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If you are on the right-wing mailing list circuit, you have received mailings on a regular basis from most, if not all of the individuals and groups listed above. In future issues, *EIR* will provide profiles of some of the most egregious of these outfits. In the meantime, beware!

Scott Thompson contributed vital research to this report.

The ‘black art’ of spreading slander

by L. Wolfe

The “black art” of spreading slander has been practiced for centuries by those who understand it as a powerful means to destroy an enemy, or to render him ineffective. Rossini and his librettist, Cesare Sterbini, in the opera *The Barber of Seville*, based on the work of the great French republican author Pierre-Augustin Beaumarchais, offers a succinct explanation of the method, placing it in the mouth of a corrupt Spanish Jesuit, Basilio, in the famous bass aria, “La Calunnia” (“Slander”):

. . . Very subtly one must invent a falsehood,
Which will blacken his character,
Discredit him, and spoil his reputation.
Damage him so completely, cause such a scandal,
He’ll be disgraced forever.
And, I am the man to do it.
Before you know it,
Just take my word, as sure as I am Basilio,
We’ll chase him out of town, make him an outcast.
I have a method and it’s foolproof.

Let me teach you the art of slander,
So ethereal, you scarcely feel it,
Not a motion will reveal it,
Till it gently, oh so gently,
Almost imperceptibly begins to grow.
First a murmur, slowly seeping,
Then a whisper, lowly creeping,
Slyly sneaking, softly sliding,
Faintly humming, smoothly gliding.
Then it suddenly commences,
Reaching people’s ears and senses.
First a mere insinuation,
Just a hinted accusation,

Slowly growing to a rumor,
Which will shortly start to flow.

What began as innuendo,
Soon is swelling to a crescendo;
Gossip turning into scandal,
Stopping nowhere, hard to handle;
Louder, bolder, brazen sounding;
Stomping, beating, thumping, pounding,
Shrieking, banging, booming, clanging,
Spreading horror in the air.
Rising higher, overflowing,
Whipped to fury madly growing.
Like a stream of lava pouring,
Like a mighty cannon roaring.
A tremendous tempest raking,
A tornado splitting, shaking,
Like the day of judgment breaking—
pandemonium everywhere!

And the victim—poor accused one,
wretched, slandered, and abused one—
Has to slink away in shame,
And wish he never had been born.

In this century, the Tavistock networks have perfected this ancient method, developing new techniques and technologies to “spread horror in the air.” The so-called alternative media play a critical role in turning “gossip into scandal.”

Back in the 1930s and early 1940s, Tavistock’s networks studied the methods by which news of ideas, and related changes in public opinion, spread through the population; this is called “diffusion research.”¹ For a new “idea,” be it a style of fashion or an opinion about a political figure, to gain acceptance, it generally has to originate from a source outside of establishment opinion-setters and media. The operative concept is to create an “undercurrent of discussion” among the general population—what is sometimes called “a buzz” (or in “La Calunnia,” the “murmur”)—and then to spread or “diffuse” that “buzz” more broadly. To do this, an “idea” is planted on the “fringe,” among people known to have a proclivity to “talk it up” through gossip and other means.

In the case of the junk mail operation, this targeted “fringe” element is suspicious of the establishment, and is anti-establishment in its outlook.² That certain information

1. Nearly all product introductions and “style” changes are premised, to some degree, on diffusion research methodology, originally laid out in the work of Bruce Ryan and Neal Gross, who analyzed the spread of new hybrid seed corn among farmers in Green County, Iowa in the 1930s.

2. In making even a cursory survey of the content of the leading junk mail newsletters, one is immediately struck by how little they actually say that does not fall under one or more of the three topic headings—“anti-government,” “anti-establishment,” and “anti-media.” About the only other universal characteristic noted is the ever-present appeal for funds.

in such newsletters is effectively planted by establishment sources, or even that their operation is funded from such sources, is kept out of the view of their readers.

Once the “buzz” has been sufficiently spread among these anti-establishment networks, the information can then be picked up and reported on by the establishment media; that report usually cites a junk mail source. The establishment media then uses its normal methods to spread the story. As the 1940s studies had shown, the major media coverage has the effect of “confirming” the “buzz,” while bringing the news from the “fringe” back into the center of popular opinion.

It’s easy to see how this operated in the case of the British intelligence-directed anti-Clinton campaign. Disinformation attacking Clinton was leaked into the “fringe” elements of the junk mail food chain and circulated through its newsletters. Much of this material could be traced to various British conduits, including the spigots to which Lord William Rees-Mogg provides succor, such as the London *Sunday Telegraph*’s Ambrose Evans-Pritchard. Once the “buzz” got going in the these “fringe” circles, the wild anti-Clinton slanders were “brought in from the cold,” and placed into the establishment media for wider dissemination. Meanwhile, even wilder smears were placed into the “fringe” newsletters, and the cycle started again.³

In the fall of 1997, as the global financial crisis was breaking into the open, George Washington University Prof. Dr. Jerrold Post and Tulane University Provost Robert Robbins, both members of the extended Tavistock network, presented a “handbook” on the mass manipulation of paranoia for political purposes, titled *Political Paranoia: The Psychopathology of Hatred*. The two describe a manifold manipulation of paranoia in this current period of “mass stress.” First, have the establishment media label as a paranoid, anyone who can provide a coherent alternative explanation of what is happening, a different set of assumptions from the currently failing ones. Meanwhile, foster the creation of separate paranoid groups and movements, while providing these groups convenient targets for their paranoid expressions of rage; finally, put the groups into conflict with each other, and with those who label them “paranoids.” This manipulated conflict creates a controlled paranoid environment that dominates the entire society.

Post and Robbins surmise that if your identity is put under continuous stress, you will search for a means to relieve that stress through a simple explanation for its cause; that explanation can be proffered through the junk mail food chain, which will readily offer up an “enemy” for you to blame. You cannot

3. For example, some of the wilder allegations about the sexual exploits of the President were too libelous to be printed in the establishment press. They found currency in the junk mail circuit. Their readers were instructed to call in to radio talk shows to demand an “end to the cover-up”; this clamor provided the cover to insert the stories, first into the tabloids, and then into the establishment media.

comfortably exist without enemies, the two brainwashers claim; it is simply too “painful.” As long as the forces behind Tavistock have the means, in one way or another, to foist their preferred list of enemies upon the American people, we can always be controlled—and at no point is the control of the society by the oligarchical interests that sponsor Tavistock ever challenged.⁴

The junk mail food chain’s targeting of President Clinton as an “enemy” is but one example of how the game is played, as well as its planting of one loony conspiracy theory after another into public view.

4. The Tavistock quacks Post and Robbins reveal a certain understanding of the danger Lyndon LaRouche represents. After using some shopworn slanders from the liar and ADL-scribbler Dennis King, they point out that LaRouche and his movement are not really like the others that the book profiles. LaRouche has developed an integrated epistemology, based upon Plato, that says that the Good exists for itself, and for no other purpose (a self-sustaining Good, in a Platonic sense). This, according to Post and Robbins, must by definition be impossible, since history shows that Good only exists in relation to evil. Post and Robbins’s work reeks of hatred of Plato and of Christianity and all religion which flows from Platonic ideas. History, the two psychopaths claim, “proves” that there are no fundamental truths; anyone who thinks this way, who asserts that truth is knowable, is a dangerous, paranoid demagogue. Man has a propensity to commit evil, and to say otherwise, as LaRouche does, is not allowed in rational discourse, they claim.

**“Long before Paula Jones,
long before Monica Lewinsky,
there was a conscious decision, made in
London, that there would be a full-scale
campaign to destroy Bill Clinton,
and to destroy, once and for all,
the credibility of the office of the
Presidency of the United States.”**

—Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr.



**A 56-minute video featuring LaRouche, EIR Editors
Jeffrey Steinberg and Edward Spannaus. \$25 postpaid**

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