

The Revolution starts here + now within each ONE US.

Burn down the walls that say you can't:

Be a dork, tell your friends you love them.

Resist the temptation to view those around you as objects + use them.

Recognize empathy and vulnerability as positive forms of strength.

Resist the internalization of capitalism, the reducing of people + oneself to commodities meant to be consumed.

Resist psychic death.

Don't allow the world to make you into a bitter abusive asshole.

Cry in public.

Don't judge other people. Learn to love yourself.

Acknowledge emotional violence as real.

Figure out how the idea of competition (winning and losing) fits into your intimate relationships.

Decide that you'd rather be happy than be right all the time.

Believe people when they tell you they are hurting or are in pain.

Trust.



AND THINK

ABOUT WHAT YOU DO
ABOUT WHY YOU DO WHAT YOU DO
ABOUT HOW IT AFFECTS OTHER PEOPLE
ABOUT HOW IT AFFECTS YOU

Contact riot grrrl! HQ at:
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I was a very dykey-looking 13-year-old, with my short haircut, plain blouses, and knee-length skirts. (This was when very long hair and very short skirts were fashionable.) On my way home from school, sometimes groups of high-school boys would stop me, demand to know whether I was a boy or a girl, and threaten to rape me in order to find out.



Sleep little one sleep, take comfort in the night's embrace
cause the morning sun will open your eyes and you'll see that you
live in a fucked-up place. Sleep, little one, sleep, take comfort in
any kind of embrace, the morning sun's gonna open your eyes and
you live in a fucked-up place.

Oh, baby, I was like you once; I slept in a crib with yellow sheets.
Now the sand in my eyes and the dirt on my feet and the sand in my
mouth, and everyone just dreams of themselves anyway, don't they?
No, you never asked no one for life but here you are in somebody
else's world. And they'll say that the change can come through
you but it should've come long ago. And how can things change when
all of our dreams are unfurled?

The stars in your eyes are just shattered glass, and the dolls on the
shelf will become the men in the gutter. And veryone dreams of somebody
else.

Baby, I'll never sleep that way again until I die.

-Anna Springer (Blatz)



the
gaze
of
the
gaze
whose
gaze?
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WHEN YOU MEET A LESBIAN: HINTS
TO THE HETEROSEXUAL WOMAN



- Do not run screaming from the room -- this is rude.
- If you must back away, do so slowly and with discretion.
- Do not assume she is attracted to you.
- Do not assume she is not attracted to you.
- Do not assume you are not attracted to her.
- Do not expect her to be as excited about meeting a heterosexual as you may be about meeting a lesbian -- she was probably raised with them.
- Do not immediately start talking about your boyfriend or husband in order to make it clear that you are straight -- she probably already knows.
- Do not tell her that it is sexist to prefer women -- that people are people and she should be able to love everybody. Do not tell her that men are as oppressed by sexism as women and women should help men fight their oppression. These are common fallacies and should be treated as such.
- Do not ask her how she got this way -- instead, ask yourself how you got that way.
- Do not assume that she is dying to talk about being a lesbian.
- Do not expect her to refrain from talking about being a lesbian.
- Do not trivialize her experience by assuming it is a bedroom issue only -- she is a lesbian twenty-four hours a day.
- Do not assume that because she is a lesbian she wants to be treated like a man.
- Do not assume that her heart will leap with joy if you touch her arm (condescendingly? -- Flirtatiously? -- Power-testingly?). It makes her angry.
- If you are tempted to tell her she is taking the easy way out, think about that



QUEER NATION

Maybe you should take all this

Do you know what it is like
to walk down the street at night?
Do you know what it is like to feel the threat
The threat that fills the streets as the sun goes down?
THREATENING, THREATENING, THREATENING

My aloneness has become an isolation
An isolation that is nothing but fear
Fear of who might be out there
Fear of becoming the next statistic
Streets that seem so safe at day
At night take on a meaning I've learned to hate
All the bushes, shadows, and people seem so

Threatening...

Now my anger and fear has a new meaning
As my power grows stronger w/ those who care
It's finally time to stop the violence
Time for us to take back the night
Bushes seem so...Threatening
Shadows seem so...Threatening
People seem so...Threatening

Night time is so threatening.

Do you know what it's like
To walk down the street at night?

Do you know what it's like to feel the threat?
A threat that fills the streets as the sun goes down?

It's just so...threatening.
-SPITBOY



Ways to reduce your exposure

— A knee-length skirt is a
safe bet.

Keep in
mind that men can be fragile creatures
when it comes to medical situations:

They aren't as accustomed as you are to
trotting into a doctor's office to have their
nether regions poked and prodded.

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What am i talking about?... What are you talking about? What are we talking about? What are we sponed to be talking about? Are we really even talking with each other-- or is it at each other? Or right through each other? Is there any dialogue? Or is this some sort of BIGword game show?

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Are my words unclear? Or are they just incorrect? Or is my terminology fucked because we're playing on your terms? Are my gut feelings invalidated by your extensive vocabulary?

COULD BLOOD AND VOMIT EVER MEASURE UP TO YOUR SLICK DEFINITIONS ?

Do you see how privilege affects speech and even the power of your speech over me? Why do you annihilate my "broad sweeping statement" with your own brand of broadsweepingstatements! Do you question the very forms of communication we're using

รับระกาวหอออกแบบแนวเนมแพชั่น

right now

บั้งคับ แนวต่างๆ มาโดยตลอด

in debating terminology? Can you feel the chains of our conversation's power structure? ARE YOU REALLY LISTENING TO ME ?

จากการพิจารณาคัดเลือกผลงาน

ARE YOU REALLY LISTENING TO ME ?

แล้วนำไปตัดเย็บเป็นชุดจริง จัด

--Or have you been waiting all week to lecture this opinion of yours?

Did it occur to you that i can't really articulate

on your terms-- that i shouldn't have to articulate

on your terms? Are you seeing how scared i am

to be in public disagreement with you??

Do you realize how important is the standard you set for WHAT'S

COOL ?

คุณอบรมคุณงานด้านแพชั่นดีไซน

DO YOU WONDER WHY MY MOUTH IS BETTER OFF SHUT ?

50,000.-บาท ผลงานของดีไซน

Do i shut my own mouth, or is there a cock down my throat ?

And do i simultaneously have my cock down someone else's throat?

Do i ?

Do you ?

ารชมรมรับ จากวงการแพชั่นไทย

WAIT-- WHAT AM I TALKING ABOUT ??

เข้ามาโดยตลอด สำหรับบนี ทาง

รูปแบบ ซึ่งคือแบบของหัว

When rebels dress alike, all conform

Dear Miss Manners: I am a young artist. To fill in the gaps, I've worked as a fashion model and I've come to enjoy wearing beautiful clothes, most of which I make myself.

I was raised in a family which believes that gracious manners are meant to put everyone at ease. But when I get dressed up, I wonder if anyone will take me seriously as an artist.

All the young artists I know show up at formal affairs wearing torn pair-

splattered jeans. It's the badge of a "real" artist. Of course, the idea is so revolutionary, and artists have been doing it for a long time.

Do you think it is too shocking of me to dress in beautiful, fashionable clothes and use the manners I've been taught? It sounds funny to ask, but I'm serious.

Gentle reader: What Miss Manners finds shocking is the rigid conventional-ity of the revolutionaries you describe. Why they do not more often rebel against having to wear a drab uniform, in doing conformity with their peers, she cannot imagine.

But, alas, Miss Manners has come to realize that people who most vehemently champion the right to dress as they wish or, in the current term, in what they feel comfortable with, are the first to attack those of us who feel comfortable dressing conventionally. They have been after Miss Manners and her little white gloves for years.

She would therefore encourage you to seize your freedom by embracing propriety. Let us not hear any more nonsense about artists only being real when they have the superficial proof of wearing studio work clothes. She reminds you that the great painters of history were only too delighted to apply their visual sense to their own persons.

As for your manners, of course you should use them. If rudeness were an indication of artistry, this would be the Renaissance.



Judith Martin

what's a guy to do? — Lock Jawed, Nebraska

Dear Lock Jawed: Ladies know that using a rough word or so at work gives them the power big shot guys have — and top psychologists back this up. Don't be so prissy.

I'm in love with a guy — and a gal

Dear Dotti: I met this very good-looking boy and I go to where he hangs out whenever I can. Then my sister saw him with another guy — not just another guy, you know, but a gay guy.

I was going to tell him off, but he hugged me and kissed me and told me he hadn't told me he was bisexual because he didn't think I would accept it.

Well, the average person probably wouldn't accept it, but I am also attracted to the same sex, although I've never been with a girl.

I told him this and he introduced me to his cousin who's bisexual, too. She's very nice looking and 16, my age.

The problem is that I like them both. Should I drop one or the other, or see them both? — Every Which Way, California

Dear Every Which Way: Does your mother know you're out, little girl? You need to be smacked across the

bottom and kept at home until you learn guys are for gals and vice versa.

Confidential



DREW BARRYMORE romances 21-year-old actor Corky Nemec (above) in real life, but she shares her first hot screen kiss with a girl. Drew, 17, kisses teen sitcom star SARA GILBERT in the movie, *Poison Ivy*. "I took Sara's face in my hands and started licking her lips," says Drew. "Suddenly, she opened her mouth and I stuck my tongue in—a full-tongue major kiss."



• LAME LAME

Why're we always explaining ourselves and our projects to boys? I'm serious. I have wasted more time and emotional energy doing this than i even wanna admit. And see, i have come to the conclusion that we are banging our heads against a big wall. We are trying to find that magic word that will change their minds, make them see. we are trying to fit thru the doors of a clubhouse that's smelly and gross inside anyways...we only want in cuz we've been taught to want in...we change ourselves to fit, alter what we say, how we say it, just hoping, hoping they will change their rules...and all the while the clubhouses we could be building are going unbuilt and us girls are knocking one by one, on a door that will never ever open.

we are just keeping ourselves trapped in these nice little boundaries having these cohesive arguments with boys where we try to explain to them that sexism is real and that we are aware of when its being acted out around us. If he didn't know anything at all about plumbing and pipes, i doubt he'd go up to a plumber and start spilling all this shit about how he knows how to fix a sink better than her/him. So why the hell is he acting like he knows what it's like to grow up female? and why am i answering to him? I mean, you can't dialogue with someone who is kicking you to the ground. why are you/i/we explaining all this stuff to these boys who really aren't interested in learning and only wanna "win" an argument? And why are we constructing our arguments like this dumb right/wrong, you've gotta be "plausible", back it up with facts, there's usually two ways to be, don't contradict yourself, "prove it to me", level???

It is not our responsibility to explain how boys/men are being sexist anymore than it is our responsibility to "prevent ourselves" from getting raped. It is their responsibility Not to Rape Us and it is their responsibility Not to Be Sexist.

no, a big part of feminism (or whatever you wanna call the rejection of the equation. (dumb) is the simple assertion that us girls are important. Our bodies/heartminds are important enough that we will defend them, protect them, ourselves. We don't have lives that are filled up with events that are really just sentimentalized versions of abuse. We don't wanna live that way and we don't have to. So why are we taking abuse the form of these conversations with boys and/or men? Why are we always making these excuses for them, like, "Oh, but he's got a good heart underneath it all", "he's not really young", or (my personal favorite) "But he really is a nice guy."

SO VERY LAME

An illustration of a too often repeated pattern ↓

A GUY DOES/SAYS/MAKES
SOMETHING SEXIST

"Hey Baby."

A guy you live with buys an album by a dumb cockrock band that has a picture of naked bludgeoned women on the front of it. He leaves it lying on the living room floor.

A woman is slapped.

YOU TELL HIM IT'S
SEXIST

"Leave me alone."

You tell him that the record cover pisses you off and that you don't wanna have to look at it. She puts her hands up to avoid another slap.

THERE IS A LACK OF
RECOGNITION BY
SPECTATOTORS THAT
ANYTHING IS HAPPENING
People on the street just
walk on by.

This is just a friendly disagreement and has nothing to do with maintaining his male privilege. She realizes no one will intervene.

YOUR ARGUMENT IS
INVALIDATED

"I was just trying to be
friendly"

He tells you to lighten up. Don't take things so seriously. They only meant the cover as a joke, haha.

She is slapped again.

YOU RESIST ALL
SEXIST CLAIMS AND
EXERT SELF AS
IMPORTANT AND VALID

"Get the Fuck away
From me!"

You tell him he's being a jerk and that if you think it's sexist then it is.

She fights back.

YOU ARE TOLD OR
MADE TO FEEL LIKE
IT IS YOUR PROBLEM

"What's your problem bitch
are you crazy?"

He tells you that you are causing the problem by making such a big deal over a little thing. Or he says you are the sexist cuz you are being sexist. Bitch.

She is kicked in the ass.

Well, if he's such a "nice guy", why does he expect you to NOT ONLY bear the brunt of sexist stuff like harassment, belittlement, and the valid fear of rapemurder BUT ALSO be prepared to have a calm, fact filled discussion with him about something that is more than just a "subject" to you? It is the struggle we engage in everyday by virtue of breathing, everytime we assert our right to exist. Sexism is not a list or something we can prove, it is not a dot on a line and can not be located on a graph or colored in on a chart. It is mapped on the lines of our skin and etched in the deepest reasonings of our hearts. Purple Blue Black, thuds that are like death in the middle of the night. OF COURSE I'M GONNA BE EMOTIONAL WHEN I AM FORCED TO DESCRIBE THE BARS ON THE CAGE THAT I FUCKIN LIVE IN. It is time we stop describing the bars and time to fucking make our move. We are bustin outta this joint.

BUT I know it is not so easy. Cuz we live in a world where we are compelled to explain ourselves to men AND we've got to deal with that while at the same time we are trying to create spaces where we are able to breath and we do fit in without trying and belong without explanation. This is especially hard cuz we have internalized sexism to such an extent that it's not just an issue of us explaining to "them" (as if there is a unified "them") but also an issue of us explaining ourselves to ourselves and to each other. And while I think it is high fucking time that we stop explaining ourselves

I think it's important that we are able to recognize certain criticisms for what they are: Last attempts, by people who're threatened by what the girl revolution brings, to discount and discourage us. Doing this is sort of like untangling ourselves from a big invisible sticker bush.

The same way that rapists and street harassers don't usually come right out and say, "Okay, I'm gonna rape/harrass you now." Most men/boys (even the "good ones") don't come right out and say that they are against girls having/redefining power. Thus, in order for them to maintain the unequal power distribution of male over female, without looking like assholes (He agrees with you, he just thinks you are going about IT all wrong) they must find more subtle ways of discounting and discouraging you.

Don't tell me to be happy motherfucker.

I saw a tee shirt today at the store. It came in large and extra large sizes. There were ten of them, hanging there, dark black with white letters. I imagined some girl's boyfriend coming home in one. SHUT UP BITCH written across each one.

Don't tell me to be happy motherfucker.

I listen to you all the time. Your worries and your troubles are the stuff that is like breathing. The stuff so often repeating that it sounds like a ticking clock or a real live heart. Yet i'm the one who is told i talk to much.

Axl Rose is on MTV. The image is like this: Guns-n-Roses are performing an acoustic set for a gradeschool assembly. Axl is singing these words. "I used to love her, but I had to kill her. I had to put her six feet under." The kids are laughing. Little girls are sitting on the floor at his feet, laughing.

I am making such a big deal outta nothing. I'm sorry. Sorry. Sorry, I'm so sorry.

You never state how you feel and say maybe if i was more like you i would just deal with things "inside" more often, and "by myself". But see, being silent to you means safety, to me it means being gagged.

"Smile princess."

Why do you always ask me why i'm not smiling, you don't really wanna know.

I WANNA KNOW WHY ITS IN YOUR BEST INTEREST THAT I ACT LIKE EVERYTHING IS OKAY. ITS NOT, ITS NOT OKAY. I AM NOT OKAY.

I guess its not enough that i accept the evil sexist dumb commodity bullshit that eats up my true life and threatens to engulf me in fear and drain me of all hope...you want me to TAKE IT WITH A SMILE too.

No.



BUT I KNOW A GIRL WHO LIED ABOUT BEING RAPED....

This is also called 'Passing the exception to the Rule off as The Rule.' Mainstream movies (propaganda) are really good at this one. Take the movie, FATAL ATTRACTION, for example. Okay, so like, 99.9% of all abusers/harrassers in heterosexual relationships are male and then this movie comes out where this woman is running around totally scaring this man and wrecking his whole white and married and middle class thing. And like EVERYONE had their fuckin dog goes to see this movie and i am very very upset cuz i know it is an evil force in the world and that men are just gonna use it as more fuel. You know, if we don't keep those crazy lying bitches down, look at all the havoc they'll cause.

The Dangerous Mcman. We are so evil, oh yea. Well who are the real rapists, child molesters, serial killers and general bullies in our society anyways? Who are the real people in power???

SLUT.

Talk to your friends about what they think a "slut" is.
"Think about how you feel about this stuff."
"Remember that bad comments hurt as much or more than getting hit or kicked. Insults hurt, so do words."
Lots of girls get bad reputations.
By sticking together and saying we don't like being called names and that we can change things. We can help each other out. If we are willing to take the risk.

Things you can do:

Usually SLUT is a put down meaning that a girl has sex, likes sex, or has sex with lots of different people.

It is also a very easy way to hurt a girls feelings.



-Why are people afraid that a girl would "like" sex?

-Why is it anyone's business who a girl sleeps with anyways?

WHY AREN'T BOYS CALLED SLUTS?

I am writing this because I was one of "those girls" (a slut) in high school. I remember living in fear of someone saying "that word" around me, always fearing it, afraid it could be just around the corner.

I got my bad reputation because I told this guy I didn't like him and he wanted to look cool in front of his friends so he told everyone he fucked me and that I was this total sleaze who liked all this weird shit and would "do it" with anyone, etc... REGARDLESS, who gave him the power to MAKE or BREAK my reputation?

BEFORE YOU USE THE WORD SLUT Think

about a time when someone spread a rumor about you, insulted your body or hurt your feelings. If you're really mad at a girl you could write her note or tell her **in person**. That is a lot more courageous than stabbing her in the back anyways. Destroying her reputation just feeds into the same system that gives other people the RIGHT to JUDGE you UNFAIRLY.

WHAT IS RIOT GIRL

riot girl
is

BECAUSE we will never meet the hierarchical BOY standards of talented, or cool, or smart. They are created to keep us out, and if we ever meet them they will change, or we will become tokens.

BECAUSE I need laughter and I need girl love. We need to build lines of communication so we can be more open and accessible to each other.

BECAUSE we are being divided by our labels and philosophies, and we need to accept and support each other as girls; acknowledging our different approaches to life and accepting all of them as valid.

BECAUSE in every form of media I see us/myself slapped, decapitated, laughed at, objectified, raped, trivialized, pushed, ignored, stereotyped, kicked, scorned, molested, silenced, invalidated, knifed, shot, choiced, and killed

BECAUSE I see the connectedness of all forms of oppression and I believe we need to fight them with this awareness.

BECAUSE a safe space needs to be created for girls where we can open our eyes and reach out to each other without being threatened by this sexist society and our day to day bullshit.

BECAUSE we need to acknowledge that our blood is being spilt; that right now a girl is being raped or battered and it might be me or you or your mom or the girl you sat next to on the bus last Tuesday, and she might be dead by the time you finish reading this. I am not making this up.

BECAUSE I can't smile when my girlfriends are dying inside. We are dying inside and we never even touch each other; we are supposed to hate each other.

BECAUSE I am still fucked up, I am still dealing with internalized racism, sexism, classism, homophobia, etc., and I don't want to do it alone.

BECAUSE we need to talk to each other. Communication/inclusion is key. We will never know if we don't break the code of silence.

BECAUSE we girls want to create mediums that speak to US. We are tired of boy band after boy band, boy zine after boy zine, boy punk after boy punk after boy.

BECAUSE I am tired of these things happening to me; I'm not a fuck toy. I'm not a punching bag, I'm not a joke.

BECAUSE every time we pick up a pen, or an instrument, or get anything done, we are creating the revolution. We ARE the revolution

No we are not paranoid.
No we are not manhaters.
No we are not worrying too much.
No we are not taking it too seriously.

RIOT GIRL
P.O. Box 5533
IRVINE, CA. 92716-5533
PLEASE SEND A STAMP
FOR MORE INFO: WWW.RIOTGIRL.COM



WHY?????

Because I am a female performer who has been verbally / and physically assaulted while being on stage and it's really scary when men are taking up the first few rows, to me, I mean.

And also: A lot of times several girls/women will have trouble with the same guy or group of guys BUT cuz the girls dont know each other and are scattered about, we cant warn each other about said jerks presence OR protect each other effectively. If we are in a big gang we are less isolated from each other and more likely to start talking and dancing together and having some FUN

I mean if yr a guy could you just realise for a minute that us girls have no way of knowing if you are a "good boy" or a "bad boy" (as if these distinctions REALLY exist)

And, like, it is not cool or "punk rock" in anyways for guys to smash into us or rub against us while we are trying to watch a show. You know? I am sick of going to shows where I feel completely unwelcomed and banished to the back cuz I just get grossed out by moshing, harrassment, etc....

IT IS NOT SUBVERSIVE TO ACT LIKE YR UNCLE

And also, I really wanna look at female faces while I perform. I want HER to know that she is included in this show, that what we are doing is for her to CRITISIZE / LAUGH AT / BE INSPIRED BY / HATE / WHATEVER.... Her opinion is more important to me than some guy from Melody Maker and so I (along with my friends) are gonna make the one for real effort to let her know this.

Because this is our fucking show: the GIRLS the QUEERS, the WIMPS, the OUTCASTS.....

And the kids who wanna act like their PARENTS are the ones who arent welcome. DIG.

THE RECORD LABEL

is what this zine is about. Hopefully, with this mag I can make my goals clearer, and it's not like they're that complicated to begin with. They are:

- a. To provide images, role models, information, support, and strength to isolated queer kids who need it.
- b. To give queer kids the tools to cope with and/or change their environments.
- c. to give queer kids options that I never had!

All of this is fueled with no small amount of anger, but even though I am overcome with anger, it is not misplaced aggression. I'm staring my enemies in the face and I know who/what they are. If anyone reading this currently attends high school, drop me a line and maybe I can send you a stack of these for maximum effect. This is most definitely a youth struggle, as we are all but forgotten in this world, except when it comes to using us or fucking us. Sure, you like our pretty bodies, but not enough to include us in your world or take us seriously. So now, I'm getting flooded with mail, and the hype surrounding this stuff is getting bigger. I have a certain reporter who's been calling me and leaving messages trying to get the scoop on what I'm doing. He used to work for the largest gay mag in the country, and even he knew about this stupid zine long before it was out, even though I've only told a few friends. This really scares me, cause I'm a small-town kid and I'm shy, and not used to the attention, and I have tried to remain as low-key as possible to avoid all of the idol-worship and self-promotion that I see all around me. I would do this anonymously, but I have to take credit for my actions. I'm trying to show people that you can speak up, and be out, and you don't have to hide. If that helps anyone, then I'm glad. As a 21-year-old kid, I have been neglected by the community that I'm supposed to be a part of, and abused by the rest. It only makes sense to ignore these institutions like they did to me. So don't look for this stuff in the *Advocate* (unless they can pay me lots of \$\$\$, but get real, now). I keep thinking about how people "slide into the mainstream without doing anything to change the bigotry", and now I know why things still suck so bad after all these years of fighting for "liberation". Sigh.

i have only been to one Riot Grrrl meeting, but it was the first time in my life i have had a discussion with a large group of people i didn't know, which didn't involve men trying to force their opinions on me, or laughing at my opinions, or worst of all, not caring about my opinions but laughing at the way i look or the way i sit or my style of dress.

the meeting wasn't terribly personal and it didn't cover any intense or frightening issues, but there was this sense of acceptance which is rarely experienced in the real world. people listened to what other people had to say and they didn't interrupt, or yell and scream, or try to inhibit anyone else in any way.

contrary to popular belief, there was no man-bashing involved at all. the only time men were mentioned at all was when a couple of girls said that they tended to hang out with mostly men and they enjoyed the opportunity to experience an all-female environment.

the only bashing i experienced occurred after the meeting when i told various friends about my enlightening first encounter with Riot Grrrl. The prejudice which was unleashed upon me before i could even explain was unbelievable. the responses ranged from "did you do any man-hating for me?" to "those fuckin' freaks?" this kind of unfounded hatred simply perpetuates itself and i find it very sad that even the minute portion of the population which professes to be "alternative" and open-minded is just as ignorant as the rest of the world.

i don't think that the whole world should agree on everything, or even that all of olympia should, because that would probably get very boring. but a little more listening and tolerance and a little less shouting could only improve the world.

Molly Z.

WHAT RIOT GRRRL MEANS TO ME

"Putting the punk back into feminism, and feminism into punk."
--Liberty

"Riot Grrrl is turning something negative into something great. At work, I'm called a nice girl, what a smart girl, special girl. Not a person or a woman, just a girl, when I haven't been a girl for years. O.K. but girls can be dangerous and powerful. So call us girls (grrris) but watch out. That's what Riot Grrrl means to me. It also is a gathering of women minds working for us and our issues and interests. A support network."
--Polly O'

"Riot Grrrl is about how cool it is to be a girl and about how hard it is to be one sometimes. It's about girls with punk rock ideas who just don't want to put up with all of society's crap anymore."

"There are a lot of nice fancy mass media kind of descriptive words I could use, but I don't want to be a bore. Basically R.G. is to young women now what punk rock was to "angry young white boys" back in '79 and '80. We're exploding with anger (creative anger!) and inspiration and I dunno, lots of energy. And we're united, which I think is a natural trait among women, more so than men. But because we're breaking new ground and doing things on our own, there's a huge media backlash, putting us down, being condescending and acting as if we're "rejected cheerleaders" who are cutesy and a little ooh...angry! Look out! Yes, they'd better fuckin' look out because it's not a goddamned straight wealthy white men's world anymore! Not as long as R.G. is around! Fuck yeah. Revolution girl style now! (Ugh!)"
--Alex Progress

"Riot Grrrl is closing the gap. Accepting the differences and finally loving them."

"Riot Grrrl is a place where I feel safe. Once I thought I was a person, then I found out I was a 'woman.' Not here. Thanks."
--S.

"I can't get to meetings very often, but I feel good when I do. Riot Grrris have fun; it makes me happier and less scared about not being a teen-ager anymore. Here the fun doesn't end just because you're a grown up."
--KEB

"Riot Grrrl is a network, a community, an exploration outward for all of us as women and within myself, as, yes, a woman."
--Sarah L.

"Riot Grrrl is about not being the girlfriend of the band and not being the daughter of the feminist, and all that stuff, and being whatever it is that you are, and not being the addition. Empowerment, I guess. Having fun and making friends and meeting lots of women who are my peers and whom I respect, and well, I think they're cool. I'm sick of boys anyway and I went to a grrrl college and there's boys everywhere and that's all any body thinks about so I'll get my separatist fix here. Riot Grrris are so RAD."

P.S.- And the Riot Grrrl show was fun too; we should have one every weekend, except some body else could organize it. I didn't even feel like a grrrl, I felt like a person."
--Emma



cuz he's a rock-
star and yr not.



specail,
yeah, oh yeah.

Hey, Evan, how are you doing?
∞: I'm doing really well, man.

Being white and male doesn't hurt

(vrooom, vrooom)

This is biological determinism.

I get so much shit for dancing

naked. I am a very bad person.

I am exploiting men.

Confuse "truth"
with fiction
~~with~~ attempt to
de-centralize the
manufacturing of
"truth".

use language as a weapon.

"and i do believe you are me.
yes i do believe you are me.
whoever you may be..."

FAT GIRL LOOK ME IN THE EYE
I SEE YOU AND WE DON'T HAVE TO
RESENT EACH OTHER'S RECOGNITION.
WHEN I SMILE AT YOU
ARE YOU HATING ME FOR THE FACT THAT
I'M ACKNOWLEDGING OUR BOND?
ARE YOU HATING THE FACT THAT
YOU & I HAVE A COMMON EXPERIENCE?
AND MAYBE YOU'RE ON A DIET
SO YOU'RE ON YOUR WAY TO
DISASSOCIATING YOURSELF FROM ME.
OR MAYBE YOU USED TO BE THIN
AND YOU CAN'T ACCEPT YOUR
NEW-FOUND FLESH.

THAT'S NOT THE
REAL YOU," IS IT? xo

No

no we can't look each other
in the eye

cuz that would mean acknowledging
something far worse than
each other's validity.

that would mean acknowledging
our own bodies.

yes i am fat.

yes you are fat.

but i'm rude to recognize that.

fat girl, we can be sisters.

as soon as we stop resisting
each other

we can start resisting

this thing that keeps us

xo apart xo

POP YOUR TOP
all these hair pieces in your hair



The Most Frequently Asked Questions/Comments "Girls of Color" Are Assaulted With & The Responses

(Including the "Nice n' Usual" ANSWER vs. the BG ANSWER)

1. "Where are you from? REALLY from?"

"NICE N' USUAL" ANSWER: "Oh, my parents are from (put your parents' country(ies) here), but I was born in the States."

BG ANSWER: "From New York, idiot! Where are YOU from? Besides from under a rock!?", or if you have light skin: "Zimbabwe.", or if you have dark skin: "Ireland."

2. "Why is your skin that color?"

"NICE N' USUAL" ANSWER: "What do you mean? Well, people from where my parents were born are usually this skin tone."

BG ANSWER: "Our peoples' skin always turns this color when we are about to tear apart the bones of foreign devils."

3. "Why is your nose so flat/big/flared/(nonAnglo)?"

"NICE N' USUAL" ANSWER: "People come from many different backgrounds, and they each have their own characteristics."

BG ANSWER: "Why is yours so pointy/small/pug/(nonEthnic)?"

4. "You must be Asian, I can tell because of your eyes."

"NICE N' USUAL" ANSWER: "You're right.", or "Actually, I'm not."

BG ANSWER: "You must be an assuming asshole, I can tell because of your racist jackoff assumptions."

5. "Since you're Asian/Black/Ethnic, you must know Martial Arts..."

"NICE N' USUAL" ANSWER: "Actually, I don't. That's just a popular misconception." or "In fact, I do."

BG ANSWER: "Yeah, I do. Wanna spar?"

6. "By the way, I really think Connie Chung/Ethnic Flava of the Month is so beautiful!"

"NICE N' USUAL" ANSWER: "Yes, she is." or "Thanks for sharing that with me. That's nice to know."

BG ANSWER: "So what the FUCK does that have to do with me?"

7. "I heard your kind is really good in bed..."

"NICE N' USUAL" ANSWER: (laughing nervously) "He he, actually, that is another popular stereotype that is not so positive for Asian women in general, or men for that matter."

BG ANSWER: "Well this chick's pussy's got teeth. Wanna give it a whid!?"

8. "Why is your hair so straight/kinky? I thought all people from put your ethnic makeup

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country(ies) here have kinky/straight hair?"

"NICE N' USUAL" ANSWER: "Au contraire, not all people born in these countries have the same type of hair. Especially if their ethnic makeup is made up of more than one homeland"

BG ANSWER: "Because your forefathers raped my foremothers, which begat — me."

Yes, I agree, some of the BG Answers may be harsh, but they are the responses that are secretly hiding in the back of many a rainbow-colored girl's mind, under all that guilt we were taught to have towards not being the standard "white issue", and plus, they're sure to stop bubbly conversation in its tracks.

So, remember girls! Whenever you are asked stupid racist and/or sexist questions, do stand up for yourself. Have fun with it! Just make sure you don't rip your lovely manicure in the process of gouging their eyes out.

