

Post-Left Anarchy

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Post-left anarchy is a recent current in anarchist thought that promotes a critique of anarchism's relationship to traditional leftism. Some post-leftists seek to escape the confines of ideology in general while also presenting a critique of organizations and morality.

In many ways, Post-left anarchy returns to the individualist roots of anarchy, pulling it free from its collectivist weights.

Influenced by the work of Max Stirner and by the Situationist International, post-left anarchy is marked by a focus on social insurrection and a rejection of leftist social organisation.

Post-leftists argue that the left, even the revolutionary left, is anachronistic and incapable of creating change. Post-left anarchy offers critiques of radical strategies and tactics which we consider antiquated: the demonstration, class-oriented struggle, focus on tradition, and the inability to escape the confines of history. The book *Anarchy in the Age of Dinosaurs*, for example, criticizes traditional leftist ideas and classical anarchism while calling for a rejuvenated anarchist movement. The CrimethInc. essay "Your Politics Are Boring as Fuck" is another critique of "leftist" movements:

Why has the oppressed proletariat not come to its senses and joined you in your fight for world liberation? [...] [Because] they know that your antiquated styles of protest – your marches, hand held signs, and gatherings – are now powerless to effect real change because they have become such a predictable part of the status quo. They know that your post-Marxist jargon is off-putting because it really is a language of mere academic dispute, not a weapon capable of undermining systems of control...

— Nadia C., "Your Politics Are Boring as Fuck"

What Post-Left Anarchy Critiques

The Left

- critiquing the Left as nebulous, anachronistic, distracting, a failure & at key points a counterproductive force historically ("the left wing of capital")
- critiquing Leftist activists for political careerism, celebrity culture, self-righteousness, privileged vanguardism & martyrdom
- critiquing the tendency of Leftists to insulate themselves in academia, scenes & cliques while also attempting to opportunistically manage struggles

Ideology

- a Stirner-esque critique of dogma & ideological thinking as a distinct phenomenon in favor of "critical self-theory" at individual & communal levels

Morality

- a moral nihilist critique of morality/reified values/moralism

Organizationalism

- critiquing permanent, formal, mass, mediated, rigid, growth-focused modes of organization in favor of temporary, informal, direct, spontaneous, intimate forms of relation
- critiquing Leftist organizational patterns' tendencies toward managerialism, reductionism, professionalism, substitutionism & ideology
- critiquing the tendencies of unions & Leftist organizations to mimic political parties, acting as racketeers/mediators, with cadre-based hierarchies of theoretician & militant or intellectual & grunt, defaulting toward institutionalization & ritualizing a meeting-voting-recruiting-marching pattern

Identity Politics

- critiquing identity politics insofar as it preserves victimization-enabled identities & social roles (i.e. affirming rather than negating gender, class, etc.) & inflicts guilt-induced paralysis, amongst others
- critiquing single-issue campaigns or orientations

What Post-Left Anarchists Value

- moving beyond anarchISM as a static historical praxis into anarchY as a living praxis
- focusing on daily life & the intersectionality thereof rather than dialectics / totalizing narratives (except anarcho-primitivists tend toward epistemology)
- emphasizing personal autonomy & a rejection of work (as forced labor, alienated labor, workplace-centricity)
- critiquing Enlightenment notions of Cartesian dualities, rationalism, humanism, democracy, utopia, etc.
- critiquing industrial notions of mass society, production, productivity, efficiency, "Progress", technophilia, civilization (esp. in anti-civilization tendencies)

Post-Left Anarchy is an umbrella term that includes:

- Egoism
- Nihilist Anarchy
- Anti-Civ Anarchy
- and to some degree, Postanarchism

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Retrieved on August 17, 2022 from Raddle

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