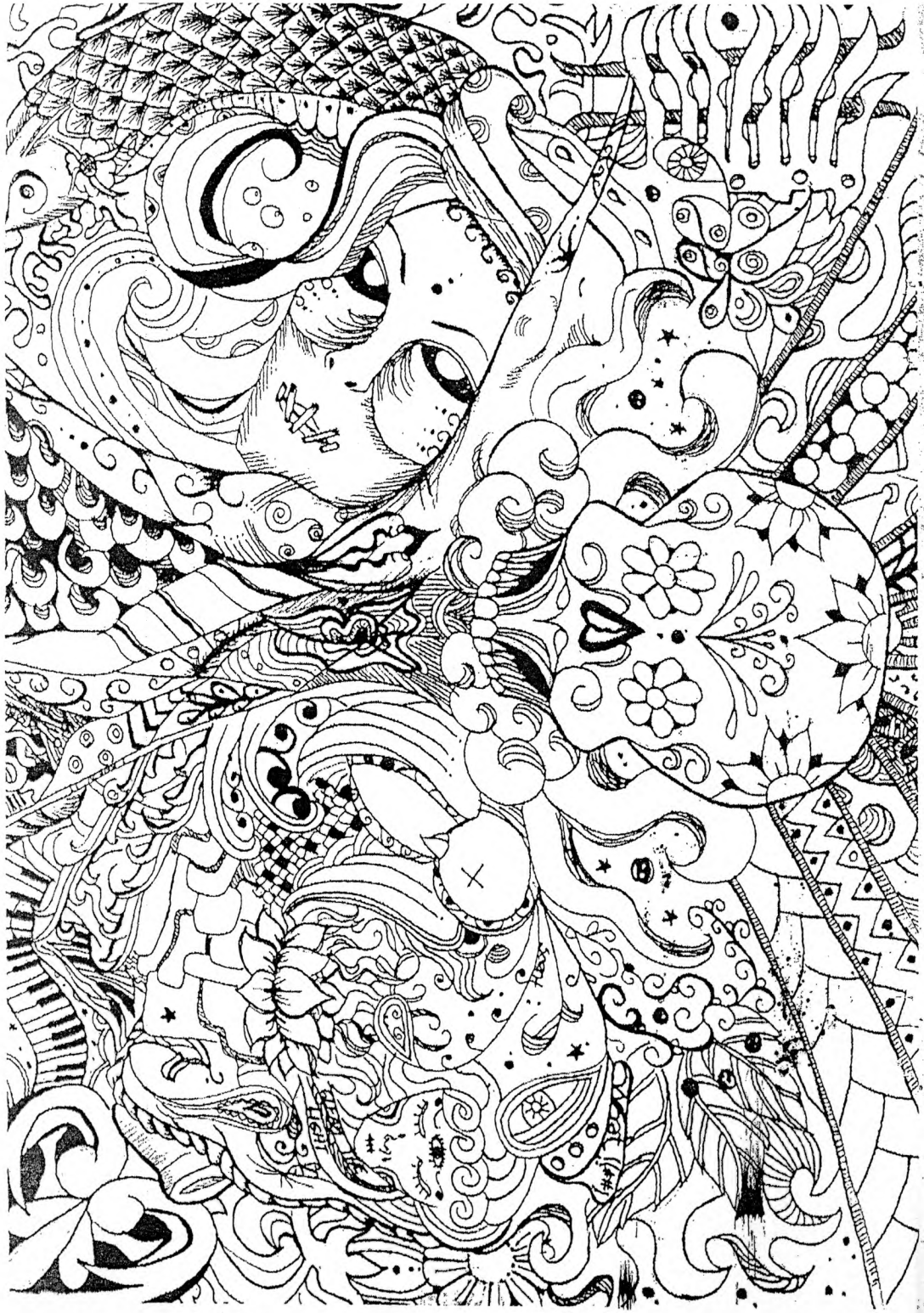
coathangers

an event zine
for DIY Femme
Fest 2009



"All decent people, men and women, are feminists. The only people who are not feminists are those who believe that women are inherently inferior or undeserving of the respect and opportunity afforded men. Either you are a feminist or a sexist/misogynist. There is no box marked "other"."

-Ani DiFranco



dear friends,

Sometimes a lot of people (punks included) are under the impression that sexism is only about the misogynistic abuse of women and that if they don't engage in such acts they're ok, but it isn't. Sexism can manifest in so much more subtle forms which may not be at first noticeable to anyone, not to mention the years of social conditioning under the status quo that we have been subject to which makes certain sexist acts seem natural. If you have interrupted a woman and stopped her while she is talking, that is sexism. If you treat people differently based on their gender, that is sexism. If you think that a woman cannot be trusted to help herself, or to have her own capabilities, that is sexism. If you expect someone to look a certain way based on their gender, that is sexism. If you expect a woman to act in a certain way, to conform to societal norms about how a woman should behave, that is sexism. And the list goes on. It may not be overt, but it doesn't make it okay, or any less worse.

There is a lot inside of us that needs to be unlearned. We need to be hyper aware of our actions and its possible repercussions. Regardless of our gender, there is all of this bullshit that we have been conditioned to believe and it is up to us to realize that and not support it. As punks participating in a counterculture (we refuse to use the term "subculture" because it insinuates that it is a subset of the dominant culture and nothing else, which we find disgustingly trifling), shouldn't we be the very first people to question and confront such atrocious ideas perpetuated by society and the mass media? Shouldn't we be intent on working on and building an alternative community free from such -isms? If we are unable to deconstruct and reconstruct such ideas ourselves as punks, how would we be able to extend them outside of our punk scene(s)?

We are proud to bring you the first DIY Femme Fest and the first issue of the Coathangers zine, a result of months and months of love and hard work and solidarity and a prelude of many more to come.

Welcome.

Much love,
the Coathangers Revolt Collective.



All around the world, women are not angry enough, especially those who live in countries or states where the unmarried are denied the right to birth control — women who deal with close-minded, conservative doctors and pharmacists who find it just to impart (read: force) their personal ideals on those who consult them.

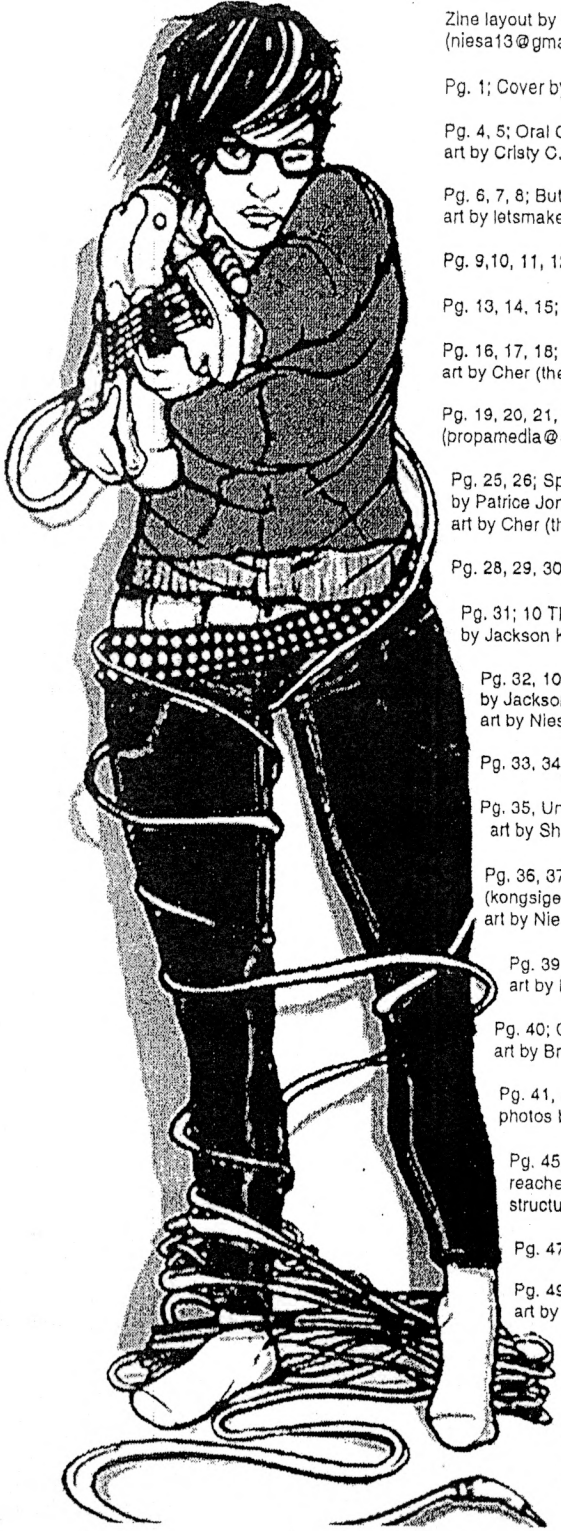
In these environments, sexual intimacy is viewed as a shameful act and to most, sinful by the unmarried. It is kept taboo, something only to be done behind closed doors, and never to be spoken of. A woman who embraces sexual intimacy is labeled wayward, uncouth and even sick. How much do these mentalities help women? Is the destiny of a woman only to succumb to the social stigmas, morals and ethics created by others around them?

The next time you are denied the pill (or any other method of contraception for that matter), think — is it really an issue of health, or just one of age, marital status, class, or being judged beyond the stethoscope and medical records?

In every woman lies a good mother. And every good mother should have an understanding of her own capability of raising a child. What about those who are aware that it is not within their means to bear and raise children but want to maintain healthy intimate relationships with their partners? Condoms are not the answer — when will a woman be granted, entirely, the right to protect herself? On top of that lack, are we going to sit around and watch rape victims be denied the right to an abortion? Are we going to let doctors and pharmacists deny women the birth control pill because they feel the use of it is "immoral"?

Do that, and we take the lives of two instead, a poor woman who spends her life suffering for the child she did not plan and the child who lives a life of neglect,

COATHANGERS ★ REVOLT ★



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Pg. 25, 26; Speciclsm and Sexism: What's the Connection?
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art by Cher (thegirlatomic@gmail.com)

Pg. 28, 29, 30; Sexploitasl by V (vivagina@gmail.com)

Pg. 31; 10 Things Men Can Do to Prevent Gender Violence
by Jackson Katz (www.jacksonkatz.com)

Pg. 32, 10 Things Men Can Do to Prevent Gender Violence
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Pg. 39; Laments of a Tired Mother by Pika (klitbeat@gmail.com)
art by Niesa (niesa13@gmail.com)

Pg. 40; Clit Fest 2008 Report by KC (eevilnlivee@hotmail.com)
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Pg. 41, 42, 43; Clit Fest 2008 Report by KC (eevilnlivee@hotmail.com)
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Pg. 45, 46; Interview with Straightjacket Nation - Dave can be reached at davegashrec@gmail.com and Emily at structuredistributions@yahoo.com

Pg. 47, 48; This Is My Cunt by Cher (thegirlatomic@gmail.com)

Pg. 49, 50; Illusion of Beauty by Pika (klitbeat@gmail.com)
art by Niesa (niesa13@gmail.com)

Pg. 51, 52, 53, 54, 55; Deconstruct to Reconstruct by Kid
(propamedia@gmail.com)
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Pg. 56; art by Cristy C. Road (www.croadcore.org)

Back Cover; art by Odessa (chokeodessa@gmail.com)

emotional detachment and even resentment. We could very well claim that the mother could put the child up for adoption, but don't we already have enough abandoned children, and those who've lost their parents? End it! And it all begins at conception — fucking avoid it at all costs!

We need to shout, scream and kick at the systems that deny us this right to decide for ourselves. We need to educate others and ourselves of the existence of the many kinds of female contraception and choose which may suit us best. We need to be able to protect ourselves and not let someone else's morals dictate what we can or cannot do. If you want it done right, do it yourself, because our education systems fall short of everything "sex education" promised. My textbook has a full page on the condom and two sentences about the birth control pill; even less for the diaphragm. Now what about the women? Our existence and personal protection is not equal to the mention in those books. We need more.

Why roadshows and campaigns for condoms but none for the pill? Is it really a matter of public interest or just a marketing ploy? Are condoms really the best and only option we've got? We want the right for every woman to protect herself to live the life she wants and to forsake the fallacy that is "purity" — for one should be free to live.

People all around live in environments where unmarried women who bear children are shunned and looked down on where the children are teased and outcast. Do we treat our mothers that way? Ultimately, this women is a mother too. Do we treat our children that way, because that child is a child to someone else?

Do doctors who refuse a woman the morning-after pill treat tumour patients that way? The unwanted cells in her uterus will grow and cause her pain, just like a tumour would. To those who argue that should abortion and contraceptives be made easily available to the masses, sex, morals and family values would in turn be taken lightly — who are we to judge if one person is the miscreant from the other?

When a young, active women bears an unplanned child, her life, potentially filled with exciting and fulfilling experiences will be bogged down by the responsibilities of her child. She could also choose to give the child up and spend her life living in the guilt of knowing she'd abandoned her own flesh and blood.

Women want healthy, intimate relationships without fear. Women need to know their body better; what it can and cannot do. We need to know that the power of self-sufficiency and self-awareness is in our very own hands and not in those of anyone else's. We need to know that our lives are going to be led fully and the way we want it.

So, don't take no for an answer — fight for yours and every woman's right (married or unmarried) to birth control. Fight your oppressors — doctors, pharmacists, education systems and the government, for in that pack of 20-odd pills comes the assurance that the dreams you have for the future and the life you lead is yours to fucking keep.

impact in society by their involvement(s) with the city squatter issue and Food Not Bombs Kuala Lumpur. Profiled in No Damn Right as an Activist, Saari Sungib is just another politician wading through this corrupted system. Interviews with his wide during the time when he was an ISA (Internal Security Act) detainee however were quite inspiring and informative. A hopeful kickstart to educate and empower the masses. All films are subtitled in English.

Pusat Komunikasi Masyarakat (KOMAS): 40-A, Jalan 52/18, 46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan. Tel/Fax: 603-7968 5415 (http://www.komas.org/)

We will be compiling videos for the movie night tour, stocking up our distro and getting on a music compilation project, so most likely there will be a huge review section on its own in our next issue!

SHAMELESS SELF-PLUGS
The Mass Separation / Auktion split 7" will be hopefully out soon as Auktion's master CD finally reached the label after 2 failed attempts. If everything works out fine, there will be an Auktion tape release here as well — if those master CDs reach me, that is! Right now I am re-packaging Kah-Roe-Shi CDs into a limited edition personalized pospak-sized box sets. The CDs also come with artwork and a patch, sticker or button is included. I am pretty much stressed out over work and other commitments right now so I don't do mail order that much anymore except if you contact me (tough luck). Almost everything that I had before is already at the Ricecooker shop. The later ones are only available either at distro tables at local shows, through the Coathangers Revolt collective, some local collectives and distros. You better check them out, way better service guaranteed!

Hope you all are enjoying the zine so far.

So now, when is the dateline for the next issue again; let me finish this one last first ok? -Kid

Email: propamedia@gmail.com;
Kah-Roe-Shi: kah-roe-shi.blogspot.com
Mass Separation: myspace.com/massseparation
Coathangers Revolt: thecoathangers.wordpress.com

On behalf of everyone at the Coathangers Revolt collective, we would like to thank all the bands (Akta Angkasa, Alchemy of Sickness, Always Last, Depress, Fall To Their Death, Lord Sunny Day, Relationsheep, Sophie Sweet Fukk, The FRU, The Scuds and Thrash Ohooii) that played our 2 benefit gigs, and all the friends that came and supported in any way. And not forgetting people at Studio, Shop, Space! and Noisy Studio for the accomodation and venue, and Bintang Kertas zine for the financial help.



It is understood that racism (and sexism and all other -isms) are neither prescribed nor clear-cut. Very often it is purely subjective; that is, an encounter is defined by its perception by a subject. Does this make it less valid, that it is so indistinct, that one incident can be open to many interpretations? That if an occurrence is perceived to be intimidation, prejudice or harassment by a few individuals only, then it is less cause for concern? Often it is a minority being victimised or alienated, and that minority may not feel they have a strong enough voice to make a case, or to dissent, especially if the majority does not seem to perceive an event as racist, sexist, homophobic, inappropriate or oppressive.

Should I be more specific?

I write from Australia, after returning from a tour through Malaysia, the Philippines, Indonesia and Singapore with my band. Whilst on the road, I witnessed ethnocentrism, sexual assault, harassment, and heinous abuse of power and privilege.

This is, however, no poseur but crammed with cool international crust punks from all over. They have interviewed various crust bands like Armageddom from Brazil, War-victims from Sweden, Pisschrist from Australia, Pazahora from Singapore and Kah-Roe-Shi from Malaysia. Neat layout, not too much of the traditional cut-and-paste but still manages to look punk and raw. I dig the reviews where they seem to focus on local and SE Asian crust bands and releases. They also feature our articles on the DIY Femme Fest and anarcha-feminism. (punkpingponk@gmail.com)

Innerview #2 zine (English/Photocopied)

Notably very interesting interviews with inspiring young filmmaker Fahmi Reza (of 10 Tahun Sebelum Merdeka and Revolusi 48), punk rocker cum blog writer Fahmi FSF, pop-art gone political artist Saiful Razman and Weng, one of the people who spearheaded the rise of Malaysian DIY scene back in the 90's. You will also find people in bands like The Hans (Ipoh Swedish indie pop anyone?), Molotov (Kuantan), Thee Dr. or more known as Mat Leh of Enslaved Chaos (Kuantan) and Fascist Insect (US), Jerkysucks, Rubbish (Bali) and a page dedicated to the Ramones! Some witty articles, artwork, lyrics and poems serve as filler, making it more easy on your eyes. Tastefully done! Their 3rd issue will feature one of our comrades, highlighting the collective and the fest. However we do not have copies of that yet. For the next review I hope! (innerviewzine.blogspot.com)

CLITFest 2004: The Documentary DVD

This documentary covers the first C.L.I.T Fest annual festival held in Minneapolis, USA, promoting the active participation of women while hoping to educate punks about sexism within the scene. The feature documentary includes interviews with and commentary from performers, organizers, and other participants, as well as live footage from political bands like Behind Enemy Lines, The Profits, Voetsek, Human Order, Provoked, Garmonbozia, Disrespect and others. Also included on the DVD are 64 picture slides, 10 videos from the event, plus a jukebox with 5 additional songs not included in the feature. When we screened this at the Food Not Bombs Kuala Lumpur house, everyone seemed to be hoping to see more of their interesting discussions and workshops. (www.profaneexistence.org)

"Mari Kita Beraktivism: Let's Be an Activist" – Human Rights Education Video (DVD)

Screened to a fully-packed Noisy studio during our second benefit gig, this documentary follows three ordinary yet distinctive personalities whose lives were transformed by their own experiences of human rights violations. Binatang Pun Perlu Tanah (Animals Need Land Too) could be the least interesting to some, but hands-down this is the most inspiring among the three! A stirring story of a community of indigenous people in Perak who painstakingly organized themselves and fought against all odds for the rights to their ancestral land. The background music in "Bestlah Punk" may sound cool to the curious youth but I can't help but be a bit disappointed. I was hoping to hear more local punk acts than another "commercialized" number. Apart from that, Bestlah Punk is encouraging — two seemingly ordinary urban youths share how their interest in punk music initiated them into a different perspective of life while trying to make an

Needless to say, I am disappointed and angry.

And needless to say, I am particularly disillusioned as this all happened within DIY hardcore-punk contexts, where one would hope all present would act accordingly with their politically-correct rhetoric.

Although I am Asian, namely Vietnamese, everything I witnessed in Asia I did so as an outsider, and I recognise my status as a foreigner, who does not understand the intricacies of a culture that I am merely visiting. Additionally, I recognise my privilege as someone who can afford to travel, and someone who has ready access to a microphone, stage, and undivided attention. Given all this, I am fairly certain that I saw extremely culturally insensitive behaviour by white person(s) enacted upon person(s) of Asian origin, which I'll illustrate with some examples —

> Foreign male says: How much for a kiss? to younger female waiter at a food court.
>
> Foreign male says: Can I borrow your girlfriend for a few minutes? to a local male half his age and half his size.
>
> Foreign male says: It's surprising that some of these girls with the things on their heads are quite cute. to another foreign male about women with hijabs (!!!).

What the fuck??? To avoid spiralling into a tirade, I would like to express that this behaviour is utterly repulsive, ignorant, rude, offensive, racist, sexist, and intimidates, insults and affronts others. These examples are cited because they are genuine, and I am ashamed that they happened at all. My personal understanding of these experiences is that this person saw his own condition as an older, white and (relatively) wealthy male, who could abuse others' perception of him as an exotic foreigner or established person in a scene with an abundance of experience and knowledge, affording him some sort of significance.

Also, at one show in Singapore, I noticed this individual interact with two specific females half his age and size, and the circumstances certainly seemed awkward; however as a spectator it was not my place to judge, so I did nothing. Weeks later, I was reproached by one of those women — she asked me WHY I did not warn her about him — and I felt awful. An explanation is that by that stage of the tour I wasn't sure if I was over-politicising moments, and was anxious that I was critically examining situations with a paranoia which resulted from weeks of witnessing overtly sexist behaviour. When not feeling safe, one can begin to doubt her own analyses of external occurrences. Things can become loaded with meaning where previously there was none, small details can become huge, and hyper-sensitive. As it turned out, in this situation my intuition had been accurate, but my insecurity regarding such matters had ended in the lack of confidence to help the avoidance of a troubling situation. This is the consequence of feeling harassed or assaulted. I'll explain.

Most shows, in Indonesia and Malaysia particularly, were attended by few females. There were many where there would be an excess of 100 people, and not a single female in the audience. I am a female. During our first show of tour, one of the boys dancing at the front thought that my body and breasts were open for invitation, and helped himself, while I was standing and singing. This was mentioned online later:

> Ariff said:
> 2 July 2008, 5:23 pm
> Somebody said some rempit guy groped the Crux girl at the Taiping leg of their show. Pretty fucking spectacular.

It was not spectacular. It was fucking horrible and invasive. My body is not public property and if anyone touches it, it is because I say it is okay. My gender is not a billboard for sex or for enacting sexual desires. Unfortunately this discouraged me from stage-diving or crowd-surfing for the rest of our shows when ideally I would be equal to all the other musicians on stage — people who receive attention for their skills and enactment — not their appearance or gender.

Similarly, there were males on tour who exploited their friendships and contact with me by touching and rubbing me inappropriately. At a show in Singapore I told one of these individuals to "Stop it." several times, and was not taken seriously. He kept pushing it. It is up to everybody to be aware of cues from another person, especially if they are yelling at you to STOP. I ended up removing myself physically from the situation. These incidents made me feel hyper-conscious of all my interactions for the rest of the tour. Many times I acted paranoid and avoided conversations with many friendly males, in case it would result in a similar situation: one person persisting with intimate contact despite another's objection. It is sad that I missed out on potentially great friendships and conversations because I let one or two people make me feel threatened and unsafe. My impetus for writing this is to implore people to recognise subtle power dynamics and their privilege in social contact. There is no excuse for threatening behaviour or harassment. Especially people connected to a community that is supposedly informed of such scenarios. Keep in mind that if someone is physically smaller than you, or may feel less comfortable or self-assured, or is quieter or less vocal, or have a less widespread network of friends, or there are communication barriers, then they are unlikely to feel at ease or autonomous enough to speak up. It is up to everyone to take responsibility, be accountable for the results of their own actions, and look out for one another.

Melissa, Miesa Assault, Stoner Fairy from Singapore and Vantiani from Jakarta, Indonesia. There will also be a photograph exhibition compiled by Hafiz Pazahora, Epi Epidemic, and Ain.

During the fest you will also find infobooths of the other local collectives like Food Not Bombs Kuala Lumpur, Pakatan Baju Rakyat, Massa Kritikal (Critical Mass) and visiting collectives like A//Liberty, Human First, United Against Discrimination and Network of Solidarity Collective.

As this first issue is meant to be an event zine, you might notice the absence of the usual review section. Looks like something that is on purpose, but maybe not. Everyone's hands are tied preparing for the fest, so I just wrote some reviews of stuff that is somehow supporting either the collective or the fest so far.

Straightjacket Nation - "Cheap Kicks" CD

Another hidden gem from Melbourne, promoting good old-fashioned Aussie hardcore violence. Hugely influenced by 80's hardcore punk bands like Void, Urban Waste and Verbal Abuse, they spit out 13 short bursts of raw, insane and spiteful punk rock n roll. Whilst in-your-face, their straight to the point lyrics may seem pretty simple, but I personally quickly find them relevant and interesting. Definitely one of the many underrated bands that could appear out of nowhere. But I do know they have a member from Far Left Limit and Pisschrist. Quoted many times in reviews elsewhere as one of the most intense live sets ever, this band is another exciting highlight to the DIY Femme Fest 2009! (www.culthardcore.org/straightjacketnation / structuredistributions@yahoo.com)

Bintang Kertas novel (Malay/Photocopied)



An alternative to those cheesy overpriced novels at MPH, you'll be instantly hooked. Troubled and complicated life of a punk rocker going against the grain. Not for the faint-hearted, this is about surviving life, love, punk rock and freedom, just like how you wanted someone to write about yours. Fictional but yet so believable akin to George Tabb's writing. Never mind the typo, here's punk rock! Sales from the novel went to financing the fest t-shirt which you might be wearing right now. (release_thehostage@yahoo.com / bintangkertas.blogspot.com)

Punk Ping Ponk #2 zine (English/Photocopied)

Yeah, Punk Ping Ponk is street slang made popular by the Singaporean punks for poseurs!

I called up a friend to discuss an anti-racism workshop they were doing and he told me about this "coup d-etat" that will take place in one of the Pakatan Rakyat states, Perak. As Pakatan Rakyat failed to take over the state despite making some of the MPs from the ruling parties MPs join the Pakatan Rakyat ship, the ruling party used the very same tactic on them. There were rumours abound that a few million of the people's hard-earned money were added to the tactic. Very wise!

Our casual chat was found to be true the next day. Perak first came down and Kedah was aimed to be next. At that point, both coalition and ruling leaders were exchanging comments which sparked up very emotional protesting from the marginalized people, demanding a re-election, and which ensued in the supporters of the ruling party doing the same, demanding the other side to respect the "coup d-etat".

Ultra-conservatives on one side, socialists on the other, and reformists in the middle. And on top of everything else there was the big brother drunk with power. Would this Malaysian dream state ever really be realized?

I suddenly re-realized that there is still a very long way to go with Malaysian politics indeed. Democracy? Equality? Not so soon, my dearest friends; perhaps not in our lifetime. And I still do not feel like voting. No government is a good government for me.

NOT ANOTHER FEMINAZI?

A serious lack of awareness on sexism and other political thought within the hardcore-punk scene had triggered the idea of having the DIY Femme Fest, which eventually led to the formation of the Coathangers Revolt collective.

Sexism and feminism has always been seen and treated as a women's-only issue by the mainstream and sadly the scene in general as well. Some other dedicated people before us had taken some effort by producing zines, forming up collectives and putting on several shows casting a spotlight on women. As a continuation of their inspiring efforts, we took a slightly different path by focusing to make sexism and feminism as a multi-gendered concern instead of it being based on one gender — females — only, while at the same time pushing the potential of the DIY counterculture and its network as far as possible.

And if you're reading this, you're already at the fest, so here are some more details that you did not find in the DIY Femme Fest 2009 flyer.

We're also printing some t-shirts for the fest, some patches (also for bands playing the fest) and buttons. Early birds to the fest will be getting our limited freebie, which is either this zine, a silk-screened tote bag or a clipboard.

Also, together with the bands and workshops, we will also have an art exhibition at the fest. You will be seeing various forms of art from Haruka Hana, Poodien,





deconstruct to reconstruct

by Kid

NEVER MIND THE BALLOTS!

Almost a year ago, I could still remember staying up to the results of the Malaysian national elections on TV and I have never been happier with Malaysia's political situation, when 5 states voted for an opposition party coalition they called Pakatan Rakyat. The coalition also radically downsized the majority of the ruling party votes elsewhere. Behind the fuel price hike, there was the sign of hope that Malaysians had woken up a very bad dream of corrupted politicians who had been destroying our lives for the past 50 goddamned years.

Later, I found myself at this so-called "people power" fuel hike protest in an awkward stadium. Some ultra-conservatives came questioning our presence, questioning our appearances and questioning our banners in support for the marginalized people. Then these people sabotaged Dum Dum Tak [the band that was playing], switched off all the power and cut their set off. And these very same people ganged up bashing Carburetor Dung [another band that played] during their set which made national headlines the next day. How could one believe that these very same people will not use the Internal Security Act (detention without trial) on you or me when they're in power of this horrible state?

There is a sort of sickness spread by the capitalists that is slowly creeping into our minds and devouring our sense and our confidence. The sickness nestles in our heart. Often making us wish that we were prettier.This, in turn,results into consumerism, or worse, mental illness.

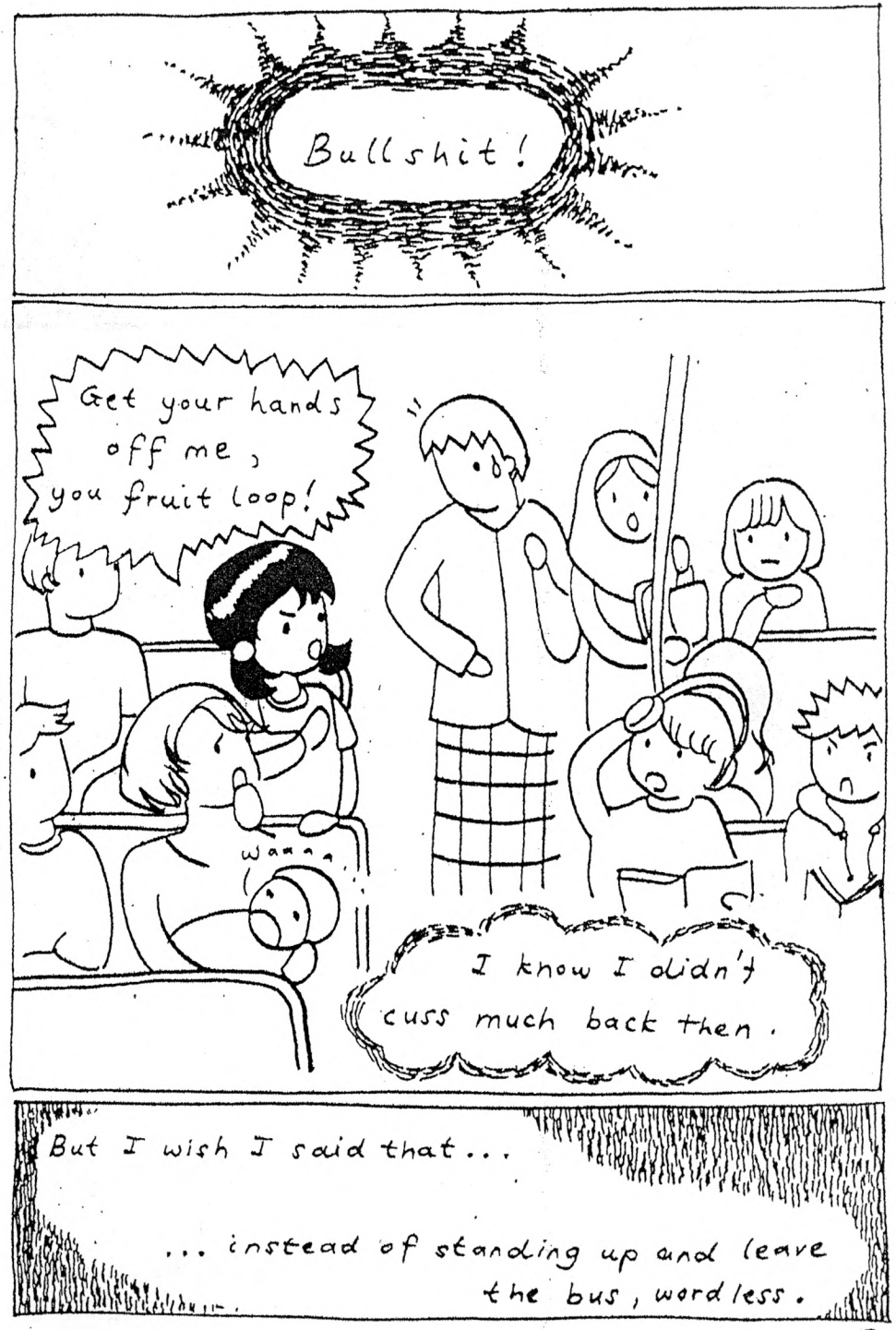
Wishing you were Giselle is totally normal. But it is not so when you find yourself poking your finger into your esophagus to induce vomit. It is no longer okay when you find yourself dependent upon a product that you don t really need to begin with, like diet pills and girdles to make you feel beautiful. When you would rather force all of that hydrochloric acid from your stomach out or suffocate yourself in those girdles than be free and accept yourself just the way you are, then you are definitely the victim of the beauty industry and the the ever-pervading capitalism.

Capitalism has created the illusion of beauty which is no longer in the eyes of the beholder, but determined by them. The perfect porcelain white skin and the perfect size 4. The illusion is conspicuous yet most often out of reach; this is where mind control takes place and one yearns to realize the illusion of beauty within them, and at last, compelling them into buying or possessing products.

Well, the world is as we want it to be. I will not lie to you by saying that I love myself and I am beautiful every single day. Because sometimes, we all have our own moments where we see ourselves in the mirror and see someone else. Not someone unique or eccentric and beautiful but someone with flaws and someone who does not fit the society standard of what is beautiful. However, we often see beauty in another facade-other people.

These views often amuse me: how we are able to see the beauty in others but fail to see our own. A very one-dimensional view if you ask me. Perhaps we should change the way we view the world or undergo the process of unlearning. We are thought to recognize beauty as something which is standardized when deep inside we all know that beauty is subjective, in the eye of the beholder. So, the next time you look at yourself in the mirror, try not to focus on your not-so-smooth face or your muffin top , but what you feel good about.
Or, don t look at the mirror at all!

ILLusion of BeaUTY pt.2





First of all, I know, for a fact that I do not fit the cliché and standards of what the society labels as beautiful. Well, physically speaking, I am a little dented. Like a dented Campbell can of soup, I will always be rejected from the aisle of commercial beauty. After all, who is going to buy a dented can of soup?

Do you get what I mean? Of course, we hear it all the time -- beauty is skin deep. But like the skin deep, people are shallow. So, skin deep isn t so deep; it is shallow! Even I find myself succumbing into the shallow hole created by multi-billion dollar corporations once in a while.
I am no beauty princess.
People don t look at me unless I embarrass myself by having toilet paper stuck on my shoe or if I forget to pull up my zipper. Perhaps if I was naked in public, people would pay more attention, but that s a whole other story.

My point is, I am not pretty, not according to the general standards. I may be slightly taller than some of my friends, but that s it. I do not have porcelain skin like the models on the covers of the latest magazine.
In fact, it is just the opposite. My face resembles the earth after surviving a minor hit by a meteor the size of Texas. Craters, craters everywhere. Also, my oil glands aren t forgiving as well. At times I may be shinier than your 5-cent coins or your mum s fake Swarovski brooch. My hair doesn t always fall in place like those girls in the shampoo ads; it looks like the before image of using the shampoo rather than the after version. And I did not blossom into a full bosom. Maybe a fuller belly but not those lady humps .

The world, as we know it, embrace the shallowness of what capitalism has created, upon what they would say, ideal women . The conquest and pursuit of an ideal image of beauty can be channeled through consumerism.
The surge of beauty magazines as early as in the 19th century has promoted consumption. It contained articles with fashion and beauty tips and how the only way you could be like those perfect girls in the glossy pages is through consumerism, into possession of their products. Possession? Yeah. All those advertisements and beauty tips eventually turns readers into suckers.



What to wear or not to wear? What shade of pink lipstick suits you best?
What mascara wont smudge? And so on and so forth. Sometimes, we find ourselves buying something we don t need just because we think that it will make us look better.

ILLUSION of BEAUTY

by Pika

Every time this topic is mentioned it is evident that people (we're talking about all genders here) are embarrassed, awkward, or just downright evasive. I once brought up the subject of the vagina only to have the other person tell me dismissively, "oh this is so vagina monologue, can we just move on?" I could not help but wonder why I should move on when I am going to have a vagina until my dying day. Why should I only talk about it when it is ok or cool or the socially accepted thing to do?

To the men that want to fuck me, my vagina is more than a wet hole for your pleasure. Yes it is hot and slick but it is not about you, it is about me; what I want and my needs. If she decides to be a dirty girl you can be sure that the brain behind her made the conscious decision to allow such activity.

When I think of all the amazing things that my vagina can do, from allowing me to experience mindblowing orgasms to functioning as the canal that might eventually allow me the birth of my children if I so decide to, I am inspired by her power. It makes me want to say to hell with the discomfort of others and scream her name from the mountaintops. There is power between my legs and the best part of it is, that it is reinforced by my ability to think critically and make conscious decisions.

Many would like to judge us by the actions of our vaginas: giving birth is deemed a proper function, withholding sex unless given permission elevates the value of your snatch through obedience; however, the vagina need not be redeemed by action, its simple existence as part of the human anatomy qualifies it is as good. We don't feel shame about our thumbs, our knees or our eyes; we reject the vagina (which is part of my anatomy just like any other) in part because of its extraordinary capabilities. Patriarchy fears my cunt, because the minute I stop believing the bullshit lies they have told about it from my birth, I free myself from the belief that the feminine is somehow less than.

When cisgendered men worship at the throne of the phallus, endowing it with the power to define essential aspects of masculinity, we do not deem this less than because we have already accepted the overvaluation of the penis. Why should women not view our genitalia with the same regard? If we view the penis as powerful we can view the vagina the same way. Indeed we are more than our girly bits but that does not mean that we should not respect the power and the beauty of the pussy.

good girl or bad girl?

by V

Good girls go to heaven, Bad girls go everywhere! tulisan di sticker favoritku.

Kalau membaca tulisan diatas, kamu pilih apa? Kalau aku, pilih jadi Good girl yang bisa kemana-mana, nggak cuma ke surga aja. Hehehe! Iya dong, kenapa mesti memilih yang dua itu kalau aku bisa membuat pilihanku sendiri. Iya-kan?

Oke, sekarang kalau aku bertanya, apa definisi kamu untuk Bad Girl? Good Girl? Kalau buat aku sendiri, begini definisinya. Sekali lagi, definisiku sendiri ya!

Bad Girl adalah perempuan yang suka menggunakan keperempuanannya untuk mendapatkan keuntungan bagi dirinya sendiri. Walaupun mungkin dengan segala



Ingat waktu kita sengaja menangis di depan pacar kita supaya dia merasa bersalah, lalu buru- buru meminta maaf? Padahal mungkin saja sejujurnya kita yang salah. Tapi karena kita tahu beberapa lelaki paling tidak bisa melihat perempuan menangis (tidak tega katanya). Makanya kita gunakan kelemahan mereka untuk memperoleh kemenangan diri kita sendiri. Iya, aku tahu menangis juga bisa karena emosi, tapi aku yakin masih banyak kok perempuan yang menggunakan air mata untuk mendapatkan yang dia mau. Dan tidak cuma dari pacarnya tapi juga dari orang lain di sekitarnya. Sebuah jalan pintas yang kekanak-kanakan sekali. Kenapa tidak bisa bicara secara fair sih? Lonjakan emosi kan wajar, namanya juga manusia. Katanya kita juga punya otak dan mau diadu sama berani dengan para lelaki? Bagaimana kalau sekarang tiba-tiba pacar kamu menangis saat sedang berargumen dengan kamu? Kesal, kaget, jijik? Jangan dong, kan kamu juga melakukan hal yang sama padanya? Wek!

Sekarang kalau aku bertanya, apakah kita masih mengharapkan semua orang membukakan pintu untuk

kita bila masuk dalam sebuah ruangan? Membantu mengangkat barang bawaan kita? Memberikan kursi kosongnya? Membiarkan kita jalan lebih dulu di depan mereka? Boleh saja, namun bukan dengan alasan karena kita perempuan. Tapi semata karena kita hanya suka diperlakukan dengan baik dan dihargai, karena kitapun tahu kita bisa melakukan semua hal tersebut pada mereka. Tidak peduli mereka laki-laki atau perempuan. Artinya, kalau kamu sedang berada di dalam bus yang penuh sesak lalu ada seorang lelaki menawarkan kursinya, jangan langsung merasa dia memandang kamu lemah. Katakan terima kasih bila kamu menerima tawarannya, dan juga katakan terima kasih kalaupun kamu tidak menghendakinya. Kenapa? Karena itu hanyalah sebuah tawaran belaka. Belum tentu ada tujuan terselubung di baliknya-kan? Nggak perlu paranoid gitu ah!

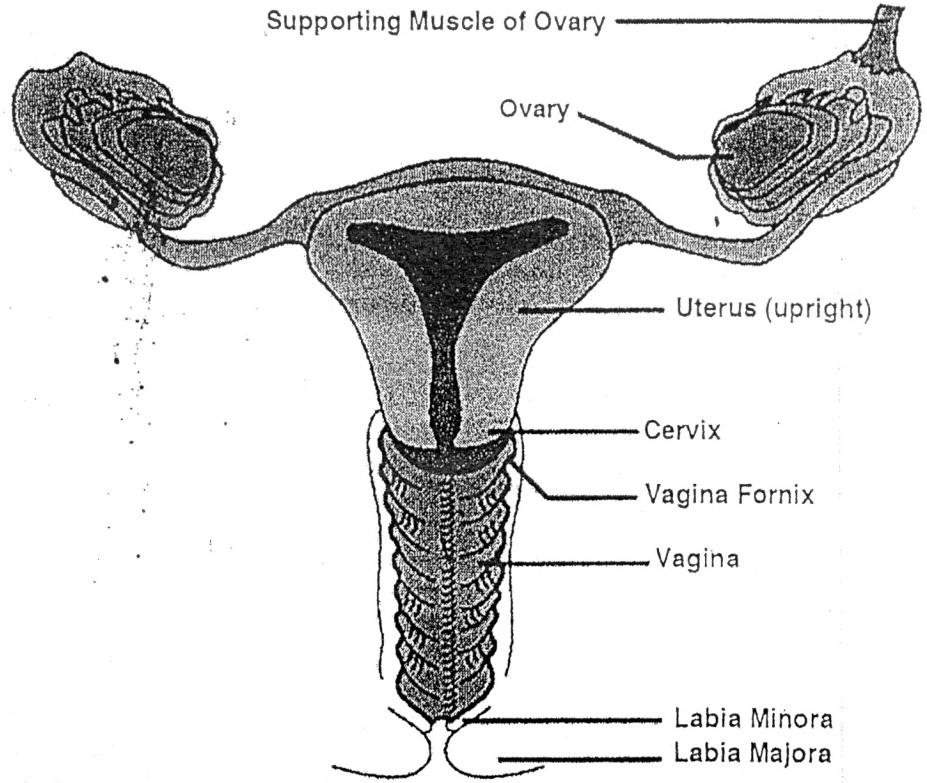
Ada teman lelakiku pernah bilang begini, Betapa beruntungnya perempuan! Mereka bisa dengan gampangnya terbebas dari segala masalah cuma dengan bermodal penampilan luar mereka saja. Karena bahkan seorang lelaki tampan sekalipun belum tentu bisa begitu mudahnya terlepas dari masalah semudah perempuan itu. Dan tepat sebelum aku mendelik sewot, aku tersadar,betapa banyak perempuan yang dicari disana sini setiap hari untuk berbagai lapangan pekerjaan, hanya dengan sebuah persyaratan: cantik. Atau istilah halusnya mereka biasanya menuliskan dengan: berpenampilan menarik. Yeah, right!

Di luar negeri, kalau sebuah iklan pencari kerja bertulisan mencari pekerja dengan deskripsi seperti diatas, kabarnya, bisa dianggap iklan tersebut seksis. Karena berarti perusahaan tersebut tidak membuka kesempatan yang fair bagi para pelamar yang membaca iklan mereka itu.

Menarik, namun tampaknya belum bisa diterapkan disini. Aku sendiri memang beruntung karena bidang pekerjaanku memang yang tidak mementingkan penampilan, namun otak dan sifat. Aku bahkan tidak perlu bertemu klienku kalau aku tidak merasa perlu atau mereka bisa membayar waktuku itu. Ha! Semuanya memang di tanganku. And it does feel good, baby! Hehehe!

Sekarang mari kita membahas definisiku tentang Good Girl. Buatku, Good Girl adalah perempuan yang tahu dia tidak perlu menggunakan keperempuanannya untuk mendapatkan keuntungan bagi dirinya sendiri. Artinya, dia tahu kalau dengan semua yang dia miliki sebagai seorang perempuan baik itu secara fisik maupun mental bukan berarti dia harus menggunakan itu semua untuk mendapatkan yang dia inginkan di hidup ini. Contohnya? Tidak, aku tak akan langsung mengatakan perempuan yang menggunakan otaknyalah yang lantas menjadi seorang Good Girl. Namun juga perempuan yang tidak perlu menggunakan segala sesuatu yang terlanjur melekat pada dirinya sekalipun, untuk menjadi alat dalam memperoleh apa yang dia mau di hidup ini. Seperti? Anak.

Yup! Anak. Sesuatu yang amat sangat lekat dengan yang namanya perempuan. Buktinya, berapa banyak setiap hari kita melihat para perempuan pengemis atau pemulung yang menggendong anak-anak kecil bahkan bayi yang terlihat sakit-sakitan dan kurang makan di jalan hanya untuk membuat kita berbelas kasihan?



this is my cunt

by Che

Vagina, cunt, pussy, snatch, v jay jay, the unmentionable part... you know, "down there". That dark place of mystery that is at once desired while at the same time criticized, disciplined, shaved, tweaked, plucked, massaged, licked, kissed, adorned and ignored. Can you even think of a body part more complex than 6 inches below your navel, residing right between your legs?

While not all women have vaginas for those of us that do, how we negotiate the ways in which society views our bodies directly informs how we feel about our genitalia. While feminism has worked very hard to ensure that women are not reduced to our girly bits, quite often this forestalls open conversation about our vaginas.

The vagina and anything emanating from it are often seen as foul. There is a direct relation to the social status of women and the ways in which our genitalia is understood. Vagina is the word we whisper, too ashamed to even mention the word in polite company, however "liberal" society may be perceived today.

but has a strong and positive emphasis on punk as an inclusive and empowering experience for girls.

Do you identify as feminist? If so, why, and if not, why not?
Dave: I would say I am pro-feminist in my thinking for sure but I wouldn't necessarily say I was a feminist. I guess I have issues being male and saying I was a feminist when it doesn't really affect me first hand in the way it affects other people.

Emily: Yes, my politics are definitely what you would call radical feminist.

How does your punk politics (feminist or otherwise) spill over to your everyday life?
Dave: Well I watch what I consume for the most part. I eat veg, ride when possible, don't really spend money on the latest technology or wash away possessions. Only buy records but hey nobody's perfect.

Emily: I'm lucky to work in an organic market selling fruit and vegetables so my job is part of a movement for a more sustainable way of living. I buy records and SJN releases records on vinyl but I don't really care about that because that's what I'm into and for the most part, I watch what I consume and try to reduce, reuse and recycle.

So sexism obviously still exists in the DIY hardcore-punk scene. What do you think are steps we can take as a community to confront the issue, and then perhaps to eventually eradicate it?
Dave: I can't imagine eradicating something so ingrained in society but you know one of the simplest things one can do is treat people on same level in all situations male or female. Not expecting people to act in a certain way either masculine or feminine. Not making a big issue out of say a female being in a hardcore-punk band.

Emily: I agree with Dave in that people can try to unlearn habits in the manner in which they interact with others — for example not assuming things about people based on race, gender, class, disability, sexuality, etc — however the problem is that most people haven't been exposed to radical politics for whatever reason and continue to judge and treat others according to those standards which can make a progressive thinking person feel like they are back to square one. A problem for punk I believe is the diluting of politics to suit palatable catch-cry lyrics that are non-threatening and easy to sing along with, making punk a fun, warm and fuzzy experience for everyone. Very few people are willing to engage with the issue on a deeper level other than "hey! lets get more girls in the scene!" due in some part to the fact that they may have to change themselves in ways that make them feel uncomfortable. I'm talking specifically about girls having to change the way they interact with others for example being more confident and assertive about their own knowledge or talent, being less competitive with other women and forfeiting certain privileges afforded by social sexism which only serve to reinforce sexist ideas. However this idea can be applied generally. I think most people whether "punk" or not (including myself sometimes) are comfortable in one way or another with the often oppressive system of gender binary opposites that shape the way we think, dress, act and talk etc. The challenge is to try and break free of these bullshit ideas about how people should be by encouraging and supporting people to be whoever they want to be whether its a boy wanting to bake cakes at a show or a girl wanting to be in a band.

Terlepas dari mereka anak kandungnya atau bukan. Karena sekarang berapa besar perbandingannya dengan pengemis pria yang menggendong anak kecil juga? Hampir-hampir tidak ada. Nah, kenapa perempuan ini tidak sendirian saja mengemis kalau memang itu yang dia lakukan untuk mencari uang? Tidak perlu lah dia membawa-bawa anak kecil yang biasanya toh dia pinjam dengan membayar sejumlah uang pada orangtuanya, bukan anaknya sendiri. Walau, kalau mereka anak kandungnya sekalipun bukan berarti tindakannya jadi lebih bisa diterima.

Kenapa? Karena secara tidak sadar, hal ini akan menciptakan sebuah gambar pilihan bagi anak-anak tersebut akan cara mencari uang yang semudah dengan kelihatan mengibakan saja, yang akan mereka bawa hingga mereka dewasa. Lalu, kapan anak-anak itu bisa keluar dan besar dengan cara yang berbeda serta lebih baik dari hari ini? Kapan mereka bisa mulai menggunakan tenaga dan otaknya untuk belajar tentang hal yang lebih daripada sekedar mencari makan di jalan?

Pernah nonton film, Erin Brokovich? Aku suka karakter perempuan seperti Erin. Hanya karena dia punya tiga orang anak dari tiga orang mantan suami yang mesti dia hidupi, bukan berarti terus dia tidak berdandan, makan es krim di dapurnya tengah malam, dan mencari kerja sesuai dengan keahlian yang dia bisa tanpa perlu jadi peminta-minta. Ditambah ternyata dia memang tekun dan pintar, sehingga mampu membongkar kasus pencemaran lingkungan dengan tuntutan ganti rugi terbesar di Amerika, membuat Erin terlihat begitu realistis sekaligus langka. Dan ini kisah nyata ya, bukan fiksi. Nonton deh!

Bukan, aku bukannya sok tidak tahu dengan tuntutan dimana kita mesti makan dan bekerja supaya bisa hidup. Ini urusan perut! Iya, tapi sekarang mereka yang jadi pelacur pun sebenarnya tahu, itu bukanlah satu-satunya cara untuk bertahan hidup-kan? Pilihan. Pilihan-pilihan dalam hidup. Pilihan untuk perempuan mengeksploitasi dirinya, dieksploitasi atau tidak kedua-duanya. Karena dia bahkan bisa memilih untuk menciptakan sebuah pilihan berbeda untuk bertahan hidup kalau dia mau.

Nah, kembali ke pertanyaan aku diatas. Kamu Good Girl atau Bad Girl? Apa definisi kamu akan keduanya tadi? Apapun itu, ingatlah bahwa keduanya bukanlah pilihan mutlak di dunia ini. Buat pilihan kamu sendiri, ciptakan istilah kamu sendiri, pertanyakan semuanya yang lingkungan kamu beri kepada kamu dari kamu kecil hingga hari ini.

Good girls go to heaven, Punk Girls go nowhere tulisan di sticker gitar temanku. Hehehe!

hidden place

by Jee Lin



This article is dedicated to all women, and those who love women.

SELF-EXAMINATION

The first time I really got in touch with a serious feminist work (not knowing it was feminist) was working with Li Xie (Singapore) on her interpretation of Vagina Monologues* by Eve Ensler in 2001. I was about 19. I went through some hanky-panky at that time, but I found the close proximity of another person quite unnerving, if not intimidating.

The whole play was such a joy to watch. There was a hilarious scene of a celebrity chef teaching the audience how to prepare a vagina (reference to chastity lock), a fast forward sequence of at least 5 women talking about menstruation, and an intimate scene of a mother giving birth to a girl.

There was also a scene where a character was taught to look at her own vagina in the mirror and feel it, for the first time.

I remembered that we joked about how many people in the production (all female) had actually looked at their own "V" before. I guessed none, maybe except Li Xie herself. I don't know if everyone reacted the same, but during that period, I went through some kind of restlessness. So one day, I decided to lock myself in the bathroom while the rest of the family busied themselves with the TV. My bathroom was the kind that had a big full-length mirror.

Very slowly and consciously, I took off my clothes and sat down on the floor, experiencing a mix of excitement, fear, absurdity, and shyness.

Excitement because it seemed like an "adult" thing to do to, fear because I was scared to see my V in flesh, absurdity because of the fear of my own body, shyness because

Interview with:

STRAIGHTJACKET NATION

by Cher



Straightjacket Nation hails from Melbourne, Australia, and play a brand of fast raging hardcore which will threaten to blow you out of the water! We caught up with Dave and Emily for a short interview shortly before the band left for their tour of Southeast Asia, one of the dates which includes our first DIY Femme Fest.

Let's just skip the getting-to-know-yous as I can imagine that SJN has done tons of interviews over the years. How does it feel like knowing that you are playing the DIY Femme Fest? Have you played events with a similar agenda?

Dave: Looking forward to playing for sure. Sounds like a great fest, well organised. Should be a lot of fun. We haven't so much played a femme fest before but have played a fest that was similar in nature with DIY ethics and workshops and bands etc.

Emily: We've played others gigs with a similar ideology in the past, namely the now defunct Belladonna fest which was held annually in Brisbane, Australia. It's definitely a refreshing change from other genres such as metal and grind that punk music tries to bring to light and address imbalances between male and female involvement in music. DIY Femme Fest not only has some awesome bands on the line-up that will be great to play with

Getting to your mid-to-late-20s in the punk scene, you hear a lot of women saying things like, "when I was younger, there were no girls to hang out with", and I agree whole-heartedly with those statements. It wasn't until I was in my late teens that I found a decent number of other women in my town that I could identify with. The thing about C.L.I.T. Fest though, is that it's building a NATIONAL (and international) network of women. We're all a part of this thing now, and it has potential to bring real change to our communities, and that is so intensely powerful. If someone told me when I was fifteen that I would be part of something that felt this big, I don't know what I would have done. Maybe one-day, punk ladies in their mid-20s won't be able to say there were no girls around when they were younger.

I felt so naked in every sense.

So there I was lying on the cold hard floor, propping my head, looking into the mirror, and finding it embarrassing to even spread my legs open.

But I did, consciously; did the spread eagle first with my eyes half-closed, not daring to look. Then I tilted my head more and more and started looking intently into my dear friend. In fact I couldn't see much, she was so enigmatic. Then, opening up more and more, legs wide apart, I looked and looked into her, frowning, smiling, frowning, smiling — discovering layer upon layer

From an arrogant child, I became a student of my own body.

V was very complex, like a flower.

SELF-EXPLORATION
The woman's body is shrouded in mystery. She may be exposing and flaunting all her flesh to the world, but what lies in her is always unknown, even to herself.

In comparison, the man's body is more straightforward. At the very least, pornography teaches men ways to derive sexual pleasure very clearly. The basic distinction is, we can't see how woman can be sexually satisfied exactly, even if the graphic explicitly shows oral sex performed on a lady. Our anatomy is so very shy.

A woman needs to explore herself.

The first time I experimented with my own sexuality was also the first time I traveled overseas on my own. Prior to that, I had had sexual encounters, but they were not very pleasurable.

I was alone in the hotel room in Bangkok and had all the liberty. I was not raised in a religious family, or one which perversely upholds concepts of morality. Despite that, I still felt wrong being attracted to sex, to pleasure. It is equivalent to the feeling of being a slut, and worried that someone might be watching me or I was attracting some evil spirits... strange emotions and imaginations there.

If meeting self-examination could be compared to opening the wardrobe to the kingdom of Narnia, then self-exploration could be meeting the queen herself — much less of an eye-opener but a more head-reeling encounter.

Quite awkwardly or ironically, I was fully clothed this time. Why all this happened actually, was not as planned and clinical as the time I first met V. This time it happened because I was lying on the bed and I was bored. This could be what Charles Baudelaire meant by:

> There is one viler and more wicked spawn,
> Which never makes great gestures or loud cries

Yet would turn earth to wastes of sumps and sties
And swallow all creation in a yawn:

Boredom! He smokes his hookah, while he dreams
Of gibbets, weeping tears he cannot smother.

But I did not dream of gibbets. My boredom, my body, my dream, took me to many places which I was too inhibited to actualize in my mind before — the ecstatic, the vulgar, the sparrows, the jack hound, the white, the pink, the exposed, the hidden — while the toil took on the fingers under my skirt.

A woman needs to explore pleasure within herself.

LOOKING THROUGH A GLASS DARKLY
I always imagined that a woman who undergoes the brain-washing of a bra-burning, men-slamming, rights-fighting feminist education will always have the dilemma below, say if they have a sexual encounter with a man:

1. If she is asked to be on top, she questions why she is made to please the man.
2. If she is asked to be at the bottom, she questions why she is made to be the inferior, victimized party.

A woman who cannot find comfort within her own body is a woman who cannot be at ease with the world. A woman who doesn't know her body is one who cannot negotiate pleasures.

Love our body; there is a lot to learn from ourselves, men and women alike.

*The Singapore National Arts Council withdrew all funding for the production of The vaginaLOGUE by Li Xie both times she tried to stage it, because a large projection of the vagina was shown during the show and used in the publicity materials.

She decided to go ahead without the arts council funding.



People started showing up en masse in the late afternoon, and bands started around 4. The third day of fests is always when they seem to come together and gel for me, and C.L.I.T. Fest has such a loaded agenda, so it just felt more and more powerful and important as the weekend came to a close.

WARTORN, RELIGIOUS SS DISORDER, BANJAX, and THIS IS MY FIST closed the fest so to speak, and kids were dancing and excited throughout the whole day. I think we all prefer shows in basements, but it's hard to justify having an entire fest in one. The last day however, seems like a less crazy idea, and it made everything seem even more solid.

The organizers had clearly fostered relationships with local businesses, which was showcased in the raffle drawing they held in the evening. The Chicago punk scene is so tied in with the rest of the Chicago community – I think that's one of the things that we as punks should be striving towards.

Late in the evening, I watched from the doorway as the dozen or so organizers popped off their (well-deserved) self-congratulatory champagne toast. I was (and am still) totally blown away by these women. They did so, so well that weekend and I'm so, so proud of them. Their organization and attention to detail blew me away, and the support they had from their community, both in and outside of the scene, was inspiring to watch unfold. Their idea to have a beneficiary is their contribution to the C.L.I.T. Fest legacy, and I hope it can be a lasting one, because it makes the fest even more valuable to even more people.

Saying goodbye at the end of the fest was a tough set of hugs, but I'm going back to Chicago soon, and that makes it easier. Saying goodbye to the women from other places was a little sadder. One of the most important and overwhelming things I took away from the fest this weekend is how much momentum this thing is getting. I'm still in awe of it sometimes – it makes me unbelievably happy.

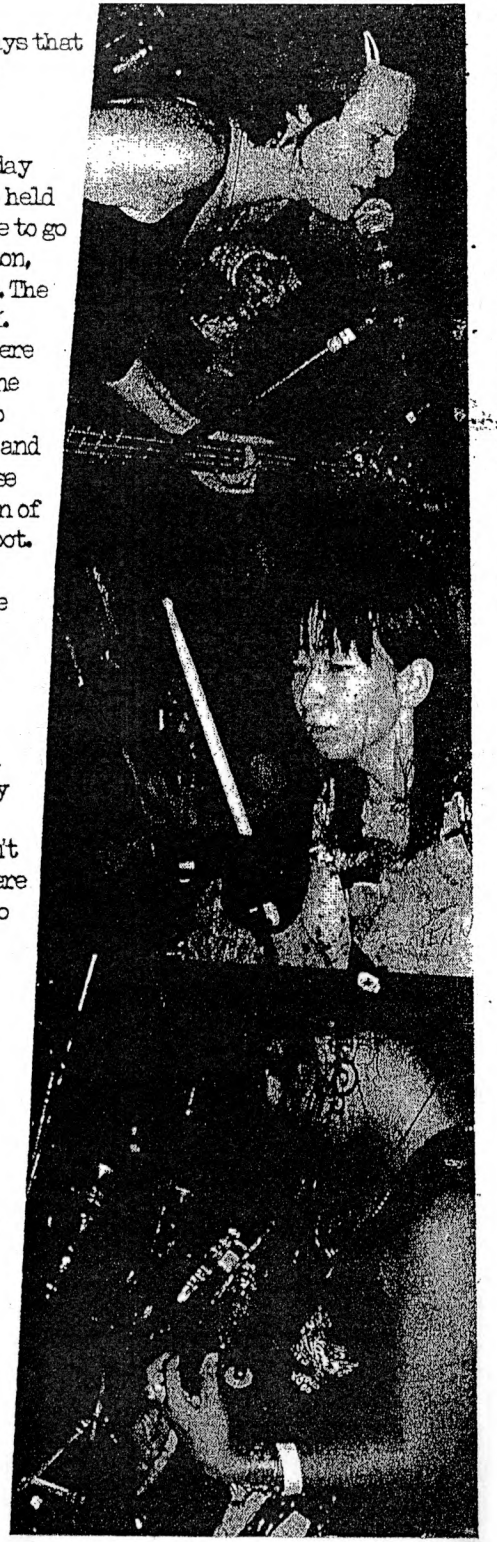
was well worth the $10. These girls organized in ways that were so, so innovative and detail-oriented. Really impressive.

Day two started early with yoga, and was the only day with workshops scheduled. The workshops were also held at Galaxie, which made it easier to figure out where to go (last year we had to hold them at a different location, and I remember none of us were very happy about it). The workshops were well attended, and ranged from D.I.Y. gynecology, to a skill share about doing sound. There was also a theory-based oppression workshop, and one about radical parenting. I think it's important to have a range of topics covered in your workshops – and have some "classics" as well as some newer ones. These girls covered that for sure, and provided a shit-ton of free condoms, lube, and pamphlets on safer sex to boot.

More people had arrived in town on day two, and the second night felt like it was filling out nicely. BLACK SEPTEMBER played a great set (ex-THIN THE HERD – also an amazing band that I highly recommend), and SANGRE DA ABAJO was another highlight. The last few bands on day two were all amazing, and kids got amped. SICK FIX got a really positive response and played a super tight set. WITCH HUNT was really solid as well – and they don't come through Chicago often, so the Midwest kids were stoked. Their new(er) drummer is a great addition to their band's sound. THE BRAT was a lot of fun to watch, and ended the night on a high-energy and positive note.

There were several moments during the weekend when the amazing level of organization in this fest shone through for me. One of these moments was on the second night, when the flyers for the after-show had maps and mapquest directions between the two venues on them. I know I'll say it again, but these girls were on top of their game.

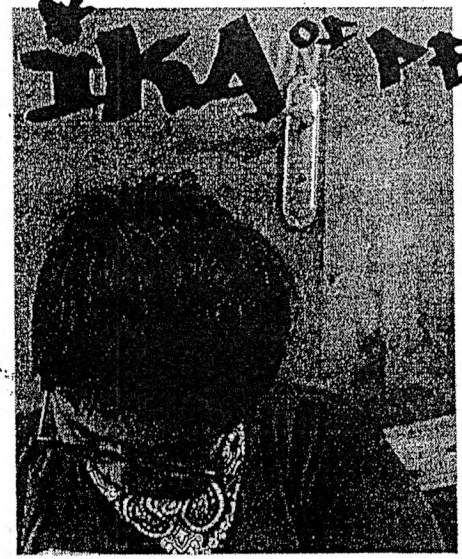
The third day of the fest started at a more leisurely pace than the second had, and Rancho Huevos – a longstanding punk house in Chicago was the venue for the afternoon and evening. There was a barbeque and some short film screenings, which led up to a showing of the recently produced documentary about the Gits.



Interview with:

IKA of PENITI PINK

by Kid



I've heard about Ika through some good zines that I got from her Peniti Pink zine distro. And its only few years later I got to know her in person, as she was one of my reliable contacts and resources when Mass Separation and Kah-Roe-Shi toured Indonesia. Both of my bands had the best time of our life and Mass Separation even got to sleep on Peniti Pink distro floor! As I always found her works and dedication towards the DIY scene and culture very inspiring, there is no second thought that I really should get Ika for this zine very first issue. Lets read what she had to say about herself and stuffs that she s been busy with. -Kid

1. EVERYONE, MEET IKA. A GOOD FRIEND TO THE COLLECTIVE AND SHE IS FROM JAKARTA, INDONESIA. IKA, WANT TO TELL EVERYONE A BIT MORE ABOUT YOURSELF?

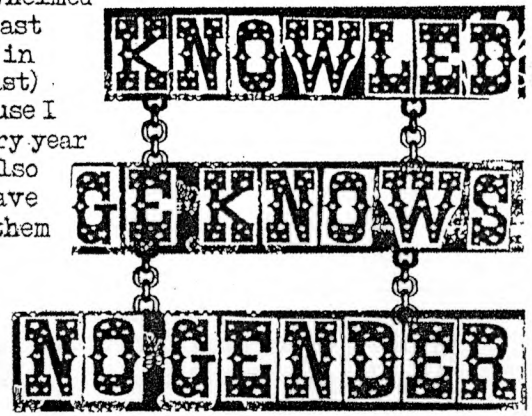
IKA: I'm Ika, a copywriter by day and a finger power crafter in between days. I live in this old dusty house full of zines, records, books and ideas with my tall and sweet punk lover. I love red, iced coffee cream, Do It Yourself spirit and sharing.

2. SO IKA, AS ONE OF THE BUSIEST PERSON ON THIS HEMISPHERE, WHAT'S KEEPING YOU BUSY LATELY?

IKA: My collages, my craft shop and my lover :)

3. WE GOT TO KNOW YOU FROM PENITI PINK, THE COOL ZINE DISTRO OF YOURS. IS IT STILL AROUND? WHAT LOCAL ZINES OR ZINE DISTROS THAT WOULD YOU RECOMMEND?

IKA: Honestly, I've been really overwhelmed with Peniti Pink Zine Distro since last year. I start to having difficulties in finding the time to manage it (at least) as properly as it used to. Maybe because I have more things to take care of every year and those piles of zines in my room also getting bigger and bigger while I have less and less time to taking care of them even as simple as making a monthly catalogue! So I'm thinking to share some of our zine collections to other local distributor here so that they will still be able to be distributes.

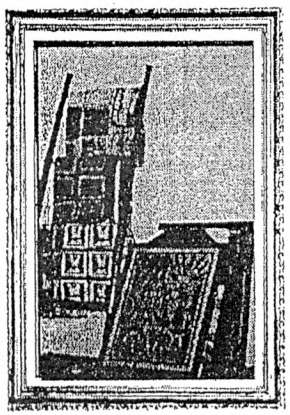


Speaking of local zine distro, those that I have been really close to are Anak Muda Produktionz and Martyr Distro from Bandung, plus the one being run by Attak from Instruktif Zine. While from local zine scene I notice there are some feminist zines like Red Rebel from Jakarta, Rebelicious from Semarang and a wonderful personal zine called Celebrity Killed from Depok. They are all by female zine editors.

4. YOU'RE ALSO QUITE INVOLVED WITH DIY BANDS THAT WANTED TOUR INDONESIA. HOW DO YOU WORK IT OUT FOR THOSE BANDS?
IKA: I start with handling Steve Towson at that time because I want to learn DIY organizing with a scale and music that appeals to me. I start to email the organizer or the band themselves and put the news at our DIY mailing list. Afterwards I will contact each city that's interested to organize a gig there and follow them up regularly until the band arrives. Then make sure again everything is well taking care in each city until the band leaves again.

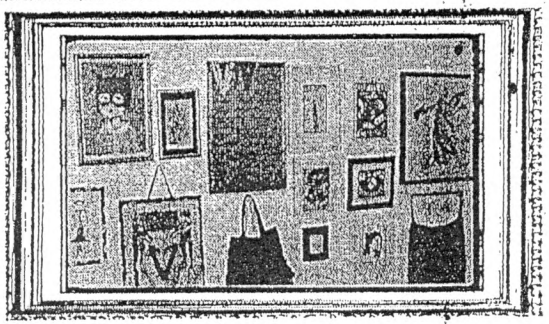
5. WHAT INTERNATIONAL BANDS SO FAR HAD TOURED THROUGH THE DIY ROUTE DOWN THERE?
IKA: So many la, Kid. RAMBO, Cut Sick, Pisschrist, Baracka, Rachel Jacobs, It's you, Fuck On The Beach, Steve Towson, cdrk, One Man Nation, SOL, Pack, Cluster Bomb Unit, Graf Orlock, Conquest For Death, 97 Shiki, Magrudergrind, Better Hope Foundation, etc.

6. HOW IS DIPEPI FREE FOOD GANG // FOOD NOT BOMBS JAKARTA DOING?
IKA: We have been pretty quiet and inactive since a couple of months ago due to the business of each person involved.





-her studio-



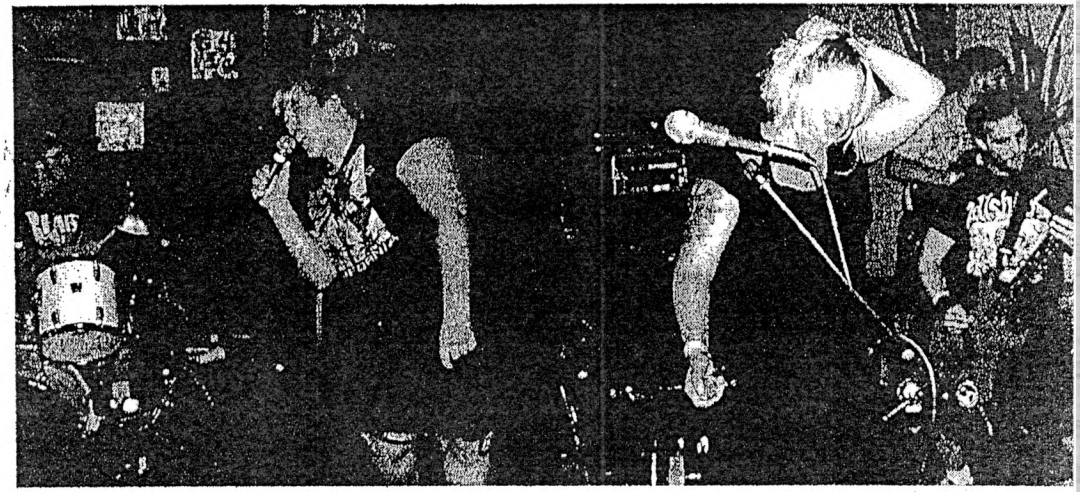
7. HOW DOES THE COLLECTIVE RUN OVER THERE?
IKA: Dipepi Free Food Gang, you mean? We are pretty much like any Food Not Bombs collective that trying to survive and make it all fun and meaningful but I guessed it's difficult with so many people come and go and our hectic life.

8. WHAT ARE THAT OTHER ACTIVITIES OTHER THAN FOOD SHARING AS FOR NOW OR HAD BEEN PLANNED IN FUTURE?
IKA: Since Dipepi Free Food Gang has been in hiatus for sometime now so we haven't had any future plans also at the moment.

of the fest.

The space the fest was in the first two days was a D.I.Y. art space of sorts called the Galaxia. The space is a drug and alcohol-free all ages venue, and apparently there are shows there occasionally. There were C.L.I.T. Fest info tables up front in the lobby area, and lots of space for merch and distros in the show space. There was even a kitchen, which was rad, but unnecessary because Lupe (the local culinary genius) kept everyone fed and happy all weekend. This girl brought food she had made to C.L.I.T. Fest last summer, and I've been stoked on her cooking since then. She wasn't the only person who made or brought food to the fest, but she was definitely the head of that division of labor.

It was readily apparent that these girls were organized as SHIT – they had maps of the area, complete with highlights of local bars and liquor stores. There were also goody bags and meal tickets for all the bands, awesome.



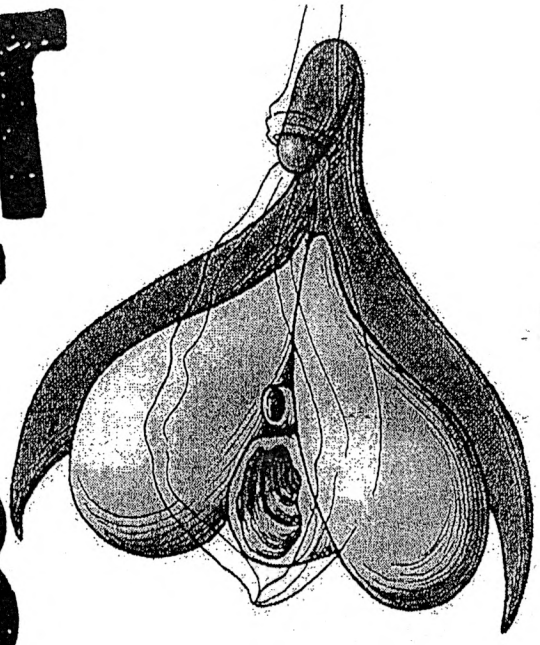
THE CRUNCHIES opened the fest, and got a warm reception with their shrill-ass BLATZ-style vocals. Very cool. EUNICH, PANDAMONIUM, and RED THREAD were some of the highlights of the first night's lineup – solid ladies and great bands. CONDENADA and COJOBA were the last two bands to play. It was CONDENADA's last set for the next while, and they tore shit up. This band is always amazing to watch, and is comprised of some of the greatest people I've met in recent years. Masterminds of the Chicago scene, that's for sure. COJOBA's set was killer as well, even with almost all substitute members.

I spent most of the first night reconnecting with friends from Chicago, and familiar faces filtered in throughout the evening. It's always good to feel like a part of another town's community, even just for a weekend, and the kids in Chicago are always really welcoming.

Oh, and the C.L.I.T. Fest-centered merch table. They had compilation CDs with the fest's bands, buttons, and more – but the best item was the "Men of C.L.I.T. Fest Calendar", which

C.L.I.T FEST 2008 IN CHICAGO

reported by KC



C.L.I.T. Fest was conceived in 2004 in Minneapolis, by a group called the B.R.E.A.S.T. Brigade, and the first two years of the fest took place there. In 2006 there was no C.L.I.T. Fest, but in 2007, a group of women (myself included) from the East Coast in the United States put it on in Richmond. In my mind at least, this shift was important in that it opened the doors for C.L.I.T. Fest to be A C.L.I.T. Fest and not THE C.L.I.T. Fest. In other words, it means that this fest could (and should) take place at any time and in any city. Conceivably, there could be multiple C.L.I.T Fests per year, or a touring C.L.I.T. Fest. Anything is possible.

At any rate, starting last year, it seems like the location of the fest will change every year. In 2008, C.L.I.T. Fest was undertaken by a group of about a dozen women in Chicago. It took place over the weekend of August 5th.

Until now, all the money from the fest has gone entirely to the bands, but in 2008, the Chicago Women's Health Center was the official beneficiary of the fest. This is important to note – as punks we can choose to preach to the choir so to speak, or we can branch out and start making connections to bring real social changes in our communities. I think it was an excellent step to have a beneficiary, and I hope that trend continues through subsequent fests.

I got to Chicago on Thursday, August 14th, and spent Thursday night and Friday screwing around the city with some friends before heading to the venue for the first night



9. FROM WHAT I'VE OBSERVED, FEMALE ATTENDANCES WERE QUITE VISIBLE AT THE HARDCORE PUNK SHOWS DOWN THERE. I BET THAT THEY'RE PRETTY HEAVILY INVOLVED AS WELL AS WE ALSO SEEN ZINES RUN BY FEMALES AND BANDS WITH FEMALE MEMBERS. ANY OF THEM YOU WOULD RECOMMEND US CHECKING OUT?

IKA: Honestly I don't know many bands except Change For Better from Jogja and this awesome all girls DIY gig organizing from Semarang called No Gap.

10. WHAT ENCOURAGED THEM TO BE INVOLVED AND KEPT GOING, AS WE ALREADY KNOW THE CULTURE AROUND HERE WERE STRICTER ON FEMALES/WOMEN?

IKA: That I couldn't answer for you since I believe everyone has their own reasons, but mine would because I feel like having a good playground to explore ideas and Do It Yourself spirit like no other here.

11. A BIT OFF TOPIC, BUT STILL RELATED. I REMEMBER SEEING YOU AND THIS FRIEND WERE DISCUSSING ON A FLYER WITH FEMALE-FRONTED BANDS IN THE CLUSTER BOMB UNIT INDONESIAN TOUR VIDEO. MIND TO ELABORATE ON WHAT'S ACTUALLY BEING DISCUSSED?

IKA: We were discussing the term Female Fronted whatever band that we feel being used to describe a band actually it feels more like an exploitation and put us in another box in the scene instead of making us feel special and proud of it.

12. IT SEEMS TO BE A GENERAL MAINSTREAM CONCEPT, WHERE FEMINISM IS A VERY GENDER-BASED THING OR SHOULD I SAY ONLY CONCERNING FEMALE/WOMEN. AND THE HARDCORE PUNK SCENE SEEMS TO JUST FOLLOW SUIT, ESPECIALLY AROUND HERE WHERE MOST OF THE MALES/MEN ARE TOO BUSY TO BOTHER ABOUT IT AND RESULTING SEXISM STILL INEVITABLE. HOW TRUE IS THAT?

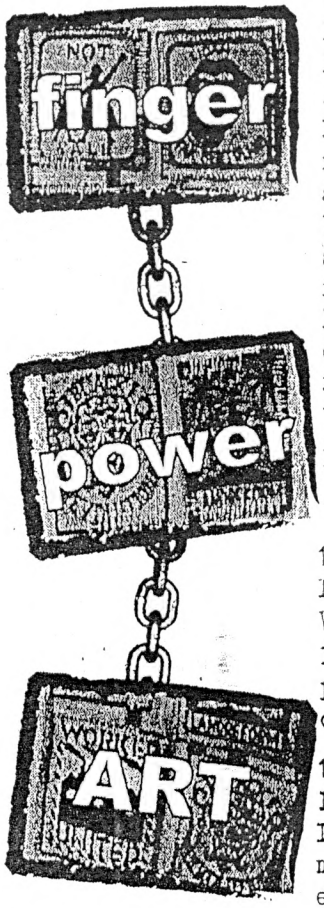
IKA: True to every single detail of it from an insecure mosh pit to the unequal comfort that we feel in a gig and in the scene just because we are a female.

13. AND HOW DO WE ABLE TO CHANGE THAT?

IKA: That I'm still looking for the answers since eight years ago and not yet find the answers:)

14. DO YOU STILL HAVE THE TIME TO SEW THOSE HUGE BANNERS OF PATCHES?

IKA: Depends on my mood actually. I will always, always make time for something or someone that I love.



15. WERE YOU ALSO INVOLVED WITH MAKING OF THOSE PENITI PINK TOTE BAGS AND FREE THINKING BITCHES PENCIL CASES? WHAT OTHER STUFFS THAT IS ALSO AVAILABLE FOR THE CURIOUS CONSUMERS?

IKA: As I said I don't do machine sewing, so I will be more into design and shopping the fabrics part. That awesome artwork at the Free Thinking Bitch is made by Miss Sunya Raw and the silk screen is by the almighty RipCruel of Hellowar. We used a recycled fabric and silk-screened them. While for the Peniti Pink Tote the artworks also by Miss Sunya Raw and one by the famous Ken Terror. I always make stuff in a limited numbers therefore once they sold out we rarely make them again. At the moment I'm focusing more into making stuff for my craft shop but there will always be a dozen Peniti Pink t-shirt available at Ari's Roarrr Distro.

16. YOU ARE ONE OF THE ARTISTS THAT WILL BE EXHIBITING THEIR ARTS ON THE DIY FEMME FEST. WHAT WE COULD EXPECT TO SEE FROM YOU?

IKA: I will exhibit like ten original collages pieces specially made for this event and maybe some other craftworks of mine as well. Hopefully;)

17. WHAT INSPIRED YOUR COLLAGES ARTWORK FOR THE DIY FEMME FEST?

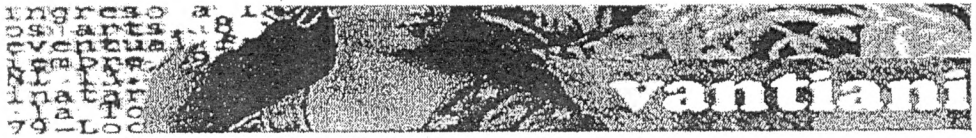
IKA: As simple as things that I want to convey or messages that I agree on girls and equality and everything related to it.

18. HOW WAS THE MAKING PROCESS, LIKE THE MATERIALS USED AND SUCH?

IKA: I practically making collages everyday now and I always have piles of papers and my collage tool ready by my side so for this series I just have to check on my paper stock and look for the right composition for each piece.

19. MIND TO SHARE THE SECRET TO YOUR MAGIC HANDS?

IKA: Haha! There's no secret actually. I'm a bit anti-machine person in terms of making my crafts. I don't do computer design and graphic because I've tried to learn a couple of times before but then I fail Just like I don't do machine sewing because I'm still to lazy to learn and rely solely on my hands in sewing every single patch in my patches piece.



LAMENTS OF A TIRED MOTHER

by Pika

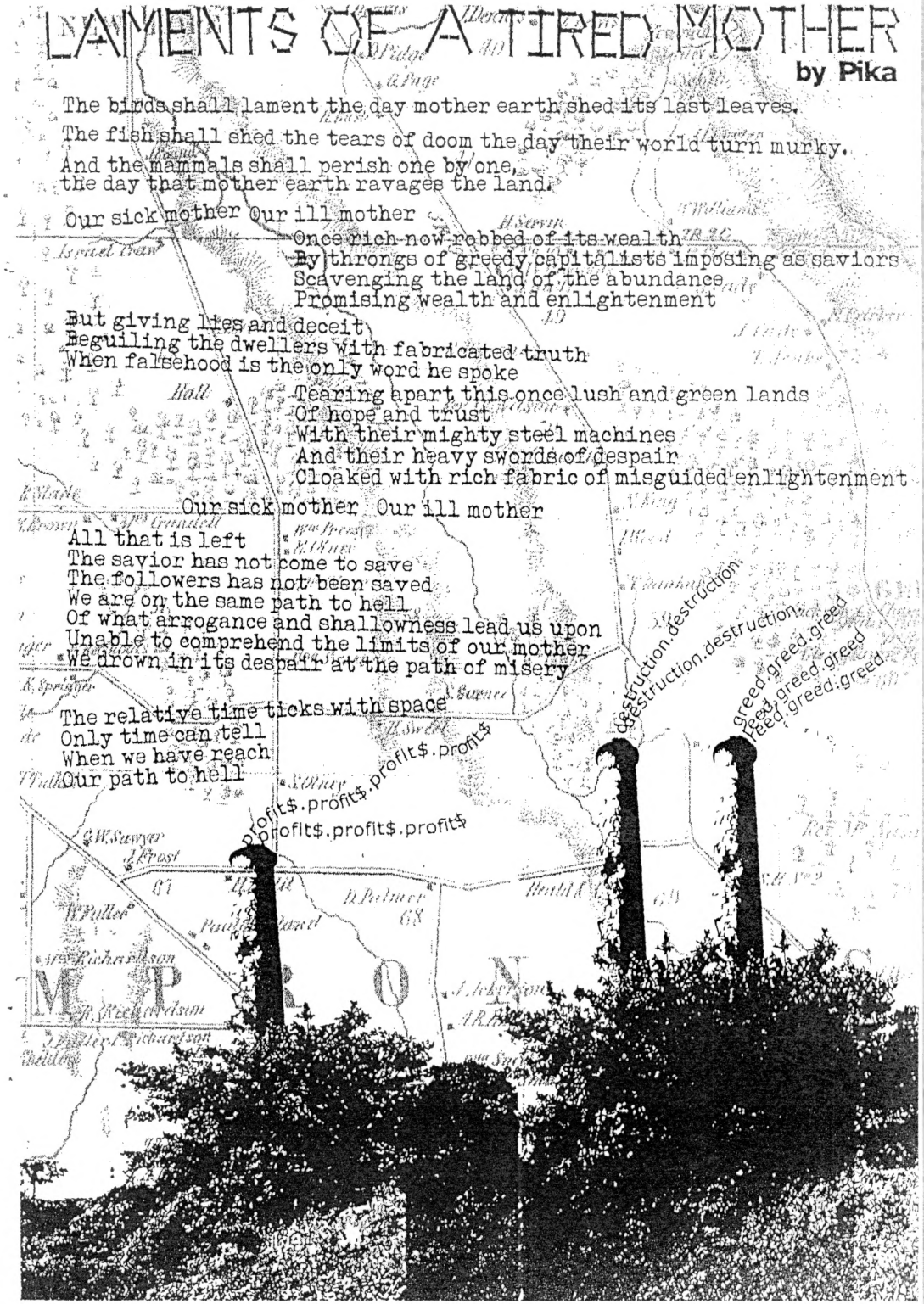
The birds shall lament the day mother earth shed its last leaves.
The fish shall shed the tears of doom the day their world turn murky.
And the mammals shall perish one by one,
the day that mother earth ravages the land.

Our sick mother Our ill mother
Once rich now robbed of its wealth
By throngs of greedy capitalists imposing as saviors
Scavenging the land of the abundance
Promising wealth and enlightenment

But giving lies and deceit
Beguiling the dwellers with fabricated truth
When falsehood is the only word he spoke
Tearing apart this once lush and green lands
Of hope and trust
With their mighty steel machines
And their heavy swords of despair
Cloaked with rich fabric of misguided enlightenment

Our sick mother Our ill mother
All that is left
The savior has not come to save
The followers has not been saved
We are on the same path to hell
Of what arrogance and shallowness lead us upon
Unable to comprehend the limits of our mother
We drown in its despair at the path of misery

The relative time ticks with space
Only time can tell
When we have reach
Our path to hell



This kind of incident can actually be avoided if B knew how to control his sexual desires and respect A. I felt frustrated with this incident because I knew A personally, even though we weren t close. Before A met B, she asked me many questions about him, and the kind of person he was. I told her that B seemed alright as far as I knew him. But when I knew what he did to A, I was really angry with him and completely appalled that he dared to do such a thing. If I know B was like that in the first place, I swear I would have advised A against meeting him.

And what was even more disappointing is that B identifies himself with DIY hardcore-punk, supposedly more aware about issues of equality and respect. There is no need for me to write who B is really is, but I hope for him to read this article and change his attitude towards women before I start calling him out for his bullshit. Learn how to respect women! They are not toys!

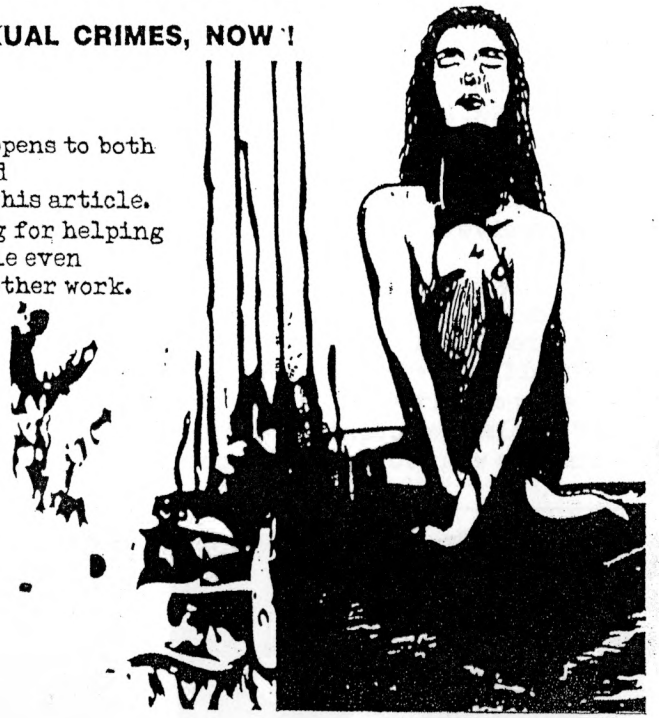
I am not condemning anyone with this writing; this is also a reminder to myself. We are all human beings, and we make mistakes whether we are aware or not. What's more important is self-awareness. No one can change us other than ourselves.

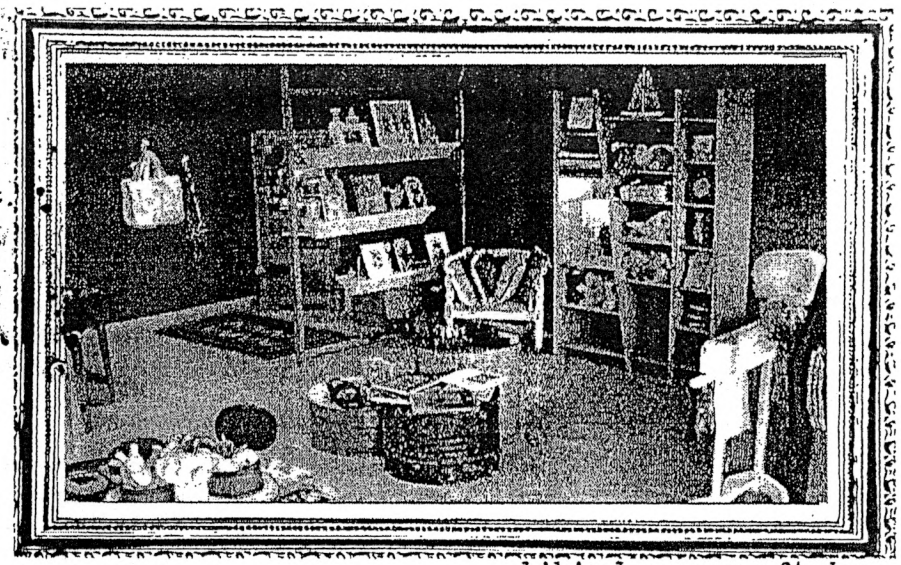
To women, always bring weapons for self protection and safety. And this is just my suggestion: perhaps if you keep your nails long, but not too long -- just enough to be used as a weapon when you need it.
In a lot of investigation TV series, the skin that is left under the victims nails is useful to solve a case.

STOP RAPE, STOP SEXUAL CRIMES, NOW !

READ//THINK//ACT!

- ★ I am aware that rape happens to both genders, sorry if I sound biased/heterosexist in this article.
- ★ Kudos and thanks Nizang for helping me translate this article even though he is busy with other work. Love you!





-bikin barang craft shop-

20. WHERE IS IT POSSIBLE TO CHECK OUT THE REST OF YOUR CRAFT PROJECTS AND HOPEFULLY TO GET HOLD OF THEM?

IKA: I have an online gallery for my collages at http://www.geminiislikemonkey.blogspot.com and my patches at www.patchikah.blogspot.com. I sell most of my collages but not for my patches pieces. I have been also making felt corsages before but have been stopped for a while now.

21. YOU ALSO HAD BEEN PRETTY OCCUPIED WITH YOUR NEWLY OPENED CRAFT SHOP. WANT TO TELL US ABOUT IT?

IKA: It's a three girl effort in having their own craft shop because they have been making crafts and having difficulties in finding the community and distribution points that suits with their style of crafts. It called Bikin Barang (www.bikinbarang.blogspot.com) and we also have a space to rent called Bikin Ruang (www.bikinruang.blogspot.com). It opened this week but we are still very much struggling to have a much better sides on everything at the moment.

22. OK, THAT'S A WRAP, I GUESS! OR YOU GOT ANYTHING TO ADD? THANKS MBAK IKA, CATCH YOU AROUND. THANKS FOR GIVING US A BIT OF TIME AND KEEP IT UP WITH YOUR COOL PROJECTS!

IKA: Your fingers are your amazing tools for rock'n roll!

The craft shop blog: www.bikinbarang.blogspot.com
My online gallery: www.geminiislikemonkey.blogspot.com
My patches pieces: www.patchikah.blogspot.com

The drug Premarin is made from the urine of pregnant horses. Mares are cruelly confined and subjected to invasive procedures throughout their pregnancy only to have their colts taken away from them after birth. This perversion of the reproductive cycles of female horses produces a harmful drug that is marketed to women by convincing them that their own natural reproductive cycles are abnormal signs of sickness. Marketed as a cure for menopause, Premarin hurts both female horses and female humans in order to provide profits for a pharmaceutical corporation.

This intersection of the oppression of women and the oppression of animals is not unique. Women and animals, along with land and children, have historically been seen as the property of male heads of households. Patriarchy (male control of political and family life) and pastoralism (animal herding as a way of life) appeared on the historical stage together and cannot be separated, because they are justified and perpetuated by the same ideologies and practices.

Both women and animals have historically been considered less intelligent and closer to nature than men. Tactics like objectification, ridicule, and control of

speciesism and sexism: what's the connection?

by Patrice Jones

reproduction have been and continue to be used to control and exploit both women and animals.

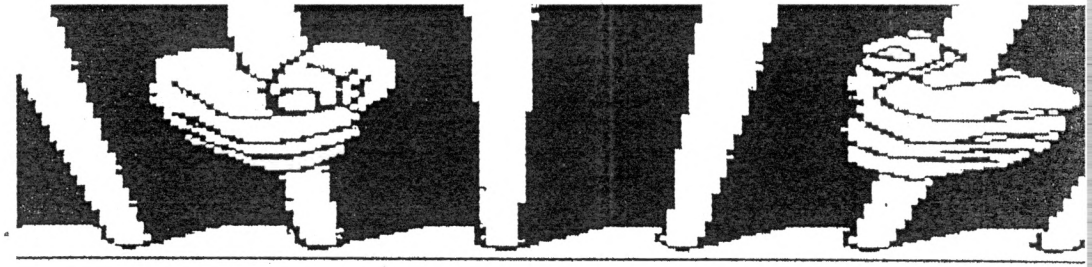
Here are a few of the current symptoms of the sick intersection of speciesism and sexism:

MILK

Milk may be defined as the exploitation of the reproductive capacities of the cow in order to produce profits for the dairy industry. Cows are forcibly and repeatedly impregnated so that their bodies will produce the milk intended to sustain their calves. People then steal both the milk and the calves. The cows suffer painful physical ailments, such as mastitis, as well as the emotional distress of having their children and their own freedom torn away from them. Meanwhile, milk products are responsible for an unhealthy acceleration in the onset of menses in girls and are also correlated with breast cancer in women. Thus the mammary glands of cows are exploited in order to produce a product that harms the mammary glands of women.

RAPE

One out of every three women is sexually assaulted in her lifetime — one in four before the age of 18. Experts agree that rape is about power, not sex. Rape puts into



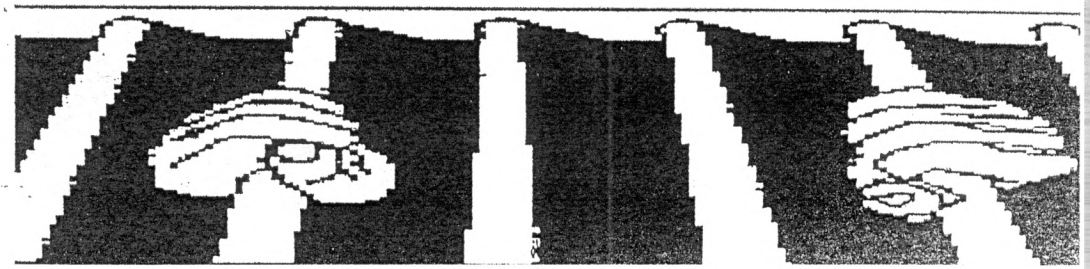
We as men, ought to control ourselves and our sexual desires. Furthermore, if we believe in equality, shouldn t we be aware of the trauma that a woman undergoes when they're raped? Rape will also cause the survivor to lose their confidence, due to the stigma of rape carried down by society.

The survivor will also usually blame herself while considering how she could have avoided the incident. It is very rare that survivors are given support and encouragement to regain their strength and confidence, and that is why most of the rape victims prefer to keep to themselves rather than making reports, due to wanting to protect their families and their own pride. They feel scared and shy if the incident is exposed. They will be neglected or alienated. No one wants to be raped!

In one incident, a girl who is one of my close friends, told me that she was been harassed sexually by a guy who is a mutual friend. Let us call the girl A and the guy B to protect their identity and to also make my story easier to understand.

The incident happened about one or two months ago, when A went to an internet cafe where B is working. A stayed there till midnight because B promised to send her home after his working hours. However, instead of sending her home at midnight, B delayed his work on purpose until all the customers had gone back, and that was when B harassed A sexually. Instead of ignoring her begging and tears, B became more aggressive and continued touching A.

Luckily though, B did not rape A. Even though A was not raped, the incident was enough to bring trauma to her for a few weeks, thinking to herself that it was her fault that the incident happened and blamed herself for waiting for B in the first place, to the point where she nearly committed suicide -- she felt ashamed even though only a number of people knew about the incident.
Imagine what would have happened if she was raped?



I feel so disappointed with the behavior of some men that have no respect whatsoever towards women that they actually willing to harass and rape to fulfill their sexual desire. Is there no other way to fulfill yourself? Everyday when I browse through the newspapers, there will always be news on rape reported everywhere. Fathers rape daughters, grandfathers rape grandchildren, brothers rape sisters -- where has all their sanity, their righteousness gone? Who should be blamed when rape and other sexual crimes happen? Men? Women? Dressing style? Society?

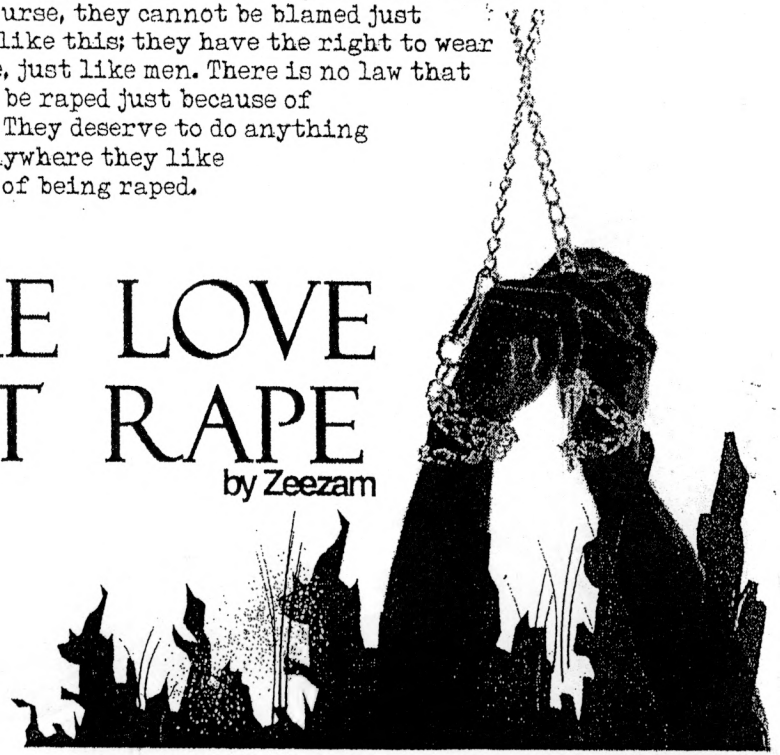
What is actually defined as rape? From what I understand, rape is having sex by force, no matter whom with. Strangers, men, women, family members or even your legal married partner. If it was done by force, it is rape. Sex is something wonderful, fun and exciting if it is done with love, understanding and respect. However, according to the law, having sex with teenagers below the age of 18 is still considered rape even if it is consensual -- so, be careful.

Every woman and girl carries the risk to become a rape victim and every man and boy has the potential to become a rapist. As a heterosexual male, I m trying my best to control myself because I know I too have the potential to become a rapist -- I have to stay on the right track.

Sometimes it is quite hard considering the warm weather nowadays, and many women prefer to wear clothes that expose almost half of their body. Of course, they cannot be blamed just because they dress like this; they have the right to wear whatever they like, just like men. There is no law that legalizes women to be raped just because of the way they dress. They deserve to do anything they like and go anywhere they like without any worry of being raped.

MAKE LOVE NOT RAPE

by Zeezam





action that women and children are objects that can be used for pleasure without regard for their own wishes or subjective experiences. The same attitude underlies a host of abusive practices toward animals, ranging from circuses to factory farming. Animals are raped too, sometimes for the pleasure of the male human rapist but more often to control their reproduction so that corporations can have the pleasure of profits.

COCKFIGHTING

Sex role stereotypes hurt both human and non-human animals. In cockfighting, the natural behavior of roosters (who will fight to the death to protect the flock from predators) is perverted in order to force them to act out human ideas about masculinity. The birds are traumatized and then deliberately placed in harm's way so that their handlers can feel like big men. They die in stylized spectacles of masculinity that have nothing to do with natural bird behavior and everything to do with human ideas about gender. Meanwhile, human boys are also traumatized in order to make them conform to cultural ideas of masculinity. Those who do not may find themselves "gay bashed" to death.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic violence is one way that men maintain control of the women, children, and animals in their households. The World Health Organization has identified domestic violence against women as a global public health emergency of the highest order. In the United States, partner violence is the number one reason women visit the emergency room and at least two out of every ten pregnant women are beaten by their male partners. Very often, domestic violence includes abuse of companion animals as a way to frighten, traumatize, or control women. Many women remain in dangerous households because battered women's shelters do not accept animals and they are afraid of what will happen to their animal companions if they leave them alone with the abuser. No one knows how many companion animals have been killed by domestic abusers or how many women are dead because they stayed to protect a companion animal.



EGGS

Can any of us imagine the life of battery hens — birds! — crowded into cages without enough room to spread their wings or lie down comfortably, unable to nest or spend time with roosters or lay their eggs in privacy, the tips of their beaks burned off so that they don't peck themselves or each other to death out of frustration and misery? And why? So that corporations can profit from the fruits of their reproductive systems: their precious eggs. Control of reproduction is one of the foundations of both speciesism and sexism. Indeed, just as the hens are oppressed specifically so that their reproductive organs can be exploited, many believe that the original point of patriarchy was to control the reproductive systems of women.

SEX TOURTISM

Nobody likes to talk about it, but it's true. Right now, in many impoverished



countries and even here in the United States, women and children are literally enslaved by the sex industry. The customers — the men who knowingly impose sex on girls, boys, and women who are not free to say no — men who sometimes travel to other cities or foreign countries solely in order to be able to do so — are almost exclusively from wealthy 1st-world countries. Locked up and raped daily, these women and children suffer unspeakable physical and emotional trauma. Like the hens in egg factories, many are murdered when their bodies have become so exhausted by the abuse that it is no longer profitable to maintain them.

One of the most basic tenets of the animal liberation movement is that there is no moral difference between human and non-human animals. If something ought not be done to humans, then it ought not be done to animals. And vice-versa. If we are serious about animal liberation, then we must work for the liberation of all animals, human and non-human. If we are serious about feminism, then we must shun speciesism just as we shun sexism. No one is free while others are oppressed. And, if we work together, understanding how seemingly different struggles are related to one another, then someday we will all be free.

For more information and ideas about the connections between speciesism and sexism, visit:

www.farinc.org
www.bravebirds.org/sexism
www.geocities.com/bostonecofem
www.gsara.uarc.com

Also, read:

The Sexual Politics of Meat: A Feminist-Vegetarian Critical Theory
by Carol J. Adams

Reweaving the World: The Emergence of Ecofeminism
edited by Diamond and Orenstein

Animals and Women: Feminist Theoretical Explorations
edited by Adams & Donovan (Duke University Press)

untitled

by Rafi

we sat on urinated cardboards,
with our teeths gritted and our fists clenched,
listening to our own hearts beat full of agony

we cuddled in empty squats,
conversations in our heads,
unspoken, yet so clear at the same time,

we ate from the garbage,
cold, stiff but restless,
unhesitant to set off our thoughts

we stormed the abandoned buildings,
seeking shelter for the day,
to keep us save from capitalism

we threw bricks at the authorities,
with our tongues stuck out,
spitting revolution into their face

we smiled at the end of the day,
even with those eyes upon us,
we smile, we smile,

no matter what they have to say

(for those who were never afraid to leave everything behind
to seek truth and freedom; an alternative; change!)

We must be aware of the images presented to us and unmask these images for what they truly are; destructive, superficial & unattainable images.These images do not value our uniqueness, they do not honor our wisdom and our spirit, and they do not measure us.

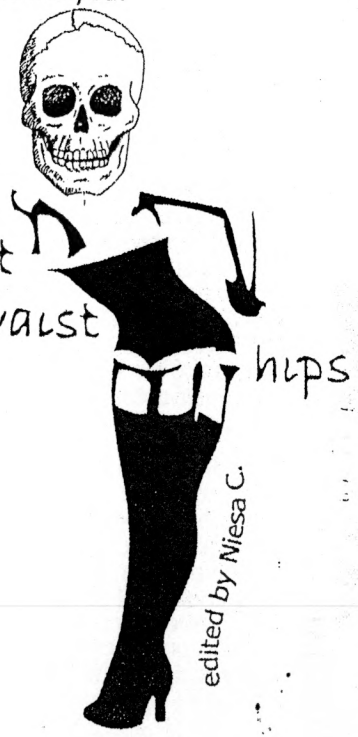
We must reclaim and redefine our bodies as ours.They are miraculous,& we all know this!Our bodies perform wonderful feats every day. We are physiological and biological masterpieces.Our bodies are not our enemies, they put us in motion, they create and sustain life. The functions our bodies perform for us are too numerous and varied to list.Advocate for freedom from body hatred and **fight the billion dollar advertising,cosmetic,diet, entertainment and fashion industries.**

Let's stand up for ourselves,our values,our bodies,our lives.
We must **challenge our culture**, our children and ourselves.
The stakes are too high to back down. Lives are lost each year as beautiful, healthy young women starve themselves to death.Millions of us are suffering from depression and anxiety as we are bombarded with images of our "faults". It is time to change, change begins from within and radiates out, let's begin.

Making Peace With Your Body And Self

Become aware of your positives. Decides which of the cultural pressures; glamour,fitness,thinness,media,peer group – prevent you from feeling good about yourself. How about not buying fashion magazines, which promote unrealistic body images? **Question ads. They profit from our insecurities. This is a way capitalism and patriarchy work together**. Self-esteem is a personal evaluation of one's worth as a person. It measures how much you respect yourself.How you see yourself affects every part of your life.It allows you to be your own person and not have others define you.
Self-esteem, self-confidence,
and self-respect are all related.

Challenge size-bigotry and fight size discrimination whenever you can.
Don't speak of yourself or others with phrases like "fat slob", "pig out" or "paper thin".
Be an example to others by taking people seriously for what they say, feel and do rather than how they look.
Accept the fact that your body is changing.
Look in the mirror and instead of asking, "What's wrong with it", and say "There's nothing really wrong with me."
Love your body and do not let others to judge on your look.
Be comfortable with your body, mentally and emotionally.
Be strong, be proud, be yourself!



edited by Niesa C.

+taken from Womyn At Revolt 2003+

DefiniTIOns Of AnaRChaFemiNisM

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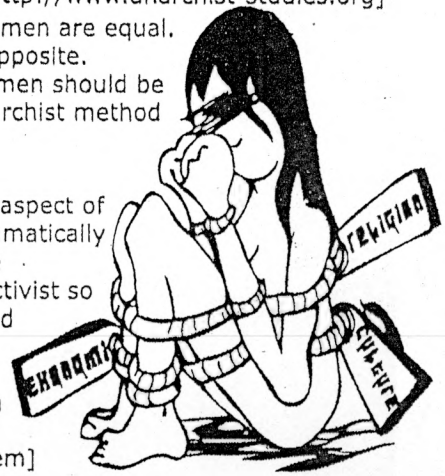
Anarcha-feminism means women's independence and freedom on an equal footing with men.A social organization and a social life where no-one is superior or inferior to anyone and everybody is coordinate,women as well as men.This goes for all levels of social life,also the private sphere.Anarcha-feminism implies that women themselves decide and take care of their own matters,individually in personal matters,and together with other women in matters which concern several women.In matters which concern both sexes essentially and concretely women and men shall decide on an equal footing. [http://blackcat.enzyme.org.nz/anarcha-feminist_manifesto]

Anarcho-feminism is a movement towards women's liberation based on anarchist principles.Anarchofeminists believe that women's liberation means liberation for all women.Throughout history governments and states have been responsible for some of the worst atrocities against women.This is why anarcho-feminists see the state as an extension of patriarchy.The best way to secure liberation for all women is to eliminate authority and hierarchies whenever possible,including government.
[http://lists.enzyme.org.nz/mailman/listinfo/anarcho-feminism_lists.enzyme.org.nz]

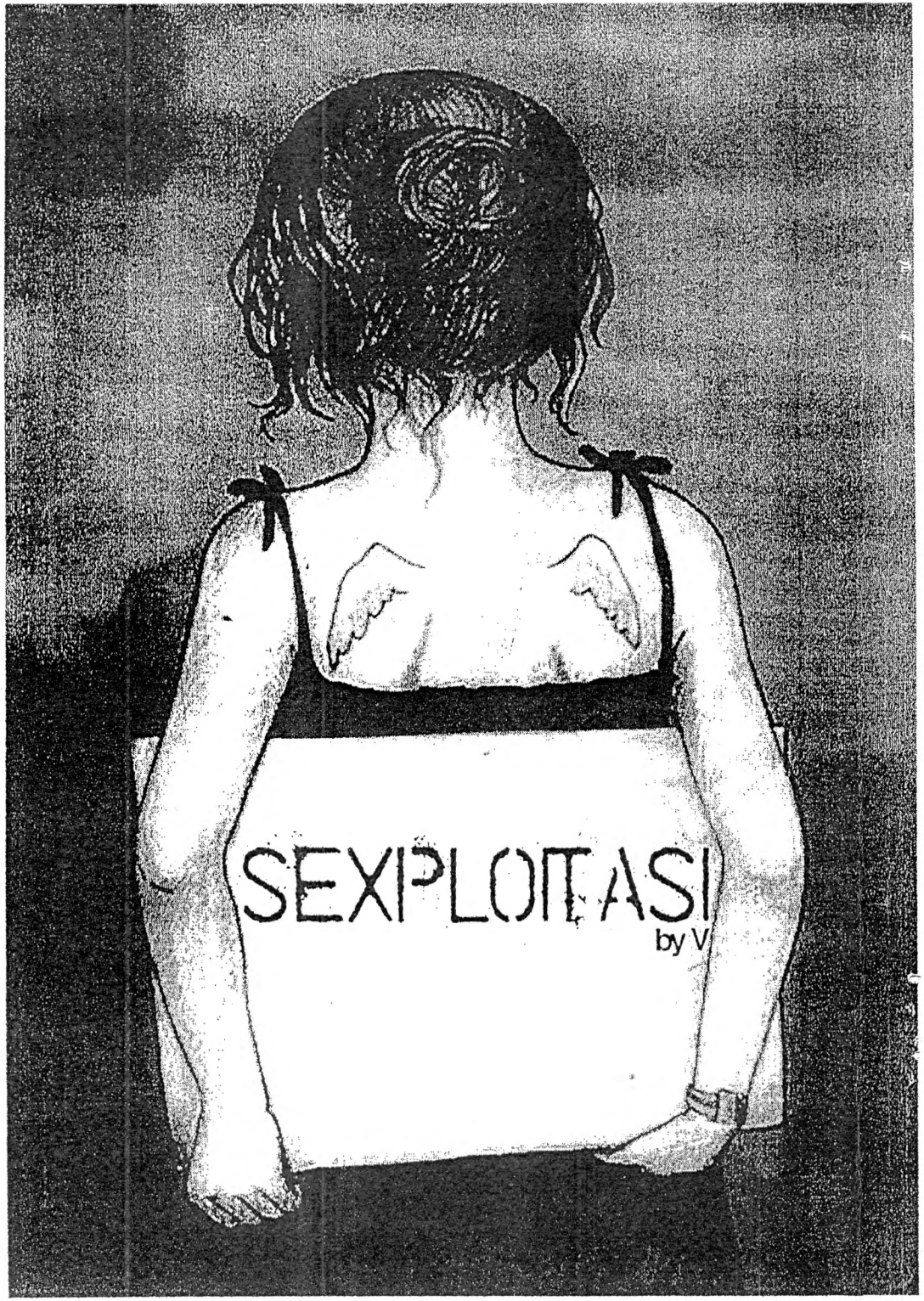
Anarcha-feminism means being against all oppression,domination,and authority, but focussing on gender oppression,not because it is most important,but because it affects so many of us and must be dealt with.I say gender oppression instead of just patriarchy or sexism because I think feminism needs to be broader than just women's issues.Gender oppression includes patriarchy,sexism,homophobia,heterosexism, heteronormativity,transphobia,the gender binary,fatphobia + other body image issues, sexual violence,etc. [http://www.anarcha.org/sallydarity.php]

Anarchafeminism is about women being true equals with men,and refusing to oppress others.It is not the kind of feminism that wants to be a bank manager and fight the glass ceiling.It might throw a brick through the glass ceiling and climb out of that tower into the juicy purple evening sky. [http://www.anarchist-studies.org]

Feminism is the knowledge that women and men are equal.
Sexism is about inequality.Feminism is the opposite.
Feminism is about the fact that men and women should be treated equaly.Anarcha-feminism is using the anarchist method of organisation to fight for such an idea.
[http://army_of_the_ppl.tripod.com/women/]

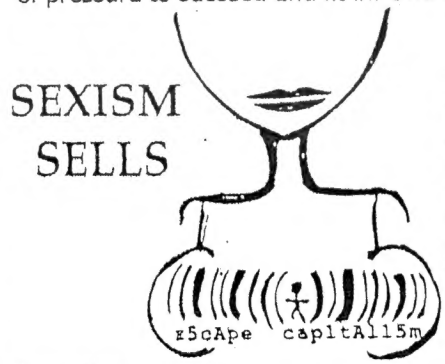


Anarcha-Feminism is the radical anti-statist aspect of bioethical humanism which critiques the dogmatically sexist aspects of the State in regard to male domination.Just as racism is fundamentally collectivist so is sexism in any form.As long as governments and ruling classes exist women and men will need to struggle against sexism.The issue is bioethical because of the pseudo-scientific nature of sexism which is based on naive conceptions of male and female nature. [http://maxpages.com/anarchafem]



Body Image

It is facts that human are enslaved to a beauty myth, chained to the false belief that our value is based on our appearance alone. **Both men and women are affected by the body image problem**.Body image dissatisfaction is so epidemic in our society that it's almost considered normal.Kids as early as third grade are concerned about their weight. But the most vulnerable are teens.This is the age we are most impressionable and start to develop self-confidence and self-perception.There is a lot of pressure to succeed and fit in. One of the ways to fit in is to have "the perfect body".



How Do You Measure Up?

When you look in the mirror what do you see? When you walk past a shop window and catch a glimpse of your body, what do you notice first? Are you proud of what you see, or do you think, " I'm too short, I'm too fat, if only I were thinner or more muscular?"
Most people answer negatively.

How did this problem reach such epidemic proportions? Why are we dieting ourselves to death, literally dying to fit in? When did we become so ashamed of our bodies, when did we learn to hate them so much? Why are women attacking their bodies? Where did we learn that our self worth is measured by external factors – by numbers on a scale? The answer lies in constant, subtle attacks on our bodies. These attacks wear us down, shake our confidence and esteem. **We loose our sense of self, individuality and fall victim to narrow definitions of beauty defined by the media**.

Media Propaganda

The media acts as a propaganda machine determined to shake our confidence, remind us we are not good enough,we have not made it,that we just simply do not measure up. In a recent poll by a well known magazine 80% of women reported that the images of women in TV and in movies, fashion magazines and advertising make them feel insecure about their looks.Why is the media bent on making us feel so down about ourselves? Why do they go to such lengths to make us feel "less than"? The answer is quite simple – **pure economics**. The media machine is economically driven as billions are spent on items such as cosmetics,new diets and clothes.This "beautifying" empire is dependent on our disempowerment.They count on us buying into their myths and misrepresentations:
WE WILL NEVER FIT IN, WE CAN NEVER BE HAPPY,
THUS WE CAN NEVER END THE PURSUIT.
Alas,the pursuit is endless,the products are endless,the damage to our self-esteem is endless, and the body hatred created is devastating. The assault is unrelenting!



The images are everywhere. How could it all happen, right under our noses? It is a subtle, continuous bombardment of images of beauty, **images defined by profiteers,** images that are not real, not authentic, and not attainable. The impact that these images have on women and men is profound.The financial, social and psychological and physical damages of a woman's lifetime pursuit of thinness are impossible to measure. Depression, despair, depletion of self-esteem, the withering and wasting away of physical, psychological and financial resources are unbelievable.

6. Recognize and speak out against homophobia and gay-bashing. Discrimination and violence against lesbians and gays are wrong in and of themselves. This abuse also has direct links to sexism (e.g. the sexual orientation of men who speak out against sexism is often questioned: a conscious or unconscious strategy intended to silence them. This is a key reason few men do so).

7. Attend programs, take courses, watch films, and read articles and books about multicultural masculinities, gender inequality, and the root causes of gender violence. Educate yourself and others about how larger social forces affect the conflicts between individual men and women.

8. Don't fund sexism. Refuse to purchase any magazine, rent any video, subscribe to any website, or buy any music that portrays girls or women in a sexually degrading or abusive manner. Protest sexism in the media.

9. Mentor and teach young boys about how to be men in ways that don't involve degrading or abusing girls and women. Volunteer to work with gender violence prevention programs, including anti-sexist men's programs.

10. 5. If you are emotionally, psychologically, physically, or sexually abusive to women, or have been in the past, seek help NOW.



Kalau ada seorang perempuan ditanya apakah dia mau dieksploitasi untuk tampil menjadi seorang bintang iklan, masak iya dia nggak mau? Taruhan, sebagian besar perempuan pasti mau banget jadi bintang iklan! Tapi sekarang kalau pertanyaannya: mau nggak jadi bintang iklan yang mesti tampil dalam pakaian ketat atau mesti menunjukkan betapa indah payudara, paha atau kulit mereka? Nanti dulu! Jawabannya bisa iya, bisa tidak. Karena apakah ini berarti perempuan tadi dieksploitasi? Belum tentu juga, kan pilihannya ada pada perempuan itu sendiri. Kalau dia bilang iya, berarti dia memang mau mengeksploitasi tubuhnya karena dia mendapatkan imbalan dari sana, misalnya. Kalau dia bilang tidak, itu juga haknya dia. That's merely her choices. Period.

Oke, sekarang kita melihat peran perempuan dalam iklan yang memang membutuhkan keindahan fisik mereka tadi. Jangan lupa kalau pada kenyataannya ada banyak pilihan peran perempuan di dalam iklan, selain hanya menjual keindahan fisik mereka,iya kan? Tapi khusus untuk peran peran yang mengharuskan mereka untuk menonjolkan keindahan tubuhnya, biasanya produknya juga bukan cuma untuk lelaki tapi juga perempuan. Lho! Kok bisa?

Ya, sekarang kalau kita mau jualan produk pelangsing tubuh buat perempuan, pernah nggak kita lihat iklan yang menggunakan perempuan bertubuh besar dan berpembawaan maskulin misalnya. Nggak pernah kan? Karena mereka mesti menampilkan perempuan-perempuan yang istilahnya bertubuh ideal tadi sebagai hasil akhir dari penggunaan produk tersebut. Lalu sekarang, salahnya siapa? Perempuan yang menjadi model iklan tersebut atau perempuan perempuan yang terobsesi memiliki tubuh seperti itu? Menurut saya sih, nggak ada yang salah! Mereka semua hanya menjadi dirinya sendiri! Tapi keinginan, kebutuhan akan produk tersebut serta perempuan perempuan yang menjadi sasaran iklan tadi memang memang DIBENTUK oleh masyarakat dan lingkungan kita sendiri yang mengagung-agungkan perempuan dengan bentuk tubuh seperti itu. Mengerti kan maksudku?

Nah, kalau untuk produk buat lelaki gimana? Kenapa perempuan yang dipilih juga biasanya yang istilahnya nggak ada matinya dalam arti fisik? Karena kalau kita mau menjual kecantikan dalam atau inner beauty di dalam sebuah iklan, itu susahnya minta ampun! Ya iyalah, sekarang gimana caranya kita menggambarkan seorang perempuan yang berani, kreatif, sensitif, jujur dan keibuan misalnya. Kita sendiri semua tahu untuk mengetahui karakter dan sifat perempuan butuh waktu dan proses! Iya kan, Cinta? Sedangkan, untuk menilai seorang perempuan bertubuh sempurna menurut standar lelaki? Gampang! Pandangi saja dia selama lima menit. Cara berjalan, berbicara, melipat kaki selesai.Perempuan ini amat sangat menarik fisiknya! Dalam kurung: seksi abis pol.

Makanya, untung juga sih iklan televisi di sini durasinya paling lama 30 detik, coba kalo bisa sejam! Gila! Udah kayak kita bisa nonton sebuah film pendek yang pada akhirnya cuman mau bikin kita beli dan beli terus kali! Plus kepercayaan kita akan figur figur buatan televisi dan iklan iklan untuk mendefinisikan siapa yang keren, jelek, seksi, gagah, pintar, funky dan lain sebagainya itu pasti

jadi makin aneh aneh dan nggak masuk akal deh! Hihihihi!

Namun peran perempuan dengan keindahan fisik mereka memang sangat kuat pengaruhnya di masyarakat kita selain terhadap kaum lelaki itu sendiri. Hingga jangan takjub kalau kamu mungkin bahkan pernah melihat iklan sebuah produk yang sama sekali sebenarnya mungkin nggak ada hubungannya sama perempuan apalagi perempuan bertubuh indah luar biasa, namun keberadaan mereka terasa sekali kalau dipaksa dimasukkan disana. Bahkan mungkin malahan jadi merusak iklan itu sendiri!

Habisnya gimana? Menurut hasil riset pemasaran yang umumnya dibuat oleh badan-badan riset maupun oleh produsen-produsen besar itu, pembeli mereka memang paling tertarik dengan visual bergambar perempuan perempuan seperti itu, Cinta! Dibandingkan sama menggunakan humor atau gambar indah seperti alam, anak anak maupun binatang sekalipun, perempuan bertubuh indah tampaknya memang masih menempati posisi teratas untuk gambar yang paling menarik untuk ditampilkan di iklan. Ini berlaku untuk produk massal ya yang berarti memang untuk masyarakat umum, tidak hanya mereka yang istilahnya katanya memiliki tingkat pendidikan tinggi maupun tinggal di kota serta mempunyai gaya hidup modern saja.

Produsen-produsen tadi kan juga tidak bodoh untuk mau mengeluarkan banyak uang untuk membuat iklan yang tidak menarik pembeli apalagi sasaran pembelinya itu tadi. Iya kan? Money talking, Baby! Lebih baik mereka menggunakan uang mereka untuk sesuatu yang sudah pasti menguntungkan daripada memilih menggunakan sebuah gambar yang masih belum tentu menarik pembeli mereka atau tidak. Iya kan? Makanya jadi produsen dong sekali sekali, jangan jadi konsumen melulu! Heheheh!

Jadi, kembali ke topik kita tadi tentang seksploitasi..ternyata memang tidak sesederhana tentang menjadikan perempuan sebagai obyek karena kelebihan fisik mereka,Cinta! Ada banyak hal yang menjadikan hal ini terjadi karena semuanya memang berhubungan dalam iklan, pemasaran dan komunikasi. Nggak bisa hanya dengan menghancurkan billboard, atau merusak spanduk saja misalnya karena seksploitasi perempuan di iklan ternyata melibatkan banyak pihak untuk mau merubah itu! Kalau cuman salah satunya aja yang nggak mungkin jalan! Karena iklan adalah ilmu komunikasi menjual barang, ini berarti kita bicara bahasa yang dimengerti semua orang di bidang pemasaran kan?

Mau bikin sebuah cara berkomunikasi atau bahasa berbeda di dalam iklan selain paha mulus dan dada montok? Jangan beli produk yang menggunakan iklan dengan figur perempuan seperti itu kalau jelas jelas kamu tidak butuh produknya! Kedua, jangan lagipula kamu kan tahu definisi perempuan seksi dan cantik bukanlah yang mereka buat, tapi definisi kamu sendiri untuk diri kamu. Bener, nggak?

Jangan senyum senyum aja dong! Jawab! Hahahaha!



10 THINGS MEN CAN DO TO PREVENT GENDER VIOLENCE

by Jackson Katz

1. Approach gender violence as a MEN'S issue involving men of all ages and socioeconomic, racial and ethnic backgrounds. View men not only as perpetrators or possible offenders, but as empowered bystanders who can confront abusive peers

2. If a brother, friend, classmate, or teammate is abusing his female partner — or is disrespectful or abusive to girls and women in general — don't look the other way. If you feel comfortable doing so, try to talk to him about it. Urge him to seek help. Or if you don't know what to do, consult someone else who might know what to do. DO NOT REMAIN SILENT.

3. Have the courage to look inward. Question your own attitudes. Don't be defensive when something you do or say ends up hurting someone else. Try hard to understand how your own attitudes and actions might inadvertently perpetuate sexism and violence, and work toward changing them.

4. If you suspect that a woman close to you is being abused or has been sexually assaulted, gently ask if you can help.

5. Be an ally to women who are working to end all forms of gender violence. Support the work of women's centers. Attend feminist/women s rights rallies and other public events. Raise money for community-based rape crisis centers and battered women's shelters.