

CAPITAL RESEARCH CENTER

The Capital Research Center (CRC) was founded in 1984 to examine “how foundations, charities, and other nonprofits spend money and get involved in politics and advocacy.” CRC has referred to itself as “America’s investigative think tank.” CRC runs “InfluenceWatch,” a database of Democratic organizations and prominent individuals.

Key findings:

CRC has frequently aligned itself with far-right ideology and bigoted views. In 2022, CRC said “diversity, equity, and inclusion” was a euphemism for a “dark agenda” to indoctrinate kids with “the left’s malicious obsession with race.” In 2022, CRC said critical race theory and “diversity, equity, and inclusion” practices were “poisonous fruit of the same vine.” Since 2016, CRC has been critical of civil rights organizations. In 2016, CRC called BLM, “the latest and most dangerous face of a web of well-funded socialist/communist organizations that have been agitating against America for decades.” In June 2020, CRC wrote that the NAACP was harmful to Black Americans and fostered a “victim mentality” instead of helping black people improve their lives. CRC even touted remarks from an author who claimed one of the biggest problems in the black community was the “proliferation of baby mommas”. In 2020, CRC wrote that it was “absolutely legitimate” to refer to the Coronavirus as the “China virus.” In 2020, CRC removed an employee that white nationalists championed for trying to justify the killing of Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia but only after an investigation was published by Right Wing Watch.

CRC has links to radical members of the Alt Right and has engaged in fringe activity, including boycotting CPAC over GOProud. CRC has labeled the Southern Poverty Law Center as a “leftist attack machine” that engaged in a smear campaign against “respected organizations and opinion leaders.” CRC criticized SPLC for listing “Oath Keepers” as an extremist group. In 2022, following news that the SPLC provided research to the Congressional committee probing the January 6 riot, CRC’s Parker Thayer accused SPLC of painting right-leaning groups that supported “widespread, traditional Beliefs” as extreme. CRC boycotted the 2011 CPAC after Republican gay rights group GOProud was invited to participate. In 2022, CRC wrote that transgender and nonbinary identities were “destroying the family and promoting mental illness.” In 2023, CRC defended the American College of Pediatricians after they were designated an anti-LGBTQ hate group by the SPLC. “That sounds more like a group of doctors with legitimate concerns than a hate group,” CRC’s Kali Fontanilla wrote. According to WIRED, leaked emails showed American College of Pediatricians pushing schools to adopt “junk science” that painted transgender youth as carriers of a “pathological disorder.” American College of Pediatricians also reportedly fought to deprive gay couple of parental rights and decried efforts to ban dangerous conversion therapy on LGBT minors. In October 2017, a BuzzFeed News story reported that CRC President Scott Walter “frequently” advised former BuzzFeed editor Milo Yiannopoulos who was close to the alt-right. As of May 2022, CRC’s website still features an article co-written by Yiannopoulos and Lane Davis, a pro-Trump YouTuber who murdered his father. Far-right MAGA supporter Sheriff David Clarke once served a chair of CRC’s American Law and Culture program. In 2020, Clarke backed Trump’s claims of election fraud. Clarke also urged January 6 rioters not to cooperate with law enforcement. Later, speaking at a QAnon event, Clarke said the January 6 attack was not serious enough and was equivalent to a “frat party.” Clark also urged the Proud Boys to create a Wisconsin chapter. According to The Washington Post, Clarke, who is Black has made disparaging comments about Black Americans and following the Parkland, FL school shooting in 2018, Clarke insinuated the student survivors were being manipulated by George Soros as a way to organize around gun control.

CRC has links to Project Veritas. In 2016, Capital Research Center wrote, “This week our friend James O’Keefe III at Project Veritas Action began releasing a series of undercover videos with shocking information about left-wing nonprofits 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) groups that appear to have been behind the Left’s well-organized false flag operation against the Donald Trump campaign.” CRC has repeatedly shared videos created by Project Veritas. In a 2016 press release, CRC touted a Project Veritas video that, “exposes what everyone except Democrats have known to be true. There is a lot of voter fraud.” In 2017, CRC interviewed James O’Keefe for a documentary. James O’Keefe acknowledged CRC in his 2013 book, *Breakthrough*, for their “valuable work in exposing ACORN”. According to a 2022 article from the *New Yorker*, CRC and Project Veritas helped Ginni Thomas develop a project called “Crowdsourcers.”

CRC has ties to prominent election denier Ginny Thomas, and has endorsed specious claims about voter fraud. In January 2022, the *New Yorker* reported that Ginni Thomas, the wife of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, had created a group called Crowdsourcers with the help of Project Veritas founder James O’Keefe and far-right election denier Cleta Mitchell. According to the *New Yorker*, 2019 tax filings showed that Crowdsourcers was developed under CRC’s oversight. In March 2023, The Washington Post discovered that Crowdsourcers channeled nearly \$600,000 in anonymous donations through CRC. *The Post* also reported, “the time CRC agreed to channel the anonymous donations to Crowdsourcers, CRC signed a brief asking the Supreme Court to hear a case conservative groups hoped would rein in fuel emission regulations in Oregon, records show. The court voted not to take up the case.” Capital Research Center has written extensively about its belief that voter fraud is prevalent and has claimed that Democrats dismiss voter fraud as a hoax. In 2011, CRC wrote, “Voter fraud, the crime the Left says doesn’t exist, keeps rearing its ugly head,” after four Democrats in New York pleaded guilty to forgery allegations. CRC has stated, “To many on the political Left, voter fraud is dismissed as a hoax or excuse that conservatives whip out when convenient.” In 2015, the groups asked, “Why is it that even the most modest measures to ensure an election has integrity provoke hysteria from the Left and shameless comparisons to Jim Crow measures that unconstitutionally denied large numbers of Americans the right to vote?” In 2012, CRC accused several progressive groups of colluding to “block investigations of voter fraud.” In 2012, CRC also claimed that Democrats “aggressively promote voter registration programs designed to increase the vote count for Democratic Party candidates.” CRC continued, “Voter registration activists and their lawyers pose as defenders of democracy. But they would have the states allow voting with almost no standards or procedures for guaranteeing the identity and residency of those who vote and register to vote.” In 2019, CRC claimed “ballot harvesting,” was “seriously imperiling the American people’s ability to cast their vote.” While no statements were found from CRC disputing the 2020 election results, CRC criticized the Biden Administration for erecting a non-scalable fence around government buildings in the wake of the January 6th U.S. Capitol riot.

The Capital Research Center has repeatedly criticized Democratic advocacy organizations and donor groups, casting them as “shadowy” and “dark money” entities used to funnel millions into left-leaning social causes. In April 2017, CRC released a report accusing philanthropic firm Arabella Advisors and its associated entities of operating a “shadowy” \$600 million web under the aegis of “philanthropy.” A report released on April 17, 2019, claimed Arabella Advisors one of the largest dark money “labyrinths on the left” and that the group helped run a network of hundreds of front groups. CRC has also criticized firms connected to Arabella Advisors, including Sixteen Thirty Fund, New Venture Fund, Hopewell Fund, and Windward Fund; branding this group of entities as a “mercenary” network for left wing clients to invest their money into “tailor-made” grassroots groups. CRC has also published articles critical of ACRONYM, America Votes, Center for Secure and Modern Elections, Center for Tech and Civic Life, Voter Participation Center, Democracy Fund, Catalist, and the Tides

Foundation, among others. CRC has been a longtime critic of the Black Lives Matter movement, which it has called “Marxist.”

CRC does not disclose its donors. According to their IRS form 990s, CRC received over \$4.6 million in contributions and grants in 2020, a significant increase in just a two-year span (in 2018, CRC raised \$2.9 million in contributions and grants). In 2020, CRC had net assets totaling \$9.6 million. In 2019, the group raised more than \$4.3 million in contributions and grants. The Capital Research Center received \$1,825,771 from contributions and grants in 2016 and \$2,508,522 from contributions and grants in 2017. CRC has not disclosed specific donors nor have they listed the grants they receive but a review of IRS filings from other organizations found several of CRC’s contributors. In 2018, CRC received \$32,750 contribution from the Bradley Impact Fund. The group has donated \$67,250 to CRC since 2015. CRC has also received contributions from the James E and Edith Margaret Brandon Foundation; the Tepper Family Foundation, the R. Edwin And WS Brown Foundation; the Woodford Foundation; the Foulke Foundation Trust; the Calvanese Family Foundation; the Research Institute For Hawaii USA; and The Harvey M Meyerhoff Fund Inc. In 2021, *The New York Times* reported that CRC received funding from Koch foundations.

BACKGROUND

Organization Type: 501C3

Address: 1513 16th Street NW, Washington, DC 20036

YouTube: [Capital Research Center](#)

Twitter: [@capitalresearch](#)

Facebook: [Capital Research Center](#)

Instagram: [Capital Research Center](#)

CRC Established In 1984. According to the Capital Research Center, “The Capital Research Center was established in 1984 to examine how foundations, charities, and other nonprofits spend money and get involved in politics and advocacy, often in ways that donors never intended and would find abhorrent.” [Capital Research Center, About, accessed [7/27/17](#)]

- **Stated Goal Was To “Examine How Foundations, Charities, And Other Nonprofits Spend Money And Get Involved In Politics And Advocacy.”** According to the Capital Research Center, “The Capital Research Center was established in 1984 to examine how foundations, charities, and other nonprofits spend money and get involved in politics and advocacy, often in ways that donors never intended and would find abhorrent.” [Capital Research Center, About, accessed [7/27/17](#)]

CRC Studied ‘Unions, Environmentalist Groups, And A Wide Variety Of Nonprofit And Activist Organizations.’ According to the Capital Research Center, “Today, we study unions, environmentalist groups, and a wide variety of nonprofit and activist organizations. We also keep an eye on crony capitalists who seek to profit by taking advantage of government regulations and by getting their hands on taxpayers’ money.” [Capital Research Center, About, accessed [7/27/17](#)]

- **CRC “Exposed How Those Organizations Are ‘Captured’ By Interest Groups And Used To Undermine Americans’ Freedoms.”** According to the Capital Research Center, “From the start, CRC has exposed how those organizations are “captured” by interest groups and used to undermine Americans’ freedoms.” [Capital Research Center, About, accessed [7/27/17](#)]

CRC Called Itself “America’s Investigative Think Tank.” According to the Capital Research Center, “We are the Capital Research Center, ‘America’s investigative think tank.’” [Capital Research Center, About, accessed [7/27/17](#)]

CRC Said It Had “Specific Point Of View.” According to the Capital Research Center, “We do have a specific point of view. We believe in free markets, Constitutional government, and individual liberty. But facts are facts, and our journalists and researchers go where the facts lead them.” [Capital Research Center, About, accessed [7/27/17](#)]

CRC: “We Perform No Contract Work And We Accept No Government Funds—Not One Cent.” According to the Capital Research Center, “CRC is tax-exempt and fiercely independent. We perform no contract work and we accept no government funds—not one cent. We depend on voluntary contributions, to fund our important work.” [Capital Research Center, About, accessed [7/27/17](#)]

CRC Is An Associate Member Of State Policy Network. According to the Center for Media and Democracy, “The Capital Research Center (CRC) is a right-wing ‘think tank’ whose stated mission is to do ‘opposition research’ exposing the funding sources behind consumer, health and environmental groups. CRC is an associate member of the State Policy Network, a web of right-wing ‘think tanks’ and tax-exempt organizations in 49 states, Puerto Rico, Washington, D.C., and the United Kingdom.” [Center for Media and Democracy, accessed [7/27/17](#)]

CRC Founded By Senior Vice President Of The Heritage Foundation. According to the Center for Media and Democracy, “The CRC was founded in 1984 by Willa Johnson. Prior to founding CRC Johnson had been Senior Vice President of the Heritage Foundation, then worked as Deputy Director of the Office of Presidential Personnel in the first Reagan administration, and as a legislative aide in both the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives.” [Center for Media and Democracy, accessed [7/27/17](#)]

“Conservative Elder Statesman” Edwin Meese III, Who Served as Attorney General in the Reagan Administration, is Among CRC’s Trustees. “CRC, which bills itself as an ‘investigative think tank,’ is dedicated to uncovering anonymously funded influence campaigns by unions, environmental groups, and other left-leaning nonprofits. Among its trustees is Edwin Meese III, the conservative elder statesman and former attorney general in the Reagan administration. Its president is Scott Walter, a former aide to President George W. Bush.” [The Washington Post, [3/28/23](#)]

CRC Runs “InfluenceWatch,” a Database of Democratic Advocacy Organizations. “Capital Research Center conceived of this project after identifying a need for more fact-based, accurate descriptions of all of the various influencers of public policy issues. Many so-called “watchdog” groups are instead opponents. [...] InfluenceWatch strives to be comprehensive, and profiles will be frequently updated and written in a manner that’s accurate and measured. Over time, InfluenceWatch will bring unprecedented transparency to the funding, motives, and interconnections of the entities profiled.” [InfluenceWatch.Org, accessed [4/18/19](#)]

Funding

2022: CRC Generated Over \$7.18 Million in Revenue--increase of more than \$400,000 from the previous year. Per CRC's IRS 990 form for 2022, the organization generated \$7,181,137 in revenue. The organization retained \$8,492,291 in Net Assets after overspending on their operational income by \$75,579. [ProPublica, Accessed: [6/6/24](#)]

- **2021: CRC Generated Over \$6 Million in Revenue, an Increase of More Than \$1.4 Million from the previous year.** Per CRC's IRS 990 form for 2021, the organization generated \$6,083,008 in revenue. The organization retained \$10,027,202 in Net Assets after overspending on its operational expenses by \$713,936. [ProPublica, Accessed: [6/6/24](#)]
- **2020: CRC Received Over \$4.6 Million in Contributions and Grants, an Increase from the Previous Year, and CRC Had \$9.6 Million in Net Assets.** According to their IRS Form 990, in 2020, Capital Research Center received \$4,666,258 in contributions and grants. The previous year, CRC received \$4,352,988 in contributions and grants. In 2020, CRC's net assets totaled \$9,624,327. [IRS Form 990, [2020](#)]
- **2019: CRC Received More Than \$4.3 Million in Contributions and Grants – a Significant Jump from the Previous Year and CRC Had \$9.4 Million in Net Assets.** According to their IRS Form 990, in 2019, Capital Research Center received \$4,352,988 in contributions and grants. The previous year CRC received \$2.9 million in contributions and grants. CRC also listed \$9,423,363 in net assets for 2019. [IRS Form 990, [2019](#)]
- **2018: CRC Received Over \$2.9 Million in Contributions and Grants and Had \$9.3 Million in Net Assets.** According to their IRS Form 990, in 2018, Capital Research Center received \$2,920,163 in contributions and grants. That year, their net assets totaled \$9,355,163. [IRS, Form 990, [2018](#)]
- **2017: CRC Financial Disclosure Showed the Group Received More Than \$2.5 Million from Contributions and Grants; Did Not Disclose Specific Donors or Grantors.** According to their 2017 form 990, The Capital Research Center received \$2,508,522 from contributions and grants in 2017. The filing did not disclose specific donors nor did it list the grants received by CRC. [IRS, Form 990, [2017](#)]
- **2016: CRC's Financial Disclosure Showed the Group Received More Than \$1.8 Million from Contributions and Grants; Did Not Disclose Specific Donors or Grantors.** According to their 2016 form 990, The Capital Research Center received \$1,825,771 from contributions and grants in 2016. The filing did not disclose specific donors nor did it list the grants received by CRC. [IRS, Form 990, 2016]

CRC Received So-Called "Dark Money"

Right Wing Watch: CRC is Largely Funded by Conservative Megadonors and Dark Money Groups, Including the Behemoth Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation. "Capital Research Center, Goldenberg's employer, is a decades-old Beltway operation research outfit that targets nonprofit organizations it perceives to be liberal or anti-conservative, actively discouraging contributions to those

groups. (Full disclosure: People for the American Way, Right Wing Watch’s parent organization, has been among CRC’s targets.) The right-wing operation, which has dubbed itself ‘America’s investigative think tank,’ is funded largely by conservative megadonors and dark-money groups, including the behemoth Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation. Its work, which includes a digital encyclopedia of liberal groups called Influence Watch and a handful of publications that take aim at liberal causes, is often cited in conservative media and the group is frequently present at major right-wing events such as the Conservative Political Action Conference.’ [Right Wing Watch, [5/14/20](#)]

In 2019, CRC Received Funding that Passed Through DonorsTrust. “Beyond these ultra-controversial grantees, 2019 also saw significant sums pass from DonorsTrust to civic, intellectual and state/local advocacy groups operating in specific niches on the right, including the Institute for Free Speech, the Foundation for Cultural Review, the Foundation for Government Accountability and the Capital Research Center. The State Policy Network, whose array of state-level policy shops has channeled 501(c)(3) dollars to great effect for the right, is a regular DonorsTrust beneficiary and got over \$7 million in 2019.” [Inside Philanthropy, [6/09/21](#)]

- **Washington Examiner: Capital Research Center Was Granted Money Through DonorsTrust.** “President Scott Walter of Capital Research Center, a conservative think tank that's been granted money through Donors Trust, agrees.” [Washington Examiner, [10/5/23](#)]
- **Business Insider: Donors Trust Funneled Hundreds of Millions of Dollars in Anonymous Cash to Influential Groups.** “An obscure pair of non-profits has funneled hundreds of millions of dollars of anonymous cash into the most influential advocacy groups, think tanks, academic centers and organizers in the conservative movement. Described by Mother Jones’ Andy Kroll as ‘the dark money ATM of the right,’ Donors Trust and sister group Donors Capital Fund have fueled the conservative movement by serving as middlemen between conservative donors with a desire for secrecy and groups in need of operating revenue.” [Business Insider, [2/12/13](#)]
- **Mother Jones: DonorsTrust “is the Dark Money ATM of the Right.”** “Working out of an nondescript brick rowhouse in suburban Virginia, a little-known organization named Donors Trust, staffed by five employees, has steered hundreds of millions of dollars to the most influential think tanks, foundations, and advocacy groups in the conservative movement. Over the past decade, it has funded the right’s assault on labor unions, climate scientists, public schools, economic regulations, and the very premise of activist government. Yet unlike its nearest counterpart on the progressive side, the Tides Foundation, a bogeyman of Glenn Beck and Bill O’Reilly, Donors Trust has mostly avoided any real scrutiny. It is the dark-money ATM of the right.” [Mother Jones, [2/05/13](#)]
- **CNBC: DonorsTrust, a “Dark-Money Group Used by Republican Donors” Funneled Millions Toward High-Profile Conservative Groups in 2020.** “A dark-money group used by Republican donors funneled millions of dollars toward high-profile conservative organizations that pushed and in some cases investigated claims of election fraud either before or after Joe Biden defeated President Donald Trump in November. [...] That funding group, the Donors Trust, is officially labeled as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. The designation allows financiers to give to the organization anonymously. That money is then channeled to other dark-money groups.” [CNBC, [1/13/21](#)]

Fossil Fuel and Koch Connections

CRC Has Received Large Donations From Exxon And Koch Foundations. According to the Center for Media and Democracy, “CRC has received large donations from pro-fossil fuel groups like Exxon and the Koch Family Foundations through its Claude R. Lambe Charitable Foundation. In November 2010, CRC published a report criticizing the Sierra Club for its work in transitioning the US away from coal plants, portraying it as an attack on ‘American prosperity.’” [Center for Media and Democracy, accessed [7/27/17](#)]

- **CRC Donations Are Not Public; Group Has Received Donations From Exxon Mobil.** According to the Center for Media and Democracy, “While CRC publications identify corporate funding of what they perceive as liberal non-profit groups, they do not disclose their own corporate sponsors. However, voluntary disclosures and documents revealed as a result of court actions provide a small window into how CRC interacts with corporations. In 2002, ExxonMobil donated \$25,000 to the CRC for the Green Watch project with another \$25,000 in 2003, according to corporate giving reports no longer available on Exxon’s website, but still available via ExxonSecrets.org. ‘Capital Research Center and Greenwatch has received \$215,000 from ExxonMobil since 1998,’ and up to 2006, according to ExxonSecrets. According to Exxon’s website, the oil company gave another \$50,000 in 2007, for ‘public information and policy research.’” [Center for Media and Democracy, accessed [7/27/17](#)]

New York Times: CRC “Has Received Funding from Koch Foundations.” In 2021, The New York Times wrote, “Conservative nonprofit watchdog group” Capital Research Center, “has received funding from Koch foundations.” [The New York Times, [4/13/21](#)]

Berman and Company

Kristen Eastlick Was Responsible For “Publications, Special Projects, And The Promotion Of The Organization’s Research And Communications Efforts” at CRC. According to the Capital Research Center, “Kristen is responsible for CRC’s publications, special projects, and the promotion of the organization’s research and communications efforts. Prior to joining the CRC team, she spent nearly 20 years at Berman and Company, a public affairs/issue advocacy firm that engages in public awareness campaigns to promote limited government, leaving as the firm’s Chief Administrative Officer.” [Capital Research Center, Kristen Eastlick, accessed [7/27/17](#)]

Eastlick Spent “Nearly 20 Years” Working For Berman And Company. According to the Capital Research Center, “Kristen is responsible for CRC’s publications, special projects, and the promotion of the organization’s research and communications efforts. Prior to joining the CRC team, she spent nearly 20 years at Berman and Company, a public affairs/issue advocacy firm that engages in public awareness campaigns to promote limited government, leaving as the firm’s Chief Administrative Officer.” [Capital Research Center, Kristen Eastlick, accessed [7/27/17](#)]

- **Eastlick Lobbied On Behalf Of American Beverage Institute And The Bowling Proprietors Association Of America.** According to the Senate Lobbying Database, Kristen Eastlick lobbied for the American Beverage Institute and the Bowling Proprietors Association of America from 2000-2006 while at Berman and Company. [Senate Lobbying Database, accessed [7/28/17](#)]

Center For Media And Democracy: “Berman & Co. Operates A Network Of Dozens Of Front Groups, Attack-Dog Web Sites, And Alleged Think Tanks.” According to the Center for Media and

Democracy, “Berman & Co. operates a network of dozens of front groups, attack-dog web sites, and alleged think tanks that work to counteract minimum wage campaigns, keep wages low for restaurant workers, and to block legislation on food safety, secondhand cigarette smoke, and drunk driving and more.” [Center for Media and Democracy, accessed [7/27/17](#)]

Berman Urged Oil And Gas Industry To Slow Opponents By “Digging Up Embarrassing Tidbits About Environmentalists And Liberal Celebrities.” According to the New York Times, “If the oil and gas industry wants to prevent its opponents from slowing its efforts to drill in more places, it must be prepared to employ tactics like digging up embarrassing tidbits about environmentalists and liberal celebrities, a veteran Washington political consultant told a room full of industry executives in a speech that was secretly recorded.” [New York Times, [10/30/14](#)]

Berman Behind Multi-Million Dollar “Big Green Radicals” PR Campaign. According to the New York Times, “The blunt advice from the consultant, Richard Berman, the founder and chief executive of the Washington-based Berman & Company consulting firm, came as Mr. Berman solicited up to \$3 million from oil and gas industry executives to finance an advertising and public relations campaign called Big Green Radicals.” [New York Times, [10/30/14](#)]

Berman Tactics Included Fear, Greed And Anger To Turn Against Environmental Groups. According to the New York Times, “The company executives, Mr. Berman said in his speech, must be willing to exploit emotions like fear, greed and anger and turn them against the environmental groups. And major corporations secretly financing such a campaign should not worry about offending the general public because ‘you can either win ugly or lose pretty,’ he said.” [New York Times, [10/30/14](#)]

Berman: “Nothing The Public Likes More Than Tearing Down Celebrities And Playing Up The Hypocrisy Angle.” According to the New York Times, “Mr. Berman offered several pointers from his playbook. ‘If you want a video to go viral, have kids or animals,’ he said, and then he showed a spot his company had prepared using schoolchildren as participants in a mock union election — to suggest that union bosses do not have real elections. ‘Use humor to minimize or marginalize the people on the other side,’ he added. ‘There is nothing the public likes more than tearing down celebrities and playing up the hypocrisy angle,’ his colleague Mr. Hubbard said, citing billboard advertisements planned for Pennsylvania that featured Robert Redford. ‘Demands green living,’ they read. ‘Flies on private jets.’” [New York Times, [10/30/14](#)]

Project Veritas Ties

Capital Research Center Interviewed O’Keefe As Part Of Documentary. According to CRC, “As part of production for our short documentary, America Under Siege: Civil War 2017, our film’s writer and star Trevor Loudon sat down with investigative reporter James O’Keefe from Project Veritas. This is that full interview uncut, in which James expands on the shocking things he’s uncovered and the mainstream media’s reaction to his work.” [CRC, [3/10/17](#)]

CRC’s Trevor Loudon Made Audio Recording Used By Project Veritas. According to the Washington Times, “Anti-Trump protesters are plotting to derail an inaugural ball by setting off stink bombs and the sprinkler system to force the evacuation of celebrants, according to an undercover video released Monday. The D.C. Anti-Fascist Coalition, part of the anti-inauguration umbrella group #DisruptJ20, plans to ‘ruin’ the DeploraBall, a sold-out black-tie gathering Thursday night at the National Press Building, according to the Project Veritas investigation...An audio recording made by

the Capital Research Center's Trevor Loudon at a #DisruptJ20 meeting features an organizer urging protesters to 'do everything we can to try and stop people from being able to access the inauguration.'" [Washington Times, [1/16/17](#)]

CRC Referred To James O'Keefe As "Our Friend." According to a press release, "This week our friend James O'Keefe III at Project Veritas Action began releasing a series of undercover videos with shocking information about left-wing nonprofits 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) groups that appear to have been behind the Left's well-organized false flag operation against the Donald Trump campaign." [CRC Press Release, 10/18/16]

CRC Pushed Out O'Keefe Video On Hillary Clinton. According to CRC, "The following information was released by Capital Research Center (CRC): In a new video released by Project Veritas Action, James O'Keefe exposes the 'misogynistic' nature of the Hillary Clinton campaign and its organizers, who joke about sexually harassing women and committing voter fraud on the campaign." [CRC, 10/13/16]

CRC Pushed Project Veritas Video Of Voter Fraud. According to a press release, "In a video released by Project Veritas, James O'Keefe exposes what everyone except Democrats have known to be true. There is a lot of voter fraud." [CRC, 10/11/16]

CRC Was Acknowledged In Book By James O'Keefe For "Valuable Work In Exposing ACORN." According to a press release, "Capital Research Center's valuable work in exposing ACORN is acknowledged in investigative journalist James O'Keefe's new book, Breakthrough: Our Guerrilla War to Expose Fraud and Save Democracy. O'Keefe is founder of Project Veritas, which describes its mission as "investigat[ing] and expos[ing] corruption, dishonesty, self-dealing, waste, fraud, and other misconduct in both public and private institutions in order to achieve a more ethical and transparent society." O'Keefe carried out the 2009 undercover video operation that uncovered corruption and criminality at ACORN-which forced the group to disband-with the help of Hannah Giles, who later founded another good-government group, the American Phoenix Foundation." [CRC, [8/2/13](#)]

FAR-RIGHT VIEWS

CRC President Scott Walter Frequently Advised Milo Yiannopoulos, a Former Breitbart Employee Who Was Close to the Alt-Right and Wrote Stories Minimizing the Role of Neo-Nazis and White Nationalists. "The Breitbart employee closest to the alt-right was Milo Yiannopoulos, the site's former tech editor known best for his outrageous public provocations, such as last year's Dangerous Faggot speaking tour and September's canceled Free Speech Week in Berkeley. For more than a year, Yiannopoulos led the site in a coy dance around the movement's nastier edges, writing stories that minimized the role of neo-Nazis and white nationalists while giving its politer voices 'a fair hearing.' [...] Scott Walter, president of the conservative think tank the Capital Research Center, advised Yiannopoulos frequently on Republican politics and Catholicism. Yiannopoulos recommended one of his young assistants to Walter for a research project." [Buzzfeed News, [10/05/17](#)]

- **Daily Beast: YouTube Trumpkin and Former Milo Intern Lane Davis Killed His Own Dad for Calling Him a Nazi.** [The Daily Beast, [10/25/17](#)]
- **May 2022: A 2016 Article by Yiannopoulos and Davis is Still Featured on CRC's Website.** As of May 2022, a 2016 article written by Milo Yiannopoulos and Lane Davis titled

“MacArthur’s Thought Police” was still live on CRC’s website. [Capital Research Center, [5/13/16](#) (accessed 5/03/22)]

CRC: “Diversity, Equity and Inclusion” is a Euphemism for a “Dark Agenda: Inculcating Kids with the Left’s Malicious Obsession with Race”. “If you thought your children were safe from the Left’s culture war in a private school, think again. Across America, a pandemic of ‘woke’ ideology is quietly spreading through privately run schools and colleges supposedly shielded from government control. Proponents may call this new teaching ‘diversity, equity, and inclusion’ (DEI), but that’s a euphemism for a dark agenda: inculcating kids with the Left’s malicious obsession with race. Far from promoting independent thought, it’s a campaign to crush dissent and rewrite history while teaching children to hate one another for the color of their skin. The public is almost completely unaware of how activists are indoctrinating America’s youth with transgenderism, racial segregation, and other far-left ‘virtues’—and still would be, if not for the efforts of a handful of courageous moms bent on exposing the truth.” [Capital Research Center, [3/15/22](#)]

CRC: Critical Race Theory and “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion” Practices Are “Poisonous Fruit of the Same Vine.” “‘Equity’ and ‘equality’ aren’t synonyms. Most Americans believe that all citizens should be treated equally before the law, in job interviews, by retail businesses, and so on, not according to their sex, beliefs, or heritage. Not the Left. Mandating ‘equity’ means equal outcomes, which necessarily means treating people unfairly—in the name of fairness. Hence, the flood of race-based hiring quotas in major companies, anti-Asian American discrimination by university admissions apparatchiks, the arbitrary lumping different ethnic groups together in the U.S. Census, and castigation of supposed ‘white privilege’ in recent years. Be it critical theory on campus or DEI practices in the boardroom, all are the poisonous fruit of the same vine.” [Capital Research Center, [3/15/22](#)]

Election Denialism

2022: Following Revelation that the Southern Poverty Law Center Provided Research to the Congressional Committee Probing the January 6 Riot, CRC’s Parker Thayer Accused SPLC of Painting Right-Leaning Groups that Support “Widespread, Traditional Beliefs” as Extreme. “A left-wing nonprofit that labels conservative and Christian groups ‘hateful’ is reportedly funneling research to the committee probing the Jan. 6 Capitol riot — which claims to be ‘nonpartisan.’ The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), a legal advocacy group with former employees President Joe Biden has handpicked for federal roles, is collaborating with the committee, Politico reported. The group has provided roughly 40 pages of research and written testimony to the committee to facilitate its investigation of the riot, an SPLC lawyer told the outlet. [...] The SPLC has a ‘hate map’ on its website that characterizes some mainstream right-leaning groups as extremist in order to censor them, Hayden Ludwig, a senior researcher at Capital Research Center, an investigative think tank probing nonprofits, told The Daily Caller News Foundation. The SPLC is ‘the Left’s top censor for groups it wants to shut down,’ he said. ‘Painting right-leaning groups that support widespread, traditional beliefs as ‘extreme’ is just a way of shutting down debate so leftists don’t have to defend their own radical views,’ said Ludwig.” [Daily Caller, [7/6/22](#)]

CRC Criticized the Biden Administration for Erecting a Nonscalable Fence Around Government Buildings Following the January 6th U.S. Capitol Riot. “One debate rocketing around the halls of Washington, DC—especially post-inauguration as the city’s citizens and political class watched nonscalable fencing erected around historic and traditionally open government buildings—is whether President Joe Biden will govern as a moderate and predictable Democrat politician or something more

akin to a far-left progressive activist. If the new president has let the left-wing progressives persuade him that Americans citizens are enough of a threat to alter his domestic decision-making by turning the capital into a militarized zone, what will that shift to the left mean for foreign policy? Some conservatives believe this is a foregone conclusion given the persistent, antagonistic, and loud influence of progressive members like Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY).” [Capital Research Center, [2/09/21](#)]

CRC’s Parker Thayer Said the Term “Disinformation” Was “a Club Used to Beat Conservative Media.” “The State Department-funded Global Disinformation Index paid the University of Texas at Austin to conduct research for a heavily scrutinized report that took aim at conservative media outlets, documents show. [...] ‘It has long been obvious that the term ‘disinformation’ is a club used to beat conservative media,’ Parker Thayer, an investigative researcher at the Capital Research Center think tank, told the Washington Examiner. ‘State-funded organizations ought to have nothing to do with promoting the claims of ‘disinformation’ of ‘experts,’ particularly the Global Disinformation Index, which has a painfully obvious bias against conservatives.’” [Washington Examiner, [6/1/23](#)]

Hired Far-Right Election Denier Sheriff David Clarke

Sheriff David Clarke Once Served as Chair of Capital Research Center’s American Law and Culture Program, Where He Planned to “Tackle the Destructive Liberal Ideology of Identity Politics.” “After nearly four decades in law enforcement, Sheriff David Clarke has found innovative ways to serve the public that gives him the freedom to reach millions of Americans with his message, unfiltered by the confines of holding an elected office. [...] Most recently, he is excited to join the Capital Research Center as Chair of the American Law and Culture program where he will tackle the destructive liberal ideology of identity politics.” [Premiere Speakers Bureau, profile, accessed [1/10/24](#)]

- **Clarke Backed Trump’s Claims of Election Fraud in 2020 and Urged January 6 Rioters Not to Cooperate with Law Enforcement.** “In 2020, Clarke invited the far-right Proud Boys gang to Wisconsin, backed the ex-president’s false claims of election fraud, and urged Jan. 6 rioters not to cooperate with law enforcement.” [Daily Beast, [3/14/23](#)]
- **In 2021 Clarke Spoke at an Event Linked to Qanon and Said the January 6 Capitol Attack Was Not Serious Enough.** “Former Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke criticized the January 6 attack against the U.S. Capitol by a mob of pro-Trump supporters, lamenting that it wasn’t ‘serious’ enough during remarks at the QAnon-linked For God and Country Patriot Double Down in Las Vegas this weekend. [...] ‘Ladies and gentlemen, that was not an insurrection. If we decide to pull an insurrection, you’re gonna know it. There’s very little you’re going to be able to do about it,’ the former sheriff told attendees, Raw Story reported. Clarke described what happened on January 6 as a ‘frat party.’ He suggested that an insurrection needs to be better organized.” [Newsweek, [10/24/21](#)]
- **2020: Clarke Called on the Proud Boys to Create a Chapter in Wisconsin.** “Former Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke is calling on the Proud Boys to create a chapter in Wisconsin. He made the comments Saturday at a rally in support of President Donald Trump at Serb Hall.” [WISN, [11/16/20](#)]
- **Clarke Who is Black Said Black Americans Sold Drugs “Because They’re Uneducated, They’re Lazy, and They’re Morally Bankrupt.”** “In interviews and speeches in recent years,

he has compared the Black Lives Matter protest movement to KKK, and speculated that it will join forces with the Islamic State to overthrow the U.S. government and has said that anti-Trump protesters were ‘anarchists’ who ‘must be quelled.’ Black Americans, Clarke has said, sell drugs ‘because they’re uneducated, they’re lazy, and they’re morally bankrupt.’” [The Washington Post, [5/17/17](#)]

- **In 2018, Clarke Parroted Conspiracy Theorists That Insinuated that Survivors of the Parkland, FL School Shooting Were Being Manipulated by George Soros as a Way to organize for Gun Control.** “Former Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke Jr. insinuated Wednesday that student survivors of the Parkland, Fla., school shooting were being manipulated by Democratic billionaire George Soros to organize for gun control. In a tweet, the former Wisconsin sheriff wrote that media appearances and an activism campaign from students of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School against gun violence had ‘George Soros’ fingerprints all over it.’ [...] Clarke’s tweet follows false conspiracy theories in right-wing media such as Gateway Pundit claiming that students at the Florida high school who have appeared on CNN, including David Hogg, are ‘crisis actors’ paid to exploit the shooting for nefarious purposes.” [The Hill, [2/21/18](#)]
- **2018: Clarke Was Temporarily Blocked from Twitter Over Posts Seemingly Calling for Violence Against the Media.** “Former Milwaukee Sheriff David A. Clarke, Jr., a vocal surrogate for President Donald Trump on the campaign trail, was temporarily blocked from tweeting after Twitter users’ complaints alerted the company that three of his messages violated the terms of service, CNN has learned. Clarke was placed in read-only mode until he deleted three tweets that seemed to call for violence against members of the media. In one of them, which has since been deleted, Clarke told his followers, ‘When LYING LIB MEDIA makes up FAKE NEWS to smear me, the ANTIDOTE is to go right at them. Punch them in the nose & MAKE THEM TASTE THEIR OWN BLOOD. Nothing gets a bully like LYING LIB MEDIA’S attention better than to give them a taste of their own blood #neverbackdown.’” [CNN, [1/2/18](#)]

Black Lives Matter

CRC: The Black Lives Matter Movement is “the Latest and Most Dangerous Face of a Web of Well-Funded Socialist/Communist Organizations That Have Been Agitating Against America for Decades.” “The Black Lives Matter movement (BLM) casts itself as a spontaneous uprising born of inner-city frustration, but it is in fact the latest and most dangerous face of a web of well-funded socialist/communist organizations that have been agitating against America for decades. BLM claims to be non-violent. According to its website (BlackLivesMatter.com), ‘The Black Lives Matter Network advocates for dignity, justice, and respect. ... Black activists have raised the call for an end to violence, not an escalation of it.’ Yet BLM activists are routinely observed screaming violent obscenities and attacking police. For example, this past July, 21 police were injured by rocks, steel pipes, and fireworks during a demonstration in St. Paul, Minnesota, where protesters shut down the interstate for five hours. One officer suffered a spinal fracture after a concrete block was dropped on his head. At a Minneapolis fair protest last summer, BLM activists shouted, ‘Pigs in a blanket, fry ‘em like bacon!’” [Capital Research Center, [9/21/16](#)]

- **CRC Touted Views from Manhattan Institute Fellow Heather MacDonald, Who Argued that the BLM Movement and the Fallout From it Made Inner Cities Much More Dangerous.** “In her recent book *The War on Cops*, Manhattan Institute fellow Heather Mac

Donald argues that the BLM movement and the fallout from it have made the inner city much more dangerous, as police forces adopt hands-off policies in response to growing hostility. Some call it the ‘Ferguson effect,’ named after the Missouri town where a young black man, Michael Brown, was killed when he tried to kill a white police officer. Cops across the nation are afraid to patrol black neighborhoods and are overly cautious when dealing with black suspects. Despite their diminished forcefulness in high-crime neighborhoods, police are still being assaulted and killed. Crime had been trending down for decades, but in 2015 homicide rates increased dramatically over 2014.” [Capital Research Center, [9/21/16](#)]

- **CRC: “BLM Agitation Has Provoked Numerous Police Killings, Violence, Lawlessness, and Unrest in Minority Communities Throughout the U.S.”** “Capitalizing on inaccurate and sometimes outright deceptive media reporting on police-involved shootings, BLM agitation has provoked numerous police killings, violence, lawlessness, and unrest in minority communities throughout the U.S., culminating most recently with the horrific ambush-murders of five policemen in Dallas and three in Baton Rouge, with many more wounded. If allowed to continue, BLM agitation could lead to greater civil unrest, anarchy, civil war. With the support and sympathy of President Obama, the Black Lives Matter crowd appears to be spoiling for just such an outcome.’ [Capital Research Center, [9/21/16](#)]
- **CRC: “Is Black Lives Matter Using Chaos and Violence in Order to Make It Difficult for Donald Trump to Win a Second Term?”** On June 24, 2020, CRC tweeted: “Is Black Lives Matter using chaos and violence in order to make it difficult for Donald Trump to win a second term? At least one member of their board of directors went to prison for doing the same thing during Ronald Reagan’s reelection campaign.” [Twitter, @CapitalResearch, [6/24/20](#)]
- **CRC: BLM Global Network Foundation Had Ties to Communist Terrorist Susan Rosenberg.** “Some conservatives have begun speculating the unrest in American cities—even as late as Monday night in Washington, DC, as ‘protestors’ unsuccessfully worked to tear down a statue of Andrew Jackson and set up an autonomous zone across the street from the White House—may in part be an attempt to affect the upcoming presidential election, with the chaos and violence intended to make it as difficult as possible for Donald Trump to win a second term. Lending credence to this idea is the fact that at least one board member of Thousand Currents—the group fiscally sponsoring the most organized part of the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement, who have been involved in most of the activity surrounding the current unrest—tried the same thing almost 40 years ago during Ronald Reagan’s reelection campaign. And it landed her in federal prison for 16 years. If there were any question whether Black Lives Matter has ideological ties to the Communist terrorists of the 1960s, the story of Susan Rosenberg [archived here] should put that issue to bed.” [Capital Research Center, [6/24/20](#)]

CRC President Scott Walter Said BLM Local Activists Should Demand that BLM Global Network Foundation Stop Operating as a Fiscally Sponsored Project of Tides. “Scott Walter, president of the conservative watchdog group Capital Research Center, said the ‘fiscal sponsorship’ relationship works to the advantage of nonprofit groups seeking to camouflage their financial picture. ‘My first thought is the old saying: Every great cause begins as a movement, becomes a business, and ends as a racket,’ said Mr. Walter, whose group runs the InfluenceWatch website. ‘I don’t blame BLM chapters for being upset.’ He said the activists should ‘demand BLM Global Network Foundation stop operating as a ‘fiscally sponsored project’ of the Tides Center.’” [The Washington Times, 12/03/20]

CRC Accused Black Lives Matter Of Using “Black Lives Matter” To “Create Chaos And Destroy The Livelihoods Of The People It Was Professing To Help.” “In perhaps one of the greatest messaging coups of all time, the Black Lives Movement Global Network Foundation (BLMGNF) an international effort funded by some of the most powerful and wealthy leftists admittedly steeped in the Marxist playbook took the true statement that black lives matter and used it to create chaos and destroy the livelihoods of the very people it was professing to help. In BLM Aftermath: Cleveland, we look at what the 2020 demonstrations did to a city already familiar with economic devastation resulting from racial tension. In the wake of the protests, Cleveland voters implemented a policy of public safety oversight by a community-led board (over the objections of the city’s African American mayor and police chief), creating a situation that has led to an anemic police force and rising crime in the city.” [Capital Research Center, [4/1/22](#)]

Salon: Capital Research Center Has “an Ongoing Series That Attempts to Discredit BLM.” “The Capital Research Center, a right-wing ‘investigative think tank’ and a member of the State Policy Network, has an ongoing series that attempts to discredit BLM. One ‘special report’ titled ‘Radical Lives Matter’ connected BLM with looting and radical leftist and cult violence, and compared last year’s incidents of police brutality to ‘a bogus martyrdom-by-police’ narrative ‘invented by Eldridge Cleaver’ to be ‘fed’ to the mainstream media. The Capital Research Center is heavily funded by the Bradley Foundation, one of the top funders of right-wing, state-based groups.” [Salon, [3/02/21](#)]

CRC accused BLM of engaging “in fraud, misdirection, and political activism rather than addressing societal problems.” “In our final chapter, BLM: Washington, DC—The Myth Behind the Movement, we examine the protests in DC and the dawning realization that the aftermath of George Floyd’s death was, at its heart, a missed opportunity. While the BLM national organization raised millions of dollars, the local chapters—and other community organizations already working on similar community efforts—saw little to none of the money raised. Instead, BLM engaged in fraud, misdirection, and political activism rather than addressing societal problems. It ultimately led to their reputational demise and extreme discord and damage in the nation’s capital.” [Capital Research Center, [1/16/24](#)]

CRC accused the BLM Global Network Foundation of being a “Marxist” organization which “create[d] chaos and destroy the livelihoods of the very people it was professing to help.” “In perhaps one of the greatest messaging coups of all time, the Black Lives Matter Global Network Foundation—an international effort funded by some of the most powerful and wealthy leftists admittedly steeped in the Marxist playbook—and other radical groups took the true statement that black lives matter and used it to create chaos and destroy the livelihoods of the very people it was professing to help. BLM Aftermath, a video series sponsored by Capital Research Center, visits American cities that grappled with the 2020 protests and are now dealing with what was left in their wake once the clamor subsided.” [Capital Research Center, [3/28/24](#)]

NAACP

CRC: NAACP Fostered a “Victim Mentality” Among Blacks Instead of Helping Them Improve Their Lives... Shifting Focus to More Pressing Problems Like Black-on-Black Crime and “Out-of-Wedlock Births” Would Risk Losing Funding and Status. “The NAACP has a long and storied history of representing the interests of the African American community, but in recent years it has maintained its intense focus on racism—which has been declining for decades—to the exclusion of the biggest problems facing the black community. In the process, the NAACP is fostering a ‘victim

mentality' among blacks instead of helping them improve their lives. For the NAACP leadership, shifting the NAACP's focus to address more pressing problems such as black-on-black crime, out-of-wedlock births, and failing schools would risk losing funding and status." [Capital Research Center, [6/29/20](#)]

- **CRC: “The NAACP Actually Harms Blacks in America” By Focusing on Declining Racism Instead of More Serious Problems Plaguing the Black Community.** “While the NAACP may have rooted out corruption in its ranks, it has never regained its idealism. The NAACP today is a business that generates millions in revenue by campaigning against racism. But racism has long been on the decline in America and is no longer the most serious problem plaguing the black community. By keeping its focus on issues of discrimination, the NAACP no longer does much to advance the black community. Indeed, by supporting a victim mentality and opposing reforms such as charter schools, the NAACP actually harms blacks in America. Sadly, the NAACP has every incentive to maintain its current focus, regardless of how much it hurts the black community.” [Capital Research Center, [6/29/20](#)]
- **CRC Touted Remarks from “Black Lies Matter” Author T’aleeb Starkes, Who Claimed One of the Biggest Problems Facing the Black Community Was the “Proliferation of Baby Mommas”.** “T’aleeb Starkes, author of the bestselling book Black Lies Matter, lists five problems as the biggest ones facing the black community in America: Victim mentality, Lack of diversity, Urban terrorism, Proliferation of baby mommas, and Unquestioning allegiance to progressive policies. Too many blacks, he claims, view themselves as victims. They believe that they are not responsible for their own situation. Their problems are all someone else’s fault, and they see little chance of improving their lives. Black churches, liberal politicians, and public schools all reinforce this mentality, according to Starkes.” [Capital Research Center, [6/29/20](#)]

Southern Poverty Law Center

2022: Following Revelation that the Southern Poverty Law Center Provided Research to the Congressional Committee Probing the January 6 Riot, CRC’s Parker Thayer Accused SPLC of Painting Right-Leaning Groups that Support “Widespread, Traditional Beliefs” as Extreme. “A left-wing nonprofit that labels conservative and Christian groups ‘hateful’ is reportedly funneling research to the committee probing the Jan. 6 Capitol riot — which claims to be ‘nonpartisan.’ The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), a legal advocacy group with former employees President Joe Biden has handpicked for federal roles, is collaborating with the committee, Politico reported. The group has provided roughly 40 pages of research and written testimony to the committee to facilitate its investigation of the riot, an SPLC lawyer told the outlet. [...] The SPLC has a ‘hate map’ on its website that characterizes some mainstream right-leaning groups as extremist in order to censor them, Hayden Ludwig, a senior researcher at Capital Research Center, an investigative think tank probing nonprofits, told The Daily Caller News Foundation. The SPLC is ‘the Left’s top censor for groups it wants to shut down,’ he said. ‘Painting right-leaning groups that support widespread, traditional beliefs as ‘extreme’ is just a way of shutting down debate so leftists don’t have to defend their own radical views,’ said Ludwig.” [Daily Caller, [7/6/22](#)]

CRC: Southern Poverty Law Center is a “Leftist Attack Machine” That Devotes Most of Its Resources to “a Systematic Smear Campaign Against Respected Organizations and Opinion Leaders...” “Attorneys Morris Dees and Joseph Levin Jr. founded the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) in 1971. It bills itself as ‘a nonprofit civil rights organization dedicated to fighting hate and

bigotry, and to seeking justice for the most vulnerable members of society.’ People familiar with the SPLC may describe it differently. (For a previous CRC profile of the Center, see ‘The Southern Poverty Law Center: A Twisted Definition of ‘Hate,’ Organization Trends, November 2006.) Early on it made a name for itself fighting genuinely extremist groups like the Ku Klux Klan and breaking down barriers of discrimination in the South. But today it is primarily a leftist attack machine. It devotes most of its sizeable resources to a systematic smear campaign against respected organizations and opinion leaders whose legitimate policy differences put them to the right of the SPLC.” [Capital Research Center, [10/07/12](#)]

- **CRC: SPLC Listed “Nonviolent Conservative Organizations Like the Oath Keepers” as Extremist Groups.** “In the ‘Hate and Extremism’ section of the SPLC website, the group lists 1,274 ‘Patriot Groups.’ This category includes nonviolent conservative organizations like the Oath Keepers, the Constitution Party, Tea Party Patriots, the Tenth Amendment Center, and Joseph Farah’s WorldNetDaily.” [Capital Research Center, [10/07/12](#)]
- **CRC: SPLC is the Author of “Dangerous Provocations” and “Wildly Exaggerates” the Number of Groups Genuinely Associated with Hate and Violence.** “In addition to fomenting hatred for groups with which it disagrees, the SPLC is the author of dangerous provocations. For example, in 1996 SPLC hyped a story that black churches were being torched at alarming rates in the South by white racists. As Michael Fumento wrote in the American Spectator at the time, this was soon proven to be false. SPLC wildly exaggerates the number of groups genuinely associated with hate and violence as well. Laird Wilcox, an independent, non-conservative researcher found that of 800-plus ‘hate groups’ over half them were either non-existent, existed in name only, or were inactive.” [Capital Research Center, [10/07/12](#)]
- **CRC: SPLC is an “Attack Machine of the Extreme Political Left” and Colludes With Similar Groups in Campaigns to Defame, Silence, “And/Or Criminalize Political Opponents.”** “The Southern Poverty Law Center is a wealthy, well-connected, organized attack machine of the extreme political Left. It shares strategies, goals, and tactics with other similar organizations and colludes with them in campaigns of defamation, disinformation and legal threats to silence and/or criminalize political opponents. The SPLC has unjustifiably secured itself a position of influence within our government and society. Its very presence threatens our freedoms and First Amendment rights. It abuses our system of justice, while hiding behind a Constitution for which it has little respect.” [Capital Research Center, [10/07/12](#)]
- **CRC: SPLC is a “Radical Group” That Uses Its Infamous “Hate Groups” List to Lump Together Genuine Racists Like the KKK with Mainstream Conservative Groups.** “The SPLC is a radical group that uses its infamous ‘hate groups’ list to lump together genuine racists like the KKK with mainstream conservative groups. Many ordinary Americans consult the Guidestar site before giving donations, so when it recently began plastering ‘Hate Group’ at the top of charities’ entries, it strongly reinforced SPLC’s smear campaign and potentially endangered the revenues of groups SPLC has attacked.” [Capital Research Center, [6/26/17](#)]

COVID-19

CRC: “It is Absolutely Legitimate to Call it the China Virus.” On July 6, 2020, the Capital Research Center tweeted: “#TrumpVirus is trending after Trump tweeted ‘China Virus,’ but here is why it is absolutely legitimate to call it the China Virus.” [Twitter, @CapitalResearch, [7/06/20](#)]

Anti-Gay Views

CRC: Transgender and Nonbinary Identities Were “Destroying the Family and Promoting Mental Illness.” “It’s the end result of a more than a half-century of the Left’s ‘long march through the institutions’ envisioned by Antonio Gramsci, the father of cultural Marxism. Gramsci saw the path to socialism running not through economics (as Karl Marx taught), but through control of the media, the military, and education. American Marxists took his lessons to heart starting in the 1960s. We’re witnessing the result. Codifying anti-white hatred through critical race theory, destroying the family and promoting mental illness with transgender and ‘nonbinary’ sexual identity, obliterating language (‘women’ is now ‘womyn,’ Latino/Latina is ‘Latinx’), fabricating absurd racial categories that abolish the individual (squashing together tens of millions as ‘brown people’), and recasting the United States as a uniquely evil slaveocracy—all were hatched in university Gender Studies and Sociology departments before moving into the legacy media, the Democratic Party platform, and government curricula.” [Capital Research Center, [3/15/22](#)]

2023: CRC Criticized the Southern Poverty Law Center’s Designation of the American College of Pediatricians as an Anti-LGBTQ Hate Group. “SPLC is known for its Hate Map. It claims to have identified and exposed over 700 hate groups in America, many of which genuinely have hateful ideologies. Still, on closer look, more than a few of these hate-group designations are dubious, to say the least. For example, it labeled the American College of Pediatricians as a hate group. [...] In reality, the ACPeds is a national group of pediatricians that lend their qualified voices to all issues dealing with children’s health and wellness. The SPLC has labeled them ‘anti-LGBTQ’ because they have highlighted the alarming data and dangers of specific gender-affirming care for transgender children in America. ‘The American College of Pediatricians (ACPeds), a professional medical association, calls on organizations to reconsider current protocols for gender dysphoric children based on newly published data.’ That sounds more like a group of doctors with legitimate concerns than a hate group.” [Capital Research Center, [3/6/23](#)]

- **WIRED: American College of Pediatricians Fought to Deprive Gay Couple of Parental Rights and Encouraged Schools to Treat LGBTQ Youth as If They Were Mentally Ill.** “The American College of Pediatricians, which has fought to deprive gay couples of their parental rights and encouraged public schools to treat LGBTQ youth as if they were mentally ill, is one of a handful of conservative think tanks leading the charge against abortion in the United States. A federal lawsuit filed by the College and its partners against the US Food and Drug Administration seeks to limit nationwide access to what is today the most common form of abortion. The case is now on a trajectory for the US Supreme Court, which not even a year ago declared abortion the purview of America’s elected state representatives.” [WIRED, [5/2/23](#)]
- **WIRED: American College of Pediatricians Pushed Schools to Adopt “Junk Science” Painting Transgender Youth as Carriers of a Pathological Disorder.** “Many of the College’s most radical views target transgender people, and in particular, transgender youth. The leak, which had been indexed by Google, includes volumes of literature crafted specifically to influence relationships between practicing pediatricians, parents, and their children. It includes reams of marketing material the College aims to distribute widely among public school officials. This includes pushing schools to adopt junk science painting transgender youth as carriers of a pathological disorder, one that’s capable of spontaneously causing others—à la the dancing plague—to adopt similar thoughts and behaviors. This is one of the group’s most dubious claims.

While unsupported by medical science, it is routinely and incuriously propagated through literature targeted at schools and medical offices around the US.” [WIRED, [5/2/23](#)]

- **Daily Beast: American College of Pediatricians Decried Efforts to Ban Dangerous Practice of Conversion Therapy on LGBT Minors.** “They decry efforts to ban the dangerous practice of conversion therapy on LGBT minors. They are defenders of ‘traditional marriage’ and strict opponents of abortion rights. The group’s ‘About Us’ page makes repeated references to the ‘father-mother family unit,’ which it believes to be ‘the optimal setting for childhood development.’” [Daily Beast, [4/6/16](#)]

2010: Capital Research Center Was Among Groups That Boycotted the 2011 CPAC After Republican Gay Rights Group GOProud was Invited. “This week, two socially conservative groups, the Family Research Council and Concerned Women of America, announced that they are opting out of next year’s CPAC because GOProud had been invited. The Family Research Council’s Tom McClusky told far-right news website WorldNetDaily that part of the reason for the decision was CPAC’s ‘movement away from conservative principles,’ as evidenced by the inclusion of GOProud. [...] In addition to the Family Research Council and Concerned Women of America, the following conservative groups are declining to participate in CPAC partly over GOProud’s inclusion, according to WorldNetDaily: The American Principles Project, American Values, Capital Research Center, the Center for Military Readiness, Liberty Counsel, and the National Organization for Marriage. There was some blowback to GOProud’s participation at the 2010 conference - Liberty University Law School pulled its sponsorship of the event - but it was muted compared to the response for the 2011 conference.” [CBS News, [12/30/10](#)]

Former CRC Employee Frequently Cited by White Nationalists

Right Wing Watch: White Nationalists Championed Ashley Rae Goldenberg, a CRC Employee at the Forefront Attempts to Justify the Killing of Ahmaud Arbery. “White nationalists are championing a Capital Research Center employee who is at the forefront of an attempt to justify the killing of Ahmaud Arbery, an unarmed black man killed by two white men while jogging earlier this year. Ashley Rae Goldenberg, an investigative reporter at CRC, has gained newfound attention from the far-right by taking part in an effort to smear Arbery and downplay his death after the Georgia Bureau of Investigation arrested father and son Gregory and Travis McMichael on charges of murder and aggravated assault last week. Goldenberg has advanced the idea that Arbery’s killers were justified in shooting him dead in the street, even going so far as to suggest that the government’s arrest of the two men was part of ‘race war’ she claims has been playing out in the United States ‘for decades.’ How Goldenberg has reacted to Arbery’s death fits a pattern: far-right actors have long attempted to demonize black victims of violent crimes that have received national outrage. The lethal actions of the McMichaels against Arbery have been described as vigilantism by the American Civil Liberties Union of Georgia and other civil rights groups. On the day that the GBI arrested the two white men—months after they admitted to Arbery’s killing—Goldenberg tweeted, ‘Vigilantism is good, actually.’” [Right Wing Watch, [5/14/20](#)]

- **Concern About Goldenberg’s Online Comments Were Raised with One of Her CRC Colleagues Yet She Remained Employed by CRC.** “Record of a private social media conversation obtained by RWW shows that a concern about Goldenberg’s online behavior had been raised in January with one of her CRC colleagues, who told that individual that the concern would be raised internally at the organization. Since that message was received by the person

who claimed to have raised the concern, Goldenberg has remained employed by CRC, authoring material for its website as recently as May 7. Sarah Lee, the organization’s director of communications and external affairs, declined comment when reached by RWW for this story, citing organization policy against publicly commenting on personnel issues. When asked whether CRC has an organizational stance regarding white nationalism, Lee also declined comment, citing the same personnel policy.” [Right Wing Watch, [5/14/20](#)]

- **Conservative Media Colleagues Expressed Shock that CRC Continued to Employ Goldenberg. In 2020, CPAC Even Denied Her Request for Media Credentials Despite the Fact that CRC Was an Exhibitor at the CPAC.** “But Goldenberg’s actions have not come completely without a professional price. Former associates and conservative media industry colleagues of Goldenberg’s have expressed dismay at Goldenberg’s behavior. One such colleague, who spoke to RWW on the condition of anonymity for fear of professional retaliation, said they were surprised that Goldenberg has remained employed by a conservative Washington institution, considering her unabashed public support of unsavory far-right actors. This year, she reported that CPAC denied her request for event media credentials — despite the fact that CRC was an exhibitor at the 2020 CPAC.’ [Right Wing Watch, [5/14/20](#)]
- **May 2020: After Right Wing Watch’s Investigation, CRC Removed Goldenberg from Their Staff Directory and Changed Her Bio to “Former” Investigative Reporter.** “(Update 5/18/20): After Right Wing Watch published this investigation, Capital Research Center updated its staff directory page to exclude Ashley Goldenberg and updated Goldenberg’s author bio to state that she is a ‘former’ investigative reporter for the organization.” [Right Wing Watch, [5/14/20](#)]

Funded Ginni Thomas’ “Crowdsourcers” Project

Ginni Thomas’s “Political Project” Called “Crowdsourcers” Was Developed Under The Oversight Of The Capital Research Center. “In 2019, she announced a political project called Crowdsourcers, and said that one of her four partners would be the founder of Project Veritas, James O’Keefe. Project Veritas tries to embarrass progressives by making secret videos of them, and last year petitioned the Court to enjoin Massachusetts from enforcing a state law that bans the surreptitious taping of public officials. Another partner in Crowdsourcers, Ginni Thomas said in her announcement, was Cleta Mitchell, the chairman of the Public Interest Legal Foundation, a conservative election-law nonprofit.[...] It’s unclear whether the Crowdsourcers project that Thomas said she was launching with O’Keefe’s help ever got off the ground. There’s little public trace of Crowdsourcers, other than a tax filing from 2019, showing that it was developed under the oversight of the Capital Research Center, a right-wing nonprofit that does opposition research.” [New Yorker, [1/31/22](#)]

- **Anonymous Donors Gave CRC Nearly \$600,000 That Was Designated for Crowdsourcers. The Group Intended to “Wage a Cultural Battle Against the Left.”** “A little-known conservative activist group led by Virginia ‘Ginni’ Thomas, the wife of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, collected nearly \$600,000 in anonymous donations to wage a cultural battle against the left over three years, a Washington Post investigation found. The previously unreported donations to the fledgling group Crowdsourcers for Culture and Liberty were channeled through a right-wing think tank in Washington that agreed to serve as a funding conduit from 2019 until the start of last year, according to documents and interviews. The arrangement, known as a ‘fiscal sponsorship,’ effectively shielded from public view details about

Crowdsourcers' activities and spending, information it would have had to disclose publicly if it operated as a separate nonprofit organization, experts said. [...] In 2019, anonymous donors gave the think tank Capital Research Center, or CRC, \$596,000 that was designated for Crowdsourcers, according to tax filings and audits the think tank submitted to state regulators. The majority of that money, \$400,000, was routed through yet another nonprofit, Donors Trust, according to that organization's tax filings. Donors Trust is a fund that receives money from wealthy donors whose identities are not disclosed and steers it toward conservative causes." [The Washington Post, [3/28/23](#)]

- **Washington Post: Around the Time CRC Agreed to Channel Anonymous Donations to Crowdsourcers, CRC Signed a Brief Asking the Supreme Court to Hear a Case that Conservatives Hoped Would Rein In Fuel Emissions Regulations in Oregon.** "Around the time CRC agreed to channel the anonymous donations to Crowdsourcers, CRC signed a brief asking the Supreme Court to hear a case conservative groups hoped would rein in fuel emission regulations in Oregon, records show. The court voted not to take up the case. As is routine, the votes of the individual justices were not disclosed. Paoletta wrote that 'Ginni Thomas had no knowledge of nor any connection whatsoever to an amicus brief CRC joined.'" [The Washington Post, [3/28/23](#)]
- **Ginni Thomas Said That She Was Launching The "Crowdsourcers" Project With The Help Of Project Veritas Founder James O'Keefe.** "In 2019, she announced a political project called Crowdsourcers, and said that one of her four partners would be the founder of Project Veritas, James O'Keefe. Project Veritas tries to embarrass progressives by making secret videos of them, and last year petitioned the Court to enjoin Massachusetts from enforcing a state law that bans the surreptitious taping of public officials. Another partner in Crowdsourcers, Ginni Thomas said in her announcement, was Cleta Mitchell, the chairman of the Public Interest Legal Foundation, a conservative election-law nonprofit." [New Yorker, [1/31/22](#)]
- **Thomas Repeatedly Pressed Former White House Chief Of Staff Mark Meadows To Overturn The 2020 Election.** "Virginia Thomas, a conservative activist married to Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, repeatedly pressed White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows to pursue unrelenting efforts to overturn the 2020 presidential election in a series of urgent text exchanges in the critical weeks after the vote, according to copies of the messages obtained by The Washington Post and CBS News. The messages — 29 in all — reveal an extraordinary pipeline between Virginia Thomas, who goes by Ginni, and President Donald Trump's top aide during a period when Trump and his allies were vowing to go to the Supreme Court in an effort to negate the election results." [Washington Post, [3/24/22](#)]

Anti-"Woke" Views

CRC advocated for declining alumni donation requests to colleges with "woke" programs like gender studies. "But of course, they want to have their cake and eat it too. They want alumni to fund their unaccountability, which is why you're still being asked for \$1,000 for the gender-studies program or whatever woke program they're creating now. Is the education you're being asked to subsidize worth it? Not only has the quality of education at the school where you labored deteriorated to the point where it's undoubtedly sending graduates into the workplace having learned embarrassingly little, what they have learned directly mocks the values and institutions that put you in a position to perpetuate the whole unaccountable enterprise in the first place. Instead of marketable job skills, modern college students

graduate with resentment, entitlement, and an inflated sense of self-worth. Rather than learning how to produce something of value for others, they're taught by narcissists to be narcissistic. They shun difficult fields like engineering and mathematics, gravitating to "soft sciences" like sociology and gender studies, then wonder why employers won't pay them a six-figure salary to spout pseudo-intellectual gibberish." [Capital Research Center, [2/12/24](#)]

CRC: "Rather than push pleasure-based fringe perversions on children who don't want it, schools should go back to what sex ed was originally designed for, such as the Family Life Education of the 1950s." "Rather than push pleasure-based fringe perversions on children who don't want it, schools should go back to what sex ed was originally designed for, such as the Family Life Education of the 1950s. Instead of focusing on sex and pleasure, with the latest kink trends, society should teach young men how to be good husbands and young girls how to be good wives. Radical, I know. But even from a secular perspective, it's simply practical. A country is comprised of family units, and there is no better structure on which to build a growing and healthy society than the traditional family. States should focus on opt-in policies, rather than opt-out. This strategic approach will put those with perverted agendas on the defensive. Make them answer why they oppose parents being in complete control with opt-in policies. If there's nothing wrong with what they are teaching, they should be happy that the parents know about it and must approve it before it's taught to their children. This should be a bare minimum, but it's a crucial step." [Capital Research Center, [4/17/24](#)]

CRC's Kali Fontanilla: "[after] Donald Trump became president, and I noticed a rapid shift. Left-leaning politics were being forced on my students." "I taught professionally for 15 years, focusing my career on teaching English language learners and those behind in reading. I planned on staying in my tenured position as a public school teacher in California. I was content. Then, Donald Trump became president, and I noticed a rapid shift. Left-leaning politics were being forced on my students. Before, it was slowly creeping into our schools during the Obama presidency. For example, they shut down all classes in my district and had every student watch President Barack Obama's "Back to School" speech—something they'd never done before. But after Trump was elected, the subtle indoctrination switched to full-blown brainwashing. One teacher had a poster of Trump as a clown on his door. They would help, or more accurately, organize the students to do walkouts to protest his policies. They would openly call him a racist and fascist in front of their classes." [Capital Research Center, [3/18/24](#)]

CRC accused NPR and its donor institutions of advancing a "woke shift" at the organization. "Last week, longtime National Public Radio editor Uri Berliner wrote an op-ed on his recent experiences at the media company for the Free Press, the Substack-based media outlet led by former New York Times journalist Bari Weiss. Berliner's article, which we discussed recently as part of an InfluenceWatch Podcast episode on nonprofits and the news, traced NPR's ideological transformation (in Berliner's view) from left-leaning to vanguardist woke-progressive. But while Berliner pointed out the roles of events, his colleagues, and even his own labor union in NPR's woke shift, missing was an eye toward the "third sector" donor institutions that may have encouraged it. NPR is heavily funded by Big Philanthropy and its own endowment. As those institutions are part of the woke vanguard, NPR is likelier to follow the Everything Leftism of its new CEO Katherine Maher than Berliner's traditional American liberalism. The evidence Berliner marshalled for his thesis is compelling. Coverage flopped in a liberal-favoring manner, as NPR over-relied on partisan Democrats for sourcing its coverage of the investigation into alleged ties between Donald Trump's 2016 presidential campaign and the Russian government, sided with the broad hive-mind censorship of New York Post reporting on a laptop alleged to belong to Hunter Biden in the closing days of the 2020 presidential election, and rejected even the possibility of a laboratory origin for the COVID-19 pandemic." [Capital Research Center, [4/18/24](#)]

CRC accused the Biden administration and “The Left” of advancing a “woke” agenda in the U.S. military. “The Left began its long march through institutions in the early 20th century and gained a complete stranglehold over education and the media. In recent years, wokeism has deeply infiltrated sports and organized religion. For a long time, the military and business were at least the last institutions the Right controlled, or so we thought. More recently, the Left has gained—if not a stranglehold—a vice grip on the corporate world. And now the military is under siege. Since his inauguration, President Joe Biden’s administration has run a full-court press to push woke policies on the military, including an executive order to opening military service to all transgender individual, teaching about the threat of “whiteness” at West Point, and promoting senior officers who espouse left-wing progressive ideas.” [Capital Research Center, [2/6/24](#)]

Anti-Affirmative Action Views

CRC advocated for overturning affirmative action programs via an interview with economist Thomas Sowell. “Hogberg: In chapter five, you compare the campaign for affirmative action to the COVID Pandemic? Why is that an apt comparison? Sowell: Oh, wow, I totally forgotten about having done that. But the pandemic, like affirmative action, is another case of third parties setting priorities for other people. Now, it’s good that we tried to save lives during the pandemic. But once politicians are given the power to preempt decisions, they’ll persist in it as long as it works for them politically. Politicians have no great incentive to avoid mistakes because it is other people who pay for those mistakes.” [Capital Research Center, [4/8/24](#)]

CRC highlighted a lawsuit against Fearless Fund – which gave grants exclusively to black women – to advocate for reflection and change on affirmative action programs. “Also in the wake and on the basis of the rulings, another group headed by Blum—the American Alliance for Equal Rights (AAER)—filed a lawsuit against the Fearless Fund and other defendants, arguing that the Fund’s race-based grants violate §1981 of the Civil Rights Act of 1866. The Fund runs a grant-award contest for which only women of color are eligible to apply. Their small businesses can win \$20,000 grants. One of the other defendants is the Fearless Foundation, which is categorized as a tax-exempt, §501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit under the Internal Revenue Code. If realistically looking even further forward—as some are, but more should be, doing—there needs to be serious thinking about the potential ramifications of the outcome of the Fearless Fund case for philanthropy. Specifically, the Fearless Fund’s grant program, according to AAER’s Fearless Fund complaint, violates the post-Civil War §1981, which says “All persons within the jurisdiction of the United States shall have the same right in every State and Territory to make and enforce contracts,” defined to include “the making, performance, modification, and termination of contracts, and the enjoyment of all benefits, privileges, terms, and conditions of the contractual relationship.” [Capital Research Center, [3/21/24](#)]

Attacks on Gaza Protestors

CRC accused Gaza marchers of supporting Hamas and Houthi violence against Israel. “Social media has been flooded with posts since last weekend’s “March for Gaza” in Washington, DC, where protestors shouted their demands for ceasefires between Israel and Hamas and between the U.S. and the Yemen-based Houthis. Some protestors damaged a temporary fence that was set up in front of the White House’s main entry gate in order to contain the event, forcing some White House staff members and reporters to evacuate. The stated message of the protests and the appeal to nonviolence, though, is a sanitization to mask the organizers’ bigger, more inflammatory objectives and beliefs of the protest’s

organizers—objectives and beliefs apparently shared by almost all the participants. The organizers aren't arguing for ceasefires based on a principled (if misguided) pacifist position that is consistently anti-war and opposed to violence. Their positions against Israeli targeting of Hamas and U.S. targeting of the Houthis aren't based on their own objective merits. These causes are adopted because achieving them advances their larger ideological goal: Helping Hamas and the Houthis in their violent struggle against supposed U.S. and Israeli colonialism as part of a global militant revolution against the West." [Capital Research Center, [1/19/24](#)]

CRC accused CAIR of violating its nonprofit status in promoting the election of Joe Biden over Donald Trump. "The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), whose leader publicly celebrated Hamas's October 7 massacre of Israelis—and then ridiculously attempted to deny it—appears to have admitted to violating its federal tax-exempt status by working to elect President Joe Biden. "Our community mobilized to put Biden in power after Donald Trump. . . . It hurts. It hurts deeply," said Basim Elkarra, the executive-director of CAIR-California's Sacramento Valley and Central California chapter. The statement was made during a hearing for a lawsuit filed against the Biden Administration for its support of Israel. The lawsuit was filed by a coalition of groups and individuals who have publicly supported Hamas. CAIR's X account then amplified the statement by quoting it in its own post. CAIR would never contest the fact that it is one of the most influential—if not the most influential—organizations in the Muslim American community. The CAIR chapter leader's statement that he and the community feel personally hurt because of their contributions to the Biden campaign's victory against Trump seems to clearly violate the laws that regulate its nonprofit status." [Capital Research Center, [1/29/24](#)]

CRC claimed CAIR donors declined to cut-off their support for the organization despite the director allegedly celebrating Hamas's October 7 attack. "The top foundations financing the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) are refusing to rule out future support of CAIR even after the Capital Research Center alerted them to its executive director's public celebration of Hamas's October 7 attack on Israel and the Biden Administration's subsequent disavowal of CAIR. In December, the Capital Research Center collaborated with Focus on Western Islamism to determine which nonprofit organizations have provided the most funding to CAIR based on public records from 2010 to 2022. Our research identified the 20 biggest providers, almost all of which are left-wing and one has an Islamist background." [Capital Research Center, [3/27/24](#)]

CRC criticized groups like "Queers for Palestine" as being "anti-anti-Hamas" and operating under an "Everything Leftism" ideology. "It's a simple question: How can "Queers for Palestine," the slogan on protest signs of pro-Palestinian (or anti-anti-Hamas) protesters, be a thing? (Homosexuality is stigmatized and criminalized in the Palestinian territories, while in Israel it is legal, and in secular spaces not stigmatized. As a practical matter, one would much rather be queer in Tel Aviv than Khan Yunis.) To answer the question, one must consider the operating ideology of left-wing activism, which for lack of a better term might be called "Everything Leftism." Everything Leftism operates on two levels, as an ideology and as an institutional structure. As an ideology, it is a corruption of or derivative from intersectionality. As intersectionality views all oppressed identities as linked in compounding dimensions, Everything Leftism views all left-of-center issues as linked in compounding dimensions." [Capital Research Center, [1/19/24](#)]

CRC accused Gaza protesters in Chicago of "launching a nationwide insurgency and domestic terrorism campaign." "Anti-Israel protestors who took over the University of Chicago's Institute of Politics last week called for launching a nationwide insurgency and domestic terrorism campaign,

regrettably fulfilling a prediction I made earlier this month on The Glenn Beck Program. A forthcoming CRC study of the protesting groups also forecasts that the most militant elements would push the movement toward a broader campaign of violent and destructive activism that would meet the definition of domestic terrorism. The protestors seized Chicago University's Institute of Politics on Friday, May 17. The institute's director, former Sen. Heidi Heitkamp (D-SD), refused to surrender to their demands that she leave. She said she didn't feel she was in any physical danger and recalled trying to reason with them while hearing them destroying furniture. The protestors disobeyed the police's orders to leave but fled through the windows when the police forcibly entered." [Capital Research Center, [5/23/24](#)]

Fact-Checking and Anti-Disinformation Campaigns

CRC accused fact-checking of being “Trojan horse to justify censorship for the political left.” “A casual political observer may take the “fact-checker” label at face value. But the entire industry (with little exception) serves as a Trojan horse to justify censorship for the political Left... While fact-checking itself is nothing new, throughout the Trump presidency the media escalated the use of supposed “fact-checks” to backdoor censorship against dissenting voices. Due to the role that fact-checkers play on social media, once something is “fact-checked” by them, the issue is treated as settled. Anyone who repeats a claim on major social media platforms that's been supposedly refuted by these de facto arbiters of truth will find their post slapped with a warning telling them that they've shared misleading or false information, with a fact-check article attached purporting to justify it. On Facebook specifically, accounts that are fact-checked have their pages restricted so that future posts don't appear as often in the feeds of their followers. Pages can also risk losing their ability to monetize their content as a result. This kills two birds with one stone for the censor, having both the effect of limiting the spread of information that goes against the cathedral and spreading a preferred narrative.” [Capital Research Center, [5/29/24](#)]

CRC praised Elon Musk for having “revamped the Twitter fact-checking system from one only ever used to benefit the Left, to one that fact-checks everyone.” “Following his acquisition of Twitter (now X), Elon Musk revamped the Twitter fact-checking system from one only ever used to benefit the Left, to one that fact-checks everyone. Amid debates over major changes to the site since Musk took over, it's widely agreed that “community notes” is the best (and often funniest) new feature. In mid-2021 Twitter previously rolled out a program called “Birdwatch” (now “community notes”) which it said would be a “community based approach” for fact-checking. On paper, the system would work by allowing users to identify information they believe to be misleading, and then provide additional commentary and sources. That additional commentary would be attached to the tweet to which it was written in response as a sort of “warning label,” and then users can vote on whether the note provides helpful context. If users decide it doesn't, it will be removed.” [Capital Research Center, [5/29/24](#)]

CRC accused nonprofits of “upending the local news marketplace and buying the trustworthiness of local news to use as camouflage for left-wing propaganda.” “The decline of traditional metropolitan “objective” media outlets has affected the news landscape dramatically. Those outlets were more liberal and less objective than they pretended, and their business model, which relied on advertising, has collapsed as online advertising has soared. This had led to targeted partisan journalism on the left and right, for business as well as political reasons. But while traditional outlets like the New York Times have moved further leftward, they and other national outlets have lost the trust of most Americans, who now place much more trust in state and local media. In response, left-wing foundations have made massive investments in nonprofit journalism and related efforts. Most recently, liberal foundations led by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation have staked \$500 million over five years in hopes of fundamentally upending the local news marketplace and buying the

trustworthiness of local news to use as camouflage for left-wing propaganda. Thus, the Left continues to expand its existing state-level “nonprofit newsrooms” that distribute ideological agitprop.” [Capital Research Center, [5/7/24](#)]

CRC: “liberal activists have taken a strong interest in taking over and building journalistic enterprises to promote liberal ideology, defend liberal political figures, and attack conservative political figures.” “In recent years—especially since the election of Donald Trump as president in 2016—liberal activists have taken a strong interest in taking over and building journalistic enterprises to promote liberal ideology, defend liberal political figures, and attack conservative political figures. The most prominent example of this activist impulse is likely Amazon founder Jeff Bezos’s purchase of the Washington Post in 2013. Since Bezos’s takeover, the Post has rebranded itself under the slogan “Democracy dies in darkness” and has aligned increasingly with the institutional governing class in its home city. The paper played a starring role in the ignominious journalistic fiasco that was the reporting into supposed connections between Donald Trump’s 2016 presidential campaign and Russian military intelligence. While Bezos has sought to make the Post profitable, the New York Times reported that the paper was on track to lose \$100 million in 2023 thanks to declines in readership since Donald Trump left office in 2021.[1]” [Capital Research Center, [5/14/24](#)]

CRC claimed activist journalists wanted “to change the demographic composition of newsgatherers to be less pale, less male, and conventional in private interests.” “In addition to general investments in local outlets and state-level advocacy efforts, Big Philanthropy has sought to further control the talent pipeline of journalists seeking elevation to prestige outlets. And while explicit ideological tests might attract unwanted attention, a de facto ideological sorting test works just as well: the trendy emphasis on “diversity, equity, and inclusion.” Activist journalists express concern that the wrong sort of person prospers in the traditional “pipeline” to a journalism career. Doris Truong, an editor at the Washington Post, writes for Nieman Lab: An overwhelming majority of journalists have at least a bachelor’s degree, compared with one-third of American adults. Like attracts like, and this comes at the expense of our newsrooms not reflecting the communities we’re supposed to serve. We need more people of color in newsrooms—particularly in leadership positions—but we also need more military veterans and disabled journalists.[1] It is important to note two things about activists’ desire to change the demographic composition of newsgatherers to be less pale, less male, and conventional in private interests.” [Capital Research Center, [5/14/24](#)]

CRC called Facebook’s anti-disinformation algorithm “a Trojan horse to push censorship” because “[t]he changes overwhelmingly benefited left-wing outlets.” “In January 2018, Zuckerberg announced Facebook’s algorithm would get two changes to help boost “trusted” news outlets while suppressing their competitors. Facebook claimed they determined trustworthiness by a two-question poll asking if a user had heard of a publication before and whether they trusted it.[1] At a tech conference in February 2018, former NBC and CNN anchor turned Facebook executive (until October 2023) Campbell Brown said they’d be boosting “quality” news sources regardless of name recognition. “So much of the best journalism today is being done by smaller, more niche, more focused journalists who aren’t going to have the brand recognition. To me, this is the future of journalism. This is where the experts are gonna be.” In effect, this was a Trojan horse to push censorship. The changes overwhelmingly benefited left-wing outlets.” [Capital Research Center, [5/29/24](#)]

Anti-Union Views

CRC accused unions of irrationally supporting “a broad amnesty for illegal immigrants and liberal expansionist immigration reforms.” “In 2000, the executive council of the AFL-CIO made what union-activist publication Labor Notes called “a dramatic reversal of its past policy” on immigration. In Labor Notes’ words, the council called “for an immediate amnesty for undocumented immigrants, and an end to sanctions on employers who hire them.” This statement represented a turn for American organized labor, which had mostly supported immigration control since its prehistory. In the ensuing two and a half decades, organized labor completed its flip-flop to support for a broad amnesty for illegal immigrants and liberal expansionist immigration reforms. Since the reversal, presaged by the federation’s resistance to strict immigration-restriction proposals in the 1990s, Big Labor has been a staunch ally of both Everything Leftist identity-based immigration activists and business lobbies like the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. This raises the question: Why?” [Capital Research Center, [3/26/24](#)]

CRC accused “hot labor summer” of being a failure after union membership fell 0.1 percent for 2023. “Last year, we noted that the well-publicized march back to relevance of union organizing was not supported by the facts on union membership when the federal government released them in January. Surely after a United Auto Workers strike that drew misguided support from some ostensible conservatives, prominent strikes by Hollywood writers and actors, and mainstream media’s proclamations of a “hot labor summer,” the Everything Leftism–driven renaissance of Big Labor would appear in the national annual statistics. “Union Summer” has been proclaimed seemingly every year since 1996 when John Sweeney took over the AFL-CIO and first proclaimed the beginning of summertime for Big Labor. But it’s happened again. Ghost of George Meany, it’s happened again. The Bureau of Labor Statistics released its annual analysis of union membership and union density (the proportion of the workforce that is unionized) this week, and it does not support the media narrative that Americans are champing at the bit to join and pay dues to Big Labor. Despite all the strikes, despite all the media coverage, the national union membership rate was “little changed” from 2022. It actually fell 0.1 percentage points to 10.0 percent—a drop that is presumably statistically indistinct from zero.” [Capital Research Center, [1/25/24](#)]

Based on a report from a member of Steamfitters Local 68 on support for Trump within the union outperforming support for Biden, CRC called for a Taft-Hartley consensus over the union likely funding Biden’s reelection efforts. “While in New York to deal with some legal issues, former President Donald Trump met with some construction workers at a site near the courthouse. Among them was Bob Bartels, a business manager with Steamfitters Local 638, a division of the United Association of Plumbers and Pipe-Fitters (UA). Bartels told Fox News: I put out a poll in my union—[former] President Trump is leading [incumbent President] Joe Biden 3 to 1 on my presidential poll out of my 9,000 members right now. We are very tired of the situation with groceries, inflation, gas prices, illegal immigration, and crime. We’re living it every day in New York City. Assume for the moment that Bartels is telling the truth and not just what a journalist for the right-leaning network wants to hear. He is perhaps unwittingly revealing a fundamental tension in contemporary labor unionism and the need for the Taft-Hartley Consensus. Because if he’s right, the majority of his members who support former President Trump are funding President Biden’s re-election campaign efforts.” [Capital Research Center, [5/1/24](#)]

CRC accused the Chicago Teachers Union of being “the gold standard for scandal and failure” among “corrupt” teachers unions. “If you want a textbook example of teachers union corruption, look no further than the gold standard for scandal and failure: the Chicago Teachers Union (CTU). The year 2023 was a banner year of debacles for what was the largest local union in the American Federation of Teachers until the 1960s. Similar to what the modern U.S. president hailing from the same city used to

say, change you can choose to believe in came to the CTU when they elected Stacy Davis Gates as their own new president in May of 2022. Like former President Barack Obama, the results were disappointing, to say the least. Where to begin? In 2023, there were 446 sexual abuse allegations in the Chicago Public School (CPS) system, ranging from sexual harassment to “the appearance of impropriety or possible grooming concerns.” Yikes. Yet the issue of sexual abuse seems to have been overshadowed in the media by the loss of 77,000 laptops and other electronic devices. Then, there are the scandals surrounding their new union president. Gates publicly opposed Chicago’s only school choice program, only to be caught sending her own son to private school. Choice for me, not for thee.” [Capital Research Center, [5/22/24](#)]

CRC claimed right-wing union members were starting to break away from their “left-wing” organizations. “Some on the ostensible right, most prominently the network of activists and think tankers involved in and surrounding the think tank American Compass (which receives major, at least six-figure funding from the left-wing Omidyar Network Fund and Hewlett Foundation), claim that labor unions can be made to break with the organized Left or are even beginning to do so. Fortunately, thanks to the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure (Landrum-Griffin) Act of 1959, one can put that thesis to the test. And unions’ annual reports filed pursuant to that law compel one to reject it. Most national labor unions—among them the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Unite Here, the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW), and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)—file their reports under Landrum-Griffin at the end of March each year after concluding a calendar-year fiscal year. Some unions, most notably the AFL-CIO federation and the two national teachers’ unions, file at other times since they use non-calendar-year fiscal years.” [Capital Research Center, [4/16/24](#)]

CRC: “since the end of the pandemic, Marxism in unions has become more mainstream.” “For decades, Marxism has has a complicated relationship with labor unions in the United States, with some unions leaning toward communism while other unions were unapologetically anti-Communist. However, since the end of the pandemic, Marxism in unions has become more mainstream with organizations such as the Democratic Socialists of America and the Communist Party USA helping unions like the Amazon Labor Union, Starbucks Workers United, and even the United Auto Workers.” [Capital Research Center, [1/17/24](#)]

Anti-Clean Energy and ESG

CRC argued wind-turbine deployment was “anti-environment environmentalism” because wind turbines were inefficient power systems that occupied excessive space and were dangerous to people. “Anti-Environment Environmentalism. Those are the methods needed to both conserve the environment and produce electricity. On the other side, to get 227 million MWh of power requires 6.4 times more than the combined output of all the Berkshire Hathaway Energy wind turbines in the five states listed in this analysis. So, getting electricity to 18 million Americans with BHE’s wind power would theoretically fill 11,520 square miles of America with wind farms. That chunk of our environment would be slightly smaller than the entire land area of Massachusetts or Hawaii, and could also consume the combined square miles of New Jersey and Delaware. And all that wind power and land consumption would provide only intermittently reliable electricity to just 6 percent of the U.S. population. For reasons already covered, it is dangerous for people to live directly underneath wind turbines, and increasingly unpopular to even live near them.” [Capital Research Center, [5/2/24](#)]

CRC attacked activist shareholders for promoting ESG policies. “To understand how environmental, social, and governance (ESG) activists are trying to shoehorn substantive public policy debates into American businesses, look no further than the shareholder resolutions they file at some of the country’s largest companies. Amazon’s annual meeting is May 22, and the company’s proxy materials reveal it will be facing fourteen shareholder resolutions. These generally serve as a good barometer for understanding current trends and priorities of ESG activists. The resolutions filed at Amazon, and the company’s response to them, help illustrate the nature of ESG activism at American public companies in 2024. The “E” prong of ESG—specifically climate change—has long been a focus of shareholder activism, and Amazon is no exception.” [Capital Research Center, [5/6/24](#)]

CRC’s Robert Stilson accused “Big Philanthropy” of attacking oil and gas companies. “Over the last several years, dozens of dubious climate change lawsuits have been brought by state and local governments against the oil and gas industry. They are bringing these cases with help from white-shoe law firms, funded by non-profit money from Big Philanthropy. Such attempts at “legislation through litigation” represent yet another example of the deeply regrettable tendency toward the ends-justify-the-means rationalizations common in contemporary political activism. The millions in tax-exempt philanthropic dollars apparently underwriting this lawsuit campaign also raise serious questions about the proper relationship between charity, politics and the judicial system.” [Robert Stilson Op-Ed, The Hill, [1/24/24](#)]

CRC attacked the Cabin Road Foundation for donating to environmental groups. “While the Cabin Road Foundation has made a handful of grants to left-of-center activist groups here and there—the \$2 million it gave to Media Matters for America is notable, for instance—its grantmaking would be largely unremarkable to those who study public policy-oriented philanthropy were it not for 2021, when it suddenly became a major funder two nationally prominent environmental activist groups simultaneously. One of these was the Greenpeace Fund, a United States–based 501(c)(3) affiliate of the perennially controversial eco-activist group, which is probably the most well-known environmental direct-action organization in the world. The Cabin Road Foundation gave the Greenpeace Fund \$10 million in 2021, which was by far the largest contribution the group reported that year and accounted for over 28 percent of its entire annual revenue. It is certainly no small thing for a virtually unknown private foundation to suddenly—if briefly—become the dominant funder of one of the few environmental activist groups that can credibly claim to be a household name.” [Capital Research Center, [3/12/24](#)]

CRC highlighted reports that Vestas wind turbines suffered major failures. “It is difficult and perhaps impossible for an outside party to objectively evaluate whether the problems for Vestas have been typically awful for the industry, or extraordinarily awful. In the absence of any substantive recordkeeping or obligation on the part of the turbine makers to publicly report their major malfunctions, we must rely on the accuracy of media accounts. Even if accurately reported, such accounts often fail to mention critical details such as who manufactured the equipment. And there are likely major malfunctions that have gone unreported, particularly in lower-income nations with comparatively less robust media coverage. Even with these caveats, Vestas wind turbines have been appearing in unpleasant media accounts for more than a decade.” [Capital Research Center, [2/27/24](#)]

PHILOSOPHY: VOTING RIGHTS AND ELECTION ISSUES

2023” CRC’s Scott Walter Claimed Left-Leaning Nonprofits Were Leading Efforts to Persuade States and Municipalities to Adopt Ranked-Choice Voting. “Scott Walter, president of the right-leaning Capital Research Center, told lawmakers earlier in the study that left-leaning nonprofits are

leading the effort to persuade municipalities and states to adopt ranked-choice voting.” [Public Radio Tulsa, [9/14/23](#)]

CRC: Actions of the DNC, Marc Elias, and George Soros “Jeopardized” Fair and Trustworthy Election Process. “A fair and trustworthy vote accepted by all citizens is necessary for functioning democratic processes. The actions of the Democratic National Committee, Marc Elias, and George Soros have jeopardized that. What Elias has done in recounts is proof that we need strong election integrity laws, ones that partisans can’t overpower.” [CRC, [1/14/19](#)]

CRC: While the Democratic Party Fought to Weaken Arizona’s Voting and Allow Native Americans to Vote Out of Precinct, Nonprofit Groups, Including VoteAmerica, Four Directions, and the Rural Utah Project, Worked Hard to Increase Turnout. “In the 2020 election, the Native American vote may have had the greatest impact in Arizona. Navajo Nation. American Indians make up 6 percent of the vote in Arizona, a state that Joe Biden won by fewer than 12,000 votes. Predictably left-of-center nonprofit work was extremely focused on delivering the state for Biden. While the Democratic Party fought to weaken Arizona’s voting rules by expanding mail-in ballot timing, allowing ballot harvesting, and allowing Native Americans to vote out of precinct, nonprofit groups were working hard to register voters and galvanize turnout. Navajo Nation, which is concentrated in northeast Arizona, contains approximately 67,000 eligible voters and broke for Joe Biden between 60 and 90 percent based on precinct-level data. They increased their turnout by 116 percent in 2020 due to the work of VoteAmerica, Four Directions, and the Rural Utah Project (RUP). In a Time piece about different groups that propelled the Biden campaign to victory, Navajo Nation members were seen wearing the ubiquitous Native Vote t-shirts and jackets from RUP.” [Capital Research Center, [12/02/21](#) (-)]

CRC’s Jonathan Harsh: The Vote-by-Mail System Has Flaws and Fears of COVID-19 Have Only Exacerbated Them. In an op-ed, CRC research intern Jonathan Harsh wrote, “COVID-19 is a legitimate concern. The appeal of vote-by-mail is understandable these days as it provides a way to practice civic duty while minimizing the risk of infection. In fact, according to an NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll, almost 68% of American voters favor non-permanent changes to current voting rules to allow for a state-level option of vote by mail. But the vote-by-mail system, like any other, has flaws, and fears of COVID-19 have only exacerbated the potential negatives. Potential issues include a lack of staffing for vote-by-mail systems, a lack of proper training for testing the new system, and problems with the overall delivery of absentee ballots. Although there is no such thing as a perfect electoral system, ignoring the myriad problems with past vote-by-mail elections would be foolish.” [Lowell Sun, Author: Jonathan Harsh, 7/19/20]

CRC Criticized the Biden Administration for Erecting a Non-scalable Fence Around Government Buildings Following the January 6th U.S. Capitol Riot. “One debate rocketing around the halls of Washington, DC—especially post-inauguration as the city’s citizens and political class watched non-scalable fencing erected around historic and traditionally open government buildings—is whether President Joe Biden will govern as a moderate and predictable Democrat politician or something more akin to a far-left progressive activist. If the new president has let the left-wing progressives persuade him that Americans citizens are enough of a threat to alter his domestic decision-making by turning the capital into a militarized zone, what will that shift to the left mean for foreign policy? Some conservatives believe this is a foregone conclusion given the persistent, antagonistic, and loud influence of progressive members like Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY).” [Capital Research Center, [2/09/21](#)]

Voter Fraud Alarmism

CRC: “Voter Fraud, The Crime The Left Says Doesn’t Exist, Keeps Rearing Its Ugly Head.”

“Voter fraud, the crime the Left says doesn’t exist, keeps rearing its ugly head. Four Democrats associated with ACORN’s political party, New York’s Working Families Party, have entered guilty pleas in connection with an illegal scheme in Troy, N.Y. As Eric Shawn of Fox News reports, signatures were forged on absentee ballots in the Working Families Party primary in 2009. The four men to have pleaded guilty are former Troy Democratic City Clerk William McInerney, Democratic Councilman John Brown, and Democratic Party operatives Anthony Renna and Anthony DeFiglio.” [CRC, [12/21/11](#)]

CRC: “To Many On The Political Left, Voter Fraud Is Dismissed As A Hoax Or Excuse That Conservatives Whip Out When Convenient.”

“To many on the political Left, voter fraud is dismissed as a hoax or excuse that conservatives whip out when convenient. They’ll have a hard time ignoring one of the most recent instances of election fraud, however. Twelve employees of the Indiana Voter Registration Project are now facing criminal charges for allegedly submitting fraudulent voter registration applications ahead of the 2016 election. Employees were accused of falsifying hundreds of applications in order to meet paid quotas. If the defendants are found guilty, they could each face up to two-and-a-half years in prison. [...] To many, this kind of quota-meeting voter fraud won’t come as a surprise. CRC’s Dr. Steven J. Allen has written extensively on the quiet war being waged against the secret ballot and ‘the right to vote any way you want.’ Three states – Washington, Oregon, and Colorado – have already abolished this essential democratic process, and more may follow.” [CRC, [6/13/17](#)]

CRC: “Why is it that even the most modest measures to ensure an election has integrity provoke hysteria from the Left and shameless comparisons to Jim Crow measures...?” “Where does this notion that anyone with a pulse must vote come from? Why is it that even the most modest measures to ensure an election has integrity provoke hysteria from the Left and shameless comparisons to Jim Crow measures that unconstitutionally denied large numbers of Americans the right to vote? The Left has long used shrill rhetoric to stifle many electoral integrity laws across the country. More recently, it has become increasingly emboldened as it parades illegal voters to the polls. There is a simple explanation: Voter fraud and illegal immigrant votes have historically favored Democrats, as we shall see.” [CRC, [12/15/15](#)]

CRC: “The George Soros-funded Advancement Project, a Radical Left-Wing Group, Is Colluding With Several Other Progressive Groups To Block Investigations Of Voter Fraud.”

“The George Soros-funded Advancement Project, a radical left-wing group, is colluding with several other progressive groups to block investigations of voter fraud. The mantra of the group, which is becoming a thorn in the side of the Republican Party, is that voter fraud is a myth made up by conservatives in order to disenfranchise the poor and minorities. But voter fraud is a serious problem that needs to be taken seriously. How serious a problem is voter fraud in America? Ask the left-leaning attorneys associated with the Brennan Center for Justice at the New York University School of Law and they will tell you that the problem is overstated, even non-existent. A March 29 Washington Post op-ed by Brennan Center executive director Michael Waldman and attorney Justin Levitt goes so far as to equate voter fraud in U.S. elections with imaginary sightings of Bigfoot, a.k.a. Sasquatch, the mythical man-like hairy monster said to inhabit the forests of North America.” [CRC, [5/02/12](#)]

CRC: Ballot Harvesting Tactic, “Seriously Imperiling The American People’s Ability To Cast Their Vote.”

“Do you care about fair and accurate elections? If so you need to know about a tactic seriously imperiling the American people’s ability to cast their vote. It’s called ‘ballot harvesting’ and

it's the practice of absentee ballots being picked up by a third-party, usually a partisan campaign employee, who then delivers the ballot directly to the polling place. Advocates argue it makes voting easier, but critics note the complete lack of oversight of what happens to the ballot— including the possibility it's never turned in." [CFC, [3/18/19](#)]

CRC: Left-Wing Activist Groups “Aggressively Promote Voter Registration Programs Designed To Increase The Vote Count For Democratic Party Candidates.” “Throughout the United States left-wing activist groups are making a concerted effort to block the investigation of voter fraud. But at the same time these same groups aggressively promote voter registration programs designed to increase the vote count for Democratic Party candidates. Voter registration activists and their lawyers pose as defenders of democracy. But they would have the states allow voting with almost no standards or procedures for guaranteeing the identity and residency of those who vote and register to vote.” [CRC, [5/02/12](#)]

CRC: “We Have Reason to Believe” ACORN’s Project Vote “Continues To Coordinate Voter Registration Strategies With The Subordinates of Obama.” “In the early 1990s, Barack Obama actually ran ACORN’s Project Vote division in Illinois. And now we have reason to believe, thanks to a Freedom of Information Act inquiry initiated by Judicial Watch, that Project Vote continues to coordinate voter registration strategies with the subordinates of Obama. Estelle H. Rogers, director of advocacy at ACORN-affiliated Project Vote, held high-level meetings with Obama White House and Department of Justice officials. Project Vote is part of what J. Christian Adams, a former attorney in the U.S. Justice Department’s Voting Rights Section, aptly describes as an ‘industry of vote fraud deniers.’ The Advancement Project, NYU’s Brennan Center, the NAACP, the ACLU and the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law are other key components of this network. (See ‘The Left’s Army of Election Law Experts,’ in CRC’s Organization Trends, October 2011.)” [CRC, [5/02/12](#)]

CRC’s Scott Walter urged the Texas legislature to investigate nonprofit groups for foreign ties and efforts to “influence elections.” “WALTER: Chairman Hughes, Vice Chair Paxton, distinguished members of the Committee, thank you for the honor of testifying. I’m president of the Capital Research Center, where for decades we have studied the nonprofit world and its connections to politics. I have testified to a number of state legislatures on efforts by nonprofits to influence elections and undermine election integrity, and I have also testified to multiple committees in the U.S. Congress on these dangers.[1] I applaud the Texas legislature’s prior efforts to prevent election abuses such as the infamous “Zuck bucks” monies that plagued the 2020 election. I would like to survey several areas that deserve additional vigilance and especially urge you to consider further investigation into these nonprofits’ work to influence Lone Star state elections.” [Scott Walter’s Testimony Before the Texas Senate Committee on State Affairs, [6/3/24](#)]

CRC’s Scott Walter urged the Georgia legislature to keep in mind that Rank Choice Voting efforts were allegedly being funded by Democratic groups. “Chairman Burns, Vice Chairman Williams, and distinguished members of the Committee, thank you for the honor of testifying. I’m Scott Walter, president of the Capital Research Center, a think tank that specializes in identifying special interests and the money flows they use to push state and federal policies. We track the special interests that aim to influence how Americans vote, including efforts to introduce ranked-choice voting, or RCV.[1] Though this scheme was first used in America a century ago, it was largely forgotten until tens of millions of dollars began to be put behind it in the last several years. Like many special interests, the donors pouring money into this election scheme frame it as a “nonpartisan” idea. But the cash behind RCV demonstrates that is not true. Left-wing Democrats are its largest boosters. You may or may not

decide RCV is desirable. As an out-of-stater, I won't presume to tell you what's best for Georgia. But please don't fall for false claims that centrists or nonpartisans are the main backers of RCV, or that lots of conservative donors support it." [Scott Walter Written Testimony To Georgia Senate Ethics Committee Sen. Max Burns, Chairman, [1/24/24](#)]

CRC argued philanthropic election spending could be “thinly veiled partisan and politically liberal effort to manage electoral outcomes.” “There is a strong temptation to dismiss Big Philanthropy’s “transformative role in rehabilitating democracy” or, as Iburgüen put it, “managing democracy,” as a thinly veiled partisan and politically liberal effort to manage electoral outcomes. After all, the “fragility of democracy” seems to have first appeared around the time George W. Bush ascended to the White House in 2000. Democracy made an extraordinary eight-year recovery during the Obama presidency but became even more frail when Donald Trump won election in 2016. Now democracy itself, as President Biden has campaigned, is on the ballot in 2024. Let’s take Big Philanthropy at its word, however. After all, many of the largest so-called conservative foundations in America—the Charles Koch, Scaife, and Bradley foundations and the Searle Freedom Trust—also believe that they have a special role to play in architecting the restoration of American institutions.” [Capital Research Center, [4/19/24](#)]

Voter ID

CRC: “...the Left not only opposes every law, like voter ID, that aims to ensure honest elections, it is also passing laws and regulations that aim to swamp the polls with Left-friendly voters.” “The Left seeks power, and at least for the time being, that requires winning elections. So the Left pursues every scheme it can concoct to boost votes for its favored causes and candidates. This report details how the Left not only opposes every law, like voter ID, that aims to ensure honest elections, it is also passing laws and regulations that aim to swamp the polls with Left-friendly voters. And so non-citizens, and illegal immigrants, and underage voters are being welcomed to voting booths, while voter registration and even voting itself are on the road to being made compulsory for every person with a heartbeat.” [CRC, [12/15/15](#)]

CRC: “Spread the Vote is essentially an anti-voter ID group” “Spread the Vote is essentially an anti-voter ID group; it claims the ‘true effect’ of voter identification laws is to ‘disproportionately suppress voter turnout for the young, new voters, the elderly, and minorities.’ But unlike traditional anti-voter ID groups such as the Advancement Project—which generally attempt to undo voter ID laws and even re-enfranchise convicted felons—STV primarily helps new voters obtain IDs in states that require identification to vote, such as Virginia. To that end, it publishes detailed information on voter ID laws and requirements across the country.” [CRC, [5/09/18](#)]

Voter Registration

CRC: Foundations Are “Acutely Aware” That Registering New Voters is “Arguably an Inherently Political Act” Despite IRS Permission. “While foundations are barred from engaging in overtly partisan activity, the IRS considers registering new voters a charitable act open to nonprofits. Thus, the IRS permits numerous tax-exempt nonprofits (mostly on the Left) to engage in massive voter registration and turnout campaigns, so long as they don’t advocate for a particular political party or a candidate. But the line between charity and politics is razor-thin when it comes to voting. Foundations are acutely aware that this activity is arguably an inherently political act—one that can compromise philanthropic giants like Ford and MacArthur. And Proteus knows it. The 2006 Proteus report

acknowledged that ‘funders sometimes are concerned about support of civic/voter engagement activities because they are political and therefore can be perceived as partisan.’” [CRC, [9/03/19](#)]

Redistricting

CRC: “One Of The Biggest Projects The Left Is Undertaking Is The Upcoming 2021 Redistricting Fight.” “The last generation of leftists would of course focus on helping Democrats get elected, but the effort was often divided into silos—teachers unions here, a radical agitation group like ACORN there, a group of environmentally concerned suburbanites elsewhere. Now these groups are much more likely to be receiving more coordinated instructions from their donors, and they are meeting a lot more in action-focused networking groups, at both the national and state levels, and they are sharing reams of data with each other that helps everyone hone their messaging, drive up their fundraising, and improve their voter mobilization. One of the biggest projects the Left is undertaking is the upcoming 2021 redistricting fight. Almost every level of the Left’s infrastructure is involved in this from grassroots voter registration all the way to the DNC.” [CRC, [4/12/19](#)]

ATTACKS ON ORGANIZATIONS

2022: CRC President Scott Walter Said He Intended to Make the Case that Abuses by 501(c)(3) Charities Are a Much Bigger Problem than Dark Money. “Scott Walter, president of the Capital Research Center, a conservative group that monitors philanthropy and political giving, said he was told that there is no specific piece of legislation linked to the hearing. Walter said he intends to make the case that abuses by 501(c)(3) charities crossing the line into partisan activities are a much bigger problem than the 501(c)(4) ‘dark money’ that Whitehouse intends to focus on.” [The Chronicle of Philanthropy, [5/3/22](#)]

ACRONYM

CRC’s Scott Walter: ACRONYM Had Many Ties to the Clinton and Obama Administration Yet Their Fiends in the Media Dismissed Theories that the Groups Iowa Caucus App Failure Was a Clever Way to Rig the System Against Bernie Sanders. In an op-ed, CRC’s Scott Walter wrote, ‘As the Daily Caller reported Tuesday in the wake of the Iowa caucus debacle, the firm responsible for the technology that caused delays in vote counts is linked to a vast network of Democrat-aligned groups engaged in leftist advocacy. At Capital Research Center, we track the funding and interconnections of these groups on our InfluenceWatch site, where the entry for ACRONYM, the nonprofit owner of Shadow, Inc. which designed the faulty app, reveals many of the ties to Clinton and Obama. Democrat operatives and their friends in the media immediately dismissed theories that the Iowa app failure was a clever way to rig the system against Bernie Sanders. Again. This is deeply ironic because not only is the company that created the app linked to a vast leftist funding network - it’s called Arabella Advisors and it’s criminally underreported - but some of the main players, from the founder of Shadow, Inc. to well-known progressive digital media strategists, have proven they love wild conspiracy theories, so long as they involve ‘Russia collusion’ or Donald Trump.’ [The Daily Caller, Author: Scott Walter, 2/04/20]

ActBlue

CRC: “Give ActBlue an A+ for juicing the professional Left—and an F for transparency.” Billions from ActBlue Went to Left-Leaning and Progressive Groups. “Give ActBlue an A+ for juicing the professional Left—and an F for transparency. Few have heard of it, but the Left’s fundraising platform

of choice is gargantuan, pulling in \$407 million in 2020 between its 501(c)(3) ActBlue Charities and (c)(4) Civics arms, along with a whopping \$4.2 billion from its PAC. All of this money went to hundreds or even thousands of left-leaning and ‘progressive’ groups active in the 2020 election, ranging from Priorities USA Action and the Biden Victory Fund—both nine-figure Democratic heavyweights—to radical Greenpeace, the vote-by-mail Voter Participation Center, and the hate-spewing Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). ActBlue’s platform helps left-wing groups raise money from donors, charging them a fee for the service. The group brags that it’s raised close to \$10 billion for the Left since 2004. Yet much of this is ‘dark money’: funding from untraceable donors using ActBlue to bankroll permanent network of nonprofits in Washington, DC, that are attempting to control or influence the nation’s power centers.” [Capital Research Center, [2/07/22](#) (-)]

America Votes

CRC: Arabella Advisors’ Groups Gave Almost \$174 Million to America Votes, “a Massive Get-Out-The-Vote Mobilization and Voter Registration Group Which Lobbies For ‘Reforms’ Intended to Weaken Election Integrity and Help Democratic Turnout.” “So far we’ve traced grants from Arabella groups to leftist groups totaling at least \$10 million in Pennsylvania, \$7 million in Colorado, \$3.6 million in Arizona, \$3 million in Georgia, \$2.5 million in North Carolina, and \$2 million in Michigan—all of which were crucial to the outcome of the 2020 election, save for Colorado. Other grant highlights include: Almost \$174 million from the Sixteen Thirty, New Venture, and Hopewell Funds to America Votes, a massive get-out-the-vote mobilization and voter registration group which lobbies for ‘reforms’ intended to weaken election integrity and help Democratic turnout. \$25 million from the New Venture Fund to the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL), which used \$350 million from Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg to effectively privatize the 2020 election in thousands of local government elections offices across the country. \$10 million from the Sixteen Thirty Fund to the NeverTrump group Defending Democracy Together (DDT), founded by former Republican operative and writer Bill Kristol.” [Capital Research Center, [11/22/21](#) (-)]

CRC: “During the 2020 Election Cycle, Three Interconnected Organizations—State Voices, America Votes, and ProgressNow—Received More Than \$100 Million From Wealthy Donors to Fund Phony Grassroots Organizing on a Massive Scale.” “The best way to reach people is always at home with a good old-fashioned grassroots campaign, and for years America’s left-leaning billionaire donors have sought to use their money to replicate one. The problem is that true grassroots activism requires a sincerity and local reputation that money can’t buy. Additionally, grassroots work often centers around single-issue goals specific to local communities, making it hard to coordinate on a large scale. To overcome this problem America’s uber-rich have found a crafty alternative. Instead of trying to create grassroots activism from scratch, they have used their money to buy influence over local groups that already exist. During the 2020 election cycle, three interconnected organizations—State Voices, America Votes, and ProgressNow—received more than \$100 million from wealthy donors to fund phony grassroots organizing on a massive scale. [...] Enticing local activists to work with them with promises of money, allies, and sophisticated digital tools, State Voices, America Votes, and ProgressNow have built networks that give them some degree of control over grassroots activism on a massive scale.” [Capital Research Center, [11/04/21](#) (-)]

CRC: Majority Forward is a “Dark Money” Behemoth That Helped the Democratic Party Secure the Senate in 2021... Grants from Majority Forward to Other Groups Included \$14 Million to America Votes, “a Self-Described ‘Hub’ for Coordinating the Left’s Get-Out-the-Vote Operations...” “If the name ‘Majority Forward’ sounds familiar, it shouldn’t—transparency is not the

group's style. But perhaps no organization had a bigger impact on securing, for the first time in years, the Democratic Party's thin control of the U.S. Senate in 2021. Majority Forward, the 501(c)(4) arm of the Democrats' partisan Senate Majority PAC, is a 'dark money' behemoth. You wouldn't know it from the group's nondescript website, but Majority Forward spent \$515,000 backing Joe Biden in 2020 and pumped \$1.7 million into the January special elections for U.S. Senate in Georgia to boost Democratic candidates Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock. Their victories decided control of the Senate. But Majority Forward's main value to the left is serving as a pass-through to other political nonprofits. [...] Grants from Majority Forward to other political groups include \$10 million to the Black Progressive Action Coalition, which spent over \$4 million helping Joe Biden, Democratic Senate candidate Cal Cunningham in North Carolina, and Ossoff and Warnock in Georgia. The group also gave \$14 million to America Votes, a self-described 'hub' for coordinating the left's get-out-the-vote operations hoping to paint America blue." [Capital Research Center, [10/04/21](#) (-)]

Anti-Defamation League

Capital Research Center Attacked The Anti-Defamation League For Taking On “Fashionable Liberal Causes.” “One of the single-focus groups that has taken the path of being subsumed into party-coalition block is the Anti-Defamation League. Formed in 1913 to combat anti-Semitism, the ADL had long favored abortion rights, liberal immigration policy, and strong civil rights protections, but in 2015 new leadership took it in the ideological direction of the controversial Southern Poverty Law Center. Under ex-Obama administration official Jonathan Greenblatt, the ADL has taken on fashionable liberal causes and faced extensive criticism for failing to timely address anti-Semitic comments from liberal politicians.” [Capital Research Center, [4/26/22](#)]

Arabella Advisors and Associated Entities

CRC's Hayden Ludwig: “Groups like the Arabella Network Weaponize Charitable Laws and Tax Exemption to Aid Democratic Electoral Victories, Bypassing the IRS Prohibition on Electioneering. “While the Sixteen Thirty Fund explicitly donates to Democratic political action committees (PACs) and candidates, according to an OpenSecrets review of its campaign spending, the Arabella network's other funds bankroll left-leaning and Democrat-affiliated groups that engage in electoral activism and issue-based advocacy, according to The New York Times ‘Groups like the Arabella network weaponize charitable laws and tax exemption to aid Democratic electoral victories, bypassing the IRS prohibition on electioneering,’ Hayden Ludwig, senior investigative researcher at Capital Research Center (CRC), a conservative watchdog group researching liberal financial influence, told the DCNF.” [The Daily Caller, [12/26/22](#)]

CRC's Hayden Ludwig: Although it Calls Itself Bipartisan, Center for Secure and Modern Elections “is a Front for Arabella Advisors' \$1.67 Billion Network” and Helped Funnel Zuck Bucks to County Election Officials in 2020. In an article for The American Conservative, Hayden Ludwig from the Capital Research Center wrote, “‘Zuck bucks’ are no more. After pouring \$350 million into largely Democratic districts in the 2020 election, boosting turnout for Joe Biden in strategic counties, the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL) has announced it won't be trying to privatize all future American elections. Instead, it wants to federalize them. Earlier this month, CTCL revealed its next project: the U.S. Alliance for Election Excellence, an \$80 million campaign to boost federal funding for elections, which are administered by the states, while centralizing how they're run. Make no mistake, this is the professional left at work, and it starts with making vote by mail permanent. [...] Besides CTCL, the Alliance for Election Excellence is run by a bevy of leftist nonprofits playing at

‘good government’ groups. Although it calls itself ‘bipartisan,’ the Center for Secure and Modern Elections (CSME) is a front for Arabella Advisors’ \$1.67 billion network, the most powerful liberal lobbying force in Washington. CSME has lobbied for automatic voter registration across the country and hired Democratic consultants to help funnel Zuck bucks to county elections officials in at least two states in 2020.” [The American Conservative, Author: Hayden Ludwig, [4/27/22](#)]

CRC: Arabella Advisors’ Groups Gave Almost \$174 Million to America Votes, “a Massive Get-Out-The-Vote Mobilization and Voter Registration Group Which Lobbies For ‘Reforms’ Intended to Weaken Election Integrity and Help Democratic Turnout.” “So far we’ve traced grants from Arabella groups to leftist groups totaling at least \$10 million in Pennsylvania, \$7 million in Colorado, \$3.6 million in Arizona, \$3 million in Georgia, \$2.5 million in North Carolina, and \$2 million in Michigan—all of which were crucial to the outcome of the 2020 election, save for Colorado. Other grant highlights include: Almost \$174 million from the Sixteen Thirty, New Venture, and Hopewell Funds to America Votes, a massive get-out-the-vote mobilization and voter registration group which lobbies for ‘reforms’ intended to weaken election integrity and help Democratic turnout. \$25 million from the New Venture Fund to the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL), which used \$350 million from Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg to effectively privatize the 2020 election in thousands of local government elections offices across the country. \$10 million from the Sixteen Thirty Fund to the NeverTrump group Defending Democracy Together (DDT), founded by former Republican operative and writer Bill Kristol.” [Capital Research Center, [11/22/21](#) (-)]

CRC: Democracy Alliance Members Were Instructed to Make Donations Payable to the New Venture Fund and Sixteen Thirty Fund, “Two Nonprofits in the \$731 Million ‘Dark Money’ Empire Controlled by Arabella Advisors.” “Take it from liberal journalist Sasha Issenberg, who explains how the Voter Participation Center works in his 2012 book, *The Victory Lab: The Secret Science of Winning Campaigns*: ‘Even though the group was officially nonpartisan, for tax purposes, there was no secret that the goal of all its efforts was to generate new votes for Democrats’ (p. 305; emphasis added). That’s the same strategy governing the Democracy Alliance (DA), a collective of left-wing donors and influencers who meet to coordinate partisan spending ahead of elections. DA defines the New American Majority as including ‘Black, Latino and Millennial’ voters as well as ‘women, LGBT, Asian/Pacific Islanders, and the white working class,’ labeling this bloc ‘central to progressive long-term success.’ No wonder the phrase is used at least 41 times in a private Democracy Alliance document detailing its ‘2020 Investment Portfolio Progress & Updates’ and always in the context of using voter mobilization programs to reach new left-leaning voters in battleground states. Amusingly, members are instructed to make donations to the Black Civic Engagement Fund and similarly named causes payable to the New Venture Fund and Sixteen Thirty Fund, two nonprofits in the \$731 million ‘dark money’ empire controlled by Arabella Advisors.” [Capital Research Center, [9/02/21](#) (-)]

CRC: Democrats Had No Shortage of Left-Wing “Dark Money” Groups At Their Backs in the 2020 Election. “Chief Among Them Was the Sixteen Thirty Fund”. “Democrats had no shortage of left-wing ‘dark money’ groups at their backs in the 2020 election. Chief among them was the Sixteen Thirty Fund, a 501(c)(4) advocacy group and the in-house lobbying shop for a \$635 million activist network run by the consultancy Arabella Advisors, which was exposed in CRC’s recent report *The Shadow over America*. Since that report was released, the numbers have only grown. According to the recently acquired Form 990 filings for each of Arabella’s four nonprofits, the ‘dark money’ network raked in \$731 million in 2019—a \$95 million increase over its 2018 revenues and an order of magnitude larger than the \$54 million increase in total revenue between 2017 and 2018. And it spent \$648 million.

That’s about \$200 million more than the Democratic National Committee (DNC) spent in the 2019–2020 election cycle.” [Capital Research Center, [12/15/20](#)]

CRC: “Even Liberal Politico has Remarkd on the \$140 Million that the Sixteen Thirty Fund Raised in 2019, Calling the Group a ‘Dark-Money Behemoth’ and ‘One of the Left’s Biggest Financial Hubs.’” “Even liberal Politico has remarked on the \$140 million that the Sixteen Thirty Fund raised in 2019, calling the group a ‘dark-money behemoth’ and ‘one of the Left’s biggest financial hubs.’ Sixteen Thirty’s original donors are virtually impossible to trace, but we know at least one donor to Sixteen Thirty: the New Venture Fund was Sixteen Thirty’s biggest donor in 2019 at \$33 million. The New Venture Fund is Sixteen Thirty Fund’s 501(c)(3) ‘sister’ group and the flagship of the Arabella network. The Arabella groups’ Form 990 filings for 2020 won’t be released until late 2021, but its spending figures for the 2020 election are already available at InfluenceWatch.” [Capital Research Center, [12/15/20](#)]

2019: CRC Created Website Called DarkMoneyATM.Org Dedicated to Exposing Arabella Advisors’ “Dark Money” Network. In 2019, Capital Research Center created a website called DarkMoneyATM.org that called Arabella Advisors “the left’s \$500 million dark money ATM”. The website included a link to CRC’s full report on Arabella Advisors’ network of “dark” dollars, the website listed various groups tied to Arabella Advisors and also provided videos and articles on Arabella. [DarkMoneyATM.org, accessed [11/25/19](#)]

September 2019: Breitbart Aired Interview with CRC Researcher Hayden Ludwig, Who Discussed Arabella Advisors’ “Dark Money” Empire That Advocated for Abortion. “Alex Marlow talks with Hayden Ludwig, investigative researcher at Capital Research Center. They discuss Arabella Advisors’ so-called “dark money” empire advocating for taxpayer-funded abortion and abortion on demand. This interview originally aired on Breitbart News Daily on September 25, 2019.” [CRC, [10/11/19](#)]

CRC: New Venture Fund “Uses Its Tax-Exemption as an Umbrella for Hundreds of Pseudo-Nonprofits to Attack Conservatives on Free Speech, Tax Policy, Healthcare, and More…” “The New Venture Fund, Arabella’s flagship nonprofit and a true IRS-designated 501(c)(3) nonprofit, uses its tax-exemption as an umbrella for hundreds of pseudo-nonprofits to attack conservatives on free speech, tax policy, healthcare, and more—while collecting donations from gullible people who think they’re helping a liberal cause. Naturally, that relationship is rarely—if ever—disclosed. Hilariously, Allied Progress has hypocritically attacked supposed ‘dark money’ groups on the right. Last November, it sarcastically labeled Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Acting Director Mick Mulvaney ‘a masterclass in transparency.’” [CRC, [8/23/19](#)]

CRC: Operating under the aegis of philanthropy, “Shadowy” \$600 Million Network is housed in and staffed by a for-profit, privately held consultancy called Arabella Advisors, LLC. “This study by the Capital Research Center documents a shadowy web into which nearly \$600 million flowed in 2017, the most recent year for which tax returns are available. Operating under the aegis of “philanthropy,” this network is housed in and staffed by a for-profit, privately held consultancy called Arabella Advisors, LLC.* Arabella manages four nonprofit entities—the New Venture Fund, Sixteen Thirty Fund, Windward Fund, and Hopewell Fund—each of which shares an address and interlocking officers with Arabella. Philanthropic advising is lucrative for Arabella, in part because its clients are so wealthy: it claims its donors’ assets are worth more than \$100 billion. Between 2007 and 2017,

Arabella’s four nonprofit Funds paid a combined \$76 million in management fees to Arabella Advisors.” [CRC, [4/17/19](#)]

CRC Report: “All that wealth makes Arabella’s network one of the largest—and most effective—’dark money’ labyrinths on the left, roughly equal in size to the much better known and highly controversial Tides Foundation[.]” “According to figures from Forbes, that would make the groups the 22nd-largest public charity in America, were they a single nonprofit—with higher revenues than the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, or the Clinton Foundation. All that wealth makes Arabella’s network one of the largest—and most effective—’dark money’ labyrinths on the left, roughly equal in size to the much better known and highly controversial Tides Foundation, another group that provides pass-through funding.” [CRC, [4/17/19](#)]

CRC Report: Arabella Advisors provides much more to the institutional Left than donor advice—it runs a network of hundreds of “front” groups. “Arabella Advisors provides much more to the institutional Left than donor advice—it runs a network of hundreds of “front” groups. These groups are generally little more than websites created to give the appearance of a full-fledged “grassroots” organization tackling a niche area: protesting President Trump’s judicial nominees (including Justice Brett Kavanaugh), pushing environmentalist causes, propping up Obamacare, and attacking the Department of Health and Human Services for revoking Obamacare rules that had compelled religious groups to pay for birth control.” [CRC, [4/17/19](#)]

CRC: “[T]hanks to the Unique Financial Arrangements” And “Lack Of Donor Disclosure,” It Is Impossible To Trace Which Organization Pays For The Various Campaigns And Political Movements Spawned By Arabella’s Funds. “The line between philanthropy and political advocacy at Arabella is blurry indeed. Most of the projects hosted by the four Funds and financed by Arabella’s donors advocate for controversial positions on social issues, for the expansion of government—or both. Yet thanks to the unique financial arrangements of the network and the lack of donor disclosure, it is impossible to trace which organization pays for the various campaigns and political movements spawned by Arabella’s Funds.” [CRC, [4/17/19](#)]

CRC: Arabella’s network often plays host to highly influential groups on the Left, Like George Soros’ Democracy Fund, Which Used The New Venture Fund and Sixteen Thirty Fund For Multiple Projects. “The Arabella network of funds is also growing rapidly: from 2013 to 2017, the network’s revenues grew by an incredible 392 percent. Arabella’s network often plays host to highly influential groups on the Left. For example, the Democracy Alliance, a network of donors co-founded by billionaire George Soros, has used the New Venture Fund and Sixteen Thirty Fund to host at least eight projects that don’t disclose their original funders. While financial information for the 2018 election year has not been disclosed, the Arabella network will likely show continued steep revenue growth.” [CRC, [4/17/19](#)]

CRC: “While An Enterprising Citizen Could Find Some Donors Who Give To Arabella’s Nonprofit Entities, It Is Impossible To Determine Whose Money Goes To Which Project.” “Fights over healthcare have also received this ‘pop up’ treatment. Dozens of ready-made websites urging Floridians, Ohioans, and North Carolinians to support Obamacare. These seemingly ‘grassroots’ movements are all operated by one of Arabella’s master nonprofit organizations. Another organization, Health Care for America Now (HCAN) recently re-emerged as a big player in the debate over the government’s role in insurance markets. Originally a project of the off-shore ‘dark money’ Atlantic Philanthropies, HCAN found a new home with Arabella’s 501(c)(4) Sixteen Thirty Fund. It continues to

mislead the American public about health insurance companies and the benefits of government-run healthcare. As for the funders of these and the dozens of other projects managed by Arabella? No one can say for sure. Because all the projects are fiscally sponsored, they don't file a Form 990 with the IRS. While an enterprising citizen could find some donors who give to Arabella's nonprofit entities, it is impossible to determine whose money goes to which project." [CRC, [4/12/19](#)]

CRC: From 2007 to 2016, New Venture Fund Spent \$112 Million to Contractors; NVF's Management Firm Arabella Advisors Received \$50 Million of That. "Since the Science Philanthropy Alliance is a project of New Venture Fund rather than its own tax- exempt entity, it cannot directly accept donations. It is supported by the vast resources of the New Venture Fund which boasted over \$350 million in revenue in 2016. [...] New Venture Fund reported over \$112 million spent to contractors between 2007 and 2016. The organization's management firm, Arabella Advisors, received \$50 million. In addition to New Venture, Arabella Advisors controls the Hopewell Fund, the Windward Fund, and the Sixteen Thirty Fund. Arabella CEO Eric Kessler serves as the principal officer for each of these nonprofit entities. Apparently, 'provid[ing] advice and learning opportunities' for science philanthropists is expensive. The mission comes with a hefty price tag as the President of Science Philanthropy Alliance, Marc Kastner, earned \$531,250 in 2016, according to the organization's tax returns. This is higher than any other employee within the entire New Venture Fund." [CRC, [3/13/19](#)]

CRC: "Arabella's Nonprofit Entities Form A 'Mercenary' Network For Left-Wing Clients To Invest Their Money In Tailor-Made 'Grassroots' Groups." "That's because CfA was formed in 2015 as part of the New Venture Fund, a major left-wing funding and incubation nonprofit managed by the consulting firm, Arabella Advisors. The New Venture Fund is becoming known for its 'pop-up' campaigns—complete with websites designed to look like niche grassroots advocacy organizations—which it maintains alongside its advocacy arm, the Sixteen Thirty Fund. In 2016, the group transferred from the New Venture Fund to the Hopewell Fund, a smaller 'sister' nonprofit also controlled by Arabella Advisors. (Arabella's nonprofit entities form a 'mercenary' network for left-wing clients to invest their money in tailor-made 'grassroots' groups. Read more about Arabella's vast network of influence here.)" [CRC, [3/04/19](#)]

CRC: Arabella Advisors Hosts Four "Mega-Funder Nonprofits:" the Sixteen Thirty Fund, New Venture Fund, Hopewell Fund, and Windward Fund. "In fact, at least thirteen pro-Obamacare organizations aren't independent organizations at all, but websites hosted by a handful of mega-funder nonprofits: the Sixteen Thirty Fund, New Venture Fund, and Hopewell Fund. Those three funds are in turn managed by Arabella Advisors, a mysterious consulting firm based in Washington, D.C. Arabella Advisors advises wealthy clients on what it calls 'strategic philanthropy.' In practice though, Arabella's strategic giving involves philanthropic investments to left-leaning causes and organizations. The firm hosts four such Funds sporting benign names—three 501(c)(3) nonprofits and one 501(c)(4) advocacy group: the three listed above plus the Windward Fund, which funds environmentalist projects." [CRC, [1/10/19](#)]

- **CRC: If These Four Groups Were Combined into a Single Organization, "the Funds Would Be The 29th-Wealthiest Public Charity In The United States[.]"** "Together, these four groups earned a staggering \$417 million in 2016, according to their latest tax filings. Were they combined into a single organization, the Funds would be the 29th-wealthiest public charity in the United States, according to Forbes' 2016 figures, earning more than the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, and the Clinton Foundation." [CRC, [1/10/19](#)]

CRC: The Players Coalition, Which Negotiated a Settlement with “Vile” Colin Kaepernick, is Overseen by the Hopewell Fund, in Turn Managed by Arabella Advisors. “It started with football players protesting the National Anthem, and ended, as protests often do, with money changing hands: The vile Colin Kaepernick becomes a highly compensated spokesman for Nike, and the NFL tries to pay off activist players with tens of millions of dollars for leftist causes. [...] Following negotiations with the Players Coalition, a group of about 40 players, the NFL announced in November that it would set up a ‘social justice fund’ totaling \$89 million over seven years. Of the \$89 million, \$73 million would be distributed nationally, and split three ways: [...] One-half to the Players Coalition, overseen by the Hopewell Fund, in turn managed by Arabella Advisors. Arabella, which shares office space with Hopewell in Washington, D.C., guides spending by left-wing nonprofits. It was founded by Eric Kessler, who served in the Clinton Administration and is a former national field director of the League of Conservation Voters. Kessler serves as chairman of the New Venture Fund, at the same address as Hopewell and Arabella. In turn, New Venture takes money from unions and foundations and sends it to groups favored by rich leftists. That’s fitting, given that Kaepernick is rich and, above all, a leftist.” [CRC, [9/07/18](#)]

Sixteen Thirty Fund

CRC: Sixteen Thirty Fund Gave \$44 Million in Grants to Politically Active, Left Wing Groups in 29 States, “Many of Them Key to Biden’s Victory Over Trump and With Tight U.S. Senate Races.” “The year 2020 was a blowout year for political spending. The nonpartisan watchdog OpenSecrets estimates that the 2020 election cost a record \$14.4 billion, more than twice as much as the record-breaking 2016 election. At the tip of the Left’s “dark money” spear was the Sixteen Thirty Fund, the in-house advocacy arm of a \$1.7 billion nonprofit empire created and run by the liberal consultancy Arabella Advisors in Washington, DC. In 2020 alone, this juggernaut spent an incredible \$410 million in lobbying, anti-Republican ads, and grants to left-wing PACs and other political groups, which helped oust President Donald Trump, retain a slim majority in the House of Representatives, and take control of the Senate (with the vice president’s tie-breaking vote). But few are aware of just how active Sixteen Thirty Fund was in boosting Democratic causes in the states. We’ve traced nearly \$44 million in grants from this mega-funder to politically active, left-wing groups in 29 states, many of them key to Joe Biden’s victory over Trump and with tight U.S. Senate races.” [Capital Research Center, [2/11/22](#) (-)]

CRC: Coalition of Left-Wing “Dark Money” Groups Led by Fix Our Senate are Campaigning to Eliminate the Filibuster in the Senate. Fix Our Senate is a Fiscally Sponsored Project of Sixteen Thirty Fund, Which is Part of Arabella Advisors’ “Dark Money” Network. “Last week, Hayden Ludwig appeared on Washington Watch with Tony Perkins to talk about a ‘coalition’ of left-wing ‘dark money’ groups that are campaigning to eliminate the filibuster in the U.S. Senate. The coalition sent a letter to Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), urging him to eliminate the filibuster so that Senate can pass more of the left-progressive agenda. The coalition is led by Fix Our Senate, a fiscally sponsored project of Sixteen Thirty Fund, which in turn is part of the Arabella Advisors ‘dark money’ network. In other words, Fix Our Senate is yet another ‘pop up’ group designed to give the appearance of popular support to an issue. In fact, many coalition members are themselves pop-up groups supported through the Arabella Advisors network, making the entire effort an impressive example of astroturf activism.” [Capital Research Center, [1/19/22](#) (-)]

CRC: North Fund “is Perhaps the Biggest Bankroller of Left-Wing State Ballot Initiatives You’ve Never Heard Of” ...The North Fund “Acts as a Cousin” to Arabella’s Groups and in 2019, Sixteen

Thirty Fund Provided “Every Penny” of the North Fund’s Revenue. “Call it a ‘dark money’ juggernaut—the enigmatic North Fund is perhaps the biggest bankroller of left-wing state ballot initiatives you’ve never heard of. This little-known giant is behind the campaign for DC statehood (‘51 for 51’), the push for mail-in ballots in key battleground states like North Carolina and Pennsylvania (‘Count Every Vote Project’), and a pressure campaign to censor conservatives on Facebook and other platforms (‘Accountable Tech’), according to trade names filed with the DC Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs. [...] The North Fund acts as a cousin to Arabella’s four in-house ‘sister’ groups. Arabella Advisors is listed as the contact for North Fund, which paid the company \$942,000 last year for ‘administration, operations, and management services.’ Arabella general counsel Saurabh Gupta also sits on North Fund’s board. In 2019, Sixteen Thirty Fund provided every penny of the North Fund’s revenues. [...] The North Fund was behind multiple Colorado ballot initiatives in 2020. It funneled \$1.35 million to Abortion Access for All, the campaign to defeat a proposed 22-week abortion ban (Prop. 115). The initiative was rejected 59-41 percent. North Fund and Sixteen Thirty Fund together provided \$7 million of the \$9 million campaign to pass paid family medical leave (Prop. 118), which passed 58-42 percent. In contrast, their opponents spent less than \$800,000.” [Capital Research Center, [12/17/21](#) (-)]

CRC: “It’s a Good Thing Sunlight is Increasingly Illuminating Groups like the Sixteen Thirty Fund,” Which Has Been Called Out in the Press More Frequently Than Other “Dark Money Groups” Because of its Fiscal Sponsorship of Over 50 Groups that Lack Tax-Exempt Status... “Recent news stories detailing how left-leaning nonprofits and foundations have tried to influence legislation like the federal H.R. 4 election overhaul, and fund visible activism like a recent incident at Arizona State University linked to the Ford Foundation, have led legislators and pundits on the right to call for a deeper look at how these organizations receive and spend their money. But legislators and analysts interested in how nonprofit funding has shifted the political debate in the United States ought to also pay attention to another funding apparatus. This apparatus appears to be targeting not just the Overton window framing policy but one that shoots at the autonomous heart of American politics itself: foreign funding of lobbyists and political groups seeking to influence American elections. It’s a good thing sunlight is increasingly illuminating groups like the Sixteen Thirty Fund, founded and presided over by Clinton lackey Eric Kessler and one of four sister nonprofits in the vast Arabella Advisors network (which CRC has covered extensively). It’s been called out in the press perhaps more frequently than other so-called ‘dark money’ groups because it ‘acts as a fiscal sponsor for more than 50 groups that lack tax-exempt status or do not exist as separately incorporated entities.’ It literally incubates other lefty nonprofits before birthing them into the world of ‘nonpartisan’ activism.” [Capital Research Center, [10/04/21](#) (-)]

CRC: “Of these four nonprofits, the Arabella-run advocacy group—the Sixteen Thirty Fund—might be called the darkest of ‘dark money’ nonprofits.” “The Sixteen Thirty Fund is essentially a subsidiary of Arabella Advisors, a Washington, D.C.-based firm and a veritable Geppetto, the fictional woodcarver and puppeteer whose creation, Pinocchio, involves him in all sorts of mischief. Besides offering consulting services to wealthy left-leaning clients, Arabella provides a unique service to the professional Left through four major nonprofits. Of these four nonprofits, the Arabella-run advocacy group—the Sixteen Thirty Fund—might be called the darkest of ‘dark money’ nonprofits. Because the Sixteen Thirty Fund is an IRS-designated 501(c)(4) nonprofit, it may spend more money on lobbying than its 501(c)(3) counterparts and it isn’t required to disclose its donors. To this end, Sixteen Thirty caters to wealthy Democratic Party donors, funneling tens of millions of dollars in grants to left-wing nonprofits, providing services to create new ‘pop-up’ groups intent on lobbying Congress and influencing the news cycle.” [CRC, [4/17/19](#)]

CRC: “Arabella Advisors doesn’t like to advertise just how influential its Sixteen Thirty Fund really is.” “Arabella Advisors doesn’t like to advertise just how influential its Sixteen Thirty Fund really is. In 2015, for instance, the firm detailed the work of the Media Democracy Fund, a key funder of the Obama administration’s push for net neutrality regulations that year. The Media Democracy Fund is actually part of Arabella Advisors’ 501(c)(3) New Venture Fund and operates alongside an advocacy arm called the Media Democracy Action Fund. Left unmentioned is that the Action Fund itself isn’t a real organization—it’s a project of the adjacent Sixteen Thirty Fund, Arabella’s go-to advocacy group.” [CRC, [4/17/19](#)]

CRC: “Sixteen Thirty Fund... is operated by agents from the influential left-wing consultancy Arabella Advisors, which maintains a 501(c)(3) ‘sister’ group called the Hopewell Fund that hosts similar front groups.” “According to her LinkedIn profile, Lori Lodes has served as campaign manager for Protect Our Care—a likeminded organization recently exposed by CRC as part of the Sixteen Thirty Fund, a 501(c)(4) mega-funder infamous for hosting numerous ‘Potemkin village’ websites designed to look like single-issue grassroots organizations, most of which do not solicit donations. Sixteen Thirty Fund, in turn, is operated by agents from the influential left-wing consultancy Arabella Advisors, which maintains a 501(c)(3) ‘sister’ group called the Hopewell Fund that hosts similar front groups. [...] For reference, another webpage on DonationPay.org—this one live—entitled ‘Armada | Hopewell Fund’ shows the same pattern: no reference to the Hopewell Fund on the page, but the same donee group relationship to the Fund listed in the source code. Is Get America Covered just another front for Arabella Advisors? At this point, that’s hard to say. But it’s clear from the group’s connections and efforts to cover its trail that Get America Covered has a much larger agenda than simply giving people the ‘facts’ about Obamacare.” [CRC, [12/28/18](#)]

New Venture Fund

CRC: CTCL, the “Dark Money” New Venture Fund, and a Democratic Consultant Helped Funnel Millions of Dollars From Billionaire Mark Zuckerberg into 13 Louisiana Parishes. “Should special interests pay for our elections? The state of Louisiana doesn’t think so—and, critically, an appeals court seems to agree. Last week, a Louisiana state appellate court reversed a lower court’s decision in October 2020 that had thrown out a lawsuit against the Center for Tech and Civic Life, (CTCL), the ‘dark money’ New Venture Fund, and a Democratic consultant who helped funnel millions of dollars from billionaire Mark Zuckerberg into 13 Louisiana parishes. At the time, CTCL et al. argued that Attorney General Jeff Landry had no grounds to sue them for privately funding local elections because the state hadn’t explicitly prohibited the practice. The lower court judge agreed and had dismissed the case with prejudice. [...] In its appeal, the state argued among many points, ‘Whether the defendants here may be well-intentioned, private money in any amount, but particularly the amount of money offered by the defendants to select clerks and/or registrars, has an inherently insidious and corrupting effect.’ CTCL and New Venture Fund will soon be defending themselves in court again.” [Capital Research Center, [4/05/22](#) (-)]

CRC: New Venture Fund was the Second Biggest Donor to the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL), Giving the Group Nearly \$25 Million... NVF is Part of a \$1.7 Billion “Dark Money” Empire Run by Arabella Advisors. “We also discovered CTCL’s second-biggest donor: the New Venture Fund, which moved nearly \$25 million into CTCL. How that money was spent remains unknown. The New Venture Fund is part of a \$1.7 billion ‘dark money’ empire run by Arabella Advisors, a consulting firm for left-wing donors in Washington, D.C. CRC is the top reporter on all

things Arabella; our reporting was the first to expose this massive network in 2019. Since then we've broken the story on how Arabella funneled huge sums aimed at defeating the confirmations of Justices Brett Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court; created groups to push the radical Left's D.C. statehood and courtpacking schemes; and ran a shadow campaign to topple the Republican Senate majority in the 2020 election." [Capital Research Center, [12/21/21](#) (-)]

CRC's Hayden Ludwig: New Venture Fund Paid its President "a Cool \$384,000" in 2019. "How Many Small Business Owners Can Boast the Same Success?" In an op-ed for the Washington Examiner, Hayden Ludwig from the Capital Research Center wrote, "Sixteen Thirty Fund, in turn, is managed by staffers and officers from Arabella Advisors, a for-profit consultancy catering to the Left's biggest foundations and donors who pump hundreds of millions of dollars each year through Arabella's nonprofit organizations to push political causes disguised as 'charity.' Arabella's network has pulled in more than \$3 billion in tax-free revenues since 2006. The largest of these groups, New Venture Fund, paid its president a cool \$384,000 in 2019. How many small-business owners can boast the same success? But this network isn't a business. It doesn't build, manufacture, grow, or move anything. Instead, it relies on the heaps of money, generated by long-dead capitalists and left to corrupt foundations, which shield their unearned lucre from taxes behind the fig leaf of 'philanthropy' to pay professional failures-to-launch to attack the free market, making oodles of money in the process. Great work, if you can get it! According to lobbying filings, Sixteen Thirty Fund spent close to \$2 million lobbying Congress in the first half this year on bills ranging from D.C. statehood to the \$1.9 trillion stimulus package and the Democrats' extreme For the People Act, which was supposedly meant to curb the 'corrosive influence' of 'dark money' on our politics." [Washington Examiner, Author: Hayden Ludwig, [10/25/21](#) (-)]

CRC: New Venture Fund, the "Flagship" of the \$731 Million Dark Money Network Run by Arabella Advisors, was Among the Top Recipients of Community Foundation Money Between 2010-2019. "So which politically active organizations are the biggest beneficiaries of community foundation money? Our analysis of grants from nearly 170 community foundations between 2010 and 2019 (2018 in the case of groups with missing Form 990 filings) traced \$2.3 billion to 110 left-wing groups and their affiliates. To sift through tens of thousands of grants and avoid cherry-picking recipients, we identified nonprofits that are prominent in a variety of political causes—such as the Center for American Progress, Planned Parenthood, and Southern Poverty Law Center—or are especially notable for their radicalism (e.g., the communist Alliance for Global Justice) and influence (e.g. the libertarian-turned-lefty Niskanen Center), as well as any local or lobbying affiliates. While not scientific, it gives a sense of just how much the institutional Left depends upon funds flowing through community foundations. Top recipients include: [...] New Venture Fund: \$37 million. Flagship of a \$731 million 'dark money' network run by Arabella Advisors in Washington, DC, specializing in pass-through donations to activist groups and 'popping up' new lobbying campaigns[.]" [Capital Research Center, [9/20/21](#)]

Hopewell Fund

CRC: Hopewell Fund Gave \$2.9 Million in 2017 to the Voter Registration Project Education Fund. "In 2017, it gave just under \$5 million to the Priorities USA Foundation, the 501(c)(3) nonprofit arm of the Democratic Party super PAC Priorities USA, which is funded by key Democratic donors like Donald Sussman, George Soros, and Fred Eychaner.116 Hopewell also gave \$2.9 million in 2017 to the Voter Registration Project Education Fund, \$750,000 to the Memphis Center for Reproductive Health,

\$1.6 million to the Checks and Balances Education Fund, and \$125,000 to the Chesapeake Climate Action Network.” [CRC, [4/17/19](#)]

CRC: Hopewell’s Obscurity “Must Be Desired” by Major Foundations, Which are Capable of Making Grants Unaided to Voter Registration Projects and Environmentalist Groups. “Key funders of the Hopewell Fund are the Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, Nduna Foundation, Imago Dei Fund, and the Catesby Foundation, all left-leaning organizations, and Schwab Charitable Fund and Fidelity Investments Charitable Gift Fund (both donor-advised fund providers). It’s nearly impossible to connect those donors with the eventual recipients of Hopewell’s dollars. But this obscurity must be desired by the likes of the Buffett, Rockefeller, and Knight Foundations which are capable of making grants unaided to voter registration projects and environmentalist groups.” [CRC, [4/17/19](#)]

CRC: “...After A Gift Is Made To Hopewell, It’s Anyone’s Guess Where The Money Goes.” “As a fiscally sponsored ‘project’ of the Hopewell Fund, identifying Equity Forward’s funders is impossible. One of the key perks of donating to Equity Forward, or any other project housed by Arabella’s three 501(c)(3) funds, is that donors can make tax-deductible donations while maintaining their anonymity. (Of course, donor anonymity is a constitutional right, and other financial vehicles, such as donor advised funds, do the same thing.) Watchdogs can see some grants and donations made to Hopewell, but after a gift is made to Hopewell, it’s anyone’s guess where the money goes.” [CRC, [1/31/19](#)]

CRC: The Players Coalition, Which Negotiated a Settlement with “Vile” Colin Kaepernick, is Overseen by the Hopewell Fund, in Turn Managed by Arabella Advisors. “It started with football players protesting the National Anthem, and ended, as protests often do, with money changing hands: The vile Colin Kaepernick becomes a highly compensated spokesman for Nike, and the NFL tries to pay off activist players with tens of millions of dollars for leftist causes. [...] Following negotiations with the Players Coalition, a group of about 40 players, the NFL announced in November that it would set up a ‘social justice fund’ totaling \$89 million over seven years. Of the \$89 million, \$73 million would be distributed nationally, and split three ways: [...] One-half to the Players Coalition, overseen by the Hopewell Fund, in turn managed by Arabella Advisors. Arabella, which shares office space with Hopewell in Washington, D.C., guides spending by left-wing nonprofits. It was founded by Eric Kessler, who served in the Clinton Administration and is a former national field director of the League of Conservation Voters. Kessler serves as chairman of the New Venture Fund, at the same address as Hopewell and Arabella. In turn, New Venture takes money from unions and foundations and sends it to groups favored by rich leftists. That’s fitting, given that Kaepernick is rich and, above all, a leftist.” [CRC, [9/07/18](#)]

CRC: “the Arabella Advisors network has been the biggest politically charged philanthropic network in America.” “Since 2019 and earlier, the Arabella Advisors network has been the biggest politically charged philanthropic network in America. The Arabella network has been instrumental in almost all the electoral and policy victories the Left has achieved across the nation at the federal, state, and even local levels. That’s why Capital Research Center president Scott Walter wrote a book about them. From 2019 through 2022, the most recent year for which Form 990 disclosures are available, the four main nonprofit wings of the Arabella network—the New Venture Fund, the Sixteen Thirty Fund, the Windward Fund, and the Hopewell Fund—have taken in roughly \$5 billion in total revenues. In an effort to understand who truly funds the world’s largest “dark money” network, Capital Research Center set out to put together a list of all megadonors to the main four Arabella nonprofits. The compiled data is available in a spreadsheet posted here.” [Capital Research Center, [4/24/24](#)]

CRC’s Scott Walter: “For at least two decades the nonprofit tail has wagged the Democratic Party dog. It is enormously more important who is the head of Arabella Advisers or the head of the Soros Open Society Foundations or the Ford Foundation than it is whoever happens to be chairing the DNC this afternoon.” Capital Research Center president Scott Walter discusses campaign finance and election integrity with Josh Findlay, director of the Election Protection Project at the Texas Public Policy Foundation. Walter discusses traditional hard dollar donations and soft dollar donations, including “dark money.” Walter explains: For at least two decades the nonprofit tail has wagged the Democratic Party dog. It is enormously more important who is the head of Arabella Advisers or the head of the Soros Open Society Foundations or the Ford Foundation than it is whoever happens to be chairing the DNC this afternoon. [Capital Research Center, [2/28/24](#)]

Catalist

CRC: “Some Suspect Catalist Sometimes Doesn’t Charge Market Rates For Its Services, Which Means It May Be Making Illegal In-Kind Donations To Political Efforts Without Disclosure.” “The other big development that the Left harnessed and really gives it muscle outside traditional party channels is high-tech targeting. The creation of Catalist LLC in 2012 was just the beginning. Catalist emerged from the Left’s bitter 2004 defeat. Harold Ickes, perhaps the shrewdest of all Clinton operatives—in an earlier life, he was a union lawyer who helped out unions tied to the Colombo, Gambino, and Lucchese crime families—was also upset by that defeat, and he thought the key to responding was data, lots of data, and especially data that the whole Left would share, putting in and taking out as needed. In 2006, with his first stake of \$1 million provided by, yes, George Soros, he started Catalist. It is another for-profit company that doesn’t have to divulge anything about what it does or how it gets its money. It receives donor dollars, but it also earns a revenue stream from all the unions and activist nonprofits that use it—and the official party apparatus also uses it. Some suspect Catalist sometimes doesn’t charge market rates for its services, which means it may be making illegal in-kind donations to political efforts without disclosure.” [CRC, [4/12/19](#)]

Center for Secure and Modern Elections

CRC’s Hayden Ludwig: Although it Calls Itself Bipartisan, Center for Secure and Modern Elections “is a Front for Arabella Advisers’ \$1.67 Billion Network” and Helped Funnel Zuck Bucks to County Election Officials in 2020. In an article for The American Conservative, Hayden Ludwig from the Capital Research Center wrote, “‘Zuck bucks’ are no more. After pouring \$350 million into largely Democratic districts in the 2020 election, boosting turnout for Joe Biden in strategic counties, the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL) has announced it won’t be trying to privatize all future American elections. Instead, it wants to federalize them. Earlier this month, CTCL revealed its next project: the U.S. Alliance for Election Excellence, an \$80 million campaign to boost federal funding for elections, which are administered by the states, while centralizing how they’re run. Make no mistake, this is the professional left at work, and it starts with making vote by mail permanent. [...] Besides CTCL, the Alliance for Election Excellence is run by a bevy of leftist nonprofits playing at ‘good government’ groups. Although it calls itself ‘bipartisan,’ the Center for Secure and Modern Elections (CSME) is a front for Arabella Advisers’ \$1.67 billion network, the most powerful liberal lobbying force in Washington. CSME has lobbied for automatic voter registration across the country and hired Democratic consultants to help funnel Zuck bucks to county elections officials in at least two states in 2020.” [The American Conservative, Author: Hayden Ludwig, [4/27/22](#)]

CRC: Center for Secure and Modern Elections Action (CSME Action) is a Front for the Sixteen Thirty Fund. “It’s still unclear how the New Venture Fund—which is part of Arabella Advisors’ \$1.7 billion ‘dark money’ empire—helped to blanket the country in Zuck bucks. Although if it was involved in solidly Republican Louisiana (as Landry’s lawsuit revealed), it was almost certainly involved in battleground states. We do know that it operated under the trade name Center for Secure and Modern Elections (CSME) and that it has a lobbying arm, CSME Action, which is a front for the New Venture Fund’s 501(c)(4) lobbying ‘sister,’ the Sixteen Thirty Fund. (This kind of relationship is common among politically active nonprofits and front groups in the Arabella network.) Court documents (archived here) have revealed more about CTCL’s offer of COVID-19 ‘relief’ grants to local elections officials.” [Capital Research Center, [4/05/22](#) (-)]

CRC: It’s Still Unclear How the New Venture Fund Helped to Blanket the Country in “Zuck Bucks” ... “We Do Know That it Operated Under the Trade Name Center for Secure and Modern Elections”. “It’s still unclear how the New Venture Fund—which is part of Arabella Advisors’ \$1.7 billion ‘dark money’ empire—helped to blanket the country in Zuck bucks. Although if it was involved in solidly Republican Louisiana (as Landry’s lawsuit revealed), it was almost certainly involved in battleground states. We do know that it operated under the trade name Center for Secure and Modern Elections (CSME) and that it has a lobbying arm, CSME Action, which is a front for the New Venture Fund’s 501(c)(4) lobbying ‘sister,’ the Sixteen Thirty Fund. (This kind of relationship is common among politically active nonprofits and front groups in the Arabella network.) Court documents (archived here) have revealed more about CTCL’s offer of COVID-19 ‘relief’ grants to local elections officials.” [Capital Research Center, [4/05/22](#) (-)]

CRC: Wellspring Philanthropic Fund, “One of the Left’s Most Secretive ‘Dark Money’ Funders,” Gave \$1 Million to the Center for Secure and Modern Elections to Advocate for Sweeping Changes to Election Law. CSME Also “Solicited” 13 Louisiana Parishes with Offers of Funding from the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL). “Nearly \$10 million flowed from one of the Left’s most secretive ‘dark money’ funders to one of its top activist empires in 2019, fueling campaigns ranging from radical racist groups that paint America’s founding as racist to efforts to warp 2020 Census results to favor Democrats. Despite raking in some \$300 million in 2019 alone, Wellspring Philanthropic Fund is one of the least-known funders of left-wing causes. That’s by design. The group’s founders—hedge fund managers Andrew Schechtel, C. Frederick Taylor, and the late David Gelbaum—have moved close to \$1.8 billion through Wellspring since its founding in 2001. Most of that money has funded grants to left-wing causes. [...] The Center for Secure and Modern Elections received \$1 million from Wellspring to advocate for sweeping changes to U.S. election law, including automatic voter registration, expanding mail-in voting, and looser penalties for falsifying voter registration applications. The center was also tangled up in helping another elections group, the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL), distribute \$350 million from Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg to local elections offices in 2020. We discovered the group’s influence in Louisiana, where it solicited at least 13 parishes with offers of CTCL money, acting as a mediator for a billionaire-backed group intent on privately funding elections.” [Capital Research Center, [10/26/21](#) (-)]

Democracy Alliance

CRC: “The Democracy Alliance Continues To This Day, A Shadowy And Sometimes Bickering Group Of Big-Money Leftists[.]” “The Democracy Alliance continues to this day, a shadowy and sometimes bickering group of big-money leftists who have channeled we don’t know how much money—it’s somewhere in the hundreds of millions—to a couple dozen groups, mostly nonprofits.

Some but not most of that money has flowed through the Alliance’s official entity, which is a “taxable nonprofit” incorporated in Washington, D.C., but mostly the Alliance serves as a place to strategize with fellow donors and hear pitches for private money from approved groups. It’s not very different from the much-maligned donor seminars held by Freedom Partners and the Koch Network.” [CRC, [4/12/19](#)]

CRC: Arabella’s network often plays host to highly influential groups on the Left, Like George Soros’ Democracy Fund, Which Used The New Venture Fund and Sixteen Thirty Fund For Multiple Projects. “The Arabella network of funds is also growing rapidly: from 2013 to 2017, the network’s revenues grew by an incredible 392 percent. Arabella’s network often plays host to highly influential groups on the Left. For example, the Democracy Alliance, a network of donors co-founded by billionaire George Soros, has used the New Venture Fund and Sixteen Thirty Fund to host at least eight projects that don’t disclose their original funders. While financial information for the 2018 election year has not been disclosed, the Arabella network will likely show continued steep revenue growth.” [CRC, [4/17/19](#)]
Southern Poverty Law Center

2022: CRC’s Hayden Ludwig said SPLA Was “the Left’s Top Censor for Groups it Wants to Shut Down.” “A left-wing nonprofit that labels conservative and Christian groups ‘hateful’ is reportedly funneling research to the committee probing the Jan. 6 Capitol riot — which claims to be ‘nonpartisan.’ The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), a legal advocacy group with former employees President Joe Biden has handpicked for federal roles, is collaborating with the committee, Politico reported. The group has provided roughly 40 pages of research and written testimony to the committee to facilitate its investigation of the riot, an SPLC lawyer told the outlet. [...] The SPLC has a ‘hate map’ on its website that characterizes some mainstream right-leaning groups as extremist in order to censor them, Hayden Ludwig, a senior researcher at Capital Research Center, an investigative think tank probing nonprofits, told The Daily Caller News Foundation. The SPLC is ‘the Left’s top censor for groups it wants to shut down,’ he said. ‘Painting right-leaning groups that support widespread, traditional beliefs as ‘extreme’ is just a way of shutting down debate so leftists don’t have to defend their own radical views,’ said Ludwig.” [Daily Caller, [7/6/22](#)]

CRC called grant-making organizations using SPLC lists to screen potential recipients “problematic because SPLC has labeled mainstream conservative and faith based organizations as hate groups.” “Some community foundations have been using a list of hate groups compiled by the Southern Poverty Law Center and Horizon Forum to screen grant recipients. This is problematic because SPLC has labeled mainstream conservative and faith based organizations as hate groups. Robert Stilson, calls this a big problem because “it’s substituting the will of a of a of a biased third party like the Southern Poverty Law Center’s” for “the will of the donors themselves.” [Capital Research Center, [3/5/24](#)]

The Proteus Fund

CRC: “Of All The Left’s ‘Dark Money’ Grant Makers, Perhaps None Better Encapsulates The ‘Pass-Through’ Model Than The Proteus Fund.” “Of all the Left’s ‘dark money’ grant makers, perhaps none better encapsulates the ‘pass-through’ model than the Proteus Fund. Birthed from the anti-war movement of the Cold War, the group began as an experiment in masking the flow of cash from wealthy foundations to activist groups in order to push the Left’s agenda on ‘gender justice,’ free speech, the death penalty, and more.” [CRC, [9/03/19](#)]

CRC: Proteus Fund Involved In Major Donors Collaborative Run by NEO Philanthropy That Aims to Register and Turnout Voters. “One of the Proteus Fund’s more salient projects involves its membership in the Funders Committee for Civic Participation, a major donors collaborative run by NEO Philanthropy. The Funders Committee has a three-fold aim: register and turn out new voters during elections, increase the number of people counted in the 2020 census (particularly in Democratic-controlled states), and toss out Republican-drawn congressional maps in legal battles. But the Funders Committee doesn’t fund these efforts directly; instead, it acts as a hub for wealthy foundations to coordinate the flow of money to the activist and litigation nonprofits that actually do the work. Proteus is just one of roughly 90 members who churned out a combined \$5.3 billion in total expenditures in 2016.” [CRC, [9/03/19](#)]

Tides Foundation

CRC: In 2018, Tides Foundation Made Over 1,400 Grants, Including Six and Seven-Figure Payments to New Venture Fund, a “Dark Money” Giant. “As a leading pass-through, the Tides Foundation has made grants to activists group covering almost every policy issue on the left. In 2009, it donated some \$3.6 million to Health Care for America Now (HCAN), the 501(c)(4) formed by the Bermuda-based foundation Atlantic Philanthropies to create an echo-chamber campaign to help pass Obamacare in 2010. (HCAN has since been revived as part of Arabella Advisors’ Sixteen Thirty Fund to defend Obamacare.) In 2018 alone the Tides Foundation made over 1,400 grants, including six- and seven-figure payments to: [...] Arabella Advisors’ New Venture Fund, a ‘dark money’ giant; Planned Parenthood and its ‘action’ arm...” [Capital Research Center, [3/08/22](#) (-)]

CRC: Tides Foundation “Highly Controversial” Group That Provided “Pass-Through Funding.” “All that wealth makes Arabella’s network one of the largest—and most effective—‘dark money’ labyrinths on the left, roughly equal in size to the much better known and highly controversial Tides Foundation, another group that provides pass-through funding.” [CRC, [4/17/19](#)]

CRC: Tides Foundation “Has Grown Into The Leading Platform For Laundering Away Ties Between Wealthy Donors And The Radical Causes They Fund[.]” “The Tides Foundation is the philanthropic Left’s best-kept secret. From Greenpeace to the anti-Israel J Street, there’s hardly a left-wing group that hasn’t taken Tides money. Using a sophisticated funding model, Tides has grown into the leading platform for laundering away ties between wealthy donors and the radical causes they fund—while generating hundreds of new organizations along the way.” [CRC, [3/27/18](#)]

CRC: “Collectively, Tides forms one of the largest ‘pass-through’ organizations in the United States”. “If you haven’t heard of the Tides Foundation, you’ve almost certainly experienced their handiwork. For nearly half a century, Tides and its web of subsidiaries have funded hundreds of organizations on the professional Left with tens of thousands of grants. Collectively, Tides forms one of the largest ‘pass-through’ organizations in the United States—operating a legion of specialized funds designed to maximize the flow of donations to far-left nonprofits while minimizing donors’ public exposure to the fruits of their largesse. This vast shroud has earned Tides a reputation as a ‘dark money’ heavyweight (dark money being defined as donations that cannot be traced back to the original donor) and rightly so. Since the mid-1970s, Tides has brokered billions of dollars between left-wing philanthropists and groups that fund the ‘social justice’ agenda. Over the years, Tides has weaponized its 501(c)(3) IRS tax-exempt status to ‘incubate’ hundreds of organizations, many of which underpin the Left’s political infrastructure today.” [CRC, [3/27/18](#)]

Voter Participation Center and Center for Voter Information

CRC: In a February 2021 Article, Time Magazine’s Molly Ball Quoted an Extraordinary Claim from Tom Lopach, CEO of the Voter Participation Center: “All the Work We Have Done for 17 Years Was Built for this Moment of Bringing Democracy to People’s Doorsteps.” CRC: “Who Knew America has Lacked ‘Democracy’ for Decades?” “On February 4, 2021, Time published ‘The Secret History of the Shadow Campaign That Saved the 2020 Election’ by Molly Ball. In this report, the author described what she called a ‘conspiracy,’ a ‘well-funded cabal of powerful people, ranging across industries and ideologies, working together behind the scenes to influence perceptions, change rules and laws, steer media coverage and control the flow of information.’ Buried among the self-aggrandizing rhetoric and tales of meetings with tech titans to demand they censor conservatives, Ball quotes an extraordinary claim by Tom Lopach, CEO of the Voter Participation Center: ‘All the work we have done for 17 years was built for this moment of bringing democracy to people’s doorsteps.’ Who knew America has lacked ‘democracy’ for decades?” [Capital Research Center, [12/22/21](#) (-)]

CRC’s Hayden Ludwig: In 2021, VPC and CVI Sent a Wave of 2 Million Absentee Ballot Applications to Virginia Voters. “An Internal Memo Details the Spots They Planned to Cover Most Aggressively, Many of Which Parallel Biden’s Performance in 2020.” In an article for The Federalist, Capital Research Center’s Hayden Ludwig wrote, “In September, I reported on a new wave of 2 million applications for Virginians to register for absentee ballots in 2021. These applications weren’t sent out by state or local elections officials, but by politically active nonprofits: the Voter Participation Center and Center for Voter Information (collectively ‘the center’). An internal memo details the spots they planned to cover most aggressively, many of which parallel Biden’s performance in 2020. The center explicitly targeted the ‘New American Majority,’ another code for likely Democratic voters that they define as ‘young people, people of color and unmarried women.’ That bloc contains 73 percent of all unregistered voters nationwide, which is why the left-wing strategists at the Democracy Alliance consider their turnout ‘central to progressive long-term success.’ The IRS requires all nonprofits be officially nonpartisan in order to be tax exempt. In the center’s case, nonpartisanship comes in the shape of a fig leaf—as liberal journalist Sasha Issenberg explains in his 2012 book, *The Victory Lab: The Secret Science of Winning Campaigns*: ‘Even though the group was officially nonpartisan, for tax purposes, there was no secret that the goal of all its efforts was to generate new votes for Democrats’ (emphasis added). The center sent out 15 million vote-by-mail applications in 2020 and registered 4.6 million new voters. Time credits the center’s partisan registration efforts as central to the ‘shadow campaign that saved the 2020 election’ for Biden. No surprise that the center is heavily funded by the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), AFL-CIO, Sierra Club, League of Conservation Voters, and Tides Foundation.” [The Federalist, Author: Hayden Ludwig, [11/01/21](#)]

CRC: “Although the Center for Voter Information is Officially Nonpartisan for Tax Purposes, It Spent \$583,000 in Outside Expenditures That Directly Aided 2020 Democratic Candidates, Including Joe Biden.” “The center ran a vote-by-mail campaign in 2020 that targeted 15 million voters in swing states. It calls those voters the ‘New American Majority,’ a left-leaning bloc that consists of ‘young people, people of color and unmarried women’ whom liberal strategists consider ‘central to progressive long-term success.’ A February Time article hailed the center’s success in registering 4.6 million new mail-in voters as a secret reason for Democrats’ winning the 2020 election. Although the Center for Voter Information is officially nonpartisan for tax purposes, it spent \$583,000 in outside expenditures that directly aided 2020 Democratic candidates, including Joe Biden. The center’s founder, Page Gardner, is a former Bill Clinton campaign staffer who has advised Democrats on partisan voter registration efforts among the ‘New American Majority’ to cement progressive control over Congress

and the White House. An SEIU political director in 2016 spoke alongside Gardner at a Democracy Alliance panel on ‘opportunit[ies] to take back many states from right-wing control.’ The Democracy Alliance is a major networking group for left-wing donors and strongly supports the center’s activism. Other donors to the Center for Voter Information include the left-wing Sierra Club, League of Conservation Voters, and Tides Foundation, which in 2017 gave the center \$25,000 for ‘mobilizing unmarried women in the 2018 [election] cycle.’ The group’s 501(c)(3) ‘sister,’ the Voter Participation Center, since 2012 has received at least \$838,000 from the AFL-CIO and other labor unions to conduct joint vote-by-mail registration drives.” [Capital Research Center, [9/27/21](#) (-)]

CRC: Hundreds of Left-Wing Groups Have Signed Letters Urging Congress to Pass H.R. 4, Including Voter Participation Center and Other Nonprofits that “Take Advantage of IRS Rules Allowing Nonpartisan Voter Registration to Target Youth, Minorities, Unmarried Women and Other Democratic-Leaning Constituencies Ahead of Elections.” “Naming the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act (H.R. 4) after the Georgia congressman who died last year may evoke the 1960s Civil Rights movement, but it would federalize elections almost as effectively as the similarly misnamed For the People Act (H.R. 1), which is why so many professional activist groups are trying to push it through the Senate. [...] Hundreds of left-wing groups have signed open letters urging the Congress to pass H.R. 4 representing Big Labor, Big Green, court-packing groups, get-out-the-vote groups, and litigation nonprofits, among others. The list is broken down into general blocs to chart which kinds of nonprofits are backing the legislation. See the Appendix for the full list. [...] Get Out the Vote and Voter Registration. These nonprofits (22 to date) take advantage of IRS rules allowing nonpartisan voter registration to target youth, minorities, and unmarried women and other Democratic-leaning constituencies ahead of elections. Notables include State Voices, Mi Familia Vota, the Voter Participation Center, and Progressive Turnout Project.” [Capital Research Center, [9/24/21](#) (-)]

CRC: “If You Live in Virginia, Buckle Up” for Wave of Absentee Ballot Mailers from Voter Participation Center and Center for Voter Information... Memo Showed Plans to Send More Than 2 Million Mailers to 134 Virginia Counties and Cities Ahead of the November Election. “If you live in Virginia, buckle up—a new wave of absentee-ballot mailers is about to overwhelm mailboxes across the commonwealth, courtesy of the same professional activists who flooded the Old Dominion in 2020. A newly obtained memo (redacted version here) reveals correspondence from a pair of left-wing nonprofits in Washington, DC—the Voter Participation Center (VPC) and Center for Voter Information (CVI)—with members of the Voter Registrars Association of Virginia, which services county elections officials. The exchange was facilitated by the Philadelphia-based law firm Blank Rome, which represents the nonprofits. The Blank Rome memo reveals VPI/CVI’s plans to send more than 2 million mail-in ballot applications to 134 Virginia counties and cities (detailed here) ahead of the state’s election on November 2, 2021, when Virginians will elect their next governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general and decide control over the House of Delegates, currently held by the Democrats. (Virginia’s 40 Senate seats, where Democrats have a two-seat majority, aren’t on the ballot until 2023.) At the top of the memo is Fairfax County, the biggest target by far and likely a rich haul for Democratic gubernatorial candidate Terry McAuliffe. Curiously, VPC/CVI plan to send mailers to 419,107 voters, almost the exact number of votes as Joe Biden won in 2020 (419,943), his largest net across the commonwealth.” [Capital Research Center, [9/02/21](#) (-)]

CRC: Even Liberals Have Criticized the VPC/CVI Strategy... In 2008, NPR Accused CVI of Suppressing Black Voters and Less Than Two Weeks Before the 2020 Election, ProPublica Detailed a Major CVI Screwup in Virginia. “But even liberals have criticized the VPC/CVI strategy. As far back as 2008, liberal NPR has accused CVI of suppressing black voters to help Hillary Clinton

against Barack Obama in the Democratic primary. NPR wrote that CVI’s strategy aimed at black voters sounded ‘like a classic example of voter suppression—sowing confusion in order to drive down turnout.’ In 2020, the Washington Post, which couldn’t help but call VPC and CVI ‘nonpartisan,’ nevertheless pointed out last August that ‘both organizations appear to be more aligned with efforts to defeat [President Trump] than with his [Trump’s] allies.’ Less than two weeks before the 2020 election, the watchdog ProPublica detailed a major CVI screw-up that sent more than 35 crates of absentee ballot requests intended for residents of Fairfax County, Virginia, to neighboring Fairfax City. Here’s the headline: ‘A Nonprofit with Ties to Democrats Is Sending Out Millions of Ballot Applications. Election Officials Wish It Would Stop.’ Whoops.” [Capital Research Center, [9/02/21](#) (-)]

Everybody Votes Campaign

CRC accused the Everybody Votes Campaign of being a “corrupt” organization seeking to undermine U.S. elections. “This year, the Capital Research Center published How Charities Secretly Help Win Elections, a groundbreaking report revealing the secret partisan origins, goals, and funders of the Everybody Votes Campaign, the largest and most corrupt “charitable” voter registration drive in American history. Our widely circulated report exposed how in 2015 allies of the Clinton Campaign concocted a plan with partisan consultants to use over \$100 million in charitable funds to fund voter registration targeting “African Americans, Latinos, unmarried women, and young people” in eight key swing states...Our research also revealed that the campaign was so successful that it was cleared for another go-around after 2020 in preparation for the 2024 election, targeting a similar list of swing states with a greatly expanded scope of operations. Capital Research Center can now reveal new tax filings from the Everybody Votes Campaign—legally known as the Voter Registration Project (VRP)—and its affiliated network showing that the group raked in nearly \$52 million during the 2022 election and spent roughly \$56 million on the continuing operations of its targeted voter registration drives. The forms also show new additions to the board of directors that confirm important elements of our reporting, such as the involvement of a foreign billionaire and partisan consultants in the creation and continued VRP operations.” [Capital Research Center, [2/1/24](#)]

Election Trust Initiative

CRC suggested the Election Trust Initiative was a left-wing ploy. “The lack of organizational support for elections administrators is a travesty, and public distrust of election results is dangerous, or so the Left says. That’s why a handful of megadonors have taken it upon themselves to spend over \$100 million on supporting election administrators and building up the public’s trust in elections. Never mind that the enormous spending of one left-leaning billionaire on election administration in 2020 is one of the main reasons for the current environment of election skepticism, the billionaire-funded Election Trust Initiative (ETI) is here to help. What does ETI do? Well, it’s hard to say for certain. ETI was incorporated as a fiscally sponsored project under the auspices of Pew Charitable Trust, meaning the group does not independently file public disclosures. The ETI website is almost the only place where information about the group is available, but the information is not exactly comforting.” [Capital Research Center, [3/18/24](#)]

Planned Parenthood

CRC attacked Planned Parenthood for its sex education curricula. “Planned Parenthood boasts that it is the nation’s largest sex education provider, “reaching 1.2 million people a year through education and outreach.” Recently, a video from its sex education curricula made for middle school and high

school students went viral on several right-leaning social media accounts. In the Sex Education 101 video, a Planned Parenthood sex educator in bright colors and quirky glasses explains in an obnoxiously perky voice about virginity. In it, she states that “Virginity is a completely made-up concept. It was a term created simply to control and shame people.” That sounds like pushing a particular permissive philosophy on sex instead of just educating on the facts of life. I’ll stop there. Clearly, this woman is trying to downplay losing one’s virginity to children and thus encouraging sexual promiscuity. Many folks are justifiably outraged over these videos, especially since they were made for those under 18. But these videos aren’t even close to the worst of it.” [Capital Research Center, [2/26/24](#)]

Democratic Socialists of America

CRC attacked the Democratic Socialists of America and the Progressive International for being “radical” groups. “A persistent problem in contemporary sociopolitical commentary is that groups that aren’t especially radical are nevertheless regularly portrayed as such (often for political expediency), while those that truly exist on the ideological fringes aren’t sufficiently exposed as the extremists that they are. The Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) issued a reprehensible response to the October 2023 terrorist attacks upon Israel, finally revealing the group’s true nature to many, but the DSA is itself a member of a far-left global coalition called the Progressive International. The Progressive International’s leadership and membership should be considered every bit as radical as the DSA, and this should invite public scrutiny of both them and their institutional affiliates and funders.” [Capital Research Center, [2/14/24](#)]

CTCL AND FUNDING FROM THE ZUCKERBERG-CHAN INITIATIVE

2023: CRC’s Scott Walter Said CTCL’s Alliance for Election Excellence Aimed to Manipulate Elections by Giving Money to Government Offices. “Although about half the states ban private dollars from funding local governing of elections as a response to Mark Zuckerberg’s controversial grants in 2020, a tech-aligned group will dole out individual \$500,000 grants to jurisdictions for future elections. The U.S. Alliance for Election Excellence, established in April, will award individual grants of \$500,000 to at least two local jurisdictions out of 10 that the organization accepted into the program. [...] ‘CTCL’s new effort, camouflaged as the ‘Alliance for Election Excellence,’ still tries to manipulate elections by giving money to government offices. But money always comes with strings, even if CTCL calls them ‘training’ and ‘mentorship,’” Scott Walter, president of the Washington-based Capital Research Center, an investigative think tank, told The Daily Signal in an email.” [Daily Signal, [1/4/23](#)]

CRC President Scott Walter Pointed To Mark Zuckerberg And Priscilla Chan’s \$400 Million Commitment In The 2020 Election Cycle As Abuses By 501(C)(3) Nonprofits. “He pointed to Facebook co-founder Mark Zuckerberg and Priscilla Chan’s \$400 million commitment during the last election cycle to promote electoral access and integrity. Walter said the vast majority of those funds were spent in heavily Democratic districts, which violates the federal prohibition against spending tax-deductible charitable contributions in ways that have ‘the intention or effect of benefiting one candidate or party.’” [Associated Press, [5/3/22](#)]

CRC: CTCL, the “Dark Money” New Venture Fund, and a Democratic Consultant Helped Funnel Millions of Dollars From Billionaire Mark Zuckerberg into 13 Louisiana Parishes. “Should special interests pay for our elections? The state of Louisiana doesn’t think so—and, critically, an appeals court seems to agree. Last week, a Louisiana state appellate court reversed a lower court’s decision in October 2020 that had thrown out a lawsuit against the Center for Tech and Civic Life,

(CTCL), the ‘dark money’ New Venture Fund, and a Democratic consultant who helped funnel millions of dollars from billionaire Mark Zuckerberg into 13 Louisiana parishes. At the time, CTCL et al. argued that Attorney General Jeff Landry had no grounds to sue them for privately funding local elections because the state hadn’t explicitly prohibited the practice. The lower court judge agreed and had dismissed the case with prejudice. [...] In its appeal, the state argued among many points, ‘Whether the defendants here may be well-intentioned, private money in any amount, but particularly the amount of money offered by the defendants to select clerks and/or registrars, has an inherently insidious and corrupting effect.’ CTCL and New Venture Fund will soon be defending themselves in court again.” [Capital Research Center, [4/05/22](#) (-)]

CRC: In 2020, Center for Technology and Civic Life Received a \$25 Million Grant from the New Venture Fund, Linking CTCL to a \$1.7 Billion “Dark Money” Empire Run by Arabella Advisors. “Newly released filings for the Center for Technology and Civic Life (CTCL) reveal how the infamous Chicago-based nonprofit funneled hundreds of millions of dollars to local elections offices in an effort to privatize the 2020 election and put Joe Biden in the White House. For over a year, CRC has been on the cutting edge of reporting on this ‘dark money’ behemoth, which used the COVID-19 pandemic to support an unprecedented flood of mail-in ballots with unaccountable drop-boxes in critical Democratic cities. [...] We’ve also discovered a \$25 million grant from the New Venture Fund to CTCL, linking the latter to a \$1.7 billion ‘dark money’ empire run by Arabella Advisors in Washington, DC. Wherever Arabella operates, you can be sure to find the most sophisticated activist campaigns on the Left.” [Capital Research Center, [12/16/21](#) (-)]

CRC accused “the media” of revising history on “Zuck Bucks,” which they believed unfairly went to Democrats. “A majority of Wisconsin voters approved a ballot measure on April 2 that made Wisconsin the 28th state to adopt a ban on private funding of elections. The next day, news headlines were filled with baseless smears. One particular article, from USA Today, used the now classic “Republicans pounce!” framing: “Trump and the GOP weaponized Mark Zuckerberg’s donations; what it means for the 2024 election.” The article claims the Wisconsin ballot measure “[stemmed] from misinformation surrounding” Mark Zuckerberg’s infamous \$400 million donation to the Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL). To support this claim, the article references a Federal Elections Commission (FEC) report’s citation of a report commissioned by Mark Zuckerberg wherein former FEC chairman Michael Toner “found that more grants were given to jurisdictions who voted for Trump rather than Biden in 2020.” The article leaves out several very important details of that report. Details that prove Zuckerberg’s donation was weaponized, just not in favor of Republicans. First, the article neglects to reveal that, in the very same sentence it quotes from, the FEC report also says “[Toner’s] review reportedly found that overall more funds were awarded to Democratic-leaning jurisdictions.” The original Washington Examiner report on the topic even says that “the majority of the cash value” of CTCL grants went to Democrat cities and counties.” [Capital Research Center. [5/7/24](#)]

CRC accused Mark Zuckerberg of spending money “benefiting the common criminal instead of the county election clerk” via his criminal justice reform advocacy. “Mark Zuckerberg is no stranger to writing big checks for politically charged philanthropy. The \$400 million Zuckerberg distributed to local election offices through the Center for Tech and Civic Life (and the Center for Election Innovation and Research) during the 2020 election is his most famous, perhaps even the most infamous charitable contribution ever. But it’s not the only nine-figure contribution Zuckerberg has made. Mark Zuckerberg made another politically charged philanthropic contribution of \$350 million after the 2020 election, and there’s a good chance you’ve never heard about it. In January 2021, before the full scope of the original “Zuck bucks” was known, Zuckerberg announced the creation of the Just Trust, a five-year \$350 million

initiative to “reform” the U.S. criminal justice system. This second wave of Zuck bucks benefiting the common criminal instead of the county election clerk went relatively unnoticed.” [Capital Research Center, [3/6/24](#)]

CRC participated in an NC “election integrity panel” which touched on “Zuck bucks.” “Election integrity has been on voters’ minds more since the 2020 election, both across the US and in North Carolina. The subject was discussed at the recently held John Locke Foundation’s Carolina Liberty Conference. The “Past, Present, and Future of NC Elections” panel discussion was hosted by Dr. Andy Jackson, director of the Civitas Center for Public Integrity at the John Locke Foundation. It featured Jim Stirling, research fellow at the John Locke Foundation’s Civitas Center for Public Integrity; Kristen Eastlick, senior vice-president of Capital Research Center; and Becky Arps, research director of Americans For Citizen Voting. Stirling told the audience there have been major improvements to election integrity in North Carolina since the 2020 election. Perhaps the biggest change, he said, was the elimination of “Zuck Bucks,” the sending of private money to election boards. “Zuck Bucks” refers to The Center for Tech and Civic Life (CTCL), funded by Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg and led by Democratic Party operatives.” [The Carolina Journal, [2/6/24](#)]

CRC’s Scott Walter praised the Texas legislature for its “efforts to prevent election abuses such as the infamous ‘Zuck bucks’ monies that plagued the 2020 election.” “WALTER: Chairman Hughes, Vice Chair Paxton, distinguished members of the Committee, thank you for the honor of testifying. I’m president of the Capital Research Center, where for decades we have studied the nonprofit world and its connections to politics. I have testified to a number of state legislatures on efforts by nonprofits to influence elections and undermine election integrity, and I have also testified to multiple committees in the U.S. Congress on these dangers.[1] I applaud the Texas legislature’s prior efforts to prevent election abuses such as the infamous “Zuck bucks” monies that plagued the 2020 election. I would like to survey several areas that deserve additional vigilance and especially urge you to consider further investigation into these nonprofits’ work to influence Lone Star state elections.” [Scott Walter’s Testimony Before the Texas Senate Committee on State Affairs, [6/3/24](#)]

CRC argued “Zuck bucks” and other “[p]rivate financing of government election offices under the guise of COVID-19 relief skewed voter turnout in the 2020 election and may have tipped the presidential election to Joe Biden.” “Private financing of government election offices under the guise of COVID-19 relief skewed voter turnout in the 2020 election and may have tipped the presidential election to Joe Biden. The chief culprit was Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg, who poured \$350 million into one sleepy nonprofit, the Center for Technology and Civic Life (CTCL). CTCL then distributed grants to hundreds of county and city elections officials in 47 states and the District of Columbia. Despite its claims that the grants were strictly for COVID-19 relief, not partisan advantage, the data show otherwise. CRC research into grants distributed in key states—Arizona and Nevada, Texas, Michigan and Wisconsin, Virginia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Georgia—has documented their partisan effects. We have also catalogued our major findings at InfluenceWatch.” [Capital Research Center, [4/10/24](#)]

DEFEND DEMOCRACY TOGETHER

CRC: Never Trump Group Defending Democracy Together is Just Another Front for the “Dark Money” Left. “Despite calling themselves ‘Republicans’ and ‘lifelong conservatives,’ the supposedly principled folks behind Bill Kristol’s Defending Democracy Together—a star Never Trump group with the amusing acronym ‘DDT’—are really just another front for the ‘dark money’ Left. How else would

Kristol, the group's founder, explain the \$10,050,000 the group's 501(c)(4) arm received last year from the Sixteen Thirty Fund, one of the Left's biggest political spenders? [...] For the uninitiated, Sixteen Thirty Fund is the lead advocacy arm in Arabella Advisors' multi-billion-dollar 'dark money' political empire, which uses a for-profit consultancy to run a set of four in-house nonprofits, each of which bankrolls political causes each year. That network pulled in \$1.7 billion in 2020—more than doubling its income in a single year. Capital Research Center has already traced hundreds of millions of dollars in grants from these Arabella-run nonprofits flowing to the Left's biggest get-out-the-vote groups.” [Capital Research Center, [12/15/21](#) (-)]

SENATOR SHELDON WHITEHOUSE

CRC In Upcoming Floor Speeches, Senator Whitehouse Will Likely Deliver “Another Round of Denunciations of Right-Leaning and Libertarian Organizations that Engage in Legally Protected Free Speech but Commit the Offense of Saying Things Whitehouse Disagrees With.” “Earlier this week, U.S. Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) announced he would begin a ‘new series of Senate floor speeches . . . exposing the scheme by right-wing donor interests to capture the U.S. Supreme Court.’ Unless he has found a new conspiracy to worry over, this likely means another round of denunciations of right-leaning and libertarian organizations that engage in legally protected free speech but commit the offense of saying things Whitehouse disagrees with. Previous targets have included dozens of think tanks and other policy organizations, such as the Competitive Enterprise Institute, the Judicial Crisis Network, the Federalist Society, and the Pacific Legal Foundation. This is an old act.” [Capital Research Center, [5/25/21](#)]

CRC: Sen. Whitehouse Frequently Overlooks “Vast Piles of Left-Leaning Cash Stacking Up All Around Him.” “In an appearance a couple of weeks ago on the Strict Scrutiny podcast, Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) was worrying over one of his favorite topics: the alleged lopsided advantage of right-leaning money in political and public policy debates. To accomplish this state of mind, he must frequently overlook vast piles of left-leaning cash stacking up all around him.” [Capital Research Center, [5/14/21](#)]

CRC: Sen. Whitehouse Leaked to a CNBC Reporter Letters the Senator Sent CRC and Other Nonprofits “Scott Walter, president of the Capital Research Center, testified in a subcommittee hearing of the Senate Judiciary Committee on March 10, 2021, chaired by Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI). Walter's testimony and the hearing video are available here. A few days later, Sen. Whitehouse leaked to CNBC reporter Brian Schwartz letters that the Senator sent Capital Research Center and two other nonprofits. CRC read the Senator's letter on Mr. Schwartz's Twitter account here before receiving the actual letter sent to us. In his letter to us, the Senator claimed that one of his friendly witnesses at the hearing, Benjamin Jealous of People for the American Way (PFAW), had ‘obliged’ a request Jealous received at the hearing to disclose his group's top five funders. The Senator then asked Capital Research Center to disclose our top five funders.” [Capital Research Center, [3/31/21](#)]

CRC: Supreme Court Justice Amy Coney Barrett's Confirmation Hearings “Were an Excuse to Subject the Nation to a Bizarre, Nearly Half-Hour Rant About Right-Wing ‘Dark Money.’... But Absent From Whitehouse's ‘Crazy Man’ Routine Was a Single Question for Judge Barret.” “Sen. Whitehouse, the charade is wearing thin. For one senator, the Democrats' leading hawk for donor disclosure, the confirmation hearings for Supreme Court nominee Amy Coney Barrett were an excuse to subject the nation to a bizarre, nearly half-hour rant about right-wing ‘dark money.’ ‘Something is not right around the [Supreme] Court,’ scolded Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), ‘and dark money has a lot

to do with it.’ Critics likened his cryptic charts—purportedly revealing the conservative puppet-mastery behind Barrett’s nomination—to a Glenn Beck chalkboard routine and A Beautiful Mind. Others called him a ‘loon.’ [...] But absent from Whitehouse’s ‘crazy man’ routine was a single question for Judge Barrett—you know, the actual subject of the hearings. As usual, the junior senator from Rhode Island is less interested in facts than he is in hand-waving and fearmongering about what he calls the ‘grimy swamps of dark money influence’ in our courts. (The following day Whitehouse, in an interview with the Atlantic, called the U.S a ‘money-laundering haven’ and a ‘sleazy offshore principality’ for so-called dark money.) Sadly, conspiracy theorizing is par for the course in today’s Left, which sees shadowy conservative billionaires under every bed but manages to miss the larger ‘dark money’ networks on the Left.” [Capital Research Center, [11/11/20](#)]

CRC: Sen. Whitehouse Treats “Ideological Opponents Like Traitorous Criminals”. “Last Tuesday afternoon, Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) appeared in a hearing of a subcommittee of the U.S. House Judiciary Committee and suggested the Federalist Society and other law-abiding right-of-center organizations were operating a ‘massive covert operation’ aimed ‘against their own country.’ The Wall Street Journal editorial board later scolded Whitehouse for lobbing this baseless accusation of ‘treasonous’ behavior. The Journal also dinged him for high tailing it out of the hearing when he had finished his prepared remarks and refusing to answer tough questions about the people he had just maligned. As Whitehouse was making for the exit, Rep. Jim Jordon (R-OH) also pointedly asked the committee chair why the senator was permitted to run off and not face the music. (See the hilarious video here.) [...] The comprehensive new profile of Whitehouse at InfluenceWatch shows that treating his ideological opponents like traitorous criminals isn’t new behavior. [...] ‘McCarthyism’ may have been an unfair comparison . . . to the late senator. Unlike Whitehouse, when Sen. ‘Tailgunner Joe’ McCarthy (R-WI) suggested his infamous and too-often baseless treason allegations back in the 1950s, he at least generally stuck around to argue the points. Maybe Whitehouse has evolved the brand into ‘Timid McCarthyism’?” [Capital Research Center, [10/02/20](#)]

CRC’s Scott Walter: Whitehouse is Scheduled to “Keep Arguing for His Utopia” at a Subcommittee Hearing... “Expect his Usual Jeremiad Against Free Market and Center-Right Legal Groups For Allegedly Using ‘Dark Money’ to Win Fights Over Supreme Court Nominees.” In an op-ed, CRC’s Scott Walter wrote, ‘Whitehouse is scheduled to keep arguing for his utopia on Tuesday as a star witness before a subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee examining the ‘Causes and Consequences of Court Capture.’ Expect his usual jeremiad against free market and center-right legal groups for allegedly using ‘dark money’ to win fights over Supreme Court nominees. In a July news release, he and Sen. Dianne Feinstein accused such groups of trying to ‘rig the courts.’ But the real Whitehouse agenda involves the groups he does not talk about. For example, Demand Justice, a ‘pop-up’ project of the Sixteen Thirty Fund, which is itself one of four left-leaning political nonprofit groups in the massive political empire run by Arabella Advisors, a for-profit firm. From 2013 through 2018, the four nonprofit groups under Arabella’s direction spent a stupendous \$1.8 billion to influence public policy. Brian Fallon, the press secretary for Hillary Clinton’s 2016 presidential campaign, is the executive director of Demand Justice. Just before Kavanaugh was nominated by President Trump to the Supreme Court, Demand Justice helped put protesters in the streets armed with placards denouncing Kavanaugh as well as three other potential nominees, just in case.’ [Washington Examiner, 9/22/20]

CRC’s Scott Walter: Sen. Whitehouse Ignores, “Hypocritically,” the Billions in “Dark Money” That “Benefit His Agenda”. In an op-ed, CRC’s Scott Walter wrote, “Since 2015, voters have given Republicans the majority in the Senate and thus judicial approval power. Surely, Whitehouse will not accuse the public of trying to ‘rig the courts’ when he appears in the committee on Tuesday, but that will

be the implication of much of what he does say. He will likely ignore, hypocritically, the billions of ‘dark money’ dollars that benefit his agenda, but that does not mean he’s inconsistent. Because whether he is trying to pummel the rights of a Rhode Island tow truck driver or hound that small businessman’s lawyers as if they were mob bosses, whenever big government can chip away at the power of the people to resist, Whitehouse can be relied on to ride in with the biggest ax he can find.” [Washington Examiner, 9/22/20]

GEORGE SOROS

CRC’s Scott Walter: “The Soros Family and Its Network of Nonprofits Have Long Been Some of the Biggest Funders of Anti-Semites and Israel-Haters in the World...” “In 2020, the Soros-backed Foundation to Promote Open Society granted \$250,000 to Alliance for Global Justice, an anti-Israel charity in Arizona the Washington Examiner reported is linked to Palestinian terrorism. [...] ‘The Soros family and its massive network of nonprofits have long been some of the biggest funders of anti-Semites and Israel-haters in the world, surpassed only by a few oil kingdoms,’ Scott Walter, president of Capital Research Center, a conservative investigative think tank, told the Washington Examiner. ‘This gives the lie to claims that it’s anti-Semitic to criticize Soros.’” [Washington Examiner, [7/25/23](#)]

2023: CRC President Scott Walter Said “Like his father, Alex Soros Cozies Up to White House and Congressional Leaders Willing to do the Family’s Bidding...” “A son of left-wing billionaire and philanthropist George Soros has scored several recent visits to President Joe Biden’s White House as he showers Democrats with campaign donations and promotes his meetings with top lawmakers, records show. Alexander Soros, chairman of the Open Society Foundations grantmaking network that his father founded in 1993 to influence left-leaning politics and culture matters, has increasingly posted images on social media of himself with Democratic lawmakers whose campaigns he has bankrolled. [...] ‘Alexander Soros is poised to lead his family’s multibillion-dollar political and philanthropic network,’ Scott Walter, president of Capital Research Center, a conservative investigative think tank, told the Washington Examiner. ‘Like his father, he cozies up to White House and congressional leaders willing to do the family’s bidding on such issues as crime, immigration, election policy, and more, as the Soroses exploit every type of giving: money to parties, independent expenditure groups, and so-called ‘charities.’’ Walter added: ‘No wonder former staffers and grantees of their foundations, donor groups, and lobbying shops are found throughout the Biden administration, from the State Department to the Domestic Policy Council.’” [Washington Examiner, [4/3/23](#)]

CRC Argued That Crime Surges In The United States Were The “Direct Result Of George Soros’ Influence.” “A report from the conservative Capital Research Center revealed that 24 district attorneys have been elected since 2015 with help from political action committees funded by the billionaire activist. Most of them are pursuing liberal policies that critics blame for soaring crime rates. Parker Thayer, the researcher who wrote the report, said Mr. Soros’ ‘influence on left-wing DA candidates is often wildly underestimated.’ Since 2016, he said, Mr. Soros’ ‘personal network of political action committees formed specifically to back left-wing DA candidates’ has doled out at least \$29 million. ‘Most Americans have no idea what happened,’ Mr. Thayer told The Washington Times. ‘They see the headlines, they see the crime taking over cities, but regrettably few know that these crime surges are largely the direct result of George Soros’ influence and his generous funding of the left-wing ‘Rogue Prosecutor’ movement.’” [Washington Times, [1/25/22](#)]

CRC: Soros-Funded District Attorneys Resulted In “Skyrocketing Violent Crime, Countless Murders, Little To No Accountability, Limited Prosecutorial Experience, A Proclivity For

Scandal, And A Tendency To Unfairly Prosecute Political Adversaries.” Parker Thayer appeared on Rob Schmidt Tonight on Newsmax TV to discuss the many left-wing DA candidates that George Soros has supported with donations. CRC research shows that Soros and his network of personal political action committees have flooded typically low-dollar district attorney elections with over \$29 million backing left-wing ‘reform’ candidates. Those elected to office have left a trail of destruction: skyrocketing violent crime, countless murders, little to no accountability, limited prosecutorial experience, a proclivity for scandal, and a tendency to unfairly prosecute political adversaries.” [Capital Research Center, [4/14/22](#)]

CRC Argued That Soros “Has Effectively Created Two Systems Of Law In The Country.” “With just \$29 million Soros has effectively created two systems of law in the country: one America based on hundreds of years of legal tradition and experience and another America where all norms have been thrown away in a bout of reformist fervor. The divide between these two Americas is so severe that commentators both Left and Right have remarked that places like Philadelphia and Los Angeles resemble ‘a third-world country.’” [Capital Research Center, [3/2/22](#)]

CRC Claimed That Philadelphia And Los Angeles Resemble A “Third World Country.” “With just \$29 million Soros has effectively created two systems of law in the country: one America based on hundreds of years of legal tradition and experience and another America where all norms have been thrown away in a bout of reformist fervor. The divide between these two Americas is so severe that commentators both Left and Right have remarked that places like Philadelphia and Los Angeles resemble ‘a third-world country.’” [Capital Research Center, [3/2/22](#)]

CRC: “Soros And His Allies Have Disproportionately Used Minority Communities As Test Subjects For Their Untested Criminal Justice Reforms.” This means that Soros and his allies have disproportionately used minority communities as test subjects for their untested criminal justice reforms. The results of these experiments have been catastrophic, particularly for the minority communities they were allegedly intended to help, but Soros and his allies don’t seem to understand or care. In 2021 Soros doubled down on his funding of Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner and added two more left-wing DAs to his list. Furthermore, allies of the reform prosecutor movement have laughably insisted that stories of the crime wave are ‘copoganda.’” [Capital Research Center, [3/2/22](#)]

CRC’s Scott Walter: “For at least two decades the nonprofit tail has wagged the Democratic Party dog. It is enormously more important who is the head of Arabella Advisers or the head of the Soros Open Society Foundations or the Ford Foundation than it is whoever happens to be chairing the DNC this afternoon.” Capital Research Center president Scott Walter discusses campaign finance and election integrity with Josh Findlay, director of the Election Protection Project at the Texas Public Policy Foundation. Walter discusses traditional hard dollar donations and soft dollar donations, including “dark money.” Walter explains: For at least two decades the nonprofit tail has wagged the Democratic Party dog. It is enormously more important who is the head of Arabella Advisers or the head of the Soros Open Society Foundations or the Ford Foundation than it is whoever happens to be chairing the DNC this afternoon. [Capital Research Center, [2/28/24](#)]

CRITICISM OF WYSS

“A Swiss octogenarian billionaire has donated tens of millions of dollars to Democratic politicians and progressive causes in ‘dark money’ contributions – “[...] ‘We know that for years Wyss has funneled millions of dollars to left-wing nonprofits that boost Democratic turnout and provide partisan campaign

strategy,’ said Hayden Ludwig, a senior investigative researcher at Capital Research Center, a Washington, DC-based conservative think tank that studies philanthropy and nonprofits.” [New York Post, [5/26/22](#)]

BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION

CRC attacked the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation for their “Big Philanthropy” giving, and advocated for rejecting their funds. “We do know, don’t we?, that money can, in fact, solve a lot of problems—maybe not all of them, and it can create or exacerbate some, but it can certainly be of help in trying to meet challenges, on either personal or societal levels. Most of us would take it. Very-moneyed Bill Gates himself is also a problem, as is his philanthropy—institutionally, in the form of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and as practiced by it and its many related entities—according to Tim Schwab’s *The Bill Gates Problem: Reckoning with the Myth of the Good Billionaire*. Gates personally and the Gates Foundation, which in January announced a 2024 spending budget of \$8.6 billion, are representative icons of that which could and should be considered “Big Philanthropy.” It’s a problem—perhaps a challenge and/or opportunity, as well, but a problem. It’s ours, defined in more than one way. And we don’t need to take it.” [Capital Research Center, [4/2/24](#)]

CRC attacked The Gates Foundation for advancing common core educational standards, which the group rated as having little to no impact on achievement. “The Gates Foundation played a crucial role in making the vision of Common Core a reality. In the past, state’s rights would get in the way of implementing such broad and national goals. Still, the foundation provided “the money and structure for states to work together on common standards in a way that avoided the usual collision.” Money was the key factor that allowed Gates and Obama to transform our educational system, with Gates and his foundation pouring “money across the political spectrum,” uniting factions that would generally oppose each other, and Obama doing the same except using the dollars of the American taxpayer. While the Obama administration did not actually create the Common Core academic standards, they fast-tracked their implementation at the state level by making the “new college and career-ready standards a key component of applying for the grant money.” Yet after an entire decade of implementation, “no convincing evidence exists that the standards had a significant, positive impact on student achievement.” [Capital Research Center, [1/25/24](#)]

“DARK MONEY” HYPOCRISY

CRC Claimed They Helped with the Research for The New York Times’ Article on “Dark Money.” “In a tremendous blow to the narrative that conservative ‘dark money’ dominates politics, reporters Ken Vogel and Shane Goldmacher of the New York Times explored the world of ‘dark money’ spending on both the Left and Right, and they concluded that Democrats, not Republicans, used more ‘dark money’ in 2020. The Capital Research Center is proud to have helped with the research on this groundbreaking piece.” [Capital Research Center, [2/10/22](#) (-)]

2021: CRC Called Conservative Dark Money a “Myth” and Said There Was Disparity Between “Dark Money” Giving on the Left and on the Right. “Here’s a popular myth: Rich people are all conservative, so conservatives have more money to affect politics than liberals, because the left, which cares about the poor, doesn’t have the same kind of resources. A new report from the Capital Research Center, where I work, busts this myth and showcases the disparity between ‘dark money’ giving on the left and the right following the Supreme Court’s consequential *Citizens United v. FEC* decision in 2010. Spoiler alert: According to the report’s data, liberals beat conservatives in philanthropic giving that

supports public policy fights by almost 4 to 1, despite the constant, histrionic rhetoric about dark money corruption on the right. Why, beyond driving a nail in the hypocrisy of the leftist dark money narrative, does this matter? Because the country invariably will get what it pays for. And, of late, a small number of very wealthy people on the left are playing a huge role in funding the policies—and changes in election processes—favored by the left.” [Capital Research Center, [1/19/21](#)]

CRC: Ketanji Brown Jackson is the “Dark Money” Left’s Choice for the Nation’s Highest Court. “One aspect of President Joe Biden’s pick for the coming Supreme Court vacancy isn’t up for debate: Whatever her credentials, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson is the ‘dark money’ left’s choice for the nation’s highest court. So why is the Washington Post, which normally decries ‘dark money,’ carrying water for one of the darkest groups in politics? WaPo columnist Glenn Kessler recently ‘marvel[ed] at the hypocrisy’ of the conservative Judicial Crisis Network’s ‘attacks’ on Demand Justice (a partisan activist group backing Jackson with a \$1 million advertising spree) and its close ties to the multi-billion-dollar nonprofit network that spawned it. That network, run by Arabella Advisors LLC, raked in nearly \$1.7 billion in 2020 alone, much of it from wealthy left-wing donors and their family foundations. It’s the most powerful liberal lobbying force in Washington. Yet the Post wants the public to ignore Arabella, since Demand Justice spun off from Arabella’s network last year after spending its first three years as just an accounting code inside Arabella’s Sixteen Thirty Fund.” [Capital Research Center, [3/23/22](#)]

CRC: There is a Behind-the Scenes Movement of Millions in Dark Money to Expand the Supreme Court. “Conservatives’ calls for Democratic candidates to take a position on court-packing have grown louder since presidential candidate Joe Biden called for a ‘commission’ to study altering the court, but here’s the deal: It’s immaterial if the candidates admit to a desire to expand the court because there’s a behind-the-scenes movement of millions in dark money aiming to accomplish that very thing. Follow the money to find out where Democrats plan to go. From the vice-presidential debate stage, Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif., expertly dodged the question of whether a Biden-Harris administration would pack the court. The former attorney general of California was so reticent to answer, in fact, she even attempted to redefine the term, accusing conservatives of packing benches throughout the country with judges who don’t have the skin colors she believes they should have.” [Capital Research Center, [11/06/20](#)]

CRC: Democrats Had No Shortage of Left-Wing “Dark Money” Groups At Their Backs in the 2020 Election. “Democrats had no shortage of left-wing ‘dark money’ groups at their backs in the 2020 election. Chief among them was the Sixteen Thirty Fund, a 501(c)(4) advocacy group and the in-house lobbying shop for a \$635 million activist network run by the consultancy Arabella Advisors, which was exposed in CRC’s recent report *The Shadow over America*. Since that report was released, the numbers have only grown. According to the recently acquired Form 990 filings for each of Arabella’s four nonprofits, the ‘dark money’ network raked in \$731 million in 2019—a \$95 million increase over its 2018 revenues and an order of magnitude larger than the \$54 million increase in total revenue between 2017 and 2018. And it spent \$648 million. That’s about \$200 million more than the Democratic National Committee (DNC) spent in the 2019–2020 election cycle.” [Capital Research Center, [12/15/20](#)]

2019: CRC Created Website Called DarkMoneyATM.Org Dedicated to Exposing Arabella Advisors’ “Dark Money” Network. In 2019, Capital Research Center created a website called DarkMoneyATM.org that called Arabella Advisors “the left’s \$500 million dark money ATM”. The website included a link to CRC’s full report on Arabella Advisors’ network of “dark” dollars, the website listed various groups tied to Arabella Advisors and also provided videos and articles on Arabella. [DarkMoneyATM.org, accessed [11/25/19](#)]

CRC: “Of these four nonprofits, the Arabella-run advocacy group—the Sixteen Thirty Fund—might be called the darkest of ‘dark money’ nonprofits.” “The Sixteen Thirty Fund is essentially a subsidiary of Arabella Advisors, a Washington, D.C.-based firm and a veritable Geppetto, the fictional woodcarver and puppeteer whose creation, Pinocchio, involves him in all sorts of mischief. Besides offering consulting services to wealthy left-leaning clients, Arabella provides a unique service to the professional Left through four major nonprofits. Of these four nonprofits, the Arabella-run advocacy group—the Sixteen Thirty Fund—might be called the darkest of ‘dark money’ nonprofits. Because the Sixteen Thirty Fund is an IRS-designated 501(c)(4) nonprofit, it may spend more money on lobbying than its 501(c)(3) counterparts and it isn’t required to disclose its donors. To this end, Sixteen Thirty caters to wealthy Democratic Party donors, funneling tens of millions of dollars in grants to left-wing nonprofits, providing services to create new ‘pop-up’ groups intent on lobbying Congress and influencing the news cycle.” [CRC, [4/17/19](#)]

CRC ignored their corporate-backing from right-wing billionaires to challenge billionaires funding get-out-the-vote efforts as being “corrosive” to democracy, without justifying why, in testimony before congress. “While Whitson declined to discuss his organization’s funding at the congressional hearing, independent scrutiny of FGA’s funding has revealed its largest known source of funding is right-wing Illinois billionaire and election-denier Richard Uihlien, whose foundation has given FGA \$17.6 million since 2014...Understanding this context, perhaps it’s no surprise that the FGA’s testimony and that of a similar witness from the right-wing Capital Research Center focused not on the corrosive impact of corporate funders and right-wing billionaires channeling their wealth to sculpt American democracy to serve them, but on the purported wrongs done to democracy by voter registration efforts that increased voter participation in recent elections. The alleged big bad highlighted in the FGA’s testimony was an effort to increase federal funding to non-profit organizations to “Promote voter registration and promote voter participation,” by President Biden’s 2021 Executive Order Promoting Access to Voting. The Capital Research Center’s testimony similarly attacked charities for “registering millions of persons” to vote. These witnesses never explained why increasing voting in American elections is a problem at all. Could it be that they fear that the greater the participation of everyday Americans in our elections and democracy, the less influence their right-wing billionaire and corporate donors will have?” [The Hill, [1/19/24](#)]

CRC Received So-Called “Dark Money”

CRC’s Scott Walter: “To Paraphrase President Nixon, We are All Dark Money Partakers Now.” “Rhode Island Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse on Wednesday revamped his attacks on what he called the conservative special interest groups that promoted former President Donald Trump’s judicial nominees. [...] Whitehouse brought in three experts from liberal advocacy groups to testify against dark money. All three are members of organizations that rely on undisclosed donors. These included representatives from People for the American Way, the Center for Media and Democracy, and Take Back the Court, all of which benefit from dark money donations. That fact was a sticking point for Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, who accused Whitehouse of hypocrisy in his crusade against dark money. ‘Democrats thunder against dark money, and yet Democrats dominate dark money,’ Cruz said, pointing out that Whitehouse’s witnesses were all dark money recipients. Scott Walter, president of the Capital Research Center, told Cruz that just as groups such as the Federalist Society and JCN worked with the Trump administration to pick and promote federal judicial nominees, corresponding liberal groups are already doing the same for the Biden administration. ‘To paraphrase President Nixon, we are all dark money partakers now,’ Walter said.” [Washington Examiner, 3/10/21]

In 2019, CRC Received Funding Through DonorsTrust. “Beyond these ultra-controversial grantees, 2019 also saw significant sums pass from DonorsTrust to civic, intellectual and state/local advocacy groups operating in specific niches on the right, including the Institute for Free Speech, the Foundation for Cultural Review, the Foundation for Government Accountability and the Capital Research Center. The State Policy Network, whose array of state-level policy shops has channeled 501(c)(3) dollars to great effect for the right, is a regular DonorsTrust beneficiary and got over \$7 million in 2019.” [Inside Philanthropy, [6/09/21](#)]

- **Business Insider: Donors Trust Funneled Hundreds of Millions of Dollars in Anonymous Cash to Influential Groups.** “An obscure pair of non-profits has funneled hundreds of millions of dollars of anonymous cash into the most influential advocacy groups, think tanks, academic centers and organizers in the conservative movement. Described by Mother Jones’ Andy Kroll as ‘the dark money ATM of the right,’ Donors Trust and sister group Donors Capital Fund have fueled the conservative movement by serving as middlemen between conservative donors with a desire for secrecy and groups in need of operating revenue.” [Business Insider, [2/12/13](#)]
- **Mother Jones: DonorsTrust “is the Dark Money ATM of the Right.”** “Working out of an nondescript brick rowhouse in suburban Virginia, a little-known organization named Donors Trust, staffed by five employees, has steered hundreds of millions of dollars to the most influential think tanks, foundations, and advocacy groups in the conservative movement. Over the past decade, it has funded the right’s assault on labor unions, climate scientists, public schools, economic regulations, and the very premise of activist government. Yet unlike its nearest counterpart on the progressive side, the Tides Foundation, a bogeyman of Glenn Beck and Bill O’Reilly, Donors Trust has mostly avoided any real scrutiny. It is the dark-money ATM of the right.” [Mother Jones, [2/05/13](#)]
- **CNBC: DonorsTrust, a “Dark-Money Group Used by Republican Donors” Funneled Millions Toward High-Profile Conservative Groups in 2020.** “A dark-money group used by Republican donors funneled millions of dollars toward high-profile conservative organizations that pushed and in some cases investigated claims of election fraud either before or after Joe Biden defeated President Donald Trump in November. [...] That funding group, the Donors Trust, is officially labeled as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. The designation allows financiers to give to the organization anonymously. That money is then channeled to other dark-money groups.” [CNBC, [1/13/21](#)]

Right Wing Watch: CRC is Largely Funded by Conservative Megadonors and Dark Money Groups, Including the Behemoth Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation. “Capital Research Center, Goldenberg’s employer, is a decades-old Beltway operation research outfit that targets nonprofit organizations it perceives to be liberal or anti-conservative, actively discouraging contributions to those groups. (Full disclosure: People for the American Way, Right Wing Watch’s parent organization, has been among CRC’s targets.) The right-wing operation, which has dubbed itself ‘America’s investigative think tank,’ is funded largely by conservative megadonors and dark-money groups, including the behemoth Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation. Its work, which includes a digital encyclopedia of liberal groups called Influence Watch and a handful of publications that take aim at liberal causes, is often cited in conservative media and the group is frequently present at major right-wing events such as the Conservative Political Action Conference.’ [Right Wing Watch, [5/14/20](#)]

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

The following table lists organizations that have donated to the Capital Research Center since 2012:

Year	Contributor	Amount
2018	Bradley Impact Fund	\$32,750
2017	Bradley Impact Fund	\$13,500
2016	Bradley Impact Fund	\$10,000
2015	Bradley Impact Fund	\$11,000
2017	James E And Edith Margaret Brandon Foundation	\$1,000
2016	James E And Edith Margaret Brandon Foundation	\$1,000
2017	Tepper Family Foundation	\$400
2017	R Edwin And WS Brown Foundation	\$100
2017	Woodford Foundation	\$500
2016	Woodford Foundation	\$500
2015	Woodford Foundation	\$500
2016	Foulke Foundation Trust	\$1,000
2015	Foulke Foundation Trust	\$2,000
2014	Foulke Foundation Trust	\$1,000
2016	Calvanese Family Foundation	\$1,000
2015	Calvanese Family Foundation	\$1,000
2014	Research Institute For Hawaii usa	\$2,500
2012	The Harvey M Meyerhoff Fund Inc	\$1,500
Source: [CitizenAudit.org, IRS 990 Forms, 2012-2018]		