

**ANOTHER BRICK
IN THE WALL.**

"Within an hour of the test (for HIV) and 2 weeks before the results, I was taken down to K1, the Aids Unit. A sign on my door informed other inmates I was on Rule 43 (special isolation: usually used for sex offenders; can be an open invitation to physical attacks from fellow cons). I was in solitary confinement in a cockroach infested cell next to the kitchen swill bins."

Gay prisoner describes segregation in Wandsworth Prison.

AVERT, an AIDS Research trust, has carried out a survey of 452 newly-released prisoners. It shows that 10% injected heroin, 1 in 15 had unprotected anal sex and 5% were HIV positive. If this is representative of the prison system there could be at 2250 prisoners with AIDS/HIV nationally - more than 10 times the Home Office estimate. The Home Office recently decided to make Methadone (Heroin substitute) available to "addicts" inside, so as to "limit heroin abuse with dirty needles", and to abolish segregation for cons with AIDS/HIV. But they still refuse to distribute clean needles or condoms inside.



Prisons are the bottom line in control & isolation. Mostly it is working class people who are locked up for breaking the law in order to survive. The State refuses to admit cons do have sex, take drugs, try to live their lives inside - because they are admitting *cons aren't* evil, inhuman, or psychos but people just like the rest of us. We're all trying to survive in the face of all the shit. Prisons & run-down housing estates, boring jobs & gaybashers are all part of the same system trying to keep us down.

We believe in supporting prisoners in their struggles. This doesn't just mean forcing the govt to improve conditions or end segregation. It means also looking forward to the day when we can get rid of prisons & the rest of the state in the fight for a better world.

IF YOU'RE INTO ACTION AROUND GAY PRISONERS CONTACT US OR G.R.I.P OR ACT UP.

FOR ANARCHIST BOOKS, MAGS, T-SHIRTS, POSTERS, SQUATTING ADVICE - the 121 CENTRE, 121 RAILTON RD, BRIXTON, LONDON SE24. tel 071 2746655. open Wed/Thurs/Sat 1-5, Friday 2-5, Sunday 3-5.

A PICTURE OF PETER TATCHELL.



Right, now he's succeeded in his dream of getting his face in EVERY gay paper in the country. Maybe he should have another shot at getting to Parliament. On the other hand lets hope not - then we'd have to put up with his face all over the TV as well.

CONTACTS

SHOCKING PINK. Magazine for rowdy women. Kindly donated some of their vast profits (not really) to Pink Brick. Seriously thanks alot folks. We couldn't have done it without you. SP is available for 90p plus postage from 136 Mayall rd, London SE24. tel 071 274 3150.

CLASS WAR. The best revolutionary paper on the market (yes, they gave us money as well). Available from radical bookshops, record shops, or for 40p plus post from PO Box 39, SW PDO, Manchester, M15.

GAY RIGHTS IN PRISON. Meets at the London Lesbian & Gay Centre, 69 Cowcross St, Farringdon, London EC1, at 4pm on the 3rd Saturday of the month. Or write to them at the same address.

CHEERS TO THE ANONYMOUS DONOR WHO GAVE US ALL THAT LOVELY CASH. YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE.



Pink Brick
box 5
121 Railton rd
London SE24.

PINK BRICK

LESBIAN AND GAY CLASS WAR.

NO.5 JUNE 1991. FREE OR DONATION.

CENSLUS!

April this year saw the national census held every ten years in Britain. The government claims it's used to plan for jobs, healthcare, housing etc for the future. If this is the case why after 180 years of censuses do we still have unemployment, overcrowded hospitals, homelessness... Because we these are all necessary for the capitalist system to keep us under their control. IN FACT the census is used to keep track of our movements - keeping an eye on us so we can be manipulated more efficiently. Past census info has been used to deport refugees by the police to check up on... all of us, by the DHSS to catch people working on the side (usually in order to survive). This year's census will no doubt be handed over to local councils to be checked against the poll tax register and catch people who can't afford to pay.

This year lesbians and gays were encouraged, by the Pink Paper and Outrage among others, to register our sexuality on the census form, to "make Lesbians & Gays count". While 1000s of working class people are trying to dodge being registered, we are told we should put our names & addresses down for them to use to control us. So the police have a nice long list of queers to harass. And yes, the police DO get access to the information - an ex-worker in a census office told me the cops were in and out of the office, tapping into the files DAILY after the 1981 census. This is technically illegal but that's never stopped the state before.

We all have to survive. Most of the time we can't avoid being registered for all sorts of things. But we should be aware of the ways we are being controlled. We don't have to make it easy for them, and the struggle against the poll tax, where 1000s of us disappeared, refused to pay and got away with it, shows it is possible to resist the laws they impose on us.

Pink Brick have discussed the idea of holding a meeting/conference/get-together/drinking session for class-conscious queers. As yet it's only an idea. If you're into it and think it should happen, get in touch. Or even if you want to discuss or slag off any of the bigoted views in this news sheet, or send us articles, news, dates, money, pictures, or want copies of Pink Brick to hand out: drop us a line.

GAY ANGER!



CLASS STRUGGLE ANARCHISM.

We live in a bitterly divided class society, where 7% of the people own 84% of the wealth. The ruling class through its agent, the state, keeps us all under control and working for their profit. Anarchists are anti-state revolutionaries who believe that the working class united can free itself of the class system, exploitation, poverty and build a totally new society based on co-operation, equality and community. We don't need Marxist revolutionary leaders, states or bosses - we can do it for ourselves, locally, nationally and internationally. Pink Brick sees that lesbian & gay liberation can only come through working with our class for worldwide liberation: fighting within our class against gaybashing, homophobia and sexism. Contact the Class Struggle Anarchist Network, PO Box 446, Sheffield, S1, for more info and local groups.

OUR TIME WILL COME!



SEX



"We are all racist and sexist in some way -but what the fuck!"
(From an early issue of Class War).

Well, so much for ancient history. Sure, we think that sexual politics are relevant only if realised and talked about on our terms. This means kicking out the specialised language along with the middle class trendies who drone on, boring us with it. We've got to make revolutionary and sexual politics the property of the working class, ourselves. Why, in our anarchist circles is there so much animated discussion about the subject of sexual politics? It's a reflection of the society that we live in. Working class people aren't usually motivated in a revolutionary direction because of a handy ready made ideology available like a packet of Daz, or the sufferings of the third world peasantry. No, the primary motivating factor for many of us is our own individual experiences of oppression and that includes the intimate personal desires feelings and repression which effect us in every conceivable manner. This is part of sexual politics.

One of the reasons the working class don't automatically rebel against this society, except on a gut level, is that they, and all of us are trapped in a web of conflicting emotions and ideas. As individuals we internalise our violence, turning it against those close to us, such as the people we have relationships with and others in our class. We can't ignore sexual politics for 'real' revolutionary politics as they are deeply interrelated on all levels.

Unlike what we think of as theoretical politics (knowing the differences between Marx and Bakunin, or what happened at Kronstadt in 1921), sexual politics is something that directly effects us all immediately and can be talked about without the rudiments of 'prior knowledge' by anyone. In fact, the liveliest debates and arguments at our meetings revolve around the sexual politics issue, as they do in every pub and factory in strange, convoluted terms, offensive to the ears of the sensitive trendies.

We say it's impossible to predict how an anarchist society or even a decent sized anarchist movement would evolve as regards personal and sexual relationships. We have no wish to reflect today's conformity based on monogamy only to create an alternative conformity. We can't put value judgements on peoples sexual expressions, varied as they are, but that doesn't stop us in our present situation from examining the prevailing mores and even the alternatives. Especially the alternatives as many comrades delude themselves that they've reached a state of 'non-sexism' mostly for internal consumption or even to dazzle the gullible amongst us.



Within the anarchist movement or anywhere else for that matter, we can't and must not tolerate sexism and general anti-social behaviour. It's no good merely talking about sexual politics, it's got to be backed by real change and practice, irregardless of the established norms or our own illusions. This can only be achieved, first of all by genuine debate, something that's sadly lacking in our movement and elsewhere. Hiding behind slogans or entrenched so-called alternatives that are nothing of the kind just isn't good enough. Genuine debate, not the parroting of ready made platitudes but something involving real thinking about real issues would help end the alienation that reigns in the majority or our gatherings. Maybe those people who sit there and say nothing won't have to be cajoled into participation - it will develop as a matter of course. After all, if we can't speak or give meaning to our individual feelings and experiences, how far will we progress as a movement?



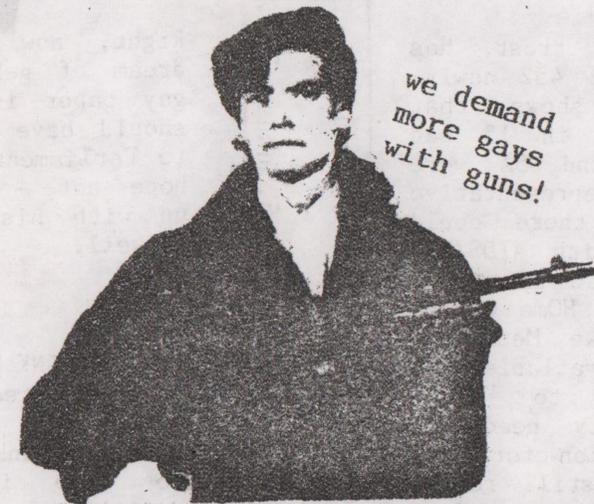
There is no doubt that personal change is required from all of us. If we can't challenge certain aspects of our own individual sexuality and selves, how can we possibly threaten, yet alone defeat the state and capitalist system? Within our own groups and collectives, ideas should manifest themselves as practical activity. For example, assistance for those of us who require space and support to escape from an oppressive relationship (yes, self-styled anarchist men have been known to beat their lovers, or subject them to psychological violence - not such a rare event). If we can't handle these situations it's no good pontificating about page three of The Sun. Besides why don't we ever come to grips with such things as images, and the way we relate to them? Things such as gay and lesbian experience, desire, fantasies, what attracts us to other people - and what repels us. It's about time we stopped criticising others without looking at the terms of our own relationships. If we talked about some of these things it might invigorate the terms of the on going discussion about sexual politics.

We must be able to reach the state where all members and supporters are capable and confident of expressing themselves and be understood. This requires as much effort as bringing out a paper. Maybe more. But it will have to become a reality if we are to break out of our ghetto.

We ultimately regard a diversity of sexual expression as desirable preferably with as much experimentation and pleasure as possible.

Nobody is 'non-sexist'-male, female, straight, or gay- and we all have to struggle, develop and change ourselves continuously. Sexual politics isn't something to hide behind or from, it's an integral part of our politics in general. We say there can't be a revolution without sexual liberation and there can't be sexual liberation without revolution.

The article "Sex" is reprinted from a 1985 issue of the paper Class War. We reproduce it here because it raises important questions; not only for people "challenging the capitalist system" but gays & lesbians & anyone aware of the role sexual politics plays in our daily lives. For more class-based ideas on sex & sexuality, Men Against Sexist Shit have come up with some interesting stuff. Send a donation to Box 25, 52 Call Lane, Leeds LS1 - they've produced 3 pamphlets so far, all available for about 30p each.



MORE THOUGHTS ON SEXUALITY

In recent years it seems to me that the "gay movement" has dropped some of the early 70s criticisms of the way sexual roles are imposed on us from an childhood so as to keep us fucked up and controllable for life. This is part of a rejection of anything that questions the nature of this class society. Anything exposing the role of the state in keeping us working happily to make more profits for the rich. Instead gays & lesbians are concentrating on removing the barriers that stop us being accepted as equals under capitalism. Well that's fine for middle class gay professionals in well paid jobs (in some circles I'm sure a gay businessman has the advantage). Not having much money I can't afford to pay my way in the Pink Economy and I'm SICK TO DEATH of the class system. Like the author of the article "sex" I know we have to make our sexual politics part of our revolution. We do have to fight to assert our right to be queer in this society. But at the same time there's a class war going on and we have to be aware of all the weapons the ruling class will use against us.

UNWANTED GAYBASHER COLUMN. NO.2.

In the Isle of Man Parliament, the Tynwald, some gaybashing MHKs (MPs) have mounted a campaign against a proposal to decriminalise homosexual activity (yes its illegal there). Changing laws doesn't solve everything, but it would make a difference to the lives of Manx gays, not having to be looking over their shoulders all the time. So here's the phone nos. of some of the diehard queer-bashers. I bet some of 'em would love discreet midnight calls.

- Speaker of the House G.V.H(Victor) Kneale 0624 679996
- Brigadier Norman Butler 0624 812098
- Hon Bernard May 0624 612223
- Dominic & Julia Delaney (both anti-gay MPs) 0624 675226.
- Hon Donald Gelling 0624 823482
- Richard E Quine (Queen?) 0624 897406
- Edgar S Mann 0624 861171
- Walter Gilbey 0624 851450
- David Cretney 0624 626765

