



MESSAGE TO THE UC BERKELEY COMMUNITY

From new UC Berkeley Reich Chancellor Rich Liar

Welcome UC Berkeley students, new and returning! While it is true that many of you came to UC Berkeley because of its history of "free speech" and we even have had a university sponsored "Free Speech Café," we are in a new and dangerous era, and we have to make some changes.

Consider the famous Mario Savio statement:

There is a time when the operation of the machine becomes so odious, makes you so sick at heart, that you can't take part; you can't even passively take part, and you've got to put your bodies upon the gears and upon the wheels, upon the levers, upon all the apparatus, and you've got to make it stop. And you've got to indicate to the people who run it, to the people who own it, that unless you're free, the machine will be prevented from working at all!

Savio's call for people to stand up against injustice, to disrupt and disturb our university and our nation is simply too dangerous in today's troubled times. ***I have ordered that Savio's statement, now on the wall of the Free Speech Café, be painted over. And we are changing the name of the Free Speech Cafe to the "Shut the Fuck Up, Stay in Your Lane Café".***

These measures are in line with demands in Congress that university presidents suppress protest against Israel's genocide in Gaza; with the vilification of protestors by Kamala Harris; with "zero-tolerance" policy from the UC system president Drake outlawing encampments and suppressing critical thought. And a big Go Bears! shout out to Berkeley Law Dean Erwin Chemerinsky who has been working overtime to suppress critical thought by equating any serious criticism of Israel and Zionism with antisemitism. We should all follow his lead.

In a society that is tearing apart, we must not tolerate campus disruption. Further, we must not tolerate or legitimize any discourse that points to "capitalism" as the root of our problems. And any call for "overthrow" is without question beyond the pale. Let me be perfectly clear: to the degree it is within my power, such things WILL NOT EVEN BE DISCUSSED in any deep and critical way at this university.

And a final warning: DO NOT LOOK INTO OR INVESTIGATE BOB AVAKIAN and the revolutionary solution he offers, which can be found at @BobAvakianOfficial. DO NOT GO THERE. DO NOT GO TO REVOLUTION BOOKS at 2444 Durant Ave. DO NOT SEEK OUT the Revcom Corps for the Emancipation of Humanity.