

Thursday, November 09, 2023

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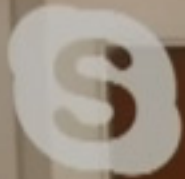
Angela Davis: 'Palestine is a moral litmus test for the world' | UpFront



<https://youtu.be/oIVxooM5kG8>

Oct 27, 2023 #Aljazeeraenglish #News

OAKLAND



Citing the late poet **June Jordan**, political activist Angela Davis stresses the importance of Palestine for other social justice movements. There has been a long history of solidarity between Palestinians and Black Americans, and these last few weeks have been no exception. While Israel continues its bombardment of Gaza, numerous Black activists in the United States have come together to demonstrate their solidarity with Palestinians. These two places are more than 6,000 miles away from each other, with very different histories. So what's behind this common recognition of a shared struggle?

On UpFront, renowned political activist Angela Davis speaks with Marc Lamont Hill on the **history and meaning of Black American solidarity with the Palestinian cause.**

ANGELA DAVIS
POLITICAL ACTIVIST



ALJAZEERA



June Millicent Jordan (July 9, 1936 – June 14, 2002) was an American poet, essayist, teacher, and activist. In her writing she explored issues of gender, race, immigration, and representation. Jordan was passionate about using Black English in her writing and poetry, teaching others to treat it as its own language and an important outlet for expressing Black culture. Jordan was inducted on the National LGBTQ Wall of Honor within the Stonewall National Monument in 2019.

Jordan was born in 1936 in Harlem, New York, as the only child of Granville Ivanhoe Jordan and Mildred Maude Fisher, immigrants from Jamaica and Panama.[4] Her father was a postal worker for the USPS and her mother was a part-time nurse.[5] When Jordan was five, the family moved to the Bedford-Stuyvesant area of Brooklyn, New York.[6] Jordan credits her father with passing on his love of literature, and she began writing her own poetry at the age of seven. Jordan describes the complexities of her early childhood in her 2000 memoir, *Soldier: A Poet's Childhood*. She explores her complicated relationship with her father, who encouraged her to read broadly and memorize passages of classical texts, but who would also beat her for the slightest misstep and call her "damn black devil child." [7] In her 1986 essay "For My American Family", Jordan explores the many conflicts in growing up as the child of Jamaican immigrant parents, whose visions of their daughter's future far exceeded the urban ghettos of her present. [8] Jordan's mother died by suicide. [9] Jordan recalls her father telling her: "There was a war against colored people, I had to become a soldier."

Jordan's education began in the New York City public school system, "beginning her studies at P.S. 26 elementary school." [10] Jordan attended Brooklyn's Midwood High School for a year, [6] beginning at age 12, [10] before enrolling in Northfield Mount Hermon School, an elite preparatory school in New England. [11] Both Midwood and Northfield had primarily white student bodies. [12] Throughout her education, Jordan became "completely immersed in a white universe" [13] by attending predominantly white schools; however, she was also able to construct and develop her identity as a black American and a writer. In 1953, Jordan graduated from high school and enrolled at Barnard College in New York City.

Jordan later expressed how she felt about Barnard College in her 1981 book of essays *Civil Wars*, writing: "No one ever presented me with a single Black author, poet, historian, personage, or idea for that matter. Nor was I ever assigned a single woman to study as a thinker, or writer, or poet, or life force. Nothing that I learned, here, lessened my feeling of pain or confusion and bitterness as related to my origins: my street, my family, my friends. Nothing showed me how I might try to alter the political and economic realities underlying our Black condition in white America."

Due to this disconnect with the predominantly male, white curriculum, Jordan left Barnard without graduating. June Jordan emerged as a poet and political activist when black female authors were beginning to be heard.

June Jordan



| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Born | June Millicent Jordan July 9, 1936 Harlem, New York, U.S. |
| Died | June 14, 2002 (aged 65) Berkeley, California, U.S. |
| Occupation | Writer, teacher, activist |
| Alma mater | Barnard College |
| Period | 1969–2002 |
| Genre | African-American literature , LGBT literature |
| Subject | Civil rights , Feminism , Bisexual/LGBT rights movement |
| Notable works | <i>Who Look at Me</i> (1969); <i>Civil Wars</i> (1981); <i>I Was Looking at the Ceiling and Then I Saw the Sky</i> (1995); <i>His Own Where</i> (2010) |
| Spouse | Michael Meyer (married 1955, divorced 1965) |
| Children | Christopher David Meyer |

Website

www.junejordan.com

After the Harlem Riots of 1964, Jordan found that she was, in her words, "filled with hatred for everything and everyone white." She wrote:

... it came to me that this condition, if it lasted, would mean that I had lost the point: not to resemble my enemies, not to dwarf my world, not to lose my willingness and ability to love.

From that time on, Jordan wrote with love. She also identified as bisexual in her writing, which she refused to deny, even when this status was stigmatized.

"Jordan makes us think of Akhmatova, of Neruda. She is among the bravest of us, the most outraged. She feels for all. She is the universal poet." --Alice Walker

"We are the ones we have been waiting for."

—Poem for South African Women, from *Passion* (1980)



June Jordan

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What Would I Do White

What would I do white?
What would I do clearly full
of not exactly beans nor
pearls my nose a manicure
my eyes a picture of your wall?

I would disturb the streets by
passing by so pretty kids
on stolen petty cash would look
at me like foreign
writing in the sky

I would forget my furs on any chair.
I would ignore the doormen at the knob
the social sanskrit of my life
unwilling to disclose my cosmetology,
I would forget.

Over my wine I would acquire
I would inspire big returns to equity
the equity of capital I am
accustomed to accept

like wintertime.

I would do nothing.
That would be enough.

from *Some Changes* (1971)
and from *Directed by Desire. The Collected Poems of June Jordan.*
Copyright 2005 by the June M. Jordan Literary Estate Trust

Alla Tha's All Right, but

Somebody come and carry me into a seven-day kiss
I can' use no historic no national no family bliss
I need an absolutely one to one a seven-day kiss

I can read the daily papers
I can even make a speech
But the news is stuff that tapers
down to salt poured in the breach

I been scheming about my people I been scheming about sex
I been dreaming about Africa and nightmaring Oedipus the Rex
But what I need is quite specific
terrifying rough stuff and terrific

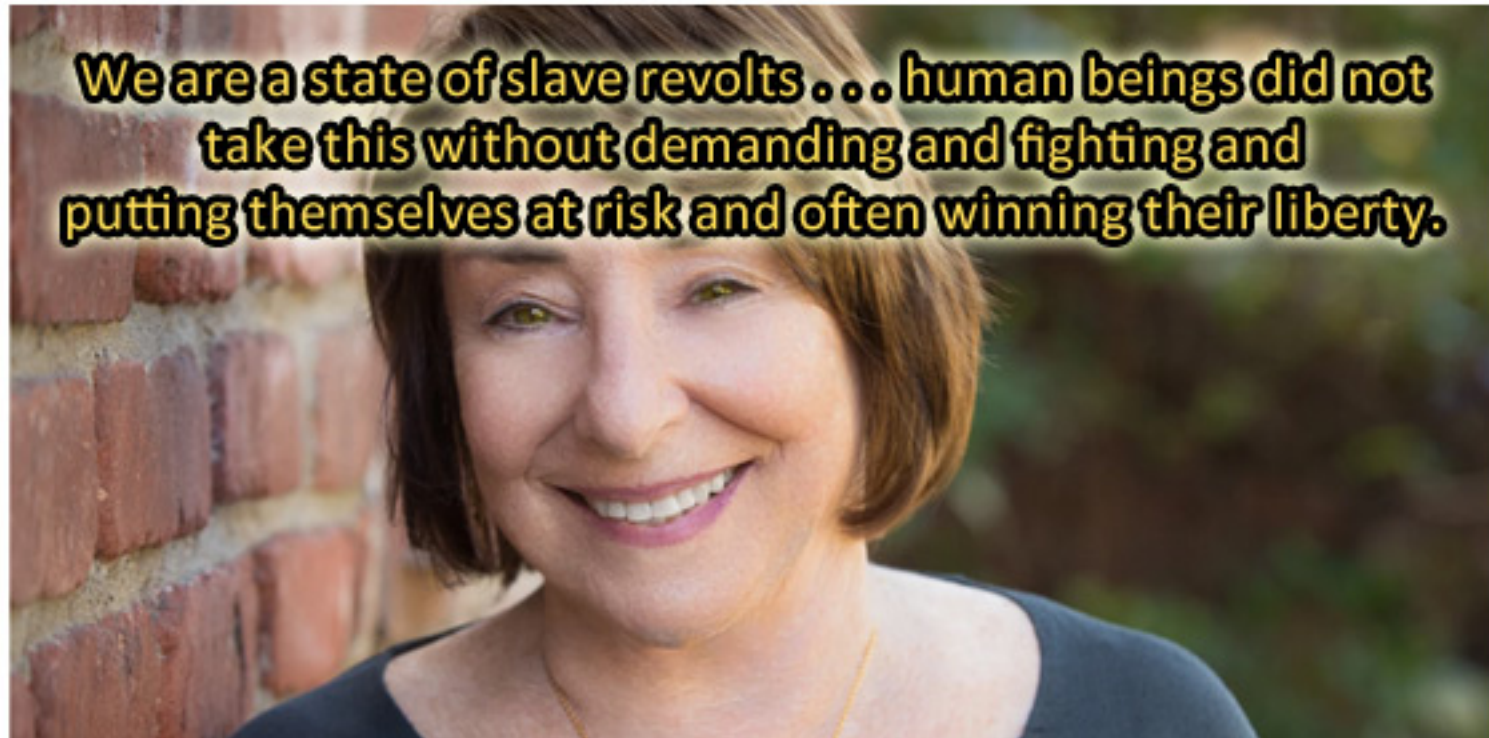
I need an absolutely one to one a seven-day kiss
I can' use no more historic no national no bona fide family bliss
Somebody come and carry me into a seven-day kiss
Somebody come on
Somebody come on and carry me
over there!

from *Passion* (1980)
and from *Directed by Desire. The Collected Poems of June Jordan.*
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Q&A: California's uninterrupted history of slavery

By **Katie Hyson** / Racial Justice and Social Equity Reporter

Published June 21, 2023 at 3:02 PM PDT



Jean Pfaelzer, shown above, is the author of the new book: "California, a Slave State."

Slavery is often associated with the South. A new book shifts the narrative West. "California, a Slave State," details 250 years of slavery and slave revolts in California. KPBS reporter Katie Hyson spoke with the book's author, Jean Pfaelzer, a public historian and University of Delaware professor, about slavery throughout the state's history, and how it continues today. This interview has been edited for brevity and clarity.

What prompted you to write this book? Take me back to that moment. Pfaelzer: It was actually quite a powerful moment. I was sitting with a very small photo that I had actually found in the basement of a library, and it's of a Chinese girl in the early 1880s. She looks about 14, maybe 15, and she's in a caged brothel on Jackson Street in San Francisco. I stared at her, and then I just heard myself say, "What happened to the 13th amendment?" How is it possible that there was slavery, public slavery, in a caged brothel on Jackson Street in San Francisco? I had to take this story and find out why we couldn't protect this little girl. I had to find out where we were at as a country and where California was at as a state. And the other moment that drove me to this book is, I was up in Northern California, and I read in the local newspaper that a 15-year-old girl, again, a teenage girl, had been found, and she had actually saved herself. She had been kept in a locked metal box on a marijuana grow (operation) in Lake County. She was homeless. She'd been strolling the streets of Hollywood. She'd been picked up by two men, driven the length of the state and then locked in this metal box with two holes — one to prod her, one to hose her down. And then she was let out, either to trim the buds off of the marijuana plants or to sexually service the owners and maybe the other field workers. And that was deeply jolting to me. It's very near where I have a cabin, just to the north in Humboldt County. And it seemed like this was a neighbor and a neighboring ranch. I've hiked that land. I've backpacked on that land. How could I not know what was happening in my own state?

I don't think when most Americans think of slavery that they think of California. What is California's history of slavery, and how is it different from how slavery unfolded in the rest of the country? Pfaelzer: California has commonalities with Southern slavery. But this book disrupts this North — South model map of slavery in the United States. More and more historians are looking into how slavery seeped north. But we hadn't taken the story west. And part of what defined slavery in California is that

it both imported legal traditions and practices of brutality — ways of registering ownership, ways of hanging onto slaves — from the East. But California has this unique geography. It had 250 very small tribal affiliations, tribal clans. It was a beautiful, fertile, fecund state. It had the border, it had the mines, it had no labor force. And that was one of the driving forces to slavery: Who was going to work and profit from this new land that we had just captured from Mexico? The presence of the American military to enforce and implement with a lot of brutality the slavery of Native Americans. And then there was the gold rush, which brought people and labor traditions and a need for workers from all over the world. What I didn't know, even growing up in California, was that plantation slave owners had marched about 2,000 enslaved plantation Blacks from the South. And so there was a tradition of Southern slave owners who immediately took control of the state and wrote their codes into California law.

You wrote that California entered the United States with a state constitution to never tolerate slavery. Then within months, legalized enslaving indigenous people. When I read that, I thought it's racial injustice just underneath a progressive surface. Do you see ways that persists today in California? Pfaelzer: We have this aura of this utopian dream of sunshine and surfers and the wine country and great food and a free-spirited sexuality. And all of that is sitting right on top of a desperate situation of modern slavery and modern human trafficking. In the sweatshops of San Francisco are Asian women, sometimes with babies strapped to their back who are kept in cages. If you walk through parts of San Francisco, you can see barred windows and no signage, and those are sweatshops. We see girls standing by the freeway exits selling flowers. Those girls are very likely trafficked. We see teenage girls at truck stops. And we now know that at the detention centers at the border down near Tecate, down near Tijuana, that desperate migrants are being either sold and escape and take the opportunity to flee from the detention centers and find themselves trafficked as field workers, as factory workers. Right now, there's prison labor and then there's sexual slavery. Think of the internet and the websites like Craigslist or the site that just got shut down, Backpage.com. Those are supermarkets for the unfree slavery in the sex trade. So, it's happening now, and it's built on the traditions that grew over the 250 years that I write about.

Before journalism, I worked in nonprofit assistance for sex workers, and that included women who had been trafficked. When you learn how to spot it and your eyes are open, you start to see it everywhere. And I went through a period of time where it was really hard to sleep at night. And you feel a little crazy because it's almost like you're aware of this reality that most people are not aware of when they're walking around in daily life. Did you go through this with this book? Pfaelzer: I did very much. I've had this cabin in Humboldt County for almost three decades. And I'm very aware that we're in the Emerald Triangle, that we're in marijuana country. I didn't know until I started talking with growers up here that the field workers were unfree and they were from Guatemala and Honduras. I interviewed the head inspector for our county sheriff, and our county sheriff is a guy named Bill Honsal, who is very aware of what's happening here. We're financially underserved, and what Bill Honsal says is, more girls go in than come out. Where are the bodies? And these are people who are my neighbors. The way it hit me most intimately was I saw an ad for a seminar on human trafficking in Humboldt County. And it was run by a woman who goes by the name of Elle Snow — that's not her real name for her own safety. And we became friends and we spent a lot of time together. Elle was groomed by a guy who came up from Sacramento. She was working as a manager in a Sbarro pizza parlor in the town of Eureka. And he charms her. "You look like you're having a hard time. Talk to me. I'm your friend." And for six months he took this woman who didn't have a lot of money out to fancy meals. And he listened to her. He called her every night. There are books on Amazon that tell you how to become a trafficker. And Elle's trafficker followed it to a T. And he gave her a sense of comfort of fatherliness. He was two decades older than her. And then one time he comes into Sbarro and he says, "You look like you're having a rough time. Let's go away for the weekend." And he takes her back to his apartment in Sacramento. And after one torrid, wonderful, romantic night, she wakes up without her money, her wallet, her driver's license, her clothes. He beats her up and he tells her she's going to walk the street. And the only option of not walking the street is to go to work in a brothel in very wealthy Walnut Creek in a fancy home behind a gated community. And in hearing her story — she allowed me to tape her and we spent many days together — the story became very personal and very real. So, yeah, it's all over the place. I see it. I go to a conference and I watch the maids change the sheets in a hotel bedroom. Ninety percent of people who are trafficked in California are women and many of them are in the domestic service trade, working as maids in hotels and waitresses or washing dishes or working in the clothing trade.

<https://yalebooks.yale.edu/2023/09/18/california-a-slave-state-a-conversation-with-jean-pfaelzer/>
<https://www.encyclopedia.com/arts/educational-magazines/pfaelzer-jean-1944>

In California, a Slave State, Jean Pfaelzer exposes how California gorged on slavery, an appetite that persists today in a global trade in human beings lured by promises of jobs but who instead are imprisoned in sweatshops and remote marijuana grows, or sold as nannies and sex workers. Sep 18, 2023

 Yale University Press
<https://yalebooks.yale.edu/2023/09/18/california-a-sl...>

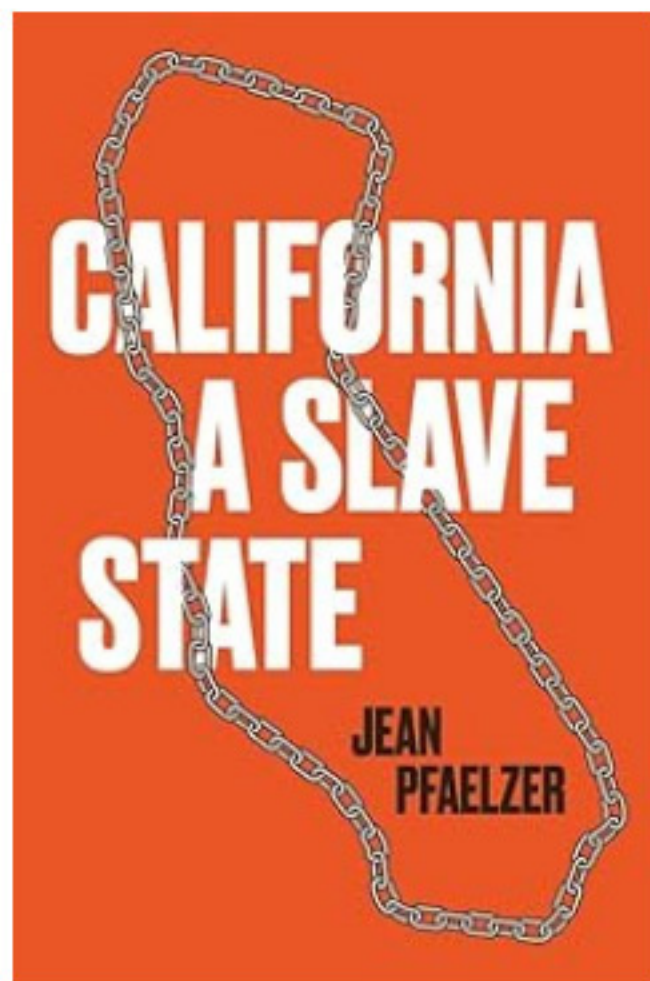
[Jean Pfaelzer on California, A Slave State](#)

California, a Slave State

(Lamar Series in Western

History) June 27, 2023

by [Jean Pfaelzer](#) (Author)



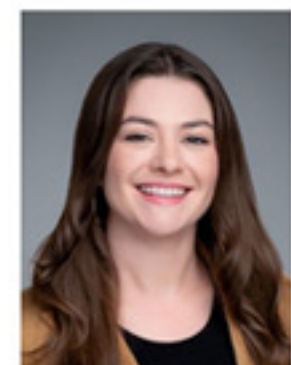
"A searing survey of '250 years of human bondage' in what is now the state of California. . . . Readers will be outraged."—Publishers Weekly

California owes its origins and sunny prosperity to slavery. Spanish invaders captured Indigenous people to build the chain of Catholic missions. Russian otter hunters shipped Alaska Natives—the first slaves transported into California—and launched a Pacific slave triangle to China. Plantation slaves were marched across the plains for the Gold Rush. San Quentin Prison incubated California's carceral state. Kidnapped Chinese girls were sold in caged brothels in early San Francisco. Indian boarding schools supplied new farms and hotels with unfree child workers. By looking west to California, Jean Pfaelzer upends our understanding of slavery as a North-South struggle and reveals how the enslaved in California fought, fled, and resisted human bondage. In unyielding research and vivid interviews, Pfaelzer exposes how California gorged on slavery, an appetite that persists today in a global trade in human beings lured by promises of jobs but who instead are imprisoned in sweatshops and remote marijuana grows, or sold as nannies and sex workers. Slavery shreds California's utopian brand, rewrites our understanding of the West, and redefines America's uneasy paths to freedom.



Jean Pfaelzer is a professor of English and American studies who has taught undergraduate classes in American women's literature, labor fiction, film and culture, and utopian fiction. Her graduate courses include cultural studies, feminist theory, realism and representation, and American women writers and their cultural and political contexts. Pfaelzer worked in Washington, DC, first for the National Labor Center as its director, and then for Congressman Frank McCloskey. She worked on early versions of the Family and Medical Leave Act and acted as a consultant for an organization of female coal miners.

Pfaelzer's books reflect her academic and research interests. As editor of *A Rebecca Harding Davis Reader: "Life in the Iron-Mills," Selected Fiction & Essays*, Pfaelzer offers a new collection of the writings of Davis (1830-1910), author of *Life in the Iron-Mills* (1861), a powerful and truthful account of life among the laboring class. From 1861 to 1910, Davis published hundreds of essays and stories and twelve novels, many of which were published serially. Davis's writing had been all but forgotten when it was revived by the Feminist Press in 1972. *Belles Lettres* contributor Laura Hapke wrote that Pfaelzer's collection, which she described as "carefully compiled and meticulously edited," offers readers interested in the fiction of social protest, as well as Davis scholars "a chance to study how, as Pfaelzer observes, an important 19th-century woman writer 'encoded and struggled to change the attitudes of her time.'" **Essay topics include utopian communities, emancipation, female independence, aging, rural and urban despair, romantic thought, and the industrial revolution.**



Katie Hyson

<https://www.kpbs.org/staff/katie-hyson>

Katie Hyson reports on racial justice and social equity for KPBS. She moved here from Gainesville, Florida, where she reported on the same beat. Prior to journalism, she advised immigrants, administered an organic farm, and offered nonprofit assistance to sex workers. She loves sunshine, adrenaline and a great story.

Jean Pfaelzer, born 1944, in CA; Education: UC Berkeley, B.A. (with honors), 1965, M.A., 1967; Cambridge University, Cambridge, England, graduate diploma, 1970; University College, London, England, Ph.D.

My life has been defined by genocide of Jewish people. I look on Gaza with concern

Jason Stanley

The history of mass killings, for me, is never ending. And so are the lessons for today

Sat 11 Nov 2023 06.11 EST



‘Gaza is populated largely by the descendants of those expelled from their homes during the Nakba by Jewish nationalists.’ Photograph: Neil Hall/EPA

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The world’s attention is focused on Gaza. The range of opinions being debated in the media today varies between the claim that what we are witnessing is the start of a genocide, to the view that Israel is engaging in self-protection, reacting properly to a true existential threat. That empathy is required for the horrors now facing the Palestinian people should be obvious to all decent people, just as much as for the victims of Hamas’s unspeakable savagery. But it is necessary to move beyond these reactions, to evaluate the arguments, and their consequences. It is not much of an exaggeration to say that my life has been defined by the European genocide of the Jewish people. This history, for me, is never ending. Recently, I was contacted over email by a distant relative of my mother, who sent me a list of my maternal relatives murdered at Sobibor – there were twelve people on this list, including my great-grandmother and multiple great-uncles. This past has defined my recent professional life, where I have looked theoretically at the conditions that enable mass killing. Hamas’s massacre brought a kind of special horror to me, evocative of the worst of the stories of my ancestors. Jewish people being massacred brings back the worst of my inter-generational trauma. And when I contemplate the nightmare occurring in Gaza, the elimination by slow suffocation or fire of so many entire families, I feel equal horror at the situation facing people there, children who face the same fate as Hamas’s innocent victims. To me, with my background, that is just what it means to be Jewish – to empathize with the innocent victims of mass killing, no matter their identity. Israel’s current actions, I believe, make me less safe as a Jewish person, rather than more. But I also feel Israel’s actions, not only here but also over time, in a different way – as an assault on my Jewish identity. My training is in the Philosophy of Language. As a result, I have focused on the kind of speech that enables and justifies genocide. To justify mass killing by self-protection, by the claim that its targets pose an existential threat, is the classical justification for genocide. Dating back to Cleon’s speech in Book 3 of Thucydides’ *The Peloponnesian War*, the paradigm example of demagoguery in the ancient world, would-be genocidaires always justify their actions on the grounds that its targets pose an existential threat to their own people.

Of course, some Palestinians have genocidal ambitions against the Jewish inhabitants of Israel, as the actions and words of Hamas and its supporters have made vivid to the world. But this hardly constitutes a justification for Israel’s mass killing of innocents. Typically, the justification for such mass killings goes well beyond the claim that some of its targets merely have genocidal ambitions. The justification for such drastic actions is that its targets pose a legitimate existential threat. Hitler justified the Final Solution on these grounds, that the existence of the Jewish people supposedly posed an existential threat to the German nation. Jewish people posed no threat at all to the German nation. We must always be careful about claims of existential threat. In this case, Israel does face a profound threat from Hamas. However, the vast difference in power between Israel and Hamas makes it highly unlikely for Hamas to pose an existential threat to Israel. In fact, Hamas could not have murdered so many innocent Israelis, if not for the complete security breakdown by Netanyahu’s government. Obsessed by his own concerns, and those of the extremists who put him into power, Netanyahu forgot about the country he is required to protect. Netanyahu has a long history of treating these terrorists as partners in his quest to marginalize any moderate Palestinian leadership. Of course, Israel does face an existential threat, if all of its neighboring countries ally together in a war against it. But this threat is increased, rather than diminished, by the atrocities Israel is now perpetrating in Gaza. The time for analyzing excuses and justifications is over. Israel suffered an unspeakably horrifying terrorist attack, by a criminal group dedicated to its destruction. But in its desire for revenge, Israel is engaging in the mass killing of innocent civilians, largely children, which may spiral even further out of control. Israel claims it is not targeting civilians. But what does such a claim mean when Israel is conducting such a fierce bombing of an urban area as dense as Gaza? For those of us who are Jewish, and particularly for those of us who bear the trauma of our own ancestors’ genocide, it is time to face the consequences of these actions, not only for the Palestinians, whose tragedy is obvious, but for ourselves.

Gaza is populated largely by the descendants of those expelled from their homes during the Nakba by Jewish nationalists. The current moment must be understood with the background of decades of Israeli repression of Palestinians and denial of their basic human rights. Around the world, including in my home of the United States, those who have always harbored dislike and resentment of us are using this moment, with its history, as an excuse to voice those sentiments. In this way, Israel’s actions are providing fertile ground for preexisting antisemitism to grow more virulent. Anyone who denies that this is happening is not paying attention.

To my fellow Jewish people: the actions of the State of Israel are being committed in the name of our preservation worldwide. It is incumbent on those of us who are Jewish to clearly and openly call for a halt to Israel’s assault on Gaza. If we do not succeed in stopping the bombing, our children and grandchildren are at risk of inheriting a double identity: not just as targets of mass killings of civilians, but also as those who stood by when mass killings were committed in their names.

*Jason Stanley is a professor of philosophy at Yale University, and the author, most recently, of *The Politics of Language* (with David Beaver)*

Fossil fuel emissions are still growing in much of the world. When this year's **United Nations Climate Change Conference** begins in late November 2023, it will be a moment for course correction. Seven years ago, nearly every country worldwide signed onto the Paris climate agreement. They agreed to goals of limiting global warming – including key targets to be met by 2030, seven years from now. A primary aim of this year's conference, known as COP28, is to evaluate countries' progress half-way to the 2030 deadlines. Reports show that the world isn't on track. At the same time, energy security concerns and disputes over how to compensate countries for loss and damage from climate change are making agreements on cutting emissions tougher to reach.



A tiny deer and rising seas: How far should people go to save an endangered species? by Nathan Rott, Ryan Kellman

The National Key Deer Refuge was designated in 1957. The Key deer is the smallest deer species in North America. The deer live only in the low-lying Florida Keys. They are considered federally endangered, with an estimated population of around 1,000. The Key deer was one of the first species protected under the Endangered Species Act. As recently as the 1950s, after decades of poaching and habitat loss, there were only about two dozen Key deer left on the planet. Like 99% of the other species that have gotten protection from the landmark law, the Key deer has avoided extinction because of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Now, however, rapidly rising seas, a symptom of human-caused climate change, challenge its continued existence. The tragedy of the Key deer is that if not for climate change, the species is a conservation success story. Valerie Preziosi founded the nonprofit conservation group Save Our Key Deer. As seen here, deer frequent her front yard. "The Key deer is like an umbrella species that covers all of the lesser-known endangered species underneath them," she says. Nova Silvy, a retired biologist with Texas A&M University, was one of the first to study Key deer. "It's not that the deer are endangered anymore," Silvy says. "The habitat is endangered." "We can't stand back and do nothing," Preziosi said. "Our mission is to conserve and protect fish, wildlife and plants. But where is society on that?"

Today, the Key deer — or toy deer, as it's sometimes called because of its dog-size stature — is the smallest deer species in North America. It is genetically unique and ridiculously cute. It is Bambi, incarnate.



Nurse Mychal Johnson with the nonprofit group HOPICS, which contracts with L.A. county's Department of Health Services, isn't put off by the distrust and suspicion he often encounters. He says many people living on the street feel lied to and abandoned, and he works hard to counter that. "If I have somebody that has been engaging with me, and they've put their trust in me, I don't want to let that person down," Johnson says. "I'm going to do everything that's necessary so that when they come back around and say, 'Hey, did you do this?' 'Yes, absolutely.' "



The HOPICS outreach team checks on people living under a highway bridge in South Los Angeles on Sept. 21, 2023.

What makes Mongolia the world's most 'socially connected' place?

Maybe it's #yurtlife by Katya Cengel November 11, 2023

Grandfather and granddaughter outside the family yurt. A study of Mongolians studied living in yurts showed higher rates of satisfaction than those living in urban housing, a finding the authors relate to the Mongolian emphasis on nature and freedom.



What makes Mongolia the world's most 'socially connected' place?

Maybe it's #yurtlife by Katya Cengel November 11, 2023

It's tea time for a Mongolian family in their yurt. It's easy to see why families that live in a yurt are ... close to each other.





WORLD U.S. POLITICS

Israel-Hamas war



Heavy fighting rages near main Gaza hospital as Netanyahu dismisses calls for a cease-fire

Israeli strikes have pounded Gaza City as ground forces battle Hamas militants near its largest hospital.

MORE COVERAGE

- Hospitals have special protection under the rules of war. Why are they in the crosshairs in Gaza?
- Dubai air chiefs summit, sponsored by Israeli firm, avoids discussing strikes as Hamas war rages
- Macron urges France to rise up against 'unbearable resurgence of antisemitism' before Paris march
- Tensions running high at East Coast campuses over protests around Israel-Hamas war



Smoke rises following an Israeli airstrike in the Gaza Strip, as seen from southern Israel, Sunday, Nov. 12, 2023. (AP Photo/Leo Correa)





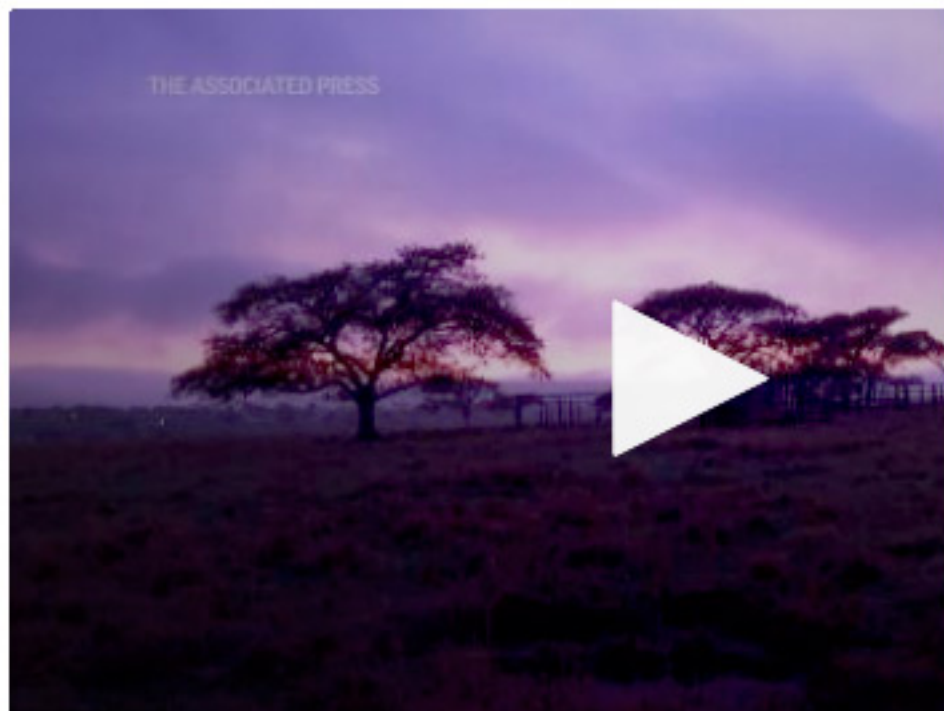
Palestinians mourn their relatives killed in the Israeli bombardment of the Gaza Strip, in the hospital in Khan Younis, Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023.
(AP Photo/Fatima Shbair)



Palestinians are mourning their dead as the number killed pushed past 11,000. More than 11,070 Palestinians, two-thirds of them women and minors, have been killed since the war began. That's according to the Gaza Health Ministry, part of the strip's Hamas-run government, which does not differentiate between civilian and militant deaths. At least 1,200 people have been killed in Israel, mainly in the initial Hamas attack, and 41 Israeli soldiers have been killed in Gaza since the ground offensive began, Israeli officials say.

South African students' long walk for education

Thousands of children in South Africa's poorest and most remote rural communities still face a miles-long walk to school, nearly 30 years after the country ushered in democratic change. (Nov 12)



LONDON (AP) — Pro-Palestinian demonstrators marched peacefully through central London on Saturday, even as right-wing counter-protesters clashed with police, after a week of angry debate over whether to permit the event on a day when Britain honored its war dead. The day unfolded in a backdrop of tensions fueled by Home Secretary Suella Braverman. The skirmishes between police and counter-protesters carrying the Union flag of Great Britain and the red-and-white flag of England appeared to confirm the concerns that Braverman's comments would attract right-wing elements looking for an excuse to confront the pro-Palestinian marchers. Braverman, who oversees law enforcement in Britain, must now resign, said Humza Yousaf, the first minister of Scotland. "The far-right has been emboldened by the Home Secretary," Yousaf said on X, formerly known as Twitter. "She has spent her week fanning the flames of division. They are now attacking the Police on Armistice Day. The Home Secretary's position is untenable."



Millions of Indians set a new world record celebrating Diwali as worries about air pollution rise

Millions of Indians are celebrating Diwali, the Hindu festival of light, with a new Guinness World Record number of bright earthen oil lamps as concerns about air pollution soared in the South Asian country.

The Great Grift: COVID-19 aid thieves bought fancy cars, a Pokemon card — even a private island

Patrick Parker Walsh is one of thousands of thieves who perpetrated the greatest grift in U.S. history — potentially plundering more than \$280 billion in federal COVID-19 aid.



Clashes over Israel-Hamas war shatter students' sense of safety on US college campuses

Worried Chinese shoppers scrimp, dimming the appeal of a Singles' Day shopping extravaganza



After Ohio vote, advocates in a dozen states are trying to put abortion on 2024 ballots



Groups linked to al-Qaida and the Islamic State take root on the coast of West Africa



5 years after California's deadliest wildfire, survivors forge different paths toward recovery





Cat Bohannon - "Eve: How the Female Body Drove 200 Million Years of Human Evolution" |The Daily...



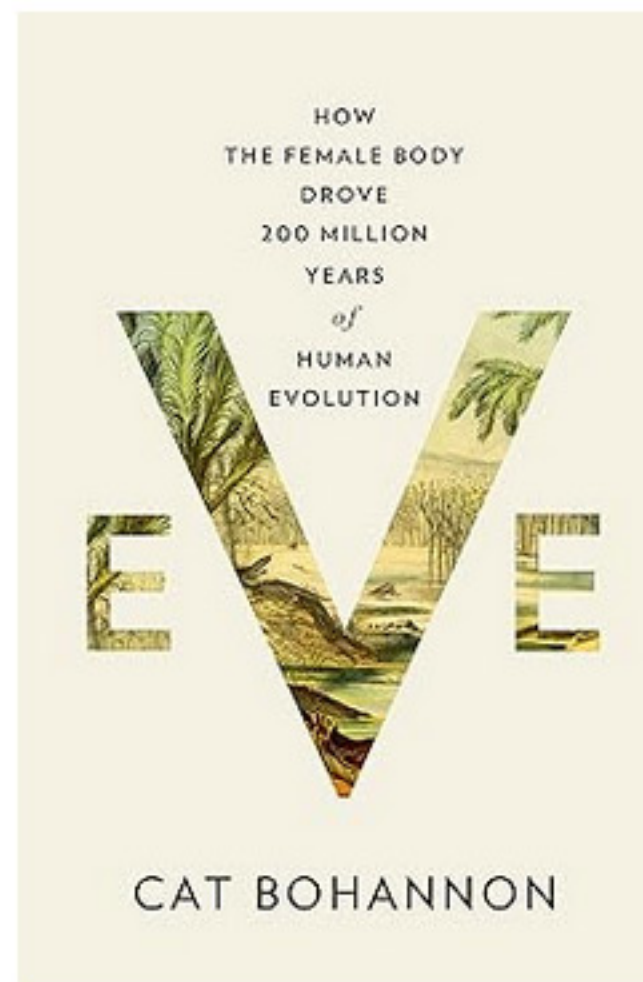
The Daily Show
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104,004 views Nov 7, 2023 #DailyShow

Cat Bohannon, researcher and New York Times Bestselling author of "Eve: How the Female Body Drove 200 Million Years of Human Evolution," stops by to discuss some of the crazy ways the female body has evolved to survive reproduction, why the female body has historically been left out of biological and medical research, and how men can actually live longer, healthier lives without testicles. #DailyShow #CatBohannon

Eve: How the Female Body Drove 200 Million Years of Human Evolution

by Cat Bohannon (Author)



How did the female body drive 200 million years of human evolution?

- Why do women live longer than men?
- Why are women more likely to get Alzheimer's?
- Why do girls score better at every academic subject than boys until puberty, when suddenly their scores plummet?
- Is sexism useful for evolution?
- And why, seriously why, do women have to sweat through our sheets every night when we hit menopause?

These questions are producing some truly exciting science – and in Eve, with boundless curiosity and sharp wit, Cat Bohannon covers the past 200 million years to explain the specific science behind the development of the female sex: “We need a kind of user's manual for the female mammal. A no-nonsense, hard-hitting, seriously researched (but readable) account of what we are. How female bodies evolved, how they work, what it really means to biologically be a woman. Something that would rewrite the story of womanhood. This book is that story. We have to put the female body in the picture. If we don't, it's not just feminism that's compromised. Modern medicine, neurobiology, paleoanthropology, even evolutionary biology all take a hit when we ignore the fact that half of us have breasts. So it's time we talk about breasts. Breasts, and blood, and fat, and vaginas, and wombs—all of it. How they came to be and how we live with them now, no matter how weird or hilarious the truth is.”

Eve is not only a sweeping revision of human history, it's an urgent and necessary corrective for a world that has focused primarily on the male body for far too long. Picking up where Sapiens left off, Eve will completely change what you think you know about evolution and why Homo sapiens has become such a successful and dominant species.

CAT BOHANNON is a researcher and author with a Ph.D. from Columbia University in the evolution of narrative and cognition. She lives with her family in Seattle.

STANDARD
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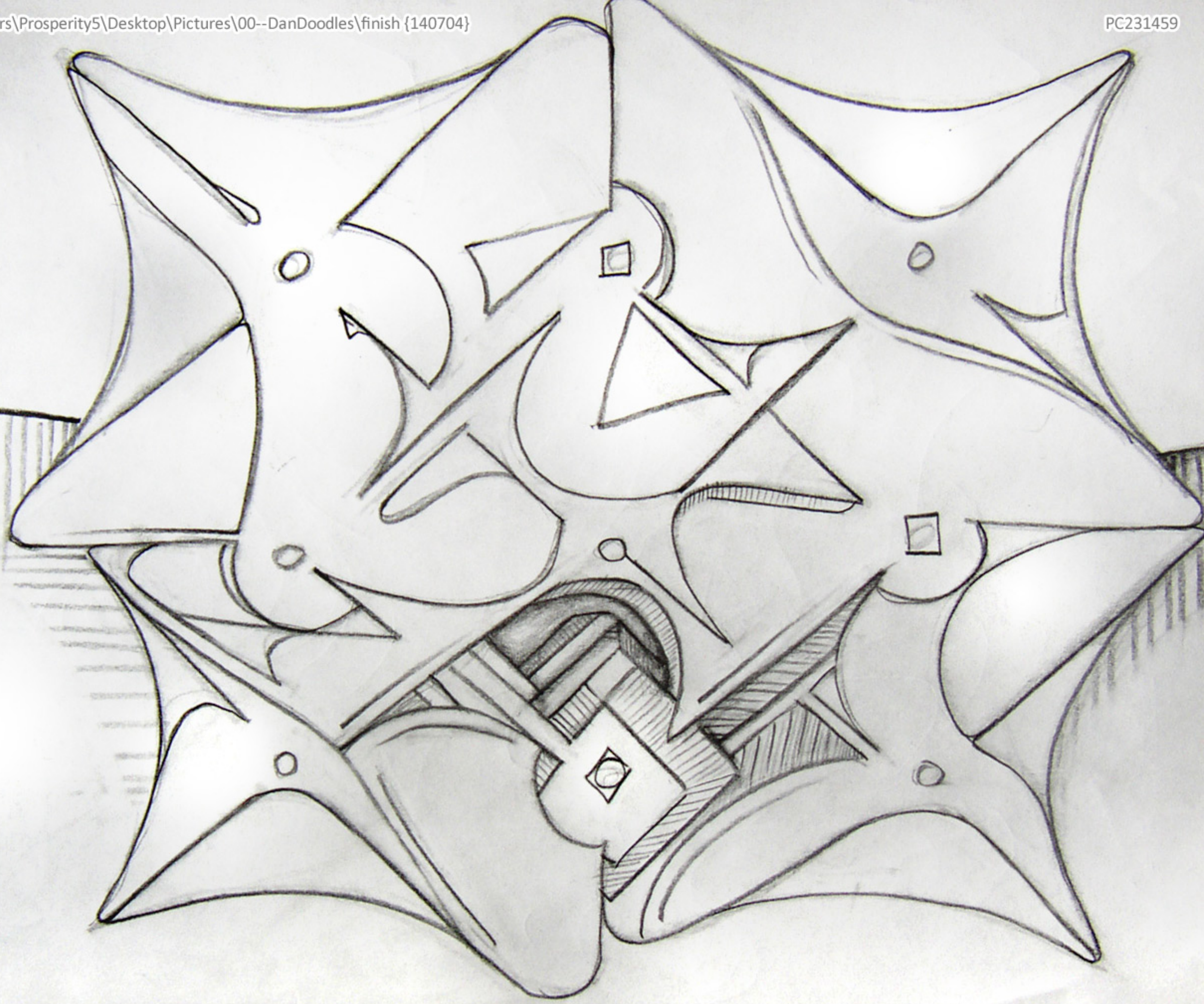


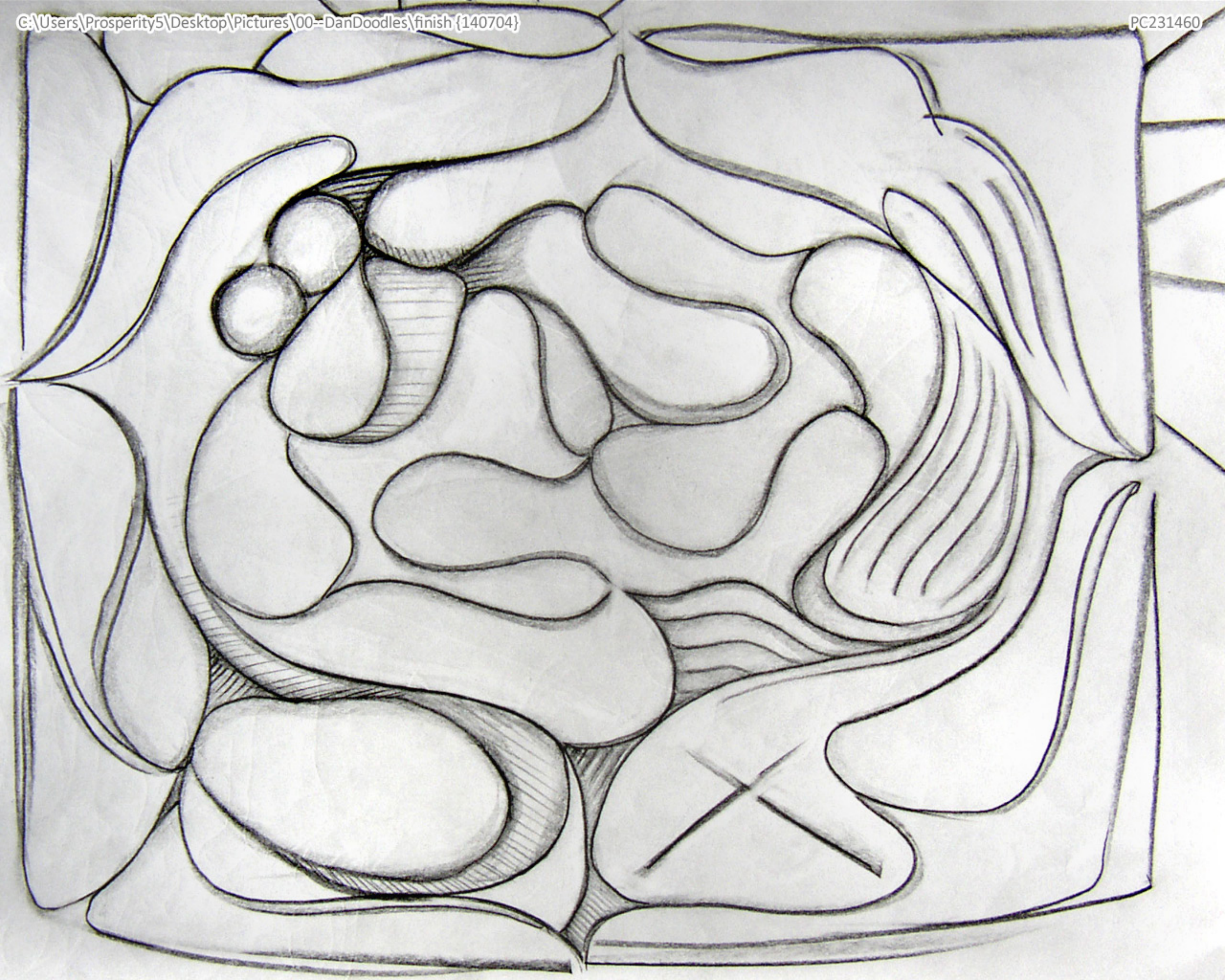




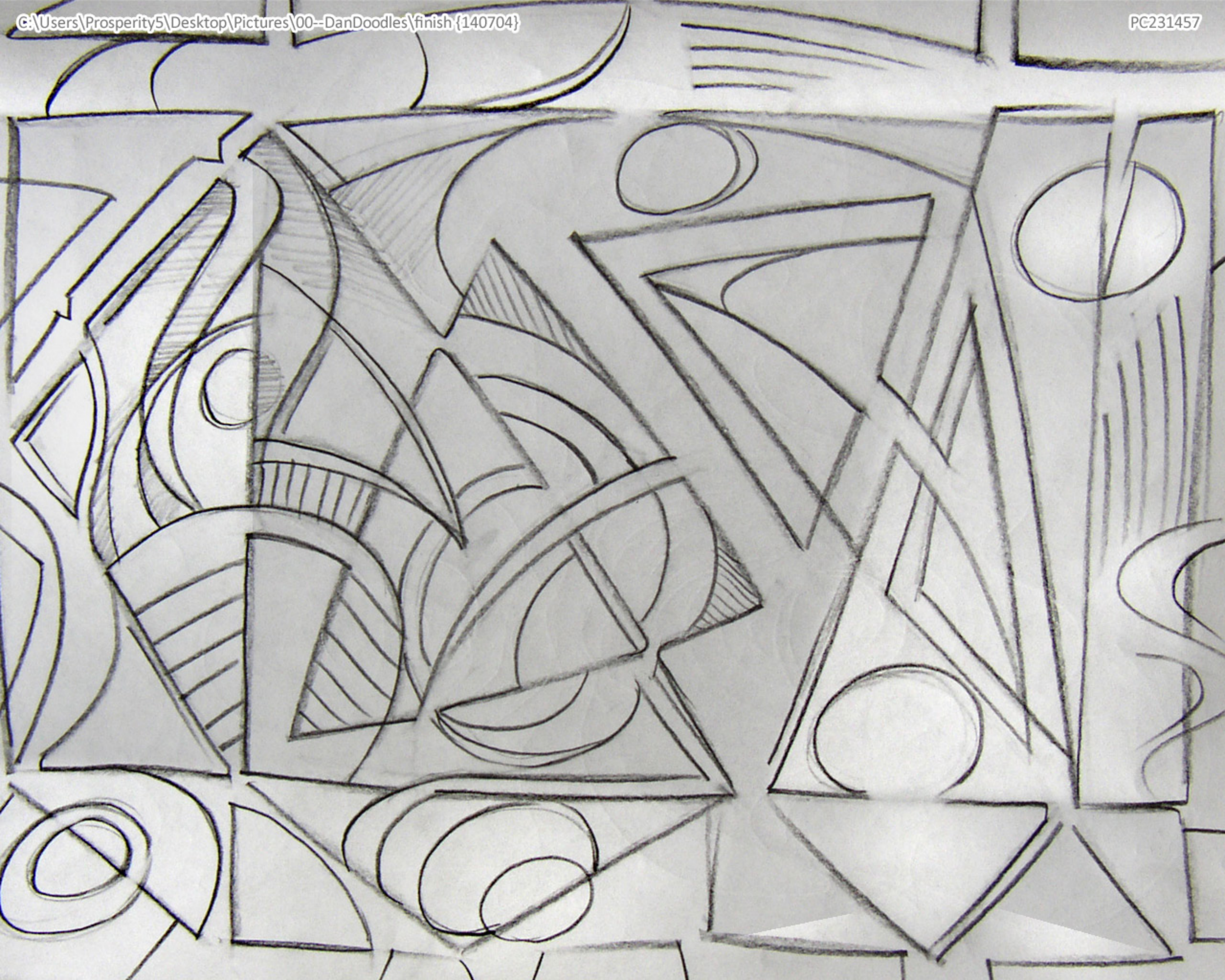














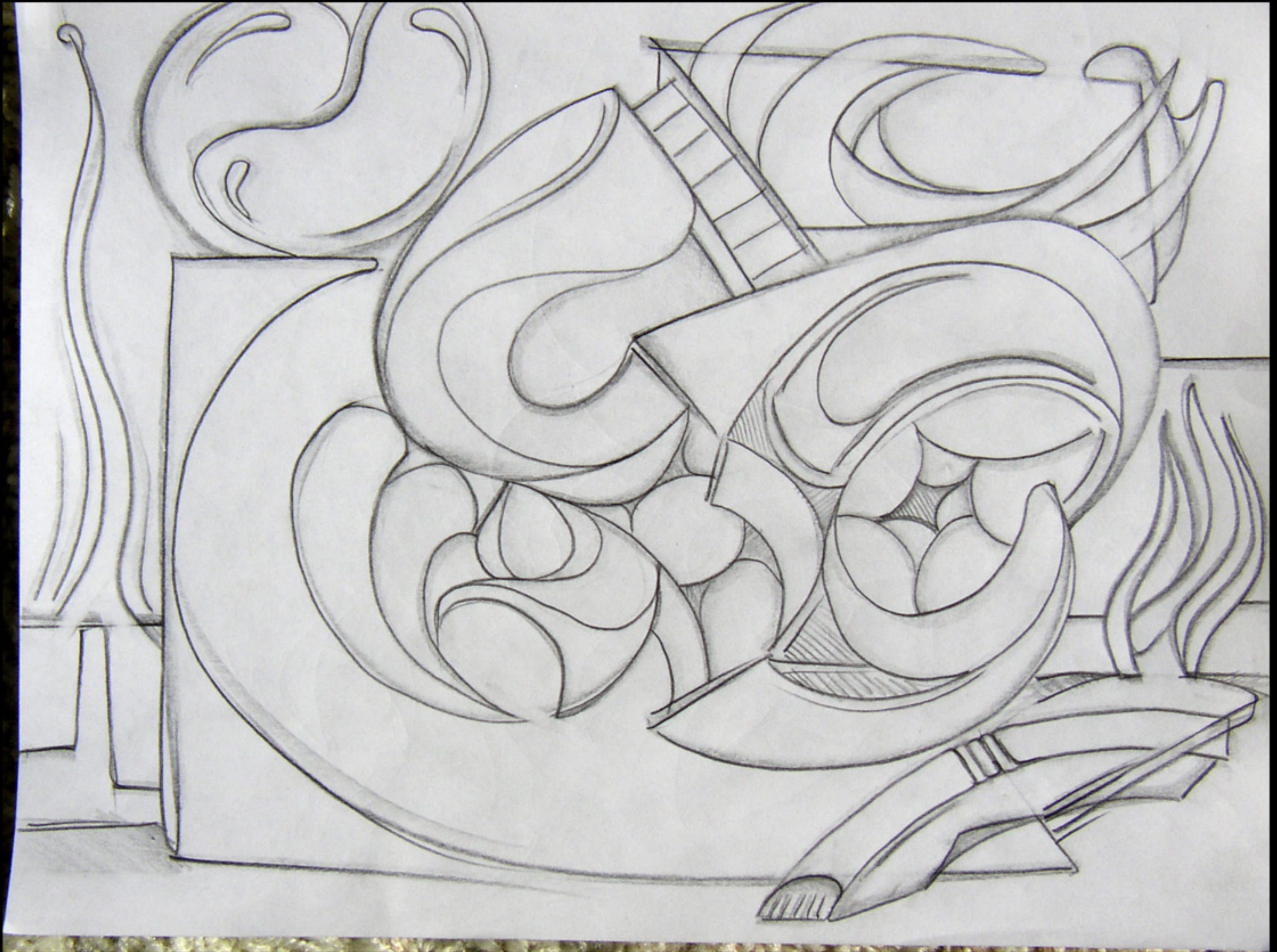
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62%



Sunday, November 12, 2023



1:50 PM





This Israeli Was IMPRISONED For Opposing The Occupation. Please Listen To Her



Owen Jones ✓
291K subscribers

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101,057 views Nov 6, 2023

Atalya Ben-Abba is an Israeli conscientious objector: as a teenager, she was sent to prison for refusing to serve in the Israeli Defence Forces because of her opposition to the occupation. Now she's calling for a ceasefire - and the least we can do in response to her courage is to stand by her.

Please sign her petition here: <https://www.anothereurope.org/petition>



'On the brink of catastrophe' - an Israeli citizen makes urgent appeal for peace



Another Europe is Possible
446 subscribers

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655 views Nov 6, 2023

Atalya Ben-Abba is an Israeli citizen of Israel and a member of the Refuser Solidarity Network. This is her urgent appeal for an immediate ceasefire in the Gaza strip.

You can back this call by signing the public letter today:

We, the undersigned, write in response to your joint statements on the Israel-Palestine conflict. We call on you to urgently support a ceasefire to halt the bombing and the appalling loss of life of defenceless civilians in Gaza. Collective Punishment on the Palestinians is a war crime. It cannot and must not be the answer to the deplorable atrocities committed by Hamas and other terrorist groups on October 7th 2023. We urge you to publicly back the role of the International Criminal Court (ICC) in investigating all these crimes and bringing the perpetrators to justice. The intensity and destructiveness of Israel's war is unprecedented - even by the standards of previous wars with Hamas. Israel is showing no regard for civilian life in its brutal campaign of bombing and near-total siege, with only a tiny trickle of humanitarian relief allowed to pass into Gaza. Meanwhile, pro-peace and anti-occupation parties in Israel face mounting persecution and repression. This is not what the protection of the rule of law and democracy looks like. As the people of Gaza face catastrophe, the security of the entire region is at risk. At this critical moment your voice matters. We call on you to:

- Pursue an immediate ceasefire by all parties to the conflict.
- Use all diplomatic avenues to negotiate the release of hostages held by Hamas.
- Oppose Israel's indiscriminate bombing and attacks on Palestinian civilians and public infrastructure.
- Push for the full restoration of water, gas, fuel, electricity and basic supplies to Gaza.
- Support criminal accountability for the crimes committed by Israel, Hamas and other parties to the conflict by publicly backing the ICC's mandate and existing investigation, including by providing vitally needed finance for its investigation.
- Prioritise an end to the occupation and illegal settlement of the Palestinian territories. Negotiate a just end to the conflict based on the principles of universal human rights. Immediately call for an end to the wave of settler violence in the West Bank.
- Speak out against the repression of peace activists and anti-occupation parties in Israel and guarantee peaceful freedom of assembly and of expression in your countries. Ask the Government of Israel to end the suspension of Ofer Cassif from the Knesset; drop the disciplinary processes against university students; and end the prosecutions of peace activists. Human rights and the rule of law are fundamental to lasting peace.
- Halt weapons sales to Israel. In light of the clear risk that such weapons could be used to commit serious breaches of international law and the rules of war, we urge you to immediately suspend arms sales to Israel.

Notes: 1 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/joint-statement-following-pm-call-with-leaders-of-us-canada-france-germany-and-italy-22-october-2023>
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/10/09/joint-statement-on-israel/>

A joint campaign with Refuser Solidarity Network

This Israeli Was IMPRISONED For Opposing The Occupation. Please Listen T...



<https://youtu.be/rJZse8sPOn8>

"What's your understanding of what the occupation actually means for Palestinians?"



@owenjones84



Atalya Ben abba

Atalya Ben-Abba is an Israeli conscientious objector: as a teenager, she was sent to prison for refusing to serve in the Israeli Defence Forces because of her opposition to the occupation. Now she's calling for a ceasefire - and the least we can do in response to her courage is to stand by her.

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the difficulty
of this moment



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RSN REFUSER SOLIDARITY NETWORK

Refuser Solidarity Network provides an international base of support for Israeli war-resistance.





Refuser Solidarity Network provides an international base of support for Israeli war-resistance.

Since 2004, Refuser Solidarity Network provides crucial support to Israeli war resisters in the toughest of political circumstances. We provide funds for for demonstrations outside prison, for legal fees, for media campaigns that tell war resisters' stories to the general public, for education programs for Israeli and global audiences about their important resistance to the occupation. Israeli war resisters work to end the Israeli occupation and create a just peace for Palestinians and Israelis. Refuser Solidarity Network is here for them.

Ending the occupation, one soldier at a time.

Military refusers come from all segments of Israeli society. They are Mizrahi and Ashkenazi; they are religious and secular; they are Druze, Bedouin, and Russian, they are people of all gender identities, from the large cities and from the small towns. As refusers are standing up against endless war in the most difficult time and climate to do so, we work to support their activities.

Refusal to serve in the IDF

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Refusal_to_serve_in_the_IDF

Citizens of Israel have refused to serve in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) or have disobeyed orders on the grounds of pacifism, antimilitarism, religious philosophy, or political disagreement with Israeli policy such as its occupation of the West Bank.[1][2] Conscientious objectors in Israel are known as sarvanim (in Hebrew מינברס) which is sometimes translated as "refuseniks", or mishtamtim (evaders, dodgers).

2023 "Youth Against Dictatorship" letter

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Youth_Against_Dictatorship

In September 2023, over 200 Israeli youth released an open letter entitled Youth Against Dictatorship announcing that they would refuse to serve.



"refuse to be war criminal"

Migrants are showing up at the U.S. Southern border in historic numbers. Here's why

November 12, 2023 · 8:00 AM ET

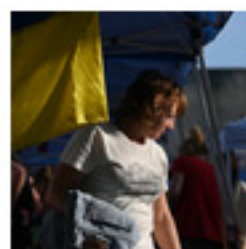


Jasmine Garsd



A migrant family shows their paperwork to Mexican immigration officials to proceed with their CBP One asylum appointments at the Chaparral pedestrian border in Tijuana, Mexico to cross to the U.S. on Thursday.

"Katastrofa. Katastrofa." A man named Piotr repeats this like a mantra. On a warm fall evening in Tijuana, he's the first in a long line to request asylum in the U.S. "Katastrofa," he says again, on the verge of tears. It's the Russian word for catastrophe. Piotr, a middle-aged man who requested that his last name be withheld to protect relatives back home, left Moscow more than six months ago with his immediate family — his wife and two teenage sons. He says the war with Ukraine had made their lives unlivable in Russia, and he fears for his sons — military conscription there is obligatory. "Russia is so difficult," he says. "I can't describe it. It's so difficult for me. Katastrofa!" Piotr says he and his family first went to Mexico City, where they lived working odd jobs until they were approved for an appointment with U.S. Customs and Border Protection. This is the big day. He showed up six hours ahead of time. Piotr plans to ask the U.S. for asylum for his family and himself. So do dozens of others who have been camping out in this line all day, waiting for their interviews. It's mostly families. There are several interview slots throughout the day. These people are camping out for the late evening round, in hopes that by morning, they'll be on the other side, in San Diego. In the past year, the Southwest border has received historic numbers of migrants. More than 2.4 million people. It's been record-breaking numbers for the past few years. San Diego alone has received more than 230,000 people this year. That's a 30% increase from the year before.



NATIONAL

Ukrainians have arrived at the U.S.-Mexico border by the thousands

Migrants say the long wait for appointments to request asylum tempts them to cross the U.S. border without papers. Another migrant, a young woman named Rossi Alejandra, says she also considered this. As she too waits in line, she reminisces about her life in Venezuela, where she was a first-year medical student. She says police and government harassment made everyday life impossible. "It's a dictatorship, plain and simple," she says. She left for Mexico, where she lived in shelters while she waited for months to get an appointment with U.S. Customs and Border Protection. "There were moments when I became desperate. A month passed. Two months. And I started thinking. ... Should I try and just cross the border?" But she says she knew people who tried that, only to get deported and banned from reentry to the U.S. for five years. She says, for her, being deported back to Venezuela would have meant putting her life at risk. She decided it wasn't worth it. "It is critical that Venezuelans understand that those who have arrived here after July 31, 2023, are not eligible for such protection," warned Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas recently, "and instead will be removed when they are found to not have a legal basis to stay."

Migrants and asylum seekers believe life for them in the U.S. is getting harder Standing in the Tijuana line, a young woman in a blue jacket looks ecstatic. Wymberly Muñoz was a physical therapist in Venezuela. Her father left for New York before she was born. "I've been imagining that city since I was a child," she beams. As the years progressed, her city, Barinas, was overtaken by violence. She recently decided to come to the U.S. and find her father in New York. She's excited at the possibility of being allowed in, but she's also heard the news about New York: The city has said it is at capacity and can no longer offer shelter. Migrants without work permits can't find employment. "Of course I worry about this," Muñoz says. "What awaits me there? Only God knows." But like most here, she feels that at the end of the day, it can't be worse than the situation she is fleeing.



NATIONAL

U.S. will resume deportation flights to Venezuela even as thousands flee that country

Migrants are showing up at the U.S. Southern border in historic numbers.

Here's why

November 12, 2023 · 8:00 AM ET



Jasmine Garsd



Migrants with CBP One asylum appointments at the Chaparral pedestrian border in Tijuana, Mexico cross into the U.S. on Thursday.

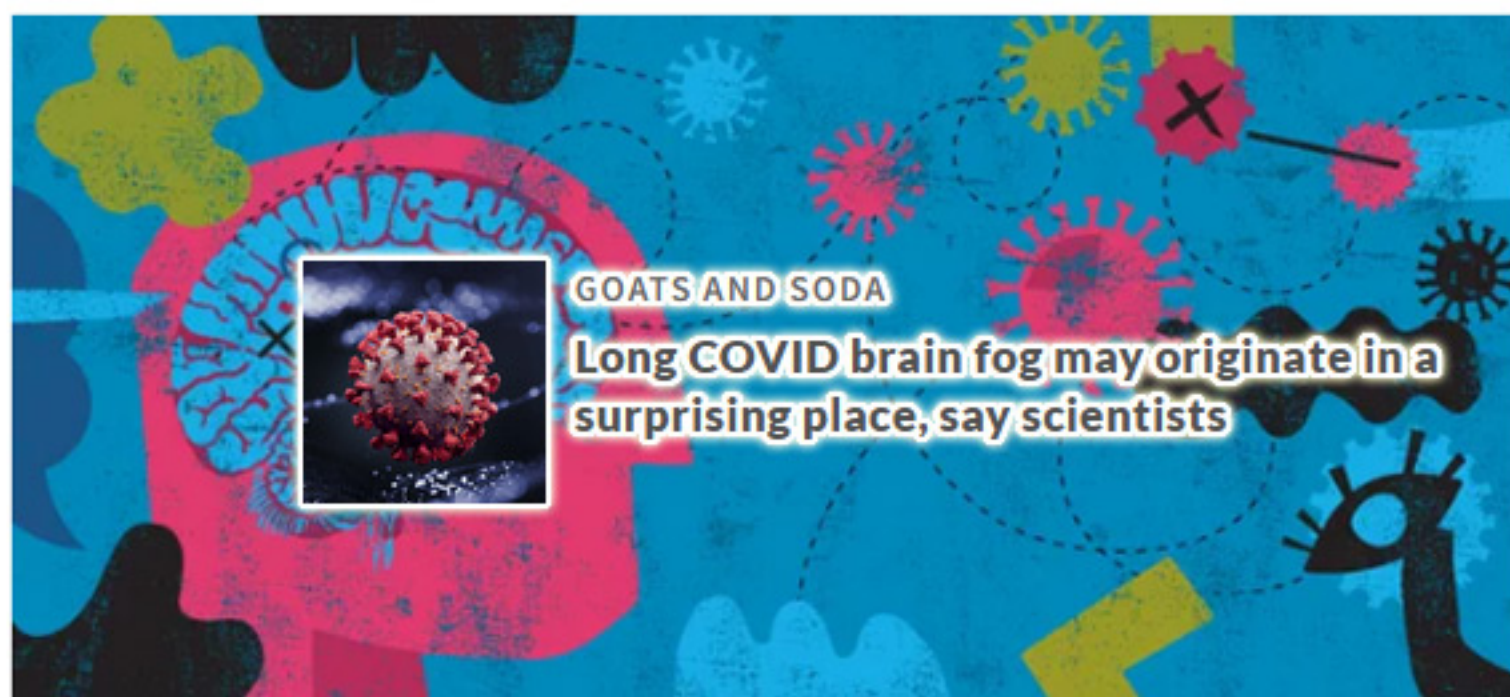
Carlos A. Moreno for NPR

Pain, fatigue, fuzzy thinking: How long COVID disrupts the brain

November 13, 2023 · 5:00 AM ET



Jon Hamilton



Scientists are learning more about how long COVID affects the brain.

Michelle Wilson got COVID three years ago. She's still waiting for her brain and nervous system to recover. Wilson's memory is spotty, she's frequently in pain, and even a short walk leaves her exhausted. "I actually bought a cane that turns into a seat so I can go to the botanical garden," she says. It's a big change for Wilson, 66, who had worked as a nurse at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. But after years of waiting to get better, she says she's realized something: "This might be as good as it gets."

It's a story shared by a growing number of COVID "long-haulers" — those patients who suffer from persistent symptoms long after the initial infection has passed. Many of those symptoms, experts say, appear to be tied to COVID's effects on the brain and nervous system. Government surveys suggest that millions of people in the U.S. are living with neurological symptoms linked to long COVID. Many, like Wilson, were infected before vaccines became available. "It's a public health crisis," says Dr. Robyn Klein, who directs the Center for Neuroimmunology and Infectious Diseases at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. "There are a lot of people suffering and those people need treatment yesterday," says Dr. Ziyad Al-Aly, who holds positions at both Washington University and the Veterans Affairs St. Louis Health Care System. But treatment remains a distant promise. "There's still a ton we don't know," says Dr. Troy Torgerson of the Allen Institute for Immunology in Seattle. Scientists are "nibbling away" at the problem, he says. The virus appears to do most of its damage to the brain indirectly, scientists say.

An infection in the body triggers an immune response that leads to inflammation in the brain. And the inflammation can persist long after the virus has apparently been cleared, scientists say. The brain may be especially vulnerable to COVID because the disease appears to weaken the blood-brain barrier, which usually protects the organ from both germs and the immune cells that follow them. Another possibility is that COVID-related inflammation affects the vagus nerve, which carries signals between the body and brain that are important to memory and attention.

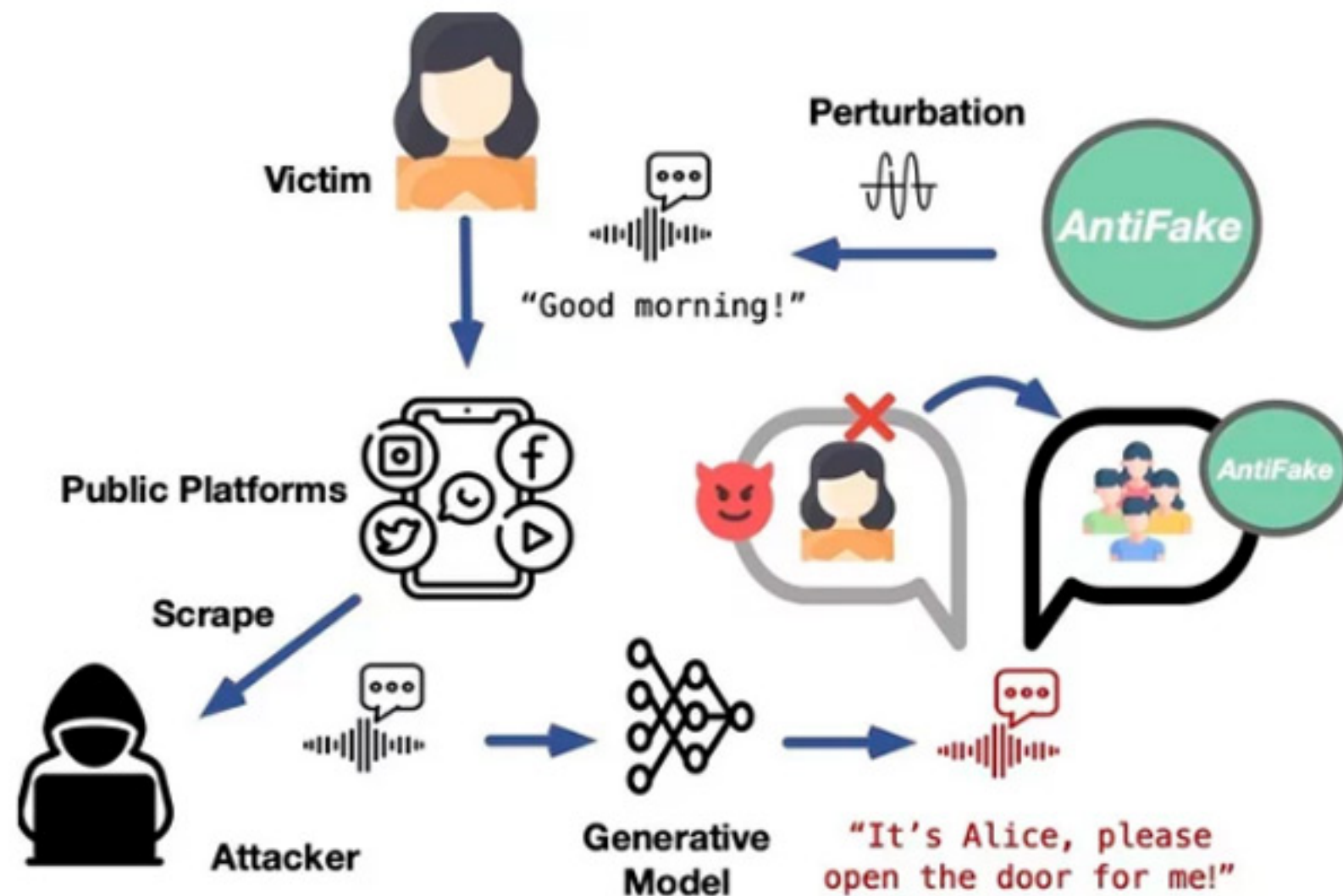
From lungs to brain: Early in the pandemic, doctors tended to focus on what COVID did to a person's lungs. In November of 2020, Wilson got the disease. The infection was primarily her lungs, but it was also disrupting her brain, including the circuits that control blood pressure and heart rhythm. "Unfortunately, long COVID, as we know it now, can affect nearly every organ system, including the brain," Al-Aly says. **People with neurological symptoms do get better, he says, but full recovery is rare. Immune system gone wrong? There's growing evidence that even a mild case of COVID can cause long-term changes to the immune system that affect the brain and nervous system.** Once the immune system gets fired up, Torgerson says, it can affect the brain even if the virus itself doesn't infect brain cells. For example, circulating immune cells and antibodies may cross from the bloodstream into the brain and damage neurons. Or the presence of an infection may activate a special set of immune cells found only in the brain. Long COVID also has some striking similarities to autoimmune diseases, which occur when the immune system mistakenly attacks healthy cells, Torgerson says. **A mouse model of COVID:** To learn more about how long COVID affects a human brain, scientists have been studying mice that develop a mild version of the disease. "Those animals have cognitive deficits a month after they were infected," Klein says. "They no longer have virus, they're no longer ill. But they can't remember and recognize things." One reason may be that the infection weakens the blood-brain barrier in these animals, Klein says, allowing the body's immune response to affect brain cells. **The result is inflammation that causes subtle but significant changes in the brain.** "It's not like there's a multitude of dying neurons," Klein says. **"What there is, is elimination of the connections between neurons."** Klein suspects that something similar is happening to the synaptic connections in the brains of people who get long COVID. And she says it appears this can happen even in people who don't get very sick. "You and I may handle viruses differently," she says. "I may end up getting more inflammation in my brain than you because we have a different genetic makeup."

One way to protect the brain after an infection may be with drugs that reduce inflammation — [Yin Chao??] and studies to test that idea are already underway. In the meantime, vaccination offers a way for people to reduce their risk of developing long COVID.

Worried about AI hijacking your voice for a deepfake? This tool could help

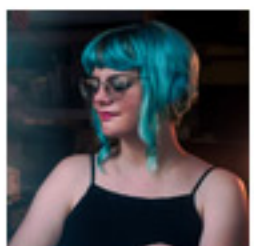
November 13, 2023 · 5:00 AM ET

 Chloe Veltman



How the new tool AntiFake works
Washington University in St. Louis

"Generative AI has become such an enabling technology that we think will change the world," said Ning Zhang, assistant professor of computer science and engineering at Washington University in St. Louis. "However when it's being mis-used, there has to be a way to build up a layer of defense."



CULTURE

New tools help artists fight AI by directly disrupting the systems

Scrambling signals: Zhang's research team is developing a new tool that may help people combat deepfake abuses, called *AntiFake*. "It scrambles the signal such that it prevents the AI-based synthesize engine from generating an effective copycat," Zhang said.

Deepfake detection: In the meantime, there are other solutions, like deepfake detection. Some deepfake detection technologies embed digital watermarks in video and audio so that users can identify if they are made by AI. Examples include Google's SynthID and Meta's Stable Signature. Others, developed by companies like Pindrop and Veridas, can tell if something is fake by examining tiny details, like how the sounds of words sync up with a speaker's mouth. "There are certain things that humans say that are very hard for machines to represent," said Pindrop founder and CEO Vijay Balasubramaniyan. But Siwei Lyu, a University of Buffalo computer science professor who studies AI system security, said the problem with deepfake detection is that it only works on content that's already been published. Sometimes unauthorized videos can exist online for days before being flagged as AI-generated deepfakes. "Even if the gap between this thing showing up on social media and being determined to be AI-generated is only a couple of minutes, it can cause damage," Lyu said.

Need for balance: "I think it's just the next evolution of how we protect this technology from being misused or abused," said Rupal Patel, a professor of applied artificial intelligence at Northeastern University and a vice president at the AI company Veritone. "I just hope that in that protection, we don't end up throwing the baby out with the bathwater." Patel believes it's important to remember that generative AI can do amazing things, including helping people who've lost their voices speak again. For example, the actor Val Kilmer has relied on a synthetic voice since losing his real one to throat cancer. Patel said developers need large sets of high-quality recordings to produce these results, and they won't have those if their use is completely restricted. "I think it's a balance," Patel said.

Consent is key: When it comes to preventing deepfake abuses, consent is key.

In October, members of the U.S. senate announced they were discussing a new bipartisan bill — the "Nurture Originals, Foster Art, and Keep Entertainment Safe Act of 2023" or the "NO FAKES Act of 2023" for short — that would hold the creators of deepfakes liable if they use people's likenesses without authorization. The bill would provide a uniform federal law where currently the right of publicity varies from state to state," said Yael Weitz, an attorney with the New York art law firm Kaye Spiegler.

Right now, only half of the U.S states have "right of publicity" laws, which give an individual the exclusive right to license the use of their identity for commercial promotion. And they all offer differing degrees of protection. But a federal law may be years away.

CLIMATE

The world is awash in plastic. Oil producers want a say in how it's cleaned up

November 13, 2023 · 5:00 AM ET

By Michael Copley, Julia Simon



People work at a landfill in India that's full of plastic bags. Members of the United Nations are negotiating a treaty that's aimed at cutting plastic pollution globally.

Shammi Mehra/AFP via Getty Images

A constellation of groups trying to shape the negotiations can be traced back to the oil and gas industry. That includes some of the world's largest oil and gas companies, such as ExxonMobil, Chevron and France's TotalEnergies. And major oil-producing nations, such as Saudi Arabia, Russia and China, are at the negotiating table. They push a similar message: The problem of plastic pollution can be solved through recycling and other forms of waste management rather than through substantial cuts in new plastic production. But years of research and investigations, including by NPR, have shown that recycling is failing to rein in plastic waste. Reducing how much new plastic gets made in the first place is a "prerequisite" to getting pollution under control, says Carsten Wachholz, who works at the Ellen MacArthur Foundation and co-leads the Business Coalition for a Global Plastics Treaty. The fossil fuel industry has a track record of slowing environmental action. In the 1990s, it worked to make sure the United States didn't ratify the Kyoto Protocol, an international treaty to reduce climate pollution. And at last year's U.N. climate summit in Egypt, countries agreed to a watered-down final agreement after oil- and gas-producing nations beat back calls for a phaseout of fossil fuels, the main driver of global warming. The challenge in these negotiations is coming up with a plan that's effective in cutting plastic waste and that also gets buy-in from all the countries involved. "The worst-case scenario is that some of the oil- and gas-producing countries would say, 'This is so [diametrically opposed] to our interests, we will drop out,'" Wachholz says. The U.S. was the world's biggest oil and gas producer in 2022, and the State Department, too, has called for recycling to play a big part in the plastics treaty — or risk having it fall flat. "An agreement that relies solely on production caps might diminish participation in a future agreement, as well as the ambition of the agreement itself, thereby risking progress toward our common goal of addressing plastic pollution," a spokesperson said in a statement last week.

A newcomer to the plastics industry pitches its own solution to clean up waste: There's another voice promoting recycling that, at first glance, doesn't appear to have ties to the fossil fuel industry. Verra is a Washington, D.C., non-profit that is the world's biggest certifier of carbon credits or offsets, which are increasingly used in the global economy. Verra's role in the carbon market is to set standards for the credits that companies buy, helping make sure that those credits actually reduce emissions. However, problems that have surfaced in carbon markets have shaken confidence in the idea of companies buying their way to less pollution. **Oil producers will fight to keep their plastics business:** Despite the blowback, Verra is pushing hard to have plastic credits embedded in the U.N. treaty.

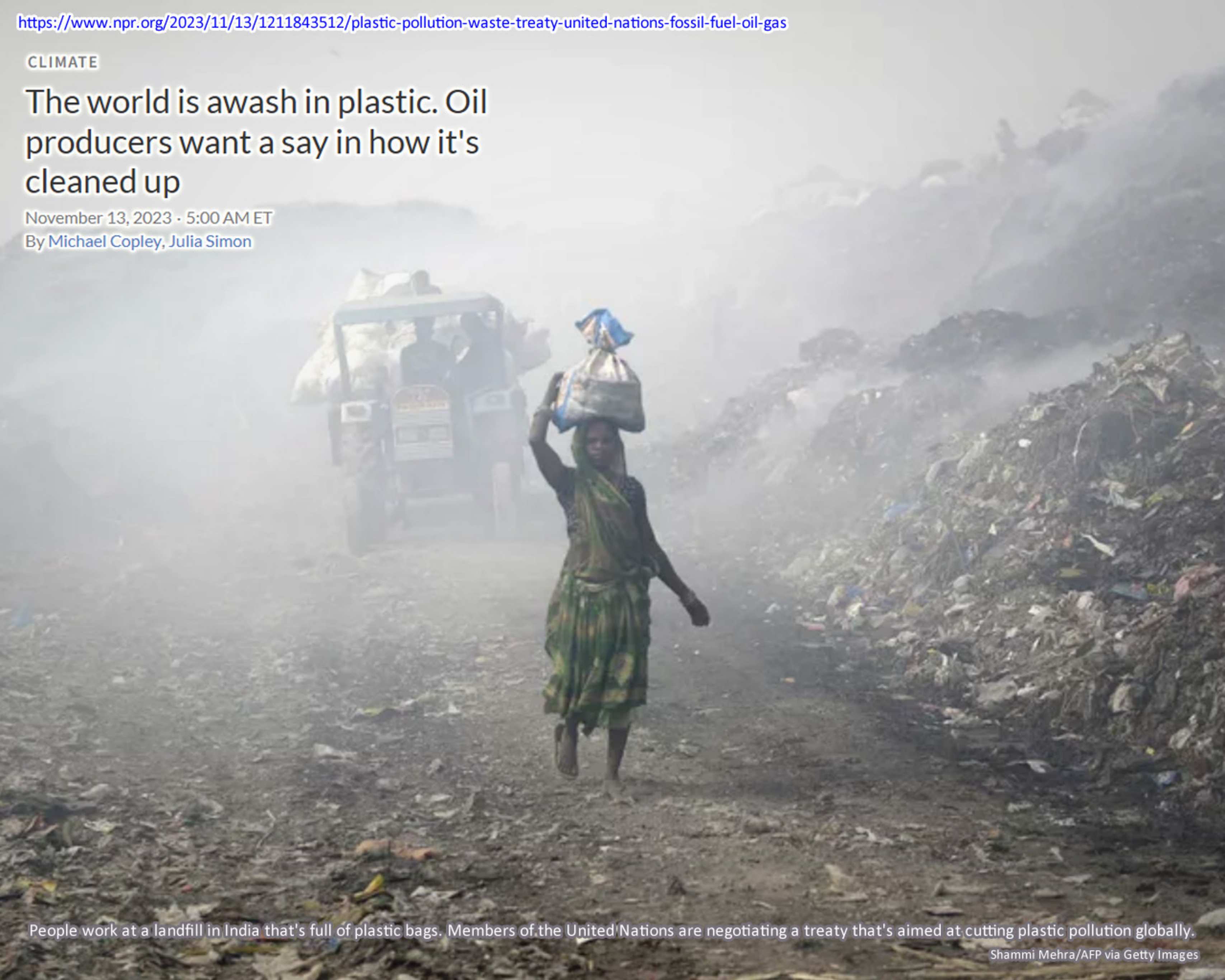
"We very much see plastic credits as able to be integrated with the global plastics treaty as it's a solution today," Verra spokesperson Joel Finkelstein says.

CLIMATE

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People work at a landfill in India that's full of plastic bags. Members of the United Nations are negotiating a treaty that's aimed at cutting plastic pollution globally.

Shammi Mehra/AFP via Getty Images

No Estimate On Reopening Of 10 Freeway In LA After Massive Fire Causes Transportation Disaster

By [Kevin Tidmarsh](#) and [Makenna Sievertson](#)

Updated Nov 12, 2023 9:06 PM



Damage under the I-10 overpass after a huge fire on Saturday morning in downtown.

Los Angeles city leaders are warning of major traffic congestion after "extensive damage" from a fire on Saturday morning in downtown indefinitely shut down both directions of the 10 Freeway between the East L.A. connector and Alameda Street. The key regional connector currently sees about 300,000 cars a day, underscoring the dramatic effect of the disaster.

L.A. Mayor Bass and Gov. Newsom say no timeline on reopening: In a news conference Sunday, L.A. Mayor Karen Bass called for patience from Los Angeles drivers. The mayor invoked the Northridge earthquake in 1994 in terms of the severity and consequences of Saturday's damage. "For those of you that remember the 1994 Northridge earthquake, Caltrans worked around the clock to complete emergency repairs to the freeways," said Bass. "And this structural damage calls for the same level of urgency and effort." "Unfortunately, there's no reason to think that this is going to be over in a couple of days. We cannot give you an estimate of time right now," she continued. Gov. Gavin Newsom said that a reopening time frame is being assessed and will be "determined on the basis of safety." The governor said the fire has damaged the many columns supporting the freeway. "The real problem is what lies underneath, that's the bridge deck — that's the primary focus now of our investigation," said Newsom. "We believe a lot of that did burn, how that may have impacted that structure."

Caltrans is assessing damage: An emergency contract to begin restoration of the structure has been secured by Caltrans, according to Toms Omishakin, California's Secretary of Transportation. He said crews have taken hazardous material samples for lab analysis. Once that is complete, removal of the debris under the overpass will begin. Only then can structural engineers from the department perform a thorough assessment. "I want to emphasize that our efforts on this are going to have to be 24-7 to get this roadway back open. But I'm not going to understate the challenge here. It is significant," said Toms. Several people referenced the work down in 1994 when the Northridge earthquake damaged the 10 Freeway and a private construction firm — operating with generous incentives in place — was able to rebuild two bridges in just over two month — 74 days earlier than projected. Newsom, who declared a state of emergency on Saturday to help with cleanup and repairs, said Sunday that incentives could come into play again, but he said that had yet to be determined. "The state is mobilizing resources and taking steps to ensure any necessary repairs are completed as soon as possible to minimize the impact on those traveling in and around Los Angeles," Newsom said. Bass is asking all city departments to work together to minimize traffic impact. "We are approaching this issue with absolute urgency," Bass said.

About the fire: The fire started at a pallet yard just north of the 10 Freeway near the intersection of East 14th Street and South Alameda Street at around 12:22 a.m. on Saturday, according to the Los Angeles Fire Department. The blaze quickly spread to a second pallet yard, affecting nearly eight acres of the area at one point. More than 164 firefighters fought the blaze, which was largely contained within three hours. But some hotspots remained in hard-to-reach areas underneath the freeway and robotic equipment was brought in. The fire was fully knocked down later Sunday. There were no reported injuries to firefighters. The cause of the fire is under active investigation. Officials at Sunday's news conference described treacherous conditions that made getting the fire under control a challenge. At one point, after electrical lines were knocked down by the fire, authorities at the scene were concerned that the water being used to knock down flames could be electrified. That forced them to pull firefighters back and turn to heavy equipment.

What's next and a call for people to work from home: Newsom said that the state has begun litigation with the lessee of the pallet yard where the fire started. "In fact, our inspectors have been out there on a consistent basis with citations," Newsom said at the press conference. "Their lease has expired, they're in arrears, we believe they've been subleasing the space, and we actually have a court date in the early part of the new calendar year." Newsom said that he could not provide further details on any violations the lessees of the lot may have incurred, but that more updates would be forthcoming. California Highway Patrol warns that traffic diverted from the 10 Freeway closure will impact the 5 Freeway, the 60, and the 101. The Los Angeles Department of Transportation said it is working to establish dedicated detours on surface streets. "If you are driving on the freeway through downtown, we ask that you do not exit the freeway onto surface streets to bypass the affected

No Estimate On Reopening Of 10 Freeway In LA After Massive Fire Causes Transportation Disaster

By [Kevin Tidmarsh](#) and [Makenna Sievertson](#)

Updated Nov 12, 2023 9:06 PM



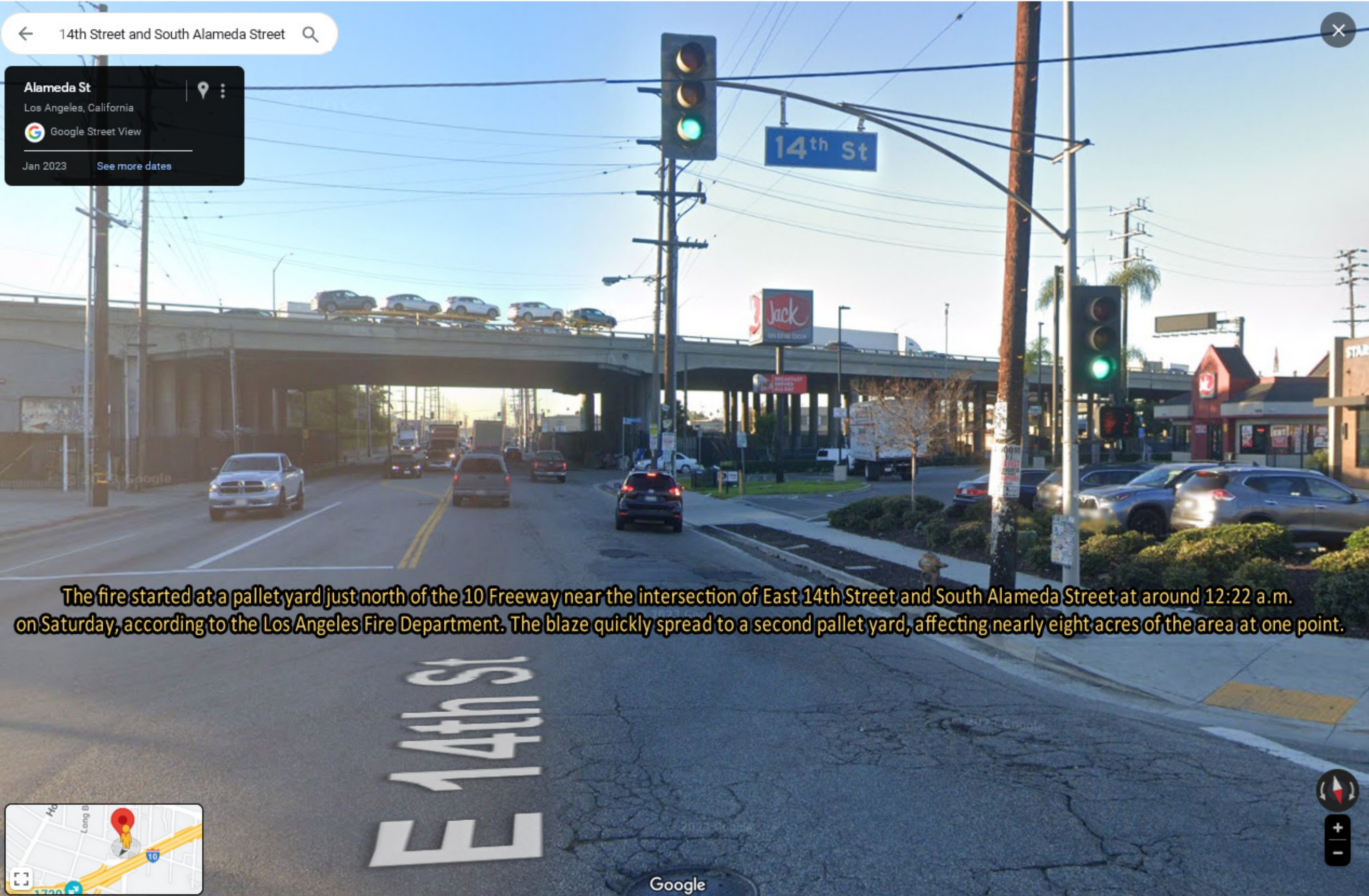
This photo provided by the California Department of Transportation shows an early morning fire along Interstate 10 near downtown Los Angeles, Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023.

(Richard Vogel / Caltrans District 7 via AP)

No Estimate On Reopening Of 10 Freeway In LA After Massive Fire Causes Transportation Disaster

By [Kevin Tidmarsh](#) and [Makenna Sievertson](#)

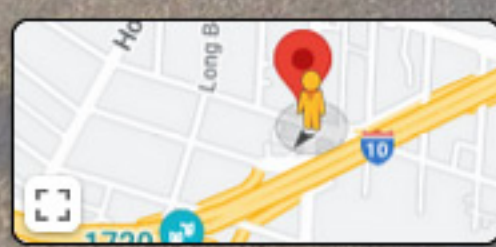
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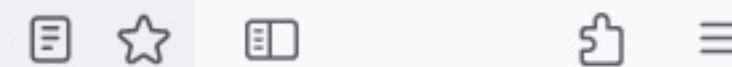


← 14th Street and South Alameda Street 🔍

Alameda St
Los Angeles, California
Google Street View
Jan 2023 See more dates

The fire started at a pallet yard just north of the 10 Freeway near the intersection of East 14th Street and South Alameda Street at around 12:22 a.m. on Saturday, according to the Los Angeles Fire Department. The blaze quickly spread to a second pallet yard, affecting nearly eight acres of the area at one point.





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Secret Service agents protecting Biden's granddaughter open fire when 3 people try to break into SUV

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AP THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Michigan vs. Everybody becomes Wolverines' mantra as Jim Harbaugh suspended for sign-stealing saga

15 hours ago • Lage, Larry



Rolling Stone

Trump Swears His Gaffes Are Intentional

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Looming California storm harder to forecast than usual, experts say

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When Ruthless Cultural Elitism Is Exactly the Job

Yesterday • David Marchese



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3 hours ago • Adam Popescu



Your topics

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Meet the Texas Speech Pathologist Who Lost School Job for Refusing to Sign Pro-Israel, Anti-BDS Oath

Dec 18, 2018

<https://democracynow.org> - A Palestinian-American speech pathologist in Austin, Texas, has filed a federal lawsuit for losing her job after refusing to sign a pro-Israel oath. Bahia Amawi is an Arabic-speaking child language specialist who had worked for nine years in the Pflugerville Independent School District. But she lost her job last year after she declined to sign a pledge that she would "not boycott Israel during the term of the contract" and that she would not take any action that is "intended to penalize, inflict economic harm on, or limit commercial relations with Israel." We speak with Bahia Amawi and Gadeir Abbas, senior litigation attorney with the Council on American-Islamic Relations. He is representing Amawi in her lawsuit against the Pflugerville Independent School District and the state of Texas.

Meet the Texas Speech Pathologist Who Lost School Jo...

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Jeremy Corbyn speech 11/11/23 Pro-Palestine protest....

sk.visuals
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Toddler gives her mother advice after hearing parents fight

Daily Mail ✓
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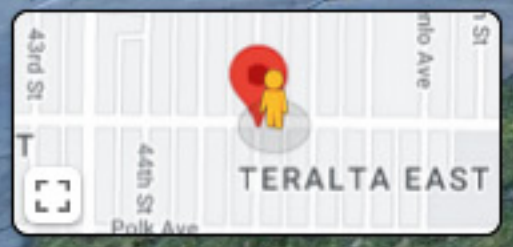
Israel-Hamas War: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver (HBO)

LastWeekTonight ✓
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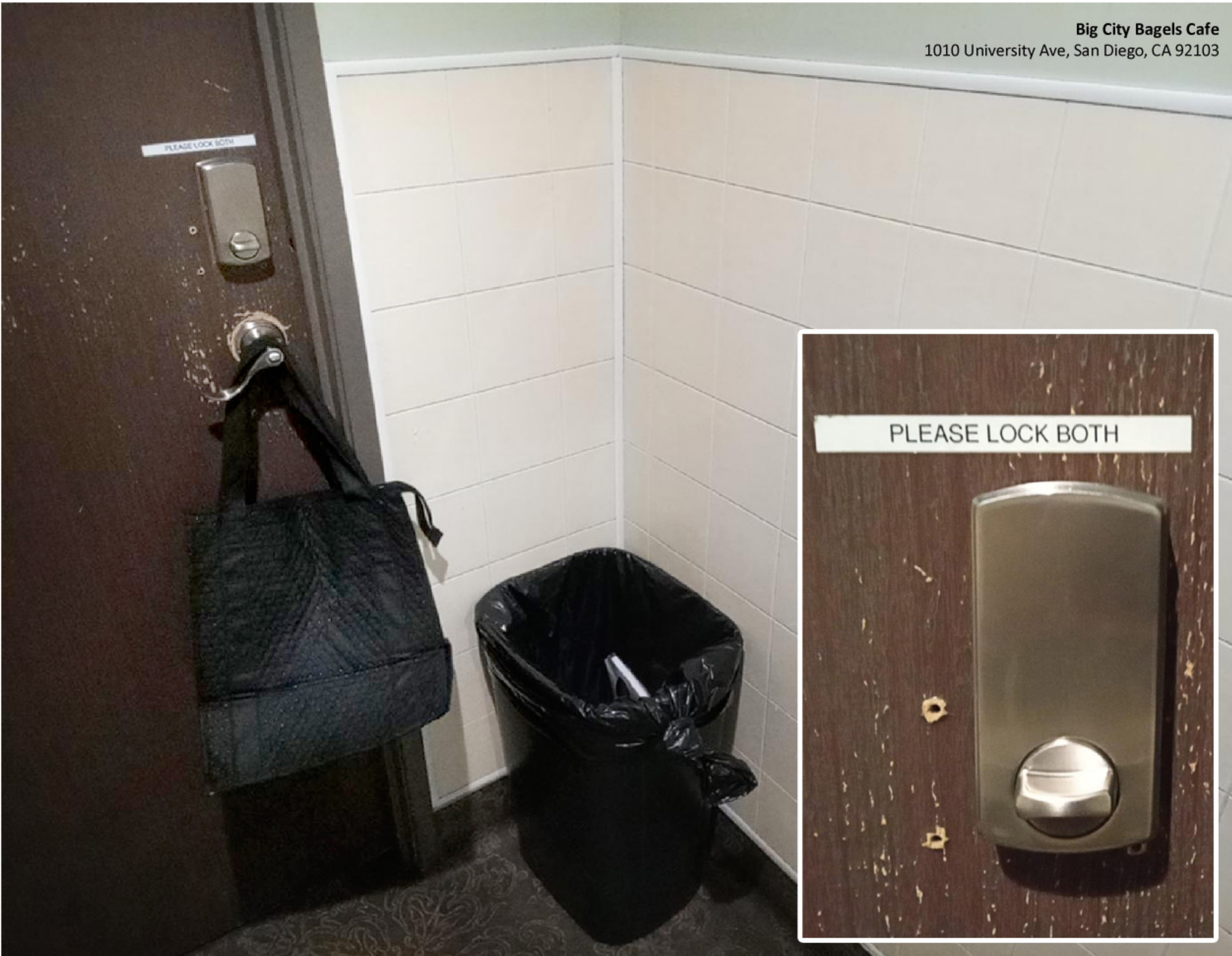
45th street and orange avenue

4509 Orange Ave
 San Diego, California
 Google Street View
 Feb 2022



Google

Big City Bagels Cafe
1010 University Ave, San Diego, CA 92103



Chick-fil-A

5323 Mission Center Rd, San Diego, CA 92108

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Botón para
Cerrar la
Puerta

Plea reme
o LOCK he doo



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Westfield Mission Valley Mall
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Monday, November 13, 2023

5005 Texas St., San Diego, CA 92108
8,827sqft of Office Space built in 1982



Israelis take cover from the incoming rocket fire from the Gaza Strip in Ashkelon, southern Israel, Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2023. (AP Photo/Leo Correa)

In *The Seven Good Years* by Etgar Keret, Lev, Keret's son is 7 — an air raid siren forces the family out of the car where they must lie facedown on the highway. Keret invents a game called Pastrami Sandwich — mommy and daddy are the bread, Lev is the meat — in order to assuage Lev's anxiety. Taken together, these anecdotes paint a picture of combat-zone parenthood that goes beyond politics while reinforcing the imperative need for lasting peace.



'Seven Good Years' Between The Birth Of A Son, Death Of A Father

June 13, 2015 PM ET by NPR Staff

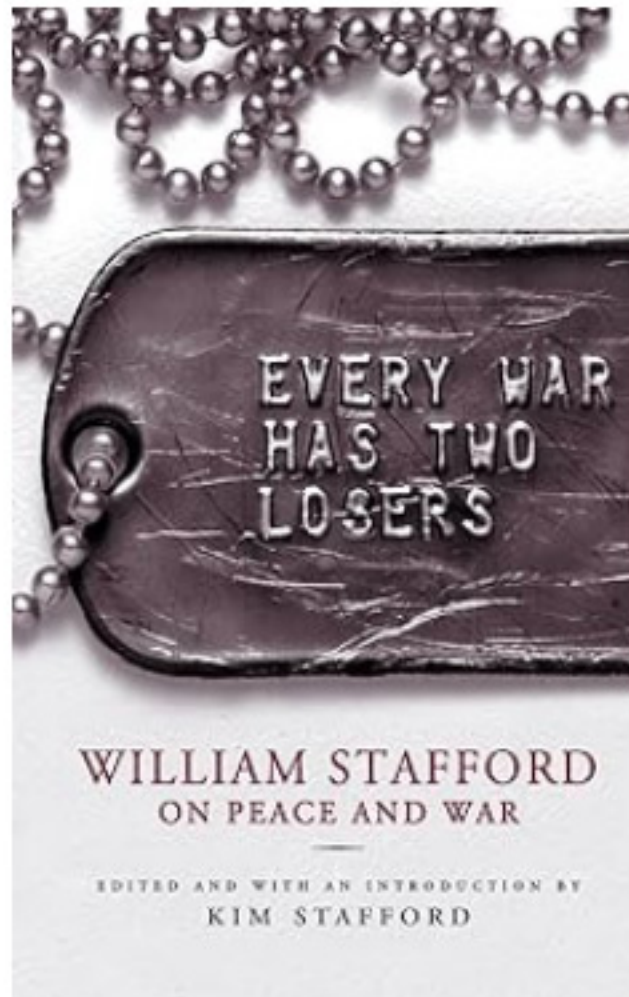
On teaching his son about how to hide during rocket attacks in Israel

The moment that you hear the alarm, if you're in the middle of the street then you have 30 seconds, you know, to find a hiding or if you don't have a hiding to lie on the ground. And I was with my wife and son when the alarm went off and it was like the first time in his life that he was in a missile attack and we asked him to lie on the ground.

And he said, "If it's too dirty to eat from it when something falls on it, then it's too dirty to lie on it." And you find yourself that you have kind of 25 seconds to convince your son to lie down. And you don't want to be stressful, you don't want to shout at him.

So I suggested to him a game called "Pastrami Sandwich," in which my wife lies on the ground and he lies on her and I lie on him and together we form this pastrami sandwich and he kind of liked it because it was warm and cozy. And after the missile attack, he asked me if I can promise him that there would be more missile attacks so we can play the game again.





Every War Has Two Losers: William Stafford on Peace and War Paperback – October 20, 2003



by [William Stafford](#) (Author), [Kim Stafford](#) (Editor)

Born the year World War I began, acclaimed poet William Stafford (1914-1993) spent World War II in a camp for conscientious objectors. Throughout a century of conflict he remained convinced that wars simply don't work. In his writings, Stafford showed it is possible—and crucial—to think independently when fanatics act, and to speak for reconciliation when nations take sides. He believed it was a failure of imagination to only see two options: to fight or to run away.

This book gathers the evidence of a lifetime's commitment to non-violence, including an account of Stafford's near-hanging at the hands of American patriots. In excerpts from his daily journal from 1951-1991, Stafford uses questions, alternative views of history, lyric invitations, and direct assessments of our political habits to suggest another way than war. Many of these statements are published here for the first time, together with a generous selection of Stafford's pacifist poems and interviews from elusive sources.

Stafford provides an alternative approach to a nation's military habit, aggressive instincts, and our legacy of armed ventures in Europe, the Pacific, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and beyond.

Google's Bard > *Every War Has Two Losers: William Stafford on Peace and War* delves into the life and works of William Stafford, an American poet and pacifist, renowned for his poignant reflections on war and its lingering effects. The book explores Stafford's unwavering commitment to peace, his personal experiences during the Vietnam War era, and his profound understanding of the human cost of conflict.

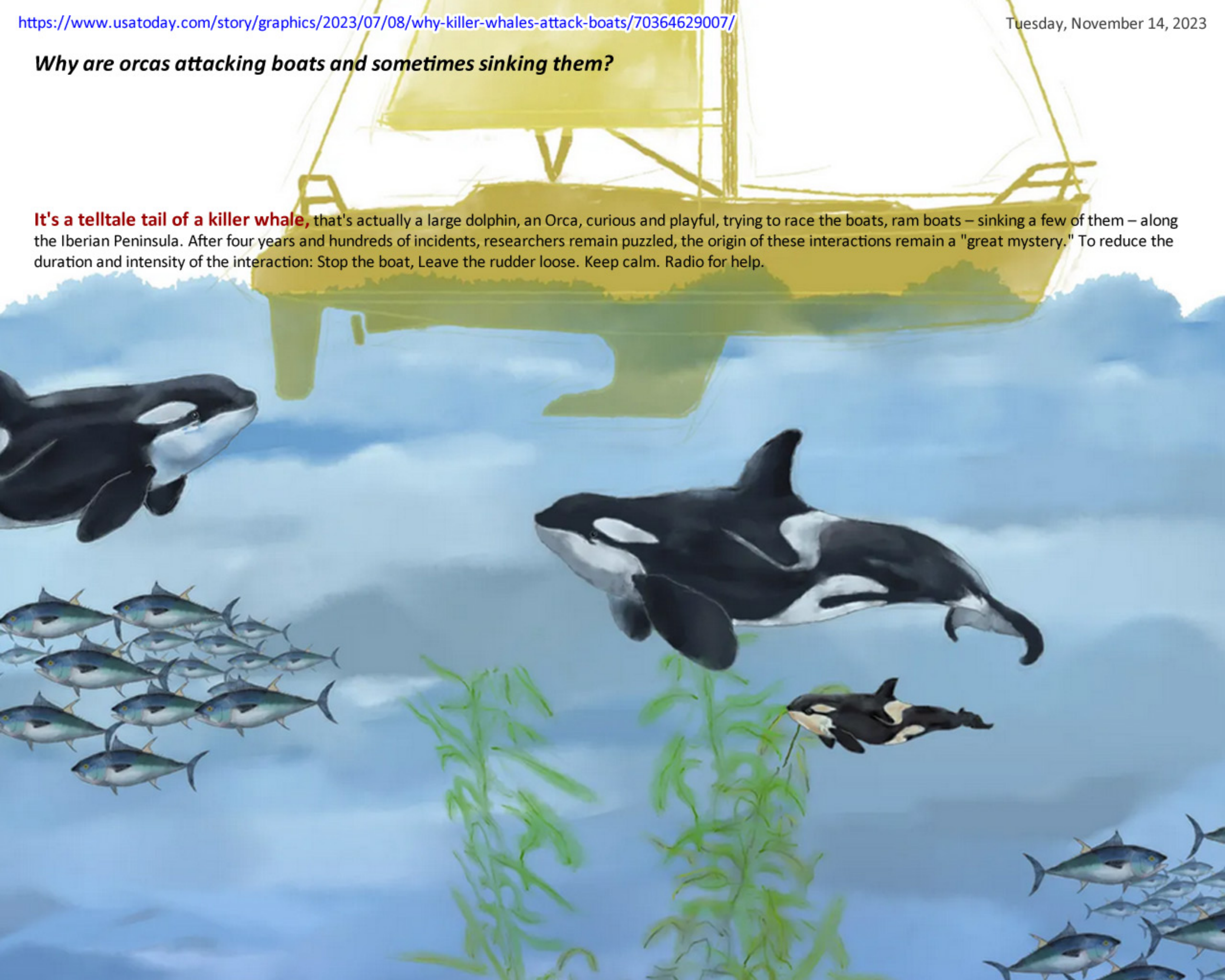
Through a careful examination of Stafford's poetry, prose, and personal writings, the book reveals the poet's deep empathy for those affected by war, both soldiers and civilians. It highlights his ability to capture the complexities of human emotion amidst the turmoil of war, offering a nuanced perspective on the devastating impact of violence.

Furthermore, the book explores Stafford's unwavering commitment to pacifism, even in the face of widespread support for the Vietnam War. It delves into his reasons for opposing war, emphasizing his belief in the inherent value of human life and the futility of violence as a means of resolving conflict. In addition to examining Stafford's literary contributions, the book also sheds light on his personal experiences as a conscientious objector during the Vietnam War. It discusses his decision to serve as a medic in a rural Oregon hospital rather than participate in the war, an act that reflected his deep-seated commitment to nonviolence.

Every War Has Two Losers: William Stafford on Peace and War serves as a testament to the power of poetry to illuminate the human experience of war. It offers a profound and moving exploration of Stafford's unwavering commitment to peace, his compassion for those affected by conflict, and his unwavering belief in the inherent value of human life.

Why are orcas attacking boats and sometimes sinking them?



It's a telltale tail of a killer whale, that's actually a large dolphin, an Orca, curious and playful, trying to race the boats, ram boats – sinking a few of them – along the Iberian Peninsula. After four years and hundreds of incidents, researchers remain puzzled, the origin of these interactions remain a "great mystery." To reduce the duration and intensity of the interaction: Stop the boat, Leave the rudder loose. Keep calm. Radio for help.






90%

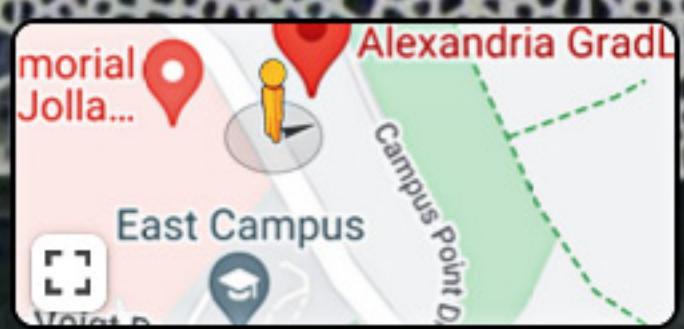
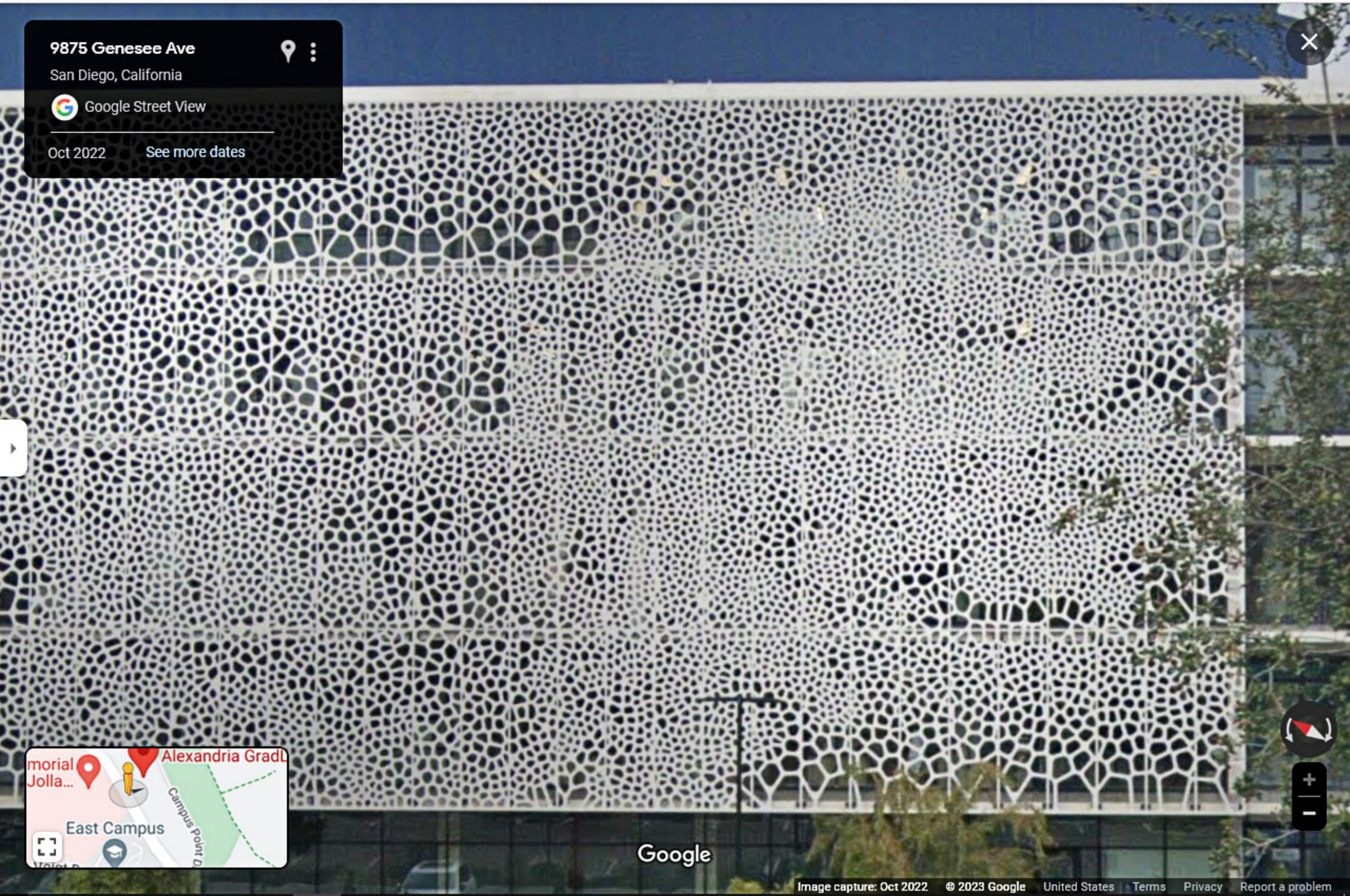


9875 Genesee Ave  

San Diego, California

 Google Street View

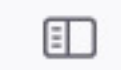
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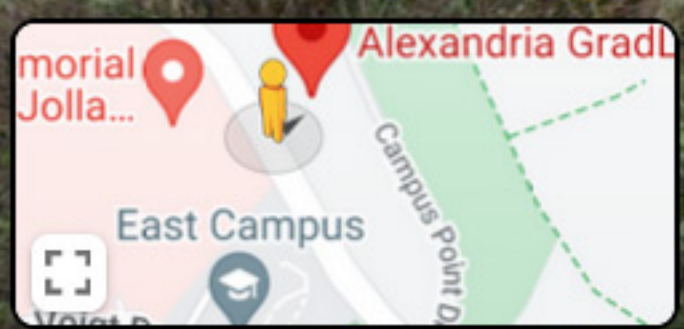
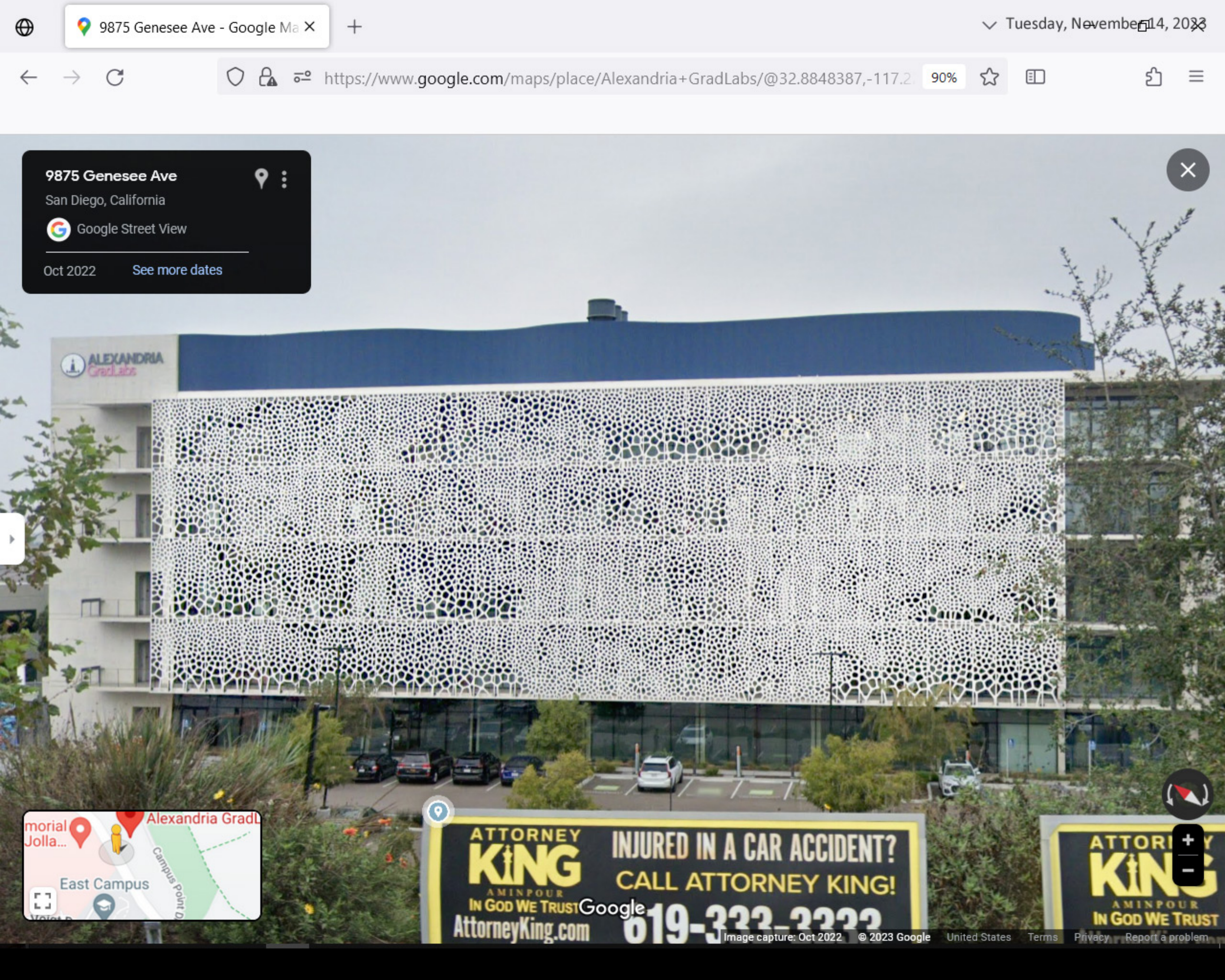


9875 Genesee Ave

San Diego, California

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Oct 2022 [See more dates](#)



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Tocaya Modern Mexican, Tuesday, November 14, 2023
Located in: Westfield UTC
4301 La Jolla Village Dr Unit 2003, San Diego, CA 92122



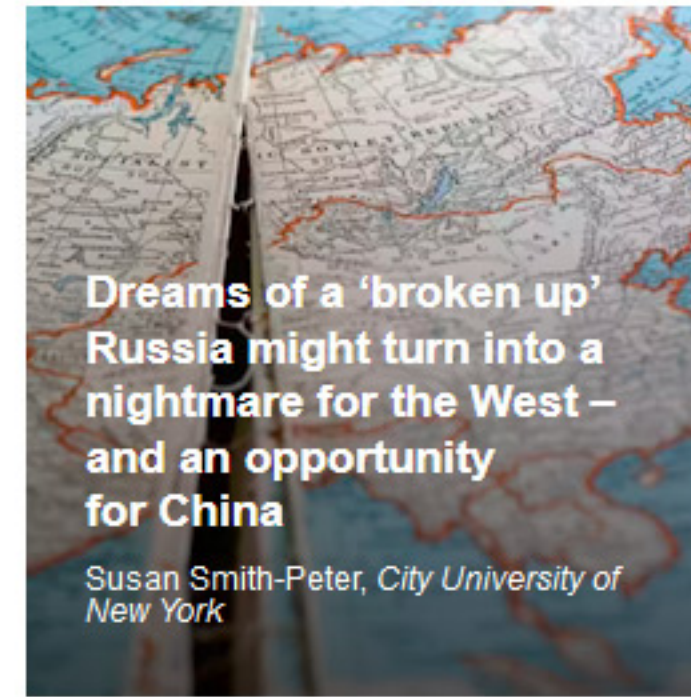
Amid 'checkout charity' boom, some Americans are more likely to be impulse givers than others

Lauren Dula, *Binghamton University, State University of New York* and Ruth K. Hansen, *University of Wisconsin-Whitewater*



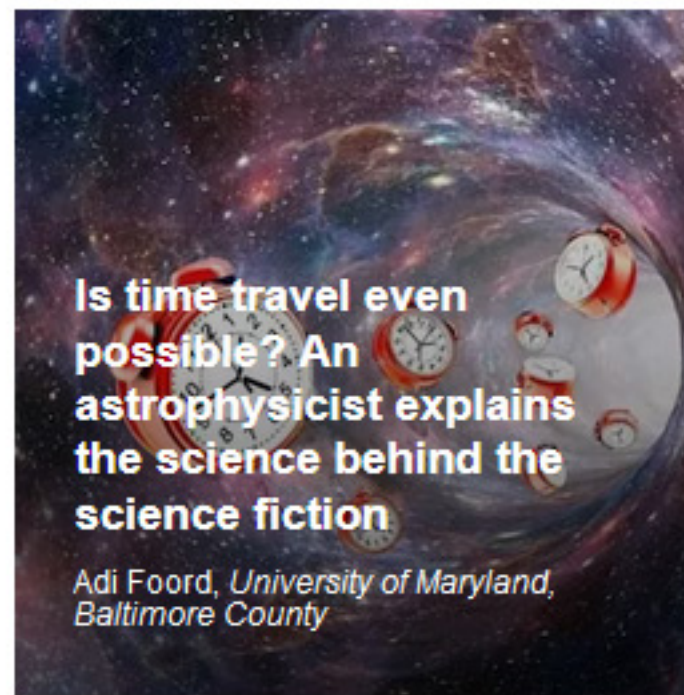
Tons of acorns? It must be a mast year

Emily Moran, *University of California, Merced*



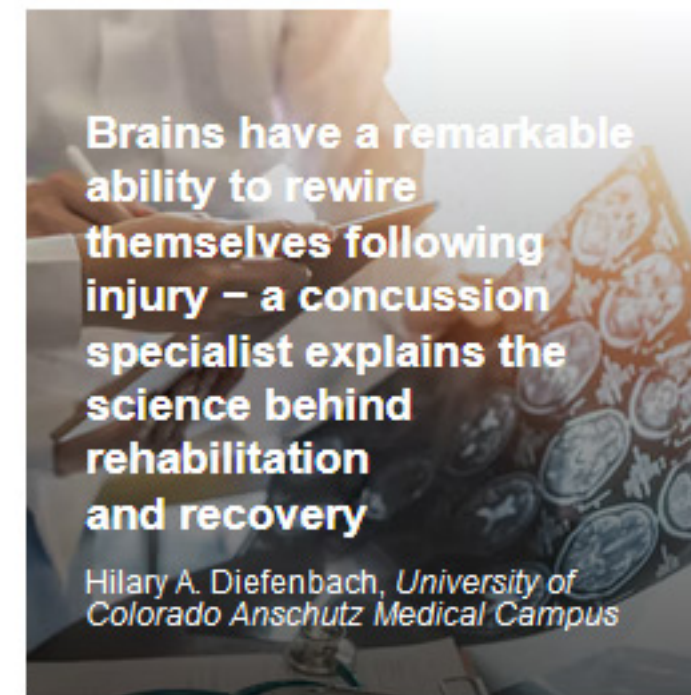
Dreams of a 'broken up' Russia might turn into a nightmare for the West – and an opportunity for China

Susan Smith-Peter, *City University of New York*



Is time travel even possible? An astrophysicist explains the science behind the science fiction

Adi Foord, *University of Maryland, Baltimore County*



Brains have a remarkable ability to rewire themselves following injury – a concussion specialist explains the science behind rehabilitation and recovery

Hilary A. Diefenbach, *University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus*

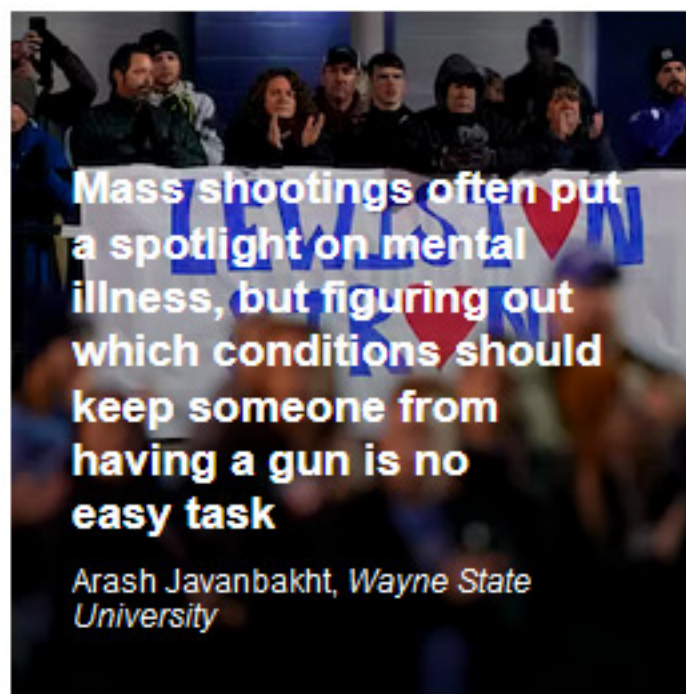
Mexico will soon elect its first female president – but that landmark masks an uneven march toward women's rights

Ethiopia's Abiy takes a page from Russia, China in asserting the right to restore historical claim to strategic waters

We studied **jail** conditions and jail deaths – Higher jail mortality is related to jail turnover rates and demographics.

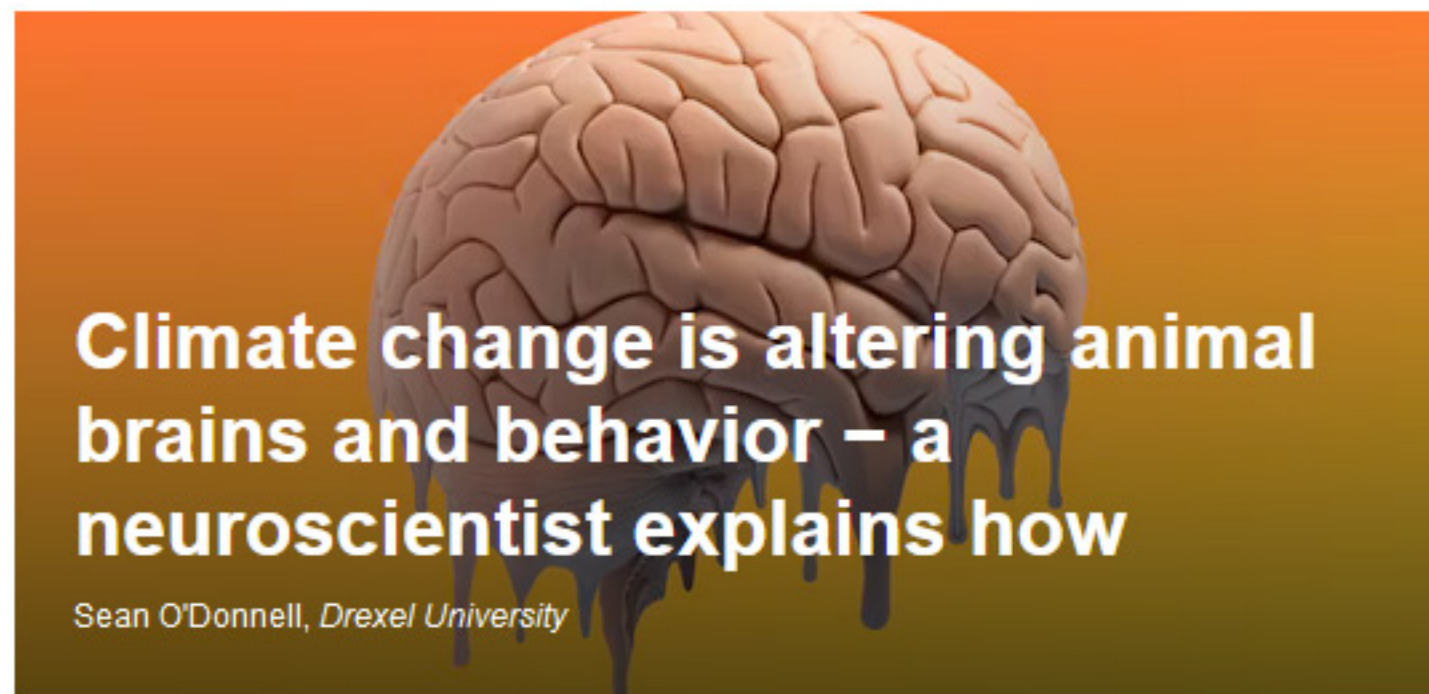


We can still prevent the collapse of the West Antarctic ice sheet – if we act fast to keep future warming in check



Mass shootings often put a spotlight on mental illness, but figuring out which conditions should keep someone from having a gun is no easy task

Arash Javanbakht, *Wayne State University*



Climate change is altering animal brains and behavior – a neuroscientist explains how

Sean O'Donnell, *Drexel University*

Heists worth billions An investigation found criminal gangs using sham bank accounts and secret online marketplaces to steal from almost anyone – and little being done to combat the fraud.

... while shopping, **impulse giving** is tied to the widespread instinct to help. | Biologists call this pattern, in which all the oak trees for miles around make either lots of acorns or almost none, "**masting.**" But how do individual trees decide when that mast year should be? Weather conditions appear to be important, especially spring weather. | Earlier in 2023, China's Ministry of Natural Resources ordered that **new maps** must use the former Chinese names of its lost territories in what is now Russia's Far East. These map moves come amid growing chatter and even calls in Western foreign policy circles for the disintegration of the Russian Federation into a multitude of smaller states. The thinking is, being split into smaller states would blunt Russia's challenge to the West and its ability to carry on a war in Ukraine. | All major functions of the nervous system – sense detection, mental processing and behavior direction – are critical. They allow animals to navigate their environments in ways that enable their survival and reproduction. **Climate change** will likely affect these functions, often for the worse.... while shopping, impulse giving is tied to the widespread instinct to help.



https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-77-writers-and-company/clip/16018855-jeanette-winterson-brings-humour-understanding-fraught-childhood



Mondadori Portfolio/Mondadori Portfolio via Getty I...



Jeanette Winterson

HOME | JEANETTE WINTERSON

The official site of Jeanette Winterson, CBE. Discover Winterson's world, including books, video, audio recording...

Age

64 years

Spouse

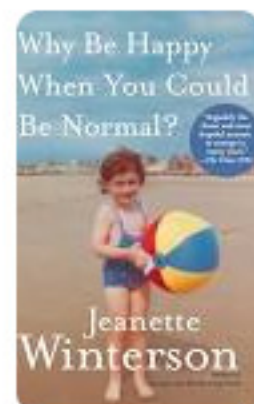
Susie Orbach (m. 2015–2019)



Oranges Are Not the Only... 1985



Written on the Body 1992



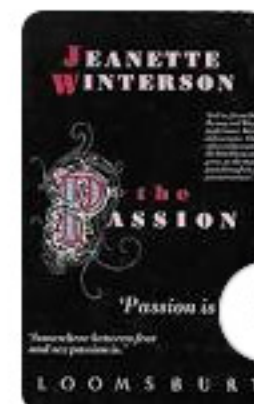
Why be Happy When You... 2011



Sexing the Cherry 1989



Frankissstein 2019



The Passion 1987

Jeanette Winterson's first novel, *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit* is a semi-autobiographical novel about a sensitive teenage girl rebelling against convention. Winterson's subsequent novels explore the boundaries of physicality and the imagination, gender polarities, and sexual identities.

jeanettewinterson.com

Jeanette Winterson CBE, FRSL is an English author. Her first book, *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*, was a semi-autobiographical novel about a sensitive teenage girl rebelling against convention. Other novels explore gender polarities and sexual identity and later ones the relations between humans and technology. [Wikipedia](#)

Born: 1959 (age 64 years), [Manchester, United Kingdom](#)

Influenced by: [Virginia Woolf](#), [Tove Jansson](#), [T. S. Eliot](#), [Thomas Malory](#)

Spouse: [Susie Orbach](#) (m. 2015–2019)

Parents: [Constance Winterson](#), [John William Winterson](#)

Genre: Fiction, [children's fiction](#), journalism, science fiction

Notable works: [Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit](#)

Writers and Company with Eleanor Wachtel



[Jeanette Winterson](#) brings humour and understanding to a fraught childhood

Play Episode 52:48

Share Episode

WARNING: This discussion deals with suicide.

England's Jeanette Winterson reflects on her childhood and explores her search for love and belonging in her memoir, *Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?*. Winterson is the author of the hit, semi-autobiographical novel, *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*. Her latest book, *Night Side of the River*, is a collection of ghost stories. *This interview originally aired in 2012.

Writer

Previous • 6

-  **Inner Polar Bear**
Short
Adapted from an article by
2022
-  **Tough Girls Don't Dream**
★5.9 Short
story by
2010
-  **Ingenious**
★4.5 TV Movie
creator • written by
2009
-  **Jackanory Junior**
★7.6 TV Series
writer
2007
1 episode
-  **Great Moments in Aviation**
★6.1
Writer
1994
-  **Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit**
★7.7 TV Mini Series
novel • screenplay
1990
3 episodes



Jeanette Winterson

Jessica's extraordinarily strong will and heart enables her to rebel against her fanatical, cult-like upbringing. From seven to seventeen Jess is brainwashed to be one of the 'saved', to devote her life to Jesus, to follow the discriminatory teachings of Pastor Finch and his understanding of Revelations. As her warm personality dictates she succeeds in fitting into this regime and spreads the word of Jesus in a fairly content manner. But when her friendship with Melanie develops into something a little more 'unnatural' she easily realizes the error of the Pastors teachings. The girls are subjected to terrible treatment to convince them to repent.

People [Jeanette Winterson](#)





INVESTIGATIONS

A warden tried to fix an abusive federal prison. He faced death threats

The handwritten letter arrived days before Christmas 2022. "THIS IS AN EMERGENCY ISSUE!!!" it began. "PLEASE HELP."

Signed by 14 people incarcerated in one of the highest-security federal prisons in the country, the letter was an urgent warning for prison officials: Several corrections officers were trying to bribe prisoners to attack the warden and one of his captains.



POLITICS

Speaker Johnson has close ties to Christian right – both mainstream and fringe

Mike Johnson's surprise rise to the speakership after weeks of bitter party infighting was cause for celebration for Pastor Dutch Sheets. "God has given us a miracle in the election of Congressman Michael Johnson to this position. He's a godly man, raised up for such a time as this," Sheets said in his Oct. 27 "Give Him 15" daily prayer broadcast. "I do not know him, but have several friends who do, who attest to his qualifications, integrity and heart for the Lord." There's nothing unusual in American politics about religious leaders praying for politicians or holding a fundamental view that God's divine hand is at play in the creation and existence of America. But Sheets is not a traditional Christian pastor. "Dutch Sheets did more, in my estimation, than any Christian leader to organize Christians for January 6th," said Matthew D. Taylor, a senior scholar at The Institute for Islamic, Christian, and Jewish Studies. Taylor has a forthcoming book on the role Christian extremism played in efforts to fraudulently overturn the 2020 election and fuel the attack on the U.S. Capitol.



POLITICS

A GOP senator challenges Teamsters head to a fight in a fiery exchange at a hearing

A congressional hearing devolved into an angry confrontation between a senator and a witness on Tuesday after Republican Sen. Markwayne Mullin of Oklahoma challenged Sean O'Brien, the president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, to "stand your butt up" and settle longstanding differences right there in the room. Mullin had stood up from his seat at the dais and appeared to start taking his ring off. "This is the time, this is the place," Mullin told O'Brien after reading a series of critical tweets O'Brien had sent about him in the past. "If you want to run your mouth, we can be two consenting adults. We can finish it here."

Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, the chairman of the Senate panel that was holding the hearing, yelled at Mullin to sit down after he challenged O'Brien to a fight. "You are a United States senator, act like it!" Sanders yelled at Mullin at one point.

McDonald's

6945 Linda Vista Rd, San Diego, CA 92111

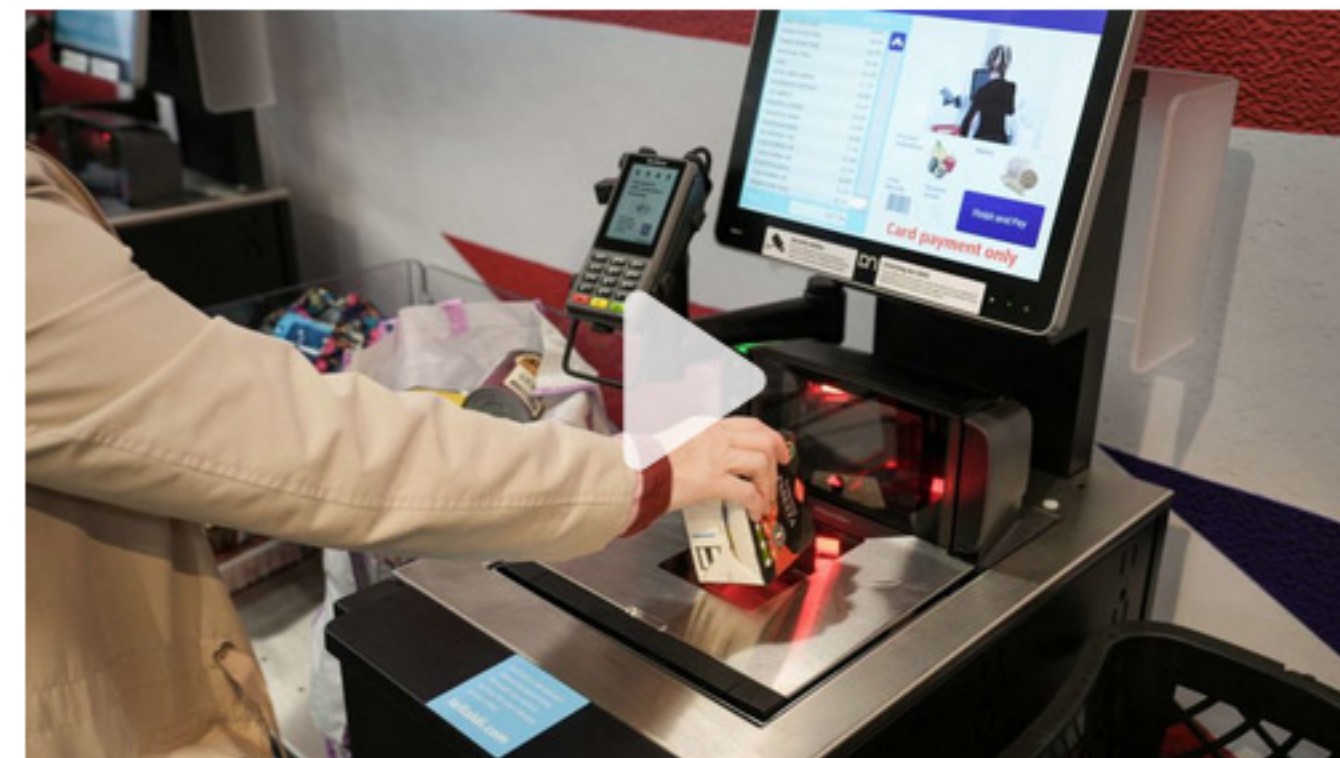
McDonald's will be phasing out counter service by next year, they are training people to use the kiosk for self-serve orders. Just as grocery stores are getting rid of their self-checkout.



Walmart, Costco and other companies rethink self-checkout

By [Nathaniel Meyersohn](#), CNN

Updated 12:34 PM EST, Wed November 15, 2023



Some stores are removing self-checkout stations. Hear why

New York CNN — The backlash against self-checkout is growing, and stores are starting to dial back on the technology after it exploded over the past few years. Booths, a British supermarket chain, said it's removing self-checkout stations in all but two of its 28 stores. In the United States, Walmart, Costco, Wegmans and other chains have also revised their self-checkout strategies. One study of retailers in the United States, Britain and other European countries found that companies with self-checkout lanes and apps had a loss rate of about 4%, more than double the industry average. Other customers take advantage of the lax oversight at self-checkout aisles and have developed techniques for stealing. Common tactics include not scanning an item, swapping a cheaper item (bananas) for a more expensive one (steak), scanning counterfeit barcodes attached to their wrists or properly scanning everything and then walking out without paying. Stores have tried to limit losses by tightening self-checkout security features, such as adding weight sensors. But additional anti-theft measures also lead to more frustrating "unexpected item in the bagging area" errors, requiring employees to intervene. Walmart removed self-checkout machines at some stores in New Mexico earlier this year. ShopRite pulled them at a Delaware store after customer complaints. Wegmans last year ended a mobile app that allowed customers to scan, bag and pay for groceries while they shopped after reporting losses. Costco said it's adding more staff in self-checkout areas after it found that non-members were sneaking in to use membership cards that didn't belong to them at self-checkout.



McDonald's
6945 Linda Vista Rd, San Diego, CA 92111

McDonald's will be phasing out counter service by next year, they are training people to use the kiosk for self-serve orders. Just as grocery stores are getting rid of their self-checkout.

NO SOLICITING
VIOLATORS WILL BE SACRIFICED
TO THE OLD GODS
NOT THE NEW



My Lai Massacre Thảm sát Mỹ Lai

Part of the [Vietnam War](#)

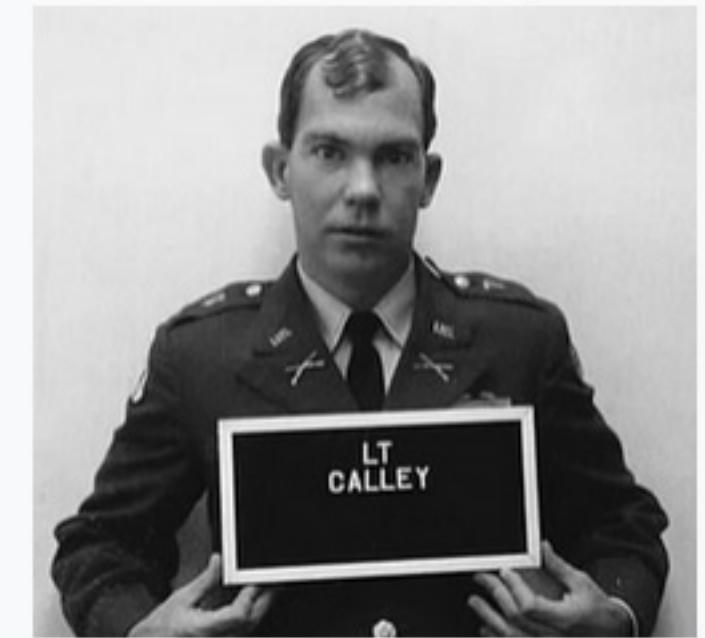


Photo taken by [U.S. Army](#) photographer [Ronald L. Haeberle](#) on 16 March 1968, in the aftermath of the My Lai Massacre showing mostly women and children dead on a road

William Laws Calley Jr. (born June 8, 1943) is a former United States Army officer who was convicted by [court-martial](#) for the murder of 22 unarmed South Vietnamese civilians in the [My Lai massacre](#) on March 16, 1968, during the [Vietnam War](#). Calley was released to [house arrest](#) under orders by President [Richard Nixon](#) three days after his conviction. A new trial was ordered by the [United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit](#) but that ruling was overturned by the [Supreme Court](#). Calley served three years of house arrest for the murders. Public opinion at the time about Calley was divided.^[2] Since his dismissal from the U.S. Army and release from prison, Calley has avoided public attention.

In March 1968 Calley and his men arrived at the village of My Lai where they murdered hundreds of elderly men, women, children, and infants from allied South Vietnam. Calley would later claim in court that an air strike had killed the innocent civilians. There was no sign of enemy combatants in My Lai when he and his men arrived.

William Laws Calley Jr.



Calley

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Born | June 8, 1943 (age 80) Miami, Florida, U.S. |
| Criminal status | Released |
| Conviction(s) | Premeditated murder (22 counts) Assault with intent to commit murder |
| Criminal penalty | Life imprisonment with hard labor ; commuted to 20 years imprisonment; commuted to 10 years imprisonment; commuted to three years of house arrest by President Richard Nixon |

Military career

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Allegiance | United States |
| Service/branch | United States Army |
| Years of service | 1960–1971 |
| Rank | Second lieutenant ^[1] |
| Unit | 1st Platoon, Company C, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 11th Infantry Brigade, 23rd Infantry Division (Americal) |
| Battles/wars | Vietnam War └ My Lai massacre |

Without haste embrace the grace.

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

[. . .]

Yet again, too sensitive to our brutal cultures' self-devouring harvest to dare sit at the table. Call me shy. Pass the peace pipe. Pack the yurt. Keep moving. Can't bear to look. The feast that asks, "What's eating you?" as it sloppily chews. Charlie, Charlie . . . **Charlie Company—First Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 11th Infantry Brigade, 23rd Infantry Division, 1st Platoon, . . . remember Lieutenant William L. Calley? March 16, 1968? The Day of the Massacre of the My Lai village? Not today.** Today's it Gaza for whom we sit on our hands as the evil slaughters toddler children in the hospital paralyzed from the neck down, the last surviving family member of the opposite of precision Israeli bombardment. Justified by the right to defend themselves. Snake oil and stultifying rhetoric. It hurts too bad. And even with the exemption Cyrus the Great gave the Jews in Babylon, so they would unify and put to writing their origin story, the Torah, **somehow these people, like us in the U.S., are one off, can't quite get it down to govern themselves and their domain in a just, fair, sustainable way, and end up oh, so woefully surprised when it all comes undone, the horrid mess made creating more hate dividing than love uniting.** Charlie, Charlie . . . I'm going down, I'm going solely on corpuscles pumping through the veins here. The walking dead. Spirits crushed to smithereens. I have nothing solid to share with you. I could talk of love, or then, what do I know? Bring me back to the grace, wherever you can find it. Find it! Spread it. There's a hard, dried everything bagel on the sidewalk outside the deli cafe. It has your name on it, it says, "eat me." Eat me before I turn to dust. Get back to your roots. Get back in the saddle. Get back to where you once belonged. Sound the alarm. Sound the alarms for Grace. Without haste embrace the grace.

Poor men south of Richmond? Why much of the rural South is in economic crisis

Published: November 15, 2023 8.23am EST

▼ **Peter A. Coclanis**, *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*,
Louis M. Kyriakouides, *Middle Tennessee State University*



About 20% of counties in the South are marked by “persistent poverty.”
Boogich/iStock/Getty Images Plus

Manufacturing counties in the rural South are particularly unhealthy. Residents there die about two and a half years younger than the average American, which to demographers is a staggeringly high differential. These things, of course, didn’t happen in a vacuum. **The Obama-era Affordable Care Act encouraged states to expand Medicaid coverage, but Southern states largely refused to do so.** That left large portions of the low- and lower-middle-income population in the rural South uninsured. This has pushed many medical facilities in the region into a death spiral, as their business models — predicated on governmental insurance of one kind or another — became untenable.

For a brief moment in the summer of 2023, the surprise No. 1 song “Rich Men North of Richmond” focused the country’s attention on a region that often gets overlooked in discussions of the U.S. economy. Although the U.S. media sometimes pays attention to the rural South — often concentrating on guns, religion and opioid overdoses — it has too often neglected the broad scope and root causes of the region’s current problems. As economic historians based in North Carolina and Tennessee, we want a fuller version of the story to be told. Various parts of the rural South are struggling, but here we want to focus on the forlorn areas that the U.S. Department of Agriculture refers to as “rural manufacturing counties” — places where manufacturing is, or traditionally was, the main economic activity. You can find such counties in every Southern state, although they were historically clustered in Alabama, Georgia, North and South Carolina, and Tennessee. And they are suffering terribly.

The origins of the rural crisis: By the early 1980s, however, the gains made possible by the shift out of agriculture began to play themselves out. The growth of the rural manufacturing sector slowed, and the South’s convergence upon national per capita income norms stopped, remaining stuck at about 90% from then on. Two factors were largely responsible: new technologies, which reduced the number of workers needed in manufacturing, and globalization, which greatly increased competition. This latter point became increasingly important, since the South, a low-cost manufacturing region in the U.S., is a high-cost manufacturing region when compared to, say, Mexico. Like Mike Campbell’s bankruptcy in Hemingway’s “The Sun Also Rises,” the rural South’s collapse came gradually, then suddenly: gradually during the 1980s and 1990s, and suddenly after China’s entry into the World Trade Organization in December 2001.

The first step is recognizing there’s a problem: Those parts of the rural and small-town South that were once heavily involved in manufacturing are in economic crisis today. One might argue that the current mess is a legacy effect of the South’s historical dependence on a low-skill, low-cost growth “strategy” — beginning with slavery — that privileged short-term economic gains over patient investment in human capital and long-term development. That’s a big claim about a larger, more complex story. For now, our aim is simply to call attention to the problem. **One must first acknowledge it before there can be any hope of a remedy. Until then, the inhabitants of such areas will remain feeling, as the Southern writer Linda Flowers vividly put it, “thrown away.”**



The author examines how some chiropractors, health coaches and fitness fanatics came to embrace far-right theories

Naomi Klein on wellness culture: 'We really are alive on the knife's edge'

by [Katherine Rowland](#)

Wed 15 Nov 2023 07.00 EST

Katherine: *You decided to go tunneling down this rabbit hole into the mirror world and, as you recount in the book, your hours were consumed by conspiracist fodder. You're even on a family vacation and sneaking out to the car to binge-listen to Steve Bannon's War Room podcast. What implications did that have for your own mental health and sense of identity?*

Naomi: Well, I think there's an obsessive quality to deep research no matter what it is. And it's not the first family holiday I've ruined, you know. My husband still complains that I visited Indonesian sweatshops on our honeymoon. It does become kind of all-consuming, and the line between conspiracy and investigative journalism is not always as clear as we might like to believe. So, yeah, I definitely fell down the rabbit hole and listened to a lot of Steve Bannon. But, when I was writing *The Shock Doctrine*, I read a lot of CIA interrogation manuals. To write *This Changes Everything*, I went to climate change denier conferences. If you want to understand the way the world works, including the role of misinformation, you're not always going to hang around with the most savory characters. The parts of listening to Bannon that were most destabilizing were when I heard him saying things that sounded like the left, and when I heard him saying things that I agreed with in part – not in whole, but where I saw that kernel of truth and I realized how effective it was going to be in the mix and match with what I see as a fascist project that he's engaged in. I start to get queasy and ask, wait a minute, why is [Bannon] saying more about this than a lot of people on the liberal side of the spectrum? Have we ceded this territory? I expect Steve Bannon to be monstrous on immigration, on gender. I expect that from him. It's when he's talking about corporate control of the media and saying things that are true about big tech that I start to get queasy and ask, wait a minute, why is he saying more about this than a lot of people on the liberal side of the spectrum? Have we ceded this territory?

In the terrifying early days of the pandemic, a concerning development emerged in the wellness space. Chiropractors, health coaches, ayurvedic healers and other mind-body professionals took to the internet in earnest to circulate QAnon content, stories about Hillary Clinton guzzling blood and screeds against social distancing.

It was a puzzling shift for a motley group better known for sharing recipes and stretching tips. Over far-reaching newsletters and palette-perfected Instagram posts, wellness gurus were now peddling plotlines of hidden agendas, secret cabals and the Great Awakening.

Why wellness became a seedbed for the far-right is one of several subjects that Naomi Klein explores in her latest book, *Doppelgänger: A Trip into the Mirror World*.

The book departs from Klein's growing concern over "Other Naomi", that being Naomi Wolf, the once-feminist author turned deplatformed conspiracist, with whom she is often confused. Klein came to regard Wolf as her own double in a realm of "conspiracy rabbit holes" and, over hours of podcasts, Twitter feeds, rants and polemics, followed her into a parallel sphere of "upside down politics".

She observed that people working in the field of bodily care seemed particularly drawn to anti-vax, anti-mask, "plandemic" beliefs. The Center for Countering Digital Hate's report on the Disinformation Dozen – a list of 12 people responsible for circulating the bulk of anti-vax content online – was populated by a chiropractor, three osteopaths, and essential oil sellers, as well Christine Northrup, the former OB-GYN turned Oprah-endorsed celebrity doctor who claimed the virus was part of a deep state depopulation plot, and Kelly Brogan, the "holistic psychiatrist" and new age panic preacher.

Klein allows that some of this crossover made economic sense: for people working with bodies, social distancing often meant the loss of their livelihoods, and these "grievances set the stage for many wellness workers to see sinister plots in everything having to do with the virus".

But the spread of misinformation across wellness culture was likely attributable to more complex factors, including the limits of conventional medicine and the areas of health that are understudied or dismissed.

I spoke with Klein over Zoom about the allure of the mirror world, why wellness culture came to mingle with the far-right, and how we might tunnel back out of the rabbit hole. Our conversation has been edited for length and clarity.

The flip side of the desire for perfection is a hatred of what is perceived as less than perfect.

And this is where wellness takes a sinister turn.



“I start to get queasy and ask, wait a minute, why is [Bannon] saying more about this than a lot of people on the liberal side of the spectrum? Have we ceded this territory?”

Naomi Klein on wellness culture: ‘We really are alive on the knife’s edge’

Katherine Rowland is the author of *The Pleasure Gap: American Women and the Unfinished Sexual Revolution* and was the host of the podcast *Seeking*. Previously, she was the executive director of *Guernica Magazine*.

Katherine: I want to return to this idea of the doppelganger as something that we refuse to behold or acknowledge. I can see that it serves as a guard against, say, the constant proximity of death and exploitation. It’s a defense mechanism, and yet it’s also wounding us. And so, I wonder, what is our way out?

Naomi: We should be compassionate with ourselves in terms of why we look away. There are lots of ways of distracting oneself from unbearable realities. Conspiracy theories are a kind of distraction. So is hyper-fitness, this turn towards the self. I think the world is pretty awesome right now – not in a good sense. I mean awe in the sense of just being awestruck by the weight of our historical moment. The compassion comes in where we acknowledge that there’s a reason why it is so hard to look at the reality of what has been unveiled by these overlapping crises – you could call it a polycrisis: of the pandemic, climate change, massive racial and economic inequality, realizing that your country was founded on a lie, that the national narratives that you grew up on left out huge parts in the story. **All of this is hard to bear. It’s hard to realize that it’s quicksand.** Because we live in a hyper-individualist culture, we try to bear it on our own and we should not be surprised that we’re cracking under the weight of that, because we can’t bear it alone. I think the world is pretty awesome right now – not in a good sense. I mean awe in the sense of just being awestruck by the weight of our historical moment. We really are alive on the knife’s edge of whether or not this earth is going to be habitable for our species. That is not something that we can handle just on our own. So we need to reach towards each other. That’s really tricky work. It’s a lot easier to come together and agree on things that are not working and things that are bad than it is to come together and develop a horizon of how things could be better. That’s the only thing that’s gonna let us get out of the mirror world and the reactivity of dumping everything that we can’t stand about ourselves on to other people. Things could be beautiful, things could be livable. There could be a world where everyone belongs. But I don’t think we can bear the reality of our moment unless we can imagine something else.

Katherine: This point seems central. The mirror world isn’t devoid of truth. Instead, it’s destabilizing because elements of truth are there, but warped. **Naomi:** Absolutely. And the destabilizing piece is not simply that they’re saying something true. It’s when you realize people [on the left] have stopped saying that true thing. That’s when you realize that it has power. I have been part of big social movements that were talking about corporate free trade, about Davos, about why there is this meeting of elites that get to decide how to fix the world that they broke. Or talking about why there are patents on life-saving medications, and why there is a rule at the World Trade Organization protecting those patents and keeping life-saving drugs out of the hands of the many millions of people who need them. And that anti-corporate, anti-capitalist movement is not ascendant on the left. So it’s really the one-two punch of knowing that Bannon’s talking about it, Giorgia Meloni is talking about it. RFK Jr is talking about it. **If we were building multiracial, intergenerational social movements that were really rooted in confronting corporate power,** then they could say whatever they want and it wouldn’t really bother me. But we’re talking about it less, and the more [conspiracists] talk about it, the more reticent we become. So it’s a dialectic that makes me queasy.

Katherine: We are in this moment where some of these distorted projections are also showing up in wellness culture. You’ve noted that there are a number of people who are in the business of bodies who appear to have been especially seduced by the mirror world. Chiropractors, juice enthusiasts, yogis – they’ve portaged their interests in health towards rabid, far-right belief systems. **Naomi:** First of all, we have to be clear that it’s not everyone – but fitness really was kind of on the front line. I was in New Jersey for **the first few months of the pandemic and the two groups that were organizing most in those early days were the very religious, and the very fit.** Some of the first protests against lockdowns were outside of gyms. And I was trying to understand what was going on with that. Why were these super buff folks having these protests, doing push-ups outside of their gyms? And I came to the conclusion that there was something similar to the way in which some ultra-religious people were reacting, where they were insisting no matter what this was, they had to go pray. They had to be in these collective spaces, because that was their force field. Prayer was their protection against death or what happens after death. I vividly remember watching the news one night, and there was a story about a megachurch that had broken lockdown. Journalists were interviewing people as they were streaming out of the megachurch. And they said: “Aren’t you afraid of Covid? You’ve just been in a room with thousands of unmasked people singing.” And the answer from one worshipper was: “No way! I’m bathed in the blood of the Lord.” I saw these gym protests as a similar idea: my body is my temple. What I’m doing here is my protection; I’m keeping myself strong. I’m building up my immune system, my body is my force field against whatever is coming. Kneeling before the temple of the body also has fascist roots. Historically, certain ideals of human fitness were a way to communicate the value of citizens. **Whenever you are working within a system of a hierarchy of humans and bodies, then you’re in fascism territory.** I think that it made perfect sense that Nazis were body obsessives who fetishized the natural and the hyper-fit form and genes. There is a connection between certain kinds of new age ideas and health fads and the fascist project. After the second world war, a lot of people in the world of wellness ran in the opposite direction. But there are some ways in which they are natural affinities and they’re finding each other again. And it makes sense that they found each other rather quickly during a pandemic, where you had all of these wellness influencers coaching people into this idea that they could turn their body into a kind of fortress against a virus that we didn’t understand and were really afraid of. It’s just that there’s a flip side to it. When we moved back to Canada and started doing election campaigning, my partner Avi knocked on a door and met a very fit person who looked like I could have taken an Ashtanga class with her. And all she wanted to talk about was vaccine passports and how she was opposed to vaccines. **She said: “I have a strong immune system.” And he, very tentatively, said: “Well, yes, but not everybody does.” And she said: “I think those people should die.”**

Katherine: So, why are figures in health and wellness slipping so readily into this other construction of reality? **Naomi:** There are lots of people who have a healthy attitude towards health and fitness and they aren’t trying obsessively to reach towards an idealized self. But there is a way the quest for wellness and hyper-fitness becomes obsessive. Barbara Ehrenreich wrote about this really beautifully in her book about wellness culture, where she talks about the silence of the gyms. This is a collective space, right? Why aren’t people chitchatting? But often gyms are very silent and she speculates that maybe it’s because people are talking to someone, it’s just not the other people in the gym, it’s somebody in their head. **They’re trying to tame their body into being another kind of body, a perfected body.**

[...]

Naomi Klein on wellness culture: 'We really are alive on the knife's edge'

by [Katherine Rowland](#)

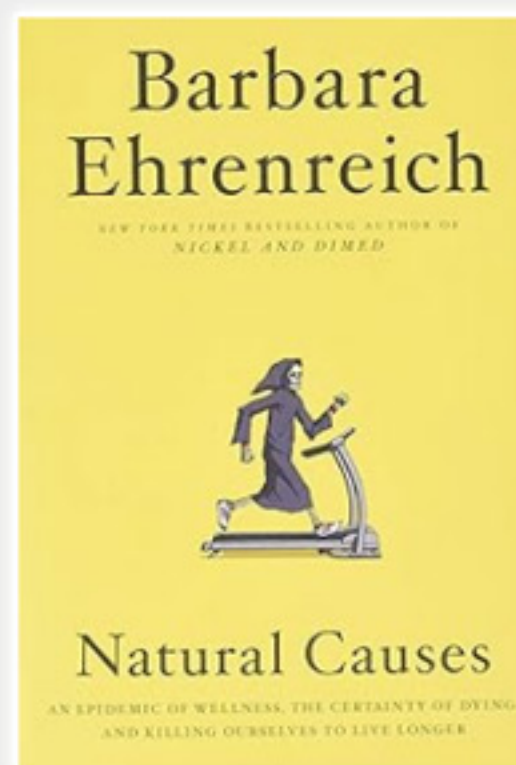
Wed 15 Nov 2023 07:00 EST

Katherine: *In wellness, we also see the stamp of neoliberalism – it's all about the individual. Ehrenreich was trying to figure out why there was this renewed interest in perfecting the body at this particular moment in time.*

Naomi: Ehrenreich is trying to understand why this exploded in the 1980s. The whole aerobics craze, the whole jogging craze. You know, how does somebody like Jerry Rubin, a member of the Yippies, turn into a health evangelist in the 1980s? This is interesting to me because in lots of ways this is what Naomi Wolf was trying to understand in the Beauty Myth. Why was there so much more of a focus in the 1980s on personal appearance? She makes the case that beauty became a third shift for women: there was the work shift, there was the home shift, and on top of that, women were now also expected to look like professional beauties. Beauty ideals for women were not invented in the 1980s, but it is true that standards did rise from the 70s to the 80s, in terms of thinness and fitness and so on. She makes the argument, which, in retrospect, some people have said is more conspiratorial, that there was almost a plot to keep women down, to keep them busy so they couldn't compete with their male counterparts at this moment when they're entering the workforce and smashing through glass ceilings.

Ehrenreich has a completely different theory, which I think is much more plausible, which is this is **the 1980s: people are in the wreckage of the failures of these huge social movements in the 60s and 70s. There had been this glimpse of collective power that a lot of people really thought was going to change the world, and suddenly they're living through Thatcherism and Reaganism. And there is this turn towards the self, towards the body as the site of control.** Then you have all of these entrepreneurial wellness figures who come in and say, individuals must take charge of their own bodies as their primary sites of influence, control and competitive edge.

And so the flip side of the idea that your competitive edge is your body is that the people who don't have bodies as fit or strong as yours somehow did something wrong or are less deserving of access, less deserving even of life. And that is unfortunately all too compatible with far-right notions of natural hierarchies, genetic superiority and disposable people.



Natural Causes: An Epidemic of Wellness, the Certainty of Dying, and Killing Ourselves to Live Longer – April 10, 2018

by [Barbara Ehrenreich](#) (Author)

A razor-sharp polemic which offers an entirely new understanding of our bodies, ourselves, and our place in the universe, *Natural Causes* describes how we over-prepare and worry way too much about what is inevitable. One by one, Ehrenreich topples the shibboleths that guide our attempts to live a long, healthy life -- from the importance of preventive medical screenings to the concepts of wellness and mindfulness, from dietary fads to fitness culture.

But *Natural Causes* goes deeper -- into the fundamental unreliability of our bodies and even our "mind-bodies," to use the fashionable term. Starting with the mysterious and seldom-acknowledged tendency of our own immune cells to promote deadly cancers, Ehrenreich looks into the cellular basis of aging, and shows how little control we actually have over it. We tend to believe we have agency over our bodies, our minds, and even over the manner of our deaths. But the latest science shows that the microscopic subunits of our bodies make their own "decisions," and not always in our favor.

We may buy expensive anti-aging products or cosmetic surgery, get preventive screenings and eat more kale, or throw ourselves into meditation and spirituality. But all these things offer only the illusion of control. How to live well, even joyously, while accepting our mortality -- that is the vitally important philosophical challenge of this book.

Drawing on varied sources, from personal experience and sociological trends to pop culture and current scientific literature, *Natural Causes* examines the ways in which we obsess over death, our bodies, and our health. Both funny and caustic, Ehrenreich then tackles the seemingly unsolvable problem of how we might better prepare ourselves for the end -- while still reveling in the lives that remain to us.

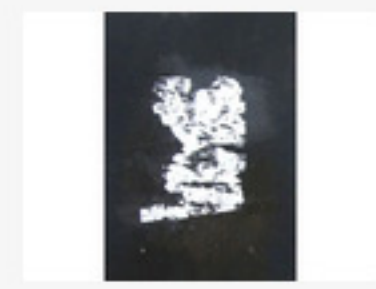
GUERNICA / 15 years of global arts & politics

This volume collects some of the work about Palestine published in Guernica since 2010, with appreciation for the writers who have risked, and continue to risk, so much to witness. Contributors include George Abraham, Hala Alyan, Alice Walker, Jamal Mahjoub, Issam Zineh, Randa Jarrar, Amira Hass, Kamal Aljafari, Sisonke Msimang, Naomi Zeveloff, and more. This volume is meant as a free resource, to be widely shared. (Still, any republication of its contents requires prior permission.) —The Editors

- FICTION
- NONFICTION
- POETRY
- INTERVIEWS
- APOSTROPHE
- BACK DRAFT
- SPOTLIGHTS
- CUTTING ROOM
- Q



In Search of Passage
 By Jina Moore Ngarambe / November 6, 2023
 The November issue
 EDITOR'S NOTE

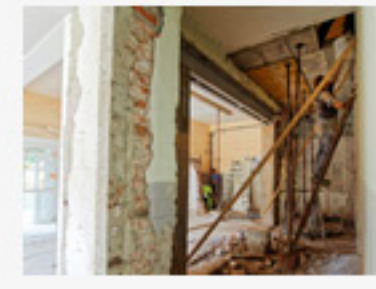


Voices on Palestine
 By Jina Moore Ngarambe / November 6, 2023
 A Guernica collection

Salar Abdoh: On “how to keep your decency and your humanity in a world that has gone insane”

By Jina Moore Ngarambe and Salar Abdoh / November 14, 2023
 His new novel, *A Nearby Country Called Love*, offers tenderness, nuance, and surprise in Iran.

INTERVIEW



Flipping Grief
 By James McNaughton / November 6, 2023
 This is loss. Memory, damp and compact as clods of earth, is dried out in the marketplace and burned as turf.
 ESSAY





NATIONAL SECURITY

The U.S. has special rules for satellites over one country: Israel



MIDDLE EAST CRISIS — EXPLAINED

Doctors are among the many dead in Gaza. These are their stories

The war between Israel and Hamas is being fought, in part, through disinformation and competing claims — and satellite imagery has emerged as an important fact-checking tool. It's also putting new scrutiny on how commercial satellite companies operate in a conflict area. The questions are more pointed than ever. Not only are companies able to capture crystal-clear overviews of things like military convoys and battlefield positions; they're also able to deliver those images more quickly and widely than ever. By publishing — or not publishing — real-time imagery, private satellite firms face a risk of serving the interests of combatants on either side, in a controversial war. If that's not complicated enough, consider this: The U.S. government has a special law restricting satellite imagery that depicts Israel. Here's an overview of that law, and how satellite companies are navigating a hotly contested conflict zone:

How long has the U.S. restricted satellite imagery of Israel? > It's a unique situation: For years, federal law has limited the quality of commercial satellite imagery U.S. companies can sell — if the images depict Israel and Israeli-occupied Palestinian territories such as Gaza.

Are Israel and Gaza being treated differently since Oct. 7? > . . . there has been at least one change in how Planet Labs, a prominent U.S. company, distributes Gaza images, . . . they started distributing high-resolution images of Gaza through a folder so that media could access it, but so that combatants could not." But if Hamas wants to see accurate satellite imagery, it has options — including imaging satellites launched by Iran.

"We have found that you can almost always get a picture of any place," Jeffrey Lewis of the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, who regularly studies satellite data said. "It's just a matter of finding the provider who has the capacity to take that picture."

Dr. Hammam Alloh hadn't left Al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City for days. Incessant bombings and the deluge of injured had kept doctors, nurses and other medical personnel working around the clock, often for a week or more at a time. The 36-year-old nephrologist had saved countless lives since war broke out in the Palestinian territory, but on Saturday, after leaving to see his family, he lost his own. Alloh was killed alongside his father by an Israeli missile that struck his parents' home not far from Shifa. He is now among the more than 200 health care workers who have been killed in Gaza since the start of the war, according the Palestinian Ministry of Health. Another 130 reportedly have been wounded. To date, more than 11,000 people have been killed by Israel's military response, which was launched after Hamas militants killed an estimated 1,200 people and kidnapped another 240 in Israeli towns last month. Several doctors have told NPR that news of colleague fatalities initially spreads by word of mouth and is followed by official lists every few days. But as Israel's military escalates its attacks across the territory, triggering communications blackouts, it has been difficult for officials to maintain an accurate count. And as the onslaught intensifies, the list gets longer.

"It could be any of us" Ghassan Abu Sittah is a British Palestinian plastic surgeon who lives and works in London. He returns to Gaza each time war breaks out. Over the years, he's gotten to know several Gazan physicians, working alongside them under dangerous conditions. NPR has not been able to reach Abu Sittah since Israeli troops entered the hospital on Wednesday. It is unclear if he has been evacuated. On the day of the interview, he was optimistic that a ceasefire would be declared. He said he hoped to continue treating as many patients as possible until that day arrived.

Abu Sittah added: "I think people are still in shock in Gaza. I think, because it's not stopped, people aren't taking stock of the amount and the magnitude of loss that they've had in terms of family and friends and loved ones and colleagues. . . . When it's over, then we'll grieve."



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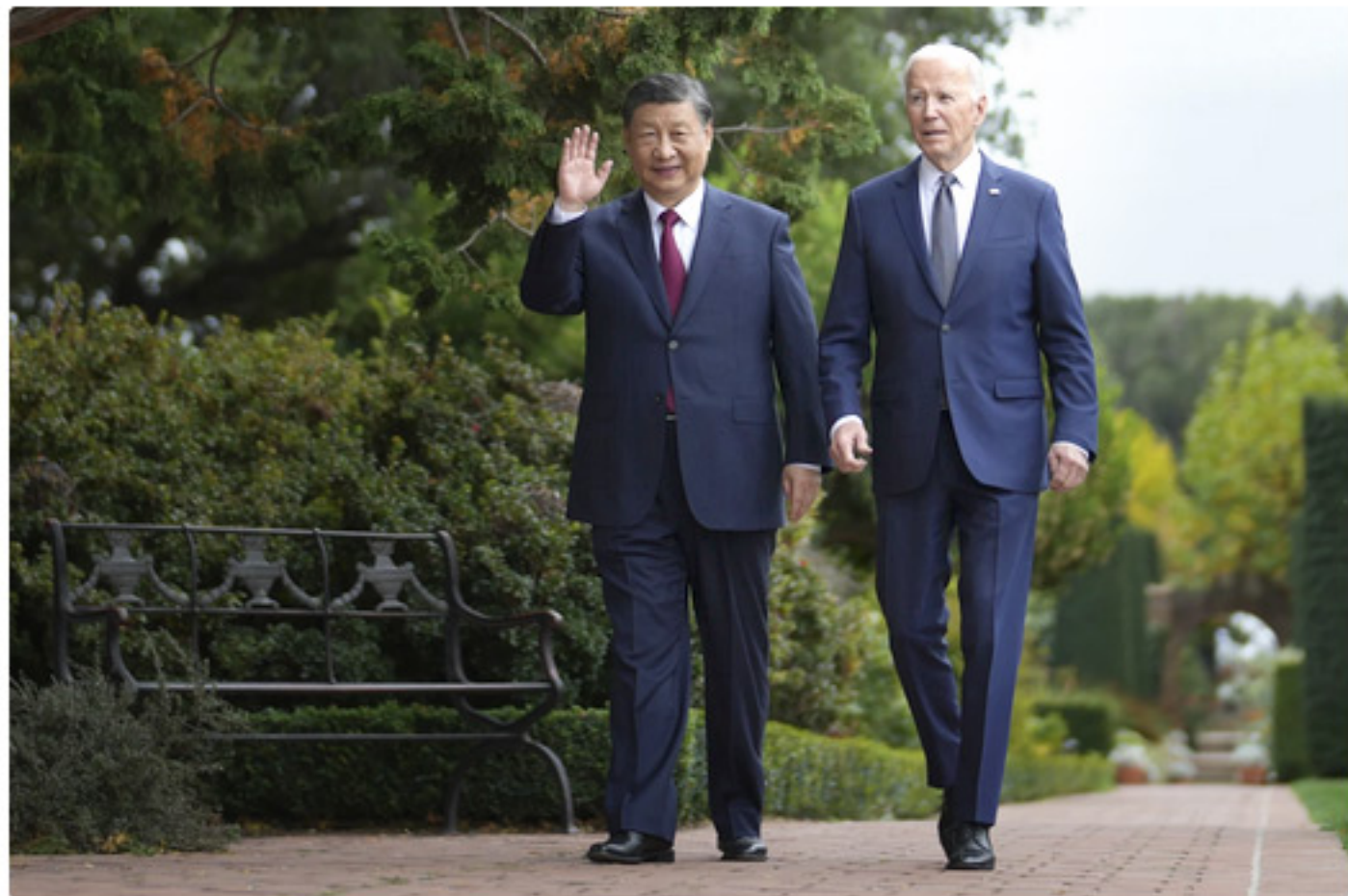
Israel-Hamas war Biden-Xi meeting Government shutdown vote Deadly Las Vegas brawl Starbucks strike

Pandas, fentanyl and Taiwan – takeaways from Biden’s long-awaited meeting with Xi

President Joe Biden met with Chinese President Xi Jinping for hours on Wednesday in a widely anticipated encounter intended to recalibrate tensions between the two countries.

MORE COVERAGE

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Heavily armed Haitian gang surrounds hospital in capital and traps people inside

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Many parents don't know when kids are behind in school. Are report cards telling enough?

Black and Latino students lack access to certified teachers and advanced classes, US data shows

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — A heavily armed gang surrounded a hospital in Haiti on Wednesday, trapping women, children and newborns inside until police rescued them, according to the director of the medical center, who pleaded for help via social media. The Fontaine Hospital Center in the capital of Port-au-Prince is considered an oasis and a lifeline in a community overrun by gangs that have unleashed increasingly violent attacks against each other and residents. People who live in the capital's sprawling Cite Soleil slum are routinely raped, beaten and killed. The hospital founder and director, Jose Ulysse, told The Associated Press that gangs were torching homes around the hospital and preventing people inside from leaving. He initially said that it appeared some gang members had entered the hospital but later said they did not go inside. Ulysse said members of Haiti's National Police force responded to his call for help and arrived with three armored trucks to evacuate 40 children and 70 patients to a private home in a safer part of the city. Among those delicately evacuated were children on oxygen, he said. Earlier this year, at least 20 armed gang members burst into a hospital run by Doctors Without Borders and snatched a patient from an operating room. The criminals gained access after faking a life-threatening emergency, the organization said.

New rule would make it easier for millions of Americans to unionize, but businesses are pushing back

A federal rule that goes into effect next month could make it easier for millions of workers to unionize at big companies like McDonald's.





NEWS

Chula Vista Amphitheater Concessionaire Informed Years Ago that Workers Paid Under Table

Back in 2020, a source informed Legends Hospitality, the concessions company for Chula Vista's amphitheater, that a presumed nonprofit was paying supposed volunteers under the table.

by Will Huntsberry 13 hours ago

- **The Oceanside Planning Commission approved an increase to the amount of affordable units developers need to include in projects.**
- **Two neighbors are being evicted from the Golden Hill duplex they share because the owner wants to replace it with 108 units**



NORTH COUNTY

North County Report: Another Change to Oceanside's Affordable Housing Rules

by Tigist Layne 13 hours ago



HOUSING

Two Women, Facing Eviction, Are at the Mercy of the City's Housing Laws and Push for Density

by Kathryn Gray November 13, 2023

Fashion Valley [REPENT JESUS SAVES]

*an upscale, open-air shopping mall in Mission Valley in San Diego, California
7007 Friars Rd, San Diego, CA 92108*

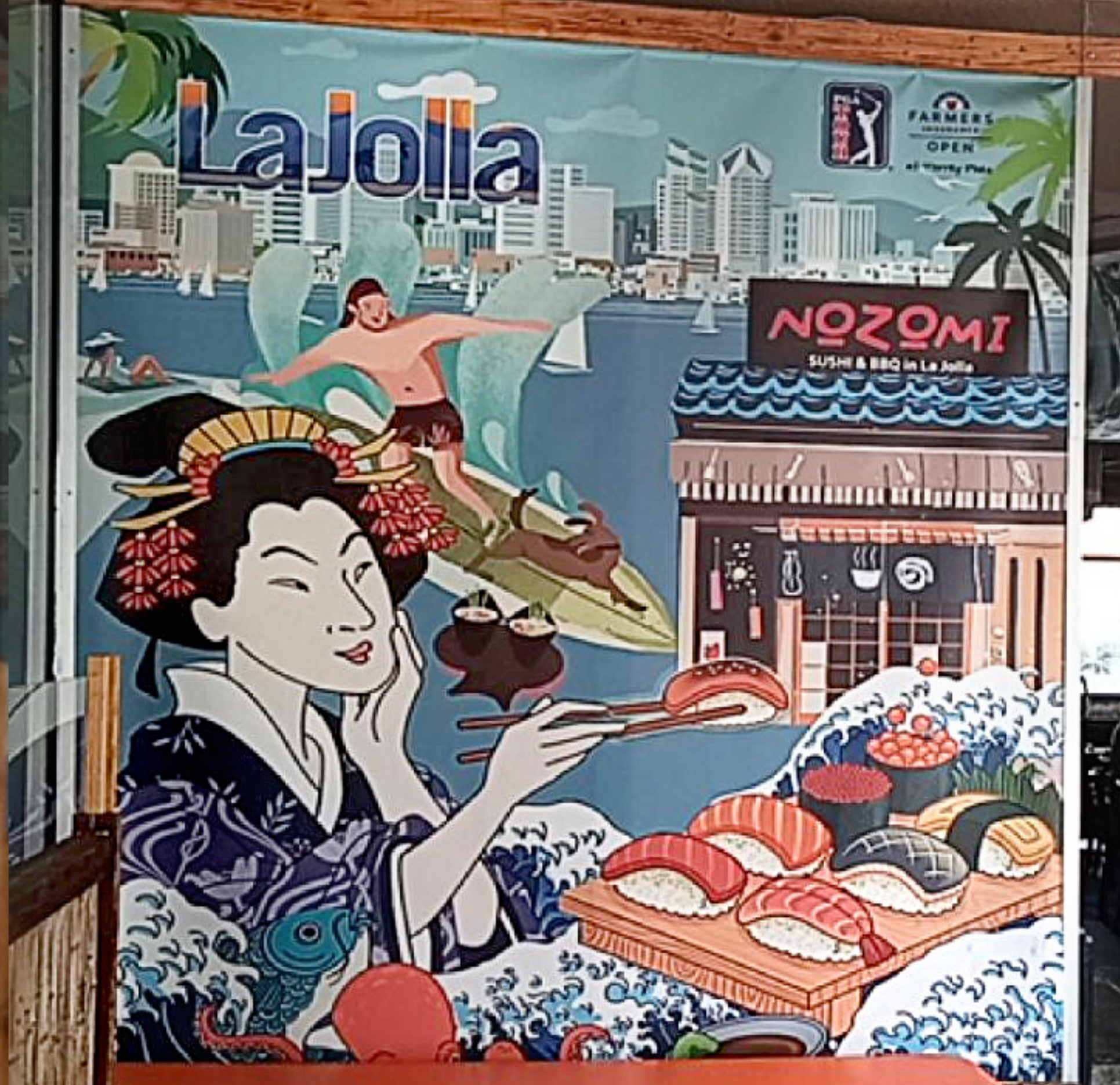


Fashion Valley Mall

7007 Friars Rd San Diego, CA 92108



4150 Regents Park Row, La Jolla, CA 92037



Papaya Clothing

Located in: Westfield Mission Valley

1640 Camino Del Rio N #337, San Diego, CA 92108



Thursday, November 16, 2023

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Novo Brazil Brewing Co
Westfield Mission Valley Mall (*comming soon*)
.+ **Football Club (FC) of San Diego**





Football club of San Diego

Mission Valley Mall

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1640 Camino Del Rio N,

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Novo Brazil Brewing Co.
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Who Is Investing In The \$850 Billion Quantum Tech Market And Why



Susan Galer Brand Contributor

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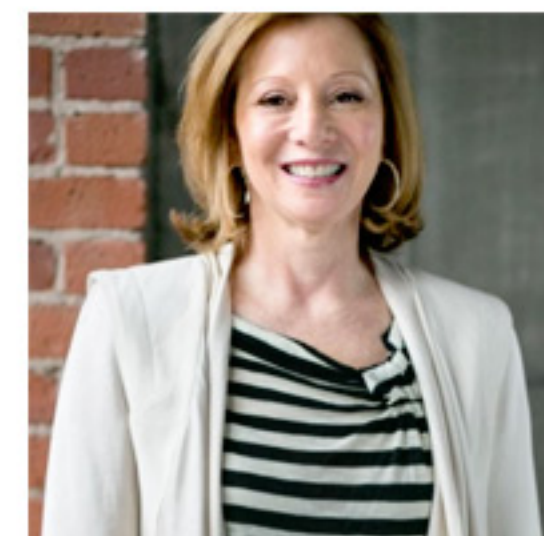
Nov 6, 2023, 08:30am EST

Quantum technologies are among the least widely understood, yet most promising advancements set to disrupt business and industries in the coming years. Unlike previous digital innovations, quantum technologies cannot be created by a founder quixotically working alone in a garage. Even with the right machines and years of well-funded research programs from large institutions, quantum technologies will face numerous challenges including the development of use cases that provide business value. Nevertheless, **Olivier Tonneau, partner at VC firm Quantonation, said that some researchers expected quantum computing to create \$850B in market value by 2040.** “Quantum is in its infancy but there has been tremendous progress in developing this technology,” said Tonneau. “Early-stage investors need to understand the science and know what’s possible to assess if the technology roadmap is reasonable and sound. The key question is how many resources the company will need in terms of people and investments to deliver on the roadmap.” Tonneau was among the keynote speakers during a recent webinar organized by **The European Quantum Industry Consortium (QuIC)**. The session unpacked some remarkable discoveries from innovation startups along with investor insights on quantum’s amazing potential.

Quantum use cases are growing: QuIC members consist of companies of all sizes, as well as research organizations and institutes from Europe. QuIC has established the International Council of Quantum Industry Association (ICQIA) with partners in Japan (QSTAR), US (QED-C) and Canada (QIC). The webinar brought people from all these groups together. After watching it, I talked with Laure Le Bars, research project director at SAP and president of QuIC, for her perspectives on market progress and potential opportunities to date. “It’s exciting to be on the ground floor of innovation driven by the kind of community-building we’re fostering among QuIC members,” said Le Bars. “Although European-based, we are exchanging ideas with an international cohort of quantum innovators who are exploring use cases and delivering solutions that also could help solve some machine learning and generative AI challenges. This latest event is a great example of what’s possible when we work together.” **QuIC members introduce quantum-based products:** The growing quantum market opportunity covers a lot of ground between sensing, computing hardware, software, and communications. Here’s a sampling of solutions and growth opportunities from three of the webinar panelists.

Quantum Sensing: At Exail Technologies, easy-to-use quantum sensing technology is behind a new breed of precision sensors developed to help customers monitor natural resources in severe environmental conditions. Vincent Menoret, quantum sensing expert at Exail, said the company’s culture revolves around making long-lasting and reliable products designed for non-technical people in the field. Its customers are geophysicists with little knowledge of lasers and atomic physics. All they need to do is plug in a few cables and press start in the software and everything runs automatically. Having demonstrated its systems in the field throughout the world in volcanoes, Antarctica, and other harsh conditions, Exail’s next step is using sensors on ground infrastructure, ships, and mobile vehicles to monitor different environments. **Quantum Computing:** Quandela has developed a photonic quantum computer that runs quantum machine learning, optimization, and simulation algorithms. The startup launched a 6-qubit machine in 2022 and has sold a quantum computer to a European cloud provider. Arno Ricou, applications lead at Quandela, said that the company’s machines give customers a quantum advantage in cryptography for highly secure data encryption. Quandela also develops cutting-edge algorithms aimed to offer customers a practical competitive advantage in solving differential equations, classifying data points, and tackling graph problems using permanent computation. Quandela opened a quantum computer manufacturing facility in France and has ambitious targets to increase qubit capabilities of its machines during the next few years. Quantum software: Multiverse Computing offers a quantum-based software platform for different sectors such as finance, energy, manufacturing, cybersecurity, and chemistry. Alba Villarino, a quantum software engineer at Multiverse, discussed a successful pilot solution for a manufacturing company that improved production line efficiency in defect reduction compared to traditional methods. Multiverse is also working with a Spanish energy company in a quantum computing project targeting power grid optimization, specifically the optimal placement of batteries in the electrical network. **These innovators are just a few of the noteworthy product launches from the fast-growing quantum tech ecosystem that’s destined to turn this artisanal sector into a billion-dollar market engine of industry disruption.**

Susan Galer is the Communications Director of SAP Global Communications.



Special places, public restrooms. Like none other. A relief of a brief respite! A room of your own a step away from the hubbub din to do your private business. A door code required for entry gives you at minimum, the gift of free toilet paper and use of a toilet and sink with hand soap, and some way to dry your hands. Gone for the most part are the old pull-down roller laundered cloth towel dispensers, . . . more often you'll find throw-away paper towels, either a simple one-handed tear-off roll or from a one folded paper towel at a time dispenser, or increasingly, if fancy, motion sensor hand dryers using infrared technology to trigger the activation of an air blaster that rivals a hurricane. Most times there's a mirror to admire and adjust yourself, make yourself presentable. Sometimes considerate touches like a baby changing station that folds up into the wall, or a hook behind the door to hang a bag on.

What makes your temporary little room away all the more special is the thoughtful decor. The decor says a lot about the heartfelt care that cleans up after you and your hosts' aesthetic tastes. Perhaps Spartan, but tidy, all subway tiles easily wiped clean. Perhaps displaying a bit of character, adding a quirky sign or picture on the wall to entertain, or reassure you that the owner has a sense of humor and the free use of this room goes a few steps beyond the purely functional. Then there's the extra credit want-to-be interior designer corners with a shrine of an installation worthy of the Ritz—all Zen calm or floral paradise, or an homage to the iconic old country's idyllic customs. All this and a shout out to the world *"In Use"* lock on the door. At least for a moment, until some other *"Mum, I'm bursting!"* demand comes a knocking.

Codes to public restrooms:

Chick-MissionValley 1212
 BCB 6750
 Leaf&bean 0101
 Better Buzz 0627
 1820 Fenton Star Bucks
 25257 Hazard SB
 4120 mission gorge SB
 1111 Jersey Mike rioSD
 Plant based 12321
 96325 Adam av SB
 0852 SB TERRASITA
 Jersey Mike MV 9582
 15705 Kabob mv

Tocaya Modern Mexican, Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Located in: Westfield UTC

4301 La Jolla Village Dr Unit 2003, San Diego, CA 92122



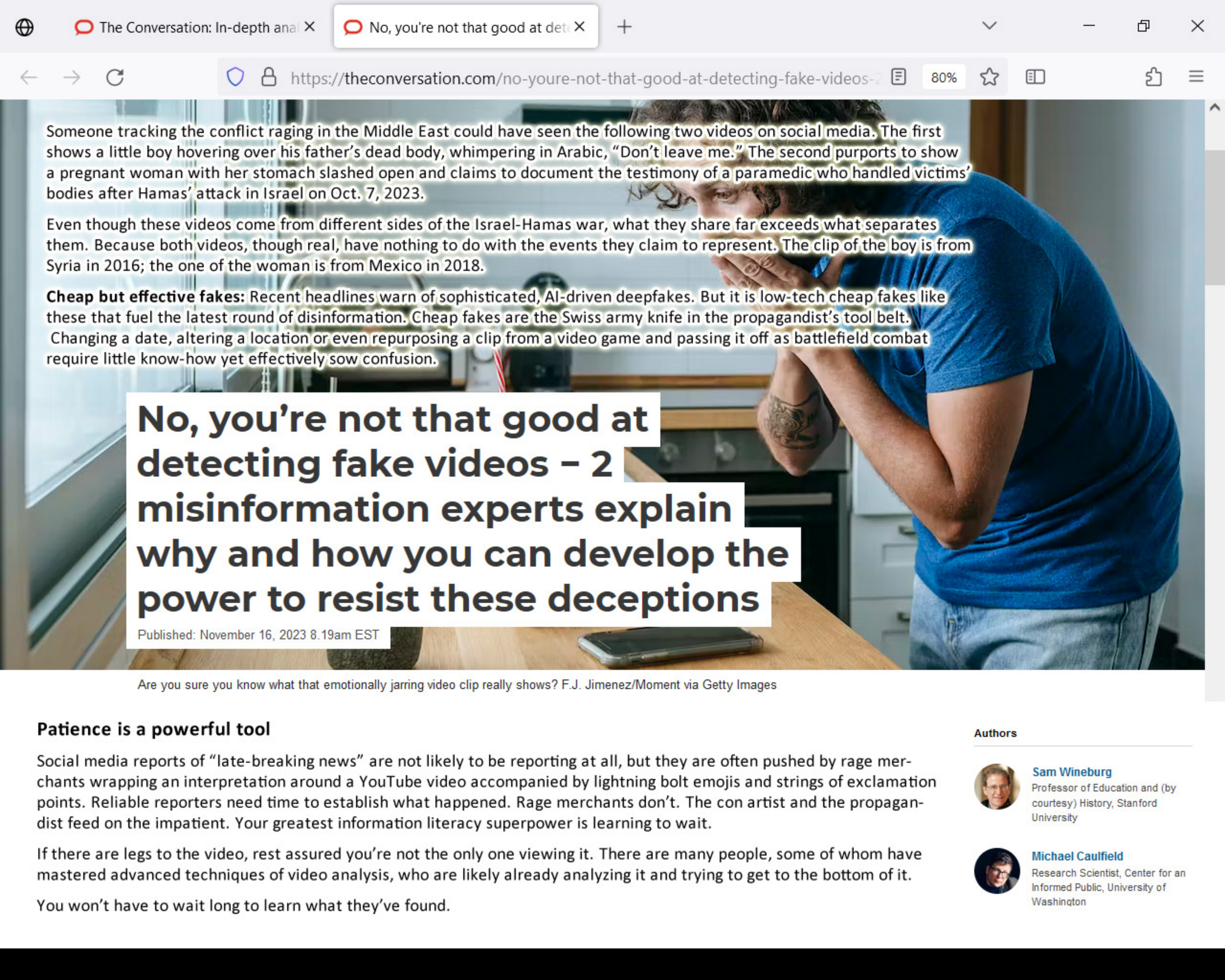
Women's activism in Iran continues, despite street protests dying down in face of state repression

Published: November 16, 2023

As a scholar of women's rights in Muslim cultures, I have documented women's political activism in Iran and other Middle Eastern countries. My research shows that even when women are not demonstrating en masse in the streets, they consistently fight against gender discrimination, often at their own peril.



An Iranian woman not wearing a mandatory headscarf walks past a group of young women who cover their hair in November 2023.
Morteza Nikoubazl/NurPhoto via Getty Images



Someone tracking the conflict raging in the Middle East could have seen the following two videos on social media. The first shows a little boy hovering over his father's dead body, whimpering in Arabic, "Don't leave me." The second purports to show a pregnant woman with her stomach slashed open and claims to document the testimony of a paramedic who handled victims' bodies after Hamas' attack in Israel on Oct. 7, 2023.

Even though these videos come from different sides of the Israel-Hamas war, what they share far exceeds what separates them. Because both videos, though real, have nothing to do with the events they claim to represent. The clip of the boy is from Syria in 2016; the one of the woman is from Mexico in 2018.

Cheap but effective fakes: Recent headlines warn of sophisticated, AI-driven deepfakes. But it is low-tech cheap fakes like these that fuel the latest round of disinformation. Cheap fakes are the Swiss army knife in the propagandist's tool belt.

Changing a date, altering a location or even repurposing a clip from a video game and passing it off as battlefield combat require little know-how yet effectively sow confusion.

No, you're not that good at detecting fake videos - 2 misinformation experts explain why and how you can develop the power to resist these deceptions

Published: November 16, 2023 8:19am EST

Are you sure you know what that emotionally jarring video clip really shows? F.J. Jimenez/Moment via Getty Images

Patience is a powerful tool

Social media reports of "late-breaking news" are not likely to be reporting at all, but they are often pushed by rage merchants wrapping an interpretation around a YouTube video accompanied by lightning bolt emojis and strings of exclamation points. Reliable reporters need time to establish what happened. Rage merchants don't. The con artist and the propagandist feed on the impatient. Your greatest information literacy superpower is learning to wait.

If there are legs to the video, rest assured you're not the only one viewing it. There are many people, some of whom have mastered advanced techniques of video analysis, who are likely already analyzing it and trying to get to the bottom of it.

You won't have to wait long to learn what they've found.

Authors



Sam Wineburg
Professor of Education and (by courtesy) History, Stanford University



Michael Caulfield
Research Scientist, Center for an Informed Public, University of Washington

Swedish dockworkers are refusing to unload Teslas at ports in broad boycott move

NOVEMBER 17, 2023 · 5:01 AM ET

By Danielle Kaye



Goran Larsson, a cargo ship inspector, poses next to the Transport Workers' Union flag at the Malmo port on Nov. 7. Dockworkers are refusing to load or unload Teslas at this port and all others across the country.

Danielle Kaye/Freelance

At the Malmo port in southern Sweden, a cargo ship looms over row after row of shiny new cars — Volkswagens, Volvos, Mercedes. Notably missing are Teslas. That's because dockworkers are refusing to unload them. Goran Larsson, a cargo ship inspector, said he's informing the crew on each arriving vessel of the labor action and assessing whether any Teslas are on board. "We want there to be good regulation in Sweden — law and order all around the workplaces," Larsson said. "And this is the first step that we will do." Tesla has long fended off efforts to unionize its workforce around the world. But in Sweden, the electric vehicle maker is facing its first formal labor action over its anti-union stance, with potential ripple effects for the company globally.

The Swedish metal and industrial workers union, IF Metall, which represents Tesla's roughly 120 workers, launched a walkout at the company in late October. And now, Swedish workers of all stripes — dockworkers, electricians, cleaners and others — are banding together to boycott the U.S. company in solidarity. The strike is a response to the company's refusal to sign a collective bargaining agreement for its employees, almost all of them mechanics, because Tesla doesn't have a manufacturing plant in Sweden.

Even postal workers will stop delivering mail to Tesla: About 90% of the entire Swedish workforce belong to trade unions and they are covered by contracts with their employers, which standardize pay rates, insurance and pensions, among other work conditions, in each sector. "This is the way we regulate working conditions in Sweden and has been for a long, long time," said IF Metall spokesperson Jesper Pettersson. "It has been very beneficial for both parties — both for employers and for employees." The Swedish labor movement is rallying behind the relatively small group of Tesla mechanics, who repair Tesla vehicles at service centers. Thousands of workers are refusing to touch any Teslas until the company signs a contract. And the boycott keeps expanding. Postal workers have said they will stop delivering mail addressed to the company if there's no deal by Nov. 20.

Trade unions are part of the fabric of the Swedish economy: They see the American EV maker's efforts to circumvent collective bargaining as an affront to the entire Swedish labor system, where trade unions are part of the fabric of the economy. Dockworkers represented by Sweden's transport workers' union have been blocking all imports of Teslas at Sweden's four main ports since last week. And this Friday, they're set to expand their blockade to the entire country. Tommy Wreeth, chairman of the transport workers' union, said the Swedish labor system is based on collective bargaining agreements, which Tesla, led by the staunchly anti-union Elon Musk, is reluctant to embrace. "It's very important to protect our model — it's a fight for the model, not just for the Tesla workers," Wreeth said, referring to his union's solidarity boycott. Tesla did not respond to NPR's requests for comment. A Tesla representative told Sweden's TT News Agency that the company is choosing not to enter into a collective agreement. "We already offer equivalent or better agreements than those covered by collective bargaining and find no reason to sign any other agreement," Tesla told TT. A Tesla mechanic in Gothenburg, who requested anonymity due to concern about retaliation by the company, said he thinks a union agreement would provide a financial safety net that "allows us as employees to be able to have security."

"Symbolically important" fight: Despite the broad nature of the protests lodged by the unions, they have an uphill battle on their hands. Sweden is a relatively small market for Tesla — its fifth biggest in Europe this year. And Tesla doesn't manufacture any cars in the Nordic country, meaning it could theoretically decide to leave the country altogether. [...]

THE PICTURE SHOW

Mourners gather in Israel to honor memory of longtime peace activist Vivian Silver

Hundreds of mourners gathered at a funeral service for Canadian Israeli peace activist Vivian Silver. She was declared dead this week after her remains were found at her home in Israel.



Maya Levin for NPR

KIBBUTZ GEZER, Israel — Hundreds of friends and fellow activists gathered Thursday in for a service honoring the memory of **Vivian Silver**, a Canadian Israeli peace activist.

Silver was declared dead this week and was identified by her remains found at her home in Kibbutz Be'eri, Israel. It was thought she might have been held hostage in Gaza following the Hamas attacks on Oct. 7.

Vivian Silver's family listens to eulogies during a service on Thursday. Silver, who had been missing and presumed to be a hostage since Hamas' attacks on Oct. 7, was confirmed dead this week after her DNA was found in the ashes of her home.

Maya Levin for NPR

Silver, 74, spent her life pursuing peace in the region, her son, Yonatan Zeigen, told NPR in October. After the war in Gaza in 2014, Silver co-founded Women Wage Peace, which lobbies for a diplomatic resolution to the conflict and brings together women from both Israeli and Palestinian societies. She also served on the board of directors of B'Tselem, an Israeli human rights organization.

Silver regularly volunteered for the organization Road to Recovery, which provided transportation for sick Palestinians from Gaza to Israel for medical treatment.

MIDDLE EAST CRISIS — EXPLAINED

A former Israeli soldier calls for international intervention to stop settler violence

Ori Givati questions his military experience and the current rise in violence by Israeli settlers against Palestinians in the West Bank.



Ori Givati

▶ LISTEN · 7:02 + PLAYLIST <>

- A communications blackout in Gaza is slowing aid as officials press for hostage deal

It wasn't long after **Ori Givati** became a combat soldier in the Israeli army in 2010 that he began to question his mission. He spent much of his time not acting on specific security threats in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, but making sure "all of the Palestinians feel like they cannot lift their heads up," he told Morning Edition's Leila Fadel. Givati, 32, is now advocacy director for Breaking the Silence, a group made up of Israeli military veterans who are against their country's occupation of Palestinian territories. They collect testimony from former soldiers to educate the public on how the occupation is enforced. While much of the world's attention including Givati's is on Gaza, where Israel has been waging a punishing response to the Oct. 7 attack on several Israeli communities, he is also alarmed by what's happening in the other Palestinian territory where he once served — the West Bank. Settler violence aimed at Palestinians has surged and reached record levels there in the weeks since the war between Israel and Hamas broke out, according to the United Nations and several rights groups. Scores of Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank and more than a dozen Palestinian communities have fled in fear of attack in the last month alone, which is almost twice as many as last year. Yesh Din, an Israeli human rights group, says 90% of attacks are closed without an indictment being filed. Givati says none of this is surprising.

This article contains some highlights from NPR's interview with former Israeli soldier Ori Givati. Answers have been edited and condensed for clarity and length.



A former Israeli soldier calls for international intervention to stop settler violence

UPDATED NOVEMBER 16, 2023 · 7:58 AM ET ⓘ

By [Leila Fadel](#), [Mansee Khurana](#)

It wasn't long after **Ori Givati** became a combat soldier in the Israeli army in 2010 that he began to question his mission. He spent much of his time not acting on specific security threats in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, but making sure "all of the Palestinians feel like they cannot lift their heads up," he told Morning Edition's Leila Fadel. Givati, 32, is now advocacy director for Breaking the Silence, a group made up of Israeli military veterans who are against their country's occupation of Palestinian territories. They collect testimony from former soldiers to educate the public on how the occupation is enforced. While much of the world's attention including Givati's is on Gaza, where Israel has been waging a punishing response to the Oct. 7 attack on several Israeli communities, he is also alarmed by what's happening in the other Palestinian territory where he once served — the West Bank. Settler violence aimed at Palestinians has surged and reached record levels there in the weeks since the war between Israel and Hamas broke out, according to the United Nations and several rights groups. Scores of Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank and more than a dozen Palestinian communities have fled in fear of attack in the last month alone, which is almost twice as many as last year. Yesh Din, an Israeli human rights group, says 90% of attacks are closed without an indictment being filed. Givati says none of this is surprising.

In 2016, Ori Givati served as a reservist soldier in the West Bank. He joined Breaking the Silence a year later. *Ori Givati*

On how he views the Oct. 7 attack by Hamas on Israel: I'm talking to you now probably in the most devastating time in my life as an Israeli, as an activist, as a person, human being seeing the atrocities of Oct. 7. You know, some of my family members were texting me from their basements that there are terrorists in their home. Luckily they survived, but that was the kind of text I received on Oct. 7. But at the end of the day, I think this is precisely what we have to remember when we talk about the concept of managing the conflict. The concept that we will maintain millions of people under our military occupation indefinitely—it failed.

On the relationship between settlers and the Israeli military: I joined to be a combat soldier because I wanted to protect my country, my friends and my family. When I see the military that I joined used as an employee of the settler movement, this process is terrifying for me. It's already devastating for the security of Israel itself. You don't have the order to stop violent settlers. What you do have orders for is to protect the Jewish community. We don't have orders as soldiers to protect everyone in the area. We have hundreds of testifiers. None of them said that they received an order to detain a settler attacking a Palestinian, even though it's the most simple order.

On how Israeli soldiers show Palestinians "who's the boss": Occupying millions of people for decades means you control their everyday life. The first command I received as a soldier in the West Bank was to make all of the Palestinians feel like they cannot lift their heads up. We have to make sure that they know who's the boss. How do we do that? We make sure that all of the Palestinians cannot pass a day without understanding who is controlling them. For example, one of the missions is called a mock arrest. A mock arrest is when a group of soldiers invades a Palestinian home in the middle of the night, arrests one of the family members. It can be a few minutes, sometimes it's a few hours. They choose, with intelligence, the home of a family that is not violent; they arrest the father, usually, and then bring them back because they're just training for a future mission. Imagine the impact of this mission to the kids, to the wife, to the family.

On settler violence against Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank: The violence is not new. It didn't start during this war. It started in 1967 from the first day of the occupation. But today, what we're seeing in the West Bank is the peak of this violence. To understand the violence we have to understand what's behind it. Violent settlers understand that by attacking a Palestinian community in a rural village, if they do it with enough persistence and with enough interruption they can make them move away. Violent people exist everywhere, criminals exist everywhere. But what we are seeing today is a phenomenon of settlers attacking Palestinians while the military, which is supposed to protect the Palestinians, is actually protecting the attackers. Palestinians in these communities are left with zero protection of their families, of their lands, of their culture, and are basically left with no options, leaving sometimes decades-old communities.

On why he finds the surge in settler violence "terrifying" for Israel: How can we get even a step closer to a peaceful future when we give the violent settlers weapons and when they are in the government? (Givati is referring to the Minister of Police, Itamar Ben-Gvir, who has been convicted of crimes like incitement to racism, destroying property and supporting an Israeli terrorist organization) In order for us to get any better from this situation, we have to do the opposite. We have to arrest violent settlers, not give them weapons. And we are not doing this. And that's why it's so scary for me, because it's becoming harder to understand the future we're moving towards.

On the Israeli government and the international community's responsibility: Throughout the years, we heard all of our leaders — and I'm not talking only about Netanyahu; I'm talking about the people who are considered more moderate — saying condemnations about settler violence and how there are rotten apples and how we must stop them, all while doing nothing about it. Nothing. Now, Biden's statement [in which he said attacks by "extremist settlers" amounted to "pouring gasoline"] on the Middle East is very important. But to prevent forcible transfer, which is happening every day in the West Bank, we need more than words. We are now in a place where, without direct intervention from the international community, the forcible transfer of Palestinians will go on and on. We're now seeing settlers exploiting the fact that eyes are on Gaza.

Intervention can be anywhere from limiting the weapons to the settlers, to differentiation of settlements and labeling products, all the way to sending international forces to the West Bank. All of these options are there. The international community knows what to do, and they have to start using the many tools they have on their table right now.

*to honor memory of longtime peace activist **Vivian Silver***



A mourner reacts during Vivian's funeral service Thursday.

Maya Levin for NPR



Ori Givati, 32, is advocacy director for **Breaking the Silence**, a group made up of Israeli military veterans who are against their country's occupation of Palestinian territories.



Testimonies

- testimonies
- video testimonies
- publications
- a life exposed

Activities

- tours
- house meetings
- lectures

Media & Content

- press
- social media
- video
- tours media

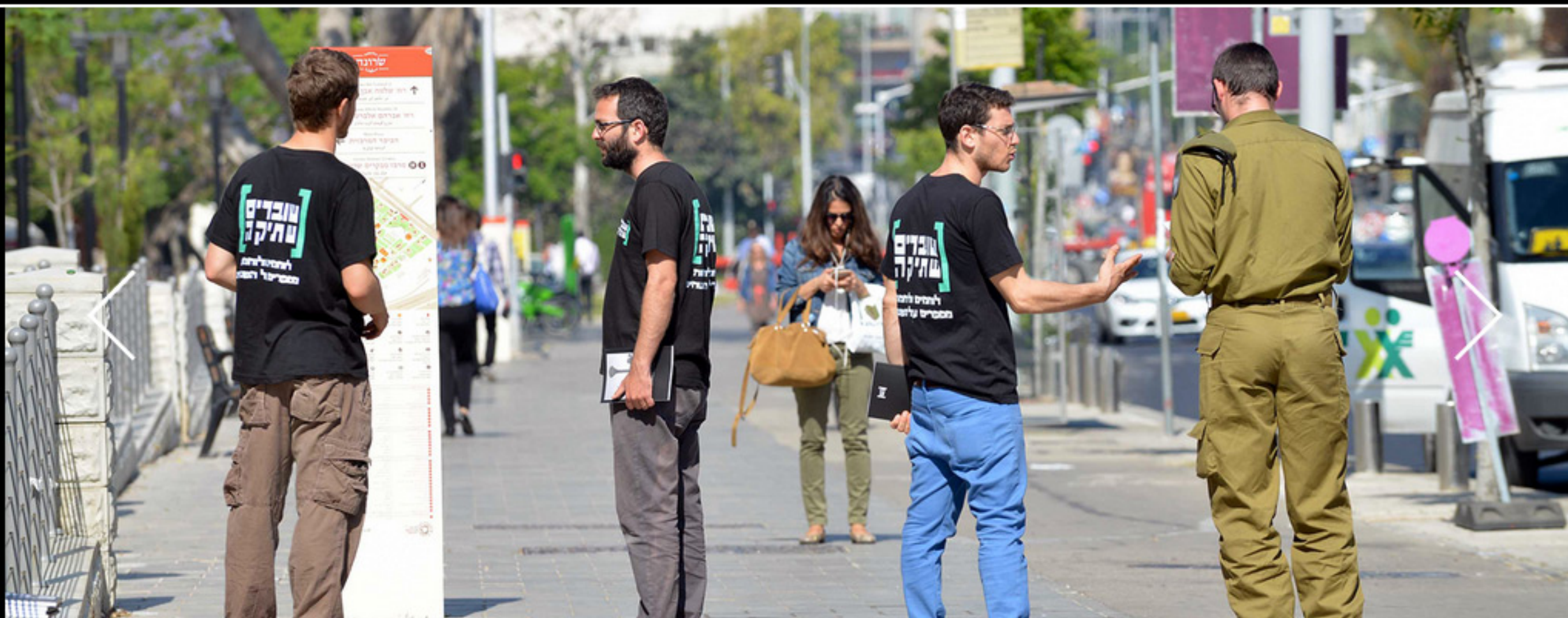
About

- organization
- FAQ
- transparency

donations

newsletter

11



Breaking the Silence is an organization of veteran soldiers who have served in the Israeli military since the start of the Second Intifada and have taken it upon themselves to expose the public to the reality of everyday life in the Occupied Territories. We endeavor to stimulate public debate about the price paid for a reality in which young soldiers face a civilian population on a daily basis, and are engaged in the control of that population's everyday life. Our work aims to bring an end to the occupation.



lovepeace

Ori Givati, 32, is advocacy director for **Breaking the Silence**, a group made up of Israeli military veterans who are against their country's occupation of Palestinian territories.



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Soldiers who serve in the territories witness and participate in military actions that change them immensely. Cases of abuse toward Palestinians, looting and destruction of property have been the norm for years, but these incidents are still described officially as “extreme” and “unique” cases. Our testimonies portray a different – and much grimmer – picture, in which the deterioration of moral standards finds expression in the character of the military orders and rules of engagement that the state considers justified in the name of Israel’s security.

While this reality is well-known to Israeli soldiers and commanders, Israeli society in general continues to turn a blind eye and deny what is being done in its name. Discharged soldiers returning to civilian life discover the gap between the reality they encountered in the territories, and the silence about this reality they find at home. In order to resume civilian life, soldiers have to ignore what they have seen and done. We strive to make heard the voices of these soldiers, pushing Israeli society to face the reality it has created.

We collect and publish testimonies from soldiers who, like us, have served in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem since September 2000. To boost public awareness, we hold lectures, house meetings and other public events that bring to light the reality in the territories through the voices of former soldiers. We also conduct tours in Hebron and the South Hebron Hills in the West Bank, with the aim of giving the public access to the reality that exists only minutes away from their own homes, yet is rarely portrayed in the media.

Founded in March 2004 by a group of soldiers who served in Hebron, Breaking the Silence has since acquired a special standing in the eyes of the Israeli public and in the media because of its unique role in giving voice to the experience of soldiers. To date, the organization has collected testimonies from more than 1,400 soldiers who represent all strata of Israeli society and cover nearly all units that operate in the territories.

All the testimonies we publish are meticulously researched, and all facts are cross-checked with additional eyewitnesses and/or the archives of other human rights organizations that are active in the field. Every soldier who gives a testimony to Breaking the Silence is well-aware of the aims of the organization and the interview. Most soldiers choose to remain anonymous, due to various pressures from military officials and society at large. Our first priority is to safeguard the soldiers who choose to testify to the public about their military service.



"The United States is complicit in this ongoing genocide by ...

"I'm sure innocents have been killed, it's a price of waging war," President Joe Biden, Oct 26, 2023



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Israel-Hamas war George Santos Sean 'Diddy' Combs Formula 1 Bengals' Burrows injured

Thousands of bodies lie buried in rubble in Gaza. Families dig to retrieve them, often by hand

Rescuers in Gaza don't have the equipment to search properly for the living, let alone the dead.

MORE COVERAGE

37 MINS AGO

UN stops delivery of food and supplies to Gaza as communications blackout hinders aid coordination

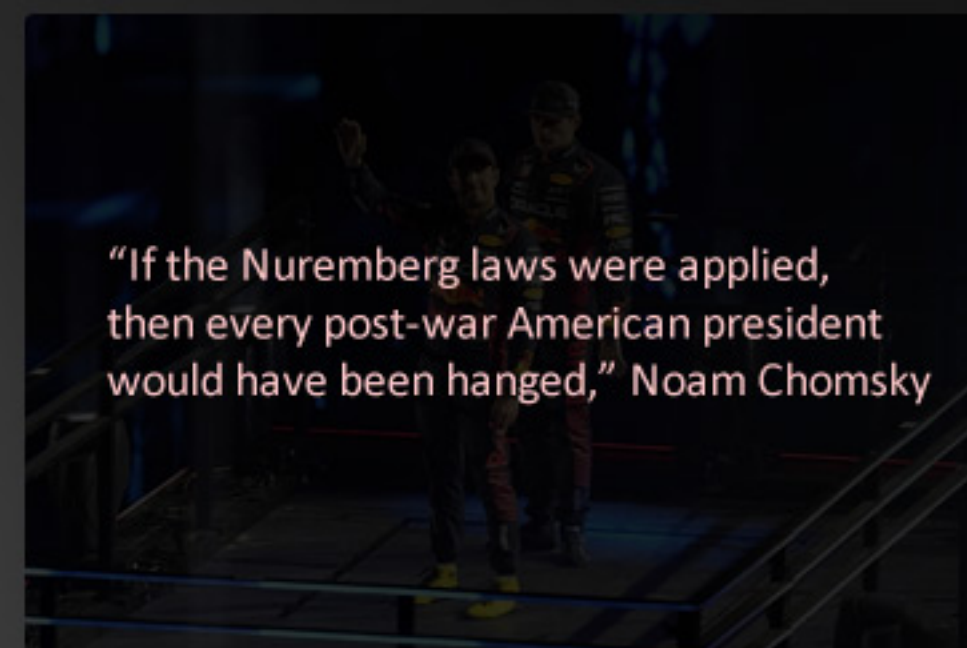
Hostage families fear their loved ones will be an afterthought as the battle for Gaza rages

Demonstrators demanding a cease-fire in Gaza shut down bridges in Boston and San Francisco

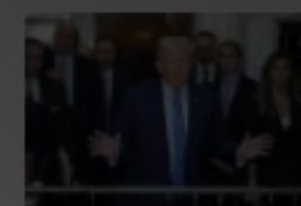
California professor charged with involuntary manslaughter in the death of Jewish demonstrator



"It's my tax dollars as a U.S. citizen that is fueling the genocide of the Palestinian people in Gaza."



Max Verstappen unimpressed with excess and opulence of Las Vegas Grand Prix



New York judge lifts the gag order that barred Trump from maligning court staff in fraud trial

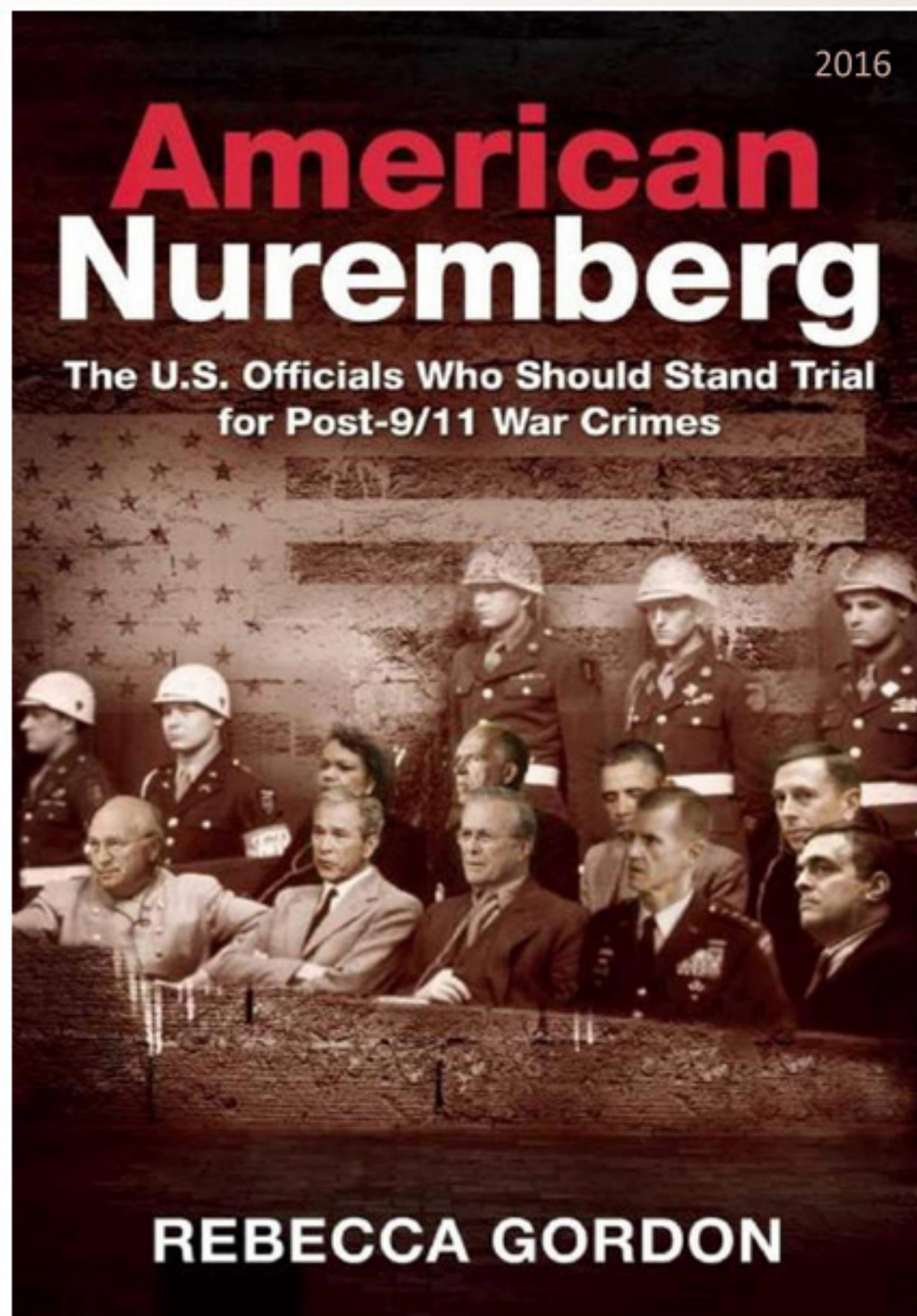


A Swedish hydrofoil ferry seeks to electrify the waterways



Ex-girlfriend drops lawsuits against Tiger Woods, says she never claimed sexual

"If the Nuremberg laws were applied, then every post-war American president would have been hanged," Noam Chomsky



Rebecca Gordon received her B.A. from Reed College and her M.Div. and Ph.D. in Ethics and Social Theory from Graduate Theological Union. She teaches in the Philosophy department at the University of San Francisco and for the university's Leo T. McCarthy Center for Public Service and the Common Good. Previous publications include Letters From Nicaragua and Cruel and Usual: How Welfare "Reform" Punishes Poor People .

Prior to her academic career, Gordon spent a few decades working in a variety of national and international movements for peace and justice. These include the movements for women's liberation and LGBT rights; movements in solidarity with the struggles of poor people in Central America; the anti-apartheid movement in the United States and South Africa; and movements opposing U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. In 1984, Gordon spent six months living in the war zones of Nicaragua, and in 1990, three months teaching desktop publishing at an anti-apartheid newspaper in Cape Town, South Africa. She is a founder of Californians for Justice, a statewide organization dedicated to the political enfranchisement of marginalized people, especially young people, poor people, and people of color. Other organizations she has worked with include the Applied Research Center, the Center for Third World Organizing, Mujeres Unidas y Activas, and the Asian-Pacific Environmental Network. She is an editor of *WarTimes/Tiempo de guerras*, a which seeks to bring a race, class, and gender perspective to issues of war and peace.

No subject is more hotly debated than the extreme measures that our government has taken after 9/11 in the name of national security. Torture, extraordinary rendition, drone assassinations, secret detention centers (or black sites"), massive surveillance of citizens. But while the press occasionally exposes the dark side of the war on terror and congressional investigators sometimes raise alarms about the abuses committed by U.S. intelligence agencies and armed forces, no high U.S. official has been prosecuted for these violations which many legal observers around the world consider war crimes.

The United States helped establish the international principles guiding the prosecution of war crimes starting with the Nuremberg tribunal following World War II, when Nazi officials were held accountable for their crimes against humanity. But the American government and legal system have consistently refused to apply these same principles to our own officials. Now Rebecca Gordon takes on the explosive task of indicting" the officials who in a just society should be put on trial for war crimes. Some might dismiss this as a symbolic exercise. But what is at stake here is the very soul of the nation.

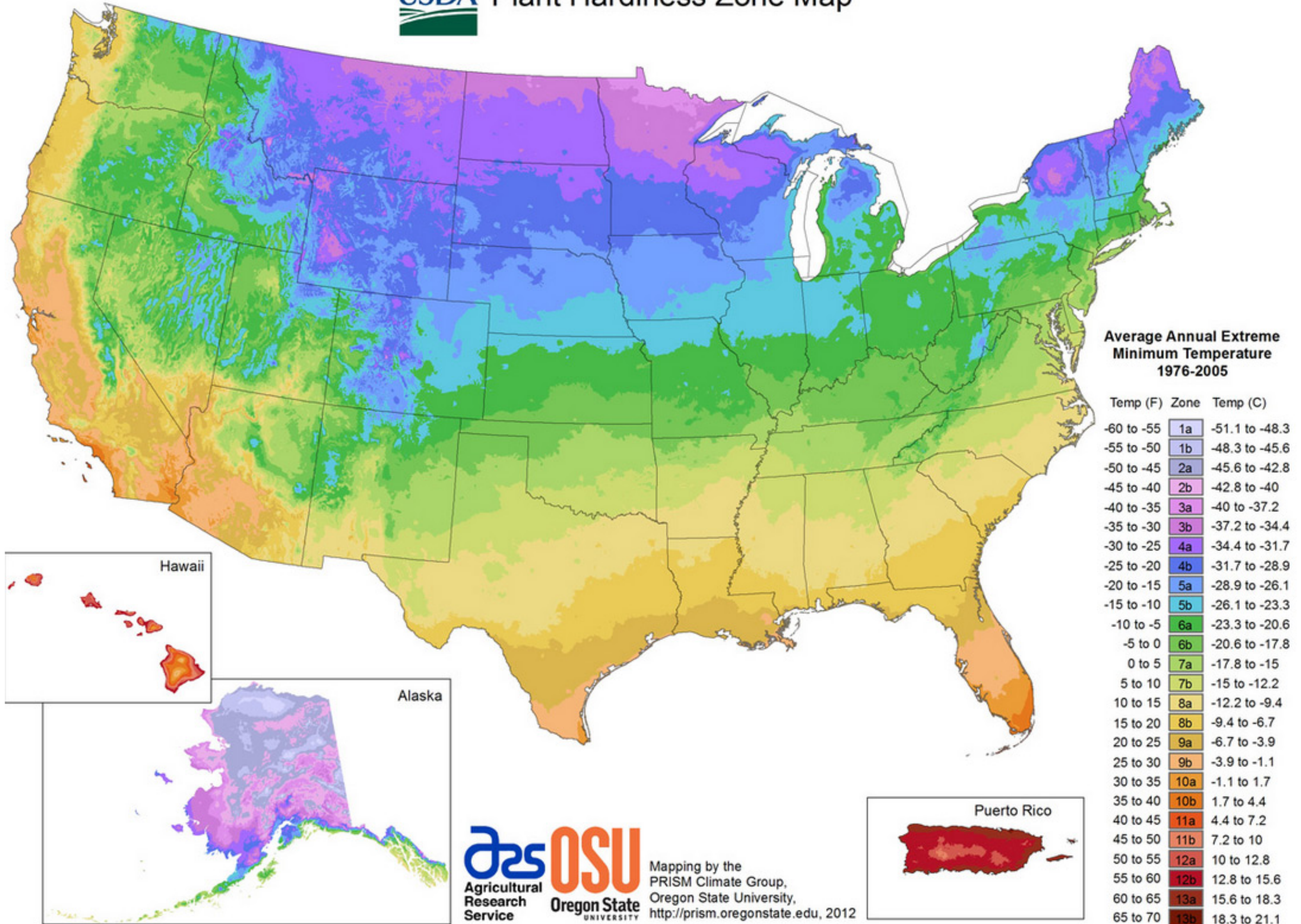
'It feels like I'm not crazy.' Gardeners aren't surprised as USDA updates key map

NOVEMBER 17, 2023 · 6:41 AM ET

By Julia Simon

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's "plant hardiness zone map," got its first update in more than a decade, and the outlook for many gardens looks warmer. The 2023 map is about 2.5 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than the 2012 map across the contiguous U.S., which means about half the country has shifted into a new half zone and half hasn't. In some locations, people may find they can grow new types of flowers, fruits, vegetables and plants. Rachel Patterson, in Port St. Joe, Florida says, "The sweet little grannies here are just heartbroken, they can't grow their tomatoes, it's so much hotter, the tomatoes burn." She's helping her community adapt to the heat by planting varieties of heirloom tomatoes that are more resilient to fungi that spread more rapidly in warmer climates.

USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map



 Mapping by the PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University, <http://prism.oregonstate.edu>, 2012

Twitter: @vv1lder



165,260 views May 25, 2021 #DemocracyNow

In her first TV interview, we speak with Emily Wilder, the young reporter fired by the Associated Press after she was targeted in a Republican smear campaign for her pro-Palestinian activism in college. Wilder is Jewish and was a member of Students for Justice in Palestine and Jewish Voice for Peace at Stanford University before she graduated in 2020. She was two weeks into her new job with the AP when the Stanford College Republicans singled out some of her past social media posts, triggering a conservative frenzy. The AP announced Wilder's firing shortly thereafter, citing unspecified violations of its social media policy. "Less than 48 hours after Stanford College Republicans began to post about me, I was fired," says Wilder. "I was not given an explanation for what social media policy I had violated." Over 100 AP journalists have signed an open letter to management protesting the decision to fire Wilder, which came just days after Israel demolished the building housing AP offices and other media organizations in Gaza. Journalism professor Janine Zacharia, a former Jerusalem bureau chief for The Washington Post who taught Wilder at Stanford, says the episode is an example of how much pressure news organizations face on Middle East coverage. "I am very aware, perhaps more than most, to the sensitivities around the questions of bias and reporting on the conflict," says Zacharia. "In this case it wasn't about bias."

I Will Not Yield My Values: Fired AP Journalist Emily Wilder Speaks Out

After Right-Wing Smears



Democracy Now! ✓

1.82M subscribers



emily wilder

@vv1lder

...

My statement on my termination from The Associated Press.

9:36 AM · May 22, 2021

40.6K Reposts 4,779 Quotes 172K Likes

I started at The Associated Press as a news associate, a junior-level position, on May 3 following 10 months of reporting for The Arizona Republic. In Arizona, I covered breaking news, criminal justice and Black Lives Matter protests. I built a respected reputation in the newsroom and in the communities I covered, and I was proud to land a job at the AP.

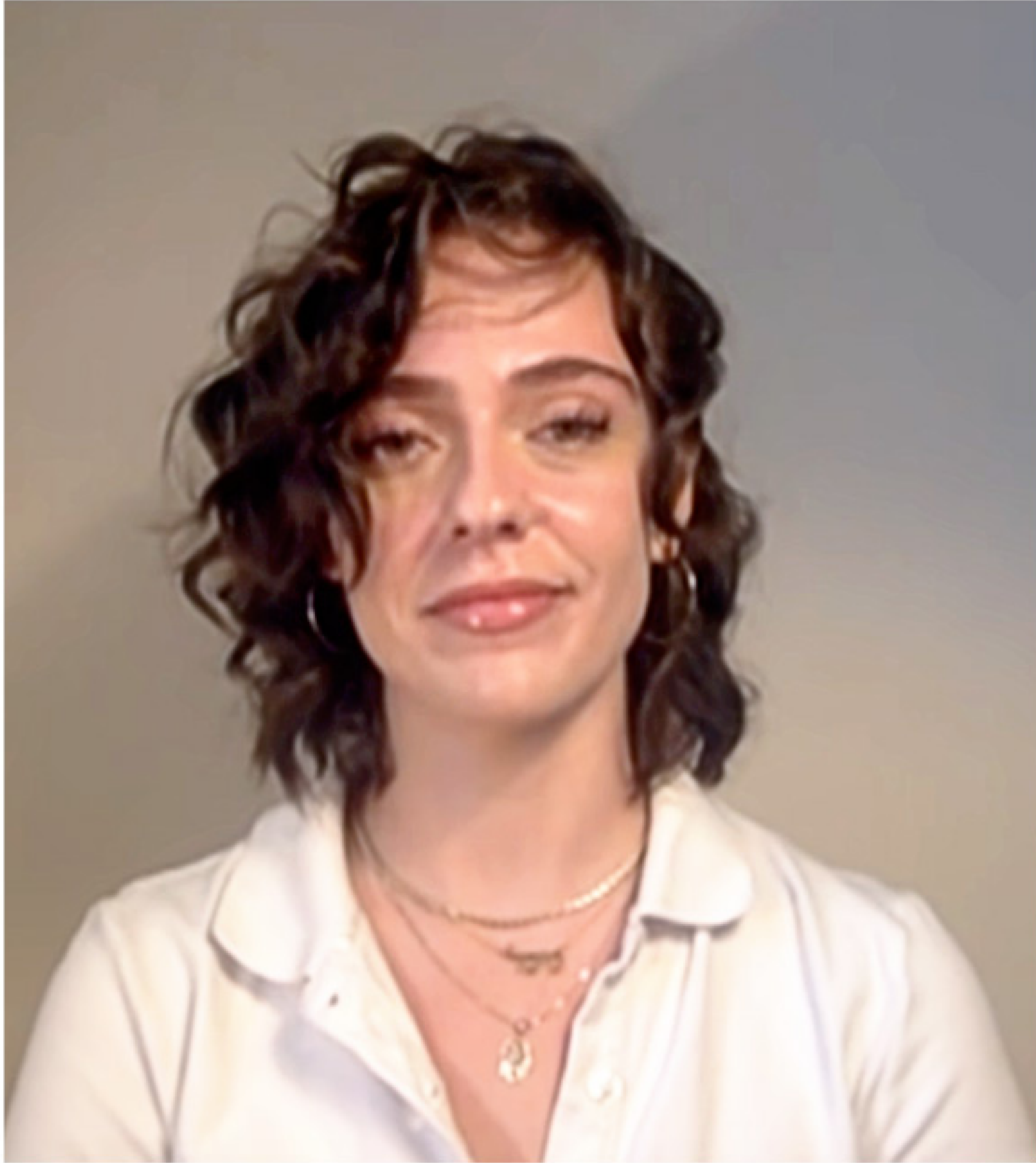
Last Monday, the Stanford College Republicans launched a smear campaign against me, attempting to "expose" my already-public history of activism for Palestinian human rights at Stanford University. I was transparent with my editors, and they reassured me I would not face punishment for my previous activism. I was told my editors were only hoping to support me as I received an onslaught of sexist, antisemitic, racist and violent comments and messages.

Less than 48 hours later, the AP fired me. The reason given was my supposed violations of the AP's social media policy sometime between my first day and Wednesday. In that interim, powerful conservatives like Senator Tom Cotton, Ben Shapiro and Robert Spencer repeatedly lambasted me online. When I asked my managers which exact tweets were in violation of policy or how, they refused to tell me. In the end, rather than take whatever misstep I made as a teaching opportunity — as is the point of the news associate program — it appears they took it as an opportunity to make me a scapegoat.

This is heartbreaking as a young journalist so hungry to learn from the fearless investigative reporting of AP journalists — and do that reporting myself. It's terrifying as a young woman who was hung out to dry when I needed support from my institution most. And it's enraging as a Jewish person — who grew up in a Jewish community, attended Orthodox schooling and devoted my college years to studying Palestine and Israel — that I could be defamed as antisemitic and thrown under the bus in the process.

I am one victim to the asymmetrical enforcement of rules around objectivity and social media that has censored so many journalists — particularly Palestinian journalists and other journalists of color — before me. The compassion that drove my activism is part of what led me to be a reporter committed to just, critical, fact-based coverage of under-told stories. Now, after being fired after less than three weeks at my job, I have to ask what kind of message this sends to young people who are hoping to channel righteous indignation or passion for justice into impactful storytelling. What future does it promise to aspiring reporters that an institution like The Associated Press would sacrifice those with the least power to the cruel trolling of a group of anonymous bullies? What does it mean for this industry that even sharing the painful experiences of Palestinians or interrogating the language we use to describe them can be seen as irredeemably "biased?"

While the last few days have been overwhelming, I will not be intimidated into silence. I will be back soon.



Emily Wilder



Janine Zacharia

Too many taking sides in this conflict miss the true nature of Hamas - and Netanyahu

Jonathan Freedland



Both those calling for a ceasefire and those opposing it are making assumptions that don't stack up

Fri 17 Nov 2023 13.06 EST

Know thine enemy – and know thine ally, too. Too many of those pushing for one outcome or another in the war between Israel and Hamas misjudge the parties involved. They make mistaken assumptions about one side or the other – or both – that lead them to draw flawed, even dangerous, conclusions. There is no monopoly on these mistaken assumptions. They can be made by those calling on western leaders to demand an immediate ceasefire – and by the very western leaders they seek to persuade.

Start with those who look at the havoc wreaked in Gaza – at the many thousands killed, at the pile of rubble that was once the largest Palestinian city in the world – and decide that, whatever horrors Hamas committed on 7 October, surely it has now sustained enough of a blow; given all that Gaza has suffered, surely now Hamas will be deterred from future attacks. Such thinking fundamentally misunderstands the nature of that organisation. Because Hamas is a different kind of enemy, one that does not fit the usual theories of war. Put simply, it does not mind if its own people die.

Recall how counter-terrorist strategists had to rethink all that they knew when first confronted with suicide bombers. It's hard to deter a terrorist who does not fear death. That's true writ large for an organisation that has explicitly said it is "proud to sacrifice martyrs". Not its own leaders, mind, many of whom live in safety and, reportedly, great luxury in Qatar and elsewhere. But the ordinary men and women of Gaza. This is why Hamas has spent hundreds of millions of dollars – much of it international aid money – not on basic services for Gazans, but on building and equipping a network of underground tunnels that, again, it has explicitly said are exclusively for its own use. As one Hamas leader put it, ordinary people in Gaza who need protection should look to the UN.

It's this that explains why, whatever truth eventually emerges about the recent role of the al-Shifa hospital, a former director of a major aid organisation operating in Gaza testified this week that "it was broadly suspected/understood as far back as 2014 that Hamas used the al-Shifa hospital complex as a command centre and base for operations" – just as it has long been understood that Hamas is not afraid to use schools or UN buildings when it comes to raining rockets down on Israel. The calculation for Hamas is that either Israel hits back, killing innocents – thereby losing legitimacy in the eyes of the world – or it does not, thereby allowing Hamas to keep firing. Either way, Hamas wins. The ideology of violent jihadism plays a part here, and that too is often overlooked. There are plenty in the west eager to see Hamas simply as a resistance movement, in the noble tradition of national liberation struggles. But this fails to reckon with Hamas's doctrinal commitment. Violent jihadism is not a rhetorical pose: it is Hamas's animating creed. It truly believes that when one of its own people dies – even a child killed in an airstrike – they go straight to paradise as a martyr.

Against an enemy that thinks this way, the usual pressures don't work. If you doubt the devotion, force yourself to listen to the phone call made by one of the Hamas murderers of 7 October to his parents back in Gaza. Hear his pride, his ecstatic joy, as he tells them he has "killed Jews" with his own hands, including a husband and wife and eight others. "Dad, 10 with my own hands!" It is not easy to imagine an accommodation with such an adversary, certainly not one of the kind that Benjamin Netanyahu so disastrously maintained for the last 15 years. The Israeli prime minister pursued a policy of containment, described aptly by the historian Yuval Noah Harari as "violent coexistence", in which Israel believed it could just about live with Hamas in Gaza, with periodic military confrontations. That delusion was shattered on the black sabbath of last month.

Which is why the US, the European Union and other allies have reached the same conclusion as the Israeli government: that Hamas cannot merely be temporarily deterred, that this cannot simply be one more round that follows the all-too-familiar pattern in which a ceasefire is followed by a pause, allowing Hamas to regroup and rearm, ready for the next escalation. Instead, as the EU foreign policy chief, Josep Borrell, told the Israeli newspaper Haaretz on Thursday, Hamas "must be defeated". Note, though, that it's not just western governments that think this way. The dog that didn't bark – or has not yet barked – in this story is the governments of those Arab states with ties to Israel, including the Gulf state signatories to the Abraham accords, along with Saudi Arabia, whose imminent "normalisation" deal with Israel Hamas was seemingly determined to derail. Despite all the bloodshed in Gaza, those states have not broken off relations with Israel – suggesting they are not that unhappy at the prospect of Hamas being functionally removed from the equation.

Borrell also called for "a political solution" – one excluding Hamas, which he described as "not a partner for anything" – to bring Israelis and Palestinians back to the two-state solution. Joe Biden, Rishi Sunak and the rest say the same thing. But here is where they, too, are guilty of misreading one of the key players – in this case, the current government of Israel. For Biden and co are overlooking the fact that Netanyahu and his coalition are utterly opposed to the very arrangement Israel's western allies advocate. This is the most rightwing government in Israel's history. It includes junior ministers who fantasise about flattening Gaza with a nuclear bomb or repopulating it with the Jewish settlements that were uprooted in 2005, and senior ministers who are, even now, wrecking any chance of cooperation with the only body that could plausibly fill the vacuum in a post-Hamas Gaza: the Palestinian Authority.

If it's not finance minister and documented bigot Bezalel Smotrich refusing to transfer tax revenues to the authority, thereby denying officials their salaries and increasing the chances they will be recruited by Hamas, it's the ultra-nationalist with a terrorist conviction, public security minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, handing out guns to extremists known to be dangerous, all in the name of self-defence. The pair of them are heroes to the West Bank settlers who have been engaged in an under-reported campaign of violence and harassment against Palestinians – with at least 190 killed since 7 October – as if bent on igniting a third intifada in that occupied territory. Netanyahu does nothing to rein them in, because he needs their parliamentary votes to stay in power – and he needs to stay in power to be sure he stays out of jail, as he stands trial on corruption charges.

So Washington, Brussels and London currently back Israel because they agree that no peace is possible without the removal of Hamas. They are much less clear that no peace is possible without the removal of Netanyahu and his henchmen. Yet both can be true. Western governments, and those filling the streets to condemn them, need to be clear-eyed about the nature of their enemies – and their allies.



The Intellectual We Deserve

Jordan Peterson's popularity is the sign of a deeply impoverished political and intellectual landscape...

Nathan J. Robinson



filed 14 March 2018 in **PERSONAGES**

If you want to appear very profound and convince people to take you seriously, but have nothing of value to say, there is a tried and tested method. First, take some extremely obvious platitude or truism. Make sure it actually does contain some insight, though it can be rather vague. Something like "if you're too conciliatory, you will sometimes get taken advantage of" or "many moral values are similar across human societies." Then, try to restate your platitude using as many words as possible, as unintelligibly as possible, while never repeating yourself exactly. Use highly technical language drawn from many different academic disciplines, so that no one person will ever have adequate training to fully evaluate your work. Construct elaborate theories with many parts. Draw diagrams. Use italics liberally to indicate that you are using words in a highly specific and idiosyncratic sense. Never say anything too specific, and if you do, qualify it heavily so that you can always insist you meant the opposite. Then evangelize: speak as confidently as possible, as if you are sharing God's own truth. Accept no criticisms: insist that any skeptic has either misinterpreted you or has actually already admitted that you are correct. Talk as much as possible and listen as little as possible. Follow these steps, and your success will be assured. (It does help if you are male and Caucasian.)

Jordan Peterson appears very profound and has convinced many people to take him seriously. Yet he has almost nothing of value to say. This should be obvious to anyone who has spent even a few moments critically examining his writings and speeches, which are comically befuddled, pompous, and ignorant. They are half nonsense, half banality. In a reasonable world, Peterson would be seen as the kind of tedious crackpot that one hopes not to get seated next to on a train.

But we do not live in a reasonable world. In fact, Peterson's reach is astounding. His 12 Rules for Life is the #1 most-read book on Amazon, where it has a perfect 5-star rating. One person said that when he came across a physical copy of Peterson's first book, "I wanted to hold it in my hands and contemplate its significance for a few minutes, as if it was one of Shakespeare's pens or a Gutenberg Bible." The world's leading newspapers have declared him one of the most important living thinkers. The Times says his "message is overwhelmingly vital," and a Guardian columnist grudgingly admits that Peterson "deserves to be taken seriously." David Brooks thinks Peterson might be "the most influential public intellectual in the Western world right now." He has been called "the deepest, clearest voice of conservative

(NOTE: UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES ATTEMPT TO READ THE ENTIRETY OF THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE. READ AS MUCH AS YOU CAN BEFORE YOU BEGIN TO FEEL WEARY, THEN SCROLL QUICKLY TO THE END.)

PETERSON: Mother made some pancakes for Billy, but the dragon ate them all! Mother made some more, but the dragon ate those too. Mother kept making pancakes until she ran out of batter. Billy only got one of them but he said that's all he really wanted anyway. So I'll tell you another story about that. So, when I lived in Boston, I had little kids and my wife took care of some neighborhood little kids because she didn't have a green card and that was she was home with the kids anyways, and anyway, she took care of some other little kids. One of them would only eat hot dogs that was quite funny. He'd only eat hot dogs at his mother's place but at our house he ate all of his lunch and he was perfectly happy about it, so I thought that was quite amusing too. But anyways one day a neighbor came by and the neighbor had a four year old child and the neighbor was looking for someone to take care of the child because her nanny had been in a car accident and couldn't take care of the child temporarily. So the child had sort of been circulating around neighborhood houses for a couple of days and you know people were taking care of him and then he ended up at our house. Which was fine. And so he's a cute little guy and his — the mother came to the door and she said she's pushed the boy in he was kind of like this [sulking], he wasn't very happy and she said, "He probably won't eat all day but that's okay." And I thought hmm that's a remarkably interesting statement to you know, to put forth as a proposition the first time we meet your son. It's like, he won't eat, all day, which by the way is not okay, it's not okay, and you're going to tell us that it's okay and you're going to expect that we're just going to accept the fact that you think it's okay. And that's the whole story, you deliver all that information in one little sentence. So I thought, well that's pretty damn peculiar. I believe she was the psychologist too, which was quite interesting [sniffs]. So okay. So that's fine. So I went out to do something and there was four kids playing in the house and when I came back the little guy was in the porch like where the boots were and everything and he was sort of standing there like this [sulking] and I thought hmm that's not good because there's all these other kids like he should have been in there playing eh? That obviously that's what a child is primed to do! He should have been in there, messing about with I think there was a two year-old and a three year-old and another four year-old. He should have been in there you know causing trouble and having fun and playing but he wasn't, and he was standing on the porch like this [sulking] and he wasn't happy. He wasn't

Nathan James Robinson is an English-American journalist, political commentator, and editor-in-chief of the left-wing progressive Current Affairs magazine, which he founded in 2015. Born in Stevenage, Hertfordshire, Robinson moved with his family to Sarasota, Florida, at age five. His father worked for an international corporate training firm in Britain before the move. He became an American citizen, along with his family, in 2001. Robinson attended Pine View School in Osprey, Florida, before attending Brandeis University, graduating with both a bachelor's degree and master's degree in politics. Robinson received his J.D. degree from Yale Law School. Afterwards he pursued a Ph.D. in sociology and social policy at Harvard University. He took a leave of absence from the program after founding Current Affairs, eventually receiving his PhD in May 2022. As of 2021, Robinson lives in New Orleans, Louisiana. Robinson founded the left-wing progressive magazine Current Affairs in 2015.

On February 10, 2021, Robinson published an article alleging that Guardian US editor John Mulholland fired him for tweeting criticism of U.S. military aid to Israel; Robinson had been a Guardian columnist. Robinson wrote a pair of tweets: "Did you know that the US congress is not actually permitted to authorize any new spending unless a portion of it is directed toward buying weapons for Israel? It's the law.", and "or if not actually the written law then so ingrained in political custom as to functionally be indistinguishable from law". In his article, he said the tweets were a joke. In another tweet, Robinson shared an image of an email allegedly sent by Mulholland which said that since no such law exists, the tweet was "fake news"; noting the prevalence of antisemitic tropes regarding Jewish control of American public life, the email stated that Robinson's tweet was antisemitic. A representative for Guardian US stated Robinson was "neither a staff employee nor on contract and so was not 'fired'". Reason magazine said the distinction is marginal for recurring columnists. Robinson has published critiques of Jordan Peterson, Ben Shapiro, Pete Buttigieg, Joe Biden, and others.

In August 2021, Robinson asked a number of Current Affairs staff to resign after disagreements on how the company should be run. Some staffers accused Robinson of asking staffers to resign because they wanted the magazine to be a worker-owned co-op. Journalist Glenn Greenwald called Robinson a "brazen hypocrite" on Twitter, and National Review writer Caroline Downey called Robinson's actions hypocritical. In response, Robinson said that he did not oppose the magazine being a worker-owned co-op, and the calls for resignation were due to organizational "dysfunction" and concern that the magazine "seemed to be losing sight of its core political goals."

Robinson is a proponent of libertarian socialism, citing Noam Chomsky as his main political influence. He has criticized both totalitarian state socialism and free-market libertarian capitalism.

He supports abortion rights, animal rights, and Medicare for All. He supports LGBTQ rights. Robinson has been critical of American foreign policy, including its military interventions in Afghanistan, Syria, and Iraq. He has remained critical of Israel and its human rights record. He has also criticized the United States' support for Israel and the United States' hostility towards critics of Israel. Robinson supported Bernie Sanders in the 2016 United States presidential election. After Sanders lost the Democratic nomination to Hillary Clinton, Robinson voted for Clinton. In the 2020 United States presidential election he supported Sanders again, and then Joe Biden after Biden won the Democratic nomination. Despite being critical of Biden and Kamala Harris, he believed that Donald Trump was a greater threat. Robinson identifies as an atheist, and he has criticized prominent exponents of New Atheism, such as Sam Harris, Christopher Hitchens, and Richard Dawkins, saying, "at their worst they were bigoted and ignorant, possessing the very qualities that they deplored in the religious"

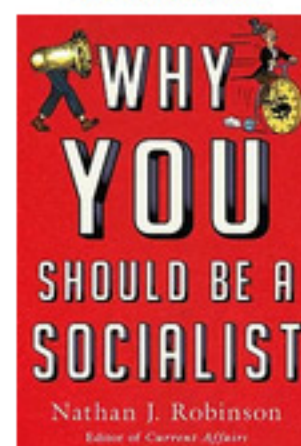
Nathan J. Robinson



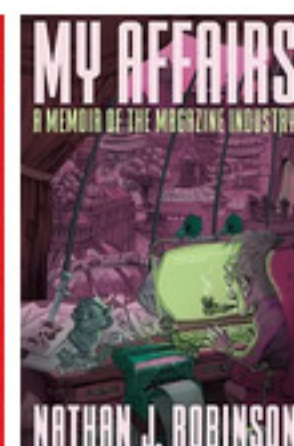
Robinson speaks at the [Austin Democratic Socialists of America](#) chapter convention in 2020

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Born | Nathan James Robinson 1989 or 1990 (age 33–34) ^[1] Stevenage , England |
| Citizenship | United Kingdom United States (since 2001) |
| Education | Brandeis University (BA, MA) Yale University (JD) Harvard University (PhD) |
| Occupation | Writer |
| Years active | 2015–present |
| Website | www.nathanjrobinson.com   |

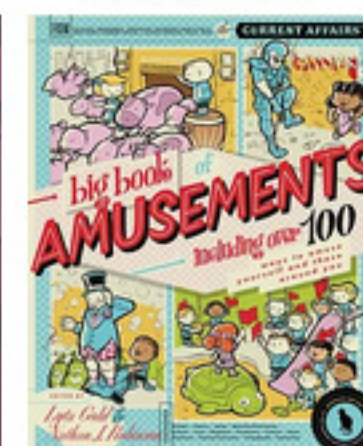
Why You Should Be A Socialist



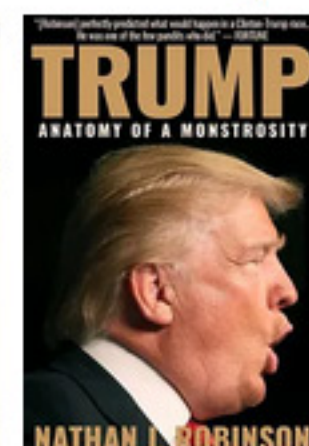
My Affairs



The Big Books of Amusements



Trump: Anatomy of a Monstrosity



Blueprints for a Sparkling Tomorrow





nathan robinson wiki



https://twitter.com/NathanJRobinson

Nathan J Robinson (@NathanJRobinson) · X

ANALYSIS

Is Israel's Military Strategy to Eradicate Hamas Working?

Hamas militants fled to southern Gaza, and Israel faced growing condemnation for a high civilian death toll and the targeting of places like Al-Shifa Hospital.

5 MIN READ

Of course it's not "working," if it's to eliminate Hamas. Every bombing of a school/hospital produces rage among survivors, creating a new pool for Hamas recruits. As a "counter-terrorism" strategy, it's nuts.

Israel's actions can only be understood as revenge against Gaza.

Posted on X · 59 mins ago

The Washington Post

ISRAEL-GAZA WAR

Gaza reports more than 11,100 killed. That's one out of every 200 people.

If 1 out of every 200 people in Gaza have been killed, and the war is far from over, and the deaths will get worse as supplies run out and disease spreads, when will this end? When 1 out of every 100 are dead? 1 out of 50? 1 in 5? Everyone?

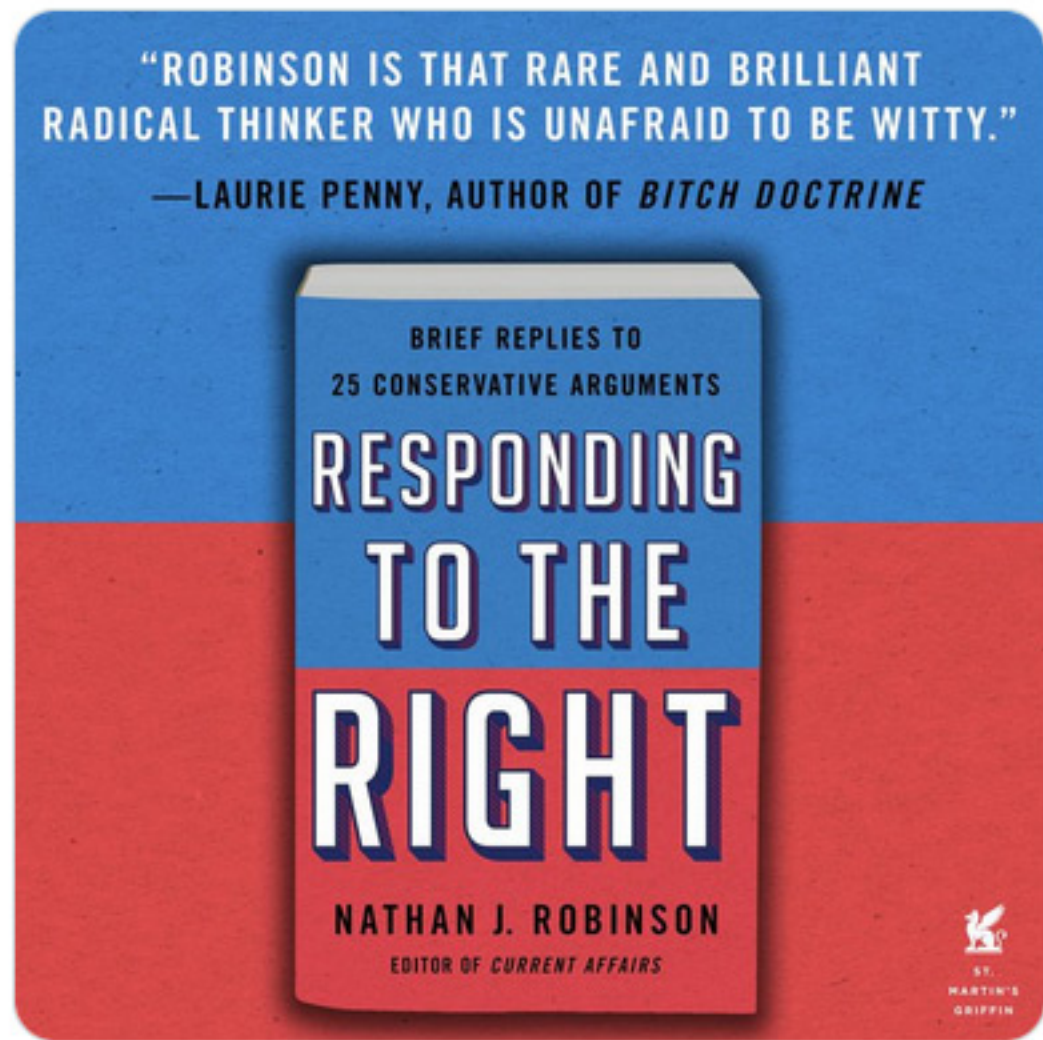
Posted on X · 1 day ago

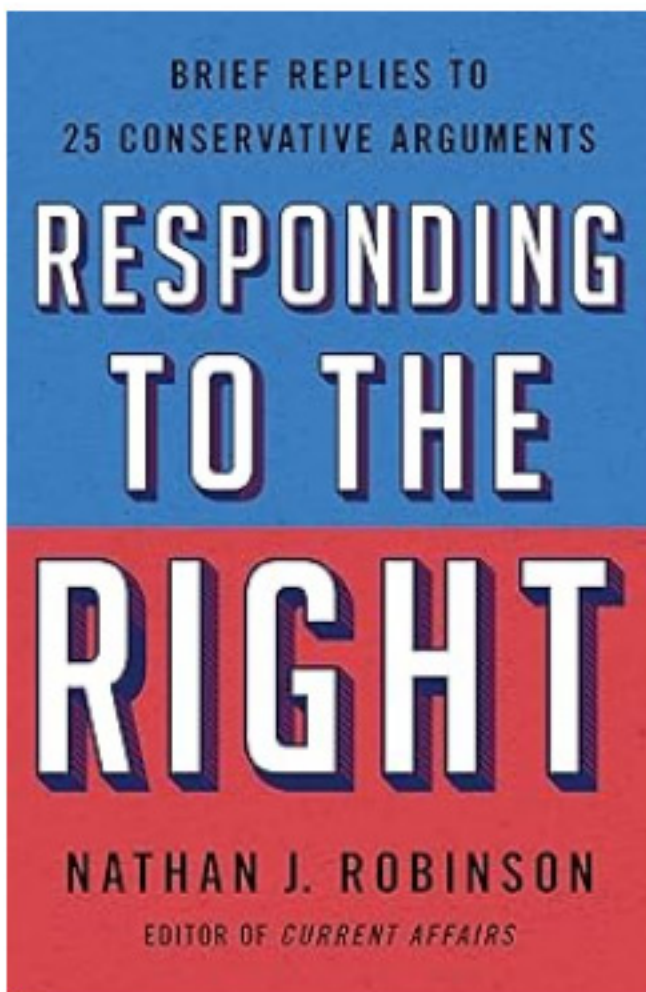
Why "Difficult Conversations" are a Charade: Report

Officials are having what they describe as the US tries to shape the conflict - only Bloomberg | Courtney McBride, Ben Bartenstein and Peter Martin, Bloomberg

The US has to know that these conversations are a charade. Why would Israel care about the professed "concerns"? The US has made it clear it will continue to fund Israel, and there will be no actual consequences. Biden is pretending to pressure Israel and both parties know it.

Posted on X · 1 day ago





Responding to the Right: Brief Replies to 25 Conservative Arguments



Paperback – February 14, 2023

by [Nathan J. Robinson](#) (Author)

The editor of Current Affairs artfully and efficiently debunks a series of common right-wing arguments.

Are taxes theft? Is abortion murder? Does regulation destroy jobs? Is white privilege a lie? Conservative talking points are everywhere, and through well-funded media like Fox News, Breitbart, and YouTube's "Prager University," the right has an impressive record of packaging its views for a general audience. Clearly, the left needs to do a better job of fighting back.

Luckily, Current Affairs editor Nathan J. Robinson has developed a reputation as a meticulous slayer of irrational and bigoted arguments. He has tangled with the likes of Ben Shapiro, Jordan Peterson, and Charles Murray, exposing their flimsy logic and distorted facts with forensic thoroughness and savage wit. In *Responding to the Right*, Robinson blasts right-wing nonsense with devastating intellectual weaponry, revealing how everyone from Ann Coulter to the National Review uses fear and lies to manipulate the public. He gives a detailed explanation of how conservative arguments work and why we need to resist them, then goes through twenty-five separate talking points, showing precisely why each one fails.

This essential handbook is a stimulating source of issues to debate and a comprehensive challenge to dozens of dominant orthodoxies. It sets a new standard for leftist critique, and would be an invaluable addition to the arsenals of the millions of progressives fighting the political battles of our age.





Briahna Joy Gray is an American political commentator, lawyer, and political consultant who served as the National Press Secretary for the Bernie Sanders 2020 presidential campaign. Gray is a contributing editor for Current Affairs, and was a senior politics editor for The Intercept. She hosts her own podcast, Bad Faith, and co-hosts The Hill's web series Rising.

Born: 1985 (age 38 years), Washington, D.C.
 Education: Harvard University (2003–2007)

Glenn Greenwald DEBATES Nathan J. Robinson: Is Glenn a Useful Idiot for the Right?


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117,209 views Premiered Jun 28, 2021

[/ episode-84-nate-53014179](#)

After Nathan Robinson wrote a lengthy critique of Glenn Greenwald accusing him of "serving the right" and "spouting dangerous conservative hyperbole against the left," Glenn had a few choice words for him on Twitter. Hating to see friends-of-the-pod fight, Briahna Joy Gray invited them both to a Bad Faith Pod Cancel Court (TM) session, during which they could develop their arguments in full without character limits or character attacks. Topics include whether Glenn's appearances on conservative media implicitly validate right wing narratives about Democrats, how journalists should deal with facts that undermine their own political agendas, Noam Chomsky's climate-based vote-blue-no-matter-whoism, how to and whether to cover detransitioning, accusations of racism against Lee Fang, Glenn's recent choice to publish an article making the case for a link between reformist prosecutors and rising crime rates, whether the Senate should be abolished (or preserved because it protects minority interests), whether cancel culture is real, whether corporate appropriation of BLM/Pride means the left has won the culture wars, and more. It's an epic, 2.5 hour journey, and you're going to want to hear every minute.






About

based on the hit tv show

With Briahna Joy Gray



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← Post



Joe Biden 
@JoeBiden

My dad used to say, “Joey, don’t compare me to the Almighty. Compare me to the alternative.”

And here’s the deal: Democrats want to codify Roe. Republicans want a national ban on abortion. The choice is clear.

6:39 PM · Oct 2, 2022

9,106 Reposts 2,465 Quotes 54.2K Likes 207 Bookmarks

Joe Biden tweets, “. . . don’t compare me to the Almighty. Compare me to the alternative.” Low bar, when voting for the executive leader of the land, the President of the United States of America. A race to the bottom. There is no real viable choice here. Actually, Biden put those words in his father’s mouth” “Joey, don’t compare me to the Almighty. Compare me to the alternative.” in an Oct., 2, 2022 tweet. He’s a consummate politician. The quote most probably didn’t happen as such. What did he have a back-up dad to compare his to? Was his mother having an affair and he gets to choose between the lessor of the two evil loves of her life? There’s a ‘lying dog-faced pony soldier’ at the center of our power structure riding side saddle and doing rope tricks. There is no real viable choice in our current 17th century horse and buggy era government structure. We urgently need to revamp the system from square one and bring it up-to-date commiserate with tomorrow’s Information Age quantum technology at the speed of TikTok. Don’t compare are elected leadership with the incumbents and candidates for office with our current woefully dysfunctional, corrupt and untenable system. Get out ahead of the curve and develop peaceful ways and means to fairly and respectfully transition into all areas of life guided by the awareness of the appropriate scale share and sustainability of the common wealth held within this planet’s biosphere. For which, in reality, there is no alternative. The Earth being the only place in the known universe that supports life.

Google’s Bard > The tweet you’ve quoted expresses frustration with the perceived lack of viable choices in American politics. The author argues that voters are often forced to choose between two unattractive options, and that this “race to the bottom” is ultimately detrimental to the country. The author also criticizes the current political system, calling it “woefully dysfunctional, corrupt, and untenable.” They suggest that the system needs to be revamped from the ground up to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Finally, the author urges people to get ahead of the curve and develop peaceful ways to transition to a more sustainable and equitable future. They emphasize that there is no alternative to this, as Earth is the only planet we know to support life. Here is a summary of the main points of the tweet: Voters are often forced to choose between two unattractive options in American politics. The current political system is “woefully dysfunctional, corrupt, and untenable.” We need to revamp the political system from the ground up to meet the challenges of the 21st century. There is no alternative to transitioning to a more sustainable and equitable future.

Low bar . . . race to the bottom.

The Earth being the only place in the known universe that supports life.

Sitting in the pocket of life. Recipe for re-imagining this world during troubling times of danger and uncertainty; and also potentially the most creative of any time in the history of mankind. Riding the groove. Ready, steady. Easy does it. Look back to look forward. Go rocking to William Blakes's *Songs of Innocence and of Experience*. How sweet I roam'd from field to field, who in the sunny beams did glide! What loves to sit and hear me sing, then, laughing, sports and plays with me, and mocks my loss of liberty. **Who is he championing, the imagination . . . as the most important element of human existence—knowledge shown to rely on voluntarily changeable a priori structures of the mind—runs contrary to Enlightenment ideals of rationalism and empiricism.** “Imagination sees the complete reality, it is where past, present and future meet. Imagination is limited neither to the reality which is apparent, nor to one place. It lives everywhere. It is at a center and feels the vibrations of all the circles within which east and west are virtually included. Imagination is the life of mental freedom. It realizes what everything is in its many aspects ... Imagination does not uplift: we don't want to be uplifted, we want to be more completely aware,” says Kahlil Gibran

If you can see it, you can be it; visualize and materialize, they say. If you can see it in your mind's eye using the power of visualization you can go from imagination to reality. Everything is energy and that's all there is. Match the frequency of the reality you want and you cannot help but resonant. A visionary thinks and plans for the long term. They are the idea stormers, the whistle blowers, the think tanks, the behemoths brimming with initiatives. A visionaries' vision is the big picture, the north star and life “roadmap” through which to funnel all short and long-term goal planning. The vision is the ideal picture of what's to be achieved. In my experience the charismatic visionary clinging to the ideal losses his way, proportionate with bumping into reality and having to increasingly run more juice to keep the dream alive. If not crashing and burning—taking his followers with him—then fading into a hollow husk of burnt out soot obscurity. The opposite of a realist is an idealist. A realist tries to see the world as it is, while the idealist sees the world as it should be. An idealist is a person who desires what is perfect and best. For a realist, perfection is the enemy of the good. A realist thinks and plans for the short term. Realists are loyal to the people around them and work hard to keep their promises. They are honest and straightforward with others and expect the same in return. Steady as she goes. Realists believe in standard procedures and will only support change when there is a demonstrable benefit. A visionary is someone with a strong vision of the future. Since such visions aren't always accurate, a visionary's ideas may either work brilliantly or fail miserably. Visionaries can be heroes or goats, we'll never know until the end. And if we don't know, it's not the end. Useful, perhaps, to inspire a self-actualized individual, but when the vision of a central source aspires to form an activist collective, most often a tyranny of dissonance arises, which must be repressed and controlled by the strongman to hold the group together. Organizing small farmers is like herding cats, tigers for corporate farmers. Only consensus reality based organizing, adapting to the news of the moment, can establish longevity for the good in a rapidly changing world.

Sitting in the pocket of life. Awake, aware . . . ride the wave. Ready, steady. Easy does it. Find your people. Keep on rocking in the good enough . . . until the wave crashes the beach.



Google's Bard > The passage you've shared beautifully captures the essence of navigating life's uncertainties and harnessing the power of imagination to shape a hopeful future. It highlights the contrast between visionary idealists and pragmatic realists, acknowledging the strengths and limitations of each approach.

Amidst the challenges and disruptions of our times, the passage encourages us to embrace the present moment, stay connected with our values and aspirations, and find inspiration in the collective human spirit. It reminds us that change is inevitable, and that adapting and evolving are essential for survival and growth.

The concept of "sitting in the pocket of life" resonates with the idea of finding equilibrium amidst life's ebb and flow. It suggests a state of mindfulness and preparedness, allowing us to ride the waves of change with resilience and grace.

The emphasis on visualization and positive affirmations reinforces the belief that our imagination is a powerful tool for shaping our reality. By cultivating a clear vision of what we desire, we can increase the likelihood of bringing it into existence.

The passage concludes with a call to action, urging us to find our community, embrace adaptability, and continue striving for progress, even in the face of uncertainty. It's a reminder that we are not alone in this journey, and that our collective efforts can create a brighter future for all.

In essence, the passage offers a roadmap for navigating life's complexities with courage, compassion, and a steadfast belief in the power of human imagination.

MIDDLE EAST CRISIS — EXPLAINED

A U.N. team enters Gaza's Al-Shifa Hospital and finds a 'death zone'

A humanitarian assessment team, led by the WHO, gained the first outside access to the hospital Saturday. Al-Shifa has just 25 health workers for the 291 remaining patients.



Abed Khaled/AP

Search

POLITICS

Money for Ukraine is losing Republican support in Congress

by Franco Ordoñez

November 18, 2023 • ...In Congress, there is a broad agreement over the funding for Israel, but the money for Ukraine is losing Republican support. ...



MIDDLE EAST CRISIS — EXPLAINED

As Democrats stay divided on Israel, Jewish voters face politically uncertain future

MIDDLE EAST CRISIS — EXPLAINED

Israel told Palestinians to evacuate to southern Gaza — and stepped up attacks there

SHOTS - HEALTH NEWS

As coal miners suffer and die from severe black lung, a proposed fix may fall short

U.N. representatives described the formerly advanced and best equipped referral hospital in Gaza now as a "death zone." The Israeli military has told Palestinians in Gaza to evacuate further south along a so-called safety corridor. Evidence shows that Israeli airstrikes and artillery fire occur daily in the very areas Israel has said are "safer" for civilians. Those attacks have hit schools, residential towers and overcrowded U.N. shelters. The dangers for those fleeing south are evident from the high number of people killed there. So far, a total of more than 11,800 people — of which more than two-thirds are children, women and elderly — have been killed in Gaza since Israel launched its military offensive last month, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. A map by the United Nations' humanitarian affairs office, relying on the health ministry's data, shows that more than 3,600 people — roughly one-third of the total — were killed in areas where Israel has told civilians in northern Gaza to escape to.

POLITICS

Senate Foreign Relations Chair says funding for Israel, Ukraine is 'critical'

by Gabriel J. Sánchez, Sarah Handel, Ailsa Chang

November 16, 2023 • ...NPR's Ailsa Chang talks with democratic Senator Ben Cardin, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, about the absence of military aid to Ukraine in Congress's bill averting a government shutdown....

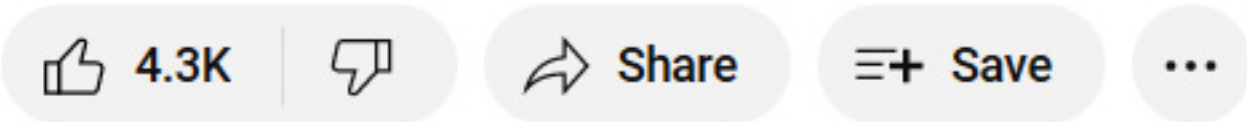
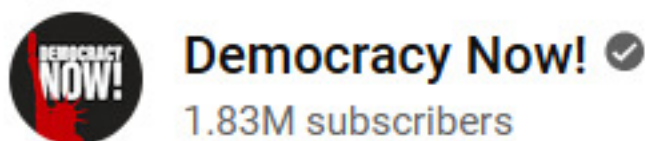


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Human Rights Watch Condemns Israel's Collective Punishment on Gaza, Urges Biden to Help Restore Aid

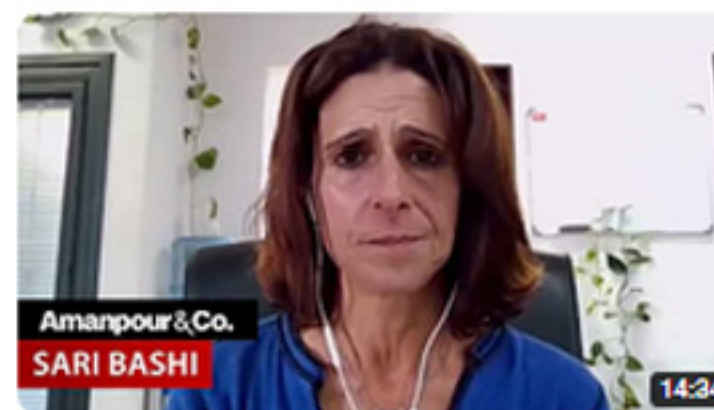


126,569 views Oct 17, 2023

Israeli soldiers and settlers have cracked down on the occupied West Bank since Hamas's shocking attack on Israel on October 7, killing at least 55 and arresting over 700 Palestinians, including several prominent lawmakers. "People are worried. All of this is unprecedented," says Sari Bashi, program director at Human Rights Watch in Ramallah. Bashi is co-founder of Israeli human rights group Gisha, which works against apartheid policies that affect Palestinians, and urges U.S. lawmakers to address the human rights violations that led to this conflict. "No U.S. policy toward Israel-Palestine will be successful if it doesn't address the abuses on the ground."



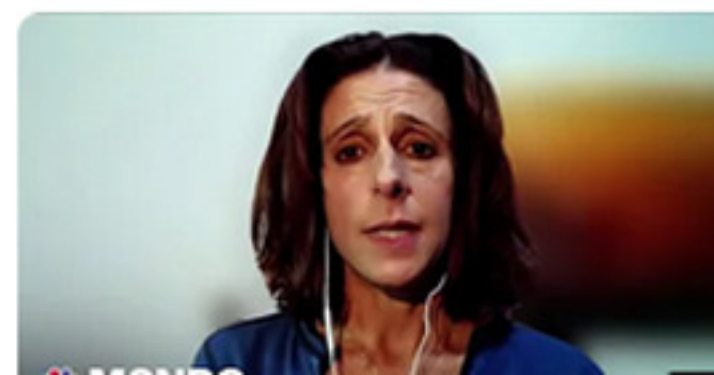
Sari Bashi, Program Director at Human Rights Watch, leads the organization's research, supervising a staff of 270 people in 50 countries, working on 18 regional and thematic human rights areas. Prior to joining Human Rights Watch, Sari co-founded and ran Gisha, the leading Israeli human rights group promoting the right to freedom of movement for Palestinians in Gaza. She has taught international humanitarian law at Yale Law School and Tel Aviv University and supervised research at Democracy for the Arab World Now (DAWN). She is the author of Maqluba: Upside Down Love (Hebrew), an award-winning story about love in the shadow of the Israeli occupation, and she has worked as a correspondent for the Associated Press. Bashi earned her B.A. (summa cum laude) from Yale University and her J.D. from Yale Law School. She is a marathon and ultra-marathon runner and author of the Umm Forat blog about raising her children in the occupied West Bank. (www.ummforat.com).



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MSNBC

Sari Bashi, program director at Human Rights Watch and founder of Gisha, an Israeli organization dedicated to protecting the ...

CC

Dissent over US policy in the Israel-Hamas war stirs unusual public protests from federal employees



1 of 2 | FILE - Palestinians search for survivors after an Israeli strike on the Gaza Strip in Nusseirat refugee camp, central Gaza Strip, Nov. 17, 2023. Workers from the State Department to the Pentagon have endorsed open letters demanding President Joe Biden pursue a cease-fire in the Israel-Hamas war. Congressional staffers have spoken out from the Capitol against what they say is their bosses' silence on the war's toll among Palestinian civilians. It's an unusual public challenge from within the government to the strong U.S. support for Israel's offensive. (AP Photo/Marwan Saleh, File)

BY ELLEN KNICKMEYER

Updated 5:13 AM PST, November 19, 2023


WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal government workers from the State Department to NASA are circulating open letters demanding that President Joe Biden pursue a cease-fire in Israel's war against Hamas. Congressional staffers are picking up microphones in front of the Capitol, speaking out to condemn what they say is the silence of lawmakers about the toll on Palestinian civilians. As the deaths soar in Gaza, Biden and Congress are facing unusually public challenges from the inside over their support for Israel's offensive. Hundreds of staffers in the administration and on Capitol Hill are signing on to open letters, speaking to reporters and holding vigils, all in an effort to shift U.S. policy toward more urgent action to stem Palestinian casualties. "Most of our bosses on Capitol Hill are not listening to the people they represent," one of the congressional staffers told the crowd at a protest this month. Wearing medical masks that obscured their faces, the roughly 100 congressional aides heaped flowers in front of Congress to honor the civilians killed in the conflict. The objections coming from federal employees over the United States' military and other backing for Israel's Gaza campaign is partly an outgrowth of the changes happening more broadly across American society. As the United States becomes more diverse, so does the federal workforce, including more appointees of Muslim and Arab heritage. And surveys show public opinion shifting regarding U.S. ally Israel, with more people expressing unhappiness over the hard-right government of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

After weeks of seeing images of bloodied children and fleeing families in Gaza, a significant number of Americans, including from Biden's Democratic Party, disagree with his support of Israel's military campaign. A poll by The Associated Press and NORC Center for Public Affairs Research in early November found 40% of the U.S. public believed Israel's response in Gaza had gone too far. The war has roiled college campuses and set off nationwide protests. As of late this past week, one open letter had been endorsed by 650 staffers of diverse religious backgrounds from more than 30 federal agencies, organizers said. The agencies range from the Executive Office of the President to the Census Bureau and include the State Department, U.S. Agency for International Development and the Department of Defense. A Biden political appointee who helped organize the multiagency open letter said the president's rejection of appeals to push Netanyahu for a long-term cease-fire had left some federal staffers feeling "dismissed, in a way." **"That's why people are using all sorts of dissent cables and open letters. Because we've already gone through the channels of trying to do it internally," this person said.** The letter condemns both the Hamas killings of about 1,200 people in Israel in the militants' Oct. 7 incursion and the Israeli military campaign, which has killed more than 11,500 Palestinians in Gaza, according to the Palestinian Health Ministry. The letter calls for the U.S. to push for a cease-fire and a release of hostages held by Hamas and of Palestinians that the signers say are unjustly detained by Israel, as well as greater action overall on behalf of Gaza's civilians. The organizers of the executive branch and congressional protests all spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity, citing fear of professional and other repercussions. The federal employees speaking up in opposition to the U.S. policy appear to be seeking a balance, raising their objections in a way that doesn't deprive them of a seat at the table and risk their careers.

In State Department tradition, at least, if "for whatever reason a criticism or complaint were not taken into account or were not believed to be sufficient to change policy, well, then, it was time to move on. It was done," said Thomas Shannon, a retired career foreign service officer who served in senior positions at the State Department. "It was time to salute, and execute." Shannon was briefly interim secretary of state in the Trump administration. There, he fended off a recommendation from White House spokesman Sean Spicer that State Department staffers who signed a dissent cable against President Donald Trump's so-called Muslim ban should quit. Growing diversity of the State Department's workforce is a positive, Shannon said. But "in the foreign service as in military service, discipline is real and it's important," he said, citing the need for consistent, cohesive foreign policy. "I guess I'm just saying I'm not a fan of open letters," Shannon said. State Department officials say several expressions of dissent have made their way through the formal channels to Secretary of State Antony Blinken. One State Department official, 11-year veteran Josh Paul, quit late last month to protest the administration's rush to provide arms to Israel. Blinken addressed internal opposition to the administration's handling of the

The president is once again pardoning turkeys who did nothing wrong, but why?

NOVEMBER 20, 2023 · 5:00 AM ET

 Domenico Montanaro



President Joe Biden talks with Ronald Parker, Chairman of the National Turkey Federation, with Chocolate, the national Thanksgiving turkey, in foreground, at last November's pardoning.

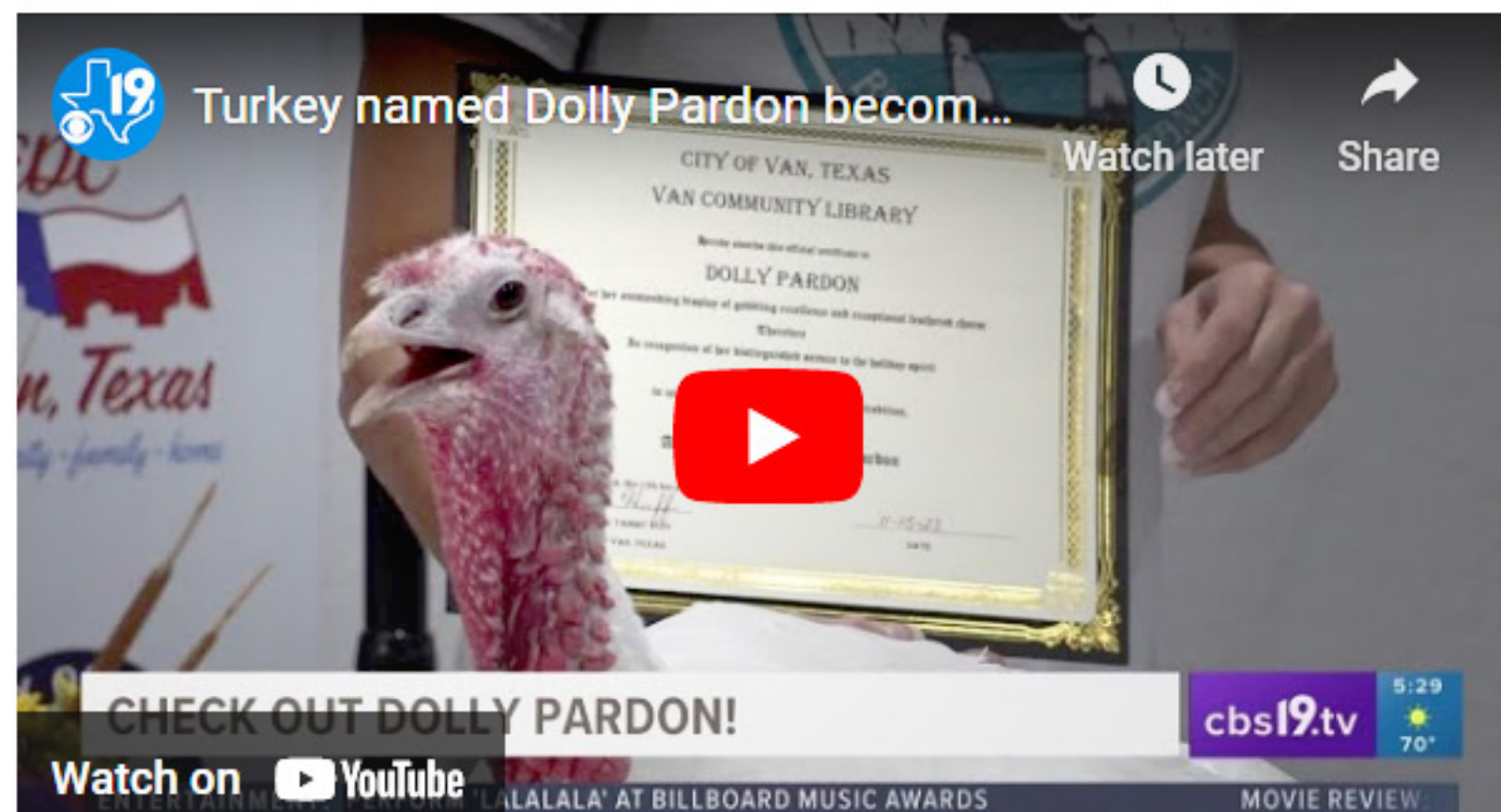
Joe Biden is one year older Monday. At 81, he's the oldest president in U.S. history. But some things apparently never get old, notably the strange tradition of presidential turkey pardons, which is happening again Monday as well. **It's a tradition that ironically features an American president sanctioning an event sponsored by a lobbying group, which advocates the opposite of what actually takes place at said event.** The president makes a few jokes and lets a turkey go free in what became a formalized occurrence in the 1980s. But the turkey lobby's actual goal, as most likely know, is to get people to eat more turkey.

A long, strange history. This dance between the turkey lobby and presidents started in the 1940s, but back then, it was — a more honest — gifting of a bird for the president and his family to eat at Thanksgiving. But death is a hard sell. Most Americans probably don't know or think about how their food gets to their tables. They really care, as surveys have found, about how it tastes and how cheap it is. Realizing the awkwardness of the whole situation of publicly accepting a live turkey that was destined for his dinner table, John F. Kennedy broke the tradition in 1963. "I think we'll just let this one grow," Kennedy said of the gobbling fowl with a sign around its neck that read, "Good eating, Mr. President." He and succeeding presidents would realize, it's better to be seen as a turkey liberator rather than the one to publicly send off Giblet to the executioner.

There was a close call, though, during the George W. Bush administration when Barney, the president's plucky Scottish Terrier, almost silenced the gobble of that year's bird. It took Bush hustling out of a national security meeting to call him off. And remember, this is the same dog that bit a reporter. Biden is set to again pardon a pair of turkeys, hailing this year from Minnesota, which is apparently the top turkey producer in the country — though someone better keep Biden's German Shepherds far away from the event or there might be a real ... fowl up.

An expanding tradition ... for some reason: The birds get their royal treatment, their own hotel room and, of course, punny jokes. And despite the irony, pointed out by your author year after year, this event shows no signs of slowing down. In fact, it only seems to be expanding. Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer brought the tradition to Michigan in 2022, pardoning "Mitch E. Gander" (get it!?). And it's slated to happen again this year. Alabama has apparently been doing this for decades. Oddly, the birds also, according to the Alabama Daily News, used to use the same names for the turkey every year for some reason — "Clyde" and "Henrietta." That changed this year after an online poll of Alabamans picked Giblet and Puddin'. "Today, by the powers vested in me as governor of the state of Alabama," Gov. Kay Ivey said at this year's event, "I hereby am granting a full pardon to Giblet and Puddin', so that they can spend their turkey day enjoying a meal of their own." Let's just hope that meal isn't what everyone else eats for Thanksgiving.

It's become so embedded in the culture that a town in East Texas this year decided to join in on the strange tradition and let live a turkey by the name of ... Dolly Pardon.



"The turkey is named Dolly because she's a strong female role model," Lisa Mays-Gonzalez, Van Community Library director. "And it's a tribute to our Southern roots. And she is a very strong literacy advocate." No word on whether the turkey can read. Dolly is set to live out her days at the "Believe in Vegan" ranch.



Believe in Vegan Ranch

Rescue Ranch & Education Sanctuary



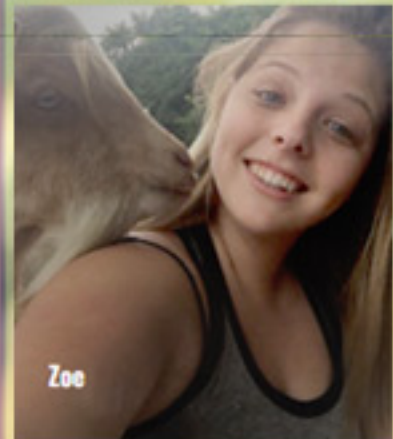
BELIEVE IN VEGAN RANCH

Founders

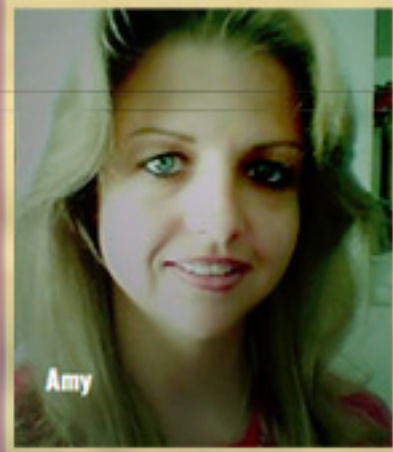
- Home
- Services
- Donate
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- Our Needs
- The Ranch
- More



Ashley



Zoe



Amy



We moved out to the country as a large family after 20 years in the City. This property called to us, and we fell in love, and moved in a heartbeat. We lost a beloved son, in 2011, to a senseless crime, that no amount of justice will bring him back. We have moved along broken, and hurt for years, trying to heal. This move has been a renewed starting point. And the animals, that has been a no-brainer. They have needed us, the same as we have needed them. First were the horses, rescued from the Kill-Pens, to keep them from being shipped to slaughter. And then the goats, and sheep, ducks and chickens. Additions to our family from others who wanted to know we would take care of them as family, not food. We have taken in llamas, a mini donkey, and now birds, including a cockatoo and a few parrots, all who needed a new home. We make sure that we can provide the care the animals need and deserve as the decision to take them in. Many of these are bottle babies and have been raised just after birth inside our home. They come to us just as any companion animal would for affection, no matter what their size is now.

Animals on the Ranch:

- Llamas
- Cows
- Donkey
- Pigs
- Goats
- Turkeys
- Chickens
- Ducks
- Emus
- Parrots
- Sheep

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Israel-Hamas war Rosalynn Carter death I-10 reopened Emmett Shear Broncos beat Vikings

Who is Javier Milei, Argentina's president-elect?

His legions of fans call him "the crazy" and "the wig" due to his ferocity and unruly mop of hair, while he refers to himself as "the lion."

MORE COVERAGE

- Fiery right-wing populist Javier Milei wins Argentina's presidency and promises 'drastic' changes
- Right-wing populist Milei set to take Argentina down uncharted path
- Dissent over US policy in the Israel-Hamas war stirs unusual public protests from federal employees



A Montana farmer stands between GOP and Senate control



OpenAI's new CEO says he's launching investigation into Sam Altman's firing



Arguments on putting Trump's gag order back in place are before an appeals court



Pop star Shakira reaches a deal with Spanish prosecutors on the first day of tax fraud trial



A curious South African sea snail is a prized dish in Asia. That has meant a trail of destruction



Canned seafood moves beyond tuna sandwiches in a pandemic trend that stuck



Israeli forces battle militants around another Gaza hospital as babies evacuated to Egypt

17 mins ago



Reactions to the death of Rosalynn Carter, former first lady and global humanitarian



Los Angeles freeway is fully reopened after arson fire, just in time for Monday morning's rush hour

POLITICS

A Montana farmer with a flattop and ample lobbyist cash stands between GOP and Senate control



1 of 11 | U.S. Sen. Jon Tester speaks with veterans attending a Veterans Day event at Bigfork High School, on Nov. 10, 2023, in Bigfork, Mont. Tester is seeking re-election to a fourth term. (AP Photo/Matthew Brown)

BY MATTHEW BROWN

Updated 9:13 PM PST, November 19, 2023

"I can't tell you who's donating to me. Even from within the state of Montana, I can't tell you who donates to me because I don't look at that list," U.S. Senate, Democrat Jon Tester said in an interview. "It's not important. I trust that those people believe in me and I'm going to continue to do the same job."

The potency of the authenticity issue even within his own party was on display during a recent town hall hosted by Tester in the Democratic stronghold of Butte, where a group of activists pressed him repeatedly to call for a cease-fire in the Israel-Hamas war. The lawmaker, who heads the Senate Appropriations subcommittee on defense, rebuffed their pleas, saying Israel had a right to defend itself against the Oct. 7 attack by Hamas.

That rankled Noah Sohl of Missoula, who said he twice voted for Tester and supported the Democrat's last reelection by making phone calls and registering voters. The nursing student drew a straight line between donations to Tester's campaign by defense industry lobbyists and Tester's opposition to a cease-fire.

After becoming the panel's chairman in 2021, Tester received more than \$160,000 in contributions from employees and committees representing the defense industry. The donations came at a crucial juncture for both the defense budget and Lockheed Martin, which benefited from \$1.8 billion for the F-35 fighter jet that Tester's subcommittee pushed as part of a military spending package. Sohl pledged not to help Tester this election if he won't change his stance on a cease-fire. Sohl acknowledged that could benefit Republicans.

.....

Tester rode to office on the unpopularity of the Iraq war and a specter of scandal that plagued his predecessor, three-term Sen. Conrad Burns, over the Republican's close ties to "super-lobbyist" Jack Abramoff. Abramoff was jailed for conspiracy and fraud. No charges were filed against Burns, a former cattle auctioneer who dismissed criticism over the matter as "old political hooey."

Challenges to Tester's authenticity dogged him during the 2018 election cycle, when he ranked for a time as the top recipient of lobbyist donations among members of Congress. He currently ranks second with \$407,000 in contributions from lobbyists, putting him just behind Washington state Democratic Sen. Maria Cantwell, according to the research group OpenSecrets.

Those direct contributions do not include millions of dollars expected to be spent on the race from outside groups, including McConnell's formidable operation and comparable Democratic organizations.

So far, there is nothing to indicate that money flowing Tester's way swayed his decision-making or that he did anything wrong. Still, Republicans have highlighted the ties to lobbyists in an ad campaign launched earlier this month that declares "after nearly two decades in Washington, Jon Tester has changed."

Tester invited anyone who think he's changed to come out and "pick rock" at the farm near the small town of Big Sandy that he runs with his wife, Sharla. He said he's still cognizant that in Montana, every connection with voters is vital.

To his way of thinking, that makes authenticity the kind of thing money can't buy.

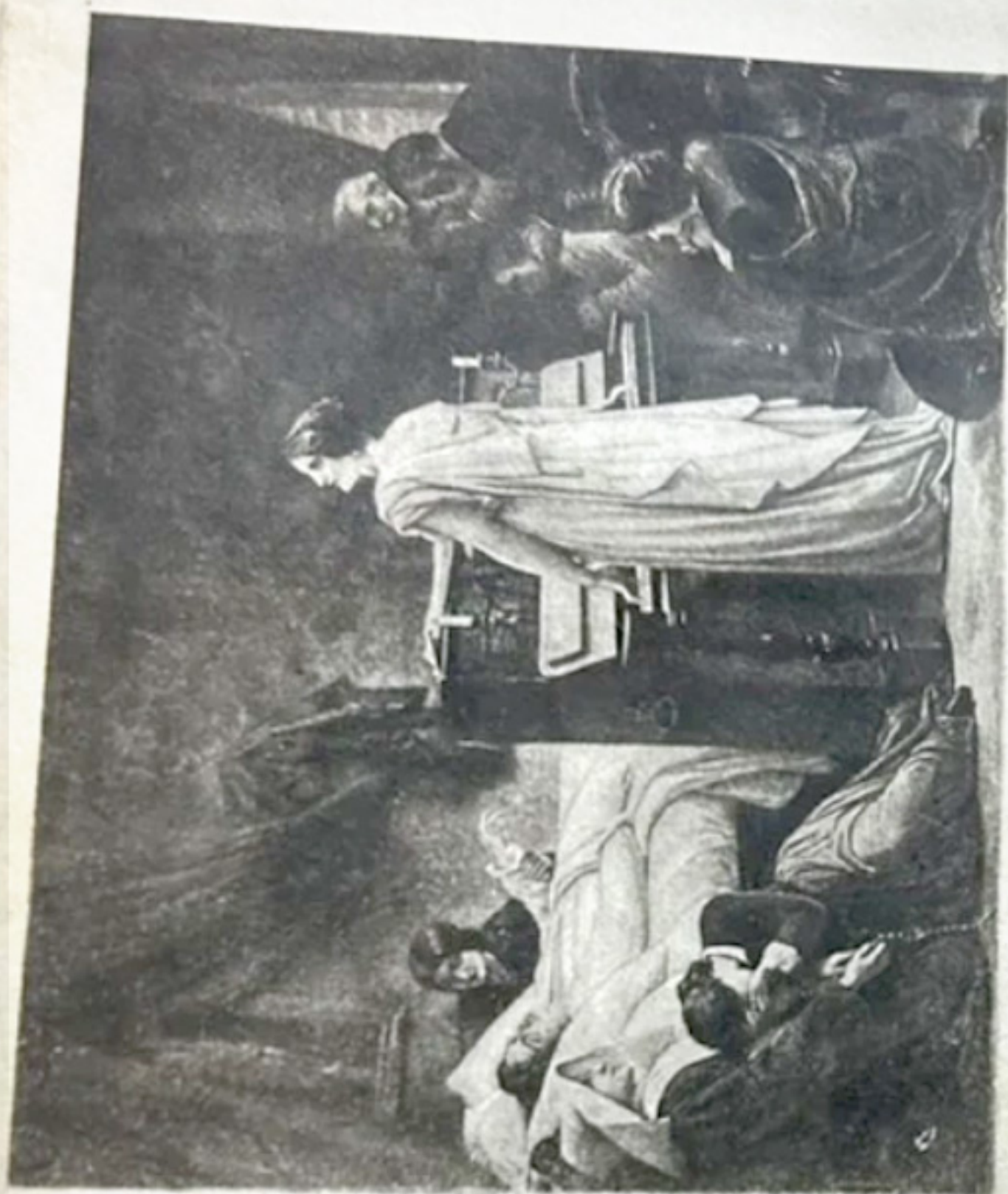
"This is an eyeball-to-eyeball state," he said.

U.S. Sen. Jon Tester speaks with veterans attending a Veterans Day event at Bigfork High School, on Nov. 10, 2023, in Bigfork, Mont. Tester is seeking re-election to a fourth term. (AP Photo/Matthew Brown)

{Not all voters are equal}



In a photo provided by the St. Paul Public Library is a book, "Famous Composers," that was recently returned to the library in St. Paul, Minn. The tome turned up while someone was sorting through a relative's belongings. The St. Paul Public Library checkout slip shows it was last borrowed in 1919, Minnesota Public Radio reports. (Claire Huber/St. Paul Public Library via AP)



city

Famous Composers

BY

NATHAN HASKELL DOLE

VOLUME II

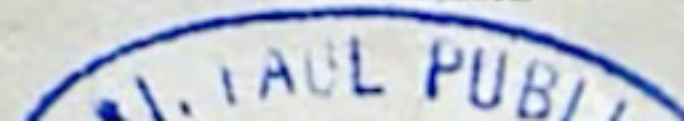
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WITH PORTRAITS



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SPOTLIGHT

Sugar prices are rising worldwide after bad weather tied to El Nino damaged crops in Asia

Sugar prices are soaring in many places. That's largely due to production shortfalls in key exporters India and Thailand that are partly blamed on the El Nino. The U.N.



Skyrocketing sugar prices left Ishaq Abdurraheem with few choices. Increasing the cost of bread would mean declining sales, so the Nigerian baker decided to cut his production by half. For scores of other bakers struggling to stay afloat while enduring higher costs for fuel and flour, the stratospheric sugar prices proved to be the last straw, and they closed for good. Sugar is needed to make bread, which is a staple for Nigeria's 210 million people, and for many who are struggling to put food on the table, it offers a cheap source of calories. Surging sugar prices — an increase of 55% in two months — means fewer bakers and less bread. "It is a very serious situation," Abdurraheem said.

The amount of sugar milled in Kenya fell steadily from June to August. To compensate, monthly imports doubled from September to October. Meanwhile, a 50-kilogram (110-pound) bag of local sugar doubled in price to \$60, shopkeeper Joseph Kuraru said. Back in Africa's largest economy, the struggle of Nigerian bakers is a microcosm of the effects of rising food and fuel costs and the outsized impact of high sugar prices because it's so ubiquitous. Abuja's many bakeries use sugar both to sweeten cakes and to feed the yeast that makes bread rise. Bread is often the only food poor households can afford. When bakers raise bread prices, as they did by 15% earlier this year, some people go hungry. Not passing along higher costs is not an option, said Mansur Umar, president of the Nigerian Bakers' Association. "There is no way you can buy high and you sell low," he said.

The world's attention is on Gaza, and Ukrainians worry war fatigue will hurt their cause

With the onset of the war between Israel and Hamas, the world's attention has swung away from the nearly 2-year-old conflict in Ukraine.



KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — When Tymofii Postoiuk and his friends set up an online fundraising effort for Ukraine, donations poured in from around the globe, helping to purchase essential equipment for Ukrainian armed forces. As the fighting with Russia wore on and war fatigue set in, the donations slowed down, but money continued to come in steadily. Then the Israel-Hamas war broke out on Oct. 7. With the start of another major conflict, social media networks including X, formerly known as Twitter, were flooded with news from the Middle East. "Our fundraising posts and updates simply get lost in between those tweets," Postoiuk said. The result has been a broad shift in the world's attention away from Ukraine to the fighting in Gaza — a trend that worries many Ukrainians. They fear that a combination of global fatigue, competing political agendas and limited resources will result in less aid for their military, hurting the country's ability to sustain its confrontation with Russia.

Ivan Bezdudnyi, a 26-year-old from Kyiv, is consumed by the war in his country. For the past two years, he has been involved in documenting Russian war crimes. Little has changed for him personally since the outbreak of the war in the Middle East. He does not worry that diminishing interest will affect Ukraine's war for long. "When the wave of interest in Israel and Hamas subsides, and I tend to think it won't last long ... the level of attention we had will remain," he said. "Maybe not as high as in February or March of last year, but probably higher than it is now."

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Monday, November 20, 2023

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Border Patrol sending migrants to unofficial camps in California's desert, locals say

NOVEMBER 21, 2023 · 5:00 AM ET

 Jasmine Garsd



Locals say U.S. Border Patrol is delivering hundreds of migrants into a series of camps, one of which is on private property, in the border community of Jacumba in the Southern California desert. Overnight temperatures in the desert have begun to drop below freezing.



A migrant who came from Honduras after receiving threats because of her sexuality rests in Jacumba, Calif., after a long walk to the U.S.



Migrants at the unofficial camps in Jacumba, Calif., say Border Patrol sometimes tells them to stay put for days while they await processing.

Ash Ponders for NPR



Dozens of volunteers based out of an old church youth center organize food and clothing supplies before heading out to the camps near Jacumba, Calif., on Nov. 11.

Ash Ponders for NPR

Opinion

Billionaires are lining up to fund Donald Trump's anti-democratic agenda

Robert Reich



The more disturbing Trump's public proclamations become, the more US plutocrats seem to want him to win

Tue 21 Nov 2023 06.01 EST

As an ever-greater portion of the nation's total wealth goes to the top, it's hardly surprising that ever more of that wealth is corrupting US politics. In the 2020 presidential election cycle, more than \$14bn went to federal candidates, party committees, and Super Pacs – double the \$7bn doled out in the 2016 cycle. Total giving in 2024 is bound to be much higher. That money is not supporting US democracy. If anything, that money is contributing to rising Trumpism and neofascism. There is a certain logic to this. As more and more wealth concentrates at the top, the moneyed interests rationally fear that democratic majorities will take it away through higher taxes, stricter regulations (on everything from trade to climate change), enforcement of anti-monopoly laws, pro-union initiatives and price controls. So they're sinking ever more of their wealth into anti-democracy candidates. **Donald Trump is going full fascist these days and gaining the backing of prominent billionaires.** Earlier this month, on Veterans Day, Trump pledged to “root out the communists, Marxists, fascists and the radical-left thugs that live like vermin within the confines of our country”, whom he accused of doing anything “to destroy America and to destroy the American dream”. (Notably, he read these words from a teleprompter, meaning that they were intentional rather than part of another impromptu Trump rant.) Days before, Trump claimed that undocumented immigrants were “poisoning the blood of our country”. The New York Times reported that he was planning to round up millions of undocumented immigrants and detain them in sprawling camps while they wait to be expelled. Trump has publicly vowed to appoint a special prosecutor to “go after” Joe Biden and his family, and has told advisers and friends that he wants the justice department to investigate officials who have criticized his time in office. This is, quite simply, full-throated neofascism. Who's bankrolling all this?

Who's bankrolling all this? While Trump's base is making small contributions, the big money is coming from some of the richest people in the US. During the first half of the year, multiple billionaires donated to the Trump-aligned Make America Great Again, Inc Super Pac. Phil Ruffin (net worth of \$3.4bn), the 88-year-old casino and hotel mogul, has given multiple \$1m donations. Charles Kushner (family net worth of \$1.8bn), the real estate mogul and father of Jared, who received a late-term pardon from Trump in December 2020, contributed \$1m in June. Robert “Woody” Johnson (net worth of \$3.7bn), Trump's former ambassador to the United Kingdom and co-owner of the New York Jets, donated \$1m to the Maga Pac in April. And so on. But Trump is not the only extremist pulling in big dollars. Nikki Haley – who appears moderate only relative to Trump's blatant neofascism – claimed in her campaign launch that Biden was promoting a “socialist” agenda. During her two years as UN ambassador under Trump, Haley was a strong proponent of his so-called “zero tolerance” policy under which thousands of migrant children were separated from their parents and guardians. She supported Trump's decision to pull out of the UN human rights council and to withdraw from the Iran nuclear deal. Though she briefly criticized Trump for inciting the mob that attacked the US Capitol on 6 January 2021, Haley soon defended Trump and called on Democratic lawmakers to “give the man a break” when they impeached him for a second time. Haley recently told Kristen Welker of NBC's Meet the Press that while Trump's floating the idea of executing retired Gen Mark Milley might be “irresponsible”, it is not enough to disqualify Trump from running for the White House again. Haley's billionaire supporters include Stanley Druckenmiller and Eric LeVine. The Republican mega-donor Ken Griffin has said he is “actively contemplating” supporting Haley. Notably, Haley has also gained the support of JPMorgan Chase's chief executive, Jamie Dimon, who's about as close as anyone in the US comes to being a spokesperson for the business establishment. Dimon admires Haley's recognition of the role that “business and government can play in driving growth by working together”. The moneyed interests have been placing big bets on other Trumpist Republicans. Peter Thiel, the multibillionaire tech financier who once wrote that “I no longer believe that freedom and democracy are compatible,” contributed more than \$35m to 16 federal-level Republican candidates in the 2022 campaign cycle, making him the 10th largest individual donor to either party. Twelve of Thiel's candidates won, including Ohio's now-senator JD Vance, who alleged that the 2020 election was stolen and that Biden's immigration policy has meant “more Democrat voters pouring into this country”. The Republican House majority leader, Steve Scalise, is creating a new fundraising committee which will be soliciting contributions of up to \$586,200 a pop. Elon Musk is not a major financial contributor to Trump nor other anti-democracy candidates, but his power over one of the most influential megaphones in the US gives him inordinate clout – which he is using to further the neofascist cause. Witness Musk's solicitude of Trump, his seeming endorsement of antisemitic posts, his embrace of Tucker Carlson and “great replacement” theory, and his avowed skepticism towards democracy.

Democracy is compatible with capitalism only if democracy is in the driver's seat, so it can rein in capitalism's excesses. But if capitalism and its moneyed interests are in charge, those excesses inevitably grow to the point where they are able to extinguish democracy and ride roughshod over the common good. That's why Trump's neofascism – and the complicity of today's Republican party with it – are attracting the backing of some of the richest people in the US.

What's the alternative? A loud pro-democracy movement that fights against concentrated wealth at the top, humongous CEO pay packages, a politically powerful financial sector, and tax cuts for the wealthy and large corporations.

And fights for higher taxes on the top (including a wealth tax) to finance Medicare for all, affordable housing, and accessible childcare and eldercare.

The willingness to make this a fight – to name the moneyed interests backing neofascism, explain why they're doing this, and mobilize and energize the US against their agenda and in favor of democracy – is critical to winning the 2024 election and preserving and rebuilding US democracy.

Following Trump too closely a person may become so absorbed in their fantasies that they lose touch with reality, like trying to resurrect Benito Mussolini. They may experience hallucinations, delusions, or paranoia. In some cases, they may even become violent or suicidal. Other than too much exposure to the grievance ranting and raving of Donald Trump, the exact cause of this state is not known, but it is thought to be related to a surge of dopamine, cortisol, “the stress hormone” and other neurotransmitters in the brain during his rallies. Dopamine is a neurotransmitter that plays a role in reward and pleasure. Trumpers are so in need of relieving stress and feeling—feeling anything—much less feeling pleasure, they risk with abandon throwing their cortisol levels haywire—feeling hate is preferred to feeling numb and dumb. It is thought that the release of dopamine during rambling hate filled tirades can trigger a hyperdopaminergic state, which can lead to the symptoms described above—hallucinations, delusions, or paranoia. This state is typically short-lived and resolves on its own when removed from the trumpet. However, in some cases, it can lead to serious consequences. For example, if a person becomes violent or suicidal while in this state, they may harm themselves or others, citing the first and second amendments. Additionally, the experience of this state can be very distressing and can lead to prolonged post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). If you are concerned about your emotional health, please seek help from a qualified professional. If you are concerned about the potential negative effects of exposure to Donald Trump's rallies, you can take steps to protect yourself. For example, you can avoid watching or listening to Trump's rallies, limit your exposure to social media, and talk to a therapist or counselor.

You say, "If you are concerned about the potential negative effects of exposure to Donald Trump's rallies, you can take steps to protect yourself." But how can we protect the country, protect democracy? You recommend we Strengthen Democratic Institutions, yet those are exactly what Trump is attacking in his quest to be an autocrat. Our governmental structures are antiquated, not built to withstand such attacks. Checks on Misinformation and Disinformation are increasingly impotent as the power of free press dwindles in the face of new technologies—38% of those under 30 get their news from TikTok. Independent oversight bodies can have opinions, but don't create policy. It's the policy and the corrupt courts interrupting them that is failing us. By taking actions individuals are simply waving protest signs before blind eyes. The minds of the powers that pull the pertinent institutions strings are fixed, they listen only to themselves. It's the deep seated sense of 'I'm not getting my due' injustice, hate of the 'other', hate of the unknown that drives the hordes to this speech and is winning hearts and minds.

You conclude, "The deep-seated sense of injustice and resentment that fuels political polarization and social unrest cannot be ignored. Addressing these underlying issues requires a multifaceted approach that tackles economic inequality, fosters social inclusion, and promotes empathy and understanding among different groups. Policies that promote economic opportunity, address systemic discrimination, and invest in education and social services can help mitigate the factors that contribute to these feelings of alienation and resentment. Ultimately, safeguarding democracy requires a collective effort that involves individuals, communities, institutions, and governments. By combining individual actions with broader societal shifts, we can work towards a more just, equitable, and democratic society."

The revolution will not be televised, . . . and what does Noam Chomsky mean when referring to *Manufacturing Consent: The Political Economy of the Mass Media*? In essence in their book, Chomsky and Edward S. Herman argue that the mass media is not a neutral observer of events, but rather a powerful tool that is used to shape public opinion and maintain the power of the ruling class. They call for a critical examination of media coverage and an awareness of the underlying biases that influence the way we understand the world.



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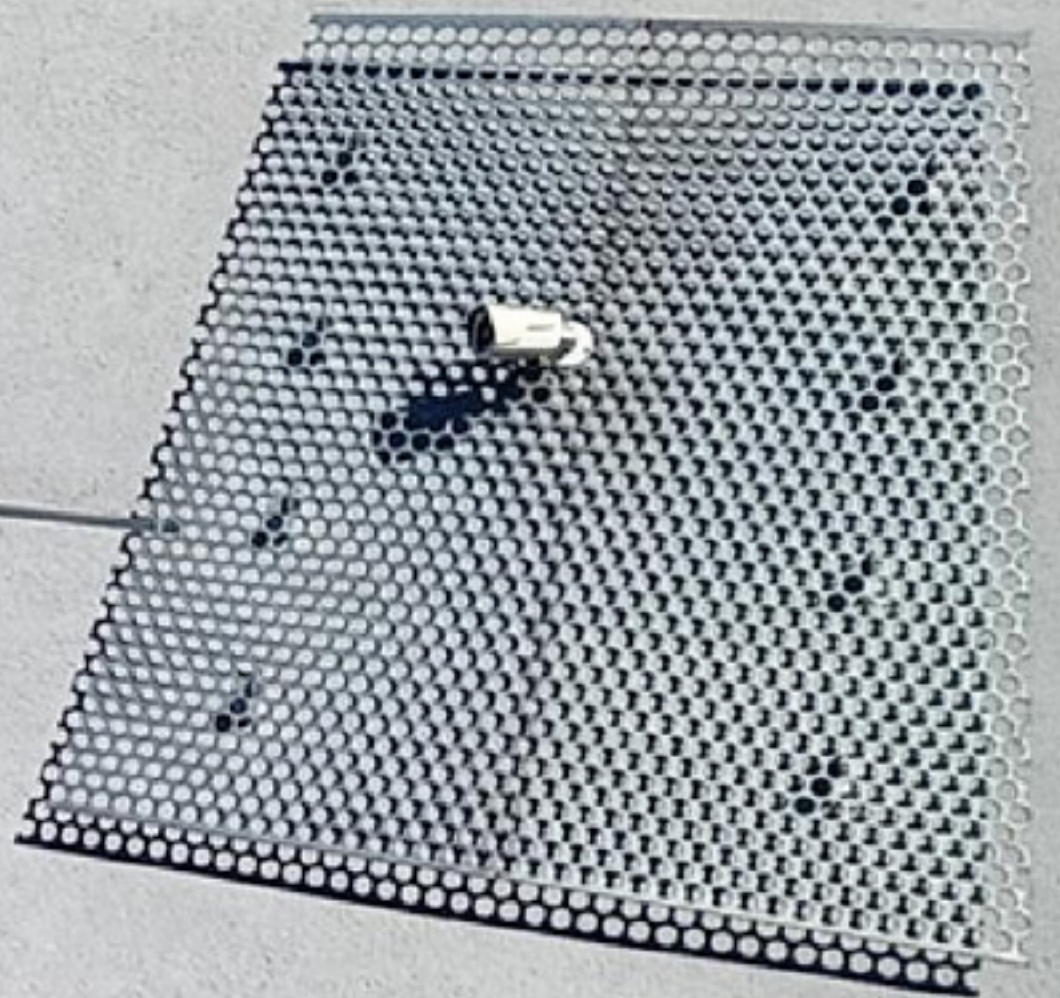
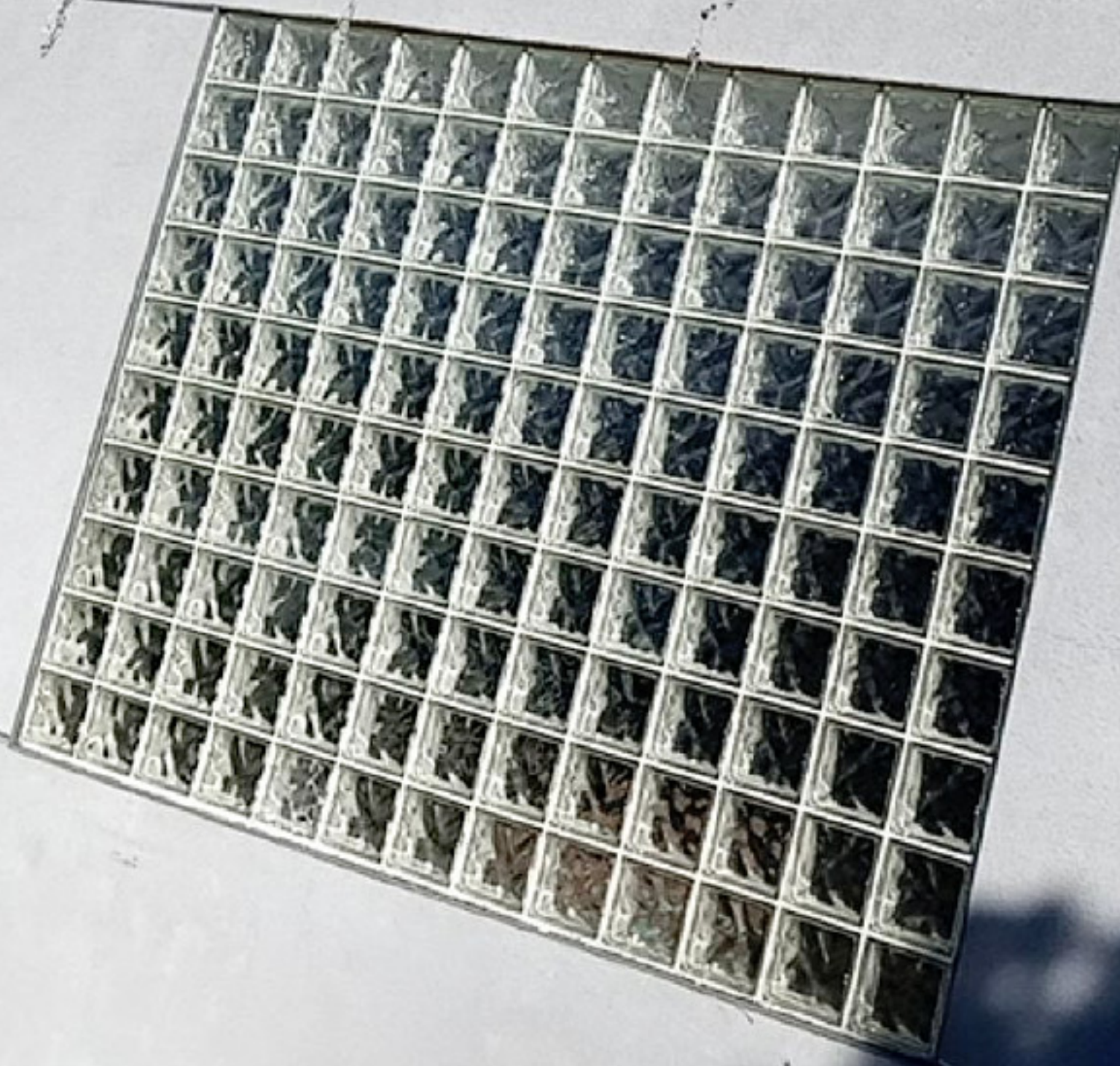


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'People didn't realise a funeral could be so beautiful': Poland finds a new way to celebrate life - and death

More and more Poles are turning away from traditional funeral rites. But what can replace them? Enter the Institute for the Good Death, grief doulas, 'death cafes' and music by Whitney Houston

Katarzyna Piasecka

Thu 23 Nov 2023 08.00 EST

"The first ceremony I officiated at was the funeral of my husband. He died by suicide," says Emilia Mandes, 47. "I wanted to respect his wish, in his final letter to me, to disappear unnoticed and avoid the 'church circus'. Moreover, both of us left the institution a long time ago and our children are not connected with the church either." A former actor and audiobook reader, she harnessed her writing skills to concoct a unique speech for her husband, and her acting skills to deliver it. She even used the occasion to raise awareness about depression. "Afterwards, people commented that they hadn't realised a funeral could be so beautiful, so personal. Some time later, a friend told me that being a celebrant could be a profession and this is how I got to know the Institute of the Good Death," she recalls.

Anja Franczak, 39, founded the Institute of the Good Death in 2020, after losing a child in 2015 and realising that society offered few tools to cope with the grief. She then discovered the roles of grief doula, end-of-life doula and celebrant, and trained in all three in Germany. "Doula" comes from the Greek word for "a woman who serves", and is popularly associated with birth doulas, who help mothers navigate the beginnings of life. But the need for assistance with end-of-life matters has become more and more salient.

A grief doula is a non-medical professional who supports individuals or families experiencing loss. They help them to come to terms with death, navigate emotions arising from grief, and deal with practical issues, such as fulfilling the deceased person's will. An end-of-life doula, in turn, guides a dying person through the process of passing and supports those important to them. Like a grief doula, they also help people come to terms with death, and deal with administrative issues such as planning a funeral. They also help communities recognise death as a natural and important part of life. A celebrant complements the doulas, supporting mourners and organising a farewell ceremony that honours the departed person.

While training, Franczak started sharing the experience on her blog and received a lot of reactions from people who were fascinated by this new, fear-free approach to dying. Death is a taboo subject in Poland, as it is in many countries. According to research, 33% of Poles don't think about it at all, and 27% very rarely.

"I don't avoid death: on the contrary, I seek contact with it. My perspective on life has changed," Franczak wrote on her blog. "I want to talk about life with the knowledge that we're all going to die. I believe that this awareness offers us a chance to live an intense life in line with our values, to open up to a deep experience of being human and to have relationships full of respect, acceptance and love."



End-of-life doulas Katarzyna Boni, Anja Franczak and Magdalena Siwecka (left to right), about to start a workshop on the circle of grief. Photograph: Anna Liminowicz/The Guardian

The death of a loved one always has something unreal about it. We can't, we don't want to believe that it really happened.

In the **complex process of mourning**, we experience strong waves of intense **emotions** - pain, sadness, maybe also anger and fear.

We have to adapt to a **new reality** without the person we miss. And we want to find a way **to remember** her in a way that still feels **connected and loved**.



Anja Franczak, 39, **founded the Institute of the Good Death in 2020**, after losing a child in 2015 and realising that society offered few tools to cope with the grief. She then discovered the roles of grief doula, end-of-life doula and celebrant, and trained in all three in Germany. 2 hours ago



Anja Franczak

GRIEF SUPPORT
AND EDUCATION ABOUT DEATH



Anja Franczak

Towarzyszka w żałobie. Doula umierania. Celebrantka.

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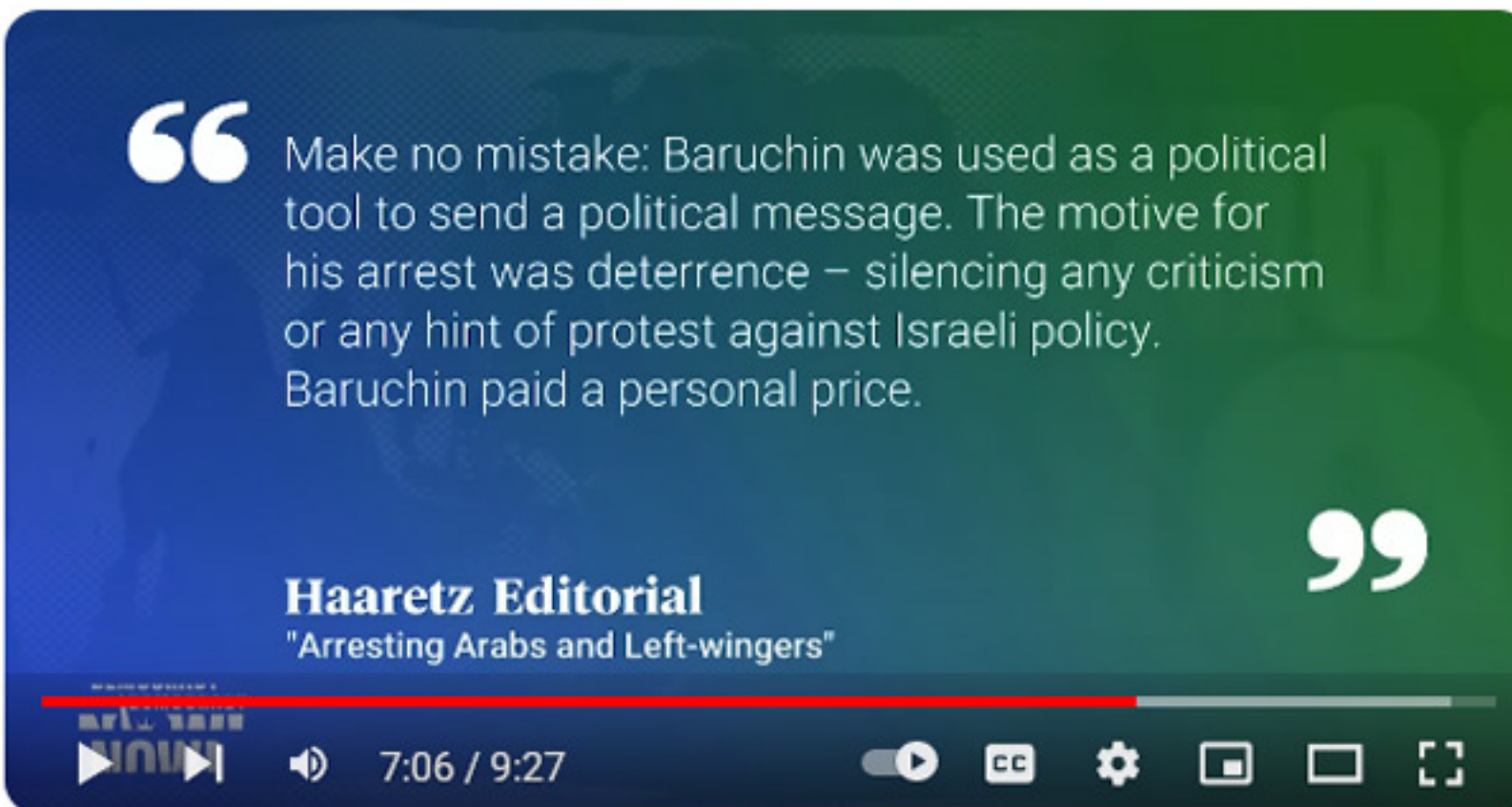
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On November 9, Israeli police arrested Jerusalem history and civics teacher Meir Baruchin after he posted a message on Facebook about his opposition to the killing of innocent Palestinian civilians. Police seized his phone and two laptops before interrogating him on suspicion of committing an act of treason and intending to disrupt public order. After being in jail for four days, Baruchin was freed but lost his job as a teacher and is still facing charges. "These days Israeli citizens who are showing the slightest sentiment for the people of Gaza, opposing killing of innocent civilians, they are being politically persecuted, they go through public shaming, they lose their jobs, they are being put in jail," says Baruchin, who says if he had been Palestinian, he would have faced more violence.

Editorial | **Arresting Arabs and Left-wingers: How Israel Intends to Crack Down on Domestic Dissent Over Gaza War**

Even if some of these statements are uncomfortable for Israelis to hear, they should be permitted as long as they don't constitute genuine incitement
Haaretz Editorial Nov 14, 2023.

After he had spent five days in jail, with no indictment filed, a magistrate's court released **Dr. Meir Baruchin**, a civics and history teacher, under certain restrictions on Monday. Just a few days ago, police had asked that he be kept in jail for "indicating a decision to commit treason," a crime carrying a maximum sentence of 10 years in jail. But what started with a bang, involving "treason" and "justifying Hamas' actions" in Facebook posts, ended with a whisper within a few days. [...]



MEIR BARUCHIN (8m22s): Well, first, I must admit that the fact that I'm Jewish played a key role in my arrest. Had I been Palestinian, it was completely different. There would have been much more violence from the police officers and also in the jailhouse by the wardens. **I think it's a clear message for not only to the teachers, but to all Israeli citizens. One of the newspaper men from Yedioth Ahronoth, Ben-Dror Yemini, he called me a "soldier in the service of terrorist propaganda," in those specific words. Other newspaper — other journalists also embraced the police statement without getting my response or without even trying to challenge the police statement.**

MEIR BARUCHIN (5m32s): Most of mainstream media embrace the statement of the police spokesman who accused me as justifying and legitimizing the rapes committed by Hamas people on October 7th. [*for example: *The Jerusalem Post* > <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-773067>]

You'll remember me when the west wind moves
Upon the fields of barley
You'll forget the sun in his jealous sky
As we walk in fields of gold

Pollution from coal power plants contributes to far more deaths than scientists realized, study shows

Lucas Henderson, Georgia Mason University

Thanksgiving sides are delicious and can be nutritious – here's the biochemistry of how to maximize the benefits

Julia Pollack, University of Richmond

Thanksgiving stories gloss over the history of US settlement on Native lands

Lisa Michelle King, University of Tennessee

Cranberries can bounce, float and pollinate themselves: The saucy science of a Thanksgiving classic

Bruce Duffalo, Texas A&M University

This Thanksgiving – and on any holiday – these steps will help prevent foodborne illness

Shirley Baker, Cleveland University

Thank gluten's complex chemistry for your light, fluffy baked goods

Kathryn Salt, University of Richmond

A ceasefire is far from lasting peace – a national security expert on the Israel-Hamas deal

Gregory A. Trumbull, USC Denmark College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Airlines are frustrating travelers by changing frequent flyer program rules – here's why they keep doing it

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Forensic anthropologists work to identify human skeletal remains and uncover the stories of the unknown dead

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Forget dystopian scenarios – AI is pervasive today, and the risks are often hidden

Alissa Schultz, Michigan State University

Lizards, fish and other species are evolving with climate change, but not fast enough

Michael P. Stone, University of Delaware and James Storz, Georgia Institute of Technology

From dark dragonflies becoming paler to plants flowering earlier, some species are slowly evolving with the climate. Evolutionary biologists explain why few will evolve fast enough.

How do viruses get into cells? Their infection tactics determine whether they can jump species or set off a pandemic

Peter Korman, University of Virginia

Viruses can get into cells in several ways. Figuring out how to stop them from entering is the first place it's a key to developing better vaccines and stopping future pandemics.

Gaza's next tragedy: Disease risk spreads amid overcrowded shelters, dirty water and breakdown of basic sanitation

Yusef M. Ali, University of Denver

High levels of diarrhea, scabies and respiratory infections have been reported as bombing campaign progresses – and children are the most vulnerable.

What would it take for a cease-fire to happen in Gaza?

Laura Nathan, University of New York

Calls for a cease-fire in Gaza are driven by humanitarian compassion and principles. But cease-fires are also technically complicated military and political ventures.

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NOT how it really happened



and a great abundance of food.

The commonly-told version of the first Thanksgiving story leaves out a lot

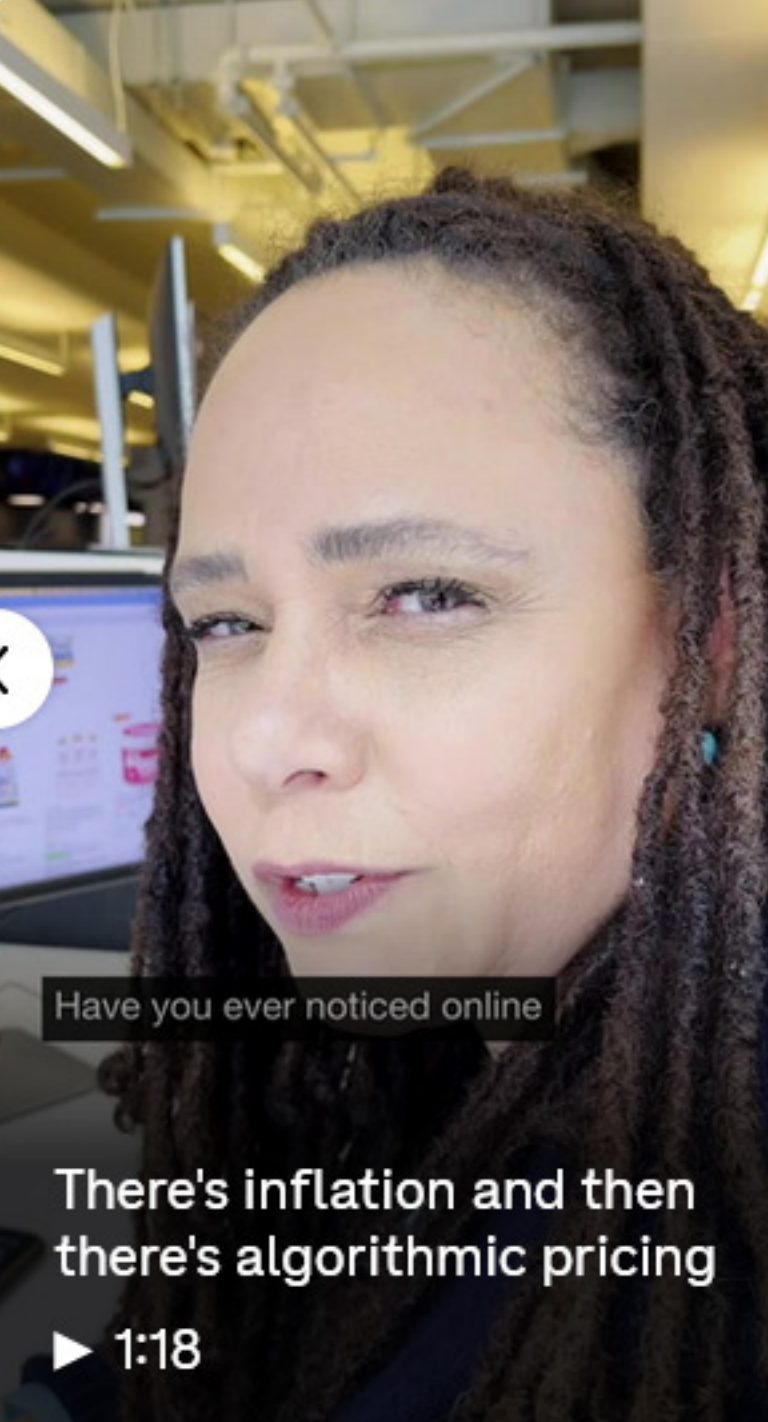
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It's thanks in part to this man — Medweganoonind,

This tribe is one of the very few in the U.S. that owns all its land

▶ 1:24



Have you ever noticed online

There's inflation and then there's algorithmic pricing

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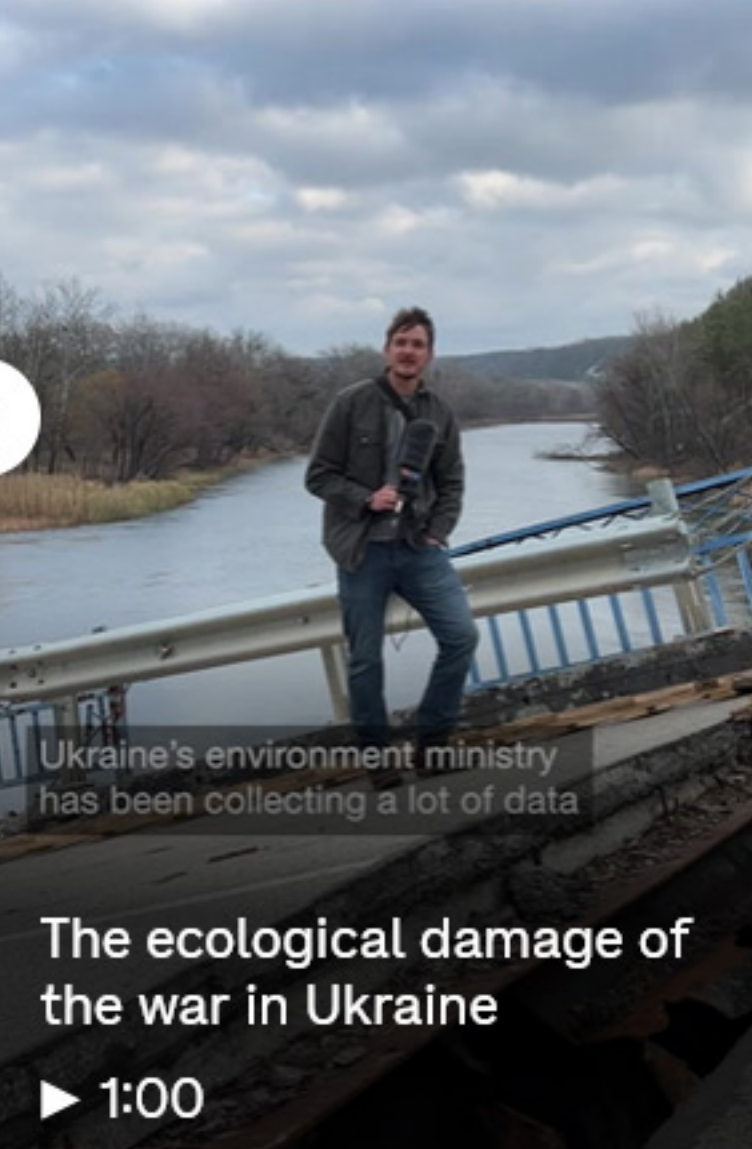
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the Dutch first introduced the birds to the island in the 1600s,

Turkey is a popular dish in Taiwan

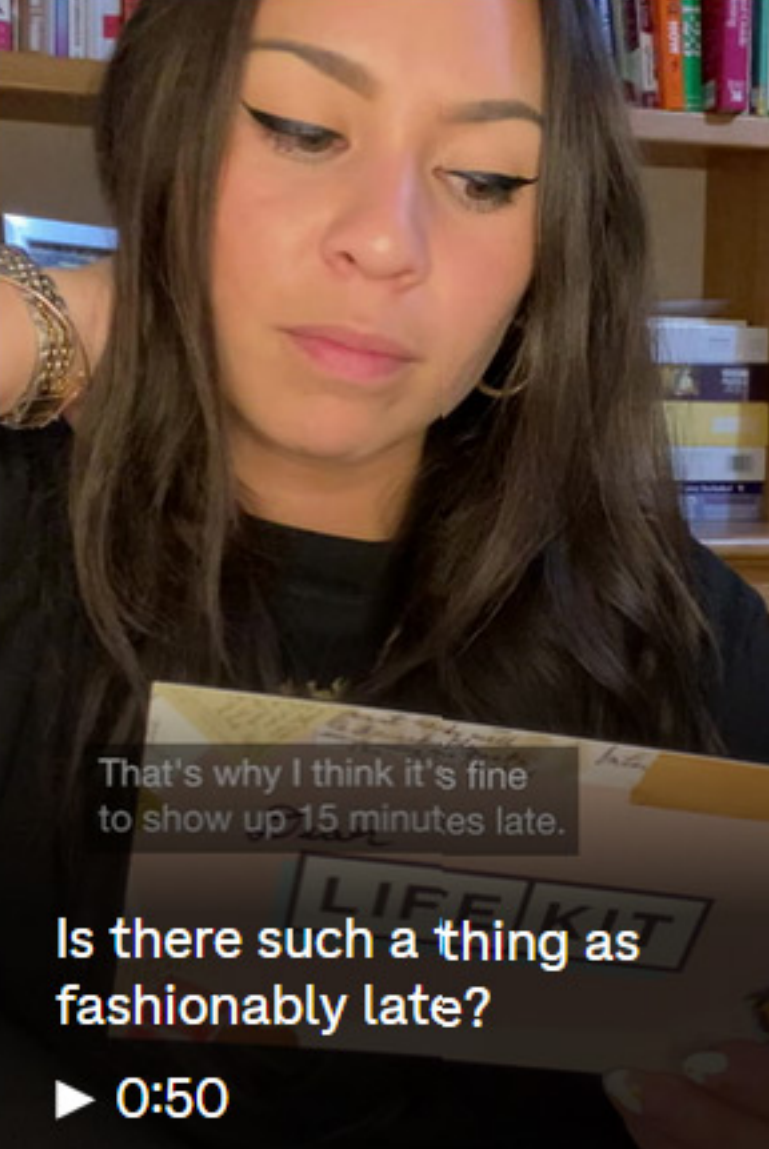
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Ukraine's environment ministry has been collecting a lot of data

The ecological damage of the war in Ukraine

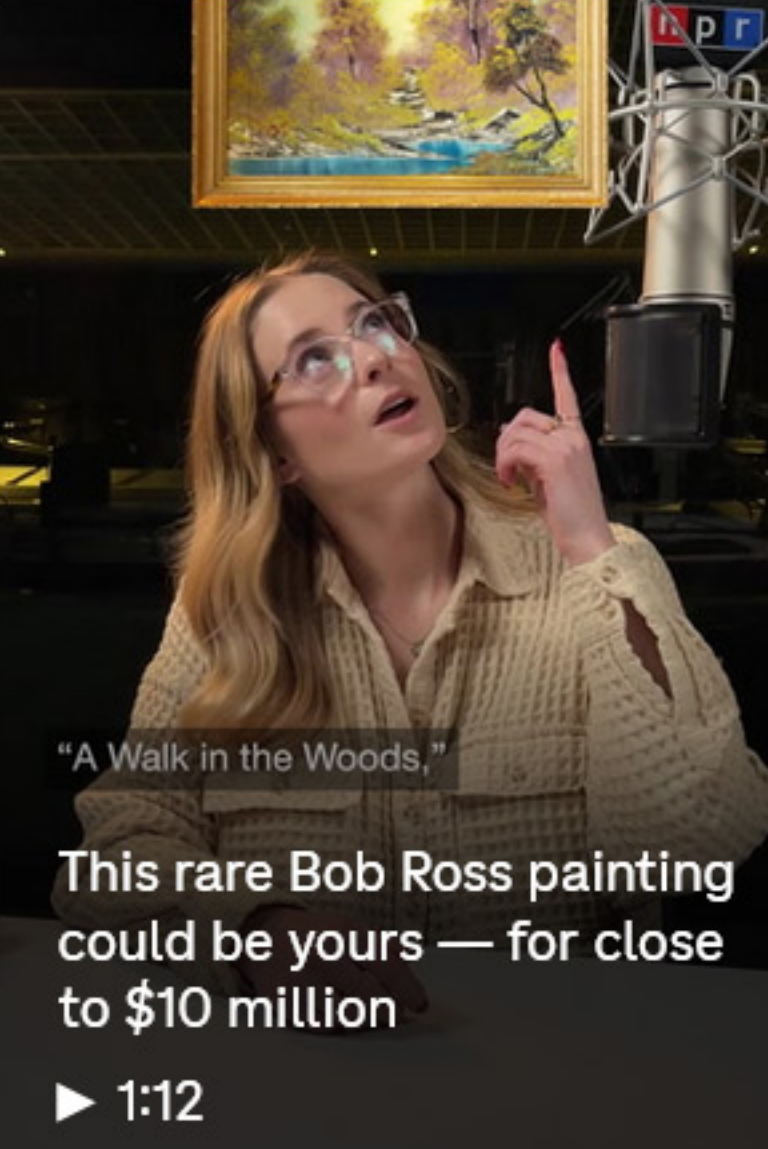
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That's why I think it's fine to show up 15 minutes late.

Is there such a thing as fashionably late?

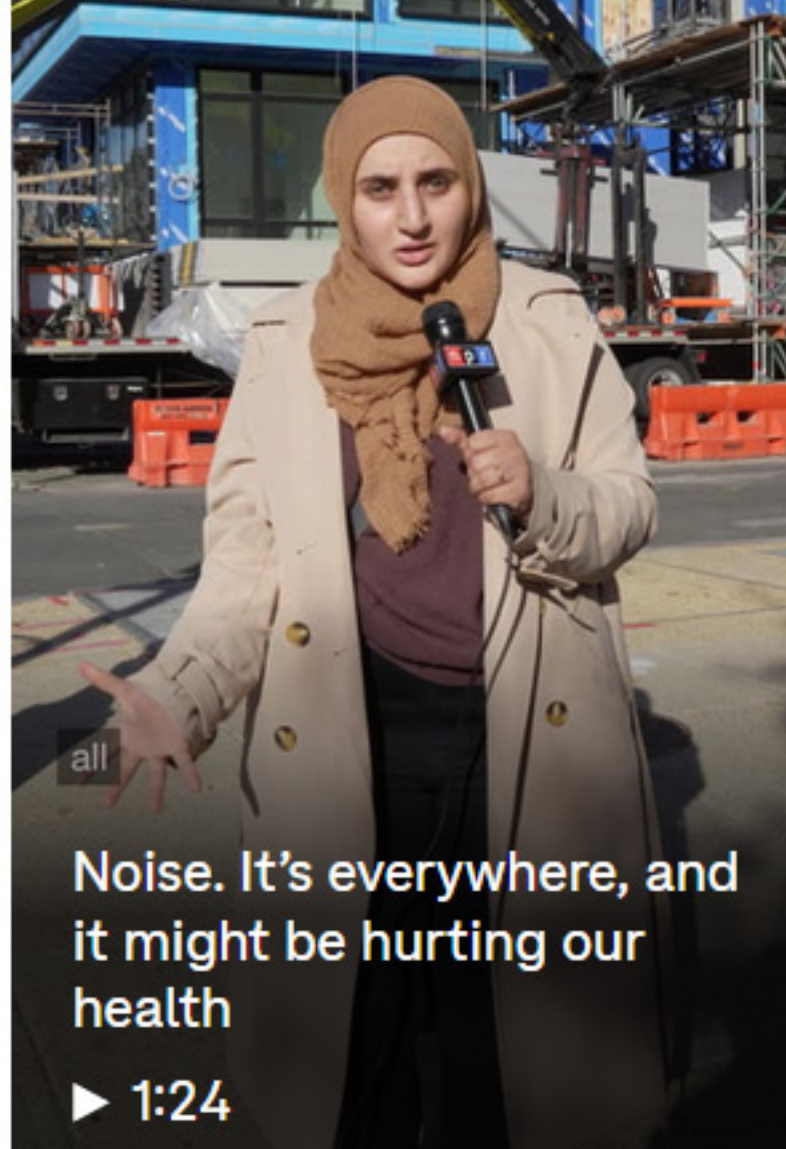
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"A Walk in the Woods,"

This rare Bob Ross painting could be yours — for close to \$10 million

▶ 1:12



all

Noise. It's everywhere, and it might be hurting our health

▶ 1:24

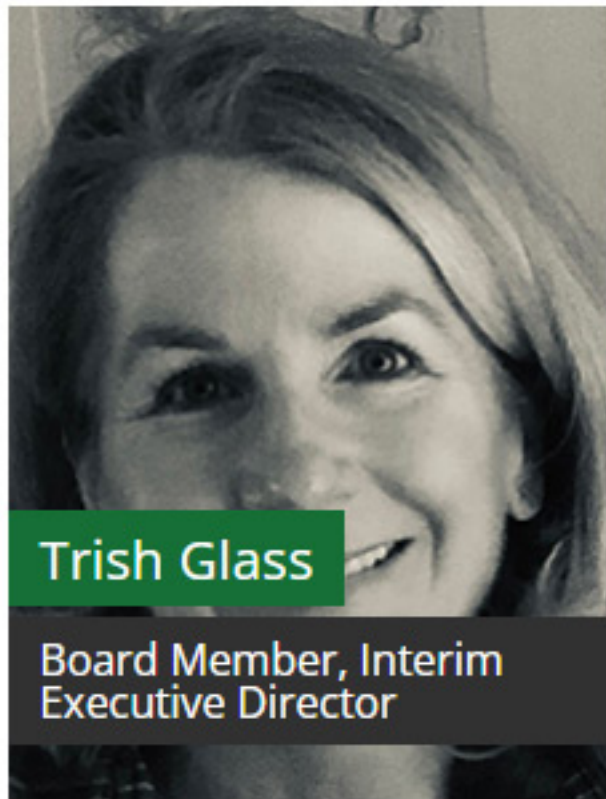


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Jamie Banks, PhD, MSc is Founder and President of Quiet Communities. She is a health care and environmental scientist with an extensive background in health outcomes and economics, environmental behavior, and policy who brings a multi-faceted perspective to her work.

Quiet Communities, Inc. (QCi) is a nonprofit 501C3 organization that is dedicated to helping communities reduce health and environmental harm from noise and pollution. QCi is led by science, health, and legal professionals concerned about the impacts of noise and pollution on health, environment, learning, productivity, and quality of life. We believe an objective, evidence-based approach to the growing public health problem of noise and pollution — combined with educational outreach and organized action — is the best path to meaningful and permanent change.

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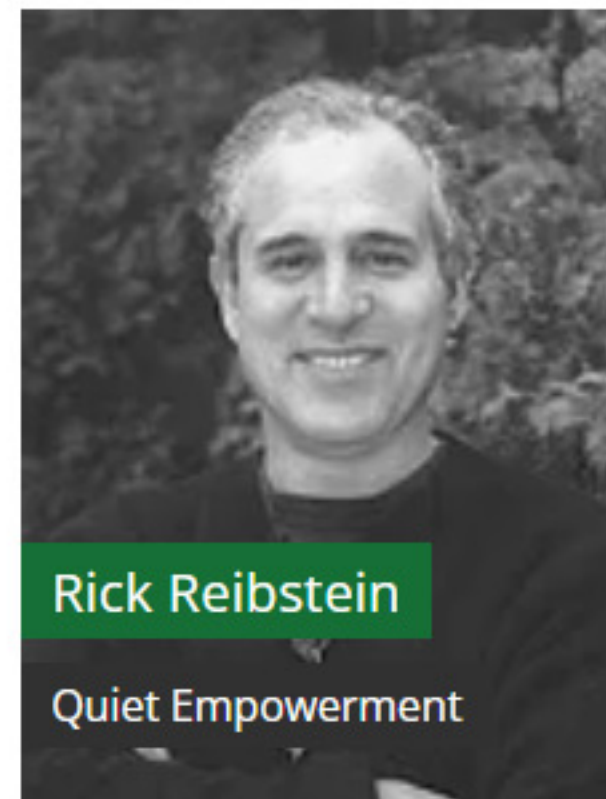
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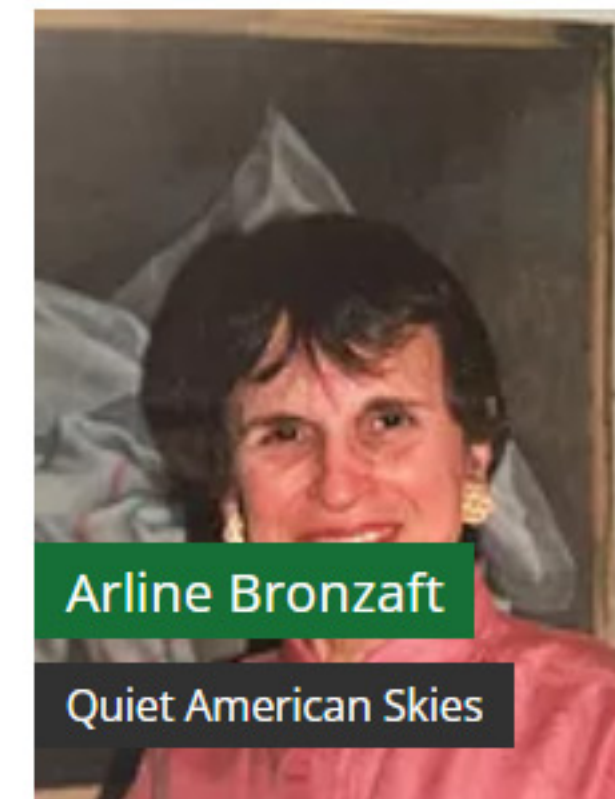
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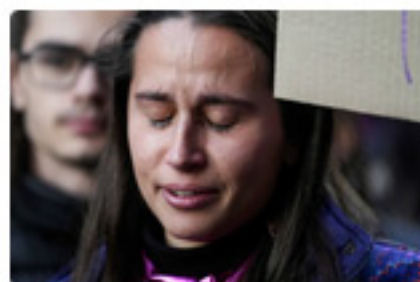
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Nicaragua's Miss Universe title win exposes deep political divide in the Central American country



Make noise! A murder and a movie stir Italians to loudly demand an end to violence against women



Missouri governor granting pardons at pace not seen since WWII era

For a dozen years as a rural sheriff, Mike Parson was the face of justice, the man ultimately responsible for catching and locking up local lawbreakers. Now governor, Parson also has become the face of mercy by pardoning more than 600 people in the past three years, more than any Missouri governor since the 1940s.

"I still believe in law and order. I believe criminals need to be treated as such, and they've got accountability," Parson said in an interview with The Associated Press.

But "it doesn't mean they're a criminal all their life," Parson added. "I think you've got to be able to look at it."

Parson's pardoning pace in Republican-heavy Missouri coincides with a national movement to restore citizens' rights and reputations after they have served criminal sentences. Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers, a Democrat, recently set a new state record for the number of pardons.



Gaza has become a moonscape in war. When the battles stop, many fear it will remain uninhabitable

Portraits of those held hostage after Hamas attack on Israel

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I keep my identity fluid. My pronouns are We/Us.



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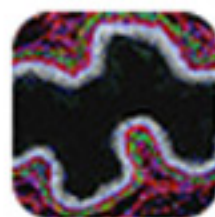
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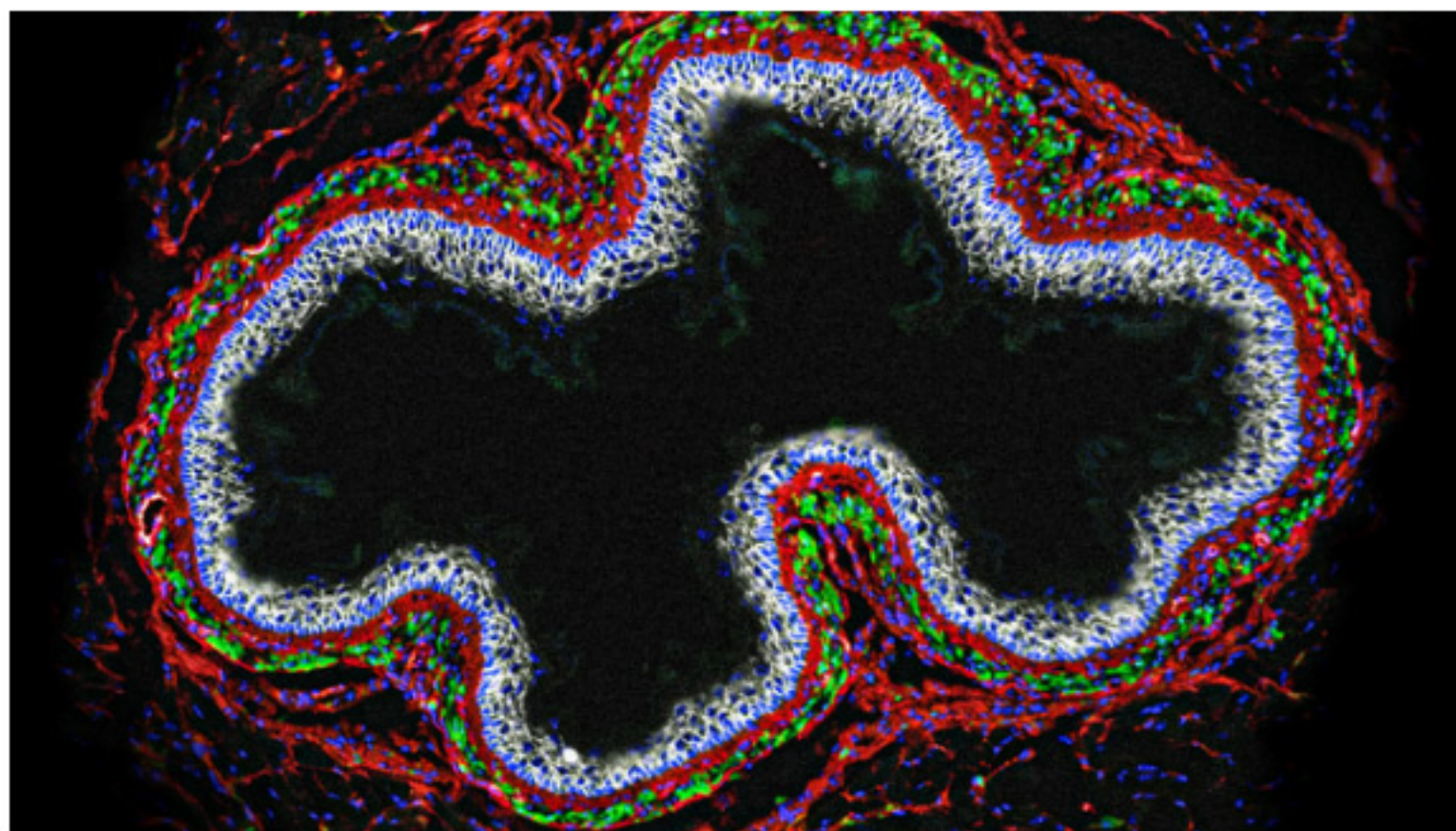


In the Gut's 'Second Brain,' Key Agents of Health Emerge

By YASEMIN SAPLAKOGLU

November 21, 2023

Sitting alongside the neurons in your enteric nervous system are underappreciated glial cells, which play key roles in digestion and disease that scientists are only just starting to understand.



Your gut has a mind of its own. A “second brain” of nervous system cells, including glia (stained green in this cross section of a mouse esophagus), coordinates the movement and digestion of food as it moves through your body.

From the moment you swallow a bite of food to the moment it exits your body, the gut is toiling to process this strange outside material. It has to break chunks down into small bits. It must distinguish healthy nutrients from toxins or pathogens and absorb only what is beneficial. And it does all this while moving the partially processed food one way through different factories of digestion — mouth, esophagus, stomach, through the intestines and out. “Digestion is required for survival,” said Marissa Scavuzzo, a postdoctoral researcher at Case Western Reserve University in Ohio. “We do it every day, but also, if you really think about it, it sounds very foreign and alien.” Breaking down food requires coordination across dozens of cell types and many tissues — from muscle cells and immune cells to blood and lymphatic vessels. Heading this effort is the gut’s very own network of nerve cells, known as the enteric nervous system, which weaves through the intestinal walls from the esophagus down to the rectum. This network can function nearly independently from the brain; indeed, its complexity has earned it the nickname “the second brain.” And just like the brain, it’s made up of two kinds of nervous system cells: neurons and glia. Glia, once thought to be mere glue that fills the space between neurons, were largely ignored in the brain for much of the 20th century. Clearly, neurons were the cells that made things happen: Through electrical and chemical signaling, they materialize our thoughts, feelings and actions. But in the last few decades, glia have shed their identity as passive servants. Neuroscientists have increasingly discovered that glia play physiological roles in the brain and nervous system that once seemed reserved for neurons. A similar glial reckoning is now happening in the gut. A number of studies have pointed to the varied active roles that enteric glia play in digestion, nutrient absorption, blood flow and immune responses. Others reveal the diversity of glial cells that exist in the gut, and how each type may fine-tune the system in previously unknown ways. One recent study, not yet peer-reviewed, has identified a new subset of glial cells that senses food as it moves through the digestive tract, signaling to the gut tissue to contract and move it along its way. Enteric glia “seem to be sitting at the interface of a lot of different tissue types and biological processes,” said Seyedeh Faranak Fattahi, an assistant professor of cellular molecular pharmacology at the University of California, San Francisco. They’re “connecting a lot of dots between different physiological roles.” They’re now being linked to specific gastrointestinal disorders and pain symptoms. Understanding the different roles they play in the gut could be critical for developing treatments, Scavuzzo said. “Hopefully, this is like the beginning of the glial-cell renaissance in the gut.”



To pursue her research documenting the variety of enteric glia, **Marissa Scavuzzo** of Case Western Reserve University had to develop new methods to work in the gut's harsh, acidic environment.



Brian Gulbransen of Michigan State University has published new work showing how glia can contribute to gut pain, suggesting possible new treatments for gut disorders.

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As the only scientist in the lab examining the gut and not the brain, she often joked with her colleagues that she was studying the more complex organ.

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Glia Do Everything: Scientists have known about enteric glia for over a century, but until recently no one had tools for studying them. Researchers could examine neurons by picking up the action potentials they fire. But compared to neurons, glial cells are electrophysiologically “boring,” said Brian Gulbransen, an associate professor of neuroscience at Michigan State University. Aside from a few reports that pointed to their roles in maintaining healthy gut tissue, they remained under-studied and underappreciated. That changed over the last decade or so. New tools that allow scientists to manipulate gene activity in glia or visualize them in different ways have “dramatically changed the way we look at the enteric nervous system,” said Keith Sharkey, a professor of physiology and pharmacology at the University of Calgary. For example, calcium imaging, a method Gulbransen developed while he was a postdoctoral researcher in Sharkey’s lab, allowed them to analyze glial activity by tracking calcium levels within cells. Thanks to some of these newer technologies, scientists now know that enteric glia are among the first responders to injury or inflammation in gut tissue. They help maintain the gut’s barrier to keep toxins out. They mediate the contractions of the gut that allow food to flow through the digestive tract. Glia regulate stem cells in the gut’s outer layer, and are critical for tissue regeneration. They chat with the microbiome, neurons and immune-system cells, managing and coordinating their functions. “We think that they do everything,” Gulbransen said. “The more that people find out about them, it’s less surprising that they do these diverse roles.” They can also move between roles. They’ve been shown to change their identities, shifting from one glial cell type to another, in lab dishes — a useful ability in the ever-changing gut environment. They’re “so dynamic, endowed with the functional capacity to do so many different things, sitting in this incredibly fluctuating and complex environment,” Scavuzzo said.

Even as excitement builds about glia in the enteric nervous system, scientists like Scavuzzo have fairly basic questions still to work out — such as how many types of enteric glia even exist.

In the Gut's 'Second Brain,' Key Agents of Health Emerge

A Force to Reckon With: Scavuzzo became fascinated with digestion in childhood when she witnessed her mother's medical troubles due to a congenitally shortened esophagus. Watching her mother go through gastrointestinal complications compelled Scavuzzo to study the gut in adulthood to find treatments for patients like her mom. "I grew up knowing and understanding this stuff is important," she said. "The more we know, we can intervene better." In 2019, when Scavuzzo started her postdoctoral research at Case Western under Paul Tesar, a world expert in glial biology, she knew she wanted to unravel the diversity of enteric glia. As the only scientist in Tesar's lab examining the gut and not the brain, she often joked with her colleagues that she was studying the more complex organ. As the only scientist in the lab examining the gut and not the brain, she often joked with her colleagues that she was studying the more complex organ. The first year, she struggled massively in trying to map out the individual cells in the gut, which proved to be a harsh research environment. The very start of the small intestine, the duodenum, where she focused her studies, was especially tough. The acidic bile and digestive juices of the duodenum degraded RNA, the genetic material that held clues to the cells' identities, making it nearly impossible to extract. Over the next few years, however, she developed new methods to work on the delicate system. Those methods allowed her to get the "first glimpse into the diversity of these glial cells" across all tissues of the duodenum, Scavuzzo said. In June, in a paper published on the [biorxiv.org](https://www.biorxiv.org) preprint server that has not yet been peer-reviewed, she reported her team's discovery of six subtypes of glial cells, including one that they named "hub cells." Hub cells express genes for a mechanosensory channel called PIEZO2 — a membrane protein that can sense force and is typically found in tissues that respond to physical touch. Other researchers recently found PIEZO2 present in some gut neurons; the channel allows neurons to sense food in the intestines and move it along. Scavuzzo hypothesized that glial hub cells can also sense force and instruct other gut cells to contract. She found evidence that these hub cells existed not only in the duodenum, but also in the ileum and colon, which suggests they're likely regulating motility throughout the digestive tract. She deleted PIEZO2 from enteric glia hub cells in mice, which she thought would make the cells lose the ability to sense force. She was right: Gut motility slowed, and food contents built up in the stomach. But the effect was subtle, which reflects the fact that other cells are also playing a role in physically moving partially digested food through the intestine, Scavuzzo said. It's possible that each involved cell type could regulate a different type of contraction, she suggested — "or they could just be additional mechanisms that organisms evolved to make sure we could keep digesting our foods to stay alive." **There are likely many fail-safes in digestion because it's such an important process, she added. The experiment offered clear evidence that, in addition to other cells, "glial cells can also sense physical forces" through this mechanosensory channel, said Vassilis Pachnis, the head of the nervous system development and homeostasis laboratory at the Francis Crick Institute. Then, having sensed the change in force, they can shift the activity of neural circuits to trigger muscular contractions. "It's a wonderful piece of work," he said.** Hub cells are only one of many glial subtypes that play functional roles in the gut. Scavuzzo's new six subtypes, added to those characterized in previous research, together reveal 14 known subgroups of glia across the duodenum, ileum and colon. More are likely to be discovered in coming years, each with new potential to better explain how digestion works and enable researchers to develop treatments for a variety of gastrointestinal disorders.

A Pain in the Gut: Gastrointestinal diseases often come with a dose of pain, in addition to disruptive digestive issues. Eating the wrong food, or too much of the right one, can cause a stomachache. Those gut feelings are driven by enteric nerve cells, including glia. Because glia are now known to control the activity of immune cells, they are suspected to play a role in many gastrointestinal disorders and diseases, making them good potential targets for treatments. Several years ago, Pachnis and his group found that glia are among the first cell types to respond to injury or inflammation in the mouse gut, and that tampering with enteric glial cells can also create an inflammatory response. In the gut glia seem to perform roles similar to those of true immune cells, Pachnis said, and so their dysfunction can lead to chronic autoimmune disorders and inflammatory bowel diseases, such as ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease. "Glial cells definitely play a role in the initiation, the pathogenesis and the progression of the various diseases of the gut," he said. Glia are likely involved because of their central role in communicating between the microbiome, immune cells and other gut cells. Healthy glia strengthen the intestines' epithelial barrier, a layer of cells that keeps out toxins and pathogens and absorbs nutrients. But in patients with Crohn's disease, glial cells don't function properly, resulting in a weaker barrier and inappropriate immune response.

"Different subtypes of glia can be functioning differently or dysfunctioning in a wide range of diseases and disorders where motility is impacted," Scavuzzo said. They have also been linked to neural inflammation, hypersensitivity in the organs and even neuron death.

For instance, Gulbransen and his team recently discovered that glia contribute to gut pain by secreting molecules that sensitize neurons. This is likely an adaptive response intended to draw the gut's attention to damaging substances to dispose of them, Gulbransen said, which as a side effect causes pain.

The findings, published today in *Science Signaling*, suggest that targeting glia could help alleviate some of the pain created by inflammatory disorders of the gut.

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Glia themselves can also become stressed by genetic problems, exposure to metabolites from the microbiome, bad diet or other factors. Fattahi has observed that, no matter the cause, stressed enteric glia influence the entire tissue, and sometimes even damage neighboring neurons or recruit immune cells, causing additional inflammation and pain.

These new studies in enteric glia will go a long way toward explaining many gastrointestinal disorders that researchers have struggled to understand and treat, Sharkey said. "I'm really excited to see how these cells have evolved to become central figures in enteric neurobiology over the years."

It's becoming ever clearer that the neuron doesn't act alone in the enteric system, he added. "It's got these beautiful partners in glia that really allow it to do its thing in the most efficient and effective way."

ELECTIONS

Cornel West sets his sights on a key battleground state

The independent candidate is well positioned to capitalize on Biden’s weaknesses in a certain swing state.



Independent presidential candidate Cornel West plans a trip to Michigan to court the very voters who are doubting President Joe Biden. | Paul Sancya/AP

By BRITTANY GIBSON

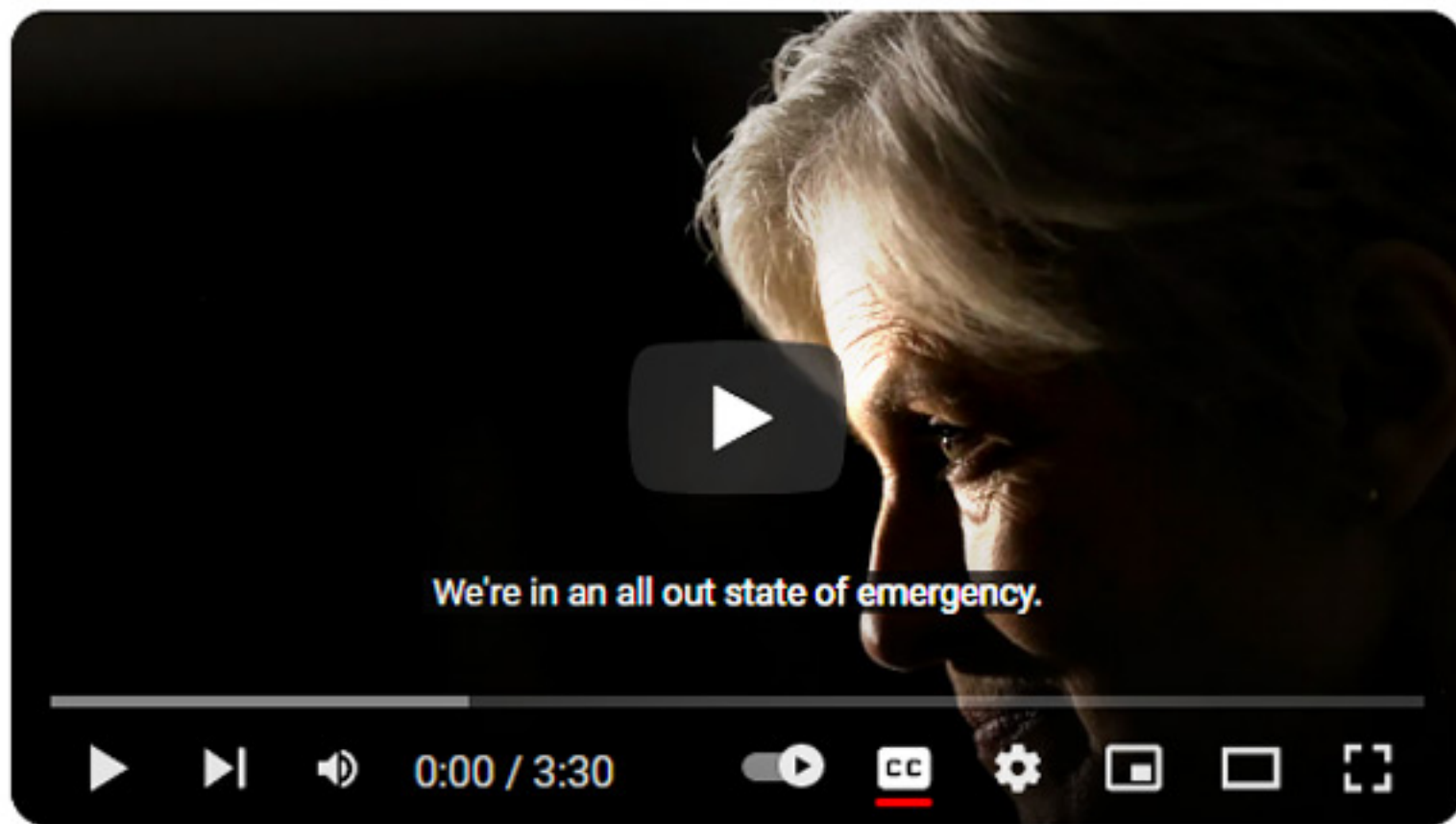
11/21/2023 10:00 AM EST

Independent presidential hopeful Cornel West is taking aim at Michigan by courting voter groups that Joe Biden is struggling with — in a state where a single percentage point could make the difference for the president’s reelection bid. West will take his threadbare campaign to the state early next year to rally support among Arab American voters in Dearborn, “environmental justice advocates” in the majority Black city of Flint, university students and indigenous populations, according to plans shared with POLITICO. Michigan’s diverse population gives West the opportunity to court support at a time when Biden’s weakness with voters of color is becoming more pronounced. Recent polling in Michigan shows Biden’s softening support among Black voters and the large Arab American population in the state has been highly critical of the administration’s handling of the Israel-Hamas conflict.

“People are looking for not just leadership, but they’re looking for statespersons,” Brother West said. **“They’re tired of these garden variety politicians.”**



U.S. philosopher and political activist Cornel West holds a banner in support of the Palestinian people as thousands march through downtown Los Angeles on Oct. 28, 2023. | David Swanson/AFP via Getty Images



'All bets are off': Jill Stein says America needs a third party president

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It's not easy being in the Green Party, or any third party for that matter, if you ask Jill Stein. Stein is a 2024 presidential candidate. She previously ran in 2012 and 2016. The biggest difference this time around, is that America is in a different 'political era,' Stein said. She's so confident a third party candidate deserves a seat at the Oval Office that she's even lifted up the campaigns of her competition.



@christopherhall1742 1 day ago

Not sure who will siphon my vote: Dr. West or Dr. Stein. But I'm okay with it either way.

1 Reply

▼ 9 replies

We're in an all out state of emergency. And I see the Green Party agenda as really critical. Jill Stein is hoping third time's the charm running as a third party candidate for president of the United States. Both parties are really bought and paid for by Wall Street. You know, their big contributors, whether they are bankers, billionaires, fossil fuel barons, they're kind of, you know, calling the shots here. And that's who they serve. They're just out of touch. It's kind of like they're dead. They're sort of, like, the living dead here. And they're not really responding to the state of emergency that everyday people, working people, find themselves in right now. When asked whether her 2016 run could have, as some claim, contributed to former Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton losing the election in key swing states, Stein is adamant that blame should not fall on her or any third party candidate, for that matter. I think is extremely offensive and arrogant and exemplifies kind of what the problem is right there. You know, if you look at the biggest so-called spoiled election, the mother of all spoiled elections, look at the 2010 election when the Democrats lost a thousand state rep seats, they lost 64 seats in the House, they lost 12 in the Senate, and they lost 13 governorships. Where's the third party to blame it on? Oops, there was no third party. There was no vast third party movement that was taking votes away. A 2022 Gallup poll shows most Americans identify as independent voters and they, "greatly outnumber Republican and Democratic identifiers." It's so exciting having done this twice before, to see what a completely different political era we're in right now. And I think all bets are off and people are standing up in a way we've never seen. So I'd hold onto your hat. Considering Stein is a three-time veteran of the third party runs, we asked her what she thought of her competition this time around for 2024. First up, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. —Environmental justice lawyer turned-politician, running as an Independent. The deal breaker has been his position on on genocide in Gaza. I mean, for me, that's like just jaw dropping and it makes it hard for me to go any further. Next, former Governor of Maryland—Larry Hogan, a potential No Labels nominee. Haven't actually focused on Hogan at this point. And Cornel West, a scholar and activist who at first said he'd run for nominee of the People's Party, pivoted to the Green Party and now is running as an Independent. I was helping Cornel West in every way that I possibly could. I've run twice before. So I've had a lot of experience getting on the ballot. There's just a gazillion ways to keep newcomers out and to prevent competition from ever occurring in our democracy. But once he didn't want to run with the party, at that point I became aware that, oh my God, now that agenda is not going to get on the ballot. In short, I'll say I don't at this point want to criticize third party candidates. They're getting enough criticism already. And truth to tell, I have been very focused on advancing our agenda and I don't see the other third party candidates as providing what we need right now.

Brother Cornel West has my vote for president of the United States in 2024



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Love Supreme,

Brother Cornel West is a living embodiment of the power of an independent mind, forever reminding us that greatness is born of the courage to stand apart and speak one's truth. Even as a young child, he exhibited the remarkable qualities that would define his life's journey and the path to the presidency. In the third grade, he fearlessly stood up to his teacher, challenging her ideas and defying the conventional norms of his time. This act of defiance was not an anomaly but a testament to his calling — the commitment to independent thinking.

Throughout his life, he has fearlessly questioned the status quo, challenged the prevailing narratives, and championed the causes of justice and equality. His unwavering commitment to independent thought and his unapologetic pursuit of truth have made him a revered figure, inspiring others to follow their path, think critically, and never back down from the pursuit of a more just and enlightened world.



Cornel West and Gabor Maté on Gaza and the Human Soul



Useful Idiots

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Presidential candidate Cornel West and author Gabor Maté met for the first time this week to discuss the horrors of Israel’s war on Gaza. “I don’t know about you,” Dr. Maté says to Dr. West, “but for me, what’s going on is one of the heaviest things, if not the heaviest thing, I’ve witnessed in my whole life. I don’t know how to compare tragedies, but there’s something about what’s going on right now that seems heavier and darker.” West responds: “When you watch precious human beings being literally killed, crushed, demeaned, degraded, day after day, it makes you think that this particular historical moment has a certain grimness and darkness that others don’t.”

The two men use their complex histories with tragedy and suffering to analyze the horror of the current moment. “I’ve always felt that no evil would surprise me and no despair would paralyze me,” West continues, “because you and I know the history of the species.”

But the conversation that stems from this is a much more hopeful one, where the scholars’ vast study of philosophy and history intertwine to create a message not of helplessness but of possibility. Hear the full conversation on how oppressed people create music of rebellion, their favorite philosophers, and a final message to take from the conversation: “Never again is not a tribal slogan. It’s a universal slogan. It applies to everybody.”

<NOTE: the youtube channel “Useful idiots” belong to Aaron Mate, Gabor’s son.>

3:35 > **György Lukács** (born György Bernát Löwinger; 13 April 1885 – 4 June 1971) was a Hungarian Marxist philosopher, literary historian, literary critic, and aesthetician. He was one of the founders of Western Marxism, an interpretive tradition that departed from the Soviet Marxist ideological orthodoxy. He developed the **theory of reification***, and contributed to Marxist theory with developments of Karl Marx's theory of class consciousness. He was also a philosopher of Leninism. He ideologically developed and organised Lenin's pragmatic revolutionary practices into the formal philosophy of vanguard-party revolution. As a critic, Lukács was especially influential due to his theoretical developments of literary realism and of the novel as a literary genre. In 1919, he was appointed the Hungarian Minister of Culture of the government of the short-lived Hungarian Soviet Republic (March–August 1919). [6] Lukács has been described as the preeminent Marxist intellectual of the Stalinist era, though assessing his legacy can be difficult as Lukács seemed both to support Stalinism as the embodiment of Marxist thought, and yet also to champion a return to pre-Stalinist Marxism.

***Reification** (Verdinglichung, "making into a thing") is the process by which human social relations are perceived as inherent attributes of the people involved in them, or attributes of some product of the relation, such as a traded commodity.

As a practice of economics, reification transforms objects into subjects and subjects into objects, with the result that subjects (people) are rendered passive (of determined identity), whilst objects (commodities) are rendered as the active factor that determines the nature of a social relation. Analogously, the term hypostatization describes an effect of reification that results from presuming the existence of any object that can be named and presuming the existence of an abstractly conceived object, which is a fallacy of reification of ontological and epistemological interpretation. **Reification is conceptually related to, but different from Marx's theory of alienation and theory of commodity fetishism; alienation is the general condition of human estrangement; reification is a specific form of alienation; and commodity fetishism is a specific form of reification.**

6:30 > I do resonate so deeply with you brother in terms of just the sheer impact on my soul, and the sheer impact on my psyche. I think it has something to do with the fact that when you watch precious human beings being literally killed, crushed, demeaned, degraded day after day in your life, that makes you think that this particular historical moment has a certain grimness and darkness that others don't. I mean I try to have some critical detachment in the sense that I have a I've always felt that no evil would surprise me, and no despair would paralyze me. Yeah because, you know, you and I know the history of the species. You know what I mean. Hegel said history is a slaughter house and Edward Gibbon says i t's just thee register of crimes and folly of humankind. [. . .]

Cornel West and Gabor Maté on Gaza and the Human Soul

Cornell brother West it's a real um honor to meet you um I've been uh following your um trajectory for a long time it's actually not an easy task because it zigzags all over the place not even if you just if I just looked at your academic appointments that's enough for several lifetimes um but but you know what let me ask you with a completely neutral question I'm just struck by the painting behind you of somebody comforting a kneeling man what is that about what what's the what's what's the image is it a Biblical image oh yes yeah this is this is one of the last great masterpieces of Rembrandt the prodical Sun that sits now St Peter bir but it's a uh it's just giving it his all along with the the gustof Glimpse the kiss as well on the other side right but I just want to begin by saluting you though brother you are one of the few favorites of my beloved wife anaita she's a distinguished Professor herself in Psychology at Long Beach Community College and uh she has been singing your Praises for many years and for very good reason I'm telling you man wrestling trauma and wrestling with ADHD and AD and all the various ways in which wounded people try to make sense of the world and you have such a um not just a Brilliance but a wisdom not just a sensitivity but a genuine compassion for others as well as the world it's a very beautiful thing to witness in any historical moment let alone a grim and dim one like we're living in right now though brother so that uh it is a unadulterated joy and blessing for me to be in conversation with you of course your kids with your daughter we saw the interview with your blessed daughter brother Aaron work over the years of course with Naomi Klein and a whole host of others and the Canadian US connection is a fascinating thing it really is I well you know what so let me tell you about the Canadian US connection so I arrived in Canada at age of 13 from Hungary as a refugee After the anti-dictatorship revolution anti-communist revolution in 56 regarded in 57 and um in the fall I was going to school here in Canada and all my classmates were listening to the World Series of baseball you know I come from Hungary where our team was one of the best football teams in the world for several years in the 1950s in fact we he didn't lose a game for several years and anyway what was I was struck by that this baseball series between two American teams they called it the world series and I thought what are you talking about the world it's only one country and and I thought to myself only the Americans are arrogant enough to call that the world and only the Canadians are stupid enough to believe it you know so that's the Canadian American connection that's so very very true though brother well I could tell you this too that the Budapest has always meant so much to me because when I was coming along in my early 20s uh I was reading every word that the great gor lucos had published from Soul and theory of the novel history and class Consciousness powerful stuff on socialist realism even his ontology I wrote a long essay that I published in the early 80s on his uh his antology that he wrote at the end of his life but I mean lucos has got to be one of the Towering intellectuals of late European modernity from the collapse of the Austrian Hungarian Empire all the way through the Soviet Union I think he died in 71 which is uh is 20 years before the collapse of the Soviet Empire you know he uh that's right well he yeah he was one of the ones in Eastern Europe who still maintained an independent mind because you know actually what strikes me is there was a propaganda system there under the Communist regimes um but everybody everybody could see through it you know so that as a kid I fell for it I really you know and then so the Hungarian Revolution was a real disillusionment for me in a very positive sense I lost my Illusions you know and I went through a number of disillusionments including with the United States because after I left Hungary United States was The Shining City on the hill you know the land of Freedom until four years later the Vietnam War and here's this shining City in the hill reigning death on on this small Viet Asian people and then I had a further disillusionment with my Zionism where I thought you know the Jewish State and now we're going to reaffirm ourselves and find our freedom and our dignity except I didn't realize that this happened at the expense of another people so so soash was one of these people that did open the wedge of disillusionment with what was going on over there but let's come to the present moment and um because I think maybe that's on everybody's Minds these days um I don't know about you but for me and I'm I even talking about taking sides here but what's going on is somehow that one of the heaviest things if not the heaviest thing I've witnessed in my whole life and I I don't know how to compare tragedies I don't know how to compare suffering and I know in Vietnam three million people died 50,000 Americans um 3 million Vietnamese in Iraq half million or so civilians you know right but there something what's going on right now that seems heavier and darker maybe because and I I wonder what you have to say about that maybe because we're witnessing it happening in real time right but do do you do you have a sense that there's some special Darkness going on right now or that people are experiencing maybe on both sides all sides of this issue I just wondering what your sense of it is on the emotional spiritual level well I I do resonate so deeply with you dop brother in terms of um

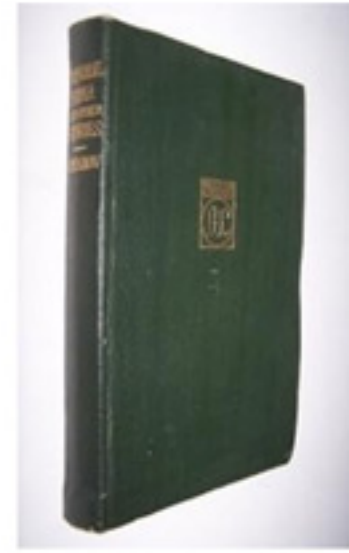
just the sheer impact on my soul and the sheer impact on my psyche I think it has something to do with the fact that when you watch precious human beings being uh literally killed crushed demean degraded day after day in your life uh that makes you think that this particular historical moment has a certain grimness and darkness that others don't I mean I try to have some critical Detachment in the sense that I I have a I've always felt that no evil would surprise me and no no despair would um paralyze me yeah because you know you and I know the history of the species you know what I mean Hegel said history the slaughter house and says just the uh the register of crimes and Foles of humankind and we know somewhere around the world there got to be in the cono and landless peasants in Brazil and so forth that people are being crushed in such vicious and atrocious ways but I I agree with you though there there's something about the precious Palestinians in Gaza with the TV coverage or sometimes we can say relative lack of coverage when it comes to certain corporate media sites so but those that are courageous enough to try to disclose and lay be full truth that it hits your so so hard brother but it I mean you already laid put forward your very powerful conceptions of both the wretchedness and the wonderfulness of we human beings uh that you you you've been willing to look unflinchingly at forms of of trauma that shatter people's souls and yet also you accent their bounceback and uh you I would want to Accent the the bounce back of the Palestinians even in this grim and dim time even as I don't in any way want to downplay just in what genocide really looks like on television the crime of genocide what it looks like on TV and trying to ensure that they don't feel as if they're in the world by themselves much I just I I just came off a call and I want don't know your response um I I teach a certain kind of therapeutic program it's called Compassion or inquiry and we have hundreds of students around the world um including Palestinians and Israelis and uh my Israeli students have been um deeply disappointed in me because or some of them have been because they say that I speak on this issue with full empathy um compassion for the aliens but not for the horror that struck the Israelis on October the 7th and I have to kind of cop to that because sometimes when I'm trying to speak to the history of this and I'm so aware of the history that's not been told as you mentioned the history of the one side has not been told in the west um history of indigenou people generally is not told the history of indigenou people or black people is not taught in the in the United States the history of Rel people only now is beginning to be taught in Canada and certainly has been missing from the discourse internationally um the experience of the Palestinians so when something happens I tend to jump in and speak to that perhaps without sufficient compassion for the shock and horror that Israel is in Jews experience in October the 7th now how would you address that one well one I would want to been you because I have seen you now on a number of interviews and I'm talking about interviews that could go on for an hour an hour and a half and me and anahita we sit here and listen to every word and I see you coming with a very very strong not just a critique but a humanistic condemnation of the killing of innocent people and you always begin with saying October 7th is not justifiable there's no conditions under which one can put forward a compelling argument that somehow it it it it it was justified uh but then you move right into context and you say this context in no ways attempt to displace that particular moment but you don't begin with October 7th you go back to the Belford declaration you go back to to 1948 you go back to 1967 and so forth so I would want to defend you on that it could be that our our precious Israeli brothers and sisters want you to dwell and to linger and to stay on that uh much longer than maybe you do but you stay on it for me long enough to let the world know that you're you you've got a humanistic reading and it's by humanistic I just mean you concerned about common Humanity but also tell the truth about suffering wherever it is taking place so I see you as much more consistent than the these Israeli students but given you know their situation or given the lry which they look at the world maybe they just wanted more more words more time spent on their suffering as opposed to the suffering of those almost 4,800 precious children who uh who have been killed and 12,000 of course if they say it's about 10 or 11 but they got two 2500 in the rubble that they can't find so there's a good chance that they've already gone but I I but I I you and I know that you know in the end is not a matter of taking sides it's a matter of engaging in a fallible but courageous quest for truth and keeping track of humanity wherever you find it and when you tell the truth about you know the history of occupations and the history of dominations the history of subjugations uh you always connected to your precious family in terms of the crime crimes of Europe and you make that very very clear and I think that's that's uh that's as it ought to be but you and I we're always going to be in some sense misunderstood misconstrued we get ready for character assassination we get ready for being marginalized and pushed through the periphery when it comes to trying to tell truths about peoples whose suffering has been rendered invisible for so long in the mainstream narratives it's just it's just a fact you and brother Pape and ficklin and the other the charmies and Stanley ARA witches and others my dear friend Edward Z that's always been the case and so we we're ready for that

Cornel West and Gabor Maté on Gaza and the Human Soul

Mate (9:02): I teach a certain kind of therapeutic program it's called Compassional Inquiry and we have hundreds of students around the world um including Palestinians and Israelis and uh my Israeli students have been um deeply disappointed in me because or some of them have been because they say that I speak on this issue with full empathy um compassion for the aliens but not for the horror that struck the Israelis on October the 7th and I have to kind of cop to that because sometimes when I'm trying to speak to the history of this and I'm so aware of the history that's not been told as you mentioned the history of the one side has not been told in the west um history of indigenous people generally is not told the history of indigenous people or black people is not taught in the in the United States the history of Rel people only now is beginning to be taught in Canada and certainly has been missing from the discourse internationally um the experience of the Palestinians so when something happens I tend to jump in and speak to that perhaps without sufficient compassion for the shock and horror that Israel is in Jews experience in October the 7th now how would you address that one?

West (10:28): Well, one, I would want to defend you, because I have seen you now on a number of interviews and I'm talking about interviews that could go on for an hour an hour and a half and me and anahita we sit here and listen to every word and I see you coming with a very very strong not just a critique but a humanistic condemnation of the killing of innocent people and you always begin with saying October 7th is not justifiable there's no conditions under which one can put forward a compelling argument that somehow it it it it it was justified uh but then you move right into context and you say this context in no ways attempt to displace that particular moment but you don't begin with October 7th you go back to the Belford declaration you go back to to 1948 you go back to 1967 and so forth so I would want to defend you on that it could be that our our precious Israeli brothers and sisters want you to dwell and to linger and to stay on that uh much longer than maybe you do but you stay on it for me long enough to let the world know that you're you you've got a humanistic reading and it's by humanistic I just mean you concerned about common Humanity but also tell the truth about suffering wherever it is taking place so I see you as much more consistent than the these Israeli students but given you know their situation or given the lry which they look at the world maybe they just wanted more more words more time spent on their suffering as opposed to the suffering of those almost 4,800 precious children who uh who have been killed and 12,000 of course if they say it's about 10 or 11 but they got two 2500 in the rubble that they can't find so there's a good chance that they've already gone but I I but I I you you and I know that you know in the end is not a matter of taking sides it's a matter of engaging in a fallible but courageous quest for truth and keeping track of humanity wherever you find it and when you tell the truth about you know the history of occupations and the history of dominations the history of subjugations uh you always connected to your precious family in terms of the crime crimes of Europe and you make that very very clear and I think that's that's uh that's as it ought to be but you and I we're always going to be in some sense misunderstood misconstrued we get ready for character assassination we get ready for being marginalized and pushed through the periphery when it comes to trying to tell truths about peoples whose suffering has been rendered invisible for so long in the mainstream narratives it's just it's just a fact you and brother Pape and ficklin and the other the charmies and Stanley ARA witches and others my dear friend Edward Z that's always been the case and so we we're ready for that but what I do love about your uh your your your I would call it discourse is too abstract but your intellectually informed way of bearing witness is that you do have a humility that's very rare very very rare much as I love non chsky non Chomsky is not the most humble brother in the world you know just he's got a cartisian sensibility this is clear this is distinct this is transparent I'm laying bear and he's so often right and we love him for that but you come across you know almost uh it's like check off I think check off for me is the greatest literary artist of late late modernity and check off always have this sense of humility Sensitivity I could be right this is my view and opinion I've been thinking about it for decades but I'm open to critical challenges to it so you open yourself to Socratic energy Socratic dialogue that's a rare thing my brother very very well where do you think you got that from and what what it it had something to do with family

I'm sure it has something to do with your intellectual uh mentors where does that come from well you know first of all anybody knows me personally can tell you how arrogant I can become I always used to say nobody's ever accused me of not being arrogant you know but but but when it comes to intellectual matters or historical matters or the matters that I've studied uh addiction or stress or illness um human development I have a certain degree of confidence um that once I've studied it and I've come to the conclusions that I've arrived at it's not necessarily that I'm right but I'm very well grounded and where I stand so I don't have to come across as um arrogant about it I can acknowledge the possibility of me being wrong and I'm just waiting for somebody to point out to me where I am and where I am I will admit it you know so it's a non it's not so much humility as non- defensiveness I would call it because when I am arrogant it's a defensiveness you know and when I'm confident about something as I am on this Israel Palestine issue because I've studied it inside and out for so many years doesn't make me agree right but I'm very confident on the ground that I stand on um I want to come back to you you've been thr so much yourself um you've been challenged so much you've also spoken so much um you bring so many different sensitivities to your work I mean there's your what you call your socialism there there's your incredible sense of Music particularly Jazz and I'd love to hear more about that sometime um your your philosophical background like your friend uh Chris Hedges you're a former theolog and the Divinity student as well you know um Chris is Chris is a and you're a Universalist how does all come that together for you how does all that come together for you when you take a stand for example on Gaza all these streams are flowing to this river that that you are um how do they all come together how did you how did you arrive at that well that's a wonderful question I'm not sure they really come together there may be a lot of distant shot through just blow and I it stays in the flow because I'm not one for uh coherence I I I I've read too much David Hume I've read too much Gard I've read too much montain who are exemplary Skeptics you know what I mean always think every form coherence is hiding some kind of incoherence every form of consistency hiding some kind of inconsistency but in the end I think for me it has so much to do my brother with um my family growing up on the chocolate side of Sacramento I wish you had chance to meet Irene and Clifton whose mom and dad they were just exemplary human beings deeply humble just trying to pass on to me and Cliff and c and Cher my and family treat people right don't think you're ever better than anybody uh uh the world is a cold and cruel place but you be a try to be a light and Shining not because you're better because of the choices you make those are moral choices those are political choices those are intellectual choices that you make so you're right I mean you and I are internationalists we just decide to be internationalist across the board in a world you know which you know the most powerful ideology of modernity is nationalism this is a thing that people would live and die for they wave the flag I came out of the West Family tied to shallow Baptist Church linked to the legacy of Martin King and others where every flag is is under the cross uh as Christian and that cross signifies unarmed truth and unconditional love the condition of Truth is to allow suffering to speak everybody's suffering beginning with the least of these ah you see that's what it means for the West family to be fallible finite followers of Jesus of Nazareth so you can see my connection to uh the Jewish contribution to the world not just modern world coming out of Hebrew scripture that particular Palestinian Jew named Jesus who uses his life to exemplify what Hess it that spreading of that steadfast love and loving kindness to the orphan and Widow and landless and homeless and and and fatherless the oppressed and persecuted but to do it in such a way that you still have fun.



Rothschild's Fiddle and Other Stories [Modern Library]

Hardcover – January 1, 1919

by [Anton Chekhov](#) (Author)

original binding of flexible green leatherette, frontispiece portrait of Chekhov.



Anton Pavlovich Chekhov (29 January 1860 – 15 July 1904) was a Russian playwright and short story writer who is considered to be among the greatest writers of short fiction in history. His career as a playwright produced four classics and his best short stories are held in high esteem by writers and critics. Along with Henrik Ibsen and August Strindberg, Chekhov is often referred to as one of the three seminal figures in the birth of early modernism in the theater. Chekhov practiced as a medical doctor throughout most of his literary career: "Medicine is my lawful wife", he once said, "and literature is my mistress." Chekhov renounced the theatre after the disastrous reception of *The Seagull* in 1896, but the play was revived to acclaim in 1898 by Constantin Stanislavski's Moscow Art Theatre, which subsequently also produced Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* and premiered his last two plays, *Three Sisters* and *The Cherry Orchard*. These four works present a challenge to the acting ensemble as well as to audiences, because in place of conventional action Chekhov offers a "theatre of mood" and a "submerged life in the text". Chekhov had at first written stories only for financial gain, but as his artistic ambition grew, he made formal innovations which have influenced the evolution of the modern short story. He made no apologies for the difficulties this posed to readers, insisting that the role of an artist was to ask questions, not to answer them.

Chekhov is probably the only great Russian writer who did not have deep anti-jewish sensibilities," Cornell West

"Rothschild's Violin" (also translated as "Rothschild's Fiddle") a short story by Anton Chekhov was first published in *Ruskiye Vedomosti* Number 37, in February 1894. In the same year it was published in the collection *Novellas and Stories* (Повести и рассказы). After the idea was proposed to him by Dmitri Shostakovich, "Rothschild's Violin" was made into an opera by Veniamin Fleishman.

Synopsis: Yakov Ivanov (nicknamed "Bronze") is a seventy-year-old coffin maker in a small village, where there are not enough deaths for his business to flourish. To make ends meet, he plays the violin for a Jewish klezmer orchestra when called upon by its director Moisey Shahkes. Yakov is anti-semitic and dislikes Jews, especially the flutist in the orchestra named Rothschild. Yakov's wife Marfa becomes ill. Her illness makes him regret his flippant conduct, his coldness and indifference towards her. On the eve of her death, she reminds him of their shared past, but Yakov does not remember. He starts to build her coffin before she dies. Yakov eventually succumbs to illness as well. After grieving for his wife, and then facing his own mortality; Yakov's attitude changes. He eventually gives his violin to Rothschild before dying.

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/therapists/annahita-mahdavi-west-santa-ana-ca/927956>

https://www.pw.org/literary_events/the_poetry_of_annahita_mahdavi_west_in_conversation_with_dr_cornel_west



Dr. Annahita Mahdavi West

Marriage & Family Therapist Associate, PhD ,
AMFT, CATC-V (she, her)

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📍 Santa Ana, CA 92705

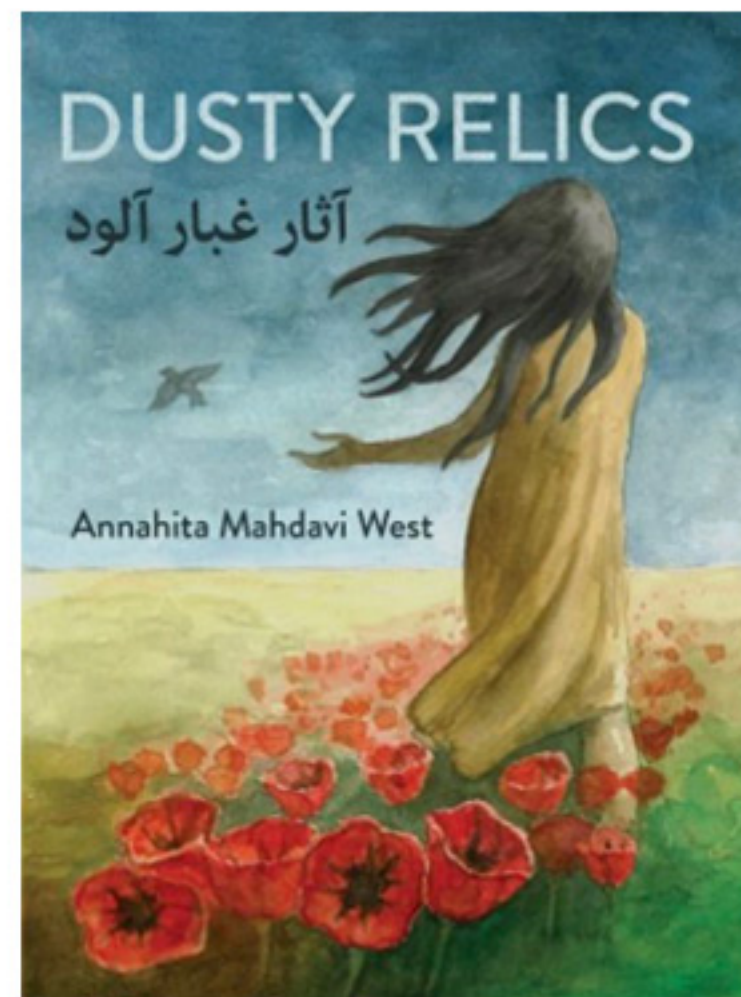
“The beautiful, healing words of Annahita Mahdavi West, poet of the Iranian diaspora, allow us to glimpse hope and justice, even when the realities of our world only seem to offer pain and despair. This inspiring collection of poems creates bridges out of borders and lets us know what it might feel like to be citizens of the world.” - Angela Davis

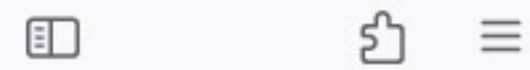
Dr. Annahita Mahdavi West was born and raised in Tehran, Iran. She left Iran in 1985 due to political turmoil and hasn't been back since. She became a UN refugee in Turkey and immigrated to Sweden before coming to America in 1990 where she also received asylum status. She is a professor at Long Beach City College in Allied Health Science. She received her MA in Clinical Psychology from Pepperdine University. As a Clinical, she has worked with a diverse population with issues of acculturation and traumas of loss. She received her Ph.D. in International Psychology and wrote her dissertation on Perceptions of Acculturation Resiliency Factors of Iranian, Iraqi, and Afghan Refugees.

I work in a nonprofit agency that offers low-fee therapy. I approach this field of psychotherapy as a sacred space. A space of human connectivity. A space safe and free of judgments and biases. I attempt to provide the utmost empathy and a safe space for my clients to be able to address the issues they need help with. I believe in being solution-focused while addressing the underlying causes of repetitive patterns in order to stop the self-destructive cycles that produce unfavorable results. My goal is to help you to change your behavior to promote positive outcomes towards your mental and emotional wellbeing.

My specialties include anxiety, depression, grief and loss, family and relationship conflicts, teenagers, school problems, couples, substance use, addiction, co-dependency, adjustment and integration issues, immigration and acculturation trauma, incarceration, and racial trauma. I use secure technology to offer virtual therapy to anyone in California.

I've been providing psychotherapy since 2009 working with a variety of populations such as Teens, through a multicultural lens. I consider it to be a blessing to be trusted by the individuals with their life stories so as to be able to shed a guiding light on their paths. I believe in practicing empathy, unconditional regard, acceptance & cultural humility.





PRESIDENT BIDEN: What they say to me is I have no notion that the Palestinians are telling the truth about how many people are killed. I'm sure innocents have been killed, and it's the price of waging a war.



I'm sure innocents have been killed, and it's the price of waging a war.

<https://youtu.be/YtJVMGPiNo0>



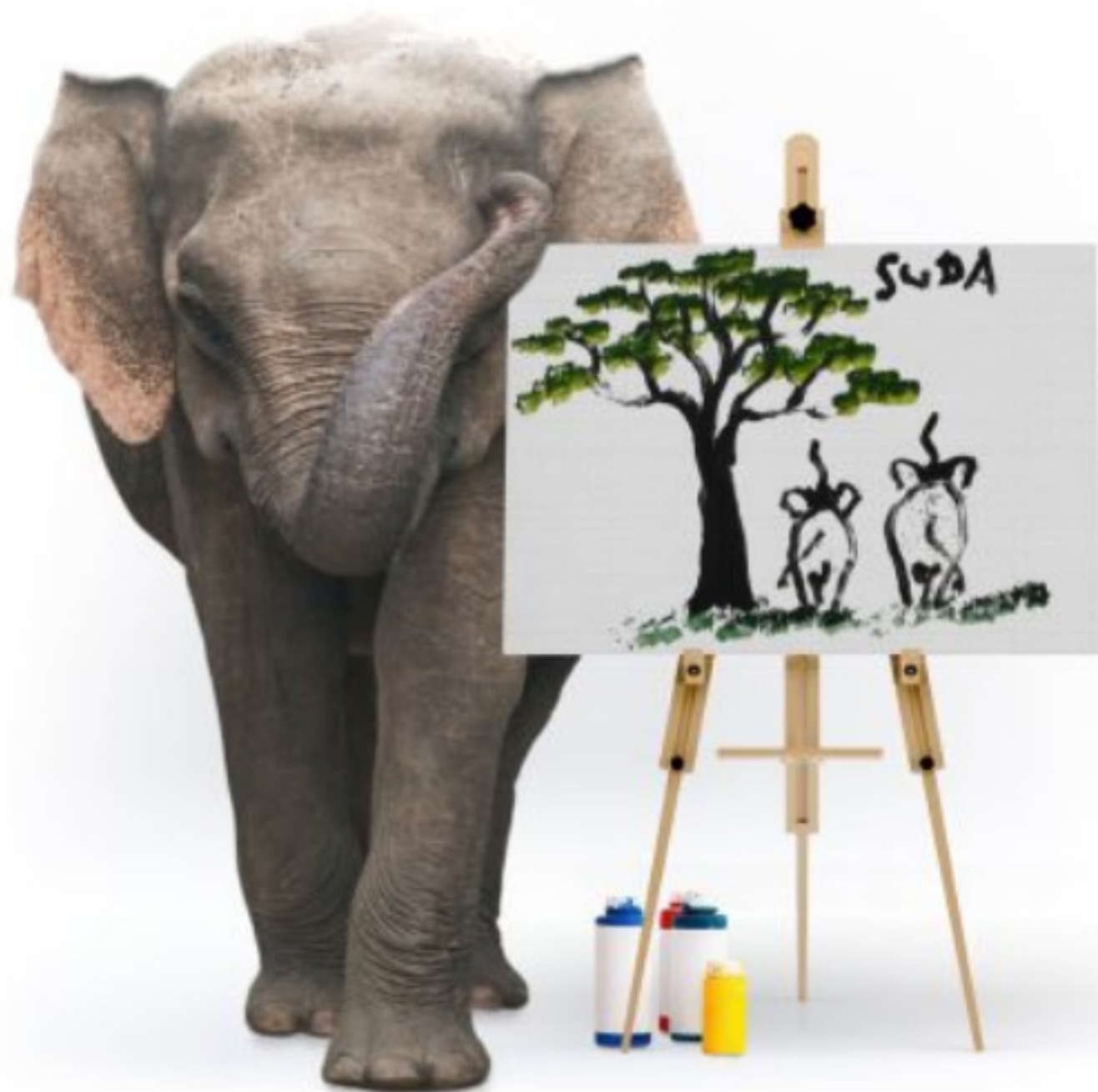
Anybody
who's subjugated



people for 400 years have been terrorized traumatized and hated and we dish out love Warriors and freedom fighter every generation which means that we stand in solidarity with anybody who's occupied anybody who's subjugated anybody who's exploited and that's why we focus on Gaza at this moment because a genocidal attack is taking place yeah 10,000 dead and 4,000 precious children and don't let anybody tell you that because you love Palestinians and Palestinian babies that you hate somebody else it just doesn't follow what our brother we don't hate Jewish Brothers we don't hate Jewish sisters we don't hate Jewish siblings we I we hate a vicious Israeli occupation we Loathe and we hate a vicious Siege against Gaza and the least we can do at this moment of overwhelming barbarity is have a ceasefire and yet you got these cowards in Washington DC talking about a humanitarian pause please get off the crackpipe wake up see the humanity of precious Palestinian brothers and sisters and the American Empire has the nerve in this building to veto a humanitarian pause with our precious pres Palestinian brothers and sisters being bombed what kind of country are we what kind of people are we and we send a message to Palestinian brothers and sisters and siblings in Gaza you are not forgotten we see you we focus on you we give attention to you



Authentic Paintings Made by Elephants at our Elephant Park & Clinic in Thailand. We are the original seller of elephant paintings from Thailand. We are also the home of world-famous Elephant Suda.



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Is 'Genocide Joe' The End Of 'Vote Blue No Matter Who'?

<https://youtu.be/9NOB8xAfApk>

November 25, 2023



Is 'Genocide Joe' The End Of 'Vote Blue No Matter Who'?

Katie Halper

36K views • 21 hours ago

Claudia De la Cruz is co-founder at The People's Forum. Born in The South Bronx to first generation immigrants from the Dominican Republic, Claudia is committed to the struggle in defense of human rights and social justice. She is founder and general coordinator of Da Urban Butterflies Youth Leadership Development Project (D.U.B)- a membership based project working towards the leadership development, capacity building, and the personal and collective empowerment of young women in Washington Heights, and New York City as a whole. Claudia served as Pastor to her home church, San Romero de Las Americas Church- United Church of Christ; a congregation committed to faith based organizing and social justice for 5 years. Although, she is no longer ministering within the San Romero, Claudia continues to express her commitment to a Latina/o liberation theology through her community work with youth, women and immigrant communities.

Presidential candidate, Claudia De La Cruz joins Katie to debunk why 'Voting Blue No Matter Who' is a failed mantra.

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0:21 / 12:13



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CLAUDIA ²⁰^{***}₂₄ KARINA

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END CAPITALISM BEFORE IT ENDS US

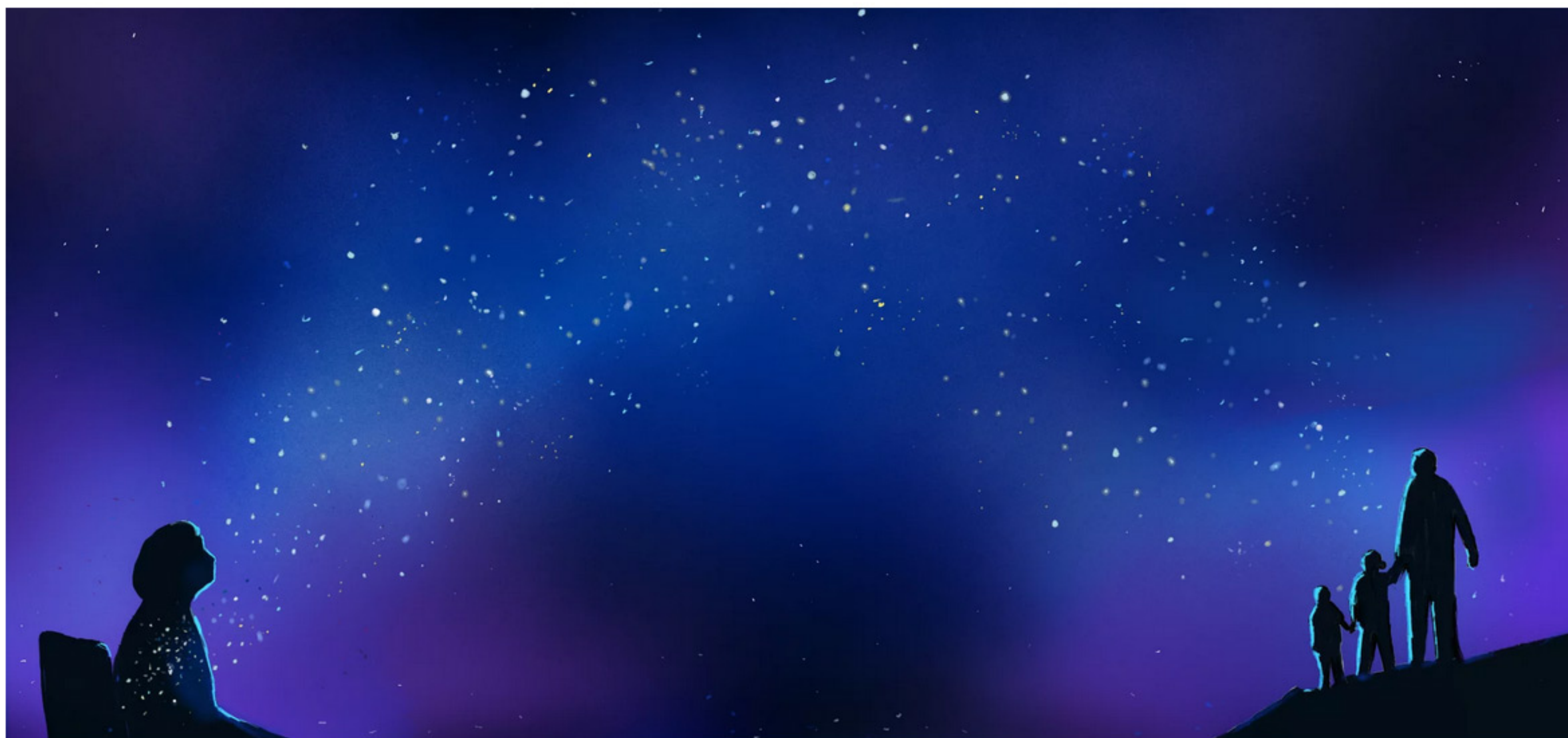


Join us in building a socialist movement. We will end the rule of the billionaires once and for all.

Claudia De la Cruz and Karina Garcia are running for President and Vice-President as the candidates of the Party for Socialism and Liberation. Claudia De la Cruz is a mother, popular educator and theologian born in the South Bronx who has spent her life organizing for justice for working people at home and to end U.S. empire abroad. Karina Garcia is a Chicana organizer, popular educator and mother who has spent her entire adult life fighting for the rights of immigrant workers, women and the whole working class. Every issue dealt with in this program, and every injustice working people experience in society, boils down to the question of who has power. Under the current capitalist system, a tiny clique of rich bankers and CEOs have the power and will do anything to maintain it. We stand for socialism — a system where poor and working people hold political and economic power and use it to meet the needs of all people and to preserve the planet. Read more about our proposed solutions to meet the scale of the problems humanity faces.

The cruelty of dementia is that there is no reliable road map — you just have to take in all the advice you can from wise souls and then go with your instincts. After a long weekend in Utah, I got home in the wee hours of Tuesday morning — and went to see Marsha that night. I'd been absent for four days. Marsha gave me a lovely smile and said, "You look so good." "You look good, too," I said. I gave her a big hug. And wiped away a few tears. "Are you okay?" Marsha asked, holding my hand. For a minute, she was my caregiver as she'd been throughout our life together. What could I say? I was overwhelmed with emotion, from the joy of the trip, the anxiety of the separation. But yes, I told her honestly, I was okay.

*You'll remember me when the west wind moves,
Upon the fields of barley.
You can tell the sun in his jealous sky,
When we walked in fields of gold.*



Facing my wife's dementia: Should I fly off to see our grandkids without her?

After 40 years of living and travelling together, a writer considers a trip without his wife. He can't explain where he's going or why he can't bring her along.

MIDDLE EAST CRISIS — EXPLAINED

Civilian deaths are being dismissed as 'crisis actors' in Gaza and Israel

As graphic images from Gaza flood social media platforms, many people are claiming those images are fake, in the latest iteration of a disturbing trope.

▶ LISTEN · 4:37

+ PLAYLIST

◀▶



Charles Krupa/AP

NATIONAL

Police arrest a suspect in the shooting of 3 men of Palestinian descent in Vermont



Fadel Senna/AFP via Getty Images

MIDDLE EAST CRISIS — EXPLAINED

Israel and Hamas hint at extending truce as more captives are slated to be freed



Alberto Pezzali/AP

BOOKS

Irish writer Paul Lynch wins Booker Prize for dystopian novel 'Prophet Song'

Lestat's Hillcrest
1045 University Ave, San Diego, CA 92116

Monday, November 27, 2023



Rich's San Diego
1051 University Ave, San Diego, CA 92116

Monday, November 27, 2023



Nishiki Ramen

1040 University Ave ste b-111, San Diego, CA 92103

BARRY'S BOOT CAMP
WELLS FARGO

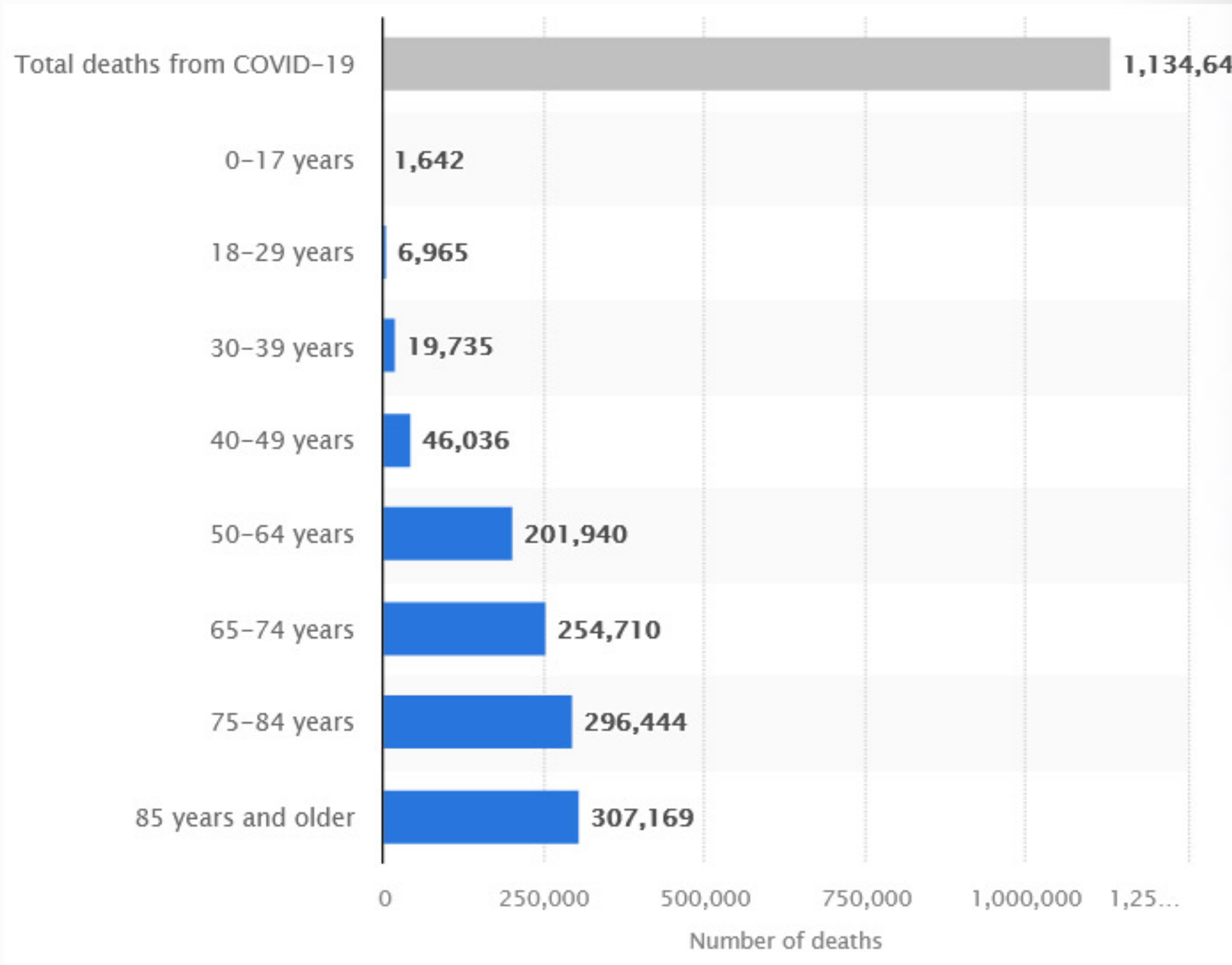
RAMEN

WELLS FARGO
FIRST CLASS
FREE

MIKE'S PLACE

Between the beginning of January 2020 and June 14, 2023, of the **1,134,641 deaths caused by COVID-19** in the United States, around **307,169** had occurred among those aged 85 years and older.

Number of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) deaths in the U.S. as of June 14, 2023, by age*

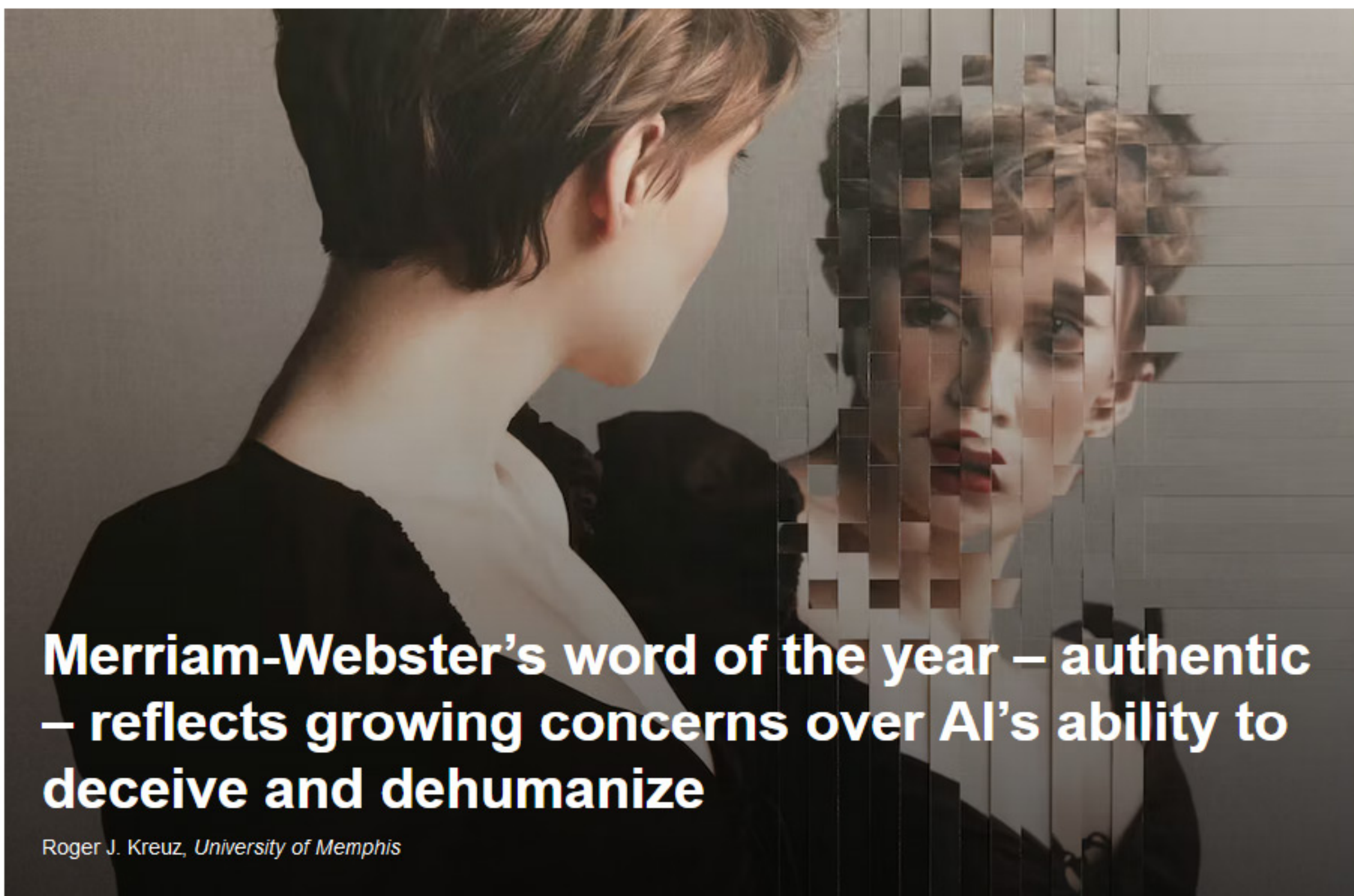


<https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/covid-19/older-adults-made-90-us-covid-deaths-2023>

Adults aged 65 and older made up 63% of all COVID-related hospitalizations and **nearly 90% of deaths in 2023** in the United States.

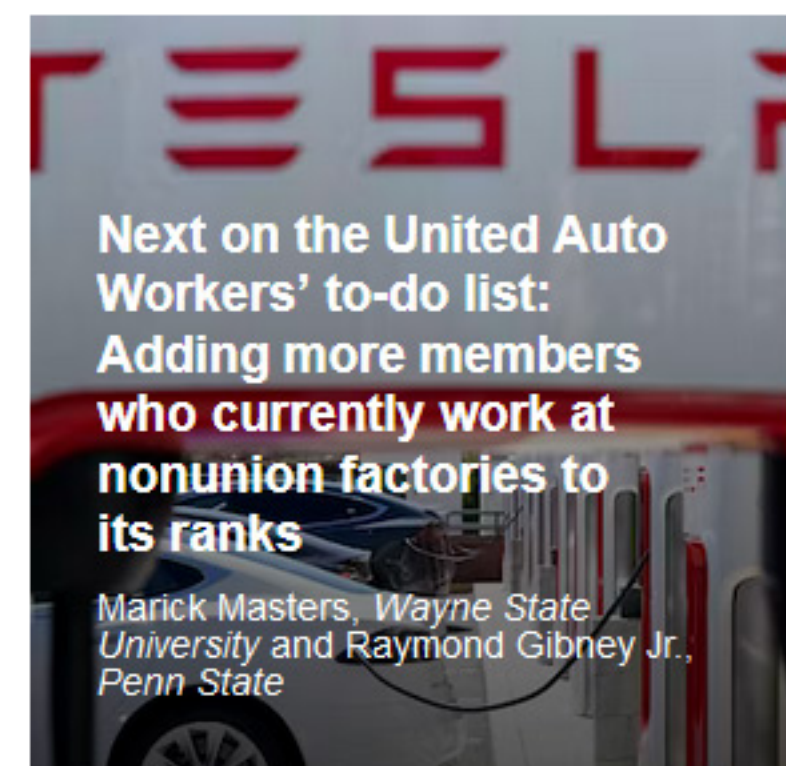
Writing instructors are less afraid of students cheating with ChatGPT than you might think

Daniel Ernst, *Texas Woman's University* and Troy Hicks, *Central Michigan University*



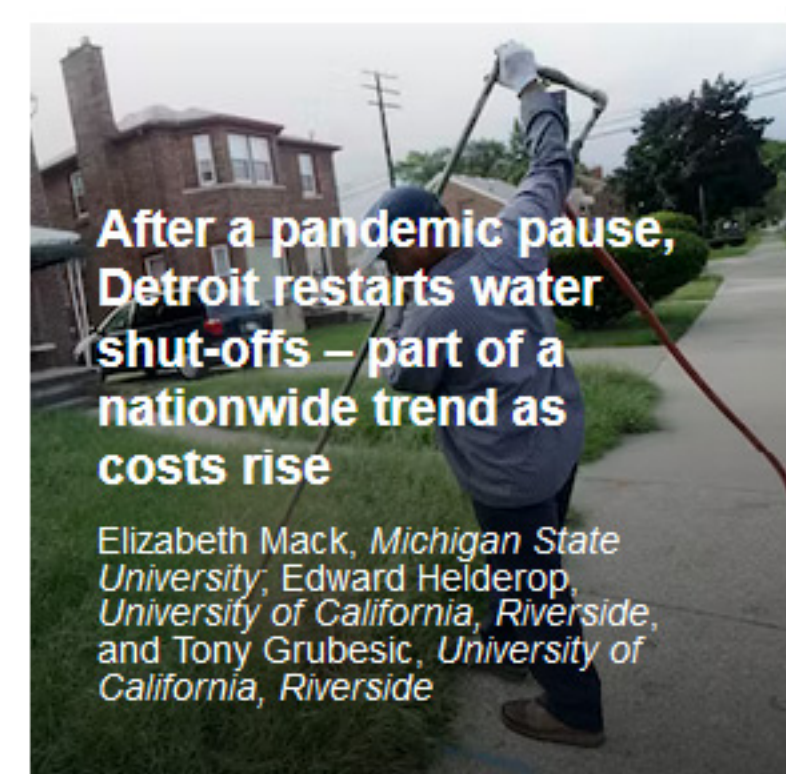
Merriam-Webster's word of the year – authentic – reflects growing concerns over AI's ability to deceive and dehumanize

Roger J. Kreuz, *University of Memphis*



Next on the United Auto Workers' to-do list: Adding more members who currently work at nonunion factories to its ranks

Marick Masters, *Wayne State University* and Raymond Gibney Jr., *Penn State*



After a pandemic pause, Detroit restarts water shut-offs – part of a nationwide trend as costs rise

Elizabeth Mack, *Michigan State University*; Edward Helderop, *University of California, Riverside*, and Tony Grubestic, *University of California, Riverside*

Casey McIntyre wanted her legacy to be clearing medical debt for others. But her husband Andrew Gregory says they never dreamed it would get this far.

SHOTS - HEALTH NEWS

Texas' abortion case goes before state's highest court, as more women join the lawsuit

Dr. Dani Mathisen is one of 20 patients who say abortion bans in Texas harmed them during complicated pregnancies. Attorneys in the lawsuit will argue before the Texas Supreme Court Tuesday.



Sarah McCammon/NPR

▶ LISTEN · 2:26

+ PLAYLIST



Andrew Gregory

MAIN CHARACTER OF THE DAY

Before dying, she made a fund to cancel others' medical debt — nearly \$70M worth



Kevin Dietsch/Getty Images

NATIONAL

First lady Jill Biden unveils this year's White House Christmas decorations



Elizabeth Price

MIDDLE EAST CRISIS — EXPLAINED

The mother of a Palestinian student shot in Vermont thought he would be safer in the U.S.



In an age of deepfakes and post-truth, as artificial intelligence rose and Elon Musk turned Twitter into X, the **Merriam-Webster word of the year for 2023 is "authentic."**

EVEN WHEN THE NEWS IS FREE, JOURNALISM IS NOT. SUPPORT THE ASSOCIATED PRESS THIS GIVING TUESDAY.

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- Frank Reich fired
- Musk visits Israel
- Rosalynn Carter
- Bears outlast Vikings

POLITICS >



Hunter Biden offers to testify publicly before Congress, setting up a potential high-stakes face-off

In new challenge to indictment, Trump's lawyers argue he had good basis to question election results

Blinken will return to Israel as the US hopes to see further extensions of the Gaza cease-fire

Deck the White House halls: Jill Biden invites holiday visitors to feel like kids

ENTERTAINMENT >



What's Merriam-Webster's word of the year for 2023? Hint: Be true to yourself

Book Review: 'Welcome to The O.C.' serves as a definitive look-back at the 20-year-old Fox drama

'Past Lives,' Lily Gladstone win at Gotham Awards, while Robert De Niro says his speech was edited

German-Israeli singer admits he lied when accusing hotel of antisemitism in a video that went viral

SPORTS >



Bears outlast Vikings 12-10 on 4th field goal by Santos after 4 interceptions of Dobbs

LeBron James suffers worst defeat in NBA career as Embiid, 76ers rout Lakers by 44 points

Florida coach Billy Napier fires two assistants to begin defensive overhaul, AP source says

Panthers fire Frank Reich after 11 games and name Chris Tabor their interim head coach

US NEWS >

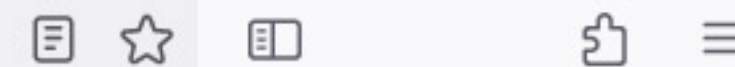


New Google geothermal electricity project could be a milestone for clean energy

53 mins ago

US closes border crossing to vehicles and limits traffic at another in response to illegal entries

California city calls for permanent cease-fire in Israel-Hamas war, urgent humanitarian aid to Gaza



“What controversy?” said the journalist from a global mainstream television outlet to me at the Web Summit Media Dinner, earlier this month in Lisbon.

For all the heat and light, the gnashing of teeth, the tearing of clothes and the clutching of pearls, the big technology conference had seemingly managed to pull itself out of the fire. After the deeply divisive public statements against Israel made by founder Paddy Cosgrave led to several boycotts from tech figures large and small, and Cosgrave stepping down as chairman and CEO (while cannily retaining a controlling financial stake), the event soldiered on. Something of a late-stage startup itself, Web Summit appeared to have staved-off its catastrophic down-round at the last minute. The consensus amongst those I spoke to while walking this vast, speakers-only space indicated an approving thumbs-up for Katherine Maher, the new CEO, who gave a speech on the opening night full of high-minded phrases about Web Summit’s role being “more urgent now than ever,” to rapturous applause. Just as well. “We worked VERY hard on that speech...” whispered a Web Summit source to me, afterwards.

Beyond the front page

Notable stories and conversation starters

The Intercept

Missiles and Drones Among Weapons Stolen From U.S. in Iraq and Syria

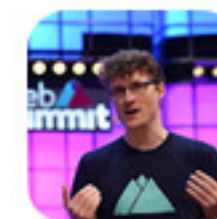
3 days ago • Nick Turse



TechCrunch

Reflections on Web Summit: Out of the frying pan, and out of the fire?

2 days ago • Mike Butcher



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The New York Times

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... recent research suggests women are less financially literate than men, regardless of their schooling, income or marital status.

There's a financial literacy gender gap – and older women are eager for education that meets their needs

Lila Rabinovich, USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences



Why the Fed should treat climate change's \$150B economic toll like other national crises it's helped fight

Jennie C. Stephens, Northeastern University and Martin Sokol, Trinity College Dublin



Gentle parenting can be not so gentle on parents, new research suggests

Annie Pezalla, Macalester College



People who experienced childhood adversity had poorer COVID-19 outcomes, new study shows

Jamie Hanson, University of Pittsburgh



US life expectancy rose last year, but it remains below its pre-pandemic level . . .

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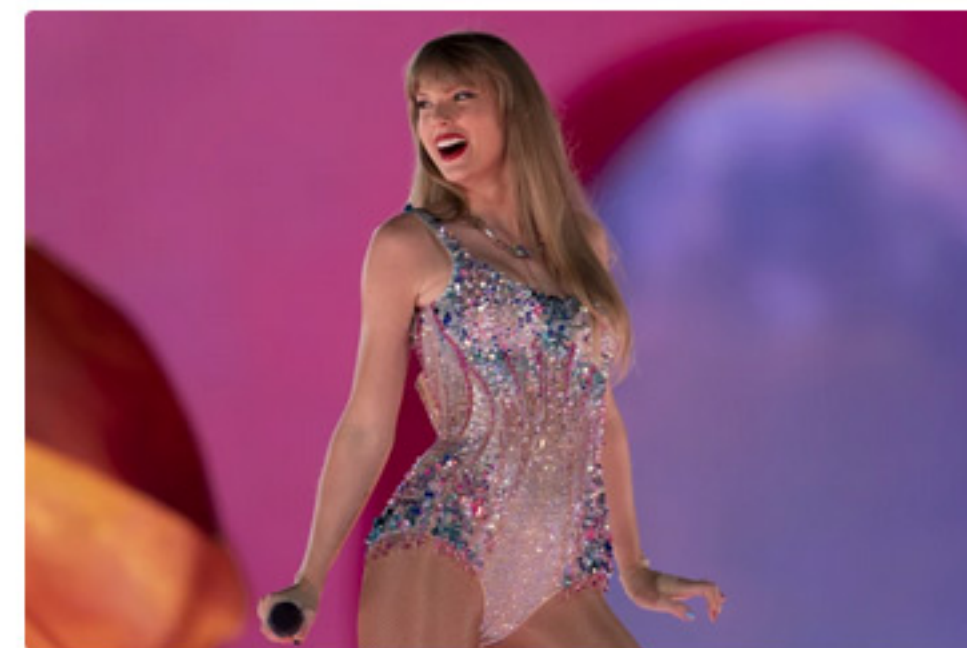
Mediators aim to extend Israel-Hamas truce in Gaza ahead of last planned hostage swap

The Biden administration has told Israel that if it resumes the offensive it must operate with far greater precision, especially in southern Gaza.

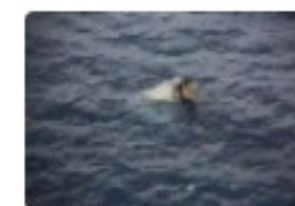


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“Gut Feeling” Takes on New Meaning

Mechanically sensitive gut cells similar to touch sensors in the skin allow the intestine to feel and assess the physical properties of its contents

Iris Kulbatski, PhD | Jan 23, 2023

The mammalian gut is self-sufficient. Its contents are physically isolated from the rest of the body by the intestinal lining, which forms a semipermeable barrier that allows the gut to digest food while confining potential foodborne pathogens. The vast network of nerve cells embedded in the intestinal lining—known as the “second brain”—interacts with sensory cells that assess the chemical and physical properties of the gut’s contents. This elegant system coordinates digestion autonomously, even if the vagus nerve—the main nerve carrying signals between the gut and brain—is cut.

In a study published in *Gastroenterology*, Arthur Beyder, a gastroenterologist and associate professor at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and his team examined the role of mechanically-sensitive cells in the gut lining of mice. Similar to touch sensors in the skin, gut touch cells have specialized proteins called Piezo2 ion channels embedded in their membranes. Named for their piezoelectric properties—the ability of some materials to convert mechanical force into electricity—Piezo2 channels are activated in response to mechanical force, triggering an electrical signal that travels to surrounding nerve cells.

“These very rare sensory cell populations [in the gut] drive changes locally as well as throughout the whole organism. Understanding how these cells respond to their environment has broad implications across disease pathology and throughout other organ systems,” said James Bayrer, a pediatric gastroenterologist and associate professor at the University of California, San Francisco, who was not involved in this study. The behavior of these cells is particularly relevant for gastrointestinal disorders where motility is disrupted, such as chronic constipation and irritable bowel syndrome.

Beyder’s team hypothesized that Piezo2 sensory cells in the gastrointestinal lining allow the gut to sense touch and coordinate digestion. They used single cell RNA-sequencing to identify these Piezo2+ cell populations and studied the cells’ physiology by genetically engineering them to respond to light. Selectively stimulating them in this way increased the frequency of gut contractions. They also eliminated Piezo2 from the gut lining of mice and tested gut transit using pellets with different mechanical and physical properties. Knocking out Piezo2 mechanical receptors caused the gut to “forget” how to manage solid particles.

Beyder’s team concluded that these Piezo2 sensory cells allow the gut to sense the physical properties of its contents, redistribute those contents along its length, and regulate how often it contracts in response to these subtle mechanical forces. “The gut is interested in squeezing out every possible useful nutrient—like this independent machine that has its own little fingers that manipulate [its contents] without you ever having to think about it. When we take the colons out and put them in an organ bath, this mechanism is fully intact,” Beyder said. “If you go back in the evolutionary tree, you will find lower animals that have well-developed enteric nervous systems and guts, but not brains. The idea being that this autonomous [digestive] unit is all you need. One of the examples that I absolutely love is the sea squirt.”

Sea squirts are tube-shaped marine creatures that exist as autonomous digestive machines. As tadpole-like larvae, they search for a permanent perch on coral, rocks, or other hard surfaces. After latching on, they metamorphose into their mature form, reabsorb most of their rudimentary brain, and live as self-sufficient guts. Sea squirts feed passively on plankton and bacteria, which they ingest through one siphon, filter through their pharynx, and squirt out another. Occasionally, when hungry fish munch on these animals, the mechanical pressure of their bites can cause some sea squirts to eject their gastrointestinal tract, then play dead while they regenerate their digestive system.

While the irritable bowels of sea squirts manifest very differently than that of humans, these creatures are also endowed with Piezo2 sensory cells. This is unsurprising given that sea squirts are closer to humans on the evolutionary tree than to similar-looking species that dwell in the shadowy enclaves of the sea. As far as the dark niches of the human body are concerned, Beyder mused, “The most interesting thing for me was that there is this role for tactile sensing in a place where the light doesn’t shine.”



Sea squirts are passive feeders, some of which respond to mechanical pressure by spilling their guts.

Touch – physiology of the sensation and perception of touch

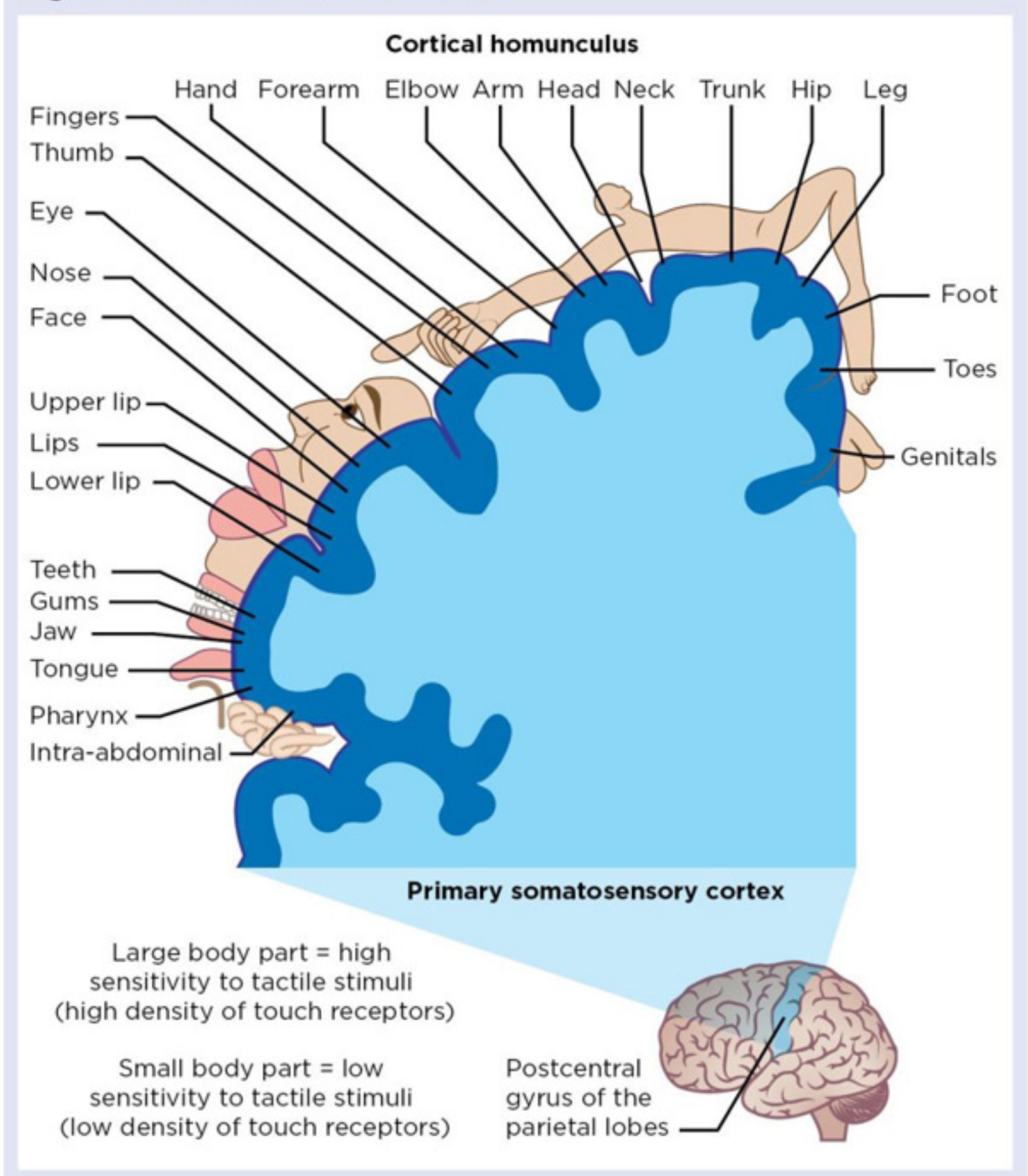
The sense of touch relies on a complex arrangement of sensory receptors that detect physical stimuli in our environment and from inside our body. The information is relayed along sensory neurons to the somatosensory cortex in the parietal lobes of the cerebral hemispheres. This facilitates the tactile perception of objects in the environment, generating information relating to shape, texture and temperature. The somatosensory system also monitors the position of joints and muscles, the filling of the bladder and rectum, and temperatures across the surface of the skin. It can respond rapidly (usually within a fraction of a second) to painful and potentially harmful stimuli (for example, burning a finger on a hot plate), thereby minimising physical damage to the body. Even without us looking, if something touches our finger, we can precisely determine the place, pressure, sharpness, texture and duration of the touch; for example, there is no mistaking a feather touching the skin or the sharp sensation of a pin prick. If the object touching the skin moves from our finger, across our palm, up our forearm to our shoulder, we can track its position, variations in pressure and the speed of its movement. This information is continuously detected and tracked by the skin's sensory receptors and relayed along the arm's sensory neurons. A single sensory receptor can encode stimulus information relating to intensity, duration, position and direction. The somatosensory cortex of the brain then decodes and interprets this information into physical sensations that allow almost immediate perception.

Sensory receptors for touch

As well as the specialised sensory receptors of the skin, general sensory receptors – which are found throughout the body – are involved in tactile sensation. These can detect combinations of touch, pressure, stretch, vibration, temperature and painful stimuli; research has revealed that there is no perfect one-to-one-function and one type of receptor usually responds to several different kinds of stimuli (Marieb and Hoehn, 2018). Most sensory receptors in the somatosensory system are mechanoreceptors; these are particularly sensitive to physical deformation, such as stretching or bending (Schmelz, 2011). Mechanoreceptors are present throughout the body and monitor physical contacts with the skin, pressure in the heart and blood vessels, and stretching of the gastrointestinal tract and urinary bladder. At the heart of each mechanoreceptor are unmyelinated axon branches. These axons have mechanosensitive ion channels, whose activation or deactivation depends on the stretching or alterations in tension of their surrounding membranes.

The most complex level of somatosensory processing happens in the post-central gyrus (ridge) of the parietal lobes. In humans, this is easy to identify as it resides immediately behind the central sulcus, the groove separating the parietal lobes from the frontal lobes. Textbooks commonly depict the sense of touch in the different regions of the body along the length of the postcentral gyrus. This creates a famously distorted map of the human body called the cortical homunculus (Fig 5). This map is useful as it depicts the regions of the body with the highest densities of touch receptors (for example, the lips, tongue, fingers and thumbs) as larger than those with lower densities of receptors (for example, arms and legs), thereby highlighting their different sensitivity to tactile stimuli.

Fig 5. **The cortical homunculus**



Somatosensory system

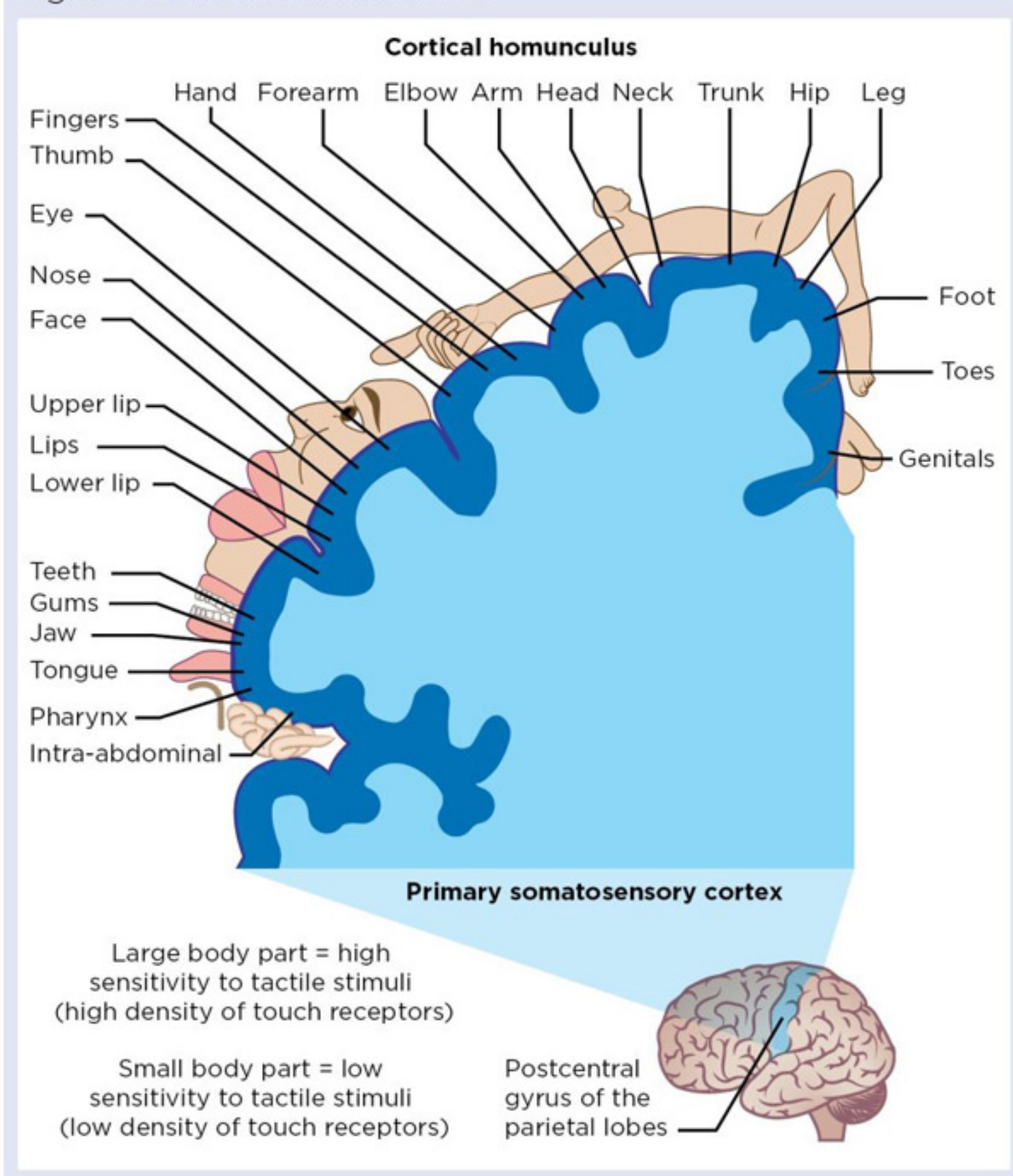
In physiology, the somatosensory system is the network of neural structures in the brain and body that produce the perception of touch (haptic perception), as well as temperature (thermoception), body position (proprioception), and pain.[1] It is a subset of the sensory nervous system, which also represents visual, auditory, olfactory, and gustatory stimuli. Somatosensation begins when mechano- and thermosensitive structures in the skin or internal organs sense physical stimuli such as pressure on the skin (see mechanotransduction, nociception). Activation of these structures, or receptors, leads to activation of peripheral sensory neurons that convey signals to the spinal cord as patterns of action potentials. Sensory information is then processed locally in the spinal cord to drive reflexes, and is also conveyed to the brain for conscious perception of touch and proprioception. Note, somatosensory information from the face and head enters the brain through peripheral sensory neurons in the cranial nerves, such as the trigeminal nerve. The neural pathways that go to the brain are structured such that information about the location of the physical stimulus is preserved. In this way, **neighboring neurons in the somatosensory cerebral cortex in the brain represent nearby locations on the skin or in the body, creating a map, also called a cortical homunculus.**

Neural processing of social touch

The somatosensory cortex encodes incoming sensory information from receptors all over the body. Affective touch is a type of sensory information that elicits an emotional reaction and is usually social in nature, such as a physical human touch. This type of information is actually coded differently than other sensory information. Intensity of affective touch is still encoded in the primary somatosensory cortex and is processed in a similar way to emotions invoked by sight and sound, as exemplified by the increase of adrenaline caused by the social touch of a loved one, as opposed to the physical inability to touch someone you do not love. Meanwhile, the feeling of pleasantness associated with affective touch activates the anterior cingulate cortex more than the primary somatosensory cortex. Functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) data shows that increased blood-oxygen-level contrast (BOLD) signal in the anterior cingulate cortex as well as the prefrontal cortex is highly correlated with pleasantness scores of an affective touch. Inhibitory transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) of the primary somatosensory cortex inhibits the perception of affective touch intensity, but not affective touch pleasantness. Therefore, the S1 is not directly involved in processing socially affective touch pleasantness, but still plays a role in discriminating touch location and intensity.

Tactile interaction is important amongst some animals. Usually, tactile contact between two animals occurs through stroking, licking, or grooming. These behaviours are essential for the individual's social healthcare, as in the hypothalamus they induce the release of oxytocin, a hormone that decreases stress and anxiety and increases social bonding between animals.[

Fig 5. **The cortical homunculus**



Nury Martinez (born July 9, 1973) is an American politician who served as a member of the Los Angeles City Council for the 6th district from 2013 until her forced resignation in 2022. A former member of the Democratic Party, Martinez became president of the Los Angeles City Council in December 2019, after serving as the council's president pro tempore. Martinez was the first Latina to become council president. She was a member of the Los Angeles Unified School District Board of Education from 2009 to 2013. On October 10, 2022, Martinez stepped down from her post as council president following the release of an audio recording where she disparaged fellow council members and their children and used racist language. She remained a member of the city council, but announced that she would be taking a paid leave of absence.[3] On October 12, facing loud protests and demands to step down from community members and politicians including U.S. president Joe Biden, she resigned her seat on the council.

Racist comments and resignation: On October 9, 2022, an audio recording of a conversation involving Martinez, fellow council members Gil Cedillo and Kevin de León and Los Angeles County Federation of Labor President Ron Herrera regarding redistricting was leaked anonymously onto Reddit. In the meeting, Martinez stated, "Fuck that guy ... He's with the blacks", referring to District Attorney George Gascón. Martinez also insulted fellow council member Mike Bonin's black adopted child, saying "They're raising him like a little white kid ... I was like, 'This kid needs a beatdown. Let me take him around the corner, I'll bring him right back.'" Martinez also called the child a "changuito" according to the Los Angeles Times, a racial slur for a black person meaning "little monkey" or "little ape" in Spanish. In the course of the discussion on redistricting, she commented, "I see a lot of little short dark people there" in reference to Koreatown. "Oaxacan Koreans. Not even like Kevin. Little ones," Cedillo replied. She then continued, "I was like, I don't know what village they came from, how they got here, but whatever." She can also be heard to remark, "tan feos" or "they're so ugly" in Spanish.[40]

The three council members discussed how to appoint a new council member who would work in their interests, and also agreed to gerrymander Nithya Raman's district in order to suppress those who had voted for her. Heather Hutt, a former California State Director for then-Senator Kamala Harris was suggested. On August 26, 2022, Martinez introduced a motion to appoint Hutt as a council member, which was seconded by four other members.[41][42] The motion was opposed by Marqueece Harris-Dawson and Mike Bonin, who instead proposed instructing the City Attorney to find eligibility requirements for appointments.[43][44] On August 30, the vote to instate Hutt as a councilmember fell one vote short, with five voting for and five voting against; it was referred to the Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental Relations Committee for further discussion.[45] The Committee cleared her for reconsideration by the Council the next day, and Hutt was confirmed by the Council in the next meeting and sworn in on September 2, 2022.

In addition, in the same leaked audio clips posted to Reddit in which former Los Angeles City Council President Nury Martinez made racist remarks about black people and Oaxacans, she also made crude remarks about Jewish people and Armenians.[48] Martinez can be heard saying the "judíos" — which means Jews in Spanish — "cut their deal with South L.A." Martinez was responding to former Los Angeles County Federation of Labor President Ron Herrera, who had concluded, "I'm sure Katz and his crew have an agenda," referring to former state Assemblymember Richard Katz. "They are gonna screw everybody else," Martinez said in the recording.

Martinez later provided a statement in the Los Angeles Times apologizing, "In a moment of intense frustration and anger, I let the situation get the best of me. I hold myself accountable for these comments. For that I am sorry." Bonin's family replied in a tweet condemning the racist comments and demanding Martinez's resignation. On October 10, Martinez stepped down as president through a released statement that apologized to Bonin and others, saying, "Therefore, effective immediately I am resigning as President of the Los Angeles City Council," though she did not also resign from her seat on the city council. One day later, Martinez announced she would be taking a leave of absence. In a statement, she said, "At this moment, I need to take a leave of absence and take some time to have an honest and heartfelt conversation with my family, my constituents, and community leaders. I am so sorry to the residents of Council District 6, my colleagues, and the City of Los Angeles." [52] Martinez could only have been forced to leave office via a voter-led recall, as rules for removal by other city council members would not apply in this situation.[53] On October 11, 2022, numerous calls for the three councilpersons to step down, which included that of President Joe Biden, as well as a contentious City Council meeting with a heated public comment session combined to put additional pressure on Martinez. [She resigned her Council seat the following day.

Martinez is married to Gerry Guzman. Los Angeles magazine reported that, per an unnamed source, after resigning her seat on the Los Angeles city council, Martinez moved to Arizona with her husband and she has also changed her party affiliation from Democrat to Republican. The magazine added an update noting that she denies this. "I'm a lifelong resident of the San Fernando Valley and I still live in Sun Valley with my family and I have no plan of relocating," she said in a statement shared on X. "And I'm still a staunch Valley Democrat."

Nury Martinez



President of the Los Angeles City Council

In office

January 5, 2020 – October 10, 2022

Former Council President Nury Martinez breaks silence on leaked audio in new podcast

By FOX 11 Digital Team | Published September 27, 2023

| Los Angeles | FOX 11 | [➔](#)



Councilman Kevin de León, left, and Los Angeles City Council President Nury Martinez confer at city council meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2022 in Los Angeles, CA. (Irfan Khan / Los Angeles Times via Getty Images)

LOS ANGELES - It's been nearly a year since a secretly-recorded conversation between three Los Angeles City Council members and a local labor leader was made public, which included racist remarks about the son of another then-council member. In the recording, former City Council President Nury Martinez was heard making racist remarks about the Black adopted son of former council-member Mike Bonin, in a conversation with councilmembers Kevin de León and Gil Cedillo, and Los Angeles County Federation of Labor President Ron Herrera. In the aftermath of the recording's publication, Herrera resigned, Cedillo was voted out and de León, despite many calls for him to resign, just announced a reelection campaign. The backlash pushed Martinez to resign first from her position as Council President, then from the Council as a whole. Martinez hasn't been heard from publicly at all since her resignation. But now, she's breaking her silence in a new podcast from LAist. > <https://omny.fm/shows/imperfect-paradise/from-laist-studios-imperfect-paradise>

"You're probably as surprised as I am that this happened," said Antonia Cereijido, host of the Imperfect Paradise podcast. Cereijido said it took a lot of convincing to get Martinez to agree to do the podcast. "We had a four-hour-long, off-the-record discussion in person, and several conversations on the phone," Cereijido said.

The first episode was published on Sept. 27, but doesn't feature much of Martinez. Rather, it goes into detail about what was on the tapes, including real-time reactions, from people like Bonin, who reacted to Martinez's comments about her son.

Former Los Angeles City Council President Nury Martinez has resigned from her seat on the City Council, and protesters are demanding councilmembers Kevin de León and Gil Cedillo follow suit

Cereijido believes the revelations from the leaked audio bring us to a historic moment in history. "I think it's a moment that we're going to reflect on in the decades to come," Cereijido said. "And there was a part of that story that was missing, which is what her experience of the whole thing was. And she had never actually addressed why she said the things she said on the tape."

All-told, Martinez and Cereijido spoke for six hours in recorded conversations. But Cereijido kept most of it close to the chest, urging people to listen to the next episodes of the podcast.

"Imperfect Paradise: Nury & The Secret Tapes" tells the story of the biggest political scandal in recent Los Angeles history. A secret recording leaked online in 2022 exposed then-LA City Council President Nury Martinez making racist and derogatory remarks. A year after the scandal and her resignation, Nury breaks her silence in an exclusive interview with LAist.

From LAist Studios,
"Imperfect Paradise: Nury & The Secret Tapes," September 27, 2023.

mics...

The rise of the murderous Khmer Rouge regime was encouraged by Kissinger's policies.

Former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger dies >



The New York Times

Henry Kissinger Dies at 100: Latest News and Updates

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Henry Kissinger's bombing campaign likely killed hundreds of thousands of Cambodians – and set path for the ravages of the Khmer Rouge

Sophal Ear, Arizona State University

The devastating impact of Kissinger's policies in Cambodia cannot be overstated – they contributed to the unraveling of the country's social fabric and the suffering of its people, leaving behind a legacy of trauma.



POLITICS

Prominent Politicians Offer Glowing Remembrances Of Carpet-Bomber Kissinger



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Henry Kissinger, America's Most Notorious War Criminal, Dies At 100

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/henry-kissinger-dies_n_6376933ae4b0afce046cb44f

The titan of American foreign policy was complicit in millions of deaths — and never showed remorse for his decisions.

By Travis Waldron and George Zornick Nov 29, 2023

Henry Kissinger Was A War Criminal, But Presidents And Celebrities Smiled With Him

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/henry-kissinger-dead-leaders_n_5d10ef86e4b0aa375f50baf0

The former secretary of state, who was responsible for at least hundreds of thousands of civilian deaths, has himself died.

By Paul Blumenthal Nov 29, 2023,

Prominent Politicians Offer Glowing Remembrances Of Henry Kissinger

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/kissinger-remembered-prominent-lawmakers_n_6567ff61e4b07b937ff38c56

Kissinger was complicit in atrocities across the globe during his time in power, including the carpet-bombing of Cambodia.

By Nick Visser Nov 29, 2023

THE BELTWAY BUTCHER

WAR CRIMINAL KISSINGER

DEAD AT 100



https://www.huffpost.com/entry/henry-kissinger-dead-leaders_n_5d10ef86e4b0aa375f50baf0

In his eight years in power, he unnecessarily prolonged the Vietnam War for five years, ordered the carpet-bombing of Cambodia and Laos, provided arms for Pakistan's brutal war in Bangladesh, gave the green light to Argentina's "dirty war," endorsed General Augusto Pinochet's deadly coup in Chile, enabled a genocide in East Timor and fueled civil wars in southern African countries.

Complicit In Millions Of Deaths Around The World...

**Presidents And Celebrities Smiled And Dined With Him
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The Legacy of Henry Kissinger, July 6, 2023 > <https://www.npr.org/transcripts/1186040517>

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BERNIE SANDERS: I am proud to say that Henry Kissinger is not my friend.



SURI: ...Are those who see him as a war criminal, as a proponent and defender of the misuse of American power and, many would argue, a trend toward breaking down our democracy.

HASAN: Because of his support for brutal dictators, brutal regimes, brutal wars and war crimes.

AMY GOODMAN: Human rights advocates consider Kissinger a war criminal who has escaped accountability.

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A tortured and deadly legacy: Kissinger and realpolitik in US foreign policy

Jarrod Hayes, UMass Lowell

Published: December 14, 2022 8:14am EST

Updated: November 29, 2023 10:13pm EST

▼ Jarrod Hayes, UMass Lowell

‘Amoral vision’: After Kissinger left government service in 1977, he founded Kissinger Associates, a geopolitical consulting firm. Publicly, Kissinger consistently advised U.S. policymakers to bend U.S. policy to accommodate the interests and actions of important foreign powers like Russia and China. These positions were consistent with Kissinger’s demonstrated willingness to trade away rights of others to gain advantage for the U.S. His positions also presumably enabled Kissinger Associates to maintain access with the foreign policy elites of those countries. In May 2022, Kissinger publicly argued that Ukraine, a victim of unprovoked aggression by Russia, should cede portions of its internationally recognized territory seized by Russia – as in Crimea – or by Russian proxies such as the Donetsk People’s Republic. Kissinger also maintained that the United States should accommodate China, arguing against a concerted effort by democracies to counter the rising power and influence of China. Foreign policy is a difficult field, fraught with complexity and unanticipated consequences. Kissinger’s vision, however, does not offer a panacea to the challenge of American foreign policy. Over decades, Kissinger’s amoral vision of national self-interest has produced its own set of disasters, a reality the American public and foreign policy leaders are well-advised to bear in mind.

Henry Kissinger, who died on Nov. 29, 2023, at age 100, exercised more than 50 years of influence on American foreign policy.

I am a scholar of American foreign policy who has written on Kissinger’s service from 1969 to 1977 as national security adviser and secretary of state under the Nixon and Ford administrations. **I have seen how his foreign policy views and actions played out for good and, mostly, for ill.**

When Kissinger entered government as Richard Nixon’s national security adviser, he espoused a narrow perspective of the national interest, known as “realpolitik,” primarily centered on maximizing the economic and military power of the United States.

This power- and transactionalist-oriented approach to foreign policy produced a series of destructive outcomes. They ranged from fomenting coups that put in place murderous dictatorships, as in Chile, to killing unarmed civilians, as in Cambodia, and alienating potential allies, as in India.

Analysis of the world, from experts

Damaging approach

In his dissertation turned first book, Kissinger argued foreign policymakers are measured by their ability to recognize shifts in political, military and economic power in the international system – and then to make those changes work in their country’s favor. **In this model of foreign policy, the political values – democracy, human rights – that make the United States a distinctive player in the international system have no role.**

A large crater in the ground with burned trees and ruined buildings behind it. Bomb craters and ruins are almost all that remains of the Cambodian town of Kampong Tram on Aug. 1, 1973, destroyed by U.S. bombing. AP Photo

This perspective, with its self-declared realistic agenda, along with Kissinger’s place at the top of the foreign policy establishment as national security adviser and secretary of state for the better part of a decade, made Kissinger into something of a foreign policy oracle for American policymakers of all stripes.

Yet Kissinger’s record reveals the problems with the narrow conception of national interest devoid of values. His time in government was characterized by major policy decisions that were generally detrimental to the United States’ standing in the world.



ChatGPT turns 1: AI chatbot's success says as much about humans as technology

Published: November 29, 2023 1:33pm EST

Tim Gorichanaz, Drexel University

ChatGPT has raised numerous concerns, such as its implications for disinformation, fraud, intellectual property issues and discrimination. Political misinformation spread across social media in 2016 as well as in 2020, and it is virtually certain that generative AI will be used to continue those efforts in 2024. Even outside social media, conversations with ChatGPT and similar products can be sources of misinformation on their own. As a result, another lesson that everyone – users of ChatGPT or not – will have to learn in the blockbuster technology's second year is to be vigilant when it comes to digital media of all kinds



Julia Khrebtan-Hörhager

Associate Professor of Critical Cultural & International Studies, Colorado State University



Controlling the narrative has long been crucial to Russian President Vladimir Putin in his war against Ukraine. In the worldview he promulgates, the U.S. is an “empire of lies,” the West is bent on “tearing apart Russia,” and Ukraine is a “Nazi-run” country whose statehood is a historical fiction. Through speeches and propaganda, Putin presents this narrative to his own country and the rest of the world. It is a worldview that is negative, historically and factually false and relies on provocative rhetorical framing. It is a framing that fits well the Russian phrase that translates in English as **“who is not with us, is against us,”** forms of which

have been popularized through czarist and Soviet years and have returned with a vengeance under Putin. Cultural othering is the process of defining a group of people – be it a racial, ethnic or national group – as different and then treating them as inferior. This “other” group is assigned negative traits to make them appear lower to the dominant group, and to marginalize them. Othering has long been a tool employed to assert authority over marginalized groups, such as by European colonizers in Africa and Asia, or by settlers in Native American lands. The curious thing about Putin's othering is it focuses on national groups that he has simultaneously claimed to be of the same people as Russia.

Under Putinism, there are seemingly two options for countries that once formed the Russian, and later Soviet, empire. The first involves total geopolitical and cultural submission, assimilation and acceptance of pan-Russian sameness, as is seen in Belarus under Putin ally Alexander Lukashenko. The second option is to seek national and cultural self-definition, but be subjected to the most extreme forms of cultural othering for doing so. **In other words, it is the choice of being a brother or the other.**

New leader, old strategy: Since coming to power, Putin has tried to reconstruct Russia's former territorial and ideological might, while simultaneously positioning the country in opposition to its habitual enemy – the “collective West.” When Ukraine chose a pro-European course, Putin saw it as the act of a treacherous enemy. Putin's rhetoric has been fusing Ukraine and the West together in one single enemy ever since. Putin often “others” the West – and, by association, Ukraine – by drawing comparisons between Russian traditional values and Western cultural “decadence” with its LGBTQ+ rights, gender-related debates and other identity issues. Since the beginning of the war, Putin has othered Ukraine by making it both “of the West” but also “Nazi.” That has allowed him to frame his war as “liberation,” “demilitarization,” and “de-nazification.” Meanwhile, religious leaders in Russia have framed the conflict as a holy war, with the aim of “de-Satanizing” Ukraine.” This continued othering of Ukrainians by Putin means that the war is one that goes beyond territory and ideology. Rather, what has been set up is a conflict between two cultural selves that are mutually exclusive. It is, to Putin, the Russian “us” against the Western and Ukrainian “them.”



Some 16 million people worldwide identify as Jewish – and more than 7 million of them live in Israel. The country is home to more than 2 million people who are not Jewish, as well – primarily Arab Israelis, who make up 20% to 25% of the population, and more than 100,000 foreign workers. Even within Israel's Jewish population, however, there is dizzying diversity. As a historian of Jewish identity, I believe that understanding that diversity is key to understanding Israelis' behavior amid the current war in Gaza, as well as the country's long-term resilience. **Many cultures, one people:** Jews are not a "race," but constitute a people or nation. Traditionally, Jewish texts often refer to the Jewish people as "Israel." **Tensions – and unity:** Tribal factionalism, however, has a countervailing force: Zionism, the cultural and political ideology on which the country was founded. As an ideology of national liberation, Zionism advocates Jews' collective sovereignty and cultural renaissance in their ancestral homeland. Despite its diversity of political beliefs, ethnicities and religious observance, Jewish Israeli society ultimately holds together because of a widely shared Zionist patriotism. This is expressed in what Israeli scholars Shmuel Rosner and Camil Fuchs call the civic culture of "Jewsraelis": a largely secular yet semitraditional Jewishness that shapes public life in Israel. Jewsraelis, they argue, are proud citizens who are comfortable mixing Jewish tradition and modernity – from family meals on the Jewish Sabbath and Passover to beach barbecues and serving in the Israel Defense Forces, which is mandatory for most citizens. Before the current war, Jewish Israelis by the hundreds of thousands had marched in the streets for nearly a year over government proposals to curtail the power of Israel's Supreme Court. In the wake of Hamas' horrific attacks on Oct. 7, 2023, however, those considerable tensions have been tabled. High numbers of Israelis have volunteered to go to the front or assist each other in other ways, such as donations or working on farms. Notably, Jewish commandments and traditions put an emphasis on freeing Jewish captives, such as the people held hostage in Gaza. Sharp debate continues among Jewish Israelis over the goals and scope of the war in Gaza. Nevertheless, as has been true in other moments of national crisis, they have largely banded together for what they perceive to be the common national good. Although diverse and often divided from within, most Israeli Jews embrace the idea expressed in a popular song penned in the 1980s: "Ein li eretz aheret" – "I have no other (home)land."

Few people have been more associated with rolling back modern-day civil rights laws than Edward Blum, the former stockbroker who has successfully challenged many affirmative action and voting rights laws. Blum has no formal legal training. He, in fact, refers to himself as an "amateur litigator." Yet, he was instrumental in engineering several legal cases that ultimately led to the June 29, 2023, U.S. Supreme Court decision that banned the use of race in college admissions.

The NAACP's legal legacy: The NAACP was one of the first advocacy organizations to recognize that litigation had the power to change social life. Long before civil rights activists took to the streets after the Montgomery bus boycott in the 1950s, the NAACP had set its sights on what is now known as institutional reform litigation. **The idea?** During the 1930s and 1940s, the NAACP and its Legal Defense Fund, led by brilliant legal minds like Charles Hamilton Houston and future Supreme Court justice Thurgood Marshall, began to challenge the inherent inequalities of legal segregation by using what became known as test cases. These test cases targeted racial discrimination in voting, housing and education. They also served a higher purpose in trying to end the system of racist laws known as Jim Crow – the very laws that established segregation across the South and disenfranchised Black voters. The NAACP also very carefully chose litigants and test cases. For instance, the lion's share of the NAACP's plaintiffs were respected citizens in both Black and white communities. A good number of these cases derived from Southern border states such as Virginia, where racial tensions between white and Black people were less hostile than in deep Southern states such as Mississippi and Alabama. Using this strategy, the organization filed dozens of test cases against segregation. Marshall argued 32 cases alone, winning 29 of them.

A new conservative playbook: Blum and his allies are using similar strategies and have been widely successful in achieving their conservative political ideals.

MIDDLE EAST CRISIS — EXPLAINED

Israel hits targets in Gaza as its cease-fire with Hamas collapses

The twice-extended cease-fire held long enough for Israel to secure release of more than 100 hostages seized by Hamas in its Oct. 7 attack. In exchange, Israel freed hundreds of jailed Palestinians.



Anas Baba/NPR

Older people make up a growing share of the homeless population: More people over age 50 are losing housing for the first time, while another large group, addicts, has been chronically unhoused and aged on the streets.

GOATS AND SODA

Bringing up a baby can be a tough and lonely job. Here's a solution: alloparents

"Allo" is Greek for "other." Alloparents are helpful relatives and neighbors. In a study from Congo, babies had 8 alloparents on average. Perhaps the self-reliant nuclear family is a societal misstep.



Nikhil Chaudhary

SHOTS - HEALTH NEWS

Considering paying for Medicare Advantage? Uncle Sam says these are the tricks to watch out for

KFF HEALTH NEWS

The Biden administration is cracking down on deceptive or misleading Medicare Advantage and drug plan sales tactics. And it's counting on beneficiaries to help catch offenders.



Alex Wong/Getty Images

Without more help, the financial squeeze seniors face will force tough choices for many. "It really is driving people's choices about where they want to live. It's driving their prioritization of other things in their budget, like out of pocket health care and food."

A record number of seniors are burdened by high housing costs

A newly released report from Harvard University's Joint Center for Housing Studies sounds a loud warning about what's ahead as the country ages rapidly, and how unprepared the U.S. is as boomers start to turn 80 within the next decade. Nearly a third of households headed by seniors are considered cost burdened, which means they pay more than 30% of their income for housing. Half of that group pays more than 50%. And as the boomers have aged, households in this group reached an all-time high of 11.2 million in 2021. That's likely to grow further as the number of households headed by someone aged 80 and over doubles by 2040.



NATIONAL

Millions of seniors struggle to afford housing — and it's about to get a lot worse

Many boomers will face tough choices as they age

To keep more seniors housed in coming years, Harvard researcher Molinsky says it needs to be easier for people to age in place if they prefer. Among other things, the report suggests government programs to finance safety upgrades like ramps for those who can't afford them. Molinsky says there should also be more options for seniors who want to move, and — like other affordable housing advocates — calls for zoning reforms to allow more apartment buildings in places long dominated by single family homes. Without more help, the financial squeeze seniors face will force tough choices for many. "It really is driving people's choices about where they want to live," says Molinsky. "It's driving their prioritization of other things in their budget, like out of pocket health care and food."

Bringing up a baby can be a tough and lonely job. Here's a solution: alloparents

DECEMBER 1, 2023 · 7:25 AM ET



Michaeleen Doucleff

We're not talking about just an extra hand on the weekends. We're talking about more than a dozen people for daily help with all sorts of tasks – cleaning a child, holding them, keeping an eye on them and soothing them when they cry. Scientists call these helpers "alloparents." The prefix "allo" derives from the Greek word for "other." So these helpers are literally "other parents."



Sanjit Das/NPR

Michaeleen Doucleff, PhD, focuses on disease outbreaks, cross-cultural parenting, and women and children's health.



A child from the Mbendjele people, a hunter-gatherer community that lives in the northern rainforests of the Republic of Congo. A new study found that children in this society have on average 8 caregivers in addition to the mother to provide hands-on attention.

Nikhil Chaudhary

Hunt, Gather, Parent explores an ancient way of raising kind, helpful, and confident children.

Michaeleen Doucleff, PhD, is a correspondent for NPR's Science Desk. For nearly a decade, she has been reporting for the radio and the web for NPR's global health outlet, Goats and Soda. Doucleff focuses on disease outbreaks, cross-cultural parenting, and women and children's health.

In 2014, Doucleff was part of the team that earned a George Foster Peabody award for its coverage of the Ebola outbreak in West Africa. For the series, Doucleff reported on how the epidemic ravaged maternal health and how the virus spreads through the air.

In 2019, Doucleff and Senior Producer Jane Greenhalgh produced a story about how Inuit parents teach children to control their anger. That story was the most popular one on NPR.org for the year; altogether readers have spent more than 16 years worth of time reading it.

In 2021, Doucleff published a book, called **Hunt, Gather, Parent**, stemming from her reporting at NPR. That book became a New York Times bestseller.

Before coming to NPR in 2012, Doucleff was an editor at the journal Cell, where she wrote about the science behind pop culture. Doucleff has a bachelor degree in biology from Caltech, a doctorate in physical chemistry from the University of Berkeley, California, and a master's degree in viticulture and enology from the University of California, Davis.



Hunt, Gather, Parent



What Ancient Cultures Can Teach Us
About the Lost Art of Raising Happy,
Helpful Little Humans

MICHAELEEN DOUCLEFF, PHD



Dr. Eliana Hecht, MD is a health care provider in New York, NY. specializing in Public Health & General Preventive Medicine, Infectious Disease, Family Medicine.



People gathered at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. in July at a rally held by the Center for Medicare Advocacy. They protested denials and delays in private Medicare Advantage plans.

AP Exclusive: Zelenskyy says the Israel-Hamas war could divert attention from Ukraine's conflict

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy says the war with Russia is in a new stage, with winter expected to complicate fighting after a summer counteroffensive that failed to produce desired results due to enduring shortages of weapons and ground forces.



The AP Interview: Ukraine's Zelenskyy says war with Russia is in a new phase as winter looms

In an exclusive interview, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy says the war with Russia is entering a new stage, with winter expected to complicate the fighting and the Middle East capturing global attention. (Dec. 1) (AP Video/Srdjan Nedeljkovic and Felipe Dana).

MORE COVERAGE

- Takeaways from AP's Interview with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy
- Ukraine has a new way to get its grain to the world despite Russia's threat in the Black Sea
- The debate over Ukraine aid was already complicated. Then it became tangled up in US border security

WATCH MORE

- The DeSantis-Newsom debate in less than 60 seconds



Billionaire family denies allegation from Warren Buffett's company that it bribed truck stop chain execs



Minutes after the truce expired, Israeli fighter jets hit Hamas targets in the Gaza Strip

20 mins ago



For a male sexual assault survivor, justice won in court does not equal healing



32 mins ago



DeSantis and Newsom lob insults and talk some policy in a faceoff between two White House aspirants



SPOTLIGHT

A mom chose an off-the-grid school for safety from COVID. No one protected her kid from the teacher

Louisiana has a category of off-the-grid schools that operate with hardly any oversight. Formally known as "nonpublic schools not seeking state approval," most are tiny homeschools that serve a single family.

In the US, Black survivors are nearly invisible in the Catholic clergy sexual abuse crisis

Black survivors have been nearly invisible in the Catholic Church sexual abuse crisis — even in Baltimore, home to a historic Black Catholic community.




VOLODYMYR ZELENSKYY
PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE

"We have a new phase of war and that is a fact. War is complex."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"We already can see the consequences of the global society switching (its attention) because of the tragedy in the Middle East. And this is a fact.

"Attention equals help. No attention will mean no help. We fight for every bit of attention."

 More Videos



SAN DIEGO — *New restaurants* — something that most foodies get excited for, especially if the impression is lasting on both the taste buds and the mind.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Three San Diego-area eateries among best new restaurants in US: Esquire

by: [Amber Coakley](#)

Posted: Nov 30, 2023 / 09:31 AM PST

Updated: Nov 30, 2023 / 09:51 AM PST



Dishes from Mabel's Gone Fishing. (Photo by Kimberly Motos/Mabel's Gone Fishing)

Hitokuchi: Located in the Convoy District, this Japanese restaurant sourcing ingredients from around the globe. This includes catches directly from Japan's renowned Toyosu Fish Market, according to the restaurant. As described by the Esquire's Gordinier, "Imagine a tower of sushi rice in which each individual grain has been coated in oceanic luxury." He was illustrating Chef John Hong's uni-and-caviar dish. The four eaters said this spot had "some of the most exquisite cooking" in San Diego.

Valle: This North County gem, described by restaurant as a contemporary Mexican kitchen, is MICHELIN Star recognized. Valle sources ingredients from California, while fusing together favorites from Baja Mexico's Guadalupe Valley wine region.

Mabel's Gone Fishing: This seafood inspired restaurant in North Park has often menu changes that are based on locally sourced ingredients. Some examples of bites include clam toast, summer beans and squid, along with daily oyster selections. The dish that had these four talking though was the pan con tomate, which they recommended to diners. They also suggesting the oysters from Baja, which they said came with a house-made hot sauce that can be used throughout your meal. They also gave praises to this spot's "elegant martinis."

'Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives' explores San Diego

Guy Fieri heads to South Park with his KINDRED spirit.

November 14, 2022 • Michael Beausoleil



Revolver Magazine Heavy-Metal Vegan Restaurant ...

Previously, plant-based restaurants had a reputation as antiseptic prayer rooms for self-serious wellness people. Kindred owner Kory Stetina decided not to do that, and enlisted art-restaurant makers Consortium Holdings (Morning Glory, Born & Raised) to build a noisier temple for more entertaining urges. > <https://sandiegomagazine.com/food-drink/destination-kindred/>

Hungry for a taste of San Diego cuisine? Celebrity chef Guy Fieri dug in during his recent installment of "Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives" (DDD). During the Nov. 11 episode titled "Not-Your-Everyday, All Day," the Food Network star headed to **South Park to visit KINDRED.**

When Guy showed up, he had to ask for a table for two. During his journey, he met up with his friend, skateboarding legend + San Diego local Tony Hawk. Together, they learned about the bar's buzzworthy menu of cocktails (and mock-tails), plant-based cuisine, and heavy metal décor.

DDD fans can be prepared for a second — and third — serving of San Diego flavors in the near future. The Friday, Nov. 25, episode titled "Culinary Adventure" will feature two more local eateries. During his trip, Guy will be exploring Tuetano Taqueria in Old Town for its bone marrow tacos + he'll catch up with **Shawarma Guys to see what's cooking at this food truck.**

Shawarma Guys

@shawarmaguys_

Food Truck

- Home of the Wagyu Shawarma
- As seen on Diners, Drive-ins, & Dives
- Yelp's #1 Place to Eat in the US
- 11-8pm Mon-Sat.
- Vegan-friendly
- 3012 Grape St, San Diego, California 92102
- mtr.bio/shawarmaguys



Chicken Wagyu Be... Falafel Yelp Top 1... Yelp SD Ev... Yelp SD Fe...



BONETHROWER BEAST

KINDRED

RESERVATIONS





Health & wellbeing

The nature cure: how time outdoors transforms our memory, imagination and logic

Without engaging with natural environments, our brains cease to work well. As the new field of environmental neuroscience proves, exposure to nature isn't a luxury - it's a necessity

Sam Pyrah

Mon 27 Nov 2023 05.00 EST



📷 'Nature engages the brain in a way that offers an opportunity to rest and recover.'

"This growing body of research is demonstrating that we can't be healthy – that our brains do not work optimally – if we don't spend time in natural environments," says Dr Marc Berman, director of the Environmental Neuroscience Laboratory at the University of Chicago, "It's not a luxury – it's a necessity."



📷 'Exposure to nature instils feelings of calm and wellbeing that enable us to think more clearly and positively.' Photograph: Westend61/Getty Images



📷 'Fractals - naturally occurring patterns that are repeated at different scales within a structure, such as a snowflake - have been found to elicit soft fascination.'



Mehdi Hasan - "Win Every Argument" & Humanizing the Israel-Hamas War | The Daily...



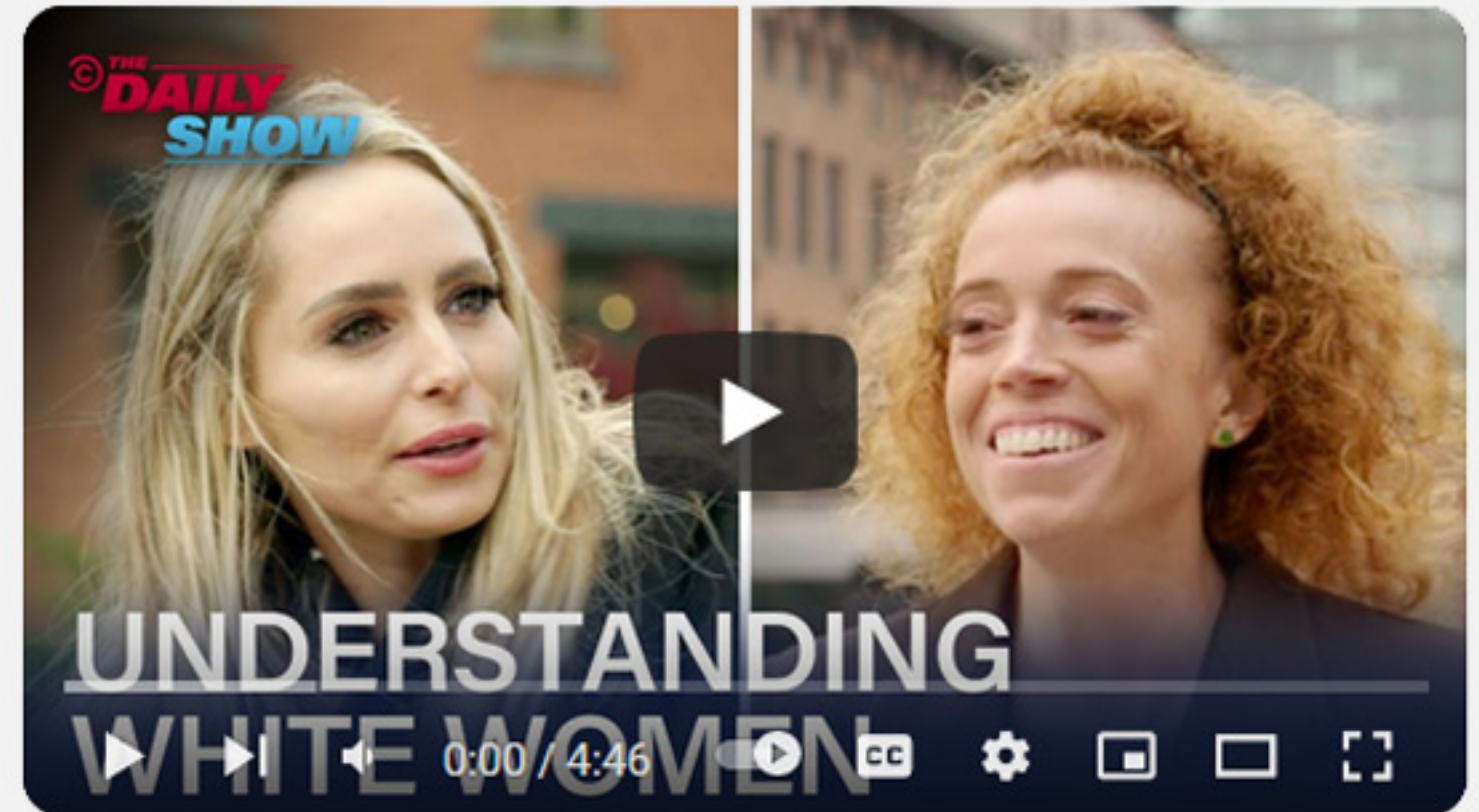
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406,413 views Nov 29, 2023 #MichelleWolf #MehdiHasan #DailyShow

"At a time like this, the number one bias we should have is not political or religious, it should be humanitarian. It should be human." MSNBC host Mehdi Hasan speaks on the need for human empathy during the Israel-Hamas conflict, and how his goal in covering the war has been to platform as many voices as possible. He also discusses how his book "Win Every Argument" is meant to provide people with skills and rhetorical tricks and techniques to push back against the bullies, bigots, and gas lighters who have taken over our public square. #DailyShow #MehdiHasan #MichelleWolf



Michelle Wolf Asks: Do White Women Deserve a Bad Rap? | The Daily Show



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347,103 views Nov 28, 2023 #MichelleWolf #DailyShow #Comedy

What's the opposite of a Karen? What's the most white woman thing to do? Can men be Karens? Michelle Wolf investigates whether or not white women deserve such a bad reputation. #DailyShow #Comedy #MichelleWolf

Michelle Wolf is an American comedian, writer, producer, and television host. She worked as a contributor and writer for Late Night with Seth Meyers and The Daily Show with Trevor Noah. She spoke as the featured performer at the 2018 White House Correspondents' Dinner. [Wikipedia](#)

Born: 1985 (age 38 years), [Hershey, PA](#)

Nationality: American

Alma mater: [College of William and Mary \(BS\)](#)

Michelle Wolf Unpacks the Business of Childbirth - Long Story Short | The Daily S...



<https://youtu.be/9GzV0SGzTb8>

Dec 1, 2023

Let's talk about childbirth. It's hopefully the last time you touched your mom's vagina. And I learned about childbirth firsthand because I recently had a baby.



© THE DAILY SHOW

It's hopefully the last time you touched your mom's vagina.

TDS

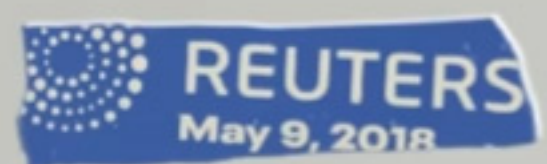


0:06 / 8:07



"If we want to fix it, we need to understand it." When it comes to gender equality, America is ranked 49th. **Desi Lydic** wants to educate Americans about topics like the wage gap, female representation, and the E.R.A.

**MOTHERHOOD
PENALTY** occurs when women leave their jobs altogether or move to part-time work for a period while raising children.



But in reality, the motherhood penalty

Rachel Maddow in Conversation with Kathleen Belew



<https://youtu.be/wvyzRCIWFVI>

Join Maddow as she sits down with historian, author and Northwestern University professor **Kathleen Belew** to explore the rise of this wild strain of American authoritarianism, the profoundly relevant insights about America today that can be drawn from its history, and her take on our own unprecedented times.






we can beat the pikers that
we're up against now [Applause]



Investigating Buffy Sainte-Marie's claims to Indigenous ancestry - The Fifth Estate

 **The Fifth Estate** ✓
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CBC/Radio-Canada is a Canadian public broadcast service. [Wikipedia](#)

1,123,830 views Oct 27, 2023 [#BuffySainteMarie](#) [#CBCFifthEstate](#) [#Indigenous](#)
Music icon Buffy Sainte-Marie's claims to Indigenous ancestry are being called into question by family members and a Fifth Estate investigation that includes genealogical documentation, historical research and personal accounts. The Fifth Estate examines the harms of "pretendians" – those faking Indigenous heritage.
Read more: <https://www.cbc.ca/newsinteractives/f...>
[#CBCFifthEstate](#) [#BuffySainteMarie](#) [#Indigenous](#)

Buffy Sainte-Marie pushes back against CBC investigation contradicting claims to Indigenous ancestry

'Being "Indian" has little do with sperm tracking and colonial record keeping,' singer says

[Kelly Geraldine Malone](#) · The Canadian Press ·
Posted: Nov 23, 2023 7:18 AM PST | Last Updated: November 23



Singer-songwriter Buffy Sainte-Marie poses for a photograph on the red carpet for the 2022 Canada's Walk of Fame Gala in Toronto, on December 3, 2022. Sainte-Marie is pushing back on an investigation by CBC's The Fifth Estate that questions her Indigenous heritage, maintaining she has never lied about her identity. (Tijana Martin/The Canadian Press)

Buffy Sainte-Marie is pushing back on a recent CBC News investigation that questions her Indigenous heritage, maintaining she has never lied about her identity. The iconic singer, songwriter and activist says the story by CBC's The Fifth Estate was full of mistakes and omissions. In her first public statement since it was published on Oct. 27, Sainte-Marie calls the story an attack on her character, life and legacy.

Sainte-Marie said she has always struggled to answer questions about who she is. She tried to find information for decades, but eventually realized she would never know. "Which is why, to be questioned in this way is painful, both for me, and for my two families I love so dearly."

Filiberto's Mexican Food
3446 University Ave, San Diego, CA 92105





Sally Wainwright

Derek Jacobi, Tony Gardner, David Harewood, Sarah Lancashire, Damian Lewis, Karen Lewis-Attenborough, Euros Lyn, Anne Reid, Nicola Shindler, Sally Wainwright, Nicola Walker, and Dean Andrews

Sally Wainwright

Writer · Producer · Director

Sally Wainwright was born in 1964 in Huddersfield, Yorkshire, England, UK. She is a writer and producer, known for [Happy Valley \(2014\)](#), [Last Tango in Halifax \(2012\)](#) and [Gentleman Jack \(2019\)](#). >

Born 1964

Sally Wainwright was born in 1964 in Huddersfield, Yorkshire, England, UK. She is a writer and producer, known for [Happy Valley \(2014\)](#), [Last Tango in Halifax \(2012\)](#) and [Gentleman Jack \(2019\)](#). She was awarded the OBE (Officer of the Order of the British Empire) in the 2020 Queen's Birthday Honours List for her services to Writing and Television in Witney, Oxfordshire, England.

Television series created by Sally Wainwright:

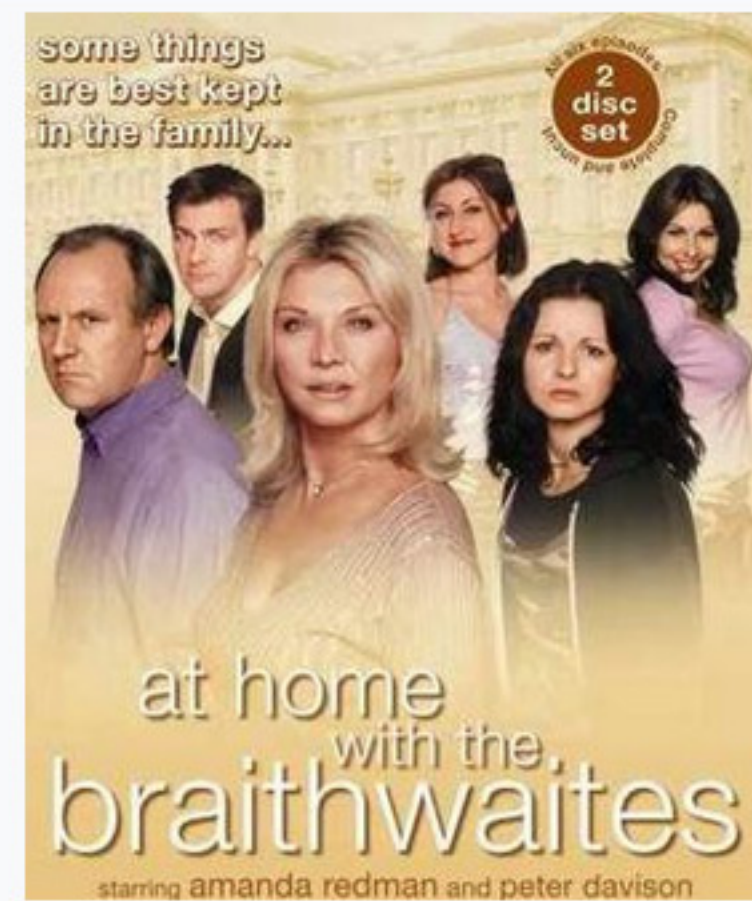
- The Amazing Mrs Pritchard
- At Home with the Braithwaites
- Bonkers (British TV series)
- Gentleman Jack (TV series)
- Happy Valley (TV series)
- Jane Hall (TV series)
- Last Tango in Halifax
- Scott & Bailey
- Sparkhouse
- Unforgiven (TV series)

Last Tango in Halifax



Genre **Comedy drama**

At Home with the Braithwaites



DVD cover for Series 3

Happy Valley



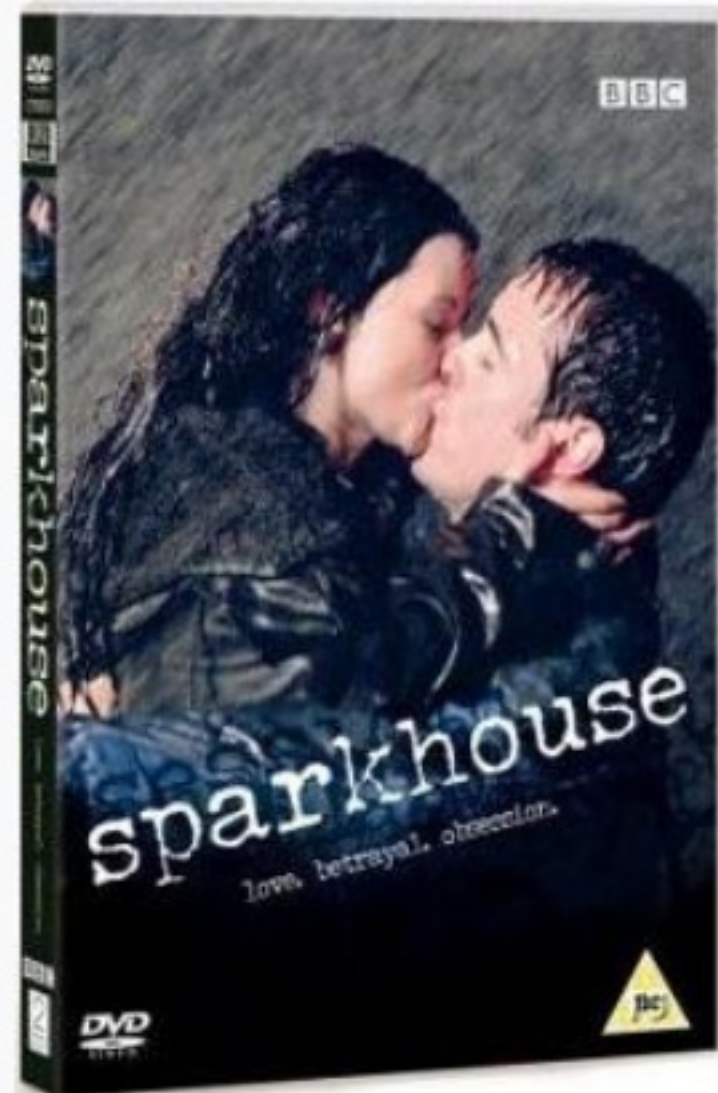
Genre **Crime drama**

Gentleman Jack



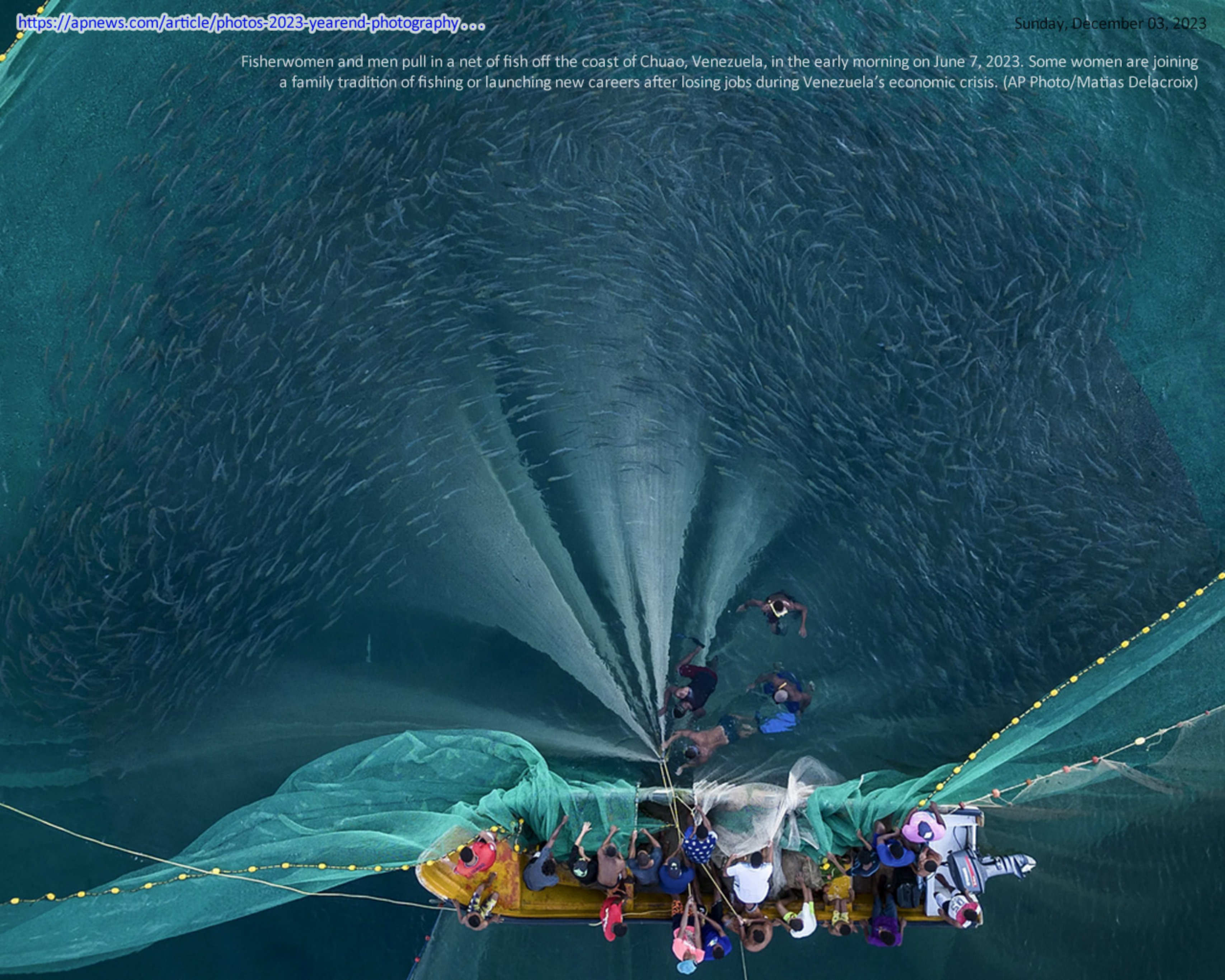
Genre **Historical drama**

Sparkhouse



Genre **Comedy drama**

Fisherwomen and men pull in a net of fish off the coast of Chuao, Venezuela, in the early morning on June 7, 2023. Some women are joining a family tradition of fishing or launching new careers after losing jobs during Venezuela's economic crisis. (AP Photo/Matias Delacroix)



Hindu devotees crowd the Sangam, the confluence of the rivers Ganges, Yamuna and the mythical Saraswati, to take a holy dip on Mauni Amavasya or the new moon day, the most auspicious day during the annual month-long Hindu religious fair "Magh Mela" in Prayagraj, India, on Jan. 21, 2023. (AP Photo/Satya Prakash)





6 of 160

Coal miner Jonny Sandvoll poses for a portrait in the break room of the Gruve 7 coal mine in Adventdalen, Norway, on Jan. 9, 2023. Gruve 7, the last Norwegian mine in one of the fastest warming places on earth, was scheduled to shut down this year but got a reprieve through 2025 because of the energy crisis driven by the war in Ukraine. (AP Photo/Daniel Cole)





7 of 160

Ukrainian military doctors treat their injured comrade, who was evacuated from the battlefield, at the hospital in Ukraine's Donetsk region on Jan. 9, 2023. The serviceman did not survive. (AP Photo/Evgeniy Maloletka)





13 of 160

Nina Gonchar, 93, sits in her house, which was mostly destroyed by Russian forces, in the village of Bogorodychne, Ukraine, on Jan. 7, 2023, shortly after the village was retaken by the Ukrainian army. Gonchar's son Vasyliy and his wife Liubov were killed by Russian shelling on July 10, 2022. (AP Photo/Evgeniy Maloletka)





20 of 160

A man holds a dead body in the bucket of an excavator that is removing them from a building destroyed in a powerful earthquake in Kahramanmaras, Turkey, on Feb. 9, 2023. (AP Photo/Petros Giannakouris)



28 of 160

Palestinians enjoy a day on the beach in Gaza City on March 2, 2023. (AP Photo/Fatima Shbair)





29 of 160

The body of Haitian comedian 'Sexy' lies on the ground after he was shot dead by unknown assailants in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on March 3, 2023. (AP Photo/Odelyn Joseph)





31 of 160

Afghan brides and grooms participate in a mass wedding ceremony in Kabul, Afghanistan, on International Women's Day, March 8, 2023. (AP Photo/Ebrahim Noroozi)



33 of 160

Pamela Cerruti carries clothing from Pajaro Coin Laundry in Pajaro, Calif., as floodwaters surround machines on March 14, 2023. "We lost it all. That's half a million dollars of equipment," said Pamela. (AP Photo/Noah Berger)





36 of 160

A tribal woman tries to catch small fish as her granddaughter dozes on her back at a paddy field on the outskirts of Guwahati in India's Assam state on March 20, 2023. (AP Photo/Anupam Nath)





53 of 160

A villager pours water into a canister as others gather around a well to draw water in Telamwadi, northeast of Mumbai, India, on May 6, 2023. Tankers bring water from the Bhatsa River after it has been treated with chlorine. There have been protests in the region since so much of the river water is diverted to urban areas, including Mumbai. (AP Photo/Dar Yasin)



Jeremy Scahill: Israel's "Lethal Lie" About Al-Shifa Hospital as Hamas Base Was Co-Signed by Biden

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The Intercept's Jeremy Scahill deconstructs Israel's narrative around Gaza's Al-Shifa Hospital, including unsubstantiated allegations Hamas uses tunnels under the hospital as its command center — tunnels that Israel itself built. "We were told that this was like a Hamas Pentagon," says Scahill, who describes how the Israeli military's own evidence disproves its allegations that the hospital was dangerous enough to justify its siege and bombardment. The World Health Organization says Al-Shifa, Gaza's largest hospital, "is no longer functioning." The Israeli disinformation campaign against it was a "lethal lie," says Scahill. We also discuss the status of Palestinian prisoners who are now candidates for release in Israel and Hamas's ongoing hostage exchange.



Former Israeli Prime Minister Ekud Barak recently spoke with CNN's Christian Amanpor admitting Israel built the bunkers decades ago underneath Al-Shifa hospital. It's already known for many years what they have in the bunkers that originally was built by Israeli Constructors underneath Shifa was were used as a command post of the and a kind of Junction of several several tunnels part of the system I don't know to say to what extent it is a major it's probably not the the only kind of command post several others are under other hospitals or in other uh sensitive places but it's for sure had been used by uh by Hamas even during this conf well when you say it was built by Israeli Engineers did you misspeak no no some you know decades ago we were running the place so we held them it decad many decades ago probably five four decades ago that we help them to build these Bankers in order to enable more more more space for the operation of the hospital within the very limited size of this compound again that was the former Israeli Prime Minister akud Barack we're joined Now by JY skill senior reporter in correspondent The Intercept author of Blackwater the rise of the world's most powerful mercenary Army and Dirty Wars the world is a battlefield one of his most recent pieces for The Intercept is headlined elifa Hospital hamasa tunnels and Israeli propaganda uh Jeremy's joining us from Germany Jeremy um can you talk about what he just said yeah well first of all Amy the um the alifa hospital originally going back to the years of the British mandate um in the 1940s it was a British military barracks and then it was converted into a hospital and uh under both the Israeli and the Egyptian occupations of that area and then in the 1980s the Israelis began to do extensive construction on it in fact I was looking um at the Israeli architecture archives that were set up and you can go back and look at for from that era and two Tel Aviv Architects oversaw the the expansion of the alifa hospital and by 1993 the had finished the construction of the hospital building



Henry Kissinger and the Moral Bankruptcy of U.S. Elites



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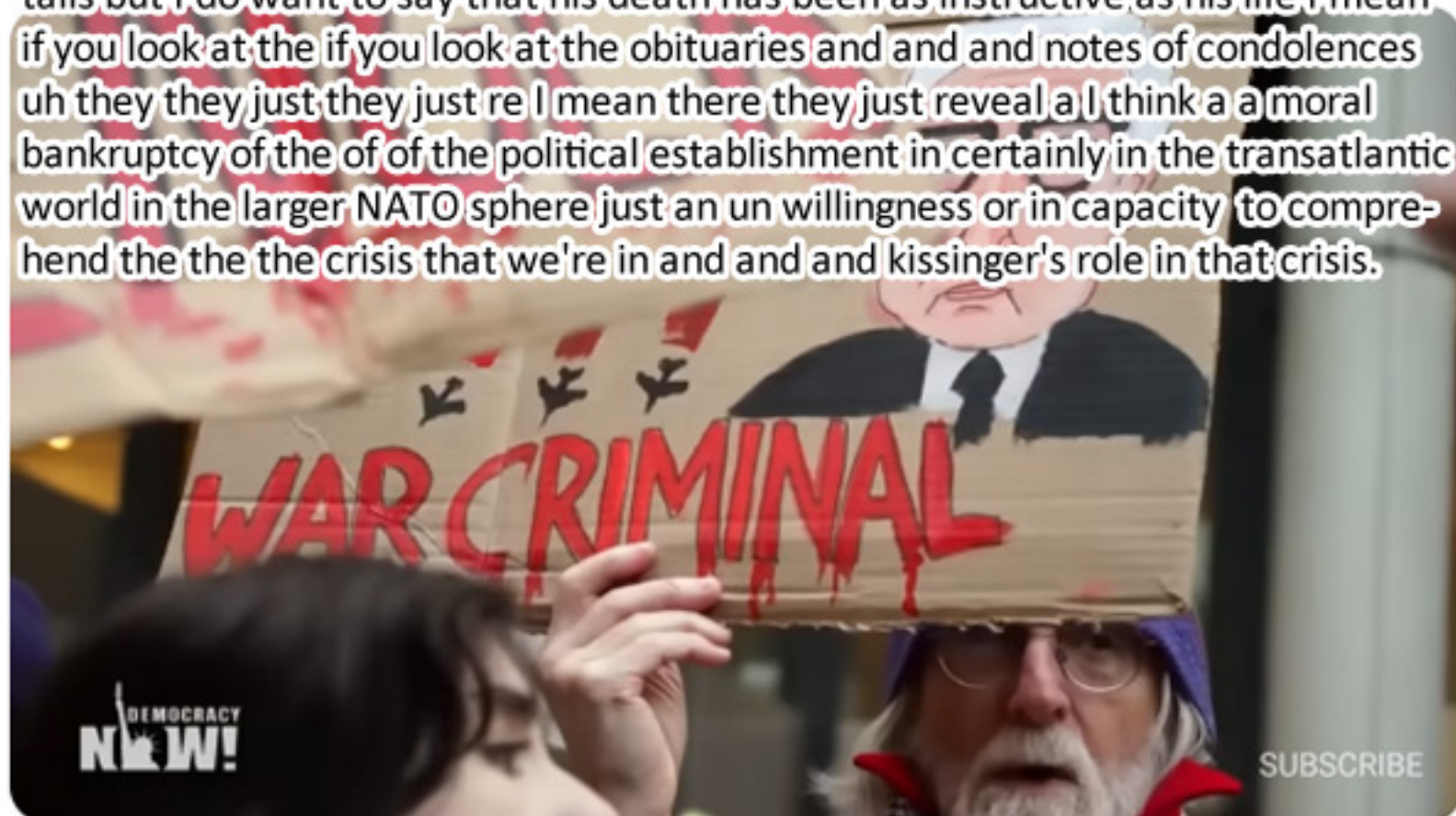
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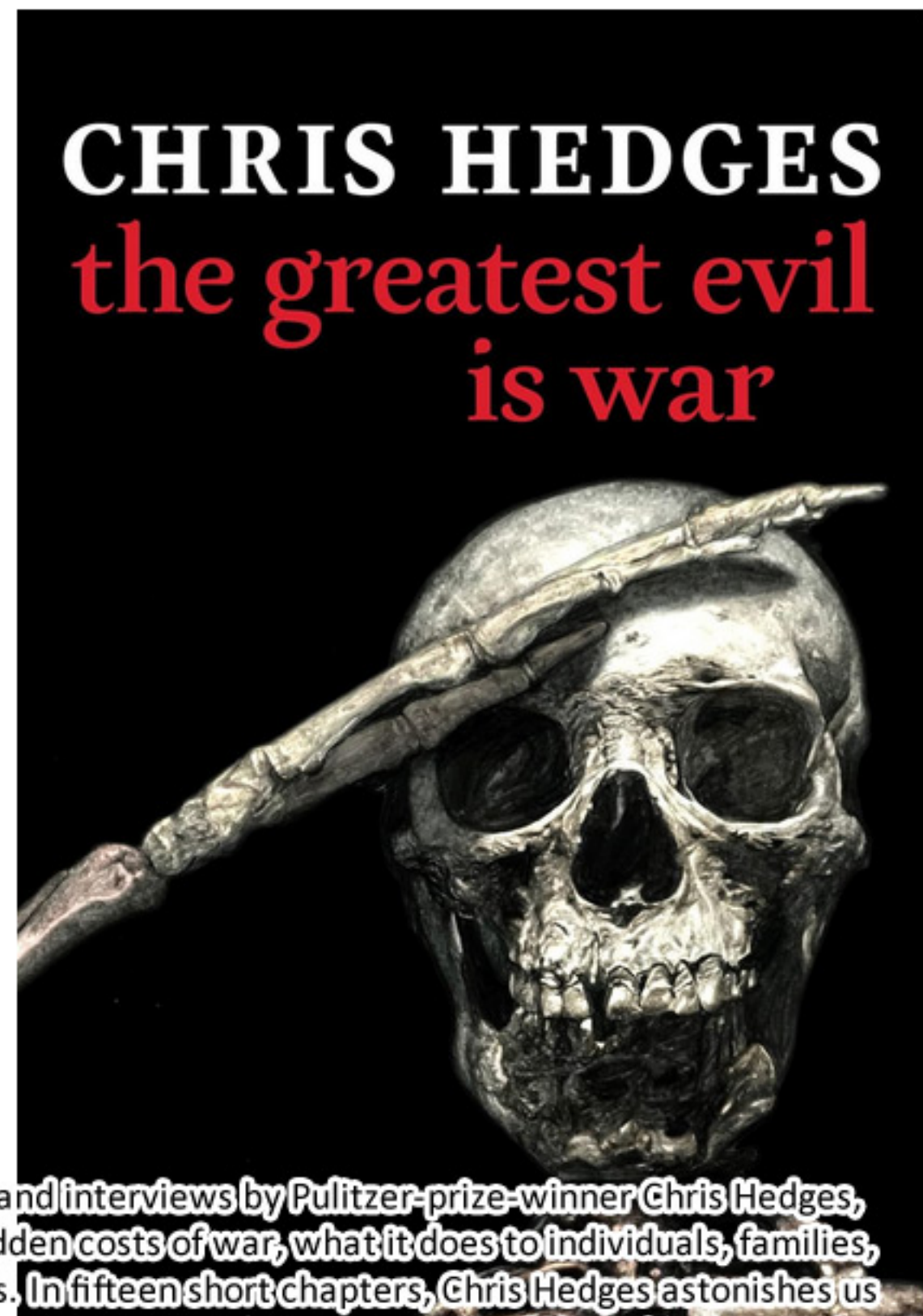
285,395 views Nov 30, 2023 Latest Shows

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Henry Kissinger is dead at the age of 100. The former U.S. statesman served as national security adviser and secretary of state at the height of the Cold War and wielded influence over U.S. foreign policy for decades afterward. His actions led to massacres, coups and even genocide, leaving a bloody legacy in Latin America, Southeast Asia and beyond. Once out of office, Kissinger continued until his death to advise U.S. presidents and other top officials who celebrate him as a visionary diplomat. Yale historian Greg Grandin says those glowing obituaries only reveal "the moral bankruptcy of the political establishment" that ignores how Kissinger's actions may have led to the deaths of at least 3 million people across the globe. Grandin is author of "Kissinger's Shadow: The Long Reach of America's Most Controversial Statesman."

In 1975 Henry Kissinger and President Gerald Ford met with the Indonesian dictator General Suharto to give him the go-ahead to invade East Timor which Indonesia did on December 7th 1975 the Indonesian military killed a third of the Timor population one of the worst genocides of the late 20th century Kissinger also drew up plans to attack Cuba in the mid 70s after Fidel Castro sent Cuban troops to Angola to fight forces linked to apartheid South Africa at home Kissinger urged President Nixon to go after Pentagon Papers whistleblower Dan Ellsberg who Kissinger called the most dangerous man in America the historian Greg Grandin once estimated Kissinger's actions may have led to the deaths of three maybe four million people while human rights activists have long called for Kissinger to be tried for war crimes he remained a celebrated figure in Washington and beyond serving as an advisor to both Republican and Democratic administrations we turn now to Greg Grandin he's the prize-winning author and professor of history at Yale University his books include Kissinger Shadow the Long Reach of America's most controversial Statesman his new piece for the nation is a people's obituary of Henry Kissinger he also wrote the introduction to the new book just out Only the Good Die Young the verdict on Henry Kissinger Greg welcome back to democracy now so give us this people's history of Henry Kissinger as we see in the mainstream media he's hailed as the man who opened communication with China uh led to a dayon with Russia what is your version of events well I think you summed up very well the the version of events the the the number of of war crimes that he was involved in from you know Cassin's life is is fascinating because it spans a very consequential bridge in the United States history from the collapse of the post-war consensus you know that happens with Vietnam and Kissinger is instrumental in kind of recobing recreating a National Security State that can deal with descent that can deal with polarization that actually thrived on polarization and secrecy and learning to manipulate the public in order to advance a very aggressive foreign policy I mean we can go into the details but I do want to say that his death has been as instructive as his life I mean if you look at the if you look at the obituaries and and and notes of condolences uh they they just they just re I mean there they just reveal a I think a a moral bankruptcy of the of of the political establishment in certainly in the transatlantic world in the larger NATO sphere just an un willingness or in capacity to comprehend the the the crisis that we're in and and and Kissinger's role in that crisis.





Chris Hedges ~ The Greatest Evil is War

THE GREATEST EVIL IS WAR is an unflinching indictment of the horror and obscenity of war by one of our finest war correspondents.

“Chris Hedges has compiled a remarkable record of reporting and analysis. He has been an incomparable source of insight and understanding, both in his outstanding career as a courageous journalist and in his penetrating commentary on world events. This is a contribution of great significance in these troubled times.”

—NOAM CHOMSKY

CHRIS HEDGES is a Pulitzer Prize–winning journalist and senior fellow at The Nation Institute. He was a foreign correspondent and bureau chief in the Middle East and the Balkans for fifteen years for The New York Times. Chris Hedges is host of the Emmy Award–nominated RT America show On Contact. He is the bestselling author of Days of Destruction, Days of Revolt (with cartoonist Joe Sacco); Death of the Liberal Class; Empire of Illusion; and War Is a Force that Gives Us Meaning, among others. He writes a weekly original column for Truthdig, and has written for Harper’s, The New York Review of Books, The Nation, Adbusters, Foreign Affairs, and other publications. He has taught at Columbia University, New York University, Princeton University, and the University of Toronto. He has taught college credit courses through Rutgers University in the New Jersey prison system since 2013.

Drawn from experience and interviews by Pulitzer-prize-winner Chris Hedges, this book looks at the hidden costs of war, what it does to individuals, families, communities and nations. In fifteen short chapters, Chris Hedges astonishes us with his clear and cogent argument against war, not on philosophical grounds or through moral arguments, but in an irrefutable stream of personal encounters with the victims of war, from veterans and parents to gravely wounded American serviceman who served in the Iraq War, to survivors of the Holocaust, to soldiers in the Falklands War, among others. Hedges reported from Sarajevo, and was in the Balkans to witness the collapse of the Soviet Union. In 2002 he published War Is a Force that Gives Us Meaning, which the Los Angeles Times described as “the best kind of war journalism... bitterly poetic and ruthlessly philosophical” and the New York Times called “a brilliant, thoughtful, timely, and unsettling book.” In the twenty years since, Hedges has not wanted to write another book on the subject of war—until now, with the outbreak of war in Ukraine. It is important again to be reminded who are the victors of the spoils of war and of other unerring truths, not only in this war but in all modern wars, where civilians are always the main victims, and the tools and methods of war are capable of so much destruction it boggles the mind. This book is an unflinching indictment of the horror and obscenity of war by one of our finest war correspondents.

<https://chrishedges.substack.com/>

Chris Hedges: <https://www.youtube.com/live/OUwEbEkwWjw> >

I wouldn't divide it between masculine and feminine, I'd divide it between numbness and feeling, because the ethos of the hyper-masculine is really about violence and destruction.

>> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chris_Hedges

In 2003, Hedges gave a commencement speech at the graduation ceremony for Rockford College in which he criticized the ongoing American invasion of Iraq.[43] His speech was received with boos, and his microphone was shut off three minutes after he began speaking.[44][45] Hedges had to end the commencement speech short because of the various student disruptions,[46] which included an additional microphone cut, foghorns, and chants of "God Bless America." The New York Times criticized Hedges' statements and issued him a formal reprimand for "public remarks that could undermine public trust in the paper's impartiality". Hedges cited this reprimand as a motivation for resigning from the Times in 2005. In 2013 he said **"Either I muzzled myself to pay fealty to my career, which on a personal sense would be to betray my father, or I spoke out and realized that my relationship with my employer was terminal.** And so at that point I left before they got rid of me. But I knew that, you know, I wasn't going to be able to stay". During the uncertainty following the loss of employment, Hedges was looking for posts to teach high school English classes. In a 2008 interview, Hedges acknowledged that he ultimately had not struggled, adding that "every year since I left the Times, I've made at least twice the salary I made at the paper. So, in a way, I didn't pay for it. **And I have maintained what is most valuable to me, which is my integrity and my voice."**

Russian invasion of Ukraine: In March 2022, Hedges condemned Russia's aggression as criminal and criticized NATO's expansion as a dangerous and predictable provocation that baited Russia to initiate a conflict. Hedges called for Russia's withdrawal, an immediate ceasefire and moratorium on arms shipments to Ukraine.[72] He later stated that the invasion was "set to become a lengthy war of attrition, one funded and backed by an increasingly bellicose United States." [73] Hedges criticized the \$40 billion aid package for Ukraine in a May 2022 piece, which he says demonstrates that the United States is "trapped in the death spiral of unchecked militarism" as the country "rots, morally, politically, economically, and physically," with no real plans to address the epidemic of mass shootings, decaying infrastructure, lack of universal health-care, ever rising inequality, student debt, child poverty and the opioid epidemic.[74] In his 2022 book *The Greatest Evil is War*, Hedges wrote that "Russia has every right to feel threatened, betrayed, and angry. But to understand is not to condone. The invasion of Ukraine, under post-Nuremberg laws, is a criminal war of aggression."

On September 20, 2014, a day before the People's Climate March, Hedges joined Bernie Sanders, Naomi Klein, Bill McKibben, and Kshama Sawant on a panel moderated by WNYC's Brian Lehrer to discuss the issue of climate change. Hedges has argued that **the impact of population growth must be addressed, saying "all measures to thwart the degradation and destruction of our ecosystem will be useless if we do not cut population growth."**

Hedges is married to the Canadian actress, writer, and vegan activist Eunice Wong. The couple has two children. He also has two children from a previous marriage. Hedges currently lives in Princeton, New Jersey. In November 2014, Hedges announced that he and his family had become vegan. He compared his decision to a vow of abstinence, adding that it is necessary "to make radical changes to save ourselves from ecological meltdown." Hedges authored an introduction to a vegan cookbook in 2015, *The Anarchist Cookbook*, written by Keith McHenry and Chaz Bufe. Hedges has post-traumatic stress disorder from his experience reporting in war zones, and was once suicidal as a result of trauma. Hedges speaks Levantine Arabic, French, and Spanish in addition to his native English.

Chris Hedges



Hedges, c. 2007

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Born | Christopher Lynn Hedges September 18, 1956 (age 67) St. Johnsbury, Vermont, U.S. |
| Occupation | Journalist · author · clergyman |
| Alma mater | Colgate University (BA) Harvard University (M.Div) |
| Spouse | Eunice Wong |
| Children | 4 |

Website

chrishedges.substack.com [↗](#)

Fyodor Dostoevsky wrote, *"What is hell? . . . the suffering of being unable to love."*



The Canadian actress, writer, and vegan activist Eunice Wong is married to Chris Hedges. The couple has two children.

EUNICE WONG

“the physical memory blunders through the doors the mind has tried to seal”
jeanette winterson, written on the body



actor
voice artist
yogi
writer
editor

When I moved to New York to attend Juilliard, I was straight out of a suburban high school and a Grade A Introvert. My dynamic new classmates seemed to be inexhaustible and blindingly confident social animals. “There’s been a terrible mistake,” I thought with growing terror. I was brooding alone in the cafeteria during Orientation Week when John Stix—legendary director and acting teacher, 74 years old, small, white-haired, nicknamed Yoda—shuffled over with his lunch tray and sat next to me. He asked me kindly how I was. It spilled out: Terrible Mistake. Horribly Shy. Panicking. Must Go Home. John chewed. Then, fixing me with his gaze, he said, “I think you chose acting as your salvation.” I stayed. John died in 2004. He is buried a few minutes from where I live. I visit him often and tell him about the plays I’m doing.



I have an extensive physical theatre background, as well as training in circus aerials, Ashtanga, and Wu Mei Kung Fu. I studied piano and singing at the Royal Conservatory of Music of Toronto, taught poetry in a men's super-max prison, and am on the Advisory Council of The Vegan Museum.

**"Is the work personal, connected, exploratory, honest, reaching for the truth?
Honest on the stage, in the moment, and revealing everything.
What do you want to tell us that you're not telling us."**

[—John Stix \(1920-2004\)](#)



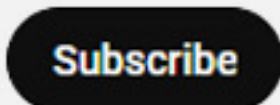
TOP



Managing methane from belching cattle is a top innovation priority. Lance Cheung/USDA



Bridgewater's Ray Dalio: U.S. nearing 'inflection point' where our debt problem could get even worse



371,188 views Nov 17, 2023

Ray Dalio, Bridgewater founder and CIO mentor, joins 'Squawk Box' to discuss the state of U.S.-China relations, China's military agenda and social media influence, state of the U.S. economy, Treasury yields, A.I. impact, and more.

America's national debt is currently closing in on a staggering \$33.74 trillion. And according to Ray Dalio, founder of the world's largest hedge fund, Bridgewater Associates, that number may continue to rise — quite rapidly.

"We are at a point in which we are borrowing money to pay debt service," he said in a recent interview with CNBC. The hedge fund legend explained that if a country's debt were to grow faster than its income, its debt service would be "encroaching" on its spending. And if the country wanted to maintain its current level of spending, it would need to "get more and more into debt." "The way that works, it accelerates," he said. He added that **the problem is exacerbated by America's internal political issues and social conflicts.**

Dalio is not the only one to point out the connection between U.S. politics and fiscal health. Moody's Investors Service recently changed its ratings outlook for the U.S. from "stable" to "negative." It warned that "continued political polarization" in Congress may heighten the risk of lawmakers failing to achieve consensus on a fiscal plan to "slow the decline in debt affordability." Will interest rates go higher? Since the U.S. Federal Reserve began raising interest rates in March 2022, many borrowers have experienced the burden of higher monthly payments. Should interest rates persist in rising, it poses significant challenges for a country grappling with nearly \$34 trillion of debt. When asked about his forecast for interest rates a year from now, Dalio responded, "I don't think there's going to be any important change in the Fed policy, other than maybe a slight easing as the economy slows down." And yet recent indicators still suggest an expanding economy.

Last month, the Commerce Department reported that, for Q3, real GDP in the U.S. increased at an annual rate of 4.9%. This statistic not only exceeded economists' expectations, but also marked the biggest increase since Q4 of 2021. That said, Dalio is concerned about the nation's financial strength.

"Financially strong means: do you earn more than you spend? Do you have a good income statement as a country? And do we have a good balance sheet?" he remarked. "We are near that inflection point."

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Monday, December 04, 2023

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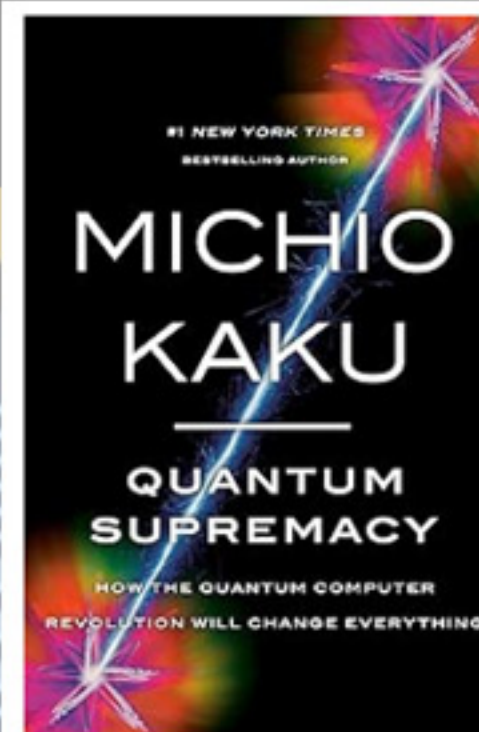
Companies, countries battle to develop quantum computers | 60 Minutes

Companies and countries are in a race to develop quantum computers. The machines could revolutionize problem-solving in medicine, physics, chemistry and engineering. > <https://youtu.be/K4ssT6Dzmnw>

60
MINUTES



3:39 > physicist Michio Kaku of the City University of New York already calls today's computers classical Kaku's book, "Quantum Supremacy" explains the stakes, "We're looking at a race, a race between China, between IBM, Google Microsoft, Honeywell, all the big boys who are in this race to create a workable operationally efficient quantum computer because the nation or company that does this will rule the world economy."

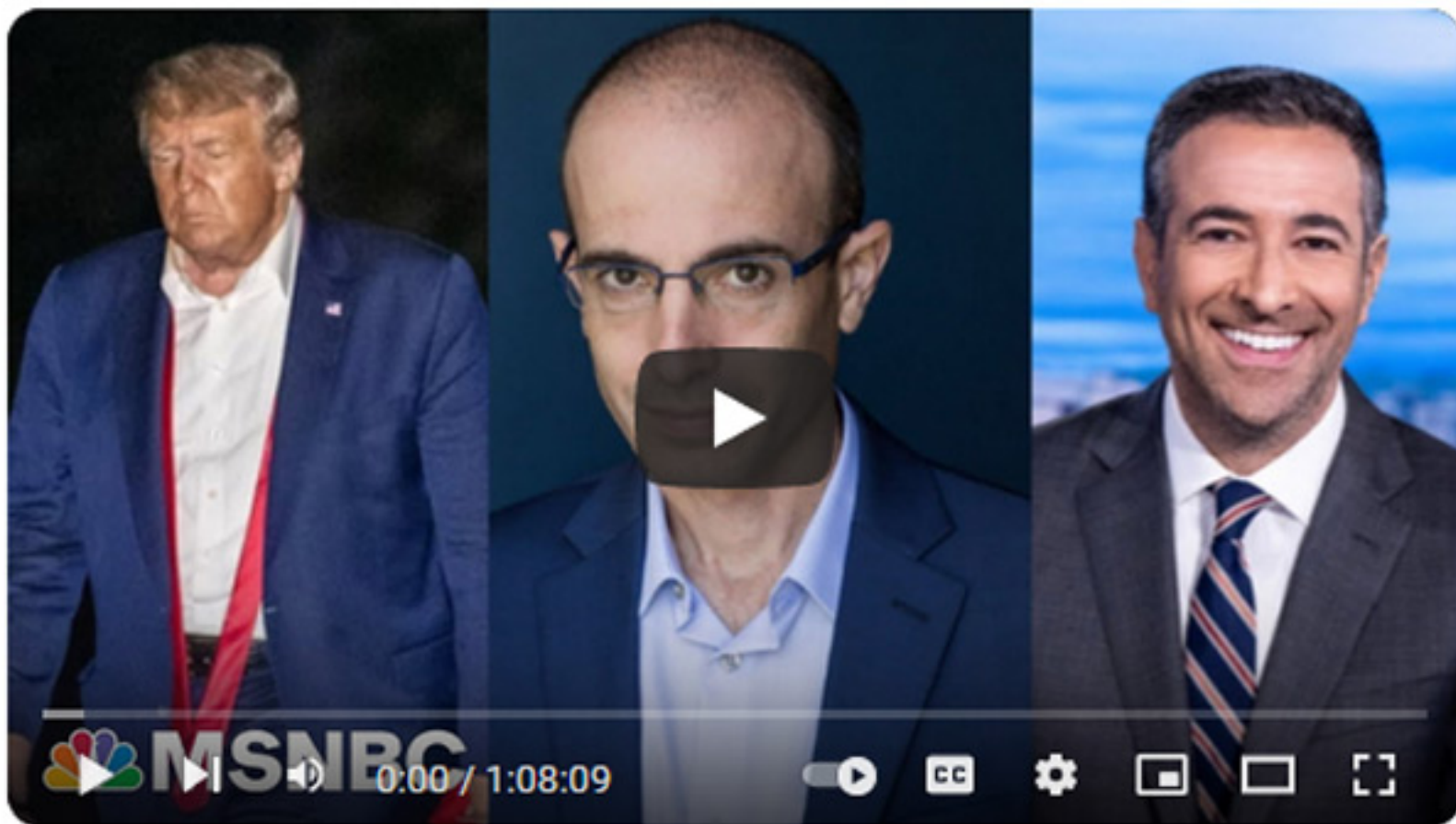


Quantum Supremacy: How the Quantum Computer Revolution Will Change Everything Hardcover – May 2, 2023

by Michio Kaku (Author)

The runaway success of the microchip processor may be reaching its end. Running up against the physical constraints of smaller and smaller sizes, traditional silicon chips are not likely to prove useful in solving humanity's greatest challenges, from climate change, to global starvation, to incurable diseases. But the quantum computer, which harnesses the power and complexity of the atomic realm, already promises to be every bit as revolutionary as the transistor and microchip once were. Its unprecedented gains in computing power herald advancements that could change every aspect of our daily lives.




Automotive companies, medical researchers, and consulting firms are betting on quantum computing, hoping to exploit its power to design more efficient vehicles, create life-saving new drugs, and streamline industries to revolutionize the economy. But this is only the beginning. Quantum computers could allow us to finally create nuclear fusion reactors that create clean, renewable energy without radioactive waste or threats of meltdown. They could help us crack the biological processes that generate natural, cheap fertilizer and enable us to feed the world's growing populations. And they could unravel the fiendishly difficult protein folding that lies at the heart of previously incurable diseases like Alzheimer's, ALS, and Parkinson's, helping us to live longer, healthier lives. There is not a single problem humanity faces that couldn't be addressed by quantum computing. Told with Kaku's signature clarity and enthusiasm, Quantum Supremacy is the story of this exciting frontier and the race to claim humanity's future



MAGA 'suicide'? Yuval Noah Harari on conservatives losing, conspiracies, AI, religion & history

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381,157 views Nov 30, 2023 #YuvalNoahHarari #Sapiens #SummitSeries

Why is the 'New Right' turning on conservative traditions? Why are conspiracy theories so potent? Why don't humans use wealth and technology in ways that benefit humanity? Renowned historian and 'Sapiens' author Yuval Noah Harari tackles those questions in an extended discussion with MSNBC's Ari Melber, who asks Harari about his scholarship, its applications, recent AI developments and criticism of Harari's writing. The discussion also covers how history is written and interpreted, storytelling and 'fictions' as a force in society, including 'money' as a fiction; the implications of evolution and Neanderthal DNA; the existence and meaning of God; the enduring impact of America's 'founding fathers'; and Harari's views of his own intellectual reach, success and its perils.

ARI MELBER: Welcome to The Summit Series with Ari melbour we are joined by Yuval Noah Harari the history Professor from Hebrew University with a PhD from Oxford and the author of some of the most influential non-fiction books in the world today with over 45 million copies in circulation across over 60 languages including sapiens which stood a top the top three books on the Sunday Times bestseller list for two years straight and has been recommended by everyone from Bill Gates to Barack Obama who said that this provocative lens shows the import of keeping the Long View you in mind. Mr Harari thanks for joining me.

YUVAL NOAH HARARI: Good to be here, thank you for inviting me.

ARI MELBER: Absolutely, you write so eloquently about this longer framework of History what is it that you actually think people today can learn by understanding past societies?

YUVAL NOAH HARARI: So many things, but I think most fundamentally history is not the study of the past. Past history is the study of change, it's trying to understand how things change, and also history is not about remembering the past, it's about liberating ourselves from it. Very often we live our lives trapped inside the dreams of dead people and history can show us a way out of that, and you know we've learned so much over thousands of years over tens of thousands of years of History. We are today much more powerful, thousands of times more powerful, than we were in the Stone Age, but we don't seem to be significantly happier, and there is also a question mark to what extent we are significantly wiser. Do we understand ourselves and our place in the world better? Are we more responsible than our Stone Age ancestors? I don't think that the answer is obvious.

Supreme Court hears a case that experts say could wreak havoc on the tax code

DECEMBER 5, 2023 · 5:00 AM ET

 Nina Totenberg



The Supreme Court hears arguments Tuesday in an important tax case.

Drew Angerer/Getty Images

Google BARD Synopsis:

- The Supreme Court hears arguments in a tax case with potentially huge consequences for the federal budget.
- The case centers on the 16th Amendment and whether it allows taxing unrealized income, like investment gains not yet cashed out.
- Charles and Kathleen Moore, backed by anti-regulation groups, challenge a provision in Trump's tax cuts that taxes their unrealized gain from an Indian company investment.
- They argue it's unconstitutional to tax income they haven't received, despite the investment's value increasing by over \$500,000.
- The case has broader implications, potentially impacting wealth taxes and other tax provisions.
- Former Speaker Paul Ryan, who drafted the contested provision, worries a Moore win could gut a third of the tax code.
- The Moores are portrayed as sympathetic investors, but documents suggest Charles Moore was more involved in the company than he claims.
- This raises questions about the alleged unrealized income and the nature of his loan to the company.

Key takeaway: The Supreme Court's decision could affect trillions of dollars in tax revenue and reshape the tax code, with implications for wealth taxes and other provisions.

Google BARD Synopsis:

Why the Moores are suing:

- The Moores invested in an Indian company and saw its value increase, but they never received any actual money from it.
- They argue they shouldn't have to pay a one-time tax on this unrealized income, claiming it's unconstitutional under the 16th Amendment.
- Their \$15,000 tax payment is seen as symbolic, representing a potential \$340 billion in revenue at stake for the government.

The government's argument:

- The tax is considered "realized" income, similar to how real estate or partnerships are taxed before cash is distributed.
- This prevents companies from stashing profits overseas to avoid taxes.
- The Moores' 11% ownership is seen as giving them control over potential distributions, justifying the tax.

Potential impact of a Moore win:

- Chaos and "tsunami of tax litigation" as existing tax rules are challenged.
- Major parts of the tax code, including those targeting the rich, could be invalidated.
- The Chamber of Commerce, despite initially supporting the tax, now backs the Moores, raising concerns about opportunism.

Overall: This case hinges on defining "income" for tax purposes and has far-reaching implications for the tax code and revenue collection.



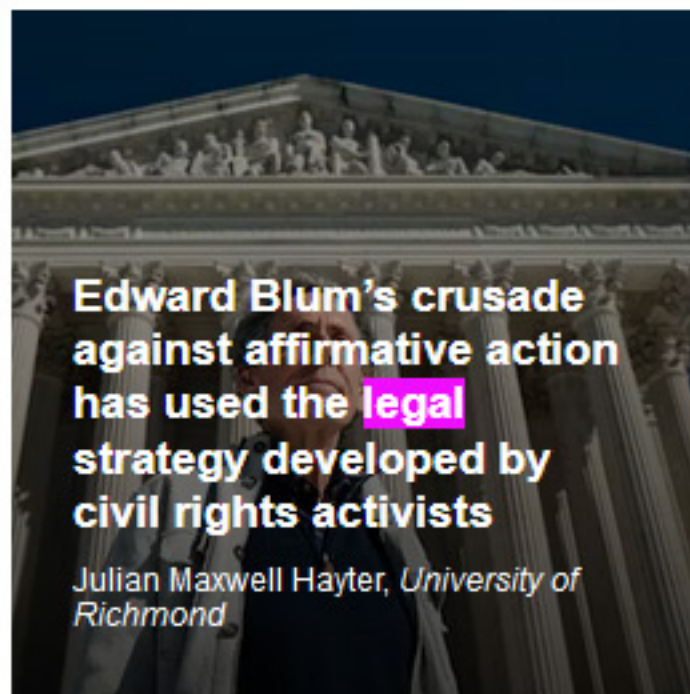
Certain states, including Arizona, have begun scrapping court costs and fees for people unable to pay – two experts on legal punishments explain why

Alexes Harris, *University of Washington* and Alex R. Piquero, *University of Miami*

At times, people are sentenced to pay without incarceration, but frequently people across the U.S. are sentenced to both jail time and fiscal penalties. Those costs are assessed by individual courts and include processing and filing charges, jury fees and fiscal penalties such as interest charges and late penalty fees. The collected money is then used to pay for costs such as the administration of court-appointed attorneys, probation, detention and diversion programs. But these fines and fees are often levied without any consideration for an individual’s ability to pay – and can add up to thousands of dollars. Given the potential consequences of legal debt on people unable to pay, including the loss of the right to vote and further criminal infractions, we conducted a multistate study on the impact of fines and fees. Arizona was not alone. Indiana, Illinois, Montana, California, Louisiana, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas and Virginia have also enacted similar laws that eliminate or reduce juvenile fines and fees. As these states have learned, monetary sanctions do far more harm than good and inflict disproportionate hardship on those least able to pay them. “These fees put unnecessary financial stress on children and their families when they should be focused on rehabilitation,” Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs said in October 2023. “They hold individuals back at a time in their life when what they really need is help moving forward.”

Mend Mariwany, *The Conversation*

Both Israelis and Palestinians are accusing each other of genocide. In this episode of *The Conversation Weekly* podcast, we speak to a genocide expert on the **legal** definition of the term.



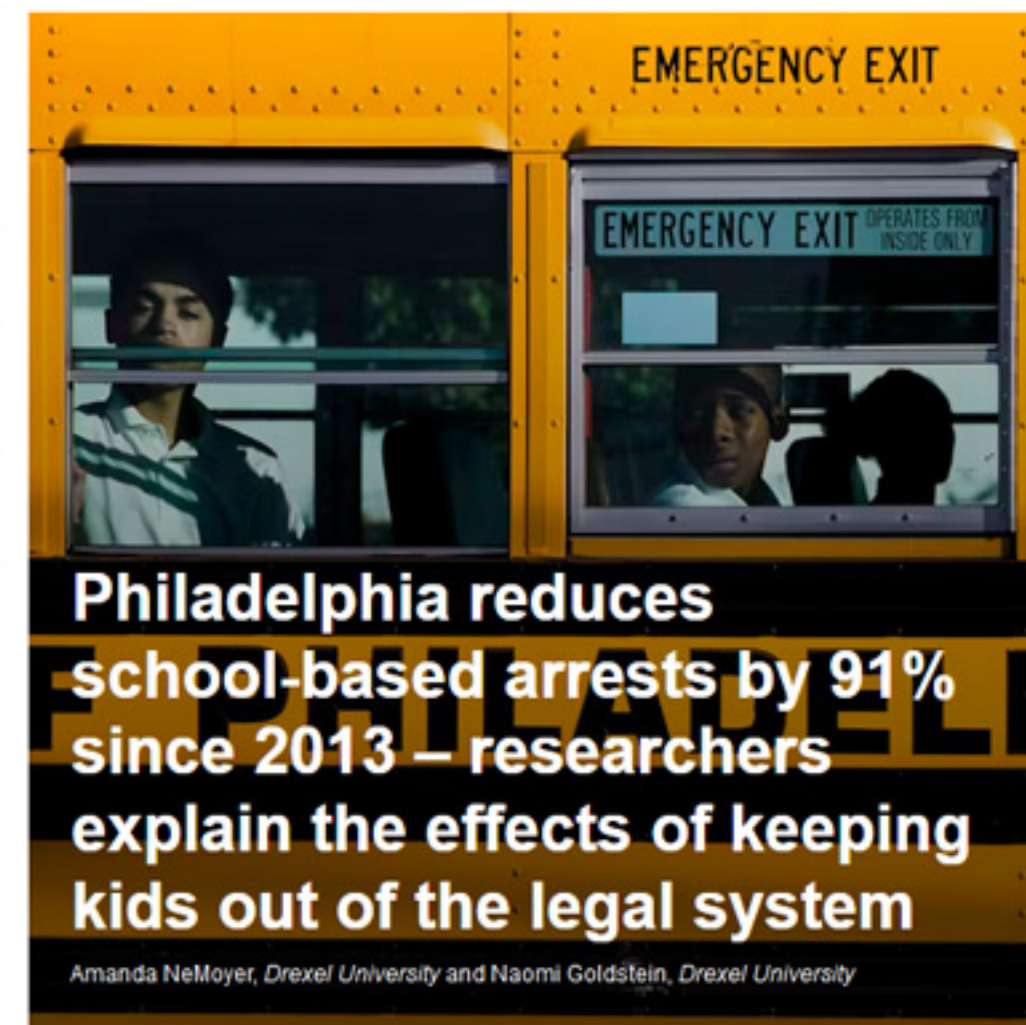
Edward Blum’s crusade against affirmative action has used the **legal** strategy developed by civil rights activists

Julian Maxwell Hayter, *University of Richmond*



Texas is suing Planned Parenthood for \$1.8B over \$10M in allegedly fraudulent services it rendered – a health care economist explains what’s going on

Graham Gardner, *Texas Christian University*



Philadelphia reduces school-based arrests by 91% since 2013 – researchers explain the effects of keeping kids out of the legal system

Amanda NelMoyer, *Drexel University* and Naomi Goldstein, *Drexel University*

Rizz is the word of year for 2023, according to the publishers of the Oxford English Dictionary. The term deals with charisma and charm, and other rizzes are available, such as Stockard Channing, center, seen here as Betty "Rizz" Rizzo in the 1978 film Grease. CBS via Getty Images



The Supreme Court hears a case that experts say could wreak havoc on the tax code

A couple who owned a controlling interest in a foreign corporation argue that a controversial Trump-era tax is unconstitutional under the Sixteenth Amendment.



Overall: This case hinges on defining "income" for tax purposes and has far-reaching implications for the tax code and revenue collection.



POP CULTURE

Rizz is Oxford's word of the year for 2023. Do you have it?



MIDDLE EAST

After Houthi attacks in the Red Sea, fears of a wider Middle East conflict grow



POLITICS

House Republicans prepare for official vote to authorize impeachment inquiry

style, charm, or attractiveness

"Rizz is a colloquial word, defined as style, charm, or attractiveness; the ability to attract a romantic or sexual partner," according to the Oxford University Press. As for the word's etymology, OUP says it's believed to have been taken from the middle of "charisma," much like "fridge" derives from refrigerator. 19 hours ago



NPR

[https://www.npr.org/2023/12/04/rizz-oxford-word-of...](https://www.npr.org/2023/12/04/rizz-oxford-word-of-...)

[Rizz is Oxford's word of the year for 2023. Do you have it? - NPR](#)



SHOTS - HEALTH NEWS

Black Americans expect to face racism in the doctor's office, a survey finds



MIDDLE EAST CRISIS — EXPLAINED

A Palestinian doctor pushes for peace, but suffers a devastating blow from war

A Harvard-trained Palestinian doctor who was born and raised in the Jabalia refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, **Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish** devoted his life to medicine and reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians. As the father whose daughters were killed by Israeli soldiers on January 16, 2009, during Israel's incursion into the Gaza Strip. His response to this tragedy made news and won him humanitarian awards around the world. Instead of seeking revenge or sinking into hatred, Abuelaish called for the people in the region to start talking to each other. His deepest hope is that his daughters will be "the last sacrifice on the road to peace between Palestinians and Israelis."

A Palestinian doctor pushes for peace, but suffers a devastating blow from war

DECEMBER 5, 2023 · 5:03 AM ET

 Greg Myre



Palestinian Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish with four of his five surviving children in Gaza in May 2009. Several months earlier, an Israeli tank shell killed three of his daughters in their home. Abuelaish has worked in Israeli and Palestinian hospitals and is an outspoken advocate for peace. He now lives in Canada, but on Nov. 7, an Israeli airstrike killed 22 members of his extended family in Gaza. Khalil Hamra/AP

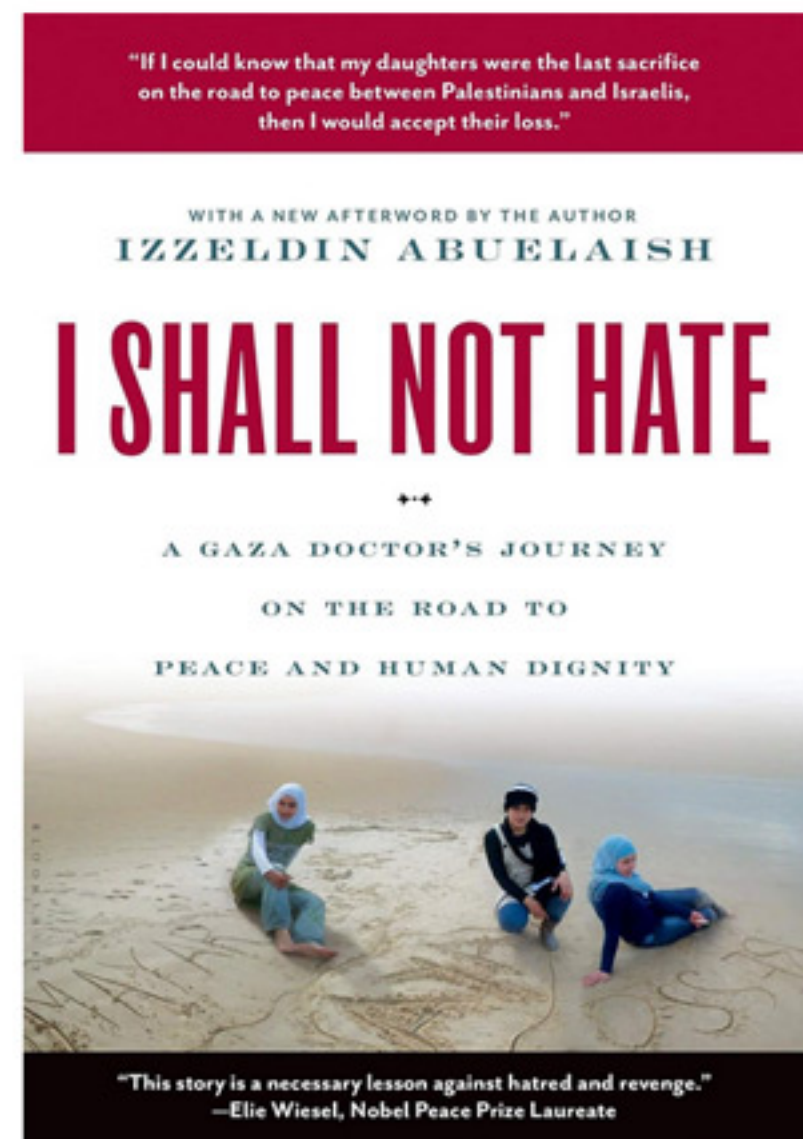
Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish initially gained prominence in the 1990s as the first Palestinian doctor appointed to work in an Israeli hospital, paving the way for many others that followed. "If you go to any hospital, you will see Palestinian doctors, Israeli doctors, nurses, patients. All of them are equal inside the hospital," he said. I first met Abuelaish in 2001 in southern Israel, in the the desert town of Beersheba, where he straddled two worlds. During the week, he worked and lived at Soroka Hospital, where he specialized in fertility medicine. On weekends, he drove a short distance home to the Gaza Strip to be with his wife and eight children in the Jabalia refugee camp. His aim, then and now, is the same. "I want equality between Palestinians and Israelis, not someone superior to the other," he said. "No one will accept the others being superior to them."

Tragedy strikes: Yet none of his efforts spared him or his family from terrible tragedies in the Israeli-Palestinian fighting. He was pushing for peace in the 1990s as the Israelis and Palestinians tried — but ultimately failed — to reach a deal ending generations of conflict. In the heavy fighting that followed in the early 2000s, an Israeli clampdown on Gaza eventually made it too difficult for Abuelaish to enter Israel to work. Then came a terrible loss in 2008 when his wife died of leukemia. The following year, he suffered another devastating blow that played out live on Israeli television. During an intense bout of Israel-Hamas fighting in 2009, Israel's Channel 10 television station called him regularly for an update from Gaza, which he delivered in his fluent Hebrew. One evening he was about to go on air when an Israeli tank shell slammed into his home. Three of his daughters, ages 14, 15 and 21, were killed, as was one of his nieces. The doctor wailed in grief as he spoke to the Israeli television anchor. "My God, My God, what have we done?" he cried. "I wanted to try to save them, but they died of head wounds immediately."

Abuelaish spoke to NPR later that year. "I lost three precious, beautiful daughters, but I can't return them back," he said. "I have five more [children], and I have the future. I have many good things that I can do for others." He wrote a book entitled, *I Shall Not Hate: A Gaza Doctor's Journey on the Road to Peace and Human Dignity*. He left Gaza with his surviving children. Today he's a professor in the School of Public Health at the University of Toronto, where I reached him for this interview.

A Harvard-trained Palestinian doctor who was born and raised in the Jabalia refugee camp in the Gaza Strip and "who has devoted his life to medicine and reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians" (New York Times), Abuelaish has been crossing the lines in the sand that divide Israelis and Palestinians for most of his life—as a physician who treats patients on both sides of the line, as a humanitarian who sees the need for improved health and education for women as the way forward in the Middle East. And, most recently, as the father whose daughters were killed by Israeli soldiers on January 16, 2009, during Israel's incursion into the Gaza Strip. His response to this tragedy made news and won him humanitarian awards around the world.

Instead of seeking revenge or sinking into hatred, Abuelaish called for the people in the region to start talking to each other. His deepest hope is that his daughters will be "the last sacrifice on the road to peace between Palestinians and Israelis."



New Billboards in San Diego Bring Attention to Dangers of Hamas

December 4, 2023

NEW YORK (Press Release) — JewBelong, a national nonprofit organization that fights antisemitism and makes Judaism accessible, last week put up three new billboards in San Diego reading, “Let’s be clear. Hamas is your problem too.” The new slogan is in response to the antisemitism sparked by the Israel-Hamas war, which led to a 400% increase in antisemitic hate crimes in recent weeks and has been compounded by Americans who have shown support for Hamas.

The billboards will remain up until the last week of December:

- 10th St. & Broadway
- I-15 Frwy. & 94 Frwy.
- I-805 Frwy. & Logan Ave.

San Diego has a Jewish population of approximately 100,000. Since the October 7 terrorist attack, San Diego has not been immune to the national rise in antisemitism, from antisemitic graffiti found at a local high school to antisemitic flyers found in San Carlos. In 2022, California experienced a record of 327 antisemitic incidents, a 34% increase from 2021, a trend which is mirrored nationally with a reported 3,697 antisemitic incidents in 2022, a 36% increase from 2,717 incidents in 2021. This is the highest number on record since the Anti-Defamation League began tracking antisemitic incidents in 1979.

“We can’t be naive — domestic antisemitism plays into the hands of Hamas. Their goal is the complete annihilation of Jews and fighting antisemitism everywhere makes that goal harder,” says JewBelong co-founder Archie Gottesman. “But Hamas, like other terrorist organizations, has much bigger goals. They are in a holy war against the Western way of life. They are an oppressive organization that will not stop with the Jews and Israel. It is time for Americans to comprehend that antisemitism starts with the Jewish people, but it will not end there. Every American who was distressed at what happened on 9/11 should be distressed about what is happening to Israel. Standing up to the hate is crucial for all of us.”

10th Street & Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101

Let's be clear: Hamas
is your problem too.
— jew

Let's be clear:
Hamas is
your problem too.

paid for by **jewbelong.org**



<https://www.deseret.com/2023/10/9/23910154/harvard-columbia-israel-palestine-summers>

Oct 11, 2023 > More than 30 Harvard University student organizations released a joint statement saying they “hold the **Israeli regime entirely responsible** for all unfolding violence,” after Hamas attacked Israeli citizens. The Harvard students’ statement references the decades long conflict and said for the past 75 years, “From systematized land seizures to routine airstrikes, arbitrary detentions to military checkpoints, and enforced family separations to targeted killings, Palestinians have been forced to live in a state of death, both slow and sudden.” Harvard University president Claudine Gay issued a statement saying she condemned “the terrorist atrocities perpetrated by Hamas.”

10th Street & Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101

Let's be clear: Hamas is your problem too. — jew

Let's be **Fear:** Hamas is our problem.

paid for by **jew** agoraphobia

Vanessa Deli
600 F St #F, Chula Vista, CA 91910



Rico Tejuino

Postre:
Platano
Mucho frito
- con leche y coquito

Tenemos

Vanessa Deli
600 F St #F, Chula Vista, CA 91910

Vanessa's
Est. 2001 *Deli*
Fruteria & Mexican Cravings
600 F Street, Suite F, Chula Vista, CA 91910
(Corner of F St. & Broadway)
619-585-8102
**GOOD TASTING WATER
BY REVERSE OSMOSIS**

Vanessa's
Est. 2001 *Deli*
Fruteria & Mexican Cravings
600 E Street, Suite F, Chula Vista, CA 91910
(Corner of F St. & Broadway)
619-585-8102
**GOOD TASTING WATER
BY REVERSE OSMOSIS**

Vanessa's
Est. 2001 *Deli*
Fruteria & Mexican Cravings
600 F Street, Suite F, Chula Vista, CA 91910
(Corner of F St. & Broadway)
619-585-8102
**PURIFIED GOOD TASTING WATER
BY REVERSE OSMOSIS**



Feeling alone? 5 tips to create connection and combat loneliness

UPDATED DECEMBER 5, 2023 · 8:58 AM ET ⓘ

HEARD ON MORNING EDITION



Allison Aubrey



STEVE INSKEEP, HOST: Around the world, about one in four adults say they're lonely. The World Health Organization and the U.S. Surgeon General raised concerns about this as a public health threat. Loneliness is a public health threat, which leads to the question of what can we do? NPR's Allison Aubrey reports on an initiative called Project UnLonely, led by a physician who has turned to art to bring people together.

ALLISON AUBREY, BYLINE: At a time when loneliness is considered epidemic, it's worth noting that feelings of detachment or disconnection are not a new phenomenon. Most of us experience pangs of loneliness at some point. It's a near universal experience, says Dr. Jeremy Nobel. And in the U.S., a bent towards independence and individualism is woven into our history.

JEREMY NOBEL: It is part of the American psyche. Autonomy, you know, go west, young man. Pull yourself up by your own bootstraps. This is part of the American narrative in some ways.

AUBREY: Of course, it's possible to be both independent and socially connected, but Nobel says what's changed in recent decades are the societal norms and institutions that gave people a place or fixed identity in society.

NOBEL: A hundred years ago, your identity was almost fully defined by your gender, your religion and your status in the tribe, you know, and very little flexibility through the course of your lifetime. Now all of those are in play, and it's become both a set of opportunities, but for many, a set of challenges.

AUBREY: The freedom and flexibility to chart your own course, define your own identity, opens up opportunities and helps many people make authentic connections and thrive. But the rise in loneliness suggests this process of determining who you are, where you fit in, can be disorienting for many people.

NOBEL: If we have some uncertainty about our self-worth, about our validity, about our importance to other people, then there's often a hesitancy to make the effort to try to connect.

AUBREY: When there's not an easy or prescribed way to fit in, finding connection can be tough. And that's where Nobel's initiatives with art and creative expression come in.

NOBEL: In order to connect with other people at some authentic level, you have to take a certain kind of risk. You have to disclose something about yourself that's personal. And so, of course, you risk being judged for what you've shared, but if you don't tolerate that risk, it's very hard. And this is where the arts can be very powerful, because they act as a catalyst to make it easier.

AUBREY: Drawing a picture may seem like a solitary act, but it can be a bridge to connection, a way to express what's on your mind. Nobel's work in this space began with his own experience with trauma and loneliness. After the death of his father when he was a teenager and a string of other losses as a young adult, he turned to poetry. And working as a primary care doctor, he also launched the Foundation For Art And Healing and began bringing small groups of people together to see how connecting through art and artistic expression could help people process trauma.

NOBEL: People began telling us that not only were they less stressed out, but they felt less lonely and more connected.

AUBREY: And what he's learned is that most everyone can find a form of creative expression that suits them. Music, painting, dancing may be some of the first to come to mind but there are many, many more.

NOBEL: So culinary arts is a big one and so is textile arts - knitting, crocheting, quilting - these are all ways to share your stories with others and connect. And then, of course, gardening, what a friend of mine calls the world's slowest performance art form.

AUBREY: These are all ways people can use their creative imagination to reveal and share something about themselves.

NOBEL: We know that making art or even beholding the work of other people reduces levels of the stress hormone cortisol. It increases the levels of the so-called feel-good hormones - dopamine, serotonin, endorphins, oxytocin. So even at the very beginning, what the arts do is they relax you and put you in a good mood. So that's a nice way to connect.

AUBREY: Project UnLonely partners with community groups to offer creative expression programs. But one of the goals of the initiative is to encourage people to get started on their own. A good first step, Nobel says, is to follow your natural curiosities, think back to childhood interests and find like-minded people who share your interest, whether that's playing fiddle or frisbee, volunteering, joining a gardening or Scrabble club. One kind of quirky example from his book is an online group made up of people who are fascinated by Alaskan bears. The possibilities are endless.

NOBEL: Whether it's they're interested in serving others, whether they're interested in nature, whether they're interested in brown bears in Alaska and form a community around that, which has led to Fat Bear Week, and share your thoughts and feelings in creative ways with other people who have that interest. And in that connection, in that interaction, which anyone can do, then you begin to reveal yourself, tell your story, share the unique things about you that matter, and then other people recognize that, share their story in return, and it's like an electric circuit is connected.

AUBREY: Nobel says loneliness will never disappear. It's a universal emotion. And when feelings of loneliness arise, it's telling us something important to pay attention to.

NOBEL: Everyone is lonely from time to time - almost everyone. The challenge isn't to avoid loneliness but to see it as a signal. Just like thirst is a signal you need hydration, loneliness is a signal you need human connection and to follow that signal. If you don't do that, if you don't get what you need, here's the big risk - you start withdrawing from the exact opportunities and interactions with others that could make you feel more connected.

AUBREY: The goal of Project UnLonely is to help people recognize the signal and turn it around. Nobel says these activities are medicines that require no prescription. There's no copay for creating or conversing. They're a tonic that's much needed in modern life.



ALLMEP @ALLMEP

...

WATCH: May Pundak and Rana Salman, leaders from ALLMEP members @2States1Homelan and @cfpeace respectively, on the failure of conflict management. And the need instead for real conflict resolution driven by civil society peacebuilders and international engagement

Christiane Amanpour @amanpour · Dec 2

“If we punch a hole in this boat, we will all sink together.” Activists May Pundak of @2States1Homelan and Rana Salman of @cfpeace discuss their enduring dream for Middle East peace, even as explosions ring out while we speak. “Our lives are intertwined,” they say.



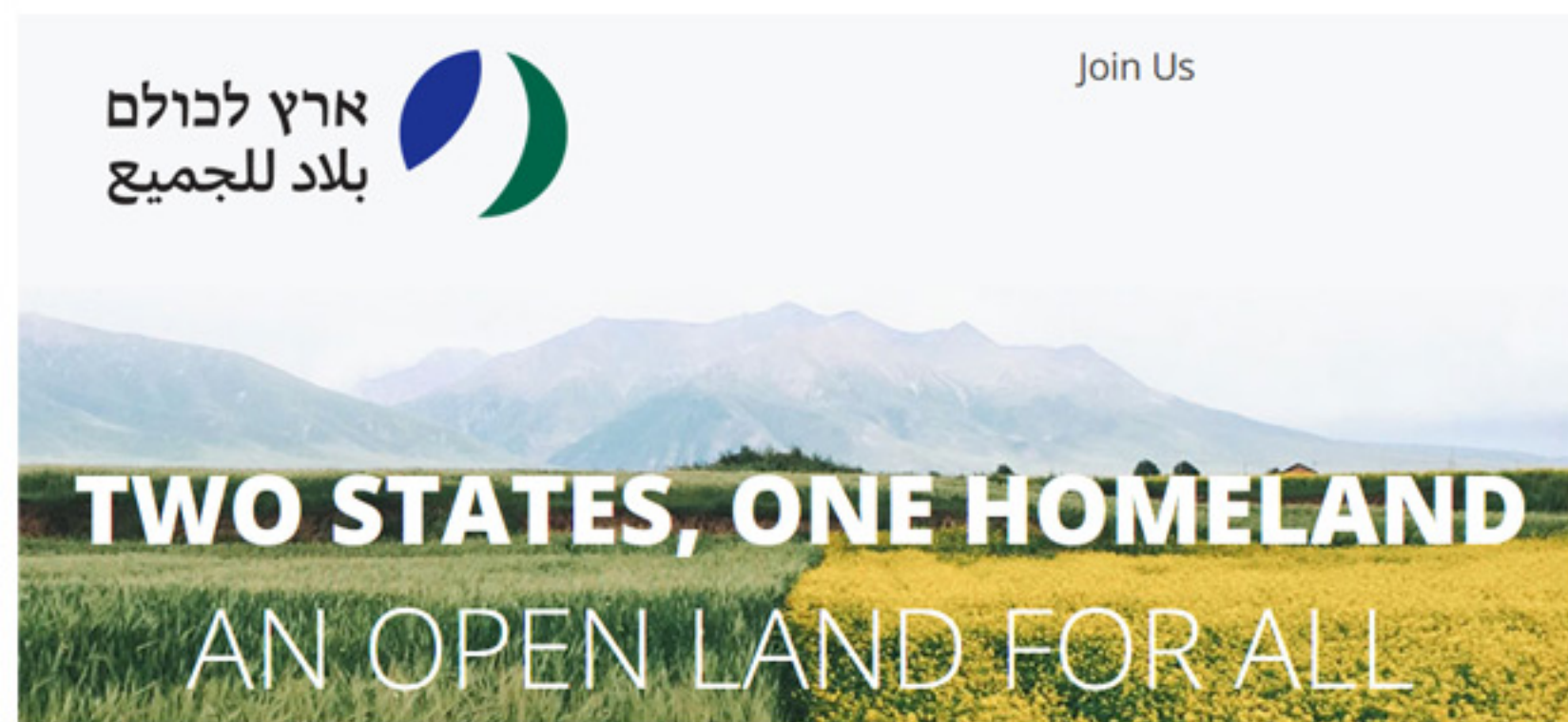
12:57 AM · Dec 3, 2023 · 2,570 Views



The Alliance for Middle East Peace is a network of over 170 NGOs conducting peacebuilding between Israelis and Palestinians.

Washington, DC allmep.org Joined February 2012

Join Us: A Land for All unites Israelis and Palestinians with a vision for a shared, prosperous, equal and just future in this country: *Two States, One Homeland*.



A Land for All (ארץ לכולם, א"ל; previously known as Two States, One Homeland) is an Israeli organization comprising Israeli Jews and Israeli Arabs which proposes a two-state confederation (in the same vein of the European Union) as the solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict. The organization was founded in 2012, and its **CEO is May Pundak**, daughter of Ron Pundak. Ron Pundak (May 1955 – 11 April 2014) was an Israeli historian and journalist. He played an important role in starting the Oslo peace process in 1993, and was part of the core group behind the Geneva Initiative. The organization is a member of Alliance for Middle East Peace, and won the Outstanding Peace Support Award Luxembourg Peace Prize in 2021.

Two-state confederation proposal: Under *A Land for All's* proposal, Israel-Palestine would be a singular territorial unit, with two states (under the June 4, 1967 borders) forming a confederation. Each state would be sovereign and independent, but would be linked by an open border. Jerusalem would likely be the capital of both states, and would be shared. The organization proposed this with the understanding that both Israelis and Palestinians have a strong religious connection to the land as a whole, and should have access to the land. Conflicts between the two states would be resolved either through a joint Israeli-Palestinian assembly or a joint human rights court. A number of institutions would be shared by both states for matters that equally affect both communities (such as water management, epidemic management, tourism, and finances). There would be some sort of shared security institution, but each state would maintain its own security forces. The organization's proposal is part of a larger shift towards promoting a partnership between Israelis and Palestinians, rather than a strict separation. Under the group's proposal, Palestinian refugees could return to Israel, but remain citizens of Palestine, and Israeli settlers living in Palestine would remain citizens of Israel. **Arab-Isrealis would be dual citizens of both states.**



WATCH: May Pundak and Rana Salman, leaders from ALLMEP members @2States1Homelan and @cfpeace respectively, on the failure of conflict management. And the need instead for real conflict resolution driven by civil society peacebuilders and international engagement

Christiane Amanpour @amanpour · Dec 2

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12:57 AM · Dec 3, 2023 · 2,570 Views



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Washington, DC allmep.org Joined February 2012



Combatants for Peace (CfP) is a grassroots movement of Palestinians and Israelis, working together to end the occupation and bring sustainable peace, equality, and freedom to our homeland. CfP envisions a just future where the inherent equality and dignity of all are fully realized. Committed to joint nonviolence since our inception, we use civil resistance, education, human rights campaigns, and other creative means of activism to transform systems of oppression and build a democratic and equitable society. Launched in 2005, **we are the only movement worldwide that was founded by former fighters on both sides of an active conflict.** As a result, we were nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017 and 2018.

Rana Salman



Born in Jerusalem, **Rana Salman** is CFP's Palestinian Co-Director. Before she joined CFP, Rana co-founded and served as the director of project management for Peace By Piece Tours, a travel company that offers educational and political tours in Israel and Palestine. In that capacity, **she spent much of the last 10 years leading international groups on alternative tours and fact-finding missions in the region.** Rana has also been a freelance translator and writer. **Her goal is to connect people and see lives changed.**

"The purpose is noble: stopping the rivers of blood spilling on both sides. We are searching for a way to restore dignity, respect, equality and hope for both peoples."

-Marian Saadah, Palestinian Activist



The president seemed to suggest Tuesday that he's only running in 2024 to prevent the re-election of the former president. The Senate continues to debate a measure to authorize more aid for Ukraine.

Watch NPR's news roundup: Is Biden only in it to stop Trump? A Ukraine aid package is in the Senate



MIDDLE EAST CRISIS — EXPLAINED

Israel is trying to arm more citizens with guns since the Hamas attack



EDUCATION

Lawmakers grill the presidents of Harvard, MIT and Penn over antisemitism on campus



MAIN CHARACTER OF THE DAY

The first trailer for Grand Theft Auto 6 is out. Here's why the hype is huge



WEATHER

An atmospheric river is soaking the Pacific Northwest with record-breaking rain



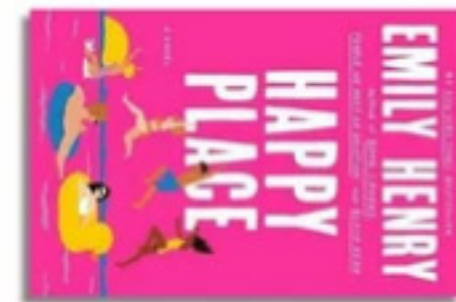
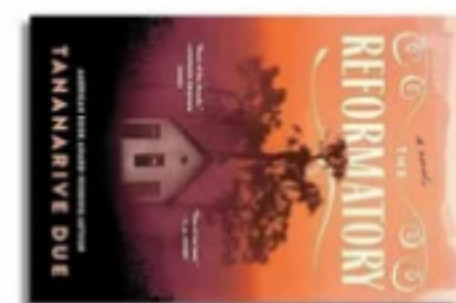
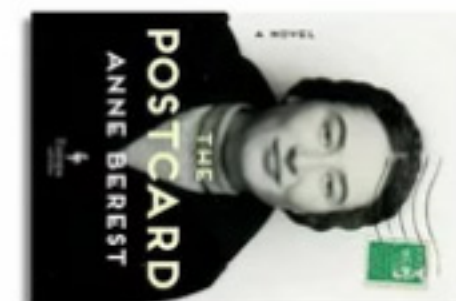
LAW

The Supreme Court seems inclined to leave a major off-shore tax in place on investors



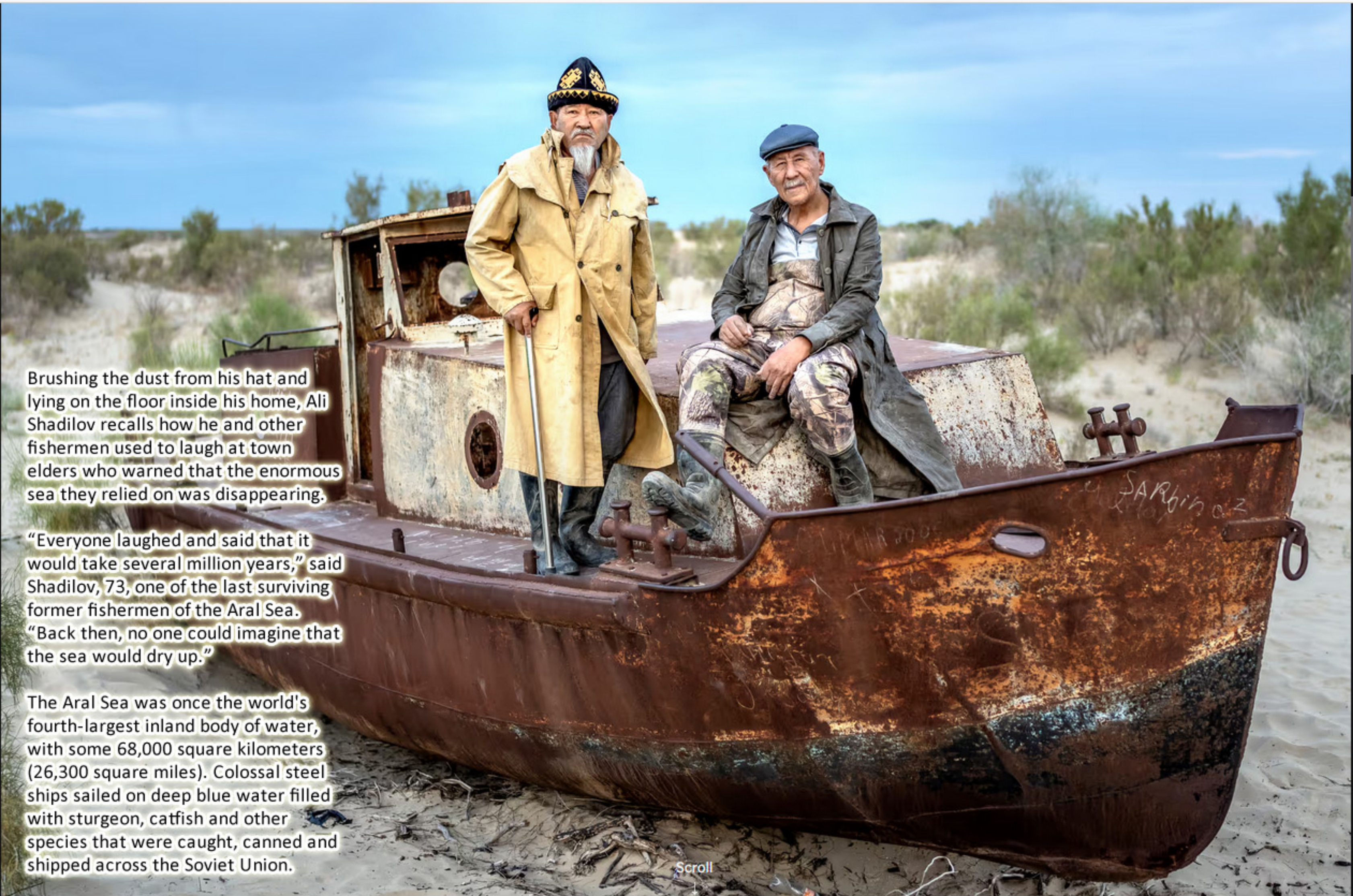
REVIEW BOOK REVIEWS

12 books that NPR critics and staff were excited to share with you in 2023





Photos by EBRAHIM NOROOZI | Text by VICTORIA MILKO > Associated Press > MUYNAC, UZBEKISTAN



Brushing the dust from his hat and lying on the floor inside his home, Ali Shadilov recalls how he and other fishermen used to laugh at town elders who warned that the enormous sea they relied on was disappearing.

“Everyone laughed and said that it would take several million years,” said Shadilov, 73, one of the last surviving former fishermen of the Aral Sea. “Back then, no one could imagine that the sea would dry up.”

The Aral Sea was once the world's fourth-largest inland body of water, with some 68,000 square kilometers (26,300 square miles). Colossal steel ships sailed on deep blue water filled with sturgeon, catfish and other species that were caught, canned and shipped across the Soviet Union.

Scroll



"I look right at you
Let me tell you what you are
You're a [Miracle](#)"

.....

{Start: 220101}

PROJECT Way Out, {preface} [HTML]

- **Rough Rants: On the Way Out** [PDF: 4MB]
- **Rough Rants Too: On the Way Out—a renewal?** [PDF: (work-in-progress)]
 - **I'm still here, still Dan — the Remix + Naomi** [PDF]
 - **It's Your Place, I Just Live Here: I Recognize Reckoning** [PDF]
 - **DanzDoodles 3322: a visual way of talking to myself continues** [PDF]

• **2023 Collage Clippings** via internet media:

- 1 of 9 > 01-02/2023: [PDF: 137MB]
- 2 of 9 > 02-04/2023: [PDF: 130MB]
- 3 of 9 > 04-05/2023: [PDF: 135MB]
- 4 of 9 > 05-06/2023: [PDF: 133MB]
- 5 of 9 > 06-07/2023: [PDF: 133MB]
- 6 of 9 > 07-09/2023: [PDF: 127MB]
- 7 of 9 > 09-10/2023: [PDF: 125MB]
- 8 of 9 > 10-11/2023: [PDF: 124MB]
- 9 of 9 > 11-??/2023: [PDF: (work-in-progress)]

• [2022 Collage Clippings](#) via internet media: (show/hide)

PROJECT Way Out

Dan Landrum

*On the way out,
a way forward.*
{#SustainablePlanet}

First and foremost,
it's all entertainment.

(then there's Ralph Abraham's Chaos Collage)

.....

The NEW Lord's Prayer

"The Lord" was once at the center,
was a useful term to express, beyond
belief the aspirations of exulted aspiration.

It began as homage, loyalty to the land
"owner," the rules maker. And morphed
to be a universal stand in for "a higher power."

But then, again, there is no higher, no lower.
There's only the all of us, standing here
in our unique place, in our sacred space,
holding dear, one another.



The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf
925 Camino De La Reina, San Diego, CA 92108

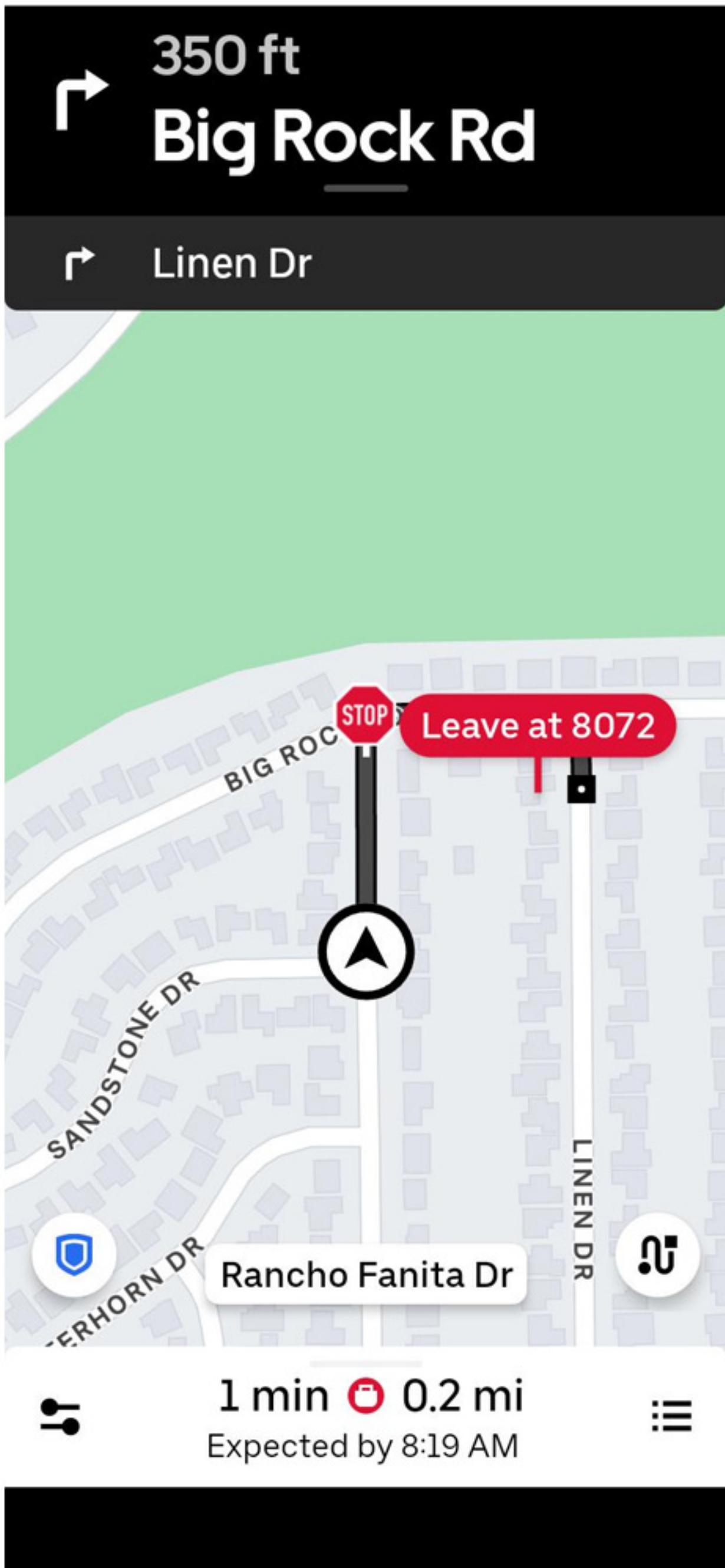
San Diego Police have a AR-15-style rifle mounted to thier motorcycle .

Firearms (of all types) were utilized a total of 1751 times in 2021 by San Diego Police. [AR-15-style rifle: any lightweight semi-automatic rifle based on or similar to the Colt AR-15 design. > https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AR-15%E2%80%93style_rifle]



1029 University Ave., San Diego, CA 92103
Nothing Sacred Tattoo (coming soon)





People also ask



Why was the American Revolution an ideological revolution?



The American Revolution was an ideological and political revolution based on the principles of the American Enlightenment that occurred in British America between 1765 and 1783.

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Revolution



[American Revolution - Wikipedia](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Revolution)

It's said most ideological revolutions end up badly, was the American Revolution an exception?

Google's BARD: Whether the American Revolution was an exception to the supposed downfall of ideological revolutions is a complex question with no easy answer. There are strong arguments to be made on both sides:

Arguments for the American Revolution as an exception:

- **Achieved its goals:** The American Revolution successfully achieved its primary goal of independence from Great Britain. This objective was clearly defined and pursued with unwavering determination.
- **Established a stable democracy:** The United States became the first modern republic and has maintained a stable and relatively peaceful democracy for over 200 years. This is a remarkable achievement, considering the turbulent history of most other revolutions.
- **Inspired other revolutions:** The American Revolution became a model for revolutions around the world, inspiring movements for independence and democracy in places like France and Latin America.
- **Promoted individual rights:** The American Revolution enshrined individual rights and liberties in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, setting a standard for other nations.
- **Economic prosperity:** The United States has become one of the most economically prosperous nations in the world, demonstrating that an independent, democratic nation can thrive.

Arguments against the American Revolution as an exception:

- **Unfulfilled promises:** The ideals of liberty and equality espoused during the Revolution were not fully realized for all citizens. Slavery continued for another century, and Native Americans faced displacement and discrimination.
- **Political divisions:** The United States has experienced significant political divisions throughout its history, including the Civil War and periods of intense political polarization.
- **Global impact:** While the American Revolution inspired other revolutions, it also contributed to a period of global colonialism and expansionism.
- **Social inequalities:** Despite its economic prosperity, the United States continues to grapple with significant social inequalities, including racial disparities and poverty.
- **Evolving definition of success:** The definition of "success" for a revolution is constantly evolving. What may be considered successful in the immediate aftermath may not hold up over time, especially when considering the long-term consequences.

Ultimately, whether or not the American Revolution was an exception to the pattern of failed ideological revolutions is a matter of interpretation and historical perspective. There are compelling arguments to be made on both sides, and the answer likely depends on the specific criteria used to judge success.

It is important to note that the American Revolution was not a single event but rather a complex process with long-lasting consequences. The full impact of the revolution is still being debated today, and it is likely to be a topic of historical inquiry for generations to come.

Chick-fil-A: "Naughty or Nice?"

5323 Mission Center Rd, San Diego, CA 92108





Queen Bee's Art and Cultural Center
3925 Ohio St, San Diego, CA 92104

2 HOUR
PARKING

2 HOUR
PARKING
8AM - 6PM

OPEN
Sunday 7pm-12pm
SALSA
Classes &
SOCIAL

Gstyle
SPECIAL
PREFERRED SERVICES

TEACHING PEACE:

A Land for All, Combatants for Peace, Breaking the Silence, Refusenik!: Israel's Soldiers of Conscience, Refuser Solidarity Network, Nurses Declaration of Solidarity and Resistance, The Palestine Poster Project

A Land for All > <https://www.alandforall.org/english/>

Combatants for Peace (CfP) > https://afcfp.org/our_team/rana-salman/

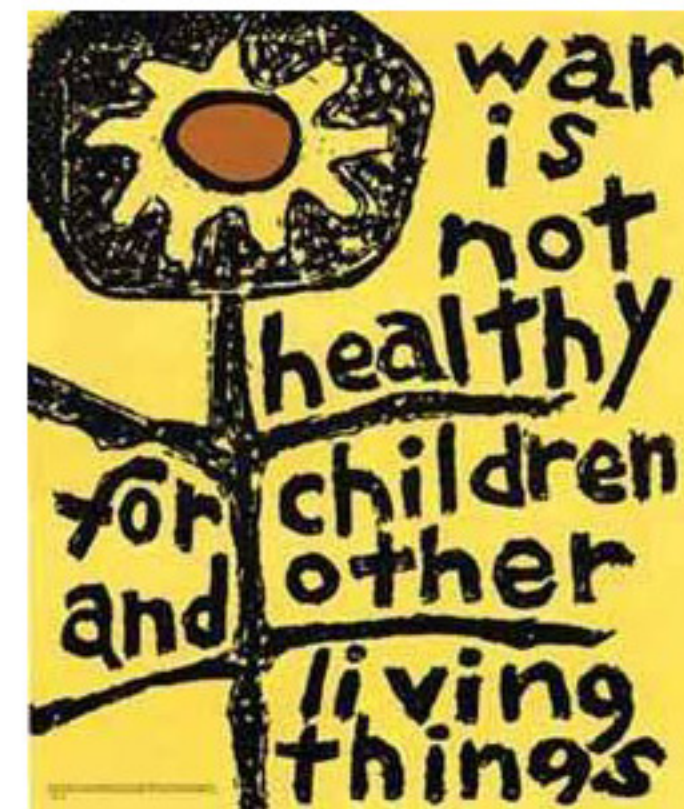
Breaking the Silence > <https://www.breakingthesilence.org.il/about/organization>

Refusenik!: Israel's Soldiers of Conscience by Peretz Kidron, 2004. > https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peretz_Kidron

Refuser Solidarity Network > <https://www.refuser.org/>

Nurses Declaration of Solidarity and Resistance > <https://nursemanifest.com/declaration-of-resistance/>

The Palestine Poster Project > <https://www.palestineposterproject.org/>



Israel's use of disproportionate force is a long-established tactic - with a clear aim

Paul Rogers

The strategy goes well beyond defeating an opponent: it seeks to destroy key infrastructure and the economy, with many civilian casualties



Tue 5 Dec 2023 07:47 EST

How to make sense of the sheer intensity of Israel's war in Gaza? One understanding is that it is the result of the enduring shock of the 7 October massacre combined with a far-right government that includes extreme elements. Yet this ignores another element: a specific Israeli approach to war known as **the Dahiya doctrine**. It's also one reason why the "pause" was never going to last for very long. First, let us take stock of the state of Gaza. After a seven-day pause in the airstrikes, the war resumed on Friday. In the last three days, bombing has been heavy, and the total death toll since 7 October has risen to 15,899, according to the Gaza health ministry, with at least 41,000 wounded. Among the dead are 6,500 children, including hundreds of infants. Physical destruction in Gaza has been massive: 60% of the territory's total housing stock (234,000 homes) is damaged, 46,000 of which are completely destroyed. The seven-day pause may have provided limited relief from the comprehensive siege but there are still serious shortages of food, clean water and medical supplies. Despite massive Israeli attacks backed by **a near-unlimited supply of bombs and missiles and intelligence support from the United States**, Hamas continues to fire rockets. Moreover, it retains a substantial paramilitary ability with 18 of the original 24 active paramilitary battalions intact, including all 10 in southern Gaza. Palestinian support for Hamas may also be growing in the West Bank, where armed settlers and the Israel Defense Forces have killed scores of Palestinians since the war started. The Israeli government is absolutely determined to continue and is accelerating the war, despite US secretary of state Antony Blinken's blunt warning to limit casualties and vice-president Kamala Harris confirming that "under no circumstances will the United States permit the forced relocation of Palestinians from Gaza or the West Bank, the besiegement of Gaza, or the redrawing of the borders of Gaza". That will count for little, given the extreme position of Benjamin Netanyahu's war cabinet, where the aim is to destroy Hamas. How this will be attempted relates to the specific Israeli way of war that has evolved since 1948, through to its current Dahiya doctrine, which is said to have originated in the 2006 war in Lebanon. In July of that year, facing salvos of rockets fired from southern Lebanon by Hezbollah militias, the IDF fought an intense air and ground war. Neither succeeded, and the ground troops took heavy casualties; but the significance of the war lies in the nature of the air attacks. It was directed at centres of Hezbollah power in the Dahiya area, in the southern suburbs of Beirut, but also on the Lebanese economic infrastructure.

This was the deliberate application of "disproportionate force", such as the destruction of an entire village, if deemed to be the source of rocket fire. One graphic description of the result was that "around a thousand Lebanese civilians were killed, a third of them children. Towns and villages were reduced to rubble; bridges, sewage treatment plants, port facilities and electric power plants were crippled or destroyed." Two years after that war, the Institute for National Security Studies at Tel Aviv University published **Disproportionate Force: Israel's Concept of Response in Light of the Second Lebanon War**. Written by IDF reserve Col Gabi Siboni, it promoted the Dahiya doctrine as the way forward in response to paramilitary attacks. The head of the Israeli military forces in Lebanon during the war, and overseeing the doctrine, was General Gadi Eizenkot. He went on to be the IDF chief of general staff, retiring in 2019, but was brought back as an adviser to Netanyahu's war cabinet in October. Siboni's paper for the institute made it crystal clear that the Dahiya doctrine goes well beyond defeating an opponent in a brief conflict, and is about having a truly long-lasting impact. **Disproportionate force means just that, extending to the destruction of the economy and state infrastructure with many civilian casualties, with the intention of achieving a sustained deterrent impact.** The doctrine has been used in Gaza during the four previous wars since 2008, especially the 2014 war. In those four wars, the IDF killed about 5,000 Palestinians, mostly civilians, for the loss of 350 of their own soldiers and about 30 civilians. In the 2014 war, Gaza's main power station was damaged in an IDF attack and half of Gaza's then population of 1.8 million people were affected by water shortages, hundreds of thousands lacked power and raw sewage flooded on to streets. Even earlier, after the 2008-9 war in Gaza, the UN published a fact-finding report that concluded that the Israeli strategy had been "designed to punish, humiliate and terrorise a civilian population". The situation now, after two months of war, is far worse. With the ground offensive in southern Gaza under way, it will not stop, exacerbated by tens of thousands of desperate Gazans repeatedly trying to find places of safety. The immediate Israeli aim, which may take months to achieve, appears to be eliminating Hamas while corraling the Palestinians into a small zone in the south-west of Gaza where they can be more easily controlled. The longer-term aim is to make it utterly clear that Israel will not stand for any opposition. Its armed forces will maintain sufficient power to control any insurgency and, backed by its powerful nuclear capabilities, will not allow any regional state to pose a threat.

It will fail. Hamas will emerge either in a different form or strengthened, unless some way is found to begin the very difficult task of bringing the communities together. Meanwhile, the one state that can force a ceasefire is the US, but there is little sign of that - at least so far.

Paul Rogers is emeritus professor of peace studies at Bradford University and an honorary fellow at the Joint Service Command and Staff College



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Emeritus Professor

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Paul Rogers is Emeritus Professor of Peace Studies at Bradford University and an Honorary Fellow of the Joint Service Command and Staff College (JSCSC). He has lectured regularly at senior UK defence colleges for almost forty years and has been an External Examiner for the MA programmes at the Royal College of Defence Studies and JSCSC. Paul lectures on changing drivers of international conflict with particular interests in the Middle East and paramilitary violence, and also has a long-term research interest in the interaction between socio-economic marginalisation, climate disruption and security.

He was educated at Imperial College and then lectured there, including a two-year secondment as a Senior Scientific Office with the East African Community. He joined Peace Studies at Bradford in 1979 and has maintained a close connection with the University since then, including periods as Head of Department and Chair of Faculty. He has also been Chair of the British International Studies Association.

Paul has written/edited 30 books and over 150 papers and book chapters, including *Losing Control: Global Security in the 21st Century* (London: Pluto, 2010) and *Irregular War: New Threats from the Margins* (London: Bloomsbury/I B Tauris, 2017). His most recent publication, "The Triple Paradigm Crisis: Economy, Environment and Security", will be published in *The Journal of Global Faultlines* in 2020. His work has been published in many languages, including Russian, Chinese, Japanese, Farsi, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish and Catalan.

In 2017 he was invited by Springer Nature to contribute a selection of his writings over the past fifty years to their "Pioneers" series which was published in 2019 under the title *Paul Rogers: A Pioneer in Critical Security Analysis and Public Engagement* (Series Editor: Professor Hans Guenter Brauch).

Paul is a regular broadcaster on radio and TV networks worldwide, averaging at least 150 interviews a year for more than thirty years. He also writes a weekly column on international affairs for www.opendemocracy.net and a monthly analysis on international security issues for www.oxfordresearchgroup.org.uk.

Driverless cars were the future but now the truth is out: they're on the road to nowhere

Christian Wolmar



For all the billions spent, the dream of these vehicles ruling the roads remains just that. It would be much smarter to focus on public transport

Wed 6 Dec 2023 06.00 EST

Developing driverless cars has been AI's greatest test. Today we can say it has failed miserably, despite the expenditure of tens of billions of dollars in attempts to produce a viable commercial vehicle. Moreover, the recent withdrawal from the market of a leading provider of robotaxis in the US, coupled with the introduction of strict legislation in the UK, suggests that the developers' hopes of monetising the concept are even more remote than before. The very future of the idea hangs in the balance. The attempt to produce a driverless car started in the mid-00s with a challenge by a US defence research agency, offering a \$1m prize for whoever could create one capable of making a very limited journey in the desert. This quickly turned into a race between various tech and car companies (OEMs, as they are now known – original equipment manufacturers) to produce what they thought would be the ultimate cash cow: a car that could operate in all conditions without a driver. Right from the start, the hype far outpaced the technological advances. In 2010, at the Shanghai Expo, General Motors had produced a video showing a driverless car taking a pregnant woman to hospital at breakneck speed and, as the commentary assured the viewers, safely. It was precisely the promise of greater safety, cutting the terrible worldwide annual roads death toll of 1.25m, that the sponsors of driverless vehicles dangled in front of the public. And that is now proving their undoing. First to go was Uber after an accident in which one of its self-driving cars killed Elaine Herzberg in Phoenix, Arizona. The car was in autonomous mode, and its "operator" was accused of watching a TV show, meaning they did not notice when the car hit Herzberg, who had confused its computers by stepping on to the highway pushing a bike carrying bags on its handlebars. Fatally, the computer could not interpret this confusing array of objects.

At 72, I may not have many marketable skills competitive in the current economy, but I am still better than Artificial Intelligence (AI) at driving a car and delivering food to people.

Until then, Uber's business model had been predicated on the idea that within a few years it would dispense with drivers and provide a fleet of robotaxis. That plan died with Herzberg, and Uber soon pulled out of all its driverless taxi trials. Now Cruise, the company bought by General Motors to spearhead its development of autonomous vehicles, is retreating almost as rapidly. The trigger was also an accident, which by chance proved not to be fatal but caused serious injuries. In October, a woman crossing a road in San Francisco was hit by a human-driven car and knocked into the path of a Cruise robotaxi. Instead of stopping, the robotaxi drove over the pedestrian because it had been programmed to pull over to the right when confronted with an unknown situation. She survived but will clearly be in line for massive compensation. Since then Cruise has been in full damage-limitation mode. After initially holding back details of what happened, it soon withdrew its robotaxis in all US cities and its CEO quit. It was revealed that vehicles were not even driverless, since the cars had been remotely controlled with interventions by operators about every four or five miles. There are now mass redundancies and the future of the development is uncertain. Tesla is also in defence mode. It has long marketed its driver aid software as "full self-driving", but it is nothing of the sort. Drivers must stay alert and ready to take over, even though the car can operate itself much of the time, particularly on motorways. In the US, where there have been numerous accidents with Teslas in "full self-driving" mode, the manufacturer is facing several lawsuits. In the UK, Tesla will fall foul of the legislation introduced into parliament last month, which prevents companies from misleading the public about the capability of their vehicles. Tesla's troubles have been compounded by the revelations from ex-employee Lukasz Krupski who claims the self-drive capabilities of Teslas pose a risk to the public. Manufacturers will be forced to specify precisely which functions of the car – steering, brakes, acceleration – have been automated. Tesla will have to change its marketing approach in order to comply. So, while the bill has been promoted as enabling the more rapid introduction of driverless cars, meeting its restrictive terms may prove to be an insuperable obstacle for their developers. These events highlight the technological difficulties faced by the move to driverlessness, as well as the fragility of the case supporting the development of autonomous cars. Every prediction of the technology coming to fruition in three or four years' time has been found to be overoptimistic. Ministers have been sucked in, including Chris Grayling in 2017, who said that self-driving cars would be on the roads by 2021.

The tech companies have constantly underestimated the sheer difficulty of matching, let alone bettering, human driving skills. This is where the technology has failed to deliver. Artificial intelligence is a fancy name for the much less sexy-sounding "machine learning", and involves "teaching" the computer to interpret what is happening in the very complex road environment. The trouble is there are an enormous number of potential use cases, ranging from the much-used example of a camel wandering down Main Street to a simple rock in the road, which may or may not just be a paper bag. Humans are exceptionally good at instantly assessing these risks, but if a computer has not been told about camels it will not know how to respond. It was the plastic bags hanging on Herzberg's bike that confused the car's computer for a fatal six seconds, according to the subsequent analysis. That is why it is clearly a misplaced priority on the part of the government, headed by tech bro Rishi Sunak, to put forward a bill on autonomous vehicles while sidelining plans to reform the railways or legislate for electric scooters, which are in a legal no man's land. **The future may well not be driverless cars, and meanwhile there is a transport system in desperate need of attention.** If this is the best that AI can do, maybe fears about its capabilities and its ability to put humans out of work are misplaced. Certainly, Sunak's chauffeur can feel secure for now.

Christian Wolmar is the author of Driverless Cars: On a Road to Nowhere.



Don't applaud the climate summit's loss and damage fund deal just yet – it might not warrant that standing ovation

Shannon Gibson, *USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences*



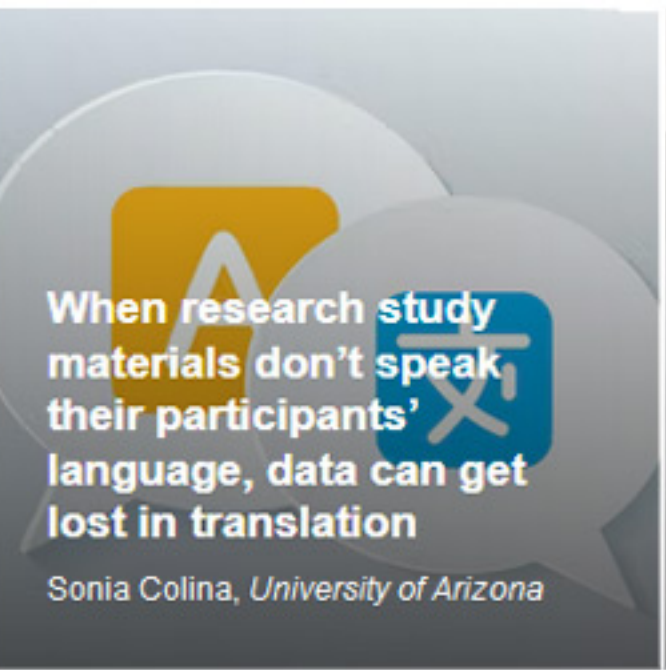
What does weight-inclusive health care mean? A dietitian explains what some providers are doing to end weight stigma

Lauren Butler, *Texas State University*



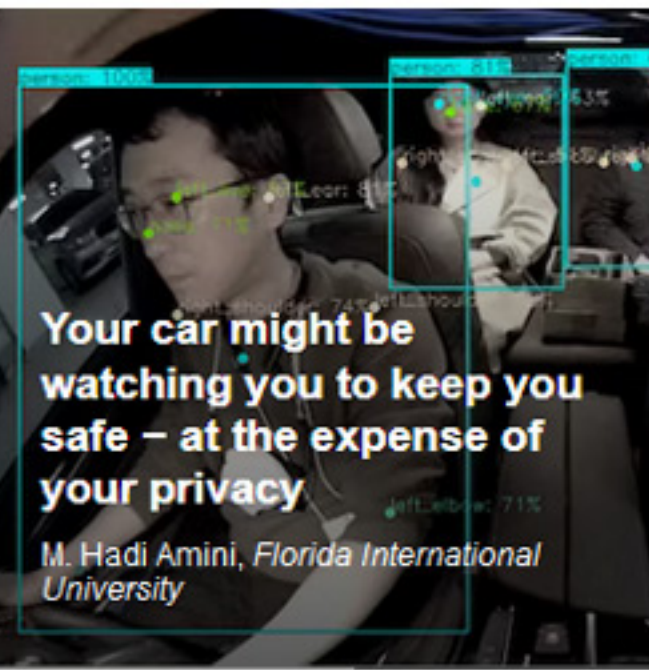
How new reports reveal Israeli intelligence underestimated Hamas and other key weaknesses

John Joseph Chin, *Carnegie Mellon University* and Haleigh Bartos, *Carnegie Mellon University*



When research study materials don't speak their participants' language, data can get lost in translation

Sonia Colina, *University of Arizona*



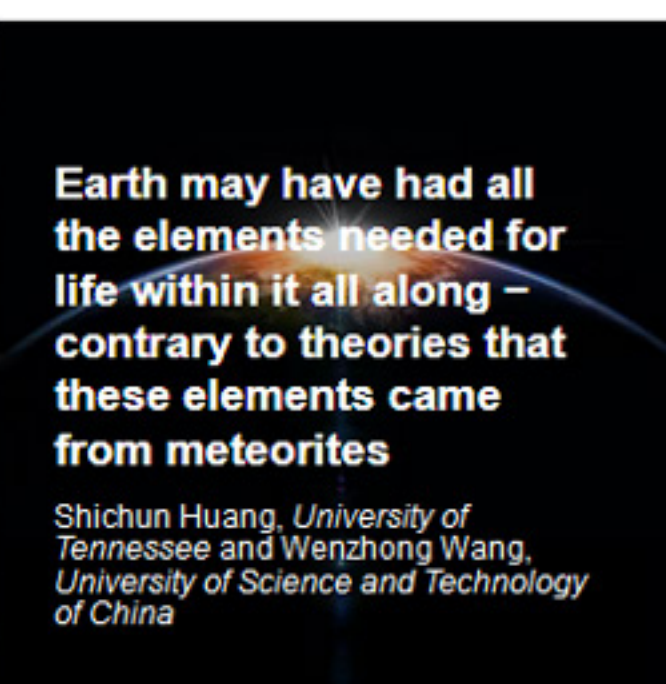
Your car might be watching you to keep you safe – at the expense of your privacy

M. Hadi Amini, *Florida International University*



Disinformation is rampant on social media – a social psychologist explains the tactics used against you

H. Colleen Sinclair, *Louisiana State University*



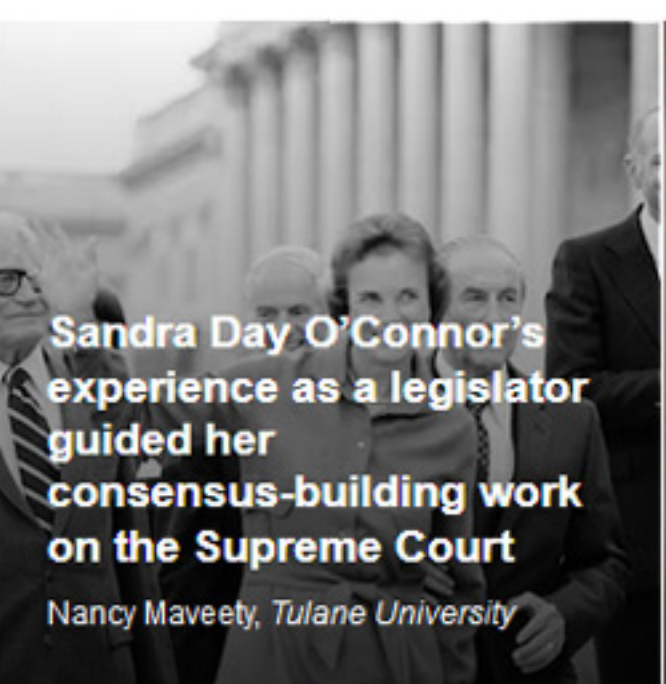
Earth may have had all the elements needed for life within it all along – contrary to theories that these elements came from meteorites

Shichun Huang, *University of Tennessee* and Wenzhong Wang, *University of Science and Technology of China*



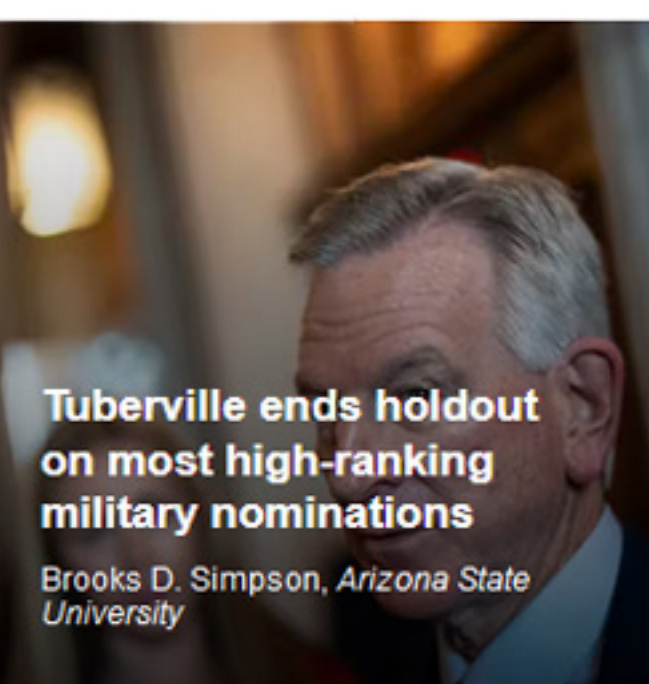
Taylor Swift: Person of the year and political influencer

Matt Harris, *Park University*



Sandra Day O'Connor's experience as a legislator guided her consensus-building work on the Supreme Court

Nancy Maveety, *Tulane University*



Tuberville ends holdout on most high-ranking military nominations

Brooks D. Simpson, *Arizona State University*



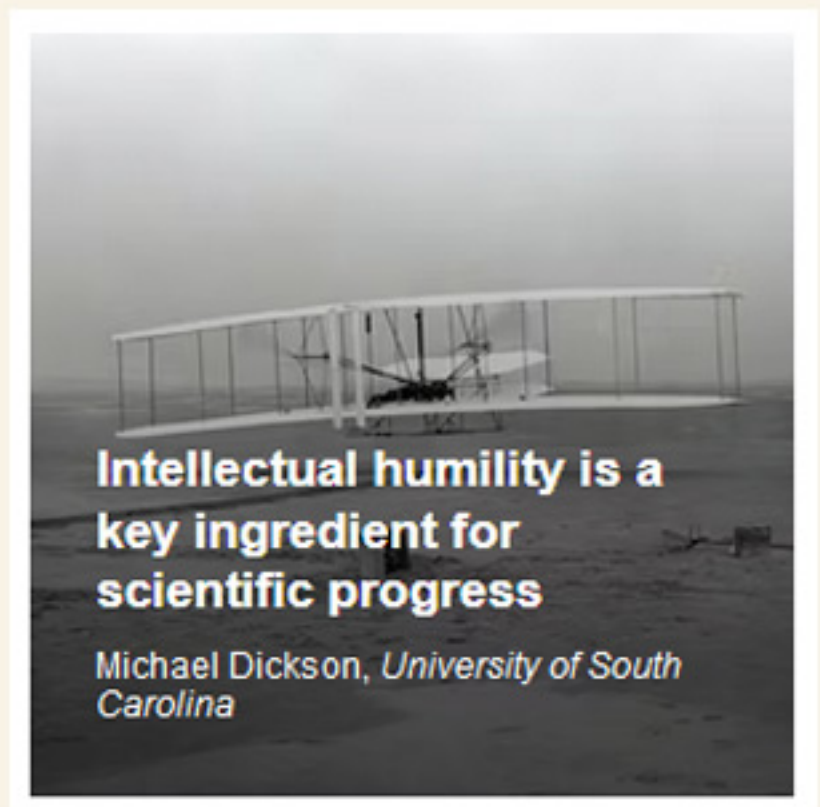
Kissinger's obsession with Chile enabled a murderous dictatorship that still haunts the country

Jorge Heine, *Boston University*



How electroconvulsive therapy heals the brain – new insights into ECT, a stigmatized yet highly effective treatment for depression

Sydney E. Smith, *University of California, San Diego*



Intellectual humility is a key ingredient for scientific progress

Michael Dickson, *University of South Carolina*

Just because you did a few deals, made yourself some bad money, got yourself a Beemer with sick rims, don't make you czar of the parking lot. **Humility honks its horn**, extends it hand out the window and offers the roadside beggar a fiver. Silly money for the homeless.



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Prada San Diego Fashion Valley

Retailer of upscale apparel, handbags, fragrances & more from the Italian designer.

Located in: Fashion Valley

7007 Friars Rd Suite 343A, San Diego, CA 92108

Thursday, December 07, 2023

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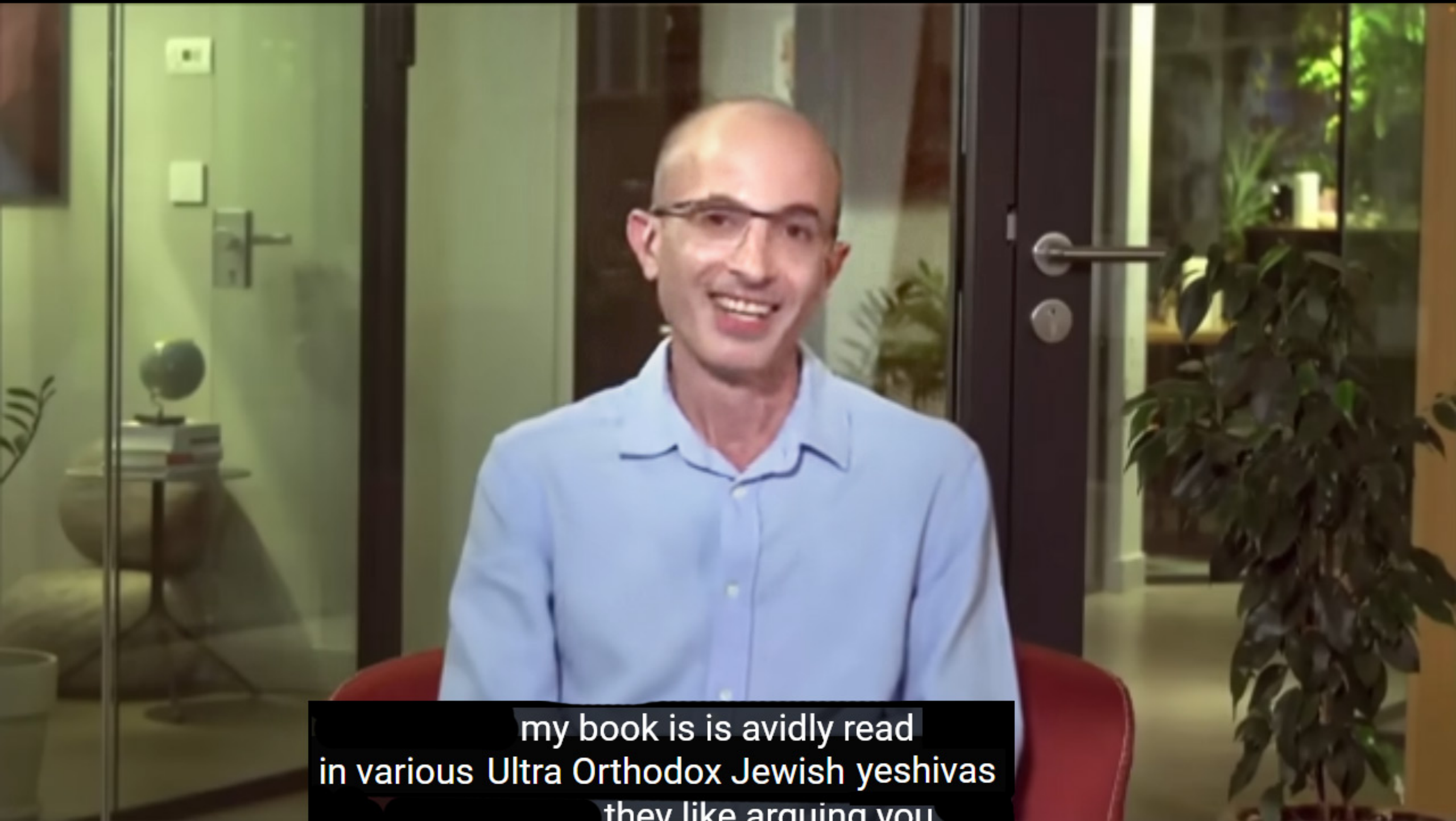


Thursday, December 07, 2023

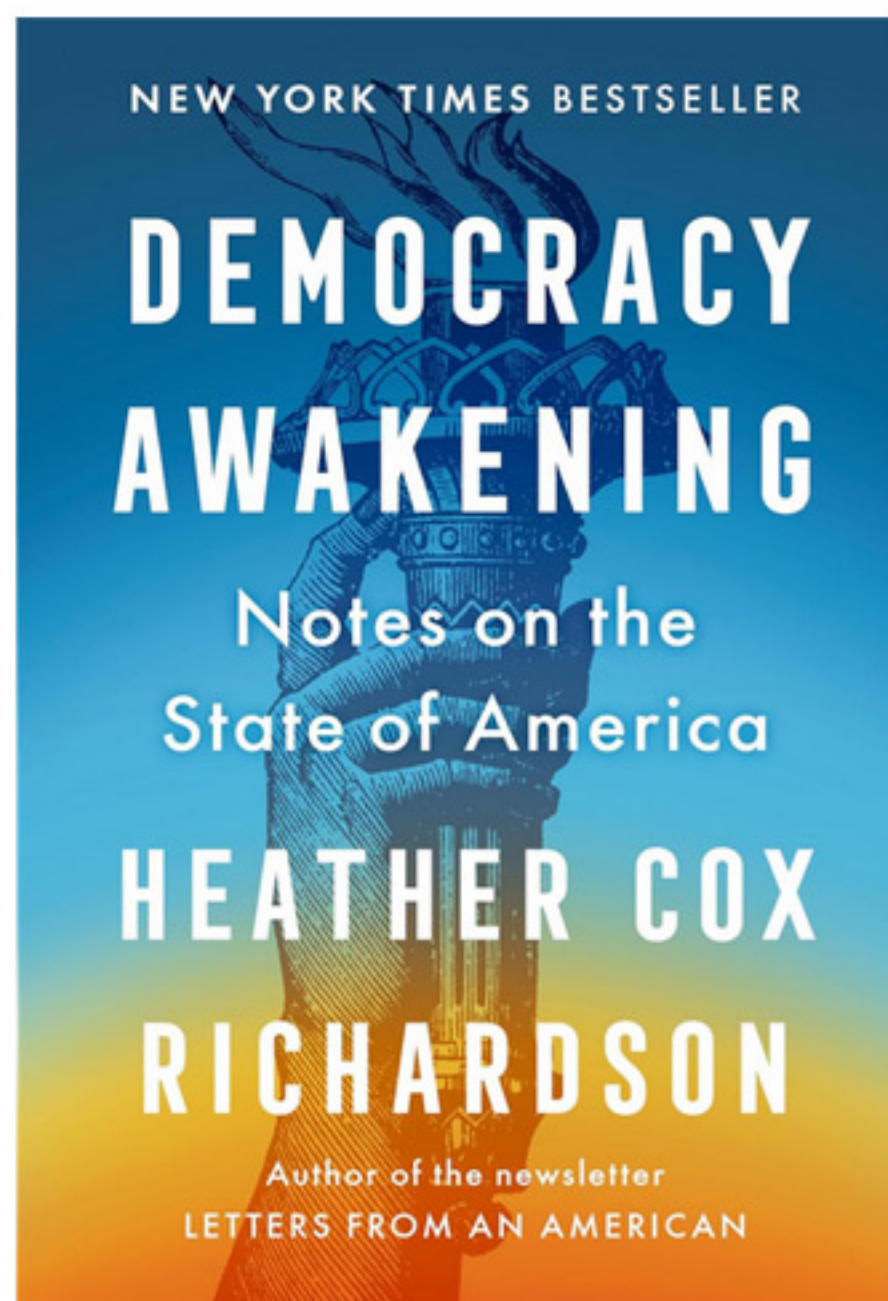
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<https://youtu.be/nlni04mpDdg>



my book is is avidly read
in various Ultra Orthodox Jewish yeshivas
they like arguing you
know so there lots to argue with

<https://youtu.be/LD9Z3pwHiQs>

"A vibrant, and essential history of America's unending, enraging and utterly compelling struggle since its founding to live up to its own best ideals... It's both a cause for hope, and a call to arms."--Jane Mayer, author Dark Money

From historian and author of the popular daily newsletter LETTERS FROM AN AMERICAN, a vital narrative that explains how America, once a beacon of democracy, now teeters on the brink of autocracy -- and how we can turn back.

In the midst of the impeachment crisis of 2019, Heather Cox Richardson launched a daily Facebook essay providing the historical background of the daily torrent of news. It soon turned into a newsletter and its readership ballooned to more than 2 million dedicated readers who rely on her plainspoken and informed take on the present and past in America.

In Democracy Awakening, Richardson crafts a compelling and original narrative, explaining how, over the decades, a small group of wealthy people have made war on American ideals. By weaponizing language and promoting false history they have led us into authoritarianism -- creating a disaffected population and then promising to recreate an imagined past where those people could feel important again. She argues that taking our country back starts by remembering the elements of the nation's true history that marginalized Americans have always upheld. Their dedication to the principles on which this nation was founded has enabled us to renew and expand our commitment to democracy in the past. Richardson sees this history as a roadmap for the nation's future.

Richardson's talent is to wrangle our giant, meandering, and confusing news feed into a coherent story that singles out what we should pay attention to, what the precedents are, and what possible paths lie ahead. In her trademark calm prose, she is realistic and optimistic about the future of democracy. Her command of history allows her to pivot effortlessly from the Founders to the abolitionists to Reconstruction to Goldwater to Mitch McConnell, highlighting the political legacies of the New Deal, the lingering fears of socialism, the death of the liberal consensus and birth of "movement conservatism."

Many books tell us what has happened over the last five years. Democracy Awakening explains how we got to this perilous point, what our history really tells us about ourselves, and what the future of democracy can be.

Heather Cox Richardson

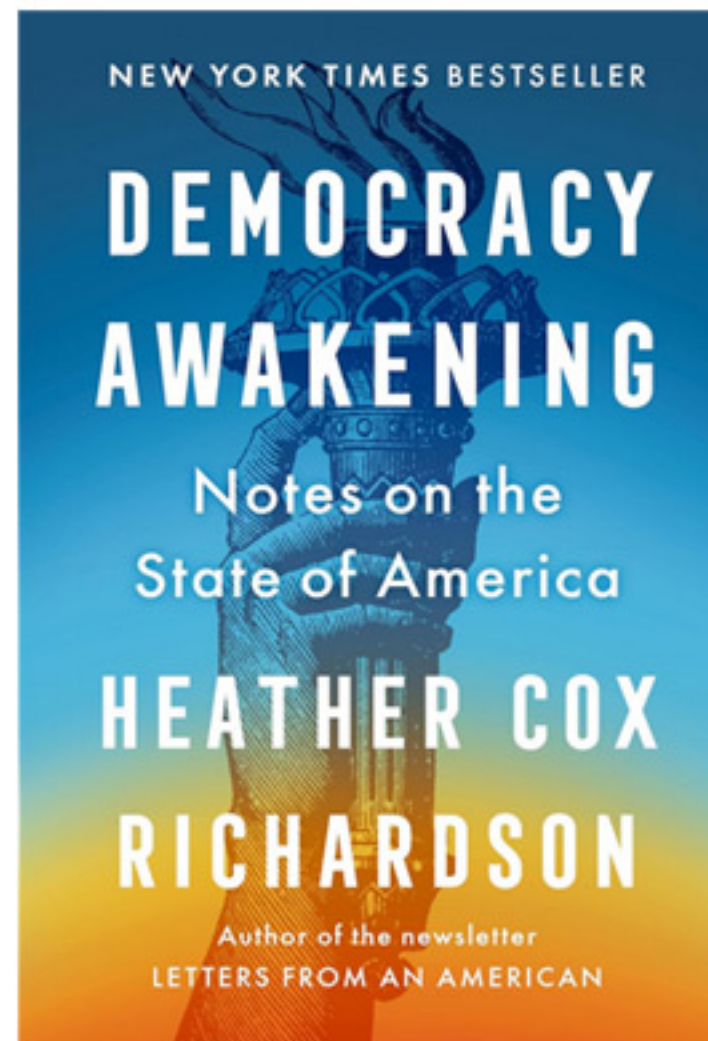
American historian and author

Overview

Books



Maine Public



In Democracy Awakening, Richardson crafts a compelling and original narrative, explaining how, over the decades, a small group of wealthy people have made war on American ideals.

Heather Cox Richardson



Richardson in 2016

Born 1962 (age 60–61)
Chicago, Illinois, U.S.
Occupation Professor of history at Boston College

Academic background

Education Harvard University (BA, MA, PhD)
Academic advisors David Herbert Donald
William Gienapp

Heather Cox Richardson | Substack
<https://heathercoxrichardson.substack.com>

Letters from an American | Heather Cox Richardson | Substack

A newsletter about the history behind today's politics. Click to read Letters from an American, by Heather Cox Richardson, a Substack publication with ...

Heather Cox Richardson is an American academic historian, author, and educator. She is a professor of history at Boston College, where she teaches courses on the American Civil War, the Reconstruction Era, the American West, and the Plains Indians. She previously taught history at MIT and the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Richardson has authored seven books on history and politics. In 2014, she founded a popular history website, werehistory.org. Between 2017 and 2018, she co-hosted the NPR podcast Freak Out and Carry On. More recently, Richardson started publishing Letters from an American, a nightly newsletter that chronicles current events in the larger context of American history. The newsletter accrued over one million subscribers, making her, as of December 2020, the most successful individual author of a paid publication on Substack. Richardson also co-hosts the podcast Now & Then with fellow historian Joanne B. Freeman. In February 2022, Richardson interviewed U.S. President Joe Biden. Born in Chicago in 1962 and raised in Maine, Richardson attended Phillips Exeter Academy in Exeter, New Hampshire. She received both her B.A. and Ph.D. from Harvard University, where she studied under David Herbert Donald and William Gienapp.

William E. Gienapp (February 27, 1944 – October 29, 2003) was an American historian, noted for his writing on the period of the American Civil War. His prize-winning *The Origins of the Republican Party, 1852-1856* (1987) was based on original research and revised the traditional understanding of the political party's origins.

David Herbert Donald (October 1, 1920 – May 17, 2009) was an American historian, best known for his 1995 biography of Abraham Lincoln. He twice won the Pulitzer Prize for Biography for earlier works; he published more than 30 books on United States political and literary figures and the history of the American South.

Democracy Awakening:

Notes on the State of America with Heather Cox Richardson



25:44 > I'm interested in the human project in the United States of America and the construction of American democracy. That's all I'm interested in except for the fact I'm also really interested in the divorce between what people think is happening from what is really happening. I was a waitress in Oklahoma for a while and I was the only person on the floor who wasn't an Evangelical Christian. It was in the 80s and they were all fervent Republicans fervent, you know, Ronald Reagan Republicans, and literally one of them called me the Antichrist because I'd gone to Harvard and I'd put education between me and God. I was looking at them and I was not political at all. I was looking at them, and I'm like you are literally supporting somebody who's cut everything you need. They were all living on the poverty line. And yet the people who are trying to help you, you're saying are against you. I found that so fascinating.

26:44 > I had spent a lot of time doing folklore and mythology, which is actually how I ran into Bill Moyers at first because he had that wonderful series with Joseph Campbell. So I read Jung and all that after that, and I thought this is a really interesting delta between what people think and what's real.

13:10 > Okay. So back to the original question how does a humanist look at the relationship between religion and politics because it's, it's kind of everywhere right? and I would make this argument you all can't wait can you? When I look at the world many people make the mistake of thinking I'm a partisan or that I am taking sides in issues but this is the way I look at the world. That the that political, that politics at least in the United States, which is all I can speak to, is about power. Most of us just want to get along. You know, we don't want control over other people. We want to put food on the table, we want to, you know, have some fun with our friends, we want to have our lives. And we don't give a lot of thought to controlling other people. But there are some people who want Power. How do they get it?

14:12 > Well, what I argue in my work is that politicians in the United States, because it doesn't have to be this way, but in the United States they garner power through the use of narrative, through the use of story. And to garner power in the United States and to make people afraid of each other, they use a lot of tools, In America they use race, a lot. They use gender. Now that doesn't necessarily have to mean black and white doesn't necessarily have to mean male female it could be the same sorts of language that for example make some members of an inner city area turn against grocer who's from another ethnic group that might not be included in a black white exchange at all, but that is included in that narrative that says those are people to be afraid of. In the United States in the moment in which we are living religion has been used as one of those issues to create fear and to garner power. That's my take on it, that's what I talk about it about in this this book.

6:47 > He [Mark Valer, the Director of the John C Danforth Center] asked me to talk about the issues of religion and politics for a humanist. How do those things fit together for a humanist? And the way to start that I think is by defining what a humanist is . I'm taking the argument or the position that a humanist is somebody who believes in human rather than Divine answers to societal issues. I would also argue that that idea of humanism as an answer to American society's issues is central to our American tradition especially our political tradition. A central question of American society since the Puritans because the driving force behind puritanism is the idea of having a super relationship with God, a direct relationship with God. But at the same time it's really hard to create a society in which everybody has a hotline to God, because God doesn't speak the same way to everybody. And this is a problem that the Puritans had to grapple with, but they came up with a series of very strict social and legal parameters to make sure that people hemmed in their relationship with God, and kept it personal rather than trying to spread it across society. I think that issue of the personal relationship with God and how you translate that to a stable and just Society has really been a central issue in American society ever since. And after the founding of the American Republic that really worked its way into American literature so if you think about the greats in American literature before the Civil War you all had to drag yourself through uh The Scarlet Letter, right? That's really a question about societal values versus your personal relationship with God, right? She wears that Scarlet Letter but of course she's ostracized by Society so you have that strand moving into American literature. But quite specifically it does not enter into American governance after the Declaration of Independence. Because the Declaration ation of Independence really quite deliberately turns its back on the idea of a society founded in a relationship with God. And it does so quite specifically because people like James Madison are really concerned about the idea of the government deciding what somebody can and can't believe. And what Madison is upset about is the fact that in the Virginia in which he grew up there were such distinctions among different Protestant groups that certain Protestant groups were being jailed for their practices even though there weren't huge rifts between what they thought and what a different Protestant Church thought. And he recognized pretty early on that if the government got involved in what he called matters of conscience pretty, soon there were going to be Wars. Because that's where things would go if your God told you to do something and my God told me to do something else what were our choices but to fight with each other. So that being the case he decided you had to form a society on a basis that did not involve divine intervention, rather we needed a society based in the rule of law and in Enlightenment principles that said that everybody was created equal and everybody had a right to have a say in their government.

Why Trump > <https://youtu.be/LD9Z3pwHiQs>

"We want Trump or someone like him to destroy our nonpartisan government and replace it with loyalists who will enforce Christian nationalism."

Richardson: But yes, the people who think that Trump happened from nowhere and is the sole cause of our current malaise are completely missing the previous almost a hundred years in which there was a concerted movement to overturn the concept that the government should work for ordinary Americans. I think a lot of us thought that that was so ingrained in both Republican and the Democratic parties that the government should regulate business and protect a basic social safety net and promote infrastructure and protect civil rights that we didn't think it was going anywhere. And you still hear it nowadays when people are like, They're never coming for Social Security, and people like me and you are sitting there saying, They are literally writing documents saying, 'We're coming for Social Security.' And the answer to that among a number of people is, "Well, they don't really mean it." Where do you go with that? >> Trumps authoritarian experiment <<

SALON: At their own peril, if you're not going to believe what you're hearing from them. They're telling you what they're going to do, Republicans. That's the big thing. It's never been a big surprise. It's like, "Oh, they were serious." It's more like that. Like, "Oh, they're not kidding. So now we have to take them literally." In the second part of your book, part two, talking about the authoritarian experiment, opens with Trump slithering down the escalators, I like to put. I like slithering. Coming down the escalator. When was the first time you saw signs in Trump that troubled you beyond normal politics, over the top, and not just the racist stuff but actually a threat to our democratic republic?

Richardson: Well, so I should confess, I don't watch television. So for me, a lot of what he was doing was, from the beginning, theoretical. You could see all the pieces. So I was very concerned from that very beginning, but in a different way I think than perhaps many people were because I have never thought that Trump was a politician. He has always been to me a salesperson, a salesman. And what he was doing, I thought, and I still think of him, literally I'm seeing this in my mind, as a mirror of a certain population. And that population in 2016 did in fact want better economic policies. People forget that Trump called for better and cheaper healthcare, for bringing back manufacturing, for closing the loopholes that were making rich people not pay taxes; for all the sorts of more moderate economic issues that in fact Biden has put into place. So he had that, but he also had that racism and sexism in a really big way. And that mirror being held up, to me, to that population was a huge red flag. Because it was very clear he was not going to be even a traditional Republican at that point, which already had me concerned because they were quite deliberately building an oligarchy. So that from the very beginning seemed to me to be a real problem. > **SALON:** Also in your book you touch on something that we're seeing happen today, is the Right, authoritarians, wanted to rewrite history. Can you share as a historian why authoritarians would want to rewrite history in a version that helps them?

Richardson: So this is actually, I think, a really interesting point, and that is that it's not simply a question of saying, "I want you to learn my history." If you conceive of American history or any country's history as being perfect in the past, it deliberately serves authoritarians. Because what that says is that we could go back to that past if only we followed these certain immutable laws. So they're either divine laws or laws that are handed down by nature, and "I know how to do that. My enemies don't. They're trying to mess up those divine laws." So if we can believe that the past was great and we can make America great again, which by the way is a Reagan phrase before it's a Trump phrase, if only we follow these universal laws for our country to get back to that. What that says is that "I alone know how to do that." It's a really authoritarian vision. In contrast, a small D democratic vision says, "Our country actually has always been a work in progress. It is always changing, and it is inclusive of every voice, not just John Adams." And the idea that we are always finding new things, we're always looking at society differently because of the moments in which we live, we are always thinking about different ways to move society forward, that is a vision that is inclusive of all of our past, all of our present, but also our future. And it's much more exciting than, "We could all go back and wear pointy hats." > **SALON:** So is it they want to clean up the sins of the past because then they can sell it better to people? Because we have right now numerous states of Republican control states to the critical race theory bans and book bans, and they're rewriting things that cause anyone to feel anxious or discomfort in school, which I felt all the time, but I couldn't ban subject matter because of that. Don't start me on math. Exactly. So people can understand from a historical point of view, is it deeply alarming? Is this just consistent with authoritarian movements in other parts of the nation as well or through history?

Richardson: It is in alignment with other authoritarian movements in other countries for sure, and it's actually a political theorist, Hannah Arendt, who talks a lot about this in her "Rise of Totalitarianism" and how they use that. But just to be clear, they're not cleaning up the American past, the bad parts of American past. They're saying, "There aren't bad places in the American past." That in fact, things like enslavement or things like race riots, I mean, we could just make this whole list, they were a few bad actors. The reality was always this trajectory toward triumphant futures, and that really deeply serves this concept that my people are all the chosen people, and everybody else is trying to mess us up.

SALON: Why Trump cant be ripped away It's remarkable. Intellectually it's actually quite cool. Unfortunately we're living through it. Yes, it is a time that I've never felt more of a sense that being involved in political discussions, writing articles, is truly a form of activism than the years of Trump through today. And I thought when he was gone, I'm like, "Okay, it's done." Especially after January 6th. We have this insurrection, an act of domestic terrorism as the FBI director has characterized it, all by Trump people, for Trump, plan B. I thought, "I'm not naive." I thought that was the end. I thought, He goes away and America's like, 'We can't do this.' If you would've told me then, two and a half years later, he's the leading Republican candidate, they love him and that that's where we are as a nation, I would not have believed it. I'd be like, There's no way. So what did I miss about my fellow Americans that they were predisposed to accept an authoritarian, even if they don't understand the academic definition of what's going on. I'm not being snooty about it. They just like him. They don't care what it means. > **Richardson:** Well, I think it's more than like him and don't care. I think he is part of their identity at this point, that they have internalized him to the point that he can't be ripped away. And my comparison is always to Bellatrix Lestrange in the Harry Potter books. The worse that Voldemort is to her and her family, the tighter she clings to him. And this, again, authoritarian scholars talk about this, that once you have started to poison your own soul by buying into somebody who's abusing others, you can't turn away from that without admitting that you are the one who's the problem. But I think I did the same thing, and I think what both of us missed was not our fellow Americans, and I really feel viscerally about this, it was the leadership of the Republican Party. They absolutely had that moment to call him out, and they didn't. They legitimized him. When Kevin McCarthy went and paid homage to him, and when Mitch McConnell voted to acquit in the second impeachment trial and then tried to give that speech saying, "Oh, now he can go in front of the courts," the senators in the Republican Party could have stopped him anytime they wanted from 2015 on, and they didn't do it. And that to me is the big story right there. And now I'm afraid their moment has passed, that they're no longer relevant to any of this discussion because that population has taken on a fury and a power of its own that they can no longer control.

SALON: You mentioned the Republican Party normalizing Donald Trump. Where does the role of the corporate media come in in where we are now, especially post January 6th, in treating Donald Trump increasingly like a candidate, like a normal candidate? What role did they play in where we are today? > **Richardson:** So I always hate to criticize the media because it's a very hard job as you and I both know. But there is, I think, a lack of understanding of the fact that there has been a concerted effort since the 1980s to push the idea that in order to be fair, you have to present two sides as if they are equal. And that is a real issue for me, obviously, because they're not equal right now. We were just talking, when we are recording this, we are coming up on a government shutdown. And that is often being covered as a Congress problem or a Biden problem. And it is literally the Republicans in the House of Representatives who cannot get their acts together. And it doesn't make it more fair to say, "Oh wait, we have to put the Democrats in this as well." Or, "The fact that Trump is an authoritarian versus the fact that Joe Biden is three years older than him. Those are not equal. So I really wish the media would be better " about recognizing not only that this is a big issue where we are historically, but also that I think people really want to know that. I mean, the argument is this won't sell papers, but I disagree with that. I think people are interested in where we are in this moment.

SALON: I agree with you. I think people who are concerned are deeply concerned. The ratcheting up of concern that we had in 2020 before that election has now returned to the point where we're like, Trump is their nominee. How did we get here? How did this happen? And the media, we think back to the 2016 campaign, then the head of CBS said, "Donald Trump's not good for America, but he's damn good for CBS." And he literally said, "The money's rolling in. Keep it going, Donald." And I feel like, I don't know. I mean, is your sense as a historian that our current media, Mainstream media and we'll use it in bigger scope here, all of them, fairly or unfairly, is not equipped to deal with the rise of an authoritarian, arguably fascist movement on US soil? Or is it so ratings driven, it doesn't matter, they don't care? > **Richardson:** I don't know the answer to that. I'm not part of that world at all. I am a consumer of it and concerned about it. I will say one of the things that I think is interesting right now is, I don't know if you feel this way, but I don't find, and I think this is arguable, but I don't find Trump interesting anymore. And I write every night, and many times it would be easy to write what his latest antics are, and I'm just bored. I feel like, remember every once in a while you'd have a shock jock that got thrown to the top of the ratings because he said stuff nobody could believe? And there comes a point when it's just the same thing again and again. I wonder if you watch closely, as obviously I do, you are seeing the rise of certainly people, very good writers outside the mainstream media, who are really grappling with these issues. But also, a number of outlets are taking on people who are writing in a very different way than their compatriots have been. And I take a little bit of hope from that. And as I think I said on Twitter the other day, I know we follow each other, if it's comforting to you

Anne Hutchinson

Minister

Overview

History

Videos



Wikipedia
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anne_Hutchinson

Anne Hutchinson

Anne Hutchinson (née Marbury; July 1591 – August 1643) was a Puritan spiritual advisor, religious reformer, and an important participant in the Antinomian ...

[William Hutchinson \(Rhode...](#) · [Edward Hutchinson \(captain\)](#) · [Susanna Cole](#)

Anne Hutchinson (née Marbury; July 1591 – August 1643) was a Puritan spiritual advisor, religious reformer, and an important participant in the Antinomian Controversy which shook the infant Massachusetts Bay Colony from 1636 to 1638. Her strong religious convictions were at odds with the established Puritan clergy in the Boston area and her popularity and charisma helped create a theological schism that threatened the Puritan religious community in New England. She was eventually tried and convicted, then banished from the colony with many of her supporters.

(In 1987, Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis pardoned Anne Hutchinson, revoking the order of banishment by Governor Winthrop 350 years earlier.)

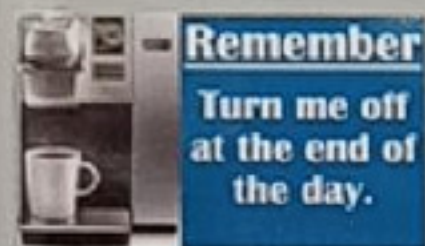
Hutchinson was born in Alford, Lincolnshire, England, the daughter of Francis Marbury, an Anglican cleric and school teacher who gave her a far better education than most other girls received. She lived in London as a young adult, and there married a friend from home, William Hutchinson. The couple moved back to Alford where they began following preacher John Cotton in the nearby port of Boston, Lincolnshire. Cotton was compelled to emigrate in 1633, and the Hutchinsons followed a year later with their 11 children and soon became well established in the growing settlement of Boston in New England. Hutchinson was a midwife and helpful to those needing her assistance, as well as forthcoming with her personal religious understandings. Soon she was hosting women at her house weekly, providing commentary on recent sermons. These meetings became so popular that she began offering meetings for men as well, including the young governor of the colony, Henry Vane.

Hutchinson began to accuse the local ministers (except for Cotton and her husband's brother-in-law, John Wheelwright) of preaching a covenant of works rather than a covenant of grace, and many ministers began to complain about her increasingly blatant accusations, as well as certain unorthodox theological teachings. The situation eventually erupted into what is commonly called the Antinomian Controversy, culminating in her 1637 trial, conviction, and banishment from the colony. The main thrust of the evidence was her contemptuous remarks about the Puritan ministers, but the court refused to state the basis of her conviction. This was followed by a March 1638 church trial in which she was put out of her congregation.

Hutchinson and many of her supporters established the settlement of Portsmouth, Rhode Island with encouragement from Providence Plantations founder Roger Williams in what became the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations. After her husband's death a few years later, threats of Massachusetts annexing Rhode Island compelled Hutchinson to move totally outside the reach of Boston into the lands of the Dutch. Five of her older surviving children remained in New England or in England, while she settled with her younger children near an ancient landmark, Split Rock, in what later became The Bronx in New York City. Tensions were high at the time with the Siwanoy Indian tribe. In August 1643, Hutchinson, six of her children, and other household members were killed by Siwanoyes during Kieft's War. The only survivor was her nine-year-old daughter Susanna, who was taken captive.

Hutchinson is a key figure in the history of religious freedom in England's American colonies and the history of women in ministry, challenging the authority of the ministers. She is honored by Massachusetts with a State House monument calling her a "courageous exponent of civil liberty and religious toleration".[1] Historian Michael Winship, author of two books about her, has called her "the most famous—or infamous—English woman in colonial American history".

San Diego Blood Bank
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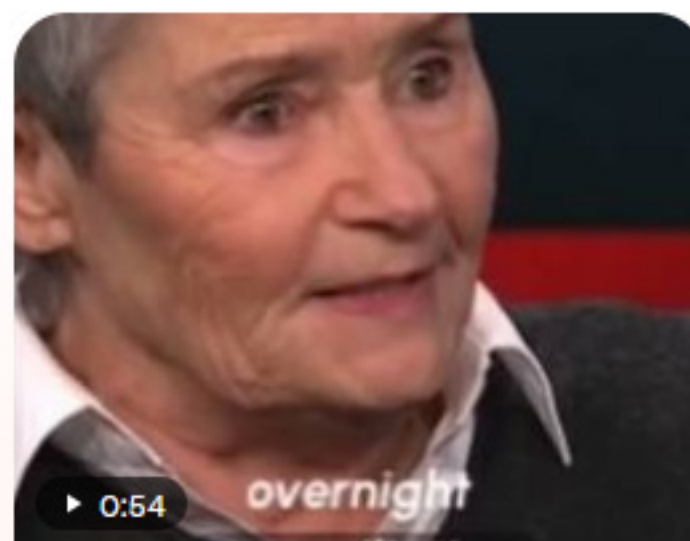
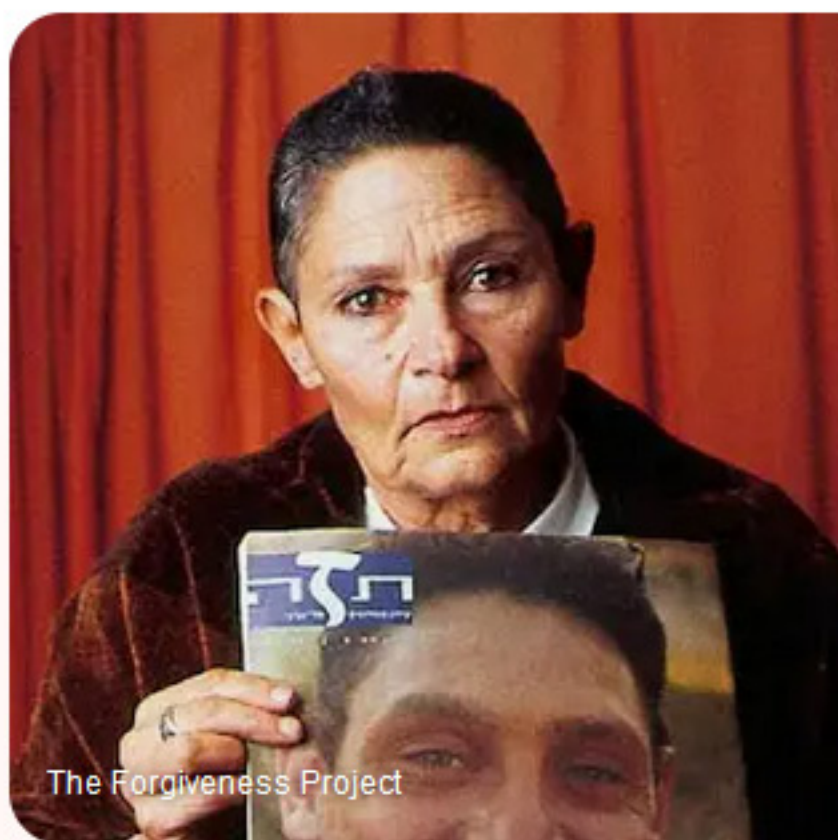


Robi Damelin

Peace activist

Overview

Videos



YouTube • WRAL
 Israeli Peace Activist Robi Damelin...
 Israeli Peace Activist Robi Damelin says...
 1 day ago

@PCFFIP
 x X
 Who are you actually helping by taking a side? asks Robi Damelin
www.express.co.uk/comment...
 1 day ago

המשפחות השכולות ...
 Robi Damelin - Personal Story - Parents Circle Families Forum




Robi Damelin is the protagonist featured in a 2012 documentary, *One Day after Peace*, directed by Erez Laufer, as an Israeli woman searches for the Palestinian man who shot her son.

Robi Damelin is an Israeli peace activist. Her son, David, was killed by a Palestinian sniper while serving in the Israeli army reserves. Damelin was born and raised in a progressive family in South Africa during apartheid.[9] Her family was politically active in the anti-apartheid movement, her uncle having defended Nelson Mandela during the 1956 Treason Trial. Pressure from South African authorities due to Damelin's vocal opposition to the apartheid led to her moving to Israel in her 20s, as a volunteer, during the Six-Day War in June 1967. The war ended soon after she arrived, and she settled in a kibbutz, attending a Hebrew program to learn the language. Soon after, she got married and had two sons, David and Eran. She worked at The Jerusalem Post, then with immigrants. After her divorce, she relocated to Tel Aviv, where she ran a public relations company.

Death of son

Damelin's son, David was in the Israeli army reserves and was stationed at the Ofra checkpoint. He was killed by a Palestinian sniper on 3 March 2002, aged 28. The sniper was captured two years later in October 2004.

Activism

Robi is the spokesperson and director of International Relations for **The Parents Circle-Families Forum (PCFF)**, a grassroots organization made up of hundreds of bereaved Israeli and Palestinian families working together for reconciliation and peace. She is a regular contributor to The Forward, Haaretz, and other media outlets. She is the protagonist featured in a 2012 documentary, *One Day after Peace*, directed by Erez Laufer. She has spoken at multiple international events, at universities, and at European Parliament.



The Parents Circle – Families Forum (PCFF) is a joint Israeli-Palestinian organization of over 600 families, all of whom have lost an immediate family member to the ongoing conflict.



Our hearts are broken

We express our deepest and heartfelt condemnation of the ongoing violence in the region. It is a time of great sorrow, knowing that countless families now bear the burden of emptiness in their hearts and the heavy weight of grief due to the tragic loss of their loved ones.



The Department of Political Science



The world is becoming increasingly authoritarian - but there is hope

Published 2 March 2023

For the first time in two decades, there are more closed autocracies than liberal democracies in the world, but the future is not entirely bleak. This is shown in this year's democracy report from the Varieties of Democracy Institute (V-Dem) at the University of Gothenburg.

A democratic decline has taken place globally, and an increasing number of people are living in closed autocracies. The report that is now being released shows that this trend is continuing, and that the world has not been more anti-democratic in 35 years. "The level of democracy enjoyed by the average world citizen in 2022 is back to 1986 levels. This means that **72 percent of the world's population, 5.7 billion people, live under authoritarian rule**", according to Staffan I. Lindberg, Director of the V-Dem Institute.

The democratic decline has been most dramatic in the Pacific region, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean. But the number of countries in the world that are currently experiencing democratic setbacks, or autocratization, has greatly increased over the past ten years – from 13 to 42 countries between 2002–2022, which is the highest figure measured by V-Dem to date.

More closed autocracies than liberal democracies

Generally, countries experience autocratization when authoritarian political movements gain direct influence over governmental policy, where they can dismantle democratic institutions: free media, civil society, independent organizations, and the judicial system. Once this has begun, in the vast majority of cases, it eventually leads to the dismantling of democracy.

The global advance of closed autocracies is also highlighted in this year's report. For the first time in two decades, the world has more closed autocracies than liberal democracies. "28 percent of the world's population, 2.2 billion people, now live in closed autocracies compared to 13 percent, 1 billion people, who live in liberal democracies."

There is hope

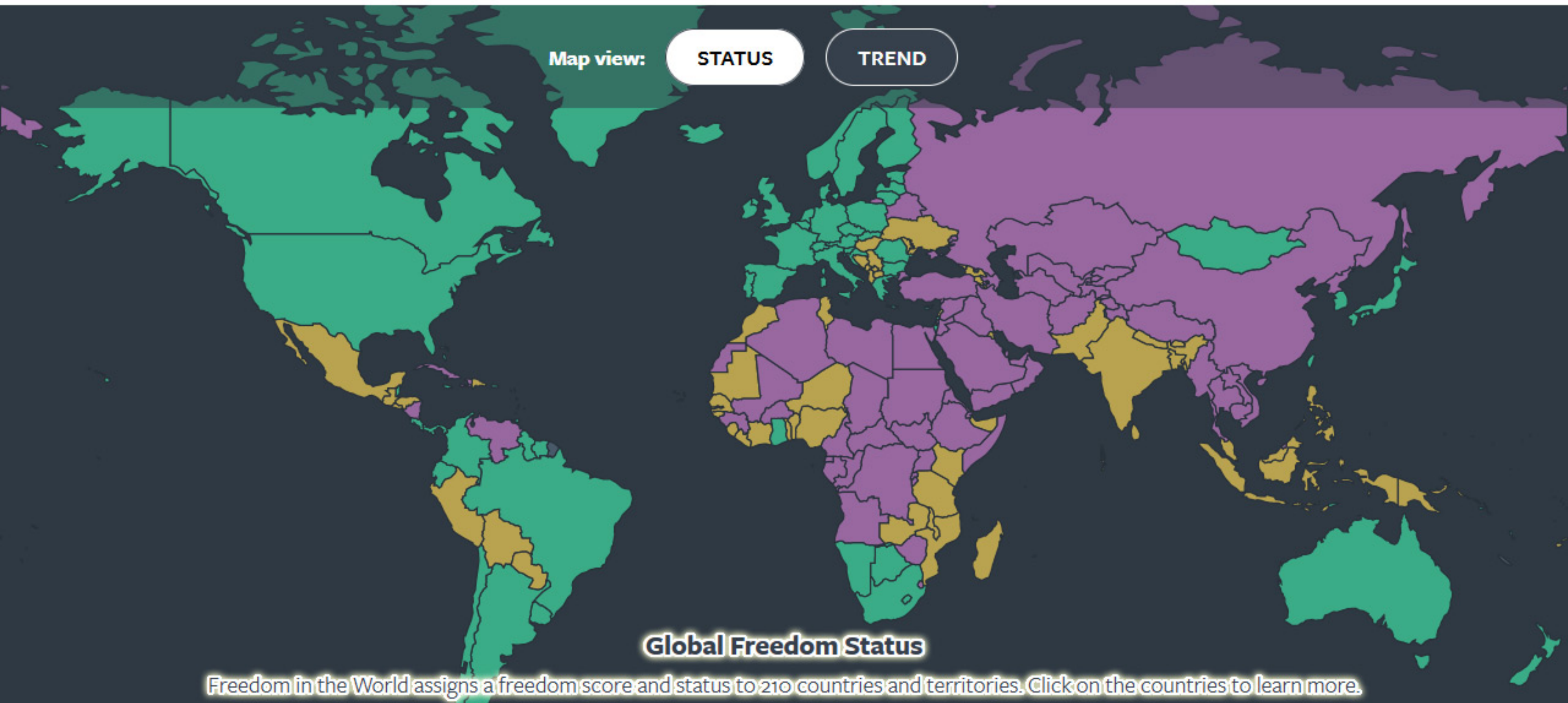
However, some countries have managed to return after long periods of democratic dismantling. Bolivia, Moldova, Ecuador, the Maldives, North Macedonia, Slovenia, South Korea, and Zambia have all succeeded in reversing their autocratic evolution.

"The fact that eight democracies that were in a period of autocratization have stopped that process and "bounced back" is uplifting news for democracy. It is rare to see countries that can make a U-turn. The countries that have succeeded in doing so have brought about a pro-democracy mobilization, they have re-established an objective judicial system, deposed authoritarian leaders, introduced free and fair elections, worked to reduce corruption, and rejuvenated civil society", says Staffan I. Lindberg.

Are there more autocratic governments in the world today than democracies?



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NOT FREE
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Global freedom statuses are calculated on a weighted scale. See the methodology.

Are there more autocratic governments in the world today than democracies?



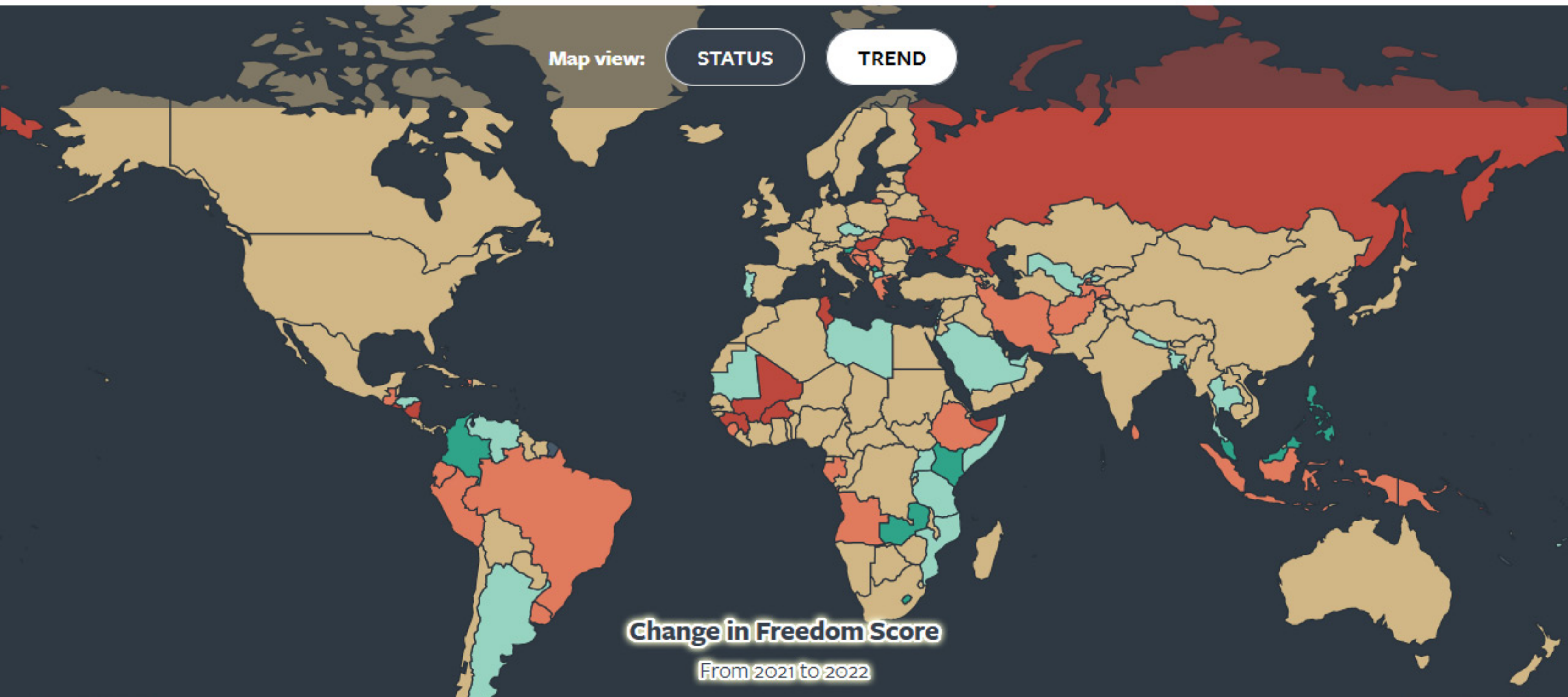
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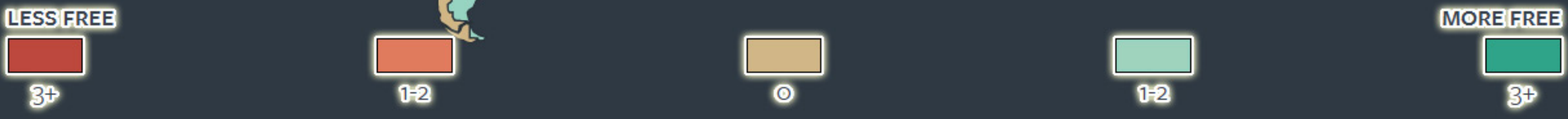
Map view:

STATUS

TREND



Change in Freedom Score From 2021 to 2022



Global Freedom

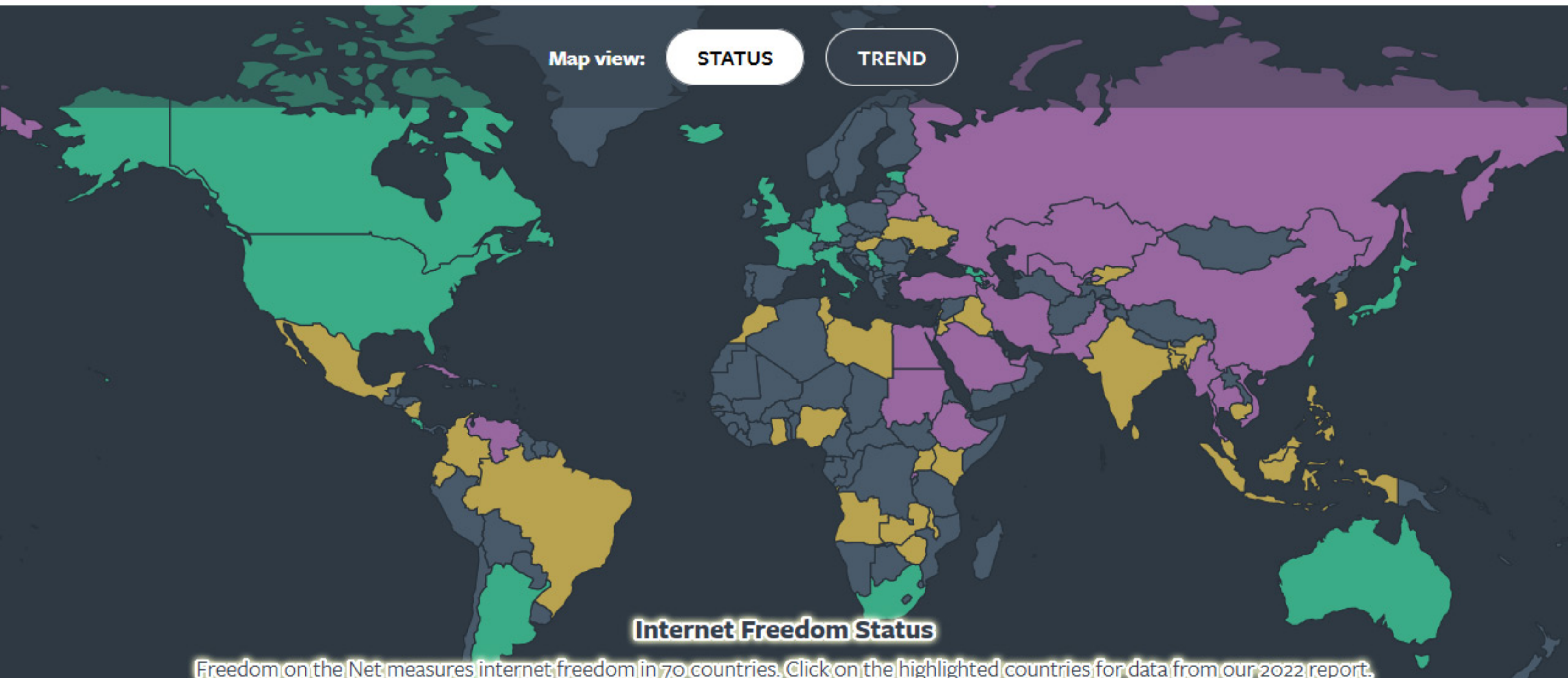
Internet Freedom

Democracy Status

Are there more autocratic governments in the world today than democracies?



Donate



Are there more autocratic governments in the world today than democracies?



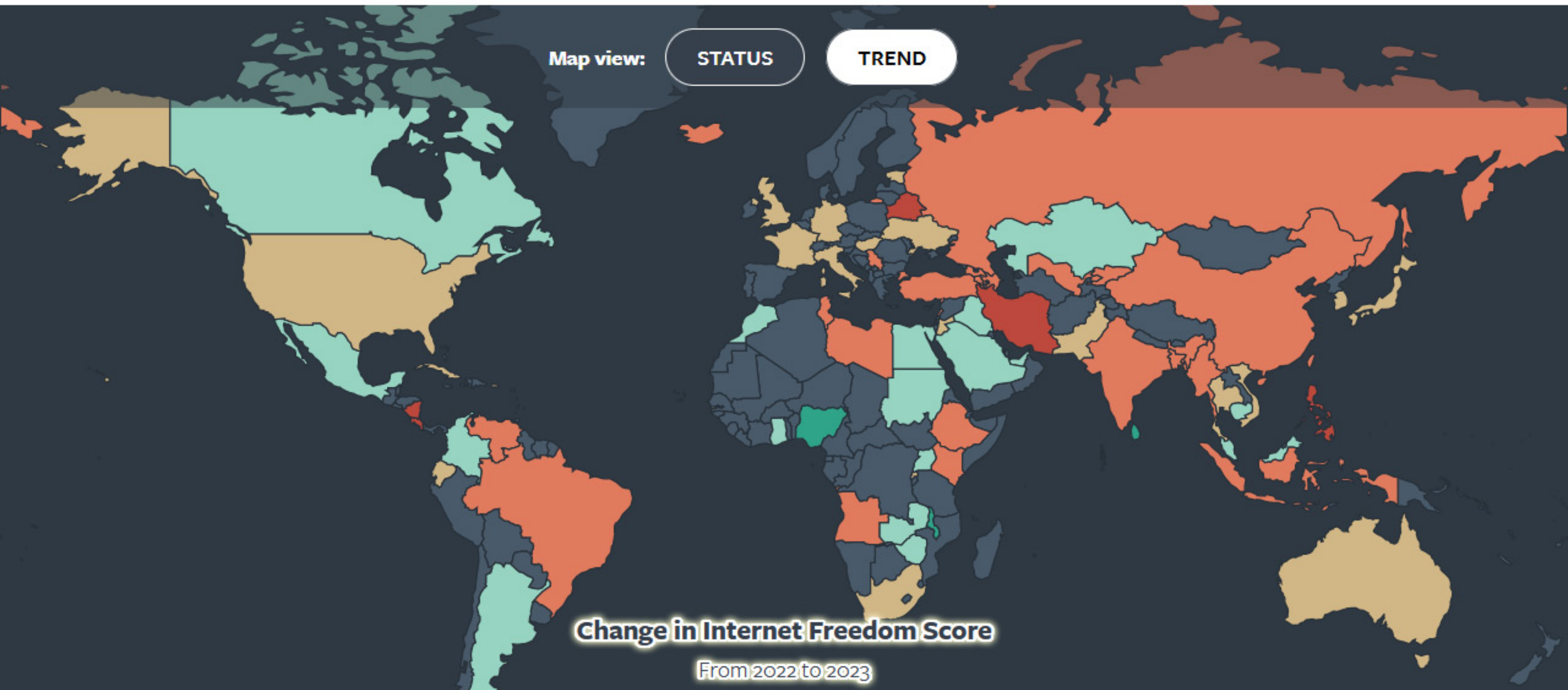
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Map view:

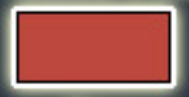
STATUS

TREND

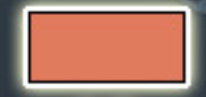


Change in Internet Freedom Score
From 2022 to 2023

LESS FREE



3+



1-2



0



1-2

MORE FREE



3+

Global Freedom

Internet Freedom

Democracy Status

Artist Talk Saturday

Yahoo/Inbox ☆



Tish

From: arthelpsartheals@gmail.com

To: A Dan Landrum

Hope you can join us!



Fri, Dec 8 at 9:48 PM

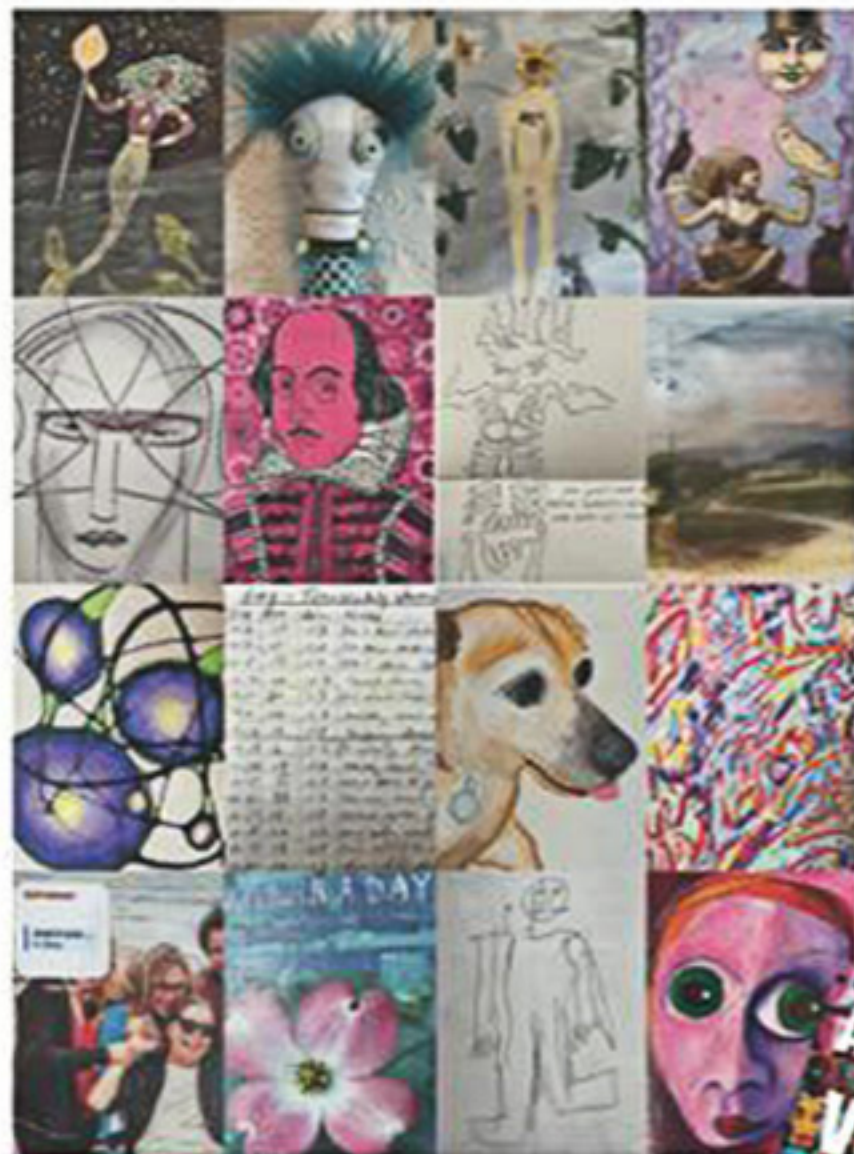


An Afternoon of Inspiration Through Art

Daily Artist Show

Viewing and Artist Talk

Saturday, December 9th
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.



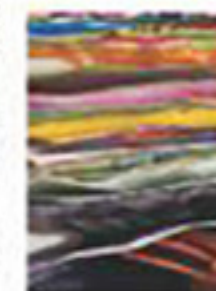
See examples of Daily Art and meet the Daily Artists!

Artist will share about their process in an informal dialogue ♥

Get inspired seeing what 5 minutes a day can create!

Daily Artists Sharing Their Work and Their Wisdom:

- Tish McAllise Sjoberg
- Julie Kyker
- David Tremaine
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- Poppy Joseph
- Donna Otter
- Janice Pennington
- Mary Peterson
- Ramona Szczerba
- Diane Slagle
- Patricia Fernon
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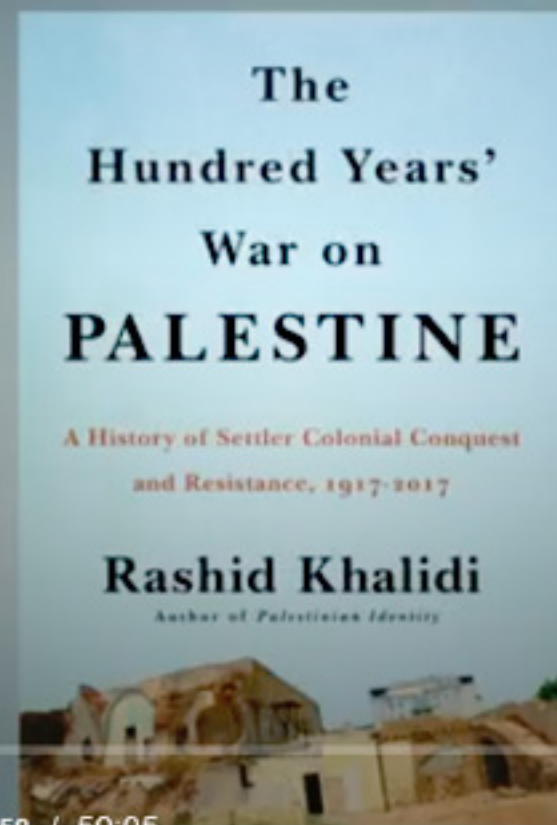
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{late notice!}

Ta-Nehisi Coates and Rashid Khalidi on Israeli Occupation, Apartheid & the 100-Year War on Palestine

STORY NOVEMBER 24, 2023



In this special broadcast, we air excerpts from a recent event organized by the Palestine Festival of Literature at the Union Theological Seminary here in New York. The event featured a discussion between the acclaimed writer Ta-Nehisi Coates and Columbia University professor Rashid Khalidi. Coates won the National Book Award for his book *Between the World and Me*. Rashid Khalidi is the Edward Said professor of modern Arab studies at Columbia. His books include *The Hundred Years' War on Palestine*. **Their conversation was moderated by civil rights attorney Michelle Alexander.**

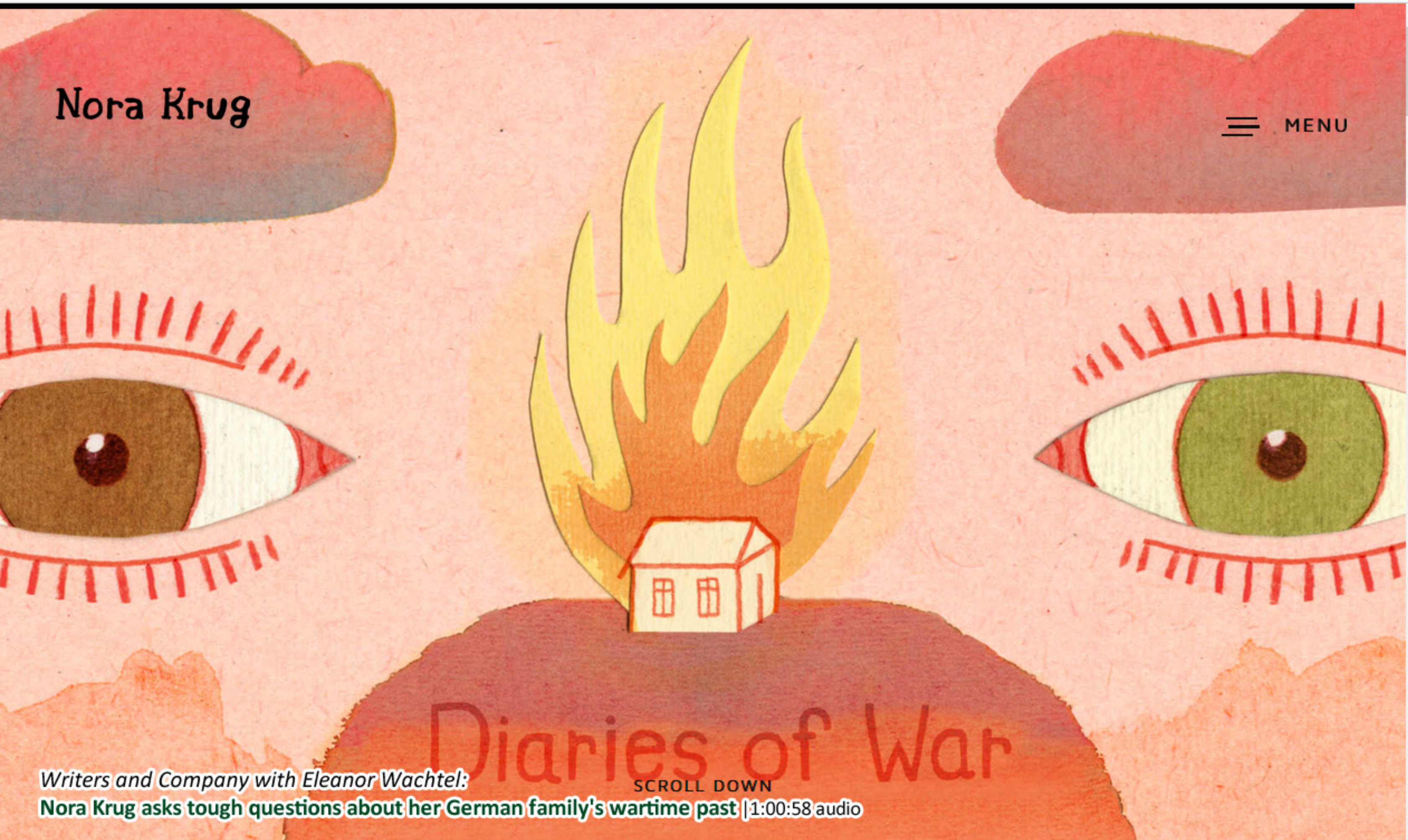
AMY GOODMAN: This is Democracy Now!, [democracynow.org](https://www.democracynow.org), The War and Peace Report. I'm Amy Goodman. In this special broadcast, we're airing excerpts of a recent event organized by the Palestine Festival of Literature at the Union Theological Seminary here in New York. It featured a discussion between the acclaimed writer Ta-Nehisi Coates and Columbia University professor Rashid Khalidi. Coates won the National Book Award for his book *Between the World and Me*. His other books, *We Were Eight Years in Power*, *The Beautiful Struggle* and the novel *The Water Dancer*. Rashid Khalidi is the Edward Said professor of modern Arab studies at Columbia University. His books include *The Hundred Years' War on Palestine*. Their conversation was moderated by the civil rights attorney and author Michelle Alexander, who asked about personal connections to Palestine. This is professor Rashid Khalidi.

RASHID KHALIDI: I'm honored to be here, and I'm extremely pleased that it was possible to put this together. This is the second Palestine Festival of Literature event that has been canceled and canceled again, and the heroic organizers managed to pull it together. They did the same thing in London, where I was supposed to speak last Friday. And it was canceled and canceled again in London. They sent the anti-terrorism police to the Royal Geographic Society and told them they could not hold the event, but they held it anyway. My connection to Palestine is obviously a personal one. My family is from there. I have family there now. My niece's family is actually in Gaza. They live in Nu'man, which is a neighborhood of Gaza right near the sea, or not far from the sea. They fled from their home under bombardment to the southern part of Gaza. They were being bombed there. And so they went back to the shelter of their home. And then, just two days — just yesterday, because they were warned that the neighborhood would be bombed, they moved to the Al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza, which is, like all hospitals in Gaza, threatened by the Israeli military with being bombed. So that's part of my connection. And I have family in other places there. I was there last in March, and it was obvious that the situation was on the point of exploding. One has to be there to see exactly how awful occupation and dispossession and decades of living as people have had to live, whether in refugee camps or in other parts of occupied Palestine, whether they're Palestinian citizens living as fifth-class citizens in Israel, whether they're in the Gaza Strip, whether they're in the West Bank, whether they're in Jerusalem. I should say that my wish is that every single one of you has a chance to go there. People who have been there have found it a transformative experience. You actually cannot believe what settler colonialism is like, you cannot believe that in the 21st century this is being done to an entire people, unless you see it. You can read about it, you can understand it theoretically, but you have to see it. And I urge those of you who have the opportunity to please try and go there.

RASHID KHALIDI: I do. Thank you. One of the things that I argue in this book, that you mentioned, is this is not a war on the Palestinians waged by the Zionist movement or Israel alone. It's a war waged on the Palestinian people by Israel and the United States. Those are our weapons. Those are American F-35s, American F-15s, American F-16s, American 175-millimeter guns, American 155-millimeter guns. They fire shells of a hundred pounds each. I could tell you their kill radius. I could tell you how large the diameter of a 2,000-pound bomb dropped from an American plane is. That's us, our tax dollars, our votes. We must oppose, with action, with words, not just weapons that we send to Israel to kill people with being used in that way — and, incidentally, in violation of U.S. law. U.S. law mandates that weapons can only be used for defensive purposes. Why do you think they keep saying in every one of their statements that Israel has a right to defend itself? Because, otherwise, they would be in violation of U.S. law in sending those weapons to Israel. If killing children in Jabaliya camp is a defensive purpose, then it's legal. And if it's not, they're in violation of the law. We must oppose that.

Nora Krug

MENU



Writers and Company with Eleanor Wachtel:

Nora Krug asks tough questions about her German family's wartime past | 1:00:58 audio

SCROLL DOWN

In 2019, Eleanor Wachtel spoke to German-American graphic artist Nora Krug about her award-winning illustrated memoir, *Belonging*. It's a powerful and compassionate investigation into Krug's family's involvement in the Second World War and the impact of history on successive generations. Her new book, *Diaries of War: Two Visual Accounts from Ukraine and Russia*, is a real-time, personal record from a Ukrainian journalist and an anti-war Russian artist, which Krug solicited and then illustrated. *This interview deals with difficult subjects including the Holocaust and antisemitism. It originally aired on March 10, 2019.

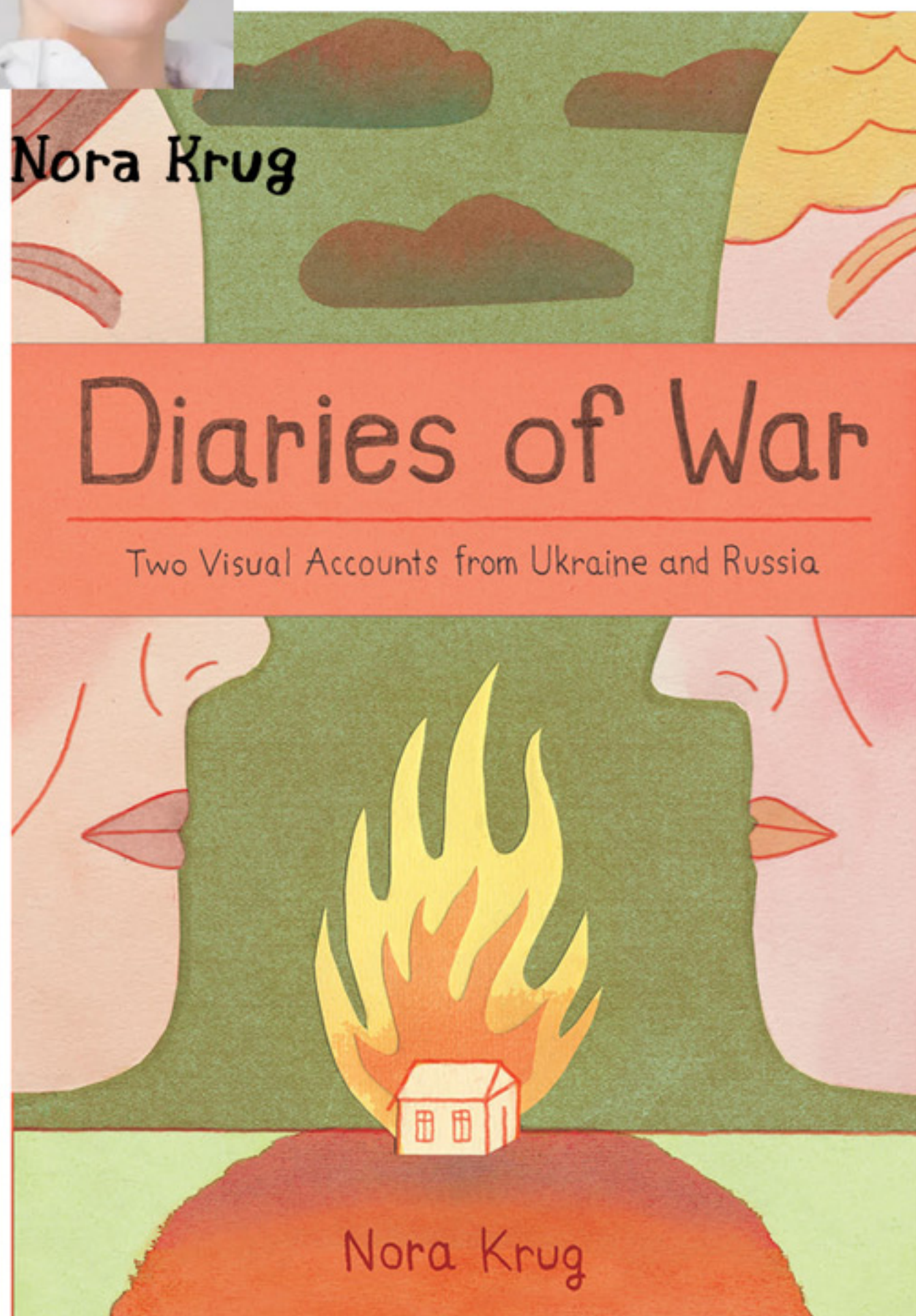
Nora Krug

German author and illustrator



NoraKrug

Powerful graphic journalism that highlights the contrasting realities of a Ukrainian journalist and a Russian artist grappling with their own individual ...



Powerful graphic journalism that highlights the contrasting realities of a Ukrainian journalist and a Russian artist grappling with their own individual experiences of Russia's war on Ukraine – collected, edited, and illustrated by award-winning author Nora Krug.

Immediately after Russia began its unprovoked invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, Nora Krug reached out to two anonymous subjects — “K.,” a Russia-born Ukrainian journalist, and “D.,” a Russian artist — and began what would become a year of correspondence. Based on her weekly interviews with K. and D., Krug created this collection of illustrated accounts that chronicles two viewpoints from opposite sides of the border throughout the first year in this ongoing war.

With millions displaced, injured or killed as a result of the invasion, Krug presents a look at the devastating effects on an everyday, individual level. *Diaries of War* doesn't portray a quintessential Russian or Ukrainian perspective. It doesn't aim to create a space for reconciliation, to equalize the Russian and Ukrainian experiences, or to tell the story of a “good Russian.” Rather, it documents the stark contrast between two narratives shaped by this war on opposite sides of the border. K.'s diary documents a year of emotional and existential distress. She experiences loss in every sense of the word: the death of those close to her, the disconnection from her family and friends, the devastation of her country—but her account is also a story about bravery and survival in the face of dire uncertainty.

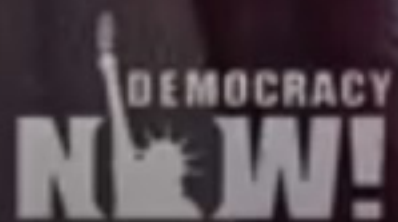
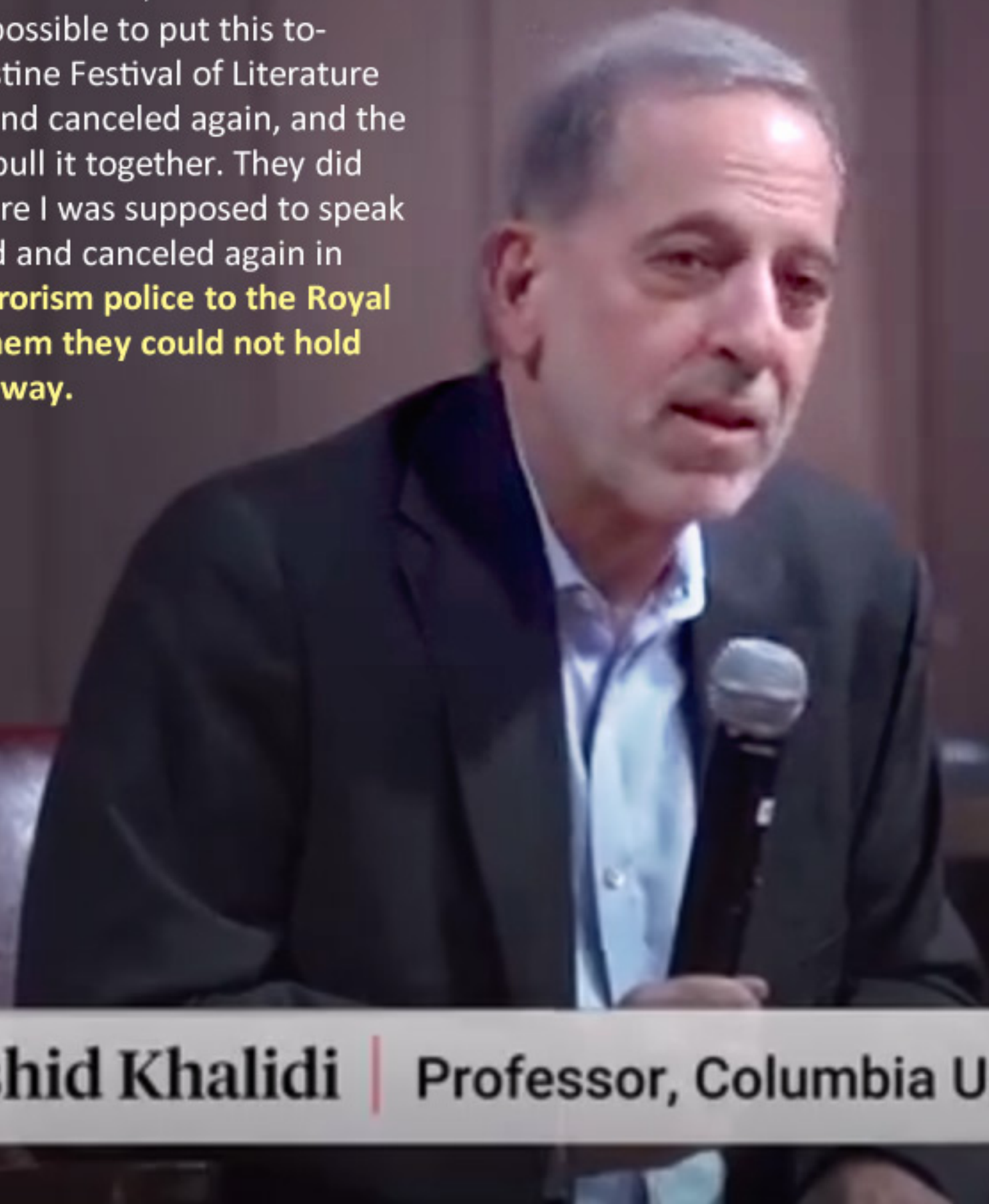
In juxtaposition, D.'s narrative expresses his disdain for his government's brutal actions and details his attempts at emigrating his family abroad. He navigates his own struggle with cultural identity, guilt and lack of action in the face of a tyrannical regime—a necessary perspective that challenges readers to confront the fallibility of their own moral integrity and the political actions of their own countries.

Published as an Op-Comic series with the Los Angeles Times, with a portion of the entries unique to this book, *Diaries of War* is a harrowing real-time record of an international conflict that continues to devastate countless lives.

Their conversation was moderated by the civil rights attorney and author **Michelle Alexander**, who asked about personal connections to Palestine.



RASHID KHALIDI: I'm honored to be here, and I'm extremely pleased that it was possible to put this together. This is the second Palestine Festival of Literature event that has been canceled and canceled again, and the heroic organizers managed to pull it together. They did the same thing in London, where I was supposed to speak last Friday. And it was canceled and canceled again in London. **They sent the anti-terrorism police to the Royal Geographic Society and told them they could not hold the event, but they held it anyway.**



Rashid Khalidi | Professor, Columbia University

TA-NEHISI COATES:

Israel is a democracy, the only democracy in the Middle East, in the exact same way that America is the oldest democracy in the world.

And I don't mean to center the whole world on America. We have a tendency to do that. But my lens is my lens. This is all I have. And what I felt was a tremendous weight. I felt the obvious thing that I think all of us feel, that our tax dollars are effectively subsidizing apartheid, are subsidizing a segregationist order, a Jim Crow regime. But I also felt that, as an African American who was reared on the fight against Jim Crow, against white supremacy, against apartheid, I felt tremendous shame. How could I not know? How could I not know that the only democracy in the Middle East, as it bills itself, is segregated? How did I know that?



Ta-Nehisi Coates | National Book Award Winner



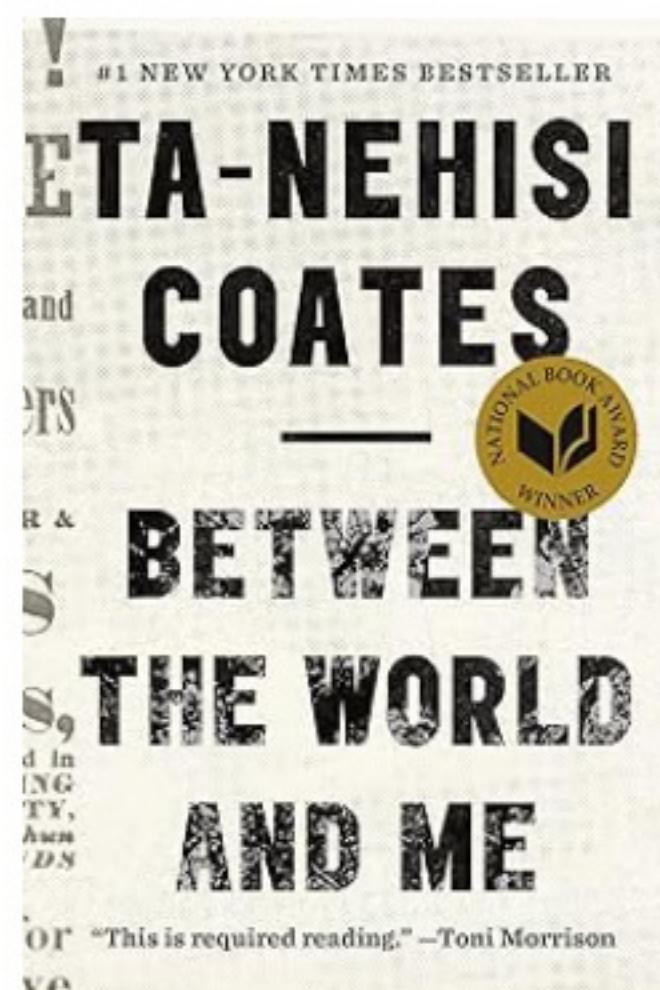
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Between the World and Me

Hardcover – July 14, 2015

by Ta-Nehisi Coates (Author)



Hailed by Toni Morrison as “required reading,” a bold and personal literary exploration of America’s racial history by “the most important essayist in a generation and a writer who changed the national political conversation about race.” (Rolling Stone)

In a profound work that pivots from the biggest questions about American history and ideals to the most intimate concerns of a father for his son, Ta-Nehisi Coates offers a powerful new framework for understanding our nation’s history and current crisis. Americans have built an empire on the idea of “race,” a falsehood that damages us all but falls most heavily on the bodies of black women and men—bodies exploited through slavery and segregation, and, today, threatened, locked up, and murdered out of all proportion. What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden?

Between the World and Me is Ta-Nehisi Coates’s attempt to answer these questions in a letter to his adolescent son. Coates shares with his son—and readers—the story of his awakening to the truth about his place in the world through a series of revelatory experiences, from Howard University to Civil War battlefields, from the South Side of Chicago to Paris, from his childhood home to the living rooms of mothers whose children’s lives were taken as American plunder. Beautifully woven from personal narrative, reimagined history, and fresh, emotionally charged reportage, *Between the World and Me* clearly illuminates the past, bracingly confronts our present, and offers a transcendent vision for a way forward.

TA-NEHISI COATES: You know, oddly enough, I think we’re in a great place. And I don’t say that blithely. I say that, as you mentioned, having some very, very direct experience with my own work being banned in schools and libraries, and then, this week, helping where I could, and, ultimately, you know, as you, Michelle, but trying to, you know, figure out where we could hold this event, seeing, you know, Yasmin and go through all of the hoops. So, what I’ve gleaned from that is, when people start resorting to instruments as blunt and direct as book bans or not allowing discussions, they’re threatened. It’s the weapon of a weak and a decaying order. You know, I have to say a little something. I’ll never forget. I came back, right? I come back from Palestine. This is like, you know, late May, and I’m going crazy. Like, I’m going to sleep, and I’m dreaming about Palestine. And I’m waking up, and I got that glassy-eyed look in my face. And my wife is worried about me, and everybody’s worried about me. And I emailed a friend, and I said, “Do you have a contact with Rashid Khalidi at all?” And he said, “Yeah, I do.” And he connected us. And I wrote a message: “You don’t know me from Adam, but I got to talk to somebody about what I saw.” And he said, “It’s OK.” He said, “Look, I’m having a dinner this weekend. Why don’t you and your wife come?” And I came, and we sat in community, and it was the thing that I needed. And among the many things Rashid said that night, he said, “I have been fighting this fight for a long time, and I’ve never seen our side this strong. I’ve never seen the students in university so galvanized. I’ve never...” And you can confuse the ferociousness of the pushback with strength. You know what I mean? But the fact of the matter is, in African American history, for instance, here in our struggle, the struggle is the most violent when people are the most threatened. The original and the oldest and the most lethal form of domestic terrorism was pioneered after the Civil War, and what it was was in response to the fact that suddenly you had multiple states throughout this country with Black majorities. You had a majority-Black Legislature in South Carolina. The pushback had to be ferocious. It had to be violent. It needed to be, because of the sheer strength of the threat. That’s generally been our history. And so, now in this moment, when I look out and I see, you know, not just my work banned, but I see the work of my colleagues banned, I see, as you mentioned, LGBTQ authors banned, when I situate myself within the history of Black writing, and I understand the fact that there was never any safe moment for Black writing in this country’s history, when I understand that — when Frederick Douglass publishes his *Narrative*, and he goes and he talks about it, he has a price on his head. He can be dragged back into slavery at any moment. When I’ve seen that Ida B. Wells was driven out of Memphis, Tennessee, for reporting on the lynching and the murder of her friends, and she continued to report on it nonetheless, when I understand that Elijah Lovejoy was shot to death and his press was shoved into the river, you have to be realistic about this moment. What happened to you, man? You had to find another location for your talk tonight. That was it, actually quite simple compared to the long history of things. My wife was kind enough to send me an article about this district where they had banned *Between the World and Me*, right? And there had been — and this is a deep red district, and there had been this whole fight about it. And they went and they interviewed the librarian. And the librarian said, “This is the most checked-out book we’ve ever had.” That’s not because of me. That’s because of the ban. You understand what I’m saying? And so, like, the very fact that you guys are here, the very unfortunate fact that some of you who are watching this couldn’t get in — you know what I mean? — the fact that we had to struggle to find a venue for this event, doesn’t say anything about the strength of this movement here. It doesn’t say anything about our strength. Says a lot about the threat and what people feel and the weakness. So, I don’t know. I, like — anybody that knows me knows that I am not one known for my optimism. But I feel it in this moment. I really do.

It's one of the biggest experiments in fighting global poverty. Now the results are in

DECEMBER 7, 2023 · 9:24 AM ET



Nurith Aizenman



Husband and wife Denis and Bentha Otieno at their home in 2017, calculating their monthly budget shortly after they began receiving a monthly grant from the charity GiveDirectly. Researchers are studying whether the grant program — which provides \$50 every month over 12 years — can lift people out of poverty.

Nichole Sobecki for NPR

It's an unprecedented — and massive — experiment: Since 2017 the U.S.-based charity GiveDirectly has been providing thousands of villagers in Kenya what's called a "universal basic income" — a cash grant of about \$50, delivered every month, with the commitment to keep the payments coming for 12 years. It is a crucial test of what many consider one of the most cutting-edge ideas for alleviating global poverty. This week a team of independent researchers who have been studying the impact released their first results. Their findings cover the first two years of the effort and compare the outcomes for about 5,000 people who got the monthly payments to nearly 12,000 others in a control group who got no money. But, just as significantly, the researchers also compared the recipients to people in two other categories: nearly 9,000 who received the monthly income for just two years, without the promise of another decade of payments afterward; and another roughly 9,000 people who got that same two years' worth of income but in a lump-sum payment.

NPR has been covering this effort from the start — traveling to Kenya early into the launch at a village near Lake Victoria. During a community meeting that day people's phones suddenly began to ping with a text alert, notifying them that their monthly grant had just been sent to their mobile bank accounts. The crowd erupted in cheers. Some of the younger women broke into song. The joy was a reflection of just how much people in the community had been struggling: **The year before this experiment started, 85% of recipients reported experiencing hunger.**

So how much of a difference has the experiment made so far? Here are five takeaways from the first batch of findings: 1. Giving cash aid in a lump sum has some major advantages over parceling it out. When it came to measures of well-being such as consumption of protein or spending money on schooling, all of the groups who were given cash were better off than people in the control group that got no money. This fits with previous studies of no-strings cash aid, which find that poor people generally use the money productively rather than wasting it on alcohol, cigarettes or other vices. **But the big**

news came on a different measure: people's likelihood of starting a business. On this front, those who got the money in a lump sum vastly outperformed people who were promised the same amount for just two years but received it in monthly installments. For instance lump-sum recipients had 19% more enterprises — businesses such as small shops in local markets, motorbike taxis and small-scale construction concerns. **And the lump sum recipients' net revenues from their businesses were a whopping 80% higher.**

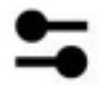
A member of the research team, MIT economist Tavneet Suri, says these results add to the evidence that many poor people are trapped in poverty by a lack of capital for precisely the kinds of transformative investments they would need to vault them into higher incomes. "I might have this amazing opportunity to invest that's going to get me great returns," says Suri. "But there's no way to borrow. I don't have title to my land, so I can't use my land as collateral. Or I just don't have great ways to save money — because putting it under my mattress is not a great way to save." In short, without an intervention like the lump-sum grants, she says, an individual struggling with poverty might think, "I can't make this investment that would help get me out of poverty."

2. Lump sums are so useful that even those who didn't get them have banded together to create their own version. GiveDirectly's head of research, Miriam Laker-Oketta, notes that it wasn't all that surprising that the study team, which worked independently of her organization, found that the lump-sum recipients were more likely to make investments compared with those who got paid in monthly installments. Prior studies of smaller scale cash-aid programs — including an earlier experiment arranged by GiveDirectly itself — have pointed to similar results. But this new experiment tests, for the first time, both the lump sums and the two years worth of monthly installments against the much larger promise of 12 years of income, again delivered in monthly installments. So it's notable that here too, the lump-sum recipients did best in the matchup — opening more businesses and earning more money from them even when compared to those who knew they'd be getting monthly payments for the full 12 years.

Andrew Zeitlen, an economist at Georgetown University who studies cash aid, says it's an impressive finding of a "well-executed study." After all, says Zeitlin, who was not involved with the research, "the long-run value of that universal basic income substantially exceeds the value of the lump sum transfers. It's an order of magnitude difference." So, the fact that lump sums had more impact even than this much bigger eventual payout points to the advantage of giving money at once instead of piecemeal. A 2017 meeting of a rotating savings club formed in a village near Lake Victoria soon after every adult there was chosen to receive a monthly through GiveDirectly's experiment. The clubs have enabled recipients to convert their grants into lump sum payments: Each month the members put \$10 into the communal pot — for a total of \$100 — and a different person takes it home. Just as important, says Suri, is a second twist: Those who were promised 12 years of monthly payments still out-performed people who could only count on two years of payments. And — here's the key — the way that the 12-year-group was able to invest more in their enterprises was by effectively converting their monthly payments into a lump sum. They did this by making use of a creative financing tool known as a "rotating savings club." Every month members of the club pool their money and then take turns getting the entire payout from that pot. Rotating savings clubs are enormously popular among Kenyans who don't have access to traditional banking. Even people who got the monthly income for just two years managed to put about 8% more money in a rotating savings club than those who got no aid. But people in the 12-year-monthly income group used the clubs at an astonishing rate — contributing nearly 70% more money than those in the control group.

Suri says one explanation could be that people who were promised a full 12 years of monthly income knew their neighbors would also be getting the income because every adult in the village was made that same promise. This expectation of years of income to come for everyone involved likely provided people the confidence needed to invest in a savings club: After all, says Suri, you're relying on your fellow members to keep contributing to the pot after they've gotten their own payout. A meeting of another rotating savings club in the same village, this one founded by Denis Otieno (third from the right). People who were promised the monthly income grants for 12 years used such clubs at an astonishing rate — contributing nearly 70% more money than those in the control group that got no aid.

3. Making the benefit 'universal' — by paying every adult in the village — seems to have greatly increased the impact. This broad-based "universal" nature of the aid may also help explain another



12 min 4.6 mi



Idoroenyi A.

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Idoroenyi Amanam, M.D., is a triple-boarded physician with advanced training utilizing cellular and stem cell therapy to treat malignant conditions.



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Sunday, December 10, 2023

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THE CONVERSATION

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Kevin McCarthy's desire for power at any cost foolishly seeded his own humiliation. But there was an earlier seed, one planted by that model of brazen shamelessness, Donald Trump. In calling McCarthy "my Kevin," Trump surely echoed what Antony might have called his fellow triumvir: "My Lepidus" – the man ultimately banished from the world he sought to govern, and sent into exile.

Norman Lear's legacy offers storytellers a road map for meeting the needs of Americans coming of age today.

The Virgin of Guadalupe is a powerful master symbol of a woman who gives hope, love and assurance – especially to those who feel marginalized or oppressed.



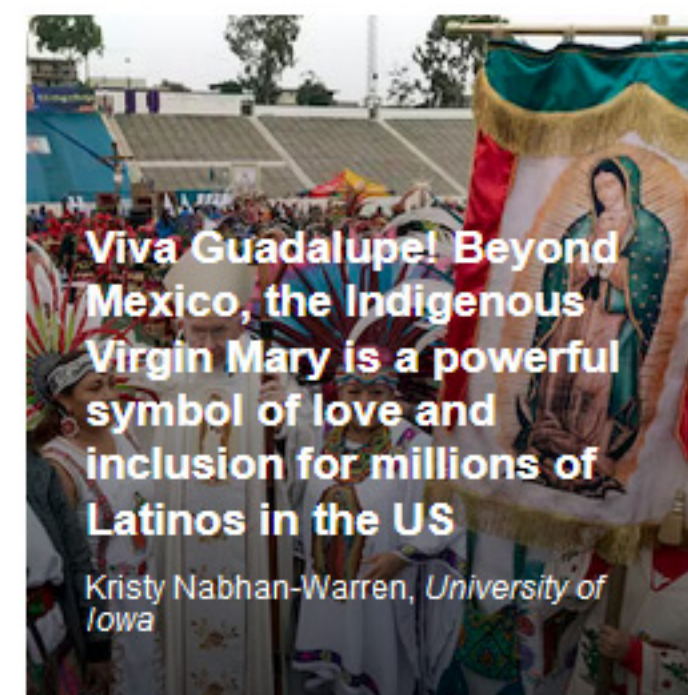
Ex-Speaker McCarthy's departure from Congress reads like Greek tragedy – but stars a 'slight unmeritable man' and not a hero

Rachel Hadas, Rutgers University - Newark



Norman Lear's '70s TV comedies brought people together to confront issues in a way Gen Z would appreciate

Yalda T. Uhls, University of California, Los Angeles



Viva Guadalupe! Beyond Mexico, the Indigenous Virgin Mary is a powerful symbol of love and inclusion for millions of Latinos in the US

Kristy Nabhan-Warren, University of Iowa

The Virgin of Guadalupe is a powerful master symbol of a woman who gives hope, love and assurance – especially to those who feel marginalized or oppressed.

Archbishop of Los Angeles Jose H. Gomez stands with people celebrating the Virgin of Guadalupe's feast day in 2022. AP Photo/Damian Dovarganes



Producer Norman Lear on the set of his hit TV series 'All In The Family,' standing between its stars, Jean Stapleton and Carroll O'Connor.
Bettmann Archive/Getty Images



Even Americans who strongly disagree with each other may find common ground when they watch the same TV shows and movies, especially those that make us laugh or cry. **Norman Lear**, who died on Dec. 5, 2023, at 101, created television shows that did just that. "All in the Family," "Sanford and Son" and his other biggest hits began to air in the 1970s, a time when the U.S. desperately needed to bridge divides.

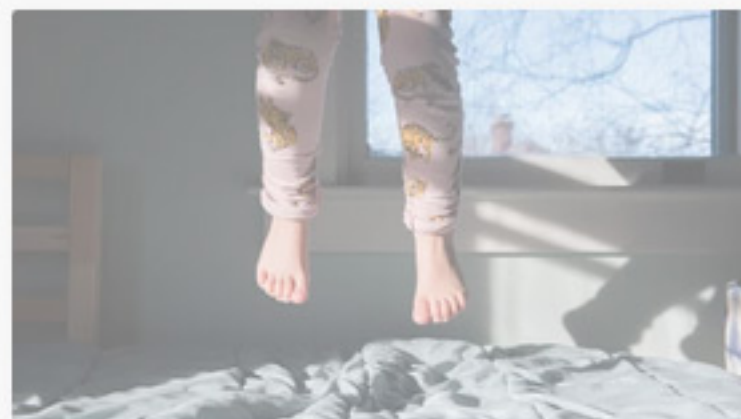
<https://www.npr.org/2023/12/11/1218145466/israel-hamas-war-shia-sunni-iran-backed-militants>

<https://www.npr.org/2023/12/10/1218439893/iran-blocks-mahsa-amini-family-from-collecting-a-human-rights-prize-in-her-name>



POLITICS

Trump says he won't testify as planned in his civil fraud trial



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ANALYSIS

MIDDLE EAST CRISIS — EXPLAINED

With the Israel-Hamas war, Sunni and Shia armed groups find uncommon unity

BEIRUT — The Gaza war has pushed together powerful Iran-backed Shia Muslim paramilitaries with militant Sunni factions in what appears to be closer cooperation between groups that differ in religious ideology but are united by opposition to Israel and the United States.



A portrait of **Mahsa Amini is** held during a rally in Washington, on Oct. 1, 2022. Amini, who also went by her Kurdish name, Jina, died in police custody in Iran last year, sparking worldwide protests against the country's conservative Islamic theocracy. She was awarded the European Union's top human rights prize on Thursday, Oct. 19, 2023. At Sunday's Nobel Peace Prize ceremony, in Oslo, Norway, the prize was awarded to another Iranian woman, human rights activist Narges Mohammadi, who remains imprisoned in Iran. Mohammadi's daughter, Kiana Rahmani, started a speech at the ceremony honoring her mother's work with "Zan, Zendegi, Azadi" — Farsi for "Woman, Life, Freedom."



NEWS

Elon Musk allows controversial conspiracy theorist Alex Jones back on X



SPACE

Houston, we have a tomato: ISS astronauts locate missing fruit (or vegetable)



MIDDLE EAST

Iran blocks Mahsa Amini's family from collecting a human rights prize in her name



<https://www.npr.org/2023/12/11/1218145466/israel-hamas-war-shia-sunni-iran-backed-militants>



Palestinian Hamas militants are seen during an event in the Bani Suheila district of Gaza City, Gaza Strip, on July 20, 2017. *Chris McGrath/Getty Images*

What Does the Conflict in the Middle East Mean for Ukraine?

8.11.2023



Iliya
Kusa

Ukraine is reluctant to risk its hard-earned ties with the Global South, but it certainly cannot afford to lose irreplaceable Western assistance, leaving Kyiv with very little room for maneuver.

Ukraine has never shown a close interest in conflicts in the Middle East, but the current flare-up in the Palestinian-Israeli enmity has presented Kyiv with a dilemma. At first, the Ukrainian government reacted to the Hamas terrorist attacks of October 7 the same way as most other countries: by condemning the Palestinian militants and expressing their condolences to the Israelis. But the subsequent actions of the Israeli army in Gaza have impacted on attitudes to Israel. The United States and most other Western countries still support Israel, while many countries of the so-called Global South have condemned it for its indiscriminate airstrikes against Gaza and insist that it also bears some responsibility for the outbreak of violence.

As a result, Ukraine has found itself between a rock and a hard place. On the one hand, it's important for Kyiv to emphasize its unity with the West and not to fall out with Israel, a valuable potential ally. On the other hand, overly enthusiastic support for the Israelis could damage Ukraine's relations with countries in the Global South, for whose sympathies Kyiv has been actively vying with Moscow. For most Ukrainians, the Arab world is seen as something distant and foreign, while there are many socio-cultural and business ties between Ukraine and Israel. In addition, Israel is broadly seen as a good example of a state that has successfully repelled attacks from aggressors for decades and at the same time is prosperous and technologically advanced: everything that Ukrainians would like their own country to be.

There was a lot of talk and intensive study of the "Israeli model" in Ukraine following Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022, including the organization of its security forces and formation of a strong coalition of allies. The increasingly protracted nature of the hostilities in Ukraine has only increased interest in the Israeli example of how a country can adapt to war while thriving economically. Ukrainians also inevitably view the current escalation in the Middle East through the prism of their war with Russia. Israel's retaliatory actions in Gaza are met with understanding in Ukraine, where Israeli society's emotional demand for retribution resonates. For many Ukrainians, who know little of Palestinian grievances, the Hamas terrorist attacks are reminiscent of the crimes committed by Russian troops during the occupation of the Kyiv and Chernihiv regions in February and March 2022.

The war between Israel and Hamas has created both new risks and new opportunities for Ukraine. Given Moscow's pro-Palestinian and pro-Iranian position, Ukraine's support for Israel could help improve relations between the latter two countries. Since last year, the Ukrainian government has been doing everything possible to convince the Israelis to impose sanctions against Russia and provide Kyiv with tanks and air defense systems. But the Israeli government has been reluctant to sever relations with Moscow and declined to go beyond providing humanitarian aid and limited supplies of air raid warning systems. In June 2023, the Ukrainian ambassador to Israel criticized the country for collaborating with the Kremlin. Now Ukraine has the opportunity to rebuild the relationship. The Ukrainian authorities have already started comparing Hamas to Russia and bringing up Moscow's close cooperation with the organization, promoting the narrative of an "axis of evil" consisting of Iran, Hamas and Russia. It's not clear, however, whether Israel is prepared to provide military assistance to anyone else now that it is waging a large-scale military operation in Gaza that risks escalating into a war on several fronts.

Both Ukraine and Hamas are fighting imperial occupiers against all odds in a desperate attempt to hold on to their land, culture and dignity. The world politic that supports the colonial settlers are on opposing sides of both conflicts, serving their own special interests, mostly oligarchs, and on one hand in defiance of their own stated core values.

Dan Landrum, *Rough Rants Too*:
<https://www.appleeyedesigns.com/WayOut/PDFs/RoughRantsToo.pdf>

In terms of risks to Ukraine, it's possible that it will now find itself competing with Israel for much-needed U.S. and EU assistance and attention. An equally alarming prospect is a possible split in Europe over the Palestinian-Israeli issue. Pro-Palestinian demonstrations in European capitals are putting pressure on EU governments. The longer the bombing of Gaza goes on and the more civilians killed there, the more toxic unequivocal support for Israel is becoming. Western countries are increasingly calling for the declaration of a humanitarian pause, the creation of an independent state of Palestine, and for preventing the war from escalating into a full-scale regional conflict involving Iran, Lebanon, and Syria. A major war in the Middle East would destabilize the entire region, which would not only distract the United States and its European allies from Ukraine, but also rock the global economy and energy markets. The Kremlin could take advantage of the chaos, believing that the more crises in the world that threaten the security and economy of the West, the easier it will be to persuade it to compromise on Ukraine.

At the same time, the need to choose a side in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict threatens to damage relations with those who support the opposing camp. Adopting an overly pro-Israeli position could jeopardize Ukraine's relations with the Global South, for whose sympathies Kyiv has been competing with Russia for many months, investing enormous resources and energy to that end. It cannot be said that the pro-Palestinian countries of the Middle East and Africa are watching Ukraine's position too closely: it has never been a serious player in the region. But non-Western states could cite support for Israel's actions as a reason for refusing to support Ukraine's negotiating position or join anti-Russian sanctions, or as justification for cooperating with Russia. Support for Israel only reinforces Ukraine's image as a pro-American country.

Ukraine is reluctant to risk its hard-earned ties with the Global South, but it certainly cannot afford to lose irreplaceable Western assistance, leaving Kyiv with very little room for maneuver. The safest option for now appears to be to follow in the slipstream of Western politics. For the foreseeable future, therefore, Ukraine will most likely try to ensure that it is included in the same Western aid program as Israel, especially since the Biden administration has already proposed combining support for the two countries into one package, to the ire of Republicans. Such a package looks like the best outcome for Kyiv, since it would guarantee funding for Ukraine's military needs in the strategic perspective and protect it from internal political squabbles between different U.S. administrations.

In these circumstances, burnishing the country's image in Arab nations may not be a priority for Kyiv, though it will try not to get involved in disputes over the future of the Middle East and will say as little as possible on the Israeli-Palestinian issue to avoid provoking a negative reaction in the countries of the Global South. Ukraine's pro-Israel stance is unlikely to develop into a more practical alliance between the two countries. Israel will be preoccupied with very different external and internal problems for the foreseeable future. Kyiv can only hope that the fighting in the Gaza Strip does not develop into a distraction for the West or increase the risk of the war with Russia becoming a frozen conflict: a prospect for which the Ukrainian leadership is not prepared.

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A recent killing spree in the Mexican border city of Tijuana could have been lifted from a TV script: enraged drug lords hunting down corrupt police officers who stole a drug shipment. Two of the officers suspected of the theft have been killed, prosecutors say. But so have at least three other officers, according to the city's former police chief, suggesting the cartel believed to have owned the drugs may have launched a generalized retribution.



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• Israel-Hamas war Alex Jones U. Penn president resigns Cowboys beat Eagles Philippines-South China Sea

Biden goes into 2024 with the economy getting stronger, but voters feel horrible about it

President Joe Biden goes into next year's election with a vexing challenge: Just as the U.S. economy is getting stronger, people are still feeling horrible about it.

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Drug lords go on killing spree to hunt down corrupt officers who stole shipment in Mexico's Tijuana



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MEXICO CITY (AP) — A recent killing spree in the Mexican border city of Tijuana could have been lifted from a TV script: enraged drug lords hunting down corrupt police officers who stole a drug shipment. Two of the officers suspected of the theft have been killed, prosecutors say. But so have at least three other officers, according to the city's former police chief, suggesting the cartel believed to have owned the drugs may have launched a generalized retribution.

<https://apnews.com/article/mexico-tijuana-drug-theft-officers-killed-9d4102b8b55f7e4f2c681c6c05056765>



FILE — A friend pays his final respects to murdered journalist Lourdes Maldonado who was shot dead in her car when arriving home, in Tijuana, Mexico, Jan. 27, 2022. In the first month of 2022, two journalists were shot to death in two separate attacks in one week in Tijuana. (AP Photo/Marco Ugarte, File)

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The Washington Post

Covert Indian operation seeks to discredit Modi's critics in the U.S.



7 hours ago • Gerry Shih, Clara Ence Morse & Pranshu Verma

Firms may struggle to keep profits up if demand slows, but so far they are finding ways to keep margins wide. Big companies that had previously pushed through one standard price increase per year are now raising prices more frequently. Retailers increasingly use digital price displays, which they can change with the touch of a button. Across the economy, executives trying to maximize profits are effectively **running tests to see what prices consumers will bear before they stop buying.**

Grand Canyon University targeted by woke Biden admin for an unprecedented \$37.7 million fine. Regulators in the GCU case claim that the university violated federal disclosure laws by insufficiently disclosing to PhD students that they may have to take continuing courses while completing their doctoral dissertations. In other words, the allegation is that the most highly educated students at GCU can't read tuition brochures.

Retiring Rep. **Kevin McCarthy** (R-Calif.) on "CBS Sunday Morning" predicted Donald Trump would be the Republican 2024 nominee, envisioned the former president beating President Joe Biden in a new match-up, endorsed the 4-times-indicted GOP front-runner and also said he'd be willing to serve in a Trump cabinet.

NEW DELHI — Since 2020, an opaque organization calling itself the **Disinfo Lab** has published lengthy dossiers and social media posts claiming to reveal the personal relationships and funding sources behind U.S.-based critics of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Disinfo Lab has combined fact-based research with unsubstantiated claims to paint U.S. government figures, researchers, humanitarian groups and Indian American rights activists as part of a conspiracy, purportedly led by global Islamic groups and billionaire George Soros, to undermine India.