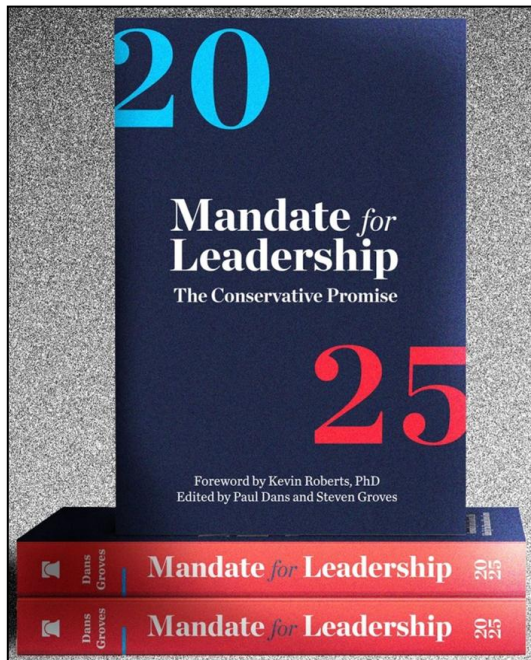


# Project 2025 Is Everywhere.

but **WHAT IS IT?**

by Linda Ritz White  
Editor



*This summer's special edition is an exhaustive study of Project 2025, the 922-page manifesto itself, and the culture, stink, and uproar surrounding it.*

*The blueprint that would turn the United States of America into an autocracy is complex. "Weird," as Harris/Walz label the ideals of Trump and his cronies, is the least of it. They are perverse and alarming!*

*Our bullet points are more concise, and also more expansive in sheer topic volume. A lot but not all of the wording in the bullet points is verbatim out of Project 2025. I left out quotation marks, as they would have been cumbersome. Read the complete Project 2025 document online [here](#).*

Word is getting out about *Project 2025*, and people are asking what the 922-page manifesto means.

Released in 2023 and dubbed by its creators a "Presidential Transition Project", Project 2025 is a complex series of proposals by the hard right Heritage Foundation to install unprecedented power in the presidency, and eradicate

## 922 Pages of Radical Policies that had better WAKE US UP!

- End the Affordable Care Act
- Cut Medicare
- Cut or radically reduce Social Security
- Raise the retirement age (now 67)
- Provide more tax breaks for corporations and the 1%
- Defund the FBI and Homeland Security
- Eliminate ALL climate protections

*The list continues on the next page*

checks on presidential control. This, of course, is contingent on Donald Trump being re-elected. If not, Heritage will wait for the next MAGA Republican.

## SOUNDING THE ALARM

So let's get into it. If you haven't been paying attention, be prepared, because it's scary stuff!

Project 2025 proposes to dismantle the Departments of Justice and State; eliminate the Departments of Homeland Security, Education, Commerce, and others; and radically repurpose other agencies.

- **Slash federal funds for research and investment in renewable energy, and ramp up on the production of oil and natural gas**
- **Eliminate many federal agencies, including Departments of State, Justice, Commerce, and Homeland Security, as well as the FDA, EPA, and NOAA, and concentrate the power of these departments in the office of the president; this would give Trump the power to investigate his political opponents and maybe even lock them up, [as he has already vowed to do.](#)**
- **Make the president overseer of all aspects of rulemaking and policy development**
- **Abolish the Federal Reserve, and consider a return to gold-backed currency**
- **Slash government spending, much of it by drastically downsizing our Civil Service**
- **Install Trump loyalists in all leadership, and require absolute loyalty to Trump among the rank and file**
- **Use the military against protesters (a First Amendment right) to break up ALL domestic protests**
- **Limit contraceptives and regulate or ban In Vitro Fertilization**
- **Withdraw the abortion pill Mifepristone, used during the first weeks of pregnancy (63% of abortions in the US)**
- **Eliminate the Department of Education and drain funds from public schools and into private schools.**

*The list continues on the next page*



The president would preside over all aspects of rulemaking and policy development. Recall that Trump’s many crimes went unmet while he was in office. It seems the powers that be, right down to our Attorney General, decided a sitting president can’t be charged. So you see what position that puts him in—and our country—if Trump is re-elected.

Recall that “above the law presidency” was this summer reinforced by our extremist new Supreme Court! More alarming stuff there! We will be going in depth on the Supreme Court in our Fall issue. Stay tuned.

## **CIVIL SERVICE EVISCERATED**

One frightening mandate in the radical playbook is its plan to eviscerate the nation’s professional civil service (there are 2.87 million federal employees).

The proposal is to 1) slash jobs, 2) replace all managers and top officials with Trump loyalists, and 3) demand absolute loyalty to the president from those who are not flagged for removal.

The Heritage Foundation is not waiting around to see if Trump wins. They have been recruiting and creating a database of loyalists to replace civil servants not fully on board with Trump. They intend to be much better prepared in 2024.

## **MOUTHPIECE FOR RELIGIOUS RIGHT AND CORPORATIONS**

In effect a mouthpiece for big corporate backers and the Christian right, Heritage isn’t even hiding its radical policies. In fact, officials have boasted that by the end of Trump’s second year in office, his administration had adopted nearly two-thirds of Heritage’s proposals for 2016.

Some of these included leaving the Paris Climate Agreement, increasing military

- **Ban education about sexual orientation and gender identity**
- **Ban African American and gender studies at all levels of education**
- **Ban books and curricula about slavery**
- **Ban women’s history lessons in schools**
- **Eliminate the Reproductive Healthcare Access Task Force**
- **Create a pro-life task force and use its authority to support pregnant women and their unborn children.**
- **Reinstate the ban of transgender people in the military**
- **Strive to maintain a biblically based, social science-reinforced definition of marriage and family, and state officially that married men and women are the ideal, natural family structure because all children have a right to be raised by the men and women who conceived them.**
- **End diversity, equity, and inclusion programs in schools and government departments, as part of what it describes as a wider crackdown on “woke” ideology.**
- **End birthright citizenship**
- **Finish the wall along the southern border and post active duty military along the border to help with arrest operations**
- **Eliminate visa categories for crime and human trafficking victims**
- **Increase fees on immigrants while allowing fast-tracked applications for migrants who are able to pay a premium.**

*The list continues on the next page*

spending, increasing off-shore drilling, developing federal lands, and slashing regulations to the financial benefit of big business. Are we jogging your memory?

Still, Heritage officials consider Trump’s first term a missed opportunity. Its chief officer was recently reported admitting that they regret taking too long to push through their policies, and “that must never be repeated”.

Keep in mind, federal civil servants are not supposed to be political. They are in place to do all of the nation’s business without favor, but based on law. One can only imagine the chaos and lawsuits that will ensue if civil servants with experience and expertise are replaced with hacks loyal to Trump!

## **THEY EXPECT A BACKLASH**

The Heritage Foundation is keenly aware of what its radical policies mean for democracy. They expect a backlash by citizens. They have a “fix” for that!

The document proposes to make protesting as we know it—a first amendment right—illegal by having Trump invoke the Insurrection Act, so he can sick our armed forces on their own people.

We know that Project 2025 is the brain child of the Heritage Foundation. What most of us don’t realize, but probably won’t be too surprised to learn, is that virtually all Heritage Foundation folk, and especially contributors to the manifesto, are former Trump staff, as well as some former elected officials, and some economists.

In total, 140 Project 2025 policy writers served in and around Donald Trump’s administration, many in “acting” roles in his Cabinet, appointed by Trump, not confirmed by the senate.



- **Bulldoze worker protections US workers have built up over more than 100 years of sacrifice and unity, including abolishing overtime pay laws, and health and safety protections.**
- **Eliminate the federal minimum wage, and make it harder to receive unemployment**
- **Take child labor laws all the way back to the 1920s.**
- **Outlaw public sector unions entirely**
- **Slash a long list of terms from all laws and federal regulations, including “sexual orientation”, “gender equality”, “abortion”, and “reproductive rights”.**
- **Ban pornography and imprison anyone caught producing or having it; shut down tech and telecoms companies that allow access**

*We could have gone on, but by now you should have the idea of what the USA will be with a Trump election win, basically a carbon copy of dictatorships around the world. Where do you think they learned it?*

You can be sure ALL of them are eagerly looking to go back if Trump is re-elected.

Some familiar names include Ken Cuccinelli, Christopher Miller, Rick Dearborn, Peter Navarro, who was recently released from prison for Contempt of Congress.

Then there is Steve Bannon, currently in prison for Contempt of Congress, who was also federally indicted for wire fraud and money laundering in his “build the wall” fundraising scam, but pardoned by Trump on his way out of office; Bannon faces trial at the state level (New York) in December for the same scheme. His co-conspirators in federal court, not pardoned by Trump, are serving 4-5 years in prison.

The people at the very helm of 2025, including its director, Paul Dans, one of its editors, Steven Groves, and associate director Spencer Chretien, all served in the Trump administration.

Contributors and advisors who didn’t work for Trump then, do now, from campaign workers to mouthpieces, and that applies generally to Heritage Foundation leadership and staff. Trump’s last chief of staff, Mark Meadows,

was one of the architects of the 2025 version. Is there really any question that Trump and his authoritarian crew were then, and are now, in the thick of it?

By the end of Trump’s presidency, there were more “acting” cabinet members than confirmed members. You didn’t last long if you didn’t go along, and Trump was finding his followers.

A cabinet reflects the values of the president who nominated its members. Then Democratic senator from Missouri Claire McCaskill summed up Trump’s Cabinet tidily: “I call it the three 'G' Cabinet: Goldman (Sacks), generals, and gazillionaires.”

## 110+ Groups Involved in Project 2025

Project 2025 lists 55 groups as members of The Heritage Foundation’s Advisory Board. However, Heritage has stated publically that more than 110 groups were ultimately involved in Project 2025, advocating policy and personnel recommendations for the next Republican president.

That said, it must be noted that over the past year as the buzz around the project has heated, multiples of the groups listed have pulled out, publically disavowing the policies put forth in Project 2025. In addition,



several groups have expressed confusion or irritation at even being included, and have told the Heritage Foundation to remove them.

But there are plenty left who come with nefarious intentions. Find the list at the end of the Project 2025 manual. Don't be fooled by some of their lovely sounding names. Many are intentionally misleading. And many are bent on tearing down our democracy. Please research their mandates and activities.

## HOW DO WE KNOW TRUMP IS LYING ABOUT PROJECT 2025?

And that leads us to Trump's latest BIG LIE, distancing and disavowing Project 2025 and the Heritage Foundation.

"I know nothing about Project 2025. I have no idea who is behind it. I disagree with some of the things they're saying and some of the things they're saying are absolutely ridiculous and abysmal. Anything they do, I wish them luck, but I have nothing to do with them."

At a rally in July: "I don't know anything about it. I don't want to know anything about it."

How do we know these are lies?

1. Trump's official campaign plan, Agenda 47, aligns with quite a few Project 2025 proposals.
2. As mentioned, Project 2025 and the Heritage Foundation are ALL TRUMP'S PEOPLE! Also, the Heritage Foundation was this year's main sponsor of the Republican National Convention.
3. Trump is named in the Project 2025 document 312 times by my count!
4. Mark Meadows, Trump's former White House chief of staff, is one of its architects along with white nationalist Steven Miller, Trump's most senior White House advisor and speech writer, who designed the program separating parents

## Who are the Heritage Foundation?

Often called simply, Heritage, the activist Washington DC think tank has historically been ranked among the most influential public policy making organizations in the US.

Founded in 1973, it took a leading role in the conservative movement in the 1980s, and shaped much of the Ronald Reagan presidency.

Early on, the group offered ideas to help advance people, as opposed to its current drive to advance the wealthy and corporations. It even developed and supported policy to "assure affordable health care for all Americans", which was incorporated into Massachusetts' health care plan.

Now loaded up with corporate cash, Heritage has turned to extremism, even helping to foment the Tea Party that really birthed MAGA, and they now oppose the Affordable Care Act.

The group also had a heavy hand in trying to destroy the US Postal Service during the Trump administration.

Its current mandates include slashing Social Security and Medicare, privatizing all public services, and busting unions. Its policies generally are blueprints for gutting workers' rights, wages, benefits, and pensions.

Heritage also supports policies against the environment, LGBTQ, communities of color, and women.

They claim economic inequality doesn't exist, that programs benefitting working families such as Medicaid and childcare assistance are "wasteful", and that social security and the minimum wage are a "toll on the workforce".

Financial contributors to the Heritage Foundation include big bankers, real estate developers, hedge-fund owners, and Koch Industries. CEOs from businesses like Morgan Stanley, Amway, and Forbes serve on its Board of Trustees.

and children at the border. Miller is also cutting ads for Project 2025. Trump's spokesperson, Caroline Levitt, is also cutting ads for Project 2025.

5. Trump gave the keynote address at the Heritage Foundation's annual conference in 2022. Here is what he said about them at the time: "Heritage does such an incredible job. They are going to lay the groundwork and detail plans for exactly what our movement will do."
6. Trump sees the negative press that Project 2025 and the Heritage Foundation are getting. He doesn't want to lose voters.
7. DIGEST THIS! said by Donald Trump at a Christian Nationalist TurningPoint Action event in Florida at the end of July:

"And again, Christians, get out and vote! Just this time! You won't have to do it anymore. Four more years, you know what, it will be fixed, it'll be fine, you won't have to vote anymore, my beautiful Christians. I love you Christians. I'm a Christian. I love you, get out, you gotta get out and vote. Christians! In four years you won't have to vote again, we'll have it fixed so good you're not going to have to vote."

## DO YOU BELIEVE HIM?

**TRUMP THE CON** said he didn't know anything about Hitler, yet his friend says he gave Trump Hitler's Collected Speeches, which the late Ivanna Trump said he read in bed. He uses similar language: "Poison the blood of our country", "The enemy of the people", and "Make ~~Germany~~ America Great Again". "If I had these speeches, and I am not saying that I do, I would never read them," was his denial.

**TRUMP THE CON** said he didn't know anything about the Ku Klux Klan, or have a relationship with its grand wizard David Duke, perhaps America's most notorious white supremacist. Yet Trump repeatedly refused to disavow him or any other known white supremacist, saying only, "I don't know anything about David Duke. I don't know anything about

## Who is Heritage's Kevin Roberts?

Heritage Foundation President Kevin Roberts, installed in 2021, claims the US is in the midst of "the 2<sup>nd</sup> American Revolution, which shall remain bloodless if the left allows it to be."

He sees Heritage's role as "institutionalizing Trumpism", and predicts that the "2nd revolution" will be complete by 2050, and coincide with a new "great awakening" that will bring America to God.

His comments demonstrate the extent to which Heritage and its Project 2025 are entwined with Christian nationalism.

"Our definition of freedom is not the freedom to do whatever the heck we want, but the freedom to do what we ought."

Do we assume "what we ought" means embracing the values of the Christian right, which in many cases are not even Christian anymore, in a country whose Constitution assures the separation of church and state?

Roberts is an ally of wealthy Texas Trump mega donor Tim Dunn, who spends millions in political contributions. Dunn has steered Texas far to the religious right. *Rolling Stone* has reported that Dunn is pushing the MAGA movement to embrace his vision of a government whose function is to execute God's "[wrath on evil](#)."

Roberts gets his spiritual guidance from Opus Dei, a reactionary Catholic faction opposing "the progressive drift of society". It sees its followers as a "rising militia" who seek to "enter battle against the enemies of Christ."

Roberts, whose name has been floated as Trump's chief of staff, has lamented that the Trump administration "got off to a slow start in 2016. "Heritage and our allies in Project 2025 believe that must never be repeated."

He told donors to ignore Trump's denouncement of Project 2025. "He has to say that for the voters, but he's with us."

white supremacy or white supremacists.” And of course, David Duke and many other white supremacists have endorsed Trump.

**TRUMP THE CON** said he didn’t know who the Proud Boys were. He refused to condemn white supremacist militia/far-right groups, particularly the Proud Boys, saying during a debate, “Stand back and stand by.” Meanwhile, his closest advisors were conspiring with them in a “war room” on January 5, 2021. And Trump plans to pardon the jailed insurrectionists.

**TRUMP THE CON** has said during every trial that he planned to take the stand, and never has. Not once. Why? Because he doesn’t want his con exposed. Liars get in big trouble when they do it under oath.

## THEY’RE PLAYING THE LONG GAME



So there you have it! The evidence is overwhelming that Project 2025 is one big MAGA operation.

It is clear that MAGA leadership who know the truth and stick with the con are generally in it for financial, racist, misogynistic, and/or Christian nationalism values. The motivation, ultimately, is power.

It has taken Americans far too long to fully realize the long game played by the right over the past 40 years, enriching the American oligarchy, stacking the courts, slashing education, and imposing anti-regulatory, anti-government ideology on a population that is increasingly in favor of a kinder, more supportive, and just society for all. Just since Donald Trump lost his last bid for the presidency, Republicans around the country have passed 1,000+ new voter suppression laws and 300+ new restrictive LGBTQ laws. They know they can’t win fair and square anymore, so they got good at schemes to impose minority rule.

## PRO DEMOCRACY GROUPS ARE FIGHTING BACK

The word may be getting out about the danger of Project 2025 to our democracy, but pro-democracy folk have been on it for many months. The Stop Project 2025 Task Force is exposing, preempting, and countering the plot.

“We will not remain silent in the face of these threats,” said one of its leaders, Rep. Nanette Barragán, chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. “It is our duty to stand up, speak out, and take decisive action to fight for the rights of all Americans, and the foundations of our democracy put in place to protect those rights.”

The Task Force is supported by many partner organizations, including leading civil society groups dedicated to the defense of democracy, good government, reproductive freedom, gender equality, LGBTQ+ rights, workers rights, and racial, economic, environmental, and social justice.

## BLACK DEMOCRATS IN MICHIGAN UNVEIL PROJECT FREEDOM

The black community is not staying silent either, and Michigan is taking the lead.

A group of prominent Black Democratic leaders out of Michigan recently unveiled [Project FREEDOM](#), a new plan aimed at countering Project 2025 in key battleground areas. It is based on four pillars: freedom to live, freedom to learn, freedom to vote, and freedom to thrive.



[Project FREEDOM](#), the leaders say, aims to reclaim voter focus by highlighting real-world consequences of Project 2025's anti-Democracy policies, and provide voters with a substantial policy agenda for Democrats ahead of the November election, in a clear and precise contrast to Project 2025.

In addition to policy, the group aims to mobilize voters of color through town halls, community events, digital campaigns, and phone banks

in Michigan, North Carolina, the Pennsylvania/Tri-State area, and Las Vegas.

With all this ammunition in our back pocket, let's go save our democracy!!

[Our Freedom Agenda](#) [Events](#) [Press](#)

[4 Pillars of Freedom](#)

[George Floyd Justice in Policing Act](#)

[End Gun Violence](#)

[Free College](#)

[Restore Voting Rights](#)

[End Mass Incarceration](#)

[Pathways to Citizenship](#)

[Launch Automatic Voter Registration](#)

[John Lewis Voter Rights Act](#)

[Cancel Student Debt](#)

[Child Tax Credits](#)

[End Police Brutality](#)

[Guaranteed Income](#)

[End War in Palestine and Sudan](#)

[Reparations](#)

[Affordable Housing](#)

[Reform the Supreme Court](#)

[Protect Black History](#)

[Project Freedom agenda items from their website](#)