

Democracy vs. The Putin-Nazis

Another important dispatch from The Greenville Post. Be sure to share it widely.

CJ Hopkins



CONSENT FACTORY, INC.

[dropcap]B[/dropcap>ack in January 2018, I wrote this piece about [The War on Dissent](#), which, in case you haven't noticed, is going gangbusters. As predicted, the global capitalist ruling classes have been using every weapon in their arsenal to marginalize, stigmatize, delegitimize, and otherwise eliminate any and all forms of dissent from neoliberal ideology, and in particular from their new official narrative ... "Democracy versus The Putin-Nazis."

For over two years, the corporate media have been pounding out an endless series of variations on this major theme, namely, that "democracy is under attack" by a conspiracy of Russians and neo-Nazis that magically materialized out of the ether

during the Summer of 2016. The intelligence agencies, political elites, academia, celebrities, social media personalities, and other organs of the culture industry have been systematically reifying this official narrative through constant repetition. The Western masses have been inundated with innumerable articles, editorials, television news and talk show segments, books, social media posts, and various other forms of messaging whipping up hysteria over “Russians” and “fascists.” At this point, it is no longer just propaganda. It has become the new “truth.” It has become “reality.”

Becoming “reality” is, of course, the ultimate goal of every ideology. An ideology is just a system of ideas, and is thus fair game for critique and dissent. “Reality” is not fair game for dissent. It is not up for debate or challenge, not by “serious,” “legitimate” people. “Reality” is simply “the way it is.” It is axiomatic. It is apothegmatic. It’s not a belief or an interpretation. It is not subject to change or revision. It is the immortal, immutable Word of God ... or whatever deity or deity-like concept the ruling classes and the masses they rule accept as the Final Arbiter of Truth. In our case, this would be Science, or Reason, rather than some supernatural being, but in terms of ideology there isn’t much difference. Every system of belief, regardless of its nature, ultimately depends on political power and power relations to enforce its beliefs, which is to say, to make them “real.”

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that magically materialized out of the ether during the Summer of 2016. The intelligence agencies, political elites, academia, celebrities, social media personalities, and other organs of the culture industry have been systematically reifying this official narrative through constant repetition..."

OK, whenever I write about "reality" and "truth," I get a few rather angry responses from folks who appear to think I'm denying the existence of objective reality. I'm not ... for example, this chair I'm sitting on is absolutely part of objective reality, a physical object that actually exists. The screen you're probably reading these words on is also part of objective reality. I am not saying there is no reality. What I'm saying is, "reality" is a concept, a concept invented and developed by people ... a concept that serves a variety of purposes, some philosophical, some political. It's the political purposes I'm interested in.

Think of "reality" as an ideological tool ... a tool in the hands of those with the power to designate what is "real" and what isn't. Doctors, teachers, politicians, police, scientists, priests, pundits, experts, parents – these are the enforcers of "reality." The powerless do not get to decide what is "real." Ask someone suffering from schizophrenia. Or ... I'm sorry, is it bipolar disorder? Or oppositional defiant disorder? I can't keep all these new disorders psychiatrists keep "discovering" straight.

Or ask a Palestinian living in Gaza. Or the mother of a Black kid the cops shot for no reason. Ask Julian Assange. Ask the families of all those "enemy combatants" Obama droned. Ask the "conspiracy theorists" on Twitter digitally screaming at

anyone who will listen about what is and isn't "the truth." Each of them will give you their version of "reality," and you and I may agree with some of them, and some of their beliefs may be supported with facts, but that will not make what they believe "reality."

Power is what makes "reality" "reality." Not facts. Not evidence. Not knowledge. Power.

Those in power, or aligned with those in power, or parroting the narratives of those in power, understand this (whether consciously or not). Those without power mostly do not, and thus we continue to "speak truth to power," as if those in power gave a shit. They don't. The powerful are not arguing with us. They are not attempting to win a debate about what is and isn't "true," or what did or didn't "really" happen. They are *declaring* what did or didn't happen. They are *telling* us what is and is not "reality," and demonstrating what happens to those who disagree.

The "Democracy versus The Putin-Nazis" narrative is our new "reality," whether we like it or not. It does not matter one iota that there is zero evidence to support this narrative, other than the claims of intelligence agencies, politicians, the corporate media, and other servants of the ruling classes. The Russians are "attacking democracy" because the ruling classes tell us they are. "Fascism is on the march again" because the ruling classes say it is. Anyone who disagrees is a "Putin-sympathizer," a "Putin-apologist," or "linked to Russia," or "favored by Russia," or an "anti-Semite," or a "fascist apologist."

Question the official narrative about the Gratuitously Baby Gassing Monster of Syria and you're an [Assad apologist](#), a [Russian bot network](#), or a [plagiarizing Red-Brown infiltrator](#). Criticize the corporate media for disseminating cheap McCarthyite smears, and you're a [Tulsi-stanning Hindu Nazi-apologist](#). God help you if you should appear on FOX, in which

case you are [a Nazi-legitim�izer](#)! A cursory check of the Internet today revealed that “[far-right Facebook groups are spreading hate to millions in Europe](#)” by means of some sort of hypnogenic content that just looking at it turns you into a Nazi. Our democracy-loving friends at [The Atlantic Council](#) are disappointed by Trump’s refusal to sign the “Christchurch Call,” a multilateral statement encouraging corporations to censor the Internet ... and [fascism is fashionable in Italy again!](#)”

This post-Orwellian, neo-McCarthyite mass hysteria is not going to stop ... not until the global capitalist ruling classes have suppressed the current “populist” insurgency and [restored “normality”](#) throughout the Western world. Until then, it’s going to be pretty much non-stop “Democracy versus the Putin-Nazis.”

So, unless you’re enjoying our new “reality,” or are willing to conform to it for some other reason, prepare to be smeared as “a Russia-loving, Putin-apologizing conspiracy theorist,” or a “fascism-enabling, Trump-loving Nazi,” or some other type of insidiously Slavic, white supremacist, mass-murder enthusiast. Things are only going to get uglier as the American election season ramps up. I mean, come on ... you don’t really believe that the global capitalist ruling classes are going to let Trump serve a second term, do you?

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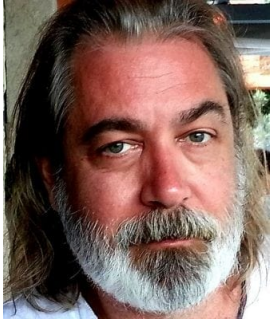
CJ Hopkins
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This article is part of a series on disgusting US-led



imperialism

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



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