“The Virus of Hate”
Dr. Erroll G. Southers
Director, Safe Communities Institute
sci.usc.edu
Thank you!
Our Mission

• To reach people with a new understanding of public safety that hinges on education, awareness and research, and community engagement;

• To advance violence prevention strategies, policies and research; and

• To contribute to global security in a time of increasing threats
“HVE describes a terrorist act within the context of ideologically motivated violence or plots, perpetrated within the United States or abroad by American citizens, residents or visitors, who have embraced their legitimizing ideology largely within the United States”
Race, Religion, Issue-Oriented Extremist Motivation

** WHEN I SEE A CHINESE BOY COUGHING **

ME: KILL THE VIRUS

** Zionism **

The deadliest virus on Earth

![Protest](image_url)
“Without data you’re just another person with an opinion.”

- W. Edwards Deming, Data Scientist
Fueling the issue

U.S. is projected to be a majority-minority country by 2045
• NY Field Office: white supremacists and neo-Nazis encouraging members to spread coronavirus to law enforcement and Jewish communities.

• 36-year old racial/religious/anti-government extremist plotted to bomb Kansas City medical center

• Analysis warning of increase in hate crimes against Asian Americans
Words matter: “Thanks China” sign during Coronavirus outbreak
March 19, 2020

The Fourteen Words:
“We must secure the existence of our people and a future for White children.”

Union Jack Liquor
Louisville
STOP AAPI HATE online reporting center (March 19)

• Reports of verbal harassment, shunning & physical assault
• First week: 670 complaints (total)
• Second week: more than 1,100 complaints (total)
• 32% of the incidents occurred in California
• More incidents have taken place in grocery stores, pharmacies and big box retail
Anti-Semitic Incidents: U.S.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Total Incidents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Charlottesville</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Charlottesville</td>
<td>221</td>
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There was an increase in the rate of change by 182% post Charlottesville.

Before Charlottesville (7/1-8/10) there was an average of 2.36 incidents a day but after it rose to 4.3 incidents a day.
ADL:
- 25% of respondents stated they have done at least one thing to avoid anti-Semitism
- 12% avoid wearing markers of Judaism
- 50% feared being attacked in public by wearing Jewish religious symbols and/or a violent attack on a synagogue
- 63% of American Jews say they are less safe than a decade ago

American Jewish Committee:
- 20% of Jews experienced verbal anti-Semitism
Who is behind “Zoombombing?”

- March 24, 2020 – Mass. Jewish group webinar
- Self-described “white nationalist hacktivist”
- Claimed credit for fliers to campuses across the country
- Self described “long-time critic of Judaism, black culture, immigration to Western nations & the media’s constant stream of anti-white propaganda.”
- Targets: USC, Arizona State, LAUSD, children’s storytelling session in NJ

Andrew Auernheimer AKA: “weev”
Leveraging Online Capabilities

- **October 27, 2018**: Tree of Life attacker, member of “Gab” – surge in racist and anti-Semitic postings since 2016 presidential election.

- **March 15, 2019**: New Zealand Mosque attacker, part of “8chan” - one of the Internet’s most notorious hateful online communities.

- **April 27, 2019**: Chabad Congregation attacker, posted white supremacist letter/manifesto to document sharing site “Pastebin,” the morning of the attack.
Anti-government Patriot Groups from 1996 - 2017

USC Price
School of Public Policy
“Stay-at-Home” Protests
“ACTION ITEM!”

- Interactive & customizable map
- Developed by the ADL Center on Extremism
- Details extremist & anti-Semitic incidents across the nation.
“ACTION ITEM!”

SPLC
HATEWATCH
"ACTION ITEM!"

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!
“ACTION ITEM!”

- “CombatHate”
- Museum of Tolerance
- Resources to interpret symbols & language of hate.
- Lexicon of Hate and Digital Terrorism and Hate CD also available
“REDIRECT METHOD”

- ADL, Moonshot CVE & Gen Next Foundation partnership
- Offers non-violent alternatives to extremist searchers
- Redirects people searching for violent Jihadist or far-right content toward YouTube videos that debunk hate groups recruiting efforts
- Estimated 320,906 unique users clicked on the Redirect Method’s pilot ads.

SOURCE: Moonshot CVE; the Anti-Defamation League; the Gen Next Foundation
GRAPHIC: George Petrov/USA TODAY
Lessons Learned

• All threats and threateners are not equal.
• Most threateners are unlikely to carry out their threat.
• However, all threats must be taken seriously and evaluated.

Notify the proper authorities!
Current listing of news reports, government announcements and other resources covering extremist activities during the pandemic.

It is regularly updated to include most recent instances of HVE.

Go to: sci.usc.edu
We should unapologetically challenge everything violent extremists stand for!

Thank you!

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