



Dr. Fred Schwarz

# The Schwarz Report



Dr. David Noebel

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## Howard Zinn: Progressive and Communist

by Cliff Kincaid

The prominent “progressive” historian Howard Zinn, whose books are force-fed to young people on many college campuses, was not only a member of the Moscow-controlled and Soviet-funded Communist Party USA (CPUSA) but lied about it, according to an FBI file released on Friday.

The file, consisting of three sections totaling 423 pages, was made available on the FBI’s website and released in response to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request from this writer.

Zinn taught in the political science department of Boston University for 24 years, from 1964 to 1988, and has been a major influence on the modern-day “progressive” movement that backed Barack Obama for president.

Although Zinn denied being a member of the CPUSA, the FBI file discloses that several reliable informants in the party identified Zinn as a member who attended party meetings as many as five times a week.

What’s more, one of the files reveals that a reliable informant provided a photograph of Zinn teaching a class on “Basic Marxism” at party headquarters in Brooklyn, New York, in 1951. A participant in the class said that Zinn taught that “the basic teaching of Marx and Lenin were sound and should be adhered to by those present.”

The FBI file also includes information on Zinn’s pro-Castro activism and support for radical groups such as the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), Progressive Labor Party (PLP), Socialist Workers Party (SWP), and Black Panther Party. Much of the latter was in connection with Zinn’s support for a communist military victory in Vietnam. His dealings with the Communist regime in Hanoi included a visit to the communist capital.

Zinn was included on the “Security Index” and “Communist Index” maintained by the FBI. The “Security Index” was more ominous and included individuals who could be detained in the event of a national emergency.

The files confirm Zinn’s membership in the party from 1948-1953, and one says he was “believed to be a CP member as of October, 1956.” However, he denied membership in the party when interviewed by the FBI in 1953 and 1954 and claimed to be just a “liberal” or “leftist.” He did admit involvement in several CPUSA front organizations, the documents say.

A 1964 FBI memorandum refers to Zinn as “a professor and writer who has a background of known membership in the Communist Party (CP) and has continued to demonstrate pro-communist and anti-United States sympathies.” It says that while Zinn had denied membership in the CPUSA, his denial “was not supported by facts”—a reference to the substantial evidence and eyewitness testimony provided by informants in the CPUSA.

In 1961, it says, Zinn “attempted to recruit students to attend 8th World Youth Festival [a communist-front gathering] and was described as pro-Castro in 1962. He publicly protested the United States’ demand for withdrawal of Soviet missiles from Cuba.”

Hence, Zinn wanted the United States and its citizens to be vulnerable to a Soviet nuclear attack.

In 1966, Zinn’s name appeared on a list of sponsors of a testimonial dinner for Herbert Aptheker of the American Institute for Marxist Studies. Aptheker was a member of the national committee of the CPUSA.

After his death earlier this year, tributes for Zinn came from such luminaries as Bob Herbert of *The New York Times*, Eric Foner in *The Nation*, *The Huffington Post*, convicted cop-killer Mumia Abu-Jamal, Jane Fonda, Ralph Nader, and Bill Moyers.

A video tribute to Zinn has been posted by the Institute for Policy Studies, the pro-Marxist think tank in Washington, D.C. Nader was one of the speakers, praising *The Progressive* magazine for regularly running Zinn’s column, including one in which Zinn had attacked Israel’s treatment of the Palestinians.

For its part, *The Progressive* carried three tributes to Zinn after his death. “I hope, in sharing our thoughts, we can mitigate the grief and summon the energy to carry on. That’s what Howard would have wanted,” said Matthew Rothschild, editor of *The Progressive*.

Nader proposed a “Zinn Institute for Peace and Justice” to carry on his work.

But in the same way that he tried to deceive the FBI agents who interviewed him about his CPUSA membership, it is now obvious that Zinn had been deceiving his “progressive” and “liberal” fellow-travelers for decades.

This includes most recently the Hollywood left.

Zinn’s book, *A People’s History of the United States*, was made into a film, “The People Speak” which aired on the History Channel on cable television. It includes performances by actors and artists such as Matt Damon, Josh Brolin, Viggo Mortensen, Marisa Tomei, Bruce Springsteen, John Legend, and Danny Glover.

Dr. Libby H. O’Connell, senior vice president for outreach and chief historian for A&E Television Networks, described the film in glowing terms, saying that Zinn was “moving his message from high schools and college campuses to film . . .” and that A&E’s History channel was honored to be the vehicle for that. She said that “The performers’ commitment to Zinn’s message makes this [film] a labor of love.”

A&E Television Networks is a joint venture of The Hearst Corporation, Disney-ABC Television Group and NBC Universal.

In the film, actor Matt Damon observes, “Change doesn’t come from the top, but rather from the bottom. Without everyday citizens pushing to make a difference, there would be no America.” Damon reads the Declaration of Independence in the production.

But viewers were never told that Zinn favored the imposition of communist dictatorships on the people for whom he was supposedly speaking. And that his commitment, at least when he was a CPUSA member, was to the Soviet Union, not the United States or its founding documents.

However, at the time of the airing of “The People Speak” last December 13, some critics detected something was seriously wrong with the propagandistic effort. Liberal television reviewer Tom Shales of the *Washington Post* called the film “heavy-handed and agitprop.”

Worse than that, we now know that Zinn had been a secret communist who duped the Hollywood figures and rock stars into playing roles in his Marxist propaganda campaign.

And the campaign continues. “The People Speak” is

now being distributed in the form of “The People Speak DVDs,” complete with screening kits and gear. Proceeds go to the “Democracy is Not a Spectator Sport” community campaign “dedicated to extending Zinn’s vision and inspiring people to stand up and SPEAK OUT.”

Although one FBI document says that Zinn’s listing on the FBI security index was cancelled in 1955, another document shows Acting FBI director L. Patrick Gray informing the U.S. Secret Service in 1972 that Zinn was “potentially dangerous” because of various factors, including his involvement in groups “engaged in activities inimical to [the] U.S.”

Of course, this is not how the “progressives” who idolized Zinn and voted for Obama see it. Dave Zirin wrote in the “progressive” publication *The Nation* after Zinn’s death that he was “a historian who made history” and that “we should strive to build on Howard’s work and go out and make some history.” He also spoke at the Washington, D.C. tribute to Zinn, calling him “our teacher” and a “fellow fighter for social justice.”

Bill Bigelow of the “Rethinking Schools” website said Zinn was “an activist—a socialist, a pacifist, an antiracist, who never strayed from his conviction that humanity was capable of making this a much better world.”

That “much better world” turns out to be communism.

While Zinn usually avoided sounding too pro-communist in his public statements, he gave an interview in 2003 defending collaboration with ANSWER, an “anti-war” group sponsored by the communist Workers World Party. “I don’t believe in setting political tests for a broad-based movement that is centered on one issue, like ending the war,” Zinn said.

He rejected “red-baiting,” explaining, “My own attitude is: if there is a demonstration against the war, and I believe in the goal of ending a war, I won’t ask who organized the demonstration. You march with people who have signs representing many different groups and ideologies but you are all there for the same purpose, stopping the war. I distrust the sincerity of people who peck away at broad-based movements by pointing to organizers or participants who have special political positions.”

He reiterated: “We should not give political tests to people who do good organizing work.”

Asked if the “war on terrorism” was “just a cover to perpetuate US global hegemony,” Zinn replied, “Exactly. It is also a way to cover up the failure to solve domestic problems and build support for a President who got into office through a political coup and needs to show he has a mandate he doesn’t deserve.”

Not surprisingly, the Socialist Workers Party and International ANSWER also sent in tributes posted on the official Howard Zinn web page.

On the website of the Center for American Progress, the pro-Obama group funded by billionaire George Soros, Matthew Yglesias conceded the point that Zinn's popular *People's History* book was "neither good history nor good politics, offering basically nothing in terms of ways to think about solutions to the problems of the world . . . ." But he said it was nevertheless read by "most of the best people" and "that's a pretty impressive achievement."

It is impressive and shocking that so many of these "best people" were taken in by Zinn's secret agenda of installing communist dictatorships in such places as Cuba and Vietnam in the name of "the people."

Now, in death, he may be hoping to see "the people" take power in the United States.

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## Human Rights: Chinese Communist Style

by Jamie Dean

When six Chinese security officials arrived at Yu Jie's front door in the Chaoyang District on July 5, the dissident writer was editing an article with a lengthy but provocative title: "Terminating the State Security Bureau is the First Step Toward a Lasting Good Social Order."

The article is part of a book Yu plans to release through a Hong Kong publisher. The book—*China's Best Actor: Wen Jiabao*—is a criticism of the Chinese premier that won't find a willing publisher in the state-controlled environment of China's communist regime.

As security officials whisked Yu to an interrogation room at the nearby Dougezhuang Police Station, the outspoken Christian says he offered a simple prayer: "Almighty Lord, please grant me courage and wisdom to say what I should say, remain silent on what I should not say, and defeat the darkness and the evil."

Call it the dissident's prayer: It's a plea echoed by endangered activists all over China and other oppressive regimes. But it's also the dissident's prod: Yu's prayer serves as a spur for leaders in free countries to speak wisely on behalf of those otherwise silenced by oppressive governments.

More than 18 months after President Barack Obama

took office, Yu and other human activists say the prodding isn't working. They say that the Obama administration has made a slow start on human rights, and that U.S. officials are reluctant to speak publicly about specific cases, even as officials in high-profile regimes like China and Iran continue to commit egregious abuses against their own citizens.

Human rights activists worry that the low-key approach could leave thousands suffering in silence, with little open objection from the outside world. Foreign policy experts warn that the approach could undermine U.S. foreign policy instead of bolstering better relations with harsh regimes that show little willingness to change.

The U.S. government has a long history of defending dissent. Six of the most famous words uttered by President Ronald Reagan rang in the ears of some 20,000 Germans gathered in 1987 at the Berlin Wall. Addressing Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Reagan demanded: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!"

More than 20 years later, Yu doesn't expect a similar challenge to China from Obama. In an article recounting his recent interrogation by Chinese security officials, Yu quotes one Chinese officer telling him: "Since Obama came to power, the American embassy no longer keeps in touch with you. America is not reliable."

Yu says he told the officer he would criticize communism regardless of American policy toward China, but conceded: "Since Obama became president, he hasn't cared about Chinese human rights issues."

—*World* magazine, August 14, 2010, p. 41

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## Human Rights: Obama Style

by Chris Rowan

For the first time in our nation's history, the State Department has submitted a report to the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights about human rights issues in this country. The United States is now on the same level as North Korea, Cuba, Libya, and Iran. We are just one nation among many, no better or worse.

Well, not exactly. The United States is apparently a horrible place to live, a festering stinkhole of racists, bigots, sexists, homophobes, Islamophobes, and xenophobes. According to an editorial in the *Washington Times*, the report

. . . describes how the United States discriminates against the disabled, homosexuals, women, Native Americans, blacks, Hispanics and those who don't speak English. There is the expected pandering to Muslims, noting that the government is committed to 'challenge misperceptions and discriminatory stereotypes, to prevent acts of vandalism and to combat hate crimes,' offenses that the American people evidently keep committing. And the current economic woes are blamed on the housing crisis, which itself was the result of 'discriminatory lending practices.' The implication is that if Americans had only been less racist, they would be enjoying prosperity today.

The report notes that until recently, the U.S. engaged in torture, unlawfully detained terrorist suspects and illegally spied on Americans communicating with terrorists—but the report assures readers that Mr. Obama has been putting a stop to all that.

This report should come as no surprise to anyone who has been paying attention over the past several years. It is well known that Mr. Obama sat through 20 years of anti-American diatribe and invective at the feet of the Reverend Jeremiah Wright, a man who considers the U.S. to be a nation rife with racism and even blames American racism for provoking the 9/11 attacks. It is common knowledge that Mr. Obama served alongside unrepentant terrorist Bill Ayers on the Woods Fund of Chicago. As noted by David Horowitz,

On the morning of the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, along with a million other readers of the *New York Times* including many who would never be able to read the paper again, I opened its pages to be confronted by a color photo showing a middle-aged couple holding hands and affecting a defiant look at the camera. The article was headlined in an irony that could not have been more poignant, "No Regrets For A Love Of Explosives." The couple pictured were Bill Ayers and Bernardine Dohrn, former leaders of the 1960s' Weather Underground, America's first terrorist cult. One of their bombing targets, as it happened, was the Pentagon.

With friends and mentors like these, is it any wonder that President Obama would seek to humiliate his own country in such a fashion? The roster of "Consultants" that participated in the collection of relevant human-rights data for this report reads like a Who's Who of America-hating leftists. Joe Wolverton, in his excellent piece for *New American*, writes:

Among them were Stephen Rickard and Wendy Patten of George Soros' Open Society Institute, a worldwide foundation devoted to spreading "democracy"; Devon Chaffee from Human Rights First, a New York-based group that for over 30 years has pressed the U.S. government to acquiesce to the UPR process; Andrea Prasow from Human Rights Watch; Imad Hamad, a man who in 2003 was selected by the FBI to receive its Exceptional Public Service Award (the FBI caved to pressure from Israel and did not give Hamad the award) once praised a Palestinian Authority TV Sesame Street-style program that encourages Palestinian children to kill Jews and Christians and recommends they serve Allah by becoming suicide bombers. In the disturbing production, a young Palestinian boy sings, "When I wander into Jerusalem, I will become a suicide bomber." Another song: "How pleasant is the smell of martyrs . . . the land enriched by the blood, the blood pouring out of a fresh body." Hamad, Lebanese-born Palestinian, called the program "patriotic"; Dawud Walid of the Council of American Islamic Relations (CAIR), whose Los Angeles branch leader blogged about his "admiration" for suspect al-Qaeda associate Anwar al-Awlaki; Ron Scott, from the Detroit Coalition Against Police Brutality; Osama Siblani, from Arab American News; Shannon Minter, of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, a group that has published guidelines for radical sex-ed classes in elementary and secondary schools in order to "prevent harassment on the basis of real or perceived sexual orientation and gender identity;" and Cynthia Soohoo from the Center for Reproductive Rights.

Seek and ye shall find. This was a Chicago politics, mafia-style hit job, and the target was America herself. Barack Obama has always had a problem with this coun-

try, and now he is in a position to finally do something about it. He has already destroyed our economy, insulted our closest allies, and made fools of us by bowing before foreign leaders. Now he seeks to humiliate us on a world stage by equating our human rights “abuses” to abuses in North Korea, Iran, Syria, and other such hellholes. Does anyone really believe that what a leftist like Obama considers to be “torture” in this country would be considered torture in, say, Libya? This report is revelatory only in the sense that it says more about the people who prepared it than its actual target: to them, America is AmeriKKKA—they don’t love their country, they despise it. And they have no qualms flaunting their hatred for their own country to the entire world.

—NewsReal Blog, August 27, 2010

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## New Zealand: Back From the Abyss

by Bob Adelman

Despite [Niall] Ferguson’s discouraging appraisal [of the US economy], he failed to remind his audience of what happened in New Zealand in the late 1980s and ’90s. Maurice McTigue, a former member of the New Zealand Parliament, made a presentation at Hillsdale College in 2004, outlining his country’s successful ability to “step back from the brink” of financial disaster. In his remarks, he said: “New Zealand’s per capita income in the period prior to the late 1950s was right around number three in the world, behind the United States and Canada. But by 1984, its per capita income had sunk to 27th in the world, alongside Portugal and Turkey. Not only that, but our unemployment rate was 11.6 percent, we’d had 23 successive years of deficits (sometimes ranging as high as 40 percent of GDP), our debt had grown to 65 percent of GDP, and our credit ratings were continually being downgraded.

“Government spending was a full 44 percent of GDP, investment capital was exiting in huge quantities, and government controls and micromanagement were pervasive at every level of the economy. We had foreign exchange controls that meant I couldn’t buy a subscription to *The Economist* magazine without the permission of the Minister of Finance. I couldn’t buy shares in a foreign company without surrendering my citizenship. There were price controls on all goods and services, on all shops and on all service industries. There were wage controls and wage freezes. I couldn’t pay my employees more—or pay them

bonuses—if I wanted to. There were import controls on the goods that I could bring into the country. There were massive levels of subsidies on industries in order to keep them viable. Young people were leaving in droves.”

When his reform government was elected in 1984, it identified three problems: too such spending, too much taxing, and too much government control. McTigue said, “As we started to work through the process, we asked some fundamental questions of the agencies. The first question was, ‘What are you doing?’ The second question was, ‘What should you be doing?’ Based on the answers, we then said, ‘Eliminate what you shouldn’t be doing—that is, if you are doing something that clearly is not a responsibility of the government, stop doing it.’”

The results? At the start of the process, the Department of Transportation had 5,600 employees. At the end, it had 53. The Forest Service had 17,000 employees at the start, and at the end it had 17. The Ministry of Public Works initially had 28,000 employees, and when the downsizing process was completed, McTigue himself *remained the only* employee.

When challenged about having killed all these jobs, McTigue made an interesting discovery: “I visited some of the forestry workers some months after they’d lost their government jobs, and they were quite happy. They told me that they were now earning about three times what they used to earn—on top of which, they were surprised to learn that they could do about 60 percent more than they used to!

“Some of the things that government was doing simply didn’t belong in the government. So we sold off telecommunications, airlines, irrigation schemes, computing services, government printing offices, insurance companies, banks, securities, mortgages, railways, bus services, hotels, shipping lines, agricultural advisory services, etc. In the main, when we sold those things off, their productivity went up and the cost of their services went down, translating into major gains for the economy. Furthermore, we decided that other agencies should be run as profit-making and tax-paying enterprises by government. For instance, the air traffic control system was made into a stand-alone company, given instructions that it had to make an acceptable rate of return and pay taxes, and told that it couldn’t get any investment capital from its owner (the government). We did that with about 35 agencies. Together, these used to cost us about one billion dollars per year; now they produced about one billion dollars per year in revenues and taxes.”

In summary, after reform, the size of the New Zealand government as measured by the number of employees

dropped 66 percent. The government's share of the country's GDP dropped from 44 percent to 27 percent. Federal debt dropped from 63 percent of GDP to 17 percent.

The benefits of such radical downsizing are still being felt today. According to Wikipedia, "New Zealand has a modern, prosperous, developed economy [with] a relatively high standard of living with an estimated GDP per capita of US\$31,067 in 2010, comparable to Southern Europe. Since 2000 New Zealand had made substantial gains in median household income [and NZ citizens] have a high level of life satisfaction." Marketing ads for New Zealand claim, "New Zealand is now an entrepreneurial power house," is "ranked first as the least corrupt," is the "5th freest economy in the world," and is "first in the world for protecting investors."

At a recent Cato University conference, this writer interviewed John Boscawen, a Member of Parliament of New Zealand, who was present during the economic revival. The reason for the success, he stated, was "the awareness among our people that we were in desperate shape financially. We had to do something, and the Labor Party had disintegrated. Our coalition was able to push through the reforms that were needed, with remarkable results."

If the United States is to have any chance for a similar recovery, it is going to require increasing awareness and understanding of how the country came to such a pretty pass. As Thomas Jefferson put it: "I know of no safe depository of the ultimate powers of the society but the people themselves; not enlightened enough to exercise their control with wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them, but to inform their discretion. Enlighten the people generally and tyranny and oppressions of body and mind will vanish like evil spirits at the dawn of day."

—*The New American*, August 30, 2010, p. 18-19

## Austrian School of Economics Revival

by Kelly Evans

Peter J. Boettke, shuffling around in a maroon velour track suit or faux-leather rubber shoes he calls "dress Crocs," hardly seems like the type to lead a revolution.

But the 50-year-old professor of economics at George Mason University in Virginia is emerging as the intellec-

tual standard-bearer for the Austrian school of economics that opposes government intervention in markets and decries federal spending to prop up demand during times of crisis. Mr. Boettke, whose latest research explores people's ability to self-regulate, also is minting a new generation of disciples who are spreading the Austrian approach throughout academia, where it had long been left for dead.

To these free-market economists, government intrusion ultimately sows the seeds of the next crisis. It hampers what one famous Austrian, Joseph Schumpeter, called the process of "creative destruction."

Governments that spend money they don't have to cushion downturns, they say, lead nations down the path of large debts and runaway inflation.

Eight decades ago, in the midst of the Great Depression, the Austrian school and its leading scholar, Friedrich A. von Hayek, fell out of favor relative to the more activist theories of John Maynard Keynes. The British economist's ideas, which called for aggressive government spending during recessions, triumphed then and in the decades since, reflected most recently in measures like the \$814 billion stimulus package. Austrian adherents were marginalized, losing influence in prominent journals and among policy makers.

But as the economy flounders, debt mounts and growth—revised downward—flags, Mr. Hayek and his adherents, like Mr. Boettke, are resurgent as their views resonate with more people.

"What I'm really worried about is an endless cycle of deficits, debt, and debasement of currency," Mr. Boettke says. "What we've done is engage in a set of policies that's turned a market correction into an economy-wide crisis."

Others seem to agree. Mr. Hayek's 1944 classic, *The Road to Serfdom* became the top-selling book in June on Amazon.com. Austrian think tank Foundation for Economic Education had to turn students away this summer from its overflowing seminars.

Of course, economic theory ebbs and flows. The Austrian school surged along with inflation and unemployment in the 1970s. By the 1980s, free-market ideas ushered in the Reagan Revolution. But the success faded as inflation was successfully controlled by central bankers and government spending actually rose during the Reagan years. Besides, no one figure emerged as the leader of a fractious group of economists averse to central planning.

Mr. Boettke has come as close as anyone in recent years. In the last decade at George Mason, he has helped recruit the Austrian school's leading scholars and drawn

students from around the world. Roughly 75% of his students have gone on to teach economics at the college or graduate level.

Mr. Boettke “has done more for Austrian economics, I’d say, than any individual in the last decade,” says Bruce Caldwell, an editor of Mr. Hayek’s collected works.

The resurgence of Austiran economics does have its hazards, Mr. Boettke says. The antigovernment fervor on cable-television shows and the Internet may have popularized its theories, but it also “reinforces the idea to critics that these are crackpot ideas,” he said. He has tried to distance himself from conspiracy theorists and even dropped “Austrian” from the name of his blog. But he hasn’t yet thought of a better term.

Still, Mr. Boettke isn’t too concerned with matters of style. More folksy than formal, his commitment to economics, as his wife Rosemary says, is “always on.”

He has a tendency to ramble, interrupt, and use salty language. In between the dozen books and over 10 articles he has written, he spends hours debating with students around his backyard barbecue grill.

Often, when Mrs. Boettke needs him to run errands, he makes students pile in the car with him to finish the debate. He also has trouble closing down his inner economist.

“He refuses to recycle,” Mrs. Boettke says. “Something about how it actually uses more resources.” He’s not exactly a handyman either. “If his ‘opportunity cost’ is too great, he’ll hire someone.”

Growing up in Clark, NJ, Mr. Boettke was a mediocre student in high school. His dreams of landing a basketball coaching job led him to Grove City College in Pennsylvania in 1979. A series of injuries ended that career, but an introductory economics course started another.

It was taught by the renowned Austrian economist Hans Sennholz, who explained why government policies resulted in gas shortages, forcing Mr. Boettke to siphon gas. “I was hooked.”

Mr. Boettke went on to GMU because it was one of the few places that offered a Ph.D. program in Austrian economics. There, he focused his research on the organizational problems of the Soviet economy. It solidified his belief that any central planning of an economy, including by a central bank like the Federal Reserve, would damage the market.

In 1990, Mr. Boettke landed a job at New York University. “It was a dream come true,” he says. Economics at NYU had legendary Austrian roots, but the school started to move toward a more standard mathematical approach, former colleagues say. Mr. Boettke was denied tenure in 1997, a blow to his personal ambitions.

The period also marked a low point for the Austrian field. Its philosophical approach looked old-fashioned amid the mathematical models dominating modern economics.

And the tenures of Paul Volcker and Alan Greenspan at the Federal Reserve seemed to quell doubts about the central bank’s ability to manage the U.S. economy.

But all along, the Austrians weren’t so sure. Economics, they feared, was increasingly narrow and technical but not necessarily wise. They also remained skeptical of the Fed’s approach to targeting stability in consumer prices.

That shouldn’t be the Fed’s goal, says Mr. Boettke, who a friend lured back to George Mason a year after he was denied tenure. The Fed, he says, should be to make money “as neutral as possible, like the rule of law, which never favors one party over the other.”

That sometimes means letting prices fall. There’s little to fear in deflation, he adds, when it accompanies periods of strong productivity growth. However, “anytime you saw the price level starting to fall, the Fed flooded the economy with cash,” he says. “And that resulted in asset price inflation, which set us up for these crisis.”

It wasn’t a lack of government oversight that led to the crisis, as some economists argue, but too much of it, Mr. Boettke says. Specifically, low interest rates and policies that subsidized homeownership “gave people the crazy juice,” he says.

But as much as the Austrian diagnosis may resonate now, it doesn’t provide a playbook for what to do next, which could limit its current resurgence.

Mr. Hayek rightly warned of the dangers of central planning, Mr. Boettke says, but “he didn’t give a prescription for how to move from ‘serfdom’ back.”

—*The Wall Street Journal*, August 28-29, 2010, p. B1, 3



Founded in 1953, the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade, under the leadership of Dr. Fred C. Schwarz (1913-2009), has been publishing a monthly newsletter since 1960. *The Schwarz Report* is edited by Dr. David A. Noebel and Dr. Michael Bauman. The Crusade’s address is PO Box 129, Manitou Springs, CO 80829. Our telephone number is (719) 685-9043. All correspondence and tax-deductible gifts (the Crusade is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization) may be sent to this address. Permission to reproduce materials from this *Report* is granted provided our name and address are given.

# You Can Still Trust the Communists . . . to Be Communists

Review by Bill Muehlenberg

It has long been noted that the fall of the Iron Curtain did not spell the end of Communism. It is still alive and well, mainly in Western universities, and amongst many of our ruling elites. Because this ideology still has such a powerful hold, it would be premature to throw out your collection of anti-Communism books.

One such book was the 1960 volume by Dr. Fred Schwarz. While copies of the original may be harder to find nowadays (although the 1962 edition I still own speaks of 750,000 copies in print), we can now easily find this volume again, thanks to the efforts of David Noebel of Summit Ministries in Colorado.

Fifty years from when this volume was first released, Noebel has presented us with an expanded and revised edition of this classic work. All of the original work is still here, but at the end of each chapter by Dr. Schwarz there is now a selection of titles for further reading.

And Noebel has added five new chapters of his own as well, along with an extensive bibliography at the end of the book. Noebel reminds us that Marxist ideology did not cease with the fall of the former Soviet Union. It is certainly quite active, and can be seen even in the current Obama administration.

Thus he offers important chapters on the direction America is now headed in the new millennium, and discusses how the socialists and progressives are keeping the Communist dream (or nightmare) alive. He also looks at the religious left, and leading figures such as Jim Wallis of *Sojourners* magazine, noting their role as fellow travellers, or “useful idiots” as Lenin put it.

Thus this second edition picks up where Schwarz left off, and takes us right up to the current situation. But even without all this new, up-to-date material, simply having this vital volume back in print is good news indeed. If you do not already have a copy of his first edition, this volume will be a welcome addition to your library.

Dr. Schwarz, of course, was an Australian doctor who decided to give up a lucrative career to move to America and warn the world about the dangers of totalitarian Communism. He thus formed the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade in 1953, and soon became a world-renowned expert on the threat of the Marxist ideology.

His original 1960 volume was one of the earlier clarion calls for the free West to wake from its slumber and recognize the menace of atheistic Communism. He was reviled and abused for his efforts, and he had to pay a very heavy price indeed for alerting us to the truth about the Communist deception.

In this book we have a wealth of information about how the Communists operate. He offers detailed chapters on such topics as: The Recruiting of a Communist, The Moulding of a Communist, Techniques for Seizing Power, Consolidation of Power, Allies of Communism, Brainwashing, and The Communist Program for Survival.

It was Santayana who once warned us not to forget the lessons of history, lest we repeat the mistakes. Although the military might of Communism has largely subsided (although Marxist police states still exist), the ideological warfare of the Communists remains.

Thus the importance of Noebel’s revisions and updates. This ideological struggle is certainly not over, and the radicals are still seeking to bring their version of utopia to earth, even if it will be a coercive utopia. Indeed, the same techniques and deception can be found in the work of today’s radicals and activists.

Just as the early Communists sought to dupe the Christian churches into supporting their agenda, and were successful in co-opting many church leaders for their cause, so too today. The struggle for the soul of the church is far from over. As Noebel documents, such activities are still eagerly being pushed.

He highlights the case of Jim Wallis. He reminds us of how he has continuously promoted an anti-American agenda, even siding with her enemies. When the Vietcong overran South Vietnam, Wallis effused, “I don’t know how else to express the quiet emotion that rushed through me when the news reports showed that the United States had finally been defeated in Vietnam.”

However, as Noebel notes, “like Jane Fonda, Wallis said next to nothing about the Communist genocide that followed the wars in Vietnam and Cambodia.” And this same Wallis is now a “spiritual advisor” to President Obama! No wonder the US is in such sad shape today.

The ideological battle between the free West and its enemies has not abated, but taken on new forms and trajectories. But the underlying war of worldviews remains. We all owe Fred Schwarz a great debt of gratitude for his original work. And we all owe David Noebel a great debt of gratitude for presenting us again with this work, along with his own updates to it.