

The Citizen Threat

January 2, 2024

"The Republicans," <u>said</u> Tucker Carlson — speaking of elected Republicans — "who really do hate their own voters in a way that's pathological, are just re-upping the spy laws to allow the Biden Administration to spy on their voters."

Mr. Carlson is not wrong, at least about Republican leaders aiding Democrats in spying on conservatives and others who sometimes vote GOP.

Yes, the federal government's surveillance and criminal "justice" apparatus *has* been directed by Democrats — the Biden Administration specifically, and whoever runs that — to target, as The Enemy, conservatives and others associated with (or merely adjacent to) the Republican Party.

This cannot be dismissed as a conspiracy theory. Democratic thought leaders pushed this new anti-terrorism paradigm from the first moments of the Biden Administration, *in public*.

Or at least on MSNBC, where John Brennan clearly reconceived opposition to his Democratic Party as a movement looking "very similar to insurgency movements that we've seen overseas."

"Even libertarians," he said, constituted "an insidious threat" to, not the Democratic Party, but "our Democracy."

This perspectival shift, of seeing policy and political opposition as "insurgency," is key to the new anti-democratic mindset.

And very real. It could end our small-r republican experiment.

Which brings us back to Republican politicians and their willingness to let Democrats institute a permanent pogrom against all who oppose Democrats' big government programs.

Why do this? Out of hatred? Disdain? Fear?

Let's not ignore the age-old impulse of politicians to squelch the speech of opponents. The longer in office, the more these careerists tend to view their own constituents as threats. After all, anyone might freely offer a complaint that emboldens or comforts the opposition. This is a bipartisan principle.

Better an enforced silence about the dictates of Washington, sadly, if you are a Washingtonian delivering dictates.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.