



Antifa in Popular Ontology

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What do Jimmy Kimmel and the late J. Edgar Hoover have in common?

A kink for women's dresswear?

Nope. Both denied the existence of major criminal organizations.

Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation from 1924 to 1972, refused to affirm that the Mafia crime syndicate existed. Repeatedly, over the years.

Rumors that he was being [blackmailed](#) by the Mafia itself, over his own cross-dressing kinks (the mob allegedly had photos), is not affirmed by major historians, who say his denial-of-the-facts was just politics.

So when we encounter those rejecting the reality of Antifa, take them with a grain of salt. Truth is, Antifa has a long history. It had a beginning; it spread; it fell into disarray; it was revived (or mimicked)

by young radicals wanting an excuse to commit violence against “fascists”—which proved, of course, to be anyone they disagree with. We see them today on the streets of major cities at night, black masks and their proclivity to beat up heretics to their variant of communism/anarchism/nihilism.

But comedian and ABC talk-show host Jimmy Kimmel derides such observations.

“There is no Antifa. This is an entirely imaginary organization,” he cackled, [likening](#) any claim for Antifa's existence to announcing the capture of fictional creatures such as the Decepticons or the Chupacabra.

But Chupacabra didn't [beat](#) Andy Ngo within an inch of his life; Decepticons have not been [caught on camera throwing bricks](#).

Many other talking heads have made similar denials—despite the demonstrated fact that Antifa is well funded and that funding is directed by *somebody*.

Even a “grassroots” organization informally managed counts as an existing entity; just because a group looks more like a network than a corporate entity with an HR department doesn't mean it doesn't exist.

Philosophers might call these denials “ontic negative claims”—“ontic” as in *ontology* as in the Philosophy of Being. While I'm uncertain of many things, I am certain of this: Antifa exists and Jimmy Kimmel is no ontologist.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.