

The Cloward-Piven Strategy, Part I: Manufactured Crisis

By Jim Simpson | Sunday, August 31st, 2008

Liberals self-righteously wrap themselves in the mantle of public spirit. They ardently promote policies promising to deliver the poor and oppressed from their latest misery — policies which can only find solution in the halls of government. But no matter what issue one examines, over the last fifty plus years, the liberal prescription has almost always been a failure.

Why is this so? Why does virtually every liberal scheme result in ever-increasing public spending while conditions seem to get continually worse? There are a number of reasons: The programs usually create adverse incentives. This is especially true in so-called “anti-poverty” programs. The beneficiaries find government subsidies a replacement for, rather than a supplement to, gainful employment and eventually become incapable of supporting themselves. This in turn creates a dependent culture with its attendant toxic behaviors which demand still more government “remedies.”

The programs create their own industry, complete with scads of “think tanks” and “experts” who survive on government research grants. These are the aptly named “Beltway Bandits.”

They create their own bureaucracies, whose managers conspire with interested members of Congress to continually increase program funding, regardless of merit.

Members of Congress secure votes and campaign donations by extorting them from beneficiaries of such programs, either through veiled threats — “vote for me or those mean Republicans will wipe out your benefits” — or promises of still more bennies.

In short, all develop a vested interest in the program’s survival. But if the result is always more and more government, of government, by government, and for government, with no solution in sight, then why do liberals always see government as the solution rather than the problem?

Similarly, liberals use government to promote legislation that imposes mandates on the private sector to provide further benefits for selected groups. But the results are even more disastrous. For example, weighing the laws or stacking the courts to favor unions may provide short term security or higher pay for unionized labor, but has ultimately resulted in the collapse of entire domestic industries.

Another example is health care. The Dems are always trying to impose backdoor socialized medicine with incremental legislation. Why do you suppose American healthcare is in such crisis? Answer: the government has already become too deeply involved. For example, many hospitals are closing their doors because they are overwhelmed with the burden of caring for indigent patients, illegal immigrants and vagrants who must, by law, be admitted like everyone else, despite the fact that they cannot pay for services. Read about it here — [Destroying Our Health Care](#). The net result is reduced availability of care for everyone, exactly the opposite of what liberals claim to want.

To further complicate things, liberal jurists and lawyers have created new theories of liability that utilize the legal system as a means to further redistribute income. This too, has resulted in higher costs and prices in affected industries, higher insurance costs, or in some cases, complete elimination of products or services.

Liberals' endless pursuit of "rights" for different groups also does little but create increasing divisions in our society. Liberal policy pits old against young, men against women, ethnic and racial groups against one another, even American citizens against illegal aliens, all in the name of "equality." The only result is anger, tension and equal misery for all.

How does any of this improve our lot?

Finally, when companies relocate overseas to avoid the high cost of unionized labor and heavy domestic regulation, liberals sarcastically excoriate them for "outsourcing" America. Yet, when it comes to certain domestic industries, liberals in Congress suddenly become free marketers and choose to buy from overseas contractors rather than domestic suppliers. This happened most recently with a huge military contract being outrageously awarded to the heavily subsidized European consortium, AIRBUS, over America's own Boeing. Since liberals claim to be so determined to "save the American worker," what gives?

You have to take a step further back and ask some fundamental questions. Why is the liberal public policy record one of such unmitigated disaster? I mean, even the worst batter hits one occasionally. No one bats zero. No one that is, except liberals.

Prior to the Republican takeover in Congress in 1994, Democrats had over fifty years of virtually unbroken power in Congress with substantial majorities most of the time. With all the time and money in the world — trillions spent — they couldn't fix a single thing, not one. Today's liberal has the same complaints, and the same old tired solutions. Can a group of smart people, studying issue after issue for years on end, with virtually unlimited resources at their command, not come up with a single policy that works? Why are they chronically incapable?

Why?

When things go bad all the time, despite the best efforts of all involved, I suggest to you something else is at work — something deeper, more malevolent.

I submit to you that it is not a mistake, the failure is deliberate!

There is a method to the madness, and the method even has a name: the Cloward-Piven Strategy. It was first elucidated in the 1960s by a pair of radical leftist Columbia University professors, Richard Andrew Cloward and Frances Fox Piven:

The strategy of forcing political change through orchestrated crisis.... the “Cloward-Piven Strategy” seeks to hasten the fall of capitalism by overloading the government bureaucracy with a flood of impossible demands, thus pushing society into crisis and economic collapse.

The Cloward-Piven Strategy, Part II: Barack Obama and the Strategy of Manufactured Crisis

By Jim Simpson | Monday, September 29th, 2008

America waits with bated breath while Washington struggles to bring the U.S. economy back from the brink of disaster. But many of those same politicians caused the crisis, and if left to their own devices will do so again.

Despite the mass media news blackout, a series of books, talk radio and the blogosphere have managed to expose Barack Obama’s connections to his radical mentors – Weather Underground bombers William Ayers and Bernardine Dohrn, Communist Party member Frank Marshall Davis and others. David Horowitz and his Discover the Networks.org have also contributed a wealth of information and have noted Obama’s radical connections since the beginning.

Yet, no one to my knowledge has connected all the dots between Barack Obama and the Radical Left. When seen together, the influences on Obama’s life comprise a who’s who of the radical leftist movement, and it becomes painfully apparent that not only is Obama a willing participant in that movement, he has spent most of his adult life deeply immersed in it.

But even this doesn’t fully describe the extreme nature of this candidate. He can be tied directly to a malevolent overarching strategy that has motivated many, if not all, of the most destructive radical leftist organizations in the United States since the 1960s.
The Cloward-Piven Strategy of Orchestrated Crisis

In an earlier post, I noted the liberal record of legislative disasters, the latest of which is now being played out in the financial markets before our eyes. Before the 1994 Republican takeover, Democrats had sixty years of virtually unbroken power in Congress – with substantial majorities most of the time. Can a group of smart people, studying issue after issue for years on end, with virtually unlimited resources at their command, not come up with a single policy that works? Why are they chronically incapable?

Why?

One of two things must be true. Either the Democrats are unfathomable idiots, who ignorantly pursue ever more destructive policies despite decades of contrary evidence, or they understand the consequences of their actions and relentlessly carry on anyway because they somehow benefit.

I submit to you they understand the consequences. For many it is simply a practical matter of eliciting votes from a targeted constituency at taxpayer expense; we lose a little, they gain a lot, and the politician keeps his job. But for others, the goal is more malevolent – the failure is deliberate. Don't laugh. This method not only has its proponents, it has a name: the Cloward-Piven Strategy. It animates their agenda, tactics, and long-term strategy.

The Strategy was first elucidated in the May 2, 1966 issue of The Nation magazine by a pair of radical socialist Columbia University professors, Richard Andrew Cloward and Frances Fox Piven. David Horowitz summarizes it as:

The strategy of forcing political change through orchestrated crisis. The “Cloward-Piven Strategy” seeks to hasten the fall of capitalism by overloading the government bureaucracy with a flood of impossible demands, thus pushing society into crisis and economic collapse.

Cloward and Piven were inspired by radical organizer [and Hillary Clinton mentor] Saul Alinsky:

“Make the enemy live up to their (sic) own book of rules,” Alinsky wrote in his 1989 book Rules for Radicals. When pressed to honor every word of every law and statute, every Judeo-Christian moral tenet, and every implicit promise of the liberal social contract, human agencies inevitably fall short. The system's failure to “live up” to its rule book can then be used to discredit it altogether, and to replace the capitalist “rule book” with a socialist one. (Courtesy of Discover the Networks.org)

Newsmax rounds out the picture:

Their strategy to create political, financial, and social chaos that would result in revolution blended Alinsky concepts with their more aggressive efforts at bringing about a change in U.S. government. To achieve their revolutionary change, Cloward and Piven sought to use a cadre of aggressive organizers assisted by friendly news media to force a re-distribution of the nation's wealth.

In their Nation article, Cloward and Piven were specific about the kind of “crisis” they were trying to create:

By crisis, we mean a publicly visible disruption in some institutional sphere. Crisis can occur spontaneously (e.g., riots) or as the intended result of tactics of demonstration and

protest which either generate institutional disruption or bring unrecognized disruption to public attention.

No matter where the strategy is implemented, it shares the following features:

The offensive organizes previously unorganized groups eligible for government benefits but not currently receiving all they can.

The offensive seeks to identify new beneficiaries and/or create new benefits.

The overarching aim is always to impose new stresses on target systems, with the ultimate goal of forcing their collapse.

Capitalizing on the racial unrest of the 1960s, Cloward and Piven saw the welfare system as their first target. They enlisted radical black activist George Wiley, who created the National Welfare Rights Organization (NWRO) to implement the strategy. Wiley hired militant foot soldiers to storm welfare offices around the country, violently demanding their “rights.” According to a City Journal article by Sol Stern, welfare rolls increased from 4.3 million to 10.8 million by the mid-1970s as a result, and in New York City, where the strategy had been particularly successful, “one person was on the welfare rolls... for every two working in the city’s private economy.”

According to another City Journal article titled “Compassion Gone Mad”:

The movement’s impact on New York City was jolting: welfare caseloads, already climbing 12 percent a year in the early sixties, rose by 50 percent during Lindsay’s first two years; spending doubled... The city had 150,000 welfare cases in 1960; a decade later it had 1.5 million.

The vast expansion of welfare in New York City that came of the NWRO’s Cloward-Piven tactics sent the city into bankruptcy in 1975. Rudy Giuliani cited Cloward and Piven by name as being responsible for “an effort at economic sabotage.” He also credited Cloward-Piven with changing the cultural attitude toward welfare from that of a temporary expedient to a lifetime entitlement, an attitude which in-and-of-itself has caused perhaps the greatest damage of all.

Cloward and Piven looked at this strategy as a gold mine of opportunity. Within the newly organized groups, each offensive would find an ample pool of foot soldier recruits willing to advance its radical agenda at little or no pay, and expand its base of reliable voters, legal or otherwise. The radicals’ threatening tactics also would accrue an intimidating reputation, providing a wealth of opportunities for extorting monetary and other concessions from the target organizations. In the meantime, successful offensives would create an ever increasing drag on society. As they gleefully observed:

Moreover, this kind of mass influence is cumulative because benefits are continuous. Once eligibility for basic food and rent grants is established, the drain on local resources persists indefinitely.

The next time you drive through one of the many blighted neighborhoods in our cities, or read of the astronomical crime, drug addiction, and out-of-wedlock birth rates, or consider the failed schools, strapped police and fire resources of every major city, remember Cloward and Piven's thrill that "...the drain on local resources persists indefinitely."

ACORN, the new tip of the Cloward-Piven spear

In 1970, one of George Wiley's protégés, Wade Rathke – like Bill Ayers, a member of the radical Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) – was sent to found the Arkansas Community Organizations for Reform Now. While NWRO had made a good start, it alone couldn't accomplish the Cloward-Piven goals. Rathke's group broadened the offensive to include a wide array of low income "rights." Shortly thereafter they changed "Arkansas" to "Association of" and ACORN went nationwide.

Today ACORN is involved in a wide array of activities, including housing, voting rights, illegal immigration and other issues. According to ACORN's website: "ACORN is the nation's largest grassroots community organization of low- and moderate-income people with over 400,000 member families organized into more than 1,200 neighborhood chapters in 110 cities across the country," It is perhaps the largest radical group in the U.S. and has been cited for widespread criminal activity on many fronts.

Voting

On voting rights, ACORN and its voter mobilization subsidiary, Project Vote, have been involved nationwide in efforts to grant felons the vote and lobbied heavily for the Motor Voter Act of 1993, a law allowing people to register at motor vehicle departments, schools, libraries and other public places. That law had been sought by Cloward and Piven since the early 1980s and they were present, standing behind President Clinton at the signing ceremony.

ACORN's voter rights tactics follow the Cloward-Piven Strategy:

Register as many democrat voters as possible, legal or otherwise and help them vote, multiple times if possible.

Overwhelm the system with fraudulent registrations using multiple entries of the same name, names of deceased, random names from the phone book, even contrived names.

Make the system difficult to police by lobbying for minimal identification standards.

In this effort, ACORN sets up registration sites all over the country and has been frequently cited for turning in fraudulent registrations, as well as destroying republican applications. In the 2004-2006 election cycles alone, ACORN was accused of widespread voter fraud in 12 states. It may have swung the election for one state governor.

ACORN's website brags:

"Since 2004, ACORN has helped more than 1.7 million low- and moderate-income and minority citizens apply to register to vote."

Project Vote boasts 4 million. I wonder how many of them had a pulse. For the 2008 cycle, ACORN and Project Vote have pulled out all the stops. Given their furious nationwide effort, it is not inconceivable that this presidential race could be decided by fraudulent votes alone.

Barack Obama ran ACORN's Project Vote in Chicago and his highly successful voter registration drive was credited with getting the disgraced former Senator Carol Moseley-Braun elected. Newsmax reiterates Cloward and Piven's aspirations for ACORN's voter registration efforts:

By advocating massive, no-holds-barred voter registration campaigns, they [Cloward & Piven] sought a Democratic administration in Washington, D.C. that would re-distribute the nation's wealth and lead to a totalitarian socialist state.

Illegal Immigration

As I have written elsewhere, the Radical Left's offensive to promote illegal immigration is "Cloward-Piven on steroids." ACORN is at the forefront of this movement as well, and was a leading organization among a broad coalition of radical groups, including Soros' Open Society Institute, the Service Employees International Union (ACORN founder Wade Rathke also runs a SEIU chapter), and others, that became the Coalition for Comprehensive Immigration Reform. CCIR fortunately failed to gain passage for the 2007 illegal immigrant amnesty bill, but its goals have not changed.

The burden of illegal immigration on our already overstressed welfare system has been widely documented. Some towns in California have even been taken over by illegal immigrant drug cartels. The disease, crime and overcrowding brought by illegal immigrants places a heavy burden on every segment of society and every level of government, threatening to split this country apart at the seams. In the meantime, radical leftist efforts to grant illegal immigrants citizenship guarantee a huge pool of new democrat voters. With little border control, terrorists can also filter in.

Obama aided ACORN as their lead attorney in a successful suit he brought against the Illinois state government to implement the Motor Voter law there. The law had been resisted by Republican Governor Jim Edgar, who feared the law was an opening to widespread vote fraud.

His fears were warranted as the Motor Voter law has since been cited as a major opportunity for vote fraud, especially for illegal immigrants, even terrorists. According to the Wall Street Journal: "After 9/11, the Justice Department found that eight of the 19 hijackers were registered to vote..."

ACORN's dual offensives on voting and illegal immigration are handy complements. Both swell the voter rolls with reliable democrats while assaulting the country ACORN seeks to destroy with overwhelming new problems.

Mortgage Crisis

And now we have the mortgage crisis, which has sent a shock wave through Wall Street and panicked world financial markets like no other since the stock market crash of 1929. But this is a problem created in Washington long ago. It originated with the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA), signed into law in 1977 by President Jimmy Carter. The CRA was Carter's answer to a grassroots activist movement started in Chicago, and forced banks to make loans to low income, high risk customers. PhD economist and former Texas Senator Phil Gramm has called it: "a vast extortion scheme against the nation's banks."

ACORN aggressively sought to expand loans to low income groups using the CRA as a whip. Economist Stan Leibowitz wrote in the New York Post:

In the 1980s, groups such as the activists at ACORN began pushing charges of "redlining"—claims that banks discriminated against minorities in mortgage lending. In 1989, sympathetic members of Congress got the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act amended to force banks to collect racial data on mortgage applicants; this allowed various studies to be ginned up that seemed to validate the original accusation.

In fact, minority mortgage applications were rejected more frequently than other applications—but the overwhelming reason wasn't racial discrimination, but simply that minorities tend to have weaker finances.

ACORN showed its colors again in 1991, by taking over the House Banking Committee room for two days to protest efforts to scale back the CRA. Most significant of all, ACORN was the driving force behind a 1995 regulatory revision pushed through by the Clinton Administration that greatly expanded the CRA and laid the groundwork for the Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac borne financial crisis we now confront. Barack Obama was the attorney representing ACORN in this effort. With this new authority, ACORN used its subsidiary, ACORN Housing, to promote subprime loans more aggressively. Barack Obama represented ACORN in this effort.

As a New York Post article describes it:

A 1995 strengthening of the Community Reinvestment Act required banks to find ways to provide mortgages to their poorer communities. It also let community activists intervene at yearly bank reviews, shaking the banks down for large pots of money.

Banks that got poor reviews were punished; some saw their merger plans frustrated; others faced direct legal challenges by the Justice Department.

Flexible lending programs expanded even though they had higher default rates than loans with traditional standards. On the Web, you can still find CRA loans available via ACORN with "100 percent financing . . . no credit scores . . . undocumented income . . . even if you don't report it on your tax returns." Credit counseling is required, of course.

Ironically, an enthusiastic Fannie Mae Foundation report singled out one paragon of nondiscriminatory lending, which worked with community activists and followed “the most flexible underwriting criteria permitted.” That lender’s \$1 billion commitment to low-income loans in 1992 had grown to \$80 billion by 1999 and \$600 billion by early 2003.

The lender they were speaking of was Countrywide – rescued by Bank of America in July – which specialized in subprime lending and had a working relationship with ACORN.

Investor’s Business Daily added:

The revisions also allowed for the first time the securitization of CRA-regulated loans containing subprime mortgages. The changes came as radical “housing rights” groups led by ACORN lobbied for such loans. ACORN at the time was represented by a young public-interest lawyer in Chicago by the name of Barack Obama. (Emphasis, mine.)

Since these loans were to be underwritten by the government sponsored Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the implicit government guarantee of those loans absolved lenders, mortgage bundlers and investors of any concern over the obvious risk. As Bloomberg reported: “It is a classic case of socializing the risk while privatizing the profit.”

And if you think Washington policy makers cared about ACORN’s negative influence, think again. Before this whole mess came down, a Democrat-sponsored bill on the table would have created an “Affordable Housing Trust Fund,” granting ACORN access to approximately \$500 million in Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac revenues with little or no oversight.

Even now, unbelievably – on the brink of national disaster – Democrats have insisted ACORN benefit from bailout negotiations! Senator Lindsay Graham reported Thursday night (9/25/08) in an interview with Greta Van Susteren of On the Record that Democrats want 20 percent of the bailout money to go to ACORN!

This entire fiasco represents perhaps the pinnacle of ACORN’s efforts to advance the Cloward-Piven Strategy and is a stark demonstration of the power they wield in Washington.

Enter Barack Obama.

In attempting to capture the significance of Barack Obama’s Radical Left connections and his connection to the Cloward Piven strategy, I constructed following flow chart. It is by no means complete. There are simply too many radical individuals and organizations to include them all here. But these are perhaps the most significant.

The chart puts Barack Obama at the epicenter of an incestuous stew of American radical leftism. Not only are his connections significant, they practically define who he is. Taken together, they constitute a who's who of the American Radical Left, and guiding all is the Cloward-Piven strategy.

Conspicuous in their absence are any connections at all with any other group, moderate, or even mildly leftist. They are all radicals, firmly bedded in the anti-American, communist, socialist, radical leftist mesh.

Saul Alinsky

Most people are unaware that Barack Obama received his training in "community organizing" from Saul Alinsky's Industrial Areas Foundation. But he did. In and of itself that marks his heritage and training as that of a radical activist. One really need go no further. But we have.

Bill Ayers

Obama objects to being associated with SDS bomber Bill Ayers, claiming he is being smeared with "guilt by association." But they worked together at the Woods Fund. The Wall Street Journal has added substantially to our knowledge by describing in great detail Obama's work over five years with Ayers on the board of the Chicago Annenberg Challenge, a non-profit Ayers designed to push a radical agenda on public school children. As Stanley Kurtz states: "...the issue here isn't guilt by association; it's guilt by participation. As CAC chairman, Mr. Obama was lending moral and financial support to Mr. Ayers and his radical circle. That is a story even if Mr. Ayers had never planted a single bomb 40 years ago."

Also included in the mix is John and Theresa Heinz Kerry's favorite charity, the Tides Foundation. A partial list of Tides grants tells you all you need to know: ACLU, ACORN, Center for American Progress, Center for Constitutional Rights (a communist front,) CAIR, Earth Justice, Institute for Policy Studies (KGB spy nest), National Lawyers Guild (oldest communist front in U.S.), People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), and practically every other radical group there is. ACORN's Wade Rathke runs a Tides subsidiary, the Tides Center. No wonder Kerry, Kennedy et al love Obama. Just one big happy family.

Carl Davidson and the New Party

We have heard about Bomber Bill, but we hear little about fellow SDS member Carl Davidson. According to Discover the Networks, Davidson was an early supporter of Barack Obama and a prominent member of Chicago's New Party, a synthesis of CPUSA members, Socialists, ACORN veterans and other radicals. Obama sought and received the New Party's endorsement, and they assisted with his campaign. The New Party also developed a strong relationship with ACORN. As an excellent article on the New Party observes: "Barack Obama knew what he was getting into and remains an ideal New Party candidate."

George Soros

The chart also suggests one reason for George Soros' fervent support of Obama. The President of his Open Society Institute is Aryeh Neier, founder of the radical Students for a Democratic Society (SDS). As mentioned above, three other former SDS members had extensive contact with Obama: Bill Ayers, Carl Davidson and Wade Rathke. Surely Aryeh Neier would have heard of the promising new politician from his former colleagues. More to the point, Neier is firmly committed to supporting the hugely successful radical organization, ACORN, and would be certain back their favored candidate, Barack Obama. Soros is a natural suspect in this fiasco as he has made all his ill-gotten gains short-selling on national disaster. The extent of his dirty dealings is worthy of its own book.

ACORN

Obama has spent a large portion of his professional life working for ACORN or its subsidiaries, representing ACORN as a lawyer on some of its most critical issues, and training ACORN leaders. Stanley Kurtz's excellent National Review article, "Inside Obama's Acorn." also describes Obama's ACORN connection in detail. But I can't improve on Obama's own words:

I've been fighting alongside ACORN on issues you care about my entire career (emphasis added). Even before I was an elected official, when I ran Project Vote voter registration drive in Illinois, ACORN was smack dab in the middle of it, and we appreciate your work. — Barack Obama, Speech to ACORN, November 2007 (Courtesy Newsmax.)

In another excellent article on Obama's ACORN connections, Newsmax asks a nagging question:

It would be telling to know if Obama, during his years at Columbia, had occasion to meet Cloward and study the Cloward-Piven Strategy.

I will put it more bluntly: Barack Obama is fully aware of the Cloward-Piven strategy and has actively worked to achieve its goals for most of his adult life.

I ask you, is it possible ACORN would train Obama to take leadership positions within ACORN without telling him what he was training for? Is it possible ACORN would put Obama in leadership positions without clueing him into what his purpose was?? Is it possible that this most radical of organizations would put someone in charge of training its trainers, without him knowing what it was he was training them for???

As a community activist for ACORN; as a leadership trainer for ACORN; as a lead organizer for ACORN's Project Vote; as an attorney representing ACORN's successful efforts to impose Motor Voter regulations in Illinois; as ACORN's representative in lobbying for the expansion of high risk housing loans through Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac that led to the current crisis; as a recipient of their assistance in his political campaigns – both with money and campaign workers; it is inconceivable that he was

unaware of ACORN's true goals. It is inconceivable he was unaware of the Cloward-Piven Strategy.

Fast-forward to 2005 when an obsequious, servile and scraping Daniel Mudd, CEO of Fannie Mae spoke at the Congressional Black Caucus swearing in ceremony for newly-elected Illinois Senator, Barack Hussein Obama. Mudd called, the Congressional Black Caucus "our family" and "the conscience of Fannie Mae."

In 2005, Republicans sought to reign in Fannie and Freddie. Senator John McCain was at the forefront of that effort. But it failed due to an intense lobbying effort put forward by Fannie and Freddie.

In his few years as a U.S. senator, Obama has received campaign contributions of \$126,349, from Fannie and Freddie, second only to the \$165,400 received by Senator Chris Dodd, who has been getting donations from them since 1988. What makes Obama so special?

His closest advisers are a dirty laundry list of individuals at the heart of the financial crisis: former Fannie Mae CEO Jim Johnson; Former Fannie Mae CEO and former Clinton Budget Director Frank Raines; and billionaire failed Superior Bank of Chicago Board Chair Penny Pritzker.

Johnson had to step down as adviser on Obama's V.P. search after this gem came out:

An Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight (OFHEO) report[1] from September 2004 found that, during Johnson's tenure as CEO, Fannie Mae had improperly deferred \$200 million in expenses. This enabled top executives, including Johnson and his successor, Franklin Raines, to receive substantial bonuses in 1998.[2] A 2006 OFHEO report[3] found that Fannie Mae had substantially under-reported Johnson's compensation. Originally reported as \$6-7 million, Johnson actually received approximately \$21 million.

Obama denies ties to Raines but the Washington Post calls him a member of "Obama's political circle." Raines and Johnson were fined \$3 million by the Office of Federal Housing Oversight for their manipulation of Fannie books. The fine is small change however, compared to the \$50 million Raines was able to obtain in improper bonuses as a result of juggling the books. To add insult to injury, the \$3 million fine was paid with Fannie Mae's insurance fund.

Most significantly, Penny Pritzker, the current Finance Chairperson of Obama's presidential campaign, helped develop the complicated investment bundling of subprime securities at the heart of the meltdown. She did so in her position as owner and board chair of Superior Bank. The Bank failed in 2001, one of the largest in recent history, wiping out \$50 million in life savings of the bank's approximately 1,400 customers. She was named in a RICO class action law suit but doesn't seem to have come out of it too badly.

As a young attorney in the 1990s, Barack Obama represented ACORN in Washington in their successful efforts to expand Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) authority. In addition to making it easier for ACORN groups to force banks into making risky loans, this also paved the way for banks like Superior to package mortgages as investments, and for the Government Sponsored Enterprises Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to underwrite them. These changes created the conditions that ultimately lead to the current financial crisis.

Did they not know this would occur? Were these smart people, led by a Harvard graduate, unaware of the Econ 101 concept of moral hazard that would result from the government making implicit guarantees to underwrite private sector financial risk? They should have known that freeing the high-risk mortgage market of risk, calamity was sure to ensue. I think they did.

Barack Obama, the Cloward-Piven candidate, no matter how he describes himself, has been a radical activist for most of his political career. That activism has been in support of organizations and initiatives that at their heart seek to tear the pillars of this nation asunder in order to replace them with their demented socialist vision. Their influence has spread so far and so wide that despite their blatant culpability in the current financial crisis, they are able to manipulate Capital Hill politicians to cut them into \$140 billion of the bailout pie!

God grant those few responsible yet remaining in Washington, DC the strength to prevent this massive fraud from occurring. God grant them the courage to stand up in the face of this Marxist tidal wave.

And God save us from Barack Obama.

The Cloward-Piven Strategy, Part III: Conspiracy of the Lemmings

By Jim Simpson | Monday, October 27th, 2008

or, Barack Obama and the Radical Left's Strategy of Manufactured Crisis

[NOTE: I am indebted to the incredible efforts of many bloggers, who did the yeoman's work of ferreting out many of the hard-to-find facts in this article. I particularly want to thank David Horowitz and his Discover the Networks team, Trevor Loudon of New Zeal

blog, Cliff Kincaid and Herb Romerstein, and others too numerous to mention. Links to all their work are provided where appropriate.]

Introduction

The United States of America is the world's marketplace. Without the worldwide trade generated by American demand, the international marketplace will fail. Today we are witnessing an undeniable demonstration of this fact as world markets reel in response to our domestic financial crisis. This lesson must be burnt into our collective conscience. Our nation is the last repository of free market economic principles, and a fundamental change in our government toward socialism will spell worldwide economic disaster from which we may never recover.

Yet this is exactly the endgame of the American radical Left — increasingly indistinguishable from today's Democrat Party — and offers the only internally consistent explanation for their historic obsession with divisive policy. From their early support of Hitler to their central role in the current financial crisis, the Left's contribution to domestic and foreign policy at federal, state and local levels can only be described as wantonly destructive. Their takeover of schools and popular culture has been equally toxic. Their environmental radicalism has spawned the energy crisis, while offering no viable alternatives. It defies logic.

But there is logic, a deadly logic, and in the 1960s, two radicals gave it a name — the Cloward-Piven Strategy. As explained in my prior article, the goal was to create a groundswell of demands for public services to overwhelm government, create crisis and usher in a widespread call for fundamental economic reform at the federal level, with socialism the ultimate goal.

Cloward and Piven focused on welfare, voting, housing and immigration "rights." But leftist positions on any issue, whether championing "equal rights," "abortion rights," "education rights," rights to health care, rights to housing, legal protections of antisocial or even criminal behavior, to the point of absurdity, are intentionally divisive. They add new fiscal and regulatory burdens on government, and set new precedents that undermine the limited government concepts embedded in our Constitution, while conferring discriminatory special benefits on legally defined groups the rest of us are forced to pay for. They deliberately put our society at war with itself. And as Cloward and Piven made clear, the true purpose is not even to help those groups, but rather to duplicitously enlist them as part of an offensive to collapse our society from within!

Democrats embrace the rhetoric of "compassion," but look past the rhetoric to the results. This country is polarized as never before because of their relentless agitation for extremist positions on every issue, and the outrageous tactics they use to promote them. But while radical Saul Alinsky's tactics guide today's Democrat electoral game plan, the Cloward-Piven Strategy describes the overarching goal of almost every leftwing organization/movement/ideal today.

How do they Survive?

These organizations rarely produce anything of value, yet are extremely adept at not only surviving but flourishing. Many receive their financial backbone from prominent philanthropies. They also receive subsidies and tax breaks with the help of friends in federal, state and local government. This fact is unknown to most voters, who would be outraged if they fully understood how their tax dollars were being spent. For example, the radical group, ACORN, responsible for widespread voter fraud this year, gets about 40 percent of its revenues from federal, state and local government.

The Left's strategies could not survive the light of day. Our mass media is mostly to blame for this. Radicals require a sympathetic media to deliver their message in an acceptable fashion and actively suppress inconvenient facts that reveal these organizations' true character and agenda. Barack Obama's presidential campaign is perhaps the most poignant current example of this. Without mass media's shamelessly biased support, he would still be community organizing, or perhaps in jail.

It is a tangled web of radical interconnections with the ultimate goal being an end to our Constitutional framework, the fall of our Republic and its replacement with a radical vision of socialist utopia — finally removing the last major roadblock to world socialism.

These radical individuals are highly motivated, in many cases intelligent and talented, and sometimes even driven by what they would describe as altruistic motives. Yet the impacts of socialist central planning are inarguably destructive.

Marx may have had some interesting insights on history, but despite his ponderous three volume *Das Kapital* he was no economist. Instead, *Kapital* provided the intellectual excuse for Marx's anarchistic Communist Manifesto.

And the severe verdict of history on his perverted vision is without equal: over 100 million people murdered by their own governments in times of peace, more than all the wars of history combined. The rest face abject poverty, mass starvation, economic and environmental ruin, all overseen by smothering, indescribably brutal governments — a grey, barren existence for all but the apparatchiks.

So why are so many Westerners infatuated with this demented vision?

Entrepreneurial Parasites

The high-minded types are driven by a galling sense of superiority. They are addicted to their own egos. They know better and can defy the verdict of history because people as smart as they are weren't around when Russia, China, Vietnam, Cambodia, North Korea, Ethiopia, Angola, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Congo, Nicaragua, Cuba, Venezuela, etc., went Red.

But living well in affluent, capitalist America, it is all theoretical, so they can indulge their fantasies while promoting this destructive agenda with impunity. For these people ignorance is literally a blessing, for if they soberly analyzed their ego-driven beliefs, they would be embarrassed.

If you examine their pasts closely, you learn that most of these people also came from upper class backgrounds. PhD Chemistry Professor George Wiley, the black radical who led Cloward and Piven's National Welfare Rights Organization (NWRO), was a well-to-do son of a Rhode Island family.

Wade Rathke, the NWRO veteran who started ACORN, was from a similarly well-to-do background, although he dropped out of Williams College.

Obama's radical friend Bill Ayers' family was very wealthy. Looking at his arrest photos, and listening to his smug self-righteousness, you really get the impression that he was little more than an arrogant, spoiled brat, with a titanic sense of entitlement that allowed him to rationalize mass murder.

This is a familiar story throughout the American left and indeed with many of the most infamous communist leaders around the world. For example, Communist China's first leader, Mao Zedong, the inspiration for Ayers and many other radicals, was the son of the wealthiest man in his home town.

According to the incredible biography, *Mao: the Unknown Story*, he was lazy, arrogant, and refused to work, despite his father's repeated attempts to find him suitable employment. He finally saw an opportunity for real advancement working for the Soviets. During the Long March he was carried by porters.

As young idealists, many of these people are initially snared into this ideology by the exaggerated sense of self-importance that is often a characteristic of youth. But we all have to live, and as they grow up they discover that the radical profession can be a pretty lucrative racket. Despite their high-minded rhetoric about saving the poor and oppressed, communists and socialists are what I call entrepreneurial parasites.

Consider what they demand of us: sacrifice of all worldly goods to the state, penurious, barren lifestyles, slavish observance of their dictates and full-time commitment to the well-being of the state, while our jobs, careers, industries, the environment, even our lives are threatened. But how do they live?

Obama's pal Ayers, who describes himself as a "small 'c' communist," lives in a lavish home, in the upscale Hyde Park neighborhood of Chicago, with a six-figure (or more) income. It is easy to see how, given the open spigot of money his organizations receive from the various non-profit funds he's ingratiated himself to. Bill Ayers father, Tom, had been CEO of Commonwealth Edison, so he's used to money, and later developments in his career point to a hand up from Daddy.

Barack lives in Hyde Park too. It is difficult to find anyone in the American Marxist elite who doesn't fully enjoy the fruits of capitalism in his or her personal life. In fact, Obama's early career seems to have been centered on dispensing foundation money as a means to secure his career in politics. Here are two perfect examples

Obama donor received a state grant
Obama helped ex-boss get \$1 mil. from charity

But much more about this later.

Marxist austerity is only meant for the rest of us.

This taste for wealth is not limited to American socialists. Every socialist dictator from Stalin to Saddam has lived in opulent surroundings with multiple estates, scores of servants and every kind of luxury and indulgence available to them.

See, for example, Gorbachev's dacha in Foros, Crimea; a testament to communist modesty if ever there was one. Same with all the leaders of communist countries. Indeed, Bulgarian defector Georgi Markov was murdered for his extensive reporting on the opulent, decadent lifestyles of Bulgarian Communist leaders. It's a good racket, if you don't mind blood.

Gorbachev's Crimea Dacha

One of Saddam's Many, Many Palaces Stalin's Modest Dacha in Sochi

While socialist leaders live in lavish style, in every country where socialist policies are imposed, they measurably worsen the lives of everyday citizens in direct proportion to their scope. Even countries with vast natural resources, like Russia, founder because their economies are constructed on the fatally flawed economic principles of socialism.

Despite this, they still manage to live on, in many cases hanging by mere threads for years.

How?

The dirty little secret of socialism is that it cannot survive without capitalism — capitalist countries provide the resources necessary for these socialist governments to continue. In addition to providing a market for their goods, Western nations keep socialist countries afloat through grants and loans from the World Bank, the U.S. Agency for International Development and other governmental institutions, as well as huge investments by private companies.

Even China, widely misunderstood as the next "free market," only practices market economics one-way in international trade while maintaining iron fist central planning internally, and could not maintain its current level of economic growth without the markets provided by the United States and other Western countries.

Finally, there is a vast network of American enterprises, owned covertly by foreign dictators, whose true purpose is to provide underground income for these leaders and

their socialist governments, while offering convenient cover for industrial and military spies. This fact is rarely mentioned and largely unknown.

At its core, socialism can only be parasitic. It cannot survive without its capitalist host. Therefore, if the United States becomes a socialist country, worldwide capital will soon dry up. Remaining market economies around the world will succumb either to their own internal socialist movements or direct military threat from abroad. Without the protective umbrella of American military might, they will have no other choice.

Without the markets and resources capitalist economies provide, the many socialist countries that have survived on our largesse until now will find their income stream shut off. The world will plunge into an unprecedented, cataclysmic depression. This depression will be of indeterminate length because the wherewithal for recovery — a large capitalist economy — will no longer exist. With a world controlled by parasites, the host will die.

At this point even the parasites will be in danger. The socialists' internationalist agenda truly is a Conspiracy of the Lemmings. It is not merely a criminal conspiracy, it is criminally insane.

Barack Hussein Obama has been chosen as standard bearer to bring this agenda to fruition here. If he is elected we can expect a sea change in Washington. But it will not be for the better. The socialist economic agenda he has publicly articulated is enough in the current financial crisis to plunge our economy into deep recession. The disarmament agenda he has publicly articulated is enough to strip us of the meager defenses we currently have against a rogue missile attack, and Iran has already telegraphed plans to launch such an attack.

What is even more frightening is the agenda he has not shared, but is implicit in his radical upbringing, his radical connections, and his limited but demonstrative experience. Obama's Radical Roots

Are we beating this subject to death? Sorry, we have to. And there's much more, if you still need convincing. Obama hates being "associated" with radical individuals and organizations. But the truth is he hasn't been associated with them at all, he has been immersed in them. He is one of them. And it goes back to his youth.

There is no doubt that "Frank" in Obama's Dreams from My Father is longtime communist Frank Marshall Davis. It is probable that Davis convinced Obama to initiate his career in radical-friendly Chicago — birthplace of the American Communist Party — where Davis was a very active communist party member before moving to Hawaii.

Obama was inspired by Chicago's first black mayor, Harold Washington, even writing for a job in his administration. Washington's successful campaign relied on a coalition of the American Communist Party, Democratic Socialists of America and other radicals. Washington may have been a secret communist party member himself.

Finally the riddle of Obama's forged birth certificate may be solved. There is reason to believe that Davis is in fact Obama's father. If so, it explains a lot about Obama's very radical political orientation. But it is not necessary in order to make the connections.

From Obama's earliest days as a community organizer and throughout his political career, he has been involved with and supported by a broad network of radical groups. It is likely that he was similarly influenced in college, but since he won't release any information about classes, grades, teachers, clubs or affiliations — no information whatsoever — we don't have a complete picture. More about this later.
Who Sent You?

There is an old story about getting into Chicago politics that ends with the quote: "We don't want nobody that nobody sent." According to this article, the person who "sent" Obama was former Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) Weather Underground bomber Bill Ayers. The reasons are many and compelling.

Chicago Annenberg Challenge (CAC) — Ayers chaired the Chicago School Reform Collaborative which was responsible for recruiting Barack Obama to chair the board of CAC in 1995. Barack remained chairman until 1999 and stayed with the board until CAC folded in 2001. Obama and Ayers shared the same 50 X 50 3rd floor office for three years when Obama chaired the CAC. How is it they didn't know each other?

In addition to his work on CAC, Ayers ran the Small Schools Workshop out of the same address. Another former SDSer, Mike Klonsky, co-chaired the Workshop and shared that office as well. Remember that name. Despite Chicago's failing schools, this project was intended to create charter schools focused not on basic skills, but developing young anti-capitalist partisans.

As chairman of CAC, working from the same office, Obama gave over \$1 million to the Small Schools Workshop run by Ayers and Klonsky. Oh yes, Klonsky's wife Susan worked there too. She was also a former SDS member. Just one big happy family. Obama apparently also managed to show his appreciation to Rev. Jeremiah Wright's causes with CAC largesse.

But Obama's relationship with Ayers may go back much further than that. According to NationMaster.com encyclopedia:

The [Chicago School Reform] Collaborative was the operative on the ground body of the Challenge. It was made up of representatives of various constituencies in the Chicago school reform movement. That reform movement had begun in 1987 in the wake of an unpopular strike by Chicago teachers. Bill Ayers was active in that reform effort through a group called the Alliance for Better Chicago Schools, or ABCs. ABCs was an alliance of various activists and reform groups that included the Developing Communities Project which Barack Obama headed up at the time as well as Chicago United, a business sector group, that was headed up by Thomas Ayers, father of Bill Ayers. (Emphases mine.)

Thomas Ayers was the liberal former CEO of the Consolidated Edison (ConEd) power utility and was very active in Chicago education issues. ConEd was a client of Sidley & Austin, a prestigious Chicago law firm, and senior partner Howard Trienens was chief counsel to ConEd. Trienens also worked with Tom Ayers on the Board of Northwestern University. Bernardine Dohrn worked at Sidley until 1988, despite no law license or experience and was hired, according to Trienens, as a favor to “friends.” She subsequently got a teaching job at Northwestern. Another favor?

Obama left for Harvard in 1988 but returned the next summer to intern with Sidley. How did he get that job? Michelle Robinson (Obama) also worked for Sidley at the time and was Obama’s supervisor. They were married in 1992. Given the time they spent at the same firm, Michelle probably knew Bernardine as well.

Barack later became chairman of the board of the Woods Fund (1999-2002). In this position he funneled millions to ACORN and other radical groups. The Woods family ran the fund until 1990, when it was taken over by George Kelm, who moved it politically to the left. Frank Woods Jr., the Fund administrator until 1980 also headed an Illinois coal company, Sahara Coal, which supplied ConEd, so it is likely the Ayers family was already familiar with the Fund and its principals.

Obama also served on the Board of the Joyce Foundation from 1994-2001. This organization funds a large number of gun control groups and did so during Obama’s tenure. The Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law was also one of Joyce’s grant recipients. Obama worked for them too. During Obama’s time at Woods and Joyce, those funds gave another \$900 thousand to Small Schools. They also funded Bill Ayers’ brother John’s organization, Leadership for Quality Education, to the tune of \$761,000. Obama worked on that board too! One very happy family.

Despite receiving almost \$2 million in funding, the Small Schools Workshop and all of the other CAC initiatives were failures. Now, you could argue that Obama was only one Board member. But on the Woods board at least he was one of six. Bill Ayers was another. To suggest he didn’t know about Ayers ideology and aspirations would be to accuse him of abandoning his fiduciary responsibility. Would you expect that kind of incompetence from a Presidential candidate?

Just for perspective, watch and hear what a former FBI assistant director has to say about Ayers. Or watch this hilarious video where Ayers calls the police to avoid an O’Reilly Factor reporter. As Bill O’Reilly observed, given that Ayers tried to bomb the police years ago, that is indeed ironic.

But the most chilling of all is the testimony given by FBI informant Larry Grathwohl. See it here in this clip from a 1982 documentary. The Weather Underground planned to build re-education camps in the American Southwest. Those who wouldn’t submit to the program would be murdered. The Underground estimated they would have to kill about

25 million Americans. Grathwohl was assigned to Bill Ayers. Following is a summary of his impressions:

Grathwohl found Ayers hard to love; he seemed self-important, a controller of subordinates, the type who loved to give orders. Ayers was a key leader. Grathwohl, a government informant, wrote that Ayers had helped direct a pair of attempted police building bombings in Detroit in February 1970. After doing his assigned job in reconnaissance, Grathwohl disagreed with Mr. Ayers over the placement of one bomb, which could easily kill black patrons who favored an adjacent restaurant, but that Ayers dismissed such sentimentality as unrevolutionary. The informant was glad to be dismissed from the operation by Ayers. Forty-four sticks of dynamite were then formed into two bombs and put into place, before Grathwohl's information allowed police to dismantle both. Ayers' memoir — which freely admits to incompleteness — says nothing of this episode, or Detroit, or the month of February 1970.

A big question about Obama's early life is who paid for it? Who paid for his Columbia and Harvard educations? Who were his patrons? One was Khalid Abdullah Tariq al-Mansour. Mansour, who's name in an earlier life was Don Warden, is a virulently racist black nationalist with ties to the Saudi royal family, specifically Prince Alaweed. After 9-11 Alaweed offered \$10 million to New York City but was turned down by Mayor Giuliani when Alaweed suggested we were to blame for 9-11. See a video about Mansour here. For someone who never heard Rev. Wright's hateful speeches, Obama sure knows how to pick 'em. Newsmax has a good backgrounder, here.

Another patron is Tony Rezko. His relationship with Obama seems to have been a fairly straight forward you-scratch-my-back-I'll-scratch-yours scenario. Obama's law firm worked on Rezko projects and Obama helped Rezko businesses with legislation and Woods Fund grants. There's more to this story, but I'd have to write a book.

Obama's Radical Support Network

Obama has been groomed and supported by such a large number of radical groups it is difficult to chart it all. But the following list represents the best known and significant groups that have provided the intellectual grounding for his ideology and the material support for his political campaigns:

Democratic Socialists of America — The DSA describes itself as “the largest socialist organization in the U.S. and principle U.S. affiliate of the socialist international” which traces its roots to Marx's first organization. DSA has endorsed Obama and provided an army of on-the-ground campaign workers. Their members are even boasting credit for the success of his ground game. This organization is probably the largest base of Obama's support.

Here is what the DSA has to say in their endorsement of Obama for President:

While recognizing the critical limitations of the Obama candidacy and the American political system, DSA believes that the possible election of Senator Obama to the

presidency in November represents a potential opening for social and labor movements to generate the political momentum necessary to implement a progressive political agenda. (Emphasis added.)

WorldNetDaily did an expose on the DSA in 1999, revealing their direct link with the Congressional Progressive Caucus, of which Nancy Pelosi was a prominent member. Following this revelation, DSA edited its website, removing the links between the two organizations and some other damaging information. As WND relates:

Prior to the cleanup of its website in 1999, the DSA included a song list featuring “The Internationale,” the worldwide anthem of communism and socialism. Another song on the site was “Red Revolution” sung to the tune of “Red Robin.” The lyrics went: “When the Red Revolution brings its solution along, along, there’ll be no more lootin’ when we start shootin’ that Wall Street throng. ...” Another song removed after WorldNetDaily’s expose was “Are You Sleeping, Bourgeoisie?” The lyrics went: “Are you sleeping? Are you sleeping? Bourgeoisie, Bourgeoisie. And when the revolution comes, We’ll kill you all with knives and guns, Bourgeoisie, Bourgeoisie.” (Emphasis mine.)

Newsflash to you “middle class” families that Obama is trying to woo with tax cut promises, you are the bourgeoisie!

Communist Party USA (CPUSA) — Started in Chicago in 1919, the American Communist Party was under the control of the Soviet KGB until 1989, and perhaps after. While the CPUSA provides fertile recruiting ground for espionage agents in government and business, its main purpose was to provide the Soviets or “Russians” if you prefer, a back door entrance into our political system. The Communist Party supports a political platform virtually identical to Obama’s in many aspects. See the chart below. There is, of course, no doubt about who they support, and their endorsement largely parrots what DSA has to say.

Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN) — This group needs no introduction. In addition to being at the heart of the mortgage meltdown, ACORN is being cited once again for widespread voter fraud in 15 states. Given ACORN’s boast of registering 1.5 million new voters this year, it is possible this election could be decided by fraudulent votes. In the meantime, it has been revealed that the Obama Campaign has paid at least \$800,000 to an ACORN subsidiary for get-out-the-vote efforts. That the media has overlooked this glaring conflict of interest is astounding. Meanwhile, Obama has lied through his teeth about his longstanding ties to the group.

Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism (CCDS) — Another CPUSA splinter group with many Communist Party members and a hodgepodge of others. Prominent Obama patron Carl Davidson was a member, who went on to rise in prominence in the New Party, which Obama joined.

New Party — A political party that promoted electoral fusion, formed of DSA, ACORN, CCDS and CPUSA members. Barack joined the New Party early in his political career

and according to the DSA “encouraged NPers to join his task forces on Voter Education and Voter Registration.” So not only was he a member of an avowedly socialist organization, he encouraged its members to work with him. Cloward Piven Strategy co-author Frances Fox Piven was also a New Party member. Carl Davidson was also a prominent member and early supporter of Obama. The New Party folded when the U.S. Supreme Court issued a ruling against electoral fusion, but many members were instrumental in creating the umbrella group, Progressives for Obama.

Students for a Democratic Society (recently revived) — This newly reformed SDS has 130 or more chapters in the U.S. as of this writing and was designed to attract young radicals into the fold. This SDS was behind much of the violence at the Republican Party convention in Minnesota.

Movement for a Democratic Society — Yet another new party, this time created for the SDS old-timers. MDS and SDS are mutually supportive, with MDS supplying the brains and SDS supplying the brawn. This organization includes the old SDS members we are getting to know: Ayers, Dohrn, Davidson, Klonsky, and many others. Most of the radicals closely associated with Obama have an SDS past. This group founded Progressives for Obama.

Black Radical Congress — Founded in 1998 in Chicago by some New Party leaders and other black radicals. Endorsed by prominent CPUSA members and has many ties to that group. Member Bill Fletcher was a co-founder of Progressives for Obama.

Progressives for Obama — Founded by Tom Hayden, Bill Fletcher, Barbara Ehrenreich and Danny Glover. Carl Davidson is webmaster. All but Glover are MDS members. Glover is considered a socialist although he is not a listed DSA member.

New Black Panther Party — A friendly bunch as you can see from their website. All you need to do is watch this video. With friends like these, who needs enemies? Interestingly, the endorsement formerly posted on Obama’s website, visible in the video and here, has been removed. The Panthers explain this embarrassment here. These people are real losers.

Radical Individuals Who Shaped Obama’s Agenda

Frank Marshall Davis — Communist Party member who was investigated by the FBI for 19 years. He had perhaps the most profound effect on Obama and probably pointed him toward Chicago.

Carl Davidson — SDS, MDS, CPUSA, CCDS, leadership position in New Party, supported Obama early on. Davidson’s recently declassified FBI file reveals that he traveled to Cuba and worked with the Cubans during the Vietnam War to sabotage our war effort. He was a traitor.

Mike Klonsky — SDS, led the Maoist Communist Party (Marxist/Leninist). Klonsky's FBI file shows the same activity.

Tom Hayden — SDS, MDS, Founder of Progressives for Obama. He was also the subject of FBI surveillance.

Bill Ayers & Bernardine Dohrn — Need we say more about them? Read about their treasonous interaction with Cuban intelligence [here](#).

A report has come out summarizing everything these people did. You can read it [here](#): Communism in Chicago and the Obama Connection.

Frances Fox Piven, longtime DSA member, who also served on the boards of the ACLU and the DSA, was the co-author of the Cloward-Piven Strategy. She was one of the original signatories of Progressives for Obama. She was also a New Party member. Her husband, Richard Cloward, died in 2001, so fortunately he can do no more damage than he already has.

Obama's Policy Positions Indistinguishable from Communists and Socialists

Obama's website offers a much more "nuanced" explanation of his policies, but on the critical issues listed below, there is remarkable similarity to the Communist and Socialist positions on almost every issue. In fact, one might easily conclude he was inspired by them, since they were there first and their positions almost never change.

2008 Campaign Issues and Positions

FINANCIAL CRISIS

1). CPUSA: Nationalize Banks, Moratorium on Foreclosures, Extend Unemployment Benefits, "Massive" Public Works Programs, Solar & Wind and Biomass Program, Ratify Kyoto.

2). DSA: Re-regulate financial institutions, Massive Public Works & Renewable Energy Investment, US breaks law by ignoring Kyoto.

3). Obama: Re-regulate financial institutions, Low Income Tax "Cuts", \$60 billions Public Works & Green Jobs, Massive Public Works Programs, Renewable energy use 12% by 2012, "Re-engage" with UN regarding Kyoto.

UNIONS

- 1). CPUSA: Enact Employee Free Choice Act, NAFTA.
- 2). DSA: Enact Employee Free Choice Act, NAFTA.
- 3). Obama: Enact Employee Free Choice Act, NAFTA.

FAIRNESS DOCTRINE

- 1). CPUSA: Re-impose.
- 2). DSA: Re-impose.
- 3). Obama: Re-impose.

HEALTHCARE

- 1). CPUSA: Universal Single-Payer Insurance .
- 2). DSA: Universal Single-Payer Insurance .
- 3). Obama: Single-Payer Insurance & Tax Credits.

IMMIGRATION

- 1). CPUSA: Amnesty – “No human being is illegal”, No Guest Worker Program, No Border Security Enhancements.
- 2). DSA: Amnesty, No Guest Worker Program, No Border Security Enhancements.
- 3). Obama: Amnesty – Driving Licenses for Illegal, Silent on Guest Worker, increase Border Patrol & Technology.

VOTING

- 1). CPUSA: Public Finance of Elections, Same-day Registration, Felons Vote.
- 2). DSA: Public Finance of Elections, no position given .
- 3). Obama: Public Finance of Elections-except his, Same-day Registration, Felons Vote.

FOREIGN POLICY

- 1). CPUSA: Withdrawal from Iraq, Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Massive Defense Cuts, Strengthen UN.
- 2). DSA: Withdrawal from Iraq ,Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Massive Defense Cuts, Strengthen UN.
- 3). Obama: Withdrawal from Iraq, Abolish Nuclear Weapons, Massive Defense Cuts, Strengthen UN.

TAXES

- 1). CPUSA: Increase rates on top income levels, Remove SS Cap, Global Tax.
- 2). DSA: Increase rates on top income levels, Remove SS Cap, Global Tax.
- 3). Obama: Increase rates on top income levels, including retroactive increases to 2000, Increase SS on top income levels Global Tax.

Obama has openly admitted that he wants to raise top marginal tax rates back to “Reagan Era” levels, although his most recent campaign literature says “Clinton Era” levels.

As this video makes startlingly clear, Obama promises to make deep cuts in defense spending and gut our defense posture, regardless of the more “nuanced” tone of his website. Obama is unequivocal in his call for universal health insurance, although once again, his website muddies this fact with promises of tax credits for private insurance. His preference for the UN and other international bodies not particularly friendly to the U.S. is well known.

Obama fully supports the very deceptively named “Employee Free Choice Act,” which abolishes the secret ballot and forces employees to reveal how they vote on union issues. A setup for union intimidation, this unprecedented legislation is truly Orwellian. If you want some shocking perspective, even Nixon-era, far left former presidential candidate George McGovern has gone on the warpath against this very anti-democratic legislation, with an article, a commercial and multiple TV interviews.

Radical Help Waiting in the Wings

There is a ready pool of radicals waiting to push Obama’s agenda in Congress.

Congressional Progressive Caucus — As the largest partisan caucus in the House of Representatives, with 71 members it comprises about 1/3 of all House Democrats. Avowed socialist Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) retains his membership. The Caucus maintained a formal relationship with the DSA until 1999, when an article by WorldNetDaily exposed the links between the two.

Congressional Black Caucus — At the center of the mortgage crisis, the congressional black caucus welcomed the newly minted Senator Obama in 2005 with a sickeningly toadying speech by the CEO of Fannie Mae. As we all know by now, Obama received more money from Fannie Mae in his three short years as Senator than anyone other than Finance Chairman Chris Dodd. Why? No one has asked!

Some have conjectured that Obama may not really be all that radical himself. Maybe somehow he has just played along with these groups to get their support. I doubt it, but even were it true, so what? It should be painfully apparent to anyone reading this that Obama has committed himself too deeply and owes too much to too many to abandon the radical path he has taken. Isn’t that why they supported him in the first place? What did Biden Mean?

Last week, Joe Biden made some astounding comments on the campaign trail, not once, but twice, on two different occasions. Following are Biden’s words, as quoted by Amanda Carpenter. There were two separate statements, of equal import as far as I am concerned, and I will try to interpret each in turn:

“Watch, we’re gonna have an international crisis, a generated crisis, to test the mettle of this guy,” Biden said. “I can give you at least four or five scenarios from where it might originate. And he’s gonna need help. And the kind of help he’s gonna need is, he’s gonna need you – not financially to help him – we’re gonna need you to use your influence, your influence within the community, to stand with him. Because it’s not gonna be apparent initially, it’s not gonna be apparent that we’re right.”

“Gird your loins,” Biden warned. “We’re gonna win with your help, God willing, we’re gonna win, but this is not gonna be an easy ride. This president, the next president, is gonna be left with the most significant task. It’s like cleaning the Augean stables, man. This is more than just, this is more than – think about it, literally, think about it – this is

more than just a capital crisis, this is more than just markets. This is a systemic problem we have with this economy.“

Regarding the first statement, moronic as it was of him to say so, Biden is right. Our enemies will certainly see vulnerability with Obama as President. Now, as to his remark that “...it’s not gonna be apparent that we’re right,” I believe that what he means is that Obama will back down from any confrontation. Here’s why.

Both Barack and Biden are anti-war. But to truly understand the anti-war movement you have to go back to the beginning and get correct working definitions.

If you recall during the Vietnam War, America’s peace activists never had a problem with the North Vietnamese’ flagrant violations of peace agreements, their double-dealing in negotiations, their torture of U.S. POWs, their mass murder of South Vietnamese after we pulled out, or their genocidal holocaust against the indigenous tribes that is ongoing to this day. The silence is deafening.

Our enemies seemingly can do no wrong. Even when al Zarkawi began beheading Americans in Iraq, who did the “peace activists” blame? They certainly weren’t calling for his head!

It seems inconsistent that a “peace” movement’s “anti-war” stance would be so overtly pro-war when it comes to our enemies. But there is a rational, logical explanation, believe it or not.

From their earliest days, Soviet communists always professed an ardent desire for “peace.” They have been relentless in making that claim. However, they have a unique definition of peace. Lenin said:

“As long as capitalism and Socialism exist, we cannot live in peace... In the end, one or the other will triumph.”

William E. Odom explains:

“The Soviet definition of Peace is unique and incompatible with Western definitions. Defense, in this peculiar Soviet sense, means offense. Peace means the destruction of all non-socialist states... peaceful coexistence was a strategy for irreconcilable struggle, political and military, with capitalism. Peaceful coexistence remains Soviet strategy today.”

To the Soviets, “peace” is defined as that point in history when all Soviet enemies, real or potential, are utterly destroyed. This definition does not only refer to external enemies. It includes all enemies. Thus, while maintaining an offensive posture to the world, in Soviet Russia, Lenin and Stalin murdered 40 million of their own. In China, Mao and his monsters murdered 70 million; Vietnam, 2 million; Cambodia, 2 million; Soviet-controlled Afghanistan, 1 million; Saddam’s Iraq, at least 300,000; and so on. All other

communist countries do the same. It is communist doctrine to obliterate any and all enemies, real or imagined — within, and when possible, without.

Western “peace” activists fully understand the Soviet definition, and therefore believe that “world peace” can only be achieved when all the enemies of socialism are destroyed — in other words, when the entire world becomes socialist. Since peace activists are almost all socialists themselves, by working for socialism, they are automatically working for world peace.

Finally, many of the so-called “peace” activists were overtly pro-war. Bill Ayers’ 1974 diatribe “Prairie Fire” specifically stated that they were not anti-war at all, but in favor of Communist victory in the Vietnam War.

But even if you take the most benign view of “peace activism,” properly understood, it means that peace activists will seek capitulation to the communist juggernaut, if only to avoid the war that is otherwise certain to come.

Now, I know what you are saying, that communism is supposedly dead. The Soviet juggernaut was defeated by Reagan, the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), etc. Ignoring for a moment the Chinese Communist elephant in the tent, Cuba, North Korea, Syria and all the other unrepentant communist countries, or the fact that communism has been enjoying a worldwide resurgence lately and the mounting fear that Russia never really abandoned it, regardless, socialists in this country and elsewhere remain determined to see capitalism fall — it is their *raison d’être* — and America is the last bastion of capitalism.

Remember, this is the ultimate goal of the Cloward-Piven Strategy, and it matters little how they get there.

So Socialist Obama, believing as he does that the answer to everything is socialism, will do everything possible to undermine our defense posture, as he has already promised. And because he is interested in replacing our capitalist society with a socialist one, if we are attacked he will not fight. As he has promised, he will prefer to “negotiate without preconditions.” Hence Biden’s statement that “...it’s not gonna be apparent initially, it’s not gonna be apparent that we’re right.”

If the aggressor is one of the large communist countries, he will capitulate. But what happens if the aggressor is Iran? For some reason he is unafraid of a Muslim Caliphate. Perhaps that is because he knows, like some of the rest of us, that the Muslims and Leftists are working together to destroy this country.

Biden’s second comment, ending with the line, “This is a systemic problem (emphasis mine) we have with this economy,” is also chilling. It suggests he believes the capitalist system is the problem — not a big surprise if you accept my argument that this ticket believes in socialism. And you cannot conclude differently if you acknowledge that Obama’s economic policies are socialist to the core. It reaffirms what we have been

predicting for a while now: a President Obama will quickly begin moving this country into the socialist camp with his socialist economic policies.

Both statements reinforce the impression that we are in for bad times if Obama is elected — bad times most Americans cannot begin to imagine. Thanks for the heads up, Joe.

This election may well be the most important in our nation's history. An Obama presidency could not come at a worse time. The world economy stands on the edge of an abyss. If enacted, Obama's socialist class warfare economic policies will push it right over the edge and we could see the nightmare scenario outlined above come to fruition.

And now I'll tell you why I think they have pulled out all the stops. From eye-popping, unprecedented bias in the media to biased opinion polls, from unprecedented levels of questionable donations, including illegal foreign money flowing into Obama's campaign coffers, to astronomical levels of voter registration fraud, there has never been an election season like this. They are going for broke because they believe that this is the last time they will ever have to do it. With majorities in both houses of Congress and a leftist in the White House, they will finally own the store completely. They are hoping to never have to give it up again.

When Obama said, "We are the ones We have been waiting for," he was talking about "we the communists."

I can only hope and pray that it is not too late for our great country.

Do not vote for Barack Obama!

The Cloward-Piven Strategy, Part IV: Manufactured Healthcare Crisis

By Jim Simpson | Friday, August 14, 2009

Truth & Consequences - There is no Right and Left, only Right and Wrong

As a nation we have been asleep for years. Lulled by affluence and self-indulgent apathy, our collective awareness has grown dim. This has created an opening for our enemies, one that may ultimately prove fatal. This is the truth and what we do, or don't do, will determine the consequences, for better or worse. It is time to decide.

These are perilous times. Last November's election of Barack Obama and a filibuster-proof majority of Democrats in both houses allowed a virulent criminal cabal to capture our nation's seat of power. As with the Democrat takeover of Congress in 2006, it was a disaster of epic proportions. With one shocking, enormous, blatantly partisan, self-serving and destructive proposal following on the heels of another, the sheer enormity of their power grab defies description. But as each new proposal moves forward, the hand of the Crisis Strategy becomes clear.

If there was ever any doubt that Barack Obama personifies the Crisis Strategy, it should long since have been removed for anyone with a mind. Since so many Americans seem to have lost theirs, I address this to the rest of you. For with God's help, it is you and I, not our gutless, hapless, corrupt politicians, nor our sleeping populace that will save this country or allow it to fall.

For those of you who aren't familiar with it, the Crisis Strategy was the brainchild of two radical socialist college professors, Richard Cloward and Frances Fox Piven. The idea was to overwhelm government with demands for services to the point where the system would collapse and provide an opening for the socialists to take over.

Their strategy was behind creation of the National Welfare Rights Organization in the 1960s and 1970s which dramatically increased the welfare roles and caused the near bankruptcy of New York City in 1975; creation of the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN), prime instigators of the mortgage meltdown; the national Motor Voter law signed by President Clinton in 1993, which opened the floodgates to vote fraud by ACORN and similar groups; and the illegal immigrant amnesty movement. As we all should know by now, Barack Obama worked with and trained ACORN workers for many years, and is known and supported by all the major players in this movement.

Healthcare nationalization is a major component of this strategy. The Left has agitated almost since the turn of the last century for some kind of socialized healthcare system. In fact, from 1939 forward, practically every Congressional session proposed national healthcare legislation. As aptly described in an incisive analysis of Medicare by the Cato Institute:

For more than 50 years before the 1965 enactment of Medicare, the American people repeatedly rejected the idea of government-mandated health insurance. Yet advocates of such federal power inside and outside of government did not take no for an answer. Year after year they kept coming back--pursuing incremental strategies, misrepresenting their proposals, even distributing propaganda paid for with government money in apparent violation of existing law.

Their dream was partially realized with creation of Medicare and Medicaid in 1965 as part of President Lyndon Johnson's "Great Society." The stated goal of these programs was to provide comprehensive healthcare for seniors and the poor. As the programs grew, the Left clamored for ever more benefits to these groups and ever expanding definitions

of covered individuals. Illegal immigration, also encouraged by the Left, contributed to a rapidly growing pool of beneficiaries.

Like any free good, demand for services under these programs has skyrocketed. Spending levels were insignificant in the early years, but today Medicare and Medicaid today comprise 36 percent of total US healthcare spending.

Medicare was originally to be funded with “Hospital Insurance” (HI) premiums tacked onto the Social Security FICA tax. No one seriously believed the HI tax would cover all costs. And despite more than quadrupling the HI tax rate from 0.7 percent to 2.9 percent, it hasn’t. Today HI taxes cover a mere 40 percent of Medicare spending. About 21 percent comes from premiums paid by beneficiaries and other sources. Fully 39 percent comes from general revenues (i.e. you and me, pal.) Citation here.

Medicaid is funded roughly 50/50 by federal and state governments. As an essentially free benefit to the poor, Medicaid has no tax associated with it, so it is covered by state and federal income tax revenues – that’s you and me again, sucker. In 2006, Medicaid spending alone totaled \$314 billion. For perspective, this is roughly equivalent to the baseline defense budget (i.e. excluding war spending like for Iraq/Afghanistan). State Medicaid programs are the largest single recipient of all federal grants, comprising 43 percent of the total.

In 2008, federal Medicaid and Medicare spending totaled \$656 billion. Comprising only 2.8 percent of the federal budget in 1967, these two programs today consume 22 percent of total federal spending. This is the largest component of the federal budget, even exceeding total wartime outlays for national defense.

Corrected for inflation, Medicare and Medicaid spending has increased by 2,735 percent since funding began in 1967. That is a real annual growth rate of 8.5 percent, almost three times the annual rate of economic growth for the same period.[1]

All these effects were predicted by economists, and we were repeatedly warned. The Left knew.

These spiraling costs have to be covered somehow. The Left knew this too. Besides raiding the General Fund, the federal government has used its monopsony power to strong arm ever greater price concessions from the healthcare industry. Medicare and Medicaid reimburse doctors a small and shrinking portion of the fees needed to cover their costs.

For example, the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons recently responded to President Obama's wildly false claim that Surgeons charge "\$30,000, \$40,000 [or] \$50,000" for a foot amputation. Instead they say, "Medicare reimbursements to physicians for foot amputations range from approximately \$700 to \$1200 which includes the follow up care the surgeon provides to the patient up to 90 days after the operation." That is simply outrageous!

Private insurance on the other hand, provides a larger reimbursement, and uninsured individuals who do not qualify for the government programs pay full price. These prices are much higher than they would be in absence of the government programs because medical providers have to recoup their costs somehow. And because the pool of Medicare and Medicaid recipients continues to grow, prices keep going up.

So while private citizens pay the lion's share of taxes to fund Medicare and Medicaid, we are also cross-subsidizing these government programs through higher insurance premiums than we would otherwise pay. This is a primary reason medical care has become more expensive.

The left has attacked the private healthcare system from another angle as well: malpractice lawsuits. It has gone largely unreported in the mass media, but the dramatic expansion of all forms of liability lawsuits since the 1960s is the result of a deliberate, organized effort by leftist law professors to turn civil courts into agents of income redistribution. By undermining contract law and expanding the definition of liability – ideas advocated at leading law schools – legal precedents have allowed trial lawyers to pick the pockets of American business as never before. Liability costs have skyrocketed as a result.

We see the consequences of their handiwork directly in the increased cost of products, liability insurance of all kinds, and the decline or in some cases elimination of domestic industries. According to a study performed by the Pacific Research Institute (PRI), the United States pays out \$589 billion per year in excessive tort litigation. That is approximately 5 percent of GDP and costs a family of four on average about \$8,000 per year.

Glorified ambulance chaser and Democratic Presidential Candidate John Edwards made his millions suing doctors for procedures that are inherently risky, and greatly increased jury awards with a new innovation: suing nurses, anesthesiologists, hospitals and anyone else in his path. Following is a quote from one doctor:

"The John Edwards we know crushed [obstetrics, gynecology] and neurosurgery in North Carolina," said Dr. Craig VanDerVeer, a Charlotte neurosurgeon. "As a result, thousands of patients lost their health care."

Following are some statistics on medical malpractice liability from the PRI report: Approximately \$124 billion dollars is spent annually by the health care profession to avoid medical liability.

About \$30 billion more is spent on direct liability lawsuit costs.

Malpractice liability cost is 1 percent of GDP and increases the cost of healthcare by approximately 7 percent.

These added costs deny health insurance coverage to between 2.4 and 4.3 million people, according to the Department of Health and Human Services.

The increasing costs of medical care resulting from Medicare, Medicaid and the dramatic growth of malpractice lawsuits have provided activists with the rationale they need to agitate for socialized medicine. But this has been their strategy all along. Medicare and Medicaid were designed to undermine private healthcare, making it ever more expensive and unmanageable, until enough interest could be generated for systemic change. Similarly, changes in tort law aimed at turning our courts into vehicles for income redistribution have overburdened our legal system with massive caseloads and the highest liability costs in the world.

While doubtless many thought they were doing good, the ultimate goal, as elucidated by the Left, has everywhere and always been Socialism.

Furthermore, they grossly overstate the problem. We hear constantly about the “47 million uninsured.” These figures include 10 to 25 million illegal immigrants, 14 million people who are already eligible for medical benefits but haven’t availed themselves, and 10 million people earning \$75,000 or more who could presumably afford their own insurance if they chose to. Even assuming the lowest estimate for illegal immigrants, the true number of uninsured would be only 13 million. Yet the Democrats want to nationalize the entire industry, currently 17 percent of GDP, to provide benefits to 4 percent of the U.S. population.

And while medical costs increase due largely to government manufactured problems, shrinking returns in the healthcare industry put doctors and hospitals out of business. Meanwhile, the astronomical cost of medical school plus this increasingly hostile atmosphere toward the private medical market is turning more and more qualified people away from the medical field entirely. Costs increase while supply decreases, the classic consequence of government intervention.

Yet Obama and the brain-dead Democrat Congress want to give us a government-run system that will guarantee magnitudes more of the same.

Can you see the Left laughing at you?

However, their true motives have finally been exposed. For seniors Obamacare essentially advocates euthanasia. Benefits will be drastically cut, and in some cases will become completely unavailable. As Obama said publicly: “Maybe you’re better off not having the surgery, but taking the painkiller.” In other words, if you think you are going to die anyway, why don’t you just save us the money and go ahead...

For others it will mean a dramatic reduction in both the availability and quality of care. Obama's health policy advisor Ezekiel Emmanuel (brother of Rahm Emmanuel) admits as much. He even wants doctors to reconsider the Hippocratic Oath:

Amazingly, Dr. Emanuel criticizes the Hippocratic Oath as partly to blame for the "overuse" of medical care: "Medical school education and post graduate education emphasize thoroughness," he wrote. Physicians take the "Hippocratic Oath's admonition to 'use my power to help the sick to the best of my ability and judgment' as an imperative to do everything for the patient regardless of the cost or effects on others." (Journal of the American Medical Association, June 18, 2008.) Of course that is what patients hope their doctors will do. But Dr. Emanuel wants doctors to look beyond the needs of their own patient and consider "social justice" (emphasis mine.) They should think about whether the money being spent on their patient could be better spent elsewhere.

Who in God's green earth are these people?

The Left has relentlessly insisted for decades that we pay every penny for care of indigents, the poor, illegals and elderly to the point where hospitals are closing their doors because they can no longer afford it. But once given the opportunity to transfer this responsibility to the government, their message to the elderly and the rest of us is essentially: drop dead!

Let me put this as bluntly as possible. The Left has never cared about the elderly or the poor, but ruthlessly uses them as part of their long-term strategy to overburden private healthcare until it ultimately collapses. The same Leftists who so passionately demanded free healthcare for all now want euthanasia for seniors and dramatically lower services for the rest of us. It is a power grab, pure and simple. There is nothing more to it.

The Dems won't cut benefits to the poor just yet though, because they still need their votes. Later on they will need them as hired muscle. But once they secure unchallengeable power, do you think they'll care? They have willfully worked to destroy every beneficial thing in our society. These are vicious, selfish, utterly corrupt parasites. They have spent a lifetime abandoned to a philosophy that makes excuses for everything and anything in the service of one ultimate goal: absolute power.

These people have to be stopped. NOW.

I went to Senator Ben Cardin's town hall meeting last Monday and came across a woman who had worked as a nurse in Britain's public health system. She provided a personal anecdote which is little peek into what we can expect should we adopt the Democrats' plan. Catherine Midkiff, RN RSN, has been a nurse since 1979 and lived in the UK in 1991 and 1992. She earned \$10 per hour there, compared to the \$22 per hour then being earned by nurses in the US. As an agency nurse she earned more than staff nurses. Those women had to live in a dormitory on site as their pay would not afford them private residences.

She said at St. George's Hospital she worked on a seniors ward where 23 elderly men and women shared the same room. When she asked where the code cart was, her British counterparts laughed, saying, "Oh you must be from America..." For non-seniors, most British hospitals put six people in a room. Wait lists are extremely long. An elderly British citizen she knew came to the US to get heart surgery after waiting a full year in the UK system. Others weren't so lucky. For many years, British hospitals had no trauma centers. Thousands died as a result.

For his part, Cardin simply perpetuated the smear against Obamacare protesters, claiming they were Republican stooges spreading disinformation. However, there were over 2,000 of us and only a handful of ACORN, union and party thugs. That we are no longer being fooled is becoming more and more apparent. The Dems control both houses of Congress so this remains an uphill battle, but if enough get the message that their careers are on the line, these utterly self-serving urchins may actually come around to our point of view, simply for sheer survival purposes.

We cannot let up. Not for a minute.

[1] Calculations based on Office of Management and Budget historical tables using OMB deflators.

The Cloward Piven Strategy, Part V: ACORN on the Ropes

By Jim Simpson | Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Hannah Giles, James O'Keefe and Andrew Breitbart deserve an award. Their four explosive videos should be enough to bring down this presidency. They won't. But they will confront Democrats with two equally ugly choices:

1. To disavow ACORN, strip it of its funding, and possibly be forced to launch an investigation;

2. To continue shielding, supporting and defending ACORN in the face of these monstrous revelations

Right now, it looks as if they are going for option #1. Yesterday the U.S. Senate voted to strip funds for ACORN out of the federal budget. The amendment, added to the HUD and Transportation appropriations bill by Mike Johanns (R-NE) passed 83 – 7! In the House, Congressmen Darrell Issa (R - CA) and House Minority Leader John Boehner introduced similar legislation.

And it seems that even the liberal media has started to notice. A devastating satire by Jon Stewart titled "The Audacity of Hos" has, for once, gotten it exactly right. And he excoriates the media for missing the story while two "kids" got the scoop. This is really worth a watch.

Today, ACORN announced that it has halted acceptance of new business to investigate the activities revealed in the Breitbart videos. This will likely be little more than a whitewash. Those employees identified in the videos will lose their jobs. Indeed some already have. But the basic mission of ACORN will remain unchanged.

As we reported last September, and as Glenn Beck and others have reported since then, ACORN was created specifically to execute the Cloward Piven Strategy of manufactured crisis across our country. This series of videos demonstrates in microcosm how ACORN workers promote the strategy.

By agitating for mortgages that borrowers could never repay, ACORN and similar groups were primarily responsible for the conditions that led to our current financial crisis. This is not speculation or partisan blather, but a matter of historical fact, extensively documented in last September's article and many, many others.

But there are other ways to gnaw at the fabric of our society. ACORN's daily activities are also devoted to corrupting and overloading our society with social ills of every description. The gameplan seems to be: if it is illegal and/or immoral, pile it on! These videos underscore just how low they will go.

We have witnessed ACORN offices in four different states advising O'Keefe and Giles how to violate a host of criminal statutes to promote a brothel using underage prostitutes. We have witnessed ACORN advising O'Keefe and Giles how to violate tax laws. It has also now been revealed that ACORN has been operating illegally in Maryland since 2006.

How could an organization be so willfully corrupt? Here's the latest shocker: California ACORN worker describes on video how she murdered her husband!

Obviously ACORN deliberately seeks out people with criminal backgrounds, people on the margins of society, who can be discarded at a moment's notice with plausible

deniability if their illegal activities are discovered. Indeed, this has been ACORN's grand excuse with every single instance of the massive vote registration fraud they have been caught at. But everywhere and always, the organizational goal of creating societal crisis is in evidence.

Now recognize that Barack Obama was an ACORN trainer. In fact, in this video prior to the election, he makes the unequivocal statement that ACORN will help shape President Obama's agenda. So perhaps he did not specifically train field representatives to help people create underage prostitution rings, but he fully understands ACORN's mission and trained them in the Crisis Strategy. This is our president.

Earlier this summer Congressman Issa, who is also minority ranking member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, commissioned a report on ACORN. Completely overlooked by Democrats and the mass media – no surprise there – this report chronicled ACORN's legacy of criminal activity.

Appendix 2 of the report analyzes the viability of criminally prosecuting ACORN as a continuing criminal enterprise under the Racketeer Influenced, Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) statutes. It concludes that ACORN does indeed qualify as a candidate for prosecution under these statutes. This law authorizes authorities to seize all the assets of any organization or individual deemed part of a RICO.

So here's the recommendation: RICO ACORN, right now. Seize all their assets. Seize the assets of their many hundreds of subsidiaries. Seize the assets of Wade Rathke, his thief brother, and all the top executives. Let them squeal and squirm for a while, trying to figure out how they will support their lavish, parasite lifestyles without income, and then start asking the real questions.

This was how federal prosecutors obtained a conviction against Drexel Burnham Lambert Junk Bond magnate, Michael Milken, on much flimsier evidence. An in-depth investigation of ACORN assisted by the power of the RICO statutes, conducted by seasoned prosecutors untainted by Democrat Party or Obama administration connections, would likely produce evidence of rampant corruption both within the Obama administration as well as the Democrat Party at large. There has been a symbiotic relationship between ACORN and the left wing of the Democrat Party for decades at this point and a particularly close relationship between Obama and ACORN.

It is almost a foregone conclusion that the Eric Holder Justice Department will sabotage any investigation before it gets that far. Holder has already unilaterally halted prosecutions of Black Panther Party members charged with voter intimidation, has initiated investigations of CIA personnel who conducted – under orders from superiors – rendition interrogations on al Qaeda terrorists, and has called us a “nation of cowards,” overall, presenting himself to be the Van Jones of the Justice Department.

With his lies, insulting remarks to the American People, and his blatantly self-serving, corrupt and indescribably destructive policies, Obama's administration has already

demonstrated itself to be utterly devoid of integrity, so there is little doubt they will seek to hobble any investigation of ACORN. But if the relationship between Obama, the national Democrat Party and ACORN can be cemented in the public mind, and if ACORN and its subsidiaries are at least denied the billions provided for them in legislation passed by Obama and the Democrats, they may be prevented from stealing the 2010 elections, which is the Democrat game plan as it stands right now.

We have been to the town halls, we have had our big shindig in DC, now it's time to go to work. Call your Congressman and tell him/her to defund ACORN by supporting Issa's amendment and call for an independent investigation of the group's criminal activities. It is critical that ACORN, this key component of the Cloward Piven Strategy be utterly destroyed.

The Cloward Piven Strategy, Part VI: Cloward Piven Government

By Jim Simpson | November 22, 2009

Casualties mount in Afghanistan as we fight an increasingly brazen Taliban, while President Obama continues to ignore the pleas of our military commanders for more troops. At the same time, he parties with Obama fundraiser and supporter Jodie Evans, the terrorist-sympathizing co-founder of Code Pink, who just returned from Afghanistan after a visit with the Taliban. She brought him a package of materials. Was she acting as conduit for the Taliban, like Code Pink co-founder Medea Benjamin, who brought a letter to Obama from the Palestinian terrorist group, Hamas?

A lone Muslim terrorist guns down 13 American service members and wounds forty others in the worst domestic terrorist attack since 9-11 and the President of the United States says we shouldn't "jump to conclusions." The Director of Homeland Security meanwhile, directs her attention to reassuring Muslims that there won't be a "backlash" while utterly ignoring her responsibility to protect this nation, and the Army Chief of Staff considers these killings a cost of achieving "diversity" he is willing to pay.

When Attorney General Eric Holder announced last week that the government would try admitted 9-11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed in a NY civilian court, constitutional scholars, defense analysts, intelligence experts and many citizens were stunned. The precedents and possibilities are horrifying. In the same breath Holder refused to provide names of Justice Department lawyers facing potential conflicts of

interest who formerly worked in Holder's law firm on behalf of Guantanamo terrorist detainees.

When the brave and clever initiative of two twenty-something kids demonstrate the community organization ACORN's degenerate, corrupt nature, we watch the spectacle of ACORN suing these kids while law enforcement stands idly by. Meanwhile the Democrat-controlled Congress removes federal funding for ACORN in the about-to-expire continuing resolution, but tries to sneak it back in new legislation.

Saturday Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid bought off support of two "wavering" Democrat Senators to achieve cloture on the Senate's massive, unread and unanalyzed, 2,074 page version of healthcare legislation that expanded upon the Senate Finance Committee bill, also passed out of committee without substantive review. This will compete with the House's massive, unanalyzed and unread 1,990 page health bill, passed with a five vote margin on November 7th. And while everyone was focused on health legislation, backdoor censorship passed under the misnamed "Hate Crimes" bill. Incapable of passing as a standalone, the Dems tacked it onto defense authorization legislation.

Meanwhile, Senator Barbara Boxer's economy crushing global warming tax bill moved out of her Environment and Public Works committee on November 5 after she violated committee rules by holding a vote with no Republicans present. While all the news outlets are now pronouncing "Cap and Trade" dead until next year, the New York Times reports there is already another plan in the works. Look for a surprise vote in December.

The media rejoiced at positive third quarter 2009 GDP growth – entirely fueled by the temporary "Cash for Clunkers" and first-time homebuyer credit programs – but at the same time, unemployment raced past 10 percent. With many unemployed leaving the labor force entirely, the true rate may be actually closer to 20%.

The "Stimulus" plan has proven a complete failure in creating promised private sector jobs. The only jobs it has created are in the public sector, and a lot of these are fraudulent. Many of us knew this would happen. Indeed, despite the administration's claim that "most economists" agreed with the stimulus plan, the truth is that most did not. One well-known economist dubbed it "Mugabe Economics."

Despite this, Democrats in Congress and the White House are discussing a second stimulus bill, adding yet more billions to what is already the highest deficit in post WW II history – at 11% of GDP, almost twice the previous record – while President Obama observes without irony that "people could lose confidence in the U.S. economy in a way that could actually lead to a double-dip recession..." if we keep on piling up federal debt. All this is reported without comment by the mass media.

A million or more people gathered at the Washington, DC Mall on September 12, 2009. Many of these people were middle-aged or elderly. For most this was the first public demonstration they had ever attended. It was an unprecedented spontaneous outpouring

of concern over this President and Congress's reckless policies, expressed by people who one year ago didn't know each other, had never heard of "community organizing" and had no need to. While Democrat "paid volunteer" SEIU union thugs roved town hall meetings over the summer beating up protesters, the President's allies dismiss the 9/12 gathering as "Astroturf."

We stand aghast at these and other astonishing statements, delivered offhandedly by the leader of the free world or his proxies, as we collectively reel from the successive body blows his initiatives are delivering to our economy and morale. We marvel at the appointment of "czars" each more radical than the next, whose unspeakable agendas are ignored by the press.

Entrepreneurs and businesses sit on their hands, not because there is no business opportunity, but because they, like practically everyone else in this country, are increasingly uncertain about our future. With anxiety bordering on sickness, we ask ourselves "what on earth is going on?"

It is time to cast aside all remaining doubt.

In September of last year, American Thinker published Barack Obama and the Strategy of Manufactured Crisis. Part of a series, it connected then presidential candidate Barack Obama to individuals and organizations practicing a malevolent strategy for sabotaging our society. Since then the story of that strategy has found its way across the blogosphere, onto the airwaves of radio stations across the country, the Glenn Beck television show, Bill O'Reilly and now Mark Levin.

The methodology is known as the Cloward-Piven Strategy, and we can all be grateful to David Horowitz and his Discover the Networks for originally exposing and explaining it to us. He describes it as:

The strategy of forcing political change through orchestrated crisis. The "Cloward-Piven Strategy" seeks to hasten the fall of capitalism by overloading the government bureaucracy with a flood of impossible demands, thus pushing society into crisis and economic collapse.

Richard Cloward and Frances Piven were husband and wife, two lifelong members of Democratic Socialists of America and taught sociology at Columbia University (Piven later went on to City University of New York). In a May, 1966 Nation magazine article titled "The Weight of the Poor," they outlined their strategy, proposing to use grassroots radical organizations to push ever more strident demands for public services at all levels of government. The result, they predicted, would be:
"a profound financial and political crisis" that would unleash "powerful forces ... for major economic reform at the national level."

They implemented the Strategy by creating a succession of radical organizations but most notably the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN), with the help of veteran organizer Wade Rathke.

Their crowning achievement was the “Motor Voter” act, signed into law by Bill Clinton in 1993 with Cloward and Piven standing behind him as shown in the picture to the left (Cloward in grey, Piven in green). As we now know, ACORN was one of the chief drivers of high-risk mortgage lending that eventually led to the financial crisis.

But the Motor Voter law was another component of the strategy. It created vast opportunities for fraud in our electoral system which ACORN then exploited. ACORN’s vote registration scandals throughout the US are predictable fallout.

The Motor Voter law opened another vulnerability in the system: the registration of vast numbers of illegal aliens, who then vote reliably Democrat. Herein lies the real reason Democrats are so anxious for open borders, security be damned.

It should be clear to anyone with a mind and two eyes that this president and this Congress do not have our interests at heart. They are implementing this strategy on an unprecedented scale by flooding America with a tidal wave of poisonous initiatives, orders, regulations and laws. As Obama advisor Rahm Emmanuel said, “A crisis is a terrible thing to waste.”

The real goal of “healthcare” legislation, the real goal of “cap and trade,” the real goal of “stimulus” is to rip the guts out of our private economy and transfer wide swaths of it over to government control. Do not be deluded by the propaganda. These initiatives are vehicles for change. They are not goals in and of themselves, except in their ability to deliver power, and will make matters much worse, for that is their design.

This time, in addition to overwhelming the government with demands for services, Obama and the Democrats are overwhelming political opposition to their plans with a flood of apocalyptic legislation. Their ultimate goal is to leave us so discouraged, demoralized and exhausted that we throw our hands up in defeat.

It is time to acknowledge that these people are our enemies. They don’t use guns, yet, but they are just as dangerous, determined and duplicitous as the communists we faced in the Cold War, Korea, Vietnam and bush wars across the globe, and the Nazis we faced in World War II. It is high time we overcome the denial, and fully digest and internalize this fact, with all its ugly ramifications.

These people are stealing this country while we stand and watch. They have violated countless laws, and could be prosecuted, had we the political power. Not only are their policies unconstitutional, but deliberately so – the goal being to make the Constitution irrelevant, we could make them live up to their oath of office, had we the political power. Their spending is off the charts and will drive us into hyperinflation, but could be rescinded, had we the political power. Their policies are toxic, but could be stopped and reversed, had we the political power. Their ideologies are poisonous, but could be exposed for what they are, with long jail sentences as an object lesson, had we the political power.

Every single citizen who cares about this country should be spending every minute of his/her spare time lobbying, organizing, writing and planning. Fight every initiative they launch. It is all destructive. If we are to root out this evil, it is critical that in 2010 we win competent, principled leaders willing to defend our constitution and our country. Otherwise the malevolent cabal that occupies the seat of government today will become too entrenched.

After that all bets are off.

Correction: In an earlier version of this article, I attributed a quote to Barney Frank that "the middle class will be too distracted to fight." That was an error. Barney Frank never made that statement. The correct quote was "You don't have to be worried about what the Middle Class is going to do. Things are so bad they have to put food on the table, get clothes on their kids, get them to school..." The statement was made in hearings with Obama economic advisor Robert Reich, where Reich proposed that stimulus dollars not go to "high skilled people who are already professionals or to white male construction workers..." but to low income groups. Rangel wanted assurances that would happen and asked if it could not be set up to happen automatically. So the dollars would not necessarily go where they could be put to most productive use, but to those groups who comprise a large part of the Democrat base. I apologize for the error.

Businessman and Examiner.com columnist Jim Simpson is a former White House staff economist and budget analyst. His writings have been published in American Thinker, Washington Times, WorldNet Daily, FrontPage Magazine, DefenseWatch, Soldier of Fortune and others.

Questioning conspiracy

By James Simpson, November 23, 2009.

As long as we are facing facts, it is time to confront a long-held, dangerous delusion of the American psyche. The vast majority of people who have read my series on the Cloward Piven Strategy, including Monday's post, Cloward Piven Government, have taken the lessons to heart and are justifiably alarmed by their conclusions. Yet, despite the exhaustive wealth of evidence, despite overwhelming documentation embedded within these and others' essays, some people choose to dismiss the frightening conclusions by taking the easy way out and ridicule them as "conspiracy theories."

To these people, I have to say, “You don’t know what you don’t know.” The “dismissal by conspiracy theory” argument is the product of a lazy, cowardly mind, unwilling to risk a peek, instead reacting instinctively out of subliminal fear to facts that threaten comforting rationalizations.

The communist method is and always has been conspiracy. Since the Soviet military adopted Sun Tzu’s Art of War as their guiding philosophy, they have almost always utilized the effective tools of slow subversion as a critical component of their overall offensives. One of the foremost experts on Soviet methods even called the Soviet Union the “Counterintelligence State,” based on the idea that the entire society was dedicated in one form or another to “Dezinformatsia.”

The public relations campaign launched against Joseph McCarthy in the 1950s was in fact a full-scale assault led by American communists to discredit the notion of communist conspiracy, which at the time was very widely believed to be occurring. It was an intimidation campaign based on Alinsky’s rule #5: “Ridicule is man’s most potent weapon...”

The effectiveness of this campaign lives with us today as people almost universally shy away from any notion even hinting at that awful word “conspiracy” when it comes to leftists.

For example, this manufactured ignorance is so widespread that many people conflate the 1947 House Un-American Activities Committee’s (HUAC) investigations of the film industry with “McCarthyism” when McCarthy hadn’t even been elected Senator. McCarthy’s 1950s investigations focused on communist infiltration of the Army, especially the Army facility at Monmouth, New Jersey, where atomic spy Julius Rosenberg had worked. Three years after McCarthy had been railroaded for his efforts, that facility quietly closed because of this internal security threat it. Did you know that? Why not?

As commentator Chuck Morse wrote in 2003:

The substantial power the left wielded over our government and media was on full display in the concerted campaign to stop McCarthy, who, in hindsight, has been vindicated of all charges. Politicians who would henceforth be more circumspect when investigating communist or any other subversive element in government heard the lesson of McCarthy’s downfall loud and clear. Average citizens, at least subliminally conscious of the auto da fe McCarthy had been put through, would also learn to curb their criticism of the left as well.

The left ridicules notions of communist conspiracy and we buy it. At the same time they aggressively promote the notion of “CIA” or “Vast Right-Wing” conspiracy as though it’s a given, and we buy that too! But if one is possible, so must be the other. Our illogical reasoning is the result of years of popular culture conditioning, not fact. The difference is, with communists, subversive conspiracy is doctrine. With us, it is an alien notion, born

witness by the scorn with which counterintelligence and clandestine activities are treated even within the military establishment.

Fast forward.

Cloward and Piven were not merely two lone sociology professors conspiring on teacher salaries to bring down America. They were prominent socialists and lifelong members of Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), the largest and oldest worldwide socialist organization. Therein lay their strength, both in recruitment and resources. The leftist Institute for Policy Studies (IPS) held seminars for activists on how to use the CPS. Cloward and Piven's Nation article was reprinted a record 30,000 times.

These folks were not alone. And they only added to the plethora of anti-American strategies being used, building on the already utilized Alinsky method. Also, we have been infiltrated since the 1930s by the KGB and their sister agencies in other communist countries whose goal has not merely been to obtain military secrets, but much more to create a subversive infrastructure in this country. The IPS, mentioned above, is largely a KGB front. All of its principals are American communists, who, by definition, work for the communist international, still run by the KGB despite the alleged "fall" of communism.

All these groups, the think tanks, the DSA, ACORN, ACLU, the National Lawyers Guild, the Communist Party and all their offshoots are led by people who know each other, have worked in the "movement" for years, and share the same goals, often trading places in the various organizations. It is well organized, powerful, and even deadly when necessary. Connections to foreign intelligence agencies like the KGB are well hidden, but very likely much closer than even a lot of people in the movement realize (those, like many prominent Democrats, are the useful idiots).

Finally, it doesn't take much for a conspiracy to work when you give participants a vested interest. That was an overtly stated component of the CPS. Cloward and Piven said: First, this plan promises immediate economic benefits. This is a point of some importance because, whereas America's poor have not been moved in any number by radical political ideologies, they have sometimes been moved by their economic interests.

So they were able to mobilize armies of poor people simply because those people saw a paycheck in the form of welfare benefits. ACORN attracted homebuyers in droves by showing them how to get 5% or even zero down payment mortgages, with the implicit promise -- borne out later in some cases -- that they wouldn't have to pay anything. Countrywide Financial, the "Friends of Angelo" bank, had a direct working relationship with ACORN and by 2006 were holding \$600 billion in high risk mortgage investments.

Most communist conspiracies work because, as Whittaker Chambers explained, most people aren't communist and don't even know they are promoting communist causes. They merely work in their own interest, whether that be to obtain a mortgage, get welfare income, or save a tree.

<http://www.investigatingobama.blogspot.com/>

Manufactured Crisis Speech

Jim Simpson gave a speech on the Manufactured Crisis Strategy last Friday, October 23, to Grassroots America We the People, in Tyler, Texas. To listen, go to the Grassroots America radio program and look to the right hand side, under the “Recent Shows” heading for the following description:

The Freedom Destroying Philosophy of Leaders in the White House Administration:
James Simpson's Speech on Friday Oct 23 at Call To Action Lunch Meeting in Tyler, TX.

<http://toginet.com/shows/grassrootsamericawethepeople>

Jim Simpson is a former White House staff economist and budget analyst. His writings have been published in American Thinker, Washington Times, FrontPage Magazine, Defense Watch, Soldier of Fortune and others. His blog is Truth and Consequences..

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GOD BLESS AMERICA
