





# BLOOD & SOIL

By Anthony Chavez

In Charlottesville, people amassed holding torches shouting the phrase, 'Blood and Soil'. The media announced it as one of the worst displays of white nationalism since the second iteration of the KKK, where people marched down streets in promotion of their values. White supremacy has been the main accusation not only in these recent incidents, but through the last electoral cycle as well.

White supremacy is rooted in the later part of the Age of Enlightenment. Along with genetic and social Darwinism, white supremacy's main tenant is that superiority leads to domination and that tends to be a political ideology that perpetrates white dominated systems. It is a general opposition of people of color and most religions, with a special place for anti-semitism.

In the United States, from traditional slavery to Jim Crow laws, disenfranchisement of other races was prominent. After the civil rights movement from 1954-1968 all citizens were considered truly equal. While the U.S. has been one of the more multicultural nations in the world, its example as a melting pot tends to be an exception to most cultural conflicts.

"I definitely think that now there's a voting block of particularly young white men that feel like the world is against them and they need to react," said Ben Whittington, a sophomore in political science and the President of Turning Point USA.



Emily Blobaum/Iowa State Daily



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South Africa instituted apartheid after their 1948 elections, putting people into 4 classifications. In 1970, they abolished non-white representation and citizenship. Apartheid was abolished in 1991, but racial tension still exist.

Anja Schepp, a junior in civil engineering, was born in South Africa. She explained how her dad reacted to the 2016 election.

"He saw so many parallels between our current president and the government we had left and the environment we moved away from."





Emily Blobaum/Iowa State Daily



Hannah Olson/Iowa State Daily



Emily Blobaum/Iowa State Daily

Rhodesia declared its independence from the U.K. before their intervention into their government. After the Rhodesian Bush War, a long and drawn out racial conflict between the government and African Nationalists, biracial representation was instituted in 1978. While that didn't end the violence, Rhodesia became the nation of Zimbabwe in 1980.

White supremacists have used these examples to promote their supremacist views. White supremacy literature has made a massive resurfacing over the past 20 years. Most recruitment prioritizes grassroots efforts because of their socially outcast status, but it's easier for them to recruit online. It allows for open and anonymous expression of unpopular opinions, and it becomes easy to recruit people who were down on their luck going into the election season.

The resurfacing of white supremacy has even hit Iowa State University's campus. Posters were made and distributed on campus, igniting rage in students.

More than anything, there is the promotion of two particular books, *The Turner Diaries* and *Camp of Saints*. The first novel tells a story of the government taking away the second amendment, followed by the rise of a white nationalist group that want to reshape the world in a United States that has made rape and other crimes legal because they are "racist". The book itself concludes in an all-out race war. The second book discusses the fall of Europe through mass immigration from Africa and the Middle East, as well as European governments promoting immigration even while crime skyrockets. These books show the similarities of white nationalist groups arguing mirror current events.

Fuel for the fire includes nonchalant use of the word racist. What used to be a specific term for an egregious offence has now deteriorated due to misuse and counterproductive labeling. While it is quite obvious to the majority of America that Donald Trump and the majority of his conservative followers are not racist, labelling them so has led to decreased discussion on real racism, and the ability for actual racists to promote their ideology to an assaulted populace.

Multiple reports from Africa have claimed that white genocide is prevalent. In South Africa, the last government report of farm attacks in 2001 showed that 61.6% of farm attacks were on white farmers, and in January 2015 AfriForum stated the murder rate had grown in the past five years. Anja talked about the injustices people faced back when she lived there. She also pointed out how the system almost required people of color to commit crime to survive.

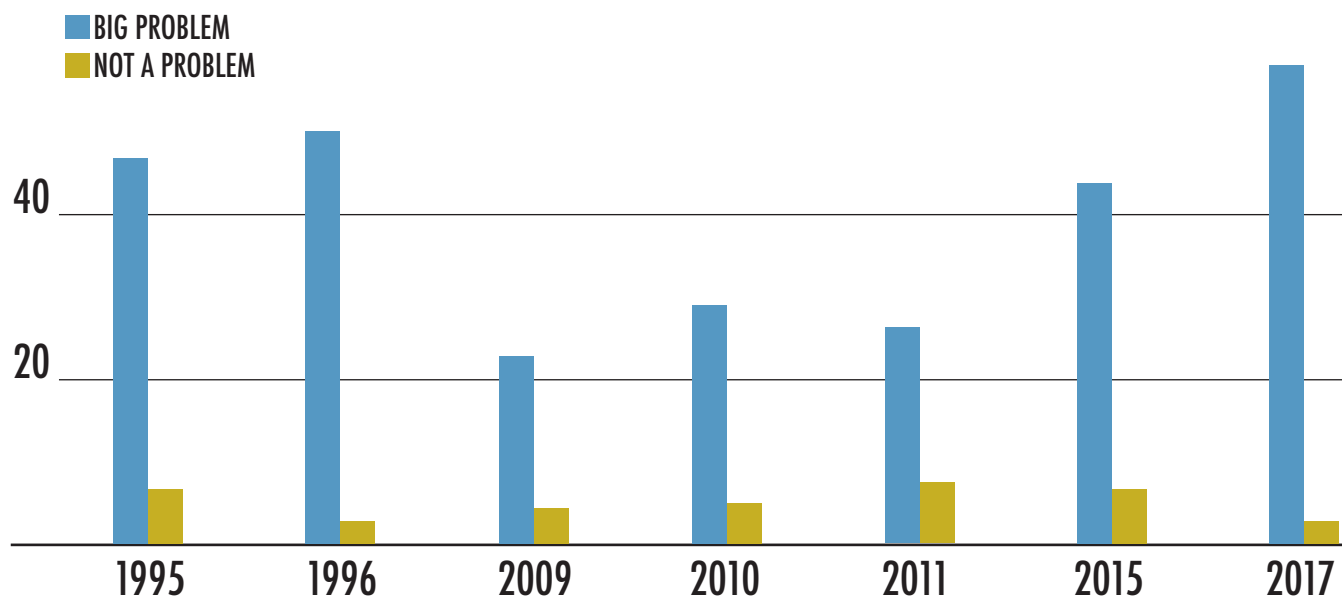
“I would say hi to the table next to me or greet the people at the bathroom, he knew at some point I wouldn’t come back just because I was white and my parents had money to pay ransom”.

Zimbabwe saw the violent seizure of farmland from whites in 2000 as well as the recent verdict that no one who killed a white farmer will be charged with murder during the takeover. Zimbabwe is now in the middle of a food crisis.

White nationalism is still prevalent in many parts of Europe as well. As immigration begins to see the creation of more multi-ethnic states, race-oriented politics are only more likely to rise. In a melting pot country like America, there is plenty of opportunity to bring people together, but even more possibility that we may be split apart.

More than ever, it’s important to remember to stay together, and in the words of Martin Luther King, “We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools.”

## AMERICAN ATTITUDES TOWARD RACISM IN AMERICA: BIG PROBLEM VS. NOT A PROBLEM



SOURCE: PEW RESEARCH CENTER