00
- ### ANARCHIST and other Anti-Authoritarian Zines
1. Thought Bombs #8. This is my political zine, where I take the liberty to vent spleen as I see fit. Essays, rants, news stories, analysis, contact information, lengthy letters section (usually) cartoons, interviews, etc. I'm an anarchist & I detest racism most passionately. This issue has an essay on children & television, the Ojibwe Indians treaty battle against racists in Wisconsin, the British anarchist drumming project, LUDDGANG, reports from Baghdad & from prisoners. All 7 back issues available. \$2.00 or 2 for \$3.00
 2. You're Not Normal #8. This is d.i.y. anarchism at its best. A slug to the face to any and all homophobes, racists, and sexist bastards. Interviews, rants, information, contacts, etc. #7 & 6 also available. Necessary resource. Sean Lambert / 2835 Delaware Ave. / Kenmore N.Y. 14217 \$2.00
 3. Sandpaper. Fall 1998, Issue 4 Resistance, Revolution, Regeneration. Anarchist paper from Chicago. Articles on native autonomy, local news and culture, and an analysis of the Baja California revolution of 1911. Sweet stuff. 1573 N. Milwaukee Ave. #420 Chicago IL 60622 Free*
 4. Twilight In Turkey #7 Summer/Fall 1998. Situationist zine. Fifty full-sized pages of d.i.y. intensity. Theory/Practice/Fun/Fury Serious delving into anti psychiatry theory. No bones about it! Ken Wong / P.O. Box 476738 / Chicago, IL 60647-6738. \$2.00

What Is ARA?

3

Anti-Racist Action is a network of organizations that fight against Nazi, Fascist, KKK, Racist Skinhead, White Supremacist, "Christian Identity", Patriot Militia, Religious Right, Anti-immigrant, and Institutional Racism. ARA is the North American counterpart to the European Anti-Fascist Action (*Antifa*) movement. ARA chapters are organizing across the United States and in Canada.

ARA organizes against Racism, Sexism, Homophobia, Anti-Immigrant and Anti-Semitic bigotry.

ARA confronts White Supremacists, Fascists, the Religious Right and other bigots when they try to organize in our communities. EVERY TIME they come out, we want to be there.

ARA fights Institutional Racism by cops who want to criminalize young people because of their skin color and the way they dress, the military who target colored and low income neighborhoods with deceptive promises in order to recruit them into being mercenaries for the New World Order, and the government which wants to demonize people of color and immigrants as being responsible for the nation's problems.

ARA educates people about Racism with information tables at schools, community events and music shows. We publish newsletters which expose racism and racist activities in our communities and discuss ways to fight racism. ARA speakers have spoken about fighting Racism at colleges, high schools and community groups.

ARA works with other anti-racist groups in the community to educate and organize against Racism.

ARA wants to build a society based on Social Equality, Mutual Respect and Community Cooperation where people are judged by their character and work together to make things better for everybody.

ARA is a grassroots organization made up of ordinary people from our communities. We are Multi-Racial and Multi-Cultural.

ARA is Anti-Authoritarian. We are a federation of democratic locally autonomous groups which are free to create solutions to the problems of bigotry and discrimination in their community BY WHATEVER MEANS NECESSARY.

ANTI-RACIST ACTION/ACCIÓN ANTI-RACISTA L.A.
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Los Angeles, CA 90071

ARA South L.A.
P.O. Box 5081
Torrance, CA 90510

ARA San Diego
539 Telegraph Cyn. Rd. #721
Chula Vista, CA 91910

Anti-Racist Action

ARA Today

Today, ARA, is composed of over 120 chapters in the US and Canada. Many chapters are very different from each other but they are all united around four common principles. These Points of Unity are:

1) Wherever they go, We go to shut them down.

This means that we believe that the best way to stop White Supremacists from organizing is to counter their ideas directly in public. Same time Same-Place mobilizations make it extremely difficult for the Klan to rally and for Neo-Nazi Skinheads to hold concerts. It shows people who are curious about White Supremacy just how unpopular an idea it is. Most importantly, it thrusts the problem directly into the public eye so that everyone knows that terrorists are trying to organize in their community. We do not believe that they will go away if they are ignored. People ignored Hitler, and the results of that policy are permanently etched upon the soul of humanity.

2) We dont Rely on the Cops or the Courts.

That doesn't mean that we never go to court or work with the police. What it means is that we recognize that it is the job of ordinary people to fight fascism in their community. The police and the courts can not legislate away fascism. In some areas, police departments are infiltrated by White Supremacists and the courts are biased. We feel that it is up to us to stop racist terror. Our reliance on ourselves to defend ourselves is our bottom line.

3) We Defend and Support All other Anti-Fascists

An attack on any one of us is an attack on us all. We are committed to helping defend all people who are fighting against oppression despite whatever political differences we may have. It is important to have unity between all people and all struggles. We must stand united.

This support can take many forms. It may be a long campaign around a series of court battles or may be practical direct support in the streets. We may be struggling to free a political prisoner or working against police repression of other social justice activists, but the net policy is the same: We will support anyone working to make the world better that comes under attack, no matter who they come under attack from.

4) We are active with the goal of building a movement against Racism, Sexism, Anti-Semitism, Homophobia and discrimination against the differently abled, the oldest, the youngest and the most vulnerable of our society. We fight for reproductive freedom for women. We intend to Win!

ARA believes that all forms are intertwined and linked. We believe that they all must be fought in order for a just society to exist. We believe that steady, constant struggle on all these fronts is the proper way to conduct a movement for social justice. Additionally, many ARA chapters have added additional points of unity that are specific and meaningful to their local political work. Since our chapters are all autonomous, we encourage them to develop political programs as they see fit, so long as they continue to adhere to the four basic points.

ARA often works closely in conjunction with other direct action oriented youth organizations like Refuse and Resist on the campaign to Free Mumia Abu Jamal. We work closely with Food Not Bombs on the fight against hunger and with Earth First! on direct action environmental campaigns. Because all struggles are interconnected and all these groups are youth oriented, there is crossover and cooperation between them and us on a practical level.



ARA continues to make plans for the future. We will soon be releasing a CD featuring many prominent punk, ska and hardcore artists. The CD will include a 100 page booklet on ARA and what you can do to fight fascism. There will be 18 songs from various acts as well as spoken word pieces and cool vintage movie samples.

Our campaigns to rid certain metropolitan areas of white supremacist organizing continues. We are planning to continue our campaign against the Nazi record label *Reinstate* in Detroit, Michigan and Windsor Ontario. Our march and rally in Las Vegas is the beginning of our campaign to free that city of the grip of over 300 hardcore neo-nazi who are active in violence crime and recruiting and support for the racist movement as a whole. This program will include a diligent effort to force the closure of a nazi-owned and operated tattoo parlour and direct action against key fascist organizers.

Wherever Fascism shows its face....ARA is On the Prowl

Upcoming Ku Klux Klan rallies....Pulaski, Tennessee and Rome, Georgia on September the 5th.....The Klan is coming back to Jasper, Texas on October 3rd to again rally in the town that was the site of the brutal lynching of James Byrd Jr. We will demonstrate against that as well as their rally in Franklin, Georgia on the same date.....Please mark your calendars now to shut down these KKK recruitment rallies....

The New Panther Vanguard Movement
P.O. Box 3161
Compton, CA 90223



- ARA Watergrass
POB 387
Ozark AL 36361
- ARA Tampa
POB 9403
Tampa FL 33674
- ARA Sacramento
POB 19892
Sacramento CA 95819
- People Against Racist Terror
POB 1055
Culver City CA 90232
310-288-
R00porC001@usa.net Write
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Redondo Beach CA
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- ARA Detroit
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Mumia Coalition
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Traverse City MI 49685
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- ARA Lansing
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- ARA Dutchess County
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Trivoli NY 12583

A LOVE SONG

HAVE I TOLD YOU HOW MUCH I LOVE YOU/DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH I CARE/THEY TELL
 OUR LOVE IS IMMORAL/BUT I DON'T FUCKING CARE/WHEN YOU HOLD ME TIGHT/MY
 PROBLEMS SEEM TO DISAPPEAR/YOUR VERY PRESENCE MAKES ME SMILE/YOU MAKE ME
 PROUD TO BE QUEER

**REMEMBER
 MATTHEW
 SHEPARD**

YOU'RE NOT NORMAL THE ISSUE #8
 YES THE NEW ISSUE OF THIS O.J.V. ANARCHIST ZINE IS OUT NOW FOR \$2. AND WE'RE
 BACK WITH OUR BIGGEST ISSUE EVER! 140 FULL PAGE PAGES. INSIDE THIS ISSUE FIND
 INTERVIEWS WITH: DARK TERRITORY, SYNTHRONIC PRODUCTIONS, REVOLT ZINE,
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Fight against racism, sexism, homophobia, imperialism, and other forms of oppression

ARA

No reliance on the cops or the courts Non-sectarian defense of arrested anti-fascist activists

Same time, same place direct action against fascist mobilizations

The need to fight back is more pertinent today than in the past. Many of the hard won concessions that were made in past struggles are today being lost so that bosses can have even higher profits.

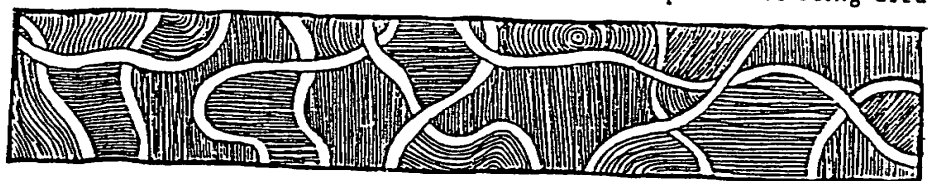
PRISONS
We are already seeing the resurfacing of slave labor in America's largest growth industry- prisons.

- In 1980 there were 400,000 inmates nationwide, today 1.5 million Americans languish behind bars (an average of 455 people out of every 100,000 with a prison population growing an average of 250 people a day.) Between 1975-85 violent crime dropped 1.42% while the prison population doubled.

- While only making up 6% of the U.S. population, African American males make up over half of state and federal prisoners.

- In 1994, 72,461 inmates created \$1.35 billion worth of products, this is up from \$362 million in 1980. Jobs that left the U.S. during the beginning stages of NAFTA are now returning for enslaved prison labor that is only paid anywhere between 50 to \$1.15/hr.

WELFARE REFORM
Welfare is being attacked with the end result being people going hungry and homeless in a country with empty buildings and food rotting in warehouses. Welfare reform in the form of workfare is being used to break unions. In NYC in the Work Experience Program (read workfare), people who receive welfare must add their cash benefit to their food stamps, divide by minimum wage, and work that number of hours per month for the city. This gives the impression of regular, part time jobs, but consider: they have no choice of where to work, no health or safety protections, no guarantee of childcare, no grievance procedures, no days off, no exemption for education, and no job when their benefits end and workfare. It is not surprising that these welfare recipients are being used



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12-111 Fourth Ave., Box
103(Ridley Square)
St. Catharines, ON L2S
JPS
write for "TRUE
COLORS"
- ARA Kingston
P.O. Box # 461
Kingston, Ont. K7L
4W5
arakingston@hotmail.com
- Kitchener -Waterloo
ARA
PO Box 40006
75 King St. Waterloo,
Ont. N2J 4V1
- ARA Toronto
P.O. Box 291, Sta. B
Toronto, ON M5T 2T2
write for "ON
THEPROWL"
(416) 631-8835
ara@web.net
- ARA Peterborough
Box 25, 197 Hunter
St.
W. Peterborough, ON
K9H 2L1
- ARA Sarnia
POB 22009
Twin Lake Postal
Outlet
Sarnia Ontario N7S
6J4
- Arm the Spirit
POB 6326 Stn A
Toronto ON M5W
1P7
- ARA Ottawa
Hotline # 613-566-
1563
Ara@ottawa.com
- ARA Brampton
POB 92585
160 Main Street
Brampton ON L6W-
4R1
- ARA Hamilton
POB 57147
Jackson Station
Hamilton ON
L8P 4WA
- ARA Montreal
#8 414 Mont Royal
Est
Montreal Quebec
H2J 1W1



to break the city workers union.
RISE IN THE RIGHT

In the past several years we have seen what comes from a well funded, organized and armed right wing movement. In just the past several weeks anti-choice terrorist have been actively upping the stakes on a woman's right to control her own body and life by bombing several clinics across the U.S. Last summer we saw the rebirth of the armed Klan when they burned down over 30 Black Southern churches. With the passage of Prop. 187 and armed thugs patrolling the U.S.-Mexican boarder, we see the right become more organized and violent against immigrants. In Lansing this past November we saw well funded right wing groups like MOST turn over a civil rights ordinance that protected queers, an ordinance that the majority of Lansing citizens supported.

What this all adds up to is an environment in which people of color, women, queers, the poor, and other people who are oppressed are all scapegoated and attacked for the problems that the bosses and the state hands down to us.

ANTI-RACIST ACTION TAKES SOLUTIONS

ARA is about taking direct action against the problems that lie in front of us today and organizing to make a real change for tomorrow. Not changes that have the same problems resurfacing with different people getting screwed, but solutions in which people make the decisions that effect their lives and help build an anti-authoritarian egalitarian society. So when the police brutalize a community we will take action against the police department, but we will also organize in communities so that real solutions can be found to get the occupying force out of the community for good.



WHAT IS ARA ALL ABOUT?

Anti-Racist Action is a multi-racial, anti-sexist, pro-queer organization dedicated to fighting oppression in all its forms through direct action. ARA activists have been involved in many struggles across the United States and Canada, ranging from shutting down Ku Klux Klan rallies across the country; to developing civilian patrols, called copwatches, to fight police brutality; from working to free political prisoners like Sumia Abu-Jamal; to defending clinics from anti-choice attacks. Anti-Racist Action chapters are autonomous, but communicate and coordinate actions through the Anti-Racist Action Network.

ARA PRINCIPLES OF UNITY

- 1) Fight against racism, sexism, homophobia, imperialism, and other forms of oppression.
- 2) No reliance on the cops or the courts.
- 3) Non-sectarian defense of arrested anti-fascist activists.
- 4) Same time, same place direct action against fascist mobilizations.

Lansing ARA
PO BOX 2746
E. Lansing, MI 48826
Voicemail: 517.371.8441

Detroit ARA
PO Box 121211
Detroit, MI 48232-1211
Voicemail: 313.814.2720

MONEY

As you must have noticed, starting an ARA chapter isn't always free. However, there are ways to cut costs and get money. When making photocopies, tell the people there what you are doing it for, explain it is a not for profit organization and you were wondering if you could get a discount. Some places will give you a discount to show their support or when they see how many copies you will be making. In some instances, a member of your chapter may have access to a copier, therefore eliminating that expense. If you plan to mail out newsletters, consider the expense of postage. There is no real way to decrease that cost, so make sure you have the money. If you are mailing newsletters, envelopes may be needed. You may be able to get a discount on these also, however there is no guarantee.

Thanks a lot for sending those zines from A.R.A. They were an interesting read. I keep bringing in literature to the capitalist pit I work at, but they remain ignorant racists. Getting people to alter their feelings is difficult, especially when they are as ingrained as these. I'm sure it's possible to change because my parents raised me to fear and hate anyone who wasn't white, and now I spit in their face. What changed me? Wish I knew so I could educate the racist assholes around me.

I've only known about ARA for a few months and haven't participated in any events or meetings. Now that I find chapters in my area, I'm moving to Colorado! Maybe I can find something out there. Doesn't Denver have ARA activity? I'll check on that.

Keep in touch! Who doesn't enjoy mail that isn't addressed "resident?" Good luck with the newsletter - Let's educate.

No Color No Race No Religion No Creed
No Reason To Hate

Clint

SOUTH CHICAGO ANTI-RACIST ACTION

Dear Anthony -

9/13/98
54

Thanks for sending money to Niko's trust fund. We really appreciate everyone's help and support! It's been hard dealing with the deaths of our friends, but hearing from people like you has helped us begin to heal. If you haven't heard already, the police has made one arrest already & hopefully the rest will follow soon. Keep up the fight.

Your comrades

Ram & Las Vegas ARA

ORGANIZE AGAINST RACISM AND POLICE REPRESSION
ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS AND YOUTH

Edwood138@aol.com

Now is the time to organize and march. We need to organize in our schools against racism, youth on youth violence and police repression. All students are invited to join our contingent in the October 22nd March Against Police Brutality. Our group is named Anti-Racist Action. We want the march on October 22 to be a big event for youth and working people.

Youth- black, white, Latino and Asian need to unite for this common cause. APA is dedicated to stopping racism and the police atmosphere in our schools today. We are in the best position to deal with youth on youth violence and other difficult problems in the classroom. Self organization is what we need because Gestapo police aren't the answer.

By organizing with APA we can work toward a better future for ourselves. The event on October 22nd is a positive way to let our thoughts be heard and make a difference in the local school system.

Too often we are misled and lied too, and we have no answers for the huge social crisis facing youth in school and as we enter our first job. We are inheriting the problems others have given us. Police repression is not the answer and the whole school atmosphere suffers. We will gain our freedom by organizing. We have strength with our numbers. We can make ourselves heard by joining the protest October 22nd.

"STOP POLICE BRUTALITY, REPRESSION, and the CRIMINALIZATION of a GENERATION"
Over 100 groups are participating in this mass protest. We will begin in Daley Plaza (Clark and Washington) at 3:30. Call 773-794-3114

IS THERE AN ARA IN YOUR AREA? IF NOT, START ONE! HERE'S HOW:

- 1) Find some people in your area with similar views. They can be your friends, neighbors, classmates, etc.
- 2) Be serious about starting a chapter. Racism, sexism, and homophobia are serious problems that need to be stopped. If you begin a chapter, stick with it all the way.
- 3) Get in touch with other ARA chapters and let them know you are starting another chapter. We will be able to help and send information to your chapter.
- 4) Rent a PO Box or get a voice mail number so people can get in contact with your chapter. It is not recommended to use a home address or telephone number. By avoiding this, you will also avoid any possible harassing phone calls, etc.
- 5) Make fliers about your chapter and ARA in general so people know your beliefs and can get in contact with you. Hand out newsletters you have made or ones from other chapters. A good way to get your word out is by setting up information tables at shows in local venues. Call the venue and ask if you may.
- 6) If you are still in school, see if your principal will let you start a chapter there. This will enable you to reach a wide variety of people who may not have been able to get involved any other way.
- 7) Have a mailing list with you at all times when you go out to tell people about ARA. Take down addresses so you will be able to contact people about future events and meetings.
- 8) Plan a meeting. Set a date, time, and location convenient for everyone. Parks and libraries are ideal places to hold meetings.
- 9) Call people and inform them about the meeting. If you don't have phone numbers for all the people, make postcards. You can make cheap postcards at your local copy store on stock paper. For complete instructions on how to do this, write to Houston ARA. Be sure to mail the postcards at least one week, or may be even two weeks before the meeting so you will be sure they got there in time. Also, make fliers and distribute them.
- 10) Plan ahead for the meeting. Make a list of racist, sexist, and homophobic problems you want your chapter to confront (have there been beatings, verbal abuse, swastikas displayed, stores carrying white power music, discrimination, etc). Think of different ways to solve these problems and have a discussion about each way and let everyone choose the best solution.
- 11) At the meeting, have newsletters, fliers, etc available. Make sure the time and day is good for the people. Have a sign-in sheet so you can keep a record of who attended. Pick a date for the next meeting.
- 12) Once the first meeting is over, your chapter is set. Hopefully you have accomplished all you desired to and things will be going smoothly after that.

To raise money for your chapter, there are a number of options. You can ask some of the local bands in the area to play for a benefit show. Community centers usually will rent you a room for a fair price for the night. Just use some of the door money to pay for expenses and the rest can be used on postage, etc. Setting out a donation jar at ARA tables proves to be effective. You can earn a great deal of money just on donations. Once your chapter is pretty much established, you can start making shirts, buttons, and patches to sell. You may be able to get a business, church, or another organization to sponsor your chapter. The other ARA chapters ask that you do not charge dues to your members. ARA is open to all who hold similar ideals, and it is unfair to charge dues some people may be unable to pay.

We hope this will aid you in starting your own ARA chapter. For additional help or support, contact the other chapters anytime!



Feminism, Girls Rule.

Feminism is a way of thinking and acting that takes into account how women are oppressed in this society by patriarchy. Patriarchy is a wrong system that gives men power over women. Feminists fight and struggle for women's liberation. Women define feminism, but both women and men can be feminists.

Minneapolis Anti-Racist Action has a strong commitment to building an anti-racist movement that is also anti-sexist. All forms of oppression are interconnected and they all need to be smashed. For example when a poor latino woman on welfare is wrongly criminalized in this society for just struggling and trying to survive we need to see this as racism, sexism, and classism all working together to keep her down. The real criminals are the rich white men and all those who are inspired to be like them and take up their values.

We want to build an anti-racist movement that supports women's liberation. We actively engage in struggles against forces in our society that are trying to take away women's freedom. We oppose the Christian Right movement and there blatant attacks on abortion and imposition of abusive male defined family values. We oppose rape and domestic violence and all forms of physical and mental abuse inflicted on women by fucked up men.

We oppose images of women made by men that disrespect women's bodies and minds. In contrast we encourage and empower young girls and women to develop skills to push back oppression. Girls Kick Ass!

We want to build a feminist movement that is anti-racist. That means that "white" women do not always get to define the terms of struggle and that feminism should have a deep understanding of how class works. The realities of the particular struggles of African-American, Native American, Latina, and Asian-American Women must be a part of any feminist movement that is also anti-racist.

Women and young girls represent a rebellious social group in our society. We respect and value their contributions in society and in the anti-racist movement we are trying to build. We recognize that women can be strong anti-racist fighters in their own right and don't want or need leadership from men in our scenes. We struggle to make room for women's lives and experiences and don't focus our scenes around the interests of men. We listen to and value women's ideas about anti-racist strategy and revolution



SOUTH CHICAGO ARA

BENEFIT SHOW

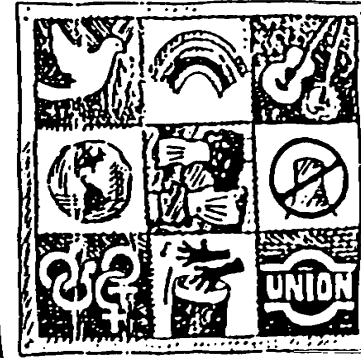
Off The Alley

181st & Dixie, Homewood

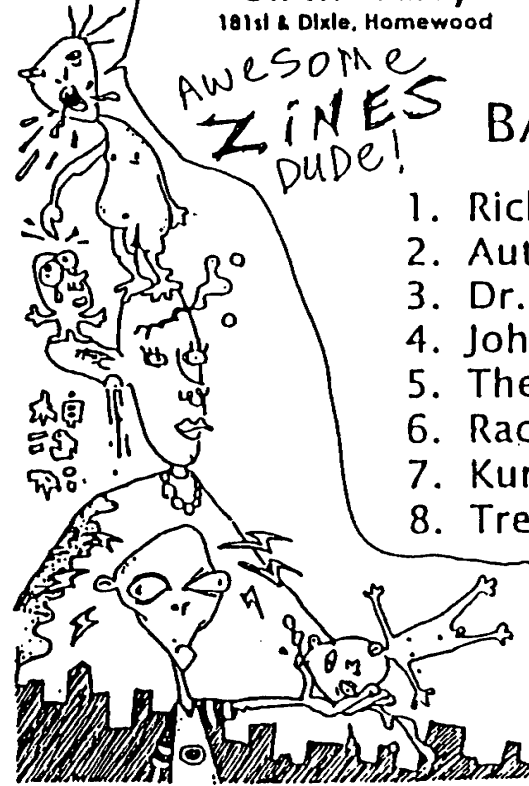
AWESOME ZINES DUDE!

BANDS

1. Richard Dante
2. Authority Abuse
3. Dr. Murphy
4. Johnny Underdog
5. The Deficients
6. Race Traitor
7. Kung Fu Rick
8. Treason



FRIDAY
JAN. 15



South Chicago Anti-Racist Action
P.O. Box 721, Homewood, IL 60430
ara_slide@hotmail.com

Doors open at 8 p.m. \$6 for 8 Bands!

TEXAS PRISONER'S
ANARCHIST
LENDING LIBRARY

NEEDS YOUR BOOKS, ZINES,
AND LITERATURE!

Information is the key to building. If you would like to play a role in the T.P.A.L.L. please send donations to:

T.P.A.L.L.
c/o Break the Chains
P.O. Box 5144
SLO, CA 93403
or call 805.547.0331

SOUTH SIDE ARA (Anti-Racist Action)

Do you hate racism? Are you sickened by the Klan and Nazis? Do you reject sexism, homophobia - bigotry of any kind? Then come and join the surging anti-racist action (ARA) network. A new chapter is forming on the south side of Chicago. An organizing meeting will be held at the Blue Island Public Library on Saturday, May 16, at 2 p.m. It is located at 2433 York, in Blue Island. Call (708)-388-1078 for directions. You can write to South Side ARA P.O. Box 721, Homewood, Il. 60430 for more details. We have an e-mail address, also. It is ara_s_side@hotmail.com

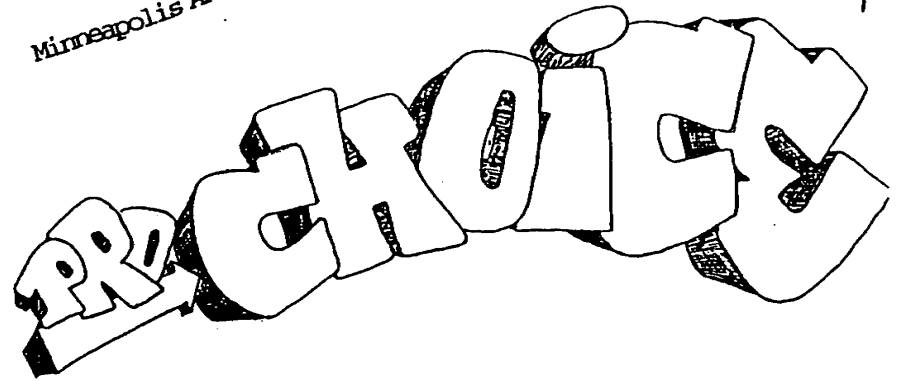
We plan on producing newsletters, delving into this pervasive problem in depth. Learn how racism functions and how to fight it. Join other socially conscious folks struggling for human decency in the area. Fight fascist ignorance and racist filth!

There are other ARA groups in Chicagoland. Write ARA Chicago c/o Autonomous Zone, 1573 N. Milwaukee, 420, 60622. Their ph. # is 773-252-6019. Rogers Park has an ARA chapter and one is forming in Cicero. Each group is completely autonomous. The center can be reached at A.R.A. P.O.Box 82097, Columbus, Ohio, 43202. 614-424-9074. ara@coil.com Their free monthly newspaper is excellent.



TRUTH, FREEDOM & BROTHERHOOD

Minneapolis ARA is...



We're Pro-Choice And Proud Of It!

ARA fights all forms of oppression. We support a woman's right to have total control over her body. We will fight people who try to take that basic right away. ARA sees the anti-abortion movement as one based around silencing a woman's voice, keeping women submissive and pushing them back into oppressive roles. A challenge to a woman's personal reproductive choice is a challenge to her freedom... and that needs to be confronted.

The Threat of the Christian Right...

For many people, religion is a central, helpful and supportive part of their life. However, ARA believes that the christian right is not a religion but a powerful and dangerous political action group that has a specific agenda- we fight the movement, not the religion. Not only is this movement the biggest threat to women's free choice, they are also racist, homophobic and promote hatred towards any religion aside from their own.

On the surface, the people of the christian right call for a return to the traditional family... mom, dad, good kids, house, lawn. Taking it further their arguments stress that the man's role in marriage is to make the family's money while the woman makes babies and dinner.

Beneath this perfect picture is the fact that not that many people can fit this description and some people just don't want to. This is where the christian right gets vicious. Anyone who isn't living their way is a threat to their movement. They're trying to roll single moms, families without the funds for a house, mothers who have to work outside their home, gay people who want to have children, lesbians who might not, and just about anyone who doesn't fit their narrow definition of what's right.

The danger is that these are not just words that people of the christian right are saying. Members of the christian right include members of congress, people editing our local papers, mayors and governors, corporations, school boards, cops and some who work with groups like the KKK and neo nazis. Their influence shows up in welfare cuts, anti immigration policies, discrimination laws against lesbians and gays. Besides the legal battle, they are strait dirty in the streets- they advocate and in many cases are the perpetrators of abortion clinic bombings and the murders of several abortion doctors.

Their numbers are growing, drawing mostly from a white working- middle class that sees joining as a key to the 'american ideal'. But this ideal leaves many people behind and is a direct threat to being able to live the way you choose.

Choice Means Complete Reproductive Freedom For All Women.

10

Being truly pro-choice goes way beyond keeping abortion legal. It means women choosing when and with who they want to have sex, given access to accurate information about birth-control and making all birth control (including abortion) accessible and affordable to all women. We all know the anti-choice movement isn't really about life or saving babies, the Christian Right see abortion as a tool women have used to take control of their bodies and their lives and that's why they want to stop it, it's not even about their fetus fetish. At the same time in the name of population control, (which was created by rich white people who were freaked out by poor women and women of color "breeding") in the US women are being forced or coerced into sterilization and pressured into birth-control methods like depo provera and norplant without being told about the extreme side effects they have on our bodies. Just as we fight for the right to not be forced into an unwanted pregnancy, we as women possess the power to reproduce and we should fight just as hard when someone tries to take that from us. Keeping a race, culture, or community from having children is slow genocide. Population control is aimed at keeping poor women and women of color from having children, and has been used to crush social change movements, in the 50s population control propaganda claimed that over population caused communism. We need to see the abortion issue for what it is, our right to have total control over everything we do with our bodies.

We value motherhood and envision a movement where parents and children are able to actively participate. We have mad respect for anyone willing to raise a kid in this fucked up society. Being pro-choice is the opposite of being anti-mother it acknowledges the awesome responsibility and importance of mothers, and recognizes that women should be able to decide when and if they want to take that on.



FUCK OFF PATRIARCHY



ODE TO MY BODY

i am proud of this body
that holds me strong
my breasts light and small,
welcoming touch,
this cunt warm and beautiful,
my belly ready and bold.
these arms embracing, my
fingertips burning.
my body, my own
emits sexuality only
when i choose it.
gives me pleasure from myself
and you
my body, deserving of love.
i can dance with it and sing from
the corners of it, and i am
never ashamed,
we will be only filled with joy

by Gabriela Halas

Yes!
_ 1 _ 2 _ 3-4 _ 5+ People from our Organization will be Attending Your
Demonstration on August 29th in Las Vegas and we need help with
_ Directions
_ Housing _ Information on Travel/Car Pools _ ChildCar.
We can Be reached at: Address: Phone
Email

Yes we would like to support this action with a
_ \$5 _ \$10 _ \$20 _ \$50 _ \$100 _ \$Other Donation Towards
Organizing Costs.

Make Checks & Money Orders to:
ARA Columbus
POB 82097
Columbus OH 43202

YES! We Would like to Contribute
_ \$5 _ \$10 _ \$20 _ \$50 _ \$100 _ \$Other
To Nicodemus Newborn's Trust Fund
c/o
ARA Las Vegas
POB 29057
Las Vegas NV
89126-3057

We also would like to inform you of a bunch of other events we are organizing for:
--August 8th Shut Down the Klan in Warren OH (11AM) and Mercer PA (3PM)
--August 28th - 30th : The American Renaissance, White Supremacist Think Tank will be
holding a Conference at the Dulles Airport Hilton. Make plans to travel to DC and
Shut them Down!
--Rally against the Klan Marching in the Nation's Capitol on September 6th
--Our Fifth Annual ARA Network Conference will be held again at Old North High School
in Columbus on October 16th, 17th and 18th. Make Plans to Attend.
--Columbus ARA has Endorsed October 22nd as the National Day of Action Against Police
Brutality. Contact the October 22nd Coalition at www.unstoppable.com Wear
Black.

If you need more information on these or any other Upcomming Events feel free to contact
us

email: ara@coil.com <http://www.aranet.org/> <http://www.coil.com/~ara>

Remembering Lynn "Spit" Newborn and Daniel Shersty

ANTI-RACIST ACTION (ARA)

P.O. Box 82097
Columbus, Ohio 43202
(614) 424-9074

So

Greetings,

We are writing you this letter to inform your group about what has been going on recently in the ARA network and to solicit your help with these projects. We are now at an important turning point in the anti-fascist struggle in North America. We hope you will take the time to help out in any way that you find feasible.

As you may or may not know, two anti-racist skinheads and supporters of ARA were found murdered, presumably by nazi skinheads, in the desert outside Las Vegas, Nevada. Police have confirmed that the killings of Lin "Spit" Newborn and Dan Shersty, were "probably racially motivated". As of yet, they have no suspects, but there is firm evidence linking the murders to boneheads.

We find it sad and frustrating that two young comrades were taken from us in their youth so cruelly. However, both the Las Vegas Chapter of ARA and the Network as a whole remain undaunted.

We are planning a large demonstration on August 29th in a neighborhood where nazis are known to live in Las Vegas (Spring Valley). We are inviting all concerned people to come out and participate in this event. We can arrange cheap rooms (this is, after all, Las Vegas) and limited free housing (bring a sleeping bag) will be available. We are asking all groups, that are able, to send at least 1 or 2 representatives to this event. We hope that together we can make the ideal of a united front against fascism a reality.

Also, a trust fund has been established in the name of Lin Newborn's son, Nicodemus. We are asking that you make a contribution (however small) to this effort. The fund will mature when Nicodemus is 22 so a small effort now will have a great effect years later.

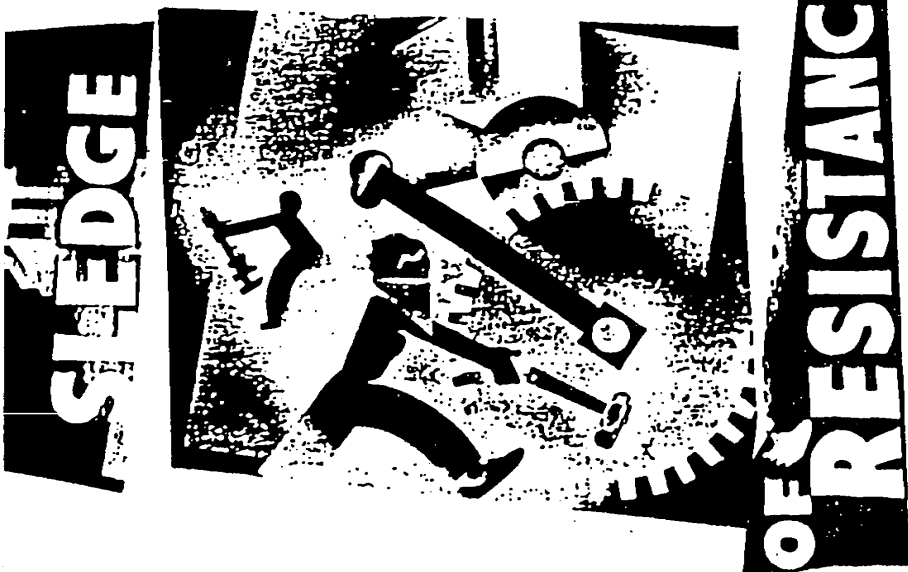
For more information or any news on upcoming events, you may contact Columbus ARA (address listed at top) or Las Vegas ARA at:

POB 29057
Las Vegas, NV 89126-3057

We thank you so much for your support in these very trying times.

We are also planning a number of other actions against White Supremacist groups around the country in the near future. You may contact us for details not given on the overleaf.

Justice Then Peace,
---Columbus ARA



What will you do next time?

The October 22 Coalition annually holds a march/rally against police brutality. During the planning of this year's event there was a struggle from within the Chicago chapter over whether or not to include a speaker from the lesbian-bi-gay-transgender liberation movement. The Revolutionary Communist Party position on queer liberation is that "gayness" is a disease of the capitalist system that will be "cured" with re-education after the revolution. The RCP (lead organizers of the event) tried first to avoid the issue of having a queer speaker, then used the argument that "there were too many speakers on the program" to prevent queer representation. RCP members even said that having anyone from the Young Womyn's Day of Action Coalition was sufficient representation for both womyn and queers. Eventually it was agreed that a speaker from the queer community would be on the rally program. At the rally a member of a group called the Hebrew Black Israelites - an organization affiliated with the Gang Truce Movement - was added to the program on the day of the event. This individual made anti-gay statements during his speech. There were some boos and hisses from the listeners, but not enough.

The Autonomous Zone, a resource center for radical, anti-authoritarian organizers and activists, takes the position that a narrow fight against police brutality in which some issues are highlighted and others ignored or relegated to "middle class identity issue" status is not the best strategy for building a movement. A radical front against police brutality must be anti-racist, -sexist, -heterosexist, -agist while being class conscious if it is to become a movement, and especially a movement that will win. Queers and womyn and queer womyn and poor queers and african womyn queers (etc.) can be and are victims of oppression and police brutality. They don't need "re-education." They demand liberation against the hierarchies of capitalism, religious institutions and other agents of oppression. The October 22 Coalition should be a vehicle for all victims of police brutality, not just the heterosexual men of color. Conscious raising and conscious action is required for any true united front anti-racist, -sexist, -heterosexist, -agist mobilization against police brutality.

- Darrell Gordon, twenty year activist
Member of Autonomous Zone Collective,
Coalition for Positive Sexuality & Chicago ARA

On Sunday, a day hot enough to make a camel whimper, the Chicago gay and lesbian community held its 29th annual parade and rally.

As a sign of how times have changed and how entrenched the parade has become in Chicago, more than 50 mainstream politicians — officeholders and candidates — took part in this year's event. There were 269 registered parade entries, the most ever, and the Chicago Police Department was represented by its own float with gay and lesbian officers.

It was a much grander display than Chicago's first gay parade in 1970, a year after what has become known to posterity simply as "Stonewall." The name refers to the night of June 27, 1969, when New York City police raided a gay bar named the Stonewall Inn. Police routinely made such sweeps in those days, hauling gays to jail or simply roughing them up, but that night the raid turned into a riot. Bar patrons resisted, fighting police with fists, clubs and stones.

"That was the kickoff of the modern-day gay and lesbian rights movement," says Rich Pfeiffer, 49, coordinator of the 1998 Chicago Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade & Rally.

Sunday's parade stepped off at 2 p.m., heading north on Halsted Street at Belmont Avenue with 10 mounted Chicago police officers keeping people on the sidewalks over the two-mile course. It ended some three hours later at Diversey Parkway and Sheridan Road with a crowd



so large that traffic was being halted many blocks from the intersection.

Some snapshots from the 1998 event:

■ Among the noteworthy signs and T-shirt legends:

- "God Loves His Gay Children"
- "God Saves the Queens (and the dykes too)"
- "Have You Hugged Your Homo Today?"
- "Straight But Not Narrow"
- "Hate Is Not a Family Value"

■ Regulars of The Cell block, a leather and uniforms bar at 3702 N. Halsted St., watched from bleachers set up by the bar.

Their first standing ovation was afforded to a giant American flag—50 feet by 26 feet—that was carried by members

See PARADE, PAGE 7

Cory Haywood, the Sexy Lion, helps Tayan Kusku into his Miss Poppy costume in a camp version of "The Wizard of Oz."

Parade

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America.

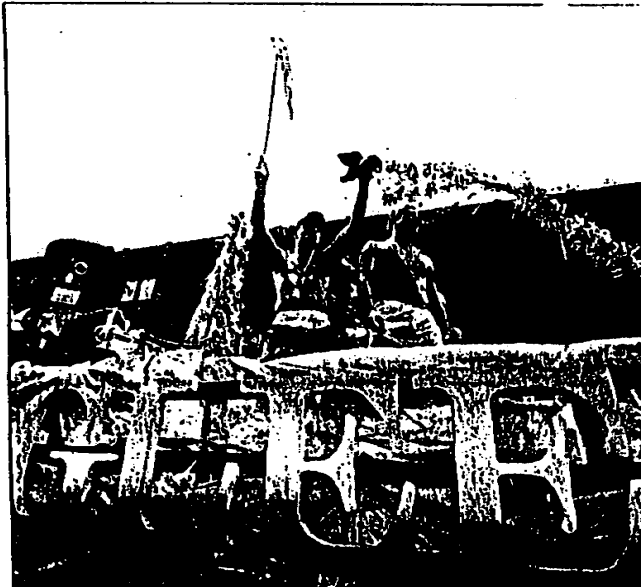
The next ovation was for the PFLAG group, which is the Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. An older woman and an older man carried a banner that read: "Gay or Straight, Kids Are Great."

Two other spontaneous rounds of cheers and applause went to Leather United and Chicago's Hellfire Club, both leather clubs.

When one of the Leather United men, dressed as a Scot, lifted his kilt, exposing himself, a Cell Block patron said, "That was uncalled for."

■ In the Sahara-like heat, one's heart went out to the heavier men, most with mustaches and beards, who were dressed as women in heavy makeup, large wigs, blouses, skirts, crinolines and silk hose.

■ A group dressed as characters from "The Wizard of Oz" was a big hit. The drag queen portraying Dorothy was spectacular in red, sparkly, stunningly high platform shoes.



Tribune photos by Terence James

One of the numerous floats navigates Halsted Street on Chicago's North Side for Sunday's gay and lesbian pride parade.

LAS VEGAS NAZIS USE GUNS — TWO DEAD

The third issue should come as no surprise: We all know the KKK are America's home grown death squads. They organize for genocide plain and simple. They are not a debate society. Wherever they get a foothold, acts of racist terror always follow. The brutal torture and murder of James Byrd in Jasper, Texas on June 7th and similar copycat crimes in Illinois and Louisiana cannot be brushed off as "isolated incidents." Earlier this month, two members of ARA Las Vegas, one Black and the other white, were murdered. Lin "Spit" Newborn, 25, and Dan Shersty, 20, were killed by nazi skinheads, having been beaten and shot, their bodies dumped in the desert.

LESSONS NOW

This is the real America. Violence is used by the right wing against Churches, abortion clinics and the activists who speak up. We know the root cause of our oppression is the system and not people of color. We are fighting for our basic needs such as housing, education and living wage jobs. Working people will continue to fight for equality and justice. The rich rule and they understand that there might come a time when they will use the fascists to attack the working class. By its persecution of the anti-fascists the city government of Ann Arbor in effect reassures groups like the Klan that it is a location where their organizing efforts will be fully protected.

ORGANIZE, EDUCATE, AND STAND TOGETHER

Drawing a lesson from these three examples: We need to organize people of all color, men and women of the working class. We have enemies that want to divide us and scapegoat different nationalities for racial conflict. We need to defend ourselves and our communities by speaking up and educating the youth. Mumia and the anti-racist movement have a message. Let's fight together for a better world where racists aren't welcome.

IN CONCLUSION

The author of this leaflet is Dave Vance. "I am an active member of the Steelworkers Local Union 1010. I encourage community activists and union people who read this leaflet to take it into the workplace. Proposals for action are needed. I encourage students and the youth to get involved. Forming more Anti-Racist Action chapters will help build the movement we need in Chicago."

Some major activities upcoming are:

Memorial march in Las Vegas, August 29th for Lin Newborn and Dan Shersty.

Donations to the families of Lin and Dan are being made through: Las Vegas ARA P.O. Box 29057, Las Vegas, Nevada 89126-3057.

March October 22nd in support of Mumia in Philadelphia. Local org. is 773-794-8114.

To contact Dave Vance:

For more information my home phone is (773) 731-9114

A writer: response to my leaflet may be addressed to guerra4050aol.com



BUD BILLIKEN DAY PARADE — IS THIS A HAPPY DAY FOR EVERYONE?

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On the surface everything is "cherry pie." Wonderful march most people will say. But in the Free Mumia contingent we would like to express the real reality. This is not the land of the free. American society is suffering. We march to slam apathy and wake-up Chicago.

People in Chicago don't need to hear more stories of police brutality and corruption but we must speak up and let the politically powerful know that working people black and white, Latino and Asian are uniting to fight back. We have several issues to present:

FREE MUMIA

Mumia is charged with murder and he is innocent. After 16 years on death row his appeal is finally being heard by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Publicity is needed and we call everyone into action. Mumia has always been a political person of the highest standard. In Philadelphia he was active in founding the Black Panther Party. His political work became important as an inner city radio journalist when he exposed the corrupt Philadelphia police department.

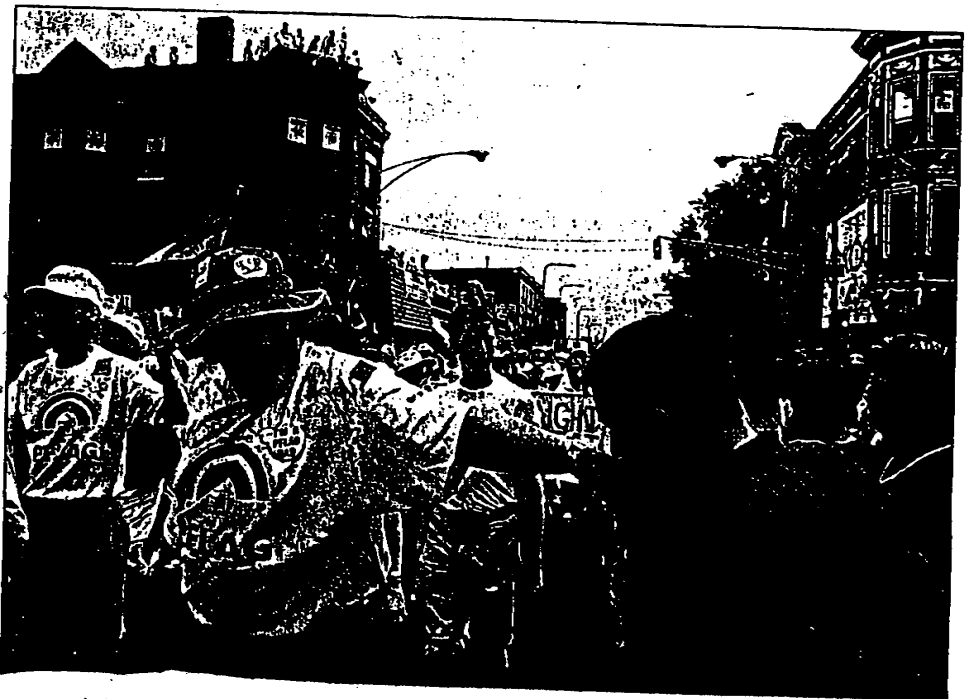
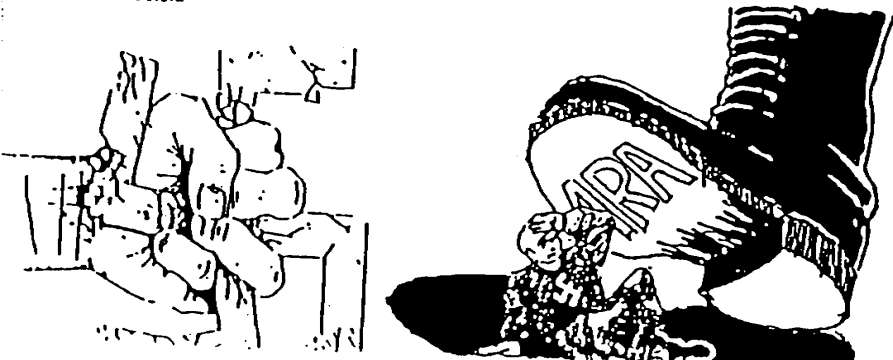
THE KU KLUX KLAN

Our second issue is to make people aware that the KKK has been given open doors in Michigan to speak and organize. Why should free speech be given to racists who plan murder and preach violence everyday? Shouldn't we stop them?

ARA ARRESTED IN MICHIGAN

On May 9th in Ann Arbor the Anti-Racist Action protested the KKK speaking at City Hall. Because of their protest 39 arrest warrants have been issued by the Ann Arbor police. No one knew of the warrants until 7 weeks later at a 2nd protest against the Klan in Kalamazoo. Along with federal ATF cops, Ann Arbor police began making arrests.

An orchestrated political persecution is underway against anti-racist militants in Ann Arbor. Police and city government are mainly targeting two organizations, Anti-Racist Action (ARA) and the National Women's Rights Organizing Coalition (NWROC). But anyone who dares to stand up against racist violence and police collusion with such violence is at risk.



The parade became a family affair for some as Drew Ferguson, right, affectionately greets marchers from Friends and Family of Lesbians and Gays.

Midway through the parade, there was a tall drag queen in a monstrous wig of wildly curly blond hair, hot pants and a charreuse T-shirt that barely contained two huge balloons, which represented breasts. He led on a leash a young man in leather short-shorts and a dog collar. "Every community has its quirks," said Charles May, who had driven up from Springfield, Ill. to serve as a parade marshal. With all due respect to the Irish and their St. Patrick's Day Parade and to the Poles and their Polish Constitution Day parade and the Mexicans and their Cinco de Mayo parade and to all the other ethnic groups and organizations, no other parade is as much fun as the Gay Pride Parade.

"I love the variety at the parade," May continued. "You see everything from gay ministers to drag queens, from guys in leather to doctors and lawyers."

But he had a complaint about news coverage. "The press tends

to focus too much on drag queens and the leather and chains. They are a small minority of the gay community," he said. One couldn't help noticing that May had a pair of handcuffs attached to his belt.

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PRIDE on parade



**EXPLORE
AND CONFRONT
POLICE
BRUTALITY**



Anti-Racist Action

P.O.Box 80239, Mpls, MN 55408

Anti-Racist Action (ARA) is a youth based political group that fights racism on three fronts. We fight institutional/corporate racism, organized fascist groups like nazi skinheads and the Klan, and state sponsored racism like the police.

Our present goals are to build a strong COPWATCH program, challenge the curfew laws, initiate a cops out of high schools campaign in the fall, and continue to keep on the lookout for nazi shows and organizing. Most recently we launched a successful campaign to shut down a nazi show in St. Paul which was to include a local nazi band called Bound For Glory. For more info or if you want to get involved write to the ARA P.O.Box provided above.

HOTLINE: 649-4586

**Anti-Racist Action
COPWATCH**

**FIGHT FOR
REAL JUSTICE!
CHALLENGE
THE POLICE!**

**WHAT TO DO
IF YOU GET
ARRESTED**

14

The police can only ask for your name and address. Don't let the police harass you into answering other questions. They will twist and distort information you give them about yourself and other people. If they demand answers tell them you have a right to see a lawyer.

Also, of course the police are supposed to have a justification for stopping you but very often they don't and they make one up. Ask them to tell you why they're arresting you.

**WHAT TO DO IF
YOU WITNESS
AN ARREST**

You don't have to be doing COPWATCH to question what the police are doing at any given moment. When you see someone getting arrested or detained, especially if they are African-American, Hispanic, or Native American, that usually means they are also experiencing some form of abuse whether physical or verbal.

Stop, listen, watch, and ask the police questions. Wise up! Don't assume that a police presence means that justice is being served.

COPWATCH



clowns against the klan unite!

the kkk may not be funny but they are pretty silly (and mean and dangerous and just plain wrong). get ready-set-send in the clowns! color and cut out the picture, add some string, and presto-change-o you are one of us. pile into an itty bitty car with 10 other clowns (or take cta, ride your unicycle, whatever) and come on out to cicero on saturday march 14 and be a part of the circus. for more information call the Clowns Against the Klan hotline at 773-381-5695.

This event, a small part of an extensive global campaign to make clowns a threat again, is sponsored by these and other fine papers:

International Clown Organization, Progressive Labor Clown, The Revolutionary Clown, Industrial Clown, Love and Clowns, The Fifth Clown, Maximum Clowns, Prolane Clowns, Liberator Labor Clowns, Clowns First!, The People's Clown, CometClown, Anti-Racist Clown News, Clown War, The Socialist Clown, The Clown's Vanguard, The Clown Tribune, The Clown Zone and Clowns not Bombs



Cicero holds successful anti-klan rally!

I just returned from the noon rally held by the Midwest Network to Stop the Klan. There were about 107 people there, and no arrests.

I distributed about 7 sheets of stickers, and about 30 copies of ARA News.

The march formed at the corner of Laramie and 23rd. Pl, and after a good crowd assembled, a march was led to the town hall, where there were about 20 cops, including the beat-sergeant and what looked to be the town's police chief. When we arrived, The Chief-of-Police got onto a bullhorn and told the crowd that we had 20 minutes to disperse, because we were part of an illegal assembly, having violated the town's parade and literature-distribution laws. (It appears that the town of Cicero has a few unconstitutional laws on the books.)

After a brief victory rally lasting about 10 or 15 minutes, the crowd peacefully dispersed. There was no violence, and no property damage, and a lot of Cicero residents were openly supportive. Police presence was wary and apprehensive, but not actively hostile. None the less, they were very willing to bust heads if pressed.

All in all, I'd call it a quiet success, as the Klan did NOT show, and the ridiculous offer of paying \$10,000 to the Klan, with a literature drop thrown in as a bonus, has been defeated. I say that this is the first Klan rally that I have ever seen that has been canceled in this fashion. Unfortunately, the Klan managed to get more and better "favorable publicity" than we did.

sincerely,
Chris "The @narchist" Ryan, 14/Mar/98

Anti-Racist Action COPWATCH is organized by people who don't trust the police. We believe the police are racist. They beat, harass, and detain people just on the basis of skin color. This is not acceptable! We believe police misconduct must stop now!

We want the cops to feel watched. They think they can get away with just about anything in the name of the "law". But we don't believe that they have any sense of justice and we think they abuse their power and privilege. They don't care about people in the community.

Remember when they locked two Native American men in the back of their trunk and got away with it? Remember when they shot Tyrel Nelson and got away with it? - Dan May, the cop who mercifully shot Tyrel is still on the beat. Remember when they bust into your neighbor's house without a search warrant and beat your friend under the guise of a "drug bust" or pulled over your neighbor because of a broken headlight and your neighbor ended up spending a night in jail? And remember all the countless other examples. When will this stop? COPWATCH is one way to begin to resist this rotten system.

We have the right to watch the police. In fact, even though the police harass us when we watch them, what we are doing is not illegal. Of course police interpret the law however they see fit, the bottom line is we do have the right to watch. They may accuse us of "obstructing justice". But we recognize that we're not doing anything wrong, they're the ones that lead us to mistrust them.

What does COPWATCH do? 15

We use a video camera to record police actions and we will verbally intervene when we see cops detaining, arresting, or hurting someone. We record badge numbers and names—cops are obligated to release this information. We go out at night when people, especially black youth because of the curfew laws, are more vulnerable.

We believe that actually being on the street and watching the cops on their beat is more effective than relying on the court system to determine what justice is. The courts let racist cops go. And Civilian Review boards, although an interesting idea in theory, have never actually had an impact in determining justice.

Because there is no public forum to hold police accountable we take it right to the street. COPWATCH is there to encourage people to form a block against police misconduct. We pay their salary so they should be accountable to us!

We want to work with more people to get organized to challenge the abuses of the police. ARA COPWATCH welcomes anyone who wants to come out with us. If you need more info on COPWATCH or ARA please write to us

at Anti-Racist Action, POBox 80239, Mpls., MN, 55402



Twin Cities Cops Are Brutal!!!

- In 1929 Lloyd Smalley and Lillian Weiss, an elderly couple, were killed when their house was burned down in North Minneapolis during a botched drug raid by the police.
- In 1991 Tyrel Nelson, 17, was shot in the back and killed in North Minneapolis by cop Dan May.
- In 1994 Thel Young and Bo Sue Lee, two Hispanic boys in their teens, were killed by cops on St. Paul cops, during a police chase.

Some basic guiding principles of Anti-Racist Action:

- fight against racism, agism, sexism, homophobia, imperialism, classism, and all other forms of oppression
- no reliance on the cops or the courts
- non-sectarian defense of arrested anti-fascist activists
- same time, same place direct action against fascist mobilizations
- we will not stop until the fight is won
- we are active with the goal of building a movement to accomplish these goals

What in the heck is ARA?

What does ARA do?

- we educate; through newsletters, pamphlets, and word of mouth we spread a message of tolerance
- we confront; whenever the Klan or the Nazi's come out, we want to be there to stop them
- we celebrate; the Columbus ARA, for example, hosts Punk Against Racism and Rock Against Racism

There are no dues, no commitments. ARA consists of people who see that something is wrong and care enough to act. Do you?

WHAT NAZIS BELIEVE

(AND WHY WE MUST FIGHT AGAINST THEM)

16

- 1. RACISM** - Light-skinned European Christians are a Master Race who should dominate everyone else. God made them superior to other people.
- 2. RACISM** - There is a conspiracy by so-called "inferior races" to rule the World. All the World's problems are caused by so-called "inferior races."
- 3. EUGENICS** - It is possible to biologically determine who the superior people are based on their personal appearance. Society should use forced sterilization to try to breed out so-called "inferior" people.
- 4. SOCIAL DARWINISM** - The World should be ruled by violence. The most violent people should be the most socially privileged. The most violent people have the right to take all they can take by force from everyone else. Less violent people are "morally weak" and should be the slaves of the violent Master Race.
- 5. FASCISM** - Obedience to Nazi Leaders, the Nazi Party and the Government makes you superior. Loyalty (obedience to authority, conformity and following orders) is more important than freedom. Bringing "ORDER" to society is the only way to save us from the conspiracy of so-called "inferior races." This can only be done by through absolute obedience.
- 6. REACTIONARISM** - There was supposedly an ideal time long ago when society was better because Rich People and Priests preserved traditions which are now threatened by the conspiracy of so-called "inferior races." There was a simpler time when people were care free that has been disrupted by "inferiors" who want to change things. Only by destroying the conspiracy of so-called "inferior" people can we return things to the idealistic way they used to be. Nazis believe that they are romantic warriors on a quest to rescue so-called "Christian Civilization." They reinforce this with a lot of pomp, ceremony and mystical symbolism.
- 7. TOTALITARIANISM** - A free society only creates "decadent values" which threaten the superior culture and the security of the Master Race. Only by using government control and the absolute authority of the Nazi Party can the superior way of life of the Master Race be preserved. The Nazi Party should use the power of the government to keep values and ideas they don't approve of from appearing in the mass media.
- 8. TOTALITARIANISM** - The government needs a strong police force and prison system to preserve the security of the Master Race. People should be willing to sacrifice their personal freedom to guarantee their security from people and ideas the Party and the Government say are bad. People who are disloyal to the Nazi Party or the Government by questioning what they say or not following orders are a threat to our security and should be punished. Being a good citizen means being willing to turn your neighbors and even your own family into the police if you suspect that they are "disloyal."
- 9. SEXISM** - Women should be subordinate to men and should help the men of the Master Race by taking care of them, having lots of children and obeying their husbands and fathers. Women shouldn't pursue careers, but should concentrate on being good wives and mothers instead. The family is the basic unit of Nazism because it is where children are raised to be good Nazis and carry on the values and culture of the Master Race.
- 10. MILITARISM** - Children should be raised to be violent, but obedient to military discipline so they will be good future soldiers. Everyone should be required to be drafted into the military.
- 11. MILITARISM** - The Master Race needs a strong military which will allow it to dominate weaker and less violent people. They should not be afraid to use military force to take what they want from "inferior" people and "inferior" races and to "impose their will" on them. The Master Race are "Christian Soldiers" doing God's work.

NAZIS in the United States include the Nazi Party, the Ku Klux Klan, the Aryan Nations, the so-called "Christian Identity" and "Christian Patriot" movements, Posse Comitatus, the American Front and Racist Skinhead Gangs. Many people don't realize that some right-wing politicians now advocate Nazi ideas.

Grisly hate crime kills man

Cops say murder racially motivated

JASPER, Texas (AP) — Three white men with suspected ties to the Ku Klux Klan chained a black hitchhiker to the back of a pickup truck and dragged him to his death, authorities said Tuesday.

James Byrd Jr.'s head, neck and right arm were found about a mile from his mangled torso. A wrench with the name of one of the suspects on it was found near the body. Byrd had been dragged about two miles on a narrow, winding asphalt road.

"All evidence shows it will be racially motivated," Sheriff Billy Rowles said.

Lawrence Russell Brewer, 31, Shawn Allan King and John William King, both 23, were charged with murder and jailed without bail.

Byrd, 49, had been walking home from a niece's bridal shower Saturday night and apparently accepted a ride from the defendants. He was last seen riding in the back of the truck, police said. When he was found, he was so badly disfigured that investigators had to use fingerprints to

identify him.

King and Brewer were covered with tattoos indicating white supremacist beliefs, and all three had spent time in prison, where they apparently had ties to the KKK and the Aryan Nation, the sheriff said.

The sheriff said it appeared that Byrd knew one of the defendants, but he rejected the notion that racist groups have members in the area.

"We have no Aryan Nation or KKK in Jasper County," he said, drawing hoots from blacks at a news conference.

Rowles said it appeared the three men had been drinking.

Jasper is a timber town of 7,800 people about 100 miles northeast of Houston. It is 55 miles north of Vidor, where a Klan faction protested a 1993 federal order to integrate an all-white public housing complex.

Authorities gave this account of the slaying:

Berry told police he and his companions were riding around in his truck when they saw Byrd walking down the dirt road and offered him a ride. King objected because of Byrd's race, but they picked him up anyway, and all four went to a convenience store.

King then got behind the wheel and drove to an isolated area. There, the three got out and Brewer and King started beating the victim. Byrd was chained to the truck's back bumper and dragged.

Byrd's body was discovered Sunday morning about 10 miles away from his apartment.

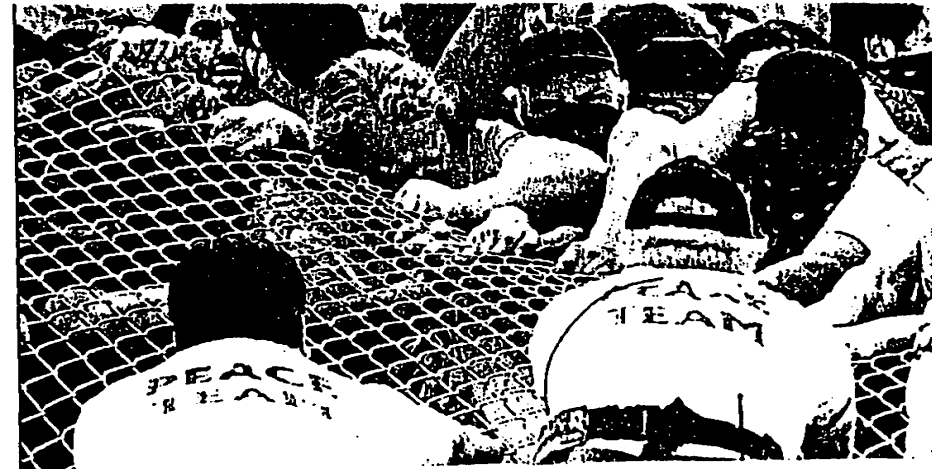
On Tuesday, there were 75 red spray-painted circles along the road to mark where police had found either Byrd's belongings — his keys and dentures — or body parts. The chain believed to be the used to drag him was found behind a house.

Police said they have a witness who saw Byrd in Berry's truck. Authorities also said they discovered a wrench engraved with Berry's name near the body that resembles similar tools from Berry's truck.

The three men initially were picked up for possession of stolen property, authorities said. Officers investigating a break-in at a restaurant allegedly caught them with a large quantity of frozen meat.

FBI agents met with the sheriff on Tuesday, and federal civil rights charges may be filed, authorities said.

Klan foes breach peace



Ku Klux Klan opponents in Ann Arbor, Mich. battle with volunteer "Peace Team" members over a chain-link fence police had erected to try to keep the protestors away from a Klan rally Saturday. Police outfitted officers with gas masks and metal detectors and trained more than 100 volunteers to roam the crowd and attempt to keep the peace. But hundreds of Klan foes, many flashing signs reading "Smash the Klan," tore down part of the

fence before police unleashed the tear gas. While the Klan members were in front of City Hall, their opponents tore down a portion of the fence behind the building and threw rock and bottles, breaking eight windows but coming nowhere the Klan members. About 25 Klan members rallied for about 90 minutes, playing music and making speeches. A similar clash happened in the town, home of the University of Michigan, in 1996.

HOW NAZIS ORGANIZE (AND HOW WE CAN DEFEAT THEM)

At the rate in which the prison industry is growing, it will not only equal that of our students not enrolled in U.S. colleges and universities, but will surpass the entire population of New York City - currently about 7.3 million.

No other industrialized country on this planet incarcerates its population at such a staggering rate.

The politicians think that's what the public wants, but the public doesn't understand the fiscal price tag that is hidden, which is less higher education and, ultimately, a less highly trained work force.

As we begin to see more and more laws being constructed to guarantee that jails and prisons are filled to capacity, we also see more and more privatization of prisons. And most of these contracts are awarded on a per-prisoner, per-day basis and encourage incarceration rather than rehabilitation.

In an amendment sponsored by Senator Jesse Helms and passed without debate by both houses of Congress, the bill seeks to limit the power of federal courts to impose remedies in prison overcrowding suits where constitutional violations result. "A federal court shall not hold prison or jail crowding unconstitutional under the 8th Amendment," regardless of if it causes the infliction of cruel and unusual punishment of inmates. They don't care how full the jails and prisons get, as each prisoner has a price on his or her head, and that price puts a steak on their tables each day.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

"Clearly, as a vehicle for providing for the safety of its citizens, the explosive growth of California's prison system has been an expensive failure," Mark Koetting and Vincent Schiraldi said in their report in "Singapore West: The Incarceration of 200,000 Californians."

As our state stubbornly shovels tax dollars into a failed correctional gulag, violent crime defiantly rises. Since the early 1980's, the state has spent about \$5 billion on "the largest prison building program in the United States," yet the total crime rate and the violent crime rate are both higher now than they were in 1983, before all this prison construction started.

The three strikes mentality is the largest indicator of foolish public policy regarding crime control. The "Three Strikes" law gives the appearance of toughness on crime, but it will do nothing more than bankrupt the state without seriously reducing crime, and it will eventually go far beyond the estimated 50 more prisons by the year 2000.

Where will this money come from? In a sense, it will come from the steep annual fee increases that students in the University of California and California State University systems will face each year over the next decade. That's because allocations for higher education come from the remaining 10 to 15 percent of the state budget that's unprotected. The other 85 to 90 percent is locked up under constitutional and statutory mandates.

TODAY'S DREAM -

TOMORROW'S NIGHTMARE

According to the Legislative Analyst's office, three strikes will require at least 15--and maybe as many as 38--new prisons over the next five years.

State funds will steadily be yanked from universities to build these prisons so that no money will be left for higher education by 2002, according to the Rand Corporation. And the backfill will be fees. Student fees will build those prisons.

Since we are mortgaging our future, who are we catching in the three-strikes net? Petty thieves and minor drug offenders. Over 70 percent of those getting 25 years to life sentences are not charged in their third offense with a serious or violent felony.

Petty theft is stealing something that has less than \$400 in value. Like a piece of pizza. Pretty smart use of scarce state tax dollars, huh?

So where do you want your kid? In one of the latest technological prisons or in a decreasing higher educational system? If you do not say something soon, the choice will not be yours to make.

by: Al Cunningham
P.O. Box E-22600
San Quentin, CA 94974



NAZI ORIGINS - Nazism and other forms of FASCISM were originally organized by the rich and powerful in society. 100 years ago there was a real possibility that workers and tenants might organize a more democratic society and this idea threatened the kings, the industrialists and the landowners who had been in power for a long time. Fascism in Italy was organized to allow Italian Aristocrats to kill Union and peasant organizers. In Germany, Industrial Monopolies bankrolled the Nazi Party so they would attack labor organizers and preserve the wealth of the German aristocracy. The Ku Klux Klan was originally organized by white southern aristocrats to protect their property and privileges after the American Civil War from the democratic demands of sharecroppers and newly freed slaves. Their tactic was to try to get the poor white people to terrorize the poor black people and to try to kill off any organizers. Most "night riders" (what we would now call "DEATH SQUADS") were rich landowners, their friends and their hired thugs.

WHITE SUPREMACISTS - In the American South, just as in Italy and Germany, the tactic was for the rich to use their money to organize poor and unemployed people using NATIONALISM/PATRIOTISM, RELIGION, and PROMISES of future glory and prosperity. White supremacist is simply the advocacy of the idea that there is a "white nation" which is superior. In Europe, racist theories were first proposed to justify the rights of kings to have power. "Social Darwinism" claimed that rich people are rich because they are racially superior. European Colonialism created an interest among European Aristocrats to prove biologically that they were superior to people with darker skin in their colonies. Modern genetics and blood type testing eventually proved that there were no races that could be defined by biology and skin pigmentation didn't make people genetically different. In Europe, racists tried to blame their economic problems on immigration and "inferior cultures" like Jewish people. In the United States, immigration brought a lot of political refugees whose ideas about organizing labor Unions, Social Security for the elderly, ending child labor and equal rights for women (who weren't even allowed to own property) which were threatening to rich industrialists who once had almost limitless power. As a result, they also turned groups like the KKK toward organizing against Unions and immigrants. They lobbied the government to have a series of racist immigration laws passed to limit immigration from parts of the world where they thought people were inferior. They exploited the depression to blame unemployment on immigrants and blacks. In Indiana, the KKK grew to over 2 million members until its leader was caught having sex with an underage girl and lost his credibility as an advocate of "Christian Morality."

NAZI PROVOCATION - Nazi tactics are based on their desire to convince people that the World is in a state of CHAOS and that they represent a force that can restore ORDER so that things can be like they were in some mystical "good ol' days" before the current troubled times. They do this by provocative marches and demonstrations which are designed to create the impression that they have a lot more power than they really do and to provoke sensationalistic news stories that can make them appear like folk heroes. Nazis count on the police defending them against anti-racists so that they appear to have the approval of the cops, a symbol of "ORDER" they want to represent: That ORDER being violence and coercion. This is helped along by the presence of racist cops and racist policing policies in many communities.

NAZI VANGUARDS - The power base of the Nazis has always been the Middle Class. Middle Class people are told that they are worthwhile because of what they own. This idea originated with well off business owners like those who moved to the suburbs 100 years ago after streetcars were invented so they didn't have to live near their employees, but it has been even stronger since World War II and the introduction of the Modern Consumer Society. They hear this message every day in consumer advertising. When they fall on hard times, the Nazis step in to give them scapegoats for their troubles and to exploit their fears. Now days you also see conservative politicians using Fascist fear tactics to push for more cops and prisons. The Nazis take this a step further by advocating that the middle class should be willing to give up their freedom in exchange for safety and materialistic prosperity.

RURAL ORGANIZING - Nazis target rural communities where corporate takeovers of agricultural land and local business, and corporate layoffs have put a lot of people out of work. They exploit the pervasive censorship in the American press (wholesale suppression of information about the devastation of families, communities and the environment caused by the new corporate global economy) to blame people's problems on "Black" criminals, "Jewish" bankers, "Asian" imports, "Mexican" immigrants and other RACIST ETHNIC STEREOTYPES.

RACIST SKINHEAD GANGS - Gangs of any race are a form of FASCISM because they are organized around the principle that violence and loyalty make a person "superior." White Supremacists take advantage of the proliferation of gangs to tell white youths that non-white gangs are part of a racial conspiracy against them and that they should organize white racist gangs.

SHUTTING DOWN THE NAZIS - Nazis count on ordinary people to not seeing them as a threat. To defeat them we must be able to recognize their tactics when we see them and be willing to do what is necessary to prevent them from having a Forum to spread their ideas. We must confront them when they try to organize and disrupt their activities. We must expose them as white supremacists at their jobs and in their neighborhoods and encourage boycotts of their businesses. We must give them no peace.

**SAVE
OUR
LAND**



**SMASH THE
KLAN**

18

Klan Groups on Dramatic Rise in Illinois, Spreading Racist Terror, According To New Report

CHICAGO, March 6 /PRNewswire/ -- The Ku Klux Klan, a symbol of racist terror in the United States since 1865, is undergoing a dramatic resurgence in the Midwest, according to the Center for New Community, an organization that counters racist and far-right activity in the region. In a report released today, the Center profiled seven Klan groups operating in Illinois alone.

"The American Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, which plans to rally in Cicero, is the most active Klan faction in the region," said Devin Burghart, Director of the Center's Building Democracy Initiative. "They have targeted Illinois to spread their brand of racism and bigotry. Like most Klan groups, the American Knights have close ties to neo-Nazi and other white supremacist organizations."

"The various Klan groups operating in Illinois are not to be taken lightly," Burghart said. "Through rallies, distribution of hate literature, cross burnings, and other activities, they aim to threaten, intimidate, and spread their racist terror." According to the Center, the level of danger associated with these groups is evident with the recent arrest of three members affiliated with the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan in southern Illinois, on charges of possessing illegal weapons and a pipe bomb.

Most of the Klan groups operating in the region are rooted in the racist and anti-semitic Christian Identity theology. The Rev. David Ostendorf, Director of the Center, said that "Christian Identity is a vile heresy and must be countered by people of faith. The so-called theology is the foundation of the contemporary white supremacist movement, and underlies groups from the Klan to the militia to the Aryan Nations."

The Center noted that while Klan factions continue their resurgence in the Midwest, they are but a small part of the larger white supremacist movement active in the region. "The Klan constitutes only about ten percent of the organized, racist movement," Burghart said. "The 'Christian Patriot' movement -- the militias, common law courts, and the Christian Identity followers -- is considerably larger, more widespread, and more dangerous," he noted, "and must be taken as seriously as the Klan."

THE PRISON INDUSTRY

by Al Cunningham, San Quentin

WANT TO GET RICH? - BUILD A PRISON
(More prisoners - less higher education)

With a prison population of 1.4 million, the U.S. can well be defined as an industrialized world leader in incarcerations. And with the present day politicians so quick to jump on the bandwagon of "tough on crime" issues, we would be well in our rights to investigate this industry and understand the economics behind it. When you consider the billions and billions of dollars being spent in constructing prisons to warehouse these prisoners, then you can well understand why, in reality, there is nothing being done about really preventing crime on the streets. The real crime is in the prison industry.

THE BIRTH OF A FALSE ECONOMY

Between 1982 and 1992, \$14 billion went into prison expenditures annually for prisons. California spends more for prisons than it does for its universities. Why? Because prisons make more money. There was a time when rural areas fought to prevent prison building in their towns and cities. But now they compete to have prisons in their towns and cities, as such prisons bring thousands of jobs. USA Today reported that in 1992 more than 523,000 full-time employees worked in prisons. With a growth of jobs like this, the prison system is ensured to continue to grow even if the crime rate does not.

In the last 15 years, the number of inmates in California prisons has increased from 23,511 to 216,140 and the state has built 20 new prisons, the largest prison construction program in the nation's history, said Franklin Zimring, Director of the Earl Warren Legal Institute at Berkeley.

firms being established to broker prisoners between systems that are experiencing over-crowding and those which have empty cells.

POLITICAL FRANKENSTEIN

Geoffrey Long, the chief consultant to the State Assembly's Budget Committee, says California will spend more on prisons this year alone than for its two university system, the University of California and the California State Universities.

This in itself gives proof to the real values of our politicians. They are more concerned with incarcerating our children than educating them. And why not, it's a \$31 billion flourishing business. And with this latest call for "Three Strikes, You're Out," private companies like AT&T, GE, and American Express are cashing in with investments in the prison industry. These companies that build and manage prison facilities are making billions of dollars annually, while incarceration rates continue to climb, the quality of inmate care and rehabilitation declines, and taxpayers increasingly foot the bill. There are even

EXPANSION, EXPANSION AND MONEY

According to Craig Brown, the undersecretary of the Youth and Adult Correctional Agency, the three strikes law will necessitate 15 more prisons by the year 2000 at a cost of \$4.5 billion just to stay at the current 182 percent of capacity.

A Rand Corporation study has projected that if the three strikes law is fully implemented, by the year 2002, the Department of Corrections will consume 18 percent of the state's budget, with only 1 percent left for universities. The new law mandates a prison sentence of 25 years to life for third-time offenders.

COMMERCIALIZATION OF A NEW CASH COW

Prisons have become a valuable commodity, and the government is doing all it can to get more. It definitely seems to be the policy.

The clash between spending for prisons and education is taking place in many states around the nation.

wear red or white faces in their boots (white faces stand for white power, red faces for national socialism). Red suspenders are also a hint, but this alone is not enough to peg them, as most kids wear whatever faces they have on hand. So don't write the person in question off yet. Skinheads are proud of their country and tend to wear national flags too.

The most effective method of spotting an organized fascist bonehead is by the patches she/he sports on bomber jackets or t-shirts. Patches that advertise white power bands like skrewdriver, No remorse or minnesotas own Bound for glory provide a dead giveaway. While the below is not a comprehensive set of images, it should provide a guide for action!!!

Tear Down the Prison Walls! Rebuild the Prisoner Solidarity Movement!

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As exploitation and repression increase in tandem in our society, prisons come increasingly front and center, as a social phenomenon, a political issue, and an arena of struggle. Imprisonment has become a mass phenomenon in the U.S., affecting tens of millions of people, directly and through family and friendship networks. As the

Bastille was a prime target of the French Revolution, and the gulag embodied the horrors and distortions of the Soviet state born of the Russian Revolutionary, a revolutionary transformation and de-colonialization of the U.S. empire must come up head first against its prison systems and death penalty.

This is a particularly urgent issue for anti-racists for several reasons. Most obvious is the racial skew of imprisonment in settler-colonial U.S. society. African and Indigenous, Mexican and Latin are imprisoned disproportionately. Studies of drug use, arrest, conviction and imprisonment rates in particular illustrate that the use of illicit drugs is slightly more widespread among whites than Blacks, for instance. But at every stage of the "criminal justice" process, Blacks are singled out for disadvantage and harsh treatment at a steadily increasing

politicized and radical prisoners from the general prison population mirrors the use of the prisons as a whole within the larger society.

Finally, the prisons are a breeding ground for fascism and racism. One aspect is the overt organization of guards into "unions," which influence the entire electoral process via candidate endorsements and campaign financing. They have also proposed and backed propositions for increased incarceration, longer sentences, and more prison construction, as well as manipulating the electorate through front groups such as "crime victims rights" advocates. Similar to the police unions such as the Fraternal Order of Police, which has taken a high profile role in seeking the death penalty for Mumia Abu-Jamal, and the entire New Jersey State Police force, which has led the campaign to seek the return of Assata Shakur from Cuba, the prison guards are capable of independent political action as a fascist wedge. And within the ranks of guards, allying with factions among the prisoners such as the Aryan Brotherhood (AB), clandestine white supremacist forces have also taken root. The recent lynching in Jasper, TX by members of the AB, combined with disclosures of neo-Nazi affiliations among prison guards in NY and California, underline the life-or-death threat posed by such a racist alliance of guards and prisoners. Finally, as in the case of Corcoran Prison, high level state political and judicial authorities have granted protection and impunity to guards who carry out racist brutality and murders to maintain "order" inside the walls.

Another reason for anti-racists and anti-fascists to be concerned about the prisons is that they are used for conscious political repression and social control in a manner that is being extended in severity at large. Political activists and revolutionaries of various liberation movements are locked down inside federal and state prisons to keep them away from their communities and movements and to try to break their resistance. The numerous cases of former Black Panthers who are still locked down, the internationally recognized and exposed incarceration of Puerto Rican patriots and independentists, the political imprisonment of Native warrior Leonard Peltier of the American Indian Movement expose the true nature of this whole society. Moreover, the use of "prisons within a prison," special housing and control units, to isolate

more than a cost-benefit analysis of how much tax revenue prisons cost up vs. how much they generate. It means waging a struggle about what kind of society we want to live in. It means directly challenging the racism and colonialism of a system where, as in NY and CA, the majority of prisoners in every prison throughout the state come from a few neighborhoods in the largest city. It means trying to build solidarity on the outside for the struggles of prisoners to have decent health care, and access to uncensored political information.

Several positive developments give hope that a prison solidarity and resistance movement is being rebuilt in the late 1990s. The Critical Resistance Conference in Berkeley, CA, scheduled to take place as TTT was going to press, brought together activists from around the state, the country, and the world. The October 17 state-wide Car Caravan to Corcoran State Prison could not be more timely, given the recent successful appeal by an ex-warden and several guards of any discipline for their part in the brutal beating of prisoners there. Hopefully, it will expose the involvement of Governor Pete Wilson and Attorney General Dan Lungren in covering up the crimes of the guards there in shooting and killing numerous prisoners whom the guards had set up to fight "gladiator matches." In addition the movement to abolish the racist death penalty and free political prisoner Mumia Abu Jamal has the potential to ignite into broader support for all political prisoners and POW's.

One thing readers can do, in addition to participating in these demonstrations and joining groups such as California Prison Focus, Californians Against Three Strikes, and others. Also, PART distributes "Turning the Tide" free to prisoners in an effort to initiate an anti-racist dialogue. The number of prisoner subscribers has probably doubled in recent months. We need the financial support of readers on the outside, to make it possible to continue providing TTT gratis to all prisoners who request it. Prisoners, if you have supporters, family or friends outside who can help subsidize your subscription, please encourage them to do so.

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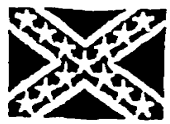
STOP POLICE REPRESSION



HOW TO IDENTIFY A NEO NAZI BONEHEAD
It can be quite confusing to identify a racist bonehead. Being a black white person with boots and a bomber jacket isn't exactly condemning proof. To make matters worse, some of them choose to grow their hair and hide in suits. Some are simply middle men and women who dress smart. Most outwardly white-power boneheads used to



This is the logo of the Heritage Front. Vaguely reminiscent of the swastika, this white, red and black symbol appears on t-shirts, patches, buttons and baseball hats of members and supporters of the HF.



The confederate flag, used by Klan and nazi formations to represent slavery days.



Hitler-worshippers, like the American Nazi Party, use the swastika. It is also used by nearly all white supremacist organizations throughout the world.



This symbol of the Third Reich in Germany is also used by Hitler-lovers throughout the world.



This is the Church of the Creator logo, also white, red and black and most often present without the wording around the outside. It stands for "Racial Loyalty" and white supremacy.



This Celtic symbol was first utilized by the National Front in England, but is one of the most common symbols sported by nazis. For them it represents white supremacy.



This is the logo of the Afrikaner Resistance Movement, white supremacists in South Africa. White supremacists elsewhere use this emblem to glorify the former apartheid system there.



This logo for the Aryan Nations also represents Christian Identity ideology.



This is the symbol used by the ultra-violent SS Action group based in Detroit, with close ties to Heritage Front in Toronto.



American Front logo, skinhead group with chapters throughout the U.S.



White Aryan Resistance logo, U.S. white supremacist group with chapters in Canada and a base of support in Toronto.

What is ARA?

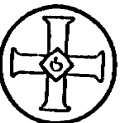
Anti-Racist Action (ARA) is a network of youth based anti-racist groups across North America dedicated to fighting all forms of racism. Mpls ARA is a part of this network. We oppose things like the racist institution of the police as well as organized racist groups like the klan and nazi skinheads. We believe that the only way to smash racism is by doing it ourselves! We are also anti-fascist and pro-queer.

BE YOUNG! HAVE FUN! SMASH RACISM!

19



The various Hammerskin chapters throughout the world use various designs with the crossed white hammers being the common symbol. Many Hammerskins use crossed hammers in conjunction with the flag of their country of residence.



These are two symbols used by various Ku Klux Klan groups, and variations on these are common.

SO...
you got the tips!
NOW...
if there are identifiable nazis in your school, work place, neighbourhood or social spaces,
LET US KNOW!
Drop us a line, or give us a call.



Since we came on the scene in 1992, ARA-Toronto has adhered to a fundamental policy of anti-fascism: **NO PLATFORM FOR NAZIS.** As an activist group, we work to concretely deny fascists any space to organize, by using any means to fuck up their meetings, concerts, recruiting drives, and propaganda operations. This pamphlet spells out what **NO PLATFORM** means in relationship to the media.

How do fascists use the media?

Fascists crave media coverage, to help them spread their ideas and give them legitimacy. Journalists are often unaware of their power to propagandize their violent, anti-democratic message in acceptable terms, as if fascism is just another political ideology.

The problem is made worse when media trivialize their repugnant presence in our communities by ignoring the human costs of nazi organizing. Media can also create fear and uncertainty among people by not reporting on the resistance to fascism, or by portraying anti-racist struggle as "just the other side of the coin".

Media people want to defend their own independence. This makes them especially vulnerable to the "suit-and-tie" nazis who maintain that they are the champions of "freedom of speech". It's pathetic to see such undemocratic slime, who stand for genocide and regimented authority, to resort to crying for "freedom".

Another way that fascists use the media is to make money off them. Literally! According to Floyd Cochran, former recruiter for the Aryan Nations, fully one-third of the Aryan Nations income came from fees charged to media for interviews and for permission to film their racist rituals. Pretty sick when you think that such footage is usually used to create terrifying, sensationalistic images to attract advertising dollars.

How should we respond?

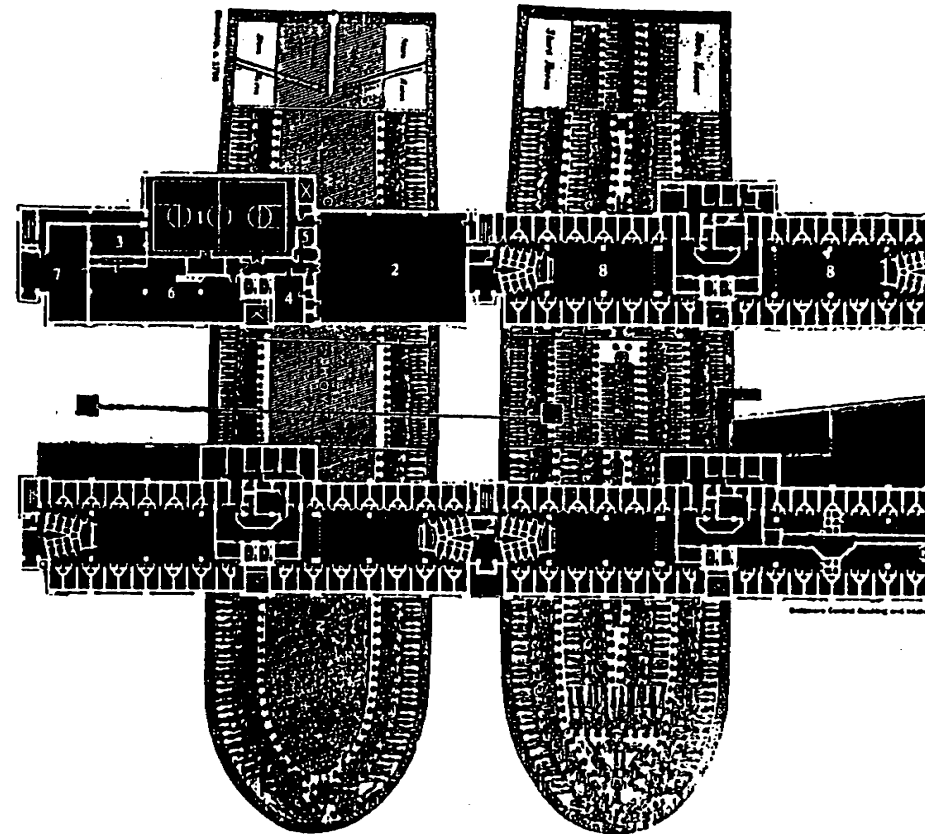
1) We should never engage in "debates" with fascists. Fascism is not a set of ideas that can be politely discussed - it is a violent, undemocratic creed, and as antifas we want to smash the scum, to relegate them to the trash cans where they belong.

A typical scenario is when fascists and anti-fascists "debate" with a "neutral" moderator between them. If the neutral moderator doesn't give any context and doesn't challenge the nazi lies, the whole program tends to give the nazi "facts" as much credibility as the facts and arguments presented by the anti-racists on the "other side". ARA-Toronto has turned down number of requests from the media (radio and TV) if it entails a debate with a fash. We always make sure to check with journalists before hand.



PRISON

AMERIKKA'S NEW PLANTATIONS



JOIN THE CALIFORNIA CAR CARAVAN FOR PRISONERS' HUMAN RIGHTS

Saturday, October 17 Corcoran State Prison

Northern CA: CA Prison Focus & Coalition for Women Prisoners 510-655-2931

Rally at California Women's Prisons in Chowchilla then on to Corcoran

Southern CA: Coalition Against Police Abuse (CAPA) 323-733-2107

The War Against Black America



Here is the first of many essays on critiques of society and how anarchism applies to solving them. They are by no means complete and, as always, not cast in stone.

Self-Government

In anarchism, the state does not entirely disappear; it simply dissolves into the people. The people absorb the state and take up its functions as a part of their everyday existence.

"In the last analysis everyone is the government, so there is no government."
-Proudhon

This describes government by the people; self government; and people's government.

Anarchism as a political theory is more relevant today than ever before. The basic principles of anarchist organization outlined by Bakunin over a hundred years ago are still valid and are actually easier to put into practice now; and the assertion of anarchists that any form of central state inevitably leads to repression has been proven by both the Russian "communist" and the U.S. "democratic" experiments.

So-called democratic systems attempt to guarantee individual freedom and equality through the device of popular election of representatives. But the wedding of representative democracy with capitalism resulted in government by the elite, with a continuous growth of state power, so that individual freedom, while improved somewhat

over monarchist times, is severely limited by the economic political environment.

So called "communist" systems attempt to guarantee individual equality through the device of collectivization of property and the means of production. But the wedding of socialism with a central authoritarian state has essentially the same result as representative-democracy capitalism: government by the elite, continual growth of state power, and continuing loss of power by the people.

The primary tenet of anarchism is individual freedom, that the interests of individual behavior should be chosen by the individual and not imposed by external authority. Inherent in this tenet is the postulate that humans are capable of ruling themselves. Anarchists have faith in the essential goodness of humans and believe that humans are capable of educating themselves to a level of social consciousness sufficient for self-government. Every conscious individual is possessed of the means for self-regulation, which is conscience and mind. The requisites for harmonious co-existence are built into the multiplex relationship of an aware human being with her/his living environment.

"The anarchists conceive of society in which all the mutual relations of its members are regulated, not by laws, not by authority whether

self imposed or elected, but by mutual agreements between the members and by a sum of social customs and habits-not petrified into law, routine, or superstition, but contiguously developing and contiguously readjusting in accordance with the ever growing requirements of a free life stimulated by the progress of science, invention, and the steady growth of higher ideals...a continual evolution such as we see in nature."

- Kropotkin

Today, it can be categorically stated that the growth of power of central state governments in most of the world has become an obstacle to the development of individual and social consciousness. This is so because governments take the responsibility of decision making away from the people, who are capable of making their own decisions. This prevents individual initiative and free expression, reduces the will to learn, and reduces faith in the validity of existence. By also depriving the people of the wealth of society, governments constrain the spread of consciousness with the perpetual propaganda of hate, fear, and separatist nationalism.



Unfortunately, this is not always well-understood even by some leftist groups. For example, a Toronto community centre once hosted a city elections all-candidates meeting. A nazi sympathizer running for a seat was included on the panel. Most other candidates, including a member of the Communist League (comrades of the US Socialist Workers Party) were prepared to go ahead with the "debate", leaving antifas with no option but to shut down the entire meeting.

(On a similar note, ARA-Toronto refuses to share any platform with members of police forces too. Why? Cops present themselves as anti-racists who are combating hatemongers. But in reality, as an institution, the police are rampant with racism, responsible for many deaths of young people of color, and can't even curb nazis in their own ranks! By refusing to share a platform with the cops, we are also denying them legitimacy as an "anti-racist" force in society.)

- 2) We should strive to prevent media from covering fascist events as if they are "just another political event". When we see media doing this, we can be assertive and try to disrupt any interviews, filming, etc. This may make us look like "the bad guys" but we should be able to explain why it's necessary.
- 3) Some journalists are genuinely interested in exposing fascists, critically and responsibly. These are people we can work with and provide information to, as long as we are careful about protecting our own security.
- 4) On the other hand, when journalists are ignorant of these issues, the only tool that we as anti-fascists have is to refuse to contribute to those TV shows, radio shows, documentaries, or articles that we consider irresponsible or dangerous.

Sometimes we may feel like we are losing an opportunity to reach people, but we have to be strong about this principle. Otherwise, we will end up as the "anti-racist voice" that gives a lousy show or article about the nazis more legitimacy than it would otherwise have.

GET INFORMED...GET INVOLVED!



We must constantly remind people in the media that their duty is not only to uphold freedom of speech, but to protect it from being debased and degraded. It's easy to uphold freedom of speech - you just give license to everyone to say whatever they like. But to protect it from being abused is to take a more questioning and self-critical role in terms of how such abuse could lead to an abuse of the first freedom, freedom to life itself.

Journalists should understand that weak, ineffectual interviewing of the fascists by uninformed journalists who are not equipped with facts and who fail to ask probing questions, only gives fascists a platform to propagandize. On the other hand, an investigative documentary with hard facts of their criminal actions, involvement in violence, and the anti-democratic nature of their ideology can undermine the respectability and legitimacy of fascists. A film that puts the facts and then is followed by a grilling of the fascist on the basis of facts, does not just give the fascist a platform so much as take it away by giving it.

If a journalist is allowing a fascist to present their ideology, to any extent, it is also their responsibility to bring forward facts to challenge their racist, oppressive lies.

The bottom line is that broadcasters and journalists are no different from anybody in the society. They should be accountable to our communities, and take responsibility for the effects of their work.

And what about censorship?

Freedom of speech always bring certain responsibilities, in particular the responsibility not to violate other peoples' freedoms. One is only as free as the next man or woman is allowed to be free. Fascism itself has always been about censorship and denial of freedom of speech for all people of color, Jewish people, women and queers. That's why we say NO FREE SPEECH FOR NAZIS - which means anti-racists must always try to prevent fascists from having a public voice.

But that doesn't mean that anti-racists necessarily support state censorship of fascists. We know that censorship will be used mainly against the progressive movements we are part of. It is important for us to make the distinction between state censorship, and community self-defense in the face of fascist propaganda and organizing.

We've come across a fair amount of criticism from the public and from the media, for maintaining these principles. But we have to learn to defend our right to fight for our own safety and security. If that means not co-operating with media when they are being irresponsible, so be it.



Zundel enjoying his moment... Does this goof deserve this?

NO PLATFORM FOR PROPAGANDA, NO FREE SPEECH FOR NAZIS,we mean it.

WHO IS ANTI-RACIST ACTION?

ARA-TORONTO came together in September 1992 to show the strength of our opposition to fascism, as well as our commitment to a multi-racial, multi-cultural, sexually diverse, liberated and fun society! ARA will expose, oppose and confront organized racism and the far-right agenda through education, mass action, and support of broader anti-racist struggles.



(416)631-8835

ARA-TORONTO P.O. BOX 291 Station B TORONTO, ON M5T 2T2 CANADA

E-mail: ara@web.net http://www.web.net/~ara

Thank to England's CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM, for helping us think through these issues! 10/98

It seems that figuring out when the connection was made is easier than finding out why, exactly, black was chosen. The Chicago "Alarm", which is right from the horses mouth, stated that the black flag is "the fearful symbol of hunger misery and death" (Avrich, The Haymarket Tragedy, p. 144). Bookchin asserts that the black flag is the "symbol of the workers misery and as an expression of their anger and bitterness." (Bookchin, p. 51n1).

Along these lines, Albert Meltzer maintains that the association between the black flag and working class revolt "originated in Rheims [France] in 1831 ("Work or Death") in an unemployed demonstration (Meltzer, p. 49). In fact he goes on to assert that it was Michel's action in 1883 that solidified the association. Historically black has been associated with blood -- dried blood specifically -- like the red flag. The color black was originally adopted as a symbol of all the people murdered by the capitalists while fighting for their freedom.

To this question of the black flag, Howard Ehrlich has a great passage in his book Reinventing Anarchy, Again

"Why is our flag black? Black is a shade of negation. The black flag is the negation of all flags. It is a negation of nationhood which puts the human race against itself and denies the unity of all humankind. Black is a mood of anger and outrage at all the hideous crimes against humanity perpetrated in the name of allegiance to one state or another. It is anger and outrage at the insult to human intelligence implied in the pretenses, hypocrisies, and cheap chicaneries of governments.

"Black is also a color of mourning; the black flag which cancels out the nation also mourns its victims the countless millions murdered in wars, external and internal, to the greater glory and stability of some bloody state. It mourns for those whose labor is robbed (taxed) to pay for the slaughter and oppression of other human beings. It mourns not only the death of the body but the crippling of the spirit under authoritarian and hierarchic systems; it mourns the millions of brain cells blacked out with never a chance to light up the world. It is a color of inconsolable grief.

"But black is also beautiful. It is a color of determination, of resolve, of strength, a color by which all others are clarified and defined. Black is the mysterious surrounding of germination, of fertility, the breeding ground of new life which always evolves, renews, refreshes, and reproduces itself in darkness. The seed hidden in the earth, the strange journey of the sperm, the secret growth of the embryo in the womb all these the blackness surrounds and protects.

The Black & Red Flag

Black and red are the colors of the Anarchist labor movement known as Anarcho-syndicalism. The red symbolizing Syndicalism (revolutionary unionism based on the idea of Direct Action) was joined with the black symbolizing Anarchism. Black and red banners first appeared in different configurations around the turn of the century. A flag divided diagonally with a red and black triangle was popular in Spain in the 1930s and is still in use by the Anarchist labor movement today.

The Circle-A (A)

Even harder to track down is the origination of the "circle-A" as an anarchist symbol. Many think that it started in the 1970s punk movement, but it goes back to a much earlier period. On November 25, 1956, at its foundation in Brussels, the Alliance Ouvriere Anarchiste (AOA) adopted this symbol. Going even further, a BBC documentary on the Spanish Civil War shows an anarchist militia member with a "circle-A" clearly on the back of his helmet. Other than this, there is little know about the "circle-A's" ori gin.

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ANARCHISM & THE HISTORY OF THE BLACK FLAG

The Black Flag In Anarchist History

Anarchists have used symbolism in their revolt against the State and Capital, not only the black flag, but also the circle-A. Circle-A's are spray-painted on walls and under bridges all over the world; punks display them on their jackets and scrawl them into half-dried cement. Black flags have recently been resurrected in Russia and continue to fly in most parts of the world.

There are ample accounts of the use of black flags by Anarchists. Probably the most famous, was Nestor Makhno's partisans during the Russia Revolution. Under the black banner, his army routed a dozen armies and kept a large portion of the Ukraine free from concentrated power for a good couple years. More recently, Parisian students carried black (and red) flags during the massive General Strike of 1968.

But the Anarchists' black flag originated much earlier than this. The first account is actually unknown. It seems that this credit is reserved for Louise Michel, famous participant in the Paris Commune of 1871. According to Anarchist historian George Woodcock, Michel flew the black flag on March 9, 1883, during demonstration of the unemployed in Paris, France. With 500 strong, Michel at the lead and shouting "Bread, work, or lead!", they pillaged three baker's shops before being arrested by the police (Woodcock, pp. 284-285). No earlier reports can be found of Anarchists and the black flag.

Not long after, the black symbol made it's way to America. Paul Avrich reports that on November 27, 1884, the black flag was displayed in Chicago at an Anarchist demonstration. According to Avrich, August Spies, one of the famous Haymarket martyrs, noted that this was the first occasion on which [the black flag] had been unfurled on American soil (Avrich, *The Haymarket Tragedy*, pp. 144-145).

On a more dreary note, February 13, 1921 was the date that marked the end of black flags in Soviet Russia. On that day, Peter Kropotkin's funeral took place in Moscow. Masses of people whose march stretched for miles, carried black banners that read, "Where there is authority there is no freedom" (Avrich, *The Anarchists in the Russian Revolution*, p. 26). It seems that black flags didn't appear in Russia until the founding of the Chernoe Znamia ("black banner") movement in 1905. Only two weeks after Kropotkin's funeral march, the Kronstadt rebellion broke out and anarchism was erased from Soviet Russia for good.

While the events above are fairly well known, as has been related, the exact origin of the black flag is not. What is known is that a large number of Anarchist groups in the early 1890s adopted titles associated with black.

In July of 1881, the Black International met in London. This was an attempt to reorganize the Anarchist wing of recently dissolved First International. Similarly, there was the Black Band in France (1882) and the Mano Negra (Black Hand) Andalusia, Spain (1883). These dates are immediately followed by Michel's demonstration (1883) and the black flags in Chicago (1884).

Further solidifying this period (circa early 1890s) as the birth of the symbol is the name of a short lived French Anarchist publication: "Le Drapeau Noir" (The Black Flag). According to Rodenck Kedward, this Anarchist paper existed for a few years dating sometime before October 1882, when a bomb was thrown into a cafe in Lyons (Kedward, p. 35). Backing up this theory, Avrich states that in 1884, the black flag "was the new anarchist emblem" (Avrich, *The Haymarket Tragedy*, p. 144). In agreement, Murray Bookchin reports that "in later years, the Anarchists were to adopt the black flag" when speaking of the Spanish Anarchist movement in June, 1879 (Bookchin, p. 51n1). At that time, Anarchists widely used the red flag. It appears obvious (though not conclusive) that this is the period that the black flag bonded with Anarchism.



HOW TO FIGHT RACISM

WHAT WE BELIEVE

Anarchists believe in Equality between all people regardless of where their ancestors came from, what color their skin is, or where they were born. We believe in social equality regardless of ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation. We believe in an economy and community where everybody cooperates to make sure that we all can live healthy, prosperous, and pleasant lives. Anarchism is the philosophy of personal freedom, personal responsibility and mutual respect between all people. Anti-Racist Action is based on the ideas of Solidarity and Mutual Aid. Solidarity is our natural outrage every time we see an act of injustice or evil. Mutual Aid is the practice of people banding together to oppose a common enemy or confront a challenge that may seem insurmountable to individuals but, can be overcome when we work together as a group.

WHERE DID RACISM COME FROM?

Racism was invented by rich people to keep working people divided so they wouldn't unite and overthrow capitalism. Racism originated with the European class system where people had pigmented skin only if they had to work outdoors. The rich considered manual labor the duty of inferiors and therefore viewed anyone with the characteristics of a worker as below their station. The term "blue blood" originated from the ability to see a rich person's veins through their pale skin. The term "gentleman", "gentlewoman" or "gentry" referred to a person raised to believe that physical exertion was the work of inferiors. Aristocrats developed strict codes of conduct to exclude any outsider from the privileges they enjoyed. The power of the ruling class originated with ownership of the land which gave them a monopoly over food production. Control of the land eventually gave them influence over the government. Capitalism originated with traders and bankers who owned no land but, bought and sold the products of craftsmen and landowners. The invention of industry enabled these traders to outstrip the wealth of landowners. When Capitalists began to dominate the economy they aspired to live like the gentry which included their class prejudices. European countries exploring the world justified taking land from non-Europeans based on religious or cultural bigotry. Aristocrats who believed workers to be inferior saw "non-Christian" or "colored" people that they sold as slaves or forced into poverty and starvation by stealing their land as less than human (Blacks were worth 3/5 of a person in the U.S. Constitution and Native Americans didn't count). They found that they could use their armies to force these people to live on less than they paid their European workers if they told the European workers that "coloreds" would only get the dirty work they didn't want to do.

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS RACE

Biologists have found no genetic similarity between people who have been grouped as races because of their skin pigmentation. Human blood types have no correlation with racial groupings based on skin pigmentation. Humans with different ethnic characteristics, including skin pigmentation, are capable of interbreeding. Most Americans who are descended from slaves have some European ancestry. Skin pigmentation is a product of the geographic origin of a person's ancestors. People whose ancestors lived for many generations in tropical climates will tend to develop darker skin pigmentation as a biochemical defense mechanism against exposure. People whose ancestors lived in forested regions with seasonal cold and snow will tend to be more pale. History shows that all major language groups in the world show evidence of large scale migrations throughout history. Language groups were created by trade between peoples who lived in geographic proximity to each other. There are many genetic characteristics which transcend language families. This is because most groups have interbred with other groups to a great enough degree to share these traits across ethnic, cultural or linguistic barriers.

HOW DO WE FIGHT RACISM?

The foremost thing we have to do is to attack the institutions which "legitimize" racism: Those political and economic powers which tell people that racist behavior and ideas are respectable rather than shameful. We must show that we believe racism to be cowardly, shameful and beneath contempt. We must embarrass those who are comfortable with their racism and show others who question racism that their anti-racist instincts are correct. Our best weapons against racism are our common sense and our unity against racist violence and exploitation. Our goal is social equality for all people. We will achieve this after we do away with all the institutions who depend on racism in order to exploit us. Racism is motivated by greed and perpetuated by power and ignorance. We want to abolish capitalism in favor of worker ownership and self-management of the workplace. We want to abolish governments which create division to protect a few wealthy and powerful people in favor of autonomous self-governing communities who coordinate their activities through decentralized federations. We want to create free schools in the community where children can grow up happy and without bigotry. Doing away with capitalists, bosses and professional politicians and returning control of work and the community to people who do productive labor in a society where people can have as much as they can earn by working in a single lifetime will create a society where everyone who wants to work can have a comfortable life.

How do we address the issue of racism? Racial divisions within capitalist society have reproduced themselves in the various social-revolutionary tendencies that have developed in the United States, creating segregated, isolated groupings with no real reach or power. Lacking mass-based organizations capable of confronting the capitalist's power, all of these tendencies come off as so much fluff. Whether they are small Leninist political parties or small Anarchist affinity groups and associations, they cannot be effective unless they are capable of mobilizing at least a sizeable organized minority of the population in sustained struggle. Lacking this ability, such groups will always be flashes in the pan, incapable of significant victories, either around the issue of racism or any other for that matter.

Racism is created by a multiplicity of factors, some economic (it serves our rulers to keep us fighting each other), some psychological (it's easier to fear and/or hate someone that is "different" than it is to take the time to examine the nature of those "differences"), and some sociological (it is easier to apply blame downward than it is to apply blame upward, toward those who own or dominate every aspect of society). It is not a simple issue subject to simplistic solutions. Even merely approaching the issue is difficult, since racistist thinking inhabits both the dominate

and subordinate racial groups. Overtures from white political groups are met with understandable distrust by non-white groups, particularly if the purpose of the overtures seems to be merely "selling" a line of ideas. In a country of almost universal political naivete such as the United States, where voting and "studying the issues" (within a carefully restricted framework) is viewed as the primary political activity, anyone, under any circumstances, promoting a different agenda is going to be viewed with distrust (or disdain).

A vehicle and forum for uniting different racial groups toward a common purpose on a sustained basis is needed. Only in such a forum can the level of trust be established to confront the real issues of racism

head-on, as they arise, as they most surely will. Important issues such as racism can only be effectively addressed when people have established contact as people first. Sociology expands from the individual, to the small group, to the larger group, and then finally to society at large. Of course establishing a personal relationship with a person from another racial group does not eliminate racistist thinking. "Some of my best friends are...." However, working on projects of common interests and desires creates a broader comradeship that, if done within the context of a social revolutionary endeavor, can create a microcosm of a future, non-racist (and non-racistist) society.

Of the three contributing aspects of racism (economics, psychology and sociology), economics seems the best suited avenue of approach in creating the kind of vehicle which will provide a forum to establish the kind of personal relationships necessary for real dialogue. Pro-capitalist, accommodationist economic organizations (business unions/union businesses) have proven unsuitable as such vehicles. Although they have brought varying groups together, and have established a minor track record in addressing racism, the vast majority are in fact the oppressive State in microcosm, with jumped-up presidents and representatives at least as useless as the ones who inhabit government. Only non-hierarchical, direct democracy-based (syndicalist) unions could provide an adequate forum for the kind of head-on dialogue we are advocating. Only such organizations would be capable of attacking and defeating the economic and governmental sources which support racism.

Of all the aspects of racism, the internalized psychological aspects are the most difficult. As rational beings, we are capable of rationalizing almost anything. Unfortunately, our present social chaos ("capitalist democracy") provides an almost unlimited resource of justifications for racist and racistist perceptions. Objective, critical thinking is a rare thing. Subjective, emotional responses are not only

encouraged but cultivated, by both the left and the right (it's easier to move the 'masses' if the 'masses' are moving with their brains turned off). Both the Left and the Right are endeavoring to spur the 'masses' into creating the kind of vacuum they each need to establish power (as taught by both Lenin and Hitler). The Right is having a hell of a lot more success at present. Anarchists and libertarian socialists require that people (at least a sizable minority of the working class) develop an objective, critical realization of their condition and their potential power. This is harder, but we believe it will create a revolution worthy of the effort. We cannot achieve liberation unless we liberate ourselves from the stinking baggage of racism. We cannot view race in the terms that most Leftists do, as in viewing people in terms of their relative value as "representatives of oppressed minorities", to be recruited in means that resemble capture far more than respectful, equalitarian welcome. We must address racism in realistic terms, and not in dismissive, fanciful ideals ("after the revolution, racism won't exist, nor sexism, nor homophobia..."). Indeed, unless racism is dealt a death-blow in the initial stages of the revolution (now), it will haunt us like Hamlet's dad, or worse. Platitudes and homilies will not do. The feelings are too ingrained and the justifications are too realistic. We all know we are basically equal. We are all born babies, but we are born into a world of inequality and exploitation, which is rapidly moving toward barbarism (if it's not there already). A plethora of racist stereotypes have been encoded in our thinking (unless we have had the benefit of nurturing in an intentional community) and these must be confronted. How much better it would be if we confronted these stereotypical feelings with people whose support and comradeship we must count on. Revolutionary economic organizations seem to be the best vehicle for this kind of interaction.

Mike Kolchak

ANARCHISM AND IMMIGRATION

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO LIVE WHERE YOU CHOSE.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO WORK WHERE YOU CHOSE.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO TRAVEL WHERE YOU CHOSE.

Anarchists Believe In Free Association

This means that everyone has the right to live where they chose, work where they chose, and have social relationships with whom they chose.

Anarchists Are Anti-Racist

We do not believe in differentiating between people because of their ethnic ancestry. We believe that all privilege, discrimination, or segregation based on ethnicity, national origin, or cultural group must be eradicated

Anarchists Are Anti-Nationalist

This means that we do not recognize the right of any government to legislate citizenship. We do not recognize the territorial sovereignty of any nation or the legitimacy of any national borders.

Anarchists Are Anti-Authoritarian

We believe that no one should dominate another, no national government should seek to dominate another, and no ethnic group, caste, social class should dominate another. We believe that society should be organized democratically and that the rich man's government must be abolished. We believe that social peace should be maintained by the community and not racist cops.

Anarchists Are Anti-Capitalist

We believe that poverty and unemployment are intentionally created by capitalists as threats to use against and control working people. They are not caused by immigration which is simply the migration of people from areas of the World where land and labor are exploited by the capitalists to areas of the World where capitalists own powerful governments whose laws and military forces protect them and their wealth

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASSOCIATE WITH WHOM YOU CHOSE.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO SPEAK AN LANGUAGE YOU CHOSE.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO PRIVACY.

and do their bidding. We believe that everyone who wants work should have a well-paid job and that jobs like raising children, not compensated by capitalists, should be financially supported. Under capitalism 4 out of every 5 dollars in we produced by a worker is stolen by capitalists, bosses, government before they are paid for their work. We believe that it is possible for everyone who want to work to have a job where they can earn more but, work only half as much under capitalism. We believe that people should not be restricted in moving across national borders to work to feed their families because there is plenty of work for everyone.

Anarchists Believe In International Labor Solidarity

We believe in Syndicalism, Industrial Unionism, and the use of Direct Action including the Stay-In General Strike where workers occupy their work places to deprive the capitalist and their police state governments the resources to attack. We believe that the people who do the work should own their work place and share the benefit of what they produce and not wage slavery, where capitalists steal the value of what produce and call it "profit," must be abolished. We believe that capitalists and bosses who produce nothing and exploit our labor should be done away with and replaced with cooperative work places which are run democratically. We believe that working people of all nations should cooperate to insure that everyone has an equal standard of living and that transnational capitalist corporations can no longer force us to accept wage slavery, dangerous and inhumane work conditions, and the poisoning of our communities by pollution to avoid the threat of poverty, unemployment, or death starvation or disease. We believe that working people should take control of their lives without any need for leaders or government to tell them what to do because they know what needs to be done and are best able to make it happen



ANARCHISM IS THE PHILOSOPHY OF FREEDOM, SOCIAL EQUALITY, AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN LIFE. JOIN US. UNITE AND FIGHT FOR A BETTER WORLD.

herself by asserting herself as an individual and not a sex commodity." She believed that women had to unlearn the gender roles and stereotypes forced on them by bourgeois (Upper Middle Class) society.

Margaret Sanger was an organizer for the Industrial Workers of the World. She participated in the Paterson, NJ Textile Strike of 1913 as well as strikes in Lawrence, MA and Hazelton, PA. She contributed articles to Havel's *Revolt*, Emma Goldman's *Mother Earth*, Alexander Berkman's *The Blast* and *The Modern School* magazine.

On October 16, 1916 she opened the first birth control clinic. When it was closed by the police, she published 100,000 copies of *Family Limitation*, the first pamphlet with practical birth control information. Margaret Sanger smuggled birth control devices into the United States when they were illegal. She was responsible for the fundraising for the development of the modern Birth Control Pill.

ARGENTINA

In Argentina, women Anarchists set up the revolutionary *The Voice of the Woman* newspaper in the 1890s. This was one of the "first ... instances in Latin America of the fusion of feminist ideas with a revolutionary and working-class orientation and differs from the feminism found elsewhere in Latin America ... which centered on educated middle-class women and ... reflected their specific concerns".

The same study continues: "The distinctiveness of *The Voice of the Woman* as an Anarchist paper lay in its recognition of the specificity of women's oppression. It called on women to mobilize against their oppression both as women and as workers" (Maxine Molyneux, *Latin American Perspectives*, 13 (1), 1986).

CHINA

In China, the Anarchist movement pioneered a distinct Anarchist position on women's liberation. In contrast to the Chinese nationalists, who wanted women's liberation only as a way of "building the nation", women Anarchists like He Zhen argued for class struggle and the right of women to determine their own lives.

He Zhen linked women's rights to the call for a complete social revolution; she knew the "the oppression of women to be linked to modern class divisions and economic exploitation as well as traditional culture" (Peter Zarrow, *The Journal of Asian Studies*, 47(4), 1988).

SPANISH REVOLUTION

In Spain in 1936, the working class organized a revolution for Anarchism. Workers seized the land and factories, managed them and their communities without bosses or governments and organized a workers army to defend against Fascism and dictatorship.

Women also made gains. Women played a full part in the revolutionary struggle. Women were everywhere - Women were active in the workers collectives, and workers army where they fought alongside the men as equals. Women were taking up the fight against the sexist attitudes of the past which have no place in any real revolution (Martha A. Ackelsberg, *Free Women of Spain*).

The Anarchist women's organization, *Mujeres Libres* (Free Women) had 30,000 members. *Mujeres Libres* organized working-class women. It believed that women must achieve freedom by working together and working in their communities. It stood for gender equality, women's education and empowerment, and class struggle. It worked closely with the Anarchist youth (FIJL - Iberian Anarchist Youth Federation) and trade unions (CNT-National Workers Confederation and FAI-Iberian Anarchist Federation).

Mujeres Libres believed that women must free themselves not by electing women "leaders", but by organizing themselves, building women's self-confidence in their capabilities through projects where they could demonstrate and experience a sense of their own capacity as women (this was called "propaganda by the deed") and by confronting those who would deny them equal status and treatment in society (this was called "direct action"). Before the revolution, *Mujeres Libres* organized women workers and distributed information on contraception. They organized schools where women could receive an education and free clinics where they could receive health care and information. During the revolution abortion was legalized in the revolutionary zone. Centers were opened for women, including unmarried mothers and prostitutes.

Even though Stalinists (Communists) and Socialists in Spain betrayed the revolution and allowed the Fascists to win the war, the women who participated in *Mujeres Libres* maintain that it changed their lives forever. Their message that the Anarchist revolution must include the emancipation of women is carried forward by women and men in the Anarchist movement today who want to organize a new society where women and men are social equals, their differences are recognized and they can both cooperate with and mutually respect each other.

FUNDAMENTALS OF ANARCHISM

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WHAT IS FREE ASSOCIATION?

Free Association is the idea that we cannot be free as individuals without having free relationships with others, that no one person can be free unless we are all free and that for each of us to be free we must work together to insure that everyone else is free. In an Anarchist society people would cooperate with each other to achieve the following:

Complete Social Freedom Including Sexual Freedom and Reproductive Freedom: People associate because all participants want to.

Freedom of Speech, Press and Information to include all forms of communication and education.

Complete Cultural Freedom including the freedom of individual tastes, lifestyle, entertainment and other preferences.

Freedom of Movement: All people must be allowed to live where they chose, travel where they chose, shop where they chose (e.g. do business where you chose), recreate where you chose, etc.. This includes the freedom to migrate and immigrate without being restricted or discriminated upon because of your place of birth or the place of birth of your ancestors.

Complete Economic Freedom Which can only exist if all persons retain control of their labor power, enter productive relationships voluntarily, and are compensated for the full value of their productive activity: All forms of economic exploitation must be destroyed including capitalism, debt slavery, and theft. Full compensation for child rearing as a job. Freedom to enjoy all you can earn or create in a single lifetime.

Freedom to Assemble Peacefully With Other Persons for Common Purposes, Collective Organization and Joint Petition for Redress: All people must be allowed to associate freely with the groups they chose and to disassociate themselves when they chose. All people must be allowed to organize in their place of work and in their community. All people must be entitled to work together for the purpose of rendering Mutual Aid and to receive Mutual Aid when they need it.

Completely Cooperative Relationships for Production, Companionship, Reproduction, Exchange, Recreation, etc.: The elimination of all authoritarianism and coercion, non-violent conflict resolution, and intolerance of predatory, parasitic or obstructionist behavior through Mutual Aid.

Direct Democracy and Majority Rule for All Political, Economic, and Military Collective Activities (e.g. "New England Town Hall Meeting", "Syndicalist Unions/Free Workers' Councils", "Democratic Militias/Neighborhood Watch"), **Individual Self-determination, and Community Self-Determination:** No Government, No Political Parties, No Leaders, No Corporations, No Police and No Church. Personal responsibility and accountability rather than coercion.

The Destruction of all Forms of Bigotry: Bigotry is intended to limit individual freedom by excluding persons or groups of persons, by creating unnatural divisions and conflicts between groups of persons and by distracting persons from the exploitations of the ruling class, their political system, and their social control mechanisms. This means that gender bias, ethnic bias, heterosexist/homosexist bias, class bias/privilege, etc. must never be tolerated. This also means the rejection of any cultural or religious values which advocate bigotry.

Personal Privacy including freedom from unreasonable search and seizure, surveillance or intrusion into your domestic or personal affairs, relationships, and activities.

A Humane Quality of Life For Everyone including food, clothing, shelter, health care, sanitation and a healthy environment necessary for everyone to be free to live for reasons other than just survival. "Slaves to hunger are not free." Education, job training, child care, transportation and work for everybody. Mutual Aid for workers who are sick or injured. Mutual Aid for those who are young, old or infirmed to work. Everyone should be able to chose when to end their life.

FUNDAMENTALS OF ANARCHISM

WHAT IS ANTI-AUTHORITARIANISM?

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Anarchism is not chaos, violence or an "alternative lifestyle." We have a specific understanding of what authority is, how it leads to injustice and how we can organize society without it; based on freedom, social equality and cooperation:

Government, The State - direct democracy, elimination of parliamentary/representative government and all dictatorships, collectivization of all government services, replacement of the Welfare State with Mutual Aid associations, no taxes.

Cops, Courts - social peace should be maintained by Mutual Aid¹, conflicts should be resolved by creating a culture of cooperation, wrongdoing should be discouraged by giving economic opportunity to everyone and discouraging exploitation and fraud (parasites), abolition of all institutions of coercion, no cops, no judges, no lawyers, neighborhood watches chosen by lottery will bring accusers and people accused of wrongdoing before juries chosen by lottery to review all complaints and right wrongs, civil courts will be replaced by arbitration, investigations of wrongdoing will be by forensic collectives.

Laws, Prisons - current laws should be replaced with community standards against murder, violence, coercion, rape, stealing, fraud and other actions deemed socially repugnant, infractions dealing with so-called victimless "crimes" should be decriminalized, social problems should be dealt with through counseling and mutual aid, persons in prison for victimless "crimes" and economic offenses should be released, economic wrongdoing should be compensated by restitution rather than incarceration, political prisoners should be freed, prisons will be closed, persons who commit murder, rape or other violent acts against others should be treated at specialized mental health facilities until it is safe for them to return to society.

Banks, Finance - creation of Mutualist community credit unions, abolition of capitalism (no stocks or arbitrage), abolition of banks and all usury (interest), spending by debit, creation of local currencies backed by credit unions (like travelers checks) creation of barter services, service exchanges and free commerce, no checks, no credit cards, no "unsecured" credit.

Property, Land Use - collectivization of all real property (real estate), no landlords, no rents, exclusivity of property use while you use it (but it is not a "right" which you can buy, sell or own), no inheritance (everyone has the right to whatever they can earn in a single lifetime), land development decisions (for new housing, etc.) would be a community decision, decisions affecting more than one community would be made cooperatively by the communities affected (or by negotiation or arbitration if there were a disagreement), creation of common lands for parks, community gardens and natural preserves.

Work, Production - elimination of all bosses (scheduling should be done by clerks, budgeting by accountants), collectivization of production by workplace, worker self-management (work could be organized as a Syndicalist union-operated enterprise, collective, commune, partnership, family enterprise or self-directed enterprise), reorganization of bureaucracy into working groups (project or task oriented), preservation of professional expertise through on the job training within working groups², economic cooperation among work places.

Gender, Family - social equality for women and men, gender relationships based on free association and mutual respect without dependency or control, abolition of civil marriage and divorce, sexual freedom and self-determination, universal availability of birth control information, contraception and abortion, free health care, free child care³, compensation for child care like other work, elimination of poverty through universal employment, increase in leisure/family time and activities by shortening the work day, paid maternity/paternity leave from work.

Children, Education - children are best raised with love and attention rather than regimentation and harsh discipline, they should be introduced to learning as early as possible, their interests and creativity should be encouraged so they can develop their full potential, schooling should be in a tutorial style with small teaching groups so children can receive adequate attention, learning should be by doing rather than rote memorization, gender and ethnic biases should be eliminated from education, all education should be free³.

¹Anarchists do not consider Mutual Aid to be "authoritarian." Solidarity or empathy for those who are treated unfairly is considered to be a form of natural morality (see Kropotkin, *Anarchist Morality* and *Mutual Aid*).

²Anarchists do not consider professional expertise to be "authoritarian" (see Bakunin, *Law and Authority*).

³Health care, child care and education should be paid for by the workplace as part of the cost of production.

ANARCHISM

A HISTORY OF FIGHTING FOR WOMEN'S FREEDOM

The Anarchist Movement long fought against women's oppression. And many prominent figures in the women's movement were Anarchists. The following are some examples, but there are many more.

MICHAEL BAKUNIN

Michael Bakunin, a founder of Anarchism, was a fighter for women's freedom. "In the eyes of the law", Bakunin noted, "even the best educated, talented, intelligent woman is inferior to even the most ignorant man".

For the poor underprivileged women, said Bakunin, there is the threat of "hunger and cold", and the threat of sexual assault and prostitution.

Even within the family, women are too often the "slaves of their husbands", and their children are "deprived of a decent education, condemned to a brutish life of servitude and degradation". Instead of this, "equal rights must belong to both men and women" (Bakunin). Women must be economically independent, "free to forge their own way of life".

This requires united workers struggle against the bosses. As Bakunin put it: "Oppressed women! Your cause is indissolubly tied to the common cause of all the exploited workers -- men and women!"

EMMA GOLDMAN

Emma Goldman was another US Anarchist militant. She was born in a Jewish ghetto in Russia, and left for the USA in the 1880s where she was textile worker. Working in the factories as a seamstress, she became a militant agitator and speaker after the hanging of Anarchist labor organizers in Chicago in 1886.

Emma Goldman believed in revolutionary trade unionism. Emma Goldman stood for the rights of women. She rejected male domination in the family and called for equality between men and women. She opposed capitalism, which reduces women to cheap labor and sex objects. Emma criticized the middle-class reformist feminists of her time for being detached from the economic realities of working class women.

Emma was repeatedly imprisoned: for calling on the unemployed to organize to demand bread; for distributing information on birth control; and for organizing against World War One. She was deported in 1919 and was active in both the Russian Revolution (1917-21) and the Spanish Civil War (1936-9)

LUCY PARSONS

Lucy Parsons was an African American and Native American woman Anarchist militant who fought for the rights of workers, African Americans and women in the United States.

In her 1905 speech to the founding conference of the revolutionary trade union- the Industrial Workers of the World, Lucy Parsons paid close attention to the oppression of working class women. She noted how that oppression was used by the bosses to reduce the wages of the entire working class: "We, the women of this country, have no ballot even if we wished to use it ... but we have our labor ... Whenever wages are to be reduced, the capitalist class uses women to reduce them."

At a time when the left tended to ignore the plight of prostitutes, Lucy Parsons told the conference that she also spoke for "my sisters whom I can see in the night when I go out in Chicago".

MARGARET SANGER

Margaret Sanger was an American nurse, Anarchist, and birth control activist who provided health care for poor immigrant women and their families on New York's lower east side. Her journal *The Woman Rebel* (March 1914) bore the slogan "No Gods No Masters" and carried articles which encouraged women to think for themselves. She advocated the availability of birth control for all women both to free themselves from the adverse health effects of being forced to have too many children and to give sexual freedom and equality to women. She said that "women's development, freedom and independence must come from and through

WHY ANTI-AUTHORITARIAN?

We are told that without governments, cops, laws, corporations, parental discipline and all the other instruments of coercion that are used to control and exploit us that society would be in chaos, that we would be terrorized by crime and that we would constantly be in fear for our lives. We are told that without strong "leaders" telling us what to do, bosses supervising our work and teachers telling us how to think that we could never solve our problems or manage our own lives. We are told that without a lot of rules, regimentation of society and churches to tell us right from wrong that we cannot be moral and know to live together with peace, freedom and social justice for all. But these things are all LIES told to us by the most privileged members of society who expect to get rich off our labor, get powerful from our votes and send us to die in their wars the next time they fight a war with each other to try to get even more wealth, power and social privilege than anyone could ever use in a lifetime. They tell us to do what we are told because they need us to OBEY in order to ACCEPT living to serve their interests, BELIEVE that we are still free and HOPE that if we work hard and follow all their rules that WE will be rewarded with wealth, comfort and social privilege one day. In a society where the richest 10% of the population owns about 90% of all business and 68% of ALL wealth, this is a fantasy.

Authority is so entrenched in our society that many people do not realize the extent to which it influences their lives. We begin being brainwashed to OBEY as soon as we are born. As a child our parents often ignore our interests and aptitudes and try to make us be just like them or accomplish something they wish they had done when they were young. They blame us for our problems and try to take credit for our accomplishments. Many of the stereotypes and prejudices people have are drilled into them by their parents. We are punished until we do what we are told. We are harassed and belittled if we show independence or creativity. When we go to school, parental authority is supplemented by the regimentation of teachers and the indoctrination of public or church education. We are taught to try to follow "leaders", obey the government and to accept the values "leaders" think are best for us. When we get out of school we are told to obey our boss or loose our job and go hungry. We are told that voting for our masters makes us "free." We are told to die for "our" country. Until life gets really hard, most people take this nonsense for granted and consider it "normal" and even a source of personal security.

The advocates of modern government and corporate authority want us to believe that we can't live without them, but capitalism was only invented in the 1700s and most modern nation-states didn't exist before the 1800s! For thousands of years people lived in relative peace organizing their communities democratically, cooperating economically and respecting the well-being of others and the environment. Great civilizations like the Iroquois Confederation of eastern North America, the Ibo and Yoruba of western Africa and the Celtic culture of Europe and southwest Asia (which stretched from Portugal to Ireland, Germany, the Balkans and Turkey when Romans were still living in mud huts) were organized without kings, leaders, bureaucracies, social classes or patriarchal families. Then self-serving people began to say "worship our god or die", "obey our leaders or die", and "work to make us rich or die." Organized protection rackets by gangs of thieves turned into walled forts on trade routes, cities and eventually empires, monarchies and modern nation-states. All modern nation states have been built with authority based on coercion. Capitalism is an economy based on the coercion of labor. Religion is a culture based on the coercion of individual self-esteem.

Anarchists believe that the idea of Authority is at the heart of much of the social problems, injustices and hopelessness in modern society. In order to have hope that our life can be rich and meaningful, we need to have the freedom to make our own decisions and benefit from our own efforts. In order to solve our problems, we must take care of them ourselves. In order to have justice, we need to trust in our own inherent sense of right and wrong when we see others being hurt. Authority only guarantees freedom, justice and prosperity to those with the authority. If we want a society where everyone can have these things, then it must be democratic and equitable rather than authoritarian. But if we want a better life, we cannot wait for someone to give it to us or for another "leader" to tell us what to do, we need to take the initiative ourselves. Anarchists are spontaneous. Instead of "tell us what to do" we say "do it yourself!" Anarchists believe in Direct Action. Instead of demanding that the people running the system change, WE CHANGE THE SYSTEM OURSELVES!

Authority can only exist if the rest of us allow someone else to tell us what to do, what to think and how to live. Although those with authority use coercion to maintain power over our lives, we have something more powerful than their coercion. That is our refusal to OBEY them, to ACCEPT their system or to BELIEVE what they tell us. But it only works IF WE WORK TOGETHER. It only works if we reject the materialism, exploitation, and bigotry of those who now have authority. It only works if we take personal responsibility for our own actions and practice Mutual Aid (we help each other when we need help, we object to injustice when we see others wronged and we work together when a job is to big for any of us alone).

The alternative to authority is cooperation. Anarchists believe that we can guarantee freedom, justice and opportunity for each of us by working together to insure it for everyone. We believe that we can create a culture of freedom and social equality to replace the current culture of violence, obedience, and exploitation. Successful Anarchist societies have existed in modern times in Spain during the Spanish Civil War and in the Ukraine during the Russian Revolution.

not entirely, on its gut-level, emotional impact. It relies heavily on FEAR, whether fear of the Black population or the consequences of a large and growing immigrant population. The use of fear as a basis of racism highlights the very nature of the problem of "common sense" racism. And that is this, fear makes people feel weak and insecure, and people of course will react negatively to negative emotion. This insecurity results in behavior between members of our class which cannot always be explained rationally. Thus playing on the fears of a segment of class also means playing fast and loose with the truth and twisting interpretations of events to fit a racist point of view.

Fear of the Black population and groups like Latinos who are stereotyped as "immigrants" has long been used to justify racism. The racist demagogue concentrate on differences of what THEY call "alien" cultures which are then compared against the supposedly "morally" superior "American Way."

The promotion of this basic chauvinism along with the deliberate twisting of the cultures of people of color in a gross and alarmist way creates a negative feeling toward people of color. Many of the stereotypes thus created are used to sustain the myths about race.

Many of the stereotypes at the forefront of the racist propaganda machine are ones that show a direct threat to "White" suburban tranquility, such as wanton, ultra-violence. During the 1980s drugs and crime were presented as synonymous with Black inner-city youth, although more drugs actually resided in the "White" suburbs. The myth of violence is now ingrained in many "White" minds. This is one of the many ways that the Ruling Class promotes racist fear which of course leads to naked hostility and open hatred between large segments of our class. That is exactly what our rulers want!

SCAPEGOATING IMMIGRANTS

Another way the Ruling Class crushes the unity of the working class is to create direct competition between "native" and "immigrant" labor. They base this on the idea that native and immigrant or foreign-born workers have different economic positions within the society. In truth, immigrant workers are doubly exploited. As members of the Working Class they have both the worst jobs and highest unemployment rate. In fact, they make up a substrate of the Working Class due to the informal (but very real) racial divisions of labor. Racists flip this over and argue that immigrants and/or foreign-born people are taking our ("native") jobs. They claim that unemployment within the Working Class is caused by competition from immigrants/foreign-born people rather than the Upper and Middle Classes who have the sole power to hire and fire.

This scapegoating of immigrants conveniently removes Capitalists from responsibility for the failures of their system and for their own behavior. It places the blame on those who are least responsible. This is only a small example of the extent to which reality is distorted by racists. By scapegoating people of color for problems created by Capitalists and the Ruling Class, class anger at what are really CLASS issues is manipulated and presented to Working Class people as racism and racial issues.

Racism is nothing more than another filthy and vile product of Capitalism. Racism exists alongside nationalism to divide us from other members of the Working Class in our "communities" and around the World. Racism is subtly used to rationalize world-wide poverty and wars. Nationalism creates a phoney unity between class enemies at the expense of the unity and solidarity of the Working Class.

Anarchists advocate Working Class unity to destroy Racism, Nationalism, Capitalism, the Class System and the government of the Rich and build a society based on personal freedom, social equality, free association, mutual aid, cooperation, worker self-management of all work places and democratic self-government of all communities.

FIGHT THE RICH - NOT THE POOR! NO WAR BUT THE CLASS WAR!

could own land or be public officials.

After the revolution, rich land speculators began to eye native American nations in the Ohio River Valley. They used the American Army to coerce the native people into ceding Kentucky to them in exchange for peace then used the army to burn their farms before invading their land and exterminating them. In 1831, Congress passed the "Indian Removal Act" which stole all remaining native land east of the Mississippi, then used the Army to move the native people to present-day Oklahoma. Over 1/2 Million people died resisting the J.S. invasion or from starvation and exposure to hard weather on what became known as the "Trail of Tears" to the U.S.-designated settlement area. This genocide was the beginning of "resettlement" reservations which was later copied by Italian Fascists, German Nazis and racist South Africans.

THE MYTH OF NATIONAL/RACIAL PRIDE

At the heart of racism/nationalism is the truly false idea that "ethnic", national, or religious populations have a common destiny, despite any and all obvious class tensions within these populations. Under this idea the Ruling Class invents a false unity among the Working, Middle and Ruling Classes based on either national or religious origins.

This fake identity creates a sense of pride, a sense of "achievement" and a sense of "history." The American identity is tied to a pride of moral superiority and the Capitalist domination of the Third World. The American Ruling Class used this pride of "moral" imperative to wage genocidal wars against the indigenous populations of an entire continent. This excuse has also been used to wage war and invade many other nations. This "pride" is all but impossible for many African, Native, Latino, or Asian Americans to feel. It is not meant or those people but it is meant for the White Ruling Class. National/Racial pride is singularly designed to manipulate the Working Class into national armies and to fight wars overseas so one group of Capitalists can steal from another at our expense.

The thoroughly repulsive idea of racist/nationalist solidarity is exercised through the practices of *de facto* racial discrimination which excludes and isolates people of color from certain areas of capitalist society: areas such as "decent" jobs, livable housing, and "good" schools, thereby forcing a sizable segment of the population into the sad end of petty crime and prisons, or an endless line of demeaning and numbing low-wage jobs. This practice further deepens the rifts within our class by creating an atmosphere of fear and suspicion between members of our class.

The power to discriminate lies almost entirely in the hands of the Upper Class and their vicious guard dogs, the State. The white Working Class does not have the power to discriminate, but, plays a part in justifying discrimination by doing such foolish things as excluding certain "ethnic" groups from workplace activities or by humiliating them within their communities. Racial violence and exclusion are the only elective discriminatory power Working Class racists have. Although this pales in comparison to the racist power of our rulers, it can still be a matter of life and death for Working Class people of color.

HOW RACIST LIES ARE SPREAD

Racist ideology gains mass appeal by pretending to be "common sense". When racist lies become common sense, it then evolves into unquestioned knowledge, "taken for granted", or "the truth."

The problem for the Ruling Class is that their "common sense" is totally contradicted by the reality of class society. Because of this, racism needs to be perpetually updated and put forward and introduced at every "opportune" time (such as when there is civil unrest in communities of color or "gang killings"). Today's racist propaganda tries to camouflage itself, even to the point of denying it is racist, putting it under the heading of just plain "common sense", as racist agitator like Rush Limbaugh would put it.

This "common sense" racism is a philosophy which relies heavily, if

ANARCHISM

A HISTORY OF ANTI-RACISM

"What do we mean by respect for humanity? We mean the recognition of human right and human dignity in every man, of whatever race [or] color"
-Michael Bakunin, 1867

Anarchists are Free Socialists so we believe that social equality and opportunity for all people should replace property, wealth and privilege as the key value of society. We also believe that so long as governments exist, they are a means to create and preserve inequality. Anarchists believe that social equality cannot be achieved without Free Association, Mutual Aid and Voluntary Cooperation. Anarchists hold that until all are free then no one is free. We believe that it is human nature to be aware of the suffering of others and that our own freedom is dependent on our willingness to fight for the freedom of others. As such its hardly surprising that Anarchists oppose racism and were frequently to be found at the heart of anti-racist struggles.

Michael Bakunin (*Three Lectures to Swiss Members of the International*, 1871) attacked the State as 'the patrimony of some privileged class' and patriotism as "the solidaristic interest of this privileged class." Furthermore, "patriotism is a bad, narrow, and disastrous habit, for it is the negation of human equality and solidarity." He stated that "no war between races, nations, States, and classes has ever had any purpose other than *domination*, which is the necessary condition and guarantee of the possession and enjoyment of wealth." Furthermore, "at the bottom of every war lies but a single concern: plunder, the acquisition of others' wealth, and the subjugation of others' labor!" To Bakunin, the State was a set of institutions which protected the money and property of the rich and patriotism both enabled the rich to divide those who they exploited and to justify wars to make themselves richer. He criticized the nationalistic and imperialistic wars waged by France, Germany and Russia in the mid 1800s. He also criticized the use of religion to rationalize this exploitation and war.

Peter Kropotkin's *Mutual Aid: A Factor of Evolution* (1902) was one of the first books to attack Social Darwinism, the theoretical basis of white supremacism. Kropotkin asserted that evolution was driven by cooperation and not by competition and exploitation. He challenged the idea that some people were destined to rule over others by saying that it was our natural instinct to be repulsed by injustice and exploitation. He challenged the idea that people were parochial/tribal by nature by saying that great human advances resulted from cooperation and not separatism or domination.

Rudolf Rocker's *Nationalism and Culture* (1937) was one of the seminal works of Anti-Racism, Anti-Fascism and Anti-Nationalism. Rocker, a German Anarcho-Syndicalist who escaped the Nazis, asserts that nationalism is the basis of Fascist and Stalinist tyranny and that white supremacist doctrine which was written to justify European aristocracy and nationalism is contradicted by all basic facts of biology, genetics and psychology. European race theorists even contradicted each other.

Anarchists in the International Labor Movement

By the turn of the century Anarchist ideas had spread rapidly outside the European working class and had become popular among the workers of Asia (in particular Korea, China and Japan) and Latin America. In Eastern Europe Anarchism became popular amongst Jewish communities and as people from these communities fled poverty and pogroms they brought Anarchist ideas into the USA and Britain. In the US the Anarchist influenced IWW was the first union to jointly organize 'white' workers, Black workers and Chinese immigrants. In Cuba, anti-racism was a key part of Anarchist labor organizing among freed slaves. Anarchists organized unions and fought against the Spanish occupation and the late US intervention. By the early years of the 20th Century, Anarchism was already a multi-cultural movement that had spread throughout the global working class. The waves of repression against Anarchists alongside the poverty of the communities many of them came from meant that in many countries the movement included immigrants from all over the world.

CLASS WAR - NOT RACE WAR

RACISM IS THE IDEOLOGY OF THE RICH

Racism plays a powerful role in dividing the working class. The ideology of race is used to justify imperialism, wars, and the racial division of labor. Racism promotes nationalism on the basis of ethnic identity. This only strengthens enthusiasm for participation in national armies. Those people within the Working Class who hold racist views are puppets of the rich.

Contrary to popular belief, racist ideology is actually derived from the Middle and Upper Classes where the real power to split and weaken the lower classes lies. This division occurs through discrimination in social services, education, immigration, and working conditions. The crucial part the Middle Class plays is to mimic mass culture which then becomes the "official" way of seeing the World. Within the "culture" specific racist and nationalistic ideas are promoted through the schools, media, church, etc.. This creates a constant flow of racist and nationalist ideas and disinformation, some of which is aimed at the rich themselves to explain why some must be at the "top" and others on the "bottom." Most of this racist filth is received by the majority of the population, which is, of course, not in power. The rich actively promote nationalist and racist lies and always have.

"Aryan Racism" (White Supremacism) was first described in Europe by Count de Gobineau in his "Essay on the Inequalities of the Human Race." Prior to World War I, rich Europeans created "chic" Aryan societies and established strong foundations for Hitler's Nazi doctrine among the Upper and Middle Classes. In the United States, the Ku Klux Klan was originally a racist social club founded by seven southern aristocrats - J. Lester, J. Crowe, J. Kennedy, C. James, R. Reed, F. McCord, and later, Nathan Bedford Forrest. Racial "Eugenics" (purifying the race by sterilizing persons claimed to be "inferior") was pioneered by doctors in Lynchburg, Virginia and later copied by Nazi doctors in Germany. American racists like Henry Ford were quoted in Nazi newspapers. Ford got a Nazi medal for his racist writings.

DIVIDE AND RULE

Due to Capitalist-induced labor shortages in some nation-states, the exploitation of wage slaves from other countries becomes profitable. With immigration, our class receives different "ethnicities" and cultures. This does not cause a natural conflict. That is, until it is promoted as such by racist pundits. The rich have a lot to gain by taking advantage of our superficial differences. The racial division of labor is the most fundamental division in our class and causes further damage when members of our class follow these divisions.

Sectors of the Working Class can become racist when they see themselves having artificial commonalities like "whiteness" with the ruling class rather than sticking with the real problems of their own class - the Working Class. They can also become confused by the efforts of the Ruling Class to trick us into competing with each other and be swayed by Ruling Class lies that people who are superficially different from us because of their skin color or culture are the cause of our economic problems instead of the REAL bastards who control the economy - the Capitalists and the Ruling Class! Their class identity becomes confused and is eventually replaced by a racial and/or national consciousness. This is a false allegiance which only serves to keep our class divided and enslaved to work and the government of the Rich.

Sickeningly, many of the most politically active Working Class youth are racist/Neo-Nazi. But along with being "white" most are also disaffected and dispossessed. These youths actually have more in common both materially and socially with the Blacks, Latinos, or Asians in their communities, whom they claim they hate so much, than with their rich "Anglo-Saxon" Ruling Class role models. The violent racism and vehement super-patriotism of these dupes helps to

legitimize the Ruling Class's suppression of our class. 33

Why is racism so strong in many sections of our class? It is because the rich need it there. Well-placed racist filth distorts and counteracts truly unified class consciousness. It has been in the best interest of our rulers to distort the development of class identity, pride and solidarity with their own racist/nationalist version of these notions.

THE HISTORICAL ORIGINS OF RACISM

Racism/Nationalism begins with the development of capitalist society. Nationalism played a key role in the development of capital during the last period of European feudalism and was fostered by the emerging Capitalist Class. The new class used the "flag of nationhood" to organize the population against the old aristocracy. Populations were organized along "ethnic" and/or religious lines to create national armies which didn't exist in Europe until after the Napoleonic Wars. National armies were unprecedented in that they involved millions of soldiers and overwhelmed the societies outside of Europe (through colonialism) which introduced an injection of wealth that spurred industrialization and the pre-eminence of capitalists over aristocrats. Thus, it was by using the lie of Nationhood that the new capitalist class gained control of society.

When the new Working Class (rural peasants had become urban workers after 1850) realized that the "liberating" process of ending old aristocracy was only a "coup d'etat" by the new rich, Nationalism became a reactionary movement. It became a way of maintaining loyalty of the rural and urban lower classes through patriotism. The position of the rich was strengthened, and loyalty was obtained by creating the illusion of people united by the common goals of the "nation."

As capitalism developed and primary resources were depleted (land, timber, ores, etc.), competition between these new nation-states began. This led to a new and unprecedented era of imperialism and colonialism which was effected in order to gain more primary capital. These new colonial powers used xenophobia (fear of people of other "nationalities") and religious bigotry to justify long and terrible wars for riches. Xenophobia was also used to excuse exploitation and systematic genocide (extermination of an ethnic group) of colonized peoples as cheap and expendable source of labor.

In early America, colonial elites like George Washington (who was the richest man in the U.S. at the time), feared concerted rebellion of English indentured servants (prisoners sold to rich colonial landowners as slaves), landless "Whites," and African slaves (like uprising which occurred in 1676 in Bacon's Rebellion), who together made up more than 55% of the English colonial population. During the American Revolution, poor whites were kidnapped and forced to fight in the Aristocrat "Colonial Army," but most battles were won by frontier militias fighting alongside the uniformed army made up of former European slaves who had bought their freedom and settled the frontier to get away from the class discrimination of elitist English land-owners. When the U.S. Constitution was written, James Madison was scared of the belief in social equality of Working Class Americans. He insisted on an electoral system which would force insure that only the Rich controlled the government. The original Constitution denied freedom to non-whites and women.

After the successful Haitian Revolution by African slaves against the French colonial rulers, American slave owners, fearful of the possibility of poor whites and African slaves staging a similar revolt in America, persuaded the Congress and President Jefferson to end laws instituting specific legal divisions between "Whites" and "Blacks": Only Whites could bear weapons, criminal punishments were made more severe for Blacks, inter-racial marriages were illegal, military and civilian life were racially segregated, and only whites

State was also used to promote the ambitions of capitalists outside of their countries by providing military protection for colonialism and trade. This included the seizure and annexation of foreign lands through war. Capitalists provoke war to seize control over resources they can't secure by other methods. They use nationalism to disguise their true economic ambitions. After two world wars and score of other conflicts, capitalists have used the power of the State to alter the international economy in ways giving them international power which is authoritarian and independent of governments. Imperialism (using the power of the state to exploit people in other countries) has been replaced by neo-liberalism (using the power of the state to give more power to multinational capitalists and to police activities in any nation which threaten this power). More and more, the State is becoming an inseparable appendage of transnational capitalist corporations, conglomerates (corporations which own other corporations), and industry groups (corporate alliances) who use their wealth to control information, buy influence and manipulate politics.

Why Anti-Capitalist

In the mid-1800s, one of the first Anarchist writers, a Frenchman named Proudhon, played an important part in the conception of Anarchism when he asked the question "What is Property" and answered it with the simple slogan "Property is Theft". This in a nutshell is the revolutionary socialist theory of how the mechanism of Capitalist exploitation works. The argument is simple. In order to live under Capitalism it is necessary to work to earn money in order to live. However, due to automation and the high price of machinery as well as the "ownership" of land by an elite few it is not possible to own the tools by which you work. Therefore most workers are forced to work for somebody else who has ownership of factories, offices, stores, farms, mines, etc. This is the property referred to as "the means of production." It does not refer to your clothes, your books, your furniture, your CD player, your car or other personal property or consumer goods. That's the property part, where does the theft come in. The worker working in the factory produces \$600 worth of goods in a week of which \$400 when sold is straight profit for the owner of the machinery. The owner of the machinery then pays the worker \$200, stealing \$200 for themselves. In this model it is not necessary for the owner to have done any work (some do) all that is necessary is for him/her to own the machinery. This is the theft. This ownership constitutes the Capital. How the owner came across this Capital is also irrelevant. It could have been through working in a fast food joint for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for 20 years or it could have been wealth passed down through a family ever since their great great great grandfather made it by kidnaping people from Africa and selling them in America. That is the model of Capitalist exploitation. Of course, a host of other factors are involved from the Capitalist actually doing some productive work to individual workers having a good idea and somehow saving enough money to become capitalists themselves. Such complications do not however contradict the model, the same basic exploitation still runs beneath the surface. Anarchism is about opposing all forms of exploitation and Capitalism as illustrated is a mechanism of exploitation. In addition Anarchists see most other forms of exploitation as originating and being reinforced by Capitalism. Racism, for instance, was created and expanded by the early Capitalists to justify monarchism, the social privileges of the ruling classes, colonialism, slavery, and the plundering of the rest of the world by Europeans and their descendants. It is maintained by capitalism today as a way of dividing the workers and justifying imperialism.

Anarchism in Action

Anarchism is above all defined by what Anarchists have said and fought for. At the same time as the First International was organizing in Europe, Anarchists in the United States were involved in organizing in the trade Union movement. On May 1-4, 1886 Anarchist labor organizers and workers in Chicago held peaceful rallies for an 8-hour work day in Haymarket Square. The workers were fired upon by police after being assured by the government that they would not be harassed. A bomb exploded killing some of the police. Although it was never determined who threw the bomb, an anti-Union newspaper blamed the Anarchists and four were executed for an action which they were later exonerated. This is why May 1 is commemorated as Labor Day in every country except the United States.

Anarchists were also involved in labor organizing in Europe, Asia and Latin America. On July 19, 1936, the Spanish military, monarchists, religious conservatives and Fascists (the Falangé) attempted a coup d'etat in Spain. Labor Union militias were forewarned and prevented the coup. The CNT (National Workers Confederation), the Anarchist trade Union, had between 1 and 2 million members which included all sections of the working class in Spanish society. When rich landowners and industrialists (capitalists) fled the country to escape the coup, Spanish workers put Anarchism into practice as never before. Industry and agriculture were collectivized and ran along Anarchist lines throughout most of republican Spain. As many as 4 million workers who were not members of the CNT joined in the constructive activity. Many capitalist "Libertarians" claim socialism means forcing people to work for the State at the point of a gun. In Spain the workers did not work for the state but worked for themselves through the collectives. They elected delegates who made decisions about how the factory/collective farm would be run, a process sometimes called workers self-management. These delegates elected others to decide on regional and national planning of industry. Not every one was happy with being part of the collective, particularly some small farmers. Rather than being forced to join it was decided they could work their own land and trade with the collectives providing they employed no one and providing they worked all the land. Many of these people in fact joined the collectives within months. Land that had been unused by large landowners was confiscated and cultivated by the collectives. Under collectivization both agricultural and industrial production increased dramatically.

If so-called "Libertarians" had existed in Spain we might have expected to find themselves either on the side of Franco or perhaps with the Spanish Communist Party which fought against collectivization and used the army to kill or imprison the Anarchists and return collectivized factories and lands to their Capitalist "owners" or the Spanish Socialist Party (pro-capitalist Social Democrats) which instructed banks to cut off credit to the Anarchist militias fighting the Fascists so they couldn't get bullets or keep the factories running.

In areas where the Anarchist movement was strong this opposition to racism and imperialism was translated into action. In 1909 Barcelona Anarchists played a major role in initiating a general strike against military conscription for the war in Morocco. In 1912 Anarchists played a significant role in the Mexican revolution with indigenous movements like the Zapatistas taking up the Anarchist demand for "Land and Liberty" and hundreds of IWW members joining the Mexican Anarchists in liberating a large section of Northern Mexico. In "Labor's Solidarity Should Know Neither Race Nor Color" (*Regeneración*, 1913), the Mexican Anarchist Ricardo Flores Magon criticized Eugene V. Debs of the American Socialist Party for claiming that Mexicans were "too ignorant to fight for freedom." He urged American and European workers to follow their example. During the Russian Revolution the Anarchist influenced Makhnovist Army liberated much of the Eastern Ukraine. This area was rife with anti-Semitism, even Red Army units were responsible for as many as 500 deaths in Pogroms in 1919 alone! The Makhnovists provided arms for Jewish communities, allowed Jews to form separate units in their army if they so wished and declared:

"Your revolutionary duty is to stifle all nationalist persecution by dealing ruthlessly with the instigators of anti-Semitic pogroms [racist attacks]..."

Anarchists in the Wars Against Fascism

As Fascism arose in the 1920's and '30's Anarchists were frequently to be found at the heart of the anti-fascist movements. In 1920 in Italy, when the anti-fascist alliance Arditi del Popolo emerged to physically fight the Fascists, Anarchists were often its local organizers. In Spain, the Anarchist CNT (National Labor Confederation) successfully ran the economy of parts of Spain while fighting on two fronts against the Spanish Falangé (Fascists) and their allies: the military, the aristocracy and the church (plus military aid from Mussolini and Hitler) during the Spanish Civil War (1936-39). In Japan (1903-23), Anarchists organized against the imperial system and Japanese militarism. Korean Anarchists fought the Japanese invasion of Korea and for a while liberated a large segment of the north of the country. In China, Anarchist guerillas fought the Manchu (Monarchists), Guomindang (Nationalists) and Japanese. Chu Cha-pei, an Anarchist guerilla organizer in Yunan Province in southern China, patterned himself after Nestor Makhno. Even after the Fascists came to power Anarchists went underground, attempting to assassinate Hitler and Mussolini on several occasions. Many died in concentration camps or were murdered by Stalinists trying to create Russian-styled dictatorships. Anarchists who had participated in the Spanish Civil War escaped to France where they fought with the Maquis (French Resistance against the Nazis) and to Cuba, Mexico and Argentina where they helped organize Anarchist labor movements.

Anarchists in the Struggle Against Imperialism and Neo-Liberalism

During the 1950s in France the Anarchist Movement opposed the French war against Viet Nam and later reacted to the start of the Algerian war of independence (against France) with the headline "North-Africa: one single people fighting against killer imperialism". The French Anarchist Federation's continued opposition to the racist French governments war in Algeria were to see its meetings attacked (on one occasion with guns and grenades), its paper banned several times and in March of 1961 the office of its paper and the Paris bookshop bombed, the huge explosion demolishing the building.

During the 1950s and 1960s Anarchists participated in the Civil Rights Movement in the United States. In the 1960s and 1970s Anarchists organized against the American war in Viet Nam. Uprisings in Paris, Mexico City and other places in 1968 helped spark a growing interest in Anarchist ideas. After the collapse of Leninism in 1989, Anarchist movements appeared in South Africa/Azania (Workers Solidarity Federation), Nigeria (Awareness League), Turkey, and Lebanon and the movement in Latin America, Asia, Australia and Eastern Europe is growing. Anarchists in Africa are organizing against post-apartheid dictatorships, labor repression and racism. Anarchists have organized movements in opposition to the 1991 'Gulf War' and in solidarity with the indigenous rebellion of the Zapatistas in Chiapas, Mexico.

In recent years Anarchists have participated in immigrants rights campaigns in Europe and the United States. Anarchists have organized against "workfare" (Called the "Job Seekers Allowance" in Britain), increased taxation of working people, hunger and the criminalization of homelessness. Anarchists are organizing against neo-fascism, white supremacy and institutional racism by the police, the military and corporations. Anarchists in the Black Autonomist movement have advocated self-organization within ethnic communities and workplaces as a solution to economic discrimination and institutional racism.

ANARCHISM AND FREEDOM

Anarchism is the philosophy of freedom. We believe in a society where the freedom of each person is limited only by the freedom of everyone. We are born free yet everywhere we are enslaved. This is because the idea of "freedom" in a capitalist society is confused with "Social Darwinism"; the idea that a few people should be allowed to dominate, terrorize and exploit everyone else. While this may be the fantasy of the rich, it is not *true freedom*. Freedom cannot be achieved by taking over the government or becoming a new ruling elite because, so long as one group of people try to place themselves above everyone else, then everyone else will still not be free.

True freedom is also not defined by "Civil Rights." "Rights" are a perversion of *true freedom* invented to trick us into believing that we owe our freedom to governments. In truth, we are born free and the purpose of governments is to take that freedom away in order to protect the money, property and privileges of the rich; the Ruling Class. All "Civil Rights" are a system by which the government rations a portion of our freedom back to us (after they have stolen it in the first place) in order to create the illusion of freedom or convince us that we are freer than others who are also enslaved by the coercion of legislatures, cops, armies, courts and prisons which await those who ask why some are more free than others. The truth is that if we allow ourselves to be dependent upon coercive institutions (like courts) created by the rich and coercive authorities appointed by the rich for a measure of freedom defined by THEIR interpretation of our "rights" then we are no more free than animals in a zoo whose zookeepers decide how large our cages are or how long our chains should be so that we can believe we are free, but still be under their control.

True freedom is not measured by the power or authority the rich allow us to have, but by the ability to govern ourselves. If we allow ourselves to believe that THEY give us freedom then we are giving up our freedom any time they chose to take it away or anytime they threaten to take it if we don't do what they say.

True freedom is not measured by the money, property or consumer goods the rich allow us to have, but by controlling the wealth created by our own labor ourselves. The ability to have a credit card, a car or a big screen television is no more a measure of freedom than the ability to have a full stomach and a place to live on welfare. It does not change the fact that the rich steal the value of what we produce with our labor and only allow us a portion of it. It does not change the fact that whether we work or are on welfare we are in a coercive relationship where our ability to eat and have a home is tied to our obedience to a boss or the government.

True freedom begins when we take responsibility for our own actions. This means that we are not willing to let other people tell us what to think or how to live. We question what we have been taught by parents and social institutions. We question the motives and agenda of politicians, bosses and the capitalist news media. We question the injustice we see in the World around us and reject the excuses for it given by people with wealth and social privilege. PERSONAL freedom is a lifelong pursuit of understanding yourself and the World around you through self-education, personal experiences and introspection (thinking about what you have read and experienced, comparing it to things you learned before and trying to understand more).

Anarchists believe that to have PERSONAL freedom we must also have SOCIAL freedom. Most people do not live alone. We are one person in a community of people. We are one worker in a group of workers at a workplace. Our ability to have PERSONAL freedom is dependent upon our ability to cooperate with others in our community and our workplace in order to make collective decisions about things which affect everyone in the group so that we can live in ways where everyone benefits from their labor and has their interests taken into consideration and injustices are weeded out by the group. SOCIAL freedom begins when we recognize that no individual, clique or social class can have power over us or take advantage of us if everyone else refuses to obey them. We recognize that our refusal (our "Free Will") is more powerful than their coercion if we exercise it as a group. This means that instead of letting the rich trick us into competing with each other over a small portion of the freedom or wealth they steal from us, we get together and decide not to let them steal it in the first place and we all end up with more than any individual who plays their game.

SOCIAL freedom also means that we reject the ideas the rich invent to trick us into competing, so we don't work together. Anarchists believe that to be free we must replace the idea of "survival of the fittest" with the practice of Mutual Aid: "All for one and one for all" and "An injury to one is an injury to all." People have a natural feeling of compassion every time they see someone wronged because they know it could happen to them. We believe that this idea of "Solidarity" and the willingness of people to cooperate in groups for the benefit of everyone are the keys to enabling the greatest PERSONAL freedom for everyone.

ANARCHISM-VS-CAPITALISM

Historically and currently the Anarchist Movement has consisted overwhelmingly of socialists. Anarchism as political movement grew out of the International Workingmen's Association or the First (socialist) International. "Socialism" is the idea that the well-being of people in society should be more important than money or property and that freedom, respect and democracy cannot be restricted based on wealth, race or gender. Anarchism is the branch of socialism which believes that freedom must be achieved by people acting for themselves and cannot be given to them by so-called "leaders", political parties, or governments. We oppose those who advocate dictatorship by political parties or corporations as *their vision* of a free society. Today there are Anarchist organizations of over 10,000 members that are also trade unions in Sweden and Spain. There are many other organizations with memberships in the hundreds in most countries world-wide. All of these organizations are explicitly Anarchist, revolutionary and Anti-Capitalist.

Anarchism and Libertarianism

In North America we find a curious thing. Since the mass expulsion and criminalization of Anarchists in the period during and after the first world war there has been no major Anarchist movements in Canada or the US. This has created a curious situation where Pro-Capitalist utopians feel comfortable calling themselves "Libertarians" (e.g. the Libertarian Party a Neo-Liberal political party in the United States which advocates *Laissez Faire* Capitalism with a "Caretaker State") "Anarchists", or Anarchist Capitalists". These people seem to be particularly dominant in the white, university-educated, Upper Middle Class and as such have a voice far outweighing their support due to the presence of agitation from corporate funded right-wing "think tanks." (Access to universities is now dominated by the Middle and Upper Middle Class due to cuts in student grants and tenure for faculty is influenced by increasing dependent on corporate donations, although there are exceptions to this). It is strange that they would call themselves Libertarians because in the rest of the world this word is most commonly followed by the word socialist.

The term "Libertarian" was adopted by the French Anarchist movement after the French government outlawed the use of the term "Anarchist." It is also strange that they would use the term "Anarchist" since Anarchists have always fought *against* Capitalism and for working people and their families. The use of the term "Anarchist" by these people to be insulting to all that Anarchists have stood for and continue to fight for. It is the case that Capitalism has killed, imprisoned, or executed at least one million Anarchists from the aftermath of the Paris Commune of 1871 to the concentration camps of Lenin, Hitler, Mussolini, Franco and Mao. Lets also not forget those Anarchists who have died fighting Capitalism in Mexico, Japan, Korea, Argentina, Chile, Britain, France and even the USA. The use of the term Anarchist by these so called "Libertarians" spits in the face of all these people and in the face of the tens of thousands of Anarchists fighting Capitalism today. Now the only way of stopping the misuse of this term is to build a real Anarchist movement in North America so that the word Anarchism becomes fused once more to the idea of revolutionary Anti-State Anti-Capitalist ideas. They will stop using the label pretty fast then. In the meantime lets expose the contradictions between Anarchism and Capitalism.

Opposing Government Means Opposing Capitalism

One of the favorite retorts of these right wing utopians who call themselves "Libertarian" or "Anarchist Capitalist" is that if you look up Anarchism in a dictionary you will find a definition that essentially limits it to opposition to government. Very true, but political movements do not flow from dictionaries, they come from history (and dictionaries are written by the capitalists). A brief discussion of Anarchist history follows later but first lets look at why being Anti-State means you have to be Anti-Capitalist in the first place. The "State" consists of the government and all the institutions which maintain it. The State is essentially a creation of class society. In a society where a small group of people control the vast majority of wealth and property, they need a State to maintain this situation. In countries with capitalistic economic systems, the state is that body by which the individual capitalists come together and form a larger block to work in their common interests. This is normally done through the facade of a legislature and elections which are dominated by capitalist interests' groups. The most important common interest is the suppression of the Working Class. Capitalism has created the greatest disparities of wealth in history. The primary way the State preserves the inequalities in society is through coercion (police, prisons, laws, courts and the military). Under Capitalism the State was transformed from a small body to a huge one. The increase in size was necessary because of the increase in the organization of the non-ruling classes. Capitalism created its own grave-digger in the form of the Working Class. Under capitalism huge number of people are placed in close proximity under similar if not identical wages and conditions. The possibility for them to act together is thus greatly magnified. At the end of the day the capitalists are outnumbered by well over 20 to 1.

Coercion alone has not been able to save the capitalist system from destroying itself through its own natural corruption, wastefulness and self-destructiveness. In the 1800s economic depressions were frequent and most people lived in conditions we would now equate with "Third World" countries. Even the most conservative people were outraged when they saw their children go hungry or get sick from malnutrition or inhumane living conditions. Government regulations were agreed upon by the *power elites* as a way to stabilize the capitalist system so it wouldn't destroy itself (threatening their wealth and power). Regulation was a way to promote capitalism, not curb it. Government was also increasingly used to subsidize capitalism through public works projects (freeways, etc.), public education, tariffs on imported goods, etc. The

No Master No God