



Written by [Paul Dragu](#) on August 18, 2023

## Was the Real Robert Oppenheimer a Communist?

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Christopher Nolan's *Oppenheimer*, a film about the "father of the atom bomb," is one of the summer's most successful movies. With *Oppenheimer*, Nolan delivers the cinematic artistry we've come to expect from him. However, a strong theme throughout the movie is that Oppenheimer was a victim of delusional anti-communists who wrongfully believed he was a communist. In this episode, we dive deep to determine if Robert Oppenheimer was indeed a communist. We also discuss the accuracy of the claims of the anti-communists during the "Red Scare" era, and touch on the wrath The John Birch Society incurred for raising the alarm about communist influence in America.

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