

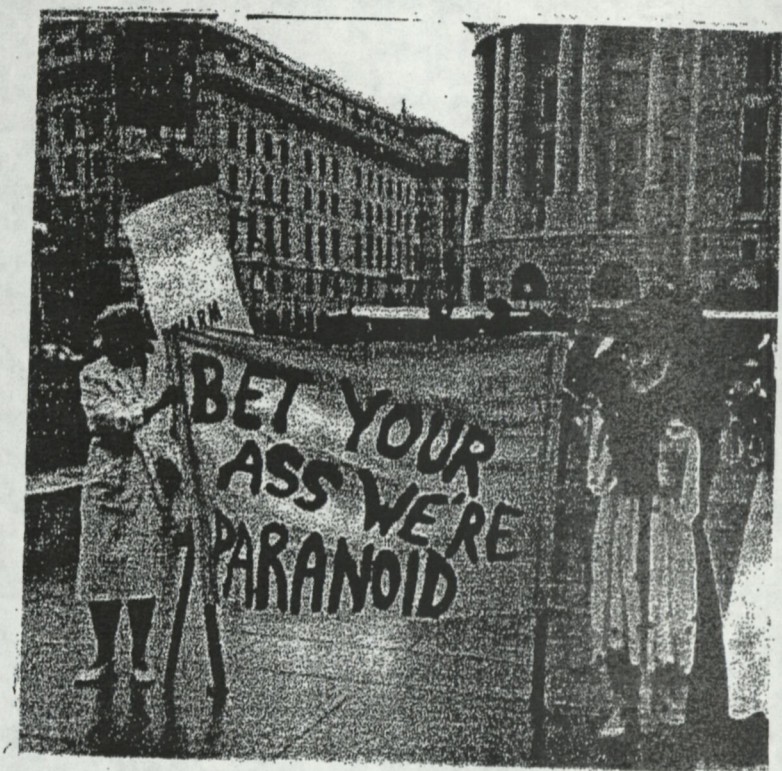
sent from: TOR

Leah Harris
MEM



Lilly Kills

OPPOSITIONAL defIANCE #1



february 17, 2003

issue #1 of oppositional defiance is dedicated to all people who have been oppressed by authoritarian, corporate-controlled psychiatry. to all the people who have been labeled for being different or in pain, locked away from the world, electroshocked, lobotomized, sterilized, tortured, humiliated, raped, murdered—all in the name of help. to those who have endured the misery of solitary confinement in "quiet rooms," of being restrained and shot up full of mind-numbing psychiatric drugs. and especially to youth who do time in mental institutions, "boot camps," "wilderness camps," and other "behavior modification" programs. to all the kids I was incarcerated with in the late 80s. to all the children behind bars and in back wards. to all the people who didn't make it—those who chose death over life in the institutions. to all those who struggle on the inside to hold on to human dignity and hope. to those who survived, and went on to speak out and organize against psychiatric oppression. to those who unlearned all the lies they were told. to all those who fight the institutions that control, dominate, and hurt us, and who actively imagine the possibilities for a different kind of future.

love, leah

Contact me at psychsurvivor@hotmail.com

dear dr

on that proud, glorious day
you graduated from medical school
you took an oath as old as Hippocrates

"above all, do no harm"
above all, do no harm
do no harm
no harm

ah but the trouble is
you thought you were doing Good,
by warehousing us in that
sterile, oppressive, un-hospitable place
you called the hospital
you practiced the toughest form of
tough love there is—
so tough
I could not see no love
nowhere

you placed the blame
squarely on our brains
squarely on our serotonin flow
our synapses
labelling us with whatever diagnosis
on whatever page of your book
you found appropriate
at the time -

you thought you could turn us around
make us productive future citizens
make us fit into this

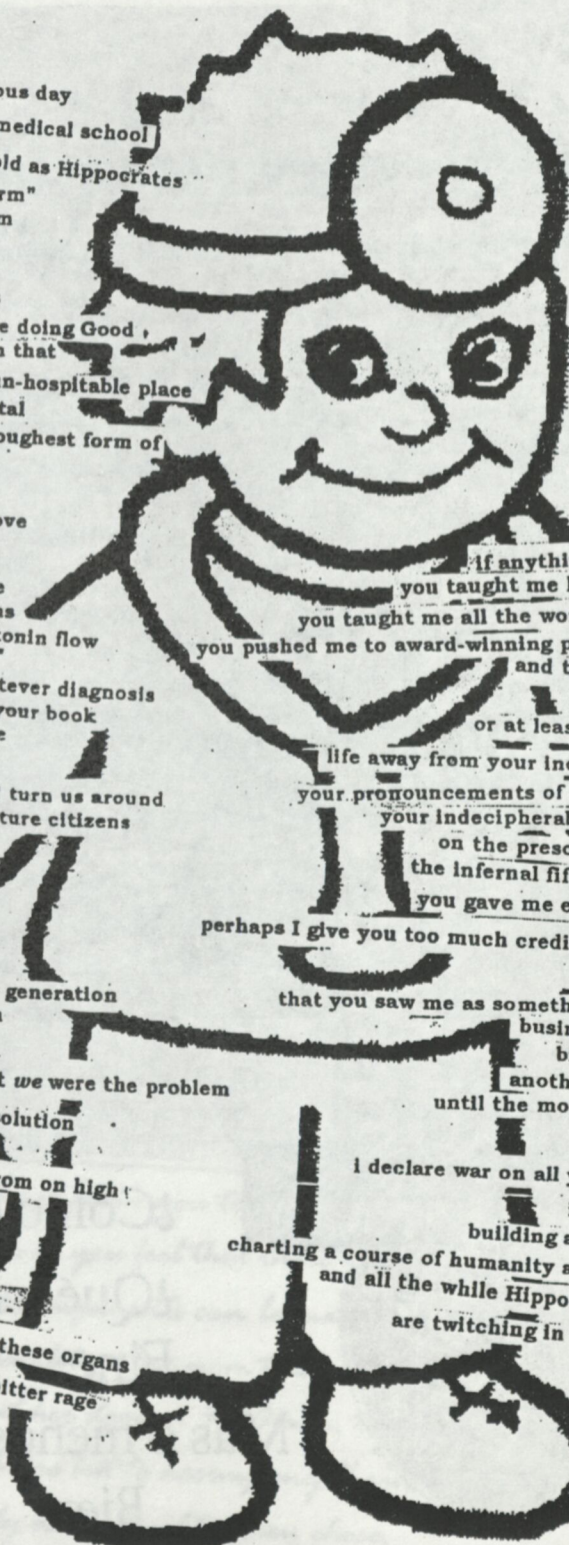
authoritarian
sexist
racist
ageist
militaristic

fucked up society your generation
the greatest generation
built

you always insisted that *we* were the problem
and that *you* were the solution
but your medications
your directives issued from on high
did not heal our brains

did not open our hearts

they merely transformed these organs
into impassive lumps of bitter rage



If anything, dear dr
you taught me how to act
you taught me all the world's a stage
you pushed me to award-winning performances
and the award was
freedom
or at least a glimmer

life away from your indifferent eyes
your pronouncements of health or ill
your indecipherable scribbles
on the prescription pad -
the infernal fifteen minutes
you gave me each week

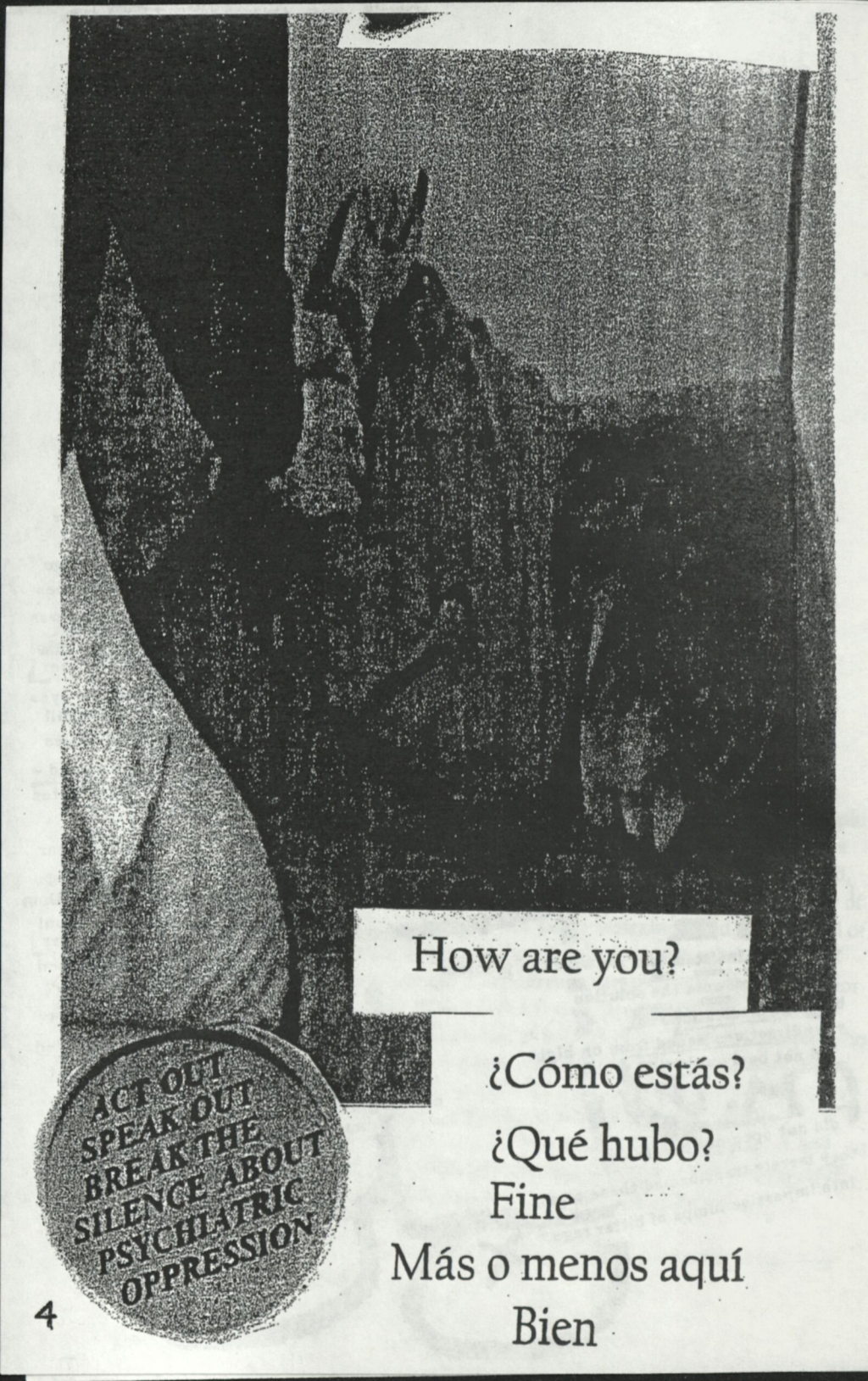
perhaps I give you too much credit, oh dr dear

assuming
that you saw me as something more than
business as usual
billable hours
another bed, filled
until the money ran out
this time

I declare war on all you scribbled
in my chart
building a new chart
charting a course of humanity and dignity
and all the while Hippocrates' bones
are twitching in their grave

dear dr

LH



How are you?

¿Cómo estás?

¿Qué hubo?

Fine

Más o menos aquí

Bien

ACT OUT
SPEAK OUT
BREAK THE
SILENCE ABOUT
PSYCHIATRIC
OPPRESSION

State ^{vs} Private BOOT CAMPS

20-1
KID
LIB NOW

About Luvox® (fluvoxamine maleate) Tablets



LIKE the secret police around the world, they will show up at your house in the early hours of the A.M. They take you away quietly while the world is sleeping.

If your child will not allow you to bring him to one of the WWASP facilities or you feel that there might be problems during the trip, arrangements can be made for your child to be escorted to the facility. One mom told me of two very big guys showing up at her door at 4:00 a.m. to escort her son. Her son had no choice but to accompany them, thus allowing him to arrive safely at the facility they chose.

ORIGINAL LETTER ABOUT HOW ALEX WAS SEIZED
August 12, 2002:

Dear Friends of Alex Asch,

I am writing to inform you of some very disturbing news about the well-being of our friend Alex. On the morning of August 10, 2002, on the last day of classes of the continuing studies program at the Institute for Social Ecology, Alex was taken into custody against his will by his mother and two privately hired, "Juvenile Transport Officers." They said they were taking him to a "wilderness camp" in Utah. Based on a conflicting diagnosis from one psychiatrist, his parents claim that he has Oppositional Defiance Disorder (ODD). The diagnostic criteria used for this peculiarly named disorder are the following: A. A pattern of negativistic, hostile, and defiant behavior lasting at least 6 months, during which four (or more) of the following are present: often loses temper, often argues with adults, often actively defies or refuses to comply with adults' requests or rules, often deliberately annoys people, often blames others for his or her mistakes or misbehavior, is often touchy or easily annoyed by others, is often angry and resentful, is often spiteful or vindictive. Note: Consider a criterion met only if the behavior occurs more frequently than is typically observed in individuals of comparable age and developmental level. B. The disturbance in behavior causes clinically significant impairment in social, academic, or occupational occur exclusively during the course of a Psychotic or Mood Disorder. D. Criteria are not met for Conduct Disorder, and, if the individual is age 18 years or older, criteria are not met for Antisocial Personality Disorder.

When we found out that Alex had been diagnosed (or sentenced) with this "disorder," we began to asking ourselves, who defines what is disordered behavior? And to what end? For those of us who got to know Alex this summer, it is obvious how this deeply authoritarian society would write off Alex as "different" or even "disordered" because of his perseverant resistance to oppression and authoritarianism in all its forms. Alex identifies his political beliefs as anarchist. For Alex's comrades at the ISE who share many of his political beliefs and anti-authoritarian sensibilities, ODD is just a construction of this truly disordered society. Authority makes up disorders like ODD to explain the reactions of people like Alex, and for that matter, the rest of us at various times in our lives, to the squelching of freedom that is imposed on us at home, at school, at work, and on the streets. Many of us were puzzled at this,

wondering if we too could be similarly diagnosed. Most people realize that we don't always make the most creative and well-informed responses to these impositions, especially in moments where we feel rage at injustice. That's why we go on for hours of discussion trying to learn how to confront oppression in more transformative and effective ways. Nonetheless, teachers, parents, and government official often regard people who refuse to submit to their authority as annoying and dysfunctional, because we demand freedom every time they deny it.

When the patient
lashes out against "them"—

THORAZINE®

brand of chlorpromazine

quickly puts an end to his
violent outburst

'Thorazine' is especially effective when the psychotic episode is triggered by delusions or hallucinations.

At the outset of treatment, Thorazine's combination of antipsychotic and sedative effects provides both emotional and physical calming. Assaultive or destructive behavior is rapidly controlled.

As therapy continues, the initial sedative effect gradually disappears. But the antipsychotic effect continues, helping to dispel or modify delusions, hallucinations and confusion, while keeping the patient calm and approachable.

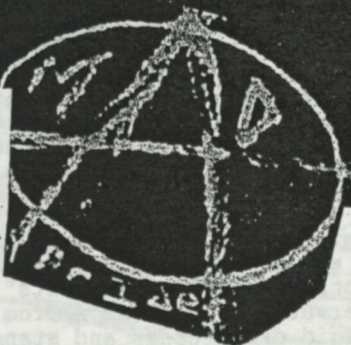
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C-F

SMITH KLINE & FRENCH LABORATORIES
leaders in psychopharmaceutical research

what to do if you hear voices that scare you
by bandi

I would advise no one to fight with these voices. Most of them are memory. Some are abstract concepts like "God." I noticed they blamed and accused me. I found most of what the voices were saying were lies. They also made predictions that don't come true. There is a margin of possibility of the predictions happening, but for the most part, it's just belief based on inner fears.

SCHIZOPHRENIA IS NOT A DISEASE. IT IS A HUGE CLUSTER OF "SYMPTOMS" THAT GETS LABELED AS DISEASE. MOST OFTEN THOSE LABELED AS "SCHIZOPHRENIC" ARE MORE DISTRESSING TO OTHERS THAN TO THEMSELVES. CONTRARY TO POPULAR MEDIA LIES, SCHIZOPHRENICS ARE NO MORE VIOLENT THAN THE REST OF THE POPULATION



PSYCHIATRY IS VIOLENCE

Homosexuality was officially defined as a mental disease by the American Psychiatric Association until 1973. Homosexuality was defined as a mental disorder on page 44 of the American Psychiatric Association's standard reference book, *DSM-II: Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (the 2nd Edition), published in 1968. In that book, "Homosexuality" is categorized as one of the "Sexual deviations" on page 44. In 1973 the American Psychiatric Association voted to remove homosexuality from its official diagnostic categories of mental illness. (See "An Instant Cure", *Time* magazine, April 1, 1974, p. 45). So when the third edition of this book was published in 1980 it said "homosexuality itself is not considered a mental disorder" (p. 282). The 1987 edition of *The Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy* states: "The American Psychiatric Association no longer considers homosexuality a psychiatric disease" (p. 1495). If mental illness were really an illness in the same sense that physical illnesses are illnesses, the idea of deleting homosexuality or anything else from the categories of illness by having a vote would be as absurd as a group of physicians voting to delete cancer or measles from the concept of disease. But mental illness isn't "an illness like any other illness." Unlike physical disease where there are physical facts to deal with, mental "illness" is entirely a question of values, of right and wrong, of appropriate versus inappropriate. At one time homosexuality seemed so weird and hard to understand it was necessary to invoke the concept of mental disease or mental illness to explain it. After homosexuals made a big enough spectacle of themselves and showed their "strength in numbers" and successfully demanded at least a small measure of social acceptance, it was no longer necessary and no longer seemed appropriate to explain homosexuality as a disease.

-lawrence stevens



A transsexual is basically defined as a person who has a long-standing, internal image of possessing inappropriate sexual characteristics. From this reductionist conception, those transgender people who (mis)happen to seek help from the medical and psychological establishments, (and can afford it) are rated on a gender scale, modeled after Alfred Kinsey's scale to measure sexual orientation. They are then encouraged/told what they are to do to actualize their gender. Make no mistake, the options the medical "experts" are willing to provide are quite conservative. They range from cases of imposed heterosexuality to rigid dress codes and standards of behavior. 20

— company from groups push forced psychiatric "treatment" for
"mentally ill" prisoners

Mental health "advocacy" groups like the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, and many prison justice and human rights activists, say that jails and prisons have a high percentage of mentally disordered inmates, that they should be receiving treatment in psychiatric facilities instead. To people concerned about the brutality of the prison system and death penalty, this can sound like a good idea. But what kind of "treatment" will they get? Psychiatric drugs, especially "antipsychotic" drugs, are much more dangerous than psychiatry tells us. And there's *no scientific test* for a diagnosis of "mental illness"—it's a label used against all kinds of disturbing emotions and behaviors.

Incarceration is incarceration, whether it's in jail for crime, or in mental institutions for troubling thoughts and emotions. You hear about the "criminalization of the mentally ill." But the mental health system is the *criminalization of emotion*—turning social, political, spiritual problems into illnesses justifying fear, force, and fraud as treatment.

And torture is torture. Why do prison justice and human rights groups criticize forced drugging, electroshock, restraints, and isolation when they're used against prisoners and political dissidents—but *not* when they're used against psychiatrically labeled people?

Drug-company-funded "advocacy" groups exploit cases of psychiatrically labeled people committing crimes to push for forced treatment, like court orders to drug people in their own homes against their will. Even though most of these violent people *were* receiving treatment—and taking or withdrawing from psychiatric drugs can lead to erratic behavior. Forced psychiatric drugging doesn't prevent violence—it is violence.

Most prisoners are in for nonviolent crimes; many are victims of the racist "war on drugs." Imagine the hypocrisy of being jailed for illegal drugs, then forced to take very risky—and very profitable—psychiatric drugs.

It's one thing to offer voluntary "mental health" services to emotionally troubled inmates. It's another to replace prison walls with mental "hospital" walls or the *chemical prison* of at-home forced drugging. Which will the prison justice movement demand?

"They're given diagnoses of 'mental disorder' when their real diagnosis is 'oppressed.' They're given prescriptions for drugs, when the prescription they need is social change, and the meeting of basic human needs." David Oaks, Director, Support Coalition International

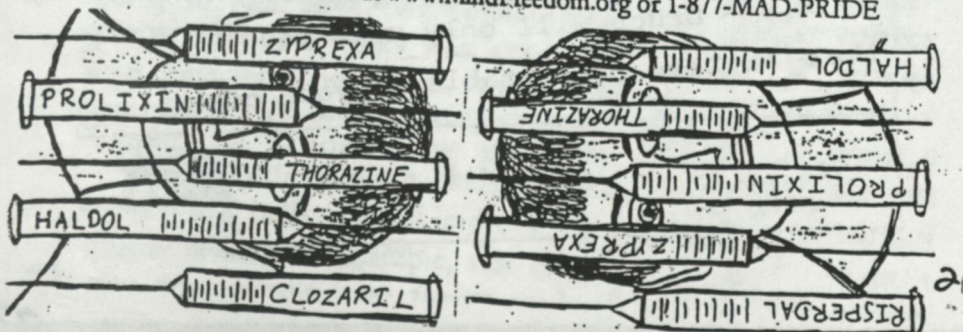
To learn more about these issues and get involved in the international movement against psychiatric oppression:

Mad Lib * PO Box 642222 * Chicago IL 60601

Contact Katherine of Mad Lib at 773/227-9374 or hoydenish@aol.com

New in February 2001: www.MadLib.org and www.psychiatrized.org

Mad Lib is a sponsoring group in Support Coalition International, a network of about 100 groups opposing forced treatment and promoting humane, empowering alternatives to biopsychiatry. Find out more at www.MindFreedom.org or 1-877-MAD-PRIDE



resources for further exploration

Support Coalition International

Mad Nation

The Anti-Psychiatry Coalition

www.ect.org

Information about "electroconvulsive therapy"

World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry www.wnusp.org

Boarding School Truth

www26.brinkster.com/bs4/

Teen Liberty

www.teenliberty.org

Commonsense Rebellion: Debunking Psychiatry, Confronting *SOCIETY* by Bruce Levine

"To be Young, Crazy, and Brown" by Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarsinha (Bamboo Girl, Issue 11, 2002)

Mad in America by Robert Whitaker. A great resource on the history of psychiatry and the failure of the medical model to treat so-called schizophrenia.

The Loony Bin Trip by Kate Millet. Details how she got locked up for her political passions.

The Last Time I Wore a Dress by Daphne Scholinski

A riveting account of the author's diagnosis with "Gender Identity Disorder" and the "treatment" she received.

The Mass Psychology of Misery by John Zerzan.. From "Future Primitive and Other Essays", published by Autonomedia in conjunction with Anarchy: A Journal of Desire Armed.

Anything by Peter Breggin, esp. The War on Children of Color: Psychiatry Targets Inner City Youth, and Toxic Psychiatry.

Sinister Wisdom # 36 - Surviving Psychiatric Assault/Creating Emotional Well Being in Our Communities.

www.prozacspotlight.org

Adbusters' issue on Mad Pride.

Off Our Backs issue on Women and Psychiatry (forthcoming in 2003)

The Scapegoat Generation and Framing Youth by Mike Males.

