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**Obama is No Sell Out:  
Just the Empire's Latest Puppet  
Keeping It Real  
By Larry Pinkney  
BlackCommentator.com Editorial Board**

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"I'd watch the dangerous wolf closer than I would the *smooth*, sly fox. The wolf's very growling would keep me alert and fighting to survive, whereas I might be *lulled and fooled by the tricky fox*."

-Malcolm X

The politicos of the Republican party wolves and the *Democratic* party foxes [i.e. the Republicrats] are *in actuality* continuing business as usual, invariably at the expense of the masses of everyday people, with the willing, able, and invaluable assistance of their current puppet Barack Obama - "the smooth...tricky fox."

The American Heritage College dictionary defines the term *sell out*, in relevant part, as "One who has betrayed one's principles or an espoused cause." Thus, it is *technically* incorrect to refer to Barack Obama as a "sell out," in that he has *consistently demonstrated* that he, like most of his Republican and Democratic party colleagues, *have no* "principles" whatsoever when it comes to *steadfastly* protecting and promoting the fundamental political and economic interests of the everyday, common people of this nation. To refer to Barack Obama as a "sell out" is to bestow upon him far too much credit.

Politicians of the Democratic and Republican parties are busily engaged in *rallying around their political parties* instead of actively, in both word *and deed*, *rallying around the needs of ordinary, everyday Black, White, Brown, Red, and Yellow peoples*. The farce continues, only now the stakes are much, much higher for all us all, nationally

and internationally.

Labor and political activist Carl Finamore in his recent article, [\*Would You Rather Be Eaten By A Wolf Or A Fox?\*](#), was right on the mark when he wrote, "Maybe the much ballyhooed hope in President Obama has in fact stunned into silence the American reform majority that elected him. Maybe getting snubbed by Obama in the front is more disorienting and confusing than getting stabbed directly in the back by Republicans?...Do you want to be lunch?" Indeed, whose meal do *you* want to be?

Think about this: Despite overwhelming and *resounding opposition* (from persons of virtually all political spectrums in this nation) to the monstrous, criminal, Wall Street, corporate "bailout;" the Obama/Biden regime *ignored* the *will* of the people. Barack Obama, and the rest of his Republicrat colleagues are beholden to what former president Dwight D. Eisenhower described as the corporate "military / industrial complex." They are *not* beholden to the people.

"We recognize then that the *greed* of bureaucratic capitalism in America, the effectiveness of the *police force of the ruling circle*, and the swiftness with which their 'message' to these territories [nationally and internationally], has transformed the previous situation. We recognize this when we admit that ***the United States is no longer a nation but an empire.***"

-Huey P. Newton

The bloody military incursions and expanding wars of the U.S. Empire in Iraq, Afghanistan, *and elsewhere* under Barack Obama, go on unabated, with everyday common folks in this nation and throughout the world paying the ultimate price. Many U.S. troops *continue* to have their time in the military coercively extended under the

Obama / Biden regime with no *definitive* end in sight, while being "redeployed" between and from Iraq and Afghanistan. The corporate / military blood bath in fact goes on, and on, and on as the people pay, and pay, and pay some more with their livelihoods and lives.

As president, Obama has *not* dismantled the unscrupulous excesses in executive privilege and power that his predecessor shamelessly and wrongfully instituted, including the right to lock up U.S. citizens forever without a trial. Nor is there any viable indication that he intends to disinherit himself of these dangerous, undemocratic powers. (Reference: [Naomi Wolf](#)). As chief executive, Obama could and *should have swiftly* disinherited himself and his administration of these undemocratic, dictatorial powers months ago, but he did *not*. Ask yourselves: *Why?*

And what of real and *much needed universal single payer health care* for the masses of people? Where does Obama and his corporate allies stand in this arena?

True to form, Obama, *under his never ending rhetorical cloak of double-speak*, is in fact amorally catering to the private sector, vis-à-vis corporate insurance companies, drug manufacturers, and hospital financial administrators, to whom he is affording an "inside track," at the expense of vigorous and *open* public debate and the majority of people. This is, yet again, a de facto continuation of secrecy and corporate domination over the needs of the people. (Reference: July 22, 2009 [article](#) by Sharon Theimer in

Capitol Hill Blue). This is hypocrisy, not democracy. The people should not have had to file suit in order to get records of the Health *industry executives* that met with Obama regarding what is supposedly the people's health care. To reiterate: This is not transparency or democracy; it is hypocrisy in its slickest form. ([Reference](#))

Of course, overwhelmingly the U.S. corporate media plays its shameful role of ***distraction, gossip, deflection, and omission*** with regards to *all* of the foregoing; doing its damndest to keep the U.S. citizenry *substantively* ignorant and woefully uninformed of the *life and death, bread and butter* issues affecting the majority of Black, White, Brown, Red, and Yellow peoples. Indeed, while the corporate media busies itself in spreading the *nonsense* that, thanks to the election of Obama, racism is dead, men, women, and children of ***all*** colors are being hoodwinked and continually *emaciated* by corporate greed.

Racism *is* far from dead, and equally important, *so is* corporate greed and control. (Reference: February 28, 2009 [article](#) by Janine Jackson) The peoples of this nation continue to be held hostage to corporate hegemony, apartheid Zionism, and militarism, as made crystal clear by Mark Hurwitt's "[Obama Puppet](#)" political cartoon.

While the continuing enormous loss of jobs and other forms of economic disenfranchisement of everyday people of ***all*** colors increases in this land *by leaps and bounds*, so does racism, hypocrisy, and corporate greed under this Obama presidency. These intolerable realities did not come about by mere coincidence or happenstance, and President Barack Obama himself is very much complicitous in this. The bamboozling by Obama of the people of this nation cannot and will *not stand indefinitely*. Certain avaricious corporations, including Goldman, have recently shown billions of dollars in "profits" (albeit with the ill-gotten financial loot from the so-called *bailout* at the expense of everyday people), but decent jobs just keep right on *dwindling*. (Reference: Matt Taibbi's superb article titled, [The Scandal Continues: The Billions In Government Cash Behind Goldman's "Profits"](#)) In 2008, the elite of the corporate / military apparatus chose Barack Obama as their smooth talking standard bearer with the added benefit of providing "***urban uprising insurance***" *against* the inevitable and legitimate disappointment and anger of the masses of poor, unemployed, and underemployed in this country. But the Obama luster has begun to wear thin.

On a daily basis, *most* of the corporate media, in collusion with the Obama / Biden regime, engage in never ending "*bait and switch*" tactics to distract, confuse, obfuscate, and *disinform* the people - *all* the people. These are old tricks - old tactics - but they are *old* precisely because they have worked so well *for so long* to the detriment of the majority of people; regardless of *which* Republicrats [i.e. Republicans *and* Democrats] are in the White House and Congress.

While it is inescapable that racism permeates this nation and is ever so *horribly real*, it is nevertheless *perpetuated by class contradictions*. These contradictions are prevalent even among people of the same ethnicity, color, and / or "race." For example, the reported relatively recent *reprehensible* and *utterly unacceptable* treatment by police accorded to *the noted* and *esteemed* Black scholar Henry Louis Gates, Jr., who received his Ph.D. from Cambridge University, is a former professor at Yale, and heads the prestigious W.E.B. Du Bois Institute for African and African-American Research at Harvard, is a case in point. Indeed, Gates is said to be "one of the most *powerful*

academic voices in America." The obvious mishandling, arrest, and disrespect by police of Gates became national and indeed international news - with Gates as the "cause celeb." Alas, even Barack Obama, from the proverbial political pulpit of the White Houses apparently made remarks on behalf of the world-renowned professor Gates. But what of the lives and wellbeing of all the *everyday* common folk - the Black, Brown, Red, White, and Yellow peoples in this land (and world) who are neither "*noted*" nor "*esteemed*?" What of Eleanor Bumpers, murdered by police? What of Sean Bell, murdered by police? What of the horrendously murdered and dismembered James Byrd, Jr.? What of the hideously tortured Megan Williams? What of the cold blooded police murder of Oscar Grant? What of the *countless* other *ongoing* victims of societal racism, frame ups, and police brutality and murder? Where is the outcry on their behalf? The people who *have no* Ph.D.'s from Harvard, Cambridge, Yale, or any other so-called Ivy League institution *are* as deserving of their *lives, livelihoods, and liberty* as any member of the academic or corporate *elite*. Yes, these are just *plain, ordinary, struggling, everyday folk*! And no, this is not merely a matter of race. It is *also*, and quite pivotally, **a matter of class and privilege**, with the ordinary, economically poor, and disenfranchised people **of all** colors relegated to the unwanted and undeserved role of *cyclical victims* in the United States. The insult and subsequent arrest of the well-known professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr. was absolutely *wrong*, but represents a very miniscule and *relatively mild* version of the *daily horrors* faced by the overwhelming majority of common, everyday people in "America" at the hands of the police and the "military / industrial complex." Moreover, these realities will assuredly *continue* for as long as the cynical opportunists of the elite U.S. corporate - Wall Street / military apparatus are permitted to continually *bamboozle and dominate* the affairs of *we the people*. Undoubtedly, the corporate-backed, opportunistic, smooth, double talking, pro-apartheid Zionist, Barack Obama, knows full well that he is *beholden* to that from which he actually comes, *i.e. Goldman Sachs and his other elite corporate handlers*, and *no amount of pretty rhetoric changes this fact*. It is time for **real systemic** change and *nothing* less will do.

As states *all across this nation* endure soaring deficits, it is the poor, the disabled, and the unemployed who are facing the brutal *brunt* of cut backs in badly needed services. A reader of *BlackCommentator.com*, in relevant part, put it this way when he wrote me: "I live in California. Recently, the governor and legislators of California, solicited the Obama administration for financial assistance (a loan) to address the state's 24 billion dollar deficit. Obama's answer: 'not one red cent.' That very same day the Congress passed an aid package (supported by Obama) of \$2.77 billion in support of the racist, apartheid, terrorist, occupying force of Israel." Clearly, Barack Obama is beholden to the elite of the corporate, apartheid Zionist, military apparatus, *not* the everyday people of *this* nation. Zionism is a *racist political ideology*. It must *not* be confused with Judaism or, for that matter, with being Jewish. Just as all Germans were by no means Nazis; all Jews are by no means Zionist. However, Barack Obama is a pro-apartheid Zionist, along with his White House Chief of Staff, Rahm Emanuel. His loyalty is to the *powerful* apartheid Zionist lobby known as AIPAC, *not* to the people of this nation *collectively and unbiasedly*. This too, makes a complete *mockery* of so-called *democracy and transparency* in the United States.

The time has come to reject and challenge the Obama administration's rhetoric for being precisely what it is: **manipulative rhetoric** and nothing else. Indeed Obama is *not* a sell out. He's just *more of the same - the Empire's latest puppet*.

The people of this nation and world deserve so much better. But in order to obtain true *people-power*, by, for, and of the people, we must agitate, educate, and most of all **organize**.

From the *neglected* family farmers and farmlands, to the downtrodden Indigenous so-called "reservations" of "Indian Country," to the towns and sprawling cities of this land, we must have **real systemic change**, not more of the same in slicker rhetorical clothing.

Onward my beautiful Black, White, Brown, Red, and Yellow sisters and brothers.  
Onward....!!!


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**The BlackCommentator Readers' Corner Blog**


**BlackCommentator.com** Editorial Board Member, Larry Pinkney, is a veteran of the Black Panther Party, the former Minister of Interior of the Republic of New Africa, a former political prisoner and the only American to have successfully self-authored his civil/political rights case to the United Nations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. In connection with his political organizing activities in opposition to voter suppression, etc., Pinkney was interviewed in 1988 on the nationally televised PBS NewsHour, formerly known as The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour. For more about Larry Pinkney see the book, [Saying No to Power: Autobiography of a 20th Century Activist and Thinker](#), by William Mandel [Introduction by Howard Zinn]. (Click [here](#) to read excerpts from the book). Click [here](#) to contact Mr. Pinkney.

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