

Jerry Brown and his agenda for the destruction of America

by Brian Lantz

Over recent weeks, Jerry Brown, the former governor of California, has taken a place on the national political stage. Receiving major mass media attention, Brown is now talking of waging an independent presidential campaign. A political lightweight, he has taken no responsibility for the nation. Instead, he was holed up in a Japanese Zen Buddhist monastery, and then chaired one of the most corrupt Democratic Party organizations in the country.

Consider the proposed economic policies of Jerry Brown. Over the last six years, Mexico has undergone a 50% reduction in standards of living under the banner of cleaning out corruption and pursuing free market economic methods. The program carried forward by Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari is tagged "social liberalism." Jerry Brown proposes it for the United States.

Consider who likes Jerry Brown's economics. In a commentary in the March 17 *Washington Times*, supply-side economist Art Laffer, adviser to the Reagan administration, is quoted stating, "Jerry Brown has a very rational, well-thought-out economic program. In terms of competitiveness, I think his proposals right now would take America soaring into the 21st century." Cato Institute fiscal policy director Stephen Moore said, "It's probably the soundest economic strategy of any of the candidates, Republican or Democrat. . . . The '90s would be a decade of explosive economic growth and the U.S. tax code would become a model for the world."

Laffer and Moore are speaking of Brown's proposal for a flat 13% income tax on individuals and businesses, a value-added tax on business activity, and "enterprise zones" in high unemployment areas. Brown's proposed value-added tax would penalize capital investment and amount to a 10-20% tax passed on to the ultimate consumer of all products—in short, a tax increase. Brown, who advocates a return to convict labor, would also have welfare recipients use their checks as vouchers that companies could supplement with jobs and salaries. In Mexico, Brown's free enterprise zones are called *maquiladoras*, part of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), an Auschwitz south of the border. Under conditions of desperate unemployment levels, these zones would mean the reintroduction of slave labor into the United States.

Is this a new Jerry Brown? Absolutely not. In eight years as governor of California between 1974 to 1982, Brown carried

forward and amplified the devastating economic policies begun under the Ronald Reagan governorship of 1968-74. As governor, Brown endorsed California's Proposition 13 populist tax revolt, which wrecked local and county government and school board budgets. Today, California school districts are declaring bankruptcy. As governor, Brown also continued the emptying of state mental health institutions, also begun under Reagan. The mentally ill, many of them former wards of the state, are now among the hardened core of that state's homeless, the largest number in the nation.

The fruitfly debate, and others

Jerry Brown's environmental policies are better known, such as his protection of the Mediterranean Fruitfly. The "Medfly" is now endemic, and costs California agriculture millions of dollars a year. Brown's "Small is Beautiful" philosophy was used to sell a package of policies to Californians which wrecked the infrastructure of the state. Brown personally killed the construction of the Sundersert nuclear power plant and sabotaged completion of the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant for years. In the decade encompassing Brown's governorship, industry energy costs skyrocketed by as much as 900%. As a result, industrial jobs shrank and energy consumption, even with a growing state population, grew at less than 2% a year, compared to projections of 6-8%.

The same insane policies were applied by Governor Brown to other areas of California's basic infrastructure. Under Brown and President Jimmy Carter, dam projects came to a standstill, contributing to today's much-publicized water crisis. Highway and road construction and maintenance ground to a halt. California under Governor Brown built only a quarter as many miles of highways and freeways as it did under Reagan—2,110 miles versus 8,788 miles. (For the record, Governor Reagan had already begun disinvesting through neglected road maintenance and non-existent investment on mass transit—\$508,000 in eight years.) For example, in 1978-79, California ranked *last* per capita among all states in expenditures on streets, roads, and freeways. In short, there was a total net disinvestment in vital "hard" and "soft" infrastructure during the Reagan-Brown years.

Today, on the presidential campaign trail, Jerry Brown advocates the same policies, proposing, for example, that he will save \$300 billion a year by cutting national energy

consumption. This, he slyly states, will create 7 million jobs. Where? Brown proposes minimum wage jobs in a civilian conservation corps, complementing his convict labor and "enterprise zone" schemes.

In the Feb. 19, 1981 *San Francisco Chronicle*, Jerry Brown argued that then-President Reagan's economic program—bank deregulation, usury, and speculation—was "a comprehensive attack on the problem and, as governor . . . I plan to join with him in working to achieve a more more vigorous economy at a low rate of inflation. . . . The era of excess is over. . . . There will be cutbacks. We've been doing that at the state level, the local level, and now it's going to the federal level."

Jerry Brown and David Duke agree

In 1980, Brown's ghoulish agenda came out in the open in a scandal involving his secretary of resources director Huey Johnson. In remarks before the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., Johnson launched into an attack on "overpopulation." As California was quickly destroying its productive economic base, suddenly it was overpopulated. Johnson demanded expanded abortion services, denial of personal tax exemptions beyond the first or second child and tax penalties for large families, cutbacks on low-income housing, and a closing of U.S. borders. California must limit its population to its "carrying capacity" or face "ultimate disaster," he said. "Population is the ultimate gun barrel at the head of society." Two-thirds of the state Senate and the Hispanic Caucus called for Brown to fire Johnson. But as Huey Johnson publicly predicted, Brown stood by him.

Brown met Huey Johnson through the San Francisco Zen Center. Johnson had served as a director of the Nature Conservancy and, in 1969, had served as chairman of the Unesco conference on "Man and His Environment: A View Towards Survival," held in San Francisco. It was here that the genocidal Club of Rome was launched. Johnson was also a collaborator of anthropologist Dame Margaret Meade. Jerry Brown brought Meade's husband, Gregory Bateson, into his administration as a special adviser. Bateson inaugurated Brown's administration with a sermon praising the use of the hallucinogen peyote.

Jerry Brown's New Age style and much-publicized \$100 campaign contribution limit are just part of a media package. Brown is himself a millionaire, with holdings in stocks and real estate. His campaign adviser is Jimmy Carter's pollster Pat Caddell. His sister, now state treasurer, is married to Van Gordon Slater, former CBS News chief and mentor of Dan Rather. As Jerry Brown's longtime political ally Tom Hayden gleefully put it, "The \$100 limit is the blue Plymouth of the '90s. Jerry has designed a campaign where every attack—from Republicans, Democrats, or the media—is proof that he's right." Hayden is referring to the used blue Plymouth which Jerry Brown drove as governor, publicly eschewing a limousine.

Organized crime in the Democratic Party

The March 22 announcement by the Clinton campaign that it was naming Californian Mickey Kantor to be Gov. Bill Clinton's national campaign chairman should focus attention on the ties of California "organized slime" to Brown and Clinton. The Kantor appointment came 10 days after California Speaker of the Assembly Willie Brown, in an interview in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, himself a lobbyist for mob interests such as the Bronfman family of Seagrams, Inc. and the bankrupt Olympia and York real estate giant, publicly threatened Clinton to stay away from California. It was just a temporary turf disagreement.

Jerry Brown and his family have long had cozy relations with leading organized crime figures. Jerry Brown's father, Pat Brown, was a member of the board of directors of the late Bernie Cornfeld's "Fund of Funds" investment scam. Cornfeld was the notorious bagman for organized crime boss Meyer Lansky. Another Al Capone mobster, Paul Zifferin, became state party chair and a powerbroker in the Democratic Party. Zifferin installed his younger brother Lester as deputy attorney general under then-California Attorney General Pat Brown.

No wonder that Brown has referred to the California Democratic Party as a "Potemkin village," which, "when you looked behind it, there wasn't much there." Kantor, also a former state Democratic chairman, is a partner in the law firm of Manatt, Phelps, Rothenberg and Tunney. Charles Manatt is a former chairman of the state Democratic Party, the Democratic National Committee, and was Jerry Brown's campaign co-chairman in 1974 and 1976. Besides a bevy of Hollywood and rock stars, the Manatt law firm has represented Playboy, Inc.; Eli Lilly, famous for its patent to produce LSD in the United States beginning in 1956; and Gulf & Western and its subsidiary Transnation, tied to organized crime figures Meyer Lansky and Sidney Korshak. Brown's 1982 campaign chairman Kantor handles the Occidental Petroleum account of the late Armand Hammer for the Manatt law firm.

Jerry Brown, well known for his access to "deep-pocket contributors, is a product of these circles. In the 1980s, Cornfeld was still holding fundraisers for Brown. Cornfeld used another front, Investors Overseas Services, to funnel \$7 million into the Study of Democratic Institutions, out of which evolved Tom Hayden's Campaign for Economic Democracy. Another of Brown's longtime fundraisers has been Sidney Korshak, Los Angeles labor lawyer and former representative of the Al Capone gang. Law enforcement sources consider Korshak as one of the top five underworld figures in the country. He is often cited as one of the most powerful figures in Los Angeles. Jerry Brown has publicly admitted his ties to Korshak and to Korshak's reputation as a "leading underworld figure." It was Korshak who arranged labor support for Jerry Brown's 1974 Democratic primary campaign for governor. As another principal in that campaign publicly stated, "We took a guy who was in a zero position and made him governor."