

From: "Aaron Vidaver" <[redacted]>
Subject: Re: The Impossibility of "Aaron" Going to City Hall
Date: Fri, 25 Oct 2002 13:00:29 -0700
To: [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted]

Fair, I hear ya. It's a real battle with the electoral goons over their attempts to abuse the squat. The COPE fuckers keep sneaking propaganda onto the information tables when nobody's looking. My own justification for appearing in council was not primarily to address the city government, but to address the people in the audience from the squat and supporters. I wasn't earnestly addressing council with the thought they would act upon our four demands. More directed at the solidarity and "culture" or ideology of the squat than a practical proposal for involvement with electoral affairs. Now, that might seem like a crock. Probably is. But here's a funny exchange below that I had this morning & yesterday over the APC listserv about this topic in a different case. That was by the way an actual letter from Ken Knabb, with the addressee changed.

Aaron

From : "Friends of the Woodward's Squat" <violetta_sera@hotmail.com>
From : "Friends of the Woodward's Squat" <violetta_sera@hotmail.com>

Subject : [APC-Discuss] Concerns Over New Woodward's Squat Webpage
Date : Thu, 24 Oct 2002 23:15:54 -0700

Hi. I noticed this evening you have a new web site up at:
<http://www.inter-mission.org/woodwards>

While it's great to see the pictures and brief statements (are they excerpts from longer interviews?), I'm concerned that your goals--"This website has been created with three goals in mind, first to encourage people to vote in the upcoming civic election, second to invite people to become involved and third to give a few of the people at Woodward's a place to tell you what they want."--are exploiting the squatters in order to support and legitimize your own vision of local electoral politics. Don't you think this is grossly manipulative of the people involved in a struggle to reclaim housing for themselves? It's very disconcerting to think that you are advocates for voting in the election as one of four ways to materially support the squat. Wish I didn't have to be sending this note because your pictures are so good, but ...

Aaron Vidaver
 Friends of the Woodward's Squat
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From : terryt <[redacted]>
Subject : Re: [APC-Discuss] Concerns Over New Woodward's Squat Webpage
Date : Fri, 25 Oct 2002 04:54:47 -0700

Idisagree, I do not see the site as exploitive at all. Viewers are encouraged to think and to vote. There are only two positive references to a particular candidate (Larry Campbell) and a lot of justified anger against the current provincial government. The site as it is now works for me - even the poem which includes language I would not use. If people don't like the site or what it contains, it may still encourage them to vote.