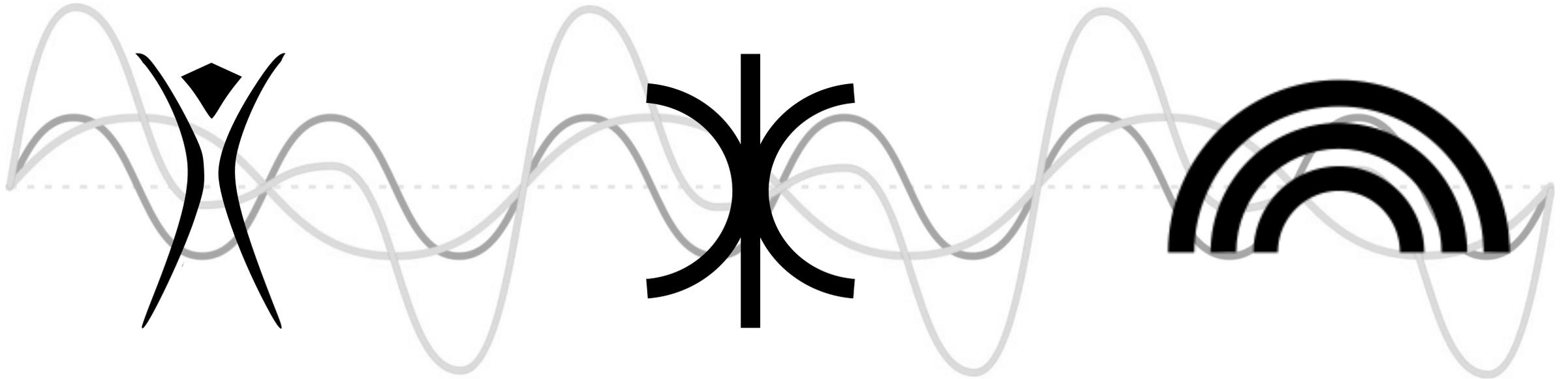


BURNERS, DISCORDIANS, RAINBOWS

SIGNALS from the Counterculture



coun·ter·cul·ture

/ˈkoun(t)ər kəlCHər/ 

noun

a way of life and set of attitudes opposed to or at variance with the prevailing social norm.



Eric Kingsbury
Houston Foresight
Spring Gathering April 2018

Three Tribes of the Counterculture

✂ Burners



A **Burner** is someone who has been to **Burning Man** and tends to identify with its progressive cultural ethos.

Festival-based: techno-progressives

✂ Discordians



A **Discordian** is someone who subscribes to the chaos-worshipping parody religion of **Discordianism**.

Media-based: culture jammers

☀ Rainbows



A **Rainbow** is someone who identifies as a member of the loose tribal organization called **The Rainbow Tribe of Living Light**.

Lifestyle-based: contemporary hippies

These groups are informal, global, decades-old, and non-exclusive.

ORIGIN STORIES: FIGURES, Threads and Manifestations

Burners

Dadaism >
Situationism >
Start-Up Culture



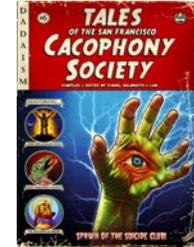
Guy Debord



Hakim Bey



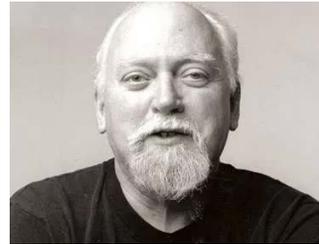
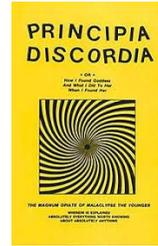
Larry Harvey



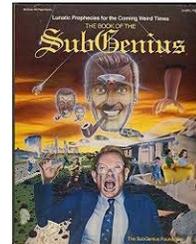
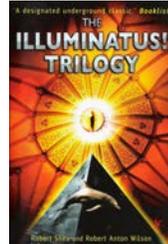
Burning Man

Discordians

Anarchism >
“Western Magick” >
Beatnik Culture



Robert Anton Wilson



Alan Moore



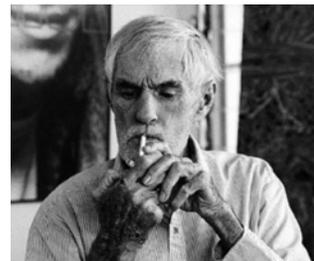
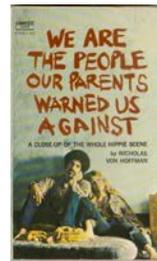
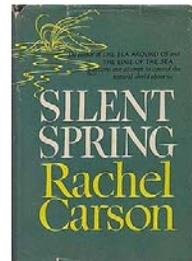
John Higgs



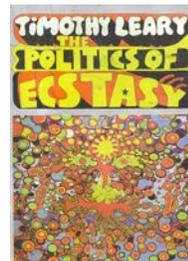
Festival 23

Rainbows

Environmentalism >
New Age Religion >
Indigenous Culture >
Music Festival Culture



Timothy Leary



Rainbow Gathering

Some commonalities: use of the arts; critiques of capitalism, religion, the state; social transgression.

IS IT REALLY A THING? ... HEADLINES AND SEARCH STATS



Burners



Discordians



Rainbows

The Wonderful, Weird Economy of Burning Man

'Burning Man for the 1%': the desert party for the tech elite

Burning Man Turns 30: The Joys, Pitfalls (and Drugs) of Hollywood's "Vacation for the Soul"

Burning Man brings a slice of the desert to White House doorstep

Burning Man sells out in minutes – and Twitter goes crazy

THE NEW OCCULTISM: CHAOS MAGIC, DISCORDIANISM AND TRANSHUMANISM

Inside the Resurgence of Discordianism – the Chaotic, LSD-Fuelled Anti-Religion

Festival 23 — Wonderism, Fake News and the Neo-Discordian Revival

Embrace The Contradictions: The Strange Discordian World Of... The KLF

A review of Cosmic Trigger, a play based on Robert Anton Wilson's autobiography

Rainbow Gathering: Bliss for campers, headache for Forest Service

Thousands of people expected at Rainbow Gathering in eastern Oregon

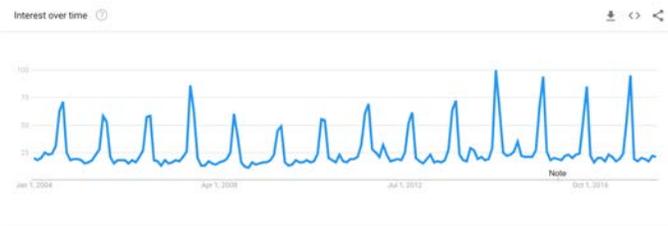
Rainbow Gathering: 'A town without a mayor'

Chasing the Rainbow Family: Are They Hippies or Hobos?

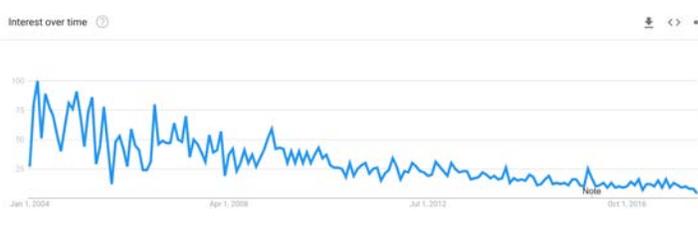
Don't Feed the Hippies!!! My first time attending the Rainbow Family National Gathering

The Dark Side of the Rainbow Gathering

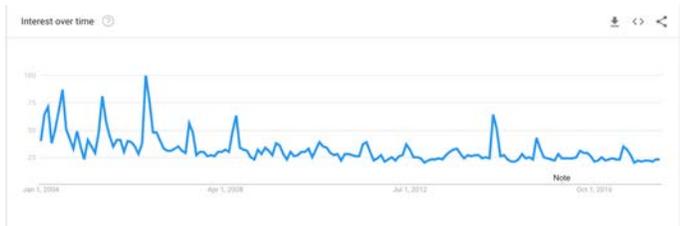
Burning Man: Search Activity



Discordianism: Search Activity



Rainbow Family: Search Activity



BURNERS ... WHAT ARE THEY ABOUT?

THE TEN PRINCIPLES OF BURNING MAN

1. Radical Inclusion
2. Gifting
3. Decommodification
4. Radical Self-reliance
5. Radical Self-expression
6. Communal Effort
7. Civic Responsibility
8. Leaving No Trace
9. Participation
10. Immediacy

Burning Man is home; not Burning Man is the "Default" world.



A Temporary Autonomous Zone: 70,000 People, Loosely Structured, Ritualistic, Egalitarian.

BURNERS ... WHAT HAVE THEY DONE FOR US?

INFLUENCE ON TECH/START-UP CULTURE

- Gifting and Decommodification
- Biking and “Leave no Trace”
- Electronic and Experimental Music
- Collaborating to pull off something cool or imaginative
- Openness toward recreational drugs
- Emphasis on "changing the world”
- Temporary Autonomous Zones
- Building from scratch
- Experiments
- Equality and egalitarianism

“The Burning Man Community has become a ‘do-ocracy’ where the individual is empowered to directly participate in their surroundings to make the world the way that they want it to be, whether that world is our longtime home of Black Rock City, or the urban environment in which they live.”



Large-scale public art

DISCORDIANS ... WHAT ARE THEY ABOUT?

FIVE TENETS (AND SOME MORE)

1. HodgePodge: Eris (Chaos) and Aneris (Order)
2. Order and Disorder can be positive or negative
3. Modern society favors Order; Discordians favor positivity (wonderment)
4. Eating Hot Dog Buns is strictly prohibited
5. All phenomenon occur in Fives (23 is sacred)
6. Do not believe anything you read (including this)
7. It's best to hold Discordian and non-Discordian ideas in your mind at the same time

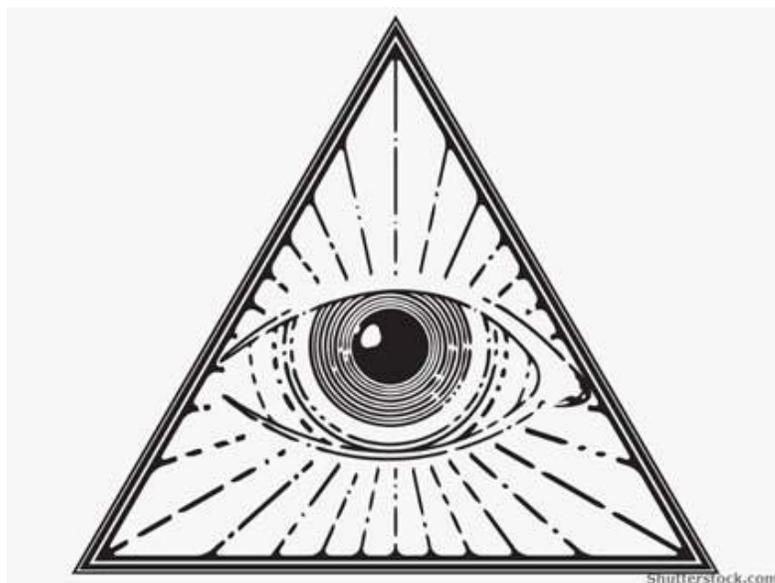


Operation Mindfk (OM):** A decentralized campaign of civil disobedience, activism, art movements, especially performance art and guerrilla art, culture jamming, graffiti and other vandalism, practical jokes, hoaxes, reality hacking, chaos magic, words of power, and anything else that is believed to bring about social change through disrupting paradigms and thus forcing the victim to question the parameters of his or her reality tunnel. OM is the primary practice of discordianism.

'We **Discordians** must all stick apart'.

A Chaotic, Decentralized Body of Thought and Practice Mixing Humor and Social Activism.

DISCORDIANS ... WHAT HAVE THEY DONE FOR US?



The Illuminati Conspiracy



Culture Jamming



Fake News?

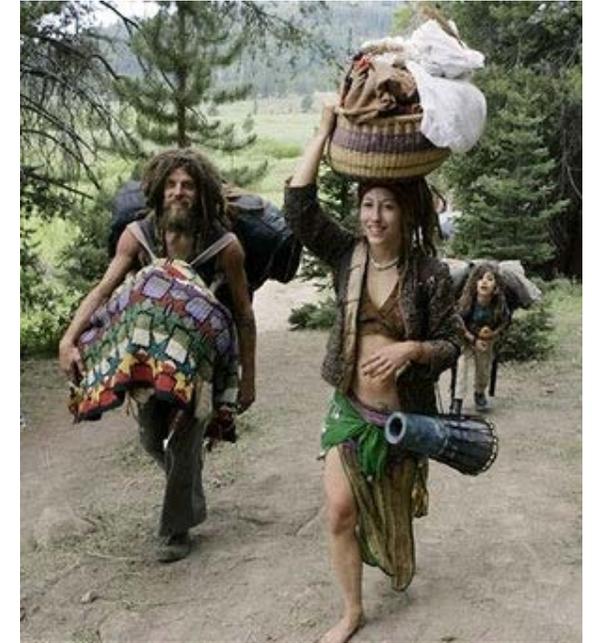
"[C]ulture jammers [...] introduce noise into the signal as it passes from transmitter to receiver, encouraging idiosyncratic, unintended interpretations. Intruding on the intruders, they invest ads, newscasts, and other media artifacts with subversive meanings; simultaneously, they decrypt them, rendering their seductions impotent. Jammers offer irrefutable evidence that the right has no copyright on war waged with incantations and simulations. And [...] they refuse the role of passive shoppers, renewing the notion of a public discourse."

RAINBOWS ... WHAT ARE THEY ABOUT?

UNOFFICIAL PRINCIPLES OF RAINBOW FAMILY

1. Non-membership: no leaders
2. Consensus processes
3. Love and peace, non-violence
4. Creativity
5. New-Age Spirituality
6. Environmentalism
7. Non-consumerism
8. Non-commercialism
9. Alternative medicine
10. Multicultural diversity

Rainbow Gathering is home; not
Rainbow Gathering is “Babylon.”



A Loose Often Nomadic Tribe Dedicated to “Hippie” Values and Practices.

RAINBOWS ... WHAT HAVE THEY DONE FOR US?



Neo-Nomads

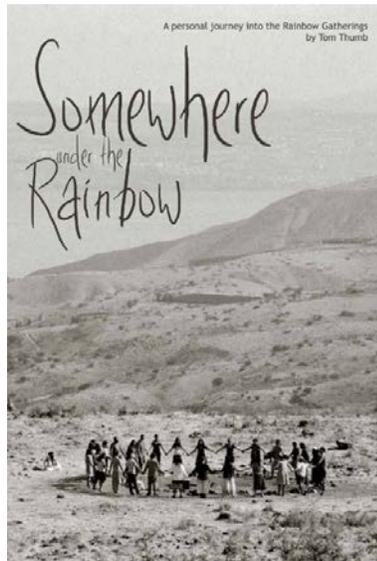
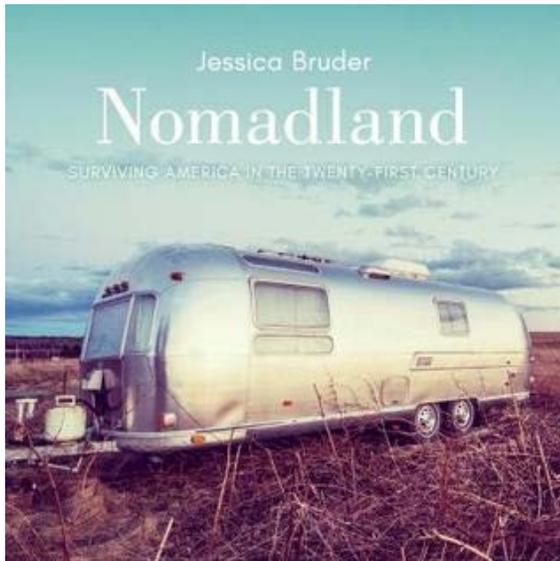


Global Tribalism



Cultural Appropriation

"It's the most subversive kind of white supremacy."



NOTICE OF COMPLAINT

Date: June 16, 2015

To: Rainbow Family and the Rainbow Gathering
United States Forest Service
Office of Tribal Justice, United States Department of Justice

cc:

RE: Lakota Refuse Rainbow Gathering in the Black Hills, Lakota Territory

The Tetuwan Judiciary Council and the Cante Tenza Okolakiciye, the traditional Strong Heart Warrior Society of the free and Independent Lakota Nation issues this communication and complaint to the Rainbow Family and Rainbow Gathering pursuant to the Ft. Laramie Treaty of 1868, Article I, known as the "Bad Man Clause".

KEY SIGNALS ... FOR THE FUTURE



MICRODOSING AND PSYCHEDELICS:

- *Silicon Valley's Best-Kept Productivity Secret: Psychedelic Drugs*
- *Micro-dosing: The Drug Habit Your Boss Is Gonna Love*

CREATIVE CHAOS AS INNOVATION:

- *Enabling Creative Chaos: The Organization Behind the Burning Man Event*
- *Burning Man: Quality and Innovation in the Spirit of Deming*

SKUNKWORKS, LABS, AUTONOMOUS ZONES:

- *The Power of Play: What Burning Man Means for Innovation*
- *Consent Culture in Temporary Autonomous Zones*

POST-SCARCITY COMMUNITIES:

- *Does Burning Man Mean That a Post-Scarcity Society Would Be a Libertarian Utopia?*

VOLUNTEERISM / PARTICIPATION:

- *No Spectators: The Art of Burning Man*

ART AS SUBVERSION:

- *Prawn Worship, a Giant Vagina and Lee Lin Chin at Discordia*

PARODY RELIGIONS:

- *Jedis And Pastafarians: Real Religion Or Just A Joke?*
- *Do "Parody Religions" just prove God even more?*
- *Serious parody: Discordianism as liquid religion*

HUMOR AS RESISTANCE:

- *Discordianism: When Parody Becomes Reality*
- *Fringe: Politics and protest parties*
- *Pranking rhetoric: "culture jamming" as media activism*

REDUCTIO AD ABSURDUM

TRIBES INSTEAD OF NATION STATES:

- *The New Tribalism and the Decline of the Nation State*
- *Instead of Wreaking Havoc on Native Land, the Rainbow Gathering Needs to Find a Permanent Home*
- *The United Communes of The Global Hippie Alliance*

ECO-CONSCIOUSNESS:

- *Into the woods with the Rainbow Family of Living Light*

DIRECT DEMOCRACY:

- *Rainbow Disorganization and Decision Making*

ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE:

- *Rainbow Family Center for Alternative Living Medicine*
- *No worse place to be sick than at a Rainbow Gathering*

NOMADIC LIFESTYLES:

- *Love, Bums, and Drum Circles: Postcards from a Modern-Day Hippie Paradise*

COLLECTIVELY, THESE COUNTERCULTURES STRUGGLE WITH AND CHALLENGE THE FRAMEWORKS OF CAPITALISM, SEXISM, RACISM, SOCIAL FRAGMENTATION, REPRESSION.



BURNING MAN = TEMPORARY STRUCTURED ENVIRONMENT FOR INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM

PROVIDES RESPITE FROM THE DOMINANT CULTURE WHILE TRYING TO TEMPER IT

DISCORDIANISM = CHAOTIC ACTIONS TO CHALLENGE OR CORRECT DOMINANT CULTURE

DEDICATED TO CHALLENGING THE DOMINANT CULTURE BY MOCKING IT

RAINBOWS = PERSISTENT LEADERLESS TRIBAL/FAMILIAL CULTURAL STRUCTURE

ATTEMPT TO ABANDON THE DOMINANT CULTURE BY DROPPING OUT



**BLACK ROCK CITY, NV
AUGUST 26 – SEPTEMBER 3**

BURNINGMAN.ORG



6TH-8TH JULY 2018

YORKSHIRE, UK

FESTIVAL23.ORG.UK



**Somewhere in the
southern Appalachian
Mountains,
July 1 to 7, 2018**

????

END