

# WAR *For Anarchism* Issue #3 Free or for Donation to Street Vendor

# COMMENTARY

FIRST THERE WAS THE QUARANTINE. People were already struggling, but then they really started to worry when everything locked down. And then George Floyd was murdered by the police, triggering another uprising here in Oakland. People went wild for almost a week straight, so wild that a night-time curfew was enacted and the National Guard brought in as close as Vallejo. You remember what it was like, just like we all do. First it was there, then it wasn't, and now we're all heading back into quarantine.

What happened during the uprising is just a taste of what's to come. The cat's out of the bag now, too many people know the secret: **if you strike everywhere at once, the police are powerless.** The more people who strike, the greater the chance of success, and cooperation is key to distributing this risk so that everyone has a chance of getting away clean. If people are competing against each other, the police always get the upper hand, and as they've shown us, they are perfectly willing to kill someone guilty of nothing more than theft. In order to win, we all must cooperate, and in this way, anarchism can spread across The Town even wider than it already has.

During the uprising, everyone could see the influence of anarchists on the streets, but there is still too much confusion about what anar-

chy means. There are some people who call themselves anarchists and believe in something called anarchism, but anarchy itself is a state of being where difference is allowed to express itself, where people are allowed to choose their own paths, and where the state and capitalism no longer rule over our lives. So we can't tell you how to join the movement, because if you are reading this, and any of it makes any sense, then you are already part of it. Anar-



chism might express itself in a group or a project, but anarchy is made by all of us, together.

Capitalism encourages us to compete with each other at every moment, for every resource. Anarchism is the polar opposite. Anarchism is the conscious practice of cooperation, mutual respect, and equality. In this capitalist world, where a few people are allowed to hoard everything, some people decide to institute their own state of anarchy and redistribute all

that plundered wealth. Some people call this theft, crime, looting, stealing, what have you, but it has existed ever since the first people began to sit on their wealth rather than share it.

The indigenous Ohlone tribes of the Bay Area committed a crime whenever they fished from a stream that belonged to some Spanish colonizer, at least on paper. An indigenous or black slave committed a crime whenever they escaped their captors, just as their very existence was criminal in the eyes of a racist society. The point is, crime is defined by those in power, just as those in power are the biggest criminals, given that all they do is sell us back stolen goods that should otherwise be free. Without the police to back up property relations, freedom becomes within our reach, but as you all know, freedom is the best drug out there. It's best to drink responsibly, and al-

ways with the aim of helping others. There are people who are easy to steal from, usually the poorest, just like there are businesses that are easy to rob, usually the smallest. Just because it's easy doesn't mean it's good, and the corner stores that carry this paper deserve to thrive in this miserable wasteland while the banks, the corporate shops, and multi-national cargo containers deserve only to be plundered. Good luck in all the days ahead. Take care of each other. Stay free. Get wild.

# CORONA VIRUS SPECIAL!

# IKEA REVOLUTION MANUAL

**I:** Foster a belief among your friends, your family, in your neighborhood, in your town, or in your city that the capitalist system needs to be abolished in order to ensure a better life for all. This belief must be widespread across all demographics before the next steps can be followed. Pretty major.

**II:** Abolish the use of money in your lives. While this might not be entirely possible before a revolution, limiting the use of money will break down capitalist relations on an interpersonal level and establish new forms of collective exchange (barter, trade, gift, etc.) that will not only be useful after a revolution, they will help bring about that revolution. On the other hand, if large amounts of money can be obtained before a revolution, quickly spend all of it on vital infrastructure for your community. Keep in mind that money literally corrupts people, hence the need for a revolution against it.

**III:** Organize water and electrical utility workers in order to seize the necessary means of survival and provide them free to all. This is also pretty major. For example, the Roman Empire would crush revolts by simply closing the aqueducts to insurgent cities. Water is life.

**IV:** Map all arable farm land and ensure enough food can be grown to feed the local population. Without this step, people will literally starve to death and be at the mercy of whoever has stolen and hoarded the most processed food. It is ideal to begin this step well in advance of a revolution. Unlike money, food

does grow on trees. The thing is, you have to grow those trees and not wait for a Safeway truck to deliver you an apple picked in Washington State.

**V:** On a given day, simply stop going to work and then seize all the



goods stored in corporate hubs like logistic centers, major ports, train yards, and grain silos. Only target the large capitalist centers. That is more than sufficient to get started.

**VI:** Violence should be avoided. The same goes for direct confrontation. If everyone stops working on a given day, if the utility workers are with the people and against the state, then there will be little need for violence. The cops and the military combined are always far outnumbered by the population, and if they try to put people in work camps or open fire on a crowd, they will have essentially given up any claim to legitimacy. After that, they would be faced with millions of angry people seeking their end. It would be much more peaceful if the state just surrendered at that point, but those in power like their power. This is serious.

**VII:** And on the seventh day there

was rest. Just kidding. After this revolution, power must be broken apart into little pieces so that it no longer exists. No one should be allowed to wield power over another and anyone placed in any decision making position should serve for no longer than a month, but less if possible. Also, no one should be allowed to have any position more than once. If the goal is to establish anything resembling equality among humans, we all must eventually learn to live without any authority, no matter how benign, and be responsible for our own conduct, welfare, and destinies. At the end, this whole revolution thing might just be called growing the fuck up and learning to treat ourselves better, along with the earth and all the animals. Good luck, and godspeed.

*"The anarchist bombs were aimed at tyrants who were responsible for the misery of millions; ruling class bombs just kill thousands."*

-MARIE-LOUISE BERNERI  
ANARCHIST MILITANT

