

Dinesh D'Souza Apologized For 2000 Mules—Will Kash Patel, Who Published A Book Promoting The Conspiracy Theory, Do The Same?

2,000 Mules (2022) Is A Conspiracy Theorist Documentary By Far-Right Influencer Dinesh D'Souza That Erroneously Claimed That Democrats Stole The 2020 Election Using “Mules” Who Provided Swing State Voters With Illegal Ballot Assistance

Dinesh D'Souza Is A Far-Right Conspiracy Theorist And Youtube Influencer Who Has Produced A Number Of Error-Riddled “Documentaries” Attacking Democratic Politicians

Dinesh D'Souza Is A Right-Wing Conspiracy Theorist And Influencer Known For Publishing Conspiracy Theory-Riddled Political Documentaries. “This week’s release of Police State was especially well-timed. The new pseudo-documentary film by conspiracy theorist and far-right influencer Dinesh D'Souza opened in theaters this week just as Jenna Ellis, one of Donald Trump’s election lawyers, pleaded guilty to a felony charge for her role in Trump’s efforts to overturn the election in Georgia... Yet more than 30 years after he first splashed onto the conservative media scene with his book Illiberal Education: The Politics of Race and Sex on Campus, it would be a mistake to ignore him. In 2012, D'Souza produced 2016: Obama’s America. Inspired by lefty filmmaker Michael Moore, the film blames Obama’s ‘failure’ to embrace American exceptionalism on his Kenyan father’s anti-colonialist activism. It became a sleeper hit, grossing more than \$33 million at the box office, making it one of the most financially successful documentaries ever. D'Souza has churned out six more films since then, focusing on Hillary Clinton or Trump, and nearly all of them conflating liberalism with Nazism, as he does in Police State. D'Souza’s previous film, 2000 Mules, helped perpetuate Trump’s lie that widespread voter fraud stole the 2020 presidential election from him.” [Mother Jones, [10/27/23](#)]

- **D'Souza Was Formerly A Policy Advisor To Ronald Reagan And Was Affiliated With The American Enterprise Institute And Hoover Institution.** “Born in Mumbai, Mr. Souza, 55, is a former policy adviser to President Ronald Reagan, and has been affiliated with conservative organizations such as the American Enterprise Institute and the Hoover Institution at Stanford University.” [The Hindu, [2/22/18](#)]
- **D'Souza Produced Seven “Films” Attacking Democratic Politicians Between 2012-2023, Each Peddling Far-Right Propaganda And Conspiracy Theories.** “In 2012, D'Souza produced 2016: Obama’s America. Inspired by lefty filmmaker Michael Moore, the film blames Obama’s ‘failure’ to embrace American exceptionalism on his Kenyan father’s anti-colonialist activism. It became a sleeper hit, grossing more than \$33 million at the box office, making it one of the most financially successful documentaries ever. D'Souza has churned out six more films since then, focusing on Hillary Clinton or Trump, and nearly all of them conflating liberalism with Nazism, as he does in Police State. D'Souza’s previous film, 2000 Mules, helped perpetuate Trump’s lie that widespread voter fraud stole the 2020 presidential election from him.” [Mother Jones, [10/27/23](#)]

In 2014, D'Souza Became A Convicted Felon And Was Sentenced To Five Years Of Probation For Violating A Campaign Finance Law, Which Trump Later Pardoned Him For

September 2014: Dinesh D'Souza Was Convicted On Felony Charges Of Having Violated A Campaign Finance Law And Was Sentenced To Five Years Of Probation, The First Eight Months Of Which Would

Be Served In A Community Confinement Center. “Preet Bharara, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced today that DINESH D’SOUZA was sentenced in Manhattan federal court to five years of probation, with eight months during the first year to be served in a community confinement center, after having pled guilty to violating the federal campaign election law by making illegal contributions to a United States Senate campaign in the names of others. D’SOUZA was sentenced today before U.S. District Judge Richard M. Berman. Manhattan U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara stated: ‘Dinesh D’Souza attempted to illegally contribute over \$10,000 to a Senate campaign, wilfully undermining the integrity of the campaign finance process. Like many others before him, of all political stripes, he has had to answer for this crime – here with a felony conviction.’” [Federal Bureau of Investigations, [9/23/14](#)]

Donald Trump Pardoned Dinesh D’Souza In 2018. “Dinesh D’Souza, the best-selling author and documentarian who received a presidential pardon for a felony conviction of making illegal campaign contributions, has spent almost four decades in a cycle of provocation and controversy that has made him, at times, a hero of the right... President Trump pardoned him on Thursday, saying that Mr. D’Souza had been ‘treated very unfairly by our government,’ echoing a claim the commentator has often made himself.” [The New York Times, [5/31/18](#)]

2022: Dinesh D’Souza Released 2000 Mules, In Which He Erroneously Claimed That Democrat-Aligned “Mules” Conducted Illegal Ballot Assistance In Swing States To Steal The 2020 Election From Donald Trump

In 2022, Dinesh D’Souza Released “2000 Mules,” A Pseudo-Documentary That Falsely Claimed That Democrat-Aligned “Mules” Illegally Collected And Dropped Off Ballots In Swing States To Steal The 2020 Election From Donald Trump. “Praised by former President Donald Trump as exposing ‘great election fraud,’ the movie, called ‘2000 Mules,’ paints an ominous picture suggesting Democrat-aligned ballot “mules” were supposedly paid to illegally collect and drop off ballots in Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. But that’s based on faulty assumptions, anonymous accounts and improper analysis of cellphone location data, which is not precise enough to confirm that somebody deposited a ballot into a drop box, according to experts. The movie was produced by conservative filmmaker Dinesh D’Souza and uses research from the Texas-based nonprofit True the Vote, which has spent months lobbying states to use its findings to change voting laws.” [The Associated Press, [5/3/22](#)]

- **In 2000 Mules, D’Souza Alleged That Individuals Were Paid To Collect And Submit Ballots On Behalf Of Swing Voters In Several States That Had Outlawed Ballot Assistance Measures.** “In a lengthy statement posted to his website on Sunday, D’Souza said that his movie — which asserts that ‘mules’ were paid to fraudulently deposit harvested ballots in swing states — had relied on ‘cell phone geolocation data’ provided by conservative non-profit group True the Vote. That data, D’Souza noted, had turned out to be false.” [The Independent, [12/2/24](#)]
- **2000 Mules Was Also Published As A Book.** “Far-right provocateur and pardoned felon Dinesh D’Souza has issued an apology over false accusations he made in his 2022 election conspiracy theory movie 2000 Mules, acknowledging that his claims about illegal ‘ballot trafficking’ during the 2020 presidential election were misleading and inaccurate... Adding that his movie and companion book created the ‘impression that these individuals were mules that had been identified as suspected ballot harvesters’ based on True the Vote’s cell phone data, D’Souza conceded that these people were wrongfully accused of misconduct.” [The Independent, [12/2/24](#)]

D’Souza Relied On Findings Provided By True The Vote, A Right-Wing Nonprofit That Had Previously Lobbied States To Pass Voter Suppression Measures. “The movie was produced by conservative filmmaker Dinesh D’Souza and uses research from the Texas-based nonprofit True the Vote, which has spent months lobbying states to use its findings to change voting laws. Neither responded to a request for comment. Here’s a closer look at the facts [...] CLAIM: At least 2,000 “mules” were paid to illegally collect ballots and deliver them to drop boxes in key swing states ahead of the 2020 presidential election. THE FACTS: True the Vote didn’t prove this. The finding is based on false assumptions about the precision of cellphone tracking data and the reasons that someone might drop off multiple ballots, according to experts.” [The Associated Press, [5/3/22](#)]

- The Associated Press: D’Souza’s Central Claim Was Based On A Faulty Analysis Of Cell Phone Tracking Data And The Unsubstantiated Report Of One Anonymous “Whistleblower.”** “CLAIM: At least 2,000 “mules” were paid to illegally collect ballots and deliver them to drop boxes in key swing states ahead of the 2020 presidential election. THE FACTS: True the Vote didn’t prove this. The finding is based on false assumptions about the precision of cellphone tracking data and the reasons that someone might drop off multiple ballots, according to experts... If a cellphone went near a drop box more than 10 times and a nonprofit more than five times from Oct. 1 to Election Day, True the Vote assumed its owner was a ‘mule’ — its name for someone engaged in an illegal ballot collection scheme in cahoots with a nonprofit. The group’s claims of a paid ballot harvesting scheme are supported in the film only by one unidentified whistleblower said to be from San Luis, Arizona, who said she saw people picking up what she ‘assumed’ to be payments for ballot collection. The film contains no evidence of such payments in other states in 2020. Plus, experts say cellphone location data, even at its most advanced, can only reliably track a smartphone within a few meters — not close enough to know whether someone actually dropped off a ballot or just walked or drove nearby.” [The Associated Press, [5/3/22](#)]

Donald Trump Heavily Promoted 2000 Mules

Trump Heavily Promoted 2000 Mules On Social Media And Held A Screening For The Film At Mar-a-Lago. “Profit it did, politically and financially. According to Salem Media Group, the film grossed over \$10 million in revenue. Trump himself heavily promoted 2,000 Mules on social media, and even held a private screening of the “documentary” for his most outspoken election deniers at his Mar-a-Lago resort.” [Rolling Stone, [12/2/24](#)]

Trump Called 2000 Mules “The Greatest & Most Impactful Documentary Of Our Time.” “The president-elect called [2000 Mules] ‘the greatest & most impactful documentary of our time,’ going so far as to cite its claims in a personal rebuttal to the Jan. 6 investigative congressional hearings held in 2022.” [Rolling Stone, [12/2/24](#)]

2024: As Part Of A Legal Settlement, D’Souza And 2000 Mules’ Publisher Retracted The Film And Issued Formal Letters Of Apology Acknowledging The Film Had Been Premised On Erroneous Data

May 2024: After Being Sued, 2000 Mules’ Publisher Apologized To A Georgia Voter And Pulled The Film And Book From Its Platforms

October 2022: Mark Andrews, A Georgia Voter Depicted In 2000 Mules, Sued D’Souza, True The Vote, And Its Publisher, Salem Media Group.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION	
MARK ANDREWS, Plaintiff, v. DINESH D’SOUZA, TRUE THE VOTE, INC., CATHERINE ENGELBRECHT, GREGG PHILLIPS, D’SOUZA MEDIA LLC, SALEM MEDIA GROUP, INC., and JOHN DOES, Defendants.	Case No. _____ JURY TRIAL DEMANDED COMPLAINT

[*Andrews v. D'Souza*, complaint via DocumentCloud, [10/26/22](#)]

- **Andrews' Lawsuit Alleged That 2000 Mules Had Pandered False Information That Had Led To Threats Against Him And His Family.** "According to Andrews' lawsuit, the allegations in '2,000 Mules' led to violent threats against him and his family. 'They worry that again they will be baselessly accused of election crimes, and that believers in the 'mules' theory may recognize and seek reprisal against them, and that they may face physical harm,' the lawsuit alleged." [NPR, [5/31/24](#)]

May 2024: Salem Media Group Settled The Lawsuit With Andrews For An Undisclosed Amount And Issued A Formal Letter Of Apology To Andrews. "According to a court filing in a related case, Salem settled the lawsuit brought by Andrews for an undisclosed "significant" amount. In the statement on its website, Salem wrote, 'It was never our intent that the publication of the '2000 Mules' film and book would harm Mr. Andrews. We apologize for the hurt the inclusion of Mr. Andrews' image in the movie, book, and promotional materials have caused Mr. Andrews and his family.'" [NPR, [5/31/24](#)]

- **In Its Apology Letter To Andrews, Salem Media Group Acknowledged The Film Was Based On Erroneous Information.** "Salem Media Group, Inc.'s (OTCQX: SALM) former publishing division, Regnery Publishing (together, 'Salem'), published a film and book entitled 2000 Mules that examines allegations of voter fraud related to the 2020 presidential election. In publishing the film and the book, we relied on representations made to us by Dinesh D'Souza and True the Vote, Inc. ('TTV') that the individuals depicted in the videos provided to us by TTV, including Mr. Andrews, illegally deposited ballots. We have learned that the Georgia Bureau of Investigation has cleared Mr. Andrews of illegal voting activity in connection with the event depicted in 2000 Mules. It was never our intent that the publication of the 2000 Mules film and book would harm Mr. Andrews. We apologize for the hurt the inclusion of Mr. Andrews' image in the movie, book, and promotional materials have caused Mr. Andrews and his family. We have removed the film from Salem's platforms, and there will be no future distribution of the film or the book by Salem." [Salem Media Group, [5/31/24](#)]
- **Salem Media Group Also Pulled The Film From Its Website And Halted Distribution Of The Book.** "Salem Media Group, Inc.'s (OTCQX: SALM) former publishing division, Regnery Publishing (together, 'Salem'), published a film and book entitled 2000 Mules that examines allegations of voter fraud related to the 2020 presidential election. In publishing the film and the book, we relied on representations made to us by Dinesh D'Souza and True the Vote, Inc. ('TTV') that the individuals depicted in the videos provided to us by TTV, including Mr. Andrews, illegally deposited ballots. We have learned that the Georgia Bureau of Investigation has cleared Mr. Andrews of illegal voting activity in connection with the event depicted in 2000 Mules. It was never our intent that the publication of the 2000 Mules film and book would harm Mr. Andrews. We apologize for the hurt the inclusion of Mr. Andrews' image in the movie, book, and promotional materials have caused Mr. Andrews and his family. We have removed the film from Salem's platforms, and there will be no future distribution of the film or the book by Salem." [Salem Media Group, [5/31/24](#)]

December 2024: Dinesh D'Souza Issued A Letter Of Apology Acknowledging That His Film Had Relied On False Information

December 2024: Dinesh D'Souza Issued A Formal Letter Of Apology To Mark Andrews, Acknowledging That 2000 Mules' Central Claims Were Unsubstantiated. "As those who have seen the film or read the book know, '2000 Mules' was based on cell phone geolocation data collected and reviewed by True the Vote... We recently learned that surveillance videos used in the film may not have actually been correlated with the geolocation data... I owe this individual, Mark Andrews, an apology. I now understand that the surveillance videos used in the film were characterized on the basis of inaccurate information provided to me and my team. If I had known then that the videos were not linked to geolocation data, I would have clarified this and produced and edited the film differently." [D'Souza Media, [12/2/24](#)]

- **D'Souza Nonetheless Claimed That "The Underlying Premise Of The Film Holds True," Citing An Unsubstantiated Whistleblower's Testimony As Evidence.** "While the video in the film created an incorrect inference as to Mr. Andrews, the underlying premise of the film holds true. Indeed, the

accuracy of the general proposition of ‘2000 Mules’ was publicly confirmed recently by the disclosure of a leading Democratic organizer, who admitted to an undercover journalist that the premise of ‘2000 Mules’ is accurate.” [D’Souza Media, [12/2/24](#)]

In August 2022, FBI Director Nominee Kash Patel Repackaged 2000 Mules As A Children’s Book That Rehashed D’Souza’s Conspiracy Theory And Portrayed D’Souza As A Hero

Donald Trump Nominated Kash Patel For FBI Director In November 2024

November 2024: Donald Trump Announced He Was Nominating Kash Patel As FBI Director.

“President-elect Donald Trump plans to nominate firebrand loyalist Kash Patel to serve as FBI director, an extraordinary move that would put a self-described enemy of the so-called deep state as the head of the nation’s top law enforcement agency — a role that would give Patel power to carry out Trump’s threats to go after his political opponents.” [CNN, [12/1/24](#)]

Kash Patel Has Claimed That The FBI Is Part Of A “Deep State” Conspiracy Against Donald Trump And His Allies

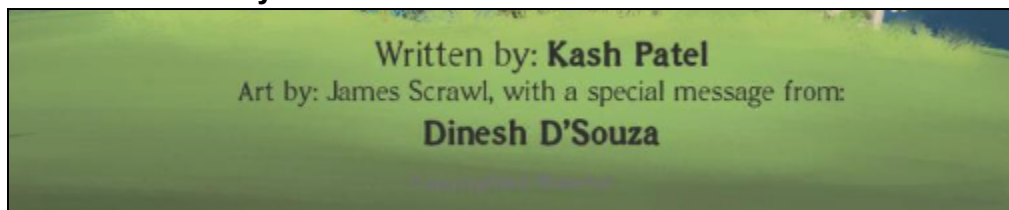
“As he continues stocking his new administration with staunch loyalists, President-elect Trump on Saturday nominated Kash Patel to be FBI director. Patel claims that the FBI is part of what he calls the “deep state” conspiracy against Trump and his allies.” [Montana PBS, [12/1/24](#)]

Kash Patel Published A Children’s Book Valorizing Dinesh D’Souza While Promoting The 2000 Mules Conspiracy Theory

Kash Patel Published “The Plot Against The King: 2000 Mules” In August 2022

August 2022: Kash Patel Published A Children’s Book Titled *The Plot Against The King: 2000 Mules*, Which Told “The Fantastical Story Of How Two Inquisitive Minds, Dinesha And Debbie” Uncovered Alleged Election Fraud Targeting Donald Trump’s 2020 Election Campaign. “The Plot Against the King 2000 Mules...August 29, 2022...Kash Patel tells the fantastical story of how two inquisitive minds, Dinesh and Debbie, search for the truth and uncover evidence of a terrible scheme to elect Sleepy Joe instead of King Donald on Choosing Day. Included in the book is a special message from Dinesh D’Souza.” [Amazon.com, accessed [12/2/24](#)]

- **The Book Was Authored By Kash Patel But Also Credited Dinesh D’Souza.**



[Amazon.com, sample of *The Plot Against the King: 2,000 Mules*, accessed [12/2/24](#)]

- **The Book Included A “Special Message” From Dinesh D’Souza.** “Included in the book is a special message from Dinesh D’Souza.” [Amazon.com, accessed [12/2/24](#)]

According To A Website Promoting The Book, “The Plot Against The King: 2000 Mules” Was Debuted By President Trump

An Archived Version Of [PlotAgainstTheKing.Com](#) Claims President Trump “Debuted” *The Plot Against The King: 2000 Mules*.

The Plot Against the King: 2,000 Mules out now! Written by Kash Patel, in collaboration with Dinesh D'Souza, debuted by President Trump →

**The Plot Against the King
2,000 Mules**

Kash Patel partners with Brave Books to bring a fantastical retelling of the horrible plot against Donald Trump to the whole family. It teaches fairness, integrity, and most of all: the importance of being truthful.

[Buy Now](#)

[plotagainsttheking.com, via the Wayback Machine, archived [12/8/22](#)]

President Trump Praised The Book On TruthSocial, Writing “Now Children Will Grow Up Knowing The True History Of The Russia, Russia, Russia Hoax And The Rigged And Stolen Election Of 2020.”

Donald J. Trump 
@realDonaldTrump

Congratulations to our great Kash Patel on writing the Number One children's book in the Country, The Plot Against the King: 2,000 Mules. Now children will grow up knowing the true History of the Russia, Russia, Russia Hoax and the Rigged and Stolen Election of 2020. Get your copy today!
plotagainsttheking.com/

plotagainsttheking.com
The Plot Against the King
Official website for Kash Patel books.

3.72k ReTruths 15.9k Likes Oct 28, 2022, 6:43 PM

[TruthSocial, @realDonaldTrump, [10/28/22](#)]

Kash Patel Praised 2000 Mules As A “Brilliant Film” When Announcing His Book

Kash Patel Appeared On Steve Bannon’s Podcast “War Room,” Where He Praised 2000 Mules As A “Brilliant Film.” “...And today on your show exclusively, we are launching, in collaboration with Dinesh D’Souza, after his brilliant film *2,000 Mules, The Plot Against The King: 2,000 Mules...*” [Rumble, at 06:20, accessed [12/2/24](#)]

Patel Has Promised To Use A Second Trump Administration To Hunt Down And Punish “Conspirators” Who Opposed Trump

2023: While Speaking On Steve Bannon’s War Room Podcast, Kash Patel Promised To Hunt Down And Punish “Conspirators” Who Opposed Trump During A Potential Second Trump Presidency. “Now, a key political ally who's been touted as a possible acting attorney general under Trump is doubling down on those threats, vowing to target those he called ‘conspirators’ among journalists and government officials during a potential second Trump administration. ‘We will go out and find the conspirators not just in government, but in the media,’ said former Defense Department official Kash Patel during an appearance on Steve Bannon’s War Room podcast.” [ABC News, [12/6/23](#)]

- **Patel: “We Will Go Out And Find The Conspirators Not Just In Government, But In The Media.”** “Now, a key political ally who's been touted as a possible acting attorney general under Trump is doubling down on those threats, vowing to target those he called ‘conspirators’ among journalists and government officials during a potential second Trump administration. ‘We will go out and find the conspirators not just in government, but in the media,’ said former Defense Department official Kash Patel during an appearance on Steve Bannon's War Room podcast.” [ABC News, [12/6/23](#)]
- **Patel: “We’re Going To Come After You Whether It’s Criminally Or Civally.”** “We're going to come after you whether it's criminally or civilly,’ Patel said of Trump's political foes. ‘We'll figure that out.’” [ABC News, [12/6/23](#)]

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