

OCTOBER 79

THIS MONTH

The October Calendar features the struggle against the psychiatric industry and the forced drugging, involuntary commitment procedures, and other forms of "treatment" for the "mentally ill" in a generally repressive society. See the other side for more information on this widespread social problem.

Disabled People's Civil Rights Day is October 20, with a march and rally to support a full Bill of Rights for the over 47 million disabled people in the US. See listing.

Tenants are organizing this month for decent, affordable housing. See listings of activities by the Oakland Tenants Union Oct 17 and Berkeley Tenants Union Oct 8.

The issue of **battered women** and their right to self-defense is on trial this month as Christine Calhoun, a battered woman charged with murder in defending herself from a violent assault goes on trial in Oakland. See listing for October 11.

MON 1 Chuquiago, a new Bolivian film directed by Antonio Equino. Chuquiago is the Indian name for Bolivia's capital city La Paz, where the various races & social classes are segregated; by the city's unique topography, which provides the backdrop for the film's narrative. 8:30 pm, \$2. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

The Second Continent, of the Antonio Mago Brigade will present a slide show documenting its recent trip to Cuba. The Brigade is composed of young Cubans who were forced to leave Cuba as small children by parents or relatives fleeing the Revolution. For most of this was their first visit back in many years. The program will include time for questions and answers. 7:30 pm, free. La Peña Community Center, 3109A Shattuck, Berk. 2

1949: *The victory of the Chinese Revolution is formalized with the declaration of the People's Republic of China.*

1965: *Indonesia, pro-US coup and anti-communist massacre—800,000 members of the Indonesian Communist Party murdered.*

TUE 2 Lucia, the classic of Cuban cinema—a panoramic tapestry of women, their limitations & powers within a particularly probing cultural context. 8 pm, \$2. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

1971: *Nine sailors refuse to sail with the attack carrier "Constellation," which is bound for combat out of SE Asia.*

WED 3 Gray Panther General Meeting, 2:30 to 4:30, free, North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst St, Berk. 2

Italian Eurocommunism: Politics of Health Care Reform, a forum and discussion sponsored by the Northern California Socialist Health Network. Giovanni Berlinguer, member of the Italian Communist Party, and author of Italian abortion law, 8 pm, \$2. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berk. 2

How Puerto Rico Became a US Colony 1898-1950. The US government officially claims that Puerto Rico is a "free associated state," part of the American Union, but the UN Decolonization Committee has labeled Puerto Rico a colony. What is the origin of the US relationship to Puerto Rico and what has been the nature of that relationship? This class will seek to look at some historical answers to these questions. 7 to 10 pm, free. La Peña Community Center, 3109A Shattuck, Berk. 2

THU 4 Allpa Rakta For the Land, songs, dances, theatre & narration by the popular movement in Peru. By Anna Correa of the cultural group *Yuyachkani* & friends. Focuses on the struggles of farmers, miners, unionists, & teachers in Peru. In Quechua, Spanish & English. 8:30 pm, \$2.50. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

Radical Poetry Series: Open Reading. Back by popular demand! A reading of the poetry that has most affected our political understanding of the world. Bring your favorite socially conscious poetry, yours or someone else's. In the language of your choice. 8 pm, free. La Peña Community Center, 3109 Shattuck, Berk. 2

FRI 5 Take Control and Fight Back! Berkeley Women's Health Collective presents the WAVPM (Women Against Violence in Pornography and Media) slide show, 7 to 9 pm, donations requested. 2908 Ellsworth near Ashby. Call 843-6194 for childcare, women only. 2

"You Should've Been There", the Moving Men Theater Company will perform their acclaimed, original production, a winner of last year's Bay Area Theater critic's circle award. \$3.80 or PAS Voucher plus \$1. 8:30 pm. Unitarian Fellowship Hall, 1924 Cedar, Berk. Childcare available. 2

Olympia, Leni Riefenstahl's documentary on the 1936 Olympic Games is probably the finest sports documentary ever made. Riefenstahl's work is an historic document, a brilliant portrait of the Games, and an example of Nazi propaganda. 7:30 pm, free. La Peña Community Center, 3109A Shattuck, Berk. 2

Open House to celebrate the Pacific Center's move from San Pablo avenue location to its new building at 2712 Telegraph in Berkeley, 4 to 8 pm, free. There will be a fundraising auction, raffle and door prizes, comedian Pat Bond will MC and Linda Tillery will be among the guests.

US Policy and Palestinian Resistance, a presentation by the Committee on Palestine and the Middle East on current US military, political and economic intervention and continued Palestinian resistance, a Socialist School Forum, 777 Valencia, SF, 8 pm, \$2, childcare provided.

Cuadro Flamenco, perform the dances and music of Southern Spain in gorgeous traditional costumes, with special guest star Cruz Luna. 8:30, \$3. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

Jambalaya, a festive dance jamboree with Queen Ida and the Bon Temps Zydeco Band, to benefit the Berkeley Art Center. \$3.50, call 644-6893 for time, at Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo, Berk. 2

SAT 6 Venceremos Barbecue, to support a third world brother's trip to Cuba, a slideshow of a recent trip to Cuba. Afro-Cuban music, Berkeley Mayor Gus Newport will be there, 3 to 8 pm, \$3.50 donation. Call 654-7818 if you plan to come. 2

Descarga Cubana, a group of musicians from top local salsa bands performing hot afro-cuban music, 9:30 pm, \$3.50. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

1918: *First conference of women trade unionists.*

SUN 7 Joe Hill 100th Birthday Jubilee Celebration. Narration of Joe Hill's life with entertainment, music, poetry and open mike. Bring your guitar, sing your song. 8 pm, \$2.50. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

San Francisco Socialist School Open House, introduction & registration for fall classes which start Oct 8, including Self-Health for Women; Urban Political Economy; White Racism and Anti-Racist Work; Reading Marx's *Capital*; Daily Life, Socialism and Social Consciousness; Illness in Contemporary Society; Socialist Feminism: the Basic Debates; Cherries and Lemons—Americans and their Autos; Labor and the US Left; Lenin in Historical Perspective; Class & Culture; and Imperial Brain Trusts: Geopolitical Economics and the History of Modern American Imperialism; at 777 Valencia St, SF, 7 pm, basic fee is \$15 for as many classes as you want to take (\$10 low income), child care is available, refreshments, for more info call 221-3333 x153.

1821: *Birthday of William Still, Black Abolitionist leader and a leader of the Underground Railroad.*

MON 8 Work With Battered Women. Women Against Violence Emergency Services (WAVES) is offering training for new volunteers, third world and disabled women are encouraged to participate. Call 893-HELP for more info.

1545 Dwight Way Tenants Union is having a benefit dinner and concert for those who are fighting illegal retaliatory evictions and harassment by their landlord, a spaghetti dinner at 6 pm will be followed by entertainment with a concert featuring IBox, Gary Lapow, Art Peterson & Lenny Anderson, The Berkeley Dance Company, the PLATONIUM Players and statements from Berkeley City Council members. \$2 for the dinner and \$3 for the concert, Longfellow School, Derby above Sacramento, Berk.

The Issues Facing the Schools. Anna DeLeon, a member of Berkeley's school board will discuss a variety of issues including the anti-busing bill on the November ballot and the voucher initiative likely to be placed on the June ballot. 7:30, free. La Peña Community Center, 3109A Shattuck, Berk. 2

Pena Homage to the Heroes of Liberation, on the anniversary of the death of Che Guevara, Miguel Enriquez, Pedro Araya, Palacios, Nguyen Van Troi, & Camilo Cienfuegos, through revolutionary songs presented by Rafael, Quique & Ruthie Gortone. 8:30, \$2.50. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

TUE 9 El Brigadista (The Teacher), a lovely & moving story about 15-year-old Mario sent to a small village in the Zapata Swamps with the literacy campaign, where he teaches more than just reading & learns to overcome his fears of "everything, from spiders to death itself." 8:30 pm, \$2. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

WED 10 The Misdevelopment of Puerto Rico. Puerto Rico has been cited as a "showplace of democracy and progress"—a positive example of how a Third World country can develop and grow. The class will examine what effect Operation Bootstrap has had on the Puerto Rican economy, the state and the people. 7-10 pm, free. La Peña Community Center, 3109A Shattuck, Berk. 2

Chulas Fronteras with Les Blank. A celebration of Norteño music and scenes of border life on the Texas-Mexico border. A joyous, angry, complicated film, a multi-levelled document fully worthy of the people & music that gives it life. Plus *The Tree of Life*. 8:30, \$2. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

THU 11 Roy Brown & Aires Bucaneros, on tour from Puerto Rico, featuring the very best of contemporary Latin American music & culture. Internationally acclaimed for their creative expressions of "La Nueva Cancion," the group also reflects the most significant of Puerto Rico's musical folk tradition. 9 pm, \$3. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

Aztlán Cultural Poetry and Prose Reading. Aztlan Cultural presents *Amagasi de La Bahia*, a literary expression of our current Chicano experience. 7:30, \$1 donation. La Peña Community Center, 3109 Shattuck, Berk. 2

Radical Solutions to the Environmental Crisis, sponsored by Radical Women. The meeting begins at 7:30 pm, free, at 2661 21st St, between Bryant and Potrero; SF, call 824-1497 in advance for childcare.

Battered Woman On Trial. Christine Calhoun begins her trial today in Oakland. Christine is charged with murder after defending herself from a violent and deadly assault. The Bay Area Defense Committee for Battered Women urges you to help support a woman's right to defend herself. For more info, call 654-8924 or 653-2932.

Al Masol de la Bahia, their 1st Annual Poetry Reading, 7 pm, \$1 donation. La Peña Community Center, 3109A Shattuck, Berk. 2

Support Graham & Allen. A support demonstration starts at 8:30 am in front of the California State Court of Appeals Bldg. Graham & Allen are two black political prisoners on death row fighting a state frame-up accusing them of killing a guard. A hearing at 9:30 am in the Court of Appeals Bldg. SF, on the 4th floor will debate the constitutionality of the execution. Call 561-9179 for more info.

1969: *100 GIs of Ft Bragg's GIs United lead 700 civilians in Fayetteville, North Carolina's first anti-war march.*

FRI 12 F Stone's Weekly. Drawing from newsreels, film clips, and interviews, this film explores the career and character of journalist I. F. Stone. Beginning in the McCarthy era, Stone published his own weekly and based his exposures of government deception on a thorough reading of government's own publications and reports. 7 pm sharp, free. La Peña Community Center, 3109A Shattuck, Berk. 2

International Day of Solidarity with American Indians, benefit for A.I.M. Columbus Day signifies for American Indians the beginning of the European conquest and atrocities that continue to this day. Come and celebrate this National Day of Solidarity with the original people of this land. 8:30, \$2. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

Inside the Zimbabwe Revolution, a Socialist School Forum with Steven Goldfield, a member of Liberation Support Movement, who was in Southern Africa earlier this year, reporting on conversations with liberation cadre and Zimbabweans of all backgrounds, including a slide-show about Zimbabwean refugee and training camps in Mozambique and Zambia, at 777 Valencia, SF, 8 pm, \$2, childcare provided.

SAT 13 Peace & Freedom Party Meeting, report on the state central committee meeting at Yosemite. 8 pm, free. 454 42nd St, Oak.

The Housing Crisis, Tenant Organizing, and the November Elections, a workshop sponsored by New American Movement Housing Committee on the housing crisis, popular responses (the growth of San Franciscans for Affordable Housing), and the rent control campaign centering around the November ballot initiative, at 777 Valencia, SF, 1 pm, \$2.50, childcare available.

Bay Area Defense Committee for Battered Women Open Meeting. Discussion on how people can help Christine Calhoun, a battered woman, win her murder case. To be held at La Peña Community Center, 3109A Shattuck Ave, or La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck, Berk from 2 to 4 pm. For further information phone 653-2932.

Benefit at Bench and Bar, for the Community Asian Art and Media Project. CAAMP provides graphic services for non-profit Asian American community organizations, 9:30 pm, \$3 advance call 763-7116, \$4 at the door, 120 11th St, Oak.

SUN 14 Report from Peru. Two compañeras recently returned from Peru will give an informal slide show talk about the current situation. 8 pm, donation. La Peña, 3109A Shattuck, Berk. 2

Rank & File Delegation to Cuba, report and discussion with trade unionists recently returned from Cuba. The delegation spoke with Cuban labor organizations and trade federations. Come with questions about labor, occupation health, etc. 8:30, \$2. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

East Bay Socialist School Open House, introduction & registration for fall classes which start Oct 15, including Who Was Marx and What is Marxism?; Political Zionism, Israel, and the Palestinians; Women's Literature; Political Ecology; and Critical Theory and the Frankfurt School; at 6025 Shattuck Ave, Oakland, 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm. Basic fee is \$15 for as many classes as you want to take (\$10 low income), childcare is available. The Open House will also feature a videotape of the Emmy award winning film *The Unquiet Death of Julius & Ethel Rosenberg* at 8 pm, \$1, refreshments. For more info call 652-1756. 2

30th Anniversary of the GDR (German Democratic Republic), sponsored by the US Committee for Friendship with the German Democratic Republic. The program will feature "The Jewish Wife" by Brecht, and "GDR—30 Years after the Defeat of Fascism," among others. 2:30 to 5 pm, \$2 donation, \$1 for students and seniors, at Mission Neighborhood Center, 362 Capp St, SF.

1968: *26 GIs are charged with mutiny when they hold a sit-down strike to protest the shotgun murder of a fellow prisoner in Presidio, California.*

MON 15 Dreams, Images & Symbols: a 10-week workshop for women to celebrate their power through journal keeping, creative dreaming, bodywork ritual, 7:30, sliding scale, call 845-2638 for childcare & more info.

Nicaragua, Pedro Teran, representative from the Ministry of Culture of Nicaragua will speak about the current situation & interpret songs of the FSLN. 8:30, \$2. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

1966: *Oakland, Ca. Black Panther Party founded.*

1969: *Two million people participate in nationwide Moratorium Against the Viet Nam War, and in Viet Nam many GIs wear black armbands in solidarity.*

TUE 16 "Men's Lives", a film about growing up male in North America will be shown by the East Bay Men's Center. 7:30 pm, at Unitas, 2700 Bancroft Way, Berk. \$2 donation. 2

East Bay Feminists Against Nukes, a general and educational meeting. New members are welcome. We gather at 7 pm and the meeting starts at 7:30 pm, at CIL, 2539 Telegraph Ave, Berk, free, childcare. 2

"The Last Supper", with English subtitles. Beautifully filmed, based on a historical incident, Alea's film provocatively tells an engrossing moral tale dealing with universal themes: transference of guilt, avoidance of responsibility, & the desire for freedom. Tentative presentation by the director, Tomas Gutierrez Alea. 8:30, \$2. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

1859: *John Brown leads 21 men in an attack on the arsenal at Harper's Ferry, Va. in an attempt to seize arms and ammunition to free slaves.*

WED 17 Benefit for the Community Murals Program of South & West Berkeley. Co-sponsored by the Calif Arts Council & Adelante, Inc. Slide presentations of mural art forms, discussions of the current state of mural art with guest muralist Ray Patlan & local entertainment. This is a chance for involvement in the mural art movement of Berkeley. 8:30 pm, \$2. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

OTU Meets, Oakland Tenants Union is having a general meeting and all tenants are invited to join the OTU in the struggle for decent affordable housing. 7:30 pm, free, Cleveland School, 745 Cleveland St, near Park Blvd, Oak, call 653-4613 for more info. 2

The Misdevelopment of Puerto Rico (Part II). The second part of the examination of misdevelopment in Puerto Rico concentrates on the question of whether Puerto Rico can be independent or dependent upon the US because it lacks the necessary resources for self-reliance. The focus will be on Puerto Rican agriculture and natural resources and how they have been used and misused since the advent of Operation Bootstrap in 1950. 7 to 10 pm, free. La Peña Community Center, 3109A Shattuck, Berk. 2

Gray Panther Membership Meeting, 7 to 9 pm, free, North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst St, Berk. 2

1967: *100,000 demonstrate against the Vietnam War at the Pentagon; 609 are arrested.*

THU 18 Radical Poetry Series: Poetry of Political Prisoners. Prison poetry from Korea, Turkey, Chile, Puerto Rico, the US and other countries. If you have suggestions or want to participate, call Aurora at 841-3051 or at La Peña, 8 pm, donation. La Peña Community Center, 3109 Shattuck Ave, Berk. 2

Memories of Underdevelopment, the diary of a middle-class intellectual caught in the midst of rapidly changing social reality of revolutionary Cuba. A complex & fascinating portrait of an individual alienated from the social process. Special presentation by the director Tomas Gutierrez Alea. 8 pm, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

FRI 19 Zorba the Greek. Anthony Quinn stars in this film adaptation of the novel by Nikos Kazantzakis. 7 pm sharp. La Peña Community Center, 3109 Shattuck, Berk. 2

Batucaje, Brazilian Festival night with this unique company & its exhilarating live play. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

The Selling of Child Sexual Assault, a Socialist School Forum with Rich Snowden of Men Against Sexist Violence presenting a slide show and discussion on the devastating techniques used by ad-men of major corporations to sell products by promoting sexual assault against children, at 777 Valencia, SF, 8 pm, \$2, childcare available. 2

Madness, Therapy and Revolution, psychiatrist Terry Kupers will discuss what is subversive about madness and what is progressive therapy and what is reactionary, an East Bay Socialist School Forum. 6:025 Shattuck, Oakland, 8 pm, \$1, childcare available. (Call 848-6978 or 841-4715 before 11 am preceding Wed.) 2

SAT 20 Unbound Feet, a dramatic reading of poetry by six Chinese-American women, who explore the struggle of modern Chinese-American women to metaphorically unbind their feet. 7:30 pm, \$3, James Moore Theater, Oakland Museum, 1000 Oak St, Oakland.

While Waiting for the Dellums Bill, what to do about the crisis in public health care, a workshop on Bay Area struggles to save public health services and jobs from Prop 13, sponsored by California Health Action Coalition (CHAC). 10:15 am to 3:30 pm, \$2.50 donation or \$1 seniors, North Side Senior Center, 1901 Hearst, Berk. 2

Meet Charles Denby, author of *Indignant Heart: A Black Worker's Journal*, at an autograph-signing party, informal with refreshments, 2 to 4 pm, free, Marcus Books, 540 McAllister, SF. 2

Skins, an Afro-Cuban Percussion Show. A unique presentation of the folkloric music of Cuba which is the roots of Salsa. Their style strongly exemplifies the fusion of Africa's drums & rhythms with the influences of Spain's language & melodies. 9:30, \$3.50. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

Class Structure and Corporate Planning in American Agriculture, a workshop on the agribusiness and political forces shaping the structure of our food economy, with Mark Ritchie of Earthwork, a SF based organizing and education center on land and food issues, sponsored by SF Socialist School, at 777 Valencia, SF, 1 pm, \$2.50, childcare available. (A two-part workshop continued on Oct 27.)

Ancient Matriarchy and Modern Feminism, a public forum sponsored by Radical Women, 8 pm, \$2 donation, Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF, call in advance 824-1497 or 386-7346 for childcare.

"We Can't Pay, We Won't Pay", the west coast premier of the San Francisco Minsky Troupe's new play by acclaimed Italian playwright Dario Fo, this play is set in an economically depressed working class neighborhood in Italy where food prices are skyrocketing. 8:30 pm, a benefit for the Cotati Fair Housing, at the Cotati Veteran's Memorial Bldg, Cotati. Call Linda at 795-8051 for more info.

Disabled People's Civil Rights Day, march on noon, starts at 5th and Market, San Francisco, a rally follows after at 1:30 pm, at the H.E.W. Bldg, 50 Fulton St, UN Plaza, SF, for transportation and more info, call 845-2063.

SUN 21 Lesbian Clinic, at Berkeley Women's Health Collective, needs women to be trained in medical skills, lab, self-help and info & referral services. Attend orientation from 1 to 6 pm, 2908 Ellsworth near Ashby, Berk. Call 843-6194 for details.

Chile: The Fall of Allende, the Future of Revolution, Jorge Palacios speaks, sponsored by El Frente del Pueblo, Revolutionary Communist Party, Jorge, revolutionary Chilean leader and author will speak on the lessons to be drawn from the Allende period. 7:30 pm, \$2.50 donation. La Peña community Center, 3109A Shattuck, Berk. 2

Orientation for New Members, Berkeley Women's Health Collective will train in medical skills, info and referral services, pregnancy and peer counseling, 1 to 6 pm, at BWHC 2908 Ellsworth near Ashby, attendance on October 28 also required. Call 843-6194 for more info. 2

A View of the Allende Period. Jorge Palacios is the author of a new, controversial analysis of the dramatic events leading up to the 1973 coup d'etat engineered by the US in Chile. 7:30 pm, donation. La Peña Community Center, 3109A Shattuck, Berk. 2

Robin Flowers & Friends, performing old-time music, original compositions along with bluegrass, Irish & traditional fiddle music.

Radical Media Workers, a meeting to form a regional organization, sponsored by Alternative Media Regional Group, to discuss three areas of work, 8 pm, \$1, Western Addition Cultural Center, SF. For childcare call 285-4036 in advance. 2

Robin Tyler on the Politics of Social Satire, a Socialist School Benefit with comic and activist Robin Tyler discussing the corporate control of the arts, censorship, and the history of women in comedy. Dwinelle Auditorium, UC Berkeley campus, 8 pm, \$3 donation, childcare available (call 848-6978 or 841-4715 before 11 am the preceding Wed.)

MON 22 Cesar Urbina from Ayacucho, the Peruvian Andean city famous for its art and music. He presents songs of "La Cultura Huari" in the Quechua language, accompanying himself on guitar and andean harp, and also performs a wide range of Peruvian songs of the new music. 8:30 pm, \$2.50, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

Cooperative Camps for Children Report Back, a report from the staff & kids who spent summer under new guidelines based on cooperation. Some 70 kids from 7 to 13 years old from all over the Bay Area participated in the first session of the progressive children's camp. A report on their success and discussion of future camps. 7:30, Kids & adults invited for input. Free. La Peña Community Center, 3109A Shattuck, Berk. 2

Charles Denby Speaks on "A Personal History of the Black Movement in the US from 1920 to the present", noon, free, San Francisco State University, 1600 Holloway, SF, Bldg HLL135, sponsored by the News & Letters Committee. 2

TUE 23 If Sexism Were Natural. Hamish Sinclair of the East Bay Men's Center will lead this workshop which will explore men's sex-role conditioning and how to unlearn it. 7:30 pm, \$2 donation, 2700 Bancroft Way, Berk. 2

The History Book, an animated history of Western Civilization, from the Middle Ages to the present, that offers a refreshing approach to the subject. History is depicted by the experiences of ordinary working people. A must viewing for the adults & kids. 8:30 pm, \$2. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

WED 24 Oaklanders for Sane Energy, an anti-nuke film program, with the movie *The Last Resort* on the demonstration at Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant. 7:30 pm, donations, Wesley Community Hall, 3637 Magee & Kansas near 35th and MacArthur, Oak. 2

Debate: What Status for Puerto Rico? A major debate is developing in Puerto Rico over the question of Puerto Rico's status. We will enact an actual debate between the spokespeople for statehood, commonwealth and independence and evaluate what each has said. 7 to 10 pm, La Peña Community Center, 3109A Shattuck, Berk. 2

Benefit for PAN (People Aiding Nicaragua), a benefit supporting reconstruction and the self-determination of the Nicaraguan People. presentation of current information and direct communication with people involved in building the new Nicaragua. Slide show with post war photographs, speakers, & music. 8 pm, \$2. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

THU 25 Latin American Update, a monthly forum that spotlights the most current events taking place in Latin America, featuring well informed speakers as well as a question/answer period. La Peña Community Center, 3109A Shattuck, Berk. 2

"Dry Wood and Hot Pepper", directed by Les Blank with Maureen Gosling. A two-part documentary on the life & music of French speaking Blacks in Louisiana's Bayou country. A rollicking country Mardi Gras, work in the rice fields. "The off-hand folk wisdom & random view that Blank loves so much are here in bounteous profusion." 8:30, \$2. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

FRI 26 Animal Farm. George Orwell's chilling fable of totalitarianism is brilliantly brought to life in this animated version. Beginning hopefully when "all animals are equal," the tale moves inevitably to the harsher days when "some are more equal than others." Free. La Peña Community Center, 3109 Shattuck, Berk. 2

Festival de la Nueva Cancion Latinoamericana, concert of the new Latin American song. Born out of the resistance movements, the new song features the works of Daniel Viglietti, Violetta Parra, Victor Jara, Silvio Rodriguez, as well as the indigenous music of the Andes. 8:30, \$2.50. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

Industrial Unions and Corporate Industry: the Impact of Collective Bargaining, a Socialist School Forum with historian David Brody, 6025 Shattuck, Oakland, 8 pm, \$1, childcare available (call 848-6978 or 841-4715 before 11 am preceding Wed.) 2

Reproductive Rights: The Continuing Struggle, a Socialist School Forum with speakers from the Coalition to Defend Reproductive Rights as a part of the activities during National Abortion Rights Action Week. Speakers will discuss the New Right/Right to Life movement and evaluate the successes and difficulties of the abortion rights struggle and other issues such as sterilization abuse, lesbian custody, and childcare. at 777 Valencia, SF, 8 pm, \$2, childcare available.

SAT 27 Latin American Coordinating Body, an event in homage to Che Guevara. In his spirit of unity, a forum will be given looking at the lessons of Nicaragua from a continental perspective. Also a cultural presentation, 9 pm, donation. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

Class Structure and Corporate Planning in American Agriculture, (see Oct 20 listing). 1 pm, \$2.50, 777 Valencia, SF, childcare.

Bay Area Defense Committee for Battered Women Open Meeting. From 2 to 4 pm. For location phone Oakland, 653-2932, or SF, 587-4857.

Peace & Freedom Party Meeting, 8 pm, free, 554 42nd St, Oak.

1951: *National Negro Labor Council founded in Philadelphia. Composed mainly of Black trade unionists, the Council fought for jobs and against racist discrimination in all forms.*

SUN 28 The Politics of Disability. The Center for Independent Living will discuss the politics of the disability movement. The presentation will follow closely on the heels of the first Disabled People's Civil Rights Day, Oct 20, 7:30, donation. La Peña Community Center, 3109A Shattuck, Berk. 2

Royal Chicano Air Force Band: a cultural night of different dimensions of Chicano artistic expression. Poetry by Luzma Espinoza accompanied by Stan de la Cruz. Traditional Azteca dances by Ballet Quetzalcoatl with Amelia Hernandez. Performance of *Xicando* by Freddie Rodriguez & the RCAF Band. 9 pm, \$3. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

MON 29 Puerto Rico: Paradise Invaded, "an important documentary on the involvement of the US in Puerto Rico. A unique opportunity to listen to Puerto Ricans in the US & in Puerto Rico"—plus—**The Nationalist**, a view of the Puerto Rican independence movement & its proponents' discussion to follow. 8:30, \$2. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

1929: *Black Tuesday: Capitalism crashes and sends US into the worst depression in American history. \$25 billion in stocks wiped out, every bank in US closed and 40 million working people thrown out of their livelihoods.*

TUE 30 Men Against Sexist Violence, a critical examination of pornography from a male anti-sexist perspective by the M.A.S.U. collective. The presentation includes a slide show and will demonstrate how all pornography exploits women. In conjunction with the East Bay Men's Center, 7:30 pm, \$2 donation, at Unitas, 2700 Bancroft Way, Berk. 2

Blacks Britannica, BBC made-for-TV documentary about the plight of Black people in England which was suppressed because of its revolutionary content. Do not miss a rarely circulated film. 8:30 & 9:30, \$2. La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

WED 31 Halloween Masquerade Ball with Alumbre playing salsa & cumbias. Come costumed, masked & ready to dance. Prize to the best costume. 9 pm, \$2.50, kids free, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

The Status Debate (Part II). The debate about the status of Puerto Rico is also taking place within US ruling circles. We shall examine the positions held by major economic and political forces in the US such as the Trilateral Commission, oil companies, banks, congressional leaders, pharmaceuticals, US armed services and the Pentagon. 7 to 10 pm, La Peña, 3105 Shattuck, Berk. 2

ETCETERA

Having problems with rising rents and falling plaster? California Housing Action and Information Network (CHAIN) can help in solving your housing problems with an emphasis on organizing, call 653-4613.

(continued)

In California the grounds for civil commitment are 1) danger to self or others, or 2) grave disability, by reason of mental disorder. Contrary to popular belief it is very difficult to commit oneself. At Highland Hospital in Oakland, 90 percent of patients in the psychiatric facility are involuntary commitments; very few people committed are guilty of violent crimes. The majority of involuntary commitments are due to grave disability. Grave disability is defined as the inability to provide food, clothing, and shelter for oneself as a result of mental disorder. This legal definition clearly demonstrates that the poor are more vulnerable to institutionalization.

"The typical involuntary commitment subject is probably very young, or very poor or very drunk and is identified as mentally ill by someone who has the power to control him and who finds his behavior offensive."

(Leon Ginsberg, "A Radical View of Social Welfare and Mental Hygiene," Mental Hygiene, 54: #1, January, 1970.)



STELAZINE

The symptoms and health problems associated with Stelazine can cause those persons to avoid seeking help. Stelazine is a tranquilizer that is used to control the symptoms of mental illness. It is a powerful drug that can cause a person to lose their ability to think clearly and to make decisions. It can also cause a person to lose their ability to feel pain and to feel pleasure. It can also cause a person to lose their ability to feel fear and to feel anger. It can also cause a person to lose their ability to feel love and to feel hate. It can also cause a person to lose their ability to feel anything at all.

Second-Class Citizens

Those committed lose their basic civil liberties. Once admitted a person may be held 72 hours (excluding weekends and holidays) for evaluation and treatment. "Treatment" is not specifically defined in the law; but during this period the patient may be given drugs against his will. He is not informed that anything he says to police, psychiatrists or staff may be used against him in court to keep him incarcerated.

After evaluation, the person may be subject to a 14-day certification for "intensive treatment." If the person is remanded to the custody of the Department of Mental Hygiene or a county-designated facility, he may be detained for an additional ninety days for further treatment.

In many states, a person labeled mentally ill is automatically branded "incompetent" and loses the right to practice his profession, operate a motor vehicle, marry, divorce, contest divorce, retain custody of his children, vote, serve on juries and execute contracts. Incompetents may be placed on a one-year conservatorship under a family member or county appointee

who executes control over that person's body and/or estate. The right to privacy is violated by psychiatric records which precede the person in every step he takes after leaving the institution. Halfway houses and board and care homes in the community receive these records and continue to impose treatment.

Forced Treatment Equals Torture

The most widespread form of treatment used is psychiatric drugs. On the average 250 million prescriptions are written per year. Often these drugs are administered forcibly, and patients are seldom informed of their effects. Each kind of psychiatric drug has its own dangers and problems: Valium (which is used more often than heroin) creates incoordination and birth defects. Lithium causes muscle tremors, thyroid and kidney damage. Anti-depressants cause confusion, blurred vision and heart abnormalities. Most are poisonous if not carefully controlled, sudden withdrawal can be painful, and at high enough doses some can lead to death.

But the most powerful of the chemical straightjackets are the phenothiazines popularly known as tranquilizers. The ultimate effects of drugs like Thorazine is a doctor-created disease called tardive dyskinesia. "T.D." is characterized by involuntary muscle spasms and permanent brain damage.

Another form of "treatment" is electric shock and psychosurgery. Every year upwards of 250,000 Americans are administered electro-shock, by force in some cases. And rarely do psychiatrists inform them of the severe memory loss and brain damage that may result from the procedure. Hundreds more undergo psychosurgery operations, the surgical mutilation of the brain.

The mental and physiological effects of chemotherapy, as it is called, and other forms of treatment create more disability than they alleviate. Their primary effect is to keep people repressed. Thus, societally speaking, these drugs help maintain the current political and economic conditions by keeping oppressed people dependent, deceived and under control.

The Psychiatry Industry

The psychiatric drug industry is dominated by thirty companies that sell more than 70 percent of all prescription drugs in this country. It is a highly profitable business. For example: Smith-Kline, Inc., the makers of Contac and Sea-and-Ski suntan products, also manufacture Thorazine. On sales of \$780 million, profit after taxes was \$148 million. These drug profits represented almost 20 percent of their total sales. They spent \$285 million on promotion in one year which is 5 times more than their

research budget. Smith-Kline and other drug companies amass wealth through the exploitation of cheap labor in countries like South Africa, the Philippines and Brazil. Many of their plants test and market drugs that have been restricted or banned in the U.S. The boards of directors of the major drug companies are filled with top executives and board members of other multinational corporations—AT&T, IBM, Chase Manhattan and Standard Oil.

When Smith Kline was asked about their plant in South Africa, they replied, "We feel that the very nature of our business . . . contributes to the well-being of all people . . . and cannot be reasonably looked upon as contributing to the apartheid policies of the government of South Africa."

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Stopping the Manufacture of Madness

Viable alternatives to the psychiatric system must be created. The first step is to take the power to define reality out of the hands of an elite group of professionals and place it in the hands of the people. Every person must be guaranteed protection against involuntary confinement and chemical rape. Doctors must stop pushing these drugs and patients must have the right to written information before they consent to take them. Counties should fund drug-free halfway houses and set up psychiatric drug detoxification centers. Drug companies must stop their imperialist tactics in third world countries.

However, without broader changes in the social conditions—an end to racism, sexism, and competitive, exploitative economic and social relations—most people will continue to be oppressed by the lack of employment, decent housing, meaningful relationships and community ties. We need to gain control over our own lives to create a society motivated by peoples' needs, not profits.

This article was written by the Bay Area Committee for Alternatives to Psychiatry (BACAP). BACAP is a group of former psychiatric inmates, mental health workers, and community people who are organizing against involuntary commitment and psychiatric treatment without informed consent, and struggling to create humane alternatives to the psychiatric system. Some of BACAP's activities include: a campaign to establish the right of "informed consent" in the administration of psychiatric drugs in San Francisco and in the state of California; an educational slide show presentation "The Politics of Psychiatric Drugs." For more information contact them at:

- BACAP
944 Market St. Suite 701
San Francisco, CA 94102
391-7744
- Other local groups active in the area of mental health:
- Coalition Against Forced Treatment & Mental Health Consumer Concerns of Alameda County, Inc.
Box 3742
Hayward, CA 94540
 - Network Against Psychiatric Assault & Madness Network News
1744 University Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94707
 - Institute for Labor & Mental Health
3137 Telegraph Ave.
Oakland, CA 94609
653-6166
 - Cooperative Community Center/
777 Valencia St
San Francisco, CA 94110
552-5445
 - Center for Feminist Therapy & Education
944 Market St. Room 203
San Francisco, CA
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Psychiatry as Social Control

While doctors debate the medical definition of "mental illness," millions of Americans are being institutionalized. In this country approximately one of every five people can expect to be institutionalized in a psychiatric facility at some time in his life. Forty percent of our hospital beds are occupied by patients diagnosed as mentally ill. Approximately 35 million people take psychiatric drugs on a regular basis, including hundreds of thousands of schoolchildren who are diagnosed as hyperactive and administered powerful psychiatric drugs such as Ritalin to control their behavior.

Data available indicates that the poor and minorities are over-represented among those institutionalized. In a study made by Ginsberg, of 125 cases, it was found that the median years of education was 9.1 and most were employed in or married to people employed in the lowest categories of occupation.

From our point of view, mental illness is a social phenomenon, not a "personal crisis." Following World War II alcoholism, homicide, suicide and drug use decreased as social stress decreased; they levelled off during the fifties and increased during the sixties as social stress increased. When a low-income worker suffering a "personal crisis"—that is, the pressures of being poor—is taken by a family member or the police to a crisis unit in a county or public hospital, he finds upon arrival a significant loss of civil rights.

Presumably the patient is brought in to be served. However, the psychiatrist's role is actually to protect the society from the "offender" rather than to serve the patient. The staff then diagnoses, labels and forcibly treats the "patient" with little or no consideration of the objective condi-



The Internalization of Oppression

Doctors promote the theory that all distress is self-produced (either mentally or biochemically) and ignore the societal conditions. But as a former commissioner of mental health in Massachusetts has said: "Of course being crazy is a function of economic, social and political issues. A lot of people become crazy to oblige the system—it's their way of cooperating." Most of these "cooperating crazies" become victims of involuntary detention through the Civil Commitment process.

(continued next page)