

NOVEMBER 2003

(next issue ready
march 2004
probably)

RIOT GRRRL WORLD

#1

A newsletter for and by riot grrrls and queer punks from all over the world
- please copy and spread -

Dear readers,

This is the first issue of a hopefully long project. In a discussion on the Riot Grrrl Europe mailing list about nine distros (in Europe), the idea to make a "Riot Grrrl World Newsletter" or a "Riot Grrrl Chapter zine" was brought up by Jenni (of Emancypunk) and Hilde (of Lady!Die/Riot Grrrl Europe). We continued brainstorming about the possibility of the project and how we would do it and because the reactions on the mailing list were positive, we decided to give it a go. This newsletter is supposed to be published every 3-4 months and will be spread all over the world to reach as many people as possible and create a real Riot Grrrl network. Help is always welcome. We'd like to keep the newsletter small, but nevertheless we're always looking for news/info/contributions from everywhere on the earth. If you want to contribute, get in touch with your nearest riot grrrl chapter or contact person or let me know. The idea is that every issue will be created/collected by a different person or group (and not always by me), but that everyone can always write for the newsletter. If you want to help or if you have questions, contact me.

Keep rioting!

China (this issue's editor)



flapper grrrl@yahoo.co.uk
nina@riotgrrrlbelgium.cjb.net
<http://www.geocities.com/riotgrrrlworld>

OUR GOAL:

- What we'd like to achieve with the Riot Grrrl World newsletter:
- More networking between the various riot grrrl chapters and collectives
- Spreading/sharing info from all over the world
- Creating a flyer everyone can hand out.
- Inspiring people to participate, get active/creative and start a grrrl riot!

NEWS

Unfortunately, RTL, an all-girl HC band from Brazil, doesn't exist. The three girls from Brasilia (the capital from Brazil) leave us with two great demo-tapes, and they still have copies of the second one, called "Variações de um mesmo tema" (Variations on the theme). If you want a copy, write to Mariana Maverick - SQN 316 Bl. D Ap. 117 - CEP 70775-040 - Bsb/DF - Brazil (rtl.maverick@hotmail.com) (by Danielle Sales)

**MUSIC ZINES UNDERGROUND FEMINISM EQUALITY
ART ACTIVISM DIY YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN YEAH**



<http://grrrlzines.net>



WHAT IS RIOT GRRRL?

"Riot Grrrl is a feminist underground movement that has created a feminist form of musical expression. It started in the late 1980s and reached the peak of media attention in 1992. Because of the mostly sexist articles the movement has drawn back from the media and now exists as an international feminist subculture network."

- Karo

"Riot Grrrl is feminism expressed through creative ways - being in bands, making websites, writing zines, creating art."

- Soph

"Riot Grrrl is an underground feminist movement that arose from the American punk scene in the early 90s. One of the things I like about it is that it combines DIY art and activism. Riot grrrl is not excluding boys, it includes girls."

- Nina

WOMEN ON WAVES IN POLAND (by Bordowa)

hello dear grrrls!

i would like to write you about current fucked-up situation in poland. our fucking country has very restrictful laws in case of abortion. it is totally illegal, and if you have one you can go to prison for even 3 years. also all people who are accused of helping you with it may go to prison.

polish law says that in very difficult situations, like after rape or when the woman's life is in danger, a woman can have an abortion, but it's only written down. in fact doctors usually make it harder or longer, so that after some time it's too late and women have to give birth.

illegal abortions take place here about 80 000 - 200 000 times per year. they are dangerous, descreet, illegal, made in awful conditions and for big money (about 3000 zł which is 1000 EUR). some women just can't afford it, so they have to give birth against their own will.

poland is a catholic country, almost 90% declare themselves as catholics, also almost all left and right politics are on the church's side. the church's opinion here is even stronger than the president's (who is left, used to be very liberal, but now after the church has supported polish access to the EU he will lick their ass!) also there are a few almost "fundamental" groups, parties like LPR (ligue of polish families) or MW (all-polish youth). they are totally fascist, church-loving jerks. they declare that they will defend polish unborn children.

yesterday the ship belonging to "women on waves" was to get into the polish port in wladyslawowo. unfortunately, the weather was bad and they couldn't manage it. someone offered them to get into the port in gdynia, but when they did, the people from LPR and MW attacked them from the shore, by throwing objects on them. they went back to the sea.

polish federation for women and family planning, which organized "women on waves" coming here has been harrassed from several weeks by different church and right-wing groups. they informed the public prosecutor's office and the police about the crime that "may take place" on the ship. they even tried to make the police to confiscate the pills ru 486. they make an atmosphere of fear, harrassment and danger. those people can do anything to save those "unborn children", and women are really afraid to get help from "women on waves". the action would go around polish law, but they are eager to do everything not to let this happen. i know a few women who wanted to go to the WOW ship in wladyslawow, but they resigned, they are afraid of police, LPR and MW, who may really hurt them...

other danger is that boatswains of polish ports may do everything not to let the ship get into ANY polish port!!! not only because of the storm on the sea but also - again! fuck! - to save the zygotes!

this is a total scandal but as polish media is also dominated by church propaganda no one will write about it that way. we want to show the world the hypocrisy of polish government, who calls themselves democratic, but can not keep up the most important human rights, and also agree and even support the danger that can harm every woman.

the ship hasn't swam into the port yet. we don't know when will it happen. we even don't know IF it will happen. we want to make this situation seen all over the world. we want to make a political scandal of it. please send this mail to all of your friends, let as many people know about it as possible. if you can, send it also to tv, magazines, newspapers in your country, region. if they want to get in contact with polish organizers, this are the addresses

<http://www.federa.org.pl>

<http://www.womenonwaves.org>

please, help us get our fundamental rights back!!!!!!!!!!!!