

Bari Weiss Israelifies CBS on behalf of billionaire masters

The Grayzone's Max Blumenthal and Aaron Mate on the essential utility of CBS editor in chief Bari Weiss to the billionaire Ellison family which recently bought CBS. ||| The Grayzone ||| Find more reporting at <https://thegrayzone.com> Support our original journalism at Patreon: <https://patreon.com/grayzone> Facebook: <https://facebook.com/thegrayzone> Twitter: <https://twitter.com/thegrayzonenews> Instagram: <https://instagram.com/thegrayzonenews> Minds: <https://minds.com/thegrayzone> Mastodon: <https://mastodon.social/@thegrayzone> #TheGrayzone

#Max

We can be sure there will be more scandals like this, and it's just embarrassing for corporate media in general. It weakens their credibility—there's really none left for the pro-Israel cause in the U.S.—but this further undermines it. And we can be sure that if there's no reporting allowed on Seacott in El Salvador, there definitely won't be any reporting by 60 Minutes on Sde Teiman, probably the worst torture center in the world, in the Negev Desert of Israel, where massive amounts of sexual assault and brutal torture have been committed against hundreds of innocent Palestinian men kidnapped from Gaza. I think the message here is: look, whatever the cost is to credibility and losing face with Bari Weiss and the forces that put her there, as long as she's in that position, they can be assured that nothing will get through about Israel.

#Aaron

Absolutely. I mean, this is the animating cause of the Ellisons—the father and son, Larry and David Ellison. Apparently, there's a new article in The New York Times about them and how they didn't always have the best relationship, but their devotion to Israel has helped bring them together. The elder Ellison financed a film that the younger one starred in, called *Flyboys*.

#Max

I actually remember that—why he was in it. Well, he financed a film in which he was the actor. Yeah, exactly. Yeah, because it's like the Little League coach whose son sucks and can't field a ground ball, but he still gets to play shortstop. That's what it's like. Yeah, here it is—um, this is from the *New York Times* profile.

#Aaron

David Ellison dropped out of the University of Southern California's film school and started an acting career. His father heavily financed his first major movie as an actor, **Flyboys**, which was widely considered a flop. What was once a relatively weak father-son relationship has transformed into one of modern media's most intriguing business partnerships. Yes, so intriguing that this fail son, after a flop of an acting career, now gets to head one of the biggest media companies in the world—one that stands to get even bigger if they have their way and take over Warner Brothers, which would also give them control of CNN. Here's more.

Mr. Ellison was once a stalwart Clinton-era Democrat but has gravitated toward Trump, largely because of the president's support for Israel. Both Ellisons are close to Benjamin Netanyahu, whom one associate described as being like an uncle figure to David Ellison. That's so touching. I think Netanyahu is also an uncle figure to Jared Kushner, right? He's known Jared since he was a young boy.

#Max

We all have, like, a crazy, genocidal uncle. I mean, let's face it.

#Aaron

The ultimate racist uncle stereotype, right there.

#Max

He not only, you know, says things about Muslims—he does things. Exactly. He does real things. Yeah, yeah. So, David Ellison—I mean, we're basing our piece on Jack Poulson's reporting. Wyatt Reed reported that David Ellison had been recruited almost ten years ago as part of a "Twelve Tribes" initiative to find twelve U.S. billionaires to fight for Israel inside the U.S. media. He was to be one of those twelve Jewish billionaires, which they called the Twelve Tribes. He was emailing with Benny Gantz, and the emails leaked. It shows that he's been involved in this for a long time. His father was a radical Zionist who supposedly switched to Trump from the Hillary Clinton camp because he considered Trump to be a more reliable servant of ZOG.

And that's, you know, something that's happened with a lot of these tech billionaires. I think Marc Andreessen was a Democrat—you know, Andreessen Horowitz. Ben Horowitz probably was more of a right-winger because his father is David Horowitz. But a lot of the tech warlords who support Trump were Democrats, and Larry Ellison was one of them. Now he's the largest donor to Friends of the IDF. And it's very clear—what they've done, it's clear to everyone. I wonder how deep the influence goes at CBS. I mean, we're talking about **60 Minutes**. We have an email, and the

producers are up in arms. But this was the scene on *CBS Face the Nation* during the height of the holiday season, as Christmas loomed. And it was during one of the nights of Hanukkah—I don't know which night.

But my close colleague Anya Parampil did a side-by-side comparison of *CBS Face the Nation* before Bari Weiss and after. This is before—during the Hanukkah holiday, with Christmas on the way. In 2024, Major Harris was guest hosting. You see a Christmas tree, which is sort of a secular symbol—"O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum"—and there's the White House and the Capitol, and you don't really notice anything. Also, most Americans are technically Christian; it's a majority goyish country. Then you have Margaret Brennan hosting in the Bari Weiss era, and there's a gigantic menorah behind her. It's like the one they put up in the ruins of Gaza that the Israeli soldiers erected. I wonder if Bari Weiss came in and said, "I know we're 2.5% of the country, but we will be represented."

#Aaron

A hundred percent. That's what happened. Uh, someone wanted to keep their job and curry favor with Bari Weiss—decided to be the teacher's pet and just rush to make sure of that. Recently, it was reported that there was a CBS News foreign correspondent—I forget his name—who was about to lose his job in a wave of layoffs. He wrote to Bari Weiss, told her that he loves Israel, and that he'd been vilified internally because of his support for Israel. And she intervened and saved his job.

So in that kind of climate, it wouldn't surprise me if either Bari Weiss ordered the menorah, or someone trying to keep their job—or maybe get a promotion—had the giant menorah installed right behind the host, Margaret Brennan. And by the way, recently Margaret Brennan interviewed the director of UNICEF, the major children's charity. There was one question about Gaza at the very end, and the question was, "How are things improving in Gaza?" Not "Are things improving? What's the situation? How many kids have frozen to death recently in battered tents through storms as Israel blocks aid?" No—"How are things improving?" It was tucked in at the very, very end of the interview. So absolutely, people at CBS are taking their marching orders from the new Israel-First editor-in-chief.

#Max

Well, look at who she made anchor. How did this guy, Tony Dokoupil, rise to anchor? He chewed out Ta-Nehisi Coates. And, look, they just announced that Emmy Award-winning journalist Tony Dokoupil has been named anchor of CBS Evening News. He'll start on January 5th. And, I mean, this is a guy who not only chewed out Ta-Nehisi Coates for writing this book about, like, a 10-day tour he took of the West Bank. It's pretty basic stuff.

#Aaron

It belongs in the backpack of an extremist.

#Max

Yeah, it belongs—an extremist who says that Palestine is occupied. But he actually converted to Judaism for his wife, and then he got the cut. Like, this is an article he wrote called “My Adult Circumcision.” He agreed to make his penis over 30% less sensitive and to enjoy intimacy with his wife less, in order to fulfill his obligation to Judaism. He had a mohel come in as an adult. That’s some serious commitment. And I mean, how can we ignore this when Bari Weiss has just suddenly promoted him to lead anchor? Is it really a meritocracy or a mohel-itocracy? He made the cut.

#Aaron

You know, at least in these horrible times, this whole Bari Weiss thing—it’s funny. It’s like a comedy. It’s either a comedy or a horror movie, depending on your perspective. But it’s funny. It is. And it exposes just what a joke our corporate media system is—how it’s not about journalism and working hard. It’s about serving the establishment, in this case in the most obscene way. Not just serving, you know, American hegemony, but serving joint U.S.–Israeli hegemony. It’s all out in the open now. It’s so exposed. The mask is off, and it’s funny. I feel sorry for people who have to work under her, especially those who work hard on pieces like that spiked story about the torture of rendered Venezuelan immigrants to El Salvador. But it does provide, as we’re showing, some comic relief.

#Max

Yeah, I mean, it’s endless. Bari Weiss has been so vocal in her support of Israel, according to Variety, that she faces frequent death threats requiring her and her wife, Free Press co-founder Nellie Bowles, to have a detail of five bodyguards that costs the studio—what is it, the studio?—\$10,000 to \$15,000 a day. Oh, that’s right, CBS pays \$10,000 to \$15,000 a day for her and her wife to have five bodyguards. They’re probably Israeli, like ex-Special Forces guys, protecting her at all times and keeping the public away from her. That seems like a very normal use of money. I don’t know if she drives around in a bulletproof 2005 Subaru Forester, but like...

#Aaron

She goes to work in a convoy of SUVs, like she’s a head of state—literally, literally.

#Max

She’s like a one-woman convoy.

#Aaron

And you think—it's like this claim that she's receiving threats. It reminds me of when, after October 7th, she claimed that the Free Press offices in Hollywood or wherever had been vandalized with the most juvenile graffiti ever. It was like "Jews out" or something like that. It was so—oh yeah, it just seemed fake. We have false flags and we have false tags, and this seemed like a false tag.

#Max

Yeah, false tags. Uh, that was right after October 7th, inside her office.

#Aaron

Yeah.

#Max

I remember she claimed her office was defaced with anti-Semitic graffiti inside this hyper-securitized building in West L.A. She said, "This was scrawled outside our offices this week."

#Aaron

"F-Jews." Yeah, okay. "F-Israel." And what's the next one—something like "Blacks rule" or something like that?

#Max

If the anti-Semites who did this think it'll intimidate me and the journalists of the Free Press, they don't know me, they don't know us, and they have no idea what we stand for. No, I think we do have an idea of what you stand for. And you're the kind of person who actually would've done some fake hate crime—I hate to say it. Where's the CCTV footage? I mean, if you're so afraid of threats and you've got CBS paying \$15,000 a day to have some guys named Vince surrounding you, then you probably have CCTV outside your office. You can even see there's a keypad there. So, produce the footage. Of course, it reminded me of that scene where an old white man faked a hate crime—basically burned a Confederate flag himself and wrote "Blacks rule" on his own driveway during BLM.

#Aaron

Okay, my bad. I mixed up "Blacks rule" with Captain Barry. But it makes sense, because it just seems so on the nose. Yeah, "Blacks rule." Personally, I'm in the camp that this was a false flag at the Free Press. It was just too on the nose.

#Max

But there are stickers going around Lower Manhattan now that I'm seeing that say, "Investigate Bari Weiss."

#Aaron

Yeah. Well, speaking of stickers, there were also stickers in Manhattan after the rape hoax was pushed following October 7th. You started seeing ones with the Palestinian flag that said "Rape is resistance," as if supporters of Palestine had made stickers saying that rape is good. It was such an obvious Zionist op, and they have a history of doing stuff like that. So it's fair to speculate that the so-called vandalism at the Free Press office was also a hashtag.

#Max

Yeah, the Lavon Affair lives on. I love it. I mean, it couldn't be better for independent media. Yeah, but it's definitely damaging.