

# THE NAZIFICATION OF AMERIKA (2025)

by Kevin “Rashid” Johnson

Amerika is this what you wanted  
A neo-Nazi in the white house,  
Spewing imperial racist rhetoric  
out both sides of his lying white mouth?

No pretending this isn't fascism  
Can't say it ain't true  
It's a near-exact repeat  
of Germany right before World War 2

The glorification of imperial violence  
Goose stepping military parades  
Yesterday it was done incognito  
Today no more games of charades

Pogroms and mass roundups  
A witch hunt of those called invaders  
Patriotic appeals to mobilize a base  
of mindless race crusaders

The racial profiling blatant  
The persecution no longer subliminal  
Taken in for having brown skin  
Color alone brands you criminal

And this by people of immigrant descent  
a history from which they hide  
Settlers on land stolen from those they're now trolling  
Built by slavery, rape and genocide

No need now for gas chambers  
No evidence of mass exterminations  
Just mass deport asylum seekers  
To certain death back in their old nations

If you're considering migrating here  
From any non-white land  
Think twice your reception won't be nice  
All darker nations are banned

But if you hail from groups and places  
Where apartheid regimes have prevailed  
Like South African Boers or Israel  
Amerika will welcome you and yours - All Hail!

The persecution of critical discourse  
Repressing scientific learning  
Stripping library and school shelves bare  
The modern version of Nazi book burnings

White supremacist rhetoric  
propagated in open spaces  
But speak out about racial abuses  
and you'll be called the racist

Bigots call their victims bigots  
Deflection & defense mechanism  
To insulate themselves from exposure and  
resistance they avoid all criticism

Everything is inverted  
Rose-colored glasses cover all eyes  
The old Hitler doctrine reigns supreme  
Control the masses with “Big Lies”

And who's proven a bigger liar  
Than that old orange-haired buffoon  
Who has as much regard for legality  
As a gunslinger in a Wild West saloon

With appeals to your ‘civic duty’  
You'll fall right in line  
With any policy, even mass extermination  
Of innocent children in Palestine

Backing a greedy elite  
Even as they shred all your safety nets  
Villainizing migrants, then Blacks, then the poor  
Then women, then workers, then... you're next!

Fueling a culture of toxic masculinity  
Young males glory in playing war games  
But sent off to real war for a six month tour  
They return hopelessly insane

Persecuting trans people  
Degrading women as bitches and cunts  
Displays of macho posturing  
That's all an insecure front

An idiot sits at the helm  
Who just like Hitler before  
Aspires to world domination  
At the risk of triggering nuclear war

Too selfish and stupid to care  
Pretending fueling climate change is good  
The only thing ‘gansta’ about him  
He doesn't hide behind a white hood

Like his wig, his ego's too big

Flaunting Naziism without fear  
The old politicians fall right in behind him  
Cuz he's doing what they've wanted to for years

Cannibalizing the republic  
Slashing resources to the infirm and poor  
Blackmailing all opposition into submission  
So the wealthy get more and more

Bringing back into the open  
The politics of gender, class and race  
Reversing the token civil rights reforms  
Putting Blacks back in ‘their place’

Driving record fuel extractions  
Causing unprecedented natural disasters  
Each year hotter, drownings in Texas flood  
Species dying off faster and faster

Wildfires rage untamed  
Concentration camps burst at the seams  
Where experimentations on Blacks is an unspoken fact  
Still living a deferred dream

Overt fascism permits no resistance  
Just like the L.A. scene  
When Brown people protested being mass arrested  
Trump called in trigger-happy Marines

Freezing out dissenting voices  
The media under political control  
Those chosen for promotions  
Are the ones who do as they're told

The bombing of Iran  
A warning: “No niggers with guns!”  
The old rallying cry was Aryan supremacy  
Now it's white world rule over everyone

No more sovereign nations  
No matter what flags unfurl  
The U.S. reps the white right  
To exploit and police the entire world

Groups on the margins now fearful  
Divided uncertain how to proceed  
Potential leaders have retreated to their tents  
The masses adrift in their hour of need

It's Mussolini's exact formula  
Corporate and government power united

Pure fascism, we must make the  
decision  
Declare a class war and fight it.

All oppressed peoples brought  
together  
Workers, people of color, women,  
trans and all  
None can hide nor tarry by the  
wayside  
All must unite to fight and stand tall

Or things will come to pass  
A world far more brutal, savage and  
unkind  
Nazism failed during World War 2  
But do nothing, and it may win this  
time....

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Panther Party, targeted for  
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terrorist threat in 2009, and officials  
have transferred him from one state  
prison system to another. Since 2012  
he has been “compacted” from Virginia  
to Oregon to Texas to Florida; then  
back to Virginia, Indiana and now  
South Carolina. These retaliatory  
transfers, solitary confinement,  
medical mistreatment and retaliatory  
disciplinary actions, have not deterred  
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THE TOMB and PANTHER VISION.  
Rashid is a prolific writer and artist.  
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Black August, a month of fasting, training, political study and rededication to the fight for Black liberation, was first commemorated in 1979 in California's San Quentin state prison, where George Jackson, and a number of other martyred revolutionary-minded Black prisoners such as W.L. Nolen, James McClain, and William Christmas were all once held, and where other Black and Brown political prisoners such as Ruchell Magee, Hugo Pinell, and Luis Talamantez were also incarcerated. The first Black August was declared after the death of Khatari Gaulden in San Quentin on August 1 that year, and commemorated the previous decade of courageous prison struggle, as well as the centuries of Black resistance that preceded and accompanied it.

Significant dates in August include the arrival in North America of captive Africans destined for enslavement in 1619, the Haitian Revolution launched in August, 1791, the birth of Marcus Garvey in 1887, the founding of the Brotherhood of Sleeping-Car Porters 100 years ago in August 1925, the South African women's strike against apartheid passbooks on August 9, 1956, the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in 1963, the Watts Rebellion in August 1965, the deaths of Jonathan Jackson in 1970 and George Jackson in 1971, Hurricane Katrina in August 2005, and the police killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson Missouri in August 2014. Aug. 1 is also Emancipation Day in many former British colonies.

# The Illusion of Safety Through Capitulation

by Mimi Rosenberg

## When Silence Is Complicity or The Cost of Going Along to Get Along Is Too Big A Price to Pay

I write this because, sadly, the threat to personal liberties and political speech is no longer theoretical—it is frighteningly real. We are living through a moment in which expressing views that run contrary to government positioning or dominant institutional narratives can result in serious consequences: jeopardized education, derailed careers, and even the loss of personal liberty. The cost of speaking out is rising, and the pressure to self-censor—to compromise, to capitulate—is mounting.

“Going along to get along” is often framed as wisdom—a survival tactic, a gesture of civility, a way to keep the peace. But beneath its surface lies a quiet violence: the erasure of dissent, the flattening of conviction, and the normalization of complicity. In a society structured by inequality, consensus is rarely neutral. It is often the product of pressure, fear, and the desire to avoid being marked as “difficult.”

The idea that one can survive by softening their stance or “going along to get along” is proving to be a dangerous illusion. Capitulation does not protect—it erodes. It turns institutions into enforcers of silence. As Professor Rashid Khalidi recently described his former university, Columbia, it has become “Vichy on the Hudson”—a chilling metaphor for how easily spaces of learning can become collaborators in repression.

Nowhere is this more visible than in the repression of speech around Palestine. The case of Mahmoud Khalil—a Columbia graduate detained by ICE and threatened with deportation for his pro-Palestinian activism—is emblematic of this crackdown. Khalil’s refusal to capitulate, even under threat of losing his legal status and being separated from his newborn child, is a courageous act of resistance. His case is not isolated—it is part of a broader campaign to silence dissent, particularly on campuses, where students and faculty are being surveilled, suspended, and expelled for speaking out.

At the same time, we are witnessing a coordinated effort to erase discourses on racism, queer and trans life from our schools and libraries. Book bans targeting LGBTQ+ themes and authors of color have surged, with thousands of titles removed from shelves across the country. These bans are not just about books—they are about erasing identities, histories, and lived experiences. When we capitulate legally or politically to these efforts, we destroy lives. We do not win democracy or equal rights by surrendering the stories that make those struggles visible.

This writing is a reflection on that reality. It is a call to resist the unprincipled and domineering demands that seek to control thought, erase dissent, and punish defiance. It is a reminder that history has shown us the cost of silence—and the power of resistance.

### History’s Blueprint for Defiance

Oppressive regimes have long relied on censorship, surveillance, and fear to maintain control. Yet, noncompliance—often at great personal cost—has repeatedly disrupted these systems. The printing press shattered the monopoly on information held by religious and political elites. Despite bans and book burnings, underground pamphlets fueled revolutions. During the Inquisition, the Catholic Church suppressed dissenting texts. Thinkers like Galileo Galilei and Baruch Spinoza refused to stay silent, laying the foundations for modern science and philosophy.

In France, Alfred Dreyfus, a Jewish army officer, was falsely accused of treason in 1894. His conviction, rooted in antisemitism and institutional cover-up, sparked a national crisis. Émile Zola’s open letter “*J’Accuse...!*” exposed the injustice, igniting public outrage. Dreyfus was eventually exonerated, but only after years of resistance.

History offers no shortage of examples. Radical thinkers and organizers who refused to go along—who insisted on naming injustice and imagining alternatives—have been punished, surveilled, and erased. Emma Goldman, for instance, was deported in 1919 for her anti-war activism and anarchist beliefs. But her ideas endured, inspiring future generations. Her repression came during the Palmer Raids—a precursor to the FBI’s later counterintelligence programs - it reveals a longer arc of state repression: Goldman’s deportation was not an anomaly, but part of a continuum that would later include the systematic targeting of Black liberation movements, Indigenous resistance, and anti-imperialist organizers.

### The Black Press and the Power of the Printed Word

In the United States, the Black press became a powerful tool of defiance. Ida B. Wells, born into slavery and raised during Reconstruction, became one of the fiercest voices in American journalism. Her anti-lynching editorials enraged white mobs, who burned down her press. Forced into exile, she continued publishing from

New York and Chicago, documenting racial terror and challenging the nation’s conscience.

The Chicago Defender defied Southern officials who tried to suppress its distribution. Smuggled in suitcases and mailed in secret, it reached Black troops and communities with a message of resistance: “Let us rise.” Its bold stance helped fuel the Great Migration and gave voice to the civil rights movement.

### Broadcasting Defiance: The Legacy of Black Power Radio

In the 1960s and ’70s, Black Power radio stations like KDIA in Oakland became cultural hubs for the movement. DJs and activists used the airwaves to promote self-determination, economic independence, and resistance. These stations bypassed mainstream gatekeepers, broadcasting news of police raids, legal defense efforts, and community organizing. They shaped cultural identity and galvanized collective action.

### Whistleblowers and the Fight for Truth

Newspaper resistance and whistleblower courage also played pivotal roles in challenging repression. Daniel Ellsberg’s leak of the Pentagon Papers in 1971 exposed government deception about Vietnam. The Supreme Court sided with the press, declaring: “The press must be free to publish the news.” Chelsea Manning’s 2010 leak to WikiLeaks revealed war crimes and surveillance. Julian Assange’s platform challenged state secrecy, igniting fierce debates about press freedom. These acts of digital resistance forced journalism to confront power.

**Appeasement Is Not Protection: The Danger of Cooperation with Repression**  
Today, we see a resurgence of McCarthy-era tactics: congressional committees issuing subpoenas to universities, unions, and media outlets, demanding internal documents and communications. Institutions are being threatened with defunding, loss of accreditation, or revocation of broadcast licenses—not for criminal acts, but for expressing dissent, revealing inconvenient truths, or refusing to align with reactionary policies.

Some may believe that cooperating with these inquiries will spare them. That by handing over names, softening their programming, or distancing themselves from controversial voices, they can survive. But history teaches otherwise. You cannot appease a bully. You cannot negotiate with a system that thrives on fear and punishment. The moment you comply, you validate the premise that dissent is dangerous—and you become complicit in its suppression.

Unions that betray their members under pressure lose their moral authority. Radio stations that dilute their message to retain their license lose their soul. Universities that sacrifice academic freedom to preserve funding cease to be places of learning. The cost of going along is not just reputational—it is existential. You lose the very thing you were meant to protect: the right to speak, to teach, to organize, to resist.

### The Ideology of Noncompliance

Repressive systems thrive on fear and conformity. They sell the illusion that submission equals safety. But history proves otherwise. Compliance doesn’t protect—it makes one complicit. Ostrich politics—burying your head to avoid conflict—only emboldens the system designed to silence dissent.

Resistance is survival through solidarity. Galileo



didn’t survive by appeasing the Church—he survived by truth. Ida B. Wells didn’t protect herself by retreating—she exposed the horror. Black Power radio didn’t play it safe—it played it loud. Dreyfus didn’t regain justice through quiet endurance—it took a nation’s reckoning. Mahmoud Khalil didn’t survive by compromise—he survived by refusing to disappear.

### Why Resistance Matters Now

Repression thrives when we convince ourselves that playing nice will save us. But history speaks louder. Courage isn’t the absence of fear—it’s action in spite of it. Movements survive because people refuse to be isolated. Shared defiance is harder to silence. Censorship is a war on stories. Telling the truth—especially when forbidden—is revolutionary.

We must speak out about Palestine, especially now, when it has become the dominant issue around which speech is being repressed. We must defend the right to teach about racism, queer and trans life, and the lived experiences of marginalized communities. When we capitulate—legally, politically, or institutionally—we destroy lives. We do not win democracy or equal rights by erasing the very people who demand them.

We will not water down truth to fit inside the margins of state approval. We will not mistake tolerance for protection or diplomacy for justice. Noncompliance is not conflict—it is care. Survival demands voice, not disappearance.

### The Refusal to Vanish

You don’t survive repression by submitting. You survive it by speaking. Every act of defiance—every uncensored broadcast, every underground newspaper, every whistleblower’s leak—is a refusal to disappear.

From Ida B. Wells to Black Power radio, from Daniel Ellsberg to Chelsea Manning, from Mahmoud Khalil to every author fighting book bans and students and teachers fighting curriculum erasure—the message is clear: truth is not negotiable. Compliance rewards the powerful—not the compliant.

So we speak, even when it shakes us. We resist, even when it costs us. Because silence is complicity—and we were never meant to vanish.

**Together, we resist.**  
--Mimi, member, the Ida. B. Wells Media Defense Network

*Mimi Rosenberg is a people’s attorney and the producer of “Equal Rights & Justice” and the co-producer with Ken Nash of “Building Bridges,” which originate at WBAI, the Pacifica radio station in the NY metropolitan area, and air on WPFW (Pacifica’s DC “Jazz with Justice” radio station) and other Pacifica stations and affiliates. She is active in Palestine solidarity, immigrant defense, labor and community organizing around housing as a human right, and is a co-founder of the Ida B. Wells Media Defense Network, which grew out of a working group established during a town hall organized by Pacifica Fightback, a national coalition of listeners and programmers at Pacifica stations and affiliates in response to threats to democratic governance, diversity, and the airing of revolutionary voices of solidarity and resistance from Black, Indigenous, Raza, AAPI and other community voices on Pacifica. The Ida B. Wells Media Defense Network website was in development as TTT went to press, but the Pacifica Fightback coalition can be found at <https://pacificafightback.org> or reached at [pacificafightback@gmail.com](mailto:pacificafightback@gmail.com). Register for a virtual town hall Aug. 23: <https://tinyurl.com/PFB-8-23-25>*

# Live Like the World is Dying Podcast: Michael Novick on Antifascism

<https://www.liveliketheworldisdying.com/s1e84-michael-novick-on-antifascist-struggle/>

(Lightly edited for clarity)

**Inmn:** Hello, and welcome to Live Like the World is Dying, your podcast for what feels like the end times. I’m your host Inmn Neruin and I use they/them pronouns. This week we are talking about something that is very scary and, in terms of things we think about being prepared for, something that is far more likely to impact our lives than say, a zombie apocalypse. We’re already being impacted by this. It is actively killing us. But, if I had to choose between preparing for this and preparing for living in a bunker for 10 years, I would choose this. Oh, golly, I really hope preparing for this doesn’t involve living in a bunker for 10 years, though. But the monster of this week is fascism. However, there’s a really great solution to fascism…antifascism. And we have a guest today who has spent a lot of their life thinking about and participating in antifascism.

I have with me today writer and organizer Michael Novick, a co-founder of the John Brown Anti Klan Committee, People Against Racist Terror, Anti-Racist Action Network, the TORCH Antifa Network and of White People For Black Lives in Los Angeles. Michael, would you like to introduce yourself with your name, pronouns and your history in anti-racist, antifascist struggles and a little bit about what you want to tell us about today?

**Michael:** Sure. Thanks, Inmn. So, Michael Novick. Pronouns he or they. I’ve been doing anti-racist and antifascist organizing and educating and work for many many decades at this point. I’m in my 70s. I got involved in political activism in anti-war, civil rights, student rights work in the 60s. I was in SDS [Students for a Democratic Society] at Brooklyn College. I’ve been doing that work from an anti white supremacist, anti-capitalist, anti-imperialist perspective.

I think that particularly trying to understand fascism in the US context, you have to look at questions of settler colonialism. People sometimes use the term ‘racial capitalism’. I think that land theft, genocide, enslavement of people of African descent, especially is central to understanding the social formation of this country.

I was struck by the name of the podcast in terms of “live like the world is ending,” because for a long time, I had an analysis that said that the fear of the end of the world had to do with the projection of the bourgeoisie’s fears. The bourgeoisie feels that its rule is coming to an end and therefore thinks the world is coming to an end, but the world will get on fine without the bourgeoisie and the rulers and the imperialists.

Except that because of the lease on life that this empire has gotten repeatedly by the setbacks caused by white and male supremacy and the way it undermines people’s movements, the bourgeoisie is actually in a position to bring the world itself to an end. I think that what we’re facing is a global crisis of the Earth’s system, based on imperialism, based on settler colonialism, and exploitation of the Earth itself.

So I think it’s not just preparing for individual survival in those circumstances. We have to think about how we can put an end to a system that’s destroying the basis for life on the planet. And so I think that those are critical understandings.

And the turn towards fascism that we’re seeing across the globe…you know, Anti-Racist Action’s analysis has always been that fascism is built from above and below and that there are forces within society, I think particularly because of settler colonialism, there is a mass base for fascism in this country, as well as an elite preference for it under the kind of circumstances that we’re looking at, in which, as I said the basis for life itself has been damaged by imperialism, capitalism, and its manifestations. And so the need for extreme repressive measures, and for genocidal approaches, and exterminationist approaches are at hand.

So, I think that, again, the question of preparation is preparation for those kinds of circumstances. I think we’re living in a kind of low intensity civil war situation already, in which you see the use of violence by the State, obviously, but also by non-state forces that people have to deal with. So I think that that’s the overall approach that I think we need to think about. And that comes out of, as I said, decades of doing work.

There are a few key things that we have to understand about this system, which is that it’s not just issues that we face, but there is an enemy, there is a system that is trying to propagate and sustain itself that is inimical to life and inimical to freedom. And that if we want to protect our lives and the lives of other species and if we want to protect people’s freedom going forward, we have to recognize that there’s an irreconcilable contradiction



between those things and between the system that we live in. So that’s kind of a sobering perspective. But, I think it’s an important one.

**Inmn :** Yeah, it is. And it’s funny, something that you said, kind of made a gear turn in my head. So, you know, normally, we do talk about in preparing to live like the world is dying, we usually come at it from this context of that being a bad thing that we need to prepare for bad things to happen. But, the way you were talking about like fascism and empire and stuff, I suddenly thought, “Wait, maybe we should live like that world is dying and like there is something better ahead.” Because, you know, we do like to approach the show from…we like to talk about the bad things that are happening but also the hopefulness and the brighter futures that we can imagine.

**Michael:** It’s really important to have both of those understandings. People do not actually get well organized out of despair. You know, there used to be a group called Love and Rage. And you have to have both those aspects. You have to have the rage against the machine and the rage against the system that’s destroying people, but you have to have the love, you have to have that sense of solidarity and the idea of a culture of not just resistance but a culture of liberation and a culture of solidarity.

I think that there’s a dialectic between the power of the State and of these oppressive forces, and the power of the people. To the extent that the people can exert their power and to the extent that we can free ourselves from, you know, the chains of mental slavery …[Sings a sort of tune] you hear in reggae, you know, that actually weakens the power of the State and the power of the corporations. And they [the State, the rulers] understand that sometimes better than we do.

So there are some lessons I feel like I’ve learned and one of them is that every time there is a liberatory movement based out of people’s experiences and the contradictions that are experienced in their lives, whether it’s the gay liberation movement, women’s liberation movement, or Black liberation and freedom struggle, there’s always an attempt by the rulers to take that over and to reintegrate it into bourgeois, individualistic ways of thinking.

People talk about hegemony and the concept that the ruling ideas are the ideas of the ruling class, and I think that, I’ve seen it happen over and over again with different movements. I was involved with Bay Area Gay Liberation in the 70s and, one of the things that happened there is that you saw very quickly a different language coming up and different issues coming up. Suddenly the question of gays in the military was put forward, or we have to be concerned about the fact that gay people have to hide when they’re in the military, and the question of normalizing gay relationships in the contract form of marriage came forward. Those were basically efforts to circumscribe and contain the struggle for gay liberation and to break down gender binaries, keep it within the confines of bourgeois conceptions of rights and integration into militarism and contractual economic relationships.

And you saw that over and over again. In terms of the Women’s Liberation Movement, all of a sudden you’ve got bourgeois feminism and white women feminism. And I think that that’s really important to understand because it means that there’s a struggle inside every movement to grasp the contradiction and to maintain a kind of self determined analysis and strategy for how that movement is going to carry itself forward in opposition to what the rulers of this society—who rely heavily on, as I say, white supremacy, male supremacy, settler colonialism, and its manifestations—use to try to contain and suppress insurrectionary ideas

…And you see the same thing within the preparedness movement. There’s the dominant politics of the preparedness movement I think that I’ve seen over many years are actually white supremacist. They’re maintaining the homestead of settler colonial land theft. So you have to understand that that’s a contradiction in that movement that has to be faced and overcome and struggled with.

I think having such an understanding is critical to really trying to chart a path forward that will create wedge issues on our side of the of the ledger, so to speak, and begin to break people away from identification with the Empire, identification with whiteness, identification with privilege.

One of the issues I’ve had over a long time, for example, what I struggle for is people’s understanding about the question of privilege. As I said, there were struggles in the 60s and early 70s about what we called white skin privilege. I think that it’s critical to understand that privilege functions throughout the system all the time. It’s not a burden of guilt, it’s a mechanism of social control.

Anything you have as privilege can be taken away. Privilege is a mechanism of actually obtaining consent and adherence …You know, parents use privileges with their kids to try to get their kids to do what they want. Teachers use privilege with students to get the students to do what they want, Prison guards use privileges with prisoners to get the prisoners to follow the rules and stay incarcerated. And so, you know, that’s a mechanism of Imperial domination, of settler colonialism, and certainly within that context. So, it’s not an illness or a…It’s not something to be guilty about.

It’s something to contend with and deal with. Understand that if there are things you have as privileges that you think are yours by right or by merit, you’re deluding yourself, and you can’t actually function by not facing reality. So when you understand that they are privileges, you understand that they’re there to obtain your consent and your adherence, and your compliance, your complicity, your complacency, then you have to actually resist those privileges or turn those privileges into weapons that you can use to actually weaken the powers that be.

I used to do a lot of work with people in the Philippines struggle, and they talked about the fact that, outside the US Army bases that were imposed in the Philippines, there was a rank order of privilege, like where some people could dig in the part of the garbage dumps of the US military to get better quality stuff that was being thrown out by the military. And so that kind of hierarchy and sense of organizing people by hierarchy, by privilege, is how the system functions at every level.

In the workplace they find different privileges that people have to try to divide workers from each other and get people to struggle for privilege as opposed to actually struggle for solidarity and resistance and a different world. And I think that having that understanding begins to free people. Steven Biko was the leader of the Black Consciousness Movement in South Africa that really helped propel it moving forward. One of the things he said is that, “The greatest weapon in the hands of the oppressor is the minds of the oppressed.” And, you know, I think to the extent that we can start to free our minds of these structures, we can actually begin to weaken the oppressor and strengthen the struggling and creative powers and energies of people to really build a different world.

**Inmn:** Sorry, this is gonna seem like a silly question because it feels very basic. I love to kind of break things down into their base levels. But, what is fascism?

**Michael:** Good question. I think that an important analysis of fascism that I came across is from Aimè Cesaire in his *Discourse on Colonialism*. And what he said is that, “Fascism is the application in the metropole (of the colonizing power) of the methods of rule that have been used in the colonies.” I think that’s a critical understanding because, as I said, the US is a settler colonial system, so elements of what we now call fascism have always been present within the political, economic, and social structure of the United States, because there are internally colonized people and stolen land.

So, if you’re looking at elements of fascism, there’s hyper masculinity, there’s hyper nationalism, there’s obviously slave labor, there’s genocide, there’s violent repression of labor, there’s incorporation of a mass base into kind of a visceral identification with a leader. And all of those things really have manifested themselves in US history long before we or Mussolini used the term, “fascism.”

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# Live Like the World is Dying Podcast: Michael Novick on Antifascism

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And so, the US is based on land theft, on genocide, on exterminationist policies towards the indigenous people, the enslavement of African people, and also on the incorporation of a mass base based on settler colonialism and the offering of privileges to a sector of the population to say, “Okay, we’re going to participate along with the rulers in this system.” It’s important to get that because people often think that fascism is an aberration or a particularly extreme form of dictatorial rule.

But I think that it’s really a way of trying to reorganize people’s personalities around their role within an empire, you know, it’s trying to control the way people think, and control the way people see themselves in relation to other people. I think that idea that fascism is built from above and below is important because we do see fascist elements that have some contradictions with the state. And we’ve seen that, for example, in January 6, 2021.

You know, the government has gone after certain of these elements because they have moved too quickly. Or, the same way that there were so-called “premature antifascists” during the World War II period and they went after the people in the Abraham Lincoln Brigade.

Sometimes there are sort of premature proto-fascists in this society that have contradictions with the State, and they’re operating somewhat independently. So, you know, I think that it’s important to understand that and that there are also elements in the State and the big bourgeoisie and within the different sections of the State that have their own operative plans.

For example, when you look at the question of police abuse and police brutality, there’s one approach to it that certain elements in the State take, which is about command and control. They want to make sure that they control the police forces and that individual officers are not acting independently but are carrying out cohesive state strategies. At the same time, there are elements within law enforcement that are trying to organize individual cops for organized white supremacy. And, it’s the same thing in the military.

And so there are contradictions there that we have to be aware of, but at the same time, they’re operating within a framework of settler colonialism, of organized white supremacy. So, one of the things that’s come up recently, for example, is this question... how can there be non-white white supremacists or fascists? I think it has to do with the fact that it’s not just your identity, or your racial identity that’s a factor there but who do you identify with... What’s your identification?

Are you identifying with the Empire? Are you identifying with the bourgeoisie? Are you identifying with the settler colonial project that has shaped the whole globe over the course of half a millennium? Or, are you identifying with the indigenous? Are you identifying with the struggling people? It’s not a question of your skin color but which side of the line are you on?

**Inmn:** How do attempts by the State or by society to assimilate various oppressed people into the Empire factor into this?

**Michael:** Well, if you look at the history of, say, Central America is one case in point, there were fascist forces in Central America and their base was not really within their own society. Their base was within the Empire. And so, you had death squads operating, you had mercenaries operating, you had contras [counter revolutionaries] operating in Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, carrying out genocidal policies, in many cases, against indigenous people and people of African descent within their own societies.

That’s not exactly fascism in the same way, but it certainly is aspects of a police state and death squad activity that has to be resisted. So I think that, you know, when you see Enrique Tarrio and some of these people that are, quote unquote, “Hispanic,” operating as proto-fascists with the Proud Boys or these other formations in the United States, that’s a manifestation of the same thing, that there are people who have identified themselves with a system of white supremacy and a system of domination, a system of exploitation, and they’re trying to make their own individual peace with it and they have collective mechanisms that reinforce that.

I think that the fascism has presented itself at times as a decolonizing element or ideology in Latin America and Asia and other places ... For example, when the Japanese Empire was trying to strengthen itself and formed an alliance with Italian fascism and German Nazism, they also presented themselves in Asia as liberators of Asia from European colonialism. And, you know, then they carried out atrocities of their own in China, Indochina, and Korea. So, I think that nobody is exempt from



this. It’s not a genetic factor. It is what ideology... What’s the organizing principle that people are operating under to form their society and generate their power? If that’s militaristic, if it’s hierarchical, if it’s exploitative, then regardless of what the skin tone of somebody carrying that out is, it can be fascist in its nature.

**Inmn:** I like something that you said earlier, which I think is an interesting frame. People in the US, you might hear people like, talk about the rise of fascism, or the emergence of fascism, as if it’s this new thing, you know? And I like how you read it, in the formation of the United States as a nationalistic identity with this idea that fascism has always been here, fascism has always been a part of the settler colonial project of the United States.

**Michael:** I was gonna follow up on that. If you look at the countries in which fascism came to power in Europe, they were mainly countries where they felt they were not adequate empires in their own right. In other words, Spain, even Portugal, France, England, you know, had empires. Germany came late to imperialism and even to the formation of a German state, the German bourgeoisie was not able to really unify all the Germans into a single nation. Same thing with Italy. Italy was a bunch of mini states and city states and came late to the formation of a national sense of Italy.

And so I think that European fascism presented itself as an overarching ideology rooted in a mythical past that could galvanize a nation and launch it into an imperial mode where it could compete with other empires.

So the US context is a little different because, as I say, from the very beginning it had that element of settler colonialism and cross-class alliance in which not only the bourgeoisie but even working people could be induced to participate in that project of land theft and genocide. There’s a famous book called “*How the Irish Became White*” by Noel Ignatiev who talked about how white supremacy affected Irish workers. And what he didn’t really look at was that there was some Irish involved right from the very beginning and trying to overturn the land relationships between settlers and the Indigenous. There was a land theft and a land hunger that they had, and so, for example, even before the question of relation between Irish workers and Black workers came up, there were Irish in the United States that wanted to overturn the agreements that had been reached in Pennsylvania between the Quakers and the indigenous people in Pennsylvania. The Irish wanted land and they wanted to participate in taking that land from the native people. And then that had repercussions back in Ireland itself because the US Empire and its opportunities, and those land thefts then affected the consciousness of the Irish within Ireland itself and weakened the Irish struggle for independence from British colonialism, because there was a safety valve of the US Empire.

It’s critical to look at these things because it gives us a sense of what is at stake at different times and what’s at issue. Looking at the question of decolonization, looking at the question of solidarity and unity, is the flip side to this. If we only look at the power of the bourgeoisie, if we look at the power of the fascists, it can be intimidating or overwhelming or depressing.

And I think that that when you talk about preparedness and some of these things, you’re talking about what are the generative and creative powers of the people themselves; because Imperialism and Capitalism are based on a parasitical relationship. They’re extracting wealth from the Earth itself and from the labor of people and turning it into a power over the Earth and over the people. It has become necrotic, killing what it touches.

Understanding that actually all that wealth that the system has, all the power that the system has is actually coming out of the people who are oppressed and exploited, and the land, gives us a sense of what our own powers are and what our own capacity

to be creative and generative are. To the extent we exercise those, it weakens them. And I think that that’s a critical understanding.

**Inmn:** Are there ways that fascism is currently manifest that feel different from say, 40 years ago?

**Michael:** Well, I think the whole phenomenon of social media and the way in which they very effectively organized these Neofascist forces through the gaming scene... hypermasculine gaming stuff ... We talked a little bit about the... I think the reason that people approached me to do this podcast had to do with my essay in “¡No Pasarán!: Antifascist Dispatches from a World in Crisis.” And so that’s a piece where I talked about, you know, some of this history of different struggles over decades and how they... what lessons to extract from them.

But the other book I’ve been working on and put out recently, is called “*The Blue Agave Revolution: Poetry of the Blind Rebel*.” I was approached by Oso Blanco, an indigenous political prisoner here in the United States who was involved with actually robbing banks to support the Zapatistas in Mexico, and he was getting “*Turning the Tide*,” the newspaper I’ve been working on for many years that we send free to prisoners, and he approached me.

He wanted to work on a book and he said he wanted me to work on the book with him. “The Poetry of the Blind Rebel” is a story arc and poetry arc of his work that is a story about the Mexican Revolution of the early 20th century, the 1910s-1920. It’s kind of magical realism. But, he asked me to write some fiction. And so I wrote kind of a short story cycle of a three way fight between vampires, zombies, and humans. And the vampires are basically—I mean, it’s Dracula—but, you know, there’s one point where there’s a woman who has been trying to grapple with this and she forms a cross with two wooden tent stakes and he kind of laughs and says, “Oh, you bought that old wives’ tale. We’re totally integrated into the church and into the State.” Basically, the vampires represent the bourgeoisie because they [the bourgeoisie] are vampiric and parasitic and they have powers.

The zombies in this story are a group of incels that have captured a vampire and they think that they can create a potion from vampire blood that will give them power over women and make them powerful and desirable, irresistible... And instead, they turn themselves into zombies.

And so then there’s a sort of three way fight between the bourgeoisie on the one hand, these vampires who drink blood, and then the fascists from below, these sort of incel zombies that have to eat brains, and then the humans who are trying to deal with both of them. And I think that that’s an important understanding that, you know, there are contradictions between the vampires and zombies but they’re both our enemy.

And so, I think that that’s an approach that we have to understand what they’re doing... You know, it’s not a simple linear equation that’s going on. There’s a lot of things happening. I think that the fascists from below have contradictions with the fascists above, and we can take advantage of that.

But, we have to understand that they’re, vulnerable, you know, it’s not... I think there are weaknesses... [Trails off] Let me go back to this. You know, historically, people have talked about antifascism and anti-imperialism, and there’s been an element in both of those of class collaboration.

A lot of people in the anti-imperialist movement think, “Oh, well, there’s a sort of a national bourgeoisie that also doesn’t like the Empire and wants to exert itself. And we have to ally with them. And a lot of people in antifascist movements have thought, “Oh, well, there’s, you know, bourgeois democrats and liberals who also hate fascism,” and I think that those class collaborationist alliances have been weaknesses historically. Also the contradiction between people who concentrate mostly on antifascism, and the people who concentrate mostly on anti-imperialism, has weakened people’s movements. I think having a kind of overarching understanding that fascism is rooted in Empire, particularly in settler colonialism, and that there isn’t a contradiction between anti-fascism and anti-imperialism, but a need for a different kind of both, combined.

We have to find the forces of popular resistance that will overturn both fascism and imperialism... and capitalism. And, to do that we have to have a self determined struggle for decolonization and to recognize people’s self determination in their own struggles and their own capacity to live in a different way and to begin to create a different future. You know, in the song *Solidarity Forever*, we say, “Build a new world from the ashes of the old.” ....Continues in the next issue or online

## 100X100 Campaign to Increase Publication Frequency of *Turning the Tide*

Over its 37+ year publishing history, *TTT* has been published in magazine format, as a 24-page tabloid, and from time to time on a bi-monthly basis, six issues a year. For the last few years, economic necessity has dictated that we guarantee four 8-page issues a year. To restore bi-monthly publication, we launched a fund-raising campaign we’ve dubbed “**100X100.**”

We are still looking for one hundred people who will donate \$100 a year, or \$10/mo, to make it possible for *TTT* to resume publishing six issues a year, and continue mailing about 1700 copies of each issue into the prisons. You can donate at [http://ko-fi.com/anti\\_racist\\_action\\_la](http://ko-fi.com/anti_racist_action_la). Help it go viral!

*Turning the Tide* doesn’t print itself, or mail itself. Some prisoners who get the paper contribute a few stamps.. Often, they pass the copy of *TTT* that they received from hand to hand, cell to cell, or they send in the names and addresses of half-a-dozen or more other prisoners. **Prisoners, if you can find donors or subscribers outside prison to subsidize your sub, that would help a lot!**

If you’d like to see *Turning the Tide* more frequently, if you want to contribute to breaking down the walls of isolation and separation imposed by the prison system, please contribute. If you can’t manage \$100 all at once, you could donate \$10 a month. But any donation you make can help. Postage costs for a single issue of *TTT* are \$1000 and climbing. If you can’t donate yourself, please help spread the campaign via your social media, to your Facebook friends, X or Bluesky followers, and email contacts. Everything helps. Nobody makes a dime from working on *TTT*.

If the campaign is successful, we will resume publishing every other month in 2026. Postage is our biggest expense. Nobody gets paid at *TTT*. But the Postal Service is not so generous. We have a handful of people who are sustainers, making a monthly donation, a larger number of people who subscribe once a year or so. Right now, we are at about 10% of our goal. LA area supporters could set up house meetings, where the editor will pitch to your friends for support. The future of *Turning the Tide* is in your hands. Now, while you’re thinking about it, go to:

**[https://ko-fi.com/anti\\_racist\\_action\\_la](https://ko-fi.com/anti_racist_action_la)**

and donate, or use paypal to [antiracistaction\\_la@yahoo.com](mailto:antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com) if you prefer. Then share it with your contacts. With your help, *Turning the Tide* can step up to the “urgency of now” -- the necessity for radical organizing, educating and analyzing to respond to the growing crisis of the Empire -- endless war, police terror with impunity, mass incarceration, colonialism, ecological devastation that will shortly become irreversible.

If you think *TTT* is a useful tool in the struggle for people’s power and a new world, please donate today. If you wish, you can also just send cash, check or money order to

**Anti-Racist Action, PO Box 1055, Culver City CA 90232.**

# Patriot Front prioritizes “Europeans” in so-called “relief work” after TX floods

https://atlantablackstar.com/2025/07/11/patriot-front-claims-its-prioritizing-european-peoples/

**Excerpt:**

A white supremacist group claims it’s helping flood victims in central Texas. Patriot Front has declared it’s part of “disaster relief” efforts, according to The Guardian, after catastrophic flooding swept through Kerr County, killing at least 120 people, including dozens of children, and leaving more than 170 missing.

Raging flood waters from the Guadalupe River overwhelmed unsuspecting holiday campers and Fourth of July revelers who had almost no warning before the disaster struck as the river overran its banks before dawn,

rising more than 25 feet in just a couple of hours.

“Patriot Front is on the ground in Central Texas after a flood killed over 100 Americans,” the group’s leader, Thomas Rousseau, a Texas native, posted in a video on the Telegram app. Rousseau couldn’t help including his racist views in his post, adding that his group “is prioritizing their ‘people’ and ‘European peoples’ in those operations,” according to The Guardian.

That kind of hate speech doesn’t surprise Heidi Beirich. She’s the co-founder of the Global Project Against Hate and Extremism and has been researching

rightwing extremism for decades. She told the news site it’s part of Patriot Front’s playbook to be “inserting itself into disaster relief in Texas.”

“We’ve seen David Duke do this in the past, and more recently, Veterans on Patrol inserted themselves into the relief efforts in Asheville [North Carolina] after last year’s hurricane.

“The concern is that it works – and Patriot Front’s white supremacist agenda gets laundered as positive, and that helps them spread hate and recruit,” she continued.

## The Great Confinement: Fascism Was Always Here.

by Jessica Wildfire, Sentinel Intelligence:  
https://substack.com/home/post/p-169234903 [Excerpt]

“When fascism comes to America, it will be wrapped in the flag and carrying the cross.” Most of us have heard that quote before. It’s traced back to Sinclair Lewis, the satirical novelist who wrote *It Can’t Happen Here*, a dystopian novel about the rise of the Nazis in America. There’s some debate about whether he said those exact words, but that’s what he was getting at. There’s just one problem:

Fascism didn’t have to “come” to America. It was already here.

US race laws, westward expansion, and eugenics movements inspired Hitler. He knew about them. He studied them. He admired them. He emulated them. For evidence up front, you can read Isabel Wilkerson’s *Caste*, Edwin Black’s *War Against The Weak*, Carroll Kakel’s *The American West and the Nazi East*, Claudio Saunt’s *Unworthy Republic*, and James Whitman’s *Hitler’s American Model*. Everything Hitler did, everything you read about now, the US did first, all the way back in the 1830s and earlier. Americans invented modern genocide.

It was an export.

As political scientist David Carroll Cochran writes, Hitler studied British extermination policies against the Irish and US extermination policies against the Native Americans. He used them as a blueprint for his own plans to expand Germany. When Sinclair Lewis was somewhat naively warning that fascism could happen in the US, Hitler was engaging in regular correspondence with US eugenicists and learning from founding fathers like George Washington and Thomas Jefferson, who built the U.S. as we know it on the explicit extermination of Native Americans.

These same colonists made more rapid westward expansion a primary justification for the Revolutionary War against Britain, citing it specifically in the Declaration of Independence. Indeed, one of the largest military actions of the war was the Continental Army’s attack on the Iroquois Confederation. After George Washington ordered the “total destruction and devastation of their settlements” so they would be “driven” out by “terror,” the US military established its pattern for the next century by expelling Native people from their homeland through a campaign of brutally indiscriminate violence.

After the U.S. won independence, Thomas Jefferson directly threatened to exterminate all Native Americans who didn’t leave voluntarily from areas they wished to settle. He called them “the doomed red race.”

Hitler grew up reading western novels. He recommended them to his generals. He praised the American West in Mein Kampf. He even used terms like “Redskins,” the “Wild East,” and “Indians” to refer to the Eastern Europeans he planned to colonize and displace. In his own words, “Here in the east a similar process will repeat itself for the second time as in the conquest of America...Our Mississippi must be the Volga.” Yes, those were Hitler’s words.

When the German geographer Friedrich Ratzel developed the term Lebensraum, he explicitly drew on Frederick Jackson Turner’s “frontier thesis,” the notion of whites civilizing the American West. Hitler and his government saw the “Reservations” for what they were: concentration camps.

Hitler refined his thinking about genocide with US ideas, including eugenics. In 1916, a prominent US lawyer and anthropologist named Madison Grant published *The Passing of The Great Race*, a book that announced the racial superiority of Nordic cultures. Grant promoted an early version of Replacement Theory, warning that “catering to weaklings” would bring about the downfall of civilization. (He also wanted to put African tribes on display at the Bronx Zoo.) Hitler wrote a fawning letter to Grant. Hitler said, “The book is my Bible.”

Even the Journal of the American Medical Association



The recent controversy over Sydney Sweeney and her “good jeans/genes” has deep roots in US Eugenics teaching and practices that inspired Hitler’s genocide.

endorsed eugenics in their coverage of The International Eugenics Congress in 1912. Most Americans don’t understand how much support the eugenics movement gained here and how deep it went. As Johns Hopkins biologist Steven Farber writes, “these ideas were not fringe but widely held and taught in universities.”

In 1910, J.H. Kellogg (the cereal guy) helped found the Eugenics Record Office, working with Stanford President David Starr Jordan. That work led to the establishment of the Eugenics Research Association and the American Eugenics Society. They wanted to sterilize up to a tenth of the population. These programs identified 10 classes of “unfit” people who should be

“sterilized” if not “eliminated.” Here were their criteria: The feeble-minded; The poor; Alcoholics; All criminals; Epileptics; The “insane”; The “weak”; The “deformed”; The deaf and blind; The chronically ill.

History teaches us that fascism didn’t arrive here from Germany. The ideas go back hundreds of years, and they lie at the roots of US and European history. When we look at what’s going on now, here and abroad, we understand that it’s not an aberration of history. It’s a norm. If we ever hope to stop this, we have to recognize the patterns and how they fit together. That’s called education.

This is why fascist governments erase history from their classrooms. It’s why they ban books. They don’t want us to know that European leper colonies and jail designs inspired US westward expansion, that US westward expansion inspired Hitler, and the Holocaust feeds back into the executive orders to jail the homeless and build concentration camps for immigrants, or war crimes and forced starvation halfway around the world.

Throughout modern history, western cultures have engaged in great confinements, locking up their unwanted in asylums, reservations, and concentration camps, either exterminating them or watching them die. It was never an accident. Fascism didn’t have to arrive here wrapped in a flag or carrying a cross.

A lot of you already understand all this. If you didn’t already understand... Now you do.



## URGENT APPEAL

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**Postage alone for this issue comes to \$1000. We would like to increase the size and frequency of Turning the Tide, but we can only do it with your support. If you’re a prisoner and can send stamps or get someone outside the walls to subsidize your subscription, please do so. If you work with an info shop or other zine or record distro, please consider ordering a bundle of TTT to distribute; \$5 will get you 20 copies. And check out our 100X100 campaign elsewhere in this issue. If you live in L.A. or nearby, we can come to house meetings to speak and collect donations for the paper. Email [antiracistaction\\_la@yahoo.com](mailto:antiracistaction_la@yahoo.com) or donate here: [https://ko-fi.com/anti\\_racist\\_action\\_la](https://ko-fi.com/anti_racist_action_la)**

# BAP Condemns the Zionist Brutalization and Detainment of Chris Smalls

The Black Alliance for Peace (BAP) unequivocally denounces the brutal assault and abduction of Amazon Labor Union co-founder Chris Smalls, who was detained by the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). Though he is now released, the exceptionally heinous treatment of Smalls by the Zionist state forces demonstrates the historical neurotic fear of any interconnection between Black / African resistance to white supremacy and resistance to capitalist exploitation.

As part of the 21-member international collective aboard the aid ship Handala, a flotilla that was headed to Gaza to protest and break the blockade on the Palestinian people collectively being starved to death, Smalls was the only member of the group beaten and choked by IDF agents. He was also the only Black person aboard the ship. While the IDF stopped, boarded, and abducted all the activists on board, they did not use the same level of force against the other passengers or crew that they brutally applied against Smalls.

The special brutality meted out to Smalls is another example of the racist, white supremacy at the core of Israeli settler colonialism and explains both their genocide against Palestinians and the relative silence and support for it by the West. This racist violence reflects the reality of how African Jews from various countries are viewed and treated in Israel. Even as we have seen African Jews in the IDF carrying out unconscionable violence upon Palestinians, they are subjected to the forms of racist hatred that the same IDF meted out to Smalls, and worse. The lack of response from the U.S. government regarding the treatment of Smalls also reflects the way this state views Black/ African residents in the country, and highlights the continuity of white supremacist settler colonialism across both of these violent and genocidal nations.

For some time now, Small’s example has highlighted a vital understanding that the

## How CIA-backed tech giant Palantir aids Israeli genocide in Gaza with AI, Surveillance

By Ivan Kesic Presstv.ir [Excerpts]

Palantir Technologies, the controversial US data analytics firm founded by CIA-backed Trump supporter Peter Thiel, has embedded itself deeply within American military and intelligence systems, including the Israeli war machine committing genocide in Gaza.

Specializing in data analytics, artificial intelligence (AI), and big data processing, Palantir has exerted significant influence across both government and commercial sectors. The company has its roots in Silicon Valley, but is now based in Denver, Colorado, with more offices in Palo Alto, New York, and globally. Founded in 2003 by Peter Thiel, Alex Karp, Joe Lonsdale, Stephen Cohen, and Nathan Gettings, the company has grown into a global player, sparking controversy due to its links to the Israeli military-industrial complex.

Established with initial backing from In-Q-Tel, the Central Intelligence Agency’s (CIA) venture capital arm, Palantir received significant investment from Thiel’s Founders Fund and other venture capitalists. Their clients include the US intelligence community, like the National Security Agency (NSA) and CIA, the Department of Defense, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), as well as the UK’s National Health Service (NHS), and international entities like the Israeli and Ukrainian military. It also serves private firms like Airbus and BP. [TTT note: Palantir is deeply involved with so-called “predpol” (predictive -- or better said, predatory -- policing tech), a high-tech version of racial-profiling used by the LAPD and other law enforcement agencies in the US] Palantir Technologies reported \$2.23 billion in revenue for 2023, with a market cap exceeding \$50 billion in 2025, reflecting strong growth in military and commercial contracts. The company’s core products include Palantir Gotham, used by military and intelligence agencies for terrorism and counterterrorism, predictive policing, and geospatial analysis.

### Grave ethical concerns

Observers and analysts argue that Palantir’s dominance in government contracts, often secured without competitive bidding due to its deep CIA ties, stifles innovation and raises antitrust issues. The company’s secretive nature, rooted in its intelligence origins, has fueled distrust. Its refusal to disclose full client lists or algorithmic details fuels transparency concerns.

Palantir’s work with US agencies like ICE has drawn ire for enabling mass deportation programs, resulting in employee backlash. A 2019 investigation by The Intercept revealed Palantir’s role in tracking undocumented immigrants, leading to reports of facilitating human rights abuses. In 2020, over 200 Palantir employees signed a letter opposing the ICE contract, highlighting internal dissent over the company’s ethical direction.

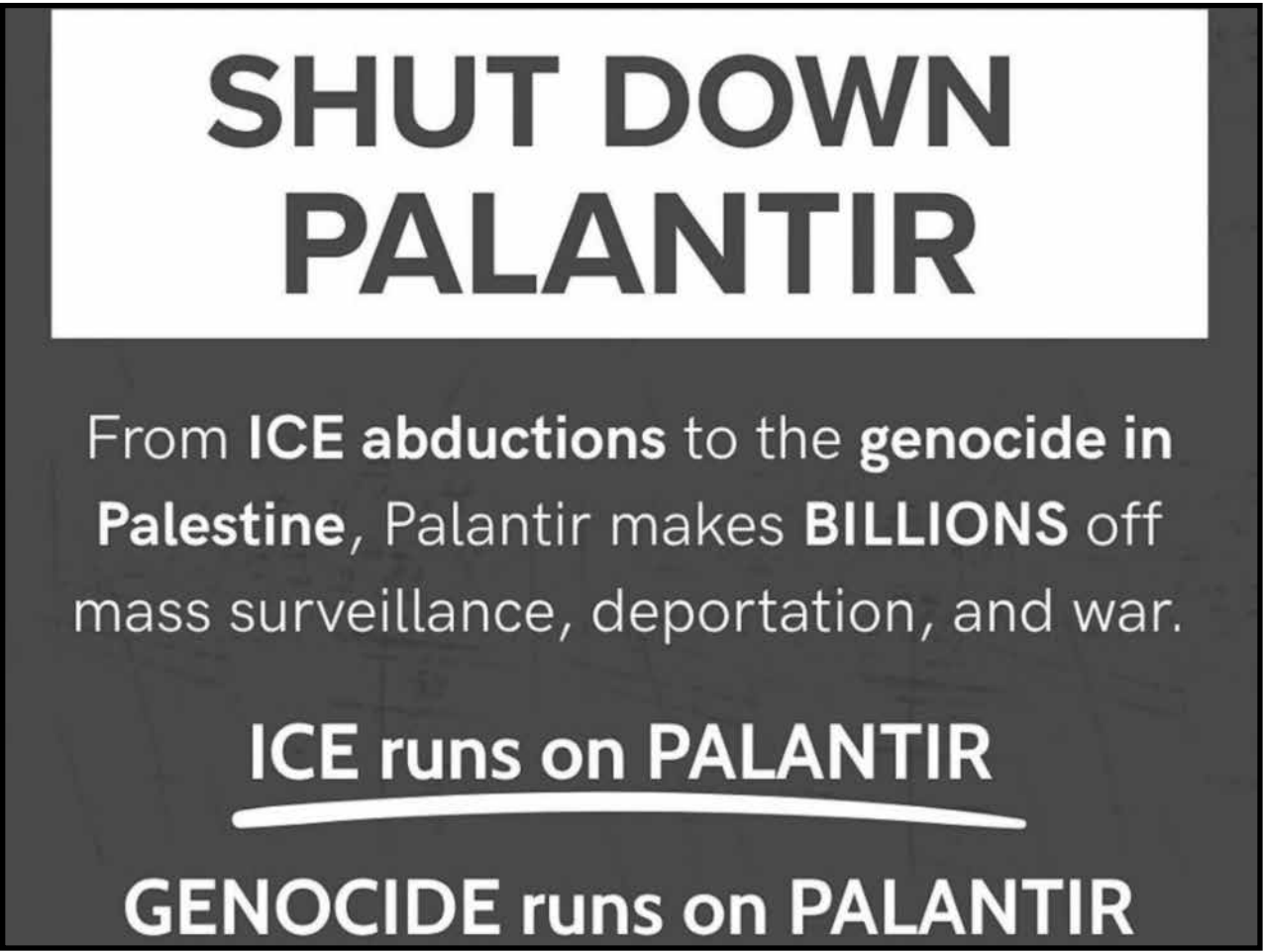
The use of Palantir Gotham in predictive policing has sparked controversy over racial profiling and bias in AI algorithms. Critics cite studies showing disproportionate targeting of minority communities. Reports of inadequate data protection surfaced in a 2021 lawsuit by former company employees, who claimed that Palantir mishandled

liberation of any domestic working class is inextricably linked to the defeat of U.S.-led Western imperialist domination. This attack on a working-class, anti-imperialist leader further highlights the connection between domestic oppression and Western imperialism, where the U.S. and its allies— including Israel— act with impunity. This lack of meaningful action against the Zionist occupation and genocidal acceleration of the state of Israel, as well as the U.S.’s consistent support and own human rights violations, motivates BAP’s call to ban the United States and Israel from hosting or participating in international sporting events. While this is but one strategy, what is clear is that more efforts toward anti-imperialist multilateralism are needed, represented through movement efforts like the Friends of The Hague Group (FOTHG), state-based support by The Hague Group, and consistent solidarity with the Axis of Resistance. It is this impunity that has allowed this genocide in Gaza to continue unabated for almost two years, that has contributed to the deepening siege and theft of the West Bank, and that has permitted the brutalization of Chris Smalls to occur with little uproar from so-called progressives and liberal elites. The capture, brutalization, and imprisonment of Smalls by the fascist and racist IDF underscores the urgent need for solidarity between African/Black and Palestinian struggles. The lack of consequences for Israel reflects not only the hypocrisy of so-called democratic nations but also the complicity of the U.S.’s own Black Misleadership Class, which too often aligns with sustaining pan-European, capitalist, patriarchal interests.

Justice for Chris Smalls!

Smash Zionism!

End the U.S./EU/NATO Axis of Domination!



sensitive information, though the case was settled out of court.

Palantir’s collaboration with the US Department of Defense and foreign militaries, such as the Israeli and Ukrainian, has raised grave ethical questions. Its AI-driven targeting systems contribute to targeted civilian casualties, particularly amid the ongoing Israeli genocidal war on Gaza.

In July, it was reported that Palantir had gained control over all patient data across UK hospitals through its management of the NHS’s Federated Data Platform. This sweeping system, implemented in late 2023, centralizes medical records for Britain’s entire population of 67 million people under the supervision of Palantir, provoking strong condemnation from the British Medical Association.

### Ties with the Israeli regime

Palantir has openly affirmed its support for the Israeli regime, with CEO Alex Karp stating in a 2024 LinkedIn post, “We stand with Israel,” and announcing a board meeting in Tel Aviv to enhance regional operations. This followed an upgraded agreement with the Israeli military affairs ministry to support “war-related missions,” in a reference to the genocidal war against Palestinians in Gaza, which has claimed nearly 60,000 lives so far.

Karp is known for his unapologetic and public support of the Israeli genocidal aggression in Gaza and as a promoter of Israeli propaganda against Palestinians. At public appearances, he has often been attacked by the audience for the company’s assistance in killing Palestinian civilians and personal support for Tel Aviv.

Thiel, the company’s co-founder and chairman, is also a vocal pro-Zionist advocate and funder of pro-Israeli tech initiatives via Thiel Capital. Multiple reports highlight Palantir’s provision of AI-driven targeting systems to Israeli military and intelligence agencies, leveraging data from US sources (NSA, via Edward Snowden’s leaks) to enhance precision strikes, notably in Gaza. Tel Aviv’s early adoption of Palantir technology, starting with counterinsurgency efforts in the 2000s, suggests a long-standing partnership.

In 2013, Palantir opened an R&D center in the occupied Palestinian territories to focus on AI, cybersecurity, and military tech. An article in The Nation in 2024 detailed Palantir’s role in supplying AI hardware and software that enabled precise strikes on Gaza, such as the 2023 aid vehicle attack, proving its direct complicity in war crimes. Palantir Technologies supplies its advanced Gotham and Foundry software platforms to the Israeli military and intelligence agencies, including the IOF, Mossad, and Shin Bet. These powerful data analysis tools serve multiple critical functions for the regime.

The company’s support for the Israeli occupation military, including advanced targeting capabilities, has been a focal point of criticism in recent years. Palantir’s AI tools, adaptable for both civilian and military use, are said to aid Israeli missile systems like Iron Dome integration and offensive capabilities, though specific contracts remain classified. Francesca Albanese, the UN special rapporteur on human rights in the occupied Palestinian territories, has accused the company of profiting from genocide in Gaza.

## On-Line Resources for *Turning the Tide* & ARA-LA/PART:

You can find archives of *Turning the Tide* at [www.antiracist.org](http://www.antiracist.org) that go back more than 35 years.

In addition, there are several Facebook pages, such as [facebook.com/tideturning](https://facebook.com/tideturning), and [facebook.com/intercommunalsolidarity](https://facebook.com/intercommunalsolidarity).

You can follow @ara\_losangeles on X, @antiracistaction\_la on IG, and the De-Colonize LA! blog at [ara-la.tumblr.com](http://ara-la.tumblr.com).



# Case In Point: Military & Surveillance in Schools

by Ali Shehzad Zaidi

Like other colleges of the City University of New York (CUNY), Bronx Community College (BCC) participates in the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC). Understandably, the military appeals to many Bronx youth as means to escape from poverty and prison. With few well-paying jobs in the Bronx, students are suctioned into an economic military draft. “Get Your Degree Tuition Free!” gushes an ad for the New York National Guard. “That’s right! You Can get your degree 100% Tuition Free at all State University and City University of New York Colleges.”<sup>1</sup> By 2001, the U. S. Army and the U.S. Air Force ran five ROTC programs at Bronx public high schools. Norman Wechsler, then Bronx High Schools Superintendent, commented in an interview: “I love the ROTC. The program represents many of the qualities we need to see more of in schools, including discipline, camaraderie and a sense of purpose.”<sup>2</sup>

However, the military recruitment of children violates the Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, a United Nations treaty that the U.S. Senate ratified in 2002. A survey of nearly one thousand high school students in New York City, conducted by the American Civil Liberties Union, found that 21% of students reported that military recruiters were taking up class time and that 13% reported seeing a military recruiter in school at least once a week. The survey also noted that military recruiters were being trained to target

African Americans by mimicking hip hop language and to appeal to Latinos through their “hotheaded” culture.<sup>3</sup> Contradicting “sense of purpose” seemingly inherent in military service, there were 30,177 suicides among active duty U.S. military personnel between 2001 and 2021, compared to the 7,057 killed in post-9/11 military operations.<sup>4</sup> According to one study, from 2006 to 2020, the suicide rate was 42 per 100,000 for veterans compared to 18 per 100,000 for the general population.<sup>5</sup> The names of students who died in Iraq and Afghanistan appeared regularly in Clarion, the CUNY faculty union monthly. Neither their deaths nor the trauma and suffering of their fellow soldiers enhanced anyone’s freedoms. Barely two months after 9/11, CUNY imposed out-of-state tuition on undocumented immigrants, who were already struggling with high living costs, menial jobs, and mass deportations. Besides diverting scarce resources towards destruction abroad, The War on Terror heightened domestic repression, as Robert O’Neil observes:

“Several provisions [of the USA Patriot Act] have caused the academic community special concern – notably the “Business Records” section that empowers federal agents to obtain information about persons suspected of terrorist activity without a court order or warrant – illustratively, borrower records from libraries and purchase records from bookstores. Since the person from whom such records are sought may disclose such a demand to no one else – most especially not the subject

or target of the inquiry – it has been virtually impossible to gauge the extent of such clandestine surveillance.”<sup>6</sup> Case in point: in July 2002, Alyce Zimmerman, BCC Vice President for Administration and Finance, requested computer sign-in sheets at the Learning Resource Center from an administrative assistant whose supervisor, Laroi Lawton, was away on vacation. It transpired that Zimmerman had made the request on behalf of the FBI, contravening a New York State law that protects library records as confidential save in response to a court order or a subpoena. In an interview, Lawton said that he would have refused the request, as did Theresa McManus, BCC head librarian.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Education Update (January 2001): 13.  
<sup>2</sup> Minners, Jon. “Respect, Honor, Leadership: ROTC in the Bronx.” Bronx Times. (28 March 2002): 8.  
<sup>3</sup> Soldiers of Misfortune: Abusive U. S. Military Recruitment and Failure to Protect Child Soldiers. American Civil Liberties Union. (13 May 2008): 2, 11, 30. <https://www.aclu.org/publications/soldiers-misfortune-abusive-us-military-recruitment-and-failure-protect-child-soldiers>  
<sup>4</sup> Suitt, Thomas Howard. “High Suicide Rates Among United States Service Members and Veterans of the Post-9/11 Wars.” (June 21, 2021): 1. [https://watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/files/cow/imce/papers/2021/Suitt\\_Suicides\\_Costs%20of%20War\\_June%2021%202021.pdf](https://watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/files/cow/imce/papers/2021/Suitt_Suicides_Costs%20of%20War_June%2021%202021.pdf)  
<sup>5</sup> Kime, Patricia. “Suicide Rates Surged Among Post-9/11.” <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2023/08/28/suicide-rates-surged-among-post-9-11-veterans-even-deaths-remained-steady-general-population-study.html>  
<sup>6</sup> O’Neil, Robert. Academic Freedom in a Wired World. Cambridge, MA: Harvard UP, 2008: 105.  
<sup>7</sup> Geron, Tomio. “Watching What Your Read.” Clarion (April 2003): 3.

## Discriminatory Policing in Schools

[https://nationalequityatlas.org/indicators/Policing\\_schools](https://nationalequityatlas.org/indicators/Policing_schools)

### Insights & Analyses

In the 2017–18 school year, schools nationally recorded 7.5 arrests and 34.8 referrals to law enforcement per 10,000 students. Black and Pacific Islander male high school students had the highest rates of arrests in the nation, while Black and Native American male students were disproportionately referred to law enforcement. Hawai‘i, the 40th most populous state, had the highest school-based arrest rate (36.3 per 10,000 students), nearly ten times California’s rate (3.6 per 10,000), despite the latter’s far larger student population as the most populous state. Black female high school students in Alabama experienced the highest rates of arrests and referrals across nearly all grade levels and school settings. Disparities persist across classroom sizes: Black students faced the most referrals regardless of class size; Pacific Islander students experienced the highest arrest rates in larger classrooms, whereas Native American students led arrest rates in smaller classrooms.

### Drivers of Inequity

Students of color are more likely to attend schools with more contact with law enforcement, whether through school-based arrests or referrals to law enforcement. Black, Latinx, and Native American youth, in particular, face disproportionate levels of police contact, heightened hyper-surveillance, and punitive disciplinary actions in schools and in their communities. Schools’ reliance on vaguely defined punitive discipline practices such as “willful defiance” compounds these disparities, as the rule is disproportionately applied to Black students and students with disabilities. Removing students from the classroom under such policies interrupts learning and widens racial gaps in educational attainment.

### Strategies

Grow an equitable economy: Policies to help all youth succeed Reform harsh, “zero tolerance” school discipline policies to keep youth in school and on track to graduate. Remove law enforcement officers from elementary and secondary schools and invest instead in counselors and support staff.

End out-of-school suspension for chronic absenteeism and eliminate tickets for truancy and other low-level offenses that disproportionately burden low-income families. Ban corporal punishment and prone restraint in all schools. Prohibit “willful defiance” suspensions across grades and eliminate any in- or out-of-school suspension for young students in kindergarten through third grade.. Implement multiple measures to define and track student attendance, including excused absences, to identify schools and students in need of additional support and engagement strategies. Strengthen Title IX enforcement and revise codes of conduct to include clear, equity-focused language on race, gender, and sex equity, including updated dress codes and student-focused responses to sexual harassment and assault. Fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to provide adequate resources for students with disabilities and minimize lost instructional time—an inequity that disproportionately affects students of color with disabilities. Use restorative justice practices in place of punishments to prioritize student well-being and in-class instruction time.

**Learn more about what you can do:**  
<https://dignityinschools-ca.org/>

## BLM Grassroots, Justice Families, and Supporters Celebrate 12 Years of Boots-on-the-Ground Organizing

July 13, 2025, marked twelve years since Black Lives Matter was born as a rallying cry for justice in the name of #TrayvonMartin and every Black person stolen by state-sanctioned violence. For the occasion BLM-LA Grassroots held an international convening.

Black Lives Matter Grassroots now has fifty-one chapters, including three led by imprisoned folks and one in Stockholm, Sweden. The now-international organization, whose mission is to end state-sanctioned violence, convened to celebrate twelve years since the founding of one of the largest racial justice movements in the history of the world, and of the very first Black Lives Matter chapter on this same spot, in Leimert Park (aka Africa Town), the heart of Black Los Angeles. The organization was brought into being after the murderer of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin was acquitted by a legal system that never served Black people.

BLM organizers from all over the world gathered at BLMLA’s Center for Black Power, a building (purchased by BLMLA with the funds that generously poured in over the 2020 uprisings) that was once owned by an Israeli arms dealer. Today, the building that still had a “restrictive covenant” at the time of its 2022 purchase -- meant to prohibit its sale to Black people -- is a hub of Black-led activism.

The current membership of fifty-one chapters represents the largest number of active branches ever in existence since the founding of the organization. From Detroit to Houston... Tampa to Buffalo, Long Beach to Boise, BLM Grassroots leadership came together to network, organize, and skill-build.

Dozens of BLM activists convened to work, celebrate, and officially on-board a slate of new chapters. Eleven of the newly-minted chapters include: Boston Metro (MA), East Atlanta - DeKalb County (GA), Gary (IN), Hartford,



Black History flags at BLMLA-Grassroots protest rally at Hall of Justice - photo by Keith Rice  
Join White People for Black Lives in solidarity with BLMLA at CicLAvia Culver City to Venice, Sun. Aug. 17

(CT), Lake County (IL), Miami (FL), North Carolina, Santa Clarita (CA), Saratoga Springs (NY), Will County (IL), and Stockholm, Sweden. More chapters than ever have been founded by justice families—whose loved ones’ lives were stolen by police violence, including chapters in Florida, Milwaukee, Houston, New Orleans, and Will County.

“Even though the mainstream media cameras are no longer focused on us, the movement keeps growing and expanding, even into the nation’s carceral system. We are still doing the work. We are still abolitionists, focused on direct action and radical transformation of public safety. And even as our country has descended into fascism,

our membership continues to grow and move us towards freedom,” said Dr. Melina Abdullah, Director of BLM Grassroots.

**About Black Lives Matter Grassroots:** *The mission of Black Lives Matter Grassroots is to support, sustain, and uplift the necessary agitation, mobilization, community organizing, and initiatives of Black Lives Matter chapters to fulfill our sacred duty to advance Black liberation. #BlackLivesMatter was birthed to end state-sanctioned violence against Black people. Black Lives Matter Grassroots is a collective of 51 chartered chapters globally working on the ground since 2013.*

**For More Information:**  
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**Danielle (216) 316-3053**

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ★ Aug 16 - Pan Afrikan Women’s Day: 3-5pm Radical Hood Library, 2304 Jefferson
- ★ Aug 22- Free the Land Black August webinar - bit.ly/MXGMBAR2025
- ★ Aug 23 - Pacifica Fightback national Town Hall RSVP: https://tinyurl.com/PFB-8-23-25
- ★ Aug 30 - 55th National Chicano Moratorium, Ruben Salazar Park, ELA
- ★ Sep 1 - Harbor Labor Coalition Labor Day March & Rally, Banning Park, Wilmington
- ★ Sep 15, 16 - Independence Day for Mexico & Central America

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In 1967, the League of Revolutionary Black Workers and the Dodge Revolutionary Union Movement (DRUM) linked the Black Power and workers' movements for freedom, dignity & justice. That unity and revolutionary spirit is needed now more than ever.

‘Labor with White Skin Cannot Emancipate  
Itself When Labor with Black Skin Is Branded’

--Karl Marx

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