

FANNING THE FLAMES

**How Big Tech, Wall Street, and
Right-Wing Media Corporations
Were Complicit in the
Christchurch Mosque Shootings
and Continue to Enable
Anti-Muslim Violence and Bigotry**

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OCTOBER 2019**



ABOUT CRESCENDO



Crescendo is focused on exposing the ways in which major corporations profit from, promote, or enable anti-Muslim bigotry and in running campaigns to take on these anti-Muslim corporations. Crescendo is a project of the Action Center on Race and the Economy. The Public Accountability Initiative is our research partner.



The Action Center on Race and the Economy (ACRE) is a campaign hub for organizations working at the intersection of racial justice and corporate accountability. We provide research and communications infrastructure and strategic support for organizations working on campaigns to win structural change by directly taking on the corporations that are responsible for pillaging communities of color, devastating working-class communities, and harming our environment.



Public Accountability Initiative (PAI) is a non-profit, non-partisan research and educational organization focused on corporate and government accountability. In addition to publishing research on critical public accountability issues, we maintain **LittleSis.org**, an involuntary facebook of powerful people and tool for power research that was used to compile data for this report.

Content Note: This report features quotes and descriptions of quotes that express hateful and violent views of Muslims, including those connected to white supremacist terrorist violence and genocide. We have opted to quarantine direct quotes in the appendix at the end of the report, but there are disturbing descriptions of the quotes in the body of the report. Additionally, this report does not print the names of any of the attackers or would-be attackers or provide links that lead to hateful quotes or platforms selling hateful materials so as not to give them further notoriety or additional attention.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



On March 15, 2019, a white supremacist walked into two different mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand and killed 50 Muslim worshippers and injured another 50. The gunman live-streamed the gruesome attacks on Facebook Live and prefaced the attacks with a 73-page manifesto he distributed immediately prior to the attacks. The manifesto was littered with white supremacist rhetoric from books such as *The Turner Diaries* (which is available on Amazon), anti-Muslim conspiracy theories, and neo-Nazi symbols, and it specifically cited Donald Trump as “a symbol of renewed white identity and common purpose.”

Trump’s policies and rhetoric, especially on Twitter, have been shown to lead to violence. Research shows that anti-Muslim hate crimes have skyrocketed since Trump started running for President in 2015, and “that the increase in hate crimes targeting Muslims... is almost exclusively driven by counties with high Twitter usage.” However, Trump is but one cog in a large international machine that includes public officials, think tanks, and major corporations with global reach in the tech, finance, and media sectors. This far reaching infrastructure reliably resources anti-Muslim individuals and groups to grow and thrive.

KEY FINDINGS

The Christchurch mosque shootings provide clear evidence that the rise of white nationalism and anti-Muslim bigotry in the United States has global consequences. In this report, we look at the role that Big Tech platforms, Wall Street firms, and right-wing media corporations have played in fanning the flames of white supremacy and anti-Muslim bigotry in the United States and abroad.

BIG TECH PLATFORMS

Big Tech platforms—like Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Amazon—provide spaces for white supremacists to spread their propaganda. Furthermore, their algorithms serve to push users farther to the right by recommending even more white supremacist and anti-Muslim content. In the case of the Christchurch shooting, the live-stream video of the mass murder was duplicated and circulated by other users on Facebook, Twitter, Reddit, and YouTube, which is owned by Google. These platforms did not take sufficient action to prevent the video from spreading. This is part of a larger pattern that these platforms have exhibited of putting profits before principle and enabling white supremacy and anti-Muslim bigotry in order to pad their bottom lines.

Facebook & Twitter: Facebook and Twitter have contributed greatly to the spread of anti-Muslim bigotry and violence by providing spaces for white supremacists to build community and plan violent attacks. These platforms have protected hate speech targeting Muslims and other people of color and worked with government and private actors to spread anti-Muslim and white supremacist propaganda.

YouTube: Google-owned YouTube plays a key role in exposing young people to white supremacist ideology and anti-Muslim propaganda. In particular, the ‘autoplay’ function of YouTube’s recommendation algorithm “promotes, recommends, and disseminates videos in a manner that appears to constantly up the stakes,” according to sociologist Zeynep Tufekci, who has studied YouTube. For example, searching for the word “refugees” on YouTube, leads users to the channels of prominent anti-Muslim influencers. This is a profit-driven mechanism since YouTube is owned by Google, which makes its money off advertising. The longer users stay on YouTube, the more money Google makes. Tufekci sums up the situation as: “YouTube leads viewers down a rabbit hole of extremism, while Google racks up the ad sales.”

Amazon: As with YouTube, Amazon’s recommendations algorithm also points customers who search for white supremacist books to even more white supremacist propaganda. The Christchurch killer’s manifesto shows that he was heavily influenced by the white supremacist terrorist group, The Order, which took its name from a novel called *The Turner Diaries*. Members of the group refer to the novel as their bible, and the novel has inspired more than a dozen separate hate crimes and terrorist plots. *The Turner Diaries* is readily available for purchase on Amazon. Furthermore, Amazon’s recommendations algorithm points customers who visit the book’s page to even more white supremacist and Nazi propaganda.

Online Fundraising: Finally, both Facebook and Amazon help fund hate groups. Facebook’s Fundraiser tool allows anti-Muslim groups like the Christian Action Network and Center for Security Policy to raise money from Facebook users. Through its AmazonSmile program, Amazon itself donates money to anti-Muslim organizations like the Middle East Forum and the Investigative Project on Terrorism.

WALL STREET FIRMS

Donor-Advised Funds: Wall Street firms also play an important role in mainstreaming and enabling anti-Muslim hate and violence by providing bad actors with the funds they need to function. Fidelity, Charles Schwab, Vanguard, and Goldman Sachs have allowed wealthy investors to anonymously donate millions of dollars to anti-Muslim hate groups through their donor-advised funds (DAFs).

Manhattan Institute: A group of hedge fund managers and other prominent business leaders are effectively endorsing anti-Muslim bigotry through their work with the Manhattan Institute, a right-wing think tank. Just hours after the Christchurch shooting, the Manhattan Institute’s magazine, the *City Journal*, published an article entitled “Don’t Exploit Christchurch,” denying that the attacks were motivated by white supremacy and contending that the killer’s obsession with Muslim immigration was a “legitimate concern.” This was just the latest in a long list of anti-Muslim articles that the *City Journal* has been publishing for more than 10 years. Even though the Manhattan Institute has ties to the far right, it is allowed to operate in the mainstream of New York’s politics, because its board members hail from prominent Wall Street firms like Elliott Management, Bluff

Point Associates, and Eagle Capital Management, and politically-connected organizations like the Partnership for New York City. By not publicly repudiating the Manhattan Institute, these Wall Street firms are tacitly endorsing its anti-Muslim views.

Investors in Gun Manufacturers: The Christchurch shooter reportedly used five guns for his attack, including a semi-automatic AR-15. Wall Street firms including BlackRock, JPMorgan Chase, Renaissance Technologies, and Wells Fargo financially prop up corporations like Remington and Smith & Wesson, which manufacture AR-15-style rifles. The firms that invest in and finance the operations of these gun manufacturers are complicit in all mass shootings, including the Christchurch attack. They knowingly invest hundreds of millions of dollars into an industry that makes its profits based on how many deadly weapons it can sell to civilians, even if those weapons are used in mosques full of people.


RIGHT-WING MEDIA

Big right-wing media corporations have helped legitimize anti-Muslim bigotry in mainstream political discourse. Corporations like News Corp, the Sinclair Broadcast Group, and iHeartMedia are purveyors of anti-Muslim propaganda across a range of media, including television, radio, and print.

NewsCorp: The biggest media culprit in spreading anti-Muslim bigotry is Rupert Murdoch's News Corp, the corporation that owns Fox News, the *New York Post*, and many other right-wing media outlets in the US and abroad. News Corp is even more influential in Australia, where Murdoch is originally from. *The Guardian* reports that News Corp outlets in Australia have served to demonize Muslims and normalize white nationalist talking points. This is important, because the Christchurch shooter is an Australian national who had recently moved to New Zealand. Following the shooting, News Corp's Sky News Australia aired footage from the shooter's livestream of the attacks, even though New Zealand authorities and Muslim community leaders had discouraged people from sharing the video out of concern that it could inspire copycat attacks.

Sinclair Broadcast Group: The Sinclair Broadcast Group plays a critical role in propagating anti-Muslim bigotry on local news broadcasts across the US. Through centrally controlled and scripted news segments with right-wing talking points, like its "Terrorism Desk Alert", Sinclair keeps viewers "constantly petrified of an impending terror attack by Muslims and refugees," according to a study by *Media Matters*.

iHeartMedia: iHeartMedia, which is the largest owner of radio stations in the country, provides a platform to known anti-Muslim talk show hosts like Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, and Glenn Beck. iHeartMedia chooses to give these anti-Muslim bigots precious airtime that allows them to spread their vitriol far and wide.



The Christchurch Mosque shootings provide clear evidence that the rise of white nationalism and anti-Muslim bigotry in the United States has global consequences.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Anti-Muslim bigotry is on the rise because corporations like Google, Fidelity, and News Corp have decided that they are okay with white supremacists spreading hateful ideologies as long as they can make a profit off it. These corporations' decision to monetize bigotry makes them complicit in the violence and hate crimes that occur as a result. Regardless of their intentions, Big Tech platforms, Wall Street firms, and right-wing media corporations each play a key part in the global white supremacist infrastructure and they need to be held accountable.

- ▶ Facebook, Twitter, Google, and Amazon need to root anti-Muslim bigotry and white supremacy out of their platforms.
- ▶ Wall Street firms need to stop providing capital, financing, and political cover to organizations and corporations that spread anti-Muslim hate and/or profit from anti-Muslim violence.
- ▶ Right-wing media outlets need to stop giving megaphones to known bigots.

These corporations must also make amends for their past actions and invest the profits they have made from propagating bigotry to the communities that have faced violence, discrimination, and harassment as a result of their actions. Furthermore, they must involve Muslim, Arab, South Asian, and Black communities in developing policies that will ensure that these injustices are not repeated in the future.

Corporations like Google, Fidelity, and News Corp are the unindicted co-conspirators of the Christchurch shooter. These corporations have made deliberate decisions to make money by fanning the flames of bigotry, hate, and violence. They are profiting off a global fascist movement built on bigotry and fear. They should be held accountable.

FANNING THE FLAMES

HOW BIG TECH, WALL STREET, AND RIGHT-WING MEDIA CORPORATIONS WERE COMPLICIT IN THE CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUE SHOOTINGS AND CONTINUE TO ENABLE ANTI-MUSLIM VIOLENCE AND BIGOTRY

On March 15, 2019, a white supremacist walked into two different mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand and started shooting. He killed 50 Muslims and injured another 50, and live-streamed the gruesome attacks on Facebook Live. He prefaced the attacks with a 73-page manifesto, titled “The Great Replacement”, which he emailed out to various public officials and media outlets immediately before he entered the first mosque. The manifesto was littered with white supremacist rhetoric, anti-immigrant conspiracy theories, and neo-Nazi symbols. In the manifesto, the shooter specifically cited Donald Trump as “a symbol of renewed white identity and common purpose.”

The election of Trump marked new heights for a burgeoning authoritarian, xenophobic worldwide movement that threatens peace, democracy, and human lives all over the globe. Trump joined the ranks of other authoritarian heads of state like Viktor Orbán in Hungary, Narendra Modi in India, Rodrigo Duterte in the Philippines that have built administrations based on fear, corruption, and xenophobic hate to make way for sweeping undemocratic policies that concentrate political power. Trump has focused specifically on anti-Muslim bigotry, calling for “a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States” during his campaign and enacting the first version of the Muslim ban during his first full week in office.¹ His strategies thus far have been mostly successful: according to the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), the number of hate groups in the United States grew by 30% over the past four years (since Trump started running for President), hitting a 20-year high in 2018.² As a result, anti-Muslim hate crimes in the United States have skyrocketed during his Presidency. In fact, researchers at the University of Warwick in the United Kingdom have found a direct correlation between Trump’s anti-Muslim tweets and spikes in hate crimes targeting Muslims.³

The Christchurch mosque shootings provide clear evidence that the rise of white nationalism and anti-Muslim bigotry in the United States has global consequences, and also that global xenophobia and anti-Muslim hate have already been precipitating everywhere because of both public and private actors. Just this year, in August 2019, *The Intercept* and *BuzzFeed News* reported that Facebook and Twitter had worked with Chinese state-owned media to spread propaganda that cast internment camps in which China’s Muslim Uyghur population is being locked up, tortured, and even killed in a positive light.⁴ While it is tempting to lay the blame squarely on Trump for emboldening white supremacists, he was but one cog in a much larger international machine that includes public officials, think tanks, and major corporations, and that existed for decades before Trump became President. Corporations with global reach in the tech, finance, and media sectors especially have reliably resourced anti-Muslim individuals and

groups both domestically and internationally and have created the infrastructure for anti-Muslim messages and bigotry to spread and thrive. In this paper, we look at the role that Big Tech platforms, Wall Street firms, and right-wing media corporations have played in fanning the flames of white supremacy and anti-Muslim bigotry in the United States and abroad.

BIG TECH PLATFORMS: PROVIDING SAFE SPACES FOR UNSAFE ACTORS

Tech platforms like Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Amazon have played a key role in fueling white nationalism and anti-Muslim bigotry. Not only do they provide spaces for white supremacists to spread their propaganda, but their algorithms can actually serve to push users farther to the right by recommending even more white supremacist and anti-Muslim content to them.

As mentioned above, the Christchurch shooter live-streamed the mass murder on Facebook Live. The video was then duplicated and circulated by other users on Twitter, Reddit, and YouTube, which is owned by Google. Not only were these platforms slow to remove the videos, but their search algorithms enabled them to spread further. For example, the *Washington Post* reports, “A search of keywords related to the event, such as ‘New Zealand,’ surfaced a long list of videos, many of which were lengthy and uncensored views of the massacre.” As a result, the videos of the massacre received more views than they otherwise would have.⁵ By helping publicize the videos, these platforms are directly responsible for spreading the shooter’s bigoted and violent message.


It is concerning that these tech platforms have not created strategies to eliminate anti-Muslim bigotry from their sites since they have demonstrated that they know how to work together and remove other forms of dangerous and/or undesirable content from their websites. In 2017, YouTube, Twitter, Facebook, and Microsoft acted in concert to develop algorithms and other artificial intelligence tools to remove ISIS videos and propaganda from their websites after facing widespread criticism for allowing their platforms to be used to help the terrorist group recruit members.⁶ Facebook and YouTube have also been successful at keeping child pornography and materials that violate copyright laws off their platforms.⁷ In Germany, where Nazi propaganda is illegal, they know how to keep it off their websites. However, they have been slower to address the threat of rising white supremacy in the United States, presumably because doing so will lead to a bigger customer backlash. This is part of a larger pattern that these platforms have exhibited of putting profits before principle and enabling white supremacy and anti-Muslim bigotry in order to pad their bottom lines.

FACEBOOK

Following the Christchurch shooting, the FBI arrested a white supremacist man in Upstate New York for lying about possessing a weapon. Over the course of its investigation, the FBI found that the man and his cousin had been using **Facebook** to discuss an attack on Muslims.⁸ His cousin had shared the Christchurch shooter’s video and manifesto with a white supremacist Facebook group they both belonged to and used Facebook to call for a reenactment of the Christchurch shooting in Baltimore. The cousins belonged to multiple white supremacist groups on Facebook.

Although Facebook has had a longstanding policy against allowing white supremacist content on its platform, it had specifically exempted white nationalist and white separatist content from this ban in the past. Despite an insistence from civil rights groups and historians that these categories were indistinguishable from white supremacy, Facebook had explicitly instructed its moderators to allow white nationalist and white separatist content.⁹ This is why the cousins were able to join white supremacist groups even though Facebook had theoretically banned them long ago. It was only after the Christchurch mosque shootings that Facebook reversed its decision and announced that it would ban white nationalist and white supremacist content as well.¹⁰

Instead of rooting out anti-Muslim content, *Channel 4 Dispatches*, a British documentary series, found that Facebook tends to give special protections to far-right content if it is posted by people or pages with a large number of followers. In the documentary, a Facebook moderator says that even though the Facebook page of the anti-Muslim hate group Britain First repeatedly violated Facebook's policies, it was not taken down because "they have a lot of followers so they're generating a lot of revenue for Facebook." Facebook eventually took down Britain First's page after its leaders were thrown in jail for anti-Muslim hate crimes.¹¹



The firms that invest in and finance the operations of these gun manufacturers are complicit in all mass shootings, including the Christchurch attack.

Similarly, following a terrorist attack in London in June 2017, Rep. Clay Higgins (R-LA) posted a photo of the attack to his Facebook page along with a comment that explicitly advocated for the murder of Muslims and for a ban on federal assistance to any country where Muslims reside (for the full quote, see Appendix).

Facebook refused to remove the post. Monika Bickert, who is the head of product policy and counterterrorism at Facebook, justified the decision by saying, "We really do want to give people room to share their political views, even when they are distasteful."¹² An expert who tracks hate groups at SPLC and has worked closely with tech platforms like Facebook has noted that Facebook was "particularly horrible about anti-Muslim material on the site... In other words, [Facebook was] very quick to rip down maybe a neo-Nazi account after Charlottesville. But if someone was bashing Muslims, that didn't seem to rise to the level of hate."¹³

Furthermore, Facebook announced in April 2019 that it was partnering with *The Daily Caller* on its controversial fact checking program, which theoretically is supposed to help stop the spread of fake news on the platform.¹⁴ This is particularly insidious because *The Daily Caller* is a right-wing website that is itself known for spreading fake news and propaganda. It has a history of publishing false or misleading information that is intended to stoke anti-Muslim bigotry. A 2017 Harvard University report about disinformation during the 2016 US Presidential campaign found that *The Daily Caller's* coverage of the election pushed the theme that "Hillary Clinton was seriously in hock to Muslim nations," and that Clinton's conduct therefore was "not merely questionable but criminal and treasonous."¹⁵

The Daily Caller has also run articles with titles like "Destigmatizing 'Islamophobia'" and "The Islamophobia Scam." The former argues that Islamophobic policies are needed to "safeguard

our fragile way of life” in the West,” that Islamophobic ideas are actually “more compassionate toward, and more beneficial to Muslims,” and that therefore it is time to “recognize the need to stop being politically correct.”¹⁶ The latter calls the word “Islamophobia” a “loathsome term” that is “nothing more than a thought-terminating cliché conceived in the bowels of Muslim think tanks for the purpose of beating down critics,” falsely claims that “[e]ven in the immediate aftermath of 9/11, there was virtually no violent backlash against Muslims in the US,” and calls Islam a “barbaric seventh-century ideology.”¹⁷

Finally, Facebook also helps hate groups fundraise through its Fundraiser tool.¹⁸ An investigation by *Mother Jones* in March 2019 found that “several” anti-Muslim organizations and “dozens of white supremacist and anti-LGBTQ organizations appear to have access to Facebook’s Fundraiser tool.” This includes anti-Muslim groups like the Christian Action Network and the Center for Security Policy.¹⁹

TWITTER

Arguably, no platform has played as significant a role in contributing to the rise of white supremacy as **Twitter**. Twitter has made a deliberate decision to help normalize anti-Muslim and anti-immigrant bigotry by willingly serving as Trump’s megaphone. Even though his tweets regularly violate its policy against hateful conduct, Twitter has rebuffed calls to deactivate Trump’s account. In fact, CEO Jack Dorsey refused to say whether he would remove Trump from Twitter, even if he “tweeted out asking each of his followers to murder one journalist.”²⁰

Trump has regularly taken to Twitter to make the case for the Muslim ban. In fact, the day that he first mentioned the idea of a Muslim ban on the campaign trail, he tweeted an article claiming that Muslims celebrated the September 11th attacks. He also retweeted a leader of Britain First three times in November 2017.²¹

In July 2019, Trump tweeted a racist screed telling four women of color in Congress, including the first two Muslim women ever elected to the chamber—Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN) and Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-MI)—to go back where they came from.²² In April 2019, Trump posted a video on Twitter that went back and forth between a speech by Omar and footage of the September 11th attacks.²³ Omar and Tlaib have both received death threats as a result.²⁴

These are not isolated cases. As mentioned above, researchers have documented a direct link between Trump’s anti-Muslim tweets and the rise of anti-Muslim hate crimes. The researchers wrote:

We show that the increase in hate crimes targeting Muslims begins with the start of Donald Trump’s presidential campaign and is almost exclusively driven by counties with high Twitter usage. The shift in anti-Muslim hate crimes does not seem to be driven by differences in local voting patterns, ethnic composition, economic performance, or general crime rates across counties.


Furthermore, they add, “anti-Muslim hate crimes have only become concentrated in areas with many Twitter users under Trump.” In other words, there was no correlation between the number of Twitter users and anti-Muslim hate crimes before Trump. They also found “a highly robust

time-series correlation between his tweets on Islam-related topics and the number of anti-Muslim hate crimes after his campaign start.”²⁵ This means that hate crimes against Muslims specifically go up when Trump tweets about Islam and Muslims. However, Dorsey still resists calls to ban Trump from Twitter or delete his tweets inciting violence or bigotry.

Twitter has been similarly reluctant to sanction other white supremacists. As mentioned above, the major social media platforms, including Twitter, have been fairly successful at eliminating ISIS-related content from their websites. However, they have failed to do the same with white supremacist content. *Motherboard* reported in April 2019 that when asked about this discrepancy at a staff meeting, a Twitter executive responded that the corporation has not taken the same aggressive approach toward white supremacists because its algorithms for white supremacist content would also flag posts by many Republican politicians.

Building on this point, J.M. Berger, a UK professor who has studied far-right movements in the United States, says that because “a very large number of white nationalists identify themselves as avid Trump supporters,” that “[c]racking down on white nationalists will therefore involve removing a lot of people who identify to a greater or lesser extent as Trump supporters...” Berger observes, “There’s going to be controversy here that we didn’t see with ISIS, because there are more white nationalists than there are ISIS supporters, and white nationalists are closer to the levers of political power in the US and Europe than ISIS ever was.”²⁶

Ultimately, by refusing to enforce its own code of conduct when it comes to Trump and other white supremacists, Twitter is choosing to spread their message of anti-Muslim violence and hate.



Corporations like Google, Fidelity, and News Corp have decided that they are okay with white supremacists spreading hateful ideologies as long as they can make a profit off it.

GOOGLE

YouTube, which is owned by Google, also plays a key role in spreading far-right ideology. Sociologist Zeynep Tufekci wrote in *the New York Times* that when she was watching videos of Trump’s campaign rallies in 2016 for an article she was working on, she noticed that “YouTube started to recommend and ‘autoplay’ videos for me that featured white supremacist rants, Holocaust denials, and other disturbing content.” She found a similar pattern as she started watching videos about other issues. Regardless of the subject of the video she first started watching, she found that YouTube’s recommendation algorithm “promotes, recommends, and disseminates videos in a manner that appears to constantly up the stakes.”

Tufekci noted that because YouTube is owned by **Google** and Google makes its money off advertising, “[t]he longer people stay on YouTube, the more money Google makes.” Furthermore, she wrote that YouTube’s recommendation algorithm “seems to have concluded that people

are drawn to content that is more extreme than what they started with—or to incendiary content in general.” She concluded, “YouTube leads viewers down a rabbit hole of extremism, while Google racks up the ad sales.”²⁷

This phenomenon has been well-documented, and far right and white supremacist YouTube influencers in particular have figured out how to exploit it. A 2018 report by *Data and Society*, called *Alternative Influence: Broadcasting the Reactionary Right on YouTube*, shows how a network of 65 political influencers, who together have millions of followers, game YouTube’s algorithms to “build audiences and ‘sell’ them far-right ideology.”²⁸ In fact, *the Daily Beast* has called YouTube “a readymade radicalization network for the far right.”²⁹

YouTube has been used to spread anti-Muslim bigotry. Researchers noted in a 2018 study that searching for “refugees” on YouTube brought up videos from anti-Muslim YouTube influencers.³⁰ The day after the Christchurch shootings, *the Huffington Post* reported that YouTube’s recommendations algorithm was still promoting anti-Muslim videos:

Just hours after the attack, a search for the term “Muslims” from an incognito browser yielded a list of YouTube’s top-recommended videos, including one with 3.7 million views. The video argued, without evidence, that the majority of Muslims are radicalized. From there, YouTube’s autoplay function took over and recommended another round of videos. One apparently exposes “the truth” about Muslims. Another “destroys Islam.”³¹

The Daily Beast interviewed a series of men who say they were led into far-right movements by watching YouTube videos at a young age but later renounced those views. One of the men described how watching a video of Bill Maher and Ben Affleck discussing Islam had brought up recommendations for “a more extreme video about Islam by Infowars employee and conspiracy theorist Paul Joseph Watson.” Once he found Watson’s YouTube channel, he was then able to discover other YouTube personalities who shared Watson’s far-right views. He said, “I think YouTube certainly played a role in my shift to the right because through the recommendations I got, it led to me to discover other content that was very much right of center, and this only got progressively worse over time, leading me to discover more sinister content.”³²

In June 2019, YouTube unveiled new policies banning white supremacist content and videos that distort or deny events like the Holocaust or the Sandy Hook shooting.³³ However, critics pointed out that even before the change, YouTube already had anti-hate and anti-harassment policies in place that it had failed to enforce, leading them to question how well it will enforce these new policies in the future.³⁴ Two months later, *BuzzFeed News* reported that although YouTube had removed the channel of a prominent white nationalist named Martin Sellner from its platform

Instead of rooting out anti-Muslim content, Facebook tends to give special protections to far-right content if it is posted by people or pages with a large number of followers.

following the implementation of the new policy, the corporation then reinstated the channel the same week, saying that the decision to move it was the “wrong call”.³⁵ Sellner had links to the Christchurch shooter. According to *BuzzFeed News*, “Before the massacre, Sellner had repeated contact with him and reportedly sent him a link to his YouTube channel.”³⁶

AMAZON

The Christchurch killer’s manifesto shows that he was heavily influenced by the white supremacist terrorist group, The Order. He wrote the number 14 on his gun, which is a reference to The Order’s 14-word slogan, “We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children.”³⁷ He also made several references to the idea of “white genocide,” a term that was coined by David Lane, a member of the group.³⁸ The Order took its name from a novel called *The Turner Diaries*, and members of the group refer to the novel as their “bible.” *The Turner Diaries* is readily available for purchase on [Amazon](#), with the sensationalist description:

This is the book which the FBI and the controlled media have been claiming hysterically is the “blueprint” for everything from the Oklahoma City bombing to the takeover of the US government by “White extremists.” It is the “Bible” of the “racist right,” they say. Certainly, it has received more media attention than any other book in print and is the book most hated and feared by the gun-control crowd. The Turner Diaries is the book proponents of “multiculturalism” and the New World Order have tried desperately to ban from bookstores, so that ordinary Americans won’t be able to read it. Too many things predicted in the book have been coming true, they believe, and they’re afraid that if more people read the book the rest of it also may come true. Actually, says the author, the book is merely a vehicle, in the form of an exciting novel about urban guerilla warfare and revolution, for his ideas about race and society. You’ll have to read it for yourself to see who’s right.

According to Professor J.M. Berger, the novel has inspired more than a dozen separate hate crimes and terrorist plots, including the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995, and it “demonstrated how to successfully leverage racial fears and resentments in the service of violence, without a call to specific ideology.” According to Berger, the novel focuses on “the necessity of immediate, violent action and concrete suggestions about how to go about it,” without explicitly invoking white supremacist ideology. As a result, it has helped broaden the appeal of white nationalism by making it palatable to “normal people” who find “flamboyant racism” distasteful.³⁹ According to *NPR’s Morning Edition*, “The fictional book is one of the most important texts of white extremist propaganda, and it will continue to be a useful recruiting tool.”⁴⁰

This book is just one of many white supremacist products that Amazon sells. The Action Center on Race and the Economy (ACRE) and the Partnership for Working Families released an in-depth report in 2017, called *Delivering Hate: How Amazon’s Platforms Are Used to Spread White Supremacy, Anti-Semitism, and Islamophobia and How Amazon Can Stop It*, that details how Amazon “provides a platform for openly racist writers, musicians, and activists, including some who advocate for violence against Black people, Muslims, Jewish people, and LGBTQ people.”⁴¹

Although the company promised to remove some of the offending products in response to the report, *NPR* found that many white supremacist products, “especially books by white supremacists,” remained on the website a month after the report came out.⁴²

As with YouTube, Amazon’s recommendations algorithm also points customers who search for white supremacist books to even more white supremacist propaganda that can further cement their bigotry. For example, the Amazon page for *The Turner Diaries* recommends multiple titles by Matthew Bracken, an anti-Muslim bigot who appeared on three different shows on Infowars--a right-wing, fake news, conspiracy theory website--the day after the Christchurch massacre to defend the shooter’s motivations and sympathize with his concerns. In 2015, Bracken wrote his own anti-Muslim manifesto, in which he likened Islam to a blight on otherwise healthy societies (for complete quote, see Appendix).⁴³

The *Turner Diaries* page also recommends the book *White Survival* by Stephen Christopher, another white supremacist. Clicking on *White Survival* brings up a recommendation for the *SS Leadership Guide: Translated from the Third Reich Original*. Clicking on that yields recommendations for more Nazi propaganda, including *Hitler’s Second Book: German Foreign Policy* and *The Program of the Party of Hitler: The National Socialist German Workers’ Party and Its General Conceptions*.

Not only does Amazon choose to make these titles available, but its algorithm affirmatively recommends even more white supremacist and Nazi propaganda to customers who search for them.

Furthermore, Amazon donates money to hate groups through its AmazonSmile program. Under the program, the company’s foundation donates “0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of [customers’] choice.”⁴⁴ AmazonSmile’s terms of agreement prohibit nonprofits that promote intolerance, discrimination, hate, terrorism, and violence.⁴⁵

However, anti-Muslim organizations like the Middle East Forum and the Investigative Project on Terrorism, are eligible for donations on AmazonSmile. A spokesperson for Amazon told *Mother Jones* in an emailed statement that the company consults with SPLC to determine whether an organization violates the terms of agreement.⁴⁶ However, SPLC’s website describes the Middle East Forum as a think tank that is “known for its academic approach to fomenting anti-Muslim sentiment,” and reported that the group and its anti-Muslim leader, Daniel Pipes, funded and organized a violent anti-Muslim rally in London in June 2018.⁴⁷ Furthermore, in 2011, SPLC also highlighted a report by the Center for American Progress that named the leaders of both the Middle East Forum and Investigative Project on Terrorism as among five key “misinformation experts” who “are primarily responsible for the dissemination of false facts and materials used by political leaders, grassroots groups, and the media to generate unreasonable fears about Muslims and Islam.”⁴⁸ Through the AmazonSmile program, Amazon is directly helping fund a key part of anti-Muslim infrastructure in the US.

WALL STREET FIRMS: GREASING THE WHEELS OF BIGOTRY

Along with Big Tech corporations, Wall Street firms like banks, hedge funds, private equity firms, and asset managers, provide critical financial infrastructure and political cover to organizations and corporations that peddle anti-Muslim bigotry. Whether through fundraising assistance, equity investments, debt financing, or sitting on their boards, these financial firms play an important role in mainstreaming and enabling anti-Muslim hate and violence by providing bad actors with the funds they need to function.

DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

Earlier this year, a series of investigations by *Sludge* revealed that Wall Street firms including **Fidelity**, **Charles Schwab**, **Vanguard**, and **Goldman Sachs** have funneled millions of dollars to anti-Muslim hate groups. The firms have done so through their donor-advised funds (DAFs), charitable giving vehicles that allow wealthy donors to make a private contribution, receive an immediate tax break, and then decide which organizations receive their money over a long period of time.⁴⁹

Sludge found that, from mid-2014 to 2017, Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund, Schwab Charitable Fund, and Vanguard Charitable gave nearly \$10 million combined to 34 groups that the SPLC designates as hate groups. Of those 34 hate groups, 12 were identified as anti-Muslim, to which the funds contributed about \$5 million from mid-2014 through 2017.⁵⁰ The recipients of their donations included some of the most powerful and effective anti-Muslim hate groups in the world, including the David Horowitz Freedom Center and the Center for Security Policy—the group that helped inspire Trump’s Muslim ban.⁵¹ Additionally, Vanguard, Schwab, and the Goldman Sachs Philanthropy Fund all contributed to the anti-Muslim hate group, the Clarion Project, over the same time period.⁵²

Because DAFs help individuals hide which nonprofits they are directing money to, it is impossible to know which donor (or donors) to the Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund directed their money to anti-Muslim hate groups. This means that DAFs effectively offer a solution for wealthy people who want to substantially resource anti-Muslim hate groups but don’t wish to be publicly identified as the bigots that they are. They can escape the shame and remain anonymous by routing their money through DAFs.



A Twitter executive said that the corporation has not taken an aggressive approach toward white supremacists because its algorithms for white supremacist content would also flag posts by many Republican politicians.

MANHATTAN INSTITUTE BOARD MEMBERS

As LittleSis previously highlighted, a handful of hedge fund managers and other prominent business leaders are effectively endorsing anti-Muslim bigotry through their work with the Manhattan Institute, a right-wing think tank.⁵³ Just a few hours after the Christchurch shooting, the Manhattan Institute's magazine, the *City Journal*, published an article entitled "Don't Exploit Christchurch." The article's author, Bruce Bawer, denies that the attacks were motivated by white supremacy and contends that the killer's obsession with Muslim immigration was a "legitimate concern." In fact, Bawer endorses the shooter's racist views and dehumanization of Muslims, stopping just shy of justifying the massacre:

[The killer's manifesto] is, at least in part, an expression of rage about the steady repopulation of Europe by believers in an alien ideology and practitioners of a radically foreign culture—a legitimate concern, though by no means a legitimate excuse for [his] actions.⁵⁴

Though his latest screed is especially shocking, the *City Journal* has been publishing Bawer's anti-Muslim pieces for more than 10 years.⁵⁵ The through line of Bawer's writing published by the Manhattan Institute has been the promotion of the same kind of white supremacist conspiracies—where Islam is described as an inherently violent religion and non-white immigrants are cast as an invading force bent on eradicating Europeans—that motivated the Christchurch mass murders.⁵⁶ Only the relative polish of Bawer's work for the mainstream conservative think tank distinguishes it from writings from the fascist fringe. In fact, Bawer's writings were cited as an inspiration by another anti-Muslim and immigration-obsessed mass killer who murdered 77 people in Norway in 2011.⁵⁷

While the Manhattan Institute does have ties to the far right—Breitbart and Cambridge Analytica investor Rebekah Mercer (whose father, major right-wing funder Robert Mercer, made his billions as the co-CEO of hedge fund **Renaissance Technologies**) sits on its board of trustees—it operates in the mainstream of New York's politics.⁵⁸ **Elliott Management** hedge fund billionaire Paul Singer is the board chair, as well as a member of the *City Journal* publication committee.⁵⁹ Other members of the board include Thomas McNerney, of private equity firm **Bluff Point Associates**,⁶⁰ and Ravenel Curry, of hedge fund **Eagle Capital Management**.⁶¹

Kathryn S. Wylde, President of the **Partnership for New York City**, is also on the board of trustees. The Partnership for New York City is the most powerful business group in New York City, representing major multinational corporations as well as a growing number of private equity firms and hedge funds. The organization's executive committee includes some of the most powerful men on Wall Street, including Stephen Schwarzman from the **Blackstone Group**, Leon Black from **Apollo Global Management**, Larry Fink from **BlackRock**, Jamie Dimon from **JPMorgan Chase**, David Solomon from **Goldman Sachs**, Henry Kravis from **KKR & Co.**, and hedge fund manager John Paulson of **Paulson & Co.**⁶²

Despite their ties to prominent financial institutions, Paul Singer, Kathryn Wylde, and other members of the Manhattan Institute's board have not publicly repudiated the *City Journal's* anti-Muslim writings. Their lack of public comment about this issue amounts to tacit approval of the *City Journal's* anti-Muslim content.

INVESTORS IN GUN MANUFACTURERS

Gun manufacturers are complicit in all mass shootings, including the Christchurch attack, because they manufacture and market deadly, military-style weapons, contribute to pro-gun politicians, and lobby to ensure gun control legislation fails.

Despite public pressure, these gun manufacturers will surely continue to do everything they can to sell as many weapons as possible. Because the gun manufacturers themselves will not choose to stop enabling racist mass-shootings like the Christchurch attack, banks, asset managers, and hedge funds should take action by refusing to invest in gun manufacturers. Currently, Wall Street firms including BlackRock, JPMorgan Chase, and Renaissance Technologies prop up these killer corporations.

The Christchurch shooter reportedly used five guns for his attack, including a semi-automatic AR-15.⁶³ Many gun manufacturers make AR-15-style rifles. Two popular lines of guns are Remington-owned Bushmaster's XM-15⁶⁴ (the weapon used in the Sandy Hook shooting)⁶⁵ and Smith & Wesson's M&P15.⁶⁶

Remington and Smith & Wesson both enjoy significant financial backing from key financial institutions, who in turn profit from the growth in sales of semi-automatic weapons to civilians. In 2007, Remington, one of the country's oldest and largest gun manufacturers, was purchased by private equity firm **Cerberus Capital Management**.⁶⁷ Remington filed for bankruptcy earlier this year; once it exits bankruptcy, its creditors, including **JPMorgan Chase's** asset management firm, will control the company.⁶⁸

Smith & Wesson is similarly backed by a slew of Wall Street firms that enable the company to continue manufacturing deadly weapons including the M&P15. Asset managers **BlackRock** and **Vanguard**, as well as hedge funds **Dimensional Fund Advisors** and **Renaissance Technologies** (where Robert Mercer made his billions), are the biggest shareholders in **Smith & Wesson's** holding company, **American Outdoor Brands Corporation** (AOBC). Together, these four firms own about 33% of AOBC, equal to a \$169 million stake.⁶⁹

Banks including **TD Bank** and **Wells Fargo** also play an integral role in ensuring Smith & Wesson can continue its deadly business. According to AOBC's most recent 10-K,⁷⁰ TD Bank, **BB&T**, **Regions Bank**, and Wells Fargo have a \$350 million line of credit with the Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation.⁷¹

All told, this consortium of some of the world's largest and most prolific banks have invested hundreds of million dollars into an industry that distributes profits according to how many deadly weapons it is able to sell to civilians, even if those weapons are used in mosques full of people.

RIGHT-WING MEDIA: GIVING BIGOTS A MEGAPHONE

Big right-wing media corporations have helped legitimize anti-Muslim bigotry in mainstream political discourse. Corporations like News Corp, the Sinclair Broadcast Group, and iHeartMedia are purveyors of anti-Muslim propaganda across a range of media, including television, radio, and print.

NEWS CORP

The biggest media culprit in spreading anti-Muslim bigotry is Rupert Murdoch's **News Corp**, the corporation that owns **Fox News**, the **New York Post**, and many other right-wing media outlets in the US and abroad.

Peddling conspiracy theories about creeping shariah and warmongering against Muslim countries is part and parcel of News Corp's business model in the US. In the weeks leading up to the Christchurch shooting, Fox News spent countless hours demonizing Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN), one of the first Muslim women elected to the US Congress. In April 2019, the *New York Post* ran a cover superimposing a quote by Rep. Omar that was taken out of context with a photo of the World Trade Center burning on September 11th, incorrectly suggesting that she was diminishing the significance of the 9/11 attacks.⁷²

However, News Corp is even more influential in Australia, where Murdoch is originally from. News Corp controls 70% of Australia's newspaper circulation and has played a major role in pushing Australian politics to the right.⁷³ In Australia, as in the US, News Corp outlets spread anti-Muslim propaganda, demonize Muslims, and provide platforms to anti-Muslim white supremacists like Milo Yiannopoulos. *The Guardian* reports that News Corp outlets in Australia have served to normalize white nationalist talking points, "echoed far-right myths about 'white genocide', and "explicitly raised the prospect of demographic replacement."⁷⁴

This is important, because the Christchurch shooter is an Australian national who had recently moved to New Zealand,⁷⁵ and these are the same types of conspiracy theories that he raised in his manifesto, titled "The Great Replacement". Following the shooting, News Corp's **Sky News Australia** aired footage from the shooter's livestream of the attacks, even though New Zealand authorities and Muslim community leaders had discouraged people from sharing the video out of concern that it could inspire copycat attacks.⁷⁶

SINCLAIR BROADCAST GROUP

If News Corp is the major purveyor of anti-Muslim news stories at the national level in the United States, then the **Sinclair Broadcast Group** is its local counterpart. Sinclair plays a critical role in propagating anti-Muslim bigotry on local news broadcasts across the US.⁷⁷ The media giant owns or operates 193 local television stations in 89 different media markets, making it the largest television station operator in the country. Its stations reach 39% of US households.⁷⁸ The company, which is unabashedly conservative and pro-Trump,⁷⁹ has been widely criticized for pushing centrally controlled and scripted news segments with right-wing talking points throughout its local news network.⁸⁰

One such segment is the “Terrorism Desk Alert”, which all local stations are required to run every day. The Terrorism Desk Alert regularly conflates Islam with terrorism.⁸¹ A study of the segment by *Media Matters*’ Pam Vogel found that, absent any actual acts of terrorism, it is used to keep viewers “constantly petrified of an impending terror attack by Muslims and refugees.” Vogel noted that the segment focuses overwhelmingly on terrorist attacks by people claiming to be Muslim and routinely ignores those by white nationalists and others on the far right. She summed up the Terrorism Desk Alert segments thusly:

*They’re a tool strategically designed to make people feel constantly scared -- and tuned in for more information -- in violation of all common logic or evidence. By stoking fear of imminent, physical danger, Sinclair’s Terrorism Alert Desk is pulling a psychological trick on viewers. After all, fear and right-wing politics are closely linked; all Sinclair has to do is keep the cycle going.*⁸²

iHEARTMEDIA

Right-wing talk radio is another critical source of anti-Muslim bigotry in the United States, and iHeartMedia is a key culprit. **iHeartMedia**, formerly known as Clear Channel, is the largest owner of radio stations in the country, with nearly 850 radio stations in 160 media markets. Additionally, **iHeartRadio**, the company’s streaming service, has 128 million registered users.⁸³ iHeartMedia’s radio stations and streaming service provide a platform to anti-Muslim talk show hosts like Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, and Glenn Beck.⁸⁴

Limbaugh has compared Muslims to the Ku Klux Klan.⁸⁵ He has likened them to “white supremacists [who] reorganized themselves and called themselves a religion”, invoking the term “Sharia law supremacists”.⁸⁶ Hannity has a history of using his show to spread anti-Muslim views and regularly invites guests⁸⁷ who conflate Muslims with terrorism. He routinely raises the specter of creeping shariah⁸⁸ in the United States, and has compared the Qur’an to Adolf Hitler’s *Mein Kampf*.⁸⁹ Beck’s 2015 book, *It IS About Islam* (which, incidentally is on sale at Amazon), has been called “300 pages of Islamophobia dressed up as scholarship.”⁹⁰

iHeartMedia chooses to give these anti-Muslim bigots precious airtime that allows them to spread their vitriol far and wide.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Anti-Muslim bigotry is on the rise because corporations like Google, Fidelity, and News Corp have decided that they are okay with white supremacists spreading hateful ideologies as long as they can make a profit off it. These corporations’ decision to monetize bigotry makes them complicit in the violence and hate crimes that occur as a result. Regardless of their intentions, Big Tech platforms, Wall Street firms, and right-wing media corporations each play a key part in the global white supremacist infrastructure.

They need to stop. Facebook, Twitter, Google, and Amazon need to root anti-Muslim bigotry and white supremacy out of their platforms. Banks, hedge funds, private equity firms, and asset managers need to stop providing capital and financing to hate groups. Right-wing media outlets need to stop giving megaphones to known bigots.

But they cannot stop there. It is not enough for these corporations to simply stop fanning the flames of anti-Muslim bigotry going forward. They must also make amends for their past actions and pay the profits they made from propagating bigotry to the communities that have faced violence, discrimination, and harassment as a result of their actions. Furthermore, they must involve Muslim, Arab, South Asian, and Black communities in developing policies that will ensure that these injustices are not repeated in the future.

BIG TECH PLATFORMS

Tech giants like Facebook, Twitter, Google/YouTube, and Amazon need to root anti-Muslim bigotry and white supremacy out of their platforms. They need to strengthen their anti-hate and anti-harassment policies and, just as importantly, actually enforce these policies. They also need to adjust their algorithms so that they do not actively direct users to hateful and bigoted content. Instead, they should work with communities that are directly impacted by anti-Muslim bigotry and white supremacy to develop resources that can counteract the effects of harmful content that does make it onto their platforms. Finally, they should give all the profits they have made from advertising revenue—and selling fees in the case of Amazon—from anti-Muslim and white supremacist content to organizations from communities that are most directly impacted by said bigotry that are dedicated to dismantling it.

WALL STREET FIRMS

Wall Street firms like Fidelity, Elliott Management, and JPMorgan Chase must stop providing financial infrastructure and political cover to organizations and corporations that peddle anti-Muslim bigotry and white supremacy.

Firms that run donor-advised funds should enact the Amalgamated Foundation's Hate Is Not Charitable policy to ensure their charitable resources do not go to hate groups going forward.⁹¹ Furthermore, they need to provide a complete accounting of all the money they have contributed to anti-Muslim hate groups thus far and their related profits and give an equal amount to organizations led by Muslim, Arab, South Asian, and Black communities that are dedicated to fighting anti-Muslim bigotry.

Elliott Management's Paul Singer, the Partnership for New York City's Kathryn Wylde, and other board members of the Manhattan Institute must take immediate action to ensure their resources are not used to propagate anti-Muslim bigotry. This means banning Bruce Bawer from the *City Journal*; removing his writings from the *City Journal* website; issuing a statement formally retracting his views, owning their mistake, and apologizing for their lapse in judgment; and inviting people from Muslim-led organizations working for justice to write about Islam and Muslims to counteract the harm that Bawer has done over the years. The firms and organizations to which the Manhattan Institute's board members belong should also release public statements apologizing to the Muslim community and condemning Bawer's views on Islam.

Financial firms like BlackRock and Vanguard that own shares of gun manufacturers should divest from those corporations and give their profits to organizations that are fighting for effective gun control laws. Creditors like TD Bank, BB&T, Regions Bank, and Wells Fargo that provide financing to Smith & Wesson should cut off that financing and also give their profits to gun control

organizations.⁹² Because Remington is currently in bankruptcy, its creditors play a particularly important role in deciding the future of the corporation. Creditors like JPMorgan Chase⁹³ should liquidate the corporation, cease operations, and give their profits to gun control organizations.

RIGHT-WING MEDIA CORPORATIONS

Right-wing media conglomerates like News Corp, the Sinclair Broadcast Group, and iHeartMedia are somewhat unique among the list of bad corporate actors in this report because, unlike Big Tech platforms and Wall Street firms, the corporations themselves are ideologically anti-Muslim. Their executives have no pretense of separating their personal political agendas from the policies and business practices of their corporations. While these corporations certainly *should* stop giving platforms to anti-Muslim and white supremacist personalities and content, work with communities most directly impacted by this bigotry to develop content and programming to counteract the past harm, and give a very large portion of their profits from the past several decades to the communities that have been harmed by their actions, we know they will not do any of these things. They have given us no reason to believe they disagree with the anti-Muslim and white supremacist views that they broadcast on the airwaves every day.

Instead, we call on all other corporations to stop advertising on these bigoted corporations' television and radio stations and online platforms. We call on television studios to refuse to run shows on their television channels. We call on record labels to pull their music from iHeartMedia's radio stations and for artists to refuse to play at their events. The only way to get these corporations to stop actively and willingly participating in spouting and spreading their hateful ideologies is to cut off their funding. Pressure from advertisers⁹⁴ forced Rush Limbaugh to (poorly) apologize for calling Georgetown Law School student Sandra Fluke a misogynistic slur after she argued before Congress that employer-sponsored health insurance plans should cover birth control.⁹⁵ Financial pressure can also force these corporations to change their behavior.

CONCLUSION

The Christchurch mosque shootings were made possible because of the role that major transnational corporations have played in enabling anti-Muslim bigotry and white supremacist ideologies. Corporations like Google, Fidelity, and News Corp are the unindicted co-conspirators of the Christchurch shooter. These corporations often couch their actions in ways that obfuscate their agency. Amazon claims it seeks to sell every type of product, including all books in print,⁹⁶ so its sales of books containing racist screeds is not tantamount to an endorsement of those views. Fidelity claims that it seeks to make its donor-advised funds available to "virtually any IRS-qualified public charity" regardless of ideology,⁹⁷ so it is not responsible for its donations to hate groups. These excuses are red herrings. These corporations have made deliberate decisions to make money by fanning the flames of bigotry, hate, and violence. They are profiting off a global fascist movement built on bigotry and fear. They should be held accountable.

APPENDIX

Full quote from Rep. Clay Higgins' Facebook page concerning the June 2017 attacks in London:

"... all of Christendom... is at war with Islamic horror. Not one penny of American treasure should be granted to any nation who harbors these heathen animals. Not a single radicalized Islamic suspect should be granted any measure of quarter. Their intended entry to the American homeland should be summarily denied. Every conceivable measure should be engaged to hunt them down. Hunt them, identify them, and kill them. Kill them all. For the sake of all that is good and righteous, kill them all."

Full quote from Matt Bracken about his perspective on Islam globally:

"[Islam is a] brushfire or ringworm infection [which is] dead and barren within the ring, but flares up where it parasitically feeds off the healthy non-Islamic societies around it."

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