

# studies in language & capitalism

## Editors' Note

When we launched *Studies in Language & Capitalism*, we envisaged the journal as a free resource for those interested in the inter-relations between semiosis and social structure and concerned about seemingly entrenched social, political and economic inequalities. The journal arose from discussion on the LNC listserv and a specific awareness that a problem for colleagues and comrades across the world is accessing critical social sciences literature. With books and journals priced out of the reach of even comparatively rich higher learning institutions in the minority world, people working and researching in poorer institutions of the majority world can be severely disadvantaged – and increasingly so, given the often exorbitant price rises of many scholarly periodicals and the cut backs and currency fluctuations resulting from the current crisis in the system of global capital.

As well as welcoming original, unpublished articles, one specific aim for the journal was to republish articles we feel deserve a wider audience. These may be 'classic' articles from the recent and not so recent past, or else chapters from out of print or otherwise difficult to locate books. In this, our third Issue, we are happy to republish several chapters, all focused on a theme of resistance – to capitalism, to fascism and to the disinterest shown to class inequality in too much of academe. The article by Graham Murdock was originally published in the 3rd Edition of Curran and Gurevitch's edited volume *Mass Media and Society* (2000), but left out of the 4th Edition; we thank Graham, as copyright holder, for giving his permission to republish. The article by Armand Mattelart is drawn from a larger chapter in his (1980) book *Mass media, Ideologies and the Revolutionary Movement* (Brighton: Harvester), and three articles – by *Workers' Life* (1928), Lluís Bassets (1976) and Salvador Allende (1971) - are all taken from Volume 2 of the *Anthology Communication and Class Struggle*, edited by Armand Mattelart and Seth Siegelaub (1983). Thanks to Armand for allowing their republication here.

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Finally, the Editors would like to dedicate this issue to our colleague Robert de Beaugrande, who sadly died earlier this year. Robert was an enthusiastic support of *SLC* from the outset and his own decision to make his body of work freely available to all on the world wide web could be said to be part of the impetus for this journal. Although he could be a little meshugge at times, he was a brilliant colleague, a passionate advocate for social justice and an acknowledged linguistic genius. He will be sorely missed.

The Editors

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