

It would be fine with me if I never had to deal with politics. When approached by neighbors in the 90s who asked me to run for county supervisor I immediately said, "no!" When asked why I explained that I was not a dedicated butt-kisser, nor was I desperate for attention and acceptance. So through the years I've thought of politics as a negative. I've questioned if indeed politics are necessary or if it is only that we are missing a crucial element for politics to improve America. Personally I'm disturbed by the insidious amount of corruption in present society. As the leaders do so do the people follow them as they live their personal lives.

On Raleigh-Leahursty in 1987, The Summer of Love, there was much discussion about how to encourage society to cease harassing industrialism and technology because scientists were warning that nature is too deeply affected by the industrial revolution to sustain human life for an indefinite amount of time. Progress of civilization was destroying the Earth but politically the response was resistance to the warnings. During this time there were strong protests against war and some were saying that real change would only happen by going into the industrial "machine" and destroy it from within. Not You'll be swallowed up said others. There were also people that who believed that it was time to leave "civilization" and the "machine" to find more Earth friendly ways to carry on commerce and other social activities instead of demanding change from a government that had no desire to implement programs in favor of the poor.

It became obvious that as we study and learn about deep philosophical ideas and attempt to learn how to be healthy human beings that our discussions of politics and human nature in relation to all of creation is only relevant when action is also involved. It's so simple and totally eludes us because often we are looking for some sophisticated way to create change and some notoriety for having done so.

Instead, change for the betterment of society happens when we feed the hungry, clothe the naked and improve a life other than our own without ulterior motives. That's why non-profits and social services that are government agencies have failed so miserably to provide relief in the form of jobs and homes for the poor; their ulterior motive is monetary gain and social power. More and more people are standing up to fill

the gaping holes in society that used to be called "cracks in the system". From coast to coast this country is experiencing the erosion of decent and healthy living because of 40 years of wanton industrial waste and political greed. Poverty has sky-rocketed, along with disease, both physical and mental, war, corruption, hate crimes, divorces, rapes, murders, you-name-it, these past 4 decades. In the name of winning, and other types of vanity, society has forgotten how to care for even our own families in the rush to "make a living". Single parents are battling each other in courtrooms for the rights to their children while these children are left to themselves, torn between two worlds, neither of them healthy.

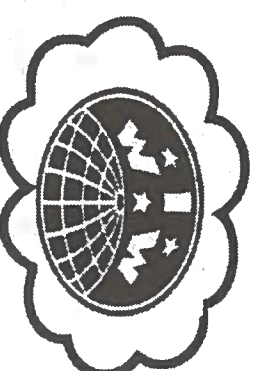
For me when I was growing up, breakfast and dinner at the table together with my family was important for my emotional well being. Feeling that I was a part of a group that was nurturing and communicating in a setting of good smelling food gave my family and I a sense of unity and security. Is it possible that community and security is directly proportional to the time families spend preparing and enjoying daily meals together?

In an effort to encourage community that nourishes and grows where we live a few neighbors and I get together on Tuesdays and Friday mornings on the corner of Fairfield and Hawthorne streets in Eureka with a folding table, some folding chairs, an awning when it rains, and some welcoming hot food to warm the bellies and the hearts of fellow earth travelers and our OWN.

Some community members in the past nearly 2 years have dropped off 2 fresh crabs at Christmas time that we made into crab chowder for Christmas morning breakfast. Some folks donate beignets, doughnuts, fruit juice. Kat brings Gumbo and an egg and cheese omelette. We often have coffee, fried potatoes, hot cereal and even tea and whatever else the future may bring. We've even gotten money for supplies, socks, thermal wear and tarps to keep people out of the weather.

So back to politics. If it is necessary then I will join the political party that loves all of creation and endeavors to live in harmony in the universe. And I will encourage each of you to do the same. After a bit of searching high and low for such a thing you will realize that it is not politics that we need it is a heart that's full of love.

Oh...breakfast is from 8:30 to 10:30 am Tuesdays and Fridays corner of Fairfield and Hawthorne...see ye! Hop on the Peace Train



We make this place run but we can barely afford to eat here.
Total rip off!!

If we got together



Class-Caricature by Hammer

WAR ON FUN CONTINUED

to prosecute anyone who holds an event and fails to prevent illicit drug use. These laws have made it very difficult to have a venue for all ages shows, which leaves our youth community with less positive ways to express themselves and have fun. The reason being that no matter how much security a venue has, there is no way to absolutely prevent incidents of drug use in all people who show up to an event. All a venue can do can be to try to keep kids safe and sober in and around the venue.

While non-profits, such as the Peacelo and occasionally the Marz project, do have shows, there are very few places left to play shows. Though a new venue just opened up, the Arcata Theater Lounge, it isn't all ages. However, they have said they are going to have all ages nights. Still, non-profit venues are most of what the youth music scene rely on for shows- the cost to go to shows is very minimal, so they rely on public and private grants for a good chunk of their operating expenses. The government (from small scale to large), however, seems to still have it's priorities in approach to the youth backwards. While youth activities that promote community and responsibility operate on a shoe string budget, the county is looking to get the state to approve a \$13 million grant application to build a new juvenile hall facility, which will cost the county thousands per year.