

# Beware the George Soros zombies

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## OPINION:

Billionaire George Soros has funded liberal organizations intent on bringing confusion, disarray and trouble to the Republican National Convention in Cleveland next week.

And they've already had some victories.

Civil rights group Color of Change — which Mr. Soros gave \$500,000 to in his Foundation's latest tax return — collected more than 100,000 signatures on a petition to demand Coca-Cola and other companies withdraw their support from the convention. The petition that featured a Coke bottle with the label, "Share a Coke with the KKK."

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Color of Change was joined by UltraViolet, another Soros-backed women's rights organization, in the petition, an effort to amplify their collective voice against the GOP.

And it worked.

Coca-Cola caved to the pressure and decided to give only \$75,000 to the convention, compared to the about \$660,000 it gave in 2012. Other corporate sponsors were scared off.

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## **PHOTOS: Famous felons**

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To demonstrate how extreme Color of Change's political ideology is, it's latest campaign is to defund America's police forces that "don't defend black lives." Its social media feeds give no reference to the five men in uniform who lost their lives in Dallas.

But I digress. Let's get back to the liberal mischief aimed at the Republican convention.

Brave New Films, which received \$250,000 from Mr. Soros' foundation, tried to make waves for Republicans by creating misinformation about their convention through social media.

Brave New Films is a social media "quick-strike capability" company that uses media, films, volunteers and internet video campaigns to "challenge mainstream media with the truth, and motivates people to take action on social issues nationwide," according to its website.

In a Facebook posting, Brave New Films bragged about driving a fake internet campaign — a petition to allow for open carry at the convention — into the mainstream media. The petition was reported on as if Republicans wanted it, however, it was simply created by a liberal, Soros troll.

"And the 2016 internet Troll Of The Year Award goes to some genius from Ohio using pseudonym: the Hyperationalist," Brave New Media wrote on their Facebook page, congratulating the original scammer. "When Washington Post and other mainstream media write about your act in a serious way — you won. Respect!"

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## **PHOTOS: Best states for concealed carry — ranked worst to first**

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"For the record: we are proud that we helped a bit, delivering over 30,000 clicks to the original petition," Brave New Media added.

Deceit and lies — that's what these groups are up to — and they're using the mainstream media as their pawns.

MoveOn.org is also planning activity. They proudly took responsibility for shutting down Mr. Trump's rally in Chicago in March, and fundraised off their success.

MoveOn is organizing a "National Doorstep Convention" that runs parallel to the GOP's convention where members plan on going door-to-door in Ohio and other states to urge voters to "reject the politics of hate sown by Donald Trump and the GOP."

The group's been quiet about their plans for actual protests at the convention, but we can bet they'll be involved. On Wednesday MoveOn urged its members in an email to sign the "Movement for Black Lives Pledge," being circulated by Black Lives Matter activists, calling Mr. Trump a "hatemonger."

"Donald Trump just blamed Black Lives Matter and President Barack Obama for 'dividing America' by calling to put an end to the police brutality that claims so many Black lives in our country," the email read. "This is just another flat-out lie to add to Trump's long list."

Again, no mention of the five officers shot in Dallas. But again, I digress.

Last weekend, the Center for Popular Democracy (CPD), a progressive organization that was given \$900,000 by Mr. Soros's Foundation, held a People's Convention in Pittsburgh, to organize social justice movements ahead of the political conventions both in Cleveland and Philadelphia.

The conference included Black Lives Matter organizers, those campaigning for immigration reform, the Fight for \$15, LGBTQ rights, and environmental justice activists. It's purpose was to give them the tools to communicate and engage with one-another's campaigns to amplify their collective voice.

"We are beginning to launch a real national organizing framework — that's something that really hadn't been seen since ACORN went under," Jonathan Westin, executive director of New York Communities for Change told the American Prospect of the conference.

That's right, Mr. Soros is actively working to build another ACORN.

But back to Cleveland.

The ACLU — which Mr. Soros' gave \$1.7 million to in his latest filings — won a lawsuit on behalf of anti-Trump protesters to both expand the area of their protests and allow people to make speeches inside the event zone in locations other than the free speech zone designated by the city.

Professional protesters like CodePink have filed for demonstration permits, along with lesser known anti-Trump groups. CodePink helped stir the chaos at the California Republican convention in April.

On opening day, a "Dump Trump" march was planned, with about 50 left-wing groups committed, and activists have been promising on social media to descend upon the city to make their voices heard.

Republicans beware, for the Soros zombies are coming and they're well funded and organized.

- *Kelly Riddell is a columnist for The Washington Times.*

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