

## YOUTH SUBCULTURE IN PULA. FROM THE OCCURRENCE OF PUNK TO THE DISPERSAL OF THE ALTERNATIVE SCENE

### SUMMARY

The fact that punk occurred in the city of Pula as early as in 1977, i.e. not long after it first emerged, has earned the city of Pula an important place in the history of youth subculture. Regardless of the situation in Yugoslavia, where “western” influences were represented as slightly suspect in mainstream culture and by the media, regardless of limited contacts with the international scene and political/police control over youth, the appearance of an anarchist and nihilist cultural, artistic and political philosophy has, surprisingly, not caused moral panic among or a mobilization of the social elite. Rather it developed freely, as a phenomenon which may have been the cause for bewilderment, or even disbelief, but certainly not shock. With the appearance of punk in 1977, the already thriving subcultural scene of Pula experienced an almost incredible boom, which lasted until the late 1990s, when the post-war situation and the political dictate steadily smothered progressive thought and unbridled creativity, a *conditio sine qua non* for a rich alternative (subcultural) scene.

The aim of this paper is to use a combined method informed by ethnomethodology to ascertain the state of the youth subculture in Pula in a period characterized by what might be seen as the most significant changes ever (information revolution, the dissolution of socialism, the advent of the Internet, etc.) in a sociopolitical, economic and cultural sense.

Keywords: Pula, youth, identity, subculture, alternative scene