

Background

- Occidental Dissent (OD) was originally launched in 2006 by Bradley Dean Griffin, who scrapped the original blog and forum before reestablishing it in 2008.
 - "Occidentalism" is the opposite of "Orientalism", which has a long and heavily debated etymology concerning Western attitudes toward Eastern nations.
 - "Occidental Dissent" implies that Westerners are fighting back against oppression, primarily created by minority groups.
- The website houses blog posts written primarily by Griffin under the pen name "Hunter Wallace" and reports back on topics, issues, and groups relevant to white nationalism and to the debates between its various camps.
 - Aside from the comment sections on each blog post, OD is more akin to a news source than it is a discussion forum.
- The site has a large, loyal following among white nationalists.

john | October 10, 2017 at 10:16 am |

Thankfully, a lot of the younger generation don't bother with mainstream media, or TV in general. My only remaining daughter still at home can't even operate the TV remote.
All you can do from here on in is keep getting the ACTUAL story out there via the online format- they are watching.
As for the oldies who still rely on CNN or whatever, they're wise enough to call BS when they see it.
The racist, Jew controlled 'mainstream' media- they'll be extinct in 20 years.

Messageboard comment from a post on *OccidentalDissent.com*.

Bradley Dean Griffin

- Born in Alabama; attended Auburn University
- Self-proclaimed "White Southerner", "Millennial", and "Alt-Right Southern Nationalist writing about [his] people in the early 21st century."
- He became explicitly "white nationalist" around 2001, in his sophomore year
 - His ideology was founded in three beliefs:
 - That race and racial differences existed.
 - That there was a strong connection between racial identity & politics.
 - That "populism", which he defines as "identifying with" and studying "[his] people", held value.
 - These beliefs were cemented and radicalized by 9/11 and Pat Buchanan's anti-immigrant *The Death of the West*
- He then found Stormfront, which inspired him to create his own online forums
- He also became increasingly engaged with political theory, philosophy, history, and science
 - Like many others within white nationalist circles, Griffin frames his ideology and beliefs as the product of scholarship and a high level of intellectualism.
 - He has been both the cause and a primary critic of white nationalist infighting.
- He presently advocates for the creation of a "Jew-free, White ethnostate" in North America.

Griffin & Free Speech

- Griffin created and oversaw websites like The Phora, an online "free speech forum" which served as an anonymous debate platform for edgy ideas.
 - Users ranged from paleoconservatives and Neo-Nazis to communists and anarchists
- Griffin has since become less and less of a free-speech purist:
 - Occidental Dissent is fundamentally different from The Phora in that it primarily houses blog posts and is not, first and foremost, a debate platform.

Posted by **Hunter Wallace** on Wed, 14 Sep 2011 03:33 | # 522

To: MOT

It makes me wonder how The Phora would have turned out had I run it more like Occidental Dissent. I was committed to "free speech" back then when I was a naive college student.

Excerpts from one of Griffin's comments on *majorityrights.com*.

- Regardless of his own stance, free speech protections are in part why Griffin can continue post and promulgate radical beliefs.

Case Study: Charlottesville & DeAndre Harris

- DeAndre Harris is a black man who was beaten by a group of white nationalists during the Charlottesville Unite The Right Rally.
- He sustained injuries to his head, wrist, face, etcetera. A video of this beating went viral.
- Two narratives emerged:
 - Harris had been attacked with no provocation but fought back to defend himself.
 - Harris was beaten after instigating an attack on Harold Ray Crews, chairman of North Carolina's chapter of the League of the South (LoS).
 - LoS is a white-nationalist organization to which Griffin has ties.
- Griffin promulgated the latter narrative through a series of blog posts which claimed to "reconstruct" the incident, alleging that there was video evidence showing Harris attacking the protestors, not vice versa.
- He also noted that:
 - The police did not arrest Harris for assaulting Crews after seeing "video evidence", which meant they had no interest in justice.
 - If it were not for platforms like Twitter, YouTube, and WordPress, the public would never have learned the "truth".
- As the white-supremacist retelling of incident grew and gained legitimacy, Charlottesville PD issued an arrest warrant for Harris.
- The effort to rewrite history is not limited to this incident:
 - Griffin also claims that Heather Heyer, who died when a neo-Nazi drove his car into a crowd of counterprotestors, died of a heart attack.
 - He further criticizes mainstream media sources for being unwilling to give the man who drove the car a platform to share his side of the story.
- Occidental Dissent, among other white supremacist groups, categorically deny the narrative that the events at Charlottesville were caused by violent neo-Nazis and instead claim that a peaceful event was disrupted by violent "Antifa" and other counterprotestors.

Rondo | October 10, 2017 at 11:03 am |

If it weren't for sites like Occidental Dissent, I would never be able to find the truth about these events. Thanks

Don Gates | October 11, 2017 at 3:01 pm |

Great observation. How true.

Message board comment from a post on *OccidentalDissent.com*.

The Internet: Larger Implications

- The internet allows information (and misinformation) to spread quickly and widely.
 - OD, and similar websites, movements, and groups, use this to their advantage.
- The Alt-Right's exploitation of technology allows them to reach more audiences, recruit new members, and continually shift the frame of what discourse is considered "acceptable".
 - This also allows them to blur the lines between objective truth and falsity, making grey areas, chaos, and confusion the "norm".
 - Since they create this confusion, they are better able to utilize it to meet their goals.
- This sort of technology usage does not require advanced previous technical experience.
 - WordPress, where Occidental Dissent was previously held, is a site-builder known for its usability and accessibility.
 - As technology continues to become more accessible, more and more people, movements, and groups will be able to use it to meet their goals.

Conclusion

- OD discredits other mainstream news sources and figures of authority as fake/inaccurate.
- OD also posts content that challenges mainstream narratives.
 - Those who wish to disprove these narratives can do so via two methods:
 - Firsthand accounts, in which they are thought to be (1) lying in order to achieve some broader conspiratorial goal or (2) at the very least, biased and therefore unreliable.
 - Secondhand sources, which have already been deemed unreliable.
- Occidental Dissent has created an environment in which their narratives do not need to be proven because, as far as they are concerned, cannot be *disproven*.
- Thus, for those with white nationalist leanings/sympathies, Occidental Dissent can effectively decide what reality is.

Works Cited

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Other quotes and screenshots taken directly from *occidentaldissent.com* and *majorityrights.com*. Neither site can be cited academically, but links are available upon request.