

Alternative Press REVIEW

YOUR GUIDE BEYOND THE MAINSTREAM



INSIDE:

- Fundamentalist Hysteria & Hysterically Funny Fundamentalists!**
- The Fall of Civilization**
- Toxic Waste in Your Toothpaste?**
- Bisexuals Besieged**
- Mainstream Media Control**
- Hundreds of Zine & Magazine Reviews**

Premiere Issue!

INTRODUCTION

The Alternative Press Takes Off

W

elcome to the first issue of *Alternative Press Review*! I hope you're as excited as we are about the increasing quantity and often high quality of alternative publications showing up on newsstands and through the mail. A new generation of alternative periodicals is searching for an enlarged audience, and APR is here to help you find your way through the obscurity and confusion of the low-budget, do-it-yourself publishing world.

A significant proportion of this new generation of zines, newsletters, tabloids and magazines has taken over where the underground press of the sixties left off. Exploring liberatory themes from a variety of non-authoritarian perspectives, APR will focus on coverage of this segment of alternative periodicals. Contrary to the narrow image often presented in the mainstream media, the alternative press encompasses far more than the well-known alternative newsweeklies and liberal mainstays like the *Nation* and *The Progressive*. Although some mainstream sources are beginning to pick up on the

sure, narrowly focussed distribution, and a hostile climate wherever authorities are concerned. APR seeks to increase the general level of awareness that such a press exists. It will publish a wide variety of some of the best essays available, essays that deserve

a much wider readership than they currently enjoy. APR will explain the value and promote the wider distribution of alternative periodicals, books and other media. APR wants to provide you with as wide a window as possible onto this entire sphere of publishing activities.

There are some highly important, beautifully conceived and competent-

ly executed projects out there that should not be missed. And you'll find a good selection of them here in this first issue of *Alternative Press Review*. We hope you'll subscribe, in order to continue receiving further selections. We hope you'll give us your opinions of this first, preliminary effort at presenting this varied assortment of excerpts and articles. And we hope you'll send us your suggestions for subsequent issues: the types of articles, graphic art, news coverage, reviews and features



Portion of a recent alternative press display in Columbia, Missouri libraries.

* RECEIVE STOPPED *

ALTERNATIVE PRESS REVIEW

CONTENTS

*Your Guide Beyond
the Mainstream*

DEPARTMENTS

3 ALTERNATIVE DIRECTIONS

6 ALTERNATIVE MEDIA/
*Interview: The Return of
Factsheet 5*

SELECTIONS

10 DRUG EDUCATION:
Just Say Shut Up! (Lookout)

11 YET ANOTHER BLOW FROM
THE DRUG WAR (Madworld
Survival Guide)

12 READING THE DETECTIVES
(Organise!)

14 PARDON MY ANALYSIS
(Madison Edge)

16 RANDY TERRY: Up Close and
Personal (The Body Politic)

17 MARKET ECONOMY: DEEP
ROOTS OF DYSFUNCTION
(Synthesis/Regeneration)

REVIEWS

19 ALTERNATIVE PRESS BOOKS

70 FEATURE FILM REVIEW:
The Lid is off

72 ALTERNATIVE PRESS
MAGAZINES & TABLOIDS

76 ALTERNATIVE PRESS
NEWSLETTERS AND ZINES



21 No Thanks for the Memories by *Ted Schultz*
How reliable are memories—especially when they reach to childhood?
Reprinted from *Gnosis*

25 Doors of Memory by *Ethan Watters*
Discovering repressed memories of childhood sexual abuse?
Or developing fundamentalist hysteria? Reprinted from *Mother Jones*

32 Cults of Consumption by *Max Cafard*
Televangelists say the darnedest things!
Reprinted from *Mesechabe*

40 Civilization in Bulk by *George Bradford*
The primal case against civilization and empire.
Reprinted from *Fifth Estate*

47 Fluoride: Commie Plot or Capitalist Ploy by *Joel Griffiths*
Is your water supply treated with toxic industrial waste?
Reprinted from *Covert Action Information Bulletin*

54 Bisexuality by *Michael William*
Besieged new bi movements struggle for self-definition.
Reprinted from *Anarchy: A Journal of Desire Armed*

60 Media Control by *Noam Chomsky*
The spectacular success of propaganda in the U.S.
Reprinted from *Open Magazine*

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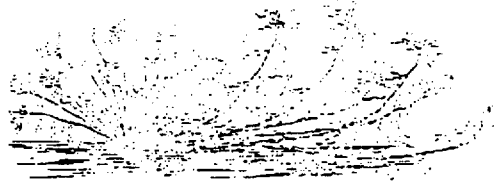
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The whirligig of time has its revenges.
—B.A.G. Fuller



Alternative Directions

Alternative Press Review can only become what its readers and contributors help it to become. We will remain steadfastly focussed on the task of assisting the alternative press to make itself more visible, by bringing important parts of it to our readers' attention. But beyond this, there are many directions we would like to travel.

This initial issue is only a first step in achieving the kind of magazine we'd like this to be. In future issues we'd like to increase our coverage of alternative press news. We'd like to run many more book reviews, as well as other alternative media reviews. We'd like to profile some of the more important alternative media institutions—publishers, distributors, bookshops, etc. We'd like to include pieces on well-known writers and artists who contribute regularly to the alternative press. In fact, there are probably too many things we'd like to do to ever fit them all into the limited space of this magazine. But we'll try anyway.

In order to achieve our goals, we're going to need more contributors—more writers, graphic artists, photographers, etc. As a new project we can use all the comments, criticism and suggestions that you can possibly give us.

A magazine such as this will necessarily contain contradictions, because it will always contain a variety of perspectives. We see this as potential a strength, rather than a weakness. It means that no single perspective will dominate our presentation. The ability to read and assess the relative validity of many different alternative perspectives is an important skill worth cultivating in a world in which mainstream media monoculture rules. And we certainly intend to make sure that those who pick up this magazine will exercise this skill.

If you like what you see in this first issue, please let us know. And if you don't, we really want to hear why.

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Submissions

Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with all articles, photos, and graphic art if you want it returned, or if you want to receive a response. All other submissions become the property of C.A.L. Press. We prefer that written submissions be typed and double-spaced; ASCII or Wordperfect format on 3.5" or 5.25" IBM compatible diskettes are encouraged.

Alternative Press Review may edit submission for grammar and style.

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[Previous](#) [Illustrative Extracts from Alternative Press Index](#)

[Next](#) [Information Peacekeeping, a note from the editor](#)

[Return to Electronic Index Page](#)