

America: Freedom to Fascism

The following interview with Aaron Russo was broadcast on the October 4, 2006 edition of *Politics and Religion*. Aaron Russo is the award winning filmmaker who produced “The Rose” with Bette Midler and “Trading Places” with Eddie Murphy. His latest production is the documentary, “America: Freedom to Fascism.” This documentary graphically illustrates that America is on the brink of becoming a police state. This transcript will appear in two parts.

IRVIN: Aaron Russo’s films have been nominated for six Academy Awards as well as seven Golden Globes, winning three Golden Globes. His latest production is a documentary, *America: Freedom to Fascism* and let me tell you, it will kick you in the stomach. I watched it all the way through. Aaron, welcome to *Politics & Religion*.

AARON: Thank you, glad to be here. I like the religious part, I’m not so sure about the politics part.

IRVIN: Gotcha. Well, great job on the documentary. I’ve just been thinking today, if everyone in America watched this documentary, it would change our future and our country. I’m just glad you’re our guest on *Politics & Religion* today.

AARON: Well, I’m glad to be here. Thank you very much. I see your e-mails that you send out regularly. I like what you’re talking about because it’s very important that people in this country wake up to what’s happening. We have to spread the word. That’s why I made the movie. I mean, you can only do so much, and most people don’t read books anymore and so films are the way that you reach people. Films and television are how you reach people today. No one made a film like this and I figured it was about time someone dealt with all the issues we’re dealing with.

IRVIN: It’s fabulously done. You started out to investigate the rumor that there’s no law requiring Americans to pay an income tax. What started you down this path? What did you learn in the process?



AARON RUSSO PROMOTING HIS LATEST FILM, "AMERICA: FREEDOM TO FASCISM" IN CANNES, FRANCE DURING THE CANNES FILM FESTIVAL 2006

AARON: Well, it’s really interesting because I’ve been hearing for years that there was no law requiring Americans to pay tax on their labor and I sort of dismissed it, because I’ve been taught for so long that of course there’s an income tax. You know, taxes and death, those are the two things that are absolutely necessary. However, I’ve been hearing these rumors for so long that I decided I would investigate it. I called the IRS up wanting to talk to the commissioner and they gave me the public relations person. I started asking some questions about the

Income Tax and he directed me to their web site. When I went to their web site to look it up, I didn’t see anything there about any law. I saw a lot of what I now call propaganda that makes you think you have to pay a tax, but I never actually saw a statute written by Congress that makes you pay a tax on your labor. So, knowing that the IRS doesn’t write law, only Congress can write law, I decided to investigate it further. The more I investigated it, the more recalcitrant the IRS was, the more difficult they became, in a sense, and they didn’t want to show me any laws. So I decided to go ahead and make this movie because there was something wrong. As I started investigating it deeper and deeper, I began to uncover the truth and what happened is that I saw why there had been so many people saying that there is no law. The problem is, most people get caught up in the IRS Code, and to me the code was really irrelevant. It’s much more fundamental than the code, because what’s happened here is that in 1894, the government tried to pass a law requiring Americans to pay a direct, unapportioned tax on their labor and the Supreme Court said you can’t im-

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pose a direct tax on the people like that and it’s unconstitutional. So, it stopped. In 1913, to get around what the Supreme Court said, they passed a constitutional amendment allowing them to do that. Of course, the amendment was never actually ratified legally, but let’s put that aside for the moment. So, they said the second amendment in 1913 allowed them to tax the labor of the people and for the next three years, they started taxing Americans. In 1916, two Supreme Court decisions came out that said the government does not have legal authority to impose unapportioned tax on the people and it stopped in 1917. The Supreme Court is the ultimate arbiter of that.

IRVIN: So, you’re saying the income tax was stopped in 1917.

AARON: Yes.

IRVIN: Okay.

AARON: Yes, and so, because the Supreme Court is the final arbiter, the government had nowhere to go. As I was researching the movie, I discovered that the Federal Reserve System was also established in 1913, the same year as the IRS, the same year as the income tax. I found that kind of interesting. As I did more and more research, I discovered that in 1913, when the government gave the right to coin and make money to the Federal Reserve System and took it from themselves, they then had to pay interest to the Federal Reserve System to coin, make, and issue the money. In order to pay them that interest, they imposed an income tax on people’s labor. They took the money from the laboring people and gave it to the wealthy bankers.

CRAIG: We should have listened to Abraham Lincoln, shouldn’t we?

AARON: Abraham Lincoln said it very well and the Constitution says it very well. The Constitution says that Congress has the authority to issue and coin money, not a private central bank. In the past I discovered both the graduated income tax and the Federal Reserve System (the central bank) are both planks out of the Communist Manifesto.

IRVIN: Now Aaron, slow down just a second right there because that’s a huge point. The Communist Manifesto put, I think, 10 stipulations that had to happen to a nation to move that nation from freedom to communism.

AARON: Right.

IRVIN: Two of those, as you’ve mentioned here were the establishment of a central bank and number two, of a graduated income tax because that’s the means whereby you redistribute wealth.

AARON: Exactly.

IRVIN: Okay, and so you’re telling me that the Federal Reserve is a central bank and that the graduated income tax, both of those planks in the Communist platform were entered into law, or at least were established in 1913.

AARON: Exactly, and that’s when America changed. That was the beginning of the end of the American Government as we know it today. I think today, after what happened last Thursday, that we’ve reached the end. Now we’ve got to restore the Constitution back to its proper place. I don’t think we can save it anymore, I think it’s time to restore it. It’s gone, and it’s our job as American people and freedom loving people to shut down the Federal Reserve System and make sure it doesn’t exist any longer and restore our government to a government that’s for the individual, not for the institutions. If you went out on the street and you asked 100 people what kind of government America is supposed to be, 98% would say it’s supposed to be a democracy and that’s a lie. That’s not accurate. That’s misinformation that they’ve put on the people over the years and now we’re fighting for democracy in Iraq. No, we’re not fighting for democracy in Iraq. They use that word, they think it’s a positive word, but what we’re fighting for in Iraq is globalization, the New World Order. So, the difference between a democracy and the constitutional republic that America is supposed to be is vast. When I explain it to people all of a sudden they wake up and say, “Oh my God, I never realized that before.”

IRVIN: Now, Aaron, would you be able, in the time we have right now, to give a nutshell definition of the difference between a democracy and a republic?

AARON: Sure, I was about to. Absolutely.

IRVIN: All right.

AARON: In a democracy, 51% of the people control 49% and that’s not freedom. I wouldn’t want to be one of the 49%. That’s not freedom. That’s majority rules; it’s tyranny of the majority. In the constitutional republic that America was founded as, 99% of the people can’t take away the rights of 1%. You have rights because you have God given human rights with which you were born. You have rights granted to you by God and no other person, no government, nobody can take them away from you, they’re yours. The government gives you privilege under democracy and if they give you privileges, they can then take them away whenever they want to and they charge you for those privileges. When we did the opening in Denver the other night, I explained how the schools are now indoctrinating children. A teacher said, “Well, I don’t indoctrinate children.” I said, “Of course you do, you probably don’t even know it.” I said, “What kind of government is America supposed to be?” She said, “Democracy.” I said, “See, you’re wrong already. It’s a republic.” Then I explained the difference. She said, “Oh, my God, you’re right. I’ve been hood-winked as well and we’re hood-winking the children.” So, you know, people have to see the movie to wake up. The movie gets much deeper and because we’ve given the power of coining money to this private bank, they now control our government. As Rothschild said many years ago, “He who makes the money makes the rules. I care not who makes the laws of the country as long as I issue the currency.”

IRVIN: Okay, we're getting close to our first break, Aaron. Let me just pause here. You released this film, you said. When was the release date?

AARON: *The release date was July 28. We put it into five cities.*

IRVIN: Okay.

AARON: *I wasn't happy with the prints and now we just re-released it last weekend in Denver and this week it will be in Dallas.*

IRVIN: Do you know where that's going to be in Dallas?

AARON: *At the Anglican Film Center in Dallas. We'll be in Los Angeles, Phoenix, Tucson, Nashville, and Salt Lake City as well.*

IRVIN: Well, your people kindly sent me a preview copy of it. I've watched it twice, actually.

AARON: *Did you like it?*

IRVIN: Yeah, I love it.

AARON: *Oh, good.*

IRVIN: It's riveting. It was fabulous. It just sort of grabs you by the throat and won't let you go and it's about a lot more than not paying taxes, it deals with the Federal Reserve, the Real ID Act, and the loss of freedom here in America, things that we desperately...

AARON: *The New World Order.*

IRVIN: Yeah, you did a wonderful service to us. I want to thank you for that and I want to say to all of our listeners out there, you're going to enjoy it even while it's sort of kicking you in the stomach.

IRVIN: I was talking to one of our staff members here at Endtime Ministries who had just been through your video, Aaron. He was talking about different aspects of it and the fact that, even though it's a documentary, it's more like a film, in that it just sucks you through. It's not a boring thing, by any means: it's riveting. He was laughing as he commented about it. He said one thing about it, "I watched the whole thing." I said, "Well that tells you a lot."

CRAIG: It will keep your attention. It will grip you.

AARON: *I've been very fortunate to be skilled in making movies and one of the problems has been that a lot of those that I've done about the income tax and the police state in America, you know the kind of pedantic, the kind of boring, Federal Reserve System, they're sort of sophomoric. I try to make a movie that everybody in America could see and wake them up to the truth. There are many people who know what's happening and there are millions who don't. I made this film so that everyone who doesn't know can learn and we're having great success at that. The people laugh at the film, they cry during the film, they get despondent, they get outraged. It's been the style that people sit by and they just enjoy it. I mean, they get riveted to the screen, they don't move. We don't get people who go to the bathroom during the movie, it's amazing. We get standing ovations wherever we go. Of all of the films that I've made, by far and away this is my proudest moment.*

IRVIN: Aaron, do you think that this could change the course of our country?

AARON: *I think there's no question if it gets out there. If people see the movie, there's no question. I've seen enough response from people. We've previewed it in many cities. We've tested it. The response is overwhelming. It's unbelievable. There's no question that it could change this country, if it gets out there. If people just let other people know. I've had great difficulty, first of all, in making the movie because no one would help me finance it and so I did it myself. When it came time for distribution, it was even more difficult. You know what happened, a lot of the movie people said, "I won't distribute this, I can't distribute this." They were afraid.*

IRVIN: Yeah.

AARON: *We've had to do it ourselves.*

IRVIN: Because what's the most feared entity in America?

AARON: *The IRS.*

IRVIN: Yes, the IRS. So, you're striking at the heart of this thing.

AARON: *Well, to me the heart of the beast is not the IRS. The heart of the beast is the Federal Reserve System. I use the IRS to show the American people what a fraud the IRS is with taxes on your labor. There is no law that requires you to pay a direct, unapportioned tax on your labor and the movie proves it to the audience. They real-*

ize it. I got to interview the former IRS commissioner and we were having this discussion. You could see him getting more and more angry as the interview went along. He finally tried to stop it. I said to him, "What about all these Supreme Court decisions that say you don't have this authority?" His response was, it was an amazing response, "Supreme Court decisions are inapplicable to the IRS, they don't apply." As if they're above the law. You know they get away with it. They get away with it through fear and intimidation. There is no law. But the point of my movie, just to help here, is not to tell people not to pay their income tax. To me, the movie is about the RFID chips, the ID card, the police state and the one world government. That is the point. I use the IRS to prove to people that there is no law, because everybody thinks there is. Once they understand that there's no law, then they can accept the rest of the movie.

CRAIG: Where have you been all of our lives?

AARON: *Learning. You know, life is a process. I believe God put me here to do this movie and I guess I had to learn about politics and making movies. I mean, I ran for governor of Nevada and I spent many years making movies. Simply because I went through those processes, I was able to make this movie. So, life is a process and I believe God has led me here to do it.*

IRVIN: You know, Aaron, I was talking to a good minister friend of mine recently. He's a very outstanding person, well read, he's not a flake. He looked at me when we were talking about world affairs and what's happening and how both parties have fallen under the same power and that there's really no difference between the Republican and the Democratic party these days, or at least very little...

AARON: *Exactly.*

IRVIN: ...and he looked at me. I said, "What's the hope, what's the answer?" He said, "You know, I don't think we can recover this without either a revival or a revolution." He said, "I hate to say those words, but this thing's so far gone." He told about meeting with congress people and he's had influence. He said, "I've written to them, but it makes no difference what you say to them. They've got the bit in their teeth and they're going right where they're going. They know where they're going and it's like there's no way to affect this system any longer."

AARON: *Well, there is a way that no-*

body's ever done before. I think it's important that we do this. The movie has a call to action at the end. People have to understand the real problem we have in America is not Republicans and Democrats, red states and blue states, white versus black. That's so ridiculous. Okay, that's imposed upon us by the government themselves. They want to polarize everybody. So, first we have to join together and stand together, all Americans. We need to realize that it's time to stop being good Democrats, it's time to stop being good Republicans and it's time to start being good Americans. Then you're a good American you stand for individual freedom. Freedom of the individual, the person itself, and not the institutions. Okay, once people understand that and we start organizing like Mahatma Gandhi did, the way Martin Luther King did, the way I'm about to organize this now. We're going to start a new movement in this country: one people, one movement, freedom for all. We're going to get millions and millions of people to march on Washington, to boycott businesses, to shut down this government like other places do. We've become so relaxed, we've stopped doing it. We're getting thousands and thousands of people going to the web site, signing up to volunteer. They want e-mails to know when we're going to start doing this. The way to do it that no one has done before, is to join together to shut down the Federal Reserve System. That's the head of the beast. We've had marches to stop the war or to stop segregation or different things, but no one would ever get together to shut down the Federal Reserve System. They've had this air of respectability about them. They live in this court of respectability of Alan Greenspan, the greatest guy in the world. Well, these guys are animals. They're evil and they're destroying this country. They're taking away our borders and they've taken away the sovereignty of this nation. They're destroying the Constitution. They're going to chip everybody and we better join together and stop it now. No one's ever done that before. We've never attacked the head of the beast.

IRVIN: I'll tell you what let's do. Let's pause to give your web site so people can go there, Aaron. Would you give it to us right now?

AARON: Sure, it's www.freedomtofascism.com. If you go there, you can ask for e-mails, you can sign up to volunteer, and you can see clips from the movie, I urge you to get to the movie. I urge you to send this link to everybody you know, because we are organizing and we are getting thousands and eventually we're going to have millions of people who are going to shut down the Federal Reserve System. It's like the Wizard of Oz. Nobody knew what was going on until they pulled back that green curtain and revealed the mask of the wizard. In America, the wizard is the Central Bank, the Federal Reserve System. They control our government because they control the money. We have to shut them down and restore the money creation in this country back to our government backed by gold and silver. That's what has to happen. We have to have sound, honest money one more time.

IRVIN: So, in order to get that done, you're saying that we have to repeal the Federal Reserve Act. Would that be the correct way to go about it?

AARON: Exactly and Congress has the authority to do that.

IRVIN: But, the Congress is getting funded by the people who control the money of the Federal Reserve. Do we expect these people to have the courage...

AARON: Congress gets funded by the government because the government makes requests from the Federal Reserve to get the money. The Federal Reserve can't deny them the money. So, the

point is this, let's say that I just came from Chicago and the church members there were talking about how they loved my movie and they say, "You know what we should do. We should make any politician that comes to our church sign an affidavit that they will vote to shut down the Federal Reserve System before they're allowed to speak at our church."

CRAIG: So, our own government is a slave to the Federal Reserve System. That's why we should have listened to Abraham Lincoln. The government should produce and issue the money.

AARON: Well, Thomas Jefferson. That's what the Constitution says. We have immense power. What we have to understand is that everything that the government does and the Federal Reserve System does is designed to get us to cooperate. We have to cooperate. Once we start cooperating, we have nothing. Do you understand? It's only because we cooperate that they win. We have to stop cooperating.

IRVIN: Let's take a stab at bringing to everyone's attention the Federal Reserve and the fact that it's really controlled by private stockholders, people with huge amounts of money and that they actually produce the money for the United States of America and then charge us interest on what they have produced and it takes our income tax, much or all of the income tax, according to what you said in your movie, to pay the interest on money that we should have produced ourselves that we would be paying nothing on. Now, is that true?

AARON: Exactly. Whether or not all our income tax goes to them or not depends on the rate of interest at that time. The government doesn't have to borrow money, the government can create money. So all of this interest the government is paying is ridiculous. Between interest payments and government waste, not one cent, not one penny goes for infrastructure of the country or goes to provide the services that the taxpayers think they're getting by paying their income tax. It's all fraud. The whole thing is a fraud.

IRVIN: So, the government used to print the money and we paid no interest on money that was printed.

AARON: Right. It was done by productivity. It was backed by gold.

IRVIN: But, since the Federal Reserve Act came into being, the Federal Reserve prints the money and then we borrow it from them and pay interest on that.

AARON: Exactly. They print the money based on the credit of the American people. They're not printing anything. This printing of money, they're using computer digits, it's nothing.

IRVIN: It's a good deal for them, but it's not a very good deal for us.

AARON: That's for sure. ■

The remainder of this interview will appear in the January/February 2007 issue of Endtime Magazine. To listen to the entire interview online, visit <http://www.endtime.com/radioarchive.asp>.