

23 Budgen Drive  
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1st April 1998

To: Leo Kloss

Dear Leo,

many thanks for your letter of the 31st March about the present situation. I am afraid that I can only report gloom !

Several new Labour Members of both Houses of Parliament have been written to about censorship. Not one has replied ! The Home Office has declared that there will be no change in obscenity law. Chris Smith, gay Labour Secretary of State for Culture, has announced the intended banning of the Eurotica satellite television channel and refuses to reply to NCROPA letters on the subject . Meanwhile the West Midlands Police have begun destruction proceedings of the Mapplethorpe book against the library of the University of Central England. (Shades of Gestapo book-burnings). Nothing changes !

I have not come across Wilhelm Reich's work. I have been urging every sociologist I meet to analyse and write about British insular puritanism, which as you observe remains as strong as ever and pervades the Labour Party. Until we discover the causes of this national hang-up about sexuality, we can never overcome it. Not one British Member of Parliament will touch reform of the porn laws. Some MPs are now calling for the legalisation of cannabis, but not of porn, which remains a forbidden subject in this country.

NCROPA and its ally CAC (Campaign Against Censorship) have both affiliated to SFC (Sexual Freedom Coalition). The latter has presented a draft Sexual Freedom Bill (which I helped prepare) to the Home Secretary, but he has ignored it. The address of SFC is PO Box 4ZB, London W1A 4ZB. It has monthly meetings in London and is organised by Tuppy Owen. So far it has had no more success than its affiliates !

Have you discovered if your local MP is sympathetic. Until we get an MP to make representations to the government on our behalf, we are doomed to be ignored.

Best wishes.  
Ted Goodman