

From: Steve Lefemine  
Sent: 1/29/2016 4:28:16 PM  
To:  
Cc:  
Subject: Trump's Dangerous Authoritarian Attraction: Germany 1933 - Hitler; America 2008/2012 - Obama; 2016 - Trump ?

Steve Lefemine [ 'S.L.' ]  
Columbia, SC  
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## **Trump's Dangerous Authoritarian Attraction:**

**Germany 1933 - Hitler;**

**America 2008/2012 - Obama; 2016 - Trump ?**

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National Review

### **Trump, the Anti-Constitutional Authoritarian — Liberty Lovers, Beware**

<<http://www.nationalreview.com/article/428208/trump-anti-constitutional-authoritarian>>  
December 8, 2015

Excerpt [ emphasis added; embedded hyperlinks omitted, but available in on-line original ]:

"Indeed, if the current **Republican** front-runner is any indication of things to come, **large swathes of the party have already abandoned their talk of “constitutional conservatism” and “limited government” and embraced a flat-out authoritarianism,** at least as preached by “The Donald.” Whatever else he might be, the idea of Trump as a paladin of civil liberties should make one howl with terrible laughter. Since he announced his candidacy, Trump has threatened

to ignore those who are carping about free speech and shut down parts of the Internet; he has promised to summarily deport those who are suspected of being illegal immigrants, without due process of law; he has endorsed extensive campaign-finance regulations that fly directly in the face of the First Amendment; he has vowed to restrict the Second Amendment rights of those on the terror watch list, again without due process; he has praised Franklin Roosevelt's internment of American citizens, suggested that natural-born Americans can be deported against their will, and proposed that American Muslims be barred from reentering the country; he has described as "wonderful" a Supreme Court ruling that obliterated the "public use" limitations on the invocation of eminent domain; and he has refused to rule out registering Americans on the basis of their faith."

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## **Revisiting 1930s Authoritarianism Through Donald Trump**

<<http://www.commondreams.org/views/2015/08/29/revisiting-1930s-authoritarianism-through-donald-trump>>

*Published on Saturday, August 29, 2015 by*

*Rabble.ca* <<http://rabble.ca/columnists/2015/08/revisiting-1930s-authoritarianism-through-donald-trump>>[ Photo omitted ]

The ease with which Trump has captured the political support of so many is more revealing than anything particular he has to say. (Photo: Gage Skidmore <<https://flic.kr/p/9hHrit>>/flickr/cc)

[ Excerpt, edited ]

Give this to Donald Trump

<[http://www.thestar.com/topic.donald\\_trump.html](http://www.thestar.com/topic.donald_trump.html)>: he helps us picture how the anti-democratic, right-wing, personality-driven movements of the 1930s came to power. Those movements are

usually characterized as fascist though they were diverse, and the term itself is [ omitted ] hard to define. As time passed, they faded into an inexplicably "evil" moment in history which thankfully couldn't happen here or now.

In fact a satirical 1935 novel set in the U.S. was titled, *It Can't Happen Here*. When it was adapted for the 1980s TV series, *V*, homegrown authoritarians seemed so unlikely to network execs, they were turned into alien invaders. But, though Trump's certainly no fascist, he helps us revisit the spirit of that distant era.

He's relatively indifferent to democracy. Very early, he said he'd like to "expedite" the election, i.e., get it over with and on to taking power. This week in Iowa he said he wished the vote was tomorrow. His policies are utterly vague; there's no point articulating them, it's all in his head. He'll get the best people, make the best deals, "you're gonna love it." It amounts to trusting him absolutely, the strong leader, whose brilliance, success, even his physical beauty, are undeniable. There's no concrete participation. He "loves" his base and will look after them; their only role is to love him back.

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### **[WashPost's] Gerson: Trump Is 'Flirting With Authoritarianism' When Praising Putin**

<<http://www.breitbart.com/video/2015/12/27/wapos-gerson-trump-is-flirting-with-authoritarianism-when-praising-putin/>>

27 Dec 2015

[ Emphasis added ]