The Cloward-Piven Strategy of Orchestrated Crisis, the Radical Left and Barack Obama

CLOWARD-PIVEN STRATEGY – strategy of premeditated, manufactured crisis. Chart illustrates connections between strategy and its radical practitioners, including President Obama.

Center of Chart – Evolution of Strategy

Strategy introduced 1966 – Radical socialists Richard Cloward and Frances Fox Piven introduce "Cloward-Piven strategy" (CPS), a plan to "collapse" U.S. government by overwhelming it with demands for public services.

NWRO 1966 – Richard Cloward helps Black activist George Wiley found National Welfare Rights Organization. NWRO CPS tactics swell welfare rolls across U.S. and cause bankruptcy of New York City in 1975.

ACORN 1970 – NWRO veteran and SDS radical Wade Rathke co-founds Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now. ACORN applies CPS to virtually all domestic policy issues, most notably housing, voting and illegal immigrant rights.

Project Vote! 1991 – Voter organizing subsidiary of ACORN. Young Barack Obama runs Project Vote to help elect Carol Moseley Braun to U.S. Senate.

Left Side of Chart – Key Personnel and Organizations

Communist Party USA 1919 – font of most American radicalism. Founded in Chicago, IL.

Red Diaper Babies 1960s – US Communists' offspring come of age.

Students for A Democratic Society (SDS) 1960s – Red diaper babies form SDS. Key members: Bill Ayers, Wade Rathke, Carl Davidson, Aryeh Neier

Committees of Correspondence (CoC) 1991 – offshoot of American Communist Party. Carl Davidson early leader.

New Party early 1990s – political party formed of ACORN, Democratic Socialists of America, and CoC members. 1996 – Instrumental in Obama's State Senate campaign victory. Prominent members: Barack Obama, Carl Davidson, Wade Rathke and Frances Fox Piven. Davidson early Obama backer.

Open Society Institute – George Soros' main radical left foundation. Led by former SDS founder Aryeh Neier. Media Matters, Moveon.org, NARAL/NOW – few of many organizations funded by OSI that supported Obama presidential campaign.

Right Side of Chart – Direct influences on Obama and his connections to CPS

Saul Alinsky – heavily influenced SDS, Cloward and Piven and Barack Obama.

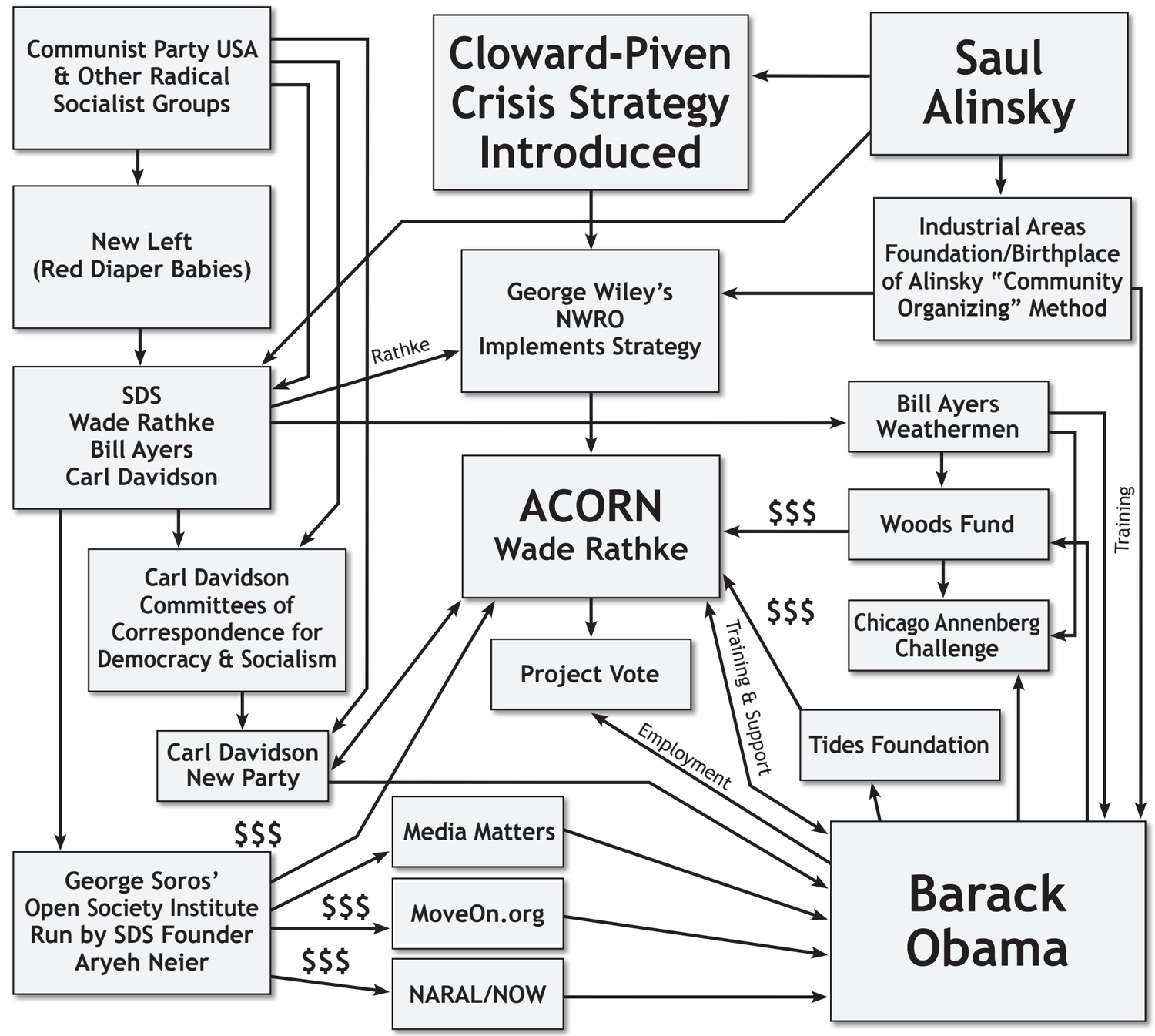
Industrial Areas Foundation – Alinsky's radical community organizing training school. Obama learned Alinsky tactics from three IAF graduates; subsequently taught Alinsky tactics.

Bill Ayers – Former SDS and Weatherman bomber. Worked with Obama throughout 1990s. Recruited Obama to chair board of Woods Fund and Chicago Annenberg Challenge (CAC).

Woods Fund /CAC – Obama recruited by Ayers to chair Boards. Obama funds ACORN through Woods Fund, funnels money to Ayers' projects through CAC.

Tides Foundation – Wade Rathke runs subsidiary Tides Fund. Tides supports ACORN.

Barack Obama – Trains ACORN leaders, helps fund ACORN through Woods Fund and indirectly through Tides Foundation. Obama represented ACORN in a major legal battle over Motor Voter Law in Illinois. Obama political campaigns assisted by ACORN and Project Vote.



Source: James Simpson, *Barack Obama and the Strategy of Manufactured Crisis*, American Thinker, September 28, 2008.