

## Re: [OT] Bruce Perens talks to BBC

**Source:** <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Debian/2004-01/4980.html>

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**From:** Katipo ([katipo\\_at\\_weavers-web.org](mailto:katipo_at_weavers-web.org))

**Date:** 01/28/04

Date: Wed, 28 Jan 2004 21:08:17 +0800

To: [debian-user@lists.debian.org](mailto:debian-user@lists.debian.org)

On Wed, 28 Jan 2004 03:55:21 -0800

Steve Lamb <[grey@dmiyu.org](mailto:grey@dmiyu.org)> wrote:

> *Katipo wrote:*

> > *On Tue, 27 Jan 2004 13:42:14 -0600 "Dave's List Addy"*

> > *<[listonly@webpresencegroup.net](mailto:listonly@webpresencegroup.net)> wrote:*

> > > *On 1/26/04 6:00 PM, "Paul M Foster" wrote:*

> > > > *1. Don't call us when you need help fending off the next power-mad*

> > > > *psycho bent on enslaving the entire planet.*

>

> > *This personality is your current president, ably assisted by a cabal of*

> > *like personalities.*

>

> *Such as a multitude of European leaders. Sorry, I really dislike the guy*

> *but there's no comparison.*

>

> > > > *2. Don't call us when you've finished erecting the full-on socialist*

> > > > *state you're busy creating in Europe, and you don't like the results.*

>

> > *I'm not European, but from my objective viewpoint, they seem to be heading*

> > *in the right direction.*

>

> *How's that? Socialism doesn't work. Hasn't worked before. Won't work in*

> *the future. Doesn't work in small scales. Doesn't work in large scales. It*

> *falls apart and in the process ruins all that it touches.*

>

> > *Why don't you just get your totally unnecessary military bases out of*

> > *there.*

>

> *I'm sorry, I must have missed something. When did the nations in question*

> *request they be removed instead of request that they be there? In spite of*

> *your skewed perception of reality those bases can only exist at the sufferance*

> *of the nations that provide the land for them.*

>

> *Be that as it may I happen to agree with you there. But let's keep the*

> *facts straight, eh?*

>

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> > *You only went in to Yugoslavia because after the russian withdrawal from  
> > east Germany, there was no more justification to stay on in west Germany  
> > (although, I note you are still there), to maintain a military base on the  
> > european continent.*  
>  
> *While I think it was a mistake I find it interesting that you feel that  
> Europe, in general, trending towards socialism is a good thing (based on the  
> "good" it does for the pleb...er, citizens) yet poo–poo the US from stopping  
> the slaughter of one people by another in \*BOTH\* directions. One presumes  
> then that you'd rather they just up and kill themselves or is it more that you  
> only want a government doing the right thing when it is your version of what  
> is a proper government?*  
>  
> >>> *3. Don't come here to escape your crushing taxes.*  
>  
> > *Imposed as a necessity to pay off the exhorbitant cost of American 'aid.'*  
>  
> *Uh, no. France and Germany are doing quite well on their own by  
> increasing their population base even though there is not a need through  
> subsidized breeding programs which guarntee large sums of money per child.  
> That has to be funded somehow; guess how.*  
>  
> >>> *4. Don't come here to avoid your crappy socialized health care >  
> >>>> system.*  
>  
> > *The only westernized nation that spends less on health care/capita than the  
> > U.S. is Turkey.*  
>  
> *Aaaand we still have people from nations with socialized health care  
> coming here to get treatment. What's that tell you? Hint, see the top of my  
> message about socialised systems NOT WORKING.*  
>  
> >>> *5. Don't expect sympathy when 3000 of your citizens become victims  
> >>>> of the next Islamist nut job with a plan, who claims he hates the  
> >>>> U.S. but inexplicably attacks you instead.*  
>  
> > *And where is this occuring, other than with your 'friends and allies.'*  
>  
> *Oh how quickly we forget Yugoslavia. I mean you only see it as  
> heavy–handedness. Try reading the details sometime.*  
>  
> >>> *6. Don't come here to find "opportunity" or "the promise of a better  
> >>> life." That includes you, Mexico.*  
>  
> > *The "opportunity" and "the promise of a better life" are all things of the  
> > past in America.*  
>  
> *Yet people still flood here from other nations. Imagine that. Have you  
> honestly been here to find out firsthand? I think, actually, that opportunity  
> is quite apt. Look it up sometime to see the difference between it and what  
> most of Europe is sliding towards. Opportunity it is not.*

>  
>> *It's true that the U.S. have taken in many from other cultures, it's also  
>> true that it is also the standout hotbed of racism in the world today.*  
>  
> *\*laugh\* You've got to be kidding me, right? The standout hotbed of  
> racism? You mean what happened in Yugoslavia wasn't racism. Or what happens  
> on a daily basis between Isreal and its neighbors? How about the handful of  
> racial purges in central Africa. Dare we also mention the racial tensions in  
> SE Asia? What do all of those have in common that isn't present in the US  
> which is the "standout hotbed of racism"? How about open bloodshed of  
> thousands of people? How about the regular occurance of rape, torture,  
> mutlation and wholesale slaughter? Correct me if I'm wrong but I don't recall  
> a single instance of whole communities being murdered in recent US history.*  
>  
>> *Your national baseball competition is termed the 'World Series.'*  
>  
> *And yet we bring in players from other nations. Tell me, outside of  
> Japan, where else is there a widespread playing of Baseball? Actually, that's  
> the wrong question to ask. When the phrase was coined outside of the US how  
> many nations had baseball teams? Hm?*  
>  
>> *When I visit your country, my visa is stamped with the word 'alien' as if I  
>> am not of the same species, perhaps not even from the same planet.*  
>  
> *It's obvious from your writing you have an excellent command of the  
> English language yet you quibble over words that have multiple meanings.  
> Sorry, the entire language has that. I'm quite positive most people aren't  
> expecting you to be a little green man from mars from that word...*  
>  
> *Main Entry: 2alien*  
> *Function: noun*  
> *1 : a person of another family, race, or nation*  
> *2 : a foreign–born resident who has not been naturalized and is still a*  
> *subject or citizen of a foreign country; broadly : a foreign–born citizen*  
> *3 : EXTRATERRESTRIAL*  
>  
> *...given that the dominant two usages have nothing to do with the 3rd.*  
>  
>> *If you look around, you will observe many other symptoms of the disease,  
>> but this will not slow you down in your headlong flight into lunacy.*  
>  
> *Actually I'd enjoy you to give further examples to prove that it is you on  
> the headlong flight into lunacy.*  
>  
>> *A U.S. open source advocate that spent some time overseas recently,  
>> returned to the states and noted in his writing that it was fashionable to  
>> hate America throughout the world at the moment.*  
>  
> *Which it is. Your post proves it so because if your are representative of  
> that fashion then the ignorance is quite profound.*  
>

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- > > *It's not fashion, it is more substantial than that. But clowns like you*
- > > *that read and believe every word in your tame press will not even pause to*
- > > *consider why this might be.*
- >
- > *Uh, no, it isn't more substantial. It's funny that clowns like you*
- > *believe that all Americans do two things:*
- >
- > *a: only listen to their press and*
- > *b: believe everything it says.*
- >
- > *We do get broadcasts from other nations here. A good many people do*
- > *listen to them.*
- >
- > > *Why an ever accelerating number of world citizens, ordinary everyday*
- > > *people, are rapidly taking up this perception.*
- >
- > *Could it be because they are listening to their media and believing all of*
- > *what they say without thinking for themselves? Could it be the limiting view*
- > *their parochial education and limited political choice? I mean the hypocrisy*
- > *and ignorance in your message is stunning; bordering on dumbfounding in fact.*
- >
- > > *In the not too distant future, the U.S. is going to be the last bastion of*
- > > *human existence in a world totally populated otherwise by terrorists, and*
- > > *still you will refuse to consider that you are going in the wrong*
- > > *direction.*
- >
- > *We're going the wrong direction. What would the right direction be? If*
- > *your message is any indication it is to let racial hotbeds where thousands are*
- > *slaughtered for no better reason than they are different because you're more*
- > *concerned about the fact that the US has, at best, racial tensions. Tensions,*
- > *I might add, which are fed more by the people trying to "fix" it than the*
- > *people they're supposedly trying to perpetuate it. It is to limit freedoms,*
- > *strip individuals of their earnings, make them dependant on the state all in*
- > *an effort to do.. what? Set them free? Of what?*
- >
- > > *All your pathetic faith placed in personalities like Bush and*
- > > *Cheney, once and still executive figures with Enron and Haliburton, prime*
- > > *examples in the history of corporate corruption, and still not brought to*
- > > *trial.*
- >
- > *Another misconception in a message full of them. Newsflash, Bush lost*
- > *the popular vote. There are quite a few people here pissed off about that.*
- > *Furthermore he has butchered the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Many more*
- > *people are ticked off about that. If you think that the US is uniformly*
- > *behind its present you're just plain stupid. I, for one, have no faith in*
- > *Bush and if it were possible less in Cheney. I didn't vote for them and*
- > *certainly won't come the next election. I've been vocal about my opposition.*
- > *Do a google search.*
- >
- > > *I note that Haliburton recently finished its' allocated contract in*
- > > *the restoration of Iraqi oil reserves. Jobs for the boys. I note also, in*

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> > *passing, that Iraq possessed 25% of the worlds' oil reserves. I employ the*  
> > *past tense because it doesn't anymore, does it?*  
>  
> *Yes, and? You think all Americans are happy about those events? Hell*  
> *even our "tame media" has reported about the dissention and has made inquiries*  
> *as to why that's all happening. What, your media not cluing you into that fact.*  
>  
> >>> *7. Don't expect our help in creating an economy or a society that*  
> >>> *actually works. Our founding documents are all on the internet for you*  
> >>> *to peruse. That's how we did it and how we do it.*  
>  
> > *Advertised, but not adhered to. Franklins' America doesn't exist anymore.*  
>  
> *Yes. And some of us aren't pleased about that and are fighting to get it*  
> *back. Having people like you lumping "all Americans" together in your passe'*  
> *fad of hating Americans through your hypocritical notions certainly doesn't*  
> *endear us to you.*  
>  
> >>> *8. Don't expect to benefit from any technological advances created in*  
> >>> *the U.S., including new life–saving drugs.*  
>  
> > *Derived from global forests that are being mown down at a phenomenal rate*  
> > *by American timber interests, given the nod by American backed South*  
> > *American dictators trained in the school of the americas in Georgia, U.S.A.*  
> > *The potential for new, life–saving drugs is being destroyed faster than*  
> > *the current species extinction rate.*  
>  
> *Uh–huh. It's our fault those nations are letting their logging companies*  
> *do what they do. Yup. I mean it isn't like there hasn't been pressure on*  
> *those nations to curb logging from US interests and they've refused because it*  
> *is the basis of their economy. And let's completely ignore the net increase*  
> *in fauna in the US at the same time.*  
>  
> >>> *9. Don't call us.*  
>  
> > *Well, we are still trying to, the lights are on, but no one appears to be*  
> > *home.*  
>  
> *No, see, you have to pick up the phone first. So far all you've done is*  
> *rant about the uniformity of American policy and fail to see the plethora of*  
> *competing interests. You poo–poo certain policies while lamenting the lack of*  
> *others even though the basis of both is the same. No, it is you with the lit*  
> *but empty house.*  
>  
> >>> *Yeah, the U.S. really sucks. And we love hearing it over and over again*  
> >>> *from people who are cut off from the fruits of observation,*  
>  
> > *Not really, we are the ones with the subjective experience and the*  
> > *objective viewpoint not tied to a tame media.*  
>  
> *Yup. That biting media sure does you well since you have a view that all*

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> *Americans think the President's the cat's meow and that everything the US does*  
> *is hunky–dory.*  
>  
> >>> *and are really incapable of doing anything but whining.*  
>  
> > *We are capable of a lot more than that, but whining will suffice for now.*  
>  
> *Prove it. Time and again I listen to the ambassadors and representatives*  
> *of the world speak and I have to laugh and the doublethink they have to go*  
> *through just to make it through the day. My favorite is France. France has*  
> *outlawed certain speech. In an interview the French representative actually*  
> *said, "France has free speech. Anyone is free to say what they want so long*  
> *as it isn't something that is against the law."*  
>  
> >>> *Or who really just have a socialist or communist agenda.*  
>  
> > *This is fifties McCarthyism, an American invention.*  
>  
> *Which was wrong. Doesn't mean that socialism and communism is right.*  
>  
> *Quite frankly I'd be more than happy if the US got out of the world. I'm*  
> *tired of footing the bill for other nation's defense. I'd love for the US to*  
> *get out of Isreal and Palastine. Not that we're really \*IN\* it, mind you,*  
> *except for urging both sides into talking instead of blowing up marketplaces*  
> *and bulldozing settlements. Out of the substates of Yugoslavia. Out of the*  
> *world in general. Let it all go to hell because it is clear that in most*  
> *cases that's exactly what the people want. Bring it back to our borders and*  
> *leave it there save for one understanding; any nation messes with us we will*  
> *retaliate en force. We'll leave you hellbound hypocrocites alone but you had*  
> *best leave us alone in return. Isolationist but with the right to defend*  
> *ourselves. Let people come and go as they please. Let the commercial*  
> *interests do what they will within the bounds of the nations they deal with*  
> *but as a government, as a nation, let the world be. Stand or fall on its own.*  
> *It's not our problem. Make the offical comment on every little petty (in*  
> *your eyes) racial slaughter "not our problem."*  
>  
> *But of course you wouldn't want even that, would you? I'd bet you'd be*  
> *the first to whine about the lack of foriegn aid. Or the lack of some offical*  
> *stance denouncing this or that. Stances are fine but woe be unto the person*  
> *who wants to follow through on those stances! Oh no, that's not right! Peh.*  
> *We never should have gone out in the first place.*

I'd debate the issue, but you have your preferred view that appears to be based on a mixture of misconception and a confused perception of Europe being socialist. You obviously also appear to have no understanding of what happened in Yugoslavia. It was not a racist issue, it was similar only in the way that religion imposes paradigms of exclusion in the same way in which nationalism does.

Not a bad rant, I hope it assisted you in the appropriate level of repressional release. We could probably have a good conversation sometime, if you ever managed to get your facts straight. LOL.

Regards,

David.

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