



## AGENCY

### Critical Voices: Purpose and Processes

#### Purpose

The “Critical Voices” section of the Agency site exists to highlight articles that have been previously published elsewhere. This is distinct from our unique and exclusive “Commentary” section. “Critical Voices” voices pieces are intended to highlight perspectives on current events and topical social issues that reflect important aspects of an anarchist analysis or an otherwise critical radical view of an issue or topic.

Typically a “Critical Voices” piece is posted in order to address and draw attention to views on a subject that we otherwise do not have the bandwidth to produce our own original commentary on. In other cases we may post in this section in order to collaborate with an author who we want to work with who for whatever reason isn’t able to produce the writing exclusively for our publication.

Authors of critical voices pieces range between individuals and groups who identify explicitly as anarchists as well as those who do not, but express ideas consistent with an anarchist perspective. Our “Commentary” section on the other hand is limited to “self-identified” anarchist authors.

Simply put, this section allows Agency to:

- a) Demonstrate that anarchist perspectives can resonate with viewpoints held by non-anarchists;
- b) Showcase perspectives by anarchists who are not explicitly writing for Agency
- c) Provide commentary and anarchistic interventions on current news and issues in a more time-sensitive fashion (ie. does not require creation of original content)

#### Process

##### **Content for Critical Voices:**

- Journal and news articles
- Blog posts
- Video/photographic/multimedia features
- Commentary on current issues as they come up
- Any commentary related to ongoing issues that seems resonant with an anarchist perspective

*A note about content: In the past we seem to have largely focused on prison abolition/police violence; limits of LGBT liberal reforms; and current issues in Europe. It would be great to*

*diversify the topics we cover and to try to stay more on top of finding pieces that speak even more to current US news in a more time-sensitive manner and other broader topics eg. climate justice; indigenous rights; gender oppression; impacts of capitalism/economic inequality; State violence etc. Ideally, we should provide commentary from a variety of journals sources. Generally, we are looking to highlight pieces that are not coming from anarchist-specific sites like anarchistnews.org or infoshop.org.*

## **Critical Voices Section Editor**

The Critical Voices Section Editor maintains the section on the site by:

- 1) Posting regularly per these guidelines and processes.
- 2) Regularly checking the (private) critical voices FB page for suggestion; as well as making suggestions themselves.
- 3) Engaging with the Advisory council to keep this section relevant and engaging, and evolving our approach as needed.

## **Process for Selecting/Posting Critical Voices Features:**

1. Any Agency member can post suggested articles or features to the (private) Critical Voices Facebook group
2. Once someone else has “liked” it, the Critical Voices section editor will post to the Agency site. They will then post to Facebook and Twitter.
3. If there is concern expressed about a suggested piece after it has received a like, the section editor will refrain from posting until it is clear that the concern has been addressed or it is collectively decided not to post.
4. Ideally, posts will be decided upon within 2 days max of being posted to the group and, then, agreed upon features will be posted within 24 hours by the section editor.

## **Check List and Process for Post:**

- 1) Ask permission from Author or outlet (when possible or required)
- 2) Post to Agency site
- 3) Post to Agency (public) Facebook page
- 4) Post to Agency Twitter with hashtag #criticalvoices

## **Guidelines**

- New Critical Voices material is posted on Tuesdays and Thursdays; exceptions can be made as needed.
- Once a post has 1 like on Facebook, the section editor is approved to post.

- Agency will post no more than 2 Critical Voices posts per week on average. The editor will use discretion if there are more than 2 suggested posts per week on what to post.
- If there are articles of particular timeliness or important – the CV editor can make a judgment call to exceed the 2 per week limit.
- The latest Critical voices post should always be featured in the main page slider OR if there are not Commentary pieces that are less than 2 weeks old filling the space, the small top and bottom right side feature boxes.