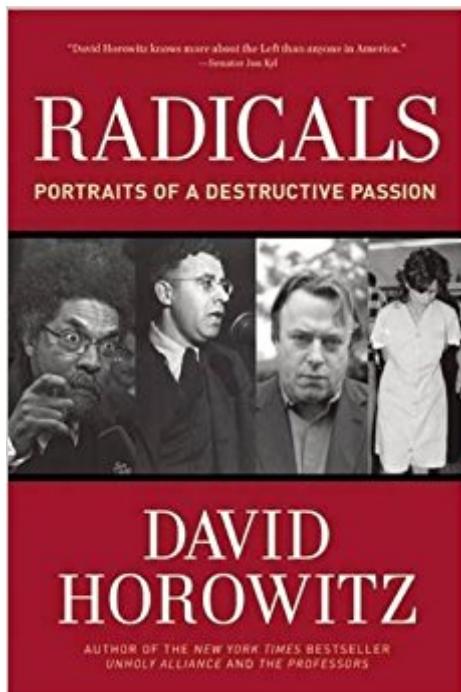


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# Radicals: Portraits Of A Destructive Passion



## Synopsis

Radical liberals want to make America a better place, but their utopian social engineering leads, ironically, to greater human suffering. So argues David Horowitz, bestselling author in his newest book *Radicals: Portraits of a Destructive Passion*. From Karl Marx to Barack Obama, Horowitz shows how the idealistic impulse to make the world "a better place" gives birth to the twin cultural pathologies of cynicism and nihilism, and is the chief source of human suffering. A former liberal himself, Horowitz recounts his own brushes with radicalism and offers unparalleled insight into the disjointed ideology of liberal elites through case studies of well-known radical leftists, including Christopher Hitchens, feminist Bettina Aptheker, leftist academic Cornel West, and more. Exploring the origin and evolution of radical liberals and their progressive ideology, *Radicals* illustrates how liberalism is not only intellectually crippling for its adherents, but devastating to society.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

It is an irony of our human condition, writes David Horowitz, that the efforts by progressive radicals to make the world "a better place" have also been the chief source of human suffering from the beginning of time. Bestselling author David Horowitz, once a radical himself, has now written *Radicals: Portraits of a Destructive Passion*, his ultimate reflection on radicalism and its inevitably tragic consequences, focusing his analysis not on abstract ideology but on the people who have embraced it. Among those profiled in *Radicals*: The witty and brilliant, if self-destructive,

Christopher Hitchens, a friend who had second thoughts but couldn't break with his radical faithBettina Aptheker, whose troubled life illustrates the totalitarian dimensions of radical feminismCornel West, a celebrity academic whose preposterous success is a reflection on the moral and intellectual bankruptcy of the liberal cultureSaul Alinsky, the radical mentor of the most successful leftist politicians of our time, from Hillary Clinton to Barack ObamaIncisive in its critique, and alternatively moving and devastating in its portraits of leading radicals, Horowitz's book lays bare the roots of radicalism, how it is abetted by liberalism, and how liberals have utterly failed to learn from its repeated personal and political disasters.|Praise for David Horowitz:&#147;David Horowitz is one of America's most important and interesting thinkers.Ã¢ Â•#151;Bernard Goldberg, author of Bias&#147;The most brilliant political mind in America.Ã¢ Â•#151;Dennis Miller, author of The Rant Zone&#147;David Horowitz is a national treasure.Ã¢ Â•#151;Roger Kimball, author of The Long March: How the Cultural Revolution of the 1960s Changed AmericaPraise for David Horowitz's previous book Point in Time:&#147;David Horowitz is so powerful a polemist that it is often forgotten how beautifully he writes.Ã¢ Â•#151;Norman Podhoretz, author of Why Are Jews Liberals?&#147;I have admired David Horowitz for decades. He has taught me many important lessons. But never have I been so moved by his writing as I am by this brief and profound book.Ã¢ Â•#151;Dennis Prager, author of Still the Best Hope

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Radicals -- Portraits of a Destructive Passion (2012) by David Horowitz is physically a relatively thin tome but it is a stout book in ideas and in deciphering the mentality of the left-wing radicals influencing and re-making American society -- from the late 1960s to the present. Horowitz paints incisive psychological and biographical portraits of several radicals and interprets their nihilistic

philosophy of hatred towards American freedom in contrast to the inexcusable affinity for America's totalitarian enemies. Horowitz masterfully describes the destructive legacy these radicals have left in their wake. Portrayed are Christopher Hitchens, a celebrated maverick commentator and seemingly rudderless author; Bettina Aptheker, an acclaimed professor and feminist accuser who blames everyone else for the ills of American society and her own failures; Cornel West, a celebrated academic, highly praised, but of questionable intellectual capacity, a reflection of lower academic standards and the precipitous decline in the prevailing American (liberal) culture; Kathy Boudin and Susan Rosenberg, unrepentant terrorist bombers pardoned by President Clinton in his last day in office; Susan Lydon, a liberated woman caricatured and praised in her obituary for her alleged feminism and sexual liberation agenda, not the real person, and for the wrong reasons; and finally Saul Alinsky, a radical chameleon and Machiavellian political activist, who has had and continues to have immense influence in liberal politics. In fact, Alinsky, the radical "community organizer," profoundly influenced both the Clintons, and the sitting president, Barack Obama and his wife Michelle. Alinsky's lessons included the pursuit, attainment, and maintenance of political power by any means, including using subterfuge and forming alliances with other political groups, as long it is to the ultimate benefit of gaining political power. While reading about these radical luminaries, we also encounter and are regaled with dozens of other "fellow travelers" we meet along the way. *Radicals* is eloquently written with artistic flare, brilliant turn of phrases, words precisely chosen, magnificently constructed prose. Yet, Horowitz's observations are profound, astutely unlocking the mind of radicals and exposing their modus operandi with psychoanalytic and surgical precision. *Radicals*, in short, is highly recommended for the historical and political information, as well as for enjoying the masterful literary style in which it was written. The reviewer Dr. Miguel Faria is a retired Clinical Professor of Neurosurgery, medical historian, and an Associate Editor in Chief and World Affairs Editor of *Surgical Neurology International* (SNI). He is the author of numerous articles on politics, history, and science, including "Stalin's Mysterious Death" (2011) and "The Political Spectrum -- From the Extreme Right and Anarchism to the Extreme Left and Communism" (2011).

Deception is the foundation of all of these individuals. It was once said that there are those who make disciples twice as fit for hell as they are themselves. Abdication and passivity by decent people will pave the road to the hell these individuals advocate.

Great read. very informative.

Great insights from an author who has been on both sides of the aisle, and was there in the 60's and 70's. Engrossing. Resonates today, and I recommend it for this election season.

Few of us are fully aware of the severe internal threat to America from "citizens" who are still Communists, or hide their efforts while pushing hidden Communist agendas on our great Nation. David Horowitz has grown from a 1960's Radical anti-American activist himself, to become one of our most dynamic American Patriots of today, a man who is working hard to oppose the internal, destructive, Communist agenda. This book shares secrets of a number of Communist Radicals or "sympathizers" in America that David knew personally and well. In its pages he meticulously describes their sordid careers and their efforts to destroy our Nation and its heritage of freedom. Who some of them are, or were, may surprise you. You need to know these Communists, their hidden agenda, and how they are forcing it on our Nation. There are few who can tell this story better than David. As he acknowledged in his earlier book "Radical Son," David Horowitz grew up in a devoutly Communist family right here in America, so he knows Communist intentions and their fierce determination. All of us who love this Nation, and believe in its founding principles, desperately need to read this book, not only to better know our internal enemies, but to strengthen our own determination to save our freedoms. Chapter five: Saul Alinsky and Barack Obama, is an astounding must read. It gives us a detailed description of the powerful hidden-Communist, anti-American, beliefs and efforts that drove Saul Alinsky. The events and "leadership" of Obama's presidency seem to show clearly that he learned Alinsky's teachings well, and that they have become his own destructive compass.

David Horowitz telling the truth about today's academia.....woe unto us.

Good book

A must read for the masses

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