

# Turning Point USA Played A Role In The Events Of January 6th And Promoted The Big Lie, And Key Members Have A History Of Spreading Extremist and Racist Rhetoric

**Summary:** Turning Point USA (TPUSA) is a right-wing student group founded [in the early 2010s](#). It has a reputation of focusing on [culture war politics](#) and it is one of the most influential groups for young [conservatives in the country](#). One of the main objectives of TPUSA is to influence student elections on campus and install [right-wing leaders](#) to advance its values on campus. In 2018, TPUSA claimed that it had chapters on [over 1,000](#) campuses, but a *Politico* investigation could only verify 400 chapters. Since then, TPUSA has rapidly expanded into [running right leaning and conservative Christian media operations](#) and involvement in political elections.

**Key facts about Turning Point USA include:**

## **#StopTheSteal And Role Behind Capitol Riot**

- Turning Point's 501(C)(4) arm, Turning Point Action, was [a key planner of the rally preceding](#) the January 6<sup>th</sup> Capitol Riot.
- Prior to the Capitol Riot, TPUSA helped [organize early](#) #StopTheSteal protests and Kirk used his platform [to deny](#) that Trump lost the election.
- Mike Lindell, a [QAnon-linked](#) CEO of a pillow company who encouraged Trump to use [martial law](#) to overturn the 2020 election, serves as one of TPUSA's [honorary board members](#).
- Former TPUSA communications director and frequent collaborator Candance Owens was a major promoter of [conspiracy theories](#) about the 2020 election. Studies from [Brookings Institute](#) and the [American Defense League](#) identified Owens as one of the most prominent spreaders of disinformation about the election.

## **Support Of Kari Lake**

- *The Washington Post* [claimed](#) TPUSA helped elevate Big Lie by promoting Arizona Republican Kari Lake to national prominence. Lake rose to prominence at a Turning Point event in 2021 and her 2022 campaign included many former TPUSA staffers. TPUSA also invested around \$300,000 to support Lake's 2022 campaign.

## **TPUSA Has Been Criticized For Promoting Extremism And Racial Insensitivity**

- Fellow conservative youth group Young America's Foundation [released a memo](#) that claimed TPUSA was "boosting its numbers with racists & nazi-sympathizers."
- Jack Posobiec is a prominent [Turning Point USA](#) contributor, hosting a recurring media program for the group. Posobiec was an early promoter of the [#PizzaGate conspiracy theory](#) and is connected to interviews with [a Polish neo-facist organization](#) and [other white nationalists](#).
- The white supremacist terrorist behind the Christchurch mass shooting in New Zealand, who targeted Muslim Mosque-goers, said TPUSA contributor Candance Owens "[influenced him above all](#)" in his manifesto. She had a prior history of making statements [criticizing Islam](#).

- [Former TPUSA staffers](#) have said the organization is “rife” with racial bias and numerous high-profile staffers have been fired for racist and racially insensitive remarks.
- [Numerous TPUSA staffers](#), including [Candance Owens](#), were forced out of the organization for hateful or racially insensitive comments.
- Kirk is a promoter of the “[cultural Marxism](#)” conspiracy theory, which has been deemed anti-semitic by [The New York Times](#), [The Guardian](#), [The Southern Poverty Law Center](#), and others.

#### **Legal Violations:**

- TPUSA was accused of violating its [nonprofit status by coordinating directly](#) with Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio’s 2016 presidential campaigns on behalf of Ginni Thomas, the wife of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas.
- Turning Point Action was accused of [FEC violations](#) during the 2020 election for improperly disclosing campaign finance activity.
- *The Chronicle Of Higher Education* [published an investigation](#) that alleged that TPUSA repeatedly violated transparency and spending caps by flooding student elections on college campuses with dark money.

### **Turning Point USA Played A Role In The Events Of January 6th And Promoted The Big Lie, And Key Members Have A History Of Spreading Extremist and Racist Rhetoric**

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## **TPUSA And Its Leaders Spread Disinformation Before The 2020 Election, Were Key Planners Of The Rally Preceding The Capitol Riot, And Are Closely Tied To Key Insurrectionist Figures**

### **TPUSA Spread Disinformation Before And After The 2020 Election And Promoted The #StopTheSteal Movement**

**TPUSA Paid Teenage Activists To Spread Disinformation About Mail-In Ballots In The Lead Up To The 2020 Election, A Tactic Compared To Russia's Online Disinformation Campaign In The 2016 Election By The *Washington Post*.** "Far from representing a genuine social media groundswell, however, the posts are the product of a sprawling yet secretive campaign that experts say evades the guardrails put in place by social media companies to limit online disinformation of the sort used by Russia during the 2016 campaign. Teenagers, some of them minors, are being paid to pump out the messages at the direction of Turning Point Action, an affiliate of Turning Point USA, the prominent conservative youth organization based in Phoenix, according to four people with independent knowledge of the effort. Their descriptions were confirmed by detailed notes from relatives of one of the teenagers who recorded conversations with him about the efforts." [Washington Post, [9/15/20](#)]

**TPUSA Leader Charlie Kirk Had His Twitter Account Suspended For Spreading False Claims Of Voting Fraud In The Lead Up To The 2020 Election.** "The Twitter account of conservative activist Charlie Kirk was locked over the weekend for spreading misinformation about mail-in-ballots." [The Independent, [10/19/20](#)]

- **Kirk's Account Was Suspended After He Tweeted "Pennsylvania Has Just Rejected 372,000 Mail-In Ballots. One Voter Was Said To Have Submitted 11 Duplicate Ballots. Pennsylvania Might Be The Key To Winning The White House. What's Going On?"** [The Independent, [10/19/20](#)]

**TPUSA Helped Organize Early #StopTheSteal Protests That Aimed To Overturn The Results Of The 2020 Election.** "Demonstrations across the country protesting alleged fraud in this week's election have ties to major conservative activist groups and MAGA personalities

affiliated with President Donald Trump, according to multiple misinformation researchers. Many of these protests have been organized by prominent, well-funded pro-Trump groups such as Tea Party Patriots, Women for America First, Turning Point USA and Freedom Works USA, according to analyses from several research institutions.” [Politico, [11/06/20](#)]

**Kirk Served As The Point Person For The Stop The Steal Group Whose Leader, Ali Alexander, Was Summoned By The House January 6th Committee.** Further, Kirk served before 6 January as an Arizona point person for the Stop the Steal, the group led by Ali Alexander which has been subpoenaed for documents and testimony by the House Select Committee investigating the Capitol insurrection and Trump’s efforts to overturn the election results.” [The Guardian, [10/23/21](#)]

**Kirk Promoted The Big Lie In The Time In Between The 2020 Election And The Capitol Riot, And Attacked Conservatives Who Accepted The Results As “Dishonest.”** “Kirk, who leads the right-wing college activism group Turning Point USA, waved off the dozens of Republican election lawsuits that have been rejected by courts across the country by saying Trump supporters still have ‘very good questions’ about the election results. ‘Some of these by the way are still being played out there—there are still plenty of pending legal challenges,’ Kirk declared as Rivera shot back: ‘That is so dishonest!’” [The Daily Beast, [12/14/20](#)]

**At TPUSA’s Annual Conference In December 2020, Donald Trump Claimed “We Won This [Election] In A Landslide, They Know It,” And Asked For “Backing From Like, The Justice Department” And Thanked Kirk For His Support.** “On Monday afternoon, Trump himself phoned in. ‘We won this [election] in a landslide, they know it,’ the president said to the crowd via a phone call that Kirk held up to the microphone. He then added that he still needs ‘backing from like, the Justice Department, and other people have to finally step up,’ before closing by thanking ‘Charlie for all the support.... We appreciate it.’” [Vanity Fair, [12/21/20](#)]

### **TPUSA And Its Leader Charlier Kirk Were One Of The Main Planners Of The Rally Preceding The Capitol Riot**

**Turning Point Action, An Arm Of Turning Point USA Led By TPUSA’s Founder, Was Listed As An Organizer Of January 6th’s Washington DC Rally Preceding The Capitol Riot.**

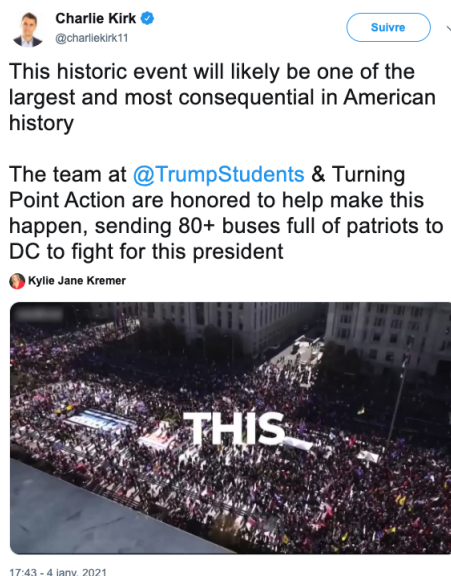
“Charlie Kirk, a firebrand conservative activist and staunch supporter of President Donald Trump, is preparing to unveil a nonprofit that will allow his organization to campaign against Democrats during the 2020 election season. CNBC discovered Kirk’s new organization, called Turning Point Action, after reviewing an embedded donor link that shows the soon-to-be-finalized group targeting Rep. Ilhan Omar, D-Minn.” [CNBC, [5/20/19](#)]



[Documented, [1/11/21](#)]

**Turning Point USA Is A Conservative Group That Seeks To Organize College-Aged Conservatives.** “In 2012, Kirk founded Turning Point USA, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit grassroots organization that encourages conservative college students to rally for causes such as free market policies. The Internal Revenue Service prohibits 501(c)(3)s to participate, either directly or indirectly, in political campaigns.” [CNBC, [5/20/19](#)]

**Turning Point USA And Turning Point Action Founder And Leader Charlie Kirk Prominently Promoted The More Than 80 Buses They Organized To Bring Supporters To The Rally.**



[Twitter Archive, [1/04/21](#)]

**After The Capitol Riot, Kirk Claimed That Rioters Were Not Insurrectionists.** “A police officer was among the five people who died during the disorder. Among those seen inside the Senate chamber was a person carrying plastic zip ties, with many believing they were brought in

order to take hostages. Makeshift nooses and guillotines were also spotted at the Washington protest on January 6. During the clip, Kirk said that while it was "not wise" to climb the Capitol steps and enter the rotunda, it is wrong to compare those who did to terrorists such as 1995 Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh." [Newsweek, [1/12/21](#)]

## **Notable Insurrectionists Mike Lindell And Candace Owens Are Closely Affiliated With TPUSA**

**Mike Lindell Is An Honorary Board Member Of TPUSA.** [TPUSA.com, Accessed [12/15/22](#)]

- **On January 15, 2021 Lindell Met With Trump In An Attempt To Convince Him To Impose Martial Law To Overturn The 2020 Election Results.** "My Pillow founder and Trump supporter Mike Lindell was photographed entering the West Wing of the White House on Friday, carrying notes which seemed to advocate the imposition of martial law. Donald Trump will be replaced as president in five days' time, by Joe Biden. Trump continues to baselessly claim his election defeat by the Democrat was the result of electoral fraud." [The Guardian, [1/15/21](#)]
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- **In August 2021, Lindell Held A "Cyber Symposium" That He Claimed Would Demonstrate The 2020 Election Was Stolen.** "MyPillow CEO Mike Lindell's mission to prove that the 2020 election was stolen from former President Donald Trump as part of a broad international conspiracy went into high gear Tuesday, when he held a "Cyber Symposium" in South Dakota. Lindell—who was sued for defamation by voting equipment manufacturer Dominion for \$1.6 billion, and has counter-sued for the same amount—offered \$5 million to anyone who could come to his event and prove that his alleged "cyber data" proving Chinese hacking of election equipment is invalid." [Mother Jones, [8/11/21](#)]

**The Brookings Institute Identified Former TPUSA Leader And Frequent Collaborator Candance Owens As One Of The Largest Spreaders Of The Big Lie On Social Media.** [Brookings Institute, [1/04/22](#)]

- **Owens Was The Communications Director Of Turning Point USA Until May 2019, When She Resigned Amidst Public Backlash To Pro-Hitler Comments She Made.** "Candace Owens, the GOP darling for the moment, has officially resigned as communications director for Turning Point USA, the right-leaning organization aimed at educating college students about 'free markets and limited government,' according to its website. Owens announced her exit plans in a lengthy Instagram post on May 1, and her departure comes amid calls from supporters and members of the organization for her to step down following controversial comments she made in February about Adolf Hitler." [The Grio, [5/07/19](#)]
- **In Her Resignation Letter, Owens Promised She Would Remain Close To The Turning Point USA And Will "Of Course Be Speaking At All Turning Point Conferences And Will Continue To Chair The Annual Black Leadership Summit."** "She assured her followers that she would still be associated with the organization's events. 'I will of course still be speaking at all Turning Point conferences and will continue to chair the annual Black Leadership Summit in the fall,' she wrote. '...We couldn't be more excited to share this conversation with the world.'" [Daily Beast, [5/02/19](#)]



- **In December 2021 Owens Was A Top Billed Speaker At Turning Point USA's New Conference Series, AmericaFest.** “This month’s inaugural AmericaFest 2021, a multi-day conference presented by Turning Point USA, has a predictably heavy-duty lineup of controversial speakers and politicians ready to gin up conservative outrage: Tucker Carlson, Candace Owens, and Marjorie Taylor Greene are among the usual suspects. But the event, set for Dec. 18 to 21 at the Phoenix Convention Center in Arizona, also includes two nights of country concerts with stars of varying degrees Brantley Gilbert, Dustin Lynch, Russell Dickerson, and Lee Greenwood all set to perform.” [Rolling Stone, [12/16/21](#)]
- **Owens Is Still Featured Prominently On TPUSA’s Website As Of December 15, 2022.**



[TPUSA.com, Accessed [12/15/22](#)]

### **Kirk Was Named A Fellow At The Claremont Institute In 2021–Claremont Is Tied To Key Insurrectionist Figures**

**Charlie Kirk Was Named A 2021 Claremont Institute Lincoln Fellow.** “Charlie Kirk is the founder and president of Turning Point USA, the largest and fastest growing conservative youth activist organization in the country with over 250,000 student members, over 450 full and part-time staff, and a presence on over 2,000 high school and college campuses nationwide.” [Claremont Institute, [Accessed 12/09/21](#)]

**On January 4, 2021, Senior Claremont Institute Fellow John Eastman Met With Trump And Pence To Propose A Six-Step Plan To Overturn The 2020 Election.** “An attorney who worked with former President Trump’s legal team tried to convince then-Vice President Mike Pence that he could overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election and provided him with a six-step plan, according to a new book from journalists Bob Woodward and Robert Costa. CNN, citing a memo initially obtained by the book’s authors, reported that attorney John Eastman first proposed the plan to Pence on Jan. 4 in the Oval Office with Trump. The memo

called for throwing out the election results in seven states under the false claim that those states had used alternate electors.” [The Hill, [9/21/21](#)]

- **Eastman Appeared At The Rally Preceding The Capitol Riot On January 6<sup>th</sup> To Claim That Election Officials Stole The 2020 Election From Trump.** “In the days before the Jan. 6 insurrection, Eastman was an influential advisor to Trump as the outgoing president schemed to hold onto power; on the day of the Capitol riot, Eastman appeared at the rally with Trump, where he accused election officials of stealing the election.” [MSNBC, [10/17/21](#)]

**Claremont Senior Fellow Michael Anton Helped Promote The “Stop The Steal” Campaign.** “Now a Claremont senior fellow and a lecturer at Hillsdale’s Kirby Center in Washington, D.C., Anton helped to propagate Trump’s ‘stop the steal’ campaign last year” [The Bulwark, [7/13/21](#)]

- **On November 4th, 2020, Anton Wrote A Piece Promoting The “Stop The Steal” Campaign Calling For Court Challenges, Rallies, And Grassroots Campaigns To Ensure Trump Was Declared Winner Of The 2020 Election Because He Felt It Impossible That Biden Won Legitimately.** “the American Mind published a new Anton piece, entitled “Game on for the Coup.” Anton admits in this article that he isn’t sure what is really going on—“The thing could (but will never) be proved”—but he’s confident enough to lay out a game plan that he calls “Stop the Steal,” reusing a name that Roger Stone gave to his shady pro-Trump group in 2016. Against the Biden coup, Anton, borrowing from an article at Revolver.News (a new right-wing info site), recommends that Trumpists organize court challenges, rallies, disputes about electors, and a massive grassroots campaign in support of the president. By this point, Anton found the idea of a legitimate Biden victory implausible, partly because no one could possibly believe Biden could win” [The Bulwark, [7/13/21](#)]

**TPUSA Is A Major Force Behind The Rise Of Failed 2022 Arizona Gubernatorial Candidate Kari Lake, A Noted Big Lie Proponent Who Is Actively Trying To Challenge Her Lost Election**

**Kari Lake Was The 2022 Arizona Gubernatorial Candidate Who Is Promotes The Big Lie And Ran On A Platform Of Re-Litigating The 2020 Election**

**2022 Arizona Gubernatorial Candidate Kari Lake Claimed The 2020 Election Was Stolen And Was Endorsed By Donald Trump.** “Early in the campaign, Lake won Donald Trump’s endorsement by placing herself on the conservative wing of the Republican party, and more importantly, by claiming the 2020 election was stolen (though there is no evidence that it was). Her political ideology is right in line with that of his supporters.” [BBC, [11/15/22](#)]

**Lake Campaigned On Bringing Back “Honest Elections” And Re-Litigating The 2020 Election.** “For the next fifteen minutes Lake told this group of conservative voters what she planned to do if they elected her as governor. Her list included banning abortion, banning ‘woke’ ideology in schools, clamping down on illegal immigration and litigating the 2020 election results. ‘Without honest elections and a secure border, we no longer have a country and we’re not going to let Arizona go,’ she said.” [BBC, [11/15/22](#)]



## **Lake And Secretary of State Candidate Mark Finchem Had Sued To Prohibit The Use Of Electronic Voting Machines In The 2022 Midterms Only To Be Sanctioned For Filing A “Frivolous” Lawsuit**

**In May 2022, Lake And Arizona Secretary of State Candidate Mark Finchem Hired Lawyers To File A Lawsuit That Aimed “To Prohibit The Use Of Electronic Voting Machines” During The 2022 Midterm Election.** “This is a civil rights action for declaratory and injunctive relief to prohibit the use of electronic voting machines in the State of Arizona in the upcoming 2022 Midterm Election, slated to be held on November 8, 2022 (the “Midterm Election”), unless and until the electronic voting system is made open to the public and subjected to scientific analysis by objective experts to determine whether it is secure from manipulation or intrusion. The machine companies have consistently refused to do this.” [Complaint in Kari Lake et al. v. Kathleen Hobbs et al., [05/04/22](#)]

**Judge John J. Tuchi Of The United States District Court For The District Of Arizona Dismissed The Case In August.** “U.S. District Court Judge John Tuchi dismissed the suit in August, calling it full of “conjectural allegations of potential injuries.” [AZCentral, [12/01/22](#)]

- **Tuchi Then Sanctioned Lake And Finchem, As Well As Their Legal Team, For Failing To Properly Conduct A Factual Inquiry Before Filing Their Lawsuit.** “This afternoon a federal judge sanctioned lawyers for failed Arizona gubernatorial candidate Kari Lake, who sued to force the state to use paper ballots in the November election. In point of fact, the state does use paper ballots, something which could have been determined by the plaintiff and her lawyers had they bothered to conduct ‘the factual and legal pre-filing inquiry that the circumstances of this case reasonably permitted and required.’” [Above The Law, [12/01/22](#)]

## **TPUSA Was A Major Supporter Of Lake’s Rise In Politics**

**The Washington Post Claimed That Lake’s Career “Took Off” At A TPUSA Event And She Has Filled Her Staff With TPUSA Employees.** “The group’s success is reflected in the Republican midterm election slate — nearly every statewide candidate and many of those farther down the ballot have embraced Trump’s false claims that the 2020 election was rigged. The political career of Kari Lake, the state’s GOP gubernatorial nominee, took off at a Turning Point event last year, and she has filled her campaign staff with former Turning Point employees. Lake has promised, if elected, to overhaul how votes are cast and counted in this pivotal swing state.” [Washington Post, [11/04/22](#)]

**TPUSA Spent More Than \$600,000 On The 2022 Arizona Elections, And About Half Of That Went To Efforts To Help Kari Lake.** “Turning Point expanded its political operation this year with a new PAC under Bowyer’s direction. The group has unleashed more than \$415,000 in Arizona since July, according to state records, and has reported more than \$600,000 in spending to the Federal Election Commission. About half of its spending in Arizona has boosted Lake after a bitter primary that pitted her against the party establishment, including the governor. But the money has also extended to legislative races in which spending is traditionally restrained. Hundreds of thousands of dollars went to Hoffman’s firm, records show.” [Washington Post, [11/04/22](#)]

## **After Lake Lost The 2022 Arizona Gubernatorial Election She Decided To Litigate The Election Results**

**Lake Spent Weeks Sowing Doubt In Any Election Results Following Election Day.** “Ms. Lake’s lawsuit came after she had spent weeks making a series of public statements and social media posts aimed at sowing doubt in the outcome of a contest she lost by more than 17,000 votes to her Democratic opponent, Katie Hobbs. That loss was certified in documents signed on Monday by Ms. Hobbs, who currently serves as secretary of state.” [New York Times, [12/09/22](#)]

**After Her Election Loss Was Certified, Lake Moved To File A Legal Challenge To Contest It.** “Kari Lake, the losing Republican candidate for governor of Arizona, filed a lawsuit Friday contesting the results of an election that was certified by the state this week.” [New York Times, [12/09/22](#)]

## **TPUSA Is Connected To Extremists And Has A History Of Employing Racially Insensitive Staff**

### **Both Conservative And Liberal Groups Have Criticized TPUSA For Alleged Ties To White Supremacists**

**Fellow Conservative Youth Group Young America’s Foundation Released A Memo That Claimed That TPUSA Was “Boosting Its Numbers With Racists & Nazi-Sympathizers.”** “Boosting Numbers With Racists & Nazi Sympathizers Kirk’s obsession with inflated numbers causes him to take shortcuts that jeopardize the reputation of the Conservative Movement as a whole, and especially the youth-related groups.” [Young America’s Foundation, [5/25/18](#)]

**The Southern Poverty Law Center Wrote An Article Titled “Turning Point USA’s Blooming Romance With The Alt-Right” That Detailed Its Connections To The Movement.** “Bennett went on to point out the hypocrisy of O’Laughlin rejecting Chapman as a guest, since O’Laughlin himself was “liking tweets from notorious Charlottesville attendee and white nationalist icon, James Allsup,” and posted a screengrab of an Allsup tweet O’Laughlin liked. Allsup is an alt-right YouTube personality and speaks at white nationalist rallies.” [SPLC, [2/16/18](#)]

### **Numerous TPUSA Staffers Have Been Forced To Resign Or Were Fired For Racist And Hateful Statements**

**Former TPUSA Staffers Have Said The Organization Is “Rife” With Racial Bias And Numerous High Profile Staffers Have Been Fired For Racist And Racially Insensitive Remarks.** “Former Turning Point employees say that the organization was a difficult workplace and rife with tension, some of it racial. Gabrielle Fequiere, a former Turning Point employee, told me that she was the only African-American hired as a field director when she worked with the group, three years ago. “In looking back, I think it was racist,” she said. “At the time, I was blaming myself, and I thought I did something wrong.” [New Yorker, [12/21/17](#)]

**Gun Rights Activist And Former TPUSA Official Kyle Kashuv Had His Harvard Admission Revoked After His History Of Racist Comments, Which Included Frequent Uses Of The N-Word, Surfaced.** “But when the high schooler in question is a prominent conservative activist

who has met President Donald Trump, and when the outcome of his application directly touches on the raging culture war surrounding politics on college campuses, things are different — which is why Harvard’s decision to rescind admission to a young man named Kyle Kashuv got national attention Monday.[...] In the Google Doc, a venue teens frequently use as an unmonitored digital chat platform, Kashuv typed a racial slur over and over again, even bragging that “im really good at typing ni\*\*er ok like practice uhhhhh makes perfect.” The text messages are arguably worse — he demeans a female classmate by saying she only “goes for ni\*\*erjocks,” suggesting that she would prefer such black men sexually to a “pasty jew” (it’s not clear from the screenshots what the context for this is).” [Vox, [6/17/19](#)]

**One Of TPUSA’s Most Infamous Members, Candace Owens Was Forced To Step Down After She Said “If Hitler Just Wanted To Make Germany Great And Have Things Run Well, Okay Fine.** “Conservative pundit and speaker Candace Owens has responded to criticism of recently unearthed remarks she made late last year commenting on Hitler while defending the term nationalism. A clip of her answer posted to Twitter has been viewed more than two million times. Many on social media have criticized a portion of her answer in which Owens comments, “if Hitler just wanted to make Germany great and have things run well, okay fine.” TPUSA National Field Director Crystal Clanton Was Fired After The New Yorker Published Texts She Sent To Another Staffer That Read “I Hate Black People. Like Fuck Them All... I Hate Blacks. End Of Story.” [USA Today, [2/08/18](#)]

**TPUSA National Field Director Crystal Clanton Was Forced To Resign After A Racist Text Of Hers Sent To Another TPUSA Staffer Was Released.** “Screenshots provided to me by a source show that Crystal Clanton, who served until last summer as the group’s national field director, sent a text message to another Turning Point employee saying, “i hate black people. Like fuck them all . . . I hate blacks. End of story.” [New Yorker, [12/21/17](#)]

### **Prominent TPUSA Contributor Jack Posobiec Is Tied To White Supremacists And Was A Major #StopTheSteal Promoter**

**Jack Posobiec Is A TPUSA Contributor.** [TPUSA.com, Accessed [12/15/22](#)]

**Posobiec Was Key To Elevating The Reach of The “Stop The Steal” Facebook Group.** “On Thursday morning, the Stop the Steal Facebook group’s growth skyrocketed further, according to data from CrowdTangle, a Facebook-owned social media analytics tool. That was when right-wing figures such as [Jack Posobiec](#), a pro-Trump activist, and Amy Kremer, Ms. Kremer’s mother and a founder of a group called Women for Trump, began posting about the Facebook group on Twitter. Ali Alexander, a political operative who previously went by the name Ali Akbar, also tweeted dozens of times about the Stop the Steal movement to his 140,000 Twitter followers.” [[New York Times](#), [11/05/20](#)]

**Posobiec’s Rise To Right Wing Fame Was Elevated By Ties To White Supremacy Movement, Including Richard Spencer.** “Posobiec’s ties to far-right extremists travel beyond borders into Europe. His connections to white supremacy are too numerous to compile into one article, so Hatewatch is running a series of stories on the correspondent’s ties to the movement and promotion of it. This first story in the series lays out how Posobiec rose from being a pseudonymous Game of Thrones blogger to linking up with such white supremacists as Richard Spencer and a neo-Nazi who endorsed terrorism while using the online handle @PureWhiteEvil.” [[SPLC](#), [7/08/20](#)]

**Posobiec Promoted Multiple Marches By A Polish Neo-Nazi Party—including While He Was Working For OANN.** “In April 2017, Posobiec amplified for his Twitter followers an event staged by the Polish neo-fascist political movement called Obóz Narodowo-Radykalny (ONR). ONR has a long history of promoting and emulating Nazism. As the German Nazi movement of the 1930s rose across the border, ONR sought a “cleansing” of Jews in Poland. ONR members were also responsible for a wave of violence targeted at the country’s Jewish population. As recently as June 2019, authorities opened an investigation into ONR after they publicly commemorated the memory of a Belgian member of the Schutzstaffel (SS), which was the paramilitary arm of Hitler’s Nazi party. Posobiec, as well as Canadian white nationalist pundit Stefan Molyneux, participated in a march on Warsaw that included ONR, as well as a collection of other extreme far-right groups. Marchers that day chanted “white Poland,” according to a report in The New York Times. The march took place in November 2018, while Posobiec was employed by OANN. Someone took a picture of him at the march, walking with a child in his arms.” [[SPLC, 07/22/20](#)]

**Posobeic Has Collaborated And Promoted The Work Of Neo-Fascists, Pro-Hitler Commentators, White Nationalists, And Anti-Semites.** “Far-right commentator Jack Posobiec is a current host on One America News Network (OANN), an information network widely known to distort facts and which has been embraced by President Trump. This investigation has found that Posobiec — a Trump favorite — has collaborated with white supremacists, neo-fascists and anti-Semites for years, while producing propaganda that Trump and his inner circle have publicly celebrated.” [Southern Poverty Law Center, [Accessed 7/01/21](#)]

**Posobeic Was One Of The Most Prominent Promoters Of Pizzagate, A QAnon Predecessor That Alleged That Hillary Clinton Was Running A Child Sex Dungeon Out Of A DC Pizza Shop.** “This isn’t the first time Posobiec, a former naval intelligence officer, has played a lead role in promoting hoaxes. He was one of the most prominent promoters of the Pizzagate conspiracy theory, that held that the Washington D.C. pizzeria Comet Ping Pong was really a front for a child sex dungeon run by Hillary Clinton. He even went to the restaurant to find out ‘what’s really going on’ there.” [Daily Beast, [6/03/20](#)]

## **A White Supremacist Terrorist Cited Candace Owens As His Main Inspiration**

**The White Supremacist Terrorist Behind The Christchurch Mass Shooting In New Zealand, Which Targeted Muslim Mosque-Goers, Said Owens “Influenced Him Above All” In His Manifesto.** “‘The person who has influenced me above all is Candace Owens. Each time she spoke I was stunned by her insights and her own views helped me push further and further into the belief of violence over meekness,’ Brenton Tarrant wrote in a ‘manifesto’ he published on Facebook before committing a massacre against Muslims.” [TRT World, [3/15/19](#)]

**Candace Owens Had A Prior History Of Making Statements Criticizing Islam That Referenced Gun Rights.** “Below are some of Owens’ other tweets regarding Muslims and some of her tweets on guns with references to the 2nd Amendment. Owens has repeatedly warned against the prospect of countries becoming “Muslim majority” and has referred to the NRA as the “oldest civil rights organization in the country.” [Business Insider, [3/15/19](#)]

## **TPUSA Has Published Racially Insensitive Content**

**A TPUSA Web Series Posted An Episode Claiming That The Black Lives Matter Movement “Doesn’t Care About Black People.”** [TPUSA Live, [9/09/20](#)]

**TPUSA Claimed That Critical Race Theory Teaches White People To “Hate Their Race.”** “CRT is an academic movement that is currently infiltrating our schools, workplaces, and government. CRT teaches white people to hate their race and that America is an inherently racist country. It is also, like many Leftist movements, is a trojan horse to import Marxism.” [TPUSA, [6/03/21](#)]

## **TPUSA Leader Charlie Kirk Has Been Accused Of Spreading An Anti-Semitic Conspiracy Theory**

**Kirk Is A Promoter Of The “Cultural Marxism” Conspiracy Theory.** “The term “Cultural Marxism” has been bandied about by Andrew Breitbart,<sup>10</sup> founder of Turning Point USA Charlie Kirk,<sup>11</sup> young right- 7 Before his death, Andrew Breitbart, the founder of Breitbart News, which was later taken over by Steve Bannon, was the main promoter of the “cultural Marxism” conspiracy theory on Fox News. <sup>11</sup> Charlie Kirk, “French Rioters Know the Truth About Democratic Socialism—Let’s Not Bring it to America” Fox News Accessed October 7, 2019 Journal of Social Justice <sup>5</sup> wing pundit Ben Shapiro,<sup>12</sup> Washington State Representative Matt Shea,<sup>13</sup> Alex Jones’s media outlet Infowars, <sup>14</sup> and members of Brazilian far-right President Jair Bolsonaro’s administration,” [Journal Of Social Justice, [2019](#)]

**Law And History Professor Samuel Moyn Said “The Legend Of Cultural Marxism Recycles Old Anti-Semitic Tropes To Give Those Who Feel Threatened A Scapegoat.”** “And while increasingly popular worries about cosmopolitan elites and economic globalization can sometimes transcend the most noxious anti-Semitism, talk of cultural Marxism is inseparable from it. The legend of cultural Marxism recycles old anti-Semitic tropes to give those who feel threatened a scapegoat.” [New York Times Opinion, [11/13/18](#)]

**The Southern Poverty Law Center Called “Cultural Marxism” “A Conspiracy Theory With An Anti-Semitic Twist.”** “Right-wing ideologues, racists and other extremists have jazzed up political correctness and repackaged it — in its most virulent form, as an anti-Semitic theory that identifies Jews in general and several Jewish intellectuals in particular as nefarious, communistic destroyers. These supposed originators of “cultural Marxism” are seen as conspiratorial plotters intent on making Americans feel guilty and thus subverting their Christian culture.” [Southern Poverty Law Center, [8/15/03](#)]

## **TPUSA Has A History Of Legal Violations**

### **TPUSA Been Accused Of Nonprofit, FEC, And Other Financial Violations**

**TPUSA Was Accused By Former Workers Of Violating Its Nonprofit Status By Coordinating Directly With Ted Cruz And Marco Rubio’s 2016 Presidential Campaigns On Behalf Of Ginni Thomas, The Wife Of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas.** “Several former Turning Point employees told me in interviews that they felt they were asked to participate in activities that crossed lines drawn by campaign-finance laws for groups like theirs. Payden Hall, who worked for Turning Point during the 2016 Presidential campaign, told me that Clanton, who was her boss, e-mailed her at her Turning Point address to make arrangements



for her to coordinate with Ginni Thomas, the wife of the Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, to help Ted Cruz's Presidential campaign." [New Yorker, [12/21/17](#)]

**Turning Point Action Faced An FEC Complaint For FEC Violations During The 2020 Election For Improperly Disclosing Campaign Finance Activity, Only Disclosing \$34,000 Of Their \$1.4M In 2020 Independent Expenditures.** "According to a complaint filed in March with the Federal Election Commission by the watchdog group Crew, Turning Point Action failed to identify donors, as the law requires, for its expenditures, which included online ads and other political operations. After Crew's complaint, the group amended two of their FEC reports and later responded to FEC letters raising similar concerns. The group so far has disclosed donors for just under \$34,000 of their \$1.4m in 2020 independent expenditures. It's unclear if the FEC has taken any further action, a Crew press secretary said." [The Guardian, [10/23/21](#)]

***The Chronicle Of Higher Education Published An Investigation That Alleged That TPUSA Repeatedly Violated Transparency And Spending Caps By Flooding Student Elections On College Campuses With Dark Money.*** "The rising young conservative star uses his frequent Fox News appearances to blast college campuses as "islands of totalitarianism" filled with liberal students and faculty members who force their worldview upon those around them. So Mr. Kirk's nonprofit political-advocacy group, Turning Point USA, launched a secret counteroffensive. The goal: getting young conservatives elected to student government at universities around the country." [Chronicle Of Higher Education, [5/07/17](#)]