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Press Contacts:

Scott Harris, [203 445-3312](tel:2034453312)

Anna Manzo: [203 268-8446](tel:2032688446)

October 19th Public Forum To Examine The Fascist Threat and Effective Resistance in the Era of Donald Trump

**With Scholars: Yale University Professor of Philosophy Jason Stanley and
University of Connecticut Director of American Studies Christopher Vials**

With a formal impeachment inquiry now underway in the U.S. House of Representatives, the nation is in the midst of a constitutional crisis as President Trump says he will not cooperate with the impeachment investigation. Democracy, the rule of law and the integrity of the U.S. Constitution itself is under threat. How did we get here?

Two noted scholars will examine the underpinnings of the fascist threat in America today at a public forum titled, "The Fascist Threat and Effective Resistance in the Era of Donald Trump," on Saturday, Oct. 19th in New Haven, CT.

"Democratic culture is based around truth, respect for truth. Because truth is at the basis of our two great democratic values: liberty and equality," says Jason Stanley, a Yale University Jacob Urowsky professor of philosophy. He is author of "How Fascism Works: The Politics of Us and Them" and "How Propaganda Works."

"You can't be free if you have been lied to. Truth is the basis of equality. Speaking truth to power. In a democratic culture, you'd be embarrassed to be caught lying. If you want to destroy a democratic culture, you want to destroy respect for truth. You want to create a distinction between us and them so that it's not about truth – it's about who's on my team and who's the enemy."

According to Stanley, fascist culture is about creating enemies based on race or ethnic identity, that belief that "we deserve dignity and superiority" and that sharing equality is "losing our dignity and superiority." He says that Trump's supporters know he is lying and his supporters believe he has to "thumb his nose" at the "corrupt establishment" because he is "winning for the team."

Christopher Vials, director of American Studies at University of Connecticut, Storrs is author of "Haunted by Hitler: Liberals, the Left and the Fight Against Fascism in the United States" will also speak. He is co-editor along with Bill Mullen of "The U.S. Antifascism Reader," to be published by Verso in January 2020.



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P.O. Box 110176 Trumbull, Connecticut 06611
www.btlonline.org www.squeakywheel.net

Squeaky Wheel Productions, Inc.

☎ 203.268.8446 ☎ 203.268.3180
info@btlonline.org info@squeakywheel.net

Stanley's and Vials' talks will be followed by an audience Q&A, booksignings and a reception with light refreshments.

The event, sponsored by the Connecticut-based nationally syndicated weekly radio program Between The Lines Radio Newsmagazine, will be held from 12:30-3:30 p.m. at the Parish House of the United Church on the Green, 323 Temple St., New Haven, CT. Suggested contribution \$10. For tickets and information, visit www.BTLonline.org or call (203) 268-8446.

"Between The Lines," a half-hour radio newsmagazine celebrated its 28th anniversary in 2019, was founded at WPKN Radio in Bridgeport, CT in the lead-up to the 1991 Persian Gulf war to probe the causes and conduct of the conflict that other media outlets failed to cover. Between The Lines continued production after the conclusion of the Gulf War, but with a broader focus: providing a platform for journalists, activists and spokespersons from progressive organizations generally ignored or marginalized by the corporate media.

Over the last 25 years the program, which is now heard on more than 60 radio stations across the U.S. and abroad, has covered a wide range of issues including: the ongoing U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, drone warfare, international grassroots resistance to corporate-led globalization and free trade economic policies; growing income inequality in the U.S.; efforts to repair America's health care system; challenges to voter suppression, activism addressing climate change and post-9/11 assaults on the U.S. Constitution, Geneva Conventions and other international treaties. The program's website <http://btlonline.org> features audio files/podcasts of current and archived shows, links to related articles, interview transcripts and a list of radio stations and podcast that broadcast the show.

Net proceeds of this event benefit Squeaky Wheel Productions, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit distributor of Between The Lines Radio Newsmagazine.