BROADCASTING TO DIVIDE THE COMMUNITY

You will never have seen this man appear on TV, but yet James Hawthorne is the Northern Ireland BBC Controller who decides what we will see and hear daily.

WAINING CREDIBILITY.

Dick Francis, the overall Current Affairs Controller in the BBC will occasionally let Republican attitudes slip through to give the illusion of "balance," such as the Panorama film of the IRA roadblock in Carrickmore (only to be threatened ominously that it was time the BBC put its "house in order" by both Thatcher and Callaghan).

NO CHINKS.

Not so our own homegrown Controller. When James Hawthorne arrived back in Belfast from Britain to work for the BBC he refused to live in the Malone Road. This was too near to Andersonstown and the possibility of being kidnapped. Instead, he and his family were put up in a four star hotel at a cost of £500 per week for a year until he eventually found a house in the Golden Mile ghetto of Co. Down where the real wealth can be found (a garage for the car and one for the yacht!).

Ulster born James Hawthorne, in a recent lecture in the Polytechnic states he was brought up into "one particular tribe, the majority tribe," as he delicately puts it. He views his Loyalist position as one simply of wanting to remain part of Britain and a problem of identity in feeling that the mainland, although repeatedly stating that Ulster is British, does not give it the priority it should if events here were happening in the nation as a whole.

However, in that Loyalist philosophy he conveniently ignores what the connection leads to. The long loyalist tradition which, through corruption, exploitation, discrimination and violence (with Britain's backing) retains the position of privilege and power over Catholics and Protestants who realise the anti-working class nature of loyalism.

WHOSE NEWS?

Hawthorne declares that, "journalism depends on what people tell us it is happening." But how many times have you seen a BBC reporter on the scene, asking local people what happened and giving their version the same weight as the Army, Police or State story?

A BBC Television News Sub-Editor is quoted as saying, "I have always assumed the official line is we put the Army's version first and then any other." Hawthorne complains that during "the Bobby Sands affair" "One of the real difficulties was the lack of willingness of what I am going to call the Government side to take part in broadcasts. They were broadcasting to America — under pressure. They were briefing American and foreign journalists. They were not briefing home journalists. And yet there was a welter of views and opinions and statements represent- ing the other side of the argument."

Obviously the State feels the BBC could be sufficiently relied on to adequately present their views (although Hawthorne regrettably feels the Republicans won the day) but the foreign press who were not easily controlled needed special effort.

contd. back page
The prison itself differs greatly from the more recent confines of Long Kesh, a hasty yet highly secure construction of corrugated iron fences and barred wire. The 'Crum' is hundreds of years old, with medieval stone walls, portcullises, s Lyon-posts, long grey corridors, courtyards and all its filth. The waiting room is packed. Most of the visitors are women waiting to see husbands, sons or boyfriends. Many are visibly under a high degree of stress, shaking hands, short nervous glances, shouting at the kids who don't fully understand what's going on, or that the ritual of prison visits has only just begun for them. A thorough search and into the second waiting room. This is an under heated, gloomy dungeon-like affair - thick stone walls, barred windows and a barred door, which gives you the very real impression of being caged in. No-one talks. Kids run around. No-one enjoys the experience of visiting, the interminable waiting, being constantly under surveillance and lock and key, heavy searches and jibes from the screws turn the whole affair sour, as this process has been designed to do. Another way in which the prison authoritites attempt to break the individuals morale is through the policy of shifting prisoners from Belfast to Derry (magilligan camp) and from Derry to Belfast - this means that people have to spend the whole day travelling in order to visit a friend or relative, hence visits can become less frequent.

Across a small grey courtyard under guard, and into a large Portacabin, which contains about twenty small cubicles. People speak in hushed tones, screws wander around at whim, watching and listening in on 'private' conversations, no privacy whatsoever - the intimacy of a close relationship being impossible to retain.

Conversation on the different worlds - inside/out. Inside: Loyalist 'supergrass' has been given a portable television for his cell; Loyalist prisoners received six hours of association on Christmas day. Republicans half of that freezing cold in the cell's tales of endless remand court appearances/a particular vindictive screw is pointed out.

The visit ends, and as you pass the army patrols swarming around the outer perimeters of the prison, you realise that you haven't been able to say half of what you wanted to, and that under these conditions it will, inevitably, be impossible - such is Her Majesties Pleasure.

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The Industrial Threat of Chemical Hazards

Omagh District Council have just decided to declare their area a 'nuclear-free zone', after they learned that the USSR had taken note of it as a uranium site. During '75-'76, a Canadian-based Uranium prospecting company spent time taking soil samples in the Fintona area, in an attempt to monitor the uranium content of the soil; and, if you talk to any local, you will learn that they seem to have found what they were looking for.

Not too far away from Fintona, at San Angelo, a little used commercial airport, there are plans of siting a Radar Dispersal point - part of NATO's Nuclear Strategy. The Post Office Trunk cable, containing the civil defences communications system, passes through also.

Uranium, wanted by the EEC, Radar Stations, wanted by the British Government and US military machines, means only disadvantages for the people of Omagh. Poisonous waste from mining, and an immediate launch into a danger nuclear game (of which, incidentally, Derry has also opted out recently) - this is what is involved. Surprisingly, or maybe not so, it is the Unionist family in both districts who have been opposed to nuclear-free districts. Maybe they just feel more British than the British.

£1000 for 2000 copies. It was recorded at the local commercial radio recording studio and pressed in England. They had to book the studio, and all they could scrape together on the day was £100 which 'bought' them 4½ hours of studio time and a load of hustles. They don't expect too much Air Play, particularly of 'Brutality'... the only way people will get to hear the single is at Punk discos and places like Just Books (Will John Peel play SS-RUC on the BBC?) No surprisingly, the DEFECTS have no gigs lined up... until a permanent alternative venue exists, no-one wants to know.

'Dance Til You Drop':

Way on down in screaming hell
A place that I see every night
The same familiar faces
Always looking for a fight
They appear at unchanged places
Creating Anarchy
Punishment from the other faces
Watching such insanity
Dance, dance, till they drop.

'Brunialty'

They take you down to Castleragh
You didn't think you were here to stay
They put you up against the wall
Kicked you stupid till you fall
What the hell did I do wrong
I must have stood on the corner too long
Get in the back, they said to me
You're just the bastards from RUC
Brutality - what do you say
Brutality - Is here to stay
Brutality - what a threat
Brutality - it'll get you yet
SS-RUC SS-RUC SS-RUC.'
In issue No.21 of OUTTA CONTROL, you carried an article by Padraig O Flaitthimh and Robin Gibson called 'Gay for Self-Determination'. NIGRA and the Strasbourg case are mentioned in the article. Robin and Padraig state that the Strasbourg case was a failure, because O'Flaith and Paisley have 'saved Ulster from Sodomy'. As the judgement is only just about a month old, they do seem to be a bit premature. By the way, Padraig and Robin would still like everybody else to assume O'Flaith was neutral if NIGRA hadn't blown his cover.

The writers go on to say that we recognize Westminster's 'alleged' right to legislate for the province. There is nothing fictional about Westminster's right to make laws for Northern Ireland. It is based on its monopoly of the means of coercion. It is also based on the fact that the majority of the inhabitants consist in Westminster's rule. If you don't oppose the state 24 hours a day, you are, to a greater or lesser extent, collaborating with the forces of law and order. This is true of every state, not just the United Kingdom.

O'Flaitthimh and Gibson say NIGRA has 'alienated' nationalist homosexuals. If they are using nationalist as a code-word for P.R.C., this statement can be demonstrated to be not true. If they mean people who aspire to a 'Dazzle-united' state, this, again, is untrue. NIGRA never said that the British Army should remain on the streets of Northern Ireland. It simply pointed out the All-Ireland: the Irish Army could not control N.I., neither could the Republican underground armies. The only real alternative is some sort of Loyalist armed force under the Ayatollah, who will have proved a prophet. Is this what the authors want?

They go on to mention 'Unionist muscle', as Stormont (of all things) was kicked into touch in 1972 and NIGRA wasn't formed until 1974 - this does seem like a pointless exercise. Should we discuss the past just because it is there, like a monolith confronted with Everest?

The writers' explication of the exploitative nature of the 'holy family' is fairly standard radical socio-political stuff, except that it suits the Republic of Ireland rather than any part of the U.K. (N.I. has had liberal divorce laws since 1978, probably traded against Homosexual Law Reform.) Also, we would argue that capitalism does not need patriarchy, and many find it a bind, but that is rather arcane. What is likely to happen in the case of gay (male) law reform is that it will be trade-off against Abortion on Demand, or just Abortion. The O'Flaith/Paisley alliance will then be seen in all its unsavoury dimensions. NIGRA unambiguously supports the demand for abortion on demand, and for the right of all women and men to dispose of their bodies how they will.

Sean McGouran
Secretary, NIGRA.

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**LEADERS LOGIC**

Lord Gowrie says, Direct rule is imperial and un-British, and absolute power is embarrassing.

Gvanure O J'Brien, ex-Labour minister in the South, chief keeper of Ireland's colonialist conscience, and our leading liberal light, has one main New Year Resolution: 'As towards political violence, if necessary, the simultaneous introduction of Internment, North and South' !!

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**What Did You Do When the Centre Was Going, Dear?**

So the A Centre is shut - for now at least. Two months of non-stop Saturday energy-multiplication/multi-coloured entertainment in Belfast City Centre that no one could turn down or slow up.

It was an experiment in a way, and one that demonstrated the possibilities and potentials for young people in our priest-ridden, ministered, policed, occupied, over-priced, non-work society. Entertainment by ourselves for ourselves.

What was it? Nothing much really, just a few local bands, a few films, slides ... but perhaps the most imaginative public venture in Belfast City Centre ever! And the reason it was simple - it was outside and beyond the control of every sort of authority ... it showed that people can get something together outside of state control and the clever men of rock and roll ... without being exploitative in any way.

Punks mainly, came along ... notorious amongst police and managers for all imaginable next column

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**ANTHONY WAS MURDERED??**

Anthony McClure died in June '79 in Oxford Street. On 9th January, in the County Court, his father was awarded £3000 criminal libel compensation, as the SAIC (SIF) had published an article in which Anthony's death was described as 'murderous'. It was held to be a false statement of fact. However, the Judge ordered that the family should be paid £3000 in compensation for the distress they suffered as a result of the publication.

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**DRAWING THE DOLE?**

ART WORK by unemployed people ... a short exhibition is showing at the Crescent Resources Centre in January. More offerings are needed ... get in touch with Ken via the centre, Lower Crescent, University Road, Belfast. Some of the work will be on the walls of the Just Books Cafe in February.

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A very special thanks to Good Vibrations for lending us the P.A.
ontal, from front page
He complains, "Is it not the job of the Authorities to generate much more material?" despite the sophisticated Army information and 'pay-ops' unit which in 1976 numbered 40, Press Officers and 100 "other stuff" providing the fodder.

Hawthorne says, "As late as 1947, it was BBC policy 'not to admit any attack on the constitutional position of Northern Ireland'" which shows that the BBC from it's beginning acts on behalf of the state and isn't the impartial, unbiased news reporter that it likes to project.

REWITING HISTORY.
A recent schools broadcast on the fall of Stormont was more or less illustrated by pompous and righteous speeches by Loyalist politicians in Parliament during the last days of Stormont. It gave no indication as to the real reasons for it's fall as expressed through the people who helped bring it down.

WHOSE CULTURE?
Hawthorne further states: "...it fell to the BBC to discover, define and develop a whole cultural character for Northern Ireland, a culture which was to become a norm for broadcasting."
The BBC censored and ignored the long, long tradition of working class and cultural resistance and instead imposed a British/world culture based on perpetuating and reinforcing the authority, power and privilege of a few.

ANTI WORKING CLASS.
Givent the innocuous folk programme, "As I rowed out", produced by Tony McAuley, who was called to task when he presented an old working class well respected traditional singer, George Hanna (complete with cloth cap), Hawthorne wanted to know at the annual BBC inquisition of employees, from Roisin McAuley, why her husband had put on this toothless old bore and regards traditional music as fiddle-dick stuff, and not what the BBC should be broadcasting to reflect Irish culture.

David Hammond, employed by the BBC for many years, because of his interest in promoting the romanticisation of working class life, has been refused promotion to head of the department, the job given to a polytech lecturer who had no previous experience in television.

Here's Jimmy's idea of a good cultural programme: "The opening of the extension of Belfast Cathedral was the sort of good news that people were looking for, and, in that event, we mounted no fewer than four BBC Televisieon outside broadcasts, three of them for the network."

Great stuff!

The Sunday News must rate as the worst local newspaper around..... for 6 weeks a week the Newsletter spews out its traditional sectarian bigotry masquerading as 'news'.... then, on a Sunday, changes its name and its 'direction' to produce the Sunday Spews. Being the only local Sunday newspaper, its owners (the Hendon family) were quick to see the money to be had by appealing to 'both sides' on the Sabbath. So, they dash up their weekly offering of mild pornography, invented lead stories, and page after page of advertising. It makes money for Henderson, and employs a handful of hack journalists who 'd'other wise be on the dole. (Two years ago, for unexplained reasons, all the journalists with even a degree of integrity, told Henderson to 'fuck off' and left the paper.)

Story, and headline, of the year so far goes to Neil Mulholland.... "Anarchist Centre Closes in Glue-Sniffing Scandal: 'Uter Chaos at City Punk Club'. Just a stream of vindictive inaccuracies and lies, for which Mr. Mulholland will no doubt, some day soon receive his karma. For the record, the Centre was NOT closed because of the glue; there were NO babies on mothers' knees sniffing glue, bands did NOT describe the scene as utter chaos; NO unconscious kids were carried out feet first; NO vomit was all over the floor; NOTHING could make the Pound look like a Palace; the temporary arrangement with the building owners was NOT withdrawn; the place was NOT wrecked; passes did NOT wear out the floorboards (i) and, lastly, the Technical Services Department were NOT launching an investigation. An investigation IS being launched, though, to discover how Mulholland got his NUJ card, and as to how he can afford to spend so much time and money in Kelly's Bar.

The 'Basic Package' provides for only 4,500 new starts - and for only one year. Shelter's own estimate is 10,000 each year.

POISON GIRLS, an anarchistic band based in London, really wanted to play in the A Centre in Belfast. It took a great deal of effort on their part especially to play only 3 gigs, one in Dublin, and 2 in Belfast. People paid up to go to see the film and slides as well as on Saturday the DEFECTS and JUST DESSERT, and on Sunday, STALAG 17 and DOMINIC ELEMEMT; both supporting Poison Girls.

Many of the bands had to get a professional booking to sit and relax, talk, drink coffee and dance. The admission charge covered the high transportation costs, hire of the P.A., a new £20 for the 'psy-ops' programme, with £10 for each of the local bands.

Unlike the Otherclass Manoeuvres in the Dark B. the Human League, where for £5 you were treated like shit and made to stand like hobbling serpines, possibly watching 'the stars' do their thing under the watchful eye of the cop. Poison Girls made a point of getting the feel of Belfast for a few days during their stay and to talk to as many people as they could. Nor the H.L. or O.M.D., who flew in to do the gig and fished out of money in their wallets. And we're made to feel that what they came to play in this wanker city.

OK, a lot of people think that their music is great, but was their live performance that much better than listening to their record? Basically, their live performances didn't add much to the music, except the screams of adulation when they played their hits.

The A Centre, local groups and Poison Girls' enemies in creating simple stage props and all give the concert some meaning and impact to the performance.

Despite thousands of pounds spent on installing huge arrays of lights, 15 slide projectors showing meaningful imagery, perfectly synchronized to Human League's music which (nudged up any spontaneity) and two '90's style go-go dancers (complete with mini skirts), it did little to compensate for baring static musicians. Poison Girls stage presence was sardonically sparse, while the other bands went all out. Legal, ironic, biting lyrics, and the belief that there were people who lived and played anarchically.

The day's events turned into a party for most people, if you know the words to 'Anarchy in the UK', you could be one of the dozen or so people on stage, backed by the Supergroup '10 1 DEFECTS' an amalgam of Staling 17 and the Defects.
The whole saga of Kincora Boys Home has now been dragged on in the public eye for the last two months, though it appears to have been in the less public eye of the police, and the Northern Ireland Office, and various government departments for a great deal longer as much as 15 years in some cases. Despite the fact that many of the young men who had been in Kincora, over the last ten years had complained to various groups of sexual abuse and mistreatment while in Kincora, and also in other homes in the area, the authorities consistently ignored and hushed up complaints, while more boys were subjected to the same treatment. In fact it took the suicide of one former inmate before anything was done. Why did it go on so long?

When finally the police took action and charged three of the wardens with several sexual offences, they all pleaded guilty and so none was cross examined in court - this meant that very little information was available. What became clear though was that the systematic sexual abuse of minors had taken place at Kincora and other boys homes in Belfast for a long time, and that the three wardens couldn’t possibly have been the only ones involved, and that indeed young boys were being used for financial gains, sold to a whole wide circle of individuals without their consent, for the purposes of sexual abuse. In 1975 the police had been quick to terrorise the local gay community, on the flimsiest of charges, bringing misery to many innocent individuals, causing trouble in their work and with their families. In this situation of persistent child abuse they were very reticent to do anything, when the evidence was colossal and irrefutable. The answer lay in the composition of the individuals who availed of the 'services' provided by Kincora, for they included members of the security forces, the senior civil service, and the business community. One of the victims has said, "it was pointless going to the police, as Mains (the chief warden in Kincora) was known to have friends there." Social workers who complained also finally came to the conclusion that a cover up was going on, for their repeated efforts to have the homes scrutinised came to nothing.

The local press had had a field day with the case it has given them more column inches than they have had in a long time. All have been at pains to point out the homosexual nature of the sexual abuse at Kincora, and the whole issue is clearly going to be used as an excuse not to extend the Homosexual Reform Bill to Northern Ireland. In most reports that we have read you simply could substitute the word 'sickening pervert for homosexual, and there is the clear implication in the fact that homosexuals are people not in control of themselves, ready to prey on children given the opportunity, people we need protection from. What this all anti-gay hysteria, though is doing is simply hiding the real facts of the case, that it doesn’t matter what the sexual preference of the people involved were, what they did was to use children, to exploit children, who they had power over, children who had no comeback.

Rape is no matter who does it - in all cases it is the subjugation of the powerless, an act of contempt, and of control. What Kincora should clearly show is that children have few rights in particular those who find themselves in care, placed in institutions. Often in cramped conditions, they are vulnerable to the control of those in charge, and as Kincora illustrates, it is the child's testimony that holds the least weight. In would have served the papers better to have made that point that children need protection on not from gays, but from those who seek to abuse them, and they cannot be identified by their sexual preferences. In point of fact heterosexual child abuse is far more widespread as cases like the Noreen Winchester affair show.

**FARE RISE?**

Sometime soon the bus fares in Belfast are going to rise again by 1981. This is after two previous rises in 1980. At the rate they are going it will soon be cheaper to hire a private taxi than to go by bus. At present it costs £5 minimum for a bus journey, soon it will be 40p. This will make Belfast the most expensive public transport system in Britain or Ireland. (Manchester the most expensive in Britain is 30p.) This is this of the fact that we already earn less and pay more generally for all our living requirements.

Of course as well the fares rise there will also be a cutback in services particularly in the evening as we are being asked to pay 143 bus workers in the coming year. Basically what it boils to is that very soon Belfast will no longer have a public transport system because the service will be so bad and so expensive that people will be forced to stay at home, or find their own means. Forced by the constant withdrawal of services and one that ended early in the evening, the Falls Rd started its own people’s taxi service which rapidly became the main means of travelling up and down the Falls, and in West Belfast generally as the Shankill Rd taxi service took the example of the Falls Rd Taxi Association, providing a good, cheap, and frequent system for the people. And although there have been numerous complaints about being crushed to death in the bus - without doubt the taxis have run, in all conditions for many years now. People in other areas have not been so fortunate, lacking either the resources to provide taxis, or being too small to provide such a service, they have to use the bus service or walk - not a pleasant prospect in Belfast at night.

Those who have cars are now using them more frequently, and so these days Belfast is beginning to look like a continuous carpark - turn any corner, any waste ground, and hey presto National Car Parks have moved in with cheap tarmac and a kiosk, and astronomical prices. Consequently the
Over the last ten years in particular, there has been an increase in the number, availability and amount of drugs given to women during their pregnancy and childbirth. The effects of induction both in the Royal during their experiments in the middle seventies and in the Erne hospital have been made known. Less attention, however, has been paid to how drugs work and what effect they have on the baby and the mother.

Before, during and after birth, a baby is vulnerable to drugs and chemicals. Drugs, usually toxic, taken by the mother, cross the placenta easily and lodge in the foetus' brain and central nervous system. All functions of the foetus are immature. The liver cannot transform these drugs and chemicals into non-toxic compounds efficiently nor can the kidney's excrete them readily. Studies of healthy full term babies who came from risk free pregnancies and whose deliveries were normal and uneventful have shown that drugs affect behaviour adversely, and that these effects do not go away as the baby gets older (there are no consistent sex or class differences). None of the studies have shown that drugs used during childbirth improved normal functioning. Behavioural changes are related to the dose and potency of the drug. Narcotics like pethidine, for example, are commonly used and may be given in doses 2 to 4 times higher than recommended. All narcotics have a serious depressant effect on foetal breathing and response. Drugs can affect change in feeding, sucking, resting, emotional behaviour, stimulation, tolerance, language, heart rate, responsiveness, co-ordination, reflexes, ability to shut down and to be comforted. Most drugs used during childbirth have never been approved for the purpose of childbirth on any grounds. They have not been assessed in relation to the effects on the central nervous system and future behaviour. Mothers and babies are being experimented on: they are not given the information on the drugs that they are taking nor are they told of alternative methods that are available—natural childbirth, hypnosis, acupuncture or no treatment. There is no information given on the compensation and medical treatment a woman may expect if such experiments go wrong. Witness the case of a Belfast woman who was paralysed after an epidural which was not administered properly, or the many women who were unaware that they were guinea pigs for experiments on induction at the Royal.

Academics and scientists doing these experiments must support their theories with hard facts and statistics on a publish or perish make a name for yourself basis, regardless of the damage they may be causing women and their babies.

What's your Poison?

POISON GIRLS came over to play two performances in the A Centre in Belfast the weekend of 19th-20th December in what proved to be a weekend to remember! The amazing and vital lead singer, Vi Subversa, is also the one who writes all the songs, on nuclear power, abortion, sex, war, mental illness, housework, just about every subject and the other woman in Poison Girls, Liz Gwyn, who does the slide shows and visual presentation.

*Bombing cities, washing dishes, we won't do your dirty work, Mind control for leisure bring, madness rules your dirty world, Boming cities, pulling switches, we don't want your dirty dream Clever Dick atomic splitting—screw your dirty dream.

(Dirty Work, Poison Girls)
Sheila MacLeod’s account of her own life and illness, based on diaries, is told honestly and does give an insight into the mind and feelings of a sensitive, perhaps hypersensitive young woman growing up on an oppressive Scottish island, who has had the misfortune to attend both a convent school and a girls’ public boarding school. She describes how she felt painfully inferior and inadequate beside her school mates in both these institutions. The isolation and loneliness that engulfs an anorexic come across strongly and perhaps the most moving part is the description of the author’s first tentative bite in the presence of her mother. All this however is marred by the constant insistence on psychological interpretations to comment on each phase of the author’s life.

Alongside this, Sheila MacLeod also looks at anorexia from the social and environmental points of view which make more interesting reading. She believes that the traditionally assigned role of women plays a large part in the genesis of anorexia and indeed of many of the problems women, especially at adolescence, experience today. She writes scathingly of a society where women “are granted more or less equal opportunities in theory, but in practice and through series of pressures, denied the right to fulfill them”.

The chapter entitled “Depression” is a perceptive account of the bleak view of life which a despairing woman has. This is to me the most positive contribution which Sheila MacLeod makes towards an understanding of women’s emotions. She uses the image of viewing life “through a sheet of glass” and I am sure that many readers, regardless of their sex, age or weight could identify with the feelings described here.

After an account of her recovery which deals with the various types of therapy used for anorexia, from individual and family “psychotherapy” to the frightening electro-convulsive therapy (electroshock) the writer devotes a whole chapter to Peter Dully’s criteria for establishing whether or not an anorexic is/can be cured. This again would perhaps be griping enough for a psychology student, but I often found it obscure and irrelevant.

Some revealing statistics about anorexia do emerge from the text, among them that at present one in every two hundred young women in Britain is suffering from the illness and that it is no longer confined to the middle classes, nor to women in their teens — there is a case of a 52 year old woman suddenly becoming anorexic; however, out of one hundred patients treated by Hilde Bruch, who has also written on the subject, only fourteen were male.

Anorexia nervosa is then predominantly a woman’s disease and a lot of what Sheila MacLeod writes helps to suggest how anorexia may come about, but I disagree with one critic who describes the book as “basic reading for anyone interested in anorexia”; the psychological slant makes it heavy going and I find the £2.95 which Virago Press are asking a bit steep.

Margaret’s Story

“I am a married woman with six children; I am 30 years old. When I left school at 15, I worked in a flat mill until I was 20 when I contracted Plas Rynmata’s (shortness of breath). Since then I have been working as a market trader and it was all open air markets and I stood at my pitch all day summer and winter for 8 years trying to make a living as my husband was only earning £40 a week.

Two years ago I became badly run down and then suffered severe depression. I cannot go outside and I am afraid to stay in the house myself. My weight went from 9st to 7st 8lbs. Last November I took spondyliasis and as well as that I found out I was pregnant. I lost my baby in March this year.”

Margaret applied for Housewives Non-Contributory Invalidity Pension but was told that a lot of enquiries would have to be made. Invalid Care Allowance and Non Contributory Pension are two benefits available to the chronically sick and to those who care for them. Married women are barred from the Care Allowance and have to undergo a special test to get the Invalidity Pension. Whereas a chronically sick or disabled man is automatically entitled to a Non Contributory Pension if he does not have enough stamps (and single women), a married woman must apply for something called “Housewives Non-Contributory Invalidity Pension”. To get it she must not only prove herself incapable of paid employment but also incapable of “normal household duties”. There is a test which involves an complicated and embarrassing questionnaire, a medical and the judgement of an Insurance Officer. Even then, married women are refused. The EOC is campaigning to have these discriminatory regulations changed. For further information, please contact Maev Bell, Belfast 42752.

MEETINGS

ABORTION CAMPAIGN
MEETING — Wednesday February 3rd at 7.30pm in the Women’s Centre, 16-18 Donegall Street, Belfast.

UNITY MEETING — Saturday 6th February in the Women’s Centre at 11.00am. Discussion on International Women’s Day and events planned. Discussion on Rape as well and the recent events.

Betsy Sinclair died recently. She was well known for her work in the Labour Movement and as one of the leaders of the Unemployed Movement when she was still a mill girl. A memorial library is to be set up for trade unionists in recognition of the work she had done for the working classes.
January
Peter Buttscliffe is arrested and charged with
with the murders of 13 women, known
as the Yorkshire Ripper murders.

Americans "embassy staff" in Iran
released. A racist fire attack on a house
in Deptford kills many young people
attending a party.

February
President Reagan survives a hostage
incident. Two IRA members are killed
in London.

March
Bobby Sands commences a hunger strike
to the death to gain the five demands from
the British Government: no prison
uniform, no prison work, no loss of
remission, educational facilities and free
association. He is joined on hunger strike
later by Francis Hughes, Raymond
McCreesh and Patsy O'Hara. Mass
mass burnings of homes takes place in
Northern Ireland as a protest against the
1981 census.

Attempted coup by Guardia Civil in Spain.

International Women's Day — with a rally
in Provo and a conference on the role of
women in the H Block and
Armagh Campaign. Picket on Armagh
prieon takes place on Sunday 9th March
with international support.

Big happy concert with Peady Seager in
the evening.

April
Bobby Sands elected at the M.P. for
Fermanagh/South Tyrone... the fifth
largest vote received by a M.P. to West
Ireland. Elected two of the six
members of the Sinn Fein
parliament in a spontaneity election against coercive police tactics.

May
Bobby Sands died on May 7th after 89
days on hunger strike. On May 12th, his
comrade Martin Hurson died after 69
days. On May 28th, Raymond McC.
McCreesh and Patsy O'Hara died on the
7th day of hunger strike on May 21st.

Thousands attend the funeral to show their support for the five demand.

Indiscriminate use of plastic bullets by the security forces leads to the
murder of Julie Longtine, age 14, Carol Kelly aged 12 and Henry Duffy aged
46 years. (During 1981 seven people
died as a result of attacks by the security
forces, many others were injured and
wounded)

1ST PLASTIC BULLET WAS FIRED FROM THE HILLS OF MOUNT MAU

Billy Jean King is sued by her former
lover Muhammad Ali for 2000 dollars for
her 1973-74 injury.

Elections in the Republic of
Klaren

Riot on hunger strike and Padraig
Agnew, Northern prisoner, who was
200 dollars.

Michael Devine, imprisoned in Armagh
Jail, released 3500 times in Cork. Liz

John Cleese of Monty Python is named
as the funniest man in the world. He
also

the inept and sanitation medical
treatment

10th., Two women civilians were killed in
an IRA bomb attack on a coachload of
Irish Guards in London.

28th., two IRA bombs go off in Oxford
St, London, killing a police bomb expert,
in one of them.

29th., Women from N.I. Abortion Camp-
aign went to London to present M.P. Jo
Richardson with 6 coat-hangers with mock
airline tickets, to highlight the plight
of women seeking abortions in N.I. A
court
hanger and ticket was sent to each M.P.

November
14th., Roy Bradfield, Official Unionist MP
for South Belfast is shot dead by the IRA.

20th., A half-day strike was called by Lo-
alists as a protest against lack of action
against the IRA. Palley's "Third Force"
joined Newtownards.

December
1st., The inquest at Hillsborough court-
house on the deaths of the Hunger Strik-
ers returns verdicts of "self-imposed
starvation".

11th., Loyalists in the Crumlin Road jail
wrecked the wing and staged a roof-top
protest against conditions in the prison.

12th., A truck full of牒 to the top of the
street was exploded, the drivers of the
truck cut down the streets of Belfast became
increasingly congested especially in the rush
hour.

The same thing was happening in London
to the new Labour Government. The
Labour Government decided to heavily subsidise the
trains and buses and to bring fares down and
encourage people to use public transport
and to leave their cars at home. But as we
all know the law finally decided that the
GUL
12th., hunger strike

3rd., I.McAuliffe's trial for a
bar brawl ends with a acquittal. I.McAuliffe's
trial for a

1st., Kevin Lynch died on the 71st day of
the Hunger Strike.

3rd., Jim Devine died on the 73rd day of
the Hunger Strike.

7th., Liam Creasy died in the 77th day of
the Hunger Strike.

22nd., Bobby Sands's body is repatriated
from Great Britain to Northern Ireland.

25th., Seamus McCurry died in the 90th
day of the Hunger Strike.

25th., Martin Hurson is shot dead on the
39th day of the Hunger Strike.

29th., Kieran Devine's body is returned
from Great Britain to Northern Ireland.

September
10th., Carl Hind, an anarchist prisoner, is
murdered in McManus jail prison in Wash-
ington, D.C.

7th., John Pickering is shot dead in the
67th day of the Hunger Strike.

14th., Jim Doherty takes up the post of
Security Minister for Northern Ireland.

10th., The Littleton House is burned down
by the IRA in Dorset.

23rd., Bobby Sands's body is repatriated
from Great Britain to Northern Ireland.

1st., Jim Devine's body is repatriated
from Great Britain to Northern Ireland.

12th., Bobby Sands's body is repatriated
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This month, four men appeared in a Belfast Crown Court charged with rape and other offences against two women. Discussion of the trial itself, observation of the proceedings of the court, and concern about the implications of wider issues, plus legal precedents already set, have led us to compile this supplement to GAINING GROUND.

WHAT IS RAPE?
The Judge, in his remarks to the jury in the Belfast Trial, defined rape as having occurred if a man inserted his penis into the vagina of a woman without her consent, or if he was 'reckless' as to the question of her consent. Indeed, the legal definition is "unlawful sexual intercourse without a woman's consent". It is probably because of this definition, and the wording used, that rape is largely considered to be a lustful and sexual act, rather than a VIOLENT one. In fact, rape is almost entirely an act of violence, and is rarely used for sexual gratification.

The Belfast Trial established that the male attackers knew nothing about the two women and knew where they lived. In short, the rape was planned in advance. This is so in over 65% of reported cases. That the men were hostile towards the women was also clear. Questions were asked, prior to rape, about the religious faith of the victims, about their appearance, and about their living in Belfast. This was NOT the gratification of "animal passions", but a deliberate act designed to humiliate and terrorise. What added credence to this conclusion is the establish

as young as six months and women as old as ninety three years have been raped- victims have been of all ages, races, life styles, marital status or sexual orientation. Rapists are often portrayed as sex-maniacs in the grip of uncontrollable 'animal' urges. In fact most rapes are planned in advance, most victims are known to the attackers, and rapists in prison are considered amongst the most 'normal' of the population, giving fire to the male imagination about sexual violence which is portrayed in so many popular films and books.

GAINING GROUND
SUPPLEMENT

It was clear from the attitudes of women supporters of the four men on trial in Belfast, and from the Defence Counsel, that there was some social acceptance of the rapes that had taken place. Defence Counsel was heard to say at one point: "here were four men simply out to enjoy themselves, out for a good time."

Conveniently overlooking all aspects of female sexuality and, again, seeing women as mere objects for male gratification of power, dominance and lust. Defence Counsel tried to establish as relevant the fact that the two women had also been drinking that night. As this was then meant that they were drunk and therefore inviting rape or 'fair game' for any man. In other cases, women have been accused of 'contributory negligence' by their areas and behaviour, and therefore in some sense responsible for what happened to them.

All in a society which pressures women to make themselves attractive to men, which glorifies the "little woman" image, which uses images of women to sell goods, to titillate men's fantasies about women, to sell newspapers and to keep women firmly in their place: it is secondary to and in contrast to men. It would seem that you cannot be defined as a 'victim' unless you are locked up at home, in male company, and 'decently' dressed. In Ireland, where the teachings of the churches influence national thinking, it is difficult for women to be seen as other than two extremes: pure virgin or temptress, daughter of Eve.

Clearly women supporters of the Belfast rapists looked on their two victims as 'loose women', one an unmarried mother, living alone in a flat, drinking in her own company, walking home unaccompanied by men- 'fair game' for anyone who wished to take advantage of her situation, isolation and social standing. They did not conform to the self censorship that women are expected to practice, whilst at the same time making themselves available for the expression of male dominance. It is also possible that feelings of possessive jealousy were aroused in women friends and relatives of the rapists, who saw their own relationships with the men threatened- some anger may have been generated by repressed feelings of guilt and confusion concerning their own roles. These same women were also hostile and threatening towards members of the public who were seen as being supportive of the two women victims—members of women's groups were questioned as to their motives in attending the trial, and were jeered and verbally abused and threatened as a result of their cautious attitudes.

MEN RAPE—WOMEN ARE BLAMED

The comments by Judge Bertrand Richards, during the trial of rapist John Allen, demonstrate how society condones violence against women. The Judge told the court that the 17 year old woman was 'guilty of contributory negligence' because she was hitchhiking alone at night. Consequently, the rapist was fined £2,000 and did not receive the usual prison sentence of 2-4 years. This ruling implies that any woman hitchhiking alone is asking to be assaulted. The misogynist, patriarchal assumptions that women desire to be raped and that any woman alone is fair game for a rapist have been enforced in law. A legal precedent has been set.

Society's prejudicial attitude towards women is most clearly shown at rape trials. The victim is forced to recount the painful details of violent physical and mental assault under hostile cross-examination in an atmosphere of disbelief. Because of the assumption that women invite rape, it is always the character and credibility of the victim which is on trial, not the rapist.

Protests have been made to the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham, about Judge Richards' comments and the imposition of a fine instead of imprisonment. However, an examination of Hailsham's own comments on rape cases, and remarks by his 'brother' judges, indicate that Richards' attitude is more or less in line with most judicial thinking on the subject of rape.

In 1975, during a rape case appeal, Sir Harold Cassell, QC, came up with the dangerous notion that women might resist sexual violence or so the man might think in order to give him 'the additional thrill of the struggle'. Hailsham then took this
idea a stage further in a way which was supposedly out of context: "If he believes the woman is consenting to rough treatment because she likes it, I agree with him, it would not be rape." What a woman wants and what she consents to are two different things. Later, Hillshead decided: "It is possible for a man to be acquitted of rape, if he held the idea, no matter how unreasonably, that the woman was raping consenting".

These absurd, dangerous ideas are part of a larger context. It appears that the fact that we are women out alone, given the myriad false assumptions about our sexuality, is sufficient, in society's eyes, to justify violent assault. If a bank cashier is attacked, no one will ever think the bank should be blamed. Yet to consider the broader issue of the possibility that a woman may be regarded as "guilty" of contributory negligence or was asking to be raped, by being in that place at that time or by simply being a cashier! The press went to great lengths to dig up information from the reactionary Melford Stevenson. His comments on Richards decision: "It is the height of impudence for any girl to hitchhike at night. She is, in the true sense, asking for it."

Recently, two young women were raped in Sunderland and an elderly woman was raped and murdered in Bishopton. Presumably, in the eyes of the law, they were also "asking for it" and guilty of "contributory negligence" because they were women who had the temerity to be alone at night.

The BELFAST TRIAL

Every court that I have attended appeared to me to be a gruelling kind of theatre, with all the participants daily accepting the roles ascribed to them, whilst also accepting, without question, the authority of a court to make powerful decisions regarding people's lives and to make statements which set precedents for the future wielding of that power and authority.

The recent Belfast trial contained all these elements, but also the "theatre" analogy further on to more disturbing ground, in that in the present context of sectarian and political differences, it is clear that a theatre of terror also existed. The two women victims faced a male dominated jury (that had only two women members), were subject to question and cross examination by men and were subject to the intimidating presence of the four male attackers, flanked by male guards from the prison service and the RUC. In the public gallery, large groups of male friends of the accused sat in a kind of stoney glare, whilst women relatives, heavily hostile to the two women victims, further contributed to the intimidating atmosphere. Then, in a court held to try the innocence of the four men, the women themselves are put on trial by men whose attitudes to women were clearly ones of superiority and oppression.

Remarks were made concerning the drinking habits and lifestyles of the two women, and they were closely questioned about their resistance to the attacks. Although the women made it quite clear that they were terrorised into submission, Defence Counsel persisted in asking why no more of a fight had been made—commonly leaving aside the fact that four men had entered the flat by force and had planned in advance the sexual assault on the two women. Kevin Finnegan, the Defence Counsel, is a member of the Socialists Lawyers Group. One wonders as to his motives in taking the prosecution line, to why there appears to be no policy regarding the nature of the cases that this Group will accept. As women, we find it insulting and abhorrent that Finnegan was prepared to defend UDA men who had made confessions as to some of their involvement in this case. Finnegan is known as a shrewd barrister, who has in the past defended people on dope charges with some effectiveness. His motives in this case puzzle and anger us.

Threatened at gunpoint, women are still expected to do the impossible, to make dangerous attempts at resistance and to establish that "no" means "no". Have there been two women, in a state of terror and shock and scared by the number of men. Discrepancies are picked up, between written statements taken shortly after the attack, and what was then being said in court, sixteen months later. It is not surprising that two terrified women, threatened, abused and intimidated by men, subject to medical and judicial examinations, undoubtedly sedated by prescribed drugs, living through the trauma yet again, coming from a society of sexual, social and political domination, then thrust into a male dominated courtroom, did have difficulty of recall and theoretical justification for their attitudes—a difficulty and an impossibility that again was not raised on their behalf and which they were in no position to raise for themselves.

This case also contained certain factors which are unique to Northern Ireland, and which are surrounded by rumour, innuendo and threat. One of the rapists was a Commander in the Ulster Defence Association (the loyalist paramilitary organisation), a section of which has been accused of raping Catholic women. Even if this were not true, such rumour only increases sectarianism, clouds the issue and increases the threat of sectarian violence.

The attacks coming as they did during a period of sectarian campaigns, could well have been an extension of the pattern of sectarian murders, or planned as such—related to ritual killing. The four men had a gun—one does not carry a gun around Belfast unless one intends to use it. Did the men pick up the gun elsewhere, in preparation? There is a strong possibility that had not the police arrived when they did (having seen suspicious movements at a window) that both women would have been raped and murdered. In fact, one man was heard to say: "Why hurry, we've got all night". Some loyalist sectarian torture and violation of murder victims, the hacking to pieces of bodies, slitting of throats, are seen as an "announcing of the devil": an extension of religious beliefs, concepts of demonology and of the fear and hatred of 'poor'. Could the rapes have been planned as a prelude to that?
WHY NOT, ARE YOU QUEER?
Female Sexuality.

During the Belfast trial, evidence was given that one man had asked his victim "why not, are you queer?" when she resisted his attempts at sexual intercourse.

The number of massive assumptions and a lack of understanding behind such behaviour is mind boggling and reflects the attitudes of society in general. Leaving aside for a moment the unique social and political context of this trial in Northern Ireland, we should examine some of these assumptions. Firstly, the assumption that a woman is necessarily heterosexual and that further, heterosexuality is the norm to which we should all aspire. Authority of all kinds, uses many labels in order to wield its power and to control people's behaviour, to make people conform to an alienating set of standards or principles. Such constraints are no seen to have no basis when dealing with the complex notions of sexuality or desires. Even concepts such as 'male' and 'female' are being challenged and re-defined by scientists and social observers. Victorians believed that women did not possess sexual feelings and indeed women's role in sexual relations is generally seen as less important than a man's. A woman's sexuality is still often defined in contrast to that of a man, and in relation to it, rather than existing in its own right. Women are seen as passive rather than active; emotional rather than physical. Sex is seen largely as something that happens to a woman, rather than being a part of what a woman is or wants or can do. Traditional models of heterosexual intercourse still go unchallenged.

There is a second assumption that a woman is necessarily ready for, and inviting, heterosexual and submissive sex, or that she is always in the process of preparing herself for it. The question was "why not, are you queer?" and was NOT an attempt to understand the woman's physical or emotional state, to relate to her in anything more than an oppressive manner, or to understand her desires and needs, her willingness or otherwise, to accept a passive and traditional role. It is known that female arousal and orgasm are not necessary in the process of reproduction, and that women's sexuality is no longer interpreted simply in terms of being able to conceive and to give birth. Vaginal penetration is not a necessary ingredient of a woman's capacity to express or enjoy her sexuality, even though some women do find the vagina is an erogenous area. Frigidity is another word applied to a woman who is not content to prepare herself for or to practice on demand, that which is pleasureable for a man, or who cannot reach orgasm in five minutes in the missionary position. Some people still believe that a woman is capable only of responding to male initiatives, and yet maintain she is responsible for arousing "irresistable" sexual desire in the male! Recent rape trials in America, however, did consider her sexuality of the victim, and questions were raised about the sensitivity (lack of) shown by the rapist and of his understanding of female sexuality. So, some progress has been made regarding the nature of legal proceedings.

Women are encouraged by various forms of authority and persuasion to develop their reproductive powers, to attend to their 'maternal instincts, to perfect their feminine'. At the same time they are expected to repress their natural sexual feelings and to cultivate a submissive nature. In sex education, sex is supposed to be good, healthy and necessary for boys, to be enjoyed by boys, but not by girls—all traditional heterosexual sex, of course. What further makes difficulties for women and others who resist all traditional notions of sexuality, are those lack of opportunities for and the inhibitions about discussing sex and our sexual feelings about another person. Women's groups do much to resolve these difficulties, plus an honesty of approach with a partner.

THE FIGHT AGAINST RAPE

*In Karachi, Pakistan, in 1978, when an 8 year old girl was raped, children went on the rampage through the city causing havoc.
*In Soweto, South Africa, in 1977, when a teacher was raped, the schoolgirls in her class stoned the rapist to death.
*In July, 1977, a rally organised by Women Against Rape in Trafalgar Square, London sentenced 3 High Court Judges and 3 Government Ministers to fines totalling £30 billion after a 'trial' found them guilty of rape and trespass 'over our minds and bodies' by their treatment of women. One woman who testified was the victim of an attack by a Guardian, whose release by 3 Appeal Court Judges caused a nationwide controversy.
*The first Reclaim the Night in London was in November, 1977, the second in July 1978. Similar demonstrations were made in Dublin. They were demonstrations of women to reclaim the night, the streets, the outside world, space for women. The right to be out at any time, to run our bodies in areas of commercial sexism such as Soho.
*In Belfast again, women demonstrated through the streets after a woman was raped in the University area, and again after an attack in Turf Lodge.
Throughout the world, women have organized demonstrations and direct action against repressive judgements in law, sex shops, sexism in advertising, against "sex and violence" films, porn cinemas, to publicise violence against women and the institutions that perpetuate or encourage such violence and oppressive attitudes towards women.

Rape Crisis Centres have opened in many areas to help rape victims by counselling and much practical support.

Women are organizing themselves and attending classes in self defence, and even though such classes may not offer enough to women who are too old or too young, or too small or who have a disability which could prevent them from fighting back physically, such classes are a vital part of campaigns against rape.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE A RAPE VICTIM.

Make immediate contact with someone you know or with some individual or group that you know will be sympathetic. Resist the desire to remain alone or to try to deal with the trauma alone. You will undoubtedly want to take a bath or shower, but resist this also—the law requires medical evidence of rape, and you could wash it away or be seen as attempting to falsify the evidence. Telephone a Rape Crisis Centre, Womens Centre or your nearest Womens Group (find out where they are now). There will be women there willing and able to be responsive to your needs, to be understanding and caring, and to give support and practical advice. Report the rape to the police as soon as possible. A friend or member of a women's group will stay with you for as long as necessary. Your behaviour and appearance soon after the rape will be vital—the police need to make observations about these in order to strengthen their case and to build up "corroborating evidence". Rapes are rarely witnessed, so all evidence such as your distress and shock, torn or disarrayed clothing, stains, injuries, evidence of forced penetration, are all vitally important.

You will be questioned by the police. Even though they will admit that resisting rapists can be dangerous, you may be faced with questions that assume that you "fight for your virtue" to impossible degrees. Remember that the test of the evidence comes in court, not in the police station, but that your behaviour and statements will be noted in the police station and such evidence given in court. It is not your innocence which is in question, but the rapist.

You will be examined by a doctor, and this can be an humiliating experience. You will be asked questions about whether or not you are on the Pill, if you have ever had an abortion, and so forth. Remember that your morality is not on trial.

Rape is a traumatic experience and it is important to have contact with understanding and supportive friends and counsellor to talk about your feelings. Don't try to handle it alone. Some of your feelings anger, guilt, disgust, humiliation, fear, isolation, horror, anxiety, will be difficult and will need expression and will need resolution. Rape Crisis Centres and Women's Groups are there for you to use - to share your experiences and to meet your needs.

PREVENTING RAPE-Self Defence

Get yourself fit and know how to fight. This will help to build up your confidence-frighted women are more likely to be attacked than confident ones. Secure your home, make contact with neighbours and work out a signal or alarm to bring help. Give out blood curdling yells. these will boost your confidence and scare the attacker. Remember that ALL women are potential victims—young, old, disabled, infirm; no matter of what appearance, race or lifestyle. We cannot rely on the courts for our ultimate protection; at every opportunity we must point out the ways in which women are exploited and degraded by a society which defines women in terms of men, which uses them as sex objects, as helpless victims or as people who "must be kept in their place". Whilst our streets, our space, our bodies remain unclaimed, then rape, and the threat of rape, terrifies women and keeps us imprisoned.

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

Whilst we, as anarcha-feminists, were pleased by the guilty verdicts returned in Belfast trial, and whilst we have supported and whilst we have supported such past judgements of rapists, we cannot ignore or fail to give adequate consideration of the question of what happens to, or what should happen to the convicted rapist.

There are, at present, a number of possibilities and suggestions, which include, a lengthy term of imprisonment, life, psychiatric treatment, castration, sterilisation, death penalty, financial compensation to victim or relations of victim. Other include the handing over of the rapist to the victim or relations/friends of the victim, for punishment, or to his immediate community/peers. We have, as anarcha-feminists, to express our dissatisfaction with most of these possibilities, and to acknowledge the fact that we cannot, at this time, offer a strong suggestion as to the question of punishment.

It is true that the law is a powerful political instrument. However, it is used not only as a means of oppression, but also, ideally, as a means of bringing rights to individuals and to support claims and to give protection to the poor, underprivileged, powerless and defenceless. The law can, at one and at the same time, make us free and make us slaves. Present forms of punishment, cloaked in a token aura of "rehabilitation" often do no more than exercise crude revenge. Even present harsh penalties are no deterrent to acts of violence. As anarchists, we wish the concept and practice of law to be libertarian. Living in a society not of our design, nor under our control, where people look to the state for the outline of justice and to third party for the settlement of disputes or for justification, we find no way in which our own libertarian ideas can be "grafted on" to such institutions as now exist.

We have no desire to "cope out" of this difficult issue by saying there needs to be revolution or a fundamental political change in society before such matters can be resolved. If we demand the judgement of rapists, we have also to be clear as to our demands concerning "punishment" —this is a subject which we hope that our group will continue to debate. However....

FEEDBACK, from you, the readers is essential. We need to know your thoughts and ideas concerning the WHOLE of this supplement, and to have more contact with you in future on all aspects of Gaining Ground. Send us your own experiences, thoughts, ideas, suggestions, information. If you would like a reply to anything you send, or if you want anything to be returned, then PLEASE try to enclose a stamped self addressed envelope. We do not have unlimited funds!

Write to us C/o Box 28, 7 Winetavern St., Belfast 1.

We also welcome photographs, drawings, letters, articles and need more information always about other contact groups and news of what is happening in your area.

REFERENCES: USEFUL READING

"Our Bodies Ourselves" by Angela Phillips and Jill Ruskin. Penguin £3.50
"Against Our Will", by Suzan Brownmiller (Men, Women and Rape) Penguin 95p
"Half the Sky" (An introduction to Women's Studies) Vingers £3.50
"Spare Rib" (A woman's liberation magazine) 50p from Just Books or by subscription to 27 Clarrenwell Close, London ECIR OAT.
"Rape Crisis Centre, PO Box 1027, Dublin 6.
6 Published reports, Phone 601470.
"Women at War" Women against Rape, 60 Westbourne Park Villas, London W2. Tel: 01-221-5754. 150 Richmond Road, Mancudely, Bristol ( manuscripts £0-722-42310, 19 City Road, Cambridge. Tel:022-577142.
"Law and Anarchism", Ed. Thom Holfender & Ilene van Maarswone, Ermans University, Rotterdam. £5.20. CONTACTS IN BELFAST

The Women's Centre, 16-18 Donegall Street, Belfast 1. Tel: 022-43463.
Anarcha Feminist Group/Gaining Ground, Cjo Box 28, 7 Winetavern Street, Belfast.

OTHER CONTACTS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Omagh Women's Group, Cjo Newry Resource Centre, Dublin Road, Newry.
Omagh Women's Group, Cjo 34 High Street, Omagh.
Tullycarnet Women's Group, Cjo Community Centre, Kinross Avenue, Tullycarnet, Tel: 7985.

DUBLIN RAPE CRISIS CENTRE:
Tel Dublin 601470.