

Woodrow Wilson backed the 'great Ku Klux Klan'

The following quotes from President Woodrow Wilson's book *History of the American People* are displayed in the film "The Birth of a Nation" (1927 edition). Wilson is discussing the period of Reconstruction after the U.S. Civil War. Ellipses and emphasis are in the film original.



Woodrow Wilson

... Adventurers swarmed out of the North, as much the enemies of one race as the other, to cozen, beguile, and use the negroes. ... In the villages, the negroes were the officeholders, men who knew no uses of authority except insolences.

... The policy of congressional leaders wrought ... a veritable overthrow of civilization in the South ... in their determination to "put the white South under the heel of the black South." The white men were roused by a mere instinct of self-preservation ... until at last there had sprung into existence a great Ku Klux Klan, a veritable empire of the South, to protect the southern country.

something about that, because we're out there organizing. Klansmen come in as innocent, patriotic Americans, get a bunch of people together, and organize a militia group. They never take out their white robes, but they're there.

You'll find that the Contract with America, the hard core of Contract with America, the way things are organized, is that tendency of families, populist-leaning families in Pennsylvania and elsewhere, who maintain a tradition of either membership in the Klan or affinity to the Klan—Woodrow Wilson's Klan. And, that gives you Tom Ridge.

What we had around the world, in the wake of World War I, we had a worldwide conservative movement. It was called the Conservative Revolution in Germany. It was the movement that gave us Adolf Hitler, or the forces of Adolf Hitler. It was Adolf Hitler who was put into power by the help of the Harrimans, and George Bush's daddy, Prescott Bush. That is, *Prescott Bush officially wrote the piece of paper that transferred the funds into the Nazi Party coffers, to put Hitler into power in 1933.* And, this was fascism. This was Nazism. This was Mussolini. 1920s, 1930s.

We had it here in the 1920s, into the 1930s. We had mass

Klan organizing, Klan terror, not just in Southern states; but, in Michigan, a little bit in Pennsylvania, a lot in Illinois, especially in southern Illinois. Indiana, the famous Copperhead state. We had it. We had a Conservative Revolution.

What happened with us, is that in the 1930s, in the Depression, these conservatives, *very much like the conservatives who support "Contract on America" today*, were defeated and demoralized, because the Depression hit them. And thus, people reacted: "We want to be taken care of." The people who would kill the welfare recipient, turned around to becoming welfare victims themselves. And, they had their attitude about welfare changed, because so many people were on public welfare in the depths of the 1930s.

We had that, a conservative movement which was stopped by Roosevelt. The Democratic Party which I wish to be associated with, is that created by Franklin Roosevelt, in the 1930s and 1940s, the party that took the mantle of the Republican Party of Lincoln, and adopted it as the Democratic Party tradition. The party which takes care of the people, which lets the people be represented, in their own interests.

Cultural pessimism descends on America

So, what we have today, is the same thing. Beginning in the middle of the 1960s, what happened? We went into a moral depression. Kennedy was killed. I'm going to tell you something about Kennedy's killing, because it's relevant to the case today.

Johnson, who thought he had three guns pointed at his head by the people who killed Kennedy, went along with everything McGeorge Bundy told him to do, including launching a full military commitment in Indochina. We fought a no-win war in Indochina, not to win a war, but to orchestrate diplomacy. And, every night on television sets, our young people of draft age, saw people of their age being shot full of holes, or something else, fresh from the battlefield, on television. Every night.

Our young people saw a no-future society emerging. They saw a President murdered, and nobody did anything about it. They saw Malcolm X murdered, and nobody did anything about it. They saw Martin murdered, and nobody did anything about it. They saw Bobby Kennedy murdered, and nobody did anything about it.

I was teaching during 1966 through '73, on some of the campuses in the Northeast, and I saw firsthand what happened to the minds of the Baby Boomers. I also had seen, earlier, what had happened to people of my generation. We came back from the war, we were full of optimism. We were going to change the world, we were going to make the United States better. We got back, and we got Truman instead of hope.

Truman put us under British influence. First of all, he dropped two bombs, nuclear bombs on Japan. There was no reason to do so, no military reason to do so. The idea that that saved a million lives is a lie: never happened. Japan was surrendering. There was no way we had to invade Japan. *We had no plan to invade Japan!* Oh, we had a war plan if we had