

SPECIAL REPORT

SPLC Exposed

The Hate Profiteers



Mark Potak



CASH FOR HATE COM



Morris Dees

**\$preading
Propoganda
Lie
Center**

**This Report is a Compilation
of Vast Information from a
wide variety of Web Sites
that Exposes the SPLC and
the people behind the veil and
their motives and hidden
agendas.....**

Seek out the Truth!!!

SPLC - Follow the Money

The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) promotes itself as a dedicated watchdog of hate and racism in America, pitching a perpetual message that the nation is boiling over with intolerance, hate and racism.

The truth, according to many well-researched exposés, is that the incredibly wealthy Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) shamelessly panders to peoples' fears and profiteers from liberal White guilt in order to line its overflowing coffers.

Read more about the SPLC and how they invented a new racism in order to achieve their goals:

SPLC - To make a Pile of Money

The SPLC was founded in 1971 by Morris Dees, an Alabama attorney, with an allegedly questionable personal background.^{23,24} Since its founding, it has raised hundreds of millions of dollars "outing" individuals and organizations they claim to be right-wing hate groups.¹⁰



Morris Dees and I, from the first day of our partnership, shared one overriding purpose: **to make a pile of money**. We were not particular about how we did it; we just wanted to be independently rich. During the eight years we worked together we never wavered in that resolve." - Millard Fuller, Dees' former business partner^{2,9}

While the SPLC touts itself as a civil rights law firm, it allocates only a small proportion of its resources to actual legal work. In the year ended October 31, 2005, its IRS Form 990 declared that of its \$28.9 million in expenses, only \$4.5 million were spent on "providing legal services for victims of civil rights injustice and hate crimes," and that \$837,907 was spent on "specific assistance to individuals" in the form of "litigation services". Yet during the same period, the SPLC paid Morris Dees salary and pension plan contributions that amounted to \$297,559.⁵

[Referring to Morris Dees] 'You are a fraud and a con man,' Stephen Bright, director of the Southern Center for Human Rights, which actually takes on dozens of death-penalty appeals for poor blacks every year, once told him. 'You spend so much, accomplish so little, and promote yourself so shamelessly.'"⁴

The entire SPLC legal staff resigned in protest in 1986, disgusted with Dees's refusal to address issues important to poor minorities - such as homelessness, voter registration and affirmative action - issues which appeared to be much less marketable to affluent benefactors than fighting the KKK. Several years later, attorney Gloria Browne resigned, stating to reporters that the SPLC's programs were designed to cash in on "black pain and white guilt."²

One particular lawsuit illustrates the calculated profiteering behavior of the SPLC:

...Morris Dees... won a judgment for a black woman whose son was killed by Klansmen. She received \$51,875 as settlement. Mr. Dees, according to an investigation by the Montgomery Advertiser, pulled in \$9 million from fund-raising solicitation letters that featured a particularly gruesome photograph of the

grieving mother's son. Mr. Dees, who pays himself an annual salary of \$275,000, offered the grieving mother none of the \$9 million her son's death made for him."⁴

As pointed out by one author, the SPLC indeed has struck gold by capitalizing on the perceived threat of racism in America:

No one has been more assiduous in inflating the profile of such [hate] groups than the center's millionaire huckster Morris Dees, who in 1999 began a begging letter, 'Dear Friend, The danger presented by the Klan is greater now than at any time in the past ten years.'"¹²

Hate sells; poor people don't, which is why readers who go to the center's website will find only a handful of cases on such unprofitable causes as fair housing, worker safety or healthcare, many of those from the 1970s and '80s. Why the organization continues to keep 'Poverty' (or even 'Law') in its name can be ascribed only to nostalgia or a cynical understanding of the marketing possibilities in class guilt.¹²

SPLC - Inventing New Racism

Unfortunately for the SPLC, the size of the Klan has dwindled to practically nothing, leaving a vacuous nemesis with which to do fundraising.

The Ku Klux Klan, the SPLC's most lucrative nemesis, has shrunk from 4 million members in the 1920s to an estimated 2,000 today, as many as 10 percent of whom are thought to be FBI informants. But news of a declining Klan does not make for inclining donations to Morris Dees and Co., which is why the SPLC honors nearly every nationally covered 'hate crime' with direct-mail alarms full of nightmarish invocations of 'armed Klan paramilitary forces' and 'violent neo-Nazi extremists,' and why Dees does legal battle almost exclusively with mediagenic villains - like Idaho's arch-Aryan Richard Butler - eager to show off their swastikas for the news cameras."²

Campaigns of smear and guilt by association have always proven lucrative in terms of fundraising. Realizing the decline in the size of their most lucrative opponent, the SPLC quickly concocted a new one. Immediately, a new racism was to be found - racists, nativists, xenophobes and hate-mongers were suddenly to be discovered lurking under every rock. Particularly attractive targets were immigration reformists who wanted American laws enforced and illegal immigration halted. A new McCarthyism was born.

...Conservative writers have observed that to be called a 'racist' today is akin to the label 'Communist' in the 1950s. Indeed, the SPLC's tactics are hard to distinguish from those of the late Senator Joseph McCarthy, who was also a fan of guilt by association."⁵

The SPLC appears to have crawled in bed with the subversive La Raza open borders network to attack those who support United States immigration laws. By sharing a common opponent, both can profit from joining forces on the attack against good Americans who are concerned about the future.

Dees and his hate-seekers scour the landscape for hate like the arms manufacturers inventing new threats and for the same reason: It's their staple."¹

What the Southern Poverty Law Center - the Southern Poverty Law Center, for the viewers who may not

know it, is an organization that specializes in finding offenses that they can raise money around."
- Wesley Pruden, Editor in Chief, Washington Times¹⁸

In recent years, the SPLC has recently provided legal representation for illegal aliens. In 2005, it represented two El Salvadorans in a lawsuit against the group Ranch Rescue, which was charged with using force to prevent the aliens from illegally sneaking across the border into the United States.^{13,16} In 2009, the SPLC sponsored a lawsuit against southern Arizona rancher and former Deputy Sheriff Roger Barnett for apprehending and reporting illegal aliens on his ranch property.^{19,20}

The SPLC has engaged in attacking immigration reform/reduction organizations such as the [Federation for American Immigration Reform](#), [NumbersUSA.com](#), [The Social Contract](#), the [Center for Immigration Studies](#), and their directors. In order to personalize the issue and emotionally charge their fundraising efforts, the SPLC has undertaken to [attack John Tanton as a nativist white supremacist and racist](#). Leading [environmentalist John Tanton, M.D.](#) is founder of a significant number of environmental and immigration reform organizations.

In the following video, Wayne Lutton, Editor of [The Social Contract](#), discusses the [SPLC's attacks on The Social Contract](#).



SPLC - Multi-Million Dollar Headquarters

Alabama

SPLC - Fiscal Irresponsibility

DiscoverTheNetworks.org quite pointedly says that:

Dees is known to be the architect of one of SPLC's most effective - and most controversial - tactics: exaggerating the prevalence and capabilities of racist and extremist rightwing groups operating in the United States in order to frighten supporters into donating money to SPLC."⁵

Yet the tax-exempt Southern Poverty Law Center failed an audit by the Arlington-based Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance. The SPLC failed the Alliance's requirement that "a reasonable percentage, at least 50 percent of total income from all sources, should be applied to programs and activities directly related to the purposes for which the organization exists." According to the audit, the SPLC spent 89 percent of its total income on fund raising and administrative costs.³

At the same time, SPLC CEO Joseph Levin made \$231,036 per year, and Morris Dees, SPLC's founder, made an astounding \$280,699.³

A National Journal survey of salaries paid to the top officers of advocacy groups revealed that in 1998, Morris Dees pulled in more than nearly all of the seventy-eight officers surveyed. He pulled in tens of thousands more than directors of groups such as the ACLU, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, and the Children's Defense Fund.²

The SPLC earned \$44 million in 1999 alone: \$27 million resulting from fund-raising, plus \$17 million from stocks and investments. But they spent only \$13 million on civil rights programs, thus making it one of the most profitable charities in the country.²

Charity Navigator gave the Southern Poverty Law Center an overall rating of only one star out of five and a score of only 39 in 2004.¹⁵ The SPLC received a one star rating in 2003 and a two star rating in 2002, although scores have risen recently.

The State of Colorado has placed the SPLC on their Charity Watch list as one of ten charities to watch out for.²¹ The American Institute of Philanthropy's Charity Watch downgraded the SPLC to an overall rating of F in August, 2009, December, 2008, and in 2000 because of the SPLC's extraordinarily high asset levels that were not spent on program services.¹⁵

SPLC - Poverty Palace

In 2005, construction was well under way on the Southern Poverty Law Center's new "Poverty Palace" headquarters in Montgomery, Alabama.

The SPLC 2003 IRS 990 form alone (available to the public) values "land, buildings, and equipment" at \$24,799,159 (2003 form 990, page 3, Line 57a).¹⁵

Thus, the SPLC - a "non-profit" law center dedicated to eliminating poverty - now has a new six-story \$24 million headquarters. In addition, in October, 2005, the SPLC completed construction on a new two-story \$5.5 million Civil Rights Memorial Center.

Construction in 2005:





The photos below show the buildings nearing completion. In the words of James Howard Kunstler:

Here and there around the rest of the downtown, other weird experiments in American post-war anti-urbanism presented themselves, most notably a 'building' designed to look like a small-scaled Death Star, all black reflective glass, canted concrete and steel walls – which turned out to belong to Morris Dees' renowned Southern Poverty Law Center -- deployed directly across the street from the modest white clapboard-with-green-shutters house once occupied by Jefferson Davis after Richmond fell and the Confederate leadership skeedaddled further south²⁵... You put up a building that looks like the Fuhrer Bunker. It dishonors the site and it even dishonors your mission of social justice. The design of the building makes social justice appear despotic.²⁶"



SPLC - Manipulating the Press

A report issued in March, 2010, titled:

[Immigration and the SPLC: How the Southern Poverty Law Center Invented a Smear, Served La Raza, Manipulated the Press, and Duped its Donors](#)

concludes that:

...The success that Beck and FAIR had in harnessing that grass roots effort, which CIS research helped inform, put them in the cross hairs of the 'Stop the Hate' campaign. The SPLC's campaign of distortion, smear, and character assassination, has become a central part of the campaign.

Conducted in the name of tolerance, civility and good governance, that campaign is itself intolerant, uncivil,

and extremist. In the name of defending democracy, it seeks to stifle one of democracy's most vital functions, the vigorous discussion of important public issues. It demonstrates that the Southern Poverty Law Center has become a peddler of its own brand of self-righteous hate. It is a center of intolerance, marked by a poverty of ideas, a dependence on dishonesty, and a lack of fundamental decency."

After the collapse of the Senate amnesty bill in 2007, the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) joined with the National Council of La Raza [translates as "The Race"] and others to launch a campaign to smear the three largest mainstream groups making a case for tighter enforcement and lower immigration.

At the center of this campaign was the designation of the [Federation for American Immigration Reform](#) as a "hate group" and the spread of that taint to Numbers USA and the Center for Immigration Studies. The announced goal was to pressure journalists and policymakers not to meet or speak with these organizations. Touted as an effort to 'stop the hate,' it was a thinly disguised move to stifle debate.

The [Center for Immigration Studies](#) has released a new report examining the SPLC and its role in this campaign:

['Immigration and the SPLC: How the Southern Poverty Law Center Invented a Smear, Served La Raza, Manipulated the Press, and Duped its Donors,'](#) authored by Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter [Jerry Kammer](#), now a Senior Research Fellow at CIS.

Among the findings:

- While the SPLC presented itself as a public-interest watchdog, it became a propaganda arm of the [National Council of La Raza \(NCLR\)](#). Its designation of [FAIR](#) as a 'hate group' was a publicity stunt in the service of La Raza's 'Stop the Hate Campaign.' That campaign, formally launched in early 2008, is actually an effort to stop the debate on national immigration policy.
- The SPLC had demeaned FAIR for years, without tarring it with the toxic 'hate group' smear. It tried to justify its timing of the hate group announcement – the month before the 'Stop the Hate' campaign was launched – with a drummed-up accusation that FAIR had 'crossed the Rubicon of hate' with a meeting between a single FAIR official and a delegation from a right-wing Belgian political party that was visiting Washington.
- When the SPLC designates an organization as a 'hate group,' it places that organization on a list already occupied by such notorious groups as the Ku Klux Klan and racist skinheads. Yet SPLC director of research Heidi Beirich acknowledged that 'we do not have a formal written criteria' for assigning a label intended to bring disgrace to its recipients. Beirich said this in a radio interview: 'You qualify as a hate group if you treat an entire group of people for their internal characteristics, or their inherent characteristics, or you demean them in some way.' The report observes: 'A definition this flexible and imprecise could summon the SPLC Hate Patrol to the door of nearly any group of football fans, political activists, or Apple computer enthusiasts.' It says such laxity is an invitation for the malice and mischief that are characteristic of the SPLC.
- The SPLC's attacks on Roy Beck, executive director of [NumbersUSA](#), are a classic guilt-by-association smear based on Beck's relationship with [FAIR founder John Tanton](#). Noting that Beck says he is not a racist, the SPLC has acknowledged that 'his website and other writings do not contradict that.' Meanwhile, the SPLC ignores a large body of evidence that demonstrates his

rejection of immigrant-bashing and his search for measured public debate.

- Because of [Tanton's](#) role as the founder of FAIR, and because he was instrumental in the establishment of CIS and NumbersUSA, he can rightly be described as the father of the modern movement to restrict immigration. But the SPLC caricature of [Tanton as a sinister 'Puppeteer'](#) manipulating the groups at will is absurd. Nevertheless, the CIS report also criticizes Tanton, describing his big-tent philosophy that embraces some figures who do not play a constructive role in the immigration debate. It also says that he has 'a tin ear for the sensitivities of immigration.'
- The report shows that the [SPLC has distorted many of Tanton's](#) comments, egregiously taking them out of context to justify their claims of bigotry. It shows that many of Tanton's concerns have also been raised by other serious students of immigration.
- The SPLC is equally reckless in its evaluation of Otis Graham, the most important figure in the founding of CIS and a member (and former chairman) of the [CIS board](#). Graham is a respected scholar with a long history as an advocate of civil rights and environmental protections. In his 2008 memoir he reflected on his efforts to seek reduced immigration, 'without disparaging immigrants or their cultures, reserving condemnation for our own incompetent and shortsighted public officials and ethnocentric lobbyists rather than the immigrants caught in the mighty currents of globalization.'
- The [SPLC/La Raza campaign to delegitimize FAIR, NumbersUSA, and CIS](#) diverts attention from substantial issues about immigration policy. The report cites the work of journalists and scholars who acknowledge that there are sound, respectable reasons to want to restrict immigration, both legal and illegal.
- Laird Wilcox, an archivist of volatile political movements who has studied the SPLC, called it a prime example of the 'anti-racist industry afoot in the United States that has attracted bullying, moralizing fanatics.' He said the [SPLC](#) has benefited from the work of cooperative reporters who have written about the 'hate group' accusation without questioning the SPLC's tactics and claims and without reporting that the SPLC is an ally of the NCLR 'Stop the Hate' campaign.
- Mexican American leaders such as Cesar Chavez and Rep. Henry Gonzalez were sharply critical of the political uses of the term 'la raza.' Chavez warned, 'Some people don't look at it as racism, but when you say la raza, you are saying an anti-gringo thing, and our fear is that it won't stop there.'
- The SPLC has parroted the NCLR line in denying the complexity of the effects of immigration. It has also helped NCLR gloss over the historically and culturally charged meaning of '[La Raza](#).' The term comes from Mexican nationalist and intellectual Jose Vasconcelos, who wrote of the special qualities of 'la raza cosmica.' In the 1960s the term was adopted by Mexican-American nationalism as it adopted a radical posture of resistance.
- The report acknowledges that the SPLC and founder Morris Dees have done admirable work in combating the Ku Klux Klan. But it cites journalistic exposés that show how the [SPLC](#) has milked

that early success to raise tens of millions of dollars. In a 1994 editorial, the Montgomery Advertiser wrote that the SPLC 'focuses on the anti-Klan theme not because the Klan is a major threat, but because it plays well with liberal donors.'

- The attack on FAIR, NumbersUSA, and CIS is consistent with [Morris Dees' long history of sensationalism and dishonesty](#) in arousing fear among his liberal donors. As Dees said in 1988, 'The people who will give big money through the mail are either on the Far Right or the Far Left. They're true believers. You can't fire them up with a middle-of-the-road cause or candidate. You've got to have someone who can arouse people.'
- The report calls the SPLC '[the cult of Morris Dees.](#)' It cites a fundraising appeal from December 15, 2009 – Dees' 73rd birthday. It says the e-mailed appeal featured 'the SPLC's trademark concoction of joyful celebration, somber sentiment, cold commerce, and cult-like glorification of Dees.'
- The report concludes that the SPLC smear campaign, ...demonstrates that the Southern Poverty Law Center has become a peddler of its own brand of self-righteous hate. It is a center of intolerance, marked by a poverty of ideas, a dependence on dishonesty, and a lack of fundamental decency."

SPLC - Conclusion

While some contend that the Southern Poverty Law Center fights poverty and racism in America, many contend that it is engaged in shameless profiteering at the expense of those it is purportedly trying to protect.

The hate 'groups' the SPLC relentlessly raises money to fight are often the figment of SPLC's direct mail department's overheated imagination, and unrelated crimes are attributed to these groups because, like sex and fear, hate sells."¹⁰

He's [Dees] not immoral, he's amoral... I hesitate to say the words that I want to say because they sound so far out, but I really think the Center - in so far as Morris embodies the Center - is evil... They pretend to be on the side that has moral underpinnings (but) they do damage by their dishonesty."

- Dan Morse, "Marketing the Klan," Montgomery Advertiser, November 1994.¹⁷

The reporting of Silverstein and the assessment of SPLC by the American Institute of Philanthropy, however, should lead responsible news media to carefully scrutinize the assertions and accusations made by SPLC. It does suggest that the record, motives, and tactics of the organization leveling the charges should not be taken at face value."¹⁰

SPLC - Articles

Below are articles that provide insight into the Southern Poverty Law Center.

King of the Hate Business

Article by Alexander Cockburn, Creators.com, 2009.

The sun is dipping low in the evening sky over the Republican Party as the Other Leading Brand. A mere 21 percent of the adult population identify themselves as Republicans...

It's also horrible news for people who raise money and make money selling the notion there's a right resurgence out there in the hinterland with massed legions of haters, ready to march down Main Street draped in Klan robes, a copy of "Mein Kampf" tucked under one arm and a Bible under the other.

What is the arch-salesman of hate mongering, Mr. Morris Dees of the Southern Poverty Law Center, going to do now? Ever since 1971, U.S. Postal Service mailbags have bulged with his fundraising letters, scaring dollars out of the pockets of trembling liberals aghast at his lurid depictions of hate-sodden America, in dire need of legal confrontation by the SPLC. Nine years ago, Ken Silverstein wrote a devastating commentary on Dees and the SPLC in Harper's, dissecting a typical swatch of Dees' solicitations. At that time, as Silverstein pointed out, the SPLC was "the wealthiest civil rights group in America," with \$120 million in assets...

But where are the haters? That hardy old standby, the KKK, despite the SPLC's predictable howls about an uptick in its chapters, is a moth-eaten and depleted troupe, at least 10 percent of them on the government payroll as informants for the FBI..

Dees and his hate-seekers scour the landscape for hate like the arms manufacturers inventing new threats and for the same reason: It's their staple...

You fight theatrically, the Dees way, or you fight substantively, like, for example, the Institute for Southern Studies run by Chris Kromm; or like Stephen Bright, who makes only \$11,000 as president and senior counsel of the Southern Center for Human Rights. The center's director makes less than \$50,000. It has net assets of a bit over \$4.5 million and allocates about \$1.6 million a year for expenses, 77 percent of its annual revenue. Bright's outfit is basically dedicated to two things: prison litigation and the death penalty. He fights the system, case by case. Not the phony targets mostly tilted at by Dees but the effective, bipartisan, functional system of oppression, far more deadly and determined than the SPLC's tin-pot hate groups. Tear up your check to Dees and send it to Bright.

Read the [complete article](#).

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Racial Racketeering for Fun and Profit: The Southern Poverty Law Center Scam

by Thomas J. DiLorenzo

June 22, 2011

published on LewRockwell.com

Read the [original article](#)

"I have great respect for the Southern Poverty Law Center."

~ Congressman Lacy Clay (D-Banksters)

"Instead of monitoring "hate" and "extremism," they [the SPLC] are concerned with tarring patriotic Americans who oppose their left-wing agenda as haters and extremists."

~ Former Congressman Tom Tancredo

"When you get right down to it, all the SPLC does is call people names. It's specialized in a highly developed and ritualized form of defamation . . .

What they do is a kind of bullying and stalking Americans really need to ask themselves if they are willing to tolerate this kind of operation in a free society.

~ Laird Wilcox, author of [The Watchdogs: A Close Look at Anti-Racist "Watchdog" Groups](#)

When Rush Limbaugh attempted to buy into an NFL franchise, the political left spread spectacular lies about him, even falsely and absurdly claiming that he had defended slavery on his radio program. When the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C., sponsored a public debate on immigration policy, the left-wing hate group known as the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) smeared and denounced AEI by claiming that it was "mainstreaming hate" by sponsoring the debate. Of course, Americans have been debating immigration policy ever since the Louisiana Purchase. The SPLC is the leading leftist group that engages in this kind of totalitarian behavior.

When a group of military and police officers organized a group called "Oathkeepers" to simply affirm the oath they had all taken to respect and live by the U.S. Constitution, they were denounced by the SPLC as a "hate group," the exact same language the SPLC uses to describe the KKK. When in 2009 the Department of Homeland Security issued a statement that "Ron Paul for President" bumper stickers "could identify likely threats," their asinine statement came from information supplied to them by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

The League of the South recently published its "Declaration of Cultural Secession" advocating a society that advances what it calls the virtues of "Celtic culture," defined on its Web site as "the permanent things that order and sustain life: faith, family, tradition, community, and private property; loyalty, courage, and honour." The SPLC lied about and defamed the League of the South by spreading the falsehood on its own Web site that by "Celtic culture" the League of the South means, and I quote, "white people." Apparently the SPLC believes that only white people embrace family, tradition, community, private property, courage, etc.

Impugning the motives of one's political opponents, rather than engaging in civilized debate, is an age-old strategy of socialists and other left-wing extremists. In his famous book, *The Law*, Frederic Bastiat wrote of how the socialists of his day (the 1840s) routinely responded to his criticisms of their interventionist economic schemes by accusing him of hating the poor. It is also obviously the *modus operandi* of the Southern Poverty Law Center. The SPLC works hand-in-hand with leftist politicians like Congressman

Lacy Clay (D-Banksters), quoted at the top of this article, who are too cowardly to sponsor a new Sedition Act that would outlaw criticisms of the government altogether, as was done during the Adams administration. Instead, they support in any way they can the operations of the SPLC, which attempts to censor all serious criticism of the extreme leftist political agenda of socialist politicians like Lacy Clay by accusing any and all critics of "hate" or "extremism," the same words that are used to describe genuine hate groups like the KKK, or criminal or terrorist organizations and individuals.

The SPLC's Extreme Left-Wing Agenda

The Spring 2010 issue of an online journal, *The Social Contract*, published seventeen articles about the Southern Poverty Law Center by various scholars and journalists. In an article entitled "SPLC: America's Left-Wing Hate Machine," journalist Jerry Woodruff wrote of how the SPLC's founder, Morris Dees, proudly received the Roger Baldwin Award from the ACLU in 1990. Baldwin was a communist who is quoted by Woodruff as having written such things as "I am for socialism" and "I seek social ownership of property, the abolition of the propertied class Communism is the goal."

Baldwin was a companion of "Red Emma" Goldman, who publicly advocated murder and violence to further a communist revolution in America. She was eventually deported, and Baldwin wrote to her, "you always remain one of the chief inspirations of my life," Woodruff documents.

Morris Dees's cheerful acceptance of an award that is associated with such despicable characters is not an isolated example of the extremist background of the SPLC's staff and directors. SPLC Director James Rucker is also the executive director of an organization called "Color of Change" that was founded by one Van Jones, who was forced to resign from the Obama administration after online videos appeared showing him publicly describing himself as an advocate of "urban Marxism" and "Third World Communism."

Perhaps the most absurd thing the SPLC does is to sponsor a Web site called "Tolerance.org" and to purportedly teach "tolerance" in primary and secondary schools. The man in charge of Tolerance.org is none other than William Ayers, the "Weather Underground" terrorist of the 1960s who admitted to setting off bombs at the U.S. Capitol building in his youth. "I don't regret setting the bombs," Ayers told the *New York Times* on October 4, 2008. "I feel we didn't do enough" bombing, he said.

There appears to be no reason to suspect that Ayers has ever abandoned his revolutionary communistic ideology. Woodruff writes of how Tolerance.org works closely with another far-left group known as the National Association of Multicultural Education (NAME), which raises money by selling bumper stickers, coffee mugs, and other trinkets with sayings imprinted on them by Karl Marx, Castro's henchman/murderer Che Guevara, and Red Emma. NAME is said to have given a standing ovation for its 1997 convention keynote speaker, Ward Churchill, the fake American Indian/plagiarist/resume fraud who was forced to resign from the University of Colorado several years ago after he publicly compared the people killed in the World Trade Center buildings on 9/11 to Nazis. Ah, tolerance.

The SPLC as a "Hate Group" Hedge Fund

Shortly after Barack Obama was elected president a student of mine who was the president of the College Republicans asked me if I thought Obama would play the race card and accuse his legitimate critics (of socialized medicine, for example) of being motivated by racism as a way of censoring debate. My response to the student was that such a thing is considered to be too vulgar and uncivilized for a president to engage in, which is why Obama and the Democratic Party would probably assign the job to one the hundreds of "nonprofit" organizations that are essentially fund-raising and propaganda arms of the Democratic Party. The Southern Poverty Law Center quickly took the lead, since it was already so experienced at race baiting and racial racketeering.

For example, it was the SPLC that spread the false stories during the Clinton administration that there was an "epidemic" of fires at predominantly black churches in the South. Investigative reporters at the *Wall Street Journal* and elsewhere quickly proved the story to be false, which would have destroyed the

credibility of any conservative or libertarian organization, but never an organization or individual on the extreme Left. That of course is where your typical member of the "mainstream" media sits.

In another *Social Contract* article entitled "Cooking the Books on Hate: A Closer Look at the SPLC's Famous List," Steven Menzies quotes the SPLC's chief hatchetwoman/propagandist, one Heidi Beirich, as saying that its list of "hate groups" is determined by vague "journalistic procedures." But when any group is placed on the list there is usually no specific information, no footnotes, and no fact checking is possible. "Mr. X of the YZ organization is said to have once associated with a dubious character with racist feelings" is the kind of statement that is used to "list" a "hate group."

There have never been any left-wing groups on the SPLC's lengthy list of "hate groups." It's "Hate Watch" Web site clearly states that it is supposedly "Keeping an Eye on the Radical Right." There is no mention of the Radical Left, such as the organizations the SPLC's board members all have founded or belong to and associate with. When pressed, the professional political haters at the SPLC will admit, as Mark Potok, author of the laughingly-named "Intelligence Report" did, that his "hate group" list is "all about ideology," as Menzies writes.

In "Fighting Hate for Profit and Power," also in the Spring 2010 issue of *The Social Contract*, John Vinson demonstrates just how dogmatic, hateful, and plain weird Mark Potok of the SPLC is when he quotes him as saying of the critics of an open-border immigration policy (which would include most members of Congress and most Americans) that he will "destroy, completely destroy them" with his practice of "ritual defamation." Ah, tolerance.

The teachers of tolerance at the SPLC responded to the creation of the TEA Party movement by issuing a 2010 "Intelligence Report" entitled "Rage on the Right: The Year in Hate and Extremism" claiming that the TEA Party movement is "shot through with rich veins of radical ideas, conspiracy theories, and racism." Most "mainstream" journalists support everything the SPLC stands for (radical socialism, essentially) and therefore reports such hysterical nonsense as though it were scientific fact.

The SPLC has become an extraordinarily wealthy organization, and its directors and employees profit very handsomely from it. Morris Dees long ago became a millionaire from this shady scam. Apparently, its main source of revenue is fundraising letters that are sent out to the least intelligent/most gullible liberals in America who actually believe the SPLC's wild and unproven smears and respond by sending them a check. In a *Social Contract* article entitled "Bashing for Dollars: The SPLC's Predatory Game," Brenda Walker writes that by 2005 the organization had an endowment of \$174 million. "Very little of the hoard is spent on actual civil right work," writes Walker. "The major products are smear campaigns," which are essentially fundraising campaigns.

In an article entitled "The Church of Morris Dees" in the November 2000 issue of *Harper's* magazine Ken Silverstein noted that the SPLC spends such a high percentage of its revenue on salaries, perks, and fundraising that "The American Institute of Philanthropy gives the Center one of the worst rankings of any [nonprofit] group it monitors." That, I suppose, is how it was able to move into its new palatial headquarters building in Montgomery, Alabama that is known locally as the "Poverty Palace."

All of this is undoubtedly why leftist journalist Alexander Cockburn wrote in the *New York Press* in 2007 that "I've long regarded Morris Dees and his Southern Poverty Law Center as collectively one of the greatest frauds in American life. The reasons: a relentless fundraising machine devoted to terrifying mostly low-income contributors into unbolting ill-spared dollars year after year to an organization that now has an endowment of more than \$100 million . . ." Amen, Brother Cockburn.

June 22, 2011

Thomas J. DiLorenzo is professor of economics at Loyola College in Maryland and the author of [The Real Lincoln: Lincoln Unmasked: What You're Not Supposed To Know about Dishonest Abe](#) and [How Capitalism Saved America](#). His latest book is [Hamilton's Curse: How Jefferson's Archenemy Betrayed the American Revolution – And What It Means for America Today](#).

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Lump of Coal

Article by the Fairfax Journal, December 16, 2003.

... human nature being what it is, there always seems to be a lump of coal lurking among the sugarplums.

We were reminded of this unpleasant fact again by a Journal reader in Arlington who considered making a contribution to the Southern Poverty Law Center, listed as No. 0454 in the Combined Federal Campaign...

In fact, unknown to most CFC donors, the tax-exempt SPLC flunked an audit by the Arlington-based Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance, which requires that "a reasonable percentage, at least 50 percent of total income from all sources, should be applied to programs and activities directly related to the purposes for which the organization exists."

...SPLC...spent 89 percent of its total income on fund-raising and administrative costs...

Granted, administrative costs tend to run high when executive salaries are in the six-figure range. For example,... Morris Dees, SPLC's chief trial lawyer, pulls down a cool \$280,699...

... give your hard-earned dollars to a real charity, not a bunch of slick, parasitic hucksters who live high on the hog by raising money on behalf of needy people who never see a dime of it.

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Mission Creep and the Southern Poverty Law Center's Misguided Focus

Article by Carol M. Swain, Political Analyst, Professor of Political Science and Law at Vanderbilt University ([original article](#), August 10, 2009)

In case you missed the story, last November 4th a polling precinct in Philadelphia, PA was patrolled by an organization called the New Black Panther Party, a Marxist group that in 2000, was listed by the Southern Poverty Law Center as a racial hate group. Video footage shot in 2008, show Black Panther precinct workers intimidating white voters. This was covered by the news organizations, and resulted in charges being filed by the Bush Department of Justice, whose job it is to defend and protect the voting rights of all Americans.

What should have been an open and shut case has become something more troubling, after the Eric Holder-led Justice Department dropped charges against the Black Panthers, who supported President Obama. Currently, this decision to drop the charges, is being challenged by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, (an organization with which I am affiliated).

Now this is the part where things really get interesting.

The SPLC has been mum on the issue, despite the fact that in 2000, it included the New Black Panther Party among its annual list of hate groups. In fact, what is most shocking is that the SPLC has spent far more resources hounding conservative organizations, such as the Center for Immigration Studies, and prominent citizens like CNN's award-winning anchor Lou Dobbs, than it has protecting the civil rights of American voters, which includes white people as well as black. The unrelenting attacks on Mr. Dobbs and others are shameless. The once venerable organization wages war against conservative individuals, principles, and organizations. How unfortunate for America. How unfortunate for the organization's founders.

There is a name for what has happened. It is called "mission creep." Mission creep occurs when an organization strays beyond its original purpose and engages in actions antithetical to its goals. Rather than monitoring hate groups, the Southern Poverty Law Center has become one.

Read the [complete article](#)

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When a Hate Crime is Something to Love

Article by Wesley Pruden, Editor in Chief, The Washington Times, published in criminalgovernment.com, February, 2004

Black pain and white piety is a winning combination in contemporary America, as any number of phony liberals have demonstrated over the years.

Nobody manipulates this combination better than Morris Dees. Few do it as well...

Mr. Dees is a lawyer in Montgomery, Ala., who is the "national chairman" of something called the Southern Poverty Law Center, which sounds like the hide-out of a noble band of warriors against hate crime and other racial wrongs, but is actually a fund-raising scheme that could teach televangelists a thing or two.

In fact, maybe it has. Morris Dees, says his former partner, "is the Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker of the civil rights movement, though I don't mean to malign Jim and Tammy Faye."

Mr. Dees took in \$44 million from gullible contributors, mostly white, in 1999 and spent \$13 million actually trying to help the poor and beaten down, mostly black, fight for their civil rights. He has been well known for years to reporters in the South, most of whom have never written much about who he really is. Mr. Dees, like the late I.F. Stone or the living Jesse Jackson, became a pet rock of the media, engaged in a calling so noble that it is regarded as tasteless, or at least suicidal, to notice that he runs around naked...

Ken Silverstein recently told another version of the Morris Dees story in Harper's magazine, and it's a tale well told.

What captured Mr. Silverstein's attention is the most recent project of the Dees "law center," a kit called "Teaching Tolerance" that is available for only \$30 on the Dees Web site, with the firm but meaningless assurance that's it's "a \$325 value." (Why not \$425? \$525?)

What the buyer gets is a compendium of hate crimes that any casual newspaper reader already knows about, described in vivid ink of a purple hue, spreading the alarm that the Ku Klux Klan, heavily armed white-citizen militias and six Nazi Panzer divisions that never made it to Omaha Beach are bearing down on Cleveland, or maybe Providence. Even a journalist for the 11 O'clock Eyeball News on Channels 3 through 10 would blush twice trying to peddle stuff like this.

Then we get the dirty little secret of hate-crime reporting. "Horrorifying as such incidents are," writes Mr. Silverstein, "hate groups commit almost no violence. More than 95 percent of all 'hate crimes,' including most of the incidents [Mr. Dees] cites (bombings, church burnings, school shootings) are perpetrated by 'lone wolves.'" Indeed, membership in the Ku Klux Klan, which is the most lucrative Dees fund-raising target, has shrunk so dramatically that the Klan would have been out of business years ago but for FBI infiltration. In some chapters the only members with paid-up dues are FBI informants.

In one case cited by Mr. Silverstein, Morris Dees won a judgment for a black woman whose son was killed by Klansmen. She received \$51,875 as settlement. Mr. Dees, according to an investigation by the Montgomery Advertiser, pulled in \$9 million from fund-raising solicitation letters that featured a particularly gruesome photograph of the grieving mother's son. Mr. Dees, who pays himself an annual salary of \$275,000, offered the grieving mother none of the \$9 million her son's death made for him.

Mr. Dees, in fact, earns - or is paid, which is not necessarily the same thing - more than nearly any officer of other advocacy groups surveyed by the National Journal, more than the chairmen of the ACLU, the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and the Children's Defense Fund.

"You are a fraud and a con man," Stephen Bright, director of the Southern Center for Human Rights, which actually takes on dozens of death-penalty appeals for poor blacks every year, once told him. "You spend so much, accomplish so little, and promote yourself so shamelessly." ...

White guilt can be manipulated with black pain, but it has to be done carefully. It's a sordid scam. Some people would call what Morris Dees does a hate crime, but it's a living, and a very good one.

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The Church Of Morris Dees

By Ken Silverstein, Originally published by Harpers Magazine, available on [American Patrol](#). November, 2000.

How the Southern Poverty Law Center profits from intolerance

Ah, tolerance. Who could be against something so virtuous? And who could object to the Southern Poverty Law Center, the Montgomery, Alabama-based group that recently sent out this heartwarming yet mildly terrifying appeal to raise money for its "Teaching Tolerance" program, which prepares educational kits for schoolteachers? Cofounded in 1971 by civil rights lawyer cum direct-marketing millionaire Morris Dees, a leading critic of "hate groups" and a man so beatific that he was the subject of a made-for-TV movie, the SPLC spent much of its early years defending prisoners who faced the death penalty and suing to desegregate all-white institutions like Alabama's highway patrol. That was then.

Today, the SPLC spends most of its time--and money--on a relentless fund-raising campaign, peddling memberships in the church of tolerance with all the zeal of a circuit rider passing the collection plate. "He's the Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker of the civil rights movement," renowned anti-death-penalty lawyer Millard Farmer says of Dees, his former associate, "though I don't mean to malign Jim and Tammy Faye." The Center earned \$44 million last year alone--\$27 million from fund-raising and \$17 million from stocks and other investments--but spent only \$13 million on civil rights program, making it one of the most profitable charities in the country.

The Ku Klux Klan, the SPLC's most lucrative nemesis, has shrunk from 4 million members in the 1920s to an estimated 2,000 today, as many as 10 percent of whom are thought to be FBI informants. But news of a declining Klan does not make for inclining donations to Morris Dees and Co., which is why the SPLC honors nearly every nationally covered "hate crime" with direct-mail alarums full of nightmarish invocations of "armed Klan paramilitary forces" and "violent neo-Nazi extremists," and why Dees does legal battle almost exclusively with mediagenic villains-like Idaho's arch-Aryan Richard Butler-eager to show off their swastikas for the news cameras.

In 1987, Dees won a \$7 million judgment against the United Klans of America on behalf of Beulah Mae Donald, whose son was lynched by two Klansmen. The UKA's total assets amounted to a warehouse whose sale netted Mrs. Donald \$51,875. According to a groundbreaking series of newspaper stories in the Montgomery Advertiser, the SPLC, meanwhile, made \$9 million from fund-raising solicitations featuring the case, including one containing a photo of Michael Donald's corpse.

Horrible as such incidents are, hate groups commit almost no violence. More than 95 percent of all "hate

crimes," including most of the incidents SPLC letters cite (bombings, church burnings, school shootings), are perpetrated by "lone wolves." Even Timothy McVeigh, subject of one of the most extensive investigations in the FBI's history-and one of the most extensive direct-mail campaigns in the SPLC's-was never credibly linked to any militia organization.

No faith healing or infomercial would be complete without a moving testimonial. The student from whose tears this white schoolteacher learned her lesson is identified only as a child of color. "Which race," we are assured, "does not matter." Nor apparently does the specific nature of "the racist acts directed at him," nor the race of his schoolyard tormentors. All that matters, in fact, is the race of the teacher and those expiating tears. "I wept with him, feeling for once, the depth of his hurt," she confides. "His tears washed away the film that had distorted my white perspective of the world." Scales fallen from her eyes, what action does this schoolteacher propose? What Gandhi-like disobedience will she undertake in order to "reach real peace in the world"? She doesn't say but instead speaks vaguely of acting out against "the pain." In the age of Oprah and Clinton, empathy--or the confession thereof--is an end in itself.

Any good salesman knows that a product's "value" is a highly mutable quality with little relation to actual worth, and Morris Dees-who made millions hawking, by direct mail, such humble commodities as birthday cakes, cookbooks (including Favorite Recipes of American Home Economics Teachers), tractor seat cushions, rat poison, and, in exchange for a mailing list containing 700,000 names, presidential candidate George McGovern-is nothing if not a good salesman. So good in fact that in 1998 the Direct Marketing Association inducted him into its Hall of Fame. "I learned everything I know about hustling from the Baptist Church," Dees has said. "Spending Sundays on those hard benches listening to the preacher pitch salvation-why, it was like getting a Ph.D. in selling." Here, Dr. Dees (the letter's nominal author) masterfully transforms, with a mere flourish of hyperbole, an education kit available "at cost" for \$30 on the SPLC website into "a \$325 value."

This is one of the only places in this letter where specific races are mentioned. Elsewhere, Dees and his copywriters, deploying an arsenal of passive verbs and vague abstractions, have sanitized the usually divisive issue of race of its more disturbing elements-such as angry black people-and for good reason: most SPLC donors are white. Thus, instead of concrete civil rights issues like housing discrimination and racial profiling, we get "communities seething with racial violence." Instead of racially biased federal sentencing laws, or the disparity between poor predominantly black schools and affluent white ones, or the violence against illegals along the Mexican border, the SPLC gives us "intolerance against those who are different," turning bigotry into a color-blind, equal-opportunity sin. It's reassuring to know that "Caucasians" are no more and no less guilty of this sin than African Americans, Asian Americans, Native Americans, and Hispanics. In the eyes of Morris Dees, we're all sinners, all victims, and all potential contributors.

Morris Dees doesn't need your financial support. The SPLC is already the wealthiest civil rights group in America, though this letter quite naturally omits that fact. Other solicitations have been more flagrantly misleading. One pitch, sent out in 1995-when the Center had more than \$60 million in reserves-informed would-be donors that the "strain on our current operating budget is the greatest in our 25-year history." Back in 1978, when the Center had less than \$10 million, Dees promised that his organization would quit fund-raising and live off interest as soon as its endowment hit \$55 million. But as it approached that figure, the SPLC upped the bar to \$100 million, a sum that, one 1989 newsletter promised, would allow the Center "to cease the costly and often unreliable task of fund raising." Today, the SPLC's treasury bulges with \$120 million, and it spends twice as much on fund-raising-\$5.76 million last year-as it does on legal services for victims of civil rights abuses. The American Institute of Philanthropy gives the Center one of the worst ratings of any group it monitors, estimating that the SPLC could operate for 4.6 years without making another tax-exempt nickel from its investments or raising another tax-deductible cent from well-meaning "people like you."

The SPLC's "other important work justice" consists mainly in spying on private citizens who belong to "hate groups," sharing its files with law-enforcement agencies, and suing the most prominent of these

groups for crimes committed independently by their members—a practice that, however seemingly justified, should give civil libertarians pause. The legal strategy employed by Dees could have put the Black Panther Party out of business or bankrupted the New England Emigrant Aid Company in retaliation for crimes committed by John Brown. What the Center's other work for justice does not include is anything that might be considered controversial by donors. According to Millard Farmer, the Center largely stopped taking death-penalty cases for fear that too visible an opposition to capital punishment would scare off potential contributors. In 1986, the Center's entire legal staff quit in protest of Dees's refusal to address issues—such as homelessness, voter registration, and affirmative action—that they considered far more pertinent to poor minorities, if far less marketable to affluent benefactors, than fighting the KKK. Another lawyer, Gloria Browne, who resigned a few years later, told reporters that the Center's programs were calculated to cash in on "black pain and white guilt." Asked in 1994 if the SPLC itself, whose leadership consists almost entirely of white men, was in need of an affirmative action policy, Dees replied that "probably the most discriminated people in America today are white men when it comes to jobs."

Contributors to Teaching Tolerance might be surprised to learn how little of the SPLC's reported educational spending actually goes to education. In response to lobbying by charities, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants in 1987 began allowing nonprofits to count part of their fundraising costs as "educational" so long as their solicitations contained an informational component. On average, the SPLC classifies an estimated 47 percent of the fund-raising letters that it sends out every year as educational, including many that do little more than instruct potential donors on the many evils of "militant right-wing extremists" and the many splendid virtues of Morris Dees. According to tax documents, of the \$10.8 million in educational spending the SPLC reported in 1999, \$4 million went to solicitations. Another \$2.4 million paid for stamps.

In the early 1960s, Morris Dees sat on the sidelines honing his direct-marketing skills and practicing law while the civil rights movement engulfed the South. "**Morris and I...shared the overriding purpose of making a pile of money,**" recalls Dees's business partner, a lawyer named Millard Fuller (not to be confused with Millard Farmer). "We were not particular about how we did it; we just wanted to be independently rich." They were so unparticular, in fact, that in 1961 they defended a man, guilty of beating up a journalist covering the Freedom Riders, whose legal fees were paid by the Klan. ("I felt the anger of a black person for the first time," Dees later wrote of the case. "I vowed then and there that nobody would ever again doubt where I stood.") In 1965, Fuller sold out to Dees, donated the money to charity, and later started Habitat for Humanity. Dees bought a 200-acre estate appointed with tennis courts, a pool, and stables, and, in 1971, founded the SPLC, where his compensation has risen in proportion to fund-raising revenues, from nothing in the early seventies to \$273,000 last year.

A National Journal survey of salaries paid to the top officers of advocacy groups shows that Dees earned more in 1998 than nearly all of the seventy-eight listed, tens of thousands more than the heads of such groups as the ACLU, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, and the Children's Defense Fund. The more money the SPLC receives, the less that goes to other civil rights organizations, many of which, including the NAACP, have struggled to stay out of bankruptcy. Dees's compensation alone amounts to one quarter the annual budget of the Atlanta-based Southern Center for Human Rights, which handles several dozen death-penalty cases a year. "You are a fraud and a conman," the Southern Center's director, Stephen Bright, wrote in a 1996 letter to Dees, and proceeded to list his many reasons for thinking so, which included "your failure to respond to the most desperate needs of the poor and powerless despite your millions upon millions, your fund-raising techniques, the fact that you spend so much, accomplish so little, and promote yourself so shamelessly." Soon the SPLC will move into a new six-story headquarters in downtown Montgomery, just across the street from its current headquarters, a building known locally as the Poverty Palace.

Read the [complete article](#).

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The Southern Poverty Law Center: A Twisted Definition of Hate

Matthew Vadum, Capital Research Center, November, 2006

Obsessed with fundraising, the fabulously wealthy Southern Poverty Law Center exaggerates the scope of racism in the United States to frighten donors into opening their wallets. SPLC is nominally a public interest law firm, but it spends little on actual litigation. Instead, it uses politically skewed definitions of racism to indoctrinate children while smearing conservatives who question racial preference programs.

...Conservative writers have observed that to be called a "racist" today is akin to the label "Communist" in the 1950s. Indeed, the SPLC's tactics are hard to distinguish from those of the late Senator Joseph McCarthy, who was also a fan of guilt by association.

Although SPLC bills itself as a civil rights law firm, it devotes only a fraction of its resources to actual legal work. Of the \$28.9 million in expenses it declared for the year ended October 31, 2005, it spent only \$4.5 million on "providing legal services for victims of civil rights injustice and hate crimes," and \$837,907 for "specific assistance to individuals" in the form of "litigation services," according to its Form 990...

In the same period, SPLC paid Morris Dees \$297,559 in salary and pension plan contributions...

"No one has been more assiduous in inflating the profile of [hate] groups than the [SPLC]'s millionaire huckster, Morris Dees, who in 1999 began a begging letter, 'Dear Friend, The danger presented by the Klan is greater now than at any time in the past ten years'" - JoAnn Wypijewski of the *Nation* magazine, 2001

...It may take some intellectual toughness to insist that the nation has the right to decide who may or may not cross its borders, but surely it's not hate. But Morris Dees doesn't see it that way. He sees all opposition to immigration as a symptom of hate...

Richard Samp, chief counsel for the Washington Legal Foundation, told Organization Trends that he finds it difficult to take anything the SPLC does nowadays seriously. "There are so many of these [liberal groups] that they have to speak in particularly shrill tones in order to distinguish themselves from the many other groups out there," Samp said. "I certainly disagree with their saying America is racist. I don't think they really believe that," he said.

SPLC's hyping of racism in America is "simply fundraising puffery," Samp said.

Yet it may be too easy to dismiss SPLC. It has mastered the art of inflaming racial passions, and in doing so it undermines Americans' confidence in the nation's racial progress. SPLC's activism may be too profitable an enterprise for it to give up, but it can have a corrosive effect on our politics. Jim Sleeper, author of *Liberal Racism*, wrote that "there is a race industry that has a moral and financial stake in ginning up these racial bogeymen." Sleeper told columnist Deroy Murdock that the race industry makes "a real effort to play up the bad news and play down the good..."

The ground is shifting under our feet, and a lot of these people don't want to let go."

Read the [complete article](#).

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The Southern Poverty Law Center - No Artistry in its Smears

*Don Feder, DiscoverTheNetworks.org
(February 8, 2001)*

I was slimed by the Southern Poverty Law Center -- a group that dresses its leftist agenda in tolerance clichés. Not that I mind. Over the years, I've been smeared by the best. The Poverty Law Center is a rank amateur, by comparison.

According to the SPLC, I am a hateful person who bears watching. I'm also "involved with several extremist groups" which are either "anti-immigrant" or "anti-gay."

These allegations are contained in the November 1st issue of the Center's online publication HATEWATCH ("Watchmen on the Walls Return To Latvia"), which discussed my participation in a November 14-18 pro-family conference in Riga.

According to HATEWATCH, after touring the U.S. with a "traveling anti-gay road show," Watchmen On The Walls -- which is associated with the New Generation Church in Latvia -- was returning to the citadel of Slavic homophobia.

I should feel right at home in such execrable company, SPLC suggested, noting that in a speech I gave last year at a Vision America conference (which it described as a "Christian Right outfit") I remarked that the goal of militant homosexuals was to "transform us so that Salt Lake City on a Sunday morning looks like today's San Francisco on a Saturday night."...

As for my dangerous liaisons ("Feder is involved with several extremist groups"), SPLC noted that I'm a member of the advisory board of the Federation for American Immigration Reform "an anti-immigrant group whose leader has compared immigrants to bacteria."

This is so typical of the left: A group that seeks border security and wants to do something about the crisis of illegal immigration is "anti-immigrant." Based on the same reasoning, those opposed to date rape must be anti-male.

The "bacteria" stuff refers to a 1997 Knight-Ridder article on FAIR founder John Tanton. "Bacteria" was the way the author of the article characterized Tanton's views on immigration. Tanton himself never used the word.

But the foregoing is mild compared to SPLC's modus operandi, which makes the Anti-Defamation League and the ACLU seem nuanced, objective and calm by comparison.

- In a 2006 speech at Arkansas' Fayetteville State University, SPLC's founding president Julian Bond (currently a member of its board of directors) charged the Republican Party's "idea of equal rights is the American flag and the Confederate swastika (sic.) flying side by side."...
- The rather staid American Enterprise Institute was tarred as racist -- part of "an array of right-wing foundations and think tanks (that) support efforts to make bigoted or discredited ideas respectable." Exactly how one makes a bigoted or discredited idea "respectable" the Poverty Law Center never explained.
- Conservative scholar Dinesh D'Souza, an immigrant from India who's exposed the race industry, was indicted by SPLC as an extremist "whose views are seen by many as bigoted or racist." When the Center doesn't have the guts to call someone a racist (or feels it might be skirting libel laws to do so), it attributes its views to unnamed observers. ("The Southern Poverty Law Center's tactics are seen by many as devious and/or reprehensible.")
- Guilt by association is a favorite SPLC ploy. Thus, it seeks to connect Watchmen on the Walls and New Generation Church to the Sacramento murder of Satender Singh (a man thought to be gay) in July...
- A 2003 article by Chip Berlet posted on the SPLC site accused conservative activist David Horowitz of blaming slavery in the United States on African tribesmen and Arab traders. In a letter to SPLC honcho Morris Dees, Horowitz explained that his historically accurate observation was made in the context of demands for reparations.

What makes the Southern Poverty Law Center particularly odious is its habit of taking legitimate conservatives and jumbling them with genuine hate groups (the Klan, Aryan Nation, skinheads, etc.), to make it appear that there's a logical relationship between say opposing affirmative action and lynching, or demands for an end to government services for illegal aliens and attacks on dark-skinned immigrants. The late novelist/philosopher Ayn Rand called this "the broad-brush smear."

What the Southern Poverty Law Center calls fighting hatred is more than just an opportunity to defame political opponents. It's good business.

Thanks to the fundraising genius of co-founder Morris Dees, at the end of FY 2005, SPLC had a surplus of \$189.4 million. As Chief Trial Counsel, Dees receives an annual salary (including pension contributions) of \$297,559. Though he'd hate to admit it, hate has made Dees a rich man.

Together, SPLC's three top executives - all white -- took home just shy of three-quarters of a million dollars in 2005.

SPLC has its critics on the left. Journalist Alexander Cockburn characterized Dees' fundraising technique as "frightening elderly liberals (into believing) that the heirs of Adolf Hitler are about to march down Main Street."

In a 2000 article in Harper's Magazine ("The Church of Morris Dees"), Ken Silverstein wrote that with Dees at the helm SPLC "spends most of its time-and-money on a relentless fundraising campaign, peddling memberships in the church of tolerance with all the zeal of a circuit rider passing the collection plate."

The article also explained how the Center has amassed a fortune exploiting the victims of bias crimes. Silverstein wrote: "In 1987, Dees won a \$7-million judgment against the United Klans of America on behalf of Beulah Mae Donald, whose son was lynched by two Klansmen. The UKA's total assets amounted to a warehouse whose sale netted Mrs. Donald \$51,875. According to a groundbreaking series of stories in the Montgomery Advertiser, the SPLC, meanwhile, made \$9 million from fundraising solicitations featuring the case, including one containing a photo of Michael Donald's corpse."

A perusal of its website would convince the casual observer that the nation is awash in goose-stepping neo-Nazi and noose-swinging night-riders -- all armed to the teeth and lusting for the blood of innocents. SPLC habitually overstates the danger of real hate groups. Thus, in one of his 1999 fundraising letters, Dees wrote "The danger presented by the Klan is greater now than at any time in the past 10 years."

In reality (that which exists outside the delusional universe of direct-mail fundraising), the Klan is weaker now than it was in 1999; and in need of Viagra then. In the 1920s, the hooded scum held massive marches in our nation's capital and controlled several state legislatures. Today, the Klan has an estimated 3,000 members nationwide, 10% of them FBI informers.

The Center devotes considerable resources to watching the Klan. (Its publication HATEWATCH was formerly called KLANWATCH.) It watches Klansmen grow senile, go into nursing homes and die. Today, most bias-related crimes (including the murders of James Byrd, Jr., Matthew Shepard and the Oklahoma City Bombing) are the work of a few nutcases.

Put that in a fundraising appeal and see what comes in from the yokels in Manhattan or San Francisco. As telling as the hatred over which SPLC obsesses, is that which it ignores.

On the Center's website, check out the colorful Hate Map, a state by state directory of extremist organizations. Broken down by category, these include the Ku Klux Klan, Neo-Nazis, Racist Skinheads, White Nationalists and Black Separatists.

Then there are other groups only Dees and Hillary Clinton would consider hateful, like the Traditional Values Coalition and Young Americans for Freedom of Michigan State University. What's missing is any mention of a Saudi-funded mosque, a rabid imam preaching jihad or a Muslim group with ties to terrorism...

But with its politically correct blinders firmly in place, the Southern Poverty Law Center sees no hatred in Jihad Nation, or on the left generally.

What's the Center's impact? Its website boasts that it "trains personnel for more than 75 federal law enforcement agencies and provides services for local, state and international agencies." A picture on this page shows a regional commander of the Illinois State Police shaking hands with an SPLC staffer. Doubtless, the Center provides invaluable training in helping law enforcement personnel to monitor the dangerous activities of extremists like the American Enterprise Institute and the Federation for American Immigration Reform -- as well as to track the fiends who engage in "nasty polemic" and display racial "insensitivity."

Then there's its infiltration of public education through Teaching Tolerance, a curriculum "to help K-12 teachers foster respect and understanding in the classroom" for such victim-groups as illegal immigrants. The Center says 600,000 educators subscribe to its Teaching Tolerance magazine...

The Southern Poverty Law Center is symptomatic of the left's penchant for calumny, which is another sign of its intellectual impotence. Those who can't frame arguments - participate in open debate - distort, stigmatize and engage in guilt by association. The left is guilty of the very tactics of which it accuses the late Joe McCarthy.

But, please, don't call the Southern Poverty Law Center smear artists. There's no artistry in its smears, which are crude, clumsy and transparent.

Don Feder is a former Boston Herald writer who is now a political/communications consultant. He also maintains his own website, DonFeder.com.

Read the [complete article](#)

The Truth About 'Hate Crimes' and the Racial Justice Racket

Article by Ron Smith, BaltimoreSun.com, December 3, 2008

...The Southern Poverty Law Center is a thriving business. The Alabama-based "nonprofit" firm has become a font of riches for founder Morris Dees and his associates. Its last tax return (2005) showed it took in nearly \$111 million in donations the previous four years alone and reported assets of \$189.4 million at the end of 2005.

Its business is fundraising, and its success at raking in the cash is based on its ability to sell gullible people on the idea that present-day America is awash in white racism and anti-Semitism, which it will fight tooth-and-nail as the public interest law firm it purports to be. That might lead a skeptic to wonder why it spends little on litigation and why Mr. Dees pockets a lot of money sent in by panicked donors who buy into the smear campaigns against organizations or prominent individuals who question racial preference programs.

To me and to other observant conservatives, the Southern Poverty Law Center is a clever scam, relentlessly cultivating for profit the fear that this nation is filled with Klansmen and rife with people eager to perpetrate genocide. If you're curious about this organization and its legitimacy, spend some time on the Internet and assess it for yourself, because I want to move on to something else related to the comment by Mr. Potok. He mentions cross-burnings on the lawns of interracial couples. If this is true, shame on those who do such things, but what you probably don't know about - and what the law center ignores - is the atrocity committed on an interracial couple in Winchester, Calif.: Marine Sgt. Jan Pawel Pietrzak, a Polish immigrant, and his African-American bride of two months, Quiana Jenkins Pietrzak. Four African-American Marines, two of them under Sergeant Pietrzak's command (including Emrys Justin John, 18, of Baltimore), are accused of breaking into the couple's home and killing them both (one is also charged with a sex crime). In the weeks since the brutal murders, the media have been largely silent about the grisly incident. Would that be the case had the alleged perpetrators been white? Don't be silly.

And as we have come to expect, the authorities won't attribute the Pietrzaks' deaths to "hate."...

"Hate crimes," as trumpeted by the likes of the Southern Poverty Law Center, are a questionable legal construct used almost exclusively against whites.

Hateful or not, interracial violent crime is overwhelmingly black on white or black on Asian. The Department of Justice's figures show that between 2001 and 2003, blacks were 39 times more likely to commit violent crimes against whites than the reverse. Of the nearly 770,000 violent interracial crimes committed every year involving blacks and whites, blacks commit 85 percent and whites commit 15 percent.

You won't hear about that from the Southern Poverty Law Center or see it on the evening newscasts, because the truth is one thing and the liberal agenda is another.

Read the [complete article](#).

Good news: SPLC loses \$50 Million. Bad news: SPLC can afford it

Article by Patrick Cleburne, VDARE.COM

(April 8, 2009)

Those of us who know and love the Southern Poverty Law Center [SPLC, or more appropriately, in VDARE.com's considered opinion, the \$PLC] have been naturally intrigued to see if this wealthy operation would be a victim of Bernard Madoff's Ponzi scheme...

Immigration patriots are particularly interested in the \$PLC [SPLC] because of its recent obsessive smearing of essentially every immigration reform group in sight. This includes naming as a "hate group" not merely VDARE.COM (which has responded by naming the \$PLC a "Treason Group") but also the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) which the \$PLC has absurdly claimed is "at the nexus of the American nativist movement" along with FAIR's equally harmless fellow Beltway herbivores, NumbersUSA and the Center For Immigration Studies.

This new \$PLC obsession is obviously odd because the huge post-1965 influx of unskilled legal and illegal immigrants, whatever else can be said about it, has been an unmitigated disaster for low income blacks-allegedly the \$PLC's historic concern. Labor leader Cesar Chavez (ironically an \$PLC hero) saw this dynamic clearly in the case of his farm workers, at that time largely native-born Hispanics. It's why the Howard Industries blacks cheered last year's ICE raid on their employer.

Complaints, even from the Left, about the \$PLC's [Southern Poverty Law Center] lack of interest in black and "Civil Rights" issues, and its extreme interest in money, date back at least to Ken Silverstein's classic *The Church of Morris Dees* (Harper's Magazine, November 2000) and JoAnn Wypijewski's ferocious defense of her criticism of the \$PLC for ignoring local Black causes in her *Nation* magazine article *Back to the back of the Bus* (December 2000).

The standard critical assessment of the \$PLC's chosen activities is that it is dominated by the extreme personal greed of its founder, Morris Seligman Dees. There are several stories about this in the (now quite extensive) \$PLC literature. On this theory, Dees realized some years ago that his most generous supporters were simply more interested in savaging conservative and other politically incorrect groups than they were in the uplifting of blacks, and he responded accordingly.

The \$PLC's Form 990 (PDF), which tax-exempt charities must file the IRS, and its Audited Financial Statements (PDF) are now available for the fiscal year ending October 2008. And the answer to the Madoff matter-no such luck. Our friends apparently escaped unscathed.

But how did the \$PLC manage to resist the allure of the so-called "Jewish T-Bill"-an operation which claimed to produce relatively moderate but extremely consistent returns over many years? Would that not be attractive to the \$PLC as a prudent 501(c)(3) Charity-as it was tragically to so many others, and to so many Jewish retirees as well?

Answer: absolutely not. The reason the \$PLC dodged Madoff was simply that its financial resources are managed astonishingly aggressively. The clear overriding objective: making money. Safe, slightly above-par returns just did not fit the bill.

Of course, this investment objective did cause the \$PLC to sustain \$51.2 million in "Investment" losses in the Fiscal year closing 10-31-08. But this left the \$PLC with some \$167.8 million in total portfolio assets at the end of the year.

And the implied approximately 30.5% FY 2008 loss is actually not exceptional. The S&P 500 lost 37.5% over the same period. (Of course, this makes the questionable assumption that it was prudent for the \$PLC to be so exposed to stocks, rather than less volatile financial instruments like bonds or money market instruments).

Essentially, the \$PLC balance sheet looks similar to what one would imagine for a retired Goldman Sachs partner: property and working capital, plus a huge sophisticated investment portfolio.

As of 10-31-08, the \$PLC showed \$35.6 Million (18.5% of its assets) in a kind of current account, called the "operating fund", which contains, curiously, all the physical assets including \$16.9 million in depreciated real estate (to be fair- apparently no yacht!) This "operating fund" includes an investment pool of \$11.6 million, on which losses of \$1.2 million were sustained in FY '08. Presumably this is the management's dabbling/fun account.

The balance consists of an investment portfolio, which stood at \$156.2 million at 10-31 08. This is termed the "Endowment Fund".

It is important to understand that, according to the \$PLC's own Financial Statements, there are essentially no restrictions on this fund. In the Charity world, this is not what is commonly understood by an "endowment", which is usually dedicated to specific purposes, and often confined to spending income only. As Daniel Borochoff, President of the American Institute of Philanthropy, told Bill O'Reilly in 2001:

"They want to build up their reserves just like you'd probably like to be a multimillionaire so you could live off the interest... It's not really an endowment [just] because the board called it that." (See NPI/SPLC Report II, Pp17-18)

Proof of Borochoff's view of the \$PLC strategy arose in 2008. Endowments are usually tapped in poor years, for operating expenses. But the \$PLC transferred \$4 million from its "Operating Fund" to its "Endowment Fund" last year-a clear demonstration of the management's Scrooge-like priorities.

It is when one examines the details of this "Endowment Fund" that the \$PLC's heroic dedication to money-making becomes glaring. P14 of the Financial Statements reveals that of the \$156.2 million:

- \$20.7Million (13.3%) was in "Cash and cash equivalents";
- \$18.8Million (12%) was in "Fixed income mutual funds";
- \$21Million (13.4%) was in "U.S. equity mutual funds";
- \$14.1Million (9%) was in "International mutual funds".

So far, perhaps so good. But then:

- \$44.9 Million (28.7%) was in "Hedge Funds";
- \$20.6Million (13.2%) was in "U.S. equity alternative investments";
- \$6.1Million (3.9%) was in "Private equity funds";
- \$9.9Million (6.3%) was in "Fixed income alternative investments".

Some venturing into equity alternative investments (limited partnerships, leveraged buyout funds etc. which in 2008 proved to be horribly illiquid) might be permissible for a very large pool of capital seeking to provide for very long term and heavy spending commitments-a university, perhaps, with a massive payroll and plant. But the \$PLC has disclosed no such commitments. With 52% of the "Endowment Fund" in these things, the management was clearly swinging for the fences for its own sake.

An idea of the potential problems arising from this exposure appears in Note 4, P15:

"At October 31, 2008, the Center has outstanding commitments to invest approximately \$8,300,000 in limited partnerships and LLC's under capital commitment agreements."

This means that in 2009 the Southern Poverty "Law" Center is obligated to spend in on these investment projects more than the \$8 million it spent on "Legal Services" in 2008!

Another insight into the \$PLC's aggressiveness from P14: the "Operating fund", which functionally appears to be the Center's housekeeping account, had \$4.9 Million in "common stock" and "Mutual fund" holdings - 13.8% of reported assets. Again curiously, obligations under the (relatively small) "gift annuity" and "pooled income" programs are held in the "Operating Fund". One might have thought they belonged where long-term investments are housed.

The unmistakable impression is that the "Endowment" is intended to be wholly focused on making capital gains, undistracted by the day to day (or even year to year) financial concerns of running the Center.

Page 14 also piously states:

"The Center's endowment fund maintains a broadly diversified investment portfolio oriented toward equity investments and strategies to take advantage of market inefficiencies. The Center's investment objectives are... achieved in partnership with an active investment advisory committee and external managers."

But there is no mention of the purpose served by hoarding all this money. Particularly given the heavy use of mutual funds, which are not the sort of thing "external managers" are needed to run but which must be selected by someone, the impression is that a great deal of senior management's time goes to grooming this portfolio.

In FY 2008, the \$PLC reported raising \$32.4 million from the public.

But expenditures came in at only \$30.7 million. In the charity world, this is somewhat embarrassing, because competing fund-raisers can argue that a surplus means you don't need more donations.

Expenditures included \$8 million on legal services and \$12.9 million on "education"-presumably mainly under the tendentiously-named "Teaching Tolerance" program, which seems to mainly consist of glorifying minorities. Fundraising took \$5.4 million (16.7% of revenue). (I have seen it suggested that the "Education" expenditure includes much mailing which should be considered fund-raising.)

Officer's salaries took \$1,275,725 (3.9%) Highest paid is Richard Cohen, President and CEO, at \$348,652. Morris Dees got \$336,072, a 2.8% increase. The top five non-officer employees were paid an aggregate of \$747,128 (up 2.3%) including \$143,206 for Mark Potok (a 3.2% increase).

Non-officer compensation as a whole took 33.1% of income. Once again poor Heidi Beirich did not place. For perspective, the cost of living in Montgomery, Alabama, where the \$PLC has its notorious "Poverty Palace" headquarters, is just 77% of the U.S. national average. Median household income is \$41,676.

On the other hand, the \$PLC constantly proclaims the likelihood of right-wing violence. And apparently believes it: three of the top five "independent contractors" it reports provide security services. Under these circumstances, it seems strange and ungenerous that the two figures most in the public eye-Mark Potok and Heidi Beirich-should rank so low in compensation.

From its "Endowment Fund", the \$PLC gave nothing (\$0) to its alleged causes. By contrast, the Chais Foundation, with approximately the same amount of assets but no public fund raising effort, is reported to have given \$12.5 million away in each of the last two years.

However, there is nothing to stop charitable foundations giving grants to other 501(c)(3)s!

No doubt in this terrible year-with like-minded charities suffering from the stock market crash, recession, and Bernard Madoff-the Southern Poverty Law Center will be stepping forward to help!

Notice to liberal foundations: contact the \$PLC here!

Ask for Morris!

The SPLC has achieved virtually a sacred status with the Main Stream Media. Its pronouncements are effectively accorded Papal Infallibility. But in reality, it is merely a bunch of bigoted ethnic-special-interest thugs.

VDARE.com does not expect everyone to concede this. But we look forward to seeing how this group of pirates can be defended from the charge of money-grubbing.

It is not possible to better Joan Wypijewski's scathing advice to her liberal readers in *The Nation*: (You Can't Get There From Here, February 26 2001):

"What is the Poverty Law Center doing... ? Mainly making money...the center doesn't devote all of its resources to any kind of fight....A few years ago the American Institute of Philanthropy gave the SPLC an F for 'excessive' reserves. [VDARE.com note: as it still does in its December 2008 Rating Guide] So readers, rip up those pledges to the Southern Poverty Law Center."...

Read the [complete article](#)

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Who is the Southern Poverty Law Center and What is Their Role in the Campaign Against Prop. 200?

Article by [FAIR](#), August 24, 2004

As predictably as the rooster crowing at dawn, whenever and wherever American citizens protest mass immigration-legal or illegal-the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) springs into action, attempting to malign them as "hate groups." So, when concerned citizens in Arizona, with the support and encouragement of local and national elected officials, and national immigration reform organizations, mobilized to place an initiative on the November 2004 ballot, SPLC immediately instituted a campaign to discredit them. To date, no organization advancing the case for reduced immigration is viewed by the SPLC as a "legitimate" organization-not one!...

Prop. 200, which initial polls show has the support of 74 percent of the electorate, would require the state to screen to ensure that illegal aliens do not receive benefits or access to government-funded programs that are specifically prohibited to them under federal law. The ballot measure also requires that people demonstrate proof of citizenship when registering to vote, and present identification at the polls to ensure that the person casting a vote is actually the person who registered...

Unlike other advocacy groups promoting large-scale immigration to the United States, SPLC makes no attempt to justify their positions on economic, or humanitarian grounds. Rather SPLC's sole function in the immigration policy debate is to attempt to discredit any individual or organization that supports reductions in immigration and enforcement of immigration laws.

The charges invariably leveled by SPLC have long since been discredited as utterly specious, or at best a

McCarthyist version of Six Degrees of Separation, in which everyone advocating immigration reform can be charged with having talked someone, who talked to someone, who talked to someone else who is a bad person. Similarly, SPLC tries to connect carefully selected dots in an attempt to prove that funding for all immigration reform advocates is tainted.

The most often cited, and most often repudiated allegation of SPLC is that all immigration reform advocates and organizations are, in fact, advocates of a long discredited pseudo-science known as eugenics. This charge, on which SPLC's entire smear campaign is based, stems from the fact that the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) received money from the Pioneer Fund in the 1980s. Some of the founders of the Pioneer Fund, in the 1930s, had supported research in the field of eugenics.

Based on that line of reasoning-that the views of a foundation's founder some three-quarters of a century ago have any bearing on the foundation's grantees today-all recipients of Ford Foundation largesse would have to be considered suspect of harboring racist and anti-Semitic views. Such assertions are, of course, patently ridiculous. (Provided below is a partial list of Pioneer Fund grants over the past few years.)

Who is the SPLC?

SPLC was founded by Morris Dees, an Alabama attorney, in 1971. Since that time SPLC has raised hundreds of millions of dollars "outing" organizations they deem to be right-wing hate groups. While their often wild accusations are still reported by an unquestioning mainstream media, SPLC was itself "outed" in the November 2000 issue of [Harper's Magazine](#), a venerable and independent mainstream publication (see below). According to contributing editor Ken Silverstein in an article entitled, "The Church of Morris Dees," the SPLC is little more than a direct mail outfit that has raised heaps of money hyping hate crimes-real and imagined-while doing virtually nothing for the victims.

...The group spends twice as much on fund-raising activities each year as it does on legal services for the people whose causes they purport to champion. SPLC's fund-raising-to-expenditure ratio has earned them one of the American Institute of Philanthropy's worst ratings for any of the organizations it monitors.

Another revelation in the Harper's article-one that is far less shocking in the post-Enron and WorldCom era than it was a few years ago-is that accounting procedures have allowed the SPLC to disguise fund-raising activities as "educational" activities....

Rather than being legitimate crusaders against alleged right-wing "hate" groups, SPLC and Dees have been shameless exploiters of the misfortunes of people they do almost nothing to help, claims Silverstein. Alarmist, and often graphic, direct mail solicitations hyping supposed hate crimes that are usually the sick handiwork of lone individuals rather than organized groups, net the SPLC handsome returns while doing little or nothing to aid the victims. The hate "groups" the SPLC relentlessly raises money to fight are often the figment of SPLC's direct mail department's overheated imagination, and unrelated crimes are attributed to these groups because, like sex and fear, hate sells.

His former partner in the direct marketing business that Dees ran before starting SPLC confesses that the two of them were not above hucksterism in their quest to amass profits. "We were not particular about how we did it," Dees' former business partner is quoted saying in Harper's....

...The reporting of Silverstein and the assessment of SPLC by the American Institute of Philanthropy, however, should lead responsible news media to carefully scrutinize the assertions and accusations made by SPLC. It does suggest that the record, motives, and tactics of the organization leveling the charges should not be taken at face value.

Pioneer Fund Recipient (Partial List)

- University of Aarhus
- University of Alabama at Birmingham
- University of Calgary (Canada)
- University of California - Berkley
- University of California - Santa Barbara
- University of California - San Diego
- University of California - San Francisco
- City College of the City University of New York
- University of Connecticut
- University of Delaware
- University of Florence (Italy)
- Griffith University (Australia)
- Hampden-Sydney College
- University of Hawaii
- University of Illinois
- Johns Hopkins University
- University of London (United Kingdom)
- University of Maryland
- University of Minnesota
- Montana College of Mineral Science & Technology
- University of Montevallo
- New York University
- University of Northern Iowa
- University of Pennsylvania
- Pennsylvania State University
- Randolph-Macon College
- Saint Augustine's College
- University of Sao Paulo (Brazil)
- Smith College
- University of Southern Mississippi
- Stanford University
- State University of New York at Stony Brook
- Tel Aviv University (Israel)
- University of Texas at Austin
- Texas Association of Scholars
- University of Toronto (Canada)
- University of Western Ontario (Canada)

Read the [complete article](#).

Wypijewski Replies on the Southern Poverty Law Center

Article by JoAnn Wypijewski, [The Nation](#)
(February 8, 2001)

...1955 marked the second time Montgomery's blacks boycotted public conveyances over segregation. The first was in 1900, when transit segregation was put into law. For that whole summer blacks refused to ride the trolleys. The white power structure was forced to make a minor compromise but would not cave for more than a half-century; almost another half-century on, the long walk to transit freedom in Montgomery continues.

Meanwhile, here's J. Richard Cohen congratulating himself and the Southern Poverty Law Center, which in thirty years of existence has addressed the transportation crisis twice and the transit racism in its own hometown not at all...

Perhaps simple courtesy is also "beside the point" for the center's puffed-up crusaders, seeing as how the coalition's work doesn't fall within their "historic mission"--i.e., bringing headline-grabbing lawsuits. But because even the Federal Transit Administration's Office of Civil Rights advises activists that the fight for transit justice in America is unlikely ever to be won in court, that historic mission turns out here to be a self-serving cloak for indifference. Even at the level of rhetoric, Cohen and his colleagues, who regularly expound on civil rights issues in Op-Ed pieces or letters to the editor in the Montgomery Advertiser, have not bestirred themselves on the bus crisis.

What is the Southern Poverty Law Center doing instead? Mostly making money. I would never have suggested that it "devote[s] all [its] resources to the fight against white supremacist organizations," because the center doesn't devote all of its resources to any kind of fight. In 1999 it spent \$2.4 million on litigation and \$5.7 million on fundraising, meanwhile taking in more than \$44 million--\$27 million from fundraising, the rest from investments. A few years ago the American Institute of Philanthropy gave the SPLC an F for "excessive" reserves. On the subject of "hate groups," though, Cohen is almost comically disingenuous. No one has been more assiduous in inflating the profile of such groups than the center's millionaire huckster Morris Dees, who in 1999 began a begging letter, "Dear Friend, The danger presented by the Klan is greater now than at any time in the past ten years."

Hate sells; poor people don't, which is why readers who go to the center's website will find only a handful of cases on such unlucrative causes as fair housing, worker safety or healthcare, many of those from the 1970s and '80s. Why the organization continues to keep "Poverty" (or even "Law") in its name can be ascribed only to nostalgia or a cynical understanding of the marketing possibilities in class guilt. It barely even handles death penalty cases anymore, and lawyers struggling in the South to save the lives of people, mostly poor, on Death Row, will never forget that it was Morris Dees who smoothed the way to a federal judgeship for Ed Carnes, author of Alabama's death penalty statute and a notorious hanging judge.

With allies like Carnes and a salary close to \$300,000 putting him among the top 2 percent of Americans, Dees needn't worry about "fitting in" with the masses of Montgomery. Naturally, he'd erect a multimillion-dollar office building that's a monstrosity. "I hate it," a security guard across the street told me, as the sun's hot rays bounced off the building's vast brushed-stainless-steel-clad southern exposure and onto his face, making him sweat, roasting his skin while he stood watch for the militia nuts Dees would have his donors believe are lurking around every corner.

So, readers, rip up those pledges to the Southern Poverty Law Center...

Read the [complete article](#).

Intolerance Identified - Morris Dees and The Southern Poverty Law Center

Article by Karen De Coster, originally published on ZolaTimes.com, December, 2000, and The Laissez Faire City Times, December, 2000

"Hate-watching" has become an enterprising sport in America. As so-called hate-watch groups and organizations spring up all across the country, they are venerated for their courage and unwavering defense of minority classes. They are touted as the great overseers of the civil rights granted to minorities by government.

For persons and organizations that wish to become powerful and recognizable to mainstream America, hate-watching is a clever way to earn a secure living. They can do so under the false flag of protecting minority identity and opportunity, though crying hate has become the call to arms for the protected classes against traditional culture.

Who are the true intolerants? Are they fervent Christians? Or is it the so-called watchdog groups that profit from the anger and backlash of protected classes who are themselves strangled by government policies?

The most notable of such prevaricators is the not-so-impecunious Southern Poverty Law Center, headed by lawyer Morris Dees. Mr. Dees is a leftist icon of sorts. He manages to reap gorgeous profits from his not-for-profit business through website terrorism and hyper-emotional junk-mail campaigns.

The SPLC is the lead aggressor against right-wing organizations that are ideologically unappealing to Mr. Dees and his fellow intolerants. What SPLC does is use its government-approved coercive powers to ruin businesses, smear reputations, and try to force people to participate in their farcical diversity movement through "monitoring," while exposing alleged fascists, white-supremacists, and even (gasp!) pro-Confederates.

These accusations are gathered in the SPLC's Intelligence Report, a scuttlebutt rag that generates severe intolerance against any ideological group that doesn't agree with its pinko views. One of the latest hits from the Intelligence Report has been directed toward the Ludwig von Mises Institute of Auburn, Alabama, an educational organization dedicated to Austrian economics and classical liberalism. Such dedicated passions toward education and the advancement of intellectual spirit apparently are not sanctioned by the SPLC's intolerant bunch.

Another organization that has come under fire is the League of the South, an organization inspired by the political theory of self-government, especially with regard to local rule. As if smearing the Mises Institute and the League of the South weren't enough, the SPLC attempts to link the two, in effect, implying that any educational institution in the South with libertarian-like views must be composed of Confederate sympathizers, and therefore, is racist and hate-filled.

Victimology is an art at SPLC. The past deeds of Morris Dees sensationalize race relations and patriotic uprisings, while encouraging deep fear in individuals who see themselves as victims of an unfair political system. Without producing this fear and victimological thinking, the center could not possibly raise the huge funds necessary for such a tireless spy machine.

The SPLC is exactly such a contrivance, in fact. It is also a newspeak machine that does not use logical reasoning or philosophical arguments to make its case, but rather, emotional attacks that bait the weak-minded, and seduce those looking for monetary "justice."

Organizations like the SPLC are empowered by government agencies in the civil rights sector, and they are supported by a leftist media that allows them unchallenged on-air exposures of purported right-wing intolerance groups.

HBO recently ran a cable special entitled *Hate.com: Extremists*, which focused on Internet groups that don't fall within the tolerance guidelines set forth by hate-watchers. Of course, Mr. Dees and his *Intelligence Report* editor Mark Potok took center stage in this documentary, pointing out how extremist, right-wing America, with the famed *Turner Diaries* as its bible, advances the cause of white people and terrorizes oppressed minorities.

The SPLC seems to take special pride in the fact that it can use tolerance education as the carrot, and draw upon its Northern liberal junk-mail base for its attack on all the evils of "extremist" America. It's interesting how the National Association for the Advancement of White People (NAAWP) gets flagged for hate, while the NAACP is a perfectly legit organization.

Throughout the HBO piece, Messrs. Potok and Dees appear against an impressive backdrop of stately bookshelves in fancy offices. However, when a self-styled racist appears on screen, his backdrop is the SPLC's favorite target: the Confederate flag. This is a purposeful attempt, of course, to smear the symbol of the noble causes of Southern secession and personal liberty.

The HBO documentary treats religious-based organizations in such a way as to propagate the notion that all hardcore religious activism is "Aryan" in temperament, excessive, and therefore dangerous to non-whites.

It is interesting to note how the SPLC also includes patriot groups in the *Intelligence Report*. This is due to the fact that such groups "advocate or adhere to extreme anti-government doctrines," and this undermines the State worship that makes people like Mr. Dees opulent by way of the multicultural-tolerance issue. One must remember that it was the Oklahoma bombing that put the SPLC propaganda machine on the map.

In fact, SPLC must have licked its chops after Oklahoma City, as they stormed into Michigan - a state known for citizen militias - and set up camp for the enduring attack on patriotic movements. Mr. Dees was as familiar to many Americans during this ordeal as was Dan Rather. One can almost say that Dees was to Oklahoma City what Wolf Blitzer was to the Persian Gulf.

Now the SPLC takes it on the road, as Dees travels about the country preaching his brand of liberality. He often speaks before college audiences, where supple minds are ripe for feel-good altruism.

This man works to gain the trust of young people by displaying the evils of admitted racist organizations that have a tiny number of adherents. Mr. Dees then proceeds to propagate the notion that conservative organizations -- particularly those that are pro-gun or anti-government - pose the same dangers, and thus, must be impeded.

The seeds of multiculturalism are planted in all forms of the media, and the harvest of fear and anger is in full growth. Accordingly, the nobility of the cause of liberty is buried beneath the scare tactics that associate virtuous symbols and causes with loathing and intolerance. For that reason, the professional hate-watchers are the profiteers of divisiveness.

Karen De Coster is a politically incorrect, paleolibertarian CPA, and an MA student in economics at Walsh College in Michigan.

Hate and Slander for Profit - Dissecting the Southern Poverty Law Center Report

This lengthy article on Digger's Realm discusses the Southern Poverty Law Center. View the complete article [here](#).

Morris Dees Background Information

Morris Dees Background Information, as provided by *Discover The Networks*, can be found [here](#).

Morris Dees Fact Sheet

Read the [complete article](#). Originally published by [The Patriotist](#)

"'Til the Cash Comes Flowing Like a River..."

In an article titled Poverty Palace, Morris Dees told journalist John Edgerton that "I had a traditional white Southerner's feeling for segregation."...

"Morris Dees and I [Millard Fuller], from the first day of our partnership, shared one overriding purpose: to make a pile of money. We were not particular about how we did it; we just wanted to be independently rich. During the eight years we worked together we never wavered in that resolve."...

In 1961 when Freedom Riders were beaten by a white mob at a Montgomery bus station, Dees [and Fuller] expressed openly his sympathies and support for what had happened at the bus station.

When one of the men charged with beating the Freedom Riders came to their office for legal representation, Dees and Fuller took the case. The legal fee was paid by the Ku Klux Klan and the White Citizen's Council. [Fuller, Millard. *Love in the Mortar Joints*. New Century Press: 1980 and *The Progressive*, July 1988]...

Arrested and removed from court in 1975 for attempting to suborn perjury [bribing a witness] in the Joan Little murder trial in North Carolina....

Acted as a fundraiser for both Ted Kennedy's 1980 and Gary Hart's 1984 presidential campaigns and received their mailing lists as reward. [Ibid.]

Perhaps explaining the SPLC's 'Gay' rights activism, Dees was cited in 1979 by his ex-wife with a homosexual encounter during their marriage. She also cited numerous affairs with women including his daughter-in-law and underage stepdaughter....

The SPLC's fundraising practices have provoked the disapproval of watchdog groups that monitor charities: In 1993, the American Institute of Philanthropy assigned the SPLC a 'D' grade on a scale of A to F. [American Institute of Philanthropy 1993 Charity Watchdog Report]...

Today, the SPLC's treasury bulges with \$120 million, and it spends twice as much on fund-raising-\$5.76 million last year-as it does on legal services for victims of civil rights abuses...

"What is the Southern Poverty Law Center doing...? Mostly making money..."

In 1994 the Montgomery Advertiser won a journalism award for a series of incisive and penetrating investigative articles exposing the unethical fundraising practices of Dees and the Southern Poverty Law Center...

The SPLC which has crusaded for the rights of blacks for 23 years, is controlled by whites. It has hired only two black staff attorneys in its history, both of whom left unhappy. 12 of 13 former Black employees interviewed by the Montgomery Advertiser complained they experienced or observed racial problems during their employment. Several said the SPLC was "more like a plantation."...

In 1986 the entire SPLC legal staff resigned in protest of Dees refusal to address issues such as poverty, homelessness, voter registration and other issues they considered more pertinent to poor minorities rather than to get rich fighting a Klan chimera....

Dees has actively campaigned for laws in which "associations of two or more persons" who train in the use of firearms for defensive purposes are declared "illegal militias."...

Read the [complete article](#).

Morris Dees Personal Information

The following links to allegedly personal information about Morris Dees are included here for completeness. We do not claim that the information contained in the following material is authentic, correct, or accurate.

["Maureene Bass Dees vs. Morris S. Dees, on Appeal"](#) from the Circuit Court of Montgomery, Alabama, case CIV. 2114 (undated) - alleged court divorce document.

"Blinded by the Lies" 5 part video interview with Jim Floyd exposing Dees' alleged personal background (undated).

Video [part 1](#) [part 2](#) [part 3](#) [part 4](#) [part 5](#)

SPLC - References

- [1] "[King of the Hate Business](#)", Alexander Cockburn, Creators Syndicate (2009)
- [2] "The Church of Morris Dees", By Ken Silverstein, Originally published by *Harpers Magazine* (November, 2000), available on [American Patrol](#).
- [3] "Lump of Coal", *Fairfax Journal* (December 16, 2003)
- [4] "[When a hate crime is something to love](#)", Wesley Pruden, Editor in Chief, *The Washington Times* (February, 2004), published in [criminalgovernment.com](#)
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- [11] "Intolerance Identified", by Karen De Coster, originally published on *ZolaTimes.com*, (December, 2000) and *The Laissez Faire City Times* (December, 2000)
- [12] "[Wypijewski Replies on the SPLC](#)", JoAnn Wypijewski, *The Nation* (February 8, 2001)
- [13] "[Morris Dees background information](#)", *DiscoverTheNetworks.org* (undated)
- [14] [Charity Navigator](#) gave the SPLC an overall rating of only one star out of five and a score of only 39 in 2004. The SPLC received a one star rating in 2003 and a two star rating in 2002. 2006 through 2008 ratings were three stars.
- [15] The American Institute of Philanthropy's [Charity Watch](#) gave the SPLC an overall rating of F from 1999 through August, 2009.

Rating Guide for the SPLC (August, 2009):

5.4 years of available assets. Target is 3 or less.

\$170,240,000 recent fund balance

B- grade on services and costs

F grade reduced based on high asset levels.

Rating Guide for the SPLC (December, 2008):

7.2 years of available assets. Target is 3 or less.

\$219,552,000 recent fund balance

B- grade on services and costs

F grade reduced based on high asset levels.

[16] "[Gaza in Arizona](#)", Debbie Schlusel, *FrontPageMagazine.com* (August 29, 2005)

[17] Dan Morse, "Marketing the Klan", *Montgomery-Advertiser*, November 1994. (The *Montgomery-Advertiser* won a journalism award for a series of investigative articles exposing Dees' unethical fundraising.)

[18] [C-SPAN Q&A interview with Wesley Pruden](#), Editor in Chief, *Washington Times*, transcript (June 5, 2005)

[19] "[Border vigilante ordered to pay in SPLC-sponsored suit](#)", SPLC Report (December, 2006)

[20] "[Editorial: Illegal-alien outrage](#)", *Washington Times* (February, 16, 2009)

[21] [video](#): Wayne Lutton, editor of *The Social Contract* journal, discusses the SPLC, at the National Press Club, Washington, DC (January 13, 2009) "The State of Colorado placed the SPLC on their Charity Watch list as one of ten charities to watch out for."

[22] [Form 990 for the Southern Poverty Law Center](#), Guidestar (2003)

[23] "[Maureene Bass Dees vs. Morris S. Dees, on Appeal](#)" from the Circuit Court of Montgomery, Alabama, case CIV. 2114 (undated) - alleged court divorce document [this website makes no claim as to the authenticity of this document]

[24] "Blinded by the Lies" 5 part video interview with Jim Floyd exposing Dees' alleged personal background (undated) [this website makes no claim as to the accuracy of the opinions expressed in the interview]

Video [part 1](#) [part 2](#) [part 3](#) [part 4](#) [part 5](#)

[25] [James Howard Kunstler blog](#) (February 2, 2009)

[26] [Response of James Howard Kunstler to the SPLC regarding their new "Poverty Palace"](#), Massengale blog (February 8, 2009)

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