



Written by [William F. Jasper](#) on June 6, 2016

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Implosion of the Never, Never, Never Trump Neocons

"No, not Trump, not ever."

— David Brooks, New York Times

"I'm with her [Hillary]."

— Mark Salter, speechwriter/author

"Neither Clinton Nor Trump."

— William Kristol, Weekly Standard

"It's possible."

— GOP billionaire Charles Koch (on choosing Clinton over Trump)

"Never Means Never."

— Ben Shapiro, dailywire.com



Never means NEVER! Charles Krauthammer, William Kristol, Rich Lowry, Jonah Goldberg, Mary Matalin, and other assorted neoconservative talking heads that populate the pages of *National Review*, the *Weekly Standard*, and the *Wall Street Journal*, and that regularly hold forth on Fox News, are in a jam. So is House Speaker Paul Ryan, darling of the neocon set, along with most of the Republican Party establishment. Donald Trump's May 3 primary victory in Indiana put them there. Or more accurately, their "Stop Trump — at all costs" obsession has put them there.

After relentlessly hammering Trump on the necessity for party unity, and after extracting a pledge from him not to bolt the GOP for a third-party insurgency should he lose the nomination, the neoconservative icons are doing precisely that: bolting the party. Some of the GOP's establishment pundits and politicians are so anti-Trump they'd rather help Hillary Clinton take the White House.

The #NeverTrump naysayers are imploding — in several directions. The most extreme anti-Trumpers are saying they'll switch parties and vote for Hillary. Others are trying to field Republican candidates to launch a third-party ticket. Other Never Trumpers say they'll cross over to the Libertarian Party, which already has a national organization and ballot status in all 50 states. Still others are advocating staying in the GOP but refusing to vote in the presidential race. All of these options defy their own unity pledge theme, of course, and also contribute toward another Clinton occupation, one that could complete the "transformation" of America envisioned by Barack Obama.

Donald Trump all but sewed up the Republican Party nomination with his overwhelming victory in the Indiana primary on May 3. With his last remaining GOP contenders, Ted Cruz and John Kasich, having now dropped out, Trump appears to be unstoppable — barring GOP Convention shenanigans by party leaders in Cleveland (for more on that, see our article on page 10). This has the Never Trump forces, who have been frothing at the mouth over "The Donald" for months, ready to take even more desperate measures.

In an interview with Bloomberg News on May 5, longtime Republican strategist and chattering-class maven Mary Matalin announced that she had left the Republican Party and, earlier that day, registered as a Libertarian.



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In a follow-up interview on the Glenn Beck Radio Program on May 6, Matalin told Beck, “Everyone keeps saying that Trump hijacked the party. How about we left the keys in the car with the motor running? It’s not a Jeffersonian, Madisonian representative republic — that’s not what the party represents anymore.” “I didn’t leave it, it left me,” Matalin added.

However, Matalin, who is perhaps best known for being married to Bill and Hillary Clinton hatchet man (and infamous TV ranter) James Carville, has for many years been supporting and defending the indefensible, as represented by Republican leaders in the White House and Congress.

In a May 6 column for Breitbart.com, Joel B. Pollak noted the lack of credibility in Matalin’s moral outrage over Trump, especially after her defenses of GOP leaders such as former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay and fundraiser/lobbyist Jack Abramoff.

“Trump has his flaws,” wrote Pollak, “and, if his worst critics are to be believed, he could be even worse than DeLay or Abramoff (from whom Matalin also defended the GOP on *Meet the Press*). But the idea that they are tolerable within the Republican Party, while Trump is somehow contaminating to everyone on the Republican voter rolls, is not credible. If anything, they represent the cloistered world of Capitol cronies Trump’s voters hope he will sweep away. Perhaps Matalin is getting out while she can.”

Speaking of Glenn Beck, Mary Matalin’s appearance on his radio show was but one of many jabs, stabs, and vitriolic attacks by the former Fox TV commentator aimed at Trump. Like Matalin, Beck has been a fervent Ted Cruz supporter and has turned his radio show and his Internet site and TV show, *The Blaze*, into full-on pro-Cruz, anti-Trump platforms. In one of his quirkier attacks on Trump, Beck and members of his staff oiled their faces and then rubbed them in bowls of Cheetos to approximate Trump’s orange-ish, John Boehner-ish, perpetual tan.

The day after Trump’s triumph in Indiana, Beck delivered his video epitaph for the Republican Party on *The Blaze*. TalkingPointsMemo.com (TPM) described the performance as a “*slow motion breakdown* over Donald Trump as the presumptive Republican presidential nominee.” Because of Trump, said Beck, “You will never elect another GOP person to high office ever again.”

The TPM story, entitled “Glenn Beck Melts Down Over Trump: We’ll ‘Never Have Another GOP Prez Ever Again,’” reported regarding Beck’s lengthy monologue/dirge:

Beck, who campaigned for Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX), reasoned Clinton would “legalize” as many voters as possible as President and meanwhile, “the GOP is going to be completely racist.”

“You will never have another Republican President ever again,” he said.

With Trump as the face of the party, Beck said he makes all Republicans “crony capitalists” and “pretty racist” by association, and repeatedly said he would not tolerate his children thinking he backed Trump.

Bill Kristol’s Weak-kneed Standard

It has come as no surprise that political gadfly and *Weekly Standard* editor William Kristol used Trump’s Indiana win to formalize what he has been threatening to do for the past year, should Trump be the GOP’s presumptive nominee: start a third-party “insurgency.”

In a *Weekly Standard* column entitled “Neither Clinton Nor Trump,” neocon guru Kristol said, “It was wrong to nominate Donald Trump.” “The good news,” he says, “is that it is not too late to give Republican voters, a majority of whom have not supported Donald Trump in the primaries, an



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alternative. An independent Republican candidate can help prevent the conflation of the Republican party with Trump and of conservatism with Trumpism. Such a candidate could also appeal to many independents and some Democrats. He or she could win.”

For the past year or so Kristol has been promoting a GOP presidential draft ticket featuring Senator Ben Sasse (R-Neb.) or former Senator Tom Coburn (R-Okla.). *The Washington Post* reported May 6 that Kristol had met the previous day with Mitt Romney to discuss a third-party run. According to Kristol, he is seeking Romney’s financial and political support for whichever candidate he is able to field, if Romney won’t make another run for the White House himself.

The Neocon Con Job

But let us digress for a moment. Since we have been using the “neoconservative” label here, it may behoove us to define and explain the term, before going further. Although the terms neoconservative/neoconservatism/neocon have gradually entered the public discourse, there remains, in general, a rather foggy notion of their meaning. That is by design. The New American has covered this topic more expansively in previous articles, but in short, here it is: The founding fathers of neoconservatism were mostly hardcore leftists; many were Trotskyite communists who turned against Stalin but retained much of their socialist political ideology and left-wing social/cultural/moral affinities.

With massive help from the Big Media/Big Foundations/Big Government axis, the relatively small clutch of mostly New York City-based neocon “intellectuals” were transformed, in the decades following World War II, into the spokesmen and strategists of the “conservative movement” and the Republican Party. They sounded like traditional conservatives and anti-communists, but they had a subversive agenda to usurp the mantle of conservatism and use it to pervert the constitutional structure and principles that are the foundation of our ordered liberty.

But don’t take my word for it; some of the neocon leading lights have candidly confessed to (or boasted of) pulling off this massive deception. No less an authority than the late Irving Kristol, the recognized “godfather” of neoconservatism (and father of William Kristol), has provided many important revelations in this respect.

In his 1995 book *Neoconservatism: The Autobiography of an Idea*, Kristol wrote that neoconservatism describes the erosion of liberal faith among a relatively small but talented and articulate group ... (which gradually gained more recruits) toward a more conservative point of view: conservative, but different in certain respects from the conservatism of the Republican party. We ... accepted the New Deal in principle, and had little affection for the kind of isolationism that then permeated American conservatism.

The New Deal to which he refers, of course, is the statist Democrat regime of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, FDR, which is anathema to all true conservatives who aim to conserve decentralized, limited government power. Kristol reiterated this important claim in *The Neoconservative Persuasion: Selected Essays 1942-2009*, (published in 2013), noting that FDR is one of neoconservatism’s “twentieth-century heroes.” Kristol acknowledges that neoconservatism and traditional or classical conservatism are very different from one another. “Neocons,” he wrote, “feel at home in today’s America to a degree that more traditional conservatives do not.” Neoconservatism, he says, endorses “the welfare state,” as well as “social security, unemployment insurance, some form of national health insurance, some kind of



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family assistance plan, etc.”

Neoconservatives, according to Kristol, don’t seek to “destroy the welfare state, but ... rather reconstruct it along more economical and humane lines.”

Notice the reference above to “some form of national health insurance”? Kristol and the neocons were promoting this socialist idea decades before HillaryCare, Romneycare, and ObamaCare!

Although neocons pay lip service to pro-life, pro-family issues to attract evangelical Protestant and Catholic support (and some neocons may actually hold to these views), as a whole, neocons are more or less “at home” with abortion, homosexuality, pornography, etc. — and with the politicians, judges, and pundits who normalize these destructive, criminal activities. They also are “at home” with gun control, internationalism, the United Nations, perpetual foreign wars, Orwellian surveillance-state policies, and the tyranny of the centralized regulatory state.

Neocons for gun control? Charles Krauthammer certainly is, and he’s arguably the most influential neocon, with a prominent daily platform on Fox News and full access to the editorial pages of the *Washington Post* and *New York Times*, globalist bastions that are off-limits to genuine conservatives.

His April 5, 1996 op-ed entitled “Disarm the Citizenry, But Not Yet,” for the rabidly anti-gun *Washington Post*, is worthy of Nancy Pelosi, Chuck Schumer, or Hillary Clinton. “It is simply crazy for a country as modern, industrial, advanced and now crowded as the United States to carry on its frontier infatuation with guns,” Krauthammer wrote. “Ultimately,” he opined, “a civilized society must disarm its citizenry if it is to have a modicum of domestic tranquility of the kind enjoyed in sister democracies like Canada and Britain.”

Oh yes, and he’s also pro-abortion and favors using discarded embryos (babies) for embryonic stem-cell research. And he’s a longtime member of the globalist Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), where he pens articles for their pro-world government journal *Foreign Affairs*. No wonder the liberal-left mavens of Big Media love him and have anointed him as the “voice” and “conscience” of the conservative movement! David Brooks of the *New York Times* says Krauthammer is “the most important conservative columnist,” while MSNBC host Joe Scarborough has called him “without a doubt the most powerful force in American conservatism.” The London-based *Financial Times* has referred to him as the most influential commentator in America. It’s very useful to be able to establish and promote your own controlled opposition, yes?

In *The Essential Neoconservative Reader*, editor Mark Gerson triumphantly noted: “The neoconservatives have so changed conservatism that what we now identify as conservatism is largely what was once neoconservatism. And in so doing, they have defined the way that vast numbers of Americans view their economy, their polity, and their society.”

It is important to keep all of the above in mind when evaluating the many neocon claims that Trump is not a true conservative, and particularly their charges that he will not follow the Constitution. In fact, I will agree with them on many of these points, but they are hardly in a position to pose as constitutional champions, having promoted, supported, defended, and popularized the politicians, laws, and policies that have mangled, eviscerated, and subverted our constitutional system.



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Dump Trump for Hillary?

Neoconservative Mark Salter is not an everyday name to the average voter, but he is well known inside the D.C. Beltway, most notably as former chief of staff to Senator John McCain (R-Ariz) and as senior advisor to McCain's failed 2008 presidential campaign. He's gone further than most GOP establishment regulars in rejecting Donald Trump — going all the way to saying he's backing Hillary Clinton. Following Trump's Indiana victory, Salter adopted Clinton's "I'm With Her" campaign slogan, tweeting: "The GOP is going to nominate for President a guy who reads the *National Enquirer* and thinks it's on the level. I'm with her."

Of course, Mark Salter's former boss, John McCain, has supported numerous Democrat Party/Big Government programs advocated by Clinton (most notably, perhaps, illegal alien amnesty and every other effort to assist the subversive open borders movement), so his "defection" to Hillary is no major shock.

However, Kansas billionaire Charles Koch is raising some eyebrows. Koch, who has some of the GOP's deepest pockets, has said that "it's possible" he may choose Clinton over Trump, if that's the choice in November.

Never, Never, Never Trumpers

While some former anti-Trumpers have now endorsed him — Governor Bobby Jindal, Dr. Ben Carson, Mike Huckabee, and Sarah Palin, for instance — a much longer list of establishment Republicans refuse to do so, with some adding very public denunciations of Trump. Most, though, have not yet revealed which of the above opposition options they will choose. Among the prominent GOP politicians who continue to oppose Trump are former Presidents George H. W. Bush and George W. Bush, former Florida Governor (and presidential aspirant) Jeb Bush, House Speaker Paul Ryan, Arizona Senator John McCain, South Carolina Senator Lindsey Graham, former New York Governor George Pataki, former Pennsylvania Governor and former Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge, former New Jersey Governor Christine Todd Whitman, and former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney.

A passel of Republican/neocon pundits and writers have taken the #Never Trump pledge. After scribbling and babbling for decades in support of previous Republican administrations that have taken us to the edge of the abyss with unconstitutional and immoral policies and legislation, these alleged "voices" of conservatism — largely emanating from the *National Review-Weekly Standard-Fox News* orbit — have now discovered a conscience that tells them a Trump presidency would be beyond the pale. They include George Will and Jennifer Rubin, columnists and commentators at the *Washington Post*; Jonah Goldberg, Mona Charen, Rich Lowry, Linda Chavez, and David French, *National Review* writers and TV commentators; Bill Kristol, Fred Barnes, Stephen Hayes, Jim Swift, Mark Hemingway, and Max Boot (Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations) at the *Weekly Standard*; and David Brooks and Peter Wehner, *New York Times* contributing writers.

Whatever faults, foibles, weaknesses, and warts Trump may have — and he has many — we would do well to ignore his critics who have been defending and promoting for decades the gradual destruction of our Republic under the cloak of neoconservatism.

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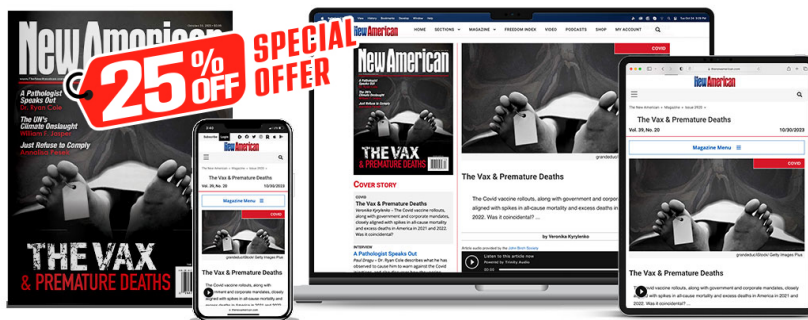
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