

## Punk Voter issues

The Punk Voter platform is a little vague and has no substantive position on the invasion of Iraq or the fancifully-named War on Terrorism. Punk Voter's on-line platform falls back with familiar political vocabulary about personal freedom, the environment, and economic responsibility.

Under the "personal freedom" section, Punk Voter concentrates on defending sexual freedom ("reproductive freedom"). Punk Voter is totally opposed to banning condoms, birth control drugs, and also does not want the business of aborting fetuses to be restricted.

Unlike most progressive advocates who use the catch-all catch phrase "social justice" to promote their income redistribution and collective planning programs, Punk Voter promotes the idea of "economic responsibility." Echoing the labor union chant "Health care, not warfare" made famous at anti-war protests in 2002-03, the Punk Voter platform asserts that all this money being spent to blow up and liberate Iraq could be better used to subsidize drugs and doctor visits for Americans.

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Punk Voter's plan to concentrate resources in certain 'swing states,' mirrors the strategy of the George Soros-funded *America Coming Together* program (see article, p. 18) which also has as its principal goal the expulsion of George Bush from the White House. Punk Voter is aiming to register and mobilize over a half-million voters, and enough votes to throw certain states' presidential elections against Bush.

The "Rock Against Bush" campaign recalls the successful 1993 "Rock for Choice" pro-abortion alternative rock tour that featured L7 and Pearl Jam and, with heavy promotion by MTV and the Democratic Party, helped buoy youth support for Bill Clinton. Look for a lot of touring in the Midwest, Great Lakes, Northwest, and in Texas. If Punk Voter can turn the tide against our clown prince and his war-profiteering cronies in Texas, a supposed Bush stronghold, there might be hope yet that Bush can be defeated and some of his disastrous foreign and domestic policies reversed.

## CITIZINE REVIEWS:



### Trans Am Liberation

p. 45

## CITIZINE REVIEWS

by Mark Prindle

# Punk History on DVD

Recent releases give fans a glimpse into the personality of Dee Dee Ramone and the live raw power of Minor Threat, Dead Kennedys, Adolescents, The Cramps, and U.K. Subs.

### Dee Dee Ramone

#### *Hey Is Dee Dee Home*

(Extinkt / Music Video Distributors)

Eleven years ago, **Dee Dee Ramone** agreed to a sit-down conversation with director Lech Kowalski for a film about Johnny Thunders. I wasn't there but sources, some of them accurate, make this case so I see no point in belaboring the issue any more than I already have (and I do apologize for the subpoenas, Mr. Cheney).

The result is now available for your tender viewing! The film is a full hour of Dee Dee chit-chatting about Johnny Thunders, the old punk days, rampant heroin use, tattoos, and hilarious incidents with his fellow Ramones. The most striking thing about the footage is how gosh-darned charismatic he was. I mean, it's not like the market has EVER been flooded with Dee Dee Ramone video footage (he refused to be interviewed for *Lifestyles of the Ramones* and is only featured in a few scenes of *We're Outta Here!* and *Around The World With The Ramones*), so



Dee Dee Ramone (1952-2002)

Photo by Bob Gruen

I've always had this image of him as an arrogant strutting sort of burnout. And maybe at times, he WAS that way (rumor has it he had bipolar disorder or some-such), but in this particular video, he presents himself as an adorable, witty, down-to-earth, innocent and unself-conscious ChildMan. When the video ends, you just want to go hang out with him some more! But he's dead, so don't try to do that.

### The Cramps *Live At Napa State Mental Hospital*

(Target Video / Music Video Distributors)

If you consider human wreckage an interesting anthropological find, this DVD is a purchase already made by your soul -- won't you allow your wallet to catch up?

As its title suggests, this is footage of the young 1978 **Cramps** playing rudimentary rockabilly up on stage in front of a group of INSANE people. Will anybody ever fall in love with the chubby young man in the suit who gets onstage and sings into his empty hand as if he is holding a microphone? Will any girl ever hold hands with the skinny weirdo jerking his body spasmodically before biting into

his own arm? Will the world share a Sunday with the two lobotomized punk rock girls who keep grabbing Lux's mic and shouting close to nothing into it? Probably not, because even though Lux politely insists, "Somebody told me you people were crazy. But I don't think so! You look alright to me!" this crowd is clearly not doing very well with certain important organs found in the skull.

The vacant stares and unnatural body movements -- it's creepy! Why on Earth did a mental hospital agree to let The Cramps play for its patients? Was the president of the hospital alerted that Lux was going to rip his shirt off and suck on the mic as if it were a male sexual organ? Was he told that Lux likes to unzip his pants and stroll through the audience? And did anyone warn him that the band wasn't any good at all?