



NEWSLETTER

An educational publication of Childhood Sensuality Circle for the liberation of children and youth.

Vol. II, No. 6

February 1977

Children's Economic and Political Rights

When I first read a Bill of Rights for Children written by an 11 year old boy in 1971 that included economic and political rights I considered the boy had gone out too far. Now in 1977 I not only agree with his 16 points but have lived to see some of them implemented and others on the way to be granted. In 1973 Children's Rights Organization wrote and published a Bill of Rights for Children that has many of the provisions that the 11 year old boy had on his list. Since 1971 when persons 18 were granted the right to vote in federal elections California has lowered its voting age to 18 for state elections. The CRO Bill includes the right to vote corresponding to the age of employability, the right to equal pay and gainful employment, the right to receive public assistance, the right to hold public office and participate in all agencies offering or providing services to those under 18, including the educational system, the right to own, buy and sell property in cases of inheritance.

Richard Farson's 10 point Bill of Rights for Children includes the right to economic power, that is the right to work, equal wages, to acquire and manage money, to own property and enter into contracts, guarantees financial support apart from the family and the right not to be exploited as consumers. It also includes the right to political power by giving children the basic right of democratic citizenship, that is the right to participate in the political process by voting without any age limitation.

CSC endorses all these economic and political rights with the qualification that these rights should be acknowledged on the basis of the maturity of the individual child and demonstration of ability to carry the responsibility of the rights desired. This can be determined by school records and behavior at home in an informal way, not in a court of law. I admit this determination could be very sticky due to bias and prejudices on the part of those doing the determining. When one considers that no qualifications — except citizenship and age are required for voting for senile persons, alcoholics, neurotics, psychotics and those declared mentally ill and that children receive instruction in citizenship in the grade schools and high schools and engage in political debates as part of their school education who is better qualified to cast a vote? But in the last analysis the reason children should be granted the right to vote is because they are people and as such should have a part in making decisions about their own lives and to protect themselves from the prejudices of adults that have been socially induced and from adults who have different concepts and values about life. I believe the

youth vote reflects the intrinsic values in life, not the material as the adult vote does and so we wud have more chance to turn to a peaceful society based on cooperation for the benefit of all and not on competition. Already many youth have rejected materialism and have gone to the land to live with nature and live the simple life in spite of the hardships and harassment of those who want to keep them in conformity with the status quo.

Signs of progress of children gaining economic rights can be found. My local Bank of America allows children to open bank accounts with proof of responsibility. This was not true 2 years ago at another branch. The California Feminist Credit Union accepts accounts of children without any restrictions. Individual adults help children to obtain jobs they can't secure for themselves and to buy stocks and bonds by lending their adult power but I consider these are incorrect ways to help children become independent economically. The right way is to establish the right for all children to have these rights because they are people and are part of society and to do it by precedent or court action. Either or a combination of both methods wud establish social acceptance and be part of the effort to establish the fact that children are people and have the right to basic democratic rights and responsibilities. This in turn wud strengthen the struggle to eliminate ageism, a form of discrimination just beginning to be realized and acknowledged by adults.

Valida

You Show Me Yours and I'll Show You Mine is an article in Playgirl Advisor for Feb. 1977 by Richard Louv. Beginning with the statement that children are uninterested in sex is becoming less and less credible and that the belief that preadolescence is a period of sexual latency is being put in the back of the sexual closet along with several of other Freudian teachings. Louv develops his theme that sexual development begins at birth and is a life-long process. There is information about Childhood Sensuality Circle. Mention of Louv's intervew with Valida and a comment on child sex by Dr. Floyd Martinson, author of the book Infant and Child Sexuality, a Sociological Perspective. There are illustrations in 2 tone color drawings of nude and clothed children to illustrate the text.

"Yesterday, When I Was Young," six pages of black and white full-page photographs of nude mother and small boy in attitudes of loving embrace, with poems about children by Francis Thompson, William Wordsworth and an anonymous poet, all executed with beauty and tenderness in Hustler Magazine for January 1977.

Hearings On Changes In The California Anti-Sex Laws in Regard to Children -

The Guyon Society testified 5 times at the State Legislature in 1975 and twice in 1976. At the first hearing the state attorney general reported that the Guyon Society had been investigated and found them doing nothing illegal. At the second hearing one of the state's most important private attorneys told O'Hara he wanted to help. Two lawmakers in Sacramento are now working for changes in the sex laws regarding children. O'Hara recently lectured twice in one da at a college and at the LA Police Academy.

On Research

There is a Collective Research Comm., POB 371, Ukiah, Ca. 95482 that is an alternatives library containing information on books, pamphlets, resource people, organizations, communes, research projects, etc., funded by Lorian Ranch a non-profit educational and scientific research organization. All work is done by a volunteer staff. Information is available for a SASE. Be specific as possible for each request, listing all resources already checked, including books and magazines. Anything will be Xeroxed for 10¢ per page.

Their Peoples Library is at 100 W. Smith St., Ukiah, Ca. 95482. It has files on alternative living for organizations, groups, media education, politics, environment, etc. We have offered to send a complimentary sub to our Nusleter and to work with them.

These 2 resources work both ways. You can get information from them and you can contribute information to be added to their collection.

The Collective Research Committee also issues Peoples' Resource Pages, designed to be a listing of organizations and publications concerned with health, education, alternative life-styles, economics, media, land use, social change and environment; citizen participation in decision-making, legal aid, minorities, food production, preservation, feminist resources, etc. CSC received a copy of this 6 page publication but no price was shown. They read CSC Nusleter and like it. We have asked to be listed. These resource pages also work both ways - to receive information thru its pages and to contribute listings.

New Childhood Press - a London publishing house publishing works on children's liberation in accord with the ideas of A.S. Neill and Wilhelm Reich. It is voluntary and nonprofit. In January they will publish Children's Rights and Learning and Welfare. They also have an information/reference service - NCP Information Exchange. Their letterhead has a picture of 3 very small naked children. Write

New Childhood Press
c/o Photography Workshop
152 Upper St.
London, NI, England
Attention: Bob White

and state you found them thru this article in CSC Nusleter for Feb. 1977.

Robin Verner is editing a book The Sensuous Child?, a collection of articles on childhood sensuality and is seeking contributions on the subject. Add: POB 684, Weston, Ma. 02193.

INFANT AND CHILD SEXUALITY a Sociological Perspective by Dr. Floyd Martinson, Pub. Book Mark, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minn. 56082. \$3.85 pp.

Children's Rights Report - is a must for those working for children's legal rights. Beginning publication in September 1976 there were articles on Children and the 4th Amendment, Parental Termination Law, Curfew Challenge, Supreme Court Upholds Right of Minors to Consent to Abortion, etc. In the October issue there were articles on "Voluntary Commitment of Children to Mental Institutions," Transfer of Delinquents from Training School to Penal Center Challenged, etc. The November issue was entirely devoted to Sexual Discrimination. Some articles have background information so that the reader can better understand the issue. Future issues will discuss the Foster Care Dilemma, The Rights of Illegitimate Children, Rights of Children to Consent to Medical Treatment and a Report on the Federal Juvenile Delinquency and Child Abuse Acts. Sub. \$15 to Aclu Foundation, Juvenile Rights Project, 22 E. 40 St. NY 10016. I suggest you begin with the first issue in Sept. 1976 and keep a ready reference file as I do for our CSC copy.

Aclu is doing a thoro job on Children's legal rights.

They also publish The Privacy Report monitoring data collection by state, local and federal governments as well as by private institutions and its impact on the individual's right to privacy. The November 1976 issue is entirely devoted to Parent and Child: Rights in Conflict; finding runaway parents; protecting children from abuse; opening adoption records. Sub \$15 year, \$10 for students, monthly. Add: Privacy Report, Aclu Foundation, 22 E. 40 St. NY 10016.

Lost Mail - CSC has not received all the letters and packages addressed to us and enclosing money. And members have reported that they have not either. If you do not receive answers to your letters in a reasonable time write again. If it was the PO's fault give them hell and have them trace your mailings. Be sure that you actually mailed your letter and keep records of money sent to give the PO the necessary information. Do this for your benefit and to improve postal service for all of us.

TIMES - CHANGE PRESS, publisher of books on sexual politics and the alternate culture welcomes manuscripts on how people are making positive changes in their lives and/or in the social/political/cultural world. Box 187, Albion, Ca. 95410.

CSC - REPRINTS - 23 chapters of Nu Zealand (Polynesian) Stories of children's sexual freedom practiced today. Letters from Polynesia. 30 poems from CSC/CSF International Competition. 3 pgs. \$1.00. Recommended. Books on Children's Liberation \$1.00. Reprint list for large SASE to CSC POB 5164, San Diego, Ca. 92105. Checks to Valida Davila.

Valida is writing a column on Childhood Sensuality in the San Diego Sexual Freedom Newsletter. They invite anyone to submit original essays, songs, autobiographies, vus, reports and black and white drawings on any aspect of sex. Send to Jefferson Clitlock, POB 3656, San Diego, Ca. 92100. Write CSC for a sample copy.

A TEST FOR CHILD OPPRESSORS

By

Don Crestle

Childhood sexual freedom

(A) means giving children the opportunity to know what sex is about.

(B) means giving children the opportunity to know, feel and fully experience what sex is about.

ILLUSTRATION OF CORRECT CHOICE

"They finally went to sleep," whispered Kate, closing the bedroom door and slipping into bed with Ross.

He rolled on top of her. "What took so long -- a bedtime story?"

"Hah, no, they spent a long time fooling around."

"Now we've got our turn to fool around."

"Mmmhmm."

Kate and Ross cherished the very end of the day when they could relax in intimacy. Soon the intimacy would not be relaxing, it would be teasing, exciting, exhilarating. But tonight relaxation retreated for a different, familiar, tension. Somewhere, perhaps underneath their own squirming bodies, a bed creaked.

Kate reacted automatically. "Did you hear some noise?"

"Um I don't know."

"Could it be them?"

"I don't know. If it was, they'll go back to sleep. The both of them were pretty cranky tonight so you know they're tired. Forget it."

For Kate, sex seemed natural enough, so did the desire for honest acceptance between herself and those she loved. However, honest sexual acceptance between herself and those she loved seemed unnatural. Until now, in keeping with her repressive upbringing, sex was held in embarrassed, frightened secrecy.

Her face contorted in worry. "You know, when it comes to sex, it's hard to tell them things,"

"But it will be better when we don't have to hide it from them anymore. You know they would find out on their own eventually. And they know so little, it would really shock them. The shock won't be as bad when they learn from us."

"You're going to do some talking too tomorrow . . ."

"Sure. I suppose."

"We have to be very careful."

As if an awareness of Kate and Ross' sexuality would harm Lorrie and Steven. The two knew a lot more about sex than their would-be educators Kate and Ross suspected. They were, however, quite ignorant of a few necessary facts. Tomorrow they might glean the truth.

Unknown by Kate and Ross, Lorrie and Steven were still awake in their room and engaged with a strikingly similar concern.

"I told Kate we'd have it tomorrow. I think you should sit Ross down in a father-to-son lecture. The kids have to be given some concept of what sex is about. If we wait too long they will find out for themselves! Can you imagine what they could do?!"

"But hell, Lorrie why rush it?"

RESULTS

Picking either (A) or (B) was incorrect. Both are false, being indicative of the fallacy and common adult fantasy of childhood "innocence."

(Copyright 1976)

Only the blind -- as it often seems, forcefully, willfully blind -- child oppressors would define childhood sexual freedom as anything other than (C): giving children the opportunity to acknowledge what they already know and feel in sex.

As you noticed, (C) was missing from the above choices. This test was designed for child oppressors who would oppose childhood sexual freedom. Those individuals have got to be missing something.

Admittedly, the Oppressors Test isn't very fair. But it's of little matter. This article actually concerns the test of the child liberator. A real, living test whose rules have yet to be very fair. The theme question of this test is, "Do you care about that child?" Watch it, there's a trick to this. The true question is How? or How much? "Not at all," brings zero, a safe score for those not directly accountable for the well-being of a child, sadly. "This way but oh no not that way." brings 50. The person who scores 100% loses.

However, the Hundred Percent-ers know they hold the winning score. Their answer to the question is the only true one. As to answer truthfully, to answer, "Fully!" is to lose, many are Hundred Percent-ers only in potential. They choose to wait till the rules change before giving the judges a chance to tabulate their score. It is criminal that so many are made to do this but, as I said, the test is real, the judges who determine the score are as real as the penalties they wield are real; such a choice is realistic.

The problem is that the judges -- all those who determine and enforce the rules -- need to be shown the concern of those potential Hundred Percent-ers or, of course, the rules will never change. Concerns and even intentions are fortunately beyond the jurisdiction of the test. This move is the safest play of the highest value for even the most circumspect child liberator. I myself, for example, do not write letters to my congressmen informing of the exhilarating sexual experiences I have had with young Sally next door or Patricia my niece or Veronica my daughter -- or whatever with whoever -- but the letters I write to them are suited to the purpose of urging the legal sanction of such experiences.

Those who do provide for the sexual needs of children but don't strive to gain legal sanction of their actions are breaking laws. They break not only the antiquated, meaningless and misanthropic laws against sexual freedom. They break the law of survival, which says that just getting by, getting away, just doesn't pull it when there are safer ways to survive. National organizations for child liberation assuage some of the dissatisfaction and increase the legal power of child liberators. However, national unity stagnates when one use of united power isn't national but local -- in the case of legislative action.

A national child liberation organization would multiply its power by assaying and inter-localizing it. This deployment of power would concern all possible sectors (states) as determined by the number of inhabitants who support the organization. California, of course, is the most promising, vital and important sector but it isn't the only possible sector. Where California is at, other states ought to be heading. The closer they are to California now, the sooner they'll catch up when California achieves child liberation. Also, just as changes in California influence changes in the slower states, widespread legal advancement in the slower states would facilitate the law reform in California.

Equally or more important than legal reform is social reform. This, also, can be applied on a local scale. Certainly there is much that can be done on an individual basis. Child care institutions, including mental health and criminal institutions, need to be informed of the necessity of sexual freedom for children. A doctor recently filed a report on the well-being of residents in Chicago rest homes, charging that sex activity, although psychologically and physically stimulating, is proscribed. He emphasized that sex is important even in old age.

Had he the insight or courage that doctor might have pointed out the other extreme. He should have charged that most child care institutions stunt the psychological and physical well-being of children by restricting sex activity. Heads of these institutions must be told pointblank about the natural and unignorable need of sex activity in children. Administrators are often confronted with demands to lessen restraints on and safeguard the social rights of their child patients, inmates or residents. Conversely, they are still allowed to regard sex as "that nasty drive which causes so much anguish." Precious few will risk their status and jobs by getting out of line with a concern for the sexual rights of children, unless urged by a number of people who reside in the associated county or state. A valuable number of non-Californians wrongly believe their own localized efforts would be futile.

Another facet in the test of the true or potential Hundred Percent-er is one in which he or she is more used - - extremely unfairly - - than he participates. The question is, "How do you present yourself?" It is the most vital question, influencing what society thinks (social reform) and what the laws reflecting such thought will say (legal reform). The trick to this question is that the judges really ask, "How do the media present you?" The obvious, nearly universal media bias against childhood sexuality makes the question needless of answering. 1976 has witnessed that bias in a most blatant form. Millions in every U.S. state and billions abroad were told and retold of the "Cave Girl" Story in Port Moody, British Columbia. The adult-child relationship depicted there was 100% negative. A 12-year old religious fanatic was the perfect victim for a schizoid sadist who deprived her of nearly every social and personal right, including the right to sexual freedom and pleasure (if in fact the Guilt-Cult fanatical girl could ever find any). What people were shown for a "child lover" was a crazed child oppressor.

The Los Angeles "Chicken Sex Ring" case of 1974 concerning two 13-year-old boys as well as sexual activities involving boys from 6 to 14, with a cast of famous men too numerous to mention, received equal national attention through court prosecution of the sex-related "crimes." Yet, how few outside of the Los Angeles area ever heard the hindsight that Deputy Dist. Atty. James Grodin, prosecutor of the case, uttered last April? Grodin said he had recently come of the opinion that the idea of an adult-child relationship like the one involved in the case, where a homosexual man had taken in an abandoned boy, was not necessarily a bad one.

Disregarding media bias, the fact is that the majority of adult-child relationships which are made public are made public through police action in "molestation" cases. Doubtless these cases sometimes center around a healthful child-adult relationship that was made into a true crime with the interference of police and other offended adults. What person would willfully publicize a sexual relationship with a child? Feed the sensationalistic whims of the media? Provide another gold star for police who sell-out to puritannical values in inadequacy-compensation? At the loss -- the destruction -- of the sexual happiness of a loving child?!

And yet, publicity from a large portion of the media that could aid in the liberation of children is still accessible. Even biased media are tolerant enough of opposing opinion as to allow pro-child sexual letters into their editorial or letters columns. The letter-writer needn't aim to debate the controversy of childhood freedom. In many publications one need only describe satisfaction with his or her relationship with a child. Avoiding debate and merely expressing the goodness one sees in adult-child relationships is probably one of the best ways to influence the personal opinion of that publication's readership.

The letters don't always have to be expressive. They can especially be responsive, as to something printed recently in that publication. One case in mind concerns an article which tried to link poor diet with early sexual maturation in children. The article, however accurate, was based on and implied insistently the opinion that childhood sexuality was altogether unnatural, unhealthy and "morally corrupt." A letter to that publication's editor used the same fact-gathering methods to berate the author for substituting unscientific opinion as fact and build a case for childhood sexual freedom.

Countless biased articles like the one mentioned above that appear in publications every day give child liberators opportunity to publicize pro-child opinions and facts as well as make the editors a bit more cautious about what their publications say. The letters may bring agreement from a large percentage of the readership. This would bring pro-child articles, influencing the undecided readers in a positive way. The editorial bias will sway along with the opinions of its readers.

Indeed, already apparant is the increasing number of personal experience letters in adult publications that tell of mentally and physically constructive child-adult relationships, usually incestuous. Often the letter-writer is an adult recalling the relationship he or she experienced decades ago as a child. Adults presently active in such relationships would do even better to act now. That is the way to get results now. Deal only with reputable publications that guarantee secrecy. Those who have neither personal experience to write about nor objection to a particular article should still express their opinion.

While writing editors, congressmen and child care administrators (and others) of the need for childhood sexual liberation, don't overlook this fact: Many social and personal rights of children are not respected though they are already guaranteed by law, such as the right to education, safety, food and shelter! There is much that can be done on an individual basis to fight for future and present child rights. No child advocate could realistically hope to earn 100% with the laws of the present but actively battling those laws earn him or her a good percentage. Child liberators who score low on the test, who are Hundred Percent-ers only in intent, shouldn't and need not wait to raise their average.

Don Crestle
1610 W. Lunt Ave.
Chicago Ill. 60626

Jeanette, a Palagi (white) member of Children's Sexual Freedom (CSF) in Nu Zealand and her polynesian husband, Maalo, from Samoa, have produced triplets last Sept. 1976 while on a camping trip in the mountains for boar hunting. Maalo and one of the 2 other men on the trip assisted with this natural birth in a natural setting. Mother and children are wel and strong and the babies are being nursed by Jeanette and a friend who also has a nursing baby. There are two bucks and one bitch, each weighing 7 lbs. plus at birth. Thus 3 members were added to CSF's over 700 members on one da.

All US dollmakers now have a doll with a penis, one circumcized and the other uncircumcized. One company has an Uncle Sherman, "the original Flasher doll."

YOUTH LIBERATION

Chris Freeman
age 14

Kids are fucked up from the time they are born and brainwashed in every way, because that's the way their parents want them to be. Some kids take it and go along with it, while others try to rebel. Some succeed while others never reach their goal of liberation. Parents treat their kids like possessions, not people. If parents only woke up and realized how they were fucking up their kids by restricting them on their rights; like telling them who to have sex with and who not to have it with. Kids grow up in today's society thinking that sex is wrong, and when they have sex with each other or themselves they have to do it like it's a no-no and they grow up thinking it is wrong. Parents also don't give them any rights. They throw this bullshit in their face about how they aren't real people until they are 18 or whatever the legal age happens to be in that state.

A youth, no matter if he or she is 2 months old or if they are 17½, should have the same rights that a 20, 30, 40 or 50 year old person has. There should be no drinking age. If youth were brought up in a world where there was no drinking age they would accept it as nothing unusual and they wouldn't go out and get drunk, not anymore than a 30 or 50 yr. old person would. As far as other things go they could eliminate the age on the driver's test so that it wouldn't matter how old you were. It could have limitations on it, it could say on your license if you could or could not drive a truck depending on your height so you could reach the pedals or having to be tall enough to see out the windshield, then when your physical characteristics changed the restriction could be lifted. They could have the restriction say that you couldn't drive vehicles with spaces between the pedals and the seat of more than 3 feet, if that's how long your legs were. They could do this with everyone not just youth; there are quite a lot of short adults who shouldn't be driving trucks or they have a great deal of trouble with certain other vehicles.

Another thing that is fucked up is the whole political scene. Saying that you cannot vote because you are not old enough is all bullshit. If you are in this fucked up world you should be able to vote in the fucked up and crooked political system. If you are 9 yrs. old and you give a damn enough to go down and vote you probably know just as much as the adult in the booth right next to you or even more.

The last thing I want to bring up is the movie thing. An example is if a 14 or 15 yr. old goes to the movies the youth in a lot of cases has to pay the adult price because the youth can't get in for the under 12 price but then they make that person pay the adult price but he is not allowed to see an adult movie, like an "x rated" movie but they are making him pay the adult price. I think that they should just ban that all together because youth has just as much a right to see sex and violence as any adult.

Cheri Magazine for December 1976 has an article, Sex Lib 4 Kids, by a CSC member under the pen name Raymond Chadwick. It is an interview with Tim O'Hara, spokesperson for the Guyon Society. The motto of the Guyon Society - Sex before 8 or It's Too Late - is on a colored page with pictures of dressed animals and other pages are illustrated in color with fucking dolls. Takes in 6 pages 8-1/2" by 11".

Children Chatter

We are all aware of the curiosity of children. Most people are naive in thinking that an awareness of one's body and the strange feelings that arises from time to time, does not stimulate this curiosity. We feel that a tape on which children speak frankly of such feelings may do two things. Firstly, such a tape might help open-minded parents accept such curiosity as something to be dealt with openly, and not to be ignored or violently discouraged. Secondly, any children hearing the tape will know that their feelings are normal and that they should not be ashamed of their natural curiosity.

To make such a tape, we would like contributions of recordings on which children speak frankly about their sexual fantasies. While children should be about eight inches from the microphone, they must be asked not to touch the mike as this will transfer to the recording which must be loud and clear when submitted. We would prefer that the recording be done on cassette. Encourage your children to be natural, (not afraid), and to speak in their own words. Those contributing to this effort, will be given a complimentary copy of the edited tape. If you wish to contribute to this project, send your tape to;

Lin,
Box 19,
Santa Maria, Ca. 93454

Remember your children's voices, speaking their own feelings, will bring more assurances to others than will millions of written words.

Lolita No. 23 - published in Holland contains CSC Child Sex Bill in Dutch and English on the first 3 pages of this issue.

Chris Freeman, age 14 is teaching a class on Childhood Sensuality at his free school.

THE BODY POLITIC - Canadian Gay Liberation Journal - endorses the rights of young people. US 5 issues \$4.00 Can 5 issues \$2.75. Intern 10 issues \$7.00.

NUS LETTER

➡ C S C, P.O. Box 5164, SAN DIEGO, CA. 92105 ◀

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