



Straight Talk

by Muriel Sluyter

Anti-American more than Anti-War

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Greetings, Gentle Reader,

As I watch today's anti-war demonstrators, my memory takes me back to demonstrators against the Vietnam war and American society in general. Back then, as now, they were repulsive in their virulent anti-Americanism. They weren't just against the war; they were against America and everything America stood for.

At that time, David Horowitz had not yet written "Destructive Generation," because he was a member of that generation. He had been raised by committed Communists, dedicated to the overthrow of the free governments of the Western world, especially ours. They called themselves "progressives," and were sure their movement would be the salvation of the world.

Because I had not yet read his writings, I couldn't understand the demonstrators' venomous hatred for the country of their birth. It still makes no sense, but he explains it this way: "Political utopians were going to transform the world into a comfortable, friendly place. There would be an end to grief from life out of control, life grinding you down and smashing your gut. Human cruelty would go out of style. There would be no strangers, no outsiders, alienated from others and at odds with themselves."

His grandparents were originally from Russia and never integrated into American society, remaining trapped into fears. They were as dysfunctional as it was possible for humans to be. His parents followed the same path. They integrated into society, after a fashion, but remained hopeless misfits.

Horowitz says, "The one bright feature of my father's melancholic life was his dedication to a worldwide movement for human renewal. He joined the Communist party and gave himself to the dream of a socialist revolution." He had personally observed the horrors committed by Stalin's troops, while on a trip to Russia, but saw it as an aberration, rather than a pattern. His blind, even mindless, dedication to the blood-soaked movement remained strong.

Walter Duranty, Moscow correspondent of the New

York Times, and a fellow progressive, kept the slaughter of 10 million and the enslavement of another 10 million Ukrainians hidden from American readers in order to protect the Communist movement he, too, had embraced. He knew of the butcher of countless other millions, but hid that, also.

How does this apply to today's demonstrators? The primary organizer is ANSWER (Act Now to Stop War and End Racism), an openly Communist organization ideologically connected to North Korea. They make pilgrimages to Pyongyang to place flowers on Kim Il Sung's grave. He's the father of the current dictator and he and his son have killed so many Koreans no one will ever be able to number their victims. Yet these demented American ideologues venerate both as gods.

Deirdre Griswold, editor of the "Worker's World," (both newspaper and organization) chief organizer of today's anti-war demonstrations, says she has gone to North Korea and taken part in the "veneration and worship for great President Kim Il Sung and respected Marshal Kim Jong Il." She says, "Worker's World is an independent Communist party that follows the ideals of Marx, Engels and Lenin"

There are other groups involved in today's demonstrations. How do we tell decent Americans who naively keep bad company from dedicated anti-Americans? Some activists cannot say enough slanderous things about President Bush but would bite their tongues out before saying anything remotely unpleasant about Saddam Hussein and other world-class butchers. Some simply deny such bloodshed, while others conveniently see it as an untidy but justifiable necessity, in their noble and heroic struggle for "peace and love."

Such conscienceless stupidity just may give us a clue.