

UNWANTED QUEERBASHERS COLUMN.

NO. 1: NORMAN STONE.



LIKES: Writing gaybashing articles in the Evening Standard * the nuclear family, the police; HATES: "Deviant homosexuals" (especially in public), immigrants, one-parent families.

But we know Norm is one of us. WE know he just GETS OFF on being phoned up in the middle of the night. Go on - give a lonely man a call. HOME NO. 0865 311081.

*Evening Standard, 7/2/91.

CONTACTS.

RESPECT?: Anti-sexist fanzine. Mainly aimed at the Punk scene - but a good read for all men. 30p plus postage from PO Box 24, Hertford, Herts, SG14.

LEICESTER LESBIAN/GAY ACTION. Local campaigning group. 25, Walton St, Leicester, LE3.

CLASS WAR. Working class paper & movement. Contrary to popular rumour Pink Brick is not the queer wing of this lot. 40p & postage from PO Box 39, SW PDO Manchester M15.

ACT UP. Radical direct action against AIDS exploiters. Have a womens group. Meets Tuesdays at ILCC, 69 Cowcross St, Farringdon, London, at 7.45. Also groups in other towns.



SHOCKING PINK. Rad womens mag. Not as shocking as us. C/o 136 Mayall Rd., London, SE24. Tel 071 2743150

121 BOOKSHOP. Anarchist books, papers and lots more. 121 RAILTON RD, Brixton, London, SE24. Open Tues-Sat 1-5pm, Sun 3-5. Tel 071 274 6655.

LIVERPOOL LESBIAN & GAY ACTION. Meets Thursdays, 7.30, at Mutual Aid Centre, 45, Seel St., Liverpool. Thanks for the donation, folks.

WORKSHOP ON POLICE ATTACKS

Those nice people at the Trafalgar Square Defendants Campaign, who support all the poll tax prisoners nicked in Trafalgar and Brixton held a conference on Police attacks- The LESBIAN AND GAY WORKSHOP (I HATE TIGHT RITERS!!!) was interesting- we talked about why LESPOP (Lesbian legal support) wasn't still going, and the need for a really strong prison support group to give practical and political support to Lesbians and Gays on the inside. Also about how many Lesbians are framed and nicked via a whole load of laws- especially Public Order, 'assault on police' (HA!), and laws against sex workers. WE KNOW WE ARE JAILED FOR OUR SEXUALITY AND OUR REFUSAL TO BOW TO AUTHORITARIAN WAYS. AS POLITICAL PRISONERS WE WILL CARRY ON FIGHTING WITHIN AND WITHOUT THE PRISONS. Outrage, L & G Coalition and GalOP speakers participated in the workshop- There's loads more to talk about- Watch this space!!!!



Trafalgar Square Defendants Campaign c/o Haldane Society, Room 205 Panther House, 38 Mount Pleasant, London WC1X 0AP Tel: 071-833-8958

GAY RIGHTS IN PRISON.

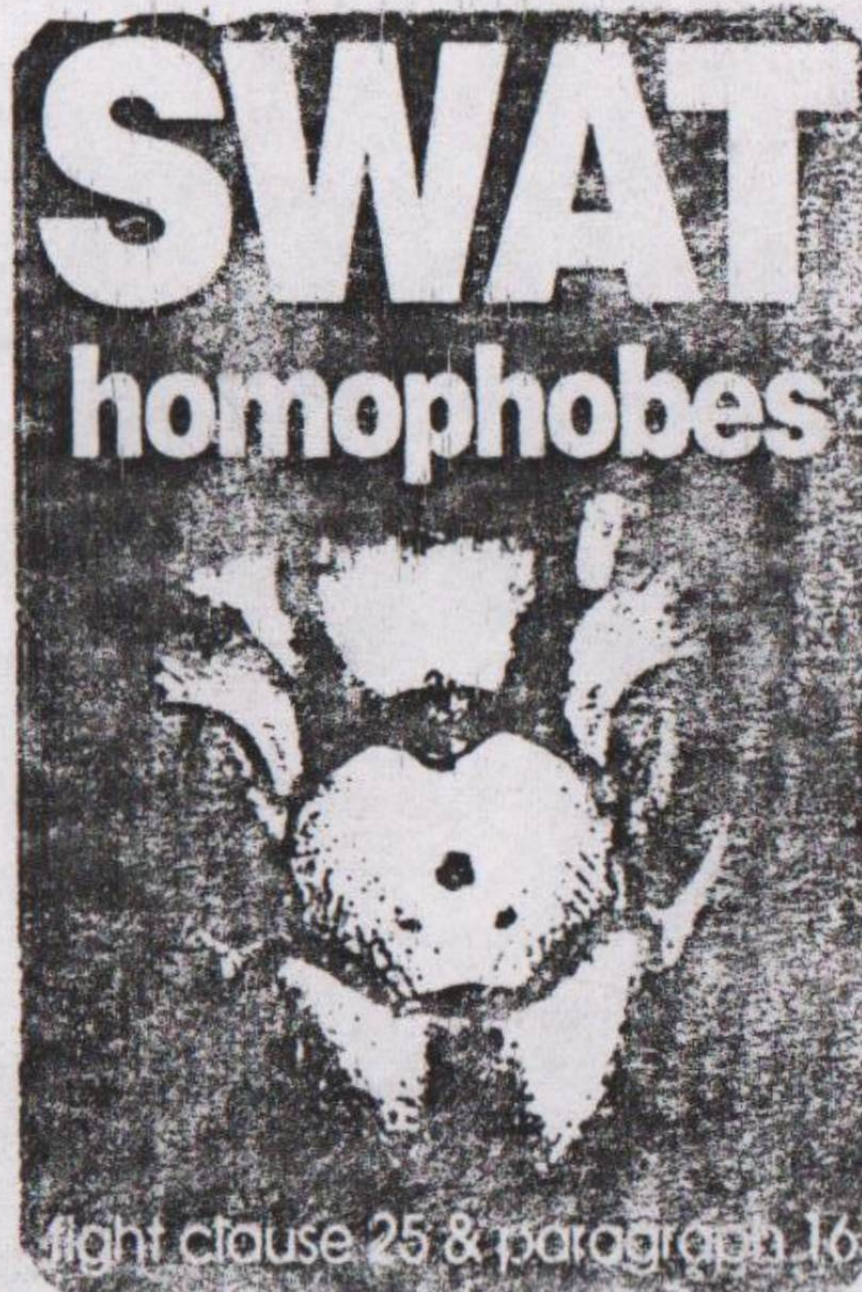
Practical & moral support for lesbians & gays resting

at her majesty's pleasure. Need cash and help. They meet at the London L/G Centre; 4pm 3rd Saturday of the month. Or write to GRIP; 69 Cowcross St; London EC1M.

WE'RE IN HERE FOR YOU YOU'RE OUT THERE FOR US



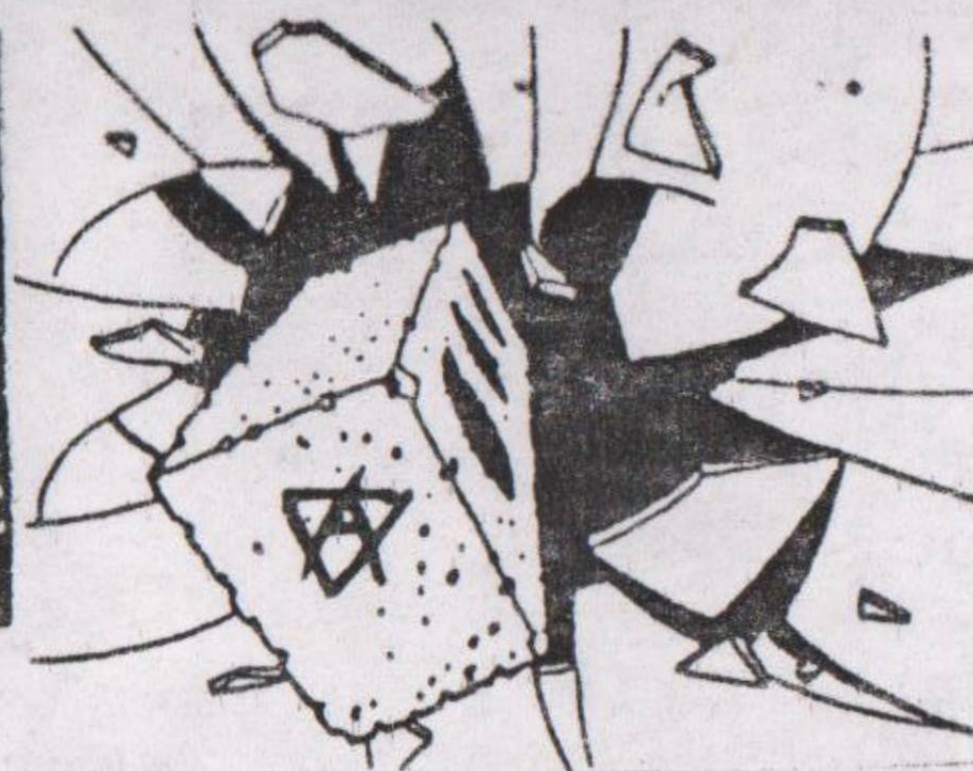
DOWN WITH ALL PRISONS!!



PINK BRICK

LESBIAN AND GAY CLASS WAR.

FREE DONATIONS WELCOME - THATS ALL WE SURVIVE ON.



NO. FOUR SECOND EDITION: FIRST WENT OUT ON 16 FEB DEMO.

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THE CLAWS 25 IS HERE!!

Three years on from Clause 28, the British state is attempting yet again to frame another series of homophobic laws. Pink Brick throws in some deviant discussion: the ruling elites who control the British State cannot stand sexual diversity- they are trying to extend their police surveillance into the limited freedoms clawed back in 1967- decriminalised 'private, consenting, and adult' (only over 21) homosexuality. First they tried to push us back into the 'private' closet; no more ('public') promotion of homosexuality- be it pretended family relationships or open learning and discussion in schools- they called it section 28. Now they're trying to stamp out our very existence as living communities. They made a very big mistake. Wherever there is oppression there is resistance

Section 25 of the Criminal Justice(?) Bill is aimed at re-defining homosexuality explicitly as causing 'serious harm'- treating homosexuality the same as sexual violence: such as rape and sexual abuse of children. The clause creates no new offences- it is a series of guidelines for harsher sentencing (READ A GREEN LIGHT FOR HOMOPHOBIC JUDGES & COPS) Next to crimes of sexual violence, three types of consenting acts are included: Under Indecency between men= includes cottaging, sex with 16-21 yr-old men, even gay men hugging - basically any form of public affection. (up to 5 yrs) Under Soliciting by a man= includes cruising, flirting, and exchanging telephone numbers- amounts to gay men meeting and socialising. (up to 2yrs in jail) Under Procuring of Homosexual acts= helping two gay men to have sex- could include two gay friends kipping in your spare room or introducing two gay men to each other in a pub. But all these laws mean little out of the context in which they are exercised, 'judged' and interpreted. The door is wide open to vindictive homophobia by police and courts. Unless you are law-abiding good little citizens and you have the power and the privileges that insulates from most of the attacks. We must demand an end to all laws that try to define us as sexual criminals; do we even have a 'tolerated space' any more, with convictions of gay men yearly, higher than in the 1950's, when homosexuality was illegal?

-PARAGRAPH 16

Paragraph 16 of the Childrens Act, is an attempt to outlaw Lesbians and Gay men from fostering children: that "equal rights" and "Gay rights" have "no place in fostering services".

WHOSE FAMILY VALUES?

So exactly when DO gay rights apply? It seems, nowhere, unless we're quiet, discrete and docile, and stay within our tolerated and limited ('& oppressed') 'PLACE'! Why is it that this patriarchal State is so afraid of Lesbian couples (in particular) AS parents? Isn't it because we might actually be good parents as much as any parents? Or is it that they are afraid of Lesbian parents do not NEED any fatherly patriarchs? Or gay men who have refused paternity in favour of emotional nurturing, and not parenting at-a-distance?

Remember how the state tried to outlaw Lesbians to access to artificial insemination? Patriarchal authoritarians always think we can't get along without them, don't they...?



PRODUCED BY PINK BRICK FEBRUARY 1991. CONTACT BOX 5, 121 RAILTON ROAD, BRIXTON, LONDON, SE24.

IF YOU LIKE READING THIS DONATE SOME

SPONDOOLIS- Then we can do ANOTHER ONE!!!

CLAUSE 28?

fight clause 25 & paragraph 16

THE PRICE OF PRIDE.

On 9th December last year the Lesbian & Gay action group Outrage held a demo against gaybashing and police harassment. The march was advertised as ending at the 'Winter Pride' Festival at the University of London Students Union. What the publicity didn't say was that it was £5 to get into this event. No concessions. After marching for 2 hours in the freezing cold we assumed our gay brothers & sisters running the Pride Festival would welcome us with open arms. At the very least, we would have liked to be able to go to the toilet, or get a fairly cheap cuppa. How could we have been so naive?



We got to ULU, and were told by the police AND Outrage stewards to disperse or go into the building. Finding out it was a fiver, with no concessions, 5 or 6 of us, who are on the dole or low incomes, asked if we could pay what we could afford - £2.50, £3 or so.

The organisers of the festival, the Lesbian & Gay Pride Organising Committee (LAGPOC), refused to even discuss why there were no concession rates. They told us "If you can't afford it you shouldn't be here", and "there's plenty of people who will pay". True enough, on a freezing day, people were paying just to get in off the street. (Inside you had to pay more steep prices to have a sauna, eat or drink etc.) A lot of other people didn't even bother turning up, however, knowing they could've afforded 5 quid.

We tried arguing with the organisers, protesting against the price and pointing out how they were excluding people with less money. They threatened to call ULU security and even the cops, to throw us out. Gay solidarity or what: the gays with

the power use the cops to bash the poor gays. After being threatened with the cops, we refused to leave the foyer and were physically assaulted & thrown out. LAGPOC got 4 large male bouncers to do the job, & we were kicked, manhandled, and literally chucked out on to the street.

YOU DONT HAVE TO
FUCK PEOPLE OVER

PINK
PARANOIA.



The organisers did give us one reason for having no concession price - "everyone would rip us off...we need the money to pay for the Gay Pride march in the summer." Fair enough, it was a benefit. But all 6 of us who were thrown out have organised events: benefits, cafes, gigs, conferences. In our experience, if you have concessions, it's not only open to more people, but you get MORE people in and so you raise more cash. Everybody doesn't "rip you off".

QUEER ELITE.

Maybe we shouldn't be surprised at this attitude. So many people in the "gay community" spend their lives exploiting others, they probably think it's the only way to live. "Our community" is rotten with gay yuppies and pink businessmen

who have nothing in common with, say, a lesbian mother on the dole, bar their sexuality. Many of them are out to get themselves "accepted", to become good little capitalist queers, who'll help prop up the system that's kicking the shit out of us. They refuse to see the links between the fight for lesbian &

gay equality and the wider struggle against the class system, sexism, racism, patriarchy and all the rest of the crap that capitalism means for most of us. Middle class men aspiring to join the boss class? Getting some good practice in on us?

We reject this shit. We know what we want - a society without bosses, where we are ALL free and equal, AND WE'LL FIGHT FOR IT.

OUTRAGE? FUCKING RIGHT.

The Outrage group is supposed to be about 'uniting' in solidarity against homophobia and anti-gay attacks. Why then march to a festival that splits us into people who can afford to pay to be proud and those who can't? Are Outrage that different to LAGPOC? They won't tackle issues & problems faced by black gays & lesbians. They spend great energy on demanding a more accountable police force (What do we want? More queer cops????). They're run by the same little clique of activists that have controlled other campaigns in the past. On reflection, do we really want to unite in solidarity with middle class gays who rip us off?

Any group that fights for reforms and single issues needs to beware of struggling in one direction, blind to the links that have to be made between us and other working class people. We can't be free as gays and lesbians until everyone is free. Ignoring class differences, poverty, racism among gay people only leads us up a blind alley - into the arms of the ruling class.



stick this on your most hated advert.

NEWS BITS

Who knew that the STONEWALL group actually existed? Or that it stated that it "judged the initial discriminatory wording of Clause 25 to be mistaken rather than malevolent" (!!) They are bending over backwards to forgive the government that brought us section 28. This bunch of self-serving hypocrites will do more to closet themselves and others than the authoritarians who made the laws in the first place - why don't they "self-elect" themselves out of existence!!

OPERATION SPANNER - THEY'VE GONE NUTS!!

Operation Spanner: began in 1987, and finally ended three years and £4 million later when sixteen gay men were convicted late last year of taking part in consenting SM sex. 11 received jail sentences, for charges such as assault, GBH, and distributing 'obscene' videos (including one man who took pictures of the tattoos & body piercing he had worked on!) Judge Rant*, having refused to allow consent as a defence, claimed this was not an 'anti-gay witch-hunt' ("You're kidding!"). It's clear that among Lesbians and Gay men there are disagreements about the 'rights and wrongs' of SM sex. Whatever your opinions on the debate, these men have been criminalised for their choice of sexuality. It's no coincidence that Clause 25 follows hard on the heels of this case. The State will pick us off one by one unless we defend the right to define our own consensual sexual choices. If we don't support these men, then we'll almost certainly be the next "sexual criminals" IN THE DOCK! Within the Lesbian and Gay communities, there will be different strategies of fighting back, reflecting the fact that different groups are being attacked. We don't want the struggles for Lesbian and Gay liberation to be dominated by white middle class ways of thinking. There has to be diversity in the ways we organise to resist, just as there's diversity in the way we live. If we want open supportive links and alliances in our communities then we cannot afford to gloss over our different choices in the name of an 'equality' that sees only one big single issue. We do have common causes in daring to choose our sexualities in the face of state coercion. We want the access to put vice to those choices!!

How do we go on the offensive? Not just through campaigns against the new set of homophobic laws and endless boring meetings. The same means

of social control we face - criminalisation; arrests; media policing; day to day harassment - are also being used against poll tax non payers; on the streets of the North of Ireland; against black communities and the working class in general. We live in these communities; we're part of them & we have to make the links within them in their struggle.