



legend and lace than murder, is Britain's greatest killing ground. Statistically, the county's villages and towns, notably Nottingham and Mansfield, are more dangerous than the streets of London or Liverpool.

Twenty-four people were killed in Not-40,000 people. Figures for London, Manchester and Merseyside ranged from one in 48,000, to one in 60,000.

Yet, according to a Gallup survey last ar, which combined official statistics of people's views of their community, Notting-1920s and 1930s it had a high murder rate ham has the highest quality of life in Britain. It is also, according to Dr Philip Bean, director of the Midlands Centre for Criminology at Loughborough, the typical British city. "Its population comes closer to the national average than any other city in terms of the number of old and young, working class and middle class, black people and almost any of that ritual." other indicator you care to mention. It is so

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, better known for normal that department stores use Nottingham as a testing ground for new products. It doesn't have a drug problem.'

Although Nottinghamshire had half as many killings in 1990 as in 1991, other evidence suggests that last year was not a statistical freak. In 1989, the latest year for Home Office figures are available, Nottinghamshire recorded the country's highest proportion of crimes of violence: 716 per 100,000 population against 451 in London, and 355 in Merseyside.

ways been like this. If you go back to the high concentration of violent

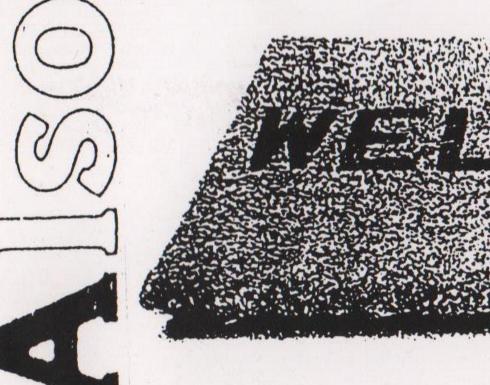
Old habits, he says, die hard. "Just go to Nottingham on a Saturday night. It can be fearful ... Young people surrounded by police cars waiting for the ritual to happen, and it does. The homicides are an extension

Nottingham's city centre has 200 pubs

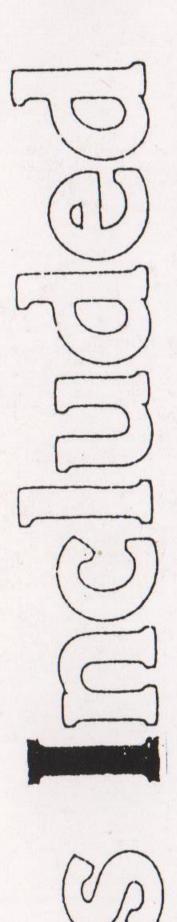
and clubs, and attracts young people from throughout the Midlands. "Stand in the Old Market Square and listen to all the accents," says Chief Inspector Jim Hewitt. "They come from Derby, Leicester, Birmingham, Coventry. It is a Mecca. There is a element. It is like the football match; you support your own team."

Nottinghamshire has mining areas and the "coal-face culture" of "work hard, play hard" accounts for some killings in Mansfield, a top police officer said. But Dr Bean ttinghamshire, Dr Bean says, "has al- says it goes deeper. "It is a strange place, terribly introverted. On top of the macho world there are family vendettas."

Yet neighbouring Derbyshire, also a traditional mining area, has one of the country's lowest murder rates. So do Durham, Northamptonshire and much-maligned Essex. Britain's safest streets are in Inverness and the City of London, which saw no killings last year.



yo Goddesses,



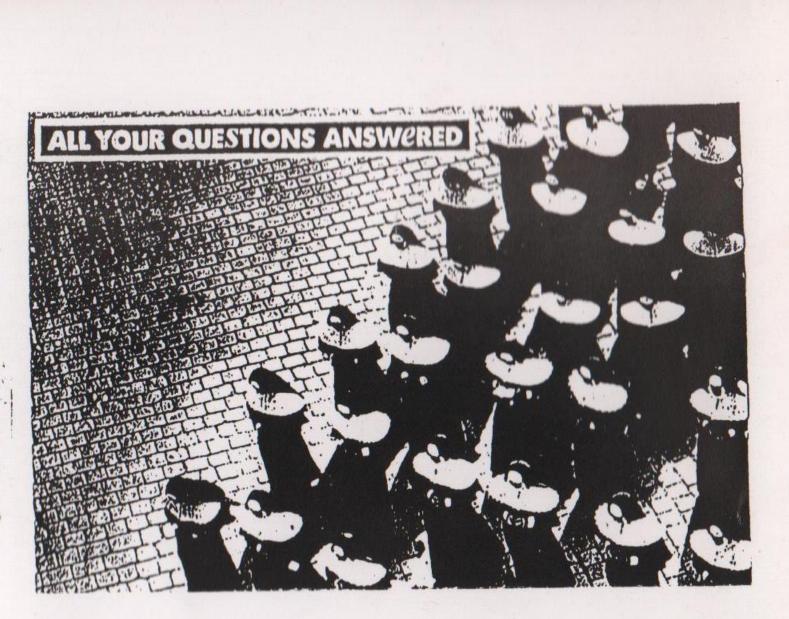
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I were The Fly Girls and hangin' out in my crib maxin' an' relaxin', dissin' the brothers an'shit an' we realized it was about time for some Sister Unity an' shit. We Sisters got nice shit an' we gonna flaunt it. We've had it with dick swingin' bullshit. This is our time an this is our rhyme.

Thanks Lyandah. Checkulater. So it's all over. The dull scuttling of the grey men, perveyors of GREYNESS to the yawning masses BUT AT LEAST THERE'S NOTHING GREY ABOUT C.I.A. 16, WOMANS OWN ISSUE. Instead of John (his Grey Eminence) Major we've got Madonna. In place of Paddy Ashdoom we have Bitches With Problems. We offer you, not Neil Kinnock but Queens Of The Cloakroom. So unhook those stays, slip into something silky, break loose the Cadburies Moments and prepare to INDULGE yourself.

By the way, we've had alot of complaints from blokes lately. Not about anything. Just complaints. It's what they do, right? Well they aren't going to make our lives the TOTALLY CREEPED SCENARIO that theirs are. So all you Moaning Minnies can fuck right off. The rest of you, ENJOY.

Dr Snopes



ISSUE'S C.I.A. WAS BROUGHT FOLLOWING THE YOU TO **PEOPLE:**

AITCH AKIKO

1992 APRIL NUMBER 16 C.I.A.

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C.I.A. welcomes contributions, so send scripts, us your cartoons, strips, articles, letters, clippings, samples, stories, reviews, recipes, quotes, hair care tips, ideas....etc etc.

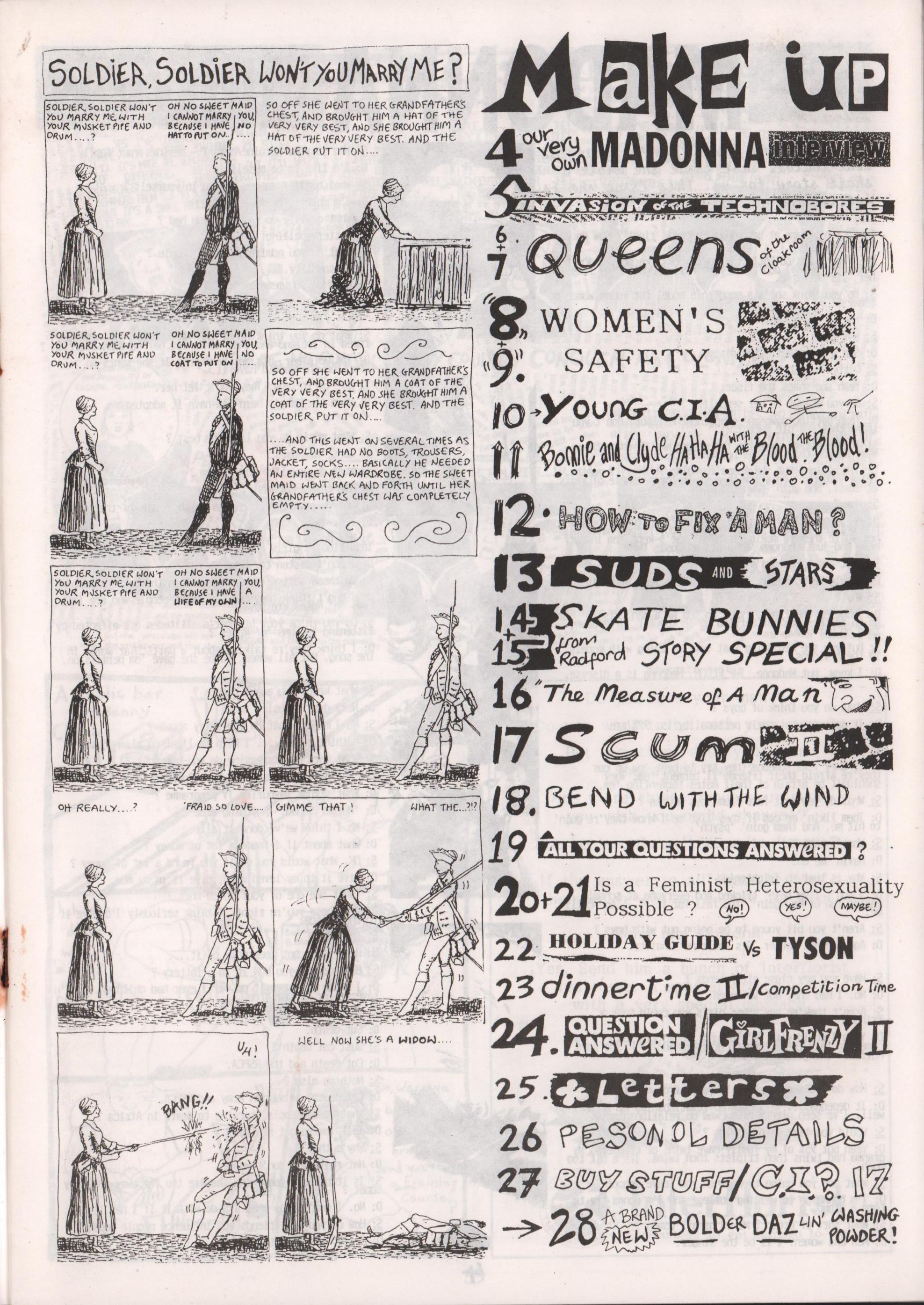
Our address is: C.I.A. NOTTINGHAM COMMUNITY ARTS **39 GREGORY BOULEVARD** HYSON GREEN NOTTINGHAM NG7 6BE ENGLAND

C.I.A. 16 is dedicated to our mothers, grandmothers, our great grandmothers, our Femcestors, our aunties, our great aunts, our sisters, our blood sisters and our blood sisters sisters, all our female pets including Ethel the goldfish and Kali the Jack Russell terrier and to nit nurses, cookery teachers, school caretakers wives, lollypop ladies, the woman in the sweet shop right next to our school and finally, to the Fem-Fount within us all.

ESTELLE EWA JEAN BOYD AULD BOLSHY BETH JOYCE CHARLOTTE K.C. DONNA PAULINE **EBONY FURNISH SNOPES** ERICA

C.I.A. - not as thick as the others







At 10, Donna is C.I.A.'s youngest contributor. Last issue she wrote a short story for us. This issue she is interviewed by Snopes.

S: Your nickname at school is Madonna, right ? How do you that ? D: I think its pathetic I don't look like her, I don't talk like her, I don't ACT like her, I don't sing like her, I don't sing like

S: Do you think she's a good role model for young women of D: No.

S: Why ?

D: She's so pathetic and dirty.

S: Dirty ? Is she ?

D: Yeah she shags the floor.

S: Do you object to her sexuality ?

D: Yeah getting down an' shaggin' the floor. Don't you think that's a bit much ?

S: It doesn't do anything for me one way or the other. What do you think of her personal style?

pught to stick to a style for a couple of years S: How

riedu dilu just tridinges cin a bit an uses tricin.

S: What about Madonna's videos ?

D: Should be on later. They're shit. A load of balls. S: Why ?

D: Shaggin' the floor, lying on top of a man, kissin' him, oo to another man get carried up in the air, drop down,

S: But you see men doing that sort of thing with models, In their videos.

D: I know, but Madonna, THE FLOOR. Madonna is a disease.

S: What do you think of boys ?

D: It depends what their personality is. 99% are dickheads. S: Why ?

they re afraid their friends II torment 'em. They houldn't be afraid of their mates tormenting 'em.

S: What do you most fear from boys or men ?

D: Them likin' me cos if they like me I know they're goin' to hit me. And them goin 'psych'. S: What's that ?

D: Havin' me on.

S: Why is that so frightening ?

D: I don't like bein' tricked and everyone at school making fun of me, goin "You fell for it !"...an' callin'

S: Aren't you bit young to be going out with boys ? D: Age doesn't matter. Its their personality.

S: Have you any close girlfriends ? D: No. I had one, but we moved. S: Aren't they're any other girls you could have a

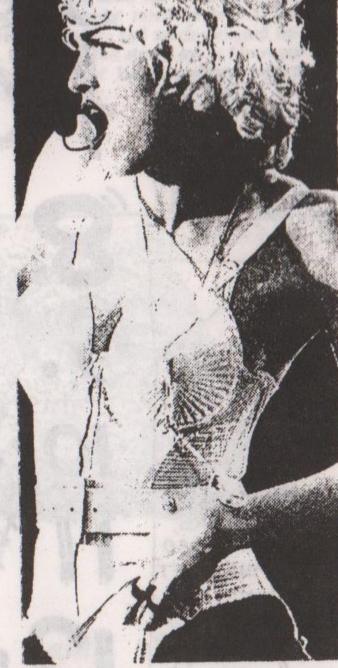
D: Yeah I could with 'K', but if 'K' argues with 'J' she comes to talk to me then to get back with 'J' she says horrible things about me.

S: How do you see yourself 10 years from now ? D: It depends.... If I muck up relationships or if they go well. I've seen plenty of mucked up relationships.... S: Would you like to have kids ?

D: Yeah but 95% of my family have twins or triplets. My granma had twins then triplets then twins. Its a bit too much.

S: What are you going to do when you leave school ? D: I'm gonna go to welding college and I'm gonna try to form a group.

S: What sort of group ? Mixed or all women ? D: Men and women. I'll be the singer.





A DANK

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S: Who is your heroine/hero ? - besides your family. D: I'd like to be myself. S: What quality do you admire in yourself?

D: I'm mature for my age. S: What quality do you wish you had ?

D: Better spelling.

S: What do you admire in other people ?

D: Personality.

S: What do you mean by that ? D: Offering to help people.

S: What do you think about the 14 year old girl who was raped in Ireland and they won't let her have an abortion ? D: Its upto her. Its her decision. If she wants an abortion she should have it.

S: Not in Ireland. They won't let her. D: When the baby's born I'd have it adopted.

S: What music do you like the best ?

D: Guns 'n' Roses.

S: What do you like about them ?

D: The change in music.

S: Do you pay much attention to the words of the songs ? D: Yes.

S: How do you get your head round the songs that are insulting to girls and women.

D: I don't listen to them.

S: Do those sort of songs reflect on the band as people ?

S: Do you think your brother's attitudes are affected by Tistening to Guns 'n' Roses ? D: I think they're talking about a particular woman in the song. Not all women. Maybe she gave 'em permission.

S: What keeps you awake nights ? D: Next door's music. S: No I meant, what do you worry about ? D: Nothing really.... I keep my light on all night. S: What word or expression do you use most ? D: 'Who do you think I am, Mary Poppins ?' D: What's your favourite TV programme ? D: 'Murder Squad.' Anything else ? S: No I think we've done it all. D: What about if I found a lot of money ? S: OK. What would you do if you found a lot of money ? D: Give it to my loved ones, give it to my mum. S: Isn't she one of your loved ones ? D: I suppose you're right. I think seriously I'd give it S: The POLICE ? D: Hand it in but keep some of it.... S: But suppose you WON it in a lottery ? D: I think I'd save it up. If I ever had children.... I'd save it for my children. S: What about charities ? D: Cot death. S: Just cot death ? D: Cot death and the RSPCA. S: Nothing else ? D: Cot death, Salvation Army and RSPCA. S: What about people starving to death in Africa ? D: Tell 'em to get stuffed. S: Why's that ? D: Not really. I don't know. S: Is it because you think they're too far away to worry D: No. I don't know what I'd do with it if I had it. S: How do you win friends and influence people Donna ? D: I need the toilet.





WOMEN'S SAFETY

Every woman has a right to be able to walk the streets day or night just like any man and to expect to be safe doing so. So why is this not how it actually is ?

I was watching 'Rides' on TV. In it a woman, whose friend had been raped by a man she had considered a asking her friend, was husband/partner "Why do men do it and why do other men allow them to do it ?" The answer was husband's suppose because it's not in our interest to prevent them.' woman turned away The disgusted. The man had been honest. Ensuring that women feel at risk on the streets is a very effective way of maintaining mens power. Not many men would admit to it but it's true none the less. How many times have you been walking down the street minding your own business when a man or group of men has reminded you, in a subtle or not so subtle way that you are only allowed to go on your way unmolested on their say so. The 'reminder' may be in the form of unwanted abuse, verbal attention, threats or actual attack. The follow articles that tree attempt, their different ways, to address one element of the issue of womens larger safety: Transport. It makes disturbing reading but as you will see there are things that we can do to help ourselves claim our right to go where we please when we please. If women are terrorized into staying home at ight by fear of male violence then we might as well be in chains. They musn't be allowed to get away with it.

It's December last year, half three in the morning, 1 am asleep and downstairs below my room someone is ringing the intacom trying to wake somebody else in some flat above me. Whoever it is down there buzzes again and again and whoever it is buzzes so many times that they wake me up. So I'm awake and I'm annoyed because it does happen once in a while and it's usually someone who's forgotten their key or someone back from a club in party mood (though when I do it myself I certainly never worry about who I wake up in the middle of the night....). So I'm annoyed and I try to drop back off to sleep again but know that I can't until whoever it is down there gets in and I wish they would just get let in.... When suddenly whoever it is down at the intacom below me breaks into sobs and they are a woman's sobs and hearing sobs like that at that time of night makes me jerk upright and makes my heart jerk right up my throat.

I shoot out of my bed and straight into my mum and dad who have also been woken up - I'm not surprised, even though their room's a long way from the intacom, but I surprised that nobody else in the whole block of flats seems; to have heard anything at all My dad leans over the balcony and shouts out to her and asks her what has happened, he can't see her because she is in. a recess hidden underneath my room and she can't see him either and all she can manage to say to him is "I'VE BEEN RAPED."

We're really stunned even though we expected something bad and we don't know what to do. We want to go down and let her in but are worried because we can't see her, don't know who she is or if she's alone or not and at half past three in the morning can't be sure of anything at all. So my mum straightaway rings the police and my dad leans back over the balcony to tell her to wait for them but she doesn't answer him. She doesn't answer him because she's gone and a couple of minutes later two squad cars and a police van suddenly appear in the dark' main road.

Now we don't know what is happening, we don't know where she's gone and a few minutes more the van and the cars are gone too and it's 3.35 in the morning and now I know I'm going to find it very difficult' to get back to sleep again.

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For the next few days we can't stop thinking about it all and wondering what else if anything clse happened that night. But we don't hear anything and become resigned to never finding out and gradually stop thinking about it. When out of the blue a month later we get a phone call from the police. That evening a detective turns up at the flat to take statements and finally a month after it has all happened we find out what really happened that December night.

The squad cars that had come in answer our phone call had in fact picked the woman up further down the road - she had shrunk from them but they still managed to spot her. From this it seemed that she was reluctant to report the rape detective the and, explained, if she had reported it there was always the chance that she may not have been believed but outsiders had because reported the rape it was immediately taken seriously (though we didn't really understand this at all). The woman had been out to a club and had taken a taxi home and the taxi driver had raped her. A cowboy taxi driver, a dodgy firm, not a firm at all, just a man and a car. the rape was Because reported immediately and from the woman's description of him, a dog patrol policeman spotted the man the next day. In a few weeks he'd be in court. They caught him the next day because the rape was reported immediately and by outsiders. But what would have happened if we hadn't intervened ? Would the woman have gone to the police of her own accord or left it unreported as so often happens ? And would she have been taken seriously had she reported it ? Or would the rape go undetected leaving the rapist free to attack any other woman who happened to pick up his phone number out from the list of numbers scrawled on the wall by the phone in any club in Nottingham ? England's most violent city.

I've worked for several taxi firms, both in Nottingham, and, in Brixton, London, so you could say I'm well seasoned. I've worked, in some pretty joints !

as they were more interested in the 3.30 at Ascot !! There were one or two of perhaps 20 drivers, who were there to work. And I had to rely on these drivers who rarely let me down. So, if a long distance fare came along, then those guys got the preference. The others knew this and complained little. They knew the score. I was told I was a hard woman but I had to be. I was the one that had the shouting customer obscenities down the phone at me. I had one customer threaten to decapitate me. He followed up the threat, almost ! Thankfully, several of the drivers ushered him out, after taking a rather mean-looking machette off of him ! He tried to climb through the hatch to get to me. Then he proceeded to chop through the office door, with me trembling behind it ! The drivers had heard the commotion but had decided to finish off their game of '79' before they "rushed" out to help me, in the nick of time. Funnily enough, I never saw that customer again.... I was a little shaken I can tell you !

There are many exoffenders in the taxi game. It's extremely difficult to get a job when you have a record (in fact it's extremely difficualt to get' a job even if you haven't got a record). But if you have a record for theft or violence then, ironically, you are probably less likely to get a job as a taxi driver than someone who has conviction, rape particularly, if the interviewer is male. "Well, between you and me Guv, she asked for it. You know what I mean ? Her skirt her bleedin' round was neck." Laughs.... Nudge, nudge, wink, wink.... Same old story. I mean she was wearing a mini skirt, so, she invited him to rape her, didn't she ? Most cab firms don't ask questions, as long as you have a current licence, are 'badged' and have a vague idea where 'Ritzy's' is ! Some more responsible firms get the prospective driver to fill in a form asking about previous convictions but if they have any they usually say no anyway. Few, if any, check up on them. It's a nonesense

really.

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One firm that I worked for had a Gambling House at the back and a Betting Shop at the side ! It was particualry difficult to get drivers to do jobs for me,

must state categorically that the vast majority of taxi drivers are hard-working decent, individuals, male and female, who have never committed a crime in their lives except maybe parking on a double yellow or refusing to pay the Poll Tax !

They would be as horrified as the next person to find out that a co-worker had perpetrated such a heinous crime as rape.

Obviously, steps must be taken in Parliament to make sure that cab firms are required by law to check for 'p.c.'s' and to refuse to employ drivers with a record of violent crime.

I'm all for rehabilitation exof offenders but should we put them into positions where they can re-offend ?

Here are a few pointers that may help if you find yourself needing a taxi cab:

•Always use a reputable firm. OK it may cost more, but what price is safety ? •Always order a minicab by phone, making sure to ask your driver's name and the type of car.

•If you are calling from a public place, try to make sure no one overhears you giving your name and details.

•Travel with a friend if you can.

Don't drink too much. You're more vulnerable if you're pissed out your head. Ask if any women are going your way.

•Carry a personal alarm (but make sure that the batteries work).

Never get in a minicab if it is in a bad state of repair.

Always sit in the back seat.

If you do chat with the driver, be careful not to reveal personal details. Ask the driver what route taking he's to your destination, before you set off. If he goes in a different completely direction, and, won't give an adequate explaination, get out at the nearest lights.

If you feel uneasy with the driver, ask him to stop at a busy place and get out.

Have cash ready before you arrive at your destination. Get out before paying the driver.

Have your door keys ready and enter your home quickly. •Do not hail minicabs - they are not allowed to ply for trade in the streets in the way black/black and white cabs do.

NOTTINGHAM WOMENS CAMPAIGN

FOR SAFE TRANSPORT GROUP There are hundreds and thousands of untold stories of women who have been raped or attacked. Jean Auld's points when using a taxi are very useful. Women have started and are strarting to take action on making their and transport in environment safer Nottingham as well as other Britain. Local parts of women have come together to form the Nottingham Womens Campaign for Safe Transport Group and are working on to improve womens ways safety using taxis, buses, car parks, cars, walking etc. We are:

1. Working with women, initially in The Meadows and Clifton, using a Safety Check Kit to note all the unsafe areas on the streets and look at ways they can be made safer ie. more lighting, cut back hedges etc.

2. Working on a 'taxi code' which is useful ro women when using taxis (similar to the points made in Jean's article).

Replying to Nottingham City Council's car parking strategy which describes their plans for car parks in the future.

We will be working on safety of other forms of transport and safe womens transport schemes. COME AND JOIN US. We can

do something ! The more women involved the more we can do. All women welcome. Everyone has something to offer.

We meet at: Nottingahm Womens Centre 30 Chaucer Street Nottingham

There is wheelchair access, we can pay childminding costs and can arrange a sign language interpreter. We meet on the second Thursday of every month at 7pm.

Contact us at: Nottingham Womens Campaign for Safe Transport Group c/o 33 Mansfield Road Nottingham NG1 3FF Or ring Kathy on 0602 702879 Wednesdays, (day -Thursdays, Fridays). Or Pauline on 0602 413279 (day - Thursdays, Fridays).

If you would like help or advice on starting a Womens Safe Transport Group where you live please contact us.

Contributors: Snopes, Anon, Jean Boyd Auld, Pauline.



minor opinions

Charlotte (aged 13)

What do you think of the Queen ? I think she is a nice woman, but she has all of this money when there are people that are living on the street.

What do you think of John Major ? Rubbish. He came in saying he will do this and that and nothing got done e.g. Poll Tax.

What do you think of President Bush don't like him cos he started that war. I hate him.

What do you think of Arnold Swartzenegger ? He is the sexiest man I have ever laid eyes on and a good actor.

What do you think of Macaulay Culkin ? He's a good actor for his age. He's good.

What do you think of Julia Roberts ? She's good. She's pretty.

What do you think of Kylie Minogue ? Kylie Minogue is OK at singing but she is trying to get like Madonna.

What do you think of Michael Jackson ? He is OK at singing but he has had too many face changes.

What do you think of 'Blue Peter' ? I like it, its good it shows you lots of things to make and do and they raise lots of money for all different charities.

What do you think of 'Neighbours' ? I think it is OK but it is getting stupid.

What do you think of school ? I like school but some lessons are OK and some are good like Drama, English and other ones.

What do you think of the Police ? They are good but it takes them too long to get where they are wanted.

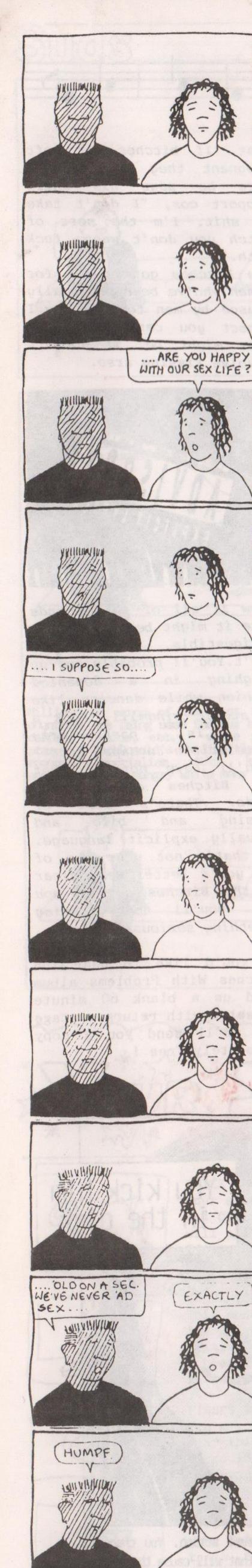
What do you think of expensive trainers I think its stupid. They cost too much just for some trainers.

What do you think of 'Super Mario' ? Stupid. Costs too much. Games cost too much.

What do you think of the fact that we live in a capitalist society which is destroying the people of the world and the planet ?



VAH, Y'KNOW HAD MY THIGHS REMOVED & Y'KKNOW BECAUSE THAY WIR SOOCOO FLEBBEE I JARST HUD TOODO.





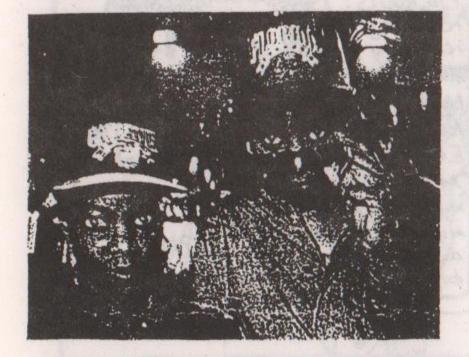


THE BYTCHES

BWP No Face Records

You won't have heard anything like this before so better be prepared for surprise or two. At first hearing The Bitches thought, this is one harsh world view they have here but, then I remembered one time being in the street, minding my own business when I was approached by three men. Most of you will know what comes next. There are three of them and one of you and they want you to know that they own the streets and you can be their victim just any time they choose. Yeah, well you are furious and you have this fantasy: You whip out the AK47 from under your coat, you turn on them and yell "Hey arschole, would you like to repeat what you just said to me?"

If you have ever had an experience like this then you just might enjoy what The Bitches have to say.



First up is Coming Back Strapped. Here's the scenario; A woman is walking down the street and some guy shouts "Say 'hoe, how're y' doin'?" She responds in kind, "Fine motherfucker but your mother's a goddamned 'hoe." The guy cuts up rough (presumably because 'bitches' aren't supposed to answer back. His mates join in with more abuse and The woman is threats. surrounded and afraid but Bitches make sure they remember a face.

"So, yo, when the bitches are steppin'

Just remember we got weapons.

The song ends with the woman shooting up the guys who were dumb enough to could be they think disrespectful to her. Well, it's about time they learned. The Bitches don't take nothing from nobody lying down.



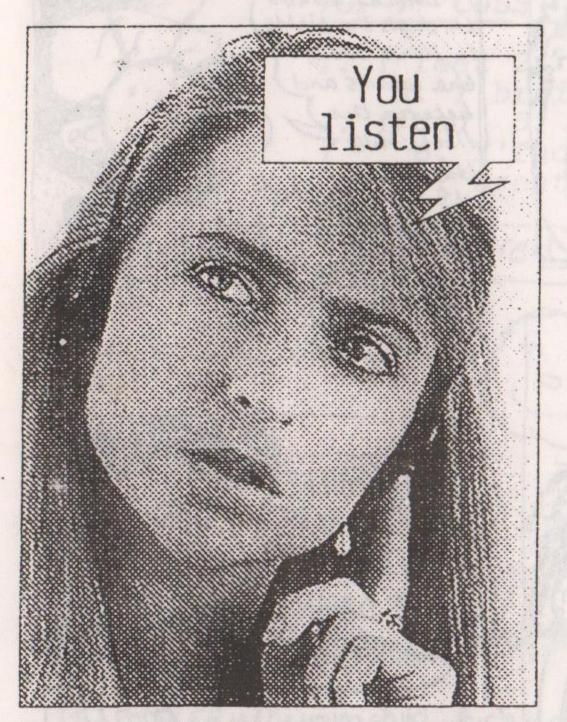
Next up is a song about being harrassed by police cos you're black and you look like you've got money

in your pocket. The idea being that any black person with signs of money about them must have committed a This makes the crime. Bitches real, real mad. The racist woman boss is next for a mauling. She's real disrespectful and insulting to her black employee. She thinks that being on her period makes it O.K. but the Bitches say, "BITCH, GO CHANGE YOUR

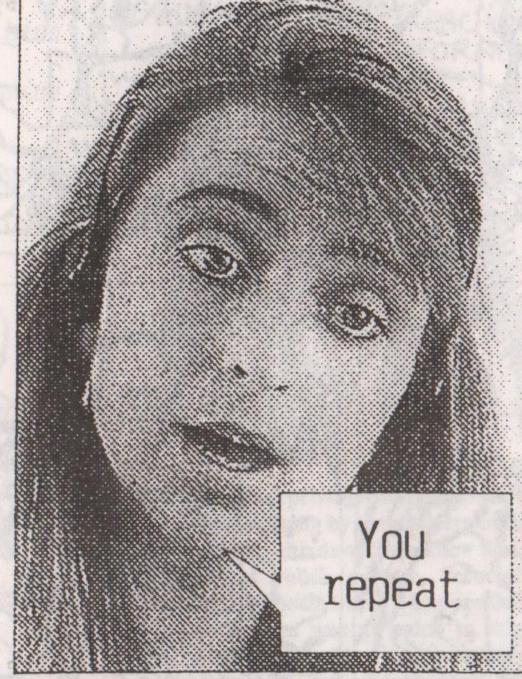
KOTEX!" alot of the time.



Two Minute Brother is about men who think they're real good lovers but turn out to be two minute brothers. Say no more. They know who they are and so do we. BWP say "I'm not the type to get mad. I just get even," and Fuck a Man is about getting even with guys who like to fuck around but don't think the consequences belong to them. Now the Bitches put 'em right on

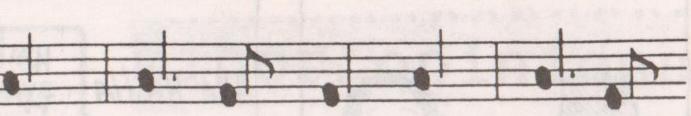


Stage 1: You listen. At first you probably won't understand much, but very quickly the words, phrases and expressions will become imprinted on your mind.



ADVERTISEMENT

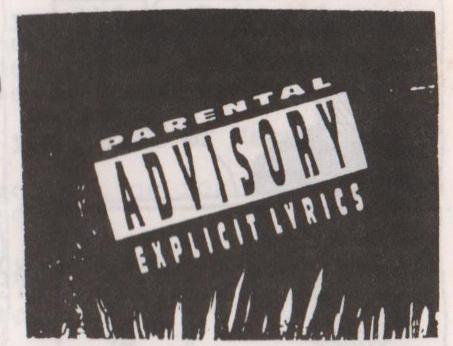
Stage 2: You repeat out of shock. Words and phrases become familar. You simply cannot believe what you've just had yelled at you.



One of the Bitches meets an ex boyfriend. They go to her place for a shag. I won't go into details but they're having a good time and, for once, she finishes first. "NOW GET THE FUCK OUT! she orders him. He protests (he didn't come yet) but Bitches wait for no man, besides, as she says, "Motherfuckers do that to bitches ALL the time." Well alot of them do

that. If bitches get left pregnant they make damned sure he pays his child support cos, "I don't take no shit. I'm the sort of bitch you don't wanna fuck with."

The Bitches got advice for women who've been physically abused by men too. By now I expect you can guess what that might be. It doesn't involve kissing arse.

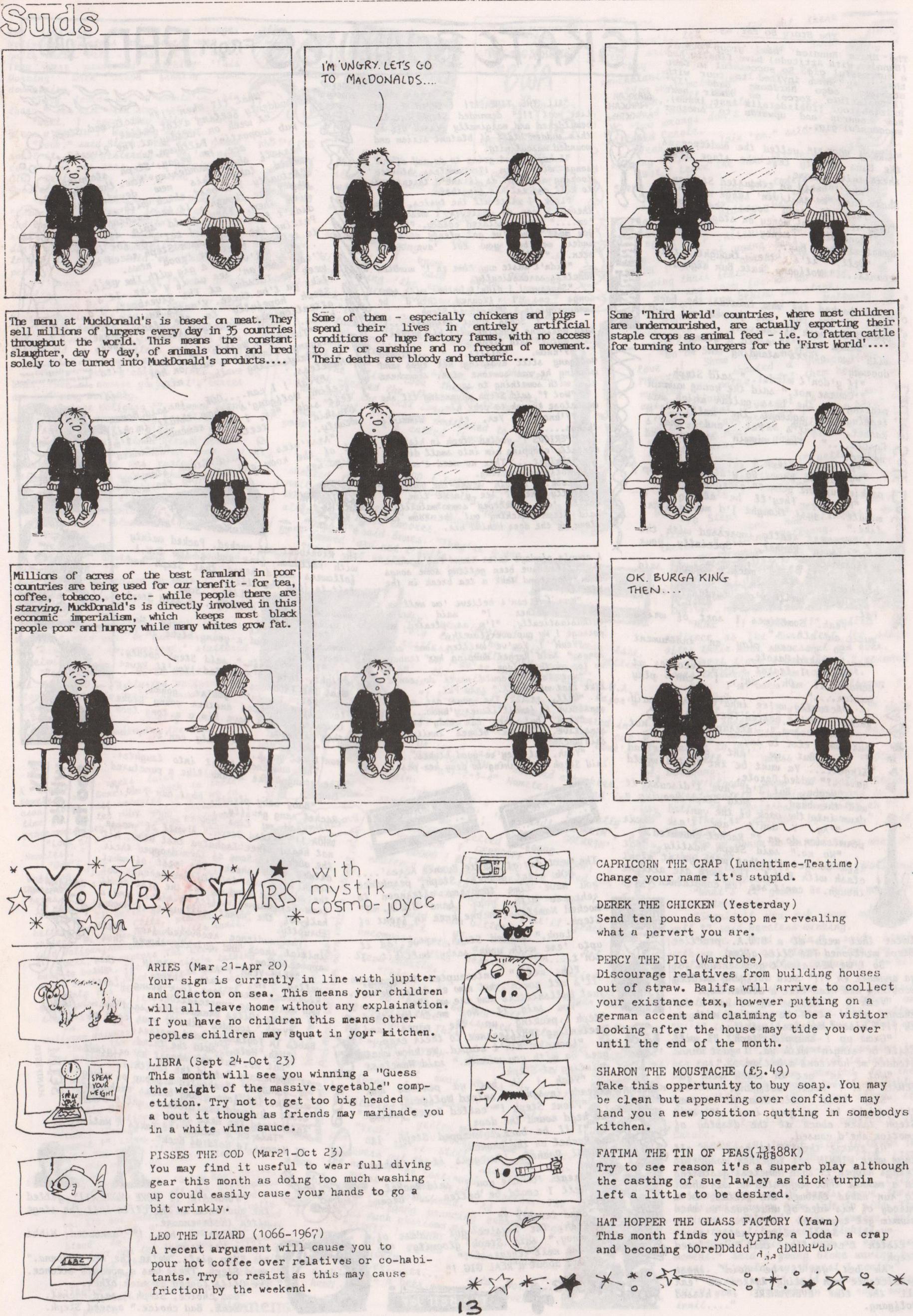


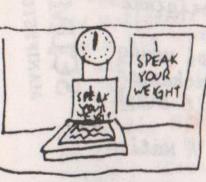
Now if all of this sounds like it might be a teeny bit indigestible, well, it isn't.You'll probably end up laughing in a demented fashion while dancing like an atomic windmill. Fuck a particularly Man is irresistible to happy feet. You'll have noticed that the Bitches don't mince words. There's alot of and bile and cussing sexually explicit language. If that's not your cup of tea you'd better keep clear of the Bitches but if you do, you'll be missing something seriously spicey.

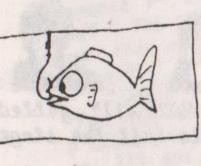
If you'd like to hear the Bitches With Problems album send us a blank 60 minute cassette with return postage and we'll send you a copy absolutely free !

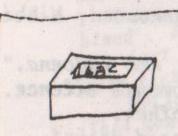


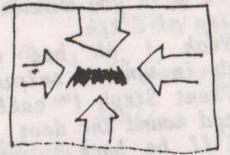
Stage 3: You take direct action. You choose a method of retaliation that will cause the optimum damage physically and phychologically

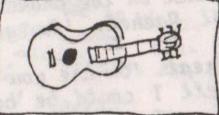


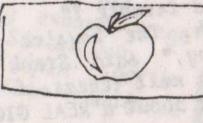














The Story So Far

The Skate Bunnies 'new' group B.W.A. (Bunnies With Attitude) have finally had a successful gig. So successful in fact that they were invited to tour with straight edge hardcore band 'IF' (Irresistible Force) on their next British tour (full details last issue). Now onwards and upwards to another successful gig

"MORE ! MORE !" yelled the audience as the Buns finally left the stage after

their third encore. "Dahg !" said an exhausted Stephanie Skate Bun. "We're Livin' Large now !" "Yeah !" said Bones Skate Bun,

"They're chuckin' money on stage !!" "Monopoly money...." mumbled

Nameless Skate Bun. "well, it's the thought that counts...." Wolfgang Skate Bun sighed.

• Steph backed the van towards the back door of the pub. She jumped out and

opened the back of the van. "Wanna hand ?" asked a young woman with two others standing in the pub

"If y'don't mind...." said Steph. doorway.

"'Course not." said the young wummun Opicking up the bass guitar which was up against the wall. "I'm That's Pat and that's leaning arole.... " The wimmin smiled and nodded.

"My name's Steph." "Yeah. We know. Do y'always end up packin' up the gear ?" asked Pat. "No no. They'll be along in a

minute. I just thought I'd mek a start like."

"We were really impressed with the gig," said Rachel, "'Specially your

"Oh, ta very much." Steph said performance."

"Do yer write y'own lyrics ?" asked blushing.

"Yeah. Sometimes I sort of write Pat. music an' all....'

"So ya can play an instrument then ?" asked Carole. "well, I learnt t'play recorder at can play scholl.... Oh, an' I

"Actually we're inna band...." said guitar " Rachel. "We're called The Clits...."

"Nice name." interupted Steph not sure what else to say.

S

"....But we 'ant got a lead singer.... Ya wunt be int'rested would ya....?" added Carole.

"Maybe. But I'd 'ave t'discuss it wid the band...." said Steph heaving a drum into the back of the van.

"'Ay. Y don't 'ave t'ask their permission do ya ?" Rachel chuckled. "No no." said Steph hastily. "But

ibba do get t'gether with ya it might clash with B.W.A. The guys are alright though. I can't see 'em complainin'...."

Later that week at a B.W.A. practice Steph mentioned The Clits offer.

"So ! We MEN aren't good enough for ya anymore eh ? !?" said Wolfgang snidely wobbling his head like a wooden Top. "Yeah ! I suppose if we had a sex I :

change you'd still be singing with us eh ?!?" hissed Nameless sulkily.

"Grow up ! snapped Steph, "I will will still be singin' with ya. I just wanna broaden me horizons a bit an...." "Wot ? An' get in touch with yo'

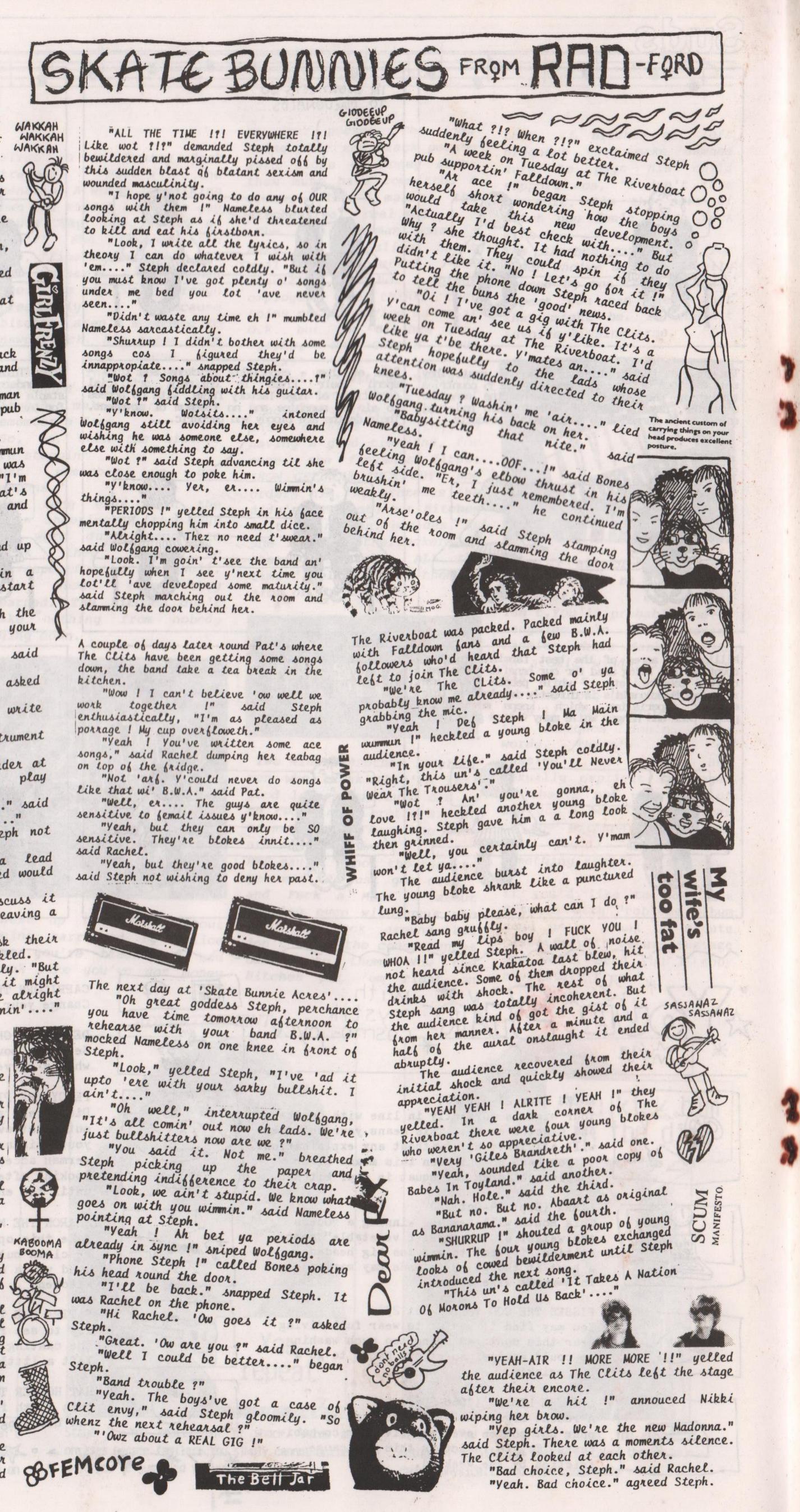
FEMALE SELF ?" mocked Wolfgang.

"Stop bein' melodramatic. Anyway they might be no good innit !" said 2400 Steph taken aback at the display of emotion she'd coused.

know when WIMMIN get together wonderful "Of course they'll be good. We all things happen !" said Hameless gesturing in a manner that suggested he was about to run naked through the fields, in a parody of his idea of what goes on when wimmim get together.

"Yeah. Stuff like not 'avin' t'listen t'crap like that." muttered Steph.

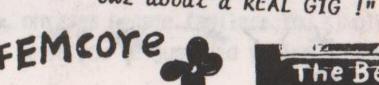
"Ah bet you'll be doin' those predictable man hating lyrics we 'ear ALL the time EVERYWHERE !" hissed Wolfgang.



WAKKAH WAKKAH









The following day, for a change, Wolfgang, Nameless and Bones were up quite early. Well it was not yet dark. They were passively watching 'This Morning' when Steph finally came downstairs.

"They loved us. Y'should've bin there." she said with some satisfaction. "well, I 'eard they only 'umoured y'cos y'WIMMIN !" Wolfgang sniped.

"Look," said Steph, "You ain't gonna spoil it. Since yesterday we've 'ad gigs comin' out our ears. We're playin' The Old Devil pub, then The Smarty Goodfella, then "

"well !" interrupted Nameless, "Seeing as how you're so busy and all, and B.W.A. is so UNIMPORTANT, there's no real point in you being in the band don't you think ?" Nameless and Wolfgang looked at her as cold as yesterday's

"Y'tryin' t'say summut ?" said Steph scowling.

"I think he's tryin' t'say...." said Bones breaking the icy silence. "Shush Bones." interupted Nameless. "We don't want to get in the way of your CAREER do we !" Nameless and Wolfgang shook their heads with exaggerated vigor. "Yeah. 'Ave y'career. Then 'ave kias. Then o' course go back t'y'career

an...." sang Wolfgang. "Act y'age wolfgang !" snapped Steph

sick of their wounded dog hostility. "Act y'age ?!? Act y'age ?!?" mocked Wolfgang. "Sorry I kinda keep f'gettin' us boys is less MA-CHEW-WA than you WIMMIN." his lip was curled like a

leftover sandwich after a church picnic. "Look, if y'wanna give us the 'eave 'o. y'gonna 'ave t'say it big boy " said Steph impatiently.

"well 1 " blurted wolfgang. "Yes ?"

"Well we " "WE !?!" Bones said dumbfounded. "Nobody asked ".

"We don't need ya no more !" said wolfgang.

"Fine by me...." began Steph angrily.

"You, you go to your GURRRL-friends. we don't need you. We can carry on You ain't that im-important." stuttered Nameless.

"Yeah ! Yeah ! We'll start an, an ALL BOY BAND " blurted Wolfgang. He stopped, suddenly realizing how silly he sounded.

"Well that's a novelty innit...." said Steph calmly leaving the room.

couple of weeks later wolfgang. Nameless and Bones were back to their usual form. Just managing to get up in time for the ten past twelve children's programme. They were watching 'Rainbow'. "Look at us.... Has-beens !" groaned

"Don't be so negative," said Nameless. "Just cos we hant 'ad a gig bor nearly a month it don't mek us 'as-"No. Just losers." muttered Bones. beens."

"Look. If we're gonna prove we're better than The Clits, practice meks

perfect. We're 'onin' our skills innit." said wolfgang unconvincingly. "Well, it appears The Clits don't have to bother. The whole city's talking about them...." said Nameless gloomily. "Only cos wE'RE not on the scene.

we'll show 'em. It's only a matter o' time before we get a gig...." As ib on cue the phone rang.

"Hello. The new improved B.W.A" wolfgang answered. said wolfgang. The others watched as he nodded his head a few times then said is i

"Who is it ?" hissed Nameless. "Ar ace !!" "It's a geezer from 'Mohawk Betty Boo's Big Nite Out'. They wanna put us on !" said wolfgang trying to act cool. "Yeah ! 'Course we'll do it ! 'Ooz the support ?" asked the excited wolfgang.

"WOT ? THE CLITS ! ?! THE CLITS ! ?!" This was too much. He went silent as a

"Look," said the 'Betty Boo' geezer, wardrobe. "You lot can 'ave all the differences y'like. All I wanna do is put a good gig on. I'm not interested in your rivalry. I don't give a toss about the 'bad blood'. An' I don't give a shit about the fact you lot think you're competing Wolfgang sank lower in his chair. with each other...." This was his personal hell happening now in his left ear and he was powerless as

a potato.



SHIT !!" yelled the "I....er....er...." said Wolfgang ducking, as a beer can whizzed over his

Womens Disco.

711 not "you were mates innit.

"yeah, well they shun me." said Steph bitterly. "Two wrongs don't mek

"yeah. Go on. Join 'em.

"Wot? Leave the bana Steph shocked. "No y'idiot. Just for

"Movin' on this was

"CANS KEEP FALLIN" sang a group of young STEPH ! STEPH !" chant. stamping their beet. "Got any room for

yelled Steph from behind "Maybe" grudgingly. "YEAAAHHH !!" yelle

"Go on Steph ! Show Show us !" shouted nudging his mates to was being funny. "well what I've you'll ever 'ave arsen

grabbing the mic. into laughter. The brom existence. "yo ! we're B.

confidently into the we Dr wolf wolfgang.

"yo Steph ! still got some there.... returned h there

K. E. S. MAL

"MORE audience as The after their most "Great t'ave Bones throwing his "So, I'm bac asked Steph.

"well er.... wolfgang sheepish "NO." said Sta what me to be ?"

"well, Wolfgang. "Y'bloody

affectionately the balls. "An' worra "They're alr Nameless.

"So we gonna asked Steph. "Mightaswell.

his eyes watering "What's it asked Steph grinn "Shouldn't 1

well ?" said Name "Yeah. Good walking back on girls !" she y fellow Clits.

"I do wish 'girls'...." sa stage with Pat a "Hi's" to the res gonna do ?" asked "I know !" her ear. Rachel of the band audience: "Right "A-1-a-2-a-1

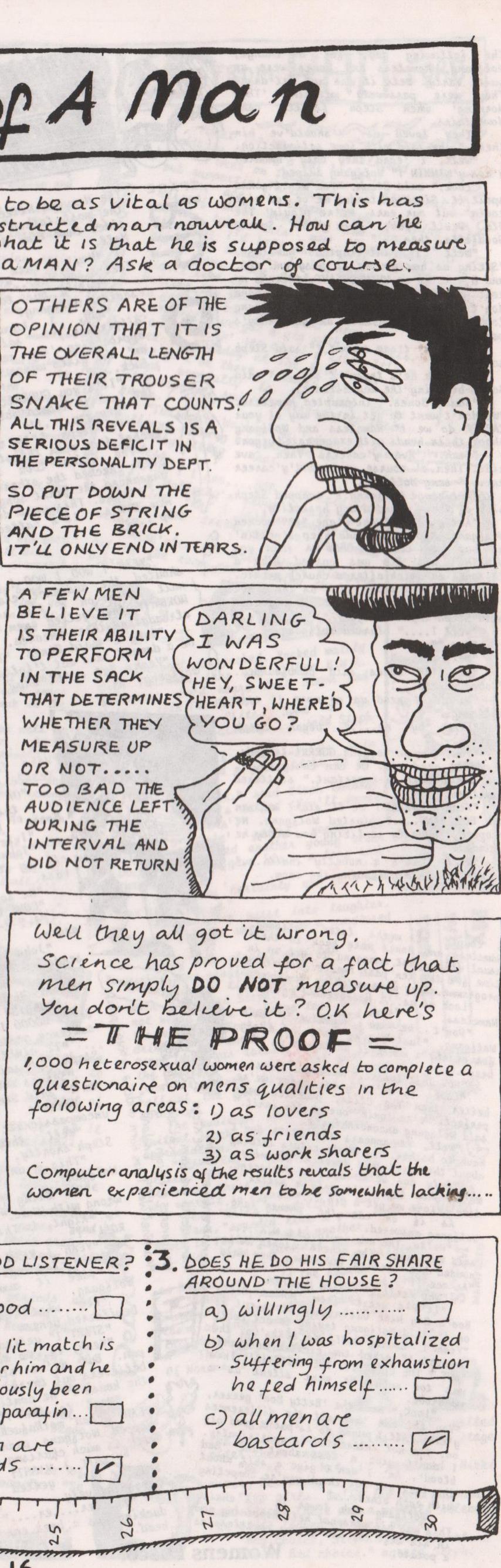
"EBONEE AN' PERFECT 'ARMONEE PIANNA KEYS, WEEE...." sang holding each ot heads and swaying audience follows aloft their lit "Oh God. Th moment." said a scarf. "I could "Oh shurrup "Mind you. It'd mek an ace rock movie

innit...."

em die out there	W
el. asked Steph	-
· I Pat.	
tes innit." said Pat. they shunt've dumped	10.0
bitterly. don't mek a right"	
don't mer a mis	
n. Join 'em." said Rachel	
e the band !?!" exclaimed	
t. Just for tonite in this is called" hiding behind Bones,	
hiding benerit iEAD !!"	
y. P FALLIN' ON ME 'EAD !!" of young lads. "STEPH ! of young lads. audience Hereiter of the state of the	
of young the analence Fr	
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Brom bentsaid Wolldguis)
H !!" yelled the audience. Of steph ! Show 'em 'ow t'do it, Of steph ! Show 'em 'ow t'do it, Of	0
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s mates to let them we wot funny. what I've got is twice wot r'ave arseface !" spake Steph r'ave arseface !" spake Steph the mic. The audience burst the mic. The young bloke shrank	0
what I've got in spake Steph	
the mic. The audience burnh hter. The young bloke shrank	
need Steph	
tence. We're B.W.A. !" yelled store We're B.W.A. !" An' wot are ly into the mic, "An' wot are ty into the mic, to look at	
ly into turning to Lock	
steph ! we're Def ! But we've steph ! we're non-believers out	t
Steph ! We're Def ! But we got some non-believers ou " returned Wolfgang.	19
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RE !! MORE !!" yelled to	he
e as The Buns left the sta their most successful set ever.	
leat t'ave y'back Steph." grinn throwing his arm round her.	ed
, I'm back am I, Wolfgang	?"
Steph. ell er If y'wanna be" sa	id
ng sheepishly.)." said Steph forcefully. "Do Y	
e to be ?"	ŧ s
ell, I guess so" mutter ng.	ed
'bloody wimp !" said Step	h,
ionately thumping Wolfgang in t "An' worra baart me mates eh ?"	
hey're alright by us" so	id
ss. o we gonna do an encore or what	?"
Steph. ightaswell" choked Wolfgo	ing
es watering. hat's it gonna be then guys	
Steph grinning.	
houldn't you ask your mates " said Nameless winking.	
eah. Good idea." said Sto g back on stage. "Come on	2ph
" she yelled gesturing to I	her
do wish she wunt always call	
'" said Rachel getting	on
with Pat and Carole. They node to the rest of the Buns. "What	ded we
do ?" asked Rachel. know !" said Bones whispering	
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ur. Rachel passed it on to the r	Tho
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The Measure of A Man Mens statistics have not been considered to be as vital as womens. This has presented a dillema for the would be reconstructed man nouveal. How can he hope to MEASURE UP if he does not know what it is that he is supposed to measure up TO. So how DO you find THE MEASURE of a MAN? Ask a doctor of course, INDAYS GONE BY SOME MEN USED TO THINK IT WAS THE SIZE OF THEIR BICEPS WHICH - REVEALED THE TRUE MEASURE OF THEIR MANLINESS WELL, IF YOU - WANT TO SPEND YOUR LIFE WAITING FOR A PIANO IT'S COOL BY ME. NICE TRY BUT NO CIGAR A FEW MEN SOME MEN BELIEVE BELIEVE IT THAT HAVING AN ENORMOUS BRAIN TO PERFORM IS ALL AMAN NEEDS IN THE SACK TO MEASURE UP FOR OBVIOUS REASONS IT HAS PROVED IMPOSSIBLE TO - CONDUCT ANY SERIOUS SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INTO THIS QUAINT DURING THE 5 10 15 20 NOTION. THEY IN OZ. YET OTHER MEN BELIEVE THAT THEY - Churrywww. MUST LEARN TO EXPRESS THEIR TRUE FEELINGS. (MY MUM USED in 5 TO BEAT ME THEN, AND 600 WITH A CINDY ONLY THEN, DOLL AND THAT'S) WILL THEY WHYIGREWUP BE ABLE TO TO FEAR AND MEASURE RESENT EVERY UP TO BEING WOMAN IEVER VE A MAN MET DREAMON BROTHER DREAMON 1. HOW WELL DOES HE UNDERSTAND 2. IS HE A GOOD LISTENER? 3. DOES HE DO HIS FAIR SHARE YOUR BODY? a) very good a) very well b) he seems to think it is a b) only if a lit match is held near him and he slot machine has previously been 5.00 c) all men are soaked in parayin...] () all men are tick box . which applies bastards to you

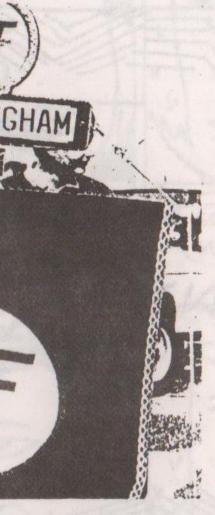
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They're trying to come out. Slowly they're starting to crawl out the gutter. At the moment they're leaving a slug trail of Nazi stickers the back alleys and down of Nottingham, subways ususally at night or early in the morning, hoping that one will see them. Yes, the National Front (NF) and the British National Party (BNP) are trying to wriggle of their fowl, dingy out drains and bring their diseased racism and fascism out on to the streets. But they need some helpers to spread their ideas. Their prime warped for recruitment are targets white, unemployed, young, working class men (they're interested in very not women, mainly recruiting because women aren't excited by the idea of kicking a grandma's head in because of her skin colour !). They are attempting to exploit the anger and despair that many people feel in the current. economic climate. The NF and BNP offer "a future and self-respect" - a future of 'white power' and so called 'self respect' won by going around in a gang attacking and occasionally killing individuals soley because of their colour, religion or sexuality. There have been 3 racist murders in the first 6 weeks of this year alone. They also attack buildings, monuments and graveyards, slightly easier targets because solid objects can't run away. Last year in Nottingham several family houses were attacked, and the Jewish Cemetary and the Madni Masjid Mosque ln Forest Fields were both desecrated. NOTTINGHAM The second

all racists are Not fascists, BUT fascism parasitically thrives on racism and other divisions

UNITED AGAINST RACISM AND FASCISM



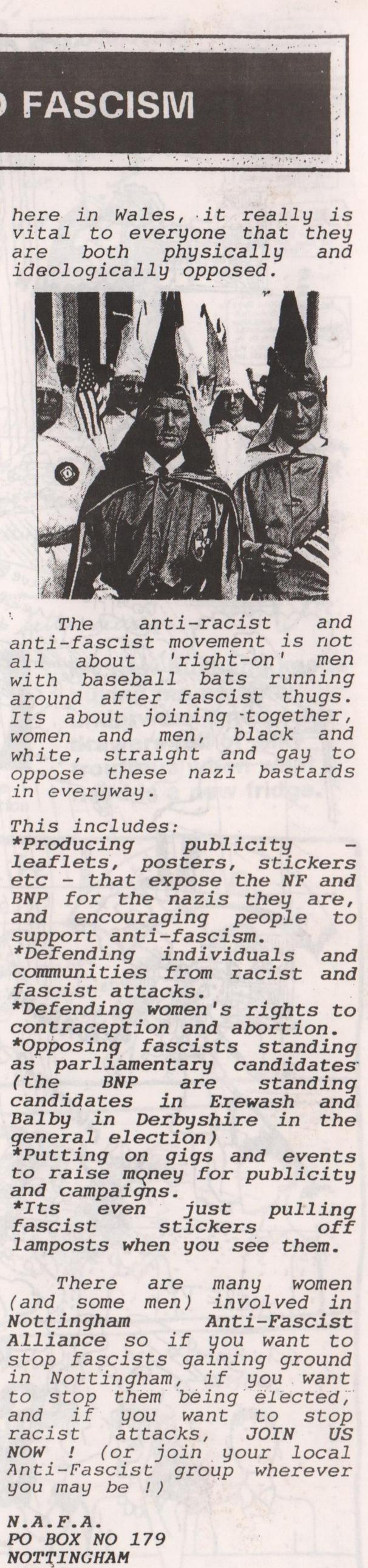
in society - sexism, anti-Irish feelings, homophobia etc. The NF and BNP claim that women and black people prevent all the young, fit, white men in this country from getting jobs and housing. Part of their ridiculously simplistic and backward solution is that all white women should be chained to the kitchen sink and have, lots of white babies the to ensure continuity of the "superior" white race. On no account should white women be able to get an abortion or contraception. Their role would 'breeders'. be as Recently woman in Nottingham publicly who spoke out on women's right abortion, recieved to fascists letters from threatening to fire bomb her house.

In their papers, the nazis have run stories about how white women who live with or marry black men are slags and traitors and how they will be murdered by their partners. This is an attempt to intimidate women by using a warped stereotype of black men and by playing on women's fear of physical threats. Black women, the fascists claim, should be sterilized so they can't have any children and so their race will die out.

The fascists try to make people believe that somehow if all the Afro-Carribean and Asian people were sent back to their country of origin, miraculously there would be jobs for all white 'British' men. In Britain black people make up 4.4% of population. Total the unemployment (including people on income support, 16/17 year olds who, although not working, cannot claim and the benefit homeless) is 12 over million. clearly SO someone's got their sums wrong anyway.

It would be great to be able to stand back and say that the NF and the BNP "are just a bunch of sick, warped boneheads, who no one's going to support or join. But when there's an estimated 17,500 racist attacks a year in Britain (police figures) and fascist parties are gaining support in elections across Europe and America; when the Ku Klux Klan are trying to establish themselves over

are



in everyway.

This includes: fascist attacks. and campaigns. fascist

Nottingham you may be !)

N.A.F.A. PO BOX NO 179 NOTTINGHAM NG1 3AQ

K.C.



TREES MAYBE LESS DO SHOULD BENDING

HIANJI, LONG TIME NO SEE. GREAT! HOW'S IT GOIN? 0 I MEAN ... ITHINK IT'S ... IT'S REALLY BRAVE OF YOU 6 OH REALLY, 0 YOU KNOW, THAT LEVEL OF THEN THERE'S THE OTHER THING ... PEOPLE WOULD GET A MAN (BESIDES, THEYRE SO OPPRESSED) AREN'T THEY? SI'M WARNIN UP OR I'LL 0



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In trying to establish more autonomy and self-determination in my sexual relationships with men - I have to constantly fight against my own internalised controls - as well as confronting the cultural assumptions of the man and his resistance to change it's surprising I have any sex at all. Woman answering questionnaire

Personal State

Feminists in heterosexual relationships have to grapple with male definitions, male assumptions and male power in one of the most intimate areas of our lives, involving some of our deepest feelings, at times when we often feel at our most vulnerable. It is not an easy task. Yet over the past decade an increasing number of feminist women have been involved in transforming the basis upon which we are prepared to share our sexuality with men. It has been, for the most part, a very private struggle which, despite the support which many individual women have given each other, has not as yet been validated by the women's liberation movement as a whole. As Anna Coote and Beatrix Campell have commented. perhaps it has seemed too difficult 'to sustain a political and personal critique of heterosexuality alongside a political and personal commitment to it.' But the net result has been that, as heterosexual feminists, we have found ourselves isolated - without a collective analysis of strategy thrown back into defining our relationships with men as belonging to the 'personal' sphere of our lives cut off from our 'political' concerns. The dilemma which so many of us face

is that we find ourselves presented with the choice between two alternatives, neither of which is acceptable. The first, a hangover from the 'sexual revolution' attitudes of the 1960s accepts a defined male heterosexuality uncritically. It ignores the crucial question of male power within heterosexual relationships and sees 'liberation' for women as liberation-fromthe-fear-of-unwanted-pregnancy and from our so-called 'sexual hang ups'. It sees the provision of contraception and abortion as the primary answer to women's problems. It never questions the assumption that sexual intercourse is or should be the primary goal for both partners, or that many younger women are being increasingly pressured into intercourse (and consequently sexual harmful forms of contraception or the risk of pregnancy) at an ever earlier age. It never even addresses the issue of an autonomous female sexuality, or why it is impossible for women to explore or express it within a traditional heterosexual framework. Instead, it accepts male power and control as 'givens' and attempts to get a better deal for women within this maledefined context. The second alternative, springing from a feminist analysis, rightly rejects this view pointing out that all it has achieved is to make us more sexually available to men

without giving us anything in return or even attempting to address the real underlying causes of our oppression. This view indentifies male power as the central problem within heterosexual relationships and sees the oppression of women as an inevitable outcome. Consequently, the solution is seen by some women within the women's liberation movement to lie in total withdrawal by women from heterosexual relationships, thereby withdrawing female energy from men and undermining the institution of heterosexuality. For women who are committed to both

feminism and their own heterosexuality neither of these solutions is adequate or appropiate. The first denies our feminism, insisting that we accept a male-defined sexuality, and evades the fundemental issue of male power. The second denies our heterosexuality by asserting that male power and control within heterosexual permanent . and relationships are thereby precluding the unassailable, possibility that feminist women may establish a sexual practice between women and men which is not oppressive. What both

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these alternatives have in common is that neither allows for the possibility of change. The first accepts the status quo of male power as a 'given' around which it hopes to accommodate women. The second, whilst recognising the centrality of male power within heterosexual relationships, sees it as static and unchangeable. If heterosexual feminists are to find a viable way out of this dilemma we have to create a third alternative; one which not only confronts the issue of male power but at the same time is committed to challenging and changing it. Two of the questions we need to ask ourselves are: How does male power function in heterosexual relationships ? and How can we confront and challenge it in our own sexual relationships with individual men ?

To find out how other heterosexual feminists have been tackling these issues in their own lives I drew up a questionnaire which was sent out to 200 readers of 'Spare Rib'. The 61 questions asked women to describe their feelings and experiences around the areas of early experiences of sexuality and learning about sex; issues of power; penetration; pressure; force; pornography; fantasies; conflict; changes; what they want from a sexual relationship; what they want from men; celibacy; pleasure; orgasm; masturbation; self image; cultural influences; sex with others; sexual environment; sexuality and sensuality; sexuality and friendship.

Eighty-four women completed the questionnaire. Many reported that answering it had been valuable, if exhausting experience and some had found that it helped to clarify and bring together many hiterto disparate areas of their lives. The she'er volume (most women said it took between four and six hours to complete) and quality (the level of honesty' and preparedeness to dig deeper was quite remarkable) of the information sent in has been invaluable to me and has provided the basis of much of what follows in this chapter.

How male power functions in heterosexual reationships

The more you understand the fewer concessions you will make. (Redstockings)

When we begin to explicitly 'name' and analyse how male power functions in our sexual relationships with men we begin to see a number of things more clearly. First, we become aware of a profound alienation female authentic from our sexuality/sensuality, that is, a sexuality/sensuality which genuinely springs from and expresses our own female nature and desire and is not a response to any form of outside pressure, whether it be fear of losing a man, or a home, or financial security, or pressure to conform to some (male-created) stereotype of the 'liberated' woman, or fear of being labelled frigid, or the threat of, or actual experience of, male violence, or any other form of pressure which cuts off from our own inner selves and forces us to behave in ways which are destructive and alien to us.

Secondly, we discover the means by which the development of our own authentic sexuality is crushed. (This is not to say that women cannot develop their own authentic sexuality but that in seeking to do so they will find themselves struggling against, and in total opposition to, the dominant culture.) Many women who answered the questionnaire described how they had never been allowed the space in which to explore or develop their own autonomous sexuality because, from the outset, a male definition of sexuality had been imposed upon them, predetermining how they were supposed to feel and behave, how males were supposed to feel and behave towards them, and what 'sex' was supposed to be. To describe this process, through which a male-defined sexuality is 'imposed upon us, I shall use the term 'the heterosexual ritual'.

The heterosexual ritual

The heterosexual ritual, as we shall see, operates on a continuum which begins with male definitions of what constitutes 'normal' sex, leads on to the creation of specific sexual expectations upon which men act, results in both crude and subtle sexual pressure being brought to bear upon women, and ultimately legitimates the use of male force (violence) against women. All this takes place within a context of material inequality in which the majority of women are forced into economic dependence upon

Within the terms of the heterosexual ritual, only penetration followed by penile thrusting and ejaculation is defined as 'real' or 'normal' sex, which at once asserts the primacy of the penis, renders the sexual pleasure of the woman irrelevent, and limits heterosexual practice to a series of repetitive acts which maximise the possibilities of pregnancy. It creates a male sexuality in which heterosexual men learn to seek their sexual pleasure, almost exclusively, from 'fucking' at the expense of all other forms of sensual/sexual bodily awareness exploration or expression. It teaches men to experience this 'desire-to-fuck' as central to their male identity and leads them to believe that they have a 'right' to use women's bodies for this purpose. This definition of what constitutes 'normal' sex creates the 'real' or expectations from which actual sexual behaviour follows. For instance, if the primary goal of 'real' sex is defined as heterosexual intercourse then the man

assumes and expects: That the appropriate way for him to express his sexuality is 'to fuck', and that all other forms of sexual expression are only preliminaries to 'fucking'. That he has a 'right' to have sexual

intercourse. That he is not a 'real' man unless he has (regular) sexual had/is having intercourse with a woman. That fucking is what all women really want.

If the male sex drive is claimed to be, and defined as being, stronger than the female's and directed almost exclusively towards heterosexual intercourse, then the man assumes and expects:

That he has a right to women's bodies. That it is 'natural' for him to put pressure on women to have sexual intercourse with him. That if his 'desire-to-fuck' is thwarted it is legitimate and understandable for him to use force to achieve his goal.

These are the assumptions and expectations which men bring to a sexual situation with a woman and upon which they act. This is not to say that all men act in precisely the same way but the assumptions and expectations they have internalised from a patriarchial culture will be the same.

For women these definitions and expectations are imposed upon us in three ways - first, by constant reinforcement by the culture, secondly, by actual 'sexual behaviour of men towards us, and thirdly, by our own internalisation of these beliefs. For instance, when women internalise the belief that the primary goal of 'real' or 'normal' sex between ourselves and a man is sexual intercourse we come to believe:

That in sexual relationships with men sexual intercourse is inevitable. That other forms of sensuality/sexuality which may give us more pleasure are not 'real' sex.

That if we express affection/sensuality it will be interpreted by the man as indicating our willingness to have sexual intercourse.

That we should expect to gain sexual satisfaction from sexual intercourse and if we don't we have a problem.

When women internalise the belief that the man has a stronger sex drive than us and that he needs to have this satisfied through sexual intercourse we can come to believe:

That we have an obligation to meet his sexual demands/needs.

That our own sexuality/needs are less important. That it is 'natural' for him to initiate and control what happens sexually between

us. That, especially in long term relationships, we have a duty to satisfy the man's sexual needs by providing him with regular sex.

That it is our responsibilty not to let things go 'too far' if we don't intend to have sexual intercourse.

That if we submit to sexual intercourse through pressure or fear, that it is not rape.

That if we are forced into sexual intercourse against our will we are somehow to blame.

In reading through the answers to the questionnaire it was clear to see how this definitions→expectations→ continuum pressure→force - functions in our everyday sexual relationships with men.

Definitions lead to expectations

Most women who answered the questionnaire reported that although they gained some information about sex from their parents or from reading books, by far the most pervasive influence came from school friends and the pressure of peer-group conformity. By the ages of thirteen to fifteen few girls were left in any doubt that 'sex' with a boy was an inevitability, and that 'sex' meant sexual intercourse.

If sexual exploration did not lead to sexual intercourse it was redefined as not 'real' sex. For instance, one woman described in great detail the sexual enjoyment she used to get from nonpenetrative forms of sexuality saying 'that way I found out what made me feel good and that I could enjoy myself, but [she added] it would never go as far as actual

All of the women who answered the questionnaire reported their first experience of sexual intercourse to have occured between the ages of thirteen and twentythree years.

'I was seventeen. My boyfriend persuaded me to go upstairs at a party. It was all over very quickly and I got no satisfaction - I wasn't even that willing.'

'Boring ! I'd had an orgasm with the same boy by manual stimulation and presumed that penetration would be even better 1 kept thinking that it was amazing that I could have a baby by doing such a mundane thing.'

'It wasn't fantastic. I think the basic sensation was that it had been done, at last.'

Although these quotes describe the experience of the majority of the women who replied to the questionnaire, this was not universal.

'I was twenty-one. It was nice. We had all the time in the world. We took several nights over it (gentle semipenetration). I had several orgasms before he had his first. Great.

But whether we are part of the minority who had a good first experience, or part of 21

'When I was younger, I and my female friends considered that penetration was, the definition of sex - until you have been penetrated by a man you hadn't made "made it". All the men I've had relationships with have expected it - any sexual encounter was considered by them to lead ultimately to penetration and if it didn't they made it clear that they weren't satisfied. To me, penetration is only one aspect of sex - there are many others, all equally, if not more, fulfilling for the woman and the man.

'Where at one time it was the be-all and end-all - I now cringe dealing with phallic tampons.'

'I like it. It gives me a marvellous feeling of being filled up psychically as well as physically. Just why I shoud need and like this feeling of being "filled" I'm not at all sure about !'

'Some men penetrate too soon. Some guys once inside me go on and on till it becomes painful. But I feel I must persevere. Why should I ?'

The feeling of needing to persevere with it seemed to reflect an internalisation of the belief that sexual intercourse was what 'real' sex was all about, and that within it we would find our own sexual satisfaction. But frequently the internalised belief and the actual sexual reality were in conflict.

'Often I want penetration but when it happens derive no pleasure from it.'

'In most cases it's wanted by the man far sooner than the woman, if she ever wants it. Sometimes it totally removes that feeling of desire in me - like a bucket of cold water.'

'Penetration is important. It's something I physically need even though I may have an orgasm through oral sex or manual stimulation. I still have a deep aching sensation that only penetration can satisfy. However, often men are too forceful or thrust too hard or deep and it's not at all enjoyable and I feel like a battering ram or just a vessel for the guy's sexual relief.'

'In the past it has happened that I have accepted it when I didn't want it, then I felt invaded.'

So accepted does the idea become that sexual intercourse is what is expected from sex that there are times when both partners may engage in it without either of them really wanting to.

'Especially at the beginning of our relationship I found it difficult to say 'No' when I didn't want things, although apparently my partner, though frustrated would have accepted it. In fact, I got several urinary infections and sometimes used them to say 'No'. It appeared later that it had happened that neither of us wanted intercourse, but both went ahead because each believed the other did.

Another woman described herself as nonorgasmic until she was forty at which age she began to have orgasms through sexual intercourse: 'I now enjoy sex enormously.' But the same woman, when asked in another question to describe how and when she learnt to masturbate, answered 'as a teenager - I figured it out for myself.' This woman had' been giving herself orgasms for most of her life but, like the rest of us, she had been taught to invalidate her own experience and define herself as nonorgasmic since her orgasms did not come through sexual intercourse with a man.

Next issue in Part 2 of 'Is a Feminist Heterosexuality Possible ?': Expectations - which lead to pressure and force. Challenging male power in sexual relationships with individual men. Exploring what we want.

'Is a Feminist Heterosexuality Possible ?' was given to us by a friend of C.I.A. who suggested we reprint it. We don't know where it originally appeared, only its author. So, if you're reading this Angela, we hope you don't mind. All we can say is that we definately aren't making any money out of it....



22

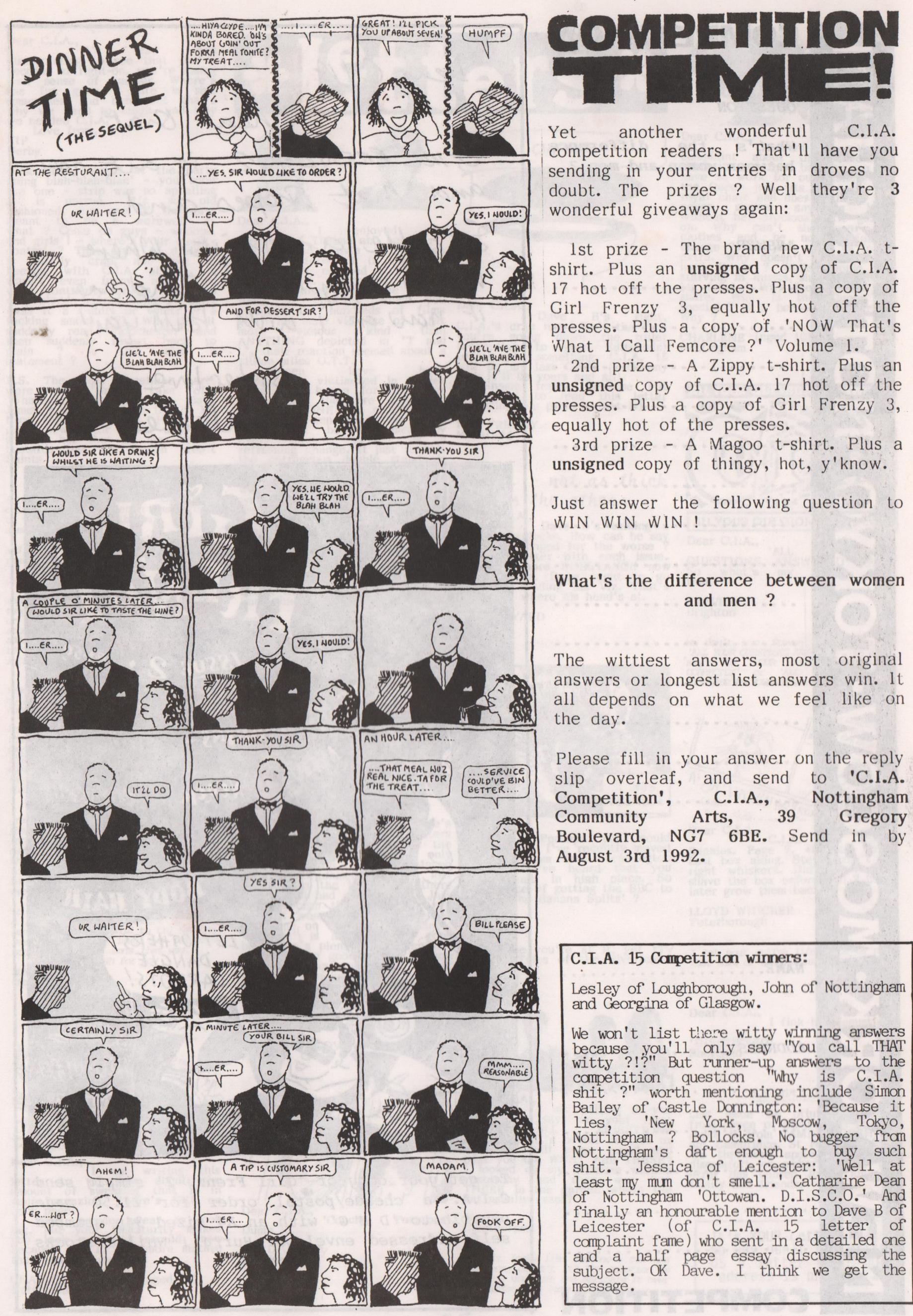
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There are hushed stories of Tyson's Black America paegent, which a "serial buttocks

"Tyson may have forced sex on

Ebony Furnish



C.I.A. Nottingham 39 Gregory Tokyo, Bollocks. No bugger from

COMPETITION

QUESTION

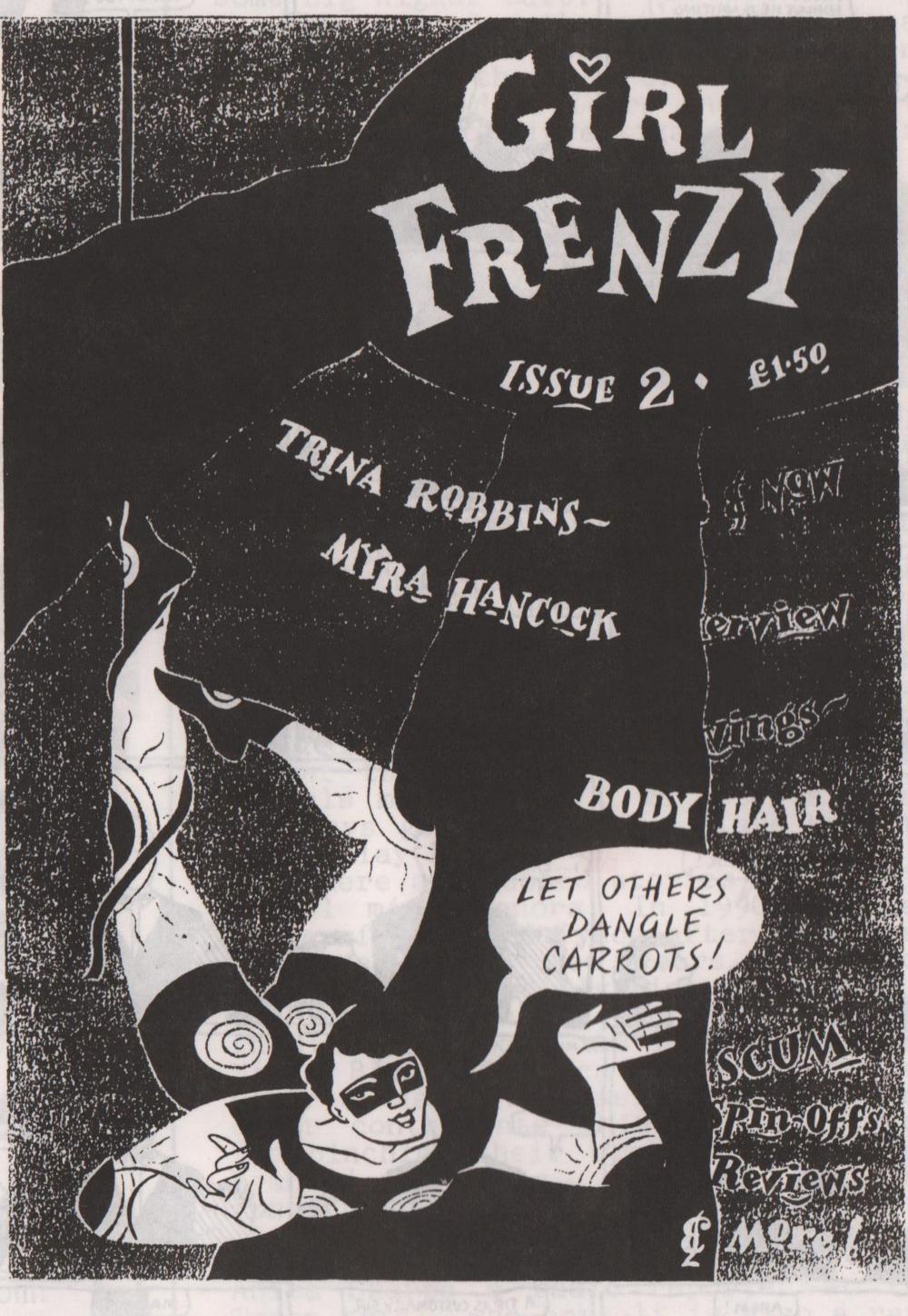
difference What's between women and men ?

ANSWER

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Dear C.I.A., Thear that

GIRL FRENZY 2: is ant now. and mat shopes and Estelle are in it. Where is my copy men? Send me it now or i will kill you!



To get your copy of 'Girl Frenzy 2' simply send C.I.A. a cheque/postal order for £1.50 made payable to 'D M G' with an A4 sized 34p stamped self addressed envelope. Hurry ! Whilst stocks last !!

24

sisterlove, Valerie

Dear C.I.A., It's disappointing to see that you've become so right-on, you're losing your sense of humour. Where's the fun gone ? Life is shit sometimes and hard but that's why we need to laugh, and why we needed C.I.A. Love from,

KIP Derby

-Also, the "blokes at the party going blah-blah-blah" - you know the one - strip was so appalling it is untrue. It's so old fashioned, was one of the guys meant to be a werewolf or what ? Come on guys - whoops, and girls ! - where's your quality control ? That style of drawing is totally crap, and not in keeping with C.I.A. at all. It wasn't even funny, and there were continuity errors with the crap blonde-heared bloke's t-shirt (was it a t-shirt or what, or a fucking smock ??). Why did it suddenly read 'Flopchester' and then suddenly revert back to plain ? Is this also a statement ?

P.S. The most excellent parts were the 'Bride' take off, 'Whatever happened to Baby James ? and 'The love life of Mr Nice Guy' was good. Have you got a new editor by the way ? If so tell her that all men aren't bastards and all women aren't Saints Thanks.

Estelle Bryers, the cartoonist criticized in Kips letter has refused to dignify his scribblings with an answer.

However, fellow Chorley resident and China Painter, Auntie Walsh has posted her response to us.

Dear Mr Kip,

Perhaps you had a dental appointment the day your schoolteacher taught your class about letter writing, or maybe you didn't pay enough attention. A "P.S.", young man, is an additional point, it is not supposed to be double the volume of your main letter.

I cannot read it anyway. Goodness me ! I have now located my reading glasses, only to discover that my eyesight is not to blame, it is your handwriting !

After phoning Mr Nothing fram the Post Office call box it would appear that you did not enjoy Estelle's cartoon and for some reason you sent an ill written, shaddily thought out example of poor handwriting to the Editors of C.I.A. to advise them on their quality control.

How very amusing of you. To make a further point, m grandson, who is now aged eight, had a phase during which he supposed that by replacing descriptive adverbs with medieval four letter words he would be thought of as modern and witty, someone to be taken notice of. Fortunately he has grown out of it but apparently not everyone matures at the same rate. I would suggest a quick trip over

to the nearest Open College, they have a lovely range of courses. My friend Daphne would have said to try National Service but I've lost two perfectly good husbands and sons that way. Anyways, Ta rah for now AUNTIE WALSH Chorley

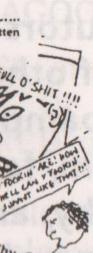
y gave him with "BOLLOCKS" written I'M BLOODY GREAT ME.)

Dear C.I.A., I am writing this letter to complain about the amount of swearing that is in your magazine. There's filth on each page. Most people swear to look big, but your immaturity makes you look small. I should know because I'm 13 and more mature than you will ever be.

than you will ever be.

CHARLOTTE POWIS (aged 13) Nottingham

and a state of the state of the





Dear C.I.A.,

Dear C.I.A., I enjoyed the movie too though I'd've prefered it if they'd've miraculously escaped to Mexico at the end. I thought it was hugely ironical that some people found it HARSH. When you consider the hundreds of films glorifying male violence of a far more vicious kind than ANYTHING depicted in 'T and L', their reaction seemed about a zillion miles O.T.T. Women have been consistently victimized in movies since they began for no other reason that they are women so when just ONE film comes along showing women retaliating you'd

Women have been consistently victimized in movies since they began for no other reason that they are women so when just ONE film comes along showing women retaliating you'd think it'd be welcomed by every thinking person as a refreshing change. It just reveals the outrageous double standards of some so called critics. They're obviously more comfortable seeing women as victims in need of sympathy/condescension than *C.I.A.* sympathy/condescension than seeing 'T and L' taking effective action on their own behalf against the arseholes who seek to control them. Well they can save their sympathy for lame dogs and baby seals. We've had enough of it. Its just an excuse that does nothing but help THEM feel better about having their power. Fuck that shit.

HEDDA Nottingham

Dear C.I.A.,

interesting.

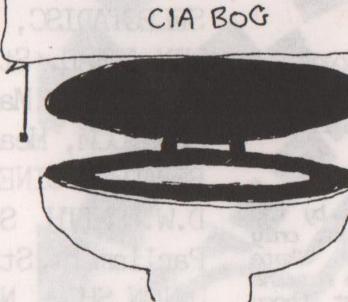
for

first

Matlock

Tis done.

100 - 01



Strers*

C.I.A. - not as thick as the others

Dear C.I.A., Dave B's talking a load of bollocks. How can he say C.I.A.'s changed for the worse ? It gets better with each issue. It's got more SUBSTANCE now than before. Dave ought to go back to reading his Viz. That's obvioulsy where his head's at obvioulsy where his head's at.

P.WOODYARD Leicester



Dear C.I.A.,

could help me out. I've recently moved to Nottingham from Leamington Spa, and I've heard that you Marquee organised by you lot. Magoo was the best thing there and we all had an ace time. Just one criticism though, there were

tons of women in the audience, LIZ but none on stage in the bands. Nottingham

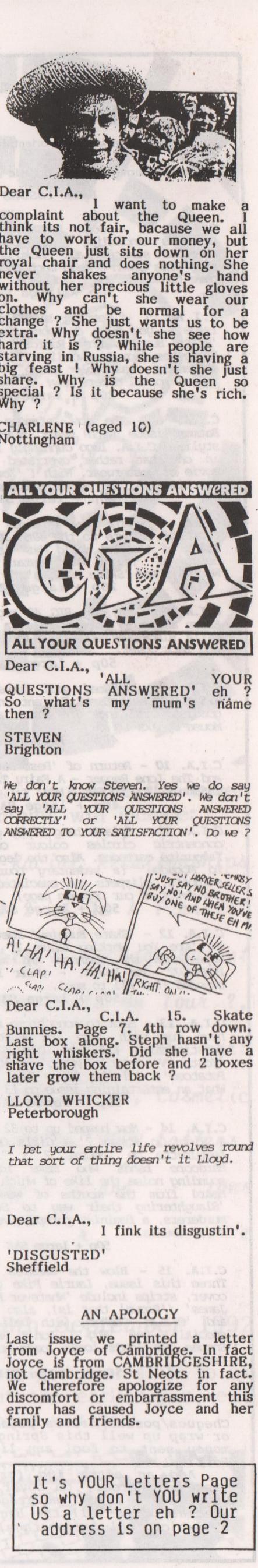
but there's plenty of women out there making good music. So how about casting your nets a bit further to include the other half



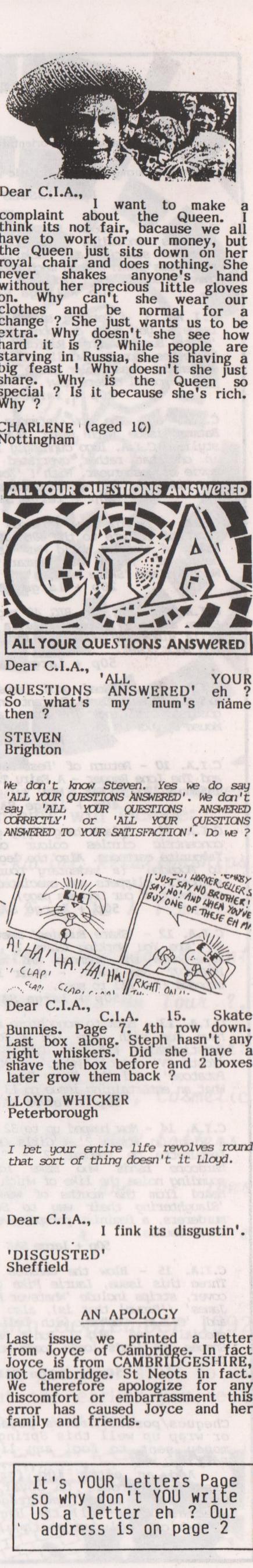
am writing to you because it says on your front QUESTIONS ANSWEREDIt'd better be true or my mum will come round and beat you up. WHAT ARE THESE? I looked ou my bedroom window yesterday and they wer just THERE in the garden where the cat usually craps?

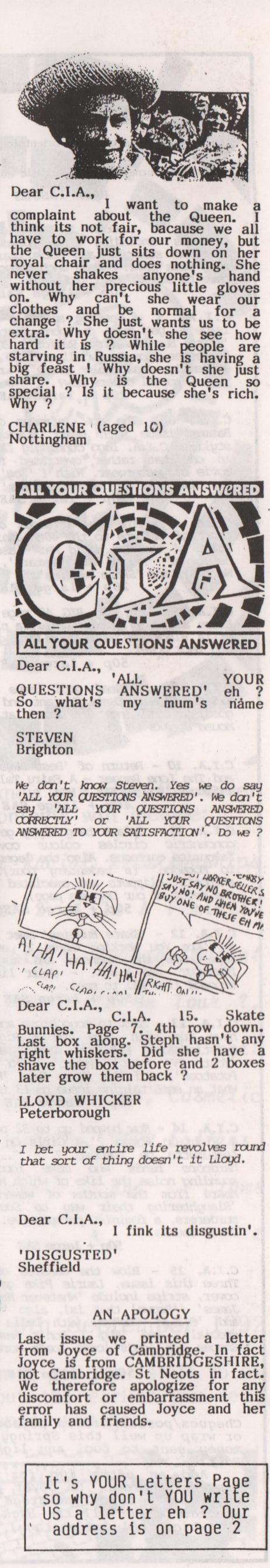
Potatoes'. Worried, Cleethorpes

Well it looks like someone's cat has been busy doesn't it? The solution is to grate your cat and sprinkle it over the garden as a lesson to others.



Nottingham





	It's YOU so why do
•	US a let address



festival, well it seemed alright to

I found last issue's

year was the

only

Magoo

FREE

Rock and Reggae Festival letters

time I went, and I

the Mohican

Last

of the population eh? As for the rest

me. Hell, it's still a festival. What's the fuss?

COURTNEY LOVE'S LIPSTICK

Dear C.I.A., 'Couch Dump it. SPUD-U-LIKE Nottingham

C.I.A. - THE BIG SALES PUSH

"Never 'erd of it"

Melody Maker

"Disappointing lack of fish orientated features..." Angler's Weekly

"Ethereal journey into the artistic unknown...." Dalton's Weekly BACK ISSUES

C.I.A. 4 - Ocoh ! Early days. Loads of cartoons including 'The Downunders', Clint Sherwood starring as 'Mucky Larry', 'Jumpers' and 'Suds' (won't mean much to you - you'll just have to buy it won't yuz). 20p + large SAE

C.I.A. 5 - Getting slightly thicker by the issue - yet more cartoons featuring not only 'Skate Bunnies from Radford' BUT ALSO 'Skate Brosettes from Bestwood' - twice as nice for the extremely reasonable price - rush out those pastel postal orders now. 20p + large SAE

C.I.A. 6 - The now infamous collectors item Batman issue with smart black stroke yellow stylised C.I.A. logo cunningly fashioned to cash in on that rather overrated rehashed Batman movie of yesteryear. With ! 'Zog', 'Best Days Of Our Lives ?', and 'Skate Bunnies'. 20p + large SAE

C.I.A. 7 - The now infamous collectors item "sort of tribute to the 40th anniversary of the start of the 2nd World War" issue. With ! The debut of 'Harry The Bastard', 'War of the Worlds', and 'Skate Bunnies'. 20p + large SAE

C.I.A. 8 - Big BIg BIG 48 page Winter issue. Extra all your favourites extra plus loads more. Cilla Black and Pope John Paul grace the front and back cover.

50p + large SAE

C.I.A. 9 - A dead good issue this one with H.E.A.R.T. and Chris Tarrant and all the usual ANOTHER WORLD, Silver Street goodies including 'The truth at last - Frank Mouse Speaks !'

40p + large SAE

C.I.A. 10 - Return of 'Best Days', 'Snow White and The Lone Ranger - A Fairy Tale' and the now infamous 'How To Fix A Man' ! 40p + large SAE

C.I.A. 11 - Splash bang Zippy gets funky crazy concentric circles colour cover all your favourite cartoons. Also the legendary 'Day Trip To Mogadon' (a sedentary tour). TV reviews, snippets, clippets and emaciated whippets (plus the debut of our Letters page). 50p + large SAE

C.I.A. 12 - 'Skate Bunnies' meet the 'OOPsies', an 'Are You Working Class ?' exclusive quiz, experience the madness and mayhem of 'SNOW POWERCUT' and N.W.A. - their literary mastery exposed (for all to see).

50p + large SAE

C.I.A. 13 - Back to monochrome and Bette Davis, have fun with 'Are You A Right-On Man ?' questionnaire (if you dare), a rather long 'Youth TV' article (that was MY idea), 'Couch Potatoes', and the 'Dave Rave 'Rave Column''. What an entertaining issue no 13 is by Jove. 50p + large SAE

C.I.A. 14 - Now bumped up to 32 pages. 'Are You A Right-On Woman ?', 'Girls On The Loose' a featurette on Fencore ? - "....female post hardcore bands who make loud, aggressive sounding noise the like of which has rarely been heard from the mouths of women before ". 'Slaughtering their way to Success' - mass murderers, a feminist perspective. And the usual usual usuals.

50p + large SAE

C.I.A. 15 - Blow the candles out, C.I.A. is Three this issue, Laurie Pike grimaces on the cover, strips include 'Whatever Happened To Baby James' ('Brown' that is), also 'Compost Crazy' and 'C.I.A. Cookery with Delia Clyde (toast special)' and 'Why I Don't Read Comics' by Snopes and loads loads loads more to boot (my foot).

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Ewa

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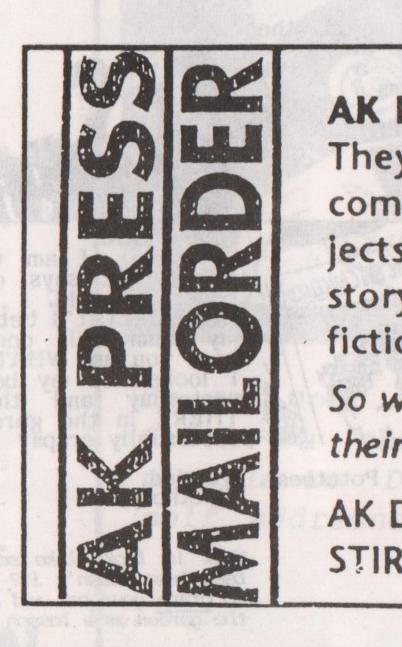
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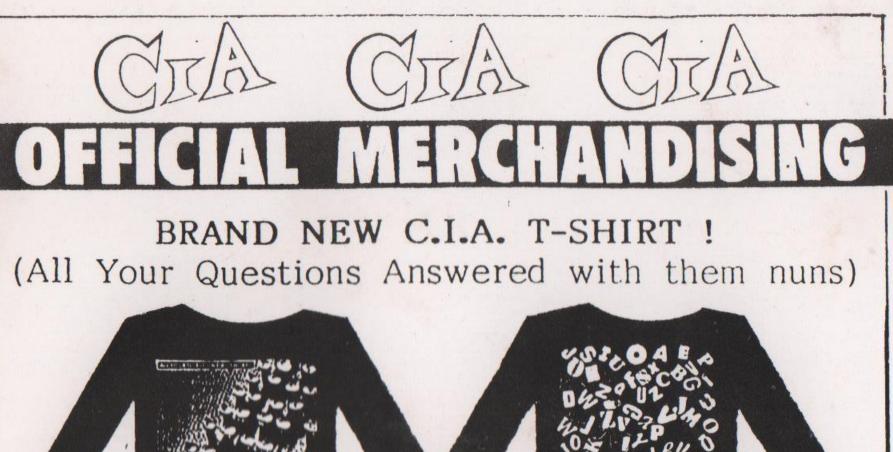
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C.I.?. 17 Released: 8th September 1992 If you wanna be in on it get your stuff to us by: July 27th 1992 (but the earlier you send the better space you get)

