

# EXPOSE AND DEFEAT THIS REACTIONARY OFFENSIVE

David Horowitz has announced "Islamofascism Awareness Week" for October 22-26, to take place on campuses around the country. Horowitz has enlisted some of the most extreme, and dangerous, ideologues in a move to deepen the already serious chill in academia by bringing together an aggressive social base and unleashing it on what Horowitz calls the "tenured left." It seeks to unleash a pogromist and hate-filled atmosphere against Muslim students, equate dissent and critical thinking with treason, attack Women's Studies Departments, and build the US "will to fight" more wars of aggression in the Middle East, particularly against Iran. It hypocritically claims to oppose the oppression of women and gays under Islamic rule, while promoting Christian fundamentalists who want to outlaw not only abortion but birth control as well, and argue that homosexuality is a sin punishable by death and women should not work outside the home. "Islamofascism Awareness Week" cannot be allowed to go down unchallenged. It needs to be thoroughly exposed, repudiated and politically defeated. Go to [www.defendcriticalthinking.org](http://www.defendcriticalthinking.org) for analysis and resources for combatting Horowitz and his dangerous allies.



## Islamofascism Awareness Week: An Avalanche of Lies, Distortions, Bigotry and Hate.

• Horowitz claims that IFAW will confront the "Big Lie" that George Bush created the "war on terror:"

If Bush was just responding to 9/11, why did he target and invade a country that had nothing to do with it? Why did he lie about WMDs to justify that aggression and why is he now threatening another country, Iran, that also had nothing to do with 9/11? And for decades, the US and Israel have destroyed secular governments and forces in the Middle East and elsewhere, while actively supporting Islamic fundamentalist forces, as in Afghanistan. In Iran, the US overthrow of the elected government of Iran in 1953 and the decades of support for the brutal regime of the Shah contributed to the conditions which gave rise to Islamic fundamentalist rule there.

• "A major theme of the Week will be the oppression of women in Islam."

The speakers for IFAW include some of the strongest supporters of the Bush administration, whose policies have been catastrophic for women, both here and internationally. It's notable that the IFAW petition includes the demand for "The equality of dignity of women and men." Not *equality*, but the "equality of dignity" — a meaningless phrase which can be twisted to fit the most patriarchal of viewpoints.

• IFAW will feature sit-ins "designed to protest the ... silence of Women's Studies departments in the face of ... Islamic gynophobia:"

Women's Studies scholars have actually been at the forefront of supporting the rights of women (and gays and lesbians) under Islamic fundamentalism. Horowitz's problem with Women's Studies Departments is not their supposed "silence" but the simple fact that they exist. Part of his overall agenda is the elimination of Women's Studies, along with Ethnic Studies, Peace Studies, Social Justice, and other programs which arose out of the struggles of the 60s and 70s. And without Women's Studies departments and the feminist struggles which gave rise to them, people like Horowitz would not even be giving hypocritical lip-service to the oppression

of women anywhere.

• Horowitz says that IFAW only targets "Islamofascists," not "non-radical Muslims:"

IFAW is an explicit attempt to demonize and isolate Muslims in this country. Horowitz identifies the Muslim Student Association as a front organization of the Islamofascist jihad intent on world domination, and demands that they sign his petition or be branded as "the enemy." IFAW speakers like Gregory Davis say that "Islam and its faithful adherents are trying to undermine our secular governments with the ultimate aim of replacing them with Sharia. Terrorism is a means to this end as are Islamic proselytizing, fund-raising, lobbying, education, etc."

• IFAW's Petition demands "The right of all people to live free from violence, intimidation, and coercion:"

This, from people who are clamoring for war against Iran, who support Israel's policies of military occupation, targeted assassinations and collective punishment and who support a government which has slaughtered hundreds of thousands of Iraqi civilians, engaged in, advocated and legalized torture, and eliminated habeas corpus and other basic civil liberties?

• IFAW's Petition supports "The freedom of the individual conscience: to change religions or have no religion at all."

IFAW speakers include Christian fundamentalists who believe that anyone who does not share their literal interpretation of the Bible will go to hell.

• And from Horowitz's Frontpage.com

John Perazzo, who wrote "Why IFAW is Needed" for Horowitz's frontpage.com, also wrote "Black Racism and 'The Jena Six.'" He called the Jena 6 a "pack of thugs" and "raging predators," and says the real problem is "black racism, a disturbingly widespread phenomenon in contemporary America" — while the hanging of nooses from a "whites only" tree (in 2006!) is simply "a dumb (non-violent) prank by a bunch of teenage idiots."

## Some of the speakers for "Islamofascist Awareness Week." How DARE these people parade as anti-fascists?!

**David Horowitz**

"What about the debt blacks owe to America—to white America—for liberating them from slavery? This may not seem like a serious question to some, but that only reveals their ignorance of the history of slavery and its fate." "Guns don't kill black people, other blacks do."

**Rick Santorum**

"And if the Supreme Court says that you have the right to consensual [gay] sex within your home, then you have the right to bigamy, you have the right to polygamy, you have the right to incest, you have the right to adultery. You have the right to anything. Does that undermine the fabric of our society? I would argue yes, it does."

**Michael Ledeen**

"One can only hope that we turn the region into a cauldron, and faster, please. If ever there were a region that richly deserved being cauldronized, it is the Middle East today. If we wage the war effectively, we will bring down the terror regimes in Iraq, Iran, and Syria... That's our mission

in the war against terror."

**Ann Coulter**

"We should invade their countries, kill their leaders and convert them to Christianity. We weren't punctilious about locating and punishing only Hitler and his top officers. We carpet-bombed German cities; we killed civilians. That's war. And this is war."



## FORUM: "WHY WE NEED TO EXPOSE AND OPPOSE DAVID HOROWITZ AND ISLAMOFASCISM AWARENESS WEEK."

Tues, October 23, 1-4 pm  
6275 Bunche

With: Peter McClaren, Juan Gomez-Quinones, Larry Everest, & others TBA - plus a videotaped message from Noam Chomsky on the threat to academic freedom today.

THE NATIONAL PROJECT TO DEFEND DISSENT & CRITICAL THINKING IN ACADEMIA

Contact [resist.ifaw@yahoo.com](mailto:resist.ifaw@yahoo.com) for info on other activities opposing IFAW at UCLA and elsewhere.

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