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# KNOW YOUR ENEMY

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A People's Field Guide to  
Who's Actually Screwing You

## A NOTE TO THE READER

Your real enemies want you scared. They want you angry at the wrong people. They want you looking left while they pick your pocket from the right.

This booklet exists for one reason: to help you get your bearings. We live in a time of manufactured outrage, algorithmic panic, and industrial-strength propaganda. Every news cycle delivers a fresh villain - a migrant, a welfare queen, a foreign government, a protester, a MAGA voter - to occupy your attention while the people actually pulling the strings stay comfortably out of frame.

This is not a left-wing document. It is not a right-wing document. It is a document for people who can see that, in most cases, Team Red and Team Blue are two jerseys owned by the same owner, and who want something more honest than what either side is currently offering.

What follows is a plain-language guide to who is and who is not your enemy.

# THEY ARE NOT YOUR ENEMY

A lot of energy in this country gets spent hating people who have never hurt you, have no power over you, and are mostly just trying to survive — exactly like you. It's time to get straight on who you are wasting your time fighting.

1

## **Immigrants - documented or not.**

"Illegal alien" is a political weapon designed to make you see a human being as a legal category. People cross borders because they are fleeing poverty, violence, or collapse - much of it engineered by the same forces named later in this booklet.

2

## **Trans people and women who've had abortions.**

These are people making deeply personal decisions about their own bodies and lives. They are not recruiting you, not threatening you, and not responsible for any of the economic or political conditions bearing down on you, despite what paid television personalities may tell you. Trans people make up less than 1% of the population. While you are arguing about whether they use the "wrong" bathroom or what a woman did at a clinic, the people taking money out of your pocket are laughing all the way to their offshore bank accounts.

3

## **Poor and working-class conservatives.**

A coal miner in West Virginia and a fast-food worker in Detroit have more in common than either has with the billionaires funding their respective culture wars. Class solidarity is not a left-wing concept, and the billionaires are hoping you never figure that out.

## THEY ARE NOT YOUR ENEMY (continued)

4

### **MAGA voters.**

Millions of working-class people voted for Trump because they felt - correctly - that the system had abandoned them. Misdirected rage is still rage at something real. They are not your enemy; the forces that manipulated their rage are.

5

### **Progressive activists and left-leaning protesters.**

Dismissing everyone who marches as a "radical" or "snowflake" is the right-wing version of the same trick. People protesting war, poverty, or police violence are responding to real conditions. The things they're fighting for benefit you, too. Your current rights and protections were made possible by citizens who fought for them.

6

### **Palestinian civilians, including children.**

Whatever you have been told about Hamas, a baby in an incubator is not Hamas. A doctor is not Hamas. Aid workers are not Hamas. Collective punishment is a war crime, regardless of who commits it.

7

### **Anyone whose main offense is being poor, foreign, or non-white.**

Notice the pattern in who gets cast as the villain each election cycle. The scapegoat changes. The function - keeping your attention off the people in charge - stays exactly the same.

8

### **Mothers on public assistance.**

The "welfare queen" myth was invented by politicians to redirect your anger away from the corporations and tax loopholes that drain far more public money than any individual benefit check ever could.

## THESE ARE YOUR ENEMIES

Your enemies are not across an ocean. They are in boardrooms, on campaign donor lists, in congressional offices, and on your phone screen right now deciding what you are allowed to see.

1

### **Capitalists, fascists, billionaires, and anyone in the Epstein files.**

We are not talking about your neighbor's small business. We are talking about the class of people whose wealth has become indistinguishable from political power. When one individual can buy an election, a senator, or a newspaper, they are no longer a private citizen. They are a governing force without accountability.

2

### **The Military-Industrial Complex and its corporations.**

Raytheon, Lockheed Martin, Boeing, Northrop Grumman. These companies profit when there is war - not just any war, but perpetual war. Every ceasefire is a quarterly earnings threat. The Pentagon's budget grows regardless of which party controls Congress because both parties are funded by the same defense contractors.

3

### **Congress, the president, and most politicians of the two-party duopoly.**

Team Red and Team Blue - both the same team. When Republicans and Democrats vote together on military spending, surveillance expansion, and Wall Street bailouts, that is not bipartisanship. That is solidarity in service to the people writing them checks.

4

### **Mainstream media outlets that silence dissenters.**

CNN, Fox News, MSNBC, and the rest are not in the business of informing you. They are in the business of keeping you agitated and brand-loyal (to please their advertisers). They are also the propaganda arm of the political duopoly. Watch who gets de-platformed or smeared. That tells you where the truth is.

5

### **Tech Bros who shadow-ban dissenters and want to eliminate the working class.**

A handful of men now control the platforms where public discourse happens. They have stated plainly that they view labor as a problem to be automated away. They want a world without workers. What that world looks like for the rest of us is not their concern.

6

### **AI programs used for state violence.**

Artificial intelligence is being used to identify bombing targets in Gaza, Yemen, Somalia, and elsewhere. When a school or hospital is destroyed, the algorithm feels nothing. And that is just the foreign application. At home, AI technology, built and sold by companies like Palantir, whose contracts span military, ICE, local police departments and even healthcare, is being woven into everyday surveillance: cameras, phones, purchase histories, social media activity. The result is a detailed map of who you are, who you know, and what you think. That map will be used to manage you, and when the time comes, to silence you.

7

**The IDF and white supremacists of all persuasions, including political Zionists.**

The citizens of Israel have the right to exist. The state of Israel does not, and the Israeli government does not have the right to conduct ethnic cleansing, install apartheid infrastructure, or use starvation as a weapon of war against the residents of Gaza and neighboring countries. Those are international war crimes. White supremacy, whether it wears a hood, a suit, or a military uniform, is the same ideology in different clothes.

8

**AIPAC, the ADL, J Street, and their lobby arms.**

These organizations do not represent Jewish people broadly. They represent a political agenda, and they use enormous amounts of money to ensure U.S. politicians support that agenda regardless of what the voters want. That is not advocacy. That is purchasing political power.

9

**ICE and all armed agents of state terror doing the dirty work of the above.**

ICE operates in practice as a domestic paramilitary force - conducting raids, separating families, and disappearing people into detention with little legal oversight. They are the enforcement arm of a political project, not a law-enforcement agency in any meaningful civic sense.

## HOW THE CONFUSION IS MANUFACTURED

**The Scapegoat Mechanism.** Every empire in decline needs a scapegoat to absorb the anger that would otherwise target the people in charge. The scapegoat changes every few years. The function never does.

**The Spectacle of Outrage.** Cable news and social media are optimized for outrage, not information. An angry audience is an addicted audience, and an addicted audience sells advertising. You are not being informed. You are being harvested.

**The Illusion of Choice.** Every four years you choose between two candidates who are functionally identical on the issues that matter most to their donors. You pull a lever. The machine keeps running.

**The Criminalization of Dissent.** People who name the real enemies get called extremists, conspiracy theorists, or antisemites - regardless of accuracy. The goal is not to refute the argument but to end the conversation.

## WHAT THEY WANT YOU TO IGNORE

- Three Americans own more wealth than the bottom half of the population combined.
- The U.S. has spent more than eight trillion dollars on post-9/11 wars. No one has been held accountable. Defense contractor stock prices hit record highs.
- Social Security and Medicare are perennially "on the table" for cuts while the military budget is untouchable. The people making these decisions have guaranteed pensions.
- More Americans are working multiple jobs to afford rent than at any point in modern history. This is described in the press as "a tight labor market."
- U.S.-supplied weapons are being used against civilian populations in multiple countries, simultaneously, right now... including our own.
- Lobbying in the United States is legal bribery. Members of Congress who vote against a lobby's interests get well-funded primary challengers the next cycle.
- Dissenting voices - left, right, and independent - are systematically de-platformed or smeared. What remains is an information environment curated to prevent you from connecting the dots.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

Knowing your enemy is step one. Step two is refusing to be managed. This does not require a revolution before breakfast. It requires small, sustained refusals - the kind that, practiced by enough people, become impossible to ignore.

**Stop consuming outrage media.** Identify the sources that make you afraid or furious every day. Ask: who benefits from my fear? Turn them off. Find sources that make you think rather than react.

**Follow the money.** Every politician, outlet, and nonprofit has a donor list - often public. Find them. The money tells you whose interests are actually being served.

**Build local.** National politics is largely theater. City councils, school boards, water districts - this is where decisions affecting your life get made with almost no public scrutiny. Show up. Speak. Vote in the boring elections.

**Choose solidarity over scapegoating.** The next time you find yourself angry at someone from the first section of this booklet, pause. Ask whether they have any actual power over your life. Then ask who does - and why you are not angry at them instead.

**Talk to real people.** The current media environment is designed to make you feel surrounded by enemies. The antidote is conversation. Most people agree on more than they disagree when they are not being played against each other.

**Opt out where you can.** Reject platforms that shadow-ban. Spend money with businesses that don't fund the things you're against. These acts restore the sense that you have agency. Because you do.

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## A Final Word

The entities named in this booklet have spent billions of dollars, built entire media empires, and bought every branch of government for one purpose: to make sure you never figure out who is actually responsible for your circumstances. That investment tells you something: that it's too dangerous for us all to be on the same page with factual information.

Together, we have an incredible amount of power against our enemies. It's up to us to start using it.

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