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EVICT BIG BROTHER



RESIST THE G8

SHEFFIELD 15-17 JUNE

PROTEST & ACTION & EDUCATION AGAINST THE G8
(IN)JUSTICE MINISTERS

YOU ARE BEING LIED TO

....RESIST THE G8 IN SHEFFIELD.....

From the 15th - 17th June the Justice and Interior Ministers from the eight most powerful countries in the world - the G8 - will meet in Sheffield. Groups of local people are coming together to show them how unwelcome they and their painful policies are. But also to create space where we can share experiences, learn from each other, and explore alternatives through which we can prioritise the needs, dignity and joy of people and protect our environment. While the G8 Ministers are in Sheffield discussing policies and tactics of increasing repression, we will make clear our rejection of them and work towards true freedom, peace and democracy.

If you make people frightened enough they will agree to anything.....

It has been argued by many that if you get people to be scared enough they will easily give up hard won civil liberties and turn on others to protect themselves. Is this what is happening to us - a constant bombardment of images and sound bites from the media, politicians and other people who we are told "know best", whipping up a disproportionate fear of crime, fear of foreigners, fear of migrant workers and asylum seekers, probably even fear of our own neighbours. Where will this end and where will it leave us and our communities? What will our lives be like when we have traded in all our civil liberties to protect ourselves from these exaggerated demons? No rights to be angry with our government? No right to protest and demand change? Unlimited detention? Trial without jury? Not knowing what we are on trial for? House Arrest? No scope for anonymity and personal freedom - ID cards, CCTV, databases, DNA samples, retina scans? No right to asylum and freedom from persecution and the wars perpetuated by others? No right to work here and contribute to the economic and social well being of our communities? How long will it be until we have no rights at all and all that was hard won for us by past generations is lost?

No Justice No Peace.....

The Justice and Interior Ministers are meeting in Sheffield to discuss these very issues - how people can be controlled and monitored, how much further civil rights can be dismantled to aid the continuing so called "War on Terror", how to keep out asylum seekers and other migrants without considering how the warmongering, perpetuation of conflicts and economic exploitation of people in other countries contributes to migration and how our own countries have grown prosperous from the contribution of migrant workers. Nowhere in this dialogue is there to be any meaningful use of the word "Justice".

So who are the G8 and why do some people in Sheffield (and around the world) see them as bad guys.....?

The G8 countries are the UK, USA, France, Germany, Italy, Canada, Japan and Russia. They are the group at the heart of corporate globalisation and the key exponents of a neoliberal economic agenda. This is an agenda which essentially promotes and protects free trade in all its forms. All aspects of life, from the production and exchange of essential goods and services, through to our health care and education, are to be determined by the forces of the "free market", maximising profit for the few at any human or environmental cost. Profit clearly comes before people and the joy and dignity in life that we should all be entitled to. We see this most clearly in our everyday lives through the privatisation of public services and the increasing hardness of our working lives. In essence, at a global level, the G8 are responsible for co-ordinating this assault on our livelihoods, public services, jobs, wages and environment. In an ever increasing climate of harsh criticism and suspicion over their agenda, the G8

have made promises on seeking solutions to the world's problems, but in reality have failed to deliver in making any progressive changes. It is clearly evident that through them nothing will ever change. People and the environment continue to suffer, and increasingly so.

The UK holds the presidency of the G8 throughout 2005 and will host a summit for the leaders of the G8 in Gleneagles in Perthshire, Scotland on 6-8th of July. In the run up to this summit the Ministers of these countries will be meeting around the country to discuss a range of issues from security, trade, relations with developing countries, energy and the environment.

People in the UK and around the world are mobilising for a global day of action against the G8 Wednesday 6th July 2005 - the opening day of the G8 Summit. We in Sheffield would also like to play our part in this global groundswell and demonstrate our rejection of the G8 during the Sheffield Ministerial meeting on 15-17th June. Why not join us?

"The realistic course of action today is to demand what is seemingly impossible, that is, something new"

Don't believe what you read in the papers.....

We shouldn't be too surprised that people in power like the general population to passively accept what they want and so implement strategies and laws to ensure this. One strategy is to use the media to run scare stories about how bad people are who challenge those in power, while repressive policing tactics are hidden from view. The people who take to the streets are just like you - mothers, fathers, someone's children, friends, neighbours - just ordinary people who have had enough of injustice and hardship. Just like generations before them who struggled for decent living and working conditions, women's right to vote, jobs and civil liberties, we are just people who strive for better lives for us all. Please don't believe everything you read in the media - learn from others instead, or read about what people are working towards in your community through grassroots news websites such as www.indymedia.org.uk

So how can I join in?.....

A whole host of events are planned in Sheffield and are listed on the back of this flyer, and there are many ways you can get involved - protesting, creative actions against the G8, clowning around with the Clandestine Insurgent Rebel Clown Army, banner making, counter-conference, workshops, benefit nights of bands and sound systems, film nights, Peace in the Park festival - we hope you will be able to join us in a week long festival of resistance and change in Sheffield.

For more information contact g8-sheffield@lists.aktivix.org Join the email list via our website at www.sheffield.dissent.org.uk For people wanting to come from out of town convergence places for people to stay have been organised. Stay tuned to our website for details!

"If you go to one demonstration and then go home, that's something, but people in power can live with that. What they can't live with is sustained pressure that keeps building, organisations that keep doing things, people that learn from the last time and do better next time."

Timeline of Events

For details of events check www.sheffield.dissent.org.uk or www.sheffield.indymedia.org.uk

Meeting of Sheffield Against the G8 co-ordinating group - every Wednesday at 7.30pm upstairs in the Rutland Arms

Sunday 8th May - Punk Documentary night and anti-g8 benefit, showing Beyond the Screams and Ramen Days, Cricketers Arms, Bramall Lane at 8pm. Donation on the door. For info contact info@slendermeans.org.uk

Monday 9th May - Banner making workshop from 7pm at New Roots, Burngreave. Bring sheets/banner materials, paints and your slogans!

Sunday 15th May - Workshops and Information on G8 Summit in Gleneagles, Scotland 6th to 8th July with TRAPESE, and updates about Sheffield G8 Summit 15th to 17th June by Sheffield Dissent Network 3pm at PLAZA, 66 Spital Hill, Burngreave. More info see www.trapeze.org or www.sheffield.dissent.org.uk

Sunday 15th May - Have I got SchNEWS for you? The ultimate guided tour through the madness of contemporary politics provided by the Brighton independent media collective SchNEWS www.schnews.org.uk 7.30pm at Cricketers Arms, Bramall Lane

Sunday 29th May - A film night of satirical shorts, comedy and lots more with Beyond TV people. 8pm Cricketers Arms, Bramall Lane. For info contact infor@slendermeans.org.uk Also see www.beyondtv.org

Friday 10th & Saturday 11th June - The Clandestine Insurgent Rebel Clown Army is in town for 2 days of clown activist training and evening entertainments - details to be confirmed. For more info see <http://labofii.net/tour05> and www.sheffield.dissent.org.uk

Saturday 11 June - The third annual Peace in the Park festival, with an anti-G8 flavour, in Cemetery Lane park. For more info see www.peaceinthepark.org.uk

Saturday 11 June - Demonstration against the G8 Justice and Interior Ministers in advance of them coming to town. The demonstration will assemble at 10.30am on the Saturday and will march into the 'Peace in the Park' Festival in Cemetery Park. This march was called for by the Stop the War Coalition. For more info see www.sheffieldagainstwar.org.uk

Sunday 12 June Punk G8 Dissent Benefit gig and info sharing day for mobilisations in Sheffield and Gleneagles - more details to be confirmed. Contact info@slendermeans.org.uk

Wednesday June 15 - June 17 - opening of convergence spaces in Sheffield for people to eat, sleep, plan, create, share and learn

Wednesday 15 June - G8 Ministers arrive in town. G8 Ministers will be dining that day at the Winter Gardens.

Thursday 16 June - Ongoing Ministerial meetings in Sheffield. Ministers will be dining at the Cutlers Hall.

Thursday 16 June - Friday 17 June - Call out for actions and protest against the G8 in Sheffield. Local people against the G8 host a counterconference in the convergence space with workshops, films, music and lots more. More on details on actions and counterconference coming soon at www.sheffield.dissent.org.uk

Friday 17 June - Party to celebrate our own humanity against the inhumanity of the G8.

Saturday 25 June Bike caravan from Sheffield to G8 (to arrive in edinburgh on 2nd July). For more details contact paddygillet@hotmail.com

Wednesday 6 July - Friday 8 July G8 Leaders Summit in Gleneagles, Perthshire, Scotland. For details on convergence sites in Scotland, actions, travelling to the summit and getting involved see www.dissent.org.uk

Wednesday 6 July - Call out by People's Global Action for Day of Action against the G8. PGA are an international network of over 400 grassroots social movements who have been instrumental in co-ordinating global anti-capitalist resistance to institutions such as the WTO, IMF World Bank and the G8, linking local struggles for justice to global issues. See ww.agp.org