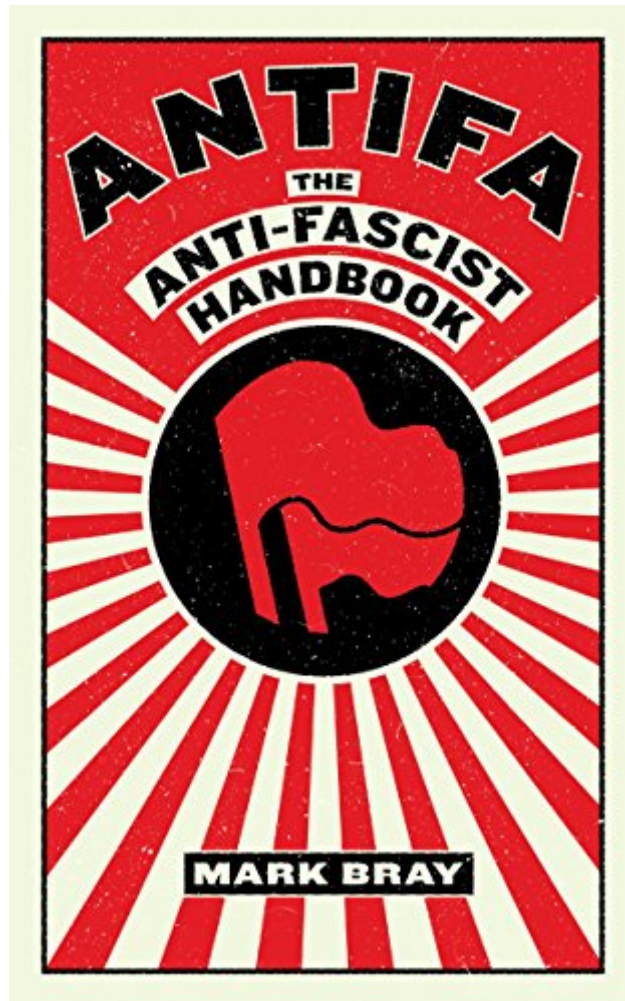




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Antifa: The Antifascist Handbook



Synopsis

In the wake of tragic events in Charlottesville, VA, and Donald Trump's initial refusal to denounce the white nationalists behind it all, the "antifa" opposition movement is suddenly appearing everywhere. But what is it, precisely? And where did it come from? As long as there has been fascism, there has been anti-fascism—also known as “antifa.” Born out of resistance to Mussolini and Hitler in Europe during the 1920s and 1930s, the antifa movement has suddenly burst into the headlines amidst opposition to the Trump administration and the alt-right. They could be seen in news reports, often clad all in black with balaclavas covering their faces, demonstrating at the presidential inauguration, and on California college campuses protesting far-right speakers, and most recently, on the streets of Charlottesville, VA, protecting, among others, a group of ministers including Cornel West from neo-Nazi violence. (West would later tell reporters, "The anti-fascists saved our lives.") Simply, antifa aims to deny fascists the opportunity to promote their oppressive politics, and to protect tolerant communities from acts of violence promulgated by fascists. Critics say shutting down political adversaries is anti-democratic; antifa adherents argue that the horrors of fascism must never be allowed the slightest chance to triumph again. In a smart and gripping investigation, historian and former Occupy Wall Street organizer Mark Bray provides a detailed survey of the full history of anti-fascism from its origins to the present day— the first transnational history of postwar anti-fascism in English. Based on interviews with anti-fascists from around the world, *Antifa* details the tactics of the movement and the philosophy behind it, offering insight into the growing but little-understood resistance— fighting back against fascism in all its guises.

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Customer Reviews

Don't listen to the uninformed 1-star reviews. They represent why this book needs to exist (and be read). This book comes from a well-respected and reputable historian and scholar who is a lecturer in Dartmouth. It is not right-wing talking points aimed to maintain and protect white supremacy. Informative and handy resource for all the research and writing I do for work. Pleased to have this in my bookshelf during such a pivotal part in history.

I preordered this book from the publisher the day Mark Bray's interview on Democracy Now! aired. Though the book is short for the topic at hand, it shows concrete examples of why collective self-defense came to be in the first place and the aloof attitude of police and politicians, if not collaboration with, toward fascist groups. If anything, The Antifascist Handbook is a solid introduction to direct action against the forces antithetical to freedoms of all peoples.

I've long been interested in the work of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German pastor involved in several of the plots to assassinate Hitler. For Bonhoeffer, fascism was a violence that would wipe out everything and destroy Germany. And it nearly did. The fact that our collective culture has forgotten the fascist history -- and how young white men can feel emboldened to walk the street with swastikas shouting hate -- is why this book is necessary. It's not a question of violent action or non-violent action; it's a question of how to mitigate the spread of the Nazi cancer, which if left unaddressed could rise again. This book lays out the context for how and why action must be taken. In particular, the rise of fascist organizations and political parties in Europe over the past couple decades is a great bellwether for how modern fascism might play out in the United States. In general, we've been down this road before with defenses of fascism, and this book makes a good argument for why we should avoid a similar fate by stopping fascists now.

I'm shocked and offended that would endorse a left wing terrorist organization. This has no more place on than a Confederate flag. Both are instruments of hate and Jeff Bezos should be pulling this and all things Antifa related from . No one should profit from hate.

Perfect timing. We need the facts of this subject now more than ever, and Bray provides them with erudition and passion.

The author does a terrific job of clearly and calmly laying out the rationale and methods of the movement. Should be essential reading for anyone trying to figure out what happened in Virginia.

Shows the history behind the movement, and really explains, in detail, how nonviolent resistance to fascism hasn't worked in past instances. Mark Bray has done his research and it shows. Excellent tool for anyone who wants to learn more about antifa and why it may be necessary in today's political climate.

A very important and essential read at this moment in time. The author helps us understand what we can do to resist hatred and fascism, and create a revolutionary movement.

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