

**PAUL  
KRASSNER  
PAPERS**

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“Paul’s own writing, in particular, seemed daring and adventurous to me; it took big chances and made important arguments in relentlessly funny ways. I felt, down deep, that maybe I had some of that in me, too; that maybe I could be using my skills to better express my beliefs. *The Realist* was the inspiration that kept pushing me to the next level; there was no way I could continue reading it and remain the same.”

—George Carlin

“He’s spent his life at the blurry crossroads between facts that sound fake and satire that sounds true.”

—Art Spiegelman

“Father of the underground press.”

—People

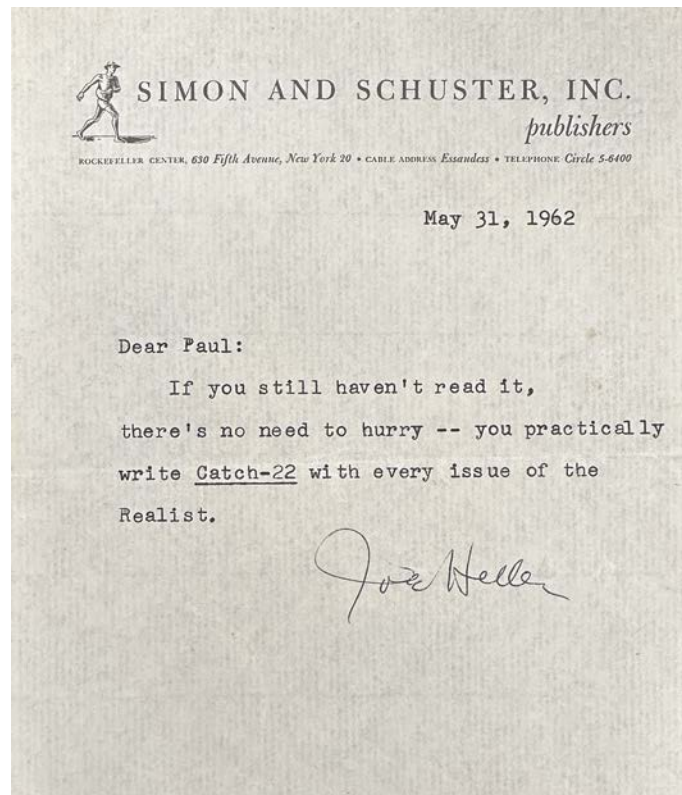


# Yippie!

# CHICAGO



# AUG. 25-30



Above: Joseph Heller. Typed letter signed, 1962

Top: Yippie bumper sticker, Chicago 1968

## PAUL KRASSNER (1932-2019)

Writer. Satirist. Political activist. Prankster. Counterculture publisher. Paul Krassner traversed these roles throughout his long life, interweaving his varied interests and passions without contradiction.

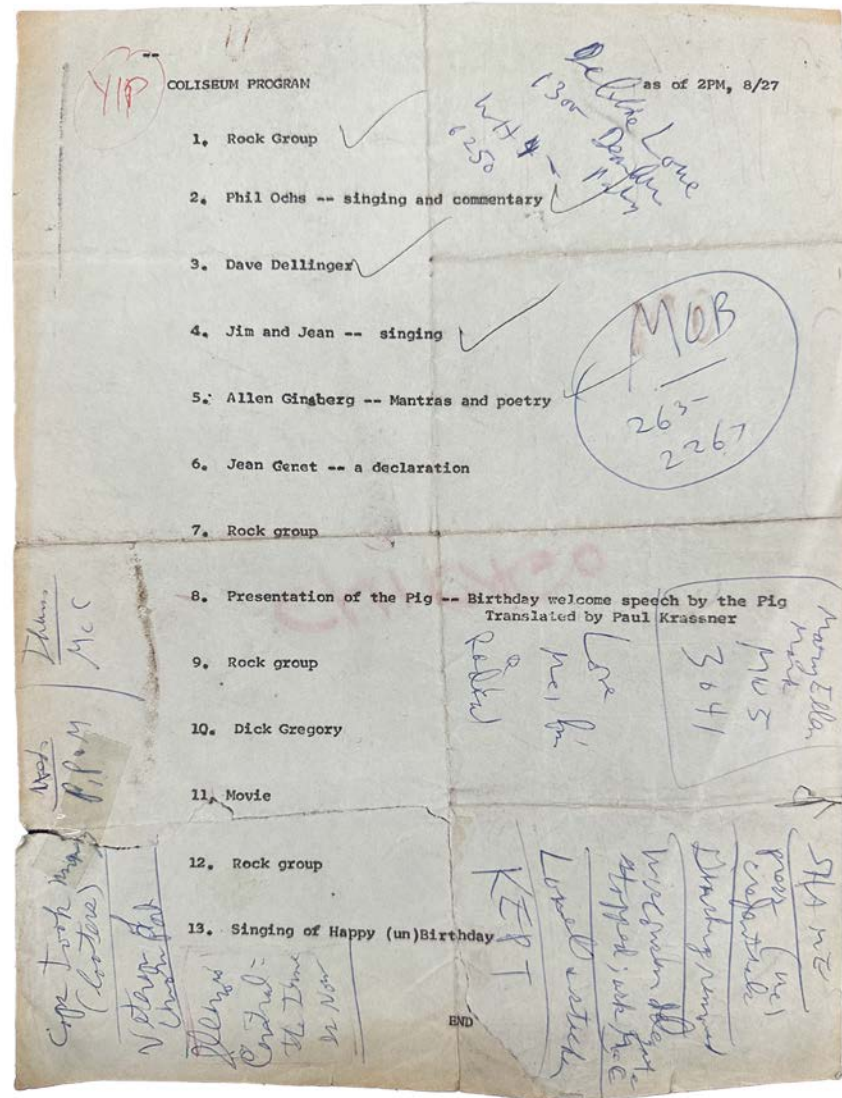
Krassner invented the term Yippie, and was an organizer at that pivotal youth movement. He worked at *MAD* magazine and, seeing the potential for a more elevated, intellectual satire, he founded *The Realist* magazine. He was a stand-up comic, a practice encouraged by his close friend Lenny Bruce – whose ground-breaking book *How to Talk Dirty and Influence People* Krassner edited for publication. His studies of prison life and incarceration in America put him in touch with jailed people across the country for decades, none more notorious than Charles Manson and members of his family – all of whom sent him letters.

This willing ear tuned to listen to different – and difficult – voices formed at an early age. The New York-native was a child violin prodigy and performed at the age of six at Carnegie Hall. He rejected his family's institutional Judaism as “organized superstition” and cultivated a burgeoning interest in research and reportage as a journalism major at Baruch College. Never the prim and formal type – he wore his signature graphic t-shirts until the end – Krassner adopted the name Paul Maul and began performing as a comedian. In this role he met and formed his close bond with Lenny Bruce, another funny man whose work shined a spotlight on hypocrisy. The serious and the whimsical were never opposed in Krassner, and his college exposure to both comedy and the anti-censorship paper *The Independent* forged his future paths.

Krassner's activities rapidly expanded in the '60s. He founded *The Realist* to explore a side of politics not found in mainstream media. In Abbie Hoffman's apartment in December 1967, Krassner was a founding member of the Youth International Party – and coined its nickname. The Yippies soon became a notorious political movement, most infamously for its involvement at the Chicago Democratic convention in 1968 and the subsequent government case against the so-called Chicago Seven. Krassner's press credentials spared him from prosecution — he took the stand at the trial (high on LSD), but remained an unindicted co-conspirator.

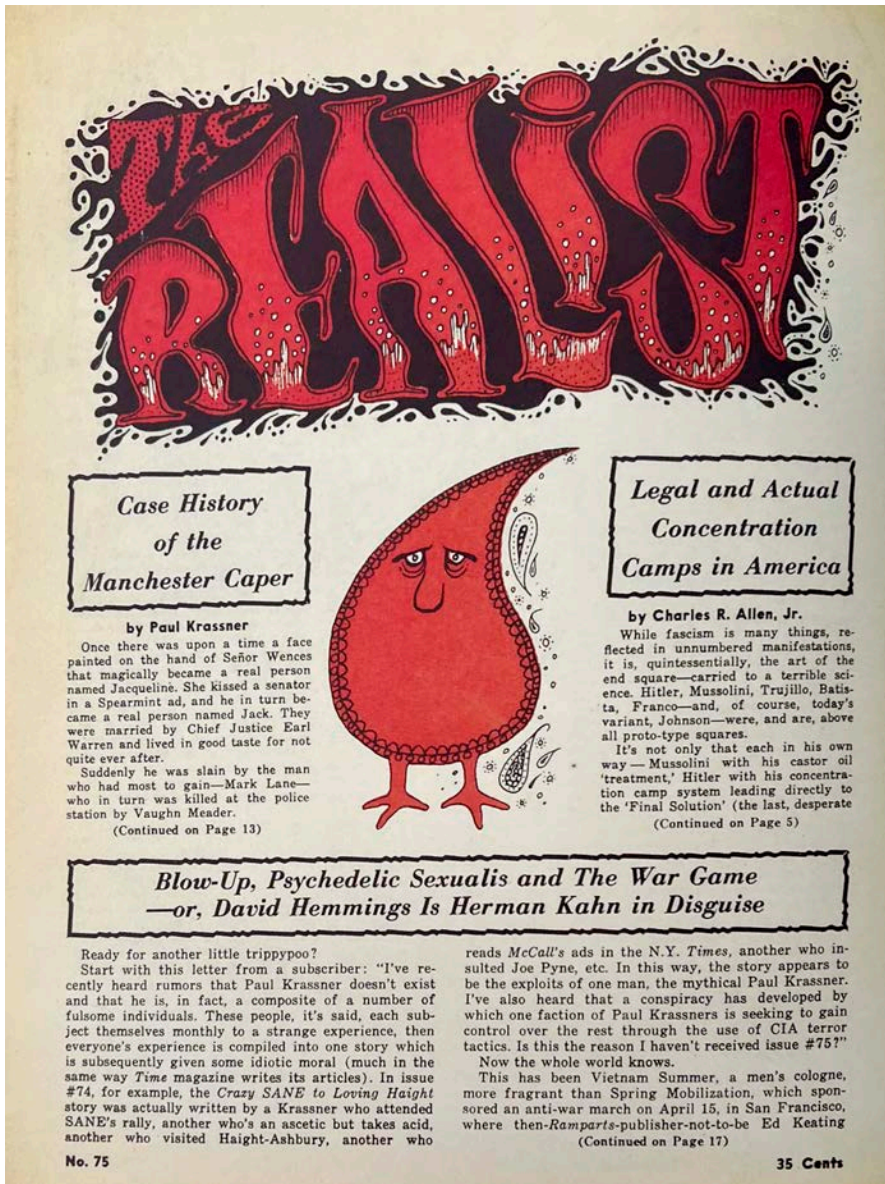
Krassner was one of the most prolific writers of his era, and surrounded himself with like-minded people. *The Realist* published Kurt Vonnegut, Norman Mailer, and Ken Kesey, among others, all of whom are found in his papers. He published three collections of drug stories in which he detailed his experiences with marijuana, LSD, mushrooms, ecstasy – you name it. He also had regular columns for *Cavalier* and *Playboy*, and wrote for outlets as disparate as *The Nation* and *Adult Video News*. His wild ride across genres and subjects makes him the only person to have won awards from both *Playboy* (for satire) and the Feminist Party Workshop (for journalism), and he was the first living writer to be inducted into the Counterculture Hall of Fame. He received an American Civil Liberties Union Uppie (Upton Sinclair award) for dedication to freedom of expression, while his FBI files described him as “a raving, unconfined nut.” Krassner was happy to adopt this assessment in the title of his autobiography. “The FBI was right,” concluded George Carlin, “this man is dangerous – and funny; and necessary.”

The Paul Krassner Papers comprises manuscripts, drafts, correspondence, research files, artwork, books, personal items and other materials related to the work and life of Paul Krassner. This brochure presents some highlights from the Papers, and a detailed finding aid is available as a separate document.



Typed program from the Chicago '68 protest, annotated by Paul Krassner





Early issue of *The Realist* as reproduced in Bizot, *Free Press: Underground and Alternative Publications 1965-1975* (2006), where it is described as “The granddaddy of the underground press”

## THE REALIST

“Irreverence is our only sacred cow”

Paul Krassner’s groundbreaking satirical magazine sought to occupy the space between the more juvenile *MAD* and Lyle Stuart’s anti-censorship monthly *The Independent*. The Papers illuminate how *The Realist* encompassed Krassner’s worldview, as well as his peripatetic interests: from comedy to conspiracy, from activism to the absurd. Known for its extremes, scathing satire might appear beside more traditional interviews and political commentary from some of the era’s literary stars like Ken Kesey, Joseph Heller, and Norman Mailer. Starting in 1958, *The Realist* became a landmark post-war American underground publication and a countercultural milestone.

Krassner first published *The Realist* in New York in the offices of *MAD* and it appeared regularly in the 1960s. Issues were fairly sporadic in the 1970s, and it was revived in 1984 as a more modest newsletter. The final issue was #146 in the Spring of 2001. Highlights from its articles and cartoons were collected in *The Best of the Realist* (Running Press, 1984).

Among its most famous creations was the red, white, and blue automobile bumper sticker brazenly reading **FUCK COMMUNISM**. With this confrontational wordplay, Krassner created a bind for censors claiming their work was done in the name of American patriotism.

Kurt Vonnegut wrote that Krassner had created “a miracle of compressed intelligence nearly as admirable for potent simplicity, in my opinion, as Einstein’s  $e=mc^2$ .” Vonnegut explained: “With the Vietnam War going on, and with its critics discounted and scorned by the government and the mass media, Krassner put on sale a red, white and blue poster that said **FUCK COMMUNISM**. At the beginning of the 1960s, **FUCK** was believed to be so full of bad magic as to be unprintable. ... By having **FUCK** and **COMMUNISM** fight it out in a single sentence, Krassner wasn’t merely being funny as heck. He was demonstrating how preposterous it was for so many people to be responding to both words with such cockamamie Pavlovian fear and alarm” (Vonnegut’s foreword to Krassner’s *The Winner of the Slow Bicycle Race*).

The May 1967 issue contained the controversial poster by Wally Wood, “Disneyland Memorial Orgy” in which Snow White is sexually assaulted by five of the Seven Dwarfs. It was so successful that Krassner printed it as a separate poster that was widely pirated. Examples are found in the papers, along with a later colored version that Krassner had digitally rendered.

This same issue printed Krassner’s most successful prank: a grotesque article following the censorship of William Manchester’s book on the Kennedy



Dr. Hunter S. Thompson: National Correspondent

Paul.....

I just got the new issue of ~~the~~ The Realist & noticed on page 3 (top-right) a reference to "the assassination of President Nixon."

This was an odd thing to see, coming as it did less than a week after interviewing a person who popped up more or less out of nowhere with a flat-out "incredible" story about how people were being screened for that job. It was a hard thing to believe, at first -- & especially with no hope of corroboration -- but your note about Tackwood suddenly gave it some flesh.

Maybe we should get our heads together on this sometime soon. I'm leaving for Boston in a few hours, and just in case my plane crashes with Gordon Liddy's god=son on the passenger manifest, I've left the details of my volatile contact (above) with Wenner.... and I've also contacted Carl Bernstein at the W/Post to see if he knows anything about this weird connexion.

In any case -- regardless of how this thing gets dealt with in the big-time press -- I think I'm onto something worth pursuing; by you, me, the Post, or anyone else who can run it down for real. Because if what this bastard told me was true, it's going to be a sellers' market for bullet-proof vests very soon. But in the meantime, let's keep it out of print until we can put these things together.

Sincerely,

Hunter

Owl Farm, Woody Creek, Colorado 81656

Hunter S. Thompson. Typed letter signed, 1974



Ed Koren. Original cartoon submission to *The Realist*

Assassination. Titled "The Parts That Were Left Out of the Kennedy Book," Krassner's story described LBJ on Air Force One sexually penetrating JFK's bullet-hole wound. Elliot Feldman wrote that "Some members of the mainstream press and other Washington political wonks, including Daniel Ellsberg of Pentagon Papers fame, actually believed this incident to be true." In a 1995 interview for the magazine *Adbusters*, Krassner commented: "People across the country believed – if only for a moment – that an act of presidential necrophilia had taken place. It worked because Jackie Kennedy had created so much curiosity by censoring the book she authorized – William Manchester's *The Death of a President* – because what I wrote was a metaphorical truth about LBJ's personality presented in a literary context, and because the imagery was so shocking, it broke through the notion that the war in Vietnam was being conducted by sane men."

Notable contributors to *The Realist* included Mae Brussell, Mort Sahl, Lenny Bruce, Terry Southern, Ken Kesey, Richard Pryor, Joseph Heller, Woody Allen, Jules Feiffer, Herb Gardner, Norman Mailer, Robert Anton Wilson, Robert Crumb, Garry Trudeau, Harry Shearer, Jean Shepherd, Jerry Rubin, Abbie Hoffman, Bruce Jay Friedman, Wally Wood, Mort Gerberg, Phil Ochs, and Edward Sorel.

*The Realist* occupies a central place in the Krassner papers, but as he worked simultaneously on multiple projects, for multiple outlets – including *The Nation*, *High Times*, *Playboy*, *Hustler*, *Adult Video News*, and latter blogged for *The Huffington Post* and *The Rag Blog* – files dedicated to his favorite subjects may have served many purposes. Nor was Krassner a systematic record keeper and organizer of his own working papers – their method of storage reflects an author continually moving forward with new work who would interfile (interpile!) clippings, articles he would print from the web, emails, full magazines or newspapers, mail (some personal, some business, some mundane, some incredibly potent), scraps of handwritten notes, and various other miscellany. These chaotic piles appear to have grown annually, and were periodically moved to boxes – just as they were, unfiltered. We have identified these as “mixed working papers” but their lines are sometimes blurred with his more structured methods of filing by subject since a folder might contain this same blend of materials, from the mundane to the sublime. Individual items of note have been singled out and listed separately in the corresponding series (Writings, Correspondence, etc).

Charlie HANSON is A PARANOID!

**pirate editions, inc.**

640 broadway  
n.y.c. 10012  
212 677-1552  
228-5626

Paul: Nicetyping job on your letter enclosed is a "Velox" which I am told is a printing term and meta reference to WASP

Nova Scotia as I first suspected. there is a little photo there too of me gripping the book. If you want you can run the entire ad free - which is a bargain considering I am changing LIFE Magazine. There are a number of places that refuse to carry the book. Example the Harvard Coop has organized a boycott in the Boston area & only one little store is brave enough to carry the book. Not sure how many more branches will carry it!

BANNED IN BOSTON! Same in Detroit, Atlanta & New Haven. What's weird is they object to the content without even having seen it. OK!

If you use the ad the fake book cover of me don't photograph right. See life on the original cover. I'm red & white but in black & white - red becomes black so I totally disappear except for my Palestinian nose. Perhaps you can remove that little photo (you can insert one of yourself which would be funny). Anyway - I got short changed on this stationary so have to end it. Do you have any idea how we can book the fight between Newton and Cleaver? We could do it in Havana & clean up! The Video Evidence has the close camera Television rights!

KIM IL-SUNG is A TRANSVESTITE! Allos

Abbie Hoffman. Autograph letter signed

Hamparts, April

ONLY COPY  
DON'T THROW

Society:

Birth of the Yippies

By Paul Krassner

If I never accomplish anything else in my entire lifetime, still I will have contributed two phrases to the American language.

The first was soft-core pornography. Prurient interest is in such cases not aroused enough to qualify for that hard-core material which the U.S. Supreme Court has arbitrarily excluded from protection by the First Amendment. Soft-core pornography--a TV commercial pushing bath oil, for instance--is ~~xxxx~~ easily identifiable. It gives you a soft-on.

The second phrase is yippie. Admittedly, this has long been ~~kkkkkk~~ an unofficial shout for joy, but now it has also become an official noun: an ejaculation personified.

Previously, hippies attempted to persuade the public to refer to them instead as "free Americans." Indeed, there would have been a touch of irony to hear a straight person call out: "Hey, you filthy free American, get a haircut!" However, in order to avoid a total breakdown of communication, the newspapers had to run headlines like "Hippies Want To Be Called Free Americans."

Anyway, the categorization ~~xx~~ smacked too much of nationalism. Yippies, on the other hand, are ~~xxxx~~ a cross-continental cross-fertilization of political activists and psychedelic drop-outs. Such individuals were evolving,

Paul Krassner. Birth of the Yippies, typescript



## ABORTION AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

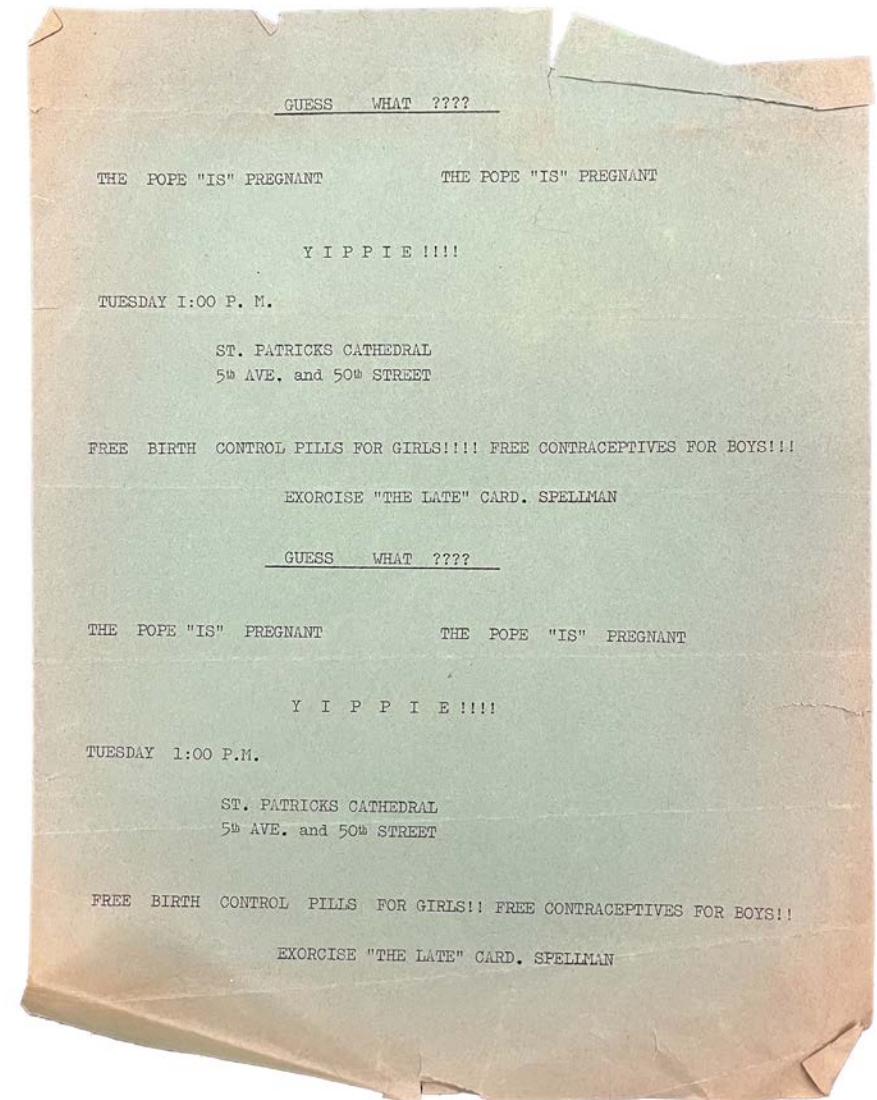
A 1962 article detailed Krassner's involvement with Dr. Robert Spencer. He later recounted:

"I seemed to be following a pattern of participatory journalism. In 1962, when abortion was still illegal, I published an anonymous interview with Dr. Robert Spencer, a humane abortionist who was known as 'The Saint.' Patients came to his office in Ashland, PA, from around the country. He had been performing abortions for 40 years, started out charging \$5, and never charged more than \$100. Ashland was a small town, and Dr. Spencer's work was not merely tolerated, the community depended on it. The hotel, the restaurant, the dress shop all thrived on the extra business that came from his out-of-town patients. He built facilities at his clinic for Negro patients who weren't allowed to obtain overnight lodgings elsewhere in Ashland" ("How the Realist popped America's cherry").

Krassner received calls from scared women seeking Dr. Spencer's contact details, and he was later subpoenaed to appear before grand juries investigating abortion crime. The papers show that the issue of upholding women's reproductive rights – both as an emotional and legal concern – remained core to Krassner's work throughout his life.

## CARTOONS

*The Realist* was a major influence on the development of the underground comic scene, publishing some of the most incendiary cartoons to appear in an American magazine, including works by R. Crumb, Art Spiegelman, S. Clay Wilson, Jay Lynch, Trina Robbins, Mort Gerberg, Jay Kinney, Richard Guindon, Nicole Hollander, Skip Williamson, and many others. *Time* called *The Realist* "the *Charlie Hebdo* of the '60s" for Krassner's commitment to publishing controversial material. The Papers includes correspondence with contributing artists as well as examples of original artwork by Ed Doren, Bill Murphy, Trina Robbins, Kalynn Campbell, Mort Gerberg and Bill Griffith. In 2016 Fantographics published the anthology *The Realist Cartoons*.



Flyer for a Yippie event protesting the Catholic Church's opposition to birth control



# YOUTH INTERNATIONAL PARTY

32 Union Sq. Room 607 New York, New York, 10003

January 26, 1968

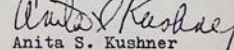
Att: Student Speaker's Bureau

Dear Sir:

The Youth International Party (YIP) is currently organizing the most massive Youth Festival in the history of the country. Beginning on August 25th in Chicago over a half million people will come together in a large park to establish a Free City. Music, theatre, poetry, art, political workshops, movies, food, and sleeping accommodations are being planned. The people listed to the side have already agreed to participate, and requests have just started to go out. What we basically hope to do is dramatically show the life we represent in sharp contrast to the death of the National Democratic Party. Thus not only will we be protesting the cancerous policies of Lyndon Johnson but positively expressing our desire for a new society. This has all the promise of being the most significant demonstration the country has ever seen.

Perhaps your group or school would like to hear about YIP's plans and the future of the protest movement. Jerry Rubin and Abbie Hoffman will be available throughout the coming months for speaking engagements. Jerry Rubin was a leader in the Free Speech Movement at Berkeley, head of the Vietnam Day Committee, and project director for the confrontation at the Pentagon. Abbie Hoffman, a former SNCC worker, founder of Liberty House in New York, organizer of guerilla theatre in New York, and a digger guru, is the author of Revolution for the Hell of It, soon to be published by Dial Press. Both Jerry and Abbie have written extensively about the protest movement. An honorarium of \$200. per speaker is required in advance in addition to travel expenses (make checks payable to Youth International Party). All monies go to defray the costs of the festival. If your group can afford to pay more it would be most appreciated. Please give two alternative dates so that speaking engagements can be combined.

Most sincerely,

  
Anita S. Kushner  
Press Secretary

tel.:  
(212) 228-8432  
(212) 673-1787

Ted Berrigan  
Bread and  
Puppet Theatre  
Len Chandler  
Shirley Clark  
Country Joe  
and The Fish  
Bob Fass  
The Fugs  
Barbara Garson  
Marvin Garson  
Peter Gossner  
Alan Ginsburg  
Dick Gregory  
Arlo Guthrie  
Abbie Hoffman  
Alan Katzman  
Paul Krassner  
Keith Lampe  
Liberation  
News Service  
Peter Max  
Steve Miller's  
Blues Band  
Phil Ochs  
Pageant Players  
Jerry Rubin  
Richard Schochner  
Peter Walker

## YIPPIES

The Youth International Party (YIP) was founded on December 31, 1967, at a meeting at the apartment of Abbie and Anita Hoffman in New York City. The Hoffmans, along with Jerry Rubin, Nancy Kurshan, and Paul Krassner, were the group's founder's, with Krassner having the credit for naming this New Left movement.

"As the war escalated and as the civil rights struggle heated up, there was a kind of organic coalition of stoned hippies and political activists. They became the core of the Yippies—a name that I came up with.

"I met Abbie Hoffman in '66 or '67. We would see each other at a lot of meetings. He was a reader of *The Realist*, so we knew of each other. His big legacy was that he proved that not only could you fight city hall but that you could fight it creatively. As Fidel Castro said, 'We shall not die of fear, we shall die laughing.' That was his style. He played the media. He knew what the media wanted, which was we were the bad boys, but if we gave good quotes, they would give us good publicity.

"Abbie's idea was that the hippies could be a force that could be harnessed and could be educated into being more political. We went on a vacation together and we discussed that there had to be some demonstrations at the Chicago Democratic convention in 1968, but the idea was they had to be different. On the afternoon of December 31, 1967, a bunch of us were at Abbie and Anita's apartment. We were smoking marijuana and discussing some ideas for the Chicago convention. Our fantasy was to counter the convention of death with a festival of life. While the Democrats would present politicians giving speeches in the convention center, we would present rock bands playing in the park. There would be booths where young people could get information about drugs or alternatives to the draft.

"Then we decided we needed a name, so that reporters could have a 'who' for their journalistic who-what-when-where-why lead paragraphs. I felt a brainstorm coming on. I went into the bedroom and climbed up a ladder into the loft bed so I could concentrate.

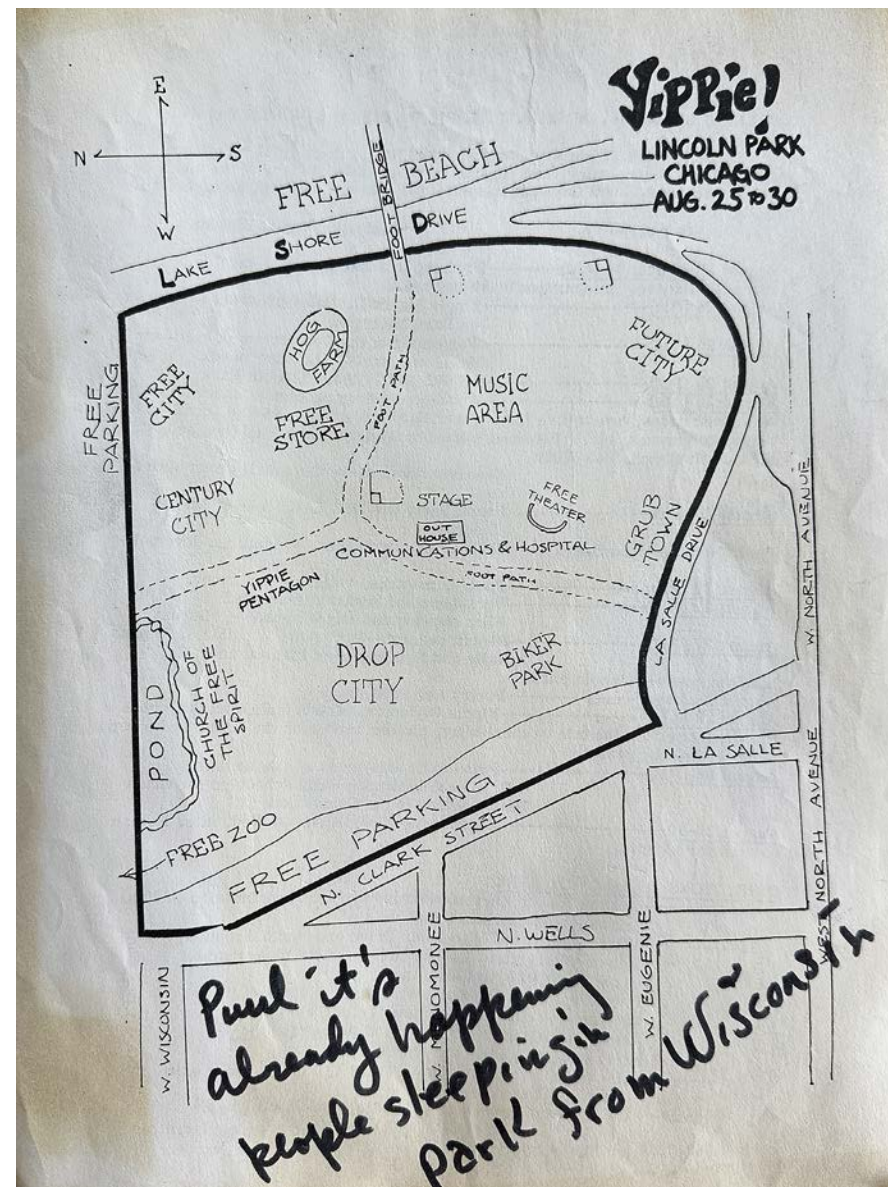
"What would be an appropriate word to signify the politicization of hippies? I started going through the alphabet: bippie ... cippie ... dippie ... Finally, just as I was about to give up on that idea, along came "yippie"—it was perfect—a shout of joy!

"Working backwards, Yippies could be derived from the initials Y.I.P. For which words could they form an acronym? Youth—this was essentially a movement of young people involved in a generational struggle.

Early YIP leaflet announcing the planned Youth Festival at the Chicago 1968 DNC

International—it was happening all over the world, from Mexico to France, from Germany to Japan. And Party—in both senses of the word. We would be a party and we would have a party.” (Quoted in “Paul Krassner The Realist,” in *Generation on Fire: Voices of Protest from the 1960s, An Oral History*, UPress of Kentucky, 2007.)

The Krassner Papers contain material made during the historic 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago, during which the newly-formed Yippie party planned a six-day “Festival of Life.” This celebration of counterculture was also a protest against the state of the nation, and employed radical statements such as threatening to add LSD to the water supply, and their infamous nomination of a pig for president. Chicago police repeatedly clashed with protesters who would not relent to their intervention, and the brutality was broadcast on television. Following the convention, eight protesters were charged with conspiracy to incite riots. The trial of the “Chicago Seven” (down from eight once the case against Bobby Seale was declared a mistrial) was one of the most closely-watched proceedings of the late 60s. The Krassner Papers include not only original documents – notes written in preparation of events, lists of the proceedings, printed flyers (some annotated), and other printed matter – from the convention itself, but later correspondence between Paul Krassner, Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin revealing new insights into their relationships and their sometimes conflicting visions of what the Yippie movement meant.



Printed map of Lincoln Park, site of the Chicago '68 Festival of Life, annotated by Abbie Hoffman



Vony  
 944-5647  
 (over  
 low org)

Hawkeye & Holden C.

Police ~~at~~ - cop car, apt.

Brad - FBI  
 Police = Pkg omk  
 no plan 'em all

Beat The Press  
 med art search

printer input  
 gas tea + hair  
 back

CHICAGO

Tues 27  
 phones disconnected or removed  
 Jews into mtg  
 stuff in computer not printed  
 flashlight bath  
 The Gleason  
 (Mason & Grant & Conrad Hilton)  
 Finkson, (b); baby  
 disguised

Ref  
 peddy  
 McContry

Wed. 28  
 all the arrests at breakfast with cops  
 police handouts on - in  
 Yippe Olympe  
 "real brother"  
 we get worried, TV best medical  
 Jerry's apartment  
 chary crosshairs  
 (fatty country) Kesh

Thurs 29  
 plane reservations  
 LB to come  
 see factory page  
 the Ken... / rally  
 we get press pass  
 Boyden & spot light  
 Pkg surge / pumps + factory  
 Ochs - soldier to  
 Sandstrom / interside guy

Jerry's  
 Tail  
 asked  
 for  
 me

Paul Krassner's handwritten notes from the Chicago '68 protests, August 27-29

"Hawkeye" was the codename of the Chicago police officer tasked with tailing Krassner during the protest

STATEMENT BY DELEGATES GUESTS AND OBSERVERS OF THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION WHO ARE PEACEFULLY ASSEMBLING AT 12 NOON, AUGUST 29, ON MICHIGAN AVENUE IN FRONT OF THE CONRAD HILTON HOTEL IN PROTEST OF THE POLICE VIOLENCE LAST NIGHT AND IN RECENT DAYS IN CHICAGO.

Last night television carried to the American people and to these around the world the sight of other Americans being beaten, clubbed, and dragged along the streets. We saw helpless people beaten after they were arrested and even as they were put in police wagons.

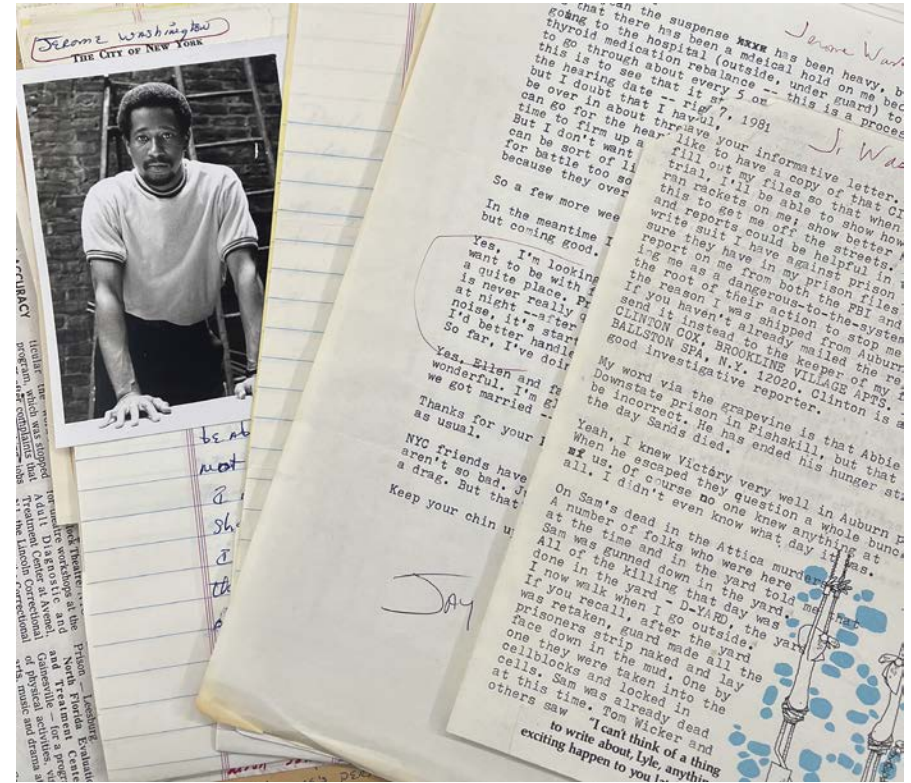
In response we intend to assemble in a 24-hour vigil in front of the Conrad Hilton Hotel where the violence occurred.

We do this to put the force of conscience against the tear gas, bayonets, machine guns, billy clubs and barbed wire. Our protest will be entirely peaceful. We will not return violence with violence.

We call upon Mayor Daley and the citizens of Chicago to put an end to this use of armed force.

YIP

Yippie press release response to police violence during the Chicago '68 protests



Some of the extensive correspondence of Jerome Washington, the only Black Yippie. He was instrumental in securing safe passage for Chicago '68 protesters from the Blackstone Rangers, a Chicago gang



Paul:  
Jerry + I are really upset about your decision to run for President under Youth International Party auspices. I thought the meeting in N.Y. made it clear that we were moving to a structured organization of YIP with leadership council + decision making. We are not upset with you running for President in fact it's an OK idea but it is totally contrary to the direction we wish to focus on in the next few years. It doesn't at all go to the development of an alternative NATION with an army, etc. It just reinforces people's idea, even a ridiculous campaign, that there is some chance for the system. Your slogan "you are the risk of democracy" is all free speechy and OK but not for YIP. Unless you disassociate the campaign from the Youth International Party we will have no choice but to attack it. Abbie

Dear Paul: I think we should never withdraw our support of the YIP. In 1972 support for the YIP will be tremendous. Your running is contrary to YIPPIE party dogma. If you continue

Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin autograph letter signed, 1972

to call yourself the candidate of the "Y.I.P." you will find yourself pushed very soon. If you run your own campaign independent of YIP, it's an individual ego trip having little to do with the creation of a Youth International Party. Paul, WHAT IS IN YOUR HEAD—WHAT ARE YOU DOING? Why did you announce it before even asking our opinion? Then you wrote us after you announced it. Is that "family"? Look how people running for elections has brought out the worst in people: me running for Mayor in Berkeley, 1967; Mather for Mayor of NY; Leary for Gov. of Calif. What will make your campaign any different than that fool ololofia? Both Abbie + I considered you plan to be destructive & TO PUT US BOTH ON THE SPOT. You are not the Youth International Party candidate for Pres.—& you will not be unless the Y.I.P. decide to run you. Every YIPPIE & know opposes it, we love you. We respect you. We want you to be active in a communal way with us in the paper, the office, the actions. Please get in touch with us. Don't commit us to something we do not feel a part of. Don't let your presidential ambitions come in the way of our brotherhood & friendship + love.

Jerry

Hoffman and Rubin disagree with Paul Krassner on strategy to protest the 1972 election



# GET YOUR PILES OUT OF VIETNAM !!

A FUCK YOU/ POSITION PAPER:  
operation Fuck-in.



The Johnson

touch

"more dead gooks, ma"

IT makes us puke green monkey shit to contempiste Johnson's war in Vietnam. Lyndon Baines is squirting the best blood of America into a creep scene. Kids are "gook-bricking" in Asia without thought, without reason, without law. One has to reach in to the most pustular bugger lore to grope up sufficient scatologica with which to describe this cranky whale blubber fart-whiff. Surrounded by creeps, killers, & unknown butt-hooks whom history will puke upon, Johnson oozes onward. The citizens of the world are having the Great Fear zapped at them by a bunch of meshugans.

THIS is addressed to the squack-hawk space cadet furburger grope multitudes who may freak upon this position paper. Time is now to call a FUCK-IN! Clearly a demonstration of peace by tender fornicating love-bodies will be a group screw zapped around the world, certainly the most interesting demonstration in the history of Western civilization. The fuzz might be able to stop the demonstration but there'd be many a tit hanging free, cocks thrust out of zippers, naked writhing bodies, & mouths in tender places, before they'd do so. On the next page you will find A DECLARATION OF CONSCIENCE CALLING FOR A FUCK-IN AGAINST WAR ORREPS. Please sign it, THE WEIGHT OF THE WORLD IS LOVE!!!!

GROPE FOR PEACE!! ☺☹☹

1965?

**COME & HELP US LAUNCH A  
YELLOW SUBMARINE**

wear bright clothes;  
bring flowers (like yellow  
or purple chrysanthemums)  
bring musical instruments  
(of any kind - washboards, pennywhistles, etc.)  
bring messages to launch in it.

**SATURDAY; OCTOBER 22; 2:30; Gansevoort Pier,  
at Gansevoort St. on the Hudson River.**

**Route**  
2:30 pm Gansevoort Pier  
1:00 pm Tompkins Square  
NEW YORK WORKSHOP in NONVIOLENCE 5 BEEKMAN ST. 227-5535

Examples of '60s political flyers found in the Paul Krassner Papers

"The Workshop in Non-Violence built their yellow submarine for \$51.73, as opposed to the cost of a Polaris submarine, \$108,284,620" (Krassner, *Confessions*, p. 154)

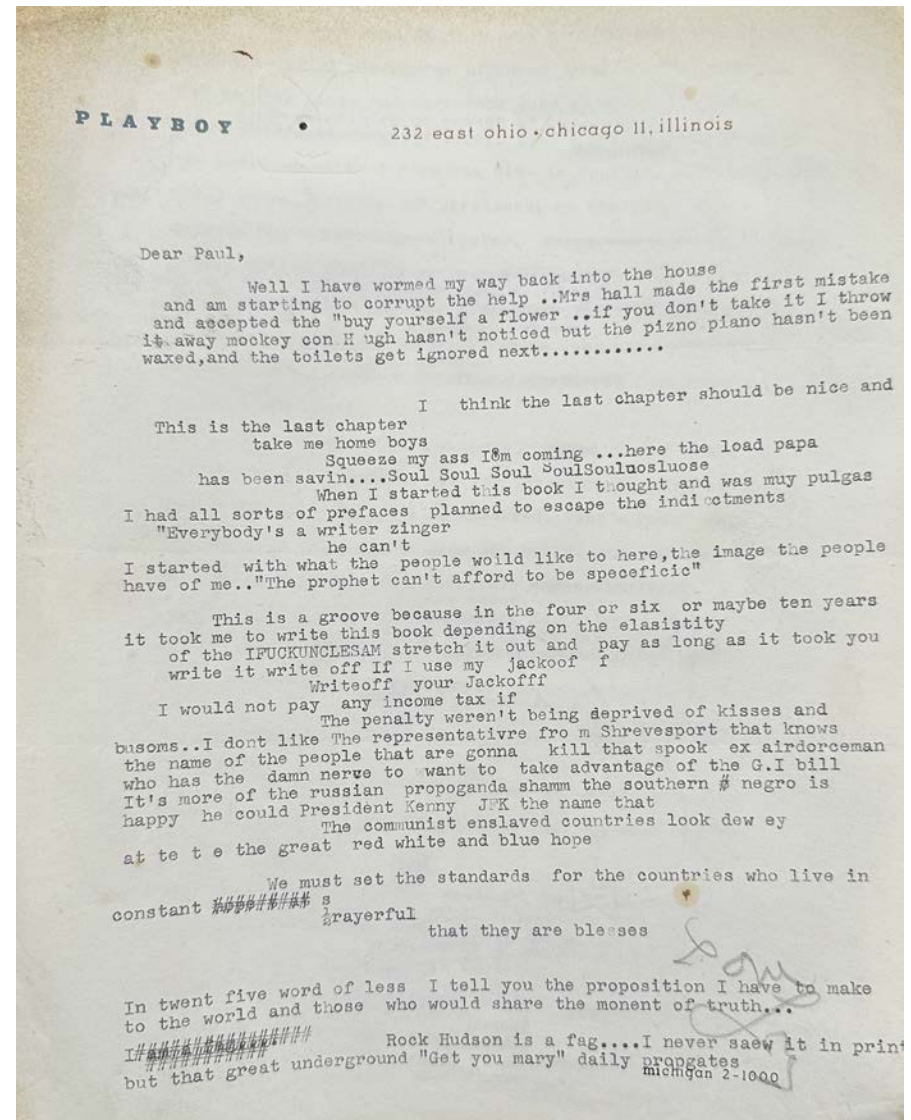




Paul Krassner's lecture and standup prompts

## STAND UP

With the encouragement of his friend and mentor Lenny Bruce, Paul Krassner started to perform standup comedy in 1961 at the Village Gate in New York, and he edited Bruce's autobiography *How to Talk Dirty and Influence People*. Five years after Bruce died, Groucho Marx said "I predict that in time Paul Krassner will wind up as the only live Lenny Bruce." Comedy, both dark and light, remained throughout Krassner's life, not just in his satirical writings but in live performances. His papers include original material relating to his act: lists and index cards of prompts and fully realized jokes, both handwritten and typed.



Lenny Bruce. Typed letter signed


April 9th Spring 74 *Patricia Krenwinkel  
8314 S.S.V.  
Frodo 9/1720*

Sprung Paul,

Any ol way is one way to say Hi! How is the ising on streets where the radicals are being chased by the priests to be exorcised! The devil is loosed upon the dark closets of the minds...remembering when my sunday school dress pressed pinafore at night began to eat up my jeans behind the cloak of darkness of a closet door ajar...slipping under the covers to lay still for then the monster wouldn't know...to the tune of holding my breath till blue and black to fit in well with the nighty night of mom and dad who every saturday bought me the tickets to see The Monster of the Dark Lagoon! Unleashed and thanks for little favores I will not see that movie. How did you like?

I mean to write you at times..other times I do not even remember we met or did we...nothing like spending the evening typing to myself...spilling letters of A and B's like alphabet soup down the fingertips instead of stomach.

Leslie is snug across the way reading a novel called Grandle! The beast from Beowolf speaks... The bad guy gets his chance. Who ever took the time to ask the monster what he felt he was doing... burning villages, eating folks and breathing fire. Why with the advanced psychiatry you know there was something hidden in the psyche...that or he was turned on by Abbie Hoffman...no one has a mind that can make a decision for itsel everything relates the fate to take a break or make a home run. Arron did it...babe ruth he beat and the Lakers were a disater...without west...twas a shame!



Patricia Krenwinkel. Typed letter signed, 1974

## PRISON LIFE, CHARLES MANSON AND THE "FAMILY"

Correspondence with incarcerated individuals is found throughout Paul Krassner's papers and working files. A lifelong researcher of conspiracy theories, investigator of abuse of power, and chronic contrarian, Krassner's letters to and from prisoners form a fascinating record of varying conditions – both physical and psychological – of prison life. The majority of his letters are from inmates responding to his expression of humanity, offered as a journalist seeking to make public that which is often shrouded in mystery. A most trenchant group of letters comes from Charles Manson and members of the "Manson Family": Bobby Beausoleil, Patricia Krenwinkel, and Tex Watson. Their voices from prison – which Krassner sought while researching a proposed but never-published book – are the most disturbing of this facet of the Krassner's interests.

*This litty is a bunch of bull by the time you git it it will mean something els. Everything moves so fast that if I think + try to put it down on paper its gone + changing always changing*

Charles M. Manson  
Box B-53920  
Tamal, California 94964  
March 26, 1972

Mr. Paul Krassner  
THE REALIST  
1772 Vallejo  
San Francisco, California 94123

Here Paul:

An answer to your March 15th letter. Received catalog, The Realist, and book. Everyone is reading the letters. Visits would require an attorney. Visits for me don't look good.

Brother, names to me are like past dreams and my thought doesn't live in time. Much moves that I can never put on paper or express in words. Your world's so confused in words, that pictures too magic are sounds for the soul's understanding. Behind every door there is another door, until you come to the last door. Death goes to where life comes from. A child told me he was dead before he was born. Nothing is on all sides of everything. All levels of awareness, from snake to eagle-from moon's to sun's-from birth to death- are in a thought of no time. The soul is as it has always been---one in a thought. It's just a thought we live in, brother. A thought that most men cannot think or see with their minds, but they must become aware of it with their soul. To see all is to become one with all you see. As long as man holds his old teachings---like, "Look at me, mother."---or, "I'm different."---he's stuck in an old thought. Fear of fear, passed to him by the guilt of others' reflections on him and held in his mind, if he thinks past thinking. If man lives in fear of atma (karma) he's stuck in living his life out of the heads of others. Man can only know from exposure, not books. But at the same time others protect him from being exposed. Each man is a door unto himself. Some rivers are wide but not deep, for they have never been exposed to storms. The rains of life pass them by.

*ALL MEN*

I have lived life behind the last door---prison & death. Exposed to more thought than words or ideals could smile at children, Children playing a game of "I know." Man can know no more than he's allowed to look at. Most men don't know the truth when they see it. Why? Because they never saw it before. The truth is no one tells the truth. The truth must be in you before you see it in others. Children don't lie until they see no one really tells the truth. Fear, man. Most are afraid of the truth about themselves.

Here, what films? I'm not gaming on you. How much of Ed's bullshit are you going for? Madness. The best game is no game at all. To be sincere is the best trick in the book. If you're sincere and truthful most men can't see but only their own trick, and they trick themselves. Like I believe anything anyone tells me. They are only lying to themselves because I don't give a fuck about what they think. I don't like to think myself. The way like Ed played a game with his own fear. I wouldn't walk 2 feet to cut his ears off. I don't care enough to judge to lie. What others say about me has nothing to do with me. It's their reflection. Ed came on the set and played friendly with the girls. He got a look and the truth & his fear made shit run from his mouth. He got down on a poor dog the world has been walking on forever. Nothing can hurt me. He gamed on himself. I don't know about any films. I don't drink blood or eat meat. If Ed had one thought in his head it would split wide open. That shit he got from people who never heard my name before. That woman made me take

Charles Manson. Typed letter signed, 1972



Bobby Beausoliel PO Box B-28302  
Torrance Calif. 94964

a night with the manson girls, wed. 1 april 19, 1972

linda kasabian was carrying baduasocalisils baby, she said  
--firing he was framed wince all they had on him was  
the car registered in his name and even in the trial it  
came out there was no blood on the knife? (check this out)  
--so the ostensible idea was to make it look as if the  
1 killers were still at large by pulling a copycat caper  
and it should be the tate people because they had burned  
bobby on a \$5000 dope deal. linda drove, etc., etc

on the dune buggy theft, this was bought from the guys  
running the shop, an off-duty cop and his brot her,  
and the pink slip was still there, never transferred,  
but then who reported it stolen, must've been the copes.

sadie just before testify before grand jury, do you  
want to see this baby again? same with sandy good.

at inyo county they told chicks charlie ate meat.  
and later on, do you really think he loves you?

going to the corner, giving witness, x on florehead,  
acid, movie guy, french connection, sandy's empathy  
re people on street and cynicism re anthropologists  
and primitives in philippines...marine biologist?

pamphlet on christian view toward wigs, their headshaving;  
jkljdfghcdsdvafkfaagfl charlies tape--you can't fake that  
kind of serenity--the girls humor--kid: don't be silly  
xxx xk children have to be taught to be serious)--moody  
blues going Om...real love, gentle friends, whitebread,cigareetts

bug to sandy: you sucked charlie mansons dick and i'm goinna  
tell the world...

re ron hughes--a week before he was found, word came down  
from the district attorney's office that his throat had  
been slit.

charlie: lunch is fear. going to vacaville? lobotomy?  
chess game, everything perfect, if death penalty is out  
then we can get em out of death row and separate them  
so what do we do now try to get the death penalty back?

charlie never read stranger. /sandy saw me at the committee.  
part on acid re dull lives would be such a pleasure to  
bring them to total now. empathy. (see above) ...but  
then racist stuff, own kind, john and yoko, divorce the chink

the guy who was found in the trunk was the guy who supplied  
jay sebring with dope. two chicks who'd been picked up  
by him were gonna testify but didn't.

one raid with the helicopters. other(?) where's jesus  
chirst, we wanna crucify him. / children of affluence  
rejecting the values (Kill your parents) and goals.

am i correct  
of what?

## KEY FIGURES REPRESENTED IN THE KRASSNER PAPERS

Steve Allen, television and radio personality, musician, composer, actor, comedian, writer

Kenneth Anger, underground experimental filmmaker, actor, and author

Bobby Beausoliel, murderer and associate of Charles Manson and member of his communal Manson Family

John Belushi, comedian

Lewis Black, comedian

Lenny Bruce, stand-up comedian, social critic, and satirist, major influence on Paul Krassner's life and career. Krassner edited Bruce's autobiography, *How to Talk Dirty and Influence People*

Frank Cierioroka, graphic artist and activist

Robert Crumb, cartoonist

Harlan Ellison, New Wave speculative fiction writer

Lawrence Ferlinghetti, poet, translator, writer, founder of City Lights Books

Larry Flynt, publisher, founder of *Hustler*, free speech advocate

Mort Gerberg, cartoonist

Emmett Grogan, founder of the Diggers, a radical community-action group of Improvisational actors in the Haight-Ashbury district of San Francisco

Joseph Heller, author, best-known for *Catch-22*

Abbie Hoffman, political and social activist who co-founded the Youth International Party, member of the Chicago Seven

Ken Kesey, author, best known for *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and his antics as a Merry Prankster

Edward Koren, cartoonist, celebrated for his work in *The New Yorker*

Patricia Krenwinkel, murderer and associate of Charles Manson and members of his communal Manson Family

Sam Leff, cartoonist

Timothy Leary, psychologist and author, an oracle for the use of psychedelic drugs

Norman Mailer, novelist, journalist, playwright, filmmaker

Paul Krassner typed notes the Manson family, 1972

Charles Manson, notorious criminal and leader of the Manson Family  
 Bill Murphy, cartoonist  
 Gerald Nicosia, author, poet, journalist  
 William Novak, author (co-written or ghostwritten) of numerous celebrity memoirs – Lee Iacocca, Nancy Reagan, and Magic Johnson  
 Yoko Ono, multimedia artist, singer, songwriter, and peace activist  
 Tony Randall, actor  
 Trina Robbins, cartoonist  
 Jerry Rubin, social activist, counterculture icon, anti-war hero  
 Ed Sanders, American poet, singer, activist, author, publisher and longtime member of the rock band the Fugs  
 Terry Southern, novelist, essayist, satirist  
 Lyle Stuart, author and independent publisher of controversial books  
 Hunter S. Thompson, American journalist and author, founder of the gonzo journalism movement  
 Jann Wenner, co-founder and publisher of *Rolling Stone*  
 Neil Wigus, author of speculative fiction  
 Paul Williams, music journalist, writer, and publisher who created *Crawdaddy!*, the first national US magazine of rock music criticism  
 Robert Anton Wilson, author, futurist, psychologist, and self-described agnostic mystic  
 Tom Wolfe, author and journalist widely known for his association with New Journalism

Karassner:

Your letter of October 8 was a bit in the correct direction, but there are many points you still fail to see or discuss, for example Anita's objections (talk to her). + exactly how the other 4 "inventors" of V. ppis feel about you not being "communal" in your attitude. I guess that is ultimately it. Do you really see yourself as the lone arbitrator of what is or is not truth, justice, etc. or do you see yourself as part of a larger movement? That I think is the ultimate difference between us, even though there are similarities. Ex. I made buttons "Aids to the Contras". I think it's <sup>WFO</sup> politically correct + funny + to the point but when some gay activists got upset I stopped producing + distributing them even though I thought they were wrong + I was right. Of the 50-60 groups I've founded in over 28 years of organizing. (writing is a 2nd or 3rd occupation of mine.) about 40 are still active. Most do not share my exact politics + are much more institutional indeed my history is so blurred many don't even see we are connected. That's OK with me. I just gave a speech at a rally opposing a student curfew at BU. Conservative kids invited me, it is inconceivable that I would get up + just speak - I had to talk to each faction, etc + maintain the coalition, there was just no way I would act anarchistically + "buy my trip" on them. If you heard the long rap you couldn't tell if I was left or right even only pro student

Abbie Hoffman. Autograph letter signed, 1980. A lengthy letter about post-'60s political and philosophical divergences



JERRY RUBIN

Sept. 26  
1977

Dear Paul,

I have no idea if this will get to you. You are not listed in the SF phonebook and therefore I could not find your address. Are you underground? Do you drink coffee from the trieste fro me? I hope that you are coming to our wedding. (By the way, Mimi gave up smoking months ago.) It is Wed. Dec. 28 in NYC. We have no movie plans. We want to create a unique ritual, both a lot from the past and also a lot from who we are. What are you ino these days? I miss reading about you on a consistent basis. I want your column in NY!

Mimi and I are starting The School Of Living (SOL) and we will be putting on three huge educational festivals of consciousness on health, sexuality and success with distingusied speakers in the area of science, consciousness and self-help. Like a Vietnam Day of the soul. Why is the media programming me for the role of "radical gone straight" or "radical reformed" or "bornagain capitalist" just as heavy as they programmed me for the radical crazy role of the 60s and what can I do about it? Paul?

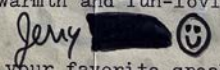
I actually do not mind it. I am very happy, happy as a pig in shit these days. I feel great. I'm in love. I've found work that I enjoy. I don't owe anybody anything. Or do I? Paul?

I am getting married because I feel it. And because I want to make a statement about commitment. Our culture does not understand the meaning of commitment. Yippie and gestalt are equally at fault here.

Remember when I told you that you had a poverty consciousness and needed a success consciousness? What do you think of that?

Tomorrow there will be a tv discussion between dave dellinger, bill kunstler, me and judy gumbo with stanley the fabulous seigel on abc.

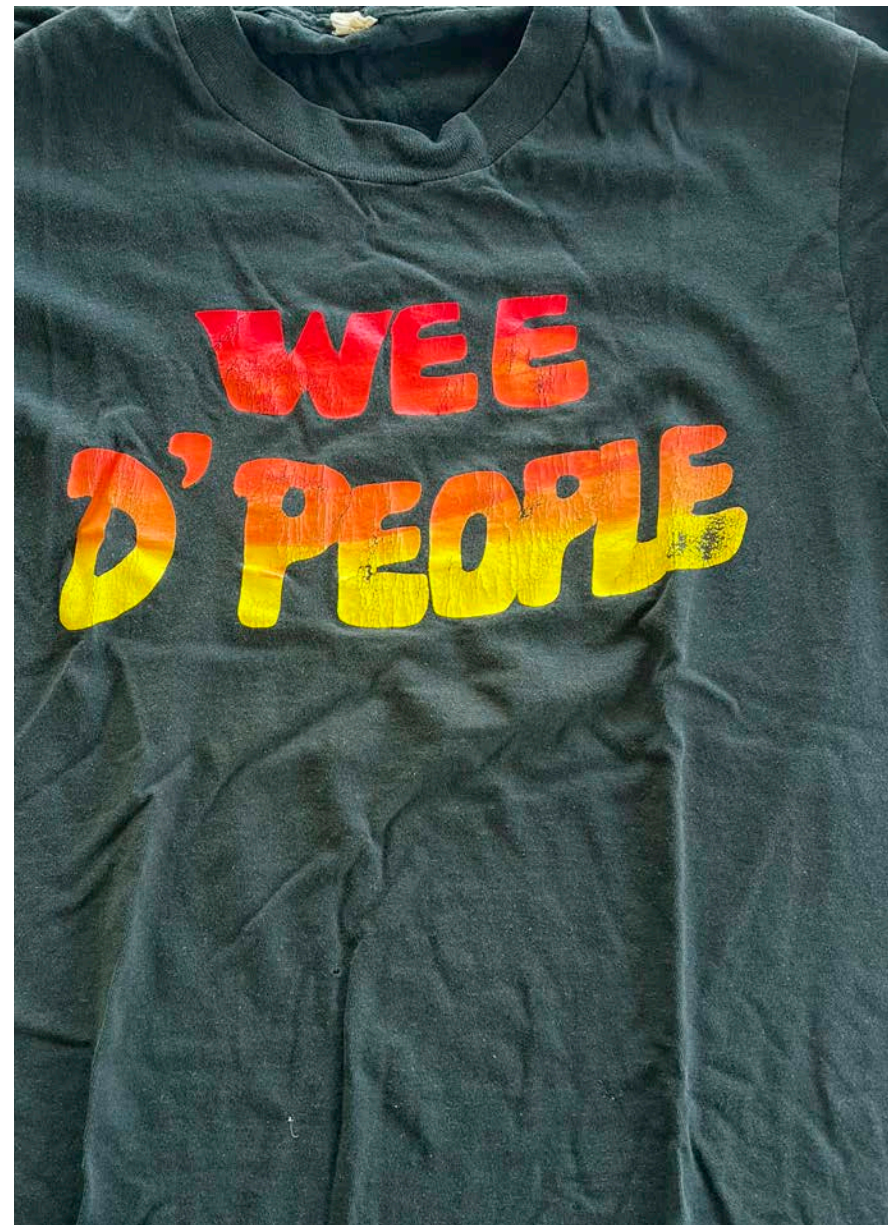
Miss you.  
Miss your humor.  
Miss your warmth and fun-loving.

Self. 

who are your favorite speakers in new consciousness human potential?

over ↓

Jerry Rubin. Typed letter signed, 1977. Re-establishing contact with Paul Krassner



A t-shirt from Paul Krassner's extensive collection  
Rear cover: poster advertising Paul Krassner's Carnegie Hall violin recital



**PAUL KRASSNER**

**6 Year Old Child Prodigy**

**GEORGE MADDER**

**Nine Year Old Talent**

**RUTH DEMBINSKY**