NO TRANS* ARREST WITHOUT REPRISAL



NO TRANS* DEATH WITHOUT REVENGE



REMEMBRANCE, REVENGE, REVOLT

Each year, faced with the murder of trans people, we are asked to REMEMBER. We are asked to hold candles and listen to politicians mouth empty platitudes. We are asked to MOURN. But all our tears cannot make sense of our pain, all our memories cannot halt the violent reality of our lives under gender.

Let's remember: it is this world that makes corpses of the bodies of trans* people. It is the police, harassing and arresting trans* women. It is the legal system and prisons, perpetrating the wholesale removal and imprisonment of gender rebels and other undesirables. It is bourgeois neighborhood associations that scapegoat trans* women and encourage police persecution in the service of gentrification and the maintainance of the caApitalist order. It is transphobes and gaybashers committing daily, interpersonal violence. It is the daily mechinations of class society, that exclude and exploit trans* people. It is the power of the state, its regulatory and disciplinary practices that make day-to-day survival a war for trans* people. It is religion, with its condemnations and life-destroying morality. It is white supremacy and patriarchy, which do the work of domination on the bodies of trans* people of color and trans* feminine people. It is the totality of civilization that is responsible for each and every trans* death.

Let's remember: these same mealy-mouthed politicians, these same rich scum, these same police, mobilize trans* deaths to increase state power. Politicians and police salivate at the thought of more hate crime legislation to increase their budgets and expand their legal parameters. The bourgeois gays and lesbians, who consistently put aside the deaths of trans* people 364 days of the year in favor of assimilationist goals like marriage, will trot out their gay politicians to "pay respect to the dead." Capital mobilizes to find ways to include the most respectable trans* people to pull gender rebels into the theater of commodity society. When those with a stake in the continued functioning of society speak of trans* deaths, their mouths are filled with corpses.

Let's remember: wherever there is domination, there is revolt. We do not want more hate crime legislation. We do not want to assimilate into patriarchal heterosexual society. We do not want trans* bosses, CEOs, Senators, and police. We do not want a trans-positive capitalism, a transinclusive military, a trans-friendly state. We want the police out of our lives. We want the annihilation of all prisons, all courts, all states, all laws. We want to end marriage, the church, the family, and all other institutions that maintain patriarchy and property relations. We know the destruction of gender violence is impossible without the destruction of civilization. Nothing less than this will satisfy us.

This is not a call to cease crying, to ignore the power of memory, to push off the pain in our hearts. To do so would be to replicate hard-hearted militance and masculinist posturing. We want to cry, but we also know that tears alone will not loosen the death-grip of gender.

Today let's remember the past and plan for the future. Let's understand survival and revolt as inseparable. Let's refuse the logic of individualism that prevents our pain from implicating society, and thereby separates us from our collective agency to fight back. Let's take solace in the power of vengeance, in the possibilities that become real only when we are dangerous together.

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Solidarity with those behind bars, those free and fighting, and those whose lives have been stolen. Against the logic of submission, toward the destruction of gender. Our remembrance is revolt.