



Written by [Brian Farmer](#) on April 6, 2020

Published in the April 6, 2020 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 36, No. 07

Anti-Christian Agenda

Dark Agenda: The War to Destroy Christian America, by David Horowitz, West Palm Beach, Florida, Humanix Books, 2019, 224 pages, hardcover.

Dark Agenda has received high praise from a number of prominent personages:

- “One of the most intellectually compelling and rational defenses of Christianity’s role in America. A delightfully readable explanation of how Christian principles were the bedrock of the American Revolution, and how the anti-American left has targeted Christians because of that.” — Mike Huckabee, former Arkansas governor and presidential candidate
- “An eye-popping account of the left’s 60-year war against America’s Christian foundations. If you want to understand the political crisis our country is facing, read this book.” — Gary Bauer, under secretary of education during the Reagan administration
- “David Horowitz has succinctly and wisely laid out the plans of the left to move our country away from the God-given right of freedom to practice our faith as our founders envisioned.” — Tom Coburn, former U.S. senator from Oklahoma.

More than a few readers may find it ironic that this book, a defense of Christian America, was written by a Jewish agnostic, not a Christian. Perhaps even more ironic is that David Horowitz, now a prolific and best-selling conservative writer, started out life in 1939 as a “red diaper baby” in a communist community in Sunnyside, a neighborhood in the New York City borough of Queens. Both his father’s and his mother’s families had emigrated from Russia, and during the years of labor organizing and the Great Depression, Horowitz’s parents were long-standing members of the American Communist Party and strong supporters of Joseph Stalin.

Horowitz received a bachelor’s degree from Columbia University, majoring in English, and a master’s degree in English literature from the University of California at Berkeley, a notorious hotbed of left-wing extremism. After completing his graduate degree, Horowitz lived in London for a time during the late 1960s and worked for the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, identifying as a Marxist intellectual. Horowitz returned to the United States in 1968 and settled in northern California, where he became co-editor of the New Left magazine *Ramparts*.

During the early 1970s, Horowitz developed a close friendship with Huey Newton, founder of the Black Panther Party. In 1974, as part of their work together, Horowitz helped to raise money for and helped to start a school for poor children in Oakland. He recommended that Newton hire Betty Van Patter, who was working for *Ramparts* at the time, as the school’s bookkeeper. In *Dark Agenda*, Horowitz explains what happened shortly thereafter:

Later that year, Betty told a few people she had discovered that the Black Panthers had doctored the books. Some reports have said that she was planning to expose the Panthers’ financial improprieties. But Betty believed in her leftist ideology. I think she wanted to protect the Panthers, not expose them. But the Panthers viewed her as a white woman who knew too much and couldn’t be trusted with their secrets.

On Friday night, December 13, 1974, Betty was at her favorite neighborhood bar, The Berkeley Square, when someone came in and handed her a note. She left with the messenger a short time later and was



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never seen alive again. Her body was found weeks later in San Francisco Bay. She had been raped and tortured and beaten to death.

I pursued the truth of her murder and discovered that the Black Panther Party was a criminal gang engaging in extortion, arson, drug racketeering, and several murders. The Panthers conducted these crimes while enjoying the support of the leaders and institutions of the American left. The people who had murdered Betty and engaged in criminal activities were not my political enemies. They were my progressive comrades.

Betty had tried to help the Panthers because she believed in their cause. She was just one individual whose life paled into insignificance alongside the cause that mattered to her comrades on the left. So the left's reaction to her murder was ... silence. That murder — and that silence — shattered my faith in everything I had believed in until then.

In the course of his inquiry into Betty Van Patter's death, Horowitz had a type of epiphany, as he recognized the destructive nature of the radical movement that he had been part of for so long. Horowitz began to re-examine everything that he and his comrades had believed about the system that they had wanted to destroy, and came to the realization that it was a system that needed to be defended. As a result, over the ensuing decades, Horowitz has written numerous books on topics ranging from the political to the philosophical to the autobiographical. In *Dark Agenda*, he explains how and why America's Founding Fathers made religious liberty the foundation of all of our other liberties.

What inspired Horowitz to write *Dark Agenda* was the realization that the Left's hatred of Christianity is closely connected to its hatred for America, because to bring down America, its Christian foundation must be undermined. In Chapter 4, Horowitz gives some examples of how this is being done. In December of 2008, the U.S. Capitol Visitor's Center opened, to serve as a museum and information center for visitors to our nation's capital. However, all references to God in our heritage were edited out of its displays:

- An enlarged image of the U.S. Constitution was photo-shopped to remove the words "In the Year of Our Lord" above the signatures of the signers.
- The official motto of the United States was presented as *E Pluribus Unum* ("Out of Many, One"), but it is actually "In God We Trust."
- A replica of the speaker's rostrum in the House of Representatives omitted the gold-lettered inscription "In God We Trust" above the chair. Photos of the actual speaker's rostrum were cropped, in order to hide the inscription.

In 1986, a study of 60 textbooks used by 87 percent of public-school students noted that "the Pilgrims are described entirely without any reference to religion. Thus, the textbooks describe how at the end of their first year they 'wanted to give thanks for all they had,' which was the first Thanksgiving. But no mention is made of the fact that it was God they were thanking." The study sums up its findings in these words: "There is not one story or article in all these books, in approximately 9-10 thousand pages, in which the central motivation or major content derives from Christianity or Judaism." Horowitz asks, "If you don't know where you come from, how do you know where you are going?"

That is why the atheists, secular humanists, progressives, and their ilk have targeted our educational establishment. As secular humanist writer John Dunphy stated in the January-February 1983 issue of



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The Humanist magazine, “The battle for mankind’s future must be waged and won in the public school classroom. The classroom must and will become an arena of conflict between the old and the new — the rotting corpse of Christianity and the new faith of humanism.” As if that were not alarming enough, Dr. Chester Pearce, professor of education and psychiatry at Harvard University, has expressed the situation even more bluntly: “Every child in America entering school at the age of five is mentally ill because he comes to school with certain allegiances to our Founding Fathers, toward our elected officials, toward his parents, toward a belief in a supernatural being.”

Progressives, liberals, and social-justice zealots like to blame society for the bad outcomes that some people experience, rather than hold those individuals accountable for their own decisions and actions. Why? As Horowitz explains it, they are adherents of the worldview promoted by the fourth-century monk Pelagius, who believed that people are born good, and that it is society that makes them bad. Hence, if people will just be true to their nature, we can achieve a world of perfect equality, justice, and peace.

Christians view the world differently. They believe that human beings are inherently flawed, and that the societies that humans create will thus be flawed. Christians believe that human nature is corrupt. Hence, humans will corrupt any attempt to build a utopia. That is why the followers of the Pelagian heresy are at war with Christian America.

President Obama vowed to “fundamentally transform America.” That included an escalation of the assault on Christian America. Horowitz offers up a timeline of hostile actions taken by the Obama administration. Here is a partial list:

- April 2009: When speaking at Georgetown University, Obama orders that a monogram symbolizing Jesus’ name be covered when he is making his speech.
- October 2010: Obama begins deliberately omitting the phrase about “the Creator” when quoting the Declaration of Independence, an omission that he will make on seven occasions.
- February 2012: The Obama administration forgives student loans in exchange for public service, but announces that it will no longer forgive student loans if the public service is related to religion.
- January 2013: Pastor Louie Giglio is pressured to remove himself from praying at the inauguration after it is discovered that he once preached a sermon supporting the biblical definition of marriage.

Dark Agenda is a call to action, because all it takes for evil to triumph is for good people to sit back and do nothing. If you haven’t already, consider joining The John Birch Society. If you have children, consider getting involved with FreedomProject Academy. Of course, David Horowitz would love to have you join his Freedom Center. And Alliance Defending Freedom is another organization fighting on the front lines of this war on Christian America.



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