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Nobody Understands Us

Many people have misunderstood the intent of the editorial entitled "Tiger of the Week" which appeared in the last edition of the Gazette.

Most of the students who came to the office to discuss the article believed our purpose was simply to insult an individual, Fred Jeffries.

We deeply regret that this interpretation was so generally held, because it was not our intention by any means. Therefore we would like to apologize to Mr. Jeffries for any misunderstanding or difficulty that was caused by our use of him as an example of a more general malaise that afflicts us all in some degree and of a society that condones the kind of meaningless physical violence that occurred after the St. F. X. Football game, but refuses to recognize its validity in other social contexts.

Newspapers, in order to confront people with reality, must often resort to methods that are not enjoyable to them or their readers.

Both "Tiger of the Week" and the feature "The Welcome Death of School Spirit" fall into this category. We could have a long in-depth analysis of why people get into fights at football games and why such forms of violence are condoned while the violence of the ghetto is not, but we didn't. We didn't for the simple reason that we did not feel that such an editorial would have forced people to struggle with themselves and with others about why such realities exist.

By using a real situation in which real identifiable people were involved,

we attempted to confront people with a situation in which they could not remain passive. A general analysis could not have provided people with an opportunity to think and to confront this reality.

People get into fights at and after almost every football game. People fight everywhere all the time and we get used to it. We accept as normal or at least stop reacting against what was originally unacceptable. Normality is not static or absolute; it evolves constantly as the total of all that is commonplace at any given time.

Wanton aggression and violence are becoming more and more commonplace and acceptable.

This is because people can't relate to one another any more in a meaningful way. They are alienated from themselves, from each other and from the societal structures which rule their lives. People are powerless in modern society and they know it. They react out of deep frustration. An individual knows that he could scream for help from a mountain top only to be ignored.

The structures and institutions which rule his destiny couldn't hear him, they can only process huge mass inputs; a single man's pleas do not compute. The people - the other insignificant fly specks - who float on the outskirts of his existence balloon couldn't hear him, they're isolated and protected from his cries by electric circuits, picture tubes and 300 different kinds of the same toothpaste. Billions of people screaming for es-

cape, billions of people shoulder to shoulder, nose to armpit yet separated by immeasurable black empathy resisted. Other cocoons will be

People are forced to live alone, containing their humanity - people do not relate, humanities do not mingle. Capitalist industrial society and its technology are breeding a race of monsters who struggle against the forces compressing them into compact leak-free armor-plated meaningless little commodity balls. But the fight is useless, victory is almost inconceivable. The result is monumental frustration which manifests itself in such animalistic behaviour as the beating of other people.

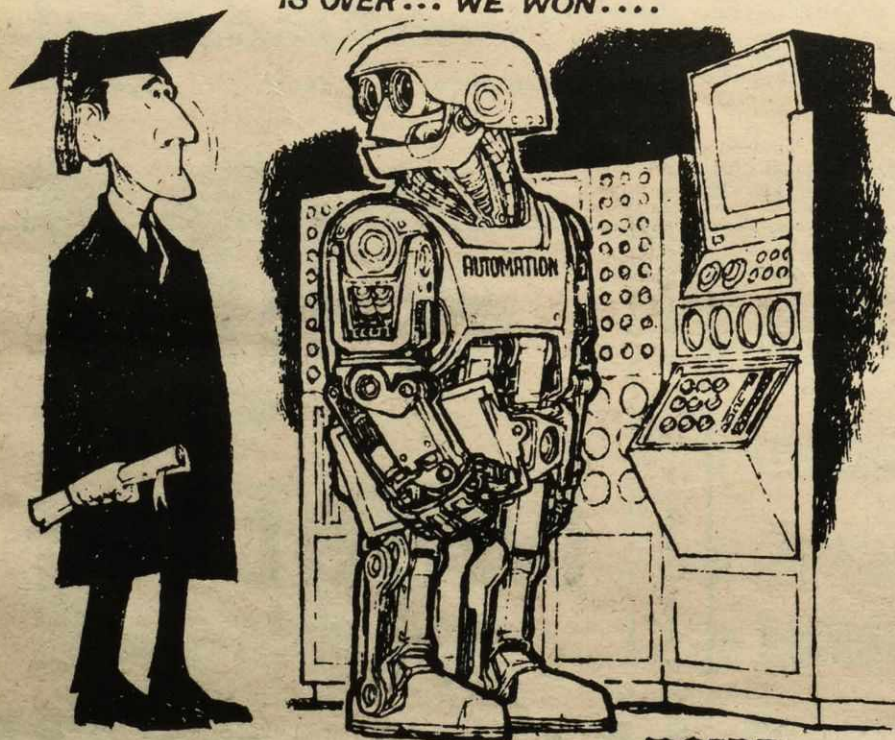
There is no freedom. Man's mind is being raped, his soul is being wrapped in chains. He knows this is not natural and definitely not what he wants in life so he reacts. He asserts his freedom and individuality by conquest of other people.

Chained souls can never feel each other. People cannot relate so they cocoon themselves. Soon everyone will be totally alone. Intruders will be resisted. Other cocoons will be enemies.

Fred Jeffries isn't alone. We're all in it together... together... for a while at least.

If you don't see it coming then the rape has begun; if you don't feel it in your soul then the shackles are rusting tight. The cocoon is being spun. Get ready to fight back because you'll be on your own in no time.

OH... HAVEN'T YOU HEARD? -
THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION
IS OVER... WE WON....



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