

Energy

Americans favoring solar energy and energy efficiency as the country's energy priorities: 62%
Americans opposing the building of more nuclear plants: 65%

Health

Americans who believe government should guarantee medical care for all people without health insurance: 77% (including 66% of all Republicans.)
Canadians over 15 who get health care within one week of requesting it: 96%
Percent of national income Canada spends on health care: 9.2%
Percent of national income America spends on health care: 12.3%
Cost of prenatal care for a pregnant woman for nine months: \$600
Cost of medical care for a premature baby for one day: \$2500.
Cost of a measles shot: \$8
Cost of hospitalization for a child with measles: \$5000

Media

Nbr of newspapers carrying George Will: 298
Nbr of newspapers carrying Mary McGrory: 82

North American Free Trade Agreement

Estimate of number of American jobs that would be lost under NAFTA: 290,000 -- 900,0-000

Politics

Extraneous correlations with Democratic presidential victories: a rise in hemlines (80%); good vintage year for Bordeaux wine (78%); and a National League win in the World Series (73%)

Welfare

Length of time most recipients stay on welfare: less than two years
Average number of children in families receiving welfare: 1.9 (well below the national average)

FIELD NOTES

GROUPS

The 21st Century Party: a new progressive political party currently in the early stages of formation with help from the leaders of NOW and the Christic Institute. A copy of its platform and bill of rights is free {1600 Wilson Blvd. #707, Arlington VA 22209. 800-394-21ST}

The New Party: a new progressive political party being formed with support from a number of labor leaders and ACORN activists. [3224 Bellevue Avenue, Bloomfield NJ 07003]

Forfeiture Endangers Americans' Rights: FEAR has been formed to fight the growing practice of forfeiture in drug and other cases without due process. {PO Box 5424, Somerset NJ 08875}

ACORN meets with banks: At its recent national convention, members of ACORN met with representatives of 44 banks to discuss urban reinvestment. 27 of the banks committed to entering into follow-up negotiations with ACORN leaders, 228 if you include Citicorp which had to be persuaded by a noisy demonstration. [739 8th St. SE, DC 20003, 202-547-9292]

Project Vote Smart: Designed to make voters independent of

campaign gimmicks, this organization offers a voter's information hotline [800-786-6885] to get accurate information on presidential, congressional and gubernatorial candidates including voting records and campaign contributors. Also a hard copy study of each state's congressional delegation [900-786-6885 -- \$3.50 charge for the call] and a reporter's resource center [603-737-4000].

READING

The Uses of Disorder by Richard Sennett. Now available in paperback, this classic work makes the case for more diversity and anarchy in cities combined with a strong attack on conventional city planning. One of our favorites. [WW Norton, \$8.95]

The Battle for Public Schools: *The Nation* of September 21, contains several articles that outline the efforts by American corporations to take over the nation's schools. A must read about an issue that has gotten too little attention.

Health care in crisis: Both major presidential candidates find themselves to the right of *Consumer Reports*, which makes an extremely clear and strong case for a single-payer national health insurance system in its September issue. Another good piece appeared on the *NYT* op-ed pages on July 23.

Greens and Libertarians: Dan Sullivan, writing in *Green Revolution's* summer issue, makes a thoughtful case for Greens and Libertarians working together on many issues. [School of Living, RD1 Box 185A, Cochranville PA 19330]

Sustainable Cities: Concepts & Strategies for Eco-City Development: 368 pages based on the first Los Angeles Eco-Cities Conference and includes an extensive resource guide and index. [\$21.65 from Eco Home, 4344 Russell Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90027]

Saving Cities, Saving Money: A guide to environmental strategies used in this country and elsewhere that have helped to build eco-cities. [\$15.95 from Resource Renewal Institute, Building 1055, Fort Cronkhite, Sausalito, CA 94965]



GUIDES

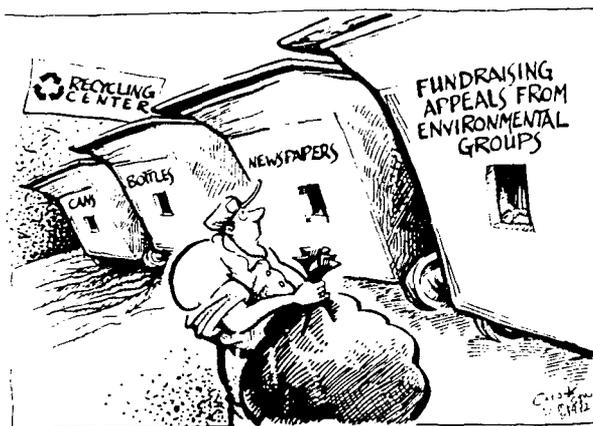
Puget Sound Green Pages: A local directory that includes not only activist organization but businesses that work for a better society through both their goods and services and their policies and practices. Such guides flourished in the 60s, and this one is a good prototype for those wishing to publish something similar in their own community. To make this easier the publishers have packaged many of the materials they used to create the Green Pages (survey forms, informational flyers etc.) into a kit. [\$10 from Institute for Consumer Responsibility, 6506 28th Avenue NE, Seattle WA 98115.]

Housing guide for churches: This guide, *Rebuilding Our Communities*, describes 25 different housing strategies churches can use to provide housing for low-income families. Discusses planning, staffing and operations. [\$15.50. World Vision, 919 West Huntington Drive, Monrovia CA 91016] Credit card orders at 800-448-6479.

Green Development: An informative guide to rural development projects in northern New England that have preserved open space within their borders. The guide discusses good site planning, lessons learned from each case and issues involved. An exceptionally clear and helpful publication. [\$10, Maine Tomorrow, PO Box 327, Hallowell ME 04347].

THINGS

Long John Workbike: This bike can carry up to 180 pounds in tight traffic. Human Powered Machines, 503-343-5568.



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