

# ACORN



**A**ssociation of  
**C**ommunity  
**O**rganizations for  
**R**eform  
**N**ow

# Hannah Giles and James O'Keefe YouTube videos exposed ACORN



# ACORN is a Dangerous Organization

- Usually, we worry about foreign enemies invading us
- One of our enemies is already among us. Its name is ACORN:
  - Their mission is to implement socialism
  - They are willing to subvert our Constitution
  - They are deeply embedded in our communities

# Agenda

- History of ACORN
- Some scary ACORN activities
- Sources of funding
- Connections to Barack Obama
- What we can do to fight this enemy

# Who is ACORN?

- The nation's largest radical organization
- 400,000 members
- 1200 neighborhood chapters
- 110 cities
- Also expanding internationally:
  - Canada
  - Mexico
  - Peru
  - Argentina
  - India

# America's Biggest Radical Organization



# ACORN's Mission

- Use community organizers (or “disorganizers”) to:
  - “Rub open the sores of discontent” to radicalize the underclass
  - Advocate bigger government and higher taxes
  - Nationalize industry (including health care)
  - In short: Implement socialism
    - Wade Rathke: “We do believe in equitable distribution of any rights and benefits that people may need.”
    - This sounds a lot like “From each according to his ability, to each according to his need!”

# ACORN's "Pledge"

- “We will continue our fight until the American way is just one way, until we have shared the wealth”
- This is their “pledge” that they recite at ACORN conventions
- It was on their web site as a description of their mission, until shortly after the O’Keefe and Giles videos went public
  - The ACORN website has been “cleaned up” considerably in the past year

...Until We've Shared the Wealth



# Meet Saul Alinsky

- Socialist who was the original “community organizer”
- Wrote the book “Rules for Radicals”
- Key Rule: Overwhelm America by forcing it to live up to its own rules
  - We are a generous nation inclined toward safety nets
- When American institutions get overwhelmed, collapse will follow
  - Welfare, mortgage industry, electoral system, immigration
- In the wake of the collapse will come Socialism
- Alinsky called this “mass jujitsu”

# Meet Richard Cloward and Frances Piven

- Columbia Professors who were Socialists and Saul Alinsky disciples
- Saw opportunity in the urban riots of the mid—60's:
  - The rioting underclass was ready for revolt
  - However, the welfare-state response of the Great Society quieted revolutionary fervor.
  - Cloward and Piven didn't want the revolution quieted
  - Decided to use Alinsky's "mass jujitsu" against our "safety nets"
  - Proposed helping so many people take advantage of welfare that America would collapse
- Called this strategy called "Orchestrated Chaos"

# Meet the NWRO

- Cloward and Piven formed the National Welfare Rights Organization (NWRO) to implement their strategy
  - Recruited activist George Wiley to lead the attack
  - Hired foot soldiers to “recruit” welfare recipients and to intimidate welfare officials
  - By 1969, NWRO had 523 chapters across the nation
- Major focus on New York City
  - NYC’s welfare system was run by “Come and Get It” Ginsberg (an ally of Cloward and Piven)
  - One welfare recipient famously screamed at Mayor Lindsay, “It’s my job to have kids, Mr. Mayor, and it’s your job to take care of them”
  - A popular chant during protests was “No money, no peace”

# Impact on New York City

- Welfare spending consumed 28% of city's budget by 1970
- By 1974, one person was on welfare for every two working in the private sector
- In 1975, NYC went bankrupt
- Rudy Giuliani later accused Cloward and Piven of “an effort at economic sabotage”

# The Birth of ACORN

- Started in 1970 by Wade Rathke and other NWRO members
  - An experiment by Cloward and Piven to broaden the “Orchestrated Chaos” attack on America
    - Target other American institutions besides just welfare
    - Make the organization more “inclusive”
  - Began as Arkansas Community Organizations for Reform Now
  - Went national and changed “Arkansas” to “Association”

# ACORN and Subprime Mortgages

- “Redlining” and Carter’s CRA in 1977
- Senator Gramm called the CRA “a vast extortion scheme against the nation’s banks”
- Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac “socialized the risk”
- ACORN Housing set up to promote subprime mortgages to high risk borrowers
  - “Mass jujitsu” on Carter’s CRA
- Pushed “NINJA” loans using “direct action”:
  - Screaming mobs in bank lobbies
  - Protests at bankers’ residences
  - Lawsuits against “redlining”
  - Leveraging media using “victims”

# Impact of Subprime Loans

- A recession set in and housing prices fell
- People who couldn't afford their homes defaulted on their risky mortgages
- Over-leveraged banks lost their assets and faced bankruptcy
- The financial markets seized up
- \$700 billion bail-out by the federal government
- How did ACORN feel about this?
  - Took credit for 7 million subprime mortgages
  - Rathke called it ACORN's greatest accomplishment.
  - Ironically, accused the banks of "predatory lending"

# Voter Registration – More “Orchestrated Chaos”

- ACORN sought to drive politics leftward by registering underclass voters:
  - Real voters and phantom voters
    - Internal target for accuracy of registrations was only 40%
  - Voters likely to vote Democratic
  - Voters in battleground states
  - ACORN and subsidiaries claim to have registered five million voters
- Sponsored laws to make it hard to police the process:
  - Limited identification requirements
  - No proof of citizenship
  - Mail-in registrations
- They even helped “voters” vote:
  - Drove or bused voters to polls
  - “Helped” with absentee ballots

# ACORN Voter Registration Fraud

- ACORN was investigated in 14 states for voter fraud:
  - Phony names, non-existent addresses, duplicate registrations, dead people
  - Registered the Dallas Cowboys to vote—in Nevada
  - Detroit has 600,000 over 18, and 630,000 registered voters (likely “real” number is 400,000)
  - Many counties across the country now have more registered voters than eligible voters
  - Nevada’s registrar in Las Vegas believes 48% of ACORN registrations are fraudulent. Nevada is prosecuting ACORN for 39 felonies.
- Prosecutors have identified hundreds of thousands of fraudulent registrations submitted by ACORN

# A Voter Registered by ACORN



# Other ACORN Activities

- Pushing liberalized immigration reform
- Selected to assist in the 2010 Census
  - Stopped after O’Keefe and Giles videos
- Member of the Apollo Alliance
  - Van Jones’s organization drafted the Stimulus Bill
- Expanding government sector union membership
  - Rathke is also a key leader in the SEIU
  - Teachers unions are becoming a bigger partner

# Sources of ACORN Funding

- 40% comes from the U.S. government
  - According to Michelle Malkin
  - Difficult to tally – block grants and shadow groups
  - This means you and I are paying for this!
- Member contributions
- Unions (especially the SEIU)
- Philanthropic organizations like Soros's OSI, the Woods Fund, the Ford Foundation, etc.
- Extortion (“protection”) from corporations (ACORN calls this “muscle for the money”)

# ACORN and Barack Obama

- Obama probably studied under Cloward at Columbia
- He was trained as a community organizer by Saul Alinsky's Industrial Areas Foundation
- Led ACORN's Project Vote in Chicago in 1991:
  - Registered 150,000 minorities to vote in Chicago

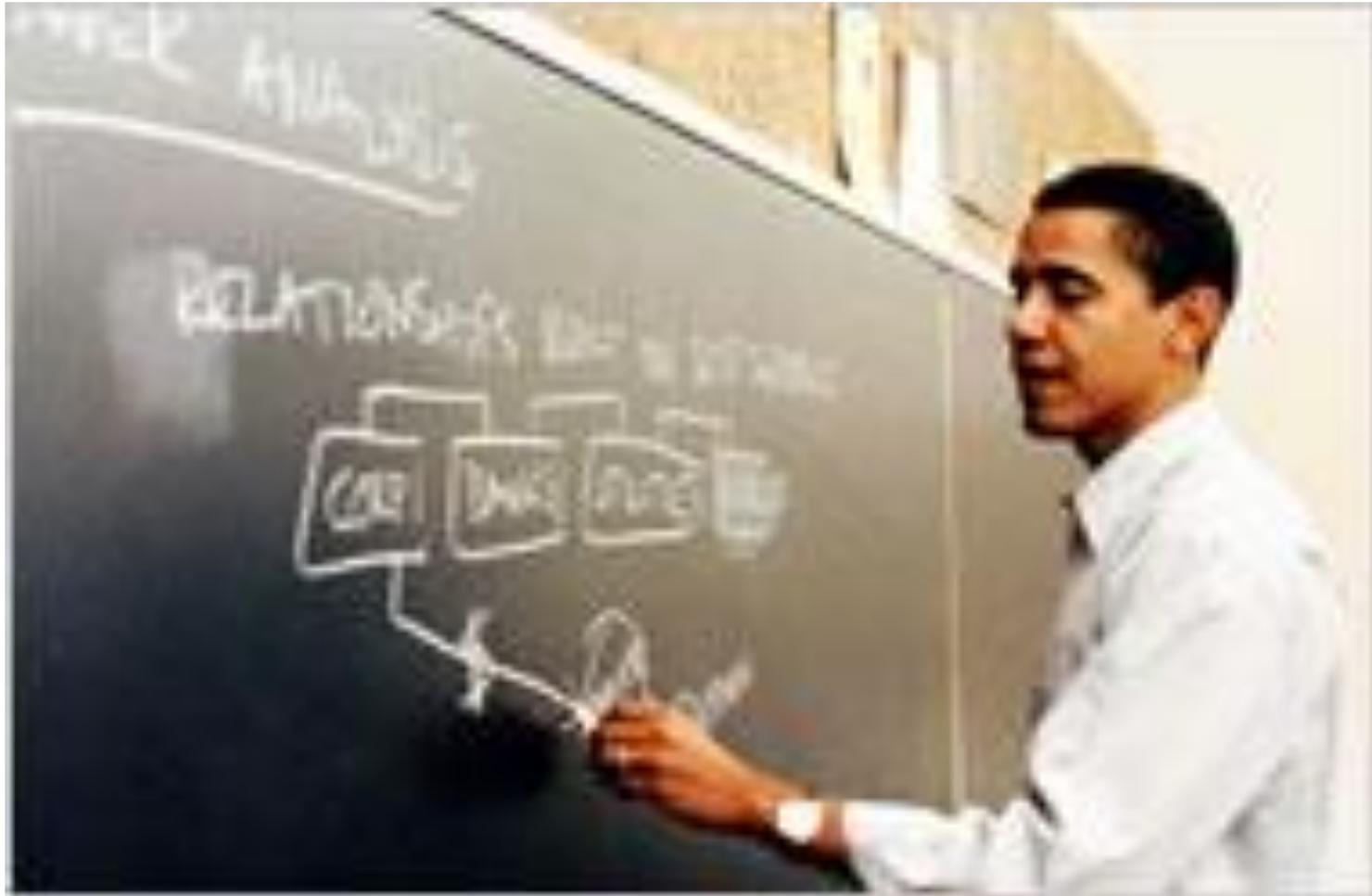
# Project Vote: “It’s a Power Thing”



# ACORN and Barack Obama

- From 1993 to 2003, Obama was a trainer for ACORN:
  - Taught new community organizers
  - Taught ACORN's staff
  - Taught Saul Alinsky's principles
  - Taught "Direct Action" to help with "NINJA" loans

# Obama Teaching ACORN



# ACORN and Barack Obama

- Lawyer for ACORN during voter registration lawsuits
  - Motor-Voter Law: National Voter Registration Act of 1993
- Lawyer for ACORN to force expansion of CRA during Clinton administration
- Lawyer for ACORN on redlining lawsuit against Citibank

# ACORN and Barack Obama

- Helped fund ACORN:
  - Woods Fund
  - Chicago Annenberg Challenge
  - Joyce Foundation
- Hired ACORN to help with his presidential campaign
  - ACORN accused of violating FEC regulations
    - Obama's maxed-out donor list
    - CSI mixing GOTV with Obama campaigning
  - ACORN endorsed Obama over Clinton

# ACORN and Barack Obama

- Some quotes from Obama about ACORN:
  - “I’ve been fighting alongside ACORN on issues you care about my entire career”
  - “Before I even get inaugurated...we’re going to be calling on all of you (at ACORN) to help us shape the agenda”
- President Obama’s support for ACORN:
  - \$750 million in 2009 Stimulus Bill
  - \$4 billion budgeted for HUD’s Community Development Block Grant Program

# Oh, and one other quote...

- “The only involvement I’ve had with ACORN was I represented them alongside the U.S. Justice Department in making Illinois implement a motor voter law...”
  - Barack Obama during 2008 debate
- The truth is that he had a 19-year relationship with ACORN, including:
  - As an employee (Project Vote)
  - As a trainer
  - As the head of philanthropic groups giving ACORN money
  - As an attorney for various ACORN legal initiatives
  - As a political candidate using them to help his campaigns
  - As President, using them to assist his administration

# ACORN's Lawlessness

- Voter Fraud prosecutions in 14 states
- Extortion (“Muscling for the money”)
  - Businesses
  - Poor people (dues)
- Dale Rathke embezzled \$948,000 from ACORN
  - Fired whistleblowers
  - Dale Rathke still works for an ACORN subsidiary
- 200 tax liens totaling \$3 million
- Penalized for unfair labor practices by NLRB
  - Fired union organizers in Dallas
- Mafia-like organization structure and tactics
  - Makes it hard to prosecute them – hundreds of sub-groups
  - They are willing to sacrifice low-level employees to save the leaders

# Rounding Up the Usual Suspects...



[HTTP://SCOOTERSREPORT.COM](http://scootersreport.com)

# Secretary of State Project

- Joseph Stalin: “The people who cast the votes decide nothing. The people who count the votes decide everything.”
- The leftists have learned that close elections can be tipped by Secretaries of State
  - Katherine Harris in Florida in 2000 (Bush-Gore)
  - Kenneth Blackwell in Ohio in 2004 (Bush-Kerry)
  - Mark Ritchie in Minnesota in 2008 (Franken)

# Secretary of State Project

- Soros and others are funding a Secretary of State Project
  - Contributing to campaigns of “friendly” candidates
    - Ones who will resist policing the damage done by ACORN
    - Ones who will support weakened identification requirements
  - Targeting likely battleground states to prepare for 2010 and 2012
  - So far have succeeded in 11 of 13 contests
- SoSP is a perfect complement to ACORN
  - Soros and Wade Rathke are tightly connected (SDS, Tides, SEIU)
  - Maya Wiley (daughter of NWRO founder George Wiley) worked for Soros’s OSI.

# SoSP in Michigan

- The SoSP has selected Democrat Jocelyn Benson to support as SoS candidate in Michigan:
  - Lauded as an “election law scholar and community organizer”
  - Also described as “progressive”
  - She has a history of opposing proper policing of voter registration records
  - Worked for the DNC to “protect voting rights”
  - Voting rights coordinator of the Harvard Civil Rights Project
  - Supports early voting, no-reason absentee balloting in Michigan, and online registration

# ACORN the Chameleon

- ACORN is morphing into new identities because of bad publicity:
  - ACORN International is now Community Organizations International
  - ACORN New York is now New York Communities for Change
  - ACORN California is now Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment
  - The national organization is allegedly disbanding
  - I don't believe it – there is too much money and too many people involved

# Summary

- ACORN is at war with the middle class and America
- Do you hear much of this from the mainstream media?
  - NY Times killed a series on ACORN before the election because “it was a game-changer” – found out Obama was involved
- Why isn't the government investigating?
  - Republicans (Darrell Issa, et al) have pushed for investigations, but they never get out of committee in the Democratically controlled Congress
  - Judiciary Chairman John Conyers said there would be no hearings because “the powers that be decided against it”
- The government did temporarily cut ACORN funding
  - However, a U.S. district court issued an injunction against this, so the OMB reinstated funding

# It's Time to Fight Back



DONT TREAD ON ME

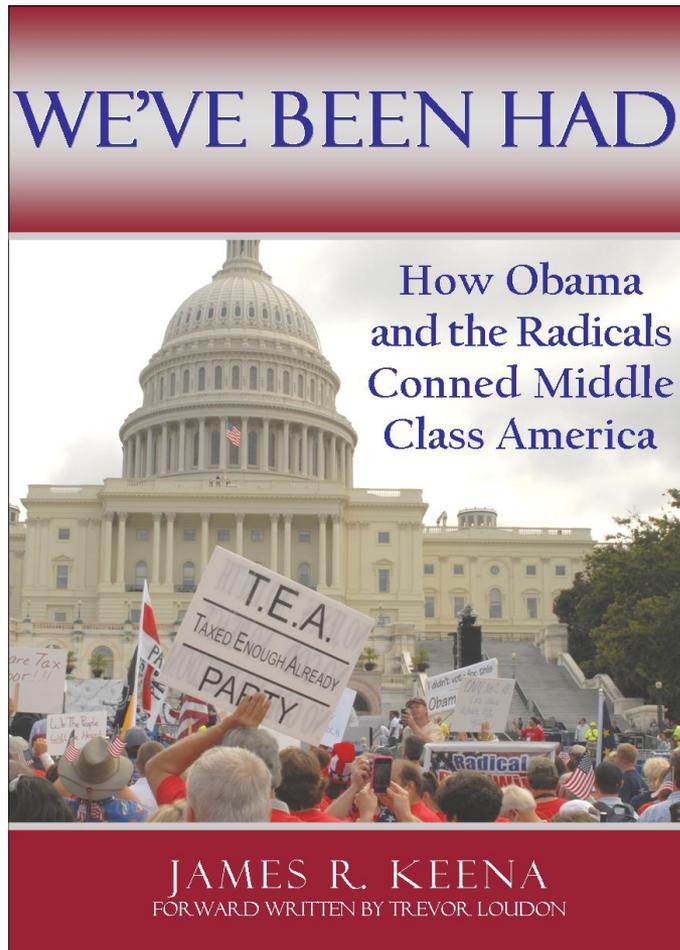
# Take the Fight to Them...

- Edmund Burke: “The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.”
- Contact your leaders:
  - Demand that all funding for ACORN be stopped
  - Demand that ACORN not be allowed to participate in federal functions (e.g., census and healthcare)
  - Demand a full investigation of ACORN
  - Demand that voter registrations be audited and purged
- Spread the word:
  - This presentation is on my website, [jameskeena.com](http://jameskeena.com)
  - The ACORN chapter of my book, “*We’ve Been Had*”, is also on my website
  - Feel free to e-mail the URL links to everyone

# Take the Fight to Them...

- Become an activist!
  - Elections matter
  - We need to be “Force Multipliers” – 10 x 10
  - Get conservative voters registered
  - Get conservative voters to the polls
  - Get involved in the local precincts to ensure integrity
  - Support a conservative Secretary of State candidate
- Run for office

# “We’ve Been Had”



- Learn the truth about Barack Obama:
  - Saul Alinski
  - Socialism
  - Radical Islam
  - The Ayers Family
  - Antoin Rezko
  - ACORN
  - George Soros
  - Our Future under Obama