

Kym Maxwell
Parenting is Political

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Following on from the chalkboard drawings and text interventions produced as part the talk “Parenting in the Art World” [Nov 23rd]’ within the group show, Re-Raising Consciousness (curated by Fayen De’Evie, Harriet Morgan and Katherine Hattam at TCB Artinc [November, 2014]

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This is a knowledge you're forced into

It's not a soft knowledge, but a forced knowing ...

My intention for this show and online platform is to reduce the perception of parenting as purely child rearing. I always found this definition to be so exclusive. I want to include a discourse addressing parenting's slippages outside of the family unit - to include other tensions that exist through its stem concept: that of a caring relationship. As such, the parenting to which I am referring to here is not confined only to the notion of childhood development, it is also the raising of the elderly, the infirm, the animal, the student, the teacher, the plant and the community, and the selection of economies, disciplines and resources that support it. In so doing I am made aware of how social forces competing (for growth and attention) may encourage the authoritarian — power of the parental

I thank Aurelia Guo for her poetic communiqué (with herself and others) delivered through her text 'natureisnotnaturalandcanneverbenaturalised.pdf' (2016); Anastasia Klose for her jarring exposé into capitalism and the dynamics of a family education in 'Together' (2011); Peter Tyndall's building of perceptual frameworks through his graphic, a family's visit to the gallery; and Angela Brennan for her painting, which represents her speech and radical parenting style — to 'just be'.

My own, in-gallery research (presented at Bus Project — Melbourne) includes a series of chalkboards which define parenting's politics.

I would like to thank Ziga Testen and Rob Janes for their talent and contribution to this exhibition as they construct the online platform, which is in on-going dialogue with this show, and Mel Deerson for her continued support and writing assistance.

<http://www.parentingispolitical.com/>

Natureisnotnaturalandcanneverbenaturalised.pdf

Aurelia Guo

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barrier to entry to professions is becoming 3, 5, 10 years of
studying without an income being nurtured not to 18 but 25 or 30
parental support

not about the extended family or community
but the selfreplicating individual
whiteness

cloning in the military

head transplant

associative mating

going out with someone from exactly the same class background
not even that both have gone to university, but that have gone to
the same university. r u the same class. r u the same the same
class

us: painfully conscious of race

uk: painfully conscious of class

aus.....

people will marry across race but not class

rural patriarchy italy and china

sectarian violence

11 nations of the USA

catholic protestant football teams the clan

corruption

nepotism

Sopranos

meritocracy lies

bureaucracy and its false promise of fairness and due process

bureaucracy as the biggest cover for nepotism

black names on CVs get less replies

white families giving their children silly names

lets take a silly one

immigrants give their children nice anglo names to fit in unpronounceable
Uneducated

english drinking culture

epic continuity of settlement. but centralist/majoritarian expansion. lebensraum.
trauma of migration. mainland chinese people coming to australia. domination. asians that celebrate australia day. RIP scientists the A bomb
shooting gas into the atmosphere
scientists say we only have 30 more years
new american civil war
california water wars

geoengineering or endtime
and its Brighter than my future
as we say humans have free will and cannot predict what they will do

the honour code
Unpaid

rousseau
the noble savage
sex is sex and sex feels good
like making love to a skinny boy
with long hair
long feet
lolita
teenage doctor
barefoot, teenage doctor
super cannes
male aggressor
kiss another part of the body
kiss a safe part of the body
either everything is erogenous or nothing is

the desire for sleep is like having an appetite or a libido leave my
archive alone like a compost
sex lies and videotape
and i watched sliding doors and when harry met sally

u being the sum of the 3 people you spend most time with

markings on prison walls
the illiterate
slaves
women and slaves
concubines and slaves

Fuck empiricism, positivism, scientific rationalism, economic
rationalism, liberalism and the individual cos
No such thing

No childrens revolution cos children are ruled by the tyranny of
their parents not the bureaucracy of the state

People are serving hors d'oeuvres on trays. Follow them around
the gallery Consume as much food and drink as you can. Act like
you haven't eaten in a week Never stray more than five feet from
the food or drink area
Head straight to the food and drink area and stand there eating

Sex is overrated, she thinks, compared to issues such as how
the Earth is running out of places to dispose of its garbage

Extinction portal
Death portal
Environment portal
darkened over time, become brittle

Hassan was confident the Australian government was compas-
sionate and caring and never lost faith the right decision would
be made

About 70% of that program's benefits go to households making more than \$200,000 a year, costing the government \$1 bn over the next decade

But you would have to be quite an extreme redistributionist to support a policy that required wealthier people to marry poorer people

eg their food was being left outside the door
vegans opposed to indigenous hunting and fishing practices

Slavery is rare among huntergatherer populations i.e. Mass slavery requires economic surpluses and a high population density to be viable

It is certain that Classical Athens had the largest slave population

Two to fourfifths of the population were slaves

You can't scare me I have daughters

false binary between child and adult
false linear from child to adult

Nice little earner
distributing food and water

reveals everything about her class and family background

Wine glass fits a whole bottle
and its Brighter than my future
Like making love to a clone
Plastic soul

NGOs preserve colonial relations.....

Debt cancellation, reparations, land rights and compensation.....

Heavily pregnant snake
Getting pregnant off weak dick has to be the biggest L
Alien cum doesnt get u pregnant

I am pain free and in sync with life
I feel safe in the rhythm and flow of everchanging life I am beautiful and everybody loves me
They also kill women and children



Kym Maxwell, *Text intervention*, Re-raising Consciousness, TCB Art Inc., 2014.

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