



Feminists for Patriarchy?

TERFs and the Far-Right

About Health Liberation Now!



Health Liberation Now! is a free, trans-run resource analyzing the social and political forces acting in opposition to health liberation for transgender, detransitioned, retransitioned, and gender diverse people, as well as those questioning their gender.

We pair these analyses with collections of proactive resistance strategies that community organizers can use in pursuit of trans health liberation.







About Us



Ky Schevers

Former detrans radical feminist, now works to raise awareness and resist anti-trans activism and conversion practices.



Lee Leveille

Trans Jewish health liberation advocate, researches anti-trans activism and conversion practices after witnessing its early escalations.

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Content warnings



References to:

transphobia transmisogyny antisemitism
Islamophobia racism anti-sex work activism
QAnon violence (TERF, police and fascist)



01

Background

TERFs, SWERFs, and ecofascists, oh my!



Ideological roots

TERFism: “trans-exclusionary radical feminism”

SWERFism: “sex work-exclusionary radical feminism” – see carceral feminism

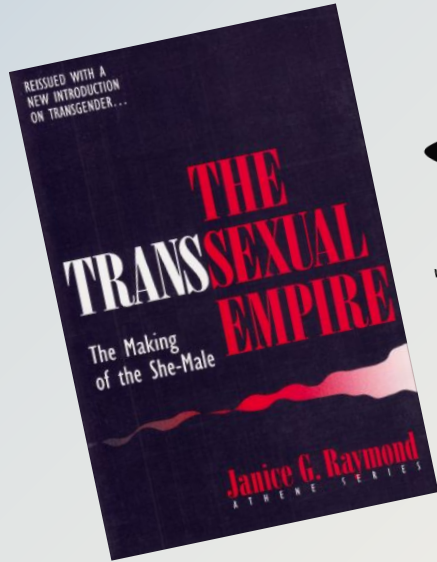
Reactionary Ecofeminism: connects environmental destruction with patriarchy & women with nature

Ecofascism: authoritarian groups & ideologies which combine fascism and environmentalism





TERFism



- **Early 70's:** TERFs like Gutterdykes and Robin Morgan attack trans lesbian feminists like Beth Elliot and Sandy Stone
- **1979:** Janice Raymond publishes *The Transsexual Empire*, calls for elimination of “transsexualism”, meaning trans people
- **2013:** Lierre Keith founded Women’s Liberation Front, which went on to work with the Right to target trans people
- **2019:** Sheila Jeffreys, Maureen O'Hara and Heather Brunskell-Evans found Women’s Human Rights Campaign, later renamed Women’s Declaration International





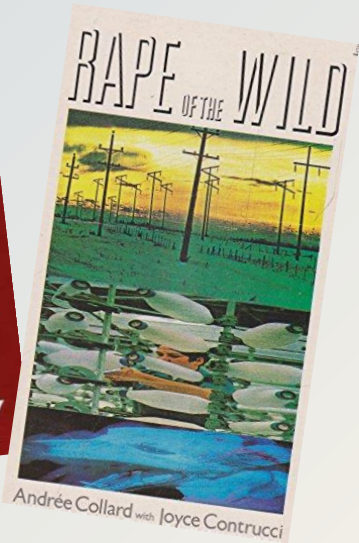
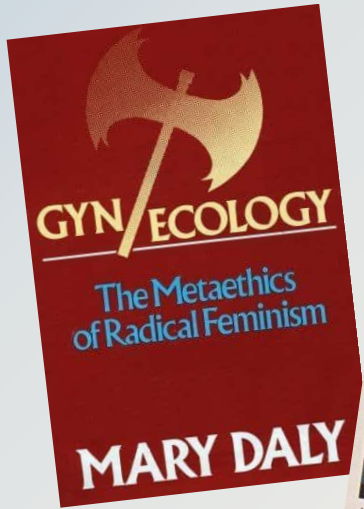
SWERFism

- **1987:** The Sexual Liberals and the Attack on Feminism conference
- **1988:** Formation of Coalition against the Trafficking in Women (CATW)
- **1991–now:** Anti-trafficking movement expands worldwide -> evolves into the Rescue Industry
- **2020:** QAnon #SaveOurChildren campaigns built on conspiracy theories
- **2022:** WDI USA National Political Convention





Reactionary Ecofeminism



- A form of feminism that sees connections between women and nature as well as between patriarchy and the destruction/exploitation of nature. Can be very bioessentialist and reactionary
- Some ecofeminists oppose trans people and medical transition, seeing it as trying to dominate and dissociate from nature
- The ecofeminism of writers like Mary Daly, Andre Collard and Susan Griffin influenced TERFs like Janice Raymond, Lierre Keith, and Jennifer Bilek





Ecofascism

Deep Green Resistance: Authoritarian accelerationist group calling for the destruction of industrial civilization

- **2007:** Lierre Keith organizes "Deep Green Resistance: Confronting Industrial Culture" conference in Deerfield, MA
- **2011:** Keith, Derrick Jensen and Aric McBay publish *Deep Green Resistance* and start organization with the same name
- **2013:** DGR expelled from anarchist and environmentalist communities for anti-trans views
- **2013-now:** Jennifer Bilek starts "researching" trans issues, published in *Female Erasure* and the *Federalist*. Gave presentation at Hillsdales College in Washington, DC



“The oppression of women is inextricably linked to the oppression of trans people. Trans people have been honored in numerous indigenous communities across the planet. Trans people aren’t some sort of new Post-Modern manifestation of individualism. Trans people are *people*; people who have worked on the *Journal* collective and stood on the front lines of the ecological resistance.”

—The *Earth First!* Journal Collective



02

Where We're At Now

#TAnon, or the TERF-Fascist crossover





What is #TAnon?

- An evolution of QAnon with an explicitly anti-trans focus
- Rooted in antisemitism, white supremacy, and Great Replacement Theory
- Heavy focus on conspiracies about “Big Pharma” or “Big Tech”
- Alt-health grifting
- Incorporates fascist and anti-abortion tactics:
 - online disinformation and trolling
 - fake “whistleblowers”
 - targeting of clinics offering gender affirming care and queer+trans community centers
- **Not limited to a single political party or group**





#TAnon Stages

Formation

Period: Pre-2014 to 2015

- Online writings from detransitioned TERFs became more popular
- DGR got deplatformed from green spaces for transphobia
 - WoLF was founded
 - Jennifer Bilek started her “research”

Solidification

Period: 2016 - 2019

- Online theorycrafting about “gender ideology”
- Blitz of anti-trans media articles
- Emergence of “trans people are a Jewish transhumanist plot”
- Formation of QAnon, with early signs of interest in anti-trans and “groomer” rhetoric

Escalation

Period: 2020 - now

- Full fusion with QAnon
- Protests targeting clinics and local communities pick up
- Fascists appear at TERF events and vice versa
- Fascist and TERF violence against counter-protesters, community spaces attacked



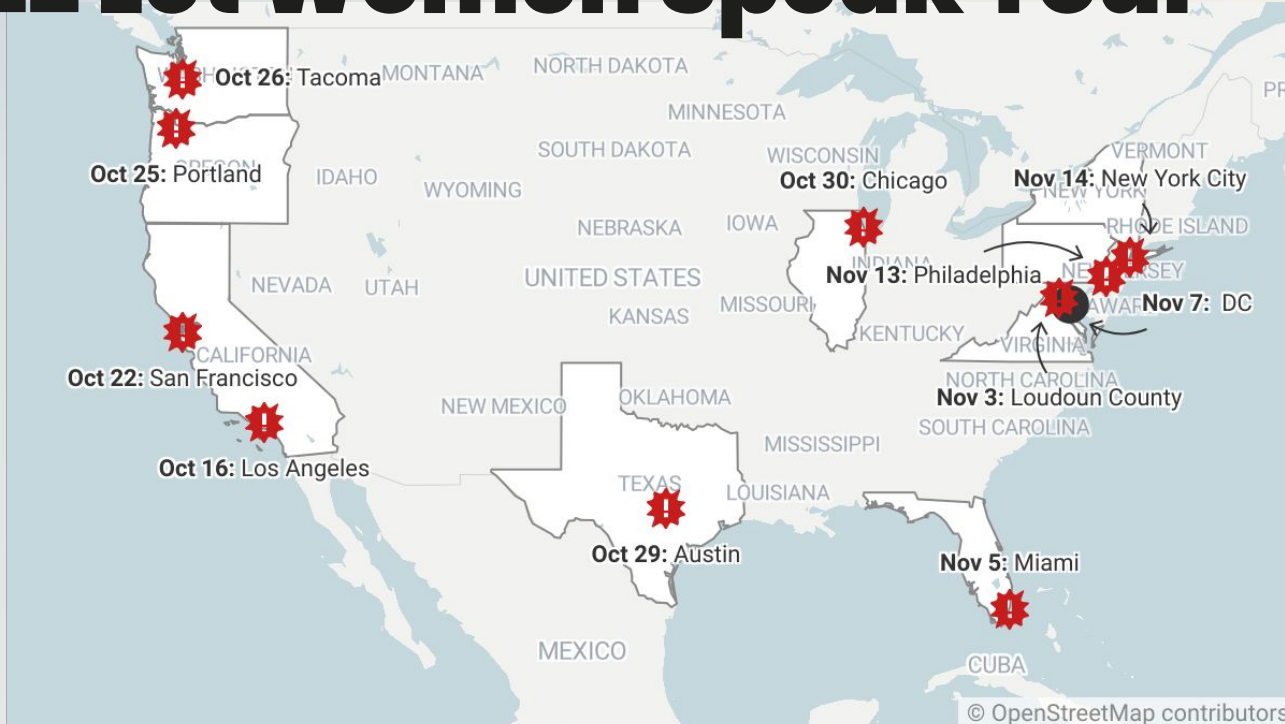


On-the-ground protests


- Clinics and hospitals offering gender affirming care - especially ones supporting trans youth
- Businesses and sports events with trans-inclusive policies
 - ex: Wi Spa, protests targeting Lia Thomas at the NCAA Championships
- Women's prisons
- Drag show events, including Drag Queen Story Time
- Workplace harassment of trans community members
 - ex: Port Townsend rally, crashing the trans-led Netflix Walkout
- "Speaker's Corners" aka public hate rallies
 - Mass Tour: Kellie-Jay Keen 2022 Let Women Speak Tour




2022 Let Women Speak Tour



Key: Stops where members of local far right groups were found

 Local far right identified

 No local far right currently identified





Timeline: The blitz from 2020 to now





03

Who to Watch For





Types



Anti-trans parents

Both as individuals and part of groups



Health care professionals

Often therapists who have been “peaked”



Desisters and detransitioners

Used as tokens to justify harassment



TERFs

Anti-trans feminists and activists that devolved from anti-trans feminism




Right-wing women

Right-wing Christians, conservative activist moms, etc



Fascists

Uses transphobia to recruit from other groups



Lierre Keith



Groups: Women's Liberation Front, Deep Green Resistance

Location: Crescent City, CA, PNW

Role: Organizer, trainer, networker, writer/propagandist

- Founded WoLF in 2013 after the Great Deplatforming of DGR
- WoLF is the major driving force of right-wing/fascist creep among TERFs
- Trains anti-trans protest attendees in her style of "non-violent direct action" for propaganda



Kara Dansky



Groups: Women's Declaration International USA, Women's Liberation Front, Deep Green Resistance

Location: New York and Washington DC

Role: Organizer, networker, media outreach

- Formerly worked for the Department of Homeland Security and the ACLU
- One of the first TERFs to appear in right-wing media
- Encourages TERFs to work with groups like ADF and IWF
- Worried about optics of far-right groups at TERF events





joey brite



Groups: Can I Get A Witness

Location: Oakland, California

Role: Organizer, media outreach, propagandist

- Older anti-trans lesbian feminist
- Very influenced by Bilek's conspiracy theories
- Connected to Alix Aharon/Gendermapper, trolls Planned Parenthood clinics together
- Organized Can I Get A Witness conference in 2020
- Organized 15 protests outside of hospitals across the county in 2021



Amy Sousa



Brand: Known Heretic

Location: Port Townsend, Washington

Role: Organizer, livestreamer, peacemaker

- One of the organizers of Women Picket DC
- Livestreams TERF and right-wing anti-trans protests and events across the country
- One of the main leaders of the harassment campaign in Port Townsend
- Sometimes attends on the ground protests



Kat Yang



Brand: “The Deprogrammer”, Stop Female Erasure

Location: New York

Role: Organizer, propagandist/conspiracy theorist, livestreamer

- Former environmental and anti-colonial activist
- Claims to be “ex-LGBT activist whistleblower”
- Spreads conspiracy theories about transhumanism and UN
- Makes fliers, signs, banners and other art for protests and propaganda
- Does police liaison work for rallies



Jeannette Cooper



Groups: Partners for Ethical Care (leader/co-founder)

Location: Chicago, Illinois

Role: Organizer

- “ROGD” mother of a trans child
- Works with Alix Aharon/Gendermapper
- Travels to testify for anti-trans bills
- Also pays for anti-trans detransitioners travel expenses when they testify
- One of the local organizers for KJK’s Chicago rally
- Appeared in anti-trans film made by Independent Women’s Forum



Jennifer Thomas



Groups: RevFoxy Rebellion

Location: Pennsylvania, formerly Chicago, IL

Role: Organizer

- Travels to attend TERF rallies across the country
- Has organized TERF rallies in several cities including Philly and Pittsburgh
- Does police liaison work for rallies
- Films counter-protesters and carries pepper-spray, makes threats against trans women

**** Aggro warning! ****



Jeanna Hoch



Brand: CannaMama

Location: Denver, Colorado

Role: Rally Attendee, Alt-Health Grifter

- Republican and local Colorado GOP delegate
- Travels around the country to attend TERF rallies/events
- Armed with pepper spray, bear mace and knives
- Maced teenage and adult counter protesters in Tacoma
- Pepper-sprayed counter-protesters in NYC

**** Aggro warning! ****






04

Countering the Threats

Learning from current resistance efforts



Possible planning stages



Before



During



After



Note: These stages are not mutually exclusive! Several strategies can cover multiple stages and you may find yourself having to adapt on the fly.



Before



- Community education
- Building community support systems
- Deplatforming
- Opposition monitoring





During



- Opposition monitoring
- Protesting the event
- Counter-events at the same time

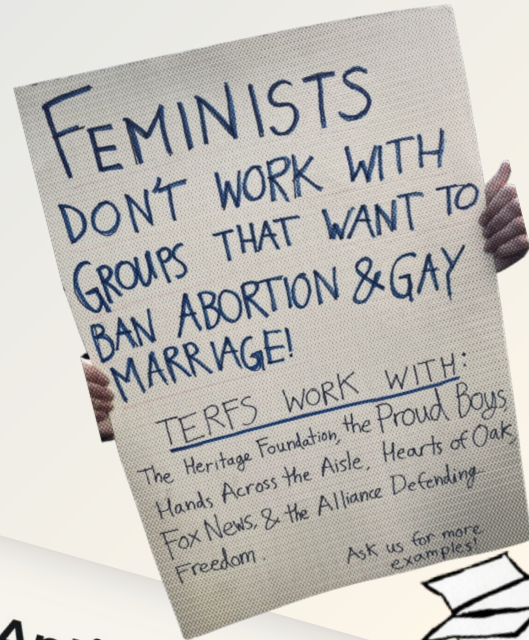




After



- Opposition monitoring
- Writing up reports
- Correcting the record
- Community care events
- Community education and networking





Things to consider

- Where are your support systems at right now?
- Priorities
- Security (physical and digital)
- Intersectional *and* international solidarity



05

Q & A

And where to find us!



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