

# The State of Hate in PA...and the Good News

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# PA Human Relations Act/Commission enforces the State's Anit-Discrimination Law

- Employment
- Housing
- Lending Practices
- Education
- Public Accommodations

## Protected Classes:

- Race/Color
- Religion
- National Origin
- Ancestry
- Gender
- Age (over 40)
- Handicap/Disability

# PA's "hate crimes" law(s)

- Ethnic Intimidation – Statute in the PA Crimes Code  
Applies when certain underlying crimes (like assault, harassment, criminal mischief) are motivated by hatred towards the victims':
  - Race, Color, Religion or National Origin
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- Institutional Vandalism – Applies when certain institutions are vandalized regardless of the motivation
- Places of worship, cemeteries, memorials to the dead, schools, government facilities (and their property, grounds, personal belongings in them)

Who else can enforce state civil rights law:

PA Office of Attorney General – Civil Rights  
Enforcement Section

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**Who else to turn to:**

ACLU.org



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

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

# “Hate 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, Aryan Nations and various Neo Nazis organizations +...
- Right to organize & speak protected under the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment.



# First Amendment Issues

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**“Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press . . . .”**

**HOWEVER**

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



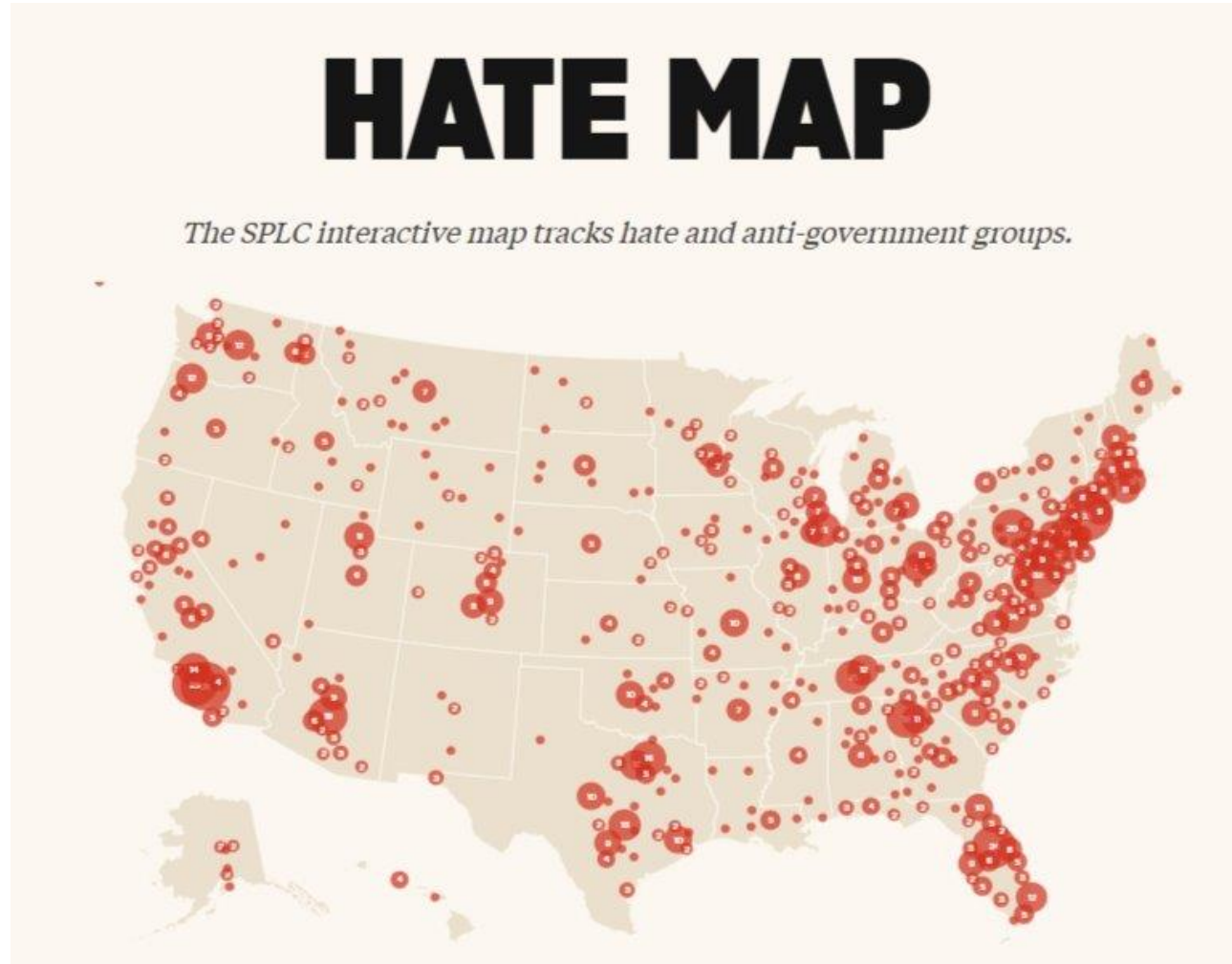
# **First Amendment Issues**

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

**What then do we do?**

# Southern Poverty Law Center's "Hate Map"



# Extremist Groups Listed in PA

- Anti-government/Sovereign Citizen
- Christian Supremacists
- Anti-LGBT
- White Nationalists
- Militia
- Male Supremacists
- Moms for Liberty

**Traditionalist American Knights of the Ku Klux Klan**



**- Neighborhood Watch -**

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**You can sleep tonight knowing the Klan is awake!**

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

24-hour Klanline [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



## The Goal:

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To understand that  
extremist groups are a  
SYMPTOM  
of a larger problem  
and to understand not just what  
is happening, but why.



# Triggering Conditions

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- 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  
Burning Crosses    Rallies

# America's Iceberg

The Silence of Good People

Racist Jokes  
Hiring Discrimination  
"I'm Colorblind"  
Anti-Immigration Policies/Practices  
Racial Profiling  
Euro-Centric Curriculum  
Housing Discrimination  
Believing That We Are "Post-Racial"  
Assuming That Good Intentions Are Enough  
Confederate Flags  
Not Challenging Racist Jokes  
English-Only Initiatives  
Mass Incarceration  
Not Believing Experiences of POC  
"I Never Owned A Slave"  
Denial of White Privilege  
Racist Mascots  
Bootstrap Theory

Below-the-water-line racism

# Racist Skinheads

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



EXTREMIST GROUPS  
OFFER YOUTH:

Sense of Identity/Belonging

Value

Purpose

Excitement

Alignment with Strong  
Leaders

Empowerment

Answers

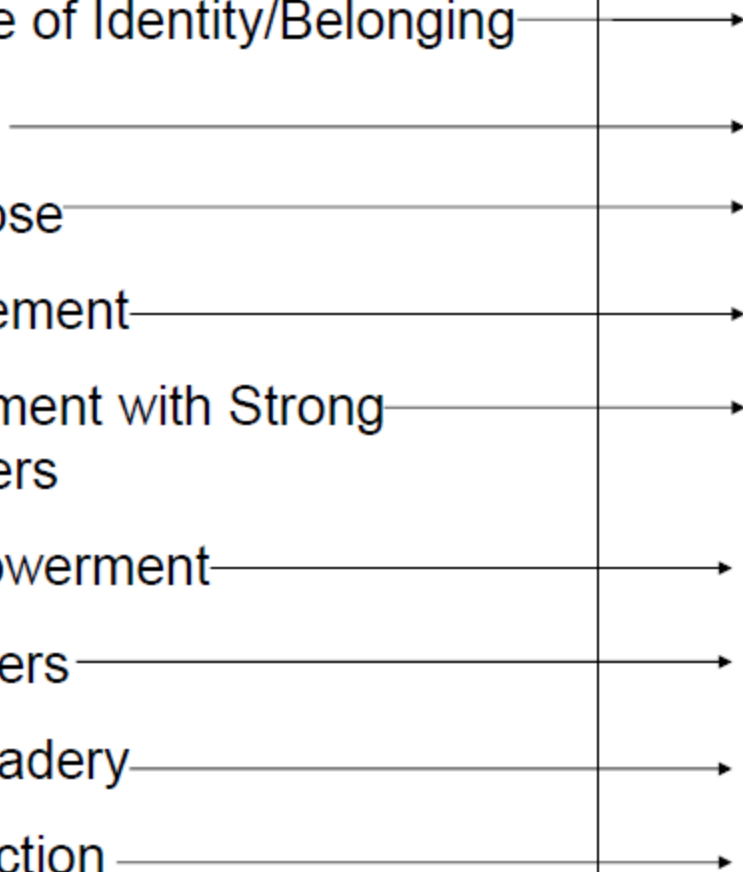
Comradery

Protection

Justification for Violence

WE CAN OFFER YOUTH:

Justification for Non-Violence





# FBI Offender Typology

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- Thrill Seekers
- Reactive Offenders
- Mission Offenders



# Defectors Tell Us...

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- **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.

“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.

# Christian Nationalism at a sad glance:

- God loves us best – White, born here, culturally conservative, straight men, given dominion/control. (No uppity women allowed.)
- Fear of/hostility towards human difference
- Our birthright is the biggest piece of the pie, and the pie isn't big enough for everyone.
- Constitution's Separation Clause is in trouble – God holds a special, covenantal relationship with the US gov't
- Crusader theology calls for violence in order to “save” humankind for the second coming.

Helpful: [The Bible According to Christian Nationalists](#) by Brian Kaylor



## **PREVENTION IS ANOTHER NAME FOR BUILDING COMMUNITY**

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- 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

## Prevention and Response Resources

-Southern Poverty Law Center:  
[splcenter.org](http://splcenter.org)

-American Civil Liberties Union: [aclu.org](http://aclu.org)

-Learning for Justice:

[splcenter.org/learning-for-justice](http://splcenter.org/learning-for-justice)

-Life After Hate: [lifeafterhate.org](http://lifeafterhate.org)

-The ADL: [adl.org](http://adl.org)

-PA Human Relations Commission:  
[phrc.org](http://phrc.org)



