

The Right Wing Group Behind Donald Trump's Rise Aims to Keep Fear Alive

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Citizens United, the nonprofit organization that brought the U.S. Supreme Court case that has unleashed unlimited corporate spending in elections, sent three of its top strategists to run the Donald Trump campaign in its floundering days of 2016. Here's the timeline:

On July 11, 2016, the Trump campaign announced that it had "enlisted the services of Bryan Lanza, who will serve as the Deputy Communications Director for Surrogates. Mr. Lanza's focus will be on organizing and mobilizing Trump supporters in an effective way that allows Mr. Trump's America First message to resonate with voters." Lanza came from Citizens United where he had been Communications Director.

On August 17, 2016, the New York Times reported that Steve Bannon would become Chief Executive of the Trump campaign. The article focused on Bannon's role at Breitbart News but Bannon was the long-tenured filmmaker for Citizens United, making right-wing documentaries like "Fire from the Heartland," a glowing tribute to Michele Bachmann; "The Undefeated," about Sarah Palin; "Generation Zero," blaming the 2008 financial crash on liberals; "Occupy Unmasked," portraying the young people attempting to remove their democracy from the iron grip of the one percent as sinister criminals; and "The Hope and the Change," showing Democrats' disillusionment with the campaign promises of Barack Obama, which is certainly a valid concern for progressives. (Bannon has now been named Chief Strategist to Trump in the White House.)

Two weeks later, on September 1, 2016, the Washington Post announced that David Bossie, President of Citizens United, had been named Trump's Deputy Campaign Manager.

Three men coming from a nonprofit that refuses to reveal its donors and effectively ushered in a corporate takeover of U.S. elections doesn't seem to correlate with a President-elect who promised to "drain the swamp" in Washington and become the champion of the working class.

Another name set off alarms here at Wall Street On Parade. The "Occupy Unmasked" documentary shows in its credits that it was produced by David Bossie; that it is a "film by Stephen K. Bannon"; and then the name of David Horowitz is prominently displayed in the trailer credits without mention of his role. David Horowitz played a major role in promoting a propaganda film produced in 2008 to fan the flames of hate against Muslims – a film that was secretly funded by a Charles Koch affiliated group.

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