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Finally Got The News: The Printed Legacy Of The U.S. Radical Left, 1970-1979



Synopsis

Finally Got the News uncovers the hidden legacy of the radical left of the 1970s, a decade when vibrant social movements challenged racism, imperialism, patriarchy, and capitalism itself. It uses original printed materials from pamphlets to posters, flyers to record albums to tell this politically rich and little-known story.

Book Information

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Common Notions (May 1, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1942173067

ISBN-13: 978-1942173069

Product Dimensions: 6.9 x 0.6 x 9.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #487,574 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #95 in Books > Arts &

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Design > Design History & Criticism #3824 in Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > History

Customer Reviews

"Finally Got the News" gives documentation to the activity and perspective of the period. Much of what is exhibited here influenced activists like myself and gave us the inspiration to keep on pushing in the face of political repression and internal movement contradictions. It is imperative that contemporary activists study the work of their predecessors, our strengths and contributions, our errors and weaknesses. Hopefully lessons can be learned that will continue to inspire and enlighten new generations of freedom fighters. "Finally Got the News" allows us to "look back, so we can move forward." --Akinyele Umoja

The anticolonial and anti-imperialist struggles in the global South opened up an entire world to activists in the U.S. It broke the Left and progressive forces from a U.S.-centered narrowness and introduced knowledge, experience and politics that had previously been blocked from these shores. It forced domestic movements to rethink their ideologies, strategies and tactics and to recognize how much could be learned from a variety of political movements and social experiments. In essence, these solidarity movements helped us to advance in a way that might have been thought impossible. Despite any and all problems with how these

experiences were interpreted, their very existence was an inspiration to struggle, and an inspiration to win." --Bill Fletcher

The radical activists of the Women's Liberation movement (WLM) in the seventies fiercely defended women's need to self organize, to theorize, and to act free from the patriarchal control of men. Many WLM activists, who had cut their political teeth in the New Left, remained committed to anticapitalist revolution. Their experiences in the revolutionary currents of the late sixties and early seventies and the politics that defined those currents deeply informed their choices about who to organize and around what issues to organize, as well as the political frameworks on which they drew to analyze the oppression of women. Revolutionary organizations could not long remain untouched by the huge and growing women's movement. By the end of the seventies the broad range of feminist politics had moved from the margins to the center of the revolutionary left." --Johanna Brenner

Finally Got the News uncovers the hidden legacy of the radical left of the 1970s, a decade when vibrant social movements challenged racism, imperialism, patriarchy, and capitalism itself. It combines written contributions from movement participants with original printed materials--from pamphlets to posters, flyers to newspapers--to tell this politically rich and little-known story. The dawn of the 1970s witnessed an explosion of interest in revolutionary ideas and activism. Young people radicalized by the antiwar movement became anti-imperialists, veterans of the Civil Rights and Black Power movements increasingly identified with communism and Pan-Africanism, and women were organizing for autonomy and liberation. While these movements may have different roots, there was also an incredible overlapping and intermingling of activists and ideologies. These diverse movements used printed materials as organizing tools in every political activity, creating a sprawling and remarkable array of printing styles, techniques, and formats. Through the lens of printed materials we can see the real nuts and bolts of revolutionary organizing in an era when thousands of young revolutionaries were attempting to put their beliefs into practices in workplaces and neighborhoods across the U.S. and the world.

Really great images that capture the spirit of radical literature

Finally Got the News is vibrant history of the radical left. Historical documents are expertly laid out with a creative eye. I had to slow myself down while reading so I could savor each vibrant spread. A must buy for students, experts or the casual reader.

"Finally Got the News" is a well curated book with top-notch contributors that deserves a space on any bookshelf. The content is accessible, yet substantial, and appropriate for the casual reader, budding collector, or die-hard student. Despite the seriousness of the subject matter, there is a familiarity and warmth in Duncan's book that is hard to define; the writings and ephemera compiled in FGtN are enjoyable and educational--a beautiful combination that doesn't come around every day.

What a treat-- there's a ton of fascinating history packed into this archival gem, and it's given context by essays from a strong selection of historians and activists. From anticolonial struggles to labor to queer liberation, there's an excellent range of material.

This book, which doubles as a catalogue of print ephemera, ranks as one of the top books on the 1970s far left and social movements. I placed it on my bookshelf alongside classics on LRBW/DRUM and Max Elbaum's Revolution in the Air.

This book is beautiful! The full color photos of the art/ephemera breath new life into the movements they illustrate. As a casual reader, this book was both informative and inspiring. How did we get here? Let Finally Got the News tell you AND show you.

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