SHOCKING PINK!
SICK AND TWISTED?
YET ANOTHER
Young Women's Magazine
WOW!!!!!!
ZAP!

IT'S OUR CHOICE

Including
FIGHT EVII! FIGHT ALTON! A JACKIE INSERT
CUTTING CRITICISMS OF SOCIETY TODAY.
EXCLUSIVE POSTCARD FROM MICHELLE SHOCKED.
Dear S.P.2,

I would write something about sulking but can't think of anything right now. I haven't really written this but it was only about my little brother. Your magazine is really awe-inspiring. I'm all shy now so I'll go.

From Kerry McCloud

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Dear Louise,

I would be delighted to give an interview for Shocking Pink. Thanks for thinking of me. I think I would have a lot of opinions to offer on music, women, homelessness and if you're not careful just about anything else. I'm also interested to learn more about the possibility of a refuge for girls in Brixton.

Sorry for the formality, but the best way to arrange this is thru Martin as he knows my schedule even better than I do. Hope to hear from you soon.

From Kerry McCloud

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Dear Shocking Pink,

Thanks for the magazine. I was impressed. However, One Just Seventeen readers MUM wrote to Just 17 to say that she was a bit shocked by the content of SP2.

For this reason I can't put you in the magazine again.

Best of Luck
Josephine Hocking (Just 17)

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Dear Josephine,

Thank you. Your letter makes it quite clear where Just 17 stands.

Hope you rot in some reformist bog SP2.

"We're gonna really offend a lot of people with this issue." — Words of wisdom from mother computer.

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Dear SP2,

I am at present researching a journalism dissertation on news values, routinisation and misrepresentation in the context of gender. I would ............... (SP2 says what the fuck does this mean?)
Dear S.P. 2,

I enjoyed the first issue of your magazine but I thought there was an excessive emphasis on sex and romance. I realise that this is important to many women but it is not the be all and end all. It seems that we are pushed towards sexual or romantic relationships when we could be having an equally good time with friends. Women can often find emotional closeness with good friends in relationships which have fewer complications than sexual relationships and romantic entanglements. Above all we must remember who are friends are.

Yours, Bridget Deutsch.

Dear Bridget,

We do agree with you to some extent. Women are pressurized into sexual relationships especially with men. We much prefer cycling, sulking, chocolate and DMs to having a quickie and try to put sex into perspective with this. We promote lesbian sex because we are not funded by local government and because most other young women's magazines don't. We try not to over emphasise it but we also don't want to ignore the issue completely. Sex? there are much more serious things to worry about like the capitalist system etc.

I AGREE. IN EARLY MEETINGS WE WERE ALL DETERMINED TO EMPHASISE THAT RELATIONSHIPS ARE SO MANY DIFFERENT SORTS NOT BASED ON SEX. ESPECIALLY THAT LESBIANISM IS NOT 'HAVING SEX WITH GIRLS/WOMEN', ITS LIVING/LIVING/ PRESSURISING PEOPLE INTO SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS OF ANY KIND IS BAD.
Shocking Pink is wondering, are we the only voice of 'young women' in the feminist movement in the U.K.

WHERE ARE YOU?!!

PLEASE write to us, talk to us, communicate! We are isolated and out on a limb. The Women's Centre is at 55 Acre Lane, Brixton, and we meet there on a Sunday at 4.30pm, or Fridays at A Woman's Place, Hungerford House, Embankment at 6pm - Please come along, don't be shy, we know you're out there somewhere!

WIN THE SP II COLLECTIVE FOR A DAY (WOW)!!

So like us, you've got no friends either? Well how about winning a group of ready made friends? Take us out and introduce us to all your acquaintances and we'll pretend that we're very good friends of yours.

Complete the following sentence in no more than 10 words.

'I've got no friends because ...............

 stop press .... To the person who nicked the little pink box from our office and then returned it .... ta.
Just For The Night...

Mum was still. Her hand held mine tight. Too tight. Though I didn't pull away, the hurt wasn't half as bad as the hurt I was feeling for her. Her face was taut, white and tear-stained. Her morning fresh curls had disappeared, the straight hair now hung onto her roots for dear life. I looked at her face, the bruise which was an hour old began to show its true colours. Her simple blue dress was stretched and ripped in various places. Was this the beautiful woman so many of my friends admired, was this my mother?

The cold breeze hit both of us. I felt mum twitch beside me, she had come out of her trance. She dropped my hand and held my shoulder. We walked a long way, weaving our way through the dead streets, wrapped in our thick coats, but that didn't stop the pitiful wind blasting at our faces, nor did it stop the pain in our legs.

'It's just for the night.' she whispered, in a shaky voice. Her brown eyes stared ahead at the huge building. Its four viewing windows looked like two pairs of eyes. Even so, in the dreary dark you could sense the building's sadness, reflected in whoever came there. Mum picked up the case containing some clothes, thrown in during a fit of anger and haste. Anger because of what he did, haste because he tried to stop us. We needn't have worried, he didn't do anything, just stood there hoovering in the kitchen. Surely if he loved her, loved me, he would have tried to stop us...surely?

It was me who reached out to open the door; it was me who first stepped inside the warm passageway, only another small door to go through and we'd be in. Mum's hand slipped from my shoulder, for the first time I realized how much the contact with her had supported me. I was fourteen, sensible, but the new surroundings, the whole of us being there, made me feel like five years old, wide eyed and so very helpless.

Mum pushed the door open. We were inside. It was then that I wanted to run, turn back, fight my way through the dead streets until I found my way home. This couldn't be me and mum staying here. If we went home now dad would be his old self, and he'd promise not to do it again. Yes that's what he'd do...he'd promise not to beat mum, not to pull her around the room. He'd promise not to come to my room when he's temper was still hot, while I pretended to sleep, mum hiding tightly under the covers in her room, her eyes shut tight, her ears blocked up, her breathing silent, while she lay there, scared, shivering her her band. for if she moved, made a sound, she knew there was no one to come.

When he left my room my bruises could match mum's, but they were not displayed on my face. I didn't cry, I didn't make a sound...for your sake mum. I don't want you to come and rescue me, not when you were safely under the covers...so I just lay there.

A lady appeared from an inside doorway. I couldn't describe her, because she was all misty, because I was crying now. Mum's arms came around my shoulder, that loving feeling came back into our both needled. I'll tell mum about dad, not now though, much, much later. He's slapping away from my mind, further and further. I can't see him, and I don't want to see him again, but if I ever do, all I will ask is 'Why?'

I don't want to see him again— but if I ever do all I'll ask him is WHY?

By Monica B.

Why? I don't know. I can't help it.

THE END
NEWS ... WHAT'S HAPPENED?

The Karens - A matrilineal Tribe.

One day we decided to find out what the word 'matrilineal' means. In lots of books they say that there are no matrilineal societies.

But then the next day I (Jo) met Rachel who had just come back from Thailand where she had been staying with the Karens who are ... guess what? A Matrilineal group. The family Rachel stayed with were the grandmother (whose house and land it was) and her 10 children (9 men and 1 woman). The 9 men had all gone off to other families to get married and the daughter stayed there with her husband and 2 kids.

The ritual of marriage is that the prospective husband comes to live with the family of his 'intended' for a period of 2 years which is a trial to see if he will be a good enough husband. If he passes he can stay.

When married the man and woman take turns looking after the kids and working in the fields and the woman owns all the property.

So we reckon that a matrilineal society is one where women have the power because they own the land and her daughters are more important than her sons. And they do exist, because Rachel says so. Ha!

So there we are. There ARE Matrilineal societies in the world and obviously the anthropologists who write books about things are all complete shitheads who want to keep us women ignorant about our more dominant sisters in case perhaps we complain.

In 1980 two young women from Kings Heath, Birmingham, were taken to Yemen & sold in marriage for £1,300 each by their father. Nadia & Yana, then aged 14 & 15, & their mother knew nothing about their father's plan until they arrived. They were forced to have sex with their husbands & kept seperate from each other. Their mother, Miriam Ali, engaged in a seven year struggle with the authorities in Britain & the Yemen to get her daughters back, but until Dec. 87 she seemed to be getting nowhere. Over Christmas though, some headway seemed to be made & countless papers gave the story headline coverage. By the time this issue comes out hopefully the matter will have been resolved, & the two women and their children will have been allowed to return home.

However, the issue here is not just the subordination of women by men, or the battle Miriam Ali was forced into with the two states concerned (or unconcerned). The whole case illustrates perfectly the hypocritical attitude of the media, the state & the British public in matters of nationality. Deportation is a major fear for many Black people living in the UK. The Nationality Act, under which people can be forced to leave Britain even if they have children & families here, is just one example of state racism. People should be allowed to live wherever they want, regardless of their colour or place of birth. So when the Press starts talking about "British girls" fighting for the right to return to their "homeland" - ask yourself: who decides who's British?

There's a familiar saying, "lesbians are everywhere", and news has just reached us at Shocking Pink 2 of a lesbian centre in Japan. The Regumi Studio Tokyo (R.S.T.) opened on March 1st 1987. The aim of the centre is to stop lesbians feeling isolated, so they organize activities, hold parties and provide a help-line. The centre there is also a library and information network.

The idea for R.S.T. came up at a dyke weekend, & the idea soon caught on and 20 Japanese lesbians (what age?) got involved with the planning. A suitable place for the centre was found and within 4 months R.S.T. opened its doors.

The dyke weekends started in November '85. They are organised by different groups of volunteers every 3 or 4 months. The activities vary ranging from workshops and discussions to live music and videos. One of the highlights of the weekend being a traditional Japanese communal bath before bedtime. Sounds like a good idea to me! Does anyone know of any dyke weekends a bit closer to home?

If you have any news or information about lesbians around the world please send it S.P.2. here at SP (2) we've just remembered that we were going to take a van to Amsterdam over Christmas. Well, very unfortunately the wheels have fallen off our van, and we are left to ask you "OUR VAN? That's the first I've heard about us having a van—the typist) and the axle is quite rusty, so we have to wait till Easter.
I know this is my cousin's wedding and June is my favourite cousin—but I hate weddings.

Poor Dad is expecting me to wear some complimentary little dress. He won't know what's hit him!

What's she on about? Well... I like Weddings anyway.

Nearly Maf! I hate the hypocrisy—they never even go to church—an' because it's a 'White Wedding'. Everyone assumes they'll live happily ever after! RUBBISH.

And Later...

Well, you look great
But DM's?? TO A WEDDING??

Why Not? It'll liven it up a bit.
You're right there.

They'd stopped outside a bridalwear shop...

I'm going to be a bride one day
I'll meet a handsome bloke... and I'll wear white with pink flowers.

What's the girl doing NOW?

Heaven knows
What I DO know is that
if we don't get a move on soon we
won't be in time.

Eventually Becky came back...

And where the hell have they been signing a petition against the David Alton Bill to stop abortions after 18 weeks.

And a good thing too!
Becky shouldn't know about these things at her age—let alone Donna.

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* DM's = Doctor Martin Boots with bouncing soles.
HERE'S SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR GIRLS WHO LOVE GOOD MUSIC

Women in Music

For those of you that don't like reading, here is a summary of the main points:

1. The Deadly Serious Sisters. The nameless Liverpool Group and Hope Augustus are good women.
2. If you like singing, that's nice.
3. Everything is political.

The point of this blurb is not for me to gawk at, but to try and prove that it's better to support women singers who are not famous, rather than those who are.

The Deadly Serious Sisters, a group of young women from Edinburgh, As well as being cyclists, psychiatric nurses, community drama workers and chambermaids, they sing delightful songs that prove being a popstar does not involve prancing around being very precious. Their politics are fundamentalist, futuristic, altruistic, left and other things existing in 80's including magic. They have all got hairy legs and ulterior motives, so if you want to support a very nice thing, then do.

The Deadly Serious Sisters can be contacted through Louise at 7, Orange Loan, Edinburgh EH9 1NP.

The Nameless Liverpool Group are a hairy-legged shambling lot who are extremely nice and smoke roll-ups cigarettes. They're a slightly diverse bunch, but the important thing is about them are: a) They have no idea when they're together, especially in public places. They make up their own words then jam them to music.

b) They are all left wing, and believe that you have to work for a cause, but within that they know the meaning of pleasure. c) They're an interneural and lesbian group, and when they're not putting time into the band, pastimes and leisure interests include dance, drama, art, writing, feminism, community work, travelling and shoplifting, not necessarily in that order. d) They're a shining example of how easy it is to get together with a group of friends and make music do it, and sneaking on at the interval in other bands' gigs.

Soope, don't be taken in by this stardom stuff, you don't need wild ambitions or glitterbass, just yourself.

The Nameless Liverpool Group can be contacted through Sarah, Suzanne or Leah at 12 Devonshire Rd, Sefton Park, Liverpool.
After months of complicated negotiations with her manager, we traced down Hope Augustus, a 23-year-old black singer. Hope comes from Nottingham, where there's a lively community spirit, because of things like the girl guides. At twenty she left Nottingham (possibly because she foresaw how traumatic the Nottingham miners were to be in the strike?) and headed for the bright lights of London. Her parents get very excited when she's on TV and in the theatre, 'they think I'm at the fucking Palladium every week!' Most of the time being a singer is extremely hard, you only wear the make-up on stage, you have to be tough to deal with the big shots'... (does she mean the capitalist managers?)... 'you can't be poncy o, act like mamam glam.' But you can use your influence and power to change things if you're a mega-star, which Hope is, in Shocking Pink's eyes. Hope chooses to stay out of issues and campaigns, although she often plays benefit gigs. She doesn't want to get labelled as political because then you get into a rut. Talking of ruts, the 80's is one big rut with all the designers, 'socialism shit.' Hope thinks if she could choose an era to be a star in, it would have been the 70's; 'there was motown, 70's soul, I would've enjoyed being a star in the 70's. Image-wise it was much free, with bands like Sade, Wizard, Queen and The Drifters (all men we note). The pop industry now is just robotic.' Are you surprised that England has never produced a famous black vocalist? 'No, not in the least.' Women in music are forced into the current pop mould, and an all-women band is seen as 'wow' and unusual, just because they get along just fine without a man. According to Hope, 'any fool can see that females in showbiz are not favoured much, unless of course they promote the smouldering sex image.' Black women particularly are only stars if they are Sade lookalikes, or if they sink about powered by animal urges like Grace Jones.
Young Women
How the new will affect

...are both a bit embarrassed about it all (ie 'sex') and aren't sure what to do...

Jane says ok - she wants to do it but she's a bit shy... so is Steven...

They decide to go to bed together...

So they end up having sexual intercourse without any contraception...

...for a long time Jane didn't...

In the end Jane told her friend Debbie who was very sympathetic and told her about the Brook, where a doctor talked to her...

And she decided to have an abortion...

But by now it was almost 4 months (or 16 wks.) since Jane + Steven had sex...

But Jane had to do something because she found out she was pregnant...

I can't tell mum cos she'll say I'm dirty and stupid...

I can't tell mum cos she'll say I'm dirty and stupid...

So by the time Jane had the abortion she was well over Alton's proposed limit.

Delay
Delay
Delay
Delay
HOW THE NEW ABORTION BILL WILL AFFECT YOU!

The new abortion bill, as we've mentioned before, is yet another attack on women's rights. It is proposed by David Alton (Lib MP) that the abortion time limit be cut to 18 weeks from 28 weeks as it is now.

This means that if you suddenly find you're pregnant, and you don't think you can cope with 18 years of motherhood with all its problems, then government says, 'tough shit'. If we don't stand and fight this bill now, back street abortions could be the only alternative for many working class women in the future.

Some facts prior to the 1967 Abortion Act

⋆ In 1938 a Sheffield woman was sentenced to 21 months hard labour for performing 8 abortions on women.

⋆ A common result from back street abortions was a slow death from sepsis followed by acute blood poisoning.

⋆ In 1939 a working class Derby woman with 10 kids died after an illegal abortion. She was 36 and had spent most of her married life pregnant or recovering from pregnancy.

This issue is not, is abortion right or wrong?, but it is a question of a woman's right to choose.

CAN WE ALLOW OUR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS TO BE TAKEN AWAY FROM US?!
A new Homosexuality clause (27) had its third reading on Tuesday the 15th of December. Whilst the clause was being debated, Gay rights campaigners booed the bastard tory MPs, and for the first time in 23 years the people in the gallery were thrown out on to the streets. The Clause will make it illegal for councils to fund or support anything for Lesbians and gays. It will also be illegal to show any positive images of homosexuality in schools. This would mean that there would be no services whatsoever for lesbians and gays (no books, groups, pride carnivals etc).

For more information on how you can get involved in the campaign against the bill, contact O.L.G.A.

'A local authority shall not:
(a) promote homosexuality or publish material for the promotion of homosexuality;
(b) promote the teaching in any maintained school of the acceptability of homosexuality as a pretended family relationship by the publication of such material or otherwise;
(c) give financial or other assistance to any person for either of the purposes referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) above.'

'This is 'the clause' as it stands...

This is the amendment (which was defeated...)

Michael Howard, Minister for Local Government, derided a book called 'Faithlines', which he said had been listed in an ILEA bibliography, about a family of a lesbian mother, her lover and a black childminder, living with their children 'and 300 rabbits'.

A last minute clause to the Local Government Bill made it on the committee stage on Tuesday at the House of Commons vili, if it becomes law, means:
- the abolition of all local authority lesbian and gay units
- the collapse of lesbian and gay voluntary services primarily funded by local councils
- the closure of places like the grant-aided lesbian and gay centre
- the end of the right to use local authority services for conferences and events
- the banning of material in schools giving accurate information about homosexuality
- the gagging of lesbian and gay teachers who will be prevented from speaking out about their lives
- the end of local authority funding for any gay initiatives on AIDS

- Gay Youth Help Service 37
  Rosemary House 53 Runnymede Green
  London SE4 3AX 01 590 2857

- CHA: 01-833-3912
- OLGA: 01-833-3860

'Can I please be invisible?'

This is what Lesbians and Gay Men stand to lose.
Advice & information on un/employment

Telephone: 01 587 1636
Or write: Room 203, Southbank House, Black Prince Rd, London, SE1 7SJ.

WE LOVE SALLY BULL thanks Sally, for letting us use your photos in issue 1 and we didn’t even say cheers. So we have now. And also Clare Collison, who gave us lots of piccies too.

The Unseen Dreams of Clara Riley by Kathy Page. Virago £3.95. Clara is a young woman in Victorian Britain. This novel shows the prejudice and hostility against women having abortions. It was illegal then to have an abortion and it was only possible for Clara to get one because her employer is a siffregante. Everything changed (the Suffragette) and Clara was able to keep secret from society and her husband. Christina supports a home for young women which she has to keep secret from her husband’s employer. Their husbands find out about Clara’s abortion and both are punished according to society’s laws. Christina is put into a mental hospital and Clara thrown into jail. This novel shows how even when women need abortions, they are punished (Alton) and sometimes made to feel guilty. It is a serious book but the two women are really good and you’ll like them.

Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit by Jeannette Winterson. Pandora £4.50. It’s strange I’ve only just noticed this but Oranges... is another book with made-up stories running through the main events. Who cares who? I think we should be wild. Anyway, apart from that this is a very different book, well actually it’s not. But it’s about growing up and finding out about yourself and it’s also autobiographical. set in Lancashire and Scotland and it’s got lots of the same but it’s also funny, silly, Mick Winters on a Saturday morning.

Lesbian Employment Rights

LESBIAN
EMPLOYMENT
RIGHTS

Advice & information on un/employment

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Westminster College Ltd
A BOARD GAME FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS BASED ON AN ARTICLE BY PIMLICO SCHOOL STUDENTS UNION

INSTRUCTIONS:
MAKE A DICE OUT OF CARD BOARD
MINIMUM OF TWO PLAYERS NO CHEATING.

1. YOU FEEL STUDENTS HAVE LITTLE REPRESENTATION MOVE ON TO SQ. 4

2. UNABLE TO JOIN THE NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS START AGAIN

3. NATIONAL UNION OF SCHOOL STUDENTS ABOLISHED IN 1986 MISS A TURN UHH-HUH!

4. RACIAL + SEXUAL ATTACKS ON STUDENTS

5. KENNETH BAKER IS A BASTARD MOVE ON TO TWO SQUARES

6. A UNION WILL GIVE STUDENTS A VOICE IN CURRENT AFFAIRS YEAH

7. YOU SEE THE POWER OF STUDENT UNIONS IN FRANCE SOUTH AFRICA MOVE ON 5 SQS

8. IN PARIS IS A GROUP OF PREVIOUSLY SEXIST SCHOOL-BOYS BROKE INTO A GIRLS PRIMARY SCHOOL SHOUTING "LIBERATION POUR LES FILLES!!"

9. ALL STUDENTS NOT JUST FURTHER EDUCATION STUDENTS SHOULD HAVE A VOICE IN CURRENT AFFAIRS

10. SETTING UP A UNION IS TIME CONSUMING STAY ON THIS SQUARE FOR TWO TURNS NO CHEATING!

14. GO TO HEAD TO SEE IF S/HE OBJECTS. IF S/HE DOES GO ON TO 15. IF NOT GO ON TO 16

13. SPEAK TO ANOTHER MEMBER YOU LIKE TO FIND OUT HOW MUCH INTEREST THERE IS.

11. OTHER SCHOOLS NOT INTERESTED GO BACK ONE SPACE

27. "ITS BASICALLY A GOOD IDEA" MOVE ON ONE SQUARE

28. "THE UNION GIVES PUPILS A SENSE OF BELONGING SOLIDARITY" MOVE ON ONE SQUARE

29. "THERE'S A LOT OF INTEREST SO IT'S WORTHWHILE" GO ON TO 31

30. "A UNION IS AN IDEALISTIC ENTITY THAT NEVER GETS OFF THE GROUND" IF YOU ARE A UNION MISS A TURN

31. "YIPPEE FORWARD TO THE REVOLUTION"

32. CONGRATULATIONS HAVE A PARTY & MOVE ON TO LAST SQ.

34. OR WRITE TO US AT: SHOCKING PINK 55 ACRE LANE DX PROGRAMME PIMLICO SCH 5TH FLOOR LONDON SW1 TEL: 01-926-6099

35. YOU WANT TO SWAP IDEAS CONTACT: CAREA TROT 55 ACRE LANE PIMLICO SCH LONDON SW1 3AT

36. ADDRESS N.SOUTH THAMES COLLEGE WANDSWORTH HIGH SCHOOL LONDON SW18 TIME-CONSUMING MISS A TURN

37. "CONGRATULATIONS" HAVE A PARTY & MOVE ON TO LAST SQ.

21. HOLD A PRELIMINARY MEETING FOR ALL THOSE INTERESTED TO SEE WHAT YOU'RE ABOUT

22. JOIN UP NEW RECRUITS MOVE ON TO 23

23. WRITE TO THE NUS TO PROTEST AGAINST THE FACT THAT SCHOOL STUDENTS CAN'T JOIN UNLESS THE 6th FORM IS IN A DIFFERENT BUILDING FROM THE REST OF THE SCHOOL

17. DECIDE ON AN OFFICIAL BODY THEN IT WILL BE STRUCTURED HEAD FEET ARMS LEGS

18. DECIDE YOUR AIMS + OBJECTIVES TUT TUT! YOU SHOULD HAVE DONE THIS 4 SQS AGO!! MISS A TURN

19. MAKE AN ATTRACTIVE JOINING PACKAGE FOR NEW MEMBERS

20. DECLARE YOURSELVES A UNION WE ARE A UNION!

21. MK YOURSELF A UNION

16. IF HEAD OBJECTS - IGNORE IT! YEAH!

15. IF HEAD OBJECTS - IGNORE IT! ANARCHY!

14. GO TO HEAD TO SEE IF S/HE OBJECTS. IF S/HE DOES GO ON TO 15. IF NOT GO ON TO 16

12. OTHER SCHOOLS NOT INTERESTED GO BACK ONE SPACE

10. SETTING UP A UNION IS TIME CONSUMING STAY ON THIS SQUARE FOR TWO TURNS NO CHEATING!
"Dictators"

by Annette Kertan

"You can't really afford not to have one"

'What can it be?' you cry ... It is, of course, yet another fashion item being sold to you; this time the little black dress.

I seemed to have managed quite well for fifteen years without one, but suddenly I'm told I must have one because it's the 'in thing'. For how long will it be 'in', I wonder? Is this really a free society? Sometimes it seems like we are living under a dictatorship.

Pick up any popular teen mag and you'll find in it a whole list of appearance rights and wrongs, images which are 'in' or 'out' and a whole multitude of tips to enable you to be hip. Special editions boast, 'this week we show you how to look like your fave star..' Oh big wow! Is it really necessary to to know how to transform yourself into a Pepsi and Shirlie lookalike?

Those magazines seem to think so, and they'll tell you, 'patch your jeans for extra street cred.' Yet only a month later when the new seasons fashions begin to fill the shops, the hypocrits will announce, 'put those tatty old jeans back in the wardrobe, pleated skirts are the order of the day.'

It's just mass advertising, conning impressionable teenagers into the belief that new fashion products are essential, so that the fashion industry can make money, thrive and manufacture yet more products giving the magazine something more to write about next week. But have you seen the prices? We all know fashions change with the weather. It's becoming harder and harder for ordinary people to afford these supposed essentials, and look at the lengths people will go just to obtain the latest expensive style.

The magazines are obsessed with telling us how the world is—hair must look like this, girls and boys do this, families are like this, etc. etc. --- creating stereotypes and pigeon holes for people to fit into. They are using their communication power to indoctrinate a generation.

Yet if you turn to the problem pages and advice columns of the same mags you find people who are suicidal because they are gay, handicapped, not the spitting image of the model of the model on the cover, or because they can't master the new eye-shadow technique featured in last week's publication. At this rate the world will soon be taken over by the empty-headed likes of Mandy Smith, and there will be no individuals left.
PEACEFUL PUNKS

"We've got our first gig on Friday—you've got to go! You will go won't you? And bring as many mates as you can. It's down the Devil's Boot. See ya!"

"Yeah sure I'll go—I won't get beaten up will I though?" I shrieked as they started sprinting away, baring with excitement and alcohol.

"No, they're peaceful punks and hippies; you'll be alright."

And they were gone. I had to go really. I'd known Matt since playgroup and he was nice, so I felt I owed it to him. I, by the way, am a short and weedy looking Pakistani girl. I've never been beaten up as such, but I've been spat at a couple of times, and pushed about and had a few other experiences, minor, but nasty enough thank you. So I had my doubts about anyone who looked vaguely menacing. Tim and Matt both had Mohican, but they just looked sweet. They had sort of fluffy lumps of mulicoloured stuff stuck in a line along their heads. I decided to risk it: I would go the gig, but I was going to take a lot of mates with me. Anne, Kirsty (she was big!), Allison and Julie (she does judo), all agreed to go.

Friday night approached, I wasn't terrified or anything, but I had a niggly little worry in the back of my mind, of ending up in hospital with broken arms and legs and ribs...

"I don't want to go in! Look you lot go and I'll just sit out here, ok?"

So they just grabbed my arms and shoved me in through the door telling me I was paranoid and I'd never get through life treating everyone as my potential assassin. The girl at the door smiled at me as she took my money and stamped my hand with a library thingy: September 24th: my cat's birthday. There were an awful lot of tall people in there. They looked pretty scruffy and their hair was either coiffured into weird shapes and dyed with rainbow colours or just dyed black and left dangling about.

It shocked me but I knew half the people there. They'd gone to my school (grammar) and had an average of ten 'O'Levels each.

By Nain.

"This is very moving and upsetting and will stir a lot of people."

Tanya.

I didn't know the girl sitting next to me, but she offered me a fag and asked me to stand up for a minute because I was sitting on her coat. She seemed harmless enough actually. Tim and Matt's band were on next. They were really good, dead loud and I couldn't hear a single thing other than their music. Anne and me went to buy a drink and got chatting to some friends. There were some lads standing nearby—their hair was pretty amazing and their clothes were sort of scruffy looking, but if you looked closely, you could see that everything they had on was really clean and ironed, and ripped quite tastefully. They smelt nice too, I thought I detected some 'Lacoste' aftershave.

I wondered fleetingly how I would look with a hairdo like that, and with every square centimetre of my ear pierced. My mum wouldn't like it. She wouldn't kick me out or anything but she wouldn't take me shopping with her ever again, I know that much. My gran has got high blood pressure and if she ever saw me, it could do irreparable damage. She'd start to pray for me, and blame it on the insanity that runs on my Grandad's side of the family.

No one had done any damage so I decided I was going to come to another one of these gigs, as soon as possible. A couple of weeks later, I met Matt down the High Street.

"What's this then?" and he prodded my nose. I blushed. I had a brand new 24 carat gold stud through my nose. Well, my gran wouldn't mind, she shouldn't anyway "cos back in Pakistan all my aunts and cousins and both my Grans have got theirs done too.

Her hair is brighter than their future
MULTICOLOURED!

TONS OF TASTY BOYS!

(Yum yum!

8 PAGES PACKED WITH ROMANCE
Dear worried Jackie reader,

Your only solution before you're drawn completely into the sugar-candied world of photo mags is to subscribe to Shocking Pink. Go to your doctor and she'll be able to help you, also don't forget to tell your mum. I know that you don't want to, you say that she'll be angry but she'll also be able to help you through this difficult period in your life.

Ellie.

DearEllie,

I'm very interested in the ideas of feminism, especially the marxist analysis of the oppression of women in society. I'm thinking of becoming an anarchosyndicalist, although maybe revolutionary socialism is the real answer. Can you help? Anxious, Birmingham.

Dear Ellies,

I think I'm abnormal. I'm a 14 year old girl and I fancy my best friend at school. I haven't told her how I feel because I'm afraid that she won't talk to me again.

Ashamed, Scotland.

Dear Ashamed,

Yes you're completely abnormal but don't worry, this phase that you're going through will soon pass and you will start going out with lots of hunky blokes (unless you're really ugly).

Ellie.

Dear Ellie,

I have so many spots and I don't know how to control them. I've tried creams and lotions but they didn't seem to work. Can you help? Ah—Ha fan, Plastow.

Dear Spotty,

I'm afraid there's nothing you can do. We can't all look like the Jackie cover girls, and I think you must be one of life's unfortunates who doesn't. But I don't think that this is your main problem, your main worry should be you liking such a shitty group as Ah—Ha and reading Jackie.

Ellie.

SHOCKING PINK QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Do you belong to any of the following organisations?
   - Young women's group
   - Lesbian group
   - Political party. Please state
   - No
   - Other. Please state

2. Did you buy Shocking Pink from...
   - Bookshop
   - Demo/picket
   - Subscription
   - Us
   - Other. Please state

3. Did you buy the old S.P?
   - Yes
   - No
   - Seen old copies

4. What age group are you?
   - Under 13
   - 13 - 17
   - 18 - 25
   - 25 - 30
   - Over 30

5. Who bought S.P?
   - You
   - Friend
   - Parent/guardian

6. Do you think S.P is:
   - Good
   - Very good
   - Extremely good
   - Superbly brilliant
   - Shit

7. Why did you buy S.P?
   - Hassled into it
   - Too drunk to realise
   - Don't know

8. What do you think is/will happen to the women's movement?
   - What women's movement?
   - Moving rightwards
   - Doesn't exist
   - Intrinsically linked to the left and will re-emerge in the international socialist revolution

9. Would you describe yourself as:
   - Feminist
   - Communist
   - Marxist
   - Socialist
   - Leninist
   - Trotskyist
   - Feminist socialist
   - Trotskyist socialist
   - Marxist leninist
   - Feminist communist
   - Marxist socialist
   - Communist socialist
   - Feminist communist marxist
   - Marxist leninist trotskyist
   - Anarchist—feminist
   - Anarcho—marxist
   - Anarcho—communist
   - Anarcho—syndicalist
   - Terrorist
   - Right-wing shitbag
   - Politically confused
   - Other. Please state

10. When will the socialist revolution take place?
    - Jan.10, 1987
    - June 11, 1989
    - Other. Please state
    - When I'm dead

Thank you for your co-operation in answering this questionnaire; any further comments you may have made here.
Hi there! Ever wondered how to look like the cover models in Girl? Easy, just follow our A-Z of Beauty starting this week. We give you all the tips to look good and feel fit. And when you’re pleased with the result, get someone to take a photo of you and send it in to this page. If you’re featured in Face to Face, we’ll send you £4. Sound like a good deal? Then get cracking!
We've all got something we don't like about ourselves, whether it's a big nose, double chin or bags under our eyes!

The average age of a Jackie reader is 12.

She is told 22 times in each issue to buy more make-up.

Jackie has a special beauty editor called Jan.

If your skin resembles the colour of slush and feels about as healthy as a wedge of borscht then you need help!

From "Jackie" 1987

Making-up!

It's worth investing in some new make-up to last you through the winter months.

Says "Jackie" 1987

Harmless fun?

Not really - this ice cream looks too much like a penis....

Make-up/put-down for girls

On sale in Britain now is a new product from N.Amercia, make-up for girls children. Women Against Violence Against Women are protesting at this latest attack on girls' sense of well-being. It is not harmless fun, as face-paints, but an introduction to her role as a sexual object for men's pleasure.

In workshops girls from 5 years onwards are taught how to apply it. They are asked "hang up anyone who's completely happy with how they look"! .. WHAT OUTRAGE!!

That girls of any age should be made to feel less ... less than some 'ideal' image ... less than beautiful ... without having chemical gunk painted on their faces.

Wherever we go we are surrounded by advertising, media, record covers, "art" etc where images of women are limited to those defined as beautiful by white men. The 'ideal' woman in advertising is usually young, white, able-bodied, heterosexual and middle class. Images of girls follow the same lines. The further we are from this image, the less we are represented. On the rare occasions that Black women and women of colour are shown, it is as more exotic and mysterious models. Lesbians and women/girls with disabilities are not represented at all in advertising.

"We've been conned!"
"WE'RE BEING CONNED!"

Make-up is part of our acceptable image. It is intended to make us appear more sexual and more appealing to men.
- Lips can be reddened for fullness and colour to simulate aroused vulva tips.
- Eyes can be darkened, enlarged, elongated to give effect... startled, innocent, passive, submissive, seductive.
- Lashes may be lengthened, coloured, curled and fluttered for a vulnerable doe-like impression.
- Blusher is for 'youth' and 'innocence'.

Fashions may change according to the current male idea of beauty. The message however remains the same... to be 'sexy', 'beautiful' and 'successful' (and so to get a man) a woman's natural appearance is not enough.
Some of the harmful effects of the pressure put on us to use make-up include;
- Increased self consciousness of appearance.
- Feeling 'unattractive' without make-up.
- Becoming more 'passive' & 'feminine' (similar effect to other oppressive fashions such as high heels and tight skirts)
- Discouraging girls from running round and letting out high spirits. In case they smudge their mascara/lipstick.
- Being forced to be sexual objects reinforces competitiveness between girls & assumes all girls are heterosexual. Why?

\[\text{In N. America, there are many child pornography magazines where girls are made up to be more women-like.}\]

MAKE-UP FOR GIRLS ONLY MAKES US INTO OBJECTS AND HUMILIATES GIRLS FROM AN EVER YOUNGER AGE. Girls will experience sexual harassment at an earlier age and even rape. Although rape is to do with power and humiliation of females by males and not 'uncontrollable sexual desires' there are links between child sexual abuse, incest and young girls being dressed up as sex objects.
- We must put an end to the way they make young women look sexy and pretty at such a young age. It's dangerous...

WE MUST ACT NOW!!

What you can do
- Join our demonstrations
- Complete to any store stocking make-up for girls
- Say NO to porn and other ways that men oppress women
- Join/start a WAVA (women against violence against women) group

\[\text{Central London WAVA is a radical women's group open to all feminists who want to oppose male violence. Our weekly meetings are on Wednesdays at 7pm at A Woman's Place, Hungerford House, Victoria Embankment, London WC2. Tel 01 930 1805 7.30pm Wednesdays.}\]

MADE-UP FOR GIRLS ONLY MAKES US INTO OBJECTS AND HUMILIATES GIRLS FROM AN EVER YOUNGER AGE.

Central London WAVA is a radical women's group open to all feminists who want to oppose male violence. Our weekly meetings are on Wednesdays at 7pm at A Woman's Place, Hungerford House, Victoria Embankment, London WC2. Tel 01 930 1805 7.30pm Wednesdays.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 1 IN 4 WOMEN ARE SEXUALLY ABUSED WITHIN THE FAMILY

"JACKIE" IGNORES THIS

I.ORAINE McCulloch

"I wrote to Jackie for a new look because I think I need one!"

Look what they gave her!!
The best thing about Jackie is that feeling of total control.

This is your first read of Jackie. Thrilling, isn’t it? And things can get a lot worse.

No-one ever thinks Jackie will end up controlling them. But when it does, it’s not a pretty sight.

You lie, you start to live not for yourself anymore but for boys, you’re even prepared to steal boys from your best friends.

Your face, your body and your mind get messed up. And if you ever get tempted to go out with a boy (which a surprising number of people do) you’re in danger of catching AIDS. If that happens, that could be your whole life down the toilet.

JACKIE ISN’T WORTH IT
Sindy's Fashion Fun

Cheerleader's outfit designed by Amy Miller of Torquay.

Work-out kit designed by Victoria Main of Hillingdon, Middlesex.

Leotard with skirt and accessories designed by Karen Parkin of Halifax.

LEIGHHAMP WOMAN KIT DESIGNED BY A. DINE OF LONDON
To Shocking Pink:
I'm Tracey. I am 17 years old and I've been in a wheelchair since birth. I think I became disabled before I was born. I found out about the Girls Night at the local youth club from one of the workers at Anthony House where I live. Anthony House is a further education residential college for young people with different disabilities. The Girls Night is the only place I go on my own in the evenings. The first time I went to girls night I was quite nervous because I didn't know how people would react to me being in a wheelchair—I didn't know if they would accept me. They HAVE accepted me and I like being with other girls and getting to know them. One of the best things I've done at the Girls Night was go Ice Skating. I was really excited when I heard I could go on the ice in my wheelchair with the other girls. I felt I had more freedom and it felt really nice to be whizzed around on the ice. I like it here with just girls as I can talk more easily. If there are boys around I get nervous and can't seem to talk much. I've made lots of new friends at the Girls Night and I recommend it for anyone.

TRACEY FROM SEAFORD GIRLS NIGHT.
Much later, after the reception, came the disco. Donna—What did you think of the fair bride and wedding? Bit of a farce.

Great! And my mum and dad would kill me if they knew I'd been drinking.

If you wanna dance, love... I agreed...

Donna went outside...

I seem to have aged today... I've learnt so much... Life is not as it seems.

* And why am I wearing a swimming costume?
SHOCKING PINK AND GILLC

We got a letter from the BEEFSTEAK the other day, inviting us to be on a chat show about the age of consent. WOOO, we thought, a chance to get to grips with Gillick's nasty oneliner on an in public place (not to mention the free books). Not at all—the show, Kitter, was a chance for Kathy Kitter to speak talk and prance about like James Bond showing off his tan. The REAL ISSUES have been completely avoided. Still, like, I mean, Kitter has a large house, is permanently unittested and left the Labour Party over the Mennonite scandal in Liverpool. What's more, the maudie audience turned out to be predominantly a collection of minority schoolboys, pleasure-seeking Stone and Ms. Gillick's cronies.

Despite Kitter's best attempts to control the chaos, young women with children (demographically referred to as the mothers), non-hetero, and the sustainalist female/male couple aged 16 and 43 respectively, were pretty much ignored.

So the real chance for a good go-krae-up debate was lost, homosexual sex was not brought up at all, so we never found out if lesbians actually exist, which is a shame because we're not quite sure. The mainstream once again indulged in its obsession with the mythical 'lesbian man' (not to change into our girl's pantie). Whilst incest, rape and child abuse, all of which occur in most cases within the family or friendships, weren't explored. Once again we were encouraged to believe that it is up to the law to protect a girl's sacro sanctity, because she is too silly to choose for herself.

The Potty Kitten (who?) lookalike (can't remember her name) and her sensation kitten friend were placed in the front view of the cameras to remind us what happens if we decide to sleep with men and we're not 16. So what do happen? Name all over The Sun and lots of publicity. Perhaps SP it should try?

Although we were almost definitely dragged in as the token 'lesbians' (we found out later that this was a rumour) the Be Master had scouted us to talk in the show, long before we knew about it. Lots made the door with her comment. People ARE going to sleep with each other whatever the law says. She got tumorous applause and we were driven to The Fallen Angel feeling very happy.

We also gave Ms. Gillick a copy of the mag and agreed we had 'a lot in common'.

**LEICESTER**

Dear Shocking Pink,

I enclose cuttings from our local paper “Leicester Mercury” which I thought you might like to print. I think it's appalling that men can get away with crimes like this against girls & women. The cuttings actually have a change, the names are omitted, addresses of the men responsible, so readers could trace whatever action they thought appropriate. I think the problem with blacks through windshield type action (apart from getting caught) is that it also unfortunately hits at the female members of these 'sissy' families if there are any. There's no justice for women is there!

Yours in sisterhood,

A concerned mother.

Mr. David Price, prosecuting, said the girl had been talking to the men in a shelter while they were drinking heavily.

He said Butler exposed himself several times to the girl and when she walked away he grabbed her from behind.

**CLUBS & NIGHTCLUBS**

- **RAPE HOTLINE**
  - LONDON 01 837 1600
  - BIRMINGHAM 021 238 2120
  - BRIGHTON 0273 703 775
  - BRISTOL 0272 483 331
  - LEEDS 0534 495 950
  - MANCHESTER 061 228 3902
  - NORWICH 0206 697 597
  - CHELTENHAM 0629 364 314
  - LONDON 01 222 2500

- **CPotential**
  - LEICESTER 0533 794 250
  - N.DUDLEY 0905 283 100
  - N.WEST ALBION 0533 603 920
  - CANTERBURY 0332 383 360
  - LEEDS 0534 495 950
  - MANCHESTER 061 228 3902
  - NORWICH 0206 697 597
  - CHELTENHAM 0629 364 314

- **CUMBRIA 0252 36500**
  - (Mon) 1300/2pm, Wed 27/10pm
  - GRAY'S THURSFORD 0375 392 360
  - LEEDS 0534 495 950
  - MANCHESTER 061 228 3902
  - NORWICH 0206 697 597
  - CHELTENHAM 0629 364 314

- **CLUBS N' PUBS()**
  - Sappho's (women only), every Friday, upstairs bar at Rembrandt's, Sackville street, Manchester. Open till midnight.
  - The Victoria (men only), Handman street (off Deansgate), Manchester. First Sat of the month disco run by Lesbian Link. Open till 2am (no entry after 9pm).
  - New York, New York, upstairs the Bronx, 9th Street, Manchester, open till 2am.
  - The Number One Club (mixed), Central street, Manchester. Mon-Sat 10.00pm-2.00am.
  - Eve's Revenge, first Thursday of every month at The Fridge, Brixton. The Fallen Angel, Graham street, Angel, London. Every Tuesday women only.

- **If you want to know what's on, need help, or just phone up for a chat** call the Lesbian Line on 01 253 6911 (Mon and Fri 2-10pm, Tues, Wed, Thurs 7-10pm) or write to them: Lesbian Line BM Box 1514 London WC1N 3XH.
  - Manchester Gay Youthline (under 25's), Sat 12-4pm, Sundays 11.30am-4pm, 061 247 3066. Gay Advice and counselling service.
  - Manchester gay youth group (under 25's), Sat 12-4pm, Sun 11.30am-4pm, 061 247 3066. Gay Advice and counselling service.

- **LONDON**
  - E1034 305 325, Thurs 7-9pm, Doctors, London, 091 261 0773.
  - E1030 305 755, Thurs 7-9pm, Doctors, London, 091 261 0773.
  - E1032 316 077, Wed 7-9pm, Doctors, London, 091 261 0773.
  - E1033 316 077, Wed 7-9pm, Doctors, London, 091 261 0773.
  - E1034 316 077, Wed 7-9pm, Doctors, London, 091 261 0773.

- **GROUPS**
  - Women's Social Group, 34. London, 091 261 0773.

- **DISABLED PEOPLE**
  - Disabled People's Federation, 1st Flr, 190 Borough High St, London SE1 8UN. 01 261 0773.
Don't miss the NEXT ISSUE:
Coming Soon:

S.P. party!!!!!!!! Saturday 20th February 88 for all the closet lesbians in the city. Mask party, come in fancy dress so no-one will recognise you. Starts at 5pm, meet outside the Embankment tube station. Come out in style!! Dress to shock. Please note this party will only take place if the government hasn't made it illegal to be lesbian, in which case we will be holding a women only party at the same place and same time.

- March 1st: Don't go to school/work. This is a day of action preparing for the revolution. Meet at Embankment at 12.30pm. March to Trafalger Sq, Rally includes Speakers R. Marx & R. Luxemburg. Bands Hanamama & Pepsi and Shirley.
- March 2nd: Occupy Parliament. (Women only event sponsored by the 300 group) By the way you might have noticed that the 300 group have stopped advertising with us. Elaine (their leader) says this is because we are TOO RADICAL. She also said that there are now 41 women in parliament, which, out of 650 MPs is 6.3%. And that women used to be 52% of the population but now they are only 51%. In her words 'of course, we haven't had any good wars to kill off all the blokes'. Personally I think this is a very flippant and cruel attitude to men and indeed to life. Anyway, it's good that they're organising this occupation of parliament. They also organise courses in public speaking and will send speakers if you want to hear what they have to say. Phone them on 01 734 2457.

FREE exclusive badge to anyone who gets stuff printed in the magazine from now on. What a bargain.

SONIA! OH MY GOD, WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING!

There'll be a lot of exciting distractions for you this week but don't forget the importance of sulking.

SILVER MOON WOMEN'S BOOKSHOP
- Central London's Feminist Bookshop
- For the BEST in women's writing
- Including a wide choice of Lesbian & Black women's writing
- Fast, efficient mail order service
- SILVER MOON QUARTERLY
- Records, tapes, jewellery, cards
- Bookstalls, Book boxes, Library supply
- Visit London - visit us!

68 CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON WC2H 0BB
TELEPHONE: 01 836 7966

THE SHOCKING PUBE COMPETITION
WE ARE MORTALLY DISAPPOINTED AT THE LENGTH OF THIS (1600 CHAR) IT IS IN FACT THREE TIMES THE SIZE OF THE "WINNER" AND THE MINIMUM FOR ENTRY IS 600 CHAR. PLEASE ENTER OUR "WIN THE LYNES & COLLECTIVE" COMPETITION.

- April 1st: By now the effects of the socialist revolution will be obvious. Everything you need will be free. Scientists will have developed a safe and effective form of birth control, everyone will have 4 times as much food as they need to survive, there will be no wars and no exploitation and we will all be ridiculously happy all of the time. There WILL be men around but they will not be as horrible as they are at the moment.
THERE'S EVERY REASON TO COOK

Have you ever noticed how in other girl's magazines they're always trying to make you feel guilty about eating? They either go on and on about how NAUGHTY it is to eat certain things (but how nice they are) or else they lecture about how if we want to look 'healthy' and 'attractive' we should stick to particular diets. No one hassles men about these kind of things; slimming magazines are always directed at men too—and even if they do advise diets for men it's left up to their wives/girlfriends/mothers to supervise their eating habits. (Is your man a Flora man?).

It's not surprising that so many young women (and older ones) have eating hang-ups when all the time we're bombarded with images of the 'perfect woman' (the what?). We're told that the way to achieve this state of perfection is to NOT EAT.

Eating is a way of showing your body that you love it and making yourself feel better, which is why a lot of women eat when they're feeling down. The only thing wrong with this is how guilty they feel afterwards—because in our society it's 'bad' for women to eat (ie. to love themselves). Many women fall into the habit of 'bingeing'—eating huge amounts in a fit of depression, experiencing pangs of self-hate and eating again to console themselves. This vicious circle is perpetuated in the vicious treatment of women's body image in the media.

For women, preparing food is also a required social skill, which is why women's magazines always have loads of articles about cooking in them, and why radical magazines like SPARE RIB (radical? HA!—the typesetter) don't carry recipes (anymore).

But in fact cooking is a good way of making food more interesting. It can be as creative or as functional as we choose, and as radical as we want to. It can be a way of sharing cultures and learning about other people's way of life or a way of making a point—if you're a vegetarian or vegan. Some religions have special eating rules like Kosher for Jews and Halal for Muslims. These are important cultural distinctions to those who keep to them.

There are even some very good books around about why it's O.K. to cook, even if you believe in women's liberation. 'Sassafrass, Cyprus and Indigo' is a novel about black women, with recipes included in the story from time to time, and 'Turning The Tables' is a feminist cookbook.

Anyway, what I really wanted to say is that it's cool to cook, and it's O.K. if you can't really decide or aren't very good at it. Just don't let anyone tell you that you definitely must or mustn't do it; especially not if their main reason is anything to do with you being a woman.

ROMANTIC CANDLELIT DINNER FOR ONE

INGREDIENTS: One candle
A table and chair
Crockery and cutlery
Lots of things you like to eat
These can be cooked or uncooked—about 4lbs of raw vegetables would suit me fine.

METHOD: Lay the table, light the candle, sit on the chair, eat the food, think about how much you love yourself! BON APPETIT!

TURNING THE TABLES: recipes and reflections from women, compiled by Sue O'Sullivan. Sheba £5.50.
SASSAFRASS, CYPRUS, and INDIGO: Ntozake Shange. Methuen £3.50.
IF...

The words just slipped out!
...Mum, I want to be a builder...

As soon as the words were out of his mouth Joe knew he'd made a terrible mistake.

Oops!

Ho Ho! Don't tease me, Joe. Darling! You're scared of heights!

And anyway you're a boy!

The word got round.
Wildfire!

Joe couldn't live it down...

At the breakfast table:

Ooh! (Ho Ho)
Joe wants to be a builder.

Oh! Have you heard the one about Joe? He wants to be a builder!

One petal! What a joker you are!

Don't take it so seriously, Joe. You only said it as a joke anyway didn't you.

Joe.

(He is rather small. We'll label him now in case you miss him.)

Granny was the only one who gave him any sort of encouragement.

The interviews proved traumatic, to say the least.

But boys are so disposable, changeable, so unreliable, and so small.

Look love, admire your girls, but I don't really think boys are cut out for demanding well-paid jobs like this...

Ooh... ok...

We haven't got any facilities for boys to change or for babies when they have them. Sorry.

Don't feel smaller than ever. He was the laughing stock of his friends and family.

On site life was hard.

Hey Joe, we can see right up your skirt!

Hi! There's Joe.

Hey Joe, we can see right up your skirt!

It's not worth it. The job has already lost me my self-respect and now it's losing me my girlfriend too.

Ha ha. Sheena won't be seen dead with Joe now. She was thinking of ditching him anyway, but she wouldn't be able to live this one down!

Fie fie!

If only someone like you stuck at it! It would be a great change, I'd like to see more men in the manual trades - I don't in the manual trades - I don't seriously think it'd be any threat to us women, and (I'm sure it's pretty face or two around wouldn't go amiss... but then boys are so sensitive)

Don't feel like a girl. Boys should think hard (and twice) before opening their mouths, with far-fetched crazy notions...

The end.

(Moral: Boys should think hard (and twice) before opening their mouths, with far-fetched crazy notions...)

On Joe, do stop sulking. Be realistic, you were never cut out to be a builder.

Yes Joe, stop making a fuss. You're much better suited to photocopying and flirting with executives. So cheer up!
WHY I CHANGED TO SHOCKING PINK.
I'm sick of pastel pink, I surprised even myself, I don't know what hit me. For years it was just the same old pink, now I find new SHOCKING pink brightens my wash with a radical sparkle.

8 out of 10 women say they prefer it.

Sisterwrite
A Women's Bookshop and Craftshop
190 Upper Street, London N1

- Widest range of women's books available anywhere
- Original gifts made by women in our new craftshop
  - Jewellery
  - Postcards
  - Giftcards
  - Printed T-Shirts
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  - Posters
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  - Wrapping Paper
- Regular Exhibitions of Women's Work in the Gallery

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Open Mon-Sat 10-6pm, Thurs 10-7pm
Level wheelchair access. Tube: Highbury

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