



Editor's note: Though "Joe" has not made it to Lincoln yet, it is showing in Omaha. Sooner or later it will be shown in Lincoln.

By COLLEGIATE PRESS SERVICE

Hippies strolling on the fringe of the victory rally generated several scuffles. One occurred when construction workers grabbed a Vietcong flag that the hippies were carrying and ran with it. Several counter-demonstrators caught up with the workers, resulting in a brief fist fight that was broken up by the police.

—NEW YORK TIMES, article on Washington Oct. 3 Victory Rally

None of us like being beat on the head or kicked in the ass. Nor do we get any great sense of joy or identity or resolution being categorically labeled "hippie" or "dirty hippie."

We disdain and fear flag wavers and their righteousness. In fact, we mock their flag ridden cars and label them Middle Americans, Silent Majority, right-wing freaks with the same venom they direct toward us, our life-style, and our too-often poorly-defined or non-existent politics.

"Joe" is the prototypical man we've been groomed to hate. And we, the media billed student hippie revolutionary generation, forced into assuming the role on the opposite end of the societal pole, are the logical recipients of his hatred. Hard hats and hippies, Middle

America and the youth culture: we've read of the confrontations time after time. And, though few have noticed, both sides continually respond as the media and the administration bid them to. They march for victory with Reverend McIntyre, we respond with a counter-demo for peace and an end to US imperialism. The gap widens, the hatred and fear deepens, and the extremes which exist only to serve the ends of the Mitchells, Agnews and Nixons grow ever more irreconcilable.

In "Joe" the youth culture audience of many-shaded political persuasions is challenged to understand the psyche of a right-wing vigilante, to grapple with his meaningless life, which he admits is "a crock of shit," to get inside his hatred, examine his gut, confront the strength of his anger, and then, admit that he is at least as oppressed and controlled by a mechanistic, dehumanizing society as we.

We meet Joe raving drunk in a New York bar, demanding that THEY all be shot. By the film's end he has completed the act several times in a mad rampage through a commune outside the city.

The cultural extremes act out the inevitable conclusion of their inevitable confrontation. Swept along in their slush is the liberal father-turned-killer of his own "hippie" daughter. A man is not allowed to straddle

the middle in times of polarity: he must choose his monster and act.

"Joe" examines brutally and brilliantly the human beings on both edges of this media-gap-trap and their combined effects upon those confused, sad other human beings attempting to cling to the diminishing middle ground. We are forced to make the fine distinction between monster and enemy; and forced to the conclusion that Joe is not the enemy, that the real enemy has made monsters of us all.

Going many, many levels beyond the "Easy Rider" mentality, "Joe" leaves us feeling more than a little unclear, yet with a choice. Will it be despair or understanding.

We can either retreat into increased paranoia, or see the Joes and Fred Comptons as monsters created by this society, as men more oppressed than we, reject the non-think reactions the media and Agnew would have us take, and accept the responsibility of this realization. "Joe" is not an easy film.

Nine campus police added to force

"In order to operate more efficiently," the campus police force has been increased by nine men in the past six months, said Gale Gade, campus security chief.

Gade, who has been at NU for almost two years, explained that the force had been understaffed. He cited efficiency rather than increased campus security as the reason for the rise in force size.

The new men will enforce parking regulations and will work in cruiser and building patrols, Gade said. Building patrols "see that the building is secure after closing time," he explained.

Due to recent bombings throughout the country, Gade said that every U.S. University is concerned about what could happen to their buildings.

"We don't want to take it for

granted that we won't have a bombing," he added.

The campus has been "real quiet" since last spring, Gade noted, with the only notable student incident occurring off-campus Nov. 24. He referred to the march organized by the Free Speech Movement on the State Selective Service Office to protest the renewed bombing of North Vietnam.

Although the march began on 14th and R St., Gade said, it was a "city problem," and only campus policemen were in the area.

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