

**LIVING IN AN ELECTION YEAR**  
a cartoon manifesto

THIS IS ME AT WORK...



Damn, we've got labor problems. The contract's gotta be done soon, and the ironworkers are threatening to go on strike for union recognition.

Like I've been telling you, you gotta stop fighting the union. Those labor laws are there for you.

...SERVING FOOD TO THE OWNERS OF THE ECONOMY...



Your wine, gentlemen...

Thank you -- That strip mall we've been working on, we let them go union and haven't had any problems since.

Hrmmmm...



...AND SELLING BULLSHIT.



We're going to a performance of Les Misérables at the People's Theater. What wine would you recommend?

The chef recommends the Chardonnay for theater-goers.

THE BOSS OWNS THE RESTAURANT. WE MAKE THE FOOD, SELL IT AND SERVE IT.



IN EXCHANGE FOR ENOUGH TO SURVIVE, WE TAKE ORDERS ALL DAY.

THE SAME HOUR REPEATS ITSELF IN A MACHINE-CONTROLLED RHYTHM...



Hello/Bonjour. These are our specials for today. Are you ready to order? Would you like wine with that? Here's your bread and butter. Would you like to see a dessert menu? How about some coffee? Can I get anything else for you today? Here's the check. Thank you/Merci.

...SLOWLY EATING UP MY TIME IN 5-HOUR LUNCHES, 7-HOUR DINNERS AND 13-HOUR SPLIT SHIFTS.

AT WORK WE MAKE THE BOSSES' MONEY MAKE MORE MONEY

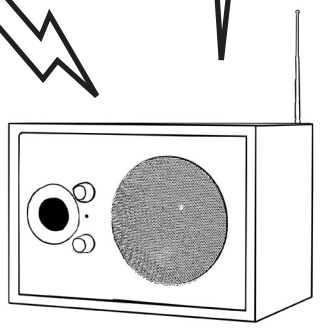
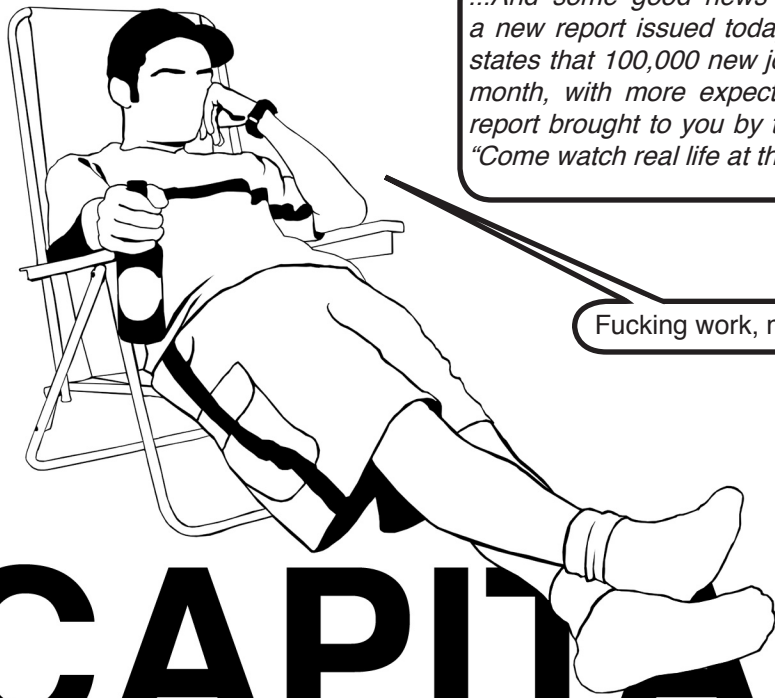
OUR DEAD TIME IS THEIR CAPITAL

IT'S THE BASIS OF THIS SOCIETY...

*...the chief of police assured local business owners that their property would be protected during protests... -- ...with hundreds of thousands in affected areas of Sudan... -- ...said that despite the record temperatures evidence for global warming was still inconclusive... -- ...all I'm saying is that you have no right to complain if you don't vote... -- ... a new terror alert issued today... -- ...a tragic shooting in a crowded MacDonalds left two dead, including the store's owner... -- ...of course in those days, women were not allowed to be actors... -- ...another suicide bomber... -- ...a spokesperson for the mayor claimed that he had no knowledge of the actions of the construction company, but promised that those at fault would be held responsible... -- ...you see, the thing about the Geneva conventions is that they were never designed for situations like these... -- ...researchers have found that the pigeon population is increasing dramatically...*

*...And some good news about the economy: a new report issued today by the government states that 100,000 new jobs were created this month, with more expected next month. This report brought to you by the People's Theater: "Come watch real life at the People's Theater."*

Fucking work, man...



# CAPITALISM

...AND PEOPLE ASK ME WHO I'M GOING TO VOTE FOR...

I will create more jobs, fight terrorism and keep America strong.

As president, I started the second Gulf War and won't rule out the possibility of a draft in the future.

I went to Yale and am in the top .01% richest people in the United States.

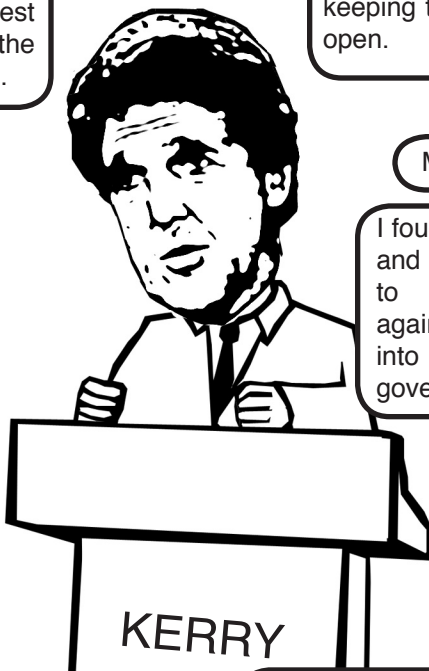
As a senator I supported the war, and am also keeping the draft option open.

Big corporations support me.

Me too.

I didn't fight in Vietnam 'cause i'm rich.

I fought in Vietnam and then helped to divert anger against the war into lobbying the government,



I will make sure the government serves the interests of the rich in America, no matter who else we screw over.

I will make sure the government serves the interests of the rich in America, in coordination with rich people across the world.

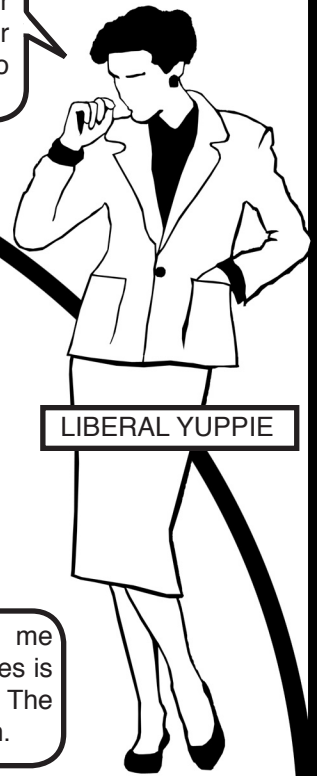
So do your patriotic duty as a citizen of a democracy and vote.



Man... fuck democracy.

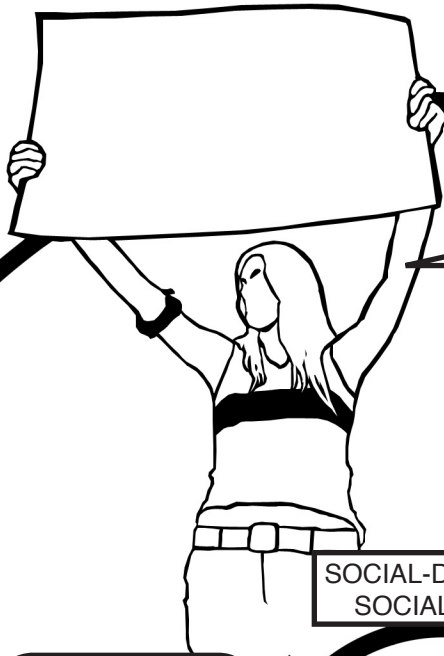
THIS ELECTION IS JUST A CHOICE WITHIN A SLIVER OF A BASICALLY LIMITED POLITICAL SPECTRUM

Everyone should have the privileges I have. No matter what a person's race, class or gender is, they should be able to be a cop or a business owner.



LIBERAL YUPPIE

The disadvantaged need to be helped. They need a voice in politics. Everyone has the right to work. Activism is patriotic!



SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC SOCIAL WORKER

What's good for me and other billionaires is good for America. The poor are lazy scum.

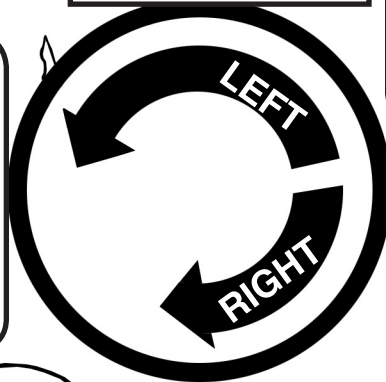


CONSERVATIVE BUSINESSMAN

We have to correct this profit-addicted system. We need a strong government to take over the running of the economy. Everyone will work for the state.



LENINIST GRAD STUDENT



Foreigners, homosexuals and other unbelievers are the enemy. We need strong leaders to govern according to God's laws.



FUNDAMENTALIST RELIGIOUS LEADER

PEOPLE'S IDEAS COME OUT OF THEIR POSITIONS IN SOCIETY. POLITICIANS WANT TO BE PART OF A SEPARATE POWER OVER US KEEPING US DOWN, AND KEEPING US AT WORK...

YES, ALL POLITICIANS AGREE:  
THE WORLD OF WAGE-WORK IS HERE TO STAY.

THEIR COMPETING IDEAS ARE  
JUST PROPOSALS FOR HOW  
TO MAKE IT RUN SMOOTHER.



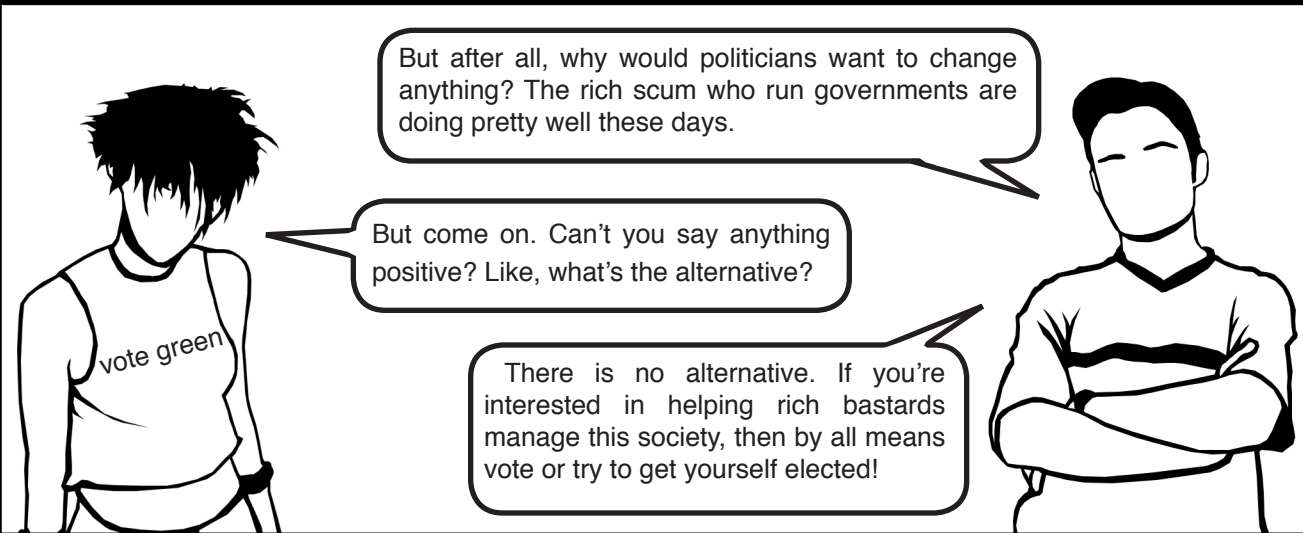
NOTHING CHANGES THE SHIT WE GO THROUGH EVERY DAY.



I payed rent yesterday. I fucking hate that. It's like half my pay.

Yep. Not to mention two weeks of your life down the drain.

HEY! Get back to work you two!



But after all, why would politicians want to change anything? The rich scum who run governments are doing pretty well these days.

But come on. Can't you say anything positive? Like, what's the alternative?

There is no alternative. If you're interested in helping rich bastards manage this society, then by all means vote or try to get yourself elected!

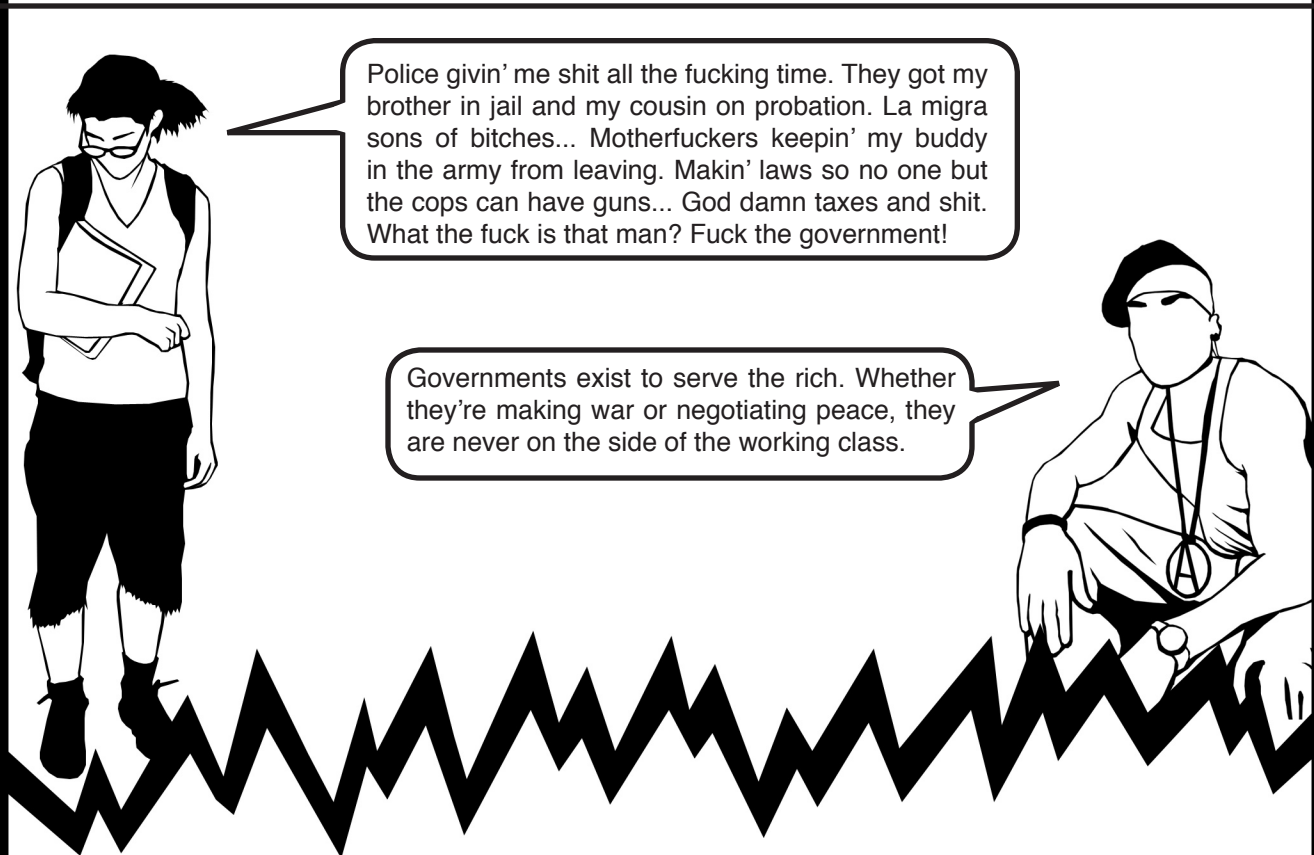
WE ARE GIVEN A SERIES OF FALSE CHOICES...



Bomb those people! They've got oil! Come on baby, Bechtel needs a new reconstruction contract.

Non-violence. It's the only way.

BUT IN OUR EVERYDAY LIVES WE CAN SEE BEYOND THEM...



Police givin' me shit all the fucking time. They got my brother in jail and my cousin on probation. La migra sons of bitches... Motherfuckers keepin' my buddy in the army from leaving. Makin' laws so no one but the cops can have guns... God damn taxes and shit. What the fuck is that man? Fuck the government!

Governments exist to serve the rich. Whether they're making war or negotiating peace, they are never on the side of the working class.

...WE KNOW THAT ANOTHER KIND OF WAR IS POSSIBLE...

# CLASS WAR

WHEN WE WORK TOGETHER TO REFUSE THE CONDITIONS OF OUR LIVES, WE QUICKLY COME UP AGAINST OUR REAL ENEMIES.



We're gonna get ourselves killed over here just so some asshole politicians can look tough on terrorism.

FUCK NO! The brass and the rich scum behind them are the real enemies. They're the ones we should be shooting at.

...AND WE SEE THE BEGINNING OF SOMETHING NEW...

I can't believe i've been working in this restaurant for the last 12 hours and all i've got to eat was coffee.

Hey amigo, the boss isn't around, eat whatever you want.



...A MOVEMENT THAT COULD TEAR THIS WORLD APART

No more politicians or police, no more rich and poor, no more workers and bosses, no more landlords and tenants, no more leaders and followers, no more markets or money, no more borders, governments or nations, no more race and racism, no more wasting our lives away in school, work and unemployment.

It's not democratic, but it is about taking control over our lives.

It's not totalitarian, but it won't leave a single corner of the planet untouched.

He's a communist! A rioter! A dangerous anarchist thug! A violent subversive!



Hell yeah!

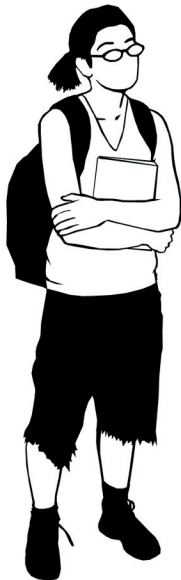




# THEY ORGANIZE US AGAINST EACH OTHER



When we're separated, on the street, in classrooms and at work, their world seems like the only possibility...



...but when we begin to fight for our ourselves, we see that other people are doing the same...



...prejudices fall away, and our anger is directed where it belongs.



Burn in hell rich bastards!



**MIDWEST UNREST**  
[www.midwestunrest.net](http://www.midwestunrest.net)