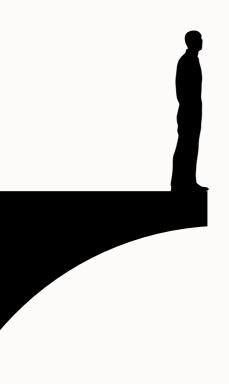
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LEFT THOUGHT AND PRACTICE AOTEAROA

ISSUE 17 2025

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TEU Response
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The Ailing Body of Capital: Social Reproduction, Unhealthy Diets, and Non-Communicable Diseases

ANA RENKER-DARBY

A Marxist analysis of food production in contemporary capitalist societies and how constraints on social reproduction have facilitated the rise of ultra-processed foods and the increasing prevalence of non-communicable diseases in Aotearoa New Zealand.

On Alex Garland's Civil War and Warfare

DAVID JENKINS

A study of Alex Garland's recent films that considers whether *Civil War* and *Warfare*, which have been roundly critiqued on the left, might be subtextual critiques of US journalism and imperialism.

The Twilight of Progressive Neoliberalism

QUINN SLOBODIAN

An interview with the historian and public intellectual that touches on the historical significance of the 1990s, mutations of neoliberalism, the need to re-think the twin ruptures of Trump and Brexit, and the contemporary far right's obsession with IQ and gold.

(Never) Reveal Yourself: Killing the Author (Again) in the Age of Personal Poetics

LYNLEY EDMEADES

A meditation on the work of Aotearoa New Zealand poet Jackson McCarthy that reflects on the contemporary significance of Roland Barthes' concept of the 'death of the author' in an age where author-as-brand reigns supreme.

Towards a Member-Led Union: Organising a Way Out of Servicing DANIEL BENSON-GUIU

A response by TEU Assistant National Secretary (Industrial) to the Left TEU Network's article in *Counterfutures* 15, in which he outlines the steps the TEU have taken to move towards an organising union.

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After Liberalism?

CHAMSY EL-OJEILI

A review of Rita Abrahamsen and co-author's *The World of the Right: Radical Conservatism and the Global Order* – a study of the intellectual foundations of the contemporary global far right.

Forms, Events, Treaties

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A review of Dougal McNeill's Forms of Freedom: Marxist Essays in New Zealand and Australian Literature, which questions what it means to think critically and imaginatively with the literary form.

Hard Labour, Prisoners, and the Building of New Zealand JOHN PRATT

A review of Jared Davidson's *Blood and Dirt: Prison Labour and the Making of New Zealand*, which focuses on the role of prison labour in the building of Aotearoa New Zealand's infrastructure and industries and the history of prison labour's public visibility.

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