

Project 2025 The Road Map to Fascism Proposed by the Heritage Foundation and Sanctioned by leadership in the Republican Party

I deeply appreciate you taking out the time from the demands of your day to join with the Marsh Creek Dems in discussing Project 2025 and its sibling Project 47 both of which have now been conflated into the 180-day Transition Playbook. It is imperative that we retain our rights to assemble and that is why I asked if a call to discuss this road map to fascism could be added to the ever-growing tasks of the Marsh Creek Dems.

As part of the work connected to Old School+New School=Mo'Betta School, a project I launched earlier this year I come to you as a deeply concerned at times on the brink of terrified citizen, not a policy wonk or someone who has a full grasp on the scope of the machinations of 21st century politics. But I can smell fascism miles away having lived through the McCarthy Era, studied history starting in the fourth grade in a segregated public school in Washington, DC, throughout college and continuing to be a reader of it. Even though I was only eleven at the time, I remember my parents talking about a friend of theirs who lost his law license because he was accused of being a communist. Roy Cohn, a prosecutor during what was called the Red Scare, became Donald Trump's mentor. People whispered a lot and the fear of those times was palpable.

I also was raised by working class parents who subscribed to four newspapers when we were growing up, kept a set of Funk and Wagnall Encyclopedias on the one small bookcase we had in our home and discussed historical milestones at the dinner table. My father worked as a private butler in embassies, private clubs and homes of the elite. As a Black invisible man, he knew a war was going to launch before the news even printed in the Washington Post. As my mother sorted and responded to correspondence in the Passport Division of the State Department, she too saw dimensions of history some of which still

remain unspoken. Both my parents were discreet about what they overheard and witnessed at their jobs but pointed us towards what we needed to learn in order to navigate our futures.

The train of thought and cartography for this project is not new and was mapped during the Reagan Era. While the project itself is mired in messiness and disarray, this blueprint for eviscerating democracy must be taken seriously for ourselves, and even more critically for our children, grandchildren and those yet to become.

The project continued to evolve pretty much under the public radar while thriving in the select enclaves of the Republican party until actress Taraji P. Henson was adamant with her audience at the 2024 BET Awards Ceremony that they must read and understand it. Her outcry went viral and in less than 24 hours millions of people across the country (and some around the world) began hosting forums, discussing it in beauty shops, analyzing it on college campuses and taking to social media to bring attention to how this playbook will affect their lives. This also reflects upon how social media really can matter especially to the new school generations.

Unprecedented in its scale, the effort to turn the country into a Christo Nationalist state is fueled by the non-profit think tank Heritage Foundation. According to IRS regulations tax-exempt organizations under IRS Code 501(c)(3) are prohibited from participating in politics, including but not limited to endorsing or supporting a specific presidential campaign. People across the country have reported them to the IRS. But 2025 continues to forge ahead dismissing the law as they certainly will continue doing so if this project is ever implemented.

I remain mystified as to why the Republicans made this meticulously detailed document public. Now people know in pretty clear detail that the Department of Education will be abolished, certain aspects of Social Security challenged and the Affordable Care Act criticized especially the

law's expansion of medicaid, veteran's benefits whittled to the bone, and even the and the overall structure of the Federal government decapitated. It also proposes cancelling the National Hurricane Center and abolishing tenure as well as Black/African American, ethnic and gender studies programs in colleges and universities. Those proposing these policies and plans include Richard Hanania who writes for white supremacist sites, primary architect of the plan Kevin Roberts who maintains close ties to the radical Catholic group Opus Dei and while not a primary contributor, Vice Presidential candidate Jim Vance has written a violent foreword to previous director's Kevin Roberts forthcoming book Dawn's Early Light. But people like historian and author Heather Cox Richardson have provided in depth and clarifying analysis of the project and its impact on everyday citizens. The ACLU and various other organizations have come to the table to provide detailed analysis and recommendations for what people can do, for if this plan is actualized undoing it would be next to impossible short of a full scale daunting to launch revolution. People will have a difficult time understanding why they won't follow the law. Having stacked the Supreme Court and courts across the country, as well as gerrymandering and upending voting rights, their absolute control of every aspect of American life will be cemented. The Heritage Foundation has gone so far as produce 14 hours of training videos for staff and the 50,000 people they plan to install in positions currently held by civil servants.

Comprised of more than 900 pages, with elements of it inspired by the Manhattan Project, and some sections written in the most dehumanizing language imaginable, I selected three areas for the focus of this discussion. With people much more well-versed in policies and the overall matters related to this project, I hope you will contribute your thinking to this discussion. After the convening, I'll provide links that can further enlighten people about the project as well as proposals for challenging what is being called the second American Revolution.

While most of what I've highlighted focuses on Education, Health Care and Climate change, I thought it important to note some of the other

policy areas and programs that will be impacted. I also want to ensure there is time for Q&A in hopes that there are people in the room who are much well versed in specific policies than I am.

It is imperative that people must understand that when these American grown fascists set the agenda, they do so in ways that will interpret the Constitution to fit their agenda and kick existing laws and policies to the curb that don't sync with their Christo-Nationalist practices. There will be no room for compromise and absolutely no tolerance for dissent. Some will slit their own throats, for they will have to disavow other Christian practices that don't align with Christian Nationalism. The ability to vote will either disappear or be so tightly controlled that the ruling party will stay in power. Choices will be relegated to their agenda and even simple things that we once considered everyday freedoms will all but disappear. Also, the word public may well vanish, along with the kind of entertainment that comes through our screens. The range of disciplines in the academy, some of which are already disappearing, will be burned out of existence including programs like gender, ethnic and African American studies.

It will be absolutely devastating for immigrants who fled dictatorships in Iran, Afghanistan, Cameroon and the almost forty more countries to settle in the United States and practice their culture, religions and exercise their right to vote. States including Louisiana and Oklahoma are required to teach the Bible and Ten Commandments in their classrooms. The current political climate fueled by duplicity is rife with opportunities created to make this happen from the bombastic hate drive rhetoric of MAGA to the inability of Congress to work across the aisle, a tactic that increased under the Trump administration. The project includes a training academy.

While the entire Project is terrifying, I selected a couple of areas for focus that will impact Old School and New School generations. As those are brought to the table, I think it is imperative that we think about

strategies for challenging this project immediately with strategy involving reporting the Heritage Foundation to the IRS.

I think questions need to be posed to policy makers, legal scholars and community organizers to propose ways to challenge what the Heritage Foundation is proposing. Most importantly, people must understand what it means to vote your rights away and how difficult it is to reclaim them. While litigation will be key, the republicans have figured out how to tie the legal system up in knots and stack it with litigators and justices who figure how strategies for stalling or derailing legal decisions long enough for plans to fall into place.

“Americans don’t understand just how far down the road to a dystopic, right-wing theocracy we are right now,” said Rep. Jared Huffman (D-Calif.), who is spearheading the effort. “And that, for me at least, is the priority: making sure people know it, and making sure we’re ready to confront it.” The Accountable US and Center for American Progress are coordinating efforts with the Democratic Task to get their message out and I encourage you to follow them.

They may well rue the day they laid out project 2025 in such great detail for it really may prove to be a huge tactical mistake on their part. While 2025 and Project 47 are cousins (the plan laid out by the former president), the architects of 2025 are much more detailed in what their plans are and the implementation of them, down to the training of personnel to take seats in jobs created to displace potentially millions of current employees on day one of the fascist administration. The architects of this plan to destroy Democracy include Ken Cuchenelli, Russell Vought a controversial former member of Trump’s team and potential chief of staff if he “wins” again is marshalling the troops for the takeover.

For Gen Z the most pressing issues Climate Change, Education, Immigration, Justice, LGBTQ+ and Gender, Marriage and Families, National Defense & Veterans, Political Institutions, Health, Racial Equity, Reproductive Rights. Under the constraints of time today, I'd like to focus on Education and Health Care, understanding that all of the designated areas are critical in the now and the future.

Many Gen Z Americans, born 1995 or later, are students – but they are also educators, advocates for educational equity, and parents of school age children. Project 2025 threatens the future of equitable access to education, by proposing to eliminate the Department of Education, remove protections for transgender students, and abandon the Head Start Program for early childhood education.

According to Project 2025, an incoming conservative administration would:

- Eliminate the Head Start program, restricting access to affordable pre-Kindergarten education
- Aim to eliminate the Department of Education
- Advocate for the Secretary of Education to “insist that the department serve parents and American ideals, not advocates whose message is that children can choose their own sex, that America is “systemically racist,” that math itself is racist, and that Martin Luther King, Jr.’s ideal of a colorblind society should be rejected in favor of reinstating a color-conscious society” (page 286)
- Not allow a public education employee or contractor to use a name to address a student other than the name listed on a student’s birth certificate or a pronoun in addressing a student that is different from that student’s biological sex, without the written permission of a student’s parents or guardians

Climate Change

Within the Department of Energy, offices dedicated to clean energy research and implementation would be eliminated, and energy efficiency guidelines and requirements for household appliances would be scrapped. The environmental oversight capacities of the Department of the Interior and the Environmental Protection Agency would be curbed significantly or eliminated altogether, preventing these agencies from tracking methane emissions, managing environmental pollutants and chemicals, and conducting climate change research.

Health Care

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Gen Z not only lost opportunities to attend social events like proms and homecomings – but also jobs, loved ones, and countless opportunities. With more than [one million](#) American lives lost to COVID, Gen Z understands the stakes a future epidemic could bring. Instead of ensuring that our country is best prepared for any future crises, Project 2025 advocates for stripping funding for public health at home and abroad and discredits the CDC.

According to Project 2025, an incoming conservative administration would:

- end blind support for international organizations, including withdrawing or terminating funding for the United Nations Human Rights Council, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, and the WHO
- *project 2025 does not call to “end” the Affordable Care Act or eliminate its protections for people with pre-existing conditions.* The document does criticize the Affordable Care Act, especially the law’s expansion of Medicaid, but makes clear it is advocating changes to the law rather than terminating the law entirely.

- Asserts that the CDC is It is not qualified to offer (and usually does not purport to offer) professional medical opinions applicable to specific patients’
- Investigate, expose, and remediate any instances in which HHS violated people’s rights by “Colluding with Big Tech to censor dissenting opinions during COVID” or “Colluding with abortion advocates and LGBT advocates to violate conscience-protection laws and the Hyde Amendment” (page 489)

In the wake of *Dobbs*, Americans’ access to reproductive healthcare is threatened, with House Republicans [supporting](#) a National Abortion Ban and some conservatives [suggesting](#) the death penalty is an appropriate penalty for abortion patients. Gen Z faces a daunting reproductive healthcare landscape – one foreign to the generations before us that lived under *Roe*. Project 2025 warns that the *Dobbs* decision was “only the beginning” (page 6).

According to Project 2025, an incoming conservative administration will:

- Affirm that abortion is not healthcare.
- Reverse approval of chemical abortion drugs
- Restrict access to abortion pills to just 49 days gestation
- Prohibit abortion travel funding
- Affirm that Congress should pass the Protecting Life and Taxpayers Act, which would accomplish the goal of defunding abortion providers such as Planned Parenthood
- Withdraw Medicaid funds for states that require abortion insurance
- Audit Hyde Amendment compliance
- Undo Obama contraceptive mandate and eliminate the week-after-pill from the contraceptive mandate as a potential abortifacient

- overhaul of the Department of Justice and FBI, the former of which it labels "a bloated bureaucracy" with employees "who are infatuated with the perpetuation of a radical liberal agenda."
- Implement **Schedule F**, a Trump-era executive order that the Biden administration repealed that would allow the reclassification — and potential replacement — of thousands of government workers.
- Eliminate the Department of Education.
- Shut down the EPA's Office of **Environmental Justice** and **External Civil Rights**.
- Impose wide restrictions on abortion access, including reversing federal approval of the abortion pill mifepristone.
- Allocate funding for “construction of additional border wall systems.”
- Ban pornography and imprison anyone who produces or distributes it.
- Promote "Sabbath Rest" by encouraging Congress to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act to require people who work these days to be paid time and a half.
- Have the federal government promote “biblically based, social science reinforced” heterosexual marriages.
- Call on the new Health and Human Services secretary to “reverse the Biden Administration’s focus on 'LGBTQ+ equity'" and “subsidizing single-motherhood.”
- Remove sexual orientation, gender identity, diversity, equity, inclusion and gender equality from any federal rule, regulation or legislation.
- **Revive Trump's plan** to open most of the National Petroleum Reserve of Alaska to leasing and development.
- Founded in 1973, The Heritage Foundation came into prominence. Since then, the group has been ranked by the University of Pennsylvania as **one of the most influential** public policy

organizations in the U.S. Heritage also advised the administrations of [George W. Bush](#) and [Trump](#).

- Project 2025 is not officially affiliated with Trump's campaign — or any other — although the name Trump is mentioned over 300 times throughout the document. In November, Axios reported that [Heritage officials told the outlet](#) they had briefed all the Republican campaigns running at the time — Trump, Ron DeSantis, and Nikki Haley.
- Trump's own policy agenda is called "[Agenda47](#)," given the next president will be the nation's 47th. The former president has said publicly he does not know who's behind Project 2025.
- However, numerous people involved in Project 2025 worked in the Trump administration or have helped with Trump's reelection campaign. Dans, the former Heritage Foundation director, was chief of staff at the Office of Personnel Management under Trump. Associate directors Spencer Chretien and Troup Hemenway worked for the Trump administration as well.
- Of the 34 authors and two editors listed on the project, at least 25 have served Trump in some capacity, several in senior positions in his presidential administration.
- In an [April podcast interview](#), John McEntee, a senior advisor on the project and former Trump official, said, "We're gonna integrate a lot of our work" with the Trump campaign.
- [The Washington Post](#) also reported that LaCivita allegedly warned people involved with Project 2025 that they would be barred from working for the Trump administration, should he win the election.
- Trump's campaign website does not explicitly endorse Project 2025 either and instead points to [Agenda47](#) for policy stances. There is some overlap in ideas between Project 2025 and Trump's campaign — both include some variation of shutting down the Department of Education, cracking down on gender-affirming

care, ending subsidies for electric vehicles, and continuing to build the wall on the U.S.-Mexico border.

- **Has JD Vance said anything about Project 2025?**
- **What do critics say about Project 2025?**
- Critics have called it "**a real threat to democracy**," "**a far-right assault on America**" and a "**dystopian plot**." Institutions such as Georgetown University have called elements like the cuts to Medicaid "**draconian**." Sasha Buchert, the director of the Non-Binary and Transgender Rights Project, described the language as "**dehumanizing**." Immigration advocacy groups **have called it** "an authoritarian, often illegal, agenda that would rip apart nearly every aspect of American life."
- Many Democrats have pushed back against it, including Biden, who said it "should scare every single American." Some conservatives have even gone public with their concerns. Robert Shea, who was a senior official under former president George W. Bush, **said Schedule F would** create "an army of suck-ups."
- **What do supporters say about Project 2025?**
- Roberts, who wrote the Project 2025 forward, says the current political system is stacked against Republicans and Project 2025 will work to "free the next Republican president."
- "The point is to hasten the hiring of aligned personnel and hasten the implementation of conservative policy," Roberts **told the New York Times** in January. "That includes hastening the overturning, via executive order, of what we believe are wrong policies of the current administration."
- Conservatives outside of the organization have also offered their support. Sen. Mike Lee **called** Project 2025 a blueprint to "return power back to the states and the American people." Mollie Hemingway, the editor-in-chief of the conservative site The Federalist, **described it as** "a sweeping plan to end the weaponization of the government against Americans."

- **Why is Project 2025 getting so much attention right**

Paul Dans, recently stepped down as the director of the HF. Kevin Roberts

The project now has over 100 partner organizations, seven of which the Southern Poverty Law Center identified as hate or extremists groups.

Project 2025 partners employ over 200 former Trump administration officials.^[81] [CNN](#) found that at least 140 people who worked in the Trump administration had a hand in Project 2025, including more than half of the people listed as authors, editors and contributors.^[82] [Vox](#) estimates that nearly two-thirds of the authors and editors served in the Trump administration.^[83] As of July 13, 2024, there is no evidence that Trump was personally involved in drafting or approving the plan.^[83] Six of his cabinet secretaries are authors or contributors, and about 20 pages are credited to his first deputy chief of staff.^[82] It developed a reputation in conservative circles as the institutional home for Trump's young and loyal coterie of personnel staffers. How does all of this translate at our dinner tables in the privacy of our bedrooms and the policies of our health care? Educating our children? How does religion cure cancer, conduct surgery

The project expands presidential authority and reconstructs the federal government into something unrecognizable. Project 2025 proposes to turn up to 50,000 career civil servant jobs into politically appointed positions. And mind my word, the architects of this document have stated that there are things they will release for they know they are more terrifying than what stated in the document. Think concentration camps people and their candidate has publicly stated that he would implement public hangings, so the horrors beyond our imaginations are on their table.

The arts will be desecrated if this comes to fruition and museums and other cultural platforms turned into holy ghost requiems.

Please check your voter registration status

Have a sitdown with one or as many young people as you can and let them know how this will impact their lives, especially their social media and how important it is for them to register to vote and then vote.

Although it remains vague on artificial intelligence, it's going after big tech for "colluding" with the government to attack American values. So social media will be tightly controlled and probably in the hands of very few people.

In June 2024, House Democrats launched a task force to stop Project 2025's recommendations from becoming reality. But given how the Supreme Court rolls will legal efforts even fend off the gains already made to overturn Democracy and seize the Constitution and all related foundational documents and laws?

Now really focus on Project 2025-30 the Harris Walz Project

Q&A