

Humboldt Grassroots

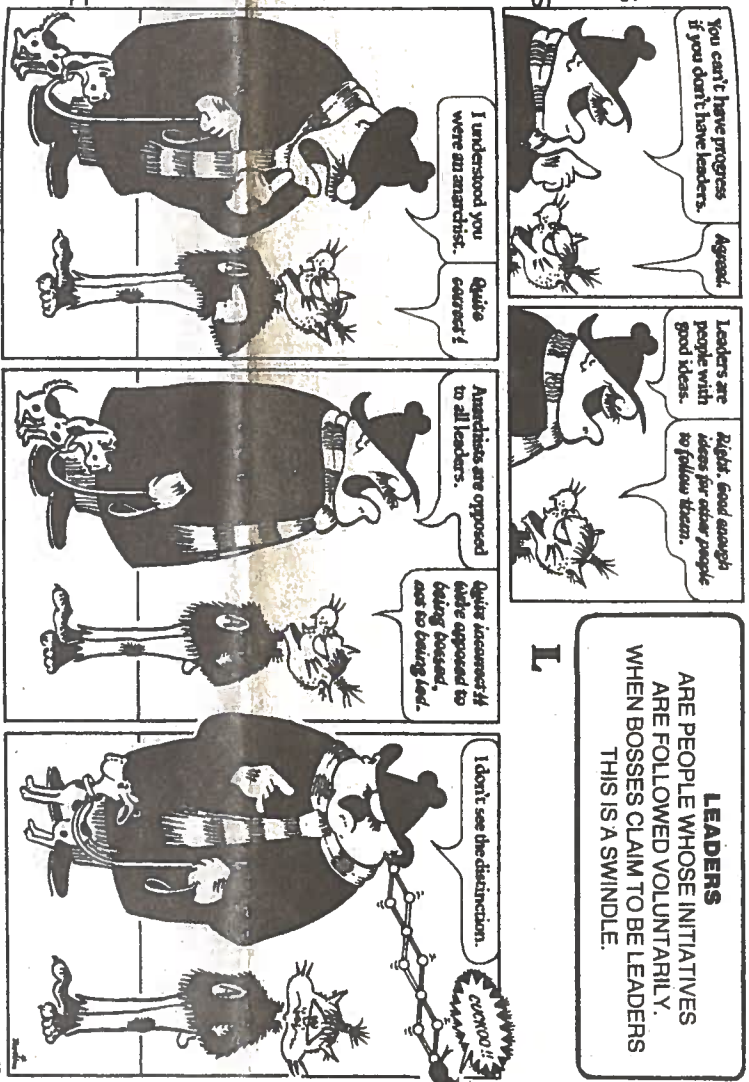
Hurt: Notes on Torture in a Modern Democracy, A Review

Hurt: torture and democracy, Kristian Williams most recent book, is a collection of articles on the what, where, why and how of torture, and how it must be stopped. Hurt argues convincingly why tougher laws and more human rights observers can't end torture. Human rights observers are deceived and not access is not given full access to necessary information by governments. Thus, tons of torture goes unreported. So to end the practice of torture, we must dismantle the institutions and systems that benefit from torture.

That means creating a real democracy the prison abolition movement and the feminist movement collaboration described in Critical Resistance 10 conference. How do we dismantle the prison and the police state while keeping people accountable and safe. That conversation needs to be had to find and share solutions to replace systems of oppressions rely on torture with community power that rely on true democracy. Torture and democracy don't mix the whole concept of torture is the subjugation and dehumanization of another runs as the complete opposite to the practice of democracy of the equality and solidarity of all for common freedom and humanity.

I asked some questions of Kristian Williams about a some of the topics discussed in Hurt: How has the use of torture terror and physical subjugation you describe inHurt, played out in your view in the repression against occupy? I haven't really done a thorough study of Occupy and the state's response. There are a couple notorious instances of the cops using pepper spray to force compliance (UC Davis) or as a kind of

Hurt: Notes On Torture in a Modern Democracy pg1,5
It's Not Just The Wal-Mart Problem pg 1, 2, 7
I Was November 14th pg 5, 7
What Its Like Growing Up In Eureka pg 3, 6
Life of A Carrot (NEW FNB Comic strip!) pg 3
War On Fun Pg 4
Eath First Victory Leads To New Campaign pg 5
Inspiration From Common Ground pg 5, 6
Humboldt Grassroots editorial pg 8
Important groups and Resources pg 8



IT'S NOT JUST THE WAL-MART PROBLEM

Corporations have always come to Humboldt with promises of prosperity, with actual intentions to profit off its community and its natural resources. They have in many cases experienced fierce resistance. Those conscious acts of people on both sides have shaped the situation many of us take for granted today. Wal-Mart has moved into the former Gottschalks site located in the Bayshore Mall which, in turn, is located on the site of the great mill strike of 1935, where three workers died fighting for better wages and conditions. There is a history, barely visible from a stroll through the mall. Although the plaque celebrating workers' sacrifices is no longer located in front of the Bayshore Mall, low wages and a sense of powerlessness have returned; the whole-sale exploitation of workers remains the norm.

The news of Wal-Mart's intentions to move into Gottschalks at the Bayshore Mall first broke when Rob Arkeley (Humboldt County's Mr. Burns a la Simpsons) jovially announced it to the Times Standard. The argument for the working people of Humboldt is that Wal-Mart will create jobs and provide cheap goods in a selection not already available.