Between April 2003 and the Democratic National Convention in Boston at the end of July 2004, literally millions of American citizens, and an unknown number of foreign readers, were given an eye-opening insight into the Synarchist evil known as Dick Cheney and the neo-conservatives, through the distribution of a series of three LaRouche in 2004 campaign reports, *Children of Satan I, II, and III*.

Each edition of the trilogy contained totally new material, exposing the “ignoble liars” behind the Bush-Cheney Iraq war hoax; plumbing the depth of their philosophical depravity; and providing vital historical insight, by documenting the parallels between the current crop of wanna-be American imperialists, and such figures as Napoleon Bonaparte, Tomás de Torquemada, and Adolf Hitler.

At the close of the 2004 Democratic Presidential nomination process, in Boston, the site of the Convention, Lyndon LaRouche announced the launching of a new political action committee, dedicated to securing a Democratic victory in November. Never one for politics-as-usual, LaRouche made it clear that his efforts on behalf of the Kerry-Edwards ticket would zero in deeper into the role of the Cheney/neo-con insurrection against the American Constitutional system, but constantly forcing the reader to dig deeper to grasp the underlying issues.

Mobilizing the FDR Coalition

As part of that outreach effort, LaRouche’s new political action committee published, within weeks of its launching, a book, *Children of Satan*, combining all three of the earlier pamphlets, with a new introduction by LaRouche.

This is truly a case in which the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. The *Children of Satan* series of campaign pamphlets—each circulated in approximately a million copies—developed three layers of the menace to the American Constitutional system, represented by Dick Cheney and the neo-cons:

- *Children of Satan I: The “Ignoble Liars” Behind Bush’s No-Exit War*, provided an in-depth profile of the entire neo-con crew that infested the Bush Administration, and used the 9/11 attacks to launch a new imperial doctrine of preventive nuclear war. The pamphlet highlighted the role of University of Chicago fascist philosopher Leo Strauss and his kindergarten of neo-con cultists, in the drive to transform the United States into a sick imitation of the Roman or British Empires.

- *Children of Satan II: The Beast-Men*, zeroed in deeper into the role of Vice President Dick Cheney in fostering the new imperial paradigm, and drew out the historical background of Synarchism, the root of 20th-century fascism. Cheney was exposed as a “beast-man” personality, directly out of the pages of the work of Joseph de Maistre, the 18th- and 19th-century Jacobin propagandist for the idea of the revival of the Inquisition.

- *Children of Satan III: The Sexual Congress of Cultural Fascism*, broke profile, and focussed on the cultural paradigm shift of the 1950’s and ’60’s, which led the United States from its position, under FDR, as the greatest producer-nation in history, to its present status as a crumbling consumer society. While nominally focussing on the role of the Cold War-era Congress for Cultural Freedom, in promoting the 1960’s drug-rock-sex counterculture, the pamphlet broke new ground, in challenging the American people to come to grips with the cultural degeneration foisted upon the country, and to look inside themselves to find the strength to break free from the “concentration camp of the mind” willfully created by the likes of Lord Bertrand Russell, Frankfurt School leader...

The first step toward sanity and morality for our citizens today, is to blame themselves for the choices of policy which they have either made or tolerated. It was the votes, combined with the non-votes of the morally irresponsible professional underlings known as abstainers, which expressed, chiefly, those wrong ideas about policy which made possible the recent forty years’ transformation of the world’s greatest and wealthiest productive power into the tattered ruin we are today. Unless the people are willing to reconsider their habituated prejudices now, the chances for our nation’s survival, even in the short term, are little or none. We have now come to the end of the road, to the edge of the chasm, where the road ends...
for all but our legendary lemmings.

“So, I have chosen to ‘kick against the pricks,’ to tell the unpopular truths about the way in which the majority of public opinion, as more or less than lack of truly competent leaders, has led our nation into the present catastrophe. Unless the majority of our people are willing to change their political behavior on that account, there is little chance for a happy future for this nation. A nation in which so many people would tolerate the ideas of a Newt Gingrich for as long as ours did, could not be considered either moral, or entirely sane.

“The following pages, which some leaders, on the basis of massive amounts of raw documentation. The CIA now has an entire unit, made up of psychiatrists, who pore over data on most world leaders, and develop in-depth psychological profiles. These profiles now form an important part of the data base on which the intelligence community provides evaluations to the President and his National Security Council.

As Dr. Frank notes, while George W. Bush has never been a patient, Dr. Frank had access to more in-depth information about the President than he has available to him about most of his patients. The President’s every move is videotaped; he has written autobiographical material, as have most members of his family and his inner circle; his medical records are made available on an annual basis.

Childhood Trauma

Based on this plethora of data, Dr. Frank conducted a dispassionate probe into how the President’s mind works, and what shaping traumatic incidents, particularly during his childhood, helped form those neurotic patterns. Dr. Frank makes no secret of the fact that he is a subscriber to the views of Dr. Melanie Klein, that early childhood experiences can have a lasting impact on an individual.

In the case of George W. Bush, Dr. Frank zeroes in on one particularly traumatic experience, which, he concludes, did severe psychological damage to the young boy, in particular because of the failure of his parents, George H.W. and Barbara Bush, to handle the crisis well.

Dr. Frank writes: “George W. was six years old at the beginning of the tragic episode that he has said yielded his first vivid childhood memories—the illness and death of his sister. In the spring of 1953, young Robin was diagnosed with leukemia, which set into motion a series of extended East Coast trips by parents and child in the ultimately fruitless pursuit of treatment. Critically, however, young George W. was never informed of the reason for the sudden absences; unaware that his sister was ill, he was simply told not to play with the girl, to whom he had grown quite close, on her occasional visits home. Robin died in New York in October 1953; her parents spent the next day golfing in Rye, attending a small memorial service the following day before flying back to Texas. George learned of his sister’s illness only after her death, when his parents returned to Texas, where the family remained while the child’s body was buried in a Connecticut family plot. There was no funeral.”

Our Mentally Challenged President

President George W. Bush is fond of telling anyone and everyone that he is not a big fan of the psychiatric profession. “I’m not into psychobabble,” he is famously quoted as saying.

And for good reason. If Dr. Justin Frank’s compelling diagnosis of the mind of the 43rd President is even remotely accurate, as it certainly is, George W. Bush is suffering from a wide array of severe psychological disorders, which disqualify him from being able to serve in his current post. Furthermore, Bush has, over his adult life, avoided facing his demons. And so, even the psychological disorders that could be treated, remain aggravated features of the President’s personality—because he is so damned stubbornly in denial.

I wish that Dr. Frank’s book were a partisan screed, full of poignant insights and humor about the President’s mental shortcomings. But it is not.

_Bush on the Couch_ is a serious, in-depth and thoroughly documented profile of George W. Bush, as seen through the eyes of a professional psychoanalyst, with decades of clinical experience and a stellar reputation. Its author is on the faculty of the George Washington University Medical Center and is a practising psychoanalyst in the Greater Washington, D.C. area.

Applied Psychoanalysis

As he explains in the introductory chapter of his book, Dr. Frank prepared a case study in applied psychoanalysis. Applied psychoanalysis is a relatively new field of inquiry, which has been adopted by the Central Intelligence Agency—and similar intelligence services around the globe—to profile world leaders, on the basis of massive amounts of raw documentation. The CIA now has an entire unit, made up of psychiatrists, who pore over data on most world leaders, and develop in-depth psychological profiles. These profiles now form an important part of the data base on which the intelligence community provides evaluations to the President and his National Security Council.

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—Michele Steinberg