Antifa and anti-Semitism

What distinguishes the left these days is its compulsion to forego dialogue and portray conservatism as inherently evil, while giving a pass to progressives who engage in violence, intimidation, and public vandalism.

by Matthew M. Hausman

The American media has been straining mightily to link Donald Trump to the "Alt-right" and to blame conservatives for increased anti-Semitism and social unrest. Nevertheless, the uptick in partisan violence and anti-Jewish rhetoric these days seems to come more from the left than the right. This is not to ignore the actions of neo-Nazis, Klansmen, and right-wing extremists; but they don't have sympathetic journalists portraying them as legitimate protesters or mainstream politicians rationalizing their conduct.

The Alt-right are also not instigating much of the conflict marring town squares and college campuses today. No, this is

most often the work of progressive activists and groups, like the Antifa movement, who engage in confrontation and seek to suppress speech. And the epidemic of campus anti-Semitism is largely attributable to liberal BDS advocates, leftist faculty stooges, and Islamists — not neo-Nazis or white supremacists, who unlike progressives don't have a symbiotic relationship with American academia.

One can disagree with President Trump or dislike him for any number of reasons, but he cannot reasonably be blamed for suppressing speech, encouraging political violence, or promoting anti-Semitism. These excesses today are more closely associated with leftists who justify radicalism with dubious victimhood narratives and benefit from media enablers who downplay their extremism. They are also empowered by the refusal of many Democrats to categorically condemn progressive intolerance…

CONTINUE   READING
AT