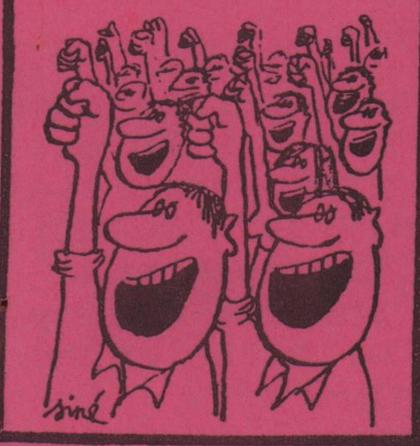


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WOMEN  
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NO. 15.

Debout  
les damnés de  
Nanterre



ARISE ye wretched  
of Nanterre

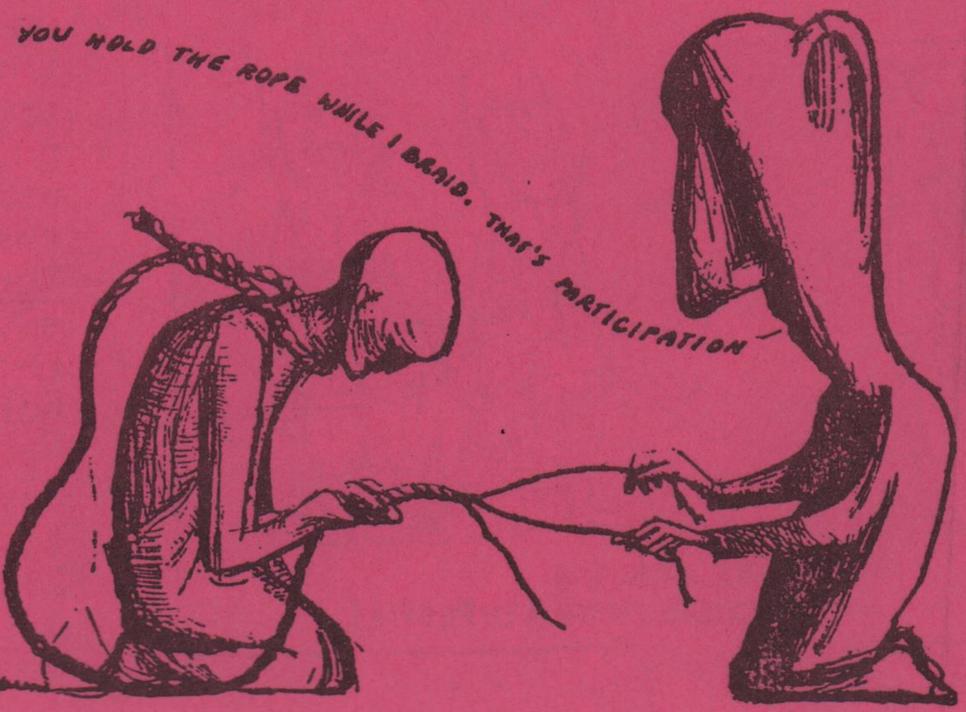


RE-SISTER



we are the power

/RE-SISTER/



25P

## REVOLTING MAY

May is an important month for Anarchists - full of moments in history where Anarchist women and men have taken to the streets in protest against capitalism, governments and authoritarian practices.

May Day itself is held in commemoration of the events in Chicago 1886, where 800 000 people took to the streets to demand an 8 hour day. The police were called in, and arrested 8 Anarchists, charging them with planting a bomb. Four of these Anarchists were later hung, although they were innocent of the crime, but because they openly declared themselves to be of Anarchist beliefs, the jury saw them as guilty, guilty because they were questioning the role of the government, state and capitalism.

Four years later, the remaining imprisoned Anarchists were released from prison, whilst those that had been hung received the president's pardon, and the whole trial was denounced as a farce by the American government !!

It is because of these atrocities that for over 100 years, people around the world have been sharing their solidarity and demonstrating their power as workers, in remembrance of those people who took to the streets in 1886 to demand an 8 hour working day, and which ended so tragically, when 4 Anarchists were hung and made the Haymarket Martyrs.

Then there's May '68, if you haven't got a tv, then you might just have missed the constant analysis of what went on 20 years ago.

Having said that, it was an important period of 'rebirth' for Anarchism. A period when people were **not**



"Negotiation is a Trap"

happy about American imperialism and the Vietnam war, unhappy with capitalism and unwilling to accept state socialism as the only sane solution.

France '68 saw the most spectacular uprisings, sparked off by student discontent with the authoritarian regime of university life. At the Nanterre residential campus this led the Anarchist and Trot students to occupying the administration block. Meanwhile, a small fascist group broke into the student union building, smashed it up and daubed fascist slogans all over.

The Dean, knowing that the students would not passively accept such an onslaught, closed down the university !

It was this closure which led to the beginning of continuous student mass meetings, where together, collectively and without leadership, they discussed revolutionary politics, the failings of capitalism and state socialism, and planned demonstrations and propaganda.

May 3rd was the first such meeting, where about 400 students of Nanterre discussed both the fascist attack and the university closure. The meeting was held in the Sorbonne university courtyard, and on seeing their presence, the Dean, expecting trouble, called in the police. The police reacted violently, arresting as many as they could and giving them a good kicking as they did so. Thousands of other students responded, and joined in the fight against the police. At this point, the Sorbonne was closed down.

This led the students to make 3 demands of the government :

- 1) Free the imprisoned students
- 2) Re-open the universities
- 3) Get the police out.



It also led to continuous riots, as the thousands were angered by the Deans actions and the police brutality. It had also angered lecturers and professors, who called for a university national strike on May 6th (and got one!).

This was the day that the original occupiers of the Nanterre administration block were to be reprimanded by the Sorbonne Big Wigs. Consequently, their student comrades began rioting from early morning throughout the day and night. The police were on form, making May 6th the bloodiest day of them all.

A march, demanding the freeing of their imprisoned comrades was planned to pass through the centre of Paris. Thousands attended, but once again the police made a vicious attack, forcing the demonstrators to retreat to the Latin Quarter, where many of them lived.

On May 10th, school 'children' organised and participated in their own rally in support of the students demands. They then joined the students in the Latin Quarter in order to march through Paris. The police physically prevented them, and held them there. The thousands of students, joined by the schoolkids and workers, responded by occupying the main square and side streets, building barricades, tearing up cobble stones to use as ammunition, and smearing their faces with lemon juice to repel the tear gas. The Government was terrified by the situation, and called a permanent council of war. At 2am, the police made their brutal attack on the barricade using CS gas, st n grenades, water cannons etc.



The public were in an uproar, seeing the police as government puppets, violently attacking women and men who were verbally challenging government and state power. Workers were also realising their role in the fight against capitalism and authority, so when a general strike was called for on May 13th, the response was brilliant and over a million people took to the streets of Paris.

Needless to say, the CGT (a union controlled by the Communist Party), had until now written off the Anarchists and revolutionary students as a 'tiny group' and 'extremists', but when such a massive march appeared, they tried to take it over - and failed. Instead the march halted at the statue of the unknown soldier - the symbol of the French state - and here sang the 'Internationale'.

The next day saw anarchist-syndicalist and Trotskyist workers occupying the Sud-Aviation and locking up the management! Renault followed close behind, but here the CGT had a hold, and on seeing the workforce together discussing direct democracy and the overthrow of capitalism and statism, the CGT officials ordered the majority to go home, leaving just a small number at the factory to continue the occupation and entertain themselves with board games the CGT brought in!

The CGT being communists, were reformist concerned with cooperating with the state powers and getting the communist Party in at the next election. So not only did they dissipate the workers power but they isolated the student revolutionaries from them by locking and guarding the factory gates. They desperately tried to prevent the revolutionary political forms as developed by the students, from flowing to the working class!



NE NOUS LAISSONS PAS ARRETER  
PAR LES OBSTACLES TECHNIQUES.  
IMPULSIONS!  
CREONS PARTOUT DES ATELIERS POPULAIRES!

June '68: the start of a long fight.  
Let's choose our own FIELD OF  
COMBAT. Let's not be stopped by  
technical obstacles. Let's push!  
Let's create popular workshops  
everywhere!

## getting pregnant -without men

Self insemination & artificial insemination are simple techniques offering women methods of getting pregnant without sexual intercourse with men. Self insemination is when a woman uses her own donor & artificial insemination is when a woman uses a clinic & an anonymous donor (AID).

Once the semen has been obtained, it is placed in the mucus at the neck of a woman's womb, using a syringe which has no needle (these are available from chemists, though they may be difficult to get - keep trying!). The best time to do this is just before ovulation, when the mucus is receptive to the sperm, & keeps it alive to travel into the womb.

The semen may be fresh or taken from a sperm bank where it has been stored in liquid nitrogen (frozen). A woman can either attend a clinic for insemination or she can do it herself at home using frozen sperm from a clinic, or fresh semen from a donor - either way the sperm should be used within 2 hours. The procedure is as simple as putting a tampon or finger into the vagina & is painless. Women are then advised to lay down for about half an hour with buttocks raised so that the semen has the best chance of getting into the cervix.

Hundreds of women a year are now doing it for themselves, & although the success rate is only 50-60% as compared to 90% via sexual intercourse with men, it does offer lesbian & single women the chance to get pregnant if she wants to.

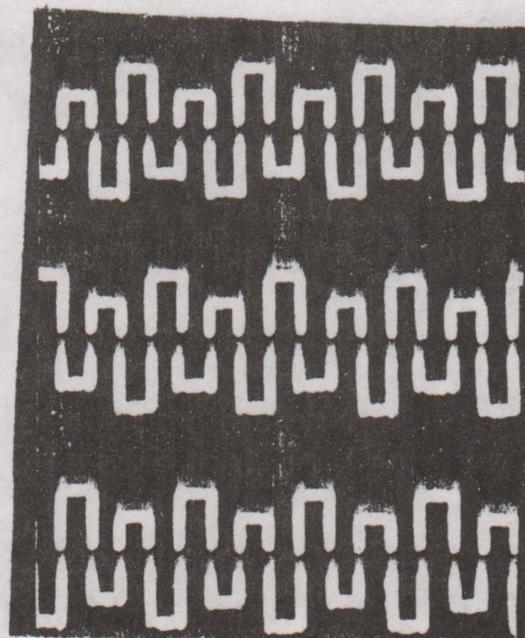
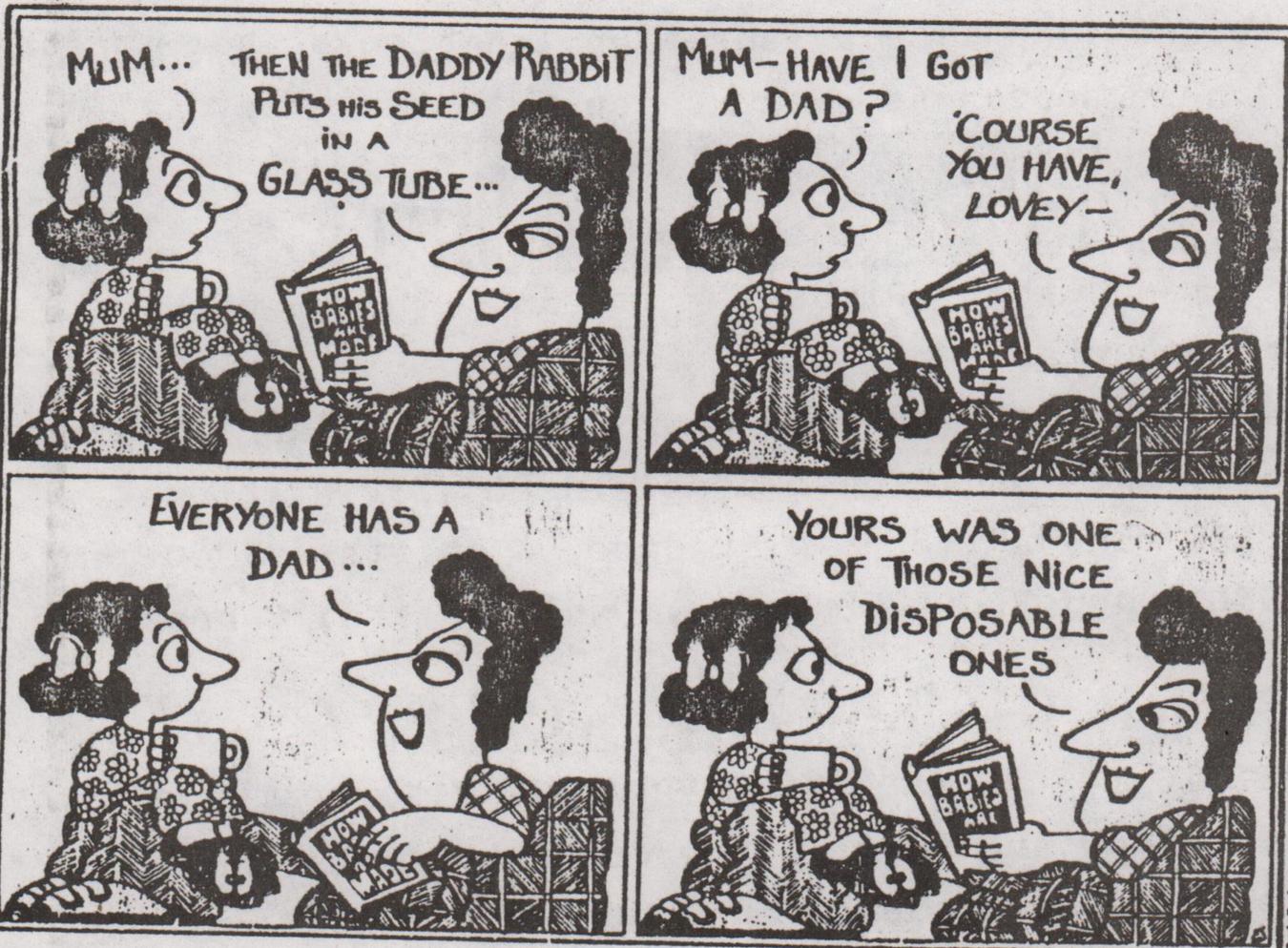
At the moment there are about 35 clinics in the UK offering artificial insemination, but this is predominantly seen as a treatment for male infertility, & so women wishing to use it, & who do not have male partners may have problems - lesbian &/or single women are not seen as fit to be parents, let alone if these women are disabled too. However the BPAS & PAS do not discriminate in this way, but there is a £80 consultation fee & then £40 for one month's cycle i.e. 2 or 3 inseminations.

At the clinics, the donors are mainly students (they get paid £8 per donation!), & they are firstly screened for sexually transmitted diseases (including AIDS), & for genetic disorders. Details of the man's physical characteristics are recorded. The good thing is that sperm donors via clinics are kept strictly anonymous & they do not know who uses their sperm, & so cannot make any demands on the woman & child afterwards. If you're contemplating not using a clinic (i.e. self insemination), then it's wise to talk to the male involved about what role, if any, he will have, if a child is born. Some women purposely use more than one donor's sperm so that the identity of the father is not clear, & the fear of custody battles is eliminated.

If you're interested in self insemination, then the Womens Reproductive Resources & Information Centre (WRRIC), sell syringes at 75p. They also provide information on the aforementioned clinics, & any other information you might like on all aspects of reproductive rights, including:

contraception, infertility, fertility clinics, pregnancy abortion, diseases of the reproductive system, etc.

for info. contact;  
WRRIC  
52-54 Featherstone st.  
London.



RE- **JACK the RIPPER CENTENARY** RE-

'Jack the Ripper' murdered 5 working class women in the Whitechapel area of London's East End during the period of Aug - Nov 1888. He was given the nickname because of the horrific way he killed the women and he has never been identified. Sex murderers of today have admitted being influenced by him

This year the centenary is already being 'celebrated' with new events and products adding to a well established industry e.g. 6 new (or reprinted) books, one including moruary photographs; the first X rated, pornographic computer video game, where the aim is to solve the murders with the help of explicit, violent pictures of the murdered women. There are badges, T shirts, records etc, all making money out of the women's deaths and the consequent hero status of a male, mass sex murderer.

Male violence and threats of violence are means by which women are controlled and men maintain power. The acts of mass sex murderers like the 'Ripper' are at one end of a massive continuum of violence which limits us, restricts us, constrains us and which systematically controls and censors our freedoms. This continuum includes rape, murder, incest, wife beating, pornography, sexual harassment, compulsory heterosexuality and cultural definitions of femininity. Male violence has become such an integral part of our culture, that responsibility for avoiding it and causing it has been placed on women ( don't go out at night, don't wear provocative clothing, she asked for it, she deserved it ) instead of with men. The media play their part in exploiting the situation as well as telling us to accomodate and adapt. Their sensationalisation of sex murderers ('Beast', 'Ripper', 'Fox') also serves as a smokescreen to the everyday male violence in our lives.

WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT



MONITOR THE PRESS for items on the 'Ripper'. Write in with our views and complain about offensive material.

MONITOR T V for centenary features and screenings of films like 'Hands of the Ripper', 'Study in Terror' etc. Ring & complain BBC/ITV stations.

PROTEST AGAINST ALL RIPPER MERCHANDISE e.g. badges, t shirts, video game ( manufacturers are:- CRL Group PLC, CRL House, 9 Kings Yard, Carpenters Rd. E 15 )

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MAKE AND USE OPPORTUNITIES TO PUT ACROSS AN ALTERNATIVE VIEW OF THE RIPPER. Make connections with events now and <sup>put</sup> them in the context of the function of male violence. The ever escalating violence against women should not be forgotten, trivialised or sold as cheap thrills.

MARY ANNE NICHOLS (known as Polly) MURDERED FRI AUG 31 1888, between 2-15 and 3-15. Her body was found in Bucks Row (now Durward St ) at 3-20 am. She was deserted by her husband, left with 5 children, she had work in a Lambeth workhouse and as a domestic servant ( merchant's house Wandsworth Common ) On the night of her murder she had been turned away from 18 Thrawl St for not having fourpence in advance for a bed for the night. She was last seen by her friend Emily Holland who later identified her body.

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ANNIE CHAPMAN - MURDERED less than a week later, between 5-30 and 6 am, last seen alive 5-30 am. Her body was found outside 27, Hanbury St by Spitalfields market. The cop called to the scene refused to search because it wasn't his beat. She had left her husband and had two children, a son in a 'cripple's' home and a daughter in a French institution. On the night of her murder she had been thrown out of 35 Dorset St for not having money for a bed in advance.

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ELIZABETH STRIDE (known as Long Liz ) MURDERED 30th SEPT 1888 between 1 am and 1-15 am, in Berner St outside the International Working Men's Educational Club. She was born in Gothenburg, Sweden 27/11/1843 as Elizabeth Gustaafsdotter. She arrived in England in 1869.

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CATHERINE EDDOWS (known as Kate) MURDERED 30th SEPT 1888 about 2 am, an hour after Elizabeth Stride. Her body was found by the police in Mitre Sq. She had been released from police custody in Bishopsgate an hour before her murder. She had been deserted at 26 by her husband and had been living with a man for seven years. On 1st Sept whilst hop picking in Kent, she told him she knew the identity of the Ripper and intended to inform the police.

MARY JANE KELLY MURDERED FRI 9th NOV 1888 between 2-3 am. Last seen alive in Commercial St. at 2 am. Mary came from Ireland to Cardiff, then to the East End. She rented no 13, Millers Court ( ground floor ) which was at the end of a small tunnel off Dorset St ( where Annie Chapman regularly stayed ), opposite Flower and Dean St ( where Catherine Eddows lived frequently ) She had been there for eight months. She had lived with a man for two years until nine days before she was murdered. She was three months pregnant when she was killed.

Women are meeting now to take action against the Ripper centenary ( ARRC ) We are discussing the possibility of an exhibition to raise awareness and make connections, also a march, possibly including the Whitechapel area. We are planning to make certain demands, including a memorial(s) to the women: What do you think? We need your ideas/suggestions or why not get involved with the organisation? If not in London maybe in your area. This issue affects ALL WOMEN.

MAGAZINE

Meetings are being planned about this in Leeds at the Women's Centre sometime in May. Contact them for details. R. '88

## YORK STOP THE CLAUSE CAMPAIGN NEWS

On April 8th, the National Day of Action against Clause 28, more than 200 lesbians, gay men and supporters marched for two miles through the centre of York to a rally at St Sampsons Square. This was the first lesbian and gay rights march to happen in York, and listening to speeches and readings from books by lesbian and gay authors in the middle of a crowded shopping street was an exhilarating experience. Speakers included representatives from York Stop the Clause, York Lesbian Line, O.L.G.A., Lesbian Employment Rights, Action on AIDS, N.U.T., York City NALGO, and York City Council's Labour Group. York City Council are showing their support for the campaign by pledging continued funding for York Lesbian Line.

We are holding a benefit disco on 16th May at the Arts Centre YORK, and are planning future fun activities - ring numbers below for information.

We also have a candidate - Carolyn Cooke - representing York Stop the Clause in the Local Government elections on May 5th.

We meet every Monday at 6.30 in Priory Street Community Centre.

### Boycott called off?

Dear LOP,

In response to the statement from Leeds Trades Council Executive, firstly we want to thank all the groups of individuals who have supported us in the last 4 months. Without their support we would not have got the Trades Club to

meet any of our demands. Although we are not backing down (we still feel we were badly treated by the Trades Club and at no time have we been offered our jobs back) we feel the boycott should now be lifted as a lot of groups are suffering while supporting us.

*Ex-bar staff  
Trades Club*



radio station

CONTACT NUMBERS Lesbian Line 0904 646812 (Fri 7-9 pm)  
Gay Switchboard 0904 411399 (Thurs 7-9 pm)  
POSTAL ADDRESS 10 Priory Street, YORK YO1 1EX

# Aids

'AIDS is not prejudiced — it can kill anyone'. A year ago this kind of slogan would have caused a great deal of controversy — and not just amongst the moral right-wingers. Until very recently, the media, some politicians and others were clearly stating that it was only an issue for 'certain groups' of people. And the AIDS focus was very definitely on men, particularly gay men, being the ones at risk. Is it any wonder then that many think AIDS is not an issue for women? Is the government campaign going to be able to redress the balance so that women are given concrete information about how to protect ourselves and our children? Will the media start taking responsibility for the kind of reporting that piles guilt onto gay men and drug users and sees everyone else as innocent victims? Below, LESLEY DIKE of the Women's Reproductive Rights Information Centre discusses these issues.

AIDS raises serious issues for all women, but particularly for women with male partners. It may be very hard for women to ask men questions to assess whether there is any risk to our health. Many men, whether married or single, are reluctant to be honest about sexual partners and the responsibility ultimately lies with women to decide if they are being truthful or not. But the issue here is not just male responsibility to 'tell the truth', it is the control that men exert over women's sexuality. Women are only too aware of the pressures on us to acquiesce to men's sexual demands. The central issue then, that we must continue to fight for, is the free and informed choice to have sexual relationships when and with whom we want, and the right to control our own sexuality.

## Transmission

AIDS is transmitted sexually, through the use of infected needles or in certain blood products obtained from infected people.

AIDS is a fragile virus and is not transmitted easily. It needs certain conditions to survive. It is not carried through the air, dies quickly once it is outside the body and cannot be passed on by social or casual contact. The virus is carried in the body fluids which contain T4 cells (these are part of the immune system). There is a high concentration of T4 cells in semen and blood, a lower concentration in vaginal and cervical secretions, and breast milk, and even lower in saliva. There are no T4 cells in urine and sweat.

For transmission to take place, body fluids containing the HIV virus must enter the partner's body through the vagina, anus, mouth or breaks in the skin.

Any sexual practice which breaks the skin or mucous membranes (e.g. the vagina, anus, mouth) increases the chances of infected T4 cells getting into the body. As the virus is carried in men in semen and blood, vaginal, oral and anal sex, whether homosexual or heterosexual, are high risk practices with an infected person or someone whose background you are not sure about.

Sexual activities which carry no risk are those in which an infected person does not allow her/his body fluids (the ones containing T4 cells) to enter a partner's body.

## How women get or pass on AIDS

- \* Through sex
- \* Through sharing needles
- \* Through artificial insemination
- \* Through blood products
- \* To the fetus in pregnancy
- \* Through pregnancy (if you are HIV positive, you are at greater risk of developing the disease if you are pregnant).

## A word about condoms

Men can pass AIDS sexually much more easily than women because of the high concentration of T4 cells in semen. So men's sexual partners, whether male or female, are more at risk than women's sexual partners. So it's crucial that women know which sexual practices are safer and how to protect themselves.

It has been known for a long time that condoms protect women from many sexually transmitted diseases and from cervical cancer.

Now more than ever, it is crucial that heterosexual men use them. However, in general, men are very reluctant to use them. If they won't use them to pro-

tect themselves, how can we expect them to use them to protect their women partners? The condom deserves a much better press and it looks like it is going to be left to women to make sure that men — lovers, brothers, fathers, friends — use them. If men refuse to use them, heterosexual and bisexual women would do well to refuse to have penetrative sex or any sex at all. We are talking about re-educating men to take responsibility — or are we talking about changing the world?

## Number of women affected

At the end of October '86, out of a total of 548 cases, of which 278 died, there were 17 women including 2 female children with AIDS. The figures do not show how many of these 17 died. It is not known how many women (or men) are antibody positive.

## Lesbians and AIDS

There have been no documented cases so far of sexual transmission from woman to woman. This does not mean lesbians are not affected. So

far the biggest risk factor for lesbians is IV drug use. We don't know how many lesbians use drugs and it is generally one of the taboo subjects in our communities. We need to look at our sexual histories, which may have involved heterosexual or bisexual relationships as well as our drug histories.

If you think you or your partner(s) are at risk, follow safer sex guidelines. The US Women's AIDS Network recommends that lesbians at risk use latex barriers (squares of thin rubber) for oral sex and finger cots (like sheaths for the fingers) for hand to genital contact.

These are not available here at the moment, but we may well see them coming onto the market from the States.

A very serious consequence of the media hype on AIDS for lesbians has been the homophobic reaction of the general public. Many people lump gay men and lesbians together about the dangers of AIDS, when in fact, *lesbians are a low risk group.*

In the US a judge denied a lesbian mother access to her children because he feared she'd pass AIDS onto them. In this country, a blood donation unit refused to take blood from a lesbian (see *Outwrite* October 1986). Another way that AIDS has affected lesbians is self-insemination. Until recently, many lesbians (and heterosexual women) used gay men as sperm donors. Now fewer men (both gay and straight) feel they can safely donate and women are having to resort to the few private and charity clinics who do not discriminate against lesbians.

## To test or not to test?

The testing that is currently available checks for the presence of the antibody. It's a blood test on a small sample of blood taken from the arm and results take between two and four weeks at the moment. You can get the test from most major hospitals and you can be anonymous. If you have a positive test, this does not mean that you will go on to develop the disease, but it must be assumed that you are infectious. At the moment, between 15-25% will get full blown AIDS. If you have a negative test and are worried that you have been exposed to the virus, it's a good idea to have the test done again in about three months time as it can take that long for the antibodies to show up.

However, having a test is not as simple as it may sound. It is important to decide whether the benefits of the test are worth the risk. Having a positive test can affect your work, your sex life, your access to housing, to insurance and so on. **Counselling before the test is vital so that a person is prepared for a positive result.**

## Prostitutes

Prostitutes have yet again been a target of abuse, this time in relation to the spread of AIDS. The emphasis has been on prostitutes spreading AIDS to men, without a thought about how AIDS has been transmitted to a small number of prostitutes or about their welfare. Many men just don't see why they should use condoms with prostitutes and so working women have devised ways of putting them on men without them knowing. So much for men's 'sensitivity'! If the police pick up a woman for soliciting, they will use her having a condom in her handbag as evidence against her. But it is not illegal to carry a condom or to be a prostitute and this kind of harassment is a pointless exercise and counter-productive in the campaign for safer sex — for all women.

Prostitute campaigners are calling for improved training in STD clinics to ensure that prostitutes are properly counselled for the AIDS test. There are genuine concerns that a nationalised sex industry, like the one in West Germany, will be demanded in order to control the spread of AIDS. This is just not realistic and scapegoats the problem.

## The Government Campaign

The government finally agreed to spend £20 million pounds on an AIDS advertising campaign. Knowing that they spent about £40 million on the British Gas 'Sid' campaign puts this tiny amount into perspective. They were actually forced to bring their campaign forwards by the Radio One national free phone service. The government is now

worried about an epidemic, and hopes that all the advertising will be preventative and therefore cost the country less in health care. It doesn't really care about those who have AIDS or who are at risk.

On a positive note, the advertising does avoid pointing a finger at one particular group. Some of the slogans are catchy and may well mean something to some people.

However, the campaign does not make any distinction between having AIDS and being antibody positive. It is very important to stress that only a proportion of HIV positive people currently go on to develop the disease. (The exact proportion is not known but is estimated to be as high as 25% in 3 years and could be 50% in 6 years). Such a major omission will inevitably lead to tragedies, such as the suicide of a young man from Liverpool who got a positive result by post. Also the advertising doesn't give much concrete information about AIDS, especially how to protect yourself. The main messages are 'Stick to one partner — use a condom —

and if you have to use IV drugs, don't share needles'. The government's blatant moralism comes as no surprise — and it is also dishonest. It is feasible to have many partners as long as you practise safer sex or your partners don't have the virus. But of course, they don't want us to know that, preferring to scare us into monogamy.

And it is not enough to just say 'use a condom'. Where is the advertising aimed at getting men to be more responsible? The message they are putting out fits in perfectly with their right wing views on the role of sex within marriage. And this message will be dropping onto the doormats of every home in the country in January. And the government is anxious to control the content of sex education classes for fear of 'the loony left' corrupting children's minds. If children manage to get any comprehensive sex education at school at all, will they be told about AIDS and safer sex?

It's a terrible situation having the government using AIDS to indoctrinate the population with 'one partner for life' morals, when the AIDS crisis could be used as an opportunity to discuss all the issues around sex and sexuality.



## The Origin of AIDS

There has been a great deal of speculation as to where AIDS came from, with theories about the virus being created in a US laboratory as a form of germ warfare or that it has come from outer space. Links have been suggested with the green monkey, the mosquito etc. *but the fact is no-one knows yet — will it ever be known?*

The finger has been clearly pointed at Black Africa as being 'the cause' of AIDS — Africa has been 'blamed' for many diseases — and too often this has not been questioned.

The government suggested screening visitors from Africa as a means of controlling the spread of the disease in Britain. Why not also visitors from other European countries and from the USA? What if African countries suggested screening Europeans or Americans? The UK government is studying reports on the AIDS situation in Africa, with possible intentions of demanding health certificates for African

# Safer Sex Guidelines for Women

Know your sex partner(s). Ask questions about past sexual and drug histories. Be honest about your past.

**UNLESS YOU KNOW THAT A SEX PARTNER IS NOT INFECTED**, whether you are lesbian, bisexual or heterosexual, follow these general guidelines as appropriate.

Don't allow her/his blood (including menstrual blood), semen, or vaginal secretions to enter your vagina, anus or mouth. Use good quality condoms for vaginal and anal sex. The most well known ones on the market are not as strong as they could be, particularly for anal sex. New condoms such as Red Stripe are thicker and more protective. The AIDS virus cannot get through a condom if it is used properly and does not break.

The spermicide, Nonoxynol 9, which is in most contraceptive foams, jellies and creams, kills the virus on contact. Use it in addition to a condom in case it breaks.

**REMEMBER** — For women with male partners, condom use is for protection against sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS. Additional forms of contraception are necessary to protect against unwanted pregnancy.

Don't share sex objects, vibrators, etc.

Keep your fingernails short to avoid cuts and don't make love with cracked lips or cut hands.

**IF YOU THINK YOU MIGHT BE INFECTED:**

Never allow your blood or vaginal secretions to enter another person's body.

visitors. Not only are such suggestions clearly racist and an attempt to control immigration, but they are unrealistic.

It is interesting to look at how the figures for cases up to October '86 were compiled in relation to race/nationality in Britain. There were two categories - 'direct connection with Africa' and 'indirect connection with Africa', with no indication if those affected were European, American or African, Black or white, or where AIDS was contracted. These kind of figures are not useful and serve those with racist motives.

The figures also don't show the number of female deaths, just the number of female cases. Presumably the people who set up the statistics categories had preconceived ideas about who was going to get AIDS.

Anyway, what is the point of trying to lay the blame somewhere? Finding out where it came from isn't going to help stop AIDS. More energy should be spent on how the AIDS situation in Africa can be eased. For example, there is a severe shortage of needles in many countries, resulting in needles being used many times and there are also problems with infected blood products (as there is here too). AIDS is a world problem and each country scurrying to protect certain sectors of its population is not going to help reduce its spread.

In East and Central Africa, the main means of transmission is heterosexual so approximately 50% of those affected are women and there are many cases of children with the disease too. As we know that good nutrition and access to primary health care are of vital importance to prevent death from opportunistic disease, Western governments need to be looking at a fairer distribution of the world's resources rather than trying to lay the blame. Sex education needs to be implemented alongside other health care programmes and seen as an essential part of health care. And this means looking at population control too.

There is a working group on Women and AIDS, focusing mainly on producing information on how AIDS affects particular groups of women e.g. pregnant women, IV drug users, prostitutes. If you are interested, please call WRRIC on 01 251 6332.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

'Women and AIDS' booklet, available from Terrence Higgins Trust, BM AIDS, WC1N 3XX. Many others, including 'To test or not to test'.

AIDS and Donor Insemination, from WRRIC. Send s.a.e

WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS INFORMATION CENTRE, 52-54 FEATHERSTONE STREET, LONDON EC1Y 8RT. Tel. 01 251 6332.

Outwrite: issue 54

## LOOKS CAN KILL - pornographic business by I-Spy Productions

The secrets of Britain's pornographers revealed.

Looks Can Kill exposes the collaboration between pornographers and the giant publishing companies.

\* It tells how the womens' magazine companies are the chief pushers of porn.

\* How Press Barons, Prime Ministers party with the pornographers.

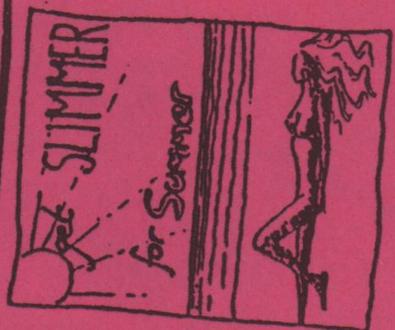
\* Uncovers the pornographers' warehouses, the printshops, the lines of distribution.

Looks Can Kill. Out in June.  
Price £2.50

I-Spy Box 60. 52 Call Lane,



Reprts have reached us of the Reclaim the Night march in York last month. Apparently it was very peaceful, so the police could find no excuses to arrest anyone, which means that the women in York will be able to hold marches in future. After a lot of trouble at the 1986 Reclaim the night march, when a lot of women were arrested outside a porn shop, they were under threat of being banned if there were any more "incidents".  
At the end of the march the women danced in a circle around the eye of York!



# re~sister,

## C/O WOMEN'S CENTRE,

### 229 WOODHOUSE LANE,

### LEEDS 2

# what's on

April - May 14th - 'Seperate Perceptions'. paintings by Sue Brown, Anneliese Holles and Lesley Sanderson. St Pauls Gallery, Stowe House, 5 Bishopgate St., Leeds.

April - May 20th - 'STaying On'. An exhibition of girls views about school, families, friends and futures. The Pavillion Womens Photography Centre, 235 Woodhouse Lane. (Darkroom/exhibition space available to any women interested 12-6pm. Monday - sat. Tel 431 749).

April - May 28th - 'Essential Black Art'. Huddersfield Art Gallery, Princess Alexandra Walk.

May 7th - 14th. 'Stepping Out'. Photo exhibition by a group of lesbians. The Impressions Gallery, York. The Pavillion May 23rd-June 4th and the Untitled Gallery, Sheffield, May 7th-June 11th

May 9th WAC 28. Civi Hall. 7.45 pm. Signers, baby sitting money, transport for women with disabilities. Ring 421232

May 10th - Harehills Parent and Toddler Group, first meeting. Harehills Place, Harehills Road. 1pm

May 10th - Woodhouse against the Poll Tax. Woodhouse Community Centre, Woodhouse St. 7.30pm.

May 12th - Lesbian Extravaganza ice skating. 1.30-2.30. Queens Road. Sheffield.

May 12th - Womens film and TV network week. The Pavillion, 235 Woodhouse Lane. 6.30pm Bring your films. 717460

May 12th - Womens Caberet. Donna and Keba, Jenny Slice. 8pm. The Capri, Manchester.

May 12th-14th - 'Ive heard the mermaids sing' Against the clause film festival. Bradford Film Theatre 1. 7.30pm.

May 13th - 'Those who make revolutions half way merely dig their own graves'. Graffiti, Paris '68. DAM public meeting. Swarthmore centre, Woodhouse Square. 8pm. Creche.

May 13th - FAB Benefit and Celebration! Saphista Sisters disco and The Chuffinelles at the Astoria, Roundhay Road. Women only. 8-1am. £2/1.

May 14th - Lesbian Extravaganza disco. Lower Refectory, Maze Bar, Sheffield Uni students union.

May 14th - Irish hunger strike commemoration and rally. In Birmingham, assemble 12 midday Sparkhill Park, Stratford Road. Coach from Leeds departs 8.30am Parkinson steps, Uni building. £3/2.

May 14th - 'Skeeta' (womens dance band). Maggie and Magda, disco, bar, food. Benefit for women in Nicaragua. Woodhouse Community Centre, Woodhouse St. Children welcome. 7.30-11.30pm. £1/2.50.

May 16th-19th - Images of women in Landscape A residential photography course in the country. Women only. Full board. £95 (!! ) 0472 840278

May 16th-20th - Basic U-matic Video course for women. Hail Place Studios, Leeds. £25-40. Video Vera, PO Box HP5, Leeds. (0532) 717460

May 16th - York Stop The Clause benefit disco, Arts Centre York.

May 17th - Joan Wingfield, an aboriginal woman from the Kokatha people. BP are building an uranium mine on their land. Both she and Charlie Ching, a group leader from Tahiti will be speaking at a meeting at the West Indian Centre. 7.30pm

May 19th - Video 28 showing in the evening at Fat Freddy's, Call Lane.

May 21st - National Union of Seamen benefit, Disco. Live music. Poetry. 8pm. Trades Club. £1/£1.50.

May 26th - Showing of Video 28, The Pavillion, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds. 7.30pm

May 30th - Festival 28. WAC are organising a festival at the Astoria, and they need stalls Ring 492150

June 8th - Simon Watney talking about clause 28. The Impressions Gallery, York. 7.30pm

June 18th-19th - 'Peace, Justice, Our Lives, Our Direction'. A gathering of women to share experiences and explore ideas about war and violence. Manchester. More info phone 061 226-3947

July 1st-August 7th - Womens holiday centre in Settle, N. Yorks, available for holidays, (various - Black womens weekend, older boys week, child free week). Phone for more details 072 96207

Every Thursday - Picket of Burtons shop, Briggate, 12.30pm. In support of Tricia Jennings sacked for being pregnant.

Every Thursday - Fat freddys women only night. 6-10pm. No smoking.

Every other Thursday - Rockshots women only disco, Call Lane. May 12th.

- Checkpoint women only disco, Bradford May 5th

Every Sunday - Women only pub, The Phono, Merrion Centre, Leeds 7.30-10.30pm



THE CHUFFINELLES

MAY 13