

How-To

Do-It-Yourself
Bicycle-Touring^x

Featuring^x xxx

The Space-Bag Camelbak
Hack yr Bike Into a Touring Bike
Urban Camping
Dumpster-Diving
Kitty-Litter-Bucket Panniers
In-Traffic Communication
1001 Uses For Busted Innertubes
Hitch-Biking

HOW TO
DIY
BIKE
TOUR

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FUN SHIT

- ∞ combining the tour with a variety show (puppets, music, comedy, guerrilla theater)
- ∞ boooooom boooooxes!!...but beware of sound oppression, and get a mic if you can
- ∞ screen print patches to put on gear and/or give to people along the way
- ∞ make a zine for your ride! (it's really not that hard-look)
- ∞ general delivery - you can get snail mail EVERYWHERE!
- ∞ internet at public libraries

Getting Dialed In to the LOCAL BIKE SCENE ^{fast!}

- critical mass (Google this; it's awesome)
- full moon cruises (some go by other names)
- mountain biking
- university groups
- race training groups

MOUNTAIN BIKE TOURS

are a lot of fun, but can have different considerations:

- ∞ more super-low gears
- ∞ Fatter tires w/gnarlier tread
- ∞ less gear overall (generally)
- ∞ more even weighting of bicycle
- ∞ water purification (filter, chemicals)
- ∞ fewer miles
- ∞ prior planning/packing
- ∞ greater concern for nutrition
- ∞ dehydrated food - See pg 10
- ∞ They are tons of fun and can get you to places where cars cannot faster than you could if backpacking on foot. The most famous mountain bike touring route in the U.S. is The Great Divide. Look it up. Maybe I'll see you on it next summer

WATER PURIFIERS can be found at garage sales and army surplus places. Not bad as a backup for rural areas, but maps and good planning should keep you from needing them.

- ∞ Plain ole' bleach (eight drops per gallon)
- ∞ Potable aqua (iodine)
- ∞ Polar Pur (rechargeable iodine)
- ∞ Micro Pur (chlorine dioxide)
- ∞ Filter/pumps (13,000 gallons per cartridge)
- ∞ Water can also be boiled

Planning and Camping

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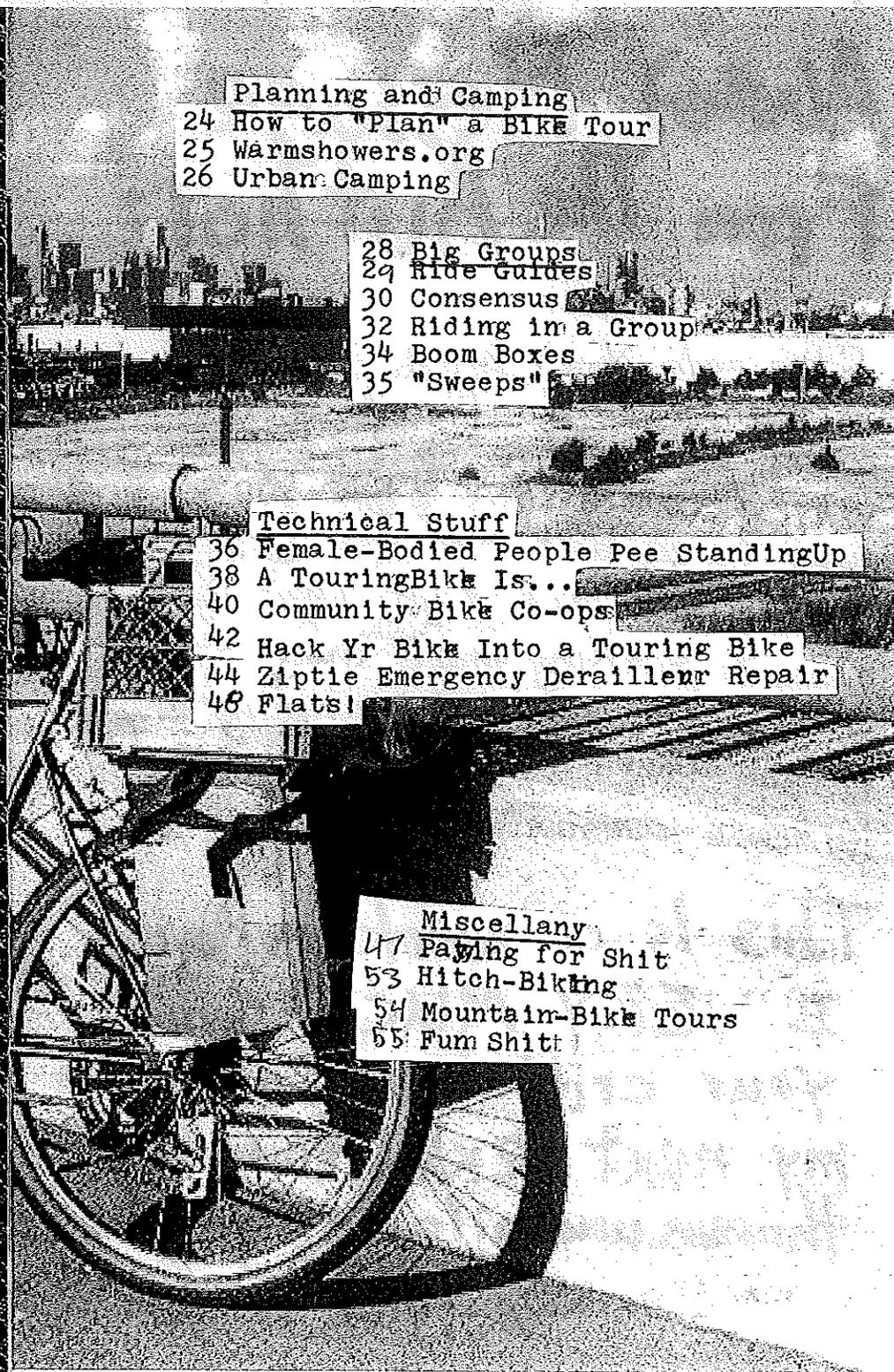
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~~Another~~ Message From The Author:

Stay calm. You CAN do this. Peoples' misconceived doubts about their means and ability to bike-tour are why I wrote this zine. All you need is a bike and the will to travel. You are doing the right thing by seeking more info. Start with just a weekend camping trip if you want. Touring is an immense amount of fun!

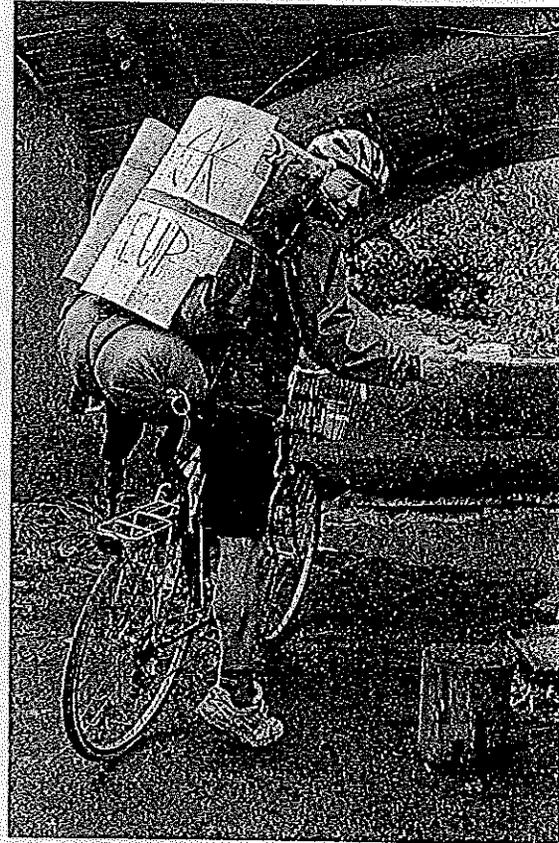
This is a work in Progress.
I VERY MUCH want
your criticism before
my next exhibition.
thomas.unavailable@gmail.com

www.zinelibrary.info/
THNX
diy-bike-tour (4)

HITCH-BIKING

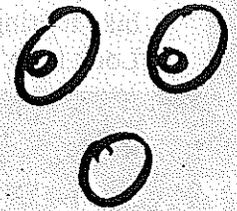
Is about as easy as hitching without one. Either walk yr bike, stand there, or even ride with yr thumb out. I have even ridden with a fram pack. Make a sign if you want and chill outside a truckstop with yr wheels off and/or ask people.

Obviously, use your head when deciding whether or not to take a particular ride.

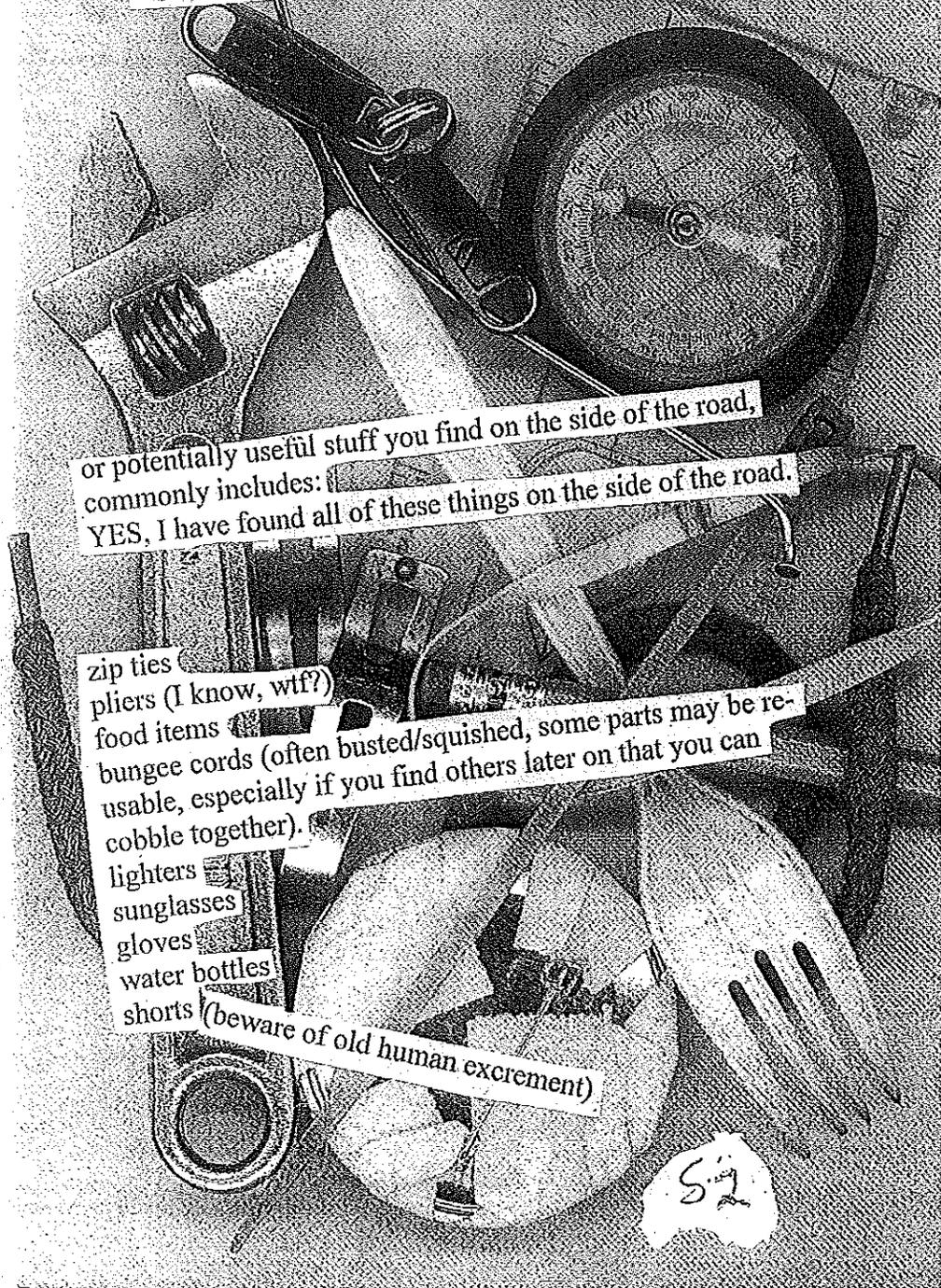


drink water (53)

- The sign says "PICK ME UP"
- The strap holding it on is a busted tube



GROUNDSCORES



or potentially useful stuff you find on the side of the road,
commonly includes:
YES, I have found all of these things on the side of the road.

- zip ties
- pliers (I know, wtf?)
- food items
- bungee cords (often busted/squished, some parts may be re-usable, especially if you find others later on that you can cobble together).
- lighters
- sunglasses
- gloves
- water bottles
- shorts (beware of old human excrement)

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Wear
a
Fucking
HELMET!

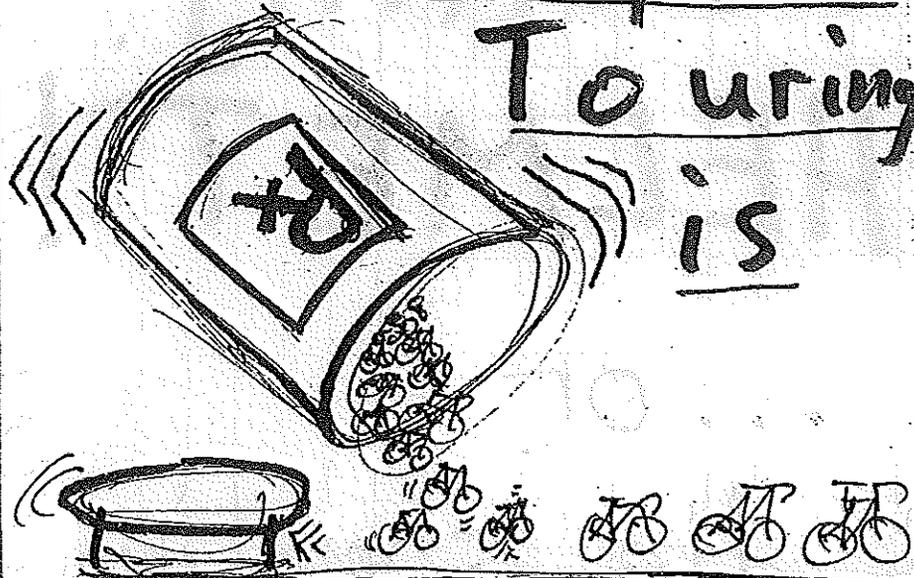
... or

die sometimes

5

consider this
FAIR WARNING:

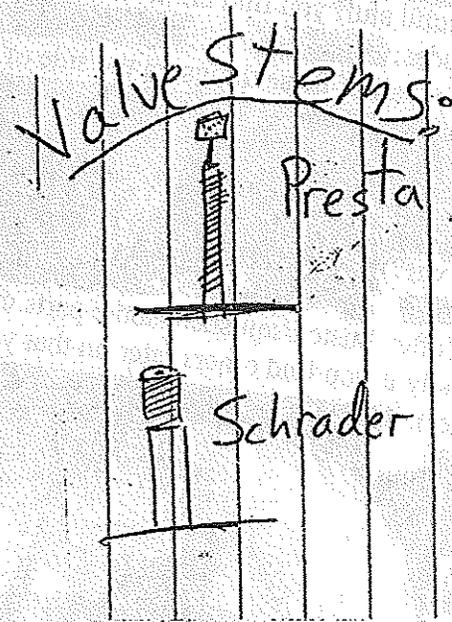
Bicycle
Touring
is



HIGHLY ADDICTIVE

6

Most
Frame-Pumps
Switch-Hit!
From Presta to
Schraeder

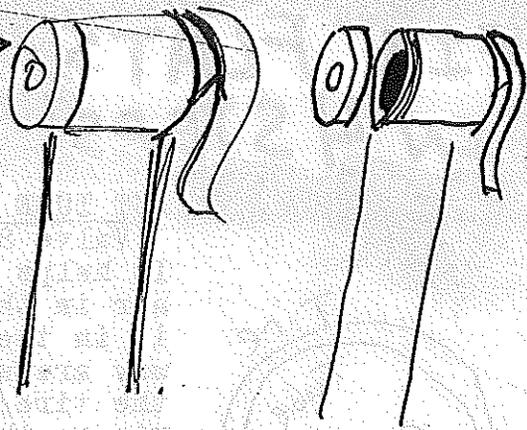


④ screw back on
(like step ① in reverse)

⑤ stretch

Unscrew
This Part →

①

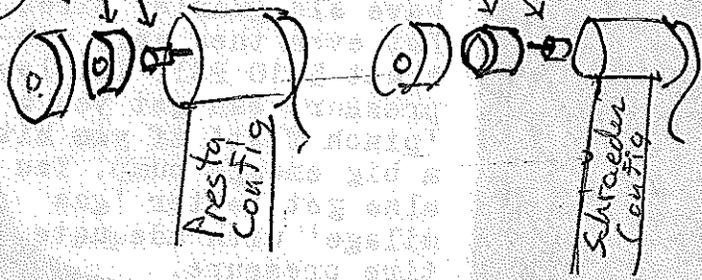


② Dump Out The Guts

Plastic Cup/Point
cup toward
Presta, Point
toward Schraeder

Rubber Donut
Big opening
toward
Schraeder Valve
Small opening
toward Presta
Holds point/cup
in

③ ROTATE 'Guts' 180°



SD

"Why Bike Tour?"

Why THE HELL NOT?!

It is SO liberating to ride out of town with all the gear and supplies you need to be self-sufficient for days on end.

For groups, too, it's empowering to know every member is transportationally autonomous AND cross-compatible w/ other forms of transportation.

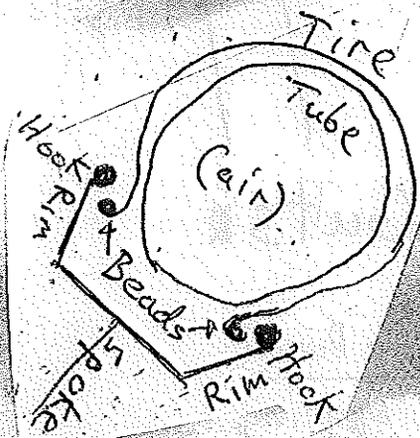
(see "Hitch-Biking" on pg. _____, and stay tuned for next edition's "Bicycle-Train-Hopping")

WATER

Water is more important than Food, second only to air. ^(Breath!) ^{DRAIN} Bring lots of water, then drink more, NEVER be without or Far From water, EVER.

8

FIX FLATS IN 4 STEPS



3 PUT TUBE BACK IN

Valve Stem First!
It helps to have some air in the tube. Get it in the tire all the way around, and center the tire/tube on the rim so the bead is touching the outside of the rim. Pry the bead back into the rim same way you got it out. You may have to let the air out. This IS the hard part.

4 INFLATE YOUR TUBE

...to whatever pressure it says on the tire. Tubes can take all the pressure the tire will let them. Having gear on your bike and/or the fact that you are riding it long-distance does NOT affect the tire pressure...unless you have old gnarly tires. But even then only subtract 5-10 PSI. Too low pressure can get you a 'pinch flat' if you hit a big enough bump. You also get better 'gas milage' with adequate tire pressure.



REMOVE OLD TUBE

by prying the tire bead from the rim hook (see drawing) Use either tire 'levers' (cheap) OR the handle(s) of silverware. Pull off one whole side of the tire, but leave the other bead in the rim. You should be able to pull out the old tube.



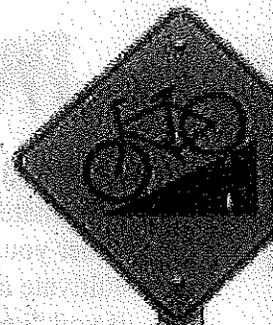
PATCHING A TUBE

read ALL the instructions in the kit FIRST. Most say to LET THE GLUE DRY before putting on the patch. People get this wrong too often.

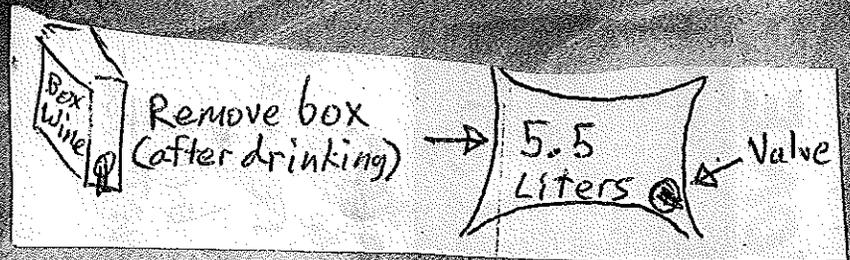


You can make patches by cutting circles out of busted tubes, but it requires RUBBER CEMENT, more time, and roughing up the back of the 'patch'.

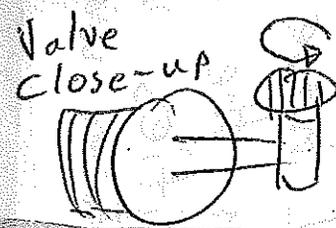
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- ∞ dumpster some jugs if you want, but you could probably just avoid tossing them for a little while to save up
- ∞ try to use #1 plastics exclusively, and remember to keep them out of the sun as heat exasperates leeching of nasty chemicals
- ∞ Water is heavy, so be conscious of how it will affect your weight distribution



- ∞ Space bags (emptied and clean box-wine bags) make AWESOME water containers (and good pillows, too). They are sturdy, pack around other things instead of holding a rigid shape, and take up almost no space when empty (so keep extra just in case!). To refill/clean, just pull the nozzle off real hard. It will actually snap back on.



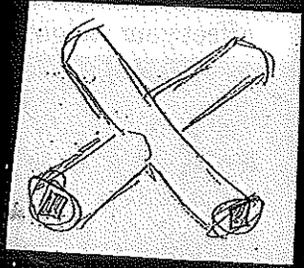
Twist PULL VALVE HARD*

* the valves w/ the red button ("Vella" I think) DON'T WORK Drink Franzia or others

page 10 wear a helmet

ALMOST EVERYONE EVERYWHERE

∞ A 'silcock key' or 'skate key' is a four-way 'wrench' with different sized square sockets at the tips of the plus-sign shape used to turn water from exterior faucets that don't have a hand valve. They can be purchased at most hardware stores and skate-shops and fit in your hand/pocket



will give you water.
I have only been refused
in the middles of big
cities where I wasn't far
from water any way

PAYING FOR SHIT

...is stupid don't do it. You probably don't even need to buy whatever it is you think you need money for because either you can get it other ways or you haven't yet cultivate a healthy hatred of capitalism and its oppression* if you "need" money on the road there are several ways to get it:

- ∞ busking, or better yet, get a gig somewhere
- ∞ craigslist
- ∞ face paint 'booth' at a farmer's market
- ∞ get creative
- ∞ sell plasma (don't do this if you're biking the next day)
- ∞ pedicabbing / rickshaw driving / bicycle-taxi-ing
- ∞ messenger service
- ∞ set up a race (this is not hard)

Fuck
Colonialism
BlackMeatIs.org

*Capitalism
Systemically marginalises
women, people of color
the Queer community,
non-human animals
and the economically dis-
advantaged (AKA the
ENTIRE FUCKING PLANET).
If you are still
under the
delusion that
it is only
a method of exchange
and that shopping at
big, corporate, for-profit
stores doesn't hurt
anyone, TRY to re-
concile the genocide
of indigenous peoples
First, EVERYTHING
IS STOLEN.



I saw this on a bumper sticker in Berkeley.

Bike Jocks

Are Still Jocks!

Don't Let
Patriarchy OR
Capitalism
Tell YOU How
To Ride!

(46)

Don't Be Afraid to TAKE A LANE For Your Safety.

Fuck Cars! Honkers
and Shouters can
eat Shit and Die!

drink (11) water

SAFETY FORTH!

∞ wear a helmet and lights at night. You are worth it.

∞ Biggest safety consideration: ROAD SHOULDER SIZE! This information is usually available through states' Departments of Transportation, but every state is different, so you may have to do some digging on the interwebs/telephone.

∞ DO NOT BE AFRAID to ask for help. People LOVE helping bicycle-tourists for some reason.

∞ your bike (and therefore all your gear) is stealable, get a lock if you want one (although I have done multiple tours without one)

∞ Know laws if you're really that concerned. Most authority will cut slack to people as unconventional as bicycle tourists.

∞ If you are ever lost, just ask locals for directions. It's easy and fast. Flag down a car if you need to. They are usually happy to help and glad that all you need are directions.

∞ Do NOT be afraid to take a lane for your safety. Honkers and Shouters can Eat Shit and Die.

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(better pix)

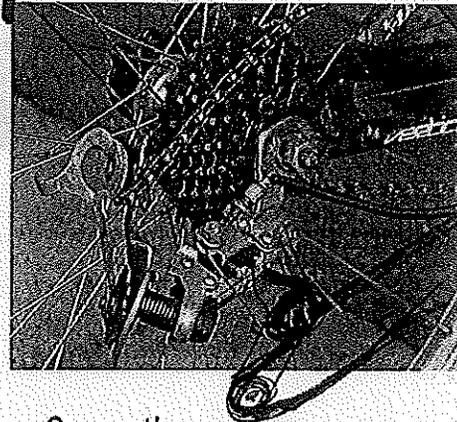
• This SUX because not only can you NOT pedal, but you can't even WALK your bike

• you MUST remove (and eventually replace) your derailleur

• BUT with your derailleur gone

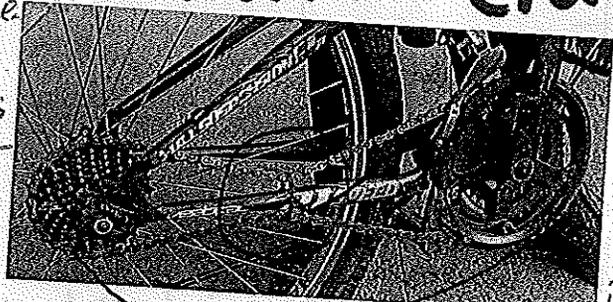
your chain will sag (see pic), and saggy chains swing side-to-side, causing RANDOM shifting

problem (FUCK!)



Derailleur is SUPPOSED to be here

Solution (Yay!)



chainsags without ziptie

• The ziptie keeps enough tension on yr chain to keep it

in one gear. the chain WILL wear on the ziptie, but not THAT quickly -- just rotate it to a fresh area periodically

Zipties Rock

drink water

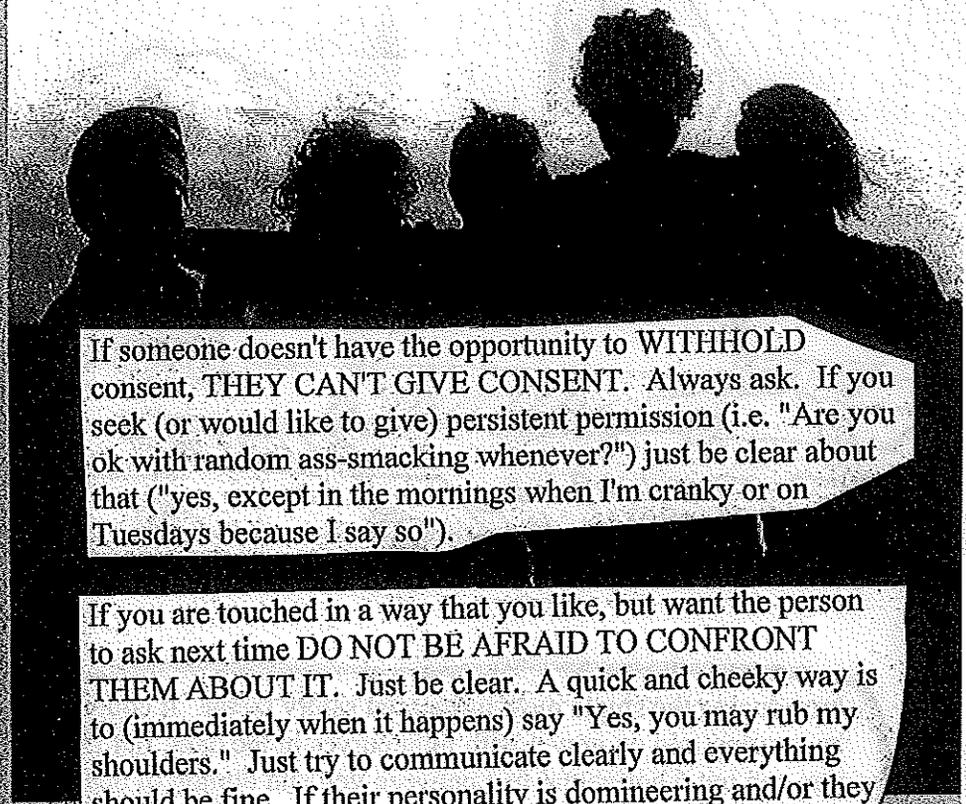
45

CONSENT

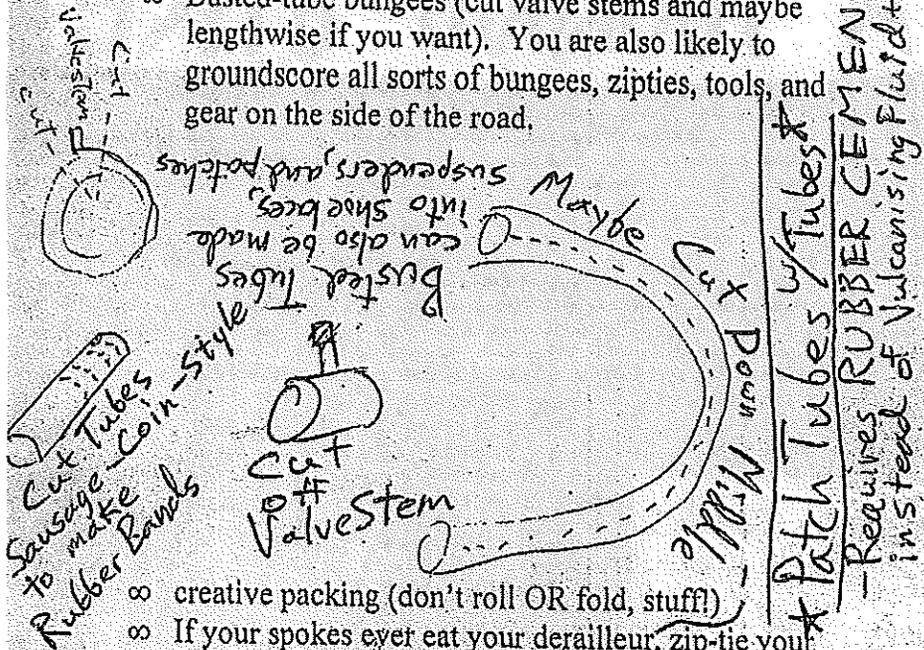
is always important. Bicycling is a physical activity, and it is common (among the cyclotourists I know) for peoples' boundaries to include various forms of touch, i.e. hugging, massage, ass-smacking. IT IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE to have someone's permission BEFORE you touch them IN ANY WAY (yes, this includes pats on the back).

If someone doesn't have the opportunity to WITHHOLD consent, THEY CAN'T GIVE CONSENT. Always ask. If you seek (or would like to give) persistent permission (i.e. "Are you ok with random ass-smacking whenever?") just be clear about that ("yes, except in the mornings when I'm cranky or on Tuesdays because I say so").

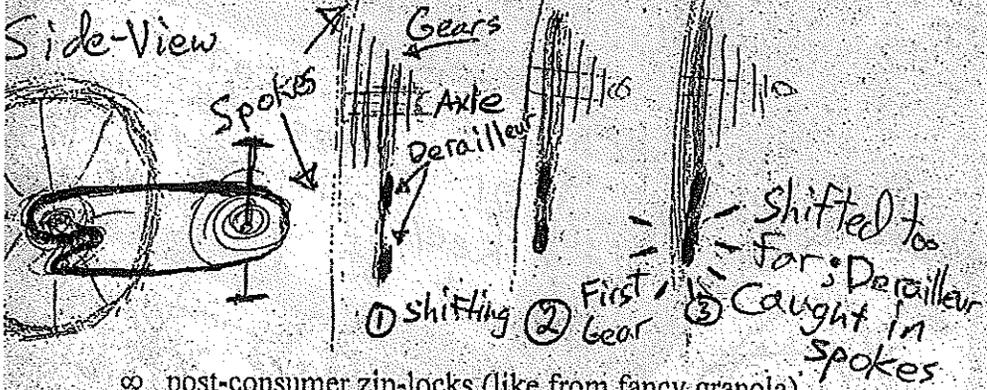
If you are touched in a way that you like, but want the person to ask next time DO NOT BE AFRAID TO CONFRONT THEM ABOUT IT. Just be clear. A quick and cheeky way is to (immediately when it happens) say "Yes, you may rub my shoulders." Just try to communicate clearly and everything should be fine. If their personality is domineering and/or they are difficult to confront, have another group member do it. Respect yourself. Stand up for yourself. DO NOT allow yourself to be marginalized.



- ∞ Busted-tube bungees (cut valve stems and maybe lengthwise if you want). You are also likely to groundscore all sorts of bungees, zipties, tools, and gear on the side of the road.



- ∞ creative packing (don't roll OR fold, stuff!)
- ∞ If your spokes ever eat your derailleur, zip-tie your chain as close to your frame as you can to keep tension; this saved my ass in rural Virginia once.

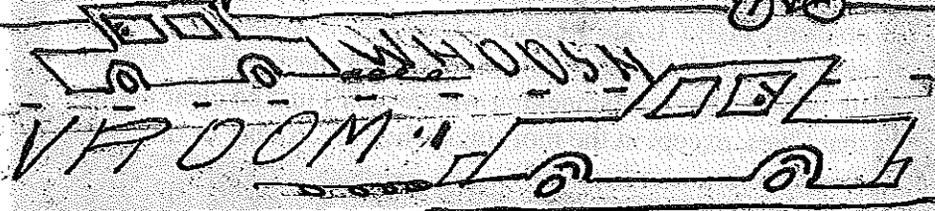


- ∞ post-consumer zip-locks (like from fancy granola) are stronger than the store-bought variety any day.
- ∞ Save/find rubber bands and twist-ties. Remove Derailleur
- ∞ experiment and shout out what works!
- ∞ (action obviously needs more)

see pix on next page [44] ziptie

"How Big is the Shoulder Here?"

(emergency lane)

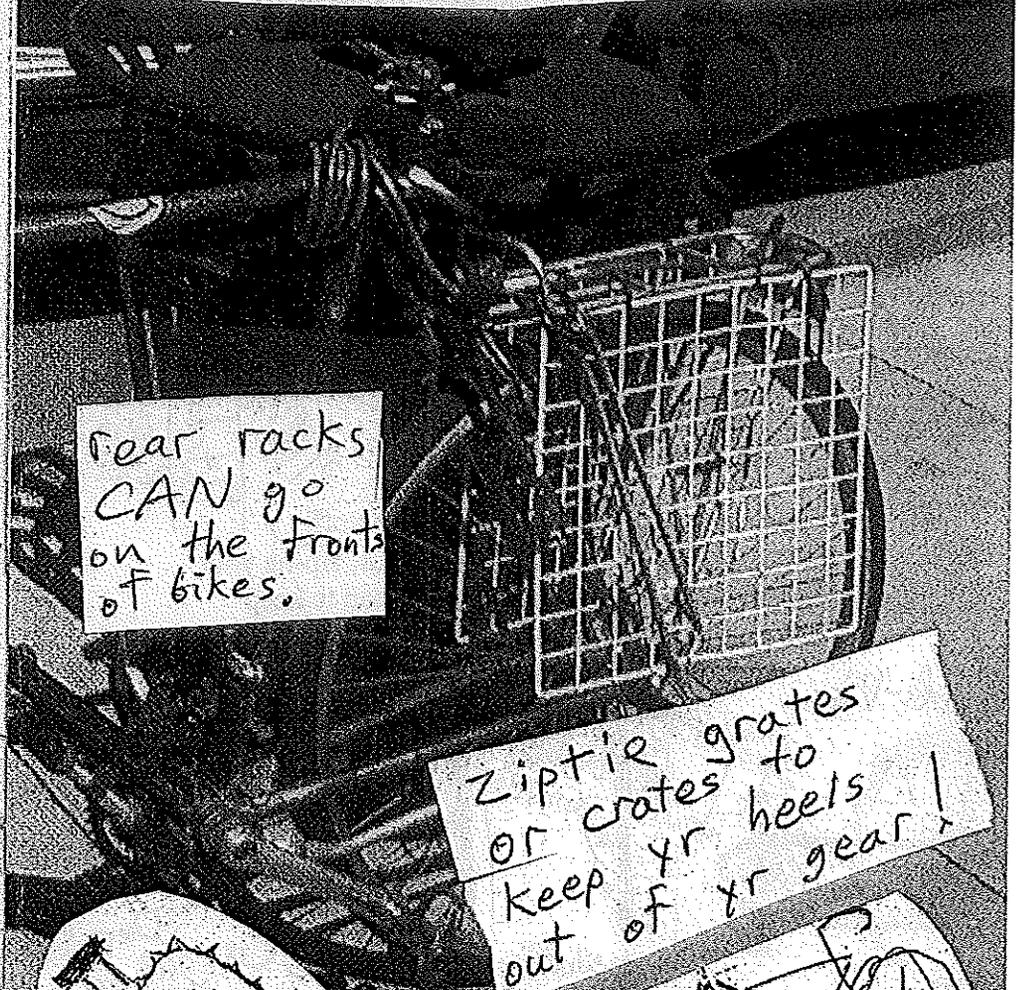


Introducing the single most influential safety factor. It could be pouring rain on gravel with tight curves in the dark, but if you can put 6 horizontal feet between you and 60mph of death you are way safer

You can look this up online thru most states' Departments of Transportation. And there's also Google Street View.

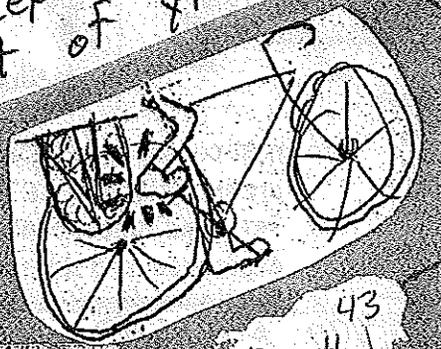
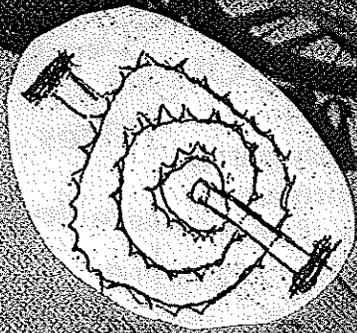
14

A "TOURING BIKE"



Rear racks CAN go on the fronts of bikes.

Ziptie grates or crates to keep yr heels out of yr gear!



3-ring crank/derailleur for big hills / heavy loads

43
Breath!

HACK YR BIKE INTO

HELMET →

comfortable handlebars and seat (can be rigged with towels & tape) or busted tube

Busted Tube Bar Tape

kitty litter buckets or 5-gallon buckets

online plans R good - they are sturdy, water proof, and FREE

This front rack was a craigslist gift. it's bolted @ bottom then wrapped w/ busted tubes all the way up. 500+ miles

Stretch
Bike
Stretch
Eat
stretch
Sleep
Stretch
Repeat
Stretch
Bike
stretch
Eat
Stretch
Sleep
Stretch
Repeat
Stretch

Try to breathe
All the way in
All the way out
All the time

Don't pant or hyper-ventilate; just try to make yr natural breaths Full

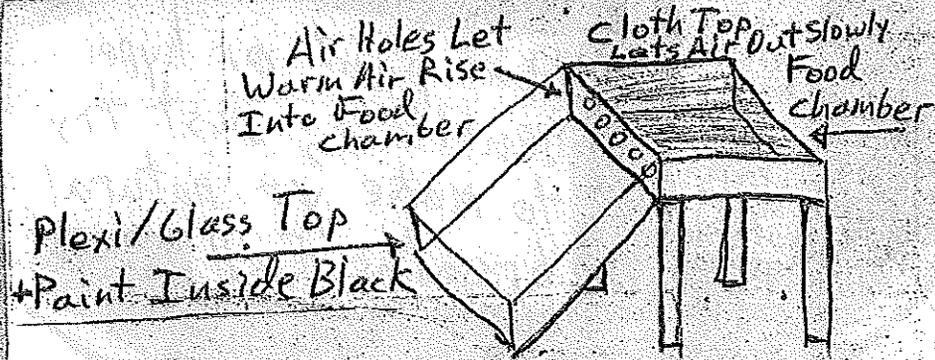
STRETCH

Your "Cadence"

... is the revolutions-per-minute of your pedals. 110 rpm is supposed to be healthiest for bloodflow and for keeping enough torque on each stroke not to overly stress your tendons/ligaments. [Most peoples' natural rhythms are slower than this, but it tends not to matter until they're riding a lot (like when on a bike-tour) and it starts to hurt (or its takes you forever to get up hills / accelerate).] try this: DOWNSHIFT one gear, then floor it fast. you may be surprised what you can do when you're in a lower gear than you think you are.

If You Have Time Before
You Leave, Build a

Solar Food-Dehydrator



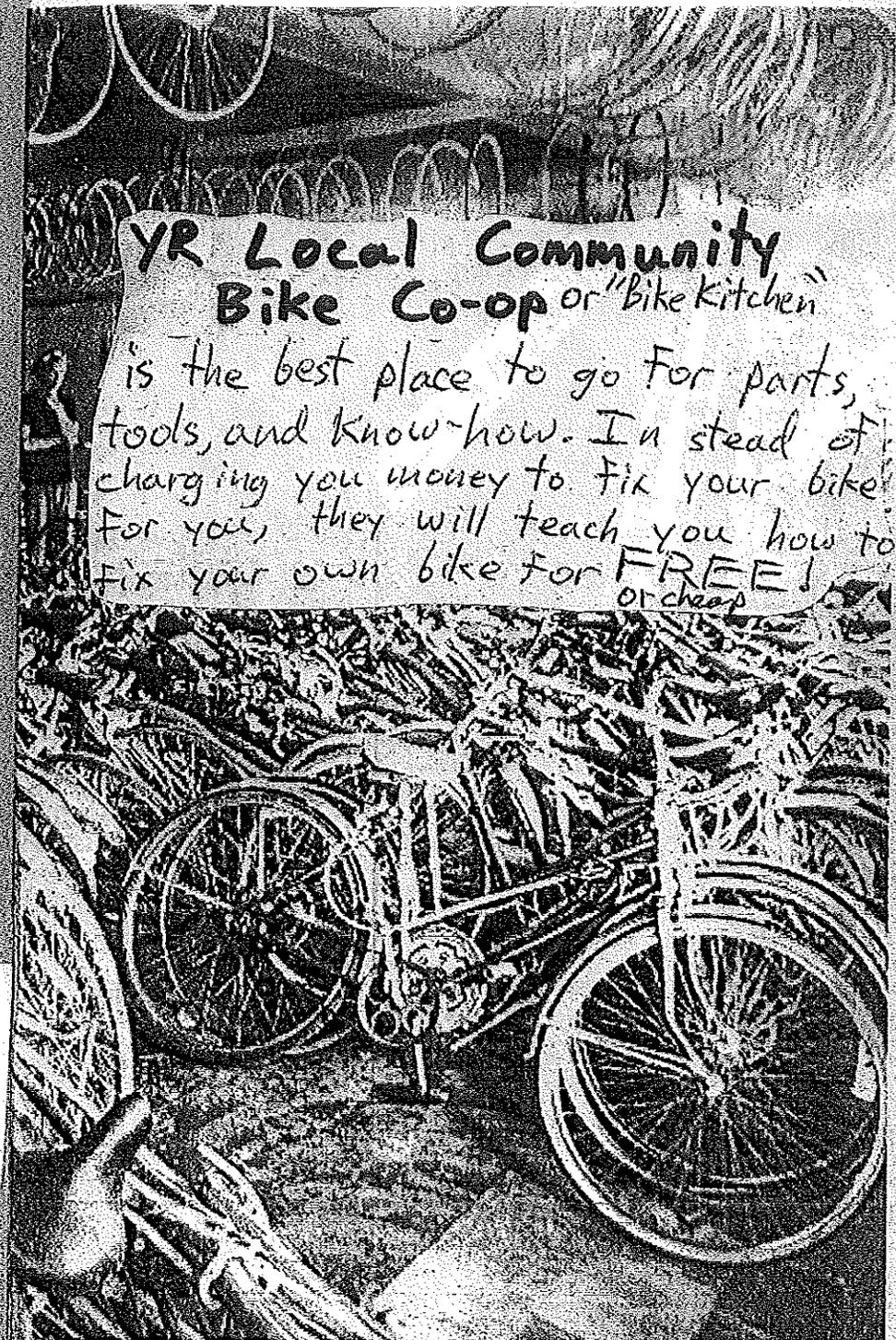
Face (Plexi) Glass to
the sun (South)

The sun's rays heat the air
through the glass by greenhouse
effect. Air rises to heat/dry the food!

16 drink
water

YR Local Community
Bike Co-op or "Bike Kitchen"

is the best place to go for parts,
tools, and know-how. In stead of
charging you money to fix your bike
for you, they will teach you how to
fix your own bike for FREE!
or cheap





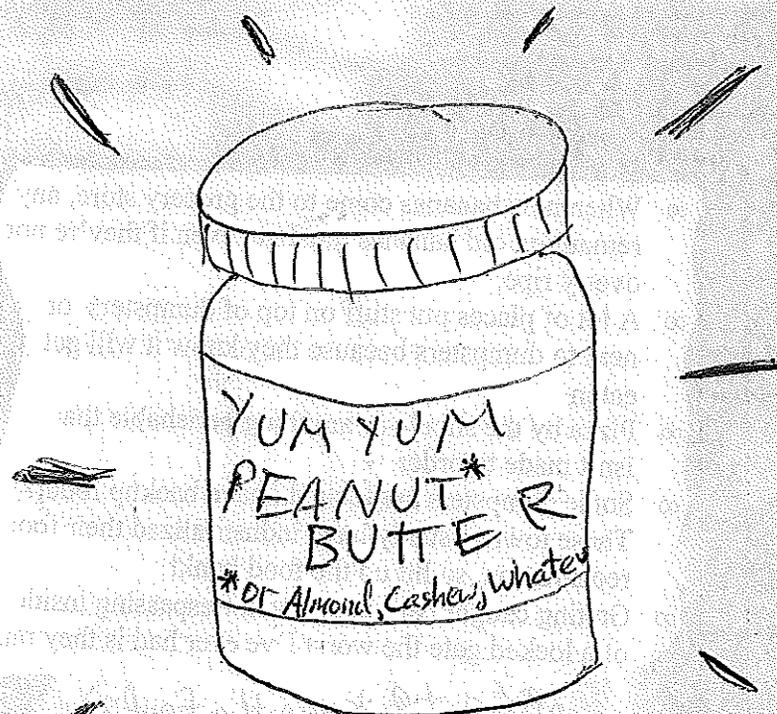
LIBERATION

From corporate, for-profit, chain-store bike shops, and the capitalist greed they perpetrate* is liberating, empowering, and crucial to

The
TRANSPORTATION REVOLUTION

(40)

Beware of CRACK-BUTTER



Too many Bicycle Tourists I knew get way addicted to nut butter. Takes hold scary fast. It IS a non-perishable protein source, but aside from being kinda fatty (like cyclists care) it often contains SUGAR and SALT (maybe other stuff) in quantities that concern me about over-consuming

(17)

DUMPSTER DIVING

...does NOT have to be gross:

- ∞ When new bananas come to the grocery store, any remaining old bananas must go, even if they're not overly ripe.
- ∞ A lot of places put stuff on top of dumpsters or next to dumpsters because they know it will get eaten
- ∞ Pizza by the slice!--or anything perishable that isn't made to order.
- ∞ Some dumpsters are locked...have backup food(s). These towns usually have industrialized their food reclamation, so hit up the food bank!
- ∞ Getting caught isn't bad. Even trespassing inside of a locked gate the worst I've ever had is they ran me

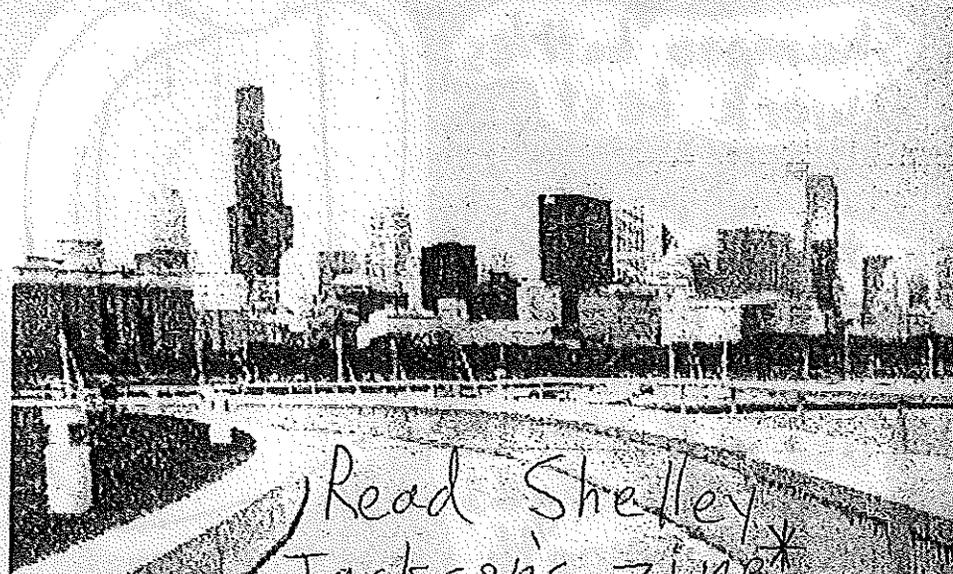
off (got 2 keep the food 2)

18
Stretch!

...a bike that gets
toured on.

It is possible to tour on pretty much any bicycle that you can ride. Start by strapping a sleeping bag on one side and a backpack on the other, and take a spin around the block. Start *right now* and go from there.

A "Touring Bike" is...



Read Shelley Jackson's zine*
"A Rough Guide to Bicycle
Maintenance" or her
book, CHAINBREAKER
or Wikipedia.org
for bike knowledge.

*available FREE online at
www.zinelibrary.info

(38)

POST
CONSUMER
"TRASH"

(i.e. residential)
IS OFTEN GROSS &
egg shells, dirty diapers,
sharp things,

POST
INDUSTRIAL
"TRASH"

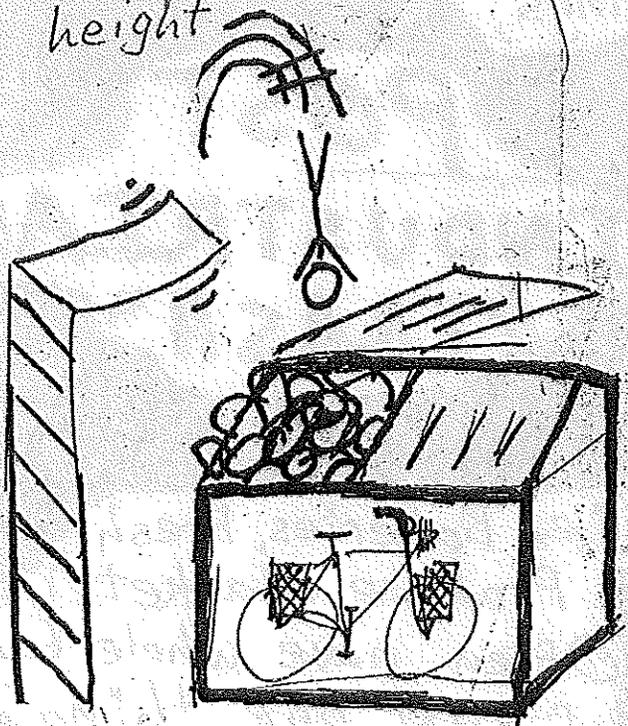
(i.e. Bakeries, Fresh
Produce Markets)
Often have whole bags
of just one thing
(bananas, bread)

Diving Gear

(ALL ARE OPTIONAL)

- ∞ bag(s)
- ∞ light source ← Necessary for night missions
- ∞ soap/sanitizer
- ∞ gloves
- ∞ escape route
- ∞ alibi...i.e. "I accidentally left my ___ inside, but by the time I realized, they'd already cleared my table"

Lean yr bike against the dumpster and stand on its frame for added height



(Dramatization)

Also: dumpster parts from bike shops, patchable tubes & tires w/half their tread!

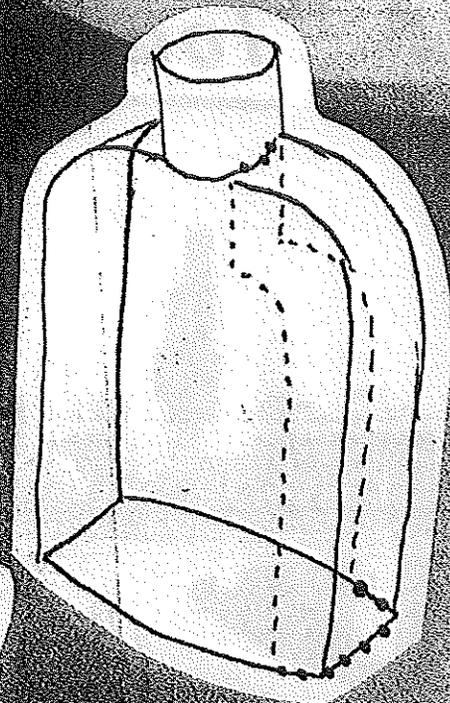
(20)

Maria Said

Shampoo bottles work best

cut along the dotted lines

use a lighter to melt the edges smooth



experiment and customize!

Thank you Bonnie and Thistle of Madison! Next Edition will include a Critique of Penis Envy

Thanks Maria!

wear a helmet
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Female-Bodied People Pee Standing Up!

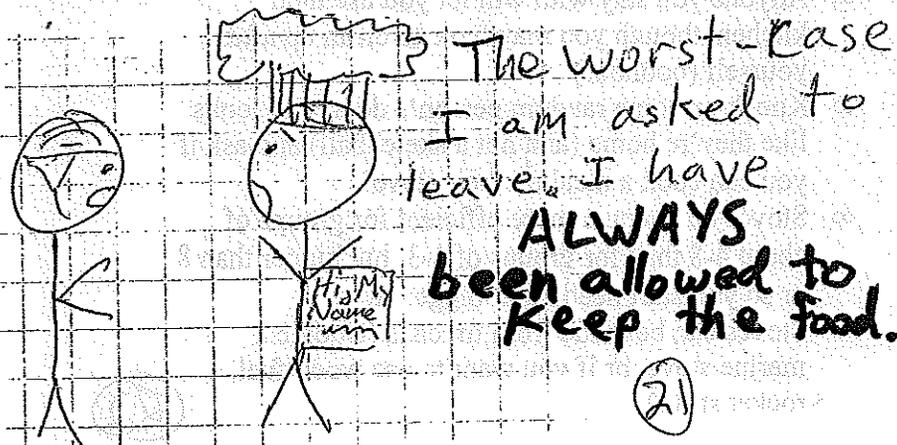
I read a zine once about how female-bodied people can manipulate their urinary openings and learn to pee standing up. It said to practice in the shower.

There are also pee-funnel/pee-style products which can be purchased OR you can make your own! I have to give my friend, Maria, credit for this hack.

Getting Caught Dumpster-Diving

is one of my favorite opportunities for community engagement education. I wait for them to speak first. **They usually ignore me.** If they are curious, I'll explain that radical food reclamation reduces our net-waste.

I am sure to mention that **I will not leave a mess.**



Not everyone is comfortable eating dumpstered food. Also, some nutritionally important non-perishables are rarely found in dumpsters (i.e. whole grain!), hence

Other Food Sources:

- ∞ food stamps
- ∞ soup kitchens
- ∞ food banks
- ∞ organic farms or 'woofing' - www.woof.org (organic farm worktrade network)
- ∞ food not bombs www.fnb.org

Empowers the government! DON'T Be Dependent!

Why You Don't Need a Stove:

- ∞ If you really like hot things, you can get hot water for tea and coffee at most gas stations (and likely use their microwaves).
- ∞ You can make fires when camping in low-profile wooded areas (especially national forests).
- ∞ Anyone you stay with will let you use their kitchen, though you may have to clean up after yourself (boohoo!)
- ∞ Knock on some random person's door who looks like they're home (and not a sketchball) and ask if you can cook a meal on their stove!
- ∞ Stoves do become more efficient for groups of about 4-8 than for groups of 1-3, but bigger than 8 or so you start needing a bigger stove
- ∞ Stoves can be made from tin cans (Google a marine stove, or if you want to use wood fuel, a rocket stove)

(22)

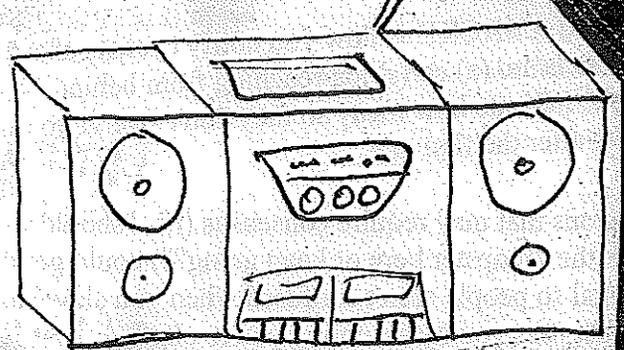
"SWEEPS"

NOT Television-Related!

When touring in a big group, solicit volunteers who are fast and familiar w/ the route for the day to be "Front Sweeps," leaving early, ~~and~~ side-walk chalking the turns, and alerting the group to hazards and detours.

The "Tail Sweeps" should have tools, tubes, and know-how to help anyone who gets a flat or stranded. Tail Sweeps ~~stay~~ leave last and stay in the back.

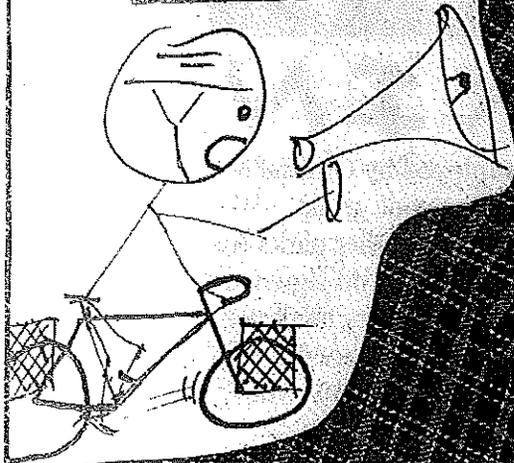
Boom.
Boxes.
Rock.



Put This on Yr Bike.
Turn it All the way up.

Rage a Dance-Party
at Every Pitstop,

Megaphones
... MAYBE:



Surrender
the
Dumpsters!

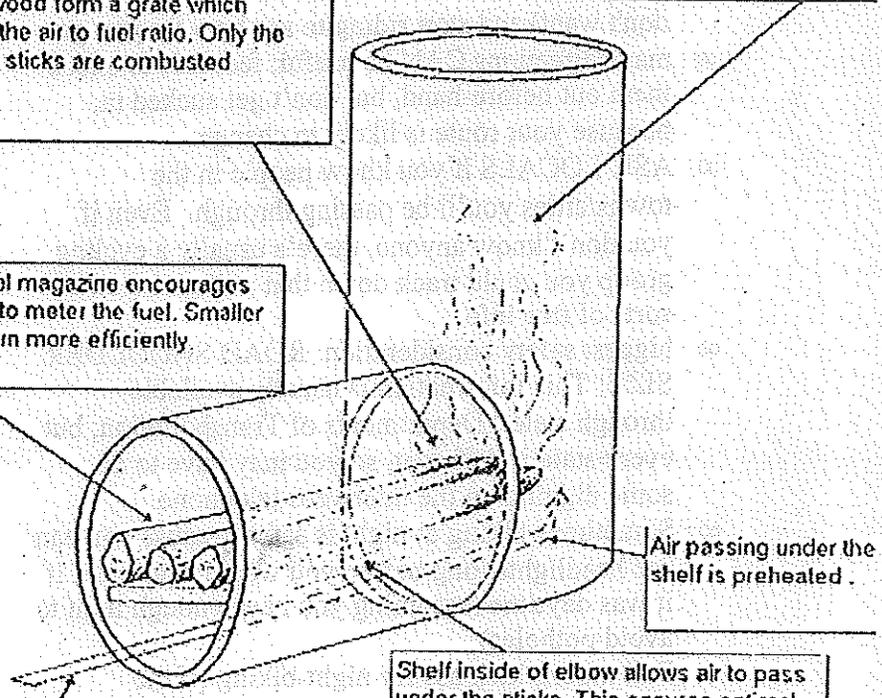
page 34
drink Water

Wood-Burning "Rocket" Stove:

Rocket chimney increases draft. Smoke is drawn through flame and combusts

sticks of wood form a grate which improves the air to fuel ratio. Only the tips of the sticks are combusted

Small fuel magazine encourages the user to meter the fuel. Smaller sticks burn more efficiently.



Air passing under the shelf is preheated.

Shelf inside of elbow allows air to pass under the sticks. This ensures optimal airflow into combustion chamber

Fuel magazine helps to limit the inflow of cool air. Cool air reduces the temperature in the the combustion chamber and decreases efficiency.

you can build
this out of
tin cans.

wear 23 helmet
a

How to "Plan" a Bike Tour

you totally DON'T need to do this

- ∞ solo / seat-of-the pants touring is totally possible and lots of fun. Get as prepared as you want (or don't want) and start riding to see how far you get.
- ∞ maps/directions CAN be useful; feel free to check them out before-hand, but don't get sucked in, because your route is likely to change.
- ∞ ASK LOCALS if you know people in the towns/cities you'll be passing through. Even if you don't know anyone, there's usually a cycling group you could track down that will give you all sorts of free info.
- ∞ biggest safety consideration: ROAD SHOULDER SIZE! This information is usually available through states' Departments of Transportation, but every state is different, so you may have to do some digging on the interwebs/telephone.
- ∞ Sometimes biking at night is safer because you can see headlights long before you would hear them if it was daytime (assuming you have enough light to avoid potholes)
- ∞ Full moons kick ass for night-biking (if the weather is clear)

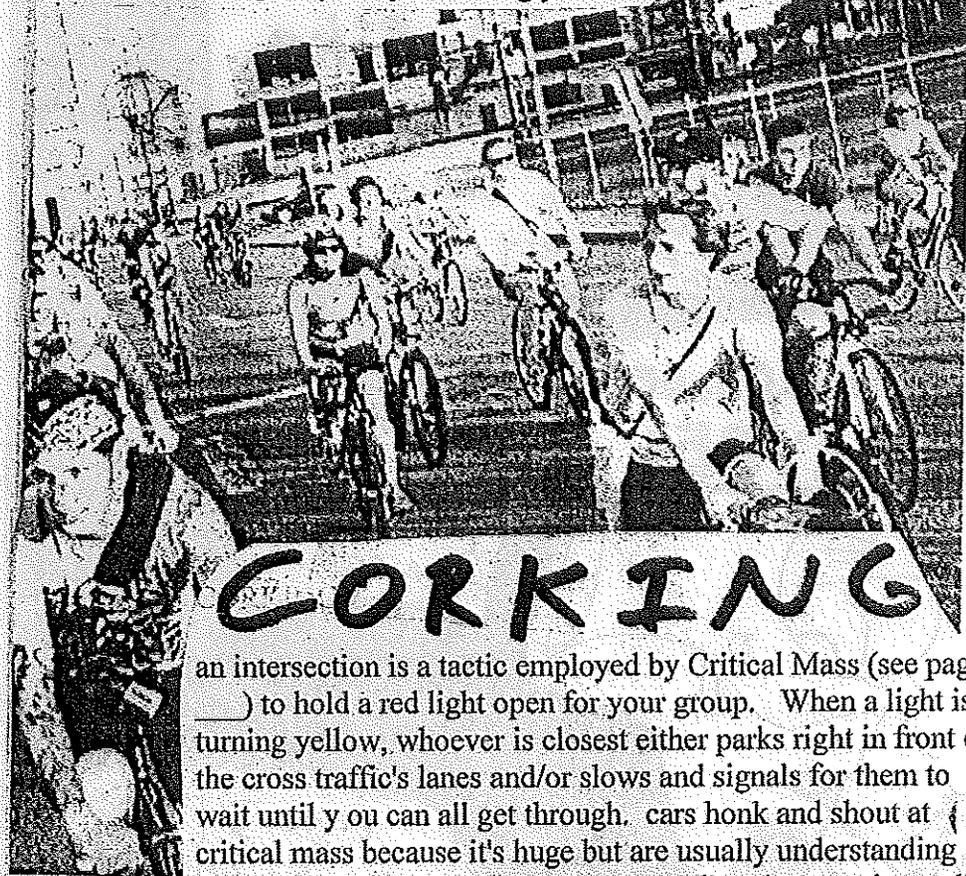
DO NOT rely on Google's Bike Directions

They are in beta (~new) and have gotten me (and several of my friends) onto dirt roads with road bikes or just plain lost

(24)

4 "CAR(s) BACK!" is how you notify cyclists ahead of you that there is/are (a) car(s) approaching from behind. If possible, indicate how many so they don't swerve to their death(s) after the first one.

5 decisions that may require consensus (i.e. "should we stop to check the dumpster here or keep going?") could get their own signal so people aren't confused when you slow/stop and/or just pass you by assuming you're ok



CORKING

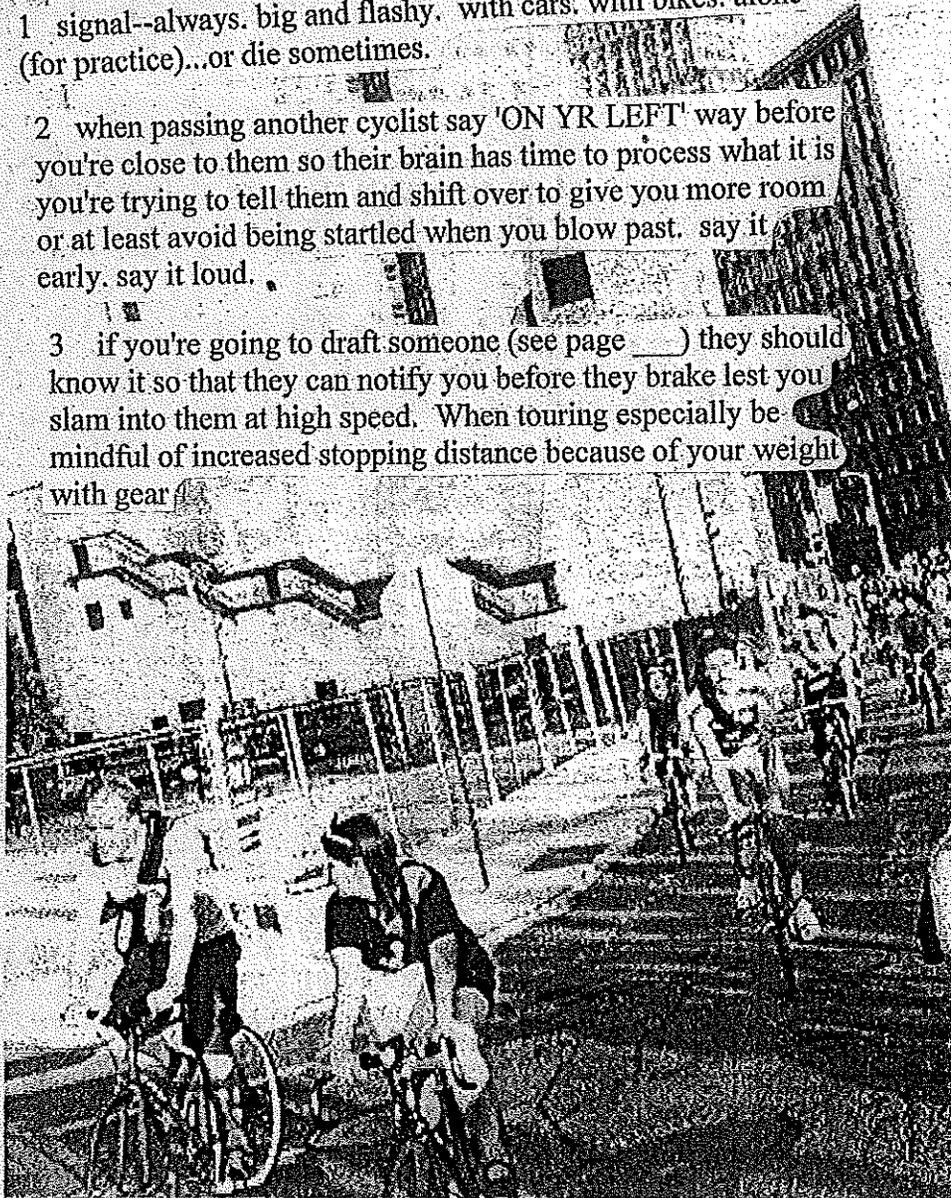
an intersection is a tactic employed by Critical Mass (see page ___) to hold a red light open for your group. When a light is turning yellow, whoever is closest either parks right in front of the cross traffic's lanes and/or slows and signals for them to wait until you can all get through. cars honk and shout at critical mass because it's huge but are usually understanding for most bike-tour sized groups, especially when you have all that gear.

(33)

Group Riding

is different and may be more dangerous than riding alone. Lots of cyclists know how to deal with car traffic but not bike traffic. Fortunately there are some pretty common ways for cyclists to communicate in traffic.

- 1 signal--always. big and flashy. with cars. with bikes. alone (for practice)...or die sometimes.
- 2 when passing another cyclist say 'ON YR LEFT' way before you're close to them so their brain has time to process what it is you're trying to tell them and shift over to give you more room or at least avoid being startled when you blow past. say it early. say it loud.
- 3 if you're going to draft someone (see page ___) they should know it so that they can notify you before they brake lest you slam into them at high speed. When touring especially be mindful of increased stopping distance because of your weight with gear.

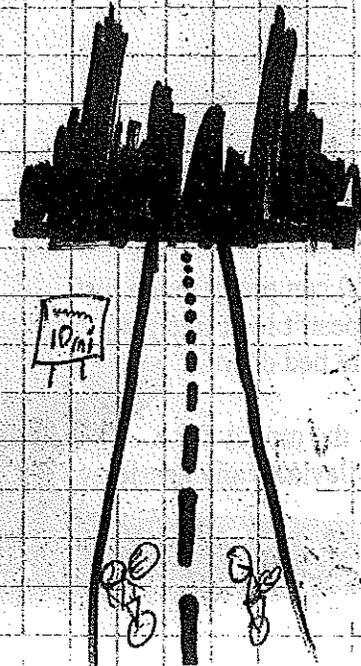


page (32)

Warmshowers.org

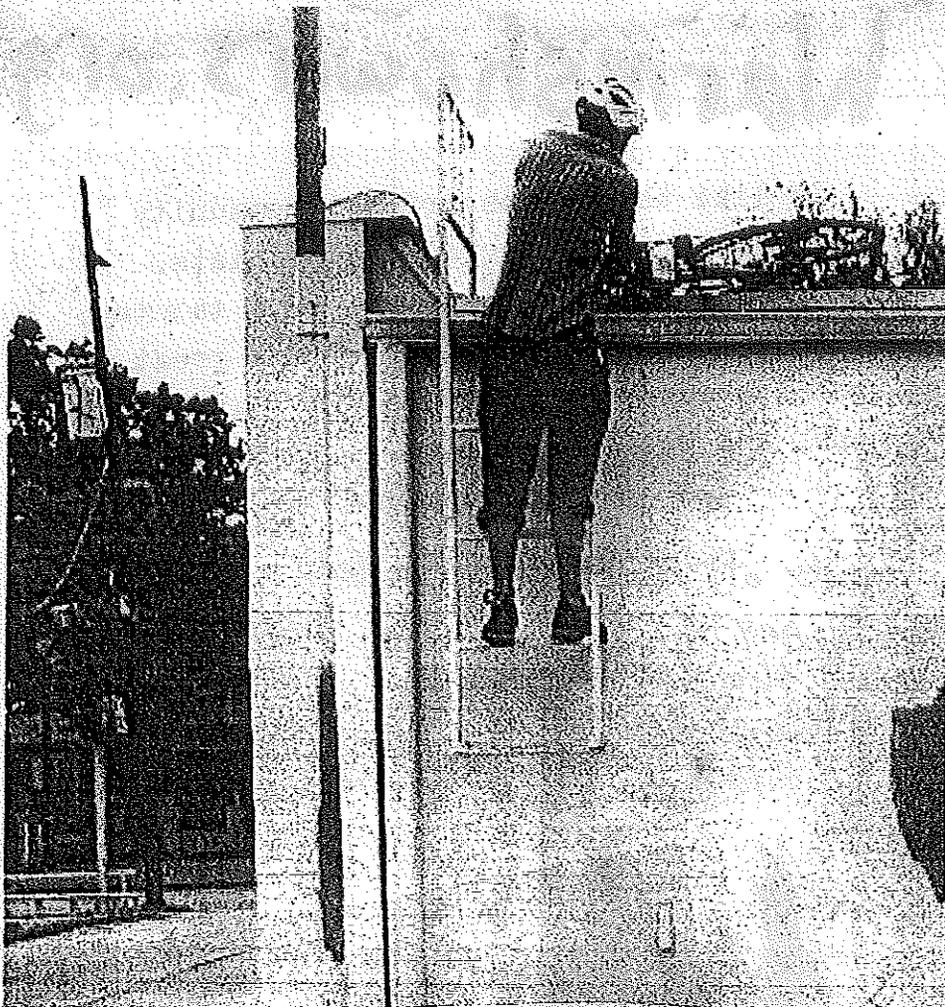
Is like the 'couchsurfing' community but specifically for Touring Cyclists. It's great at getting you a place to stay. Often you will be fed, and it's a great resource for directions, tools, parts, maps, and local bike info. and vehicular rescue.

- Lots of people who tour(ed) and want to pay the community back for all the people who put them up.
- Advanced notice* and a well-developed profile help: - photos, info about you, etc.*



Where the Fuck Are We Sleeping?

(25)



LOGGING AND DISLOGGING (AKA GUERRILLA CAMPING)

- ∞ Small groups (and soloists) can pretty much just find a wooded area that doesn't look like people give too much of a shit and bed down.
- ∞ rural areas are best
- ∞ not looking like you have the money for a campsite often prevents/alleviates any hassle-age

page 26 stretch!

Each of these 3 features often has its own hand signal to make it clear to the group/facilitator why the person is speaking (or wants to speak) out of turn.

DIRECT RESPONSE is an answer to a question that was asked by another member. It goes out of stack order because it could save stack time.

CLARIFYING QUESTION is similar to DR, but in question form. These are commonly abused, so if you think the speaker should wait their turn, SAY SO.

POINT OF PROCESS is intentionally an interruption when consensus process has been 'violated.' The quotations exist because your group decides what process it uses and whether said process has actually been violated.

What if we can't/don't reach consensus?

The world isn't perfect. Winston Churchill is quoted saying "Democracy is the worst form of government except all the others." Only you can decide what you will do in the event consensus can't be reached, but I recommend giving the process a try.

Consensus

is how groups give consent. It is a non-majoritarian way of making decisions democratically. That way 50%+1 of a group can't oppress everyone else whose opinions are genuinely valuable. Works great in small groups. Communication is key. Below is a list (in no particular order) of some common features of consensus process. I think all are worth knowing, but when/whether to use them is up to you as a group.

DISCUSS what is to be decided. Everyone should have an opportunity to speak. Be patient.

STACK or list speakers if multiple people want to speak at once. Some collectives give speaking-order priority to people who don't speak as often, or for as long.

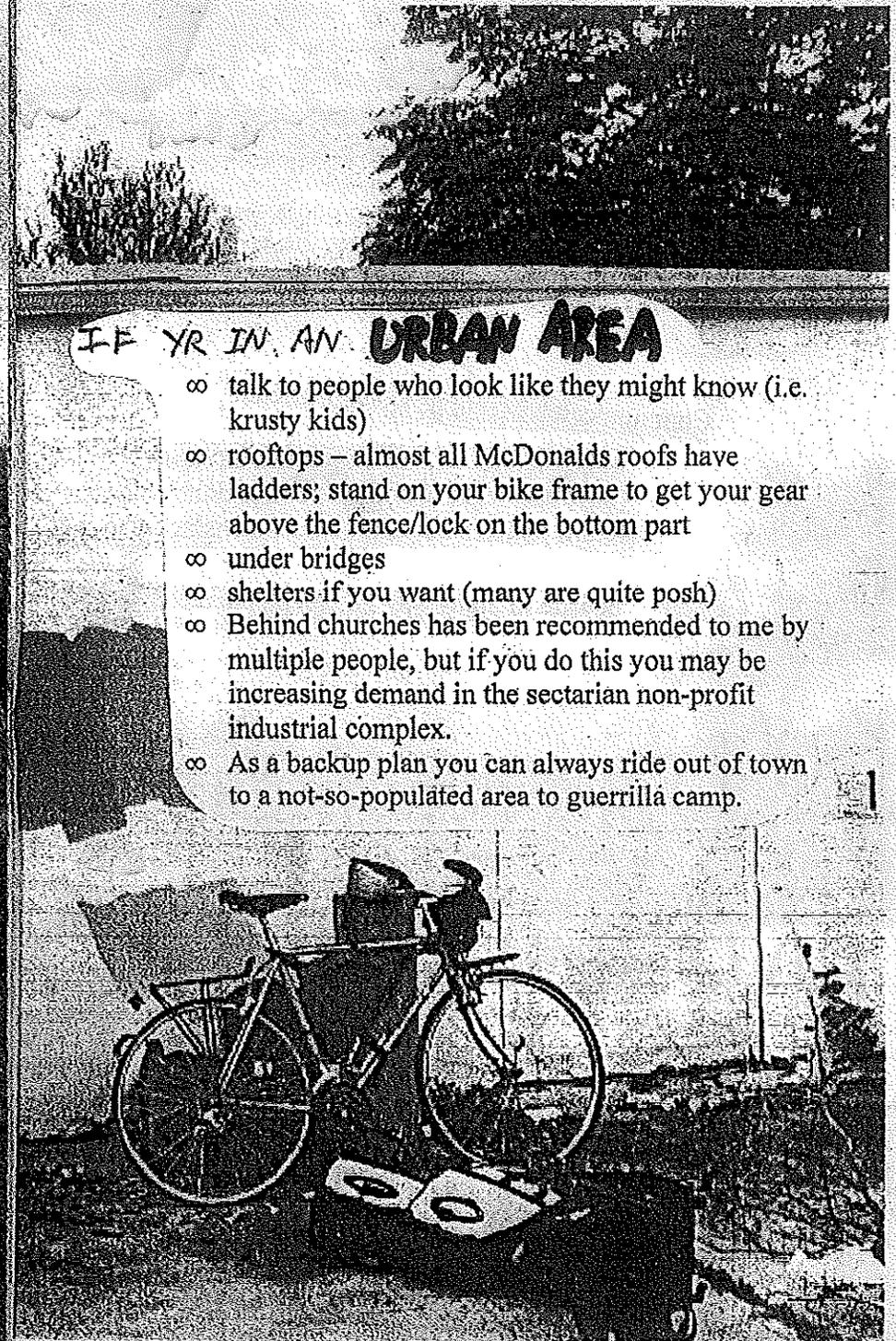
FACILITATOR is not always a necessary role, but it isn't hard. Mainly keep stack and make sure people don't interrupt. Helps if facilitator is relatively less invested for heated issues.

OBJECTIONS are important to be heard and valued. Many collectives allow every member to "block" any proposal. This makes sense for bike-touring because anyone can leave the collective and bike solo.

STANDING ASIDE is an objection someone has that they are willing to forego for the sake of the group. Generally, they will want to voice their concern fully before agreeing to stand aside.

IF YR IN AN URBAN AREA

- ∞ talk to people who look like they might know (i.e. krusty kids)
- ∞ rooftops – almost all McDonalds roofs have ladders; stand on your bike frame to get your gear above the fence/lock on the bottom part
- ∞ under bridges
- ∞ shelters if you want (many are quite posh)
- ∞ Behind churches has been recommended to me by multiple people, but if you do this you may be increasing demand in the sectarian non-profit industrial complex.
- ∞ As a backup plan you can always ride out of town to a not-so-populated area to guerrilla camp.



BIG GROUPS

Make decisions by consensus (or as close to consensus as you can). Try to take everyone's needs into account, even if it takes longer. Be as transparent as possible with any power structure you set up.

Communicate! Meetings are your friend!

walkie talkies can be "hippie rented" from walmart (buy, use, return), but it's good to double check return policies because some are wising up to this

beware of areas with no cell phone reception

"RIDE GUIDES"

are small zine-ish booklets which you can assemble for your riders if you have the will/people-power
Consider including

contact info

any group-level agreements/boundaries

Maps with turn-by-turn directions. It can help to number each turn too, so if the route changes, you can say at the meeting, "strike turns 41-56, and do the following instead..."

Divide and Collaborate

your group's needs among willing volunteers

- Places to stay
- Gigs
- Food
- Parts/repairs
- Community engagement
- Activism

28

talking points for any media interactions

Art!

www.grassroutescaravan.org

29

does this REAL well