

# Rep. Louie Gohmert on How Atheist Billionaire George Soros Collaborated with the Nazis

## Gohmert Responds To George Soros Comments on Fox Business “Varney & Co”

December 6, 2018

Congressman Louie Gohmert (TX-01) released the following statement today regarding his comments on George Soros on The Fox Business Network’s, “Varney & Co.”

“Soros himself admitted in a 60 Minutes interview with Steve Kroft on December 20, 1998 that he had no regrets whatsoever about **assisting the Nazis in confiscating property from the Jewish people during the Holocaust.** That is a fact. Any person with any sense of empathy for their fellow human beings would regret the part they played in confiscating Jewish property during the Holocaust. My remarks were not anti-Semitic. Even the Israeli government has condemned Soros. They were about the horror of his lack of remorse over his actions. It was a pro-Jewish statement on my part and supportive of the statement that the Israeli government made last year that anti-Soros statements are not anti-Semitic because George Soros ‘continuously undermines Israel’s democratically elected governments by funding organizations that defame the Jewish state and seek to deny it the right to defend itself.’”

**George Soros Interview 60 Minutes - Extended quotation from the 60 Minutes transcript follows:**

“When the Nazis occupied Budapest in 1944, George Soros' father was a successful lawyer. He lived on an island in the Danube and liked to commute to work in a rowboat. But knowing there were problems ahead for the Jews, he decided to split his family up. He bought them forged papers and he bribed a government official to take 14-year-old George Soros in and swear that he was his Christian godson. But survival carried a heavy price tag. While hundreds of thousands of Hungarian Jews were being shipped off to the death camps, George Soros accompanied his phony godfather on his appointed rounds, confiscating property from the Jews.

(Vintage footage of Jews walking in line; man dragging

little boy in line)

KROFT: (Voiceover) These are pictures from 1944 of what happened to George Soros' friends and neighbors.

(Vintage footage of women and men with bags over their shoulders walking; crowd by a train)

KROFT: (Voiceover) You're a Hungarian Jew . . .

Mr. SOROS: (Voiceover) Mm-hmm.

KROFT: (Voiceover) . . . who escaped the Holocaust . . .

(Vintage footage of women walking by train)

Mr. SOROS: (Voiceover) Mm-hmm.

(Vintage footage of people getting on train)

KROFT: (Voiceover) . . . by--by posing as a Christian.

Mr. SOROS: (Voiceover) Right.

(Vintage footage of women helping each other get on train; train door closing with people in boxcar)

KROFT: (Voiceover) And you watched lots of people get shipped off to the death camps.

Mr. SOROS: Right. I was 14 years old. And I would say that that's when my character was made.

KROFT: In what way?

Mr. SOROS: That one should think ahead. One should understand and--and anticipate events and when--when one is threatened. It was a tremendous threat of evil. I mean, it was a--a very personal experience of evil.

KROFT: My understanding is that you went out with this protector of yours who swore that you were his adopted godson.

Mr. SOROS: Yes. Yes.

**KROFT: Went out, in fact, and helped in the confiscation of property from the Jews.**

**Mr. SOROS: Yes. That's right. Yes.**

**KROFT: I mean, that's--that sounds like an experience that would send lots of people to the psychiatric couch for many, many years. Was it difficult?**

**Mr. SOROS: Not--not at all. Not at all. Maybe as a child you don't--you don't see the connection. But it was--it created no--no problem at all.**

**KROFT: No feeling of guilt?**

**Mr. SOROS: No.**

KROFT: For example that, ``I'm Jewish and here I am, watching these people go. I could just as easily be there. I should be there." None of that?

Mr. SOROS: Well, of course I c--I could be on the other side or I could be the one from whom the thing is being taken away. But there was no sense that I shouldn't be there, because that was--well, actually, in a funny way, it's just like in markets--that if I weren't there--of course, I wasn't doing it, but somebody else would--would--would be taking it away anyhow. And it was the--whether I was there or not, I was only a spectator, the property was being taken away. So the--I had no role in taking away that property. **So I had no sense of guilt."**

("George Soros," 60 Minutes interview transcript, December 20, 1998).

Israeli Government Press Release [July 9, 2017]

In no way was the statement meant to delegitimize criticism of George Soros, who continuously undermines Israel's democratically elected governments by funding organizations that defame the Jewish state and seek to deny it the right to defend itself.

## Gohmert Response to Letter From Mr. Gaspard of the "Open Society Foundation" re: Mr. George Soros

**Washington, December 6, 2018**

In response to a letter from Mr. Gaspard of the "Open Society Foundation" regarding Mr. George Soros (attached below), Congressman Louie Gohmert issued [the following statement](#):

"Mr. Gaspard, with the misnamed Open Society Foundation, has been very diligent to condemn opinions or allegations about Mr. Soros' activity. Yet, he surely knows that in his interview with Steve Kroft on December 20, 1998, **Mr. Soros as a mature adult verified that he had no sense of guilt about the role he played in Nazis' confiscation of property from the Jewish people during the Holocaust.** As a very mature adult, if Mr. Soros had deep regrets about what he did when he was 14 years old and apologized, I would have nothing but sympathy and admiration. Were he ever to do that in the future, I would still have those same warm, respectful feelings.

"Instead, Mr. Soros statement went on to say that if he weren't there, someone else would have been in his role. Those are things HE said, that HE admitted as an adult. Any person with any sense of empathy for his fellow human beings would regret the part they played in assisting the Nazis.

"Mr. Soros also admitted in that same interview regarding his financial dealings that, 'I cannot and do not look at the social consequences of what I do.' That's breathtaking.

"My remarks were not anti-Semitic; the Israeli government itself stated last year that it did not mean to 'delegitimize criticism of George Soros, who continuously undermines Israel's democratically elected governments by funding organizations that defame the Jewish state and seek to deny it the right to defend itself.'

"As for any attempt to invoke fear of violence or violence itself whether against Mr. Soros or anyone whomsoever, I have spent an adult lifetime working in our justice system to try to ensure that anyone who takes justice into his or her own hands must

answer to that justice system. If a person who sent a bomb to anyone came before me as a judge for sentencing, I would have no problem assessing a significant time of incarceration. In that manner, the rest of us can maintain our freedom of speech, a God-given right enumerated in the very First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Freedom of speech should not be undermined by heavy-handed attempts to stifle criticism.”

**OPEN SOCIETY  
FOUNDATIONS**

**George Soros**  
Founder/Chair

**Patrick Gaspard**  
President

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December 6, 2018

Dear Rep. Gohmert:

I am writing to ask that you apologize for making and repeating such a disturbing and false anti-Semitic slur against George Soros during your appearance on Fox Business Network today.

You are not entitled to misrepresent his and his family's courage during such a terrifying and difficult period in our history. This kind of vile discrimination and lying would be troubling to see at any time. The fact that you make these statements just weeks after Mr. Soros received a pipe bomb in the mail and a madman shot up a synagogue in Pittsburgh is the height of irresponsibility. This conduct is beneath your office.

I am not sure what the remedy for the hatred in your heart might be, but let me try to help you get your facts straight.

George Soros was a 14-year-old living in Budapest with his family at the time the Germans occupied Hungary. Like many people fleeing the Nazis, he and his family assumed identities and posed as Christians to avoid being deported, forced into concentration camps, and killed.

George's father, Tivador Soros, helped protect many Jewish people in Hungary and ensure their survival, as detailed in his book, *Maskerado*. One of these was the Jewish wife of a Ministry of Agriculture official, and in return, the official allowed George to pose as his Christian godson. One day, rather than leave George alone in Budapest, the official took George with him on a trip to take inventory at the estate of a Jewish family that had fled the country. End of story.

As the Anti-Defamation League wrote earlier this month, more than two weeks before the awful and tragic events in Pittsburgh, "politicians and pundits repeating these unsubstantiated conspiracies essentially validate the same hateful myths propagated by anti-Semites."

The Anti-Defamation League went on to write that some people might not "intend to promulgate anti-Semitism...Soros' Jewish identity is so well-known that in many cases it is not hard to infer that meaning. This is especially true when Soros-related conspiracy theories include other well-worn anti-Semitic tropes such as control of

the media or banks; references to undermining societies or destabilizing countries; or language that hearkens back to the [medieval blood libels](#) and the characterization of Jews as evil, demonic, or agents of the antichrist.”

Glenn Beck, the former Fox News personality, pushed this false claim in 2010. Abraham H. Foxman, then the Anti-Defamation League’s national director and a Holocaust survivor, said that Beck’s accusation was “inappropriate, offensive and over the top.”

Mr. Foxman added that, “[To] hold a young boy responsible for what was going on around him during the Holocaust as part of a larger effort to denigrate the man is repugnant...George Soros has been forthright about his childhood experiences and his family’s history, and there the matter should rest.”

Just to reiterate the facts: George Soros escaped the Nazis as a 14-year-old boy, and he has spent most of his life supporting efforts to ensure that such terrifying authoritarianism never takes root again. He did not collaborate with the Nazis. He did not help round up people. He did not confiscate anybody’s property.

Today’s incident, sadly, follows false comments you made on October 22 fueling the lie that Mr. Soros was somehow funding the group of people fleeing Honduras. While the Open Society Foundations, Mr. Soros’s philanthropy, does support the historic U.S. commitment, honored by presidents of both parties until 2017, to welcome people fleeing violence and oppression, neither the foundations nor Mr. Soros was involved in supporting the Hondurans’ efforts. News organizations shot down the bogus claims that you and some of your colleagues made. The [Washington Post](#), [the New York Times](#), and [Snopes](#) were among the outlets that quickly published fact checks demonstrating your errors.

How people in high office like yourself can make such baseless allegations, which do great damage to our country, is beyond me. It is deeply insulting to Mr. Soros and his family, who against the odds managed to survive one of the darkest moments in our history.

Sincerely,



Patrick Gaspard

Cc: Rep. Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker Paul Ryan