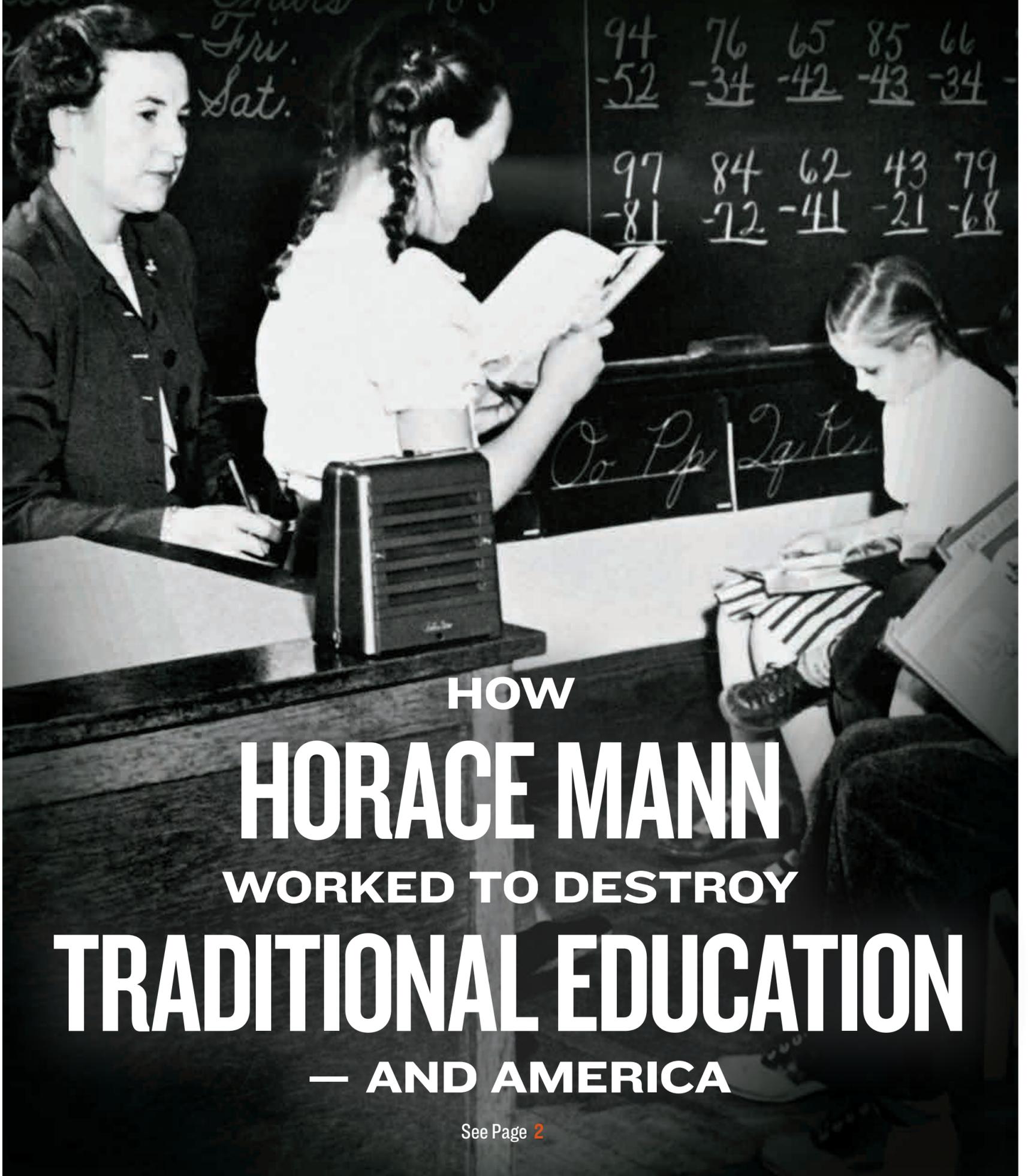


WEEK 41, 2019

THE EPOCH TIMES

AMERICAN CROSSROADS

A schoolgirl
recites her lesson in
front of her teacher
and classmates at a
school in the United
States on Oct. 18,
1950



HOW

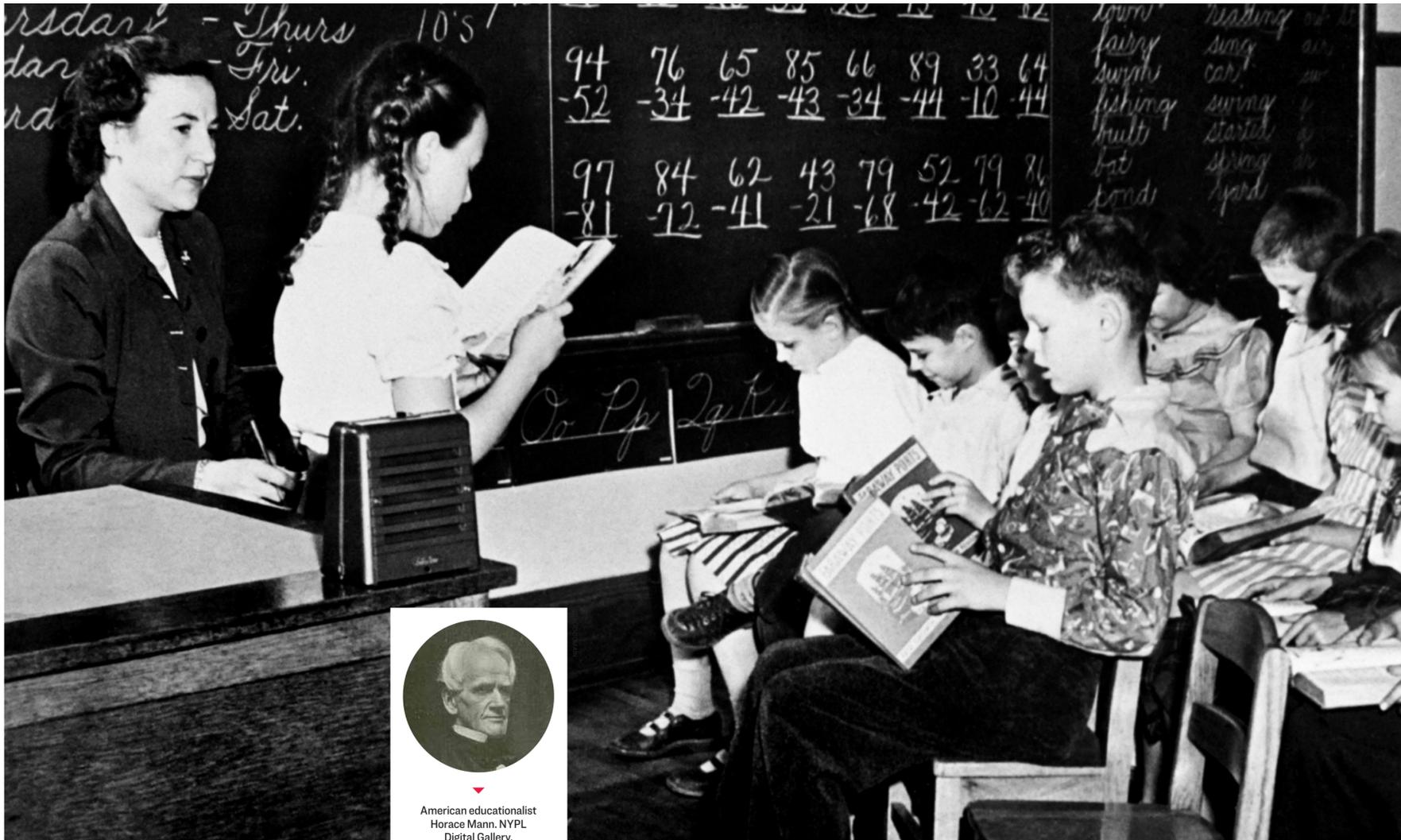
HORACE MANN

WORKED TO DESTROY

TRADITIONAL EDUCATION

— AND AMERICA

See Page 2



American educationalist
Horace Mann. NYPL
Digital Gallery.

How Horace Mann Worked to Destroy Traditional Education—and America

ALEX NEWMAN



Commentary

This is part 2 in a series of articles examining the origins of public education in the United States.

Before government took over education in Massachusetts and eventually the rest of the United States, the state and the nation had a thriving education system that produced the best-educated population on the planet up until that time. But then, Horace Mann came along, and everything changed.

Early American schooling was dominated by homeschooling, along with a vibrant free-market education ecosystem. Outside of education at home, which is where most children learned to read, the landscape featured mostly schools run by churches and entrepreneurs, as well as private tutors.

Many of America's Founding Fathers, like the broader population, received the bulk of their basic education at home. Even poor children could receive a formal education, though, provided largely by churches and philanthropists. The Quakers, for example, ran schools that welcomed anyone, whether they could pay or not.

Tax-funded K-12 government schools—especially as they exist today—would have been inconceivable to Americans from the 1600s to the mid-1800s. Education without the Bible and God would have been not just inconceivable to those people, but outrageous, if not an oxymoron.

And yet, long before government seized control over education, Americans were incredibly well educated. Literacy data and vast amounts of anecdotal evidence from that era show that literacy levels were significantly higher in the mid-to-late 1700s than they

are today. Modern studies on the subject confirm that.

Most children learned to read at home before ever stepping foot in a formal school. And they did it using simple, cheap primers that were vastly superior to almost everything in use today when it comes to reading instruction.

Then, everything changed. An ambitious lawyer-turned-politician-turned-educational-reformer with almost no experience as an educator came on the scene. He had grandiose ideas and messianic delusions that would eventually see the complete restructuring of the entire educational system in the United States. His name: Horace Mann.

Inspiration and Beginnings

In the first article in this education series, *The Genesis of Public Schools: Collectivism and Failure*, the almost unknown origins of the government-school movement in America were exposed. It all began with a now-obscure communist named Robert Owen and his failed collectivist colony in Indiana known as "New Harmony."

Owen's early 19th century writings on education inspired the King of Prussia to establish a national government education system based on statist ideals—education of the state, by the state, for the state. Prussia's totalitarian system included mandatory schooling for all children, powerful police forces to deal with non-compliance, segregation of children by age, instilling of a statist mindset in all children, and more. It was the first system of its kind anywhere on the planet.

But it would not be the last. The Owen-inspired Prussian system captured the imagination of Mann and his wealthy associates. These mostly Harvard-educated elites were increasingly abandoning the Orthodox Christianity that

defined early America in favor of liberal Unitarian and secular ideas about man and nature. They had an obsession with reforming man and society in their own image.

As a politician in the state legislature, Mann worked hard to expand the size and scope of government across all fields. But by the mid-1830s, the educational reformer was ready to advance Big Government in the United States in an unprecedented manner: the total takeover of education by the state.

With a governor friendly to their ideas in place, Mann and his wealthy backers launched their transformative education plan in 1837. This included setting up a state "Board of Education"—the first in America—that would oversee education throughout the commonwealth. Mann was chosen to serve as the board's first secretary.

Until Mann, across America and the broader Western world, education was regarded as a process of giving children intellectual tools and moral instruction.

It was all supposed to be based on the Prussian model launched two decades earlier. According to Mann himself, one of the primary goals of the new education regime he was constructing in Massachusetts would be to "equalize the conditions of men" and eradicate poverty—in essence, the same collectivist ideology espoused by Owen and his disciples decades earlier.

The keystone of the system envisioned by Mann was a network of government-run "seminaries," or "normal schools," that would train all Massachusetts teachers to teach what the state wanted taught. It did not take long for the

state-sponsored normal schools to begin indoctrinating future teachers with Mann's naturalistic views on religion, including the introduction of the quack phrenology book "The Constitution of Man."

Utopian Beliefs

Even though Christianity and the Reformation had fueled the spread of education, Mann, like Owen before him, only more quietly, rejected the Bible and Orthodox Christianity, putting him far outside of the mainstream in 1800s America. Under the guise of removing "secular" ideas, he worked hard to destroy the Christian roots of education across Massachusetts and beyond.

Mann shared Owen's views on the nature of man, too. The prevailing Calvinist worldview in early America held that man was innately and totally depraved, and so government must be strictly limited in its powers. Men like Owen and Mann, however, believed people were basically good, and that the right set of policies and education would perfect mankind to create Utopia.

Mann and his cohorts believed fervently in the power of big government to wisely guide mankind toward an idyllic future, too. He regularly used lofty rhetoric about the benevolent, paternalistic role of government that became the all-too-familiar siren song of the 20th century's most ruthless totalitarians.

The views of Mann and Owen ultimately prevailed over the traditional understanding of education that had been refined and perfected over the centuries. But while Mann predicted that government schools would ultimately render obsolete "nine tenths of the crimes in the penal code," in reality, their proliferation coincided with a downward spiral that would see crime and immorality explode to

unprecedented heights.

Mann's attitude toward other people's children was bizarre, too, even by today's standards. In his 1867 "Lectures and Annual Reports on Education," Mann claimed that those engaged in the "sacred cause of education" were "entitled to look upon all parents as having given hostages to our cause." Shortly before his appointment as Education Secretary, he gushed at the mere "thought" of having "the future minds of such multitudes" dependent in some way on him.

Purpose of Education

While Mann is often described correctly as one of the founders of public education in the United States, the full story is slightly more complex. Prior to Mann, Massachusetts did have some government intervention in education, including some "common schools" with roots in the early 17th century Puritan Bible colony. That history is well documented.

But regardless of what Mann might tell the conservative public at the time, what existed prior was completely different from what Mann introduced.

The commonwealth's first education laws—in fact the first education laws in all of North America—were the "Old Deluder Satan Act" of the 1640s. The text of the legislation reveals a great deal about the mindset of that era.

The premise was this: One "chief project of that old deluder, Satan" is to "keep men from the knowledge of the Scriptures." With that in mind, lawmakers decided that towns needed to ensure everyone was capable of reading. So towns with more than a certain number of inhabitants were ordered to make sure children could read—the alternative being satanic deception rooted in ignorance of the Bible.

The modern conception of "separation of church and state" was

A schoolgirl recites her lesson in front of her teacher and classmates at a school in the United States on Oct. 18, 1950

completely alien to the Puritan founders, who laid the foundations for what would eventually become the United States of America. For them, the state was a divine institution ordained by God charged with carrying out God's commands—primarily punishing evil, as defined by God. And that is why they felt it proper to use both church and state—inseparable institutions, in their mind—to educate children.

But even in Massachusetts, one of just a handful of jurisdictions that had any government involvement in education at all, the free market and Christianity still dominated the educational scene by the early to mid 1800s. Common schools were in steep decline, as the overwhelming majority of parents chose to educate their children at home and in vastly superior private schools.

At least, that was the case until Mann came along and created America's first ever state-controlled, bureaucratic, property tax-funded government school system. At the same time as that was occurring, along with a militant secularization of education, Mann and his cohorts waged a campaign to demonize the phenomenal private academies across the state, as well as the parents who sent their children there.

Until Mann, across America and the broader Western world, education was regarded as a process of giving children intellectual tools and moral instruction. The primary end was to know God, with developing the intellectual abilities of children a secondary purpose.

After Mann, though, there was a radical transformation. So-called "progressive" education, as it came to be known, was the new norm. Under his vision, schools were to serve as tools for re-shaping human nature and society to achieve a heaven-on-earth ideal.

One of the most far-reaching

innovations to enter the schools under Mann was the "whole word" method of teaching reading, as opposed to the phonics that had been used for thousands of years. It ended in total disaster. That story, which is crucial to understanding the modern illiteracy crisis, will be recounted in an upcoming article in this education series.

After unleashing government education on the people of Massachusetts, Mann went to Prussia to gain a deeper understanding of that regime's centralized indoctrination system. Upon his return to the United States, he beat back conservative attackers upset about his schemes. Then he traveled the country like an evangelist shilling for government schools, successfully promoting the Prussian system in state after state.

The Utopians believed government schools would make Prussia and other jurisdictions that implemented them into paradises of enlightenment and progress. The reality, unfortunately, has not been nearly so nice. In Prussia, the statist educational system culminated in the total transformation of Germany into one of the most despotic horror shows in human history.

Today, it's not working out well for Americans, either. Stay tuned to this space for more.

Alex Newman is an award-winning international journalist, educator, author, and consultant who co-wrote the book "Crimes of the Educators: How Utopians Are Using Government Schools to Destroy America's Children." He also serves as the CEO of Liberty Sentinel Media and writes for diverse publications in the United States and abroad.

Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.

Ominous Signs of Hatred in Politics

MARK HENDRICKSON



Commentary

Heated rhetoric and politics go hand in hand. In today's hyper-politicized polity, the line between heated and hate-filled rhetoric is crossed

often. This is not merely regrettable, but dangerous.

When verbal vitriol mutates into hatred, hatred too often erupts in violence. The casualties of hatred fall into three categories. The obvious ones are the specific targets and victims of hate. Then there are the haters whose souls have been consumed by the toxin of hate (as Martin Luther King, Jr. explained, "Hate destroys the very structure of the personality of the hater."). And society itself is degraded.

Indeed, hatred can plunge an entire society into darkness, nihilism, and grotesque decay. While hatred can infect any vulnerable person of any political orientation or no political orientation, left-wing ideologies embrace and exploit hate as a deliberate strategy. Don't take my word for it. Take it from some leftist icons. Lenin wrote explicitly in his tract "Left-Wing Communism" that hatred was "the basis of any socialist and communist movement."

Think about it: Every utopian left-wing plan ends up hating the rights and freedom of any individual who isn't part of the elite cabal of planners; ordinary citizens must be reduced from independent actors to pawns and slaves subject to the dictates of the planners.

Hatred was central to Lenin's political goals. His depraved message to the Soviet Commissars of Education was, "We must teach our children to hate. Hatred is the basis of communism." (Think of recent news reports of children hating our free-market economy for alleged climate sins.)

Karl Marx was a hater, too. He exultantly boasted that he was "the greatest hater of the so-called positive." Communists today continue to hate, as we can see in the Chinese Communist Party's hatred of the freedoms that the brave residents of Hong Kong are risking their lives to preserve.

Ominously, the venom of hatred is now virulent here in the United States. Again, let me repeat that hatred occurs across the entire breadth of the ideological spectrum. It's a chronic human sin that is confined to no party. But it's important that we recognize the extent to which hatred has found a home on the political left.

Examples abound: The left produced the ugly "I Hate ..." series of books, e.g., "The I Hate Ann Coulter, Bill O'Reilly, Rush Limbaugh, ... Reader"; "The I Hate George W. Bush Reader," etc.

The leftist Southern Poverty Law Center that hatefully tars and feathers nonviolent conservatives as "haters" for daring to disagree with leftist positions.

It's the left that is fomenting hatred for American border patrol agents, just as they spearheaded the abuse heaped on returning Vietnam vets 50 years ago.

It was a left-leaning talk show host who, in August, remarked on the passing of the late conservative/libertarian businessman David Koch, "I'm glad he's dead, and I hope the end was painful." (Hypocrisy alert: This same talk-show personality has called for more civility in politics. Message to him from Booker T. Washington: "I will permit

no man to narrow and degrade my soul by making me hate him.")

The left has gone positively berserk in their almost maniacally hateful persecution of Supreme Court Associate Justice Brett Kavanaugh. Throwing out due process, abandoning any pretense of caring about the truth, hate-filled leftists have adopted a scorched-earth campaign against Kavanaugh that spills over onto his family. Clearly, the hate-filled animus is so intense that leftists are willing to trample, mutilate, and destroy innocent people in pursuit of their political goals.

Masked Antifa activists attacked a peaceful "straight pride" march in Boston, wounding a police officer in the process. Antifa apparently wants the First Amendment rights of free speech and assembly to be restricted to only non-straight Americans.

Significantly, members of "the squad"—the congresswomen who are in the forefront of the socialist movement in America—are proving Lenin's axiom about hatred being at the root of socialist movements, because the congresswomen referred to Antifa as "allies" and appealed for money for bail funds for Antifa activists arrested for acts of violence.

President Donald Trump may set the all-time record for being the target of hate-filled barbs. Several Democratic presidential candidates currently vying for the votes of private-property-hating socialists on the left, have made statements like President Trump was "responsible" for two mass murders this summer and, "Obviously he didn't pull the trigger, but he's certainly been tweeting out the ammunition." (On the positive)

Perhaps the most horrific recent example of hatred was the North Carolina teacher who allegedly told her students that Vice President Mike Pence should be "shot in the head." Yuck!

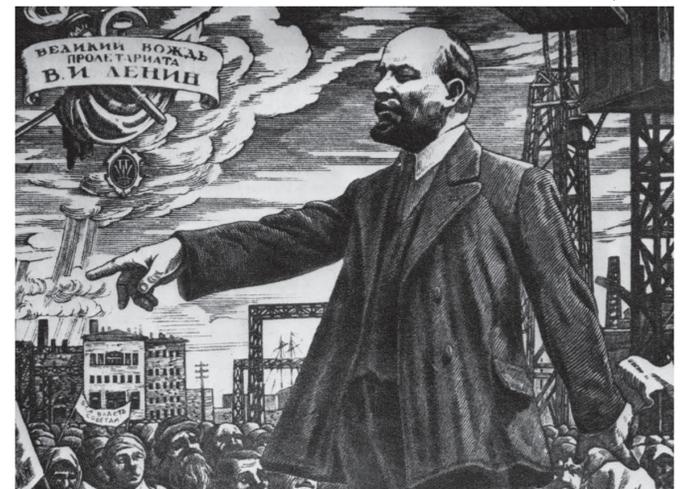
I have just recounted several disturbing, ugly examples of hatred on the left. Please heed this gentle warning: Don't hate the haters, because if you do, you will mostly hurt yourself. Consider these words of Mary Baker Eddy: "Hate no one; for hatred is a plague-spot that spreads its virus and kills at last. If indulged, it masters us; brings suffering upon suffering to its possessor, throughout time and beyond the grave."

All who love America—the America that cherishes, honors, and respects the God-given rights of individual human beings to be secure in their own life, liberty, and property—must realize that our values and freedom are under siege by our leftist compatriots.

We must be prepared to fight, if necessary, to preserve our rights. But let us be motivated by love for our rights and never by hatred for fellow Americans who have been poisoned and warped by hatred. Separate the sin from the sinner, or, as William Penn put it, "Dislike what deserves it, but never hate ..."

Mark Hendrickson, an economist, recently retired from the faculty of Grove City College, where he remains a fellow for economic and social policy at the Institute for Faith and Freedom.

Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.



Russian revolutionary leader Vladimir Ilyich Lenin (1870–1924) addressing a crowd during the Russian revolution, circa 1917.

American Maoists Re-brand, Focus on Electoral Politics, Target the South

TREVOR LOUDON

Commentary

America's largest Maoist organization, Freedom Road Socialist Organization (FRSO), has re-branded itself "Liberation Road." The new name is in line with a new strategy to place much more emphasis on electoral politics. The new strategy is bearing fruit as the pro-China communists have already helped to elect allies to public office in several states.

With the word "socialist" dropped from their name, the comrades probably reason that their communism will be less apparent to potential electoral allies and voters. This could lead to even more electoral victories in the near future.

There was also another reason for the change. In 1999, FRSO split into two organizations, both of which claimed to be the "true" FRSO.

The minority faction, based in Chicago and Minneapolis, wanted to concentrate on traditional communist methods—street demonstrations, picketing and agitation, solidarity with China, North Korea, and foreign terrorist organizations, and alliances with other groups on the hard left, such as the Workers World Party. This group, which produces the FightBack! newspaper, is now the only FRSO—which must be gratifying after fighting their former comrades for more than 20 years over naming rights.

The majority faction, which is now known as Liberation Road, wanted to work for Left Refoundation—to build a re-vitalized less doctrinaire left with broader appeal to the masses and the ability to work closely with the Communist Party USA, Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), and other left formations. Liberation Road is very well funded, and has a major presence in several tax-free non-profits and labor unions, and even some churches.

FRSO Liberation Road still maintains ties to communist China but is fairly discreet about it. While internally still committed to communism, the "Road" has been working hard to sanitize its radical Maoist image in order to be able to work more effectively with the Democrats and local electoral groupings.

Liberation Road has a major presence in the San Francisco area and enjoys close relations with many local politicians and social movements. It's also strong in Oregon and Washington State, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New York, the Washington D.C. area, Virginia, Missouri, Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Southern Florida, and central Texas.

Goals and Strategy

Liberation Road's goal in the South is to defeat what they call the "New Confederacy"—the conservative Christian/business/rural base that has kept the Republican Party dominant in the South and viable nationally for the last two decades. For example, FRSO was very active in the Tennessee U.S. senate race in 2018, backing Democrat Phil Bredesen. They did not prevail but did build strong networks for future races.

From the Liberation Road website: "Our organization began in 1985 with a merger of two organizations ... that came out of the New Communist Movement of the late 1970s/early 1980s. ...

"Today, at a critical juncture—not just for us in Freedom Road Socialist Organization, but for the whole socialist and movement Left—we are excited to announce that we are changing our name to Liberation Road.

"Over the past 34 years, our organization has maintained a consistent commitment to opposing racial capitalism and fighting for socialism and self-determination. At the same time, we have prided ourselves on remaining highly adaptable based on ever changing internal and external conditions. ...

"Since 2016, our organization has formally consolidated around a national strategy that focuses on building the independent political power of the strategic alliance through the creation of and support for mass independent political

If the good people of the U.S. South do not want to suffer 'socialist liberation' in the next few election cycles they'd better wake up fast.

organizations (IPOs) as a part of a broader front to defeat the New Confederacy." These IPOs are independent political groups that are able to work both inside and outside of the Democratic Party to maximize the strength and leverage of the local left.

"Central to this strategic orientation is using the electoral arena as a tool and terrain that helps left/progressive forces to build political power."

FRSO/Liberation Road has built several IPOs in Boston and in Philadelphia and Lancaster County in Pennsylvania. Massachusetts Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley was elected with FRSO help, as were Philadelphia's radical council member Helen Gym and District Attorney Larry Krasner.

But the South is the main target of Liberation Road's electoral efforts. Liberation Road knows that if they can flip even two or three Southern states to the Democrats, the Republicans will soon become a permanent minority party.

"Our analysis is that this realignment of left/progressive forces, the building of mass independent political organizations operating both inside and outside the Democratic Party and the electoral arena, is crucial at this juncture. In embarking on this path, we have found considerable, though admittedly modest success in the building of IPOs in the South, which has been a geographic and strategic focus of our organization from its inception because of its unique role in the development of US racial capitalism."

So far Liberation Road has had its greatest successes in swing state North Carolina and more reliably Republican Tennessee.

Southern Success

With its control of Durham for All, Liberation Road (which is aiming to raise an army of 10,000 activists) has put several comrades and allies onto local school boards and city councils, including recent Mayor Pro Tempore of the city of Durham Jillian Johnson.

In Tennessee, Liberation Road works closely with the DSA in local races in Knoxville, Nashville, and Memphis.

In Knoxville, Liberation Road is running their comrade David Hayes on the City Council Movement / Knoxville for All ticket alongside DSA member Amelia Parker and Charles Al-Bawi—hopefully to join DSA comrade Seema Perez, who was elected to the city council last cycle.

In Central Tennessee, Liberation Road backs the Nashville Justice League, which endorsed no fewer than 15 City Council candidates this election cycle. DSA member Sean Parker recently won a Nashville City Council seat.

In the west of the state, Liberation Road's Memphis for All has worked with the local DSA to elect several candidates for public office and is effectively running the campaign of mayoral candidate Tami Sawyer.

Memphis for All is doing extensive voter registration work in the city's huge Democratic-leaning black voting base. If

they flip reliably Republican Tennessee to the Democrats, it would be a knockout blow to the "New Confederacy."

Memphis for All activist April Freeman recently told Liberation Road's Mary Jo Connelly:

"Personally, I want Memphis For All to have a great impact on the voting turnout ... We're already getting known for taking Memphis and Shelby County beyond—raising their voting turnout so much that it's nationally covered.

"The Memphis electorate is a sleeping giant. It can flip Tennessee and lead a movement for deep change. ... Deep grassroots organizing, and community leadership development can shift the balance."

A New Socialist Party

Ultimately, Liberation Road wants to destroy the Republican Party. Then the plan is to work with the Communist Party USA, DSA, and others to gather all their combined forces inside and outside the Democratic Party into a mass socialist party that can seriously contend for permanent power.

From the Liberation Road website:

"In this new period of our organization and under our new name, we are excited to continue with others the process of building a party for socialism, while equally engaging with the broader progressive movement—globally and domestically—in the struggles to save the planet from environmental catastrophe and defeat both neo-liberal globalization and right-wing populism. Together, we look forward to working with others to create a vision and reality of fundamental social transformation that will move us down the liberation road."

Liberation Road's plans should not be treated as socialist fantasizing. The organization is backed by China and has a well-funded network spanning both coasts and most of the South. Their plan to use the Democrat's minorities voting base and shifting demographics to destroy the Republican Party in the South has already made good progress in Virginia, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

Liberation Road works well—under the radar but is highly effective, disciplined, and relentless. If the good people of the U.S. South do not want to suffer "socialist liberation" in the next few election cycles they'd better wake up fast.

Some state-level hearings on Chinese/Liberation Road influence on local and state elections might be a good place to start. I would happily testify.

Trevor Loudon is an author, filmmaker, and public speaker from New Zealand. For more than 30 years, he has researched radical left, Marxist, and terrorist movements and their covert influence on mainstream politics.

Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.



Freedom Road Socialist Organization supporters during an anti-Trump march in Washington on Jan. 20, 2017.



Freedom Road Socialist Organization supporters during an anti-Trump march in Washington on Jan. 20, 2017.

Hatin' on the Police and Racial Agitation: American Maoists Bring Back the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression

TREVOR LOUDON

Commentary



The United States needs to brace for a new wave of racial agitation and anti-police propaganda. American Maoists from the Freedom Road Socialist Organization (FRSO) are working to re-launch one of the Communist Party USA's most successful front groups of the 1970s, the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression (NAARPR).

Masked as a "civil rights" group, NAARPR Mark 2 will be used to promote FRSO's Maoist-inspired racially divisive agenda. The original NAARPR was used to incite revolutionary racial division and to stoke anti-law enforcement resentment in the racially tense 1970s. The new NAARPR is designed to carry on that ignoble tradition—this time expanded to include victims of "gender oppression" and illegal immigrants.

In today's racially charged America, where police are under attack like never before, what could possibly go wrong?

Refounding

The refounding conference will take place in Chicago, Illinois, on Nov. 22-24, 2019.

"Activists and organizers from across the country will gather to refound NAARPR and coordinate nation-wide actions against state sponsored racial violence," states the conference website. FRSO's FightBack! News circulated a call to refound the NAARPR in May: "We issue this Call in a sense of outrage in the face of increasing racist violence and political repression towards working class and Black and Brown communities.

"We are currently facing a national epidemic of state-sponsored violence perpetrated by police and vigilantes targeting the oppressed Black, Latinx, immigrant, indigenous, LGBTQ, non-binary, gender non-conforming, and gender fluid communities.

"We are outraged that a detainment-to-deportation pipeline persists and grows, featuring local police working side-by-side with ICE to racially profile, hunt, and detain immigrants and then subject them to unlawful deportation with impunity. ...

"We see blatant police occupation in such major urban areas as Baltimore, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, New York, Oakland, St. Paul, St. Louis and Washington, D.C. with police being permitted by city government to commit unspeakable crimes against the people. Murders by the police, even when video-recorded, go unpunished. "We are witnessing and fighting

The FRSO comrades are not re-booting NAARPR for fun. They mean to use it push forward the revolution by increasing racial division.

against the institutionalization of a U.S. police state fusing local, state and federal law enforcement in the name of countering terror under the so-called 'Patriot Act'. More money goes toward police budgets while the Black community suffers from severe underdevelopment. ...

"We continue to fight for the pardoning of all torture survivors who were framed and kidnapped by Chicago Police officers, tortured into "confessing" and wrongfully convicted. ...

"We continue to stand in unconditional solidarity with the national liberation movements of Palestine, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines, as well as the anti-imperialist struggles of South Africa, Venezuela, and all progressive, democratic forces against imperialism.

"Consequently, we are reaching out to you, our comrades in struggle, to join us in our renewed effort to create a Black-led, Left-led, multi-racial, multi-national movement to stop police crimes, mass incarceration and to end racist and political repression."

The conference will feature two keynote speakers, both steeped in racial and anti-police agitation: Angela Davis and Frank Chapman.

Angela Davis

An iconic figure on the left, Angela Davis was the inspiration for the original NAARPR. Davis's membership in the Communist Party USA (CPUSA) led to her dismissal from her teaching position at the University of California, Los Angeles. She ran for vice president on the CPUSA ticket twice in the 1980s.

In 1970, Davis went on the run from the law and was placed on the FBI's 10 most wanted list. After a California judge, two radical black prisoners, and an assailant died in a dramatic courtroom escape, it was discovered that Davis had purchased the weaponry involved. Under California law, that technically made her an accomplice in the kidnapping and murder of the judge.

After her capture in New York, the CPUSA and its Soviet Bloc allies mounted an international campaign for her acquittal, which spread to 67 support groups in other countries, and more than 200 groups in the United States alone. Even John Lennon and Yoko Ono contributed to this campaign with the song "Angela."

On June 4, 1972, after 13 hours of deliberations, the all-white jury returned a verdict of not guilty. The fact that she owned the weapons used in the crime was not considered sufficient evidence to convict.

In 1973, the U.S. Angela Davis support network coalesced into the NAARPR, with Davis herself at the helm. Davis led the organization for many years, until she left the CPUSA in 1991 to help found the breakaway communist group Committees of

Correspondence (for Democracy and Socialism) (CCDS). NAARPR still survives today in Chicago and Kentucky, mainly led by CCDS members.

Davis would eventually drift out of CCDS to affiliate closely with a rival Marxist group, also named FRSO, in Critical Resistance, a "close the prisons" organization.

Frank Chapman

As a young man, Frank Chapman was sentenced in St. Louis, Missouri, to life plus 50 years for a robbery that left a victim dead. Chapman was radicalized in prison.

Through Soviet and Chinese-funded CPUSA magazine Freedomways, Chapman established support networks in the outside world. Over the years Freedomways and the Daily World (now People's World), the CPUSA's paper, published a number of Chapman's prison writings.

According to FRSO leader Joe Losbaker: "Chapman is very clear that it was the massive movement to free Angela Davis which paved the way to freedom for him and other political prisoners. From the CP [Communist Party], he learned about Davis leading the founding of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression. The National Alliance said Chapman was a political prisoner because he had started advocating for civil rights while in prison. ...

"The National Alliance took up his case, and after they had helped free him, he became the leader of the Saint Louis chapter, building it up through community and labor struggles to becoming one of the largest chapters in the country. Eventually he became the executive director and moved to New York City. ...

"When Frank moved to Chicago in 2011, he found the organization here still continuing. ... He joined in with them, and today has helped rebuild the movement here and nationally. As a result, this fall the National Alliance will be re-founded in Chicago."

After leaving the CPUSA around 2009, Chapman eventually joined FRSO and now serves on the group's central committee.

FRSO Creation

The new NAARPR will be an FRSO-led operation. The only publicly identified organizer so far is Jacksonville, Florida, FRSO member Michael Sampson, but almost all the sponsoring organizations are FRSO front groups or aligned organizations.

They include the Arab American Action Network; Black Lives Matter — Chicago; Black Lives Matter — Tucson; Black People Against Police Torture; Centro Community Service Organization (Los Angeles); Dallas Anti War Committee; Committee to Stop FBI Repression; National Students

for a Democratic Society; Jacksonville Community Action Committee; Tallahassee Community Action Committee; People's Opposition to War, Imperialism, and Racism (Miami); Tampa Anti-War Committee; Minnesota Anti-War Committee; Minnesota Immigrant Rights Action Committee; Minnesota Peace Action Coalition; Twin Cities Coalition for Justice 4 Jamar; Women Against Military Madness; and Utah Against Police Brutality.

Other notable NAARPR supporters include Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism; Chicago Democratic Socialists of America; Chicago Teachers Union; Eric Brooks (CPUSA); Kevin Tyson, a former communist and a leader of Barack Obama's former Trinity United Church of Christ; Veterans for Peace; the Marxist Labour Party; the Socialist Unity Party; and two old Soviet-aligned groups, the U.S. Peace Council and the National Conference of Black Lawyers.

We Must Take This Seriously

FRSO is a militant Maoist organization that openly supports China, Putin's Russia, North Korea, Cuba, and Venezuela. The group has ties to the State Department-designated terrorist organizations FARC (Colombia), the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and the Communist Party of the Philippines/New People's Army.

While based in Chicago and Minneapolis, FRSO also has networks in Wisconsin, Florida, Texas, North Carolina, New York, Utah, Arizona, and California.

They have played major roles in the anti-Trump protest movement in every area they have a presence. These people are serious communists.

The FRSO comrades are not re-booting NAARPR for fun. They mean to use it push forward the revolution by increasing racial division and demonizing what they see as "pillars of capitalism": the police and the justice system.

In 2010, several FRSO comrades were subpoenaed by the FBI in a search for evidence for alleged support of foreign terrorist organizations. Those cases went nowhere in the Obama Justice Department.

Perhaps the FBI should be re-focused on FRSO before they can cause too much damage?

Trevor Loudon is an author, filmmaker, and public speaker from New Zealand. For more than 30 years, he has researched radical left, Marxist, and terrorist movements and their covert influence on mainstream politics.

Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.

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