

Brooke Goldstein: We have seen a very troubling development that started in international law and now has seeped down into the national legal systems in different Western democracies. And that's the concept of defamation of religion. That's political correctness in the sense that you should not be able to criticize religion. And it all started at the United Nations where resolution after resolution is being passed. It is being egged on by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), where the United Nations Human Rights Council has basically been hijacked to pass resolutions that attempt to criminalize the defamation of Islam or to criticize the criticism of religion in international law and calling on all member states to do the same. We have for example UN Human Rights Council Resolution 719 that is an Orwellian document that attempts to criminalize ideas that are deemed xenophobic. Thinking thoughts that could be an insult to religion, the United Nations is trying to outlaw. We have Human Rights Council Resolution 1618, for example, which by the way was co-sponsored by the United States under Hilary Clinton as her tenure as Secretary of State together with the then Muslim Brotherhood government of Egypt, and Human Rights Council Resolution 1618 attempts to outlaw the use of the media to criticize religion, specifically to criticize Islam. So after the United Nations Human Rights Council passed 1618, Hilary Clinton came back to the United States and held a three-day closed-door meeting with the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation, after which they announced the application of 1618 within the United States. What resulted? Terrorist attacks like Fort Hood were classified as workplace violence even though Major Nidal Hasan screamed Allahu Akbar before he opened fire, even though it's a proven fact that Major Nidal Hasan also had communications with foreign terrorist groups. Fort Hood was reclassified workplace violence so as not to offend religion. A YouTube film was blamed for the violence in the Benghazi happening thousands of miles away, when we know that a YouTube film had nothing to do with the reasons why those terrorist groups were attacking our embassy. In fact, a press release was released by the terrorist groups themselves over 24 hours before they attacked our embassy in Benghazi, calling for violence in protest of our policies at Gitmo, in protest of our detention policies; and yet, the State Department, applying Human Rights Council Resolution 1618 came out and blamed the exercise of free speech critical of religion, a YouTube film for violence happening thousands of miles away and we know that wasn't the case. And the result of that is a detrimental chilling effect on the National Security community, in the media, in the general public talking about the underlying causes of theologically-motivated terrorism such as Islamist terrorism.

Brooke Goldstein: The UN Human Rights Council has a series of resolutions that target the defamation of religion. But in reality, these resolutions are consciously and have intentionally only been used to apply to the criticism of Islam. We have seen for example in Europe, hate-speech lawsuits being brought against anyone who dares to draw a cartoon or do a movie or speak openly about radical Islam. You don't see the same hate speech laws being used to go after radical imams preaching death to the infidels and death to Christians in mosques in Europe.

Brooke Goldstein: The problem with political correctness when it comes to talking about Islamism or Islamist terrorism, for example, is that it's really what Bret Stephens would say is the bigotry of low expectations, because if talking about and wanting to solve the root causes of

Islamist terrorism is anti-Muslim, what then is pro-Muslim? You are just assuming the majority of Muslims don't want to talk about how to solve terror, they don't want to talk about the gender apartheid that is happening in the country, they don't want to talk about issues such as slavery which we are seeing again in Muslim majority countries, and you have a population of moderate Muslims especially in the United States that are completely being disenfranchised and they are being strategically targeted by groups like the Council on American-Islamic Relations or the Islamic Society of North America which themselves are Muslim Brotherhood front organizations, the Muslim Brotherhood being the ideological ancestor of all modern day terrorist groups. And these moderate Muslims in the United States are being attacked by groups like CAIR and ISNA specifically to silence them, to disenfranchise them, they are being accused to being Islamophobic. If they talk about the real problems that are happening within their community that frankly is the real racism when moderate Muslims are targeted for speaking about issues that they want to solve in their own community.

Brooke Goldstein: There is a strategic lawfare attack on free speech happening at the international level and happening at the national level as well. At the United Nations, we have seen resolution after resolution coming from the Human Rights Council spurred on by the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation, attacking the ability to speak freely about religion and issues of national security. At the same time, these resolutions call for member nations to impose what is essentially blasphemy laws to write into their own legislative systems that criticism of religion when anyone says anything that is offensive to someone because of their religion should be punished, should be thrown into jail, should be subject to monetary damages. The way that these UN resolutions have been applied in Europe, for example, is you have the Council of Europe Enacted Resolution 1605 that requires states to enforce blasphemy laws on a national level. In Canada the parliament enacted Section 13 of the Human Rights Act which also makes it a crime to say anything or use the electronic media in any way that criticizes religion, that was offensive to religion. And what we've seen are a series of Human Rights complaints both in Canada and in Europe against anyone frankly who speaks openly about radical Islam. In Canada, we had MacLean's magazine and Mark Steyn dragged before Human Rights Council simply for publishing and republishing articles and a book and statements that talk about the infiltrations of terrorist elements within Western democracy. So again, if publishing an article about the threat of terrorism in Western democracy when you are talking about Islamist terrorism, theologically-motivated terrorism, is a violation of Canadian Human Rights Laws, or a violation of European Human Rights Law, how then are we supposed to do our job to protect our countries, how are we supposed to educate the public about these threats and discuss them?

Brooke Goldstein: A large component of the ideological war against the West is also the ideological war against provable facts: attacking basic facts that can be objectively proven with the goal of confusing us about what is up, what is down, what is reality, what is not. And as usual, what starts for example against Israel now seeps very easily into the West. The ideological war against the truth when it comes to the so-called Israeli-Palestinian conflict is enormous. You have for example accusations that Israel is an apartheid state, which is easily disprovable; but at the

same time we completely ignore the gender, race, and religious apartheid happening in every Muslim-majority country in the world. You have accusations against Israel as the evil colonialist entity that is now seeped into accusations against the West as these racist colonialist evil states when last time I checked these are pretty much the freest places in the world. You also see for example Israel being accused of being the root cause of every single problem not just in the Middle East now, but in the world when that was easily disproved with the Arab Spring (more realistically known as the Arab winter) and yet these lies are propagated to our disadvantage. And again, the ideological war against the truth is meant to confuse us as to what the root causes of the problems that we face are. What is the root cause of terrorism of Islamist terrorism? Is it Israeli colonialism, is it the racism of the West? No. It's theology and all you have to do to learn that provable fact is ask the terrorists themselves why they are blowing themselves up. They're not blowing themselves up because the late Ariel Sharon walked on the Temple Mount or because the failed Oslo Accords. They're blowing themselves up because they're being told by radical imams that is what is required of them to do according to their religion.