There’s No Place Like Utopia

Director Q & A with Director Joel Gilbert

What is meant by the title - There’s No Place Like Utopia?
It’s a play on Dorothy’s conclusion in the Wizard of Oz, “there’s no place like home.” Dorothy blindly follows the yellow brick road, believing a magical wizard will fulfill her dreams. In the end, the Wizard is a charlatan, a mere carnival hawker. He sends Dorothy to the witch’s castle where she is taken prisoner in the dungeon. Throughout history, millions of people believed charlatans like Mao, Stalin, Pol Pot, Castro, and others who promised Utopia, but instead delivered hell on earth - the gulag, economic devastation, starvation, and mass murder.

What are the highlights of There’s No Place Like Utopia?
The film is provocative and entertaining, you just have to hold on for the ride! I travel to different parts of the country - Detroit, Chicago, Newark, Washington DC, Denver, Miami, Los Angeles - and I meet people who were seduced by Utopian promises, only to realize they have been had, and no longer had a home. There are surprises too, I run into Michelle Obama’s mother in Chicago, and Jesse Jackson in Los Angeles. You’ll finally meet Peggy Joseph, the Florida woman who became infamous for saying Obama was going to pay her mortgage and her gas back in 2008.

Why can’t “Utopia” be a political goal, to perfect our world?
The idea of Utopia, paradise on earth, goes back to Plato's Republic, to Thomas More, and to Karl Marx's ‘workers paradise’. However, its just a fantasy, it can never exist on earth, its fiction. Despite this, socialists, who now call themselves “Progressives,” believe Utopia is a realistic model for the modern nation state. Tragically, 100 Million people were killed by Progressives in peace time in the 20th Century under the guise of recreating human beings to fit into Utopia.

Why is Obama depicted as "The Wizard" in your film?
The analogy is well deserved. The fundamental lesson of the Wizard of Oz is that there is no wizard. Obama has made promise after promise that have all turned out to be empty. The people I met who supported him were literally living in dungeons in the witch’s castle, everything had changed for the worse all over America.
Is there a vast left wing conspiracy to “fundamentally transform America”?  
The character of America emanates from the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights. These documents created an American identity of individual freedom, free markets, free speech, and limited government. However, America has been under siege by a vast left wing conspiracy against these great principles for many years. Obama’s election was not a sudden political phenomenon. It was the culmination of an American socialist movement that Obama’s real father, Frank Marshall Davis, nurtured in Chicago and Hawaii, and has been quietly infiltrating the US economy, universities, and media for decades. They successfully took over the Democrat party, which today a radical socialist party. Now they have managed to fool most Americans with a simple change of terminology. Instead of "let's have a revolution to destroy America", they use words like "fairness" and "helping families," but the agenda is the same.

What did you learn about America from this journey?  
I discovered that America is still a strong traditional society. From East to West, even in Detroit and the slums of Chicago’s South side, Americans want a traditional and wholesome life, and are willing to work hard for it. They are not interested in government hand outs, nor in smoking marijuana, nor in giving amnesty to illegals, nor any part of the Progressive agenda.