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**“Safer Web = Safer World”**

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## **BOOTING TRUMP OFF TWITTER & FACEBOOK WON'T STOP TRUMP'S SOCIAL MEDIA INCITEMENT**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Washington, D.C. (January 7, 2021):

The Coalition for a Safer Web (CSW) ([www.coalitionsw.org](http://www.coalitionsw.org)) issued the following statement in response to Twitter's and Facebook's decision to suspend President Trump's accounts will not prevent his followers from fomenting violence on his behalf.

Trump's legion of extremist supporters downloads most Trump-inspired directives from the new far-right social media platform known as Parler as well as Rumble and MeWe.

In the wake of yesterday's domestic terrorism at the Capitol, CSW has uncovered dozens of Parler, Rumble, Telegram, Discord, and MeWe accounts which are churning out not so subtle threats of violence against members of Congress who voted this morning to certify the election results.

Principal Trump surrogates, including his two sons, Rudy Giuliani, leaders of neo-Nazi extremist groups, and a host of One America Network, Newsmax, and Fox News media figures, as well as extremist radio personalities including Mark Levin post misinformation and hate incitement to a huge on-line audience of Trump followers on Parler, which freely ricochet back and forth across these other platforms with increasing velocity and lethality. Moreover, Russian-backed trolls and European-based neo-Nazi extremist groups join in these exchanges with further incitement and misinformation.

Although Trump does not (yet) have a Parler account, CSW predicts he will open one now that Twitter has suspended his account. Then what?

Founded in 2018 and funded by funded by Trump far right donor Rebekah Mercer, Parler has over 8 million far right accounts, including hundreds of thousands of QAnon anti-Semitic crackpot conspiracist accounts. John Matze, Parler's CEO, has stated in numerous interviews that he has no intention to police any extremist content on Parler no matter how dangerous it may be to the nation's security and its democratic institutions. We should assume that also includes anything from Trump.

At the Capitol, extremist militia leaders led the charge, including QAnon "leader" "Q Shamam, neo-Nazi domestic terrorist leaders from the "Day of the Rope" cult (a Nazi incitement to lynch traitors), several leaders from the domestic terrorist Black Hebrew Israelites, and from the anti-Semitic National Anarchist Movement. We are certain there were others from the alphabet soup of Trump supporting extremist groups far too numerous to account for here.

It is urgent for Congress to end the charade of content immunity granted to social media under Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act. Mr. Matze, his investors, and the owners of MeWe, Rumble, and other far right websites are laughing all the way to the bank at the expense of the safety of the public.

Amb. Marc Ginsberg, President of CSW stated:

*"CSW has repeatedly warned in recent days that fringe social media sites were inciting potential violence, with or without Trump's Mall speech. For weeks, leaders of Trump-supporting extremist militia groups (Proud Boys and Boogaloo Bois. etc) have been plotting and organizing acts of violence in Washington on Parler, MeWe, and Rumble, as well as on "Team Trump's own "thedonald.win."*

*As CSW investigates what steps can be taken against Parler, MeWe, and Rumble for enabling yesterday's domestic terrorism at the Capitol, I call on Congress and major media outlets to focus less attention on Facebook and Twitter, and more attention on domestic violence enabled by these "off the radar" far right and extremist fringe media platforms which are clear and present dangers to our safety and to our democracy."*

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