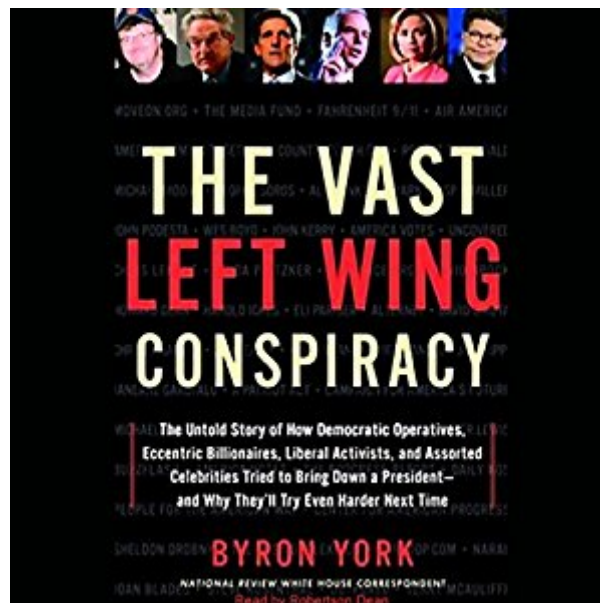


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The Vast Left Wing Conspiracy: How Democratic Operatives Tried To Bring Down A President



Synopsis

“We have to fight back.” Al FrankenThe Left is angry—angry at President George W. Bush, the war in Iraq, the “right-wing media,” and more. And as National Review investigative writer Byron York reveals in this stunning, meticulously reported book, liberal activists have harnessed that anger to build the biggest, richest, and best organized political movement in American history. Indeed, the Left’s failure to oust President Bush in 2004 has obscured the fact that this new movement has transformed American politics. York documents the staggering scope of liberals’ efforts—the record sums of money spent, the “shell game” financial maneuvers, the close coordination between “nonpartisan” groups and the Democratic Party, the revolutionary approaches to fund-raising and reaching out to voters, the pioneering use of movies and websites as campaign tools, and more. The Vast Left Wing Conspiracy provides a startling behind-the-scenes look at this powerful liberal movement. York brings the reader into secret powwows at Soros’s Hamptons estate, into the Chinese restaurant where MoveOn is born, to a gala event where Al Franken rants about the evils of the right wing, to fund-raisers where liberals openly mock the election laws they’re ignoring, to the movie premiere where Michael Moore is feted by top-ranking Democrats, into the Washington restaurant where Democratic operatives hatch their plan, and to many other spots along the way. One thing above all becomes clear: Despite their failure to win in 2004, liberals will only keep improving the well-oiled political machine they built. A Main Selection of the Conservative Book Club From the Hardcover edition. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 7 hours and 56 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Books on Tape

Audible.com Release Date: April 21, 2005

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B0009HJCC6

Best Sellers Rank: #44 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Politics & Current Events > Current

Events #4112 in [Â Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Elections & Political Process > Political Parties](#) #7669 in [Â Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Ideologies & Doctrines > Conservatism & Liberalism](#)

Customer Reviews

Byron York is one of my favorite writers because he reports. No diatribes. No insults. No hysterics. He just reports facts and when he gives his opinions, they are never overstated. There is no name-calling (The title is a quote from the liberal activists who are the subject of the book.) and no conclusions without supporting facts. In fact, York respects his readers enough to let them draw their own conclusions most of the time. If you think that the campaign reform laws took money out of politics, you really need to read this book. Unfortunately, most of what they did was take political parties out of politics and make them more politically beholden to groups who now control most of the money spent in campaigns and can therefore dictate the policies of the parties, who have heretofore made their own policies and run on them. Having positions and platforms imposed by big money donors was supposed to be why campaign finance reform was needed, but expecting politicians to support such laws without a loophole in reserve shows incredible naivete. The loophole the Democrats were counting on may end up turning into a sinkhole that consumes them or imprisons them for years to come. I have found plenty of authors and radio and TV hosts all across the political spectrum who will shout accusations, hurl epithets and insults and state opinions as facts, but it is a rare one who can simply report details in as clear and cogent a manner as Mr. York. I wish all political books were as well written and reasonable as this one.

I'm someone who is fascinated by the human capacity for nonrational thinking, mob behavior, self-delusion, and the success of well-engineered social movements. If you are a student of human behavior, particularly of how social movements are packaged and sold, and how ideologies can spread like diseases through a population, you'll find this book insightful and illuminating. The title of the book is more provocative than the material inside, which is well-researched and not particularly inflammatory (except to the most thin-skinned among us). The book chronicles how the American Left is re-making itself to become competitive in today's highly communicated and regulated political world. It could be viewed as diagnostic and prescriptive for both Left and Right, in the great competition for hearts and minds that defines modern American politics. My favorite chapter was the one the author almost left out: "From Fringe to Mainstream." This chapter captures how unimportant and irrelevant actual evidence is in demonizing one's political enemies, showing how accusations

are virtually as good as evidence when denigrating the other side. "If it might possibly be true, then it most probably is true," seems to be the credo of the modern viralized ideologue. Also fascinating is how humans feel they can plumb their opponent's inner psychology--in the absence of any formal training--discovering that the opposition is perpetually driven by sickness and evil impulse, while the motives of "my side" are pure and honest and moral. This book is certain to increase the cynicism of all readers, whether from Left or Right. And that's not a bad thing. Our republic depends upon our citizens' ability to recognize and resist emotional manipulation, which this book chronicles in fascinating and informed detail.

Reveals the true nature of George Soros the Hungarian who wishes to dominate American Politics for his own gain. Just watch the way he treats his au pairs in the press in nyc. the fat old man is disgusting in his speedo suit in th nyc post pictures. Just what evey young lady wants to beseen with on the beach we have a term for those women.

Byron York is a masterful writer. The subject matter that he has written about is one that I find rather banal. When I started the book I thought I won't finish this, why bother, this won't keep my attention. But guess what, the material didn't the writer did. I am not saying the material was wrong or incorrect, heavens no. I was just more enamored at how the pages flew by with this young man's prose. Given a topic that I enjoyed and I would become a raving fanatical fan of this writer. Anyhow, the book is scary showing how the left wing has gone from the organized academia and intelligentsia to today being THE billionaire and millionaire boys funding club. The left's organized use of 527's and the fact that 92% of all donations of \$ 1 million dollars or larger go to democratic causes should shout loud and clear just who is the party of the elites and money. I'll give you a hint - it ain't the republicans. You also get a look at how the media portrays their darlings like Michael Moore and Robert Greenwald- movies that were basically unwatched yet received glowing reviews, and more press pre gross dollar sales than any movie in history. One of the greatest chapters is Mr. York's analysis of John Podesta. Mr. York has summed up the current Democratic Party's main problem in one sentence many other people have said the same thing myself included but nobody is listening. I find it mystifying that the Republicans are actually telling the Democrats what their problem is over and over and over again and yet they never hear it. Well I will quote Mr. York one more time "The bottom line was that Podesta was arguing that his party's problems were mostly related to communications, not content." "Podesta keeps saying, What's our bumper sticker?" (referring to a quick idea that simple to communicate) "The problem is not the bumper sticker. The

problem is the car."Amen Mr. York, you preach it.The saddest chapter of the book is Chapter Eight where Mr. York talks about the strange life of the Theocratic Conspiracy theorist. If you have never met one of these people you are lucky. Envision the most radical preacher you can multiply them by ten but they are now a anti-preacher, filled with hatred against any Christian. These people exist and they are growing quickly, they seem to have some sort of metaphysical hatred against anybody whom might call themselves a Christian and right wing. All you need to do is search for book about right wing and religion and you will be shocked. These people would burn the late Mother Theresa at the stake if they could.A highly enjoyable author with magnificent penmanship skills; I highly recommend this book and will look forward for more of Mr. Yorks work.

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