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Whitewater, and the Chinton impeachment. It was Brock who discredited the very sane, very staid Anita Hill as "a little bit nutty and a little bit slutty."

Later Brock had a change of heart and joined the forces of light. In his mea culpa, Blinded by the Right, Brock describes his days in the right-wing trenches: "I fought on the wrong side of an ideological and cultural war that divided our country and poisoned our politics."

Brock's revelations about his scandalous activities on behalf of the fanatical right are often discounted by his former compatriots, who make the uncharacteristically reasonable argument that he lied so much when he was working for them that nothing he says can be trusted now. Fair enough, We'll leave out Brock's tale of manufacturing Troopergate out of whole cloth, the bottom-fishing expeditions of the Scaife-funded Arkansas Project, and the payoffs to Whitewater witnesses. I'm not going to use it. Don't need it. While Brock does shed light on some of the clandestine dirty tricks used by what was, if not a vast rightwing conspiracy, at least a very, very large one, there were enough lies and baseless innuendos right out in the open to fill a book the size of Sidney Blumenthal's 802-page classic, The Clinton Wars.

For example, did you know that Hillary Clinton is a lesbian? And that, despite her homosexuality, she was having an affair with Vince Foster? Who then had to be murdered to cover up Whitewater? And did you know that Foster's execution was only one small part of a killing spree that claimed nearly forty lives, including those of former Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and the wife of an Arkansas state trooper who apparently didn't "get the message"? And did you know that Clinton, to finance his own gargantuan cocaine habit, had struck a deal with the CIA and the Contras to smuggle duffel bags filled with coke into Arkansas?

If you didn't, you weren't reading the Wall Street Journal

In addition to increased "chatter" from the casting-couch philosophers, celebrity writers quickly enlisted in the anti-American battalion. Right after the 9-11 attack, every idiot liberal was basically coming out and cheering for al-Qaeda. Michael Moore, creater of fictional "documenturies" and books that he passes of as true, sympathized with the terrorists' goals but complained that they had killed the wrong Americans. Defending the terrorists, Moore said, "We have orphaned so many children, tens of thousands around the world, with our taxpayer-funded terrorism." To follow the train of tortured logic that requires unrospection about how America brought the attack of 9-14 on itself is to dance on the graves of those three thousand Americans. This is liberalism gone totally haywire.

A year later, Moore was laughing at the people on the hijacked planes, saying they were cowards for not fighting back. Apparently Moore believed it was only appropriate to fight dagger-wielding savages when battling them in hand-to-hand combat, but not with high-tech precision weaponry developed by Stupid White Men. He opposed war with Afghanistan and he opposed war with Iraq. It Indeed, he giggled at America for bothering with al-Qaeda: "To me, al-Qaeda is a men's club. To have the world's only superpower at war with a men's club is a little richeulous," America should not fight back, but the passengers on the four planes on September 11 were cowards for not fighting back.

Two days after the attack, novelist Norman Mailer, whose last successful novel was written fifty-four years ago, said the crumpled World Trade Center was "more beautiful than the building was." He said America was "the most hated nation on earth." Like Moore, Mailer believed the victims of the terrorist attack were simply the wrong targets: "You've got that many people killed who've had nothing to do with bringing on their own death other than working in a monument to corporatism." The author of Tough Guys Don't Dance told a German newspaper that Bush should have been a ballet dancer: "Mankind would have benefited from him more as a dancer than as president." Mankind would also have been better served if Mailer had been a

tards and try to look the other way despite all the crap they're shoving down your throat,

But somewhere in the deep recesses of your mind there's a little nerve ending going off, like the faint and blinking light of your cell phone a few minutes before it goes dead. It's your brain's memory bank reminding you about a time when you were younger and you passionately believed that you and you alone could make a difference, before the forces of adulthood surrounded you and told you to get with the program—or spend your lonely life barely scraping by.

And so you did. You learned to compromise your values while believing you still maintained them ("Yes, I drive an SUV—but I give to the Sierra Club!"). You learned to mollify your conscience at your lousy job, our of fear of the only imaginable alternative—homelessness and starvation! You put up with the oppressive nature of your church because, well, Jesus did say a lot of good things ("Love your enemy"), and so what if the money you just put in the collection plate is going to a woman-hating organization? You learned to say nothing when friends or coworkers spoke in coded racist terms because you knew you didn't hate black people and you were sure they didn't either . . . but why don't we cross over to the other side of the street just to be safe?

Best of all, you got to keep voting for the Democrats, the way you always had. After all, they say they have your best interests at heart—and just for saying that, you believe them! What kind of nut would vote for a third-party candidate, anyway? Why even think of going there—of revisiting the younger version of you who was ready to get his head histed open while standing up for what was right? Out here in Adult World, you better forget about what's "right"—you gotta win. Winning is what it's all about, whether it's your company's marker share, your own stock portfolio, or your kid's ability to beat all the other kids in kindergarten French class.

"Do the right thing?" HA! Go with the winner! Even if the

But our problems don't end there. In addition to downsizing our military, we seem also, under the Clinton administration, to be rudderless in matters of foreign policy. Regardless of whether we are currently the world's only superpower, we cannot be without a coherent foreign policy that will define our relations with other nations and enable us to determine when, and under what circumstances, we should deploy our military.

How long is it going to take before **some people** learn you don't prevent or win wars with words, caring, and concern? We must maintain our military strength and preparedness as our best insurance against having to use force often in the future. The left, as you might expect, sees it differently. It actually seems to **think** you can achieve peace by talking tough while gutting your military.

I'm afraid that Mr. Clinton's strong suit is not foreign policy. Up to this point it appears that his foreign-policy credo is: Walk tall, speak loudly, and carry a little stick. He talked tough during the campaign, but after taking office, when it was time to follow through on his words, it became clear that his tough talk was little more than fiery campaign rhetoric. Ultimately, we huffed, and we puffed, and we stayed home. After all of the Clinton administration's threats, warnings, and gnashing of teeth, Secretary of State Warren Christopher (former foreign-policy guru to Jimmy Carter) announced that Bosnia was none of America's business and that the situation should be sorted out by the Bosnians. Christopher suddenly discovered what everyone else hid known all along—that there was a "real" civil war going on the Bosnian Serbs, Muslims, and Croats all committing atroches

Many people—including myself—bread ed a sigh of relief when Clinton came to this decision (bough don' count on this being the final word with this guy). It seemed to be the most reasonable course of action. But it's pure luck that the Clinton administration stumbled into this conclusion. It bore no resemblance to the administration's previous rhetoric.

It would have been more **reassuring** if Clinton had come to the conclusion that **because we have** no vital national interest at stake in Bosnia, such as we did in the Persian Gulf, there is no justification for risking **American lives** in a Vietnam-scale quagnitie. Reasonable minds may disagree on whether, in fact, we do have a national