

Glenn Greenwald posts EPIC thread about how the authoritarian Left is squashing dissent

Posted at 8:51 am on September 7, 2022 by [Mike](#)

Glenn Greenwald has been dealing with some family health issues lately and it has kept him from weighing in on political issues, but last night he found the time to post a thread on Twitter which is worth your time.

Greenwald methodically points out how the left is systematically stifling dissent through coordination with various people and elements of the state and the media.

This is disturbing but a must-read.

The regime of censorship being imposed on the internet – by a consortium of DC Dems, billionaire-funded "disinformation experts," the US Security State, and liberal employees of media corporations – is dangerously intensifying in ways I believe are not adequately understood.

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

A series of "crises" have been cynically and aggressively exploited to inexorably restrict the range of permitted views, and expand pretexts for online silencing and deplatforming. Trump's election, Russiagate, 1/6, COVID and war in Ukraine all fostered new methods of repression. pic.twitter.com/RXIbcMhiiD

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

Never let a crisis go to waste, right?

During the failed attempt in January to force Spotify to remove Joe Rogan, the country's most popular podcaster – remember that? – I wrote that the current religion of Western liberals in politics and media is censorship: their prime weapon of activism.

<https://t.co/SAMtK31UY8>

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

But that Rogan failure only strengthened their repressive campaigns. Dems routinely abuse their majoritarian power in DC to explicitly coerce Big Tech silencing of their opponents and dissent. This is *Govt censorship* disguised as corporate autonomy.

<https://t.co/7s5uY175HZ>

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

There's now an entire new industry, aligned with Dems, to pressure Big Tech to censor. Think tanks and self-proclaimed "disinformation experts" funded by Omidyar, Soros and the US/UK Security State use benign-sounding names to glorify ideological censorship as neutral expertise. pic.twitter.com/5JxSYugUIf

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

Scary stuff.

The worst, most vile arm of this regime are the censorship-mad liberal employees of big media corporations ([@oneunderscore](#), [@BrandyZadrozny](#), [@TaylorLorenz](#), NYT tech unit). Masquerading as "journalists," they align with the scummiest Dem groups ([@mmfa](#)) to silence and deplatform. pic.twitter.com/CMpONIXngi

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

Scummiest Dem groups.

Accurate.

It is astonishing to watch Dems and their allies in media corporations posture as opponents of "fascism" – while their main goal is to *unite state and corporate power* to censor their critics and degrade the internet into an increasingly repressive weapon of information control.

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

A major myth that must be quickly dismantled: political censorship is not the by-product of autonomous choices of Big Tech companies.

This is happening because DC Dems and the US Security State are threatening reprisals if they refuse. They're explicit: pic.twitter.com/j64rCdZ82L

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But the worst is watching people whose job title in corporate HR Departments is "journalist" take the lead in agitating for censorship. They exploit the platforms of corporate giants to pioneer increasingly dangerous means of banning dissenters. *These* are the authoritarians. pic.twitter.com/Ru6oGtIrFb

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

This is the frog-in-boiling-water problem: the increase in censorship is gradual but continuous, preventing recognition of how severe it's become. The EU now legally *mandates censorship of Russian news. They've made it *illegal* for companies to air it.

<https://t.co/mtWA4utXJE>

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

So many new tactics of censorship repression have emerged in the West: Trudeau freezing bank accounts of tucker-protesters; Paypal partnering with ADL to ban dissidents from the financial system; Big Tech platforms openly colluding in unison to de-person people from the internet. pic.twitter.com/O9U2s89ca1

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

All of this stems from the classic mentality of all would-be tyrants: our enemies are so dangerous, their views so threatening, that everything we do – lying, repression, censorship – is noble. That's what made the Sam Harris confession so vital: that's how liberal elites think. pic.twitter.com/D7FdZjoeab

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

This is why I regard the Hunter Biden scandal as uniquely alarming. The media didn't just "bury" the archive.

CIA concocted a lie about it (it's "Russian disinformation"); media outlets spread that lie; Big Tech censored it — because lying and repression to them is justified! pic.twitter.com/2ywVxAj7rR

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

The authoritarian mentality that led CIA, corporate media and Big Tech to lie about the Biden archive before the election is the same driving this new censorship craze. It's the hallmark of all tyranny: "our enemies are so evil and dangerous, anything is justified to stop them."

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

How come ****not one media outlet**** that spread this CIA lie – the Hunter Biden archive was "Russian disinformation" – retracted or apologized? This is why: they believe they are so benevolent, their cause so just, that lying and censorship are benevolent.

pic.twitter.com/oE2BKYgy4B

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The one encouraging aspect: as so often happens with despotic factions, they are triggering and fueling the backlash to their excesses. Sites devoted to free speech – led by Rumble, along with Substack, Callin, and others – are exploding in growth. <https://t.co/9VbsO4MhOS>

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But as these free speech platforms grow and become a threat, the efforts to crush them also grow – exactly as [@AOC](#), other Dems and their corporate media allies successfully demanded Google, Apple and Amazon destroy Parler when it became the single most-popular app in the country. pic.twitter.com/HFRVSVDZDJ

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

It is hard to overstate how much pressure is now brought to bear by liberal censors on these free speech platforms, especially Rumble. Their vendors are threatened. Their hosting companies targeted. They have accounts cancelled and firms refusing to deal with them. It's a regime.

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

It's not melodrama or hyperbole to say: what we have is a war in the West, a war over whether the internet will be free, over whether dissent will be allowed, over whether we will live in the closed propaganda system our elites claim The Bad Countries™ impose. It's no different.

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

In even the most despotic nations, the banal, conformist citizen thinks they're free. As Rosa Luxemburg said: "he who does not move, does not feel his chains."

Of course the Chris Hayes's and Don Lemon's think this is all absurd: Good Liberals threaten nobody and thus flourish. pic.twitter.com/jvKn0qmsZy

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

The measure of societal freedom is not how servants of power are treated: they're always left alone or rewarded. The key metric is how dissidents are treated. Now, they are imprisoned (Assange), exiled (Snowden) and, above all, silenced by corporate/state power (dissidents). pic.twitter.com/5AojVGV9OB

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For more than a month, I've removed myself from the news cycle and The Discourse because my only priority right now is my family, my kids and my husband's health. But distance brings clarity.

This censorship mania consuming Western liberals is deeply dangerous — and growing.

— Glenn Greenwald (@ggreenwald) [September 6, 2022](#)

As I've often said, the media outlets screaming most loudly about "disinformation" are the ones that spread it most frequently, casually and destructively (NBC/CNN/WPost, etc).

It's equally true of those now claiming to fight "fascism": real repression comes *from them.*
pic.twitter.com/jhXWJ8AN3e

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I'm going to remain detached until the health crisis in our family is resolved. But internet freedom and free speech are not ancillary causes. They are central. This was the core cause of the Snowden reporting.

Without a free internet and free speech, dissent is an illusion.

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Above all, stay focused on who your real enemies are.

They're not your neighbors who have been deceived into supporting the wrong party or wrong ideology. They are victims of the repression, which is all about maintaining a closed system of propaganda that can't be challenged. pic.twitter.com/B4DfgVSROB

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The worst of all – the most repugnant and despicable – are those calling themselves "journalists" while doing the opposite of what that term implies: they serve rather than challenge power, they deceive rather than inform, they demand censorship rather than free and open inquiry. pic.twitter.com/s4ocFn60u3

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Heap scorn on the corporate outlets and their deceitful, pro-censorship employees abusing the "journalist" label. Read them with full skepticism, or just ignore them.

Support outlets and platforms that want to protect free inquiry and the right of dissent, not rob you of it.

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