Double life: Academic David Skrbina revealed as prolific antisemitic author



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David Skrbina, Ph.D., a former University of Michigan-Dearborn professor and academic, has been revealed as the man behind the persona Thomas Dalton, Ph.D., a prolific antisemitic author and Holocaust denier.

On a Dec. 20 episode of antisemite Kevin Barrett's podcast "Truth Jihad," Skrbina inadvertently confirmed his dual identity. Until now, Skrbina has distanced himself from the dissemination of virulently antisemitic propaganda. "Dalton" is a frequent contributor and key figure in Clemens & Blair Publishing, a book producer that the Southern Poverty Law Center has labeled as an antisemitic hate group. His email is prominently listed on the group's contact page, and his personal website is directly linked from Clemens & Blair's homepage. Dalton is so prolific within the group that its website features a dedicated category to filter books he has authored or edited.

Revealing that Dalton and Skrbina are the same person underscores the importance of exposing those who cloak extremist ideology in academic authority. Unmasking Dalton exposes efforts to lend a facade of legitimacy to white supremacist and Holocaust denial views, a technique that these movements rely upon to spread their propaganda.

Dalton's works include not only original writings, but also edited and republished versions of several infamous antisemitic texts, including Martin Luther's On the Jews and Their Lies, The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion, Henry Ford's The International Jew: The World's Foremost Problem, and Adolf Hitler's Mein Kampf. Across his publications, two central themes emerge: a relentless effort to blame Jewish people for the world's problems and a concerted attempt to rehabilitate the image of the Nazis, including Hitler and Joseph Goebbels.

Dalton has been recognized as a leading author by Michael Santomauro, who has led antisemitic hate groups Clemens & Blair and, until his recent split with prominent Holocaust revisionist Germar Rudolf, the Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust (CODOH). In a 2016 interview with Holocaust denier Jim Rizoli, Santomauro said he assisted Dalton in publishing his Holocaust denial book titled *Debating the Holocaust: A New Look at Both Sides.*

Much of the work attributed to Dalton has been compared online to Skrbina's work for years, with commenters noting similar themes and mentioning them in the same extremist forums.

Skrbina has publicly reviewed and critiqued his own pseudonymous work and likewise has used his Dalton persona to comment on his work under his real name. On the antisemitic website The Barnes Review, Skrbina wrote a review of Dalton's book *The Jewish Hand in the World Wars*, where he refers to the book as "thought provoking" and an "invaluable resource."

Skrbina praised Dalton for explaining "how Jewish revolutionaries were active in Berlin and Munich, ultimately bringing down that nation from within, and then coming to dominate the postwar Weimar government," and that Jewish monolithic control and influence have been responsible for "virtually all wars" in modern American history. Skrbina has used his position as a professor of philosophy over the past 20 years for various universities — including Michigan State University and the University of Michigan — to lend credibility to his alter ego's antisemitic works.

Skrbina accidentally revealed his identity during a chaotic moment on Barrett's show. Barrett mistakenly identified Dalton as Skrbina when Skrbina accidentally logged onto the call under both identities. During the segment, Barrett discussed seeing both names together and speculated that they were the same individual. During the confusion, Barrett said, "That's David's picture, with Thomas Dalton's moniker. ... Thomas Dalton is the famous author of ... *Debating the Holocaust*." Barrett removed Skrbina's "Dalton" profile from the chat, referring to him as "David AKA Thomas Dalton" with a chuckle while Skrbina simply let Barrett remove the Dalton profile.

Barrett concluded the interaction by stating, "The ADL is going to go after you now." An audible feedback echo during the interview caused by Skrbina being logged in as himself and his pseudonym at the same time further exposed the link between Skrbina and Dalton.

Barrett himself has spread antisemitic conspiracy theories and written for the white nationalist publication *The Unz Review*. Following public critique of his antisemitism, his employer at the time, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, expressed disapproval with provost Patrick Farrell issuing a statement in 2006 that the university "does not support statements that are anti-Semitic, and we do not endorse Mr. Barrett's personal views."

Additionally, two PDF files prominently displayed on Thomas Dalton's website, titled "Holocaust Revisionism in 60 Seconds" and "Tactics of Organized Jewry in Suppressing Free Speech," point to Dalton and Skrbina sharing an identity. Both files specify that Dalton was their author or editor. The SPLC examined the publicly available metadata for the two files, which indicated both were created using the same platform, and both clearly identified Skrbina as their creator.

Skrbina did not respond to a request for comment from Hatewatch.

In 2001, Skrbina successfully defended his dissertation at the University of Bath and achieved a doctorate in philosophy focusing on technology, eco-philosophy and environmental ethics. His initial research focused on panpsychism, a concept that suggests "the theory that mind exists, in some form, in all living and nonliving things in consideration of the nature of consciousness and mind." He went on to be a lecturer at the University of Helsinki in Finland from 2020-23. Earlier, he was a professor at the University of Michigan-Dearborn from 2003-18. He also held positions at the University of Ghent in Belgium in 2008, Michigan State University in 2011 and Eastern Michigan University from 2006-07.

Skrbina also wrote several pieces about the existence of Jesus, criticisms of Israel, foreign wars and questioned the continued existence of the United States. Skrbina corresponded extensively with Ted Kaczynski, known as the "Unabomber," who killed three people and injured 23 others with mail bombs between 1978 and 1995. Beginning in 2003, Skrbina exchanged approximately 150 letters with Kaczynski, delving into critiques of technological society. This collaboration led to the publication of *Techno*-

logical Slavery, a collection of Kaczynski's writings that Skrbina edited and introduced. Through this work, Skrbina has actively promoted and legitimized Kaczynski's extremist anti-technology ideology, amplifying his dangerous views to a wider audience.

In an interview discussing Skrbina's book *The Jesus Hoax*, he claimed that the story of Jesus was a deliberate fabrication by St. Paul and his followers to weaken the Roman Empire — an argument that leans into antisemitic tropes about Jewish manipulation of historical events. The book also attacks modern technology, echoing Kaczynski's radical anti-industrial rhetoric.

Skrbina's portfolio of antisemitic literature, written under his pseudonym, was produced during his tenure as a professor of philosophy at the University of Michigan-Dearborn (2003-18) and later while at the University of Helsinki (2020-23). His 2016 Holocaust denial book, referenced by Santomauro in the Rizoli interview, was published by the now-defunct Castle Hill Publishers, a company notorious for producing Holocaust denial material.

Various white supremacist and neo-Nazi organizations have cited Dalton's expertise and writings to support their hateful efforts. For instance, the National Vanguard, a white nationalist group, has referenced Dalton's work in its publications. Additionally, the Institute for Historical Review, an organization known for promoting Holocaust denial, has featured Dalton's articles and books. His publications are also available on platforms like The Barnes Review and The Occidental Observer, which is known for its antisemitic content.

Image at top: David Skrbina accidentally revealed his identity as Thomas Dalton, a prolific antisemitic author and Holocaust denier, during a recent podcast interview. (Credit: SPLC) The Ted K Archive

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