
Book Reviews

Smear artists and sex scandals, then and now

by Edward Spannaus

Anatomy of a Scandal: An Investigation into the Campaign to Undermine the Clinton Presidency

by James D. Retter

Los Angeles: General Publishing Group, 1998
320 pages, hardbound, \$22.95

Although there have been many useful accounts published in various locations, exposing the fraud of one or another of the innumerable scandals hitting President Clinton, the utility of *Anatomy of a Scandal* is that it pulls many of these accounts together, along with the author's own original research, into one book. But beyond that, what is the most unique and challenging element of this book is its leitmotif, drawing the parallels to a much earlier politics-and-sex scandal—that wielded 200 years ago against Alexander Hamilton.

But first, President Clinton. Retter dissects each of the major scandals hitting the President, starting with Gennifer Flowers and Paula Jones, and running through Whitewater, Troopergate, and others, to show how each was contrived by Clinton's enemies, and in most cases aided and abetted by money from Richard Mellon Scaife.

Retter begins with Gennifer Flowers, and piece by piece, he tears her stories apart, from her bogus claim that Clinton improperly got her a state job to keep her from talking, to her peddling heavily edited tapes of phone conversations with Clinton to the *Star* and *Penthouse*, which, when Retter actually listened to the tapes, prove absolutely nothing. For example, take Flower's widely publicized allegation that she had a 12-year affair with Bill Clinton. How many people know that she claimed to have begun this affair in 1979 or 1980, in a hotel in Little Rock that wasn't built until 1982? Or that when she was first accused of having an affair with Clinton, she absolutely denied it, and her lawyers threatened to sue the purveyor of the story? That was Larry Nichols, whom Governor Clinton had fired from his state job in 1988, for spending most of his time trying to rally support for the Nicaraguan Contras; in January 1992, Nichols apologized for his attacks on Clinton, and added that "a London newspaper" had offered

him half a million dollars for a story.

Nichols also said in early 1992 that he didn't know anything about drug-running and gun-running at Mena airfield in Arkansas. But, as Retter writes: "That, however, was before producer Pat Matrisciana came to Little Rock and offered to put Larry Nichols in an anti-Clinton video called "Circle of Power," soon to be followed by the "Clinton Chronicles." Suddenly, Larry Nichols knew a great deal about Mena airport, smuggled drugs, and Bill Clinton's personal life."

That kind of girl

In the first version of Paula Jones's complaint in her sexual harassment suit, she claimed that then-Gov. Bill Clinton made a sexual advance toward her, and that she had exclaimed, "I'm not that kind of girl." Besides documenting that the preponderance of evidence shows that Jones is lying about what happened, Retter also does what Clinton's lawyers were not allowed to do: to show that Paula Jones in fact *was* "that kind of girl."

Moreover, Retter shows that Paula Jones's sworn statements about when the alleged incident took place are false. In her lawsuit, Jones says that she was summoned to Clinton's room by trooper Danny Ferguson at about 2:30 p.m. on the afternoon of May 8, 1991. She claims that she returned to the registration desk 20 or 30 minutes later, that she was extremely shaken and upset, and left the conference shortly thereafter. What Retter shows, is that Clinton gave a speech at the hotel at 8:00 a.m., then went back to the Governor's Mansion for a luncheon with a delegation of European industrialists, and was at the Mansion all afternoon. (It has been reported, since the book's publication, that Clinton's lawyers were aware of the discrepancy, and were saving it for the trial.)

Retter also takes apart Ambrose Evans-Pritchard's and Chris Ruddy's accounts of the "murder" of Vincent Foster; he shows the role of Richard Mellon Scaife in financing the Vincent Foster murder theories and other nefarious propaganda activities, and he chronicles many of the falsehoods in the Jerry Falwell-financed and -distributed "Clinton Chronicles." Retter goes on to provide useful background on televangelists Falwell and Pat Robertson, and also on talk-show blowhard Rush Limbaugh—showing what frauds and hypocrites they are.

The first political sex scandal

Retter's research shows that Clinton is not the first to be so victimized in Washington politics.

Our first Treasury Secretary, Alexander Hamilton, was set up beginning in 1791 in a plot, engineered by Aaron Burr, in which he was entrapped into a sexual relationship with Maria Reynolds, and then blackmailed by her witting husband. Documents concerning the affair were leaked, probably by Thomas Jefferson, to a smear artist named James Callender, who published them during the 1796 campaign, subsidized by Jefferson's money.

Hamilton then decided to "come clean" (just as many are

urging President Clinton to do today). Hamilton published a lengthy account of the entire affair, which he naively expected would bring the matter to an end. But instead, Callender then denounced Hamilton's confession as a lie, claiming that Hamilton had *never* had an affair with Maria Reynolds, and that he was using the story of the affair and blackmail to cover up a vast embezzlement scheme involving the U.S. Treasury!

As Retter writes, in his introduction to the chapter on the Paula Jones case:

"Alexander Hamilton could attest that, with sex and politics, honesty is not always a good career move. But the Maria Reynolds affair showed that, with a strange lady in a hotel room, prudence dictates knowing the literal route taken by the lady to the room, and the political route taken afterwards. Revealed also is the inestimable value of someone like James Callender; for what good is a scandal without a smear artist to spread it around?"

Then, and now

Retter opens a later chapter—dealing with Richard Melton Scaife, Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, the Vincent Foster case, and the "Clinton Chronicles"—with the following:

"Sex and the sleaze artist *then*:" in which Retter describes Jefferson's rivalry with Hamilton, and Jefferson's subsidy of Callender to smear Hamilton, which Callender carried out in his series of pamphlets called *The History of the United States for 1796*, following the publication of which "editors editorialized, partisans demanded investigations, and Hamilton was put in the impossible position of trying to defend a negative."

"Sex and the sleaze artist *now*:" in which Retter writes: "Unlike James Callender, who never saw the front door at Monticello, smear artists are not always down-on-their-luck hacks. Sometimes they hail from Oxford, take high tea, and have hyphenated last names, like Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, Washington correspondent for the London *Sunday Telegraph*. . . ."

Retter does not explore the deeper parallels between the plots launched by British-Swiss intelligence agent Burr¹ against Hamilton, the architect of the "American System" of economics, and those launched by British intelligence agent Evans-Pritchard against the President of the United States today.² For that, one must turn to *EIR*. But *Anatomy of a Scandal* is a useful compilation of documentation and anecdotes about the perpetrators and conspirators who have carried out the defamation of President Clinton over the past few years—and for that, it deserves wide circulation.

1. See Anton Chaitkin, *Treason in America: From Aaron Burr to Averell Harriman*, second edition (New York: New Benjamin Franklin House, 1985).

2. Regarding the role of Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, see especially "New 'Diana Wars' in Britain Put Focus on LaRouche," *EIR*, June 19, 1998.

Will Michigan become 'euthanasia capital'?

by Linda Everett

Over the coming two months, the people of Michigan will effectively decide whether their state officially becomes the euthanasia capital of the United States. As leaders of nations grapple with the horrific impact of the global economic collapse, Michigan appears poised to accommodate a campaign to legalize genocide—as defined and condemned by the post-World War II Nuremberg Tribunal—against its sick, elderly, disabled, and indigent citizens, the same people whom Hitler claimed were "not worthy of life," and had murdered, 50 years ago.

How did this happen? How did this once-proud heart of the nation's auto industry come to find itself submitting to the explicitly Nazi agenda of the country's most aggressive euthanasia groups, Malthusian foundations, and "ethicists"?

These forces, supplemented by the efforts of billionaire parasite and euthanasia advocate George Soros to destroy U.S. medicine with more than \$30 million in programs aimed to promote the culture of death, succeeded in Oregon last year to make "physician-assisted suicide" legal. Now, they've joined a coalition of Michigan leaders, including Doug Frasier and Irving Bluestone, the retired president and vice-president of the United Auto Workers (UAW), respectively, to train their guns at Michigan, where Jack Kevorkian's "assisted-suicide" campaign has thrived for nine years. At the same time, Kevorkian's attorney is running for governor on a platform calling for legalizing "assisted suicide" and drugs. Will Michigan become just one big burial ground?

First 'useless workers,' then 'useless eaters'

Two decades ago, General Motors, Chrysler, and Ford began to cut their domestic workforces in half, by hiring cheap labor in other countries. Michigan has lost more than 38% of its auto jobs to "globalization" policies over the last 20 years. The deindustrialization of Michigan's auto industry robbed the state of the productive economic base it needed to produce wealth, and to continually raise the living standards of the population. Economic policies that favored speculation and gambling casinos replaced sound economic principles that assured production of the goods, infrastructure, health care, education, research, and all the essential services necessary to develop the citizens' power of reason, enabling them to see and solve the problems before them.

Instead, we see today, that much of the Michigan population hails the very antithesis of technological progress and