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## CAREER POLITICIAN

# CARLINA RIVERA'S "WIN" IS OUR LOSS!

By Chris Flash

In November 2021, after her re-election to the New York City Council, after more than four years of her betraying her constituents, we found ourselves again stuck with career politician Carlina Rivera and control of District Two by Rivera's clubhouse bosses at CODA ["COalition for District Alternative"]

In 2017, Rivera "ran" for the City Council seat held by fellow CODA member Rosie Mendez, who had to vacate her seat due to term limits. Mendez got the seat held by CODA's Margarita Lopez, who also had to vacate due to term limits. Mendez got an extra four year term when, in 2008, billionaire Mayor Bloomberg paid off council members to go for it, voting 29-22 against the will of voters, who voted TWICE, in 1993 and in 1996, for no more than two four year terms for New York City politicians. Mendez got three terms before limits of two terms were re-established in 2010. For the 2017 election, Mendez simply switched seats with Rivera, who as Mendez' "legislative director," had been "District Leader" in the 74th Assembly District for CODA. **CODA CODA CODA!**

Rivera's 2021 "victory" speech was typical politician hogwash. She spoke of "progress" but her only "progress" has been to facilitate gentrification on the Lower East Side. Her constituents ask WHAT Rivera and CODA have done about what she called "fighting for workers' rights and dignity, increased access to culturally humble health-care, safer and more livable streets for our communities, robust climate resiliency in all five boroughs, the protection and expansion of affordable housing?"

Here's what they HAVE done: Among many other transgressions and betrayals, the three CODA clubhouse politicians, from Margarita Lopez to Rosie Mendez to Carlina Rivera, who have consecutively held the City Council seat "representing" District Two on the Lower East Side since real estate vulture puppet Antonio Pagàn had to vacate his seat in 1997 due to term limits, have sacrificed our community gardens by cutting deals with Pagàn's real estate partner Donald Capoccia, handing him garden lots in order for him to build "market rate" and "luxury" apartments on those sites, have been silent while Bloomberg wiped out zoning restrictions, leading to hyper-gentrification with record overbuilding of "luxury" and "market rate" housing throughout the city, posing for a photo op at the Astor Place cube at the same moment that long term residents of a row of middle income apartment houses along 11th Street, across from Webster Hall, were being evicted in order to make way for a new much taller "Moxy" luxury hotel to be built on the site, approved Mayor DeBlasio's absurd "Tech Hub" project on East 14th Street that includes up-zoning on surrounding streets, leading to more demolitions of middle-income housing in historic buildings, supported DeBlasio's Governors Island bonanza for developers to create an island for the filthy rich there, and approved the ecologically criminal plan pushed by DeBlasio to DESTROY a large portion of East River Park, which had only recently been renovated after more than 10 years, at a cost of millions of dollars, in order to acquire \$1.45 billion in federal funding before the availability of those funds expired. **[See SHADOW #62 for what was behind the destruction of East River Park - Ed.]**

Hundreds of old-growth trees in the park were wiped out in the final months of DeBlasio's term at the end of 2021. Most of East River Park is now closed off to and unusable by area residents who do not have a country home to get away to, as do politicians who pretend to "represent" the Lower East Side.

Rivera backed DeBlasio, though their constituents made it CLEAR that they did NOT support the outgoing lame duck mayor's absurd plan for the park, which was shoved down our throats with NO public hearings, input, review or oversight, and accountability.

It is clear to those with EYES that the "new and im-

proved East River Park" being touted by Rivera and DeBlasio, who was out of office just two months after destroying the park, leaving us with his mess, will be re-configured and designed for incoming monied transients attracted to the soon-to-be former NYC-owned housing projects along Avenue D and the FDR Drive that will be renovated into "luxury" apartments that Rivera and her CODA crew are getting privatized by a group of developers, who include none other than Antonio Pagàn's partner in crime: DONALD CAPOCCIA.

To that end **[as reported in SHADOW #61]**, they have already handed Capoccia a large chunk of Campos Plaza, located at 12th Street and Avenue C, where he has been creating market rate units where poor residents used to live. According to their plan, by the time the new East River Park is finished, most, if not all, residents of city housing projects on the Lower East Side will be replaced by a more "desirable" demographic.

From what we have seen, there has been NO difference between Antonio Pagàn's DAC [Democratic Action Club] political club and Rivera's CODA political club, since the latter was formed in 1992, as an "alternative" to DAC. BOTH clubs well served their gentrifier real estate masters, as well as mayors who work for developers and bankers, and BOTH have been rewarded handsomely for selling their souls and betraying their fellow New Yorkers.

### RIVERA ASPIRES TO HIGHER OFFICE

In June 2022, just seven months after winning re-election to the City Council, Rivera announced that she is now running for Congress in the 2022 election for a seat in the newly-redrawn and newly-created 10th Congressional District, though Rivera and her husband, former "community" board three [CB3] chairperson, coffee shop owner and current Bank of America attorney, James ("Jamie") Rogers, who reside at 245 East 25th Street, do not live in the new district, as required.

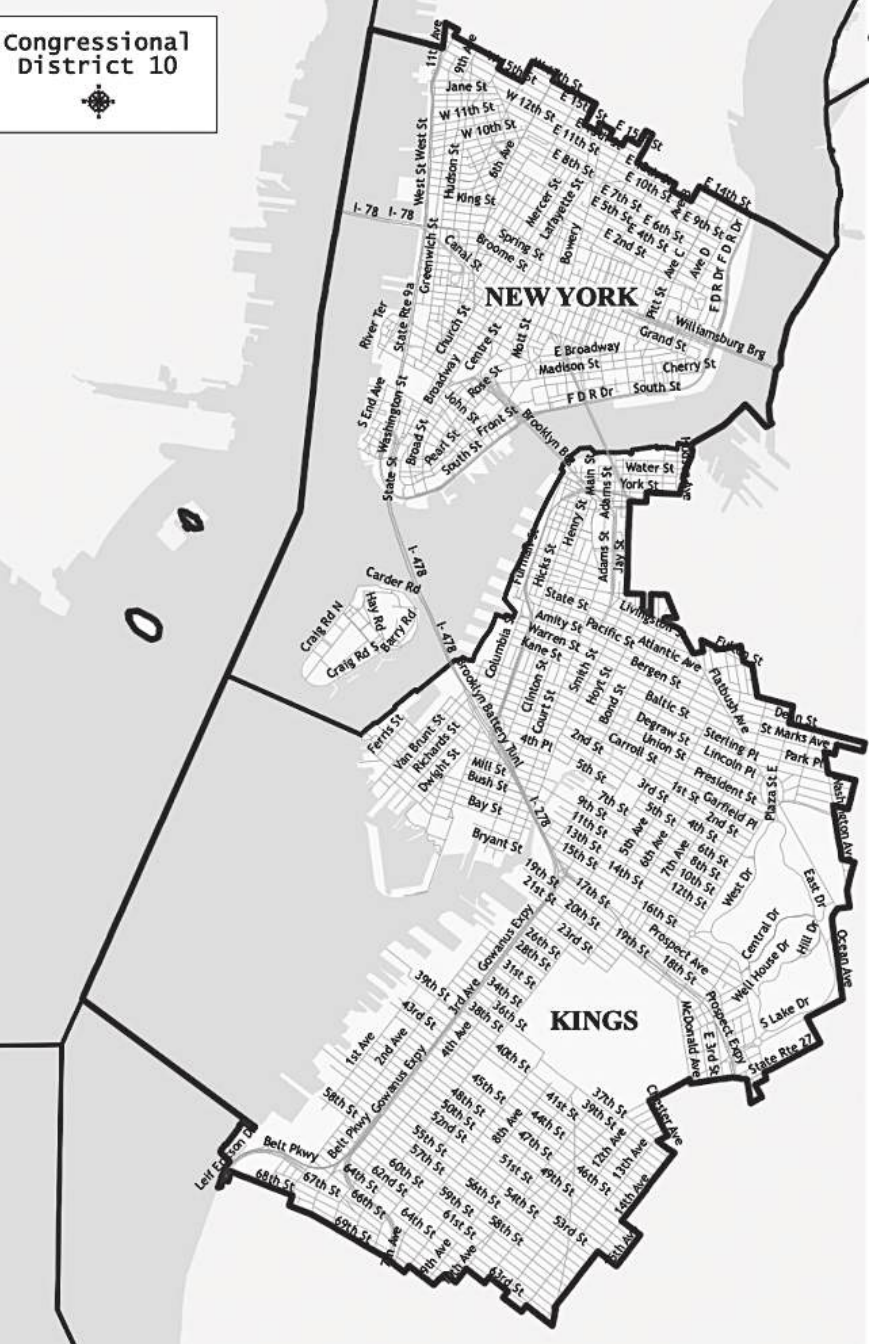
During her 2017 run for the City Council, it was revealed that Rivera and Rogers were living in a federally-subsidized Section 8 apartment designated for low-income tenants and families at 210 Stanton Street, though Rivera was receiving more than \$40,000 annually "working for" Rosie Mendez and Rogers was collecting rent on an apartment at 568 Grand Street that he bought for \$320,000 in 2012. They finally moved out in June 2021.

In an outrageous example of gerry-mandering, the new 10th Congressional District covers all of Manhattan below 14th Street, including the East and West Villages, Soho and Noho, the Lower East Side, Chinatown, Battery Park City, the Financial District, and a western chunk of Brooklyn, including Gowanus, Park Slope, Red Hook, Sunset Park, Borough Park and more.

Ironically, until July 19, 2022, among the 17 other candidates competing with Rivera for the new Congressional seat, was none other than Rivera's strange political bed-

fellow and co-conspirator in the destruction of East River Park: former mayor, failed gubernatorial and presidential candidate and career gentrifier Bill DeBlasio! On Twitter, DeBlasio said it was clear that "people are looking for another option." No kidding, Bill! As with his other failed campaigns for higher office, polls showed him badly trailing the other candidates before he quit.

While DeBlasio is DONE politically, his pockets lined with \$500,000 received from "donors," Rivera has nothing to lose by running for Congress, as she has her City Council seat to fall back on if she does not win. Is THAT why voters re-elected her in 2021?



The newly-created 10th Congressional District for NYC

### MONEY PAID IN ADVANCE FOR SERVICES TO BE RENDERED?

As of July, Rivera has raised more than \$400,000 in her attempt to get the new Congressional seat, almost all of which has been "donated" by businesses and individuals who are investing in a new member of Congress in a new Congressional district. The \$400,000 that has been revealed in Rivera's public filings does not include funds

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SHADOW EDITORIALS

COVIDMANIA: FEAR OF A VIRUS

In late 2019, State Media began “warning” us about a new virus that was going to hit the U.S. in a few months. By March 2020, the “coronavirus” (aka “Covid-19”) had officially arrived. We were told that it came from people eating bats in a marketplace in Wuhan, China. (This was like the story they told us in the early 1980s about HIV/ AIDS being caused by people fucking green monkeys in Africa.) Pushed by talking head “experts” presented by State Media, very few questioned the “covid” story.

They told us that “covid” was a mystery virus that we could get by touching things, by “droplets” from the mouths of others, that it infects people randomly, and that it would disappear come July and August. They also told us that those with no “covid” symptoms could pass it on to others and that wearing a mask was the only way to prevent their infecting others.

State Media presented the public with body counts of “covid” patients that increased daily. As it turned out, the “covid” counts were MONETIZED. According to **SHADOW** sources that include nurses and medical students in different states, hospitals received money for every patient they designated and reported as dying from “covid” or having a “covid-related” illness. There was no longer any flu or pneumonia -- hospital personnel were REQUIRED to label everything short of being shot as “covid-related.”

Family members were not allowed to be with their loved ones dying from “covid” in hospitals. Bodies of “covid” patients were cremated, making autopsies to find true causes of death impossible. Told by doctors that their loved ones either had “covid” or had died from “covid,” family members become wedded to the “covid” narrative and were compelled to defend that narrative against any who expressed doubts or questioned it. Never mind that their loved ones may have died from something else.

We were told that bodies of dead “covid” victims were overflowing at the city morgue and that “covid” patients were overwhelming city hospitals, which had to pitch outdoor tents to handle the overflow. New York governor Cuomo told us that the Jacob Javitts Center had been set up to receive excess patients and that the Red Cross had a barge docked at 23rd Street on the East River to do the same. We were told that mass graves had to be dug for the extra “covid” bodies being sent to Hart’s Island, where indigent persons with no family to claim their bodies are buried by the city.

To see for ourselves, **SHADOW** reporters went to the Billy Graham Jr. sideshow tents set up in Central Park, across from Mt. Sinai Hospital.

The tents were EMPTY. Hospital workers there told us there had been NO extra bodies nor activity. We looked into the tents outside of Beth Israel, now Mt. Sinai,

on East 16th Street -- EMPTY. More than one nurse at more than one hospital told us that there were NO “covid” patients. One told us she saw 4-5 “at most.” A friend getting an operation around that time reported that the hospital he was in was mostly EMPTY. A guard who was stationed on Hart’s Island told us that extra holes had been dug, but that, contrary to media reports, NO “covid” bodies arrived to fill them, beyond the usual numbers of unclaimed deceased in NYC. As “covid” patients were being cremated, it made no sense WHY extra graves would have been needed there. The Javitts Center never got any “covid” patients and the Red Cross barge took off. NO “covid” patients there either.

The “covid pandemic” comes approximately 100 years after the “Spanish Flu” epidemic. Like “SARS,” “West Nile Virus,” “Bird Flu” and “Swine Flu,” all of which turned out to be an excuse for the government to spend millions on useless vaccines that did nothing, while State Media scared the crap out of Americans, “covid” appears to be the latest “designer virus.”

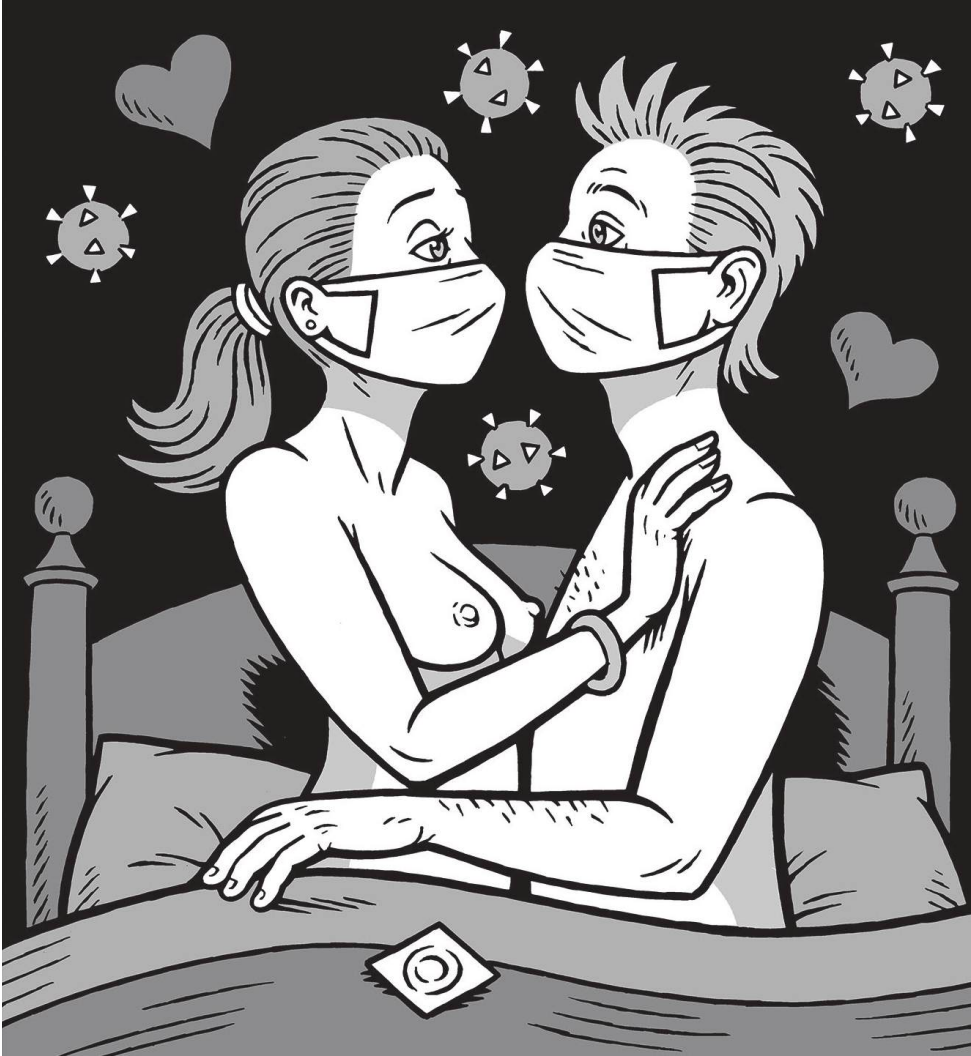
The “covid” scare of 2020 is not all that different from the anthrax scare of 2001 in the months following the events of September 11, 2001 (aka “9/11”). We were told that the anthrax came from “terrorist” Osama Bin Laden, that he was responsible for “9/11,” and that he was hiding in a cave in Afghanistan, where he somehow manufactured “military grade” anthrax and then mailed it to journalists and politicians in the U.S.

Never mind that the anthrax recipients were critical of the proposed PATRIOT ACT, then being pushed by the Bush2 administration. Among other things, the Act called for wiping out constitutional protections provided for under the Bill of Rights. To “stop terrorism.” Why would Bin Laden have been opposed to those who opposed the PATRIOT ACT??

The government and State Media told us that the best way to avoid getting sick from the anthrax “attack” was to WEAR A MASK and to STAY INDOORS. They also told us to use sheets of plastic and duct tape to SEAL OURSELVES UP inside our homes!! A large portion of the terrorized public mindlessly COMPLIED with that ABSURD suggestion. It later came out that the anthrax sent in the mail was made in a U.S. military lab in Ft. Dietrich, Maryland. After pinning the rap on a dead government scientist who had NO motive, the media coverage was over. So much for THAT scare campaign!

Interestingly, when the “covid” scare began in 2020, huge waves of social protests were erupting simultaneously in major cities all over the world. From the streets of Paris to Hong Kong to La Paz, Quito, Barcelona, Beirut and Santiago de Chile, many thousands of people took to

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DANNY HELLMAN

“THE SIMULACRUSPHERE ENVELOPING US”

By Nick Zedd [May 8, 2020]

The brainwashing that results in Trump derangement syndrome has nothing to do with higher education. It is due to an over reliance on CIA- sponsored fake news. As Pulitzer prize winner Chris Hedges observed, journalism is something one learns by doing, going to dangerous places and digging up inconvenient facts buried by entrenched sources of unelected power. The result can be social isolation and condemnation by media careerists who have internalized the agendas of inverted totalitarianism. Journalism classes do not teach this.

Part of the anti-intellectualism spreading across the country is a result of the mindless factionalism promoted by CNN, CNBC, FOX, The Washington Post, NY Times and other compromised media outlets pushing baseless conspiracy theories like Russiagate to cover up the neoliberal failures of the democratic party which spits in the face of all progressive voters (already a given with the crypto-fascist republican party.)

Employing a methodology of skepticism and free enquiry as an epistemological tool is essential in today’s climate of simulated media spectacles, CIA psy-ops and other manufactured crises fueled by fear and ignorance. We must never believe in the anointed status of millionaire hacks like Dr. Fauci, Gov. Cuomo and Bill Gates, who are propped up by mainstream media while undermining our liberties and our society’s medical preparedness.

Technology can be perverted by enemies of science like Fauci and his minions in the corrupt medical establishment. The false paradigm of right vs. left in Amerika is a distraction from the up vs. down war on 99% of us.

Controlled corporate media was completely on the side of the Cheney/Bush junta when the illegitimate war against Afghanistan and Iraq decimated the U.S. economy. Pundits and long-respected liberal news people, like Helen Thomas, Dan Rather, Phil Donahue, Glenn Greenwald, Chris Hedges and progressives like Rosie O’Donnell, Scott Ritter, Noam Chomsky, Ralph Nader and others were suddenly removed from the airwaves by mainstream media for questioning U.S. imperialism and opposing the neo-con lunacy of the PNAC [Partnership for a New American Century] crazies controlling the White House.

After Trump surprised everyone and

won a populist campaign for the presidency, controlled corporate media initiated a demonization campaign against him 24/7, which by now has eroded all credibility regarding broadcast journalism in Amerika. People now hate the media more than politicians (who are among the lowest and most hated people in the country.) This is due to a corporate monopoly of all channels of communication, except for the Internet, which is the only place one can briefly locate the truth.

Now YouTube censors content deviating from the dominant COVID19 narrative. Friends of mine (investigative journalists) with long popular alternative websites and blogs find themselves removed from Google searches, thanks to new algorithms designed to limit a diversity of ideas, particularly those that question the dominant ideology of unfettered disaster capitalism and U.S. imperialism.

The only place to now see honest political analysis is on YouTube videos posted by RT, Democracy Now, Jimmy Dore, The Hill, The Young Turks, or on Helen of Destroy’s site and a few others. Truth Dig was shut down after Bob Scheer questioned the Russiagate hoax and was fired along with a staff of striking progressive writers like Hedges.

The Event 201 [“A Global Pandemic Exercise” hosted by The Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security, in partnership with the World Economic Forum and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on October 18, 2019-Ed.] agenda is to stop “false news” that contradicts their social engineering projects with “flooding” strategies. The same with FaceBook, which now posts correction warnings regarding articles and videos considered too unorthodox for adult viewers.

Both sides of the duopoly mainstream political parties are unable to cull fact from fiction in today’s Simulacrusphere. This makes alternative sources of information so essential.

[Artist, writer, and independent filmmaker Nick Zedd died on February 27, 2022]

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# NICK ZEDD (1958 - 2022)



Artist and underground filmmaker Nick Zedd died on the morning of February 27 at the age of 63. He would have been 64 on May 8. I had no idea that he had been sick and ailing for some time.

Though I'd known him for more than 30 years, Nick and I became tight over the past two years of "covid" mania, snapping on compliant fools posting on FaceBook and elsewhere who were pushing the official narrative, supporting mandates on those of us who weren't swallowing the bullshit we were being fed. Nick was always viciously passionate and articulate in his heavy responses to those who justify a social control police state "for our safety" and I loved him for it.

Nick came to NYC in 1976, studied at Pratt Institute and the School of Visual Arts, and then moved to the Lower East Side. He made his first film, They Eat Scum, in 1979. Nick coined the term "Cinema of Transgression," which he announced in his self-published Underground Film Bulletin, used to promote his work and that of his fellow Lower East Side filmmakers. In his Cinema of Transgression Manifesto, Zedd proposed that "all film schools be blown up and all boring films never be made again," and that "any film which doesn't shock isn't worth looking at." Nick also said that "ours is the art of bad taste, which blots out and destroys your system of lies and self delusion."

Nick and I first met on the Lower East Side, shortly after The SHADOW began publishing in 1989. I had seen his short film POLICE STATE (1987) and wanted to review it. In that film, Zedd's character is taken in to a police station by a creepy kop (played by musician and filmmaker Willoughby Sharp) because he refuses to give the kop his name. Once inside, Zedd is beaten by two kops (one played by ex-con Flip Crowley and the other by legendary underground film actor Rockets Redglare.)

Nick gave me copies of Police State and his other films, all of which displayed a RAW Lower East Side, hardly recognizable today, populated by extreme characters in dingy apartments,

bombed-out rubble-strewn lots and abandoned buildings, all in glorious black + white. In addition to They Eat Scum and Police State, Nick's films included War is Menstrual Envy, Thrust In Me, Geek Maggot Bingo, My Slave and Ecstasy in Entropy. Nick also acted in several underground films on the Lower East Side for Cassandra Stark, Richard Kern and Rachel Amodeo and others.

I last saw Nick in person at the 100th birthday celebration of beat writer and poet William S. Burroughs at the St. Marx Church in 2014. At that point, he was living full-time in Mexico because, as he told me, he could no longer afford to live here. Who could blame him?

Many of us on the Lower East Side are still saddened over the deaths of musician Al Landess ("Hammerbrain" and "Damn Kids"), who passed less than two weeks before Nick, and of artist and filmmaker

M. Henry Jones, who passed on June 16. All three were a part of the counter cultural renaissance on the Lower East Side that emerged in the 1980s, when this area had been given up for dead and was disregarded by the city, which withheld essential services in an effort to accomplish what was called "spatial deconcentration" and "planned shrinkage." This neighborhood was resuscitated by the artistic community that rehabbed empty city-owned buildings, created performance spaces, made and displayed art, wrote and performed music, and shot and projected underground films.

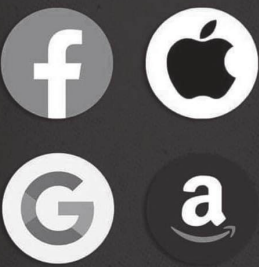
Back then, this really WAS the "city that never sleeps" with above-ground and underground venues open all night long till dawn, populated by plenty of talented performers and artists with audiences that appreciated them. Rent was low, food was cheap with abundant portions served at restaurants that never closed and there was excitement and danger in the air, all at the same time. It was a GREAT time to be here in your teens and twenties! As a person in a documentary about California's Z Channel said: "You never know when you're living in a golden age."

We certainly WERE. And people like Nick, Al and Henry were what made it golden.

- Chris Flash

[A great interview with Nick can be read at: <https://zoraburden.weebly.com/nick-zedd.html>]

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THEY ARE THE CENSORSHIP ARM FOR THE STATE THAT CONTROL THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

# HENRY JONES (1957-2022)



Henry with stroboscopic wheel (Photo by Marc Miller)

M. Henry Jones, a gifted artist, filmmaker, and 3D photographer, died on June 16th, at the age of 65. He spent his lifetime dedicated to carving out his own path as an experimental artist. He was a devoted partner for 36 years to filmmaker Rachel Amodeo and a loving father to their son Atticus.

Henry was born in Morgan City, Louisiana on February 16, 1957, and spent his childhood in Texas. He came to New York City from Buffalo in 1975 with a scholarship to SVA [School of Visual Arts]. There, he pursued his love of animation that led to his monumental film "Soul City," a stroboscopic color film created in collaboration with the Fleshtones band. Henry once said that his film "Soul City" was intended to "visually counterpoint the music of a subculture."

Henry's work was an integral part of the underground filmmaking and art scene of the late 1970s in the East Village. Like his mentor, the legendary polymath, filmmaker and musicologist Harry Smith, Henry couldn't be fit into a box. His hands on approach and dedication to his imagined future, made him a consummate outsider.

Henry maintained Harry's legacy by putting on an elaborate experimental light and projection show highlighting Smith's work.

Henry was a neighborhood fixture of the East Village, where he ran his studio, called Snake Monkey, for 20 years at 202

Avenue A. There, he created animation projects, sculptures, TV commercials, Zone plate photography, lenticular explorations, and many experiments of his imagination. When Henry relocated his studio to 10th Street and Avenue C in 2008, he dove into the invention and exploration of his Fly's Eye 3D projects, which included portraits of Robert Frank and Jim Jarmusch. He continued these explorations throughout the rest of his life.

In 2018, Henry was a part of MoMA's exhibition Club 57: Film, Performance, and Art in the East Village, 1978-1983. He was represented by Gallery 98. His films included Soul City (preserved as a 35mm print by Anthology Film Archives), Apple Heart Daisy, Go Go Girl and many others.

M. Henry Jones is remembered as a kind visionary genius, a legend and innovator who moved the art world in a wonderful direction with his inventions and creations. A mad scientist with a heart of gold dedicated to making this world a better place.

A memorial for Henry will be held on September 15 at St. Marks Church, at 6:30pm.

- Jen

[For more on Henry and his work, including an interview with Henry, visit the snakemonkey website at: <https://snakemonkey.com/backup/-Ed.>]

# THE SHADOW NEVER SLEEPS!!

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ATTORNEYS AT LARGE: Moira Meltzer-Cohen, Stanley L. Cohen, Ronald Kuby, Norman Siegel, [William Moses Kunstler: 1919-1995]

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# WHAT DO YOU CALL A FAILED INSURRECTION? PRACTICE

By Greg Palast

[Washington, January 6, 2025] Take a Red Pill and join me in the future for the reading of the electoral vote. The year is 2025. It's 1pm on January 6 and Vice President Kamala Harris has begun opening the envelopes with the electoral vote from each state, alphabetically.

When she reaches Georgia, new Republican Senator Herschel Walker objects to accepting Harris' choice of the slate of Electors pledged to Joe Biden, the slate submitted by Georgia's Governor Stacey Abrams. Instead, Sen. Walker demands Harris count the vote of the slate submitted by Georgia's GOP controlled legislature with Electors committed to Donald Trump.

Republicans, holding the majority in the House since the 2022 mid terms, have rejected Biden's Electors from Georgia, Arizona, Wisconsin and Michigan. Vice President Harris is therefore compelled to invoke the Constitution's procedure for disputed elections outlined in the Twelfth Amendment.

Under this little known Constitutional process, each state receives but a single vote. Republicans control the Congressional delegations of 27 states. Though that represents just a tiny portion of America's voters, Donald Trump wins "re-election" with a vote of 27 to 23. Trump will be inaugurated, for a second time, on January 20, 2025.

## YES, IT CAN HAPPEN HERE

You're thinking, "Palast, do you really believe it could happen?"

You betcha. Forget the whack jobs who invaded the Capitol one year ago today. These "insurrectionists" were schmucks with no chance of overturning the election. (I don't dismiss the gravity of their actions – they crushed the skull of a policeman and threatened other murders in the hall of the people.) But truly, the real danger was in the Oval Office when, two days earlier, Trump peddled a memo by attorney John Eastman. Eastman's memo laid out, in detail, the dark scenario I described above, in which Republicans use the Twelfth Amendment to overturn the choice of the voters.

And if you think the US Supreme Court will block this coup d'état, fuhgeddaboudit.

Count on the Supreme Court to cite Article II of the Constitution, the one that says the electors to the Electoral College will be chosen by state legislatures, not voters. That's right. In fact, there's not one damn word in the Constitution granting citizens the right to vote – and certainly not the right to vote for President.

The Supremes have already relied on Article II to bless a coup against democracy: In 2000, the Court adopted the Florida Legislature's certification of the Electors for George W. Bush before the ballot count was completed. Secretary of State Katherine Harris stopped count when Bush was ahead by a teensy 537 votes – yet 178,000 ballots had not been tallied, ballots concentrated in Jacksonville and other African American majority towns. The GOP controlled legislature chose the Bush electors.

## HOW TO STOP A COUP

As a journalist, it's not my job to tell you whether Biden or Trump should be President. How about we let the voters make that choice? But that's not easy.

Whether we have a democracy in 2024 depends on whether we can preserve democracy in 2022.

And once again, it will come down to Georgia, Arizona, Michigan and Wisconsin – where voting is about to get a lot harder for people of color, as we've uncovered in our latest investigation.

This year, vigilante "vote fraud" hunters have challenged the right of 360,000 Georgians to cast their ballots. If they succeed in this mass voter purge, combined with other vote suppression trickery in the new law SB 202, Democratic Senator

Raphael Warnock's re-election is in real danger, no matter the will of the voters.

The following scenario is then more than possible in January 2025: Warnock loses, throwing US Senate control to the GOP; the House goes Republican as well. In 2024, the Democratic presidential candidate wins Georgia, as in 2020, by just 12,000 votes.

But then, the Georgia legislature, citing alleged vote fraud by Democrats, certifies a slate of Electors committed to Trump. Gov. Stacey Abrams, who gets elected despite vote suppression headwinds, sends a competing slate of Electors to Congress.

The Twelfth Amendment (and the empowerment of state legislatures in Article II) gives the new Republican Congress the power to choose the Trump slates. And this time, the GOP Senators and Reps, watching what has happened to the careers of anti-Trump Republicans, fall in line and let the Twelfth Amendment take its dark course.

Then it's Hail to the Thief. Can we stop this coup? Yes, but only before it happens: by protecting the vote in Georgia and other swing states. If we wait until 2024, it will be too late. The work begins this midterm year. Right now.

## AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT, REPEAL THE CONSTITUTION

Did our Founding Fathers make an unintended error in designating state legislators, not voters, the power to choose our President?

Nope. Historians like to say the Declaration of Independence gave America its democracy, and the Constitution took it away. John Adams, our second President, was thrilled that Thomas Jefferson was excluded from writing the Constitution, and Jefferson's furious objection to it mostly ignored. Adams warned against creating this dangerous thing democracy, which he termed the instrument of "the fire women, badauds, the stage players, the atheists, the deists, the scribblers for any cause at three livres a day, the Jews," and other such undesirables who would "destroy all nobles."

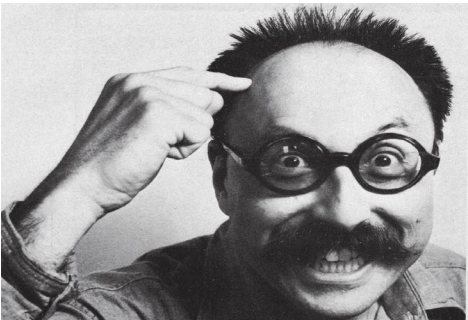
So, our founding nobility chose the nobles of each state, the legislators, all then landed gentry, to choose the Electors who would in turn, choose the President.

Indeed, if you are a fan of democracy, it's hard to find a clause in the Constitution worth defending. What kind of "democracy" gives two Senate seats to West Virginia, an equal number to California, and none to Washington DC? Let us give thanks for the Bill of Rights which put some limits on this Constitutional monstrosity.

So, should we junk the Constitution? Well, that's a discussion for another day, probably another century.

In the meantime, let's start, today, with protecting the fragile little shards of democracy still left to us.

[SHADOW contributor Greg Palast (Rolling Stone, Guardian, BBC) is the author of best selling books, The Best Democracy Money Can Buy and Billionaires & Ballot Bandits, out as major motion non-fiction movie. The Best Democracy Money Can Buy: The Case of the Stolen Election is available at bookstores. Read Greg Palast's latest dispatches at: gregpalast.com]



ADVERTISE IN THE SHADOW

# “Just Say No to Joe” Joe Biden’s Garbage Career: A Timeline

By Anderson Bean

Joe Biden is not only a loyal soldier of neoliberalism, he has been the architect of much of today's hellish political landscape. The last fifty years of ruling class ascendancy is a timeline studded with Creepy Joe's despicable actions.

## 1970s

As part of his crusade against the desegregation of schools, Biden was the only member of the Senate Judiciary Committee to block two Black appointees to the Department of Justice.

Biden opposed Roe v. Wade. Biden defeated a 1977 amendment that would have removed all restrictions on federal funding of abortions.

Biden voted against abolishing the undemocratic, anachronistic Electoral College. A relic of slavery, the Electoral College undemocratically installed both Bush and Trump.

## 1980s

Biden voted for a conservative constitutional amendment (at the time the National Abortion Rights Action League called it "the most devastating attack yet on abortion rights") that would allow individual states to overturn Roe v. Wade.

Biden crafted the "Biden Amendment" which barred US aid from being used for biomedical research related to abortions. Years later, Biden intimidated a woman when confronted about his lack of support for reproductive justice.

Biden was one of the original architects of the disastrous War on Drugs.

Biden built upon his history of racism, from making racist comments to defending segregationists and more segregationists and white supremacists.

Biden lied about marching in the Civil Rights Movement.

Biden voted for the landmark Reagan tax bill that slashed the top income tax rate from 70 percent to 50 percent and exempted many wealthy families from the estate tax on earned inheritances, a measure that cost the federal government \$83 billion in annual revenue.

For years, Biden advocated for cuts in social security. After voting for Reagan's mammoth tax cut for the rich, Biden called for a freeze on federal spending and insisted on including social security in that freeze, even as the Reagan administration fought to protect the program from cuts.

## 1990s

As chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee Biden led an all white, all male committee grilling Anita Hill in excruciating detail, attempting to degrade her character, destroy her credibility, and accuse her of being a liar, an erotomaniac, and a fantasist.

Biden sexually assaulted Tara Reade. Inappropriate sexual behavior did not start or end with Reade; Biden has a long history of groping, sniffing, and kissing women and young girls without consent. Years later he issued a non-apology where he tried to justify his acts.

Biden voted to ban immigrants with HIV, locking up Haitian refugees in Guantanamo Bay.

Biden cowrote the racist and disastrous 1994 Crime Bill. The crime bill was one of the key contributors to the problem of mass incarceration that we have today. Years later he bragged about writing the bill.

Biden cowrote the Omnibus Counterterrorism Act, which in many ways laid the groundwork for the US Patriot Act, and stripped citizens of a wide range of fundamental civil liberties.

Biden opposed equal rights for the LGBTQ community.

Biden voted to expand deportations and indefinite detention for immigrants on several occasions.

Long before Trump, Biden argued for the unprecedented step of sending military troops to the border.

Biden sided with banks to overturn Glass-Steagall and deregulate the banking system, which more than any other factor facilitated the 2008 financial crisis. The crisis resulted in over 10 million Americans losing their homes and the African American community losing half their wealth.

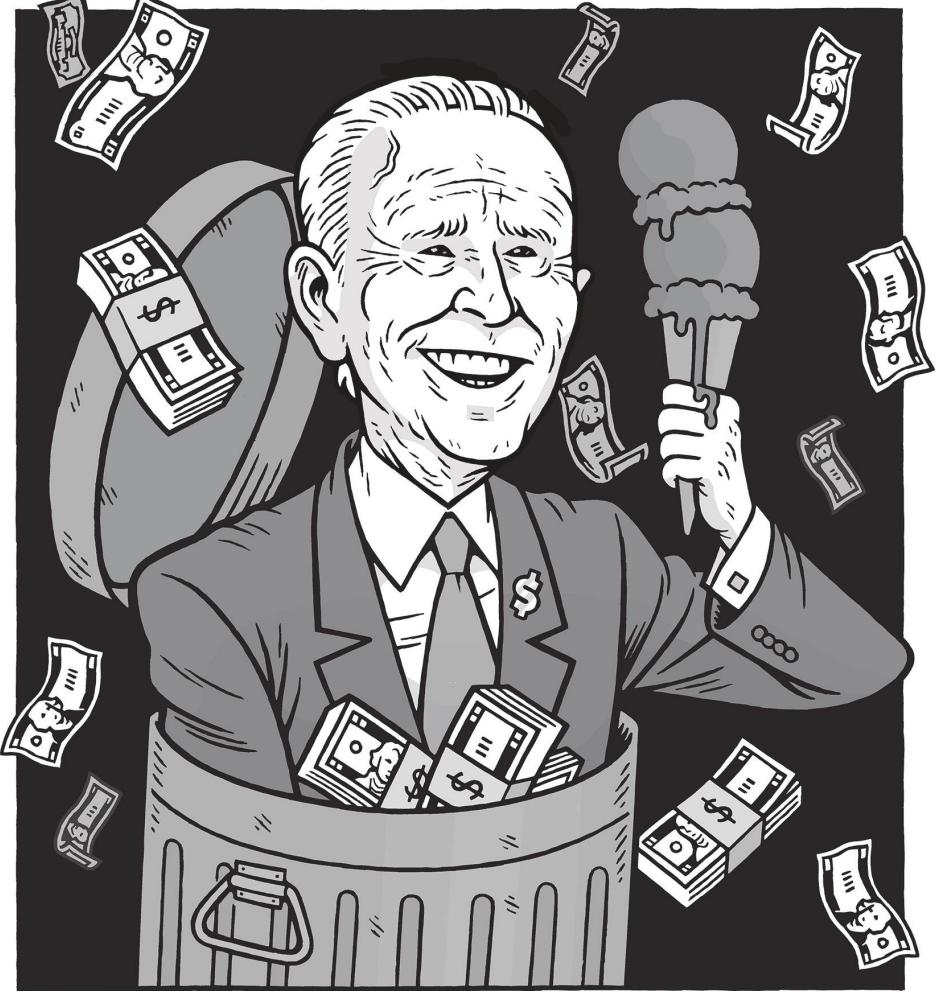
Biden was an architect for Plan Colombia, which internationalized the War on Drugs, resulting in the deaths of thousands of civilians, the displacement of over a million people, and the destruction of large swaths of food crops.

## 2000s

Biden voted for the USA Patriot Act, which was an all-out assault on civil liberties.

Biden voted for the disastrous Iraq war, a war that cost over 3 trillion dollars, killed over 1 million Iraqis, displaced over 3 million people and injured millions more.

Continued On Page 11



DANNY HELLMAN



# THE TIME THE LEFT TOOK THE WHITE HOUSE!!!

By Paul DeRienzo

The January 6, 2021 pro-Trump raid on the Capitol in Washington, D.C. is being touted as a once-in-a-lifetime assault by right wingers of the drunken head basher variety, attempting to take control of the central government to bring a nightmare of Handmaiden Tale high school drop out rule to America. The horn-headed, pelt-wearing wannabe Viking white boys thought they were cool until a cop popped a bullet into protester Alisha Babbitt's neck inside a Capitol staircase, a rendezvous with reality.

The FBI has arrested more than one hundred, who face long jail terms as they discover that a federal misdemeanor or felony is a lot heavier and expensive to defend against crime than violating an ordinance in small-town America. Reality weighs hard on the ignorant.



The talk that this was a rare event, while accurate, isn't entirely true. I was at the scene in 1982 when left wing radicals made a play to forcefully seize the Reagan White House. It was a riot.

The occurrence came shortly after a bloody attack by the Ku Klux Klan [KKK] on a group of communist anti-Klan radicals in Greensboro, North Carolina, in which five of the communists were killed and several others seriously wounded. Anger against the Klan's brazenness was palpable among the left, when the Klan added to the rage by announcing a March on Washington, D.C.

In 1925, the KKK was a huge organization, with millions of members nationwide. Its organizers had already begun playing down the KKK's roots as a southern terrorist group aimed at Blacks and were reinventing themselves as pro-Christian and anti-immigrant. The KKK of the 1920s sparked the imagination of white, conservative America in ways similar to Trump today. It was no surprise back then when 35,000 Klansmen marched on the nation's capitol.

After World War II, the Klan morphed back to a more openly racist configuration, aimed against the civil rights movement. Its followers tended to hide from plain sight, emerging here and there to support Alabama Governor George Wallace or attack civil rights workers. It was an unusual event when, 57 years after the first KKK march on Washington, Arkansas Klansmen and Knights of the KKK chaplain Thomas Robb announced that 200 members would hold their own commemorative march on Washington.

It came to a head on November 28, 1982, the day after Thanksgiving.

The violence started when anti Klan demonstrators began throwing stones and bottles and attempted to break through police lines to assault Robb and the small group of Klansmen who actually showed up.

I attended on a YIPPIE! bus, leaving from 9 Bleeker St, then the Yippie HQ with Aron "Pieman" Kay, the staff of "Rock Against Racism," a Yippie-connected traveling concert featuring anti-racist performers, and a variety of anti-fascist enthusiasts looking to protest against the organized racists.

When we arrived in D.C., hundreds of angry multicultural protesters were already there, some openly frustrated that the Klan was nowhere to be seen, having been kept away from the protests by cops.

I joined a group of protesters heading along 15th Street from Constitution Avenue toward the White House. Suddenly I got a whiff of tear gas, not the usual mild protest variety, but the melt your eyeballs type that really hurts. The group I was with ran into a Nieman Marcus department store and, as salespeople swept the expensive stuff off the counters, we reached the bathrooms, washing our faces of the caustic chemical.

As I came out, I was surprised to run in to my much more button-down brother, who, it turned out, held a post college job as a floorwalker at that department store. We both laughed and he briefly joined the protest.

I lost him as we headed out and back to the White House. It was for the best, considering what happened next. As our group made the turn onto Pennsylvania Avenue, we were passed by a couple of hundred communists associated with the then very confrontational maoist Progressive Labor Party [PLP], angry and chanting, with red flags flying. I was across the street as they passed the driveway to the White House, and then, on some sort of signal, they rushed the grounds.

I watched from the street in shock as, within seconds, a phalanx of black-clad cops in gas masks emerged from nowhere. They marched in formation toward the protesters, who were battling the guards on the White House lawn. The cops hit back with volleys of tear gas, driving the protesters back toward H Street.



The cops withdrew and the PLP folks, a multiracial group known for their strict Stalinism, attacked a second time, pushing even further onto the White House grounds. The cops hit back and drove the force to Lafayette Park, where other protesters joined in ripping paving bricks from park walkways, raining them onto police. It was the most dangerous thing I ever saw in my life - somehow nobody was killed, though some cops were slightly injured and 35 people were arrested.

A brief riot spread throughout the night, a few windows broken, a few street fires. By the next day, it was like it never happened.

My buddy, our bus driver, was hit over the head. He recovered, and we made it home the next day after a night at the Yippie HQ in a rented brownstone on Capitol Hill.

Most progressives thought the PLP was kind of stupid to risk injuries and shift the focus from the Klan to the rioting protesters. You don't hear much about the group anymore, as the left focused more on the failed attempt by the "Rainbow Coalition" to get Jessie Jackson elected president in 1984.

But as I watched the Trumpoids bum rush the Capitol on January 6th, it brought back memories of when the left were the invaders.

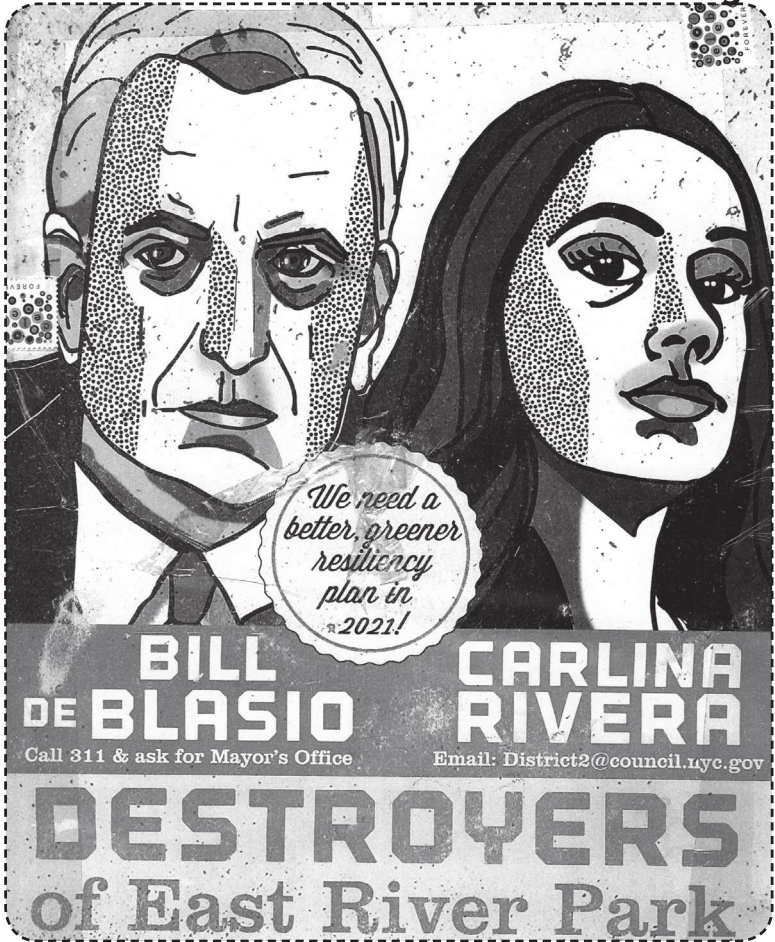


**Veteran YIPPIE Aron Kay (left) and Pete Mastrangelo (right) speak out against the klan [Photos by Paul DeRienzo]**



CARLINA RIVERA

Continued From Page 1



and other “donations” that have not been made public.

A list of Rivera’s “donors,” many of whom have publicly “given” the maximum-permitted \$2,900, reads like a Who’s Who of real estate “consultants,” “lobbyists,” attorneys and law firms, “financial advisers,” investment bankers, sales and “property asset management” firms, liquor permit attorneys, owners of restaurants and bars (including Scott Sartiano, owner of Zero Bond, a private club where Mayor Eric Adams has been seen socializing with Wall Street bankers), architects, engineers, construction companies and real estate developers, as well as firms that specialize in “government affairs,” “public affairs,” “government relations,” “public relations,” “government consulting,” “election campaign financing,” “professional fund raising,” and “financial services.”

Among Rivera’s more notorious “campaign contributors” are:

- Alistair Economakis, the Greek shipping fortune heir who mass-evicted all tenants from 45-47 East Third Street in 2009, so that he could create a six story private mansion for himself.
- Victor Papa, president of Two Bridges Neighborhood Council [TBNC], which, in 2013, in violation of its charter, sold a large land parcel located at 250 South Street, to Extell Development, known for constructing “too tall” towers throughout the city, for a cool \$52 million. That site, entrusted to TBNC by the city of New York, along with adjacent sites, were long ago designated for housing for elderly and handicapped persons of low-income in perpetuity. Now called “One Manhattan Square,” 250 South Street has become an 80 story, 823 foot tower containing 815 condominium units. [See SHADOW #62 for the full story - Ed.] TBNC has since sold 500,000 square feet of development rights to JDS Development for another \$51 million. Though future South Street mega-projects have the full support of City

Councilmember Margaret Chin, and of CODA’s City Council members, only pending lawsuits have so far stopped more such towers from being built there.

- And, of course, there’s DONALD CAPOCCIA, who “gave” the maximum “donation,” for whom Rivera, Mendez, Lopez and CODA have done so much already. Capoccia’s side kick, partner and developer Juan Barahona has also contributed to Rivera’s coffers while benefitting from HPD buildings given by Mendez, located at 535 East 12th Street and 104 Avenue A.

Rivera’s fellow politicians have also given her money, including: former NYS Assemblyman Ruben Diaz, Jr, former Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer, current Assemblymember Marcos Crespo, City Councilmember Margaret Chin and City Council attorney Jason Otano. She even got a “donation” from CB3 “district manager” Susan Stetzer, whose job at CB3 depends on Rivera and other CODA members keeping the City Council seat for District Two.

**YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO**

The primary election for the newly-created Congressional seat is on August 23. The winner of that primary is expected to be a “sure win” in the general election to be held on November 8. Those of us with long memories urge voters to avoid rewarding either Rivera or DeBlasio, whether they are engaged in the pursuit of a current or a future political seat, for their betrayals and corruption. Both have had wonderful opportunities during their terms in office to bring about meaningful positive changes in our city of inequity, but Rivera and DeBlasio are career politicians who have chosen to do NOTHING for us, but so MUCH for themselves and for their gentrifier “donors.”

Who needs parasites like these, in any political office, pretending to “represent” us?

SHELDON SILVER GETS OUT OF JAIL!

By Chris Flash

On January 24, 2022, publicly-disgraced and twice-convicted former New York State Assemblyman Sheldon Silver died while serving a 6½ year jail sentence in a federal hospital. He was 77 years old.

As reported in several issues of **The SHADOW**, after decades of corruption while in office, in 2015, Silver was finally charged by feds and tried for bribery and extortion involving almost five million dollars in “referral fees,” in reality kick-backs, paid to Silver by two separate law firms to which Silver steered clients in his capacity as Speaker of the New York State Assembly.

Despite being convicted a second time in 2018 after a successful appeal of his

and simple,” Caproni said, adding that she hoped that the sentence was “long enough to send a message to Albany.”

In citing only his corruption while in office, Caproni failed to note Silver’s more serious offenses committed against and irreversible damage caused to the people of the Lower East Side by his servicing of real estate vultures.

Aside from his corruption conviction, Silver’s legacy is the loss of hundreds of thousands of rent-stabilized New York City apartments by his removal of rent protections, hyper-gentrification of the Lower East Side fueled and encouraged by his providing zoning variances and real estate tax abatements for real estate



DANNY HELLMAN

first conviction in 2016, based on a judge allegedly failing to properly inform the jury, through late 2019, “Shelly” Silver, who lived in the Hillman Housing co-ops on Grand Street, could be seen casually strolling on the Lower East Side while his second conviction was being appealed, still collecting a \$6,600 tax-payer-funded monthly pension.

By the following year, Silver’s legal maneuvers to avoid serving jail time finally failed. On July 20, 2020, Silver was ordered to appear before federal Judge Valerie Caproni in order to hear his sentence in person.

Though he was originally sentenced in May 2016 to 12 years in jail and ordered to pay more than \$7 million in restitution, after his first successful appeal, Silver got his sentence reduced in July 2018 to seven years. On July 20, 2020, after removing six months from the seven year sentence she originally imposed on him in 2018, Caproni also ordered Silver to pay only \$1 million in fines. “This was corruption pure

developers that resulted in construction of large “market rate” apartment buildings unaffected by rent regulations and his preventing construction of affordable housing for low-income residents on city-owned vacant land, including his sabotaging development of affordable housing in the former Seward Park Urban Renewal Area [SPURA], known today as “Essex Crossing,” on Delancey Street, which has become over-developed with out-of-scale market rate apartment buildings.

At his 2018 sentencing, in a hand-written letter to Judge Caproni, Silver said “I do not want to die in prison.” Silver reported to jail on August 26, 2020, to finally begin his 6½ year sentence. He died after serving only 17 months. Though he received what amounted to the proverbial “slap on the wrist,” in the end, Slimey Sheldon Silver weaseled his way out of serving his jail sentence after all.

[For the full story on Sheldon Silver, see SHADOWs #57, 59 + 62-Ed.]





# COVIDMANIA

Continued From Page 2

the streets each day to demand change from those in power, who were becoming very nervous. When the "covid pandemic" was announced, the streets were suddenly EMPTY. Those in power were back in control.

In contradiction of successful protocols followed for every virus outbreak in the past, healthy people were told to stay indoors. Schools, restaurants, cafés, theaters, clubs and small businesses were forced to shut down indefinitely. People were told to wear a porous mask and to stand six feet away from others. Then they were told to wear two masks, face shields and gloves. NYC streets were deserted as most people hid indoors, afraid for their lives of a declared virus that was not much different from the flu.

Governor Cuomo, who had been defunding Medicare for New Yorkers and shutting hospitals for years before, declared in April 2020 that we could not leave our homes without masks. Cuomo and New York City mayor DeBlasio, neither of whom wore masks, held daily press conferences, announcing new edicts and decrees under the pretext of fighting "covid."

The terrorized public, proud of their noble sacrifice of self-quarantining, venturing outdoors only to buy food, had NO problem with cashiers and stock boys manning grocery stores for them. They also enjoyed the services of postal workers and delivery persons working outdoors day and night to bring them their online purchases. It was "okay" for them to be exposed to whatever was out there because they were "emergency service" workers.

As the "covid" scare dragged on, the terrorized were trained to turn on others who refused to comply with ever-changing and contradictory edicts and decrees issued by DeBlasio and Cuomo. A governor of another state said: "snitching is generally not a good thing, but now we encourage it for the public good. If you suspect or see someone not following rules, alert the authorities."

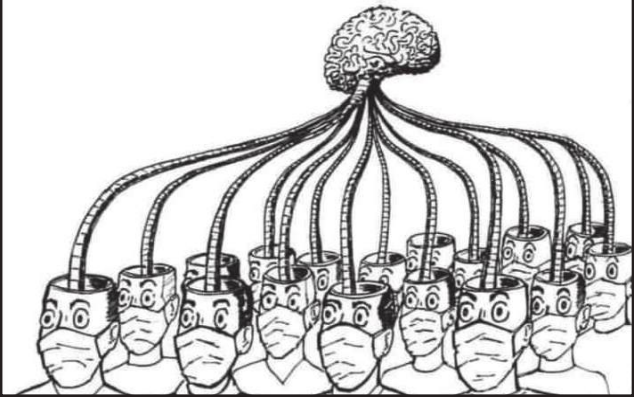
As "covid" fear built, fed and nurtured by government officials and State Media, it became acceptable for unmasked kops to surround a man playing catch with his young son on a deserted beach and arrest him for being there. For his "safety." Other kops did the same to a guy who dared to swim in the ocean during "covid." NO ONE else was in the water and no one was on the beach, except for unmasked kops, who

were determined to get their man. In NYC, unmasked kops in cars harassed park-goers who dared to step outside. NYC kops beat a group of students of color on their way home from school one day when they were unable to maintain six feet of distance from each other on a crowded subway platform. Incidents like these were cheered on by the terrorized.

Despite "covid" terrorism gripping the city, brave members of the tight-knit Hasidic community in Williamsburgh, Brooklyn REFUSED to comply with the mayor and governor's senseless and ineffective edicts and decrees. They kept their stores, schools and synagogues open, walking their streets and interacting with each other without masks. They were an inspiration to those who refused to be frightened by the state.

When businesses were allowed to reopen after months of lost income and lost customers, the city began imposing \$1,000 fines on them if customers were seen inside without a mask on. We were told that when we stood inside, we had to

Many people believe the most frequently washed bodypart in 2021 was the hands, But in FACT it was the BRAIN!



wear a mask, but that it was "safe" to remove the mask as long as we were sitting. We were also told that we had to maintain six feet of space between other people, unless we knew who we were sitting with. Because a virus can only get you when you stand and when you are less than six feet away from a stranger.

By 2021, restaurants, bars and music venues were told by the city that customers had to show a driver's license AND proof of vaccination. If they did not, owners were subject to fines of \$1,000. They were told that the third time it happened, the fine would be \$10,000. As a restaurant owner told **The SHADOW**, "This is a money maker" for the city.

In a total reversal of the newly-imposed protocols, we were allowed to enter a restaurant or venue with NO mask or "vaccination" in order to make a purchase or to get food to go, but we were prevented from sitting down and eating without

proof of "vaccination" and our willingness to show a city thug our ID upon demand. Because suddenly, the virus COULD get you when sitting and eating.

As the city, the state and the federal government continually imposed contradictory and illogical and ineffective protocols and measures on us, it became clearer that the "covid" scare was more about SOCIAL CONTROL than about stopping a "pandemic" and that the plan all along was to push expensive shots, misnamed as "vaccines," on us. To that end, they began an advertising campaign using reverse-psychology, pretending that there were not enough shots to go around, in

1. EcoAlliance to acquire the virus
2. Gain-of-function to weaponize the virus
3. Create ineffective and deadly "cures" and treatments for the virus
4. Eliminate effective alternate cures and treatments
5. Covid-mania
  - a. Terrorize population into blind submission
  - b. Allow unnecessary deaths
  - c. Force compliance with edicts and mandates
  - d. Restrict freedom of movement
  - e. Alienation, anxiety, fear, division
  - f. Enhanced police state for enforcement
  - g. Massive profits for big pharma
  - h. Population reduction
  - i. Demonize, ridicule, marginalize, and "cancel" dissenting views
  - j. State media to spread official narrative

order to build demand. No dice. Then they offered gift cards, free junk food and even cash to those who would get shots. Still not enough takers. Then they resorted to MANDATING shots.

By early 2022, formerly indispensable "emergency service" workers who had been working at the peak of the "covid" scare to keep people fed, were told that they MUST get "covid" shots in order to remain employed. They and thousands of others, including city workers, police and fire fighters, were forced to submit to "covid" shots -- those who did not were either fired or put on indefinite "suspension," losing their jobs. The city then began mandating shots for children, who to this day, are forced to wear masks in school.

[It is important to note that the "covid" shot is NOT a "vaccine." It is an experimental genetic treatment, an entirely new, untried method of operation they are calling a "vaccine" that induces your body's DNA to produce a Covid-19 protein.]

In the entire duration of the "covid" scare, while State Media has pushed masks and "social distancing" and getting multiple mystery shots, there has been not ONE word about avoiding "covid" and other illness by maintaining a healthy lifestyle with exercise, getting plenty of sunlight and building up the immune system with a proper diet. Not surprisingly, many who complied with mask decrees and have received shots have gotten "covid" ANYWAY. Others have gotten severe adverse reactions from the shots, for which Big Pharma is fully-indemnified from lawsuits.

## THE PSYCHOACTIVE EFFECTS OF COVIDMANIA

Since 2020, the terrorized, understandably aggravated, frustrated and angry over being forced out of work and by deaths of friends and family members, began misdirecting their anger at those who refused to go along with the program and live in fear. They began to attack those who dared to question the wisdom of being told to wear a mask and stand a few feet apart, as if a virus couldn't travel more than six feet or penetrate a porous mask. The terrorized accused the unafraid of being "selfish" and whined that they would cause others to catch the virus. Still others physically threatened those who did not comply, wishing that those who wouldn't comply would get "covid" and DIE.

Experiencing a form of "Stockholm Syndrome," the terrorized needed only to regurgitate what State Media told them in order to validate their fears. Embracing the BULLSHIT they were fed by the state that abandoned any concern for their welfare a long time ago, they have been living in a state of fear and panic. Sadly, otherwise intelligent people have

abdicated their critical thinking skills in favor of blind acceptance of state sponsored LIES.

Now that the "covid" scare is on the wane, we who have been lied to and violated are expected to just move on. The unbelievable bullshit that has gone down, from March 2020 through the present, should NOT be forgotten nor be forgiven. The state depends on us forgetting the lies they have told us and what they have done to us, so that they can present us with a new distraction and new lies in their new "psy-op" (psychological operation) to generate more fear and to terrorize us further into submission.

It is one thing for sufficiently terrorized people to DEMAND their own repression (for their "safety" of course) -- it is quite another for them to turn on and ATTACK those who question, disagree or otherwise refuse to follow the script presented by the state. Especially against their long term friends and family members. This behavior is straight out of the COINTELPRO handbook and only benefits those who are responsible for what is happening.

This psychological phenomenon is known as "Mass Formation Psychosis." In the 1960s, "Defense" Secretary Robert MacNamara called it "National Mass Psychosis." A medical doctor recently described it as a "Mass Formation Psychosis Group Think," but it's all the same thing. As our buddy Acorn Slim explains it, those who argue against reason in support of the state are suffering from "subjugated" minds. Such people no longer think or act for themselves. They have been told what to think and do.

One effective method of COINTELPRO style psy-ops is to recruit members of the public to promote and to impose and enforce compliance upon others on behalf of the operation. The COINTELPRO gang (still in business since the 1960s) are really great at using this and other methods to DIVIDE + CONQUER, but they can NEVER succeed without the active and eager (and frightened) participation of the public....

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The Deadly Virus Cometh... Is it a Harbinger of Bio-Warfare?

By Paul DeRienzo

In March 2022, Russia, then two weeks into its invasion of Ukraine, called a meeting of the 15 member United Nations Security Council, to assert that occupying Russian soldiers had discovered evidence that Ukraine ran biological weapons laboratories with U.S. Defense Department support.

Russia's ambassador to the United Nations in New York is Vasily Nebenzya. Referring to Russia's name for the war, he said "as Russia is conducting its 'special military operation' in Ukraine, its forces had unearthed an "emergency clean up by the Kiev regime of the traces of a military biological program." Nebenzya went on to accuse the United States of assisting Ukraine in construction of "military biological labs." He said there were at least 30 labs working together as a network where "extremely dangerous biological experiments were conducted."

Nebenzya quoted captured documents to claim that the purpose of the labs was to "strengthen the pathogenic qualities of the plague, anthrax, cholera and other lethal diseases using synthetic biology." According to the Russian diplomat, the work is funded by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency of the United States. Nebenzya said that "the goal is to study the possibility of spreading particularly dangerous infections using migratory birds."

In a one-two punch, Nebenzya also said that "bats were considered" as animals for spreading harmful organisms in these programs. This was an eerie reference to the leading theory for the origination of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic in bats sold at a wet market in Wuhan, China. Nebenzya said that information on research using bats as a "vector" for plague and other diseases was carried out and shared with US military biological labs.

Although the U.S. government was quick to dismiss the Russian claims as war propaganda, former U.S. representative Tulsi Gabbard used her website to ask pointed questions. Gabbard says: "Here are the undeniable facts - there are 25 to 30 U.S.-funded bio-labs in Ukraine. According to the U.S. government, these bio-labs are conducting research on dangerous pathogens. Ukraine is in an active war zone with widespread bombing or artillery and shelling." She added, "these facilities, even in the best of circumstances, could easily be compromised and release these deadly pathogens."

The U.S. clamped down hard on the story, claiming that it is a false flag operation by Russia in order to cover up what U.S. government spokespeople say might be an attempt by Russia to use biological weapons and blame the west: an assertion never backed up by evidence and denied by Russian authorities.

Gabbard's remarks unsettled Utah Republican Senator Mitt Romney, who hit back, saying that "Tulsi Gabbard is peddling false Russian propaganda; her treasonous lies may well cost lives." Romney's remarks prompted right wing Fox TV host Tucker Carlson to ask what Gabbard did to bring Romney, an anti-Trump Republican, down on her. "Did she call for a violent overthrow of the United States government?" Carlson continued: "Did she come out and pledge allegiance to Putin? Did she get a Cyrillic tattoo on her neck?"

The answer to all three sarcastic questions is NO.

Dr. Daniel Gerstein is a scientist directly involved in removing Cold War weapons

from Ukraine after the fall of the Soviet Union in 1992. He works for the RAND corporation, a global policy think tank financed by the U.S. government, corporations, universities and private individuals.

Gerstein agrees that the U.S. has funded bio-labs in Ukraine, but says they have never had any military purpose. "We helped to refurbish some of the laboratories that were there. Make sure they were doing proper bio-surveillance, that they were doing bio-safety and bio-security," Gerstein told **The SHADOW**, "I was the principal director for countering weapons of mass destruction in the Office of the Secretary of Defense....my job was to get rocket motors from Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles destroyed."

When asked about Russia's assertion that Ukraine scientists were caught destroying documents related to their research, Gerstein answered: "Given the violence that is going on, it would make sense that whatever was there would be moved to an even more secure location or destroyed."

In 1969, U.S. President Richard Nixon unconditionally ended the United States' offensive biological weapons program. In 1972, the U.S., Soviet Union, and United Kingdom signed the Biological Weapons Convention, soon joined by most of the world's nations. Even so, the U.S. still pursues "bio-defense" to prepare for a potential biological attack, and Russia has long been accused of continuing its bio-warfare programs, despite the treaty.

Bacillus anthracis is the bacteria that causes anthrax. Anthrax spores are found in nature, but can be produced in labs, where they can be weaponized for use against human populations. In 2001, shortly after the September 11 destruction of the World Trade Center in lower Manhattan, envelopes containing powdered anthrax spores were mailed through the U.S. postal system to politicians and newscasters. According to the CDC [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention], twenty two people, including mail handlers, became sick from anthrax, killing five of them. Gerstein told **The SHADOW** that the United States does not have biological weapons. "Absolutely not," he insists.

Bruce Edwards Ivins was a microbiologist, vaccinologist and senior bio-defense researcher at the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases [USAMRIID] at Fort Detrick, Maryland, where the U.S. biological weapons program is headquartered. Although no one was ever arrested or officially blamed for the 2001 anthrax attacks, Ivins was suspected. Ivins died on July 29, 2008, of an overdose of acetaminophen (Tylenol) a few days before the Federal Bureau of Investigation [FBI] planned to charge him for the anthrax attacks..

In 2020, U.S. President Donald Trump insisted on calling the coronavirus the "China Virus," in a vulgar attempt to shift the blame for the virus on the entire Chinese people. Soon, random attacks on Asians increased across the United States and continued long after Trump was defeated in his re-election bid by Senator Joe Biden.

Trump's slur of Chinese people was an epic racist trope, but it has begged the question of how coronavirus arose and whether there was the tell tale fingerprint of gain-of-function experiments to make the virus more voracious. Why would anyone make a dangerous germ more dangerous? Experts say it is to study the

worst-case scenario with a specific bug, in order to be better able to meet the challenge if the specific pathogen becomes a health risk.

Without any evidence, Trump repeatedly blamed a biology lab in Wuhan, China, for the outbreak, against findings by the military and the Central Intelligence Agency [CIA] and most scientists, who say that the coronavirus emerged from nature.

The Wuhan lab is China's only bio-safety Level 4 laboratory that researches human infectious diseases. It is located a few miles from a "wet market," where the COVID-19 virus reportedly originated. The lab collaborates with an American organization, the New York City-based EcoHealth Alliance, which describes itself as "a global nonprofit, leading scientific research into the critical connections between human, animal and environmental health."

Trump retaliated against China, then in the middle of a massive campaign to stop the disease, which was killing millions, for not helping to investigate the source of the virus. In May 2020, Trump cut a \$3 million dollar grant to EcoHealth Alliance, a move that took the organization by surprise.

Although U.S. politicians accuse China of secrecy and blocking the investigation, in fact, U.S. scientists have been directly involved with the Wuhan lab since its inception.

Some researchers agree that the relationship between the Wuhan lab and EcoHealth Alliance should be investigated. **[For more on EcoHealth Alliance, see the article "It Ain't Natural" on Page 9 - Ed.]**

Virologist Jonathan Latham, executive director of the Bio-sciences Research Project, has been warning that EcoHealth Alliance has been working with the U.S. and Chinese government to develop new viruses.

Latham says that people are going into bat caves and getting "covered with bat pee and bat poo," He says that is a "risky thing." He claims that the labs are performing gain-of-function research and that "it's to help." Gain-of-function research genetically alters an organism to alter and enhance its biological functions. The stated intent in virology is to better understand pandemics before they happen.

While some scientists claim that it is legitimate, others say that gain-of-function

research is just a back door to bio-warfare experimentation, or, at best, very dangerous, since microbes can get loose into the environment. Latham says that reporting on wet markets, where locals buy and sell game animals for food, may be shifting the spotlight from the real COVID culprit.

"It's really a mistake," Latham says, to "focus on wet markets and the wildlife trade." The real destroyers of nature are not the traditional diets based on hunting or gathering wild animals for the dinner table, he says, it's the "bulldozers," used to clear rainforests in order to plant commercial crops for cattle, that are at the root of the problem.

Latham says that the media narrative is about people going to those places and bringing back diseases, or the few thousand people involved in the wildlife trade. These activities "pale in comparison to the destruction of agribusiness."

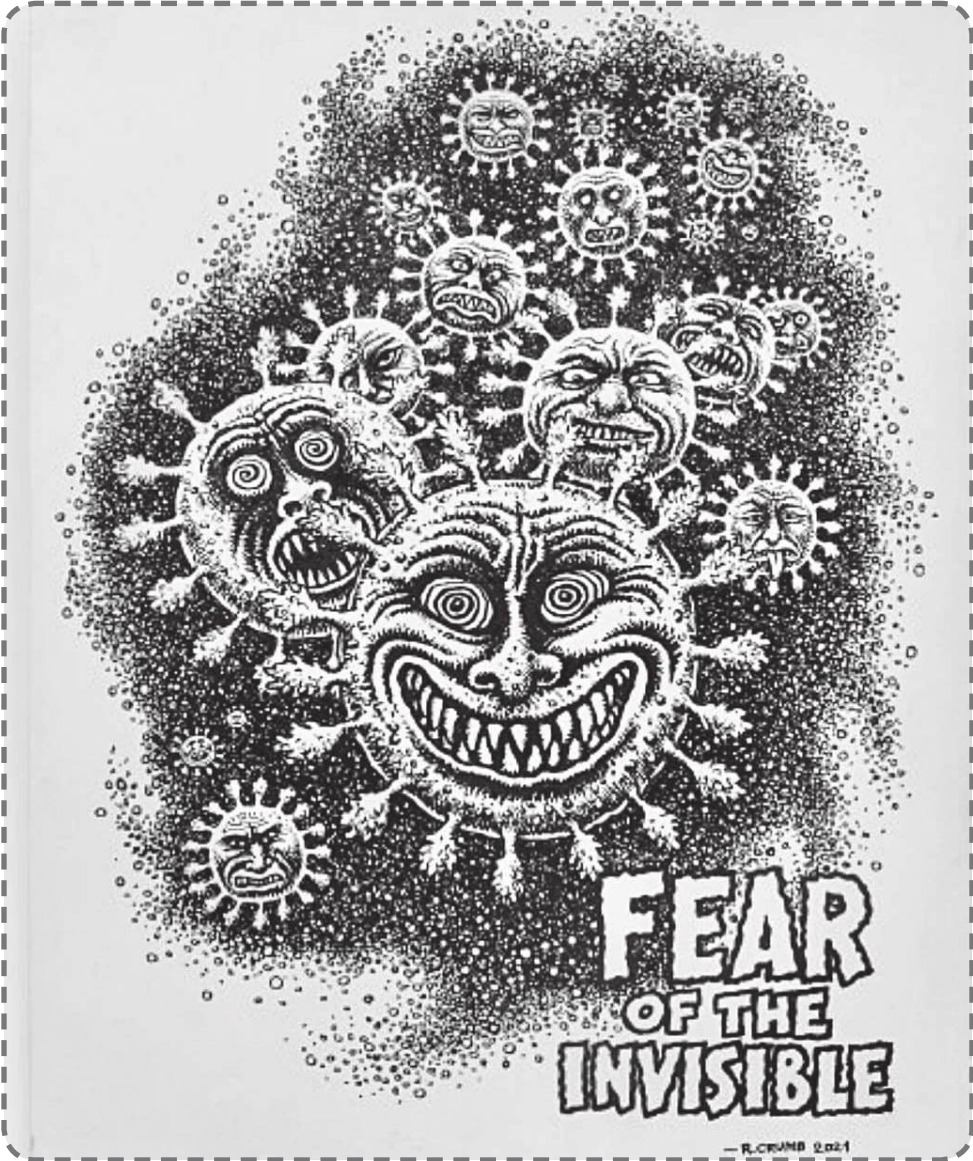
According to Latham, the media is spreading corporate propaganda. "Agribusiness interests know people will be questioning the destruction of the natural environment for profit," he says, "so they're telling a story about wildlife trade to distract public opinion from the destruction of natural habitats, like the rainforests."

This is similar to what has been called "green washing," which is the splashing of words and images, invoking nature with words like "green" and "eco," and the use of beautiful photos of wilderness by businesses as part of their advertising. Nevertheless, the destruction of the environment continues.

Latham tells **The SHADOW** that he is doubtful that vaccinations would be a final answer to the COVID-19 pandemic. He says that the EcoHealth Alliance is an example of funding "risky biological research" at the Wuhan Institute of Virology, in part to produce vaccines. They may or may not develop vaccines, but, as Latham says, "we still don't have a vaccine for HIV after 20 years of trying."

Matthew Field writes in the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientist that there is no evidence the COVID-19 virus originated at the Wuhan lab. Claiming that most biologists don't believe the coronavirus was part of a bio-warfare experiment that got loose, nevertheless, Field feels that there are some in the bio-science community who think that the virus might have been the

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# IT AIN'T NATURAL: WAS THE PANDEMIC THE RESULT OF BATTY EXPERIMENTS?

By A. Kronstadt

**[Scientific issues are very easy to obfuscate because few people understand the details. The origins of the Covid-19 pandemic will remain controversial because the basic principles of science involved are not universally understood. Do you know what a receptor molecule is, or that protein molecules are composed of amino acids, which are in turn coded by DNA molecules? The information cited here will not convince everyone, but it has convinced me that irresponsible science, not necessarily biological warfare, but ultimately its equivalent, brought about the Covid-19 plague. The most essential concept to understand is that of gain-of-function (GoF) experiments, which we will detail here.]**

Most of the narratives concerning the origins of the Covid-19 pandemic center on the city of Wuhan in central China, and on the Chinese rufous horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus sinicus*), a sparrow sized, fruit and insect eating bat that was found by Chinese researchers in 2013 to be a reservoir for the virus SARSr-CoV, then recognized to be a close relative of the original SARS virus that had been spreading in 2002-2004. That virus had been associated with civets (mongoose-like animals) that were sold in the marketplaces of south China, including the large metropolis of Guangzhou; it produced symptoms similar to those of Covid-19, but did not spread as rapidly. When the Covid-19 virus was recognized in 2020, the previous SARS virus was designated SARS-CoV-1 and the agent of the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic as SARS-CoV-2.

The CDC [Centers for Disease Control] and most of mainstream science tell an official story, whereby a natural bat-to-human transmission, followed by an adaptation of the virus to human-to-human transmission, was the origin of Covid-19. However, the rufous horseshoe bat has only been found to be the natural reservoir of a virus resembling SARS-CoV 1 (agent of the 2002-2004 outbreak); no virus that could be construed as being close to SARS-CoV-2, the agent of Covid-19, has ever been isolated from a wild bat. The official story is therefore an extrapolation from research involving a different virus, and from the fact that rufous horseshoe bats and other bats actually do harbor many different coronaviruses.

The first cases of Covid-19 were observed in Wuhan in late 2019, and the official story has it that they resulted from the virus first having been transmitted from bats to humans and then having acquired the ability to transmit from humans to humans. The IUCN Red List of Endangered Species (2018) has provided a map (predating the pandemic and the notoriety conferred on the bats and Wuhan) that conveniently juxtaposes the location of Wuhan with the range of the Chinese rufous horseshoe bat:



We can see from this map that Wuhan is not at the center of the range of this species of bat (dark area), but just north of its northern limit. *Rhinolophus sinicus*, like the SARS-CoV-1 virus that it carries, is associated with the south of China, while Wuhan is located in the center of that nation. The bats that were originally found to harbor SARSr-CoV (aka SARS-CoV-1) in the above-mentioned 2013 study were sampled near Kunming, in southern Yunnan province, 802 miles from Wuhan. It had been reported that in 2012, six miners fell ill from a SARS-like illness in Yunnan province while working in a mine filled with bat feces. The actual strain of coronavirus involved was not determined and no human-to-human transmission was assumed.

Very early in the timeline of the pandemic, in December 2019, eight days after Beijing acknowledged the existence of a new virus, Chinese officials banned the sale of live animals in the public marketplaces of Enshi prefecture, an area 334 miles west of Wuhan, where there are many caves harboring *Rhinolophus sinicus*. In 2020, WHO [World Health Organization] officials investigating the origins of Covid 19 were denied access to these caves by the government. The interesting thing here is not so much that the Chinese government seems to have suspected bats as the culprits, but that the suspect bats were 334 miles away from Wuhan.

Wuhan itself has no wild *Rhinolophus sinicus* in its immediate environs, and was not a likely place for either bat-to-human or human-to-human transmission of the coronavirus to have evolved. However, this is not to say that the animal was not present in the city. Science had brought both the rufous horseshoe bat and its pathogens

to Wuhan in order to experiment with them. Many facts that we bring out here are old news, but when viewed all in one place, present an irrefutable argument that (1) there was no natural bat-to-human transmission event that resulted in the creation of SARS-CoV-2, the agent of the Covid-19 pandemic, and (2) the disease emerged in an already highly human-infectious form, inconsistent with the usual course of viral evolution in which a weakly human-infectious virus becomes more infectious to humans via natural selection while passing through the human population.



DANNY HELLMAN

## VIRUS BASICS

Viruses are not living things, but are usually thought of either as offshoots of living matter, or as relics of the very early history of living matter. They are always associated with a "host" from the world of living things, which may be something as simple as a bacterium, or as complex as a human or other mammal. There are millions of different viruses, which only affect one, or a very limited range of host species.

A virus consists of a nucleic acid part and a protein part. Nucleic acids, which may take the form of RNA or DNA, are large molecules with a lot of diversity that contain a code for producing proteins, the main structural elements of both the virus and the host. Proteins also constitute the enzymes that determine what chemical reactions an organism can carry out, and are thereby the backbone of life itself. The host has thousands of proteins that it needs in order to carry out its own metabolism, each of them coded by a stretch of nucleic acid (always DNA for higher organisms). A virus has no metabolism of its own, but its RNA or DNA can hack into the existing DNA of the host and exploit its metabolic mechanisms to produce the proteins of the virus, and thereby more viral particles, which can spread through the host and move on to additional hosts.

The virus therefore harms the host by draining off its nutrients, clogging up its cells with viral proteins, causing the death of the cells by breaking their membranes, and especially, in the case of Covid-19, by provoking a violent immune reaction that does more damage to the host than the virus itself.

All of the coronaviruses, including SARS-CoV-1 and SARS-CoV-2, have RNA (ribonucleic acid) as their nucleic acid part, which codes for the proteins that the virus will force the cells of the host to produce. All of the hosts, be they humans, bats, or even plants, use DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) to store their genetic information. DNA is a more stable, complex form of nucleic acid, which is found in all genuine living things; only certain viruses use RNA, while other viruses use DNA like their hosts. RNA is unstable and mutates more than DNA. This is why the coronaviruses are continually evolving "variants" with different proteins. Since a vaccine works by targeting specific proteins, it is necessary to continually update vaccines against RNA viruses to go after the new mutant proteins. This has been the case with the SARS-CoV-2 vaccines, whose effectiveness has dropped dramatically even in the year that they have been available, and also with vaccines against the influenza virus, which is likewise an RNA virus, where vaccine effectiveness is often less than 50%. However, the smallpox virus is a DNA virus, with much more stable reproduction of its genetic material, and that is the reason why it has been possible to immunize people against the same strain of virus since the 19th century with essentially 100% effectiveness.

In order to infect a host cell, the virus must find a door to come through, or, better put, because a virus cannot move on its own, it must find a conveyor belt provided by the cell itself. It must attach itself to a host protein on the surface of the cell, called a receptor, which the

cell normally uses to bring in useful proteins, such as its own nutrients. A pathogenic virus has a fake protein part that fools the cell into believing that it is the protein that it wants to bring in. Humans and other mammals have receptors for an enzyme, called angiotensin-converting enzyme-2 (ACE2) on the surface of many of their cells, which plays a not completely understood role in regulating blood pressure. Coronaviruses, such as those in the SARS family (SARS-CoV-1 and -2), have adopted the ACE2 receptor as their own receptor, or entry point, into the cells of mammals. This has happened because of purely evolutionary, opportunistic considerations having nothing to do with the original function of ACE2 or its receptor. The spike protein, which makes up the outermost projections on the surface of coronaviruses, fits into the structure of the ACE2 receptor like a key in a lock (perhaps less perfectly, but to varying extents, depending on the variant) because of its own structure or "folding" pattern.

It is important for anyone studying Covid-19 to understand the concept of a receptor and particularly the ACE2 receptor, because the agent of Covid-19, SARS-CoV-2, had enormous affinity for the human version of this receptor even in the very first cases of Covid-19 that appeared early in 2020. In most cases, a virus must pass through thousands of hosts in order to evolve this level of affinity for a receptor. The SARS-CoV-1 virus, agent of the 2002-2004 SARS outbreak, only showed a fraction of this level of infectivity when it first appeared. Furthermore, SARS-CoV-2 also has a structure in its spike protein, called a furin-cleavage site, which is activated by an enzyme in the host respiratory epithelium called furin, enabling it to react with yet another receptor specifically on the surface of the cells of the human respiratory epithelium, Neuropilin 1. SARS-CoV-1, the agent of the 2002-2004 SARS epidemic, does not have a furin-cleavage site, nor does any bat coronavirus that has been investigated as a relative of SARS-CoV-2. There is reason to believe that the enhanced affinity for the ACE2 receptor, as well as the presence of the furin-cleavage site, are the products of genetic engineering in a gain-of-function experiment, as these features of the Covid-19 virus adapt it very specifically to infecting the human respiratory system through aerosols, something that SARS-CoV-1 is unable to do.

## WHAT IS A GAIN-OF-FUNCTION (GOF) EXPERIMENT?

In the broader sense of the term, a gain-of-function experiment is an experiment in which a gene is either added and/or activated so that the cell produces a protein that it did not produce before. By the same token, a loss-of-function experiment is one in which a gene is removed or inactivated, such that a certain protein is no longer produced. These are two basic procedures in genetic engineering. An older example of a gain-of-function experiment defined in this broad way is to add the gene for insulin from a human to yeast or bacterial cells, making them mass produce insulin, which was an early, highly successful application of genetic engineering to the pharmaceutical industry.

However, over the course of the 21st century, "gain-of-function" as applied to viral disease research, has meant gain of the disease producing function, which typically might involve manipulation of the receptor-binding part of a protein to produce a mutant protein that interacts with a different receptor molecule and thereby is able to infect a different host, or the same host more efficiently. Why would researchers want to make a virus more versatile or efficient, i.e., whose side are they on, us or the virus?

The stated reason is experimental: they ostensibly want to anticipate the evolutionary development of the virus

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DANNY HELLMAN



# MERCHANTS OF DEATH CELEBRATE WAR IN UKRAINE

By Frank Morales

On February 24, 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine, pounding cities with ordnance and dispatching troops across the border. The sonic boom of fighter jets filled the air as civilians flooded the highways in Kyiv, attempting to flee the capital. Since then, the world has been witness to a see-sawing battle with Ukrainian troops and civilians holding out against much larger Russian forces in a war calculated to last well into the future, thus prolonging the suffering of the Ukrainian people, with some 4,000 civilians already having been killed, “an extremely conservative estimate.”

The scenes from Ukraine are heart-rending – civilians killed by Russian bombs, families taking shelter in subway stations, millions of refugees on the move, and more. But there’s one group that is benefitting enormously from the conflict: American weapons contractors.

The sad truth is that, although wars are bad for people, particularly for civilians and non-combatants, (and for soldiers who are but pawns in a bigger game), war isn’t devastating for weapons manufacturers. In fact, quite the opposite. The ongoing war dramatizes the power of militarism and the influence of defense contractors, who are the driving force of militarism. A ruthless drive for markets – intertwined with imperialism – has propelled NATO expansion, while inflaming wars from Eastern Europe to Yemen, and providing Russian President Vladimir Putin with a pretext to enrich his own nation’s arms dealers, while further solidifying his hold on power.

As the violence has caused unimaginable suffering, Ukrainian government officials have been calling for more arms, pleading to the very sectors of Western (U.S.) imperialism, that, it can be argued, caused the carnage in the first place. And now those sectors are profiting from it. Witness the soaring stock value of global arms makers, led by the U.S.

U.S. defense contractor stocks have soared since the conflict started. Northrop, General Dynamics and Raytheon have all run to record highs since the Russian invasion of Ukraine. IBD’s Aerospace/Defense industry group has rallied more than 9%. The industry gained, despite a decline by Boeing (BA). The aerospace giant lost ground as sanctions carved the Russian airspace out of commercial transport markets. Javelin anti tank missiles, built by Lockheed Martin (LMT) and Raytheon, are part of a \$350 million weapons package approved by the Biden administration for Ukraine. This is on top of the more than \$2.7 billion in U.S. security support for Ukraine’s military since 2014, including more than \$650 million in 2021.

The Wall Street Journal summed up the arms industry’s bright new prospects in a March 1, 2022 headline: “Ukraine Crisis Stokes Defense Industry Shares.” The article notes that Lockheed Martin shares have hit an all time high. Meanwhile, BAE Systems, Europe’s largest defense contractor, saw its stock value rise by 25%, while French arms company Thales saw its share price rise by over 26%, in the wake of promises by Germany and other European states to sharply increase their military budgets.

There are billion\$ to be made on a new military buildup in Europe, from the recent offer of \$6 billion worth of General Dynamics M-1 tanks to Poland to reports that Germany may consider purchasing Lockheed Martin’s F-35 combat aircraft. And this is on top of the costs of sending large shipments of anti-tank and anti-aircraft systems to Ukraine. But the value of contracts tied to the current crisis in Ukraine may be small change when compared with an even larger potential boon for the industry – locking in big increases in the Pentagon’s already massive \$800 billion dollar budget for years to come as nations gear up for a new era of wars; conflicts manufactured by those who are

positioned to provide the necessary tools of violence -- the weapons profiteers.

From the point of view of U.S. arms makers, the world’s largest weapons dealers by far, Russia’s invasion of Ukraine has fortuitously presented them with enormous business opportunities which they’ve extolled. News reports from the U.S. revealed that Raytheon and Lockheed Martin, globally amongst the most advanced armament makers, for example, were openly telling their investors that the Ukraine conflict was good for business. Even before the February Russian invasion, defense industry leaders were expressing confidence that crises in Ukraine and beyond would pad their bottom lines.

In January 2022, Raytheon CEO Greg Hayes mentioned “tensions in Eastern Europe” in an earnings call with investors as one aspect of global instability that his company could benefit from: “...We are seeing, I would say, opportunities for international sales. We just have to look to last week, where we saw the drone attack in the UAE [United Arab Emirates], which have attacked some of their other facilities. And of course, the tensions in Eastern Europe, the tensions in the South China Sea, all of those things are putting pressure on some of the defense spending over there. So I fully expect we’re going to see some benefit from it.” Lockheed Martin’s CEO also told investors that “great power competition” would benefit his company’s business. Analysts predict that spending on military equipment could rise as much as 50% over the next five years.

Now, whether one views the Russian invasion of the Ukraine, anticipated for some time now, as a justifiable Russian “special operation,” the consequence of Western/NATO provocation; or the expansionist designs of a deranged Putin, living out Tzarist fantasies of a neo-imperialist Russia, the simple fact is that while people are dying, families and communities are destroyed, combatants brutalizing and murdering one another, the real winners in all of this are the arms makers, the global weapons producers who are celebrating the resurgence of a new Cold War.

Under the prevailing siege-like situation in Ukraine, and the pleadings of Ukrainian leaders for more weapons, the inexorable response of the U.S. and fellow European powers has been to return to arms guaranteeing, which in turn results in massive profitability to arms manufacturers for the foreseeable future, much like during the salad days of the Cold War decades.

As the world reverts to a 21st century redux of the Cold War, albeit with even more advanced nuclear weaponry, the U.S. and NATO states have commenced refurbishing their militaries for deployment along Russia’s borders and augmenting their individual operational capabilities. In an historic first, the European Union (EU), too, has pledged to purchase weapons and transfer them to Ukraine, significantly boosting global materiel sales, for a seemingly just cause.

The “just cause” of course is the well-documented and well-publicized destruction of urban centers and the indiscriminate slaughter of civilian non-combatants suffering the loss of life and livelihood. Caught between the predatory imperialism of capitalist elites and their armaments cohorts, and the ideological and political requirements of the Big Powers, it is always the masses of global citizenry, powerless in the face of violent militarist machinations, who suffer.

According to the 2021 Stockholm International Peace Research Institute [SIPRI] annual report, 10 countries monopolized 90.3% of the world’s arms trade. Of these, China, France, Germany, Russia and the U.S. accounted for 75.9% during 2016-20, with Russia and the U.S. leading the pack. Israel, Italy, South Korea, Spain and the United Kingdom are offering

an assortment of operationally proven equipment amounting to 14.4% of overall global military sales. The rest of the world, including India -- whose share was 0.2% -- provided the remaining 9.7% that comprised largely low end kit and components and sub assemblies that were supplied to larger producers.

Furthermore, Germany’s decision to overcome its trauma and circumspection after World War Two and spend 100 billion Euros, or 2% of its Gross Domestic Product [GNP] to rearm its Bundeswehr, too, will be a godsend for arms manufacturers internationally. Responding to Russia’s militarism, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz stated that this massive outlay would not only include investments and armaments projects for his country’s military, but would also supply weaponry to Ukraine, ensuring monies for its arms makers.

In January 1961, during his Farewell Address to the nation, outgoing U.S. President Dwight Eisenhower, in an intuitively accurate prediction, stated that the huge industrial and military machinery of “defense” driven by the Pentagon Inc.’s insatiable appetite for profit, could not only lead to unending war, but would also endanger U.S. liberties and the democratic process, not to mention fueling the militarization of domestic police, whose job it is to ensure popular compliance with imperialist objectives.

Nonetheless, weapons manufacturers, through incessant lobbying (more than one lobbyist per every member of Congress) have succeeded in skewing U.S. policy towards militarist expenditures. For example, Raytheon, Lockheed Martin and General Dynamics co-founded the U.S. Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, which has for some time encouraged (issued orders) to the Biden administration to take action, even prior to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, giving credence to the notion that such wars are in actuality industrially-driven events; wars manufactured at the behest of profit-hungry weapons makers, profiteers who have never seen a war they didn’t like.

Of particular concern presently is the possibility that the Russian invasion and nuclear threats emanating from Putin will increase prospects for reconsideration of the Pentagon’s three decades long plan to build a new generation of nuclear weapons, at a cost of up to \$2 trillion. Advocates of a rational and revolutionary approach to confronting U.S. militarism must persevere in opposing the nuclear plan, especially the proposal to build a new generation of land-based missiles, which former secretary of defense William Perry has described as “some of the most dangerous weapons in the world,” because a president would have only a matter of minutes to decide whether or not to launch them, on warning of an attack, greatly increasing the risk of an accidental nuclear war based on a false alarm.

Opposing excessive Pentagon budgets that decrease our security, violate the lives and livelihood of our global neighbors, while padding the profits of the arms (and oil) industry, will be particularly challenging in the months and years ahead, given the hegemonic grip war making, as a way of life, has on the American people.

Hopefully, on a planet threatened and exploited by perpetual war, pandemics, climate change, growing class inequality, racial and economic injustice, and an attack on the foundations of democracy itself, a revitalized movement of revolutionary anti-militarism can take hold.

The time is long past due that we break the chains of militarist enslavement by any

and all means necessary and redirect the resources and wealth created by “we the people” away from weapons makers and their capitalist enablers, and instead utilize the wealth that is created by us toward the betterment of our collective life together, ensuring free health care, education and housing for all! Repair and rebuild our nation’s critical infrastructure! Arrest climate change (and oil barons) and alleviate the suffering and violence of poverty, homelessness and hunger in America! The time is now to break the chains of Militarism Incorporated and send the CEO merchants of death packing!

[On a personal note, my wife and I have been setting up weekly street sales to raise money to send directly to Ukrainian families in need. If you have anything that you would like to donate to sell; clothing,



books, knick knacks, dishes, houseware etc, you can contact me at frm@panix.com. We greatly appreciate your support. Thank you so much!]

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# HOW TO STOP PUTIN'S WAR WINDFALL BY ENDING OUR EMBARGO OF VENEZUELAN OIL

By Greg Palast

This mayhem has been a profit center for Putin. That is, 43% of the entire federal Russian budget was provided by oil and gas revenues and royalties. Russia lives and dies, literally, by its oil revenue, and this mayhem has caused the price of oil to rise to over \$100 a barrel, so compared to when it was \$50 a barrel, he has a war-windfall of about a half billion dollars a day.

The question is, what can we do to bring down the price of oil? Because that's going to bring Putin to his knees. Putin's a powerful man at a hundred bucks a barrel, but he's pretty weak at thirty bucks. Last year, he was devastated and you didn't hear much from the guy when oil was down. For one day, it was actually a negative price on the world market. People didn't know where to put the oil because the world was shut down.

So how do we do this? Well, we have been embargoing the nation with the largest supply of oil on the planet – Venezuela. No one's talking about this. It's like it fell off the radar. What Putin is doing in Ukraine is cruel and horrific. And what we are doing in Venezuela is cruel and horrific. We have embargoed and laid siege, and basically surrounded, and blockaded Venezuela, so that very little of its oil can get out.

This is a country which has a 2 million barrel a day OPEC allotment, and we're getting almost none of it. And they have tremendous gas reserves. So, if the Germans are afraid that Putin will cut off their pipe, well, stop cutting off Venezuela's pipe. Because it's not only the United States, it's the European Union and Britain, which are saying we won't take Venezuelan oil.

And even more, we won't let Venezuela pump the oil, because the embargo has stopped them from getting the parts and equipment that they need to keep their oil industry running, which is quite complex because it's based on heavy oil, so it's very difficult without the parts, the expertise, and the funding.

For example, the Koch Brothers have a refinery on the Gulf Coast of Texas. They were the number one customer of Venezuela. We took the oil that Venezuela sent us to the Koch Brothers' refinery, and the US treasury seized all the money. When Venezuela sells oil, they can't get the money, so, obviously, they're not going to sell it to us or to Europe because they can't get the money, so their oil production is extremely limited.

People are literally starving in Venezuela, and they don't have medicine to fight COVID. It's cruel. It's horrible. If Putin were doing this in Ukraine, we'd be screaming and hollering, but yet we're doing it to Venezuela. And who's suffering from it? We are, because we're knocking more than a million barrels a day out of the world market.

This is a leftover Trump disaster. Trump cutoff Venezuela, ordered the embargo, ordered the blockade. Why? Well, number one, they say Venezuela is not really a democratic nation. So, instead we're getting our oil and gas from the demo-

cratic nation of Saudi Arabia? By the way, our biggest source of imports to the West is Russia. So the great democracies we'd rather get our gas from are Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Russia, and Kazakhstan? These are the great democracies we're getting oil from instead of Venezuela?

And let me tell you, I've been in Venezuela. I covered Venezuela for BBC television and The Guardian. I knew [Venezuelan president] Hugo Chavez very well. I also know the current president, Nicolás Maduro, and I got quite friendly with several of the opposition figures. But I have to tell you, whether we like it or not, Maduro was fairly elected. We have to accept that the Venezuelan people chose Maduro. Now I know Maduro, he's not necessarily my cup of tea. I think he's over his head as a leader. I think he's screwing this all up, but I'm not a Venezuelan voter. The Venezuelans have chosen him.

Trump, and now Biden, of all people, has been recognizing a guy named Juan Guido as the president of Venezuela. Let me tell you how really weird that is. Juan Guido has basically lived his life in Washington, DC. Until Trump came in, he didn't even get close to Venezuela. He's also a very rich white guy, working for think tanks – and white is an important discussion here. Because for 400 years white people – they called themselves “the Spaniards” – ran Venezuela, took all its money, and most people got nothing. They're sitting on the world's largest reserve of oil, according to OPEC, and yet the people got nothing. Hugo Chavez came in, the first non-white head of state – as he says, “I'm negro e indio, I'm black and Indian” – and they didn't like it. They hate it and they want to force Venezuela to accept Juan Guido.

But it's not like they can claim they stole the election from Guido. He didn't run for president, and yet the US and the European Union and the UK have all recognized Guido as the president. When Venezuela sells oil, we literally give the money to this guy, Guido. Imagine if in California, because we're an oil state in California, we sold our oil to a Japan or back to Ohio, and we were told, no, you can't send any money back to California, forget it. And by the way, we're not going to let you have food or medicine, we're going to cut you off.

So if we end the embargo of Venezuela, we will crash the price of oil. How much? I can only guess, but I would figure about 20 bucks a barrel. I'm an economist by training, I've done energy a long time. It would probably be at least \$20 a barrel. You might say, well, what's the big deal? That's a really big deal to Vlad Putin. And also the fact that it won't just be a one-time bump down. If we can reach a peace agreement with Venezuela – and after all, an embargo is an act of war – if we can have peace with our neighbor to the south, and accept their elected government, I think that that would cut off Putin at the knees. He's a very powerful man when oil's at a hundred bucks a barrel. At 60, he doesn't have such a big mouth.

## “SAY NO TO JOE”

Continued From Page 4

Years later, Biden said he would do it again.

Biden was a key architect for the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act, which made it more difficult for people to file Chapter 7 bankruptcy, and made it completely impossible to discharge student debt. Biden's second largest source of contributions was credit card company MBNA, the company most ardently supporting the above bill. MBNA also gave Biden's son, Hunter, a job.

Biden voted to build border walls along the southwest border of the United States. Biden supported requiring immigrants to learn English in order to get documentation.

Continuing on his long history of praising segregationists, Biden gave the eulogy for Strom Thurmond and called him one of his “closest friends.”

Biden voted against enhancing the enforcement of labor protections.

### 2010s

Biden helped expand a deportation apparatus that Trump later used to commit human rights violations by 3,600 percent. Biden worked to undermine reproductive rights by trying to cut mandated coverage for contraception from the Affordable Care Act.

The Obama/Biden administration

awarded Biden's brother James' company a \$1.5 billion construction contract, despite having no prior residential construction experience.

Biden supported apartheid and ethnic cleaning in Palestine.

Biden presented racist, chauvinist, reactionary war criminal John McCain with a Liberty Medal.

Biden presented war criminal George Bush with a Liberty Medal.

Biden said the CIA torture report was “not a black stain on this country” but rather a “badge of honor.”

### 2020s

Biden opposes Medicare For All.

Biden opposes the legalization of marijuana.

Biden opposes meaningful action on the climate crisis.

Biden, still to this day, opposes federal funding for abortion.

Biden sides with Trump in backing a coup in Venezuela.

Biden supports sanctions on Venezuela which have killed as many as 40,000 innocent Venezuelans.

Biden openly courts Republican billionaires for donations, including John Catsimatidis, who likened taxing the wealthy to nazi persecution of Jews.

**Hi, Americans!**  
**As your President meets with Mohammad Bonesaw Salman to beg for higher Saudi oil production and pitch new arms deals, you are invited to answer these fun and easy questions:**

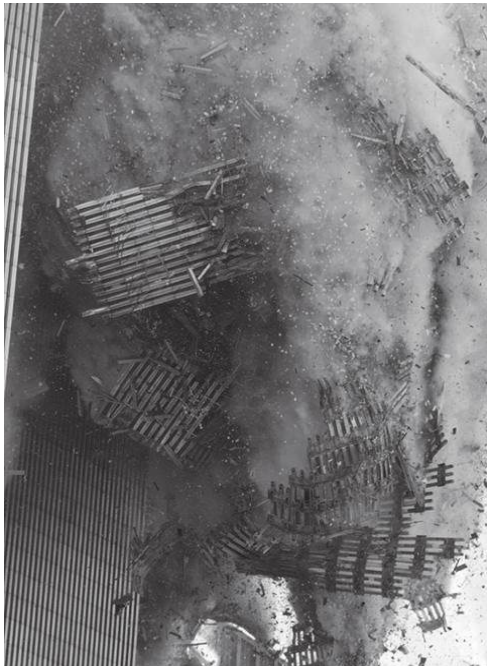
**1. Explain all the ways in which the current Russian regime is worse for people in Russia than the current Saudi regime is for people in Saudi Arabia. Explain why Russia is led by a more inherently evil and tyrannical ruling class. (You may focus on matters like women's rights, the situation of LGBT people, ethnic minorities and political dissidents, democracy and rule'o'law, quality of life, proportion of foreign slave laborers within the resident population, etc.)**

**2. Using humanitarian and moral terms, explain how the Russian invasion of the sovereign state of Ukraine is far worse than the ongoing Saudi-UAE invasion of the sovereign state of Yemen, which has lasted for 7 years, resulted in nearly half a million deaths (says the UN), uprooted many millions of refugees, placed nearly 20 million people (children and women, mostly) at risk of starvation, and would not be possible without U.S. backing.**

**For question #3: The sanctions on Russia have, for now, backfired, for example, by raising oil-gas prices and thus Russian export revenues, and also by gravely damaging the economies of the sanctioning powers, disastrously so in the case of the European NATO countries. More dramatically, however, hundreds of millions of people around the world who have no stake or preference in the Donbass conflict whatsoever face a winter or more of hunger and possible hyper-inflation and social calamity. They have, in effect, been designated as collateral damage, a fact mostly swept out of U.S. media.**

**3. Write an essay on why, in the words of the immoral late Madeleine Albright, the price of sanctions on Russia is “worth it.” Explain why the resulting necessity for the American President to kowtow to the Saudi prince (more than usual) is double-plus good.**

–Nikos Evangelos



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THE GAS IS MINED BY FRACKING, A PROCESS WHICH POISONS AIR, LAND, WATER, EVEN CAUSES EARTHQUAKES.

TO MOVE GAS THROUGH PIPES, THERE MUST BE COMPRESSOR STATIONS, EVERY FIFTY MILES.

COMPRESSORS RELEASE TOXIC FUMES.

FLAWS IN THE PIPELINES CAUSE LEAKS OR EXPLOSIONS. IT HAPPENS, ON AVERAGE, 6 TIMES A DAY IN THE USA.

FRACKING HAS BEEN OUTLAWED IN NEW YORK STATE.

SO FRACKED GAS IS IMPORTED ACROSS STATE LINES FROM PENNSYLVANIA.

A PIPELINE IS BEING BUILT THROUGH LOW INCOME NEIGHBORHOODS IN BROOKLYN.

THE NORTH BROOKLYN PIPELINE WILL GO THROUGH CROWDED SHOPPING AREAS

IT WILL PASS PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

THE PIPE LINE WILL THREATEN HOSPITAL SAFETY.

AT EVERY STAGE, FUMES ARE RELEASED, THAT CONTRIBUTE TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

\$

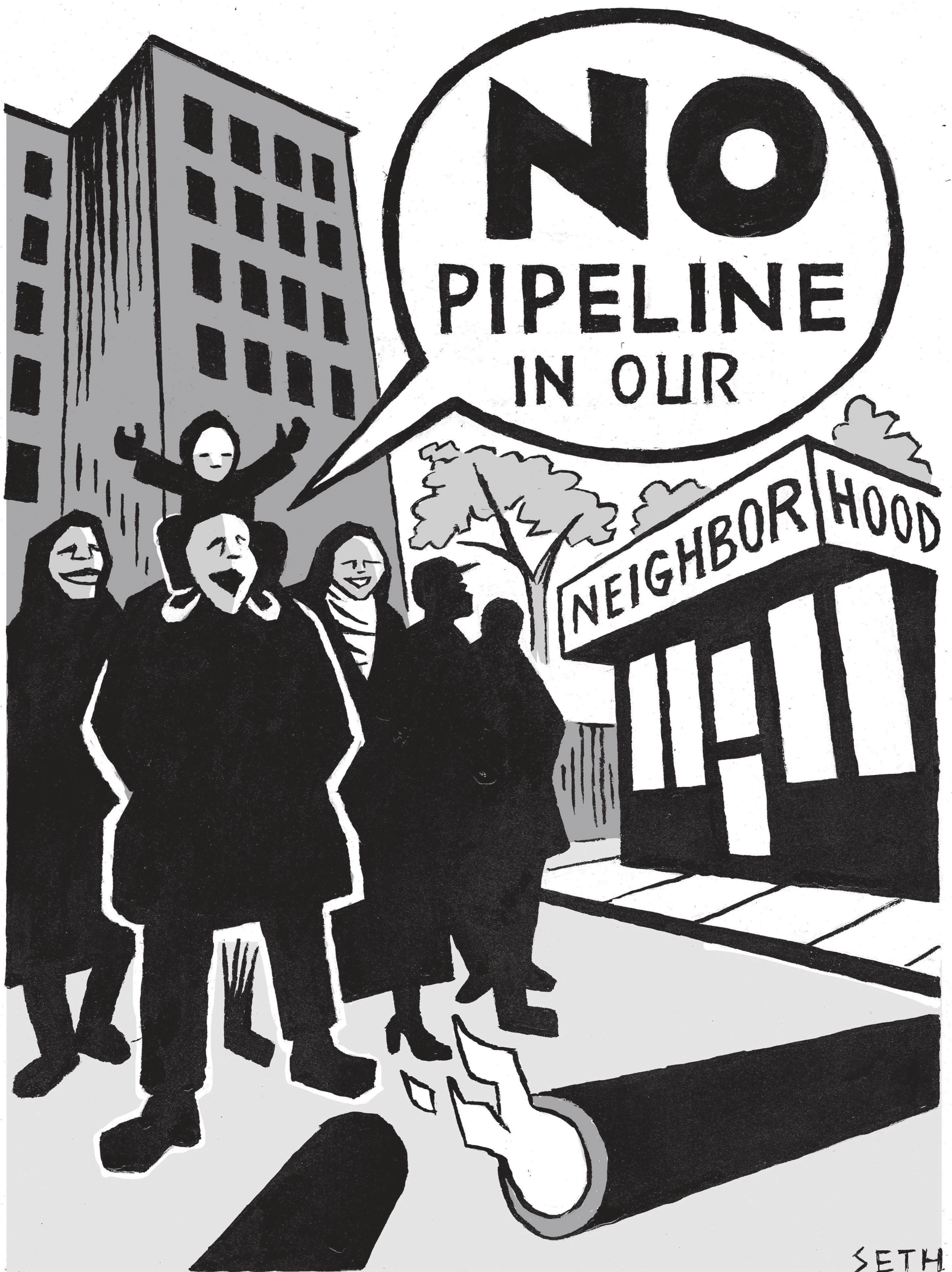
THAT'S WHY NATIVE AMERICANS CALL SUCH PIPE LINES THE BLACK SNAKE.

AT THE END OF THE PIPELINE GAS WILL BE STORED IN STORAGE TANKS. IT WILL BE COOLED BY HEATING AND MOVED BY HEATING. BOTH HEAT AND COLD CAN MAKE GAS BLOW UP!

BY  
SETH  
TOBOCMAN,  
KIM FRACZEK  
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# DOWN BY LAW

## US Media Cowers Not Covers Chevron's Prosecution of Human Rights Lawyer Steven Donziger

By Greg Palast

[November 11, 2021] Famed indigenous human rights lawyer Steven Donziger had already been under house arrest for over 800 days when he reported to prison on October 27 to begin a six month sentence. His crime: winning the largest single pollution judgment in history, \$9.5 billion, for the Cofan people of the Amazon rainforest in Ecuador.

Was the human rights hero jailed in Brazil or China? No, he was sentenced to prison in the USA.

AmazonWatch, 60 Nobel Prize winners and the bar associations of a dozen nations have called for an end to this political prosecution. And, after a two year judicial review, the United Nations Human Rights Commission has ordered the U.S. to release the human rights lawyer.

The Donziger case has received world-wide attention, from Britain's Guardian to France's Canal Plus. But in America's papers and network news, there is silence about this officially-recognized political imprisonment – except for a couple of smear pieces on Donziger in the Wall Street Journal and the New York Times.

We have written about the Donziger case elsewhere. This is about the silence of the U.S. media lambs over this extraordinary, unprecedented human rights story. The mainstream press omerta, punctuated by a few hit jobs, shamelessly repeat the talking points of Donziger's prosecutor, Chevron Oil Corp.

And therein lies the only conceivable source of the silence: Chevron, Donziger's nemesis, the oil giant against whom he won the multi-billion dollar judgment to pay for the clean up of the putrid, poisonous, mess in the Amazon.

The U.S. press covered the UN's demand that President Putin release dissident Alexei Navalny, but failed to report that the same panel ordered Biden to release Donziger.

### AMERICA'S FIRST EVER CORPORATE CRIMINAL PROSECUTION

And making the story even more significant: This is the first case in U.S. history of a criminal prosecution by a corporation.

That Donziger has been prosecuted and imprisoned by Chevron is no metaphor. After Donziger won the judgment against Chevron in 2011 in Ecuador, the oil giant filed a racketeering suit in New York against Donziger, claiming he won the Cofan case by offering a bribe to an Ecuadorian judge. (The Ecuadorian judge admits he never got a dime from Donziger but did take an estimated \$2 million from Chevron for "expenses.")

In the U.S., Chevron found a judge, former tobacco industry lawyer Lewis A. Kaplan, who denied Donziger a jury trial on Chevron's civil racketeering claim. Kaplan found for Chevron, then ordered Donziger to pay the oil company millions of dollars for their legal fees, thereby bankrupting him.

When the judge ordered Donziger to turn over his personal computer to Chevron – the company claimed Donziger was hiding funds – Donziger asked for an unbiased expert to protect confidential information about his clients.

For Donziger's temerity, the judge charged him with criminal contempt and placed Donziger under house arrest – an unprecedented punishment for an attorney.

It gets worse: when the Justice Department failed to prosecute Donziger, the judge hired, at public expense, a private lawyer to prosecute Donziger. And still worse: the attorney worked for a firm that represented Chevron!

Once again, Donziger, despite facing jail time, was denied a jury trial.

This should have drawn media coverage

if only because of the unheard of nature of the legal proceedings; never before in U.S. history had a corporation been allowed to criminally prosecute its own accuser.

Yet.... crickets. This story is perfect for PBS Newshour, but there was... nada. Could that be because the national sponsor of the PBS Newshour has been Chevron Oil? Where was MSNBC? NBC? Nada. Bloomberg dismissed Donziger as a "TikTok hero."

There was one primetime in depth story on The Daily Show on Comedy Central.

Just after Donziger entered Danbury Federal Prison last week to begin a six month sentence, the New York Times ran a hit job on him by Joe Nocera. The Times smarmily pitches the majesty of the US judicial system against Donziger supporters AOC and other liberal stars. You can hear the sneer:

"Mr. Donziger's victory in Ecuador was praised as legitimate, and he was widely viewed by progressives as an environmental hero. Sting, the musician, helped raise money for his defense. Greta Thunberg offered her support. Representative Alexandria Ocasio Cortez...."

And on it goes.

Nocera, reporting for the self-styled Paper of Record, mis-characterized and downplayed the UN's judicial ruling and did not mention that Harvard law professor Charles Nesson had filed a formal complaint against Judge Kaplan. (Nesson teaches Chevron v. Donziger to his students as a textbook case of judicial misconduct).

Nor did the Times reporter bother to meet with Donziger, nor attend the court hearing, both just a subway ride away from the Times building.

It is worth noting that the Times assigned Nocera, a writer for the notorious, CEO-licking Business section, while passing over a true expert on the case, The Times' own contributing editor William Langewiesche. Perhaps this is because Langewiesche, who for years has followed the trial and reviewed the evidence in Ecuador, portrayed Donziger in heroic terms in Vanity Fair.

### DONZIGER IN HIS OWN WORDS, CHEVRON IN THEIRS

Unlike the Times, The Palast Investigative Fund has spent years tracking the case, including reporting from the Cofan villages in the Amazon for BBC Television.

We met with Chevron lawyers who told us, "First you have to prove crude causes cancer and, then, you have to prove is it our crude oil...which is impossible." But Ecuador's courts, and nearly unanimous scientific experts, did find Chevron's oil spoiled and poisoned the Amazonians.

And, unlike the Times, we spoke to Donziger in his apartment in New York where, just before sentencing, he was "celebrating" his 800th day under house arrest wearing an ankle bracelet – completely unprecedented for what is, after all, just the misdemeanor crime of contempt.

Donziger was working with his small team to get the word out about this case via his social media accounts. He is thankful that celebs like Roger Waters (Pink Floyd) and Lucy Lawless (Xena: Warrior Princess) have been using their fame to gain attention to the case.

He is not surprised that the American mainstream media hasn't taken the cramped elevator up to his 2 bedroom on the Upper West Side.

"The corporate media has a hard time explaining how a guy like me can be abused by two U.S. federal judges," says Donziger. "I mean, it just doesn't add up and the framework with which they look at the world. They also are heavily dependent [on] advertising money from the fossil fuel



Steven Donziger (left) and his lawyer Ron Kuby (right) outside the NYC courthouse before his sentencing on October 1, 2021  
[Photo: Zach David Roberts]

industry, including from Chevron. And, in the case of the New York Times, their main law firm representing the whole institution on First Amendment issues is none other than Gibson, Dunn, and Crutcher, which is Chevron's law firm."

While the case got some early publicity on CBS and elsewhere, once Chevron started its attack on Donziger, U.S. network coverage ended swiftly. Few media outlets outside of progressive and environmental media have covered the case, and the pro-business Wall Street Journal's reporting on Donziger's "criminal conviction" was pretty much a rewrite of Chevron's talking points.

It seems that Chevron's wall of money has paid off. The company, notes Donziger, admits it spent more than a billion dollars in legal bills fighting him and the Cofan.

One can only guess the amount spent by Chevron to buy the silence, if not complicity, of the U.S. media.

[Donziger was placed under house arrest in August 2019 while awaiting trial on charges of criminal contempt of court. In July 2021, US District Judge Loretta Preska found him guilty, sentencing Donziger to six months in jail in October 2021. In April 2021, six members of the Congressional Progressive Caucus demanded that the Department of Justice review Donziger's case. In September 2021, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights stated that the pre-trial detention imposed on Donziger was illegal, calling for his release. After spending 45 days in prison and a combined total of 993 days under house arrest, Donziger was finally released on April 25, 2022. Donziger was interviewed on Democracy Now the following day: [https://www.democracynow.org/2022/4/26/steven\\_donziger\\_freedom\\_chevron\\_ecuador\\_amazon](https://www.democracynow.org/2022/4/26/steven_donziger_freedom_chevron_ecuador_amazon) - Ed.]

"After Judge Kaplan found Donziger in contempt, he brought charges, picked the prosecutor, picked the judge to hear the case, and did not recuse himself. So Judge Kaplan was the aggrieved party, the person who charged Donziger, the person who picked the prosecutor and judge, and also the judge. Too many hats to wear even for that very large head. Worse, no adults stepped in to stop him."

- Ron Kuby (Lead attorney at Donziger's trial for criminal contempt)

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# KATHY BOUDIN (1943 - 2022)

On May Day 2022, movement organizer, Weather Underground fugitive and New York State political prisoner Kathy Boudin died. Kathy was the daughter of attorney Leonard Boudin, an idol of mine, who was born into a socialist family, married a wife of poetry and became brother in law to legendary leftist journalist I.F. Stone. Very much the Clarence Darrow of his generation, over the course of his 50 year battle for equality, justice and the right to dissent, Leonard Boudin's clients were a veritable Who's Who of those despised for the arrogance of their voice and the daring of their step, among them Julian Bond, Paul Robeson, Benjamin Spock, William Sloane Coffin and Daniel Ellsberg.

During the height of McCarthyism, he represented those hauled before the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) to prove their fidelity to the United States; along the way, he toppled the provision of the Taft-Hartley Act that compelled union leaders to swear under oath that they were not Communists. Among his other ground breaking civil rights cases, Boudin prevailed in the Supreme Court against a law that held that those who refused to be drafted could by routine fiat alone be stripped of citizenship. He represented Cuban interests in the United States for over 30 years and the Central Bank of Iran, during the hysteria of the Iran Hostage Crisis. Kathy stretched the limbs of her father's principled resistance to a new, far more militant and deadly level and, for it, paid a dear, life-defining price.

An early member of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) and the Venceremos Brigade, an organization of young internationalists who showed solidarity with the Cuban revolution by joining its workers in challenging US policies towards Cuba, Kathy Boudin quickly escalated her personal challenge to the state.

At the Chicago Democratic convention in 1968, Kathy was jailed for setting off stink bombs in hotels and telephoning bomb threats. Not long thereafter, she co-founded the Weather Underground, helping to organize and participate with it in the 1969 "Days of Rage," during which a few hundred revolutionaries fought battles with cops, setting off small bombs. A year later, she and fellow Weathermen were in a Greenwich Village townhouse when a bomb they were making went off, killing three, with Kathy and a comrade escaping naked, going underground for more than a decade. It is alleged that, while underground, she participated in numerous bombings, including one where she planted an explosive device in a women's bathroom at the United States Capitol and another where she helped set off a bomb at the Pentagon. Eventually splitting off from the Weather Underground, Kathy formed an alliance with the Black Liberation Army [BLA] where, it is alleged, she assisted in bank robberies and the jail-break of Joanne Chesimard, also known as Assata Shakur, who had been convicted in a cop killing and today lives with political asylum in Cuba.

In 1980, Kathy had a baby with fellow revolutionary David Gilbert, named Chesa Jackson, after Chesimard and another revolutionary, George Jackson.

On October 20, 1981, she dropped her then one year old son Chesa off at day care and went with Gilbert and members of the BLA to Nyack, NY to rob an armored car. Not long thereafter, Kathy and David were in police custody for their role in the robbery that left two police officers and a security guard dead. Chesa was adopted by their dear friends and comrades, Bernardine Dohrn and Bill Ayers, themselves revolutionaries of an earlier time. Now a retired law professor, Dohrn was a co-founder of the Weather Underground and as such, on the FBI's 10 Most Wanted list in the early 1970s for several years. Bill Ayers, a retired professor in the College of Education at the University of Illinois in Chicago, was also a leader of the group designated a "domestic terrorist organization" and himself a fugitive wanted by the FBI on anti-war bombing charges, which were eventually dismissed due to government misconduct. Later, he became internationally-renowned for his scholarly work in education reform and curriculum.

Imprisoned for more than twenty years, Kathy spent her decades behind bars acting as a fierce determined advocate for women in prison, in particular working to facilitate reunification with their children. She became synonymous with the evolving concept of restorative justice – bringing people harmed by crime into contact with those responsible for it, in an effort to find a way forward in peace.

Eventually granted clemency, paroled and released from prison in 2003, Kathy continued with her labor of love, developing and implementing restorative justice programs inside prisons, in particular for those who had spent decades entombed for crimes committed as children. She also lobbied for the release of ageing prisoners, to reform the parole system and to create meaningful healthcare programs for prisoners returning home.

After obtaining her PhD from Columbia's Teacher College in 2007, seven years later, she and Dr. Cheryl Wilkins, a former fellow inmate, helped found the Center for Justice at Columbia University, which focuses on causes and consequences of mass incarceration and in so doing, seeks transformation of the criminal justice system and to address its day-to-day damage to persons, families and communities. As part of her efforts, Dr. Boudin's articles have been published in The Harvard Education Review, Journal of Corrections Education, Women and Therapy, Columbia Journal of Gender and Law, and Liman Report of Yale Law School. She was the editor and co-author of the book "Breaking the Walls of Silence: AIDS and Women in a New York State Maximum Security Prison."

Kathy passed this past May 1st at age 78, with her son Chesa and her life partner David Gilbert, who had been released from prison some six months earlier, by her side.

- Stanley L. Cohen, Attorney-At-Large

[This is an extract from an essay appearing in CounterPunch, regarding the carceral state: <https://www.counter-punch.org/2022/06/20/chesa-boudin-did-not-lose-we-did/>]



Chesa Boudin, Kathy Boudin, and David Gilbert

## The Kathy Boudin That I Knew

"When I was convicted of murder," began Kathy Boudin, sitting across the table from a District Attorney, when she was advocating for the release of a woman serving a sentence of fifty years to life, imposed when she was seventeen years old, Kathy talked about her guilt, her shame, and how she got to genuine remorse, a constructive and forward-looking remorse that was lived, not merely spoken.

Her frank admission of the 1981 Brinks murders, in which she played a significant part, was shockingly at odds with our setting—a flag and seal bejeweled conference room, the participants in suits, and Kathy looking like a faculty member at a prestigious university (which she was). I had forgotten that Kathy made choices that resulted in others' unspeakable sorrow. I did not know her then, although I knew of her.

The Kathy Boudin I knew, back in 1988, when she was seven years into the twenty two years she would eventually serve before parole, had just started the AIDS Counseling and Education Program [ACE], with a collective of other women at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility. It was the first peer-to-peer education program about a disease that was as terrifying as it was fatal. In prison, the level of misinformation was high, as was the prevalence of HIV. Over time, the New York State Prison system became the State's largest provider of HIV care. The ACE Collective, with the blessing of an enlightened warden, became a model used by other prison systems around the country. Kathy Boudin, who always wanted to radically change the world, was in a place where even the smallest changes were difficult. But she worked tirelessly to reduce suffering and increase awareness among the most marginalized and despised. She was now one of them.

And one of them she remained. After her release from prison, she organized writing workshops with the incarcerated and formerly incarcerated so that their stories and their lives could be heard and seen.

She organized and participated in parole workshops, advocated for parole reform, and de-incarceration. Her friends and comrades were almost all prisoners. I was privileged to work with her over the past decade in this common endeavor.

Across the political spectrum, Kathy cast a giant light over the American imagination. The answer to the question of "who is Kathy Boudin" almost always depended upon who was asking. For me, she was dynamic and demanding, thoughtful and strategic, gruff and incredibly kind, empathetic and clear-eyed, suffering and uncomplaining, and with a great sense of humor. I loved making Kathy laugh. I will miss that laugh forever.

- Ronald L. Kuby, Radical Lawyer and all around friend of humanity

## SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT ATTORNEY CHESA BOUDIN RECALLED

Chesa Boudin is the son of 1960s anti-war activists turned 1970s-1980s revolutionaries Kathy Boudin and David Gilbert. His grandfather was civil rights attorney Leonard Boudin.

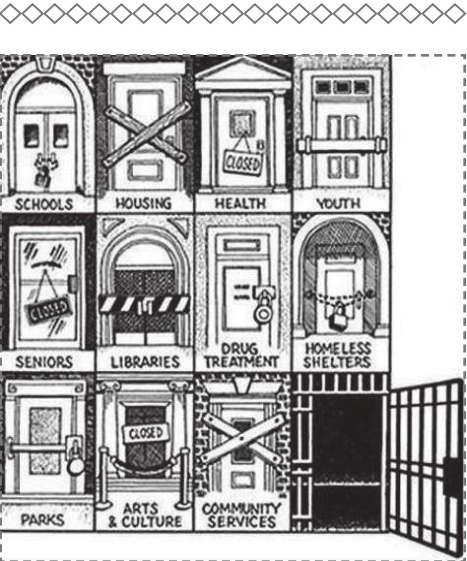
Since taking office in January 2020, newly-elected San Francisco District Attorney Chesa Boudin began acting on his campaign promises to "improve public safety and reform the criminal justice system" by "combating racist structural injustices; expanding support for crime victims; ending cash bail and the death penalty; establishing an independent innocence commission; no longer punishing kids like adults; reducing mass incarceration to allow increased focus on crime prevention and rehabilitation; and advancing data-driven solutions that promote safety, not fear."

Boudin, formerly a public defender, declared that he was determined to reform "an unjust system that has criminalized poverty, addiction, and mental illness; failed to hold violent police accountable; and disproportionately targeted people of color." At an election night gathering, Boudin told his supporters: "We have two cities. We have two systems of justice. We have one for the wealthy and the well-connected and a different one for everybody else. And that's exactly what we are fighting to change."

Boudin's political opponents, including uber-wealthy republican party donors, real estate interests, venture capitalists and tech investors, put their money behind a campaign to "recall" Boudin even before he took office, raising and spending millions of dollars to accomplish their goal.

On June 7, 2022, the campaign against Boudin succeeded, with a reported 60% of voters supporting his recall, known as "Proposition H." In an interview before the vote, Boudin said the recall was "dangerous for democracy." The recall, he said, was relying on a "Republican and police union led play book to undermine and attack progressive prosecutors who have been winning elections across the country."

- Chris Flash





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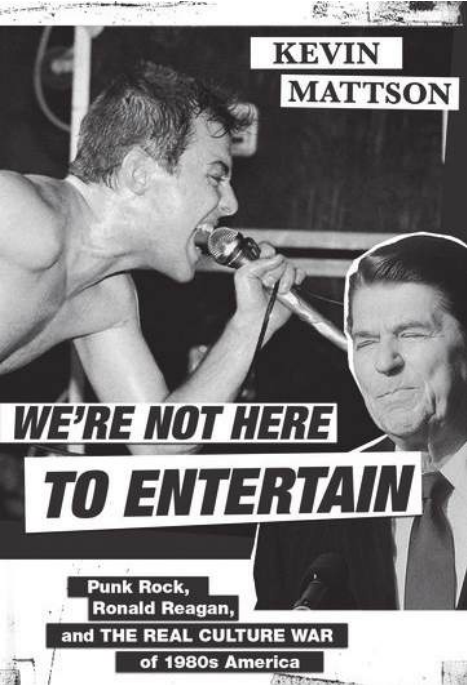
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# SHADOW BOOK REVIEW

## PUNK IS DEAD! LONG LIVE PUNK! A RETURN TO THE 1980S We're Not Here to Entertain: Punk Rock, Ronald Reagan and THE REAL CULTURE WAR of 1980s America

Review by Bill Not Bored



If you were to ask an “average” American (good luck finding one) – OK, if you were to ask a random American under the age of 40 – what music and politics were like in this country back in the 1980s, he or she might say “they both sucked” or perhaps “the music was great but the politics sucked ass,” and go on to mention synth pop and MTV and Madonna, Michael Jackson, Bruce Springsteen, Prince, Duran Duran, Soft Cell, et al. on the one hand, and Ronald Reagan, Margaret Thatcher, the American government’s lack of an adequate response to AIDS, anti-Soviet cruise missiles in Europe, etc. etc. on the other. And of course, this hypothetical average American would be right: the 1980s in America was in fact an era in which corporate music (the “music industry”) bounced back from the setbacks it received in the late 1970s and reactionary politics (“Make America Great Again”) returned to dominate the nation’s economic, social and political decisions and actions. The 1960s – make that “the Sixties” because they lasted well in the 1970s – were finally over; the counterculture was dead; and now everything was “conservative.”

But this isn’t the whole story, of course, and it is unfortunate that many people might forget that the 1980s was also a period in which “hardcore” punk (very loud, stripped down and sped up guitar-driven punk) became quite popular among at least some portions of the nation’s youth – and I don’t mean “popular” in the sense of big record sales or frequent radio air play, but in the sense that young men and women, teens mostly, formed their own hardcore punk bands, recorded their own music, released their own recordings and arranged their own tours. And though there were some exceptions, of course, the politics of those bands – the politics that inspired them, that they made their own and practiced and espoused through their music, through their songs and their performances – were radical. Benchmark: the Dead Kennedys’ still relevant “Nazi Punks Fuck Off,” released in 1980.

One of the primary accomplishments (there are several) of Kevin Mattson’s book, *We’re Not Here to Entertain: Punk Rock, Ronald Reagan and THE REAL CULTURE WAR of 1980s America*, published in 2020 by Oxford University Press (hardcover only, but reasonably priced), is that it reminds us that the 1980s were much more complicated, inspiring and interesting than we might think or remember 40 years later. Mattson’s book fills a definite gap in our socio-cultural memory. A punk musician and political activist in his youth, he writes: “What’s not included [in the dominant narrative], of course, is the punk rock world that I and so many other kids inhabited. When discussed, it’s siloed into band

histories, insular and set apart from what else is happening in the eighties – or what are now [thought to be] Reagan’s eighties. And yet, the punk rock world and its multifaceted creativity – found in zines, movies, fiction, poetry, flyers, graffiti – didn’t just create things, it unleashed a culture war from below, one that aimed its sites on the entertainment industry -- corporate record labels, FM radio, ‘blockbuster’ movies, eventually MTV (all tying into one another through what corporate marketers liked to call ‘synergy’). Understanding this culture war bubbling up from below requires putting the punk rock world into the wider history of a fledgling music industry, which had hit the skids starting in 1979. It requires special attention to the way Reagan – best understood as the ‘entertainer in chief’ – hinged his presidency to the industry’s celebrity heroes like Michael Jackson, Bruce Springsteen, and Sylvester Stallone, among others [...]. I will tell a history of creativity coming from the ‘punk rock world’ – avoiding the standard story of one band biography after another – but also document its anger at a bloated entertainment industry and a president who equated governing with entertaining.”

Though Mattson doesn’t explicitly say so, this “culture war from below” is to be contrasted with the “culture war” waged from above by people like Patrick Buchanan and Edwin Meese (remember him?) against “liberals,” Hollywood, homosexuals and pornography.

Moving in chronological order, starting in 1979-1980, which was when “punk broke... and opened,” Mattson relates this history by alternating back and forth between developments in the world of Anglo American rock music (the waning of the English punk of 1977 and the beginnings of “post punk”) and the world of mainstream American culture and politics (the election and inauguration of Reagan). An excellent researcher and scholar, Mattson not only poured through university libraries and special collections, but also personally interviewed more than a dozen fellow participants (including yours truly) in what can only be called “the punk movement.” Through his narrative, bolstered by an extensive array of footnotes, indexes and lists (movies, books, articles, speeches, zines, newspapers and magazines), Mattson shows, he reminds us, that “the punk rock world” (a phrase he has borrowed from Kurt Cobain) wasn’t limited to the big coastal cities (New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco), but also extended into (indeed, was coming up out of) dozens of smaller cities and suburbs all over the country. And, though most commonly associated with straight white men, the punk rock world was in fact home to many women, Latinos, blacks, gay men and lesbians.

Paradoxically, one of the main weaknesses of the book is its understanding of the relationship between American hardcore punk and Ronald Reagan’s two terms as president. If “the way Reagan – best understood as the ‘entertainer in chief’ – hinged his presidency to the industry’s celebrity heroes” was in fact crucial to the emergence of this movement, why did it stop rather suddenly several years before Reagan left office? And how can we account for the fact that several crucial American punk bands (Black Flag, the Dead Kennedys, X and the Minutemen, for example) came into existence and released singles or albums before Reagan’s election in November 1980?

Mattson advances the thesis that American hardcore punk was in fact a response to some rather specific aspects of Reagan’s rhetoric during the 1980 presidential campaign and his first year in office: his militarism and bellicosity, and the possibility that he would start a war in Nicaragua (or in Europe against the

Russians) and then re-instate the draft, an action that would directly affect draft age men. Mattson speaks of “young male anxieties about Reagan’s victory”; he says that opposition to the Selective Service Act was “almost a first principle of punk protest”; he writes about a book that “showed how [the prospect of] nuclear war propelled so much punk anxiety”; he claims that in the early 1980s “punks were politicized by the reinstitution of Selective Service registration”; and he notes that “Reagan started his presidency by flip-flopping into supporting the Selective Service Act, promising to crack down on those who failed to register (cutting off financial aid for higher education for non-registrants and threatening ‘criminal proceedings’).” But all this places Mattson, or at least the portrait he’s painting of American hardcore punk, in an awkward position. It suggests that, rather than trying to change the world (or at least the world of entertainment), punks were simply protesting against what affected their own personal interests, that is to say, the personal interests of young men, not those of young women or anyone else who was not subject to the provisions of the Selective Service Act.

It seems to me far more likely that American hardcore punk and Reaganism coincided but weren’t in a cause and effect relationship: the former was triggered by the explosion of “classic” punk in England in 1976-1978 (this can be clearly seen in the first US punk bands, especially the Avengers, the Dead Kennedys and Black Flag) and that, as an aftershock, American punk was destined to have a short but very intense run, much like “grunge” in the early 1990s; and the latter took root in the discontent caused by the political and economic crises of the early 1970s, which the Reaganites blamed on the Democrats in particular and on the Sixties in general. Ironically, both of these movements disliked the Sixties, but for different reasons: for not going far enough or failing outright, in the case of the punks, and in going too far or succeeding, in the case of the Reaganites.

I mentioned that I was one of the people whom Mattson interviewed for his book. (Fans of amusing typos might enjoy the fact that this interview supposedly took place on July 28, 1917, not 2017.) I merited such attention because in the early 1980s – a fan of punk since 1977 (when I was 18) and a punk musician (drums) since 1979 – I wrote about the music for a variety of local newspapers and zines in Michigan. These articles were later collected in a self published anthology, which is how Kevin Mattson became aware of them.

In the course of reading about the origins and history of punk, I learned that several of the early British punks had been influenced by (among other things) the slogans, graphics and graffiti created by the Situationist International (SI), a European revolutionary group that was active between 1957 and 1972. I certainly wasn’t the first to point this out in print or try to teach the punk milieu more about the Situationists, who were not at all well known in the Anglo American world because they mostly wrote in French, German and Italian. It would appear from Mattson’s research that Claude Bessy (the bilingual editor of *Slash*) was the first, back in May 1978, when he marked the 10th anniversary of the May 1968 uprising in France, with which the Situationists were heavily involved. But my article “An Intro to the SI” – which was first published by *Maximum Rock’n’Roll* (an independent and nationally-distributed punk monthly) in 1984, and later included in an anthology of writings I’d published in my situ punk zine *NOT BORED!* – had the distinction of being the first introduction to the SI to be written after the publication of the *Situationist International Anthology* by French to English

translator Ken Knabb in 1981. In fact, it was in his review of this anthology that Greil Marcus first highlighted the important role Situationist ideas played in the lyrics, graphics and clothes created by the Sex Pistols and those around them, a theme he would develop several years later in *Lipstick Traces on a Cigarette: A Secret History of the Twentieth Century* (1989).

Though they weren’t anarchists, the Situationists shared anarchism’s rejection of leaders, hierarchies and experts, and its embrace of self managing do it yourself collectives. But what anarchism lacked, and what made the Situationists so attractive, both in their day and 10-15 years later, was their insistence on the importance of culture (commodified culture) in capitalist societies. According to the Situationists, because of historic changes in capitalism (the birth of “the consumer society”), radical politics could now fight its battles for a new society on both the older, “traditional” terrains (the workplace, the picket line and the battlefield) and the new, “modern” terrains of art, film, music and literature, as well. This insistence on the importance of culture in the maintenance and growth of capitalism was, of course, validated and confirmed by the way Ronald Reagan became and governed as president, by the way he turned governing into the production of spectacle.

The punks were also attracted to the Situationists’ insistence on the importance of everyday life – on the way one actually lived day to day, on the things one did when one wasn’t protesting or creating works of radical art – because such matters were essential to being a punk (that is to say, a penniless outsider) in the greed-crazed America of the 1980s. “Where can we get food cheaply or even for free? Where can we live cheaply or even for free? Do I really need to work for a living to pay for these things?” The answers to these questions were both practical and political: by dumpster diving and living in squatted buildings, by refusing to hold down a steady job, punks could live more authentic everyday lives and steer clear of what the Situationists called the “society of the spectacle” (all of life systematically turned into a spectator sport). According to Mattson, American punk musicians, artists and writers who were influenced or inspired by the Situationists included Raymond Pettibone, the Minutemen, Marian Kester, the Citizens for Non Linear Futures (Sharon Gannon and Sue Ann Harkey) and Positive Force (a group to which Mattson himself belonged).

“So some may say, by way of conclusion,” Mattson writes in his Epilogue, “that Reagan won the culture war of the 1980s. For sure, we live under his shadow. Who would deny the blaring [sic] fact that the wall between entertainment and politics is even more porous today than under Reagan, with so many of us getting our news from late night talk shows and having elected a president indebted to ‘reality television’?” Correction: Donald Trump destroyed that wall. But all this is somewhat beside the point: at least in America, the last aftershocks of the punk explosion of the late 1970s came in the early 1990s. That was 30 years ago – ever since then, punk has been pretty damn quiet. Yes, there are still punk bands, punk is still being played, but the punk movement – punk as a micro society, as an experiment in how to live an authentic life – has been dead for a long time.





# AL LANDESS (1967-2022)



**Al Landess (left) and Ned Lindsay (right) playing one of many shows in Tompkins Square Park**

**[On February 15, 2022, Lower East Side musician and good friend to us all, Al Landess, best known for fronting the punk band Hammerbrain, died. He would have been 55 years old on May 13. I first met Al during the Tompkins Square Police Riot on August 6, 1988, as we were running from rampaging cops. We were good friends from that point on. This loving memory was written by Al's childhood friend and bandmate Ned Lindsay - Chris.]**

I met Al in the summer of 1982. He had just moved from Irving, Texas, to Edisto Island, South Carolina, a semi-rural coastal community, south of Charleston, where my family lived. His parents were hoping their boy Allen would stay out of trouble there.

It didn't take long for us to find trouble to get into. We used to go into the woods and take the tops off peoples' weed plants. It was amazing we didn't get shot. Some of the trouble we got into was not of our own making. One night, we got car-jacked in Charleston, which had high crime then. I was driving and a gun was at Al's neck. We ended up with a long, sobering walk on John's Island that night.

Al's father Tom used to confiscate his bong on a more or less weekly basis, to which Al would respond by stealing it back. Finally, Tom put the bong under the wheels of his Fairmont and crushed it, leaving shards of purple glass mixed in with the gravel of the driveway.

From that driveway you could hear a steady stream of Al's future influences: Black Flag, the Circle Jerks, Social Distortion, The Partisans, Blitz, GBH, Discharge, The Sex Pistols, and the Clash, but also Judas Priest, UFO and Michael Schenker-blasting from the Panasonic Thrusters in his room.

There was a local hardcore band called Special Olympics. We saw them open up in the summer of 1983 for the Circle Jerks and the Dead Kennedys at Charleston

County Hall, which at that time was also a Worldwide Wrestling venue. After the Special Olympics broke up, we started our first band with their drummer, Dave Ring, and called it Civilian Chaos Corps, or CCC. Al was the guitarist and our singer was Joe "Skate" Hopke [RIP]. Within two years, we opened up for Corrosion of Conformity in Myrtle Beach, SC, for DOA (Vancouver) in Charlotte, and did a show in Charleston with GG Allin.

In 1985, Al moved to NYC to live with his girlfriend, Isadora. She hid him in her Parsons dorm on Union Square. In December, Al came down to Charleston and talked me into quitting my job and the new band I had started with Dave Ring, and moving up north. We got on a cheap People's Express flight. It just so happened that Greg and Elyse from Raging Slab were at the airport that day. We had a great conversation with them as we headed to The City.

In 1986, uptown on Broadway, we each had Single Room Occupancy (SRO), the ones where you shared a bathroom with other people on the same floor. They were painted yellow with brown trim and the hallways smelled like curry cooked on hot plates in peoples' rooms. Rent was \$250 a month. During this time, I filled in on bass for Circle Kaos, a Texas band whose drummer and bass player had gone home. Glenn Kearney was the replacement drummer and we got to be friends. In Circle Kaos, Glenn and I played a matinee at CBGB with Nausea and PMS, and another show at Tin Pan Alley. By the end of 1986, the as-yet-unnamed Hammerbrain had started as a three-piece, with me on bass, Glenn on drums, Al singing and playing guitar.

In 1987, Al and I got an apartment on East Third and Avenue C. Sergio Vega (Absolution, Quicksand, Deftones) got Al to play guitar in a band called Trauma with John John from Nausea on drums, and Dan from the fanzine Smash Apathy singing. It was a really good band, but we only played two shows. Hammerbrain (which was the name we had settled on by then) and Al's job at Village Copier took a lot of Al's time.

Sergio found his way into Absolution, and Nausea had gotten really popular, so Trauma didn't last. By year's end, we had our first Hammerbrain recordings done, with one song coming out in 1988, on On the Rag Records with Roadkill and Tracy Lords' Ex-Lovers, Asian Doll, and Cheap, which came out on singles later. There were others that never saw the light of day. We did Rosa's Birthday Scumfest in Brooklyn with Da Willys, Knockout James, Public Nuisance, Porno Dracula, White Mans Grave and Morfiends from Philly. Then we went down to Philly with Knockout James and Public Nuisance to play at The Asylum. Al played drums in

White Man's Grave, which featured Ilene (now Corey) Solar, Jenny Lush (RIP) on vocals, Charles Lear on guitar, and me on bass. It was a different kind of beast, moody and chaotic.

In 1988, Al turned 21. Shortly thereafter, we got evicted from Third and C. Johnny Stiff booked a show at Hanks Crystal Palace on the Bowery, where we played with Damage, Nausea and Porno Dracula. He booked us another one at the Anthrax in Connecticut with Sacred Denial and we went there in Anthony Trance's school bus. A woman named Miriam Bendahan (now known as M. Best Known as the PUNK Rock Girl in the Dead Milkmen video) got us a show at the NYU Loeb Student Center opening for Gutterboy, which featured Ditto from Major Conflict and Johnny Feedback from Kraut.

Also in 1988, John Fastlane booked a bunch of bands at the Scümfest at CBGB. Some of these were Da Willys, Hammerbrain and Porno Dracula. Mike Alba, from The Press, joined Hammerbrain that summer on guitar. That summer, the Lower East Side was gripped by gentrification, culminating with the Tompkins Square Riot on the night of August 6, in which hundreds of cops from all over the city beat people inside and outside of the park. Al and I were both arrested. He was beaten quite badly. A month or two later, we played a show with Nausea, the Radicts and Public Nuisance at the Lismar Lounge. The soon-to-be-released Crooked Edge documentary captures this period well. Late that fall, we played The World with Blitzspeer, Raging Slab and Sea Monster (Stephen Sprouse Aids Benefit). New Year's Eve, we played Downtown Beirut 2 with Da Willys, Rogon and others.

In 1989, Mike Alba teamed up with Fastlane to bring in more bands for the next two Scümfests. Hammerbrain played with George Tabb, Fastlane, Richie Stotts' band (formerly of Plasmatics), Walter Lure (RIP) and the Waldos, PMS and Cheeta Chrome's Ghetto Dogs. A couple months later, we played with The Senders and Walter Lure and the Waldos. It was great to hear Walter's stories about touring in Britain with the Sex Pistols and the Clash on the 1977 Anarchy Tour.

We played at an epic Squat or Rot show for Ralphie Boy at The World late that summer. At various times, Al lived in one of the squats on 13th Street and at C-Squat, where he met Joanie, who would become his life partner for almost 30 years. Al's connection to squatting was very real. That fall, the chickens came home to roost for the Hammerbrain lifestyle. Al and I both left town to clean up. Al went down to the DC area, where his folks were and ended up driving a cab. I was gone until February and he came back in June 1990.

In 1990, Al got a job at Benny's Burritos on Avenue A, working his way from making deliveries to manager. Little did he know he would spend more than two decades there! Many years later, two of his co-workers got Al to get ordained so he could marry them. Joanie says that "lines of people off and on all night would be asking Al for money and/or food and he gave to them all, which would leave himself with barely any tips at the end of the night. THAT'S how incredibly generous he was. He was so popular at Benny's he had many regulars who would specifically ask to sit in his section and often bring him gifts, especially on holidays."

In 1991, Al was subpoenaed as a witness in the trial of the notorious Daniel Rakowitz, who had been arrested for murdering dance student Monika Beerle and cooking her remains. Months later, we did a show at Flannery's with Yuppicide and the Devil Dogs.

2000 saw Hammerbrain's

music included in two films: Katrina Del Mar's Gang Girls 2000, which has become a cult classic, and Goddass, written and directed by Esther Bell, a coming-of-age story

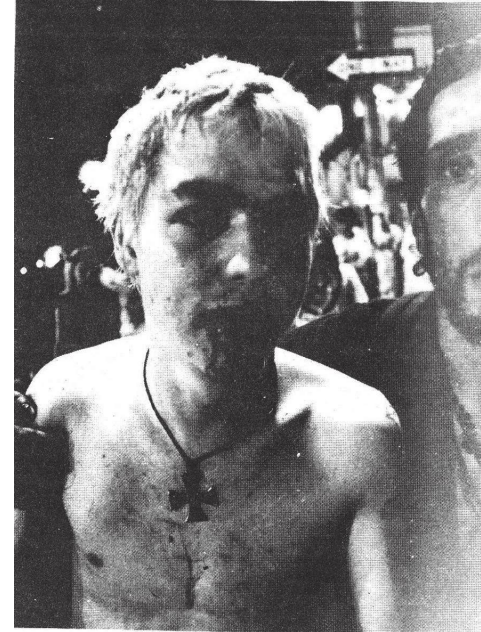
which has a video clip of Hammerbrain included in it. That year, Hammerbrain played at Joey Ramone's birthday party and we opened up for Richard Butler's (Psychedelic Furs) Love Spit Love. Glen Kearney (drums) moved to Seattle and the band went on hiatus until 2009, at which time, my brother David Lindsay picked up drum duties.

From 2009-2019, Hammerbrain (or their alter ego Damn Kids) could be seen every summer at Chris Flash's Shows in Tompkins Square Park, as well as shows up and down the east coast.

In 2016, *New York Rock: From The Rise of the Velvet Underground to the Fall of CBGB* was published. In it Steven Blush writes:

'Hammerbrain, a nasty LES quartet, revolves around snarly Al Landess... George Tabb from NY Press picked them (as) New York's Best Unsigned Band. Joey Ramone raved, 'They'll blow your brains out'. The Kings of New York Scum Rock...'

In 2019, Damn Kids opened up for the



**Al Landess bloodied by riot cops during Tompkins Square Police Riot on August 6, 1988**  
[Photo by Peter LeVasseur]

Pork Dukes (UK) on their final world tour at Bowery Electric and, as Hammerbrain, played at Berlin with Tracy City, which was to be our final show. Under the name Damn Kids, the band recorded tracks that were released at:

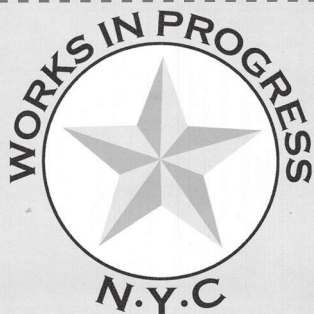
<https://damnkids.bandcamp.com/>

For years, Al also played and sang alongside Joe Hurley at his annual St. Patrick's Day Party, which he loved. This assembly of musicians played at larger venues, even Lincoln Center. I am always finding out about other projects Al was involved in. He loved to play music and made it look easy.

Joanie says that Al had a genius IQ and that he "put his talents to his music. Any instrument Al picked up, he was able to play very quickly. He absolutely loved his friends and family and would literally give you his last dollar."

I will miss our friendship, which was more like having a brother that I chose, just as much as I'll miss collaborating with him creatively.

**-Ned Lindsay**



• CUSTOM T-SHIRT PRINTING

• GRAPHIC DESIGN

• INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS

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10003



The Virus Cometh  
Continued From Page 8

result of an accidental release from the lab. According to Field, biological laboratories are never perfectly safe, whether in China, or in the United States. In fact, there have been a constant stream of stories claiming that Lyme disease escaped from a U.S. lab on Plum Island, off the north shore on Long Island. An article in Nature magazine in 2020 claimed that, although COVID was probably not a bio-weapon, there have been accidental releases of viruses, including the deadly SARS virus. Field says, "Labs aren't air-tight," emphasizing that there have been many safety issues in the United States and that it is wrong to label the coronavirus as the "China virus." Whatever happened at Wuhan, identifying a virus with an ethnic or national group, is "incredibly dangerous," because it "stigmatizes everyone walking around who looks Chinese."

Elizabeth Eaves is author of "Hot Zone in the Heartland" and is also published in the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientist. She tells **The SHADOW** that a years-long debate over the National Bio and Agro Defense Facility opening this summer in Manhattan, Kansas, in the middle of cattle country, raises questions about the safety of American bio-defense laboratories. Construction of the federal lab, that has been in the works for 15 years, ended in mid-June. The \$1.25 billion animal and zoonotic disease lab is a partnership between the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Agriculture, which will take ownership of the facility when commissioning is complete. Officials are now performing safety drills and inspections, which include everything from basic evacuation drills to complex system evaluations.

The facility faced one real life test in June, 2022, when a storm produced tornadoes with 100 mph winds that passed through the area. A spokesperson for the lab told reporters that in the event of a tornado, air pressure sensors would detect the rapid pressure change that comes with a tornado or extremely high winds and would trigger an automatic shutdown. He said that officials can also do a manual shutdown.

The Kansas facility, like its Wuhan counterpart, is also a bio-safety Level 4 laboratory. Level 4 is the highest of bio-security precautions, used for diagnostic work and research on easily-transmitted pathogens which can cause fatal disease.

Science fiction fans may remember the film Andromeda Strain, in which scientists are locked in a Level 4 laboratory with a deadly pathogen brought back from space by a NASA mission. In that film, the heroes have to prevent a nuke from destroying the lab in order to prevent the germs from escaping.

Eaves says it is accepted that the coronavirus came from bats, based on what she says is "pretty strong consensus" among scientists. She says that humans have been ranging deeper into animal habitats, like the Amazon and African rainforests, encountering what are called zoonotic diseases, that jump from animals to humans.

The response to the uptick in new microbes has been a proliferation of bio-safety Level 4 labs around the world studying these diseases. High security labs require suiting up with protective gear, breathing systems, multiple layers of rubber gloves and strict protocols for entering or leaving the facility.

Traditionally, a lot of work with dangerous microbes has been carried out in remote locations like Plum Island, where a slightly less restrictive Level 3 lab experimented on animal diseases. These labs

were originally built on islands because it was recognized that they needed higher security. The danger is real. In 2007, an outbreak of foot and mouth disease leaked from a British lab, prompting local farmers to slaughter 600 head of cattle. The facility was being run by the government's Institute for Animal Health and a private pharmaceutical company. Although the disease was isolated, it could have destroyed the UK beef industry if it had not been contained. Leading opponents of the Kansas facility, in the middle of cattle country, wonder what would happen to the US beef industry if a similar virus got loose.

In June 2022, in a heated exchange between Kentucky Senator Rand Paul and White House coronavirus advisor and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases [NIAID] head Dr. Anthony Fauci, Paul pressed Fauci on the COVID vaccine. "What if new variants of COVID evade vaccination efforts?" Paul asked sarcastically. "Is that proof that we should give ten boosters?" While Fauci called Paul's assertion "absurd," Paul pressed on: "Everybody on the vaccine committee, have any of them ever received money from the people who make vaccines? Can you tell me that?" The debate was a continuation of an earlier exchange between the two when Paul asked Fauci: "Do you really think it is appropriate to use your \$420,000 salary to attack scientists that disagree with you?" Fauci responded with a claim that Paul's questions about funding and money had prompted death threats against him and his family. Fauci denied personally receiving significant royalties from drug companies, but he did not answer repeated questions about how much money others were making from their research.

Meanwhile, in 2021, deforestation in Brazil rose to a 12 year high. That promoted a deal to spend several billions of dollars to protect rain forests there. A similar deal, called the New York Declaration on Forests, signed by 40 countries in 2014, has failed to stem deforestation. Global Forest Watch reports that since 2000, around 10 percent of world tree cover has been lost.

Brazil alone has witnessed a 92 percent rise in deforestation since Jair Bolsonaro, known as the "Trump of the tropics," became President in January 2019. Brazil is not alone. Indonesia has experienced the biggest decline in primary tropical forest loss, at 31 percent, in the last decade. Argentina has lost half its rain forests. Vietnam has lost 15 percent and the Ivory Coast in West Africa has lost 30 percent. The only country to stop its rain forests from being destroyed is the Central American nation of Costa Rica.

An official in India was succinct: "Our stand is that any commitment to the environment and climate change should not involve any reference to trade." In other words, protecting forests is not as important as expanding India's economy. So the deforestation of the globe marches on.

As fears that the proxy war brewing between the United States and Russia threatens to escalate into a worldwide conflict, can treaties be depended on to keep the bio-warfare genie in the bottle?

[Paul DeRienzo is news director at WBAI 99.5 FM in New York City. You can listen at paulderienzo.com.]



SHADOW BOOK REVIEW  
THE REAL ANTHONY FAUCI:  
Bill Gates, Big Pharma, and the Global War  
on Democracy and Public Health,  
by Robert F. Kennedy Jr.  
(Skyhorse Publishing, 2021)  
Review by Chris Flash

The introduction written by Robert F. Kennedy Jr to his book *THE REAL ANTHONY FAUCI* [published by Sky Horse Publishing in 2021] reads like an opening argument in a criminal proceeding or a civil suit, such as RFK Jr. has made in any number of legal actions and litigation he has brought against any number of governmental and corporate polluters in his role as an environmental law attorney, from the 1980s through the present. As laid out by RFK, Jr, "Over his 50 year career as a government bureaucrat, Dr. Fauci has consistently served the interests of himself, Big Pharma and the military – while failing the American public." Here's how:

- Failed dismally over his 50 year career with the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases [NIAID] to address the cause, prevention and cures for the exploding epidemic of allergies and chronic disease.
- Sabotaged safe and effective off-patent therapeutic treatments for AIDS.
- Violated federal laws to allow his pharma partners to use impoverished and dark skinned children as lab rats in deadly experiments with toxic AIDS and cancer chemotherapies.
- Will personally profit from sales of Moderna's COVID vaccine, co-developed by Moderna and NIAID.
- Promotes "agency capture" – the subversion of democracy and public health by the drug industry.
- Partnered with the Pentagon to approve taxpayer funded "gain-of-function" experiments to breed pandemic superbugs in poorly regulated labs in Wuhan, China and elsewhere, under conditions that almost certainly guaranteed the escape of weaponized microbes like SARS-CoV-2."

Under Fauci's watch, RFK Jr. says, his subservience to Big Ag, Big Food and Big Pharma companies has left kids "drowning in a toxic soup of pesticide residues, corn syrup and processed foods, while also serving as pin cushions for 69 mandated vaccine doses by age 18, none of them properly tested." Describing 82-year-old Fauci as "the J. Edgar Hoover of public health," RFK Jr. reveals that "Fauci, government health regulators and social media and media collectively participated in an assault against free speech and personal freedoms to generate fear, promote obedience, discourage critical thinking and herd 7 billion people to march to a single tune." Sure enough, internet searches for RFK Jr. link him to "anti-vaccine propaganda" and describe him as "promoting conspiracy theories" because he has dared to take a stand against the prevailing narrative that pushes expensive ineffective inoculations with serious side effects over cheap and effective treatments and protocols that have been used safely for many decades. Accordingly, in February 2021, under the claim that he was engaging in "anti-vaccination propaganda," RFK Jr.'s Twitter account was blocked -- in September 2021, his YouTube channel was shut down. RFK Jr. reveals that Big Tech, including Oracle, MicroSoft and other government industry collaborators "used the lockdown to accelerate construction of their 5g network of satellites, antennae, bio-metric facial recognition and 'track and trace' infrastructure that they and their government and intelligence agency partners can use to mine and monetize our data, further suppress dissent, to compel obedience to arbitrary dictates and to manage the rage

Continued On Page 21

DO YOU KNOW...  
THE REAL ANTHONY FAUCI ?

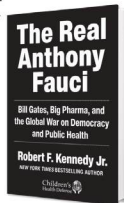
While the media presents Anthony Fauci as the soft spoken, reluctant hero of the pandemic, his **50 year history** as a **government bureaucrat** paints a much darker picture. Rife with **scandal, kickbacks,** and **suppression of treatments,** his tenure saw our public health establishments **increasingly fail** our country and its people.



DURING HIS LONG CAREER FAUCI...

- ☒ **Sabotaged** safe and effective off-patent therapeutic treatments for **AIDS** and again for SARS-CoV-2 with **fraudulent studies** and **manipulated data.** In the case of SARS-CoV-2, this was done to **advance and coerce a vaccine-only policy.**
- ☒ **Violated federal laws** to allow his pharma partners to use impoverished and **dark-skinned children as lab rats** in deadly experiments for years. If the news of his **tortuous experiments on beagles** upset you, wait until you learn what he's done to children.
- ☒ **Stands to personally profit** from sales of Moderna's COVID vaccine. Fauci changed NIAID from a world-class regulator into a product incubator for Big Pharma by developing new drugs and vaccines for which he, his agency, and his employees often share patents and royalties.

Learn about Anthony Fauci's **dark history in public health management** in the brand new bestseller *The Real Anthony Fauci*, written by Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. In this **meticulously researched book,** RFK, Jr. **dismantles the mainstream narrative** and exposes Anthony Fauci for the **dangerous charlatan** that he is. Scan the QR code to the right to learn more.





# SONNY BARGER (1938 - 2022)

By Paul DeRienzo

Notorious biker, 1960s icon and book author Sonny Barger died on June 29 after a short bout of cancer. He was 83. Ralph Hubert “Sonny” Barger Jr founded the Oakland, California chapter of the Hell’s Angels Motorcycle Club in 1957. He spent in all 10 years in prison on drug charges. He considered himself a “survivor,” having survived prison, getting shot, stabbed and beating throat cancer. He lived life his way. I met Sonny Barger in front of the NYC Chapter of the Hell’s Angels’ headquarters on East Third Street in the summer of 1999. He gave me 99% freedom to ask what I wanted, but I knew not to be disrespectful. Sonny would probably agree that he mellowed over the years.

When I interviewed him, he was opposed to the Iraq War, thought drugs should be legalized and felt that cops were bigger bullies than any Angel. He was good friends with Jerry Garcia of the Grateful Dead, thought Hunter S. Thompson was a great writer, even if he did hide in the trunk of a car during a police raid, but he never forgave the gonzo journalist for not providing the keg of beer he promised. Barger rode his first motorcycle more than 60 years ago. He was a Hell’s Angel for half a century - he said he wouldn’t have traded it for the world.

What follows is our interview from 1999, along with an introduction:

Ralph “Sonny” Barger is one of he best known players in the drama of the 60s. Whether hanging out with his good friend Jerry Garcia of the Grateful Dead, allegedly holding Rolling Stone Keith Richards at gunpoint during the debacle at Altamont or taking on the anti Vietnam war movement in Oakland, Barger and the Angels were witnesses to the 60s counterculture. Barger also fought the law; sometimes he lost and sometimes he won, like his victory over the federal government in their famous but failed racketeering prosecution against Barger and the Angels.

Although Barger says he didn’t start the Angels, he has come to personify the Hell’s Angels and what they are about. Starting out with a bunch of vets who missed their wartime motorcycle exploits and longed for the camaraderie of the road, the Angels have become the most notorious motorcycle club in the world. Their lifestyle has been documented in some of America’s most popular books and movies. Many, even some in law enforcement, have tried to copy the Angel’s style. But like them or not there is only one Hell’s Angel Motorcycle Club and only one Sonny Barger.

PAUL DERIENZO: What would you be doing today if you hadn’t been a Hell’s Angel?

BARGER: When I got out of the army in ‘56, in the San Francisco area, I lived in Oakland, I had the choice of becoming a beatnik or a motorcycle rider. I fortunately chose motorcycles. Had I become a beatnik, they sort of faded out into the hippies and the hippies sort of faded out, so I probably wouldn’t have been anything. I don’t know, that’s a question there’s no real answer to, you can only surmise.

PD: The 60s were a time of rebellion. Were the Hell’s Angels rebels?

BARGER: I don’t think we’re rebelling against anything. All we’re doing is trying to live our lives, ride our motorcycles and have fun. When people try to stop us, we react to whatever is happening at the time.

PD: Are you retiring or changing your life? BARGER: I’m not retiring. I bought a new bike, a new Harley last month and I got 6,500 miles on it already. I closed my shop in Glendale, Arizona and I’m opening up one in Phoenix. I added a little more into my life by moving to Arizona. I’ve got a new wife, I’ve got a kid, I’ve got five horses, three dogs, three cats. I got a busy life.

PD: What are the Hell’s Angels about? Is it

a men’s club?

BARGER: It’s definitely a men’s club. It’s a fun lovin’ group of motorcyclists who like to ride around the country, having fun and doing it with their friends.

PD: Has anyone tried to become the first woman to ride with the Angels?

BARGER: We had a woman in Ventura, California that actually was going to try and take us to court and be a member. But, we don’t get any money from the government; they can’t make us do anything. Even if they could we wouldn’t do it.

PD: Why is it so important to have a men’s club?

BARGER: Because that’s the way we wanted it. And we don’t need no other reason. I was at a Libertarian convention in Aspen, Colorado and this lady who was married to an ex cop asked me, “How does it feel to walk in a room and have every man in that room look at you and wish he was you?” I said that I’m not really sure that happens, but that makes me feel good that you think that. . . but I’m not sure that happens. She said, “Sonny, I guarantee you there’s not a man in this room that hasn’t run into a problem at one time or another in his life where he didn’t say, ‘If I was a Hell’s Angel I could take care of that.’”

PD: You guys don’t back down, It’s in your book and it’s true. That could be a dangerous way of life.

BARGER: There’s a lot of us who have died for it.

PD: Why is it so important not to back down?

BARGER: Because that’s the kind of people we are. That’s what draws us together. We stick together; we defend each other, to the death if it’s necessary. Every once in a while we get a rat and its just really too bad. There ain’t been that many over the fifty years of the club, but they have been. The government sneaking those rats into the club is not going to make me distrust my friends or be disloyal to them. Just like I did with the rat who put me in prison for five years the last time. If he’s a club member I’m going to back him right down the line. If it turns out he’s an informant and he can set me up and fabricate a crime and put me in jail for it, so be it, I’m still a Hell’s Angel in prison.

PD: What’s your attitude towards drugs?

BARGER: I don’t feel drugs should be illegal. I don’t think people should take drugs every day, but I don’t see any difference with people taking drugs like they drink. Take drugs on Saturday night and go to a party and have a good time and have somebody drive you home or whatever it is so you don’t hurt anybody else, that’s fine. But if you wake up Monday morning and take ‘em again you’re a drug addict. But, they should be legal. The government puts people like me and others, in jail for 20 and 40 and hundreds of years for using drugs that they say is really bad, but they let us smoke and it kills 400,000 people a year. I was one of ‘em it almost killed. I think everybody should have the choice, the same as helmets. You should be able to say whether you want to wear one or not. The government is intervening into our lives a little too much.

PD: What do you feel about a hero of mine, Jerry Garcia?

BARGER: Jerry Garcia was a very good friend of mine. Jerry and I got along well, Jerry and the club got along well. I love Jerry’s 60s music; I didn’t like Jerry’s 90s music. I would go to a concert and he would get the band to play a song just for me and I’d say “Jerry it stinks, you got to go back,” and he would get so mad, but he loved us.

PD: You took LSD in your youth, do you still take it?

BARGER: I took a lot of LSD and I wasn’t really young, I was in my 30s. I never really



Paul DeRienzo (left) and Sonny Barger (right)

liked pot; I never liked whites, which they took before speed. I never liked speed because the smallest amount of speed in the world would keep me up for three days. But I found LSD, I liked LSD and I took it until I didn’t want it any more. I took cocaine until I woke up doing life in prison.

PD: What was it like the first time you did LSD?

BARGER: It was really a trip. I put it in my book. What happened was my first wife and I both took some -- and after about an hour I told her I thought we got burned, and I was going to have to find these guys. I went in the bathroom, and I’m standing over the urinal and there’s the shelf there, and I’m taking a leak, and I’m looking up. There’s a box of Yogi Bear bubble bath, and Yogi Bear jumped off of the box and started chasing a cat around the box that jumped off the box also. I said ‘Elsie come here’ and she said ‘What?’ I told her we didn’t get burned you’ll see it in a minute.

PD: Did the Angel’s have anything to do with breaking Timothy Leary from prison?

BARGER: Absolutely not. Timothy Leary’s group did that. I ended up with Timothy Leary in Folsom prison and Timmy thought it was a really big joke till he ended up in Folsom prison. He knew that he was in the wrong place. He said ‘wait a minute, I’ll tell you everything you want to know’ and he started informing on everyone who helped him break out.

PD: Informants, obviously it’s an issue that concerns you.

BARGER: I don’t like informants anymore than I like policemen.

PD: What is it about cops that you hate?

BARGER: The cops lie, cheat, steal and stick guns in my kids’ mouths and say they’re going to kill ‘em if we don’t tell them what they want. They put masks on, they raid our houses and I just don’t like people like that. I treat people the way I want to be treated, and then I treat them in return the way they treat me. Cops just don’t like to be treated that bad.

PD: Why do they target you and the Angels?

BARGER: They say we’re organized crime, but if you took every Hell’s Angel on the face of the earth and got rid of them you wouldn’t drop the crime rate in the world one tenth of one percent. We’re a little drop in the bucket. There’s more cops committing crimes than Hell’s Angels. They do an awful lot of bad things under the color of law.

PD: A lot of cops are into motorcycles. BARGER: We have all these cops who are riding motorcycles that are dressing like us and we’re running into them -- we’re having problems with them. I had problems with ‘em in California; they’ve had problems with ‘em here in New York. They want to look like Hell’s Angels, they want to act like Hell’s Angels, and they carry guns. If they want to act like us, get out in the middle of the street and box us. Don’t talk about how they’re going to stop us and give us tickets.

PD: What about the use of Nazi regalia by some Angels?

BARGER: The way it started in America with the Hell’s Angels was like really funny. I was going to buy a belt; a guy gave me a German belt that his father had brought home from the war. It had a swastika on it and I wore it, somebody said something about it, I made a crack about it being the right way to be. And it just generated. But, look around today you don’t see it no more. Not on Hell’s Angels. You might see it on other motorcyclist but you don’t see it on Hell’s Angels. Remember the Germans who killed our fathers are now our allies and we have hundreds of members in Germany.

PD: What do think about Hunter S. Thompson?

BARGER: I don’t like Hunter S. Thompson as a person. He’s probably the greatest writer in the world. When he was with us on a run, we was going to fight the cops one day, and he locked himself in the trunk of his car. That guy ain’t my friend. He’s not going to help me; he’s going to run and leave me there when he’s supposed to help us. He also didn’t take care of what he was supposed to do. All we told him was buy us a keg of beer, and he didn’t do it. He’s offered to do it later, but we don’t want it now. He didn’t do it when he was supposed to.

PD: What about the beating he got by some Angels?

BARGER: He got beat up by us, but he set that up. After the book was all done he come around us and said, ‘can I go on a run with ya?’ He got in an argument with a guy, he caused a fight, he got beat up and the cover of the book said “I met, I lived with and I was almost killed by...” What a guy. I’m glad I didn’t have to do that for the cover of my book.

PD: What about the Rolling Stones. Altamont is like the hippies’ big downfall.

BARGER: They say that was the end of the Age of Aquarius, but actually to us, it’s just another day in the life of a Hell’s Angel. A guy pulled a gun on us, he got killed and that’s the bottom line. We got movies of him shooting at us, we got movies of him getting killed and nobody went to

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Sonny Barger



Continued From Page 3

in order to develop a vaccine or drug to combat it. Keep in mind, though, that (1) evolution will take its own course and there is no reason to believe that the mutations introduced in the lab will necessarily correspond to those that are brewing in nature, and (2) the GoF experiment will have brought a pathogen into the world that did not exist before. Scientists are accused of playing god, but with some of these GoF experiments, they are really playing Satan, and, as we will see, the devil is in the details.

PLAYING CAT AND MOUSE WITH NATURE

The spike protein of coronaviruses is the one that interacts with receptors on the host cell (receptor-binding domain, or RBD). At Utrecht University in the Netherlands in 1999, researchers swapped the receptor-binding domain of a coronavirus specific to cats with that of a coronavirus specific to mice, and vice versa. They then tested each of the viruses in tissue culture with cat and mouse cells, respectively, noting that the tropism, or specificity, of the RBDs for animal cells of a particular species, had been reversed. This was the first and probably least disturbing of the many GoF experiments involving the spike proteins of various coronaviruses.

The feline coronavirus (FCoV) is present in 20% to 60% of the cat population. It is more common in cats that spend part of their lives housed in indoor shelters than it is in either completely feral cats or in house cats. Generally, FCoV is associated with mild gastrointestinal symptoms in cats, because the virus has an attraction or ‘tropism’ for receptors present in the intestine. However, in a relatively small percentage of infected cats, CoV undergoes a spontaneous mutation that changes the tropism of the spike protein “binding domain” to attach to a receptor on the animal’s macrophages, a fundamental type of immune cell necessary for disease resistance.

The viruses that have mutated are no longer called FCoV, but feline infectious peritonitis virus (FIPV), and cause an inflammation of the mucus membranes lining the cat’s abdominal cavity, resulting either in the accumulation of massive amounts of fluid or the spread of deadly tumors called granulomas, made up of abnormal macrophages, through the animal’s abdominal cavity, resulting in painful death within a few days or weeks.

Because the spontaneous transition between the less pathogenic FCoV and the deadly FIPV is an example of a natural “gain-of-function” event, this virus was one of the first to attract the attention of researchers interested in manipulating gain-of-function as a research tool for establishing how a virus, at first non-pathogenic for a particular species, can become pathogenic.

The first such experiment was performed in 2000 at the David Axelrod Institute, which is part of the Wadsworth Center in Albany, New York, a vast research complex maintained by the New York State Department of Health. Dr. Kuo and colleagues summarize their work like so: “Using targeted RNA recombination, we constructed a mutant of the coronavirus mouse hepatitis virus (MHV) in which the ectodomain of the spike glycoprotein (S) was replaced with the highly divergent ectodomain of the S protein of feline infectious peritonitis virus. The resulting chimeric virus, designated fMHV, acquired the ability to infect feline cells and simultaneously lost the ability to infect murine cells in tissue culture.”

Their work was reproduced in the Netherlands in 2003 by Bert Jan Haijema, Haukeliene Volders, and Peter J. M. Rottier: “We first constructed by targeted recombina-

tion a mutant of FIPV, designated mFIPV, in which the ectodomain of the spike glycoprotein was replaced by that of MHV. This switch allowed for the selection of the recombinant virus in murine cells: mFIPV grows to high titers in these cells but has lost the ability to grow in feline cells. In a second, reverse process, mFIPV was used as the recipient, and the reintroduction of the FIPV spike now allowed for selection of candidate recombinants by their regained ability to grow in feline cells.”

Haijema et al. determined the virulence of their recombinant mouse-to-cat virus by inoculating it oronasally into



DANNY HELLMAN

nine five-month-old kittens, three out of four of which were euthanized due to advanced symptoms of feline infectious peritonitis between weeks 2 and 6 after inoculation. As an aside, the victims of this cruel experiment were “healthy, female, specific-pathogen-free HsdCpd:CAD(BR) kittens” (meaning that they were inbred and raised in a germ-free bubble) supplied by Harlan Sprague Dawley, Inc., a company repeatedly attacked by animal rights activists.

FURIN-CLEAVAGE SITE: THE MAKER’S MARK

FECV/FIPV is an alphacoronavirus, but the SARS viruses, including the pathogen identified in COVID-19, SARS-CoV-2, are betacoronaviruses. For this reason, nobody suggests that the FECV/FIPV experiments were at the origin of SARS-CoV-2. However, these early experiments already raise questions that reflect on the natural versus laboratory origin of SARS-CoV-2.

As described herein, the spike protein of SARS-CoV-2 includes a furin-cleavage site which interacts with an enzyme called furin that is found in human respiratory tissues, and when the furin cleaves this part of the protein, a new receptor is made available to the virus, which is thus enabled to target respiratory tissues in people. Licitra et al. pointed out in their 2013 article in Emerging Infectious Diseases (Mutation in Spike Protein Cleavage Site and Pathogenesis of Feline Coronavirus) that it is a mutation in the furin-cleavage site that results in the transition from the nonpathogenic FECV to the highly infectious FIPV. The furin-cleavage site of FECV, without the mutation, is activated only in the intestinal epithelium, whereas the mutated furin-cleavage site enables the virus to attack macrophages,

front line immune cells that travel through the entire body. It was in these experiments that molecular biologists learned to use a furin-cleavage site as a kind of switch to selectively turn the pathogenicity of a virus on and off depending on the species and tissue.

Once again, we must remember why gain-of-function experiments are described as “dual-use,” both medical and potentially military: simply substitute the word “trigger” for “switch” in the previous sentence.

In 2011-2012, researchers at the University of Wisconsin Madison engineered a new strain of influenza H5N1 virus (which is not classed as a coronavirus), the normal strain of which affects birds and occasionally humans, that encoded a gene for the hemagglutinin protein, enabling it to infect the cells of mammals with greater effi-

a switch or trigger to target coronaviruses from one kind of tissue to another, based on the availability of furin in those tissues. SARS-CoV-1, the agent of the 2002 SARS outbreak, does not contain a furin-cleavage site.

What we have made clear so far is that SARS-CoV-2 sprang into the world fully able to pass from human-to-human with great virulence in a way that would be very atypical assuming a natural adaptation from bat-to-human. Generally, a virus starts out less adapted and becomes more adapted with time. Furthermore, there is no candidate among natural bat viruses for a “missing link” in natural evolution that has even been suggested as the bat precursor of the human-adapted SARS-CoV-2. This last statement, of course, needs to be qualified by saying that the missing link need not have come from nature in this age of genetic engineering, particularly if ground zero is in the city of Wuhan, in proximity to one of the world’s great centers of gain-of-function experimentation.

And thus, here is the main hypothesis of this article. The missing link is somewhere in a freezer at the Wuhan Institute of Virology. If someone were to revive it, it would turn out only to infect bats; the molecular hardware that targets it to humans was added via genetic engineering at the Institute. It was one of a number of bat viruses that were brought to Wuhan and subjected to gain-of-function experimentation supposedly to demonstrate how the bat-to-human transition would or could occur, with the arrogant but noble aim of heading it off with a vaccine, before it even evolved. The money for this experimentation did not come entirely from China, but also from the United States, via a grant from the NIH [National Institutes of Health] to something called the “EcoHealth Alliance,” a driving force in the use of GoF experiments to study emerging viruses.

WHAT WERE THEY DOING AT THE WUHAN INSTITUTE OF VIROLOGY?

In an article by Nicholas Wade in Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists (May 5, 2021), Nobel prize-winning virologist David Baltimore referred to the furin-cleavage site of SARS-CoV-2 as the “smoking gun” for the laboratory origin of the virus. He later walked this statement back to: “I believe that the question of whether the sequence was put in naturally or by molecular manipulation is very hard to determine, but I wouldn’t rule out either origin.”

SARS-CoV-2 also exhibits, if not a smoking gun, at least a molecular fingerprint, that identifies it with a gain-of-function experiment. As Stephen Quay and Richard Muller discuss in their October 5, 2021 article in the Wall Street Journal, part of the way that the spike protein of SARS-CoV-2 differs from that of other coronaviruses, including SARS-CoV-1, is that in the amino acid sequence of the SARS-CoV-2 version of the spike protein, there are two copies of the amino acid arginine in a row, whereas in SARS-CoV-1 and other coronaviruses, the sequence contains only one arginine. Did the second arginine simply “evolve” naturally in a bat or some other organism, or was it engineered into the spike protein in order to impart a particular feature that a scientist wished to see? Quay and Muller point to the DNA coding for the two arginines—it is “CGG CGG” (cytosine guanine guanine repeated twice). There are actually 36 different ways for DNA to code for two successive arginines, and for both of the arginines to have the same three DNA bases in their “codon” is the least likely way for it to happen. However, in genetic engineering, CGG CGG would be the most likely way scientists would choose to code for two successive arginines. It can be viewed as a stitch or seam that indicates two things have been sewed together.

THE WUHAN-AMERICA CONNECTION

The secret as to how this happened resides with three individuals who planned the gain-of-function experiments with bat coronaviruses at the Wuhan Institute of Virology: Peter Daszak, Ralph Baric,

Continued On Next Page

ADVERTISE IN  
 THE SHADOW



and Zhi Zhengli. The notorious “bat-man” gain-of-function did not begin in China, but at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, in the laboratory of Ralph Baric, where “reverse genetics” experiments were conducted in 2013-2015 to transfer the gene encoding the spike protein from a novel coronavirus, SHC014, into the genome of SARS-CoV-1. SHC014 had been isolated from bat guano found in caves in Yunnan province, which, as we mentioned herein, is 802 miles from Wuhan and was the scene of an outbreak of coronavirus associated respiratory disease among miners.

The SHC014 had been donated by Shi Zhengli of the Wuhan Institute of Virology, who had been researching these caves in search of potential emerging human pathogens. The resulting genetically engineered viruses showed the ability to grow in cultured human lung airway tissue.

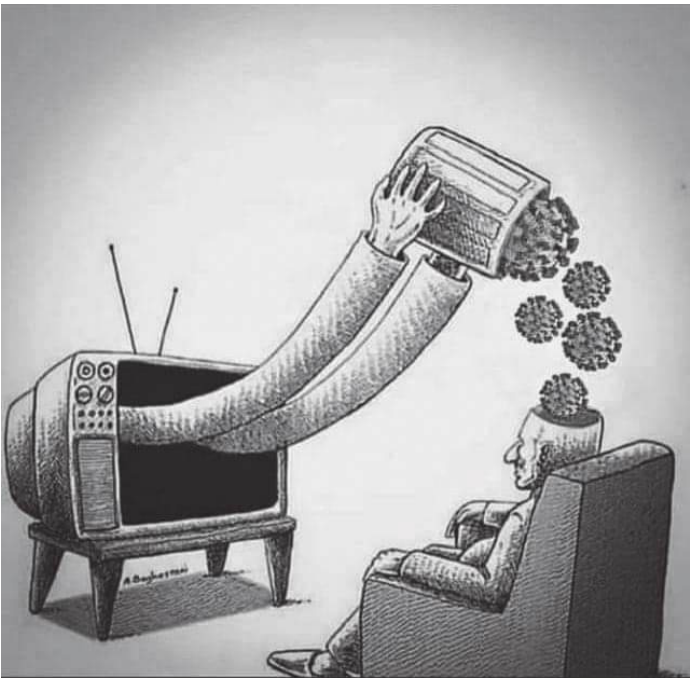
Baric, a specialist in coronaviruses, justified this experiment as a means of anticipating the nature of a potential emerging pathogen in the interest of finding a vaccine against it. In 2015, Baric published his paper “A SARS-like cluster of circulating bat coronaviruses shows potential for human emergence.”

Although Baric had insisted that because his experiments were carried out under the most stringent biosafety conditions (BSL 4), the risk was acceptable, the NIH placed a moratorium on GoF research in 2014, in the U.S. It was at that time that the epicenter of this research shifted to China. The NIH approved \$600,000 in grants to the Wuhan Institute of Virology from 2014 to 2018, but has consistently declined to release the details of these grants to the public.

Shi’s work focused on the Yunnan bat caves, which were in the general area where the SARS-CoV-1 outbreak took place, and her stated goal was to find coronaviruses resembling SARS-CoV-1 that had high potential for human transmission. Two strains that Zhi found in bat guano from these caves were SHC014 and WIV1; the latter already showed the ability to grow in cultured human airway cells, and provided the human adaptive spike protein that was spliced with the already partially human-adapted and human pathogenic SARS-CoV-1.

In 2014, the NIH awarded a five year, \$3.75 million grant to Peter Daszak’s EcoHealth Alliance to study the risk that novel bat-borne coronaviruses would emerge in China. The Wuhan Institute of Virology received a substantial share of this grant, which went into financing the research carried out there.

The New York based non-governmental organization EcoHealth Alliance describes itself as being dedicated to protecting people, animals, and the environment from emerging infectious diseases. However, most of the organization’s day-to-day funding comes from the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security. We have already mentioned that gain-of-function research is considered dual-function—



medical and military—and, in fact, the dual funding from the health bureaucracy and the war establishment points out the true nature of this sinister organization with a hippie-sounding name.

**ECOHEALTH ALLIANCE: CREEPY DO-GOODERS**

The EcoHealth Alliance also applied for a grant from DARPA [Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency], originator of the Internet and the source of seed money for the Moderna Covid-19 vaccine, for Project Defuse, a plan to create mutated bat coronaviruses that could infect humans. The EcoHealth Alliance proposed to directly vaccinate bats in caves in southern China against these artificially human-adapted bat viruses in order to “prevent” the next SARS outbreak. The mutation that they were talking about was the insertion of a site for cleavage of the furin protease in the spike protein of naturally occurring bat coronaviruses, which, as we have explained herein, is the mechanism that enables SARS-CoV-2 to infect human airway cells, resulting in deadly Covid-19.

The official story is that this grant was denied by DARPA. However, we are presented with the plain facts that SARS-CoV-2, the agent of the pandemic that started in 2019, possesses a furin-cleavage site that is key to its infectivity.

You make the conclusions.

This discussion can be summed up as follows:

- 1. SARS-CoV-2 emerged in the city of Wuhan, over 300 miles from the nearest concentration of coronavirus bearing bats, already fully-adapted for human transmission.
- 2. It differs from all natural bat coronaviruses by possessing a furin-cleavage site, which enables the virus to interact with receptors in human airway cells.
- 3. The EcoHealth Alliance precisely proposed adding a furin-cleavage site to the natural coronavirus as a means of creating a human-adapted coronavirus, with the ostensible innocent aim of vaccinating cave bats in order to prevent a pandemic, such as the one that actually took place.
- 4. It is not possible to dismiss the idea that irresponsible research was at the origin of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- 5. Although perhaps less likely, neither is it possible to dismiss the idea that irresponsible military research was at the origin of the pandemic, because these gain-of-function experiments are regarded as dual-use.

**THE REAL ANTHONY FAUCI**

Continued From Page 18

that comes as Americans finally wake up to the fact that this outlaw gang has stolen our democracy, our civil rights, our country and our way of life -- while we huddled in orchestrated fear from a flu-like virus.”

TRUTH is not “propaganda” -- sugar coated LIES and false narratives wrapped up in a blanket of TERRORISM are propaganda. The “conspiracy” that RFK Jr. exposes in his book is quite REAL.

We must warn you that, if you are a person with a heart and a soul, you will be DISTURBED by the extent of the PURE EVIL engaged in by 82 year old Anthony Fauci and Big Pharma and the co-opted government “health” agencies they control that all benefit financially from engineered pandemics and human suffering, all for obscene profits and social control. Nazi scientists have NOTHING on these people.

Going beyond what resembles the storyline of the 2006 film “V FOR VENDETTA,” in which a virus is created and weaponized and then unleashed on the public in order for resulting mass deaths to enable a fascist dictatorship to take power and enact a POLICE STATE while reaping enormous profits for providing the vaccine to “cure” the virus they made and spread, the even uglier side of this horrific but TRUE story is Fauci’s deadly experimentation on children of color all over the world that has led to

their deaths. Fauci’s treatment of children as LAB RATS is reminiscent of nazi “doctor” Josef Mengele, who engaged in similar demonic experiments on prisoners (mostly children) in concentration camps during World War Two..

Fauci and his partners, which include mainstream media and social media moguls, as well as MicroSoft founder and euthanasia enthusiast Bill Gates, who now advocates for mandatory shots, from which he makes more money than he could ever realize from selling and licensing his pirated software, all have a financial interest in inoculations (falsely called “vaccines”), drugs and deadly treatments for viruses that THEY have helped to engineer, promote and weaponize for our consumption.

**PROBLEM REACTION SOLUTION**

RFK Jr. says that he wrote this book “so that Americans can understand Fauci’s pernicious role in allowing pharmaceutical companies to dominate our government and subvert our democracy and to chronicle the key role he [Fauci] has played in the current coup d’etat against democracy.”

RFK Jr. lays it ALL out in this dense and well-documented book, which was published in November 2021. One can only wonder, if, had this book been in print a year or so earlier, perhaps hundreds of thousands of people would still be alive today.

**"The government loves pandemics.  
They love pandemics for the same reason  
they love war.  
Because it gives them the ability to impose  
controls on the population  
that the population would otherwise  
never accept."  
-- Robert F. Kennedy Jr. (Berlin 2020)**



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Sonny Barger  
Continued From Page 19

jail for it. There was a trial, everybody was acquitted.

PD: Why is respect so important for the Hell's Angels?  
BARGER: Because we treat people the way we want to be treated. When they don't treat us back that way, we react. We react to everything. For everything that happens, there's a reaction.

PD: Let's talk about the racial thing.  
BARGER: I really don't want to get into a racial thing. I'm not a racist, but in Oakland, if you're a motorcycle rider and you're white, you want to join the Hell's Angels. If you're black, you want to join the Dragons. That's how it is whether anyone likes it or not. We don't have no blacks, and they don't have no whites.

PD: Could that change?  
BARGER: Anything can change, I can't predict the future.

PD: You have a kid?  
BARGER: I have an adopted daughter.

PD: Tell us about Sonny Barger, the family man and father.  
BARGER: She loves me, but I don't know if I'd want to be my kid.

PD: If she wanted to marry a Hell's Angel would you be OK with that?  
BARGER: Certainly. She has her own motorcycle, she's ten years old and she has a Honda 70 that she rides. She has a horse. She gets to drive my pickup truck around because we live on dirt roads. She drives to the mailbox that's two and a half miles away. But her biggest problem is that she can't roller skate.

PD: You're a survivor of cancer, the Big C you call it.  
BARGER: I had a heart attack, I had cancer, I got hit by a pickup truck and the bottom line to me is that I'm not religious, but people put guns in their mouths, pull the trigger and live, others fall on the sidewalk and die. I don't think you can make yourself die before whatever it is going to make it happen.

PD: Do you believe in God?  
BARGER: No. I believe something is happening. I'm not sure what it is.

PD: What do you predict for the Angels in the year 2000?  
BARGER: I don't forecast anything. I take it as it comes. But I know we'll survive it.

[Ralph "Sonny" Barger is author of "Hell's Angel: The Life and Times of Sonny Barger and the Hell's Angels Motorcycle Club" published by Harper Collins and William Morrow]  
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SHADOW BOOK REVIEW

IN THE TIME OF JOB WHEN MISCHA WAS A ZIPPIE!

By Michele Saint Thomas (A Youth International Party Publication)

Review By Chris Flash

Our future is in our past - Mischa

Michele's book is jam-packed with her adventures, recollections and flashbacks, as Mischa, a time-tripping free-spirited revolutionary-minded woman who revists and relives the past, with her eyes on the present and future, determined to march forward on her journey, within and outside of time, to turn people on.

Mischa takes us from the January 1973 "inhoguration" for U.S. president-elect Richard Nixon in Washington D.C., joining tripping Yippies and Zippies demonstrating vs. War Pig Nixon where she meets Yippie "pie man" Aron Kay. Aron was notorious for pushing pies into the faces of fascists and politicians, including Firing Line talk show host and National Review publisher William F. Buckley; Senator Daniel P. Moynihan; CIA man and JFK assassination team member and Watergate "plumber" E. Howard Hunt; anti-women's rights activist Phyllis Schlafly; NYC Mayors Abe Beame and Ed Koch's Watergate "plumber" G. Gordon Liddy; CIA head William Colby; artist Andy Warhol; disco owner and hotel developer Steve Rubell; CIA man and Vietnam War architect McGeorge Bundy; California Governor Jerry Brown; "father of the nuclear bomb" Edward Teller; anti-abortion activist Randall Terry; and Watergate "plumber" and JFK assassination team member Frank Sturgis.

At California State University in the early 1980s, Mischa meets American Indian Movement [AIM] activist John Trudell at a speaking event, where he exposes the myth of private ownership under capitalism and reveals that every president since Nixon is chosen and controlled, as the powers that run the government will not allow anyone to have as much power as Nixon had.

Mischa is at the Miami Republican convention in 1972, as Zippies fight off neo-nazis who try to take over their stage. At Nixon's San Clemente beach house, Mischa joins demonstrators as he receives a visit from U.S.-installed puppet president of South Vietnam, Nguyen van Thieu; a year later, Thieu resigned and fled to Taiwan, just days before the fall of Saigon. Micha is at the 1974 Annual Pot Parade and Smoke-In in New York City, where she reconnects with Aron Kay and encounters radical musician David Peel. Mischa is also part of an anti-Apartheid march in San Francisco in 1985, and an anti-fascist demo in Long Beach in the 1990s, then Election

Night in East Hollywood in 2000. Mischa is at the Ann Arbor [Michigan] Hash Bash and Madison [Wisconsin] Harvest Festivals. In addition to Aron Kay and John Trudell, Mischa's trips and stories are populated by genuine activists and counter-culture heroes. Several activists relate their experiences, and their roles in the political activist-NYC squatter-music-Anarchist-Yippie-Zippie scenes, large and peripheral, including Yippie Judy Gumbo, Chris "The Anarchist" Ryan, Yippie Wayward Bill, Realist newspaper publisher Paul Krassner, SHADOW publisher/editor Chris Flash, Yippie Don ("Rock Against Racism"), World Cannabis Foundation co-founder Brenda Kershenbaum, NYC squatter and activist Michael Weber, percussionist Bill Conner, Yippie Captain Joint, and Asbury Dukes musician Steve Farmer. Michele says: Yippie is yesterday, Yippie

is now, and Yippie is the future; it is alive within our DNA. David Peel put it poignantly: "Yippie is Forever." If only one revolutionary speaks out, or is active against the establishment, Yippie remains relevant. Our battles have been won, our voices and actions echo through eternity. Join with me on the adventures and activism that I lived in real time. I invite YOU as a fellow traveler to experience the YIPPIE movement as I have and be by my side in real time. In the words of my dear friend John Trudell... "It takes only one. Be that army of one."

This is a fun book to read. Sharing her experiences at scenes of the past, Michele is keeping the YIPPIE spirit alive in the present.

Come and join the revolution!



From the book:  
Never Trust The Man:

**The Big Idea:** The government will take care of you and keep you safe. Everyone will have healthcare, welfare, UBI and more, along with a free education.  
**The Brutal Truth:** As indigenous peoples, we have heard lies like this before. Blankets infected with smallpox, treaties broken, our young taken from us to be educated in the white man's schools, our culture nearly destroyed.

**The Big Idea:** Award the first Black President of the United States the Nobel Peace Prize one year into his term "for his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples."  
**The Brutal Truth:** Obama's administration is the first to wage eight years of continuous wars, resulting in millions of dead. He admits folks were tortured during his tenure. His failed foreign policy results in the establishment of modern-day slavery in Libya.

**The Big Idea:** Big tech and corporations are private companies; they can do what they want.  
**The Brutal Truth:** Lunch counters and restrooms in the Deep South were private too. How well did that work out?

**The Big Idea:** Let's ban guns; it'll save lives.  
**The Brutal Truth:** The last thing a ruling corporate elite want is an armed proletariat.





Mail Order

FROM THE SHADOW PRESS

- **THE SHADOW:** \$2.50 per issue, past or current.
- **TIME WARP ZINE #1: Take The City Back!** Featuring an interview with Punk Magazine co-founder and editor John Holmstrom, "Get Angry" by Jeremiah Moss, and The Time Warp Manifesto that encourages us to preserve what remains of our city and to restore what has been lost. 16 pgs. \$2.00
- **HOW TO FIGHT BACK:** In the wake of the election of Donald Trump as president, many have asked "What can I do"? This publication attempts to answer that question. Comics and art by WW3d Illustrated artists, including Seth Tobocman, Sue Coe, and Peter Kuper and students of the School for Visual Arts (SVA) in New York City. 16 pgs. \$3.00
- **CHASE BANK AND THE NAZIS (Frank Morales):** Highlights the intrinsic historical ideological fascism of corporations like Chase Bank, conduits for militarized, oligarcic global rule. Traces continuity of corporate fascist inspired conspiracy from the 1930s through the 1990s. 40 pgs. \$5.00
- **SQUATTER COMICS #1:** Comics by artists from The SHADOW and WW3 Illustrated. 16 pgs. \$5.00.
- **SQUATTER COMICS #2:** More comics by artists from The SHADOW and WW3 Illustrated, including Seth Tobocman, L. Van Abbema, Fly and Mac McGill. 48 pgs. \$6.00.
- **KILLER KOP KOMIX #1:** Satirical and anti-police brutality comics by Peter Kuper, Seth Tobocman, Fly, Sandy Jimenez, Becky Minnich, Mike Shafer, Mac McGill and L. Van Abbema. 48 pgs. (comic book). \$6.00.
- **GEORGE BUSH: THE SUPER-SPY DRUG-SMUGGLING PRESIDENT (Bill Weinberg):** The straight dope on George Bush, Sr. and his family history, including connections to Nazis, the CIA, the JFK assination, the October Surprise, Contragate, the Invasion of Panama, the attempted assasination of President Reagan by John Hinkley, Jr., the New World Order, the BCCI collapse, the Savings and Loans collapse, the 1991 Persian Gulf War, and more. **Extremely informative and highly recommended!** 80 pgs. \$6.00.
- **WAR IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD (Seth Tobocman):** Seth's graphic novel documents a decade of struggle against police brutality and gentrification on New York City's Lower East Side through stories told in Tobocman's unique black and white drawings. This new edition, co-published by Ad Astra Comics and SHADOW Press, includes a new introduction by Seth. 328 pgs. \$25.00 [Cover price is \$30.00]

The SHADOW and everything published by Shadow Press is available in bulk at wholesale rates. Please inquire for details.

FROM OTHER SOURCES

- **YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT:** A Know-Your-Rights guide for law enforcement encounters, published by the National Lawyers Guild. Only \$2.00.
- **TOMPKINS SQUARE PARK: LEGACY OF REBELLION: A Century and a Half of Protest and Resistance on New York's Lower East Side (Bill Weinberg):** Covering the history of rebellion in Tompkins Square from 1834 through 2008. 40 pgs. \$6.00.
- **GLOBAL OUTLOOK MAGAZINE (Collector's Edition):** This great investigative journal exposes not only the truth behind mainstream media lies and propaganda, but the methods by which the media and gov't operate, from disinformation to false-flag operations. Includes: How Wars are Started by State-Sponsored Terrorism, Recognizing Historic Patterns of Deception, and 55 False-Flag Frauds. 295 pgs. \$8.00 [Cover price is \$14.95]

- **THE BIG WEDDING: 9/11, The Whistleblowers and the Cover-Up (Sander Hicks):** Hicks' four years of research provide proof that advisors of president George W. Bush had detailed foreknowledge of the events of September 11, 2001, aka 9/11. 180 pgs. \$8.00 [Cover price is \$14.00]
- **TERRORISM AND THE STATE:** A new translation of the classic book about terrorism, written by ex-Situationist Gianfranco Sanguinette, first published in 1979. Relevant to discussions about September 11, 2001 and the contemporary "War on Terror." 131 pgs. \$12.00
- **HOW TO OPEN HANDCUFFS WITHOUT KEYS:** Includes info on: picks, shims, lock picking techniques, and handcuff keys. 44 pgs. \$15.00.
- **HOW TO CLEAR YOUR ADULT + JUVENILE CRIMINAL RECORDS: (William Rinehart):** Rinehart details how he successfully removed felonies from his criminal record and how you can do the same, with specific legal language, and templates for filings in different states. 102 pgs. \$18.00.
- **PAINFUL QUESTIONS: An Analysis of the September 11th Attack (Eric Hufschmid):** Picks apart the events of September 11, 2001, asking and answering tough questions with large, glossy photos and illustrations. 158 pgs. \$18.00
- **FORTUNATE SON: George W. Bush and the Making of an American President (J. H. Hatfield):** Researches George W.'s draft-dodging, cocaine habit, the Bush family's anti-semitism, connections to the BCCI scandal, the SEC investigation for insider trading, and more. After media trashing of the author, this book was pulled by its former publisher, but was re-published by Soft Skull Press. 415 pgs. \$18.00
- **YOU DON'T HAVE TO FUCK PEOPLE OVER TO SURVIVE (Seth Tobocman):** Political cartoons and comic strips by WW3 Illustrated co-founder and editor Seth Tobocman protesting the materialism of American culture, homelessness, police brutality, gentrification, nuclear war, environmental destruction, and more. 212 pgs. \$25.00
- **THE WEB OF DEBT (Ellen Hodgson Brown):** Our money system is not what we have been led to believe. The creation of money has been "privatized," or taken over by private money lenders. Except for coins, all of our money is now created as loans advanced by private banking institutions, including the privately-owned Federal Reserve. Banks create the principal, but not the interest to service their loans. To find the interest, new loans must continually be taken out. Expanding the money supply, inflating prices, and robbing you of the value of your money. The Web of Debt unravels the deceptions in our money scheme and presents a crystal-clear picture of the financial abyss toward which we are heading. Then it explores a workable alternative, one that was tested in colonial America. If you care about financial security, your own or the nation's you should read this book. 544 pgs. \$28.00
- **BLACKLISTED NEWS: SECRET HISTORIES FROM CHICAGO TO 1984:** A compilation of underground news, stories, flyers, photos, art and more, published by the Youth International Party (YIPPIE!) from 1967-1984. **This huge book is out of print and cannot be found anywhere else!** 735 pgs. \$40.00

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VIDEOS

- (Defective DVD discs will be replaced)
- **DID YOU KNOW A THIRD TOWER FELL ON 9/11?** This powerful documentary, produced by Architects and Engineers for 9/11 Truth, examines the destruction of the three World Trade Center towers on September 11, 2001. 88 min. Only \$2.00
- **911 MYSTERIES:** Filmmaker Sofia Safqat addresses demolitions at the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. Chapters include: WTC design + construction; Facts about steel; Building collapses; Basement explosions, interior blasts and ground level explosions, all before the collapses of both WTC towers; Visible explosions just before and as the towers collapsed; Molten metal; The demolition industry; "Who knew?" with admissions of prior knowledge by NYC Mayor Rudy Giuliani and WTC leaseholder Larry Silverstein; The strange collapse of 7 WTC, which was never hit by a plane. **This documentary is a MUST have!** Approx. 90 min. \$6.00
- **911: IN PLANE SITE:** Power Hour radio show host Dave von Kleist (www.thepowerhour.com) presents and analyzes mainstream media footage to raise questions about what type of planes hit the WTC twin towers and the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001, WTC leaseholder Larry Silverstein's admission of his decision to "pull" 7 WTC, interviews with firefighters who heard explosions throughout the WTC towers before they collapsed, and other footage broadcast only once and never seen again. Extras include a revelation on the Oklahoma City bombing, featuring television news reports aired on April 19, 1995, that several undetonated bombs were discovered inside of and removed from the Murrah Federal Building after the first explosion, which contradicts the official story. These reports were killed by the following day, and were not seen again! Approx. 60 min. \$6.00
- **LOOSE CHANGE 2:** A great companion to **911: In Plane Site**, emphasizes controlled demolitions as the cause of the WTC collapses, examines the Pentagon and WTC hits, black boxes, reports of WTC explosions, footage of explosives bursting from the sides of the twin towers, the shooting down of Flight #93 over PA, cell phone calls from passengers, phoney Bin Laden footage used by media, and more. **Highly recommended!** Approx. 60 min. \$6.00
- **THE MONEY MASTERS:** An historic documentary that traces the origins of the political power structure that rules our nation and the world today, which has its roots in the hidden manipulation and accumulation of gold and other forms of money. 210 min. \$6.00
- **TOMPKINS SQUARE PARK: OPERATION CLASS WARFARE ON THE LOWER EAST SIDE:** This 1992 Paper Tiger TV documentary pieces together the unofficial story behind the Tompkins Square Police Riot of August 6, 1988, and reveals the ugly side of forced gentrification in New York City, tracing the transformation of Tompkins Square Park from a tent city for homeless people, and bastion of free expression for artists, bohemians, rebels, and crazies, to a central battleground in the fierce class war on the Lower East Side, to a riot scene with burning trash cans and unwarranted police violence, to an empty, fenced-in wasteland, and finally, to the safe and sterile environment it is today. Featuring interviews with those who lived in the park, and those who defended their right to do so, with footage from riots, rallies, and protests that occurred in and around the park. 60 min. \$6.00
- **YOUR HOUSE IS MINE:** This 2004 documentary by Caroline McCaughey covers the history of squatting on Manhattan's Lower East Side, from the early 1980's to 2004, as told by squatters themselves. Includes the deal between squatters and housing group UHAB that enabled them to keep their homes. \$6.00

Zoe Hansen



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- **THE TWO KENNEDYS:** Carefully untangles the web of conspiracy between organized crime, anti-Castro exiles, and oil barons, that resulted in the assassinations of John F. Kennedy, and his brother Robert Kennedy. **Very rare!** Approx. 115 min. \$10.00
  - **THE PLOT TO KILL ROBERT KENNEDY:** Investigative journalist Ted Charak dissects the assassination of RFK with witnesses and forensic evidence, exposing destruction of evidence and other cover-up attempts by the LAPD. **Very rare!** Approx. 95 min. \$10.00
  - **THE BEST DEMOCRACY MONEY CAN BUY:** Investigative reporter Greg Palast [gregpalast.com] delves into a dark Republican operation called Cross Check, designed to steal a million votes before the November 2016 presidential election by purging voter rolls of minorities. Palast and his investigative sidekick, Bad Penny, hunt down and confront Donald Trump henchman and Cross Check controller Chris Kobach with evidence of his "lynching by laptop." Then they pursue the billionaires behind this vote scam. This real detective story is told in a noir style with animation, secret documents, hidden cameras, and a little help from Ice-T and Richard Belzer, Rosario Dawson, Willie Nelson, and Ed Asner. Palast and his crew expose the darkest plans of the uber-rich to steal America's democracy. 111 min. \$15.00
  - **WEAPONS OF MASS DECEPTION:** There were two wars going on in Iraq. One was fought with armies of soldiers, bombs and a fearsome military force. The other was fought alongside it with cameras, satellites, armies of journalists, and propaganda techniques. One war was rationalized as an effort to find and remove Weapons of Mass Destruction. The other was carried out by even more powerful Weapons of Mass Deception. Put together by Danny Schechter ("The News Dissector") of Globalvision. **Highly Recommended!** 98 min. \$15.00
- AUDIO**
- **THE BATTLE OF TOMPKINS SQUARE PARK: SHADOW** and WBAI radio journalist Paul DeRienzo provides an on-the-scene battlefield report during the Tompkins Square Police Riot of August 6, 1988. (CD) Approx. 45 min. \$6.00
  - **YOUTH INTERNATIONAL PARTY (YIPPIE) 50TH ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE (1967-2017):** Features the entire album **Wake Up America** made by Abbie Hoffman and friends in 1971, with a bonus track of Abbie, plus musical tracks and sound bites. (2 CDs) Approx. 2 hrs. \$30.00

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## CAREER POLITICIAN

# CARLINA RIVERA'S "WIN" IS OUR LOSS!

By Chris Flash

In November 2021, after her re-election to the New York City Council, after more than four years of her betraying her constituents, we found ourselves again stuck with career politician Carlina Rivera and control of District Two by Rivera's clubhouse bosses at CODA ["COalition for District Alternative"]

In 2017, Rivera "ran" for the City Council seat held by fellow CODA member Rosie Mendez, who had to vacate her seat due to term limits. Mendez got the seat held by CODA's Margarita Lopez, who also had to vacate due to term limits. Mendez got an extra four year term when, in 2008, billionaire Mayor Bloomberg paid off council members to go for it, voting 29-22 against the will of voters, who voted TWICE, in 1993 and in 1996, for no more than two four year terms for New York City politicians. Mendez got three terms before limits of two terms were re-established in 2010. For the 2017 election, Mendez simply switched seats with Rivera, who as Mendez' "legislative director," had been "District Leader" in the 74th Assembly District for CODA. **CODA CODA CODA!**

Rivera's 2021 "victory" speech was typical politician hogwash. She spoke of "progress" but her only "progress" has been to facilitate gentrification on the Lower East Side. Her constituents ask WHAT Rivera and CODA have done about what she called "fighting for workers' rights and dignity, increased access to culturally humble health-care, safer and more livable streets for our communities, robust climate resiliency in all five boroughs, the protection and expansion of affordable housing?"

Here's what they HAVE done: Among many other transgressions and betrayals, the three CODA clubhouse politicians, from Margarita Lopez to Rosie Mendez to Carlina Rivera, who have consecutively held the City Council seat "representing" District Two on the Lower East Side since real estate vulture puppet Antonio Pagàn had to vacate his seat in 1997 due to term limits, have sacrificed our community gardens by cutting deals with Pagàn's real estate partner Donald Capoccia, handing him garden lots in order for him to build "market rate" and "luxury" apartments on those sites, have been silent while Bloomberg wiped out zoning restrictions, leading to hyper-gentrification with record overbuilding of "luxury" and "market rate" housing throughout the city, posing for a photo op at the Astor Place cube at the same moment that long term residents of a row of middle income apartment houses along 11th Street, across from Webster Hall, were being evicted in order to make way for a new much taller "Moxy" luxury hotel to be built on the site, approved Mayor DeBlasio's absurd "Tech Hub" project on East 14th Street that includes up-zoning on surrounding streets, leading to more demolitions of middle-income housing in historic buildings, supported DeBlasio's Governors Island bonanza for developers to create an island for the filthy rich there, and approved the ecologically criminal plan pushed by DeBlasio to DESTROY a large portion of East River Park, which had only recently been renovated after more than 10 years, at a cost of millions of dollars, in order to acquire \$1.45 billion in federal funding before the availability of those funds expired. **[See SHADOW #62 for what was behind the destruction of East River Park - Ed.]**

Hundreds of old-growth trees in the park were wiped out in the final months of DeBlasio's term at the end of 2021. Most of East River Park is now closed off to and unusable by area residents who do not have a country home to get away to, as do politicians who pretend to "represent" the Lower East Side.

Rivera backed DeBlasio, though their constituents made it CLEAR that they did NOT support the outgoing lame duck mayor's absurd plan for the park, which was shoved down our throats with NO public hearings, input, review or oversight, and accountability.

It is clear to those with EYES that the "new and im-

proved East River Park" being touted by Rivera and DeBlasio, who was out of office just two months after destroying the park, leaving us with his mess, will be re-configured and designed for incoming monied transients attracted to the soon-to-be former NYC-owned housing projects along Avenue D and the FDR Drive that will be renovated into "luxury" apartments that Rivera and her CODA crew are getting privatized by a group of developers, who include none other than Antonio Pagàn's partner in crime: DONALD CAPOCCIA.

To that end **[as reported in SHADOW #61]**, they have already handed Capoccia a large chunk of Campos Plaza, located at 12th Street and Avenue C, where he has been creating market rate units where poor residents used to live. According to their plan, by the time the new East River Park is finished, most, if not all, residents of city housing projects on the Lower East Side will be replaced by a more "desirable" demographic.

From what we have seen, there has been NO difference between Antonio Pagàn's DAC [Democratic Action Club] political club and Rivera's CODA political club, since the latter was formed in 1992, as an "alternative" to DAC. BOTH clubs well served their gentrifier real estate masters, as well as mayors who work for developers and banksters, and BOTH have been rewarded handsomely for selling their souls and betraying their fellow New Yorkers.

### RIVERA ASPIRES TO HIGHER OFFICE

In June 2022, just seven months after winning re-election to the City Council, Rivera announced that she is now running for Congress in the 2022 election for a seat in the newly-redrawn and newly-created 10th Congressional District, though Rivera and her husband, former "community" board three [CB3] chairperson, coffee shop owner and current Bank of America attorney, James ("Jamie") Rogers, who reside at 245 East 25th Street, do not live in the new district, as required.

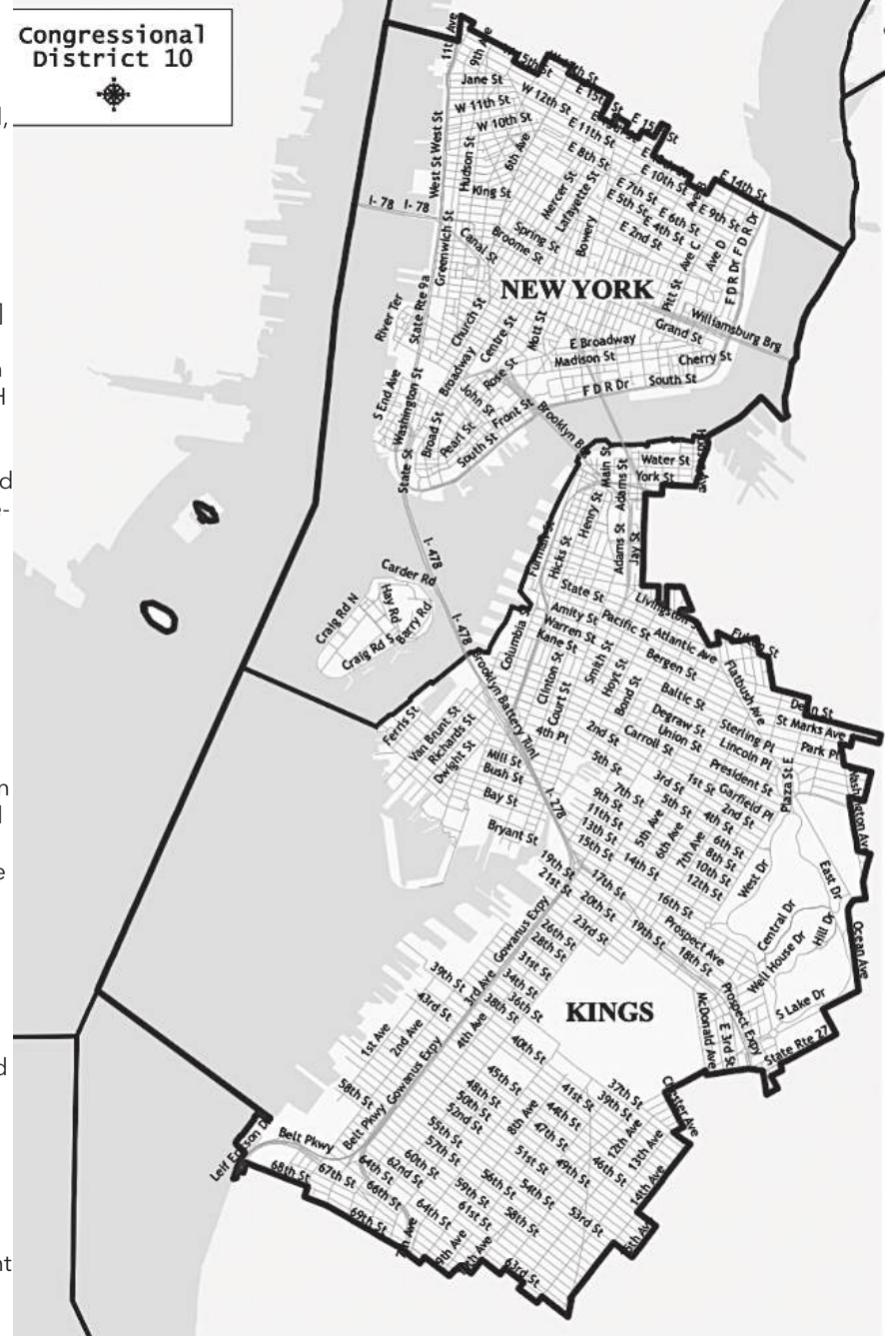
During her 2017 run for the City Council, it was revealed that Rivera and Rogers were living in a federally-subsidized Section 8 apartment designated for low-income tenants and families at 210 Stanton Street, though Rivera was receiving more than \$40,000 annually "working for" Rosie Mendez and Rogers was collecting rent on an apartment at 568 Grand Street that he bought for \$320,000 in 2012. They finally moved out in June 2021.

In an outrageous example of gerry-mandering, the new 10th Congressional District covers all of Manhattan below 14th Street, including the East and West Villages, Soho and Noho, the Lower East Side, Chinatown, Battery Park City, the Financial District, and a western chunk of Brooklyn, including Gowanus, Park Slope, Red Hook, Sunset Park, Borough Park and more.

Ironically, until July 19, 2022, among the 17 other candidates competing with Rivera for the new Congressional seat, was none other than Rivera's strange political bed-

fellow and co-conspirator in the destruction of East River Park: former mayor, failed gubernatorial and presidential candidate and career gentrifier Bill DeBlasio! On Twitter, DeBlasio said it was clear that "people are looking for another option." No kidding, Bill! As with his other failed campaigns for higher office, polls showed him badly trailing the other candidates before he quit.

While DeBlasio is DONE politically, his pockets lined with \$500,000 received from "donors," Rivera has nothing to lose by running for Congress, as she has her City Council seat to fall back on if she does not win. Is THAT why voters re-elected her in 2021?



The newly-created 10th Congressional District for NYC

### MONEY PAID IN ADVANCE FOR SERVICES TO BE RENDERED?

As of July, Rivera has raised more than \$400,000 in her attempt to get the new Congressional seat, almost all of which has been "donated" by businesses and individuals who are investing in a new member of Congress in a new Congressional district. The \$400,000 that has been revealed in Rivera's public filings does not include funds

Continued On Page 6