



THE
HALF
&
HALF
CONVENTION





For the last three weeks, Elon's "Art & Politics" class created and discussed projects that used art as a tool for dealing with global, national and personal political issues. The first round of projects was comprised by a series of graphic pieces that aimed at bringing attention to *the visualization of the global era*. The students were interested in the mediated representation of global issues and our current visual culture, and responded to it by creating their own set of images.

In the middle of our course we were faced with the tragedy of the Arizona shooting and its heavily mediated aftermath, right when we were scheduled to create a series of sound art pieces for our next project. At this point, it was impossible not to discuss and address issues of *narrative*, *political discourse*, and *national rhetoric*. We were very shocked by this mindless act, and almost equally shocked and disillusioned by the stream of negativity and divide that the media, along with some high-level politicians, seemed to encourage and support. Most of our sound projects reflected that feeling of disenchantment that later gave birth to the "Half & Half Convention".

With the Half & Half Convention, we aimed to attract the attention of our immediate community through the use of parody and simulacra. By presenting our event as "an evening of heated politics and caffeinated debate," and creating the fictional "Latte" and "Espresso" parties, an invitation is extended to reflect on the superficial duality of our current bipartisan political system and on the shallowness of the current polarized political discourse. This event is a statement of a generation that sees politics bursting outside of mass media and the electoral system, and that is now airing its voice through art.

- Juan Obando
Assistant Professor of Art
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Brian Roby and Robert McIver

YOU MUST BE 18



He's only 8.



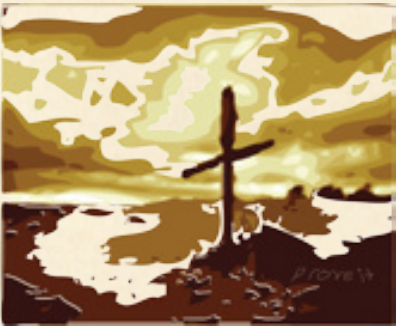
Don't worry about a thing cause
every little thing's gonna be alright ...



Industrialized
Countries
of the
WORLD



**GLOBAL
WARMING**



Drew Robson and Ryan Bowman

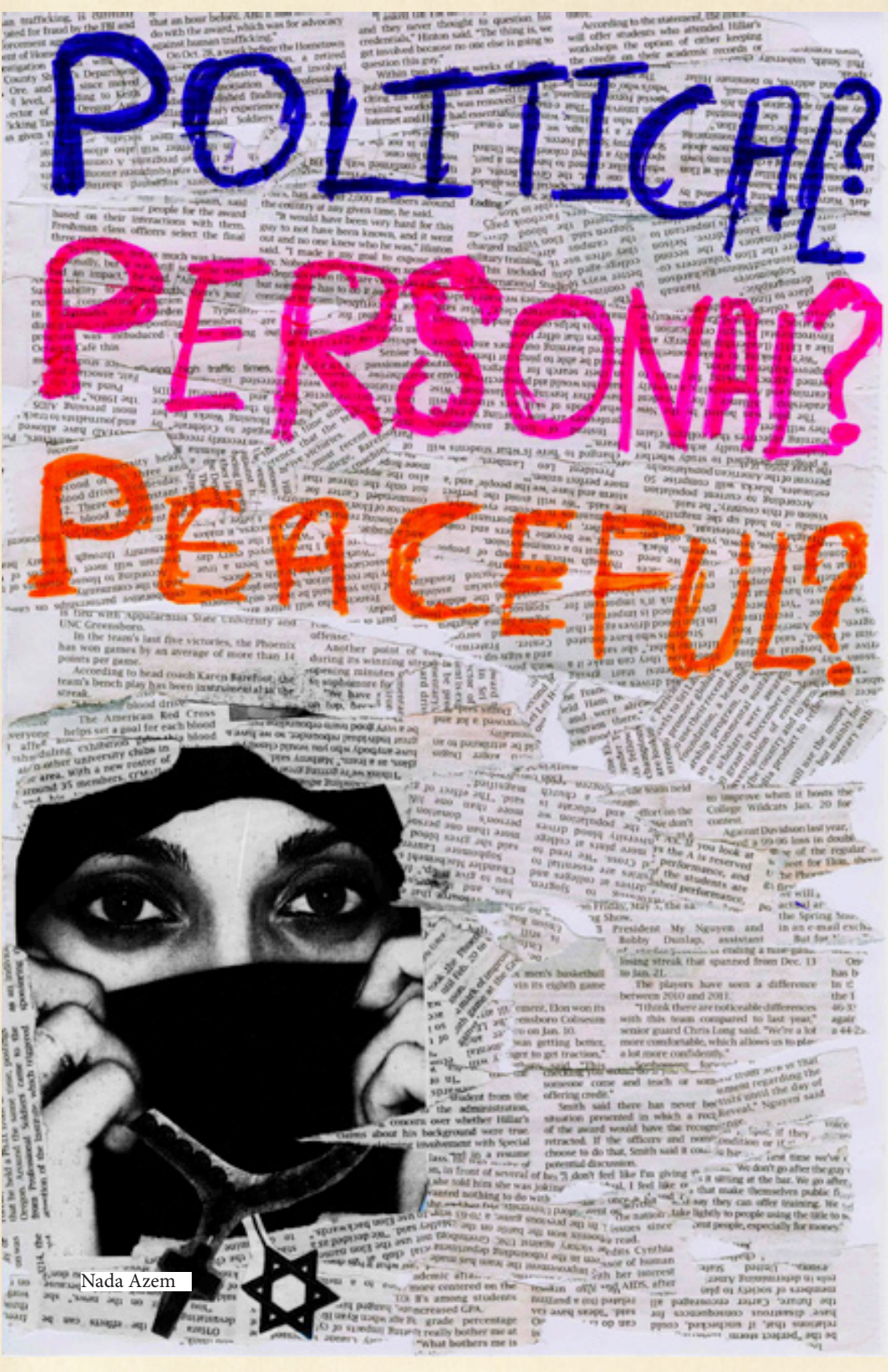
**“THEY GAVE ME
A UNIFORM
AND TOLD ME
THAT...**

NOW I WAS IN THE ARMY.”





Nada Azem and John Taylor



POLITICAL?

AT RISK?

DEAF?



Nada Azem





Victoria Walker

Sports Illustrated

Winning is not the only issue players such as Samuel Eto'o have to deal with on game day.



SAY NO TO RACISM

January 6, 2011

FOOTBALL-WALLPAPERS.com

Don't Worry
About A Thing
Cause Every Little
Thing's
Gonna Be All Right







New York Times

SUNDAY



India:
There are now over
3 million prostitutes in India.
12 million that are children.
200 girls and women will
enter prostitution each day.
80% against their own will
and 35% under the age of 18

Sudan:
...side in Darfur
...this rise to 2
...with over 4
...ple displaced

Los Angeles Times

What stories do you care about?
Keep a global perspective.



HIV/AIDS in Africa.

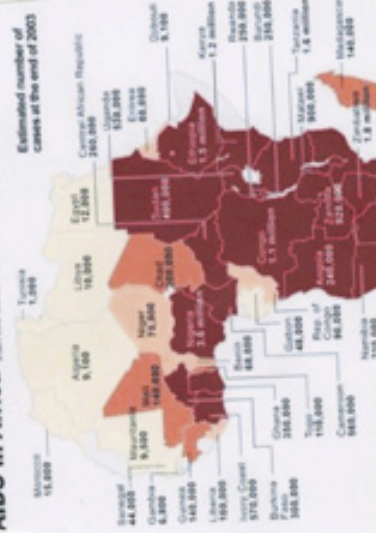


BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

JOIN (RED) NOW

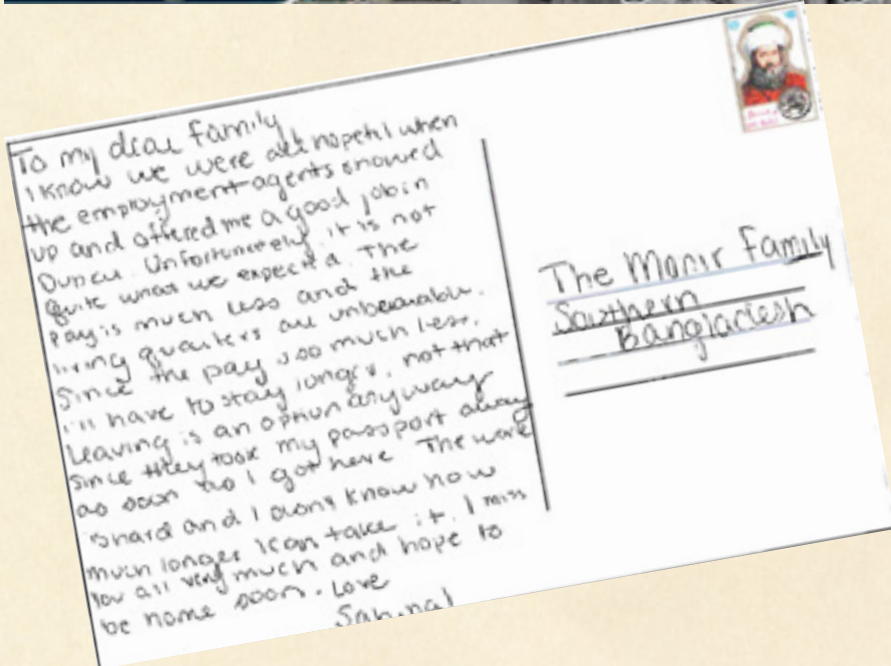
AIDS in Africa

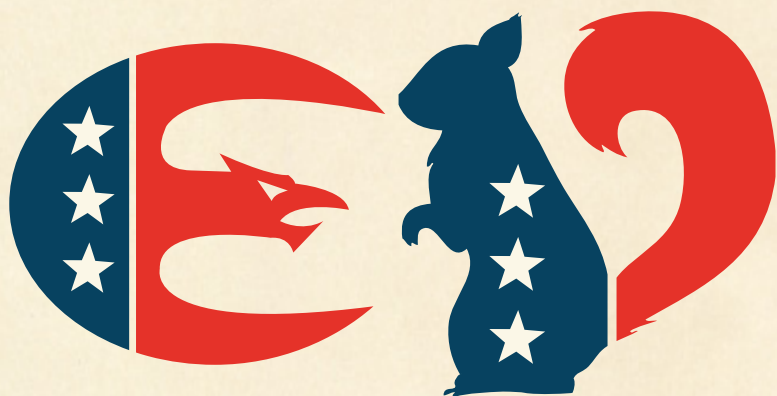
Of the estimated 36.4 million people living with HIV worldwide, more than two-thirds of them are in Africa.



Stats:

Country	Deaths
Tanzania	169,000
Kenya	150,000
Congo	9,700
Uganda	78,000
Ethiopia	2,000
Cameroon	82,000
Cote d'Ivoire	65,000
Liberia	72,000
Guinea-Bissau	2,700
Togo	9,100
Nigeria	310,000
Gambia	1,300
Burkina Faso	12,000
Ghana	25,000
Benin	9,600
Mali	11,000
Sierra Leone	4,600
Guinea	7,000
Niger	9,600
Tanzania	1,014,600





Art & Politics, 2010