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# MIAC

## STRATEGIC REPORT

### 11-28-2008

## Anarchist Movement

This Strategic Report analyzes the Anarchist Movement and related Anarchist activities. The majority of this information is open source and can be located in many anarchy related websites. **RECIPIENTS ARE REMINDED THIS DOCUMENT IS A STRATEGIC REPORT; THE INFORMATION THEREIN SHOULD NOT SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITY.**

### History

The first known usage of the word Anarchy appears in the play "Seven Against Thebes" by Aeschylus dated at 467 BC. The heroine, Antigone openly refuses to abide by the rulers' decree to leave her brother Polyneices' body unburied, as punishment for his participation in the attack on Thebes. In this context, anarchy is referenced as a refusal to abide by government decree.

According to Harold Barclay (a professor in anthropology and notable writer in anarchist theory), long before anarchism emerged as a distinct perspective, human beings lived for thousands of years in societies without government. It was only after the rise of hierarchical societies that anarchist ideas were formulated as a critical response to and rejection of coercive political institutions and hierarchical social relationships.

Thomas Jefferson spoke of his respect for a society with no government. "The basis of our governments being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive those papers and be capable of reading them. I am convinced that those societies (as the Indians), which live without government, enjoy in their general mass an infinitely greater degree of happiness than those who live under the European governments.

Anarchists played a role in many of the labor movements, uprisings, and revolutions of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, including the Russian Revolution (1917). In the United States, many new immigrants were anarchists; an especially notable group was the large number of Jewish immigrants who had left Russia and Eastern Europe during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These groups were disrupted by the Red Scare of 1919. A period in which there existed strong anti-communist feelings in the US.

On 16 September 1920, at about noon time, in New York City, New York, a timed improvised explosive device (IED) exploded in the back of a horse drawn wagon at the corner of Wall Street and Broad Street in front of the J.P. Morgan building and Assay Office, killing between 38 and 40 civilians, injuring between 300 and 400 others, and causing extensive damage to several nearby vehicles and buildings. The American Anarchist Fighters claimed responsibility, but no arrests were ever made.



A surge of popular interest in anarchism occurred during the 1960s and 1970s. In the UK this was associated with the punk rock movement; the band Crass is celebrated for its anarchist and pacifist ideas; of note is also the Sex Pistols' hit "Anarchy in the UK" In Denmark, the Freetown Christiania was created in downtown Copenhagen. The housing and employment crisis in most of Western Europe led to the formation of communes and squatter movements like the one still thriving in Barcelona, Spain.

### Anarchist Ideology

**UNCLASSIFIED/FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO)**

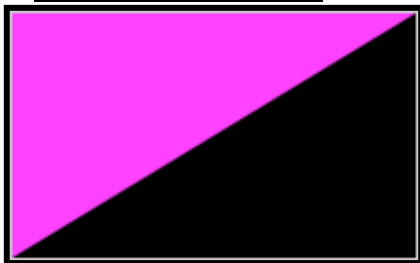
There are many different ideologies that an anarchist may follow. Although there may be a number of differences, they all contain the same central belief. Anarchism is the idea that government (the state) is unnecessary and harmful. Anarchy is society without government. Anarchists are people who desire to live in a society without rulers as their ancestors once did. The main belief is that the community in which they live be dependant only upon itself. People who believe in government (such as liberals, conservatives, socialists and fascists) are known as "statists". Anarchism opposes all forms of hierarchical control.

The terms "anarchism" and "anarchy" are often confused in their meaning. When most people think Anarchist, they think of the chaotic Molotov cocktail throwing teenager (which grew out of the **Anarcho-Punk** persona) or ALF/ELF members (Animal Liberation Front and Earth Liberation Front - **Eco-Anarchism**, **Green Anarchism**, or **Anarcho-Primitivism** ideologies). Although there are a few direct action radical sub-groups not all believe in violence.

### **Anarcha-Masculinism**

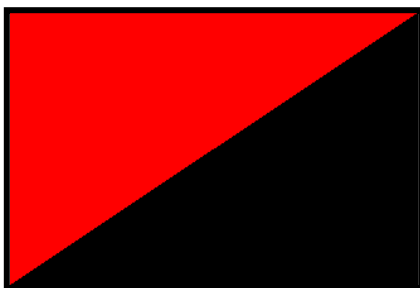
**Anarcha-Masculinism** is a set of social philosophies that focus on the rights and experiences of men. Masculinism is sometimes confused with patriarchy (structuring of society on the basis of family units where fathers have primary responsibility for the welfare of, hence authority over, their families) while its main goal is to compliment male feminism and to provide a way to show inequalities present in today's system. Some of their campaigns include: draft resistance (in the majority of countries males are drafted instead of females), breaking the taboo around male adult virginity, acceptance of sensitivity of males (in many cultures it is assumed that "men don't cry"), and more equally shared parental responsibility with children i.e. paternal leave.

### **Anarcha-Feminism**



Radical feminism supports the belief that patriarchy is a fundamental problem in our society. Feminist Anarchism, or **Anarcha-Feminism** a term created during second-wave feminism, views patriarchy as the first manifestation of hierarchy in human history; thus, the first form of oppression occurred in the dominance of male over female. Anarchist feminism appears in individualist and collectivist forms, with individualist forms having most adherents in the United States, while in Europe anarchist feminism has had more emphasis on collectivism. Symbol is a pink (feminism) and black (anarchist) flag.

### **Anarcho-Communism**



**Anarcho-Communism**, or **Libertarian Communism**, is a political ideology related to Libertarian socialism. Anarcho-communism stresses the abolition of money and the introduction of the gift economy (an economic system in which goods or services are given, rather than traded) to facilitate the exchange of goods.

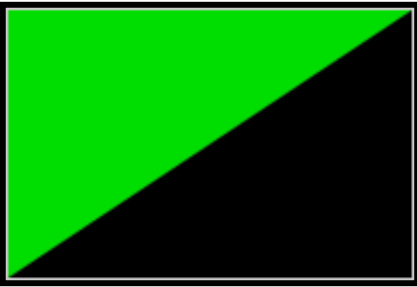
In Anarcho-Communism, profit no longer exists. Goods are given away as gifts in the faith that others will also give products back (in an industrial setting, this would occur between worker syndicates as well as between individuals). If one syndicate does not share their products, they will not receive resources from other syndicates, making it in their best interest to share. Anarcho-Communism also advocates the abolition of work in the sense of wage slavery, and recommends worker self-management to improve working conditions, increase efficiency, and make working enjoyable. Symbol is a red (communist) and black (anarchist) flag.

### **Anarcho-Syndicalism**



**Anarcho-Syndicalism** is the Anarchist wing of the labor union movement. Its primary aim is the end of the wage system. Their basic principals are workers' solidarity, direct action, and self-management. Anarcho-syndicalists believe that only direct action—that is, action concentrated on directly attaining a goal, as opposed to indirect action, like electing a representative to a government—will allow workers to liberate themselves. The Industrial Workers of the World, a once-powerful, still active, and again growing labor union, is considered a leading part of the anarcho-syndicalist philosophy in the United States.

## Anarcho-Primitivism



**Anarcho-primitivism** is an anarchist critique of the origins and progress of civilization. Primitivists argue that the shift from hunter-gatherer to agricultural subsistence gave rise to social stratification, coercion, and alienation. They advocate a return to non-"civilized" ways of life through deindustrialization, abolition of division of labor or specialization, and abandonment of technology. There are, however, numerous other non-anarchist forms of primitivism, and not all Primitivists point to the same phenomenon as the source of modern, civilized problems. Anarcho-Primitivists are often distinguished by their focus on the process of achieving an untamed state through "rewilding". Rewilding is about "overcoming" human domestication and returning to the innate wildness. Though often associated with primitive skills and learning knowledge about wild plants and animals, it emphasizes primal living as a holistic reality. Rewilding is most associated with Green Anarchy and anarcho-primitivism. Symbol is a lighter green over black flag.

## Green Anarchism



**Green Anarchism** puts an emphasis on environmental issues. Some green anarchists can be described as Anarcho-Primitivists and sometimes Anti-Civilization Anarchists, though not all Green Anarchists are Primitivists.



Many Green Anarchists choose to focus not on philosophical issues for a future society, but on the defense of the earth and social revolution in the present. Resisting systems in the present, and creating alternative, sustainable ways of living are often deemed more important than frivolous protesting.

Most Green Anarchists hold their ideals passionately and some engage in direct action. Organizing themselves through groups like Earth First!, Root Force, or more drastically, the Earth Liberation Front (ELF), Earth Liberation Army (ELA) and Animal Liberation Front (ALF). They may take direct action against what they see as systems of oppression, such as the logging industry, the meat and dairy industries, animal testing laboratories, genetic engineering facilities and, more rarely, government institutions.



Such actions are normally, though not always, non-violent. Though not necessarily Green anarchists, activists have used the names Animal Rights Militia, Justice Department and Revolutionary Cells among others, to claim responsibility for openly violent attacks. Symbol is a darker green over black flag.

## Eco-Anarchism

Eco-Anarchism combines older trends of primitivism, bioregional democracy, feminism (as eco-feminism), pacifism, secession, and intentional community. It is the dedication to these ideals that distinguish it from the more general Green anarchism, which sees a continuing role for global institutions and global definitions of fairness and safety. In general, eco-anarchists reject the common notion of humanity as a whole and human dignity in particular. What differentiates the eco-anarchist from the primitivist is this focus on the village and its social capital, as opposed to technology and its acceptance or rejection. Eco-Anarchism is largely a North American movement.

## Christian Anarchism

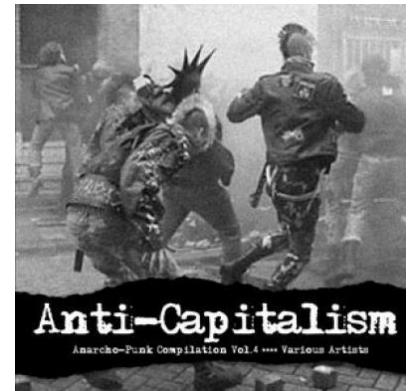


**Christian Anarchism** is the belief that there is only one source of authority to which Christians are ultimately answerable, the authority of God as embodied in the teachings of Jesus. Christian Anarchists feel that "earthly" authority such as government, or the established church do not and should not have power over them. Christian Anarchists are pacifists and oppose the use of all physical force, both proactive and reactive. Christian anarchists have opposed war and other "Statist" aggression through nonviolent tax resistance. Many Christian Anarchists were vegetarian or vegan.

## Associated Concepts

### Anarcho-Punk

**Anarcho-punk** is a faction of the punk subculture that consists of bands, groups and individuals promoting anarchist politics. Although not all punks support anarchism, the ideology has played a significant role in the punk subculture, and punk has had a significant influence on the expression of contemporary anarchism.



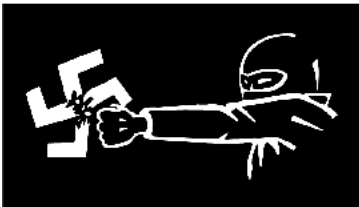
Anarcho-Punk involves the cooperation of various forms of anarchism. Some Anarcho-Punks are Anarcha-Feminists, while others are Anarcho-Syndicalists. The Anarcho-Punk band "Psalterns" has an affiliation with Christian Anarchism. CrimethInc. (a decentralized Anarchist collective composed of autonomous cells who also publish a number of magazines/books) is strongly connected to the Anarcho-Punk movement. Many Anarcho-Punks are supporters of issues such as animal rights, racial equality, anti-heterosexism, feminism, environmentalism, worker's autonomy, the anti-war movement, and the anti-globalization movement.

Some anarcho-punks are "straight edge", claiming that alcohol, tobacco, drugs and promiscuity are instruments of oppression and are self-destructive because they cloud the mind and wear down a person's resistance to other types of oppression. Some crust punks also condemn the waste of land, water and resources necessary to grow crops to make alcohol, tobacco and drugs, forfeiting the potential to grow and manufacture food. Some may be straight edge for religious reasons, such as in the case of Christian, Muslim, Buddhist, or Hare Krishna anarcho-punks.

Anarcho-punks universally believe in direct action, although the way in which this manifests itself varies greatly. Despite their differences in strategy, anarcho-punks often co-operate with each other. Many anarcho-punks are pacifists and therefore believe in using non-violent means of achieving their aims. These include peaceful protest, refusal to work, squatting, economic sabotage, dumpster diving, graffiti, culture jamming, ecotage, freeganism, boycotting, civil disobedience, hacktivism and subvertising. Some anarcho-punks believe that violence or property damage is an acceptable way of achieving social change. This manifests itself as rioting, vandalism, wire cutting, assault, hunt sabotage, participation in Animal Liberation Front- or Earth Liberation Front-style activities, and in extreme cases, bombings. Many anarchists dispute the applicability of the term "violence" to describe destruction of property.

### Anti-Racist Action

#### **ANTI-RACIST**



#### **ACTION**

**Anti-Racist Action Network (ARA)** is a decentralized network of anti-fascist and Anti-Racist Activists. ARA activists organize actions to disrupt neo-nazi and white supremacist groups and help to organize resistance mainly to fascist and racist ideologies. ARA groups also oppose sexism, homophobia, heterosexism, anti-semitism, and anti-abortion activists. They are sometimes seen to be "Red" or Communist, particularly by detractors, however; the network includes a large number of anarchists.

**ARA** started in Minneapolis, Minnesota in 1987. Since then it has expanded to different communities, countries and continents. Members of Love and Rage, a revolutionary anarchist organization played a major role in building ARA groups and the ARA Network in the 1990s. They are sometimes associated with the Skinhead and Punk subcultures and work with organizations such as Skinheads Against Racial Prejudice (SHARP).

## Black Bloc



A **black bloc** is an affinity group of individuals that come together during some sort of protest, demonstration, or event involving class struggle, anti-capitalism, or anti-globalization, and wear all black (we saw a number of them in both the RNC and DNC 2008 protests recently). Black clothing and masks are used to make the bloc appear to be one large mass, promote solidarity, create a clear revolutionary presence (usually associated with anarchism,

sometimes also with communism), and also to avoid being identified by authorities. There is a mistaken belief, especially among the mainstream news media, that the "Black Bloc" is an international organization of some kind, when in fact it is nothing

more than a tactic used by a subset of demonstrators. There may be several black blocs within a particular protest, with different aims and tactics. As an ad hoc group, they share no universally common set of principals or beliefs; however, black blocs that have formed in the past have been made up largely of anarchists, but can include many other anti-capitalist groups. Like all affinity groups, they are based on common trust between those involved, and usually share a common goal such as blocking delegates from entering a trade meeting, and a mutual understanding of shared tactics.

## Copwatch

**Copwatch** is a network of United States volunteer organizations that "police the police". Copwatch groups usually engage in monitoring of the police, videotaping police activity, educating the public about police misconduct, and advocating for more accountable law enforcement practices.



The main function of most Copwatch groups is monitoring police activity. "Copwatchers" go out on foot or driving patrols in their communities and videotape interactions between the police and civilians. Some groups also patrol at protests and demonstrations to ensure that the rights of protesters are not violated by police officers. Copwatch organizations generally abide by a policy of non-interventions with the police, although this may not be true for all groups. The anarchist ran Infoshop News published the new "Copwatch 101" booklet found at the following address <http://news.infoshop.org/article.php?story=04/04/06/6676838>.

## Closing

The MIAC is aware of a number of anarchist networks within Missouri. With their past clashes with the white supremacist movements in our area, we believed it to be important for all Law Enforcement officers to be aware of the many ideologies and splinter groups that are present within the anarchist movement. Although they have not all been listed, we believe the groups discussed pose a significant domestic terrorist treat at this time.

Although it is important to know the ideologies and motives for these groups, it is essential to realize that most anarchists operate either as lone wolves, in small cells (3-4 members), or can, at times, rally as anonymous mobs. Identification and interrogations can be difficult because most, if not all, members who participate in direct action are well aware of their rights and are informed not to speak to officers when questioned.

MIAC always welcomes comments on these intelligence products, and encourages all Law Enforcement agencies to submit suggestions for future MIAC strategic intelligence. Suggestions and/or comments may be sent to Criminal Analyst Andrew.Gaffke@mshp.dps.mo.gov or Deputy Director Greg.Hug@mshp.dps.mo.gov.

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