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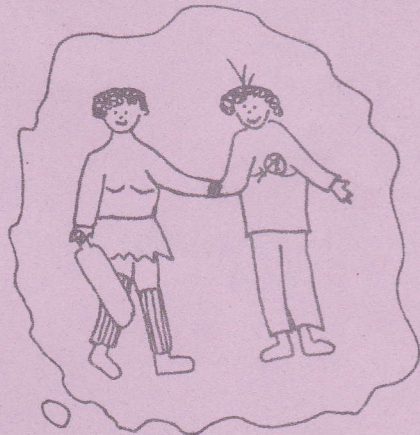
NOTTINGHAM ANARCHO FEMINISTS
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WHAT AM I ?



OR.....



Dedicated to Sue. '85.

READ THIS YOU DONT KNOW WHAT YOU ARE MISSING

1 in 4 women in the UK will be committed to a mental hospital.

Take a look around you, what do you see? CHAOS
What do you want to see? a nice clean safe democratic free world.
This a lie. Take a good hard look at the people in positions of power, who are the police? who are the judges? what gives them the right to inprison, hurt and rule us, The law orders us to do this or not to do that, it can compel by force. All law and authority rest on force and violence on punishment or fear of punishment.

We are all taught fear, fear of god, devil, neighbour boss, politician, jailor law and goverment. We support them by our own fear and ignorance. Our lives are controlled and denied from the moment we are born to the moment we die, many of us are unaware of our lack of freedom because everything around us is seen as the natural order of things, if you behave in a "devient" manner it is classed as abnormal and you are put in a prison or mental hospital.

90,000 animals die every week in UK Labs so we can have weedkillers paints weapons shampoos and other worthless goods.

We must challenge our most basic assumptions, our habits behavior, manners, thoughts and even our feelings are shaped into a sameness law unwritten and written, tradition and custom force us all into a common groove.

THIS life is not "our lot" we are participants not observers, we can and must take control of our lives and our world, once we start to think and feel for our selves and others we can begin to see through there lies. Our world is in the hands of a few mad white men!!

Is see the world as a patriarchal hierachy, a world of many power structures eg Classism, militarism all based on the oppression of women. All the power structures are male dominated, made by men for men that oppress all women. The few white men in the positions of power at the top control, oppress exploit every^{one} and everything. The working class man who has a bad time in the factory earning a pittance forhis labour while someone else reaps the profits, is still in a position of power over all women because he has the male dominated structures eg law and history behind him. Women battering and rape are perpetuated in this world to keep women in their "susposed" place.

Arond all this sickness and misery the biggest monsters and crimanals get away with death and destruction on a mass scale. We let them escape because we believe in them and support them, we must see the lies and stop having faith in a evil and corrupt system.

Lloyds bank support the fascist dictorship in Chile.

Shell runs its own vivesection labs, they are also involved in financial operations in south Africa.

Production of 200 nuclear rader systems costing more than 500 million pounds.

14 % of our electric bill goes towards nuclear power.

we must be aware of the way we treat other people. Man must learn to respect humanity, nature not to dominate and conquer and destroy but to understand and share. The whole male power structures of master/slave boss/worker, man/women, White/black, parent/child must go or persecution intolerance will continue until we do not exist anymore.

NO TO RACISM, CLASSISM, IMPERIALISM, SEXISM AND COLONIALISM.

STOP EXPLOITING ANIMALS.. stop eating meat

STOP BUYING SOUTH AFRICAN GOODS.. ^{rowtreeces Del Monte} Cape Outspan and Joth West

STOP CONSUMING PORN.. this is violence against women, it shows women as a object just there for mans enjoyment women as commodities, to be used and abused by men. Porn is the theory Rape the practice.

STOP PAYING TAXES.. paying for our own deaths, paying to the death industry.

STOP SUPPORTING THE WAR MACHINE.. refuse to handle EMI, ICI, BP, Rolls Royce and British Telecom goods if you come into contact with them. They all support the war machine. Do not drive into USAF bases if you can help it.

STOP CONTRIBUTING TO THE DESTRUCTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT
STOP BANKING AT BARCLAYS.. there are 4 Barclays banks in Nottingham, Barclays have massive investments in South Africa, keep the 3rd world in poverty.

STOP SHOPPING AT BOOTS.. they are big vivisectioners, they invest in SA and test their dubious drugs on 3rd world women.

STOP CONDEMNING THINK
START DIRECT ACTION...

- object to spray paint shops or adds you
- produce your own leaflets/pamphlets
- start a tenent action group where you live.

CHALLENGE QUESTION ACT.

The royal train is costing 7.5 million pounds to redevelop.

British soldiers in the Falklands were murdered by equipment that was manufactured in Birmingham.

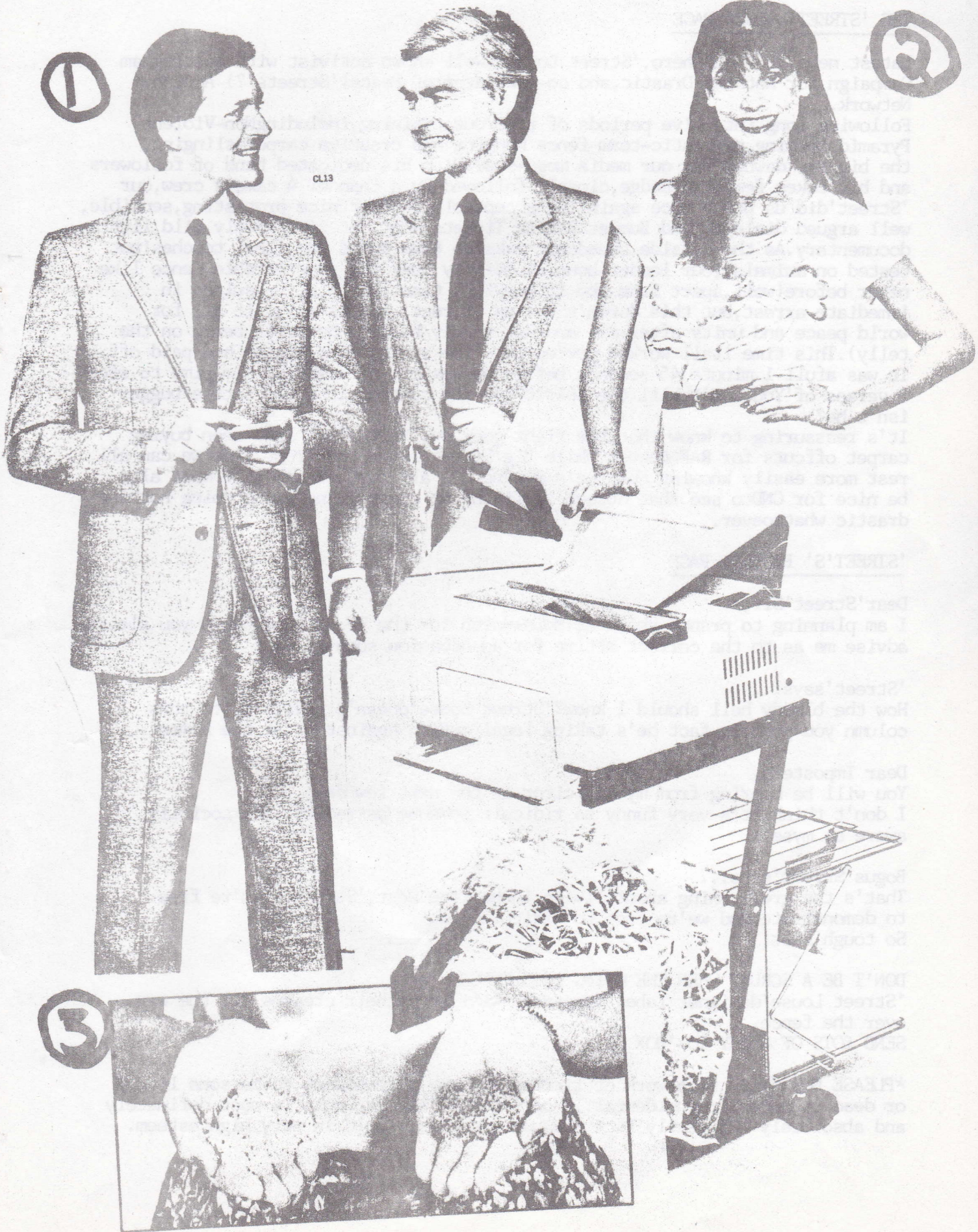
77 people can live a year on the dole with 100,000 pounds, or one worker could live 15 years on it. This is how much Princess Diana spent on clothes for her Italian trip.

7 million people face 500 million pounds cut from their housing benefit. It will affect 4 million pensioners, 1 and a half million unemployed, 650,000 single parents and sick and disabled.

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THE 'STREET LOUSE' PAGE

Latest news from our hero, 'Street Louse', well known activist with Nottingham Campaign for Nothing Drastic, and co-ordinator of Peace('Streets'?) Action Network.

Following long intensive periods of rigorous training, including Non-Violent Pyramid forming, gymnastic-team fence hopping and creative carpet-slinging, the big day dawned for our media mega-star. With his dedicated band of followers and his token feminist badge, closely followed by a Channel 4 camera crew, our 'Street' did us proud once again. The acceptable face of nice protesting, sensible, well argued dialogue and Bumper Raffle Tickets, went out in a lovely mild little documentary. As the outside broadcast make-up team added the final touches (not tested on animals), our leader bounced merrily over the impenetrable fence like never before (well, apart from the 16 previous times which all resulted in immediate arrest, but this doesn't bother 'Street', who is doing it all for world peace and unity after all and not really because he likes being on the telly). This time it all worked perfectly - the strict diet regime had paid off. It was a full 1 minute 45 seconds before he was nicked - giving him time to sing 2 verses of 'You can't kill the spirit' for the cameras. Intrepid little bugger isn't he?

It's reassuring to know that the fight goes on. 'Street' was last seen buying carpet offcuts for RAF Newton. While Big 'Street' is on the front line we can all rest more easily knowing that he's giving his all for our sakes. It must also be nice for CND to see that 'Street' is living up to their name and doing nothing drastic whatsoever.

'STREET'S' PROBLEM PAGE

Dear 'Street' Sir,

I am planning to prance about at Molesworth for the TV cameras. Could you please advise me as to the correct attire for an occasion such as this

'Street' says...

How the bloody hell should I know? 'Street Louse' doesn't really write this column you prat, in fact he's taking legal action against us at the moment.

Dear Imposters,

You will be hearing from my solicitor in the next few days.

I don't think it's very funny to ridicule someone as radical and socially aware as myself.

Bogus 'Street' says...

That's the great thing about living in the free West, 'Street'. You're free to demonstrate and we're free to ridicule you.

So tough shit.

DON'T BE A SCRUFF WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH

'Street Louse' designer label dungarees will keep their creases all the way over the fence.

SEND £OTS OF MONEY TO 'BOX S'.

PLEASE NOTE This is a work of fiction and any resemblance to persons living or dead is purely coincidental. In particular, 'Street Louse' is most definitely and absolutely NOT really Pete Strauss who we all hold in very high esteem.

I am writing this article about how i feel and still feel in the womens movement, in the face of many middle class and educated women.

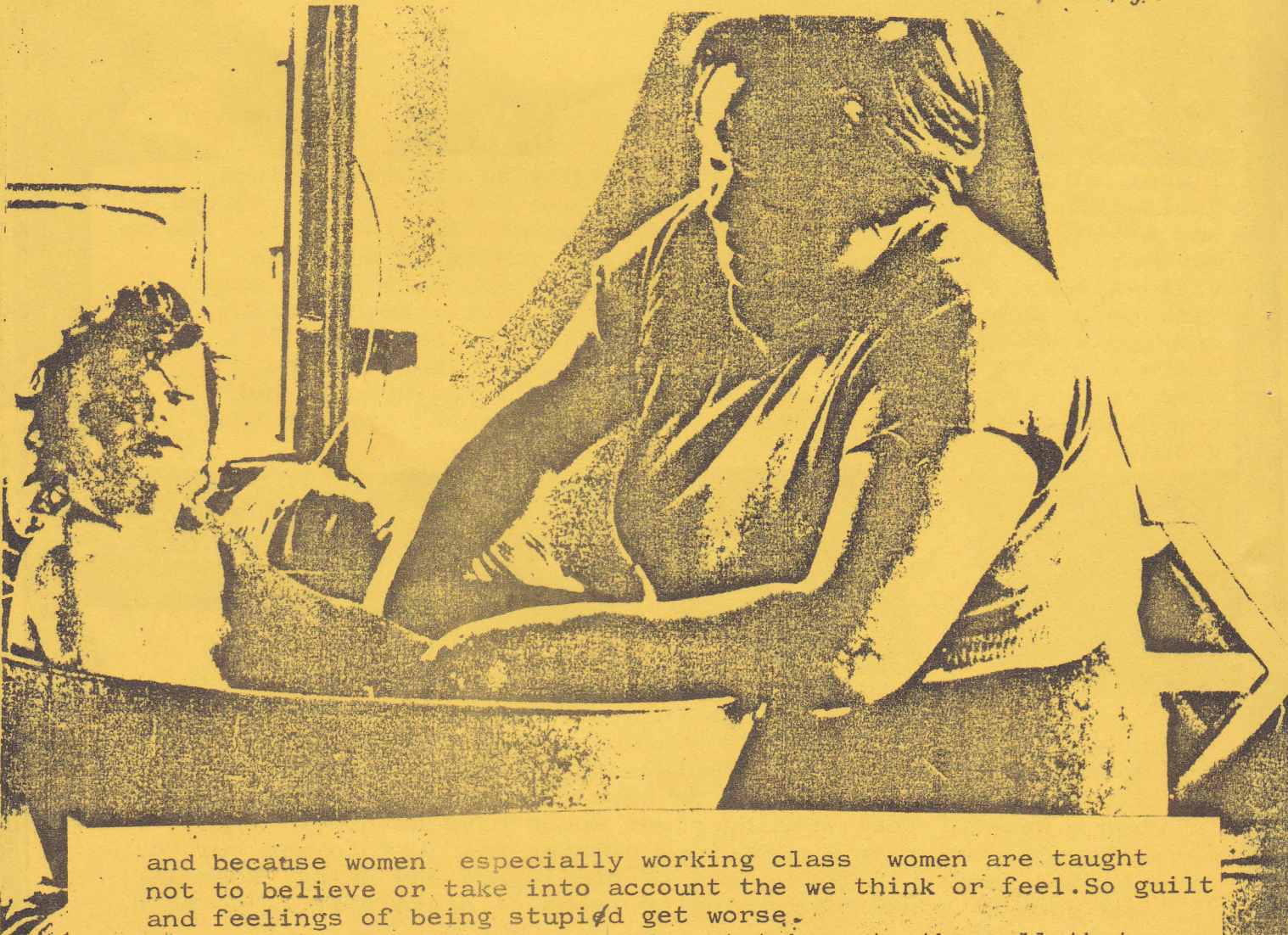


I want to get one thing straight, i do not go around willingly guilt tripping, its just i feel that class has got to be recognised and acted upon in the Notts womens movement. I feel that in women movement there is a correct view of everything or supposed view especially your personal politics, if you dont share that view or understand it you are immediately chastised, differant and isolated. This is not really surprising is it? You all share the same humour, speak the same language, part of the same culture and experiance. I am aware we all individuals but groups do come together obviously if they are of similar back grounds etc.

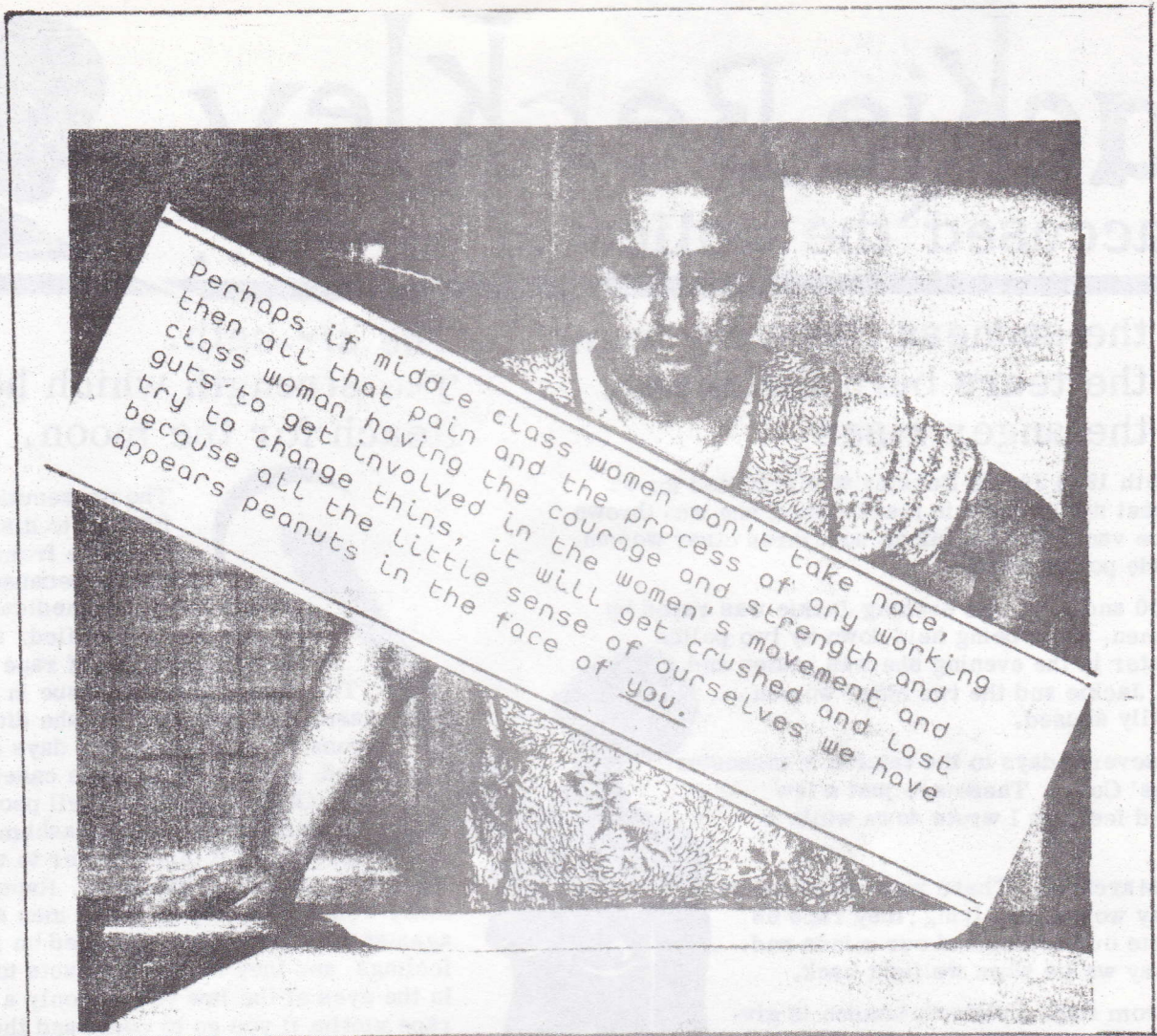
You even seem to see things in a different framework to me, you have always been taught to evaluate, think in more deeply (which does not mean i am less stupid) than i have ever been taught to. I think middle class women do have a sense of self, only small but a sense, i feel working class women have nothing. I have always been taught i am nothing not just to men but to "better people", a total lack of confidence and being. When i was younger i saw everything in terms of class, i still do to a certian extent...

That is all it takes to get the wheels of inadequacies going Ask your self a question would you ever feel stupid ,ignorant in front of a young punky working class women?or a shop assistent no you wouldnt but i am sure she would in front of you. I feel class is very inportant and i get pissed off with the total lack of awareness in the womens movement,it is just not spoken about. Next to a black women i know i feel i am in a position of power and i feel bad about it, are you aware of that power over me?or is that your view of relating that is so one sided and biased.

Are you the sarcastic teachers at school who put us down because our mums cannot afford the school uniform and so we are given clothing vouchers,second best,tatty clothes.We get the free school meals and milk,we have to miss school because we have to look after the baby while mum is ill and dad is not there. To me it sometimes appears so,can you understand all that? This is not my list of all the wrong doing against me I just want you to UNDERSTAND and be aware of the way you act My friends at school would take the piss and laugh at you because it our only defence against the world,(that and dancing) Do not put us down as women we are all aware of how much we do get put down,do not dismiss us as soon as we open how mouths I am aware as women we all have insecurities, hang ups self hatred etc, but we can GET a sense of strength, a collective pool against men because we are all oppressed, but as a minority in the womens movement working class women are out on a limb because we are so different to you.It is hard to say anything about it because sisterhood appears so wonderful and womanly.



and because women especially working class women are taught not to believe or take into account the we think or feel. So guilt and feelings of being stupid get worse.



perhaps if middle class women don't take note, then all that pain and the process of any working class woman having the courage and strength and guts to get involved in the women's movement and try to change things, it will get crushed and lost because all the little sense of ourselves we have appears peanuts in the face of you.

THIS NOTICE WAS "LIBERATED"
FROM 118

TRANSLATED BY THE
ANARCHO-FEMINISTS.

IF YOU CAN'T PAY THEN SEE A
WORKER TO ARRANGE CREDIT.

IF YOU WON'T PAY THEN PLEASE GO
SOMEWHERE ELSE.

FAILURE TO PAY IS NOT THEFT FROM 118.

IT IS THEFT FROM THE 200+ GROUPS &
INDIVIDUALS WHO USE THE PLACE & DO PAY.

John.

P.S. DO YOU STEAL FROM MUSHROOM
OR OUROBORUS ?

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE ?

- IF YOU CAN'T PAY AND YOU'RE
A MAN WE'LL LET YOU OFF. IF
YOU'RE A WOMAN (ESPECIALLY
IF YOU ARE A RADICAL FEMINIST
GROUP) WE WILL HASSLE YOU
- IF YOU'RE POOR WE DON'T WANT
TO KNOW.
- FAILURE TO PAY IS NOT THEFT.
WE GET AN ENORMOUS COUNCIL
GRANT.

P.S. MUSHROOM AND OUROBORUS
DO NOT GET LARGE COUNCIL
GRANTS TO PROVIDE A SERVICE
FOR THE PUBLIC.

• VERY LITTLE DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN 118 AND MUSHROOM.

Jackie Berkley

accused the police of rape....



Out of the sadness flows the tears.
Out of the tears burn the anger.
Out of the anger rises

The strength.
The strength which helps us
Reach for the moon.

On April 19th 1984 Jackie Berkley was arrested for an alleged street disturbance in Manchester; she was thrown into a police van and taken, along with three other women, to Moss Side police station.

Between 7.00 and 7.30 that evening Jackie was raped by two policemen, while being held down by two police women. Later in the evening she was beaten and throughout Jackie and the two other women were racially abused.

I went for several days to the trial in Manchester Magistrates' Court. These are just a few thoughts and feelings I wrote down while in court.

Thursday, March 7th. These men surround us and they say women are lying; they rape us and infiltrate our bodies and our minds and then they say we lie when we fight back.

A woman from Rape Crisis in London is giving evidence for the defence on the reactions of women after rape and often the delay in reporting the rape. She says it is no wonder women don't report rapes because they have to convince men and the law that they have been raped. Why should women have to put yet more energy into the male system - and yet if they don't the rapist goes free. Jackie is supposed to have made a false allegation of rape; how can they believe that she is going to put herself through this hell again and again - surrounded by men, surrounded by men in uniforms.

It makes me want to hit out, to hurt those men surrounding Jackie; how dare they treat women like this? Jackie is on trial for being raped; I feel so helpless; how can it be like this?

The prosecution is trying its best to discount the evidence from Rape Crisis because she hasn't got a 'medical degree, so she is not qualified, and yet she dealt with hundreds of rape victims. They are making an issue in Jackie's case about the fact that she didn't tell anyone of the rape until 5 days after it happened, and yet 75½ of rape cases never go to court. Often women only tell people years later; they are afraid to talk, ashamed. For Jackie, she found it much easier to write things than talk about what happened. Rape destroys many women's lives, and still men argue against us. Facts, it's all based on facts no feelings, and they distort the facts to suit them. In the eyes of the law you are only a genuine rape victim if you go to court and the rapist is convicted.

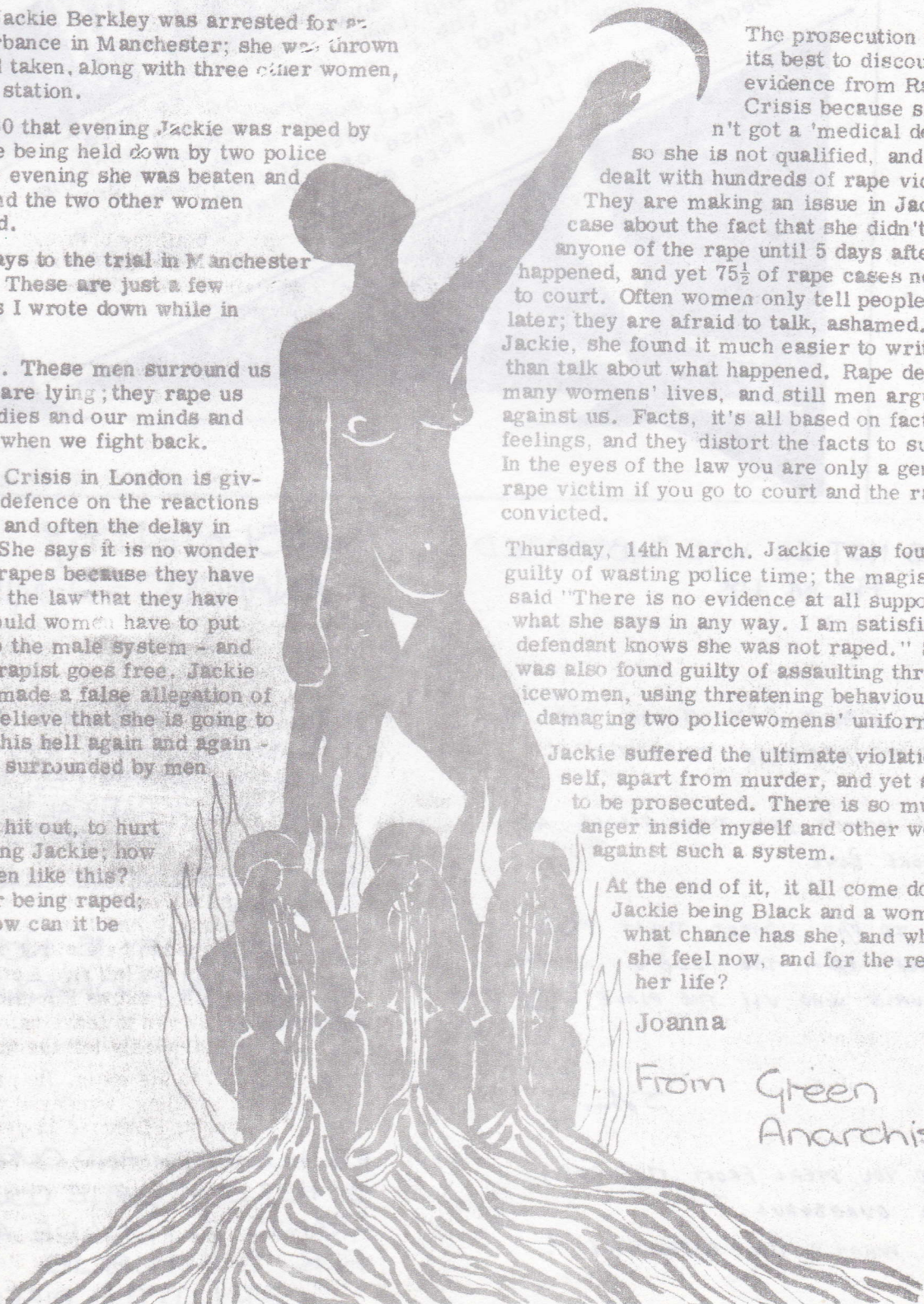
Thursday, 14th March. Jackie was found guilty of wasting police time; the magistrate said "There is no evidence at all supporting what she says in any way. I am satisfied the defendant knows she was not raped." She was also found guilty of assaulting three policewomen, using threatening behaviour and damaging two policewomen's uniforms.

Jackie suffered the ultimate violation of self, apart from murder, and yet she is to be prosecuted. There is so much anger inside myself and other women against such a system.

At the end of it, it all comes down to Jackie being Black and a woman - what chance has she, and what must she feel now, and for the rest of her life?

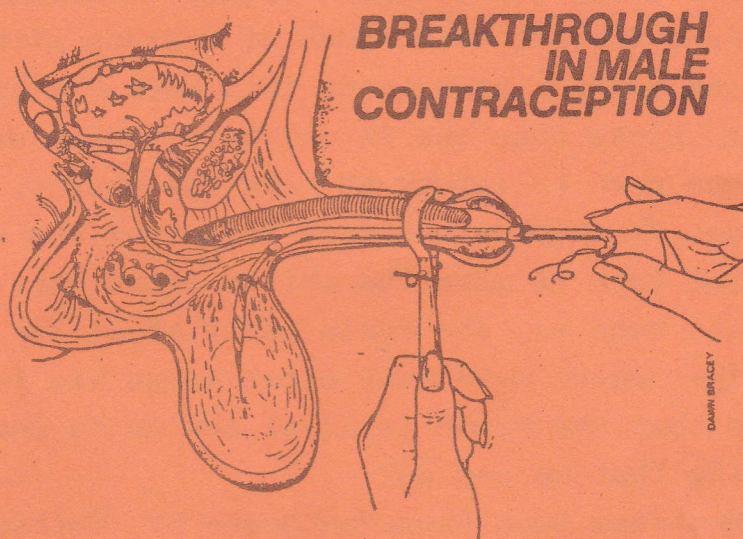
Joanna

From Green
Anarchist



Breakthrough in Male Contraception

A JOKE



The newest development in male contraception was unveiled recently at the American Womens Surgical Symposium held at the Ann Arbor Medical Centre. Dr Sophie Merkin, of the Merkin Clinic, announced the preliminary findings of a study conducted on 763 unsuspected male undergraduate students at a large midwest university. In her report, Dr Merkin stated that the new contraceptive - the IPD - was a breakthrough in male contraception. It will be marketed under the trade name 'Umbrelly'.

The IPD (intrapenile device) resembles a tiny folded umbrella which is inserted through the head of the penis and pushed into the scrotum with a plunger like instrument. Occasionally there is perforation of the scrotum but this is disregarded since it is known that the male has few nerve endings in this area of his body. The underside of the umbrella contains a spermicidal jelly, hence the name 'Umbrelly'.

Experiments on 1,000 white whales from the continental shelf (whose sexual apparatus is said to be closest to mans) proved the Umbrelly to be 100 per cent effective in preventing production of sperm, and eminently satisfactory to the female whale since it does not interfere with her rutting pleasure.

Dr Merkin declared the Umbrelly to be statistically safe for the human male. She reported that of the 763 graduate students tested with the device only two died of scrotal infection, only twenty experienced swelling to the tissues. Three developed cancer of the testicles and thirteen were too depressed to have an erection. She stated that common complaints ranged from cramping and bleeding to acute abdominal pain. She emphasized that these symptoms were merely indications that the mans body had not yet adjusted to the device. Hopefully the symptoms would disappear within a year.

One complication caused by the IPD and briefly mentioned by Dr Merkin was the incidence of massive scrotal infection necessitating the surgical removal of the testicals. 'But this is a rare case,' said Merkin, 'too rare to be statistically important'. She and other distinguished members of the Womens College of Surgeons agreed that the benefits far outweighed the risk to any individual man.

Women Inside

Sue* ,A Woman in Styal Prison, told me this-
During the week, the Women work full-time- the average wage for which is about £2.00 a week. Sue's work is making shirts and she says that they go to Men's Prisons and British Nuclear Fuels. Sue is opposed to Nuclear Energy (she doesn't think much of Prisons either) and feels strongly that she doesn't want to do this work. She can apply for a work-change but thinks that she is unlikely to get one as she is good at the job. If she were to refuse to make the shirts, she would be sent to the Punishment Block. When she came back from the Punishment Block, she would be sent back to make the shirts again etc.
Sue told me that, even so, she feels badly about not refusing to do this work and that there were many other Women who felt the same. There is little that the Women in Styal can do to change this situation. Is there anything that we can do?

Contact: Box F, Mushroom Book Shop, Heathcote St., Nottingham.

*This Woman's name has been changed due to my positive paranoia.

Women's Freedom Camp

Over the past few years many Peace Women have been imprisoned for short (and recently longer) periods of time. These women have been horrified by the conditions and treatment which all women in prison are subjected to. All the many women prisoners we have met are victims of men's patriarchal, corrupt society and laws.

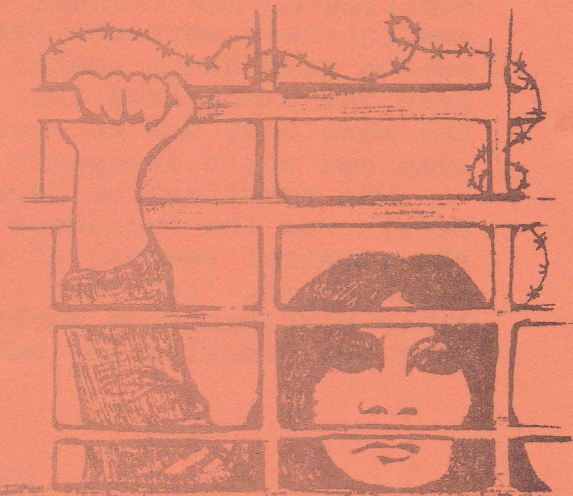
ALL CRIME IS POLITICAL - ALL POLITICS ARE CRIMINAL.

On Aug 17th, women will be setting up a Freedom Camp outside Styal Womens Prison in Cheshire.

We invite all women to join us in showing our support for women prisoners throughout the world, from Aug 17th onwards.

For more information please contact us at
BOX F, MUSHROOM BOOKSHOP, 10, HEATHCOTE STREET,
NOTTINGHAM.

Please bring—
Water, Food, Tents,
Wood, Banners,
Balloons, etc.



Below are extractions from Beata Lipmans book
WE MAKE FREEDOM
WOMEN IN SOUTH AFRICA



PRETTY NTEMBA

I came to Joh, burg from Rustenburg, 'my life is better now . I do have some work, four mornings in a house in Westdene. But the things come in the evenings I work for a man who pays me 20 rand a night, and i take his friends and look after them for him. I AM EARNING penty now ...it is easy to send money to my mother for my sisters and my brothers they are still in school The thing that worries me a bit is how long i can do this work i really have to keep myself very nice. What will i do when it finishes? I do not like to be poor again..'

There is a ranking order to prostitution in SA that is linked colour as well as price. 'Posh' black women meet white men in clubs and in flats in white areas of town, those whose price is lower wait on corners.

CAROLE MOLOFE

Corole Molofe works as a cleaner in a Johannesburg hospital for white patients , she earns 20 rand for a 50 hour week, and because she has been seperated from her husband for four years she lives in the womens hostel at Alexander township. I share my room with three other women. I am not living with my children, we are not allowed that our children should come and visit for us.

I got six children. the older one is 21, another is 18, then 16, then 10, 8 and another 10 months. What can i do because nobody can give me something to eat ? Thats why i have to leave these children so i come back to the job to work for them and buy everything for them. to pay school fees.... So i am not allowed to find a place, where i can stay with my children, because i have not got a husband to find a house for me. If i have not got a husband i am going to stay here forever for my life.'

NOHAMBILE NTATWE

Mrs Nohambile Ntatwe an office cleaner in Lohsburg, talks about survival in the dark hours before the first train leaves the centre of the city for her home in the black township of Naledi.

'I recently began a new cleaning job at Nedfin house for one of the cleaning companies, but it is the same old story when we knock off at 2.30 a.m. we have to go.

There is no mercy. Many people in many places have been assaulted people who work late at night, meeting with ducktails and tsotsis many many people. We have been hearing of many of gods people who have been injured...we can not go to Park station at 2.30 in the morning, we may not sleep on the benches there. We may not sit in the waiting rooms. We must stand outside. Even when there is a train on the platform we may not board it.

'Now we wonder where we must go because in the town at night it is rough. We have a white supervisor, she comes and lets us off. Its only women who are cleaners. Some come from Dieploop, others from Naledi from everywhere. The supervisor is also a woman, but she has a car you see.

You work, always at night in the offices, until a certain time. It matters no whether or not its raining or icy cold, there is no shelter for us. Whether you are assaulted or not is none of their concern.

'At one time a cousin of mine was working in Braamfontein she was just leaving that place, early, when she was molested. It was only after they heard she was seriously ill and in hospital with bad wounds that the whites there said, 'All right, you cleaners can wait on the premises until it is safe to go home' Those are the difficulties under which we work during the night.

Because it is also unsafe in the township very early in the morning, I am afraid to get off the first train when it gets to my station. So I stay inside ituntil it is safe for me to get off and go home.

'What can we do? Then passengers would say to me, 'You will get hurt in the trains here going up and down alone, and a woman for that matter.' They were men passengers usually at that time. Then would answer, 'What can I do? I have got to try and save my life as I work. I have no husband.'

The company only pays us 34 rand a fortnight...how are we to feed our children and grandchildren, there is not much we can do with 34 rand.

How much have we have been crying????
Its no good keeping quiet, I have realised it. It is these people who speak lies, telling strangers to show us that we live very happily.

WINNIE MANDELLA

Her political views today

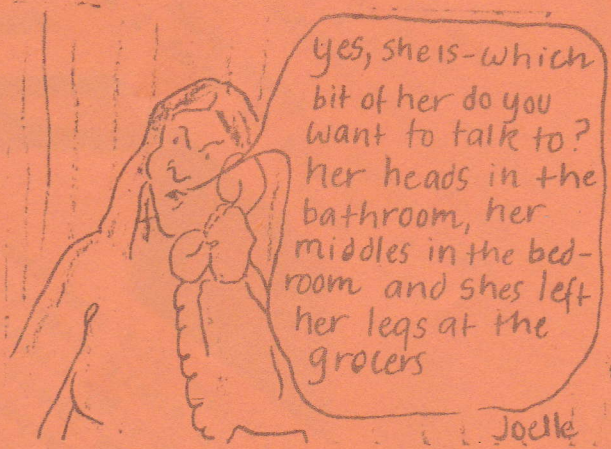
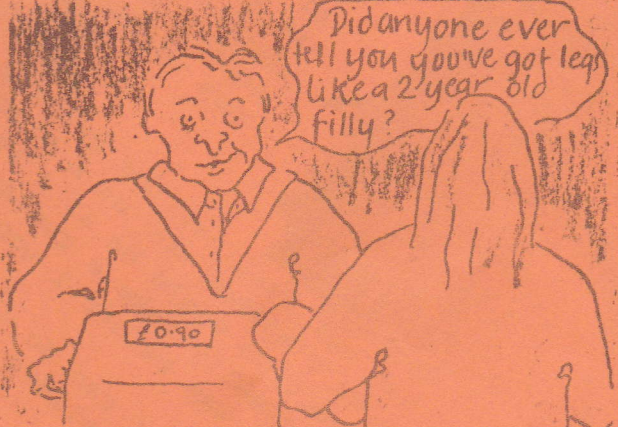
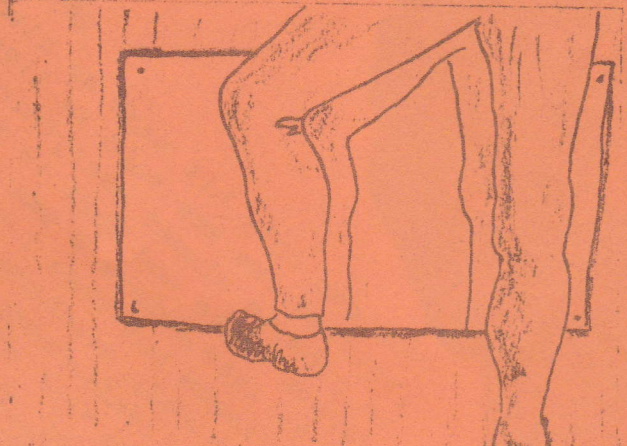
'The white man has now reduced the struggle virtually to black versus white...this is the situation that has been created for us we have no choice. They have separated us completely from them and driven us into a corner where you can only fight in the context of blackness.'

'You can only hit back as black because you are virtually isolated. We are told to live in our own areas you are isolated in jobs, in almost everything. So life has been reduced to black versus white and that is the context of the struggle as a whole. Up to 1969, before I was in solitary confinement for 17 months of prisons but then I was before then I had just been in and out it is hardly anything to talk about, people have lost their lives in solitary confinement it is then that I really felt made. It is such a hard test of your ideals, and at the same time it teaches you so much of what you stand for your own values.'

Perhaps up to that stage I had not realised the gravity of our struggle and up to that stage, as a mother and as a black woman I would not of known what my reaction would be if I found myself in a violent situation. would I actually take a gun? And shoot in defence of what I believed in? That was before I went in for solitary confinement. I know what I can do in a defence of this my country, in defence of what I believe to be a just society. I believe that now!

'...the old and the shrivelled, some blind, grandmothers and many in their eighties fled across the hills. They had been milked dry by fines and the confiscation of their cattle. With assaults as their daily bread, men and women are hunted like me...' A newspaper article at the time of the struggles against es in Lefurutse, 1956-7.

FRAG MENTATION



Joelle

THE RED ARMY FACTION :-

A brief history.

THIS ARTICLE IS AN ATTEMPT TO PRESENT A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE RED ARMY FACTION IN GERMANY. I DON'T PROFESS TO BE AN EXPERT, BUT HAVING LIVED ON THE CONTINENT I HAVE HAD MORE ACCESS TO INFORMATION THAN IF I HAD LIVED IN ENGLAND.

THE FOCUS OF THIS ARTICLE IS AROUND WHAT HAPPENED TO ULRIKE MEINHOF IN 1976 AND AROUND GUDRUN ENSSLINN IRINGARD MOLLER, ANDREAS BAADER AND JAN-CARL RASP.

SINCE THE IDEA CAME UP FOR THIS ARTICLE 30 WOMEN AND MEN IN WEST GERMAN PRISONS WERE GONE ON HUNGER STRIKE TO DEMAND POLITICAL PRISONER STATUS. THEY BEGAN ON 4th DEC AND THE MEDIA HAS FOCUSED ON THE BOMBINGS, ASSASSINATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT IN SUPPORT OF THEM, WITHOUT ANY DISCUSSION OF THEIR AIMS ETC.

THE BRITISH MEDIA IS VERY GOOD AT CRIMINALISING LIBERATIONIST STRUGGLES. THEY HAVE HAD NEARLY SIXTEEN YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN NORTHERN IRELAND. WITH REGARD TO WEST GERMANY THE STRAIGHT MEDIA TRIES TO PRESENT AN ISOLATED GROUP OF FANATICS, WITH NO POLITICAL PERSPECTIVE 'COMMITTING MINDLESS ACTS OF VIOLENCE' IN EXACTLY THE SAME MANNER AND USING THE SAME LANGUAGE AS THEY DO WITH THE IRA AND INLA.

THE FACTS ARE VERY DIFFERENT. AT THE MOMENT THERE ARE ABOUT 140 POLITICAL PRISONERS IN WEST GERMAN PRISONS. SOME OF THESE ACTIVISTS ARE IN RAF SOME IN MOVEMENT JUNE 2nd AND THE ANTI-IMPERIALISM RESISTANCE AS WELL AS NON-ALIGNED ACTIVISTS. THEIR DEMANDS ARE TO BE IMPRISONED TOGETHER, THE END OF ISOLATION TORTURE, NORMAL VISITING RIGHTS AND THE RIGHT TO BOOKS AND LETTERS.

THE ACTIVISM THAT HAS 'SUDDENLY' SPRUNG UP IN GERMANY AND THE REST OF EUROPE DID NOT JUST HAPPEN, AND DID NOT HAPPEN IN ISOLATION.



THE RULING ELITE IS PANICKING. THERE IS A BROAD BASE FOR ACTIVISM IN HOLLAND, BELGIUM, PORTUGAL AND GREECE, THERE HAS TO BE. IN BRITAIN THERE IS NOT YET THAT BROAD BASE, AND THE LACK OF ACTIONS HERE HIGHLIGHTS THIS.

TO DISCUSS THE RAF AT ALL WE HAVE TO DISCUSS THE SIXTIES AND THE PEACE MOVEMENT, THE WAR IN VIETNAM AND THE PROTESTS THAT SPRANG UP AND POLITICISED THE WHOLE OF EUROPE. I BELIEVE THAT THE THRESHOLD BETWEEN PACIFISM AND ARMED STRUGGLE USUALLY COMES WITH THE AMOUNT AND NATURE OF STATE RESPONSE. IN MAINLAND BRITAIN THE TACTIC HAS BEEN TO USE THE VELVET COSH AND IT HAS BEEN, BY AND LARGE, VERY EFFECTIVE. NO-ONE CAN DENY THAT IT WAKES YOU UP POLITICALLY TO BE SHOT AT ON A PEACEFUL DEMO - WITNESS THE MURDER OF SEAN DOWNES IN 1974, BLOODY SUNDAY IN 1974. DURING ONE PROTEST AGAINST THE SHAH OF IRAN'S VISIT TO BERLIN ON JUNE 2nd 1967 POLICE CHARGED THE DEMONSTRATORS WHO WERE THROWING EGGS AND TOMATOES. A DETECTIVE KARL-HEINZ KURRAS SHOT A DEMONSTRATOR, BENNO OHNESONG, THROUGH THE BACK OF THE HEAD, KILLING HIM INSTANTLY. HENCE THE MOVEMENT JUNE 2nd, AT HIS TRIAL IN NOV. KURRAS WAS FOUND NOT GUILTY OF MAN-SLAUGHTER BECAUSE DURING THE DAY HE WAS UNABLE 'TO ACT CALMLY OR COLLECTEDLY'. IT WAS THAT MURDER WHICH SPARKED OFF A WHOLE MOVEMENT OF WOMEN AND MEN TO DECLARE WAR ON THE INDUSTRIAL-MILITARY STATE, IT HAS BEEN WAGED FOR YEARS. OVER 2,000 BOMBS GO OFF IN GERMANY EVERY YEAR AND NEVER GET REPORTED.

BUT BACK TO THE RAF, THE POLICE AND THE MEDIA TEND TO FOCUS ON A FEW INDIVIDUALS AND TURN THEM INTO LEADERS. HOWEVER IT IS IMPORTANT TO SEE CLEARLY WHAT THE STATE DOES TO INDIVIDUALS - WE NEED TO LEARN AND GROW FROM THESE EXPERIENCES. IN 1968 TWO DEPARTMENT STORES WERE BURNT DOWN, ENSSLINN AND BAADER ALONG WITH TWO OTHERS WERE ARRESTED TWO DAYS LATER AND EVENTUALLY FOUND GUILTY OF ENDANGERING HUMAN LIFE, SENTENCED TO 3 YEARS. ULRIKE MEINHOF WAS HERSELF A JOURNALIST THROUGHOUT THE SIXTIES, SHE MARRIED THE EDITOR OF A BERLIN COMMUNIST MAGAZINE KONCRET AND HER LIFE, BY AND LARGE, WAS TYPICALLY MIDDLE CLASS. EVEN THOUGH SHE WROTE SCATHING ARTICLES ABOUT THE STATE SHE WAS 'RESPECTED' AND RESPECTABLE.

IN 1970 SHE WAS COMMISSIONED TO WRITE A T,V PLAY - THE TOKENISED REBEL THAT THE SYSTEM LOVES. MEANWHILE SHE GOT TO KNOW THE ARSONISTS AS A REPORTER AND AFTER FOURTEEN MONTHS THEY WERE RELEASED PENDING AN APPEAL. ENSSLINN AND BAADER USED THEIR TIME ORGANISING A REFUGE FOR RUNAWAY BOYS AND MEINHOF WAS WORKING ON A PROJECT ABOUT RUNAWAY GIRLS, THE THREE MET AROUND THIS,



WHEN THE APPEAL FAILED, ENSSLINN, BAADER AND THORWALD PROLL MET UP WITH ASTRID, HIS SISTER, AND WENT UNDER GROUND. ALTHOUGH PROLL EVENTUALLY GAVE HIMSELF UP, ENSSLINN AND BAADER WENT BACK TO

GERMANY AND MET UP WITH AN UNDER COVER COP WHO SUGGESTED THEY GET SOME GUNS. (AGENT PROVOCATEURS ARE A FAVOURITE TOOL OF THE GERMANS, THE FIRST COP KILLED BY 60'S ACTIVISTS WAS SHOT BY A GUN PROVIDED BY THE POLICE). BAADER WAS ARRESTED AND WHILST HE WAS IN PRISON, MEINHOF USED HER RESPECTABILITY AS A JOURNALIST TO GET THE PRISON AUTHORITIES TO ALLOW BAADER TO WORK WITH HER ON A PROJECT AT A NEARBY LIBRARY.

ON MAY 14th SHE, TOGETHER WITH TWO OTHER WOMEN AND A MASKED MAN, (IDENTITY NEVER KNOWN) LIBERATED BAADER. THAT WAS HER ONLY CRIME AND THE ONLY ONE WITH ANY CERTAINTY WITH WHICH SHE WAS

INVOLVED. FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS THEY WERE ON THE RUN AND INVOLVED WITH BANK ROBBERIES AND THE WRITING OF POLITICAL PUBLICATIONS, 'THE URBAN GUERRILLA CONCEPT', 'CONCERNING THE ARMED STRUGGLE IN WESTERN EUROPE', 'SERVE THE PEOPLE' AND 'THE ACTION OF BLACK SEPTEMBER IN MUNICH'. THEY CALLED THEMSELVES COMMUNISTS AND NOT AS THE MEDIA HAS STATED ANARCHISTS, AND THEY WERE NOT ALONE, THERE WAS AND STILL IS A BROAD MOVEMENT PICKING UP THE SAME THEME. THEY WERE ACTIVE IN ATTACKING US MILITARY INSTALLATIONS AND THE IG FARBEN BUILDING, IN ONE ACTION THEY CAUSED DM1m OF DAMAGE. THEY WERE ACTIVE AND VOCAL AND THEIR STRUGGLE WAS BEING PICKED UP BY OTHER WEST GERMAN DISSIDENTS.

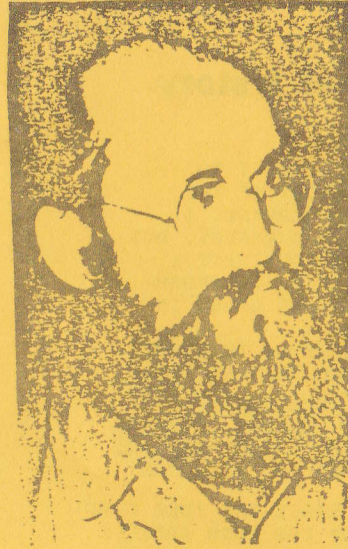
IN 1972 THEY WERE ALL ARRESTED.

THE GERMAN STATE SPENT £3m BUILDING A SPECIALLY REINFORCED PRISON/COURTROOM AT STAMMHEIM. THEY WERE KEPT IN WHITE ISOLATION - A FORM OF SENSORY DEPRIVATION TORTURE.

IN 1974 MEINHOF WAS FOUND GUILTY OF FREEING BAADER AND WAS SENTENCED TO EIGHT YEARS. IN 1976 IN JUNE SHE WAS TO STAND TRIAL FOR MURDER, BANK ROBBERIES AND FORMING A CRIMINAL ASSOCIATION.

ON MAY 9th 1974, MEINHOF WAS FOUND HANGED FROM BARS AT THE WINDOW IN HER CELL. THE DETAILS OF THE AUTOPSY BY THE POLICE WERE, AND ARE, A SECRET. BUT AT A SECOND AUTOPSY IT WAS FOUND THAT SHE HAD BEEN STRANGLING LYING DOWN AND THERE WERE TRACES OF SEMEN IN HER UNDER CLOTHES. HER SISTER'S LAWYER WAS GOING TO BRING A CASE FOR MURDER AGAINST THE GERMAN STATE (NEVER MIND RAPE) BUT HE WAS ARRESTED. THIS IS A FAVOURITE PLOY; THE ARREST OF LAWYERS IN 'TERRORIST' CASES FOR SUPPORTING THEIR CLIENTS IN CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY.

IN 1977 THE OTHERS WERE FOUND GUILTY AND WERE GIVEN LIFE SENTENCES, THEIR LAWYER CROISSANT FLED TO FRANCE, BUT WAS EXTRADICTED AND JAILED FOR SUPPORTING THEM. IN SEPTEMBER A LEADING GERMAN INDUSTRIALIST WAS KIDNAPPED WITH THE RELEASE OF THE RAF AS RANSOM. FIVE WEEKS LATER 4 ACTIVISTS HI-JACKED A LUFTHAUSA PLANE DEMANDING THE RELEASE OF 11 ACTIVISTS IN GERMANY AND TWO PLO MEMBERS IN TURKEY, PLUS DM 1m. THE ALTERNATIVE WAS THAT THEY WOULD KILL THE INDUSTRIALIST, SCHEYLER, AND BLOW UP THE PLANE. THE GOVT. WENT INTO OVERDRIVE.



THE PRISONERS IN STAMMHEIM WERE PUT INTO ISOLATION - NO VISITS, NO COMMUNICATION. GERMAN COMMANDOS WITH SAS ADVISORS AND BRITISH STUN GRENADES STORMED THE PLANE KILLING THREE OF THE ACTIVISTS - WHO HAD EARLIER SHOT DEAD THE PILOT - AND FREED THE HOSTAGES. THAT SAME EVENING BAADER, RASP AND ENSSLINN 'COMMITTED SUICIDE' AND IRMGARD MOLLER 'CUT HER THROAT'. THE LABOUR GOVT. CALLED IT 'GERMANY'S FINEST HOUR'.

THE TWO MEN WERE SHOT, BAADER THROUGH THE BACK OF THE HEAD. WHEN QUESTIONED ABOUT IT THE WEST GERMAN INTERIOR MINISTER, WERNER MAIHAPPER SAID 'IT IS POSSIBLE TO TAKE TREACHERY SO FAR AS TO PASS OFF ONE'S SUICIDE AS AN EXECUTION'. ENSSLINN WAS FOUND HANGED (SEE MARGARETHA VON TROTHA'S FILM ABOUT HER SISTER'S FIGHT FOR AN INQUIRY, IN THE RECENT WAVE OF CENSORSHIP VON TROTHA IS NOT STATE FINANCED TO MAKE FILMS!). ONLY IRMGARD MOLLER SURVIVED. A FEW DAYS LATER SHE WAS REPORTED AS SAYING 'THERE WAS NO SUICIDE PACT BETWEEN US, THE LAST THING I REMEMBER WAS READING A BOOK IN MY CELL. I HEARD A SCUFFLING NOISE OUTSIDE, THE TWO MEN WERE SHOT, BAADER THROUGH

THE NEXT THING I KNEW WAS LYING ON A STRETCHER COVERED IN BLOOD. THIS WOMAN IS AMONG THE 30 HUNGER STRIKERS.

IT IS OBVIOUS TO ANYONE THAT THESE FIGHTERS WERE MURDERED BY THE STATE. THE STATE WANTED TO DELIVER A MESSAGE - THAT ANY FUTURE HIJACKINGS WOULD BE DEALT WITH IN THE SAME WAY AND THE MESSAGE OF THE STRONG STATE WAS ADMIRABLE FROM WASHINGTON TO MOSCOW. THERE WAS A PRETENSE OF COVERING UP THE MURDERS, BUT NOT MUCH OF ONE. THEY HAD TO EXPLAIN ABOUT HOW THE ISOLATED PRISONERS HEARD ABOUT THE FAILED HIJACKING, SO A RADIO WAS FOUND IN RASP'S CELL. THE GUNS WERE SUPPOSEDLY SMUGGLED IN BY LAWYERS, THE GOVERNOR RESIGNED, THAT'S ALL.

AND SO IT GOES ON. THE GERMAN STATE HAS A WHOLE RANGE OF REPRESSIVE LEGISLATION AIMED AT KEEPING DOWN DISSIDENT AND CRIMINALISING ACTIVISTS. THEY USE ISOLATION VIOLENT STRIP SEARCHES AND TWENTY FOUR HOUR SURVEILLANCE IN PRISON. DESPITE THIS THE FIGHTING GOES ON.

THE LESSONS

THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT THE ACTIONS HAVE TO BE DONE. THE NATO ALLIANCE IS BEING USED TO PREPARE FOR WAR WITH LIBERATIONISTS IN THE THIRD WORLD. TO PRETEND TO SUPPORT POPULAR STRUGGLES IN NICARAGUA FOR INSTANCE, WITHOUT ORGANISING AND FIGHTING FOR OUR OWN LIBERATION IS PURE HYPOCRISY. THE US, WESTERN EUROPE AND JAPAN ARE THE CAPITALIST POWER HOUSES OF THE WORLD; THEY NEED TO EXPAND ECONOMICALLY AND MILITARILY INTO THE THIRD WORLD, THE ONLY WAY TO STOP THEM IS TO BRING DOWN THE POWER HERE, BUT WE NEED A LARGE BASE.

SMALL ANARCHIST GROUPS WORKING WITHIN A BROAD BASE OF ACTION CAN ONLY TRULY FUNCTION. THE GERMAN EXAMPLE SHOULD BE SEEN FOR WHAT IT IS - CAPITALIST TOTALITARIANISM. WE HAVE IT IN BRITAIN.

THE MINER'S STRIKE IS OUR FIRST TASTE OF DEMOCRATIC BRITAIN'S ANSWER TO DISSIDENT, CERTAINLY THE WAR IN THE SIX COUNTIES. FASCISM IS MUCH CLOSER TO CAPITALISM'S DEMOCRACY THAN WE HAVE BEEN LED TO BELIEVE.



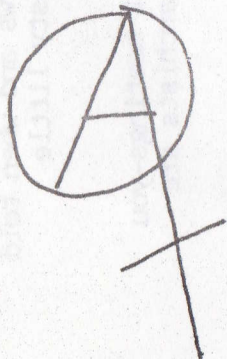
The last magazine caused some
controversy.
we do not apologise for this

The magazine represents a
wide spectrum of different
women's opinions. Not just
Anarcho - Feminists

The Anarcho - Feminists meet
every Sunday. For further details

Contact - Box F

Mushroom



LIBERATIONISTS ALL OVER EUROPE ARE WAGING A WAR AGAINST US
IMPERIALISM. WHEN ARE WE GOING TO STOP KIDDING OURSELVES THAT WE
HAVE SOMETHING DIFFERENT?

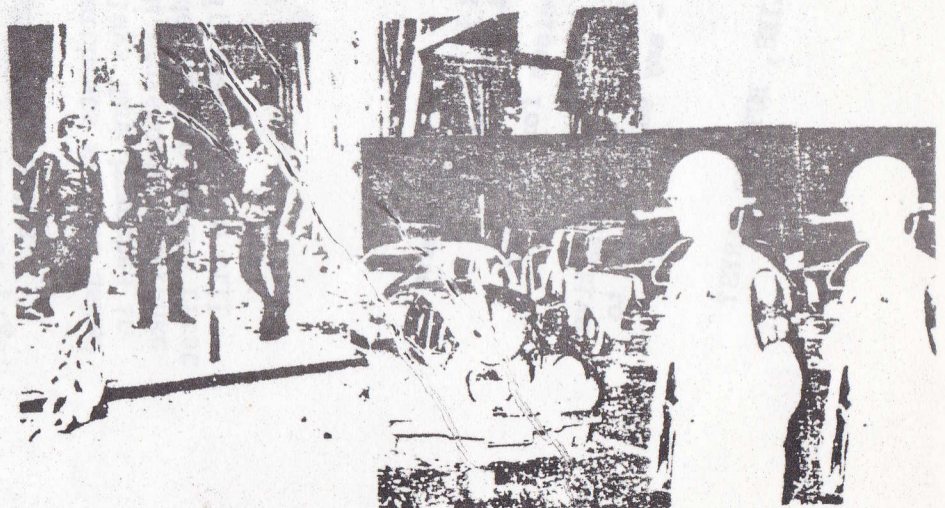
OUR POLITICAL LEADERS ARE PREPARED TO DESTROY US, AS THEY
ALWAYS HAVE. AS WORKERS WE HAVE BEEN USED UP AND DESTROYED DOING
WORK THAT PROVIDES THE RULING ELITE WITH THEIR ECONOMIC AND
MILITARY POWER. I BELIEVE THAT GIVEN A CHOICE I WOULD NEVER KILL
ANYONE, BUT WE ARE UNDER ATTACK. I GET SICK DOING THE RESEARCH
FOR THIS ARTICLE, I KNEW THE STORY IN BROAD TERMS, BUT SEEING IT
COME TOGETHER ON A PAGE IS QUITE DIFFERENT. THERE IS MUCH MORE TO
WRITE ABOUT THIS BUT IT WOULD TAKE A BOOK. THE OTHER DAY I SAW THE
PAPER WITH THE STORY OF ZIMMERMAN AND HIS PHOTO, A MILITARY INDUS-
TRIALIST SHOT DEAD BY THE RAF, AND YES I FOUND IT UPSETTING.

THEN I HAD TO THINK ABOUT THE 10,000 DEAD IN BHOPAL, AND THE
200,000 INJURED AND POSSIBLY DYING - MURDERED BY UNION CARBIDE. A
THEN I REALISED THAT WHOEVER IS MURDERED BY CAPITALISM REMAINS A
FACELESS NUMBER, 5,000 IN MEXICO A FEW MONTHS AGO. WHERE ARE THE
LIFE HISTORIES OF THESE PEOPLE ?

AS FEMINISTS IN THIS COUNTRY WE SEEM TO FEEL THE NEED TO
DEFEND OURSELVES IF WE ADVOCATE WAR AGAINST TARGETS THAT ARE 'NOT
DIRECTLY RELATED TO WOMEN'S OPPRESSION'. THIS IS NONSENSE. IT IS
IMPORTANT TO DESTROY FACTORIES AND PORN SHOPS THAT PUSH PORN, IT
IS EQUALLY IMPORTANT THAT WE DESTROY MILITARY BASES AND MULTI-
NATIONAL HEAD OFFICES. OUR OPPRESSION IS INTERRELATED.

THE BASIS OF CAPITALIST MILITARY INDUSTRIAL OPPRESSION IS
ENFORCED HETEROSEXUALITY AND THE CHAINING UP AND CONTROLLING OF
WOMEN'S SEXUALITY. OUR STRUGGLE IS LINKED WITH OPPRESSION OF CLAS
AND THIRD WORLD OPPRESSION.

NOTHING WILL CHANGE UNTIL IT ALL CHANGES.



RULES FOR ORGANISED ANARCHISTS

1. Don't walk around with a silly red/black flag because it should be pretty apparent from your appearance that you are an anarchist and if it isn't you must be a middle-class smoothie anyway.
2. Go into Mushroom, ask for a copy of Nottingham Anarchist News and when told they don't stock it say 'Good, because I'm boycotting your nasty little capitalist empire anyway.'
3. It isn't very clever and anarchistic ~~not~~ to take minutes at meetings—you may think it is very trendy to be disorganised but real anarchists are actually very efficient.
4. Don't try to get out of paying the membership fee—just because you are an anarchist it doesn't mean that you can disobey rules which are for your own good after all.
5. Try not to break any laws—you will only get the whole movement a bad name as troublemakers and criminals, and possibly a mention in one of the more tacky Sunday papers.
6. For fuck's sake stop wearing red and black clothes all the bloody time. Haven't you got any individuality you bastards? New anarchist uniforms for next term will be powder blue and pastel pink with special flagholder pocket for those of you who have violated RULE NUMBER ONE. Order now in time for Stop The City.
7. Don't forget to empty the ashtrays after meetings. Other people have to use this space as well and it isn't very nice to leave a mess. We must take collective responsibility in making our environment a beautiful place.
8. When Special Branch pop in for a chat, deny any association with Class War, 'Hippies', or any other disruptive minority. Don't call the S.B. fascist pigs, and try to emphasise our charity work, i.e. Eat the Rich Jumble Sales.
9. As part of a new community service drive, teams of anarchists will be asked to volunteer to clean graffiti off the walls of Barclays Bank branches in and around Nottingham. Certain people (you know who you are) should undertake this task due to their assistance with the exterior decoration in the first place. If you come forward in the next 14 days, no disciplinary action will be taken.

In the next issue

CELEBRITY CASTRATION COMPETITION Interesting prizes - nominate the celebrity you would most like to castrate and reasons why!

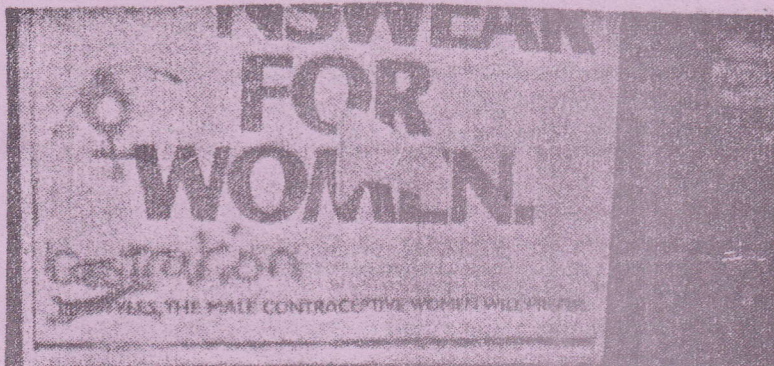
PRETTY SUMMER KNITTING PATTERNS and some NICE recipes for holiday picnics

WHY DO MEN WEAR FEMINIST BADGES? An incisive piece of investigative journalism (but we still don't know the answer - any suggestions to BOX F).

WARNING - THIS PAGE IS COMPRISED OF COMPLETE LIES, BUT WHO CARES?

WOMEN'S WORK

Women got pissed off with shitty advertising everywhere. In May they went out spray painting the particularly objectional 'Menswear' and Grahams Kitchens adverts. Menswears advertises Durex and is a revolting port ryal of mens control over women. 'Menswaer for women' The whole idea that men are doing it for women keeping everyone happy Clean, easy.



Grahams Kitchens advertises kitchen wear. Again using a leery bloke to try and make you think theres something in return for slaving away at the cooker. Who wants a leery looking rapist anyway?

The women were almost beaten up on this little spree as two blokes thought it was hilariously funny to go round chasing them in a car and jumping out on them. Ha Ha The laugh will be on them next time..18''

2) A group of women used stencils to paint the pavement outside SVEN books (pornshop) Mansfield rd.

'WOMEN ARE PEOPLE NOT SEX DOLLS'

Unfortunately the owners were a little cleverer than usual and used turps to get rid of most of it the next day.

SMASH (H)IT!!!!!!

After many hysterical plans some women eventually decided to do a 'action' against a 'Sex' Shop. Our intrepid heroines met in the pub with disguises ready they set off. They parked near to the shop in their Bonnie and Claire beetle and waited. The look out gave the all clear and they rushed forward and smashed the window it just gave a tiny splatt... God it was fucking wonderful. Such satisfaction better than a Women for Peace or Anarchist meeting any day.

"JUSTICE FOR WOMEN"
(NEWSLETTER)

READ ABOUT THE 'LAW' AND HELP
US EXPOSE CORRUPTION AND
CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE
COURTS & LEGAL ESTABLISHMENT.
75P DONATION FOR P.P. VIA 32A
SHAKESPEARE ST. NOTTINGHAM.
(POSTAL ADDRESS ONLY)

W.A.M.P.

♀ MEDICAL PRACTICES NEWSLETTER
(NOTTINGHAM REPORT)

RIVALRY 'HIM! NATURA?' NEWSLETTER
FOR ♀ BY ♀ ABUSED BY THE
MEDICAL PROFESSION. 60p. DONATION
Same Address

Sex shops shape as well as reflect, men's distorted sexuality. They also shape and reinforce men's distorted views of women's sexuality.

Women say no to these distortions:

We are NOT objects.
We are NOT passive.
We do NOT want to service men.
We do NOT want to be harassed, beaten, raped, killed.
We do NOT enjoy being afraid.
We do NOT become lesbians for men's benefit.

We DEMAND freedom for OUR bodies,

OUR minds,

OUR sexuality,

We DEMAND that we are not surrounded by endless degrading images of women.

We DEMAND that licences for sex shops are not renewed.

We ask women to ;

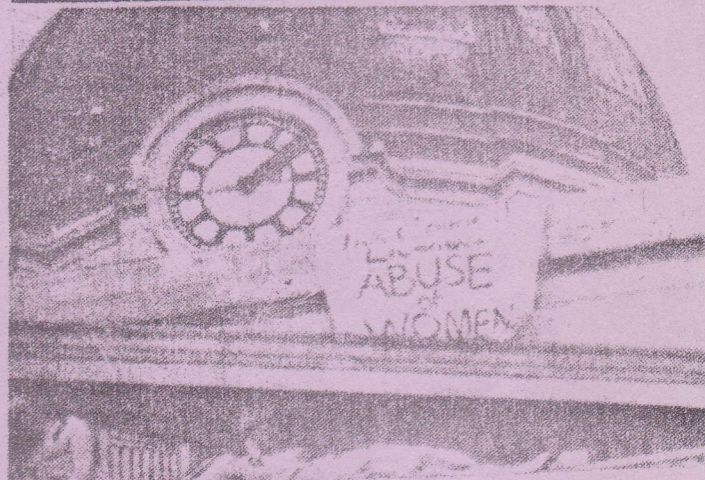
Write opposing the licence renewal of SVEN BOOKS to the City Secretary.

Join the demonstrations.

June 5th & 20th 2pm at the Council House.

Women are strong - together we will Reclaim our Sexuality.

Contact us after 3.30pm on 754887.



30 or so women turned up to the demo outside County Hall. Two women climbed onto the Council House roof and hung out a banner, saying something like 'This Council Abuses Women'

Leaflets and a petition were handed out. Over 200 signatures were obtained within 1/2 hour, seems like notts. citizens aren't that into SVEN bookshop, Mr and Mrs councillors.

At the end, 8 women tried to enter the Council House to hand in a petition. We were hassled (note the word 118) by a particularly objectionable little man in uniform, who did not let us enter. Eventually we were told that it was the City Secretary who dealt with re-licensing.

Several minutes later we stormed the city secs. office. He was away, but his secretary informed us that the license had been O.K'd that day, in spite of the fact that they knew we were demonstrating in opposition to this outside the building.

We ask women to come to the Council House on June 20th at 2.00 pm, to attend an 'open' meeting at which the councillors who passed the license will be present. We intend to hand in an even larger petition.

JUNE 6th — LATEST NEWS!!!!

Last night 3 women spray painted SVEN books, two were chased by two thugs who decided to beat up one of the women. Is this just a coincidence???

Wherever the reason women will not be intimidated.

See you soon SVEN!!

Work Place

SOMETIMES, I
I FIND HOPE AND ANARCHY
AROUND.
THE REAL PEOPLE WHO COME IN

NONE OF YOUR FUCKING
IVORY TOWER RUBBISH MATE,
NONE OF YOUR CHRISTIAN
MORALS AND HYPOCRASY.

AND TALK WITH ME.

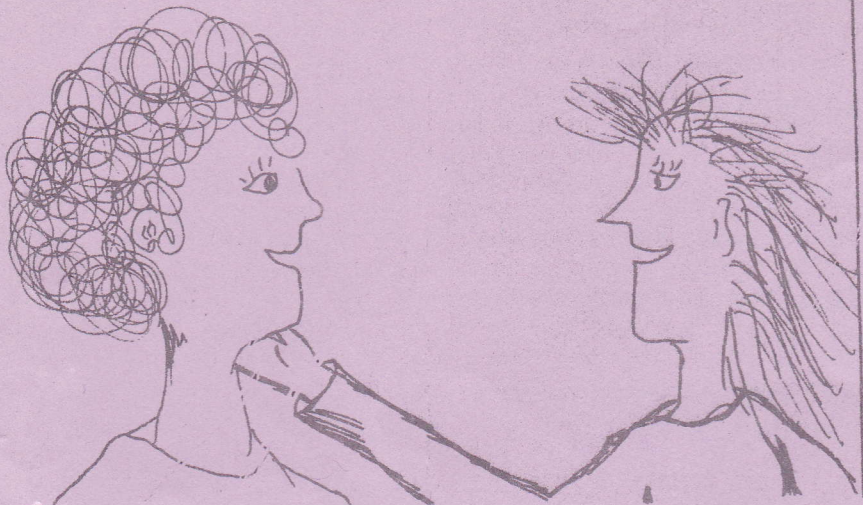
THEY DON'T BOMBARD ME
WITH PATRONAGE,
TREAT ME AS A BUMBLE
DOG
NOBODY.

SOMETIMES,
IN THE NEON STAGNATION
A BREATH OF FRESHNESS
DRIFTS THROUGH
BRUSHING ME SOFTLY
THOUGH WORDS ARE HARSH.

'I DON'T KNOW HOW TO WRITE ME DUCK,
I WAS SHY AT SCHOOL,
IT WAS ME PARENTS,
WELL, ME DAD.
HE BEAT ME SEE
NOT THAT I GOT ANY BETTER
LATER,
ME HUSBAND BEAT ME.
WHEN HE DOES IT NOW
I SAY " YOU TOUCH ME,
AND I'LL FRIGHTEN YOU,
SO'S YOU'LL HAVE A HEART ATTACK."
HE'S GOT A WEAK HEART SEE.'

STRONG WOMAN
OLD BEFORE YOU ARE.
I LOVE YOU.

STARK COLD HYPOCRASY
BUMBLING RIGHTEOUSNESS AND LOCKING
DOORS
CLOSING ME IN BEHIND YOUR OPINION
CAGES,
I HATE YOU.



OUTSIDE THOUGH, THE REAL PEOPLE
LIVE AND SUFFER AND DANCE.
SHE ENTERS DRESSED IN PINK,
PINK LADY LIPSTICK,
AND THEY TRY TO MOVE HER AWAY FROM ME,
BAD INFLUENCE ON YOUNG INTERVIEWEE.
BUT SHE LISTENS AND LAUGHS.

'I DON'T LIKE TO WORK
NOT FULL TIME,
I WORKED AT DEBENHAMS,
39 HOUR WEEK. IT NEARLY
KILLED ME. AND THAT'S SUPPOSED
TO BE EASY
WHY SHOULD I GET UP WHEN I DON'T
WANT TO.'

THEY WONT GIVE YOU THE JOB
PINK LADY,
NOT IF I IDENTIFY WITH YOU.



STARK COLD CREATES DISTRUST
AND HATRED
IF CREATE IS THE WORD
FOR SUCH PUTRID DEATH
BEHIND THEIR MORALITY,
INTELECTUAL AND CLASS WALLS.

A Dying Forest

One of us can say so much
to be of comfort

But it gets really difficult
when you have to fetch your own fuel
in the rain,
with the cold feeding and burning a hatred
in your stomach.

I'm torn between needing to force them
to notice me, and needing them
to leave me alone.
They march us out at gunpoint
just as I've rocked you to sleep
and lock us all in solitary confinement.

But one of us can say so much
to ward away the nightmares, and perpetuate
the myth
that we can win if we all pull together.
I can hold your shoulders
when you shake with fear
or with chill.

From the light of the day
I sometimes draw a vision of green and yellow
against the grey,
of rich russet earth and golden boughs
through the drizzle.
But the rain persists from clouds of smoke
from chimneys
in the towns of the north,
and the invisible death
from the new power stations around the coast.
Two of us roll in the red leaves
in the forest
on the floor, littered with musty
earthy mulch
that spawns less life than it used to.

One of us can help another
but its getting harder.
I grow desperate for warmth,
for the touch of a body
or the touch of hearing my own thoughts
expressed by another's voice.
Sharing.

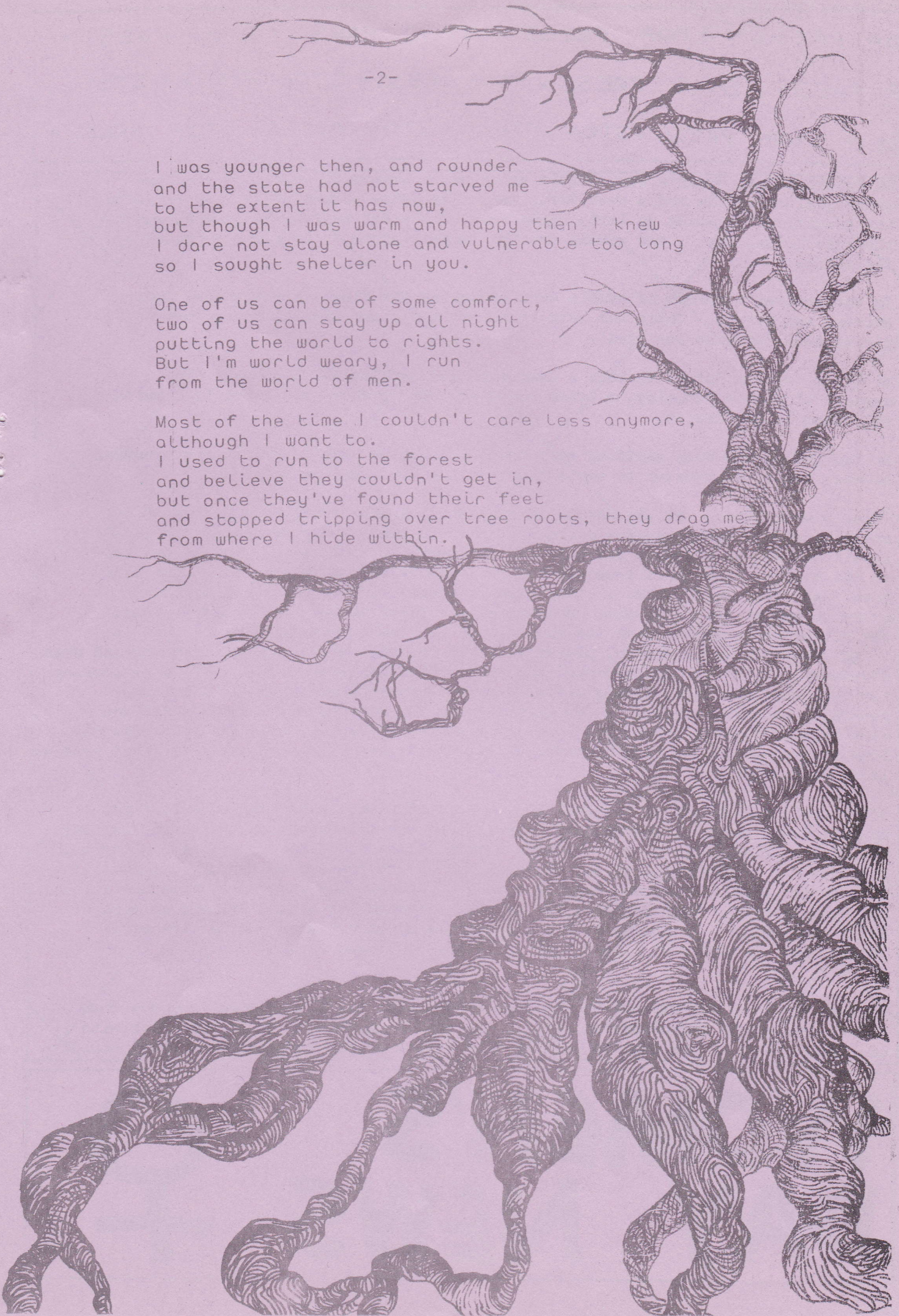
Another time in the forest
it was dewy spring.
I lay so long in the blue bells
I thought that they could grow over me and drown me
and I'd never have to go home.

I was younger then, and rounder
and the state had not starved me
to the extent it has now,
but though I was warm and happy then I knew
I dare not stay alone and vulnerable too long
so I sought shelter in you.

One of us can be of some comfort,
two of us can stay up all night
putting the world to rights.
But I'm world weary, I run
from the world of men.

Most of the time I couldn't care less anymore,
although I want to.

I used to run to the forest
and believe they couldn't get in,
but once they've found their feet
and stopped tripping over tree roots,
they drag me
from where I hide within.



OP PRESS • STOP PRESS • STOP PRESS • STOP PRESS •
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On International Women's Day, wimmin gathered in London to challenge the huge power wielded by the media over our lives. The media shapes as well as reflects the conditions in which we live, regardless of whether we read the papers, watch the television, etc., and wimmin are the largest group to be misinterpreted by the media.

In the morning hundreds of wimmin were picketing the Fleet Street press, Sun, Express and Mirror. There was lots of noise, music and wimmin's paper vans giving away 'Wimmin's Day News'.

At 1 p.m. wimmin joined in with a demonstration outside the High Court in support of Jackie Berkeley, a black woman who was arrested and raped by 2 white policemen in Manchester.

So far no-one had done anything very naughty, and we hadn't seen anyone arrested because later we intended to cause chaos at the BBC - and we did.

Three wimmin sussed out the Shepherds Bush studios and reported back lots of security guards behind narrow doors, but at 6 pm despite our pessimism, about 30 wimmin decided to storm it and hope for the best. All the wimmin got in and ran up the stairs, closely followed by security guards saying things like 'Come back here' and 'You can't do that'. They made the usual mistake of trying to catch everyone and so caught no-one. Meanwhile, the receptionist had freaked out and was gibbering something down the phone about 60 wimmin running riot. We got in to an empty recording studio, played with the controls which were all running and when discovered, split up and ran round the rest of the building in small groups - looking for the 6 O'Clock News, taking pictures (quite paranoid reactions to this) and generally annoying people. A few wimmin found BBC workers to be sympathetic and even helpful (giving directions, etc.) but on the whole they were not very friendly. Some wimmin managed to find microphones which were recording to rant into, but nothing live, unfortunately.

After about 40 minutes in the building, groups of wimmin were dragged downstairs by Police and security guards, but were left in the reception area (perhaps they were deciding what to do with us). We made lots of noise for about 10 minutes, after which they decided to drag us outside, where we had an interesting conversation about life with Esther Rantzen, who was hanging out of a window. She was fairly sympathetic, but not very helpful. (She wouldn't let us climb through her window or make us cups of tea). Meanwhile - although we were all outside by this time - Police were still looking for the other 30 wimmin. We left them to it and went to the pub.

We then wrote up our day out on the bus coming home, which just goes to prove that wimmin are amazing and wonderful, etc... and can do anything! So get in touch with us (Box F) soon if you want to join in with direct action to change the whole world!

**WOMEN'S
DAY NEWS** 