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Welcome to a Special Edition of Uncommon Sense.

This issue focuses on The Twitter Files, one of the most disturbing and consequential revelations in modern times.

One reason why this issue of Uncommon Sense is coming out so late in the month is because I was waiting for another installment of The Twitter Files, and then another. There have been nine installments thus far, and I will summarize them in a rather lengthy piece below.

In fact, because of the length of my analysis, I am not going to include a Self-Development column, nor will I include a From Ara's Journal column, though I did include The World of Words column.

Let me know what you think of my analysis. I would love to hear from you.

OK, let's get started.

Ara Norwood



**Self-Development**

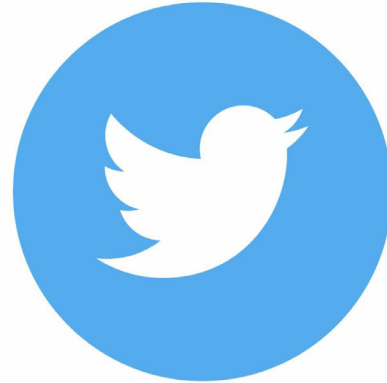
NO COLUMN THIS ISSUE

# The Elephant in the Room

## The Twitter Files

There is a war going on right before our eyes for the soul of America.

As of this moment, that war has not involved conventional weapons of bullets, bombs, or missiles. The war has been ideological, with one side using government coercion and technology to suppress the expression of ideas – an unconstitutional violation of the First Amendment which guarantees the freedom of expression.



The clash of ideologies concerns Leftists (who see themselves as Secular Progressives) aggressively curtailing the expression of thought held by Conservative Patriots.

Leftism, which is a contagion of the soul, has seeped into almost every crevice of America, including the Mainstream Media, Big Tech, Big Business, the U.S. Armed Services, the Legal System, Sports, our Educational Institutions from kindergarten through graduate schools, and even many of our religious institutions. The poison of Leftism is now systemic.

Thus, it was not particularly surprising when **Elon Musk** courageously and audaciously threw down the gauntlet and exposed the nature of the corruption by having various independent journalists publish The Twitter Files – a collection of informational revelations that demonstrate the extent of the corruption in this war of ideas. As of this writing, there have been 9 separate installments.

### **Who are the culprits?**

**Jim Baker:** Former FBI General Counsel who was deeply involved in pushing the now discredited Russia Collusion hoax, then hired by Twitter as Deputy General Counsel. He secretly vetted the first batch of Twitter Files without Musk's knowledge, probably excising the

documents from content that would incriminate himself. Musk fired him immediately upon discovering this.

**Yoel Roth**, Twitter's Trust and Safety Chief, who frequently colluded with the FBI and the DNI on a weekly basis and flagged tweets for Twitter to censor. Between January 2020 and November 2022, there were over 150 emails exchanged between Mr. Roth and the FBI, most of which discussed the need to crush conservative voices and censor conservative accounts. But over time, even Roth started to feel undue pressure from the FBI to "share data outside of the normal search warrant process."

**Vijaya Gadde**, Head Legal Chief, urged that Twitter ban Trump permanently because she believed Trump's tweets *could* possibly incite violence.

**Stacia Cardille**, a Twitter executive frequently contacted by the FBI to banish as many conservative accounts as could be identified, on the grounds that if it is a conservative account, it is automatically providing misleading information.

**Jack Dorsey**, former CEO of Twitter who testified before Congress under oath that Twitter did not engage in shadow-banning Conservatives. This was perjury.

### **Here is what we know so far:**

Woke Left-wing social justice warriors who happen to be employed by the FBI met regularly with Twitter (and also with other social media companies such as Facebook and Google). These FBI renegades had a common enemy with their social media cousins: America. The determination had been made to throw the 2020 Presidential Election by doing whatever they could possibly do to ensure that **Donald Trump** was never re-elected. Thus, the FBI and the social media companies colluded together to ensure that bombshell stories such as the **Hunter Biden** laptop got buried. They did this by claiming the laptop belonging to Hunter Biden was not authentic but was, in actuality, Russian Disinformation – a theme and variation of the Russia-Collusion hoax from the 2016 election. Twitter was colluding with all sorts of government agencies, including the FBI, and the DHS, as well as with the CIA. Some Twitter employees openly expressed concern over whether it was safe for the public to know about these partnerships. Twitter censors wanted to keep it a secret from the public.

## The Twitter Files:

**Installment #1:** Twitter was ordered by the FBI to bury the Hunter Biden laptop story shortly before the 2020 Presidential Election, for no other reason than the story would hurt **Joe Biden's** chances of winning the election. Twitter complied, and in doing so, enabled the Federal Government to violate the First Amendment as well as to tamper with an election, since 17% of Biden voters in 7 swing states would not have voted for Biden had they known about the censored story. Conservatives who attempted to share the Hunter Biden laptop story were simply locked out of their Twitter accounts. All of this also proves that when more than 50 Senior Intelligence Officials signed a letter on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020, that discredited the Hunter Biden Laptop bombshell as nothing more than Russian Disinformation, those 50+ officials (which included former CIA Directors **John Brennan** and **Leon Panetta**) openly lied to the American people. In that letter, they wrote: "If we are right," they added, "this is Russia trying to influence how Americans vote in this election, and we believe strongly that Americans need to be aware of this." Actually, if I am right, and I am, this was radicalized Leftists trying to influence how Americans voted in the 2020 election. And it worked. The Leftists threw the election in Joe Biden's favor.

**Installment #2:** Demonstrated that Twitter deliberately shadow-banned the views of prominent conservatives, such as **Dan Bongino**, **Charlie Kirk**, as well as a prominent Stanford University scientist/physician **Dr. Jay Bhattacharya**, whose views on Covid-19 ran contrary to the prevailing propaganda espoused by **Dr. Anthony Fauci** and others. The Left doesn't debate; they cancel. So Dr. Bhattacharya was denied his First Amendment rights also. The idea here was to rob conservatives of their ability to voice their views. The FBI, which is a government agency, violated the U.S. Constitution by directing a private company to squelch conservative voices. (Of course, now that this has become public, the FBI is busy doing damage control, claiming they never ever told Twitter to do anything; they merely suggested to Twitter that certain accounts [owned by Conservatives] *could possibly* be problematic). These revelations demonstrated that former Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey lied to Congress when he testified under oath that Twitter did not shadow-ban conservatives. Furthermore, it was revealed that Twitter personnel knew that the conservative group called Libs of TikTok were not in violation of their "hateful conduct" policy, yet still proceeded to punish them as if they were in violation of it.

**Installments #3-5:** Demonstrated Twitter had it in for Donald Trump. They simply did not want him to have any sort of a platform. So they banned him – permanently. Not just due to the January 6<sup>th</sup> issues, but due to his very existence. This was done in spite of the fact that several Twitter staffers who are responsible for enforcing policies admitted that Trump’s tweets did not actually violate its rules. But they banned him anyways.

**Installment #6:** Demonstrated the FBI relentlessly sought to exercise influence over Twitter, including over its content, its users, and its data.

**Installment #7:** Demonstrated the FBI attempted to discredit factual, provable information on the Hunter Biden Laptop story. Specifically, the FBI directly contacted executives at various news companies and social media companies and tried to discredit leaked information about the Hunter Biden laptop story both before and after it was published.

**Installment #8:** Demonstrated the Twitter platform was used to directly assist the U.S. Military’s influence operations.

**Installment #9:** Another bombshell report, showing that coordination and collusion between Twitter and the Federal Government did not stop with the FBI. It went way beyond that one law enforcement agency, spilling over into even the CIA, the State Department, the DNI (the Office of the Director of National Intelligence), and the Pentagon. Twitter was being inundated by so many vast tentacles of the Federal Government in their efforts to censor conservative ideas, that Twitter started to lose track of who was asking them to do which kind of censorship. Even state governments and local police departments go in on the act to try to kill conservative thought from being expressed.

### **How did the die-hard Leftists respond to all of this?**

They mocked it. They pretended it meant nothing.

**Tom Nichols**, a staff writer for the radicalized Left-wing rag The Atlantic, claimed it was nothing more than “Musk siding with the conspiracy kooks.”

Left-wing pundit **Wajahat Ali** attacked **Matt Taibbi** directly for having agreed to work for Elon Musk (whom Ali insists, without a shred of evidence, is basically a Nazi) in producing the first batch of

the Twitter files, and accusing Taibbi of "selling" his soul to the billionaire. Ali wrote, "Matt Taibbi...what sad, disgraceful downfall. I swear, kids, he did good work back in the day. Should be a cautionary tale for everyone. Selling your soul for the richest white nationalist on Earth. Well, he'll eat well for the rest of his life I guess. But is it worth it?"

MSNBC host **Mehdi Hasan** completely ignored the content of Taibbi's revelations, opting instead for a personal attack on Taibbi: "Imagine volunteering to do online PR work for the world's richest man on a Friday night, in service of nakedly and cynically right-wing narratives, and then pretending you're speaking truth to power." He went on, using the Nazi card: "Oh, and doing it at the end of the same week that richest man alive unbanned a bunch of neo-Nazis on this website. But sure, the laptop! The laptop! The laptop!"

And demonstrating a marvelous inability to think clearly, Left-wing journalist **Molly Jong-Fast** attempted to attack some of the specifics, most notably Musk's claim that Twitter censored the Hunter Biden laptop story "under orders from the government." Jong-Fast replied, "You know Trump was president in 2020 so how is candidate Biden the government?" Such shallow, simplistic thinking (to the degree it can be called "thinking") is normative for the Left. Jong-Fast is not aptly named: she should be known as "Jong-Slow, very slow" for she imagines that if Trump is President in 2020, the Biden team is incapable of reaching out to Twitter and trying to manipulate the news, as if the cell phones of Biden team members do not function properly while Trump is in the White House.

Music producer **Leonidas Raisini** snorted: "Not sure what exactly you [Musk] are trying to achieve with these 2 years [SIC] old stories. Are you that desperate for engagement or are you trying to win friends with the Republicans? Either way you can't run for President."

**Michael Harriot**, another radicalized Leftist, dismissed it as follows: "Matt Taibbi and Elon Musk rummaged through millions of emails & Slack messages from pre-Musk Twitter & all they found was employees deliberating & consulting w/each other about how to fairly apply & enforce rules. But I get it.. To a rich white man, that seems very oppressive."

The always unhinged **Keith Olbermann** vied for more Left-wing censorship: "It's time for Senate hearings into what scheme @elonmusk is up to, what terrorist or foreign influence is involved,

and what can be done to remove this public medium from his malign control."

The uninformed and incompetent Democratic Congressman from California, **Ted Lieu**, called the bombshell revelations "gaslighting" – all the while he himself was guilty of gaslighting. He went on to claim the Twitter Files cherry-pick examples, as if that claim, even if true, somehow invalidates the damning evidence against Twitter and the Federal Government. Lieu doesn't provide any examples of his allegations. He merely makes unfounded assertions. Earlier, he sounded like a high school sophomore bully, when he wrote as follows: "Dear @elonmusk: I'm in the government and I order you to stop posting stupid sh\*t. See why your post is wrong?"

**Rick Wilson** of the thoroughly discredited Lincoln Project, mocked with this bit a snark: "Perhaps when we get to The Twitter Files Part 57371 something here will match the breathless MAGA fauxrage."

**Edward Norton**, a B-Rated actor who was invited on the C-Rated TV gabfest called The View, opined that by releasing the Twitter files, Musk and his colleagues have shown themselves to be "idiots and frauds."

Mother Jones DC Bureau Chief **David Corn** obfuscated with this drivel: "@elonmusk seems to be on the side of election deniers and appears to believe their conspiracy theories are more important than Trump's actual efforts to overturn an election & his incitement of insurrectionist violence. Bad news he's in charge of an important civic platform."

And the Occupy Democrats Twitter account stated this peculiar curiosity: "Elon's version of 'civilization' is a dystopia ruled by the whims of the super-rich in which the trans community is regularly targeted, demeaned, and attacked for the entertainment of the far-right." (What any of this has to do with the Trans community is anybody's guess. It is safe to say that the Occupy Democrats folks are obsessed with Transgender matters and that that is all they think about. Thus, if the economy tanks, it's an anti-Trans event. If Covid spreads, that is proof positive that anti-Trans forces are at work. And if China attacks Taiwan, that is also a manifestation that the "far right" is out to get Trans people.)

Jumping on the same weird bandwagon, self-proclaimed fascism-fighter **Kristofer Goldsmith** said "Elon Musk is very deliberately cultivating an extreme far-right audience, and very specifically an

anti-trans audience, creating a 'trans panic.'" Again, not quite sure what any of the Twitter Files has to do with Trans matters, but whatever.

And turning to the mainstream media, how did the Big 3 Network Television News stations handle the Twitter Files? Well, after the first installment was leaked, the Big 3 networks devoted almost no coverage of any kind, with CBS devoting about 30 seconds and ABC and NBC going absolutely silent. Even after the sixth installment of the Twitter Files was released, the Big 3 Networks only covered the fact that Musk temporarily suspended the accounts of several journalists who had doxed Musk and given the real-time coordinates of Musk's private jet. That was considered newsworthy, but not anything involving the actual content of the Twitter files. This points to ongoing collusion of Big Tech with the Mainstream Media and the Federal Government.

### **What can we learn from all of this?**

Perhaps the biggest take-away is that the FBI, the CIA, the Department of Homeland Security, along with the Pre-Musk Twitter, and the current Google, Apple, and Facebook, as well as the Mainstream Media and our entire educational system from Kindergarten through Graduate School have no qualms about violating the First Amendment rights to freedom of speech and freedom of expression so long as it happens at the expense of Conservatives. They are unconcerned with that. In fact, they are gleeful. While the Left often pretends to be concerned with the demise of Democracy itself, in fact, they are thrilled to have Democracy shattered so long as it happens to Conservatives.

The FBI responded to these damning revelations by claiming what Twitter was doing under Musk was "misinformation." However, **Bari Weiss**, the Founder of The Free Press who disseminated Twitter Files Installment #2, made a public statement that she would be happy to debate the FBI on that claim, anytime, anywhere. The FBI has not agreed to participate in such a debate.

*The Washington Post* and MSNBC have attempted to discredit the Twitter Files altogether by labeling Bari Weiss and Matt Taibbi, the releasers of the Twitter Files, as "conservative" or "right-leaning." Yet the claim is an outright fabrication, as it is well known that both Weiss and Taibbi have liberal backgrounds.



As one astute observer stated re. the mainstream media's turning a blind eye to the corruption involved: "This muted response is yet another indication that the mainstream media are not genuinely interested in the flow of actual news, but instead are interested in the political shaping of the public sphere." And another commentator stated it beautifully: "In another era, this would be the kind of story that would excite the entire journalism world. Now they're part of the elite censorship collusion racket themselves, along with government forces, the intel agencies, and tech companies."

Perhaps the most telling of all was Jack Dorsey, in the face of the incontrovertible evidence of systemic corruption throughout Twitter, and systemic collusion between Twitter and government agencies to squelch conservative thought, said "I continue to believe there was no ill intent or hidden agendas, and everyone acted according to the best information we had at the time."

When someone says such a thing in the face of mounting evidence to the contrary, and sounds as if he means it, we realize that the Left is simply not redeemable, nor susceptible to facts, reality, or truth.

\* \* \* \* \*

And that, my friends, is the latest elephant in the room.

## From Ara's Journal

NO COLUMN THIS ISSUE

## The World of Words

### Stratified

#### **Building Your Power of Expression**

**Stratified**, adj.

**Pronunciation:** strədəfīd

**Meaning:** When something is stratified, think of it as being layered. The word *strata* means layered, as in stratified limestone, or



stratified ocean layers. I like to use the term in ways other than referring to nature, preferring instead to apply it to social systems.

**Usage:**

- *Theirs is a stratified society in which political power and influence still lay in the hands of the landed class.*
- *What they mean when they say such things is that they believe in having socially stratified cities.*
- *In reaching this conclusion, we admit we have stratified patients into well-defined risk groups.*

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