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JONATHAN TURLEY **(https://jonathanturley.org/)**

Res ipsa loquitur - The thing itself speaks



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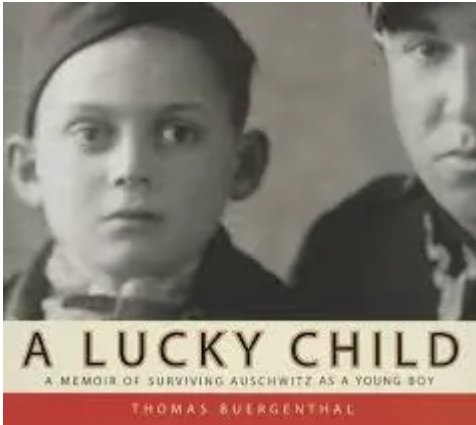
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[May 31, 2023 \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buerghenthal/\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buerghenthal/)

Child 2930: The Implausible and Wonderful Life of Tom Buerghenthal

[\(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/)



<https://i0.wp.com/jonathanturley.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/images-3.jpg?ssl=1>) Below is my column in [The Messenger](https://themessenger.com/opinion/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal) [on the passing of one of the greatest figures in human rights law, my former colleague Tom Buergenthal. Tom will be laid to rest this afternoon in Florida](https://themessenger.com/opinion/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal)

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/miami-fl/thomas-buergenthal-11309099>). This life was one of the most inspiring stories of human perseverance; an example of sheer will to overcome unspeakable horrors. His book, *A Lucky Child*, is a moving account of his struggle to live and overcome in a world torn apart by hate and violence. I wanted to share some of Tom's story with you in memory of one of the most extraordinary figures in our generation.

Here is the column:

The world lost one of its inspiring figures on Monday. With the passing of [Thomas Buergenthal](https://www.law.gwu.edu/thomas-buergenthal), I lost a mentor, a colleague and a friend, and the world lost a towering figure of international law who helped to create the field of human rights law.

Buergenthal was a force of kindness and forgiveness in an age of rage. [His life story](https://inkwellmanagement.com/BOOKS/a-lucky-child) is about mankind's limitless capacity for cruelty and for redemption.

Years ago, my medical colleagues at George Washington University were performing cardiac surgery on an elderly law professor when his arm slipped off the table. As a doctor gently raised the arm back, he saw the tattoo "2930." The medical team realized they were operating on a survivor of the Nazi concentration camps. I was told later that one doctor was overcome with the emotion of the moment.

The patient was Tom Buerghenthal, and – even then – the doctors could not imagine the extraordinary path which brought him into their care. Indeed, he had survived repeated moments where his life was all but lost, only to survive and persevere.

As a child, Tom began a terrifying odyssey that started in the Jewish ghetto at Kielce, Poland. Born in Lubochňa, Czechoslovakia, he was moved into despicable conditions in Poland as part of the Nazis’ “final solution.” Nearly every inhabitant of his ghetto was killed at Treblinka and other Nazi concentration camps. Some did not make it that far: They were forced on a merciless three-day march to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. Tom, among them, was just 11 years old.

He survived the march only to find himself in another concentration camp as fellow Jews were sent for extermination.

(https://i0.wp.com/jonathanturley.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/220px-auschwitz_entrance.jpg?ssl=1) Tom again survived, only to be sent to the infamous Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp. Upon his arrival, he came face-to-face with one of the most terrifying and hateful figures of history – Dr. Josef Rudolf Mengele, known as the “Angel of Death.”



(<https://www.auschwitz.org/en/history/medical-experiments/josef-mengele/>) Mengele had a particular interest in using children for his lethal experiments; Tom was one of those chosen.

Mengele eventually amputated two of his toes. Tom once told me how, each night, he would sleep on a concrete floor with other children. Each had a paper attached to them that would designate them for “processing” in the extermination chambers. At night, Mengele would mark those children he wanted to remain. For a reason that Tom never understood, Mengele repeatedly marked him to survive, day by horrible day. In one tragic scene, Tom watched the Germans take a 6-year-old girl for execution as she asked, “Why must I be shot?”

But Tom survived again – one of the few child survivors of the infamous “Gypsy Camp.”

After the camp's liberation, Tom reportedly was the last survivor to leave Auschwitz, which would prove to be a new threat: Since his family had been liquidated by the Nazis, Tom was sent to a Jewish orphanage for two years in Otwock, Poland. Tom told me that the Jewish underground was secretly taking the children to Palestine. However, as the last to leave Auschwitz and one of its youngest survivors, Tom remained a focus of reporters after the war. The Jewish underground did not want to risk the exposure of their network, so Tom was, again, one of the last to leave.

He found himself at a railroad station where a railway clerk looked at his papers and asked if he had a mother. Tom explained that he had no family left. The clerk, however, was perplexed by a name that seemed familiar; Tom assumed it was because of the news coverage he had received, but the clerk held him for an extra day. It turned out that the clerk had recalled a woman with a similar name who was looking for her boy.

It was Tom's mother. She also had survived and had walked from town to town, looking for him. She was on the outskirts of the city when something pulled her back and, for the first time, she decided to return. When she walked into the station, she saw a little figure waiting to take the next train. It was her son, and the two embraced on the platform. They had survived.

What followed next was even less plausible. Tom would make it with his mother to the United States and ultimately studied law, with a J.D. at New York University Law School and his LL.M. and S.J.D. degrees in international law from Harvard Law School. In 1973, he co-authored (with the great Louis Sohn (<https://www.nytimes.com/2006/06/23/us/23sohn.html>)) the first casebook on human rights, titled, *International Protection of Human Rights*.

He would become a law professor and one of the most influential figures on human rights law in history, eventually serving as a member of the International Court of Justice at The Hague. He also would serve as a judge on the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (including as its president), a commissioner on the United Nations Truth Commission for El Salvador, and as a member of the United Nations Human Rights Committee.

As fate would have it, while serving on the World Court, neo-Nazis brought a case challenging punishment for their denial of the Holocaust; they sought to prove it was all a fabrication. In one of the most devastating recusal decisions in history, Tom removed himself from the case, since he felt it would be improper for him to judge the existence of the concentration camps as a survivor of one. The recusal was a riveting moment for the court, and his colleagues quickly dispensed with the frivolous claim.

When I joined the George Washington Law School in 1990, the greatest draw was to serve on the faculty with a man who was a legend in international law. We quickly became friends, and he became part of my personal and professional life. I consider the association to be one of the greatest honors of my life.

What I always found most amazing about Tom was the absence of any hate or anger despite the horrors he had faced. He never lost faith in humanity. His life was one of grace, one of transcendence. There was a calmness, even a tranquility, about Tom that I have never experienced in any other person. He made me want to be a better man. He still does.

After 89 years, Tom has now passed from this world. We desperately need his inspiration as we again turn on each other in violent, hateful acts. Europe again is being ravaged by war, as powerful leaders lay waste to the lives of millions. It is easy to look around today and lose hope. However, when those moments come for me, I think of an 11-year-old boy left alone in the very belly of the beast. I think of an embrace of a mother and her only child on a lonely train platform in Poland. I think of a judge on the World Court defining the human rights once denied to him and everyone he loved. I think of the number 2930.

I think of Tom Buergenthal.

Jonathan Turley, an attorney, constitutional law scholar and legal analyst, is the Shapiro Chair for Public Interest Law at The George Washington University Law School.

[132 Comments \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/#comments\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/#comments)

[← PREVIOUS POST](#)

“Safe Harbor”: New Evidence Offers Insight into Hunter Biden and his Collapsing World of Corruption

(<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/30/safe-harbor-new-evidence-offers-insight-into-hunter-biden-and-his-collapsing-world-of-corruption/>).

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University of Colorado Site Declares Misgendering an “Act of Violence”

(<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/university-of-colorado-site-declares-misgendering-an-act-of-violence/>).

132 thoughts on “Child 2930: The Implausible and Wonderful Life of Tom Buergenthal”

[← OLDER COMMENTS](#)

([HTTPS://JONATHANTURLEY.ORG/2023/05/31/CHILD-3930-THE-IMPLAUSIBLE-AND-WONDERFUL-LIFE-OF-TOM-BUERGENTHAL/COMMENT-PAGE-1/#COMMENTS](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-1/#comments)).



Old Man From Kansas says:

June 2, 2023 at 7:41 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293191>).

Anon says: **Witness. The evil that inspired the nazis and the holocaust is alive and well.**

Yes, it is, and it showed its ugly face very recently at a CUNY Law graduation speech . . . and in the BDS movement generally. The recent Texas mall shooter was a man of Hispanic ethnicity who had gone through various hate ideologies and ultimately found his home in White Supremacy (of all things), hating Jews more than anything else.

It’s a fair question to ask, why does this happen? Why the Jews? There is no satisfactory answer in the natural world; the explanation is supernatural, that is to say, in the spiritual world. It is a deep subject but it has to do with forces of wickedness in the spiritual world. The Bible says:

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Those “powers” of “spiritual wickedness in high places” are opposed to God and everything God values. That helps to answer the question: why the Jews? It also helps to explain why the evil that inspired the Nazis is alive and well. The Nazis died as human beings, but their motivating spirits live on in the unseen world.

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Cindy Bragg says:

June 3, 2023 at 1:23 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293208>)

Old Man From Kansas.....terrific comment.

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Old Man From Kansas says:

June 3, 2023 at 10:08 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293246>)

Thanks Cindy, I hope you enjoy your weekend!

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S. Meyer says:

June 3, 2023 at 9:42 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293240>)

“It’s a fair question to ask, why does this happen? Why the Jews?”

Kansas, in his three-volume set on cultures of the world, Sowell provided a partial answer to the question. He dealt with many different peoples and found that financial success among immigrants frequently created prejudice within the native community that was not as financially well off.

He discussed the Chinese communities in Indonesia, the German ones on the Volga River, and many others. I wonder, are Americans more tolerant of success than most countries?

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Old Man From Kansas says:

June 3, 2023 at 10:07 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293244>)

Meyer –

(1) I think Americans are more tolerant of success. In *The Flaw*, a documentary on the 2006-2008 housing crash, there was an interesting comment about people in other countries resenting the rich who live in big mansions, whereas in America people want to see photos of mansions others live in. So shows like *Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous* become popular.

(2) It is only a partial answer, as you suggest. Even when Jews have been living in-country for centuries the Jew-hatred almost always arises. Again, because it's coming in large part from the spiritual world.

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S. Meyer says:

June 3, 2023 at 4:05 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293322>)

I agree with your assessment of Americans, but they are changing. We now have Americans and leftists. When in a pack, leftists dislike success outside of their group. That is why there is such intense hate against any successful minority individual who doesn't follow their lead.

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Tommy says:

June 3, 2023 at 7:12 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293354>)

This is the covenant I will establish with the people of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.

Hebrews 8:10-11 NIV

This will take place on the day when God judges people's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.

Romans 2:16 NIV

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Koby says:

June 2, 2023 at 4:59 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293171>)

Thank you for sharing that story with us. The fact that this man harbored no hate is in itself a miracle. You were certainly blessed to have him as a friend.

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Rockitz says:

June 2, 2023 at 3:14 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293153>)

Thanks for sharing. That's an amazing story. God bless and Godspeed Tom Buerghenthal.

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Lionel Mandrake says:

June 2, 2023 at 9:35 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buerghenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293023>)

Amazing story. I don't doubt the experiments, the camps and the ghettos. But even the European governments said the Infamous 6M number was pulled out of nowhere. This young boy went thru Hell but likely misremembers or embellishes as all children will do, esp. If all thru his life Jews push the Holocaust narrative exactly as proscribed by the largely Jewish media that created it. Even if a certain or even large part is true about the mysterious "Final Solution" we must not let Jewish people who are the largest self-professed Atheist ethnicity in the world and holding the reigns of power over us politically and financially escape their judgment for genocide and worse with the blank check charges of Anti-Semitism.

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Richard Poor says:

June 2, 2023 at 9:47 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buerghenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293030>)

Rube

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Lionel says:

June 2, 2023 at 9:48 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buerghenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293032>)

And one must accept the fact that Atheism, which leads to behavior abhorrent to God and his people, including Jews, helped turn a once beautiful Berlin into a modern day Sodom in early 20th century, rightfully causes backlashes from

discrimination against Jews that said nothing to fight it in their own communities to War.

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Weisenthal says:

June 2, 2023 at 10:17 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293042>)

Lionel, You are an idiot and a racist.

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Lionel says:

June 2, 2023 at 7:08 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293184>)

Brilliant. That means I just won the argument.

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Anonymous says:

June 2, 2023 at 9:00 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293195>)

No Lionel, it means exactly what Weisenthal said, You are an idiot and a racist.

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Anonymous says:

June 3, 2023 at 9:09 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293229>)

You are a fool and mind numbed robot. Its an undeniable and very sad fact that Jews are exacting a kind of revenge on Christians and the Nation and the God they hate yet don't believe in going on that has made them very rich and very powerful. Judgment is on the way. And recall they are only 2% of population yet control almost entire media, financial systems and govts behind the scenes.

How we deal with them as a group and not be Hitlerized or charged with "Discrimination" by fools like you and others here is nearly impossible, and they know it, so they do it all with impunity. And in the words of Vonnegaut, so it goes. But do I love hitting your Saferoom buttons.

PS. Is everyone you disagree with a Racist, Homophobe, Bigot or all 3?

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Anonymous says:

June 3, 2023 at 3:37 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293319>)

You are a hateful piece of sh!te and an ignorant racist with such a severe intellectual disability that it is hard to get down low enough to your level and deal with you.

Look at the Pulitzers for physics and the sciences. Jews are proportionately greater than their numbers. They value education while you throw pencils and put gum in a girl's hair. But do Jews have control? An idiot like you thinks so. Is Biden Jewish? Trump? Obama? Did we ever have a Jewish President? No, but you think Jews control everything.

You think you are the center of the universe, but you are little more than dog sh!te on the heel of a shoe. If you educate yourself, maybe you will be able to discover who and what you are. Then you can try to grow into a man.

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Spandexdragon says:

June 4, 2023 at 8:20 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293418>)

You are correct sir and I'm happy to see it

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Button says:

June 3, 2023 at 9:22 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293232>)

Just to add a bit of context here, I would recommend another book: Into That Darkness by Gitta Sereny. This book consists of extensive interviews with Franz Stangl, the commandant of Treblinka.

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Anonymous says:

June 2, 2023 at 10:28 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293045>)

Witness. The evil that inspired the nazis and the holocaust is alive and well.

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Anonymous says:

June 2, 2023 at 12:52 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293119>)

Your ignorance is the problem we all have to deal with. Census numbers showed the 6million+ decline in the Jewish population of Europe. Start looking at the numbers that aren't controversial.

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Anonymous says:

June 2, 2023 at 7:11 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293185>)

Thanks for admitting I am right.

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Anonymous says:

June 2, 2023 at 9:01 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293197>)

Where you are concerned, Lionel, the only thing I admit to is that you are stupid.

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Anonymous says:

June 2, 2023 at 1:42 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293132>)

Thank you for sharing this inspiring story.

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calasiter1 says:

June 2, 2023 at 8:55 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293007>)

Amazing story! Thank you for such a moving tribute. His guardian angel was busy 24/7 keeping him from death so he could fulfill what God put him on the earth to do. I don't usually comment on articles, but this one is really special. Thank you, again.

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Pam Boyke says:

June 2, 2023 at 10:14 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293041>)

I agree, what a beautiful and touching memorial for a man who was a pillar of strength. It is a terrible loss. Thank you Jonathan Turley for your kind words. May God bless you and smile on the soul of Tom the miraculous Child 3930.

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Dave says:

June 2, 2023 at 7:40 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292983>)

Hogan's Heros was a great show.

It came out before they invented the Holocaust as an international extortion racket

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DZ says:

June 2, 2023 at 8:30 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292998>)

You're a sick pup.

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Anonymous says:

June 2, 2023 at 8:53 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293005>)

Just to be abundantly clear, your contention is the Holocaust was invented and never happened. Is that correct?

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Anonymous says:

June 2, 2023 at 12:29 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293107>)

Don't expect an answer. Dave is a coward. He acts brave by making claims of hate that he cannot defend.

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Anonymous says:

June 2, 2023 at 7:20 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293189>)

And you people, supporting modern day genocidal madness by the likes of Klaus Schwab and Walensky and never ending attacks on Christians by Merrick Garland can only face these facts with childish charges of “Racism” and, while we are at it, Homophobia, Islamophobia, Homophobia and Transphobia.

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Anonymous says:

June 2, 2023 at 9:05 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293198>)

That we people have an intense dislike for Schwab, Walensky and Garland is a known fact but that doesn't change the fact you are an idiot and a racist.

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TJ Rubicon says:

June 2, 2023 at 10:20 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293043>)

Look what happened to Bob Crane.

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Richard Doiron says:

June 2, 2023 at 10:39 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293048>)

My father, a Captain in the US Army was one of the first into Germany and witnessed the concentration camps firsthand. Gen. Eisenhower made them wait for three days before trying to identify the thousand of bodies piled in long rows next to deep trenches ready to be bulldozed into the grave by the Nazis. The General wanted news reporters from all over the world to see with their own eyes the terrible slaughter because he said if not within 50 years people would forget and deny it ever happened. My dad never went anywhere with out his camera and took dozens of photos of the bodies of men, women and children murdered by the Germans. He showed the photos to me and my brothers to ensure we knew what the total depravity of men could do. Men without conscious and God. Believe what you want, but my father never forgot the horror of what he saw.

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S. Meyer says:

June 2, 2023 at 12:22 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293101>)

I thank your father as a representative of all those who served in that war. One of those soldiers, like your father, arrived while my father-in-law was in a coma. Had they delayed he would've died, and my wife would never have existed.

Sick people like dave above deny the holocaust, but the numbers killed are real and likely a bit lower than the actual number. People like dave are uneducated and cowards. He can continue to live in the sewer system, which is more than he deserves.

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JBA says:

My father, a 2nd Lt., served in WWII. His 42nd "Rainbow" Division arrived at Dachau on April 29th, 1945 where they liberated the thousand or so Jewish survivors that the Nazis had congregated there from several other concentration camps in order to try to incinerate them all before the Americans could arrive. The Nazis were not successful in that effort. He never talked of it. But when we went through his trunk of old Army gear, we found the photos he took of the hundreds and hundreds of stacked bodies of those starved and brutally executed Jews at the hands of the Nazis.

You sir, are entitled to your own opinions. As warped and heinous as they may be and are. But you are not entitled to your own facts.

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Doug Miller says:

June 2, 2023 at 7:36 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292980>)

He and not quite a colleague, separated by a little over 10 years in age, went almost together....:

<https://www.hpmcgarry.ca/memorials/moshe-kraus/5201243>
(<https://www.hpmcgarry.ca/memorials/moshe-kraus/5201243>)

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J smith says:

June 2, 2023 at 2:26 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292958>)

"Things that never happened" for \$800, Alex.

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Jim says:

June 2, 2023 at 2:22 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292957>)

Thank you, Jonathon, for writing this and sharing your friends story.

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U S Grant says:

June 2, 2023 at 2:37 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292959>)

Yeah. His fictional story. 🙄

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Shaun Ronald Maher says:

June 2, 2023 at 1:34 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292953>)

Thank you for writing this great article. I just downloaded the book on audible! I can't wait to listen to it thank you for this great article.

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Laura says:

June 1, 2023 at 3:46 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292882>)

Hi, I'm his granddaughter and a former student of yours. Thank you for the beautiful tribute, I just wanted to make one significant clarification. His number is B2930.

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Cindy Bragg says:

June 1, 2023 at 4:04 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292885>)

Laura–We're sorry for your loss.

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S. Meyer says:

June 1, 2023 at 6:01 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292905>)

Cindy, I think the Germans started tattooing on the skin when the number of inmates rapidly grew. They wouldn't tattoo those they intended to kill in the immediate future. If I remember correctly, they intended the numbering system to start with an A up to 20,000 and then change to B and go to the end of the alphabet. Somewhere, they screwed up the numbering system because my mother-in-law's number was 40,000+

That would amount to about half-million Jewish souls in one camp, and only those Jews to be kept alive for a while.

Just thinking about it is horrifying, especially knowing it will likely happen again.

My condolences to Laura and the rest of her family.

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Cindy Bragg says:

June 1, 2023 at 7:06 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292916>)

S. Meyer.....No matter how much I think I know, reading your posts, especially about the history of the Holocaust, I always learn so much from you, and feel enlightened.

Thank you for sharing these stories about your inlaws, even though I know it's painful. I relayed your comments to our grandsons, last night and today.

Even though, at ages 15 and 12 they've read about the Holocaust, it means a lot to have a name or story to make it real. They are very moved, as we all are, by your comments and Prof. Turley's post. Thank you, S. Meyer!

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S. Meyer says:

June 1, 2023 at 8:14 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292926>)

Thank you, Cindy. I thought you might be interested in the following. It shows why I am so concerned and pessimistic about the future. Hate is growing, and it is tolerated. The left has even joined in. People like Irving Lazar who is likely Jewish don't know what is happening. We should never forget that the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem had a pact with Hitler supporting Hitler's desire to kill all the Jews.

“ZOA Demands Action on SJP's Fatima Mohammed's Murder-Inciting, Antisemitic, Anti-American CUNY Law Commencement Speech”

—

Fatima Mohammed is a leader of antisemitic hate groups SJP (Students for Justice in Palestine) and WOL (Within Our Lifetime).

***WOL calls for “globalizing the Intifada” – meaning spreading the terror wars to murder Jews throughout the world.

—

<https://zoa.org/2023/06/10447775-zoa-demands-action-on-sjps-fatima-mohammeds-murder-inciting-antisemitic-anti-american-cuny-law-commencement-speech/> (<https://zoa.org/2023/06/10447775-zoa-demands-action-on-sjps-fatima-mohammeds-murder-inciting-antisemitic-anti-american-cuny-law-commencement-speech/>)

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Cindy Bragg says:

June 2, 2023 at 9:41 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293026>)

S.Meyer.....Thank you for posting this! This is UNBELIEVABLE! And so, so scary! I am just speechless. THIS IS how the Holocaust began. I'm always telling my boys the life lesson about how a civilized nation of people who are educated, hardworking, inventive, church-going, can wind up exterminating an entire group of its citizens! I tell them that evil like that starts unnoticed,.....then "incrementally", year by year, evil chips away at goodness and right. The ideas and practices that were once condemned, become commonplace and acceptable. And with a press, or media, controlled by propagandists, the evil is soon unstoppable. We are on that trajectory now!!!

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Cindy Bragg says:

June 2, 2023 at 9:43 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293027>)

S. Meyer--I meant to add to my last comment..God Bless Morton Klein and his group!

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S. Meyer says:

June 2, 2023 at 12:45 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293113>)

Cindy, that you mention knowledge of Morton Klein demonstrates many good things. Despite his tic, he is a great speaker and accurate on all fronts. Do you get the ZOA emails? If not, you can get emails by subscribing at <https://zoa.org> (<https://zoa.org>). It is one of the few sites that accurately supports Israel.

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Cindy Bragg says:

June 2, 2023 at 1:01 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293121>)

S. Meyer—Thank you for the link! I just joined the mailing list and made a donation. It feels good to be informed and connected.

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S. Meyer says:

June 2, 2023 at 1:31 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293130>)

Your welcome. I donate as well for it is one of the best groups in the country. He is a great speaker for any intelligent group that is interested in the Middle East and anti-Semitism. Check the website to see if he is speaking anywhere near you.

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Cindy Bragg says:

June 2, 2023 at 5:42 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293176>)

S. Meyer.....I will! Thank you so much.

Loading...



Estovir says:

June 2, 2023 at 7:45 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293192>)

Laura, thank you for making your presence known. I have a copy of the ebook, and it confirms what you stated. Darren/Professor Turley, take note:

“Then I saw that each inmate at the table was holding something that looked like a pen with a thin needle at the end, and that they were writing something on the outstretched arms after dunking the pens into an ink pot: we were being tattooed. When my turn came, I was afraid that it would hurt, but it went so fast that I could hardly feel it. Now I had a new name: B-2930, and it was the only “name” that mattered here. The number, now somewhat faded, is still there on my left arm. It remains a part of me and serves as a reminder, not so much of my past, but of the obligation I deem incumbent on me, as a witness and survivor of Auschwitz, to fight the ideologies of hate and of racial and religious superiority that have for centuries caused so much suffering to mankind.”

A Lucky Child: A Memoir of Surviving Auschwitz as a Young Boy, Thomas Buergenthal

Chapter 4, page 66

<https://archive.org/details/luckychildmemoir0000buer/page/66/mode/2up?q=2930>

(<https://archive.org/details/luckychildmemoir0000buer/page/66/mode/2up?q=2930>)

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Oky1 says:

June 2, 2023 at 9:59 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293201>)

Directly related, I hear this week the Nazi Dr Mengele’s Guinea Pig experiments on Humans, the data was given to Pfizer, allowed by the US govt, after WW2 & many other pieces are coming together detailing the works of Satan & his lil helpers.

See the Video of Dr. David Martin Exposing COVID as a Biological Warfare Crime

54,472 views

May 29, 2023

31

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The Alex Jones Show

The Alex Jones Show

In a groundbreaking speech delivered at the International Covid Summit III held in the European Parliament in Brussels earlier this month, M•CAM asset management company founder and chairman David Martin shed light on the timeline of the origins, and intentions, behind Covid-19 and the mRNA vaccine.

Learn more here:

<https://banned.video/watch?id=64752016b46c65e43f841aa2>

(<https://banned.video/watch?id=64752016b46c65e43f841aa2>)

Fake Science | “Humans Are Animals. The Bible Is Not the History of Humanity. It’s Just a Story That Humans Invented 3,000 Years Ago.” + “Humans Are Now Hackable Animals...Free Will, That’s Over.” – Yuval Noah Harari

3,771 views

Jun 2, 2023

(Yuval Noah Harari (Lead Advisor for Klaus Schwab) Who Is Elon Musk? – READ)

(Jew & a Nazi German, just imagine more Judas Goats...)

<https://banned.video/watch?id=647a32bda6e3bb0045622ae2>

(<https://banned.video/watch?id=647a32bda6e3bb0045622ae2>)

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Darren Smith says:

Laura & Estovir,

We made the correction that Laura had originally brought to our attention and that Estovir provided the confirmation by quoting from the book. The title and the content of the article now reflects this correction. It is true the URL for this page here will remain the same, since altering that will break all links to this article. There are of course several workarounds for it (redirection or duplication), but given the limitations of WordPress and such it might not make too much of a difference given the work required. But the title and the content now reflects the corrected number.

Thank you both

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Anonymous says:

June 3, 2023 at 11:42 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293282>)

Your Grandfather was a hero and inspiration of all mankind ❤️

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mespo727272 (<http://www.helpihurt.com>) says:

May 31, 2023 at 11:39 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292637>)

“In one of the most devastating recusal decisions in history, Tom removed himself from the case, since he felt it would be improper for him to judge the existence of the concentration camps as a survivor of one. The recusal was a riveting moment for the court, and his colleagues quickly dispensed with the frivolous claim.”

I always think the divine among us (and there are a precious few) reflect that divinity outward and absorb the evil inward. Suffering is the prerequisite for that condition and I learned that while reading “Butler’s Lives of the Saints”* many years

ago. Regardless of his faith path, Tom seems to have been a beacon for good having been proved by the actions of true demons. God bless Tom in the afterlife as he blessed us in ours. We are poorer for Tom's passing but inspired by his time with us.

* "The spirit of the gospel is a holy eagerness of suffering, an incessant attention to mortify self-love, to do violence to the will, to restrain the desires, to deprive the senses of useless gratifications; this is the essence of Christianity, the soul of piety." ("The Lives of the Fathers, Martyrs, and Other Principal Saints." Butler, Alban Fr., Chapter XI (1895 ed.))

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Cindy Bragg says:

June 1, 2023 at 2:20 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292641>)

mespo.....Beautiful!

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Ralph says:

June 1, 2023 at 10:40 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292738>)

Thank you very much. It is beautiful.

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Allie says:

May 31, 2023 at 7:48 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292625>)

Your tribute is amazingly beautiful. I have no other words. Which is a lot to say. I am a lawyer and female and I have a lot to say about everything. May his god take him and embrace him in the afterlife.

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Mike Gilmore says:

May 31, 2023 at 6:21 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292612>)

Jonathon, thank you for your illumination of a great human. Not well diffused until you wrote. I think your mentor would be proud of your expression. I am.

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Cionnath says:

May 31, 2023 at 6:11 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292610>)

Your losses seem to be accumulating. My condolences. There comes a point, as your mentors, role models, and senior partners pass beyond, when you look around and realize that now you are one of “the old guys”. I have no doubt your are mentoring younger folks in the same way you were mentored. Make hay while the sun shines.

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Martine Ford says:

May 31, 2023 at 4:38 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292592>)

Thank you very much for your moving tribute to the memory of Professor Thomas Buergenthal. I met with him several times when he was a Professor at Emory University School of Law, but did not know his background at the time. He must have been a very strong person, both as a child and an adult, to survive unfathomable violence with awful living conditions and still achieve so much later on in life.

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John Say says:

May 31, 2023 at 4:00 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292572>)

Why is the World court even taking the case of a holocaust denier ?

Free speech is a human right – including the right to speak wrongly and stupidly.

You omit the details of the case and maybe they matter, but on the limited evidence that you presented the court decided **WRONGLY**.

While we have a somewhat unique situation in the US today in that the free speech of those who are **RIGHT** or mostly right has been repeatedly censored.

The **HUMAN RIGHT** to free speech is not conditioned on the truth of what is spoken.

As painful as that might be the correct decision – on the case as you presented it was not to recuse, but to affirm the right of neo-nazi's to stupidly deny the holocaust. Mr Buergenthal was perfectly positioned to do so.

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Diane says:

May 31, 2023 at 5:25 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292600>)

Mr. Buergenthal was an outstanding man of mercy. Your tribute to him is beautiful. Unfortunately man's inhumanity to man continues to thrive, especially in this country's prison system. Mr. Buergenthal's legacy stands as a beacon of hope for all of us. His light will continue to shine for all who fight for human rights and dignity.

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John Say says:

Diane;

I was not challenging Mr. Buergenthal's decency.

I was noting that in a lawful, moral and ethical world we do not use the law to punish people for unpopular – even FALSE opinions.

Holocaust denial is vile hate speech.

It is also protected by the first amendment. And more important still – an important human right.

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Cionnath says:

June 1, 2023 at 9:04 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292678>)

I was thinking along the same lines, that apparently Turley's "absolutist" stand on free speech has limits after all. Perhaps one of the reasons Buergenthal refused himself was that the correct decision would have been in their favor, but rejecting their claim would have violated his principles; a dilemma in which the only way out was refusal.

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John Say says:

June 1, 2023 at 11:53 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2292947>)

No One has a truly absolutist position on free speech.

Where is the person who allows distributing pornography to children ?

Where is the person who prosecutes the person who committed the murder, but not the person who ordered it ?

Where is the person who allows people to walk away for contracts ?

I have spent most of my left atleast nominally on the “left” – “liberal”.

I have spent nearly all of it on the left on issues of free speech.

Now aparently my (and turley’s views on free speech are on the far right.

I have not changed. What is left and what is right has changed.

Regardless, I allow a very few specific restrictions on speech less that Turley, but only a few.

I am probably as absolutist as one can get. But it is not hypocritical to accept a very few limited restrictions.

I think Turley is wrong about some of the restriction she would allow.

But he is not hypocritical.

It is the left that is actually hypocritical.

You are free to identify as you please – but others are not free to identify you as they please ?

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Palerider (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/>) says:

June 2, 2023 at 9:29 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293020>)

You make several good points but when you say your a “liberal” you disclose your lack of morals and character which leads to wrong conclusions.

The constitution was based on people who were Christian people, remove the “humanity” and replace it with anything else you will fail, it will collapse on itself. We are experiencing it now.

Morals and character regard thy “neighbor” before “self” and God always first. It’s not a “religion” it’s a “relationship” with our lord and consequently our only hope and salvation (you will soon experience this truth).

There is no homosexuality it’s called perversion, there is no gender confusion it is a mental issue most likely due to lack of hormones to control

us. Feelings need to be removed from any of this and logic, understanding, truth, common sense applied. Sex, is for procreation, period. Not a recreation unless your married and that is a conjoined male and female an exact vision of us and Christ in salvation, it's why it must be perverted by the enemy.

The problem with liberalism is it has no foundation except what the person wishes to install. Does gravity have a contingency? No law God created does it all has consequences that are physical and eternal, most immediate.

We have many years of history of success and failure yet we always gravitate to failure, it is a lazy persons way. To gravitate to actual enlightenment you must ask, seek, knock, continually. It is with an open mind and that requires a love of God all else falls in place.

And Christians are not “hypocritical” as a true believer, they are in a constant battle against the flesh. A child could be considered hypocritical except we understand the development is in process, as a Christian is also. There is no fault for a Christian unless it is without love they act, love for God which is also love for thy neighbor. And that is judged only by the heart. It is exactly why Jesus could not sin, his heart was pure and his intent was to please his father. Jesus is the word of God. Could sin reside there? If it did all creation would immediately dissipate, it rests on the truth of Gods spoken word. “Spoken” is important.

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John Say says:

June 2, 2023 at 12:20 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293100>)

Palerider. I am perfectly clear – I am a libertarian.

Turley is a liberal, Derschowitz is a liberal. I share a many positions – especially on individual liberty with them – in many instance I will go farther.

I only rarely use the term liberal – because its meaning has become so horribly bastardized. Liberal is supposed to mean one who prizes individual liberty – I am that. Today people like me use the term Classical Liberal or libertarian.

Regardless – my political and ideological peers include MARIO Salvo and the Berkely free speech movement.

But they also include Barry Gold Water, Ronald Reagan, Ron Paul and Rand Paul. They include Thomas Sowell, Milton Friedman, Ronald Coase.

None of these are people you would call liberal. All of them are people who prized individual liberty.

Don't attack my character and I probably will chose not to attack yours.

Regardless, my morals and character are perfectly fine.

If you insist on attacking them – make clear specific arguments and make damn certain that when you attack my morality that your arguments are correct, that you are not misrepresenting my views, who I am – because the fastest way to prove immorality, is the relatively easy effort to prove a FALSE moral attack.

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S. Meyer says:

June 2, 2023 at 1:23 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293126>)

There is tremendous confusion over terms. Bill Buckley tried to separate the Liberal (leftist progressive) from liberal (classical liberal) by using a capital L. When viewed in the terms of freedom they are virtually the polar opposite. The word libertarian can be considered classical liberal but not always. Libertarian has many terms that can precede its name increasing the confusion.

Even the word conservative is used in many different ways. I think the best definition for a conservative of the Buckley position from the 60's is as follows. It includes the Constitution in its definition.

—

That foremost among the transcendent values is the individual's use of his God-given free will, whence derives his right to be free from the restrictions of arbitrary force;

That liberty is indivisible, and that political freedom cannot long exist without economic freedom;

That the purpose of government is to protect those freedoms through the preservation of internal order, the provision of national defense, and the administration of justice;

That when government ventures beyond these rightful functions, it accumulates power, which tends to diminish order and liberty;

That the Constitution of the United States is the best arrangement yet devised for empowering government to fulfill its proper role, while restraining it from the concentration and abuse of power;

That the genius of the Constitution—the division of powers—is summed up in the clause that reserves primacy to the several states, or to the people, in those spheres not specifically delegated to the Federal government;

That the market economy, allocating resources by the free play of supply and demand, is the single economic system compatible with the requirements of personal freedom and constitutional government, and that it is at the same time the most productive supplier of human needs;

That when government interferes with the work of the market economy, it tends to reduce the moral and physical strength of the nation; that when it takes from one man to bestow on another, it

diminishes the incentive of the first, the integrity of the second, and the moral autonomy of both;

That we will be free only so long as the national sovereignty of the United States is secure; that history shows periods of freedom are rare, and can exist only when free citizens concertedly defend their rights against all enemies;

That the forces of international Communism are, at present, the greatest single threat to these liberties;

That the United States should stress victory over, rather than coexistence with, this menace; and

That American foreign policy must be judged by this criterion: does it serve the just interests of the United States?

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John Say says:

June 3, 2023 at 4:25 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293220>)

As always the confusion was created by the left – in a different age. During the late 19th early 20th centuries Progressives were a significant political force in this country – and liberals were fundamentally libertarians there is a reason that more than a century of discussion of western liberalism – has nothing to do with the modern left – and frankly little to do with the left in the 20th century. For more than a century liberalism, western liberalism meant libertarianism.

That is why we see “classical liberalism being used today that is 18th 19th and early 20th century liberalism.

Regardless in the 19th and early 20th centuries there was also a progressive movement, that as those on the left are doing today turned progressivism into a dirty word, so they conducted a forced takeover of the word liberalism – until that too became an insult, and the stench associated with progressivism had faded so now they are once again calling themselves progressive.

I would note that this word game nonsense is ancient – centuries long – and nearly exclusively on the left. Since at-least the time of the french revolution the left has been very skilled at making arguments by appeals emotions. While their application of their ideology has nearly always lead to copious bloodshed.

Christ said it pretty well – you can judge a tree by its fruit.

Whatever labels you wish to use – it has always been some form of marxism.

Liberty and equality are practically diametrically opposite. Further, liberty is something that while we can not fully achieve we can aspire to and standard of living rises for all as we get closer to it. Conversely humans are NOT equal in any way except before the law. We are not designed that way.

the success of humans as a species is rooted in the fact that we are not equal. We do not have the same talents. the same abilities. Each of us is unique.

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S. Meyer says:

June 3, 2023 at 10:29 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293258>)

“I would note that this word game nonsense is ancient – centuries long – and nearly exclusively on the left. ”

That made me laugh because in the century before the common era, there was a Jewish sect known as the Sadducees (There are still remnants of them today). They turned words and thoughts, causing me to ask another if they were the original leftists.

For those wondering, the Sadducees were one of four major Jewish groups during the Second Temple era. They controlled the Sanhedrin (Supreme Court) while denying the Oral Torah. They were a wealthy minority whose political influence was far greater than their numbers. They offered new interpretations of the written Torah to destroy its meaning in the same manner the left does to our Constitution.

I wonder if Estovir if he reads this response, came across this group when learning about the Old Testament and the centuries just before the common era. I would like to know his and the Jesuit take on the Sadducees.

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John Say says:

June 3, 2023 at 5:08 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293331>)

As I was writing I was humming

“Alas, alas for you, lawyers and Pharasee’s” from Godspel.

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S. Meyer says:

June 3, 2023 at 7:11 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293353>)

It sounds like Godspel didn't get its history correct.



S. Meyer says:

June 3, 2023 at 10:43 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293264>)

John, as soon as I finished responding to you, I continued my morning reading and what do I find?

“Doctored evidence? Democrat-led J6 panel added audio to silent security video for primetime hearings”

The left is nothing but a bunch of liars and thugs trying to steal power and money with their Marxist excuse that Revolution is needed to correct an imbalance that is inherent in any civilization and will forever exist. The left demands secrecy, not for security, but to cover their dirty tracks. The left has no morals or ethics.

—

The Democrat-led House Select Committee to Investigate Jan. 6 doctored a key piece of its evidence, adding audio to silent U.S. Capitol Police security footage used to create a dramatic video montage for the opening of its primetime hearings last summer, according to a Just the News review of the original raw footage and interviews.

In at least two instances identified by Just the News, the panel’s sizzle reel that aired live and on C-SPAN last June failed to identify that it had overdubbed audio from another, unidentified source onto the silent footage. Multiple current and former Capitol Police officials as well as key lawmakers and congressional aides confirmed that the closed-circuit cameras that captured the video do not record sound and that it was added afterwards.

ContL https://justthenews.com/government/congress/jan-6-select-committee-added-audio-silent-capitol-police-security-footage?utm_source=daily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newslett

[er \(https://justthenews.com/government/congress/jan-6-select-committee-added-audio-silent-capitol-police-security-footage?utm_source=daily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletter\)](https://justthenews.com/government/congress/jan-6-select-committee-added-audio-silent-capitol-police-security-footage?utm_source=daily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletter)

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John Say says:

June 3, 2023 at 4:58 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293329>)

What you can absolutely count on is that the Video produced by the J6 committee is ALL of the very worst of J6 – and that BEFORE its is altered.

I am very disappointed that the Capitol Video release appears to have been forgotten.

Tucker got it all. Did an excellent first pass, but ALL of this needs to be made public. Let the left and the right crowdsource the analysis.

What is most important is that we get an accurate picture of the TOTALITY of J6.

Was it Mostly – as the J6 committee video purports – a half a day long bachanal of carnage and violence.

Or was it as the Tucker release of Chansley reflects – a mostly peaceful protest with a tiny amount of violence.

There are other important questions that remain unanswered.

How did the violence start.

There is significant evidence that things got out of control at the West Tunnel, when the CP forces there accidentally Tear Gassed themselves and then accidentally tear gassed the crowd.

There is also significant evidence that the CP in the West Tunnel Violated the Rules of engagement for the day – using deadly force that had not been authorized.

The only way we find out what is true is to get EVERYTHING.

I know that most republicans want to distance themselves from J6

There is no doubt that SOME protestors behaved badly.

But we ALL – right and left – need to know/see the full truth of J6 – whatever that is.

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S. Meyer says:

June 3, 2023 at 6:59 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293351>)

“The only way we find out what is true is to get EVERYTHING.”

“The full and unadulterated CCTV security footage of the Jan. 6 riots is in the possession of the House Administration Committee. Just the News was authorized by Speaker Kevin McCarthy and the committee to review the footage and make copies of any newsworthy moments. On Thursday, Just the News released footage of former Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s evacuation from the Capitol during the riot that showed she

let her daughter film the exit Hollywood style, an act the former police chief said was a “distraction” for her security detail.”

From the above JTN site.

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John Say says:

[June 4, 2023 at 3:46 AM \(https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293406\)](https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293406)

I am glad JTN has it. but I really mean PUBLIC

Just like Carlson – JTN has its own agenda and its own people it must please and toes it can not step on.

Giving 41,000 hours of material to an organization is NOT the same as making it public to millions.

I want those on the left to have the same opportunity to go through this.

I noted in a prior post that we can BET that the J6 committee footage is ALL the violence there was.

Obviously I do not know that. I have to presume that because of the people involved.

But give the video to all, and you can BET that every single second of bad footage will be raised by those on the left.

And we WANT that. If they come up with 10's of thousands of hours of violence – those on the right should hang their heads in shame.

If the left can not come up with more than the J6 committee did – then those shilling that J6 was a violent insurrection should be shamed to their dying breath.

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S. Meyer says:

June 4, 2023 at 8:27 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293423>)

“I am glad JTN has it. but I really mean PUBLIC”

I agree, though there may be some security concerns. That would mean the footage was not fully evaluated by the government, and thereby, in my mind, invalidated many of the convictions because the defendants may not have had the opportunity to review potentially exculpatory data.

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John Say says:

June 3, 2023 at 5:05 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293330>)

More news – the member of the Israeli intelligence community that went to the FBI in 2019 reporting Bribery and Corruption involving the Biden family – that he had first hand insider knowledge of has surfaced in Israel.

As I can tell – he came to the FBI in 2019 – because he was concerned that HE would get prosecuted for his involvement in the Biden’s efforts to bilk foreigners of money.

After being interviewed the FBI contacted interpol and get an international warrant on him.

He was picked up and held in cyprus, but before the FBI could take custody – they probably did not want custody, they just wanted him discredited and locked in a foreign jail, he was released on bail. He fled Cyprus and is now hiding in Israel. But he was just publicly interviewed by Miranda Devine – the journalist who is responsible for the NY Post story on the Hunter Biden laptop.

Also apparently Wray is giving Congress the 1023 he has been stalling on.

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John Say says:

June 3, 2023 at 4:47 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293326>)

Buckley also defined conservatives as standing athwart the world yelling STOP.

That is better.

Conservatism is not an ideology. It is merely the recognition that most new ideas are bad – or atleast work worse than what we already have, and that we should always proceed very carefully towards new.

It is also why change belongs in the private domain – that of individuals and markets where the damage to failure is contained and where the rewards for success go to those who made the change successful.

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S. Meyer says:

June 3, 2023 at 4:55 PM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293328>)

“Buckley also defined conservatives as standing athwart the world yelling STOP.

That is better.”

That is also correct in a limited sense, but the words I quoted, were created at his home under his guidance, so I think those words better represent the conservative movement. You might not like being linked with the word conservative, but considering who Buckley is, I think definitions arising under his guidance are superior to anything you want to put in their place.

“Conservatism is not an ideology. It is merely the recognition that most new ideas are bad – or at least work worse than what we already have,”

No. That is your definition. Are you denying that Buckley led the conservative movement, and instead saying that you did?

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John Say says:

June 4, 2023 at 3:40 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293405>)

The words you quoted are an ideology.

Conservatism ISN'T.

I am not looking to debate Buckley's ideology – much of which I agree with.

But there is a radical difference between – what is the definition of conservatism – which is no more than requiring that those seeking to change government prove the success of what they are attempting BEFORE proceeding.,
And a political platform that appeals to the majority of conservatives.

I am not going to allow the left to play word games.
Nor Buckley or you.

The definitions of words are typically one or two sentences at most.

Anything larger does not define the word, it states likely attributes of those described by the word, which is something different.

I would also note Buckley likely gave far more thought to the “standing athwart the world shouting stop” remark.

It is usually harder and required more thought to come up with something short accurate and pithy.

I write very long posts here – because no one is paying me to pare them down to a few sentences.

That takes a lot of effort.

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S. Meyer says:

June 4, 2023 at 8:21 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293419>)

“The words you quoted are an ideology.

Conservatism ISN’T.”

What is conservatism when used to define a political position? What do you mean when you group the political right as conservatives? What are conservative evangelicals?

Many, including you, will group the political right ideologically as conservatives and the religious right as evangelical conservatives especially when comparing it to other ideologies such as communism. Do you deny that?

You think you are consistent with your use of words, but you are not. Conservatism, as used in this blog, can be an ideology or a disposition. It is not for you to choose how others should use the word, especially if you have not been careful with your use in the past.

I was careful and put a name and an ideology to my use of the word. What you are doing is playing a word game.

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S. Meyer says:

June 4, 2023 at 8:23 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293420>)

“I am not going to allow the left to play word games. Nor Buckley or you.”

Don't get bent out of shape, masking your creation of a false argument to halt legitimate thought. That is what you are doing. Buckley's group used the term ideologically and defined it so it would not be confused with other uses of the word, whether ideological or not.

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S. Meyer says:

June 4, 2023 at 8:25 AM (<https://jonathanturley.org/2023/05/31/child-3930-the-implausible-and-wonderful-life-of-tom-buergenthal/comment-page-2/#comment-2293421>)

“The definitions of words are typically one or two sentences at most. Anything larger does not define the word, it states likely attributes of those described by the word, which is something different.”

Do not tell others how to define themselves. Those “words” as you call them, defined a movement.

“It is usually harder and required more thought to come up with something short accurate and pithy.”

You are looking at a slogan. Buckley's group was looking at a movement. You are thinking small. Buckley was thinking big. After defining oneself, a movement can create a slogan.

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John Say says:

“Morals and character regard thy “neighbor” before “self” and God always first. It’s not a “religion” it’s a “relationship” with our lord and consequently our only hope and salvation (you will soon experience this truth).”

That is actually entirely false – and history will easily teach that. As does Religion. Christ said “love thy neighbor as thyself” – not BEFORE self. The “golden rule is do unto others as you would have done unto you. If you are not worth decent treatment – no one else is either.

AS to God – I likely believe more strongly than you. Start with Genesis – distinct from all other creatures man has free will. The entirety of morality derives from that.

We do not discuss the morality of wolves or dolphins. They act on instinct. Regardless, they are not subject to the moral constraints of humans. And they are not capable of the accomplishments of humans for the same reason.

Who has done more for mankind – Elon Musk or Mother Theresa ? It is Musk without contest.

Mother Theresa is an incredible selfless person. She is literally a saint.

But throughout history – especially the past millennia – people pursuing their own self interest have done more to improve the lot of the least of society than charity or selflessness ever has.

Morality itself divides into positive and negative. These are so different they should have two different words.

Positive morality is the domain of religion. NOT government. When we say we can not legislate morally – we mean positive morality.

We can not compel others to do good. Positive morality, and there is no moral merit at all in what good we compel others to do.

If you order a slave to do something good for your neighbor – does that conduct merit the slave? They acted under duress. Or to you? – you did no good yourself and you acted immorally to compel another to do good.

Negative morality is squarely though not exclusively the domain of government.

Thou Shalt not is as old as history, and a requirement for even the government of a family, much less tribe or nation.

In the past through religion, family, or whatever the majority of us got a reasonable foundation in negative morality – basic right and wrong.

Thou shalt not kill, thou shalt not steal, thou shalt not bear false witness. We can not live together without universal agreement and compliance with these.

The overwhelming majority of us in the past would adhere to these naturally – so long as everyone else did. But a few of us either will not or are incapable of conforming our behavior to those moral constraints absent force or the threat of force.

The social contract – the foundation of government is our agreement to give the power to initiate force to government to protect us all from the initiation of force by those few who do not conform to the basic requirements of negative morality.

The modern left – not actual liberalism, significantly undermines morality – both positive and negative. The presumption of the modern left – of marxism, of socialism, of those who elevate equality over liberty is that government is a force for positive good. “to each according to his need from each according to his ability” – which strongly resembles the golden rule. But which for all its emotional appeal is moral cancer. positive morality by force is evil.

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Doug Miller says:

“If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear.” George Orwell

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Jonathan Turley  @JonathanTurley · 1h 

Former FBI director James Comey told MSNBC's Jen Psaki that in the coming election "It has to be Joe Biden." Given what we have learned from John Durham, Comey is only voicing what often seemed the virtual policy at the FBI at points. Yet, the interview avoided, again, many of...

 112  1,428 

Jonathan Turley  @JonathanTurley · 1h 

Replying to @JonathanTurley

...Those views did not spontaneously appear in the minds of these students. These students are the product of years of being told that free speech is dangerous and harmful if left unregulated. From elementary school to college, they were taught that they did not have to be...

 11  358 


Jonathan Turley  @JonathanTurley · 1h 

As faculty commit or support violence, students are assured that others are the violent ones. The lesson took with students. A recent poll shows that 41 percent of college students now believe violence is justified to fight hate speech...

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"Your Speech is Violence": How the Mob is Using a New Mantra to Ju...

Below is my column in The Hill on the increasing justification of violence by the left on our campuses by declaring speech itself ...

 56  689 

Jonathan Turley  @JonathanTurley · 20h 

Replying to @JonathanTurley

...What was labeled "disinformation" on masks, natural immunities, and other positions were later found to be credible or correct. Rather than having a rigorous debate at the time, there was censorship and blacklisting by government, corporate, media, and academic interests.

 51  1,419 

Jonathan Turley  @JonathanTurley · 20h 

Replying to @JonathanTurley

...The point is not that officials should not coordinate or collaborate, but opposing views were largely being suppressed in the media and in academia as these "informal conversations" were establishing policies....

 15  1,100 

Jonathan Turley  @JonathanTurley · 20h 

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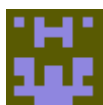
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