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AMERICAN CROSSROADS

Florida's Democratic gubernatorial candidate Andrew Gillum reacts to applause during a service he attended to advocate for a vote recount, at the New Mount Olive Baptist Church in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., on Nov. 11, 2018.



FLIPPING FLORIDA:

HOW PRO-CHINA COMMUNISTS
PLAN TO TURN THE SUNSHINE
STATE BLUE IN 2020

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Trays of election ballots at the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Election Warehouse in West Palm Beach, Fla., on Nov. 15, 2018.

Flipping Florida: How Pro-China Communists Plan to Turn the Sunshine State Blue in 2020

TREVOR LOUDON



Commentary
America's main pro-Chinese Communist Party organization, Liberation Road, is working

overtime to win Florida in the 2020 presidential election.

With 29 Electoral College votes—behind only California and Texas and tied with New York—Florida may well decide the 2020 election. California and New York are deeply blue states and Texas is moderately red, so purplish Florida will be heavily targeted as the most significant “swing state” in the nation.

Liberation Road Maoists finally turned Virginia blue in 2019. They’re now using similar tactics to flip Florida.

Liberation Road (until April 2019 known as Freedom Road Socialist Organization or FRSO) flipped Virginia by signing up at least 300,000 new minority voters over the last several years and working with then-Gov. Terry McAuliffe to restore voting rights for an estimated 200,000 former felons.

Working through The New Florida Majority and allied organizations, Liberation Road has signed up hundreds of thousands of new minority voters in Florida and

helped pass a referendum giving 1.4 million “Sunshine State” former felons the right to vote.

They also helped to raise the Democratic vote for their friend Andrew Gillum in the 2018 governor’s race. Gillum only lost because Donald Trump endorsed Republican Ron DeSantis, who called Gillum out for the socialist he undoubtedly is. Given that Gillum is now working with the Florida left to sign up another million minority Democratic voters, it’s entirely possible that China’s U.S. franchise Liberation Road may well decide who wins the 2020 election.

FRSO Infiltrates Florida

FRSO has been active in Southern Florida since at least 1999, when the Miami Workers Center was founded by FRSO affiliates Gihan Perera and Tony Romano.

Though never FRSO’s strongest section, the Miami branch has been reinforced in recent years with comrades from North Carolina, California, and the Northeast.

Perera founded Miami-based The New Florida Majority circa 2009 (as Florida New Majority). He would staff his new organization with Maoist comrades, including political director Badili Jones—one of the very few open FRSO members.

Perera trained in 2005 at the FRSO-connected, Oakland, California-based “community organizer” school Rockwood Leadership In-

stitute. The New Florida Majority’s current executive director Andrea Mercado trained at Rockwood in 2013. Andrew Gillum served his time there in 2012.

In 2007, Perera (who now runs programs for the Ford Foundation) and Jon Liss of New Virginia Majority, established a nationwide umbrella group for FRSO-affiliated community groups, called the Right to the City Alliance.

Moving Florida Left

The New Florida Majority immediately set out to harness the power of minority voters to move Florida left.

From the allied Florida Immigrant Coalition website:

“Through street-level organizing, The New Florida Majority is overcoming the dark days of racism and divisiveness in the Sunshine State to bring the new light of fairness and equity to all residents.

“In 2012, The New Florida Majority’s mobilization efforts resulted in the election of ten new progressive Federal and State legislators in Florida. Through our Breakthrough campaign, we reached more than 250,000 voters across the state, 76% of which turned out on election day.

“This year, The New Florida Majority organizers are mobilizing leaders to significantly expand democratic rights for communities that have been historically marginalized, excluded, and si-

lenced. The key components of the campaign are voting rights, immigration reform, fighting mass incarceration, and standing up for women and our young people.”

Victories included Orlando-area congressman Darren Soto and Miami-area state Sen. Dwight Bullard—who now serves as The New Florida Majority’s political director.

In recent years, The New Florida Majority has chalked up victory after victory—local and statewide. All apparently under the nose of the Florida Republican Party.

According to the group’s website the “Majority” can claim credit for:

- “31,000 new voter registrations in low-income black & brown neighborhoods, with 32,277 voters contacted, in 2017 alone.
- Helped to win \$15/hr living wage legislation in the City of Miami.
- Citizen-lobbying effort led to creation of low-income community representative on the City of Miami Sea Level Rise Committee.
- Led effort to collect 127,000 petitions to get campaign finance reform on 2018 ballot.
- Won lawsuit to extend voter registration period after Hurricane Matthew, which enabled 108,000 additional people to register during this election cycle.
- Field programs helped to win important down-ballot races including Opa Locka City Commissioner

Matthew Pigatt, State Senator Jose Javier Rodriguez, State Representative Robert Ascencio.”

Socialist SWAG

But by far The New Florida Majority’s most important campaigns to date were the almost successful Gillum campaign and the concurrent push to pass Amendment 4—which gave most convicted felons the right to vote.

“In 2018, New Florida Majority made history with the passage of Amendment 4, which restored voting rights to over 1.4 million Floridians with felony convictions. Our work, along with the work of so many other groups who fought so hard for that win, continues today as the state legislature attempts to roll back our hard-won victory.”

Both campaigns saw The New Florida Majority deepen its ties with several allied organizations across the state through a new umbrella organization, the Statewide Alliance Group (SWAG).

The new alliance included:

- The New Florida Majority
- Dream Defenders—a black-led pro-Palestine group closely affiliated with Liberation Road.
- Organize Florida—led by Stephanie Porta, former leader of Florida ACORN.
- Florida Immigrant Coalition—led by Maria Rodriguez, a 2009 Rockwood Leadership Institute alumna and close affiliate of Liberation Road.
- SEIU—heavily penetrated by Liberation Road and other communist groups.
- Faith in Florida—part of Faith in Action, formerly known as the PICO National Network, which is closely affiliated with some Liberation Road supporters.
- Central Florida Jobs with Justice—led by Denise Diaz, who is closely affiliated with Liberation Road and

the Communist Party USA.

Defending Gillum

SWAG’s first job was to defend Gillum from his Republican opponent DeSantis’s well-justified and very effective “red-baiting.”

Liberation Road calls the conservative, Christian, Republican-leaning South the “New Confederacy”—and Gillum was supposed to help the Maoists defeat the “New Confederates” in Florida.

JoHanna Thompson, a Miami-based FRSO comrade, wrote a facetiously titled article on the group’s website “Don’t Let the Socialists Take Over Florida!”

“Gillum seemed like someone who comrades could work with in office.

“Falling in line with the New Confederacy, DeSantis was less concerned with changing liberal minds than attacking liberal ideologies, making inaccurate associations of his opponent, and getting conservative voters to the polls.

“One door hanger asked the question, ‘Does this sound familiar?’ It depicted a picture of a street mural, by a local artist, of Andrew Gillum. Underneath the picture were the words, ‘Andrew Gillum: Another Big Government, Socialist Dictator’ followed by three more street murals of Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro, Fidel Castro, and Hugo Chavez. It boldly proclaimed, ‘Don’t let the socialists take over Florida! Republicans must vote, there’s too much at stake.’

“On one hand, the door hanger was laughable, while on the other, it spoke to the intentional decision of grassroots organizations and a union to work collectively as Statewide Alliance Group ...”

The attacks on Gillum worked. Although SWAG lifted the Democratic Party vote by a staggering 40 percent over the 2014 elections, DeSantis so boldly called out Gillum’s socialism that the Republican vote rose even more. Florida was saved from having a socialist

Liberation Road and The New Virginia Majority used Democratic-leaning ex-felons to turn ‘The Old Dominion’ blue. You can bet that Liberation Road and The New Florida Majority is out there right now registering Florida’s ex-felons for the same purpose.

governor by a razor thin 33,000 votes.

Anti-communism works.

FRSO did better with Amendment 4, however, which passed 64 percent to 34 percent.

Thompson explained how the Florida left came together to pass Amendment 4:

“The Dream Defenders (DD) took a deep dive in community to create an ideology reminiscent of the Black Panther Party Ten Point Program with seven freedoms. DD launched the #freedompapers, claiming #thisistheyear, focusing on building with community to target private prison corporations, like GEO Group, and transform the Florida political landscape.

“Florida Immigrant Coalition (FLIC) along with Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI) and United We Dream focused on immigrant rights and abolishing ICE. The New Florida Majority (NFM), SEIU, Faith in Florida, Jobs with Justice, and the Movement for Black Lives (M4BL) Electoral Justice Project appealed to their vast membership bases.

“In addition, the Miami Workers Center (MWC) centered the Movement for Black Women and Girls with Soul Sista’s. Power U Center for Social Change continues to inform youth. Community Justice Project (CJP) supported Poetry for the People’s, Maroon Poetry Festival, which amplified the Black Arts Movement and use of art in activism.

“The age old social justice organizations such as NAACP, ACLU, Faith in Florida, PACT, and the likes, also joined the effort to get Amendment 4 passed. All used the same messaging in their conversations which advocated for a Yes Vote on Amendment 4. The strategy was to restore the rights of over 1.4 million voters as freedom voters.

“It was a brilliant, coordinated strategy in alignment and consistent communication that is beginning to consolidate a united front against the New Confederacy in Florida.”

Can Florida Be Saved From Socialism?

Most Florida voters who supported Amendment 4 thought they were simply being kind to people who had paid their debt to society. Many of the Amendment 4 “Yes” voters also voted against socialism and for Ron DeSantis. They had no real idea of who was behind the ballot initiative or why.

FRSO Maoists and their allies basically fooled several million compassionate Floridians into voting for their own destruction. It was never about restoring rights to the formerly incarcerated. It was all about several hundred thousand new potential Democratic voters.

Old-line Maoists believed that all power sprang “from the barrel of a gun.” Modern Liberation Road Maoists know that such crude tactics won’t work in the United States. They believe that total power can be better achieved by mobilizing minority voters to give a hard-left Democratic Party an unbeatable majority. Different tactics—same eventual result.

Liberation Road and The New Virginia Majority used Democratic-leaning ex-felons to turn “The Old Dominion” blue. You can bet that Liberation Road and The New Florida Majority is out there right now registering Florida’s ex-felons for the same purpose.

President Donald Trump would be well advised to hold several large rallies in Florida this year. His Sunshine State base loves him like a chocolate. If he’s there for them, they will turn out for him.

Donald Trump Jr. recently told Fox and Friends that the 2020 election would be “communism versus freedom.” Florida will prove him correct.

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



About 95 percent of Warsaw, Poland, lay in rubble after Adolf Hitler, enraged by the uprising, ordered the city to be eliminated. Its population of 1.3 million before the war was reduced to fewer than 1,000 people.

Disinformation and the Warsaw Uprising

RONALD J. RYCHLAK



Commentary
During a recent trip to Poland, I learned a lot about history and even more about disinformation. I was in Warsaw and spent the better part of a day at the Warsaw Uprising Museum, at a time when the uprising had just recognized its 75th anniversary. I had heard a little bit about it, but I had completely underestimated its magnitude and the associated slaughter and destruction. There’s a reason for that.

The Nazi occupation of Warsaw began with aerial bombardments initiated by the Luftwaffe on Sept. 1, 1939; land fighting started a week later. While the initial attack was repelled, the Nazis soon placed Warsaw under a siege that claimed about 18,000 lives. On Sept. 28, the Polish garrison capitulated. The following day, about 140,000 Polish troops were taken as prisoners of war.

On Oct. 1, the German army entered Warsaw, starting the occupation.

The Nazis were brutal. They saw the Poles as their racial inferiors, although they saw Poland as a fine area for future expansion. They rounded up intellectuals and political elites, and many were executed. Jews were put into a ghetto. Polish cultural and educational institutions were closed. An estimated 50,000 Polish children were kidnapped by the Nazis, only to be resettled with German elites or killed.

Karol Wojtyla, who would become Pope John Paul II, explained that life in Poland at the time was a period “of fear, violence, extreme poverty, death, and tragic experiences of painful separation, endured in the absence of all security and freedom; recurring traumas brought about by the incessant bloodshed.”

In November 1939, two soldiers of the Polish army founded the Tajna Armia Polska in Warsaw. As this underground resistance organization grew and expanded, it came to cover much of central Poland. Eventually, it was incorporated into the Home Army, which was part of the Polish Underground State that was loyal to the Polish government in exile in London. The Home Army disrupted German supply lines, provided military intelligence to the Allies, and saved more Jewish lives in the Holocaust than any other Western Allied organization or government.

The Nazis, of course, retaliated against the Poles. One display in the Uprising Museum shows a list of more than 250 Poles who were to be executed due to a resistance attack that took the life of two German soldiers. Number 220 on the list was Zdzislaw

It was the German troops who put down the uprising, but the Soviet Union's responsibility for Warsaw's destruction can't be ignored. They let the Home Army be decimated.

Rychlik; I couldn’t help but wonder whether I was related to him.

As the war went on, the German military eventually weakened. By mid-1944, the Poles of Warsaw sensed an opportunity to oust the Germans and claim their freedom. Information (or disinformation) from Soviet sources encouraged them to mount an uprising.

The Red Army was approaching Warsaw in the summer of 1944, which led to mixed emotions. The Soviets could help with the ouster of the Germans, and that was important. At the same time, the Home Army knew that the Soviets had already assumed direct control of eastern Poland. There was certainly a risk that they would occupy Warsaw as well.

Hoping to gain control of Warsaw before the Red Army could “liberate” it, but also believing that the Soviets would provide support, the Home Army staged a revolt. On Aug. 1, 1944, after nearly five years of brutal occupation, a corps of 50,000 Poles rose up against the occupying German forces. Within three days, the Home Army had won back significant portions of the city.

The Poles had anticipated that the fighting would just last for those three days. They didn’t anticipate that Hitler would send reinforcements to hold a city that the Germans were on the verge of exiting, but that’s exactly what he did. Those reinforcements, supported by heavy bombardment from air and artillery attacks, drove the Poles back into a defensive position.

The Poles expected that the Red Army, parts of which had already come across the Vistula River to the north and south of Warsaw, would

continue to support their cause of expelling the Germans. The Soviets, who had by now joined the Allies in the war against the Axis, suggested as much when they encouraged the rebellion. However, once the uprising began, the Soviet advance halted. Without help, the Poles fought a heated urban battle against German troops for the next 63 days.

Soviet troops were within view of the fighting, but they just set up camp. The Allies requested the Soviets aid the Polish fighters, but they refused to do so, also refusing permission for Allied planes to refuel at nearby Soviet air bases, making relief missions almost impossible. When, toward the very end of the uprising, the Soviets finally did drop some supplies to assist the Poles, they dropped them without parachutes. Weapons and equipment were damaged, if not destroyed.

Enraged by the uprising, Hitler ordered Warsaw to be eliminated. In “Old Town,” residents, including children and the elderly, were dragged from their homes and shot in the streets. Then all buildings were destroyed. Cultural and historical symbols were destroyed. The libraries that housed collections of priceless value to Polish culture, were intentionally demolished. Some 200,000 Poles were killed. Those who remained were deported to concentration camps.

Warsaw had a population of 1.3 million before the war; after the uprising, fewer than 1,000 people remained. When U.S. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower reviewed Warsaw, he said, “I have seen many cities destroyed, but nowhere have I been faced with such destruction.” It was almost totally in rubble. The Uprising Museum has a gripping 3-D movie that shows the destruction.

It was the German troops who put down the uprising, but the Soviet Union’s responsibility for Warsaw’s destruction can’t be ignored. They let the Home Army be decimated. That allowed the pro-Soviet Polish administration, rather than the Polish

government-in-exile, to gain control of Poland, opening the way for the communist regime to take control.

The Red Army’s lack of advance was “the most arrogant and unmistakable demonstration of the Soviet determination to control Eastern Europe in the postwar period,” historian George F. Keanan noted.

As a man of Polish heritage who has studied World War II, I was surprised at my own ignorance of the Warsaw Uprising. The same surprise was expressed by a colleague of mine who is also of Polish extraction. How could we both have been so uninformed? Well, they say that history is written by the victors. It also turns out that the victors sometimes suppress the history.

In the years following the Warsaw Uprising, the Soviets took over Poland, and they controlled the information that was released. The result was a continuous flow of disinformation designed to cloud the true story. The Soviets were happy to let the world blame the Germans for the Warsaw Uprising (as well as the Katyn Forest massacre of 22,000 Polish leaders). Information about the Soviet role, however, was actively suppressed.

Even today, an internet search for the Warsaw Uprising will return many hits on the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. That is another horrific story. Jews had been rounded up and put in an area sealed off by brick walls, barbed wire, and armed guards. In April and May of 1943, the internees mounted an armed revolt. They were brutally put down by the Nazis.

That is the uprising that was taught about in schools until quite recently. It was horrific. That persecution, however, was clearly at the hand of the Germans. The Soviets had no need to suppress information about it. In fact, by confusing these two events, they diverted attention from their own crimes.

Only after the fall of the Berlin Wall and the more free flow of information did the truth about the Warsaw Uprising spread more widely to Westerners. So, my lack of knowledge about the subject wasn’t due to a lack of study or failure of any of my teachers. It was the result of the Soviet government’s disinformation campaign to disguise its own role in actions that would by today’s standards constitute “crimes against humanity,” if not genocide.

The Soviets/Russians were experts at disinformation. They used it to promote their worldview, disparage other nations, and even to distort history. The effects of that kind of disinformation can last for generations. In the end, however, the truth will win out.

The same goes for today’s disinformation. It can lead a society in a misguided direction. The truth, however, will eventually be known. Let’s try to find that truth rather than relying on disinformation and making bad decisions. It’s out there if we look hard enough.

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



Members of the Armia Krajowa (Home Army) pose for a photo on Aug. 11, 1944, during the Warsaw Uprising.

JULIUSZ BOGDAN DECZKOWSKI/PUBLIC DOMAIN