

SIX FOOT ROOMS
THEY'RE DIGGING A GRAVE FOR THE PEOPLE/ SO THEY CAN ALL LIVE IN IT/ AND WHEN I DIE I WANT MY OWN ROOM TO DIE IN/ THESE SMART MEN IN TROUSERS/ THE ROAD THEY'VE BUILT TEARS UP THE HOUSES/ TEARS UP THE HISTORY/ BUILDS UP THE MISERY/ TEARS UP THE COUNTRY/ SIDE/ RERACING THE MEMORY WITH GOVERNMENT POLICY/ HIGH RISE IN SUICIDE/ LESS PEOPLE UNEMPLOYED/ OH! HOW THE PEOPLE CRIO - BUT THEY GAVE ME A ROOM TO LIVE IN/ I QUESTION THE WAY YOUR EYEBROWS RISE/ CEILING BLOOMING OUT THE SKIES/ WALLS SO NEAT AROUND MY BED/ SIX FOOT SQUARE AND ROOM TO BRED/ DEEPER DOWN I HATE TO FEED/ UPON THE NOW SUBCON- SCIOUS NEED/ FOR MORE ROOM TO DIE IN/ IF YOU PLEASE/ OUTSIDE THE ROAD IS CLEAN AND WET/ A JOCKER FIRES AND GETS RUN DOWN/ OVERWORKED AND UNDERGOD/ RUNNING AWAY FROM IT ALL UPDOWN/ THE LIGHTS THAT BURN ELECTRIC BILLS/ THE HEADS IN OWENS SWALLOWING PILLS/ JUST ANOTHER 'SOCIAL ILL' / UP IN THE PILES OF SIX FOOT ROOMS/ ITS EASIER TO IGNORE THE GLOOM/ WITH THE TV LEISURE TREASURE, PLEASURE COMES IN WAVES YOU CAN- NOT MEASURE/ IN ONE EAR AND OUT THE OTHER/ IN ONE EYE AND THERE FOREVER/ LIKE THE DRINKING LIKE THE WEATHER/ LIKE THE ROOM THEY GAVE YOUR MOTHER/ LIKE THE COPS AND BRITISH TELECOM/ THERE TO BE RELIED UPON... FOREVER/ INDEPENDENT IN YOUR ROOM/ LIKE THE PEOPLE ABOVE AND BELOW/ BANGING THE FLOOR WITH THE END OF A BROOM/ LETS THEM KNOW YOU'RE SO AND- SO/ WHO'S GOT HIS PEACE AND WON'T LET GO/ THEY SAID YOU COULD MOVE BUT YOU SAID NO/ AFRAID THAT THE NEXT STEP WOULD BE DOWN/ TO THE HOUSING DEVELOPEMENT'S OUT OF TOWN/ WHERE THEY SAY THE WALLS ARE SO BLOODY THIN/ YOU CAN HEAR MR. SO- AND- SO BREAKING DOWN/ YOU JUST CAN'T WIN/ THEY'RE DIGGING A GRAVE FOR THE PEOPLE/ SO THEY CAN LIVE IN IT/ THEY'RE HOUSING THE PEOPLE IN COFFINS/ INTO WHICH THEY CAN BARELY FIT/ AND TO KEEP THE ILLUSION OF COMFORT/ THE STREETS ARE ALWAYS WELL- LIT/ SO THE TOURISTS CAN STAND AND TAKE PHOTOS/ WHILE YOU'RE INSIDE WITH NO ROOM TO SIT/ THEY'RE DIGGING A GRAVE FOR THE PEOPLE/ THEY'RE DIGGING A GRAVE FOR YOU

TEN PERCENT OFF
TEN PER CENT DISCOUNT IN THE STORE/ PERSUADES YOU TO BUY WHAT YOU CAN'T AFFORD/ WHAT YOU'D NEVER HAVE THOUGHT OF BUYING BEFORE/ YOU CALL IT A TREAT BUT THE MAN NEXT DOOR/ IS ONE POINT AHEAD IN THE STATUS WAR/ AND ITS TEN PER CENT OFF SO YOU BUY ONE MORE/ (CHORUS TEN PER CENT OFF! FREEDOM OF CHOICE! / ENDS IN THREE DAYS! / SO BUY WHILE YOU CAN! VARIETY PAYS! / HOLIDAYS CANCELLED TO GET TO THE SALE/ ITS THE LAST THREE DAYS - AND THE OLD ONE MIGHT FAIL/ IT DIDN'T LOOK TOO GOOD WHEN IT CAME IN THE MAIL - / SO LIKE A DOG IN A FRENZY YOU CHASE YOUR OWN TAIL/ YOU'RE ON THE RIGHT TRACK BUT YOUR BRAIN GETS DERAILLED/ AND HIS TASTE OF SUCCESS CAN QUICKLY TURN STALE. / (CHORUS) / TEN PER CENT OFF! - THAT'S WHAT IT SAYS/ IF YOU CAN'T AFFORD IT ASK FOR A RAISE/ ITS ALL AN INVEST- MENT OF COURSE NOT A WASTE/ MAKE YOUR MOUTH WATER YOUR EYES DOUBLE GLAZED/ FREEDOM BECOMES AN ASSET TO STEAL/ WITH THE 'TEN PERCENT OFF' TAG BEGINNING/ TO PEEL/ CHANGING ITS OWNERS WITH EACH SHADY DEAL/ COS THE PRICE OF REAL FREEDOM IS REALLY UNREAL/ THE REAL STUFF IS GUARAN- TEED COMES WITH A SEAL/ YEAH MAKE I GOT SOME -! - BUT ITS NOT FOR SALE

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT

THERE'S LOTS OF EMOTIONS INVOLVED IN YOUR ACTIONS/ SOLVING THE PROBLEM'S WAS NEVER SO HARD/ YOUR SELF-MOTIVATION GETS LOST IN CONFUSION/ THERE'S SO MANY THOUGHTS, YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START
WHY WAIT FOR AN ANSWER? YOU'VE ALREADY GOTTEN STOP THINKING YOU HAVE TO BE SOCIALLY STRONG/ LOOKING TO OTHERS IS JUST WHAT THEY'RE DOING/ COS NOBODY LIKES TO BE TOLD WHAT THEY'RE WRONG
MAKE UP YOUR OWN MIND DECIDE IF YOU HAVE TO/ WITHOUT THE OPINIONS OF THOSE YOU RESPECT/ IF THEY CANNOT LISTEN THEN DO IT WITHOUT THEM/ GIVE THEM SOLUTIONS THEY'VE NEVER EXPECT
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
TO DENY YOUR BELIEFS TO BE OPEN TO BE 'NORMAL' WILL ONLY DEMOLISH YOUR OWN SELF- ESTEEM/ IF YOU KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING YOU'RE HALF WAY TO KNOWING HOW ASY IT IS TO SAY JUST WHAT YOU MEAN
SILENCE IS GOLDEN BUT WON'T GET YOU ANYWHERE/ SPEAK OUT IN ANGER AGAINST ALL YOUR FEARS/ WIND UP THE VOICE PL IT CUTS THROUGH THE NOISE/ AND LET SOMEONE KNOW YOU'VE GOT THOUGHTS AND IDEAS
IF NOBODY LISTENS DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT/ YOU'RE SAFE IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT SOMEONE CARES/ IGNORE ALL THE LAUGHTER AND GET WHAT YOU'RE AFTER/ AND WHEN THEY STOP LAUGHING YOU'LL KNOW THAT YOU ARE HERE

TWENTY QUESTIONS

AM I AN ANIMAL? YES/ AM I ALIVE? YES/ AM I A CAT? NO/ AM I A FLY? NO/ AM I AN INSECT? NO/ AM I A DOG? NO/ AM I A RODENT? NO/ AM I A FROG? NO/ AM I VERY VERY BIG? NO/ AM I VERY VERY SMALL? NO/ HAVE I GOT FOUR LEGS? NO/ ANY LEGS AT ALL? YES/ AM I A SEAGULL? NO/ AM I A BIRD? NO/ WELL I CAN'T BE A FISH... NO/ THIS IS GETTING ABSURD! / AM I A HOUSEHOLD PET? NO/ DO I LIVE IN THE ZOO? NO/ DO I LIVE IN THE JUNGLE? NO/ CAN I HAVE A CLUE? NO! / AM I A HUMAN BEING? YES! WELL DONE! / IT WAS THE ONLY THING LEFT Y'KNOW? YEAH GREAT FUN! - BUT IT'S NOT OVER YET! YOU GOTTA GUESS WHICH ONE! / AM I INTO POLITICS? NO/ AM I ON TV? NO/ AM I REALLY FAMOUS? NO/ A PERSONALITY? NO/ AM I IN AUTHORITY? NO/ AM I IN CONTROL? NO/ DO I WORK IN A FACTORY? NO/ AM I VERY VERY OLD? NO/ DO KNOW WHO I AM? YES/ AM I IN THIS PLACE? YES/ AM I IN THIS CONVERSATION? YES/ IS THERE A SMILE ON MY FACE? YES! / HAVE I JUST REALISED THAT WE ARE ANIMALS TOO? YES/ DO I REGRET THE TORTURE OF CIRCUSES AND ZOOS? YES/ DO I CONDEMN THE HUNTERS? YES! / DO I CONDEMN THE BUTCHERS AND THE MURDERERS TOO? YES/ AM I OPPOSED TO VIOLENCE? YES/ IS THERE ANOTHER DIRECTION? YES/ WELL NOW I'VE GOT TWO ANSWERS/ BUT EITHER ONE WILL DO/ YOU SEE I KNEW IT COULD BE ME/ BUT NOW I KNOW IT COULD BE YOU!

PUNKS ON POSTCARDS

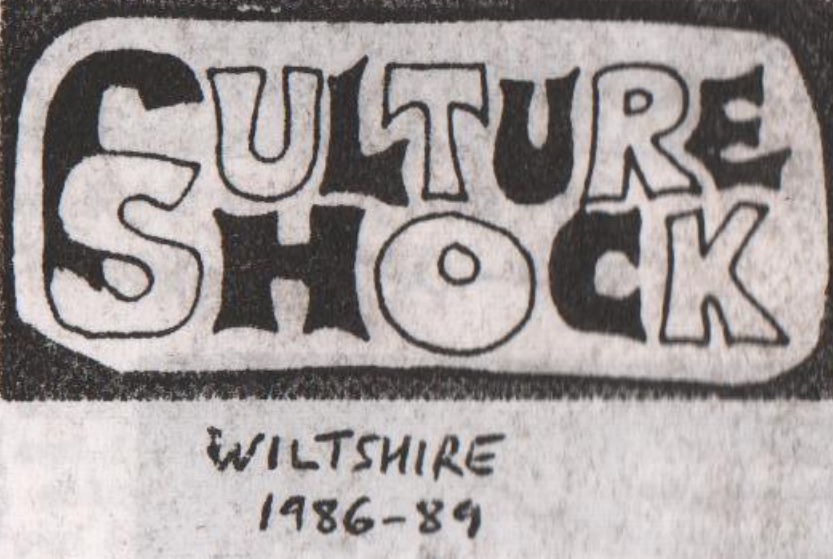
THEY PUT PUNKS ON POSTCARDS/ AND SELL 'EM TO THE TOURISTS/ OH DON'T THEY LOVE THE ENGLISH - SO ECCENTRIC! / THEY PUT COPS ON DUTY/ SMILING FOR THE CAMERAS/ 'THEY'RE WEARING FUNNY HATS' - SO TERRIFIC! / THEY PUT THE QUEEN ON STAMPS/ AND TV. EVERY CHRISTMAS/ LOOK AT ALL THE WAVING FLAGS - SO HISTORIC! / MOTHER'S ON THE PHONE/ SAYS SHE'S COMING HOME/ COS SOMEONE THREW A STONE THROUGH HER CADILLAC WINDOW/ THEY PUT PUNKS IN TAIL AND COPS ON OVERTIME/ KEEPING THE DIRT RIGHT UNDER THE CARPET/ GUARDING THE STORY THAT WE'RE ALL ECCENTRIC/ TOURISTS IN THE SHOW IS MONEY IN THE POCKET/ ITS QUANT AND ITS CURE BUT ITS FALSE AND ITS PLASTIC/ THE UNION JACK BOOT IS SO PATRIOTIC/ THEY'LL PUT YOUR NAME ON FILES/ TAPS ON YOUR TELEPHONE/ YOUR PICTURE ON A POSTCARD/ IF YOU REALLY NEED THE CASH/ THEY'LL MAKE YOU THE EPIPHONE/ OF WHAT THE TOURISTS LOVE TO SEE/ PACKAGED NON-CONFORMITY/ NOTHING MORE THAN TRASH

GO WILD (MY SON)

PINNING PICTURES ON THE WALLS/ RUNNING WHEN THE POSTMAN CALLS/ LEAVING ALL THE CHEMICALS TO KEEP YOU UNDER/ WATCH THE ADVERTS FORM YOUR VIEWS/ GET YOUR WAJES JOIN THE QUEUES/ SEE THE PEOPLE JUST LIKE YOU IT MAKES YOU WONDER/ IS YOUR MIND A PRISON? IS THIS HOW YOU EXIST? / AFRAID TO MAKE DECISIONS AFRAID TO TAKE THE RISK/ SOMETHING MUST BE MISSING AND YOU NOW KNOW WHAT IT IS/ EVERYTHING'S SO EASY BUT IT'S OH SO BORING/ TEARING PICTURES OFF THE WALLS/ WATCHING ALL THE HEROES FALL/ SPRAYING NEALAGE SOGANS ON THE WALLS AND CEILING/ TURNING OFF THE TV SCREENS/ FROM THE NIGHTMARE TO THE DREAM/ NO MORE SHROGS INSTEAD OF SCREAMS - KNOW THE FEELING? / WHEN THEY LAUGH AT YOUR CONVICTION/ WHEN THEY SAY YOU'RE FULL OF FICTION/ POINT OUT ALL THE CONTRADICTIONS THEY LIVE UNDER/ WHEN THEY SAY YOU NEED PRECISION/ STANDARDS MORALS DEFINITIONS/ SAY YOU JUST ESCAPED FROM PRISON AND WATCH THEM WONDER/ GET OUT OF YOUR PRISON/ ITS ONLY IN YOUR MIND/ ALL THE THINGS YOU'RE GIVEN ARE HERE TO MAKE YOU BOND/ RULES ARE TO BE BROKEN AND WALLS ARE TO BE CUMBED/ SO THROW AWAY YOUR VALUES AND LEAVE THEM ALL BEHIND! GO WILD, MY SON, GO WILD!

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

I WENT DOWN THE STREET/ IN THE CENTRE OF SOMEWHERE I LIVE/ AND SOMEONE WAS STANDING THERE, WATCHING ME/ EYES Averted SO I COULDN'T SEE - BUT I DID WANT TO PEOPLE TRY TO PRETEND TO BE SO UNIMRESSED? / THE EYES OF SOMEONE WHO RECOGNISE THE EMPTY SPACE THAT FILLS OUR EYES - UNLESS WE ASK FOR A MATCH. FUMBLE WITH PHRASES ASK FOR DIRECTIONS TO OBVIOUS PLACES/ BUT YOU'D FORGET THEM/ SO YOU LIVE HERE TOO? / PRIZE OUT THE ANSWERS
PRIZE OUT THE ANSWERS/ SWAP QUERIES AND GLANCES/ IT STARTS OFF A FRIENDSHIP AND EVEN ROMANCES/ AND IF YOU GET THE WORDS BACK IN YOUR FACE/ THEN YOU KNOW THAT THAT WAS NOT THE TIME, NOT THE PLACE/ NOT THE PERSON YOU MIGHT NEED TO FILL UP THAT BLANK SPACE.
BUT DON'T FORGET. IF YOU FEEL ON YOUR OWN/ THAT PERSON RIGHT NEXT TO YOU COULD FEEL THE SAME/ UNLESS OF COURSE THEY'RE DEPRESSED OR UNKNOWN/ UNTIL THEY'RE DISCOVERED. UNKNOWN THEY REMAIN/ THEY COULD BE BELLIGERENT BUT THEN AGAIN/ THEY COULD BE THE PERSON WHO NEEDS YOU AS A FRIEND
SOMETIMES YOU DESPISE YOURSELF. YOU ARE NOT ALONE/ EVERYONE NEEDS SOMEONE ELSE - YOU ARE NOT ALONE
AND SOMEONE OUT THERE IS NEEDING YOU/ AND TO HAVE SOMEBODY TO TALK TO/ JUST AS YOU ALWAYS WANT THEM TO DO/ YOU ARE NOT ALONE
SOMETIMES YOU DESPISE YOURSELF. YOU ARE NOT ALONE/ EVERYONE NEEDS SOMEONE ELSE - YOU ARE NOT ALONE



WILTSHIRE
1986-89

Nearly all your emotions are filtered through
Till nothing's as good as you'd like it to be
Till all expectations are tinged with despair
In the stagnant presumption that nothing can be
As good as it was in the books
The girl who lives up to the looks
The man who provides her a dream
And the glorious way it 'should' be

But forget it, "it won't ever happen" to you
If you're feeling down then they want you to
Up's the direction to glorify in
Consider the fact that most of your sins
Are parts of morality that died years ago
But continue existing till the alternative's known
'They', the big ones, the 'T.H.E.Y.'
The term we all use to pass ourselves by
Are barriers of silence to the ideas we preach
Till our slogans descend into figures of speech
So don't shout 'Fuck you!' if you don't like my choice
Try thinking of something that gives you a voice
Someone's ability to lead you along
Does not make him more than a writer of songs
But if you really want to sing it, then yeah! Sing along!
But don't think the end result is making you strong

DO WHAT YOU WANT WHEN YOU WANT IF YOU CAN
IT'S OH SO MUCH BETTER THAN HAVING IT PLANNED
IF COUNTRIES WERE RUN ON SPONTANEOUS THOUGHT
THEN MAYBE WE'D BASE THINGS ON LOVE A BIT MORE
THE FEELINGS YOU GET WHEN SOMEONE YOU KNOW
BUT HAD NEVER DARED SPEAK TO, COMES UP, SAYS 'HELLO'
WHEN SOMEHOW THE WHOLE WORLD EXISTS IN ONE KISS
AND YOU LONG FOR THE THINGS YOU SWEAR YOU'D NEVER MISS
GUT FEELINGS, THE STOMACH, THE HEAD SPINS AROUND
THERE'S SO MANY THINGS THAT WE DON'T TALK ABOUT -
IF I GAVE A LECTURE ON THE GLORY OF SEX
INSTEAD OF A LECTURE ON POLITICAL CRIMES
YOU'D GET RED AND EMBARRASSED AND SHUFFLE YOUR LEGS
AND THEY SAY THAT WE LIVE IN SPONTANEOUS TIMES

I'm told by 'superiors' we like it this way
Being told what to do in our lives day by day
Being ordered and disciplined is 'natural' they say
And if that's what you want you can hate me, OK
I don't expect less. It's the thought for the day
But you'll probably deny what you feel anyway
-And even deny your own self-denial!

At this point I'll stop or get bottled off stage
Or if it's down in a book you'll rip out a page
Pure hatred is good in a frightening way
It can help you let out what you're dying to say
Express what's inside in a momentary rage
From normal suppression it makes a good change

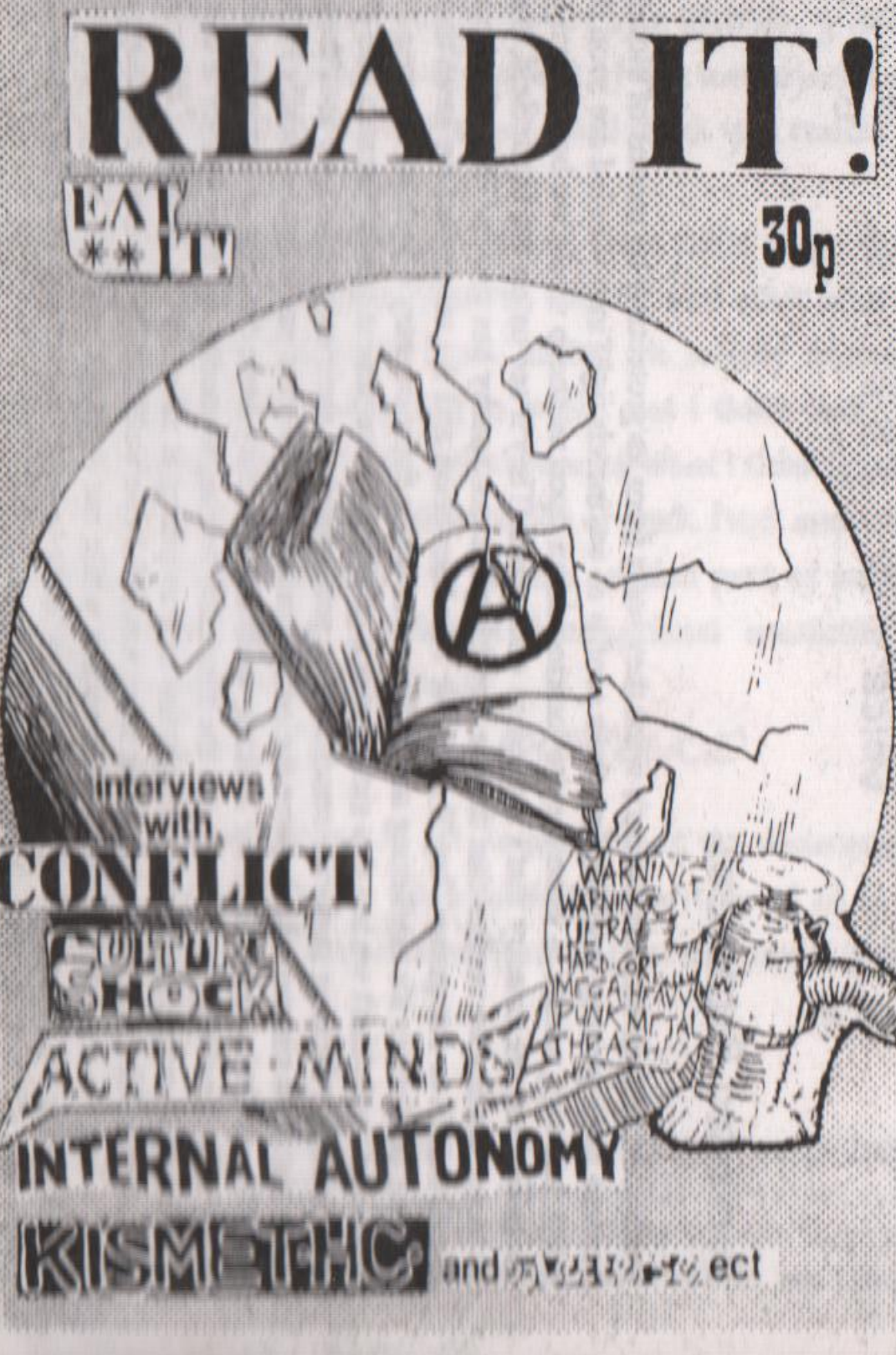
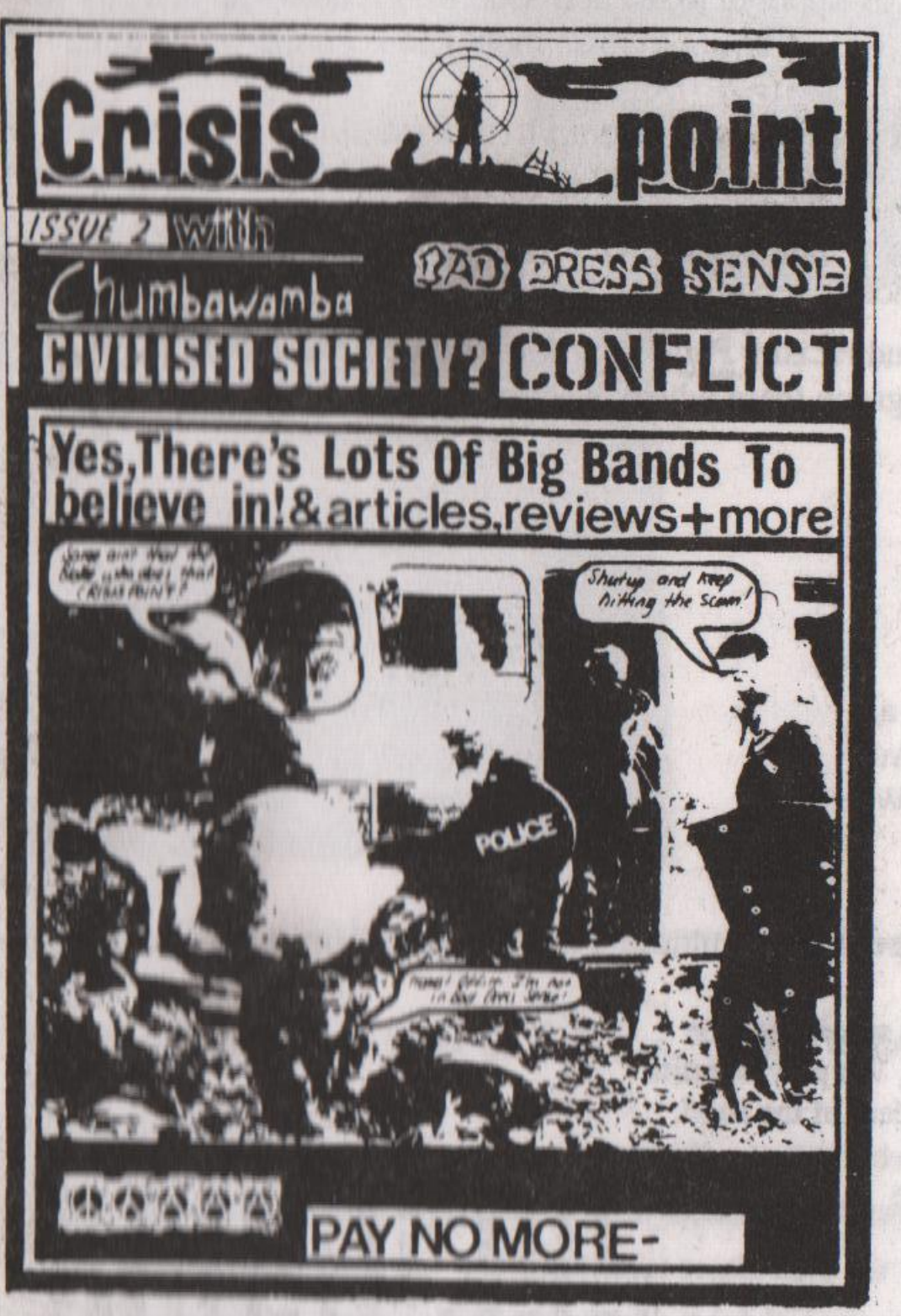
But pure love or anger should not be the factors
That tell us apart from the everyday actors
Who live out the roles they were given to play
And suppress all their feelings and try not to say
That they love it! It's beautiful!
It tears them apart!
Or they hate it! It's a bastard!
They don't know where to start
Try opening your mind and see what falls out
It's really amazing if you don't think about it
It - just go on Instinctive Spontaneity Drive
It's Reality Stop number 35!
Where they're queuing for miles to watch you survive
On the freedom of conscience that keeps you alive

There's not many people who like the idea
Of a life without freedom but they all live in fear
Of losing the minute amount that they've got
They say that they know who they are, but they're not
They're all individuals under the skin
'Born losers' we're told that no-one can win
'Born winners' created through money, not skill
This structure is sick. It's even making me ill
It rubs off on me, you can tell by these songs
But I want the other way. I think it's wrong!
Oh fuck it's all too much
It's all 'out of touch'
You're telling me. I can hear you, you see
I can see you hear but you cannot believe
Cos your concept of life lies in envy and greed
But just cos you want something don't mean you need
If you can hear and be conscious, the rest comes for free
To bring it to basics this life is a dream
And when you wake up you will see what I mean

Now! Slag this song!
Go on! Tell me I'm wrong!
Or tell me I'm right
Whatever you like
But please don't take so long
Or all the spontaneous thoughts will be gone



OI POLLOI ON SEX, DRONGOS & VIOLENCE
ALSO INSIDE: CHEAP PROPHECY OF DOOM SHAM 69 EVE OF THE SCREAM

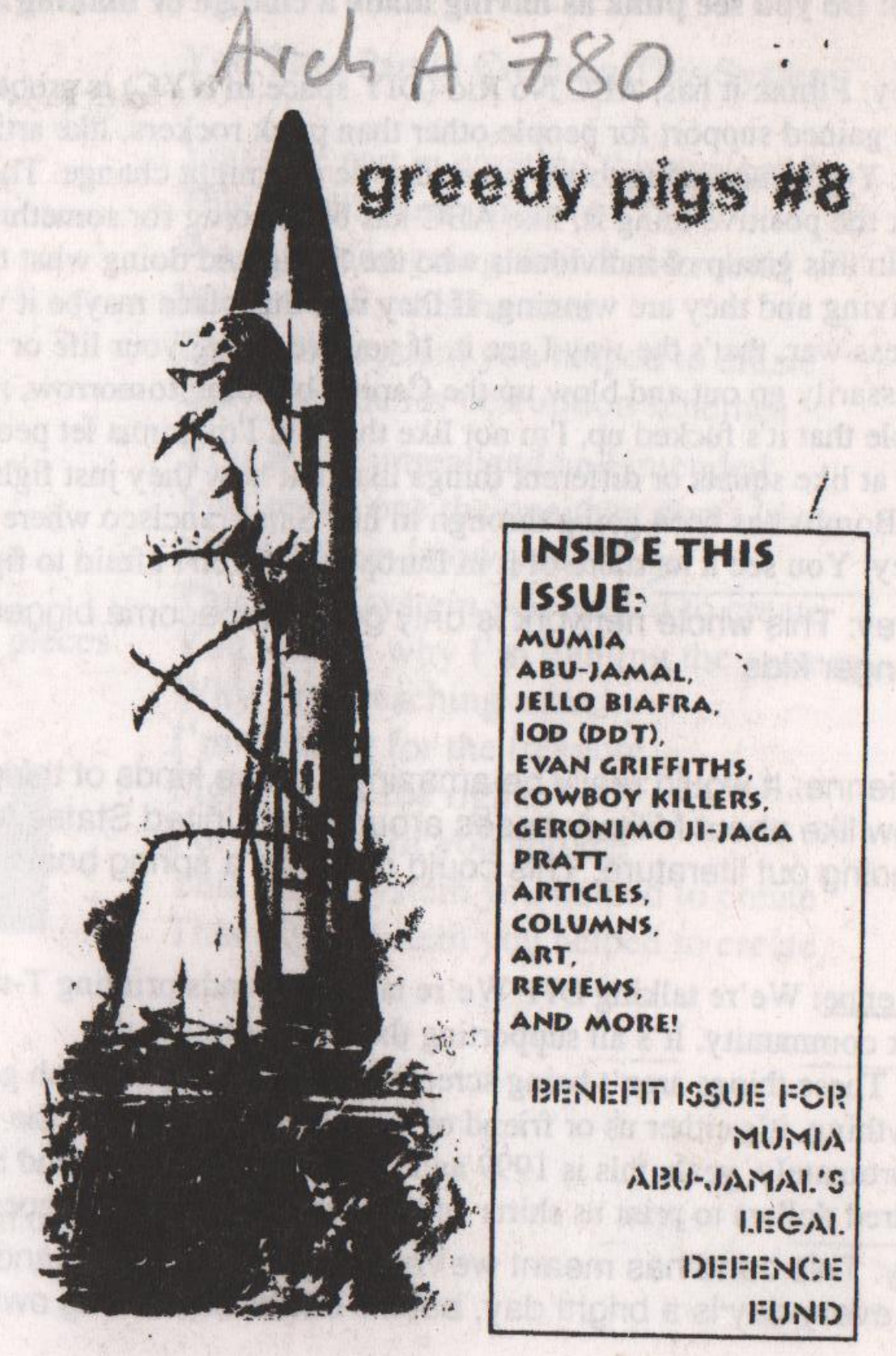


WINTER 2000 ISSUE No. 4 30p

IN DARKNESS, THERE IS NO CHOICE.



WAT TYLER ABUSIVE YOUTH
ICONS OF FILTH EBOLA
PORTLAND SCENE REPORT
RADICALS IN THE CIVIL WAR

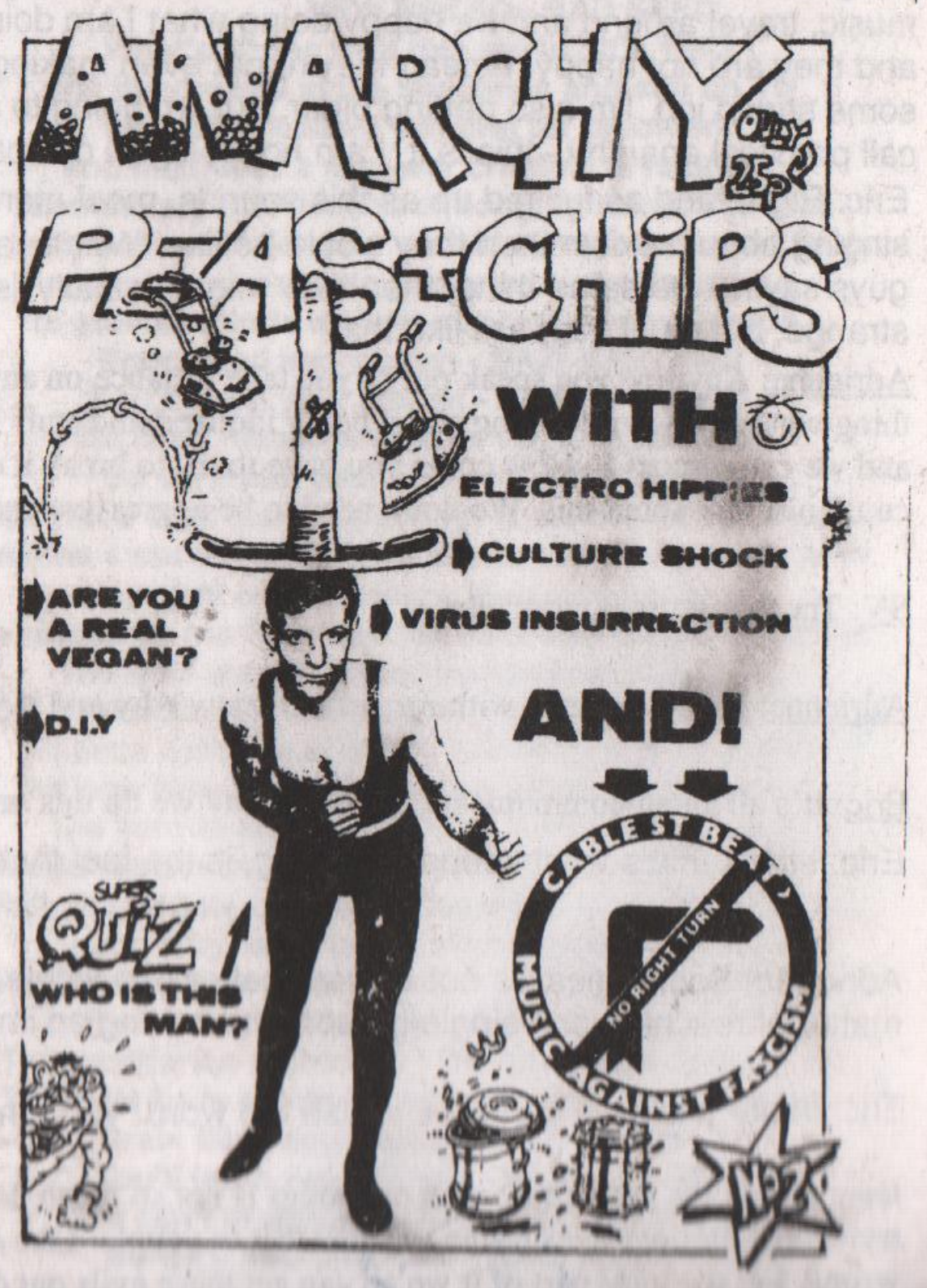


INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
MUMIA
ABU-JAMAL
JELLO BIAFRA
IOD (DDT)
EVAN GRIFFITHS
COWBOY KILLERS
GERONIMO II-JAGA
PRATT
ARTICLES
COLUMNS
ART
REVIEWS
AND MORE!
BENEFIT ISSUE FOR
MUMIA
ABU-JAMAL'S
LEGAL
DEFENCE
FUND

ANARCHO-PUNK
LYRICS
&
INTERVIEWS
VOL. 2
(1977-2003)



Bulgaria The CommonWeal Collection
HOUSING CO-OPS
MANIFESTO Jukebox
GENOA
Plus Reviews, News, and Views



FOS: Do you see punk as having made a change or making a change in the future?

Corey: I think it has, ABC No Rio (DIY space in NYC) is probably living proof of it. ABC's been on the rocks for how many years now and they have gained support for people other than punk rockers, like artists, all sorts of people.
Eric: You're not going to see some drastic overnight change. The governments aren't gonna fall tomorrow because of some Crass lyric you know? I think the positive thing is, like ABC has been going for something like 20 years now, it's practical anarchy is what I like to call it. You're living within this group of individuals who are living and doing what they want and they got something like ABC going and they are fighting for and it's surviving and they are winning. If they win this place maybe it will show the city of New York something. That's a small little battle, one in an endless war, that's the way I see it. If you are living your life or maybe inspiring other people to take a hold of their own lives, they don't have to necessarily go out and blow up the Capital building tomorrow, religions aren't going to end, racism unfortunately is not going to end but it teaches people that it's fucked up, I'm not like that and I'm gonna let people know I'm not like that, it takes time. You'll have small battles that you'll win, look at like squats or different things like that how they just fight and fight and fight and they finally win and they have their homes. Look at Food Not Bombs has been going through in like San Francisco where people are getting arrested and stuff. That's punk rock to me, that's anarchy to me. Corey: You see a lot more of it in Europe they aren't afraid to fight the police.

Corey: This whole network is only going to become bigger as far as activism and civil disobedience goes, especially among the younger kids

Adrienne: It would really be amazing if these kinds of things could be organized more regularly and about different issues as well. You know like about Military bases around the United States, or abortion clinics where people could take part in setting up defenses and handing out literature. This could really be a spring board for people to move forward from.

Adrienne: We're talking DIY We're talking friends printing T-shirts, friends making the mugs, friends putting out the records. It all stays within the punk community, It's all supporting the punk community.
Eric: These things aren't being screened up by some poor slob getting getting \$4.50 an hour in some crap factory. When we do shirts, patches, everything, it's either us or friend or ours who's involved in the punk scene doing it. Like Adrienne said, it keeps our community together. Unfortunately, yeah, this is 1999 and money is still needed and it keeps the money within the punk scene. If we can pay a friend a couple of hundred dollars to print us shirts and that couple of hundred goes to pay his rent, that's brilliant.

Cory: This band has meant we've always been living hand to mouth. We've all been doing this for quite a while and I'm not tired of it. Not every day is a bright day, but it's better than being owned by corporations.

PE: It's been a worthwhile sacrifice?

Eric: I wouldn't even say that, because what have I sacrificed? Job security? The American Dream? I haven't sacrificed shit!

SV: Tell me about Primate Freedom tour, what it's all about, what you hope to accomplish with it.

Dave: It's going to all the primate resource centers in the country and it's basically trying to raise a lot of awareness about animal testing in this country, draw a lot of attention to it. It's mostly ignored. We're going on it, as a band, to help fund it, help keep the tour going. Other bands like Anti-Product and Oi Polloi are also going. The bands basically keep playing every night, as opposed to the activists, who'll be set up in a city for 4 or 5 nights, doing teach-ins and demonstrations. We'll keep moving and play every night to keep trying to raise money to keep the whole thing going.

Eric: Our job was to fund it financially and to let people know what is going on and why we were doing this particular show and why we were touring. We were basically getting information out to people at the shows so they could go out and check out the actual protests.

Eric: I consider myself an anarchist I guess for lack of a better term. Like I said before, I consider myself a practical anarchist. When I think of anarchism I think of living your life as free as possible living your life without influence or relying upon the State and stuff like that.

Eric: I think my personal fight for a long time and it may be even stronger now is nazis and racism. Pat: I'm new to the city. I'm still trying to get involved with a bunch of organisations like Food Not Bombs, there's a Zapatista alliance group there which is actually doing stuff.

FOS: Corey, you were just smoking a cigarette, isn't that one of the worst corporate addictions?

Corey: Oh yeah.
Eric: He knows it.
Corey: It's just like how did we get here? We flew on a jet. I do what I can but it's like, we all put gas in our cars, we're all supporting the oil industry. I have to do it, I work, I drive a delivery van, I have to put gas in my vehicle. Yeah I'm just as guilty but I do what I can.
Eric: We have a new song and we'll be playing it tonite and it deals with that. We all know all the corporations are all this and that and we know all the evils of the world and you just have to basically do what you can to avoid them, we are all guilty. We don't want people to... People look at Aus Rotten and are like "these guys are probably saints", they have these lyrics that say oh don't buy this, don't do that and 90 percent of it we don't. We all have our vices and our crutches or whatever you call it, he might smoke for now. I'm drinking coffee and I'm sure some poor soul got fucked over when he picked the coffee seeds. It's not an excuse to copout, it's not an excuse to be lazy.

Music is a good medium to get your ideas across because everybody can enjoy it- it's entertainment. People are more likely to listen to music or sit down and read a book or go to a meeting. I think it is a good medium to expose people to new ideas and what is going on, it might spark an interest and they might go and do other things too.

Eric: It's a very good way to express my views. It's a really fucked up world and every day there is another new "ill" of society or the world. Our job simply isn't done because we still have a lot to say and a lot to complain about. Also I see this as being a part of an alternative lifestyle. I would rather do this with my life than put on a suit and tie and work. Not saying that every day is like this [laughter from all in/around the hot tub!] We're not living high on the hog by any means, but I would much rather live this lifestyle, play music, travel around and be happy doing what I am doing. So many of my friends and family have just gone out and gotten crap jobs and they are not happy. I mean they're not even making any money really - they've just dedicated their lives to a corporation doing some stupid job. I'm also getting older, but I'm going to dedicate myself to doing this, at least while I still can. I see this as what I like to call practical anarchy - this is it. I am not going to dedicate my life to my country or my job or any bullshit like that.

Eric: Right, and as fucked up as this sounds, most men would rather listen to other men than women. If there's a woman up there singing about sexism then they would be like "Whatever, it's a woman's issue, blah, blah" and might laugh it off. But if they see other guys saying the same thing, then they might actually listen and say "hey wait a minute?" I don't necessarily agree with that and it's a strange, but most men are like that.

Adrienne: Anytime you speak out or you take a stance on anything, people see that as their chance to shoot you down and it goes back to the whole thing where you were talking about being idolized and stuff like that. It's like, how come it's not just my opinion and you have a different opinion and we can discuss it. How come you have to try to break it down or break me down? I'm not on elevated level but you need to tear me down. We could just talk about this. We don't need to be aggressive and violent and all that.

SV: Try to discuss it rationally.

Adrienne: If you disagree with me, let me know why and if you're valid, you might change my opinion. I'm totally open to that.

Eric: It's all about communication. That's why we do this music.

Eric: I think that's what keeps me going, is the fact that people don't listen, so I'm going to keep telling them.

Adrienne: Sometimes it's not an even matter of a whole group of people saying "Yes, you're right about that issue." Its sometimes just a matter of reaching one single person and having an impact on them, then it's worth it.

Eric: In our lyrics we don't like to use the word "you." Instead we like to say "we," because we're all to blame, everyone here included.

Eric: I think the main thing with our songs is not so much do this or you're wrong, it's like look we see this as fucked up, we as individuals are trying to better our lives trying to show that to people. Like look, this is what's wrong, we all know, we all agree that this is wrong and that is wrong. For the most part of it we all can get these evils out of our life, evil for lack of a better term.

On the intro clips to the greatest hits album there is someone talking about that failures of nonviolence as a strategy. How do you all stand on the politics on non-violence? Can violence be useful in certain situations?

I'm not going to put down pacifists - people who live their lives like that, its really good. Obviously if we had more pacifists in the world, we wouldn't have the problems that we do. But I think that things are so far gone in this country that I don't believe that things will ever be changed peacefully. Even pacifists come down to some point where you are going to have to defend yourself if you want to exist. Even a pacifist shouldn't go willingly to a beating or to be killed by an oppressive force. There are ways living your life as a pacifist that are great, but when you are dealing with force - in this country, at this time, I don't think its very realistic.

'SNOTRAG'

'PROFANE EXISTENCE'

Corey: We support the punk rock culture. You won't find bar codes on our stuff.

We are really more interested in the message that we spread. It's the main focus of the band, so we're not out to make make money of it. We play benefits all the time, whenever we can and not worry about the financial aspect of the band.

'SUGARBAN VOICE'

Perverted Patriotism:

Protection of their sick obsession's what they want from us/protection by means of bloody wars become their greatest lust! Tripling their profits as we march right into war/led are soon dead soldiers never knowing what's in store/they're looking down upon us sleep while we bow down to them/we die defending the country that's fucked us once again/They'll see us on the battlefield, they'll watch us in our homes/we realize that they're watching but our apathy has grown/They champion the living they'll march to our grave/They'll miss our blind devotion and the taxes that we gave/this isn't fucking patriotism it's marketing and selling war/while these country's fucking morons only yearn for more and more/can't see this sickness is a goddamn government game/vietnam and desert storm were both the fucking same/the conditioning propaganda is their most effective tool/they control these sightless masses who believe the people will/think they have the masses brainwashed "we're so lucky to be free"/they won't remove the blindfold fearing someday we may see/for if the people see the truth they might send up and fight/the rich avoiding at all costs the danger of this sight/so kick back and fulfill their needs and thank their watchful eye/we'll finally have our freedom underneath them when we die/we sing about our freedom while our lives are sold and bought/we sit and count our blessings while our fallen "heroes" rot/so listen to your leaders and pray that jesus saves/cause it seems that all they do, they do for fucking graves

ANOTHER STRUGGLE
TRY TO BUILD A BETTER LIFE AS WE WADE THROUGH SHIT
PEEL DEJECTION KILL YOUR PRIDE- CAN YOU HANDLE IT?
NOW DENIED YOUR SPIRIT DIES AND THE FRUSTRA-TION BUILDS
THROUGH IT'S NOT EASY FOR PEOPLE TO SEE,
THERE IS A WAY TO TRULY BE FREE
THROUGH COMMUNICATION AND SHOWING WE CARE,
THERE'S HOPE THEY'LL SEE WHAT'S ALREADY THERE.
BECAUSE THEIR EYES ARE OPEN AND THEIR MINDS ARE CLOSED
TO A LIFE OF HATE WHERE NO ONE KNOWS WHY THIS SHIT REMAINS THE SAME AND ITS OBVIOUS
TO SEE WE NEED A CHANGE.

DECEASED
CONNECTICUT
1992-94

MR. GLOOMY (THE GARDENER)
SEEMS OUR LIVES ARE WELL MAINTAINED
KEPT IN ORDER OR OTHERWISE RESTRAINED
AS WE LIVE BY THESE RULES WE'RE BEING MOWED DOWN AS THEY GROW

ALLOW THEM TO FLOURISH THEY'LL TAKE WHAT THEY CAN
THEIR ROOTS EXTEND HOW MUCH CAN THE WEEDS STAND
CAN WE STRANGLE THEM OUT OR
AT LEAST STAND AND MAINTAIN OUR GROUND

YOU CAN LIVE IN THEIR GARDEN
TO BE PICKED LIKE A WEED
AND THE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS
ARE PREDETERMINED TO SUCCEED

WHERE THEY GROW SO TALL
DEPRIVING US OF HEIGHT
AND WE ARE WATERED DOWN
DROWNING IN THEIR LIES
LIFE?
RISE

15.) Is punk even relevant in the 90's? Is it a 'lifestyle' or social movement?

Steffe: Ah, tricky questions... I'm not even sure if I'm very relevant in the '90-ties, but as long as people finds confidence and strength in punk music and ideology, as long as it gives people hope for the future and power to continued struggle, then I think it's relevant. I think when you're young then it's more of a lifestyle, y'know, teenage rebellion and Exploited on the back of you leatherjacket and so on, but if you stick with it for a while I think you realize it's more to it than that. Right?
Martin: Fuck Exploited. Well, as long as there exists people that's not satisfied with oppression, slavery, murder and other injustices punk is definitely relevant. Punk unites! Me myself discovered anarchy when I started listening to punk, and I think that's the case for very many anarchists. Punk educates! What I think is wrong right now is the growing de-politization of punk. Punk and politics are inseparable. We must try to get the political part of punk to grow stronger again. I think a international newsletter or something might be a good idea!

'PROFANE EXISTENCE'

We believed then, as we do now, that the underground D.I.Y. movement is maybe the mightiest cornerstone of all in the world of punkrock, it's what nourishes the scene and makes it grow creative and strong.

Yes I think anarchism and Marxism is compatible. Me personally I build almost all of my personal idealistic system upon Marx ideas of dialectics and studies of the capitalism system but the society that I want to create is more of an "anarchistic" type. I do NOT share any view with any of the prevois "communist" countries and I don't consider them to ever have been communistic only totalitarian dictatorships. And last, yes I proclaim a revolution wich I think is the only way to really change anything.

I Won't Subscribe

Kept in line with rifle butts and truncheons
Beaten up behind closed doors
I won't subscribe to the system
The hands that tighten around my throat

Drunk with Power

For how long do we tolerate these fools drunk with power
Drunk with power obsessed with death
Death and destruction drunk with power
A giant game of chess they play with you and I as the disposable pieces

DISCHARGE
STOKE
1980 - 82

Protest and Survive

The savage mutilation of the human race is set on course
Protest and survive
Protest and survive
It is up to us to change that course
Protest and survive
Protest and survive

PAILHEAD
USA
1988

Don't Stand In Line

Speak your piece, speak your mind
Leave no points undefined
We may be undermined
Numbers assigned and then confined
They will try to realign
And get us to leave our thoughts behind
You want your message to shine?

Don't stand in line

One song "Peaceful Protest (Chicken Bastards)" advocates taking up arms against the capitalist system. At our current place in history, do you think there is a real possibility of building a militant resistance that can take "military" action against the cops and the military who will surely guard the capitalist system and state with their lives? Is this a legitimate call to arms or a foolish pipe-dream?
Martin: That song is about those who cannot realize that sooner or later violence has to be used. The shift to an anti-authorital, just, equal and peaceful society cannot be done by totally peaceful methods. I don't say that the time is right for revolution now, but it's totally wrong to dismiss violence as a means to an end. It's a call to awakening to the "peace-punks" who, as long as only thinking only in their make-love-not-war style, will not make a serious threat to the system. The revolution, or shift of ideals in society, will not come without resistance from the bourgeois, and that resistance will not be non-violent. We have to defend ourselves as well as the revolution.

DISKONTO
SWEDEN
1994 - DATE

You Take Part in Creating This System

You take part in creating this system
That we all must suffer in
We can't stop going round and round
We got to fix this rat race
This is the system you helped to create
They use you for corruption schemes

You're the unrealized and intended
You're the one the one they don't like
You let them know your fears
This is the system you helped to create
You ask me why I'm fighting the system
Why I'm preaching anarchy
I'm fighting for the freedom
Fighting for the rights
For the likes of you and me
This is the system you helped to create
This is the system you helped to create

I Will Refuse.

Born as a blank page
We must pick and choose
Our destinations and
The paths we'll use
What we say is sacred
What will be abused
It's no wonder
The world is confused
Murder and weather
Is our only news
I will refuse!

Your offer is tempting
But it's not what it seems
You take advantage
Of everyone else's dreams
You create the perfect picture
By dressing up the scene
Trust our hopes and lives
To your death machines
Your point is not well taken
Because that's not what it means
I will refuse!

Sedition
GLASGOW
1991-94

NEW BREED - BAD SEED
What's wrong with this world? It's 1993 and they're still in the headlines and still on TV
With KKK leaders running for president and next door a nazi-war criminal is resident
Then there's BNP tactics of hanging round schools to brainwash children and mould them into fascist fools spreading racial hate, violence and aggression to guillotine minds with no concept of oppression.
Brain dead aggression - NAZI BASTARD
You'll learn your lesson - NAZI BASTARD
We can't reason with hate - NAZI BASTARD
So we'll seal your fate - NAZI BASTARD
Adolf Hitler took the swastika, an ancient symbol of peace and the 4 sacred directions, north, south, west and east
A symbol our ancestors taught us to revere he placed on his flags and banners and taught us to fear
The BNP are similar in the symbols they steal the Celtic Cross and Native American Medicine Wheel
All once symbols of man's harmony with the earth but now have become badges of hatred and death.
The vermin are now forming International Links a united fascist thug brigade - don't that make you think? While the targets of their hatred sit in blind complacency each lefty, each punk, each ethnic 'minority' strengthen their own ghettos thinking that's how to survive is that what the Warsaw Jews thought in 1945? The totalitarian nightmare? We ain't seen nothing yet
We must form a united front to crush the nazi threat.
Brain dead aggression - NAZI BASTARD
You'll learn your lesson - NAZI BASTARD
We can't reason with hate - NAZI BASTARD
So we'll seal your fate - NAZI BASTARD

Since his days as an adolescent ice-cream technician, MacKaye has lived out a simple yet revolutionary philosophy of dedication to community in art and ideology. Dischord buys advertising in fanzines that may only reach 30 people. MacKaye and his fellow Dischordites reply to all correspondence. Fugazi have more crowd-drawing power in every corner of the globe than many of today's multinational-backed rock bands, yet the group actively seeks out small, independent concert promoters. At every opportunity, whether it's providing healthcare coverage for Dischord employees or playing benefit concerts for local charities, MacKaye reinvests in community.

I was just involved with helping these inner-city kids put out a CD doing poetry and rapping and stuff. They started their own label and I kind of helped with all that. There's a building that was bought by an organization that does outreach work for shut-ins or elderly people who are impoverished and I'm involved with that.

When I think about the community in the punk scene I don't think about the bands and gigs. Music is a currency that a community trades. The punk scene, I think, is not all white boys. It's all kinds of people and when I think about the hangs, which is really what's happening, it's sitting on the curb outside of the gig or being at a restaurant with a bunch of people, or going or sitting or talking somewhere - the fanzines - all the other stuff that's going on around it, that, in fact, is the scene. The music is just a fire to gather around.

There are so many people doing such good work in this world that people never know about, people who are working at youth centers and hospitals and homeless shelters, people who are doing outreach work, people who are doing all kinds of good stuff. These people aren't on any records, but they are lynchpins of this community, people who grew up here, and they've said to me, "Well, Dischord has been a big part of our inspiration." And I'm like, "Well, fuck, man. You guys have been a big part of mine!"

"Smallpox Champion"

Smallpox champion u s of a
Give natives some blankets
Warm like the grave
This is the pattern cut from the cloth
This is the pattern designed to take you right out
This is the frontier with winter's so cold
Greed informs action where action makes bold
To take all the cotton that's cut from the stalk
Weave the disease that's gonna take you right out
What is good for the future what was good for the past -
Won't last
Bury your heart u s of a history rears up to spit in your face
You saw what you wanted
You took what you saw
We know how you got it
Your method equals wipe out
The end of the frontier and all that you own
Under the blankets of all that you've done
Memory serves us to serve you
Yet memory serves us to never let you wipe out
Cha-cha-cha-champion
You'll get yours
Wipe out

KYE0
by Fugazi

The troops are quiet tonight,
But it's not alright, because we know they're planning something.
Don't you know things have settled down, down, down
But silence is a dangerous sound,
We must, we must, we must keep our eyes open,
See what we see, what once was promised now will be.
Still uncertain?
Get off that hang, don't wait for the bang,
The tools, they will be swinging,
But we will not be beaten down.

police routinely refer to the people in this country as "civilians". Which, of course is wrong, police are in fact civilians. There's the military, and then the police who are the civilian security force. But when you see the police start referring to people as civilians, you can see that they've been militarized. And they've been militarized anyway - they've been armed to the teeth, by and large by this absurd so-called "war" on drugs, which is a bunch of bull shit. So, yeah, I'm not a big fan of the cops, is that your question? But if you look at my lyrics, you don't see me saying things like "fuck the cops" or "shoot the cops". That's not my thing. That's not my style. See, I don't hate humans, I actually love humans. I hate the habits of humans. I hate the habits of the police—they're the ones with the guns—this is always going to be the way. And it's discouraging, because it makes them always right. And, of course, they have the entire legal system behind them... The damn police man, they're a pain in the ass.

My principles are not based on hatred; it's not about hating. I don't hate things. It's not that I'm out to smash the state. I'm just interested in building my own damn state.

See I'm opposed to war period. So, people say to me "so, was there ever a right war" - No. But, was it ever necessary to fight - yeah, it sure is. If you came at me with a knife I would definitely try to beat your fucking ass. Is it okay - no. Is it necessary - yes. I'm opposed to war.

Those who are pro-war generally end up dead. If they don't end up dead physically, they end up dead spiritually."

ST: Fugazi has always seemed to write songs for the dispossessed. And now, especially with the War on Terrorism, do you feel that the pendulum is swinging away from vacuous pop to the more political music like yours. Is it due for a resurgence?
GP: Well, I don't think it's ever not due. I think there's always a call for people who are bucking the norm. But I don't expect it to happen now because I think that more than ever the entertainment industry is trying to serve as a distraction, to keep people from thinking too hard.
authority in America is completely out of balance. We had an anti-globalisation protest here in Washington DC last week that was insane. Two windows were broken, yet 600 people were arrested. You figure it out."
I've always felt like there's been a disconnect between the voters and the people who run the country, but lately the gulf is getting so extreme, it's like they have complete contempt for ordinary people. What we're witnessing is explicitly true class warfare from the top down. This war is absolutely insane. So are all the weird civil rights cutbacks that have been going on. You look at our government and all the way down, on every single level, something's wrong. But hopefully something good will come out of it; maybe, it'll re-energize people so they'll get involved and active in political protest.
ST: So do you think the multinational corporation's secret is out or are people just waiting to go shopping again?
GP: I think the thing is that there was really an amazing anti-globalization movement that was coming together, raising a lot of intense questions about the way global economy works. And it was gathering a lot of momentum, and was one of the more optimistic things to happen in a very long time. But in the wake of the 9/11 attacks, it's come to be seen as disruptive. But I think the issues it was raising aren't going anywhere; that stuff is still true. It's going to have to be dealt with sometime, particularly now that we're finally admitting to a recession.

FUGAZI

WASHINGTON D.C.
1987 - DATE

I never was interested in having a career of any sort. That represented part of the sort of fraudulent life that I didn't really believe in. I just thought that people were supposed to live, and you should do what you either want or need to do.

I wanted to become a part of a community that challenged all these conventional things, because by challenging conventional things, hopefully, you could blow the whole damn thing wide open, and it would create a situation where people would work for other people and not just themselves.

When I first wanted to play music, I thought I'd never get to, because it seemed like music—and the whole industry surrounding it—was really for professionals only. And therefore, there's no point in me even trying. And punk rock was... I first started hearing about it in 1978 or '79, and it was like I had discovered this portal, this small window into a world that I knew must exist but could never find. And suddenly, here it was: this place where you could explore all sorts of unconventional ideas and approaches.

as I entered the underground, I saw new challenges. People were challenging basic ideas of philosophy, sexuality, theology and politics. I just thought "this is what I want, people who question the conventions of life". Because, I think the conventions of life in this country are perverse. I was so happy to find a community where it was ok to challenge those things.

"In my mind that era was a very significant era for music. With people booking their own shows and starting their own labels, there was a whole infrastructure that was not only outside the industry but almost in spite of the industry. People were committed to doing things for a different reason than profit, for community reasons, for the desire to be part of a true counterculture."

Who cares whether or not America recognizes your work or not? Who gives a fuck? It doesn't make any difference. Look at the people whose work America recognizes. Is that really the company you wanna keep? Like, am I really that psyched to be honored by the same country that is trying to put Ronald Reagan's name on every surface in the country? I don't give a damn about it, y'know? I recognize myself as a part of a population of people who see life in different terms, and that's where I feel comfortable being, existing

when I first got into punk rock, I was desperately trying to find something that was not part of the mainstream. That's what drew me to punk rock; it was a free space; it was an area where people could challenge conventional thinking on all levels, modes, styles, philosophies, religions, everything. It was okay to do that. It was also a place where profit was not the number one agenda, so therefore people could present new ideas. This is a real problem with the way the industry is trying to structure things right now. They're trying to put their toll booth on every road to get paid. The problem is, if profit is always mandatory then no new ideas can ever be promoted, because new ideas are not profitable—because they're new. Nobody will come see them because they don't know they exist! You need to have a place where people are interested in the creation of things, and are willing to open their minds at least a little bit, so that people can present new ideas.

Burning Too

Anytime but now
Anywhere but here
Anyone but me
I've got to think about my own life

We are consumed by society
We are obsessed with variety
We are all filled with anxiety
That this world will not survive

We gotta put it out
The sky is burning
We gotta put it out
The water's burning
We gotta put it out
The earth is burning

Outrage
But then they say...

Anytime but now
Anywhere but here
Anyone but me
I've got to think about my own life

The world is not our facility
We have a responsibility
To use all of our abilities
To keep this place alive

We gotta put it out
The sky is burning
We gotta put it out
The water's burning
We gotta put it out
The earth is burning

Right here
Right now
Do it. Now. Do it.

CASHOUT on the morning of the first eviction they carried out the wishes of the landlord and his son furniture's out on the sidewalk next to the family that little piggie went to market, so they're kicking out everyone talking about process and dismissal forced removal of the people on the corner shelter and location everybody wants somewhere the elected are such willing partners look who's buying all their tickets to the game development wants, development gets it's official development wants this neighborhood gone so the city just wants the same talking about process and dismissal forced removal of the people on the corner shelter and location everybody wants somewhere everybody wants somewhere process and dismissal shelter and location everybody wants somewhere everybody wants somewhere

"When Two Men Kiss"

When two men kiss
Walk hand in hand
The fear of what
You don't understand
Explodes into violence
Screams break the silence
"The guy was a poof"
"The guy was queer"
Dehumanised
And living in fear
No, you're not thick
And you say they're sick
But the only sickness
I can see
Is the cancer of bigotry
What kind of society do we live in where the simple act of showing love and affection towards another human being results in this kind of sickening murderous violence? Intolerance, bigotry and hate - I say it's time to stop.
From nazi boneheads to Bad Brains - Warped attitudes that we must change and it's not just homophobia - Rampant sexism, macho dancing, beating of women - All this is rife within the "scene" - often closer to home than we care to acknowledge. It's time to stop sweeping things under the carpet - Confront the problems - And act.

DO YOU SOMETIMES FEEL YOU ARE PREACHING TO THE CONVERTED?

NOT when we do a song like 'When Two Men Kiss' and get stuff thrown at us and folk talking about 'bloody poofs' or when we play 'You Cough They Profit' to a room full of smoking idiots - or when we play one of our 'Gaelic' songs and get arseholes shouting 'Nationalist shit' back at us - or even when we play an anti-facist number like 'Bash The Fash' and then find ourselves banned by the gig-organising collective for 'abusing our position on stage to incite violence.' There's still plenty of folk in need of conversion.

Reach For The Light

Go!
I don't want to live in a world of hate
Oppression and restriction control by the state
And I don't want to live in a world of war
Exploitation and divisions between rich and poor
I just want to live life just want to be free
Is it too much to ask for a world of peace?

SO WE TRY TO CREATE AN ALTERNATIVE
WE LOOK TO PUNK AS A WAY TO LIVE
WE TRY TO CARE AND HELP ONE ANOTHER
YOU ARE MY SISTER YOU ARE MY BROTHER

But it seems to me that something's gone wrong
'Cos all too often the togetherness is gone
They keep us down when they keep us apart
If they can do that then they've won from the start

All around me I see fighting when we should be uniting
We've got to put a stop to this senseless back-biting
I see isolation - leads to anger and frustration
When the way forward surely lies in more communication
It lies in more caring it lies in more sharing
It lies in the removal of the masks that we're all wearing
We've got to realise and combine the strength within each of us
We've got to come together but have we only got the sus?
To unite - fight - together we can reach the light

FROM THE MIDST OF THE DARKNESS I REACH FOR THE LIGHT

- No, we never look to the state to provide answers to problems so of course we're not looking for more laws. Laws, which would of course, as on every other occasion in history, have a habit of being used far more rigourously against the anti-fascists than the fascists themselves once they came into force - see 1930's Britain for example.

- Anyone who's interested in Communism should read about what the bastards got up to in the Spanish Civil War and how they put down the Kronstadt uprising in the Russian Civil War - quite a sickening tale.

As to promoting violence, we're quite happy to promote it's use in the specific and very limited circumstances in which we advocate it. Indeed when a bunch of tooled-up nazi skinheads attack your concert, info-shop, demo or whatever you would have to be pretty stupid to think that you can stop them with pacifism, so I think we've a duty to promote physical self-defence in these contexts so that some naive people don't get beaten up because they've been taken in by some ill-thought out pacifist ideas. As of questions of who is more 'evil' I think that's immaterial. The important thing is to look towards our long term goals and realise what is TACTICALLY the best thing to do to achieve those goals. Thus, while someone who knows all the facts about the meat industry and yet still eats meat is obviously a fucking arsehole who I'd be quite happy to see getting a kicking, I don't see how TACTICALLY that would advance the cause of veganism and animal liberation at all. ~~It may advance the cause of animal liberation but it won't advance the cause of veganism~~ Economical damage to animal abusers - going hand in hand with information and education campaigns - is the way forward.

No More Roads

Swarming over the fence in droves
We're gonna stop this road
Handcuffed to the machinery
In defence of beautiful greenery
People come from far and near
To stop the road right here
Earthmovers trashed in the dead of night
It's time to stand up and fight

Reclaim the streets
Reclaim the land
No more roads
It's in your hands

Lying down in front of the bulldozer
A courageous young girl shows her
Determination to see it through
An inspiration to me and you
To stop this road to destruction
Put and end to motorway construction
From Kernow up to Caledonia
In the spirit of Wastonia

No more roads - cars kill
No more roads - make you ill
No more roads - cars kill

"Thin Green Line"

So here we are - a thin green line
Into the nineties, running out of time
Extinction of our planet has already begun but don't let them tell you nothing can be done
Some of us are angry & fighting back
Non-violent direct action is a means of attack
No, we're not giving up with...
No nuclear plant here - we're going to trash the site

Gotta be honest, gotta be blunt
If we really want to stop them we've got to sab the hunt
Smash that bulldozer, watch the flames go higher
Pull the plug & cut the wire
We get beaten up & sent to jail
But I don't care if that's what it takes to save the whales
Save our Earth, save the wilderness land
Are you for us or against us? Time to make your stand

See that whaling vessel sinking into brine
Taken out by a limpet mine
See those trees standing so tall
They've been spiked so they won't fall
See that excavator going up in smoke
Sugar in the petrol tank - that's no joke
Ecosabotage in the dead of night
Like mushrooms break through concrete in the moonlight

oi polloi

EDINBURGH
1986 - DATE

Obviously we don't want martyrs. We agree with you, yeah, we encourage ordinary people themselves to sort out the nazis, not to expect the cops to do it for them. A kinda ridiculous idea anyway, especially in some areas where more than 50% of the cops ARE the neo-nazis!
It's up to us all to take on our responsibilities to sort things out ourselves rather than to surrender these responsibilities to the state. That's always been our message.

F: Obviously, judging by your lyrics, you don't claim to be complete pacifists, but do you think that there is a limit that must be placed on the amount of violence we can use to achieve our goals?

C: Unfortunately, in the struggle to secure ourselves a decent future based on caring, trust and respect it is not us who dictates the state of play. Different tactics are applicable to different situations. Ghandian non-violence is hardly going to deflect water cannons + plastic bullets on the streets of Belfast. If things ever heat up, the State will throw everything in its formidable arsenal at us + it's our duty to combat and resist it with whatever means are at our disposal. Violence is the only way any real revolutionary change has been affected, and in that respect there can never be any limit on the amount of violence we next use before we see total social revolution.

TERRA-IST

They've poisoned and clear-felled and strip-mined this earth
Made a cess pit of the paradise that was ours by birth
They've raped and they've burned and they've plundered our world

Our banner of resistance will now be unfurled
We're nailing our colours right up to the mast
The sands of time are running out fast
To stop the nutters destroying our home
Kidnapped from our children from whom it's on loan
Enough is enough is **ENOUGH OF THEIR GREED**
Mass eco-defence is what the earth needs
Terra-ist action all over the land
To stop the lunacy the rich have got planned
E.L.F. strike in the dead of night
See the bulldozers are burning bright
Construction area totally trashed
Earth-rape machinery utterly smashed
Some might say that we're too "extreme"
But all we want is air and water that's clean
And a green earth not a desert is what we need
Dont let them sacrifice it on their altar of greed
Rise up and conquer your fear
They can be stopped like Jose-Maria
Our world a toxic slag-heap they will make
So take whatever action you feel it's right to take
It's up to you it's up to me to make a stand
Our generation holds it's future in it's hands
Time to fight back let them do their worst
Green anarchy in action- **PUT THE EARTH FIRST!**

- A punk rock tour is usually nothing more than driving thousands of miles around europe, spending every bit of cash you make on gasoline, selling pieces of plastic. Isn't preaching 'go green' and 'stop pollution' a bit much then?

A few punk bands going on tour a few times a year is not the problem. It's the dumb commuters driving to work every day, one person in each car, etc, that are the real problem - and none of us do that. In our daily life most of us walk or cycle most places - we're not into private transport. That's not to say, though, that we don't try to minimise the environmental impact of our touring.
We used public transport again for the first part of our europe tour last autumn and after that we travelled in a partially solar-powered vehicle. Then when we toured last easter we planted young trees everywhere we went as partial compensation for some of the pollution we were creating - some of the people we met thought we were just crazy hippies for doing that but I thought it was a cool idea and it will be good to see how the trees have grown each time we play these places again. Yeah! Trees are punk!

RISE UP

What would you do in a revolution?
What are you prepared to do in a dictatorship?
What would you do when they torture your brother?
What are you waiting for? For them to come for your mother?

Rise up --Inform yourself and act
Rise up --Can't you see you're wasting
Rise up --Inform yourself and act
Rise up --No one is going to save you

You wait until the day arrives
When your neighbor turns you in
And all your money loses all it's value
And your home becomes your prison
It'll be your own fault

Rise up --Inform yourself and act.
Rise up --Later will be too late.
Rise up --Inform yourself and act.
Rise up --No one is going to save you

Don't ever forget that liberation is not free
Don't ever say it can't happen here
And remember, they can always find you

Martin: In punk rock at least there are people who make a conscious effort to constantly talk about that and talk about "they, we are the problem also." And punk rock is a really hard critic on itself, there are people who are really quick to fucking criticize within the punk scene. Which I think is healthy, I think it's good. We have to keep our own selves under the microscope, and make sure that we're not just fucking off or being goofy or ignoring things.

Wrist: I have a new project I'm working on: an all gay straight-edge band. We're called Limp. That's a project that I'm very, very excited about, along with everybody else involved, because it's a band that's really going to challenge, you know, certain people and things that we feel need to be placed under "attack." We're going to fuck with a lot of people in that band. We're going to be outwardly, totally, openly gay, and reinforce that we're straight edge.

'DIGRES'

DEJANOS EN PAZ -- LEAVE US IN PEACE
Enough! Leave us in peace or you'll see what happens when the people refuse
Exporting our labor for a miserable pay,
Spilling our blood to save their country
They don't care if poverty and death follows us all our lives.
Destroying our unions, collectives and movements
So that capitalism may prosper
Your fake democracy and austerity measures
Leaves us poorer and more helpless.
What luck that we were not born to manage our own lives--
Say the cowards who rule ours.
They devour us because our liberation threatens their national security.
Yankee! Go home! and leave your path of hypocrisy
For the road of sincerity.
You've never known misery as an enemy.
You ally yourself with death for the benefit of your families
For our part, we will stop being defeated, the
Defenceless who can be exploited
We will stop speaking with the mute tongue of the condemned.
Enough! Enough! Our blood, our land is not up for grabs,
or to be sold, or to be stolen,
Leave us in peace!

Crudos basically started out as a project band to address a lot of the issues that we were dealing with in our community. So we wanted to share these ideas with other people in the community, so it was kind of like a project that we thought was never really going to go too far beyond a community like ours or our own community, but it actually went a lot further.

...we took it upon ourselves to redefine what Latino meant to us. What community meant to us. There was no interest in playing roles for others. We fucked with their standards. We did away with their expectations of who and what we were supposed to be. We became our own voice and never waited for acceptance...we didn't need it."

ARMED TONGUE

Our tongues are armed with words that leave impressions
Words that die out the fire of racism, fascism and hate
Tongues that speak the truth
Armed tongues are enemies of the system
They give voices to the speechless and vision to the blind
These tongues are loaded with sharp words that cut through
The lies of the past and stupidity of the present
Armed tongues are enemies of the system
They give voices to the speechless and vision to the blind

500 YEARS

500 years of rape and murder
500 years of constant humiliation
One conqueror after another, one exterminator after another
But they still have no shame
And the youth is a threat because through their veins flows the blood of rebellion
Several centuries of destruction and they still won't stop destroying the land
Hypocrites who criticize the era of the conquest
But yet follow in the footsteps of other violators
They want the fruits of our lands but they destroy us with
Their arms, chemicals and racism
To them we are worthless animals
500 years of the same old shit
It doesn't matter where it came from
They hate us and they can't hide it
It won't stop but we can't take it anymore
This has to stop
The rage closes our eyes but we need them open to look for our future

HENCHMAN

Stranded
In a life in which your struggle for acceptance
Is a never-ending chore,
Upbraided
For your actions past and present and rewarded for the ideas
Of the future's bright open door.
The henchman
Is the human analogue of the suffering multitudes
Who like good dogs sit and lick for their reward.
So what good advice have I got for you
To insure against your likely metamorphosis into this reprobate?
Don't be a henchman,
Stand on your laurels,
Do what no one else does and praise the good of other men
For good man's sake.
And when everyone else in the world follows your lead
(Although a cold day in hell it will surely be)
That's when the entire world shall live in harmony.

How Much Is Enough?

Tell me can the hateful chain be broken?
Production and consumption define our hollow lives.
Avarice has led us 'cross the ocean,
Toward a land that's better, much more bountiful and wide.
When will mankind finally come to realize
His surfeit has become his demise?
How much is enough to kill yourself?
That quantity is known today, as we blow ourselves away.
Tell me is there anything so sure?
Rapacity, tenacity, capacity for more!
Like a dog that feeds until he suffers,
The infirmity of man is brought on by his selfish cure.
When will mankind finally come to realize
His surfeit has become his demise?
How much is enough to kill yourself?
That quantity is known today, as we blow ourselves away.

Los Crudos

CHICAGO
1991-97

CRUDOS' LYRICS, THOUGH ANGRY, OFTEN HAVE A POSITIVE FEEL - IS THIS DELIBERATE?

Well, I feel we do need and want answers and if you are one who complains then I would think you would feel changes are needed. So making an effort to do or try something new out is a good step and should be done by me and everyone. If you feel comfortable w/ just meaning about the world then that's really your problem. I feel that, our community and, we, have to act on what is up against us. We don't have options, choices, or privileges, we have to act and try to be creative instead of just angry. Anti immigrant sentiment is affecting us all. I need to be an optimist.

Last night before one of the songs, you told a story about confronting a gentrifying politician at your apartment building, and ending up being evicted because you made your landlady look bad. You presented it as a positive story of struggle, which I could empathize with, but I was left with the thought that if speaking up even in the US means losing your home, what hope can one have? How do you remain positive?

They can move me out of my apartment, they can move me out of the neighborhood, I'm still gonna survive, I'm going to be around, I'm going to be alive. We're going to be doing the things that we do, so its ok. It's like I'm not going to shut up because I'm afraid I'm going to lose something, its about sacrificing, that's what the movement is about, what everything is about, its about sacrifice. And I'm a renter, just like the thousands and hundreds of thousands of us in the city and we have to deal with these issues and do we all just get shifted around and not say anything about it, or do we start fucking making noise? Some of us want to make noise, if it means we lose a place, we lose it, we'll just find another one and keep on going.

What do you think of the idea of "punk as a threat?"

I think individuals can be threatening. Punk has gone in so many directions that its hard to say that punk will necessarily be threatening. I think certain sectors of the punk scene are more threatening than others. I would never want to just say that punk is threatening, its us, the people who make up punk, and its up to us to decide if we want to be more threatening to society or not.

It's not teaching the people the power that they really should possess, it's not the power and the freedom that we can buy, that we can buy Coca-cola, that we can buy McDonald's. Teach the people that they have the power not to buy, not to support, when their needs aren't being met through city government not to pay the city taxes. Shit like that, to really get control of their income

'ASSUME POWER FOCUS'

NOS QUIEREN COME SIEMPRE -- THEY WANT US LIKE ALWAYS?

Fuck your promises of integration and equality
They only want it to their advantage
When there is no risk in fooling us

When they speak, it's to remind that they don't want us
In their neighborhoods, in their schools, in their jobs.
There's no salvation for these bastards.
When we speak we don't expect replies

We won't wait for them to take our resources,
We're ambitious and will always find inspiration
in every story, and action, in every song and struggle
We're accustomed to their silence

BAD RELIGION
LOS ANGELES
1987-91

Operation Rescue

It is an S.O.S. sent out telepathically,
Signs of our distress don't allow complacency,
We need restoration now of our integrity
And a drastic bold reminder of our morality,

The rectifying troop is here, the ones we've needed all these years
To stop the heinous wrongdoings and verify our moral benevolence as a people

Operation, Operation Rescue,
They're here to right our fall, they've heard a troubled call,
Operation, Operation Rescue,
You wonder where they come from, but I just wonder why they're here at all,
Ya-ya-ya-ya-ya (x3) Ya-ya-ya-ya

Life ever-after is what they're in business for,
See them brandish the key to their kingdom's door,
It's persuasive, it's a part of you and me
But it's not overwhelming as they wish it to be,

If no one believed in fairy tales, there's nothing they could do but fail
Yet everywhere we look someone is trying to reassure our
moral benevolence as a people,

Operation, Operation Rescue,
They're here to right our fall, they've heard someone's troubled call,
Operation, Operation Rescue,
You wonder where they come from, but I just wonder what compels them all,

The FEEDERZ

Ever feel like killing your boss? By the Feederz An album designed to change the face of your record collection. On Flaming Banker, "Rejecting all morality and legal restraint, these cynics do not hesitate to commend theft, the destruction of scholarship, the abolition of work, total subversion and an irreversible worldwide proletarian revolution with 'unrestrained pleasure' as its only goal." Judge Liabador

Gut Rage

Vandalism:
Beautiful as a rock in a cop's face
Leaders and their lies:
A little violence should put them in their place

Gut Rage

Shoplifting:
Giving the lie to the liars
A little night arson:
'Cause I've got a burning desire

Running riot:
With the joys looting can bring
It's now or never
Better than turning senile at 16

Love In The Ruins

Get a good job, one that will last
Spend the next 50 years
Tongue jammed up the bosses ass
Or I can be my own boss, my own cop too
Fuck myself in the butt and beat myself black and blue
No. I'd rather get my lollies taking life in my own hands
While my boss steals my time, I'm stealing what I can

When you see me on the street do my looks annoy you
Take a real good look at what's going to destroy you
I've found I like being a problem playing at your fall
What you gonna do about it? You can't kill us all
I'm the enemy and you're the fucking pigs
Ever think that these matches might be lighting more than cigs?

Remember us from Moss Side? Or was it Paris '68
Fires too close for comfort? It's just practice for your wake
We're playing new games now, riots every day
Your end's around the corner so have a nice day
We'll be destroying the morals that make us your slaves
We'll be killing cops and bosses and fucking on your graves

No more cops, no more work, no more bosses, no more money, no more politics, no more sacrifices,
no more wasted time, no more mommies, no more religions, no more boredom, no more orders, no
more bad jokes, no more of this shit

One of Frank's greatest hours was--when he worked in a bank, he perpetrated little, subtle forms of disruption such as putting out-of-order signs on the xerox machines. Or putting memos on the supervisors' desks purportedly written by other supervisors calling emergency meetings.

FRANK: It's blatantly admitted that work is just so much wasted time. Miller time is before you go to work. not after. Some people are starting to realize that full employment is a threat. not a promise!

1) WE GROW INTOLERANT OF THE IMBECILIC GURGLINGS OF THE BOURGEOIS AND OF SOCIETY IN GENERAL. WE HURL THE EMBLEMS OF THEIR RULE TO THE GROUND AND DEFEATE UPON THEM!
2) WE ARE THE REVOLUTION OF THE MIND AND THE HIERARCHY OF THE MIND. EVEN "REALITY" IS NOT TO BE HELD UNACCOUNTABLE FOR ITS CRIMES!
3) WE ARE SUBVERSIVE, WE DIRECT OUR PRACTICES AGAINST CHURCH, STATE AND REASON WHENEVER AND WHEREVER POSSIBLE, PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY.
4) WE KNOW SOCIETY'S "SYSTEM" AND WE KNOW ITS QUIRKS. WE SHALL EXPLOIT THEM!
5) SURREALISM IS NOT "JUST" AN ARTISTIC OR LITERARY MOVEMENT...WE USE ART, LITERATURE, MUSIC OR ANYTHING WE SEE FIT IN OUR ATTACK UPON THE BOURGEOIS AND UPON REASON.
BEWARE -- WE ARE AROUND EVERY CORNER!
"WE ARE SPECIALISTS IN REVOLT"

TOTAL CHAOS
LOS ANGELES
1991-DATE

SQUATTERS SONG

We are the punks of L.A.
brought together in unity
we live in the squats or a shithole place
but that's the only home we know

together we take the streets
for some little change
if shit comes down tonight
we must throw down and fight
we must bond together
survival is the only key
we will swill some beers tonight
and hit the streets in unity

standing in the drinking field
or in the drinking aisle
getting fucked together
I love this life
keeping our head above the shit
A life you'll never understand

We are the punks of L.A.
brought together in unity

FEEDERZ
TERRORIST

PHOENIX, ARIZONA
1978-84

Frank also got arrested at the street fair for the Fiesta Bowl Game which, in Phoenix, is a big deal. There was a bunch of middle-aged and old people there, and about 30 cops. Well, anyway, we played and at the end Frank threatened to kill the police. He's kind of funny that way

VALE: Somebody also blew up the phone booth outside Mama's restaurant at Washington Square Park--what exactly did that accomplish?

FRANK: I ain't gonna shed no tears over a goddamned phone booth, especially when everything that surrounds us participates in keeping us in submission. To 'destroy what bores you' is quite appropriate. In this case, somebody just chose to 'redecorate' their landscape on their own terms.

'MAXIMUM ROCK 'N' ROLL'

FRANK: Well, orders are orders. Authority should be given all the respect it deserves--got a match?

There's nothing in their future 'cept the nursing home they've worked for all of their life
They waste their fucking lives but they still have the nerve to try to manage your life

1984
Knocking on your door
Will you let it come?
Will you let it run your life?

FRANK: Yeah, school is their way of getting you to accept that your life is occupied territory. Ever wonder why they call a job your 'occupation'?

Living in a world where life's just a game
A game you've already lost
You go to school for twelve years where you learn just one thing
How not to mind being bossed
Oh you'll learn to follow orders when each day's just the same
And they all use the same voice
Just where you'll go to work for the next 50 years
That's your freedom of choice

You know you're 'well adjusted' when you don't seem to mind
That cops are always around
You're repeating useless gestures, that's no cause for alarm
Where there's no life to be found
Well it's time you started thinking inside your head
That you should stand up and fight
1984's been here for the last 40 years so
Destroy what bores you on sight

stretch

When I played my first gig with Stretch I wanted the Bradford 1 in 12 to blow up rather than me go on that stage, even though there was only about 20 people there. About 4 years before this, someone told me I was tone deaf while I was helping out with some group vocals. It's daft, but this made me clam up completely. I don't even know how serious they were but it/ they/ whatever... my voice left me. I knew somewhere that I had my own unique sound, not necessarily finely tuned but something. Being told you're tone deaf is bollocks, its like being told you're thick, or you can't draw, or you're ugly or you don't know enough about politics to speak your mind.

Expression is important, it is self empowering, anyone can sing, anyone can draw, how do you define "thick" and what the fuck is ugly anyway?

Getting on that stage with Stretch was one of the best things I ever did. It was really empowering for me, it was shooting an old demon. It was at times challenging - learning to deal with pissed up males and sometimes sexist abuse. Small victories is what it's all about, freeing ourselves, overcoming insecurities and ingrained definitions of ourselves whether to do with gender, race, ability, age, background - the list goes on. We can meet these things head on.

Maybe what I did sounds like nothing, but its had a massive effect on my life. Take what you've got and nurture it. fuck the criticisms.

Hands Off The battle for children's minds continues submerged in false morality, force others into your missionary position, sustain the myth with immaculate deception. What's the cost of a generation of ignorance? If ignorance is bliss then maybe you could explain the reasons behind an era of pain where we live in fear of sexual attack, where we can't find intimacy for communication's lack, where unwanted pregnancies break young kids' lives, and HIV continues to thrive. Keep your hands off of our bodies, I want the naked truth unashamed. Sexual expression is each individuals' possession to celebrate not to be restrained.

MANCHESTER
1994-95

we want a TOTAL Revolution. We don't want to kill just cops. We want to revolt against the whole fucking mess, society, the church, the culture, and the absolute control by reason. We're against anything that constricts. Basically, we want freedom, late freedom, NOW! We're for unleashing the imagination, the mind entirely. The world doesn't have to be a boring, stupid little routine.

Imitation of Life

No use pretending I can't see
What each new day will bring to me
One more bad act in one more bad movie
But it ain't fucking bliss to me
Living in such luxury
With just one choice:
More boredom or more misery

A bunch of stupid cattle waiting for the butcher's knife
The walking dead in imitation of life

At work and school you pay your dues
Obedience for the right to choose
The most exciting brands of nothingness
There'll be no game I just won't play
I'll get my kicks another way
Gonna burn and steal my way to happiness

You say it's always been this way
You've got to fill each boring day
With stupid little acts repeated endlessly
Well I've tasted the carrot and felt the stick
Now you can have a bite of brick
In return for your assault and buggery

1984

Take a look at your parents that's what you're headed for
It should give you a fright
They might as well been dead for the last thirty years
But they're nice and polite

TIME CONTROL

I DON'T KNOW WHO INVENTED THE CLOCK BUT IT BEGAN A PROCESS THAT WILL NEVER STOP AT THE AGE OF SIX OR SEVEN OR SO IT WAS A DECORATION THAT WENT TICK TOCK THEN BY TEN THEY INVENTED THE WATCH PORTABLE GUIDANCE TIL THE HANDS FELL OFF AND A FEW YEARS LATER IT WAS LUMINOUS HANDS THEN DIGITAL FIGURES TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND

CONDITIONED BY PUNCTUALITY WHEN WHEN TO BE THERE - BUT NOT WHERE TO BE

WE THOUGHT WE COULD CONTROL THE TIME BY ALWAYS KNOWING WHAT IT WAS NOW EVERY ACTION HAS A CERTAIN SPEED AS WE LET TIME CONTROL US EVERY TECHNOLOGICAL STEP IS FASTER THAN THE ONE BEFORE WATCHING THE NEIGHBOURS AND THE FASHION SHOWS TO SEE IF WE NEEDED TO KNOW MORE

DESPERATE TO BE ONE STEP AHEAD LOVING TO BE FOLLOWED BUT STILL NEEDING TO BE LED

SO KEEP UP THE PACE AND KEEP IN LINE YOU'RE EITHER IN THE RACE OR YOU'RE LEFT BEHIND YOU MAY FEEL PART OF SOCIETY BUT THE TRUTH IS MORE SUBLIME I SAID 'STOP! TAKE A LOOK AROUND YOU' BUT YOU NEVER HAD THE TIME

The name Citizen Fish, have it a deeper meaning or something like that?

-The citizen side of human nature is the 'civilised' side, surrounded by concrete and timetables and laws and screens; the fish side is the free thinker in all of us that prefers freedom, open natural spaces and social co-operation rather than being labelled and manipulated. In the western world, we are all citizens and we are all fish! Some people are more one thing than the other....

What do you think about the new way to communicate with email and internet and all that stuff?

-Email's great, saves time and postage, but destroys handwriting...computers are another screen, like TV and windscreens, too much time spent not seeing the real world.

Dick's lyrics, coupled with the catchy driving riffs of the band, allow the Fish to appeal to a wide variety of folks. Heck, they are the only punk band my whole immediate family has seen play live, twice! My mother still partially blames the band for my father's unemployment. After hearing Dick's ranting prelude to "Call in Sick" at a Philly gig, my father burst out applauding and shouting "Yeah now that's a good one! Yeah, Yeah, Yeah!" and took another 6 months off.

A: what, indeed, is 'punk'? the music, the attitude, or David Beckham having a Mohawk on his head? with fashion designers and sit-com producers using punk as a by-word for chic or comedy, its ironic to think back to when the word punk could get your band banned from a venue! punk changed a lot of peoples outlook on life ,and themselves as people/part of society, and its effects are felt in the loosening up of culture, language and morality ever since.



WARMINSTER 1990 - DATE

I'm sick of people saying 'Don't worry so much.' It does take people to be angry in order to motivate other people to rethink the position they're in. I'm not saying the whole world is completely shit, but on the other hand there is so much shit going down that, like, someone's got to say something about it.

Samuel: Do you feel that people are more in tune with what's happening in their community politically than when you first started, or are people still pretty much the same?

Dick: if people want to get involved, its a lot easier to link up with others and a lot easier to discover the info, than it used to be. The general expansion from tiny groups to larger webs of active organisations/people (via print, consistent zines, books, leaflets and now the internet) is a monument to persistence in the belief that communication is the key to change. Whether people are 'in tune' or not is now no longer down to a lack of information, rather a personal choice to want to know or not.

Samuel: Are there any political groups any of you are currently active in?

Dick: not playing the political game in order to change politics 'from the inside' is not a theory i agree with. politics to me is the essential way we interact with other people, and politicians are the epitome of how people crave power and control over others. the very essence of political thought, whichever 'wing' it is, is to dominate, to succeed at the expense of others. You don't change your enemy by copying it. You undermine their power [most of which is mental] by living as much as possible outside of it, and by putting the human being you just met above and beyond ideology or party preference, and reacting with them as individuals capable of their own perspectives. Why is it a common belief that politicians can run our lives/environment better than we can? Is it laziness?

television specifically, does induce very short attention spans in people. So it's gotten to the point where conversations actually are geared to be shorter. Otherwise, you just can't hold people's attention long enough to have a decent conversation. And we all suffer from it. I do. I feel sometimes like my memory is so shot, and it has to do with all these massive adverts everywhere and the nature of filming and the nature of presentation of "short is good and long is boring." Keep the audience to supply the advertisers with the space in people's minds.

'RAZORCAVE'

Picture This THE INVENTION OF TELEVISION

WELL THEY SAID IT COULDN'T BE DONE BUT THEY ALWAYS HAD IT IN MIND A PICTURE MACHINE! LIKE A RADIO BUT A THREE-DIMENSIONAL KIND SOUNDING WHAT WORDS COULD ONLY SAY EXTENDING THE VIEW SO FAR AWAY SO MUCH TO SEE SOMETHING TO SHOW LET'S SEE HOW FAR THIS THING CAN GO WHAT'S ON TV?

WELL THEY SAID IT SHOULDN'T BE DONE BUT THEY ALWAYS HAD IT IN MIND CHARGE A FEE FOR THE QUALITY AND A BIGGER ONE TO ADVERTISE TOO MANY VIEWPOINTS GO UNHEARD WHEN MONEY TALKS GO UNDISCOVERED HERE'S THE MARKET - FILL THE BLANKS FOR EXPLOITATION WE SAY THANKS WHAT'S ON TV?

WELL THEY SAID IT COULDN'T BE DONE BUT THEY PLUGGED INTO OUR MINDS A ONE-WAY DELIVERY FEEDING TUBE OF REALITY SIMPLIFIED NOW OUR THOUGHTS ARE IN MASS PRODUCTION OUR NERVES DESENSITIZED THIS APEX OF INVENTION HAS REPLACED OUR EARS AND EYES

I'D RATHER SING SONGS ABOUT NATURE BEING HAPPY OR HAVING FUN BUT I ASKED AT THE DESK WHEN I GOT HERE AND THEY SAID IT COULDN'T BE DONE TOO MUCH TV!

MORE AT EASE WITH SONGS AGAINST TV. THAT'S SOMETHING WE ALL KNOW ABOUT AND WIED RATHER GET OFF ON THE HATED THAN IMAGINE THE LIVING WITHOUT I BEEN WATCHING TOO MUCH Telly ALMOST TURNED MY BRAIN TO JELLY NOW I'M PLAYING MY CASSETTES GET BACK TO THE MUSIC BEFORE YOU FORGET! TURN IT OFF!

I see things going wrong between people and the way laws are being enforced and the way politicians put people into positions of inferiority. I see poverty, strife, violence and stuff happening in the news and on the streets...the more you travel you see people who are scared and are pissed off and you see racism and sexism and my feelings on those things are what come out in the songs. I mean, I could walk around seeing happiness and entertainment and joy, but I'd have to go to a lot of crap places. Politically speaking, in England for instance, they've embraced this appeasement type of politics, which means that less people get angry. When, in fact, here in England, about 10 to 15 years ago people got very angry. There were riots and a lot of people did change their minds about their current situations and a lot of alternative culture came out of being oppressed so forcefully. It seems ironic that the only way to create a more vibrant alternative, anarchist culture is to be oppressed, but once the foot comes down hard enough then people will fight back. But when the foot is wearing slippers instead of boots, [it is then that] nobody seems to notice how harsh the system is actually treating them.

'ROCKZONE'

revolution

360 degrees later and circling around discarded slogan piles, everyone had a better idea; let's work together for change/ for a change. but the R word had to go. too much of a buzzword, it sells almost anything you need (although good causes may settle in transit, and the actual product may appear different than advertised). revolution pictures a solid, a whole packaged event that addresses everything at once. the reality is that all change is gradual and a build-up of individual/ localised/ spontaneous actions and reactions. plenty of things happen overnight, but not all at once, and not nicely or cleverly co-ordinated by any one person or set of principles. anyone talking of 'mass movements' is using the language of after-the-fact historians, who have the luxury of compressing hundreds or rebellious moments into that one phrase; and anyone claiming that their set of ideals is THE way to revolutionise your life: is working out soundbites.

'ROCKZONE'

[globalisation] is not the problem (punk rock is globalised!), its the expansion of corporate cultural imperialism), the corporate culture is essentially American, and therein lies a difference. americans are instilled at a young age to strive for success and greatness in terms of expansion and gain, and many americans are proud of all things BIG as a result; consumerism is endemic. Europeans generally prefer the status quo of tradition, and expansion is tempered with a recognition that things shouldn't be changed too radically. The intrusive quality of American expansion into Europe is the result of a sublime cultural grating [yeah, ok, amongst other things]....so the brits think the yaniks are loud and obnoxious, and the yaniks think the brits are stuck up their own assholes! its all cliché by now, though, as uniformity of culture leads to unanimity of angry reaction to its shallowness.

WHAT IS THE SELL BY DATE ON A PACKET OF CITIZEN FISH?

Well, by the time you reach the bottom of the packet you will be able to get a new packet cheaper than you bought the original packet, whats more your mate will also have a packet so if you run out you will be able to get some off him! But it should be used up before the scales fall off!

DIVIDING LINES

SO BUSY PICKING HOLES IN OUR SKIN THAT STRETCHES TIGHT TO KEEP US ALL IN

THAT WHEN WHAT WE THOUGHT WERE ETERNAL FRIENDS HAVE DISAPPEARED FROM THE SCENE OR CHANGED THEIR HABITS TO SUIT THEMSELVES WE BEGIN TO SEE WHAT IT MEANS TO BE CHOOSING SOMETHING OUTSIDE THE RULES THAT NO-ONE SETS BUT WE FOLLOW DEMANDING LEADERS AND FOOD FOR THOUGHT AND ITS GETTING HARDER TO SWALLOW

MEANWHILE THE POLICE AND THE TAX DEMANDS ARE COMING IN HARDER THAN EVER WE'RE RAISING OUR FISTS BUT NOT JOINING HANDS FOR FEAR OF BEING SEEN TOGETHER WITH PEOPLE IN THE SAME MENTALITY BUT DIFFERENTLY ALIGNED WE GOT STRAIGHT-EDGE HARDCORE THIS CORE THAT CORE TOO MANY DIVIDING LINES

INDIVIDUAL PERSONAL CHOICES SET EXAMPLES BUT DON'T CREATE LAWS WE ARE NOT ALL THE SAME AS EACH OTHER BUT THE DIFFERENCE IT AIN'T MUCH AT ALL SO DO WHAT YOU LIKE BUT LET ME DO THE SAME AND MAYBE WE'LL DO IT TOGETHER ONE DAY!

BREAK INTO A RUN

WHY LIFE APPEARS TO BE A SERIES OF UPS AND DOWNS I'LL NEVER KNOW AND YET A FEELING THAT IF I FIND OUT THEN EVERYTHING WILL TURN TO STONE THE LIFELESS BORING ROUTINE BLOCK OF ALL THINGS NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD TO BREAK THAT ROCK AND DESTABILISE IS RISKY BUT I'LL TAKE THAT CHANCE

JUST TO KNOW THAT EVERY UP AND DOWN MUST BALANCE OUT SOMEHOW AND THERE'S A SMILE TO END A CONVERSATION THAT WAS FULL OF FROWNS AND HERE'S A MAJOR CHORD TO LIFT THE MINORS UP AND DANCE AROUND AND IF THE SONG SEEMS A BIT TOO LONG THEN TUNE INTO ANOTHER SOUND

OF COURSE THE OPPOSITE IS TRUE THE RAIN MUST SOMETIMES HIDE THE SUN AND YOU CAN'T ESCAPE THE FEELING THAT THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN HAVING FUN BUT ITS BETTER TO GO CRAZY AND JUST BREAK INTO A RUN THAN TO GROW OLD ALWAYS BEING TOLD HOW EVERYTHING SHOULD BE DONE

SO TAKE THE PATH OF MOST RESISTANCE AND FEEL GOOD WHEN YOU ARRIVE COS THE OTHER ONE IS STRAIGHT DOWNHILL AND NEVER ASKS YOU 'WHY?' EXPERIENCE THE REAP AND SOW AND FEEL THE STRENGTHS OF HIGH AND LOW WHO CAN DICTATE HOW FAR TO GO? THERE ARE NO LIMITS SET - LET'S GO!

WILL SWAP

IF I WANT A SHIRAZ I ASK THE HIGH STREET STOPS I CHECK THE LOCAL PAPERS TO SEE WHO NEEDS WHAT I'VE GOT AND WHO HAS WHAT I CAN'T AFFORD WHEN I CAN'T AFFORD A LOT SOMEBODY ELSE IN THIS POSITION OK LET'S DO A SWAP!

OH WILL SWAP - WHAT HAVE YOU GOT? AIN'T GOT NO MONEY DON'T OWN IT CAN'T LOAN IT AIN'T GOT NO CREDIT CAN'T GET IT YEAH FORGET IT WILL SWAP HIS POVERTY FOR ALL THE THINGS I NEED PRIORITY ALL I REALLY NEED

THINGS YOU'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE ARE LEFT OUTSIDE TO ROT HERE'S FOOD AND FURNITURE IN SKIPS AND MOST ARE STILL UNPOISED SURPLUS RAW MATERIALS ARE SHELVES AND BUILDING BLOCKS IF YOU DON'T WANT IT, SOMEBODY WILL. WHY NOT DO A SWAP?

WILL SWAP - HOMELESSNESS FOR SQUATS HUNGER FOR SURPLUS TONS OF FOOD ANGER FOR A REASON SO FEW HAVE GOT SO MUCH WILL SWAP HIS HOPELESSLY DEMANDING WILL DO ANYTHING - ANYTHING WILL DO

SO HERE'S THE BROTHER SYSTEM ON THE PAGES AT THE BACK WILL SWAP COMMERCIAL INTEREST FOR A FUTURE IN YOUR SACK WILL SWAP YOUR C.C.T.V. FOR AN UNRECORDED CHAT WE'LL SWAP A FEW PRIORITIES AND WATCH THE WALL STREET CRASH

OUT OF CONTROL

I USED TO STARE AT THE CAMERA BUT NOW ITS ON EVERY CORNER AND EVERYONE IS STARING IGNORANT OR TIRED OF CARING OR JUST COMPLETELY USED TO FEELING WATCHED ALL THE TIME OR HOLDING BACK A SENCE OF FREEDOM THAT COMES OUT LATE AT NIGHT OUT OF CONTROL ORWELL'S FUTURE SCIENCE FICTION ENDED UP A NEAR PREDICTION SING THE REBEL SONGLY CHORUS 'WE SAW IT BEFORE IT SAW US' FLICKING PAGE TO A FEW YEARS LATER THE NOVELTY IS OUT OF DATE - A PROBLEM REDEFINED HAS GONE NOW WE'RE TOLD ITS WHAT WE WANTED OUT OF CONTROL

NOW EVERYONE'S ON CAMERA EVERYONE'S AN ACTOR HERE'S A RANDOM FACTOR SOMEONE TOOK AWAY THE SCREEN 2-MILION PICTURES IN 3D BEYOND CONTROL THE HUMAN BEING IS FRAER THAN THE ONE PROTECTED

BEING WATCHED TO KEEP CONTROL OF 'CRIME' - A BUZZWORD HAS ITS HOLD ANOTHER SUCH IS 'YOU' - IT MAKES US FOLLOW WHERE THE MESSAGE TAKES US EITHER DOWN THE PATH TO SILENCE WHERE NO ONE DOES MORE THAN THEY'RE TOLD OR TO THE REALISATION OUR CONFINEMENT NEEDS PERMISSION

OUR ACCEPTANCE PAVES THE WAY THAT MAKES IT WORSE WHEN WE GET OLD GRANDPA HAD SO MUCH TO SAY BUT ALL HIS ANGER HAD GONE COLD

TRIED AND TESTED, FAILED SUPPRESSED THEN NEW TECHNOLOGY INVESTED HERE'S THE FUTURE HUMAN BEING SILENT NERVOUS DEAD OR SCREAMING

NO! THIS IS OUT OF CONTROL!

'ROCKZONE'

[globalisation] is not the problem (punk rock is globalised!), its the expansion of corporate cultural imperialism), the corporate culture is essentially American, and therein lies a difference. americans are instilled at a young age to strive for success and greatness in terms of expansion and gain, and many americans are proud of all things BIG as a result; consumerism is endemic. Europeans generally prefer the status quo of tradition, and expansion is tempered with a recognition that things shouldn't be changed too radically. The intrusive quality of American expansion into Europe is the result of a sublime cultural grating [yeah, ok, amongst other things]....so the brits think the yaniks are loud and obnoxious, and the yaniks think the brits are stuck up their own assholes! its all cliché by now, though, as uniformity of culture leads to unanimity of angry reaction to its shallowness.

INVISIBLE PEOPLE

INVISIBLE PEOPLE WITH INVISIBLE HANDS HOLDING VERY OBVIOUS COLLECTION CANS ANONYMOUS PEOPLE WITH ANONYMOUS JOBS HURRY PAST FOR FEAR OF BEING LATE FOR THE BOSS

BOTH WILL SAY ITS NOT THE WAY I INTENDED IT TO BE KNOWING THAT THE OTHER CUT WAS ALL THAT THEY COULD NEED THE HOMELESS HAVE GOT ALL THE TIME AND ALL OF IT TO SHARE THE WORKERS HAVE GOT ALL THE CASH BUT NONE OF IT TO SPARE

INVISIBLE PEOPLE WITH INVISIBLE FEET TAXI CABS POTENTIAL KNOWING EVERY STREET ANONYMOUS PEOPLE WITH ANONYMOUS CHIRS ROLLING OUT THE WINDOWS AS THEY DRIVE ON PAST

IF THESE WERE ALL YOUR RELATIVES THEN WHICH ONE WOULD YOU FEED? WOULD THE POWER YOU GET FROM MONEY DISAPPEAR IF IT WAS FREE? ISN'T IT THEREFORE OBVIOUS THAT IN THIS SOCIETY THERE'S POVERTY AND HUNGER DUE TO OTHER PEOPLE'S GREED

INVISIBLE PEOPLE FROM INVISIBLE HOMES LOST A JOB, THE RENT WENT UP, OUT ON THEIR OWN ANONYMOUS PEOPLE WITH ANONYMOUS LIVES RELIANT ON SUPERIORS TO KEEP THEM ALIVE

COS WHEN IT COMES RIGHT DOWN TO IT THE STRUCTURE IS THE SAME CONTROL REQUIRES ACCEPTANCE THAT YOU HAVE TO PLAY THE GAME THE POWER OF MONEY ACKCLES DOWN DEGRADING AS IT GOES AND OUT THERE IN THE RAIN IT WOULD BE USED ON FOOD AND CLOTHES

BUT SOCIAL GUILT, THE BARRIER TO GIVING WHAT IS GAINED TO THOSE WHO HAVE LESS OF IT, CUTS THE LAST LINK IN THE CHAIN INVISIBILITY COMES FROM BEING CONSTANTLY IN VIEW IGNORANCE IS THE PASSIVE STANCE OF SAYING IT CAN'T BE TRUE

REALITY SHAPES ITSELF AROUND PERCEPTIONS OF THE SELF UNTIL WE REALLY NEED IT WE REFUSE TO OFFER HELP THE STATE THAT CREATES HOMELESSNESS THRIVES ON THIS ATTITUDE UNTIL WE SMASH THESE LIMITATIONS AND TAKE A WIDER VIEW

Q: Speaking of politics, how's the situation today concerning the UK punk thing compared to the early days of the Subhumans back then?

A: mirror image of the above; early 80s and its anarcho-punk directing constructive anger against Thatcherism [unemployment, yuppyism, the Falklands war, the destruction of the mining industry...]. early 2000s and its MTV Americopycat songs of angst and love primarily to entertain. this of course is a massive and therefore inaccurate generalisation! but punk

is in its second cycle of being bought up by major labels, who sell rebellion as pop for profit...however, time does not simply repeat, and there's a lot learnt over the 20 years in-between, that means the 'underground' is already / still in existence, as pissed off as ever, and more capable of reaching out to the new wave of punk 'fans' to demonstrate what 'alternative' means, beyond being an alternative to last weeks alternative...

General Election - did you vote or couldn't you give a shit? I'm not registered to vote, but would've voted Green, on the offchance their ideas might one day get listened to... I hate politicians and the social standing everyone gives them at the cost of freely thinking for themselves, I resent any hierarchy that claims to allow people 'equal rights' in the name of a democracy that is guarded by police and financed by corporations... Blair will now privatise (ie hand over to big business) much more than even Thatcher did, unopposed by anyone, and within 5 years there will be media-manipulated smiles all round, three centre or rightwing parties, minimal workers rights and starbucks on every corner..... and more missiles in Yorkshire, more cameras on the streetsmore riots/demonstrations/protests (any style you like) are in order! We're all citizens. Most represents the inner person in all of us (cause we all evolved from fish in the first place) who prefers to go where they want to go, do what they want to do, which is what fish do. And fish also don't go around throwing bombs at each other like human beings do. So Citizen Fish is like the contradictory balancing nature of human kind. We have to live with this balance, and if we fall to far to one side. being the Citizen side - we're not going to allow ourselves, well, to be ourselves. If we go to far on the Fish side, then we'll .. (deep breath) .. Drown! So you have to keep the balance, but it's a very fine line.

CHOICE OF VIEWING

YOUR POISON IS MY ANTIDOTE WHAT KEEPS YOU DOWN KEEPS ME AFLOAT PERCEIVING AS YOU BELIEVE IN IT THAT MEDIA SHARES WERE NEVER MEANT TO FIT THE HOLES YOU CREATE TO FIT THEM IN BUT YOU ADJUST AND THE FICTION WINS AGAIN

THE PICTURES FROM THE TV SCREEN CONTAIN A LOT MORE THAN WHAT IT REALLY SEEMS BUT TO BE THERE SEEING IT ALL FOR REAL IS IT TOO MUCH TO CONTEMPLATE? IS IT TOO MUCH TO FEEL?

OH WHAT DO WE DO WITH THE INFORMATION? WHO SELECTS THE CHOICE OF VIEWING? WHY DON'T WE LOSE THE HESITATION THAT KEEPS US LOOKING INSTEAD OF DOING?

THE FIRST THING TO DO AND NOW NOT LATER IS TO QUIT THE POSITION OF MERE SPECTATOR BE YOUR OWN MOTIVATOR LOOK TO THE INSIDE BE THE CREATOR

NOT FOR OTHERS TO BLINDLY FOLLOW -SEE HOW THE INFLUENCE WORKS- BUT TO GIVE YOU A SPACE THAT ISN'T SO HOLLOW WHERE NO ONE BUT YOU HAS THE WORDS AND THE PICTURES TO FIT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING FROM WHAT ONLY YOU HAVE THOUGHT OUT WHEN THE MEDIA FORM YOUR OPINION YOU FORGET WHAT REAL LIFE'S ABOUT

DOES ORGANISING THINGS YOURSELF BECOME A BIT OF A HASSLE? WHAT PROMPTED YOU TO WRITE 'NOT FOR SALE'?

Far from being a hassle! Hassle is what other people give you, if you get hassled by yourself then you're doing the wrong thing! The DIY concept is the best cause and effect stream, it's

rewarding, it's a lesson in how to get things right or wrong, it's a co-operative eye-opener (DIY isn't one person on their own, it's a linking of individuals and therefore full of trust and respect instead of contracts and powergames)...When you can't do it yourself, you find someone that can, who does it cos they enjoy their involvement in the whole jigsaw. 'Not For Sale' was written for and about those who prefer to play music industry games, where profits and profile set the rules rather than enjoyment and vision. It initially relates to the commercialisation of punk bands in the 90s, and finally expands the whole problem of 'selling-out'- or being bought out - to all art or culture that originates from free minds, only to be tempted by the soulless machinations of capitalism.

'IN IT OR IT'



'KSUN'

SOMEWHERE TO GO

I HEAR THE SOUND OF BELLS AND SIRENS WIRED ALARMED AND FACE TO FACE INTRUDER IN EXCLUSION ZONE LOOKING FOR A SLEEPING PLACE ISCKS AND CLUCKS AND IRON BARS BARKING DOGS SECURICARS ELECTRIC LIGHT AND CONCRETE GRASS GRIMING SCARED TO EVEN ASK

SOMEWHERE TO GO WITHOUT BEING ARRESTED WITHOUT BEING SCARED WITHOUT BEING QUESTIONED WHERE SOMEBODY CARES

PUT ON SCREEN TO SERVE THE PUBLIC HERE'S THE PROBLEM NOW DROP THE SUBJECT ASKED SOME QUESTIONS UNREQUESTED NEXT DAY QUICKLY ARRESTED TAKEN TRIALS TO STOP THE RUMOURS HORDES OF DESPERATE NON-CONSUMERS IN A RUSH TO BEAT THE SYSTEMATIC SILENCING OF THEIR EXISTENCE

THEY BROUGHT IN ALL THEIR CAMERAS AND THEY MADE A FILM ABOUT US ABOUT MY FRIENDS AND ALL THEIR PROBLEMS NOW WE'RE ON THE TELEVISION

THEY MADE A DOCUMENTARY SHOWED IT LATE NIGHT ON TV. RAISING AUDIENCE FIGURES FOR THE REGULAR ADVERTISERS THE PUBLIC CONSCIENCE SHIVERED THEN TURNED THE TV OVER THIS IS KIDNESSNESS DELIVERED TOO CLOSE TO HOME ...

'ROCK MIDGET'

Revolution

WHEN 'THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTION' IS THE STUFF OF SCIENCE FICTION THEN THE SENCE OF EVOLUTION IS DERANGED INTO THINKING YOUR SOLUTION IS THE EASY CONTRADICTION TO THE WAY YOU HAD THE PROBLEM RE-ARRANGED

WHICH IS OBVIOUS TO ME BUT CAN'T YOU BLINKERED VISIONARIES ALL COMPREHEND HOW UNREALISTIC IT MUST BE? TO ALTER ALL THE PROBLEMS 'TIL THE FACTS ARE ALL FORGOTTEN AND SOLUTIONS BLOW OUT ON THE MORNING BREEZE

WHEN WILL YOU COME TO REALISE THE MORE YOU TEND TO THEORISE THE ACTUALITY OF LIFE RECESSES? AND THE DAILY DEVASTATION - MAYBE DAILY REVELATION - IS FORGOTTEN IN THE FUTURE YOU CONCEIVE

SO ANY PEOPLE'S REVOLUTION IS NOT DOWN TO YOUR CONCLUSIONS CONCERNING HOW WE CHANGE TO SUIT YOUR NEEDS FOR IF EVERYONE IS WHAT THEY ARE THEN CHANGE CAN ONLY GO AS FAR AS PEOPLE WANT TO CHANGE THEIR DESTINY

NOT FOR SALE

Why are you leaving? Something to believe in Just left the building. Here comes nothing Seen the revolution go full circle Now it's so much more relaxing Where are they going? Didn't they know it's Hard for us to feel rejected Contract-diction number one 'It can be done Without losing our perspective'

Some will come and some will go But some will stay despite temptation Music bought and sold back Is a shadow of its generation What it meant and what it means Is in our heads not on the screen Communication interaction Liveliness and satisfaction 'This is what we get from music Corporations just abuse it We keep our own company 'This culture is not for sale

Why all the complaining? Nobody's the same when it comes down to hard decisions But how far do you take it? Do you need to make it? What's the price of your opinions?

Ideas come and ideas go Some will stay to form the picture In our heads or on the screens Acted out or sold as culture It's a lifestyle revolution Just to share ideas for free Your revolution will not be televised Except on pay-per-view TV

This is what we get for asking For someone else to do it for us A culture full of insanity This culture is not for sale

Well they outlined all the options And gave us the directions And told us lead don't follow anyone It was hard to stop once started And the promises soon departed And we found out it was business not fun

Now where's the reason for it? The starting point's obscure It's getting hard to recognise a friend These men in suits and braces Have no feelings on their faces When they ask us to rewrite that song again

It's not just music, it's not just views It's almost anything artistic It's not just art, that's only part Of expression free from greed and profit

This culture is not for sale

HEARD IT ALL BEFORE

I had writer's block, I was put in the dock By critics of lyrics, said it had to stop The time to whine had gone tick tock Too much too long and over the top

Too much too soon! Too little too late? It was 'the same old tunes' and they 'started to grai Mere speech balloons, this was never a debate Why you still looking for the sell-by date?

I'm feeling the cost of thinking It's all been said before Something got lost You knew it already Or just got bored With all this social observation

Too much too soon? Too little too late? Any old excuse to disengage 'Don't get so mad', 'we get tired of hearing it' - Have you seen where this picture fits?

Into the frame of parenthood Sometime when it was understood That parents knew 'nothing and couldn't relate' Now I'm hearing the same from people my age

And into the frame of teachers and school Who always knew more but kept to the rules Teaching the same as they'd been taught before Never updating no inner thoughts

And into the frame of governments Who demonise our common sense Distort our real experience Democracy bows to its own pretension It's in your reflection

Attention span at closing time? Don't talk politics, make it rhyme! And catch the feet to dance a yard But politics makes us think too hard!

The way we follow or lead or decide To co-operate or just stand aside The way we say 'What you doing today?' Or couldn't give a shit how we work and play Is politics What we each decide To be truth or lies It's time to decide Whether how we live is our own free will Are we running for our lives? Or are we standing still!

THAT TURBULENT UNEASY FEELING
you see the signs, you taste the blood
you lick the boot that grinds your face in the crud
to tell the truth you tell a lie
you kill yourself to live so that you don't die
you swallow the things in ads like news reports
the words of leaders you quote back
you take the things you're told as gospel truth
I think there's something that you lack
you take the test to see who's, see who's best
but you're happy just to be like the rest
you want to stand on your own
but your purpose was established at your birth you know
with things you hear there's something wrong
but you stand and let it pass
because perhaps if you can drink enough
you'll find some beauty in the trash
way down deep inside you know what's true
and your soul's still intact
so don't be a sponge for rotting thoughts
take the world back

CUT AND DRIED
another welfare day, the result's the same - more dead lay in the streets
but the game that's played with lives at stake rages on full steam
'cause the war on drugs and the street drug trade have the users in a vice
and with strength and grades roulette is played and bodies are iced
the nation's jails swell from this man-made hell and the cost of prisons soar
the need to kill and steal to pay the man has dragged us all to war
who says what drugs should or shouldn't be legal
this issue is not cut and dried
turn down your nose, call them lowlife
get their just desserts, hope they die
it's time to legalize and to realize
this war is a waste of time
and if you want a less sick and violent world
let's change the bottom line
nobody deserves to be branded as a criminal because of an addiction
how would you like it if they banned your cigarettes, your booze or your coffee?
you claim that it's freedom - I say that you're brainwashed

"I see myself, at my ripe old age, as the fly in the ointment. A tiny counterweight to the bullshit of the corporate world."

Shahab: In your songs, do you prefer sarcasm or straightforward lyrics? Why? Which do you think is more effective?

Joey: Well I think that the sarcastic angle of lyric writing, or books or plays or movies, actually is more effective because people don't realize they're being hit in the face with the sort of facts of what is going on. If you can sort of, kind of intrigue people and draw them in with the humor or the weird angle you're looking at some sort of subject, then it can be a lot more effective. You know I'm really into stuff that's political or has got some message that's really important. Sometimes I have been accused of being too straightforward ... right ... you know sometimes you gotta, you have to be straightforward, it's the only way to do it. But at the same time, you can really avoid sounding sort of dogmatic. Which I think is a really important thing, because a lot of the reason why people listen to music in the first place, 99% of the reason I think, or 99% of the people, is because they got something out of the music they like in the first place. And then, all of a sudden, maybe later on, when they sort of got a bit more hip, then they sort of, "Oh yeah!" And it's actually something interesting being said here.

HEY SISTER
It's the same old crap, got no excuse
She gets beat, she gets abused
You think she's something, for you to use
You think that's right, your buddy thinks so too
Hey man, there ain't no excuse
Your hatred's deadly, stop your abuse
Hey sister, try to stand up strong
The same ol' crap been goin' on too long
TV & magazines ingrain your condition
Subservient ads reinforce a sad tradition
You beat her at home, you harass her at work
You think might is right, you macho jerk
She's second class in every land
She's told at school, you're not as good as a man
How long can this go on, you know it's wrong
It's been a man's world for far too long

What is it about the Green Party that attracts you to it?
The reason why I chose to run under the Green Party was because I think they still have their ideals intact and they haven't been corrupted like the other political parties - that's what attracts me to it. But I'm basically a maverick - I'm into people power politics. To me, the party's not important, it's the idea that's important. But the Green Party is a good thing. The Greens are a real conscious group who have the benefit of both people and the earth in mind, a lot more so than people who only believe in money.

"You know," he continued, "They say a politician should stand on his record, and I have plenty of good records to stand on."

How did Keithley reconcile running for office with D.O.A.'s traditionally anarchistic stance? "Well, it's pretty easy actually, because the Green Party represents an alternative. It's a break from the mainstream parties like the Reform, Liberal, NDP, Conservative, all of which have had their various terms of power or attempts at it and not done much with it. We think that this is actually a real opportunity, especially for young people who have become disenfranchised from the political process and they're faced with the future of McJobs, like working at McDonalds, and a lifetime of clerk type services, right? And we don't think that anybody who has been in power, provincially or federally, has done anything to really address this situation. ...so, it was also an easy leap. I've always said that a musician could be a cultural politician."

What about D.O.A.'s brand of social activism? "D.O.A.'s been going for 18 years, we've put out ten albums, toured around the world a number of times and we've probably done like about 150 benefit concerts and several benefit singles and they would cover a wide range of issues. It was usually issues that we thought we could affect locally and have an impact on."

D.O.A. were and continue to be spokespeople for a whole generation of youth. What would Keithley say to the next generation coming up? "Basically, don't be fooled by the mass media brainwashing. Think for yourself. Act within your community. Your town or area you live in is not necessarily a hopeless mess. You can effect changes and we've sort of tried to conduct ourselves that way over the years. And really, that sort of 'do it yourself, think for yourself' message. It hasn't really changed at all, that's sort of the basic root... that's one of the huge reasons why D.O.A. still exists, and has existed for 18 years."

The original conception of hardcore was to think for yourself, and as a do-it-yourself type of thing. That's why we didn't sort of sit there and wait for a record deal, we thought, well, we'll put out our own record, and we don't need a big record company to do the whole thing for us. We sort of developed like a network and a community of friends around North America to do that and then eventually the same kind of deal over in Europe."

"I want to promote an activist point of view. That's where Sudden Death steers clear from your typical label. We don't have the attitude of 'Let's make piles of money.' I'm looking for bands that can actually make an impact on people's thinking."

D.O.A.
VANCOUVER 1978 - FOREVER

JOEY: The deal was that the Squamish Five did a series of bombings. They bombed the Litton plant which was producing guidance systems for American cruise missiles. They bombed a hydro project on Vancouver Island which was environmentally unsound. They also firebombed two video pornography stores. One of my best childhood friends that me and Wimpy and Dimwit all grew up with, Jerry Hanna, was a member of the Squamish Five. He was also the original bass player of the Subhumans. They all received sentences, though I think they're all out now. Jerry served seven years in jail. We did a benefit single called "Free the Five" which featured "Burn it Down" and "Fuck You". It was a trial by media - they were convicted before the evidence was in. I'm not saying extreme violence is the way to go - although no one was killed in the bombings - if you're trying to take down a wall, there are several ways to do it: one grain at a time, or something more extreme. A lot of the ideas they put forth made a lot of sense.

ATN: What do you say to critics who say that music and politics don't mix?

Keithley: Music is an artistic endeavor. Vaclav Havel, president of the Czech Republic, was a playwright. That's interesting that people there, coming from a history of 47 years of being totally oppressed under the Soviet system, it's a real expression of freedom that they would pick somebody from an artistic endeavor to have enough vision to lead them. I guess if an actor can be president of the United States, then a musician can be a cultural politician.

'MEDIA CAST'

THE LIVING DEAD
There's something gone. Nothing left, no faith
My head is dazed, twisted and confused. Everything seems crazed
Sun & rain, wind & time have taken back their peace
I stand alongside the enemy. For me there's no release
Take 'em from the infirmary and make 'em just like you and me
Stripmine my human soul and leave a lifeless entity
Like living dead we fill the streets, staring vacantly
Sex, death and TV ads, disconnected from reality
Circuits in my head, programmed and replaced
Stimulate my New World joy. Watch me stuff my face
And what it's worth, to save this world - less and less it seems
Just tell me - I'll pay any price, as long as you don't involve me
Staring vacantly, sex, death, and TV ads.
Believing that they're free, sex, death, and TV ads.
Mindless entity, sex, death, and TV ads
Staring vacantly.

A lot of it is complete style over substance. On the positive side, though, the good things about punk rock that never died, that you can't take away no matter how much you try to sell them and co-opt them is that spirit of rebellion and the do-it-yourself thing.

Two decades later Keithley still believes. "I have three kids now and that does make you think differently. I don't think it's mellowed me out, though. If anything, it makes me more pissed off at the world now. This place will be fucked up even more for the kids if someone doesn't stand up to the bullshit of globalization, environmental degradation and the mass media push to corporatization. Just look around you. You see people wearing companies' logos on their t-shirts. There's something inherently wrong with that. But we've become so brainwashed by TV and the media to believe that you are a loser if you don't buy their products."

'DROP DEAD'

THE ONLY THING GREEN
you must have heard by now, it's time to go green
get on the band wagon, it helps to be seen
but it's not a simple job, saving the earth
so start with lip service, you know what it's worth
time to clean up, the profits are high
make a quick buck, let the BS fly
the only thing green is the color of their money
politicians and businessmen on the band wagon
they don't give a damn, they're liars and they're phoney
the only thing green is the color of your money
there's lots of opportunity with the environment
and if you lie enough you might become the president
they make it friendly, they make it clean
but the crap they leave will never disappear
it's good for the earth, it's good for the sky
just count the cash, sell the lies

Half Mast
When freedom is in hiding from morality / When you've finally scrubbed this great land clean / Of those values you hold in such high esteem / When you've finally divorced the numbers from the names / We can return to your good old days / Bound and gagged by sex and race / Chained by family, crazed by god / While we raise the flag, shout down the past / The stars and stripes stream by at half mast / Your eyes well up with tears and yeah so do mine / I never knew the high price of hypocrisy / So pledge allegiance to the death penalty / Believe in your drug war, bow down to the TV set / You need to cultivate that apathy that swells inside your throat / Raise the flag, shout down the past / Your stars and stripes stream by at half mast / Your eyes well up with tears, yeah so do mine / Half mast dehumanized / Half mast divided / Half mast overloaded / Half mast who the fuck cares / So long as you can sleep well under the iron fist.

Born Against
NEW YORK
1990 - 93

Witness to a Rape

Witness to a crime / But I lost track of the times / Violence against women / Against half of human kind / Meshed with our culture / Part of our civilization / Ground into our faces / Part of our indoctrination / No one seems to question / When we're brought up in a system / Where we're taught to hate the other through false desires / My own language betrays my good intentions / Forces my head into the shit, into the lies / And I'm told, take part in the fantasy / When every six minutes it comes true / And I'm told what I want, what I need / And yeah I want it yeah I need it / Rape force fed the lie for all my life / Woman has her place and it's only skin deep / Like so many flanks of meat up for inspection / To be judged on a scale of one to ten.

El Mozote

Somewhere in El Salvador there's a grave for 700 / Pits full of guts and kids who were tortured and hunted / By death squad soldiers who won't ever be purged or punished / Paid for by a government that our tax dollars funded / El Mozote (x3) / But that was so long ago and our officials have retired / And once the stench is gone it's easy to forgive liars / And there's so many atrocities this nation's since acquired / And a My Lai doesn't mean much when the papers stay quiet

\$5 An Hour

See the white wreckage / The ones who couldn't afford to leave / The white pride working poor / Who really live and work with the ones we all hate / Who can remember when their neighborhood looked brighter / But somehow forget that the Italians used to be niggers / And the Irish were the spics / So at 50 years old they eat shit for \$5 an hour / And just don't make the connections / It makes the first generation turn over in their immigrant graves - but what can you do? / See union uncle Joe, the ones who proved / The American dream can fuck you hard without a color / As lost as can be when commercials come on TV / For insurance and cars and vacations / All the things white people are entitled to / As the fruit of this nation's lysol douchéd womb / See the white wreckage ask what the fuck is wrong with me.

Would you sign to a bigger label if you felt you could reach more people?
Alec: No. I don't think it even applies to what we are doing anyway. There aren't that many people in the world that would be into it anyway. I think you can reach a lot of people by being honest and doing what you do on a DIY basis. I just don't fucking go for that at all.
Sned: Yeah, in this day and age I don't think it's relevant. I consider it a challenge because the message is getting further and further afield, like for example yourselves [PE]. People are distributing stuff DIY, helping each other out, and promoting good ideals. Things are becoming bigger. When we first put records out it was like send ten to this kid and ten to that kid. Now it's got into this big network thing where you put something out and loads of copies are getting around because DIY people are helping each other out. There is this sense of community that didn't exist before. This so-called necessity of commercial shops doesn't even really touch what we are doing.
Alec: In a way it comes back to that 'opening the door' thing. But I think you can do that on a small, local way too.

suffer
BRADFORD
1995

For me, the only lyrics that make sense is when you have really taken on board something and chew it over and becomes part of the way that you are. You sort of translate it into your own words and sort of spit it back out again.
Sned: If you look at the 7", you see that stuff is really written as simple as possible and printed in these really huge letters. There is a lot of intelligence and thought behind them, but they are just put in as simple terms as possible.
Alec: To me that's what the whole thing with anarchism is: really it's common sense. If you try to get into all of the smart-ass theories then you're really missing the point. Things are really fucking messed up. They're messed up for certain reasons and you're really just dealing with problems that exist.

LETTER BOMB

Tired of being bossed around / Getting the run around

Sweep your floors, empty your trash / You're the one who makes the cash

Tired of being a pissant 9 to 5 / Open my letter, you won't be alive

Here's a present just for you / When you'll open it you'll be through

Sit behind your desk, act like a king / Treat me like a human being

Give me the worst jobs, I'm getting mad / When you're dead I'll be glad

Here's a present just for you / When you'll open it you'll be through

Plastic explosive on your letter, you'd be better off dead / Hope the building crumbles, on your head

Die! Die!

SAM: Punk rock shouldn't be about the comfort of saying, "Oh I have these certain friends of mine and I'm not going to criticize them," or "Oh these people are my enemies and they might beat me up if I call them out on this." I think it is very important to constantly maintain that level for stirring up the shit.

SAM: I don't want to be involved in some sort of scene or sub-culture where everyone is friends with everyone else and there's no possible chance for change or anything. That's fucking mainstream garbage.

ADAM: But also, like in Dan O'Mahony's column in a couple of Maximum RocknRolls ago he says that "Maybe we can break into the market with hardcore if we put enough great hardcore records out on major labels." And I just... that's like totally backwards, it's so backwards I can't believe it. What we should be doing is building an alternative to challenge it. Something that is as powerful or more powerful, and it is never going to become that way if everybody thinks that you have to get on a major label and kiss their ass to.... I mean you can't rip it down and build it up at the same time.

By the Throat

I want to see the finger pointed / At those who've claimed to cross the line / I want to bleed their dull lives dry / I want to spit on all the unwritten laws / They cling to so dearly with sharp insecure claws / I don't care about your routine / I refuse to fall in with the disarmed machines / I don't give a fuck how hard you are or how hard you think you are / I don't care about your incentives or your values / If only I could make the gesture real / If only I could grab you all by the throat.

Nine Years Later

Nine years into the future / And we're still counting the dead and the dying / Still totalling the countless hidden victims of heightened state terror / Still believing the lies of a peace and prosperity / Of a peace with thousands executed by disease / Of a prosperity with millions living on our streets / And I've got to wonder what the fuck it's going to take / Can it be undone / Can we stem the tide of violence / Or are we going to sit back and relax / And watch TV while the have nots get their heads kicked in / Over and over and over again / Are we going to keep counting the policies that failed / And the lies that worked / They worked they worked they worked / We swallowed them deep, swallowed them whole.

SAM: Pick up a Born Against record and we have a picture of a woman in bondage right next to a picture of a monkey in a restraining device as a means to communicate a message, not because it is an ugly brutal picture, or a set of pictures - it is - but because it would also hopefully lead to a deeper investigation of why those two pictures are next to each other. Gee, why would someone put a picture of a woman in bondage next to an animal in bondage? What's the connection? That is what we are trying to achieve and I think in that case shock is very effective.

They don't make the most fundamental connections, and I think it's really tragic that people who have gotten to that point where they are interested in veganism and not exploiting animals aren't also making thosearen'tconnections about the exploitation of women. Read through the Iard line statement. I'm not talking about the band statement, I'm talking about the political statement as drafted by this Sean from Vegan Reich. It's full of little things like that. You know, man's mission, and sexual deviants, and its scary and frightening and sad at the same time that something which had the potential... people have apparently have the drive to be so motivated as to alienate themselves from 99% of the hardcore scene can make the simple fucking connection that all of these things are connected and that yes, a woman does in fact have the right, the very simple right to control her own fucking body, to have control over her own womb, and this is connected to the fact that an animal raised, a veal calf that was factory farmed doesn't have the right to its own life. It's all a part of the same big fucking mess.

SAM: I think it is important that hardcore becomes more of a threat and less of a conformity.

SAM: I don't go out of my way to be an asshole to anyone, but it is extremely important to call people out on stuff. It's of utmost importance in an independent scene to maintain that attitude of constant upheaval.

ADAM: I'm kind of insulted that they want me to listen to this thing that they put no thought or effort into, but I listen to the Embrace record and I know they put a whole shitload of thought and effort into it, just like when I opened up Millions of Dead Children and I saw a big giant fucking poster and the music sounded really cool and everything else. I wasn't insulted because they took me as a person that was worth all this different information and that was intelligent enough to take it all in.

ADAM: No, I was going to use the example of peace punk bands, like you say a peace punk band that stayed small and did a lot of shit for, like, whatever. Like M.D.C. they changed people on a personal level even though they are a political band. I always say it, I guess it is getting beaten to death, but the fucking day I bought Millions of Dead Children I decided to become a vegetarian.

PE: Doesn't it almost seem a responsibility to pass these things on and sing about these topics in order to live with yourself?
Alec: Yeah.
Sned: People who spend all of their time sitting around drinking should think about what it must be like to live in Chiapas.

Alec: A lot of what goes on at the 1 in 12 Club is a lot of pure having a good time. But then it is also really political because of the contacts that have happened and because it is done on the basis of people doing it for themselves.
Sned: It's like an environment where you have some kind of autonomy over.
PE: It means more to create something instead of accepting something that is handed down to you...
Sned: It's just the realization that you have got something that you can take back control of back from the powers that be. Taking back control of your life is basically behind everything...

PAID VACATION

I hope you're having fun. Where's your uniform? Where's your gun?
Better rub on that suntan oil 'cause you'll be fighting in the desert sun.
It's not... Vietnam, Just another oil company scam. Salute that flag of Uncle Sam. Get your money out, Place your bets... its Afghanistan!
Fix bayonets, check grenades
Got enough bullets, got enough rounds to wipe out this place?
We're the infantry and the calvary
Parachutes fill the sky, bodies burn
And people die

Circle Jerks
LOS ANGELES
1980-82

(L) Invasion

By building up the means for war, we thus preserve the peace
Such bullshit will prepare us for invasion from the east
And meanwhile, they're carving up the land
The anglo-american military have taken full command
It's keeping us fed we're consuming it all
Fat on its culture and military control
Preparing for war bit by bit
Whilst we're watching its telly and eating its shit
They've got it all worked out and we give our consent
They've got it all worked out and we give our consent
They've got it all worked out and we give our consent
They've got it all worked out for Central America
They've got it all worked out for Ireland
By sitting back and keeping silent we give them our consent
Born in the shadow of the USA
Taught the fundamental bullshit every day
Force fed on a diet of Great British lies
Media distortions censor our minds
Passive spectators of royalty
Too diverted to care if we're free
ICI, BP, Thom EMI
Red, white, and blue logos, British pride
With a Big Mac in one hand and a Coke at our sides
We've accepted their culture and swallowed their lies
They've put up more fences, watched us and spied
And cleverly told us they've got nothing to hide
For too long we've watched them preparing for battle
But the fightback is started little by little
Kicking at the midst of passive defense
Refusing cruise means tearing down fences
At Greenham and Molesworth, fences you can see
But then there's all the barriers that are built around me
Political, economic, cultural, social
And people who live in glass houses
Shouldn't encourage others to throw stones
Let the glossy shop fronts know what to expect
And, colonel Sanders, you're next

The Clash, hastily re-formed in new street-cred guise with Joe Strummer passing round the music business hat to pay for his cocaine habit, play rebel chic outside Leeds University. Dambert Nobacon arms himself with a hydraulic action paint-gun and splatters band and audience before legging it. This is Chumbawamba discovering their real talent: refuting the idea that rock n roll is some huge back-slapping family business where everyone "pulls together". Putting spanners in their own works, pigheadedly refusing to lie down and become another servile record business lap-dog.

II. BRITISH COLONIALISM AND THE BBC
Flickering Pictures Hypnotise
"I'm the Boss of the BBC
I'm the monkey at the top of the media tree..."

Bulletin:
"Your version of the riots in Cape Town
Comes second-hand from me
Chewing and spewing this revolution
For popular TV
All your opinions are carefully chosen
By what we'll let you see
Televised crap dressed up as fact -
your soap reality.
We only want a chance to show the Editor's side
Of struggle in the news
Closer & closer to the state's eye view
And further from the truth
Push a microphone to the mouth of this youth
Bewildered and confused
Misreported, distorted, misquoted
A ready-made victim to be used
And we'll quote you on things that you never said
Put this pencil to your head
And kill your revolution dead..."

TV tells us what to be and what to say and what to do
How to act and how to lie but never question why?

Fighting to stop this mass-deception
Fighting to scrap the pass-laws
Fighting to end misuse of land
Fighting to close down diamond mines
Fighting to feed their hungry mouths
Fighting to change the world
here, we sit on the fence
Built by distance and enforced by lies;
Is a full stomach all it takes
To keep us pacified?

MR HESELTINE MEETS HIS PUBLIC
Mr Heseltine you drove into our town
The northern rain always drizzling down
Shoppers at the window stopped to look
As you signed another copy of your book

You have all the power
And you have all the wealth
We've got nothing... but ourselves

So we'll do away with leaders & bosses & police:
Reclaim our actions, rediscover our voices
Salvage our integrity, reassert our dignity:
Power in the heart of the community!

Mr Heseltine listen to me:
We don't want power
And we don't want money
We're fighting for the right to decide
How the power and the wealth
Be equally divided...
Old people in Seacroft
Need money for bills
Single mums with kids
Want decent meals
And we all want new coats,
When all's said and done:
They're all worn out
From being walked upon...

There comes a time when we organise
When we take control of our daily lives
When we don't obey orders from authority
When we disbelieve the myths of Democracy...

Mr Heseltine drove away
Two more appointments in the north today
Helpless and powerless
We join the queue for the metro bus
And Mr Heseltine I've up my mind:
I'll never rise support to you and your kind

the beginning of the great miners' Strike. From early on, the
Armley (Leeds) Miners Support group is twinned with Frickley pit in South
Elmsall - Armley Socialist Workers make the connections and Chumbawamba
supply the van and the street collections on Saturday mornings. The band mix
playing benefit gigs for the miners with travelling down to the picket lines at
five and six o'clock in the morning. And during this bitter winter some of
Chumbawamba join a theatre group who travel from village to village putting
on a Christmas pantomime for miner's kids, down to South Wales and around
Yorkshire. Coming from places like Barnsley and Burnley in times when the
coal mines were part of the very fabric of those towns, it doesn't take much
effort to know which side of the fence you ought to be standing on;

VII. DUTIFUL SERVANTS AND POLITICAL MASTERS
Things were rather different in Great Grandfather's day
He just put a chain around their ankles & made them work for no pay
He took everything they owned and yet still demanded more
He did a bloody good job in taming the poor

Now I'm rather more subtle, I say "I'll tell you what I'll do -
I'll do everything I can to try and help you
And you'll be helping me," I say, "I'll see that you're alright
You can have a place of your own, you can even pretend to be white.
And you won't have to worry, I'll have a quiet word with your mates
Oh they'll be alright, they'll have enough on their plates
I'll put a bit in their mouths; you just pull hard on the reins
They'll do anything for you and they won't complain..."
You'll be so much better off," I say, "You can share my paradise
Just sign my piece of paper and I'll organise your life.
And it never fails, it does the trick, it works every time
So me and my dear wife and the family's doing fine

Great Grandad got his Dukedom when slavery was abolished
Dear old dad became a Viscount when the Empire was finished
But times have changed (and for the better) with freedom of choice -
We're a thousand times richer, OED His Master's Voice.

What could be worse than to live under the fist of this white man, and
pay him to oppress you? The answer is to live under the fist of the black man
who is living under the fist of the white man; and such was, and
still is, the story of African women.

"Woman has been the great unpaid labourer of the world."
Susan B Anthony, 1840s

A dog stares into a gramophone trumpet, waits for its call to action
Mute and obedient; standing to attention
Look a little closer: the dog is a woman
She's working under a system that she can't understand
Trapped inside a world of labour and heat
So that she and her children will be able to eat...
The trumpet is patriarchy, it's old and fixed
Where poor men are lured by the desire to be rich
Where the limited power is still given to men
Where development aid is so wastefully spent
Where western education enforces this crap
Where women work in the open - yet live in a trap
There's one solution, and this is it:
The dog leaps on the gramophone and has a shit.

Chumbawamba
WEST YORKSHIRE
1983 - 1994

"We haven't got a masterplan - we react to things as they come along. As
Anarchists we live with the contradictions that socialism doesn't allow." - From
an interview with Melody Maker, Dec 1986

AM-MEN

A visionary pause in the cycle
When she refused to buy or sell
When the daughters of perfect wives
Said there must be no more sacrifice...
Needed more than symbolic change
More than silent wasting away
In factories and sterile marriages.
(He was God. She was powerless.)

With a brick for every year of life
She set out for the house of lies
The Old Boys Club under siege
His Lordship cowered under his seat
Called for brandy and reinforcements
Blasted away at every movement.

Close to breaking down the door...
Past thick blue line and stupid laws
Black Friday left her bruised and stubborn
One brick from winning the struggle!
Rapunzel hacked at the ivory tower
Asquith quickly rose to the hour...
Appealed to patriotism, oily smiles
Gave nothing, called it compromise.

Gauging the situation perfectly
Said, "Ladies! Ladies! Listen to me!
1914, we're on the brink of war
Pick up a flag, drop your cause!
Your targets are counter-revolutionary
Take my hand in democracy!
Here's a piece of paper
You're officially free
Here's a list of instructions
For you to obey;
(And here's sharp knife
To cut your own throat
Small sacrifice in return for a vote...)"

Whispered word in Pankhurst's ear:
Visions of the first woman born
Led women down the garden path
And into the arms of the enemy.
Jail and force-feeding, wasted martyrdom
Sold her songs for the National Anthem
Slotted the smile back neatly into place
Served refreshments

At the end of the race
All demands reduced to a joke
X marks the plague; abandon hope
Butlers still pouring brandy for the rich
"Excuse me,
Could you pass me the privilege?"
A woman's voice, the state's ideal
Same vested interests, same dirty deals
Currie & Williams immersed in the times:
Examples to keep the rest in line.

Currie & Williams, two of a kind:
Examples to keep the rest in line.

X. INVASION

The first world's got greedy, we're consuming it all
The Third World's got hunger and military control
This unequal balance is a master plan
One gets rich from the other's land

They've got it all worked out - and we give our consent

They've got it all worked out for Central America
They've got it all worked out for Africa (etc) etc
And in our naivety we believe myths and overcome
And give them our consent
Dying in the shadow of the USA
"Let them eat bullshit, make the land pay"

Make a fast deal with the local elite
Then substitute cash-crops where once grew wheat
Build a cycle of dependence on a starvation-diet
With food as a weapon, workers stay quiet

And multinational names have blood on their brands
From taking an interest in misused lands
Del Monte, Tate & Lyle, Ralston Purina
Coca-Cola, RTZ, and Unilever
All packaging lifestyles for the glamorous west
Expand the company; exploit the rest

We are not isolated by distance
But by greed and our racist history
Just a wall 3-width away
Still impossible to reach across
This space in front of me

It's we who write this history
We who guard the money-tree
We support the companies
We stole the colonies

And when the system starts to crack
We'll have to be ready to give it all back

See the space which lies between the rich and the poor
How the space increases as we keep on taking more
Keeping that space between us all
Is how the west can keep control...
With a mission and a chequebook promising aid
Posing for the camera the United Nations man came
He talked of control and the terrible drought
And the way that the west would bail them out
Then he stopped smiling and talked conditions
Of mutual aid; of American wishes
Sending in aid with sewn-on strings
If they won't buy arms - then it's pulled back in
Feeding the world American style
Col Sanders has an empire behind his smile
Back up the investments with a military regime
Then cleverly say: "It's to keep the world free!"
But the multinational myths are beginning to fall
The poor don't want aid, they want control

And if we really want to see the Third World eat
We've got to see through the wrapping on the high street
Past barriers of culture that dictate our lives
We're busy consuming as the other half dies
And the answer's not a question of charity -
Not whilst profit's still the top priority -
So let the glossy shop-fronts know what to expect
And you Bosses of Companies...
...and the cycle of hungry children
Will keep on going round
Until we burn the multinationals to the ground

Salome (Let's Twist Again)

Part punk, part god almighty
Part fuck you, part mister x-ray eyes
I didn't choose to be
Shouting for a living, it happened
Something snapped and I don't know why
Too many slaps? Too many priests?
Fumbled sex in parks?
Or just a part of the me, me, me generation
The Thatcher youth
Coming home to roost
If the old school cap fits, wear it
But I'll take my cake and share it
Burning down a bonfire made of teachers
Pay your V.A.T bills on the cinders
Just you and little Molly Flinders
Doing the twist at all the dances
Don't look to me for answers
(Chorus)
Let's twist again, hear them sing
Let's twist again, see them sing
Let's twist again
Let's twist again, hear them sing
Let's twist again, see them sing
Let's twist again
Bring on the dancing girls
Part sussed, part amateur
Part love you, part mister bleeding heart
I singalonga, jump uppa-downa,
Watch this space
I've got lungs full of this stuff
Two sides together in the commons bar
Just who the fuck do they think they are
I am not a pop star
I am a part of the class war
Every revolutionary
Is motivated by love
I see the newstreeds, two hundred bodies
In a shallow grave in Timor
What am I supposed to do?
Forget it? Pretend it never happened?
Whilst politicians circle-jerk 'round
Legal jargon totem poles
(Repeat chorus)
You tell me
Where does entertainment end
And responsibility begin
Oh Salome waits
Oh Salome waits
Oh Salome waits
She says 'bring me all the heads
of all the heads of state

XI. THE REST OF OUR LIFE

Why settle for what we're shown
When there is so much more?
Sometimes the Book of Law
Is only half the story

Means and ends:
Deciding where to draw the line
Loss of work in Sellafield homes
Or the threat of cancers yet to come?

The choice is obvious:
There is no choice
Only the option of looking outside
This narrow definition of
"What you see is all there will ever be"

There comes a time - that time is now -
When every second, every day
When every action, every thought
Will tell the world how you cast your vote

They break our legs
And we say "Thank you" when they offer us crutches

Tired of mild reform
Sick of hand-me-downs
We topple all the theories to the ground:
All real change
Must come from below
Our bosses must live in fear
Of the factory-floor
And when they smile
And they ask for my support,
I'll give them these words
And a bloody nose:
You don't help your enemy
When you're at war

There are moments in all of our lives
Tiny sparks still deep inside
When a new-born baby cries
When you're watching clouds in a summer sky
The first time you walked out on strike
Love and sex and holding tight
Things that can't be bought
By promises and votes

I hate the things I love being criminalised
I hate the straight-jacket schools I grew up in
I hate MPs, judges and magistrates
I hate being taught to base my life on TV stars
I hate being kept waiting by bureaucrats
I hate wars, and all the people who love them
I hate the idea of living on other people's backs
I hate being filed, registered and classified
I hate being watched and monitored
I hate police
I hate the way you talk down at me
I hate being told what to do
I hate you when you don't listen
I hate the way you distort my sexuality with pornography
I hate the pain we inflict on each other,
On animals, and on the earth.
And I hate how love songs have become cliches
through endless, shallow repetition

Each angry word
Every cynical put-down
Every song is carefully born
From a hope of something better to come

All jumbled-up
Love and hate and love
Each prompted by the other:
For the cause of peace we have to go to war

Refusing to sleep
Whilst there's a world to win
Yet happy to dream
Dreams make the plans to change this world

Not just some future heaven
But today and every day
In our place of work
In the queue for the metrobus

Organise!
Here's the rest of our lives!

...A tiny spark still deep inside

We can and will run the factories and mills
We can and will educate ourselves
We can and will work the fields
We can and will police ourselves

We can and will create and build

Organise!
Here's the rest of our lives!

And the company director spins the globe
Looks into an atlas of the world
A supermarket lifestyle for us all
A thousand nations under company control
Coca-Cola got machines in every land
No-one got the teeth to bite the hand
Stole their labour, their culture and their lives
To create a Coca-Cola paradise
Swallowing their soft drinks and their lies
Let's take the blindfold from our eyes

Oxymoron

Shiny button-down clown suit
Oxymoron
(Repeat)
Fucked up the simplest of chores
Mister constant consternation
And his declaration of war
Makes a fist out of demands
With his plasticene hands

Matey makes a big, big deal
And matey makes a big big meal
Boasts of a conscience so big
It means his uniform won't fit
Cooking books and punching drunks
Working for the real crooks

The good cop
Oxymoron
I don't believe in the good cop
I don't believe in the good cop
I don't believe

At the tickler inspector's party
Prison guards eye store detectives
All good fighters of crime
Same repeated chat-up line
Are you well tooled up
Come and have a go if you think
You're hard enough

Watch them tighten their straps
Yes sir I switched on the taps
Heads to crack, eyes to black
Bureaucrats will cover your tracks
Here's how your dictatorships begin
Fools obey without thinking

The good cop
Oxymoron
(Repeat)
I don't believe in the good cop
I don't believe in the good cop
I don't believe

Rachel: Well its like I think, for example, with Red Monkey a lot of our
lyrics and stuff deal with radical things, but I think radical-sounding
music comes out of radical ideas as well. I think the whole thing is
together. If you're constantly challenging yourself and you're brave, and
that have people around you that are asking questions of you, then no matter
what level that's on, that's going to spill-over into other levels of your
life.

DO I NOT BLEED.

Delectable perfume to spray behind your ears
odourless potions to keep your skin clear
put your trust in us it's quite safe my dear
another rabbits skin is chemically scared.

CHORUS

Laboratory monkeys never seen a tree
hormonal research, push the boundaries
if you prick me do I not bleed
animals killed for curiosity
extend your lifespan propagate your creed
the greater human good is just pomposity

Incessant pain nailed to a board
contents of a stomach clinically disgorged
it's all over now killed with a brass rod
casual disregard for freedom and life

CHORUS

Valium or T.C.P. feeling down or grazed your knee
corporate healthcare or human greed
beautiful make up cleverly applied
just how many animals do you think have died.

TETHERED AND CHAINED

MARRIED WITH A MORTGAGE TETHERED AND CHAINED
MOUNTAINS OF DEBT TO KEEP YOU IN YOUR PLACE
DEGRADING MENIAL TASKS OVER AND OVER AGAIN
THANKLESSLY WORKING YOURSELF INTO AN EARLY GRAVE.

CHORUS

THIS IS YOUR PLACE AND THEY'LL KEEP YOU THERE
DAY AFTER DAY DEEPER IN THE SHIT
THEY DERIVE THEIR STRENGTH FROM YOUR CO OPERATION
FREE YOURSELF ARBITRATE YOUR OWN STANDARDS
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU BEEN THREATENED OVER THE YEARS "
UNREASONABLE REQUESTS SHOULD FALL UPON DEAF EARS
THE WORKPLACE HIERARCHY IS A CASCADE OF SHIT
TAKE THE TIME TO THINK DO I REALLY HAVE TO DO THIS?

CHORUS

THIS IS THE WAY THAT THE SYSTEM WORKS
NON CO OPERATION PUTS A SPANNER WHERE IT HURTS
DIGNITY AND SELF RESPECT ARE ALL. IT WILL TAKE
TO STOP THESE MONEY MAKING BASTARDS IN THEIR TRACKS

Irish Joke

'Have you heard the one about the Irishman?'
Sick and tired of Irish jokes
He said farewell to all his folks (bye bye)
Left his home to have some fun
Packed his clothes and a gating gun
Secretly, with ill intent
Into the House of Parliament
Where politicians sit and croak (hear hear)
Inventing all those racist jokes
He pulls the gun out from his coat
And loudly shouts out 'Here's my vote!'
'Have you heard the one about the Irishman?'
'...he had the last laugh.'

CHUMBAWAMBA / ANTIDOTE

Why Can't We Sing About Something Nice?

(cut up vocals)
Why can't we sing about something nice?

Because it's only in exposing the shit
That we appreciate the passion
In order to find out what's nice
We have to wade through the oppression



PE: Do you feel like you can ever project
your ideas outside of the punk scene?
Chris: I think maybe the best way to get ideas
across is simply to talk to people. We played
this whole May Day "Day of Action" event at
the university and most people didn't like the
music, but they responded really well by talk-
ing.

Red Monkey
NEWCASTLE

TAKE THE BUS

"we're all better off than we used to be
take a look at this graph if you don't believe me
it's five percent up from what it was last year"
forget feel-good it's a factor of fear
"we did a survey, made this pie chart"
you won't know what it means and you weren't asked
stick it in the papers, get it on the news
make it seem everyone shares their views
CH; you and me
negative equity

they build roads, we take the bus
Like an unlocked cell at a police station
give them power, they can't resist temptation
we're like kids at the window of a sweet shop
we can't get in and they've taken the lot
like an open day at a nuclear plant
you're only going to see what doesn't matter
as their legislation leaves us disarmed
those fat cats keep getting fatter
well tell it to the pensioner freezing to death
or those cared for in the community lonely and depressed
tell us about 'scroungers' and 'tarten tax'
expel asylum seekers and distort the facts
don't talk to me about a citizen's charter
the corridors of power are ringing with lau
we just exist when we should have life
but the whole damn country keeps lurching to the right



ABERDEEN
1995 - 97

Nuclear Power? No Thanks!

They tell us Sizewell's safe and clean
White rooms, white coats, white heat, white lies
Nuclear power?
No thanks
From the mines of Namibia
Black faces, black truncheons, grey death, white bosses
Nuclear power?
Not today, thank you
Dig the earth to kill the earth
Green fields, green valleys, green life, green money
Nuclear power?
No thanks

Tiana: I think punk and hardcore is just one
small way of getting across a political mes-
sage, and tends to be a weak one at times. I
think people have to realize that there is other
more important ways of getting through to
people. I honestly think that most of the people
who need to hear this message, the people
that need to be working to create revolution,
generally speaking aren't within the narrow
confines of white, middle-class punk and
hardcore scene. We do other things like Food
not Bombs to try to break down social-eco-
nomic barriers and try to come together in
other ways within the community.

PE: What are some of the other things you
do to spread ideas aside from the band and
music?
Chris: Well, there's Food not Bombs which
just started up.
Tiana: There is also an animal liberation group
at home which we work through, doing dif-
ferent stuff like protests and pamphleting.

MAN EATS HOUSE

bugeyed and brainless you're stuck to your TV
with a morbid fascination of another killing spree
is this entertainment or a calculated feed?
do you care about the people or just want to see them bleed
it could have been a horror film or die hard again
if you want another look at it there's more news at ten

(Chorus)
mainstream media tighten the screw
trusting the facts from a single point of view
keep the sponsors happy keep the public tuned
you've got to ask yourself WHO WRITES THE NEWS?
another prison death of a man accused of rape
a nation lends a hand to the rope around his neck
suicide's good punishment if you believe the hype
but with more evidence he's innocent can you give him back his life?
following the frenzy like puppets on a string
same time next week same tune again

a passive demonstration beats a violent retreat
it's law for disorder but don't blame the police
they don't know how it started but they'll show you how it ends
and another cunt in uniform is off the hook again
changing the subject to children eating flies
there's more cameras than doctors no-one's asking WHY?

GANGSTERS

so we got to vote again
but there's no box saying 'none of them'
it's no surprise, but I still resent
it's always game, set and match to governments
CH; illusion of choice
illusion of freedom
illusion of democracy
we don't fucking need them (repeat)
offer cash bribes to grass up 'benefit cheats'
but the public parasites are the real thieves
"it's all the fault of the poor" the Tories bleat
come the election, i'd like to 'vote with my feet'
face up to it, they're taking the piss
the need for politicians is an urban myth
disinformation and tax Seduction
hand in hand with power comes total corruption

I Do Not Wish (Bill/Dave/Al/Andy)

I do not wish to wipe the dusty haze from the plexiglass of morning or the lusty 9 hour old sex stench from my passion-soiled skin

I do not wish to remember the repression in the guise of redemption or gain eternal peace that costs the sacrifice of an earthly paradise

I do not wish to let go of either of my lovers' hands or deny any loving touch

I do not wish to live in a fashion chic cliché or a sea of self-righteous rhetoric that translate into zero action

I do not wish to cash my freedom in for a five dollar twenty-five cents an hour or live the sunlit hours in the thought hold of a time clock

I do wish to live out my days and all of my desires, I do want to share with my friends my passion, lust and fires I do want to lose my inhibitions and fears I do wish to be at one and keep my loved ones near

I do want a tolerant world with no guilt and shame I do wish to remember the path on which I came I do want a happier place where a stranger is a friend I do wish for peace of mind a blissful righteous blend

I do not want to drive a fast car, fly a fast plane or drop from a fast death from legal drugs, bullets or bombs

I do not wish to encase my life in concrete and forget the whispering wind, The whistling water, the flowering tree and setting sun

I do not wish to deny the playful pleasure, boundless joy or love-jolted full tilt boogie of imaginative insurrection,

I do not wish to eat the burgers, lick the lard, or suck up the death drenched diet served up with special sauce on a sesame seed bun harvested from the land of destroyed rain forest

I do not wish any of these things,

I do want to create a new world from the shell of the old

from Ripper #54, 1983

MDC stands out among even political bands, as not just SOUNDING more political than most, but in applying their beliefs in everyday practice.

Just being a local politico wasn't what I wanted. I wanted to put it into art and music, and rebellion, and that's how the group started. FRANCO: It's like the finger's on the button, just waiting for the order to push it. And it's like, it doesn't make us lay down and go to sleep, it makes us pissed off as hell. DAVE: And write songs, and put our energy, instead of being a doctor, or being whatever else our sideline interests would be if we weren't politicians, it makes us fucking reach down inside of us and do shit like this.

A lot of the shows on TV are cop shows, it makes you feel like the cops are always right, and anybody who's a stranger on the street or who might look a little bit different from you is automatically a criminal or drug addict or this or that, and definitely ought to be avoided. It keeps people apart from each other. People don't feel like they can come up to each other and talk, because everybody's afraid of each other from what they've been taught on the TV.

influences, the Dicks, a Texas band, are cited as being especially inspiring. DAVE: Their lead singer is a man named Gary Floyd. He's a tremendous sized gay transvestite communist street politico who I met in Austin four or five years ago. I was a college sophomore or something, and he had a little stand in front of the college. He was a real inspiration, just talking politics. He doesn't fit in, he comes from a small town in Texas. They wanted him to just roll up and die, because he's such a freak. Instead he got up and was strong enough to persevere, against all the "You fat queer," etc., that he must have heard a million times, coming from Palestine, Texas, the rural part of Ku Klux Klan country. He was a real influence spiritually and intelligently and emotionally.

I read something that was in a letter in one 'zine about how they hated the school system so bad. They said people are ruling over others, they had to vote in a school election for one person or another, and that's where it starts. You have to choose somebody who is going to rule you. Think about it. Don't let people rule you. Like the fact that I'm not a fucking corporate slave working 9 to 5, and that we live in a beer vat. I sleep in an air shaft and Frank and Al live on foam mattresses on either side, and Ron lives in the van. It's very spartan, but I'm having more fun and more good feelings about my life than I ever did, than when I was 17 living in mommy's house with mommy's car and daddy bringing home the paycheck. Those days were okay, and were part of my growing up, but don't get caught in the bourgeois trip of supporting your new car to support your expensive apartment to support fuckin' big business who support whatever. You can have fun and do what you want to do and feel meaningful. And try to find people who will help you along that way and not fight you. That's it.



MDC stands for

being against the police state, the military upper class rule, whatever.

Jimmy) You guys suggest anarchy on the album. What kind of anarchy do you mean? Ron) Well, anarchy to us is--things got to start somewhere. It means what we gotta solve in the world right now is people need basic things like clothes, food and shelter. It's like, those things are being denied to people. 70 thousand people are starving a day. This country isn't doing anything to help solve it. People's basic needs need to be satisfied and it's better to start off small. Like the punk scene, because like Chicago's got it and like you guys are supporting the Boston scene, it's local, everybody's working together. DC's the same way with Dischord and Ian. And like Biafra and S.F. It's like little communities working together to support the whole. If we all work together in the end it's gonna be like a unified effort. Right now, capitalism isn't working and communism isn't working, so I'm not like all for one or the other, 'cause both of them are fucked up. There's got to be some medium to start from and anarchy is saying--I don't have the right to indulge my own kicks, I'm just gonna do what I want to do with my life. Take any example, like being a minor, you're deprived of all your rights, whatever. Take sex, it's illegal. Think about all sorts of things that are illegal. Anarchy is like fuck this, I want to be an original and do my own thing without being hassled by the system. I'm not saying, anarchy is a political movement that's gonna solve the world's problems but it's a start. If there's a war, I'm not gonna be fighting in the war.

Jimmy) So you're saying, just trying to start a gradual thing from the punk scene. Ron) The punk scene is gonna happen, it's like the world scene isn't getting any better. The world scene is fucked. It's getting worse and people aren't going to be able to escape by listening to disco or whatever. Billboard top 10 and thinking everything is peaches and cream. Things are getting worse and people are going to have to find some outlet they can relate to. Punk's the only kind of music that's saying--hey, this is what's happening. Every everybody snap out of it now. Quit playing a little game and trying to fit into a node. Homogenized America or whatever because it's not working. It's a waste of time. I mean you're born then you go to school and the whole pattern of class president and sports are just prepping you for the big scene. Then you go to college and all college is, is a role choice. You pick what role you want to be when you graduate, you go to the bulletin board and get a job then the natural progression is find somebody, get married, have a kid, and you're trapped because you have to work 'til retirement to support your family. You can't risk fuckin' with that. Then by the time you reach retirement, your life's just gone.

Ron) Now what's happening, the unemployment rate is going up and Reagan just got his tax raise, I don't know how many billions of dollars. Plus he's taking this 340 billion, 3 year defense spending-savings which means getting all this money to spend on defense by taking away welfare. So what's happening is the jobs are fucked, welfare and social security, all that stuff is being revoked, there's no CETA grants or anything. The people who have no alternatives end up joining the forces. Once they've got everyone joining the army, it's the whole scam. The people that would be starting the revolution, or because they're sick of misery or whatever, so they call in the army, and they start a war, ship 'em all over seas and kill 'em all and that will be it. All the people that would be dissenters would be gone. That's what Reagan's scam is. The industry supports the defense. That is why I don't want to support the system at all. It's a fucking joke. And everything's supporting it, you name it, Exxon all the way. Exxon and General Motors have more money than any single country in the world except for the U.S., Japan, Germany and Russia you know. So they're a country in themselves. That's saying "What's good for GM is good for America". It's true all the way and Reagan is just a puppet for the whole scam. There's this quote on our album, that says "Socialism for the rich. Capitalism for all the rest of the U.S." What that means is the rich people and the corporations are cooperating together as a unit, everytime they make a decision like price raises, everyone follows in the industry and they're all working together. Meanwhile we're all down at the bottom pinching pennies to survive. It also has to do with their scam about labels and boundaries like "Hippies hate punks" and "Jocks hate queers" and "Protestant hate Catholics" and everybody at the bottom hates everybody else. They got everybody busy with their own little egos. Shitting on everybody else.

FORCED EXPOSURE

C.S. War #54 (Bill/Dave/Al/Andy)

For Presidential longevity In a bleak economy Wave the flag show 'em who's boss U.S. War #54 of course

The masses have been prepared Grenadon and Panamanian affairs Bomb 'em to Hell once you begin Civilian casualties have been factored in

Say it's for freedom when it's Oil And the sovereignty of Kuwaiti soil To protect the soldiers we'll censor the news Schwartzkopf gives only the facts they choose

Cast a villain : Saddam Hussein Paint him evil and insane With our help and his notorious fame The world's problems on him we can blame

Problems like our decaying schools Crooked bankers treating us like fools Tankers leaking oil slick pools Cities where fear and violence rules

Problems like A.I.D.S. Global warming : a fucking mess What we need for re-election for sure U.S. War #54

When Johnny goes marching home again Hurrah hurrah In a body bag - HA ha ha ha Never to come to family or friends He died so fast and that is his end See the pain in their face So sad such a fucking waste Watching buddies' flesh burn No more lessons to be learned

Won the war what's to show Refugees with no home to go Mothers' pain in their eyes Crippled children you can't hide

Military Brass now are the stars On the talk shows and in the bars How George got the world protected Just to get his ass re-elected

To stack the Court and slyly confuse 'Bye civil rights women's' right to choose The plan was perfect couldn't ask for more U.S. War #54

When Johnny goes marching home again Hurrah hurrah (etc.)

No More Cops

I dreamed last night No more cops I felt alright No more cops No need to fight No more cops

'Cause no one needs to steal Everyone gets a meal If it was only real We'd need no more cops

We're snug and warm And safe in our home And if we were left alone We'd need no more cops

I dreamed last night No police An armless world doomed to peace And now as all my dreaming stops I see it clear, we need no more cops

No need to fear I'd want to cheer I'd wish you were here Before my slumber stops

No holy war No more God No more rent No more deeds No more money No more greed No more hate No more fear

No one unhappy No one sad No one ripped off No one mad But I awake Here instead I wish I had Stayed in bed

I'd stay asleep in the deep And in my thoughts I'd keep No more cops

When life gets mean Share in the dream Until you scream - No more cops I dreamed last night no more cops no more cops NO MORE COPS

FS: That name really says a lot, just how anti-cop are you guys?

David: I don't tell people to go shoot a policeman, but I don't tell them not to. Do what you want to. I'm not throwing bombs, I'm just throwing words and to me Millions of Dead Cops is like a mental image, political poetry! Ha ha. We're not being too facetious in saying that, yet I think there's something real wrong with the police state that we have.

FLIPSIDE

short talk with vocalist Dave at the Rock Against Reagan show at Amherst.

SUBCUTAN PUNK

Dave: I don't think Woodstock was so political. This is a political event. Woodstock was, 'everyone get their ya-ya's out, taking their shirt off, putting up tents, let's go ball in the woods,' and this is directly involved with Ronald Reagan, and the United States foreign policy. So I don't think it's so much like free love in the woods, but there are political connotations. If you want to make the connections between the 60s and the political thing, there are similarities, but yet there's differences. I think it's good that people are aware that the United States is fucking up the world. They were in Vietnam and they are now in Nicaragua, El Salvador and Central America. I think it's good that these connections are there. I feel like the people that were doing hippie rebellion things--that was cool, and we're making another kind of statement.

DAVE: We're the same people in Austin, Texas, and I felt ineffective in the direction I was going. I was being a college student and doing little political things on the side like No Nukes and helping out people in an Anti-Klan group and the Texas Farm Workers group and I felt like I wasn't really meant to be a pamphleteer or a telephone solicitor. I wanted to do something more with the energy.

Nixon was planting spies into peace groups that would start fights with the cops so the cops could go knock heads in and I just started realizing the perverseness of the state and what they would do to control the people in it. I started realizing that the police weren't my friends and the police are the klan, are the mafia. They're in it for the kicks or they're in it for the bucks. And it's basically around controlling people.

It had always been drummed into me that good men in blue uniforms were out there to protect me and all of a sudden I just felt like they weren't out there to protect me. They were out there to control me and to bust me if I stepped over the line. Then I just started realizing that if this is me, middle class white kid from the suburbs, imagining how it is to people that grow up who aren't the same color or who don't fit into the same socio-economic plan.

The cops, they represent the rich. They're a power structure. They're the front line of the right wing and I'm sure most people I know have gone through some unpleasantness with the cops. Weather it's just being treated like shit because you were driving your car too fast or right down to -- I had a very very good friend of mine shot in the back.

AL: A lot of crimes is caused by society and their way of curing it is to hire more police. Give people jobs. As an alternative we'd like to see more food put into ghettos.

DAVE: And better psychology and better educational systems so all the rampant street crimes and all that stuff, there just wouldn't be so much of it if people had better heads. They're not planning for society to be a better place for people to be. The school system itself that makes failure and passes and put all the emphasis on reading and arithmetic achievement. It should be towards human fulfillment goals and people would just not have the need to be a "criminal" and I don't mean a criminal in victimless crimes, I mean a criminal in victim crimes where you knock something over someone's head and you rob what's in their pockets.

N.C.F.C.: Do you want anarchy?

DAVE: We're an anarchist-oriented group. We think that's an alternative to the power structure CIA, FBI kind of police. Communities that are in touch with each other, that can control what's happening.

RON: Anarchy to us is like on a community level, like the punk scene if you take it for an example. It's like you're in a 'zine and we're in a band and somebody else got a radio station and somebody's got a club or whatever and somebody else is putting out albums and if you take each community and add up everybody that is part of each one of those to the national level, all those communities add up to the whole picture and that's what anarchy is all about, communities working together. There ain't somebody up there at the top and it's a pyramid and it drips down from there. That's not the way it works. Capitalism isn't working and neither is communism. At the smaller level is where you start, communities. That's what you guys are doing. That's what all the punks are doing all around the country and other countries. Just add it up. That's the whole picture and that's what we're striving for.

Most people are sweating blood that went into creating whatever a nation is and they're not enjoying any of it. They put in a lot of man hours and they get so much per hour then end up spending it all on bills and food and it's like you're giving your life just to pay the rent and whatever and there's nothing else over that.

DAVE: While they commit all these atrocities all over the world they got you spinning your tails trying to acquire some more materialistic bullshit.

AL: Money and consuming. It's just like when a kid wants something and you give it to him to pacify him. That's the way they're doing it, on a bigger level. They're making you think that by consuming more you feel better but actually material possessions don't offer nothing in your life. They don't make it better, it's people that make it better. Who gives a shit if you got a bigger Corvette or a bigger house, if really don't make no difference. You don't need that to survive. That's a big myth that material possessions bring happiness.

DAVE: They get all these people who tell you you're having a great time and it's all really bullshit to get your mind off what we're talking about -- 21st century survival, making it a better place for all the inhabitants we share it with.

FRANCO: Instead of sitting around and watching TV all of us are talking to each other and that's the way information gets passed around so if people get their head out of the TV long enough to talk to each other then maybe we can share information that the other person doesn't know about.

FRANCO: The more information that's out, the sicker the scene looks, the sicker the joke is and after a while people say "hey, this isn't a joke anymore, this is really something sick". A lot of people are living in la la land, they don't even realize there's a problem. They don't realize 75,000 people die each day of starvation while we feed four time the amount of food that is necessary to feed the world, we feed that much to animals. But they're sitting there in la la land eating at McDonald's deserving their break today not realizing that they're getting scammed.

DAVE: Punks just been a natural thing. Take the way ---'s dressed. It's real individualistic yet it's probably real inexpensive to to put together. The whole thing that went from the hippies generation that wore rags to this and that then all of a sudden Joni Mitchell and Steve Stills and Gerry Garcia started wearing furs and driving Bentleys and completely sold out it's Peace and Love and my Bentley" and to me that what's where punk came out of. Just fuck all that materialistic crap.

NO CAUSE FOR CONCERN

SYSTEM ANATOMY

when we shake the system by it's spine hidden power-structures shine through

system anatomy - break it's neck

we've found the neck of the fucking system we won't let go, it's time to break it

THE MEDIA IS THE MESSAGE

mr mcLuhan you were fucking right about the global village but what about the third world

the media is the message and our message is: FUCK OFF!

billions spent on information super-highways are people starving, feed them computers

MORE



Missile Destroyed Civilization

Our leaders claim necessity The clergy says we're blessed The emergency broadcast system Just said this is not a test The unthinkable, unbelievable It's right before your eyes

Missile Destroyed Civilization

For National security The Government will lie And those reports supporting Their deferent alibi Words ring faint to empty When the red fills the sky Reflecting in a fear In your loved one's eye No time left for escapegoats Once it's gone away Air Force I's floating Death count decoding Radiants corroding War heads exploding

Missile Destroyed Civilization

The war machine masters Their profits will abound They'll own it all some day With no one left around They'll leave our blue-green planet All burnt and smokey brown Safe in their rooms Escaping the doom The mushroom will bloom Our homes are our tombs

Recklessness astounding Tidal wave pounding Earthquakes surrounding Air raid sirens sounding

Missile Destroyed Civilization

It wasn't very long ago The U.S.A. was great Not the land that even Our friends have grown to hate But economic interests Must not decide our fate For when the die is cast, alas It will be much too late

Reasons why we're hated abroad East meets West on a world chessboard Common market capitalist block Pointing at Russia with our imperialist cock Who'd believe Christ's words of peace Would leave so many dying or deceased

Are you ready to say goodbye? Kiss sweet life farewell, prepare to die Or live it out mourning, shovel earth from above On top of pine boxes holding ones you love Holding back tears, remember her kiss As you die from cancer, feebly shake your fist

Missile Destroyed Civilization! Missile Destroyed Civilization!



SWEDEN 1996

THE ICONIC WAR

the circle closes, destruction draws near industrialism bites it's own tail

this game of power, greed and possession will in itself cause revolution

freedom of choice, war of icons consumerist culture chokes on itself

Hey Cop!.....[If I had a Face] Like Yours (Bill/Al/Dave)

Brutal cops are back in swing Thanks to good ol' Rodney King Wrong time wrong place Certainly the wrong color face Copers, radios, no escape Thank u for video tape L.A.P.D. is a Mei Lai mob Uncle Gates still on the job

Hey cop! To you we're all truncheon meat Giving new meaning to pounding the beat Pistols, rifles, shotguns, clubs, handcuffs and mace Swagging like Rambo, a grimace on your face

They beat us beat you too Broken bones black and blue Scheming reaming and very true No limit to what they'd do Coffee, donuts and lots of hate Sit back, cruise and wait Collar, leash, shock baton Helicopter, roof-top bomb

Hey cop! Bragging how you kicked some ass How they begged, what a fuckin' blast! Those diggerboos deserve it "Gorillas in the Mist" Kicking the front door, face clenched like a fist

Another night another mess Another story in the press You swear you do your best Just a little violence related stress Cold stone lies and lots of nerve Hope you get what you deserve Sworn to serve power trusted Now you're the one busted

Hey cop! Your sneer becomes a grin Your victim ain't smiling, you kicked his teeth in The criminal is bad enough, sneering cops are worse With a mug like that I'd walk shave butt in reverse

A few get fired a few transferred Be more careful have you heard Watch your step and watch your ass The public soon forgets the past Heard you yell "Take him down!" All your might I hit the ground, Billy club kidney whack, Club on neck, Knee in back

Hey cop! Animal in blue, Ugly is as ugly do You're ugly looked and through Hey cop! If I looked like you do You blue screw I'd hide out And hang out in the zoo

The Big Picture

The factories have been looking for me They're talking among themselves Try to put me on their shelves There's a 9 to 5er slot they have got Waiting for me It's the best one that they've got But it's not right for me

I don't fit the big picture

The big structure has been trying to get me They want me for a day To help me find the way

Fill out these forms for us Do your best for us Cause all we want from you Is to tell you what to do

I don't fit the big picture

I don't wanna play their game I don't wanna be the same, Like all the people on the street Who always look so beat They walk like their next step May be the last one they get

I don't fit the big picture

MAKING HISTORY

i can't read, i can't write forever fucked over by the law i have no access to your media but i will fucking develop my own

the media of the nineties is the gun

since i can't read and i can't write i will instead make history look at me i'll kill your boss i'll be a star in media

DEMOCRACY SPAWNS BAD TASTE

You make things miserable every day / You make me sick with the things you say / You stand for the anthem at the old ball game / And your pledge of allegiance is so fucking lame / This kind of freedom "perfect for you / As long as you can get away with what you do / But everything you do is in such bad taste / And it's your fault the media is such a waste / Be a good American - fuck off! / Be a good American and go to war / Be a god fearing citizen and - kill someone / Or kill your self - cuz you're such a fucking bore / You nearly drove me crazy in your asshole schools / Grooming us all to be fucking fools / Working for the government as zombie tools / But we won't be satisfied till we trash your rules / Put a gun in my back and I'll do what you say / But I'll burn down your house if I get away / Throw me in jail and I'll spit in your face / Cuz anarchy is gonna take your fucking place / ...so be a good American - fuck off! / Be a good American and go to war / Be a god fearing citizen and kill someone / Or kill yourself!!

GO BANKRUPT AND DIE

I estimated your worth today / And I'm not gonna listen to what you say / And I'm never gonna go back to work / You're not my boss, you're just a fucking jerk / You're pathetic, you're disgusting / You're pathetic, you make me sick / I estimated your worth today, you're shit / You can go out of business for all I care / Your way of life isn't going anywhere / I'm not stupid and I won't be led / By pricks like you who'd be better off dead / You're pathetic, you're disgusting / You're pathetic, you make me sick / I estimated your worth today, you're shit.

I AM THE ESTABLISHMENT

I am living in a foreign country / And everything about it bugs me, bugs me / Everywhere I turn it's the same old story / Narrow minded fools that bore me, bore me / I've been told so many times / To love it or leave it, it's the same old line / But nothing is half as sick / As this patriotic, idiotic fucking piss / I am the establishment / By divine guidance I've been sent / You will ignore the president / Cuz I am the establishment! / Well fascists, I've got news for you / I was fucking born here too / And I'm not gonna tolerate / Your violence, bigotry and hate.

COPS FOR FERTILIZER

Don't need a fucking cop to tell me what to do / Or grab me in the street whenever they want to / I haven't got a penny but I don't ever steal / If they hassle me again I'll show 'em how I feel / So let's kill the fucking pigs if they get in our way / It'll set a good example for the children today / It'll keep kids out of trouble shooting pigs after school / Wasting cops will be the hero's golden rule / I haven't got a job but I ain't gonna bitch / Cuz soon I'll take what's coming from the fucking rich / A family can't survive on the shit they pay / They'd rather see us fucking dead anyway / So let's kill the fucking pigs if they get in our way / It'll set a good example for the children today / It'll keep kids out of trouble shooting pigs after school / Wasting cops will be the hero's golden rule.



LONDON
1977 - 82

The Clash - Clamdown

What are we gonna do now?
Taking off his turban, they said, is this man a Jew?
'Cause they're working for the clamdown
They put up a poster saying we earn more than you!
When we're working for the clamdown
We will teach our twisted speech
To the young believers
We will train our blue-eyed men
To be young believers

The judge said five to ten-but I say double that again
I'm not working for the clamdown
No man born with a living soul
Can be working for the clamdown
Kick over the wall 'cause government's to fall
How can you refuse it?
Let fury have the hour, anger can be power
D'you know that you can use it?

The voices in your head are calling
Stop wasting your time, there's nothing coming
Only a fool would think someone could save you
The men at the factory are old and cunning
You don't owe nothing, so boy get runnin'
It's the best years of your life they want to steal

You grow up and you calm down
You're working for the clamdown
You start wearing the blue and brown
You're working for the clamdown
So you got someone to boss around
It makes you feel big now
You drift until you brutalize
You made your first kill now

In these days of evil presidents
Working for the clamdown
But lately one or two has fully paid their due
For working for the clamdown
But hal Gitalong! Gitalong!

And I've given away no secrets
Who's barmy now?

Careers Careers Careers

Ain't never gonna knock

The Clash - Spanish Bombs

Spanish songs in Andalusia
The shooting sites in the days of '39
Oh, please, leave the vendanna open
Freddo Lorca is dead and gone
Bullet holes in the cemetery walls
The black cars of the Guardia Civil
Spanish bombs on the Costa Rica
I'm flying in a DC 10 tonight

CHORUS
Spanish bombs, yo tequierro y finito
Yote queda, oh mi corazon
Spanish bombs, yo te quiero y finito
Yo te queda, oh mi corazon

Spanish weeks in my disco casino
The freedom fighters died upon the hill
They sang the red flag
They wore the black one
But after they died it was Mockingbird Hill
Back home the buses went up in flames
The Irish tomb was drenched in blood
Spanish bombs shatter the hotels
My senorita's rose was nipped in the bud

CHORUS

The hillside ring with "Free the people"
Or can I hear the echo from the days of '39?
With trenches full of poets
The ragged army, flixin' bayonets to fight the other line
Spanish bombs rock the province
I'm hearing music from another time
Spanish bombs on the Costa Brava
I'm flying in on a DC 10 tonight
Spanish songs in Andalusia, Mandolina, oh mi corazon
Spanish songs in Granada. oh mi corazon

G: It seems that you're notorious for having problems with the cops in your area. What's the story with that?

D: It all started with a flyer we made. MDC was coming to town and I've kept a file for years of obituaries of policemen and misuses of police power and such and such and I finally had a way to utilize them. So I put all these things on the flyer with our name of course and nobody had really seen our name in print in the area yet. That coupled with the red marker I used to put huge, gaping holes in the policemen's heads and big pools of blood, that just didn't sit well at all so ever since then we've been kind of a target.

G: Why did you provoke the cops like that?

D: Well at that point it was just from a limited personal experience which has been all very negative with episodes of brutality and abuses of power and the police pretty much letting their emotions take over where their duty should. I've had a history of problems with them since 1971. I've gone to trial and had them deliberately lie on the stand and things like that. You just loose respect for the whole system when you see things like that happen, when they do it just because of their own personal animosity towards you.

G: I heard you just got arrested again for disorderly conduct. It sounds like your problems have been many with the cops.

D: If it was for something that I really did you know I'd even plead guilty to get it over with, but it never is anything that's that clear cut, it's always something really silly. If I'm going to have this much of a hassle I'd much rather do something really destructive.

'TASK'

THE CRUCIFUCKS
MICHIGAN
1983 - 87

NO ONE CAN MAKE ME PLAY ALONG WITH THIS

There's so much suffering everywhere / And most of the people will never care / When you're down to three meals instead of four / If you think it's gettin' bad I don't wanna hear it no more / I hate your attitude / I hate your government / I hate your media / Intelligence just up and went / Plans to starve and kill more every day / All that's important to you is the fucking economy / When you're down to three meals instead of four / Starving people will soon break down your door / I hate your attitude / I hate your government / I hate your media / I hate the fucking radio / I hate the government / The goddamned government

DOWN ON MY KNEES

How much do I appreciate / Advantages, am I too late? / To thank you for convenience / Your wisdom and your lenience? / For us it's oh so fortunate / A silver of pie, that's all we got / Ya didn't hafta give us anything / So songs of praise for you we'll sing... / We only wanna have some fun / We'll clean things up when we are done / We promise not to hurt a thing / I hear you've got a great golf swing / I hear you've got some property / Now don't you wish that I could say / We'll be good children every day / But we're not kids anymore than you / Why can't we play? That's what you do / We only wanna have some fun / We'll clean things up when we are done / We promise not to hurt a thing / I hear you've got a great golf swing / I hear you've got some property / Thank you for our daily bread / Down on my knees.

ANNUAL REPORT

See our leaders walk on all fours / Lower than puke on my bathroom floor / They know they're not in any danger / Bodyguards frisk any stranger / They almost passed a bill today / To make the corporations pay / See our leaders walk on all fours / They're the prostitutes and whores / They almost passed that bill today / To make the corporations pay / But that's a little much to ask / To rock the boat is not their task / There's no talk of revolution / So helping people is no solution / They think they're not in any danger / Slimy pigs frisk any stranger / They think they can piss on anyone / Maybe it's not so bad that we can still buy guns!

"The Guns of Brixton"

When they kick at your front door
How you gonna come?
With your hands on your head
Or on the trigger of your gun

When the law break in
How you gonna go?
Shot down on the pavement
Or waiting on death row

You can crush us
You can bruise us
But you'll have to answer to
Oh, the guns of Brixton

The money feels good
And your life you like it well
But surely your time will come
As in heaven, as in hell

You see, he feels like Ivan
Born under the Brixton sun
His game is called survivin'
At the end of the harder they come

You know it means no mercy
They caught him with a gun
No need for the Black Maria
Goodbye to the Brixton sun

You can crush us
You can bruise us
Yes, even shoot us
But oh-the guns of Brixton

When they kick at your front door
How you gonna come?
With your hands on your head
Or on the trigger of your gun

You can crush us
You can bruise us
Yes, even shoot us
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Shot down on the pavement
Waiting in death row
His game is called survivin'
As in heaven as in hell

You can crush us
You can bruise us
But you'll have to answer to
Oh, the guns of Brixton

THE SAVIOR

NO ONE WAS TOO SURPRISED TO HEAR THE NEWS THAT DAY.
AMERICA HAD RAPED YOUR SACRED LAND
AND IF THAT WASN'T BAD ENOUGH, YOUR LITTLE CHILD
IS LYING STILL BECAUSE OF SOME FOOLS' BLOODY PLANS.

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE BEEN AROUND SO I WILL BE THERE ON TIME
THEY THOUGHT THEY'D KILLED YOU WERE ONLY YOUNG
WHILE YOUR PEOPLE CRIED.

AND THEN MY SO-CALLED BROTHERS IN THIS LAND OF HATE
LAUGHED AND SHOOK THEIR PISTS ABOUT THE WAR
IT'S TERROR OUT OF OUR HANDS AGAIN BUT STILL THEY SAY
DEMOCRACY AND FREEDOM PREVAILED ONCE MORE

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE BEEN AROUND SO I WILL BE THERE ON TIME
I AM THE SAVIOR
U.S. BEHAVIOR
IS FAR BELOW THE SUME.

AND MOHAMMAR TOLD ME HOW IT WAS TO LOSE A CHILD
AND I'LL ADMIT I CAN'T IMAGINE WHY
MY FATHER BROUGHT ME BACK TO ALL THIS FEAR AND PAIN
I'LL TURN THE OTHER CHEEK THE DAY I DIE.

Instinct Of Survival

Advertise the product you make
Never give but always take
Kill and lie for security
Your shit on supermarket shelves to see

Instinct of survival

Advertise the product you make
Never give but always take
Clingfilmed flesh and genocide
A contented life while millions die

Instinct of survival

The multinational corporation
Makes its profit from the starving nation
Indigenous people become their slaves
From their births into their graves

The multinational corporation
Takes its profits from the starving nation
Another product for you to buy
You'll keep paying until you die

SP:THE EDUCATION SYSTEM COMES IN FOR A LOT OF STICK FROM THE PUNK/HC MOVEMENT.WHAT WERE YOUR OWN SCHOOL DAYS LIKE AND DOES SCHOOL EDUCATION REALLY BRAINWASH CHILDREN?
B:My school days were'nt too happy,in fact I could'nt wait to leave.It was'nt so much the education that bugged me,it was the behaviour of the other kids there - most of them were doing their best to be "hard man" types,acting like rebels or whatever,yet at the same time they were so conservative it was ridiculous.Worse still,the teachers were generally despicable,and what really frustrated me was the amount of unnecessary rules that we had to obey.I hate having discipline forced on me by other people - I like to think I can discipline myself.As for the "Brain-wash" part of your question,I feel that schools play an important part in moulding peoples lives.Education is essential,of course,but while we're at school we get a lot of values forced on us that (if accumulated) can cause people to grow up with a very unbalanced outlook on life.

Display to Me

Domesticate me
Into your ideal creation
Fondle me
When in need of attention

Brutalise me
As a target for your aggression

Inject me
With your putrid diseases
Stretch my senses
Beyond the peak of insanity

Why practice methods of prevention
When I can pay for your hideous mistakes?

Blind me
With cosmetic filth
To form the mask that hides your guilt
Insecure, uncaring clowns
Your dolled-eyes don't see
The suffering I've prolonged
For your wretched vanity

Chew on my flesh
With perverted lust
Display to me
The depths of your compassion

As you excrete
My digested corpse
Into the shit-pan
My place of rest.

Uncertainty Blurs the Vision

A vision or illre
Where together we walk
Unbound from an existence
Of fear and pain

The key to which
Is self-contained
External freedom
Must evolve from liberation within

To gain respect
And see the qualities in all life
Forms the spark
Which strikes the light

When so minimal the loss
How great be the risk
In reaching out and reclaiming our souls?

But until we overcome
The uncertainty in our fellow man
The vision of hope
Remains an illusion

Inconceivable?

Outright - in my thinking
And refusal in accepting
How a word so mundane as sexism
Could in some way relate to me

But as I look inside myself I see...

Opinions are somewhat blurred in conception
Passive thoughts become impassive obsessions

And I find I have the ability...

To manipulate those gullible to my persuasion
With deceitful words and actions
Channelled into one dimensional emotions

Not take persons trust under false pretension

Outright - in my thinking
And refusal - in accepting
How a word so mundane as sexism
Could in some way relate to me

But as I look inside myself I see the contradictions.



U.K.
1986-89

From Enslavement to Obliteration

Committed to a life of slavery
In the factories our own hands have built
Where we must work twice the graft
Before gaining the goods we've already slogged to create
To consume all things material
Stands above human compassion
As we compete with our fellow man
In the bid for a stronger position

In our ruthless search for prosperity
We become the tools of our own oppression
Forming the backbone of a society
That thrives on mass division

From enslavement...
To obliteration...

Prison Without Walls

Trapped
Inside your head
Insular, living dead

Existing for a purpose you'll never find
Inducements, Distortions contorting your mind

External sources maintain control
Programmed existence, fulfill your role

You've got a brain, shake off the reigns
Smash the shackles, break the chains

Sin Dios

MADRID
1982 - DATE

We do pay homage to those individual anarchists who fight against the war imposed by the powerful and making them feel the consequences of war. It is also a touch of attention about the difference between individualist acts who attacked true powerful people and the attempts of Leninist vanguards like ETA, IRA, etc... where they even kill civilian people and state officials easily replaced and leaving the situation without change. We do support violence in strikes, sabotages... but a collective violence. Not of a vanguard, although we have it clear that self-defense is a reality if we want to change this.

Another project is a video about Sin Dios, not the typical video "only musical", but one to include history of anarchism, lectures, articles, video clips, live subjects, our opinions, etc. In August 1998 we forsee to record our next theme. It will probably be a monographic homage to Abraham Guillen (anarchist economist and suburban guerrilla strategist) with some of his writings, songs about them, CD-Rom track. Another project is a tape with versions of revolutionary music thru the times and thru the world

our regards to all people fighting today around the world and significantly to those who try that punk be really a menace and an instrument of anarchist fight. Health, love and anticapitalist hate!!!!
Sin Dios 1998



NOTTINGHAM

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON ANARCHISM?DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF AN ANARCHIST IN ANYWAY?To me anarchism is the most sane way of living:anarchism to me is treating others how you would want them to treat you,being able to do anything or think anything or say anything as long as it doesn't stop someone else from doing,thinking or saying what they want to.I believe everyone should be treated equally regardless.I don't believe that hierarchies are the answer,and I don't believe people have to be told what to do.The majority of people think that they need authority only because they are conditioned not to believe in themselves.I suppose I might consider myself as having anarchist ideals,but other people might not call me an anarchist!.

'AVERSION'

As a band you name derive from the Propaganda and Ghandi, just promoting some kind of peaceful non-violent resistance, and I guess what we would think of as propagandizing any kind of resistance by whatever it would take to overthrow the current Imperialistic system.

As a band you use the word "revolution" a lot. What's your definition of this word? Do you choose for a harsh and direct revolution or do you choose for an evolution that would lead to a more righteous world?

I don't see it happening next year or something like that. I see it as a kind of aggregate changes over time. This revolution can take a hundred years, it can take longer. For us revolution means - a little less romantic than the traditional sense of the word - hard work and constantly try to reach people with the goal of just deconcentrating wealth, power.... Taking it away from the few so that the power and the wealth are spread amongst the people. Capitalism is a greed-ridden system. Most people think capitalism is global, that it covers the world, so they feel hopeless. However, if you can point out that you CAN have a certain goal to work towards, then maybe you can speak about a revolution.

I think in the past there was more of a tendency to be misanthropic rather than just be productive, and I think over the past 10 years we've learned that it's more important to increase the circle of allies than to increase the circle of enemies. You have to stand your ground, but you also have to have patience and understanding. I think we're making room for that and still keeping our messages as strong as possible.

Jord: I think that one of the major, general, fundamental problems that other problems stem from is basically the capitalist economic system. I think that as a general overall problem, that's a pretty large one. I think that it has really replaced religion as the accepted manner of conduct, and it's been a proven utter disaster!

You have carved out quite an enviable niche under this so called evil capitalist system- you basically play punk rock for a living, not a bad gig? Do you think there is something to be said for capitalism? Yeah, there's something to be said. Capitalism is the dominant all-encompassing economic model under which we live, and if we don't find workable alternatives for ourselves in the very near future, it's going to be GAME OVER friends! Oh, but yes we could all run into the bush (with an 'spontaniety rules' attitude of course) living free of societys' evils, picking berries naked, smelling really unreal bad as the orgy continued.....maybe if I was born 50,000 years ago. Too many cornholio poseurs in that scene. Anyhoo, we're all involved with the system and we're all controlled. I'm not really into retreatism, might as well try to change things from within....

"I have values that I think are fundamental to a just and democratic existence, but I'm kind of at a point where I shy away from putting a name to it," he says. "I don't want to necessarily call myself an anarchist or socialist, mostly just because people have already made up their minds about a lot of those terms."

libertarian socialist, meaning maximum freedom with

maximum solidarity. That's how I feel life should be.

J-I just label myself an anarchist because I think the principle doctrine of anarchism is having optimism in human nature--and I have that. Jd-I have a lot of optimism in human nature and that is the only thing that keeps me going. I also have a lot of discouragement seeing that humanity has created this global shit hole that we have today. But at the same time our humanity is the only thing that can get us out of this. C-We're not utopians or anything, we are realists--idealists.

People should be critical of these types of things, but it shouldn't be about keeping score of who has less connections to capitalism. It should be more about who is moving ahead the cause towards rethinking economics in favor of people...

...figuring out workable replacements to the current system or actually pointing out the real enemy instead of having this side game that people keep score on. Let's start thinking about the shit that's really happening and directing our energies towards real strategies.

I think that statement that the personal is the political is taken too far. People are just thinking the personal id good enough. I don't think it really is. It is a starting point. If you actually want social change instead of just personal change you have to go beyond the slogan and start doing things outside the scene. Because the world doesn't give a shit about a punk rock scene anyway. All radical ideas, probably none of them originated with the punk scene.

J-Yeah, a punk scene to me is utterly useless unless people are showing up at protest marches. C-That's happening too, the punk scene in Winnipeg is realizing that all of these ideas exist whether punk exists or not, they all originated minus punk. And they'll always be here after punk is gone. It's just our cultural vehicle for figuring it out, and everyone's realizing that, and they're starting to network... getting involved by just volunteering at food co-ops, or working with CHOICES, this coalition for social change, or being involved in animal rights groups. We raise money at benefits for them and volunteer time, and they come and provide us with propaganda and more information. People who otherwise wouldn't have met each other. I mean, up until about a year and a half ago I didn't know any of this stuff existed!

there's all these kids wherever we go that are excited about doing things in their community and excited about getting access to new ideas they otherwise don't have access to. And just the general cynicism about the government and "big business" - even the average guy on the street is like "I'm getting ripped off by these corporations." That's something to try to exploit because if you can change cynicism into productive action, that's great.

people can change things and sometimes it takes a small minority to affect things in a positive way, and that's worth working towards. And ultimately, keeping your ideals and your real life connected and not betraying yourself and co-opting yourself to all the bullshit that's proved to be fucked so many times over.

Hidden Curriculum

"Knowledge dispels fear!" Yeah, I hear you loud and clear. Just take note of where it's from. A reliable source? Or educated by force in this hidden curriculum? Obey all day and back from lunch by one. You can't reverse the damage done. Your knowledge is a bullet in their gun. They've taught you well, destroyed every last brain cell with their methods, 10 on 1. Little man, here's your number, here's your plan to serve the hidden curriculum. I'm dumb.

C-The thing is, I mean here we are sitting in a GMC van driving around the country burning fossil fuels, but you have to minimize your participation to a level. You have to make concessions that you think are reasonable for what you're trying to do. And for us, getting around and talking to people, talking to you, is... we couldn't take a flying carpet on tour, so...

Anybody born into the framework of the capitalists who grows to be anti-capitalist is living in a compromise. I'm sure I'm a living contradiction, so unless you're out of the city, living in a hut and growing your own food and all that type of stuff, you're going to have to face this type of thing.

V: And that would make it harder to influence other people to your way of thinking as well... J: Yeah. That's a kind of retreatist ideology and that's fine for people who want to do that but that's not really where we're coming from. So we just try to balance the good with the bad I guess.

J-Yeah, like on this tour we've been trying to only buy our food at local food co-ops and if we eat in restaurants, we eat in fast food restaurants. We eat at ma and pa places and vegetarian places. And it's not a big deal. It just takes like an extra fifteen minutes.

PROPAGANDHI

WINNIPEG, CANADA

1991 - DATE

BULLET

PURINA HALL OF FAME

Sleeping masters roused to burning homes from beds. Steeping toddlers plucked from their watery deaths: ribbons, plaques and soft-soap are the ephemeral rewards paid to the slaves whose selfless acts accord a higher value to their masters, while parting gifts (bolt pistols) console the rest. The remainder. Too bad the tributes paid to lives that relegate these thrones to lives spent valuing the runners-up, are known to be neither fleeting nor desirable. But nothing surprises me these days. I just sit and watch the box-cars roll by and wait. Patient. Unattended. A package under a terminal bench. A short fuse to scatter steady hands if I forget to remember that better lives have been lived in the margins, locked in the prisons and lost on the gallows than have ever been enshrined in palaces.

The one difference, I think, between our label and other labels or workplaces is that we've made sure that our workplaces didn't just reproduce traditional capitalist hierarchical workplaces. It's democratically organized--that's a huge component of the label--and it's something that we want to promote and show to the world.

We want to be really conscientious of where our money goes, and be accountable for the money they give us, and how much money they give us. Just be careful who we are involved with. We rather it be people who have the same goals and ideas as us rather than businessmen. Like Fat Wreck Chords is distributed through Caroline and Caroline was recently bought out by EMI. EMI has large connections to Thorn EMI which produces weapons

WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE PLANS AND ASPIRATIONS FOR PROPAGANDHI AND G-7?

Continue to put out meaningful, provocative records and

maintain a workplace that doesn't reward one person while shifting on another

FUCK THE BORDER

A friend of mine dropped me a line, it said, "man, I gotta run to the USA. I got no money, got no job." She skipped out of Mexico to stay alive. You've got a problem with her living here, but what did you do to help her before she fucking came? What did the country do? What did the people do? I stand not by my country, but by people of the whole fucking world. No fences, no borders. Free movement for all. Fuck the border. It's about fucking time to treat people with respect. It's our culture and consumption that makes her life unbearable. Fuck this country, its angry eyes, its knee-jerk hordes. Legal or illegal, watch her fucking go. She'll take what's hers. Watch her fucking go. Fuck the border.

'BLOTCH'

The idea is to create a workplace that reflects our values of

Solidarity and equity. No bosses or that kind of shit. Everyone puts in an equal amount of

effort and has a say in all the decisions that affect them.

how do you deal with the inherently capitalist infrastructure of running G7 which is obviously a company? i.e. paying taxes, accounting, divided wages, bullshit etc. we try to organize ourselves on a participatory, democratic kind of framework, which is fairly easy with 5 people. it's a challenge when everybody's grown up under a capitalist system and been socialized that way. we're trying to create our own sort of thing, all the decision making is collective, the ownership is collective.

'MYGAZINE'

a place where musicians or activists could make recordings, interview organisations that reflect progressive values, ... if you are on a record label and there are discrepancies how people regard work- place structures or economy in general, it can create tension. And there are not many places for activists in general or activists who make audio-recordings so we created one.

What's the name of your label?

C-G7 Welcoming Committee. The G7 is the 7 most powerful industrial powers in the world. They call it G7 when they all get together and they're planning on coming to Canada next year and we're hoping to form some sort of 'welcoming committee'.

one of our reasons for starting the label was to support and try to garner as much attention as we could to bands from many different genres, but that had a definite overt political approach to the band and the content that they were trying to get out, and to try and combine spoken word and other political mediums. Just to combine the music side of it with information, and with stuff like Noam Chomsky and Howard Zinn. It was to show that this counter-cultural approach wasn't just confined to music. There's all kinds of different activities done by people from all kinds of walks of life. So I guess that's kind of the intent.

is a place where musicians or activists could make recordings, interview organisations that reflect progressive values, ... if you are on a record label and there are discrepancies how people regard work- place structures or economy in general, it can create tension. And there are not many places for activists in general or activists who make audio-recordings so we created one.

BULLSHIT POLITICIANS

Every fucking day our cities tell us what they think of justice. They lock the courageous away as the cowards plaster the cracks spreading through the monolith. But if this man isn't freed, this city burns. "On This Day of Remembrance let us not kneel and pray for the dead. Let us stand and activate for the living, to rescue those about to die" at the hands of bullshit politicians; bloated pin-dick motherfuckers who bow and curtsy to the seats of power. We'll never learn and nothing will ever change as long as we stay this course of followers and slaves. I can't believe we're still content reshuffling the same old decks of kings and queens and faux-democracies. I say we hand it back to the bullshit politicians. Brick by brick, wall by wall...

component of Today's Empires. Tomorrow's Ashes features the writings of political analyst and lecturer William Blum (ex-U.S. State Department), along with quotes from freedom fighter Mumia Abu-Jamal, among others.

I think a pretty important part of our new album is the cd-rom feature, having those articles on there. we'll mail anybody out a copy of it for about \$5(canadian). we're just trying to introduce people to writers and long time activists that have made it their life to investigate this stuff, and to put what we see as closer to the truth out there, than anything you're gonna find in the white rich man's reality of the corporate news. that's our approach now...

"We like to show a fuller and more thorough and proper perspective on the issues that we're talking about. Things that you can 't conceivably stick into a 2 minute rock song. That's the whole idea behind it: backing up what were talking about. Showing that there are tons of people who spend their lifetime seriously investigating these kinds of issues of the state as a tool of corporate domination."

our whole idea is to try and synthesize politics back into music and help establish some sort of contribution to help perpetuate the tradition of political music which I think has been gutted and sold out, especially over the last 10 years.

We try to introduce people to the ideas and show people that there are well-established resistance groups all over the United States and Canada and the world, and it's not a total cultural vacuum because this stuff exists and it exists outside of punk rock.

"Sometimes it's a little shocking considering the state of the world that people are so apt to write seemingly meaningless lyrics. I think we're more interested in encouraging and promoting resistance culture rather than trying to berate complicit culture." (EXCLAIM)

V: I suppose you've been asked this a lot because your lyrics are very overtly political but is there ever some sort of difficulty in finding the balance between the lyrics and the music?

J: I would have to say that I think that the politics and the words have a priority over the music. I think in terms of that previous record I think it's kind of out there but ... I don't know. They're kind of inter-related in a way but I don't know, it's just what we do - we're a band and we enjoy playing music. But we are always going to have the political commentary in the lyrics rather than just doing a political records and then doing a records of self-indulgent love songs or something like that.

we hope that our lyrics and the content of our records create more potential for somebody to be hostile towards the ideas in this culture. It's not like we're tailoring our ideas to make sure we'll be able to play certain tours or play to a certain amount of people

being involved in a band and the music scene but also in a record label, we see how people operate to try to get those pats on the head from the establishment and to try to take the path of least resistance to success.

Whether it decries American imperialism ("Albright Monument, Baghdad"), exposes repressive attitudes toward prostitution ("Ladies Night in Loserville") or questions the self-righteousness of crusaders ("Natural Disasters"), it's clear the band has been around long enough to get past the simple stick-it-to-the-man saber rattling of the passive revolutionaries that make up lip-service resistance in the punk world.

J: I don't think it was a conscious thing to change the sound of the record, I think we just wanted to make this record a bit more overtly political so that people can understand where we're coming from ideologically because the band were being perceived by a lot of crowds as just being a fun punk rock band or whatever and we were getting some more agro types out to the shows and we just did that to try and weed out some of the morons from the crowd

I think everybody should be given the chance to like have, you know, hear some different perspectives. most people who are "idiots" just haven't ever had the chance to you know, realize or hear the perspective from someone else. that the world isn't perfect and might is not right

I'd rather be patient and give them some time. It could be years before these issues resonate with them. Because when you're young sometimes your world isn't that big. You live with your parents, you go to school...you're separated from some of the things that happen in the world. I know my teachers and my parents weren't interested in engaging, in debate or in challenging my world at all. It took punkrockbands to do it and it took them a lot of time. And for us when we make records, we try to make sure the records have as much information as possible. Then you can sit there and go over things quietly

Just with the sheer numbers of people being interested in

this type of stuff after being exposed to it through more conventional corporate media outlets, we approach it by saying: "Look, since those people are there, why not try to popularize radical political ideas instead of keeping them underground?" Ultimately, the goal is to spread these ideas and not just keep them as a 'safe' or subcultural idea, or preach to the converted.

C-I don't believe in the reaching to the converted thing. I believe in positive reinforcement.

C-Even if these are things being reinforced, it is important that you are sharing those ideas with someone who may not even live in the same part of the world as you. I think it is important to know that you are not alone in your ideas.

people had this idea of us just marching on the street 24 hours a day, when the actual fact is we're these idiots who happen to be compassionate about injustice. We try to feel less hopeless and try to be productive about our anger.

We try and be involved in grass roots political action. We try and make it more than just words, ya' know, we say a lot of ideas so we wanna try and make it consistent with our actions. Try and be active or at least help out. Like showing up to a protest in solidarity, and getting involved in things like Food Not Bombs

What political views do you attack in your music? we just want to encourage people to take the time to investigate other worldviews and other proposed alternatives to how a society organizes itself. you don't get anywhere by just accepting what is handed to you by the powers that be. the world is on the brink of disaster, in both political and ecological terms. what role does the current mode of social organization play in bringing us to that brink? how can we stop it? how can we improve it? these are questions that we hope our music asks and that we hope listeners investigate and answer for themselves.

I don't know if there is one kind of general theme that we are getting at, although I think my personal opinion is that we are driving home the point that in countries like Canada and the U.S. we are not living under a democratic system, nor one that is beneficial to people in a humanitarian sense, it's simply an imperialist system that is run by the dictates of the economic elites and they control all institutions of society from the media, through schools and the military. Its an ongoing war economy that has to keep people oppressed in order to keep itself in power, straight across the entire globe, and we've seen that manifest in a number of ways, whether it's the ongoing bombing of Iraq, or pouring 6 billion dollars into a war against El Salvador in the 80's, or the bombing of Serbia recently, or the overthrowing of democratically elected governments, in all 5 continents of the globe, whenever it interferes with business interests, the U.S. is there to kick its ass, and abuse its power,

The Only Good Fascist is a Very Dead Fascist

Swastikas and Klan-robos. Sexist, racist, homophobes. Aryan-Nations and Hammerskins: you can wear my nuts on your nazi chins! God, I love a man in uniform! (But, uh, before we get too intimate here, big fella): what exactly are the great historical accomplishments of "your" race that make you proud to be white? Capitalism? Slavery? Genocide? Sitcoms? Guns? War? Pollution? Addiction? NAFTA? Thigh-Master? This is your fucking white-history, my "friend". So why don't we start making a history world being proud of and start fighting the real fucking enemy: the white male capitalist supremacist. Swastikas and Klan-robos. Sexist, racist, homophobes. This one's for the "Master Race": my brown-power ass in your white-power face! Kill them all and let a Norse God sort 'em out!

Apparently, I'm a "P.C. Fascist" (Because I care about both human and non-human animals)

Some of my otherwise brilliant and productive friends (like scoundrels and their flags) take final refuge in character assassinations; they ignore the issue and deny the relation between our consumption and brutality. So you can go ahead and roll your eyes and marginalize me/socially penalize me: play on my insecurities. And you can feign ignorance, but you're not stupid, you're just selfish. And you're a slave to your impulse. And I kinda thought we all shared common threads in that we gravitated here to challenge the conventions we've been fed by a culture that treats (living, breathing, feeling) creatures like (biological) machines. And if you buy that shit then how long 'till it's me who serves as your commodity? Through (for example), institutionalized violence and oppression of workers and women raped by sexism (and how about native Americans?). Do you still insist on feigning indignance (aka: indignation) to reason? To collective self-interest? Tell you what- I'll call you on your shit, PLEASE CALL ME ON MINE. Then we can grow together and make this shit-hole planet better in time. So why not consider someone else: STOP CONSUMING ANIMALS.

the american public...with the attacks of sept 11th....i think it's the first time in north american history where something like that has really occurred where people can visualize first hand the effects of war, and how terrible it is. outside of that, americans have no fucking clue (or canadians). and now that they've seen that, I think it provides the opportunity....for well, 'that's obviously wrong, innocent people do not deserve to die' so....figure out what your government's been doing since it's inception: coming over to north america, eradicating genocidially all (almost) native americans, founding its economy on the slavery of african americans, and then basically waging war with any country that doesn't agree with its interests. and enslaving entire nations. 'BURNATION'

ALBRIGHT MONUMENT, BAGHDAD

Wadia's best friend's youngest sister was denied a proper burial because for two days they couldn't douse the flames the allied planes had showered on her tiny body. And all the paper trails that lead to all the roads that lead to all these Basras make it seem like we're all just "collateral damage" waiting to be happened in some unforeseen Pentagon budget-drill. Today's Ba'ath regime is just the Red Scare of yesteryear. And I drink myself to sleep because I'm losing faith that any of us will ever amount to anything more than reluctant human subsidies, the moving parts in a death-machine, protesting their complicity, but waiting for somebody else to throw their body on the churning gears. I drink myself to sleep because I'm losing faith that we, here in the Cradle of Affluence can cease this sickening drive for individual strength through state-powers' swinging fists or that we'll ever look back and laugh at the irony that is: an atomic murderer is enshrined in Independence, USA while 8000 miles from here (back in the Cradle of Democracy) it's another banner year for a cottage industry - a ritual at the corner of George and Constantine - as foundries scramble to recast his decapitated monument.

A band that actually brings books with them to enlighten

people. Is that something you guys do to live it rather than just preach it?

Todd: Yeah, I've noticed that the more times we bring the books with us, the more times people

actually buy them. There were some shows in the midwest where seemed that every kid had a

book with them, and that's right on.

'ROCKZONE'

A People's History of the World

At some turning point in history, some fuckface recognized that knowledge tends to democratize cultures and societies so the only thing to do was monopolize and confine it to priests, clerics and elites (the rest resigned to serve), cuz if the rabble heard the truth they'd organize against the power, privilege and wealth hoarded by the few - for no one else. And did it occur to you that it's almost exactly the same today? And so if our schools won't teach us, we'll have to teach ourselves to analyze and understand the systems of thought-control. And share it with each other, never swayed by brass rings or the threat of penalty. I'll promise you - you promise me - not to sell each other out to murderers, to thieves... who've manufactured our delusion that you and me participate meaningfully in the process of running our own lives. Yeah, you can vote however the fuck you want, but power still calls all the shots. And believe it or not, even if (real) democracy broke loose, power could/would just "make the economy scream" until we vote responsibly.

Some people have to stay and fight for survival in the country they live in while others have to leave to survive. Corporations cross international borders all the time in search of people to exploit for profit and no one stops them. They call it globalization. On the other hand, the victims of corporate domination are told that they can't cross borders in search of better lives, and are forced to stay and deal with the social, economic and environmental messes the companies leave behind when they inevitably move their operations to places with even more "favourable business climates" (re: lower wages, lax environmental laws, tax breaks). Looks like capitalism and human-rights don't mix.

What has the North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) done for Canada?

Cracked it on the skull with a nail, and ruined it, sucked out some trees, and helped some corporations, but not anybody within the country. Every street corner of America is now perfectly identical and Styrofoam packed to order. I guess it's the same in Canada. You go to Europe, Australia, Japan and it's the same too. It's more depressing because it's on the other side of the world. Being in a band you travel so much and you see the homogenization of it all. It's all fucking nonsense, because it's empty. There is nothing of value. Like in the US, Canada, Mexico, Australia, and Hawaii, all of the aboriginal culture is wiped out and replaced with what? A hollow fucking fast food restaurant that's a meaningless unhealthy void.

'MECHUEN'

Homophobes Are Just Mad Cuz They Can't Get Laid

Nothing I can say will change your little mind. It's your clique and right or wrong you won't be left behind, but you're weak. Equality's your trip when all your friends agree, but freedom's just not hip when it's of sexuality, so you hate. I hope I live to see the day when your sexually repressed hatred is finally washed away. It seems that you're trying to prove it to yourself--build up those defences, you're just like everybody else. You wave your fist like you wave your fucking flag and you'll prove it to me now: you're no 'fag, but that's fucking weak

You claim to be a 'gay positive' band, as such, many people automatically assume you are therefore gay, which you obviously are not. Does this bother you, not that people think your gay, but that by supporting gay rights people think you have to be gay? Yeah, that attitude stinks of shit + punkers' B.O. It's as if people think that if a problem doesn't immediately concern themselves, then it's not really a problem at all. Same for men who don't give a shit about womens' rights, or honkusmolonkus' lack of respect for issues regarding race.....

At first it seemed you guys embraced the Food Not Bombs (FNB) basement show crowd and shunned the big PA club touring network. As you have progressed as a band and musicians you seemed more inclined to play bigger shows with better PA systems to accommodate your larger fan base. How do you strike a balance between the two without upsetting the punk purists while making sure everyone who wants to see you play can see you play?

Ahhh, the impossible balance. It's difficult to please the- "I like your band but hate your crowd" types with "machobaby moshin' fucknuts trying to impress others through crowdsurfing" types in attendance. Well, what we're trying to do is play in venues that can accomodate whatever size of a crowd that can reasonably be expected in a particular city. We don't want to play in huge places if we know we'll draw a small audience, but at the same time we don't want people to be turned away at the door. And we prefer to play places that can also accomodate activist organizations doing info tables. It just simply makes way more sense to do larger shows if they are feasible, more exposure to the music, the ideas, and the info. And hey, it's not like we were all pooped out as ethical punk rockers from the beginning or some shit. As a small boy from a small town, I didn't get into the ideas behind the music for years after I was initially exposed to it. I'd like to think of people as ones who sometimes change as they grow. I'd also like to think that anyone is welcome to our shows (except for violent assholes, I don't give a tinkers' fuck about them).

DEAD MARRING

Where do you see the future of the United States, given that Bush won?

I see some craziness ahead. And I see repression increasing. See here's the thing, I see mainstream media repression increasing, and I think Western industrial capitalism is becoming more police states than they ever have been, but at the same time I see much more resistance. So it's just seeing which one increases more. And so things are either gonna get really, really, really bad or there's gonna have to be some fundamental change in the next 20 years because people are getting fed up with repression and disparity between the rich and the poor, which is getting ridiculous even in rich countries like Canada and the US.

Worse for the United States: big business, pollution or Dubya?

They're all connected. And each one encourages the other. Bush totally collaborates with big business to create pollution for the purpose of capitalizing at everyone else's expense. They're all equally pieces of shit and must be removed from this great mark of reality.

DAILY NEXUS

May Day parade in Winnipeg this year, and it seemed like it was more of a family outing or this thing like a museum exhibit where they romanticized the IWW and all that. It's this big romantic view, like all the propaganda had these pictures of big strapping guys with hammers and anvils and stuff. That kind of shit is just stupid. There really is no IWW anymore. It should be the "Service Workers of the World". Somebody who works at some shitty McDonald's job or washes dishes or any of that kind of shit isn't going to see any of this stuff as having any relation to their life. And those are the people who make up the vast amount of workers, at least in North America. There's not a lot of jobs in industry. A lot of it is being automated, or being done in another country. So I think one of the big weaknesses is that they're not even trying to appeal to the workers. It's like they're just trying to relive 1917

C-A lot of those communist bands, even MANLIFTINGBANNER and stuff, tend to romanticize those workers' struggles when it's not romantic at all. It just sucks! It even sucks just thinking about it, but we've got to be because we're all going to be stuck in those positions. Another difference between back then and now is that these people... their craftsmanship was their industry, it was their life. It wasn't something they were doing to pay for school and it wasn't something they wanted to do. They had no interest in it and these people, they lived it and they had, well, I hate the thought of "pride in work", but they did. It was work for their community. It wasn't work for some rich guy. Well... it probably was, but they were building bridges for the community or they were building schools or whatever.

"Publicly subsidized! Privately profitable!" That's the anthem of the upper-tier (the puppeteer untouchable). We focus a moment, nod in approval and bury our head back in the bar-codes of these neo-colonialists while our former nemesis (ah, the romantic!) the nation-state, now plays fund-raiser for a new brand of power-concentrate. Try again, but now we're confused- what is "class-war"? Is this class war? Yes, this is class war. And I'm just a kid- I can't believe that I gotta worry about this kind of shit! What a stupid world! (x-in, this is just beautiful... absolutely no regard for principle. What a stupid world. (We're): 1) born 2) hired 3) disposed! Where that job lands, everybody knows and you can tell by the smile on the CEO's hat that the environmental resistants are about to go. You can bet that laws will be set to ensure the benefit of unrestricted labor-laws (all kept in place by displaced government death squads). They own us. They produce us. They consume us. Can you fucking believe this? What a stupid world. Fuck this bullshit display of class-loyalties. The media and "our" leaders wrap it all up in a flag- their fucking shit-rag, hoortay!

The State-Lottery

Does it seem strange to you? The content. The balloons. The mile-wide grins and the victory dances to welcome in the heir to a state of (utter and completely) despair? Because it sure seems strange to me: they're acting like they won the fucking lottery! I mean, shouldn't they feel terror at the task that lies ahead: to feed and house the people that this system's left for dead. And could I have hit the nail much harder on the head? It's profits before lives. They are motivated by greed. First they taught us to depend on their nation-states to mend our tired minds, our broken bones, our bleeding limbs. But now they've sold off all the spirits and contracted out the tourncients and it we jump through hoops then we might just survive. Is this what we deserve? To scrub the palace floors? To fight amongst ourselves? As we scramble for the crumbs they spit out, frothing at the mouth about the scapegoats that they've chosen for us. With every racist pointed finger I can hear the goose-steps getting closer. They no longer represent us so is it not our obligation to confront this tyranny?

...And We Thought That Nation-States Were a Bad Idea

Rio de San Atlanta, Manitoba

Our cities seem to function quite the same: sweeping ghettos under one big rug makes them easier to contain, so the upper-middle class can sleep (or shop in peace) and convince themselves that "trickle-down" will solve this poverty. Yes, murderers walk our streets and their weapons are their pens, desks, policies and P.R. campaigns (fed by the spoils of war) against the "lazy, shiftless" populations of the poor. This system cannot be reformed... (so how about we try something different?)

NEW HOMES FOR IDLE HANDS

Suburbs tremble again, fearing the have-nots at the window, collecting their fair share. Guns and alarms aren't enough. They demand justice, and every criminal locked away, as well as any kid who might do something wrong. There's a jail out of town with fences so high we won't think about who's inside. Neighbours are disappearing behind the bars. Kids are doing time for petty crimes. It don't matter who they are. It don't matter that they're alive. A warehouse for victims of circumstance. Cops are rounding up slaves; workers that can't complain or come late. A workforce behind bars. They'll make gadgets, circuit boards or fix cars. It don't matter who they are. It don't matter that they're alive. Crime pays, ask the bankers floating bonds to build cages for the inner-city's "idle-hands" instead of schools. Factories with fences meet the prisons without walls. We shall have your skulls. They'll kick you to the ground. You'll find yourself employed again. On the inside.

Resisting Tyrannical Government

Why don't we all strap bombs to our chests and ride our bikes to the next G-7 picnic? It seems easier with every clock tick. But whose will would that represent? Mine? Yours? The rank-and-file's? Or better yet: the Government's? But I don't want to catalyze or synthesize the second Final Solution. I don't want to be the Steve Smith of the Revolution. Do you see the analogy? We're the Oilers. The World Bank- the Flames! And just 2 minutes remain in the 7th game of the best of 7 series! Yeah, Jesus saves! Gretzky scores! The workers slave. The rich get more. One wrong move and we risk the cup. So play The Man, not the puck. Why don't we plant a mechanick virus and erase the memory of the machines that maintain this capitalist dynasty? And yes, I recognise the irony that the very system I oppose affords me the luxury of biting the hand that feeds. But that's exactly why privileged fucks like me should feel obliged to whine and kick and scream- until everyone has everything they need.

WITH FRIENDS LIKE THESE, WHO THE FUCK NEEDS COINTELPRO?

With friends like these, who the fuck needs cointelpro? I'm punch-drunk on the sickening cadence of iron-fists in velvet gloves. The Cheshire grins. The crippling Judas kiss to christen thee a sinking ship and ...the purpose of this new counter-intelligence endeavor is to expose, disrupt, misdirect, discredit or otherwise neutralize... any parades that you can't jump in front of. Any long years of hard work that ain't yours. Sometimes I wonder if you just can't help yourself? Overhead bloodthirsty vultures circle patiently. They offer condolences (and whisper bitter eulogies). Yes, "comrades" come as thick as thieves. But you got another thing coming. With friends like these, who the fuck needs cointelpro?

MORE PROPAGANDHI

turn off the TV, and just get involved with this shit going down. Get involved with real life! It's more interesting I think that this skewed reality that gets presented to us by corporate media, and I think it should be recognised for what it is, which is a big piece of shit!

just try to stay away from corporate popular media because we've never been represented fairly through it. Here in our home city we've been kind of blacklisted in the press.

Media Network over here, and there's chapters popping up all over the world and stuff, and I think that it's an exciting time in that way.

"The independence of the media is of fundamental importance to the overall goal which is to not to be just mad about stuff with no point to it. We're serious about instigating social change and our very, very tiny, minute role in the counterculture realm. I think one thing that is critical is taking a look at corporate media and who those people are in bed with, and whose interests they serve."

people. You have so much influence with kind of corporate media. When the media becomes the people making the weapons, and putting people into government, it seems like a totalitarian state. Like over in the US, there's a huge corporate network called NBC. They broadcast all kinds of news, and they're aligned with CNN in some ways now. This network is owned by General Electric, which is one of the largest military contractors that the US government has! They were promoting the whole bombing of Serbia like crazy, it was just fuckin insane! It's this truly Orwellian world that we're living in, only it's not a black and white kind of thing, it's just a very candy-coated, colourful 1984, where people are distracted by video games and MTV kind of stuff, while their tax dollars are being used to bomb places like Serbia and Iraq! It's fuckin nuts!

My: It's really sinister, cause the news networks are what most people use to find out what's going on in the world. If they're controlled, people can never be sure of what is really happening, and there can exist a very subtle kind of thought-policing. Jord: Totally, and I think that the global media... I read this statistic that 80% of mainstream media is owned by 6 companies! And with all these mergers going on, it's all like less and less input, more intense control over that kind of system. I think that one of the most important things to dispel the illusion of is the legitimacy of corporate media. It's the rich, elite perspective on news. You have the business report every day in those papers, but you never, ever, ever heard the idea of a labour report!

anyone with internet access who is interested in investigating ideas and actions that may lead the world away from devastation, should take the time to visit www.lbbs.org (Znet) and spend some time ther e. it is the best source of progressive journalism and activism that we are aware of. "http://www.g7welcomingcommittee.com/propagandhi"

POLICE CRIMES

The stairs in cop offices
Are built to kick handcuffed people down
Once in a while someone gets killed
Papers say:
"Reasons unknown"

Police crimes

Foreigner had to show I.D.
So grabbed his passport immediately
Cop shot him right through the head
"I slipped and fell" is what he said

Warning shot (cop said it was a)
Murderers (the police are)
In Amsterdam, Brixton, Germany, Russia
America, South Africa, El Salvador, anywhere
People are being killed by the police...

BCK AMSTERDAM 1982-87

HAVE A COKE (AND NO TRIAL)
Working at the cola plant
In a South American land
Work is hard, pay is low
The church has banned the pill
Got plenty of kids to feed
Whose bellies aren't full
And it will always stay the same
As long as money's the name of the game
Exploitation
World-domination

Mono-culture rapes the land
The profits disappear in foreign hands
You're talking about change, but you should be wiser
If you don't want to end up as fertilizer
Death squads with aid from the CIA
Came and took the union-leaders away
To be tortured and erased
In a secret hidden place

Have a Coke and a smile
Have a Coke and no trial
Bullet in the brain
It's the real thing...

GORILLA BISCUITS

NEW YORK 1988-91

Cats And Dogs

Man's best friend is beautiful and affectionate, an ideal pet. Cats are the same, we make up their names and our love for them is real. Listen up, I gotta ask you, how can we be so cruel?
You say you care, that's a lie.
My true compassion is for all living things and not just the ones who are cute so I do what I can. I wanna save lives and I've got a plan.
Under the table he'll eat your dinner like the veggies we can't stand. What kind of meal would he make?
We don't want to ask it. Tradition is all that keeps him alive. Listen up, I gotta ask how can we be so cruel?
You say you care, that's a lie.
My true compassion is for all living things and not just the ones who are cute so I do what I can. I wanna save lives and I've got a plan.
Why am I so upset. Don't even own a pet. I am not trying to press my will. I am not the first to say... THOU SHALT NOT KILL
Full is all you want to feel. We eat to stay alive, but it's their lives we steal. I think we'd like to change, but most of us are stuck, that's why cats and dogs have ALL THE LUCK

SHANK

GLASGOW 1998-DATE

PENCIL PUSHER

Sitting safely behind your desk
Think you can make my life a real drag
Just what gives you the right to treat me like dirt
I'd like to punch you in the nose

All you ever give me is dirty looks, question lists
You're just slurping coffee with those other jerks
Then you call me a parasite 'cause I don't work

I feel reduced to a number, a nameless code
It sure would be fun to make your computer explode
Give false information you're unable to rub
And get your little ministry of red tape all fucked-up

TOUT LES FLICS

Just walking down the street
Someone knocks you off your feet
Standing up against the wall
You didn't do anything at all

They drag you in a car
You get punched and kicked some more
Just try to fight them back
And there's a gun pointed at your neck

All cops are bastards

SUBURBAN HOME

I want to be stereotyped
I want to be classified
I want to be a clone
I want a suburban home
Suburban home
Suburban home
Suburban home
I want to be a statistic
I want to be masochistic
I want to be a clone
I want a suburban home
Suburban home
Suburban home
Suburban home
I don't want no hippie pad
I want a house just like mom and dad
I want to be stereotyped
I want to be classified
I want to be a statistic
I want to be masochistic
I want to be a clone
I want a suburban home
Suburban home
Suburban home

STATUE OF LIBERTY

Well the people walk all around
The thing on an island very far from here
They pay it homage like a god
And they paint it on each and every year
A sign for all it was given to us
And we all appreciate this bomb
The tourists don't know and never will
It has no use it's meaning is gone
The Statue of Liberty
And for united we stand
We all agree it's a mystery
But why'd they give it to us?
We still don't know just why it came
A present from god or by the rain
The crowds swarm wildly to see its peak
When I watch I go insane
Why is it so important to them
What is the beauty they see in it
I don't know why I just accept it
I don't want it cause it makes me sick

ALL DESCENDENTS

L.A. 1981-DATE

LOCK 'EM AWAY
LYRICS & MUSIC BY KARL ALVAREZ
DON'T LIKE WHAT THEY DO? LOCK THEM AWAY
DON'T LIKE WHAT THEY SAY? LOCK THEM AWAY
DOES YOUR CHILD DISPLAY THE SEVEN WARNING SIGNS? LOCK THEM AWAY
THEY'RE NOT QUITE WHAT YOU HAVE IN MIND? LOCK THEM AWAY
ERASING THE MISTAKE, LOCK 'EM AWAY
WE'VE GOT DRUGS AND THERAPY WE WILL FIX THEM FOR A FEE
ERASING THE MISTAKE, LOCK 'EM AWAY
THREE STRIKES AND YOUR OUT, LOCK THEM AWAY
THEY'RE GUILTY BEYOND DOUBT, LOCK THEM AWAY
IGNORE THE POOR, BUILD MORE JAILS
DON'T ASK WHERE THEIR SYSTEM FAILS
ERASING THE MISTAKE, LOCK 'EM AWAY
DON'T WANT TO SEE THEM, WON'T TAKE THEIR CALLS
REDUCE THEM TO A NUMBERED ROOM
LIKE THEY WERE NEVER THERE AT ALL
THE OLD, THE SICK AND LAME, LOCK THEM AWAY
WE OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED THEY WAY WE LOCK THEM AWAY
JUST YOU WAIT, WE'VE GOT A PLACE
WHEN YOU NO LONGER PULL YOUR WEIGHT
ERASING THE MISTAKE, LOCK 'EM AWAY
ERASING THE MISTAKE, LOCK 'EM AWAY

ROIR
LYRICS BY KARL ALVAREZ
MUSIC BY STEPHEN EGERTON
ALL YOU FILTHY IDLE RICH
YOU BET IM PREJUDICED
I GOT CLASS... RESENTMENT
ALL YOU PRETTY GIRLS AND BOYS
WITH EXPENSIVE TOYS
I GOT CLASS... RESENTMENT
WHEN IM AT WORK YOU TREAT ME RUDE
SO I SPT IN YOUR FOOD
I GOT CLASS... RESENTMENT
I AINT GOT SHIT
YOU GOT A TRUST FUND
I GOT MINIMUM WAGE
SKI VACATIONS IN THE SUN
YOU HAD IT MADE FROM DAY ONE
I GOT CLASS... RESENTMENT
PLAYING GOLF WITH MILLIONAIRES
ON CORPORATE WELFARE
I GOT CLASS... RESENTMENT
I AINT GOT SHIT
YOU GOT A TRUST FUND
I GOT MINIMUM WAGE
THE DYES, CREDIT CARDS
IN DADDY'S S.U.V.
YOU DRIVE FOR DRUGS AND DATE RAPE
AT THE RAINBOW GATHERING
WHEN YOU FINISH SLUMMING BOY
YOU SHED YOUR HIPPIE SKIN
YOUR DADS A MONEY NAZI
YOU GAVE US UP JUST LIKE HIM
I WANT TO CUT YOUR PERFECT THROAT
SOMETIMES I WONDER WHY I DON'T

SS DECONTROL SSD

BOSTON 1982-83

WHO'S TO JUDGE

Quick to judge on what you see
Don't even know what's inside of me
Wear a badge and carry a gun
Be a "punker" have some fun
Men in blue, a job to fill
You think I'm dressed to kill
All aren't evil, all aren't good
Condemn the world if you could
The judgements you make must stop
A new understanding must begin
We've all got to learn how to cope
You get out of life what you put in
Misinterpret my intentions
Have the wrong evaluations
Society judges by its cover
Turn the page try to discover
Wear what you want so will I
It only covers what's inside
You think you know but you don't see
The clothes I wear don't think for me

CRUCIFIX

SAN FRANCISCO 1982-84

SP: Do you consider yourselves an anarchist band?

Sothira: Yes, we believe in it. We believe peace can be a reality; that if every individual will work for it, it can be achieved. As anarchists, we try to practice what we preach and live out the way we believe is the right way. With anarchy, there's so many points and different things about it that you can get all bundled up, but it's personal to everybody. Generally, we all have the same ideas.

SP: Do you feel an anarchist state could exist here?

Sothira: Not at this point in time, but in the future. It's just that we've got to work at getting people together first and then getting them to realize what they're doing and working for peace. We have an anarchist state for us--the band and the people that are living or are going to live with us, we all share the same views and we're all trying to practice what we believe in and that's anarchy for us. And then what we hope is that other groups get together and form the same way--30 people or 10 people, whatever, and in the end everyone will join and realize we can all live in harmony together. You've got to start in small numbers.

AS: America is based on censorship of expression, that has been around ever since the constitution was signed, there has been all kinds of institutionalised forms of censorship of expression, and that's bogus. We also try to point out that the media bringing up that topic is a huge smokescreen for much larger forms of censorship; censorship of housing, healthcare, education, women's rights to do what they want with their own body, much larger forms of censorship that we have to deal with in America.

AS: People say "Why don't you write a song about Russia and the sort of Tyranny over there and how it's so much greater than over here"? I tell them those points are apparent to us but we only have seventy minutes on a record and we try to at least view things that are in the scope of our own experience, we're just not going to be equal to the task of making a comprehensive historical analysis of all forms of tyranny. We just wanna make it clear that for all the reaffirmation that we get in the media, and through government manipulation of the public to the effect that Capitalism is Democracy, we'll be there to reaffirm for everyone who questions that by saying that Capitalism has nothing to do with Democracy, nor does Communism as it has evolved.

CONSOLIDATED

SAN FRANCISCO
1990 - DATE

AS: We made a video for MTV of the song Unity of Oppression of course we tried to isolate all the different forms of oppression; sexual oppression, homosexual discrimination, and class discrimination. They've seen all that, but they won't let Phil edit in a corresponding amount of depictions of when people endorse, or contribute to, the oppression of animals.

PS: It's a wierd thing people want that to stay secret in society. They don't want you to see young men grabbing a bunch of rabbits and clubbing them on the head for sport; that shows a lot about what we are as people.

AS: It's so wierd that people refuse to admit the correlation between different forms of oppression, they are so paranoid that they are never going to have any impact in irradiating the form of oppression that they have been singularly fighting against

no answer for a dancer

it was after the show i'm loading out the van it could've been anywhere but in this case atlanta a woman walks up while i'm packing she says have you got a minute i say yeah just a second how are you did you enjoy the show she said i did but i still have a question though some of your remarks were confusing especially the ones about pornography and prostitution now let me understand this that for women and children this is violence well i appreciate the messages you're giving but i happen to dance for a living and i want to know why you want to be my voice taking away that which should be my choice to seek some gainful employment even if it means giving dirty old men enjoyment now exploitation of anyone is wrong i agree but this doesn't apply to me i've never been harassed while i work and my bottom line's phat now sir can you deal with that you could already call the situation i didn't even speculate about her occupation this debate's insane but i was on the spot so i had to try to explain her points were intelligent and simple and i'm already feeling like mr. guilty white liberal just try to be sensitive don't act like i have any advice to give let me make it clear i support you in a man's world a woman does what she's got to if this is your profession your sexual expression your internalized oppression i won't doubt you my only problem is with a society that forces women into sexual commodities where a third of all women are known to be sexually abused before they're grown the most raped most homeless and addicted if this job were described to you would you have picked it average age fourteen yes obscene made to look aroused by pain children being raped with guns and knives that's not speech but the taking of innocent's lives if you happen to be the exception that's cool but let's consider the overwhelming rule we parted ways with no resolution you can go back and forth and never find a solution the only point i wanted to make to her is while all the liberals and pornographers decide where the line between porn and erotica is this is what prostitution really is a question of censorship porn and women's and children's basic rights and there's no first amendment protection for those unable to raise an objection if they weren't silenced they'd sound an alarm and we'd all know the difference between speech and harm you want to mutilate yourself on film that's your choice but can we protect those without a voice i'd never get in your face i just don't want you to end up like linda lovealove the bottom line is i'm a man and i listen to you because i could never understand i haven't got shit to say but if i don't say anything how long will it be this way

Unity of Oppression

The history of oppression. You know we can't erase it in a pop song but the facts we gotta face it. Men rape women and man rapes the environment. And people with opposed religious views are violent. How can we advance with a memory so short. We live in a society that kills animals for sport. How can we discuss gender, class, or race when we can't respect the rights of lesbians and gays.

In our efforts to make a difference we specialize but the contradiction arise we fail to realize the damages done to the native American singular issues i just don't understand how you can love one and have hatred for another you torture your sisters while saying peace to your brothers. As long as we insist on being so aggressive, we will continue to play the role of the oppressor.

When men and women, straight and gay, whites and non-whites begin to unite when humans can treat non-human species with fairness and dignity, then only then is there unity, of oppression. Gotta understand the concept of unity. A sacrifice for the price of unity.

To all the white liberals and non-white militants that over-simplify the impact of prejudice. Blame it on the whites and you're right but it keeps us divided that agenda becomes short sighted. I hear you condemning all racist sentiments and then i hear you making anti-Semitic comments. Instead of allowing only one type of equality. Place the blame on each other we should be expanding our scope of understanding and hope posing some questions and make some suggestions. We don't claim to speak from a position of authority, we only want one thing and that's unity of oppression.

butyric acid

i want to talk about media distortion ad campaign telling lies about abortion standing there call yourself a good christian break your fucking sign because you're causing me friction ignorant group operation rescue if you treat women then they might even kill you randall terry says they're soldiers of god if you ask me i'd say they're smoking much prod a little advice for the medical students they're teaching cowardice not medical prudence lobbying pressure from the a.m.a. cracker don't treat women and you call yourself a doctor standing in line slime with no sense two can play at that start clinic defense yelling over me showing patients no respect break for the lane get an elbow in your neck if you don't want a nazi in your house don't let one don't know a fundamentalist 'til you've met one if you've memorized your civil rights don't forget one if you don't want an abortion don't get one marching with your cross and your dead fetus picture don't let me see you or i'll jam it up your sphincter lucky that i find violence so heinous but my wife and her friends'll put a foot in your anus confused sad woman kill apologizing sad fucking bible still memorizing had to make a choice between god and her sisters you imitate your oppressor so you dissed her even though you told me you had the procedure because you're rich and you're white that freed you from the consequence of a child out of wedlock from the family shame at the congregation potluck crazy pregnant woman citing her religion the baby's going to die without cesarian section i won't support scientific intervention give her the freedom to deal with her actions ur486 yes i am sir anything to empower women that's for damn sure know what it means when they're bombing all the clinics who's going to say get off the fence to the cynics harassing g.y.n. with a death threat say that you're doing god's work yeah bet respect women give her some room believe in her rights stay out of her womb if you want to see women stop termination give her a future and a real education do you think women want to kill their own baby if you have your own twisted baggage maybe if you don't want a nazi in your house don't let one don't know a fundamentalist 'til you've met one if you've memorized your civil rights don't forget one if you don't want an abortion don't get one

LOS ANGELES / ARMEMA
1998 - DATE

Temper

Now we want peace with patriot missiles
Blown to bits are civilian targets
Parade, laugh, rejoice, sing
We're the victors of anothers
Spend more money on a war
Your people starve and turn to whores
Slaves of the chosen ones paying millions for each bomb

Country without a race
From people you disgrace
White right conservative might
Killers of Kennedy's with no fright
The American way!

When freedom cried the marching man
Flags ripped out of their black hands
Beaten, slain, tortured, killed
Their only mistake was being born here
Invade countries just for oil
Send your troops all down to boil
Iraq, Grenada, Nam and Chile

Truman doctrine our own way

Country without a race
From people you disgrace
White right conservative might
Killers of Kennedy's with no fright
The American way!

The Government Hill can suck my balls
Policing the world in overalls
Armed rebellion minority
Disrespected race, colored mind
Crazed loonies all walk the streets
Missing children on milk cartons
Mother selling child for crack
Mr. President check your back

Country without a race
From people you disgrace
White right conservative might
Killers of Kennedy's with no fright
The American way!
The American way!
The American way!

Take The Power Back

Spoken: 'Crank the music up'

Bring that shit in! Ughh!
Yeah, the movement's in motion with mass militant poetry
Now check this out... ughh!
In the right light, study becomes insight
But the system that dissed us
Teaches us to read and write

So called facts are fraud
They want us to allege and pledge
And bow down to their God
Lost the culture, the culture lost
Spun our minds and through time
Ignorance has taken over
Yo, we gotta take the power back!
Bam! Here's the plan
Motherfuck Uncle Sam
Step back, I know who I am
Raise up your ear, I'll drop the style and clear
It's the beats and the lyrics they fear
The rage is relentless
We need a movement with a quickness
You are the witness of change
And to counteract
We gotta take the power back

Yeah, we gotta take the power back
Come on, come on!
We gotta take the power back

The present curriculum
I put my fist in 'em
Eurocentric every last one of 'em
See right through the red, white and blue disguise
With lecture I puncture the structure of lies
Installed in our minds and attempting
to hold us back
We've got to take it back
'Cause holes in our spirit causin' tears and fears
One-sided stories for years and years and years
I'm inferior? Who's inferior?
Yeah, we need to check the interior
of the system that cares about only one culture
And that is why
We gotta take the power back

Yeah, we gotta take the power back
Come on, come on!
We gotta take the power back

Hey yo check, we're gonna have to break it. break it. break it down
Awww shit!
Ughh!
And like this... ughh!
Come on, yeah! Bring it back the other way!
The teacher stands in front of the class
But the lesson plan he can't recall
The student's eyes don't perceive the lies
Bouncing off every fucking wall
His composure is well kept
I guess he fears playing the fool
The complacent students sit and listen to some of that
Bullshit that he learned in school

Europe ain't my rope to swing on
Can't learn a thing from it
Yet we hang from it
Gotta get it, gotta get it together then
Like the motherfuckin' weathermen
To expose and close the doors on those who try
To strangle and mangle the truth
'Cause the circle of hatred continues unless we react
We gotta take the power back

Yeah, we gotta take the power back
Come on, come on!

"It's great to play the shows and make records, but you have to put your money where your mouth is outside of that," he explains, earnestly. "We can do benefit shows for Rock For Choice or the Anti-Police Brutality Defense Fund, but I wouldn't feel comfortable if that's all we did, just gracing a hall with your presence for 40 minutes without taking any pay... Oh my!" he squeals, rolling his eyes mockingly.

REDSKINS

LONDON
1982 - 86

violence as a tool of change. It's just - you either fight or you get fucked. It happened in Holland the other night with some Dutch fascists and we threw them out in the end. It's a simple thing that either you confront it or you just knuckle under. I don't believe in it, I don't think it's wonderful. I want a system, a society where there isn't violence, but I'm not a fucking pacifist. A situation like Chile in the early 70's, they democratically elected a leftist government with a massive majority and the army just moved in and smashed it. There's no point in talking all our lives and when it comes to a confrontation, bottling out. You have to fight. If you're on a picket line in Yorkshire and all the time you've got thousands of police armed with truncheons, yard sticks, helmets, riot shields and padded from head to toe, and they're laying into people, you fight back. Yes, you throw bricks. I've got nothing against bricking the police at all. I don't think it achieves anything. I don't think the way the miners are going to win the strike is by killing a load of pigs, or the more bricks they throw the stronger they are. No, it's a sign of weakness. If the miners were really strong, they wouldn't need to, the police wouldn't matter. If there's 20,000 workers, like in Salty coke depot, the police can't cope, they can't do anything. It's a weakness of the strike that it comes down to fisticuffs and bricks and bottles, but I defend the miners doing it completely. Because you should defend yourself when you've just got T-shirts, plimsolls and jeans, and they've got like Twenty-first Century technology on their side to smash you to pulp. You fight. No two ways.... But what just needs to be said is that the real violence in this dispute has come all the time from the Tories. From the start they said that they were going to close pits, causing 20,000 redundancies, destroying peoples livelihoods and communities in the process. It's a matter of pointing out the complete fucking hypocrisy of the press. There's been seven miners killed in the course of the strike and one cabby, and those seven miners never got any coverage whatsoever. The press never cried any tears over them.

RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE

LOS ANGELES
1992 - 2000

"Do you remember from the Contras' war against the Sandinistas? The CIA published these comic books, like, telling you how to blow up a bakery? We took a page from that which showed how to make a Molotov cocktail and put it on the back of a T-shirt design. The French Minister Of The Interior was not all that excited about this seditious material. They burnt all the T-shirts - we got out of the country just in time..."

Tom Morello, Rage Against The Machine

"You get your wine bottle, get a little gasoline, a little kerosene maybe, a little bit of oil, some soap shavings and a rag. Make sure the rag is touching the oil, hold it away from your body when you're lighting the rag and throw it at the target. It's an effective and cheap weapon of the people. You can certainly disable police cars - in Czechoslovakia they disabled tanks. The point is that we didn't put that on the T-shirts to get publicity, we did it because we want people to know this information, so they're prepared. People have a right to this information..."

Unionise

The first thing that needs to be said
Is hatred's all very well
But hatred must be organised
If dreams are to be realised
And anger is no substitute
For disciplined rebellion
To unionise is to organise

Unionise!
Fight back!
Unionise!
Stop! Strike!
Unionise!

Well all this talk of fighting back
Is talk to be ignored
If we don't know where our power lies
And utilize the tools we've got
The bosses have the money
And the workers have no rights
But our muscle is our labour
And we flex it when we go on strike

Unionise!
Fight back!
Unionise!
Stop! Strike!
Unionise!

We can talk of riots and petrol bombs
And revolutions all day long
But if we fail to organise
We'll waste our lives on protest songs
A life worth living is waiting to be won, sure
The day the bosses fall
The day the dream has come
But stop romanticising
Hollow talk is just a curse
The revolution won't appear
We all have to build for it first

Unionise!
Fight back!
Unionise!
Stop! Strike!
Unionise!

I don't believe in

Kick Over The Statues

At the end of an era
The First thing to go
Are the heads of our leaders
Kicked down in the road...

On the day of reckoning
When we've struck & won
Watch close as their heroes
Go crashing down on the pavement...

The workers in poland rose
& in Hungary too
Somozas & Joses fell
...Azania coming soon!

Kick over the statues
And the tyrants die
Wave bye bye with a hammer
To their heroes

The first act of freedom
All over the world
Is to topple the statues
Kick the bosses over

Bulls On Parade

This microphone explode, shattering
The holds
Ya eighter drop tha hits like de la o or get tha
Fuck off tha commode
Wit tha sure shot, sure ta make tha
Bodies drop
Drop an don't copy yo, don't call this
A co-opt
Terror rains drenchin', quenchin' tha thirst of
tha power dons
That five sided fist-a-gon
The rotten sore on the face of mother earth gets
Bigger
Tha triggers cold empty ya purse
They rally round tha family
With pockets full of shells
Weapons not food, not homes, not shoes
Not need, just feed tha war cannibal animal
I walk tha corner to tha rubble that used to be a
Library
Line up to tha mind cemetery
What we don't know keeps tha contracts alive an
Movin'
They don't gotta burn tha books they just remove 'em
While arma warehouses fill as quick as tha cells
Rally round tha family, pockets full of shells
Rally round tha family
With pockets full of shells
Bulls on parade

"I don't understand why there aren't riots in the streets constantly? If I wasn't a guitarist in a band I'd be a sexual harassment attorney - that's my latest thing. It's pervasive, it's subliminal, it's a tool of domination

"I learnt about US foreign policy in Central America from The Clash's 'Sandinista', not the propaganda on the nightly news," he claims. "I don't know how we're going to help create substantive change but, y'know, the only way to learn about revolution is to revolt, so..."

"People are taught

to see themselves as completely removed from any process of historical change and, if you think that, then it doesn't matter what you do as long as you make it to the next six-pack, the next pair of stone-washed jeans so you can meet the perfect girlfriend, just plugging into that consumer culture. What we're saying is that what you do does matter..."

It Can Be Done!

Russia sparked the fires in 1917
First workers revolution
The first revolution history
Working people forced the bosses' backs against the wall
First steps taken for a better life for all

It's a shame
It's a crying shame
When our past is buried
And our victories go unnamed
It's a crying shame
When our history books
Talk of kings & men of fame

And in another country workers rose again
1919, 1919 in Berlin
But they didn't learn the lessons
From the Russians that they should
Revolution, revolution was drowned in blood

It's a crying shame
But the lessons plain
It's a crying shame
But the lessons plain

All things are possible

Hunger of the 30's
Hunger of the 30's back again
And the rich still rich
And the poor still the same as they ever were
And it seems to me
We're still not learning from our history

And it's a crying shame
Those who hold the future hold themselves in chains
It's a crying shame
Those who bear the pain hold themselves to blame
It's a crying, it's a crying shame
It's a crying shame

Look at Petrograd!
Look at Barcelona
Fight against the land & the factory owners
Same fight today against another ruling class
Learn a lesson from your past

It's a crying shame
But the lessons plain
It's a crying shame
But the lessons plain
It can happen again
It's a crying, crying, crying shame
But the lessons plain
It can be done again!

SEPULTURA

BRAZIL
1985 - DATE

DICTATORSHIP

Lyrics: Max Cavalera

Music: Sepultura

1964
Conspirator
Military force
Hundreds dead

Why did they disappear?
DICTATORSHIP

1995
Spirits still alive
We still hear the cry
From the ones that survived!!!

MANIFEST

Friday, October 2nd, 1992
Chaos has descended in "Carandiru,"
the biggest penitentiary complex in
South America.

Over a hundred inmates dead and
hundreds injured on the massacre
The police arrived with helicopters
and over two hundred armed forces

They took the jailblock called "Pavilhão Nove"
and opened fire on the inmates in a holocaust
method of annihilation
The government of the city of São Paulo
cannot control the brutality of its police

Holocaust:
Body piles
Confrontation
Mutilation

Discipline
Ignorance
Conflagration
Torture

Over eighty percent of the inmates were
not sentenced yet
The bodies were filled with bullets and bites
from the police dogs
The police try to hide the massacre saying there
were only eight deaths

The violence of Brazilian cops is very well
known outside of Brasil

This kind of extermination is a method that
they use to get rid of the overpopulation
in the jails

The violence of the cops left the whole
pavilion destroyed after the rebellion

"Pavilhão Nove" (Pavilhão 9)

SYSTEM OF A DOWN

Listener Supported

Six foot six above sea level
I grab the mic because I take you to
another mental level
low power frequency radio modulation
we bring the truth to places truth is never heard before
we bring the sound communication of our tribal war
dark vision fly by helicopters in the night
attempt triangulation of our station in the fight
straight from the bass the deep down low precision
high crime treason we broadcastin' sedition
like the wall street mornin' afternoon edition
commandeering airwaves from unknown positions

(chorus)
Live and direct we comin' never pre-recorded
with information that will never be reported
disregard the mainstream media distorted
whoopi! whoopi!
we comin' listener supported

Don't take no prisoners if can't afford to feed none
don't start no fights if you can't predict the outcome
don't make donations where you cannot get your dough back
fuck the apathetic bullshittas send em' all your prozac
I will not climb into your telephone tree
and "hell no you can't put me on hold!"
it's the same recorded message you'd been singin' all along
keep handin' us the bible while you walkin' off with all the gold
the bureaucratic office sends you merry-go-rounding
while the KKK police the streets by blood hounding
interest on the credit card just keeps on compounding
but the FCC can neva shut this pirate sound down
(chorus)

california uber alles
a cover of a dead kennedys song*
california uber alles
california above all others

i'm your governor pete wilton ya know
the baddest governor to ever grab the mike and go Boom!
gimme a budget and watch me hack it
gimme a beat and i'll show you how to jack it

i give the rich a giant tax loophole
i leave the poor livin' in a poophole

at a time when aids in a crisis
i cut health care and i raise prices

sales tax, snack tax, excise tax
information attack with a newspaper tax
hit the pocket books of working families
increase tuition at the universities

one day i'll command all'a you
even your kids are gonna pray to me in school

soon i'm gonna be the president
you might remember the last one this state sent

california uber alles
california above all others

i'm so proud to know the "great communicator"
wanna be known as the "great incarcerator"

i'll blow environmentalists away
and i'll be the fuhrer some day

i'll keep cuttin' public education
even though we rank 45th in the nation

i've got a plan for the minorities
send 'em to the california youth authorities

from san francisco urban elementary
to pelican bay state penitentiary

there they can work for the master race
and always wear a happy face

close your eyes it can't happen here
big brother in a squad car's comin' near

come enjoy the surf and sun
keep california number one!

california uber alles
california above all others

now it's 1992
knock knock at your front door, hey guess who?
it's the suede denim secret police
they've come to your house for your long-haired neice

gonna take her off to a camp
'cause she's been accused of growing hemp

don't you worry it's only a shower
and now for your clothes here's a pretty flower

gonna die on malathion gas
the serpent's already been hatched

people starvin' and livin' in the streets
because they tried to mess with me president pete

california uber alles
california above all others

Michael: This system of Capitalism and Patriarchy forces people to live desperate lives and do desperate things - it drives people to take things out on each other. For example in the States, what's happening now is the same as what was happening at the 'end' of slavery. At that time Black men couldn't get jobs - they weren't allowed to do anything except be pissed on. The burden of keeping things together fell on and continues to fall on the shoulders of Black women. The system forced Black men into a situation where they were unable to play any substantial role within the family, and they took their frustrations out on women and children.

The same thing's happening today. Young men don't have access to education or jobs. The system only allows them access to drugs, alcohol and guns. So at the end of another shitty day, they go home and take out their frustrations on those closest to them. It's all become part of a systematic cycle of violence and oppression.

Spare Rib: But this cycle of oppression that you talk about affects us all. The sheer degradation inflicted by this Capitalist system disempowers all of us - women, men and children. But men have used and continue to use their oppression and subsequent frustration with the system as a convenient excuse to oppress women.

Rono: We agree. What we have to understand is that we can't use our oppression under the system as an excuse to take our frustrations out on another group of human beings. Rather than taking our anger out on women, we should be directing our anger towards the system. Our liberation as people of colour lies in being aware of the sources of our disempowerment.

Hole In The Bucket (M. Franti/M. Harris)

(Money Money Money Money Nothin But Money)
I work 9 to 5 but it starts in the P.M.
and I love the sunrise so I step out in the A.M.
the street is black and shiny from the early
nightly rainin'
the glory of the light it brings evaporation
mornin's fresh oxygen cleanest
I take a deep hit help my mind stay the greenest
I'm already wake so I'm not drinkin' coffee
don't wanna cigarette, 'cause it's a form of slavery
walk into the store 'cause I need a few items
the sun heats the blood like a hit of vitamins
needs buy some food and some poo for my dreams
can't remember why but I need a spool of thread
Man with dirty dreads, steps around the corner
he asks me for a dime, a nickel or a quarter
I don't have any change so I'm steppin' along
and as I'm walkin' past he sings to me a song...

(chorus)
There's a whole in the bucket dear liza, dear
liza...(repeat)

The day is pickin' up 'cause I'm hummin' his song
the buses and the people all keep movin' along
to the shopkeeper I say "was'sup?"
and I'm thinkin' about the man who's holdin' up the cup
I pay for all the stuff and get a pocketful of change
should I give it to the man's the question in my brain
What's gonna happen if I give the man a dime?
I don't wanna pay for another brotha's wine
What's gonna happen if I give the man a quarter?
will he find a dealer and try to place an order?
what's gonna happen if I give the man a nickel
will he buy some food or some pork that's been pickled?
I'm not responsible for the man's depression
how can I find compassion in the midst of recession?
How come all these questions keep fuckin' with my head
and I still can't rememba why I need a spool of thread.

(chorus)

He's starin' in my eyes just as I'm walkin' past
I'm tryin' to avoid him 'cause I know he's gonna ask
me about the coinage that is in my pocket
But I don't know if I should put it in his bucket
walk right past him to think about it more
back at the crib I'm openin' up the door
a pocketful of change it don't mean alot to me
my cup is half full but his is empty
I put back on my cap and I start headin' back
I reach into my pocket and I have a heart attack

well as I'm diggin' deep I scream "oh no!"
there's nothin' in the pocket but a great big hole
While I was busy thinkin' if he would buy smack
the jingle in my pocket it slipped through the cracks
no one has the change and it's fuckin' up my head
But now I no the reason why I had to buy the thread!



SAN FRANCISCO
1995 - DATE

(2)



1992-93

Spare Rib: So where do we all go from here?

Rono: I can only speak from where I'm coming from - and that's as a man of colour. When you've been through the kind of pain that people of colour have been through, then you can only become stronger. The only hope that we as oppressed people have is our strength of spirit and our resistance. We have to use that to fight back at a system that is intent on keeping us down. I know that my strength is what keeps me going; they can step on me, they can hit me, but I will always get up. What keeps my spirits high is the passion that I have for life and for what I believe in. I've turned the bad things in my life into a positive experience, and now I know that nothing can knock me down.

television, the drug of the nation
one nation
under god
has turned into
one nation under the influence
of one drug

television, the drug of the nation
breeding ignorance and feeding radiation

TV
its satellite links
our united states of unconsciousness
apathetic therapeutic and extremely addictive
the methadone metronome pumping out
150 channels 24 hours a day
you can flip through all of them
and still there's nothing worth watching
TV
is the reason why less than ten percent of our nation
reads books daily
why most people think central america
means kansas
socialism means unamerican
and apartheid is a new headache remedy
absorbed in its world it's so hard to find us
it shapes our mind the most
maybe the mother of our nation
should remind us
that we're sitting too close to the

television, the drug of the nation
breeding ignorance and feeding radiation

TV
is the stomping ground for political candidates
where bears in the woods
are chased by grecian formula'd
bald eagles
TV
is mechanized politics'
remote control over the masses
co-sponsored by environmentally safe gases
watch for the PBS special
it's the perpetuation of the two-party system
where image takes precedence over wisdom
where sound-bite politics are served to
the fast-food culture
where straight teeth in your mouth
are more important
than the words that come out of it
race baiting is the way to get selected
willie horton or
will he not get elected on

television, the drug of the nation
breeding ignorance and feeding radiation

TV
is it the reflector or the director?
does it imitate us
or do we imitate it
because a child watches 1500 murders before he's
twelve years old and we wonder how we've created
a jason generation that learns to laugh
rather than abhor the horror
TV
is the place where
armchair generals and quarterbacks can
experience first-hand
the excitement of video warfare
as the theme song is sung in the background
sugar sweet sitcoms
that leave us with a bad actor taste
while pop stars metamorphosize into soda-pop stars
you saw the video
you heard the soundtrack
well now go buy the soft drink
well, the only cola that i'd support
would be a union COLA (cost of living allowance) on

television, the drug of the nation
breeding ignorance and feeding radiation

back again, "new and improved"
we return to our irregularly programmed schedule
hidden cleverly between heavy-breasted
beer and car commercials
CNN ESPN ABC TNT but mostly BS
where oxymoronic language like
"virtually spotless," "fresh frozen"
"light yet filling," and "military intelligence"
have become standard
TV
is the place where phrases are redefined
like "recession" to "necessary downturn"
"crude oil" on a beach to "mousse"
"civilian death" to "collateral damages"
and being killed by your own army

is now called "friendly fire"

TV
is the place where the pursuit of happiness
has become the pursuit of trivia
where toothpaste and cars have become
sex objects
where imagination is sucked out of children
by a cathode ray nipple
TV is the only wet nurse
that would create a cripple

television, the drug of the nation
breeding ignorance and feeding radiation

I Will Defy

I will defy - what they call law
Bastard politics - and back room deals
sealing the fate - of a once pure world
As we're crushed beneath - their jackboot heels
I will defy - their hollow truth
And stand my ground - against their lives
I will defy - I will defy - I will defy - I will defy

What was the idea behind the backwards
groove on the new LP?

Ben: Just the idea that you can fuck with people.
People just become too passive. When you buy
a record, you don't think anything about it. You
think you can just go home and put the needle on
it and it's gonna play. For me it's a little IQ test.
How comfortable have you become with this little
product you buy? People don't even think about
it.

No Glory

There is no glory, no glory in death
Just the coldness of the grave
And another child dies
Another corporate banner is raised.
Another battle hymn is praised

There is no glory, no glory in death
Just the horror of a race enslaved
And as another politician lies
Another starving third world family dies
Another battle hymn is praised...

Do you think being in a political band of any genre is at all helping the struggle? How much can a band
really change about society? Is it worth singing about a message if noone is really listening, and it doesn't
change a thing.

Brian: it changes individuals, which is pretty much all you can expect and maybe not even those people for life.

Bob: Im not sure in the end...what punk is going to do for "the struggle"...I know for me it has always been a way
to scream my discontent...for me it was a way to express my anger and my politics with people who had similar
beliefs...to communicate. The music and the fashion that comes out of our movement aren't going to change
anything...but idea is the seed of change ...there are some amazing bands out there right now exchanging ideas and
political philosophy to hundreds of people at every show they play...communicating...and continuing to support a
movement based on the belief in basic human rights,animal rights and the survival of the planet itself. I have to
believe we are doing a positive thing....!!!!

UNCLE SLAM

Praise the flag is what they say,
Say the pledge of allegiance every fucking day!

"Remember the millions that died for you"

Hey, fuck you pal, they were lied to

You call this the land of the free

It doesn't look that way to me

Call me what you will, and do what you must

But this government I'll never trust

Uncle Sam enslaved the minorities and fucked with

the women of this country

Land of opportunity sounds so crass

Go explain that to the working class

Give to the rich, take from the poor

Then you come around and ask for more

Your blind patriotism is a fucking bore

Your lady liberty's looking like a fucking whore

YOUR LYRICS COVER A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES, i.e. POLICE HARASSMENT, WAR, PATRIOTISM, HOMOPHOBIA, AND SEXISM TO NAME A FEW, DO YOU THINK THESE TOPICS HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED OVER THE YEARS OR ARE THEY STILL JUST AS RELEVANT? AND ALSO WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE ARGUMENT OF ITS A WASTE OF TIME PREACHING TO THE CONVERTED? Lately, I've been having serious doubts about the validity of "Punk Rock" as a serious way of going about changing things, and I really tend to think that it's a colossal waste of time to only preach to the converted, although, there are still alot of people out there who's first record may be a RESIST record or a similar political punk band's record, and might have their view shaped by the ideas expressed on that record. Also, listenning to political punk is a good way to reaffirm your views and perhaps make you pissed off enough to actually do something! But, I, by no means intend to limit my expression to "Punk Rock", it's just what we do now, and we love doing it. As to the issues, they're still relevant, as wars are still being fought, police are still in existence, homosexuals are still being beaten for their sexuality, people are still blindly patriotic, and women are still being raped, so we'll still shout our mind about these things.



RHODE ISLAND, U.S.A.
1992 - DATE

WHAT ONCE WAS LIFE

MY MURDER HAS BECOME JUSTIFIED IN YOUR SICK, BARBARIC WORLD.
MY SKIN IS RIPPED FROM THE BONE. WHAT ONCE WAS LIFE, YOU INGEST.
A HOLOCAUST UNREALIZED. MY LIFE BLOOD FEEDS A SELFISH WORLD.
MY SUFFERING GOES UNKNOWN. WHAT ONCE WAS LIFE, YOU INGEST.

WITCH HUNT

MODERN DAY WITCHHUNT AS THE RELIGIOUS RIGHT BEARS ITS TEETH.
ANOTHER CLINIC BOMBED. MURDER IN THE NAME OF JESUS. A WOMAN'S
RIGHT IS THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE, BUT THE WALL IS CRUMBLING BETWEEN
CHURCH AND STATE. CAMPAIGN OF TERROR. BATHED IN GODS' HYPOCRISY.
ANOTHER SHOT DEAD. MURDER IN THE NAME OF CHRIST.

Still you Follow Blindly

In the name of peace - the system wages war
Under the guise of liberty - the state enforces law

Manipulate and dominate - adhere to their restrictions
A history of slavery - a doctrine of contradiction

Still you follow blindly - Still you follow blindly
Still you follow blindly - Still you follow blindly



AUSTIN, TEXAS
1982



PORTLAND, OREGON
1991-95

DEAD INSIDE

ENDLESS SHIFTING. DEAD END LIVES. STAND ON THE CORNER AS THE
YEARS ROLL BY LEAVING NO MARK. JUST ANOTHER DRONE. MILLIONS
DEAD INSIDE. ROTTING FROM DAY ONE. SEARCH FOR ELUSIVE DREAMS.
EMBRACE SELF MADE STRIFE. ENSLAVED AND NEVER REALIZING. THAT
MONEY IS NOT LIFE.

I WILL STAND

THE TIME HAS COME FOR US TO FACE OUR SELF-DESTRUCTIVE
IGNORANCE. TO TURN AWAY FROM THOSE TRADITIONS THAT SURELY LEAD
US TO THE BRINK. CHANGE YOURSELF TO CHANGE THE WORLD BEFORE
MANKIND BECOMES EXTINCT. I WILL STAND. AGAINST THIS SELFISH
ARROGANCE. I WILL STAND. IN ANGER AND DEFIANCE. I WILL STAND. I
WILL MAKE A CHANGE. I WILL STAND. I CHOOSE TO EVOLVE.

I've had people come up to me and say "Your writing
has changed my life." It changed me from being
a carnivore or somebody who's just a waster
of everything to somebody who actually cares.
And that means everything to me and these guys
too. Because it means we're making change.

Belly Full of Lies

Gorge yourself on the flesh now dead
cruelty and suffering keep you fed
Celebrating life with traditions of death
stench of dead animal on your breath
belly full of lies
blood on your hands

Busted

Police drive by, I hold my breath
I've got 10 warrants for my arrest
They stop at the light and whip it around
Ten minutes later I'm headed downtown
Free Ride

Busted...stepped out of line
Busted...no place to hide
Busted...couldn't pay my fines

It makes no sense to live this way
But I'm gonna do it anyway

Busted...for being me
Busted...for being free
Busted...can't pay my bail
Busted...I'll die in jail

It makes no sense to live this way
But I'm gonna do it anyway

Money Stinks

I stayed at home today
And I'm not going back to work
Money Stinks... Money Stinks
This city stinks
Smell the power, smell the health
Smell the poverty of Americas wealth
Money smells of evil, greed
Capitalist wants and pumped up needs

Money stinks
Money stinks
This city stinks

Smell the logic... Smell the jet planes
The dangerous goals and crooked aims
Smell the progress... Smell the dirty money
Smells like shit, this isn't funny

Money stinks
Money stinks
This city stinks

Nobody cares about the air we breathe
Nobody cares about the air we need
Smell the profit, smell the success
Smell the dying dream of the mighty west
Smell the factories, smell all the cars
The adult book stores and the topless bars
Smell the pretty people, smell their false pity
Smell the broken promise of the living city
Smell the real reason, smell, smell the one way plan
The real estate, the desperate, state of modern man
Smell the excess, smell the death
Smell the wet dream of this human mess

TIMEBOMB GENERATION
YOUR CHILDREN ARE SHOOTING UP SOCIETY / 'CAUSE YOU MADE MONEY MAKING KILLING A COMMODITY / AT WAR ON TV FROM A FARAWAY FIELD / A TIMEBOMB GENERATION / THE NATION'S FATE IS SEALED / KILL THE STAIN INSIDE OUR HEADS / TELL THE POLICEMAN TO GIVE UP / WE LIVE IN DEFIANCE OF EMPTY TIMES / KILL THE STAIN INSIDE OUR HEADS / APATHY UNTIL WE'RE DEAD / WE LIVE IN DEFIANCE OF EMPTY TIMES / NO MORE EMPTY TIMES / TIMEBOMB IS THE BUILDING TENSION / STRETCHED ACROSS THE GLOBE / TIMEBOMB WATCH THE MEDIA LYING / 'JUST ANOTHER EPISODE' / TIMEBOMB TO TRANSFORM AWARENESS / IN OUR HEARTS DEEP INSIDE / FROM MAN TO MAN TO NATION END THE FEAR AND CONQUER PRIDE / SO WHAT DOES IT MEAN / TO TAKE THEIR POWER AND PUSH IT AWAY / OVERCOME THIS CULTURE / AND THE LIES THEY TELL THEM EVERYDAY / FIND A VOICE FOR A BETTER FUTURE / AND A PLACE FOR YOU AND I / TO FACE OUR FEARS AND / FALL DOWN TO RISE BACK UP

REFUSAL
SISTER / I WON'T LET YOU GO / I WON'T LET THEM TAKE YOU / INTO THE SILENCE OF A PAST DIVIDED / BROTHER KEEP TEACHING THE POWER / WE ONLY MOVE TOGETHER / AWAY FROM THE PAST THAT MADE US FALL APART / I REFUSE TO RUN AND I WILL DIE / BEFORE I KNEEL IN THIS LIFE / SYSTEMS / OF PROFITS WE PUNISH / WITH LOVE AS OUR WEAPON / AND UNITY / UNITY REBIRTH IN FIRE / I REFUSE TO RUN AND I WILL DIE / BEFORE I KNEEL IN THIS LIFE / ARE WE CRUCIFIED / WE DEFEND OUR BIRTHRIGHT / EQUALITY BETRAYED / AND EVERY HOUR A VOICE IS LOST BUT EVERY RAGE DEFIES THE COST / EMBRACE THE WHOLE WORLD AS YOUR KIN / TRUTH TO TRUTH AND SKIN TO SKIN BEGIN / SEARCHING FOR AN END TO THE BULLSHIT REACTIONS / ANOTHER WAY TO SEPARATE US / AND END TO THE BULLSHIT OF SEPARATION / ANOTHER WAY TO KEEP US FROM TRUTH

strike anywhere

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 1999 - DATE

STRIKE ANYWHERE SUPPORTS THE VEGETARIAN LIFESTYLE, THE LIVING WAGE MOVEMENT, AND THE FIGHT AGAINST CORPORATE GLOBALIZATION. THE ANTI-FASCIST CIRCLE IS AN INTERNATIONAL SYMBOL FOR RESISTANCE, EQUALITY, AND THE SOLIDARITY OF ALL PEOPLES AGAINST OPPRESSION. WE OFFER THESE SONGS TOWARD THOSE GOALS

Thomas: The anti-fascist circle has been around for a long time. We broke it out to emphasize the need for imagery in the underground, which would resonate with the resurgence of anti-corporate globalization activism present in the world. Fascism takes on many faces and we feel that keeping up the culture of resistance ideas and adding our small voice to it is a part of this hardcore punk rock

Thomas: I think punk and hardcore music has become so sexually neutralized out of fear of becoming a part of the machines of sexism that are part of our family lives and our communities and cultures. I think there needs to be more of an understanding of what is erotic and what is neutral and what is passionate about people's bodies. I mean, we need to reclaim this, and stop this neutered, monk-like culture. We need to fucking get it on.

BURNING ANGEL

"There's a level of compliance in our society. There are choices we have to make; there are battles to choose and battles to lose. I think it's more important to choose to do that thing that you love that'll make a difference. Be fearless. Know that there are people behind you, whether they are the dead of generations past or your brother."

OMAHA WEEKLY

crime in America is based on no one having any opportunity except what's available on the streets to do. So this brutality gets passed down to animals, and then to humans. Children will watch their parents treat animals in this brutal way and then they treat each other in this way. There's an amazing book about human liberation to animal liberation. I can't remember the author right now, but it's called The Dreadful Comparison, and it compares the psychological tactics and rituals of the slavery system in human history with the way we treat animals now for food, labor, and for fighting. SA: Especially people in lower income communities eat a lot of meat, and it's really unhealthy cuts of meat from totally ghetto grocery stores. It's a culture of non-nutritious foods and cooking traditions which block arteries and make life spans shorter for the poor. What we're trying to do is to open up a small and inexpensive vegan and vegetarian sandwich shop in the ghetto where we live. I'm pretty much an environmentalist, a lot of my friends are, and we're doing a lot of work building community gardens, and teaching people that you can grow your own food. Personally I'm vegan and have strong feelings about killing animals. Industrialized factory farming of animals. I think humanity's relationship to the earth is probably the most out of whack thing we've got going right now, and probably the root of a lot of our problems. That's where I stand personally with that. Inhibition of freedom, and inhibition of creativity is an intense evil. It's our duty to split hairs and to think heavily about what we do and how we build culture. And not just let it happen by accident or whole groups of people. Whole worlds of thinking are destroyed in the name of profit, or efficiency.

Talk about the purpose of Strike Anywhere in light of how you going to influence the politics of the United States. I think just spreading ideas and trying to unify and strengthen the level of awareness and involvement of the access community, and the punk rock community, and just regular folks who like music, because it's a very fertile transport for ideas and for optimism. Otherwise, politics are really stolen out of the hands of just about everybody, except the wealthy and the elite, and corporate people

NOTES ON PULLING THE SKY DOWN

We are fighting a war
Here we come now living in a new age
Where the roles are set to tear us apart
Here we come now fighting for a living wage

It's time. The pleas from the politicians to the poor
Do nothing but distort the truths they tire of
The system is built to keep us from ourselves

You ask what I can give? I've got nothing for you
But everything for a better way. So you demand
That I live under your laws blinded to the fact
We are at war

Do we settle for the system or do we fight for our own voice?
Will we force them all to listen? It's all coming down
To one choice

So I wait for a change to come, and I ask myself why
Does everyday the sky remain over our heads?
Would it be impossible to tear it down?

CASSANDRATIC EQUATION

The past nights I have had dreams - three dreams of change
The final conflict at the world's end. People running away
From fear hands to cover their eyes and ears and mouths of
The leaders drowning listen!
Are our souls in bondage unbreakable? Heartriot exodus solution:
The divergent path seems so clear we run back into freedom
We focus and we defy this time of pain and so we go into the
Underground America 1999, but it could be any year, anywhere
They try to teach us to take back now into bondage a people
liberated they shoot and reload fear at the working classes
And the poor are separated from their families as the rich act
Like they've never felt any pain. They reload fear at the working
Classes. In the wound lies self-defeat.
They jail the threat of consciousness (Yes I!) and deprive us of
Choices we suffer the mess. I revolt for the vision: strength,
Kindness, and love in your eyes run back into freedom.
We focus and we defy this time of pain and so we go into the
Underground America 1999, but it could be any year, anywhere
We build a window for the vision of a freedom we could reach
Will we smash it with the brick of self-defeat?

You're pretty supportive of Anarchy, is that correct?

Yeah, that's just me, those are just my thoughts. I have a humble admission of a lack of intense knowledge about it. Just reading different authors and being inspired by their writings, but not having deep knowledge of movements, modern movements, and a lot of things that are pushing ideas. That's just my own individual assessment of anarchism. I think anarchism might work best in combinations with other ideas of liberation and awareness of the environment, and the virus in our American culture; it could be part of a tool.
I have been reading, learning and living (when my courage and humility allows for it) anarchism for some years now, and I'm still quite a novice in all of its fractured forms and philosophies. I've really felt a connection recently to some aspects of Social Ecology (Murray Bookchin), inspirational writings about organizing the New World African community Black Anarchism by Lorenzo Kom'Boa Ervin, and the scathing, almost diametrically opposed criticism of Bob Black in 'Anarchy After Leftism'. Somewhere in these three books lays my still primitive, awkward understanding of modern Anarchist thought. I also reverse and enjoy without reservation the Anarchism of Emma Goldman, Peter Kropotkin, and the amazing historical supemova of the Spanish Anarchist Revolution with its sprawling autonomous agricultural collectivization. Maybe when we go over to Europe, we will get a chance to be near some of that. The lyrics in many of our songs celebrate autonomy and freedom from emotional, and social points of view, I guess. A lot of the writing in Chorus of One deals with the liberation from imposed societal stress, and the conflict and competition we are all taught to believe is reality. Once you get away from the adrenalin, and endorphins of the circle - A, philosophical Anarchism is some heavy stuff, and it can only make sense to me from real life, historical examples that involve people from all educational and cultural backgrounds. That is when, in my opinion, you know something works.

Yeah. I mean there wouldn't be a system of anarchism that doesn't have rule, but it would be, supposedly, that the philosophical idea of anarchism, and that's what I've tried to say. It's not like the example you gave, that we would just say no laws, no police, everyone take care of each other. It would have to be an awareness and a mutual aid would have to come first. The breakdown of power would have to happen slowly, with an understanding of an elevated state of consciousness. It's an ideal of the highest form, and it's an ideal that's hard to even discuss as a worldwide application. Worldwide chaos is not anarchy.
Well, the understanding is not just a breakdown of all order and control. It's more or less like a philosophy of liberation, starting from within, that's how I see it. So I wouldn't say that anarchism is a governmental choice. You would have to combine the intent idealism of anarchism and put it in practice with what the needs of the time and place are.

there has been more worldwide communication between people through this music/idea/counter-culture in the recent decade, too. That means that there may be a kind of international underground trust network developing . . . where the perceptions of nations and the interests of corporate media architects can be countered and 'common people' (I've thought a lot recently about the folk music / punk rock connection, I guess...) may have a chance to rage, create, and pursue energetic, liberated, uncommon lives through the honest communication that this music fights to achieve.
I guess I see Underground Music as the shot-in-the-gut lubricant which crosses borders of prejudice, misinformation, and even language to allow for some unpolluted space between people - made momentarily to give in to the anger, joy and vulnerability of the shared experience. Together, I think this allows for counterculture, and, for that matter, just heartfelt artists of all angles and points of reference to be a small part of the elevation of humanity away from just teaching us hype, consumption and fostering our material and psychological addictions.

CHALKLINE
WE SEE THE BILLBOARD GIRL / THE ONE DEVOTED TO RITUAL / STANDING IN THE RAIN / HOLDING ALL OF HER PAIN / INSIDE / I KNOW YOU'RE HURTING NOW / BUT I CAN'T POINT MY FINGER AT / THE WORDS I SHOULD OR SHOULDN'T SAY ANYTHING / TO TAKE THE PAIN AWAY / TO WALK ALONE ON THE STREETS TONIGHT / AND FEAR NOTHING / TO CHOOSE TO LOVE WHAT WE ARE IN THIS LIFE / AND SHINE BRIGHTER / DON'T LET THE CROSSES AND DOLLAR SIGNS / THE SYMBOLS OF MAN UNKIND / MAKE YOU FEEL / THAT YOU'RE NOT REAL / ALL THIS TIME WALK OUT / OUT OF THE SHADOWS WE SEE THE LINES IN CHALK / THE WARNING SIGN FOR WHERE WE WALK / IN THE SHADOWS OF THE CITIES MAZE / TO TRY AND FIGHT / FOR BETTER DAYS / YEAH WE'RE UNGRATEFUL / YEAH WE'RE UNGRATEFUL FOR / HOLY BOOKS, RELIGIOUS MEN / VALUES OF BEAUTY, ORIGINAL SIN / ALL THIS TIME WE UNWIND IT / I WON'T GIVE UP, I'M NOT AFRAID / RESISTER GO / AS LONG AS IT TAKES / TO REVERSE THE HYPOCRISY / CHALLENGE THE STAKES / OF SAFETY AND SURVIVAL / AT THE HEART / OF WOMEN'S VOICES / WOMEN'S ART / TO WALK ALONE ON THE STREETS TONIGHT / AND FEAR NOTHING / TO CHOOSE TO LOVE WHAT WE ARE IN THIS LIFE / ALL THAT MATTERS / DON'T LET THE CROSSES AND DOLLAR SIGNS / THE SYMBOLS OF MAN UNKIND . . . / I WON'T GIVE UP / THROUGH ALL THIS TIME WALK OUT / OUT OF THE SHADOWS / IF WE TAKE / OUR STRENGTH / TO MARKET / TO TRADE / FOR THEIR / UGLY / BEAUTY / WATCH US GROW UP / TO WAR

CHORUS OF ONE

To live in discontent
Anti-establishment
Since the day we were born
If we just look inside
Each of us
A thousand rebellions sleep

You dance! Upon rights not yours to give
Judgements made upon the way we live
Your bigotry is stamped in action and in law
Inside the corpses of prosperity
Litters our hearts
A void in their minds
And these laws were made for property (not people)
I will try everything
To kill the sleeping cop in me
I will do everything
I will try everything
To kill the sleeping cop in me
I will do everything
I see you abuse your position
Buy lawyers to tell
A lie for a law
And you in a cell
It litters our hearts
It litters our hearts
To live in discontent

So how am I supposed to trust you?
You're like an overseer watching
Us work for nothing.

They don't think that their
Power could come to an end
And trust us that we won't
Awake within
So we buy and sell their lies
For them dependent sleeping citizen
Litters our hearts

I will refuse their deal
Healing from a chorus of one

We also keep the lyrics open to interpretation from the very personal to the protest songs because I feel that in some cases highly specified topical songwriting often reeks of privilege and cultishness (academic and subcultural), or, folks into punk rock and activism should be the goal of its music and art, not frustrating or pushing people away who may need it- and who are sorely needed by it.

What's the most important thing in your life right now to you?

working to improve my community where I live, and to fight the adverse effects of police penetration and the communities of the urban poor, and the adverse effects of the penetration of white real estate gentrification crushing the cultures of the native historic black communities in Richmond, Virginia where I live. That's something that I've been involved in, and it's very important to me. Probably right now I'll have to tell you something more escapist and genuine, more psychological. It's to find a balance of culture and the day to day monotony of work and life, you know, just down time form touring and down time from your punk rock life. Definitely trying to infuse life and a sense of magic and joy. Just trying to not let stuff beat you down.

SUNSET ON 32ND
WHEN THEY BROKE DOWN THE DOOR / AND PUT THEIR GUNS IN THE FACE OF YOUR WIFE AND CHILD / AND AS THEY PINNED YOU TO THE FLOOR / DID YOU SAY "OFFICER, I AM NOT RESISTING YOU"? / AMERICAN JUSTICE AMERICAN DREAM IS THIS WHAT "THE OTHER HALF" MEANS / HALF OF OUR LIVES DISSOLVED IN FEAR / HALF OF OUR RIGHTS THEY DISAPPEAR / IS OUR APATHY SO CORROSIVE / WHERE DOES THE CYCLE START / HEAR THE SIRENS SCREAMING OUT IN THE DISTANCE / HOLD YOUR FAMILY CLOSE TO YOUR HEART / AMERICAN JUSTICE AMERICAN LIES / A WAR OF WORDS THAT I DESPISE / I WISH THE GOOD COPS IF THEY EXIST / THE VERY BEST / AND A BULLET FOR ALL THE / COMPLICATIONS INJUSTICE DELIBERATIONS WHAT'S THE DEAL / THEY FAKE IT, WE BREAK IT, AND TAKE BACK WHAT THEY STEAL WE COULD RISE BLACK AND WHITE UNBOUND AND MAKE THEM PAY / FOR EVERY TEAR, FOR EVERY FEAR, DEFEND OUR YESTERDAYS / WHEN THEY DROPPED THE BOMB ON THE BUILDING TO KILL A MOVEMENT / DID THEY CARE WHERE THE RIGHTS OF THE MURDERED WENT / POLICE TERROR IN THE EYES OF THE CHILDREN / POLICE TERROR IN THE STREETS OF EVERY TOWN / WHERE'S OUR FREEDOM WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN / AND WILL THE HOUSES THAT THE LANDLORDS BUILT KEEP OUT THE BULLET SOUND / AMERICAN JUSTICE AMERICAN LIES / A RACIST PRISON / ANAESTHETIZED / I WISH THE GOOD COPS IF THEY EXIST / THE VERY BEST / AND A BULLET FOR ALL THE . . . / SO WE TRY / TO DEFEND / TOGETHER / DEFEND OUR YESTERDAYS, DEFEND OUR TOMORROWS / TOGETHER

ARBEIT MACHT FREI

New Deal - same old shit with a thin disguise. The population's taken in by New Labour lies. A puritanical work ethic is now enforceable by law whilst the rich are still living off the work of the poor. New Labour camps are under construction - the sign at the gate needs no introduction. "Arbeit Macht Frei" - that's what it says. You must work for the system until the end of your days. "Arbeit macht frei - work makes you free. We'll leave you to starve if you disagree." A New Britain and a New Hope was what they said, and some people swallowed the shit they were fed. See what they were planning whilst they were biding their time - the "undeserving poor" are the first in the firing line. If it's "workshy scroungers" you're looking for they're not hard to spot. They're found living in mansions more often than not - living in luxury off the labours of others, so why not start with them instead of single mothers?

DETONATION

WE ARE NOT THE IMAGES WE SEE / I REFUSE TO / FOLLOW THE FASHION TO ITS END / HYPOCRISY / IS KILLING ME / ON THE RIGHTS OF YOUR WEALTH / I DISAGREE / THIS PUPPETS CULTURE SCARS OUR TONGUES / WITH WHAT'S UNSUNG / BUT WE'RE NOT FINISHED / WE'RE NOT DONE / ILLUSIONS OF THEIR FUCKING PROGRESS / ARE ALWAYS FED TO US / BUT INNOCENCE CAN RISE AGAIN / REDEMPTION / A HEALING TRUST / FROM THE DEPTHS OF THEIR FALSE DREAMS REBUILDING, REBUILDING / NOTHING FOR THEIR WAR / NOTHING ANYMORE / ARE WE ALL GUILTY ? / ARE WE ALL GUILTY ? / THE GREED INSIDE ME / WAITING FOR OUR SHARE / STAND UP NOW / REBUILDING / NOTHING FOR THEIR WAR NOTHING ANYMORE / WE'RE ALL ADDICTED BORN / WITH DESPERATION, SCORN / FOR HOPES AND DREAMS TO MOURN THE TIME WE DID NOT DARE / (BUT IT'S NOT THERE) / STAND UP, SPEAK OUT / TO DEFINE A FUTURE / WE LIVE IN SILENCE PULLING IN / IT'S WHAT WE'RE IN THIS FOR / GOTTA STOP THE WAR / WE BUY AND BUY HYPOCRISY / WHAT ARE WE IN THIS FOR ? / GOTTA STOP THE WAR / I REFUSE TO / CARRY THE FLAG OF THIS COUNTRY / OF GOLDEN GUNS AND CYNICS PUNS / AS THE RIGHTS OF YOUR WEALTH WALK OVER ME / FROM THE DEPTHS OF THESE FALSE DREAMS / WE'RE ADDICTED BORN / WAITING AT THE WINDOW / FOR THE COMING STORM / WE'RE ALL ADDICTED BORN / WITH DESPERATION SCORN / OUR HOPES AND DREAMS TO MOURN / THE TIME WE DID NOT DARE / TO CHANGE THE FUTURE / AND RESPECT OUR PAST / ILLIUSIONS THAT ARE FED / ARE PASSING THROUGH / AND THEY WON'T LAST / WE ARE NOT THE IMAGES WE SEE

STRIKE ANYWHERE

Thomas: None of us could commit to writing something that wasn't from the heart, and catharsis, you know, and [didn't]help us express emotionally our disdain and criticism of society at large, like, personal structuring, self-analysis, and just the joy of connecting with people, in a world where everyone is taught to be displaced.

The traditions that inspired us- which are different and many- are a lot of the DC ethic. It has to be a part of your life, it has to be personal first. That gives you the courage to express your ideas. Some songs are definitely political, but the same songs can also be about your community or even the community within your own mind. Not to take the cop out and say it's up to you because the lyrics are obviously personal, but it's just the aspect that it all relates to everyone and we all communicate through them at shows. By singing along, it flags our ownership and that's an incredible thing. It's not just us trying to push everyone into being the same with and just to develop the kind of courage that the punk rock scene used to be known for, and people can address issues with the songs. They can be brave and change their relationships and what they think is stupid, and then fight their own struggles. But it takes all of that.

The self-esteem battery of punk and its inspiration are threads in our current lives of music-making and travelling, no doubt, but good friendships, honest communication, and courage in thought and speech can give anybody's life the shot in the arm of hope and energy that punk provides us with. The struggle for meaning in one's life & the fight for faith and uplifting without repressing the voices of others are each not the exclusive property of our subculture.

People as you get deeper into ideological movements, the far left, the radicals, they start to be backstabbing, angry people. It's because of power. And so we have to change the consciousness and the relationship of our awareness of power, even inside of our deepest, most ideological cults.

We talk to the people of the show from the moment we load in. We try to interact with people. Mostly people spontaneously will announce their organization has a rally, you know, the following week. We try to integrate what we can with our limited awareness, but trying to expand that into what is happening locally at that particular town.

ACTIVE MINDS

SCARBOROUGH
1987 - DATE

FROM THE CRADLE TO THE GRAVY TRAIN

"We live in a classless society" - that's what some people like to say, but if you look around you'll see that it's a meaningless cliché. It's an idealistic fantasy which will never be true as long as so much of the land is in the hands of so few. The children of the ruling elite are born with the world at their feet, and are taught to treat it with disdain as they're taken from the cradle to the gravy train. They're not going to have too much trouble getting by as long as a recognised currency is a public school tie. The level playing fields of Eton could be a million miles away from the inner-city comprehensives set in urban decay.

A MICROCHIP ON YOUR SHOULDER

The race is on to replace reality with a computer simulation of how it should be, which is able to respond to any virtual situation that can be thought up by a braindead population. The need for human contact and to communicate are now being reclassified as quite out-of-date - if you're plugged into a terminal and watching a screen then you'll have quite enough idea of what life really means. And maybe one day they'll say we no longer need food - they'll just give us virtual nourishment down a cathode ray tube. Now you can have virtual children, or virtual pets who, when they get ill, can go to virtual vets. Friday night clubbing with your virtual mates - trying out your chat-up lines on virtual dates. If you pluck up the courage you can have virtual sex. Does it make you wonder what they'll think of next? Maybe a virtual job and a virtual wife? Why not go the whole hog - load in a virtual life? And at the end of it all you'll be virtually dead (which you are already, I'd have honestly said). You should never underestimate the power of the companies to take your lives and natural drives and replace them with pale copies. If you think that life is just a little too real then a virtual world may have an appeal - a hypothetical life-game you can practise at home and pretend to yourself that you're not on your own. In a virtual world, choose any life that you want - you can print it all out and even choose your own font, but just don't think of opening your door and wanting the real life that you had before. When the game is over you'll just turn off the set - a feeling of emptiness is all that you'll get. Now you're back in the real world where you're just another maggot on a hook to be torn apart by corporate sharks who don't give a virtual fuck.

anarchistic teachings prepared him well when he meets The Man. "Even if you have no interest in signing," he says, "it's worth it to go meet with them because at the end of the talk, they let you into the room with all the product, and you can have anything you want. Even though most of it sucks, you can always resell it."

Hahn, like his lyrics, is unrepentant. "They're destroying our music scene, so we can sell their CDs to do laundry," he says with a chuckle. "It's symbiotic in a sick way."

X-tra: Do you still keep it DIY?
L: We make a point of never taking money from labels that we do singles with. We just ask for like, if they make a thousand, send us some copies. So they don't have to worry giving us recording money or whatever.... as long as it's not some big company doing it we're happy to let them. If it's helping some kid pay for a fanzine or some collective in Italy pay for their defense fund more power to them. As long as I get a copy.

I know that people bootleg our music everywhere and I don't mind really. In Poland, people sell tapes of our stuff. That's cool with me. It gets our music to more people and maybe helps someone get a meal. Kids always trade CDRs and live recordings and whatever. As long as no one person is making some huge profit off of our music, people should feel free to do as they please...

We're not a band like Green Day, playing in front of Blink 182 fans. Our band plays in occupied houses and we do interviews for fanzines. To know a band like J Church you have to read fanzines, things like that. You have to have at least a bit of a connection to DIY, some sort of connection to underground culture, or you must know someone who has one - we're not talked about on MTV. Even if it happens unconsciously, you have to operate a bit outside the big business path.

L: It's funny that the election where there's the biggest media reporting is precisely that where the candidates are the most like each other. Who cares? Nothing changes. Every 20 years there's the discussion that it's all a one-party system; these electoral college representatives, a further indication that that the people's opinion doesn't count. No-one's going to ever change it. It is, though, only a symptom of a much bigger problem. The fact is that the president or your local congressional representative never represents the voters, but rather the military and the economy. You can't change the election process so that the politicians actually represent the people.

What are your thoughts on the current presidential situation?

I don't give a fuck. He probably needs a bullet in the head. But so did Clinton. All politicians are the same and they're all worthless.

BLIND PRIDE

Sewn by hands which choke and restrain
Old Glory symbolise the shame
The colours of freedom have turned to grey
Hate and ignorance the Amerikkkan way
Imperialist mongers seek control
Capitalist leeches take their toll
Classes, laws forever keep us down
It's time to turn the fuck right around!

Red, white and blue - colours that blind
Reject their scam - open your mind
Patriotic hype - only divides
Nationalist fools - fuck your pride!

Schoolchildren forced to salute the flag
Down our throats the system's gag
Line your armies with poverty's youth
Teach them everything but the truth
You've stolen lives, you've stolen land
All to gain the upper hand
It'll all come back and haunt you one day
That's when you fucking bastards will pay!

STATE OF FEAR

Democracy - that word means nothing to me
It's a myth of this society
Liberty - for who does this word apply
For very few are truly free
Justice - this fallacy has become rather bland
It's murder at the state's hand

The police state is now here and we're doomed to
Live in a state of fear

Repression - as their power continues to increase
Lost is any hope for peace
Powerless - in our feeble attempts to fight back
Victims of this government's attack
Future - a concept I can't comprehend
Bound and gagged until the end

J CHURCH

SAN FRANCISCO
1992 - DATE

Punk, especially right now, is a constant contradiction. Shit, a British working class struggle that has manifested itself in suburban USA? What else can it be? But like Marx said, heighten the contradiction!" The more conflicting and seemingly conflicting constructs and ideas crash into each other, the more possibility for the truth to come up...

In the last 10 years, the most inspiring punk happening for me between the first time I saw Bikini Kill and the first time I saw Fugazi. For me, that's what I'll remember. Really, those are the only two times that I found a live performance to be really shocking. I wasn't expecting how open both of those bands were on-stage. It wasn't like a punk show, they were doing something more than that.

In an age bracket centered around settling down, if you see people like Fugazi sticking to their guns on this stuff and still doing things that are relevant, to me that's really exciting.

We've been on MTV and first off, we're ugly and, secondly, I'm Chinese. When I was growing up, there were no Chinese people on MTV, except for the bass player for Rod Stewart. There were no examples of Chinese musicians, not that I'm a strong example, either. But I am an example. Hopefully we're an example for people who want to do what they want.

first it was The Clash when **London Calling** came out and getting into the anarcho stuff. These were things that were exciting to me, and then the more I read about it, the more I felt it was something I really believed in. It's weird because at first it's like a cult, you know, how you get into these things, but if it's an ideology that's based on free thinking and individuality within the community, etc etc. It kind of deflects itself from being a cult type thing. I mean considering all the anarchists constantly bickering with each other and don't get along, it's hard to say it's even a movement!

Lance - I know this is cheesy and I say this all the time, but **The Revolution Of Everyday Life** is probably the last book that really politically changed me, well partly changed me and partly I was into it because it was a political ideology which was saying something that I was sort of feeling. Before that my parents were hippies and left wing oriented, so even when I was like in eighth or ninth grade I was at least left wing leaning, and by the time I was in school was interested in like anarchist politics, you know, partly because I was into Crass and all that, which was also very important to me, but like when you talk about anarchist politics it's such a huge field, and when you're not knowing what you're doing in school it's all very unprecise, so when I started reading **The Revolution Of Everyday Life** and other Situationist type books or whatever, that was more specifically defining what I was coming up with to a certain extent on my own.

It's more important to me to live as much as possible and as freely as you can, and knowing why you're doing it, and basically trying to educate yourself as much as possible because, whether it happens in our lifetime or in the next, it's that moment in history that's actually going to be affecting the overall global political picture, and it's more important for us personally to know what's going on and to affect the people around you and the next generation I suppose... That's partly why there's no slogans in our lyrics because you can't just throw random ideas at people, you know, you have to understand how it affects them personally. That's true for everyone, I mean I can go on about how I've read this book or that book, but the reason those books were so important to me are because they were probably what I was thinking anyway, but you've got to have an understanding, like be able to relate stuff in the books directly to something that's happened in your personal life for it to really mean anything to you, like anything that is going to have a lasting impression.



MINNEAPOLIS
1994 - 97

CONSUMPTION

Upon your plate soaking in the blood
Lies the remains of a creature that once was
Processed and packaged so conveniently
Another cheap fucking product to fulfil your greed
Disguising that taste you claim to love so much
With salt and pepper, spices and such
If you had to kill and prepare what you eat
You probably wouldn't be eating meat

Fats clog your veins
Lies clog your brain

You've been conditioned since day one
To never question what these bastards have done
Creatures give their lives involuntarily
Slaughtered and butchered systematically
You need your protein like Mummy always said
Along with bacteria and hormones they are fed
Maybe shards of bone or a piece of shit
So before you eat meat you should think about it

The taste of meat fulfils your greed

DUNCE

deaf, dumb and blind
red, white and blue
you'd forfeit your life for them
would they do the same for you?

their privilege their power
they do as they please
you're same, flesh and blood
yet you grovel on your knees

we pay for their cast
we subsidise this farce
buying our subservience
slaves to the past

their privilege their power
they do as they please
you're same, flesh and blood
yet you grovel on your knees

get a fucking life
get some self respect
they eat and shit like you
so don't genuflect

such misplaced loyalty
fuck the royalty

CRACKED COP

SKULLS

U.K.
1995

It is not grandiose to claim that we have been one of the most influential bands in the history of British rock. True, we have not greatly influenced music itself, but our effect on broader social issues has been enormous. From the start the media has attempted to ignore us and only when its hand has been forced by circumstances has it grudgingly given us credence. It's all fairly simple, if you don't play their game, that is commercial exploitation, they won't play yours. The music bit doesn't just buy its groove, it pays for the music press as well.

When *Feeding* came out in the Spring of '79, the first track had been silent and named *The Sound Of Free Speech*. The pressing plant had decided that the track that had been there, *Asylum*, was too blasphemous for their, and your, tastes. Such is the true face of censorship in the 'Free World'.

Our efforts on the road slowly brought CND back to life. We introduced it to the thousands of people who would become the backbone of its revival. A new and hitherto uninformed sector of society was being exposed to a form of radical thought that culminated in the great rallies, demos and actions that continue today.

For some time now we had been touring far and wide throughout the UK, bravely treading where no band had trod before. Village halls, scout huts, community centers, anywhere that was neither the rip-off clubs or the pampered university circuit. Hundreds of people would travel to join us in unlikely spots to celebrate our mutual sense of freedom. We shared our music, films, literature, conversation, food and tea. Wherever we went we were met by smiling faces, ready and willing to create an alternative to the drab greyness all around.

At the end of '82, aware that the 'movement' needed a morale booster, we organised the first squat gig for decades at the now defunct Zig Zag Club in London. Along with free food and copious supplies of ripped-off booze, we celebrated our independence once again, this time joined by twenty other bands, the cream of what could truly be called 'real punk'. Together we supplied a twenty-four hour blast of energy which inspired similar actions throughout the world. We'd learnt the lesson. 'Do it yourself' has never seemed so real as it did that day at the Zig Zag.

As our political position became increasingly polarised, we felt it necessary to define our motives in a clearer fashion than perhaps we had done before. The what, where and why of our anger needed explaining, as did our idea of 'self'. We had often been accused of sloganeering, now was the time to come out into the open. Several members of the band produced *Acts Of Love*, fifty poems in lyrical settings, in an attempt to demonstrate that the source of our anger was love rather than hate and that our idea of self was nor that of an egocentric social bigot, but of an internal sense of one's own being.

We were interviewed by the Russian press as American TV cameras recorded the event, we were live on American breakfast TV, we talked to radio stations from Essex to Tokyo, always giving the anarchist angle on every question. We had gained a form of political power, found a voice, were being treated with a slightly awed respect, but was that really what we wanted? Was that what we had set out to achieve all those years ago?

The 'movement', from Class War to Christians For Peace, needs to regain the dignity that it has lost in the process of attempting to confront problems that appear to be created by others. We have all been guilty of defining the enemy, and indeed there are those who would obstruct the course of liberty, yet ultimately the enemy is to be found within. There is no them and us, there is only you and me. We need to consolidate, reassess, reject what patently does not work and be prepared to adopt ideas and attitudes that might. We need to find the 'self' that can truly be the authority that it is. We need to look beyond the barbed-wire and the ranks of police for a vision of life which is of our choosing, not that which is dictated by cynics and despots. The exponent of Karate does not aim at the brick when wishing to break it, but at the space beyond. We would do well to learn from that example.

We have spent too much of our time, energy and spirit attempting to dispel the shadow of evil cast over us by the violence and terror of the nuclear age. That shadow has become a stain on our hearts. It is time to wash away that stain and to step out of the shadow into the light. We have become trapped in fear outside metaphorical Greenham Gates. 'Knock and ye shalt enter. . . the kingdom of heaven is within you.'

We know enough of the sickness of the world, we should be careful not to add to it through our own physical and mental exhaustion and ill health. If we are ever to achieve our shared objectives we must each of us be strong enough to do so. We have all failed and we have all succeeded. This is no tail between the leg ending, but a proud, albeit painful and confused, beginning.

So are you moving away from the more aggressive (angry) music you've produced in the past? P.R: I think that our anger is our passion and on a superficial level people may not be able to recognise the anger, a lot of people who have parodied us have effectively come across with an aggressive stance and have really, in my view, been exposing their emptiness. I don't think we've ever been aggressive, we have been extremely angry and extremely passionate and we still are. The reason we're spending a long time over what we do next, it's sufficiently important to us, because we are sufficiently passionate and angry about what we feel to spend a lot of time studying and not become a parody of ourselves. It's really important not to be drawn into a situation of doing something simply because that's what people expect you to be doing.

Do you think that you have succeeded in changing people? P.R: Yeah, I think that we've succeeded... I think that we've been largely responsible for re-promoting (it would be ridiculous to pretend we created anything!) a set of ideas which have roots way back through history... these are quite simply 'sod all authority, I as an individual have something worthwhile about me.' That sort of thinking seems to go in cycles - there are people all over the world that have been liberated because of the sort of things that we have been saying for the last 7 years, but if we hadn't existed then someone else would have done it. What we've done isn't so important, what is important is that across the world there are people that are closer to some sense of their own lives. G: It's not even a qualitative thing. It can be a sense of one's own life in a totally different direction to which you would live your own life, in the end that doesn't really matter - it's the quality of person, and the quality of life

P.R: I think that we are lucky in that we don't need some of the things that create bondage and hunger, in the sense that we don't have a standard of life to maintain. Where we live is where we work, we've put years of work into maintaining it as such. But if we were told to leave tomorrow, then we would do so actively and creatively as individuals. Not so much luck - it's down to hard work. Ultimately I would be happy in a shed in a field or in one room of a squat. It doesn't really matter, it's what I carry in my head that's important to me - the actual physical furniture I can find later. Invariably one does have to go out and do some shitty job. If one sees it as a shitty job then one does it resentfully and badly, but if you can see it as a method towards something then it becomes an exciting and creative thing to do. If in three months' work you can get a printing press, then that's a fucking bargain. It's an awful thing to think that whatever you doing is the fate for the rest of your life

'MUCILAGE'



EPPING FOREST

1977 - 84

P.W: The big illusion is that you change systems by opposition, and they don't, they might be destroyed by opposition but the power you would need probably make you a similar system. Systems change by facing in the same direction as other people who YOU change. So the theatre of opposition like, S.T.C. or Greenham is one of apparent opposition. People see us as being up against the system, but we're not - we are trying to affect the people that we stand beside - the people who come to gigs and buy records, people who are facing in the same direction. You have to look at it in the long term, if you look at the short term you will soon be burnt out. Driven to the frustration and anger that so many radicals have. One has to have the strength to stand back and say 'look, I know I'm right, I know what I feel is good, I know I act out of the purest reason.'

You sound very optimistic, but don't you think that after an upsurge in radical activity everything has fallen off rather dramatically? P.R: No, I don't actually, because what's far more important is what's going on in people's minds. If you look at the last 7 years there has been a fast and dramatic rebirth of awareness.

Stop The City. People say that the last S.T.C. was the worst, but for me it was the best. I turned up, wandered around and realised that the police had got it completely sussed. So then I just wandered around talking to people, and I had some great conversations and I got to know one or two people, and I didn't know who they were and they didn't know who I was. I saw and felt a lot of things. The S.T.C. before that I'd spent the entire time shoving the police around, and apparently this is a far out active thing to do. I'm not putting down the shoving, if that is what we have to do, if we have to lob bricks then fair enough. I'm not making any qualitative judgement, but it's pretty bloody stupid when we start thinking that shoving and being shoved by the police is better in some way than creatively sharing an experience with people. P.W: There's a lot of people who are prepared to do things now. It's not actually doing them, the most important contribution that we can make as a group of people is to expand the vocabulary of people who want to do things. There has always been people chucking bricks at the police, and there has always been people going on strike and all sorts of actions. The most important thing is the understanding that develops. Like the miners, there was people learning what life is about, that there is more to life than they thought before, they've got to know the people they live with, seeing their workmates in different situations. They found the power of communal action and communal co-operation, those sort of things are what we get out of it. That's the positive side whether we win or lose a particular battle doesn't matter that much because it's just a battle. P.R: I think it's really important to know when to back off. That needn't be a defeat, it can be a very positive thing which allows the opponent to move into some of the space you've created. But if we're trying to create change then we've got to sometimes (although our pride might suffer) back off and say "Okay look this is what I think, this is the view that I have created, now you see if you can move in that space." Now the chances are that you will be shat upon, but unless we're prepared to back off then you're in a state permanent argument and there is no point in that, it's bad tactics. Then the whole situation is maintained, it is to the government's advantage to promote a situation of animosity.

P.R: We have fluidity which is one thing they don't have, as the state becomes more and more rigid in its attitude and the manner by which that attitude is enforced, parallel to that our intelligence grows, our fluidity grows, and our compassion and love for each other grows. The right wing state throughout history has made that mistake.

"It's sinister that we can sell 20,000 records and not appear in the charts, a very effective way of shutting you up. We would expect if we put out an LP for it to sell 20,000 in the first few weeks..." Stations has now sold over 90,000, and when it goes to 100,000 we'll press one in chocolate and present it to each other and then take some photos and send them to the press, because the music press tries to pretend that we don't sell thousands of records. If the charts had been honest then we'd have been in the actual top ten on a number of occasions i.e., Negasonic Nightmare, Penis Envy, and Christ The Album."

One thing that I get asked a lot is, "Are you trying to put a message out in your magazine?" I've always thought that was really weird because there are so many messages in it. There's a message in terms of how you make something or how you run your business or how you create a product or musical sound. Then there's a message having to do with what it sounds like. And there's a message in the translation of the lyrics. People are always like, "What's more important, the music or the message?" And, I don't understand why they have to be oppositional to each other.

In Le Tigre, we don't see it as separate either. It's who we are as people. It's not like politics is just a button you wear or something you put on a T-shirt. It's intrinsic to who you are. How could you separate that from your work?

you're not called political unless you have politics that run contrary to the status quo, and you want world wide oppression ended. Once you do that you're termed a political band and then all these weird stereotypes start appearing like: every song needs to have a specific political message, you need to have one message, it has to be very concrete and didactic, and it has to fit - you know? You get all these slogans and you have to stick by the exact same ideas you started out with seven years ago! All these kind of things!

You started this band as a way to more widely disseminate artistic and philosophic ideas. The band was a wider transmission vehicle—
♦ KH: Right. I also wanted to make it really cool to be feminist, because this was right when *Time* or *Newsweek* said that feminism was dead,
♦ KH: Sometimes girls as young as eleven come to our shows. I think it's really cool that they feel included. It's like I achieved my goal: for some of those girls feminism really is cool now!

There's also the thing of: giving people analyses they can use in their own lives that can help them survive their oppressive situations and give them the gumption to fight back. (If you can do that) Then you've done a remarkable job as a writer. That's what I try to do."

I mean, what a challenge to capitalism! It is!!! Because you're not just making something for someone to consume, you're making something that can help them to create something themselves. You create a chain reaction. That means things are much more recyclable

If you don't have an analysis of capitalism in your take on feminism and if there is no analysis of race or class in what you're doing, then it seems to me that your feminism can just become about moving up the corporate ladder. Which doesn't mean that I think women should starve to death or never make any money or never have any fun. It just means that I'm not interested in a feminism that's about gaining access to the same stupid shit that other jerks have access to.

Why are we allowing capitalist thought to define everything? Why does that get to decide how everything goes down? And why is it about being legitimate in the eyes of people who own the majority of the wealth? Why do they get to decide these things? It's like everybody's still trying to be accepted in the eyes of their fathers. We're all fighting for the crumbs on The Man's table and people always get pitted in opposition to each other.

it's gross when things like Riot Girl or feminism become a product. It's like "Let's get it in as many magazines as possible so then everyone will know about it." I don't necessarily think that's the way to go about things because that's still reproducing a market economy. That's still saying, "Here are the managers that know the product that's best for you and you're just stupid consumers that are supposed to consume it." Whether that product is feminism of that product is Colgate, as long as you're using those marketing concepts, you're still treating people like they're idiots and you're still reinforcing capitalism.



I decided to try to write something up saying that if people call us "cunt" and "whore" and basically engage in sexual harassment while we're trying to play, I want them removed immediately. And I want security there who will deal with that so we don't have to. Because while I'm trying to sing, I'm sick of always having to be on the lookout for a man approaching the stage with a beer bottle or some other weapon that can be thrown.

Years ago, at a Rock for Choice benefit show that Bikini Kill played, some female fans were assaulted in the audience-one in particular by a guy who was rubbing his penis on her. You'd think at a Rock for Choice show you'd be safe, but no. And so a bunch of girls grabbed him and dragged him outside. They didn't beat him up or anything, but they were stopped by security and told that if they didn't want these things to happen they should just stay home and rent videos. In the larger context of feminism and hatred against women, sex discrimination at rock shows is just another strategy meant to keep us at home, inside. It's meant to keep public space male, and to keep us feeling afraid.

What the fuck does it mean that it's four white males who come from middle class backgrounds, up on a stage in front of predominantly other white males?

personally I think it's crucial that boys talk to each other about their own sexism, their own experiences as oppressors, and get used to recognizing how their behavior/action may be affecting women.

Plus guys have to realize that their very presence may be censoring and demanding to women, so there are gonna be times when they just shouldn't be around, you know? And bitching about this just adds to the whole problem anyways, cos it's not about exclusion. It's about safety.

Did you intend to be an all-female band, or did it seem strange to have a boy in the group?

talking is a very active thing. He makes that decision sometimes that he doesn't want to talk, 'cause he wants us to speak for ourselves - 'cause women a lot of times are pushed in the background, and for a man to sit there and be quiet is actually an amazing and supportive thing.

It's totally a sign of respect, guys coming up and explaining who they are and what their intentions are instead of always coming up to me and wanting an answer, "why are you doing this?," "who do you think you are?" Why do they think that it's okay to do that? Would they go up to a black male, who is doing anti-racist work, and ask him who the fuck he thinks he is? No, they wouldn't. It's 'cause they're not scared of me, 'cause I'm five-foot-four and I'm female - it's that whole physical thing.

I think that way that masculinity has been constructed in our society is fucking boys up.

What I'm saying is that inequal power distributions and hierarchies, in general, dehumanize everyone involved...and you know I don't think it's in anyone's best interest to just be playing top/bottom games forever. I mean, things could be really complex and interesting, but they're not gonna get that way unless people with privilege seriously start challenging ourselves in terms of how we oppress and/or abuse "others." You know? And we have to check each other's shit or else we're all gonna miss out on things being cool. You guys are seriously missing out unless you all start listening to girls.

In a lot of abuse situations, the men are really nice to absolutely everybody on the surface.

They're totally invested in creating this identity that they're the nicest guys in the world, because that's a way to ensure silence.

The media operate with this same sort of sleight-of-hand. "Well, Kathleen, look at all these treats you're getting! all this notoriety." And a part of me thought, "It's like an abusive dad who never pays any attention unless he's hurting me. But at least I'm getting some attention. Even though it's not positive attention, I'm getting something." Just like a lot of survivors of abuse can be tricked into thinking that we liked it.

But it's hard to discuss this with anybody in my community—in fact, fame has alienated me from my community because they saw me getting the treats! So I experience what I've felt in many abuse situations: total silence. I couldn't possibly be abused, because "Look—I've got all this privilege, I've got all this power. I'm in the *Washington Post*!" In reality, I didn't get a new car; the only treats I get are lies being printed about me and my name in *Newsweek*.

a lot of my customers at work (I was a stripper at the time) saw the article and learned my real name and certain other things I didn't want them to know; I think the article called me "a stripper, a feminist and a sexual abuse victim" or something like that. Anyways, this wiped out the separation between my work and my private life that I needed in order to function coherently both at work and at home; so, basically, that article created a situation whereby I had to leave my job.

'ANGRY WOMEN IN ROCK'

Magazine writers come out with all these negative judgments: "Riot Grrrl—it's all fashion; it's all fluff; it has nothing to do with substance." And none of them know anybody involved. I know they've never been to a meeting in D.C., because they're men. So where are they getting their information? From *Rolling Stone* and *Spin*; from other men who are threatened—

In *Angry Women in Rock*, Andrea Juno quotes Kathleen Hanna as saying that *Newsweek* purchased a picture of her and friends at the beach in bikinis to print with the article about Riot Grrrl (85). The photo was purchased in an effort to discredit her feminism; she was in a band called Bikini Kill yet she wore bikinis.

Just because the media decided that last year was my peak—fuck that! My peak is yet to come. I think I'm going to have peaks and levelings and more peaks—but all this has to do with the media's polaroid-picture way of dealing with things, that syndrome of instant gratification and commodification.

One of the best things that happens to me is when I get a bad review, because it really fuels me on. I don't know if I hadn't faced so much adversity in my life if I would feel as cocky as I do. Because I've faced so much adversity, I think my food tastes better, because I really fucking enjoy it.

Zine making offered many girls a forum in which to discuss the marginalization they felt in the predominantly male punk scene and to discuss sexism and harassment with other girls and women who shared similar experiences.

Reading other girl-zines enabled girls to see their experiences of racism, abuse, and harassment as political issues rather than isolated personal incidents. As the word spread about these homemade magazines that told unbowed versions of adolescent girls' lives, more and more girls attempted to reach out to other girls through the girl-zine network. When Sassy, a popular teen magazine from the early nineties, published the addresses of several Riot Grrrl zines, many of them were forced to stop production because they couldn't handle the flood of mail they received. Many of the Riot Grrrl zine makers felt that this was a testament to how zines validated girls' experiences and made them feel that they were not alone.

(FROM 'POPULAR MUSIC SOCIETY' VOL. 26 NO. 1, 2003)

In the Bikini Kill song "Feels Blind," Kathleen Hanna addresses how society teaches women to hate themselves. The words, "As a woman I was taught to always be hungry/yeah women are well acquainted with thirst/we could eat just about anything/we could even eat your hate up like love," show how self hatred can emerge in the form of an eating disorder, or in the tolerance of an abusive relationship.

they maintain that writing "SLUT" and "RAPE" on arms and stomachs was intended to draw attention to constraints placed on women's sexuality and to publicize issues such as sexual abuse and rape that were largely ignored by the media. Riot Grrrl emphasized the importance of placing taboo subjects such as sexual abuse out in the open.

in order to render a subculture non-threatening, in order to be pulled into the mainstream and commodified. Looking at the "angry women in rock" phenomenon, it is clearly an example of the incorporation of a radical movement. Morissette and Apple focused their anger on many of the same issues as Riot Grrrl; however, they were carefully constructed as non-threatening and their form of female empowerment was something to buy in CD format rather than something to actively produce. In interviews, they were well behaved and polite. And, unlike Kathleen Hanna, they did not talk about feminism or the oppression of women. They simply followed the traditional interview procedure of answering questions. This, coupled with their pop music style and stereotypically feminine appearance, allowed them to be angry without being threatening.

TO THE MEN WHO DO FEEL EXCLUDED/alienated by what the grrrl revolution brings: If you are not firmly comitted to finding a way out of the pit of capitalism and all other "isms", if you are not ready to put the necessary work in, to posit yourself in history and recognize your privelages.....then maybe you feel so excluded because, as one who profits from the lie and denies it, you are excluded from true life and the revolution.....TAKE RESPONSIBILITY, DUDE...

KATHLEEN: We are living proof you can be on a small label, you don't have to compromise integrity or artistic vision or visions in our case, to get your music out into the world.

we are on Mordem which is an independent distribution company, we're on an independent label run by two women from their house, and we earn a living. That's really positive and we want other women to know that's possible, that you don't have to cater to the major labels.

the record label I'm on, Mr. Lady, is just doing so much to promote music, videos, and art in the feminist and queer communities. It's a pretty amazing thing to be a part of, it gives me a lot of hope.

to me, punk is an idea, not a style. You can be a secretary and dress really non-punk and no one would guess, but you can be punker than some kid who's got every Rollins spoken-word bullshit thing. Just because you don't look like a punk rocker and you're not using the same form doesn't mean it's not the same idea, cuz punk to me is about D.I.Y. and caring about your friends and your community and finding out what's really going on, not what the newspapers are telling you.

♦ KH: Well, we book our own shows all over the country; we talk on the phone to the person who's going to be paying us, so we have contacts all over the country with actual people who know our voices when we call on the phone. We also try to challenge the idea of specialization, where everybody has their own little job and you're not connected to one another. We all switch jobs. One time Tobi will book the tour, then I'll book part of the tour, and later maybe she'll be doing more graphics. In the band, we follow this principle by switching instruments.

You say: "I wanna do this thing, how can I do it? How can I be effective?" Anyone can do that. That's what the major label and people in the big rock groups and stuff don't want you to know. You can totally do it yourself. Create your own music if you have some pots and pans."

Remember that illusion in the '80s that you had to be a virtuoso to even pick up a guitar? That annoyed the hell out of me.

"I totally grew up with that. What a lie. All you need is the fire..."

We need to impart skills and teach each other to do things. We need to be acting and not always sitting around talking about it. I want both. I want theory and I want action and I want it all wrapped up together. And going out and performing music is one way to do that. One of the reasons I even got in a band was because I used to go to so many shows and feel so alienated. I was like, someday I'm going to take the stage and I'm going to make a safe space for women. There's so much to be had in women working together and completely saying fuck it to the whole male power structure.

KATHLEEN: I'm not really involved in Riotgrrrl anymore. I stopped going to meetings after the convention we did a few years ago. It's still happening, I get letters from girls who are starting groups all over... I think one of the positive legacies that came out of it was, when I was involved with one of the original groups in DC in the 1990s, one of things we did was refuse to have one sound bite that we gave to the media, we refused to actually talk to the media and we refused to be defined. Each woman who entered was asked to define it for herself so all these lists were proliferating around the scene which were "riot grrrl is"... and people would write what it meant to them. And the whole idea is that women and girls could define what it meant and that there are a million different ways to be feminist or womanist or to be pro-woman or anti-misogyny and that it's not one person can decide that. We didn't want to be a corporation with a mission statement. I think that was an interesting strategy. People are

Then the media came in and defined it, and part of the whole idea about Riot Grrrl was that you couldn't define it: each person defined it as it happened. So when people would ask what it was, we couldn't say what it was because we didn't know, because it was constantly changing.

KATHLEEN: It was really terrible at first, 'cause I didn't want to be the leader, it was obviously a community of a lot of different women working on different fronts. I felt really embarrassed and humiliated by being singled out in that way, and (as a result) I was sometimes perceived as a traitor, even though it wasn't my fault. But, like Gloria, at a certain point I just had to accept it and think, "What can I do with this?" It's funny, 'cause when I sign autographs I write "Born in Flames by Lizzie Borden", a movie that I think is genius, that I think all women should see. So I use my autographs as a way to advertise that movie. Or I'll write down just a book, like *The Dialectics of Sex* by Shulamith Firestone, or Letters to a Young Feminist by Phyllis Chester, or *No More Nice Girls* by Ellen Willis, and then sign my name.

I did one interview because I thought it was important that other girls have access to what we were doing; I talked to this woman and totally lied. A lot of girls had written me letters from all over the country, saying, "I'm interested in what you're doing, and have some questions." So I lied and said there were Riot Grrrls all over the country, and named six or eight cities where Riot Grrrl chapters were. It was a lie; none of them existed at the time—

KATHLEEN: For me, some of the youth-oriented stuff, of dressing like a little girl, was also about women who had to numb out most of their childhood due to sexual abuse. Reclaiming that. And saying "I deserve a childhood and I didn't have it, and now I'm going to have it." It was also about being freaks, being punk rockers, being people who are oppositional to the whole American system, and not wanting to look like adults and our parents, who we saw as fucking up the world. And it was also when that Carol Gilligan book came out about how girls lose their self-esteem around twelve or thirteen, so everyone was talking about being nine. Like trying to go back there, and remembering what it was like when we were friends with each other, and we weren't totally competitive, and we were creating our own weird games and ideas.

PARENTAL LOVE (Subversive Education)

They're only going through a phase
Kids are all the same
They don't know their own right minds
It's only a silly game
They don't know what their talking about
They just talk a load of shit
If we just ignore them
They'll forget about it
Parental love is just a farce
Don't be taken for a ride
We know you're only young
But feel free to speak your mind
Do not work and do not pray
Ignore the bores at school
Live your life your own way
Don't be nobody's fool
Counteract the system
Youngsters are the best
Counteract the system
Become a real pest

BRISTOL
1983

MORE
KATHLEEN
HANNA

Around the same time, the major labels were courting us, and they wanted me to come to L.A. or New York and meet with people. I knew we weren't really interested, because we're really happy with our label, running things the way we want.

But what I thought was *smarter* was to realize "They're offering me free plane tickets to New York..." (I have friends who can't afford a just visit New York City.) "I'm going to say tha those friends are my managers and agents, and they need to be flown, too—I'm going to get these people free trips to New York."

So I took friends to New York: I got \$5000 financed for a film during this period when that record company thought I might sign. Peopl wanted to show me how much they believed in my artistic vision, or whatever, by throwing little money my way, and by giving me plane tickets when I needed them. For this six-to-eight month period, I basically capitalized on this situation and took as much of their money as I possibly could, as many free plane tickets and free hotel rooms as I could get. And I went and listened to what they had to say, so that I could with a clear head, say, "No, that's not what I want to do."

Being cool in our culture means being cold, stand-offish, uncaring (your too cool to notice a lot of things) and self absorbed. You are attractive in a normal white way but have a little dirt on your chin. You are mysterious and lacking in real friends cuz being cool means being vulnerable with no one. (this increases the value that other place on the rare memories of you sharing anything with them...cool)

For the most part, cool attributes have been claimed by our society as "male". This means that the only way a person brought up GIRL (and thus the opposite of what is cool) can be "truly" cool is to assimilate into male culture via toughness.

By claiming "dork" as cool we can confuse and disrupt this whole process. The idea is that not only have we decided that being a dork (not repressing our supposedly feminine qualities like niceness and telling people how we feel) is cool and thus, valuable to us BUT also that we are not willing to accept claims that how we are is wrong, undeveloped, bad or.....uncool.

Being a dork is about demystifying yourself, not fitting yourself into James Dean tv pictureland/cuz it is alienating, and learning about sincerity via true corniness and soul love friendships.

♦ KH: You create work about being female, and there's a lot to write about—I don't want to just write songs about rape or male domination for the rest of my life. Yet people expect that same thing over and over. And if you stop doing it, you're called a sell-out.

I am talking more about how people who are working towards whatever kind of change tend to be perceived. You get put in the position where you are supposed to always be working for the betterment of whatever group you feel a part of

And so like you get scared to have fun and kick back and have a beer cos maybe it'll be seen as some sort of contradiction of the fact that you're supposed to be *Really Intense*, or *Miss Super Political*, or whatever.

♦ KH: A lot of artists in general have accepted the idea that the only way you can create authentic art is if you're suffering, and this helps people stay in the same place. I'm not interested in being a martyr. I think the martyr thing is a bunch of bullshit. I can't afford to deny myself stupid adventures once in a while, or to turn down money even when what I have to do to make it isn't exactly perfect. And, hey, sometimes I make mistakes. I do things I regret later. I just hate the idea that we're all supposed to suffer all the time. I think it's gross.

I think there are a thousand variations on what success is. Why can't we take over the word success and have different forms of success that are about doing things that make us really happy without sacrificing ourselves? Why is sacrificii yourself the highest order of the day in Western society? It's sick! I'm not saying that everybody should start businesses and become capitalists and fuck people over. It doesn't have to be like that. We can try to create alternative models for economic systems. It scares me because I don't want to be reformist. I don't believe in reformism. I don't just want my piece of the pie. I believe in revolutionary action. I don't believe in trying to change the system as it is because the whole system has to change. In a way, I'm contradicting myself because I'm saying we need to earn a living, but the ultimate goal is that we change the entire system. But unless we build models -- even small Lego ones in our houses -- we're not going to figure out how that's going to go about.

I think there's a lot we can do to change things. One is to figure out what you are good at and/or what you like to do and do it in a way that promotes social justice, intellectual growth of yrself and others and challenges racism. The racism here is so intense and blatant (not like covert racism is okay or any better but...) I think as a white person its important to figure out how I can be a part of anti racist activities without being a space invader/taker over

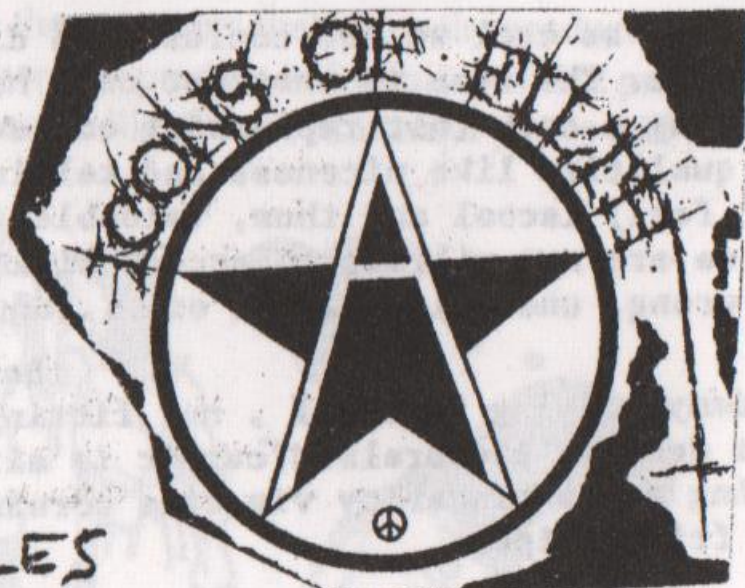
We need to at least create new structures and new ways of dealing with things. But it doesn't have to be oppositional. It shouldn't be a choice between running a fucked up corporate office that doesn't think about what your products do out in the world, how your workers are treated or why all the top management is from a certain group or running a punk business, giving your products away for free and having no structure. That just creates a whole new bogus thing where we're still defining ourselves in accordance to The Man because we're defining ourselves in opposition to him. We are contingent on him staying an asshole.

If you're in opposition to something, then you are in many ways lending it validity.

Totally. You're saying it's important enough to counter. My whole strategy is to say "I don't care." I mean, I'm not going to turn blind eye while people are being murdered, but at the same time I'm not going to base my whole life on being the opposite of a bunch of necrophilic assholes. I'm going to try to create something that makes sense in the context of what's going on now

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

Authority clamps down on us all like a chainsaw
Some get severed and some get cut
Who really gives a shit if it's 1984?
Things got too bad years ago and getting bad some more
You can't fool me. Get stuffed. Enough is enough
Are you too thick to understand
That things have gotten way out of hand?
At this rate it won't be too long
Governments cons go on and on and on
It's getting so bad now, can't hardly move
Forget all your troubles and get in the groove
Dance the night away, who cares anyway
This sort of pathetic negativity goes on and on and on
How intense have things got to get
Before you can see that all is set?
Will you wait til Britain's great dirty cruise missiles have already travelled many miles?
Things are gonna get tough, enough is enough
Boys now decide what happens over here
Britain is now the 53rd American state
A nuclear powered launch pad, prefixed "Great"
A country run by ageing egoistic politician fucks
Smashing disagreeing mouths with military rifle butts
Numbing liberated brains with policeman's truncheons
"Shut your fucking face...the state must function"
So much for Thatcher's Victorian values
Vicious brutality, oppress and abuse
They piss and shit on anything they don't like
You can say that I'm wrong but I know that I'm right
The whole world over is in such a fucking mess
Money is the main thing so sod all the rest
Big business multinationals are screwing the world
Draining every penny and last drops of blood out of peoples in poor nations
The Coca Cola blood acting in accordance with the latest stocks and shares
Businessmen, boss men, seeking, just don't care
They've detached themselves from the reality we all have to bear
All they've ever done is conned us to the hilt
Made us slave in their factories, the factories we have built
And the products that we've grafted so hard to make
We have to buy back to make great the state
Sometimes I wonder how they continually get away with it
Maybe we're really content to wallow in the shit
Fuck all consequence, the state must still function
Maybe we deserve this shit and maybe we don't
Maybe the world will blow and maybe it won't
But one thing I do know is that enough is enough
But how many of our number are prepared to stand up?
Can we offer an alternative to killing the earth?
We can only but try, we can't do no worse
Enough is enough
Yeah, enough is enough
Now how many of our number are prepared to stand up?
Cut



• FUCKED UP STATE •

Life ain't no fun in this fucked up state • Where they teach you to love in a world of hate • This world they run & treat as their own • Using politics, religion, the queen on her throne • Give us lies & hide the truth • We never doubt so we don't find the proof • Time to doubt stand face to face • They've stolen our world now they run the place • We don't want your fascist state • We don't want your world of hate • We don't want your lies & cons • We don't want to tag along • We don't want dividing lines • We don't want set times • We don't want your deathwork nor its pay • We don't want to do as you say • We don't want your bright coloured bribes • We don't want your fucking lies • We don't want your politics • We don't want your violent kicks • We don't want your nuclear power • We don't want your doomsday hour • We don't want to live in fear • We don't want polluted air • We don't want the atomic risk • We don't have to live like this •



GLASGOW
1992-94

Do you have any sympathy with the Scottish National Party?

the nationalists don't simply want to do away with English rule, they want to replace it with a Scottish government - what's the point in that? Surely, by now, people would realise that there must be better ways of running things than looking to governments all the time. I can't agree with or support anybody who wants to replace one government with another. If the SNP wanted an end to English rule to replace it with workers autonomy, food co-ops and equal distribution of wealth, they'd get my full support.

MANCHESTER 1994

Prefabricated.

We live in a world of carefully constructed illusions, about ourselves, each other, power, authority, justice and daily life...

These illusions are both constructed and reflected by education, advertising, propaganda, media, politics, religion, CAPITALISM, the courts...

They are perpetuated by us from the moment we accept this as a valid view of the world...

We don't have to agree with every detail, in fact, we are positively encouraged to argue and take sides over a host of prefabricated trifles...

we simply have to accept this view of the world, to view life from the perspective of power...

the freedom they offer is merely a choice of shitty illusions with the added illusion of making us believe we are free...

create your own reality...

Kitchener

USED, ABUSED, UNAMUSED

Fear is the maintainer of this living death called system
Lied to to comply and never ask why

There's people out here building bombs
People out here dying your wrongs
People out here dying in pain
People out here crying in vain
People out here who just want grain
While you just sit and watch playing life and death games

Still, we accept it 'cos you know best
No you don't, just a few can't rule the rest

So much we could do if we'd only realise
Like fighting for peace instead of watching the skies
Like seeing our stupidity, blindness, hilarity
As being only moulded so we can then maybe clarify
Instead of turning a blind eye to maintain some sort of sanity
There's a big difference between need and greed

They tell us 'sign this box, we'll make things better'
They're out to fool you, you've got to be clever
Voting concedes incapability to run your own life
Well how would you know if you ain't ever tried?
Gotta fight back and refuse to be ruled,
To show that we care and we ain't no-ones fools
We don't have to stand for the games that they play
Used, Abused, Unamused? Yeah, every day.

Confidence tricksters they take us for a ride
Political jokers, but I don't see the funny side

They use to the full this system they've perfected
Political jokes are funny but not when they get elected
I can see it's all crap, I'm not as blind as they tell me
It's a using, abusing, unamusing story
Maybe we'll all see we're not as blind as they think
See the chains? Be yourself. Smash the links.

• FOOL BRITANNIA (A SONG FOR EUROPE) •

Nuclear defence is a threat • Can't you see it's common sense • Still stockpiles build up on each side of the fence • Sometimes they meet & talk • They talk of peace & war • Always talks fail & they want to fight it here • It ain't employ • It is destroy • It ain't employ • It is destroy • Play the game • Like toys • The signs are everywhere land, sea & air • Because of our silence they think we don't care • But we do care don't we? Christ! Its our world too • They're taking the piss out of me & you • Surely together we can begin to create a life for ourselves not based on power and greed • Is there really no room in our world for caring & sharing? No room in our hearts & minds so we can start preparing? Government & military leaders don't care how we feel as they plan our downfall • If it's o.k. for them • Then its o.k. for us all • Just work for them & their security & they'll see us all o.k. & don't worry about the risks • It's got good pay • But what good is the cash to your family & future when both start to decay • Tell me how d'you make a living from death & destruction? Mining, refining, building, designing • You're creating the holocaust • Making a living from the missiles, until the missiles fall • Seems so contradictory • It will destroy us all • Stupidity is the name of the game • 'Cos in this game • Defence is a threat which can turn to attack • Too late when we get to the point where theres no turning back • Still it's just a job, who cares anyway? Lets go on make believing the threat will go away • This government will sort it out • They care • They'll see us all o.k. • So let's sit tight & hope our make believe won't just blow away • It ain't employ • It is destroy • It ain't employ • It is destroy • Play the game • No noise (for a while) • A limited war they said • Limited to what millions dead? They've killed & wanna kill again • But they mustn't fight it here • They've got no right to fight it anywhere • Tell them straight if you care • It ain't employ • It is destroy • It ain't employ • It is destroy • No war • No more •

• SOD THE CHILDREN •

Sometimes the silly things children say do & ask • Don't seem quite so silly when thought about closely • They ask why feeding the needy should be such a task • We feed them politics • They ask straightforward & down to earth questions • Which merit reasonable no-nonsense answers • But in our own ignorance to the points children raise • We feed them bullshit • They push the meat aside • Only to be force-fed • Maybe sub-consciously • They question the malnutrition & starvation of children their own age • So far away • We feed them next to nothing • Sod the children • Sod future generations • Let's be grown ups • Let's force feed our children their inheritance of our failure to understand & respect • We feed on each other • Cannibals •

• SHOW US YOU CARE •

I'm over here in the cage • Take a real good look at my face • I smoked twenty fags today • The pain from the experiment has gone away... But it'll be back soon & I hope I don't live through it • I hope I'll die • Breathe my last breath • A way out of a fate worse than death • My pain to ease yours • It's a real deal my rights for your ignorance greed & vanity • But I forgot, curiosity rules • I mean nothing & you just couldn't care • But you don't bloody care & it just ain't fair that I've got screws in my head • Or if I wind up dead • Or if I look pathetic • Or if I'll get an anaesthetic • Or if I meow or scream for your cosmetic cream • Or if they swap my heart • Or if I'm torn apart • They torment my brain again & again • Or if they swell up my eyes or increase my size • Or if I'm strapped & trapped to a table or chair • C'mon admit it you just don't care • If they rip me open & just start poking around • For a remedy to an illness which doesn't exist • Or if they start again for something they've missed • I must have rights & I want my share • But if only, if only you'd show us you care you know I've rights & I want my share • But if only, if only you'd show us you care • 'Cos you can't understand my voice • Somehow it always leaves me no choice • I can't expect you to voice my rights • When you don't even voice your own • Because of your ignorance I guess we'll always pay • We fellow beings just hope you'll realise on day • That we've got lots in common • One is that were both downtrodden by the people who've got big plans for this nation • You see they even test animals with chemical warfare, weapons effects & riot control agents & radiation & whilst you're ignoring • There's a big bang coming • Maybe you owe it to yourselves to show us you care • So come on & free us • Free us..... I dare •

BRAIN DEATH

Just another birth, another life

Another brain to screw up and nullify to help achieve your aim
Another mind's growth stunted and then filled up with shit
Never asked for life but he'll have to learn to live with it
She'll have to learn to live with it
We'll have to learn to live in shit
Better hurry to the theatre because mummy's got pains
Daddy's got the day off work - it's been eating at his brains
Will it be male or female? Got to give the poor sod a name
Blue for boys and pink for girls
Does it matter what colour the chains?
Labelled and divided, defined from the start
Mummy & Daddy tore you and me apart
First oppression began before we were born at all
Brain death began before our first years at school
If you do what's told and get it right
They use you as their tool
Do it wrong, refuse to play no part.
They make an example out of you
Twist a few brains, tan some hides
Tell your parents you're a fool
then they wonder just where the hell they went wrong with you
School just fucks your brain
What you learn is for their gain
What you learn is preparation to uphold our precious system
Fight to get a good position
Shit on others and the system loves you
Mom and Pop can brag about you
Life is just a fucking conspiracy
So don't be surprised if you don't 'make it in life'
Capitalism requires big divisions between people
It's guaranteed that vast amounts of people get shit on
All governments require this state of degradation
Anarchy involves equal consideration for all
What the fuck have you against that?
I won't scrub your fucking floors, won't fight in your pathetic wars
Won't sign because I can't see the clause
Why should I compete?
I won't kiss your feet
You can't buy me
Fuck off



GLASGOW
1997

Is the DIY thing to me, is a way of life. From being in a band, going to gigs, buying records. I think if you already have this attitude you have a good start. There is other sources that I think have a diy outlook like food co-ops for example and community care which is basically folk out doing it for themselves rather than sitting around waiting for the state to make a move. I think most of the people that are involved in the DIY scene would like to see every aspect of their lives with a DIY ethic, we're a long way off of course, but as long as people still have the conviction and strength, the sky's the limit.

'FIEGE'

N) Communication is vital (& it seems ludicrous to say that)...if people don't speak to each other then were all fucked (some would argue we already are...).Communication would appear to be a very big issue-we have the pushing by industry of e-mail and the internet for example and this in turn fosters the image of a society shut off and in boxes, glued to screens talking to people who we will never meet, this may not mean that we cannot feel or share with others but it does add to the overall image of the individual or collective societal alienation/disenfranchisement which can be manifested in the consumption of junk food, sports clothes, cars, houses/consumer goods etc. We live in hope as there's no other way of making life possible or tolerable, if there was no hope there would be no point in doing absolutely fucking anything!

N) You can end up preaching to the converted-but it's a jaded perspective. Everyone may look the same, seem the same or whatever, but not everyone is "converted" (whatever that means)...we exist as a scene to try and at least conduct relations with each other in a relatively egalitarian manner-that's what drew me to HC/punk and I doubt it'll ever lose that excitement. IM being optimistic, but sometimes I am.....and if you believe in fighting ingrained mindsets then you'll always have an axe to grind anyway...some of us are always getting into scrapes/fights or arguments with others and in reality were really nice folks, not some sort of scene police....

I have in the past been involved in projects to set up a co-operative vegancafe and a "Free School" both of which never came to fruition. I also was heavily involved in two music co-ops and a food co-op.

I do not think silence is consent as not everyone is brave enough to stand up to bigots, I do think it's important to confront bigots and I also believe in a team approach, on a general note Ebola have always been pretty good at sticking together at idea's and opinions and have never been particularly scared to voice our opinions.

It's too easy to condemn when you can reduce people to convenient scapegoats, but when we live in a society that doesn't value people, that doesn't give most people a reason to get out of bed in the morning, you have to look long and hard at individual reasons for being a substance user, not to say that an individual is free from the responsibility of their own actions, they are not. It's just that it seems to me that the most disadvantaged section of society are either suffering from long term chronic mental health problems, or are opiate users. The way our health care system treats people who have problems relating to opiate (ab)use is so unethical, it's almost as if the system wants these people to die. The way we, as a society on the whole and at all levels, treat people with long term chronic mental health problems sickens me.

'ASEPSIS'

I think my dreams now revolve around setting up a small business and being my own boss so that I don't have to kow-tow to any one...other perhaps the almighty customer. I think ideally I'd love to live in Belgium and run a small brewery...however I think that's not that likely...living in Belgium and Teaching English as Foreign Language might be an option but I don't have the qualification to do that as yet!
On a totally idealistic level a global revolution on anarcho-syndicalist lines would be pretty tremendous.

6 . WHAT KEEPS YOU AT IT, AFTER ALL THESE YEARS OF BEING INVOLVED IN VARIOUS BANDS AND HAS THE PUNK SCENE CHANGED MUCH?

I think this is for the old gits in the band. But for me well - some vague sense of community, shared values, no bullshit between friends, a forum for debate and action.

Micky - Role model makes us sound like a right bunch of old farts! I suppose the most we can hope for is to challenge people's preconceptions with our lyrics and writings. We hope to provoke and inspire thought and debate and attempt to counter the socialisation process, which we have all endured from the day we were born. We are just ordinary people trying to get on with our lives without fucking people over... we just happen to be in a band. I personally try and adhere to the old Flux maxims of "Strive to survive causing least suffering possible"... People should set themselves their own goals and targets in life. While I try and live with in the bounds of my own principals, they may be too restrictive for someone else. Conversely other people might think that my principals are too lax as I drink alcohol and am 'only' a vegetarian. For me it is more important to have set of principals I can live with and live up to, rather than making myself unhappy by setting myself goals I can never achieve.

4 . ON 'BARCODE PUNK' YOU TALK ABOUT MAKING PUNK A THREAT AGAIN, WILL IT EVER HAPPEN AND WHAT CAN WE DO TO MAKE IT A THREAT?

Punk is a threat - I think it would be stupid to deny the amount of information/ideas that have been exchanged due to punk (and more specifically anarcho/peace punk and later on the post SxE/ emo/DIY scenes). Those achievements are ones everyone should be proud of - we've made choices that affect our lives because others have for so long decided to choose for us. I think that kind of confidence and core aspect then cannot fail to influence your surroundings, your everyday actions etc. The HC punk/subculture/DIY counterculture - whatever you want to call it by existing is a threat. I'm not sure if there will ever be a day whereby it will constitute a MAJOR threat - the 'powers that be' (ahem...) will always be able to employ more brutal tactics for protecting 'national security' or 'private property' or 'private business interests'

EBOLA are at the end of the day 5 people with very strong opinions on many issues, which 9 times out of 10 means we're engaged in some sort of verbal 'debate'/argument/fight with someone or other at some point. We haven't set ourselves up as some sort of vanguard and sometimes it does feel as though we are possibly one of the very few bands who are prepared to say stuff that is contradicting say 'popular thought in hardcore for this week', and that is hugely exhausting and extremely demoralising. But of course if we said fuck all and kept our mouths shut then we'd 'obviously' have a lot more fun, and have a lot more friends. I'm extremely tired of always arguing and fighting at present - though that doesn't mean I'm shutting the fuck up. The complexity of life is unfucking believable and it's up to us as individuals or bands or groups or what ever to try and make sense of the mess we're 'effectively' in, 'cus no one else will! But then I'm sitting on the train on my way to work reading 'Heartattack' and it just depresses the shit out of me, confronted by endless texts such as this one (umm - soz Ian). To make punk a threat? Make yourself a threat and if you wanna do it under the punk banner, then go for it - just get out there and DO IT.

'IN DARKNESS THERE IS NO CHOICE'



WASHINGTON D.C. 1981

Destroy Babylon-Don't beat yourself upside the head. Don't beat yourself for this. Don't beat yourself upside the head, don't beat yourself for this. Oh, there is a way out. It's a natural plan, the natural. How many days do we sit around, while they keep on burying all our leaders in the ground. Organize, centralize. It's time for us to fight for our lives. Destroy Babylon. Oh there is a way.

Social Role VALORISATION
Stimulus response, pattern tube fed since birth,
never sure if my thoughts are my own,
or if conclusions reached are a true
reflection of my own attitude
Scared of doing things I want to do
Live how I want to live
Restrained by unwritten
and codes of behavior
Expectations placed on me by a sterile society
Individually can't
Sacrifice for stability
Sterility of the homogenous mass
Stand in line
Listen to authority
Go to school
Get a job
Accept your shit
It'll never change
You'll never make a difference
You're no different
Just Play the game

My father said to me everyone has to conform
My father was a weak fool
Living in fear of upsetting the accepted norm
What would the neighbours think?

Fuck the neighbours
Fuck the family unit
Fuck the work ethic
Fuck heterosexual class based values
Fuck my own mind set
Imposed on my since birth
So I even question my actions
If they are against the conventions of state.



All forms of protest to me are VALID. Fact. I don't give a shit what the 'Class War' position is on the supposed 'middle class' life stylist, 'single issue', eco-movements are. It's bullshit - sure you may cringe at Geoffrey whose got dreads and speaks very posh up in that prae, but so fucking what - the kid's doing it, and there's anyone else sits in their fucking armchairs, giving it the old tired line about how we should organise around class. Well - I don't for one think that's an answer anymore - sorry. The times HAVE changed, and anarchist politics have to change also. DIY to me is an everyday form of a basic anarchism - take back that which has been taken from you - it may not be 'heroic' (hmmmm... which is??) - but that's for posers and martyrs anyway... life is shit enough, make the best of it while you can and try to inspire others to do the same. Making trouble? Why not? The idea that it brings a cloud over the 'movement' is a joke - it doesn't, it just gives the fuckers in power more tools to choke, bait and criminalise friends that we have who are squatters, road protesters or animal rights activists or whatever. People have to do what is right for them selves and if this entails bringing in the media to broadcast their 'movement' is a joke - it doesn't, it just gives the fuckers in power more tools to choke, bait and criminalise friends that we have who are squatters, road protesters or animal rights activists or whatever. People have to do what is right for them selves and if this entails bringing in the media to broadcast their 'movement' is a joke - it doesn't, it just gives the fuckers in power more tools to choke, bait and criminalise friends that we have who are squatters, road protesters or animal rights activists or whatever. 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Power Is Boring (Jello Biafra/J. Keithley)

Believe me, if I were dictator
You know what I'd do?????
Come to think of it,
There's a problem there
For aspiring tyrants like me and you...

Ever wonder what it'd really be like
To be your own dictator
Might be its own kind of prison
Of total fear

Can't make love or go anywhere
Without bodyguards in your hair
Never know which trusted friend
Has plans to blow you away

3,000 pairs of shoes
No one to talk to
'Nuff guns to kill everyone you own
The masses act so loyal
Yet you can't sleep in the same place twice
I wouldn't want to be a Noriega or Khadafi
Would you?

CHORUS
Power is boring
Power is boring
Power is boring

And ya know, I wonder how
The downtown crowd can stand themselves
Look sharp
Play to win
Through intimidation

That person at the next desk
Ain't your friend
He's your competitor
The only way to get promoted first
Is to get HIM first
Or else

Hi ho whaddya know
They all got the same plan for you
Where do these people go
Between their daily meals of work
Too burnt and stressed
To even think of how to spend the money
No one to show it to
But people just like me-AGH!

CHORUS

Hot damn, we're the headliners at last
Gonna show this scene a thing or two
Play games and help our friends
Now the phone rings all the time
It's all your fault
"You've been crowned king
Of what you used to warn us about"

Why play that game at all?
The ones who want the power THAT bad
Are missing something in their lives
Being scared of my friends
In a junta, scene or business world
Is the most miserable existence
I could think of on earth

In San Francisco, most of the older activists, especially at Berkeley, were very hostile towards punks. The music, certainly, wasn't nice and mellow for them, and neither was our look or our attitude. While in Vancouver, the two most important early punk bands, D.O.A. and the Subhumans, were both managed by former yippie activists, who saw this as a logical extension of what they were already doing.

People should all think alike, people should all sound alike--that's exactly the opposite of what punk means to me. I think the true spirit of punk has more in common with the spirit of the early beats, the diggers, the early hippies, when that was centered around stopping the Vietnam War and fighting for civil rights and cleaning up the planet.

Jello) It's great. I think the fact that more people are getting involved and creating things like magazines and bands and even like some people are showing us paintings they've done. And fine, if that's your outlet, then what the hell, do it. It's breaking down the idea of rock-n-roll as a spectator sport. It should be participatory.

Punk was originally about creating new, important, energetic music that would hopefully threaten the status quo and the stupidity of the 1970s. Now we have an entire audience of people who call themselves "punk" because they've written the name of a British band that broke up 15 years ago on the leather jacket they bought the day before at the mall, who only want to hear one kind of music. They're as conservative as Republicans or fundamentalist Christians. I like to shock and torment those people

SV: How do you react to people that put down "preachy" bands like you guys or MDC?

Jello: They can kiss my ass! Are we preaching or are we suggesting? There's nothing wrong with offering opinions in the most blunt, graphic, annoying way possible, in the vain hope that it'll communicate to people. One of the nicest things about being in a band is that you can shout your mouth off and complain about things for a living. One of the reasons we're in the band is that we're mentally unfit for work.

Q: In 1997, the ad agency FCB Worldwide approached the Dead Kennedys requesting permission to use "Holiday in Cambodia" in a Levi's Dockers commercial. What was your first response when you heard that?

As an individual artist, somebody had to draw the line and say, "No. This music is not for you. We don't want your dirty money."

"Our attitude on home taping is on the In God We Trust, Inc. cassette: 'Home taping is killing big entertainment industry profits; we left side two blank so you can help.'"

Jimmy) You're probably never gonna run out of things to attack, huh?

Jello) It's fun. We have a sense of humor and we're not afraid to use it in a vicious way if we have to. In some ways, we're cultural terrorists, using music instead of guns. Fighting the corporate society is great fun, great kick in the ass.

Jello Biafra: It was Wilmington. They stormed a show we were playing at an independent municipality surrounded by the City of Long Beach with a history of labor union flare ups, the cops were down on Wilmington to begin with. They left one exit open and routed two thousand people through two double doors, and outside there was a gauntlet of cops swinging nightsticks at people's heads. Helicopters were flying overhead, and tear gas was being thrown. Other cops in helmets and riot gear were seen smashing windows of small businesses up and down the streets of Wilmington and smashing the windows of cars. The L.A. Times of course claimed this was caused by Dead Kennedys, but it wasn't. East Bay Ray knew a woman who worked in a local hospital who said that an L.A. Sheriff was down there that afternoon saying, "You better have extra people in the emergency room tonight, there are going to be a lot of casualties." This stuff does go on in The United States Of America.

Jello loves music, mountains, sex, wild rivers, sabotage and people who fuck up shit in a good way. He hates greed, pollution, corruption, liars, intolerants, racism, "me first" types, and the idea of health care being a for-profit industry.

I guess I'm closest to an anarchist. I basically try to take the issues as they come. The Indians are real close to an anarchist society being able to make it work.

I'm down with both radical resistance and trying to do what can be done through the system.

Jello) Circle A's are very saleable items for capitalist markets.

Ray) Generally they don't know what anarchy means. They think it means "I can do whatever the fuck I want" which is bullshit. Anarchy means being able to take care of yourself and not fuck people around.

Jello) Anarchy is the opposite of greed and this is a very greedy country.

Ray) Kids have been taught from grade one in school that anarchy means having a bomb in your hand and saying "Fuck You" with the other. And that's what the school system would like you to think. Anarchy is a state of mind, it's not a state of violence.

AJ) Yeah, but you can't believe that anarchy could exist in today's society with its present values and stuff.

Jello) No, what we're into I think is anarchy of the mind. As being mentally strong enough to divorce yourself from the rest of the rodents and make your own decisions. Anarchy is something that would take hundreds of years to get across in this country.

What are the best tools for change?

Once I figure that out in a sentence short enough to put into an interview, I won't have to write any more songs. I guess with the individual it starts with trying to consciously divorce yourself from the corporate octopus: not working for them, if possible, trying to buy as few of their products as possible, just try to avoid buying in or being bought out to that degree and one can and will survive.

For years, he has been condemning what he calls "corporate feudalism," and one way he broke out of it was to set up Alternative Tentacles, an independent label he and the Dead Kennedys started in 1979. He has never taken a salary, calling himself an "absentee thoughtlord" at the diverse label that prides itself on allowing artists creative freedom and concentrates on "quality and controversy."

A prankster, he ran against Dianne Feinstein for mayor of San Francisco in 1979 on a platform that included banning cars from city limits, making police run for reelection in the neighborhoods they patrolled, and establishing a "Board of Bribery" in an attempt to set standard public rates. He came in fourth out of ten. In 2000, Biafra was drafted for the Green Party Presidential primary and chose Mumia Abu-Jamal as his running mate. He ended up encouraging supporters to vote for Nader, and he got the concept of a "maximum wage" debated on *Politically Incorrect* with Bill Maher. He says his mission is to help "bring the spirit of punk rock and roll into the Greens--make the party rock."

That campaign that you ran for the mayor of San Francisco, one of your platforms was that between 9 and 5, in the main street of San Francisco, every businessman must wear a clown suit.

I don't want to see San Francisco's spirit muzzled in the name of law and order and tourist dollars. I will ban automobiles, legalize squatting in unoccupied buildings, auction off all high city government positions, clean up market street by requiring downtown businessmen to wear clown suits and tear down Pier 39.

Police officers should be required to run for election. The neighborhoods they patrol would vote yes or no confidence.

If I was ever to enter politics again it would be for the same reason I ran for mayor in San Francisco, namely an act of sabotage. I've always tried to use my life and my art as a prank as much as possible

Part of the lesson for me in running for office is that my art is more powerful than any position could be. Like Stevie Van Zant has said, an artist can say the same thing to everybody and it can come from the heart and a real belief, but a politician says different things to different people and ends it all with "vote for me."

Most important, I would have to drop my art altogether to have a full-time position. It's more of an accomplishment to me when I hear that the people in Czechoslovakia who were part of the dissent movement before the Communists fell were really into the Dead Kennedys.

PULL MY STRINGS	
I'm tired of self-respect	Fat ass bouncers kick the shit
I can't afford a car	Out of kids who try to dance
I wanna be a prefab superstar	If my friends say I've lost my guts"
I wanna be a tool	I'll laugh and say
Don't need no soul	That's rock and roll
Wanna make big money	But there's just one problem...
Playing rock and roll	
I'll make my music boring	
I'll play my music slow	Is my cock big enough
I ain't no artist	Is my brain small enough
I'm a businessman	For you to make me a star
No ideas of my own	Give me a toot, I'll sell you my soul
I won't offend	Pull my strings and I'll go far
Or rock the boat	And when I'm rich
Just sex and drugs	And meet Bob Hope
And rock and roll	We'll shoot some golf
	And shoot some dope
Drool, drool, drool, drool, drool (etc.) My payola!	
Drool, drool, drool, drool, drool (etc.) My payola!	Is my cock big enough
	Is my brain small enough
	For you to make me a star
You'll pay ten bucks to see me	Give me a toot, I'll sell you my soul
On a fifteen foot high stage	Pull my strings and I'll go far

BIAFRA: No matter how old you are or what you're doing, if you're stuck working in a serf-type of job it's your moral obligation to sabotage...

SV: Would you guys ever make a video for MTV?

video every captured where Dead Kennedys was coming from, MTV wouldn't show it. Another point to be made on that is if we wound up on MTV, that means MTV-idiots would start turning up in droves at the shows and I'd really rather not play to them, not on their terms, anyway. Anybody's welcome to come if they want to, but I don't want to pander to a commercial rock or cock-rock level to get a point across because stooping to that level erases the point to begin with...

Nothing more stupid than lip-synching. I will not lip-synch. Overall, we're really reluctant to do anything with video because it'll just encourage people to watch TV.

My latest spoken-word thing, Beyond The Valley Of The Gift Police, breaks some new ground for me in that I'm trying to offer some solutions to the stuff I complain about, as well as looking under rocks to show people why they should really be worried. Forget O.J. and whether Green Day sold out when they signed on to Reprise; this stuff is really important, and it's affecting your lives. Arguing about what is and is not punk is not gonna feed the homeless person starving outside your front door.

The world does not revolve around punk. But apply that kind of rebel ethic into expanding to life beyond punk, and being prepared for a time when we too may have to be fighting government clamp downs the way people in the old Eastern Block countries did.

Question: When you say that, that the radical left can't cut itself off from the majority any longer, what do you think we can do? What is a radical way of acting?

Jello: Getting rid of the whole concept of left versus right all together.(?) You know the issues now are the top versus the bottom. And the top went to a very drastic class war against the bottom and tossing more and more people into the bottom. You know, people's real wages have declined all over the world except for a handful of superwealthy people running off with all the money.

Michael Moore the filmmaker makes the point in saying that so many people that are looked down on as blue collar working class rednecks are actually concerned about the exact same things we are, the wedge-issue being why can't I put food on the table. In a lot of cases I'd say it's a matter of language on how to get people to know that you're on the same side. I mean I was at the national Green gathering in July and pointed out, that ten Green key values they lift and the language they use do not communicate with people. You don't go into South Central Los Angeles and talk about ecological wisdom. And yet when some of the gangs got together after the Rodney King Riots and presented a list of demands to the City of L.A., one of the tops of the list was plant some goddamned trees in the 'hood. They just use a different language.

I think being radical means interacting more with a lot different kinds of people and making up your own mind about where you fit in and what you want to do. I didn't agree with the hard line Crass or MDC took over the years, but it helped me decide what line I wanted to take instead.

There's nothing cops and corporations love more than to sit back and watch us turn off everyone we think we're trying to help by spitting into ntipicky, backbiting, power-hungry factions and tearing each other apart. "I wanna be leader." "No, I wanna be leader."

I think Noam Chomsky is a national treasure--make that an international treasure. Did I mention Michael Moore already? I definitely think the farty old left is as much an enemy as the conservatives in power, as far as turning people off to activism and change. Resistance should be fun. Resistance isn't some pain in the ass; it's great fun. It's not just good for the soul, and uplifting spiritually; it can also be a great kick in the ass. Remember how much fun you had shooting spitwads at the teacher in seventh grade? Imagine applying that kind of attitude to actually fucking with Mitsubishi!

But please don't sit out the whole election because of Clinton. Keep fighting back by electing cool people to state and local offices; boycott PMRC supporters like 7-UP, EXXON, COORS, AT&T, AMERICAN AIRLINES, HALLMARK GREETING CARDS and other religious right backers like BLOCKBUSTER VIDEO and DOMINO's PIZZA. Of course boycott all stores (especially chains) who won't stock controversial music and won't sell Tipper-stickered records to minors. The power is ours! Let's use it. Bigots don't keep music retailers in business, we do.

The other side are true believers ready to work as hard as they can for as long as it takes to get what they want. We must do the same, only harder. They learned their tactics from our side in the 60's and we have not yet begun to fight. Keep the heat on, and keep biting the ankles of the RIAA, the President, Tipper Gore and the PMRC. Don't settle for business as usual. Besides, it's fun.

The cutthroats that run things cheat and kill to get where they are. We got nothing but our hearts, our souls, and our energy. But look what that's done, as a simple spark starting fires throughout history all over the world. Even in America.

One more thing the corporate media doesn't dare tell you is that a few thousand rebels, if that, are demonstrating against the government, inequality and corruption somewhere in Mexico every damn day.

At the same time, I never expected the movement against globalization and corporate rule to mushroom as quickly as it has, either. And right now the strongest electoral arm of that movement is the Green Party. I try to stress to people cynical about voting that the Greens are the most effective electoral arm of the so-called Spirit of Seattle, and it's great fun to cause trouble in the streets, but that's not going to accomplish much without insurrection in the voting booth at the same time.

Biafra: The sheer numbers and impact of the Seattle protests and what came after them gave me a lot of hope that this may be the beginning of a very long fight that could quite seriously turn the tide of corporate feudalism.

I think one of the beauties so far of the so-called Spirit of Seattle is there aren't any leaders, pop stars, or guru figures that everyone else is falling in line with and following. No Mandela, Havel, or Subcomandante Sic Mask riding in on a white horse and everybody else just wanting to follow them to the promised land. We're stitching it together and doing it ourselves.

"Let's Lynch The Landlord"

The Landlord's here to visit
They're blasting disco down below
Sez, "I'm doubling up the rent
Cos the building's condemned
You're gonna help me buy City Hall!"

But we can, you know we can
But we can, you know we can
Let's lynch the landlord man

I tell them 'turn on the water'
I tell 'em 'turn on the heat'
Tells me 'All you ever do is complain'
Then they search the place when I'm not here

But we can, you know we can
Let's lynch the landlord
Let's lynch the landlord
Let's lynch the landlord man

There's rats chewin' up the kitchen
Roaches up to my knees
Turn the oven on, it smells like Dachau, yeah
Til the rain pours thru the ceiling

But we can, you know we can
Let's lynch the landlord man

BG: Who would you like to clone, ideally? Whose clones would you like to disseminate across the planet?

JB: Well, the first person who comes to mind is Judi Bari because she was so radiant and charismatic, had such a great sense of humor, and died far too young.

I think one thing people need to start working on is a self-help organization called Democrats Anonymous for people who still think there really is an alternative in a Mexico-style one-party state, which in America's case masquerades as a two-party state. People could all go to meeting halls and get up sheepishly before a podium and say, "Hi, I'm so-and-so, I'm a Democrat. But now I've learned, and I've weaned myself from being lied to again and again and again by Nixonian corporate puppets like the Hill-Billaries and their religious-right trojan-horse friends the Gores."

"Republicans stand for greed, bigotry, and corruption," he said. "The Democrats stand for feeling guilty about greed, bigotry, and corruption, sprinkling a few crumbs down to the poor so long as the poor don't start getting enough power to control their own lives and influence national policy, protect a few calendar-friendly endangered species, and clearcut Montana and Idaho instead of the redwoods. That's the way the Democrats work."

BIAFRA: The thing is, seeking out this information and being curious and forming one's own opinion is not drudgery and hard work--it's fun. Most people don't realize that. They think that reading or trying to dig beyond the surface is a dreadful chore that's boring.

Q: Your sixth spoken-word album is called "Become the Media." How do you become the media?

Biafra: I would say there's been a huge widening of the do-it-yourself 'zine culture that may be the best gift punk has given the world, even more than all the cool music. It widened further when Riot Grrrl happened, and now it's caught on to the point where even high school students are publishing their own 'zines about their school, or about the education system itself.

One of the best things that's come out of the Seattle protests is the birth of the Independent Media Center. It's not as though the independent media movement wasn't already there, but it's given it another jump-start. There's the feeling that not only should we report on our underground culture and our own situation, but now we have to start telling people what's really going on at a time when everything from CNN to *USA Today* is as tightly controlled as Tass or Pravda.

Jello Biafra: I don't see why people are so upset about cloning sheep. American television networks have been doing that to their audiences for years

Biafra believes a little distrust of news sources might be a good lesson for the public. "Maybe all the choices of different stories of varying levels of bullshit on the Net will teach and condition people not to be so easily led. In a way, that may be a light at the end of the tunnel there.

Biafra shouldn't be mistaken for a conspiracy theorist, just a firm believer in the reality of corporate-owned America. "It's not so much that there is some arbitrator up top, some sort of conspiracy where this stuff is deliberately X'd out of the news," he says. "They just simply don't report it at all."

"Stars And Stripes Of Corruption"

Finally got to Washington in the middle of the night
I couldn't wait
I headed straight for the Capitol Mall
My heart began to p...
Yahoo! It really exists
The American International Pictures logo

I looked up at that Capitol Building
Couldn't help but wonder why
I felt like saying "Hello, old friend"

Walked up the hill to touch it
Then I unzipped my pants
And pissed on it when nobody was looking

Like a great eternal Klansman
With his two flashing red eyes
Turn around he's always watching
The Washington monument pricks the sky
With flags like pubic hair ringed 'round the bottom

The symbols of our heritage
Lit up proudly in the night
Somehow fits to see the homeless people
Passed out on the lawn

So this is where it happens
The power games and bribes
All lobbying for a piece of ass

Of the stars and stripes of corruption
Makes me feel so ashamed
To be an American
When we're too stuck up to learn from our mistakes
Trying to start another Viet Nam
While fiddling while Rome burns at home
The Boss says, "You're laid off. Blame the Japanese"
"America's back," alright
At the game it plays the worst
Strip mining the world like a slave plantation

No wonder others hate us
And the Hitlers we handpick
To bleed their people dry
For our evil empire

The drug we're fed
To make us like it
Is God and country with a band

People we know who should know better
Howl, "America rules. Let's go to war!"
Business scams are what's worth dying for

Are the Soviets our worst enemy?
We're destroying ourselves instead
Who cares about our civil rights
As long as I get paid?

BIAFRA: Most people are born with some kind of unique and special talent; unfortunately most people either never realize what talent they have and apply it, or worse--especially in the American school system--are encouraged not to develop it. And so part of what we're trying to get across is for people to believe in themselves. I think that's a basic goal, even for people who are coming from very different angles: to look inward and find something about something unique about themselves and make it grow.

MORE
JELLO
BIAFRA

Now in this country, you'll remember awhile back that President Reagan made a call for more "happy news." He was tired of hearing bad news and people criticizing him or making fun of him--"let's have happy news!" Suddenly, presio, in vandal-proof newstands all over the country--even in a little crossroads town in Mississippi--we have, beamed via a satellite, the *USA Today*. Happy news! Generic news with very little depth, and the tone is always: "It's going to be another sunny weekend; let's go to the beach!"

JEFF: Or they'll say, "More good news on the economic recovery!"

BIAFRA: And the same kind of bright greens and yellows you find in McDonaldland glasses that you get free at their fast-food stands. Those are the colors that *USA Today* uses for their graphs showing that the economy is prospering--going up, up, up. It's just one fucking lie with a smiling face on top of another.

The blind Me-Generation
Doesn't care if life's a lie

so easily used, so proud to enforce

The stars and stripes of corruption

Let's bring it all down!

Tell me who's the real patriots

The Archie Bunker slobbs waving flags?

Or the people with the guts to work

For some real change

Rednecks and bombs don't make us strong

We loot the world, yet we can't even feed ourselves

Our real test of strength is caring

Not the toys of war we sell the world

Just carry on, thankful to be farmed like worms

Old glory for a blanket

As you suck on your thumbs

Real freedom scares you

'Cos it means responsibility

So you chicken out and threaten me

Saying, "Love it or leave it!"

I'll get beat up if I criticize it

You say you'll fight to the death

To save your worthless flag

If you want a banana republic that bad

Why don't you go move to one

But what can you just one of us do?

Against all that money and power

Trying to crush us into roaches?

We don't destroy society in a day

Until we change ourselves first

From the inside out

We can start by not lying so much

And treating other people like dirt

It's easy not to base our lives

On how much we can scam

And you know

It feels good to lift that monkey off our backs

I'm thankful I live in a place

Where I can say the things I do

Without being taken out and shot

So I'm on guard against the goons

Trying to take my rights away

We've got to rise above the need for cops and laws

Let kids learn communication

Instead of schools pushing competition

How about more art and theatre instead of sports?

People will always do drugs

Let's legalize them

Crime drops when the mob can't price them

Budget's in the red?

Let's tax religion

No one will do it for us

We'll just have to fix ourselves

Honestly ain't all that hard

Just put Rambo back inside your pants

Causing trouble for the system is much more fun

Thank you for the toilet paper

But your flag is meaningless to me

Look around, we're all people

Who needs countries anyway?

Our land, I love it too

I think I love it more than you

I care enough to fight

The stars and stripes of corruption

Let's bring it all down!

If we don't try

If we just lie

If we can't find

A way to do it better than this

Who will?

Your spoken word performances are, obviously, completely different from hearing you sing, but at the same time they're still very punk.

Jello: It has to do with attitude. The punk attitude as I see it, is to fuck shit up in a cool way.

When I noticed people were responding more to the suppressed information and my trademark wicked humor I aimed the shows more in that direction. Rather than trying to cast myself as a poet or a great writer, I'm more of a commentator and hopefully a shit stirrer.

The spoken word performances have taken off in a different direction once I realized I wasn't much of a poet and what people were really responding to was both the humor and the suppressed information. So I decided to focus on regurgitating suppressed information to a wider audience. In these days, when eighty percent or more of all mass media in the Western world is in the hands of a dozen, or less, multinational corporations, artists should use their power and their position to get the news out, so people can know what's really going on.

It's important that artists, musicians, film makers, painters, poets, and journalists be more conscious of trying to get information out that's being suppressed by the sugar-coated corporate media

"I agree with Chuck D of Public Enemy that 'We are the real CNN' and my part is the spoken word pieces and the content of my music lyrics. At a time when more and more mass media is being Disney-fied and Springer-ized, it's up to every artist in every medium to tell people what's going on, 'cause otherwise they can't find out the truth. Every political act on the part of an artist - be it a journalist in a small town or a local punk rock band, all the way up to Marilyn Manson tweaking the fundamentalist Christians - every single act like that takes one more potential Rush Limbaugh listener away from certain stupidity and doom."

PITCHWEEKLY

Bruce's Diary

On the top floor, from my penthouse
I survey what I rule
High rises
Thin curtains
All lights go out by two

No one ever sees me
Yet I know all of you
It's sort of like a small town
When your whole lives are on my computer

Ah... Ah...
All the power, none of the stress
So much better being hatchet man
Than a henpecked attention-starved target
Like the big man himself

Our goal is perpetual economic victory
We play with you to amuse ourselves
Our motives are personal
Our motives are political
Our motives are sexual
I know

Hi Ho Hi Ho Hi Ho

The laws we make for others
Don't apply to us
We do what we want

A lethargic population
Is the key to our control
Who'd rather watch someone's life on TV
Than participate in their own
Mentally they feel helpless
Physically they just give up
We priced the healthy food so high
They can only buy soda pop

A housebroken bee colony
That goes home after 5
Too burnt and glazed to threaten us
With purpose in their lives

Ah... Ah...
Ha Ha Ha
We drug their snacks at work
Mix hormones in kids lunch at school
Don't be a pill, it's good for you

The men grow up muscular
Short tempered and kinda dumb
The women develop those outrageous curves
The kind you only used to see
In the movies and magazines
We banned and rounded up for ourselves
Hi-Ho
Hi-Ho
It's off to do our work you go

We melt you with acid rain
Keep you poor for economic gain
Convince you your biggest threat
Is drugs and terrorists

They don't even have to be real
Just find a face, make up a crime
Run sensational headlines
Works every time

The people must not realize
They are being manipulated
For them to be manipulated effectively
We give 'em things to worry about
Buying clothes and losing weight
Your lack of curiosity
Is the key to our success

Your lack of curiosity is the key to our success
Hi Ho
Hi Ho
Hi Ho
Life's so simple and happy
When everything's clear.

If someone blunders into something I, or someone like me, has said it can strike a chord, even if they have never heard anything like it before, because it puts their feelings into words. The thing that means the most, as far as the impact of my work goes, is not when someone comes up and asks for my autograph, or an iron-on tattoo or telling me I'm God, but when someone comes up and says, "I was majoring in business and I heard your stuff, and I sat down and took a long look at my life's direction and decided to do something else."

MORE
JELLO
BIAFRA

LA and Hollywood is where most of the products that this country is fed comes from, at least in terms of ideas -- and these ideas are carefully designed to keep people from thinking -- to condition them NOT to think, from Mickey Mouse & our totalitarian school system on up. If people could THINK they wouldn't model themselves like cartoon characters and let other people play with their lives like a fucking tarantula colony. The more people work like insects, and the more efficient the economy -- it's gotten to the point where the only way you can break the maze of vidkid brain patterns is SHOCK -- shock as a way of ungluing (literally) peoples' thinking.

Biafra: The value of shock is to stir the sediment in the brain, and wake people up. All my different kinds of artwork have been designed to inspire people to think. They may not always agree with me, but at least they will have some feelings and some passion about whatever it is I'm bombarding them with at the moment. I also think there's plenty of room, even in the most serious activist circles, for humor. Humor can be very effective both to inspire, and as a weapon. Just ask Frank Zappa and Charlie Chaplin.

When Jello Biafra, one time leader of notorious San Francisco punks, The Dead Kennedys, was on trial in 1986 on charges of "distributing harmful matter" relating to inclusion of Geiger's Penis Landscape with the Dead Kennedy's Frankenchrist album, he got a couple of interesting phone calls. One was from the late Frank Zappa.

"He got hold of me and the helpers of The No More Censorship Defence Fund rather than us having to find him. He gave me some very valuable advice very early on, something that anybody subjected to the kind of harassment should remember: you are the victim. You have to constantly frame yourself in that way in the mass media so you don't get branded some kind of outlaw simply because of your beliefs and the way you express your art. The outlaws are the police"

Jello: Usually I'm too small a person to get a lot of government interference, if that's what you're talking about. The way I am countered was the way all of punk was countered until Green Day got big and that is that you just don't admit it exists. You know, don't admit this guy exists, don't even give his music or spoken word albums a bad review, don't review them at all. That's a very effective tool.

"The people from the upper class are waging an active war against the rest of us," says Biafra. "They want to bully people into not singing -- or speaking out -- about unemployment, downsizing, or the increasingly dire need to overthrow the rich. The basic message coming down from the Texas legislature and the music industry is 'Shut up and shop.'"

the California Green Party had a great idea about enacting a maximum wage. You have a minimum wage; why not a maximum wage? Once a person starts getting really, really rich, it's like a narcotic. The most dangerous drug in America, much worse than crack, is money.

Oklahoma City's only happened once cause we're damn lucky, that's all. As the veneer of democracy fades away, as the world's downsized until it explodes, as the shantytowns piled behind the mall become visible, as the savages on the other side of the wall break through, and everybody from gun-crazy militias to gangsta rappers to community activists to working families just struggling to put food on the table all mad at the same thing, you'd think there'd be a widespread united opposition, right? Instead, America is on the verge of civil war. No. It's already here. Unspoken, unacknowledged and mostly, on the surface, bloodless civil war. A class war marketed as a race war of sensationalized sound bites and tabloid images, where people who used to say "nigger" now get away with saying "welfare cheats." Where someone used to say "spic" they can now say "illegal immigrants." And it's become downright trendy to bash black single mothers, at a time when most teenage mothers in America are white. While over half the mothers in a low crime paradise like Sweden are not married. It's almost as though the message between the lines here is: we don't want their kind to reproduce.

the real conflict is not what they say it is. It's not the left versus the right, but the top versus the bottom, a class war marketed as a race war. That we are being manipulated and programmed to fight, to keep us all from turning our most potent weapons -- our time, our energy and our souls -- against the real enemy and taking back what is rightfully ours. We are living in the new dark ages. Only if we let ourselves. I repeat, there's no way this can last. It never does. That's the best, and most dangerous, part. Throughout history, seemingly invincible dictatorial death regimes in Germany, Russia, South Africa, Czechoslovakia, Nicaragua, Chile all had one thing in common. They all failed. They all collapsed. They all destroyed themselves. The question isn't will there be an uprising, but, what form will it take?

We live and die by the gun so much in this country. In Czechoslovakia, it was a non-violent change of power, same ultimately with South Africa. The reason those change-overs worked is because people who had been involved in very radical resistance movements knew there had to be a plan afterwards-- even some loose idea of who should be doing what. The time has come to start planning now, at least mentally, for what happens if there is a big takeover and the corporations fall. You don't want some horrendous dictatorship cooked up by multi-nationals and the Pentagon taking our current system's place.

No more lifetimes preparing for death. No more 'give me lithium or give me meth'. No more 'can't fix nothing cause everything's ruined already. Why try?' No more being a spectator in our own lives. Even thinking about this stuff can't help but make you smarter, help break out of 'no I can't' to 'yes I can' to 'now I must.' We're not equal til we're equal. We're not free until we're free. I'd rather work for something I want and not get it than work or vote for something I don't want and get it. And what we got now, I repeat, there's no way this can last. Wake up and smell the noise. Corporate dictatorship is headed for a train wreck. And that train wreck will happen in our lifetime. Not right away, but in our lifetime, and if we aren't ready to cut the crap, and know how to work with each other, to zero in and focus on what's really important, and have an idea of what we each have got to do to be ready to do it right, we will get fooled again.

We're all gonna need each other, if we do have to run things someday. No problem that affects a lot of people is simple to solve. Not everyone who feels the same pain agrees on where it comes from or what to do about it. There's always someone who wants to change it all back, afraid of the future cause they're just trying to survive. Most people don't hate the rich people screwin' 'em, half as much as they wish they were one of them. How do you reach them?

People have got to start thinking an extra step besides what's fucked up about the world, like, "If I was put in this particular position to change this particular thing, how would I do it?" I don't think it's too egocentric for people who follow current events to start thinking about, 'Well, if I was in the president's shoes, what the hell would I do about, well, Bosnia?' Which I don't have an answer to at all. It's so damn complicated. But, say, if you hate your boss at work, start thinking about how you'd run the place if you were in charge. Imagine what you would do if you were suddenly in charge of cleaning up a corrupt and violent police department. At the very least, there's always school boards. That's an office people can get elected to right here, right now, and start learning the ropes. Unfortunately, the only people who've caught wind of this are fundamentalist Christians. I think people have to try to change the system from both within and without.

What would I do if I found myself in charge cause the pigs in charge weren't there anymore? Where would I wanna be? What would I wanna do first? What would I wanna do second if I was in charge? Would I just wanna kick butt? It's easy to stop and complain about what's wrong, but how would you make it right? We go on and on about the big takeover. What will you do if you do take over? Is my American-size ego run amok yet again, when I ask myself, from time to time, what I would do if I was in the President's shoes right now? Not necessarily. Today's mind expansion can be tomorrow's key to survival, if not salvation.

Listen Morons

So this is Great Britain with its wealth and education / And two thousand troops permanently stationed / In a country so far away that its out of sight / That you don't feel the fear and you don't live the fright / Of this divided nation you help create / And sustain this monster, this time bomb, this exploding state / You sit there in your office x-hundred miles away / You think you know it all, think everything's okay / You push the problem aside and try to use brute force / But you can't beat to death the problem at the source / Of British colonial policy since the year dot / No you don't give a fuck, you'd like to see us all rot / You make speeches in your parliament so far away / About peace in Northern Ireland maybe some day / But until then you'll carry on as before / Armed occupation all out civil war.

THROUGH MY EYES

I LOOK AT YOU ALL THROUGH
SCEPTICAL EYES. CAN'T BELIEVE
HOW MANY OF YOU DISPISE, THOSE
WHO HOARD MONEY AND TELL US
WHAT TO DO, I HAVE A MESSAGE
ESPECIALLY FOR YOU...

YOU WANT TO TAKE MY FREEDOM
COS I WON'T TAG ALONG, I WON'T
PLAY YOUR GAME OR SING YOUR
SONG, YOU WANT TO TAKE MY SOUL
-WELL, MAN YOU CAN'T TRY, ALL I CAN
TELL YOU IS "FUCK OFF AND DIE".

POLITICIANS, POLICEMEN, BAILIFFS
AND THE LIKE, CALL ON ME - I'LL
TELL YOU TAKE A HIKE, KNOCK ON
MY DOOR - I'LL KNOCK ON YOUR
HEAD, I'LL KNOCK SO HARD, I'LL
KNOCK YOU FUCKING DEAD.

BREAK THE CHAIN

NOW'S THE TIME TO FORCE A
CHANGE AND SHATTER THE LINKS
OF SOCIETIES CHAINS.

WE'RE BORN, WE LIVE, GROW OLD
AND DIE, NOBODY THINKS TO
QUESTION WHY, WE ACCEPT
EVERYTHING WITH A GROAN AND A
SIGH.

BORN TO OBEY AND TOLD YOU'RE
FREE, THE MODERN DEFINITION OF
DEMOCRACY, IT NEVER FELT THAT
RIGHT TO ME.

Think for Yourself

A combination of work and rest
Keeps your head in a total mess
Just like we're all supposed to be
A part of this sick society
Where they give you a rest three weeks a year.

To fill yourself with drugs and beer
The rest of the time it's time for work
The junky turns into a jerk

The government don't really give a toss
Unemployment isn't such a loss
Keep the dole proles on the poverty line
Or stick 'em in the army to kill the time
The majority of people are treated like shit
Only the minority realize it
Conformist doctrine, ethical lies
Have you ever seen anyone slowly die?

There's so much crap you can reject
By giving yourself some self-respect
Don't believe what you're told is true
Find out for yourself 'cos there's only you
Take to pieces your inbred thoughts
Examine the morals you've been taught
Don't believe it, it's all a con -
Everything you think is wrong!

Don't believe it!
- But don't take my word for it

The real alternative is the rejection of other peoples morals/oppression. Punk is not a fashion parade, it's a state of mind-prove you exist! Achieve change? Change the system? I doubt it-let's get realistic. to change anything, you've got to work from the inside, not from the outside; but punk's more intelligent attitudes are leading a lot of people to a better state of mind. If nothing else, above all, punk has given alot of people satisfaction, unity, and enjoyment, as well as creating a feeling of strength and individuality where there was none before.

'MAXIMUM ROCK 'N' ROLL'



BRADFORD
1994



WARMINSTER
1981-85

the slits

LONDON
1977-81

Number One Enemy

You sit up there deciding my future
What the fuck do you think you are
Changing buses raising taxes
Changing things as you please
You want me to take part of it
Like all the people did
You want to swallow me
But you might get indigestion

Cuz I'm gonna be your number one enemy
Oh for the hell of it
I'm gonna be your number one enemy
Oh for the hell of it

If you like white I'll be black
If you like black I'll be yellow
If you like rational I'll be impossible
If you like reasonable I'll be insane
If you like peace and flowers
I'm gonna kill with knives and chains

(chorus)

Give me ten and I'll take a hundred
Give me a hundred I'll need a thousand
Never mind what you say
Never mind what people think
Don't try to be nice to me
Cuz I'll be your enemy
Don't be inflexible
Cuz I'm gonna kill

(chorus)

The main progression from '77 to '82 is in some of the lyrics and attitudes concerning realities like war, the government, the treatment of anarchy as a lifestyle, not a catchword, the caring attitudes of the bands towards each other and their audience-

Worlds apart

Ignorance and innocence go together
Peace and harmony flowers and trees
Your peace of mind only comes in pints
There are other worlds apart from these

A world where war and poverty
Exist as a reality

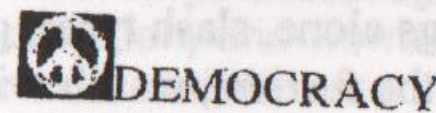
Back in the public factory
So cliched and disorderly
They wash down fears with crocodile beers
False illusion and big man jeers:

"Well I didn't know about Afghanistan
Cos I'm a homeloving working man
And I'd know I'd resist if I had to fight
I know I'd resist - exist - resist - with a fist"

Violence, no! That is no answer
Two wrongs don't make a right
But a thousand wrongs make the human race
Conditioned so they fight

Hence the reason hence the shouting
From the start it seemed so real
Anti-war and bombs and fighting
Telling someone what we feel

A world of strength and clarity
The alternative reality
But creating a new lifestyle
Could never come to much
Everyone had the ideas
But no-one had the guts



Democracy's a con job
They've got you fooled
If you step out of line
They'll have you pulled
You can't go against them
It ain't allowed
So watch your step
Hide in the crowd
Wait for the day
'cos it's bound to come
You wont need a fist
And you wont need a gun

The system is there
The system will stay
The system will rule
OK?
Birth control, life control. death control
Education of their wrong, and right
Of their order and their law (repeat)

Don't take it
It's just a con
Don't take it
You know it's wrong
It's just a front
So they can use you
It's just a front
So they can cheat you

OBJECT REFUSE REJECT ABUSE

Then they dropped their goddamn bomb
Just like we'd predicted
Just like we wrote the songs about
Just like the words we'd stand and shout

We don't know half
Of anything real
We don't even know
How we should feel
When questioned or cornered
We back off and squeal

So where is this solution?
This evasive dream conclusion?
Where's the end to this pollution?
Or is peace just an illusion?
After all we're only human

("We're only human" is our excuse to say
We're not in control over our actions
Preferring to blame some "natural
Process" for our own self-indulgence
In personal gain)

You can point your finger
And redirect the blame
But just as you're blaming someone else
They doing just the same

So think before you drink your life away
Think about what you may have to say
React! - convincingly -
To that with which you disagree



LONDON
1981-95

THIS IS THE A.L.F.

What does direct action mean?
It means that you are no longer prepared to sit back and allow terrible, cruel things to happen. The cameraman in Ethiopia took direct action. He filmed the worst disaster that has ever happened to human beings. He realised it was too enormous a problem to handle himself – so he took the film hope in the hope other people would help. They did. Are you prepared to sit back any longer? Direct action in animal rights means causing economic damage to those who abuse and make profits from exploitation. Start!

It's possible to do things alone, slash tyres, glue up locks
Butchers, burger bars, the furriers, smash windows, bankrupt the lot
Throw paint over shops and houses. Paint stripper works great on cars
Chewing gum sticks well to fur coats. A seized engine just won't start
Sand in the petrol tank means that delivery's going nowhere
When the new death shop opens up make sure you're the first person to be there
If the circus comes to town
Remember what goes up must come down
Stop contributing to the abuse yourself – don't eat meat, don't buy leather
Buy non-animal tested make up, herbal soap and shampoo's better

Try and form a group of people that you know that you can trust and plan more ambitious direct action, sometimes risky but a must. Only when you have animal liberation will we obtain human freedom, when the last vivisectionist's blade is snapped. It will be that one step nearer to peace. Direct action in the animal movement is sussed and strong, and our final goal is not far off

Animal lovers, vandals, hooligans, crooks; recognise the labels? They say we don't care about human beings. We say all sentient beings, animal or human, have the right to live, free from pain, torture and suffering. They say because we are human and speak the same, we matter more. Is our pain and suffering any greater or lesser than that of animals? Human v. animal rights is as much a prejudice as black v. white or the Nazis versus the Jews, an affront to our freedom. Vivisection is a violation of human beings, the same as it is for animals. We have a chemical world built on a pile of drugs to thank for their experimentation. Drugs are designed for profit, manufactured to suppress symptoms. Human freedom, animal rights. It's one struggle, one fight. When animal abuse is stopped, then human abuse will soon stop also, an attitude of mind. "An eye for an eye leaves the whole world blind". Start by protecting the weak, the defenceless, animals, the sick, the disabled. Compassion and emotion are our most important safety values. If we lose them, then 'we lose' the vitality of life itself. Emotional? Hooligans? Cranks?.....

THIS IS NOT ENOUGH

So much for the change, the re-arranging and politicians declared dead
So much for the troops forced out of Ireland, the police abolished?
I read that things had gone too far and awareness had caused concern at the top
But their backbone must not crack, so their city will not stop

We need a whole new play to direct our motives and anger
Force what we see as right but the system holds our banners
We need that new play, direct our feelings and anger
Force what we know as right, make our feelings turn into action

Meanwhile senile morons are shitting bricks because they know the people have learnt
Just who's who and who funds what. It's time those bastards' tables burned

But it has all been said in another time
And if I have sung it once then it is a thousand times
That if we don't do it now we are never gonna break
Free from the oppression that makes us hate
Free from their law, their hypocrisy
From their war that turns our sunny day grey
To free all the animals locked in a cage
Slowly going mad with fits of rage

It's time to overcome 1984
Forget that fairytale, slam shut the door
It's time for reality, not false hopes
It's time to show them who's the joke
It's time to take, it's not too late
So much for the changing, re-arranging, everything else we said
So much for their scum forced out of Ireland, THEY increased the pressure instead
If things have gone too far then action will prove fatal to their props
Yes that backbone might not crack, but their city tears apart!

LET THE BATTLE COMMENCE

Let's have the facts, not another distorted version of the truth
Let's start pushing for what we stand here for and show them we ain't through
Through thick and thin hit back again, we ain't out for the count
Waves of attack will drive them back; it's time to rise up overground
But some cunt's stuck the boot in hard and found our Achilles heel
Stating stupid fucking bollocks with not a clue how people feel
Fuck right off and build your pathetic little empires, as we strive on
And so what if we don't change a thing?
We will have a fucking good try. Mobilise, fight, against all odds

Broken dreams and promises mount as the poll axe thrusts her knife
Poverty hits an all time low as the western world shows its respect for life

And so the power mongers and politicians negotiate arms reductions, self righteous street politicals stamp around selling their self important political dribble. The football mobs riot, the pubs and clubs are packed, the workforce is their only union. Much more can be accomplished, but fuck off lefty drips and shove your banners of socialist equality where you shit. You're just the same scum as the rest of them, and they ain't worth the breath. Leading the way you talk and talk and protest, but nothing changes

Forward into battle - "The Final Conflict" you choose!
Prepare, get it together, sure we're fighting, but our neck's still in their noose
Come in out the cold, ghetto rock changes nothing, it's been going on for years
Fuck dropping out, because we're dropping in - but hold on what's this? Rock against the rich
Rocking against this and yes, we are rocking against that
All we ever seem to do is rock, so I'll tell you where it's at!
The only rock that excites me is the one that leads the hand
That crashes through state windows and shows them exactly where they stand
That batters against the riot shield, a fine expression of how we feel.

MEAT STILL MEANS MURDER

The factory's still churning out, all processed, packed and neat
An obscure butchered substance and the label reads "meat"
Hidden behind false names such as pork, ham, veal and beef
An eye's an eye, a life's a life, the now forgotten belief
Yet, everyday production lines are feeding out this farce
To end up on your table, then shat out of your arse

Yet, still you're queuing, and still you're viewing
Sawing out limbs just right for stewing
Carcasses piled up in a heap
Sort, soft, juicy chunks from freezers deep
Well, can't you see that that juice is blood?
From newborn throats, red rivers flood
Blood from young hearts blood from the vein
Your blood, their blood, serves the same

Now you're at the table, sitting, grinning
Sitting there eating, you never realise the filling
It's served upon a sterile plate, you don't think of the killing
The furthest your brain takes you, "is it for frying or grilling?"
You moan about the seal cull, about the whale slaughter
But does it really matter whether it lives on land or water?
You've never had a fur coat, you think its cruel to the mink
Well, how about the cow, pig or sheep. Don't they make you think
Since the day that you were you born, you've never been told the missing link?

BLIND ATTACK (Part 2)

Left wing, right wing, you've heard it all before
Well can you spot the difference when they're knocking at your doors
And while you're poncing yourselves up to follow hordes of shit
Just remember how it feels to be pushed, punched, kicked.

You can't change nothing with your violence and your hate
Do you really think by smashing heads you're gonna change the state?
You can't change nothing with your violence and your hate
Do you really think by smashing heads you're gonna change this place?

You talk of people dropping out, but the system just loves you
You talk a load of bollocks now your revolutions through
'Cos the movement that it started, it was arranged, then logged and filed
More of your mates are dead now, soon you'll see them neatly piled
You can't change nothing with your violence and your hate
Do you really think by smashing heads you're gonna change the state?
The battlefield is set at Margate, and the bloods gonna run, so don't be late

Well they can keep that because I don't want to know
Won't play no part in the muscle man show
Won't be told that I should fight with you
'Cos the real enemy sits back and grins at us too
There's always people who'll hate what you say
There's always people who'll lock you away
There's always people with jobs to do
They're still flesh and blood like ME and YOU
Forced in jobs they don't want to know
For Monopoly money that's made to show
Taught to complete against the people in the street
Down on your knees, don't you think that's a treat?
This is planned from early on, when just tiny little mites
Squatting in the classroom learning how to read and write
Hearing all the good things like how to be polite
What we realise now is that they had control of sight.
We're told of gods galore, and heroes more
And never of the people that were battered to the floor
Told to admire all leaders great and tall
'To think it was them that made me crawl

'IF YOU LOOK QUITE DEEP ENOUGH YOU'LL SEE IT'S ALL A CON
A LOOK AT PAST HISTORY TELLS ALL GOVERNMENT IS WRONG'

THE UNGOVERNABLE FORCE

Fuck off you, fuck your violent threats, your attempts to control the nation
Fuck off you fucked up fascist cunt, understand the situation

Back off you slimy worthless prick, you ain't got a clue what you are facing
Eat bricks you het up bastard shits, scabs; you'll get what you are creating
Who the fuck do you think you're pushing, "stay in place or get it"
I'd think again to save your skin, cos if you come too close
You'll fucking regret it, you whine on all the hell you like
Repeat your warnings of plastic bullets, the gas,the batons,the water cannon
The more you oppress the more we'll resist
Riots, there ain't been a riot, but one's knocking on your door
You've seen nothing yet but household pets, but you'll feel the lions claws
Proclaiming laws last victory, of containing rebel shower
When the time is right you'll get the fight that will totally test your power
Inciting, provoking trouble, that you know can easily be beaten
To maintain the image that we need you, so thus re-confirm your position
You might trick some you scheming scum, but you'll never get our obedience
You can batter, beat us, even imprison, yet still you'll never ever defeat us
Belfast....Brixton...Toxteth....Tottenham...St.Pauls....Handsworth...
Reclaim the streets, reclaim the towns, reclaim the nation

What revolution, this revolution, we all wanted a peaceful solution
But this institution, that institution, smashed all hope of getting through to
Confrontations, escalating violations of the law
Repercussions of the mass destruction which in the end is sure to mean
Then pumping out the bullets, their protection from the poor
We will win cos we have to, we ain't got nothing to lose no more
And what they lose they undoubtedly will forfeit forever
"They've got the guns, but we've got the numbers"

BERKSHIRE CUNT

Filled with love and compassion. As she fixes her make-up for a day of fun
He reads the news, it depresses her. With reports of death by bomb and gun
Astride their horses in the winter lanes. They smile at nature with tenderness
They hear the call, hold hands with pride. And look down at the bloody mess

And civilised upright citizens grin, as the dog's teeth tear at shrieking skin
This ain't savagery; it's jolly old culture. As they stand and wait for death like virtues
She laughs as the bloody fur's flying. Re-applies her lipstick as the animals crying
He claims the tail as privileged prize. And kicks the mangled corpse aside

The time has come when we all must turn around and start to think
No more standing in the corner. Question the missing link
The link that created the misery and pain. That sees the mistakes, but then makes them again
You've heard it once; you'll hear it again. Your blood, their blood serves the same

There they stand and there they grin. Never thinking or questioning
"Why blood of innocents must be spilt". They smile but they can't hide their guilt
That their life is built upon a pile of bodies. Slaughtered animals? Slaughtered squaddies?
The pleasure they take from another's death. Hides the truth that murder feeds their wealth

She smiles at him as dead eyes stare. He takes her hand and strokes her hair
His fingertips soaked in misery ace the mark of aristocracy
And the broken form lying in the ditch. The handwork of the dog and bitch
Bears the label of decency. The honour given so graciously

And backs are slapped in celebration. The success of extermination
Freedom maintained so humanely. As they wipe their hands of blame so bravely
Back at home she wears the fur that proves his precious love for her
Death and glory on her shoulders sit. As the master takes what's rightfully his

Murder is committed in the guise of sport. Ripping flesh is given no thought
Glasses are raised in dedication. The crime is given a justification
Heart beats faster, eyes wide and staring. Death comes whistling cold, uncaring
Slaughtered animals, slaughtered squaddies. Their wealth is built from murdered bodies

THE SERENADE IS DEAD

She wakes up in the morning; the sun is shining in her face
She turns her head around; she shares the blanket on which the love embraced
She looks out of the window; it's a lovely day outside
She tells herself that things are fine, he pulls the sheets to cover his eyes
The essence of the fresh air, that garden held the love affair
Thinking back their minds are torn in muddle and confusion
So far away another sits, who tries to make the best of it
He don't know quite what's hit him, it's another love illusion
He gazes in his empty room, eyes fixed upon her picture
The loneliness, dejectedness, God how the fuck he's missed her
His eyes turn to the window, the military roar by
He wonders how much hatred could evolve out of the sky
What God had done for peace on earth, what man destroyed from day of birth
They are concerned with feelings; they're just ashamed to cry
And one mans plan to push the button makes others sacrifice
The serenade is dead and now the only question's why?
Why when we are young, we're told it's right to love
Told it's human nature and that comes from God above
As time moves on we realise that we all look from the pit
While a plan hangs above us, to keep us in the shit
Because the minute we are born, we're told what's right and wrong
Raised with certain morals, never mentioned in their songs
As we grow up, we find out that the paths been neatly set
In a world of such destruction, we only can regret
Regret that is the word of it, as we look for our way out of it
Why can't they understand we don't want any part of it?
The pain they create everyday, that just ain't gonna go away
We've got to stick together, but still you're asking why?
The system stands strong, as our movement starts to crumble
The pressure we once held, has just turned into a rumble
They've got us where they want us, and you all just accept that
Well don't you think its time; we started to hit back
They are the enemy; they want a rope around your neck
And if they will go that far, then what the fuck is next?
Forget the revolution, we've heard it all before
Heard all of the promises of nineteen-eighty-four
Its an impossible task, "oh yes", it stands before us all
Well maybe you'll believe it when your back's against the wall

THE SYSTEM MAINTAINS

The system maintains law and order throughout the land
On which our future's already planned
To serve the leaders quest for power
To remember our position, to respect that shower
Who divide the masses the rich v the poor
The left and the right, who create civil war
This is forced upon us from birth until death
We've heard of freedom, but it just don't exist

Systematic force rules right across the land
And if you don't want their future then you've got to make a stand
Everyday we support that shower
The office boy, the dole girl, gets taxed by the hour
There ain't no possession, no need for pride
You're just a human being, so push that shit aside
Position and status is the trick they use on you
And if you try to be yourself, they'll beat you black and blue
Divide and rule is their method of attack
A clever fucking trick to hold the people back
Fight one another and you fuck yourself, fools
If you're looking for the answer - the answer is you

"Reality Whitewash"

The grey man at the wheel
Looks around to see if there's some skirt he can steal
He doesn't really want to, he's just acting out a game
And in theirucked up way, most people do the same
She cleans the bathroom mirror so she can line her eyes
An expert in delusion, an artist in disguise
She's not content with what she is, but she does the best she can
But she doesn't do it for herself, she does it for her man
And meanwhile he's out hunting, this master of the hunt
Cruising down the high street in his endless search for cunt
And the posters on the hoardings encourage his pursuit
Glossy ads, where men are men, and women simply cute
And the men are in their motorcars and the men have nerves of steel
And they dreams of charlies angels as they firmly grip the wheel
And they fantasise they're screwing in the back seat of the car
Fantasise they're fucking with a real life movie star
Fantasies to fill the gaps, to fill in every crack
A whitewash of reality to hide the truth they lack.
Now she's sponging down the cooker, on the surface all is fine
His dinner's in the oven cos he's doing overtime
She switches on the telly, it makes her feel secure
Helps confirm her way of life, who needs to ask for more
She sees the happy family unit, wife and hubby on the screen
The perfect social unit, just like it's always been
She's done the very best she can
To love and honour and obey her man
And if she should ever doubt the wisdom of her choice
She can turn on the television for its moderating voice
* The ads and weekly series are the proof she needs
That a life of boredom outweighs the deeds
She sits up till the epilogue and goes to bed alone
Content that when he's finished work he'll go straight home
Meanwhile he downs another scotch, the lady has a coke
And if he's asked about the wife he treats it as a joke
"Hear the one about the you-know-what"
He's got what it takes and he takes what he's got
He took his woman and he'll take plenty more
She took on a rat to keep the wolf from the door
Then maybe in her loneliness she'll want to have a child
Who'll be taught the games of adulthood, boxed and filed
Another life to whitewash, to us a child is born
To follow in its parents' tracks, the path's well worn
Fantasy and falsehood, truth and lie
The fucked up system they call reality
The system needs its servants, each birth is one more
Gently talk of freedom as they quietly lock the door
Cos the system needs its servants if the system's going to run
Needs its fodder for the workhouse, its targets for the gun.

MORE
CONFLICT

INCREASE THE PRESSURE

The second album full of same old songs
Fighting back against a system which is cruel and wrong
Yet another battering ram against a wall of power
A blasphemous attack to blow the leader's cover
It's a message from those who won't take no more
Of seeing the privileged profit from the poor
Of the scientist's piss they call research
Of being told we're scum and should be birched

Well bollocks to them all, keep smashing at the wall
Pile the pressure on and Government will fall

GREAT WHAT?

This is the country you're supposed to be free
The democratic society
You're only free if you accept their views
And if you don't they'll imprison you

Young gangs fighting for respect
But everyone's a police suspect
The rich say anything for extra money
They're prostitutes and they think it's funny

This is the country that's supposed to help ya
But only the privileged get a fall-out shelter
The police force, army, government and more
The tight arse shit who start the wars

This fucking place is in a mess
The usual people are being oppressed
Kept at bay by piles of pointless laws
And all reasons kept safe behind closed doors

The reasons that they keep from you are the reasons that they've got you beat
They turn you against people like you, people like you on the street
Fighting wars is senseless, this country is not great
Wars are fixed by people who surround themselves with hate
Great Britain thinks it leads the world so civilised, pure and free
Great Britain doesn't lead fuck all
Great Britain shit, you don't fool me

Smashing Argies - Falklands' ours
Falkland ours - What a con
We ain't even got a place to stick our arses on

Fighting wars in Russia, fighting wars in Spain
Killing in Northern Ireland
It's all the fucking same

WHICHEVER WAY YOU WANT IT

There's a place that's neatly tucked away, beyond the other side
A place of which you'd never dream there'd be a need to hide
For the building is surrounded by pastures pure and green
But the image hides reality, and the distance kills the scream
That comes from inside is never exposed to the air
For the place is packed with scientists who show how much they care
While the guard stands bravely at the gate with guard dog by his side
The same breed of animal is butchered inside

Well, what a fucking waste of money, what a fucking waste of time
A fucking waste of money, what a fucking waste of time
A fucking waste of money, it's a fucking waste of time
What a waste of human knowledge, what a fucking way to die

There ain't no fucking truth in the inspector's files
As he walks down the death corridors, he covers his sighs with smiles
He sees the pain and agony, but remembering his position
He's got his place, just another face, but he's just not paid to question

He thinks it's rather funny because he's earning lots of money
When his eyes are forced aside as out slides another trolley
Another tray of corpses, unlabelled and unmentioned
But it's no good asking "why, why?", because they never fucking listen

So, LIBERATE...

Animal testing to detect thalidomide
Torturing and killing while there's loads more things to try
The suffering and the pain, the excruciating pain
It all goes over and over again
This fucking witchcraft won't solve anything
For it's the same experiment over and over again, over and over again... A

A//P: The purpose of our shows is to propagate the ideas that we espouse. We've had several different groups set up at our gigs to share their ideas as well, including the Baltimore GMB of the Industrial Workers of the World, Claustrophobia Anarchist Collective, Black Planet Books, Maryland Animal Advocates, and we've had Food not Bombs serve vegan meals on several occasions. It helps the kids know what's going on locally and provides an information base which they may not have easy access to, if any of them come away with any new ideas or get involved in any of those groups, well that's the whole point of it all isn't it?



PE: I know Chuck has a child now; how has fatherhood affected your anarcho-punk beliefs?

A//P: If anything I think that since Lexy (my daughter) was born it has further solidified my faith in anarchism. To see her each day is to know that life is not something to be hindered or to be bound down. I am here to act as a guide along life's path for her, not as an authoritarian father figure, but that of an equal

and a loving, caring compassionate fellow human. I see further the strength of mutual aid and close-knit community especially in the raising of children.



CROATIA
2001

BULLETS FOR THE RICH

THIS IS STORY OF A MADMAN HE WAS FUCKED FOR ALL HIS LIFE BORN IN POOR PART OF TOWN AND WORKING HARD TO SURVIVE HE DIDN'T LICK NO ONE'S ASS AND AGAIN HE GETS FIRED LEFT WITH NOTHING ON THE STREET ALL THE PRESSURE WAS ON HIM JUST BECAUSE HE TOLD EM TRUTH PK'S CAME TO BEAT HIM UP HE WAS SICK OF ALL THIS WORLD BUT HIS STORY MUST BE HEARD WITH THE SHOTGUN IN HIS HANDS HE WAS SCREAMING REALLY LOUD IF WE CANNOT GET NO JUSTICE WE WILL AT LEAST DIE PROUD BULLETS FOR THE RICH DEAD IN THE GUTTER BULLETS FOR THE RICH IS WHAT THEY DESERVE AND STILL THEY SAY THAT HE WAS MAD

BROKEN ICON

PRAY TO THY HOLY ONE DON'T CROSS THE SECRET LINE SALVATION FOR THE BLIND ETERNAL DOGMA FOR YOUR MIND IT'S FEEDING ON CORPSES IT'S FEEDING ON WEAKNESS BUT YOU CAN'T RUNAWAY OUT OF THIS MADNESS PRAY DOWN ON YOUR KNEES YOUR CONFORMISM IS A BLISS GOD SHALL LEAD YOU RIGHT IN YOUR FEAR IS HIS MIGHT IT'S FEEDING ON CORPSES IT'S FEEDING ON WEAKNESS BUT YOU CAN'T RUNAWAY OUT OF THIS MADNESS YOUR RELIGION YOUR DEATH YOUR BELIEF CONTROLLED BY THEM NO RELIGION NO MORE SLAVES YOU ARE FREE BREAK THE CHAINS

WORKING CLASS ATTACK

NO JUSTICE FOR US NO DIGNITY FOR US NO HOPE NO LIFE FOR ME AND MY CLASS ONLY CHANCE WE GOT IS TO STAND UP AND FIGHT FREEDOM AIN'T NO DREAM IT'S OUR FUCKING RIGHT

FUCK THE FASHION

I SPIT ON YOUR SKATEBOARDS AND YOUR BRAND NEW T-SHIRTS WHEN THERE'S FUCKIN' NOTHING BEHIND YOUR APATHETIC POSES PUNK TILL YOU GET MARRIED HARDCORE ONLY AT THE COLLEGE SO FORGET YOUR SPIKES AND STUDS YOURS JUST WASTE OF OUR TIME FUCK THE FASHION HARDCORE IS REVOLUTION FUCK THE FASHION PUNK IS OUR LIFE

the A.P.F. is based on networking, on joining our actions together and building stronger communication links. We publish the anarchist paper COUNTERCULTURE towards this end, and we do plenty of networking ourselves locally and internationally to encourage others to get more active and up the struggle.

A//P: The APF as it stands right now is focused on net-working anarcho punks worldwide.

To let those within and without the movement know that the anarcho punk movement is very much alive and well. We also stress solidarity and communication as essential ingredients towards our goal. As far as building the network into a more solidified Federation, the choice of that has been left up to those who have written us and shown an interest. As it stands right now punks in Chile, the Phillipines, England, and elsewhere

We, as men, need to change our whole outlook and approach towards females within the scene, growing up in an incredibly fucked up patriarchal society it is near impossible for us to escape our long conditioning, so it must be a continuous conscious effort for us to reevaluate our relations and actions to and with wimmin.

I claim my life for my own and break the artificial chains that bind me I shall throw off this yoke that binds and consumes my spirit I will not be a slave to create their wealth with my blood and tears I do not respect these murderers that kill in the name of oppression and greed I will work to end tyranny and help others at all cost to myself we will all accomplish this in life we will all be free no longer bowing as their servants the beating of our hearts will replace their beatings on our backs

Page By Page

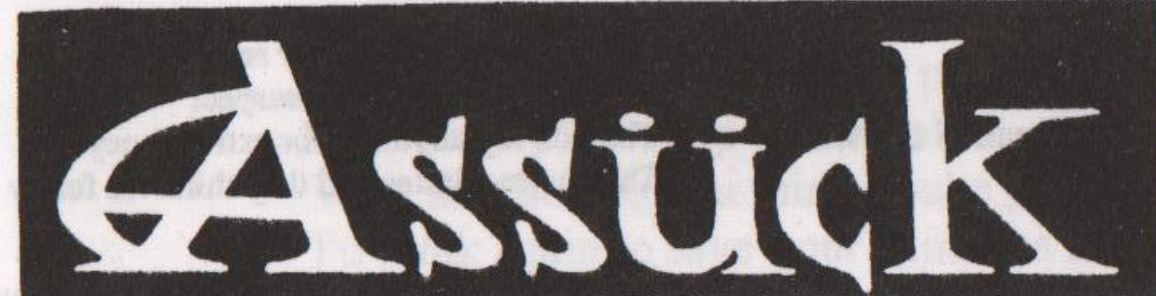
Along with the art of conquest and domination, we have developed the absolute science of ignorance and bound it in text of generations of the unthinking. Between the lines of a one sided history, reads the bitter truth of exploitation. The echoes of dehumanization can still be heard in the hills of Wounded Knee or the streets of Bensonhurst.

Sterility

The delicate strings of fear wrap around another statistic's throat. The home viewer gets another animated victim to pity. The horrors of antigender violence are rooted in traditionally force fed superiority for which there is no one to blame but ourselves.

Blood And Cloth

Seeds planted by misinformation blossom into patriots and servants whose perception of soil and cloth is equal to that of the blood and skin of their martyred counterparts. Pledges and ceremonies celebrate murderers and their actions, generating respect for violence and breeding traditions of disfigured heroes and slaves of states and countries. The freedom achieved when others die is imprisonment by the rags that symbolize flags of glory. Rags symbolize nothing.



FLORIDA
1990-96

Suffering Quota

No solid foundation for the suffering, we inflict useless pain. A sacrifice for profit, fulfilling the quota, nothing is gained. Denounce the role that animals play. Why do they die? Selfish lust imprisoned by your vanity, cleanse! with guilt. In these tests the subjects always fail, needlessly they die. Images of pain squeeze through your narrow mind. What does the human race gain? (Are we so obsessed with death that we cannot break free from its grips?)

Procession

Military livestock bred to expand state control. The underclass, suppressed, underprivileged and lured by incentive. Church and state, hand in hand, lead them through the trenches of war. A nation born blind should have been terminated in its infancy. There is no purity in the glory of commercialized patriotism, it's drenched in the filth of their deceit.

Feasts Of War

We starve our children before the banquet of knowledge while politicians indulge in the feasts of war.

Anticapital

Productivity has become the modern embodiment of slavery. Efficiency traps laborer in the circles of exploit. Chained by human costs of prostitution and the misery it incorporates. A prison of measured time.

As far as whether or not punk still holds some worth in the anarchist movement at large, yes it still holds an open door to more radical thought. Punk has served as the largest catalyst for the anarchist movement in the last 21 years. The anarcho punk movement has yet to become co-opted and obsolete like the majority of the hippies in the sixties.

A//P: We've produced 7 communiques to date and have several more in the works. We are working out plans to publish a book sometime in the end of this year that will print all of our communiques essays and articles, as well as artwork and other odd bits.

As far as resistance by other workers, most people know their bosses leach off their labor. Not too many like their boss. Its just a matter of talking with people and like anything else, empowering them. As far as resistance by the bosses, the only way to confront that is through direct action, such as strikes, protests, sit ins, slow downs, sabotage, occupations, etc...

A//P: Life is much bigger than punk rock, we want people to recognize that the slogan "anarchy and peace" does not end when you leave the gig, it extends to all facets of life. We criticize the punk scene because we are punks, taking a critical look at ourselves, our actions, and our immediate environment is an important first step to changing society.

ELECTRODES

look into their eyes/what do you see?/i see fear. Innocence and agony/look at their souls/what do you see?/punishment without criminality/look into their minds/ what do you see?/why the fuck are you doing this to me?/look at their flesh/what do you see?/the blood of needless pain from your insanity/unseen/they suffer/unheard/they cry/in agony/they linger/in loneliness/they die/look at yourself/what do you see?/the bastard who inflicted pain on me/look into your soul/what do you see?/the conscience of a killer who refuses to let me free/look into your mind/what do you see?/selfishness/the pedestal of apathy/look into your heart/what do you see?/surely not a human from your indecency/electrodes in my head/straps secure my arms/i know these humans/are out to do me harm/caged from day of birth/unable to walk free/why can't these bastards/fucking let me be/i know these humans/are out to do me harm/endless, senseless torture on a science slaughter farm/years of animal testing/how can this be true?/you'd surely feel different/if i did this crime on you/animal torture/how can this exist?/a crime with no law/committed by scientists/electrodes in my head/electrodes in my head/nOW dead.

Amy: Well, Nausea's more than musicians, there's a whole ideology, and no we couldn't work with someone in this band who ate meat, who couldn't agree on what we consider to be one of our basic issues.

Al: Nausea considers that eating meat is a very basic form of oppression

Amy: You cannot condemn people for believing one way when they've never had the opportunity to learn or understand alternative ways.

Al: However, once they understand the oppression that meat eating really is and then still decide they want to eat meat, I decide I don't want to work with them.

Amy: It's more of a knowledgeable understanding. We don't want to confuse education with indoctrination because they are very different things. We are not forcing our ideas on anyone, we're sharing them. Sharing ideas is education also, the word has just become perverted because of connotations with school.

MRR: Do you think issues such as animal rights, war, etc. have been played out by too many bands and aren't taken seriously anymore? Can you add anything new?

Amy: People have to realize that these topics are many times taken only on one level, and the problems are very deep rooted in our society. They neglect to make the connections. They're played out on simple ideologies but when you go further into it, there's a whole spectrum of problems that aren't encompassed. Within animal rights for example, you've got a whole medical industry and a whole chemical industry built on the foundation of vivisection. Vivisection is not only an oppressive, sick, cruel thing. It also supports the military and supports the drug industry, which produces products built on falsifications from vivisection in order to appease the corporations, at the expense of people's health. The funds just keep going around so people can get wealthier off of it. It's a perfect example of corruption, people exploiting animals for their own gains, but what people don't understand is that the gains go to, say, Dow Chemical company who makes napalm and relies on vivisection. The government can tell people, "Oh, it's been tested and we have cures for it and we can help it," and meanwhile people are neglecting to find out or understand what the true ramifications are. Things go much deeper; it's up to people to investigate and it's up to the bands, if they're gonna discuss these topics, to realize how important these topics are.

John-Anarchism means different things to each of us, so it wouldn't be fair to speak for everyone, only for myself. It is more of a mental state of mind to me. I mean, you can't start on a large scale, if you aren't free internally. But basically, it's the rejection of all forms of authority whether it be government, religion, or any other form of oppression. The absolute refusal to obey and comply.

(FILTHY FUCKIN' PUNK)

MRR: Do you distribute literature at your shows?

Vic: Yes, a lot of times there's only a certain amount of space within a song to say what you want to say. You have to explain it a little more in-depth so that people can get a fuller picture.

Al: Music transgresses all boundaries - race, class, everybody, and if you can put across a positive message into something that's powerful enough to go beyond race, beyond borders, then you have something that's universal.

Amy: Well, pop music makes it more palatable so people swallow it but what do they do, they spit it right back out. They might have good intentions in mind but they stay within such conservative limits that they don't get to the truth. They're conveying the idea of being humanitarian

But they've totally excluded the idea of why these situations exist. Most musicians cry, "Oh, things are wrong with the world and we as good, rich people should change them," but they're not actually changing anything because they ignore the causes.

Amy: Yeah, they're the reason, it's the corporations, the multinationalists, it's the capitalist society that's causing oppression in Third World countries. It's not our pennies, our donations that are going to change the world. It's our awareness that we're gonna have to refuse to take part in it.

Vic: Soon it's gonna fall, same thing that happened to Rome. The middle class are the ones who pay the taxes 'cause the poor don't make enough money and the rich find loopholes. That's one of the reasons that Rome fell - the middle class was taxed out of existence, and it became a society of rich and poor.

They never give them solutions, they just give them appeasements. Once those are gone, or the people start settling down, then they start pulling them back, it's a big cycle. As long as they're thrown the continual thought of the American dream, when they're down to their last thread of sanity left, they give 'em basic charity. This will continue until new generations are educated into not buying it. That's what alternative culture is supposed to be all about, not buying into it.



NEW YORK 1991

Amy: We all believe in one basic ideology and that is anti-oppression. That includes such basic things as anti-religion, anti-war, anti-racism, sexism, agelism, class, ignorance, etc., and animal rights. As far as where our ideologies come from, it's important to be diverse, diversity broadens the spectrum, makes the band more creative, gives room to grow.

Amy: You can't change something or influence something unless you have a full understanding of it and if you limit yourself you won't understand what causes certain people to behave or think in a certain way. You have to have an understanding of their lifestyle or their surroundings or their beliefs. If we all just stick to our certain beliefs and shut out the rest of the world we'll become impotent and have no effect on the rest of the world. This isn't something for us to delve into our own purity or to surround ourselves with only politically pure people. You then become stagnant, not effective.

Amy: People say that they disregard their upbringing and their brainwashing of the outside social system but they don't, they bring these things right into the scene with them. Sexism brings out very defensive reactions in people because they don't want to admit or understand or see that they're doing it themselves. I'm not only talking about men who set the boundaries, I'm also talking about women who accept their roles and even in the alternative scene they're still accepting the roles that they've been raised to assume.

It's something that I have to keep doing. I have to prove to people that it can be done, that women are equal and that it's an integral part of evolution that women are treated as full equals.

Vic: There's always gonna be someone to try and take away everything you've worked for. Al: The only thing is, they can't take away what we have inside. They can take away the band, they can take away the zine, they can take away the whole damn movement, but they can't take us away.

EXTINCTION

the world is growing weaker/with the passing of each day/riding the westwinds/the fetid stench of decay/resources dwindle into the consumerist machine/as mechanical vultures pick/the carcasses of our world clean/extinction/from the rot man has sown/he must now reap the seeds/the fruit of his labor/hunger and disease/we now cling to this dust/like flies, crawling on carrion/whose infertile soils are fit/only to bury in/extinction/as our dying breath is released to the wind/the innocent lie/with those who have sinned/their meaningless lives/have long been forgotten/as the cycle rebirth/begins to begin/a new day will dawn/ through the rising of smoke/of civilizations shattered dreams and hopes/new life will rise from mankind's fall/whose corpses will feed/on the barren dead soil.

Vic: There's an old painting by Flemish artist Hieronymous Bosch called "The Ship of Fools" where it shows all of these people in a boat. There's a big tree in the middle with all this fruit on it, yet the people in the boat are all facing each other, arguing about it, talking... and no one is paying attention to where the boat is going. We're all on this ball of dust called earth and we're arguing about borders, race, creed, hairstyles, petty bullshit. No one's paying attention to the fact that there's not gonna be a place to argue on much longer.

'MAXIMUM ROCK 'N' ROLL'

You can lose it at any time, there's no laws protecting squatters here; even if there were, the way NY city runs and the way HPD runs and the way gentrification works, they wouldn't really care. They don't care about people trying to build better lives for themselves, which is basically what squatting is all about. It's to get back what rightfully belongs to the people; it's one of the few methods of direct action that we can choose.

HOME SWEET HOME

everyday i wake up/waiting for the day/when they send their fascist strong-arms/to come and take my home away/my home may not be much/but i built it all the same/and i'll not let these bastards/steal my home away/they refuse to hear our pleas/to compromise our position/our only alternative/is we leave this land of "freedom"/they keep smashing at our door/we will never fall/our blood, sweat and dreams/lay within these walls/we'll just patch them up/again and again/they label us dirty squatters/junkies, political activists/i prefer to use the term humans/in search of peace and freedom/you've seen us on the news/you've heard about our struggle/nOW's the time/write/tight back and win/we're communities of people with nowhere left to run/families with children/with nothing of their own/we work within the community/helping out each other/come along and meet us/see what self governments about/we don't use bombs and violence/peace and knowledge we select/but if they use violence to break us/we must resist to exist/my day has finally closed/my home is still intact/but who's to say while i'm asleep/they won't launch another attack/we're ready/are you?!!

MacKaye was born in the Sixties and brought up in America's capital by politically active, anti-war, pro-civil-rights parents. "I assumed it was normal to question authority, but by 1980 rebellion was limited to intoxicating yourself one way or another. I was lost until I heard British punk rock. The Sex Pistols, The Clash and The Jam were on major labels, but what a lot of us got from them was a sense of challenging conventional thinking on all levels. Like all great ideas, it wasn't dominated by the marketplace. So, when we started our bands and our label, we had no desire to be accepted by the music business."

"What we do is supposed to be idealistic and untenable. Well, we've been here for 22 years. We employ full-time staff on full benefits, including healthcare. We own our own houses and have families. We're all alive and doing fine. The American theory of expansion insists that if a business isn't growing, it must be dying. That's just nonsense. An excuse for greed. I believe that you can set up an operation that is sustainable and makes you a living without shutting down the competition, or trying to absorb everything else, or doing things you disagree with, or accepting money from any corporation or faith, or hiring out your product or personality to sell other products. People get lost in the gathering of money and believe that's the only way it can be done. The way we have operated is a clear example that this is incorrect."

I don't know how other labels work, so it's hard for me to say. We don't see it just as a label and our employees don't see it as just a job. The people who work for us decide their jobs, really. Being a boss means that I get to deal with the things nobody else wants to deal with. I don't tell people what to do. Everyone who works here also comes into it understanding the basic structure and the mission of the label.

Yeah, I don't know about in the industry, but there will always be a place for small labels. I don't really consider us a part of the industry. The industry represents one thing and I feel like what we're a part of is a parallel community that's not part of the industry. Unfortunately it goes through some of the same channels, but so what? Sometimes we go to the same restaurants as complete assholes, but it doesn't mean that we're assholes.

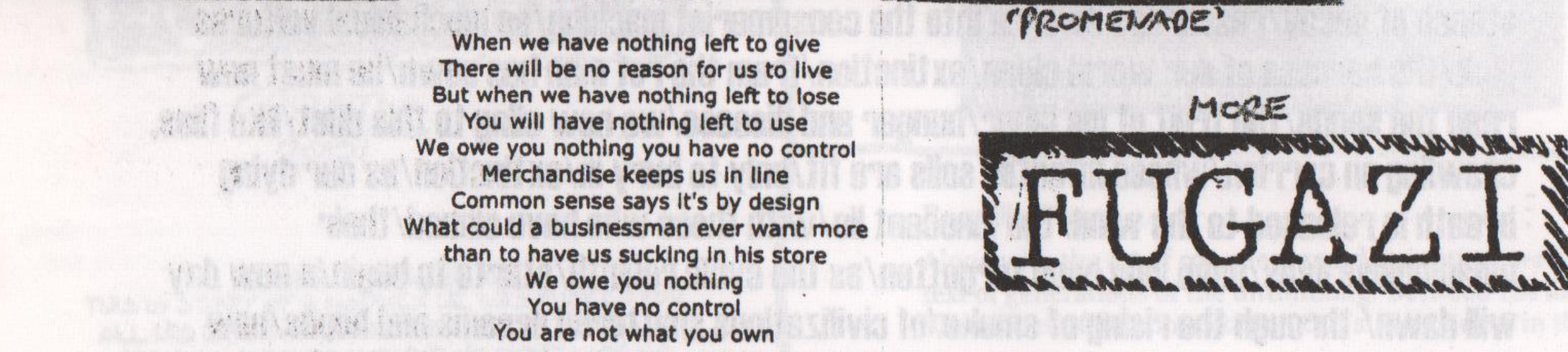
music as a river, full of healthy, delicious, life-giving water. It flowed, and everyone could come have a sip. It was all there. Well, one day, people figured out how to bottle the water and sell it. And it was convenient; it was easy; you get to take the bottle with you in your car and drink the water, and it was good-people were happy. The problem is that they didn't leave it at that, because then the people who bottled the water started to poison the river. They wanted people to buy their water; they didn't want people to drink for free! This is the way I look at the industry. The industry runs by the nature of expansionism-and don't tell me that this industry is not expansionist, because you don't have to look any further than the conglomerates that they operate under. There are five of them now in the world! They are constantly expanding, diversifying, trying to take over, constantly! The cruelest strategy of the business world is to shut down anybody who would be perceived as competition. This is poisoning the river. They want people to buy their water, and nobody else's. They don't want the free water out there, they want it to be bought-from them. Fuck them! So that's my position on the major label industry.

How do you deal with major record companies when they call you?

Ian: They don't call anymore. Ah, early nineties we heard from virtually everybody. We told them, we won't even have lunch with you. The answer's no. There's no point of it. And they'd say, well, at least have a free lunch, and we'd say let's not waste our time.

Why are you so much against merchandise?

Basically, we feel we exist to make music not to generate logos, t-shirt designs, coffee mugs etc. As a matter of convenience we haven't had to deal with carrying that shit around both literally and mentally - its like a weight off our backs. What other bands do is their own business but for us avoiding merchandise has greatly increased our sense of freedom.



I have a philosophy in terms of advertising -- and if you ever look at Dischord ads you'll see this - I believe in advertising with no adjectives. That's my trip. You'll never see an ad that I've ever sanctioned that says, "This is good." I'm just not gonna use adjectives, because for me it's more about saying, "This exists," and you can decide whether it's good or not. I'm not gonna take responsibility for that. Obviously, if we're making it and we're selling it, then we think it's good. We don't need to tell you it's good -- take a listen to it. We made it available at a reasonable price, and if you want to check it out, great, and if you don't, I don't care. It's not oxygen and it's not water. It's just what we do, and if you want to check it out, cool.

Fugazi has made a noisy point of sticking to its own stringent set of operational bylaws. The band won't charge more than \$5 for a ticket to any of its shows, it has refused to sign with a major label, and it won't engage in even the quietest varieties of commercial pandering. It has even shunned the glossy music press; Spin magazine once ran a lengthy piece detailing a reporter's failed efforts to interview the band.

"We never really worked out any hardcore filter or parameters for what press we will or will not do. For the most part, we just tend to gravitate towards fanzines or independent websites, or anything where enthusiasm for the music is the prime mover and not profit or corporate shilling." Every band with even slight political inclinations has at one point said this ever-familiar line, but the difference is that Fugazi have proved it through years of action.

our mail. It was no formula; it just seemed to me in the very beginning that if somebody wrote to us, it would be nice to write them back. We're a little bit like the Luddite people -- we just do what we do. We're not thinking about how other people do stuff, and we don't really care how other people do stuff. This is just how we set things up and it seems to have done OK.

GP: We have completely no problem with file sharing. We just consider it the exchanging of tapes. And we've always had a really open policy about our stuff -- when people come to our shows, we tell them to bring cameras, bring tape recorders, bring video recorders, we don't care. People can come in and tape our gigs and they can trade them. We're not into when people sell our shit as bootlegs and try to make a profit off of it. We think that's a different line that's being crossed.

But when it's just the music being shared, that's what it's about to us. It's not like we get a lot of radio airplay.

We never shared in the industry freakout about it because it's not important to us. Our main thing has always been access to our music, making it as easy as possible, making it as cheap as possible, so why would we have any problem with file sharing? It's redundant.

ST: You guys also seem to be one of the only outfits that put their postpaid prices on their CDs so shoppers can see how screwed they're getting by the megachains.

"The main thing is that it has to be all-ages. I think that a lot of people think that we say 'No Booze' because there're a lot of times when all-ages shows can't happen where there is alcohol served," says Ian, who also says that Fugazi has, in fact, played in many bars. "The main thing is that [the show] can't discriminate against people based on age." Really, the issue, in a lot of these all-ages underage shows, or the shows that were not all ages, they didn't wanna risk getting caught having minors drink, because they didn't wanna lose their license, but my point of view is that music is for all people, and I don't think the alcohol industry should be making a decision about who gets to see a band or not. The idea that you can't go see music is absurd. And who of all people - what age group really is music the most important to? Teenagers. Because music is the soundtrack for the transition - it's an important transition in life. And the idea that they're cut out because of the alcohol industry - that's disgusting to me.

on a pragmatic level dealing with a band, you cannot imagine what an insidious effect on music alcohol has as far as the business and the economy of music. It's fucked, it's really fucked. When you do all of these shows, the alcohol economy dictates so much.

I didn't take drugs; I thought it was stupid. To me that was like state-sponsored rebellion, too. It was so ridiculous to me. I was looking for the community that was rebelling, that was questioning things and challenging--in a more healthy kind of constructive way.

One of the biggest reasons why I didn't get with drugs is because I'm a huge Jimi Hendrix fan. Not only did that poor fellow curl up and die on drugs, but I kept meeting people who'd seen Hendrix. And I was always like, 'What was he like?' And, without fail, they'd said they couldn't remember 'cos they were too stoned. I decided that I didn't wanna forget the things I do in my life."

Free The Henge"

Sticks and standing stones
Arrests and broken bones
Peoples' homes destroyed
Vicious thugs employed
By rulers alienated
From an earth they've devastated
Surround our temple with barbed wire
But in our hearts there burns a fire (to)
Free the Henge Free the Henge
Our culture is attacked
Our right are violated
I say its time to end
The restrictions they've created
Free the Henge Free the Henge

For thousands of years Stonehenge has been a sacred meeting place for people - Furthermore in 1918 it was gifted to the nation the then "owner" on the condition that there should be free access for all who wished to gather there so what gives you the right, the power to decide that the people's access to the stones will be denied? We won't be stopped by cops, four miles "exclusion zones" 'cos we're coming through to liberate the stones
Free the Henge Free the Henge
The time will come again
When we'll be at Henge
To feel the Earthpower
At the solstice hour
Free the Henge Free the Henge
Free the Henge Free the Henge

Winter solstice 1989 - Stonehenge - Bands playing, jugglers juggling, people breathing fire, gathering wood in the trees as the music echoed through the night air, laughing, sitting round the campfire talking and sharing food and drink - An amazingly friendly atmosphere - In the morning, gathering before dawn at the stones, dancing round the stone circle hand in hand - A little magic in the midst of our grey, drab world of concrete and exhaust fumes...

Summer solstice 1989 - Riot police, road-blocks, coming up against the full force of the state, chased through woods by the cops, hiding in the ditches while helicopter searchlights sliced through darkness to find us, fear, anger, determination - That they will not beat us, that they will not destroy our culture... A response: If they think they can stop us gathering together for free festivals they are wrong. Our response to our experiences was just to come and organise a free festival on Cramond Island near Edinburgh.
With the help of many others we made our own festival - And you can too!

DIY distros, labels and zines and an excellent underground network of people keeping in touch all over the world. This is especially good for enabling bands to tour abroad in a DIY way - something which at one time was almost impossible is now just a matter of picking up a phone to organise - and this (and some great international punk festivals) has really brought a lot of people of different nationalities together which is great. Gone are the days of punks from one town feeling they have to fight punks from another. Nowadays loads of us have friends all over the globe. Yes, our underground networks have removed the need for a commercial music press, major labels and so on - we don't need it. We don't need those Morecambe/Blackpool type shit gigs either though. That's not punk it's money grabbing bullshit.

We see the D.I.Y. philosophy that they once subscribed to as being very important and valueable - and the idea that we don't have to go with big business is to me something well worth fighting for.

When CHUMBAWAMBA then turn around and mock that philosophy as something they only believed in when they were 'young and naive' they send a totally negative message that there is NO alternative, that the D.I.Y. idea is just foolish and so on. It's quite right then that people like ourselves criticise them for this.

Deathcafe

See the sales rep peddle lies
Watch as the mother's baby dies
Tricked by whitecoats, so misleading
Into unhealthy bottle feeding
Hear the diseased infants' cries watch the mothers' tearful eyes
Join the boycott, give it clout
Do I have to spell it out?

D-E-A-T-H-C-A-F-E
Don't drink their fucking deathcafe

No Tartex for me
No Sunpat or Rowntree
And I wouldn't buy none of the rest
'Cos I know that "breast is best"
but still the bastards peddle lies
Still the greedheads' profits rise
take the bastards one and all
Up against the fuckin' wall

D-E-A-T-H-C-A-F-E
Don't drink their fuckin' deathcafe

Don't give your cash to Nestle's banker
'Cos the milky bar kid is a fuckin' wanker
The stain of death is on his hands spreading misery across the land
And the Gold Blend couple - fuckin' shit
Yuppie bastards - fuckin' shit
Innocent lives brought to an end
Only shiteAds drink Gold Blend

D-E-A-T-H-C-A-F-E
Don't drink their fuckin' deathcafe
D-E-A-T-H-C-A-F-E

Some people they say "are you a political band or just a fun band?" And I always say we're a fun band, we want to have maximum possible fun, but you can't have fun while there's like loads of cops around, fuckin with you and while there's like nazis trying to fuck up your gigs and all this stuff. So I don't see a difference between politics and life. Politics is life. If you've got a really shit amount of pay and your boss is like fuckin you around, and then you get your head kicked in by some idiots on the way home, and there's all political reasons behind all that stuff. So for people to say they're non-political is just stupid. You can't say "oh, I'm not into politics" because that in itself is a political statement. If you say you're non-political, that means your just accepting the way things are at the moment.

BREAK THE MOULD

Another adolescent suicide - cos you don't look the part
killed by the glossy magazines that brainwashed you from the start
Photo's of models in expensive clothes
Designer haircuts and arrogant pose
Rammed down our throats time after time
their fashion is a violent crime
Fit in - conform - pressured from the start
Freak - Failure - If you don't look the part
Fit in - conform - be what you're told
Freak - Failure - if you don't fit their mould

Six stone four not an ounce of fat
T.V made quite sure of that
Eat your food can't keep it down
be like the images all around
Laxative abuse life's so unfair
Can't go out got nothing to wear
Don't look in the mirror - it never lies
can hide your body but not the pain in your eyes

Death diet Death diet Death diet - Anorexia

Models on the page that we've all seen
the ones on the adverts on the T.V screen
How come none look like you or me?
they're tring to make us feel like freaks
But their vision of perfection at which to aim
Is an airbrushed illusion you can never attain
Enough is enough we won't swallow the lie
they're selling us a myth but we won't buy

We won't conform - we won't even start
We just don't care if we don't look the part
We won't conform - we won't be what we're told
We just don't care - it's time to break the mould

Mindrot

Glued to the screen you sit and vegetate
A model citizen of a police state
Pumped so full of rubbish that you don't see
You're getting a cathode ray lobotomy

Bread and circuses, Government lies
Turn off the TV before your eyes
Bread and circuses, Government lies
Trash the TV before your brain dies

Your work is a prison , you live in a box
Kept isolated so their boat never rocks
Neighbours down the street who you never greet
Just stay inside, watch the box and keep off the street

Brainwashing and distraction to keep us all apart
If we're going to beat them then we've got to make a stand
To unite to combine the strength that we've all got
Just say no to their TV mindrot

IF I'M RIGHT WASN'T IT YOU WHO STARTED THE IDEA OF PUNK PICNICS IN EDINBURGH. WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO ORGANISE THEM?

I just thought there wasn't enough communication between people going on at gigs. The attention was usually directed at the bands rather than each other - and even when bands aren't playing, the music over the p.a. is often so loud that it's pretty difficult to talk to other folk. So I wanted something to really bring folk together to see each other rather than just musicians on stage. I'm glad to say I think it's worked too - loads of people have got to know each other through picnics, it's often created really good links between different scenes - and you now get punx picnics all over the world - great! A few years ago we took things a stage further by declaring Edinburgh "European City of Punk" in 1995 for a massive 10 day punk extravaganza here which saw people coming from all over Europe (and even North America and Australia) - fucking brilliant! 1996 was probably the biggest punk festival ever with 90 bands playing over 10 days and in 1997 every single gig at the 10 day festival was totally free - showing that the DIY alternative to shit like the £50 - a - ticket Blackpool nonsense is alive and kicking. This festival also inspired the 1998 "Scandinavian City of Punk" festival in Helsinki (which was also

amazing) and I'm already hearing talk of a 1999 "Russian City of Punk" in St. Petersburg - no joke! Some people think this is just about "fun" but there's a serious political side too - bringing people together, strengthening links between like-minded anarcho-types across the globe is very important and valuable. The system wants us alone and isolated sitting at home playing computer games - fuck that! Get out - communicate - unite!

'IN DARKNESS THERE IS NO CHOICE'

The System

LONDON
1981

Let's be Free

Total frustration
Spreading through a nation
Filled with violence and grief
I'm sick to the back teeth
Of its liars and hypocrites
Telling me what to do
The only future I can see
Is Anarchy for me and you

Anarchy - let's be free

The people starve
While they get rich
Kampuchea
A forgotten ditch
Cast away
Like a stone in the distance
But Anarchy
Will be the people's resistance

Government bombs
To protect the world
But when they're used
Millions will be killed
'Free the Third World'
Is what I hear you say
The only way I can see
Is through Anarchy

My Anarchy is peace
With no laws or rules
But it's up to you
If you wanna be a fool
No politicians
Or dictators too
Cos if you really want it
Anarchy is for me and you

DISORDER

BRISTOL
1983

Remembrance Day

There they go it's poppy day
Polished medals on display
Memories best forgot
Disembled bodies slowly rot
Rats eat human in the trench
Decaying flesh - A sickly stench
It's no use kneeling down on prayer
No one listens - No one cares
Obeying orders you're a pawn
Never questions no one dares
The ruling classes are alright
Politicians never fight
They use our money and our heads
We die in pain they die in bed
The aging hero on TV
Describing scenes that sicken me
They say how bad the nazis were
We're just as bad - Hiroshima
So there they go it's poppy day
Polished medals on display
Pathetic lumps of crippled meat
They still hear bombs
When they're asleep

Debris

GLASGOW
1998

see the reality from the panoptic system we meet at birth to the fucking destruction we impose on the earth desperation that we patrol imprison ourselves with fear and control they create restriction but you police their system self-surveillance self-control guilty systems of reward for those who are blind those who accept payment in kind don't tolerate don't subscribe destroy the injustice that creates divide break their control tear down their walls don't conform by enforcing their laws create the profit that produces the chains create the profit that leaves us in pain create the profit through envy not need create the profit division and greed we create the profit that produces the chains we consume the products which leave us in pain we create the profit through envy not need a system based on poverty division and greed break their control tear down their walls don't conform by enforcing their laws create the profit produces the chains consume the products which leave us in pain create the profit through envy not need a system built on poverty division and greed

VICE SQUAD

BRISTOL
1981
"Humane"

What I read in the paper was reality
Hell created by students of bestiality
If this is the human race we're all shit
Torture an animal, you think you're better than it

Wake up it's time to die again
Your plight must make me cry again
They stick electrodes inside your head
If you're lucky, you'll soon be dead

Choking on tobacco smoked for pleasure
Testing out cream for a wrinkled face
Agony we cannot measure
Trapped behind the bars with no escape

Don't ask to enter not allowed to see
Mad doctors of demonology
Searching for what they'll never find
Wondering for the benefit of mankind

Increasing Cancer Research's wealth
Isn't going to bring you good health
Reality, you continue to ignore
Much more pain for us all to endure

One day your factories and laboratories
Will be burned and you'll be brought to your knees
Then you'll find out what it's really like
When someone slowly ends your life

In factory farms across the country
Millions waiting to be freed
You say that they lack human feelings
This battered flesh on which we feed

Blood stains the snow, not as cold as hearts
Whose hands clubbed innocents and tore apart
The filthy look on and say that they don't care
That it's all for the seal skin coat she wears

Is it really so hard to open your eyes
See through a cruel government's disguise
Use your voice for those who have none
Or has the system struck you dumb?

Upper crust on horseback, so sick in the head
Getting such pleasure from a useless death
Taxpayer's money for the royal stud
So the parasites can let some more blood

Maiming and killing, setting your traps
Animal loving nation, a load of crap
You have no emotions, you're devoid of pity
The lowest part of humanity.

Wake up it's time to die again.

Toxic Reasons

OHIO
1982

HOW DO YOU FEEL

Written by Snot

How do you feel in El Salvador
With armed guerillas at your front door?
American influence in your land
American guns in their hands

Death's American-made
In this modern age
If there's any wars around
U.S. guns are found

How do you feel in the Middle East
Where America's liked the least?
Selling guns to the other side
They promised you, now they lied

Death's American-made
In this modern age
If there's any wars around
U.S. guns are found

How do you feel in El Salvador?
How do you feel in the Middle East?
How do you feel in the U.S.A.
When all you got is war today?

stiff little fingers

BELFAST
1978

WASTED LIFE

I could be a soldier
Go out there and fight to save this land
Be a people's soldier
Paramilitary gun in hand
I won't be no soldier
I won't take no orders from no-one
Stuff their fucking armies
Killing isn't my idea of fun

[Chorus]

They wanna waste my life
They wanna waste my time
They wanna waste my life
And they've stolen it away

I could be a hero
Live and die for their 'important' cause
A united nation
Or an independent state with laws
And rules and regulations
That merely cause disturbances and wars
That is what I've got now
All thanks to the freedom-seeking hordes

[Chorus]

I'm not gonna be taken in
They said if I don't join I just can't win
I've heard that story many times before
And every time I threw it out the door

Still they come up to me
With a different name but the same old face
I can see the connection
With another time and a different place
They ain't blonde-haired or blue-eyed
But they think that they're the master race
They're nothing but blind fascists
Brought up to hate and given lives to waste

SEX PISTOLS

LONDON
1977

Problems

Too many problems oh why am I here
I don't need to be me
'cos you're all too clear
well and I can see
there's something wrong with you
but what do you expect me to do?

At least I gotta know what I wanna be
don't come to me if you need pity

Are you lonely you got no-one
you get your body in suspension

That's no problem
problems, problems
the problem is you
what you gonna do with your problem
(what you gonna do problem)

Eat your heart out on plastic tray
you don't do what you want
then you'll fade away
You won't find me working nine to five
it's too mush fun a-being alive

I'm using my feet for my human machine
you won't find me living for the screen

Are you lonely all needs catered
you got your brains dehydrated

In a death trip I ain't automatic
You won't find me just staying static
Don't you give me any orders
for people like me there is no order.

Set you thought you had it all worked out
Bet you thought you knew what I was about
Set you thought
you'd solved all your problems
but you are the problem

Oh what you gonna do with your problem I'll
leave it to you problem the problem is you.
You got a problem Oh what you gonna do
they know a doctor gonna fake you away
they take you away and throw away the key
they don't want you and they don't want me
you got a problem the problem is you
problems what you gonna do... (etc.)
problem... (etc.)

IGGY POP

DETROIT
1947 - DATE

I NEED MORE (Pop/Matlock)

I walk around
I flop around
I need something that will be found
More venom, more dynamite, more disaster
I need more than I ever did before

But everything is going up in price
My life is going all right up 'til now
Even so there's something missing
More truth

More intelligence
No ho
More future
More laugh
More culture
Don't forget adrenaline
More freedom

I need more than an ordinary grind
And the more I think the more I need
More cars

I'll take more money
More champagne
I can't forget my brain
More floors
More doors
More mustard
Pickle and relish

I need more than an ordinary grind
Everybody ought to love his job
And live his life and keep his pride
Imperturbably happy with the one you love
With an exciting future
On the fat of the land

I need more than an ordinary grind
And the more I think the more I need
My life is going all right up 'til now
Even so it's not enough for me and

I need more
I need more
I need more
Oo oo oo oo
Oo oo oo oo
Than I ever did before

I need to lead a dissipated existence
And play scratchy records
And enjoy my dedme
With more divorce records, more distance,
more future, more culture
More

Directly behind the amplifiers and kit
hung a massive backdrop declaring:
PEPSI COLA - THE VOICE OF A NEW
GENERATION in red and blue letters
on a white canvas background. Fur-
thermore, flapping around in the early
evening breeze on both sides of the
stage were two ten foot banners bearing
the Pepsi trademark along with repre-
sentations of king-sized cola cans. As
we hammered into our first number,
'TV Eye', I could see the disgust that
Iggy felt at having to perform on what
was basically a soft-drink commercial
billboard.

Iggy was far from happy. After bringing
'TV Eye' to an end he pointed up at one
of the banner cans and screamed into his
microphone. "See that? I'd rather drink my
own piss than touch that vile shit."

After each song of the set, Iggy had a new
observation to share with the audience
about our sponsors. "If those fuckers are
the voice of a new generation, then I'm glad
I'm a fuckin' old fart!"

"Yeah, Iggy, you tell those corporate assholes
what's what," the crowd seemed to be
baying back in its own wild-assed com-
munal fashion. "We're on your side, Iggy,
man... Let 'em have it."

The crowd's approval of Iggy's stance
pushed him onto new heights.
"Those evil sons of bitches at fuckin' Pepsi
want to rot your guts and brains with their
poisonous shit. They want to fill your veins
full of their pus and filth and garbage and
turn you into non-thinking bloated fucking
consumers. Well, fuck them...! Fuck them...!
Fuck them..." Then he turned to us. "Okay,
motherfuckers, give me 'Search and Destroy',"
and, pointing to the Pepsi backdrop,
added, "Cos that's what I'm gonna do to the
assholes who expect me to sing with that on
my stage."

Iggy strutted back to centre-stage and
pointing directly up at the horrified
executives in the stand shouted at them,
"Fuck you, you fuckers! Corporate pieces of
shit... Fuck you all."

Paul counted us into 'I Gotta Right' and
as the searing waves of sound rolled
over the ecstatic crowd, the fuse was
done and Iggy exploded. Leaping onto
one of the Pepsi banners and hanging
on tight with his arms and legs, he be-
gan swinging on it to and fro, building
up momentum 'til the banner's rope
fixings gave way and the whole thing
came crashing down with Iggy under-
neath it onto the stage.

Who ever hates The Stooges?

Hands up who hates The Stooges.

Well, we don't hate you. We don't even care.

Iggy Pop, 1974, at the Stooges' last gig



"TV has sucked the insides out of most
people in my country. That's why I started
painting - as a reverse TV. Instead of sitting in
front of a screen and having all this schmalz
poured over my head till I'm paralysed, I
became the television and shot my insides out
onto a blank canvas, to reactivate the animation
of what's inside me."

"TV's one of the instruments by which
people lose the ability to live. If you're willing
to sit still while some man harangues you about
Buy the Mercury Cougar and screw the girl in
the black velvet dress and turn into a wild
animal and jump 90 feet in the air for only 9,000
dollars! If you're gonna actually let thoughts be
your thoughts, it becomes a real problem. I'd
rather eat brown rice than sip Coca-Cola: at
least you have to digest it."

This was Iggy as Jesus, clearing the mon-
eylenders out of the temple. Those cor-
porate fools had desecrated his church,
his stage with their foul lies and hypoc-
rasy and now Iggy was determined to
make them pay.

Then the Cola-Police turned up on
stage, en masse in their distinctive
PepsiSwag uniforms to attempt to pre-
vent more damage to their precious ad-
vertising material and found instead they
had to do battle with our rough and
ready road crew.

Andy, never one to miss out on enhanc-
ing a volatile and dramatic moment,
kicked over his amplifiers and did his
best to lay out one of the invading
PepsiArmy with his guitar.

Bad television seems to concern you in
your lyrics. Is it completely evil? Iggy: "I
don't know that it's evil. All I know is

that the more evenings and mornings that
I can pile up where I make the decision
not to turn the thing on, the most
amazing, wonderful things happen.
Paintings get painted, wonderful meals
get cooked, conversations take place,
books get read. My vocabulary grows, or
at least doesn't atrophy."

"I don't think that for everybody
television's a huge problem, but for many
people, in our anglo cultures, it has
become a placebo. It's very much an
opiate, and I know that's a silly old
phrase, but I think it's kinda true."

"Instead of at six o'clock just sitting
like a carp sifting garbage, let's take that
energy, and turn it somewhere else... So
that I can keep growing."

Make no mistake, however: all is not sweet and
lightness in Iggy Pop's life. In the crisply blistering
"Winners and Losers," Iggy casts his steely glare
at the "surlly leeches [who] gain the right to send
their message screaming... To people who feel."
Ask him about these despicable denizens of "this
glass and wire world," and he lets out a Machia-
vellian chuckle.

"Think of your most hated network television
show, then find the man who produced it," he says.
"It's that type of person."

TOWER RECORDS CHRISTMAS

"Squarehead", is the whole album in microcosm, a
clenched-fist desperado anthem dripping with disdain
and charged with nervous defiance. "You can make
my position low as a dog/You can trick me with your
social fog/You can criticise my very bag/You can call
my treasures a heap of slag/But you might as well eat
lunch instead/Cause I ain't gonna be no squarehead".

"Hell, I'm just a modern guy!"
he grins, with his trousers round
his ankles and his right arm
trailing blood across the stage.
Waving his pecker at the
audience, it's hard to imagine him
in 15 years time collecting his free
bus pass and winter heating
allowance.

The part of myself I like best is
the guy who would dare sing a
song like 'Search And Destroy'
in the era I did, in 1969, so
soon after 'California Dreamin';
who said, Stick your flower
power up your ass 'cos you're
not sincere about it. Yeah, that's
a side of myself I admire.
Iggy Pop, Sounds, 1986

SHOUTING 'BURN IT! BURN IT!' AND 'KILL THE PIGS', THE ANARCHISTS BRING MORE TERROR TO THE CAPITAL'S STREETS AS ANOTHER DEMO TURNS UGLY



THIS VOLUME CUT-AND-PASTED BY
STEVE EYE, LIVERPOOL 2004

COMEDY SPACE-FILLER (COURTESY OF THE DAILY MAIL)