

ANTI-FASCIST INFO

JUST WHAT DO WE
THINK WE'RE DOING??!!



ANTI-FASCIST INFO is a group with the aim of gathering and distributing information on the extreme right in Canada. Our goal is to raise consciousness about extreme right and fascist organizations, their activities, perspectives and ideologies. Through this, we want to enable anti-fascists- from youth to elders, trade unionists to Canucks fans- to better organize against the extreme right, particularly in times of growth and action by fascist groups.

WHAT IZ THE EXTREME RIGHT, AND WHO CARES?

By extreme right, we mean not only openly fascist groups such as the Aryan Nations, Aryan Resistance Movement or Nazi skinheads. The extreme right also consists of a variety of organizations who, at the very least, advocate maintaining and strengthening a patriarchal and white supremacist society. Such organizations can go under seemingly "inoffensive" titles as Citizens for Foreign Aid Review, the Canadian League of Rights or the Canadian Association for the Freedom of Expression. They generally focus on single issues such as immigration, 'freedom of expression', etc. to make their cause appealing to those who would not be 'comfortable' being affiliated to out-right fascist groups. These organizations deny that they are white supremacist, instead using code-words such as "European heritage" or "non-traditional immigration" to convey their vision of an all-white Canada. In contrast, members of the Aryan Nations will announce openly that they are white supremacist and fascist. Their uniforms, symbols and newspapers incorporate Nazi symbols, many still use the Swastika armband (talk about old school!). To distinguish between these two approaches of the extreme right, groups which are openly fascist are termed 'radical right', while those that cloak their true intentions are termed 'fringe right'.

Whether fringe or radical, the extreme right as a whole shares similar beliefs: white supremacy, anti-Semitism, homophobia, anti-immigration (unless it's from Europe), anti-choice on abortions, anti-feminism and anti-communism, to name but a few of the most common themes.

The extreme right is a complex web of interconnected groups and philosophies operating through both openly-fascist organizations and front groups focusing on single issues. Every one who doesn't believe or follow their twisted ideas is a target: poor people and those on welfare; Native people; Blacks, Asians, Chicanos, and anybody with a touch of brown in their skin; gays, lesbians and bi-sexuals; Jews; women who don't want to follow traditional roles as wives and 'homemakers'; trade union workers; leftists; Stanley Cup rioters: you name it and the extreme right hates it!

WHY ANTI-FASCIST INFO?

Anti-Fascist Info believes that organizing the largest number of people, using a variety of tactics, has shown to be the most effective response to fascist and extreme right movements. We don't advocate replacing actions against fascist activities with writing leaflets; ideological and physical confrontation against fascists is the best response. Instead, we're responding to the actual situation in Vancouver, and the need to inform people about the extreme right and build an anti-fascist consciousness in the streets.

The history of extreme right movements shows that they experience cyclical growths and declines (meaning they get bigger and more active, then fall apart or lose supporters). This cycle is caused by factors such as social and economic

conditions, as well as anti-fascist resistance. In any case it would be a mistake to believe that because fascist groups are not visible, or have been defeated, that they have been destroyed. In reality, they are in a state of reorganizing.

For example, in Vancouver the extreme right experienced a period of growth from 1980-83, which manifested itself in an increased Ku Klux Klan presence, vandalism and violence against people of colour, gays, lesbians, Jews and leftist organizations. Defeated by community organizing and internal conflicts (they even hate each other!), former members of the KKK were again active in 1988-89 when the Aryan Nations and Aryan Resistance Movement became the new focus for extreme right activities, joining with younger fascist boneheads.

Communities targetted by this new phase of violence were placed on the defensive, while at the same time they were forced to learn who and what the Aryan Nations were. Anti-Fascist Info exists to counter such trends, doing the necessary background work to enable people to carry on real social change while not being caught off-guard in times of fascist offensives.



More recent history has exposed the influence and organizing of the extreme right, as well as its capability to carry out terrorist violence. In 1994 a Jewish doctor in Vancouver who performed abortions was shot by a would-be assassin armed with an assault rifle; it's widely believed the shooter was from the extreme right and its anti-abortion wing. Grant Bristow, a founding member and leader of the Heritage Front, was exposed as a well-paid informant for the CSIS. Members of the armed forces, including soldiers from the (now disbanded) Canadian Airborne Regiment, have been shown to be both members of, and sympathetic to, right-wing extremism. There have also been numerous killings directly connected to fascist groups, including the 1991 shooting death of Leo Lachance, a Cree trapper, in Saskatchewan; the 1992 killing of Yves Lalonde in Montreal by Nazi boneheads; in 1993 a Tamil man, Ganalan Muthulingam, was killed in Toronto by Nazi boneheads.

Fascist and extreme right organizations are a permanent part of this society. They are here to stay, and some of them are well connected to business elites and government agencies. How much they'll be able to push their reactionary agenda depends on the level of resistance from anti-fascists.

ANTI-FASCIST INFO kicked off in November 1993. Since that time, we've produced numerous leaflets and posters; we've organized video screenings and public discussions; and have a monthly radio show on Co-op Radio entitled "Radio Anti-Fa." We've established contact with, and exchange information with, anti-fascist groups across Canada, the USA, Europe and Asia.

For all this work, we need money- the more the better! Because we have so much style, we do not receive any government or corporate funding. We're strictly street-level, or in other words: hopelessly low in funds. All cash, cheques or money orders can be addressed to Anti-Fascist Info. We guarantee more bang for the buck!

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

●**Get In Tune: Inform Yourself!** Itz a cliché, but knowledge is power. For a start, send us your name and address and we'll send you our special Anti-Fa. Starter Kit. It contains some of our leaflets and posters, a list of books to check out, an anti-fascist patch, and other cool stuff.

●**Get Connected! Sign up on our Contact List.** This way you can be sure to be informed of upcoming anti-fascist events and/or actions. Just send us your name, address (with postal code) and phone number.

●**Get us the Scoop!** If you find fascist material- flyers, newspapers or stickers etc.- send us a copy with the date and location you found it at. And, believe it or not, newspaper clippings from your local paper can be very useful. Clip out articles on fascist groups, individuals, vandalism, etc., write the newspapers title and the date on it. You can also send us info on individuals you know of who are involved in fascist groups.

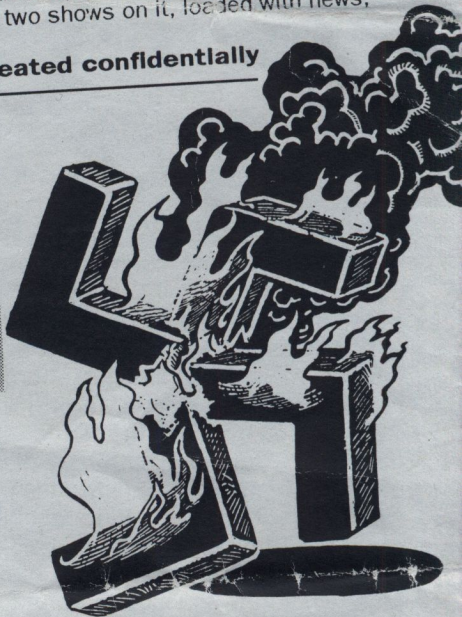
●**Listen Up!** Check out our monthly show, "Radio Anti-Fa." on Vancouver's Co-op radio, 102.7 fm, first Monday of every month at 7pm. You can also order cassette copies of our show for \$5 ppd. Each tape has two shows on it, loaded with news, analysis and fresh Hip Hop tunes.

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