

films from

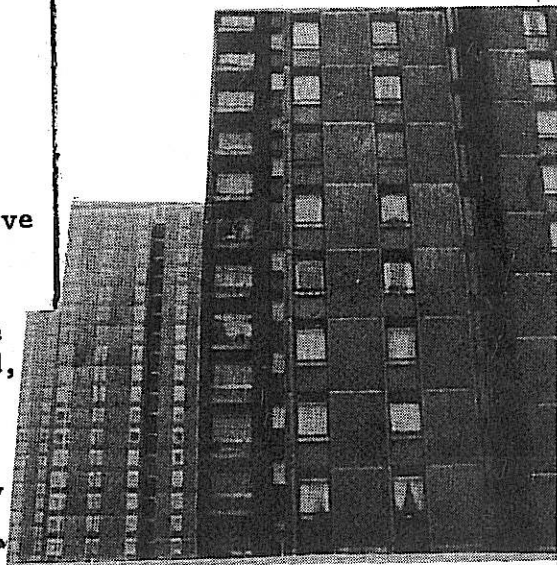
NEWSREEL

The Newsreel Collective is a group of men and women who started work in 1974 making films about the daily lives and struggles of working people. The films are used primarily in political campaigns, as aids to discussion and action. They also have a longer-term educational and historical value. Basically they are all about people - like ourselves, the makers - fighting for a decent life against a system which denies it.

All of us in the group are union members, trying to earn our livings in the film and TV industry when we are not working with the collective. The group is non-profit-making. We work on these films for little or no money because the established film and television companies don't say the things we think need saying. We would like our work to be better supported financially, so that we can be freed from the work that we don't agree with or like doing. The right-wing's propaganda machine has enormous resources. We have very little.

We try to work collectively - sharing skills and decisions about the production process. And we try to involve other people in thinking about the content - both people who are in the films; and those who use them.

Finally, we want as many people as possible to see the films, in situations where they can be discussed, debated, and acted upon. We want to see the development of a grassroots socialist distribution network, where films like ours can regularly be shown. And we want the films to reflect the life and the solidarity of the new society that we are helping to build.



An Egg is not a Chicken
B & W 25mins. 1975

About the campaign for safe, free abortion and what we need - housing, daycare, money - before we will have a real choice. Made in response to a request by a group of the National Abortion Campaign. Hire £7.

Republica
B & W 20mins. 1975

A film about the growth of popular power in Portugal, seen in the context of the fight for workers control in newspapers and in radio. Made with and for the Portuguese Workers Co-ordinating Committee. £7

Housey-Housey
B & W 35 mins. 1976

About housing struggles in Britain - the squatting movement, rent strikes, the fight over re-development - and the role of finance capital making profits out of homelessness. The film shows the way that people organising together can find a new sense of confidence and power, and can impose what they want on their landlords and councils. £9

On the Side of the People
B & W 48mins. 1976

About the upsurge of popular power in Portugal, concentrating on the turbulent and changing relationship between the armed forces and the working-class from June 1975 onwards. This period began with a time of great freedom for the working-class, but on November 25, with the help of the 'socialist' governments of Europe the right showed its strength once again. The film traces what happened. £14

Unemployment: the Gaffers
Strike.*
B & W 35mins. 1976

As working-class power increased up to 1974, the bosses profits fell and they fought back by throwing people out of work and trying to increase the workload of those still employed. Men and women describe what has happened to them - at the dole office, at Chryslers, at a factory of women workers in Wales - and out of the film emerge suggestions for resisting the employers' strategy to divide us. £10

EGA Stays OK*
Colour 30 mins 1977

The film documents the struggle to save the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital in London from closure - by a united hospital staff working in inside, and by patients, trade unions, women's groups and local groups, from outside. The fight is seen in the general context of the fight against the cuts, particularly in the NHS. £11.

Stand Together -
Grunwicks July 11
Colour 30mins 1977

Made with other ACTT members, this film documents the historic mass picket of July 11, when 10,000 people from all over the country gathered to stand in solidarity with the Grunwick strikers in their 47-week struggle for union recognition, and to stop George Ward's scab bus entering the factory. Later, in a march called by the TUC, 20,000 people march past the factory to show their defiance of Ward and his right-wing backers. The film deals in some detail with the issues of mass picketing, and with the fight of these - mostly Asian women - strikers against a racist employer. £17.



N.B. There is a later film, 'Look Back at Grunwick', examining the reasons for the defeat of the strike, and containing Newsreel's controversial footage of the November 7 Special Patrol Group attack on pickets. Colour 30 mins 16mm.

AND...

Divide and Rule.- Never! *
Col. 40mins. 1978

Black and white youth - together and separate - talking about their lives and the institutions that rule them. Talking about school, work (if any), the law (including sus), culture (whose?) and race. Also: the origins of racism in the British Empire; a history of the rise of Fascism in the '30s; Asian youth in London resist racist attacks. Plus music from TRB, Steel Pulse, Clash etc. and Carnival 1, 80,000 youth rocking against racism. £14 Teaching booklets and posters to accompany this film are available from the distributors.

All these films are available from:
The Other Cinema,
12-13 Little Newport St,
London WC2 phone 01-734-8508
Films marked with an asterisk * are
also available from:
Concord Films Council
201, Felixtowe Road,
Ipswich, Suffolk.
phone 0743-76012

