# Teaching with Zines: Adding Educational Value to an Academic Special Collection

Melissa L. Jones Practicum Project, Summer 2008 Barnard Library Zine Collection Internship

### **Contradictions?**

ZINES

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#### Zines are...

- Physical, yet ephemeral
- Created to spread ideas, but circulated among an identifiable community
- Anti-technology, yet increasingly dependent on it Barnard is...
- Small and exclusive, but looking to draw outsiders in with their inclusive collection

### My internship experience: Creating a digital zine exhibit

ATTACK

I'm valing far Jan Stewart

**Original Elections and Protest exhibit** 



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#### **Punk Zine Archive**

The following Maximumrocknroll, Flipside, Suburban Voice, and HeartattaCk punk zines are presented in PDF format for the zine archive. All of these punk zines are out-of-print, and each zine has given me permission to post this information online. Every single page is included in an attempt to recreate the zines for the Internet, so people can read them for free. It won't be perfect, but at least you don't have to shell out loads of money to read these old punk zines or deal with crooks who sell photocopies of the zines, which are advertised as originals.

In addition, you can read about the punk scene as it happened by the people who were there - vesus reading a book based on 20 year old fuzzy memories by someone trying to make big money. "Which version of history will cause the most controversy and increase my sales to maximize profits while avoiding any detrimental harm to my credibility for future consumer product offerings?" the man asked while looking into a mirror. "And do I really need to fact check?"

This archive only exists because people have supported these great zines over the years. <u>Maximumrocknroll</u>, <u>Suburban Voice</u>, and <u>HeartattaCk</u> have issues that you can buy right now, so visit their sites to pick up an issue (or two)! <u>Flipside</u> has a memorial site that you can visit and help with donations. You can also visit the <u>10</u> Things Zine Blog.

To view the punk zine files, you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader software. If you do not have the software, get a free download

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Zine Fest Weekend!

Written by QZAP

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DONATE TO QZAP

Tuesday, 15 July 2008



Events

It's a major zinefest weekend. This coming Saturday and Sunday QZAP will be at the first annual Milwaukee Zine Fest! We're very excited to have this happening in our lovely city. Chris will be leading a workshop / discussion on queer zines, and Milo will be doing one with Joe Biel from Microcosm Publishing on zinester

WWW.MYSPACE.COM/MILWAUKEEZINEFEST



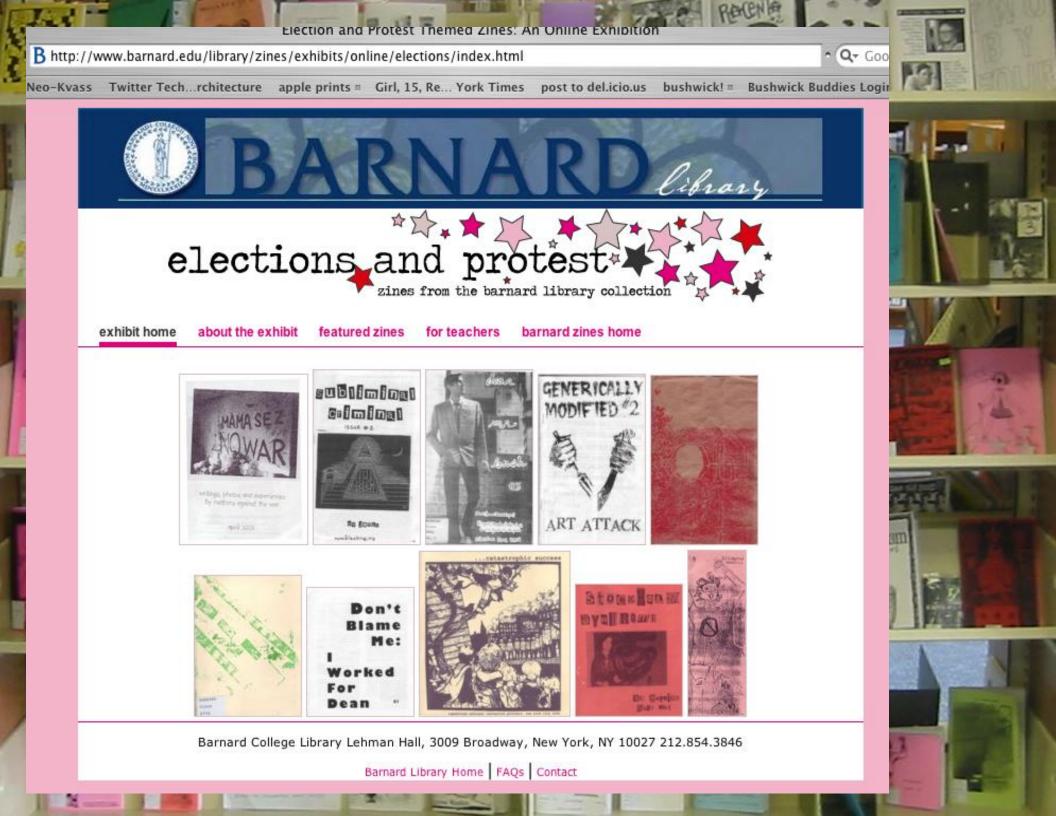
search ....



Gone to the Moon John Chicago, IL, US 2008 21 pages - EN - English

economics. If you're in Milwaukee, Madison, Chicago, or anywhere within a couple hundred miles, you should definitely make your way to the Brew City for an awesome weekend of workshops, zines bands, and fun.









the exhibit featured zines

for teachers barnard zines home

#### Little Room (Zines S641)

Recent New York City transplant Annie Sollinger, (originally from Petersborough, New Hampshire) writes about what her new life in New York and what she loves about the city in this decorative, artistic, typewritten zine. Articles include pieces on the Republican National Convention in 2004, Bush's second inauguration, Johnny Cash's estate sale, a few pieces contrasting New Hampshire and New York, and a piece on Vancouver, Canada.

#### About the Zinester: Annie Sollinger

This zine circulates! Check availability in CLIO



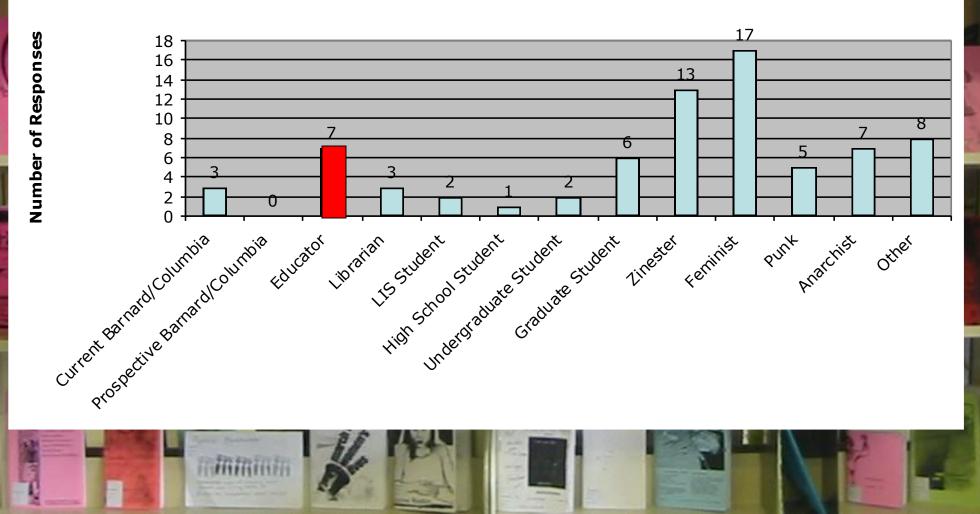




## **Our Users**

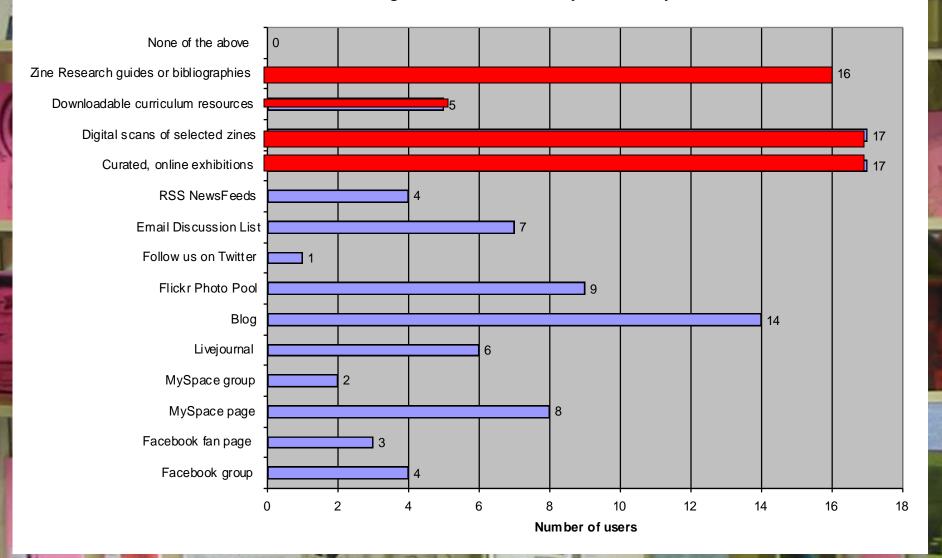
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Chart 7.3.8.1: Which of the following best describes you?



### Access: What our users want

Chart 7.3.8.13: Which of the following online resources would you use if they were available?



# Zines and education: What the experts say

In the classroom, zines can serve as:

Authentic assessment options



Engaging choices for reluctant readers

Examples of post-modern art movements and styles

Primary source documents of contemporary political movements "Zines...challenge the easily digestible mainstream media. They can open students' eyes to other outlets for information, showing alternate sources and forcing students to see how the accessible information that is often just taken for fact also has origins and agendas."

- <u>Amy Wan, "Not Just for Kids Anymore:</u> <u>Using Zines in the Classroom."</u>

### **Determining Educational Value**

### Questions to consider:

What **content-area knowledge** does this collection address?

What essential questions will this collection help users to explore?

What **enduring understandings** will users take away from their interactions with this collection?

# **Educational Rationale**

### Standards:

- Media Literacy
- Information Literacy
- English Language Arts
- History
- College and Career Development

### **Essential Questions**

- What is the value of protest?
- How can those outside the mainstream get their voices heard?
- How do systems of power oppress voices of dissent?







#### Lesson A: What is a zine? What is the value of protest?

Content Areas: English Language Arts, Information Literacy Level: Intermediate, Grades 7-9

#### Overview

In this lesson, students explore the ways in which self-published zines can be used as a form of political protest. Students use the Barnard Library Zine Collection Online Exhibition entitled, "Elections and Protest: Zines from the Barnard Library Collection" to explore excerpts from zines with election and protest themes in small groups.

#### Duration

50 minutes

#### Lesson Objectives

Through participation in this lesson, students will be able to:

- Define zine
- Compare and contrast zines with corporate magazines, newspapers and other publications
- · Summarize the political statement being made in a zine
- Synthesize different political statements from a variety of zines
- Collaborate with peers to complete a task

#### Materials

- Corporate magazines (one for each group)
- · Zines (one for each group)
- Access to the Internet, or photocopies of the zine pages from "Elections and Protest: Zines from the Barnard Library Collection"
- Chart paper or an overhead transparency



# Why bother?

- Adding value to your collection
- $\circ$  Increasing use
- Supporting access for all stakeholders
- Helping users make meaning from materials
- Encouraging collaboration with contentarea teachers
- Advocating teaching and learning with primary sources and cultural artifacts

Today's Aim: How do systems of power repress voices of dissent?

- Agenda:
- 1) Motivation
- 2) Direct Instruction
- 3) Collaborative Activity
- 4) Whole Group Share-Out
- 5) Summary



### **Questions?**

### Please visit:

http://www.barnard.edu/library/zines/exhibits/online

<u>/elections/index.html</u>

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