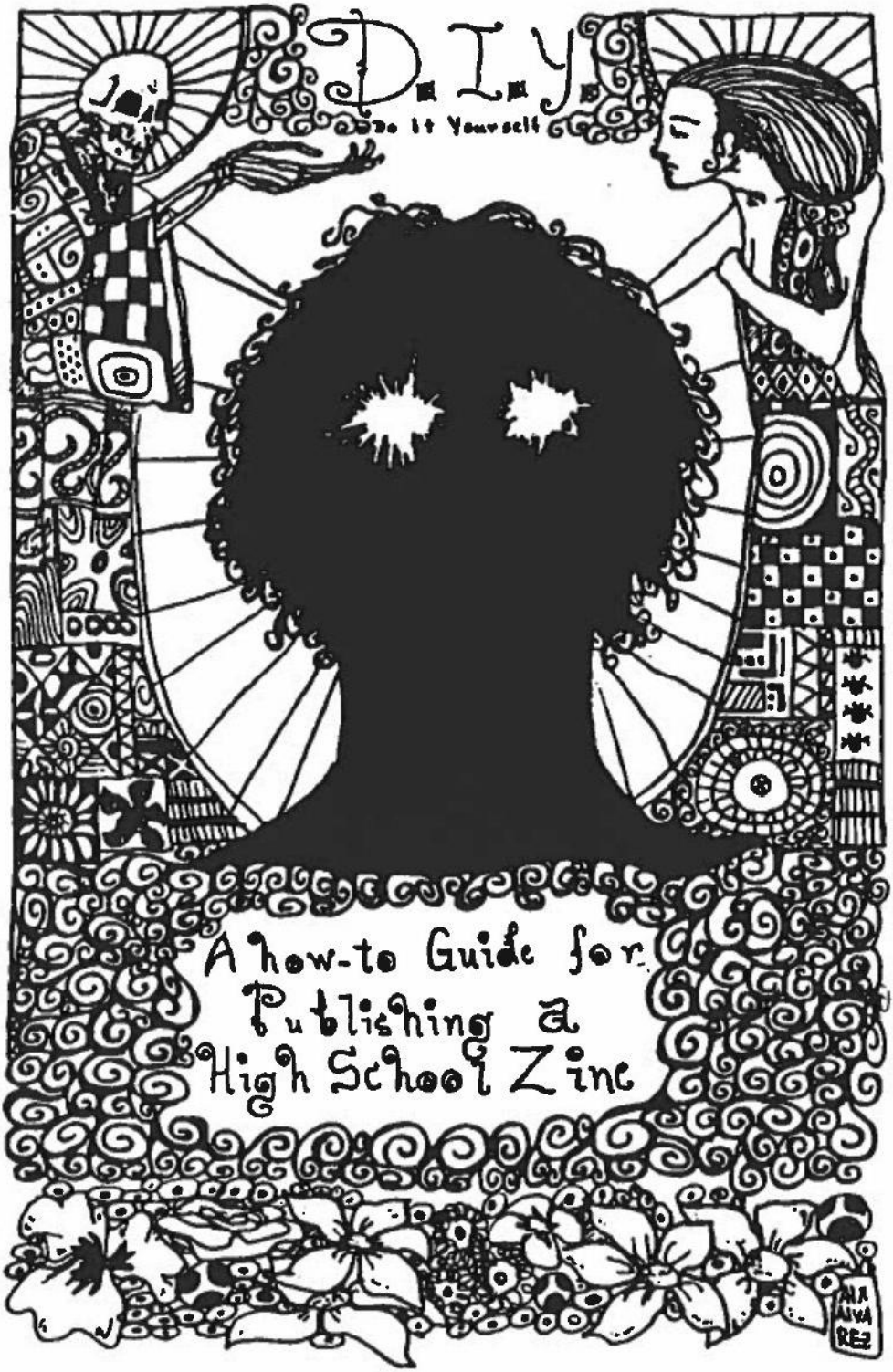
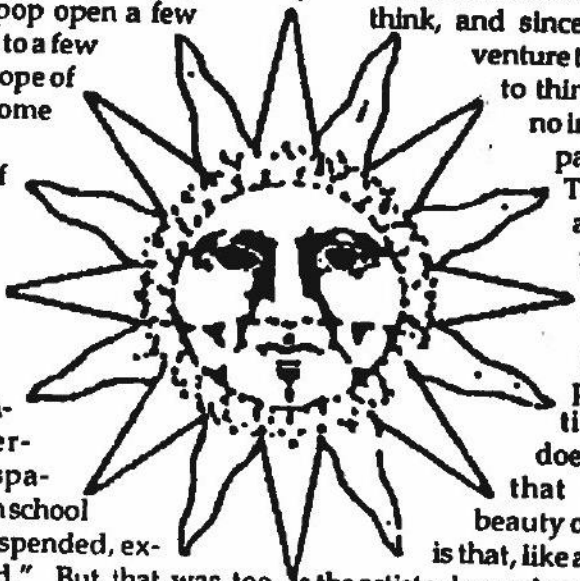

D.I.Y.
Do It Yourself
A how-to Guide for
Publishing a
High School Zine

'Some give up at the first touch of pressure; some sell out; some run down by imperceptible degrees and lose their fire, never knowing when or how they lost it. Then all of these vanish in the vast swamp of their elders who tell them persistently that maturity consists of abandoning one's mind; security, of abandoning one's values; practicality, of losing self-esteem. Yet a few hold on and move on, knowing that that fire is not to be betrayed, learning how to give it shape, purpose and reality.'

-Ayn Rand

Hello. My name is Jennifer, and I am a Recovering Underground Newspaper Editor. (Sympathetic applause.) In a couple of pages, you will read about my little adventure in my little high school that led to my present condition. As a perceptive, intelligent person, you will probably realize that I am being a bit hypocritical in giving you advice for how to publish a paper since my own attempt was a nasty little mess. And as a perceptive, intelligent person, you will hopefully understand that I have not written this from a standpoint of great experience, wisdom, or superiority. All I have done is pop open a few books and talk to a few people in the hope of saving you some trouble.



Speaking of trouble, a more appropriate title for this guide would have been "How to publish a standard underground newspaper in your high school and not get suspended, expelled, or sued." But that was too long. Yeah, you're "free" to write and photocopy anything you want. But keep in mind that if you write certain things, your principal will be "free" to throw your rebel ass out of school. No matter how loud you bellow "ANARCHY!" with wild-eyes and a raised fist, if you break a law, you pay the consequences. Don't go writing this off so quick, though. I didn't say it would be better titled "How to print an underground newspaper and smooch on your principal's ass in one shot." The legal stuff I've included here is just to let you know your rights. If you decide to go break the few rules there are, that's your business, but I still suggest you read this first. Better to be an informed rebel than an ignorant one.

I thought real hard about writing this introduction. I kind of wanted to say what kind of stuff to write in your paper, or even why you should publish one. As for the first part, what you write is a reflection of what you think, and since I would not venture to tell you what to think, I will have no input into your paper's content. There's always a certain connotation of leftist politics when underground newspaper are mentioned, but it doesn't have to be that way. The beauty of the medium is that, like any art form, it is the artist who makes it happen, not the canvas.

As for the second part - *why* you should publish a paper - well, that's up to you also. (I know, I'm being a real help.) My friend John, who's now out of high school, wrote this piece which I think beautifully answers that question of "why":

"...The newspaper and litmag were so driven by corporate notions of suc-

ess, that they were tediously boring. The 'more professional it looks the more legitimate it must be' mindset. Creative control by fearful teachers, for they know better than to supply a young creative mind with the means of producing somethng unsupervised. They may expose the hypocrisy and bullshit pretension. When I was a junior, the senior class yearbook staff conspired to produce a scathing reflection of daily class life at the high school. It was a true reflection of the jokes, rumors, and innuendo that float from classroom to classroom and through the halls. It was a wonderful book, yet it was a great embarrassment to the school and labelled a mean-spirited work of a few individuals and not a true reflection of the student body. Yet we, the student body, ate that shit up. My point is that given the unsupervised means, high schoolers can produce wonderfully threatening things. If we were allowed to express ourselves, standards would be higher and the press would really be liberal. So we are contained, our youthful enthusiasm is harnassed by this notion of corporate legitimacy. The more it resembled the NY Times or Newsweek the better. Got to be a realist, after all, can't make money otherwise. How 'bout Fuck you?"

One last thing: Depending on where you live, you may not need this guide at all. In New York City, an underground newspaper at a high school probably wouldn't even garner a yawn from people. But in some small Midwestern town, you could quite possibly be lynched or worse. Obviously, this was written with the latter student in mind.

LOVE,
JENN

What you now hold in your hands was desktop published on a Macintosh IIsi with a Panasonic LaserPartner printer, (my school's stuff, duh.) Extra copies are a buck (.52 to mail and about .50 to print), but if you don't have it, don't worry. Just send a couple stamps, and please send me a copy of your newspaper after you publish it. Any thoughts about this guide are welcome and appreciated. Thanks.

Jennifer
P.O. Box 21181
Lyndhurst, OH 44121

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My eternal thanks to Alex for the cover and to John for the help and self-indulgence. Both of these guys put out zines, so write to them for info or copies:

John
Love Bunni Press
2622 Princeton Rd.
Cleve. Hts, OH
44118

Alx
383 Royal Oak Blvd.
Richmond Hts, OH
44143

Students feel self-expression is also a form of education

By JENNIFER BLEYER
BEACHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Remember those Mr. Wizard-style experiments we used to do for science class, like papier-mache volcanoes and homemade sundials?

Behind every project was the scientific method. No matter what the project was, we dutifully compressed it into that neat little package of question, hypothesis, materials, procedure, results and conclusion.

Several months ago the scientific method bug bit me, but in lieu of that solar system model I've been liching to build, I decided to take a more sociological approach.

Let us call this experiment "Underground Newspapers: The Effects on a Closed Population."

■ Question: What would happen in a small suburban high school if a purely independent newspaper was created by and for students, with no rules attached?

■ Hypothesis: Actually, I had two sets of predictions for this experiment's outcome, first of which was my dream hypothesis: Confused at first, the students will read it with an open mind and find it thought-provoking and enlightening.

Perhaps several people will feel inspired to adopt similar projects on their own. The halls will run amok with newspapers dealing with every topic imaginable. The administration will rejoice; finally, students will be independently engaging in something without the incentive of a grade dangling like a carrot before a donkey's mouth.

Alas, there was also the realistic hypothesis: The entire community will explode in my face. My house will be egged and otherwise mutilated by students and board members. My parents will disown me.

■ Materials: A bunch of articles, one copy machine and healthy dose of chutzpah.

■ Procedure: Last November I approached students and asked them to write a piece on our school, themselves or anything else they felt strongly about.

Within weeks, I had a pile of essays written in the same impassioned tone that is usually reserved for late-night conversations with best friends. One person shared his painful recollection of an incident in which several seniors ruthlessly rated their classmates according to popularity. Another wrote of her bout with alcoholism, and still another expressed his disgust with the average teen-ager's disdain for reading.

By mid-December, The Gadfly was ready for publication.

At this point, I regret to inform you of the experiment's tragic downfall. I was quietly printing copies in a store when, lo and behold, one of my teachers walked in. Coincidence? Destiny? I call it bad luck.

She glanced over my project and I struggled to explain. But it was already too late, which brings us to our premature, yet thoroughly amusing

■ Results: The next day in school, I was informed by school officials that if I distributed The Gadfly at school, I would possibly face consequences, such as a suspension, a lawsuit for libel, or loss of my position as editor in chief of the school newspaper.

I reluctantly agreed to put the paper on hold until after Christmas vacation.

I felt as many frustrated scientist feel when their experiments seem t fail. But the real results were yet t be seen.

Soon after students returned fron winter break, another alternativ newspaper, The Illumination, ap peared.

Several sophomores, including one Gadfly writer, gathered th ashes of my idea and published thei own alternative newspaper. Contro versy spread like a plague throug the school. Some people loved The Illumination, some hated it, but ev eryone was talking about it.

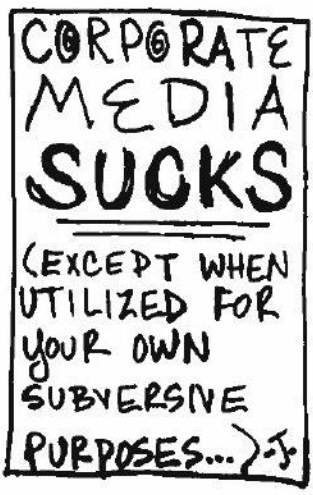
■ Conclusion: The main lesson lingering in the aftermath of this experiment is not about my particular school, for the same situation could have occurred at any school.

The real lessons to be learned are of the essence of education and the search for truth. Many people who call themselves "educators" and "students" are bothered, however, when truth is pursued through nontraditional means like underground newspapers.

These people have forgotten the meanings of the words educator and student. It is a relatively easier goal to obtain an "A" on a test, high SATs, or an acceptance into Penn State than it is to achieve true education. Unfortunately, the latter is unquantifiable, yet does that permit us to ignore it?

Self-expression is a form of self-education, and an important one at that. I only wish that it was sought with the same fervor that went into debating these little photocopied pamphlets.

Whether you agree with me or not, need it be said what I encourage? All you need is an idea and a copy machine.



LEGAL BULLSHIT

It's a weird thing, how we deal with the First Amendment. If too much time goes by without anyone pushing against the elastic borders of expression, then the borders solidify, and sometimes they shrink. Some people start treating the laws that protect free speech with the same respect they treat those that prohibit jaywalking. "What's the difference? It's not like I'm hurting anyone," they say, as they ignore crosswalks and as they censor what bothers them. Yeah, the jaywalking law might be just cause for a little civil disobedience. But censorship? Taking away a person's freedom of expression is more un-American than any commie plot McCarthy could've imagined.

We, the timid folk of High School U.S.A., have seen the borders of expression pulled tight to the point of strangling us and cutting off our thought-circulation. The harder we push against the borders, the tighter they clamp around us. Underground newspapers are notorious for provoking tightened borders, as well as hysteria and punishments. Fortunately, the intelligence of the average federal court is higher than that of the average high school principal. In 1969, a Supreme Court Justice named Abe Fortas said it all: "Students do not shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate." Right on, Abe. If you want to minimize the amount of shit you take from your school system when publishing an underground, KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

If your American Government teacher was even mildly decent, then you should already know about the court case *Tinker vs. Des Moines Independent School District* (1969). This girl wore a black armband to school to express her opposition to the Vietnam War. The school authorities thought her little black armband was going to trigger mass riots throughout the school, so with their usual brilliance, they made her take it off. It turned into this huge Supreme Court case that didn't just concern this one girl's armband, but all forms of non-school-sponsored expression inside a public school (including underground papers.) The court ruled in favor of the girl, and consequently, in favor of free speech. According to the *Tinker* decision, an underground paper must be legally obscene, libelous, or likely to cause substantial disruption for school officials to censor or ban it. If your paper is none of the three, then you have every right to publish and distribute it. Sounds easy, right? It is, as long as you understand these terms...

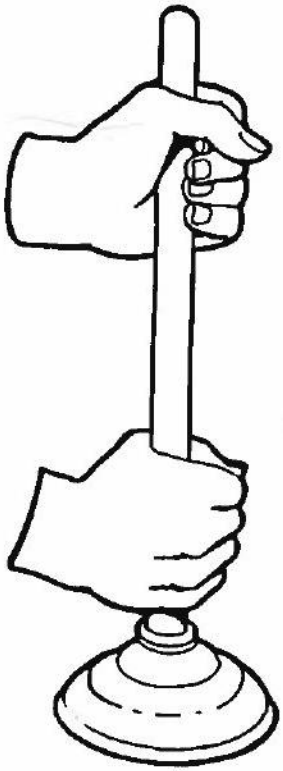
"Obscene": Contrary to popular authoritative belief, the word "fuck" is not legally obscene. Neither is "shit", "goddamn", references to sex and genitalia, or suggestive pictures, as long as they serve some sort of artistic, philosophical, or political purpose. There's a judicial test for obscenity that the Supreme Court set up, and in order for something to earn the label "obscene", it

has to meet all three of these standards:

> 1) Predominantly appeals to prurient, shameful interests of minors.
> 2) Patently offends community standards regarding suitable sexual materials for minors.
> 3) Taken as a whole, [it] lacks literary, artistic, political or scientific value for minors.

If this seems kind of confusing to you, it should. It's sure as hell confusing to a lot of judges, because they all interpret it differently. Minimizing the amount of "dirty words" and trashing all graphic sexual stuff will certainly put you in a better legal position, but you might not be cool with that kind of compromise.

If your school unfairly tries to pin the "obscenity" tag on you, try this: Go to the school library and gather up a whole stack of magazines and books that have profanity and/or sex in them (*Catcher in the Rye, The Chocolate War, Ordinary People, Native Son, The Color Purple, Of Mice and Men, 1984*, Cosmopolitan, Mademoiselle, Rolling Stone). Mark all the naughty words and sex scenes, and present them to your principal. One of two things will happen: He will blush with embarrassment, piss in his pants, acknowledge the ignorant double-standard, and release you of the obscenity charge. On the other hand, he may go ahead and ban all those books from the school library. Hey, it's worth a shot.



"Libel": In a nutshell, "libel" means insulting someone. But of course, like everything in our judicial system, it's not that simple. In the world of lawyers, courts, and lawsuits, "libel" is defined as "purposely writing false statements about another person which causes that person harm." The most important thing to know here is that **NOTHING YOU WRITE THAT IS TRUE IS LIBELOUS.** If you are reporting fact, have evidence to support it. If you are stating an unfavorable opinion of someone, write it with intelligent, logical reasons.

If you libel someone, you can be sued for money. If you are under 18, your parents can be sued. Be careful.

"Substantial Disruption": Another beautiful example of judicial ambiguity. Every court seems to interpret this differently. There are, however, a few absolute protections for your paper. In *Tinker*, the court wrote that the "substantial disruption" claim does not include the "mere desire to avoid the discomfort and unpleasantness that always accompanies an unpopular viewpoint." In other words, just because a little controversy will be sparked or someone's feelings will be hurt, these are not grounds for censorship. Some things that would constitute "substantial disruption" include:

- Encouraging the assassination of one or more teachers.
- Writing "Fuck this high school hell" several hundred times within the same essay.
- Giving detailed instructions on how to construct homemade explosives.
- Provoking kids in your school to riot, cut class, break the law, or do other violent things.



Criticism is protected by the First Amendment, but school officials retain the right to make sure that the educational process remains peaceful, (or rather, that the programming remains virus-free.)

Beyond these basic constitutional guidelines, your school has the freedom to make a few of its own rules...

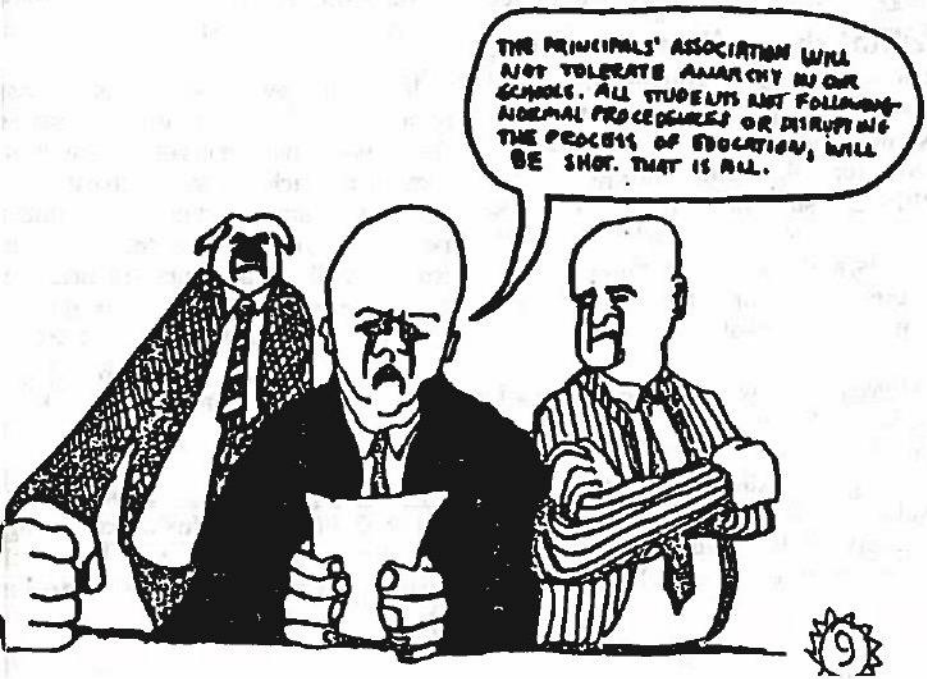
School Restrictions:

- They can reasonably restrict the time, place, and manner in which you distribute your paper. This usually means not passing things out in a classroom, during classtime, and not forcing anyone to take a copy. No matter what, they cannot take away your right to distribute your paper on school property during the school day. Beyond that, they decide.
- Depending on the state you live in and your school's policy, you may be asked to submit your paper for prior review. This means that before you publish, you will be told what must be submitted, to whom it must be submitted, and when it will be returned. They still cannot censor anything unless it meets one of the three *Tinker* standards. As of 1992, prior review was legal in the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. It is illegal in these states: California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin. In all the other states, including Ohio, no court has decided on a prior review case, so check your school's policy.
- These are a bunch of other things that an administrator may try to nail you for, but they are completely legal:
  - Printing paid advertisements.
  - Selling your paper.
  - Collecting contributions.
  - Publishing articles anonymously.
  - Distributing your paper off school grounds.

Private and Parochial Schools: Sorry, guys. Since private and parochial schools exist independently of the government, the First Amendment really doesn't apply to them. They can censor freely and punish you however the hell they want. Check your school's policy, anyway, and see what their thing is about undergrounds. Some progressive private schools will tolerate and even encourage them.

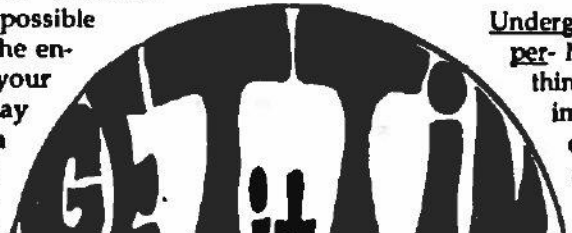
Just between you and me... Here are a few suggestions to keep you doing your thing without so much beauracratic bullshit:

- Ask in the office to see your school's policy regarding the distribution of non-school-sponsored materials.
- If you're planning to use school computers, ask to see their policy on who can use them and for what reasons.
- Ask for an explanation of the appeals process in your school; for any action the school takes against you, you have the right to appeal it.
- Give the first copy to your principal...He will react much more calmly if he learns about this from you than if he gets phone calls from twenty hysterical parents tomorrow.
- Somewhere in your paper, write "This is not a school-sponsored or -endorsed newspaper."
- Publicize any actions your school takes against you in the local media. (Daily newspapers and TV news are the easiest to access.)
- Call the local ACLU office or the Student Press Law Center if you have questions about anything, (see resource page).
- Test the system before you distribute! Get copies of something that nobody would oppose (see addresses on the resource page), and have some real straight-looking friends pass them out. Make sure you give some to faculty members, have witnesses, and maybe get some pics. Next week, when you hand out your paper and they come up with some rule against non-school-sponsored materials...surprise!



Name your baby...

Picking a name for your publication is a very (excuse the Mr. Roger-esque word) *special* experience. In one or two words, it is possible to summarize the entire purpose of your efforts. You may want to use a character's name, a concept, or a short quote from a book, song, or film. Thumbing through a dictionary or thesaurus may help you find that one perfect word. You can always just slap a weird phrase together for the sake of confusion, or you can go completely straightforward with a traditional name like "The _____ Free Press" Many people like to explain the meaning behind the name in the first issue.



What the hell is this thing?

Chances are that if you do not explicitly define your publication in one simple sentence, someone else will, and in a way you won't like. Subtitles are great to fight this. One small line below the front-page name should include a) what the publication is, and b) what community it serves. Here are some tips on terms, (definitions courtesy of Webster's):

Alternative newspaper- An alternative to what? If you choose this label, you are implying that your main reason for publishing is your discontent with the official school newspaper. An "alternative" newspaper is one that "exists or functions outside the established cultural, social, or economic system," and using the term grants mainstream, centrist status to your school-sponsored paper.

Underground newspaper- More than anything else, this term implies secrecy. It conjures up images of danger, chaos, and subversion in the minds of many people, (not to mention grass, soil, and roots in the minds of others.) Like "alternative," an "underground newspaper" is one that is "published outside the establishment." However, the singular word "underground" means a "clandestine conspiratorial organization set up for revolutionary or other disruptive purposes esp. against a civil order." Using this term will probably freak out many administrators and parents, but it may also entice lots of students.

Independent newspaper- This is the most system-friendly term since it clearly states that the system is not involved, (the "system" being teachers, classes, board members, school funds and facilities.) "Independent" literally means "not subject to control by others" and "not affiliated with a larger controlling unit." It's not like everyone will lay off you just because you call it an "independent newspaper", but the distinction may calm some tempers.

Student-run or Student-produced newspaper- Confusing, confusing, confusing. I advise you to steer clear of this label. Listen up...your school's official paper is

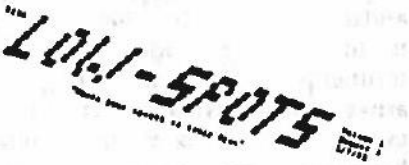
probably many students, except for one or two advisers. The difference between their "student-run paper" and your "student-run paper" is huge, but the label blurs it. People will get mad at you for stupid reasons. (Y'know, that's a pretty good motto for everything here: "INCITE ONLY PRODUCTIVE ANGER." What's the point of getting people mad at you just for the sake of making people mad?)

Fanzine or 'zine- Most adults and, depending on what your school is like, most kids will have no clue what this means. When faced with controversy, calling it a "zine" may be to your benefit. You can whip out a bunch of articles from the mainstream press about zines, (check Spin, Sassy, and other "hip" rags), and convince your principal/teacher/parent/peer that you're just following the new teen trend and come on, Mr. Jones, you're so not with it uh mah god. You may also turn your fellow students on to checking out other fanzines from around the country and maybe, just maybe, inspire someone to start their own.









Content... Of all the things, you sho' don't need my help with this. Do whatever you want. Write whatever you want. Publish whatever you want. (There are a couple of things you're not supposed to write...See the legal section for details.) Some of the things that usually show up in undergrounds are articles, analysis, personal essays, poetry, short stories, reviews, rants, art, photographs, games, recipes, gardening tips, home decorating ideas, previously unprinted roadmaps, claims of having talked to Jesus, etc., etc. If there are kids in your school who speak languages other than English, maybe you could publish some stuff in their languages. If your goal is to imitate a real newspaper (read: boring mainstream journalism), than go for accurate reporting, balanced coverage, and good taste, (whatever that means). Don't forget to find graphics; visual appeal can make the reading more enjoyable. Magazines, art books and children's picture books are good graphics sources. If you accept submissions from people, make sure they have a way to get their stuff to you (mailed, slipped in lockers, etc.) Some folks like to give away "free gifts" with their paper, like a guy in Washington who put a condom in each copy. Have fun.

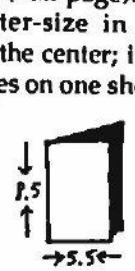
Layout... Based on typical 'zines, there's pretty much two ways to go when it comes to the layout: desktop publishing or cut-and-paste. **Desktop publishing** means that you do the layout on a computer, and if you don't already know how, please don't expect a two-sentence explanation here. Your local library is probably chock full of instruction books, or you can ask yearbook/newspaper staff or "computer nerds" to help you out. The most common program is Pagemaker, using a Macintosh or IBM compatible, but there are a million other programs and computers that I don't know a thing about. Many printing stores will desktop publish or typeset your stuff, but they will probably request your first-born child in return. Unless you have gads of money, ignore that option.

Cut-and-paste is exactly what it sounds like. Remember when you were eight and you used to go through old magazines and cut out pictures you liked and make a cheesy collage out of it? That's the idea. Gather up your typed or handwritten pieces, black & white graphics, arm yourself with a glue stick and scotch tape, and get to work. With either kind of layout, make sure to use the exact size paper you will be printing on so that everything fits.

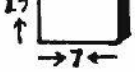
There are a few pitfalls of layout that you should be warned of: Remember to leave margins, and keep in mind where your binding (staple, string or glue) is going to be so that you won't lose important words or images. Another thing is to be aware of how your text and graphics are going to look once reproduced. If you are going to photocopy your paper, it's not a good idea to use photographs, especially color photos, because they don't copy well. Also, make sure your text is rather dark; this will assure that even on a weak photocopy machine, it will come out legible.

Size... Anything from a one-pag broadside to a 32-page, 8.5 x 11 gloss magazine can be and has been done. Fo your convenience, here are the most com mon sizes:

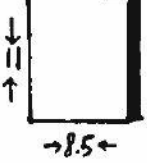
•5.5 x 8.5 (half-page)... Fold the 8. x 11 letter-size in half, stapl through the center; increments o four pages on one sheet.



•8.5 x 7... Print on 8.5 x 14 legal size, fold in half; increments of fou pages per sheet, (For this size you can do the layout for each page on 8.5 x 11, shrink it 50%, and piece i together to fit two pages on each side.)



•8.5 x 11 (full-page)...Use either 8.5 x 11 letter-size, stapled at the side in increments of two pages per sheet, or 11 x 17 folded in half stapled through the center, in in crements of four pages per sheet.



These are just the basics. There are unlimited ways to fold a piece of paper so don't feel confined to one of these three. You can go real small (1/4 page) real big (16 x 11), make paper airplanes, origami, whatever.

Printing... Wait! Before you pay for anything, check around to see if you can scam somehow. Does your mom or dad have a copy machine at the office? Do you have an uncle who owns his own basement printing press? Do you have a friend who works at a copy shop? Never pay for something you can scam for free.

Okay, so let's say you're gonna have to shell out the bucks for this. There are two basic ways to go: photo-copying or offset printing. If you plan to worship the xerox god, you can either pay to have the whole job done on a high-speed printer, or you can go to a place that has self-serve and do it yourself. (Note: the second option will involve some frustrating experimentation before you figure out how to arrange pages in the right order, run double-sided copies, and other tricks. Be patient.) Before you hop on off to Kinko's, call around and get some price estimates. Check the yellow pages under "photo copying" or "copying".

But what if you want to do offset printing? This process looks crisper and more professional, and needless to say, it is more expensive. What happens is you give the printer a master-copy of each page in black & white, and they'll make something important out of it, (a negative, a metal plate, a paper plate...I don't really know.) They use this unknown thing to make the copies. They usually require a minimum number of copies-per-sheet, (around 100). Some places charge per plate, some charge per copy. The price may go up if you have photographs, or if you use a heavier paper stock, (20 lb. copy paper is the standard). Again, call around for price estimates first. Look under "printing" in the phonebook.



Things used in writing this guide:

The High School Revolutionaries, edited by Marc Libarte and Tom Seligson, Vintage Books, 1970.

Captive Voices: Commission of Inquiry into High School Journalism, 1974.

Deskbook Encyclopedia of American School Law, 1988.

Scholastic Update, September 8, 1989, p.21.

"Surviving Underground", Student Press Law Center Report, Fall 1992.

"Students on the Move", The Nation, March 26, 1988.

"A Limit on the Student Press", Newsweek, January 25, 1988.

"Students are People", an Ohio ACLU handbook, 1980.

Resources:

Agencies that know where it's at

American Civil Liberties Union
132 W. 43rd St.
New York, NY 10036
#(212) 944 9800
-Big ol' organization that watches out for constitution violations. Call for reference to your local ACLU office or for legal advice.

The Legal Aid office in your area, (check the phonebook).
-Provides legal advice and help for those in need, including minors.

Student Press Law Center
1735 Eye Street NW, Suite 504
Washington, D.C. 20006
#(202) 466 5242
-Amazingly helpful on all student press issues; write or call for a copy of their report "Surviving Underground."

New Liberation News Service
P.O. Box 325
Kendall St. Branch
Cambridge, MA 02142
-Network of alternative college newspapers.



"Test the system"

resources (page 9)

National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency
1511 K St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20005
#(800) 622 4731
-Ask for brochures on teen drinking and stuff like that.

American Federation of Teachers
555 New Jersey NW
Washington, D.C. 20001
#(202) 879 4415
-Ask for standard brochures and newsletters.

Child Nutrtion Forum
1875 Connecticut Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20009
#(212) 986 2200
-Ask for literature about school cafeteria nutrtion.

'ZINE: noun; (rhymes with "scene", not "sign"; derived from the last syllable in "magazine"). Hundreds of these home-made magazines flood mailboxes everywhere. They're usually published in the same spirit and manner as any underground newspaper, except they're not tied to any legal restrictions and they're usually distributed all over, not just in one school or community. This here's a partial list of big zines that can be best used as resources to find the many smaller (less-known) ones. Send 'em a postcard for info...

FLIPSIDE
P.O. BOX 60790
PASADENA, CA 91116

MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL
P.O. BOX 460780
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94146

PROFANE EXISTANCE
P.O. BOX 8722
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55408

FACTSHEET FIVE
c/o SETH FRIEDMAN
P.O. BOX 170099
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
94117-0099

RIOT GRRRL PRESS
c/o ERIKA REINSTEIN
850 N. EDISON ST.
ARLINGTON, VA 22205
("fenzines")

QUEERZINE EXPLOSION
c/o LARRY BOB
P.O. BOX 591275
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
94159
("homozines")



What the critics are saying...

"A masterpiece...This is more than just a flimsy DIY guide, it is a peek at the creativity and intellectual power that teenagers will be unleashing during this decade."

-The New York Times Book Review

"This belongs on the desk of every teenager in America right next to their dictionary...It should be mandatory reading in high schools everywhere - I know it will be in mine! I love it so much, I'm excusing Jenn from all of her unserved detentions!"

-The author's high school principal

"An enthusiastic four stars! The action kept me hanging on the edge of my seat...The sex was great...can't wait for the sequel!"

-People Magazine

"I'm just so proud of my daughter! She has such wonderful priorities. I'd much rather she produce things like this charming DIY guide than waste time on trivial matters like biology homework. What more could a mother ask for!"

-The author's mom