

Dear Parents

1969
summer

I have been working my ever
lovin' ass off lately. On top of working in
this shitty, grubby, low paid factory
sweatshop for 9 hours a day (9½ with
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incompletes. I have 3. one is done &
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The last one is my @ creative writing
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Also in August I hope to start work
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At least there is ~~some~~ one sort of good
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At least there is ~~some~~ one sort of good thing happening - Obviously I wouldn't have been able to do any of this stuff if my stomach wasn't continuing on its slow path of recovery - Like the last two summers the object was simply to eat baby food & take pills & wait for when I could go to sleep at night again - because it can't hurt if you're asleep. I have lots of plans for "the future" & if it ^(stomach) keeps improving I may do them all.

One of the things I am going to do next year is try to work with S.D.S. & the Activist to make sure (as best I can)

that they are functioning & on the "right" tracks however that isn't going to be my main political type activity. I don't plan now on accepting a officership in S.D.S. but I might be "associate editor" and/or keep writing for the Activist.

The main thing I'm thinking of doing is to start an organization of my own called the "Committee for the Improvement of Student Life" (How can anybody be against that) based on ridding the university community of superflous restrictions (EG House rules, Doms, Frats etc etc) and on pressing for ~~the~~ creative improvements (EG a beautiful park in North Valley where anyone can plant gardens & get benches, cookout - maybe even sleepout places financed by the school or having the Gym & library facilities open longer - much longer - to give people more flexibility in how they order their lives - maybe even getting a 1000 watt FM band for Students to run - taken over of course by freaks & becoming an "underground" station, & also ~~also~~ actively seeking out ideas for people or ways to make life better.

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Then, using this organization as the base & having already established the name & ideas of myself & other people in the campus media I'm going to run for president of the student body. My ticket will be ME, Deb Hoover - Roger Messer & Rich Soaper - ~~and~~ & one more (preferably female and/or Black & still "ideologically" compatible). All the people have a tremendous list of "Credits" and are dedicated, responsi

hard working people but freaks at the core. Also it will obviously be impossible to effect the desired changes simply by controlling the executive board so it will be necessary to get a voting majority of the student senate itself. If this works out I will have a recognised power position and a \$28,000 budget - last year I had my friends, my wife & I from an Activist benefit dance. The thing was - that last years struggle was necessary to even get the student government to the point where it was worth taking over. Threats of another uprising ~~is~~ gives the present student govt tremendous bargaining ~~rights~~ power in the fall. ~~next~~ The Student Govt will be given control over the Student Service Council which is responsible for a lot of the rules governing student life. Student govt is, of course, something of a sham unless it has power to affect the lives of the people it "represents". Previously it has had no power.

If some things fall into place I might be sitting down to dinner with the trustees next winter. For instance the ticket has to all be enthusiastic as I am, the organization ~~has~~ has to be started in fall, I can't become too closely identified with really radical politics (although I will always BE an SDS

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will simply pee its pants when it finds out I am seriously running. I might well not win in the end but I think its worth it because the campaign will be educational for the campus - & for me too. Anyway we'll see what happens.

One political point that I wish to throw light on in your last letter "some feel that the idea that the stoppage "Paris" was in support of the students" is ludicrous as these students will be the next rebels (oppressors to the union men.) You overlook the fact that people can change patterns of human organization in fundamental structural ways - You assume they will grow older & end up eventually being functionaries in the structure they are being killed by. If it they & me & my brothers & sisters around the world - from anti Russian Students in Prague - to Vietnamese fighting american invaders & their puppets - to young blacks south africans - to the youth of the "universities combined with those of the "miserable villages" & the peasants & the workers in Latin America, to american black people fighting racism - take over - maybe we can find a way where governments administer social systems whose aim is the good of the people rather than the good of a ruling class. This young student - like lots of young students in lots of countries - realizes that if he is going to follow the path laid

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If you'll notice in america the brightest of the young are refusing to enter the machine

of exploitation. They may not ~~have~~ ^{have} a coherently defined political analysis of why they don't want to be junior exec like their counterparts of the fifties but the evidence that they feel this intuitively is abundant in their actions - their choice of the way they will live their own lives E.G. ~~many~~ of the most brilliant of the young in this country ~~go~~ are "dropping out" and/or becoming political militants. If they do enter the society it is as scholars, Teachers, social workers etc etc - Statistical facts (1) divinity students at top theological seminaries aren't planning to ~~go into~~ be church ministers or priests, ^{but} into other, more socially meaningful works. Many refuse to have anything to do with organized religion (2) Recruiters for ~~top~~ law firms can't get top law school graduates (Harvard, Stanford, Michigan, Columbia Law Review & People) because they ^{graduates} don't see this as the way they can play their most useful societal role I'm going into Education - I want these things that money buys & all work hard & possibly will have a lot of them. I could get the money much simpler in other occupations but this is the area ~~of~~ that I've decided I have the most potential for making good changes changes that might influence people to live

many of the most brilliant of the young in this country ~~go~~ are "dropping out" and/or becoming political militants. If they do enter the society it is as scholars, Teachers, social workers etc etc - Statistical facts (1) divinity students at top theological seminaries are not planning to go into church ministers or priests, but into other, more socially meaningful works. Many refuse to have anything to do with organized religion (2) Recruiters for ~~top~~ law firms can't get top law school graduates (Harvard, Stanford, Michigan, Columbia Law Review & People) because they ^{graduates} don't see this as the way they can play their most useful societal role. I'm going into Education - I want the thing that money buys & all work hard & possibly will have a lot of them. I could get the money much simpler in other occupations but this is the area ~~of~~ that I've decided I have the most potential for making good changes changes that might influence people to live freer fuller lives and influence governments to let them live these lives. American education is a monumental mess & not basically experimental and indifferent to ^{boot} boot.

In my letter to Ted in which I mentioned his being a C.O. I simply explained

That Nixon is planning on a 19 year old draft as soon as he can get it through - that means Vietnam next year for Ted. Also I pointed out that it is very important if you want to get a C.O. to register as one when you first register with the selective service. Also - since Ted is thinking of going into some type of social work his work qualifies as alternative service so that probably wouldn't be any problem.