

Modesto Anarcho the valley's insurrectionary journal of class struggle



#7
Free

indigenous resistance in davis - crime and freedom - taser torture - action and repression

WHAT WE BELIEVE:

We want a stateless and classless society. We want to live in a self-governing world without any forms of top down organization, where all people have access and control over decision making and their lives. A world in which all resources that people need to sustain themselves are cared for in common and in harmony with the Earth. Where people work for human needs and desires - not profits or bosses. We want freedom - in which groups and communities brought together by mutual aid, solidarity, and cooperation can live lives as they see fit - liberated from domination, repression, coercion, and control. We want to build genuine human relationships in which people can discover their self-worth, realize their potential, and liberate their desires, free from wage-slavery and State violence.

We are against all governments and capitalism. We are against all governments because they are based upon controlling people through complete and total violence by means of the police, prisons, borders, military, and school systems. Through this system of domination, governments of the world ensure that working class and oppressed people stay in the roles designed for them: subservient workers and passives citizens. We are against capitalism, because it is **based upon class society**; a world where a few own everything that we need in order to survive and the rest of us are forced to work for them. This is a system of wage slavery - in which we trade our lives for wages and then buy back what we need to survive with those wages. Capitalism deforms and contorts all human relationships by turning everything into a commodity, including the Earth, living things, and our very lives. Capitalism cannot exist without the State - it needs the State's violence to protect the privileged positions of those who benefit from it.

Modesto Anarcho is a project to document and expand resistance to class society, specifically in the Central Valley of California. We want to use this publication to focus on local issues and highlight what regular people are doing in this area to confront and combat the misery of daily working class life. *Modesto Anarcho* seeks to increase the confidence of working class and oppressed people in regards to our ability to fight back, self-organize, and resist collectively and as individuals. This project is open and participatory - we invite all who share in our ideas to take part in this magazine. If you wish to contribute, please consider giving feedback, sending letters, or submitting articles, poetry, original artwork, and graphics.

We have no demands for this system; we seek only its destruction.

WELCOME

It seems like every time we sit down to write out an introduction to this magazine, we come back to one ongoing theme - things are getting worse. In many ways we can't help but feeling that we're right, as you need only look at the price of gas, the headlines in the newspaper, the increasing police state, or the ongoing environmental crisis to realize that unless we take on and confront this system; this class society - things "getting worse," will be the least of our worries.

Speaking of things getting worse, as the Governor is poised to drastically cut benefits and services for poor and working people, it's easy to feel incredibly pessimistic about a project like this. How can we possibly change things? Liberals, leftists, and even many so-called "revolutionaries" will lead us to believe that by voting for Obama or Clinton we'll see some changes, as if voting for another politician ever helped end war, prisons, wage-slavery, or environmental destruction. Clinton, Obama, McCain, and the rest of their ilk will not be able to pull the US out of the hole that we have allowed Bush (and the system as a whole) to throw us in. Only by combating the ruling class we can start to dig our way out. This is why we watched with great joy as independent truckers across the country launched a national strike for three days in April- taking direct action to shut down highways in protest against high diesel fuel prices. All that it would have taken for a larger uprising to come out of this strike would be the generalization of these actions - or the growing involvement of every person with a stake in seeing the current system of domination and exploitation crumble to its knees. Until actions like these include every single person in prison. Until they include everyone forced into being a wage slave; into selling their time, energy, and lives to some rich scumbag. Until they include every person in a trailer park, ghetto, barrio, jail cell, detention center, school class room - here in the valley, across the United States, and everywhere. We long for the day when the line in the sand between those who profit from this pyramid scheme of pain and repression is as clear to everyone - as it is to us.

With this spirit, we publish this magazine and thrust into your hands *Modesto Anarcho* #7, as we continue to print and distribute close to 1,000 copies of each issue for the disgustingly cheap price of totally free. While that's a number we feel proud of and we hope only continues to grow, this publication is still tiny when compared to the corporate crap that's pumped out by the thousands every day by mainstream papers like the *Modesto Bee* or the shit that fills the airwaves and television channels. In the end, it's the feedback that we get from this project that keeps it interesting and keeps it going. It's the letters from solitary

confinement in the form of poems and praises, the warm congratulations on an issue "well done," or the friendly offer to take a whole stack of magazines to give out at a local demonstration. We continue to be a threat because we ultimately are the ruling classes' worst fears – working class people who refuse their roles and fight against them. We are their worst nightmare – regular people who revolt – and think. We hope that you will join us. Perhaps by writing articles, poetry, and submitting art for this publication, or perhaps simply by trading this magazine around with cellmates, co-workers, classmates, and friends. Whatever you do - use this magazine like a bomb. Let it be the start; or end, of something!



Holdin' it down at Earth Day.

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Are you, or do you know someone locked up within a California prison or detention facility? Think that they would like to get a copy of *Modesto Anarcho* or other like minded publications? Are you a prisoner who is picking this up for the first time and wants to know more about these ideas? We encourage all prisoners to write to us at our PO Box. We will send you free copies of our magazine as well as other publications for as long as we are able! If you are not in prison, but know someone who is, send us the address.

Are you a student or worker who would like to hand out *Modesto Anarcho* at school, on the job, or where you live but can't print the magazine out? Write to us to request a bulk order to distribute.

Send all contributions for *Modesto Anarcho* #8 to our PO Box or to our email by late June. We take art, articles, and poetry.

Send to: Modesto Anarcho, PO Box 3027, Modesto, CA 95353 - Email: anarcho209@yahoo.com - Web: geocities.com/anarcho209 - myspace.com/modanarcho

What We've Been Doing

Since issue #6 of *Modesto Anarcho*, we've been wonderfully busy tabling, planning events, doing prisoner support, and much more. On February 12th, we tabled at the Longest Walk demonstration in Sacramento to show our support and solidarity. The Longest Walk is a march across the United States by indigenous people to bring attention to the destruction of native sacred sites and the environment. We provided some walkers in the Longest Walk with literature to read on their long journey across the country. People were happy to see us there and excited about all of the literature.

On March 16th *Modesto Anarcho* had a very successful benefit at the Long Haul in Berkeley. We dumpstered a huge amount of bread and made a big pot of delicious soup for everyone to share. Someone also stepped up to making fantastic potato pancakes. Everyone enjoyed the food and the company. We held a discussion to let everyone know about the *Modesto Anarcho* zine and distro. Wingnut Willy from local Wingnut's Liberation Project was also able to talk about that project. After that our ears were filled with the wonderful sound of poetry and music. Dee Allen did a bit of spoken word (see issue #6 and current issue poetry section for Dee Allen's poetry) and acoustic folk-punk sensation Kenneth Sime played. Many, many thanks to the Long Haul for letting us come and for everyone who made donations. We greatly appreciate it. The money is helping us continue our efforts.

On March 22th *Modesto Anarcho* tabled at the San Francisco Anarchist Bookfair. We brought a whole spread of zines and issue #6 of *Modesto Anarcho* which flew like hotcakes! A supporter of the Berkeley tree sit stopped by and took a bunch of stuff for the tree sitters. It was awesome being surrounded by so many friends.

On March 25th we went to the protest of the Turlock Shelter closing to show support. We were glad to see such a large turn out for such a small town. We were also glad to see people out there who were actually affected by the shelter closing. Read more about this in the Action section.

On March 29th we had the first of many to come *Modesto Anarcho* discussion meetings. There was a good turnout of about 14 people. There was a lot of passionate discussion about *Modesto Anarcho*, upcoming events such as the DIY Fest, and projects in the making such as Modesto Food Not Bombs and a Womyn's DIY Health Collective. We hope the next meeting goes just as well.

On April 19th, we tabled at Earth Day in Modesto along with the Wingnut's Liberation Project. We had a table full of zines, the new issue of *Earth First!* (which went really fast), and a seed-ball making station.

On top of all of that we're still doing prisoner support and sending literature weekly to prisoners throughout California. We get lots of inspiring letters letting us know how glad people are to be able to get radical literature in such a dark place.

We look forward to the work ahead, the people we have yet to meet, and the continuing struggle.



THE FRONT LINE IS EVERYWHERE...

Inspiring tales of resistance from everyday people in the Central Valley

January 31st: In Tracy, a parolee fled from police and managed to escape capture by hiding in a Tracy neighborhood, according to the *Stockton Record*. In response, the police locked down a four block perimeter, turning the Tracy area into a police state for several hours and kept residents from entering or leaving their homes.

February 18th: In Davis, indigenous youths continue to occupy Deganawidah Quetzacoatl (or DQ) University and several are arrested while occupying the campus by police. Pigs are sent in by the Board of Trustees of the University, who wants to remove the "squatters" from the University who have been running the college by themselves. Despite the crackdown, indigenous people continue to hold the university.

February 20th: In Delhi, about 100 middle school students walked out of school in protest on a Wednesday morning. Students walked out against the firing of the school Principal, who was cut from the district's budget due to budget cuts. The wildcat strike started around 10:30 in the morning and at first included up to 200 kids, according to the *Merced Sun Star*. However, local pigs soon amassed to make sure the kids would not be able to leave the school. "They were corralled by Merced County Sheriff's units and returned to campus," said a deputy. Despite the pig crackdown, at lunch time about 100 kids made for the school district office by "bolting across the street," and finally marched for about a mile to the District Office. Despite this heroic show of solidarity by the kids of Delhi, the principle simply told the kids to forget about it and go back to school. A similar incident occurred in 2005 when close to 600 kids walked out in protest over firings. It's great to see kids taking action and evading the cops in order

to make their voices heard - hopefully next time they'll occupy the school and fire the principle themselves!

Mid March: In Fresno, about 50 nurses tried to deliver a petition to a boss at a Catholic Hospital telling him that the majority of the workers there had decided to form a union, according to indybay.org reporter Mike Rhodes. Security guards had to stop the large group from entering into the hospital in which they work on a regular basis. Employers want only one thing from us when we enter the workplace - to be their slaves, let's give them resistance instead.

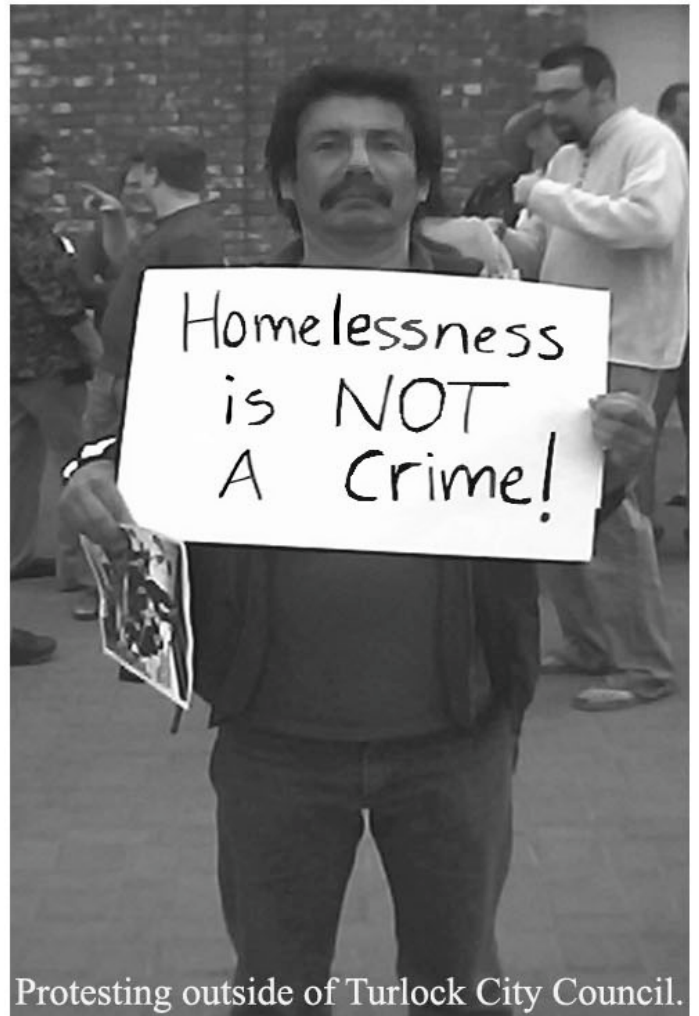
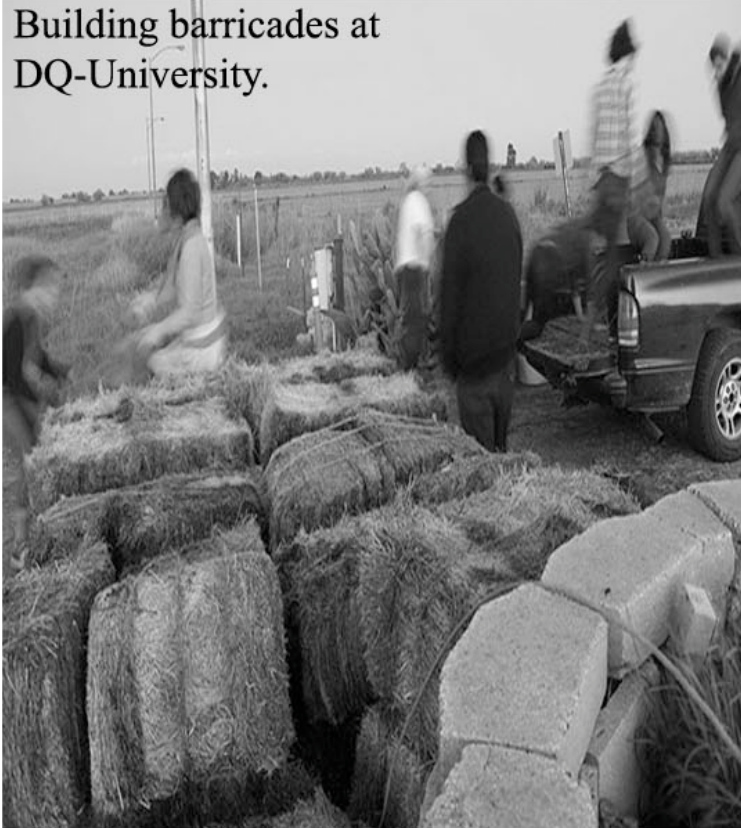
March 12th: In French Camp, nurses organized a protest march in response to the hospitals overworking of nurses, according to the *Stockton Record*. About two dozen nurses carried signs that read "Vigil 4 Safe Staffing," "Patient Safety First" and "Serious Ratio Law Violations." The staffing shortage has resulted in nurses seeing a patient only once every four to eight hours vs. every one to two hours, according to protesting nurses. We hope all people lend their solidarity to these nurses fighting not only for better conditions but also for better conditions for us all.

March 21st: In Sacramento, nearly 600 people protested last Friday outside the Blue Diamond Growers plant to demand better pay and conditions for workers, according to *Vida en el Valle*. Many people at the protest were from the student based group MECHA, a radical Chicano organization. People expressed their support by painting graffiti on the pavement in the street where the plant is located, with messages denouncing the maltreatment and

low wages paid to employees. Blue Diamond workers have been engaged on a long term struggle to form a union and fight for better wages and conditions. "Employees are constantly threatened by employers to desist from the idea of a union. The threat by saying that they will be fired if they support the establishment of this union," said one former worker. "Many of the students who are here now are sons [and daughters] of employees and they are here to support them and denounce the injustices that were committed here," said one MECHA member. In 2006, Blue Diamond workers and supporters filled up and disrupted a Blue Diamond company meeting in Modesto and actions have been ongoing. We hope the best for the Blue Diamond workers – like every nut, the bosses can be cracked!

March 25th: In Turlock, about a 100 people came out to protest the Turlock City Council closing down the local homeless shelter at the start of the wettest season in central valley weather. According to the *Turlock Journal*, "[t]he protest was organized by the homeless community" and was supported by various religious, community, and student groups. "I thought the vote [to close down the shelter] was heartless, cold, and inhumane," said one Turlock resident. "If it wasn't for the shelter, I'd probably be dead," said one homeless person. "Having four less weeks will drain me of everything I have financially." Local scumbag Councilman Ted Howze had a different opinion of the protest, stating: "There is a handful of activists that are driving this protest and they're playing on emotions." Perhaps when people wake up and realize

Building barricades at DQ-University.



Protesting outside of Turlock City Council.

that parasites like Howze are the real outsiders and degenerates – people won't have to worry about going without shelter for a night while hundreds of vacant houses rot throughout the city. No one should suffer while housing is available – break into a vacant house today and start squatting!

March 25th: In Delano, two inmates managed to escape from a minimum security prison. Both prisoners simply did not show up during prisoner count and are considered a "walk away," according to the *Stockton Record*. Both are still completely free.

April 1st: In Davis, indigenous elders, youths, and anarchist supporters placed barricades in front of DQ-University to keep police from coming and removing more protestors and changing locks on doors. Despite the barricades, police arrived in mass and arrested 18 people. One young woman however, managed to climb onto a tree and evade police capture by staying on the roof throughout the raid. Crack teams of indigenous folks and anarchists were later able to recover vehicles, belongings, and get the roof top squatter out of the area



WHEN THE HAMMER FALLS

Repression in the Central Valley

Use of Pig Taser Guns on the Rise: According to the *Stockton Record*, Tracy police officers' use of stun weapons has more than quadrupled in the past four years. In Tracy just last year, two men filed a lawsuit after they were "irreparably harmed by the non-lethal weapons," in an encounter with police. Tracey pigs countered with their own twisted logic that the "sharp rise is not alarming...because more officers are equipped with the weapons." Meaning, if the pigs have access to it – they will use it! In Waterford in 2007, sheriff's tasered a man to death in response to a house call from neighbors. According to the *Merced Sun Star*, "At least four people have died in Merced County after a Taser blast since officers began unholstering the weapon three years ago." The use of tasers by police has even been condemned in the halls of the rich – in 2007 the United Nations Committee Against Torture labeled tasers a "form of torture." Across the US (and elsewhere) hundreds of people have lost their lives as more and more police are equipped with these new technologies. With a possibly lethal weapon in their hands – why should the police have to argue or even talk with you when they can just shock you into submission? In Modesto, police have used tasers (and other so called "non-lethal" weapons) to subdue non-violent suspects such as the deaf driver Harry "Dan" Tessian in 2007 who police mistook as a car thief, as well as local black youths coming out of a music event in downtown Modesto in 2006 (see *Modesto Anarcho* #4). With more and more police departments across the valley being equipped with tasers – this trend will only rise until we do something about it. For more information on this topic, see the taser article located in this issue.

Who Let These Dirty Pigs Out of the Pen?: The police who make their living off of throwing us into prison, issuing us tickets, and brutalizing us, seem to operate on another level than the rest of us. In recent months we here at the *Modesto Anarcho* office have seen a flurry of dirty pigs doing dirty, dirty things. For instance, Gustine Police Chief Kris Anderson has recently been brought up drunk driving

charges. Sheriff's Deputy Michael Galvan, 31, of Turlock was recently accused of rape and misappropriation of public funds and will soon be facing trial, according to the *Modesto Bee*. Deputy Michael Galvan, a total piece of shit, not only pocketed drugs during investigations, but also raped a woman and told her that he would have her children taken away from her if she complained. Also in Turlock, another police officer, Jorge Cruz has been charged with "one count...of sodomy with a minor, oral copulation with a minor, sexual intercourse and dissuading a witness from testifying," according to the *Modesto Bee*. In Stockton, a former San Joaquin County sheriff admitted to a federal judge that he violated probation last year when he was driving drunk and got in a traffic accident. No newcomer to "dark side of the badge," sixty-year-old Baxter Dunn pleaded guilty in 2005 to federal corruption charges and was sentenced to six months in prison. We hope that all our prisoner readers keep their eyes and ears out for these soon to be new comers. Be sure to give them a "warm" and royal welcome.

Urban Sprawl Spreads Like Cancer in Valley: According to the *Merced Sun Star*, just in the Merced area between 2004 and 2006, a total of 23,010 acres of farmland was lost to urbanization plus an additional 14,016 acres between 2002 and 2004. More sprawl means more traffic, higher rent, pollution, yuppies, and worse air quality. We need to bring down capitalism now – before there's no green space left to save.

Republicans Keep Heat Against Migrants: Unions and organizations representing migrant farm workers blasted the Bush Administration's proposed changes to guest worker programs because of the lack of safe guards for wages. "This so-called reform is nothing more than a gutting of existing protections for both domestic and foreign workers," said United Farm Workers (UFW) President Arturo S. Rodriguez in *Vida en el Valle*. "It will

result in lower wages and a worsening of conditions that currently exist." Whether in Mexico or the US – capitalist states will continue to use their powers to exploit and dominate all working class people.

Lay-Offs in Riverbank: Close to 500 workers at the GoAmerica Inc. relay call center in Riverbank will be receiving lay off notices from bosses in the coming months. Many of the jobs will be outsourced to the Philippines, according to the *Modesto Bee*. Capitalism toys with our lives and livelihoods – let's punch it out once and for all.

Pigs and Politicians Keep Heat on Homeless: According to **indybay.org** reporter Mike Rhodes, "Fresno City Council member Brian Calhoun wants to make it illegal for homeless people to request money while standing on median islands. He says the practice is unsafe and is seeking to pass an ordinance that would prohibit anyone from asking for money by holding a sign on a median. There is already an ordinance that prohibits "aggressive" panhandling and an ordinance was passed last year making it illegal for homeless people to push a shopping cart." Calhoun himself is well known throughout Fresno for setting up a table next to the street and giving out free coffee, while at the same time he claims that "homeless people distract drivers and might cause an accident." We hope that people in Fresno will let that rich scumbag Calhoun know exactly where he can stick his coffee! In Merced, studies show that the number of homeless continues to rise with the worsening of the economy and studies in the area are pointing towards foreclosure as a factor in forcing people out into the streets. More and more the police and city elites push us into the role of a criminalized class – we should start to push back!

Valley Pigs Use Internet Video Sites for Arrests: Police are using video sites like youtube.com to make arrests, according to the *Modesto Bee*. For instance, Neil Cervenka logged onto the website youtube.com and "took notes," in order to keep tabs on a group of young people doing illegal tricks with their cars. After writing the plate number, the officer made a quick stop to the person's house who owned the car to issue a ticket. Police can also subpoena Internet companies for copies of videos. "The Internet is an excellent source of evidence," said one cop with the Sacramento Crimes Task Force. If you don't want to get caught for stupid shit – don't post it online for the pigs to see!

Surveillance Cameras for Downtown Parks?: The La Loma Association (who pushed for the recent criminalization of dumpster diving, see *Modesto Anarcho* #6), is now asking the city of Modesto to allow it to put up a video camera surveillance system in public parks. The cameras which would be placed in parks around the La Loma area would be a way to stop homeless people from camping in the parks. "We know that people are camping down there, living down there," said La Loma Association President Mike Moradian in the *Modesto Bee*. The cameras could be up this summer if the city council approves an operating agreement with the neighborhood association in the next few months. Dean Wright, a deputy county counsel and La Loma resident said that the added surveillance will help push homeless people out of La Loma – and into other communities. "[Transient] folks that would ordinarily come to our neighborhood, I think, now are unfortunately moving to other neighborhoods, and I can only encourage other neighborhoods to model their plans after our plans."

These plans come on the heels of a recent lawsuit against the city by several homeless men known as the "Dry Creek Five." The five are fighting charges for sleeping in a park in the La Loma area, stating that since they didn't have access to the two homeless shelters in Modesto at the time, they should not be criminalized for sleeping outside. "If I had some place to sleep, I sure as heck wouldn't have been down here," said one of the Dry Creek Five in the *Modesto Bee*. However, Michael Moradian is "pleased to see the authorities take a seemingly minor case so seriously." For the "crime" of sleeping outside, Moradian proposes that the men be "put...in jail for 30 days, [or] force[d]...to go to some drug rehabilitation or alcohol rehabilitation program."

Further repression, surveillance, and criminalization of homeless people who use the Dry Creek river areas of the La Loma neighborhood as campgrounds will not lead to any solutions to the homeless issue. The "solutions" proposed by groups like the La Loma Association are the same as those of the police and the State, more incarceration and government control over more and more areas of our lives, and a herding of the homeless and poor out of one area of the city into another. They're organized – are you?





OF TASERS AND TORTURE

By *Phoenix Insurgent*

Hardly a news cycle goes by these days without two seemingly contradictory things happening: a police officer praises the “less lethal” TASER as his savior in a tight spot; and, someone gets killed or seriously injured by a TASER. It isn't unusual for this second case to occur in circumstances that shed considerable doubt on the first case, whether because of the nature of the victim (young, old, incapacitated, restrained, etc) or because of the victim was either justified in their actions or attempting to comply with police orders. What's behind this phenomenon?

Police cite the TASER as a critical weapon filling a gap in their arsenal between the billy club and the handgun. Rather than engage a suspect in close combat, cops say, the TASER allows them the flexibility to take someone down at a short distance without risking serious injury to either the officer or the arrestee. This is supposed to be more humane than merely beating or shooting someone, especially if there is some doubt as to the criminality of the victim's actions, such as when police merely desire compliance (although police rarely concede such doubts publicly). Likewise, this is alleged to be safer for the officer, who the media and police agencies almost universally portray as constant targets of violence.

But what's the truth of it? We can start by debunking two notions that underlie the case used to justify TASERS. First of all, when we get right down to it, policing isn't a very dangerous job. When ranked by the rate of on the job deaths and injury, cops don't even rank in the top ten, showing up far below truck driver, roofer and farm worker, among others [1]. These are jobs we all do every day without the benefit of TASER protection (from our boss, for instance). Indeed, a recent study cited in the New York Times

showed that cops are much more likely to die by their own hand than by a so-called “criminal” [2].

Secondly, the truth is that police don't use less force when they have TASERS. If TASERS were serving as a substitute for other forms of violence, or as a deterrent, we would expect the number of uses of force to drop. According to a well-documented study by Amnesty International, however, when police forces get TASERS, their propensity towards violence actually increases [3]. TASERS actually increase police violence. Indeed, Amnesty International specifically pointed out that precisely because of the short distance attack that TASERS make possible, police increasingly use them to compel obedience rather than for actual law enforcement.

Why is this? It's because the police are a tool of class oppression. They are like soldiers, only deployed here at home, enforcing the will of a small elite that is rich and powerful. As the army does in Iraq, so do the police here at home. They are defenders of the status quo, which happens to be one in which folks like us don't have much power while the elite they are defending have a lot of it. For instance, when the bank comes to enforce your foreclosure or eviction, who shows up? The police, of course, toting their TASERS and guns. But when's the last time you saw the cops TASER a yuppie in the rich part of town? That'll be the day!

So, since the police are really a domestic army, not public servants, why would we expect that giving them more weapons (i.e., TASERS) would reduce the level of violence? That's counter-intuitive. For instance, if we gave the army a new weapon, would we expect them to be less violent because of it? Clearly not. The TASER, then, is a way for the police to increase their ability to

efficiently project their power or, more accurately, the power of the elite in general (the ones who make the laws and pay for the politicians, for example), onto folks like us – people who want to create our own lives and not bow down before people who don't have our best interests at heart. This explains the vigorous defense of TASERs by police agencies despite the fact that they are used too often and remain quite deadly in many circumstances [4]. They're not concerned with reducing violence. They're concerned with projecting their power.

Thus, it's obvious that all the rhetoric about TASERs doesn't match up with reality and in fact obscures a very fundamental truth: the rich and powerful want to control us so that they can get richer and more powerful. TASERs make it easier for them to do so, especially because police can hide their violence behind the cover of TASERs bogus claim of being less-violent (a claim they continue to make even as the deaths mount). But, once we see through that lie we are ourselves armed to make our arguments against the deployment of TASERs. If we want to be free, we must limit and ultimately challenge the ability of the police to project power onto us. And that means opposing TASERs and the class society they defend.

CITED:

[1] "America's most dangerous jobs", CNN Money. com, 9 August 2007

[2] "Suicide Bigger Threat for Police Than Criminals", New York Times, 8 April 2008

[3] "USA: Excessive and lethal force? Amnesty International's concerns about deaths and ill-treatment involving police use of tasers", 30 November 2004, accessed at <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AMR51/139/2004>

[4] "Police defend use of Tasers", Knoxville News Sentinel, 4 December 2007

Fresno Police Kill High School Student

Info taken from indybay.org.

A Fresno police officer, Junus Perry, assigned to Roosevelt High School, shot and killed a sophomore on April 16th, after the 220-pound, 6-foot-2 teen struck him on the head with a baseball bat.

The body of Jesse Carrizales lay sprawled near the basketball courts for hours as officers investigated the death. The campus was put on immediate lockdown, and hundreds of anxious parents gathered outside the school's gates pleading for information.

Carrizales' family said he has no history of violence. They said Carrizales, who turned 17 last month, was on medication for depression but was responding well. The first reports of this shooting said Perry, after being hit with a baseball bat, was knocked to the ground. The magazine to his handgun fell out as he hit the ground and Perry grabbed a second gun from his ankle and shot Carrisalez in the chest. But, a pathologist's findings have raised questions about what happened. According to the *Fresno Bee*, Harry Bonnell who is a San Diego pathologist, said the trajectory of the bullet is not consistent with Perry's description of the incident. Instead of an upward trajectory, as would be expected if someone was shooting from the ground up, the bullet had a slightly downward angle. Parents were furious at the shooting, stating "Why can't you send an ambulance? Why didn't they Taser him? Hit him? Anything! Why did you kill him?" They wouldn't answer me." After the shooting parents demanded answers outside the school and some started shaking the fence. One woman shouted: "Give us our children!"

The claims by the Fresno pigs that the actions of Perry were "heroic" disgust us, as does the paramilitary like build up of well armed officers in schools. Just like on the streets and in the workplace, police exist to keep us in our roles and from rebelling. To do this, they use violence, fear, and the threat of prison. We hope that the students in Fresno and elsewhere are able to organize, resist, and eventually stop another incident like this one from ever happening again.



Let Our Greatest Crime be Freedom

by ceudo

Unemployment, low paying jobs, lay offs, the cost of living, budget cuts, recession... We all know things are bad in the valley, but what makes things even worse is that we have to live in fear of our neighbors stealing and attacking us. Home invasion, car theft, robbery... We should be out in the streets, taking over stores and distributing food and goods, breaking into abandoned lots and planting gardens, and opening up vacant houses so people have a place to sleep, not stealing, raping, and attacking each other. In most cases of crime in the central valley, the people that are robbed are people living in working class communities. Almost always the people doing the stealing are also working class themselves, perhaps engaging in the easiest way of making money that is available to them. In some cases in the valley these crimes have not only involved people robbing each other - but also men breaking into homes in order to sexually assault and rape women. In Merced several months ago, some men burned a woman alive over a fight over drugs. What makes these actions so sick and disgusting is the fact that in a time where we should be coming together to fight our common enemies - some of us are choosing to become that enemy.

In many ways, this is right where the system wants us. Attacking and stealing from each other, giving more and more reason for police to be stationed on every corner, SWAT teams armed with sub-machine guns patrolling our streets, and surveillance cameras placed on every corner. While the realities of living in a capitalist economy create the conditions of poverty and thus crime - our actions that harm and attack each other only help perpetuate this system. More and more, young people are seeing the drug

game and stealing from others as a way to "come up" out of poverty and despair. Getting out of poverty by these means is a pipe dream and will only ensure that more and more working class people will end up behind bars - and the system that creates poverty is strengthened and maintained. We should not be satisfied to become the new bosses and capitalists in the markets for drugs and stolen cars - when we could be out destroying the system of capitalism itself.

"Reverse this shit and hit our real enemies. Homie all these guns we got between us - we should start pointing them the right way and come the fuck up. Stop killing over turf - it ain't worth yo' life. Instead do it for the struggle that's how you earn your stripes."

- The Outlawz

But we can't just wait for capitalism to fall - we have to begin putting into practice our desire not only for a world without police, prisons, and wage slavery, but also a world in which regular people do not brutalize, assault, steal, and rape each other. This means that we must come together to not only build communities that are strong enough internally that can deal with these anti-social elements without having to deal with the police - but also communities in which people's needs are met so they do not have to turn to robbing their neighbors. As we speak, California and poor areas like the central valley are about to be faced with budget cuts that will cut more services and benefits - pushing more and more people into crime. We will have to decide if that crime will be one of revolution and freedom - or stealing from other poor and working people. The choice is ours.

"The war on drugs is a war on us - and the wrong time to see it is when you wearing them cuffs."
-Dead Prez



Indigenous Resistance at DQ- University

D-Q University is California's only tribal college. It was founded in 1971 on the site of a former army communications base. In 1970 Native American and Xican@ activists united after the 1968 occupation of Alcatraz Island and risked their lives occupying this army base. They demanded a university with one vision: the unity between all First Nations People from Alaska to South America, learning in the ways of their ancestors and continuing cultural and spiritual traditions and sacred life-ways.

D-Q University was founded to activate knowledge and unity across the land for all First Nations people. This is the original vision of the University and continues to be the vision with which the students live by. However, the current board of trustees who run the university have been trying to evict students at DQ-U who have occupied it in recent years. Students reject the current board, claiming that they are corrupt. On indybay.org students wrote: **"We want accountability for past financial abuse and misuse of funds from the previous and current Board of Trustees. The current board has proven to be incompetent and we ask for community support in obtaining a new Board of Trustees . Many important historical documents and student transcripts have gone missing or have been destroyed. We will no longer tolerate incompetence from the board and the harassment of students living on campus.**

We stand firm in asking for the resignation of the current Board of Trustees and we are gathering to create and organize our new board consisting of a self-guided council of responsible elders, students and community members to revive the original vision for D-Q Nations and the Seventh Generation.

Future encounters with the police are on the brink and we will not acknowledge their jurisdiction. We the students have as much right to be on D-Q campus as the board does. We are setting precedent. We plan on reorganizing the power structure of the Board of Trustees so that future abuse of power will not be tolerated or possible ever again."

What follows is an interview with an anarchist from Santa Cruz who was part of a group of supporters who came out to DQ-University to show support with the student occupiers and resist police removal.

MA: What interested you personally about the history of DQ-U and the resistance there?

It is a place with a very radical history that most people in California have never heard of. There were a number of things that interested me greatly upon arriving there. First, that this was reclaimed native land. The US government has relocated, destroyed, and plundered almost the entire sovereignty of the first nations, so taken back Indian land is something powerful in this context.

Also, the youth are engaged in a struggle with the Board to be recognized as having autonomy and determination in what their lives and education will look like. As someone engaged in struggle against the University of California, I found inspiration in how close to the goal of self-determination and an earth connected education the students of DQU are.

MA: In what ways have indigenous people used the space? How have younger people occupied it in the last couple of years?

The former army communications building was occupied in 1970 to physically retake native land for educational purposes. The school served as an international

tribal college for 30 years despite repeated infiltration and government attacks of all kinds. Starting in 2005, the students occupied the land rather than let the school be shut down and have literally run the school. They have maintained a thriving permaculture program despite losing their water and electricity and being arrested. While the corrupt Board of Directors wants to shut the school down, the students are fighting to restore the vision of DQU as a space for indigenous culture and education for people of all nations.

MA: Why did people from outside of Davis decide to show solidarity with people at DQ University?

Many people have been inspired by how open the vision of DQU is, considering the difficulty native people have had with both colonizers and 'supporters' from settler descent. To find a group of people incredibly committed to their culture and history and at the same time reaching out to allies across so many boundaries is instantly respectable and a sign of strength.

As anarchists, and people interested in the struggle for a healthy and deep relationship with our earth, DQU is incredibly important to support and defend as a place where the spirit of resistance and the knowledge of how to live with the earth are alive and present.

MA: Can you talk about the latest eviction at DQ University? What happened? In what ways were people successful in acting against the police?

There has been some form of state aggression against the vision of DQ for over 500 years, and against DQU since the first day of the occupation in 1970. The spirit on Cesar Chavez Day, March 31st, '08, was that the police could enter the property and make arrests, but they could not stop the occupation itself, the determination to continue DQU, or the community fighting for native dignity which is the heart of the school. These students and elders were strengthened and resolved by their arrests. Not only did the occupation continue (at least one woman outlasted the police just by climbing a tree), but their fortitude was untarnished by a huge outpouring of time, energy, and money by the Yolo County Sheriffs and SWAT teams (students were back on the land that very night as well, and the sweat ceremonies continued). This action by the police actually helped to build a relationship of solidarity between the students and

their visitors, demonstrated the violence inherent in the lack of diversity in higher education, and galvanized the DQU resistance as real warriors in the community who are putting themselves on the line for their culture and beliefs.

MA: Is this a struggle for all oppressed people and those who wish to attack the system or just First Nations Peoples?

Indigenous people of all nations are welcome, and everyone is reminded that they are indigenous to somewhere. The systems of capitalism and colonialism are based on the theft of land which presupposes exploiting the people, animals, plants, and resources existing there. This system has largely replaced the first nations cultures who lived here without property and in a harmonious relation with the earth. This is one reason why the spirit of native resistance is such a threat and still so alive today. These examples of a better way are innately known and felt by each person who at one time

did not live in such a violent relationship with their world. When the harmony that once lived here is presented by a culture preserving those ways, people can see the possibility of a totally different world and the naked fear and ugliness at the foundation of our current one.



MA: What is going on right now with the struggle at DQ U?

Right now students are continuing the occupation, and ceremonies continue to take place. More updated information can be seen at: myspace.com/dquniversity. The students absolutely need support, and visiting is the most immediate way to connect with the school in a real way. We will benefit from the connections built there, and be better prepared when the state inevitably attempts to crush the resistance. Supporters are also invited to students' court dates and to the process of appointing a new Board of Directors in the interest of the students and the school. This is the time for information sharing, deepening our commitment to this place and its values, and gathering allies who will put their bodies on the line if and when the time is needed to fight.

Native warriors with the American Indian Movement (AIM) occupy Wounded Knee in 1973.



MA: How can people aid and expand the struggle of the DQ students?

Revolutionary solidarity means acting in the same spirit as those fighting beside you. We all have our own universities, the UC the worst among them, as well as our own land "owners" who rarely face as much antagonism as these students offer them. We have to take down these institutions which cover up natural beauty and the natural relationships between people and land. As well we can spread the perspective that comes from standing on a reclaimed sacred site looking out at a police army. It is the perspective that we have an un-severable relationship to the land that will give us strength to defend it.

MA: Any final thoughts?

Moments in history are stories that individuals live, and great stories happen when someone follows their heart. The students at DQU are brave individuals who will be facing more and more repression as they grow. We feel compelled to aid those with courage when we have looked inside ourselves and defeated the first salvos of repression- the ones that prevent us from thinking and feeling for ourselves. As each of us grows within our own selves, we will seek out more allies, and better understand how rare and valuable true warriors are.



PRISONER FEEDBACK

Modesto Anarcho,

I just read your fall 2007 issue (#5) and thought it was kick ass. I'm locked up in Susanville prison, but am from Modesto. Me and the homeboys here think your magazine's very cool.

Seeing as it's such a corrupt society we live in today, these rules and regulations are made to keep us down and the public seems to enjoy watching their freedoms stripped from them one by one.

Hopefully someday soon they will wake up and rebel – until then who knows. I just wanted to say keep up the good work. Thank you for your hard work and for your time.

**Donald Murray # V-92788
66-07 UP
PO Box 2400
Susanville, CA 96127**



Armed Poetics

edited by pomegranate

Unwritten Law

Dee Allen.

The only good cop that lives is
A bad cop that keeps his mouth shut.

Thrown to the wall
& handcuffed
W/ insurmountable force
You question the
Physical harshness
Used against you

Swung club to the spine
Swung fist to the eye
& random pounds & kicks
Were the only response

Curbside justice
Badge & a gun
Eyes full of hatred
5 on 1

Unwarranted search
Unwilling pawn
In a game of piñata
Where in lieu of a paper beast,
A human ribcage gets smashed.

Dickbrained
Domineering, depraved
Volunteer
Gunrunning, drugselling slave

Protector---Uniformed fool
Aggressor---Rich man's tool

Which of these portrayals best fit
He who circumvents the Law
He's sworn to uphold, the
Policeman or Sheriff?

ALL.

Somewhere tonight, the unwritten law
of brutality & hate will be
carried out on unarmed innocents.

Tasting the pain---borne from
Arrogance, fascist grace
Under a red-blue red-blue
red-blue red-blue
spedcar lightglow.

The only good cop that lives is
A bad cop that keeps his mouth shut.
----Or so they say.

Battles

Kenneth Sime

Well I guess you've got your war and I've got mine
I know we've both got our own battles to fight
You'll train through the day while we strike in the night.
I just hope that you'll be alright, I just hope that you'll be alright.

Your uniform is green and mine is pure black.
Your hair is buzzed short while mine is tied back.
You fight for money, I fight for liberation,
But it's not too late, and no it's never, ever, too late.

And I wonder what the recruiter told you that day at school.
Did he fill your head with dreams of honored glory?
I wonder what you'll think when you're out on the front lines,
Did you make the right choice, did you make the right choice?

And if you come home from war, who'll meet you on the docks?
Your Commanding Officer, or your best friend since 3rd grade?
And if you come home from war who'll meet you on the docks?
Well I'll meet you on the docks there Johnny...

Tragic Tenure (Part 1)

Brennan

I signed a life contract with the system
What a goddamn contradiction
Causes and consequences and pain infliction brought on by criminal
conviction
Our ways emulate an addiction, in a split decision
Life becomes a tragedy
Shakespearean characters leave us wishin' we had someone
In this Life to hold onto
As if Life was an obtuse obstacle
With razorblades representin' its shape
Disgraceful capitalism carves its cut; Incision
Resonating on your decision
City sparks and Skyscraper parks
When the shadows of men turn dark
We wake up to realize that our heart and our soul
Is nothing more than a mark, nothing less than a hole
To be fucked to be sold

send original poetry to:
anarcho209poetry@yahoo.com

or

Modesto Anarcho
PO Box 3027
Modesto, CA 95353



UPCOMING EVENTS

May Day in Modesto : Thursday, May 1st, 8AM - 12 Noon. Starts at El Paradiso parking lot on 1550 Crows Landing Road. Event features speakers and DJ. Protest government attacks on immigrants - no human is illegal!

Anarchist Cafe' in Downtown Modesto : Friday, May 2nd, 7PM - 11PM. Event kicks off at 10th and J Street in downtown Modesto. Featuring bands, free food, and literature tables. Bring supplies to benefit DQ-University (see article in this issue).

Womyn's DIY Health Meeting : Thursday, May 8th, 4:30PM - ? Discussion goes down under the Gazebo at Graceada Park in Downtown Modesto, located on Park Ave. This is open to all who identify as being a womyn or a girl - come out to discuss how we can take our health into our own hands.

Modesto Anarcho Tabling at Whole Earth Festival : MA will be tabling at the Whole Earth Festival in Davis CA over the weekend of May 10th and 11th. Check our website for more information.


DQ-U Benefit Show : Saturday, May 17th, 6PM - 11PM. Come out to see various punk bands and help benefit DQ-University. More info can be found online at: myspace.com/209Wingnut.

MA Discussion Meeting : Saturday, May 31st, 1PM - 3PM. Open forum to discuss *Modesto Anarcho*, upcoming events, and possible projects. Meet under the Gazebo at Graceada Park in Downtown Modesto on Park Ave.

DIY Fest : Saturday, June 14th. Come out to learn DIY skills and bring yours to share with others. Event will feature music, food, and literature tables. More information at: myspace.com/209Wingnut.

For other events in the valley check out: indybay.org/centralvalley

In Egypt and Haiti thousands rioted against the rising cost of food and fuel. In Haiti graffiti read: "Down with the expensive life!" All that it takes for events "over there," to become "events here," is that spark where rage becomes action.



**Modesto
Anarcho
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