

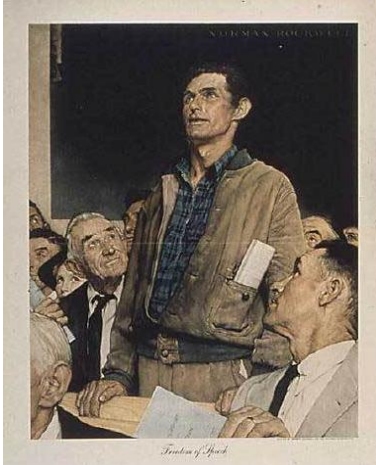
# **CHAOS AND ANARCHY!** **- WHY IS OBAMA SO COMFORTABLE WITH IT?**

Stephen L. Bakke  November 1, 2011

Do you suppose that Obama might actually ...? Stop! Before I go any further, let's take a closer look!

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## **Public Assembly and Debate – as American as Apple Pie!**



**Freedom of Speech**  
**Norman Rockwell - 1949**

I find the traditions of public assembly, demonstration and lively debate profoundly important. I applaud its recent prominence while discussing many important national issues. We saw that happen effectively with the “town hall meetings” of 2009, when the country was debating new and controversial legislation. And recently we have witnessed the “**O**ccupy **W**hatever and **W**herever” (**OWW**) events, first on Wall Street and then spreading across our country. Some say it has, or soon will, spread across the globe. I will hereafter take the liberty of referring to that movement as “**OWW**ch!”

OWWch! has formed at a time when there is much to be confused, concerned, and angry about. Those emotions are very predictable when the economy is staggering, unemployment is high, home foreclosures won't cease, congress is often deadlocked, and we are approaching highly contested national elections for congress and president. I guess it makes “some” sense in that context – but such confusion of the purpose for OWWch! ideas should not be confused with either the extra-orderly Tea Party actions in recent years, and certainly not reminiscent of our founders frustration as enumerated in their defining document, the Declaration of Independence.

Do you suppose that Obama might actually .....? No, I'm not ready to go there yet!

## **“Strange Bedfellows” (A concept introduced by Rock Hudson and Gina Lollobrigida in 1965)**

OWWch! has attracted “strange bedfellows” as endorsers and financial supporters. To name a few:

Communist Party USA  
American Nazi Party  
Michael Moore (a party all by himself)  
Communist China  
Democratic Cong. Campaign Committee  
National and local teachers' unions

Some local officials (e.g. Oakland mayor)  
Mainstream media on-air personalities  
Hollywood celebrities  
Socialist Party  
Labor unions including SEIU and Teamsters  
(Last but not least) **POTUS** - BARACK OBAMA

I could continue, but will stop there. I know you “git my drift.”

POTUS even stated that had Dr. Martin Luther King been alive today, he would join in supporting OWWch! **I won't besmirch the ideals and reputation of Dr. King by adding him to the list.**

Do you suppose that Obama might actually .....? Hmmmmmmmmm!

### **Obama in the Mix?**

For some reason, the Obama administration has jumped onto the coattails of the OWWch! movement. He sees this group of directionless citizens as a new and growing voter base, and is trying to "play the outsider," as Charles Krauthammer observed. He is declaring himself the underdog and trying to find whatever villains he can. And he clearly is denouncing the Washington system – hoping, somehow, the electorate won't remember he has been in control of that system for almost three years. Obama has been denouncing the system with one breath, while with another breath declaring "all our choices have been the right ones," and declaring his presidency as one of the most productive of all time.

I once wrote about this president's affinity for "having it both ways" regarding the ongoing jobs debate: "Obama wants to make a proposal (which he knows is inferior – but the best he can do) that won't pass. He can then point an accusing finger at his opponents – it's their fault for not passing his plan. He thinks he will escape scrutiny." **He wants his cake and eat it too!**

Should we be surprised at Obama's apparent affection for all things chaotic?

Do you suppose that Obama might actually .....? Hmmmmmmm! Well, just maybe!

### **Is OWWch! a Philosophically Unified Group?**

By no means does OWWch! seem to be a unified group. Pulitzer Prize winning Paul Greenberg expressed a great characterization of the philosophical uniformity of OWWch! He wrote:

*What is it, exactly, that they're protesting? The answer is the same as that of Marlon Brando's character in "The Wild Ones," a movie made in 1953. He plays the leader of a gang of bikers who set out to take over a small town for no particular reason, like any other rebels without a cause. When a local asks him what he's rebelling against, all he can say is: "Whatcha got?"*

Next, consider to comments made by Arnold Ahlert:

*The trouble with the OWS movement is that it's centered around two concepts, both of which are abject lies. First and foremost, it doesn't represent ninety-nine percent of anything, no matter how many times the protesters themselves, their enablers, or a corrupt mainstream media repeats the slogan. Second, there is nothing inherently virtuous about being poor or middle class, any more than there is anything inherently evil about being wealthy.*

Economist Dr. Walter E. Williams opined about the movement's real motives:

*The Occupy Wall Street protesters are following the path predicted by the great philosopher-economist Frederic Bastiat, who said in "The Law" that "instead of rooting out the injustices found in society, they make these injustices general." In other words,*

*“the protesters don’t want to end crony capitalism, with its handouts and government favoritism; they want to participate in it.”*

Try to find a common theme in the protest. You can’t. This is at least a plausible explanation.

And one more time - Do you suppose that Obama might actually .....? By gosh! and By golly! I think I “figur’d” it out!

**Obama Used to Teach This Stuff! And He Used to Lead Groups Like OWWch!  
That’s Why He’s So Comfortable With Chaos and Anarchy?  
OWWch! Hit His “Sweet Spot”!  
And He Taught Them How to Create a Villain!**

Nothing happens in a vacuum, and there is very little in politics and governance that is innocently spontaneous. After graduating from Columbia, Obama went to work in 1985 for the “Developing Communities Project,” an activist group built on the Alinsky model and using Alinsky tactics. He spent years teaching the Alinsky method in workshops. One of Obama’s apparent early mentors in the “Alinsky Method” was Mike Kruglik who had this to say in an interview with “The New Republic”: “He was a natural, the undisputed master of agitation ...”

A letter credibly attributed to Saul Alinsky’s son David reads in part: “Obama learned his lesson well. I am proud to see that my father’s model for organizing is being applied successfully beyond local community organizing to affect the Democratic campaign in 2008.”

Obama was quoted by his wife as having spoken about “the world as it is” and “the world as it should be ...” Those words are right out of Saul Alinsky’s last book on “Rules.”

There is certainly a significant, not just coincidental, connection between Barack Obama and Saul Alinsky. Think for a moment about the administration’s demonization of all who disagree with their policies, and then think about these protests and “occupations.” Then read some concepts which come right from **the Alinsky Method which Obama taught for a number of years**. Here are just a few – **lifted entirely from Saul Alinsky’s book on “Rules for Radicals”** which I found mesmerizing (and frightening)! It was written to provide instruction and guidance to community organizers, like Barack Obama was only a few years ago. **Do you recognize any philosophical or procedural similarity to Obama, or perhaps even the OWWch! crowd?**

- **Create a villain!** Ridicule is man’s most potent weapon, sez Alinsky.
- **Create a villain!** Olinsky says to pick the target, freeze it, personalize it, and polarize it.
- **Create a villain!** Manipulate otherwise “partners” into adversarial positions. Use the “Haves” against other “Haves” on some issues. **(Do you recognize any class conflict in this statement? – Alinsky, was all about class conflict!)**
- **Create a villain!** Alinsky taught: “Before men can act, an issue must be polarized. Men will act when they are convinced that their cause is 100 per cent on the side of the angels and that the opposition are 100 per cent on the side of the devil ... **[The community organizer] knows that all ideas arise from conflict.**”
- **Create a villain!** Some contend that Obama and his followers use fear and demagoguery in their rhetoric while describing their opponents. Does Obama have a basis for employing this tactic? Consider what Alinsky taught: “If [the community organizer] begins with a denunciation of exploiting employers, slum landlords, police shakedowns, gouging

merchants, he is inside their experience and they accept him ... **Love and faith are not common companions. More commonly power and fear consort with faith.**"

- **Create chaos!** Alinsky wrote: **"The first step in community organization is community disorganization ... In the beginning the organizer's first job is to create the issues or problems ..."**
- **Create conflict and anarchy - and of course villains!** Obama's implored his supporters to argue and "get in the face" of critics. Alinsky taught: "Change means movement. Movement means friction ... abrasive friction of conflict ... **The organizer's job ... [is] to agitate, introduce ideas, get people pregnant with hope and a desire for change ... The organizer dedicated to organizing the life of a particular community must first rub raw the resentments of the people ... fan the latent hostilities ... stir up dissatisfaction ..."**
- **Create confusion!** The OWWch! folks don't seem to know what they want. One of Alinsky's premises was that one of the realities is that **"in the beginning of an organization is, often, that the people do not know what they want."**

**Obama taught this stuff, "for criminy sakes"!** The answer was right there all along! This is what he used to do for a living! **If Obama wasn't the president, he might still be organizing some of these chaotic, anarchic, confusing, and directionless movements and "occupations."**

**Obama is totally comfortable with this group and vocally supports them!** They have taken up **his** cause, and **his** (and Alinsky's) methods, whether they know it or not. OWWch has "villainized" the "system," Wall Street, big business, banks, insurance companies, employers - and the list goes on and on.

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**Next up: Some thoughts on an inherent conflict - i.e. Obama vs. me and many others - OR, collectivism vs. individualism.**