

The Spectacular Self-Loathing of Peter Thiel

A Billionaire's Guide to Hypocrisy

By Josh Powell | April 1, 2025

The toxic tech magnates from Silicon Valley all seem to have emerged from obscurity like some odd pasty larvae and now, after hair plugs, steroids, trophy spouses, and perms, are roaming the world like soul-sucking zombies scarier than anything found on “The Walking Dead.”

Of all these figures, Peter Thiel (yes, business partners with Elon) holds a special place in my view. The man who made billions through PayPal and Facebook — creating for himself a gilded cage where his wealth can buy him absolutely anything... except for the one thing he desperately craves: heterosexuality.

Revenge on the Truth: How to Destroy Journalism When Someone States the Obvious

Thiel's vendetta against Gawker Media in 2016 is fascinating. Everyone learned that this paragon of libertarian values had secretly bankrolled multiple lawsuits against the website. How brave and principled. Nothing says “I believe in the free market of ideas” quite like anonymously funding other people's lawsuits until you obliterate a media company that hurt your feelings. Full disclosure, I was no fan of Gawker, but the reason for its demise at the secretive lavender-gloved hand of this billionaire is worth examining.

What was Gawker's mortal sin? Publishing the revelation that “Peter Thiel is totally gay, people.” That is a quote. Gasp! Peter Thiel is. Because of the truthfulness of what they wrote coupled with his standing as a public figure, he had no legal standing. Of course, his repeated trumpeting of freedom of speech (like his buddy Elon), professing his absolute support of unfettered, unedited truth, is only for others — not him. Just like Elon. And Thiel was pissed.

But personal ethos aside, Pete didn't want the world to know that he likes men. Who knew the geek squad was filled with such toxic, homophobic masculinity? All that jock energy in skinny, uncoordinated bodies — pocket protectors and all. So instead, our scrappy underdog billionaire funded lawsuits from straight plaintiffs like Hulk Hogan, using them as surrogates for his own victimhood. Nothing says “I'm comfortable with myself” quite like paying other people to fight your battles while you hide in the shadows.

Imagine being so absurdly wealthy in sunny, gay-friendly California yet wanting to stay buried so deep in the closet that you exist next to a box of Hush Puppies from 1974. It's almost — almost — pitiable, if it weren't so pathologically destructive to everyone else.

The Lavender Mafia of Self-Hatred: Thiel, Cohn, and Hoover Walk Into a Bar...

Thiel fits perfectly into that special club of powerful, closeted men like Roy Cohn and J. Edgar Hoover — those delightful characters who vilified and attacked others to deflect attention from their own sexuality. It's the oldest trick in the book: “I'm not gay — he's just my roommate and we can't afford two beds!”

What men like Thiel do, essentially, is force the rest of society to sit at their table and consume their self-loathing and shame like it's a seven-course meal we all ordered. Bon appétit, gay America! Hope you enjoy the taste of gay billionaire repression with a side of hypocrisy sauce while the rest of us LGBTQ people actually did the work to ensure equal rights.

This self-hatred manifests so beautifully in Thiel's efforts to prop up and support causes that work against his own self-interest — the paradox of wielding a “big-dick checkbook with little-dick energy.” Pete doesn't know that nothing shrinks more than cold water except self-hate. And boy, must the water be freezing in Thiel's world.

Diversity Is for Losers: Thiel's War on Equal Opportunity

Thiel's political “evolution” (at best static, more realistically devolution) reveals a man not just at war with equality and diversity, but apparently at war with basic human

decency. In 1995, he co-authored “The Diversity Myth” — because nothing says “I’m a serious intellectual” quite like attacking multiculturalism from your privileged perch at Stanford.

The following year, this champion of the downtrodden argued against affirmative action, claiming it had actually hurt the “disadvantaged.” How thoughtful of him to explain to disadvantaged people how disadvantaged they are.

Despite occasionally throwing pennies at specific gay rights causes, Thiel has increasingly cozied up to national conservatism and figures who would happily see LGBTQ+ people stripped of their rights. He cultivated a friendship with Ann Coulter — yes, THAT Ann Coulter. Nothing says “I value my community” quite like giving a platform to someone who considers your existence a moral failing.

Democracy Is Just So... Inconvenient!

By 2009, Thiel had boldly declared that “freedom and democracy are no longer compatible,” specifically citing women and welfare recipients as “notoriously tough for libertarians” constituencies. Translation: people who aren’t rich white men keep voting for things that benefit them, so democracy is dead.

His statement reveals the fundamental elitism and exclusionary nature of his worldview — one that sees genuine equality as a threat rather than a goal.

Monopoly: It’s Not Just a Board Game, It’s a Lifestyle!

Thiel’s economic philosophy further exposes his disdain for equality. In 2014, he authored a Wall Street Journal piece titled “Competition Is for Losers.” Because nothing says “I believe in meritocracy” quite like advocating that companies should avoid competition entirely! How wonderfully consistent!

This perspective perfectly encapsulates his approach to power: not as something to be shared or distributed, but concentrated and hoarded like a dragon sitting on a pile of gold. How enlightened and forward-thinking. It’s almost as if he believes that some

people are just inherently better than others, even though he operates on a deeply held belief that he is less than. It is a paradox that makes for a dangerous man.

The Revenge of the Nerds: Silicon Valley Edition

Thiel is hardly alone in this pattern of psychological compensation. He belongs to a cohort of tech billionaires — Zuckerberg, Musk, Bezos — who seem determined to remake the world as revenge for playground traumas. These men, almost universally, were the kids who had the snot kicked out of them in school, the ones picked last for every team, the ones who ate lunch alone.

Their revenge has taken the form of amassing unprecedented wealth and power, allowing them to dictate terms to the society that once rejected them. “Look at me now, bullies! I OWN THE PLAYGROUND!”

The Final Boss of Cancel Culture

The Gawker lawsuit demonstrated how billionaires can effectively silence critical media through legal warfare. By funding Hogan’s lawsuit, Thiel didn’t just get revenge; he sent a chilling message to any outlet that might consider reporting on powerful figures in ways they disapprove of. For someone who rails against “cancel culture,” Thiel sure seems comfortable with canceling an entire media outlet because they stated a fact about him. An issue that his money can’t fix. He lives in a bent reality where the “broken” part he sees in himself is not broken at all. It is an epic tragedy of mythic proportions. Imagine the exhaustion of looking for a solution to a problem where none exists.

Similarly, Musk’s acquisition of Twitter (now X) allows him to control a global communications platform, while Bezos owns The Washington Post and Zuckerberg’s Meta shapes the information diet of billions. This, it seems, is the only way to make the playground safe.

The Kids Who Weren’t All Right

These men represent a troubling archetype: formerly powerless figures who, having acquired immense wealth, project their inner conflicts onto society at large. Using their resources to reshape the world according to their distorted values, they create a landscape where their personal pathologies become our collective reality.

Until society develops more effective safeguards against the outsized influence of billionaires like Thiel and his cohort of insecure man-children, we risk having our media landscape, political institutions, and technological future shaped by individuals whose motivations spring not from a vision of the common good, but from the darkest corners of personal insecurity and revenge fantasies against a world that once rejected them.

But hey, at least they have all that money to comfort them while they sleep at night in their fortresses of solitude, dreaming of a world where nobody can ever again point out that they're just scared little boys playing dress-up as powerful men.

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