

5 Minutes With... Dinesh D'Souza

BY TROY ANDERSON

SOCIALISM IS IN VOGUE, FILLING THE AIRWAVES WITH promises of “free college,” “Medicare for All,” and “free . . . everything.”

Whether it's pushed by presumptive Democratic nominee Joe Biden, Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., or Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., many Americans think it sounds like heaven on earth.

In his latest book, *United States of Socialism: Who's Behind It. Why It's Evil. How to Stop It.*, bestselling author and filmmaker Dinesh D'Souza argues the Democratic Party is promoting a socialist agenda that is “not just a threat, but a nightmare.”

The book is scheduled for release this month. A film titled *Trump Card*, based on the book, is set to debut in August.

■ **Newsmax: You note that socialism is an “utterly discredited system of ideas” that resulted in the murders of tens of millions of people in the 20th century. Why has it been resurrected now?**

»» D'Souza: First, a lot of young people don't have any living memory of actual socialism. Second, there is a deep moral anxiety about capitalism, and particularly about the degree of inequality that capitalism appears to condone. And third is that the socialist left has come up with “identity socialism,” which allows them to say, “Our socialism is democratic socialism.” It's modeled more after Scandinavia than Venezuela.

■ **What does it tell us that former Vice President Biden has apparently wrapped up the nomination?**

»» Socialism has now come into the mainstream of the Democratic Party. If you look at Biden and Sanders, Biden will never embrace the socialist label. But what are his actual policy disagreements with Sanders? Well, he has one: Sanders supports Medicare for All and Biden

supports Obamacare. But in all the other areas, whether it's the minimum wage or the biggest package of American socialism, the Green New Deal, Biden is on board.

■ **Will the COVID-19 crisis add to the momentum of the socialist movement?**

»» I go to my local grocery store in Texas and I can only buy two cartons of milk — that, to me, is the new equivalent of the old ration card (where I grew up in India) because it places a limit on what I can buy. I think Americans under coronavirus are just getting a small whiff of what life is like on an everyday basis in socialist countries.

■ **What do you foresee if Democrats beat President Trump in November?**

»» We would get fiscal irresponsibility on an unimaginable scale, a complete breakdown of the sense of national boundaries. All of America would start to look more like Oakland and Baltimore. I can't imagine it's a prospect that Americans savor, but people do get the government that they in the end want and deserve.

■ **The last chapter is titled “The Art of War: Battle Plan to Defeat the Socialists.” What is that battle plan?**

»» The battle plan here is to recognize that we are in a different kind of fight and to fight differently. This is very important because the Republican Party, the conservatives, and the Christians are straight-laced people. The left knows this, and they exploit the virtues of their opposition. The Democratic left has become “gangsterized” since Obama and Hillary, so what I'm calling for is a toughened right, a toughened Republican Party.

■ **What advice would you offer Trump to win in November?**

»» Keep fighting. I think Trump's bravery is his most important characteristic. What Trump is trying to do is reduce the power of the mainstream media in our minds, so that even after he is gone The New York Times will not recover its full credibility. □

