

Pull Out the Plugs Brothers and Sisters

Total Assault on Culture (IWWC)

1969

Web archive note: In the print original "Brothers and Sisters" replaces "Motherfuckers," which is crossed out.

Media Research Institute reports on the Swing to the Right

what politics is for THEM revolution is for US
harmless diversion a publicity stunt Magazines say
are you listening kids? underground newspapers say
radio tv the movies say ROCK IS THE REVOLUTION
Promotion companies say press releases say record companies officials say
ROCK REVOLUTION Stones say Street Fightin' Man
Beatles say Revolution Rock is the Revolution Soul is the Revolution
Acid is the Revolution Fancy clothes is the Revolution
Long hair is the revolution Media research says: How long
can they keep the illusion up? The Top Ten the Fab Forty
five long haired white men playing blues Voices in the fog
censors in the nightmare rise to say this is not Revolution
this is the Duplicity of Pop this is the Mendacity of Money
this is bullshit pop rock mystical psychedelic long-haired stoned bullshit
a tempting dish for all the would-be coprophiles publicity shit promoshit
peopleshit Rock does not change anyone anymore the beat goes on
Rock is consumed and consumes back Rock dares to say
it is something more than five competent white musicians
playing the blues and getting \$10,000 per set the manager gets 30%
the booking agent gets 15% the promotion company gets 10%
the groupies get wet pants listening to Rock hide away
anything that might change anyone anymore except new people
are getting rich and acting like rich people have always acted
Which is to say about every tickle every intention
just about every execution of pop music and pop politics
is unoriginal is unadventurous is unfaithful comes down with reams
and peals of publicity has fake muscles has bad breath creaks when it swings
the bat plays the Hollywood Bowl plays on tv tours Europe on Quick-Buck Tours
with ersatz light shows sings commercials for Coca-Cola BECAUSE THERE'S NOTHING
ELSE IN IT So what does it all add up to? this desultory digression this carp



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BROTHERS and SISTERS



PULL OUT THE PLUGS WITHOUT HURTING YOUR CIRCUIT

with the hook well-placed it sadly adds up to this mass culture is a whorehouse
we got stuck with the same miserable schools the same political dictatorship
the same institutions the same pathetic faces at the Grande the same power
in the same forms the same ignorant culture-bullies mind-vultures
executive shitheels with a new battle cry: Revolution the same power
in the same forms blinding you with a new slogan: Revolution fake revolution
just new faces with new hair proclaiming self-evident magic slight of hand
self-evident nothing it's easy to get out of it with nothing it's easy to get
carried away with nothing pull out the plug pull out the plug pull out the plug
(above poem FREEly adapted from San Francisco Oracle)

Drawing

A winged individual: speech bubble reads: For if the trumpet gives an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself for the battle? —I Corinthians 14:8

Photo

Photo of MC5 members:

Speech bubble above their heads reads: A GOOD LEADER SLITS HIS OWN THROAT.

Speech bubble below them reads: White Panther Program Point no. 10: Free The People From Their “Leaders”—Leaders suck—all power to all the people—freedom means free everyone!

Photo montage

Man with a burp gun on the left looking up at two people on a staircase: speech bubble over his head reads: Music, like other spiritual gestures life proposes, has been historically abstracted into alienated mimicry, a commodity, only faintly recalling the perception of the marvelous inherent in all men. We recognize that the revolutionary musics of our time can have no place in the bourgeois culture market. We proclaim our musics aloud as TOOLS of liberation but are careful not to confuse them with the TOTALIST LIBERATION itself. Now. We are assassins. Let our musics drip with the blood of our oppressor and his alien culture. The duty of the revolutionary musician is to make the revolution!

The speech bubble next to the higher person on the staircase reads: PSEUDO HIP MERCHANT

Speech bubble next to the lower person on the staircase reads: MEDIA FREAK

A body is on the floor at the bottom of the staircase with the label “DEAD OPPORTUNIST”



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<https://www.fifthestate.org/archive/70-january-9-22-1969/pull-out-the-plugs-brothers-and-sisters>
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