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ISSUE N:3

PRICE: 207

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SYLVIA PANKHURST 1882-1960

Born in Manchester, in 1882 she trained as an artist. She fought for the vote with her mother and sister - Emmeline and Christabel. As a member of the Womens social and political union she was imprisoned several times and went on hunger strike 13 times - she was force fed.

She was thrown out of the WSPU by her mother and sister; because she was a pacifst and disagreed with their cop-out pact they made with Loyd George; namely that propertied Women over 30 could have the vote if the WSPU would recruit men for the army - the war effort. this was in 1914. Working class Women didn't get the vote till 1921!!

Sylvia joined the East London Federation of Suffragetts

Changed the name of the paper she edited from the Womens Dreadnought to the Workers Dreadnought.

During first years of war established the Mothers Arms - a maternity clinic, and Montessori school, and two other clinics, and two cost price restaraunts; and a toy factory - to provide work for persons unemployed due to the war.

Founded League of Rights for soldiers and Sailors wives and relatives - to work for better pensions and allowances.

1917 - Russian Revolution - urged the work - ers of britain to resist the general british intervention against the Bolsheviks
Travelled illegally to Russia to meet Lenin

founded a peoples Russian info bearue - but efused to join the communist party

after vote gained.
Founder of Society

Founder of Society of Friends of Italian
Freedom and of Womens International Matteolli
committee.

1934 - Italy Mussolini, invades Etheopiathen known as Abyssinia. Sylvia helped to establish the Abyssinian Association and in 1936 founded a weekly journal "New times and Etheopian News" which throughout the years published news of Facist Oppression and the Etheopians resistance.

Though an opponent of WWl, shewas from the beginning convinced of the need to fight facism with arms

She helped refugees from facist Italy and its colonies - nazi germany, Spain and also totaliterianism Russia

Later got involved in the fight for Etheopias independance, and raised funds and stuff Wnt to live there in1956. died there 1960



RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Things to do with glooco...

Apart from superglueing locks etc a few women have taken to targetting certain pubs in the capital which have anti-woman/anti-lesbian policies by superglooing glasses to the tables and bar; putting quick-drying cement down the loos and generally costing the landlords and owners time and trouble.

Another good action involving glue was tried with some success somewhere in the north take one small piece of glass and superglue it to a large, offending, expensive plate glass window with a poster/message behind it. It bonds perfectly and the nice thing is that to remove it the targetted owners have to smash their own windows themselves.

Any more ideas for this column would be appreciated.

Yoo-Hoo

F. Craddock.

9 9 9 80

LETTERS...Keep'em.

Dear Re-Sister,

Thankyou for your
heuzletter. Exclosed
are two articles.
written by two Wimm

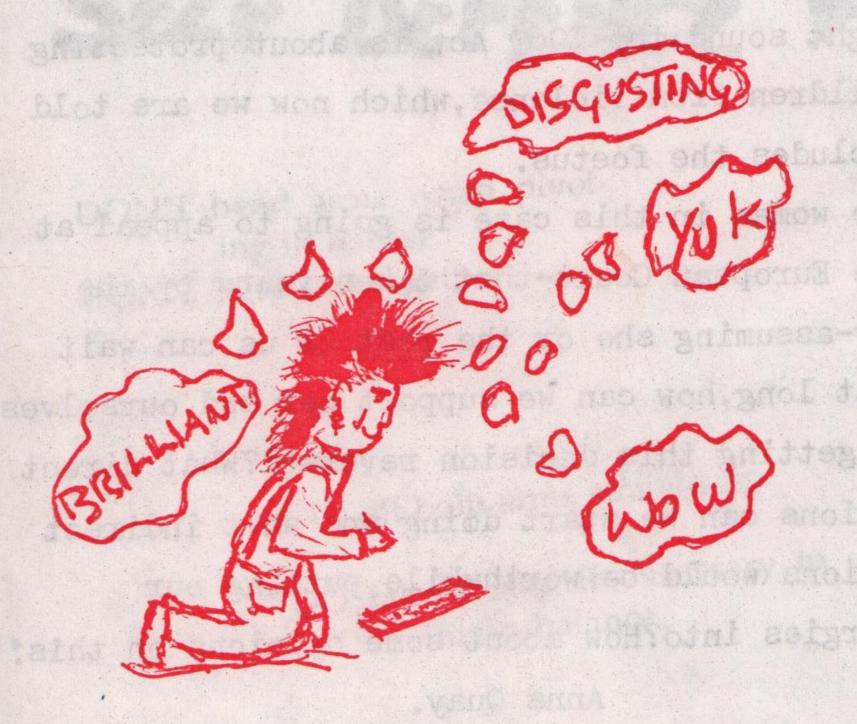
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DAUGHTERS OF EGALIA: PART TWO.

(i shant bother to put the authors name.)

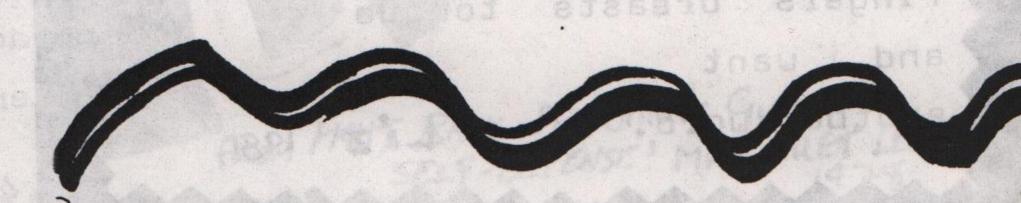
I read the book review from Re-Sister number two with shock and disgust. Turning society upside down! I do not find a subject that is as close to home as this is at all humorous. Men-tied to the house, neurotically anxious about their body image, and with only themselves to blame when gang-raped by women! I do not want a turned around oppression, where we become more sadistic than masochistic. I want a freedom for wimin, a society that is beautiful, peaceful and loving. where we can live totally separate from men. This kind of sadistic reading is revolting.



I celebrate the birth of "Re-Sister"; and opportunity to share our ideas, hopes, fears, dreams and magic.

In the first edition a \$\mathbb{Q}\$ explained her annoyance at the use of new words like "wimmin" and "womun". I understand her reservations and she helped clarify some of my own. But there are few absolutes in a matriarchal/creative dream and sometimes there is space for compromise. Using the word "wimmin" I have the memory of "women" but there is much more of Me there and I cannot bring myself to write "..men" or "..man" in connection with myself; it makes me want to throw up/ get rid of it.

man has used language as one of his strongest "tools" to break us, bury us, and make us forget. But the energy of language is neutral and men have man/ipulated it, As Qdis/cover the true meanings of words and create new ones it is painful to open the second edition of "Re-Sister" and read "FUCK XMAS" . "fuck" is a womunhating word, a violent word whenever it is used. Adont need it and we reinforce our unconscious "conditioning" when we use it. So please sisters lets not take on the habits of the macho, lefty, anarchist men. We dont need to "fuck" patriarchy; the more we re/member of our/selves and the more the Goddess awakens men will either hide themselves in shame and struggle to unlearn all that they have taught themselves or more likely they will hurry away in panic to die from their own bad energy.



THE DAUGHTERS OF EGALIA': PART 3
Molly Toff reply...

I agree with you, as an anarchist there is no way that i want to live in a society where the sexes arenot equal. The review was stating what the book was about, not what i want society to be like-& the authress doesnot want a society where women oppress men either. But she uses this storyline to show what a nonsensical/ludicrous situation it is to have one sex oppressing the other sex; to create a society where one sex hates the other; to create a sex anxious about body image etc. I feel that this book shows the futility of a sexist society successfully &, 'the Daughters of Egalia' is in no way a sadistic book.

BIOLOGY LESSON.

Vagina ett lageta tea jan worde os means Scabbard; on as enemand best a home for swords i house your fingers breasts tonque and they have never be badees ent mego of founds at f slashed to the bone never left a head rolling alone never sought or courted death never punctured dreams hearts breath. Vaqina means Scabbard;

a home for swords
i house your
fingers breasts tongue
and i want
another word.

Liz 1981

THE STATE ON THE OFFENSIVE

Everyone will, by now, have heard about the 'Baby Victoria' custody case in which a heroin-addicted woman had her baby taken into care-see Resister No.1.

The law lords delivered their decision last Friday saying that the child should stay in cars and that adoption proceedures can go ahead. They also said that the Children & Young Persons Act 1969 does cover foetus. The way is now wide open for even more policing of women by the state. This is a major set back for us. Not only will addicted women (and does this include tranquiliser addiction?) be spied on, but this decision could affect women who smoke or drink too. Yes, some things are bad for babies, but so is poverty and malnutrition-who needs state snoopers watching us for nine months and then at the end of it taking our bibies into so-called 'care'?? One of the most important questions which this decision has left in limbo is that of our abortion rights. Could we now be charged with 'assaulting' the foetus or even 'attemptd murder'? This is not so far-fetched as it might sound; the 1969 Act is about protecting children from violence, which now we are told includes the foetus.

The woman in this case is going to appeal at the European Court-that takes years by the way-assuming she or the rest of us can wait that long, how can we support her and ourselves in getting this decision reversed? What direct actions can we start doing and what indirect actions would be worthwhile putting our energies into? How about some opinions on this:

Anna Quay.

WURKING WIMEN FIGHT? BACK TACTICS

On Inth. june 1985, non-unionised, mainly immigrant, women workers started a 7nth. long strike against the 'Canad-' ian Imperial Bank of Commerce'. The bank has 75 billion dollars in assets & I500 branches.

The women had received no basic pay rise for 5 yrs. & were frequently sexually harassed by supervisors. When the bank ignored complaints 250 women walked out.

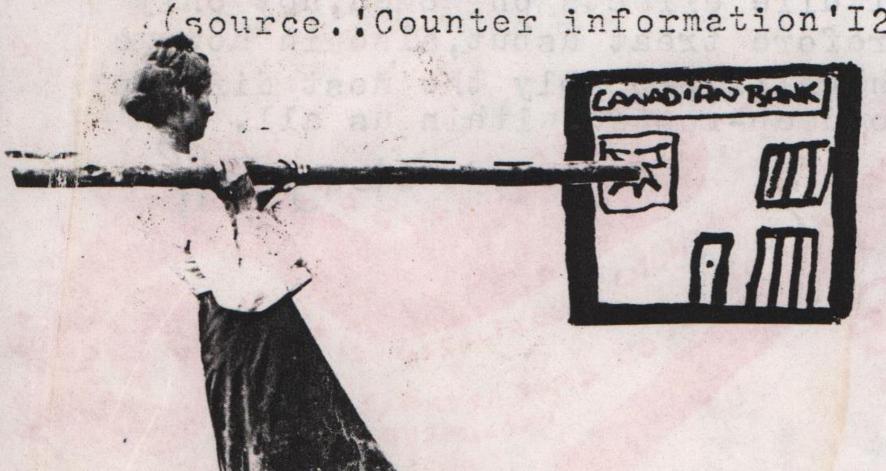
The strike was sustained by novel tactics which may provide an inspiration for others. They created an automatic redialling system which flooded the banks switchboard with up to 50,000 calls a day. Each gave a recorded message of the strikers demands or a high pitch whistle.

Another tactic was the 'Bank-a-thor Using an account at the bank, supporters choked up the tills at beak times by paying in one cent deposits.

On another occasion strikers showered the banks central hall with a confetti storm of deposit slins while handed customers leaflets containing their demands. In December customers were serenaded with carols outlining their case.

The bad press & business disruption forced the bank to consider negotiations The Canadian Labour Relations Board stepped in & on 28th. January 1986, enforced a new employment contract. It accepted only some of the women's demands & lasts for a year...it will be interesting to see what the New Year holds for the Canadian Imperial Bank--as arranged by our 're -sisters' in Canada.

(source.: Counter information'I2)



NEWWE REPRESSION

AIDS AND DICRIVINATION ...

There i sat watching TV-the Calendar News-& that ever topical issue aros -e once again-AIDS. This time, scandle of all scandles, a prostitute in Huddersfie has the disease & refuses to give up her work. I suppose it's one way of killing off the letcherous bastards !: But what got me , was that the interviewer was anamed that the police couldnot arrest her: Surely it must be a criminal offense to have aids !: I don't know about you, but i'm absolutely sick of hearing about the criminal nature of aids victims, & in sofar as prostitutes are concerned -have these people ever thought of who the women actually get it from-oh no, silly me, i forgot that such immoral people propagaate their own diseases!

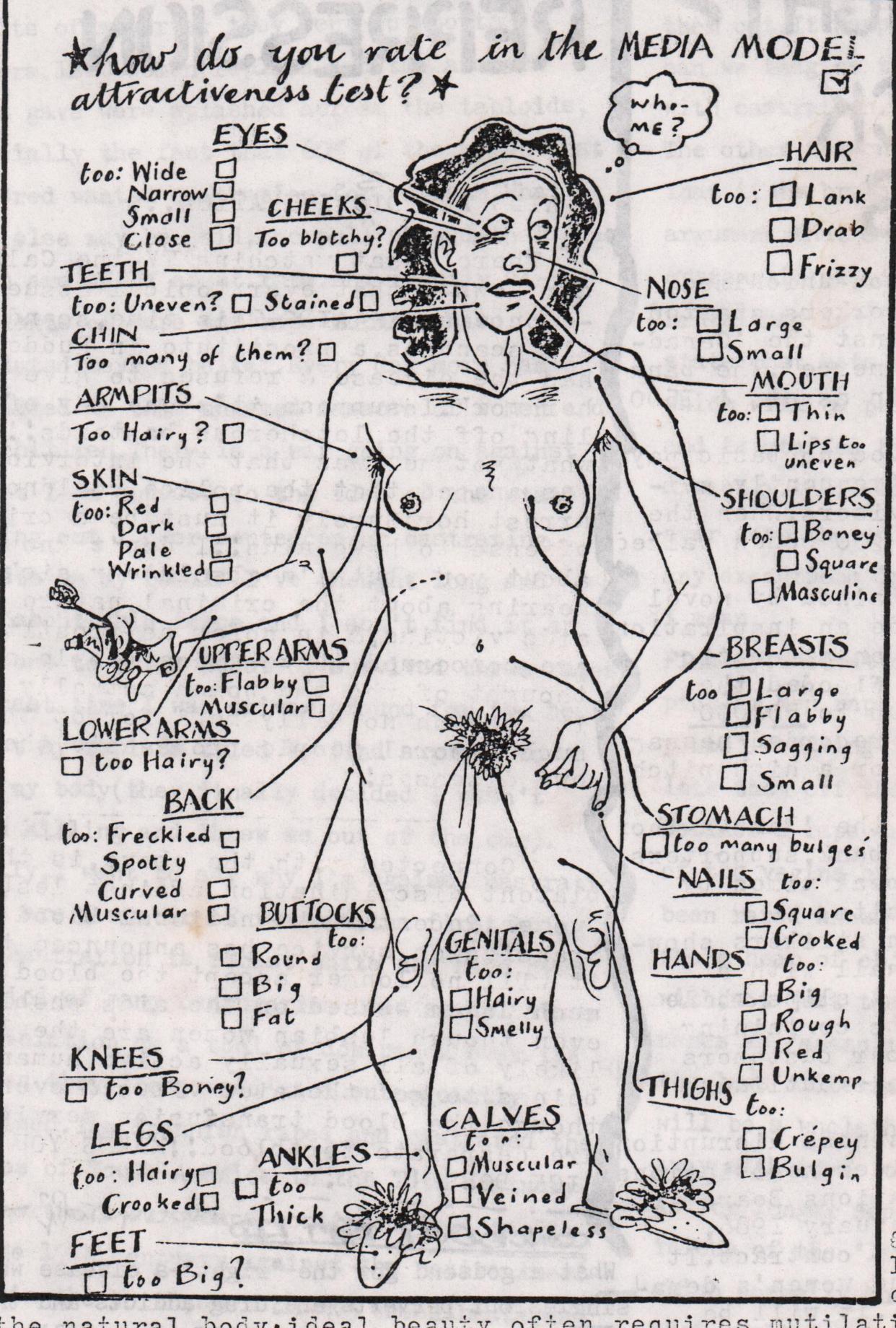
Connected with the above, is the blatent discrimination against lesbian women. Recently, the national blood transfusion service has announced that it will no longer accept the blood of such women -based on the aids phobiaeven though lesbian women are the least likely of all sexually active human beings to get the aids virus & even though the blood transfusion service are desparate for blood: MAKES YOU BICK DOBSN'T IT:

CONCIDENCE DEPT. LTD MOLIY-TOFF -

What a godsend for the 'right'-a disease which singles out perverts and drug addicts and the only known cure is either life-long celibacy or complete 'faithfulness' to one (heterosexual) partner also for life.Or, then again, there is the other version.AIDS is a manufactured virus born, as they say, in the usa, which accidently. ha-ha, escaped and mysteriously made it's way To the Bay Area and attacked all those troublesome political gays. Or the Other other version; private blood banks in the usa bought cheap infected blood from the African continent and peddled it there and here. Either way-what a godsend for the 'right'. N.B. RUNCUR HAS IT THAT THE African Strain

does not kill people. Any more on that !?

IN WHOSE



Inages of womens bodies pervade our env -ironment everywhere -at newstands, at checkout counters of supermarkets, inchemists, in countless ads. inevery magazine, & on T.V. In effect, it is the female body that is being sold -the product is secondary. This imagery has incredible power in shaping the individual ideals, behavior, & perceptions of reality, the result being that women are left with a deeprooted self-consciousness & tremendous anxiety about their bodies.

The images of women which we are fed are unreal-they are airbrushed, photo-retouched fantasies, the idealised illusions of photo technology & they are of women of a very restricted age range. Images of real womens bodies, as they actually are in all stages of a womans life are almost never seen.

Women are reared & often forced, to conform
to the specific require
ments of ideal beauty,
whatever they are at any
given time. From waist
binding to breast enlargement to face painting.
Ideal beauty therefore,
often requires deforming

the natural body; ideal beauty often requires mutilation of the natural body; ideal beauty oftens requires distortion or denial of the natural body. So ranging from idiocy to atrocity, any & all strategies are employed so that the natural female body will fit the male idea of ideal female beauty.

Such objectification has several dire effects on women, not only in how it effects the way men see us & therefore treat usbut, also in how is ourselves. It is this aspect of sexism which is probably the most difficult to come to terms with, because it is so deep-rooted within us all.

Mony-Toff.

IM/AGE ?

IKEVIE

"Missing Pieces - Women in Irish History" Pub. 1983 Irish Feminist Publications LTD. with Womens Community Press Dublin "More Missing Pieces - Herstory of Irish Women" Pub. 1985 Attic Press Publications Dublin.

These two books make brilliant inspiring reading, packed with information about hundereds of Irish Women in history. The layout is simple with a potograph or picture of each Woman followed by a short para graph about her life; which makes these two books two of the most accesible history books I have ever read. I was amazed and relly happy to see so much information about what Irish Womem in the past have been doing. The Women in the books range from Lesbian pirates, to Women involved in the Easter uprisings, to writers and poets, Women fighting for community nurseries to doctors fighting tuberculosis. These books are very informative about Irish history, and inspiring reading for any Woman - everybody should read them! My only criticism is that many Lesbians were not named as such....? Both books are available at Leeds city library.

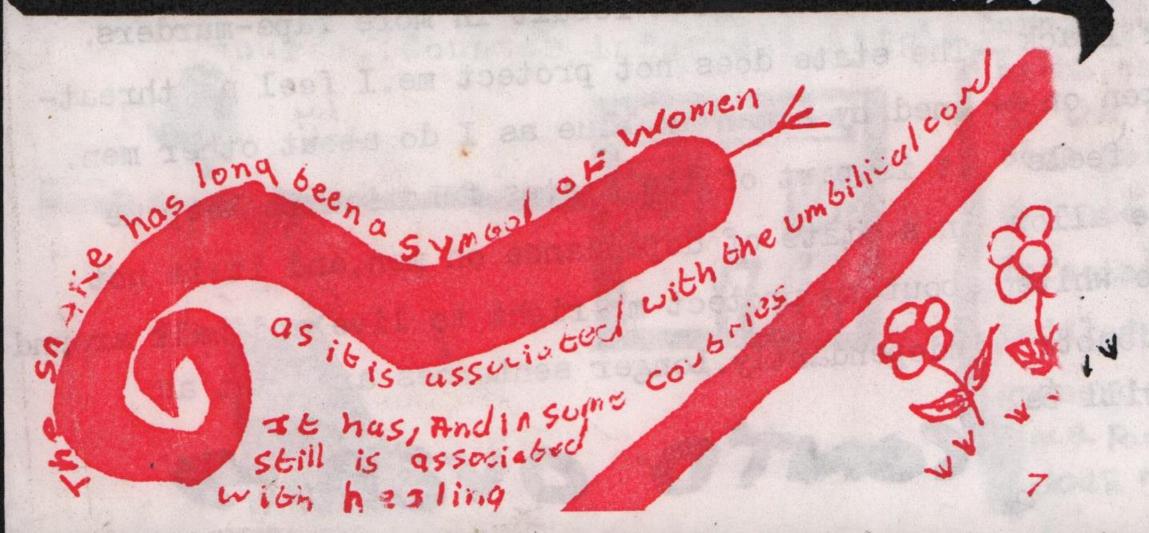
Cris

Dear Women - don't forget this is your magazine, if there is anything you don't like about it - then come along and change it. The next deadline and pasting up session is on Jan 4th. If you want to come along phone 405677. Otherwise keep on sending your views, criticisms, opinions news, info, poems, stories etc - anything that you think will interest other Women and almost everything does. Get all stuff to our box no by JAN3rd.

Extract from Lesbian Peoples -Materials for a Dictionary. Virago Press

Bearded

Said of the companion lovers who have a predilection for the hair on their chin which they maintain with great care. To some the bearded Lesbians seemed a new species of companion lovers. Actually for a long time more than one companion lover had a beard which she cut secretly. The expression "flowering beards" comes from a habit that the bearded have of putting flowers in their beards.





OPINION - CASTRATION.

RAPE: AN OPINION ON CASTRATION AND JAIL A few months ago 'Womans Own' published the results of a survey they sent out to their readers. 1200 women replied and the answers women gave were splashed across the tabloids, especially the fact that 60% of the women that answered wanted castration for rapists. What ever else may be said, the poll showed that all women are ANGRY about rape. And rightly so-the incidents of rape and rape-murders have escalated beyond belief. Every day more names are added to this unnamed masacre of women and girlchildren. There is a war going on against us, but I am opposed to the idea of the state dishing out longer sentences or castrating rapists on my behalf. I've thought long and hard about this issue and I don't find it an easy one to think about- I survived three rapes, the last time I was driven around for two hours whilst my rapists tried to find a place to dump my body(they finally decided I wasn't worth killing and threw me out of the car). Firstly, I want to say why I'm against castration. There are a number of reasons, the first being that castration is racist. White men have, over a period of many centuraries used sexual abuse and violation as a tool of dominance over the peoples they 'conquered' and subsequantly colonised. The Spannish raped and castrated the peoples of South America in the 16th centuary and northern europeans continued that tactic in the 19th centuary against the native Americans in the North; one 'trick' these bastards came up with was to make tobacco pouches outof mutilated penis'. The 20th centuary has been marked by systematic attack and abuse of Black and Jewish peoples, most of which has taken on A violent sexual nature. Castrating rapists feels It is part of the states function to keep me too close to that tradition. Further, if we allow in a state of dependance on men, and it is not the state to take on this role, it will be white about to protect my right to live and walk around men that will be doing it and I have no doubts that the vast majority of castrated men will be

Black, not because they rape more than white men, but simply because our state will single them out. It happens now with sentencing, how can we imagine they will be any different with castration.

The other reason that I'm opposed to it is that it is brutalising. There is alot in the argument that a society that practices systematic acts of brutality, itself creates brutalised individuals. If I am part of a state that sets up a bureaucratic department which will be paid for out of public funds and is staffed by civil servants, then I am directly involved with that. Anyone who has ever seen the animalistic scenes that accompany executions in america, will realise what I mean.

Finally, castration does not address the problem. Men rape with their heads not their penis'. Focusing in on castration in a way lets them off the hook. The law in this country defines a rape as an act involving penetration of the vagina by the penis. Any woman that has been raped knows full well that men use a whole heap of objects and animals to rape us with, not just their penis'-this, the law misnames as 'assault'. Anal rape is not rape using the laws criteria, neither is oral rape. There will be a whole heap of rapists that will get away with it-as they do at the present. As for longer sentences. Well, I get very suspicious of the 'law n order' lobby using rapewhich nommally they ignor- as aplatform for their call for longer sentences all round. Prison does not deter rapists. Longer sentences, I feel sure will result in more rape-murders. The state does not protect me. I feel as threatened by a man in blue as I do about other men. independantly. Longer sentences are just as

CONTO OVER -9

OPINION

likely to be used against me if I fight off my attacker as they will be used against my rapist if I don't/can't.

Personally, I don't believe rape will stop untill it becomes a problem for men. If it becomes a problem between men and the state it will take on a strange dimension; men against men, leaving us invisible again !! I really believe that as an individual survivor the only answer I can come up with is to target individual men and execute them. Explaining very clearly why; leaving them in public places; remaining anonymous and doing this very infrequently-not enough to be caught, but often enough to be a threat. I homestly be pleased if men on the street look at women and ask lineselves "Is it her??"Don't get me wrong, I am not saying that as a movement women must go out and do this regularly. It is a brutal thing to contemplate; killing someone should never be a casual event. For myself, I feel that I have been brutalised, I can never lose that and there are so many events/images that constantly recreate those moments. I am aware that it is very much an individual decision. However, I believe it will take that, and not giving any more power to the state which will start the demise of rape.

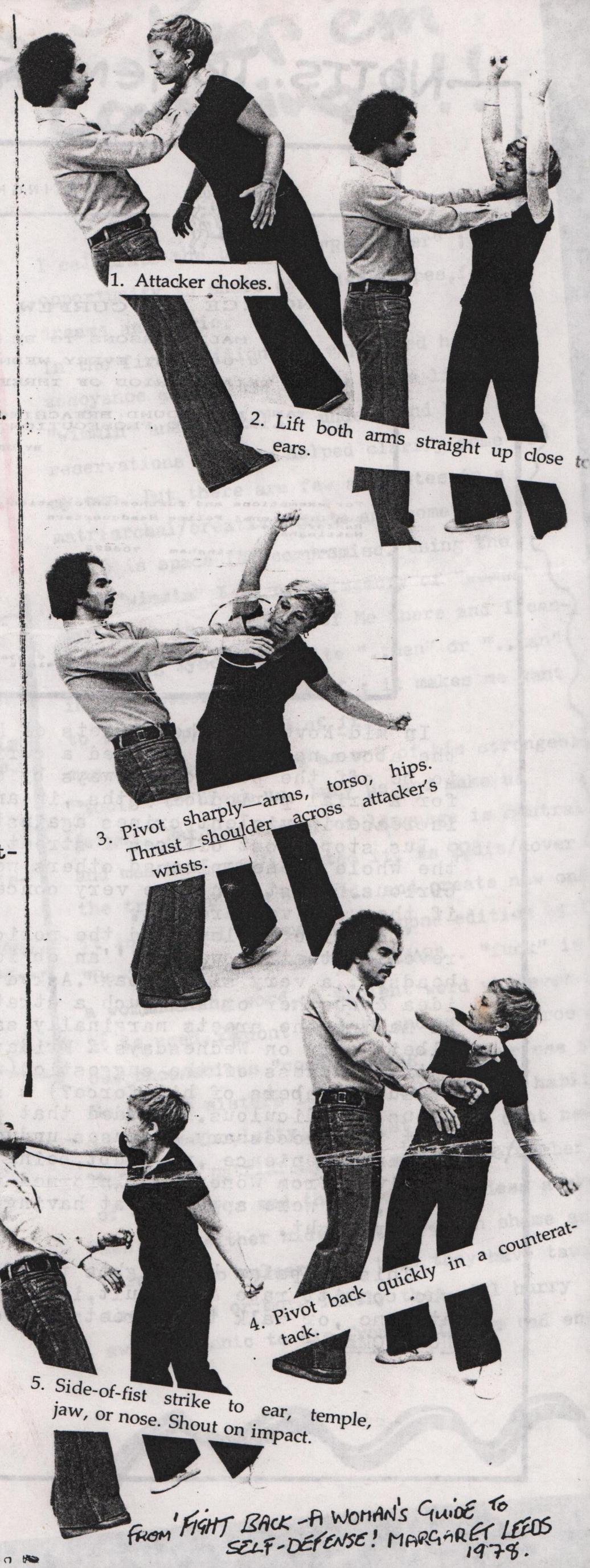
AN ANCHYMOUS WOMAN. for OBVIOUS REASONS

SELF DEFENCE

DON'T bend arms when pivoting in release. DON'T keep feet together.

DO lift both arms straight up.

DO take a step if necessary to maintain balance.



NOTTS. WOMEN TAKE ACTION.



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE CONSTABULARY

NOTICE CURFEW OF

ALL MALE PERSONS TO BE OFF THE PUBLIC HIGHWAYS BY 8.00 p.m. EVERY WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY, FOR A TRIAL PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS.

ANY MAN FOUND BREACHING THIS ORDER WILL BE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION.

BY ORDER: Nottinghamshire Constabulary.

For exemptions and further information please contact Sub-Divisional Police Headquarters Radford Road Nottingham.

706622 Tel: Nottingham

> (This is an attempt to compat the recent, increase of violent crimes against women)

In mid-November, the streets of Nottingham were plastered with the above notice. It imposed a curfew on all men, instructing them to be off the public highways by 8pm. every wednesday & friday for a trial period of 3mths. in an attempt to combat the recent increase in violent crimes against women.

Bus stops, post offices & street corners were buzzing. Women on the whole seemed pleased, others were bemused & still others curious. Whilst men were very concerned about what would happen

if they did venture out.

Side-of-fist strike to ear, temple, Tuesy as there

DEGINE CHARGON PA- 2018 TOWN NEWS

gaw, or nose, Shout on impact.

'Outwrite' telephoned the police station, & a stern inspector revealed that it was all'an obvious hoax misusing our letter heads, ... a very silly hoax". Asked whether he thought it a useful idea & whether or not such a strategy could indeed be effective in making the sreets marginally safer for women in Nottingham, albeit only on Wednesdays & Fridays, the inspector fumed at the outrageousness of the suggestion (which presumably would not exclude members of his force?) & spluttered that it was preposterous & ridiculous. He added that the hoax was the "sort of thing that is unnecessary & causes undue concern & is an inconvenience! The inconvenience, no doubt, being the number of calls they had received from women who informed them of what a good idea it was, & men, who were appalled at having to be contained indoors on a Friday night.

This campaign highlights the fact that although it is men who committ rape & assault, it is women who are forced to keep at home, or walk the streets in fear. Men are the problem_ HOT WOMEN.

(source 'Outwrite)

que d'égipte au maind stille de la comme

Sister Struggle! 6888

In I¶85, Elizabeth (Betsie) Meerman, was arrested for taking part in a demonstration in solidarity with political prisoners from the Red ArmyFaction, who were on hunger strike. The demonstration went through Hamburg's financial centre & demonstrators smashed the windows of international banks Betsie was caught by 2 civilians who carried out a civil arrest. The police were called & she was taken into custody for possessing leaflets & agitating for a tefforist group.

Betsie was sentenced to i6 nthsin jail. She has spent 3 mths in solitary confinement, with only one hour a day for exercise. The only way she could have avoided this was to join the therapy group, which was a chance to meet with other women, but would not have helped her since the therapy is designed to make 'proper women'of them, able to re-enter society, with talk of potential husbands, homes, babies. Another alternative was to join the christian group, where the priest is a right-winger, and so unbearable. The last alternative was to join the production line of the jail, which she refused on the grounds that she wouldnot cooperate in sustaining a repressive regime.

despite going on hunger strike in an attempt to be placed with other political prisoners. Betsie has to spend most of her time in solitary confinence with only one visit per nonth. All her mail is opened in books or magazines are allowed except when they are sent straight from the publishers. Feminist literature is not allowed as they believe it hinders efforts to reform Betsie that it would simply strenghen her unfitting views on the state & society

Betsie Would like to recieve. Letters of support & better still, ones insulting the guards. Write to...

Plizabeth Meerman,

o/o 3 Strafsenat,

OLG, 2000,

Hamburg 36,

West Germany.

(source Outwrite)



On the 27th November the wimin that were arrested on the reclaim the night march were up in court, charged with 'offences' ranging from-breach of the peace, obstruction of the police and obstruction.

All the wimin pleaded not guilty and are due to appear in court on the I5th of december, at I0am at York magistrates. So please wimin be there to give your support.

There will be a minibus leaving the university at 9am to take any wimin who want to go.

A word of warning, the solicitor representing some of the wimin is found to be very male and patronising she seemed embaressed at the number of wimin there. Her name is Janet Lucker of Jenkinson and Nott solicitors.

Any donations towards paying off the wimins possible fines would be great.

Yours in sisterhood.

xxx. on







Regular Women Only Events

Disco pub hours Dock Green pub on Harehills rd,50p wednesdays only

On the 27th November Line wimin

Disco Checkpoint Bradford bi-weekly on Thursdays next one Dec 18th

Leeds poly Womens disco (term time only) second tue of month, Brunswick buildings behind Merrion centre

OTHER EVENTS 7.6 Mixed...

DESERT HEARTS 6.30 8.30 until 11th Dec

HYDE PARK CINEMA Brudenell rd leeds 6

THE HOUSING NEEDS OF GAYS AND LESBIANS
- a speaker from London Dec 10th Leeds
accomodation forum

ANNE FRANK IN THE WORLD - an exibition Kitson college Cookridge street until 16th dec.

WOMEN OF CONSEQUENCES- photographs by
Jane Brown. WOMEN PHOTOGRAPHERS IN BRITAIN
1900-1950 National museaum of photography
Bradford

SCREENING WOMEN 2films HOMEFRONT HISTORIES
HOMES FOR THE PEOPLE wed dec 10th 7pm
buffet bar at leeds city art gallery

ilan elementate al savel che

FOCUS ON NAMIBIA ON NAMIBIAN WOMENS DAY SPEAKERS, films and material aid collection Wed declOth 8pm Civic Hall

WOMENS BOP Thurs dec 11th 80p poly brunswick bar (behind ritzys)

Disco SApphist Sistas Mixed Leeds TradesClub along with some bands £2/£1 FRi. 12" DEC.

LISA - run by incest survivors for Women
who are or have been sexually abused
Tue 4-7pm Fri 10am - 2pm tel. 461053
RAPE CRISES po box 27 leeds
mon-fri 12 noon -4pm 7-10 pm
sat and sun 12noon - 4pm tel. 440058
WOMENS AID - 460401
OAKDALE HOUSE - emergency accomadation for
Women over21 tel. - 620342
LESBIAN LINE tue 7.30 - 9.30 -453588
RELEASE - legal advice 24hrs esp drugs
phone - 01 289 1123 or 01 603 8654
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 7-10pm every night
tel- 454567

OUR ADDRESS
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