

The Shontel Shock: When anti-Israel Nina Turner lost to pro-Israel Shontel Brown in Ohio

by Hugh Fitzgerald



When anti-Israel Nina Turner lost to pro-Israel Shontel Brown in the Democratic primary for the 11th Congressional District in Ohio, Turner – who had recently been 35 points ahead in the polls – [Elder of Zion](#), August 5, 2021:

Antisemitism from members (or wannabe members) of Congress are getting more and more egregious, and American Jews need to wake up.

We've already discussed member of Congress Rashida Tlaib's

outrageous linking of Israel to “they” who profit off of racism in America. Somehow, Israel is responsible for racism in America, and the “same people” who are behind Palestinian lack of water are those who take away water from people of color in Detroit – the people behind the curtain: The Jews. The Jew “behind the curtain” meme is a variant of the antisemitic trope of the Jew as the secret puppet-master controlling the lives of their poor victims, who are – according to Tlaib – “us” vs. the rich, Jewish, capitalist “them.”

Nina Turner, who was defeated by Shontel Brown, does not specify where the “evil money” came from that led to her defeat, but everyone who has followed the race knows that Jewish donors supported Brown’s campaign, for a perfectly understandable reason: Brown is sympathetic to Israel, while Turner has consistently been hostile to the Jewish state. There is nothing “evil” about this; what did Nina Turner expect? That Jews would ignore her views? That they would not donate to a enthusiastically pro-Israel candidate? Is it “evil” to support those candidates whose views you agree with? I suspect that Turner was the recipient of money from pro-Palestinian groups. So what? And in fact, money was hardly the deciding factor, for if it had been, Turner would have won in a walk. She raised \$4.5 million, more than twice the \$2.1 million that Brown raised. Turner wants us to overlook that. She also wants us to forget that the mainstream of the Democratic Party endorsed or campaigned for Shontel Brown, including Hillary Clinton and, perhaps most effectively, James Clyburn, the African-American Congressman from South Carolina. For Turner it all comes down to “evil money” – “evil” because it came from Jews.

Somehow [in Turner’s venomous view] Jewish money is more effective at winning elections than gentile money. Not only that, but she is saying that campaign money from Jews is equivalent to accepting money from murderers or thieves, that

it is immoral for a campaign to allow funding from Jews who support a Jewish state.

Even though the President and the mainstream Democratic Party supported Brown, Turner blames Jews and their evil money for her defeat. It is hard to imagine a more antisemitic take.

But there was yet another politician, and member of Congress, who linked Jews to dirty money this week. Cori Bush gave a speech – on the floor of the House, no less – saying that Israel is somehow stealing money from poor people in St. Louis, repeatedly linking Israel with social problems in her district.

Bush and Turner are scapegoating Jews in the guise of “criticism of Israel” when their blaming Israel or Zionists for their own issues is as bogus as the age-old blaming of Jews for every other problem.

What did Cori Bush say in her speech in the House? She blamed Israel for the poverty in her community, and suggested that aid to Israel be redirected to uses here at home. [Jihad Watch](#).