

A group of radical filmmakers is currently doing research for a film project on the movement for social change in Brisbane. We will attempt to document all radical social/political/cultural forces operating in Brisbane, basically covering the past ten years, the present, and predictions for the future. The following questionnaire is an initial attempt to gauge present attitudes of a broad cross-section of Brisbane activists. The questions are intended to be a general guideline, and need not be strictly adhered to.

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. ACHIEVEMENTS

We are now in the comparatively easy position of being able to examine in retrospect the often dramatic political events which took place in Brisbane in the late 1960's and early 1970's (i.e. the growth of a radical movement with large scale involvement by students/unionists/minority groups in activism directed at broad and interrelated issues such as civil liberties, conscription, Vietnam, imperialism, control and quality of education, racism, sexism and the environment.)

- (a) What would you now consider to be the failings and/or successes of these efforts at achieving social change?
- (b) What do you think was the depth of consciousness lying behind these efforts?
- (c) What are the important lessons to be learnt from that era and that experience?

2. ANALYSIS

There have been attempts made recently to understand what has occurred since the end of the period of mass action, 1966-1972. Some of the questions asked have included...

- (a) Has the radical movement disintegrated and if so will it revive again?
- (b) Have the "old" issues lost their significance and "new" ones arisen?
- (c) Do you feel that the most active groups now (e.g. Freeway Protest Movement, Womens Movement, Self Management Group, Black Movement etc) are different in form or political basis than those of 1966-1972?
- (d) Does the outward appearance of relative inactivity (in a mass sense) by the community/students/workers in the political sphere necessarily mean that significant political activity is not occurring?
- (e) What is the exact nature of the current level of consciousness within the 'movement'?
- (f) Has there been any significant change in the general or public level of social awareness and if so in what respect?
- (g) Why do you feel that the post 1972 situation resulted in so much apathy and outright cynicism? Can this be prevented in the future?

3. CRISIS

Do you believe that western society and/or the communist countries and/or the third world countries are facing a crisis of any serious magnitude (e.g. total economic or ecological collapse) and if so what do you see as the nature of that crisis - can it be avoided or overcome?

4. PREDICTIONS

Looking ahead to the future, what developments do you feel will occur politically and socially in our society and what will be the key issues and the approach to them?