

September 29, 2014

Roger Simon posts on [Eric Holder](#).

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[Sharyl Atkisson](#) has Holder thoughts too.

... Holder declined my repeated interview requests over the years. In a recent interview with ABC News, Holder said, “It is the honor of my professional life to serve the American people as attorney general. I hope I’ve done a good job. I’ve certainly tried to do as good a job as I can.”

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We'll close the Holder section with Nick Gillespie in Time magazine.

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From A. Mitchell Palmer (who rounded up and deported real and imagined Communists) to John Mitchell (convicted on perjury charges related to Watergate) to Janet Reno (who ordered the disastrous assault on the Branch Davidians and spent years threatening to censor cable TV), the position has long been a holding tank for low-performing miscreants. ...

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Kevin Williamson says free markets keep the environment cleaner. It's governments that are the worst polluters.

... The fullest and most comprehensive attempts to impose socialism on a society happened in the twentieth century in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the People's Republic of China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and like-minded enterprises. "Communism" is what socialists call socialism that they do not want to talk about, but in the interest of fairness I should emphasize that I do not believe that the USSR is what Ms. Sawant et al. have in mind when they talk about socialism. But the USSR wasn't what the Russian revolutionaries had in mind, either, and it probably is not really what Lenin or even Stalin desired. Almost nobody sets out to impoverish, oppress, starve, and murder millions of people, but that is what happened, and that it happened is not a mere coincidence deriving from defects within Russian culture or Mao's management style. It probably is not the case that the Russians failed socialism, but that socialism failed the Russians.

Under a system that imposed heavy government regimentation upon the economy, direct government ownership of the "commanding heights" of the economy (and the commanded heights, too), a socialist vision of property, etc., the environmental results were nothing short of catastrophic. Setting aside the direct human costs of socialist environmental policy in the twentieth century — the famines, the deformations, the horrific birth defects — socialism was a disaster from the purely environmental point of view, too.

Consider the Aral Sea disaster, in which one of the world's largest lakes was converted into a toxic desert, with the husks of ships still floating upon the sand dunes — not by accident, but as a matter of government policy, implemented not by the famous monster Stalin, but by Nikita Khrushchev, by comparison a reformer. Like our contemporary socialists, the Soviets of the Khrushchev era hoped to fundamentally transform the economy with a series of careful "investments" and infrastructure projects, in this case by turning a great deal of marginal land into a cotton-producing powerhouse that would substantially raise exports. Water headed for the Aral Sea was diverted in the service of this government infrastructure investment, and the seabed became a desert. ...

WSJ Editorial on the government campaign to put for-profit colleges out of business. *The Department of Education this summer drove the for-profit Corinthian Colleges out of business. Now the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) is trying to wipe out the company's shareholders and creditors by suing the for-profit for predatory lending. There ought to be a law against predatory regulating.*

Last week the CFPB sued the Santa Ana-based for-profit for inducing "prospective students to incur the loan obligations necessary to enroll by promising career training and graduate employment opportunities." Corinthian's crime, in other words, was creating a private-alternative to the government-loan monopoly. ...

... All of this resembles a hyena pack dismembering a wildebeest carcass, which seems to be the point. The Obama Administration wants to show other for-profit operators what could happen if they resist its new regulations. The real tragedy is that the destruction of Corinthian will make it harder for graduates to get a job.

Conservative HQ posts on the campaign to silence Rush Limbaugh.

You may have heard about the so-called "grassroots movement" to force local advertisers to stop advertising on the Rush Limbaugh program, allegedly because of consumer opposition to Rush's conservative views.

It turns out that this so-called Stop Rush campaign isn't a grassroots campaign at all, but a carefully crafted conspiracy of a small group of radical leftwing activists to bully advertisers into dropping Rush's program and muffle one of the most effective conservative voices in America in the lead-up to the 2014 midterms and silence him permanently before the 2016 presidential election.

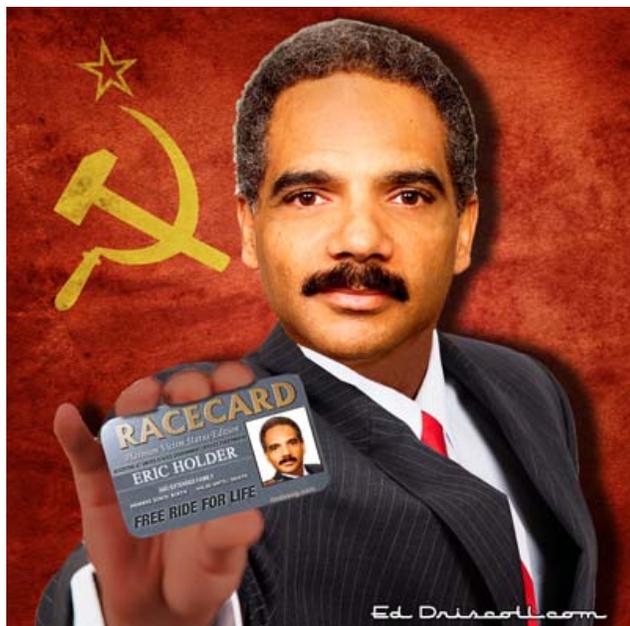
There is now stunning proof that only a small group of radical Leftists connected with Media Matters are involved in the "Stop Rush" campaign - NOT masses of Americans. Radical leftwing advocacy group Media Matters' disgusting attempts to silence our viewpoints are nothing new - but now the dirty tactics of Media Matters have been revealed, and they are more deceptive than you can imagine.

We don't use the term "conspiracy" lightly, and we here at CHQ generally lean toward skepticism when friends bring us tales of unseen forces manipulating major events. But in this case the evidence (links below) proves that only a few radicals at leftwing advocacy organization Media Matters are running and participating in this effort to intimidate both local radio stations that carry Rush, and local "Mom-and-Pop" businesses that advertise on his show.

They have used technology to create tweets from people who don't exist, to use abuse accounts on Facebook, and to intimidate small businesses who advertise on conservative shows. Media Matters is vicious, and dangerous to your freedom as few other domestic threats have been. ...

Roger L. Simon

[Dosvedanya, Holder: America's First Soviet Attorney General Steps Down](#)



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In 1983 Rich and partner [Pincus Green](#) were indicted on 65 criminal counts, including income tax evasion, [wire fraud](#), [racketeering](#), and trading with Iran during the oil embargo (at a time when Iranian revolutionaries were still [holding American citizens hostage](#)).^{[3][9]} The charges would have led to a sentence of more than 300 years in prison had Rich been convicted on all counts.^[3] The indictment was filed by then-[U.S. Federal Prosecutor](#) (and future mayor of New York City) [Rudolph Giuliani](#). At the time it was the biggest tax evasion case in U.S. history.^[19]

Hearing of the plans for the indictment, Rich fled^[11] to Switzerland and, always insisting that he was not guilty, never returned to the U.S. to answer the charges. Rich's companies eventually pled guilty to 35 counts of tax evasion and paid \$90 million in fines,^[9] although Rich himself remained on the [Federal Bureau of Investigation's Ten Most-Wanted Fugitives List](#) for many years,^[21] narrowly evading capture in Britain, Germany, Finland, and Jamaica.^[22] Fearing arrest, he did not even return to the United States to attend his daughter's funeral in 1996.

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Yes, that's the same Eric Holder who lectures us about race and calls Americans “cowards.” In reality, he was a political bagman, a low rent consigliere whose unquestioning obedience to power was evidently appreciated by Barack Obama and rewarded with the full position of attorney general. Obama knew what he was getting for our number one law enforcement official. With that

background, no wonder Holder investigates nothing, leaving “Fast & Furious,” the IRS, Benghazi, all the scandals, untouched, stonewalled or deliberately obfuscated. He was chosen to be a “Good German” and he was one. He spent most of his time inveighing against what he perceived to be racial injustice.

Now I have a theory about the etiology of Holder’s fixation on race. When you know deep down you’re a dishonest person, when you have had to eat the bitter pill of your own corruption who knows how many times (even Clinton finally admitted that he had gone too far pardoning Rich and damaged his own reputation), you have to invent a narrative for yourself to justify your activities.

So over may years Holder developed what I have called elsewhere a [“nostalgia for racism.”](#) No matter that racism was diminishing in our culture, he had to keep racism alive, believe it was alive. If racism were going away, he would no longer have a *raison d’être*, an excuse for his biased behavior, an excuse, as it turned out, to go beyond the law, act unilaterally and punish political enemies.

Toward this end, in a sense, Holder encouraged racism, as did Obama. They are both slightly more polished versions of Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton. Like Jackson and Sharpton, they act as if they care about the black man or woman in the street, but in actuality they just care about themselves. The racial posturing is a form of moral narcissism that works to preserve racism, not to defeat it.

It’s not by accident black America is suffering under Obama/Holder. At least subconsciously, it’s by design.

By the way, apropos Marc Rich, isn’t it ironic one of Holder’s last causes as AG was his attempt to get Dinesh D’Souza put away in prison for years for an illegal political donation of a measly thirty grand? Fortunately, Dinesh got off with six months at a community center. Maybe there is justice in America after all.

Daily Signal

[Multiple Controversies Plagued Eric Holder Prior to Resignation](#)

by Sharyl Attkisson

The unexpected resignation of Attorney General Eric Holder follows a series of court rulings against his Department of Justice over its failure to produce documents related to the government’s “Fast and Furious” firearms operation.

Holder also has come under increasing congressional criticism for a tepid investigation of evidence that IRS officials deliberately targeted tea party and other conservative groups for greater scrutiny when they applied for tax-exempt status.

Calling the government’s arguments for “even more time ... unconvincing,” a federal judge this week refused to grant Holder’s Justice Department the additional time it requested to turn over a list of Operation Fast and Furious documents withheld under executive privilege exerted by President Obama.

The list is referred to as a “Vaughn index” and requires the Justice Department to justify document-by-document the reasons it hasn’t released the materials. This exercise alone often prompts the release of documents.

The Justice Department sought to delay the Vaughn index until one day before the Nov. 4 midterm elections. But the court ordered the index produced by Oct. 22 instead. The order comes in a Freedom of Information lawsuit filed by Judicial Watch.

“[S]eventy-five days—plus another twenty-one, based in part on Judiciary Watch’s consent—is enough time for the government to prepare the index that this court has ordered, given that this matter has been pending for over two years,” wrote U.S. District Court Judge John Bates. “The court will therefore extend the Department’s Vaughn index submission deadline to Oct. 22, 2014—and no further.”

‘I Hope I’ve Done a Good Job’

Holder declined my repeated interview requests over the years. In a recent interview with ABC News, Holder said, “It is the honor of my professional life to serve the American people as attorney general. I hope I’ve done a good job. I’ve certainly tried to do as good a job as I can.”

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Holder took the unusual step of taking over a police investigation before there was any evidence of that the local police had mishandled, or would mishandle it. It was a step that the [Los Angeles Times](#) called “unusually aggressive” writing, on Aug. 20, that “Holder appears locked in an odd and unsteady competition with Missouri officials over which of them, if either, will prosecute Ferguson Police Officer Darren Wilson first.”

Holder also launched a broad civil rights investigation into the Ferguson police department and other police agencies in the area. His officials have already held two meetings in Ferguson to hear the opinions of black community members when it comes to their treatment by police.

In resigning today, Holder leaves his Ferguson initiative midstream.

Operation Fast and Furious

Insiders said Holder considered resigning in 2012 amid the Fast and Furious fallout but was convinced to remain in office.

Fast and Furious proved a devastating black mark on Holder and his agency. As I first reported in February 2011, federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives agents under the Justice Department had allowed thousands of assault rifles and other weapons to fall into the hands of Mexican drug cartels. The controversial, secret strategy was supposedly to see where the

guns ended up and take down a drug kingpin. Instead, the weapons were used in violent attacks, including the murder of Border Patrol Agent Brian Terry in December of 2010.

The Justice Department denied it had ever allowed guns to “walk.” And when ATF Special Agent John Dodson blew the whistle in an interview with me in March 2011, the Justice Department continued its denials and allegedly targeted Dodson for retaliatory treatment.

In subsequent congressional hearings, Holder testified he hadn’t learned of Fast and Furious until a few weeks before. When documents surfaced showing that he had repeatedly been directly sent briefings on the case, a spokesman said that Holder had misunderstood the question.

Eventually, the Justice Department retracted the denials it had made to Congress. After documents and witnesses indicated that White House officials had discussed Fast and Furious, Congress issued subpoenas. Holder withheld them and, in a bipartisan vote, was held in contempt of Congress. On the eve of the vote, June 20, 2012, President Obama declared executive privilege to withhold key documents.

Judicial Watch sued the Justice Department in September 2012 for all of the documents that Obama ordered withheld. It was the first time, and is the only time, the president has exerted executive privilege.

Agent Terry’s family issued a statement today that reads in part, “Holder’s resignation is welcomed by the Terry family and should have occurred immediately after Brian Terry’s death and the revelation that the men that killed Brian were carrying weapons supplied to them by ATF.”

Holder’s Legacy

A Justice Department spokesman did not respond to a request for information and comment on Holder’s resignation and accomplishments. In an [ABC News](#) report today, a Justice Department official said that, under Holder’s leadership, the department saw “historic gains in the areas of criminal justice reform and civil rights enforcement, particularly on the issues of gay rights, sentencing reform and voting rights.”

Among other “key accomplishments,” according to the Justice Department official, are Holder’s declining to defend the Defense of Marriage Act signed by President Clinton and extending federal benefits to same-sex couples.

Responding to news of the resignation, the Republican chairman of the House Oversight Committee, Darrell Issa, R-Calif., called Holder “the most divisive U.S. attorney general in modern history.”

“Time and again, Eric Holder administered justice as the political activist he describes himself as instead of an unbiased law enforcement official,” wrote Issa in a statement. “By needlessly injecting politics into law enforcement, Attorney General Holder’s legacy has eroded more confidence in our legal system than any attorney General before him.”

Often cited among Holder’s controversies are his targeting of journalists and federal whistleblowers. Last year, it was revealed that the Justice Department had labeled Fox News reporters James Rosen a “co-conspirator” in one leak investigation and had seized phone records of Associated Press reporters in another.

More than two dozen news organizations signed a letter of objection, prompting Holder to modify Justice Department policies. Additionally, Holder has refused to answer questions first posed by a U.S. senator in July 2013 regarding the unauthorized, remote intrusions of my computers.

Holder also leaves the Justice Department in the middle of its investigation into the IRS' targeting of conservative and tea party groups. The Justice Department has faced conflict-of-interest allegations because at the same time it is supposed to be independently investigating the IRS, it is also defending the IRS in civil litigation. Holder has said that his agency is impartially investigating the IRS and that no politics are at play

Time

[Eric Holder's Legacy: Duplicity, Incompetence, and Obliviousness](#)

by Nick Gillespie

So Eric Holder is [stepping down](#) as attorney general of the United States, reportedly just as soon as a successor is named and confirmed.

It's a shame that it can't happen sooner.

Despite some positive actions — refusing to [enforce the Defense of Marriage Act](#), a federal law that is plainly discriminatory, and calling for long-overdue sentencing reform, for instance — Holder's tenure has been marked by a disturbing mix of duplicity, incompetence, and obliviousness.

Which is another way of saying that he was a thoroughly typical attorney general, a cabinet position that has long been held by individuals whose first loyalty is to the president that appointed them rather than to the Constitution they swear to defend.

From A. Mitchell Palmer (who rounded up and deported real and imagined Communists) to [John Mitchell](#) (convicted on perjury charges related to Watergate) to Janet Reno (who ordered the disastrous assault on the Branch Davidians and spent years threatening to censor cable TV), the position has long been a holding tank for low-performing miscreants.

Early on his tenure, [Holder told Congress](#) that federal agents wouldn't raid and arrest proprietors of medical marijuana dispensaries that were complying with state laws (all pot is illegal under federal law). Yet through 2013, the Obama administration [was averaging 36 medical marijuana prosecutions](#) a year, compared to 20 a year for the George W. Bush administration. Either Holder directed the Department of Justice and was lying to Congress or he was an administrator whose subordinates routinely disobeyed him. Neither possibility is comforting.

In 2012, he was [held in contempt](#) by a bipartisan vote in the House of Representatives for refusing to testify about the "Fast and Furious" scandal emanating from the Phoenix office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (BATF). Fast and Furious involved government agents allowing illegal sales of guns that were later found at the scene of the murder of a Border Patrol agent. The BATF is part of the Department of Justice and Holder has given conflicting statements about the operation.

Holder managed to earn the ire of progressive politicians such as Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) and Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) when he admitted that some Wall Street banks were not only too

big to fail but too big to jail. The sheer size of some institutions, [he told Congress](#), “has an inhibiting influence — impact on our ability to bring resolutions that I think would be more appropriate.”

Arguably more disturbing was Holder’s central role in signing off on the [secret monitoring](#) of Fox News’ James Rosen and other journalists and his staunch defense of National Security Agency surveillance programs (even when [federal oversight boards](#) decreed them unconstitutional and ineffective). It took a 13-hour filibuster by Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) to get Holder [to acknowledge in plain language](#) that there were in fact limits to the [president’s secret kill list](#) (the existence of which is itself deeply disturbing).

That Holder has moderated on some of these issues — just a couple of weeks ago, Holder [voiced support for NSA reforms](#) that would “provide the public greater confidence in our programs and the checks and balances in the system” — only drives home just how situational his ethics and actions always have been as attorney general.

Back in 2007, then-Sen. Barack Obama rightly attacked [the risible performance](#) of Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, [whom he said](#) conceived of his job as being “the president’s attorney” rather than “the people’s attorney.”

Yet that’s exactly how Eric Holder has behaved during his time in office. Holder exists to protect the president and his policies. Worse still, his successor will almost certainly take up exactly where he leaves off.

Nick Gillespie is the editor in chief of [Reason.com](#) and Reason.tv.

National Review **[Capitalism Is Clean\(er\)](#)**

Red isn’t green.

by Kevin D. Williamson



Government-planned climate change: The Aral Sea in Uzbekistan

Strange thing about Flood Wall Street, the financial-district protest that followed the People's Climate March: Nobody had much to say about the climate — what they came to talk about was *capitalism*. “Stop Capitalism,” “End Capitalism,” “Capitalism Kills,” the placards read. Kshama Sawant, the socialist Seattle city-council member who funds her crusade against capitalism by being married to a man with Microsoft money, called for a “radical, militant” movement linking environmental concerns to such traditional socialist enterprises as heavy government intervention into targeted industries, including energy and transportation.

Question: What happened to the environment the last time people with radically anti-capitalist views had access to real power?

The fullest and most comprehensive attempts to impose socialism on a society happened in the twentieth century in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the People's Republic of China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and like-minded enterprises. “Communism” is what socialists call socialism that they do not want to talk about, but in the interest of fairness I should emphasize that I do not believe that the USSR is what Ms. Sawant et al. have in mind when they talk about socialism. But the USSR wasn't what the Russian revolutionaries had in mind, either, and it probably is not really what Lenin or even Stalin desired. Almost nobody sets out to impoverish, oppress, starve, and murder millions of people, but that is what happened, and that it happened is not a mere coincidence deriving from defects within Russian culture or Mao's management style. It probably is not the case that the Russians failed socialism, but that socialism failed the Russians.

Under a system that imposed heavy government regimentation upon the economy, direct government ownership of the “commanding heights” of the economy (and the commanded heights, too), a socialist vision of property, etc., the environmental results were nothing short of catastrophic. Setting aside the direct human costs of socialist environmental policy in the twentieth century — the famines, the deformations, the horrific birth defects — socialism was a disaster from the purely environmental point of view, too.

Consider the Aral Sea disaster, in which one of the world's largest lakes was converted into a toxic desert, with the husks of ships still floating upon the sand dunes — not by accident, but as a matter of government policy, implemented not by the famous monster Stalin, but by Nikita Khrushchev, by comparison a reformer. Like our contemporary socialists, the Soviets of the Khrushchev era hoped to fundamentally transform the economy with a series of careful “investments” and infrastructure projects, in this case by turning a great deal of marginal land into a cotton-producing powerhouse that would substantially raise exports. Water headed for the Aral Sea was diverted in the service of this government infrastructure investment, and the seabed became a desert. But not just any desert: Salt and toxins that had drained into the sea turned the dust that remained into poison, which was blown by the winds across an area amounting to thousands and thousands of square miles. Most of the water diverted from the Aral was wasted, simply soaked up by desert land that would never grow anything, while the Aral's connections with other bodies of water ensured that they became poisoned, too, many rendered sterile. There was localized climate change, the melting of glaciers, and more. Entire ecosystems were wiped out, and the human toll was horrifying.

There were many others. Chernobyl is a famous one, but others are, if anything, more terrifying. The famous “Door to Hell,” a gas fire lit — intentionally — by Soviet engineers, was intended to burn off some excess gas in a defective storage facility, with the assumption that the fire would

burn itself out in a few months. That was before I was born — and it's still burning. It's not just the fire that gives this gaping hole in the Earth its name — it's the smell of burning sulfur.

I could list many more, from China to East Germany and beyond. If you want to see what anti-capitalist environmental policy looks like, look up images from Semipalatinsk — though I cannot in good conscience recommend that you go through with it. Not if you ever want to sleep again.

I hear you already: “Fine, commies bad! Bad commies! We get it!” But consider another case, one that more closely resembles the vision of the world put forward by our so-called democratic socialists: state-run oil companies.

The contemporary Left is very friendly to the idea of state-run industries. Many of our contemporary progressives have suggested nationalizing banks and financial institutions, for example, while the government-run utility is still a thing that is with us, and nationalized health care is a longtime dream of that special breed of farsighted progressive with his eyes firmly fixed on 1944. Many progressives have enthusiastically greeted the idea of nationalizing oil companies: Representative Maxine Waters (D., Calif.) once threatened to nationalize oil companies in response to increased gasoline prices. Daily Kos writers have endorsed the idea; even Cleveland.com has got in on the action.

What do actual national oil companies look like?

We might consider the case of Chevron's alleged environmental crimes in Ecuador, which the evidence suggests had nothing to do with Texaco (later acquired by Chevron) but were in fact perpetrated by Petroecuador, the state-run oil company, abetted by a series of Ecuadorian governments. In a particularly perverse twist, the American “human rights” lawyer suing Chevron over the case persuaded the government of Ecuador not to clean up Petroecuador sites — the more damage there was, the more could be attributed to Chevron, which has never in fact drilled for oil in Ecuador. State-owned Sinopec has a fairly horrific environmental record, and has occasionally been sanctioned for it — but when the same state that employs the regulators owns the oil company, regulation is basically futile. Mexico's state-run Pemex caused what was at the time the largest oil spill in history; in another episode, an explosion at one of its facilities killed more than 500 people. It wiped out the fish in the Coatzacoalcos River by dumping chemicals in it; the few fish that survived were polluted so badly that locals reported smelling ammonia when they cut them open.

The history is much the same for state-run coal companies and similarly socialized industries.

ExxonMobil, Chevron, et al., have their sins, a notable one of which is partnering up with state-run oil companies. Everybody has a theory about what the future could look like, but if we look at the actual record — the record of history — capitalism wins, hands down, over socialism and other state-run economic models when it comes to environmental measures. There is no contest. And at the moment, many of the most interesting ideas about environmental protection are coming from explicitly free-market thinkers. It wasn't socialism that saved the white rhino.

There isn't any clean energy, and most significant industrial enterprise will impose some costs on the environment in the best of circumstances. The question is how to minimize the damage and mitigate the inevitable effects. The best line of defense against environmental damage is property rights, and the lack of property rights is one of the reasons that environmental devastation has been so severe in those unhappy parts of the world in which socialism has prevailed: If nobody owns the land or the water rights, then nobody can sue for damages when Big Socialist Oil dumps chemicals in the river. If the polluters and the regulators are on the same side — in the same party

— expect narrow self-interest to trump everything else. You can sue Exxon; the people behind Sinopec have nuclear weapons.

And Exxon has never operated a gulag of which I am aware.

WSJ - Editorial

Regulators of Prey

A case study in tearing a private business limb from limb.

The Department of Education this summer drove the for-profit Corinthian Colleges out of business. Now the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) is trying to wipe out the company's shareholders and creditors by suing the for-profit for predatory lending. There ought to be a law against predatory regulating.

Last week the CFPB sued the Santa Ana-based for-profit for inducing "prospective students to incur the loan obligations necessary to enroll by promising career training and graduate employment opportunities." Corinthian's crime, in other words, was creating a private-alternative to the government-loan monopoly.

Uncle Sam originates more than 90% of student loans, but federal aid alone isn't enough to cover education costs at most private colleges. About 40% of Corinthian students—most of whom lack parental support—have required additional assistance to finance the roughly 15% of their tuition not covered by federal aid.

In 2008 Corinthian developed a lending program available to all students regardless of credit records. For the past two years Corinthian charged a risk premium about 3% to 6% higher than federal interest rates. Loans averaged about \$4,700 per borrower with a 9% interest rate, which is substantially lower than the 16% or higher on bank unsecured loans.

The loans were never intended to turn a profit. As the CFPB notes, more than 60% of the loans ended in default within three years. That's in part because students often prioritize paying off government debt since the feds can garnish wages. Private lenders can't.

So it's ironic that the CFPB complains about Corinthian's "aggressive collection efforts" such as kicking out deadbeats as recourse for nonpayment. Since when is it a crime to ask people to pay their debts? Also ironic is the CFPB's gripe that Corinthian paid staff bonuses "based in part on their success in collecting such past-due payments from students." The Department of Education just announced that it will pay bonuses to federal-loan servicers for reducing delinquency rates. Is DOE predatory too?

The CFPB's basic claim is that Corinthian peddled a sham education. Corinthian promised career-focused education, the bureau says, "but at best, only helped graduates find temporary employment." Yet few new graduates nowadays land a career track job. A New York Federal Reserve study this year noted that underemployment among recent college grads is "not unusual" since "it takes time for recent college graduates to settle into the labor market and find a job."

As evidence of fraud, the CFPB cites a handful of examples in which Corinthian employees allegedly inflated job-placement rates, though nearly all of these occurred before July 2011 when

the CFPB's regulatory authority under Dodd-Frank took effect, which renders them moot. In nearly every case Corinthian took corrective action including last year closing its Decatur campus, which the CFPB cites three times for malfeasance.

As we noted this summer ("[Obama's Letters to Corinthian](#)," July 6), federal law leaves it to the states and accrediting agencies to determine how for-profits calculate job-placement rates. Notably, nonprofit and public colleges aren't required to track or report their rates. All of Corinthian's colleges were on good-standing with accreditors until DOE sanctioned the company this summer.

In June, DOE precipitated a liquidity crisis by choking off federal aid because Corinthian allegedly tarried on document requests. In return for keeping the federal spigot open, DOE forced Corinthian to wind down 12 campuses and sell 85 others over six months under government-appointed monitor [Patrick Fitzgerald](#), the scorched-earth former prosecutor.

Yet that accord was merely a beachhead for new regulatory attacks. Corinthian has since received grand-jury subpoenas in Florida, Georgia and California. State licensing agencies in Illinois, Minnesota and Iowa have ordered Corinthian to stop enrolling new students, which would drastically depreciate their campuses' sale value.

Now the CFPB has petitioned a federal court to force Corinthian to forgive upward of \$569 million in outstanding private loan debt, "disgorge all ill-gotten profits," and pay damages, restitution, civil penalties as well as "the Bureau's costs incurred in connection with bringing this action." Never mind that Corinthian has sold its loan portfolio for less than four cents on the dollar in part to finance a \$30 million escrow account DOE has mandated to refund students.

A CFPB spokesperson says the bureau coordinates with other federal and state regulators, and our guess is that their goal is to scare off potential buyers and for-profit investors by ensuring that Corinthian's creditors and shareholders don't get a penny. Any money left after Corinthian pays its lawyers will go to the federal government and students, which would never be permissible in a Chapter 7 liquidation.

All of this resembles a hyena pack dismembering a wildebeest carcass, which seems to be the point. The Obama Administration wants to show other for-profit operators what could happen if they resist its new regulations. The real tragedy is that the destruction of Corinthian will make it harder for graduates to get a job.

Conservative HQ

[The Democrats' Vicious Conspiracy to Destroy Rush Limbaugh](#)

You may have heard about the so-called "grassroots movement" to force local advertisers to stop advertising on the Rush Limbaugh program, allegedly because of consumer opposition to Rush's conservative views.

It turns out that this so-called Stop Rush campaign isn't a grassroots campaign at all, but a carefully crafted conspiracy of a small group of radical leftwing activists to bully advertisers into dropping Rush's program and muffle one of the most effective conservative voices in America in

the lead-up to the 2014 midterms and silence him permanently before the 2016 presidential election.

There is now stunning proof that only a small group of radical Leftists connected with Media Matters are involved in the "Stop Rush" campaign - NOT masses of Americans. Radical leftwing advocacy group Media Matters' disgusting attempts to silence our viewpoints are nothing new - but now the dirty tactics of Media Matters have been revealed, and they are more deceptive than you can imagine.

We don't use the term "conspiracy" lightly, and we here at CHQ generally lean toward skepticism when friends bring us tales of unseen forces manipulating major events. But in this case the evidence (links below) proves that only a few radicals at leftwing advocacy organization Media Matters are running and participating in this effort to intimidate both local radio stations that carry Rush, and local "Mom-and-Pop" businesses that advertise on his show.

They have used technology to create tweets from people who don't exist, to use abuse accounts on Facebook, and to intimidate small businesses who advertise on conservative shows. Media Matters is vicious, and dangerous to your freedom as few other domestic threats have been.

Imagine if you are a small business owner and you started receiving a steady flow of negative emails and saw tweets and Facebook postings about how horrible you are - and that you thought they were coming from customers. It would scare you to death! The fact is, this is happening to businesses across the country who advertise during Rush's show on their local stations. But the fact is also that these are phantom customers - they do not exist!

This is really a form of economic terrorism. And it is fraud and in some cases might very well be actionable in a court of law, ([here's an example](#)) so let us explain exactly how this was put in motion and how it works.

On September 23, 2014 the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee's newest email spam, asking their recipients to sign a petition calling for sponsors to end their relationship with The Rush Limbaugh Show, is based on the two-year old Stop Rush political protest as its inspiration. After an investigation, The Rush Limbaugh Show has discovered a far darker story to Stop Rush, and is today releasing the hidden story of the people and motives behind the Stop Rush conspiracy.

The Stop Rush group claims to be made up of ordinary consumers unhappy with Rush Limbaugh's comments. The group claims to be "grassroots," just concerned consumers who won't shop at businesses that advertise with Rush Limbaugh.

In truth, however, there are no potential customers here, just a small number of hardcore leftwing political activists founded by Angelo Carusone, EVP of Media Matters for America.

And like Mr. Carusone, it's remarkably tiny.

Only 10 Twitter users account for almost 70% of all StopRush tweets to advertisers, but their impact is amplified by illicit software.

In addition, almost every communication from a StopRush activist originates from outside the home state of the advertiser. Thus, these activists are not and never would have been customers; their only role is to harass small businesses in an attempt to interfere with their operations, as long as they are advertising with Rush.

How does this small group make themselves look so much bigger than they actually are?

Stop Rush has deployed custom automated tweeting software, in violation of Twitter's rules, that lets their activists send tweets at a rate far faster than any unassisted person could do manually. They send barrages of thousands of messages through this software until advertisers are bullied and harassed into cancellation.

These activists have long operated in secret and anonymously. But now, The Rush Limbaugh Show has the results of an investigation that names the people tweeting, facebooking, and emailing small businesses with harassing and bullying messages over and over until they surrender. These names are surprising, and even include a professor at Kent State University using her official email account to badger advertisers.

Here are the names and some information on some of the top terrorists:

Name: Matthew Mitchell
Location: Altamonte Springs, FL
ID: Captain Murdock/[@CaptMurdock](#)

Name: Nancy Padak
Location: Kent State University
ID: npadak@kent.edu, [facebook.com/nancy.padak](https://www.facebook.com/nancy.padak)
Fun Fact: Emails advertisers with harassment from her official Kent State email address. Gives businesses she has no relationship with 1 star ratings if they advertise on Rush. Friend of Cherie Richards

Name: Cherie Richards
Location: Powell, Ohio
ID: Kitty Fitzgerald/[@KittyFitz50](#) kittyfitzgerald@gmail.com, [facebook.com/cherier1](https://www.facebook.com/cherier1)
Fun Fact: Regularly changes online identity to hide anonymously, gives businesses she has no relationship with 1 star ratings if they advertise on Rush

Name: Jason Rey
Location: Georgia
ID: Frantic Quark/[@FranticQuark](#)

Name: Lauren Reynolds
Location: Los Angeles, CA
ID: Lauren
Reynolds/[@chloesty](#), lonelydays46@gmail.com, [facebook.com/lauren.reynolds.946179](https://www.facebook.com/lauren.reynolds.946179)
Fun Fact: Gives businesses she has no relationship with 1 star ratings if they advertise on Rush

Name: Sarah Smyea Rivers
Location: Whittier, CA
ID: SueBryce/[@eurekasue49](#)
Fun Fact: Changes ID frequently with different numbers to remain anonymous

Name: Dennis William Rohner
Location: Gainesville, FL
ID: Shawtoo@Shawtoo has sent over 96,000 tweets

Name: Linda Kotsenburg Swanholm

Location: Covina, CA

ID: CMMorgan/@socalks, lswanholm@aol.com

Fun Fact: Develops, administers, and distributes target lists indiscriminately, gives businesses she has no relationship with 1 star ratings if they advertise on Rush

Name: Carol Kernahan Wallin

Location: Anaheim, CA

ID: Uses @Flushfools and @hrhprincess, [facebook.com/carol.kernahan.7](https://www.facebook.com/carol.kernahan.7), flushfools@gmail.com

Fun Fact: Writes for DailyKos under both identities, long bullying/harassing pieces about political opponents.

What can you do to fight this vicious and dangerous conspiracy?

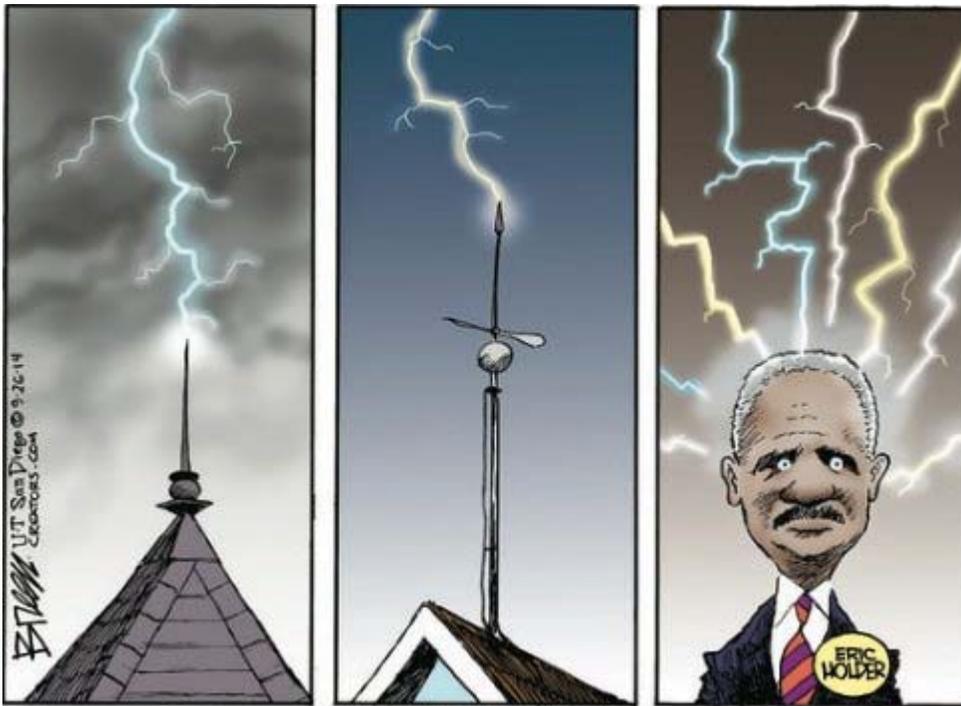
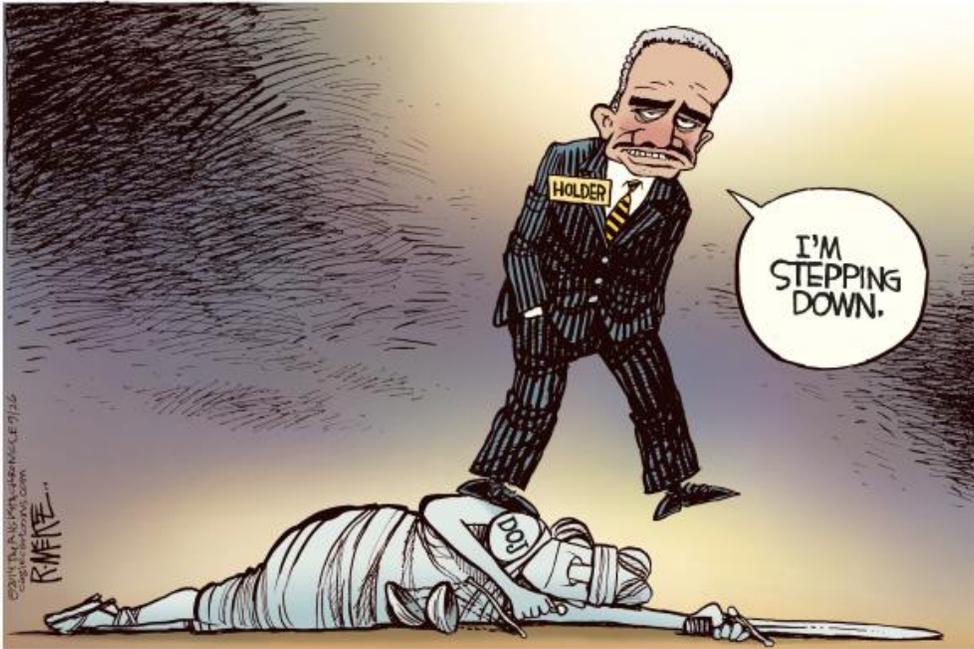
First of all, show them they are no longer anonymous and they can't hide.

You can do that by calling Kent State University and demanding that the University sever its relationship with Nancy Padak for breach of the Kent State Code of Conduct, specifically its provisions requiring university faculty and staff to "Practice personal and professional integrity, and to discourage all forms of dishonesty, deceit..." The Kent State University Code of Conduct [may be found here](#) and Kent State University President, Dr. Beverly Warren's office phone is 330-672-2210.

You can let Matthew Mitchell of Altamonte Springs, FL; Jason Rey down in Georgia, Lauren Reynolds of Los Angeles, CA; Cherie Richards of Powell, Ohio; Sarah Smyea Rivers of Whittier, CA; Dennis William Rohner of Gainesville, FL; Linda Kotsenburg Swanholm of Covina, CA and Carol Kernahan Wallin of Anaheim, CA that you are on to the game and want it to stop, their contact information is list above.

Finally, and most importantly, you can patronize Rush Limbaugh's advertisers and tell them that you are there because you heard about them on the Rush Limbaugh program.





LIGHTNING RODS

MEET the PRESS

Then.



Now.



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CHECK OUT THE NEWS
THE BUFFALO NEWS

DEAR VEGETARIANS...



**IF YOU'RE TRYING TO
SAVE THE ANIMALS, WHY
ARE YOU EATING THEIR FOOD?**

INTRODUCING



THE IPHONE 20