

EVERGREEN POLITICAL INFORMATION CENTER

GENERAL PHILOSOPHY. EPIC is a group of people concerned about the world in which we all live. Membership includes people from the Evergreen and Olympia communities, encompassing radicals and activists. Our viewpoints are diverse, yet we maintain a common vision of a socialist society where at all levels the people have control of the decisions which affect their lives. We believe that these decisions must be made on the basis of human needs and human fulfillment rather than the quest for profit.

Our goal is to build a critical awareness and understanding of the issues which affect our lives, and to explore the ways by which we can collectively change our situations. At times we have all felt powerless when faced with the massiveness of the way things are. "Who am i against a corporation?" "How can i have influence on an entire political system?" In EPIC we see ourselves as political beings. We can either support the present political and social condition by succumbing to these feelings of powerlessness, or we can organize with others to actively work towards the building of a new society. For us this is the point of social change.

We are, above all, realistically optimistic. We believe that we, the people, can build a just and fulfilling world; but only if we are clear on what we are fighting for, know the obstacles that we face, and are able to organize collectively to work for such a world.

We welcome the experiences, ideas, and energy of others who share these beliefs.

WHAT DO WE DO? EPIC serves primarily an educational role. We present leftist perspectives on local, national, and international issues--angles not generally encountered in today's mass media. We attempt to ask the questions crucial for an understanding of how things are, and how they could be. We are also trying to pose some possible answers.

We recognize, however, that mere exchanges of information are not enough. It is only through the interaction of ideas and action, of theory and practice, that we can hope to move forward. Therefore we must also play an active role in the struggles of our times, with an eye toward helping the movement grow and strengthen.

HOW DO WE DO IT? Our work encompasses a variety of activities:

- 1) The Monday Night Film/Speaker Series. These evenings of education, controversy, and discussion are the central element of our whole program. An integral part of each presentation is open discussion and dialog on the issue at hand. We see this enabling everyone to clarify and further develop their own political understandings, as well as realize the roles we can all play in building the movement. The programs are often supplemented with leaflets and other written materials that we prepare ahead of time.
- 2) Special Events and Co-sponsored Activities. Last year's Southern Africa Teach-In and the potluck/banquet at the end of the year are examples of the events that we have co-sponsored in the past. We hope to further strengthen our ties of cooperation with the other third floor student organizations, as well as local political groups, and see working together on public events as an important way to do this.
- 3) Occasional Bulletin. Last year saw the printing of only one issue of our Occasional Bulletin; this year we hope to do better. We see the Bulletin as being a forum for political discussion on a wide variety of topics, as well as providing a calendar for Northwest events.
- 4) Political Actions. EPIC's actions in the past, in addition to the educational activities described above, have included leafletting, letter-writing on behalf of political prisoners, marches, boycotts, and support work for such happenings as the occupation of the Cascadia facility last year by Native American activists. This year's actions will be determined by this year's membership.
- 5) Weekly Meetings. We have business meetings once a week to evaluate the program's progress, plan future events and actions, and when we have time, engage in rip-snorting discussions of topics we select. These meetings, based on consensus decision-making, are open to all interested in working with us.
- 6) Our funding comes primarily from Services and Activities funds.

HOW ARE THINGS SHAPING UP FOR THE FALL? This fall's Monday Night Film/Speaker Series schedule is in the final planning stages. In the interest of incorporating greater continuity into this year's entire program, we have decided to focus each quarter's presentations on a certain theme. Fall's theme is: "Toward a Critical Understanding of U.S. Society."

We will be addressing such societal forces as classism, sexism, racism, ageism, and homophobia. We will examine prisons, unemployment, and the current campaign to organize workers at J.P. Stevens in the Southeast. Presentations are also planned on military spending in general, Trident in particular, and the question of nuclear energy.

We hope to have our schedule for the whole quarter confirmed and printed by the time classes start, so keep an eye peeled for it!

**** Meanwhile, a POTLUCK/GET-TOGETHER to give old and newly-interested people a chance to meet and EXCHANGE IDEAS, EXPERIENCES, and PLANS for the year ahead has been planned for 4-8pm on Saturday, October 1 at Lopi House. (For directions, see map on EPIC door. A carpool from the dorms will also be arranged.) We will also be selecting a time and place for our weekly business meetings. ****

HOPE TO SEE SOME OF YOU THERE!

EPIC, Library 3220, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, Washington 98505, (206)866-6144.

The Evergreen Political Information Center (E.P.I.C.)

Presents **The Monday Night** ^(Tuesday Noon) **Film and Speaker Series**

FALL'S THEME: "TOWARD A CRITICAL UNDERSTANDING OF US SOCIETY"

CLASSISM Mon. Sept. 26, 7:30pm & Tue. Sept. 27, noon Lect. Hall One
High School Rising and Wilmington examine the perpetuation of class patterns by the public high school tracking system and the multitude of ways that DuPont Corporation controls people's lives in Wilmington, Delaware. Discussion afterward on classism will be facilitated by members of EPIC.

UNEMPLOYMENT Mon. Oct. 3, 7:30pm & Tue. Oct. 4, noon Lect. Hall One
Felix the Cat and The Way the Eagle --- are satirical commentaries which show how poverty and unemployment are necessary for the continued existence of capitalism. Elena Perez of Thurston County Urban League and Shelly King of Work Opportunities for Women will address how third world people and women are particularly affected by unemployment.

UNIONS Mon. Oct. 10, 7:30pm & Tue. Oct. 11, noon Lect. Hall One
J.P. Stevens has been found guilty of violating the National Labor Relations Act fifteen times since 1963. Thousands of Stevens textile workers have been disabled by brown lung. Testimony focuses on one of the major labor organizing efforts of our day--the 13-year fight to unionize J.P. Stevens. Artha Adair, regional coordinator for ACTWU, will discuss support activities in the Northwest.

(This week's program has been scheduled for next week.) Mon. Oct. 17

PRISONS Tues. Oct. 25, 7:30pm & noon Lect. Hall One
Through the Looking Glass, a local Seattle women and children's support group, will present a slide/tape show and lead discussion on women in prison, particularly the Seattle King County Jail and Purdy Treatment Center for Women.

RACISM Thurs. Oct. 27, noon & 7:30pm Lect. Hall One
Illegal Aliens examines the difficulties faced by more than one million Chicanos who have entered the US from Mexico illegally and attempted to earn a living here. Arturo Gonzalez of CASA will speak about the current struggle for amnesty for undocumented workers and their families.

SEXISM Mon. Oct. 31, 7:30pm & Tue. Nov. 1 noon Lect. Hall One
Rape is the violent manifestation of a sexist society. Rape Culture shows how our culture teaches us to be either rapists or victims. Sharon Ryals of Thurston County Rape Relief and Thom Thacker of TESC's Men's Center will lead a discussion following the film.

HOMOPHOBIA Mon. Nov. 7, 7:30pm & Tue. Nov. 8, noon Lect. Hall One
Sandy and Madeleine's Family deals with the struggle of two lesbian mothers to keep their children against claims by their former husbands that they are unfit mothers. Sandy Schuster and Madeleine Isaacson will speak.

AGEISM Mon. Nov. 14, 7:30pm & Tue. Nov. 15, noon Lect. Hall One
Now Is Forever features interviews with older people who contrast their active lives with societal stereotypes about aging. The Olympia chapter of the Gray Panthers will facilitate a discussion after the film.

TRIDENT Mon. Nov. 21, 7:30pm & Tue. Nov. 22, noon Lect. Hall One
Bob Aldridge, a former aerospace engineer who resigned from Lockheed, will present Trident: the Ultimate First-Strike Weapon, a slide/tape program illustrating the US's strategic triad, and its recent nuclear policy switch. He will also discuss the growing resistance to Trident, and military spending in general.

MILITARY SPENDING Mon. Nov. 28, 7:30pm & Tue. Nov. 29, noon Lect. Hall One
The largest concentration of military spending in the US is in Santa Clara County, California. A slideshow from that area will deal with the US's "permanent war economy" and Glen Anderson of FOR will present an alternative--peace conversion.

NUCLEAR POWER Mon. Dec. 5, 7:30pm & Tue. Dec. 6, noon Lect. Hall One
The Last Resort is a film about the Clamshell Alliance's occupation this past spring of the Seabrook nuclear power plant site in New Hampshire. The Olympia Crabshell Alliance will talk about actions being taken against nukes in the Northwest.

(To be announced) Mon. Dec. 12

Please leave this schedule posted until Dec. 13, 1977

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