

Northern Flank by Lotta-Stina Thronell

Stopping the satanic youth culture

Satanic and Nazi-like rock performers have provoked a storm of protest in Sweden, led by the Anti-Drug Coalition.

Just before the July summer holiday period in Sweden, a fight broke out over the counterculture and its connection to the proliferation of drugs and satanic cults among youth. The debate was catalyzed by the Anti-Drug Coalition (ADC), which demanded that Alice Cooper, a violent, satanic rock star from the 1970s, not be allowed to perform.

The anti-rock campaign by the ADC was initiated over rumors that the Rolling Stones, the rock group which started the satan-worshipping cult with its hit "Sympathy for the Devil," were going to tour Europe. The ADC demanded that the Rolling Stones be declared *personae non gratae* in Sweden, since, together with the Beatles at the end of the 1960s, they introduced the insanities of the rock-drug-sex counterculture.

ADC chairman Ulf Sandmark denounced this "rock group, which openly has praised Nazism by dressing up in their uniforms, do the Hitler salute on stage, travel around in an old Nazi car, and above all, dwell in the ideology of Nazism, i.e., satanism. The leaders are consciously organizing their rock 'festivals' modeled on how Goebbels conducted the mass meetings of the Nazis. This rock group is named the Rolling Stones.

"It is a scandal that the government allows such a rock concert to take place at the state-owned Eriksberg Shipyard. Taxpayers' money is given out to support the Rolling Stones. Apart from free advertisements in the state-owned, monopoly television, the state railway company SJ is engaged in a campaign to sell round-trip tickets to lure young people

to go by train to the rock orgy," stated Sandmark.

In 1982, some 100,000 youths swarmed into Gothenburg to see the Stones. Such an event obviously needed the go-ahead and collaboration of the city government. That weekend the city was transformed into a free zone for drugs and so-called "new lifestyles." No one could miss the the cloud of marijuana smoke hanging over the concert hall.

In 1983, the municipality of Gothenburg published an evaluation of the event, including a critique by police and social authorities. The authors showed that the threshold for crimes, from drug possession to vandalism of people and property, were lowered. The report, entitled "The Rolling Stones—A Report on the Rock Festival in June 1982. A Partial Contribution, Supplement 2, 1983:05," concluded: "It was nothing but treason against all the good forces at different posts in the municipality who work on giving examples and to give youth guidance and steer them towards a good goal. It was treason against parents who under difficult and often overwhelming difficulties are fighting against the plague of drugs. But above all it was treason against the youth, a treason in all its well-meaning, a perfidy of imprudence, but nevertheless a perfidy."

The debate, featured in the regional press, had an effect. Cooper's concerts in Gothenburg on Aug. 4-5 were fiascoes. Only 1,500 people turned up at the Christinehof Castle Park in the south of Sweden, while 12,000 were expected. Fewer than half of the expected 6,000 attended the concert in

the city of Karlskoga, in central Sweden.

One radio program featured Ann Ekeberg, parent, teacher, and author of an anti-satanic book, in a debate with the chairman of the Alice Cooper fan club in Sweden, Lars Reinholdsson, who admitted that Cooper's violent show could be dangerous for teenagers.

A letter to the editor of *Nya Wermlandstidningen* in the Karlskoga area, attacked the media. "The sexist behavior in the violent shows by Cooper have led to no protests in the press, on the contrary, many writers and debators are defending, excusing and praising the violent scenes in Alice Cooper's show."

A letter in *Ystads Allehanda*, a southern regional paper, started out: "In the same way as the words that you now read create new thoughts and feelings within you, music does it. Beautiful music tends to create beautiful thoughts, which later are transformed into the same type of acts. Cruel music tends to create cruel thoughts, which not infrequently are transformed into similar acts."

Even some rock lovers are getting queasy. Maans Ivarsson, a writer for the Stockholm-based national liberal paper *Expressen*, criticized Madonna, known for her blasphemy, and her show in Gothenburg. "What Madonna did on stage is far too close to my own nightmares as a subway rider in Stockholm in order for me feel any ticklings anywhere," he confessed.

Madonna, pushed as one of the most popular artists for young teenagers—if your daughter starts to wear only black underwear, be sure it comes from the Madonna cult—beat up fellow performers on stage, kicking them in the face as they were lying on the floor. Many kids, some in their pre-teens, required first aid, since they were so shocked they fainted, vomited, or became hysterical.