

# What the Church Needs to Know about Hate Groups Why here? Why now? Why us?

Ann Van Dyke Community Responders Network



Whom shall I send and who will go for me?



#### What is hate?

"Hate is the inability to tolerate the presence of difference in others."

#### What is prejudice?

"Prejudice is the belief that we know a great deal about someone whom we do not know."



## Characteristics of Organized Supremacist Groups

- Loosely structured local groups to highly structured international groups.
- Leaders often project a mainstream image.
- Skinheads, although usually not official members, often are loosely affiliated with these groups.
- Focus on issues of concern to Middle America as a cover for their aims.
- Examples include KKK and Neo Nazis.
- Right to organize protected under the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment.



## First Amendment Issues

"Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press . . . ."



The Government can regulate some of the conduct associated with speech, but cannot base its regulations on the content or viewpoint expressed.



### First Amendment Issues

In many circumstances, we cannot outlaw hate speech in the United States.

What then do we do?



#### The Goal:

To understand that extremist groups are a <a href="SYMPTOM">SYMPTOM</a> of a larger problem and to understand not just what is happening, but why.



- Changing demographics
- Conflicts over immigration
- Struggling economy/loss of jobs
- Backlash against the first Black President
- White supremacist rhetoric during the 2016 presidential campaign



# The List of Human Difference that Hate Groups Cannot Tolerate:

Jewish Community

All immigrants

**African Americans** 

LGBT community

**Muslims** 

People with handicaps/disabilities

All people of color

Strong women

All religious minorities

People in "mixed" relationships



"All hate groups have beliefs or practices that attack or malign an entire class of people, typically for their immutable characteristics."

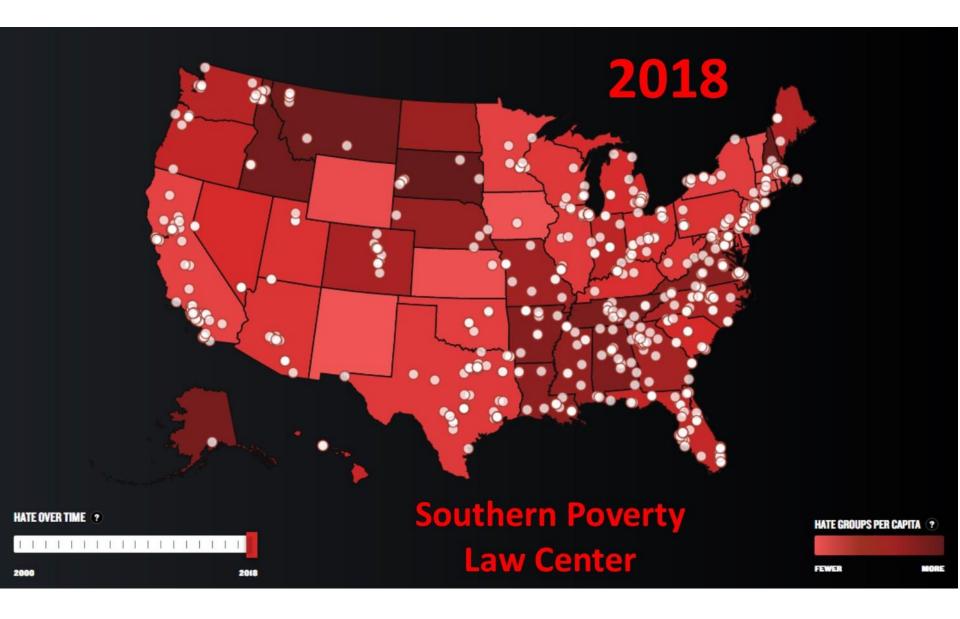
-Source: Southern Poverty Law Center



## **Triggering Conditions**

- Fear of changing population (insiders v. outsiders).
- Struggling economy (existing problems).
- Disconnection (alienated youth).
- Failure of Community Leaders to Address:
  - Positives
  - Negatives
- Silence.

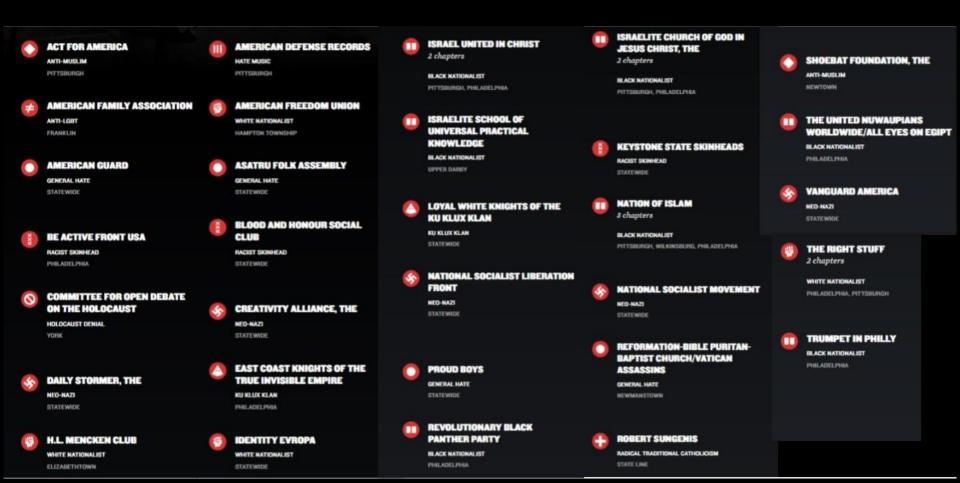
#### **Obvious Racism Hate Graffiti** Lynching **Racist Fliers Hate Group** Rallies **Burning Crosses** America's Iceberg The Silence of Good People **Confederate Flags Racist Jokes** Housing Discrimination Believing That We Are "Post-Racial" Not Challenging **Assuming That** "I'm Colorblind" **Good Intentions Are Enough** ver Owned Denial of White Privilege Slave" Below-the-water-line racism



## **ACTIVE HATE GROUPS**



## **Pennsylvania Groups**



## **ACTIVE HATE GROUPS**



# **ACTIVE HATE GROUPS**



## **Ohio Groups**

ACT FOR AMERICA
3 chapters

ANTI-MUSLIM
COLUMBUS, CINCINNATI,
CLEVELAND

AMERICAN GUARD

GENERAL HATE STATEWIDE

BLACK NATIONALIST

CLEVELAND

ARYAN NATIONS
SADISTIC SOULS MC

NEO-NAZI STATEWIDE

ASATRU FOLK
ASSEMBLY

GENERAL HATE STATEWIDE

ATOMWAFFEN DIVISION

NEO-NAZI STATEWIDE BIBLE BELIEVERS FELLOWSHIP

ANTI-LGBT WORTHINGTON

BLOOD AND HONOUR SOCIAL CLUB

RACIST SKINHEAD STATEWIDE

CHRIST OR CHAOS
RADICAL TRADITIONAL
CATHOLICISM

WEST CHESTER

CREATIVITY
MOVEMENT, THE

NEO-NAZI STATEWIDE

M DAILY STORMER, THE

NEO-NAZI WORTHINGTON

EAST COAST KNIGHTS
OF THE TRUE INVISIBLE
EMPIRE

KU KLUX KLAN COLUMBUS FAITH2ACTION

NORTH ROYALTON

FIRM 22

RACIST SKINHEAD STATEWIDE

GREAT MILLSTONE

BLACK NATIONALIST CLEVELAND

HYPGNOSIS RECORDS

HATE MUSIC STATEWIDE

(B) IDENTITY EVROPA

WHITE NATIONALIST STATEWIDE

ISRAEL UNITED IN CHRIST

BLACK NATIONALIST HEATH

ISRAELITE SCHOOL OF UNIVERSAL PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE

BLACK NATIONALIST CINCINNATI MISSION: AMERICA

ANTI-LGBT COLUMBUS

NATION OF ISLAM

5 chapters

**BLACK NATIONALIST** 

TOLEDO, CLEVELAND, AKRON, DAYTON, DAYTON

MATIONALIST INITIATIVE

NEO-NAZI SOUTH VIENNA

INEW BLACK
LIBERATION MILITIA

BLACK NATIONALIST

PASS THE SALT MINISTRIES

STATEWIDE

ANTI-LGBT HEBRON

RESTORED ASSEMBLY
OF ELOHIM

CHRISTIAN IDENTITY
BAINBRIDGE

#

THE RIGHT STUFF

2 chapters

WHITE NATIONALIST

CLEVELAND, COLUMBUS

THE UNITED
NUWAUPIANS
WORLDWIDE/ALL EYES
ON EGIPT

BLACK NATIONALIST CLEVELAND

TRADITIONALIST WORKER PARTY

NEO-NAZI STATEWIDE

VANDAL BROTHERS, LLC

WHITE NATIONALIST

BATH



#### Ku Klux Klan





- Oldest continuous supremacist group in the nation
- Use religion as a justification for hate
- Groups are fragmented

Traditionalist American Knights of the Ku Klux Klan



#### - Neighborhood Watch -

You can sleep tonight knowing the Klan is awake!

Are there troubles in your neighborhood? Contact the Traditionalist American Knights of the Ku Klux Klan today!

24-hour Klanline



#### National Socialist Movement



- Largest and most active Neo Nazi hate group in the United States
- 50+ chapters located throughout the US
- Creation of "Viking Youth Corps"



NEO-NAZI RALLY DRAWS PROTESTERS
HARRISBURG



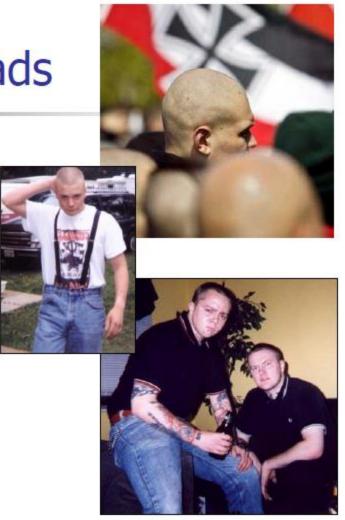
## **Aryan Nationalist Alliance**

- Formed in spring of 2016
- Seeks to be an umbrella group.
- Coordinates rallies.
- Goal: "To create an ethno state where each racial group could govern themselves."



#### Racist Skinheads

- Racist version of skinhead subculture
- Youth arm of adult supremacist groups
- Known for violence,
   White power rock &
   effective recruitment
   of alienated youth





## Veneration of Nazi Germany





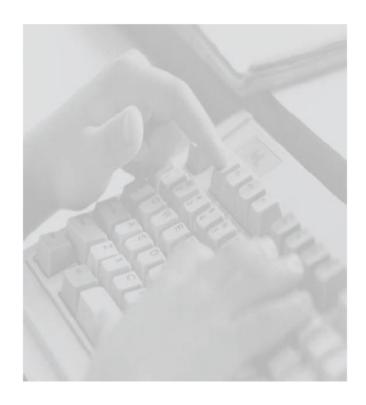






# Supremacist Groups and the Internet

- Simplified the exchange of information for:
  - Recruitment
  - Advertisement of Upcoming Events
  - Goals/values
- Creation of "Arm Chair Racists"
- Discussion Groups





# Stormfront.org



In 1995, this was the ONLY Hate Site on the World Wide Web.



Today, there are more than 670 Hate Sites . . . If we include chatrooms and bulletin boards, there are over 2,500 portals to hate on the World Wide Web.



# DailyStormer.com

- Bills itself as "America's #1 Most-Trusted Republican News Source."
- Headlines include: "All Intelligent People in History Disliked Jews" and "Adolf Hitler: The Most Lied About Man of All Time."
- Founded in 2013, readers now spend more time on the site than they do on Stormfront.
- On a slow day, more than 10,000 log on.
- Daily Stormer also reaches a younger and wealthier demographic.

EXTREMIST GROUPS OFFER YOUTH:	WE CAN OFFER YOUTH:
Sense of Identity/Belonging-	
Value ————	-
Purpose	•
Excitement————	<b></b>
Alignment with Strong Leaders	•
Empowerment————	<b></b>
Answers	-
Comradery	•
Protection —	•
Justification for Violence	Justification for Non-Violence



# **FBI Offender Typology**

- Thrill Seekers
- Reactive Offenders
- Mission Offenders

"My experience in the extreme right was that of being around my own, the untreated mentally ill. PTSD mostly from their childhoods, rampant sexual abuse from childhood, manic depression, drug abuse, alcoholism, paranoid schizophrenia, clinical depression, you name the mental illness and it is there and generally untreated. Those who have found at least short term means of functioning, generally mixtures of drugs and alcohol and/or an absolute dedication to belief structure, tend to find themselves pretty quickly advanced." -David Edwards, Jr.



### **Defectors Tell Us...**

- Floyd: Hate will turn on you.
- Frank: Hate comes from hurt.
- Dana: Hate and violence make a miserable life.
- David: There is no love in the hate movement.
- Angela: I'm willing to put myself at risk to make amends.



## Response

#### The best response is prevention

Getting past, "If we ignore this, it will go away."

When they are in front of my church:

- -They come to intimidate. Do not cooperate. (Faking it is OK)
- -Take their flyer and give them a bulletin. (Send flyer to CRN!)
- -Inform the police



## Response Part II

When they hold a rally, distribute recruitment literature or when there are anonymous acts of hatred in your area.

- -Speak!
- -Unite at another location
- -Reach out to those who were targeted
- -Turn to "A Community Response Guide" from TeachingTolerance.org
  - -What about counter protests?



# PREVENTION IS ANOTHER NAME FOR BUILDING COMMUNITY

- -Look for those triggering conditions
- -Establish ongoing partner congregations
- -Tend to your alienated youth
- -Know thyself
- -Practice "Not around me."
- -Go out of your way to get to know people who appear to be different
- -Affirm equality and nonviolence as a spiritual matter



### Websites – Information on Extremist Groups

- www.splcenter.org Southern Poverty Law Center
- www.adl.org Anti-Defamation League
- www.wiesenthal.com Simon Wiesenthal Center
- www.lifeafterhate.org Life after Hate
- www.teachingtolerance.org Teaching
   Tolerance