

# DARK ENLIGHTENMENT

The notion of “**Dark Enlightenment**” refers to a movement of thought known as “**neoreactionary**”. This current of thought, spearheaded by theorist and blogger **Curtis Yarvin**, is characterized by strong **anti-democratic**, **anti-egalitarian** and **anti-progressive** positions.

**Dark Enlightenment** is based on a return to a traditional society in its functioning and values, and a hierarchy between individuals in their social identities and functions. Moreover, this movement is based on a conception and exercise of power as extremely strong and centralized around a person who can be embodied in a monarchical and ultracapitalist model.

This movement emerged marginally in the mid-2000s and in the online space, but has taken on a much greater dimension in recent years and until recently in the context of **Donald Trump’s election**. Indeed, the **neoreactionary** current has found support and resonance from figures in the American political sphere, such as Vice President **J.D. Vance**, in the media sphere with TV host **Tucker Carlson**, and in the techno-billionaire sphere with PayPal co-founder **Peter Thiel**.

## TO SUM UP

“**Dark Enlightenment**” or “**neoreaction**” is a **anti-democratic**, **anti-egalitarian** and **anti-progressive** movement of thought. This movement emerged in the mid-2000s and in the online space, it strengthen today with the Silicon Valley’s tech leaders and the Trump administration.

Note: for highlighted words, refer to the boxes corresponding to their colours.

## REFLEX FLASHCARD

Current news decrypted  
by our team



## WHEN?

**November 5, 2024:** Donald Trump elected President of the United States

## WHO?

**Curtis Yarvin** (also known by the pen name Mencius Moldbug, american reactionary thinker), **J.D. Vance** (attorney, vice president of the United States since January 20, 2025), **Tucker Carlson** (american television commentator for Fox News until 2023), **Peter Thiel** (entrepreneur milliardaire américain et néo-zélandais, investisseur de Facebook, co-fondateur de PayPal).

## NOTIONS

**NRx:** the abbreviated form by the neoreaction movement.

**Cathedral:** concept is used in the neo-reactionary movement to illustrate and denounce what is perceived as an alliance of the political, media and academic spheres imposing a model of liberal, progressive democracy.

## LEARN MORE



Register to our webinars and our trainings:

■ *On the frontiers of hate: Understanding and preventing online hate*

**Check out the entire program online**



CENTRE FOR THE  
**PREVENTION**  
OF RADICALIZATION  
LEADING TO VIOLENCE

*Let's cultivate harmonious and inclusive  
living together in our society*

Helpine: Montreal - 514-687-7141 #116  
Elsewhere in Québec - 1-877-687-7141 #116

formation@cprmv.org

[info-radical.org](http://info-radical.org)