

in
pictures
and
conversations

David Graeber
Nika Dubrovsky

PRIVATE/ PUBLIC?

edifying and truthful stories

THIS BOOK BELONGS TO

ANTHROPOLOGY
FOR KIDS

2010-2022

NOO INT RO DUC TION

THIS BOOK, WHICH AT THE SAME TIME IS A DRAWING BOOK AND A NOTEBOOK, IS A COLLECTION OF VARIOUS SHOWCASES ABOUT HOW THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC COULD BE UNDERSTOOD IN DEFERENT CULTURES.

This book is going to ask questions about how the private and the public are tied to our perceptions of beauty, security and even honor, and how these perceptions differ depending upon the culture and historical period.

People have always understood the boundaries of the private and the public differently: In ancient Babylon, only rich women were allowed to cover their faces with a veil, while the poor had to leave their faces and arms bare, or face punishment. On the other hand, in the present day women in many Muslim countries are obliged to cover their face and arms, while in France such behavior can entail punishment. Where do these differences come from?

This book contains quotes from other books and extracts from interviews I did with people who are trying to figure out what the words "private" and "public" really mean.

I would be happy for you to join us in an effort to understand the multiple meanings that these words carry and their different interpretations by different people.

**WHERE DOES THE PRIVATE END
AND THE PUBLIC BEGIN?**

**WHEN AND WHY CAN THESE
BOUNDARIES CHANGE?**

**DO WE REALLY NEED TO PROTECT
OUR PRIVATE SPACE FROM OTHERS?**

I do not have straightforward answers to these important questions, which is exactly why I make doodle books. It is very interesting and important for me to find out what you think about this issue and to hear your opinions and ideas. That's why you can change the book, transform it, add things to it and reissue it without having to ask for permission. With this book you are both the reader and the author.

Let's think together how our collective ideas about what is private and what is public, what should be protected and what we do not need to protect, will change our lives in the future.

**HAVE FUN READING,
DRAWING AND WRITING!
ANSWER MY QUESTIONS
AND ASK YOUR OWN.**

**IF WE FIGHT FOR OUR PRIVACY, WHAT
MIGHT BE THE PRICE?
IS IT THE SAME THING TO BE
SURVEILLED BY GOVERNMENT OR
THE BOSS AT WORK AS IT IS TO BE
WATCHED BY MEMBERS OF YOUR
COMMUNITY OR FAMILY?**

**SHARE WITH
OTHERS YOUR
THOUGHTS AND
CONCERNS.**

No01

PRIVATE AS A SERVICE

CONSPIRACY
OR COUTURE?
BUT WOULD
EVERYONE BE
ABLE TO AFFORD
IT? OR IS IT
SOMETHING
THAT ONLY
THE CUSTOMERS
OF EXPENSIVE
BOUTIQUES
COULD
APPRECIATE?



This is a special invisibility cloak that makes it impossible for a surveillance camera to take a picture of the person wearing it.

SHOULD WE
BE ABLE
TO CONTROL
WHO SEES
US, WHEN
AND HOW?

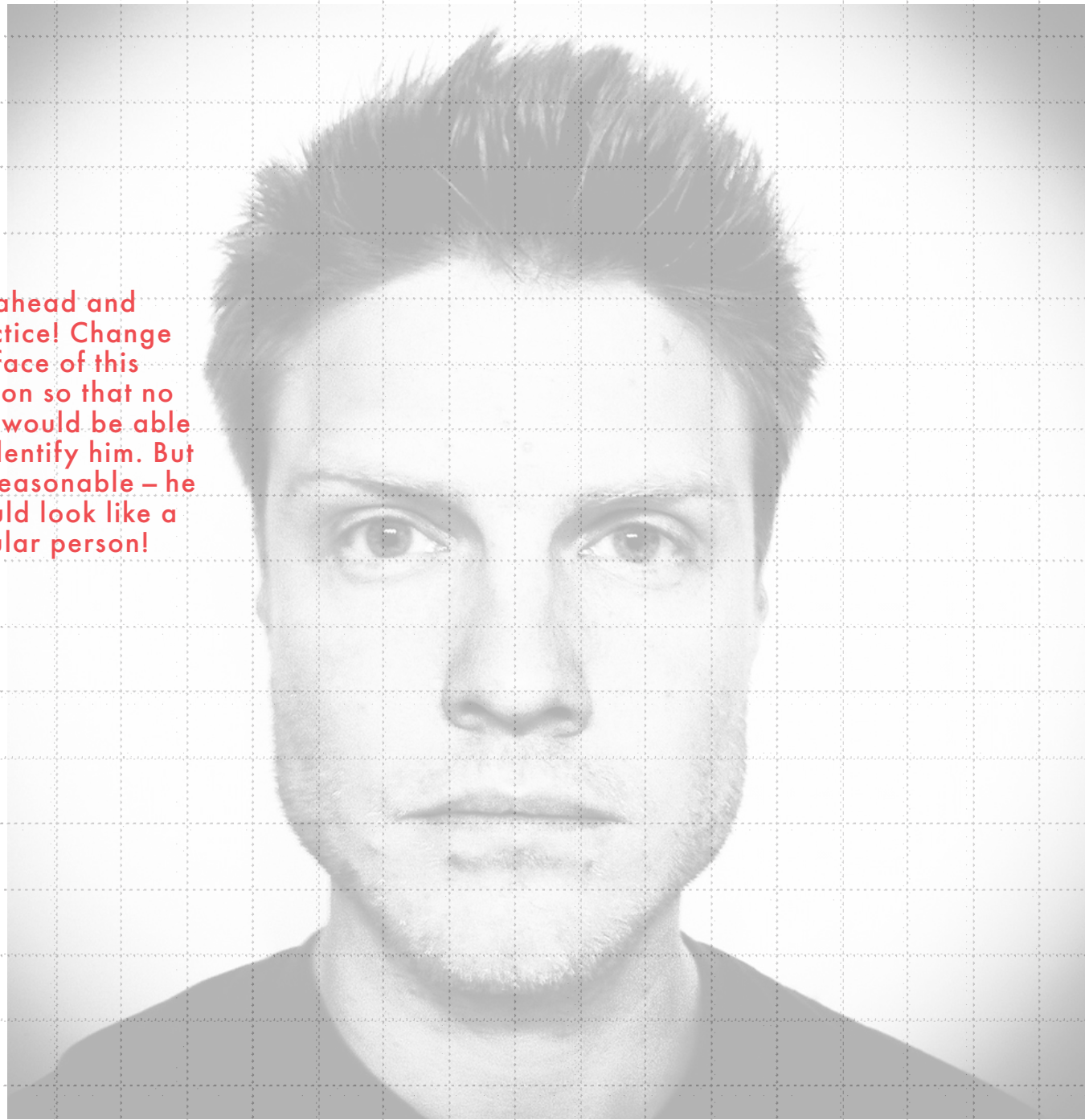
There are many ways to hide from surveillance. An artist named Adam Harvey started a company that invents and sells such garments. The company makes pins and ties, cuff links and handkerchiefs, coats and bracelets. These items are fashionable. But their main task is to mask a person from surveillance devices. Famous actors could use them to hide from paparazzi, while regular people like you and me could use them to avoid surveillance cameras that film us, recognize our faces and archive this information in their database.

Invent, draw and describe how your anti-surveillance device would work.

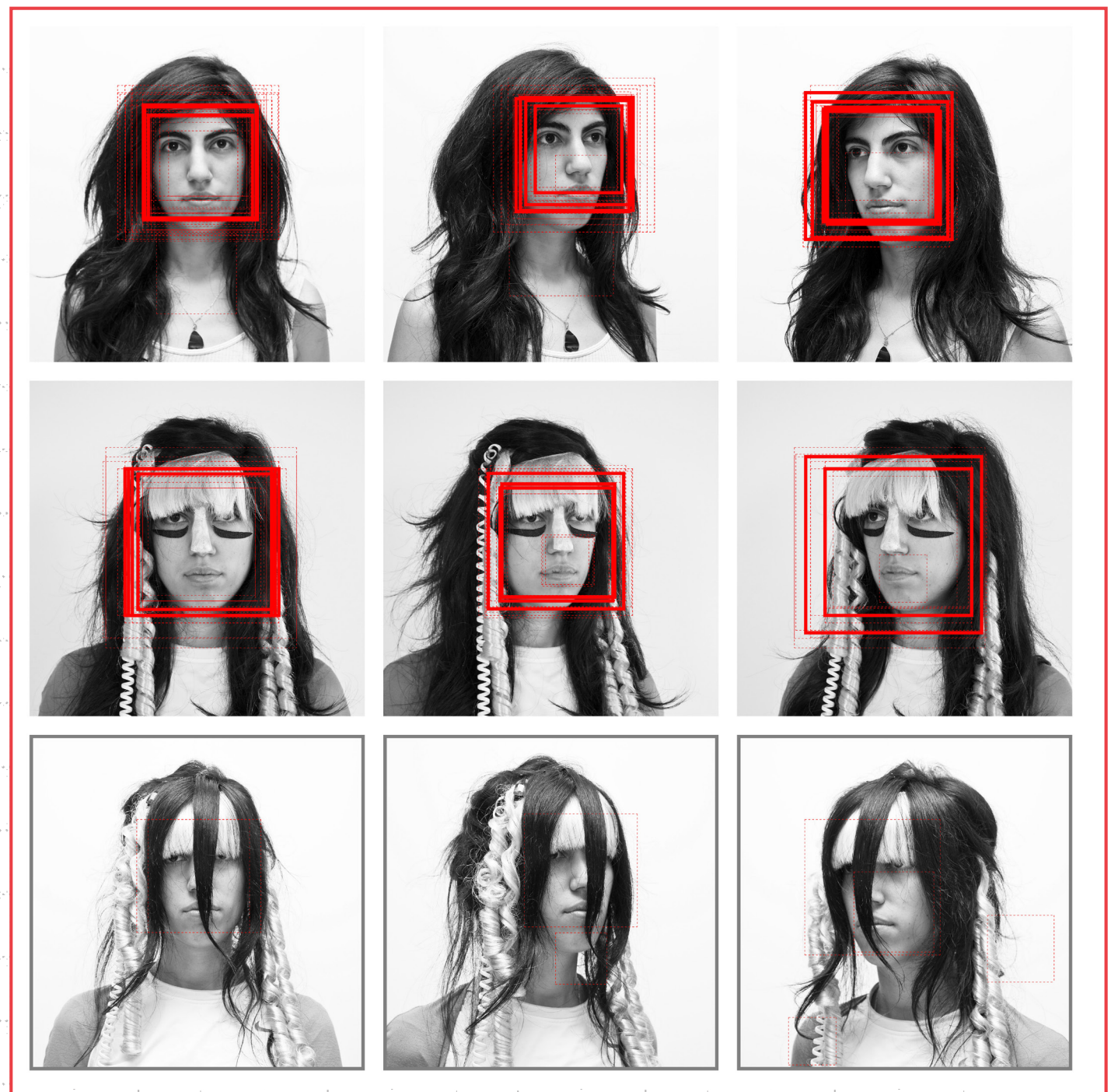
Or think of devices that could actually be used for surveillance.

PRIVATE AS A SKILL

PROFESSIONAL HAIRDRESSERS
AND DESIGNERS **CAN CHANGE**
YOUR APPEARANCE SO THAT
NO ONE WOULD BE ABLE
TO RECOGNIZE YOU



Go ahead and
practice! Change
the face of this
person so that no
one would be able
to identify him. But
be reasonable – he
should look like a
regular person!



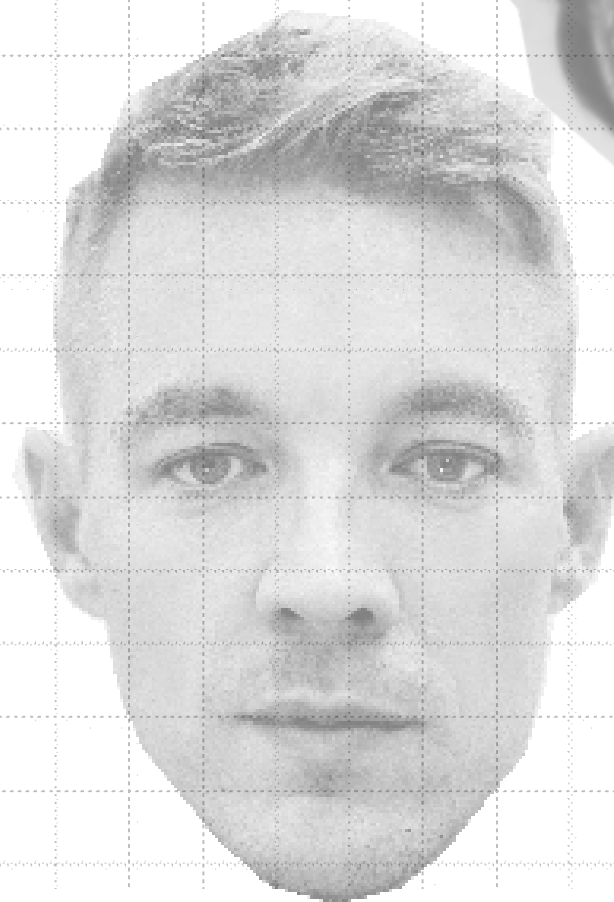
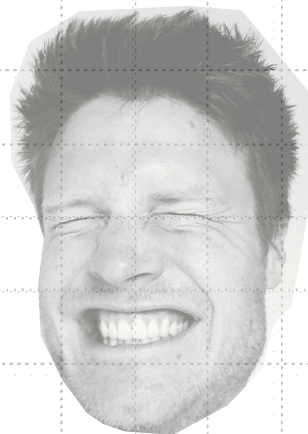
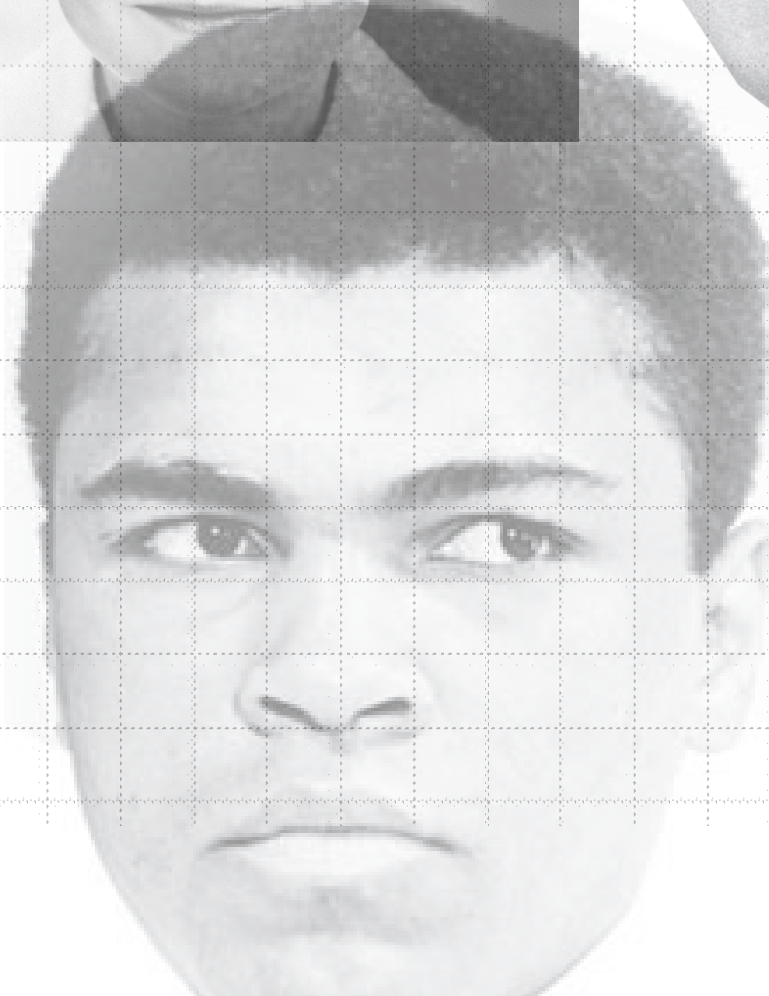
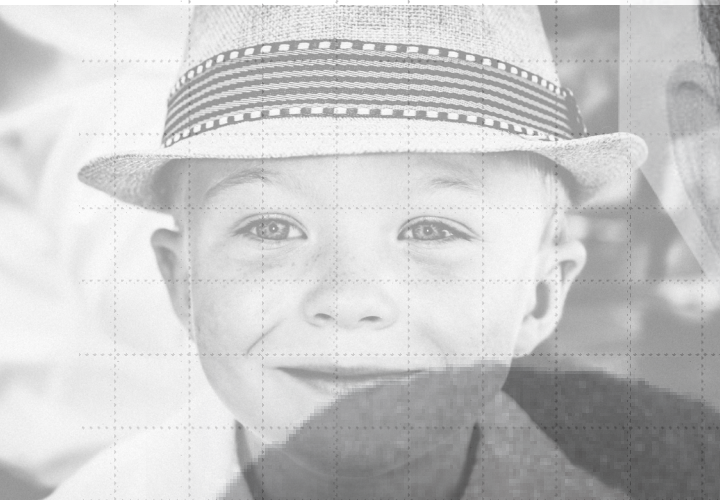
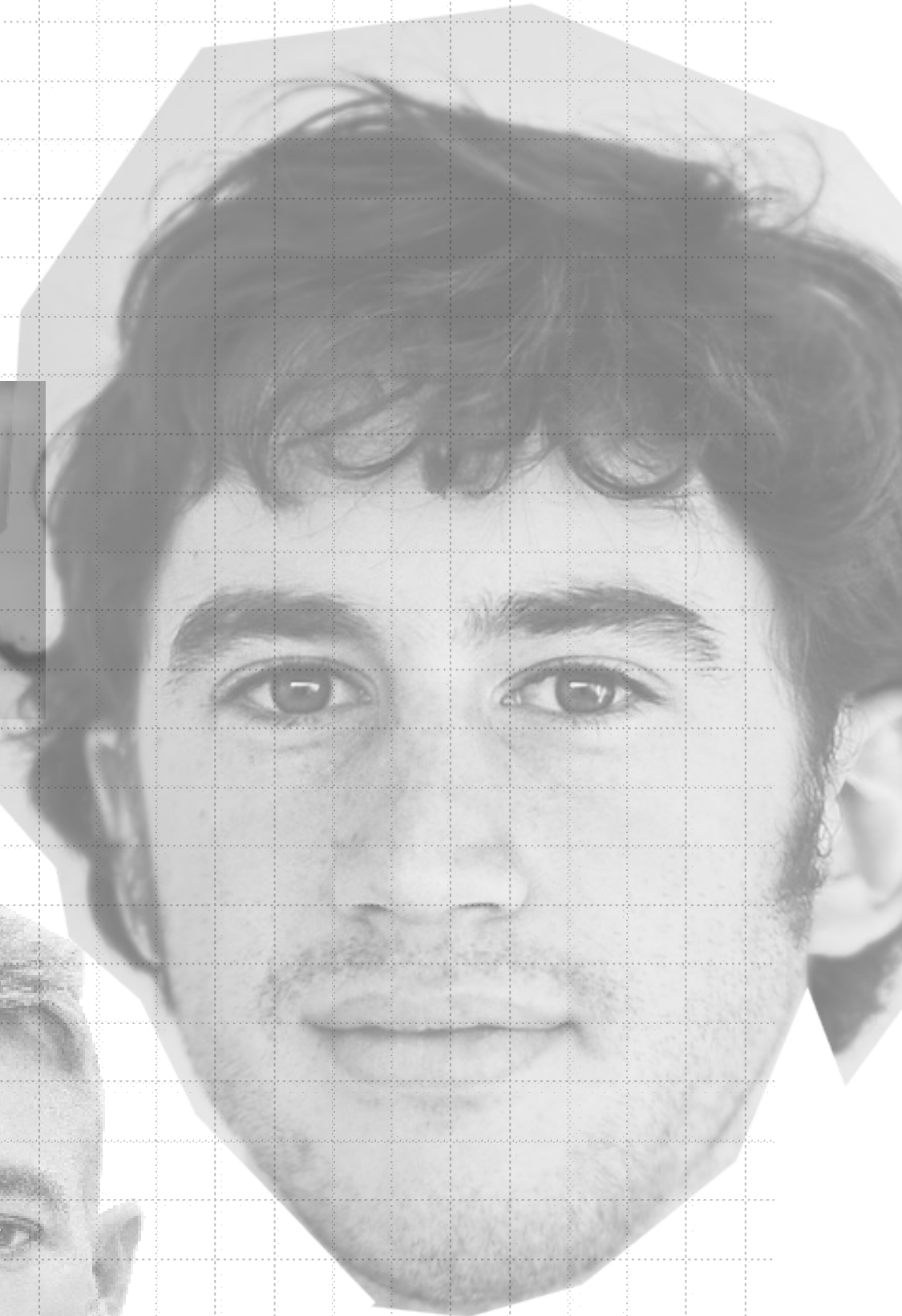
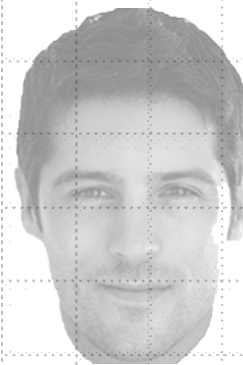
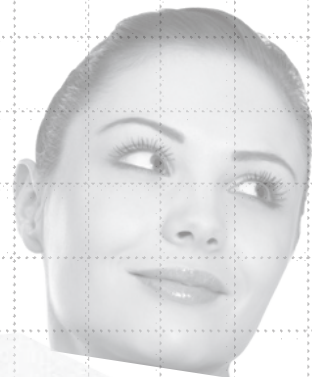
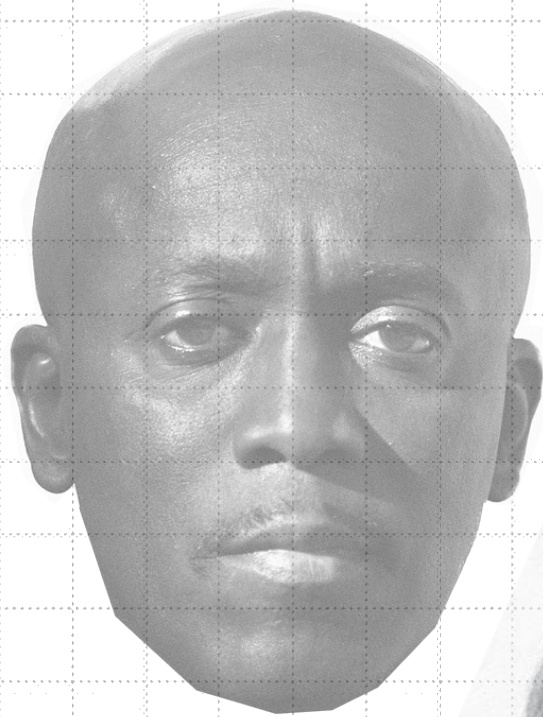
Harvey suggests that special wigs and makeup can be used to fool the surveillance cameras.

Harvey explored the experience of the military, which used Dazzle camouflage during World War I. The interchanging black and white bands visually destroyed the silhouette of military ships, making it impossible for the enemy to determine what kind of ship it was, how big

it was and in which direction it was moving. Harvey used this principle in makeup. In the images created by him the bangs go down to the eyebrow ridges and eyes, while a special pattern on the cheekbones disorients the surveillance system. This way the designer alters beyond recognition the points used by the surveillance system in generating an outline of people's faces.

Continue to
the next page,
there are many
more faces
there!





Nº 3

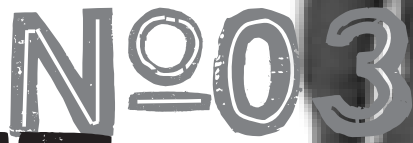
Nº 3



Nº 3

Nº 3

Nº 3



Nº 3

Nº 3

Nº 3

Nº 3

PRIVATE AS THE RIGHT TO INVENT YOUR OWN PUBLIC APPEARANCE



The fashion industry sells new styles every year. The more complex and artistic fashion is, the more sophisticated are the images it allows you to project.

WITH FACES LIKE THESE, THERE IS LITTLE RISK OF BEING RECOGNIZED BY A SURVEILLANCE CAMERA.

Think of three different images for yourself:

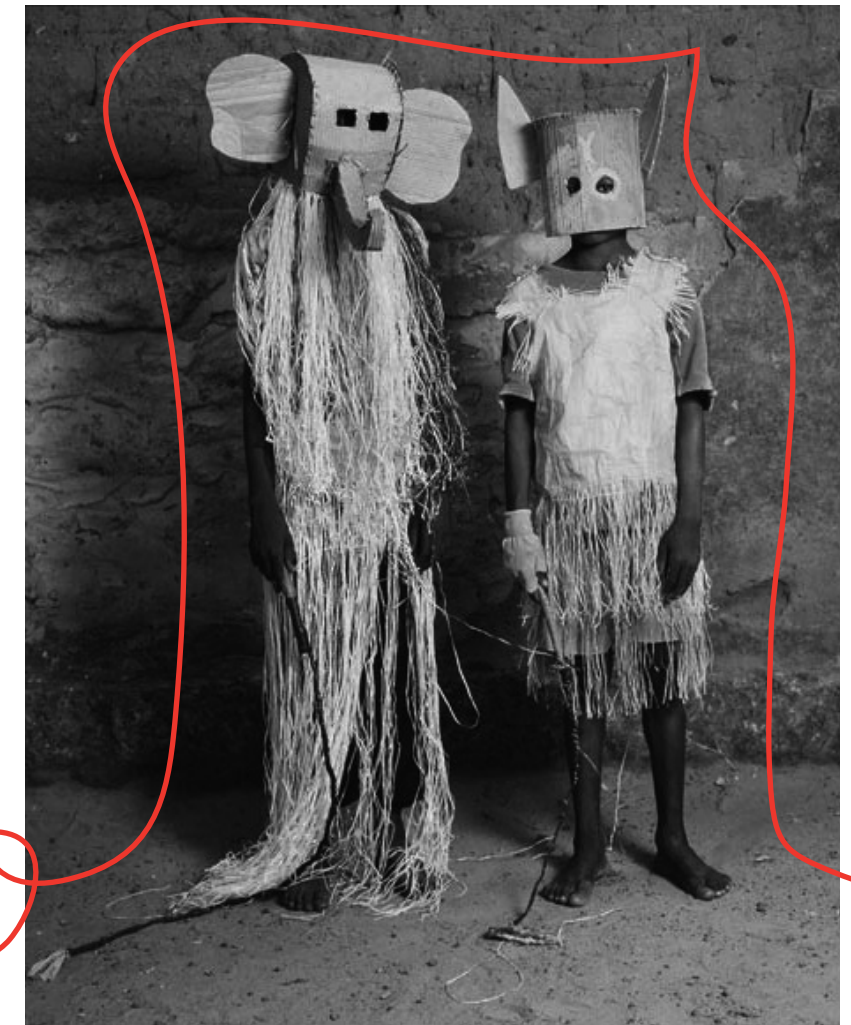
When you are scared

When you are feeling good about yourself

When you are extremely tired

When you are angry



[illegible][illegible]



This is a special camouflage
shirt that helps hide you from
surveillance cameras.
Would you prefer to just hide
or become anonymous and
invisible?

HOW ^{Nº5} TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM THE PRIVATE?

THIS IS THE FAMOUS FRANKFURT KITCHEN, DEVELOPED BY MARGARETE SCHÜTTE-LIHOTZKY, AN AUSTRIAN ARCHITECT. COMPACT AND CONVENIENT, IT SUITS THE NEEDS OF A SINGLE FAMILY.

In 1920, 20,000 of these kitchens were built in new German homes. This kitchen manifested hope that each family and each individual would have the right to their own private space that is convenient and safe. In the 1930s the Soviet government commissioned an architect to plan new industrial towns for Soviet citizens.



THIS KITCHEN REMINDS ME OF A WORKPLACE OR AN ASSEMBLY LINE. THESE KITCHENS ARE ALL IDENTICAL AND QUITE LONELY.

How does it make you feel when you are in a kitchen with a sink full of dirty dishes? I feel like this is not a safe private space.

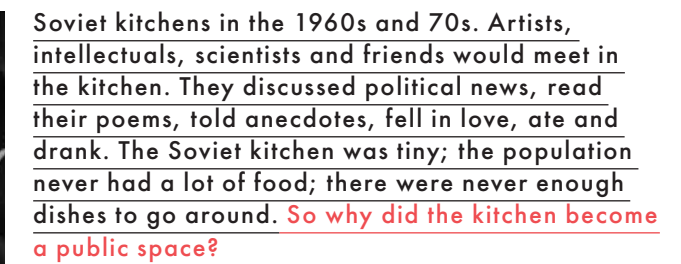
What about you?
What kinds of kitchens do you know?
Use the space here to describe several different types of “kitchen” space.

No. 6

**IN TOTALITARIAN
REGIMES, PEOPLE ONLY
FELT FREE AND SAFE IN
THEIR OWN KITCHENS.**

**IN TOTALITARIAN
REGIMES, PEOPLE ONLY
FELT FREE AND SAFE IN
THEIR OWN KITCHENS.**

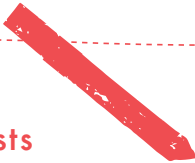
kitchen	school	street	your own room	after school activity
---------	--------	--------	---------------	-----------------------



Invent imaginary groups of people and the most incredible pastime for them that you can imagine.

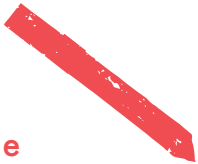
A black and white photograph capturing a large-scale parade in a city square. In the foreground, a line of young girls, likely from the Ukrainian Carpathian region, marches in traditional folk costumes. They wear patterned skirts, dark vests, and headscarves adorned with large white floral decorations. They are holding small, light-colored instruments, possibly flutes or whistles. Behind them, a massive crowd of children follows. The background is dominated by several large, rectangular portraits of Soviet political leaders, including Joseph Stalin, which are being carried or displayed prominently. The scene is set on a wide, paved street with buildings visible in the distance. A red arrow in the bottom right corner points towards the right, indicating the direction of the parade.

Think of a new kitchen, a new dinner table, a new place for welcoming guests and a new place for public debate.



PRIVATE AS No7 THE POSSIBILITY OF COLLECTIVITY

Image you are
organizing an art exhibit
with your favorite
artists. It could be a
contemporary or classic
artist, or a Renaissance
sculptor. Who would it be



You can do it
in the biggest
national
museum or in
the small local
gallery!

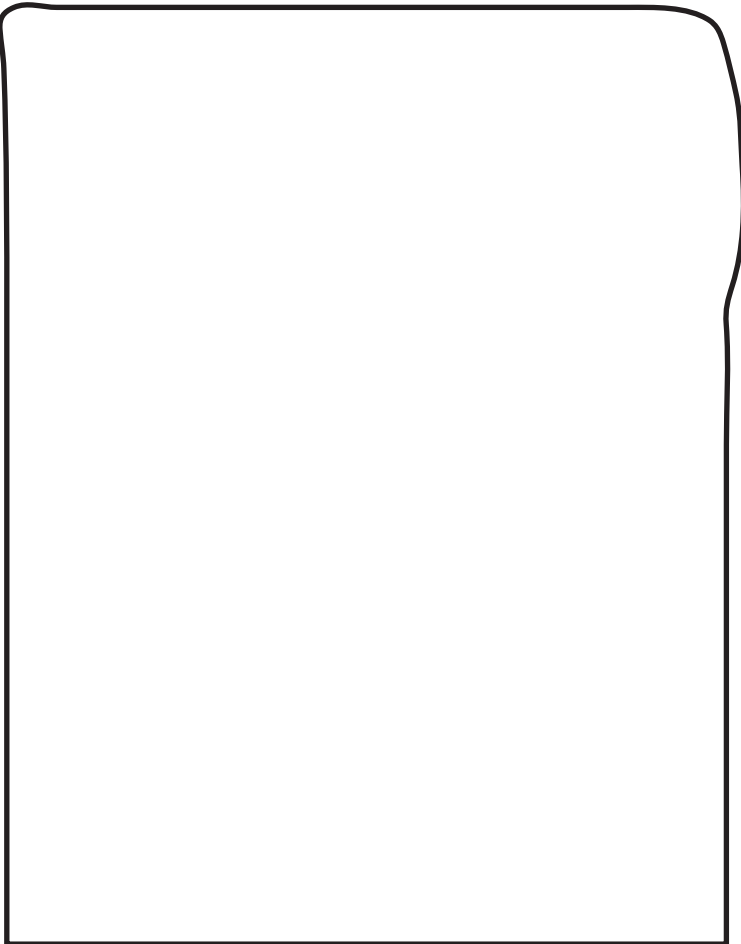
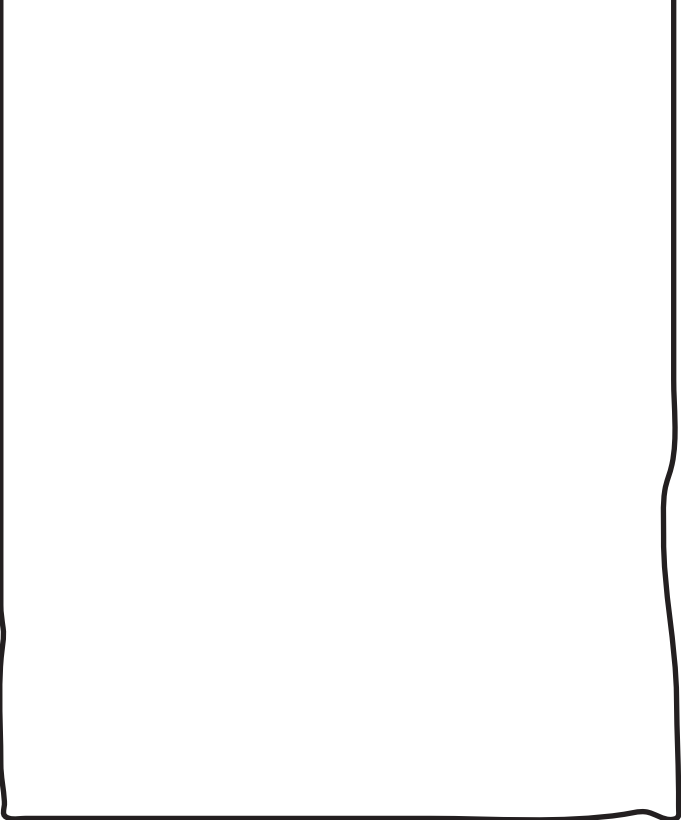
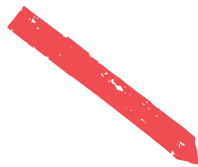
You can sign his/
her name on your
own work or write
your name on his/
her works.

What would you show
on this art exhibition?

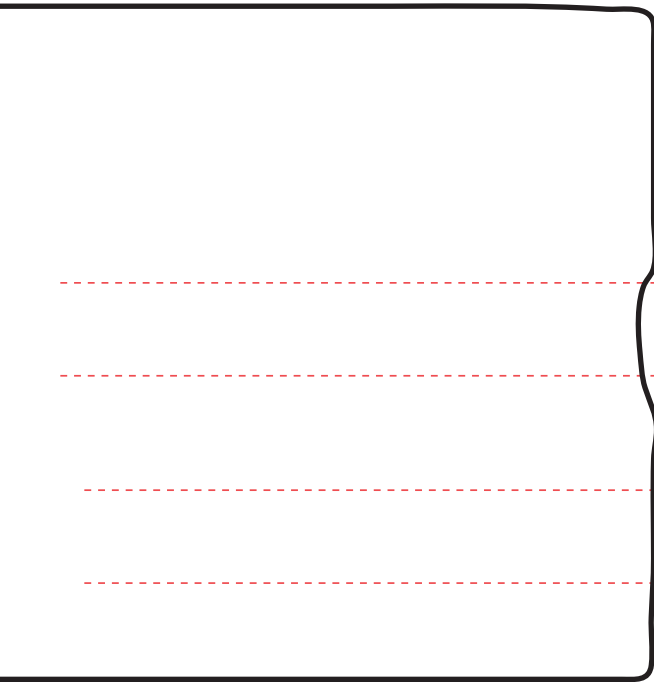


**DRAW HERE
PICTURES
OF YOURSELF
BEING PRIVATE.**

Artists often
share with their
audience something
private: they
draw themselves
sleeping, thinking
or being in despair.



Where do you draw
the line? What sorts
of private moments
are not ok to share
with strangers?



Four horizontal dashed red lines spanning the width of the page, intended for writing.

This is a black and white reproduction of the painting 'Venus of Urbino' by Titian. The painting depicts a nude woman, Venus, reclining on a patterned cushion. She is holding a carnation flower in her right hand, which is raised towards her chest. Her left arm is bent, with her hand resting on her thigh. She has a serene expression and is looking directly at the viewer. Her hair is styled in loose, curly waves, and she wears a simple headband. The background is dark and indistinct, focusing attention on the figure. The overall style is characteristic of the Venetian School, with soft lighting and detailed rendering of the human form.

In the United States in the last few years,
several adolescents were charged by
police for sending each other nude or
semi-nude photos.

●●●●● AT&T

8:27 PM

🕒 18% 🔋⚡

[← Messages](#) **Sandro Botticelli** [Contact](#)

come on just 1 pic

i just think you're so sexy

i dont know? i don't want
you showing my pic to
your friends lol

i swear i won't show
anyone

ever????

i promise



**THIS IS A PHOTOGRAPH OF
RUBENS' SECOND WIFE HELEN
FOURMENT - IT IS ONE OF
THE MOST FAMOUS PAINTINGS
IN THE WORLD.**

What laws regulating the public behavior of children in relation to their bodies would you pass?

What exactly would you forbid and what would you allow?

THE YES MAN N°9

WANT TO
CHALLENGE
THE
AUTHORITIES?
JUST AGREE
WITH THEM!

IN 2004, A MEMBER
OF THE YES MEN ART
GROUP MISLED TV JOUR-
NALISTS BY PRETENDING
TO BE THE BIG BOSS

of an American company called Dow Chemical
and promising to restore justice.

1984 was marred by the greatest environmental disaster in the world, which happened in the Indian city of Bhopal due to the wrongdoings of Dow Chemical. This catastrophe left half a million people injured. Several thousand died, while many remained crippled for life. Even though over many years have passed since the tragedy, children still continue to be born with birth defects. The Dow Chemical corporation returned to the US right away and did not spend a dime to help the victims, clean or restore the environment or decontaminate people's homes. After the Yes Man's appearance on TV twenty years later, the real

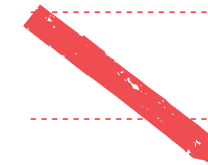
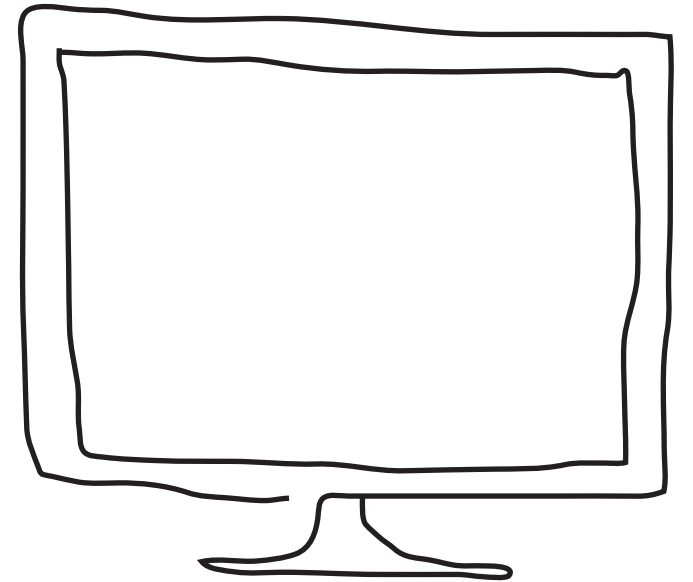
boss of Dow had to acknowledge the fact that the company had left the victims to the mercy of fate. It did not, however stop the corporation, responsible for the deaths and suffering of thousands, from organizing sporting events for the "health and wellbeing". Dow Chemical is a part of a successful international conglomerate. Not one of its executives has been held liable. The Yes Men could not be sued for deceit. The actor pointed out politely that his photograph was publicly available on the internet and that journalists should have done a better job verifying his identity



I IMAGINE THAT YOU ARE
ON TV DURING PRIME
TIME AND YOU CAN TALK
ABOUT ANYTHING THAT
CONCERNS YOU

01

Maybe it would be better to introduce yourself as someone else in order to sound more convincing?
Who will you pretend to be: the Queen of England, President Putin, your school principal?



02

HOW WOULD THE
VIEWERS REACT?

Would they be
surprised? Remain
indifferent?
Would they take
action?

03

What if your idea went
totally wrong? You have
interfered in public
space for no good
reason. Or maybe it is
ok to make mistakes?

COMMENTS FROM ZAGREB/

WANT
TO CHALLENGE
THE AUTHORITIES?
JUST AGREE
WITH THEM!

THE YES MAN: OCCUPY TV

Draw in each TV
how you would look
as somebody else.

02

Benjamin (14): I will introduce myself as a famous scientist a Nobel Prize winner. I will try to scare everyone with consequences of climate change, so everyone starts to believe that we are going to be burned and drowned simultaneously unless we start using only alternative energy right now.



04

Leo (17): I will say that I am a wealthy director of a huge company. I will say that I give all my wealth to feed the hungry in Africa. I will ask all TV viewers to do the same. Maybe someone will agree.



HERE ARE HOW OTHER
KIDS IMAGINED THEIR TV
APPEARANCE.

01

Its Lea (17): I will pretend to be american president. I will tell that the earth was taken over by aliens and everything I was saying before was aliens conspiracy against humans, from now on everybody must forget what I was saying up until now, ban all laws that I have had passed and start living, caring for each other



03

Alise (16): I will pretend to be Lady Gaga. I will tell my fans that they should not mock the fat people. I'll explain that many girls even got sick to lose weight. I will say that to mock fat or make fun of old people is bad and that when I'm old, I'm planning to be fat.



PRIVATE AS HAVEN

Nº10

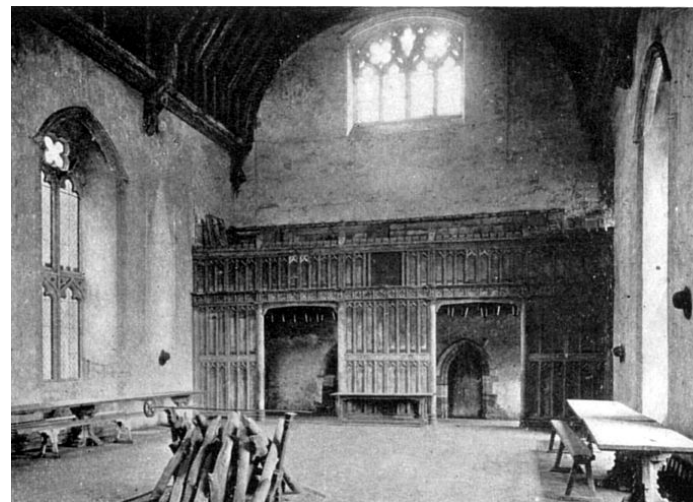
OUR VIEWS ON WHAT A BEDROOM IS AND HOW WE SHOULD SLEEP IN IT HAVE CHANGED.

Just 100 years ago, people believed that separate beds were not necessary. They were happy to share their beds with colleagues, relatives and even strangers.



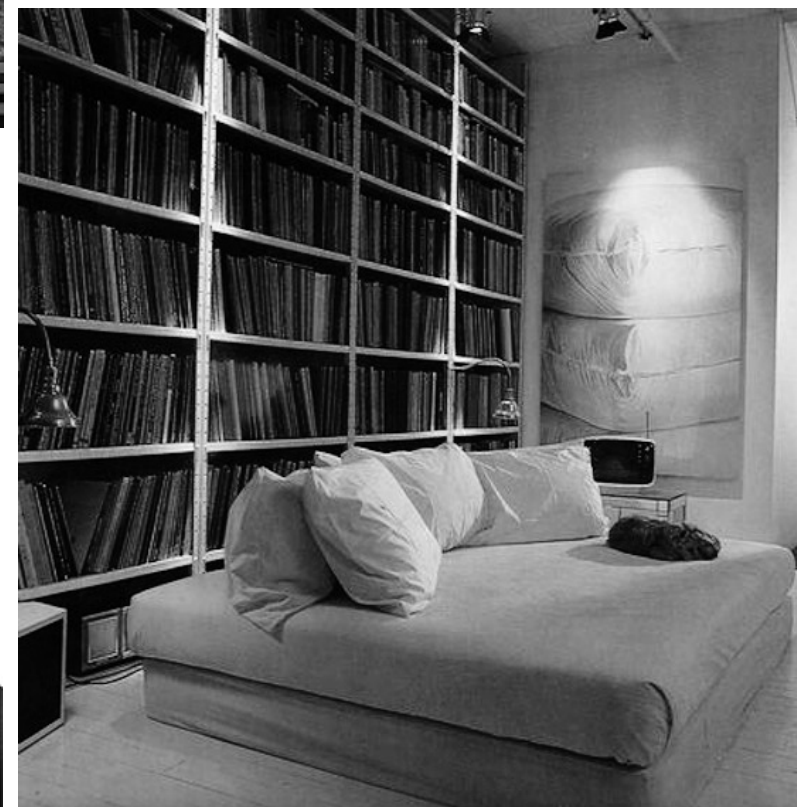
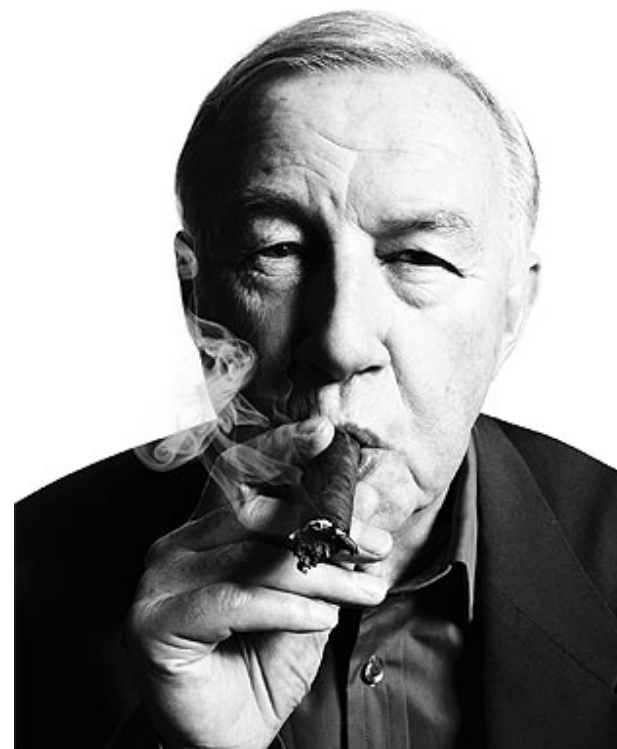
The servants and guests of the medieval castle Penshurst Place in Kent slept on the floor in a huge hall. In fact, it was very convenient: warm, safe and cozy.

Only the Lords and Ladies of the castle slept separately, on the top floor. At the time on sleeping styles indicated the different social statuses of the lords, servants and guests.



The Victorian era of the 19th century gave birth not only to the notion of separate bedrooms (even for spouses), but also to an incredibly complex structure of the bed itself.

The Victorian bed consisted of many components: pillows, blankets, linings, cushion covers and bedsheets. In rich households all of this attire had to be changed several times a day. It is therefore not surprising that the majority of working English women were servants! This continued up until World War 1. But the final liberation from the backbreaking work of setting up an ideal personal sleeping place came from Scandinavia in the 1970s.



It was the invention of Terence Conran, who created the simple bed linen we all still use today.



I do not want to be seen
from outside

Describe your ideal way
to sleep

WHEN I THINK ABOUT HOW I WOULD LIKE TO SLEEP,

I IMAGINE AN IDEAL TRANSPARENT
BALL THAT CAN BE CONTROLLED
FROM THE INSIDE. IT WOULD BE
ABLE TO FLY AROUND THE ROOM
OR OUTSIDE IN THE STREET
OR EVEN ALL AROUND THE WORLD,
WHILE I WOULD BE SOUND ASLEEP.

THE SLEEPING BALL WOULD
APPEAR IN THE MOST
UNEXPECTED PLACES – IN A NEW
TOWN OR ON THE OTHER SIDE OF
THE EARTH. THE TEMPERATURE
AND HUMIDITY INSIDE THE BALL
WOULD BE ADJUSTIBLE. THE
BRIGHTNESS OF THE LIGHT
COULD BE ALTERED. AND WHEN
THE BALL WAS ON THE MOVE, IT
WOULD ROCK SLIGHTLY, LULLING
ITS OCCUPANT TO SLEEP.

No 11

PRIVATE AS AN ATTACK ON THE PUBLIC

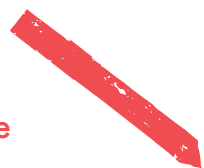
Many metropolitan cities today are undergoing privatization: governments are selling off the alleys, squares and parks that have until now been used by the public to investors and private owners, who then use the space to build shopping centers or parking lots. The residents are told that this way the city will become richer and will develop more rapidly.

The city, where an average citizen in most cases only moves between the points where they buy products or services, is becoming expensive and unwelcoming. In a city like that, there is very little room for public solidarity. Every square meter is designed to provide the most economic efficiency for people – buyers and sellers. There is no place for citizens!

It seems as though a privatized city is specifically created to launch an invisible war of person against person. A city like that does not need monuments or parks, playgrounds or bicycle lanes.

Draw a plan of the
central square of
your ideal city.

YOU ARE THE MAYOR OF THE CITY. THE RESIDENTS HAVE NOT YET MADE UP THEIR MINDS AS TO HOW THEY WILL LIVE TOGETHER. THEY HAVE ASKED YOU FOR HELP.



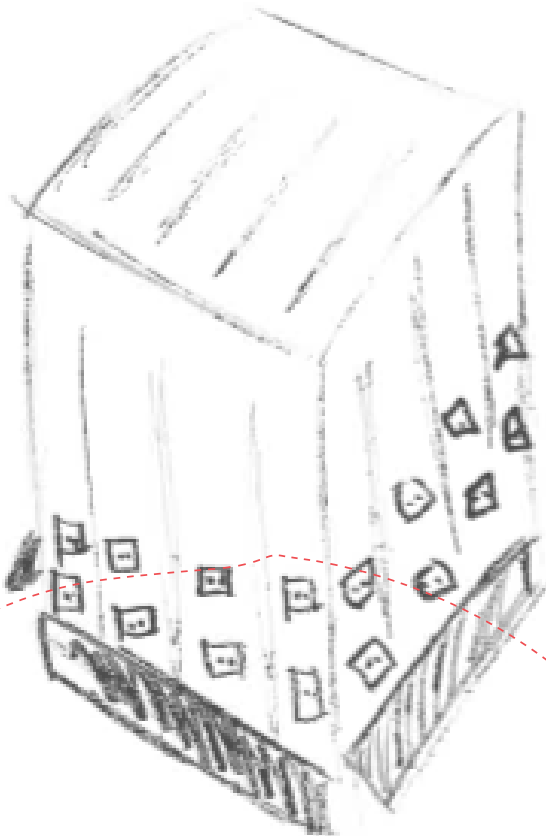
PRIVATE AS THE DESIRE TO BE TOGETHER

These are the results of a workshop in Zagreb.
Kids were asked to draw
the central square of their ideal city

Please comment on the
ideas of the kids and
draw your own plans.
Would you agree to
these ideas? Why or
why not?

PUBLIC SQUARE AS A PLACE
WHERE CITIZENS COULD MEET EACH OTHER
AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS.

Lovro (16) thinks that
the main square should
be a place where
people can charge their
phones and use free
internet.

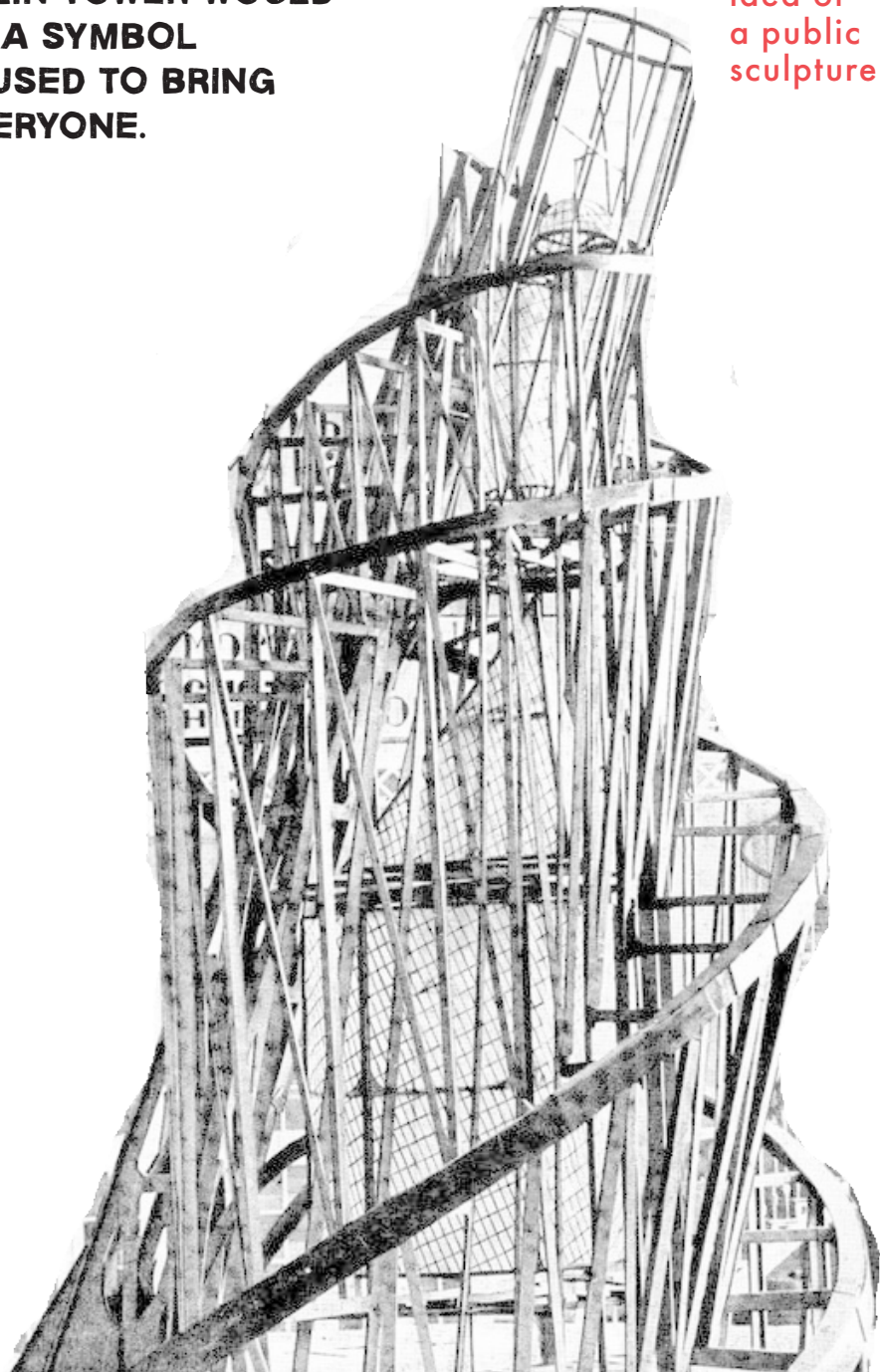


Draw your
own here

Lea (16) thinks that the
main square is a place
where world famous
fashion brands could be
accessible for everybody.
Shopping is an important



THE CENTRAL SQUARE OF MY CITY WOULD LOOK LIKE A REPLICA OF THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL SCULPTURE BY VLADIMIR TATLIN, EXCEPT MY TOWER WOULD BE MADE OF FANTASTIC MATERIALS OF THE FUTURE. SO IF THE RESIDENTS OF THE TOWER EVER WANTED IT, THE TOWER COULD TURN INTO A FLYING VEHICLE THAT COULD BE USED TO GIVE GROUP TOURS TO THE SUBURBS, OR IT COULD TURN INTO A GIANT PLAYGROUND OR A THEATER STAGE WHERE ACTORS WOULD PERFORM PLAYS AND SING. AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, THIS WAY THE FAMOUS TATLIN TOWER WOULD STOP BEING JUST A SYMBOL AND INSTEAD BE USED TO BRING HAPPINESS TO EVERYONE.



This is my idea of a public sculpture.

Draw or write a description of your vision of a public sculpture:





SAM CHERNAEFF

THE ONLY PLACE WHERE I FEEL MYSELF IN SECLUSION IN A MODERN CITY IS IN THE STREET. NOBODY CAN SEE ME THERE, I DO NOT KNOW ANYONE THERE, AND THEY DO NOT KNOW ME. AS SOON AS I FIND MYSELF AT HOME, I WOULD PROBABLY SCROLL THROUGH FACEBOOK OR TWITTER, WRITE TO MY FAVORITE AUTHORS, WHO OFTEN RESPOND TO ME IMMEDIATELY. THERE ONLINE, I TURN INTO A PUBLIC PERSON. IN THE STREET, IT'S NOT CONVENIENT TO USE SOCIAL NETWORKS. WHEN PEOPLE LIVED IN SMALL TOWNS OR VILLAGES, THEY WENT OUT INTO THE STREET, MET FRIENDS – THE POSTMAN, THE BAKER – AND HAD PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS. BUT NOW EVERYTHING HAS CHANGED.

Think carefully:
where do you feel lonely – at
home or in the streets?

Why?



No12

PRIVATE AS A DANGER

It is not only the governments and corporations that are trying to control us by getting hold of our private data. Our privacy is also at risk from criminals. The skills and successes of both these groups are obviously going to improve as the time goes by.

This is called identity theft: our passport numbers, looks and even fingerprints can be used for profit. And this is to say nothing of the credit card numbers or account passwords to social networks. By gaining control over someone's personal data, strangers can take

out a bank loan in the name of their victim, take out cash from a credit card account, send spam emails or ask their friends and relatives for money over Skype or social networks. Depending on how talented the thieves are – and how naïve the victim and their

circle of friends are – criminals can cause serious harm. One can get hold of tremendous power by controlling our personal data from afar.



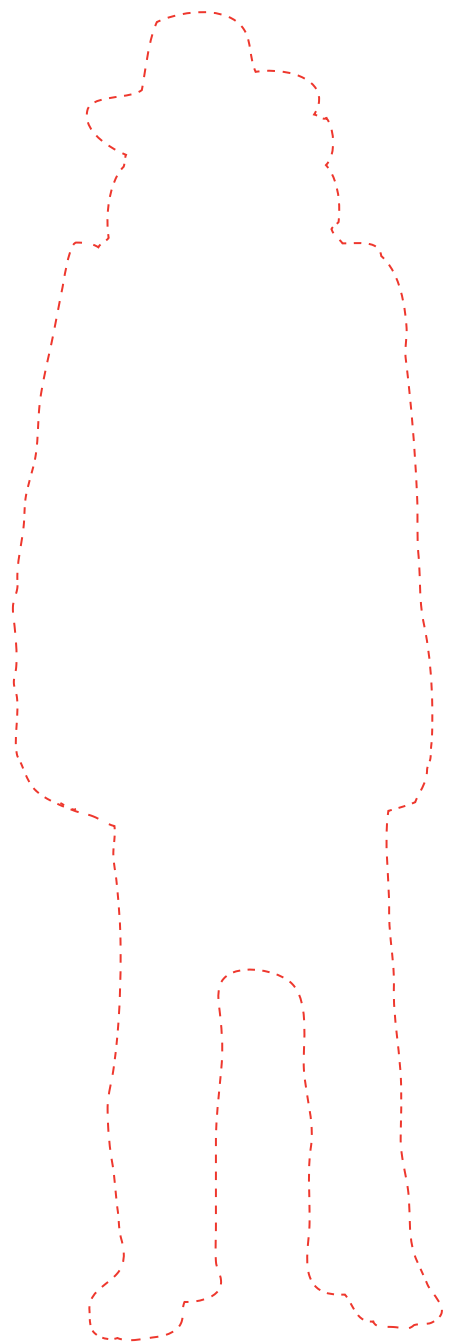
IMAGINE THAT THE MAIN GOAL OF THE CLOTHING OF THE FUTURE WOULD BE TO PROTECT OURSELVES, OUR FACE AND OUR MANNER OF WALKING FROM IDENTITY THEFT.

Think of a design for the faces of these people so as to prevent the algorithms from automatically reidentifying them.

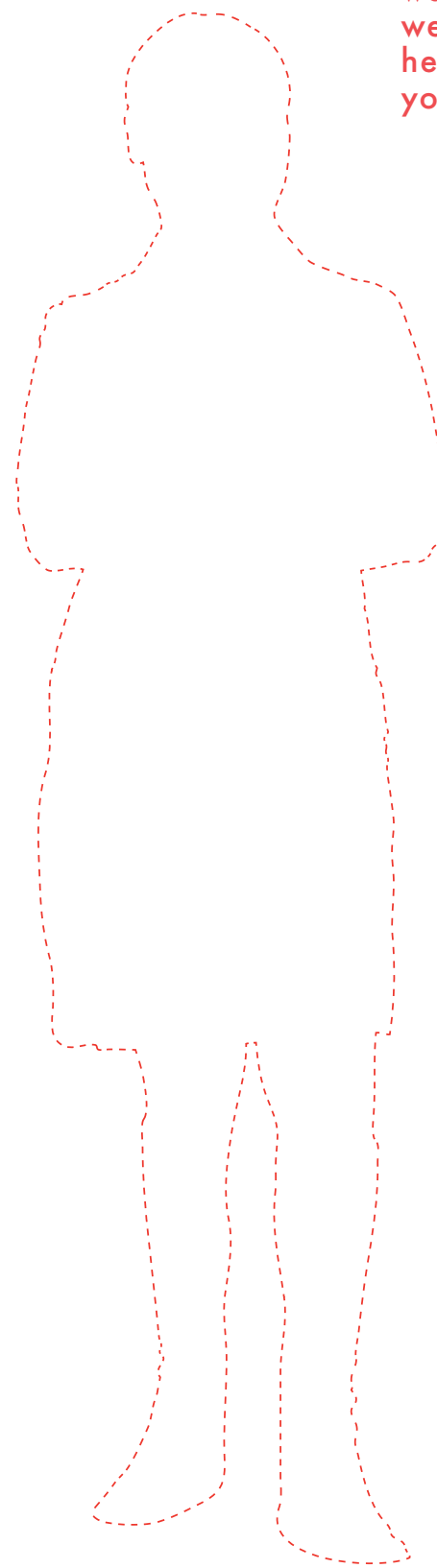
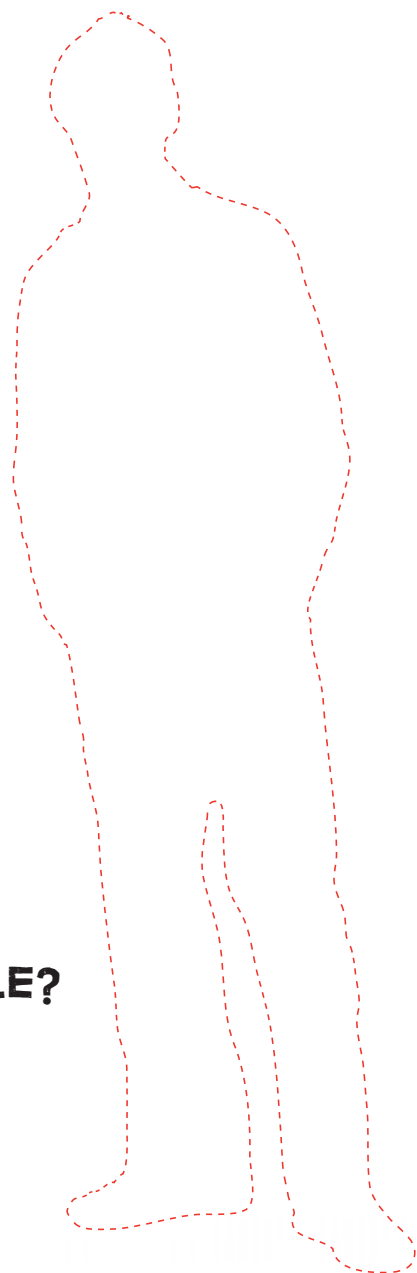


Continue on the next page and show us what you've got

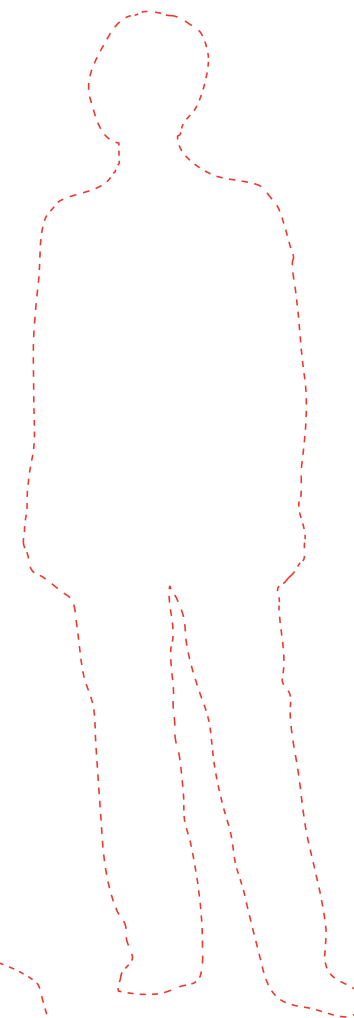
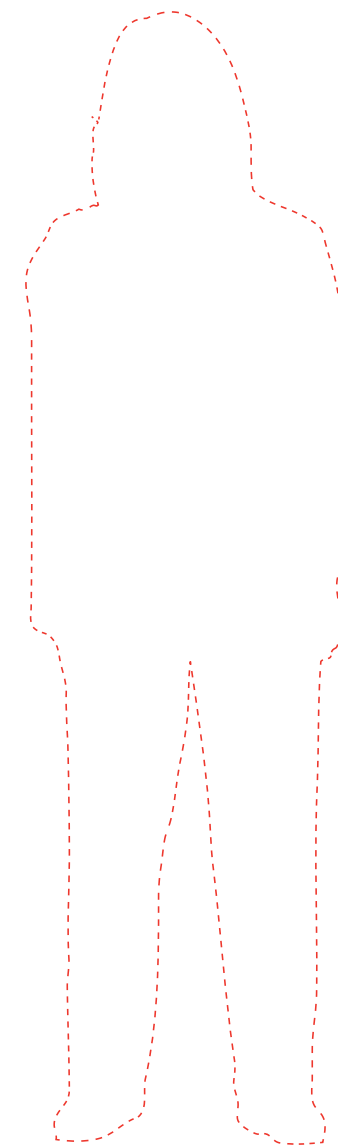




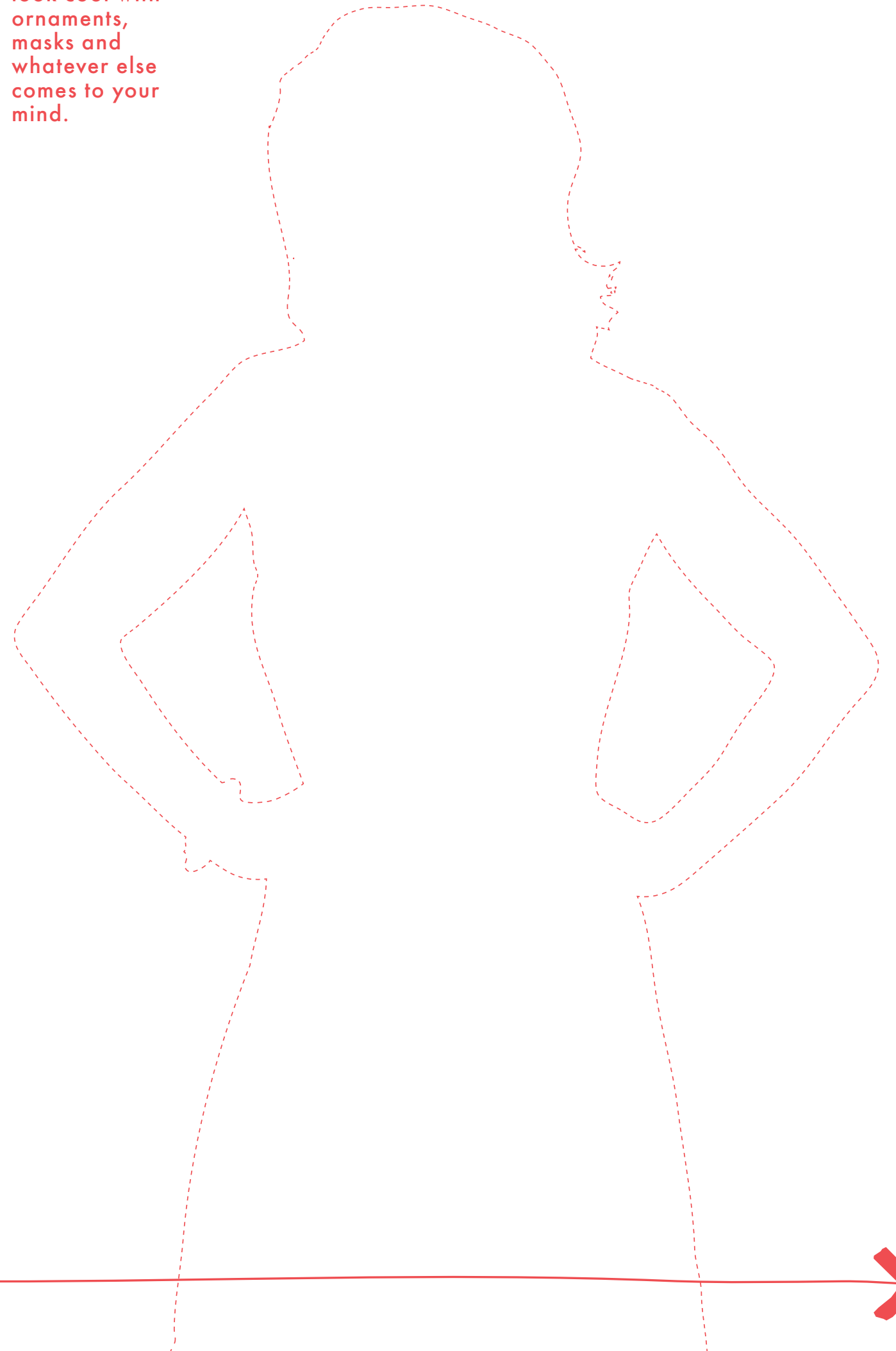
**HOW WOULD
YOU DECORATE
AND PAINT
THESE PEOPLE
TO MAKE THEM
UNRECOGNIZABLE?**



Would you cover
their arms, faces
and bodies the same
way people who
wear burqas and
headscarves do, or do
you have other ideas?



Make this figure
look cool with
ornaments,
masks and
whatever else
comes to your
mind.



**CAN WE USE
THE LATEST
FASHIONS
IN ORDER TO
ESCAPE THE
SURVEILLANCE?**



How would you
hide yourself
from surveillance
cameras?
Draw on top of
this figures.



IF PHOTOGRAPHS AND
UNCOVERED FACES
REPRESENT A THREAT,
MAYBE IN THE FUTURE
THERE WILL BE LAWS THAT
OBLIGE US TO RETHINK
OURSELVES?

WHAT KIND OF LAWS DO YOU
THINK THESE WOULD BE?

In some cultures people don't let others photograph them. They believe that a photograph steals the person's image. During the Carnival of Venice residents had to hide their faces behind masks, so that for several days the difference between the rich and the poor, the old and the young, the beautiful and the ugly would vanish.

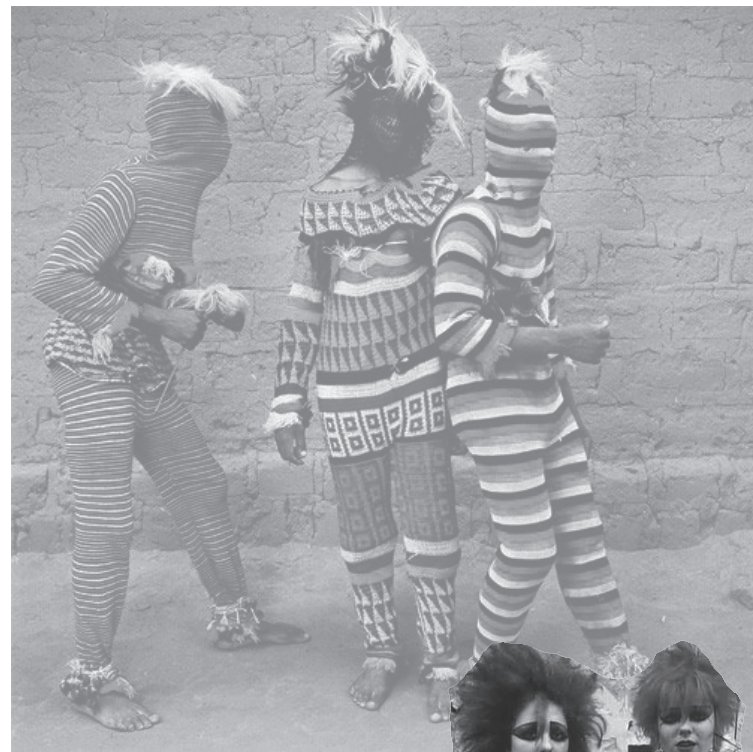
Today it is prohibited to publish a photograph of a person without their permission. That's why the faces of pedestrians on Google Maps are always blurred out.



№12

LET'S CREATE THE PUBLIC TOGETHER

Costumes that change the image of a person and transform them into an unexpected and incredible creature exist in every traditional culture throughout the world.



Nikolai Evreinov, a theatrical theorist of the early 20th century, believed that the strongest human instinct is the theatrical one. In his opinion people are prepared to sacrifice the essentials – safety, wealth and even food – for the pure purpose of playing the role of the ideal self or of a different self.



**COULD IT BE THAT WHEN WE
DRESS UP AND CHANGE OUR
CLOTHES WE ARE LOOKING
FOR OUR “REAL SELF”?**

Think of the clothes that these characters could wear in order to look unexpected. Let hippies dress like emos, punks look like goths, and goths look like office workers.



Use this silhouette to draw an unexpected image of yourself.



**DO YOU THINK
THAT SOCIETY,
THAT IS ALL OF US
TOGETHER, HAS THE
RIGHT TO CONTROL
THE ACTIONS OF
A FEW, IF THOSE
FEW HARM THE
MAJORITY?**

Nº13

PRIVATE AS HARM

The industry that manufactures plastic products makes quite a lot of money in serving our need for convenience. It is very convenient to throw away the bag that we brought from a grocery store or to have a cup of coffee in a take-away container on the way to work and get rid of it once we are finished. It is simply impossible to imagine our world without plastic!

Just think of Nestlé, the company that produces and distributes drinking water, or Coca-Cola. These companies are global giants with billions of dollars in turnover.



WHAT IS IT THAT THE STATE/THE PUBLIC CAN DEMAND FROM PEOPLE?

Imagine that you have been asked to write laws for a country. Use the space here to put down the laws on plastic and on whether waste needs to be sorted for recycling.

What fines/penalties would you impose for the pollution of rivers and littering of roads?
Maybe everyone should decide what to do for themselves?
Or should the state control everything?



In the Soviet Union, just like in other socialist states, plastic bags were a rarity. They were difficult to find, which is why women washed them and dried them on radiators. Plastic bags were reused many times over. Other types of packaging used for milk, waste and grocery bags were also reusable. When people came to the store to get milk, they would bring their own containers and bottles. That's why the plastic waste problem did not exist. I grew up in the Soviet Union myself and I cannot remember anyone complaining about this "inconvenience" – we simply did not know otherwise.

Nº14

**IN 2000 YURIY SHABELNIK-
OV, AN ARTIST, ORGANIZED
A PERFORMANCE WHERE A
CAKE MADE IN FORM OF THE
DEAD BODY OF LENIN WAS
EATEN IN PUBLIC.**



To Soviet children, just like the children in many other totalitarian countries, their leader was presented as a family member. He was referred to as Grandfather Lenin – our common grandfather.

We were told that he took care of everyone, built kindergartens and summer camps. All the children – poor and rich, healthy and sick – were equally loved by Grandfather Lenin.



AND BEING APART



Younger kids in the USSR usually believed the story about Grandfather Lenin, while teenagers laughed at it. In the post-Soviet times, "after Grandfather Lenin got eaten", it was considered that children were supposed to be taken care of by their families, and not by the common grandfather: some were lucky to have caring and well-off parents, while others found themselves in the street or sent to schools for the poor. This is life!

DO YOU THINK THAT THE STATE (SOCIETY, ALL OF US TOGETHER) SHOULD TAKE CARE OF ALL THE CHILDREN, OR SHOULD CHILDREN BE TAKEN CARE OF ONLY BY THEIR OWN FAMILIES?

Write down
what you think
about it.

**IMAGINE THAT CHILDREN
GAINED THE SAME RIGHTS
AS FREE MEN IN ANCIENT
GREECE: THE RIGHT TO
ELECT SOCIAL ORDER
AND WRITE LAWS.**

**WOULD THIS BE
DANGEROUS?**

WOULD THIS BE FAIR?

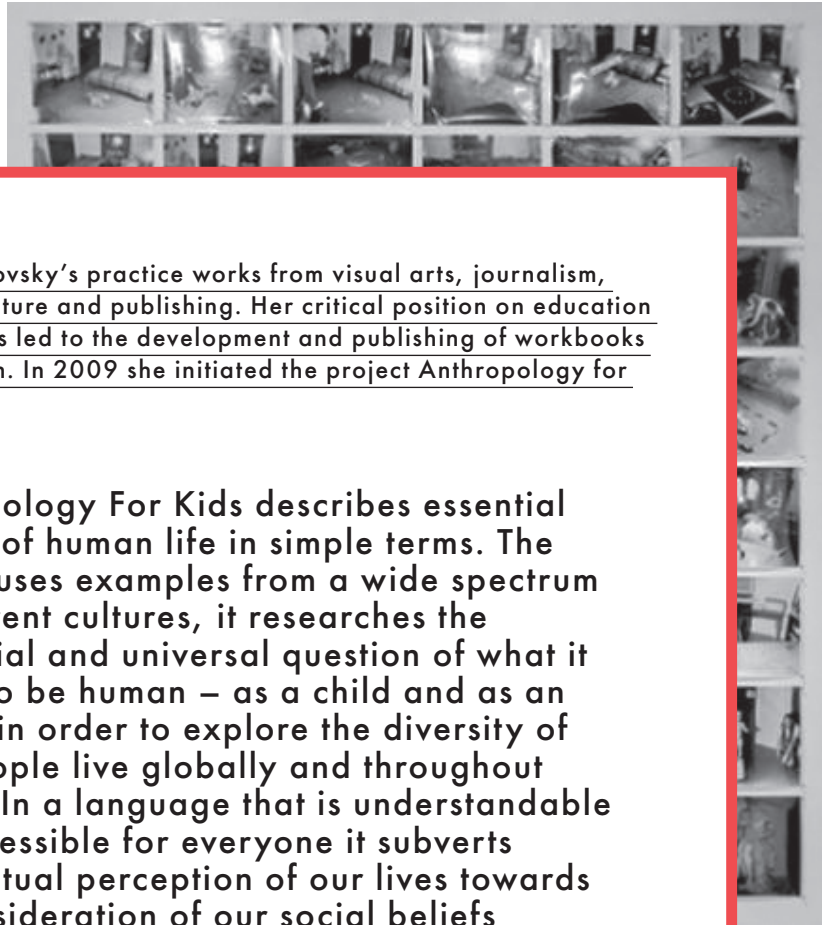
Describe the conditions
(such as the minimum age)
under which children would
be able to participate in
public and political life.



Nº15

PRIVATE AS SHAMEFUL

In ancient Greece, children, women and slaves were considered private property. They entirely depended on their owner – the father of the family – and their lives were not publically significant. They were mere objects for pleasure, survival, reproduction and care. Only free citizens (men) did politics and had a role in public life.



Nika Dubrovsky's practice works from visual arts, journalism, internet culture and publishing. Her critical position on education policies has led to the development and publishing of workbooks for children. In 2009 she initiated the project Anthropology for Kids.

Anthropology For Kids describes essential aspects of human life in simple terms. The project uses examples from a wide spectrum of different cultures, it researches the existential and universal question of what it means to be human – as a child and as an adult – in order to explore the diversity of how people live globally and throughout history. In a language that is understandable and accessible for everyone it subverts the habitual perception of our lives towards a reconsideration of our social beliefs and habits.

