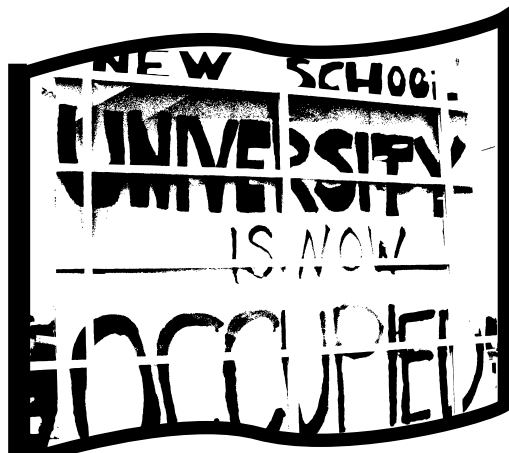


Welcome to...

THE NEW SCHOOL



WE
WILL
BE
YOUR
STUDENT
ADVISORS



A DISORIENTATION



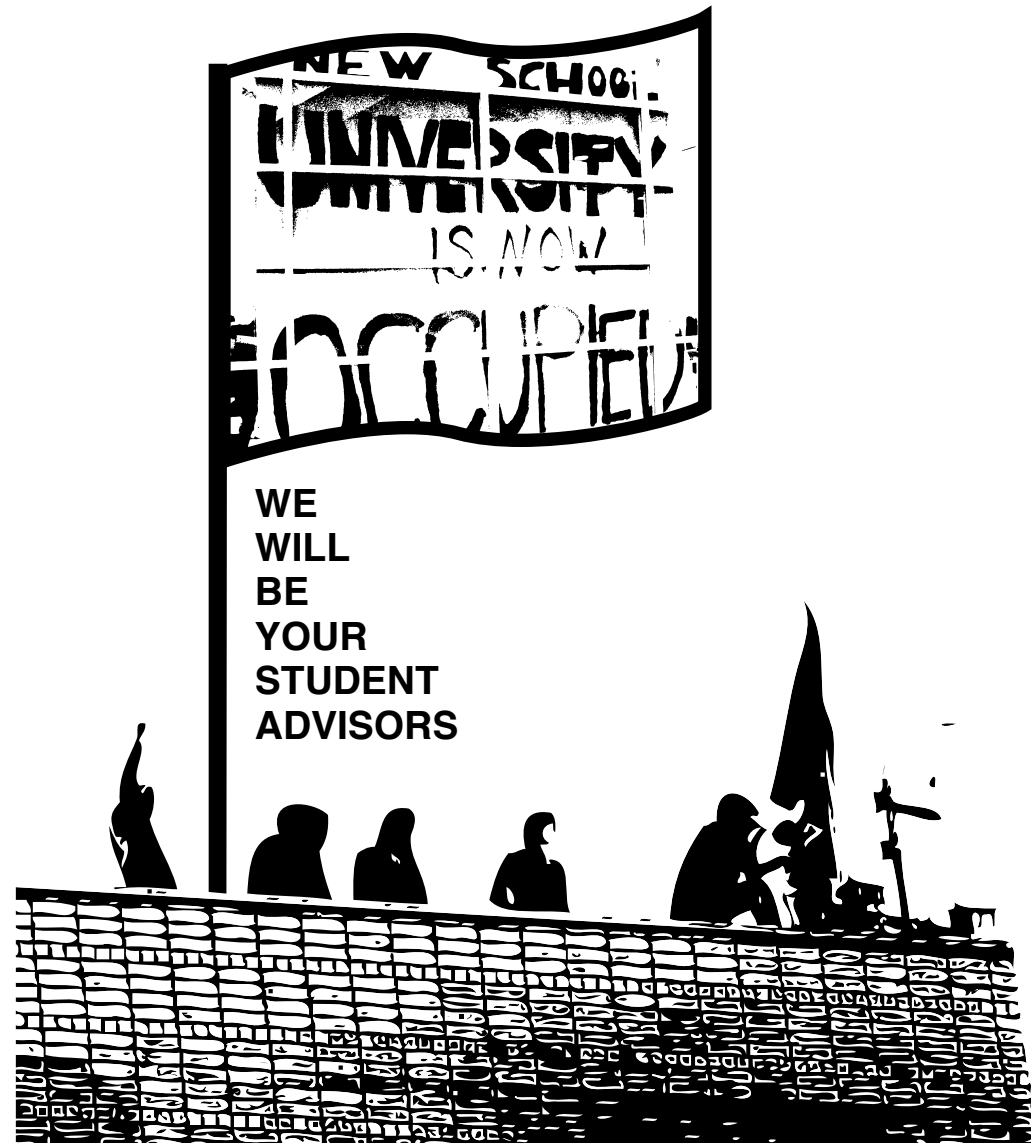
Your guide to partying, sex, campus counterculture, and everything else they won't tell you at orientation.

GUIDE

to
THE NEW SCHOOL
A CORPORATION

Welcome to...

THE NEW SCHOOL





Core Values of The New School

The University in Exile was founded in 1933 by radical Jewish scholars fleeing Nazi Germany. For decades the New School was seen as a haven for free and radical thought, yet the current administration is attempting to distance the University from its core values. Here's the list. Drafted 1919, revised 1933

Freedom from Hierarchical Power

Abolition of the Commodity-Form

Negation of Capital

Refusal of Work

Destruction of the State

Self-Organization

Strategic Combat against All Forms of Alienation and Domination

The Real Abolition of the Present State of Things

Pleasure Without Restraint

Dialectics

Eros

From Each According to Their Abilities, To Each According to their Needs

Direct Action

Rejection of Specialization and the Division of Labor

Anti-Fascism

Unity of Theory and Practice

Logic

Revolutionary Criticism

Courage

The Deconstruction of Discourse

Friendship

discontents.

.∩' TIMELINE of the last 2 semesters

.∞' ACTIVISTS GROUPS and counter-culture on campus

.∞' WHO IS BOB?

.∞' STUDENT GOVERNMENT

.∩' THE NEW SCHOOL IS at the center of fighting capitalism in ny

.∩' THE HARDEST LESSON: not being a student

.∞' SEX POSITIVE AT NEW SCHOOL

.∞' THE STUDENT BODY apathetic hipsters or insurrectionary hooligans?

.∞' DOWN WITH HOMEWORK!

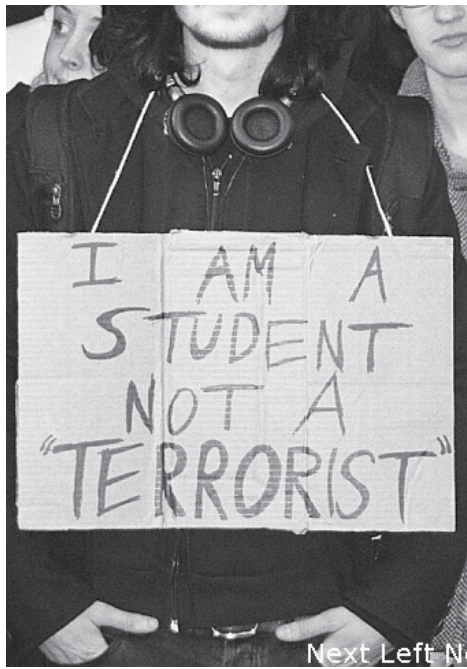
.∩' CORE VALUES of the new school

The disorientation Guide was written and assembled by anonymous New School students during the summer of 2009. This guide is meant for entertainment purposes only and the authors do not encourage or engage in any illegal activity. bob kerrey is a dear friend of many of the guide's contributors and we regularly dine together. and sail on his yacht. We regret that there was only so much information we could fit into this pamphlet. for more information, including activist, campus, and mischevious resources visit these unaffiliated websites:

newschooled.wordpress.com newschoolinexile.com reoccupied.wordpress.com

The campus

has been dead for months now, it yearns for the hustle of students running late to class, meeting each other in the courtyard and recanting their nights, marching angrily or partying in the streets. During the summer the administration had the time and space to put everything back in its right place: sandblasting graffiti, installing a Starbucks, closing the 65 5th Avenue for good, prosecuting and fining rebellious students, sweeping up the broken glass and letting the pepper spray disperse in the air. For the University administrators, the last two semesters were a nightmare, but they are hopeful that with Kerrey's announcement that he will resign in 2011 (which effectively fooled many into thinking he had already resigned) that the action on campus will calm down. Students will return to focusing on trivial "quality of life" issues such as "greening" the campus and getting more organic food into the cafeteria, so the New School's return to radicalism will finally come to the end.



Next Left No

What they didn't count on is the incoming student body actually knowing what they are entering: a war-zone. Were you one of the many incoming Freshman who, while making your decision about which school to attend in the fall, watched the marches, riots, and occupations on Youtube, and chose to go where the action is? Were you one of the high school students we handed pamphlets to last Spring while you toured the campus who winked at us and told us to "keep it up?" Or did you have no idea you were entering a center of a widening crisis? If the latter is the case

here's a handy timeline to catch you up:

December 2008

Dec 8-- Bob Kerrey fires the newly appointed provost Joseph Weistphal, lies about him resigning to work for the Obama administration. Another incident in a long chain of Provost firings, this time Kerrey appoints himself Provost.

Dec 10-- Teachers hold a near-unanimous vote of no confidence. Students disrupt board of trustees meeting, holding all the trustee's coats hostage. Kerrey and Trustees forced to call NYPD to help them flee from the maddened students whose voices they refused to hear.

Our administrators and teachers, who did their fair share of bs-ing, plagiarizing and cheating in their day, will scoff that higher education is a privilege, and when we are "academically dishonest" we betray this privilege. If we are caught, we will be reprimanded harshly as an example to others. For betraying our own arbitrary education process we will be expelled from that process (follow that logic.) But of course, most students do resort to the activities mentioned above and most do not get caught. Beneath the illusions of integrity we are all

'dishonest', lying to our bosses about our hours and swiping things from the grocery when we are not watched. It is not because we are lazy, it is because we desire something greater than the systems to which we are all forced to adhere.



"Write What I Tell You To Write."

These moments are outside of both work and sabotage, they arrive when we take for ourselves the freedom to follow our own passions with the reward as the 'work' itself. Yes, you may indeed find yourself enjoying writing your final essay or preparing your final presentation (often this bizarre phenomenon occurs when a professor gives the assignment to write/present

anything that loosely interests you related to the course.) You may find yourself excited to come into class because you have a unique angle on the reading or simply because it excited you. Suddenly that paper becomes more than just the evidence of effort to be exchanged for a grade, it is something you want to share, talk about, even post online or publish in pamphlet form. Suddenly you want to integrate the philosophy you read into your daily life. In these situations, you have transcended homework! School's out FOREVER!

DOWN WITH HOMEWORK!

You did it, you survived 3 years of middle school, 4 years of high school, waking up at 7 AM, riding the school bus, dealing with the abuse of jocks, teachers, small-town cops, and other empty-headed yokels from wherever you had the misfortune of growing up. And now you've made it to a prestigious liberal New York City University. Things will be different, right?

Well for the most part, yes, things will be better than high school. Despite impoverishment of the seminar style over the last 10 years your classes will be mostly participatory and your teachers mostly hip Manhattanites who won't give you busy-work. But work is still work, it is the theft of your free time by an authority, disguising itself as something for your own good, an agreement you have entered in exchange for a reward, be it academic skills, knowledge, grades, a paycheck, whatever. It is miserable bullshit, and yet as of our current condition we must work, as employees and as students.

In order to liberate ourselves from this condition, we can either drop out or sabotage our workplaces. You will soon find that students who do not wish to do a reading will not read, or merely skim online notes and pretend to have read in class in order to achieve a higher grade. This is the equivalent of telling your boss you have swept the floors when, in fact, you have not. If a professor

assigns a superfluous paper the student will write his paper entirely with Wikipedia, or plagiarize work from a secure source such as himself (from a previous class) or from a friend. If the student is tested on a subject she does not care about or in a format she finds alienating she will copy off a classmate's paper or reprogram her calculator to do the work for her. When a student 'bullshits' it is often because the class itself is 'bullshit.'



Dec 16-- Finals week. Kerrey speaks at a faculty meeting from which students are barred. Over 60 students surround the meeting wearing tape over their mouths, several barge in and silently sit near the front of the podium. That night students meet and decide to occupy the 65th 5th Avenue building

Dec 17-- About a hundred students occupy the 65 5th Avenue Cafeteria. After some early internal tension/squabbles with security things settle down. Guards and students chat, people listen to music make banners and drink whiskey all night.

Dec 18-- Early in the morning a banner is hung outside the building declaring the building occupied. (the masking tape still remains on the building's façade.) The guards betray their word and stop letting students join the occupation in the cafeteria. Students escalate their tactics and take control of the fire door, allowing their supporters to move in and out as they please. Some security guards respond violently, striking students, grabbing students, throwing them to the floor, but in the end they fail to remove the barricades and the students keep the door. Much of the incident was caught on video and immediately uploaded to Youtube, dramatically escalating media attention and bolstering support for the students. NYPD arrives and arrests two, taking back the door but failing to penetrate the barricades into the cafeteria (!). Hearing about the early morning incident, many students arrive at the building including entire classes and the occupation swells to nearly 200 students. Solidarity statements pour in from around the world. By nightfall hundreds of supporters gather outside and New School closes the building. An ultimatum for students to leave the building by midnight is issued and negotiations begin. Rowdy demonstrators outside take 6th Avenue. Linking up with friends inside, students fool NYPD and campus security and hundreds break into the building through a fire door. Security Guards beat some students trying to enter and the moderator of the negotiations is swayed to the student's favor. Students begin to win demands as NYPD enters the building, threatening arrests and cutting off bathroom access. The weary students consent to accept the victory of few paltry demands and leave early in the morning of Dec 19.



Winter break 2008-2009-- Anti-authoritarians worldwide celebrate the global wave of occupations and insurgencies. Students involved in the occupation write pamphlets celebrating and critiquing the action. Campus dis-organization the New School In Exile is formed. Stencils on the sidewalks outside of New School buildings read: More is Coming. Join the Exiles.

February 2009-- Despite ideological squabbling between student groups, student activists resolve to support a deadline for Kerrey to resign by April 1st. A campaign of diverse tactics including direct action is promised leading up to this date. Exiles hold a press conference wearing black masks, and announce their threat to "bring the functions of the school to a halt" unless Kerrey resigns.

Feb 19-- *Over issues of tuition, solidarity with Gaza, and lack of student power, NYU students occupy their cafeteria with help of CUNY and New School supporters. Administrators refuse to negotiate and promise to suspend, expel, and arrest everyone involved. Students escalate tactics, breaking in supporters and picking a lock to gain access to the balcony overlooking Washington Square Park.*

Feb 20-- Nearly 1000 supporters, media, counter-protesters, and curious onlookers gather outside the occupied Kimmel building. Students address crowd with a megaphone. Police pepper spray and beat supporters near the barricades. The restlessness is calmed when the school agrees to grant the students amnesty and negotiate in the morning.

Feb 21-- NYU asks 5 students to leave the cafeteria to negotiate the end of the occupation. Instead of negotiating, the students are held in a room and told they are suspended, with the decreased numbers in the cafeteria security is able to break the barricades and end the occupation. After massive outcry against NYU's treachery, the students were only suspended for one week, New School students got away scott-free.

Feb 24-- RSU and NSIE hold a teach in in the lobby of the 12th st building. Security disrupts the group of about 35 students sitting non-obstructively on the floor talking about the radical history of the University, demanding they disperse or face arrest or suspension. The students refuse and no action is taken. Security reportedly refused Kerrey's orders to arrest the students.

March 4- NSIE and RSU hold their second teach-in in Parsons. Tim Marshall and Neil Gordon take a couple of questions, seem intimidated by the peacefully talking students. Security surveilled the event but no threats were made.

March 12-- Gang of students spraypaint "Bye Bob" on Bob Kerrey's door early in the morning.

acterized as anarchists by some, (terrorists* and thugs** by others) but the truth is their actual political orientations vary. The first occupation held over a hundred students at its peak, and not all of them were anarchists. There is no controversy, however, about the fact that they are all very, very sexy.

As for Kerrey's characterization that those above-described students are the only faction willing to rebel, we recall the events of the night of April 10th, after the second occupation in which 22 students and supporters were arrested. At 5 pm, a rally was called for 10 pm in Union Square. Helped by huge media coverage and students using Black-board to forward the call to their classmates, hundreds showed up (one estimate was as high as 500) to hear witnesses speak out against police brutality and Kerrey's hostile treatment towards protesting students. With their classmates in jail fury swelled, and the mob took back the streets, blocking traffic and holding off police who were already on the scene. They marched to Bob Kerrey's house, only forced to turn back after massive police reinforcement arrived and several arbitrary arrests were made. These students were from all walks of life at New School, many of whom showed complete disinterest with announcements of teach-ins and other events during class, but appeared and threw-down when their friends were fucked with.

As much the media would like to portray Americans as lazy and apathetic, when their family, friends, community or other immediate conditions are threatened they will fight back. You are already an insurgent. It is up to you decide whether you will, for now, be a spectator or an actor.



*Bob Kerrey
**Jim Miller

THE STUDENT BODY



apathetic hipsters or insurrectionary hooligans?

Bob Kerrey is quick to point out the New School Student Body is a mass of consumers who are not pro-or against his administration, and his mandate for leadership comes from their apathy/the board of trustees' cash-flow. Kerrey appeals to the cynicism of liberal masses, both passively suspicious of authority and reactionary towards action against it.

We disagree that the 10,000 New School students are apathetic, instead we call them spectators. Just as students are removed from what they study they are intentionally removed from having direct decisions over the education and culture of their University. Their first moments at the New School orient them towards governing bodies with which to submit their ideas and concerns. The only body representing the students is the University Student Senate, which has been rendered toothless by the administration that does not recognize it as representative of the student body. (This fits into Kerrey's position that if the student body does not consent on an opinion it must have no valid opinions at all) This brazen lack of respect has outraged small percentages of students enough to mobilize, occupying 65 5th Avenue twice along with several other smaller actions such as street theater, confrontational demonstrations, and vandalism. These students chose to no longer be spectators in their own lives, passive obedient of authority, but instead to rebel and assert themselves by reclaiming their own space to exist.

It is true the rebel students fit certain tendencies-- stereotypes, even. Many of them are adventurers, their politics deeply anti-authoritarian and their lifestyles coarsely against the current. They have been char-

Unfortunately a cop witnessed the incident and tackled one of the vandals as he biked away. For some reason the incident was described as "violent" even though the only one hurt was the student arrested. (The New School's faux-stenciled spraypaint logo, a bastardization of street art, is rendered truly absurd.)

March 29-- An affinity group comprised of members of NSIE, RSU, and non-affiliated students plot to occupy 65 5th Avenue in the middle of the night, but the action is snatched upon by an unknown source and aborted.

April 10-- *The same affinity group attempts the same plan for an early morning occupation of 65 5th Avenue, this time it is successful! Two students hid within the building as it closed, around 5 AM they opened the fire door for the rest of the students who locked the building down. A janitor within the building was politely escorted outside, and a security guard trying to enter the building was pushed outside and his foot was momentarily closed in the door. Kerrey uses these incidents to portray the occupation as "violent" and asks the NYPD to evict the occupation and charge the students with burglary. He lies to the media and says the security guard was injured and had to go to the hospital, but this was confirmed by the Free Press to be a lie. NYPD calls a "code cobra," a counter-terrorist maneuver. Hundreds of police take the scene, quickly surrounding the building, shutting down the area all the way to Union Square, and pushing around supporters and yuppies on their way work. Police helicopters circle in the sky. Most passerbys assume there is a bomb-threat. Students attempt to leave outside of the side door but are pepper-sprayed. Angered demonstrators outside toss a police barricade in the direction of the cops and immediately get away. Police retaliate by arresting and beating random protesters on 14th st. The video makes it to the New York Times blog and once again angers and disgusts readers against Kerrey and the police.*

Soon Police chainsaw through the front door of 65 5th Avenue and arrest 19 students inside. Their classmates in jail, several students walk out of their classes in disgust.



SWAT or ANTI-TERROR squad, i forgot



A support rally is called for that night at 10 pm in Union Square. Despite the short notice, hundreds turn out. After some angry speeches the mob takes the street and marches to Bob Kerrey's house. The cops get there first and barricade the sidewalk. The angry mob begins running amok in the New School area, using police barricades to stop cop cars and marching back towards 65. Police and school security believe the crowd are trying to reoccupy the building and arrests are made. Soon after the mob returns to Union Square to regroup, but now there are hundreds of cops containing them and the group disperses.

April 11--The arrested students are arraigned, charges range from felony assault and grand larceny to mostly misdemeanor trespassing.

April 13--Emergency community meeting called with deans, students, the provost, administrators and others. Kerrey not allowed to be present. A packed Tischman auditorium supports the arrested students and decries the actions of the administration.

April 16--A student rally against police brutality turns into a roving protest, returning to Kerrey's building and 65 5th Avenue, blocking traffic and confronting security and police. Two students are arrested for linking arms on 6th Avenue. Interim provost Tim Marshall is shoved by a cop for trying to talk



protesters beaten by police are ironically charged with assault

New School Students are **SEX POSITIVE**

The New School is a haven for radical politics, but also radical lifestyles. Many students at New School identify as being sex-positive, an attitude that considers love, intimacy, and being sexual as a good thing, not taboo or wrong, as we may have been educated most of our lives. The sex-positive New School student does not insult women as "sluts," because he knows loving sex is not wrong. The sex-positive New School student does not only care about getting laid, because she knows that there are many different kinds of relationships and not all of them must be sexual. The sex-positive New School student may choose to be in a monogamous or polyamorous relationship with a partner. The sex-positive New School student is experimental with their own sexuality, because they know that the gender roles we've been assigned may not fit us. A male-bodied New School student may dress as or identify as a woman (and vice versa for the female-bodied, of course) if they wish, privately or on campus. A sex-positive New School student often feels restricted by the terms "gay" "straight" and "bi-sexual" and prefer to adventure outside these labels. Despite the existence of more room for sexual freedom at New School, and the fact we don't have to deal with typical jock/fratboy bullshit, sexism, homophobia, and sexual assault is still tragic reality here.

CONSENT

Rape and sexual assault most often result from a breach of consent between two people who know each other. It is important that sex and intimacy be consensual. Consent is not the absence of a "no" but the presence of a "yes." Verbal consent is the best way to achieve this. Before you come into someone's room, sit on their bed, lean in for a kiss, remove an article of clothing, or reach for a certain part of the body while making out, ask permission! Always be aware that a drunk person may not be able to consent, if they say that something is okay they may not actually feel that way. Give options, for example: would you like to come to my dorm room or would you rather I walk you home? Would you like me to go down on you or would rather go to sleep? Even in situations where it seems like verbal consent isn't necessary failing to communicate can result in trauma.

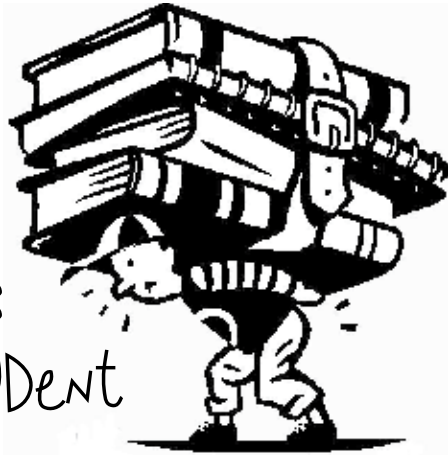
Dealing with sexual assault and other types of oppression to sexual freedom:

If a friend tells you they've been sexually assaulted first ask how they feel, what you can do for them, what they need. There are number of ways to deal with someone who's raped but this should be left up to the survivor. A community has many options for dealing with abusers, ranging from a written apology and agreement to learn proper consent, to hostility and banishing for serial abusers. Survivors have often felt that their needs for safety and accountability are not met by going through the school or police, although some may find these the best options.

As with all kinds of bigotry, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, and violence towards women are epidemics in our society that need to be directly combated. In some instances this, too, could be as simple as having a conversation with a person acting oppressively, but often may require action. Bigots beware: Sex-positive New School students bash back!



the hardest Lesson:
Not Being A Student



The student is a privileged person in an underprivileged world of suffering, but only because she does not recognize his own boredom as a form of imprisonment, of torture. She is not only deadened to reality, she is also deprived of the consciousness of her own suffering. She accepts herself as 'normal', but it is only the normality of her repression that makes her like the rest of society.

The student movement is blind to itself: it does not understand the forces that push it into action, it cannot connect its struggle with its own life. (The issue is not Bob Kerrey, his war crimes, his corporatization and rebranding of our University; firing Bob Kerrey is no solution.) The student movement seeks 'demands' everywhere, but because students cannot see the absurdity of their own lives and their own imprisonment, they cannot begin to imagine what the struggle is for.

Students in Iran, Greece, and Mexico are fighting and dying in the streets in the fight for liberation... and revealing the poverty of our own movement and the terrible superficiality of our 'struggles.'

When the real struggle comes it will be easy to recognize because it will cut through all the bullshit in which we are trapped. It knows its objectives. Its tactics are clear. It moves with confidence.

We begin by killing the enemy within us, and within our friends with whom we share our classrooms, courtyards, and beds. We come together in small bands with those we have learned to trust, occupying everything that represses us. Taking back the schools, the streets, our lives.

The function of the "student movement" must become something other than making demands of the University, but to destroy the existence of the 'student' as a distinct social role and character structure. More eager for grades than knowledge, more eager for a "good" job than to live without dead time, the first enemy is the student within you.

them out of arresting students. The group of 200 students marches south to NYU, chanting "FUCK THE POLICE," and "OCCUPY AGAIN, AGAIN AND AGAIN!" Students converge in front of the once-occupied Kimmel building and take the streets once again. Soon dispersing to greet their friends being released from the Chelsea precinct.

After this march the board of trustees finally begins to grow concerned about Kerrey's leadership. Several secretive meetings later Kerrey agrees to announce his resignation-- he will resign at the end of his contract in 2011. Somehow, this placates many and the semester ends quietly, the Exiles struggling mostly to raise funds for their arrested comrades.

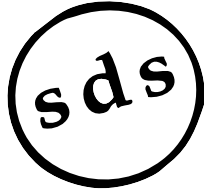
May 22- A massive party is thrown in Bushwick to celebrate and raise funds for the occupiers. About a thousand people turn out and the party grows out of control. Police arrest an Exile for chanting "FROM NEW YORK TO GREECE, FUCK THE POLICE!" Vortex Opens. Police arrest fifteen in total.



Summer 2009-- Quiet scheming for the coming school year. Propaganda typed up, blueprints studied, conspiracies hatched in barrooms, Exiles and other rowdies await the return of the school year, but not just for the typical reasons, but because we know the momentum is in our favor, we know the forces against us our running scared, and we know everything won't be in place for long.

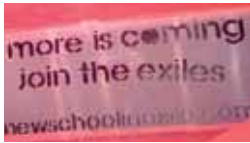
Activist groups counter-culture on campus

Student activism has always been a ghetto and in current affairs of the New School are no exception. Students earnestly seeking change find themselves in endless meetings for groups replicating the current absurd democratic system that gave us the Iraq war, the bank bailouts, green capitalism, and two Bush administrations. As a result, most of these students will "burn out" on activism by the end of their college career, while some will stick with a group until they graduate, either as a politician-like student-leader, or a subject to said leaders, performing menial labor such as posting fliers. Real change does not occur through appeals to bureaucracy but through direct action and pressure on the systems of power. Nonetheless many students find campus groups to be a valuable jumping-off point to find like-minded friends and get involved in the student community.



The Radical Student Union (RSU) emerged from the SDS-Students for a Democratic Society, a throwback to the 1960s radical student movement. Since its reformation during the Bush administration, New School SDS performed direct

actions centered around the Iraq War and Robert Millard, the New School board of trustees treasurer and CEO of L3 Communications, a leading military contractor. Their reformation into RSU pushed them farther towards the center, trading direct actions for theatrics and horizontal organization for elected officials who set the group's agenda in accordance to national leftist strategies such as Powervote and Parecon. While the group has a few dozen dedicated activists many have turned away as it has largely rejected direct action and diversity of tactics in recent semesters.



New School in Exile, or NSIE, was formed largely as a tendency to fill the void of direct action. The group formed together largely

from students seeking to assert a voice as the Kerrey controversy heated up in December 2008. The students



New York City is a ghost of what it once was. The hard-boiled city that never sleeps has been turned into a shopping mall-like paradise for the rich thanks to decades of backroom sweet-heart deals with developers and real estate interests during the Bloomberg and Giuliani administrations. CBGBs is now a high-end pants store, time square now Disneyworld, much of Bushwick is now "East Williamsburg" and Columbia University continues to invade Harlem. In short, the character of New York is being sapped by the ever-expanding greed of the wealthy. Just as New York has been rebranded, so has the New School. The radical legacy and values (See CORE VALUES) of NSSR and Lang are now only an afterthought to the more profitable divisions of Mannes and Parsons. Even within Parsons the study of fine art is being replaced with a preference for

"graphic design." Last semester saw a massive rally protesting the layoffs of fine arts professors as funding was shifted to more profitable departments. While the New York is a utopia for the rich, it is rapidly becoming unlivable for others. The stress of rising rents, utilities, and food prices weighs heavily on the poor and working classes. Working class neighborhoods have been blighted by gentrification and foreclosures. Students are forced to be pawns in landlords' gentrification schemes, moving wherever affordable despite the cost to the communities they invade. Culture in general is impoverished by the conformity of the hip and high-class aesthetics. Everything begins to look the same, and we forget things used to be any other way. Yet the spirit of revolution has not been drained from New York or the New School. Last year saw three student occupations, riots, marches, labor rallies, and covert direct action aimed at striking back the ever-inventing death machine of capitalism. Striking factory workers in the Bronx picketed outside

the Stella D'oro factory until it could no longer operate. Last September, masked hoodlums marched through the Lower East Side smashing the windows and vandalizing the facades of McDonalds, Urban Outfitters, and Whole Foods. A grassroots community organization in downtown Brooklyn has successfully forestalled the destruction of their neighborhood for the sake of construction of several high-rise office-buildings, luxury housing, and a basketball stadium. This is just a small cross-sample of various tactics of resistance to capitalism in New York. As a New School student and a new New Yorker, you are at a crossroads. Either you can buy into the lies and rebranding, using your education towards flawless integration into the capitalist work world, or you can resist that miserable fate and learn the skills you need to fight, both with your lifestyle and actions. **Don't be another worthless yuppie! join in the struggle and fight back!**

New School and the
Fight against Capitalism in New York.



Student Government

Throughout the course of student life you'll be implored to "engage", to "express yourself", to "have your voice heard", to "stand up and be counted". The politicians will try and pull you into their orbit, to vote for them, to organize others or to join the assembly yourself. Chances are you'll feel uncomfortable and apathetic. You'll dodge them in the hallways. You'll feel like your shirking your duty to your fellow students and sully the participatory tradition of this grand institution.

The truth is, non-participation in student government is no cause for shame. In fact, it is an entirely rational reaction to the shameful conditions of studenthood. It's hardly a surprise that student government mirrors the form of national government, because both have the same function. The committees, the assemblies, the senate and the vote all function to tamp down on expectations, diffuse and wait out struggles, foster a deference to unaccountable institutions, and separate us into atomized social actors. This is a form of mediation: the insertion of an institutional structure between desires and the means to meet them. Moreover, these forms of government are based on a fundamental illusion.

Students and citizens have no power over the content of their general conditions. The so-called "right" to choose between one or another unaccountable leader is merely the right to give up the only true power that any people have, the power to self-organize and directly struggle for their lives without the mediation of leaders. This holds just as true in the classroom as it does on the streets.

So when the politicians come and try and pull you in, embrace your apathy and your discomfort! There are a thousand ways to make positive changes at the university without stepping foot in some boring meeting. Talk with your fellow students, figure out what you want, then organize and take it!

who spearheaded the first occupation would go on to form NSIE the next semester, deciding upon an April 1st deadline for Kerrey's resignation in their first meeting. In the coming months, little was planned within the group itself, but members would meet in secret to plan grand actions such as the April 10th occupation. NSIE has been a useful group for cutting through red tape and aggressively pressuring the administration, but its identity is still forming.

LISA LISA, the Low Income Student Alliance, is yet to emerge as the proletarian threat it will undoubtedly become to a corporatizing University. As tuition rises, low income students are being pushed farther into the margins, invisible amongst a largely well-off student body. Growing stronger each year, LISA aims to assert the presence of these students and remind the community class is still an issue.



reNEW SCHOOL is an environmentalist group that works within the system to further initiatives such as green architecture and "sustainability" on campus. While members often find themselves discussing the best way to get students to recycle, there is a radical undercurrent that rarely shows its face.

The Lang Reading Series, Eat a Peach, and Lang Student Dispatch are three student-run alternative publications/literary groups that challenge the exclusive and reactionary Free Press.

Also on campus is **MOXIE**, a feminist group that organizes an annual "Take Back the Night" event and week of actions against rape, sexual assault, and violence against women.

An Animal Rights Group (that I can't remember the name of) that raises awareness of the cruelty of factory farming and animal testing, and the Social Justice Conference that brings together different NYC organizations for a day of panels and workshops.

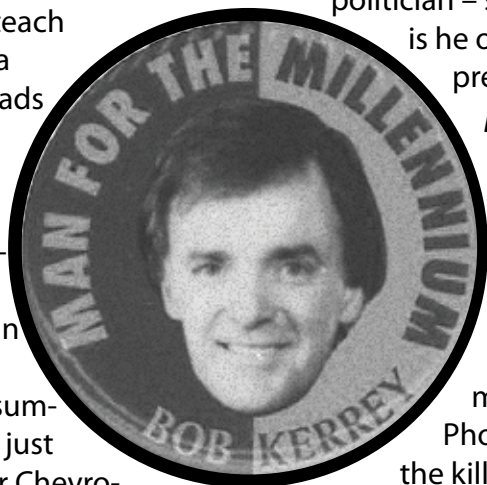
All of these groups are usually best found by their ubiquitous fliers that litter the campus year-round.

WHO IS BOB?

MEET YOUR UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

BOB IS A BUSINESSMAN.

In an interview in New York Magazine, Bob spoke of the need for increased “productivity” at the New School, the product being degrees. To increase the number of degrees implicitly requires that each professor teach larger classes – a situation that leads to a decrease in the overall quality of the students’ education. But we aren’t students in Bob’s mind but customers, consumers of a product just like Coca Cola or Chevrolet. Bob has managed to raise the New School endowment from nothing to \$200+ million. This should be a reason for the students and faculty to rejoice – more money for financial aid, perhaps faculty salaries would rise, more money could be paid to graduate students working in the university, right? Wrong. Bob is instead moving forward with a plan to build a \$500 million dollar building at 65 Fifth Avenue to increase the mainstream appeal of the university.



Bob lacks a Ph.D., and his only college degree is a Bachelor’s in Pharmacy. Who could better understand

the priorities of a University? His resume includes an officer’s position in the Navy Seals during Vietnam, owning successful restaurants and gyms, and a nine-year run as a senator from Nebraska. He is a well-connected, business-minded politician – so why the hell is he our university president?

BOB IS A WAR CRIMINAL.

During his duty in the Vietnam War, Bob led a squadron of Navy Seals in a mission at Thanh Phong that ended in the killing of 21 civilians, mostly children and non-combatant women.¹ The story didn’t break for three decades, but when it did, Kerrey and several of his former soldiers contended that it was an accident, contradicting the story of one of his soldiers and three Vietnamese witnesses who said the victims were rounded up then massacred. Bob received a Bronze Star for his actions at Thanh Phong.

BOB IS A POLITICIAN

Bob was a Senator for nine years and placed second behind Bill

Clinton in the 1992 Democratic primaries. He’s spent his share of days up on the Hill and made some important friends, like Republican Senator and Presidential candidate John McCain, whom Kerrey invited to give the Graduation Speech in 2006. To no one’s surprise (except Kerrey’s), many of the graduating students decided to heckle Senator McCain.

In 1999, when he voted to repeal the Glass-Steagall Act of 1933 (which was passed in the wake of the 1929 stock market crash to control speculation and prevent bank holding companies from owning other financial companies) he stated “the concerns that we will have a meltdown like 1929 are dramatically overblown.” Less than ten years later, in the fall of 2008, the market crashed.

In 2002, Bob publicly announced his support for the Invasion of Iraq, much to the dismay of the university community. He even went so far as to join the Committee for the Liberation of Iraq, among the likes of Republican Senator John McCain, William Kristol (chairman of the Project for a New American Century), and Bruce P. Jackson (former V.P of strategy for weapons contractor Lockheed Martin). Bob sure knows how to pick a winner...

BOB IS A LIAR

Following the fourth resignation of a Provost during Bob’s tenure at the

New School, Bob decided to take the position of chief academic officer for himself. The faculty was outraged and the Faculty Senate decided to hold a Vote of No Confidence. In response, Bob promised to resign should the Senate pass the vote. When the vote came in 74 to 2, Bob had a change of heart and decided to retain his position, stating, “The board [of trustees] is fully supportive... That’s the only vote that matters to me.”

In response, there has been two student occupations of the soon to be demolished 65 Fifth Avenue building calling for Kerrey’s resignation. The first ended after negotiations and the second with immediate police response (without the consultation of Provost Tim Marshall) and the arrest and criminal prosecution of 22 protesters.

BOB HAS GOT TO GO!

“When he got university matters wrong, he got them so wrong I didn’t know what to do.”

–Kenneth Prewitt, Former Dean of NSSR

“I came to the New School largely because I sensed that he was a charismatic, affable, charming person. I found that was one part of the style. But I also found there was another part that was impulsive, autocratic and produced an increasing sense of fear among those who worked for him.”

–Arjun Appadurai, Anthropologist and Former University Provost

Bob has promised to not renew his contract when it terminates in 2011, until which he will continue to function as President of the University. The publishers of the Disorientation Guide encourage the students and faculty to join us in calling for Bob to resign his position as University President.