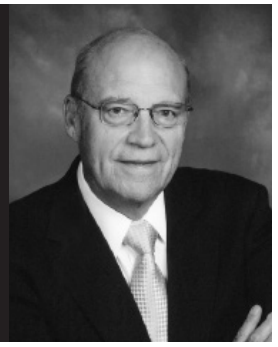




Dr. Fred Schwarz

The Schwarz Report



Dr. David Noebel

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The New York Times:

Red, White, or Blue

by Bruce Bawer

On Sunday night I was up late writing, and so on Monday I slept right up until the moment I was awakened, sometime around midday, by the blaring sound of a marching band in the street. I didn't need to look out the window to know what was going on. The music was *The Internationale*. The date was May 1. In the small Norwegian town where I live, the May Day parade was passing by.

The *New York Times* commemorated the Communist holiday in its own way—with an essay by Vivian Gornick, now eighty-one, a card-carrying member of the old New York intellectual crowd and author of a 2011 biography of anarchist heroine Emma Goldman. The piece—entitled “When Communism Inspired Americans”—is the latest example of what has long since become a genre all its own: the fond look back at American Stalinism.

The essay isn't Gornick's first contribution to the genre. Her 1977 book *The Romance of American Communism*, a collection of interviews with old Party members, was described by *Commentary* reviewer Marion Magid as an “adoring account” that depicts their perfidy “as a romantic episode in American history.” In the book, Gornick portrayed these old Communists as “the golden children called to Marxism” and claimed that they “feared, hungered, and cared more” than other people and possessed a “wisdom passion alone can purchase.” Noting that most of Gornick's interviewees were Jews, Magid quite rightly challenged the idea that there was any “wisdom” in their “slavish support of the Soviet Union throughout the long period of Stalinist treachery and the calculated destruction of Soviet Jewish life.”

Nor was there anything “golden” about their ability to keep their Communism intact despite (this is Magid's list) “The Moscow Trials, the Nazi-Soviet Pact, the Doctors' Plot, the takeover in Czechoslovakia, the Slansky Trial, the murdered writers, the labor camps, and all the rest.” Not only did American Communists accept all these abominations, noted Magid, “they justified it, those wonderful couples, ‘hungry for justice,’ rushing off to protest meetings and ‘peace’ rallies and picket lines while supper cooled on the stove at home and bullets met their mark in the cellars of the Lubianka. To read this book along with, say, the memoirs of Nadezhda Mandelstam is to become almost physically ill. The romance of Communism, indeed. It is an apology that is required—not an elegy.”

One can understand Magid's disgust. Back when it was first published, *The Romance of American Communism* was part of a new wave of books, movies, articles, and other material that treated that subject with sympathy. In *The Cause that Failed: Communism in American Public Life* (1991), Guenter Lewy cited Gornick's book, along with films like “The Front” and Lillian Hellman's memoir *Scoundrel Time* (both 1976), as part of a “new attitude” and “revisionist history” that represented American Communists “as persecuted defenders of American democracy.” Lewy quoted historian William O'Neill: “One would not know from seeing such films as “The Front” or reading books like *The Romance of American Communism* . . . that the heroes in them were apologists for Stalin's death machine.”

Gornick's contribution to this week's *Sunday Times* is essentially a synopsis of her 1977 book—and everything Magid (who died in 1993) said about the book forty years ago is true of this newly minted essay. Ignoring the vile nature of American Communists' ideology, Gornick chooses instead to applaud their supposed idealism. She begins by citing a 1962 rally at which left-wing journalist Murray Kempton praised “old Reds” for remaining “gallant and pleasant and unbroken” despite having been arrested, tailed, and bugged. And she quotes, with obvious approval, her Communist mother's assertion that she and her pals had “prodded the country into becoming the democracy it always said it was.”

This is, needless to say, tantamount to equating poison with medicine.

Far from disagreeing with this manifest hogwash, Gornick poeticizes it all: when she was a child and her parents' Party chums came over and sat around the kitchen table, she "was always excited by the richness of their rhetoric, the intensity of their arguments, the urgency and longing behind that hot river of words that came pouring ceaselessly from them." Their ideology? It was, she assures us, "a set of abstractions with transformative powers." Transformative indeed! It caused the murder of millions. But what did that matter, when it made them—all working-class types—feel more important, "lifted them out of . . . nameless, faceless obscurity?" As Gornick puts it: "When these people sat down to talk, Politics sat down with them, Ideas sat down with them; above all, History sat down with them."

Yes, history like that cited by Magid in her review—the Moscow trials, the Nazi-Soviet Pact, and so on.

Given that Gornick was born in 1935, any conversations of which she has such vivid memories must have taken place well after those terrible events—not to mention after the 1932-33 Ukrainian famine, the Holodomor, purposely engineered by Stalin, that took the lives of millions, and the inhuman 1939 Katyn massacre of 25,000 Polish military officers. And yet Gornick manages to maintain—in all seriousness, and in soaring language—that "the party was possessed of a moral authority that lent shape and substance, through its passion for structure and the eloquence of its rhetoric, to an urgent sense of social injustice." And on and on she goes, oozing empathy about how "the Marxist vision of world solidarity" could give an ordinary schlub "a sense of one's own humanity that ran deep." It could also send millions to the Gulag.

As in most contributions to this genre, Gornick includes a passage acknowledging (albeit briefly) that American Communism wasn't really the greatest idea, after all. She recounts the explosive impact on her parents and their friends of Khrushchev's 1956 "secret speech" about Stalin's horrors. Gornick herself, then age twenty, burst into hysterics. Of course, it had long been clear to sane observers that Communism was as much a form of totalitarianism as Nazism, Stalin as much of a monster as Hitler, and the Soviet Union a prison—a somewhat less horrible prison under Khrushchev than under Stalin, but still a prison. Why did it take Khrushchev's speech to make Gornick, her parents, and their friends snap out of it? Gornick doesn't explain. All we know is that they, and she, felt that a dream had died. And they, in their

sense of loss, were the victims.

Yet the simple truth is that Gornick's parents and their Commie friends were bad guys—fanatical, uncompromising supporters of a cold-blooded totalitarian system bent on mass murder and world conquest. But Gornick, even now, isn't about to admit anything like that. Nowhere in her piece is there the remotest hint of guilt, regret, or remorse—whether on her part or on the part of her parents and their kitchen-table collaborators. Just as Magid contrasted Gornick's memoirs to Nadezhda Mandelstam's, one can't read Gornick's *Times* piece without thinking about David Horowitz, who, also raised among Americans Communists, has spent most of his adult life reflecting on that experience and has produced a wise and massive body of work that cannot be excelled for the insight it offers into the subject.

Meanwhile, during the last forty years Gornick would appear not to have devoted so much as ten minutes' serious thought to her Communist upbringing. All this time, apparently, she has clung to the positive feelings and pushed away the negative thoughts. Despite her advanced age, she is still, essentially, the callow teenager who found Communism cozy. She can't even bring herself, at the end, to focus on the fact that Stalin ultimately proved to be a bloodthirsty tyrant. No, in her closing sentences the villains turn out to be—guess who?—the American government and American society, thanks to whom stateside Commies "endured social isolation, financial and professional ruin, and even imprisonment." Gornick actually insults non-Commie Americans by suggesting that they lacked some admirable attribute that the Commies did possess: the lives of the latter, in her words, "were formed by political history as were no other American lives save those of the original Revolutionists. History is in them—and they are in history."

What exactly is this supposed to mean? Who isn't "in history"? And hey, what about all those Americans (and Brits, too) who worshiped Hitler in the 1930s—people like Diana Mitford? Weren't they, too, dedicated to a "abstractions with transformative powers"? Weren't they "in history"? (Hitler himself was the guest of honor at Mitford's wedding.) Wasn't it true of them, as it was of Stalin's foreign disciples, that when they "sat down to talk, Politics sat down with them, Ideas sat down with them; above all, History sat down with them?" Whatever that means?

How dispiriting that at her advanced age, four decades after writing her reprehensible book, Vivian Gornick hasn't budged the slightest in her view of all this

despicable treachery. And how appalling—though hardly surprising—that the *New York Times* is still willing to give space to this sort of puerile bilge. It goes without saying, of course, that the Gray Lady would never publish a piece that sentimentalized Nazis. But it plainly has no intention of rethinking its decades-long habit of romanticizing people who vehemently denied the Holodomor and defended the Gulag,

—*FrontPageMag.com*, May 3, 2017

Cuban Truth Commission

by Mary Anatasia O’Grady

President Trump opened another chapter in US-Cuba relations on Friday when he announced a rollback of portions of the detente policy with Havana introduced by President Obama in December 2014. Human-rights groups cheered, libertarians jeered, and the international—and American—left warned that the new policy will harm Cubans and US investors.

All sides are dug in, as they have been for decades. Yet the reality is that when it comes to liberating Cuba, the embargo is a distraction. With or without it, the Castro police state will hang on until the civilized world speaks with one voice to condemn the illegitimacy of the regime as it did with South Africa during apartheid.

That’s not happening because the communist state’s pro-Castro narrative still has defenders in the West. The human-rights challenge is to expose this big lie. What’s needed is a truth commission that would allow Cubans themselves to tell what really happened.

The Trump administration’s changes are aimed at weakening the military dictatorship by denying it easy access to US dollars via the military-owned tourism industry. American companies’ ability to form partnerships with those businesses will be pared back and American travelers will face new restrictions.

This is an important symbolic change. Yet the effects are likely to be minimal. Despite the tendentious claims of too many American journalists, Cuba is not “isolate,” nor is it starving because of the embargo. The rest of the world can do business in Cuba and the regime buys all

the food and medicine it wants from the US.

There is no US prohibition on the export of construction materials to nonstate actors in Cuba. But the regime doesn’t allow the free flow of goods because economic freedom is a path to political freedom. Small businesses are permitted only if they don’t become too profitable and their owners don’t express ideas independent of the totalitarian state. Cuban privation is made in Havana.

Raul Castro loves to whine about Cuba’s lack of internet capability and to blame it on the embargo. But as one dissident on the island wrote to me last week, the regime is the reason Cubans lack access. “Information is always power,” he explained, so the “government doesn’t have the will nor is it a priority” to see people informed. Where there is internet, he noted, the government blocks news sites.

What is more, he wrote, the regime “keeps all the money earned by the people’s sweat and uses it for military contingencies, maintenance of weapons, diplomatic personnel, officials, representatives abroad, spies, etc.” If the dictatorship “decides a dissident should die, it is not difficult to . . . accomplish” the task.

Such complaints counted for little with Barack Obama. Instead, in 2016, the US president attended a baseball game in Havana with Castro, who also invited members of the Colombian narco-terrorist group FARC. The US also barred Cuban dissidents from attending the reopening of the US Embassy in Havana.

Moral myopia about Cuba is explained in some cases by the fact that the regime is the international symbol for anti-Americanism. To condemn Castro would be to acknowledge that the US was right to try to end the tyranny.

A high-profile truth project would correct the record. One myth that needs to be debunked is that resistance to the Castro hijacking of a revolution originally meant to restore the 1940 constitution came solely from white, upper-class Havana.

In 1958 Cuba was one of the richest countries in Latin America. Cubans widely understood the link between rising living standards and constitutional democracy. They were heavily in favor of removing dictator Fulgenzio Batista from power to restore the rule of law. Fidel Castro and the guerillas in the Sierra Maestra derived

Founded in 1953, the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade, under the leadership of Dr. Fred C. Schwarz (1913-2009) has been publishing a monthly newsletter since 1960. *The Schwarz Report* is edited by Dr. David A. Noebel and Dr. Michael Bauman and is offered free of charge to anyone asking for it. The Crusade’s address is PO Box 129, Manitou Springs, CO 80829. Our telephone number is 719-685-9043. All correspondence and tax-deductible gifts (CACC is a 501C3 tax-exempt organization) may be sent to this address. You may also access earlier editions of *The Schwarz Report* and make donations at www.schwarzreport.org. Permission to reproduce materials from this Report is granted provided that the article and author are given along with our name and address. Our daily blog address is www.thunderontheright.wordpress.com.

their support from that sentiment.

By the summer of 1959 it was clear Fidel wanted absolute power. Among the first to realize it were small farmers living in central Cuba and the foothills of the Escambray Mountains. Those *guajiros* formed the backbone of a resistance that lasted six years. Their communities suffered unspeakable atrocities in a Soviet supervised cleansing.

The military savagely attacked villages, displacing families and forcibly relocating many to the remote western end of the island. Survivors have told me that the regime also rounded up women and children and made them captive in Havana while it crammed men and boys into chicken coops for days and weeks to crush the rebellion.

The Cuba Archive Truth and Memory Project has documented 934 executions mostly in the Escambray. Another 607 political prisoners were executed between 1960 and 1970 and the vast majority of them are believed to have been captured in the Escambray.

Mr. Trump has taken a first step toward moral clarity on Cuba. But real progress requires an honest look at the historical record that acknowledges the regime's many crimes against humanity.

—*The Wall Street Journal*, June 19, 2017, p. A15

CrowdStrike Strikes

by Justin Caruso

The Democratic Party and mainstream media have become increasingly consumed with the narrative that Donald Trump's election win is largely influenced by Russian hacking.

The narrative is centered around two hacks—the hack of a DNC server that led to the release of embarrassing emails during the Democratic National Convention, and the hack of John Podesta's email which led to several embarrassing moments for the Clinton campaign in October 2016. Both are supposedly the result of the Russians.

The Russia story is back in the headlines once again after reports surrounding former President Barack Obama's attempts to “punish” Russia for its interference.

However, there is still a cloud of doubt hanging over the DNC's Russia narrative on the breach of the DNC servers.

The analysis that alleged that Russia was behind the

DNC server breach was carried out not by the US government, but by the private security group CrowdStrike.

CrowdStrike is the sole source of this claim, with their June 2016 report, “Bears in the Midst: Intrusion into the Democratic National Committee” being the basis of the DNC's Russian hacking allegations.

Here are five key points about CrowdStrike that the mainstream media is ignoring:

1. Obama Appoints CrowdStrike Officer To Admin Post Two Months Before June 2016 Report On Russia Hacking DNC

In April 2016, two months before the June report that alleged a Russian conspiracy, former President Barack Obama appointed Steven Chabinsky, the general counsel and chief risk officer for CrowdStrike, to the Commission on Enhancing National Cybersecurity.

CrowdStrike co-founder George Kurtz said at the time, “We wish Steve and the rest of the Commissioners every success in this important effort. Their dedicated and thoughtful leadership on these issues holds great potential for promoting innovation and the benefits of technology, while lowering the very real security risks we are facing today.”

2. The FBI Never Looked At The DNC's Servers —Only CrowdStrike Did

As far as we know, the FBI still has not examined the DNC server that Russia allegedly hacked.

There has been no corroboration or second opinion on who may have hacked the server. The only source for this claim is CrowdStrike, who began monitoring the DNC system on May 5th, 2016, according to DailyMail.com.

The DNC also reportedly paid \$168,000 to CrowdStrike.

3. Comey Contradicted The DNC's Story On The FBI Asking To See The Server

The DNC claimed in January that the reason the FBI never examined their hacked server was simple—the FBI never requested to do so. Yet, DNC deputy communications director Eric Walker told BuzzFeed News in an email, “The DNC had several meetings with representatives of the FBI's Cyber Division and its Washington (DC) Field Office, the Department of Justice's National Security Division, and US Attorney's Offices, and it responded to a variety of requests for cooperation, but the FBI never requested access to the DNC's computer servers.”

However, this claim was contradicted by then-FBI director James Comey, who said in a Senate Intelligence Committee hearing in January that there were “multiple

requests at different levels” to look at the DNC’s servers. Instead, Comey said a “highly respected private company” got access to the servers—meaning CrowdStrike.

A senior FBI official told *WIRED* in January, “The FBI repeatedly stressed to DNC officials the necessity of obtaining direct access to servers and data, only to be rebuffed until well after the initial compromise had been mitigated.”

“This left the FBI no choice but to rely upon a third party for information. These actions caused significant delays and inhibited the FBI from addressing the intrusion earlier.”

As Josephine Wolff of *Slate* pointed out, “...whether because they were denied access or simply never asked for it, the FBI instead used the analysis of the DNC breach conducted by security firm CrowdStrike as the basis for its investigation. Regardless of who is telling the truth about what really happened, perhaps the most astonishing thing about this probe is that a private firm’s investigation and attribution was deemed sufficient by both the DNC and the FBI.”

4. CrowdStrike Co-Founder Is Fellow On Russia Hawk Group, Has Connections To George Soros, Ukrainian Billionaire

Co-Founder and CTO of CrowdStrike Dmitri Alperovitch is a nonresident senior fellow on the Atlantic Council.

The Atlantic Council is hawkish on Russia, previously publishing reports about topics like how the West can “get tougher” on Russia, how to “fight back against Russian political warfare,” how to respond “to Russia’s Anti-Western Aggression.”

Other articles are titled, “From Russia with Hate: The Kremlin’s Support for Violent Extremism in Central Europe” and “Here’s Why You Should Worry About Russian Propaganda.”

In one article published by the Atlantic Council, writer Stephen Blank claims that Russia is a more urgent security threat than terrorism.

Further, the Atlantic Council is funded by NATO, enhancing the hawkish view on Russia.

The Atlantic Council is also funded by the “Open Society Initiative for Europe,” a program of leftist billionaire George Soros’ Open Society Foundation.

The Open Society Initiative for Europe has written that they support, “initiatives that strengthen the protection of migrants and the politics of inclusion, giving the leading role and voice in advocating policies and social change to migrants and refugees, their descendants, and their allies in civil society.”

The Atlantic Council is also funded by the Victor Pinchuk Foundation.

Pinchuk is a Ukrainian billionaire who reportedly gave \$25 million to the Clinton Foundation, and was invited to Clinton’s home for a dinner in 2012 while she was secretary of state, despite an earlier denial from a Clinton spokesperson that “never on her schedule” during her time as Secretary.

5. CrowdStrike Is Funded By Clinton-Loving Google \$\$

Finally, it’s worth pointing out that CrowdStrike received \$100 million in investments led by Google Capital (since re-branded as CapitalG) in 2015.

CapitalG is owned by Alphabet, and Eric Schmidt, Alphabet’s chairman, was a supporter of Hillary Clinton in the 2016 election. More than just supporting Clinton, leaked emails from Wikileaks in November 2016 showed that in 2014 he wanted to have an active role in the campaign.

According to the *Wall Street Journal*, Schmidt “sent a Clinton campaign official a lengthy memo with advice on running the campaign. He told campaign officials he was ‘ready to fund, advise, recruit talent,’ and ‘clearly wants to be head outside advisor,’ according to a 2014 email from Clinton campaign Chairman John Podesta to campaign manager Robby Mook.”

And *Politico* reported in November 2016 that Schmidt “served in a personal capacity as an adviser to the Clinton operation,” and wore a “staff” badge at her election night party.

Schmidt also funded a startup called, “The Groundwork.” An article in *Quartz* titled, “The stealthy, Eric Schmidt-backed startup that’s working to put Hillary Clinton in the White House,” details its operations.

“The Groundwork, according to Democratic campaign operatives and technologists, is part of efforts by Schmidt—the executive chairman of Google parent-company Alphabet—to ensure that Clinton has the engineering talent needed to win the election,” the article says.

“And it is one of a series of quiet investments by Schmidt that recognize how modern political campaigns are run, with data analytics and digital outreach as vital ingredients that allow candidates to find, court, and turn out critical voter blocs.”

The post also calls Schmidt “one of the most powerful donors in the Democratic Party.”

There are other connections between Google money and the Democratic Party.

Stephanie Hannon, former Director of Product Man-

agement for Google, left in 2015 to become Hillary Clinton's Chief Technology Officer for her 2016 campaign.

—*Daily Caller*, June 24, 2017

California's Communism

by Janet Levy

In February, California senator Janet Nguyen (R-Santa Ana), the country's first Vietnamese-American state legislator, whose district includes more than 100,000 people of Vietnamese descent, was removed from the Senate chamber after objecting to the lionization of deceased former state assemblyman and senator Tom Hayden, a communist collaborator during the Vietnam War. Nguyen was born in Saigon a year before the city fell to the North Vietnamese forces in 1975 and legally immigrated to the United States with her family four years later, settling in southern California.

When the posthumous lionization began of Hayden's service of almost two decades in California state government, Nguyen was distressed. She knew Hayden as someone who had aided and given comfort to the communist enemy in her country of origin. She felt compelled to express the sentiments of her heavily refugee-populated district, whose families had suffered greatly because of North Vietnamese brutality. The community blames the US anti-war movement for undermining the war effort and contributing to the eventual victory of the North Vietnamese communists.

During the Vietnam War in the 1960s, Hayden, a prominent and vocal voice for the North Vietnamese communists, had organized a campaign with Jane Fonda, John Kerry, and Ted Kennedy to cut off American aid to the existing government of South Vietnam and cooperate with the Vietcong and Khmer Rouge. Hayden traveled to southeast Asia numerous times during the conflict to strategize with the enemy on defeating America's anti-communist plan. When reports came to light that American soldiers were being tortured in communist captivity, he proclaimed the reports to be "propaganda." Hayden and Fonda notoriously weakened the morale of American POWs by participating in broadcasts for the North Vietnamese in which they accused American troops of war crimes.

After Hayden's passing October 23, 2016, the California Senate held a ceremony five months later on February 20, 2017, honoring his service to the state legislature. California Democratic Party chairman John Burton

praised the former senator as "one of the great visionaries" and as "a guy with a lot of courage." President Pro Tem Kevin de Leon (D-Los Angeles) crowed, "He dedicated his life to the betterment of our state and our great country through the pursuit of peace, justice, and equity." Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson (D-Santa Barbara) applauded Hayden for his street activism against the Vietnamese war.

These undue accolades proved to be too much for Nguyen, who is aware of the truth regarding Hayden's anti-war pursuits. She left the chamber and, later, unsuccessfully attempted to gain approval to recess the session later in the week in remembrance of the one million Vietnamese who died because of the war and to speak about Hayden's actions in Vietnam.

Although refused permission, Nguyen returned to the Senate four days later and gave her statement anyway, speaking first in Vietnamese and then English.

"Mr. Hayden sided with a communist government that enslaved and/or killed millions of Vietnamese, including members of my own family," she said. "Mr. Hayden's actions are viewed by many as harmful to democratic values and hateful toward those who sought the very freedoms on which this nation is founded."

Regretfully, Senator Nguyen didn't get far with her statement, as she was chastised for being out of order, had her microphone cut off, and was ultimately removed from the California Senate floor. The following weekend, over 100 local Vietnamese Americans, who felt that the memory of their lost loved ones and the brutal assault on their country had been disrespected, attended a rally in support of the senator and her right to speak out against Hayden's actions.

A week later, recognizing the public relations implications of dragging a Vietnam war refugee from the state Senate floor, de Leon attempted an apology that essentially excused Nguyen's removal for violating chamber rules by citing the timing of her remarks. However, this response appeared disingenuous, given that Nguyen was denied permission to speak and, instead, told to either post her comments online or provide them following adjournment, an apparent violation of Senate rules.

In May, once again, Nguyen was forced to act on her anti-communist beliefs when Assembly Bill 22 was introduced by California assemblyman Rob Bonta (D-San Francisco). The legislation amended an existing statute for removing a public employee who "is knowingly a member of the Communist party" or member of an organization that "advocates the overthrow of the Government of the United States or of any state by force or vio-

lence.” Essentially, the bill would allow communists to work legally in California government. On May 10, the bill passed the Assembly and was headed for a Senate vote.

Constituents from Nguyen’s district, often referred to as “Little Saigon,” were up in arms about A.B. 22. Many had lived under communist oppression and strongly protested the measure. With district support, Nguyen promptly launched a petition to oppose the legislation. Plans were readied in the local Vietnamese-American community to send protesters to Sacramento.

Claiming that his bill didn’t “endorse communism or encourage communism,” Bonta maintained that he was protecting “people’s rights” and following constitutional precedents that made it illegal for government to fire employees due to their political affiliations, a claim that rang hollow for Nguyen’s constituents.

For now, it appears that Sen. Nguyen’s efforts and those of the community she represents succeeded in thwarting plans to allow those espousing communist ideologies to work in California government. On May 18, Bonta announced withdrawal of the bill and apologized to veterans and those who fled the communist regime in Vietnam. Nguyen must be commended for her valiant quest to stand up in the face of acclaim for a traitorous communist collaborator and for her actions to stop legislation that would have normalized communist ideology in the Golden State.

—*American Thinker*, May 21, 2017

Behead the King

by Fay Voshell

He was unlike our current president in many respects: He was extraordinarily indecisive, timid, and distracted. He seemed not to know his own country at all, isolated as he was from the public.

But his position was very like that of President Trump in that he had a mob calling for his beheading. That the mob succeeded in their efforts changed European history, effectively bleeding the continent’s aristocracy to death until royalty was dealt the final coup de grace during WWI and its aftermath.

“He,” of course, was King Louis XVI, who was guillotined in January of 1793 by Jacobins egged on by the brilliantly evil Maximilien Robespierre.

Leaders of many of the subsequent variants of the

French Revolution, such as the Bolsheviks and Maoists, wind up beheading people, economically, politically, socially and often literally, especially those undesirable classes considered ideologically “impure.”

Therefore, it is not much of a surprise to see a known figure such as Kathy Griffin, who is very much aligned with the radically ideological Democrats, indicate she wants Trump dead.

It took decades for the Left in America to reveal itself to be as radical as the French Jacobins howling for the execution of the feckless Louis. His father, Louis XV, had seen disaster coming, at one time uttering the famous words, “Après moi, le déluge” (“After me, comes the flood”). American conservatives have been warning about the leftist inclination to tyranny for decades, some seeing the apogee of the leftist tide during the Obama administration; but knowing a nearly beheaded Left is still capable of dangerous talk and behavior.

As the Elizabethan poet John Donne pointed out, a severed head can still give the appearance of life even as the oxygen drains from the brain. He wrote:

Or as sometimes in a beheaded man,
Though at those two Red Seas, which freely ran,
One from the trunk, another from the head,
His soul be sail’d to her eternal bed,
His eyes will twinkle, and his tongue will roll,
As though he beckon’d and call’d back his soul:
He grasps his hands, and he pulls up his feet,
And seems to reach, and to step forth to meet
His soul.

Even so, though the Left has been nearly decapitated, it still natters on as if it has life; as if it has something significant to say. It still does its zombie imitation, hoping to instill dread and fear into the opposition by impersonating real life and vitality.

Ms. Griffin’s excess is an indicator not only of the deathly fatuity and grossness leftist radicals have been resorted to, but she is also representative of the high tide of an essentially nihilist deluge that has threatened America for decades.

Not even Trump’s children are spared. TMZ reported Barron Trump was watching TV when he saw Griffin holding what he thought was his dad’s head and started screaming for his mom in a panic. Former Jeopardy whiz Ken Jennings thought Barron’s panic amusing.

One is reminded of Marie Antoinette, King Louis’s wife. Her children were also treated with callous cruelty, the young dauphin dying of what was almost certainly tuberculosis from being in a dank, dark prison cell for two years. Some historians relate that she could hear her

children being beaten by guards. Accused of treason and of sexually abusing her own son, the queen was executed after enduring years of ridicule and baseless accusations, some of which were similar to the accusations leveled at Melania Trump; namely, that she was at one time a prostitute.

In sum, the contemporaneous Left utilizes the same methods as its French progenitors and progeny: ridicule, slander, lies, and threats.

The twentieth century is replete with examples.

Josef Stalin decided to hire an assassin to drive an ice pick through the brain of his ideological rival, Leon Trotsky. Mao Tse Tung, hearing of his rival Lin Biao's attempt at a military coup, conveniently arranged for Lin's plane to crash as the man tried to flee China. Mao also targeted academia for politically incorrect thinking during the so-called Cultural Revolution. His infamous Red Guards fought against all authorities in every level of society, resulting in chaos and revolt against all law and order.

While here in America presidents are not yet guillotined, the effect desired is the same: effectively killing or completely sidelining an undesirable and ideologically incorrect target one way or another. While utilizing some of Mao's tactics, especially in our colleges and universities, here in America, the preferred tactic of the Left is relentless character assassination and the endless manufacture of conspiracy theories designed to render the ideologically impure helpless and to gunk up the legislative and executive processes via what amount to kangaroo courts and the equivalent of Jacobin congressional representatives.

Why? Why the intense hatred and the unbridled desire to decapitate the current administration?

For the Left, Trump is seen as illegitimate and the great pretender to the throne, not a duly elected president. He is seen as not belonging to the royal lineage of the Clinton and Obama dynasties. He is considered an imposter, a pretender to the throne, which was to have been forever occupied by the politically correct. He does not spring from nor adhere to the political class of the privileged. His ideas and behavior are not those of the deeply religious progressives, so he is seen as the equivalent of the antipope.

Trump is seen by progressives as an imposter with wholly fabricated claims. He is thought of as having assumed an identity that does not belong to him; namely the identity of the President of the United States. Therefore, being a pretender, he deserves the fate dealt the phony royal Emilian Pougatchiff, who was executed in

1775 during the reign of Catherine II of Russia. Another salutary example is the execution of the Stuart Catholic King Charles I in 1649, whose Catholicism rendered him as illegitimate in the eyes of those seeking the power of the English throne. His son Charles II was a "pretender" until his restoration to the throne of England eleven years later.

For the fact is that the deeply religio-ideological leftists of America want restoration of their royal lineage as surely as Catholics wanted Bloody Mary and King Charles I on the throne because of their devotion to the Catholic faith; and as surely as Protestants wanted Elizabeth I on the throne because of her faith. Deeply religious wars permit no peaceful yielding of the throne lest the entire edifice come crashing down.

Politics will always be full of both pretense and pretenders; the good and the bad—often a mixture of both. It's the human condition. The perfectionism of the politically correct has never allowed error or even nuance. Death to the imperfect. Off with your head.

However, the truth is that President Trump was duly elected and put into office by the Americans who voted for him. He did not seize the office. He was not put there by a coup. He is the legitimate president.

For those who believe the wrong person is in office and that a great pretender is living in the White House, it is high time to remember we do not live under an aristocracy but under the rule of the Constitution of the United States. We do not believe in aristocratic succession to the presidency.

It is high time everyone who desires the exit of any president remembers the great remedy our constitutional republic has firmly in place; a remedy that has been effectively utilized for hundreds of years: Voting to elect the person the American public wishes to be in high office.

And . . . stop suggesting the guillotining of Donald Trump, the president of the United States of America.

—*American Thinker*, June 4, 2017

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