



Students Smearred as "Terrorists" to Justify Free Speech Crackdowns

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Glenn Greenwald (GG): Here is the NYPD video that they created to heap praise on themselves, to treat themselves as some kind of brave, heroic fighting force because they successfully stood down unarmed 19 year old kids at Columbia. And again, you would think that based on this video, they had just successfully arrested the leaders of all five families that constitute organised crime in the United States and at the same time dismantled all of the street gangs that plagued New York City and confronted al-Qaeda and ISIS as well. Listen to how they talk about what they did here. Here's the chief of the department's conference room, they're showing the planning of this incredibly brave operation.

Jeffrey Maddrey (JM): ...on that sidewalk, right? Which sidewalk would that be?
[Inaudible].

GG: Can you believe they're putting this with melodramatic music, as though there's such high tension as the good guys are going to confront the dangerous bad guys - the unarmed students at Columbia.

JM: You believe that all the inferences are somehow –

GG: This is very similar, this picture – like they're in the Situation Room – to the one that the Obama White House released where Obama and Hillary Clinton and John Brennan were all watching the Navy Seals go in and confront and ultimately kill Osama bin Laden. This is the kind of ethos, the kind of film spirit that they are trying to copy. And again, the implication is that they're confronting dangerous terrorists rather than who they confronted, which are people who didn't resist, who marched out, who use no weapons, who wield no weapons, who didn't even fight the police at all. But this is what the New York City Police Department is trying to imply.

JM: – somehow barricading. What entrance do we believe is the entrance where we would have the least resistance?[inaudible].

GG: Police officers with all kinds of helmets and paramilitary gear, and the big truck that they're using to go and confront the students to enter this dangerous building. I mean, this is – I mean, they're really acting like they entered some sort of ISIS camp and took down, like, the world's most hardened and well-armed and dangerous terrorist.

Kaz Daughtry (KD): Right now we're at Columbia University, we're on the third floor and are going through the building, looking for the student protest that took over this building. As you can see, the emergency services behind us, we're checking each floor, we're checking each door. As you come over here, you can see that they have set up sort of an encampment inside of this classroom.

GG: Oh, my God, they have sleeping bags on the floor that they found. These people are monsters. They're a minute away from blowing up the entire New York City subway system. Can you believe the New York City Police Department filmed itself in this incredibly simple, rudimentary operation and then produced a propaganda video, complete with dangerous music and suspenseful lighting, and a narration that suggests that these police officers were engaged in one of the most dangerous operations seen in the history of the New York City Police Department? And yet, with great skill and courage, they were able to carry it out and protect the good people of New York City from these terrorists who were occupying this building.

KD: It's all over the place. And when we actually came in here, they actually had a desk barricaded up to the windows.

GG: Oh, wow. They had, like, school chairs, like the kind that you find in nursery school. Like those little chairs with the attached desks. These little wooden desks, they piled about eight of them up and put them against the door. And yet the New York City Police Department was able to overcome that – that incredibly sophisticated show of resistance and force to try and stop them. They didn't blink. They stare down these wooden chairs. They got through the wooden chairs. They took those sleeping bags that they found, and they collected them. And they did not allow them to remain on the floor. Courage like that is unfathomable.

Tarik Sheppard (TS): Every job I have seen here so far, is as professional as can be, making sure everything is safe before we move on. I feel totally comfortable, totally safe with these guys. This is who you call when –

GG: Oh wow, he feels totally safe with, like, a thousand heavily armed police officers equipped with paramilitary gear, night vision goggles and massive guns – he feels totally safe because they're such professionals, even though they're facing down about a hundred unarmed college kids. He's not scared at all.

GG: They're showing themselves removing those school chairs. And then they're going in with shields and there's hundreds of them. And they're taking out college students in

handcuffs. There's more scenery of the wooden chairs, the wooden school chairs. There's a stroller there. Oh, there's a broken window. So this is the mindset. It's very much the mindset. All of this is about continuously escalating the level of fear to make you think that basically there are al-Qaeda sleeping cells occupying every American campus. And it's not just rhetoric, it's being accompanied with all kinds of action. Now, watching Fox News – ever since October 7th, I've been talking about this for a long time. And just as a reminder, the first show that we did after October 7th was that Monday, October 9th, and I began the show by talking about the dangers of 9/11 and the way in which people might react to a terrorist attack and completely lose their minds, lose any sense of proportionality. And then, you know, the United States, in addition to suppressing all kinds of civil liberties, went on a spree of invasions and bombing campaigns that lasted more than a decade over a single day attack. And it was very predictable that the same thing was going to happen here. And that's why after October 9th, when I explained why I thought what Hamas did was unjustifiable, I proceeded to urge that people remember the lessons of 9/11. And yet from the beginning, starting on October 7th, watching Fox News reminded me – it was like watching Fox News on October 13th, 2001. And throughout 2002 and 2003, they were speaking of these protesters – the way they did – the protesters who were trying to stop the invasion of Iraq while the Fox News Company and every one of its personalities was cheering that war and demanding that war, a war that turned out to be a bloody disaster for everyone in that region, for the United States, for our military who lost their lives there over nothing. And Fox News is just right back to doing what they're doing. Listen to the tenor of their coverage.

Fox News (FN): But beyond that, are you worried that we could see these scenes being used as an opportunity for a terror attack? You know, I'm not saying it's going to happen in the next 45 minutes while we're on air, but let's say it's another day of this tomorrow, because the powers that have let this thing foment – could you see a lone wolf or an organised group or something, seizing on this moment to create a terror attack? Or if not that, just to use this as a dry run for one in the future?

Rob D'Amico (RD): Oh, absolutely. I think when you see these crowds and everything that's going on, and based on what was happening in New York, they probably have made some plans altering what they're looking at doing. So you always have that, and then you always have the lone wolf factor that may take the opportunity that just gets into this. And then, it is his or her opportunity to do something that they want to personally get that response from.

GG: I mean, they were looking at this student protest at UCLA, and the only violence at this protest ended up being the following day when a bunch of pro-Israel counter-demonstrators showed up and began trying to dismantle the encampment, throwing metal barriers and blockades at the protesters, throwing chemical weapons into them like tear gas and the like – pepper spray. There were protesters that were injured, pro-Palestinian protesters. That ended up being the only real violence at any of these protests. And yet Fox News looked at this protest and said, should we expect a terrorist attack to emerge out of this?

Here from the Free Press, which is Barri Weiss' site. And Barri Weiss, of course, is one of the most fanatical supporters of Israel that the country knows right next to Ben Shapiro. I mean, it shapes and defines everything she does and says. From Francesca Block, the title was, quote, The 'Micro-Intifada': How American Protesters Are Being Trained in 'Militancy'. Quote, "guides created by radical groups are teaching pro-Palestinian students to use violence on campus. Instructions show how to barricade doors with 'heavy furniture', create a, quote, 'shield' against police using trash cans, ropes, sheets of cardboard or a 'corrugated metal banner', and to pick locks using a, quote, 'technique' developed by 'firemen and criminals'. 'If these less destructive methods don't work', the guide says, quote, 'more aggressive options are abundant, such as using a crowbar to open a window.'" Notice that none of them suggests, let alone encourages, the use of actual violence against protesters. And again, the only violence, the only real violence that we've seen since these protests began was at UCLA when counter-demonstrators showed up who support Israel and began physically attacking the pro-Palestinian protesters who were there. And yet the tenor of this media coverage constantly is hysteria. Hysteria! It is unhinged beyond belief. Depicting these people who are protesting a war as starting a violent intifada, as being part of Hamas, part of terrorist organisations. This is the environment, the fear mongering environment that has ushered in all of these government measures. This is the framework, the groundwork that you need to lay.

Here is Laura Ingraham, who decided to invite on a student at North Carolina because the students at North Carolina became heroes of the American right and the pro-Israel wing of the Democratic Party because protesters had raised a flag of Gaza and they took the flag of Gaza down and put the American flag up. And they were depicted, oh, look, these are the patriots we love. And so Laura Ingraham had one of these great American patriots there to defend the American flag. Only the problem was, he wasn't there to defend the American flag, as he says himself. He was there to defend the Israeli flag. Here's what he told her.

Laura Ingraham (LI): Isaac Maleh. Isaac, what motivated you to defend the flag?

Isaac Maleh (IM): Yeah, well, first of all, thanks for having me on. I really appreciate it. And I'll say, when we talk about motivation for the flag – the primary reason I was on that call, right, before this ever even began to become an American issue, I was on there because I'm Jewish and I'm Orthodox, and a lot of members that were holding up that flag were. And so we were there really just kind of holding up our Israeli flags and trying to stop hate. And there's been a lot of anti-Semitism around the country. So we were there first and foremost for our country of Israel.

GG: These were the people who were depicted as the American patriots we all admire and love so much, these great devotees to the United States. And repeatedly he said, oh, I was there because I wanted to defend our Israel, our country, Israel. I was there because I'm a Jew, and I wanted to go and wave Israeli flags. And the whole time the video next to him is playing, and there's a bunch of counter-protesters waving the Israeli flag, not the American flag, the Israeli flag. And they became – these University of North Carolina frat boys – such a

cause celeb that someone created a GoFundMe fundraising account to throw a party in their honour. And I think the last time I looked, it was something like \$250,000 that had been donated to them by people who decided that these were the great American patriots. And yet, he himself said, actually, we weren't there to defend the American flag. We were there to defend our flag, the Israeli flag. Now under the new law that was passed by the House, and it's not yet a new law, it needs to go to the White House and to be passed at the Senate as well, but if that becomes law, one of the things that you are not permitted to say, that is formally classified is anti-Semitism for an anti-discrimination law on a federal level in education and public accommodations is to suggest that a Jewish person has more loyalty to Israel than the United States. That's banned, that's now officially bigotry. I just showed you that person. Laura Ingraham said: what motivated you? And he said: we wanted to go and defend our Israel. We wanted to go and wave the Israeli flag, not the American flag, the Israeli flag. And so if you wanted to observe about this person, clearly he identifies, as he said, with the country of Israel and not the United States. That would be illegal under federal law, that would be classified under this new law that the House passed, that it wildly expands the definition of anti-Semitism. And it specifically includes examples. Including saying that a Jewish person has more loyalty to Israel than to the United States. That is part of the thing that would be banned. What I just said about that person, based on what he himself told Laura Ingraham.

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