



## Forget Koch brothers, let's talk Soros

By Irma Epstein

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Using immunity a senator receives while speaking on the Senate floor, Sen. Harry Reid has embarked on an effort to unmask the Koch brothers and portray them as shadowy billionaire villains who are “un American” and who pour money into causes that benefit the wealthiest 1 percent.

Democrats intend to use this theme. They continue to use the tactic of personifying and demonizing their target. This is a way to keep attention away from the main issue, Obamacare.

Their campaign slogan could well be, “The GOP is addicted to Koch.”

Reid does not complain about millionaire Tom Steyer’s plan to help candidates who agree with him on climate change and Michael Bloomberg’s \$19 million gun-control push.

The Koch brothers are No. 58 in organizations that donate to causes. The top 48 are solidly Democratic, the top six are unions. The myth is that the Republican Party is the party of the rich. Of the 12 richest lawmakers, Democrats outnumber Republicans 3 to 1.

Reid and the media overlook the self-proclaimed stateless statesman, George Soros, a billionaire hedge-fund operator whose financial manipulations can affect fates of nations and their currencies. Soros is worth about \$32 billion while the Koch brothers are worth \$40 billion.

Soros donates huge sums to the ACLU to support its stand on legalization for drugs.

The Koch brothers are libertarians. They are criticized for their donations to the tea party, the Cato Institute, Americans for Prosperity and other free market organizations.

Soros has given \$550 million to liberal causes between 2000-2009.

These include pro abortion, pro euthanasia, pro gay marriage, pro drug legalization, pro union, pro government-funded media as well as anti-faith, anti-death penalty causes.

President Obama has received more money from Soros and five members of his family than any other candidate in the past 11 years.

Soros has vastly outspent the Koch brothers 8 to 1, promoting left-wing ideology.

The Koch brothers donate to cancer research foundations, museums, musical venues and art galleries.

Soros has contributed more than \$34 million to 527s, candidates, and committees. This compares to \$4 million from the Koch brothers.

All this funding is part of the Soros empire with more than \$8 billion donated through his Open Society Foundation.

His support for higher education includes more than \$400 million to colleges and universities.

He helped establish Central European University, which uses resources to promote his personal goal of an “open society.”

His reach and influence surpasses the Koch brothers, and he has donated 50 times more than the Koch brothers in grants to universities.

Bard College received specific donations for some of the most liberal courses and programs in the world.

Ivy League schools are also well-funded through Soros foundations. These schools promote and teach Soros ideology.

Soros has put together a group of billionaires and Democratic operatives to create a network so powerful that it has been described as a “Shadow Party.”

Its agenda was to seize control of the Democratic election campaigns he thought were inept.

Soros more than any other individual is responsible for the Democratic Party’s shift to the left.

Irma Epstein is a native New Yorker. After more than 20 years of teaching in New York City public schools, she and her husband moved to Sun City West in 1995. She continues her lifelong interests in education and the political state of the nation.