

# TRANSCRIPT

VC Briefing

## **Texas Leads the Nation: Gov. Abbott Designates the Muslim Brotherhood and Its Leading Front Group, C.A.I.R., as International Terrorist and Transnational Criminal Organizations** *Federal and Other State Governments Must Do the Same*

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<https://victoryco.org/vc-briefing-texas-leads-the-nation-gov-abbott-designates-the-muslim-brotherhood/>

BEGIN TRANSCRIPT:

[00:00:00] **Frank Gaffney:** Welcome to the Victory Coalition Webinar series, where we speak truthfully about sharia—the toxic Islamic doctrine that compels its adherents to engage in jihad for the purposes of enforcing, imposing, and otherwise requiring the entire world to submit to Islam. We are talking about this subject today amidst some very important developments in the state of Texas, which is, frankly, on the front lines of the war.

[00:01:00] To preserve our constitutional republic against those who, pursuant to sharia, are determined to destroy it. It must be noted they are not doing it alone. They are joined in that enterprise by at least two other totalitarian forces: the communists led by the Chinese—though with an awful lot of domestic adherents to communism, notably the Democratic Socialists of America—and also globalists, who have their own world order in mind, as do the other two. They will sort that out in due course after they take us down. That is why the Victory Coalition is determined to champion and help achieve decisive victory over such enemies of freedom and our republic.

[00:02:00] We have a fascinating program. Today we're going to talk about what people in leadership in the state of Texas and at the federal level are doing to combat sharia in their state and, hopefully, by so doing, to set a model for what we must do nationwide. Before we get to all of that, though, there is a very important skirmish underway at the moment in Texas. It is taking place in an improbable location, but a very important one, and I want to say a special word of thanks to **Julie Pickren**, a member of the State Board of Education—

[00:03:00] —and a woman who I had hoped might be able to join us today to participate in this program, because she's playing a leading role in trying to ensure that in the social studies programs of the educational system of Texas, patriotism, love of our country, and fidelity to the Constitution and the freedoms it guarantees are what is being taught to Texas children—not

globalist nostrums, not sharia supremacism, not communism. And this is taking place, as we will hear a bit more momentarily from our first presenter, in a very dramatic way; because in the previous meeting of the State Board of Education in September, it voted to adopt a framework for social studies from kindergarten through 12th grade that is infused with patriotism and the underpinnings of Judeo-Christian civilization and indeed informed historically by the Old and New Testaments—all of which are, by the way, part of Texas state law.

[00:04:00] The State Board of Education voted narrowly to adopt this new framework—based on all of those traditional American values and principles—by a single-vote margin. And an organization calling itself the **Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)** has been actively seeking to overturn that decision as we speak. It is championing efforts to do that, and held a press conference yesterday at the State Board of Education, along with representatives of the teachers' union and assorted other representatives of the Democratic Party. This is, in other words, playing out in real time, folks. And Julie has asked for your prayers, as well as for—certainly those of you who are Texans—to get in touch with your elected member of the State Board of Education and encourage them to stand with this freedom agenda in the social studies program of the state of Texas and stand against efforts to revert to something that is really quite antithetical to that agenda.

[00:05:00] She is under some threat at the moment as a result of her stalwart defense of freedom. So please pray for her, as well as contacting your Board of Education representative and encouraging them to hold the line in teaching our kids—in this case in Texas—about our country: why to love it, why to appreciate its uniqueness. And I'm so glad to have with us a woman who is very much engaged in these matters and, more generally, in the fight against the Islamification of Texas. Her name is **Debbie Georgatos**. She is the recently elected Republican Committeewoman for her state—quite a distinction. Each state has one Committeeman and one Committeewoman, and she was selected by voters in the state of Texas to be their representative to the Republican National Committee.

[00:06:00] She's a dear friend, the host of a wonderful podcast, *America, Can We Talk?*, and a true leader in the fight for freedom in her state and across America. And we've invited her to talk a little bit about this drama that is taking place, and to introduce what the governor of Texas did in the past couple of days to join the issue very dramatically and very importantly—specifically with respect to this notorious Muslim Brotherhood front, the Council on American-Islamic Relations, as well as its mothership, the Muslim Brotherhood. Debbie, welcome. Thank you so much for taking some time to join us. Floor's yours.

[00:07:48] **Debbie Georgatos:** Good morning, Frank, and thank you for your kind words, and thank you for having me on today.

[00:07:52] **Frank Gaffney:** Please give us your assessment of where we stand with this social-studies-related drama—and, more generally, the fight for freedom in Texas.

[00:08:02] **Debbie Georgatos:** Yes. It was really rather dramatic in Texas. Just yesterday, Governor Abbott announced that he was designating—he made a very public announcement; he did it via a tweet of just one sentence: *Today I designated the Muslim Brotherhood and the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) as foreign terrorist and transnational criminal organizations*. And that designation came on the morning of what was to be a hearing before what you were mentioning a moment ago—the State Board of Education (on which **Julie Pickren** serves, with 14 other members).

[00:09:00] CAIR was present at that meeting to make their plea about the idea that they did not want Texas to go forward with the social-studies curriculum the SBOE had passed—that curriculum being more patriotic, more rooted in American history and the Constitution, understanding the unique greatness of America—so that Texas took a turn back to straightforward patriotism in what was to be taught. CAIR had planned on presenting; they actually signed up last Friday for people to testify at this SBOE meeting. The deadline was last Friday to sign up, and they had signed up a bunch of people. They actually bused in people to Austin to the Capitol the night before. They announced in a tweet (and also on Facebook) calling *Texan supporters of CAIR* to come down and that they would train them how to speak.

[00:10:00] So they were all ready to argue against this patriotic social-studies curriculum and to push toward a more globalist, pro-Islamist, pro-left-wing, internationalist kind of social-studies curriculum. That was to have happened—when Governor Abbott made that announcement. At least in my worldview, I did not know it was coming. I knew that he'd been asked to do that; I did not know it was coming that day. And it really created tidal waves in the media. There was a press conference held yesterday in Austin by CAIR—essentially more protesting what Governor Abbott did than engaging the SBOE business. But this represents the first time, at the highest levels of Texas government, that there has been an acknowledgement that both the **Muslim Brotherhood** and **CAIR** are antithetical to the basic foundational ideas of America—and certainly to liberty-minded Texans.

[00:10:48] **Frank Gaffney:** Debbie, I can't imagine a better thing to have happened than for a notorious organization—it was implicated in the **Holy Land Foundation** trial, the largest terrorism-financing trial in U.S. history—an *unindicted co-conspirator*. I believe the plan was to secure the convictions of the first five who were very explicitly indicted in connection with raising funds for **Hamas**. Once that was accomplished—and it was—the plan was then to turn to the prosecution of something like 300 other organizations that were unindicted, including **CAIR**. Unfortunately, Barack Obama was elected President, and **Eric Holder**, as one of his first acts in office as Attorney General, shut that additional prosecution down.

[00:12:00] And ever since, the Council on American-Islamic Relations has been working to subvert our country, promote sharia, and radicalize the Muslim community. It is a signal contribution to the fight for freedom that Governor Abbott has recognized them for what they are—which is a terrorist organization and a criminal one at that. If they bring suit against him over it, I think the outcome will be much as it was when they tried to get themselves taken off that list of unindicted co-conspirators: the court ruled that they are, in fact, associated with **Hamas**. There's plenty of evidence of that—a terrorist organization—and they are indeed what we've alleged for so long: part of the **Muslim Brotherhood** and part of the problem we are facing.

[00:12:39] Debbie, thank you so much for your leadership on all of these matters. Your clarity about the nature of sharia is tremendously important and very much needed at this moment, needless to say. And I couldn't be more pleased that—as if on cue—we have a man who has recently and very commendably taken to the House floor. He serves in the House of Representatives representing the people of Texas—**Collin County**, I believe, is his principal constituency.

[00:13:00] He is a man who has, very impressively, achieved a clarity about sharia—I call it the *Islamic operating code*—that we wanted very much to share with you all. In fact, with his indulgence, we're going to make a two-fer of this. **Congressman Keith Self** is going to say a few words—I know he's got other business to attend to—and we're going to take the liberty at the end of the program to replay his short remarks in the House of Representatives last night, I believe. We couldn't be more pleased to have him with us. Keith is a veteran of the United States Army's Special Operations unit—the **Rangers**. He's a combat veteran, having been at war with sharia supremacists, notably in Afghanistan and in Iraq—possibly a little in Bosnia as well. He is a man I've come to respect greatly, a former **Collin County** judge, and one of our most stalwart leaders in the fight for freedom in the face of what this sharia-supremacist enemy seeks to do not just to Texas but to the country at large. Congressman Self, thank you for joining us, sir.

[00:14:25] **Rep. Keith Self:** Thank you, Frank. First of all, it's a real honor to be on your show. You have been in this fight far longer than most of us, and I appreciate that. But it's good to be with you. I just wanted to lay out what I tried to do, because what I think people need to understand is that **sharia** is the law of Islam, and it is the legal code by which it operates—through dominance, intimidation, and eventually conquest. So I tried to lay out—I mentioned the 13th Amendment (slavery), the 6th Amendment (impartial jury), and the 1st Amendment (freedom of speech)—

[00:15:00] —and I laid out distinct elements of sharia that do not comport with our law. Then I listed a few individual elements of sharia, such as child marriage and killing a family member

who dishonors the family. What I wanted to point out—and I hope that people, as they listen to what you're going to play, pick up on the fact—this is a different legal system. We are built on the freedom of the individual; the rights come from our Creator to make us all individuals under our legal system. Sharia has nothing to do with that: "Allah has said," and you will either obey or you will be an apostate liable for death.

I will tell you, I'm also going to introduce a bill this week that designates the five imams who have put **fatwas** to death against **President Trump** and **Prime Minister Netanyahu**. I want them designated as *Specially Designated Global Terrorists*. These are imams that have said, "We want to kill Trump and Netanyahu." So this is a fight that is real, current, and relevant. Frank, I so appreciate your years of plowing this ground with people.

[00:16:45] But now it seems that the supremacists have gone on the offense across America, and now is the time for us to push back—to protect our culture, to protect our Christian-based culture, and the rule of law based on the freedom and value of every life and every individual.

[00:16:45] **Frank Gaffney:** Congressman, thank you again. Your clarity on these points—and your willingness to speak forthrightly about them—is so deeply appreciated. I did want to invite you, if I could, sir, to say a word about the kinetic kind of jihad that you personally confronted, of course, in those overseas deployments that I mentioned—and how it is that, when you talk about the fight here at home, it may, thanks be to God, not be kinetic just yet; but there's a sort of *stealthy jihad* that is in our country, whether it's using sharia-compliant finance, or halal food imposition, or—not least—elections to obtain the kind of control, the kind of submission by the rest of us that sharia requires. Could you speak to those points quickly before you have to go?

[00:17:43] **Rep. Keith Self:** Absolutely. First of all, when you think about what we faced in the Middle East—when they strapped bombs on women or children, or disguised bombs on roads to blow up vehicles—they have no value for human life. When you have to make a decision—and people had to make this decision—Does that child coming toward us have a bomb strapped to his body? Is that young woman in traditional dress innocent, or does she have a bomb strapped to her body?

[00:18:00] There is no value for human life, and, frankly, there's no grace. All you can hope to do is placate an angry god. There's no grace; there's no mercy. Now, to your point—I think the term even you use is *civilization jihad*, and I'll let you explain that—but frankly, what I'm telling people is: do not be intimidated. Whether you're an individual citizen, a city council member, a county commissioner, or a state official—do not be intimidated. That's what they will do.

We've had a couple of examples. We had a Muslim imam in Richardson, near my district, call the police on another Muslim because he was talking to a Christian pastor. There have been examples of Muslims saying, "You can't walk your dog down the sidewalk because it offends

me." That is not legal under our system. Do not be intimidated. Do not let them intimidate you. This is a fight in which we need courage and calmness and clarity—as you've been saying—to fight for our civilization.

[00:19:25] **Frank Gaffney:** Congressman, thank you. I know you've got to scoot, but we so appreciate you finding time to visit with us. Hats off to you for this important presentation to the House of Representatives. I hope it will be part of an ongoing effort on your part to educate your colleagues—and the rest of us—about what we're up against and why we must take steps, not just in Texas but, most especially there at the moment, because it is—as you said so well, sir—on the front lines of the war we find ourselves facing from sharia supremacists. God bless you, and keep up the great work, sir. Thank you.

[00:20:00] I did want to just pick up on a point the Congressman mentioned—*civilization jihad*. It's not my term, nor is it the term of anybody other than the **Muslim Brotherhood** and others in the global Muslim movement. This is made clear in an important new report—quite lengthy, comprehensive—that keys off of this particular product: it's called the *Explanatory Memorandum on the General Strategic Goal for the Group in North America*. It is the playbook of the **Muslim Brotherhood**. It was found, amazingly enough, in a raid by the **FBI** back in the early 1990s, as I recall—

[00:21:00] —in which evidently they went into a home based upon a traffic stop on the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, in which a man by the name of **Ismail Elbarasse** and his wife were picked up because they seemed to be photographing the structural supports of that important artery. When the FBI raided their home in suburban Washington, they discovered—again, providentially—the archives of the **Muslim Brotherhood in North America**. This document was among those documents. It is, as you can see, very short, very readable, and very illuminating. One of the points it makes—which I would like to read to you because it is such a very helpful distillation of what you've just heard from **Debbie Georgatos** and the Congressman—is the following:

"Understanding the role of the Muslim Brotherhood in North America: the process of settlement is a *civilization-jihadist* process... The [Arabic] word for Muslim Brotherhood must understand that their work in America is a kind of grand jihad in eliminating and destroying Western civilization from within and sabotaging its miserable house by their hands and the hands of the believers, so that it is eliminated and God's religion is made victorious over all other religions."

[00:23:00] This particular report, to which I referred, is brought to us by the **Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy**. It is led by **Abraham Foxman**—with whom I've had serious disagreements over the years—but I want to give him credit and his institution for this

really comprehensive treatment of what the **Muslim Brotherhood** is about and the menace it represents, both in its own right and through various front groups like **CAIR**. And why, as a result, the designation of both of these entities by **Governor Abbott** is of such surpassing importance.

I want to take advantage of a contribution by one of our valued colleagues, a very important participant in the Victory Coalition and its work—**Dr. David Wurmser**. He is, these days, the Senior Director for the Middle East Program at the **Center for Security Policy**, but he brings to the task a wealth of experience at the senior levels of our government—the **State Department**, the **National Security Council**, and not least in the Office of the Vice President of the United States. He was kind enough to give us a videotaped contribution, as he's in Israel at the moment and unable to participate live. We always appreciate his contributions, and we're going to hear from him now.

[00:24:39] **Dr. David Wurmser:** We have now a situation where essentially we do have a Muslim Brotherhood mayor of New York. There's definitely a confidence that gives to the Muslim Brotherhood movement throughout the United States—throughout the whole world, really—because New York is such an important city. We see other American [00:25:00] cities, of course, being threatened, and we're beginning to see the reaction. We see Governor Abbott's response to declare the Muslim Brotherhood essentially a terrorist organization. I think we have to step back and understand that this is actually probably the most strategically important act in the framework of Islamism that currently needs to be done. And Governor Abbott, I think, is paving the way for what really ought to become a nationwide effort.

Now, why do I say this at the moment? Too much of the United States—too much of Europe—is tied in with Qatar and Turkey, and it is very difficult to move the system in the United States to deal with those two nations, who are really the engine, the funder, the bank, and the strategic concept behind—the strategic thrust [00:26:00] that is really—the undermining of Western civilization through Islamist ideology right now. But the reality is that they're so entrenched in our system that it's very difficult to take them on frontally. So the right way to do it right now is to focus on the ideology behind it.

The Muslim Brotherhood is Qatar. It is Turkey. Qatar, Al Jazeera—that is the Muslim Brotherhood. And that is really the whole philosophical element of it. So right now, one of the most important things is to focus the way we went after communism: we understood it wasn't "Russia" we were against; it was the specific manifestation in a communist form that we were opposed to during the Cold War. In Germany, we were against—specifically—the Nazi form of Germany that we were after. And the issue here is that, while it's not quite like that with Qatar [00:27:00] because it's a regime, it's more like the Soviet Union. Qatar is an extension of the

Muslim Brotherhood. Its very existence as a nation is, to some extent right now, intertwined with the Muslim Brotherhood.

But the key is to equate the Muslim Brotherhood—strategically—and deal with it the way we did with communism as a hostile ideology. When it organizes itself in deliberate structures to undermine the solidity of the United States, with the determination and intent to bring the United States down, the United States organizes to essentially render it illegal in a hostile structure the way various communist cells were. It wasn't that you couldn't believe in communism during the Cold War; it was when you would organize communism in a determined way to plan the demise of the [00:28:00] United States and to plot the undermining of the United States actively. That's when it becomes a subversive organization—and that is where we are with the Muslim Brotherhood: the way they behaved on the campuses to corrupt our youth, to organize our youth.

And now we have—today or yesterday—we have evidence that Muslim organizations, which are fronts for the Muslim Brotherhood structure, were paying a thousand dollars to some of these rioters on our campus to riot, to shut down, to terrorize the Jewish populations on these campuses, to disrupt Christmas decor celebrations, to undermine our daily way of life—traveling to airports, going to malls, etc. So there has been a deliberate attempt to subversively, actively undermine the United States by these organizations, which are manifestations of the Muslim [00:29:00] Brotherhood. So they have crossed the line where they really are acting now as an organization—as an ideology—that has moved beyond personal belief into the realm of active subversion.

Then there's the information-warfare part of it, which is just as dangerous and is subversive. It's in the classrooms—taking over our curriculum through CAIR, through the American Muslim Council, and so forth—taking over our curricula and trying to essentially disarm the West from any ability to respond to this threat by raising red herrings like the idea of "Islamophobia" every time you criticize subversive activity, and so forth. So we really are in a situation now where we're entering a new era and a new zone where we are in an active state of war with the Muslim Brotherhood. They are actively trying to subvert [00:30:00] the United States. They're trying to establish bridgeheads from which they can organize into the United States. They're actively involved in information warfare—exactly as **Yuri Bezmenov** outlined for us a couple decades ago after he defected from the KGB. He outlined beautifully how this all works—exactly in that form and exactly in that structure.

And so, right now the United States really has no choice but to develop an immune structure to the Muslim Brotherhood ideology—and that will then drive a strategic shift in the Middle East. Right now, the establishment of Washington does not understand and is not capable of understanding—and, moreover, is perhaps even compromised from understanding—that the

Middle East does not involve a whole collection of “moderates,” namely Qatar and Turkey. Because they helped get some of the [00:31:00] hostages out, it doesn’t make them moderates. They are engaged in a strategic competition aligned with the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative, so they’re not even on our side in these great global struggles with communism itself in China. So they really are a strategic nemesis to the United States, but they are smart enough to be inside the tent to burn down the tent. And that is the purpose of these organizations in the West that are really the Muslim Brotherhood in action.

So that’s what we—And then there are other allies in the region. There’s obviously Israel, but there are other allies in the region which are as threatened by this—and they have outlawed the Muslim Brotherhood because they’ve recognized how dangerous and insidious and subversive it is. The UAE, for example, has outlawed the Muslim Brotherhood; the Saudis, etc. It’s about time now the United States steps up to the plate, and that’s exactly what Governor Abbott’s done. And I [00:32:00] applaud him for it, because I really think this is the only way right now we can bring around the strategic shift dealing with these adversaries essentially now in the Middle East, which we can’t quite frontally deal with yet. We have to first attack the ideology—and that’s the Muslim Brotherhood. Thank you.

[00:32:20] **Frank Gaffney: David Wurmser**, thank you so much for your contribution—as always. It is absolutely indispensable because, among other things, arguably a problem we’re confronting here at home—that is, in Texas and across the country—[is] a problem of stealth jihad and subversion; but it is a problem that we are confronting truly worldwide, notably in the Middle East. And the extent to which the violent jihadists—like the stealthy kind—are making common cause to destroy [00:33:00] not just America and, for that matter, not just Israel, but Judeo-Christian civilization writ large makes absolutely clear that this is not something we can simply avert our gaze from. This requires us—as my old boss Ronald Reagan famously said—to do what, as he put it, every generation must do: rise to the challenge that existential threats to freedom pose in order to assure that we are able to pass on to the next generation the baton to do the same in their time.

We have another guest that I am hoping we can bring up here momentarily. I will see what we can do to engineer that, but maybe at this point, Oleg, let’s play the full clip from **Congressman Keith Self**, his presentation on the House floor last night, as we speak.

[00:33:55] **Rep. Keith Self: Mr. Speaker**, Islam is a culture with a patina of religion. [00:34:00] Sharia is the law of Islam. Sharia is dangerous. Western values form the basis for the founding of America—namely, that rights come from our Creator. Ours is a Christian-based culture. Sharia, on the other hand, is a culture of violence and domination, totally anathema to the concept of individual freedom.

The United States Constitution and Sharia are fundamentally at odds with one another. The Constitution begins with “We the People.” Sharia states, “Allah has said.” Followers of Sharia believe Muhammad received a divine legal code that stands supreme over all man-made laws. While Western civilization has evolved, Islam has not. Islam is stuck in the eighth century, and if they succeed in imposing their beliefs upon us, we will be dragged back into the Dark Ages.

The contrasts are stark when comparing Sharia to the strides made by the United States in 250 years. The 13th [00:35:00] Amendment to the U.S. Constitution abolished slavery, but there has never been an abolition movement in Islam. The Qur'an and Hadith even contain rules for slaves and the slave trade. Sharia prescribes inhumane punishments viewed as normative. Stoning to death for adultery is common, as are public beatings of women, the amputation of the hand of a thief, and execution of Christians and Jews in accordance with the Qur'an. Several hard-line clerics have even issued fatwas for the assassination of President Trump and Prime Minister Netanyahu.

The Declaration of Independence states, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.” Not so in Islam. According to Sharia, the testimony of a non-Muslim is not valid against a Muslim in a court of law. A woman’s testimony is equal to one-half of that of a man. Non-Muslims living in majority-Islamic societies are second-class citizens with few rights and little protection under the law. The [00:36:00] Sixth Amendment speaks of an impartial jury, but the testimony of a non-Muslim is deemed inadmissible, so in an Islamic Sharia court the only testimony allowed is that of a Muslim—hardly fair and impartial.

Sharia prohibits marriage between a Muslim woman and a non-Muslim man. A Muslim man may marry a Christian wife, but not vice versa. Sharia also gives the man—but not the woman—the unconditional right to divorce.

Freedom of religion is in our First Amendment, but “freedom of religion” in Sharia means one is permitted to embrace Islam, but one is never free to leave Islam. Abandoning Sharia is an apostasy punishable by death. Freedom of speech in America extends to expression not only of verbal communication, but in art, writing, the media, and action. Certain forms of expression are forbidden by Sharia. Non-Muslims and moderate Muslims who openly criticize Islam, Muhammad, or the Qur'an face severe punishment. Remember **Salman Rushdie**, who was stabbed under a fatwa just for writing about Muhammad.

America was founded on a basic concept of freedom of the individual, self-governing under the rule of law. [00:37:00] **John Adams** said, “Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.” We are witnessing the reality of Adams’ wisdom and the clash of cultures as outsiders stream into our country without assimilating. A prominent Muslim attorney argued in the U.S. court: “Islam is Sharia. Sharia is

Islam. The two cannot be separated.” There are acceptable actions in Sharia that are illegal in America: murder of family members who dishonor the family, child marriage, spouse abuse—to name only a few. Our legal processes, developed through centuries of Western civilization, are not sufficient to confront the Sharia influence spreading across America. Even legislation may not stop the encroaching [00:38:00] danger.

In the streets of New York City, a Muslim imam recently proclaimed, “We will not stop until Islam enters every home.” There is no denying Islam’s intent to dominate Western civilization. Their stated objective is to destroy us from within. All who serve in this Congress swore to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. This is a time for choosing. Either we defeat the Sharia advances in America, or government of the people, by the people, and for the people may indeed perish from the earth. I yield back again.

[00:38:42] **Frank Gaffney:** Thank you, Congressman **Keith Self** of Texas. **Debbie**, let me come back to you because, again, you’re at ground zero—as Texas is a big play. A majority of Americans—to be as robust a population living in its boundaries as in [00:39:00] any part of our country—How could it possibly be that there is, in fact, an active struggle at the hands of those like these other sharia supremacists?

[00:39:11] **Debbie Georgatos:** A very good question indeed. I think people across the country see Texas as just a kind of a liberty leader. It’s a bastion of freedom, and it really is. I still think the core of Texas is very strongly Christian, number one, and also just conservative and pro-America—holds onto patriotic values. But it goes to the one point that both people were making recently about the way this Islamic invasion has happened in America and is still ongoing.

I use the expression all the time on my own show: if there were bombs and bullets flying, you would know, “Oh my gosh—under attack.” When it’s ideological, it’s different. You have to be discerning to recognize it. And the way that Islam—the Islamification—is happening, it is presented to the public. Indeed, the way that CAIR is presenting itself now in Texas is presented as a [00:40:00] request for just tolerance and understanding, and this notion that we all have a right to individual beliefs. And so it’s presented as innocent, and the kind of human heart—the patriotic heart—really embraces the First Amendment: the idea “they have freedom of religion; so do I.” So it’s harder to recognize that what is being presented by CAIR, by the Muslim Brotherhood, by the Islamification movement, is actually an insidious—truly diabolical—invansion of America.

But I do think what’s happening in Texas also is that people are waking up. I think when, several months ago now, this Imam **Yadi** announced in a variety of YouTube videos how they were

building a Muslim-only community in Plano—the EPIC community—they were just all excited about the idea: “We’re going to build a community where Muslims can live and have everything they possibly need.” And they assumed this was going to be acceptable. So they did raise their head a little bit above the [00:41:00] crowd—or really made more public pronouncement—of this creation of almost a parallel society. And that is, by the way, I learned recently, not just happening in Plano, but other significant developments in Texas as well.

This push to create parallel societies, I think, is starting to wake people up. So we have an emboldened CAIR because, so far, they have been mostly successful in selling themselves as an organization that just is out there trying to spread understanding and communication and build community. They have all these happy-talk terms they use to describe their mission. But because of the aggressiveness of the Muslim Brotherhood in Texas—and building these communities and pushing to change curricula; CAIR is doing that—I think that people are realizing that we have a serious problem. I again—as I think I said earlier, if I didn’t, I truly commend Governor Abbott for taking this bold step because I think that it has put the issue front and center [00:42:00] and it allows people to realize, “If the governor is concerned, maybe I better really look at this and maybe I better understand what it is they’re concerned is happening.”

And this Islamic invasion of Texas—and in America—ideological as it is, is just as detrimental. And I—Frank, it’s the same thing your guest a moment ago—the clip you played—made a reference to: the communist mindset or plan; the way they wanted to take down America, where they talked about just undermining our belief in ourselves, our culture; working to invade the culture and society—how we think of ourselves. And that’s what the communists openly talked about—that the one defector was trying to explain to America: they’re taking you down ideologically. The communists are. It’s the same thing with Islam—taking us down ideologically—and I think people are waking up. I’ve had—actually, I was interviewing somebody else’s show yesterday and she was talking about her child coming home from school who could recite the five [00:43:00] pillars of Islam. She was thinking, “Why in the world are you learning that?” So I think it’s a waking up to recognizing that what CAIR is presenting, what the Muslim Brotherhood’s presenting, is not some attempt to assimilate or share or build bridges of understanding. It is all about conquering—and I think people are waking up. And I commend Governor Abbott for helping people wake up.

[00:43:20] **Frank Gaffney:** Debbie, thank you. We have—praise the Lord—a man that I was hoping we would be able to feature in this program despite a very last-minute invitation. It’s appropriate because few people have done more, for longer, with greater effect than our next presenter: **Stephen C. Coughlin**, retired United States Army major, who during his time in the service was the duty expert on these very topics for the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He [00:44:00]

served in that capacity in the critical months and years following the 9/11 attacks, and to a degree that is truly—well, almost unique—he understood what we were up against in the form of sharia and the agenda that it compels its adherents to follow.

He was the principal author of a publication by the Center for Security Policy, of which I'm strongly proud and I commend to everyone. The book is entitled *Sharia: The Threat to America*. It was a product of a team, to be sure—Team B II, we called it—but Steve played an outsized role in informing and crafting, and helping make extremely compelling [00:45:00] the evidence that sharia—as Congressman Self has just said—is wholly incompatible with our Constitution, with our freedoms, with our way of life, with our civilization, in short. And his work continues today with **Unconstrained Analytics**. He is an incredible resource for those of us who believe that this is truly the existential threat of our time—especially when combined with the other forces that I mentioned at the outset of this program: the communists and the globalists, who are working absolutely hand-in-glove with the sharia supremacists to take down our country. **Steve Coughlin**, welcome. I'm sorry that you've missed much of what has gone before, but just to set the stage, we've been talking about Texas. [00:46:00] We've been talking about a skirmish that has been underway—in part manufactured by the Council on American-Islamic Relations. We've been talking about its designation—praise the Lord—by **Governor Greg Abbott**, along with the **Muslim Brotherhood**, of which it is a franchise, to properly characterize them as international terrorist organizations and transnational criminal organizations. We're very anxious to get your thoughts on all of this, sir, and the stakes for our country in recognizing these dangers and responding appropriately to them.

[00:46:37] **Stephen C. Coughlin**: Thank you, Frank. It's a pleasure to be here. In the event that I'm stepping on something that's already been said, just tell me to move along on it—I'll see if I can't do it. I think that CAIR—Council on American-Islamic Relations—people have to remember they had to do a name change from Islamic Association for Palestine (or something like that), because back when **Hamas** was declared a [00:47:00] terrorist organization, they realized they'd been exposed to the United States. So they went to "CAIR." One of their people had to leave the United States because he was on a designated terrorist list. I think it's that transparent. I was in a discussion a couple days ago: all someone has to do to overrun U.S. national security is come on over, get a green card, and open a 501(c)(3). That's all they have to do—and then, all of a sudden, a terrorist organization is now an American organization. They're completely protected, and you—the person who calls it out—become the "hater."

So when we talk about CAIR, I think we have to remember that CAIR's identification was completely exposed in the **Holy Land Foundation** case, which basically designated what their mission was: to take over—a civilization alternative. I think that's the phrase that was used—

tells you that an alternative to what? U.S. Constitution and the Western way of life. So they really don't hide it.

I also think that when we think of CAIR or the Muslim Brotherhood, we have to remember that they are [00:48:00] part of what's capital "I," capital "M"—the **Islamic Movement**. The Islamic Movement is what they are in charge of in the United States. Who's in charge of the Islamic Movement in Nigeria? **Boko Haram**. Do you know who was in charge of the Islamic Movement in Afghanistan? The **Taliban**. And that should tell you who they are and how they fit in the universe. So if you take it one step further and go to this Islamic Movement aspect of it, you'll find how cozy they are with the **AKP**—that's the Turkish party, the Muslim Brotherhood party of Turkey—the same one that streamed into Syria and is exterminating Christian communities.

But you also see that a parent organization of the Muslim Brotherhood—**IUMS**, the **International Union of Muslim Scholars**, which operates freely out of Qatar—issues a fatwa on Monday, and by Friday in the United States you see those actions being carried out verbatim. Going back to Turkey, every time **Erdogan** comes to the [00:49:00] United States, he's meeting with these people. And so I think it's not just that we have the Muslim Brotherhood in the United States like CAIR—we're talking about CAIR in Texas—but we have the fact that they're completely integrated into a larger scheme of maneuver and completely allied with the Marxist Left; so that almost everything going on in U.S. streets today or on U.S. campuses, there is a nexus to what they're doing.

So I almost feel like we're living in those days where: how can this be going on right before our eyes—continuing with CAIR—when they're being designated; they're going to be violative. There's another organization that is **Hamas** called the **Unity of Fields**. And "Unity of Fields" does not sound like an Islamic name. So here they are openly calling for violence in American streets—actually conducting it—and nobody's responding to it. So I take a look at what's going on in Texas and I'll say just a little bit—it's like there's a part of me that says, [00:50:00] "We'll see where this goes," because I remember a couple years ago there was an effort to declare the Muslim Brotherhood a terrorist organization, and I was getting information from Egypt about a month before it was declared that they were no longer going to do it here—that it was already taken care of. And they were literally having parties that they had shut down that designation there.

So I think it's one of those things where I want to see where it goes. I'm very glad to see it happen, and I wish—and I—But I also think: where's this going to go, and how's it going to play out? And is it serious? Now, that's my skepticism coming forward, but I would like to add that alongside CAIR there's another Muslim Brotherhood organization—it's an umbrella organization—and that umbrella organization is called the **USCMO**—the **U.S. Council of Muslim Organizations**. And inside the USCMO is an organization called **MAPS**—and I don't remember

what the acronym stands for, “Muslim Americans for” something—and it turns out that they’re the recruiting agency for the Muslim Brotherhood. So if certain government agencies—in fact, all the government agencies—are hiring, it’s MAPS that will be the conduit through which the federal and a lot of state governments hire their people.

So we could bring this to people’s attention and we get people’s eyes rolled over. But right now we’re openly wondering: how is it that—now, albeit at the federal level—how is it that the same FBI that’s going to look at CAIR goes to MAPS to hire their outreach partners? So that would be my answer to start off. I don’t know if I’ve walked over some things or not, covered things up—if you want to follow up with some questions or want to continue, go right ahead.

[00:51:45] **Frank Gaffney:** Absolutely, Steve—thank you. No, this was new ground and very important. I think you were struggling to remember—the names are interchangeable and there are a gazillion of them—but I think it was the **Islamic Association for Palestine**.

[00:51:58] **Stephen C. Coughlin:** Islamic Association for Palestine—that’s right.

[00:52:00] **Frank Gaffney:** The feedstock for the CAIR operation. And, by the way, as Steve noted, the FBI—back when it did this sort of thing—was witness to that transition because it wiretapped the organizational meeting by Hamas operatives and **Nihad Awad**, who continues to be the Executive Director, I believe, of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, and was part of the reason it was an unindicted co-conspirator in the Holy Land Foundation trial.

But I did want to just ask, Steve—because you’ve studied this exhaustively—when we talk about “civilization jihad,” and specifically how the Brothers operate inside this country, where—at least till now—mostly the violent kind of jihad has been deemed to be counterproductive, they’re now very much focused on elections. And I just wanted to share with you and our audience [00:53:00] something that **Nihad Awad** pronounced at a meeting, I think a couple of weeks ago now, in which he called upon each of the 4,000 mosques in the United States to undertake the following over the next 25 years: for each of them to adopt—or sponsor, or be the patron of, however you want to characterize it—an attorney, a media-specializing individual, an educator, and a political activist. A political activist presumably would be very much slip-streamed, in short order, into becoming candidates—as we’ve seen with **Zohran Mamdani**—and now the Lieutenant Governor of the state of Virginia—the Lieutenant Governor-elect, I should say.

But, Steve, talk a little bit about this civilization jihad and [00:54:00] the prospect that **Nihad Awad**’s plan comes to fruition. You would have 100,000 over 25 years of those lawyers, of those educators, of those media folks, of those political activists or candidates—and what that would mean in terms of the effort, stealthily to be sure, but very assiduously, to take us down.

[00:54:26] **Stephen C. Coughlin:** I think the first thing to keep in mind is: the document that talked about “civilization jihad” and “civilization alternative” also says that it’s going to be conducted by getting us to do it to ourselves—“by our hand.” And I think we see that’s exactly what’s happening. We were talking with this group of people I was talking to recently—we took the **insurgency pyramid** and pointed out the **Special Forces insurgency pyramid** (it’s ubiquitous; I could send it to you if you like): that for all the things to happen that—when everybody was [00:55:00] going crazy about **Mamdani** probably going to be elected mayor earlier in the summer—for everybody to become aware of what he was going to do once things became overt, all these things underneath the insurgency pyramid had to have been assessed by them to be in place—and, as it turns out, correctly in place—to include having all the cadres to replace everybody in the government.

And so the very idea that we were aware of **Mamdani** only after it was too late goes to show—or indicates—that the counter-insurgency pyramid (I’ll put “counter-insurgency” in there for the insurgency pyramid) ... this effort started somewhere around 2005, and yet our law-enforcement agencies were completely blind to them. And when you talk to them about it today—if you go to talk to people in those organizations—they really aren’t. You can literally see their eyes glaze over.

I think, to your point about what the mission is ahead: I think if you go back—maybe two months—you will find that there was something put out about an **ISIS** attack that was declared “imminent” inside the United States, and then nothing happened. And then, all of a sudden, you see business deals being made—actions being taken—that have indicated that things are going so well for them in the non-violent phase of their effort that, maybe, they called off attacks; that they can’t get any better. They can’t get any better than how things are going right now for them.

So I like to think that, if you are trending Left in American politics—you look at how bad money’s exchanging hands in the one party—and if you’re the conservative party, you’re looking at the ideological flow of the other side of the party. But I think that the Brotherhood—I think that the people who control them—believe they already bought the American political class, and they can have that political class—by the way, I’m not joking; I’m not trying to [00:57:00] exaggerate here—they can make them take action to shut this down. And so I think that is the burden—and it’s a severe burden—that I think Governor Abbott’s under.

I don’t see—and I really wonder about how things are—and going back to that term “civilization jihad,” that is actually the word that covers for something called **da’wah**. That’s the word in Islam. And if you go up to somebody, they’ll say: “Da’wah—that’s just Muslim proselytizing.” And I’d like to point out: that is not true. That is an aspect of it, but **da’wah** is the phase in which you penetrate into entities and you take over these operations—you take over the cultural, the

economic, the governing apparatus, the communications apparatus. And we like to think, in terms of how we understand military operations, that's the things you do on the margin before you undertake the kinetic attack. But "civilization jihad" in the Muslim Brotherhood scheme—and in the Islamic scheme altogether—is the main effort. The main [00:58:00] effort for an Islamic attack is in the subversion phase; that, by the time people wake up to fight back, they're literally just pruning the bushes of the people who didn't realize that everything changed—and you didn't get the message.

So I actually think that what they're putting out reflects the fact that they believe they're in a level of control; that things have to disrupt these activities for things to change. Someone told me—and I don't want to be quoted on the exact number—but the number that keeps getting brought up is \$200 billion represents a direct investment by at least one Persian Gulf entity into the U.S. sphere. And I think that causes a real—Even if that number's off just a little, it goes to the extreme level of investment in this civilization-jihad effort that has the international players being everybody's friend at this level—and gutting those same people at a different level.

[00:58:57] **Frank Gaffney:** I think, actually, what was announced [00:59:00] a day or two ago is that the Saudis are putting a trillion dollars into the United States—and that's on top of whatever the Qataris were doing earlier. Yes, some argue that the Saudis have distanced themselves—obviously—from the Muslim Brotherhood and maybe the larger sharia agenda. I'm not persuaded of it myself, and maybe you want to comment on that. But I did want to bring Debbie back into this, because this is a real-time effort in your state, as we've been discussing throughout the program.

Steve refers back to 2005—and I think, Steve, as I recall, you were trying very hard to educate people inside our government about the sorts of challenges that have now become manifest, if we have the wit to look for them. But, Debbie, one of the things that is particularly important—in addition to what we discussed in terms of helping **Julie Pickren** with the State Board of Education in Texas to hold the line, to have [01:00:00] pro-American curricula being used in K-12 schools in Texas—there is this issue of a proposition (I guess it's called) on the March 3rd ballot in the Republican primary in Texas about rejecting sharia in that state. Would you speak a little bit about that and its importance as you see it—especially as people like **Keith Self** and hopefully many more are going to be trying to educate people about what sharia is in the interval?

[01:00:31] **Debbie Georgatos:** Yes. The primary ballot for the GOP—for the Republican Party—on March 3rd, 2026, will have a proposition, and I've been using the word "advisory," because I think it's important people understand you're just expressing a sentiment that you'd like the elected officials to act on. But it's very short—it just says: "Texas should prohibit sharia law." It's a yes-or-no proposition. And part of what I—and many others—are working on is helping

people in Texas understand [01:01:00] what sharia is; that it's not just a different version of a particular religious belief, but that it is a governmental structure; it has—baked into the DNA of sharia—a conquest ideology. So it's trying to inform Texans.

But the result of voting “yes” on that is just to inspire people like the Governor—as well as the Texas Legislature—to act on that, to give shape to it (to the extent you can in legislature). But it's also for local governmental entities; once people are more educated, more aware, city councils, county governments can take that message from the voters of Texas, and it is like ammo in their hands to say, “Oh, I see what—this is what's happening here. This is a form of sharia.” So I think it's really—and my other reason I'm glad that's going to be on the ballot is: I think that for a long time—in fact, what Steve Coughlin was so very articulate laying out—the invasion process in Texas and across America [01:02:00] has already been happening, and so many of us—or many people—are just waking up now and realizing what's been happening for a long time.

But the hidden, stealth pushing of Islamization in Texas—Islamification—it has made CAIR and other Muslim activists bold. It's made them feel like, “Gee, no one's—We're succeeding here.” So I think a strong message by the Texas voters—saying “No, absolutely not. Yes”—vote “Yes” on that proposition (“Yes, Texas should prohibit sharia law”—is a message to the Islamist movement in Texas that we actually see what you're doing and we are going to fight you. And, for that reason alone, I hope it passes 99 to 1 percent.

[01:02:41] **Frank Gaffney:** Let's make it so, I think, is the point. We've got our work cut out for us. **Steve Coughlin**, you have been an invaluable resource. Again, I commend to everyone not only the masterwork that I think you've contributed to in *Sharia: The Threat to America*, but also your epic [01:03:00] book—and remind me of the name of it, please, because I've lost it to memory—but it was a definitive treatment of the misunderstandings that we've had about what we're up against for so long and how dangerous it is.

[01:03:18] **Stephen C. Coughlin:** *Catastrophic Failure*. And it's come in vogue again, I've noticed. I also noticed that my master's thesis from the **National Intelligence University**—it's posted on Academia—that, in Europe, it's being posted left and right all the time lately; that someone has pulled it down. Yeah. So I think people are taking a look at this—especially in Europe.

I'd like to point out, with the GOP asking the question about sharia law—“Should it be accepted?”—it's really important to understand something that I think gets missed or gets glossed over (although you just said it, Debbie). Sharia law is the law of the land. It starts with the fact—that's not a negotiable statement—so that sharia law is already [01:04:00] hostile, in a hostile position, regarding the Constitution people took an oath to support and defend—which is the governing law of the United States—so that the—

[01:04:08] **Frank Gaffney:** The supreme law of the—

[01:04:09] **Stephen C. Coughlin:** The supreme law of the land—

[01:04:10] **Frank Gaffney:** Saved by its own—

[01:04:11] **Stephen C. Coughlin:** And sharia law is categorically and unconditionally a replacement of that law—so that it is sedition to actually request bringing that in. And the fact that people have to—The fact that the idea that you actually have to educate people on that is itself a statement of where we're at.

And I'd like to point out also—with the trillion dollars coming in from **KSA**, where the "\$200 billion" is the one that you hear floated around for **Qatar**—is the fact that I believe that they're bold because they believe they've already won, and they're on a glide path to victory. Now, that might be them being a little overconfident, but honestly, where are things going to stop? Right alongside **IUMS** (International Union of Muslim Scholars), which is the legal apparatus for—not just the Muslim Brotherhood; they have protection from the government of Qatar—you have, right next to them, [01:05:00] something called the **Muslim World League**—the **MWL**—which comes out of **Saudi Arabia**, run by a man named **al-Issa**. And here they are—going on these schmooze campaigns. They're going to the leaders of the Protestant churches; they're going to the leaders of the Catholic churches; they're enticing rabbis; they're enticing heads of state.

And so they're—clearly, to people who understand what they're doing—transparently obvious. But they're basically schmoozing people into wanting to do things just to be friends. And, of course, there's generational wealth associated with doing that. Again and again, we see a classic—I'm going to leave the name out of it—another classically conservative American persona who has decided they're going to be on staff for a Qatari entity. So I believe they think they bought it. I think there's overwhelming evidence that their perspectives are grounded. And I think that we—[01:06:00] I don't think things are as good as people think they are—even if people think things are bad.

[01:06:04] **Frank Gaffney:** Steve—just a quick question, and we do have to wrap this up—but how would you characterize the Saudis at this point? They have, as I said, denounced and designated in their own system the Muslim Brotherhood as a terrorist organization. They're at odds with the Qataris and the Turks, for that matter. (We haven't talked about the Turks.) But are they no longer pursuing the agenda of sharia? Has the Wahhabi mantle now been shed by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia under **Mohammed bin Salman**?

[01:06:36] **Stephen C. Coughlin:** So my answer's going to reflect my skeptical view of what's going on. If the Muslim Brotherhood decides the support from Saudi Arabia supports them better, and they decide to just get in their car and drive across the border—and that's all of 40 minutes—all of a sudden things will be great. I think there's just this unending "good cop/bad

cop" thing. [01:07:00] I think that things are pretty unified. And, for example—let's go back to what I said earlier—**IUMS** puts out a fatwa, and it's very thinly veiled; so it's basically saying that they're calling for jihad in response to "defending Islam," and it follows through into what's on the streets of the United States. But, instantly, you also see **al-Issa** from the **Muslim World League** issue a supporting fatwa—saying the same thing—so that you basically have them synchronized pretty well. I think there's a "good cop/bad cop" thing. I also think there's friction between Qatar and Saudi Arabia over the idea that the Saudi Arabians think that Qatar shouldn't exist; and if Qatar controls it, then the Saudis don't control it—and that leads to some of those decisions.

It is important to point out that when al-Issa is making the rounds, he's talking about "defamation of religions," and "defamation of religions" is really just imposing Islamic speech laws on American citizens. And I'm waiting for that to happen—I'm waiting [01:08:00] for the current administration to get schmoozed into saying something that's going to tip the balance in that favor.

[01:08:05] **Frank Gaffney:** This is really important calibration, and I'm so glad you were able to join us—albeit at the tail end of this—to help provide that kind of clarity. There are a number of others that I would—and this is hardly an all-inclusive list—but just a number of others who have been great resources, as has Steve: **John Guandolo**, of course, who partnered with Steve for many years in training and is continuing to do so under john-guandolo.com. We'd hoped to have him on the program, but he's actually doing a training program right now for law enforcement, I believe, in the state of **Texas**, as a matter of fact. **Daniel Pipes**, **Gregg Roman**, **Sam Westrop**, **Ben Baird** at the **Middle East Forum** have been terrific on this issue for many years. **Amy Mek**—a relative newcomer, but incredibly formidable woman who is writing on X with exposés practically daily about what is going on [01:09:00] with CAIR, with Texas, with Muslim Brotherhood operations across the country—and, for that matter, in Europe. Our friend **Peter Mcilvenna** from the UK, who recently made a trip to Texas and has been featured on **Steve Bannon**'s show talking about the insights that he's gained—in part, thanks to the sponsorship of our friend and great colleague **Debbie Georgatos**.

So—just a smattering. **Robert Spencer**—again, another great figure in this fight against the jihad. Please, folks, take advantage of all of these resources. Learn what we are up against. Monitor our feed from the **Victory Coalition** at victoryco.org, as we're trying our best to marshal these kinds of arguments and make them as accessible as possible. And please share this video with those you love—those who also have a need to know about what we're up against—and fight against sharia supremacism and those who seek [01:10:00] to impose it on us all, including at the expense of our Constitution and the freedoms that we hold dear. That must not happen—not on our watch, for sure.

We're going to leave it at that. Thank you, **Debbie Georgatos**. Thank you, **Steve Coughlin**. Thanks to all of our other contributors—especially **Congressman Keith Self** and, of course, **Dr. David Wurmser**. This is going to be a topic to which we return, of course, in the very near future, but for the moment: God bless you, God bless the United States of America, and the Judeo-Christian civilization of which it is ultimately the most important and indispensable defender. Over and out.