

# NEW TIMES

By Susan Margolis

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"Growth is not a feeling, it's something you *do!*" insists Mimi Silbert. She is a director of Delancey Street Foundation, a community very different from Esalen. She lives in the midst of several hundred ex-junkies where there are no massage tables and encounter is not so much a luxury as a last chance.

"To change anything that hurts, you have to figure out where the power is and aim for it. All this whining about how power is a bad ego trip makes me furious. If your problem is inside you, you've got to find your own power in order to change things. If the problem is out there, you've got to fight City Hall. But sitting around being groovy and talking about your feelings or how much you dig where somebody's coming from is a waste of time. That's not growth! Growth is fighting to make things better. Working off an addiction or working for a guaranteed national income so old people don't have to live like animals south of Market Street, so we won't have to claw each other to bits in the fear we'll die like dogs. The diseases in the swamp breed off each other. And if you don't recognize the swamp, you can't grow."



Mimi Silbert, a director of Delancey St. Foundation, says,

"Growth is something you do!"