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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024

THE BATTLE OVER WOMEN'S SPORTS

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HOW CHARITIES SECRETLY HELP WIN ELECTIONS

BY PARKER THAYER

Read the report at
https://capitalresearch.org/article/report-how-charities-secretly-help-win-elections/

A UNION-ONLY KEY BRIDGE REBUILD DISCRIMINATES AGAINST LOCAL WORKERS

By Scott Walter

Do Baltimoreans want to delay the rebuilding of the Key Bridge? Do they want 90 percent of local Maryland construction workers forbidden from getting jobs to rebuild it?

What if they learned the bridge delays and discrimination against Maryland workers were caused by politicians scheming to pay off their campaign contributors?

If the answer is no to delay and discrimination in service to politics, then the citizens of Charm City won't be happy to hear what Gov. Wes Moore and President Joe Biden have cooked up.

Credit: Andrew Leyden. License: Shutterstock.

"We're going to move heaven and earth to rebuild this bridge as rapidly as humanly possible." That promise sounded great, but the president put a big condition on it: "We're going to do so with union labor."

Recall how Biden, in the aftermath of the Dali cargo ship's crash into the Key Bridge on March 26, stated, "We're going to move heaven and earth to rebuild this bridge as rapidly as humanly possible." That promise sounded great, but the president put a big condition on it: "We're going to do so with union labor."

But in Maryland, only 1 in 10 construction workers (10.6 percent to be precise) are in a union. The president's ban will likely result in the need to import workers from outside Maryland, depriving nearly 90 percent of local construction jobs from rebuilding the bridge. And they're not the only ones who'll be hurt. This bad policy won't just sideline the overwhelming majority of the local workforce who can do the job, it will also burden taxpayers as the bridge project's expenses rise thanks to reduced competition.

Worse, this discriminatory policy will almost certainly burden everyone traveling in Maryland by delaying the rebuild completion.

These claims aren't inflammatory, and they aren't guesses. We've seen the same favoritism toward political friends produce these same results in the past.

Last year, Moore signed an executive order promoting Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) in the state. The law favors hiring union labor on state-procured construction projects that cost $20 million or more, even though PLAs have a notorious track record for eliminating opportunities for local, qualified workers and escalating construction costs.

PLAs have resulted in significant cost increases in states like California, New York and Massachusetts. The construction of a new fire station in Brandywine, Maryland,

Scott Walter is president of Capital Research Center.

under a PLA delayed the building's completion by more than a year, while costs ended up 41 percent over budget. Similar issues plagued the construction of the Washington Nationals ballpark and the New York subway's renovations and expansions.

Given this track record, the Biden and Moore policy forbidding non-union workers and private developers from helping to rebuild Key Bridge will almost certainly lead to delays and budget overruns. Without this policy of favoritism, non-union workers and private developers could harness local talent, foster competition and ensure the project is completed on time and within budget.

Union favoritism doesn't just harm everyone who wants the Key Bridge opened quickly, or local workers who aren't in a union. Even workers in unions can be harmed, because while union bosses like to claim they represent the best interests of workers, they very frequently align with broader elitist agendas that harm their members and go against the members' views.

Financial disclosures under the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act reveal that unions like the Service Employees International Union, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and others funnel significant resources into political causes unrelated to labor rights, such as environmental activism and identity politics. This diversion of resources underscores how unions often pursue an ideological agenda that doesn't help workers and downplays the real economic issues affecting them.

If there's no logical reason to insist on forbidding most Maryland workers from getting jobs with the bridge rebuild, what's driving a bad policy that would baffle the average Marylander? Unfortunately, money often trumps logic. Maryland labor unions are among Moore's largest donors, and Biden has a long history of relying on union support to gain office.

At the end of the day, money talks, while Baltimore and her skilled labor force suffer. ■

This article first appeared in the Baltimore Sun *on September 22, 2024.*

Read previous articles from the Commentary series online at capitalresearch.org/category/commentary/.

ACTIVE FEDERAL MEDDLING IN ELECTIONS

By Fred Lucas

Summary: *Some of the most notorious left-wing interest groups partnered with federal agencies for what amounted to a taxpayer-sponsored get-out-the-vote campaign under President Biden's election-meddling executive order. The Biden-Harris administration kept most details for implementing the order secret, but the act itself was a brazen politicized use of government power. Making little secret of the political goals, the federal agencies aimed to boost voting by immigrants, inmates, social service recipients, and other perceived Democratic Party constituent groups.*

In October—weeks before the 2024 election—the Biden-Harris Justice Department sued Virginia for cleaning the names of 6,300 noncitizens from the voter rolls. This followed a similar lawsuit by the Virginia Coalition for Immigrant Rights and the League of Women Voters of Virginia objecting to the removal.

Those two private plaintiffs in the Virginia lawsuit were represented by Campaign Legal Center, Protect Democracy, the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, and the Advancement Project.

In a near identical move the previous month, the Justice Department sued Alabama for removing 3,000 noncitizens from the voter rolls. The plaintiffs in this case were the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), the Campaign Legal Center, the Fair Elections Center, and the Alabama chapters of the NAACP, and the League of Women Voters.

It would almost seem as if the Justice Department was partnering with private nonprofit organizations to achieve a common goal during an election season.

As a matter of fact, five of the organizations involved in the litigation across both states—the SPLC, the League of Women Voters, the Campaign Legal Center, the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, and the Advancement Project—were part of a White House listening session, along with multiple other organizations that met to determine how to implement President Joe Biden's Executive Order 14019.

Credit: Ben Von Klemperer. License: Shutterstock.

In October—weeks before the 2024 election—the Biden-Harris Justice Department sued Virginia for cleaning the names of 6,300 noncitizens from the voter rolls.

Chiefly, the Biden directive required every federal agency—including the Justice Department—to partner with private nonprofit groups as part of a taxpayer-funded get-out-the-vote campaign. The administration has fought disclosure on how it is implementing the order. The Justice Department even invoked presidential privilege to prevent the public release of its strategic plan for implementing the order.

As of this writing, we have no way to know whether the Justice Department lawsuits on the eve of an election were part of the executive order since the Justice Department has been shrouded in secrecy. But it certainly corresponds with what we know about the order.

Just four months after Biden signed an executive order to meddle in elections, the White House held a "listening session" that included dozens of its constituent groups known for turning out voters for Democratic candidates.

*Fred Lucas is the author of "*The Myth of Voter Suppression." *He is the manager of the Investigative Reporting Project at The Daily Signal.*

"Looking forward to our session this afternoon," wrote Devontae Freeland, special assistant in the White House counsel's office in a July 12, 2021, email to other federal bureaucrats across multiple agencies about the forthcoming Zoom meeting. "Attached, please find a roster of advocates who will be participating and an agenda for the meeting."

That roster of advocates included staffers from more than four dozen left-leaning groups including big labor groups AFL-CIO and the American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees; the relentlessly anti–voter ID Brennan Center for Justice; the left-wing think tank Demos (which essentially wrote the executive order); the Al Sharpton-founded National Action Network; the George Soros-backed Open Society Policy Center; and the SPLC, known for labeling even mainstream conservative groups as "hate groups."

"Bidenbucks"

It's little surprise that so many interest groups would be involved in a White House session.

When Biden signed Executive Order 14019 on March 7, 2021, just weeks after taking office, the order specifically said, "Agencies shall consider ways to expand citizens' opportunities to register to vote and to obtain information about, and participate in, the electoral process," which would include "*soliciting and facilitating approved, nonpartisan third-party organizations and state officials to provide voter registration services on agency premises* [emphasis added]."

Notice these "approved, nonpartisan third-party organizations" didn't include Americans for Prosperity, the Family Research Council, or any other organization on the right.

The Biden executive order that professes to be interested only in "promoting access to voting," but is aligned heavily with its own crony organizations, as well as a handful of advocacy groups specifically representing ethnic groups or the disabled.

The administration initially boasted about the order, then went silent, giving only the vaguest description of how it is implementing the order. More than 50 members of Congress pressed the White House and federal agencies for answers to no avail.

In May, the House Small Business Committee subpoenaed top officials in the Small Business Administration (SBA) after the officials refused to show up for interviews regarding the agency's election meddling in a battleground state. The SBA had entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Michigan Department of State, which oversees the state's elections, to "promote civic engagement and voter registration in Michigan" through January 1, 2036. The SBA called the MOU, a "first-of-its-kind collaboration."

In December 2023, the House Administration Committee advanced legislation to defund the executive order, but the measure didn't pass the full House.

Since the executive order was issued, only trickles of information have been leaked or smoked out through the Freedom of Information Act about how the order is working and which "nonpartisan third-party organizations" are carrying out the administration's political mission.

Occasionally White House press secretary Karine Jean Pierre has mentioned it in response to a question. a day before the 2024 State of the Union address, Jean Pierre told reporters, "If you think about voting rights, the first couple of days of this administration, he put forward an executive action to do everything that he could on the federal level to deal with that issue."

"Voting rights" is a benign way of phrasing it. Enforcing the 15th Amendment, the Voting Rights Act, and similar laws is already the job of the Justice Department. The Election Assistance Commission is already charged with overseeing the Help America Vote Act. This executive order has nothing to do with protecting constitutional or legal voting rights of Americans.

Many Americans were alarmed that Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg spent more than $400 million on election administration that drove up the vote in heavily Democrat areas in 2020. Critics nicknamed this "Zuckerbucks" or "Zuck bucks."

Some of those same critics warn that "Bidenbucks" is a fiercer threat to honest elections, using the full force of the federal government to partner with dozens of well-financed agenda-driven left-wing organizations for what might be an unparalleled get-out-the-vote operation aimed at electing Democrats.

Yet calling it "Bidenbucks" wouldn't be exactly accurate. Unlike Zuckerberg who spent his own fortune, the Biden-Harris administration is using taxpayer dollars in a way that Congress never approved. Republicans could not hope to have the type of government-backed political infrastructure going into the 2024 elections.

GOP lawmakers have argued that the order could cause federal employees to violate two federal laws. The Hatch

Act prohibits federal employees from engaging in partisan political activity while on duty, in government offices, wearing government uniforms, in government vehicles, or using taxpayer dollars. The Antideficiency Act prohibits federal employees from obligating tax dollars not authorized by Congress and prohibits any federal agency from accepting voluntary service from individuals.

Yet, the order is definitely a boon for certain left-wing nonprofits, as was evident at that July 2021 Zoom conference—the details of which mostly emerged this year.

"Listening Session"

While a who's who of the far Left attended the July 2021 listening session, only a few gave presentations, based on the meeting agenda that later became public.

Documents on the "listening session" were obtained by the Foundation for Government Accountability and the Heritage Foundation's Oversight Project from the Justice Department through the Freedom of Information Act.

Justin Levitt, the White House senior policy advisor for democracy and voting rights, kicked off the event along with Jesselyn McCurdy, a vice president with the Leadership Conference for Civil and Human Rights.

Later, representatives from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), the Sentencing Project, and the Campaign Legal Center spoke about "voting rights for those incarcerated in federal custody."

Keeda Haynes—legal adviser with the Sentencing Project, a legal assistance and training organization for prisoners—said "eligible voters who are incarcerated have been left out of voting." Haynes added, "Felony disenfranchisement is voter suppression."

Later on, a representative of the Stacey Abrams-founded Fair Fight Action talked about one of the Left's favorite strategies: "vote by mail."

Jose Morales, the deputy director of Fair Fight Action, which opposes voter ID and practically any other election integrity measure, called for allowing federal employees to take the day off to vote. Morales also complained that "based on experiences last year and this year, there are many new ID requirements."

Also on the "listening session" agenda, the League of Women Voters representative talked about voter registration at naturalization ceremonies by the U.S. Citizenship and

Credit: Sheila Fitzgerald. License: Shutterstock.

Also on the "listening session" agenda, the League of Women Voters representative talked about voter registration at naturalization ceremonies by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Immigration Services (USCIS). In August 2023, the USCIS issued new guidance directing USCIS offices to facilitate voter registration at naturalization ceremonies.

Meanwhile, a representative from the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund talked about "immigration and citizenship issues" concerning voting, according to the agenda. Nik Youngsmith, legislative staff attorney for the fund, spoke about "immigrants and noncitizens."

To Youngsmith's credit, he seemed to express caution, even if it was for the sole purpose of keeping the immigrants out of trouble. The meeting notes paraphrase Youngsmith as saying, "We support registration efforts. We also want to make sure they are done in a careful way." "All fed employees must be well trained in this. Need to trust people are acting in bounds of the law. Especially when there are language issues. Federal employees should know who should be properly registered and not. Don't want someone to face charges for registering on bad info."

At the meeting, two ACLU lawyers Sarah Brannon and Ceridwen Cherry explained that the HealthCare.gov website, better known as the Obamacare exchanges, reaches 20 million people per year and should be used for signing up voters.

Laura Williamson, then associate director of Demos, told the confab on Zoom that the Department of Housing and Urban Development should register voters at public housing units. It also called for the Fair Housing Administration

> *Two ACLU lawyers explained that the HealthCare.gov website reaches 20 million people per year and should be used for signing up voters.*

to engage in voter registration when making loans to buy homes. Sure enough, shortly thereafter, the public housing units became voter registration centers.

However, tying voting into housing, health care, or other government benefits could easily give a beneficiary a wrong impression, given the power disparity. "Nice government benefits you have there. It would be a real shame if something happened to them."

Progress Report

While Congress, the press and the public wasn't allowed to see how the plan was working, the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, a coalition of administration allies, seemed to know plenty.

The Leadership Conference is an umbrella of about 200 mostly left-leaning organizations that would go on to grade the effort. The coalition includes far-left groups, more center-left groups, and even some mainline Protestant Christian denominations. It has previously characterized updating voter registration lists to remove the names of dead people or people who have moved out of a voting jurisdiction as voter "purges."

In March 2023, the organization released a "progress report" signed by 53 left-of-center organizations that evaluated 10 federal agencies on how they were working to turn out voters. Not surprisingly, many of the signatories of the progress report were participants in the White House Zoom session nearly two years earlier.

"We estimate that, if these agencies integrate a high-quality voter registration opportunity for the people they serve, as recommended in this report, they could collectively generate an additional 3.5 million voter registration applications per year," the progress report says.

The report determined that three agencies—the Department of Interior, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Treasury Department—were "on the right track."

According to the report, the Department of Health and Human Services, the General Services Administration, the U.S. Marshalls Service, and the Bureau of Prisons still had "work to do,"

The report said that the Department of Education, the Indian Health Service, and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services were "falling behind."

Federal Bureau of Prisons

The Federal Bureau of Prisons announced that it aligned with the League of Women Voters, the ACLU, the Campaign Legal Center, the Washington Lawyers' Committee, Disability Rights DC, and the Sentencing Project to help increase voting among former inmates and even some in the incarcerated population.

These are also organizations that consistently railed against the most common and popular election integrity measures.

In 2018, the ACLU launched a $25 million campaign attacking Republican politicians for, among other things, wanting to ensure that only citizens can vote, *Politico* reported. That same year, the ACLU also spent $5 million on a Florida ballot initiative to push felon voting, which would add an estimated 1.5 million to the state's voter rolls.

The Campaign Legal Center mostly engages in election-related litigation such as lawsuits over redistricting. The organization has opposed voter ID laws, opposed proof of citizenship laws, and supported voting for released felons.

The Washington Lawyers' Committee is a left-of-center organization that supports increased use of welfare programs and expansionist immigration policies. The organization has been funded by left-leaning groups such as Equal Justice Works and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers union.

The Sentencing Project has advocated for ending voting restrictions on ex-felons and for allowing full voting rights for incarcerated individuals.

The prison bureau said the League of Women Voters (LWV) helped distribute an informational voting video, offer civics education classes, and voter registration drives at federal correctional institutions.

> *In 2018, the ACLU launched a $25 million campaign attacking Republican politicians for wanting to ensure that only citizens can vote,* Politico *reported.*

Though the LWV says it's about voting, it has advocated for more welfare spending, for liberal environmental policies, on gun restrictions, and in favor of the United States joining the International Criminal Court. The group also claimed the 2016 election was "rigged."

Most states bar convicted felons from voting on at least a temporary basis. However, certain incarcerated individuals—such as someone awaiting trial—are eligible to vote.

"If comprehensively implemented, it should significantly increase voting access for eligible voters incarcerated in BOP facilities—who face some of the highest hurdles to participating in our democracy," the Leadership Conference's progress report said, adding later: "While BOP issued some helpful materials and has been working on making changes to provide voter registration services to eligible individuals under federal custody or control, they have been slow to implement such changes."

The Bureau of Prisons further partnered with other local nonprofits, such as Chicago Votes to bring voter education and registration to the Metropolitan Correctional Center Chicago. Chicago Vote focuses on increasing the youth and prisoner vote in Chicago, using such programs as "Reimagining Democracy," "Give a Sh*t Chicago," and "Cook County Jail Votes."

Agriculture Department Farming Democratic Voters

Under Biden's executive order, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has tried to enlist voters through farm policy, as well as through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, better known as food stamps.

According to records, USDA officials met with executives from Demos. Demos was an obvious fit, as the liberal New York City think tank wrote the first draft of Biden's executive order, which it published on December 3, 2020, in a report titled "Executive Action to Advance Democracy: What the Biden-Harris Administration and the Agencies Can Do to Build a More Inclusive Democracy."

The White House has been hands on in how the USDA would go about imposing the order as well. In April 2021, Paul Zeiss with the White House scheduling office sent a list of "stakeholders" on voting issues to then USDA official Akhil Rakam that called for partnering with two clearly left-leaning organizations, the United Food and Commercial Workers, the sixth largest labor union in the United States, and the League of United Latin American Citizens, a group that sued Texas in 2006 over the state's redistricting and challenged Texas election reform laws in 2021.

Other groups the White House suggested to the USDA were less overt, such as the Intertribal Agriculture Council, the National Black Farmers Association, the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities, the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, the National Association of Counties, the Rebuild Rural Coalition, the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, the American Public Human Services Association, and Rural Organizing.

U.S. Trade Representative

The Office of U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) doesn't typically have anything to do with elections and voting. Nevertheless, the office has been carrying out the president's mission on this.

The trade office has been working with the Brennan Center for Justice, which has been the Darth Vader of opposition to voter ID laws that are popular with about 80 percent of the public.

The Brennan Center has also supported liberal redistricting policies, automatic voter registration, voting for convicted felons, and including illegal immigrants in the population for congressional apportionment. The group also wants to scrap the Electoral College for a national popular vote for president.

On its website, the Brennan Center lists multiple court cases where it has opposed voter ID. The organization has also advocated for vast expansion of mail-in voting. The Brennan Center has characterized efforts to update voter registration rolls by removing the names of dead voters and voters who moved out of town as "purges."

Credit: Rebekah Zemansky. License: Shutterstock.

The Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund has opposed redistricting and apportionment based on eligible voting population, as opposed to only raw population. It has also called for including noncitizens in the count for legislative and congressional districts.

The USTR's strategic plan is among the few that became public:

> In addition to featuring senior USTR officials, USTR will seek to partner with nonpartisan, public service and civic engagement organizations (e.g., Asian Americans Advancing Justice, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, National Pan-Hellenic Council, Brennan Center for Justice) in developing and amplifying content for these online engagements.

The Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) has opposed redistricting and apportionment based on eligible voting population, as opposed to only raw population. It has also called for including noncitizens in the count for legislative and congressional districts. Further, the group has advocated noncitizen voting in some local jurisdictions. This would allow noncitizens to potentially give certain states more power in the House of Representatives than others.

Asian Americans Advancing Justice is known for litigating on voting rights and affirmative action. Meanwhile, the National Pan-Hellenic Council is an association of sororities and fraternities.

Indian Health Services

The Indian Health Service's orbit for voting awareness has included the ACLU, Demos, the National Congress of American Indians, and the Native American Rights Fund.

The first of the six recommendations says, "The Biden-Harris administration can make voting more accessible by directing specified federal agencies, in their administration of federal programs, to act as voter registration agencies."

Another agency that partnered with the Indian Health Service was the National Congress of American Indian Funds, which has been financially backed by major donors on the left such as W.K. Kellogg Foundation, George Soros's Open Society Foundations, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Ford Foundation, and the Northwest Area Foundation.

Federal Employees

While the Biden administration didn't give federal employees a whole day off to vote, as Fair Fight Action called for, the Office of Personnel Management adopted a policy to give four hours of leave to federal employees to vote and volunteer to be election workers, a population that donates overwhelmingly to Democratic politicians.

The largest federal union, the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), representing 750,000 federal workers, became a member of the AFL-CIO in 1997.

During the 2022 election cycle, the AFGE political action committee gave 94.6 percent of contributions to Democratic candidates, according to data compiled by OpenSecrets, which monitors money in politics. Those contributions amounted to $712,725 to Democrats, compared with $40,000 to Republican candidates.

In 2020, the union's members gave 94.5 percent of its donations—$818,868 in contributions going to Democrats. It contributed $43,115 to GOP candidates.

The same is proportionally true for the much smaller National Treasury Employees Union political action committee (PAC), which includes Internal Revenue Service employes. The union gave $509,000 (about 95 percent) to Democrats and just $22,000 (4.14 percent) to Republicans in the 2022 cycle.

Credit: Carlos Rodriguez. License: tinyurl.com/56za9n3e.

During the 2022 election cycle, the American Federation of Government Employees political action committee gave 94.6 percent of contributions to Democratic candidates, according to data compiled by OpenSecrets, which monitors money in politics.

The disparity was somewhat less for other federal employee unions. For example, the National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees Association PAC contributed $693,500 to Democrats in the 2022 election cycle. That's 85 percent of its contributions. It gave $116,500 to Republican candidates in 2022.

Not surprisingly, State Department employees lean left and shelled out 77 percent for Democrats in 2022. Justice Department employees who made political donations gave 76 percent to Democrats, according to OpenSecrets. Another 74 percent of contributions by employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs went to Democrats in the 2022 midterms. Department of Homeland Security employees who made donations cut 70 percent in favor of Democrats, and even 63 percent of Defense Department employees did the same.

For postal workers, it's still pretty lopsided. The National Association of Letter Carriers PAC donated 73 percent to Democrats in 2022. That's $1.4 million compared to $514,000 for Republicans.

The sector with the most parity is the Federal Aviation Administration Managers Association, a group whose PAC gave $169,000 (58 percent) to Democrats compared with $120,500 (41 percent) to Republicans.

A few other agency strategic plans became public, typically through Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Peace Corps, and the Railroad Retirement Board plans didn't reference which approved private organizations are working with them, or even if they were working with any.

The Justice Department—the one agency that is charged by the law to enforce voting rights—still refuses to release its strategic plan for implementing Biden's executive order on getting out the vote, as it is fending off a public records lawsuit.

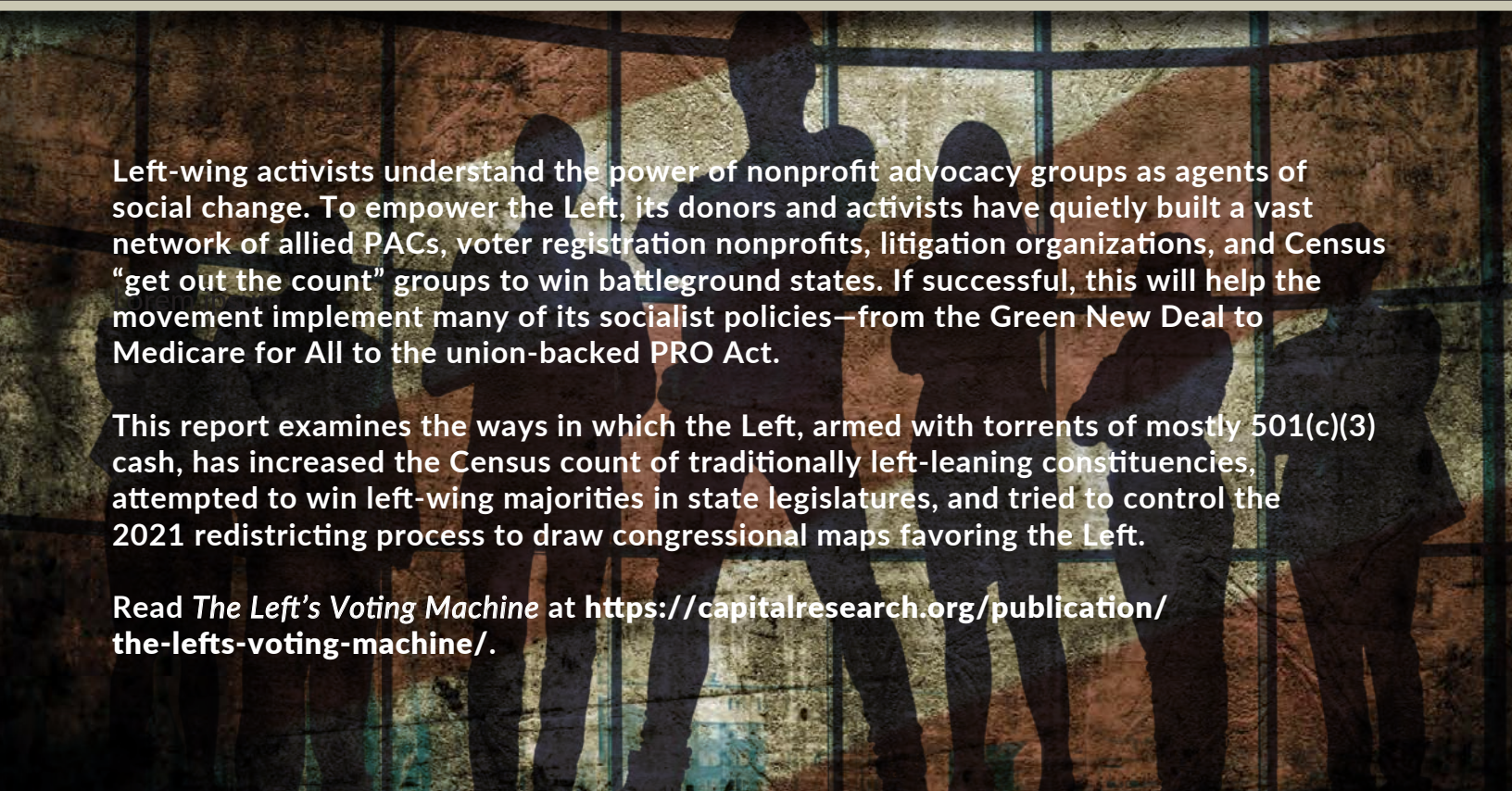
Past presidential administrations—such as Woodrow Wilson and Franklin Roosevelt—certainly bent bureaucracy toward political ends. But the level of brazenness in the Biden order might be unprecedented, as Biden codified in an executive order what past presidents had done in secret.

Government agencies working hand in glove with political cronies to ensure a favorable election outcome is an old system, reminiscent of Tammany Hall in New York, the Daley machine in Chicago, the Pendergast machine in St. Louis and others that wielded tremendous political power to win elections by hook or by crook. ■

Read previous articles from the Deception and Misdirection series online at CapitalResearch.org/category/deception-and-misdirection/.

THE LEFT'S VOTING MACHINE

CAPITAL RESEARCH CENTER
AMERICA'S INVESTIGATIVE THINK TANK



Left-wing activists understand the power of nonprofit advocacy groups as agents of social change. To empower the Left, its donors and activists have quietly built a vast network of allied PACs, voter registration nonprofits, litigation organizations, and Census "get out the count" groups to win battleground states. If successful, this will help the movement implement many of its socialist policies—from the Green New Deal to Medicare for All to the union-backed PRO Act.

This report examines the ways in which the Left, armed with torrents of mostly 501(c)(3) cash, has increased the Census count of traditionally left-leaning constituencies, attempted to win left-wing majorities in state legislatures, and tried to control the 2021 redistricting process to draw congressional maps favoring the Left.

Read *The Left's Voting Machine* at **https://capitalresearch.org/publication/the-lefts-voting-machine/**.

THE BATTLE OVER WOMEN'S SPORTS

By Kali Fontanilla

Summary: *In simpler times, no one asked what a woman was, but the question was instead, what shape should women's sports take in America? Women today often take our freedoms and opportunities for granted, especially in women's sports. Not until the passage of Title IX in 1972 did women's sports shift from being a neglected stepchild of organized sports to a formidable sister standing on par with men's sports. Yet today Title IX is being used to crush women's sports.*

What is a woman? The question was asked long before the modern era of trans athletes breaking women's sports records. The 2010 film *Berlin 36* tells the story of Dora Ratjen. The plot centers around a real-life famous women's high jumper, Gretel Bergmann, whom the German Nazi authorities wanted to replace because of her Jewish heritage with Marie Ketteler. The problem, however, was that Marie was really a man. The idea was that the pride of the Nazis led them to cheat by pretending this man was a woman and thus guaranteed their victory. The character of Marie is based on the real historical figure, Dora Ratjen. In 1966, *Time* magazine ran a story that claimed Dora, now Hermann, "tearfully confessed that the Nazis had forced him to pose as a woman 'for the sake of the honor and glory of Germany.'" *Berlin 36*'s fictionalized treatment of Dora Ratjen was based largely on the *Time* magazine reporting.

In reality, Ratjen won a gold medal in 1938 and broke the women's high jump record in 1939. After the discovery of Ratjen's trans controversy, the gold medal was returned, and the IAAF rescinded the world record in 1957.

Jump to the 2024 Olympics, and two intersex athletes competed in women's boxing, Imane Khelif and Yang Liu, with Khelif winning the gold medal. Khelif and Liu failed to pass the gender tests administered by the International Boxing Association (IBA) due to the presence of XY (male) chromosomes, but the International Olympic Committee doesn't acknowledge the tests because it severed ties with the IBA in 2023 for corruption and other reasons.

Credit: German Federal Archives. License: tinyurl.com/3njsnzbh.

Dora Ratjen won a gold medal in 1938 and broke the women's high jump record in 1939.

Modern History of Women's Sport

In simpler times, no one asked what a woman was, but the question was instead, what shape should women's sports take in America? Women today often take our freedoms and opportunities for granted, especially in women's sports. What was once reserved for men's clubs and the wealthy has grown into an institution filled with rags-to-riches stories for both male and female athletes. Take the Williams sisters, for example—Serena Williams, with an estimated net worth

Kali Fontanilla is a former public school teacher of 15 years. Her rebuttal statement to Proposition 16 in California helped to stop the push for legal reverse racism and a new extreme version of affirmative action in 2020. She is the co-founder of Exodus Institute, a K–12 online school with a nationally accredited program: Thinkexodus.org.

> *In the 19th century, women's physical activity was constrained by societal norms that viewed strenuous exercise as harmful to femininity.*

of $300 million, and her sister Venus, with $90 million. If you had told Americans in the early 1900s that two Black women would build multimillion-dollar fortunes playing tennis, they probably would have laughed—or even asked, "What is tennis?"

The history of organized women's sports in America is a story of gradual progress, evolving from restricted participation in the 19th century to the rise of global female sports stars like Venus and Serena Williams today.

In the 19th century, women's physical activity was constrained by societal norms that viewed strenuous exercise as harmful to femininity. This was a time when American women were still wearing tight corsets and heavy skirts down to their ankles. Women's participation in sports was often limited to "graceful" and "ladylike" activities like horseback riding, croquet, and archery—sports that could be done in a skirt. However, I would argue that one of the most graceful and beautiful displays of athleticism I've seen this year was Sydney McLaughlin winning gold in the 100-meter hurdles. It wasn't until the 20th century that organized sports started to form for women. The first female Olympians were allowed to participate in the Paris Games of 1900. However, they were relegated to a few events, such as tennis and golf. Women weren't hiking up their skirts and charging down the track, but the 1900 Olympic Games was one of the first major sports events in which women could participate.

With establishments like the Women's Amateur Athletic Federation (WAAF), founded in the 1920s, there was growing interest in sports playing among women. However, they were still largely excluded from the mainstream collegiate-level and professional-level teams. Women's sports were mainly seen as recreational rather than competitive.

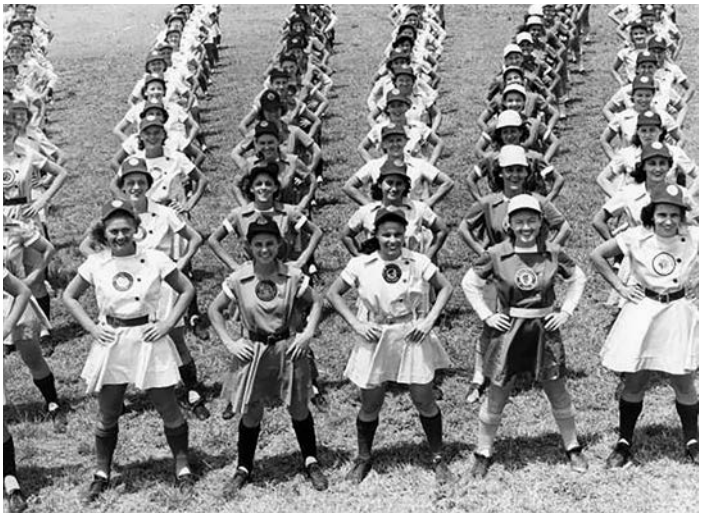
In the mid-20th century, women's participation in sports continued to grow. During World War II, the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL) was created to keep baseball alive while men served in the war. This was one of America's first professional women's sports leagues, though it was dissolved after the war. Women's basketball also began spreading in schools and colleges, albeit with modified rules to make it less physically demanding.

Title IX

But it wasn't until the passage of Title IX in 1972 that women's sports shifted from being a neglected stepchild of organized sports to a formidable sister standing on par with men's sports. This federal law mandated that any educational institution receiving federal funding must provide equal opportunities for men and women, including in sports programs.

Title IX transformed women's sports by increasing funding, participation, and opportunities for female high school and collegiate athletes. Following its enactment, the number of women participating in high school and college sports exploded, leading to greater visibility and competitiveness in women's athletics. This landmark legislation was a catalyst for the continued growth of organized women's sports and the development of future female athletes, or non-athletes like myself who tried to get on a team but failed. Nevertheless, the opportunity was there.

As the impact of Title IX spread through high schools and colleges, professional opportunities for women also expanded. A year after Title IX was passed, Billie Jean King famously won the "Battle of the Sexes" match in 1973, helping to elevate women's tennis to national prominence. In fact, women's tennis is one of the few organized sports today that has com-



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During World War II, the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL) was created to keep baseball alive while men served in the war.

> *When you picture women's sports, do you see full-grown, burly men with long hair and painted fingernails?*

parable audience demand to its male counterpart, thanks to matches like this and the rise of female tennis superstars.

Fast forward another 25 years, and we see the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) establishment in 1996. Today, we have huge stars in the WNBA, like Caitlyn Clark, who are bringing new eyes to the sport and breaking WNBA audience attendance records everywhere she plays.

This summer at the Paris 2024 Olympics marked the first time in history that the number of male and female athletes was equal. Out of an estimated 10,500 athletes, 50 percent were women and 50 percent were men. This is a significant milestone in the history of the Olympic Games, as previous games saw a disparity between the number of male and female competitors. Coincidentally, the first Olympic games that allowed women were held in Paris, and the last Olympic games that saw full gender equality were also held in Paris.

What Is a Woman?

Let's pause for a moment. While reading this history, what do you envision as a woman? What is your definition of a woman? Do you even have to think about it? When you picture women's sports, do you see full-grown, burly men with long hair and painted fingernails? Of course not. We all instinctively know what a woman is. It is only by incessant propaganda and heavy-handed institutional policies that this subject is even remotely controversial. But even with all that, the truth remains self-evident.

Two intersex competitors failed gender tests yet were allowed to compete at the Paris Olympics women's boxing event. However, these tests show how noticeable the differences between men and women are. I mean, is compulsory gender testing even needed in men's sports? Do we need gender tests to keep out a flood of women from impersonating men and taking over men's sports? Does the NFL have any such tests? Why do we only need these tests in women's sports? In today's climate, if the sexes are truly equal in every way, as modern feminists claim, why is there no push for more gender testing in both female *and male* sports? We all know why.

Gender testing in men's sports is not commonly practiced, if at all. It seems gender verification is almost exclusively relegated to women's sports for obvious reasons.

Here's a sport where there's no need to determine if the competing men are secretly women cosplaying. Powerlifting. For comparison, men's vs women's all-time powerlifting records:

Male Powerlifting Records:

- Squat: 1,080 lbs (490 kg) by Nathan Baptist (2023, Super Heavyweight)
- Bench Press: 782.6 lbs (355 kg) by Jimmy Kolb (2023, Single Ply)
- Deadlift: 1,102.3 lbs (500 kg) by Hafthor Björnsson (2020, Strongman event)

Female Powerlifting Records:

- Squat: 705.4 lbs (320 kg) by April Mathis (2018, Super Heavyweight)
- Bench Press: 600 lbs (272.2 kg) by Becca Swanson (2005, Equipped)
- Deadlift: 636 lbs (288.3 kg) by Tamara Walcott (2022)

The differences between male and female powerlifting records are painfully obvious. There should be no debate over allowing transgender women (biological males) to compete in women's powerlifting. The reality is that men, on average, are physically stronger than women, and no amount of "hormone therapy" can change that. For example, a 2021 study published by the *British Journal of Medicine* found that transgender women (biological males) maintained an athletic advantage over biological women even after a year of hormone therapy. But are studies even needed to prove this? What happened to common sense and just acknowledging that biological sex can bring advantages and disadvantages depending on the sport?

Or look at male vs. female gymnastics. Female gymnastics emphasize grace, power, and balance, with routines highlighting flexibility and elegance. In contrast, male gymnastics focuses more on upper body strength, force, and precision, with events like rings and parallel bars emphasizing raw power. The two divisions of gymnastics are

structured around the biological strengths of the sexes and which traits gymnastics fans want to see each sex excel at. A trans man (biological female) would have a tough time, if not impossible, to make it on a men's elite-level gymnastics team. Thus, we don't need to gender-test competitors in men's sports.

Opportunity

It was the middle-school girls' basketball tryouts, and nearly every girl in my class was participating. Basketball was the "cool" sport, and it was the first time my small Christian school had a real coach willing to lead a girls' team. We had a boys' basketball team but nothing for the girls until that year.

I didn't make the team. There would be no Caitlin Clark story for Kali. I was okay at dribbling, but when the coach asked me to do 10 layups for the tryout, I didn't even know what a layup was. I was one of two girls who didn't make the cut. I felt a bit down, but like most middle school kids, I quickly moved on to other interests like dance and music.

You may have stories from your own middle or high school years. Were you the star athlete with shelves full of plastic trophies, the steady player who always made the team, or were you like me—someone who tried and didn't quite make it? Star athlete or not, the reality is that most of us who went to school in the 1970s and beyond had access to team sports, regardless of sex. And that's the important thing for most kids: the opportunity. Because of the work of past generations, girls have the opportunity in America today to have their own thing and place to shine. However, that opportunity today is under threat, and if we don't stop the current trends, we may lose women's sports for future generations.

Betrayal

Regrettably, the organizations that claim to protect and preserve women's sports are now advocating for the inclusion of biological men in women's events. For instance, the Women's Sports Foundation (WSF), founded in 1974 shortly after the passage of Title IX, was originally dedicated to providing opportunities for girls and women to reach their full potential in sports. Their mission is to be "the ally and catalyst for tomorrow's leaders, enabling girls and women to reach their full potential in sport and life."

Credit: A.RICARDO. License: Shutterstock.

(Simone Biles at the Paris Olympics, July 28, 2024) Female gymnastics emphasize grace, power, and balance, with routines highlighting flexibility and elegance.

However, WSF's current stance supports the inclusion of transgender athletes in women's sports. The organization states:

> The Women's Sports Foundation supports the right of all athletes, including transgender athletes, to participate in athletic competition that is fair, equitable, and respectful to all. "Transgender" refers to people whose gender identity does not conform to traditional expectations associated with their assigned sex at birth. Schools must be prepared to fairly accommodate these students and their families in athletics as well as other school programs.

It's a complete betrayal of their history and of the women who fought to make women's sports what it is today. As shocking as WSF's reversal is, it's no surprise that organiza-

> *The organizations that claim to protect and preserve women's sports are now advocating for the inclusion of biological men in women's events.*

tions like Athlete Ally, whose mission is to "end the rampant homophobia and transphobia in sport" and advocate for LGBTQ+ equality, are actively involved in putting men into women's sports. The organization pushes the radical trans agenda that would spell the end of female athletics, cloaked, of course, in nice, tolerant language. The Athlete Ally website has a petition titled "Stand with Trans Power Lifters," which states:

> We stand in solidarity with JayCee Cooper and all transgender powerlifting athletes who deserve full access to the sport they love. The current International Powerlifting Federation (IPF) and USA Powerlifting (USAPL) policies prohibiting all female transgender powerlifters and male transgender athletes using testosterone from competition are not only based on a flawed understanding of competitive advantage.

Of course, they speak of equality, but where's the statement supporting trans men in men's powerlifting? Oh, that's right, they don't need a statement because no woman is trying that, which proves how ridiculous this all is.

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It's not only trans rights groups and the former champions of women's sports who are tearing down what took years to build. Recent Title IX revisions proposed by the Biden Administration would include gender identity as a protected class.

Title IX Revisions

It's not only trans rights groups and the former champions of women's sports who are tearing down what took years to build. Recent Title IX revisions proposed by the Biden Administration would include gender identity as a protected class, placing states like Florida and Iowa, which have laws protecting women's sports, at risk of violating federal rules if they prohibit transgender students from participating in sports based on gender identity. Notably, the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers, the two largest teachers' unions, have publicly supported these changes, contributing $250,000 to advocacy groups in 2019 and 2020.

Florida and Iowa aren't alone. Twenty-five states have passed laws preventing transgender students from competing in sports that align with their gender identity, or to put it more simply, to prevent boys from competing in girls' sports.

The battle over Title IX revisions is twofold. We must continue to fight to reverse the Biden Administration's revisions at the federal level while also removing the dependence upon Title IX funding at the state level. Ultimately, if state legislatures want the freedom to choose to defend women in their state, they'll need to untangle themselves from the leviathan of federal funding. Dependence always leads to subservience, and red states would do well to begin working toward a future when the threat of withholding federal funds does not prevent them from doing what is right. The irony is that it was federal funding under Title IX that opened the floodgates for the growth of women's sports, and now that same law is being used to crush it.

What's Next?

As it turns out, the truth of Dora Ratjen wasn't as simple as the story *Time* magazine and *Berlin 36* told. In 2009, *Der Spiegel* revisited the case and refuted many of the central claims of the popular narrative, asserting that the *Times* article was based on "meager and imprecise" information. Dora, who later went by Heinrich and then Heinz, was probably intersex. The doctors were unsure of his gender at birth and noted abnormalities in his genitalia. He was, however, raised as a girl, and the records suggest the Nazis did not know he wasn't a normal woman. The idea that they unleashed Dora to trick the world and steal gold for themselves? Fiction.

Ratjen was a rare exception, not the general rule, who didn't fit perfectly into male or female categories like the vast

> *If the recent victories have any lesson for us today, it's that reality is on our side.*

majority do. And that's the point. The vast majority fit into those categories; we don't use exceptions to make the rule.

That brings us back to the 2024 Olympics. There were no natural-born men competing in female sports at the Paris Olympics. Instead, Khelif and Liu both failed gender tests, having male chromosomes, but are likely intersex. They are, like Ratjen was, rare cases. Exceptions. A special category. And that is a small victory. The war isn't over, but today, men in dresses aren't able to compete in the women's Olympics. A hermaphrodite may still be able to slip in, so there's still work to be done. But the trans agenda has still failed to put natural-born men into the women's Olympics in 2024.

This is an improvement. In the 2021 Olympics, a male powerlifter, Laurel Hubbard, competed against women. In 2024, that same athlete would not be allowed to compete in women's events. This is progress. There was a time when the trans agenda seemed like a tidal wave, coming from all major corporations and dominant institutions in society, ready to crush all opposition. But the tide is going back out.

Don't get me wrong, there's still work to be done. People like Khelif, who failed gender tests due to male chromosomes and elevated levels of testosterone, should not be competing against female athletes. It's not fair. Khelif has an unfair advantage against women, but perhaps such athletes need their own category, a place for intersex people. But the case of Khelif is far different than that of Laurel Hubbard.

The battle over women's sports in the 20th century wasn't won in a day. It was a long, hard-fought war. So it should not surprise us that the struggle against the trans agenda, which is dead set on destroying women's sports, isn't quick. But if the recent victories have any lesson for us today, it's that reality is on our side. ■

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MARCHING TOWARD VIOLENCE: THE DOMESTIC ANTI-ISRAELI PROTEST MOVEMENT

By Ryan Mauro

Summary: *Over 150 groups involved in the disruptive anti-Israel protests on college campuses and elsewhere in the United States are "pro-terrorism," as this study documents. The movement contains militant elements pushing it toward a wider, more severe campaign focused on property destruction and violence properly described as domestic terrorism. Its long-term goals are revolutionary. It demands the "dismantlement" of America's "colonialist," "imperialist," or "capitalist" system, often calling for the U.S. to be abolished as a country.*

This study of the groups involved in the disruptive anti-Israel protests on college campuses and elsewhere in the United States identifies over 150 groups in the movement as "pro-terrorism" and documents their support for and ties to terrorism and terrorist organizations.

This study has also established that significant militant elements within the movement are pushing the movement toward a wider and more severe campaign focused on property destruction and violence that can be credibly described as domestic terrorism. The primary targets of this campaign are law enforcement and targets associated with the U.S.-Israeli alliance and Zionism and the long-term revolutionary goals are typically the "dismantlement" of the U.S.'s "colonialist," "imperialist" or "capitalist" system or even the abolishment of the U.S as a country.

The anti-Israel extremist groups espouse varying ideologies and have developed into two factions. One is a fusion of communists/Marxists, anarchists, and Islamist extremists. The other faction are anti-Israel extremist groups with white supremacist/nationalist ideologies. Sometimes components within either faction will express support for the other faction based on a shared Jew-hatred, anti-Americanism, and goal of sparking a revolutionary uprising or insurgency.

Such symbiosis and overlaps are common, such as when white supremacist leader Nick Fuentes said he favors Hamas "over all these tricky Zionist Jews," pro-Hamas Minnesota Imam Asad Zaman was caught promoting Nazi propaganda and Max Blumenthal, editor of a "far-left" outlet named *Grayzone* that demonizes Israel while whitewashing the West's enemies, used the white supremacist term "Zionist-Occupied Government" to refer to alleged Israeli puppeteering of American institutions of power.

Credit: Yomal2233. License: Shutterstock.

This study has also established that significant militant elements within the movement are pushing the movement toward a wider and more severe campaign focused on property destruction and violence that can be credibly described as domestic terrorism.

Background

On October 7, 2023, Hamas and various other terrorist organizations attacked Israel from Gaza, murdering more than 1,100 Israelis and foreign nationals, including about 800 civilians, dozens of children, and more than 30 Americans. Approximately 3,500 Israeli civilians and soldiers were wounded, and 251 were kidnapped and held hostage in Gaza. The October 7 attack is particularly notable for the extensive, horrific war crimes committed by Hamas and other Palestinian terrorists.

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Also of particular note are the dozens of organizations in the anti-Israel movement that reacted immediately, before the attacks were even over, to announce celebratory rallies portrayed as "pro-Palestinian" and protests opposing Israel's alleged "genocide."

Defining "Pro-Terrorism"

Identifying a group as "pro-terrorism" is not done lightly. A group is designated as "pro-terrorism" only when justified by documentable evidence that is beyond reasonable dispute. The most common source of evidence is the group's own statements and publications.

For the purposes of this research, "pro-terrorism" is defined as:

> *Endorsing, contributing to, or having substantive links to individuals or groups that*
>
> - *Commit violent and criminal acts to further ideological goals or*
> - *Are associated with or inspired by designated foreign terrorist organizations (including governments that sponsor terrorism such as in Iran).*

This definition is based on the FBI's definitions of domestic and international terrorism.

A group's opposition to Israeli or U.S. policy has no bearing on its designation. Its other extremist beliefs or actions, such as favoring the destruction of Israel or promoting anti-Semitism, were also not considered. A group's exclusion from this list should not be interpreted as any kind of exoneration.

The sizes and influences of the groups vary. A small group can pose a larger threat than a numerically greater one, and Antifa groups even advocate operating as anonymous, smaller groups. All operate within the United States but are not necessarily headquartered in the U.S.While extensive, this list is not exhaustive. This list will be expanded and updated as new information becomes available and as the organizations change and new ones are created.

Methodology

First, the organizations associated with the anti-Israel protests were noted based on the appearances of their names and logos on promotional material that was seen on social media or mentioned in news reports.

Research was then conducted on the identified groups' histories and statements regarding terrorism and terrorist groups, prioritizing the groups that appeared to play the most significant roles in organizing and instigating protests. For each group, the gathered evidence was evaluated based on the stated working definition of "pro-terrorism."

Launching the Movement

The group that is most responsible by far for the current anti-Israel protest movement is Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP), and the organization most responsible for SJP's success is American Muslims for Palestine (AMP).

The Launching Pad. The starting date of the current protests is usually identified as April 20 when SJP announced its Popular University for Gaza campaign. In fact, the campaign is an escalation of a protest movement that began with groups expressing solidarity with Hamas as soon as the news of the attacks broke on October 7. Announcements of events, including protests demanding an end to Israeli military operations against Palestinian terrorists, went out before the Hamas attacks even ended on October 8.

SJP jubilantly celebrated the attacks, declared its allegiance to Hamas, and announced it would hold protests on October 12, for what it called a "national day of resistance." It said the demonstrations would take place "across occupied Turtle Island," terminology that is used to reject the United States' right to exist as a country.

SJP distributed a toolkit to its supporters for the event that stated:

> Today, we witness a historic win for the Palestinian resistance: across land, air, and sea, our people have broken down the artificial barriers of the Zionist entity, taking with it the façade of an impenetrable settler colony and reminding each of us that total return and liberation to Palestine is near. As the Palestinian student movement, we have an unshakable responsibility to join the call for mass mobilization.

> *"In short, the backbone of the current protest movement is Hamas or at least can be reasonably characterized as Hamas.*

> National liberation is near— glory to our resistance, to our martyrs, and to our steadfast people.

The first student group to officially sign on was Bears for Palestine at UC Berkeley, which is SJP's chapter at the school and has a history of supporting terrorists. It is the only student group whose official statement was promoted in SJP's toolkit.

SJP endorses Hamas without specifically naming the group in the toolkit, but it clearly refers to Hamas (an acronym for "Islamic Resistance Movement") when it mentions "the resistance" or "the movement" at war with Israel. SJP's toolkit explains that it is not referring to the Palestinian "resistance" or "movement" in its broadest sense, which would leave room to deny that it supports Hamas in particular. Instead, SJP narrows its endorsement to specifically support the "resistance" or "movement" responsible for the October 7 attacks, which can only be Hamas.

That context is important for accurately understanding the text in SJP's toolkit that declares, "**We as Palestinian students in exile are PART of this movement, not in solidarity with this movement"** (original emphasis).

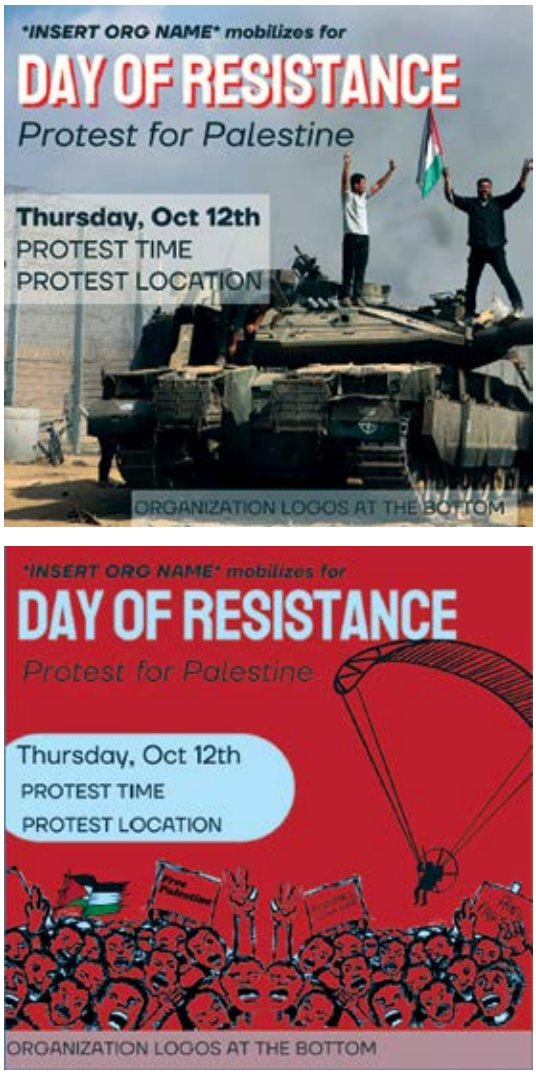
The significance of this declaration cannot be overstated. SJP said it *is* Hamas. It also refers to "our resistance" when boasting about the success of Hamas's October 7 terrorist attacks on Israel.

In other words, SJP declared itself to be a part of Hamas as a single entity. It committed to using its resources on behalf of Hamas. And it acknowledged that it is voluntarily operating under the direction and control of Hamas by responding to its calls for action.

Similarly, supporters of the Islamic State (ISIS) who carry out attacks are commonly referred to as "belonging to" or even being "members of" ISIS. An entity does not need to appear on an official membership roll to be treated as a member. The line between member and fully dedicated supporter is extremely blurry, if it exists at all.

In short, the backbone of the current protest movement *is* Hamas or at least can be reasonably characterized as Hamas.

SJP also signed a declaration of the Committee of Anti-Imperialists in Solidarity with Iran that backs Iran's direct attack on Israel and explicitly chooses the side of the Iran-led Axis of Resistance, which consists of the government of Syria, Iran-backed Palestinian terrorist groups including Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah, the Yemen-based Houthis, and the Iran-backed militias in



Credit: National Students for Justice in Palestine. License: tinyurl.com/2yj755a6.

Students for Justice in Palestine endorses Hamas without specifically naming the group in the toolkit, but it clearly refers to Hamas (an acronym for "Islamic Resistance Movement") when it mentions "the resistance" or "the movement" at war with Israel.

Iraq that are trying to kill U.S. troops. It also sides with Russia by denouncing the "US and NATO proxy war in Ukraine."

It brags,

> The US no longer has control over West Asia. Put simply, the days of the US subjugating the nations of the region are over. This is owed to the steadfastness of Palestinian resistance and the growing deterrence capabilities developed by the Axis of Resistance from Palestine to Iran, Lebanon, Iraq, Syria, and Yemen.

> *American Muslims for Palestine indirectly justified the bloodshed of the October 7 attacks by framing it as a reaction to Israeli crimes without suggesting any fault on the part of Hamas.*

SJP's "Day of Resistance" toolkit gave a preview of how the protest movement's strategic messaging would quickly evolve. Although it provided responses to criticisms of Hamas and the October 7 attacks, such as how to justify the murder of civilians, SJP advised its supporters to focus on a broad theme "which centers [on] the legitimacy of resistance and the necessity of complete liberation."

SJP is aware that someone who is unfamiliar with Middle East policy will likely be persuaded to the pro-Hamas side if that person accepts the premise of resistance and liberation. "Resistance" implies that the actions in question are acts of forced self-defense, and "liberation" implies that the goal of those actions is the unopposable objective of freeing a conquered people from occupation and oppression.

SJP began speaking in the name of a new entity called the "Student Movement for Palestinian Liberation." The rebranding allowed SJP to speak authoritatively through a new brand without a public record that could tarnish its prospects. The shifts in vocabulary and tone were part of the preparation for the upcoming larger and more diverse protests on and off college campuses.

American Muslims for Palestine. Intertwined with SJP is AMP. AMP President Hatem Bazian reportedly created the first chapter of SJP himself. He is also the chairman of Muslim Legal Fund of America, which supports the protests and provides legal support to student activists, an invaluable service to those who violate laws during their demonstrations. It is filing legal complaints alleging that students are being discriminated against on the basis of race, religion and national origin.

AMP is widely credited with creating SJP in its current form in 2010. Congressional testimony has described AMP as "arguably the most important sponsor and organizer" of SJP. The testimony by anti-terrorism expert Jonathan Schanzer outlined a "significant overlap between AMP and people who worked for or on behalf of organizations that were designated, dissolved, or held civilly liable by federal authorities for supporting Hamas."

The initial reaction of AMP and its associated Americans for Justice in Palestine Action to the October 7 attacks vaguely and indirectly justified the bloodshed by framing it as a reaction to Israeli crimes without any language suggesting any fault on the part of Hamas.

AMP then published a longer and bolder statement that indisputably endorsed the attacks but clearly reflected a decision to avoid mentioning Hamas or any other terrorist groups, instead referring to "the acts of Palestinian armed groups":

> First of all, this was not an attack, it was a response. Expecting a besieged, occupied, brutalized, and colonized people to remain docile in the face of nearly a century of brutal oppression and colonial subjugation is inhumane and unjust…. The onus rests with the Israel apartheid regime to end the brutal siege on Gaza, or else the Palestinians will find themselves compelled to end it themselves as we've seen in the past 48 hours.

AMP has hired staff solely dedicated to campus activity and plays a critical role in organizing SJP activity, training its student activists, outreach, putting together events, and providing unknown amounts of funding. AMP receives donations through its "charitable" arm, Americans for Justice in Palestine Educational Foundation.

Nine American and Israeli victims of the attacks on October 7 have filed a lawsuit against SJP's and AMP's involvement in Hamas's operations. It alleges, "AMP and NSJP are not merely organizing to assist Hamas's ongoing terror campaign abroad—they are intentionally extending their aid to fomenting chaos, violence, and terror in the United States."

The plaintiffs state:

> American Muslims for Palestine ("**AMP**") serves as Hamas's propaganda division in the United States. AMP was founded from the ashes of disbanded organizations created by senior Hamas officials after those organizations and related individuals were found criminally and civilly liable for providing material support to Hamas and other affiliated terrorist groups. In 2010, AMP expanded its operation to American college campuses when it founded Defendant National Students for Justice in Palestine ("**NSJP**") to control hundreds of Students

> for Justice in Palestine ("**SJP**") chapters across the country. Through NSJP, AMP uses propaganda to intimidate, convince, and recruit uninformed, misguided, and impressionable college students to serve as foot soldiers for Hamas on campus and beyond. [original emphasis]

The only other organization with a similar capability to organize campus protests against Israel and in favor of its adversaries is the Muslim Students Association (MSA), which has taken a much more cautious approach and seems to prefer having SJP out in front on the issue. MSA quickly rallied behind SJP's April 20 announcement of its Popular University for Gaza campaign that vowed to "seize the university and force the administration to divest for the people of Gaza!"

After it launched the Popular University for Gaza campaign, SJP began radicalizing students into more aggressive behavior. It posted tips for thwarting surveillance and urged activists to only "de-arrest" someone—that is, to physically intervene and remove a person from police custody—if the action can be done quickly before the "pigs" can surround and contain the crowd.

Posturing for Coalition Building and Political Capital

Many of the broader movement's leaders clearly decided not to mention Hamas and to avoid or minimize any statements related to the October 7 attacks, Hamas, and terrorism.

Instead, most of the broader movement's leaders have decided, together or independently, to focus messaging on the movement's purportedly limited objectives of supporting a ceasefire that stops an alleged genocide aimed at liquidating the national liberation movement of a conquered and oppressed minority.

The uniformity of the vague and evasive statements responding to the October 7 attacks by almost every single major Muslim American group suggests a collective decision to message in support of Hamas while not implicating themselves as supporters of terrorism.

The clearest directive came from the Muslim American Society (MAS), which is one of the most powerful Muslim American organizations and has mosques and chapters across the country. MAS supports the protests and, according to a court filing in 2008 by federal prosecutors in a counterterrorism case, was "founded as the overt arm" of the Muslim Brotherhood in America. Hamas is a self-admitted "wing" of the international Muslim Brotherhood movement.

MAS's statement on October 7 expressed its solidarity with Palestinians and demanded that the U.S. and international community force Israel to "halt its provocations" and its allegedly indiscriminate targeting of the Palestinian population. The framing indicates MAS sees the October 7 attacks as defensive and Israel's military response as a "provocation."

More privately, MAS instructed its followers:

> [W]e are not religiously obligated to mention any specific entity within the Palestinian resistance. We firmly support the right of Palestinians to resist illegal occupation, in accordance with UN resolutions. Hamas is a U.S. designated terrorist organization that we cannot legally support—the group should not be mentioned in your khutbahs [preachings]. This does not impact our obligation to stand for justice and to mobilize American Muslims and the American public in support of the Palestinian cause.

A similar approach was taken by the Islamic Circle of North America (ICNA), another major organization intimately involved with MAS and a supporter of the current protests. ICNA carefully declined to take a substantive position and instead claimed an increasing number of people do not believe Hamas is a terrorist organization or that the October 7 attacks were "unprovoked." ICNA then provided a list of quotations from others who espoused the stances with which ICNA obviously agrees but did not state anything in its own name.

MAS and ICNA belong to the U.S. Council of Muslim Organizations (USCMO), the largest coalition of Muslim American organizations in the country, which has a large number of members with histories of supporting or being linked to Hamas and the Muslim Brotherhood. The council's press release condemned Israeli airstrikes on targets in Gaza as "unprovoked," speaking as if the October 7 attacks never even happened.

Although this word choice would lead any reasonable observer to conclude USCMO endorses the terrorist attacks, such manipulative semantics do minimize risk. For example, to make this study's conclusions as incontestable as possible, the author declined to list USCMO as one of the pro-terrorism entities because a far-fetched argument could be made that its public statement does not necessarily qualify as an expression of support for Hamas or the October 7 attacks.

Four Overlapping Circles of Pro-Terrorism Groups

The internal makeup, complimentary strategies, and interconnected operations of the current pro-terrorism, anti-Israel movement are best described as four overlapping, concentric circles.

The decreasing sizes of the circles reflect a smaller population within the movement that is increasingly willing to take more aggressive actions and accept the likely reputational costs that reduce popularity and political access and to risk suffering bodily harm, lawsuits, or prosecution.

Circle 1: Political Warfare. The outermost circle consists of the organizers and endorsers who are solely or almost solely focused on avoiding risks while conducting the delicate and pragmatic assembling and widening of the protest movement. These groups are also the ones most likely to transfer the movement's power into exercisable political capital.

This category of groups is the most cautious and seemingly moderate. They limit their public support for terrorism and criminality to carefully constructed statements that avoid those topics altogether or express support only indirectly. They hope the general public will be deceived into seeing them as moderate, while their allies will accurately interpret their words as support for Hamas. They typically limit their comments to expressing solidarity with Palestinians, advocating for a ceasefire that ends Israel's targeting of terrorists, and opposing genocide.

Circle 2: Supporters. The second circle glorifies, encourages, and facilitates illegal acts of protest of varying severity, depending upon the moral standards and risk tolerances of each group. The groups in this circle undertake one or more of the following actions:

- Providing moral and political support for law-breaking acts of protest.
- Giving more direct assistance to criminal protests by amplifying the results of "direct actions," advertising scheduled actions, and urging supporters to plan future actions.
- Providing legal support to protesters who are arrested and/or face consequences for their crimes.
- Creating, distributing, and/or promoting activism guides and "toolkits" that give advice and outside resources for committing illegal acts of protest and evading law enforcement and prosecution.

Credit: Capital Research Center.

The anti-Israel movement is best described as four overlapping, concentric circles. The decreasing sizes of the circles reflect a smaller population within the movement that is increasingly willing to take more aggressive actions and accept the likely reputational costs that reduce popularity and political access and to risk suffering bodily harm, lawsuits, or prosecution.

Circle 3: Inciters. The third circle consists of groups and activists who hope to significantly escalate the severity of criminal protests on campuses and elsewhere. Proposed actions include causing greater property damage, forcibly seizing property, and resisting law enforcement, including through violence. The activists and chapters belonging to SJP, the most important player in the protest movement, are increasingly moving into this circle.

Circle 4: Domestic Terrorism. The smallest but most militant and dangerous element of the movement is openly urging, planning, and carrying out violence that clearly falls into the category of domestic terrorism.

The unifying theme within this circle is that the movement has become so powerful that it must implement a wider

campaign of destruction aimed at imposing its will, instead of trying to produce voluntary change through persuasion and political pressure. The objective is to be achieved by "dismantling" the "infrastructure" involved in the U.S.-Israeli alliance and anything else perpetrators view as sustaining "Zionism," especially entities related to military and law enforcement cooperation.

Strategic Alliance with Anti-Police Bigots and Other Extremists

Some militants argue for making the destructive anti-Israel campaign part of a wider offensive against law enforcement that could ally with other militants and increase overall radicalization. Palestine Action US (now Unity of Fields), for example, posted a graphic on May 12 that stated, "THE MOVEMENT FOR PALESTINE MUST ALSO BE A MOVEMENT AGAINST THE POLICE."

Groups in this circle often propose that this expansion of protests should be part of an even broader campaign aimed at overthrowing the system of "imperialism," "capitalism," or various other "-isms."

Perhaps some pro-Hamas militants are not enthusiastic about expanding protests beyond the Israeli-Palestinian issue. However, our research to date has found no significant expressions of dissent.

Some argue for making the destructive anti-Israel campaign part of a wider offensive that could ally with other militants and increase overall radicalization.

Expanding the Target List

In the inner circle, there is some disagreement about how much of the destructive effort should focus on college campuses (especially any police officers present at protests) and how much should be dedicated to the broader campaign, though there seems to be almost complete unanimity that such a campaign is necessary.

Most of the groups in this circle are revolutionary communists and anarchists of various kinds. But the number of entities representing an ideology in this circle probably does not correspond to its proportion of the overall militant population in this circle. It is fair to assume that Islamist extremists (or "jihadists") account for a major portion of the individual militants in this circle, because Hamas itself is a jihadist group. Yet it is extremely difficult to assess the ideological proportions of this circle because there is minimal visibility into undisclosed activities. It's difficult to know who is viewing, sharing, and using the militant materials and how to categorize their beliefs. In addition, many militants who are independently issuing calls for action on social media and presumably making plans do not use the language of a particular ideology.

The groups in this circle unapologetically cheer on and incite physical altercations with police and distribute militant materials that offer lessons learned from previous "uprisings" and "direct actions," as well as advice on weaponry, combat, rioting, tactics based on guerrilla warfare, and other ways of conducting domestic terrorism campaigns.

At least one significant SJP official has crossed over into the fourth circle and equipped an unknown number of like-minded activists. A SJP spokesperson named Carrie Zarema produced a Google drive with over 200 documents related to militancy and terrorism, including instructions for a wide range of guerrilla activities aimed at damaging nationwide targets beyond the campuses. The documents advise on creating and handling weaponry, seizing buildings, rioting and combat, as well as propaganda for terrorist groups. This collection of documents was repeatedly seen being distributed by militants over the course of this study.

Columbia University Apartheid Divest (CUAD), a coalition of 116 groups that includes the school's SJP chapter, openly encourages vandalism and causing property damage and even endorses arsonist terrorism. The two groups most aggressively inciting violence appear to be Palestine Action US and the Resistance News Network, which operates over the encrypted Telegram social media platform. Both relentlessly incite violence, equip supporters with information suitable for domestic terrorism campaigns, and distribute official statements and propaganda directly from Hamas, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and other terrorist groups.

The anarchism-oriented group Ready to Escalate, also known as the Escalate Network, consistently tries to incite

its sizable online audience of 6,000 to violence that qualifies as terrorism and tries to facilitate such acts by providing a library of teaching materials. The group even went so far as to tell its followers to murder the editorial board of the *New York Times*.

In July, CUNY for Palestine issued a threatening statement in which it described itself as part of the Iran-led "Axis of Resistance," an alliance of Iran-backed terrorist groups and militias that includes Hamas, Hezbollah, the Syrian dictatorship of Bashar Assad, the Houthis, and other Iran-linked forces in Gaza, the West Bank, Lebanon, Iraq and Bahrain. The group said it would retaliate to the New York Police Department and city government's "brutalizing and escalating" in kind and ridiculed protesters for being too passive.

Another group of concern is Torch Antifa, which reacted to Hamas's October 7 attacks by writing a post declaring "Free Palestine!" The organization is described by Andy Ngo, who authored a book on Antifa, as "the largest network of formal violent Antifa chapters."

Within Our Lifetime's protests and harassments have possibly received more media attention than any other group. The most controversial event was a protest against a New York City exhibit commemorating the victims of Hamas's October 7 atrocities. It also published a map of museums in the area to target for "direct action" with an upside-down red triangle above each, adopting the symbol that Hamas uses in its propaganda videos to point out the persons or objects they'll show being killed or destroyed. Five personal homes of Jewish board members of the Brooklyn Museum were then vandalized with the upside-down red triangle painted on the property, which amounts to a death threat.

Credit: Andrew Leyden. License: Shutterstock.

Within Our Lifetime published a map of museums in the New York City area to target for "direct action" with an upside-down red triangle above each, adopting the symbol that Hamas uses in its propaganda videos to point out the persons or objects they'll show being killed or destroyed. [Pictured: Columbus Memorial Fountain vandalized during a pro-Palestinian protest in Washington, DC.]

WOL considers itself part of a united militant front led by designated foreign terrorist organizations. It boasts of how Israeli military forces in Gaza and the West Bank are being fought "by our people's resistance forces and the forces mobilized by our siblings in Yemen, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, and around the world."

WOL endorses a broader campaign of destruction in the United States:

> Our duty as people here in the belly of the beast is to use all available means to support the Palestinian resistance and degrade the capabilities of the United States to wage war not just on Palestine but on oppressed people all over the globe.

Conclusions

The study, which is believed to be the most comprehensive analysis of the current anti-Israel protest movement, reached the following 12 conclusions:

1. **The current anti-Israel protest movement on and off the college campuses is driven by over 150 pro-terrorism groups**, with the vast majority supporting Hamas and/or the October 7 terrorist attacks.
2. **The backbone of the current protest movement is Hamas** or at least can be reasonably characterized as Hamas.
3. **The movement is increasingly militant and criminal**, and significant elements are pushing it to escalate into a wider and more destructive domestic terrorism campaign aimed at forcibly "dismantling" the "infrastructure" of the U.S.-Israeli alliance.
4. **Some militants aspire to incorporate the campaign into a broader war on law enforcement if not an insurgency.**
5. **The movement's leadership largely consists of revolutionaries who advocate radical forms of socialism, communism/Marxism, anarchism, and Islamist extremism.**

6. **Some major groups and coalitions in the movement, including "mainstream" civil society groups, directly encourage and assist criminal "direct actions"** like seizing and damaging buildings.
7. **The protest movement's leaders have successfully branded it as a movement limited to opposing "genocide" and supporting a ceasefire** even though it was created almost entirely by supporters of anti-Israel terrorism who were inspired by the October 7 attacks and seek to assist Hamas and other terrorist groups.
8. **The protests and strategic messaging demanding U.S. intervention to stop Israeli retaliation began almost instantly after news of the attacks broke**, while the terrorist attacks were still in progress and before major Israeli counterattacks had begun.
9. **Media coverage of the protests suffers from a systemic failure to accurately characterize the stated positions of the protesting groups and their leaders.**
10. **A large proportion of the protesting groups express solidarity with the Iran-led Axis of Resistance**, which includes Iran-backed Palestinian terrorists such as Hamas, the government of Syria, Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Houthis in Yemen, and extremist militias in Iraq who are attacking the U.S. military.
11. **Only a handful of the protesting groups have condemned Hamas and the October 7 attacks.**
12. **The majority of the protesting groups seek the destruction of Israel**.

Countering the Movement

Legislators, law enforcement, and concerned citizens have at least 10 options for taking action against the pro-terrorism, anti-Israel protest movement:

1. Strip nonprofit status from criminal organizations.
2. Charge offenders under federal racketeering and sedition laws.
3. File state-level charges and use domestic terrorism statutes.
4. Deport terrorism-supporting foreign protesters.
5. Federal designate foreign groups as terrorist organizations.
6. File class action lawsuits against Students for Justice in Palestine.
7. Proactively educate reporters on groups' extremism.
8. Substantiate claims of foreign support by safely declassifying credible intelligence.
9. Reform nonprofit and higher education regulations to increase transparency and accountability.
10. Pressure universities permitting unchecked anti-Semitism through high-profile donor statements and actions. ■

Note: This is an abridged version of the full report Marching Toward Violence: The Domestic Anti-Israeli Protest Movement*, which is available at https://capitalresearch.org/article/marching-toward-violence-the-domestic-anti-israeli-protest-movement/.*

Read previous articles from the Special Reports series online at CapitalResearch.org/category/special-report/.

ARCHITECTS OF WOKE:

The 1619 Project's Fake History

STOKELY CARMICHAEL

& RACISM WITHOUT RACISTS

SLAVOJ ŽIŽEK & THE ROMANCE OF REVOLUTIONARY TERROR

CRC's Architects of Woke series takes aim at far-left post-modernist and Marxist thinkers and activists responsible for the spread of identity politics on college campuses and in society at large.

The series is hosted and directed by award-winning filmmaker Rob Montz, whose online documentary work has attracted millions of views and coverage in major outlets, including *The Economist*, *USA Today*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and The Adam Carolla Podcast.

Subjects of the Architects of Woke include the fake history of the 1619 Project, the wildly popular radical socialist podcast Chapo Trap House, far-left political activist Howard Zinn, University of California at Berkeley feminist gender theorist Judith Butler, highly influential Marxist-Leninist philosopher Slavoj Žižek.

Watch the entire series at DangerousDocumentaries.com.

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DANGEROUS DOCUMENTARIES

HOOVERING UP HENRY MONEY: A FIELD GUIDE TO FORD FOUNDATION GRANTS

By Ken Braun

Summary: *The Ford Foundation, a hunk of Ford Motor founder Henry Ford's fortune, is one of American philanthropy's heftiest cashes of cash. At the end of 1976, Henry Ford II, the founder's grandson, became the last of the family to resign from the Ford Foundation board of directors, warning the foundation's trustees and staff that "the [capitalist] system that makes the foundation possible very probably is worth preserving." The advice didn't take. Overt opposition to capitalism remains a fine way to secure a grant from the Ford Foundation.*

The Ford Foundation, a hunk of Ford Motor founder Henry Ford's fortune, is one of American philanthropy's heftiest cashes of cash. According to its latest publicly available IRS filing, the Ford Foundation reported net assets in excess of $13.9 billion and cumulative annual grants exceeding $700 million.

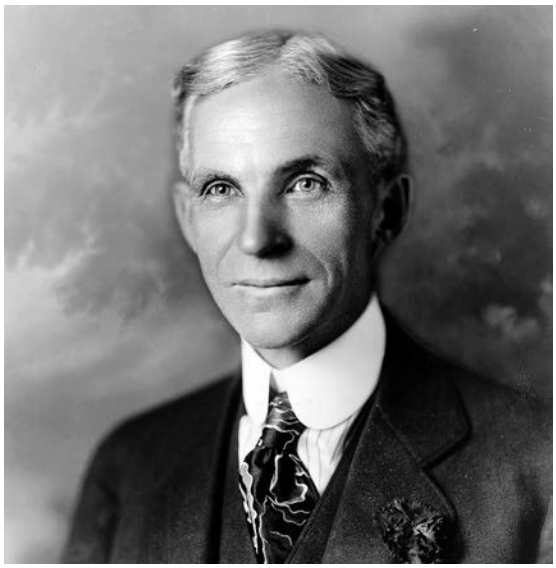
What does it take to win Henry's money?

He died in 1947, and it has been more than a half century since the family had the votes to control the foundation. So, this isn't the much-maligned "dark money" you read about, but instead *dead money*, zombie billions under the direction of little-known left-wing ideologues such as Ford Foundation president Darren Walker.

At the helm since 2013, Walker announced in July 2024 that he would retire by the end of 2025.

At the end of 1976, Henry Ford II, the founder's grandson and then-chairman of the eponymous auto firm, became what was at the time the last of the family to resign from the Ford Foundation board of directors.

"I'm not playing the role of the hardheaded tycoon who thinks all philanthropoids are socialists and all university professors are Communists," he wrote, in his sharply worded resignation letter. "I'm just suggesting to the trustees and the staff that the system that makes the foundation possible very probably is worth preserving."



Credit: Library of Congress, public domain.

[Henry Ford in 1919] The Ford Foundation, a hunk of Ford Motor founder Henry Ford's fortune, is one of American philanthropy's heftiest cashes of cash.

Free Money Versus Free Enterprise

The advice didn't take. Overt opposition to capitalism remains a fine way to load up on Henry's loot.

For example, Law for Black Lives (L4BL) is a fiscally sponsored project of NEO Philanthropy. NEO received a $300,000 grant for the L4BL in August 2023, part of $8.8 million in total grants sent from Ford to NEO during 2023 and the first seven months of 2024.

The description provided by Ford philanthropoids for the L4BL grant says it was meant "to cultivate a pipeline of community-based social justice lawyers."

Ken Braun is CRC's senior investigative researcher and authors profiles for InfluenceWatch.org and the Capital Research magazine.

Credit: Joi Ito. License: tinyurl.com/y5zx6dp5.

Ford Foundation money is dead money*, zombie billions under the direction of little-known left-wing ideologues such as Ford Foundation president Darren Walker.*

Pro Tip: Those seeking Henry's money are advised to regurgitate lots of left-wing phrases such as "social justice," as this correlates highly with receiving a grant. A sustained barrage can be found on the mission statement on the Law for Black Lives website, which defines the nonprofit as "a Black-led, queer, abolition minded, multiracial, feminist and anti-capitalist movement."

Similarly, "Dismantling Racial Capitalism" is the headline of a September 2024 event sponsored by the Action Lab, recipients of at least $285,000 in Ford grants since the start of 2023. In one of the grant descriptions, a Ford staffer managed to twice fit in the phrase "social justice."

The main web page for the Center for Economic Democracy claims they are "building a post-capitalist world that puts people and the planet first." Ford staffers thought post-capitalism was worth a $300,000 "general support" grant in February 2024.

Ford gave the Sunrise Movement Education Fund $150,000 in October 2023, part of $650,000 cumulative donations from Ford to Sunrise since June 2020.

Beginning in 2019 Sunrise became the main promoter of the Green New Deal, a grab bag of hard-left climate and economic proposals aptly described by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell as a "radical, top-down, socialist makeover of the entire U.S. economy." An independent analysis provided by the American Action Forum estimated it would cost U.S. taxpayers as much as $90 *trillion* over 10 years, or more than triple the $27.4 trillion annual GDP of the American economy.

The main page of the Sunrise Movement website features multiple images of young demonstrators. One shows three of them with a bullhorn, with a caption proclaiming an unlikely objective: "Strategy 1: We're making the Green New Deal popular."

Allied Media Projects has received grants totaling more than $2.4 million from Ford since the beginning of 2023. One Allied project during the period was earmarked by Ford for a "field guide" with the title "Sick Time, Sleepy Time, Crip Time: Against Capitalism's Temporal Bullying."

So don't ask the keepers of the Ford fortune for any nickels to support the system that birthed it.

Instead of promoting free enterprise, try promoting free money!

"Core support for Decolonizing Wealth's Case for Reparations Fund to advance the case for economic reparations for black and indigenous people in the United States," is the description Ford attached to a March 2023 grant shipped to Allied Media Projects. On its main page, Allied's Decolonizing Wealth Project refers to reparations as "racial reparative giving."

The New Jersey Institute for Social Justice has received at least $500,000 from Ford since 2023. A video playing at the top of the nonprofit's main page shows pro-reparations street demonstrations and other images with the same theme. "We demand reparations for slavery," proclaim signs held by several participants.

Similarly, a "push for reparations" was included in the Ford grant description for an October 2023 donation of $100,000 to Project Truth and Reconciliation. And the Episcopal Diocese of New York received $50,000 in January 2024 for what Ford described as their "work with reparations and economic justice."

Those grasping for Ford funding should play up that "economic justice" euphemism. At least four dozen other times since January 2023 the Ford Foundation has incorporated that phrase (or variants) into grant descriptions and/or sent money to groups using it on their website. Put together, these grants totaled more than $24.3 million.

> *So don't ask the keepers of the Ford fortune for any nickels to support the system that birthed it.*

Examples of recent grant writing in this category included Make the Road States ($3.5 million), ISAIAH ($2.5 million), Florida Rising Together ($1.9 million) and the Local Progress Policy Institute ($1.2 million).

The mission of the National Korean American Service and Education Consortium (NAKASEC) is to "organize Korean and Asian Americans and immigrants to achieve social, racial, and economic justice." Apparently impressed by the comprehensive virtue signaling, the Ford Foundation sent a grant for more than $1 million to the nonprofit in November 2023 and earmarked it for "social, racial and economic justice."

This was a relatively huge financial boost. During the year ending June 2023, NAKASEC reported total revenue of just over $7.2 million, almost $3.3 million more than the nonprofit had pocketed in any other year. As recently as 2016, total revenue was barely more than $1 million.

Revolutions and Bullhorns

The main page of the NAKASEC website also includes videos of street protesters using bullhorns.

For nonprofits that really want the Ford funding spigot wide open, it is difficult to understate the importance of portraying supporters shouting through bullhorns, engaging in street demonstrations, and preaching revolution. At least $103.7 million of the grants since the start of 2023 went to groups prominently showing this behavior on their main webpages.

The home page of the People's Action Institute goes the extra mile, with a cartoon image of a bullhorn-toting protester near the top, and further down the page are similar images (both cartoons and real) of demonstrators. At the very top of the page was an endorsement of Kamala Harris for president. People's Action has received more than $1.1 million from Ford since April 2023.

The main page of the Groundswell Fund features multiple images of protestors with bullhorns, protesters shouting while raising fists, and protesters still wearing their COVID masks. Groundswell has received at least $5 million from Ford since March 2023.

Family Values @ Work, a Big Labor advocacy group, was approved for a $4 million Ford grant in May 2023. The top of the main page of the website shows a woman speaking into a bullhorn, and several additional images portray sign-bearing demonstrators.

A bullhorn-toting demonstrator appears next to a tab declaring "our strategy" on the main page of the TechEquity Collaborative. Since April 2023 the group has received cumulative grants from Ford totaling more than $2.6 million.

Ford grant officers have pumped at least $4.1 million into the National Domestic Workers Alliance since the beginning of 2023. The alliance's main webpage and other pages show multiple real and cartoon images of street demonstrations and shouting through bullhorns.

Fiscally sponsored projects run by Community Change received at least seven grants from Ford after April 2023, for a total of $1.9 million. The Community Change main page shows Ohio demonstrators in matching clothing, fists raised, with signs declaring "CARE! NOT CUTS!" The page also explains that Community Change aims to bring about "a multiracial democracy and a fair economy where everyone can thrive."

Credit: Korean Resource Center. License: tinyurl.com/mr247xh2.

The mission of the National Korean American Service and Education Consortium is to "organize Korean and Asian Americans and immigrants to achieve social, racial, and economic justice."

> *Clinging to the phrase "multiracial democracy" is another way for would-be grantees to hoover up Henry Ford's fortune.*

America is already a representative democracy where citizens of all races can and do vote, so it's unclear how a "multiracial democracy" would be different. Nonetheless, clinging to that phrase or variations of same is another way for would-be grantees to hoover up Henry Ford's fortune.

Borealis Philanthropy has received more than $5 million from Ford since January 2023. An August 2024 feature on the Borealis website included a photo of masked protesters and an essay imagining a future America where there is "an inclusive and loving multi-racial democracy."

The Union Theological Seminary received $650,000 in Ford grants during the fall of 2023. In one grant description a Ford philanthropoid wrote: "Project support to organize a series of convenings to develop strategies and partnerships for a multiracial democracy."

The description of December 2023 grant of $650,000 to the RISE Together Fund said the loot was for "movements to build a just, inclusive, and multiracial democracy in the U.S." RISE is a fiscally sponsored project of the Proteus Fund, which has received at least $3.8 million from Ford since April 2023.

"Realizing a Multiracial Democracy" is a program hyperlink on the main page for PolicyLink, which also features a protester photo. Since August 2023 the nonprofit has received at least three Ford grants totaling more than $1.3 million.

The Institute for Policy Studies has received at least $400,000 from Ford since March 2023. A link on the IPS main page promotes a video titled: "A blueprint for countering American fascism" that supposedly demonstrates "how to fight for a multiracial democracy."

Some recent Ford grant descriptions read as if the only Americans who can vote are rich, white men.

Ford gave a $450,000 grant in December 2023 to the TakeAction Minnesota Education Fund and instructed them to use the money "to organize individuals and other organizations for a gender-inclusive, multiracial, cross-class democracy."

PowerSwitch Action is described by its executive director as a network of people who are creating a "multiracial feminist democracy and economies in our cities and towns."

PowerSwitch received a $225,000 Ford grant in March 2024, and the first thing a visitor to the PowerSwitch website sees is a large image of demonstrators, one of which is shouting into a bullhorn.

Since August 2023, Ford has given UltraViolet at least $1.3 million. The top item on the webpage is a promotion for UltraViolet Action, which claims they are hard at work "building a multi-racial, multi-generational political home for feminists." The accompanying photo portrays a street protest, with signs that say, "Stop Making Fascism Happen" and "The Revolution Will Not be Televised." The next, far larger photo below it, is of a bullhorn-blaring demonstrator.

Crime and Democracy

Claiming that a babble-speak multi-whatever democracy has never existed and pledging to put it in place is clearly a winning message for aspiring grantees.

But perversely, Ford's philanthropoids also love the narrative that a previously great multiracial democracy is in peril.

The Center for Public Integrity website warns that "our country faces historic attacks against the very existence of a multiracial democracy" because white America is "on the verge of being a minority." Ford staffers were sufficiently alarmed to send over a $250,000 grant in September 2023, that they listed as "General support to protect democracy and inspire change through investigative reporting."

"Our democracy is in danger," declares the bold headline at the top of the Protect Democracy Project website, which is also adorned with images of the Ford-favored masked demonstrators and bullhorns. A main page link claiming "authoritarianism has been on the march" directs to an image of Donald Trump surrounded by the dictators of Russia, China, and Venezuela.

This reckless hyperbole was sufficient to liberate a $300,000 grant from Ford in July 2023, fulfillment of a $700,000 total commitment dating back to 2022.

Those hoping to win Henry's money with this particular brand of fearmongering can learn a lot from the Western States Center, recipients of a $400,000 "defend democracy"

Credit: SFGovTV. License: tinyurl.com/bdh3yava.

Chesa Boudin was purpose-built to appeal to the stridently left-wing Bay Area electorate. But in reality, even they grew tired of his indifference to prosecuting rampant thievery and recalled him in June 2022.

grant in April 2024. Previously, the nonprofit was the sponsor of *1/6*, a comic book series that, according to Western States, "chillingly illustrates how close we came to authoritarian rule in America and the threats to our democracy that we still face." A 2022 grant from Ford was for "the development of a graphic novel about the January 6th events at the Capitol."

But grantseekers should not mistake Ford's desire to defend democracy for a willingness to defend the people in the democracy.

Fair and Just Prosecution promotes its partnership with a "new generation of elected prosecutors" who are part of an "incredible movement" that has "emerged with a powerful vision to transform the criminal legal system."

One movement member is former San Francisco DA Chesa Boudin. The biological or adopted son of no fewer than four members of the Weather Underground communist terrorism cell, Chesa was purpose-built to appeal to the stridently left-wing Bay Area electorate. But in reality, even they grew tired of his indifference to prosecuting rampant thievery and recalled him in June 2022.

Ironically, the Tides Center, a left-wing San Francisco advocacy nonprofit, is the fiscal sponsor of Fair and Just Prosecution. Ford gave Tides a $400,000 grant for the Fair and Just project in April 2023. Ford gave another $400,000 grant to Tides in March 2024 to spend on "social justice advocates committed to a pro-democracy framework." For all of its projects since the start of 2023 Tides has received more than $2.6 million from Ford.

In addition to Boudin, two additional Fair and Just Prosecution allies include Cook County DA Kim Foxx and Marilyn Mosby, former Maryland state's attorney for the city of Baltimore. Foxx's indifference to prosecuting Chicago crime was sufficiently embarrassing that she either decided (or was told by local Democratic Party machine) not to seek reelection. Mosby lost reelection after a federal indictment and then was convicted for perjury and mortgage fraud, which she believes is neither fair nor just.

Another former prosecutor, Orange County and Osceola County State Attorney Monique Worrell, was suspended by Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis in August 2023. Part of the reason why was explained by the Colorofchange.org Education Fund, which praised Worrell for implementing "policies that would avoid mandatory minimum sentences for gun crimes and drug trafficking offenses."

These were exactly the policies Color Of Change had "been advocating for in our efforts to elect progressive prosecutors," so they responded with a petition that has (after a year) not persuaded DeSantis to change his mind. But the Ford philanthropoids responded in April 2024 with a $295,000 grant.

Another failed petition effort from Color of Change was aimed at defunding the police. And it isn't the only example of recent Ford grantees that have promoted this position.

The Vera Institute of Justice has received at least $850,000 from Ford since April 2023. "Vera is committed to dismantling the current culture of policing and working toward solutions that defund police and shift power to communities," wrote the president of Vera in June 2020.

The Showing Up for Racial Justice Education Fund received $600,000 in November 2023. The Ford grant description said the money was meant as "support to advance the fights for racial and economic justice." Showing Up for Racial Justice, the group's advocacy arm, has created a "Defund the police toolkit" that it says will help "white communities to learn and take action around calls to invest money in communities and divest from Police."

> *Ford grants are showered upon those who help inject left-wing messages into media and culture.*

Shaping the News

Finally, Ford grants are also showered upon those who help inject left-wing messages into media and culture. Since the beginning of 2023, those in charge of Henry's money have shipped out at least $40 million of it to these sorts of recipients.

Setting the tone is a $750,000 grant in March 2024 for Hammer & Hope, a digital magazine produced by a project of the New Venture Fund. Hammer & Hope is so far left-wing that its very name is partly derived from the imagery that eventually landed on the Soviet Union's hammer and sickle flag. (According to Capital Research Center's Robert Stilson, "the publication's pages openly debate whether the "masculinist" hammer remains a suitable symbol for the modern proletariat.")

Influencing local news coverage is another major focus. Rebuild Local News has received $490,000 in grants from Ford since March 2024 to "advance public policies to help save local news and strengthen democracy."

Scalawag, one of the local news sources, received a $200,000 grant in January 2024. A July 2024 Scalawag headline declared: "Louisiana is the blueprint for further fascist repression."

Examples of other local news grants since the start of 2023 included Deep South Today ($1,150,000), Outlier Media ($390,000), Texas Tribune ($300,000), Charlottesville Tomorrow ($250,000), Mountain State Spotlight ($225,000), and City Bureau ($100,000).

The Center for Independent Documentary is one of many of Ford's filmmaker recipients. It has received at least $725,000 from Ford since the start of 2023. Some of it was for *Raised by Wolves*, described as "a documentary film about how young, white, rural men are being radicalized by forces on the internet." (For a comprehensive analysis of recent Ford grants to filmmakers, see "How the Ford Foundation Changed Entertainment.")

Those seeking to become the policeman of internet content have friends at Ford. Disinformation Index Inc. received $400,000 in June 2024 for the Global Disinformation Index, which became infamous for encouraging advertiser blacklisting of news sites such as RealClearPolitics, the *New York Post*, and *Reason*, the libertarian magazine.

Finally, the Ford philanthropoids are particularly impressed with grantees who can inject identity politics into the media.

The 19th News is named for the constitutional amendment that gave women the right to vote. Representative headlines on the main page (as they appeared on a day in mid-August 2024) included "America's Black elite is buzzing about Kamala Harris on Martha's Vineyard," and "Abortion providers are bracing for 'havoc' under a possible Trump-Vance administration." Since March 2023, the 19th News has received more than $1 million in Ford grants.

Producing news produced by or designed to appeal to Americans who are anything besides white, heterosexual men is a proven path to finding some Ford money in your mailbox. Other examples of those funded since the start of 2023 include the Center for Asian American Media ($3.5 million), the Futuro Media Group ($2,750,000), Documented ($650,000), the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association ($400,000), the National Association of Black Journalists ($300,000), the National Association of Hispanic Journalists ($250,000), Capital B ($250,000), and the Asian American Journalists Association ($250,000).

And then there is the *New York Times*, which as of this writing had a market capitalization of nearly $9 billion. It is probably not the sort of recipient Henry Ford had in mind when he forked over his fortune to charity.

But this epitome of regime-friendly journalism speaks a language Ford philanthropoids love to hear.

In August 2019, the *New York Times Magazine* released the 1619 Project, an issue dedicated to rewriting the American founding and capitalism as a triumph of slavery. The inflammatory premise was so off base that several of the nation's most prominent historians (Gordon S. Wood, James M. McPherson, and others) sent a rebuttal letter disputing several of its main assertions:

> On the American Revolution, pivotal to any account of our history, the project asserts that the founders declared the colonies' independence of Britain "in order to ensure slavery would continue." This is not true. If supportable, the allegation would be astounding—yet every statement offered by the project to validate it is false.

The Ford grants database shows no funding at all for the *New York Times* from 2006 through 2019, and thus no known funding for the 1619 Project. But in 2020, right after the newspaper was embroiled in its 1619 controversy, Ford shipped $1.5 million to the newspaper. And since the beginning of 2023, Ford has given the people working under the "All the News That's Fit to Print" masthead at least $1.6 million more.

The 1619 premise was so far left of reality that even the World Socialist Web Site ran interviews of several historians who were critical of its mangling of American history. The website is run by unapologetic communists, followers of dissident Soviet Marxist Leon Trotsky. And yet, in a September 2019 editorial the *WSWS* branded the 1619 Project a "politically motivated falsification of history" that was created to help the "Democratic Party to construct an electoral coalition based on the prioritizing of personal "identities"—i.e., gender, sexual preference, ethnicity, and, above all, race."

While that description was obviously intended by the socialists as a pejorative, it's not difficult to imagine every word of it appearing in a successful Ford Foundation grant request. ■

Read previous articles from the Foundation Watch series online at CapitalResearch.org/category/foundation-watch/.

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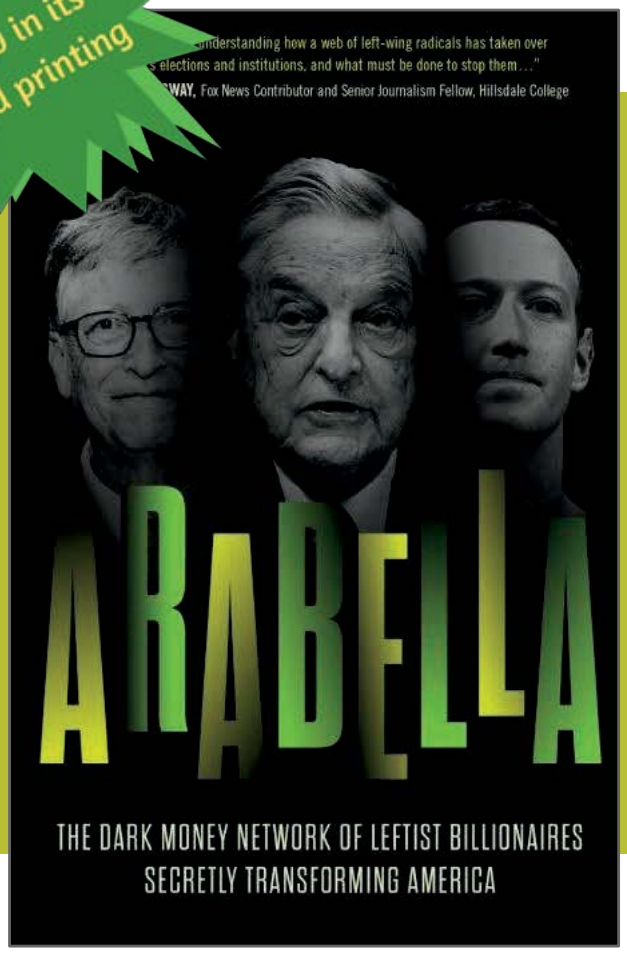

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