

“Women’s Waves” Of The Past

Each of these women were in positions of power—in the U.S. government, other imperialist governments, and other oppressive regimes. They were all responsible for crimes against humanity, from wars of aggression to ethnic cleansing to attacks on women’s right to abortion and other horrors. Go online to read about their crimes.



Golda Meir, Israel



Indira Gandhi, India



Margaret Thatcher, UK



Madeleine Albright, USA



Condoleezza Rice, USA



Benazir Bhutto, Pakistan



Samatha Power, USA



Hillary Clinton, USA

Know Your History—DON’T Repeat It!!

How the Democrats Have Colluded to *Restrict* Reproductive Rights: 4 Examples

1. The Hyde Amendment

The Hyde Amendment, passed for the first time in 1976, prohibits federal funds from being used to provide abortions. This has hit poor, Black, Latina, Native American, and rural women hardest. In 1977, Rosie Jimenez became the first woman known to die after the Hyde Amendment deprived her and other women of safe abortion care.

Since 1976, The Hyde Amendment has been re-approved and signed into law every single year—including by three Democratic presidents: Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, and Barack Obama. Obama went so far as to further enshrine it through Executive Order 13535, which explicitly prohibited federal funds for abortion in the context of the Affordable Care Act.

2. “Safe, Legal, and Rare”

During Bill Clinton’s presidency, anti-abortion violence surged, and legislative attempts to end abortion mounted. Bill and Hillary Clinton responded that abortion should be “safe, legal and rare.” “Rare” implies that abortion is wrong, but abortion is *not* wrong. What is wrong is forcing a woman to have a child against her will. The Clintons repeated this mantra *for decades, including during Hillary Clinton’s 2008 presidential bid.* This craven ceding of the moral high ground to rabid anti-abortion fascists disoriented and demobilized millions as abortion rights were systematically stripped away.

3. Democrats Boycott the Funeral of Dr. George Tiller

In 2009, Dr. George Tiller was assassinated in his church by an anti-abortion fanatic. Dr. Tiller was one of the most respected abortion providers in the U.S. and one of just three to provide late-term abortions. More than 1,000 mourners attended Dr. Tiller’s funeral, including abortion providers from around the country and many former patients. **Not a single Democratic politician showed up.**

4. The Democrats REFUSED to Make Abortion Central to the Fight Against Gorsuch or Kavanaugh

Donald Trump promised to appoint Supreme Court justices who would overturn *Roe v. Wade*. In response to both of Trump’s fascist Supreme Court appointments, Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh, the Democrats refused to make abortion central to their opposition. No leading Democrat stated that it is completely illegitimate and immoral for the state to force women to bear children against their will. The Democrats refused to throw down and mobilize people to stop these nominations. In the case of Kavanaugh, the Democrats focused instead on Kavanaugh’s alleged sexual assaults as a youth in a way that was not at the heart of the danger he posed *and* harmed important principles related to due process. All this rendered the millions who support abortion passive while legitimizing a court that is now poised to drop the hammer on the right to access abortion and birth control nationwide.

Good and Mad-Or How To Domesticate Your Rage...

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state-sponsored political assassinations, and the intensified violence, poverty, and oppression that people are now fleeing by the thousands.

Hillary Clinton’s active support for the main policies of her husband, Bill Clinton, while he was President (and she *was* a major, if unofficial, member of his team)—policies of mass incarceration, of NAFTA and its devastation of Mexico, of the profoundly anti-woman and racist ending of welfare—were themselves criminal. Her role in the promotion of the slogan that abortion should be “safe, legal and rare” (thereby ceding the moral high ground to the Christian fascists) was particularly damaging.

Anyone who can put “Hillary Clinton” and “using your anger as a catalyst for change” in the same sentence—much less the same book—is **automatically disqualified** from using the word “revolutionary” in their book title.

Ultimately, the problem is *Good and Mad* not only reinforces “let’s get elected” as the horizons of what is needed, but it’s fundamentally *not really all that mad—commensurate with the depth, the scale, the intensity of women’s oppression all around the world.* The fury of women can indeed be a catalyst for fundamental and *radical* social change—one that gets to the *roots* of the problem through an actual revolution. But Traister’s outlook and program can only channel that fury into futility or, worse yet, becoming a cog in the machine.

(Next week at www.revcom.us: Traister on #MeToo—and what happens when “me” eclipses “too”)

For much more—including the works of Bob Avakian—go online to www.revcom.us. Among the recently posted articles:

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***The Republican Party Is Fascist
The Democratic Party Is Also A Machine of
Massive War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity
This System CANNOT Be Reformed—It MUST Be Overthrown!***