

# Overturning the USAID Rock: Muslim Brotherhood Infiltration and Media Malpractice

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Feb. 15, 2025 12:20 pm



Credit: USAID U.S. Agency for International Development

## ***Guest post by Former Rep. Jim Renacci***

The Muslim Brotherhood connections of **Americans for Tax Reform** (ATR) founder **Grover Norquist** are well-chronicled.

The Center for Security Policy's Frank Gaffney lays out his firsthand account in great detail. In 1999, he began **a seven-year sublet** from ATR.

Over that time, Gaffney witnessed extensive connections between Norquist and the Islamic Institute that pointed to an **extensive relationship** between that institute and the Muslim Brotherhood.

Norquist's wife, Samah Alrayyes-Norquist, a Palestinian, has a long history with USAID. She held a top position with the corrupt agency for at least 20 years.

Prior to that, she was the communications director at her husband's **Islamic Institute**. **As of 2005**, she was the Public Affairs Specialist for Arab and Muslim outreach at the Bureau of Legislative and Public Affairs at USAID.

She **continued working there** until January of 2021, according to her **LinkedIn page**. In 2020, Alrayyes-Norquist was appointed as **Chief Advisor** to the Administrator for International Religious Freedom at USAID.

Prior to that, she was the **communications director** at her husband's Islamic Institute.

Here is a woman who worked for decades at an agency under fire for its rampant waste of taxpayer dollars. During that entire time, she was married to Tax Reform champion, Grover.

In 2013, the couple attended the American Task Force on Palestine (ATFP) gala as part of the **Honorary Host Committee**.

Also, in attendance was someone with an extensive Muslim Brotherhood history of his own – **Suhail Kahn**, who not only attended but sat at the Norquist table.

In a **New York Post article**, investigative reporter Paul Sperry pointed out that Kahn supported the notorious Ground Zero mosque and even lobbied Republican lawmakers to support it (the mosque was supposed to be constructed near where the 9/11 attacks brought down the WTC towers).

Days before the attacks, Kahn spoke at the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA) convention. The ISNA is a known Muslim Brotherhood front group that Kahn's father founded.

The man who introduced Kahn at the convention was connected with Hamas. Kahn also has worked closely with the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR), another Brotherhood front.

Another revelation comes courtesy of \$8 million taxpayer dollars going to *POLITICO*.

It is telling that other supposed news outlets—like *Yahoo News*, *CNN*, and *The Dispatch*—to name a few, are caterwauling in defense of *POLITICO*.

Why would they do that? The **New York Times** suggests that anyone who questions why an independent news entity is receiving government funding has fallen for a "Conspiracy Theory".

I guess we're supposed to overlook USAID's donations to approved journalists the world over too.

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Instead of investigators investigating the charges, they all seem to be collectively at the ready, in defense of *POLITICO*, claiming that the \$8 million figure is all about subscriptions.

Lost in all of this is that even if true, subscriptions from Washington, DC, to *POLITICO* send a very simple message. That message?

Keep doing what you're doing (or not doing), and we'll keep that taxpayer money coming. In any case, USAID is using taxpayer dollars to fund a blatant conflict of interest between government and what the founders referred to as a free press.

Today, that press is no longer free; it is being bought.

The extent to which these types of revelations can highlight things like Muslim Brotherhood infiltration of our institutions or confirm media bias is not really known. What *is* known, however, is that when you overturn large rocks, you're likely to see many things you didn't expect to find.

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*Jim Renacci is a former U.S. Congressman, businessman, and conservative leader dedicated to putting America first.*