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MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA

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# ECOSO EXCHANGE NEWSLETTER

Number 16

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## News from the Crow Collection

The Bulletin Now that the first Living library Project is underway it has been decided to produce a regular "Bulletin" to distribute on the VUT campuses and to community organisations, particularly those in the Western Region. The first Bulletin is used as a wrapper for this Ecoso.

How the Crow Collection is Being Used The main users of the Collection over the past couple of months have been first and second year students at the Footscray Campus of the VUT. The main requests have been for documents on Metropolitan Planning Schemes, women's health, community health, child mal-treatment, recreation and public open space, working conditions in the 1930s, Australian politics in the 1940s/50s.

The Town and Country Planning Association's Documents These documents are at present housed in the Crow Collection Room. It has not yet been decided where they will be in the future. In the meantime students can have access to a wealth of material including the TCPA Minutes from 1953 onwards. A particularly useful document is an alphabetically indexed folder of extracts from the TCPA Minutes relating to policies and organisation of that organisation from 1953 to 1963. This is a very useful overview of some of the planning issues of that decade. Thanks to Alan Parker for arranging the shifting of the documents to the Footscray Campus.

A Full Set of Australian Institute of Urban Studies Documents were donated to the Collection by Patricia Whately. These include bibliographies and indexes of the AIUS publications. Patricia also donated some documents from the Town and Country Planning Board.

## PICKING WINNERS: MELBOURNE'S URBAN DEVELOPMENT GAME

### A new publication on Melbourne's Docklands

(This article has been republished from the *North Melbourne News*, September/October 1991)

About twelve months ago, the Social Justice Coalition, a network of mainly inner-urban housing and human service groups, sought and obtained funding to examine the social, economic and environmental issues of relevance to the Melbourne Docklands. In October and November of 1990, the Coalition presented *Docklands Dialogue*, a seminar series on the Docklands. The papers included in this publication were first presented at that series. The major purpose of the project was to encourage informed debate in relation to the future of the Docklands area of Melbourne.

Since November 1990, more official government publications have become available, a 'consultation' process initiated, and a new Docklands Authority established. Although it would be naive to expect planning for Melbourne's Docklands to be a rational process, if prizes could be awarded for incompetent planning, the Docklands exercise would have to be a front runner. The fundamental problem with the planning for the Docklands is that we have at least three concurrent 'processes' operating. These processes may be summarized briefly.

- **The Victorian Ports Land Use Plan**

This planning exercise is being undertaken by the Port Authorities and the Victorian Ministry of Transport. Key documents released for public consultation include the *Possibilities Paper* (December 1990) and the *Options Paper* (May 1991).

- **The Docklands Task Force**

The Docklands Task Force was formed early in 1990 to formulate a long term strategy for developing the Docklands. In December 1990, the DTF released the report *Melbourne Docklands: Strategic Options*. The launch of this report was accompanied by the release of a discussion paper on proposals for a Docklands Authority. The News Release from the Office of the Premier of Victoria (17 December) summarized the key attributes of four development options; the Release also described the consultation process, and reported that the consultation would be directed by a Consultation Steering Committee.

- **Kick-Start Planning**

Over the last eighteen months or so, it is evident that particular projects or events have been assessed by the Government as having the potential of 'kick-starting' the development of the Docklands. At least four proposals have been floated:

- . Multi-Function Polis
- . Olympic Village
- . World Class Casino
- . Multimillion-dollar International Garden Festival

Official Government News releases and press reports provide the evidence. The 21 February 1991 News Release addressed the Casino issue: 'Melbourne's open casino project will be used to kick-start the redevelopment of the Docklands, the Premier, Ms Joan Kirner announced today. And again, *The Age* of 13 May 1991 included a report on the world garden expo. 'The State Government is considering staging a multimillion-dollar international garden festival to boost Melbourne as a commercial centre and kick-start the docklands redevelopment.' The report continued, 'A spokesman for the Premier, Mrs Kirner, confirmed that the Major Projects Unit had been asked by Cabinet to prepare a feasibility study on the proposal within three weeks.'

The absurdity of the planning process becomes evident when it is understood that the assumptions being made by the different players are anything but congruent. For example, the DTF planning exercise is assuming that all the land in the Core Area will be available for non-port use, yet the most recent

*Victorian Ports Land Use Plan - Options Paper*, includes at least three options which would be in conflict with the DTF Options. And again, while the DTF Consultation process has the appearance of being comprehensive, the Government continues to throw up more 'Kick-Start' proposals; the most recent the subject of a separate evaluation by yet another key player: the Major Projects Unit.

However, perhaps the ultimate non-consultation relates to the consideration of the different management arrangements for the Docklands area. How one can possibly know what management arrangements should be introduced, let alone what skills are required on an Authority, before the land use and development questions have been settled, defies the imagination. It has about as much sense as appointing a group of rock climbers to plan and manage a fishing village. Leaving this problem aside, it should be remembered that the *Proposed Docklands Authority Bill - Discussion Paper* (December 1990) did include some discussion of alternatives to the establishment of an authority. Towards the end of the consultation period, it became evident that Victorians were being presented with no choice at all; the government had made it clear that there would be a Docklands Authority. In June of this year, the Minister for Major Projects, Mr Jim Kennan, announced the membership of the Authority.

The Social Justice Coalition believes that the planning of the Docklands has been hopeless. We submit that there is an urgent need for a more informed debate in relation to major urban projects; the publication of *Picking Winners* is our contribution to that debate. Copies of the publication may be obtained by ringing Ewan Ogilvy: (03)329 6604 (after hours and some mornings) or Peter Higgs: (03)328 3572. Alternatively, copies of the publication may be obtained by forwarding stamps to the value of \$1.80 to Ewan Ogilvy: 8 Chapman Street, North Melbourne, 3051 (to cover postage).

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#### Bits and Pieces.

(More information on these issues from the Crow Collection)

Melbourne City Council. Two significant documents have recently been released by the Melbourne City Council. They are :- "Strategic Directions and Priorities ... Review of the Melbourne Strategy Plan" and "Planning for Health... The Melbourne Municipal Health Plan".

Greening Melbourne With Public Transport. A new book by the PTUA (Public Transport Users Association) showing what must be done with Melbourne public transport if we are really to achieve a 20 % reduction in greenhouse emissions by the year 2005. Not just a "wish list" but a well researched and positive outline based on the experience of successful cities all over the world. Send \$9.95 to PTUA PO Box 324, Collins Street Post Office Melbourne 3000.

"We Dips Our Lid !" Morag Loh, a member of the Crow Collection Association Committee of Management, is to be congratulated for at least two reasons. Firstly Morag was one of the women writers on the Women Writers' Train which travelled through Gippsland to Leongatha, Foster, Bairnsdale, Sale and Morwell during the first week of September. Secondly she is the guest curator of the Victorian State Library's current Exhibition of Maltese Immigrants and their Descendants. She is also curating a Japanese exhibition which will open on November 15.

Study Grants for Women The Victorian Government's Consultative Council is auspicing study grants for women. The grants are worth \$15,000. More information from (03) 651.5115.

Work in the West is the name of a seminar that is being organised by the Rainbow Alliance. It will be held on October 26th from 1.30 p.m. at the South Kingsville Senior Citizens' Centre.

Defend and Create

The Future of the Social and Community Services Sector

The end of July, less than a month before the State and Federal Government budgets, was a timely time for the holding of conference on the future of the social and community services sector in Victoria.

The two-day conference, organised by the Victorian Council for Social Service was attended by over 500 participants. Its major theme was to provide the community service sector with an opportunity to take stock of the gains made, those yet to be achieved, and to develop a sense of unity and shared vision.

In her address to the conference the Premier, Joan Kirner, said "More than any other state in Australia, the community service sector plays a unique and significant role in the delivery of services, advocacy and the provision of information services, particularly to disadvantaged groups and individuals and in the community.... the Department of Community Services Victoria funds 2000 agencies."

The Premier made no false promises about maintaining all existing services and appealed for support to reduce spending on :-

Community programs which are poorly or ineffectively delivered, duplication of services which do not meet the expectation of their clients.

She detailed the program directions that the Government will continue to support and answered questions in a very knowledgeable way. This won her considerable respect from the audience.

The optimism resulting from Joan Kirner's speech was in contrast to gloom which resulted from the speech of the Leader of the Opposition, Geoff Kennett. It was obvious that the Liberal Party does not have clear social goals. In terms of values and philosophy they are placing a greater emphasis on individual responsibility and local community response and participants showed that they feared that such a policy could result in excessive emphasis on voluntarism and philanthropic fund raising.

Most of the conference time was spent in concurrent forums (small groups) which enabled maximum participation. It was no easy task for these groups to begin to address the dramatic social, economic and political changes which are taking place.

However, a number of threads were drawn together during the final session of the conference on "Visions and Strategies". This was chaired by John Wiseman and addressed by Bishop Michael Challen, Ms Kate Gilmore, Ms Fiona Smith and Sr Veronica Brady. They deserve special thanks. They dispelled any despair, ensuring that the "create" part of the conference's title was not overwhelmed by the urgent need to "defend" what has been achieved.

### Local Cultures

The July (1991) issue of the Australian Left Review included a special supplement on "Local Cultures".

The introduction by Gay Hawkins stated :-

"Several meaning for "local" dominate in the following articles. The most common refers to local government, that level of public administration supposedly closest to the people. For too long, local government have ignored their responsibility for cultural provision. While there has been a strong commitment to local libraries since the 1950s, in many areas this is the sum of council culture..... More recently many councils have expanded their their cultural services with the provision of arts centres, support for heritage projects, festivals, galleries etc. The Australia Council's survey of local government cultural funding published in March 1991, shows that in 1987 - 1988 councils throughout Australia spent over \$440 million on culture, an increase of more than a quarter in real terms since 1981 - 1982." (underlining added)

Some of the ideas in each of the four articles in the supplement :-

1. In "The Big League" Gay Hawkins and Kathie Gibson look at "the real face of culture" in Parramatta, NSW. Part of their conclusions states :-

It is obvious that "planning" in the Parramatta LGA is far from being a simple technical process. It is a deeply negotiated political process in which the Council seems to be more reactive than pro-active. There are numerous battlegrounds which make up the city's economy and the Council does not appear to be the referee .....Council's one significant cultural initiative - the construction of a temple to high culture in the declining downtown section - only highlights how ignorant it was about the potential benefits of cultural activity to the local economy and about the potential exchange of markets between retailing and cultural facilities...The demise of main street Parramatta is a disturbing example of the power of retailing corporations to erode any sense of amenity and civic culture in town centres." (underlining added)

2. In "Phantom of the Theatre" Julie Revallion looks at an example of cultural edifice building gone wrong. Julie's article is also about the Parramatta Bicentennial Cultural Centre. Although she comes to a similar conclusion to Gay Hawkins and Kathie Gibson (see above) she comes to it from a different angle by asking the question :-

So why did the local council choose to import the cultural forms of the inner city with so little understanding of the dynamics of local cultural life ? .....We could be forgiven for asking whether this was a prime example of the continued vitality of Australia's much talked of cultural cringe .....Today Riverside Theatres stand imposing yet forlorn in the depressed down town area of Parramatta. It exists as an expensive reminder that cultural facilities provision requires a policy framework just like any other area of government intervention." (underlining added)

3. In "The Brisbane Line" Colin Mercer reflects on his experiences in preparing a cultural policy for the Brisbane Council. He advocates :-

The establishment of an administration unit concerned with cultural affairs and development with a jurisdiction in management, facilitation, advocacy, research, liason program development and policy formation across a range of cultural activities broadly defined ....With a policy framework of this type it is possible to establish cultural planning as an integral component of a general strategy of urban development, simultaneously addressing some of the major issues affecting Australian cities such as urban "blight" unemployment, local economic development, the demographic depletion of inner city areas, street crime and access to equity issues for marginalised populations and minorities. Given the imagination, will and resources, of course. (underlining added)

4. In "Green Fields" Maria Guppy writes about new communities and the development of cultural identities. Defining cultural identity as a fundamental expression of our sense of belonging she describes Glenmore Park, a new residential development area three kilometres west of Penrith where the anticipated population will be 20,000. At this stage the Council developers and the community seem to be working together to plan comprehensively, integrating the plans into already existing processes. She emphasises :-

Given the complexity of urban planning, the breadth of issues and agencies involved and the inevitable scarce resources at all levels of planning and implementation, there is an emphatic need to position cultural planning firmly within the broader framework at both local and state government level. (underlining added)

(Gay Hawkins teaches in leisure studies at the Kuring-gai Campus of the University of Technology, Sydney. Kathie Gibson teaches geography at Sydney University. Colin Mercer is deputy director of the Institute of Cultural Policies Study at Griffith University. Julie Ravallion is a graduate of leisure studies at UTS Kuringai and Maria Guppy is an arts development worker from Western Sydney.)

### Mapping Our Cultures

"Mapping Our Cultures" is the name of a recently published report on the Victorian Government's cultural policy.

In the preface Joan Kirner (Premier) and Jim Kennan (Deputy Premier and Minister for the Arts) state :-

Cultural development is not just about fostering the arts and artistic endeavour - essential as these objects are - it is also about promoting sporting, intellectual and educational, achievements; and fundamentally our Koorie Culture and the diversity of our ethnic communities>

The policy has been prepared by a working group representing the Premier and Cabinet, Aboriginal Affairs, Ethnic Affairs, Sport and Recreation, Education and Training, Planning and Housing. It has been approved by the Ministries of those department and by the Victorian Cabinet.



### Chatterbox Corner

Introduction In 1973 when the North Melbourne Association was preparing the "C.A.N. Report" ("Citizens Action Plan for North and West Melbourne") it took three meetings to discuss and work out how to define "Areas of Neighbourhood Focus". Eventually the following definition was written :-

"An area of neighbourhood focus is an area in a district which is distinguished by the fact that the people who live or work or are being educated in the vicinity are attracted to come to it or to pass through it frequently. The more varied the "attractions" the wider the range of the people that will be drawn to the focus and the time spent by people at the focus will tend to be longer. An essential feature of a neighbourhood focus is that some of the spaces, either indoor or outdoor, are not privately owned. Such public space can only be "attractive" if it has some objects or people to whom those living and working nearby can relate."

The large free-standing car based shopping centres, where all spaces are privately owned and where the vast car parks tend to separate the residential areas from the shops are unlikely to develop as areas of neighbourhood focus. One reason is the a loss of the informal street corner meeting places.

### The Old Street Corner Where We Used To Meet

There is a nostalgic song about Wonthaggi. Here are some of the words :-

"There's a part of my heart in Wonthaggi and its calling calling me home.

"As I walk down the street, all my friends I will greet on the old street corner where we used to meet."

Recently students at Victoria University (St Albans Campus) investigated the places where neighbours met, informally, in the district around the University. Joyce, one of the students, wrote this description :-

### Chatterbox Corners

(Coles corner, Main Rd East/Alfrieda St and Safeway's corner, Main Rd. East, St Albans)

These corners are informal social meeting places for migrant men, mainly Maltese, Turkish, Ukrainian, Polish and Yugoslav. The Maltese refer to the corners as "Taht it-tinda fejn nintagaw hu nparlaw" or the "chatterbox corners". Both corners have benches for the men to sit on. The meeting places developed as a result of a wave of migrant settlement in the St Albans area from the 1950s onwards.

The majority of the migrants worked at such factories as ICI Chemicals in Deer Park, Taubman's Paints, and Spaldings in Sunshine. In the 1950s, St Albans did not have adequate social meeting places for migrants. The men would gather at these corners to talk about their families, their work and reminisce about their country back home while the women would talk with other women as they did their shopping.



The men meet every day between 9 am and 12 noon. The focus of the men's talk has changed as they have grown older and as they have been joined by younger men who are experiencing unemployment. Topics frequently discussed now include politics, soccer and pensions. Most of the men are now retired and receive the old age pension, others are on work-care or invalid pension, some are unemployed and a few on shift work.

The groups are getting larger as a result of the impact of the 1991 recession on the Western Region. For these men, the Chatterbox Corners have provided a linkage with the past and their own cultures and mutual support in the struggle to survive."

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Westdoc  
Western Region Documentation  
by Brian Hubber (Victoria University of Technology)

The area now described as the Western Region of Melbourne is a vast treeless basalt plain scored only by a number of south flowing streams. The region is home to almost a million people and is characterised by its intensive post-war industrial development.

Westdoc is an information services about the Western Region. The project is funded by the new Victoria University of Technology and has been going since late 1970s, so there is a vast amount of material in the Footscray Campus Library's collection and on the Westdoc database - almost 10,000 items at last count.

Westdoc is being continuously updates, so it is an essential resource on current major developments in the west such as the Western Bypass, the Coode Island chemical depot and Scienceworks at the Spotswood Pumping Station. But Westdoc also has information on the 1001 more localised issues and developments which are happening at the community level.

Westdoc can be consulted in a number of way s. You can simply call me (Brian Hubber) on (03) 8688.4413. Or you can purchase the printed bibliographies "Access to the West". Or you can search the entire database on Austrom - Cd-Rom information service available at most academic and research libraries and some public libraries.

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West of the Maribynong

The Maribynong River Walk connects the Footscray Community Arts Centre and the Living Museum of the West which are about 3 Ks apart.

Both of these innovative cultural and recreation centres are housed in recycled buildings. The Living Museum is in the old Hume's pipe factory building and the Arts Centre is the dwelling and factory of an old piggery. An enormously large shed at the Arts Centre is used as the work space for the Women Circus.

Ecoso Exchange Newsletter will be providing more information about these centres in later issues.

Living on the Left in the Cold War Climate  
by Ruth Crow

These extracts have been prepared for a tutorial with a group of students studying Australian Social History.

The tutorial question :- "On the basis of Bernice Morris' autobiography ("Between the Lines") describe and assess the impact of the Cold War upon its victims. To what extent was liberty denied in the name of freedom. ?"

There is a number of documents in the Crow Collection which provide some background information on the Cold War and its affect on the family and community. The three to be used in this tutorial are :-

1. A paper on "Locality Work and Local Government" by Ruth Crow to the "Communist and Labour Conference" in 1980. This sets the Cold War from the perspective of a person involved in local organisations in the 1940s and 1950s.
2. "A Heavy Price for Her Beliefs", notes from a speech by Joan Kirner at the Memorial Gathering for Doris McRae in 1988. This is an example of an early "witch hunt" by the State Government.
3. "The DLP in Opposition to the Pope", a document written by Maurie Crow. This illustrates the rabid anti-communism of the Democratic Labour Party which continued the Cold War into the 1960s.

Summaries of the Three Documents

1. "Locality Work and Local Government" by Ruth Crow  
(For the full paper send two 43 cent stamps to the Crow Collection)

This document shows that women were the first "victims" of the Cold War. This is seldom recognised by historians.

Historical Setting. During the 1940s strong links were developed between the local communist party, the local branches of trade unions (these no longer exist) and community organisations. Women were the main people responsible for this type of community development. Because the Communist Party Branches had strong local bases it established good working relationships with municipal councils and had ready access to facilities such as town halls and recreation parks.

However, by the late 1940s these community facilities were denied to any group "thought to be communist or to have relationships with any person thought to be communist." There were concerted attacks on communist in school organisations, social welfare organisations and so on. Typical of this reaction was that the Victorian Country Party Government refused to give a government grant to the Victorian Association of Creches while "a person thought to be a communist" (Ruth Crow) was on the Committee of Management. Such discrimination helped to dismantle the movement around children's services which had flourished in the 1940s. These expulsion ushered in the 1950s and 1960s period of sessional so-called "Community kindergartens" which diverted the child care movement into very parochial and limited areas.

For "left" people active in community organisations this situation was compounded by the rejection by the Communist Party of Australia of the theories of "Browderism". (Earl Browder was a leading USA communist who was criticised for giving too much political significance to the community movements). Thus coinciding with the attacks from the Right, politically active people, working in community organisation, also had to contend with an undervaluing of their work by the political party to which they belonged. Women were particularly affected by this combination of situations. They tended to lose confidence in the value of community activities. In any case, with the mounting attacks on the trade unions and the Party there was little time left over to be locally active.

#### How the Cold War Affected Women in the Communist Party

- a) The first Cold War attacks were on local organisations (women)
- b) Political ostracism was felt much more strongly in the localities (by women) because at the workplace the day to day working relationships counterbalanced the attempts at ostracism.
- c) There was great difficulty in maintaining local networks
- d) There was a tendency to seek political responsibilities in central organisations and thus to lose local links and the protection they gave.
- e) The undervaluing of "local work" (by the CPA) meant that women tended to be relegated to distributing propaganda... at factory gates etc.... this left little time for community development, and in any case, this type of activity was alienating to some women.
- f) The CPA tended to concentrate on national and international political issues and thus failed to give attention to state and municipal issues (which usually affected women more than men).
- g) Changes in life style resulted in the break up of neighbourhood links. (see note below).

[Note. Changes in Life Style and Expectations etc In Australia the Cold War coincided with the rapid development of suburban sprawl, an unprecedented increase in the opportunities for home ownership and the manufacturing of cheap cars all of which tended to increase pressures for a privatised life style and parochial politics. In addition the migration program helped a large proportion of the population to be upwardly mobile. This enable some people to escape into "domestic, suburban bliss and reasonable financial security" reducing their desire for community involvement the ("Me Generation" had begun). In addition the community networks which had been built up during 1940s were rent asunder.]

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2. "A Heavy Price for her Beliefs" an extract from Joan Kirner's speech at the Memorial Gathering for Doris McRae in 1988. Joan was Minister of Education at that time. (The full speech is available from the Crow Collection for two 43 cent stamps).

"Not long after the war ended the Left's high hopes for a just and classless post-war society took a tumble. As the Cold War closed in, free speech was in jeopardy. All critiques were seen as potential subversives As a member of the Communist Party, and (in her spare time) teaching at Marx House and writing for the Guardian Doris paid a high price for her beliefs.

"In 1942 she had been appointed head teacher at Flemington Girls High School, which made her one of a very small handful of women secondary school principals. It was not exactly an overnight success story, since she had been teaching for 32 years, with excellent reports throughout, but it was still a triumph.

"Then, in 1948, the flak started. She was personally attacked in State Parliament by a conservative crusader determined to prove that the Education Department was riddled with subversive. In support of his claim he produced a set of notes from her social studies class on the housing question. A reference to builders holding back supplies to force up prices was the offending section. The Minister of Education was forced to mount a Departmental Investigation, and although she was cleared, she was also quietly rebuked by her Department

"Such attacks on teachers and university lecturers grew more and more common in the years that followed, sometimes from the labor right.

"However, she seems to have been in good company. The history lecturer described in State Parliament at the time as "either a highly paid ignorant or an evilly disposed wrong headed person" was Manning Clark !

"Matters grew worse for Doris when a sustained campaign was mounted against her in Flemington, in which the local Catholic Church played a leading part. This must have been particularly hurtful since Doris had established a fine record in the Kensington and Flemington district not only for the school but as a vigorous and selfless worker for local community causes and organisations especially for young people.

"In 1950 she was named in an appendix to the Royal Commission into Communist Activities in Melbourne. She had never made any secret of her political affiliations, but as she was also well known and respected for her ability to work constructively with people who view were different from hers. The Commission's report stated expressly that there was no evidence that any of the teachers mentioned in the report had ever used their positions for propaganda purposes. But in light of the fact that Doris McRae resigned from the Department, allegedly for ill health, nine days later, it is hard not to imply that some pressure was applied to her.....

"It seems to me that she was shamefully treated and it was a sad end to a distinguished and irreproachable teaching career. It reminds us all, I suppose, how quickly fear can be spread and how fragile our tolerance of dissent and criticism can be." (editors emphasis)

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(Doris McRae lived for 94 years (1893...1988) The Memorial Gathering was at Coburg High School, one of the schools at which she had been a teacher. As stated above, Joan Kirner's notes are available for 2, 43 cent stamps. Another report, by Ruth Crow, based on tapes of talks with Doris, is available for 4, 43 cents stamps. Ruth's paper may be particularly useful to students studying the history of education in Victoria. Doris was one of the first students at the first Victorian secondary school and her teaching career spanned the years from 1910 to 1950.)

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3. The DLP In Opposition to the Pope a leaflet by Maurie Crow in 1966.  
(Copies available from the Crow Collection for two 43 cent stamps).

"An astounding incident occurred on the night of April 19th 1966 at a union meeting in Melbourne.

"A communist moved a resolution based on a plea by Pope Paul, and supported it by a speech which was lifted almost word for word from Pope John's Encyclical Letter on World Peace, although he did not reveal this at the time.

"Prominent D.L.,P. members of the union made a strong attack both on the resolution and on the arguments and the DLP followers finished voting for an amendment which was in spirit directly opposite to that of both Popes.

"The incident occurred when Mr Crow moved a resolution at the monthly general meeting of the Clerk's Union. Mr Crow is a member of the Victorian State Committee of the Communist Party. The texts of the Popes' statements, what Mr Crow said and what various DLP member said are set out herewith. (a three column chart sets out these three policies but are not republished here)."

The leaflet concludes with the following paragraphs :-

"Asked why he chose the Pope's words to express his desire for action on peace, Mr Crow said :-

"Unfortunately some people have become so rabidly anti-communist that they have lost their ability to judge cases on their merit. I feel, it is an overdue service to the public to show in some unmistakable form the degree to which some people are suffering from the disease of anti-communist myopia. Their over concern with anti red manoeuvring has brought them to the point of isolation from the main stream of humanist thought - Catholic and non-Catholic alike. It is my hope that my medicine will begin to effect a cure."

(Maurie circulated the leaflet amongst Catholics in organisation such as Pox Christi. The Crow Collection has a number of documents about the 1960's dialogues between Catholic and non Catholic...including communists..., as well as some of the Catholic anti-communist Encyclicals of the 1930s.)

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For further information about Doris McRae and other "Left" women who fought against the Cold War see Ecoso Exchange Newsletter Number 2/9, March 1990.

Ecoso 2/9 featured the life stories of Ailsa O'Connor (an artist), Margaret Walker (a dancer), Marge Nunan (a leader in the pensioners movement) Ruth Crow and Doris McRae all five of whom helped to pioneer new forms of organisation in answer to the Cold War attacks on community organisations.

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