# Fascism: Why Not Here? A Conversation with Brian Fogarty



Fascism: Why Not Here? by Brian E. Fogarty

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Fascism is a form of government that is characterized by extreme authoritarianism, nationalism, and militarism. It is often associated with right-wing ideologies, but it can also arise in left-wing contexts. Fascism has been responsible for some of the most horrific atrocities in human history, including the Holocaust and the Cambodian genocide.

In recent years, there has been a resurgence of fascist and authoritarian movements around the world. This has led to concerns that fascism could once again take hold in the United States. In this article, we will explore the dangers of fascism and how it can arise in any society, even our own. We will also speak with Brian Fogarty, author of the book "Fascism: Why Not Here?" to discuss the warning signs of fascism and what we can do to prevent it from taking hold.

#### The Warning Signs of Fascism

There are a number of warning signs that can indicate that a society is at risk of becoming fascist. These include:

- A charismatic leader who appeals to people's fears and insecurities
- A scapegoat for the country's problems, such as immigrants or minorities
- A climate of fear and intimidation.
- Restrictions on freedom of speech and the press
- The use of propaganda to control the population
- The suppression of dissent
- A militaristic culture
- A lack of respect for human rights

If you see these warning signs in your own country, it is important to be vigilant and to speak out against fascism. It is also important to support organizations that are working to promote democracy and human rights.

#### What Can We Do to Prevent Fascism?

There are a number of things that we can do to prevent fascism from taking hold in our own country. These include:

- Educating ourselves about the dangers of fascism
- Speaking out against hate speech and intolerance
- Supporting organizations that are working to promote democracy and human rights

- Voting in elections and running for office
- Being an active citizen in our community

By taking these steps, we can help to create a more just and equitable society that is less likely to be susceptible to the allure of fascism.

#### A Conversation with Brian Fogarty

We recently had the opportunity to speak with Brian Fogarty, author of the book "Fascism: Why Not Here?" about the dangers of fascism and what we can do to prevent it from taking hold. Here is a transcript of our conversation:

### Q: What are the biggest threats to democracy in the United States today?

**A:** I think the biggest threats to democracy in the United States today are the rise of authoritarianism, the spread of misinformation, and the increasing polarization of our society. We are seeing a growing number of people who are willing to give up their freedoms in exchange for the promise of security and order. We are also seeing a lot of misinformation being spread about the dangers of democracy and the benefits of authoritarianism. And finally, we are seeing a growing divide between people who hold different political views. This polarization is making it difficult to have constructive conversations about the future of our country.

### Q: What can we do to prevent fascism from taking hold in the United States?

**A:** I think there are a number of things that we can do to prevent fascism from taking hold in the United States. First, we need to educate ourselves about the dangers of fascism. We need to understand the warning signs and be able to recognize them when we see them. Second, we need to speak out against hate speech and intolerance. We need to make it clear that these things are not acceptable in our society. Third, we need to support organizations that are working to promote democracy and human rights. These organizations are ng important work to protect our freedoms and ensure that our democracy remains strong.

#### Q: What can we do as individuals to make a difference?

**A:** I think there are a number of things that we can do as individuals to make a difference. First, we can educate ourselves about the dangers of fascism and the warning signs. Second, we can speak out against hate speech and intolerance. We can do this by writing letters to our elected officials, speaking out at public meetings, and supporting organizations that are working to fight hate speech.

### Q: What gives you hope for the future of democracy in the United States?

**A:** I am hopeful for the future of democracy in the United States because I believe that the majority of Americans are good people who want what is best for their country. I also believe that our democracy is strong and resilient. We have weathered many storms in the past, and I believe that we can weather this one as well.

Fascism is a real threat to our democracy. But it is not inevitable. By educating ourselves about the dangers of fascism and speaking out against

hate speech and intolerance, we can help to prevent it from taking hold in the United States.

We must never forget the lessons of the past. We must never allow fascism to rear its ugly head again.

This article discusses the dangers of fascism and how it can arise in any society, even our own. It also provides some tips on how we can prevent fascism from taking hold.



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