Further, so-called 'copy cat', riots spread to Leeds, Southall, Leicester, Nottingham, Handsworth, Bolton, Luton, Hackney, Hull, Gloucester, Walthamstow, Wood Green and Halifax. Involved in them were large numbers of white and female youths. This left the press in utter confusion, quite unable to apply their usual cliches.

But for many white people it was the first time they were on the receiving end of police violence.

The great plan for a red, white and blue summer was smashed. The colours that reigned were the colours of petrol bombs successfully hitting their targets of buildings and cars. The silence of unemployment, poverty and isolation was broken for a short time and replaced by anger and frustration, hurling petrol bombs, broken shop windows and weeping sirens.

'Daily Star'. "For the first time since the riots struck the area (Toxteth) women took openly to the streets ... to join the front line attack on the police".

'The Guardian'. "One remarkable thing about the riots was the complete absence of racial tension among the white and Asian residents who mingled together (Southall)".

'The Guardian', on Moss Side. "Ordinary law abiding folk and supporters of the established order were shocked to see the police in a new light during the riots. They are coming to believe that long standing complaints from the black community about police harassment and racism may have some substance ..."

The early hours of July 29th saw the death of a disabled white man — Davey Moore — who received only a small mention on the news. While the party in London goes on, Lady Di snogs and gets pregnant, and we go back to unemployment, shitty jobs, Y.O.P.S. and boring school. Things aren't getting any better and we wait to see what happens next.

Vi Red
haven't I heard that somewhere before?

1. 

you had more luck... than me then nice... life's a right frigid cow.

2. 

Can you believe he said... you, had nice night... the way!

3. 

But those were... that up line, they were... using last night... when really made me sick.

4. 

Sandra began to forget about... her date as she got ready to go pack...

5. 

Almost at once...

6. 

...but she couldn't for long....

7. 

Hallo Sexy.

8. 

Oh god, I hope... he doesn't get... on the bus.

9. 

10. 

Have you seen me somewhere before?
You look lovely.
Have you got a light for me?
Do you want a cigarette/drink?
Do you wanna dance?
Do you like this record?
Your mate left you all alone then? Cheer up, it may never happen / it's not that bad.

11. 

* details as applicable

12. 

Why'd you keep smiling at me then?
You Stfu/wanker/fridge/tick bitch.
Are you good enough for you?
Stuck up cow.
haven't you been getting any recently?
Rather dance with your girlfriend
Would you? couple of olives.
you need a good fuck/bedding.
stupid cow/ugly old bag.
I didn't fancy you anyway.

13. 

14. 

15. 

16. 

What was on that
about? are you ok?

Oh you're in a
good mood aren't you?
you should have heard her in technical drawing — all they ever do is bring about sex.

Ah, just give them, they're not worth bothering about. 8? I'll meet you at the bus stop about 6 to 8?

But once they got to the party, Sandra began to relax and enjoy herself, blah blah blah.

I'm going to join the queue for the loo.

And I don't want you to touch me! So get off!

Yeah, just the usual. But he's got a bit nasty. I've really had enough of it, I'll tell you.

So dance with me.

Look, I've had enough today. Just go away. I don't want to talk, I want to dance.

There's no need to be so slack up. You're asking for it. you're like the last one.

But once they got to the party, Sandra began to relax and enjoy herself, blah blah blah.

And I don't want you to touch me! So get off!

Had a day like this recently? We realise there's no magic answer. But... more and more young women are finding that doing a self-defence course helps you to gain self-confidence and feel less vulnerable.

There are lots of classes for women starting all over the country, with women teachers. If there isn't one in your area, why don't you try and set one up, by going through your local youth club or women's centre?
Cliche

Cliche is a group of 4 young women, aged 14-17. They meet and rehearse at the Activities Centre in South East London that we mentioned in issue 2 (where young women from that area have free access to instruments and recording facilities). ‘Where’s The Bear’ is one of their own songs.

WHERE’S THE BEAR?

It’s so crazy, where’s the bear?
The Yanks ain’t coming but their bombs are here,
And all around you can hear children play.

Chorus: People fighting in the street,
Policemen fighting on the beat,
Guardians of democracy,
Pawns to total anarchy.

I recommend mineral water ‘cos agent orange is fit to slaughter,
A thousand times more potent that thalidomide,
As used in Vietnam, Hiroshima and Nagasaki,
‘Let’s go and bash a paki’,
Trident missiles flying across the sky.

Chorus

Genetic mutation is inherent,
But we’ll only use it as a deterrent,
I wouldn’t even worry if we tried
Because the chances are that
You won’t live to be mutated, to a sudden death you are fated,
We can blow the world up twenty times.

Chorus

DO WE NEED A WORLD WIDE HIROSHIMA?

In the Western world we are horrified and indignant when we hear of murder, ‘accidental’ death or manslaughter. So why then is the Government — that the majority of our adults voted into power — considering spending 27,260 million on something that can only lead to mass murder and horrific maiming? I’m talking about the Trident system, said to be the most destructive nuclear weapon ever designed. Each warhead will have the blast equivalent of 100,000 tons of T.N.T. — no small matter!

We call ourselves the most developed people of the world, how can we be this and still be prepared to eliminate all forms of life, ourselves included? The concept of total devastation may seem incredible, but as far as I can see, that is what nuclear warfare equals but minus the weapons it equals peace.

Money, in millions, is being spent on weapons and defence when it could be spent so much more usefully in the Third World; on work schemes for the unemployed; on education; the Health Service and many others. Surely all these causes would actually help people to live rather than die, or are we all so ‘developed’ that we have lost all meaning of peace in exchange for power?

All this has been designed and controlled almost totally by a male dominated society, maybe we can do better than our male leaders, if of course we’re still alive, WE NEED ACTION NOW! TOMORROW MAY BE TOO LATE!

Anna Thorne

CAREERS

Well I heard about this video shop thai had opened locally and I decided to go down and get some information. As I arrived in the shop I told the guy I wanted to be a camera operator and he said: “You can’t be a camera operator because you are a woman, anyway you’ll most probably go off and get married and have kids and not bother to come back to your job.”

I nearly died when he said this. I couldn’t understand why he was planning my whole life for me and then asked me to come back and see him a few days later. So I went back and he was in the shop with four other guys, he then said “Will you tell her she can’t be a camera operator because she’s a girl”, and they all started to laugh. By this time I really felt I was asking for the impossible. I left the shop thinking I was being taught about sexism at school but like a lot of things meant nothing to me until that incident.

If there are any young women interested in working in the technical side of TV, I would be glad to pass on any information I’ve got about courses etc. Please send you letters to SHOCKING PINK, 90 Cromer Street, London W1.

Mandy Fayne
If the Cap fits, Wear it.

There is a basic assumption that sex between men and women is the only 'proper' sexual relationship. Homosexuality is regarded with a number of different attitudes and emotions, ranging from 'It's just a phase' -- would anyone ever suggest that heterosexuality was something you would grow out of? -- to it being perversion and disgusting. Masturbation, which is an important part of learning how your body works and what gives you sexual pleasure (see 'Shocking Pink' No. 2) is defined in the dictionary as 'self abuse'. The idea that it is 'not right' to enjoy touching yourself still lingers, especially for women. Masturbation is a way we can take control of our sexuality by giving ourselves pleasure.

This undermines the male myth about sex -- that it is something that is DONE to women BY men. The extension of this is seeing penetration as the only 'real' kind of sex. (Masturbation is often seen as a substitute for 'real' sex). Putting the emphasis on penetration reinforces the idea that women are sexually passive; we lie back, close our eyes and desperately think of England.

The importance of penetration is implied and reinforced by terms such as 'foreplay' i.e. sexual stimulation before penetration. Penetration is seen as the goal, although it is not always necessary for a woman's sexual pleasure. Always concentrating on the man as the active partner obscures the fact that women should get pleasure from sex too, otherwise there is NO point in doing it.

Presenting women as sexually passive and therefore inferior, maintains men in a position of power. The language we use when talking about sex reinforces this. Words like 'screwing', 'fucking', 'shagging', 'laying', 'humping', 'knocking off', 'banging' all emphasise the man's active role. He is doing it to the woman.

There are double standards concerning sex: Men are supposed to be sexually active and experienced, women are not. A sexually active woman is despised, because she threatens the male image, and branded a 'slut', 'slag', 'tart', 'whore' etc. There are no such words for sexually active men; they are admired for their prowess.

If you want to have sex with a man you MUST use a reliable contraceptive. Obviously contraception is not the solution to all your problems but it will end a major one -- pregnancy. There are problems related to sex that are particularly relevant to young women. For example the problem of where and when they can have sex.

Another problem is the age of consent, i.e., when you can legally have sex. The age of consent for heterosexual women is sixteen. This means that some women who are under sixteen have sex but they are reluctant to take precautions because they think they cannot get contraception and they are frightened of their parents finding out. Doctors do sometimes refuse to give contraception to women if they are under sixteen but the Brook Advisory Centres deal confidentially with young people.

It is essential that men and women within heterosexual relationships discuss their sexuality and contraception. Men should be involved in the responsibility for contraception, even if it is the woman who is using the contraception. Contraception is a way women can take control of their lives, but men should not be allowed to think that they have no responsibilities. If the man with whom women are having sexual relationships are not interested in women's sexual pleasure and the risk of pregnancy then they are SHITS.

Contraception can be obtained from Family Planning Clinics, Brook Advisory Centres, your doctor or a doctor who is an expert on contraception and accepts people who are not actually her/his patients. All of these places will involve a medical examination. (Pelvic examination, cervical smear and blood pressure. This is essential if you are considering using the Pill or the Coil). You will also be asked some questions e.g. how old are you, family medical history, which contraception you think will suit you best.

All the forms of contraception have advantages and disadvantages.
AND IF THE CAP DOESN'T FIT,

**DUREX** — fits over the erect penis before penetration and prevents the sperm entering the vagina.

**Advantages**
1) Easily obtainable from chemists and slot machines.
2) Safe if used with a spermicidal cream, foam or jelly (also obtainable from chemists).
3) No side effects except a possible allergy to the spermicide.
4) No gooey mess.

**Disadvantages**
1) Slightly higher risk of pregnancy than with the Pill.
2) Some men don't like using them because they say it dulls their sensation. But this ignores the effect the fear of getting pregnant can have on a woman's enjoyment.

**THE COIL** — a small white plastic device which is inserted in the uterus by a trained person. No one is quite sure how the coil works.

**Advantages**
1) Once inserted successfully the coil can be practically forgotten except for periodic check-ups.
2) Causes heavier periods, cramp and spotting between periods.
3) There is a possibility that the body will expel it (especially for young women) which can lead to infection.
4) It is possible to get pregnant while using the Coil. If you do the chances of a miscarriage and infection are high.
5) Increases the risk of inflammatory pelvic diseases which may lead to infertility.
6) Gooey mess.
7) The process of having it inserted is painful.

*Kate and Janet*
THE CAP — is inserted by the woman before intercourse, it fits over the cervix and the spermicidal cream, smeared round the rim, kills the sperm.

Advantages:
1) No side effects except possible allergy to the spermicide.

THE PILL — prevents pregnancy by stopping the development of the egg in the ovary. One pill is taken every day for twenty-one days and then none for the next seven, during which time your period will come, and so on.

Advantages:
1) Very low risk of pregnancy.
2) Lightens periods and relieves menstrual cramp and pre-menstrual syndrome in some women.
3) Has no immediate physical relationship to sex which can be relaxing if you find the diaphragm or cap an embarrassing intrusion.

Disadvantages:
1) Have to remember to take a pill every day at about the same time every day.
2) Goopy mess.
3) May cause unpleasant side effects which can be fatal—depression, nausea, headaches, breakthrough bleeding—bleeding in between periods, doesn’t mean the pill is not working as a contraceptive—weight gain. All of the above are common early side effects and normally go after the first two months, or if you change the brand of pill. If they persist see a doctor.

Disadvantages:
1) Must be fitted by a doctor, who will teach you how to fit it.
2) Can only be fitted after a woman has had penetration a few times.
3) Slightly higher risk of pregnancy than with the pill.
4) Some women feel that it is messy and they don’t like the idea of inserting it — although it can be a way of learning more about how your body works.
5) It is probably inconvenient unless you are having regular sex.

Thrombosis — all women on the Pill run a risk of getting blood clots which can be fatal.

Blood pressure — the Pill increases blood pressure in some users, therefore it is important to get your blood pressure checked regularly.

Cancer — it is important to have regular cervical smears because the relationship between the Pill and cancer is not yet known.

Heart attacks — women on the Pill run a 3 to 5 times greater risk of having a heart attack. The risk of these more serious side effects increases with age, weight, how long you have been using the Pill and whether your family has a history of blood clots etc.

Finding the type of contraceptive which suits you best is a personal thing, and it is worth trying more than one, as for each woman some types are better than others.
ROSIE THE RIVETER

A documentary film about the lives of women working in traditionally “mans” jobs in America during the II World War doesn’t sound too — ho ho — riveting. But it is. Rosie the Riveter is one of the most entertaining films I’ve ever seen, and I learned a lot from it too. Wow.

Made almost completely by women, Rosie the Riveter is about the individual experiences of 5 women — 3 black and 2 white — who got jobs in the shipyards and foundries of America while their men were at war. These women, who before the war were working in various factory or domestic jobs — “It was sooo boring” — suddenly found job opportunities open to them that before the war would have been unthinkable.

The film is mostly the women talking, cut with photos and film footage from the war, and, most interesting, the “propaganda” newsreels shown in cinemas at the time. At the beginning of the war, these were all cries to the women to do their duty and get a job — the kids would be ok, it was their duty to their country AND their husbands to work for the war effort! Almost unbelievable films of factory work being compared to housework — “why” the voice-over exclaims, as a woman is shown wiring up a complex electric circuit — “This really isn’t too much different from doing your mending!” The emphasis of these early films is very much on the fact that women can — indeed, must — maintain their femininity while working. In fact, far from being worried that they wouldn’t be able to do the jobs, the women found that they were better than the men at most of them.

They found out other things too: As they began to realise they were being overworked and underpaid, they started to organise within their unions. “The boss didn’t like that. Oh no, not at all. We weren’t his little girls any more.” The women also began to realise the problems of racism being confronted by the black women, many of whom had the chance to join a union for the first time; “Well, home-helps don’t have unions”. One black woman, Lyn Childs, confronted an officer on the ship she was building about the racist way he was treating a Filipino man working with her; “Well, I just turned the flame on my blow torch right up to 7 and I said, if you don’t leave him alone, I’ll burn your guts out”. She’s not being dramatic, just telling us what happened. She also tells us how the officer said that he’d been taught at ‘Officer School’ that “Whites are better than anyone else”. Well, God Bless America. Those weren’t the only problems. Women in munitions factories who weren’t provided with the proper safety clothing ran the risk of being blown up — some were. Other women had to dodge falling metal girders in the shipyards. There was also the problems caused by the families left at home: these women did eight hour shifts, came home, cleaned the house, did the washing, cooked, took care of the kids. Meanwhile, the newsreels cheerfully reported on the progress of nurseries being set up for the care of the (all white, in the footage we saw) working women’s children. 40 years later one of the women says “Nurseries? I guess there were some. We surely never heard of any.” Due to this, some women had to leave their children with relatives in other cities.

But despite all the odds against it, they were happy — for a start, they had money for the first time in their lives. “I guess a lot of the girls saved for after the war. Not me! I was having such a good time!” And they loved the jobs too. They were interesting, creative, fulfilling. So when the war came to an end, many women thought they’d be able to continue in their careers as skilled workers. “Oh yes, we really believed we were the New Women — it would all be wonderful and different now.” Of course it wasn’t. The men came home — they wanted “their” jobs back. The newsreels began to drop heavy hints: Shouldn’t you working women be looking after your homes? Your children need you, you can’t leave them all day! “That is after all, the natural order of things” the voice-over assures; “Man as the patriarch, and provider, woman as the mother and homemaker”. YUK. Don’t worry though. Our heroines weren’t fooled for a minute. They knew that the men made the wars and now they were making the laws. “I guess they made us into whatever they wanted us to be. They needed workers, they told us we were workers. They needed babies, they told us that was our natural role in life.” And they needed babies. Lola, a Jewish woman from the Bronx explains: “Babies! the world and her sister are having babies! . . . and that was ok . . . we wanted babies . . . but we had to give up everything for that.”

Even the women who already had growing families to support had to give up everything. The woman who’d been the best welder on her ship, who’d gone to nightschool so that she could learn every kind of welding there was and be sure of getting a good job after the war (she was a widow, no man to “provide” for her) spent the next 17 years working in a canteen. “Half the money, and the work was twice as heavy — yet they told me welding was a hard job — a man’s job.”

The last words in the film go to Lola: “We all loved it. We loved the work, and we loved each other and I wish for that spirit again. But not for another war.”

Rosie the Riveter is on release around the country this year. See it if you can.

Sally
RUBYFRUIT JUNGLE by Ritz Mae Brown
This isn’t so much a book review as a book recommendation. Rubyfruit Jungle was first published about 5 years ago, but it’s still just as funny, positive, dynamic etc etc blah di blah.
Thrill to the exploits of Molly Bolt — our heroine — as she grows up to become ‘an all-American queer’!
That could be explained but I’m not going to, you’ll have to read the book ha ha. Your local library may (should) have it, or its published by Corgi in paperback, so it ought to be in Smiths and places. Get hold of a copy if you can, its really worth reading — oh yes indeed.

THE REBEL WOMAN IN THE BRITISH WEST INDIES DURING SLAVERY Lucille Mathurin
A first glance at the cover of ‘Rebel Woman’ and you are likely to think that it is a picture story book for children. This is a simple but well written book with lively drawings which tell us about the lives of slave women up to the near abolition of slavery.
However, this book takes a different line to the more traditional books written on slavery. Lucille Mathurin has based her book on the strong, active, rebellious side of slavery women. She has chosen to write about women because most books on the subject have tended to forget that women were slaves and made to work just as grussomely as men; she also wanted to show that

women as well as men took part in the struggles to free themselves.
The book tells us that women were in many cases responsible for planning escapes, attacks on master’s property, such as burning down storehouses. The women slaves were said to use every means possible to try and avoid work. They were said to force masters to allow them days off, pretending they were ill and using their menstrual cycles as a ploy for getting off.
The women are portrayed as strong and tough (sometimes more than the men) and unlike the men put up strong resistance when they were to be whipped. Even though the women knew the punishment they would receive (being tied up for days or sometimes killed) they did not fear these and preferred to die rather than face continuous cruelty alive. Women of all ages ran away and made dangerous journeys to try and escape. Some women escaped successfully but others were not so lucky and were caught, returned and sent off to adjoining islands, most of them never to be seen again.
Part of the book focuses on specific women and tells their stories. One such was called ‘Fanny’ who has since had a town named after her in Jamaica.
Even though the author chose to take a different line in writing this book I think that she has painted too much of a rosy picture of slavery. Slave overseers were much more ferocious than shown in the book and women’s tongues more restricted. I do not believe they needed ‘ploys’ and ‘tricks’ to get off work as their illnesses would have been genuine.
It is a quick and easy book to read and copies can be obtained from Third World Publishers, 138 Stratford Rd., Birmingham B11 1RD, £1.65.

‘GREGORY’S GIRL’ (Bill Forsyth 1980)
A film made by an older man about a boy’s adolescence — wait a minute, what is it doing in ‘Shocking Pink’ you may well ask.
Hours spent in front of the mirror waiting to squeeze the ever recurring spots before you go out are put under the camera eye and torn apart. For here is a film about the rituals of ‘fancifying girls and finding out that the one you fancy is [not] always the one you go out with.
The film revolves around the bumbling, awkward, lanky, pasty faced, Scottish Gregory. The ever hopeful football star whose presence on the school football team is threatened by the arrival of the skillful Dorothy on the school team, and his efforts to date her.
The film is fun to watch and the young women in it are portrayed quite positively, which makes a change. Think how many Gregory’s you know — I know at least three!

THE SHATTERED CHAIN by Marion Zimmer Bradley (Daw Books)
‘The Shattered Chain’ is set in the far future when human beings have long colonised the galaxy. On Darkover, a planet not yet included in ‘the Empire’, women are still controlled and held at the will of men. In the Drottown, women are chained by their wrists to their waists. This is an accepted fact. Only a small band of women, ‘The Free Amazons’, are free from the bondage of men. They take an oath to swear their allegiance to their fellow Amazons and their independence from any man.
The book deals with the position of women and shows, through the interactions of Jaelle — a free Amazon, Magda — a Terran intelligence agent, and Rohana — a Darkover noblewoman, that women relate to emancipation in different ways.
The Free Amazons show that women can be independent of men, but still relate to them in any way of their own choice. The story is exciting and thought-provoking, and I recommend it to science fiction readers.
Don’t call me a loser if I’m playing a different game
Don’t say I’m anti-social if I don’t act the same
As you and your ‘normality’ to which we must conform.
I’ve a mind and a will and I reject the uniform
Of skintight jeans
And pop-machines,
Disco noise,
Girls and boys
Get up to dance –
Start the romance.
Don’t call me a wallflower if I like being alone
Don’t pity me if I haven’t got a boy to call my own.
Yes, I’m a rotten spoilsport and won’t join the parade
Won’t hide myself, won’t act a role, won’t play the mad charade.

Of changing fashions
Popular passions
Make up perfect
Not a defect
Catch a boy
Shout for joy.

Don’t tell me I’m ‘unfeminine’ if my highest aspirations
Don’t consist of getting boys to say I’m perfect in proportions
Of breasts and hips and lips and eyes
While ‘I love you as a person’ is the cleverest of their lies.

Sarah Hook

N.U.S.S.

The National Union of School Students is an organisation which campaigns for school students’ rights against things such as school uniform, petty rules, racism, sexism, corporal punishment, the cuts and our right to work when we leave school.
The Union fights for these rights by helping to organise and coordinate school students all over the country, providing them with information on how to take action against anything they disagree with.

Students must unite and fight to improve schools, make them less boring and more the way we want them.
A PIECE OF CAKE!

1. Baby playing with blocks.
2. Baby taking a bite of a cake.
3. Younger child with a tray.
4. Younger child twiddling with blocks.
5. Younger child playing with a light bulb.

6. At cookery classes at school.

7. 6th Form Careers interview.
8. British Airways Civil Aviation Authority.

10. Receptionist.
11. Catering.
12. Assistant teacher.

SUE
We'd like to thank all the people who have given us support, be it financial, practical, verbal or whatever. Kiss. Kiss.