

## **Right-Wing Zionism and Donald Trump**

*Confronting Radicals: What America Can Learn From Israel*

David Rubin

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<https://www.shilohisraelchildren.org/about-us/shiloh-israel-press/>

### **John Newsinger**

**I**n 2010, David Rubin published his *The Islamic Tsunami: Israel and America in the Age of Obama*. The book came with powerful recommendations from, among others, David Horowitz and Pat Robertson. According to Horowitz, the book was 'a unique and compelling read on the imminent and fateful challenges facing our great nation'. For Robertson it showed the need for America to reclaim 'its formerly proud Biblical heritage' if it was to meet the 'Islamic challenge' and successfully defend 'Judeo-Christian civilization'. The book went on to relentlessly condemn Islam for being responsible for the worst crimes in human history, for being positively 'Hitlerian' in its ambitions; indeed Hitler's beliefs have 'a striking resemblance to Muhammad's views'. And Rubin insists that Obama is Islamism's accomplice. His election was 'a pivotal event for me, a revolutionary event for the United States and the world'. While he might profess to be a Christian, Obama could not escape his Islamic heritage: he was the Saudi candidate for the Presidency. It is well-known that the Saudis 'nurture and groom young dynamic leaders like Barack Obama to further their anti-American and anti-Israeli agenda'. They 'apparently' paid for his education and as Rubin coyly puts it: 'It is a well-known fact that Obama raised more money for his 2008 presidential campaign than any candidate in history. Could the Saudis have had anything to do with that?' The simple answer is, of course, no.

The scale of the threat is demonstrated by the fact that the European Union is already under serious internal attack, all but lost to the Islamists. A combination of 'large and growing Muslim minorities' and 'political correctness' has 'emasculated the once-strong nations that now comprise the European Union'. Indeed, Europe, including Britain, 'is self-destructing before our very eyes' and it is only a matter of time before it is

transformed into 'Eurabia' with the victorious Muslims capturing Europe's nuclear weapons. To disguise their takeover, 'the Islamic *thought police* have invented . . . *Islamophobia*'. This is a useful tool for silencing those opposing them. Only a few courageous individuals have taken a stand against this Muslim takeover and he singles out Geert Wilders of the far right Dutch Freedom Party for particular praise! Wilders is, of course, 'also strongly pro-Israel'. But it is sadly 'already the eleventh hour in Europe'. While Europe is probably already lost, the Muslim takeover of the USA can still be defeated. He warns of the numbers of Muslims, disguised as Mexicans, who are illegally crossing the southern border. This is all being organised by al-Qaeda, and, moreover, 'it has recently been reported', that this invasion 'may be' being carried out in alliance with Venezuela and Iran.

Rubin puts forward a plan for how to defeat this attempted Muslim takeover. Among his recommendations are an immediate ban on all Muslim immigration into the United States; encouraging Muslims already in the country to use birth control and to limit the size of their families; banning the call to prayer and Muslim dress; and the expulsion of 'actively hostile Muslims', a category that includes all those Muslims who do not embrace 'Judeo-Christian' values. He makes clear earlier in the book that he does not really believe that it is possible for any Muslim to become a genuine American. It is also vital to oppose hate speech legislation 'which in practice will be used as a *big brother* technique to curtail the free speech of those who dare to speak out against Islamic ideology'. More generally, it is necessary to assert the values of 'Judeo-Christian civilization' throughout the education and legal systems, and a return to ultra-patriotism 'based on the American biblical tradition and the religious values promoted by the Founding Fathers'. The maintenance of a close partnership with Israel is also obviously essential. He even considers whether or not it would be a good thing if the United States actually took over Syria and Iran. Would, he asks, 'a little old-fashioned American "colonialism" [ . . . ] be so terrible'?<sup>1</sup> The answer is, of course, yes.

Two points need to be made here. First, *The Islamic Tsunami* was not in any way targeted at American Jews. Its audience was the US Christian Right, i.e. white evangelical Christians. The overwhelming majority of American Jews actually voted for Obama, both in 2008 and in 2012. He got 78% of the Jewish vote in 2008 and 69% in 2012. Moreover, Hillary Clinton got 71% of the Jewish vote when she ran against Donald Trump in

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<sup>1</sup> Rubin, *The Islamic Tsunami* (Shiloh Israel Press, 2010) pp. 4-5,14, 50, 51, 104, 107, 115, 126, 163, 188-189, 190, 228, 236-238.

2016. Indeed throughout Trump's Presidency, of all religious groups, it was American Jews who gave Trump his lowest approval rating, and in 2020 they voted overwhelmingly for Joe Biden. The great majority of American Jews are Democrat in sympathy and completely reject the Israeli alliance with the Republican and Christian Right. And as for Obama being hostile to Israel, it is worth noting that his administration provided more military aid to Israel than any previous administration, and in 2016 'concluded a new ten-year agreement providing a total of \$38 billion in military aid to Israel, which the White House described as "the largest single pledge of military assistance in U.S. history"'.<sup>2</sup> Rubin's quite outrageous assault on Obama was not motivated by his supposed hostility to Israel, but by his refusal to endorse the expansionist agenda pursued by Benjamin Netanyahu and the Zionist Right.

Who is David Rubin? He is an American Jew who moved to Israel in his mid-thirties and settled in Shiloh, a Zionist settlement in the Occupied West Bank, or Samaria as he insists on calling it. He went on to become mayor and has since become a prominent spokesman for the Zionist right, inevitably making regular appearances on Fox News and Newsmax TV. Rubin makes clear that, as far as he is concerned, he is not a colonial settler stealing land from the Palestinians. Rather, he wishes to be considered one of the indigenous inhabitants, who after 2,000 years are 'coming home to take possession of their formerly sovereign and God-given Land, exactly as prophesied in the Bible'. After all, the word Israel 'is mentioned 2,293 times in the King James version of the Bible'. It is not really clear if he actually believes this nonsense, or if it is merely intended to excite his Christian Right audience. One problem that he does have with the Christian Right though is their continued attempts, 'however well-intentioned', to proselytise Jews, including himself. To be fair, they are only trying to save him from the wrath of a vengeful, indeed genocidal Jesus who will soon be returning to brutally kill all those Jews who have not converted, consigning them to the tortures of Hell for all eternity. The crime that deserves such drastic punishment is, of course, failure to convert, thereby allying with the AntiChrist!<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Khaled Elgindy, *Blind Spot: America and the Palestinians, from Balfour to Trump*, (Washington D.C.: Brookings Institution Press, 2019), p. 239

<sup>3</sup> Rubin, *The Islamic Tsunami* (see note 1) pp. 69, 141, 200-201. In December 2003, Rubin's car was attacked by Palestinian gunmen leaving him and his three year-old son wounded. In regards to this, in his 2018 *Trump and the Jews* book he bitterly complains that Israeli forces have become 'obsessively worried about hurting the enemy civilians'. Civilians 'will be killed in the fighting' and it 'can't be allowed to hamper the war strategy'. (p. 201)

He followed up his *The Islamic Tsunami* with a eulogy of Donald Trump, *Trump and the Jews*, published in 2018. Here he continued his assault on Obama, bitterly complaining about the great majority of American Jews supporting the man by selfishly putting their 'liberal ideology and knee-jerk rejection of Republicans' before their 'attachment to Israel'. To their shame, they have embraced 'a very misguided, self-destructive version of bleeding-heart liberalism'. Obama's obsession was with improving US relations with the Arab world at Israel's expense. This changed once Trump became President. He is predictably full of praise for Stephen Miller's immigration policies which are intended to preserve 'Judeo-Christian civilization'. He makes clear that Islam is incompatible with Americanism, favourably quoting 'the generally well-respected Reverend Franklin Graham', who made clear Islam was 'an evil and wicked religion [. . .] True Islam cannot be practiced in this country', not least because 'You cannot murder your children'.

What is new in this volume, however, is that Rubin broadens his attack to embrace the 'Left', a category that includes the Democratic Party. He very much leans on the work of David Horowitz for this. His readers are reminded that, while Obama's father might well have been a Muslim, his mother was 'a secular Communist'. Indeed, the Left with their new 'liberaligion' are facilitating the work of the Islamists, condemning anyone daring to make a stand as 'a racist, an Islamophobe, a homophobe, or a sexist'. As for Hillary Clinton, he reports that 'ongoing FBI investigations may or may not reveal' whether Muslim nations funding the Clinton Foundation 'influenced her arrogant tone toward Israel and her decisions as Secretary of State'. And as for the Far Left, well they have embraced anti-Semitism. Interestingly, he wholeheartedly defends Trump's response to the Charlottesville episode, insisting that many of those demonstrating against the fascist, white supremacist and openly anti-Semitic Unite the Right rallies were themselves 'extreme violent anti-Semites'. But Trump's great claim to eternal glory is his recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. This was 'a political earthquake'. And in a direct appeal to the Christian Right, Rubin insists that Israel is 'a religion, a chosen people with a unique mission to be the light unto the nations'.<sup>4</sup>

Which brings us to his latest book, *Confronting Radicals*, published in 2021. This volume is dedicated to the memory of Daniel Patrick Moynihan and . . . George Orwell! The dedication praises Orwell for his ability 'to

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<sup>4</sup> Rubin, *Trump and the Jews* (Shiloh Israel Press, 2018) pp. 36, 40, 99, 107, 122, 191, 203

think beyond “political correctness”, something that is urgently needed today ‘because of the growing cadre of radical thought police who tell Americans what they can and can’t say, who change the meaning of words, and most nefariously, attempt to rewrite history’. The book actually opens with the sentence: ‘Orwell’s classic “1984” foresaw a terribly frightening scenario of how tyranny breeds tyranny, but at the time his book was written, few Americans thought that such a prescient vision could be referring to the United States of America, the land of the free and the home of the brave’ (p. 12). And, as we shall see, he returns to Orwell on a number of occasions. Now this hijacking of Orwell by the Right is not new. The CIA famously funded the 1954 Halas and Batchelor cartoon film of *Animal Farm* and the John Birch Society proudly had 1984 included as part of the phone number of its Washington DC office. What we are seeing at this point in time, however, is the contemporary far right both in the USA and beyond seizing hold of him, attempting to make him one of their own, an attempt made all the more grotesque by their religiosity.

A book published in 2011, *Big Brother: The Orwellian Nightmare Come True*, by the American right-wing conspiracy theorist Mark Dice (600,000 Twitter followers and over 1.5 million YouTube subscribers) is a good example of the phenomenon. He was considered important enough to be invited to the Social Media Summit held at Trump’s White House in July 2019. And closer to home, we have Brian Nugent’s 2018 volume, *Orwellian Ireland*.<sup>5</sup> This is almost certainly just the beginning of Orwell’s enlistment in the cause of the contemporary international far right. Even Donald Trump Jr has warned that America has become ‘Orwell’s 1984’. It can only be a matter of time before Boris Johnson begins misquoting Orwell!

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<sup>5</sup> Mark Dice’s many publications include *The Illuminati: Facts and Fiction* (2009), *Illuminati in the Music Industry* (2013), *Inside the Illuminati: Evidence, Objectives, and Methods of Operation* (2014), *The Illuminati in Hollywood: Celebrities, Conspiracies, and Secret Societies in Pop Culture and the Entertainment Industry* (2016), *The True Story of Fake News: How Mainstream Media Manipulates Millions* (2017), and *Liberalism: Find A Cure* (2018).

Brian Nugent’s many publications include *The Toronto Protocol: The real Plan of the Global Elite* (2012), *In Defence of Conspiracy Theories: With Examples from Irish and International History and Politics* (2013), *The Irish 2018 Abortion Referendum: Why the Good Guys Lost!* (2019), *Shakespeare was Irish!* (2020) and *Communism is the Virus: The Great Leap Forward in 2020 in Ireland and around the World* (2020). His most controversial book is his *@TuamBabies*, ‘denying’ the Tuam Babies scandal, a book which is in its third edition. On Tuam see, for example, <<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-54693159>>.

The Islamist threat is barely referenced in *Confronting Radicals*, in contrast to *The Islamic Tsunami*. This, I suspect, is mainly because of the unofficial rapprochement that has taken place between the Saudi and Israeli governments; but it could also be because of the success Mohammad Bin Salman has had in transforming a medieval tyranny into a modern police state. Instead of concentrating on Islamic terrorism, Rubin instead focuses on how the United States is in the grip of a revolutionary threat from the political Left.

He writes of the 'recurring riots and looting, the domestic terrorism that has shocked millions, the intense identity politics . . . the culture war led by the "cancel culture" that attempts to shut down and censor any voices that express opposition to the leftist elites, and the premeditated effort to politically, socially, and economically transform America'. There is a 'radical leftist revolution . . . definitely in motion' that wants to 'change the United States from a nation that believes in the traditional values of God, family and hard work to a new Marxist gender-confused, ethnically-confused reality'. (pp. 12-14) This Leftist revolution has been underway for some years and although the Trump presidency set it back a bit, it has now re-emerged with renewed energy. There were 'hundreds of riots of the radical Left just in 2020 alone' and the events at the Capitol on 6 January 2021 can best be seen as 'a brief reaction to years of abuse from a radical Left that has sought to dismantle the magnificent system of values that made America great'. Even so, much of the violence at the Capitol was the work of 'a radical Left . . . presence in the crowd'. To be fair he does acknowledge that there were also neo-Nazis present (pp. 17-18). Anyone trying to assert the values of Judeo-Christian civilisation today falls foul of 'the left-wing secular big brother . . . shot down with harsh intimidation, whether verbal or physical'. This statement is accompanied by a photograph of Orwell with the caption that his 'visionary writings expose the false idealism in socialism'. (p. 40) And as for American universities, well, 'Orwell's Newspeak has taken over'. (p 41)

All this is clearly targeted at Trump's Republican Party supporters and at the Christian Right. Rubin actually makes the point that as Israel has moved to the right, under Begin, Shamir and most particularly under Netanyahu – dispensing with all that kibbutz rubbish along the way – so 'Israel's current value structure' has got 'in sync with the half of America whose values have been under attack – those who cherish traditional American values and hope to reverse the secularization trends, the Marxist assault, the race-baiting and the bitter identity politics'. (p. 59)

Presumably the great majority of American Jews are what he wittily calls 'JINOs', that is 'Jews In Name Only'. (p. 191).

There is, he insists, considerable common ground and much that the American Right can learn from the Israelis, not least how to put down revolutionary challenges and, of course, 'Israel knows about the importance of walls'. (p. 127) Black Lives Matter and Antifa 'want to do to the United States what Hamas wants to do to Israel. They just have fewer guns and no missiles yet'. (p. 96) At the moment they are 'a low level revolution', but that will change unless they are stopped. (p. 72) In fact, Antifa seems 'to be evolving into the domestic terrorist arm of the Democrat party of Biden and Harris'. (p. 226) Really! As he points out, in Israel 'we have learned that peaceful protest is always a front for the rioting and violence that is sure to come'. (p. 115) This is not just nonsense, but dangerous nonsense, helping stoke the paranoia of the US Right. But Rubin goes further than that, insisting that the 'semantic war' or 'culture war' is an important front in the Leftist revolution. The term 'social justice' has apparently been given a new meaning: 'threats, intimidation, affirmative action (which really means legalized discrimination), dismantling law enforcement, allowing infanticide (abortion at birth), and preventing any mention of God in schools'. (p. 164) This is, of course, what the Right's culture wars strategy is all about: moving the discussion away from material issues of poverty, exploitation, gender inequality, racial oppression and the increasingly unequal distribution of wealth – where the Left has support – and onto so-called 'cultural issues' where the Right hope they can mobilise popular support. Part of their strategy is to portray the Left as the aggressor in this culture war. Rubin's wholehearted embrace of the culture war strategy of the contemporary Right is best demonstrated by his condemnation of George Soros, the original JINO and 'a dangerous enemy of both America and Israel'. (p. 192)

But let us return to George Orwell. For Rubin, 'Orwell's brilliance was in his ability to describe what most perceptive Americans already know to be true . . . . The hypocrisy of the radical Left lies in the reality that if given power, they will create a new tyranny . . . . Orwell describes how the so-called anti-fascists (as in today's Antifa) eventually prove themselves to be the real fascists'. (p. 219) He seriously compares Antifa to the Nazi Brown Shirts and to the Ku Klux Klan – and, in doing so, manages to ignore the fact that both the contemporary US neo-Nazis and the KKK support Trump! He further warns that unless 'the mainstream of America wakes up and acts quickly, everything that Orwell had predicted

will come to fruition, probably in an even more nefarious and violent form than what was seen in the former Soviet Union or what we are seeing today in Cuba, in North Korea, or in Communist China'. (p 226) Indeed, 'the thought police that Orwell warned us about are already here'. (p. 238)

One essential prerequisite for enlisting Orwell on the side of the Republican, Christian and Zionist Right is to suppress his politics. Orwell quite famously insisted that everything he had written since 1936 had been against totalitarianism, and for democratic socialism. As far as he was concerned the Soviet Union and its satellite states in Eastern Europe were not socialist but were rather a new kind of oppressive, exploitative system. The myth that they were socialist had done the socialist movement immense damage. Moreover, he insisted on a number of occasions that *Animal Farm* was not a condemnation of revolution, but rather of the betrayal of the revolution such as had taken place in Russia. And *Nineteen Eighty Four* was his fictional account of the new system that had been created in the Soviet Union. Up until his death, he continued to advocate socialism as a global system, which would hopefully begin with the United Socialist States of Europe. He even looked forward to the emergence sometime in the future of a mass socialist movement in the United States. And as if that is not enough, he regarded Zionism as a form of settler colonialism removing the Arabs from their homeland in the best traditions of European Imperialism.<sup>6</sup> But none of this is of the slightest interest to Rubin and co. as they go about enlisting Orwell in their reactionary cause.

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His latest book is

*Chosen by God:*

*Donald Trump, the Christian Right and American Capitalism,*  
published by Bookmarks. <<https://bookmarksbookshop.co.uk/>>

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<sup>6</sup> For Orwell's politics see my *Orwell's Politics* (Macmillan, 1999) and *Hope Lies in the Proles: George Orwell and the Left* (Pluto Press, 2018).