ANTI CLOCK - WISE

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Anti Clock Wise MUSEUM OF MODERN ALIENATION: P.O.BOX 175 L69 8DX LIVERPOOL U.K.

MAJOR DIFFERENCES

<u>JOHN MAJOR TALKS OF HIS DREAM OF A CLASSLESS NATION.</u>
<u>ANTI CLOCK WISE SEEKS A NATIONLESS CLASS.</u>

So, that was a high tech war. Tens of thousands of civilians and soldiers lie dead at the feet of the Allies and the Iraqi warmongers. If ever the case for the existance of nations being the root cause of much of the world's suffering was clearly illustrated, then this is surely it. 1991 and the so-called civilised world responds to a tin pot dictator's mutilation of Kuwait by slaughtering thousands of the aggressors civilians.

The Gulf War was a capitalist war, so we can have no interest in the outcome. Voicing an opinion against the war is a brave act in this atmosphere of jingoism. In any case, the anti war movement is in the clutches of self interested left-wing politicos out to make capital from the bloodshed. Many people are alarmed at the events in the Gulf, but do not want to be associated with the hordes of papersellers who make up the bulk of this country's demos. Britain has the weakest anti-war movement because of the bellicose nature of the British psyche, but also because of the infuriating lefty vultures. I accuse them in the same breath as I accuse Bush, Major and Saddam.

Much of the anti war movement call for more sanctions. Wow, what a choice - starved or bombed to death. The R.C.P. even chanted support for Iraq, well R.C.P. here's one back "R.C.P. You are barmy. Go and join the Iraqi army!"

The Gulf War was a war by the ruling class for their interests including oil, nationalism and detracting from economic problems at home. The working classes are cannon fodder. No capitalist war is worth the loss of one life. No war, but the class war.

FOR A NATIONLESS CLASS

Anti Clock Wise 14: Graphics courtesy of BH, DP, PP, GH, SS, a very early issue of Class War. The clipping 'Scud-a-like' is from Buiding Enquirer. Articles courtesy of PP and Stefan Szczelkun. Thanks to the above and all distributors and supporters. Further contributions are always very welcome

Probe as 'Scud-a -like' prank misfires

FAIRCLOUGH Building has launched an internal investigation into "a very sick joke" on a hospital construction site.

The probe is into how a Scud missile look-a-like suddenly appeared sticking through the roof of a building at the Royal Bournemouth General Hospital.

This unscheduled piece of extra works on the £24 million phase-two scheme was greeted with outrage by the client, Wessex Regional Health Authority.

"I am appalled that anyone would do such a thing. It is in extremely poor taste," said a spokesperson.

"A very sick joke" was how Fairclough responded to the prank that misfired.

"I very much doubt if one of our operatives would be involved in anything like that but we will be investigating," a spokesman for the contractor said.

READING for beginners

Unlike Bracknell or Basingstoke, Reading is by no means a "newtown", it goes back well over a thousand years. However, the way they've been smashing it to pieces and restructuring it, it may as well be a newtown. Despite having a little bit of history, a university and above average diversity in the population, Reading functions like the typical yuppy that cherite southern "toytown".

But the good times (if there were any!) are now over and the boom town is just not booming any more, property values have slumped and now ... recession is coming to the south!! (Hooray! I can hear all you cynical northerners shout). What used to be a booming, loadsamoney, "everyone's got a job" town, Reading is now being hit by a big rise in unemployment. The job ads column in the local papers are noticeably shrinking. So not everyone in toytown is enjoying the endless fruits of capitalist consumerism and prosperity 'trickling down' from above as the system would have us believe. However, there is still no let up in the gentrification process to put a fake gloss over the grotty reality.

Yet another bland shopping mall has opened up and a massive complex of sock shops, shoe shops, body shops, mental lobotomy shops etc is planned for the near future to be called the "Oracle". With the growing recession, the Labour council planners may find themselves in embarrassing difficulty with this one, we shall

have to see.

Talking of shoe shops, Reading has been labelled "shoe shop" town for having

so many of the things in the high street.

One of the most ridiculous things that has happened locally (or is it happening everywhere?) is that they are now even playing vile supermarket music, interspersed with adverts, on the buses! Talk of cretinisation of the masses, a complete designer mind numbing experience every morning on your way to work, day after day. Are they so scared that we might start talking to each other in the mornings that they have to interrupt any independent subversive thoughts with the worst in bland music and "Shop at Tescos" type garbage blaring at us?

In the streets, everyone is frightened into keeping up appearances, austerity or no austerity. Normality, respectability and isolation are the dominant themes

locally as far as most people's day to day lives are concerned.

In the new dispersed centres of production like the 'M4 Corridor', here are to be found the new atomised proletarians, working in decentralised high tech warehouses or in squeaky clean office buildings or in the service industries broken up and seperated from each other. Class struggle most of the time takes the form of informal unorganised resistance: absenteeism, inefficiency, shoplifting

DEMOLISH
SERIOUS
CULTURE
BECOME NOTHING

e: absenteeism, inefficiency, shoplifting etc. It is very difficult to go beyond this although pay rises are still high.

However, all is not doom and gloom. Some of us inhabitants of Reading are still being very naughty with a hardcore of Poll Tax non-payers refusing to budge, there are around 14,000 nonpayers. This is a lot higher than what our caring socialist Labour council had bargained for, so they've been dragging us through the courts, issueing the usual mean threats, slapping our wrists and giving us "one last chance to pay" (that's what they said last time, and the time before that etc.) And all this despite active Poll Tax organising dropping off a bit since last summer! Last March, Reading was

one of the southern true blue tory constituencies that rose up during those fine weeks of Poll Tax revolt. Places like Reading and Maidenhead were partially responsible for Thatcher's downfall. Now the Labour council is plastering its stupid logo over everything from lampposts to rubbish bags as part of a drive to show us how nice it is. But this only provides us with more opportunities to deface it!!

P., Reading

(This is the second report on cities where we have to live out our grim existances, issue 12 of ACW reported on Liverpool. Readers are encouraged to write in with views on their towns, cities or Swiss cantons - please send a couple of graphics if possible.)

PRISONS

Prison is a major deterrent to more people getting up and protesting against the shoddiness of their everyday lives. Prisons are a huge indictment of our so-called civilised society, they are designed merely to humiliate and degrade people incarcerated, to break their spirit of defiance and resistance. Any notion that prisons are designed to teach people a lesson and stop them doing anything out of line again is nonsense - they are a medium for REVENGE, revenge of the dominant society on anyone who dares to oppose its values. Reform of the prison system is not enough, its abolition is the only demand we can make. Anti Clock Wise reaches a number of prisoners, mainly in the U.S.A. where the penal system has almost been privatised and there is even more violence than here, and hopefully present and ex prisoners will write in with their thoughts and experiences of the prison system.

To start discussion of the issue of prisons and the whole concept of 'justice', I have extracted some information on prisons from the February issue of "Legal Action":

On 30 September 1990, the total prison population in England and Wales stood at 45,488. These individuals are held in one of 129 prisons, of which 12 are for women and 35 are young offender institutions. The total cash expenditure on prisons for 1989/90 was £1,092 million. The average weekly cost of keeping an inmate in custody is £321, the average DAILY cost of keeping a prisoner in a police cell is £158.

The United Kingdom has the highest prison population, both in absolute numbers and relative to its overrall population, of any member state of the Council of Europe. Only Turkey approaches the

UK level. The UK has more lifers than the rest of western Europe put together. In 1989/90, only 53% of prisoners had access to night sanitation.

15% of the male prison population and an astonishing 24% of the female population were from ethnic minority communities which constitute less than 5% of the total of Britain's population.

Sentenced prisoners can earn up to £5.87 a week, although the average is £2.65. In 1990, 48 prisoners committed suicide, compared with 48 in 1989 - the youngest was 15 years old. Prisons with the highest suicide rates are Armley, Brixton, Manchester and Risley.

The statistics, although horrifying, hide individual suffering on a barbaric scale. The isolation and removal of freedom are bad enough in themselves. The statutory minimum visiting time for inmates is just $6\frac{1}{2}$ hours per YEAR. There are also geographical problems for the families and friends of inmates in visiting prisoners.



The prison system spends more time on restricting and censoring mail ti inmates than it does on encouraging links with the outside world. It costs Durham prison alone £100,000 to censor mail.

Prisoners rely on letters and contact with the outside world to keep their spirits intact. Please write to inmates if you see appeals for people to write to them

Reviews

SMUT: Journal of illicit sex and hardcore exposure. Schiz-flux. Smile *5. Chaotic nihilistic ravings of the frighteningly rational (in a weird sort of way) sort frpm the U.S.A. This manifestation of 'Smile' considers the sexuality of children -try getting away with that in this country! -, prisons, the Situationist International, the abolition of meat, the revolutions of 1989 in eastern Europe and elsewhere, and tons of other stuff. Smut is 44 pages of amazing reading, some of which is on topics that rarely, if ever, get an airing in the U.K. It is all pretty good and well argued, even if you don't necessarily agree with it all. \$5 in cash should be enough for the producers to send you a copy. P.O.Box 3502, Madison, WI53704 U.S.A.

JABBER: Yet another hotch-potch of serious political rantings with tongue firmly in cheek. Lots of punky zine graphics, personal monologues and diatribes. SAE and a bit of dosh for encouragement to 106, High Street, Stoke Newington, London, UK.

ABOVE THE LAW: The complete guide to obtaining diplomatic immunity, by 'Ambassador X'.

GRF Press, 2050 Idle Hour Center, \neq 108, Lexington, KY 40502, U.S.A. The cost is \$10 for the report, but use your loaf in adding postage. 'Above the law' is an extraordinary document that traces the history of diplomatic immunity, who is eligible, diplomatic perks, the diplomatic pouch and, the best part, how to obtain diplomatic status - including the prices and addresses of people who can get you the ambassadorship you were always after. Amazing, if a bit alarming how easy it is to become a diplomat.

I may as well use this space to get yet another plug in for yours trulys book, $\underline{\text{IN YOUR BLOOD}}$: Football culture in the late '80s and early '90s. Now in a plush second printing, 'In Your Blood' is £4-95 from the ACW address, a pamphlet version costs £2-95. Cheques, as ever, to "R.TURNER".

Issues 10,11,12 and 13 of ACW are 40p from the usual address. If you want to receive future issues by mail, send 40p for as many as you want. Thanks for the letters sent in, they really are appreciated. Contributions are always welcome.



of our lads are dying to give you a first taste of necrophilia.

WHEN the BASTARD OF BAGDAD mortally wound one of our boys you'll be flown out all expenses paid, by the SUN to give him a sexy send off.

To find the lad of your dreams, fill in the form be-low and send it to us, with a recent sexy photo. We will try to publish as many as possible in a special edition of the SUN sent to all our lads in the war zone, Each one will have a reference number and your details below it but your address and phone number will NOT be used. The lads will decide before they go into the BATTLE who if their and the lads will lade to an extension of the below it had below it at the form of their last sexy.









TIME

is the enemy

PLEASURE

is the aim

There are only two kinds of time in life, production time and consumption time. The concept of time plays an incarcerating role in all our existances, from the present to the past, in the form of history.

Politicos continually harp on about past glories and even defeats. John Mcquarrie declared "This dwelling in the past has, like the other cases, various ways in which it manifests itself. Always, however, it is typical of the man who, in common parlance, has no will of his own - the irresolute man, the man of bad faith, the scattered man".

The nihilist militants must fight in a battleground of the present, unshackled by the weight of history. The history of the socialist movement is ultimately depressing, a catalogue of individuals self sacrifice. By looking forward, we can win, shattering the con that passes as civilisation. We only have to be lucky once and we've cracked it.

However, this is not to say that we do not heed the lessons of the past, rather that necrophilia is a pretty dead end occupation. Time does give us important lessons. Time is irreversible, the present is unique and does not repeat itself. Time cannot be revisited like a place. Living in the past is relying on memory and memory is fallible. There is never forever, only the moment.

Time (past, present or future and productive or consumptive) is a symbol of stability. It explains stability i.e. if the nature of the world was to change tomorrow, humans would seek elements of sameness in it and observe these events with clocks.

TIME IS A DICTATOR. TIME IS A TYRANT.

'Free time' is consumption time, work is production time. Work is dictated by clocks: the established tradition of the rigours of 9-5, despite the fact that these are the best hours of the day, a time when we should be laughing and playing in the sun and the rain. The reformist illusion of 'flexi-time' is a shameful con, merely adjusting the proportions of consumer and production time. 'Free time' is given to older students as a carrot to pacify their naturally restless spirits.

















Humans and time need to be considered in tandem - time is not a natural phenomenon, it exists as a social control and is a subtle, if omnipresent, element of spectacular oppression.

Time, stripped to its basics, is only a dimension. It is not substantial and so cannot be just smashed, it has to be psychologically overcome. Time constrains our actions, but it must be repeated that it is merely a ploy. Sartre once said that the time of personal experience is part imagination and part fact.

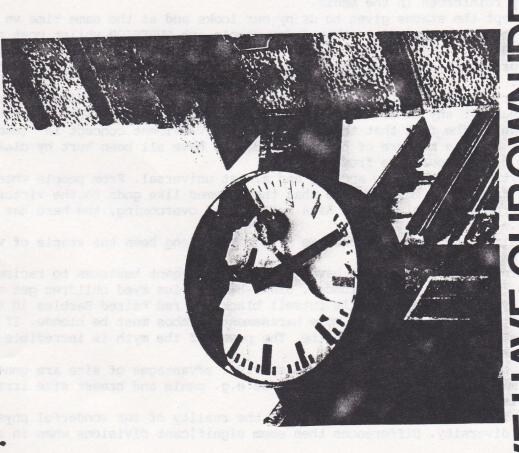
Our lives are not only dictated by timetables and clocks, but also by our inner clocks. It is not time that is complex, but human relations with time. Even depression has daily and seasonal fluctuations.

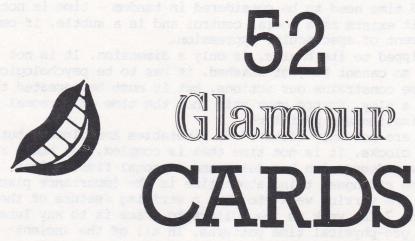
Perhaps the strangest thing about time is the importance placed on the week, the working week etc. But a striking feature of the origins of our modern 7 day week is the failure to trace it to any lunar cycle or any geo-physical time patterns. In all of the ancient world, only the Jewish week was 7 days long. Eviatar Zerubavel stated that "The disassociation of the 7 day week from nature has been one of the most significant contributions of Judaism to civilisation". Like the invention of the mechanical clock some 1,500 years later, it facilitated the establishment of what Lewis Mumford identified as 'mechanical periodicity'. Hence, the distance between human beings lifestyles and nature is increasing.

Time and space seem less rigid and less well organised in dreams, so that perhaps we should return to the slogan of 'Take your dreams for reality'.

An awareness of the role of time in dictating our lives (including our resistance) within the context of the illusion that passes for reality is an important first step in challenging the total oppression of the dominant society.









S.Szczelkun

"Glamour is a turn on ... Glamour is attractiveness incarnate. Glamour is the universal focus of desire. GLAMOUR IS HIGH TEC FASCISM."

- * "HMMM you are looking glamorous tonight." The associations are all positive and yet when we look past the glitz at what it is that glamour promotes, we see an ideology of elitism personified.
- * The class system that dominates and is throttling the world requires a method to persuade us all to accept the scarcity of POWER AND BEAUTY, and that this is the natural order of things.
- * Democratic ideals require that everyone should have a say. A dangerous idea that requires constant obfuscation. Glamour is distributed by chance amongst the population ... every family stands a chance.
- * These standards of glamour permeate the population with ever finer hierarchies of good looks. Because of its apparent natural basis we all accept a position of relative superiority/inferiority within this graded system. This order is constantly reinforced in the media.
- * We accept the status given to us by our looks and at the same time we are taking on board the principle that a few people are SUPERIOR whilst most of us are INFERIOR.
- * Glamour conditions us to accept the basic premise in which all class oppression is rooted.
- * However we know that there is no rational basis for the valuing of one person's appearance ABOVE any other. That inherently everyone is COMPLETELY attractive and desirable. The fact that this rationally self-evident concept is 'inconceivable' to most of us is a measure of how profoundly we have all been hurt by classism.
- * Where did glamour come from?
- * The myth of the hero is ancient and almost universal. From people whose abilities seemed so far beyond mere mortals that they seemed like gods to the victor in battle surrounded in his glory. As a metaphor of overcoming, the hero has a deep resonance.
- * The fair maiden and the handsome prince have long been the staple of western fairy tales.
- * Western ideals of fairness have been an extravagant buttress to racism of all kinds. Gentlemen prefer blondes. Blond-haired blue eyed children get adopted more easily. Blonde Barbie dolls outsell black and red haired Barbies 10 to 1. Blondes get more attention and more harassment. Bimbos must be blonde. If the product is up-market, use a brunette. The power of the myth is incredible considering its obvious banality.
- * Myths of an ideal body. Crude old survival advantages of size are generalised and then misapplied tp peoples' appearance e.g. penis and breast size irrationally equated with virility and fecundity.
- * These ideals of beauty conflict with the reality of our wonderful physical range and diversity. Differences then seem significant divisions when in reality













beneath the conditioning that makes us appear so 'different' human beings are 99% similar. There is an old fear of deviance and difference. Only complete normality is safe. As nobody is 'completely normal', the fear is active in everyone. Glamour is the idealisation of normality.

* One of the roots of the word is in the glamour or look that could entrance (a man). It represented the power of women. The reality of female power is now hidden behind a smokescreen of glamour girl mythology.

* Myth of invulnerability and protection from death. Ancient myths generated from an awe but also fear of death. Myths of heaven (perfection reached and experienced) and immortality.

* WWII was the first war in which carnage of civilians was a major aspect of the strategy. Over 45 million people died of which two thirds were civilians. The democratisation of war. Nothing on this scale had happened before. This blanket legacy of terror paves the way for glamour. It is now understood how the experience of brutality leads to low esteem. Glamour breeds on the demoralised and displaced.

* Glamour is a gigantic confidence trick in which we are manoeuvered into psychic self mutilation.

* Glamorising the role of men as warriors prepares men for their continuing wholesale self-destruction in wars. The machismo of armed struggle makes it difficult to think of all the effective non-violent possibilities before resorting to such desperate measures.

* And yet although it appears to oppose death, Glamour is close to death because it is a mask. A shimmering picture of reality behind which is nothing. Living a glamorous life is a facade covering the most empty existance.

* Because glamour mythically opposes death and decay it's ideal model is youth. The features of youth dictate many of the facets of glamour's criteria. Small snub noses, fair hair, smooth featureless skin, innocense. Picturing youth as a target of sexual lust inevitably encourages the sexual abuse of children.

* The glamorous are playboys and girls. They don't work, they just have exciting lives. As a little boy I understood that glamour girls would give me a good time (in contrast to the ordinary people in my life who as adults gave me a hard time).

* The recognition of parenting as actual productive labour is entirely contrary to capitalism, and the isolation of reproductivity essential for its survival.

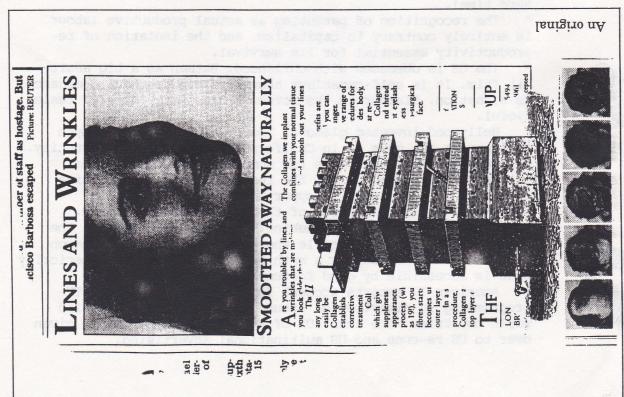
* The US is obsessed with childhood. Batman as a big adult hit film. It is self-conscious about its own youthful dominance as a nation. Glamour is the screen behind which America feels aweful.

* Hollywood invented glamour. There is an oft quoted myth that anyone can make it in California, the land of opportunity. This may have been the case for some heavily armed whites in the pioneer days ... but the reality now is of a massive class for whom there is no opportunity.

* It is the myth creation of the American owning class. It is the screen they hide behind. It does not represent the actual US owning class people who are as ordinary and common as any oppressors, but is a mythical social ideal of superiority that is accessible by good fortune to any family.

* American TV exports account for at least 75% of all TV programming in distribution around the world. In some third world countries more than 80% of the broadcasting day is given over to US re-runs and US multinational advertising.

- * Whilst the US inundates the rest of the world with its own dumped TV exports, it imports virtually nothing ...
- * We strive for the glamorous ideals but there is nothing to be achieved. Glamour is illusion. The only satisfaction to be gained from 'being glamorous' is that we are then NOT UGLY, not worthless. It is a sort of protection from feeling the accumulated shit of oppression which says that we are ugly and worthless unless we are rich, famous and attractive.
- * Glamour gives the impression that beauty is not of the moment but fixed and consistent. To be a good glam model you have to have all round looks that don't fade or vary according to conditions e.g. as you wake up in the morning after a hard night you've got to look just as beautiful. All of us are attractive when we are alive and animated. In spite of glamour we recognise this.
- * The rules of this perfection are so rigid that no-one can ever fulfil them.
- * Glamorous images include many real human characteristics e.g. being vivacious or even simply alert. This conflation of irrational myth and human nature makes it confusing. Glamour really does seem desirable.
- * These values are somehow very deeply held. It seems so natural to be attracted to a glamorous person. Of course, being glamorous can give a person confidence in themselves and someone confident is attractive. But even so, can we imagine changing our ideas of beauty so they are not exclusive? Even the word exclusive has an alluring connotation. To me it feels very deeply natural but thinking about it tells me it must be false.
- * No particular body type or human feature is intrinsically more attractive than any other. Such judgements are historically formed. Are artificial. Are cultural specific. We tend to think of our standards of beauty as absolute and universal but in parts of West Africa, for instance, a high forehead and rolls of fat on the back of the neck signify those most attractive and beautiful.
- * The fact these beliefs and values are so deeply held suggest that they are forced on us very early in our lives. And that concepts of desirable appearances are linked to the powerful motor of our developing identity and sexual values. For a very young person who is just becoming aware of their SELF, the information that we are not able to feel good about our identity/self unless we have a particular appearance is a major trauma which it is difficult for us to imagine. If it had been simply information we would, given the arguements above, be able to change our minds. However, to me, the values feel 'fixed'. Thoughts and values only become rigid when they are forced on us in a way that hurts or terrifies us. And this hurt does not have the chance for emotional healing. Therefore glamour is part of the damage caused to all of us by oppression.



* Apart from the original hurt of this perverted picture of beauty in the world, such pressure on people to have a particular type of body actually does accumulate and kill many people. Anorexics have lives dominated by physical appearance. Nearly all women are heavily pressurised by issues of body weight and shape.

* Everybody 'knows' that it is part of the oppression of women, especially slimming clubs, schemes and foods are highly popular. Instead we need relearning

-to-love-our-bodies-as-they-are clubs.

* Once the oppression is set up and internalised, market forces create the demand to keep it in operation. The picturing and participation of people with disabilities and physical differences in art and the media is a crucial part of all our liberation from the yoke of glamour. It can also be pushed through on a platform of equal opportunities, which is at present easier than confronting glamour head on.

Glamour leaves out the reality of ourselves as living organisms.

* Body functions are taboo in the media ... including birth and death (apart from violent death which is used as a symbol. The whole complex and profound process of death, dying and bereavement is rarely pictured). Such exclusions bolster the otherwise tenuous norm of glamour.

* A friend said, "If only we could make socialism glamorous". This is typical

of the confused thinking around glamour which stymies human development.

* Glam rock and Vogueing make glamour INclusive and available for manipulation, deconstruction, having a laugh at. Generally camp culture has done some of the most liberating spoofs on glamour. Camp refuses to accept any natural basis for glamour. It is all reduced to an applied choice of bad taste. It converts glamour to bad taste from which position it is possible to reject it while retaining camp as a protective.

* Glamour ruins the relationships of people who aspire to its standards by putting impossible demands on their expectations of themselves and each other.

* People who have accepted that they are not glamorous are banned from the arena of first class life. They are never in the limelight'

* Only a sense of humour about all this saves us from disasterous disconnection from reality. Fortunately , glamour is pretty funny because it is so absurdly tragic.

* Glamorous people do not show or discharge fear - any emotion may spoil the appearance.

* Because to be really glamorous is to be the Complete Victim. The archetypes

of glamour will often become super victims e.g. Monroe and Dean.

* Key requirements you need to fulfil to be a really glamorous person (rather than just look like one) is to have natural facial expression, tone of voice and posture. Glamour must look like the most natural thing in the world rather than the mpost fake.

* If your appearance approximates to a glamorous ideal you have the offer of advantage. It is difficult to ignore this offer. But if taken up, it severely limits life activity, such as care of young children - which is not glamorous.

- * Glamour posits a life that is not tactile. Sex becomes a primarily visual activity. We come into physical contact only to provide ourselves with an exciting visual construction.
- * The important everyday activities, relationships and struggle with our own situations past and present, are devalued by glamour as unheroic. In fact, most of our struggles for liberation and important relations in our lives happen here.

* Glamour is welded to consumerism and entertainment. Further discussion would

require analysis of the alienated relations assumed by these concepts.

* People look more attractive on video. A dull thing looks better wrapped in cellophane. The body builders oil themselves and never touch each other. We describe one person as dull and another as sparkling.

Real life is pock marked and frail and deeply satisfying. The media image

of life is sanitised and glossy and disappointing.

- * The important thing in glamour is in defining power as NOT FOR EVERYONE but at the same time classless and arising from the masses by genetic fortune. The hierarchies formed invade all human relations diverting attention from our own real power.
- * Oppression that is based on self exploitation and internalised negative images of ourselves is extremely unstable. And in real terms it is easy to liberate ourselves from it. The chains are in our own hearts and we have the key. (The above is an extract from "Class myths & culture" £5-95, available from ACW.)

