

# SWANKHOLE

ISSUE [04]

1998 to 2000

FANZINE

Talking about Ninjas  
and teeth with:

**PUNCH  
PEOPLE!**

Seeing and Meeting

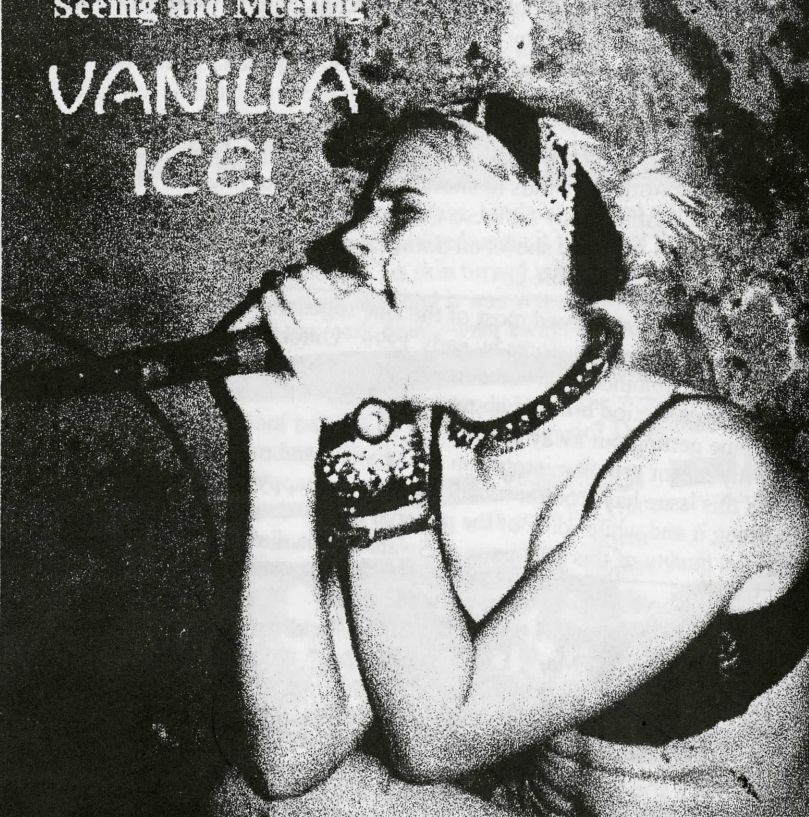
**VANILLA  
ICE!**

**\$1.00**


Daddy what's  
**VIETNAM?**

***The Lizzies***

INTERVIEW WITH THE  
PRIMO MURDER GANG.







## This Intro will make you go blind!

Holy mackerel, a fourth issue. Yes!!! This issue has some phat shit in it for your happy music loving eyes. It's time to break down and part with your spare change and buy this issue for it's collectable value alone. (If zines can be considered a collectable thing.)

If you make a zine and you really want to distribute it far, it's a thousand times better idea to get in touch with punk friendly record stores than to wait for lazy kids to write for your zine from ads and reviews. I've gotten out 90% of these zines through stores. If you need help with this, write to me.

Also, I love to trade zines. Always send me your new zines to trade with me. ALWAYS!!!

"Less toner, less toner!" that's what my printer keeps telling me. "These zines are breaking down my copiers with all these double sided, heavy artwork pages." So I'm going to try really hard to make a brighter, lighter colored zine from now on. Which means fewer graffix laden backgrounds that I love so much. And I'm not supposed to put a big picture on a page that is opposite another big picture. (It jams too easily.) Oh well.

It's so amazing that all the kids in Carmel keep organizing punk shows, and getting the bands to show up. That's a lot of effort and I'm sorry I've missed so many on these Carmel shows. I really want to go, but they always put on these shows on Saturdays when there are shows I'd rather go see in the big-ole city.

I wrote and glued most of the zine together in late 1998. I had intended it to be out in stores by early 1999. Unfortunately my motivation combined with some money problems and strong change in my music collection brought about many delays that lead to this great little zine getting put away in a box for a long and lonely time. However my recent growing interest in zining again and my old desire to finish this issue has brought it back to life. I'm happy that I am now finishing it and while some of the material is very dated, I don't think that the quality of this final issue of Swankhole is diminished in anyway.

thaxx that everyone wants to be included in:

The Risk Party gang, work-too-much Bobby, bald-too-much Mike, Fred, Greg, Mitch, Franky, Mary, Fat Bob, Emo Boy?, Johnny Quest that dork, Suzie 3:16, Big D, Robert MacNamerrah, Steve P., Spiro Agnew, Dan, the DAEs, the Lizzies, Noah Riot, and this cold fucking house becouse Mike leaves the damn window open in the winter time!!!

Bookmark the Swankhole Webpage for a quick reference to Swankhole ordering info and NEW issue announcements.

<http://www.bestweb.net/~unseen/swankhole/swankmain.htm>

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GOD IS A  
MONSTER

"I was fired until I got here. Then I got bent, now I'm just bent."  
--Joe Cast

I'm really sorry the shit in this issue is so old, but I have to print it.  
It's one of those half finished projects that itched at my mind  
forever and I absolutely had to get this fucker done.

"Would you like anything to drink with that?"  
"What do you have on tap?"

"That Five-O took my four-O!!!"  
--Bob Evil

One time I found this can of freezing liquid, kinda like liquid nitrogen or something. And Greg, Richie and I started using it to freeze things. I sprayed some on Greg's hand and his skin turned white and froze! A week later his hand was peeling dead skin and it was wet underneath. I felt so bad. A month and a half later the mark finally went away. I wish I had more of that stuff. [Joe]

One time Fred and Mike were in the A&P looking at the yogurt section, Fred picks one of the containers up and says, "Organic? Does that mean fucking your sister???"

If you do what you always do, you will get what you've always gotten.  
--Norm  
(Norm shall set you free.)

### Clove Cigarettes

Primarily imported from Indonesia, clove cigarettes are made of tobacco mixed with chopped cloves. Many users mistakenly believe that they are a healthier, herbal, "natural" nontobacco alternative to cigarettes. However clove cigarettes contain almost twice as much tar, nicotine and carbon monoxide as conventional cigarettes. Thus, they have all the known hazards of tobacco cigarettes, plus the unknown hazards of the chemical constituents of cloves.



## SHOOTING YOUR CLASSMATES

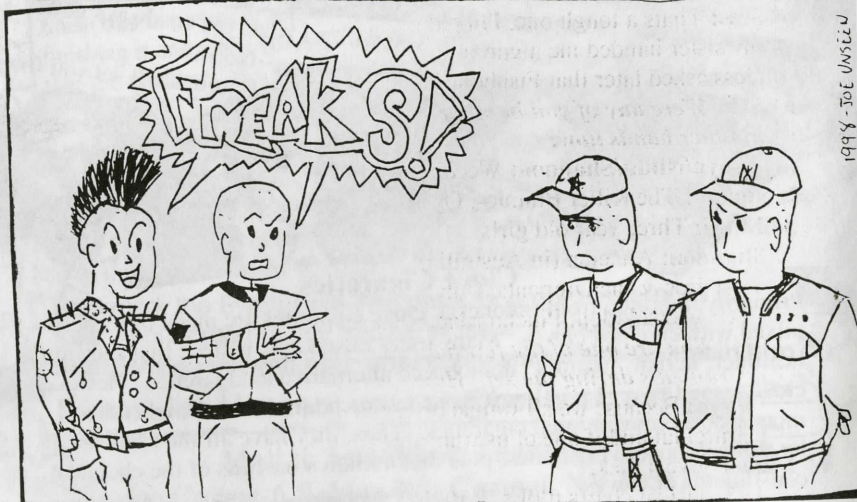
Why is the internet, movies and music getting blamed for a couple of wacked out kids in Colorado killing their classmates when the U.S. Army is not being held accountable for Timothy McVeigh blowing up a building in Oklahoma City. The Army sai McVeigh down in a classroom and specifically taught him demolitions. "If you ever need to blow up a building, here is what you do "

In one newspaper I read, they made a collage of pictures from pop culture and put Harris and Klebolds pictures on top of it, hinting that the pop culture caused the school shooting. The collage included pictures of Natural Born Killers, Marilyn Manson, The Matrix and DMX. The Matrix came out only two weeks before the shooting and those kids didn't listen to Manson or rap music, they listened to industrial rock.

Since everything under the sun is getting blamed by t.v. magazines, I want to suggest that Military recruitment advertising pushed these kids off the deep end. Daily birages of images of men using guns and bombs, trying to be all they can be are obviously responsible for school violence in this country. Every school guidance office has racks of pamphlets about the military. It's twisting the minds of teenagers into violent animals. We have to stop this scourge and lock up all those villanous military recruiters!

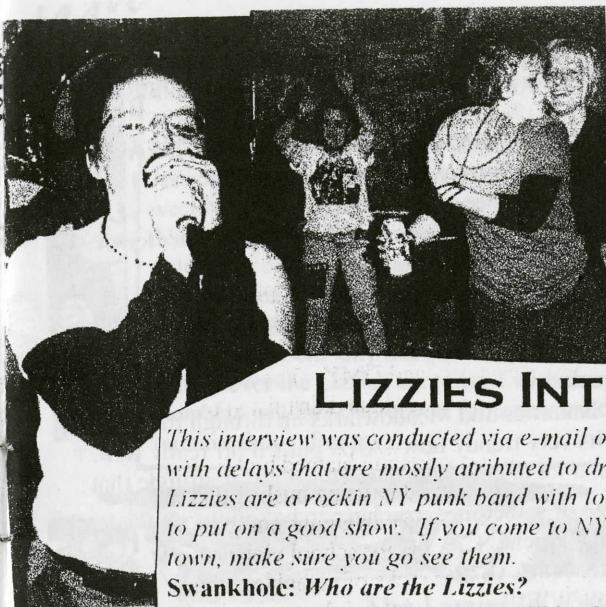
## FAST FOOD

I have a lot of friends who work in fastfood places. And they've told me horror stories so disgusting that I have a hard time believing them. One story however has been confirmed by more that one group of fast food friends working in different places. The long standing, time honored tradition of spitting on Cops food. Most drive thru has two windows now. When the cops pay at the first window, the cashier shouts to the cooks that order number "X" is for cops. This gets the attention of everyone working in the back. The burgers are passed around the kitchen with the top bun off and everyone working spits on the meat. From what I've heard these sandwiches can get really soggie when 10-15 people spit in them, wraped in wax paper and handed to the cops when they get to second window.



1994-10-10 08:11:11





## LIZZIES INTERVIEW

*This interview was conducted via e-mail over a long period of 3 months with delays that are mostly attributed to drunkenness on both ends. The Lizzies are a rockin NY punk band with lots of motivation and a guarantee to put on a good show. If you come to NY or the Lizzies come to your town, make sure you go see them.*

**Swankhole:** *Who are the Lizzies?*

**Lizzies:** The Lizzies are Robyn, Nikki, Shannon and Jess.

**SH:** *How long have you been together? How did the band get started?*

**Lizzies:** We've been the Lizzies since fall of 1997. Robyn, Shannon and Nikki met at Riot Grrl NYC in its second incarnation, and started a band with a crazy girl who we booted. Then Robyn met Jess through Dave Powell at Abc No Rio and formed the Lizzies, you know, the girl gang in the *Warriors*...

*(Warriors-Cult gang movie from 1979. SH)*

**SH:** *What are your favorite bands and/or influences if you have any?*

**Robyn:** Aus Rotten, Bikini Kill, Elvis, Tone Loc, Cider Jack, CLive Calder and the Furies.

**Shannon:** Huggy Bear, Bikini Kill, Hole, Slant 6

**Nikki:** AFI, Propagandhi, Huggy Bear, Wu-Tang esp. Method Man, Kid Dynamite, Saves the Day, and Stefan Disgust.

**Jess:** That's a tough one. I'm old and I listen to everything. When I was 13 my sister handed me a guitar and said "like Joan Jett, Jess, Jimi Hendrix..." (Jess asked later that Fishbone be added to this list.)

**SH:** *Were any of you in other bands before the Lizzies, or are any of you in other bands now?*

**Robyn/Nikki/Shannon:** Weebitched. (before the Lizzies)

**Robyn:** The Killer Bunnies, Open Sore. (now)

**Nikki:** Three year old girls.

**Shannon:** Anaema (in Australia)

**Jess:** Jess & the Dropouts, Holy feast of the falafel Eucharist (bird hippie shit), Vrotsukidoji, Pinchu Macha, Evacuate.

**SH:** *You are one of the few bands who rotate members with different instruments during the set. How did this come to be?*

**Robyn:** Because we all wanna be UP FRONT, and cause we're not heirarchical and if one of us wants to play guitar, bass, drums or sing, we dont' give a fuck.

**All:** musical chairs r00Ls, it r00Ls! (hi five)







**SH:** *You've got a demo coming out, with a CD release set for January 99. What's going to be on the CD? Any plans for vinyl releases?*

**All:** Everything we still remember and like. as for vinyl--hopefully a split with Puss-n-Boots.

**SH:** *I saw you play at ABC No RIO back in September 98. Do you get to play out often? Where else have you played?*

**Shannon:** We play out about once a month.

**Jess:** We played ABC like 5 times. 2 squats. CT. Westchester. Jersey. Coney once...

**All:** As long as its all ages.

**SH:** *What do you think of Ska music and Emo bands?*

**Robyn:** I don't give a fuck.

**Nikki:** Emo boys are cute.

**Jess:** I love ska form Skatalites and Meadowlarks up through the English Beat & the Specials. Its very trendy now--AAA pulls it off really well. I think Fugazi is cool but a lot of emo kids have this bullshit attitude that

like, its immature to pogo or something, you have to be serious all the time. (Nikki: They cry too much..hehe..)

**Jess:** I don't like that. yo. I kick yo ass.

**Robyn:** Yeah you bALoWWW!!!

**Shannon:** Alright, alright, next question.

**SH:** *If you were a character on the Simpsons, what character would you be?*

**Robyn:** Homer

**Shannon:** Maggie

**Nikki:** Nelson (haha)

**Jess:** I don't watch tv.

**SH:** *Do any or all of you like the Spice Girls? And if so, which is your favorite Spice Girl?*

**Robyn:** No!

**Shannon:** Spice who?

**Nikki:** I'll spice yr mom.

**Jess:** Sporty.

**SH:** *Where do the Lizzies want to go?*

**Robyn:** Not New Jersey.

**Nikki:** I love New Jersey boys.

**Shannon:** Back to Australia, to visit.

**Jess:** I wanna go to Rio at carnival and dance my ass off.

**SH:** *And finally...most importantly....do you like professional wrestling? If so, what kind?*

**Nikki:** Professional wrestlers are fascists.

**Robyn:** The Undertaker is da bomb.

**Shannon:** Dude, Hulk Hogan. Jake the Snake. I used to wrestle my brothers and sisters.

**Jess:** Janto, but I really prefer the Sweet Science.

**All:** There yeah go we're the Lizzies!

**CONTACT THE LIZZIES:**

*The Lizzies*

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### LIZZIES UPDATE

In the long time that it took me to write this Zine and get it printed a lot of things changed. The members of the Lizzies were each going in different directions, such as Nikki attending an out of state college, Jessica getting married and the rest just moved on with their lives. The weekly need to practice was forced to the back seat and eventually the decision was made to stop being a band. While they were together they didn't play out as much as they should have and some of the projects they planned never came to be. But they did finish their CD and manage to put of some truly unforgettable shows. I'm glad to have seen them live in New York City many times and be a witness to a great band. Where-ever the Lizzies are today I wish them the best. Maybe the members will find the time to form new bands and perhaps manage out a reunion show. Peace.

### The Lizzies @ C-Squat

Friday the 13th of November, 1998

This was my first time going to C-Squat. It's a squat like ABC No RIO, except it's huge inside, with lots of rooms and a big room that has the small stage in it for the bands to play on. The room is open to the floor above it so there is a kind of balcony thing going on. Lots of people can see the band in this place, it's so perfect for shows. It is really unfortunate that shows don't happen here on a more regular basis. Anyway, first up were the Lizzies. I've seen them once before, they were really great the last time. They were great this time. Again they rotated their members, and told princess Di die! jokes between their songs. Bad jokes during the set is a Lizzies staple. In C-Squat there is a basketball hoop set up and the Lizzies spent a lot of time playing basketball with each other. They are full of energy on and off the stage. I took pictures of them so if you want to see them acting like the Globe Trotters lemme know.

Next was Foundation. They were a really heavy grind core band. I can't say they were IN YOUR FACE grind core because they keep their backs to the crowd. (Don'tcha hate that?) They played heavy and strong and I talked to the singer after the set and he was really cool.

The crowd was very interesting. I saw a lot of ABC regulars, a lot of people that I can only describe as Squat kids, though many of them probably aren't kids. And they all had their dogs! I've seen Squat kids bring their dogs to shows before, but tonight there was so many dogs it was like a kennel. During Foundations set, there was a dog fight and the crowd formed a circle around them to watch. The Dreggs were scheduled to play, and I swear to the non-existent god that I really wanted to see them live. (I have both their 7"s) BUT I had to catch a train home with Crissy and we needed some food and more beer. Next time Dreggs!!!





# Whit

## Vanilla Ice @ The Wetlands, NYC

November 4, 1998

by: Joe Unseen

# Castle

SM

Mitch came to visit me at my job a while back with some exciting news! Vanilla Ice was going to have a show at the Wetlands for \$10. Blinking twice and waiting for the punchline, he dared me to verify his find through TicketBastard. Sure enough, the Ice, the Green Machine was coming up from Miami to play a New York show! Money was passed, time from work was requested, beer was purchased, and Mitch and I were on our way to the Wetlands!!! Ice Ice Baby!!!

When we arrived the place was packed. I b-lined for the merchandise table and got a Vanilla Ice t-shirt just so I could wear it everyday and say, "I HAVE IT! YOU DON'T!" to everyone I know. The crowd was mixed. I tried to talk to as many people as I could. The general consensus was that "It's Vanilla Ice! How can I not come to this show?" And that is exactly how I felt. The show was scheduled for 8. We arrived late at 8:30. The Ice man was taking his sweet time which meant I had to maintain a buzz on all the overpriced imported beers that the Wetland serves because they boycott everyone else. I read a lot of political pamphlets along the walls. The cool thing about the Wetlands is that it's like a library with political information.

After a long time, The Green Machine finally came out at 10:30 or so. You've probably all heard by now that his new sound is like the old sound of Korn or the Limp Biskets. (Largely due to the producer of all three acts being the same guy.) He played all the songs from the new album "Hard to Swallow" and talked to us between almost every song. He liked to talk a lot of shit about smoking weed and kept giving the weed hand sign every 2 seconds. The crowd danced hard and I did too. We had a lot of fun. At one point the Ice said, "Yeah yeah yeah, I used to live an image, and yeah I took the money...but that old image wasn't mine it was made for me!" And I screamed as loud as I could, "Bullshit!" Then the Ice said, "This next song is called Prozac!" And I screamed, "This next song

YES, I MET VANILLA ICE!  
HERES How.

anything less  
than the best  
is a felony.



11 4'98



is called BULLSHIT!!!!" People around me were laughing and shit. After his initial set the band and Iee went back stage, and we started chanting the lyrics to Ninja Rap from "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 2: Secret of the Ooze." (Because Iee had a cameo in said film.) He came back out for an anchore. They did some "freestyle" rapping and some more Korn like music. Mitch noticed that the keyboardist hit keys in sync with Iee making rap sound effects. (Raising a Milli Vanilli Iee suspicion.) Then he said goodnight and left, and the lights came on.

The place emptied out slow and a line formed on the side of the stage. Mitch encouraged me to stick around with him on this line because they seemed to be letting people into the back stage room. I was skeptical that we'd get in, but Mitch was persistent. While on line we talked to all these other people about stuff. I met a girl who also made a zine so we traded addresses to get each other's zines. I love networking.

**THEN THE UNEXPECTED HAPPENED!!!!**

The Wetlands bouncers opened a door and let us all back stage. It was like being let into Andy Warhol's Factory. (Well, maybe not!) There were couches and sofas on every wall, with bizarre looking women crowded onto each one. They had lots of gothic make-up and were dressed in all black, leather, vinyl, fishnets...freaky guys who looked like they just came from an East Village gallery opening. And there in the middle of it all, on a bar stool was the Iee. He had blood shot eyes and was sipping a Hieneken. (Imported Wetland favorite.)



Mitch and I walked right up to him like the 12 people already hording around him didn't exist, and he gave us his full attention. We talked to him for like 15 minutes about all sorts of things like, how it was cool that the ticket price to get in was only \$10. He said, "Yeah I wanted to keep it cheep for the kids. I got the idea from Pearl Jam, you know? They fought ticket master! I saw it on TV!" Then I talked to him about his movie career, highlighting "Cool as Iee" the Vanilla Iee movie. At first he rolled his eyes like I was bringing up a bad memory, but then I started telling him things about the movie that he didn't even know. "Hey, did you know that the director of photography on your movie went on to be the regular DP for Steven Spielberg? He filmed "Schindler's List," "Amistad," and "Saving Private Ryan!" Iee's eyes got big, "Wow! I guess he moved on to bigger and better things! Hahaha" I told him that I moved "Cool as Iee" into the cult movies section of my video store. He thought that was really cool, he said, "Yo! You guys is real!!!" and shook both our hands and signed both our ticket stubs. Vanilla Iee is a really nice guy, and he was really blasted. The whole ride home Mitch and I were so excited. I personally hate the worship of celebrities, but this was Vanilla Iee...you couldn't help but get excited. I didn't wash my Iee hand for like 3 or 4 days afterwords. Meeting him was greater than the time I met the Professor from Gilligan's Island!

NEW LIGHT SOURCES

NEW RIGID ENDOSCOPES

ENDOSCOPY VIDEO APPLICATIONS

REFURBISHED EQUIPMENT

ABLE OPS

NEW LIGHT SOURCES

NEW ENDOSCOPES

ENDOSCOPY VIDEO APPLICATIONS

REFURBISHED EQUIPMENT

A FLEXIBLE ENDOSCOPES



## Unseen @ Conie Island High

February 26th, 1999

I couldn't believe the line outside Conie Island High. I never thought this many people would show up to a punk show, but they did. While freezing on line and getting yelled at by the Conie Island sidewalk goons. I heard people talking about how Anti-Flag played for a crowd of a thousand people recently. I said, "Sheeeccit!" We finally got inside and I saw like a million familiar people which is always cool.

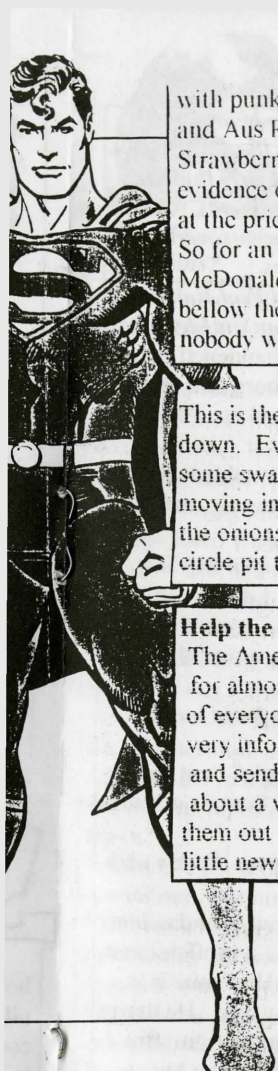
(Quickly the bands) The first band up was Plan A Project from New Jersey which I really liked the first time I saw them, however after listening to their records and seeing them this second time. I can't help but think that they sound way too poppy. Ehh. The Toxic Avenger was hosting the show and he was giving away Troma Films to people who would do gross dares. One kid licked the stage; another stuck his finger into Mr. Kabookyman's belly button. The kid who got the free video after Plan A played had to kiss Plan A's guitarist on his bare ass. The guy dropped his pants and his boxers exposing his ass, wang, sack everything. And this punk from the crowd dropped to his knees and placed his wet lips upon his ass! He got a free video though. I took a picture of it. Second up was the Pinkerton Thugs who are from Boston or Maine, depending on the band member you ask. They played a lot of working class songs which is cool, and I liked one or two of the songs they played and the crowd went nuts for and sang along to. However the rest of their set was average. After that the Unseen came out. I really dig this band. Their sound is really good and they rotate their band members so their sound changes with the set. A few people have accused this band of not being political enough, but they are fun to see live and sometimes that alone is just as important. (Only sometimes.) After the Unseen finished, a lot of kids split because Anti-Flag aren't cool to like in many circles. I hung around anyway having seen them many times before not expecting much new, but to my suprise they played really well and the crowd danced their asses off and it turned out to be one of the funnest bands of the evening. When they played *Die for the Government* the stage filled with kids trying to sing along with the band and you couldn't see (or hear) a single band member during the whole song. I love it when that happens. After that the Candy Snatchers were going to play, and I wanted to see them live at least once in my life because I'm always reading about how crazy they are in fanzines but I've never been a witness. However tonight wasn't my night to see em because my pals from Fishkill (including Karin of 5 Degrees Warner zine) wanted to bust some food and bounce. (Which I didn't mind anyway.) They had a car and offered me a very generous ride back home so I accepted and left with them.

My friends wanted to get food really badly and decided it would be best to go around the corner from Conie and eat at McDonalds. I started complaining and calling them corporate whores and making fun of McDonalds. They shrugged it off and said, "It's just food, we're hungry!" So I grudgingly walk into McDonalds, having never been in this place except to use the free bathroom, and to my shock the place was wall to wall





!CONT'!



with punks!!! Every table had a crew of spikey haired kids each with Crass and Aus Rotten patches, munching away on Big Macs and slurping down Strawberry shakes! I wanted to pull out my camera and start collecting evidence of this crime in progress, but then I found myself on line looking at the prices of Root beer and the Mc Veggie Burger which I've never tried. So for an evening I became a corporate whore myself and sat in a McDonalds full of punks, trying hard to hide my Crass patch and ducking bellow the table everytime someone I knew walked past the window hoping nobody would see me inside McDonalds eating.

This is the last show that I went to at Conie Island High before it closed down. Even though they were lame with bouncers and rules, they still had some swank punk shows all the time. I heard a rumor that Burger King is moving into the Conie building. When I'm in there buying my Whopper hold the onions, I'm going to look around and say, "Yup... The stage was here, the circle pit there, and the SUBHUMANS packed this place."

#### Help the ACLU help everyone.

The American Civil Liberties Union is an organization that has been around for almost a hundred years. During its time it has fought for the civil rights of everyone from the Ku Klux Klan to the Nation of Islam. Their website is very informative and contains a section where you can type in your zip code and send an e-mail and a fax to your House Representative or your Senator about a variety of issues. You can volunteer for the ACLU or you can help them out with membership donations. Membership is \$20 a year and you get little news letters and an ACLU membership card. Get in touch with them at

[www.aclu.org](http://www.aclu.org)

--or--

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OUNCES



PUNCH PEOPLE  
"8"

## PUNCH PEOPLE

*One day, while he ate soup and rubbed his tired eyes after being on his radio show all night long, I got to interview Noah Riot of the Punch People over the phone about his Band and experiences. Chris the other half was "telepathically" present yet made no official comments. Noah suffers from multiple personality disorder and fased through several of his "various alliaises!" Creating some interesting answers.*

**Swankhole:** *So what came first. Punch People or Retard Riot Radio?*

**How did you guys come about making this band more than an Idea?**

**Noah Riot:** That's a hard question. I guess Punch People happened first. Many years ago in a land far far away. In 1977 punk was born and Punch People invented it. And Ronald Reagan had sex with a monkey. Plus O!

**SH:** *So you spontaneously combusted?*

**Noah:** Punch People spontaneously combusted. We are flammable belly button lint. Guitars are great when they are playing punk music. and I have testicles.

**SH:** *How long have Punch People been around? Who's idea was it?*

**Noah:** It was my idea and it's been uh, see...(chew chew)...I dunno. It's been...fuck...I don't remember! It's been many years. The Crooked Eye Killer would play guitar. and our code word for that to begin would be "Punch People!"

**SH:** *Which brings me to my next question, where did the band name come from?*

**Noah:** It's an anti-gun statement. it's better to "punch people" than shoot them. Punch first shoot later! We are a peace punk band. but our music is music that kills you! (Burrrp)

**SH:** *Have you ever taken Punch People live? How did you do this with only 2 band members?*

**Noah:** (Laughs) We take everybody in the audience and put birthday hats on their heads and make them smoke angel dust. We have a proffessional drummer and we have taken the band live once or twice. His name is Donny Stroffoliniololo and he's the biggest pervert in the world. He drives around with no pants on and pees on his own car at the gas station. But we've never actually played with him. oh wait we have! We are a low maintainence band because you shouldn't work too hard for anything. just make anarchy.

**SH:** *I have your two tapes and I've listened to them like a billion times. They sound like you guys were drinking a lot and just having fun. Is there any kind of process that you go through when you make your albumns and write your songs?*

**Noah:** Um...first we read ten books by Noam Chomsky. then uh, we analyze some 40 ounces. then we hit record. It's all off the top of the head! It's all off the dome piece. Free style! Crack vile! It's hainus! We'll stick it in your anus!

**SH:** *What is with your obsesions with dentists, librarians, knives on teeth and Ninjas? Both your tapes mention these things more than once.*

**Noah:** (Laughs) Wow...I should see a psychiatrist. No. uh...teeth are for biting people. you need gold caps and knives and stuff. Ninjas. basicaHy ninjas are great! But they are real shiesty individuals. you have to look out for them. Librarians are in the public eye. anarchy. fuck me in the goat ass. or all of the above





# PUNCH people

**SH:** *What is the story with your love of Sammy Davis Jr.? Are you Rat Pack fans?*

**Noah:** I'm jewish and so is Sammy Davis. we were in it together in the Zionist banking conspiracy. We go way back. We both have glass eyes. he has one. I have two. That's why I don't like to go driving. (Burp)

**SH:** *And that's why it's punk to be blind?*

**Noah:** Cowboys are cool because they hang out with cactusses and stuff. And cactusses have spikes on them like punks.

**SH:** *Why don't you like Canada and Canadians?*

**Noah:** I love Canada. You know what. fuck canada! I got a box from canada filled with demo tapes and they look all professional and they're dumb. I listened to them for like five seconds. And I don't like the way they talk! Canadians are okay I guess.

**SH:** *"It's punk to be blind" and "Riot Party" are probably your greatest top 40 hits, how did you guys write these songs? What inspired them?*

**Noah:** Casey Casum is a real bugger. and the thing with top 40 hits is um. you have to not say anything to not really know what your going to do... furthermore...after x-mas...compact discs are gay

**SH:** *So it's just you guys, Noah and Chris and uh... "Dr. Ninja." Do you make your tapes on regular tape recorders? How do you record your tapes?*

**Noah:** We use a DJ mixer and a tape deck. And a cheap sampler. We record our albums on pieces of shit.

**SH:** *Are you guys on any medication? You both have multiple personality disorders. Are you going through therapy?*

**Noah:** Umm... NO! (laughs)

**SH:** *I know you guys are influenced heavily from Fossil Fuel. What other bands would you consider to be your all time favorites?*

**Noah:** (Deep sigh) That's a hard ass question! Wu-Tang Clan. Dead Kennedys. and M.O.P. Actually I hate all bands.

**SH:** *Do you like the Spice Girls?*

**Noah:** Uh...hehe yeah! I got a Spice Girls tatoo. it says the Spice Girls like a prison tatoo and it's all over my face.

**SH:** *What is the rarest piece of vinyl that you'd like to own?*

**Noah:** A Punch People record! I like scratching. so anything I could scratch.

**SH:** *What do you plan to do in the future with Punch People?*

**Noah:** Records. world tour. running for president. dressing up in batman costumes. running throught the streets of the United States of Anarchy

**SH:** *Well that's it, thanks for doing this interview. Want to mention your tapes?*

**Noah:** People should send records to me so that they can be heard on Retard Riot Radio. Punch People tapes are \$3ppd. Send a SASE for free patches and a tape list.

Noah Riot/ 67 Barclay Road/ Clintondale, NY 12515

punk

rock

Retard Riot



40 SECONDS






## A brief history of the Vietnam War

### *Sounding smart at parties*

When I was in school, we covered american history up until the 1950's. The end of the year always seemed to creep up on us, we read about President Truman and then we clean out our lockers. The final would have no questions about the years 1950-1990 with the exception of maybe an optional essay question (out of 15 other essays) on the Vietnam war. It was almost as if the teachers intentionally slowed the lesson down on the **Civil War** or the **Great Depression** just so they wouldn't have to teach HISTORY about things that they personally remember or lived through. So I was forced to read about that period of recent history on my own and it's really interesting what the united states did during that period of time, and how it has created the government and opinions that we have now.

Before WWII, Vietnam was under French Colonial rule. That ended when the Japanese invaded in 1940. During this time the Vietnamese people had strong nationalist feelings and desired to rule their own country. The united states aided the Vietnamese people with weapons and other support to help fight the Japanese and promised an independant Vietnam after the war. However when the war ended, the French reclaimed the country as their colony. The Vietnamese people were enraged. Ho Chi Minh a Vietnamese Nationalist leader and his followers known as the Viet Minh siezed Hanoi and declared a short lived, independent republic that ended in 1946 with the arrival of French troops (largely supplied by the united states military still in the region after the recently ended WWII pacific campaign.)

China then supplied the the Viet Minh with military aid it needed to fight the French. The Viet Minh held a decided victory over the French on May 5, 1954 at the battle of Dien Bien Phu. This ~~secret~~ treaty signed in Geneva that resulted in the division of Vietnam into a Northern Communist state and a Southern Republic. The united states and the CIA had great influence over the new South Vietnam and overthrew and assassinated elected officials in favor of more western friendly replacements. Occasional fighting between the two countries grew with the steady increase of united states military involvement over the terms of 5 u.s. presidents. (Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson & Nixon ) In 1965 there were 184,000 u.s. troops in Vietnam. In 1966 B-52s were heavily bombing the DMZ and the Ho Chi Minh Trail to try to stop the North Vietnamese troops and Viet Cong guerrilla fighters from entering South Vietnam. By 1968 the u.s. had over half a million troops in Vietnam and the North launched a surprise attack known as the Tet Offensive where Viet Cong and N.Vietnam troops attacked several key u.s. positions in unison throughout S.Vietnam including the capital of Saigon! Pres. Johnson halts the bombardment of the north and peace talks in Paris begin. Then Richard Nixon gets into office. At first he spoke heavily of peace talks and treaties, and he even began a slow withdrawl of u.s. troops from Vietnam. But over the next several years he used an invasion of Cambodia, bombings, and the mining of northern ports as negotiating tools to bring North Vietnam to peace conferences. In 1969  Ho Chi Minh died at the age of 79, never seeing a unified Vietnam in his lifetime.





In the united states there were heavy protests to the u.s. involvement in the war, and congress began curbing support of the war effort. By 1973 this pressure forced Nixon to end military operations in



U.S. Marines came under heavy fire in Hue during the Tet offensive launched by Communist forces in 1968.

Vietnam and sign peace treaties in Paris, ending the longest war in u.s. history. By Jan 27th, 1973 the last u.s. troops left Vietnam. Between 1973 and 1975 the north and the south continued the skirmish and accuse each other of treaty violations. Full scale war resumes in 1975 and on April 30th of that year, the north conquers the south and the u.s. embassy in Saigon is dramatically evacuated. By 1976 Vietnam was unified and independent after decades of struggle. [*And no I didn't copy this word-for-word from an encyclopedia.*]

## Important things about the Vietnam Era

**Abbie Hoffman:** Loud anti-war protester. Look this guy up on your own. He was amazing. (portrayed in movie Forrest Gump, was the guy in the flag shirt and brought Tom Hanks up to the microphone.)

**Daniel Ellsberg:** Important anti-war figure. Liberated the Pentagon Papers, and gave them to the New York Times.

**Dien Bien Phu:** Decisive battle on May 5th, 1954. The N. Vietnamese defeat the French breaking France's desire to continue their war.

**Fall of Saigon:** April 30th, 1975. N. Vietnam forces take Saigon, the S. Vietnamese capital. This is where we get all those Life magazine photos of the embassy evacuation with people and marines jumping into helicopters as they lift off from rooftops.

**Gulf of Tonkin:** On Aug. 2nd, 1964 N. Vietnamese gun boats reportedly attack u.s. destroyers. This event led to greater u.s. involvement in the war.

**Gen. Westmoreland:** Commander of u.s. forces in Vietnam. (Schwarzcoff of the Vietnam war.)

**Hanoi** Capital of North Vietnam.





**Hardcore Regulars:** North Vietnamese Military. Not Viet Cong.

**Henry Kissinger:** Secretary of State under Nixon.

**Hippies:** Pot smokers. Later became parents to metal and rap fans.

**Ho Chi Minh:** Communist leader of the Viet Minh, North Vietnamese.

**Ho Chi Mihn Trail:** Complex network of over and underground trails throughout Laos and Cambodia that N. Vietnam used to supply forces and attack S. Vietnam. Critical for the Tet Offensive.

**James Schlesinger:** Secretary of Defense under Nixon.

**Jane Fonda:** Actress with strong anti-war feelings. Was a master of putting her foot into her mouth. To this day veterans of the war hate her for harsh anti-american comments she made on a visit to North Vietnam during the 60's.?? Later married the rat bastard Ted Turner.

**Lyndon Johnson:** President 1963 to 1969. A regular Rat bastard!

**My Lai:** One of many villages in Vietnam sacked by u.s. forces. Famous for being leaked to the press. Documentation of rape, assassinations and burning of entire village by u.s. troops covered in u.s. newspapers. 72 Sort of depicted in movie *Platoon*.

**David Miller:** First anti-war demonstrator arrested by the FBI for burning his draft card in 1965.

**Napalm:** Sticky inflammable liquid dropped in tumble canisters by u.s. airplanes. Very destructive and considered by many to be an inhumane form of warfare. Manufactured by DOW Chemical.

**Pentagon Papers:** A clerk named Daniel Ellsberg, working for the Pentagon secretly takes home page by page a multi-volume classified document on the expansion of the Vietnam war. He then heroically delivers copies to the NYTimes, Washington Post, and Boston Globe. The newspapers heroically publish parts of the document, resulting in a temporary restraining order from the Nixon administration, leading to one of the most important 1st Admendment rulings in u.s. history. Richard Nixon vs. The New York Times.

**Richard Nixon:** A rat bastard! Corrupt as hell!

**Robert McNamara:** Secretary of Defense under Johnson. Instrumental in u.s. operations and involvement in Vietnam. Rat bastard!

**Saigon:** Capital of South Vietnam. Renamed Ho Chi Mihn City.

**Spiro Agnew:** Vice President under Nixon. Rat bastard.

**Tet Offensive:** Massive attack in 1968 by North Vietnam. Major turning point in war.

**Viet Cong:** North Vietnamese guerrilla fighters.

**Yippies:** Loud anti-war demonstrators mainly in NYC. Lead by Abbie Hoffman and others. Caused lots of mischief.



SHAMEFUL DAY:

My Lai





## Showcase Showdown @ The Pyramid (NYC)

December 20, 1998

This was the first show that Mike and I had been to at the Pyramid, and the first time we'd get to see Showcase Showdown in a long long time. The line-up looked so swank, lots of bands and most of them we've either seen before or own alot of their records. The Skabs were still in our heads from seeing them the week before with the Lizzies at Parkside Lounge, and listening to their very fine seven inch in the past several weeks. Plan A Project was also a long waiting first for us on this event filled afternoon.

While waiting outside the club, we ran into a lot of familiar faces. Along the sidewalk in front of us, some old guy in an army jacket was selling lots of garbage he found, for way too much money. Amongst the worn out supermarket paperbacks was a single milk crate filled with LPs of mostly old heavy metal bands. Nobody bothered to look at this excepting Emo-boy who casually walked over to the crate and pulled out a Stations of the Cross double LP. The sidewalk shifted as every punk against the wall jumped to the crate to sink their hands into it. The guy in the army jacket got nervous as the crowd decended upon him and he jumped to his feet to pay attention to the interest. The Cross vinyl was the only piece of punk in the crate, so many people quickly stepped back, and the few interested in the records didn't like the heavy price tag on it. Since every person there wanted it, the greedy bastard wouldn't come down on his price. The vinyl went back into the crate with Iron Maiden and Def Leppard as everyone went back to sitting against the wall. The Army jacket guy sat down to return to his conversation with the street vendor next to him.

Mike grumbled, "That fuck doesn't deserve to try at sell that Cross record for such a fucked up price!" Mike got up, walked to the crate, took out both records, and walked down the street...all the way down the street!!! The eyes of everypunk on him with a snicker. The attention of the army jacket guy deep in conversation. I chased after him to help him get the records into his backpack. They just fit into his torn safety pinned Jansport. We returned to the line, Mike triumphant with two Cross records for free. Yeah!

The Pyramid has some huge guys at the door checking bags and patting clothes. Doh! I hate that shit. Inside the bar is covered with pennies, old keys, old NYC subway tokens and such covered in laquer, which was pretty neat. The first band to play were mondo lame. I don't remember their name but they tried to do a serious cover of an Exploited song and fucked it up none-the-less. Whatever. After that came the good bands. Foundation! Heavy grindy songs that are good to dance to. I've seen this band plenty of times live like at ABC and C-Squat. I've never had a bad time at one of their shows. I like em! After that came Plan A Project from New Jersey. (But don't let that get to you.) They are better live than on their records I think. They are one of the few bands with true musical talent. While watching them play their guitars I just stared in awe and wished I'd never stabbed grandma in the leg and given up the clarinet! I could be them now!

SHOWCASE SHOWDOWN UPDATE: I don't know why, I've not heard officially from band members, but I got word through the usual sources that Showcase Showdown, one of my favorite punk bands ever...has called it quits and is no more. (;-)



"Yo, I need a bottle of A-200 shampoo!"

-Dave G. (DAFs)





WATCH TOWER  
... cool and popular, I started smoking in the sixth grade. In the seventh grade, I started using LSD and smoking pot. In the eighth grade, I started shooting a drug called speed 1.

Next notable band to grace the stage was the Skabs. If you don't like the Skabs, there is something mentally wrong with you. Their sound and look is hard to explain. They have a keyboard and they have some really hard fast songs. They all dress funny. I've heard the singer Hellen described many times as "gothic." I'm not sure if that's entirely accurate. She has a great stage presence because she acts out the songs she sings with little gestures and facial expressions, then when the songs go crazy, she squints down and screams her guts out. Still photography cannot capture the energy and presence of a live Skabs show. I've said many times that if a certain band comes to your town, you HAVE to go see them. The Skabs are one such band!

After the Skabs blew us away, Showcase Showdown from Boston started to set up. Showcase is a FUN band. Meaning if you see them live you are gaurenteed a fun time. This time was quite possibly the funnest Showcase show I've ever been to. The guitarist was dressed in a Santa coat. Albert the singer was dressed as a christmas tree wearing x-mas lights and x-mas balls all over his body. They opened their set with lots of holiday songs in punk fashion. They did like, "White Christmas" and "Winter Wonderland" really fast and loud with electric guitars. People were going nuts and singing along!!! They also did their own original punk holiday songs like "Ho-Ho-Hochimihn," as well as old classics like "Fuck you Norway" and my favorite, "213" about destroying Beverly Hills and the rich culture that thrives there. This show was the best five bucks I spent the entire year of 1998. Oh yes!!!

# the Showcase Showdown



1998-Joe Jusien



It was a lot of fun when I still lived with my parents. Free rent, free food and all night drinking parties in the basement livingroom. Onetime my mommy and daddy went away on vacation, leaving only my sister and myself at home. Mike lived at my house most of that week and the house smelled like a brewery with all the empties piled and fermenting about the house.

At the end of the week it was time to start cleaning the neglected house and my sister came to me while I was in the supermarket. "Joe, what's the TV doing in the pool?" I turned to Mike and our eyes got big. "Oh shit, we forgot to take it out! We have to do that!" A day and a half later my mother came to me and asked the same question. I felt so stupid. I forgot again to take the tv out of the pool.

Richie walked around his High School telling people he was putting them on his list. The principal gave him a 5 day suspension and made him see a psychotherapist. In response he painted the words "I AM NOT A KILLER" on his jacket and wears it everyday.

**Tales of the Domestic Animal Eaters** --Carmel's best kept secret. Over at Travis's house they have a real human skull of a seven year old boy. They got it from some relative who worked in a University or something and the store room was cleaned out and he got to keep the skull. Now when Travis hangs out with his friends, the skull makes appearances, and rumor has it that Dave stuck his tally-wacker inside it and had sex with this skull of a seven year old boy. Hmmm.

STOP THE DRUG WAR NOW!

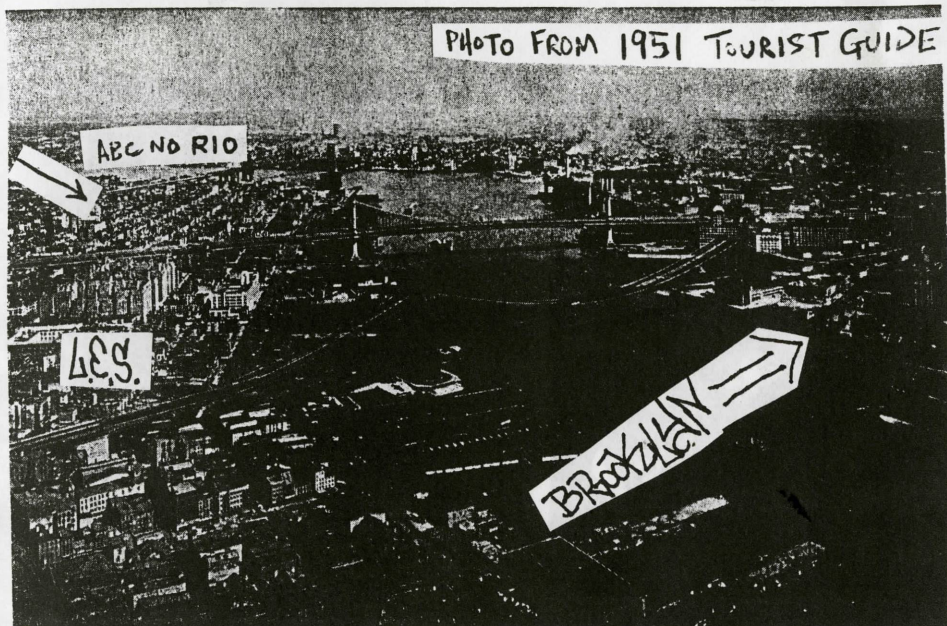


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The East River With the Brooklyn, Manhattan and Williamsburg Bridges, Connecting Manhattan With Brooklyn



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