The Seeds of Discontent

"The media system has been set up to serve the interests of those who make the policies behind closed doors—large profit-driven media corporations—while the broad and vital interests of the population have largely been neglected. This system has contributed to a political crisis of the highest magnitude and unless it is confronted directly will severely limit our ability to make progress on any of the other major social and political problems."

–Robert W. McChesney, from The Problem of The Media, 2004

The corporate elite’s stranglehold on the media is not a conspiracy. It is a fact. In recent years, the US government has bowed to corporate pressure, slashing regulations on media ownership. Diverse, independent newspapers, book publishers, movie studios, and television and radio stations have been swallowed or squashed by the five monstrous conglomerates that now own the vast majority of the media. The corporate elite’s stranglehold on the media is a part of human history.

Two years later, his call was answered. The activist who converged upon Seattle during the World Trade Organization protests. In 1999, this resistance spawned the first Independent Media Center, and, in only five years, this global network of community-based collectives has sprouted almost 150 chapters reaching from Mumbai to Montreal. The explosion of this phenomenon proves that our movement be powerful enough to crumble this amoral structure.

Although we support "equality" and "freedom" we will not settle for paying homage to vague concepts and ideals. This publication is a tool for direct action. Hope is that rejection of conformity and defeat. Dignity is that nation without nationaliy, that rainbow that is also a bridge, that murmur of the heart no matter where the blood lives it, that rebel irreverence that mocks borders, customs, and wars.

This is why we are Fault Lines. Each aspect of this struggle for revolution represents a crack in the system’s facade. Only when these fissures are united will our movement be powerful enough to crumble this amoral structure.

This newspaper may only be a small tremor, but if you can feel it, then you know a massive shift is brewing in the underground.

For all this, along with those who, beyond borders, races and colors, share the song of life, the struggle against death, the flower of hope, and the breath of dignity…

–Subcomandante Insurgente Marcos, January 1996
The California Coalition for Women Prisoners advocates fundamental changes in the prison system in order to give all communities the opportunity to actively participate in a collective process of media production and distribution. By operating with transparency, our mission is to train and empower marginalized voices to reclaim our lines of communication and speak truth to power. You don’t say my husband’s hurting me to death and I couldn’t get up. The next day, I couldn’t feel the rays from the sunlight on my skin nor in my heart. I only have one picture of him, and it was from that “special visit” – the last day we saw each other. The social services took pictures of him, and I have only a photocopy of it.

The County I was convicted in contacted my mother, and told her that Peter would be put into foster care if he had no immediate relatives that could care for him. So, my mother told the county that he had a father and the county called Anthony. My mother and I both felt it was better for Peter to be with his father, though Anthony was abusive. We thought that if something was to happen, he’d actually be held responsible.

Peter was on the witness list to testify against his own mother, even after the court system wouldn’t take the picture of his ear – so badly hurt by Peter’s abusive father – into evidence. They said it was because the court couldn’t determine Peter’s age in it. Still, though, my son did testify.

During the prosecution, I was shocked to find that Peter is wearing glasses. My heart dropped because my baby could’ve been affected so much by not having me – that he lost his ability of perfect sight. My mouth told me that he stopped loving his grandmother wears glasses and so does his father. Even I wear reading glasses, but that day everything else was blocked out when I heard he was wearing them. I thought – but he’s so young, this all affected him to that amount! I don’t have peace in my heart, not knowing the answer to this and not knowing where Peter is. He may be a step, mile or state away, and I won’t have peace until I see him again. Office and Mail.

Now, four years later, I spend my time in here trying to do everything I can to get out – so I can find my son. I schedule my duties as well as I can in order to make certain to not break any rules, and I keep to myself in here. I write Peter letters, it’s a way to speak to him, even though I can’t take them to him. I don’t have an address due to the fact that everything surrounding Peter, and finding him, has been denied to me.

Fighting back

A lot crosses my mind now, and writing Peter letters is a way to get it all out. On these letters I ask him how he’s doing, and hope that my heart reaches and finds him in the best of spirits. I don’t ever want Peter to stop loving his mother – but these letters remain unseen. Peter: how was school today, did you do your homework, what’s your favorite subject, do you do sports and if you do: what kind? Peter, do you have any best friends? What are their names? Peter, are you eating your favorite food (spaghetti) still? Peter, my beloved son, how are you adjusting to your new life?

Do you know that Mommy never stopped loving you, and I have your name engraved in me to remind of you everyday?

I have no contact with my ex-husband, Anthony, and he has my son. If I had contact with him, I’d want to say that I’m terribly sorry for the poor choice I made. I pray to God everyday that he’s being a good father to OUR son because OUR son deserves to be happy. I want to tell other mothers that I know the pain they’re feeling; the awfulness that comes because we don’t know where our children are, the anxiety that comes around certain dates like birthdays. I know the joy of those days, because they’re not things to celebrate without our children. I know, because we’re all facing the same problem of not being able to see our children due to the fact that we’re incarcerated. Sometimes, thinking about it’s more painful to not see our children, than the sentence we have to serve.

But we need to get our spirits and mentalities strong and together, to fight the good fight! We have the power that we can to work the program to heal our scarred and scarred cores, and not let the prison system work us. Do your time, as “they” say, and don’t let time do you. There is always tomorrow, and there is always hope. We cannot lose that hope, not now – not ever.

All names in this article have been changed to protect the identities of those involved in this incident.

For information on how you can support women prisoners, contact the California Coalition for Women Prisoners at info@womenprisoners.org.

Contribute to Fault Lines

Fault Lines encourages our readers and members of the community to get involved in making media. Our goal is to train and empower marginalized voices to reclaim our lines of communication and speak truth to power. We welcome articles, reviews, news blurts and letters to the editors in any language. Submissions of relevant and timely photos and artwork are encouraged as well. Your feedback for us (or are not) covering is necessary in creating a news source that truly is a voice of the people. Suggestions regarding our design and readability are also greatly appreciated.

In an age when information and news are so tightly managed and controlled by the corporate media, industry and government, a free, independent and alternative press is essential for any hope of creating a just world.

Submissions and letters to the editors may be published at: www.indybay.org/publish.php, e-mailed to: print@indymedia.org, or mailed to: Fault Lines, 2940 16th St - Suite 216, San Francisco, CA 94103

About Indybay
The San Francisco Bay Area Independent Media Center is a non-commercial, democratic collective of bay area independent media makers and media outlets, and serves as the local organizing unit of the global Indymedia network.

Fault Lines
Mission Statement
Fault Lines, the newspaper of the San Francisco Bay Area Independent Media Center, aims to give all communities the opportunity to actively participate in a collective process of media production and distribution. By operating with transparency, this newspaper hopes to achieve the goal of allowing the public, not corporate conglomérates, to set the agenda for news coverage. Our mission to train and empower marginalized voices is a commitment to disrupt the media plutocracy seeks to supplant with the kind of public service journalism that comes around certain dates like birthdays. I know the joy of those days, because they’re not things to celebrate without our children. I know, because we’re all facing the same problem of not being able to see our children due to the fact that we’re incarcerated. Sometimes, thinking about it’s more painful to not see our children, than the sentence we have to serve.

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Starving for Justice
By Julio and Charles Houston

In 1967, normal proceedings of the California State Legislature came to a screeching halt as members of the Black Panther Party (BPP) stormed into the state capitol. This organized group of poor, but socially-conscious citizens had armed themselves in defense against police brutality. They entered the capitol to remind policy makers that “constitutional rights” have been promised to all people, not just the wealthy. The BPP fought to make lawmakers aware of the dire socio-economic conditions facing the urban black folk who they were supposed to be representing.

On June 4, at a SPEAK OUT meeting between the current state legislature and Fast4Education, a grassroots, civil and human rights movement committed to education, they entered the capitol to remind politicians of the dire socio-economic conditions facing the urban black folk who were supposed to be representing.

Through discussions and organizational meetings, the group decided to pressure the lawmakers into listening to their demands (the actual demands can be accessed at www.fast4education.org) with the spiritual offering and profound statement made by a non-violent symbolic fast. At 12am, on May 10, 2004, the Assembly members who opened up their conference rooms to provide temporary relief to the activists, who had marched for many miles in the sun. At that moment it became clear that more drastic tactics were needed to be more effective in representing the urgency of this issue.

In response to this crisis, March4Education organized an eight day march from Richmond to Sacramento, which included community members, parents, teachers and students during spring break vacation. Carrying signs bearing slogans such as “No Vacation For Education,” they persisted with the hope of meeting Gov. Schwarzenegger and urging him to listen to the children of Richmond and respond to demands of revitalizing and restructur- ing funding for public education in California. When they arrived in Sacramento, the marchers were greeted by a cold indifference. Very few assembly members who opened up their conference rooms to provide temporary relief to the activists, who had marched for many miles in the sun. At that moment it became clear that more drastic tactics were needed to be more effective in representing the urgency of this issue.

On day nine, Dolores Huerta, co-founder of the UFW, came out to show her support for the fast and for public education in California. Huerta, a veteran of many non-violent direct actions, recommended that the fast be moved to the steps of the State Capitol. On May 16, Oakland Mayor and former Governor of California Jerry Brown came out and signed a resolution in support of the fast and, inspired by this action, declared May 17 (the actual anniversary of Brown vs. Board) “Equal Education Day” in Oakland.

On “Equal Education Day,” the fasters and their small support team traveled to Sacramento and set up camp outside the Capitol. Again, they were greeted by police and threatened with arrest. Again, their first vigil drew a small crowd of about fifteen people. But they remained and their support team kicked into high gear. With the support of many state legislators, they secured a permit and the crew grew within the Capitol and in the community. As local community leaders and dedicated Sacramento families joined the support team, the group watched as the vigils grew dramatically. Though some fasters had already broken their fast and many more would eventually step out for health reasons and other circumstances, the circle remained strong and several legislators and top-ranking California politicians began to pay daily visits to the fasters’ camp. When Dolores Huerta and key organizers with the Dolores Huerta Foundation arrived to the second time, the legislative support seemed to multiply. With the fasters’ health in jeopardy, she made personal visits to numerous legislators and before long, legislators were lining up to address the fasters’ demands at SPEAK OUT meetings. A resolution in support of the fast was signed by 41 members of the legislature in two days.

On day 25, the resolution was introduced to the Legislature as fasters watched from the Assembly floor. The news was circulated that even Republicans were intending to sign-on to the emasculation of a call that was received by the Governor himself urging the Republican Assembly members to caucus. The resolution did not pass but the Governor’s aides were sent down to negoti-
Newswire

Breaking Ranks
Refusing to torture lands staff sergeant in jail by Rob Eshelman

"There has been poor strategic thinking in this. There has been poor operational planning and execution on the ground. And I think we're just trying to stay the course, the course is headed over Niagara Falls." Zinni does not stand alone in his harsh criticisms of pre-war motivations and war-time strategy by top civilian officials within the Pentagon such as Paul Wolfowitz and Donald Rumsfeld. His comments have been echoed by a growing number of former top military officers, including former General and National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft and former head of Central Command Norman Schwarzkopf. The dissent of such generals portends yet another fissure in the crumbling superstructure of the Iraq occupation, calling it, "a war for oil." The photos created a public relations nightmare for the US government. Under mounting pressure, court-martials were issued to seven soldiers from the 372nd Military Police Company. In an effort to stem media scrutiny, the military and Pentagon tried desperately to spin the event as an isolated incident carried out by a few rogues. Evidence to the contrary, such as Rumsfeld's approval for a large, acceptable interrogation meth- ods and allegations of abuse at Bagрам air-base in Afghanistan and other bases in Iraq, continues to emerge.

On May 19th, Specialist Jeremy Sivits, the first soldier to turn himself in to face criminal charges for refusing to participate in such abuses, was sent to a maximum penalty for his role in the abuses – twelve months in prison along with being discharged from the Army for bad conduct and a reduction in rank to private. A dark irony unfolds when Sivits’ pun- ishment is compared to the sentence that Camilo Mejia received for turning himself in to face criminal charges for refusing to torture lands staff sergeant in jail. A subsequent court decision against Sivits has resulted in the Army forbad conduct and a reduction in rank to private. A dark irony unfolds when Sivits’ punish- ment is compared to the sentence that Camilo Mejia received for turning himself in to face criminal charges for refusing to torture lands staff sergeant in jail.

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Maxxam/Pacific Lumber Racks Up 325 Violations

According to state and federal regula- tors, Maxxam’s Pacific Lumber has racked up 325 violations of environmental laws since 1997. The pattern of illegal cutting consists of destroying habitat for the endangered mated murrelet and spotted owl, falling trees and cascading through riparian watercourses, and over-cutting boundary lines. About 75 percent of the violations of degraded water quality. The new list of violations added to the 250 previous viola- tions accumulated from 1995-1997. A new report released by the Environmental Protection Information Center details the crimes of this notoriously destructive timber corporation.

Now that the US armed forces, directly, about abus- es back home, Camilo was granted a two-week furlough, last October, in order to return to Miami and resolve the issue of his residency status. Camilo did not return to Iraq at the end of this temporary reprieve. Instead, he went underground. Taking such precautions such as avoid- ing communication through cell phones and camouflaging hisander, Camilo had already planned and plotted a strategy to become the first sol- dier serving in Iraq to gain conscientious objector status. While hiding out in New York, Camilo met with the national director of the Gulf War veterans. They encouraged him to contact Tod Essig, a lawyer and direc- tor of the Citizen Solidarity for New York Gulf War veterans’ organization. Essig agreed to work with Camilo in preparing his consci- entious objector application. "We agreed after World War II not to carry on individ- ual defense of this country unless we were directly attacked," Essig said in a press statement, explaining an aspect of the law against the six other American soldiers pleading guilty, Sivits agreed to testify against the six other American soldiers implicated in abuses at Abu Ghraib.

"If that didn’t work, we would load a 9mm pistol, and pretend to be charging it near their head, and make them think we were going to shoot them. Once you did that, they did whatever you wanted them to do basically." Following a tearful apology, he was sen- tenced to the maximum penalty for his role in the abuses – twelve months in prison along with being discharged from the Army for bad conduct and a reduction in rank to private. A dark irony unfolds when Sivits’ punish- ment is compared to the sentence that Camilo Mejia received for turning himself in to face criminal charges for refusing to torture lands staff sergeant in jail.

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Leaving Cary Verse Alone

by Lani Riccobuono

All parolees in California face extreme challenges upon release. If you have a felony conviction on your record, no matter where you go to apply for a job, potential employers will be sure to ask you about it. Without many job opportunities, it is easy for folks to fall into the trap of poverty. To make matters worse, parolees are subject to “safety nets” for impoverished people, such as receiving food stamps and living in public housing, an unfortunate to those with felony convictions. With parolees facing such desperate situations, it is no wonder there is such a revolving door pushing people back into prison. The situation is even worse if you are a parolee like Cary Verse.

Cary Verse is a convicted sexual offender, and his sentence is an indefinite one. He was released from prison after serving 12 years, and went directly to a state mental institution where he was imprisoned for an additional five years. On top of all that, he has been chemically castrated. He was later transferred 24 hours a day by a global positioning system strapped to his body.

When it was decided that corporal punishment (e.g. chemical castration), purportedly abandoned long ago by our criminal justice system, is acceptable? It is not unimaginable, given the continuing trend of our criminal justice system towards extremes like three strikes and capital punishment, that the existence of chemical castration as a society must deal with together. Rose Braz, director of Critical Resistance, a grassroots organization seeking to reverse this policy of “don’t-ask-don’t-tell” intended to discuss feminism and masculinity, and the intersection of the transgender and feminist movements. The event was the Transform Feminism Conference.

The participants were reminded to be respectful of the safe space the conference would create for the discussion of sensitive and personal themes dealing with gender. We learned to respect anyone’s right to define themselves and never assume how they identify from external cues.

Further tests indicated a match with synthetically-created DNA constructs manufactured by several corporations, including Berkeley’s sugar daddy, Novartis.

Advocates of genetically modified organisms (GMO) development dismiss ecological safety concerns by pointing out genetic manipulations designed to prevent contamination, such as “Terminator” seed technology. While tinkering with DNA to create more productive and gene-modified crops, they also program the plants to be sterile. Since these GMOs can’t reproduce, they reasoned, genetic changes will be contained to the individual plant. The transgenes found among the Oxacan crops shattered this hypothesis. Both Monsanto and Novartis, the world’s two largest producers of transgenic corn were implicated by these findings.

Genetically modified pollen can travel great distances via wind and water currents. It’s not uncommon for genes to cross species through vectors such as viruses and bacteria. The factors contributing to gene flow are numerous and, at this point, non-computable. While the original list of AgBioWorld, a major portal for the biotech industry, the supposed author of this e-mail, “Mary Murphy”, was soon revealed to be a fictional character created by someone “working for Bivings” or “clients using our services,” as Todd Zeigler, head of the PR firm’s online department, admitted in a BBC interview. This confession came as a result of an investigation by a British anti-GM campaigner, Jonathan Matthews of the Norfolk Genetic Information Network, who traced the origin of the e-mail to a computer operated by Bivings.

Despite this revelation, serious damage had already been inflicted upon the legitimacy of Chapella and Quist’s research by “Murphy’s” critique. In response to the controversy generated by this e-mail, Nature, a leading scientific journal, published the following notice in April 2002: “In light of these discussions and the diverse advice received, Nature has concluded that the evidence available is not sufficient to justify the publication of the (Chapela and Quist’s) paper. As the authors nevertheless wish to stand by the available evidence for Of Oxaca’s maize contamination remain unclear, the cultivation of GE corn had been outlawed by the Mexican Department of Agriculture since 1998. This precautionary measure was obviously not enough.

**Attribution**

Fearing that this discovery would not be taken lightly by the millions who eat corn, Ignacio Chapela was contacted by the director of Mexico’s bio-security department, Dr. Fernando Ortiz Monasterio. Monasterio met Chapela, one of the few trusted maize researchers in the country, and shared his concerns. The union of maize, GE, and their particular needs. The giants of the biotech sector have been divided over the scope of the college’s research. Ignacio Chapela, along with several other colleagues, criticized the deal, warning that the influence of the second largest pharmaceutical corporation would dictate priorities. The legitimacy of this concern was quickly justified.

**Illlicit Exposure**

Chapela’s long-standing relationship with the agricultural community of Oaxaca, Mexico began when he helped set up a laboratory that facilitated the export of profitable Shiitake mushrooms to Japan. While examining the native maize populations in Oaxaca in October of 2000, one of Chapela’s graduate students, David Quist, made a shocking discovery. Despite a ban imposed by the Mexican government, uprooted GE maize found in the birthplace of modern maize domestication, there was clear evidence of genetic contamination.

DNA, the fundamental genetic unit is found in every living organism, is a biological fingerprint. The DNA of every organ- ic organism holds a unique genetic code, making it useful in criminology and other legal matters, such as determining parenthood. In Mexico alone there are 39 distinct races of corn each with large numbers of sub-varieties. The presence of DNA from genetically modified corn revealed by Quist’s discovery presented a serious threat to the biodiversity of the native species, because genetically-modified crops have the potential to cross-breed with native crops, altering the evolution of the entire population.

While indigenous farmers rushed to preserve their heritage by saving seeds and plants, Chapela and Quist began to investigate the source of the contamination. Since the Monsanto Corporation, the first company to incorporate biotechnology into agri-business, the researchers examined the Oxacan maize for the presence of DNA from Monsanto, the company that owns the genetically altered gene sequence. In five out of seven samples, this turned out to be the case. of their conclusions, we feel it best simply to make these circumstances clear, to publish the criticisms, the authors’ response and new data, and to allow our readers to judge the science for themselves.”

Nature may have been reluctant to support the Berkeley scientists’ conclusions, but subsequent studies conducted by the Mexican Government (National Institute of Ecology, INE, and National Commission of Biodiversity) confirmed the presence of genes from transgenic maize within native crop populations. Monsanto’s smoke screen could not hide the fact that international agriculture laws had been broken. One of the biotech industry’s central claims, that programmed sterility would prevent this, had been completely invalidated.

The process to grant Chapela tenure began with a favorable 32 to 1 vote within his department. Despite the merit of his work and the affirmation of his colleagues, his tenure approval stalled once it reached top-level administrators. With no feedback from the closed-door tenure committee Chapela was told that his tenure case had not met the other set of criteria that counterweight the strength of the case,” clearly implying the influence of Novartis, the corporation that had showered Berkeley with $50,000,000.

Last summer, Chapela protested the knowledge of University officials to private entities by moving his office, piece by piece, onto the lawn. In an online arti- cle published in Counterpunch he explained motivation for this action: “Beginning at 6 o’clock this morning, as I enter the final days of my contract as a faculty member at the University of California at Berkeley, I intend to mark the closing of my tenure case by what I believe a professor in a public university must do: to further reason and understand- ing. For the brief time that remains of my terminal contract at Berkeley, I shall sit holding office hours, day and night, outside the doors of California Hall. This is for my file.”

Chapela’s tenure decision remained in limbo for another 6 months, but eventual- ly, last fall, a rejection was delivered by Chancellor Robert Berdahl. An uproar ensued as hundreds of letters supporting Chapela poured in to the Chancellor’s office. Many academics wrote to Berdahl, questioning his decision and demanding greater transparency in the tenure process. Recently, the Graduate Assembly of the University voted unanimously to further pressure Berdahl into exposing the factors contributing to his rejection. “We’re just being supportive of the transparency of the process,” said Jessica Quindel, president of the Graduate Assembly told The Daily Cal. “There’s been a lot of secrecy about this—we just want to know why he was denied tenure.”

This fall Berdahl’s term as Chancellor comes to an end. This change of administra- tion has encouraged Chapela to fight for his tenure at Berkeley. The new Chancellor will have the power to reverse Berdahl’s decision, so there is still hope, but if Novartis has it’s way, Ignacio Chapela’s days of unveiling biotech falla- cies at Berkeley will be numbered.

Genetic engineering has taken place for hundreds of years by the farmers of the world. A fruit that tasted better then another was selected to be planted year after year increasing its abundance. Others were artificially mated with each other to produce tastes and odors pleasant to our senses. The problem arises when profit coupled with irresponsible science dictates these choices rather than the producers and their particular needs. The giants of biotech have no concern in the preservation of the biodiversity for future gen- erations of animals and plants; they are look- ing to maximize their shareholder values next month or next year. The tenure sys- tem has also historically preserved the integrity of research conducted in the uni- versity, selecting the ripe minds and nurturing them over the years. Today both UC Berkeley and the global population have reached a critical turning point where the depleting resources for knowledge and nour-ishment are dictated by capital.
One major issue in the debate over genetically modified (GM) "frankenfoods" has been the US's attempts to force it upon developing nations. This includes tying loans to GM food purchases and Congress' passing of the HIV/AIDS Act, which links health assistance to acceptance of GM food aid. The refusal of several post-colonial African governments, including Zambia, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, to accept GM food aid recently brought this controversy to a boil. African leaders who reject GM food aid should be treated "for the highest crimes against humanity in the highest court of the world," according to U.S. Ambassador to the UN Food Agencies Tony Hall (Reuters News Service, December 9). Condemnations of the African refusal generally range from mirth, as in the case of the World Bank, to outrage, as by the business press, who classify the African behavior as "silly." The "liberal" media portrays the African people as starving victims of the powerful urban elites controlling their government. Examining the case of Zimbabwe, however, illustrates the entrenched nature of the forces opposing GM crops in Africa.

The historical situation of Africa's history is marked by greedy rulers appropriating land and labor from the native populations. Because of its proximity to South Africa, where the first colonists arrived, the people of Zimbabwe are no strangers to exploitation. Lured by tales of gold riches, the British South African Company swindled the lands of the indigenous Ndebele and Shona people. They were led by a British entrepreneur named Cecil Rhodes whose forces seized the conflict with the ethnic groups to consolidate power through force and imposed British rule by the less than 5 percent white minority of the population. Britain's acquisition of Zimbabwe in 1890, coupled with their growing influence in South Africa, was a significant factor in the collapse of the surrounding agricultural economies that led to the migration of large white farms while operating out of newly liberated Zambia and Zimbabwe in an attempt to expel the settlers.

The settlement of Southern Rhodesia, which became Zambia, the settlers of Southern Rhodesia declared independence from the British Empire in 1965. In 1979, the outlaw colony was invaded by the African guerrilla forces who then began to attack the large white farms while operating out of newly liberated Zambia and Zimbabwe in an attempt to expel the settlers.

The settlement and main political leaders of the guerrilla movement eventually signed a truce that was not to be violated. Unfortunately, the colonizers would not be stolen but bought for adequate compensation. Today the balance of appeasing the western powers and appealing to the people's call for economic justice continues to be the major driving force of Zimbabwe's political environment. Robert Mugabe's Independence movement won the first all race election in 1980 on a platform of nationalizing the wealth redistributed. At the dawn of Mugabe's regime, whites were less than three percent of the population, its landholding aristocracy was the most concentrated in the world. The government was forced to confront the challenge faced by many post-colonial African leaders. They had won political independence but not economic independence.

Zimbabwe's economy was based on agriculture, but the large export farms were still owned by the whites, who constituted less than one percent of the population. African farming was primarily smallholder, largely subsistence. The decline in food production and the escalating importance of exports created hardships that fueled the rise of a popular national agenda. This discord and the extreme corruption of Mugabe's administration allowed Zimbabwe's economic policies to be dictated by international financial institutions, which called for all harvest genetically modified piggies to solve the market for profit rather than stockpiled creating volatile conditions and hampering progress.

In light of its history, Zimbabwe is particularly cautious in negotiating with the foreign investors on mounting humanitarian crises forced Zimbabwe and a few other countries to accept GM food aid. They fought to prevent contamination of food aid by demanding solely organic aid, but USAID refused this demand, leaving the countries little choice but to accept the potentially devastating donations. By refusing to stifle the grain or provide GM aid, USAID makes clear that their primary purpose is to internationalize state power not to provide aid. The industry leaders at BIO 2004 want to make the productive aspects of farming far more lucrative for the farmer's purposes by tying them to their off-farm seed product. By creating the conditions for a farmers' vaccine co-op, they will justify the value from his labor and soil in the familiar industrial lab setting directly instead of exploiting the farmer for the harvest of his crop. Also, by forcing other countries to pay for repackaged seeds of indigenous crops agro-business plans to steal the vast social wealth that comes from centuries of crop cultivation in those local communities.

Another potentially dangerous use of animals in biotech is their utilization in a xenotransplantation. Xenotransplantation is the transplantation of organs or tissue from one species to another. Scientists are researching ways to use animals as donors—such as pigs—to generate organs for human transplantation. Whether it's pigs or baboons supplying the organs, the threat to public health remains the same. The possibility that an animal virus could jump from one species to another is real. Scientists could unwittingly breed a new contagion with the transfer of genetically modified tissue between species. In 1985, for example, the Emerging Infectious Disease Journal, "The risk for xenozoonoses is likely to be restricted to the xenogeneic tissue recipient. Nevertheless, one must consider and anticipate the potential danger for xenozoonoses to the human population, constituting a public health concern."

The threats to the health and integrity of our natural environment and everyone in it are clear, but in the growing worldview of biotech, ethical concerns often take a back seat to the profit motive. Technology is allowing us to cross boundaries that were never before possible. Just as the enclosure of the commons during the middle ages left one's wealth based on his land, today's biotechnology is creating new forms of ownership. The genetic tampering is turning our very bodies into commodities. In their noble quest to cure cancer and feed the hungry, the pharmaceutical industry is gathering vast wealth—up from 88 billion to 114.8 billion dollars today. As their profits soar, 20 million animals a year are killed and countless genetically engineered animals used to create new forms of human disease. The revolution will force each of us to a mirror to our deepestheld values, making us ponder the ultimate question of the purpose and meaning of existence."
On May 27, the day before US Trade Representative Robert Zoellick signed a deal intended to expand NAFTA policies to include six Central American nations, the California Coalition for Free Trade and Human Rights (CCFHR) protested outside the Federal Building. With the approval of the Executive Branch, the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) now moves to Congress, but if several statements released by legislators last Thursday are any indication, the Bush Administration’s current push for corporate globalization may have reached a dead end.

Rep. Nancy Pelosi took the protest as an opportunity to publicly condemn the treaty with Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua (negotiations with Dominican Republic are pending). Reading a letter from the House Democratic Leader, Dan Bernal, Pelosi’s deputy district director told the protesters, “CAFTA is on a midnight train to nowhere...The integrated market we are built upon the suppression of workers.”

Jesse Swanhuyser, Director of CCFHR, a united coalition composed of representatives from the AFL-CIO, Sierra Club, and various agricultural, religious and immigrant organizations explained why the group chose to gather outside of the Federal Building, which holds Pelosi’s office. “CAFTA is an opportunity for Democrats to draw a clear distinction between themselves and the Administration.”

The protesters’ suggestion did not go unheeded. The day of the protest, six Democratic Reps., including California’s Barbara Lee and Honda Solis, released a letter blasting CAFTA. “We have already seen the damage that CAFTA has done, economically and ecologically,” Lee wrote. “Just as with NAFTA, women and minorities will bear a disproportionate price for an unsound, unfair trade policy.”

Since its 1992 passage, the free trade agreement with Canada and Mexico has caused more job loss in California than in any other state. Between 1993 and 2002, the Economic Policy Institute reports that NAFTA destroyed a net total of 115,723 California jobs, primarily in the manufacturing sector. At the protest, San Francisco Labor Council representative Alan Benjamin said, “The American work force has been devastated by NAFTA, and we won’t let it happen again.”

Besides labor concerns, a number of CAFTA provisions could reduce affordable access to vital human services including health care and medications, water, education and energy. The authority of public officials to protect health standards for professional licensing, environmental and occupational health, alcohol and tobacco protections, privacy rules, and patients’ rights could also be undermined, according to a study by the Center for Policy Analysis on Trade and Health.

California environmental laws and even the authority of the Supreme Court have also been challenged by the Chapter 11 provision of NAFTA. Chapter 11 gives corporations the ability to sue foreign countries, which has resulted in cases of NAFTA provisions overriding national laws. These lawsuits are decided by panels of three judges who are select- ed by the plaintiff and the defendant nation from a pool of World Bank and International Monetary Fund officials. In a statement to the New York Times, John D. Escheruera, a law professor at Georgetown University said, “This is the biggest threat to United States judicial independence that no one has ever heard of and even fewer people understand.”

On June 7, a NAFTA tribunal will convene in Washington D.C. to decide if California’s ban on MTBE, a carcinogenic gasoline additive that has made the water of communities across the state undrinkable, impinges on future, potential profits of Canada’s Methanex corporation. If the panel decides in favor of Methanex, as they did in a nearly identical case in which Virginia-based Ethyl Corporation successfully sued the Canadian government to eliminate a MTBE ban, U.S. tax-payers will have to pay Methanex $9.7 million or deregulate MTBE usage.

In another case, Glamis Gold Ltd., is suing California for the right to open a massive, open-pit, cyanide heap-leach mine in the Imperial Valley on the sacred grounds of the Quechan Indians. This method of mining has been banned in several countries and Montana. The precedent set by a recent tribunal decision that forced Mexico to pay U.S. Metalclad Company $16 million when it refused to reopen a toxic waste dump that would have had devastating effects on the local population suggests that California may have to pay $50 million or overturn its mining-operation laws in the name of free trade.

Under CAFTA, these Nicaraguan girls may be forced away from their rural homes in one of the few remaining Sandinista farming villages and condemned to a life of sweatshop labor.

Harken Costa Rica Holdings - a firm with close corporate ties to the former Energy of Texas, which just happens to be President Bush’s former oil company, is already threatening Costa Rica with a CAFTA investment suit - even before the agreement is signed.

Harken obtained an agreement to drill for oil off of Costa Rica that was contingent on the outcome of an environmental assessment. The assessment determined that the project was incompatible with the country’s environmental law. The drilling was to take place in the Osa Tamalancan region - one of the richest marine ecosystems on the planet, which contains reserves for three indigenous communities, an UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Cahuita National Park, and a UN-designated wetlands site.

In response, Harken tried to bring an international suit against Costa Rica demanding more than $57 billion - almost THREE TIMES Costa Rica’s annual GDP - for profits Harken claims it would have made from the project. Under the terms of their investment pact, however, Costa Rica was able to exercise its right to keep the case in domestic courts. Under CAFTA, they would have had no such choice. Harken would have been able to circumvent national courts and take its case directly to ICSD.

According to the local press and members of the Costa Rican government, both Harken and the Bush Administration have used the threat of the impending CAFTA as a lever to press Costa Rica to settle their dispute faster and pay more for the right to protect its environment and indigenous communities, or in giving to Harken and allowing the drilling.

The situation is clear: the CAFTA will expand an agreement that is fundamentally at odds with democracy. In a democracy, there is a commitment to balance the many competing interests that exist in a society. Those doing the “balancing” are – most often – representa- tives of the people. One interest might be the ability of corporations to operate and make profits. Another interest might be the preservation of the lands and rights of indigenous communities, or the right of the citizens to clean and healthy drinking water.

Each of the laws in question here derived from a democratic process which was recognized by the affected communities who organized successfully to demand action by their elected officials, who then balanced the competing interests at hand to pass laws that served the overall public interest. That should be the end of the story.

Now, this is not to say that interna- tional courts are inherently flawed. Rather, it is to say that these rules and these courts are. They are thoroughly unbalanced, one sided and undemocratic. For this reason alone, much less the hundreds of others will we reference today, the CAFTA must be rejected, the NAFTA must be rescinded and the real interests policies that already exist must be applied in their stead.
Honduran Government Agrees to Campesino Demands
Resistance Negotiates Victory, But Threats Continue - by Jessica Pupovac

Last week, as President Bush signed the Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), a tense showdown took place in the halls of Intibucá, Honduras between Honduran Special Police, known as Cobras, and citizen-led actions demanding the liberation of Honduran popular movements. The Regional Coordination of Popular Resistance (CRRP), a local branch of the Civic Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras (COPINH), formed unprecedented alliances among a broad spectrum of allegiances including campesino (farmer) and indigenous movements with labor unions, agricultural federations and the local Catholic Church. To combat the extreme poverty and profound exclusion that have characterized Honduran society for generations, CRRP took aim at the Honduran Special Police, known as Cobras, the Honduran government’s paramilitary police force, and the Honduran government. In an official statement issued May 1 expressing solidarity with anti-imperialist movements around the world, the National Coordination of Popular Resistance, Honduras’ largest coalition of resistance groups, echoed the above demands, adding that their government must not sign away their futures by becoming a party to the imbalanced and exploitive CAFTA.

These demands were punctuated by several CRPP-related direct actions during the weeks that followed, including blockades of major thoroughfares, which prevented contaminated potato seed from getting in and freshly cut lumber from getting out. In one episode, 500 sacks of GMO potato seed were confiscated.

On February 1, Maria Esperanza Hernandez, an unaccompanied Mexican worker on her way to a 4 a.m. shift in the laundry room of a local nursing home. Her usual ride was unavailable that morning, so her daughter, known to family and friends as Carmen, offered to accompany her on the four-mile walk from their home in Tutila la Paz to work. When Maria’s ride was unavailable, the men decided to walk to the laundry room of a local nursing home. Her usual ride was unavailable that morning, so her daughter, known to family and friends as Carmen, offered to accompany her on the four-mile walk from their home in Tutila la Paz to work. When Maria’s ride was unavailable, the men decided to walk to the laundry room of a local nursing home.

CRRP organizers took aim at the Honduran Special Police, known as Cobras, the Honduran government’s paramilitary police force, and the Honduran government. The government’s backlash was swift, but ultimately ineffective. COPINH’s phone lines were cut, death threats and acts of intimidation against various CRPP leaders grew more numerous and extreme, and Noel Pipol, President of the National Federation of Potato Producers (FENAPA), was charged with aggravated robbery and is currently awaiting trial. On May 23, 80 members of COPINH participating in a land recuperation in Tutila la Paz were arrested in the early morning hours by trucks full of police.

While demands remained unanswered and the various occupations continued, tensions grew as Cobras swarmed the cities. Rumors that paramilitary units, consisting of security agents working for the logging firms, were preparing to strike spread through the resistance. The presence and organization of this newly forged alliance was proven by their steadfast response; in the face of this intimidation, they established a presence outside the county jail and increased the number of highway blockades.

Then, on May 22, representatives of the President’s office, the Ministers of Defense, Education, Transportation and Agriculture finally agreed to sit down to the negotiating table. After hours of deliberation, many of their local demands were met, including: the establishment of a “green belt” around the major municipal centers; the cessation of logging for a one year period of investigation, with community participation in conducting surveys; strict regulations regarding potato seed imports; the immediate firing of Director of Education Mario Roberto Cantareño; public meetings of various local municipalities; a series of land reform resolutions; and the release of 77 of the 80 campesinos arrested during the land occupation (the other three are to be released any day now).

Despite these victories, things have once again grown tense for the CRPP organizers in Honduras. Professor of Mexican teacher involved with pushing for education reform within the CRPP, awoke on the morning of May 27, as bullets riddled his home. Later that evening, two armed men arrived at the COPINH offices, cocked their guns and fired a few rounds inside. After hanging on the doors and walls for almost a half an hour, the men fired two bullets into the house before finally escaping.

Local law officers have all but ignored these incidents and have refused to file reports. Witnesses, after describing the cars and authors of these acts of violence, have suddenly and inexplicably changed their stories. The organizers of COPINH and other symbols of justice and human rights movement hold no safety, but have vowed to continue to fight for just, inclusive development and for their rights to organize in a just society, and a life free from intimidation.

For information on how to support this struggle, please contact author at jespup@riseup.net.

Celebrating successful negotiations, COPINH leader Berta Cáceres issued the following proclamation:

On February 1, María Esperanza Hernandez, an unaccompanied Mexican worker on her way to a 4 a.m. shift in the laundry room of a nursing home. Her usual ride was unavailable that morning, so her daughter, known to family and friends as Carmen, offered to accompany her on the four-mile walk from their home in Newark, CA. On their way through the quiet Fremont neighborhood, these women were brutally murdered. The assailant, described by neighbors as a six foot tall white male, allegedly beat both women to death with a large tree branch. The brutality of this crime, Fremont’s first double homicide in almost two decades, was largely ignored by the media, besides a smattering of coverage in a few local papers.

According to a report issued in June 2003 by the National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (NNIRR), immigrant women are among the most vulnerable to exploitation, abuse, and human rights violations in the U.S. An excerpt from ‘Hands that Shape the World,’ a NNIRR report, states: “the U.S. government has not only failed to protect the rights of immigrant women, but has implemented policies that negatively impacting the well-being, health, employment, and family life of immigrant women.”

The lack of media coverage directed to legislation, such as Gov. Schwarzenegger’s proposal to repeal the Unmarried Parent Bill in order to allow workers to apply for drivers’ licenses, seems to legitimize this assessment. Media complicity regarding this agenda of “whitewashing” becomes even more evident when comparing the disproportionate coverage of two other unrelated murder cases involving Bay Area women recently. Both were pregnant at the time of their murder and each case is being investigated as a result of domestic violence.

The body of Laci Peterson, 27, a white woman from Modesto, was discovered in April 2003. In July 2002, the torso of Evelyn Hernandez, 24, a resident of San Francisco, was found on the banks of the Embarcadero. Evelyn Hernandez and her 5-year-old son had been missing since May. Her son Alex is still missing along with any substantial press coverage, even within the local press. Meanwhile, the case of the white woman, Laci Peterson generated national coverage and the trial of her husband continues to garner front page coverage.

This contrast implies not only institutional racism, but the sensational coverage of Laci Peterson’s case has generally failed to examine the case in terms of a nation-wide epidemic of domestic violence. The legal system will not secure more funding for battered women’s shelters, affordable daycare, or other feasible means of attempting to mitigate an unrelenting social problem that affects one out of four women. This ignores all socio-economic barriers. Instead ‘Laci and Conner’s Law’, treats unborn fetuses as victims separate from their mothers in a court of law, distorting the true context of this crime.

Fair and Balanced or Racist and Distorted? - by Sarolta J. Cump

On February 1, María Esperanza Hernandez, an unaccompanied Mexican worker on her way to a 4 a.m. shift in the laundry room of a local nursing home. Her usual ride was unavailable that morning, so her daughter, known to family and friends as Carmen, offered to accompany her on the four-mile walk from their home in Newark, CA. On their way through the quiet Fremont neighborhood, these women were brutally murdered. The assailant, described by neighbors as a six foot tall white male, allegedly beat both women to death with a large tree branch. The brutality of this crime, Fremont’s first double homicide in almost two decades, was largely ignored by the media, besides a smattering of coverage in a few local papers.

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Fault Lines | June 2004 | 9
Despite being the top-grossing Canadian documentary ever, *Manufacturing Consent*, an exploration of Noam Chomsky’s media control theories directed by Mark Achbar, has never aired on a commercial network or major cable station in the US. His latest film, *The Corporation*, has already surpassed *Manufacturing Consent’s* success in his homeland, but don’t bother looking for this one in TV Guide either. The film’s theme – that the corporate entity is a psychopath – might make advertisements a little squeamish. So even though *The Corporation* has triumphed at film festivals around the globe, including an Audience Award win at the Sundance Film Festival, the only way to see it in the US is during its limited summer tour of selected cities.

*The Corporation* parades a mind-boggling series of facts: AOLTime-Warner owns the rights to “Happy Birthday,” a corporate cabal led by DuPont, Goodyear, and JP Morgan attempted to covertly overtop FDR during the New Deal-era, Fox News tried to pay investigative reporters to lie. The unique framework of this comprehensive indictment makes what could have become a sensory overload accessible and even humorous. Since the corporation is considered an illegal individual by law, the filmmakers apply the actual diagnostic criteria of the World Health Organization to gauge its personality. Going down the checklist of psychotic traits ranging from amorality to callous deceit, even a FBI psychologist agrees – it’s a psycho. Achbar’s conclusions aren’t without their detractors. Between clips of early newsreels, corporate propaganda films and explosive free trade summit footage, high-ranking (and invariably smiling) business figures such as the CEO of Goodyear, the former chairman of Shell, and Nobel Prize-winning economist Milton Friedman give their opinions on capitalism (the right-wing call the progressives infatuated). Critics like Chomsky, Howard Zinn, and Michael Moore face off in the other corner, but the multiplicity of voices prove itself above life. Here, Mark Achbar discusses some of the issues raised in *The Corporation* and solutions to reforming this dominating and amoral system.

**Fault Lines:** History has humbled every formerly dominant institution from the Roman Empire to communism. You’ve said that the corporation is unlikely to become the first to defy history, but with globalization, corporations are becoming more pervasive and powerful than ever. Is there a reversal of this trend likely any time soon?

**Mark Achbar:** I’m starting to see a groundswell of people, longer willing to acknowledge the legitimacy of this institution. If you would’ve said that the Berlin Wall was going to fall, two years before it did, nobody would have believed you. There comes a tipping point, and you never know when it’s going to happen... but you get a sense of things.

There’s certainly been a move towards reform, there’s more of a consciousness of the institution itself, and this film is a part of that growing consciousness.

**FL:** But corporate ideology is so inescapable, as if this system were a foregone conclusion and there are no alternatives. How do you get outside this envelopment to get a critical detachment?

**MA:** You go see this movie (laughs). It’s the worst violence, like the oil companies try to portray themselves as environmentally conscious. The nature of the institution is to manipulate and lie in order to preserve its power. It’s like a gangster. There are people who are more honest than its corporations are desperate, so they do. Ray Anderson is a leader in terms of his company’s efforts to become a sustainability leader. His goal of 100 percent sustainability for his company is very radical now, but do you see environmental consciousness as a growing corporate trend?

**FL:** Ray Anderson is a model for businesspeople who want to take an environmental initiative. Right now, by cutting waste, he’s managed to make money by instituting his environmental objectives. The real question comes when you have to sacrifice profit to meet environmental goals, and publicly traded corporations aren’t prone to do that unless forced to do so by regulation.

Plus, there’s a lot of greeningwash. Some of these corporate alliances, like the oil companies, try to portray themselves as environmentally conscious. The nature of the institution is to manipulate and lie in order to preserve its power. It’s like a gangster. There are people who are more honest than its corporations are. I think the inequalities in society have triumphed at the expense of human rights, the environment, etc.

It’s the worst violence, like the oil companies try to portray themselves as environmentally conscious. The nature of the institution is to manipulate and lie in order to preserve its power. It’s like a gangster. There are people who are more honest than its corporations are. In theory, the invisible hand is about participatory economics. It’s community owned. It’s a model worth considering – or at least discussing. They can be good. We certainly wouldn’t have gotten this film made without the (Canadian) government, but industry wants to be perceived as an equal. They should be subordinate to the government and the public, not the other way around.

**FL:** In some cases, like certain aspects of biotechnology shown in the film, where corporations have begun patenting living organisms and discovering relations to the human genetic sequence, there doesn’t seem to be much of a question as to who’s writing the rules. What are the implications of these developments?

**MA:** I’m not an expert in that field, but I just find it deeply offensive that some corporation has any claim to my genetic makeup. It’s morally repugnant that they’re dopying up the genetic commons. We need to find another system of incentives to allow the research to be done. I’m not saying, “Let’s all be luddites and not explore how to cure diseases,” but there must be a system of public ownership and management of these research facilities.

**FL:** What about universities?

**MA:** Maybe, or it could be an international body or a section of the UN.

**FL:** The film paints a very negative picture of privatization, from the genetic patenting to the revolts in Bolivia against Bechtel’s ownership of the water supply (including rain), but some public institutions are so bureaucratic and inefficient. Couldn’t a privatization benefit, say, American public schools?

**MA:** That’s a tough question, but it seems to me that the incentives are all wrong. What’s the use of a school if it isn’t profitable? Shut it down? That could be pretty disruptive and the children could suffer greatly. Call me old-fashioned, but there’s just something not right about the public education system being managed for profit.

**FL:** But isn’t this already happening?

**MA:** Well, there’s the infiltration of school boards by corporate attorneys representing serving lunches, etc. Then there are actual for-profit schools that are owned by publicly-traded corporations. This means that those whose job it is to increase enrollment force has to be profit, which seems to clash with what it should be – education.

**FL:** What about the theory that says what’s best for the market is best for the people?

**MA:** I think the inequalities in society today prove that market forces need a little regulation. In theory, the invisible hand will take care of companies that completely stomp on their workers, because people won’t work there, but workers are desperate, so they do. Perversely, by Michael Albert, is about participatory economies. It’s completely different model for seeing how an economy could be run, and under what principles, and how to get the things we value enriched in an economy. I think it’s a model worth considering – or at least discussing. I’m not smart enough to design an alternative society, but it has to come as a result of the democratic process. It’s important that there are some people who are thinking forward and trying to conceive of a system that’s not what we’re used to called “capitalism” in terms of allocation and use of markets and put it together in a humane, equitable way that promotes good values. We need to keep our humanity intact.
Glitch-Hop Apocalypse
D.C.'s Food For Animals Rages Against the Bush Machine - By OverDose

Backpackers might not admit an obligation to respond, but it seems like the more formulacized and commercialized mainstream hip hop becomes, the harder the underground strives to shatter associations with its juggy counterpart. When the first, stripped-down sounds of punk emerged during the 70s as a result against puffy mainstream rock, cultural and political represion, and basically everything except alcohol and safety pins, people called it “unlistenable.” “Musical anarchy,” they scoffed, and snorted down another rail of low-grade blow off a Bee Gee’s record sleeve so they could fit into tight pants.

“Unlistenable” is a term that today’s bling-bling set would probably use to describe Food For Animals, “cause if you tried to listen to their head to their debut, Scavengers (coming out this month on Muchamuck Records), you’d be likely to catch a seizure. It’s a rusty creak in your ear, sharp and twisted. This slab from D.C.-area duo Vulture Voltaire and Ricky Rabbit glitch-smacks the platinum teeth right out of the mainstream’s mouth. Samples get chewed up, regurgitated by robotic monters, and shotgun-hitched for the shudder-bombastic beats. “It’s a reaction to living in the suburbs,” Rick Rabbit said of his chaotic programming. “Since everything else was the same, I just had to make chaos.”

While Ricky plucks and mutilates snippets from across the musical spectrum to create his pastiche, Vulture spits wild reactions to political and artistic phoniness and unraveling messages, Vulture said. “But sometimes I just want to say “Fuck Bush” and I don’t need three sentences to do it. I can say it in two words.” The convergence of so many twisted visions and influences on Scavengers sounds like the eye of a culture storm. Living in the belly of the Republican beast obviously played a role in the urgency of Vulture’s various condemnations. “There are a lot of people who go to the protest or perform at the protest, just because it’s expected or the cool thing to do, but they never make their own statement when they’re outside the crowd,” he said. “This record is our political contribution. Coming up with these lyrics changed me, because it made me question what I wanted to say about the system.”

With lines like “Lookin’ at your $100 clothes where’d you get those/is that the total for your shirt or your zip code?” Vulture’s social commentary is a hip hop reverse. How many MCs are dissing folks total for your shit or your zip code”

“There’s plenty of MCs that drop rhymes like abstract origami—intricate, but confusing—who call themselves “verbal acrobats.” Vulture’s more like a boxer. I love dissecting complex, poetic rhymes, and unraveling messages,” Vulture said. “But sometimes I just want to say “Fuck Bush” and I don’t need three sentences to do it. I can say it in two words.”

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By OverDose

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Crypto - compiled by Iain Boal

Across:
1. Basque autonomists
2. White bloc?
3. TV staple?
4. Dogged philosopher
5. Surprising lack of speech
6. Lovely bovine
7. Spanish satanista
8. Buttress against the state?
9. Stable Youth
10. Mother of communies
11. Painful attempt
12. Unlistenable
13. Bulbousness against the state?
14. Governmental game
15. McNamara’s fog maker
16. Shameful weapon?
17. Spanish saturnalia
18. Capital’s 3D maps
19. Identified cut
20. Ironical game
21. Fixed worth
22. Identified cut
23. Chief WTO battleground
24. Buttress against the state?
25. Getting out of hand?
26. Butter-smacks the platinum teeth right out of the mainstream’s mouth.
27. World-weary giant
28. Anarchist assistance
29. Capital’s 3D maps
30. Old proverb
31. More heaven than hell?
32. Lather bar
33. Creative companion
34. Unlistenable
35. Surprising lack of speech
36. Anarchist assistance
37. Dogged philosopher
38. Dogged philosopher
39. Creative companion
40. Dogged philosopher
41. Dogged philosopher
42. Dogged philosopher
43. Dogged philosopher
44. Dogged philosopher
45. Dogged philosopher
46. Dogged philosopher
47. Dogged philosopher
48. Dogged philosopher
49. Dogged philosopher
50. Dogged philosopher

Down:
1. Basque autonomists
2. White bloc?
3. Diminutive red
4. Dogged philosopher
5. Surprising lack of speech
6. Lovely bovine
7. Spanish satanista
8. Buttress against the state?
9. Stable Youth
10. Mother of communies
11. Painful attempt
12. Unlistenable
13. Bulbousness against the state?
14. Governmental game
15. McNamara’s fog maker
16. Shameful weapon?
17. Spanish saturnalia
18. Capital’s 3D maps
19. Identified cut
20. Ironical game
June 8, SF: Protest G8 and BIO

www.reclaimthecommons.net

Reclaim the Commons plans to shut down the Biotechnology Industry Organization International convention, and an anti-G8 demo will reclaim the streets.

June 8, Dolores Park, SF: Guerrilla Video Screening

www.nog8.org

The perfect cap for a long day of disrupting the BIO convention and reclaiming the streets, a free guerrilla video screening in the park: 9 p.m.

June 8-10, Sea Island and Brunswick, Georgia: G8

The Group of 8 (G8) Summit will bring together the leaders of the world’s richest nations to decide political, economic and social issues affecting over 6 billion people. Protesters face martial law and machine-gun toting military troops.

June 9, New College, SF: History of Palestine

Presentation on the history of Palestine & benefit for ISM.

June 10, Lake Merritt BART, Oakland: Protest BART Layoffs

BART continues to layoff transit workers while protecting its bloated management and administration: 8:30 a.m.

June 11, ATA, SF:

"BOOM: The Sound of Eviction"

Video screening benefiting the Eviction Defense Collaborative. 8 p.m., 992 Valencia.

June 11,12,13,16, SF and Berkeley: ISM Training

Four days of International Solidarity Movement training for work in Palestine.

June 12: International Day of Action and Solidarity with Jeff "Free" Luers

Jeff "Free" Luers is an environmental activist and political prisoner sentenced to 22 years in prison.

June 12, Justin Herman Plaza, SF: World Naked Bike Ride

A clothing-optional ride to protest oil dependency: 11 a.m.

June 14, SF:

Memorial for Gloria E. Anzaldúa

Memorial for lesbian Chicana cultural theorist and creative writer. 10 a.m., 3543 18th St.

June 14, SF:

Reggae Benefit for California Prison Focus

Benefits women prisoners living in solitary confinement and California Supermaximum security prisons. 8:30 p.m., 295 China Basin Way.

June 18, Fresno: "Occupied Territory"

Anarchist/anti-authoritarian gathering.

June 19, Golden Gate Bridge:

Health Care for All

Doctors, medical students, health practitioners, union members, activists, and allies will march on the Golden Gate Bridge to demand health care for all. Simultaneous marches will take place in many other cities. 7 a.m.-1 p.m., Crissy Field.

June 25, Dolores Park, SF:

Tranny March

The Friday before PRIDE: The annual march of trannies, friends, allies and admirers.

June 25, Justin Herman Plaza, SF: Monthly Critical Mass, 5:30 p.m.

July 23-29, Belgrade, Serbia:

People's Global Action (PGA)

PGA is a network of autonomous grassroots movements around the world, sharing an opposition to capitalism and commitment to direct action and civil disobedience.

July 27, SF: SF Pride

The parade starts at Market and Beale at 10:30 a.m. and proceeds west to Market and Eighth Street.

For details and contact info, or to submit your event, visit www.indybay.org/calendar