

SPLC REPORT



PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER
TEACHING TOLERANCE · INTELLIGENCE PROJECT · LITIGATION

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VOLUME 29, NUMBER 1



Nora Sheets (right) and her 6th grade students paint over hateful graffiti on a Morgantown, West Virginia, store.

W.Va. students give hate the brush-off

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — Last October, 6th grade students from St. Francis Central Catholic School picked up paintbrushes and wiped out signs of hate in their community. More than a dozen students — joined by siblings, parents and teachers — brushed over black spray-painted Skinhead graffiti scrawled on the side of the Sunnyside Superette.

"If we leave this up, it shows we agree with it and we are allowing this to happen in our community," said student Erin Steffke.

Their teacher, Nora Sheets, noticed the graffiti while driving through town and told students

in her 6th grade religion class about it. "We had been discussing good and evil in the world today, and this led us to talk about ways in which we can work together to bring about positive changes," Sheets said. "We also talked about the need to take a stand against hatred and violence."

Students decide graffiti must go

After much discussion, the students concluded that because of the message it conveyed, if the graffiti were allowed to remain on the store, the community could be viewed as apathetic. "Our discussion led us to the quote by

Edward Burke: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for enough good people to do nothing," Sheets said.

Her class relished the opportunity to be role models, not only for their schoolmates but also for the community at large, she said.

With paint provided by the market's owner and muscle supplied by the volunteers, the graffiti was gone in very little time. The students wore T-shirts made in school the day before that sported Margaret Mead's words: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens can change the world." The entire 6th grade

Please turn to p. 3, "W.Va. students..."

Hate group count tops 500; number of Internet sites soars

More than 500 hate groups and group chapters operated in the United States in 1998, a year that saw a number of particularly horrendous hate crimes. Hate sites on the Internet, a primary recruiting tool for the white supremacist movement, increased dramatically during the year, jumping almost 60 percent.

The Center's Intelligence Project counted 537 hate groups and group chapters engaged in racist behavior in 1998 (see map on page 3), a 13 percent increase from the 474 tallied in 1997. The number of neo-Nazi and Ku

Klux Klan groups rose by almost 40 percent, increasing from 227 to 314. The 33 chapters of the Council of Conservative Citizens (CCC) were added to the hate group list after the organization's starkly racist views were revealed in a special Center report, "Sharks in the Mainstream," issued in December.

Not all racists wear hoods

"The CCC is a reminder that organized racists are not always identifiable by their Klan hoods or swastikas. In fact, they come from all walks of life and often wear business suits rather than

brown shirts," said Joe Roy, director of the Intelligence Project. "The CCC, for example, has become so respectable that key politicians such as Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott have felt comfortable addressing its national conference and holding private meetings with its leaders."

A similar effort was seen earlier this decade, when white supremacists moved into antigovernment "Patriot" organizations. Once in these groups, these racist activists downplayed their hatred of blacks and Jews

Please turn to p. 3, "Hate group count..."

Center sues Aryan Nations

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho — The Southern Poverty Law Center in January filed a civil action in Kootenai County District Court here against the Aryan Nations, one of the country's most infamous white supremacist organizations.

The Center's complaint alleges that members of the Aryan Nations security force shot at Victoria Keenan and her son Jason and chased them for over two miles as the Keenans drove down a public road that passes the Aryan Nations compound in nearby Hayden Lake. After the Keenans' car was forced into a ditch, the suit claims, the Aryan Nations security force members held the Keenans at gunpoint and battered and threatened to kill them. The complaint states that the security force had been authorized by Aryan Nations leader Richard Butler to use violence against outsiders seen as threats to the Aryan Nations.

Named as defendants in the Center's suit are the Aryan Nations, Butler and seven others. The suit seeks damages to compensate the Keenans for their injuries and an injunction to prevent a reoccurrence of similar incidents.

The Aryan Nations has been one of the country's most notorious white supremacist groups for over two decades. In the 1980s, Aryan Nations followers helped form The Order, a terrorist group whose crimes ranged from armored car

robberies to murder. In the 1990s, members of the Aryan Republican Army, a group with close ties to the Aryan Nations, carried out more than 20 bank robberies to fund a white supremacist revolution. Aryan Nations members adhere to the Christian Identity

theology, a religion that teaches that Aryans are the true chosen people and must prepare for a coming race war.

Aryan Nations' influence widespread

In 1998, the Aryan Nations was active in at least seven states. But because of its long history and its hosting of a nationwide gathering of white supremacists each summer, its influence is far greater than the number of its members alone would imply.

The lawsuit against the Aryan Nations is one of a series that the Center has brought against hate groups for the violent actions of their members. In its most recent case, the Center won a multimillion-dollar judgment last year against the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan for burning a black church in South Carolina. Working with the Center in its case against the Aryan Nations is Coeur d'Alene lawyer Norman Gissell.

Human rights leaders applauded the action against the Aryan Nations and expressed hope it will lead to the unraveling of the Aryan Nations. "That would be just fine if this lawsuit would result in closing that compound down," said Doug Creswell, chairman of the Kootenai County Task Force on Human Rights.

"Over the years, Richard Butler's Aryan Nations has attracted people into the area who have no respect for law and order," said Bill Wassmuth, director of the Seattle-

based Northwest Coalition Against Malicious Harassment.

"This kind of lawlessness does not represent the good people of Idaho or the region," he said. "A jury will now have an opportunity in this civil case to deal with this lawlessness."



Aryan Nations leader Richard Butler

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The Southern Poverty Law Center is a non-profit organization that combats hate, intolerance, and discrimination through education and litigation. Its programs include Teaching Tolerance and the Intelligence Project, which incorporates Klanwatch and the Militia Task Force. The Center also sponsors the Civil Rights Memorial, which celebrates the memory of 40 individuals who died during the Civil Rights Movement.

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MAILBOX

Starting Small video bridges language gap

The following letter was written by Bea Wehrly, a multicultural counseling consultant and professor at Western Illinois University.

Thank you for your prompt response to my request for a copy of the *Starting Small* teaching kit and for the *Teaching Tolerance* magazine to take along on a mission trip to Panama. The materials arrived in plenty of time for me to take them to the Instituto Panamerica in Panama City, Republic of Panama.

The Rev. Sonia Ortigoza, who is in charge of the school of 4,000 students, was delighted to receive the materials. At first, she thought they would need to pay \$250 for the *Starting Small* teaching kit, and she was concerned

about getting the money to buy it. When I told her that the Southern Poverty Law Center was furnishing these materials at no charge to the mission school, tears came to her eyes.

We used the *Starting Small* video in a workshop that I conducted for teachers on January 16 at the Instituto. Since I am not fluent in Spanish, a Methodist missionary assigned to Panama translated the content of the video for the teachers. Of course, much of the content did not need translation — the pictures told the story on their own.



This past Saturday morning I had a leaflet placed on my driveway inviting me to join the KKK in Texas. This extra donation is my answer.

W. H.
Cedar Hill, Texas

I was appalled when Washington state passed the anti-affirmative action law and am rather ashamed to live in a state where we seem to display our prejudices so publicly. It is small compensation that the county where I live voted against the measure.

But prejudices exist everywhere, and one must live somewhere and work against bigotry in whatever small way one can. This seems an especially good time to re-establish my contribution to the Center. I very much admire the work you are doing.

M. L.
Seattle, Washington

I joined the SPLC in August with a small donation, all I could afford. I am a 73-year-old widow who lives mostly on Social Security. Three of my grandchildren are lucky that their parents can indulge their every desire or need. This year, I've decided that the money I send to each for Chanukah must go where it is needed. I want my grandchildren to develop a sense of responsibility to their fellow human beings. Therefore, I am sending a check in their names to the SPLC, hoping that they will not think their Grandma doesn't love

them. I do, but want them to look outside themselves.

A. K.
West Orange, New Jersey

I am a middle-school teacher who is also lesbian. I have read your publication for the past five years and find it affirming to read and to know your organization exists. I applaud your tireless efforts to inform the public about hate and intolerance that, unfortunately, exists in our world today. Please do not stop! Thank you making me feel like a worthy human being. I try, every day, to teach my students the virtues of acceptance and diversity, and your work has helped me immensely. Thank you.

E. W.
Enfield, New Hampshire

Thank you for the free package, *America's Civil Rights Movement*, which includes the film, book and teacher's guide. It is very well done and appropriate to our curriculum, especially for our lessons in February. We have used it as our students learn about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the civil rights movement, and the citizenship and democracy of our country. It has become part of our permanent library collection for use in the future. Thank you for your excellent resources and your support of teachers and students and intercultural understanding in the classroom.

J. S.
Library Information Specialist
Lakewood, Colorado



Students learn history at Memorial

More than 100 students from Brown Barge Middle School in Pensacola, Florida, visited the Civil Rights Memorial in January as part of their 12-week multicultural unit, "African-American History and the Struggle for Equality." Their teachers, Linda Fussell and Martha Smith, are enthusiastic about the *Teaching Tolerance* materials they use in their school. Thousands of students — from kindergarten through college — come to the Memorial each year.

SPLC Report 3/99 Center's court victory enables hundreds to obtain licenses



Martha Sandoval proudly displays her Alabama driver's license, earned after the Center successfully sued the state on her behalf.

MOBILE, Ala. — Hundreds of Spanish-speaking people lined up to take their driver's license tests after a court ordered the state of Alabama to offer the exam in their language. Among the first to pass the exam was Martha Sandoval, a legal immigrant who — with the Center's help — successfully sued the state after she was forced to walk miles to work when she couldn't pass the test in English.

A federal court ruled last June that Alabama's requirement that its driver's license examination be offered only in English violated the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964. Prior to 1991, Alabama administered the written test in at least 14 languages. But the practice was stopped after the ratification of an amendment to the state's constitution that declared English to be the official language of the state. After the Center prevailed in its class action lawsuit, the state resumed offering the tests in Spanish and six other foreign languages in September. By mid-December, a total of 1,054 Spanish-speaking Alabamians had taken the driver's test.

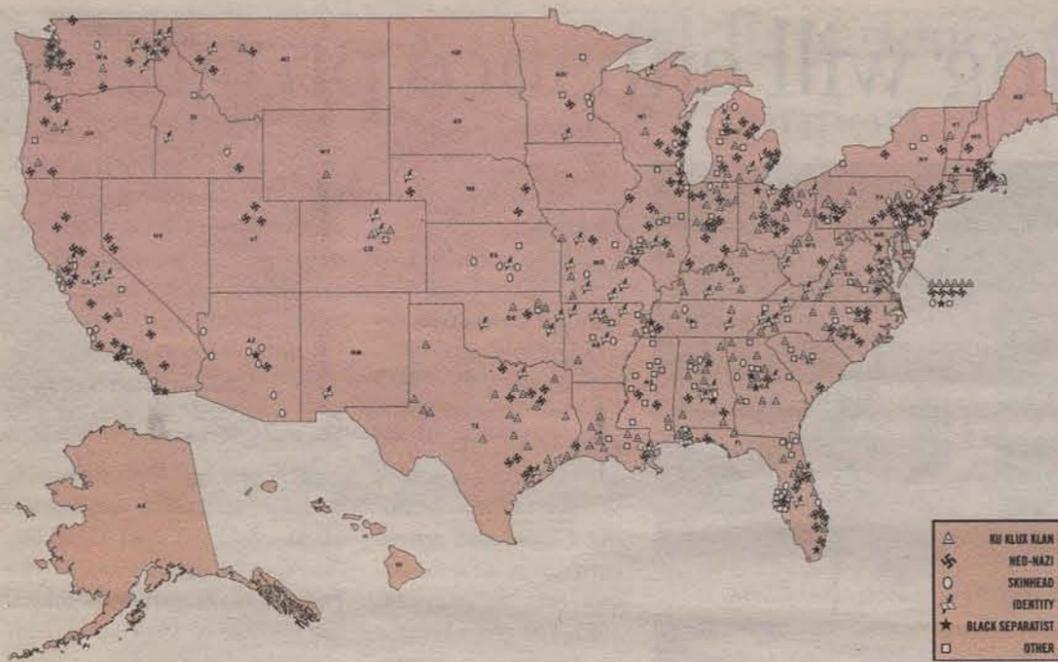
"We won an important victory," said Center legal director

Richard Cohen. "It will help thousands of immigrants overcome their isolation and become full participants in the economic and social life of our state."

Court ruling wins praise

Latino advocates praised the long-awaited legal access to Alabama's highways for immigrants drawn to the state's abundant jobs. Having a driver's license carries other valuable benefits, they say, such as the ability to purchase car insurance and to begin establishing credit. "These people have a need to drive," said Rene de Leon, a University of Alabama doctoral student working under a federal grant to assist the Latino population in north Alabama. "It's the only way they have to get to work."

Being a licensed driver means no more costly tickets for driving without a license, said Brenda Bullock, director of Hispanic Ministries for the Catholic diocese of Birmingham. Many legal residents were treated as illegals if they had no license to show as identification, she said. "It's giving them an opportunity to become legal and documented so they can know the laws here," Bullock said.



Hate group count tops 500

Continued from page 1

and instead concentrated on relatively mainstream issues like opposition to gun control and federal regulation of the land and environment. The result was a movement that spread for a time like wildfire and reached its peak just before the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995.

"In the early '90s, the radical right was immensely successful in recruiting by exploiting resentment of the federal government," said Roy. "Now, we're seeing many of the same activists using fears about non-white immigration and issues like opposition to abortion to build up an extremist movement that has racist underpinnings."

Academic racism fuels extremists

At the same time, academia has played an important part in giving hate groups the legitimacy they seek. Race scientists, contending that blacks are inherently less intelligent than whites and more prone to crime, have fueled extremist groups that use

the scientists' work to justify their hatred and demeaning of non-whites. Like the CCC, these scientists have created a "safe haven" for views that are repugnant to most.

The Intelligence Project's updated report on hate groups, accompanied by a series of in-depth articles about hate in America, was published in its Winter issue of the *Intelligence Report*. The information is also posted on the Center's Web site (www.splcenter.org). Some of the key findings in this year's report include the following:

Internet hate sites increase

On the Internet, hate sites rose from 163 in 1997 to 254 last year, as more and more hate groups took advantage of a medium that has allowed them to reach millions.

- Of the 537 hate groups, 163 were Klan organizations and their chapters, up from 127 the year before; 151 were neo-Nazi, up from 100; 48 were racist Skinhead, six more than a

year earlier; 29 were black separatist, compared to 12 in 1997; and 84 followed a hodge-podge of hate-based doctrines.

- The American Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, notable for its graphically racist talk and the criminal records of its leaders, continued its explosive growth for the second year, increasing the number of its chapters by 50 percent, from 18 to 27. The American Knights is the largest and most aggressive Klan group in the country.

- The neo-Nazi National Alliance, headed by William Pierce, author of the race war novel *The Turner Diaries*, cultivated ties to a number of other organizations — including some white American ethnic societies and overseas groups — in a bid to widen its influence.

- The National Association for the Advancement of White People was decimated by a rancorous split, dropping from 79 chapters in 1997 to just 13 last year.

New staff help Center work more efficiently

Three new employees recently joined the Center's staff. Keshia Braswell and Kathy Mann came on board in November, and in January, Roselyn Simmons became a permanent employee after serving several months in a temporary position.

Braswell is a shipping clerk in the mail operations department, where she processes the mail and packages for all the Center's departments. She also handles all the requests for Teaching Tolerance materials. For the past year, she worked as a temporary employee in a variety of mail operations positions, including cashier and data-entry keyer. A 1995 graduate of Montgomery's St. Jude High School, she studied early childhood education for two years at Alabama State University.



Keshia Braswell



Kathy Mann

"I love working here," Braswell said. "The people are nice, and the whole environment is wonderful. Plus, I get to communicate with all kinds of people who order our materials."

As purchasing assistant, Mann handles all routine print orders and office supplies for all of the Center's departments. Prior to joining the Center, she worked as a customer service representative for five years at Wells Printing, a Montgomery company that has done work for the Center since its earliest days. She now serves as liai-

son with several vendors in handling many of the Center's printing jobs.

"It's real hectic," Mann said about her work, "but I like that." She was already familiar with the Center's goals when she joined its staff and is pleased to now be a part of its team whose work helps others. "I used to dream about being in a helping profession like a nurse or counselor," she said. "I feel that my portion of the Center's work is, in fact, helping people."

Simmons is the Center's new clerical assistant in the legal department. She is available to help all its lawyers and paralegals with a variety of tasks, including file maintenance. Simmons, who has also worked in the fundraising and administrative departments, also serves as back-up to the Center's switchboard operator.

A graduate of Central High School in Hayneville, Alabama, Simmons attended Alabama State University where she majored in early childhood education. Her previous jobs include working as a proof operator at SouthTrust Bank and operating a home day-care center. "It's a real privilege to work with the Center's legal staff," she said. "Not only am I learning so much more about the Center's work, but I also feel I'm making an important contribution to it."

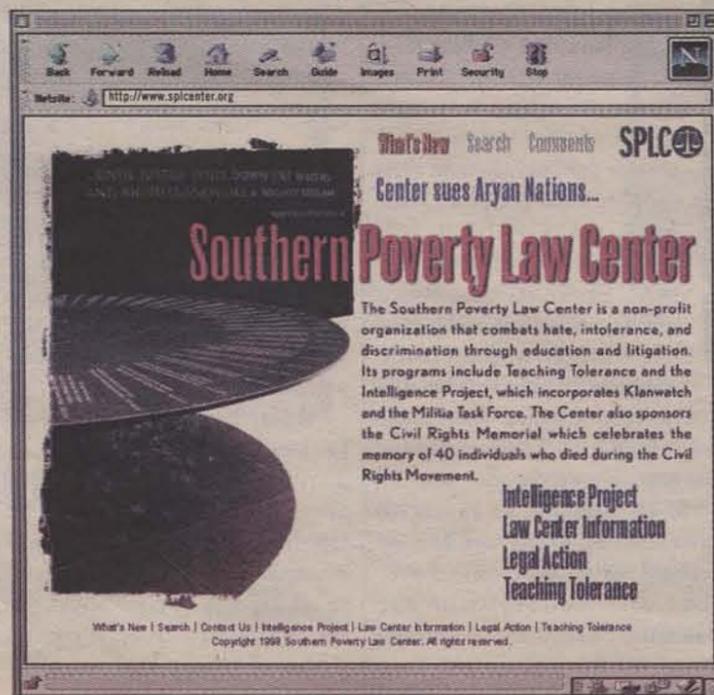


Roselyn Simmons

Center's Web site has new look

Home page features Civil Rights Memorial

The Center's site on the World Wide Web got a fresh new look earlier this year. Created by Center design director Rodney Diaz, the updated site (www.splcenter.org) also added new user-friendly features, such as a site search engine. A vast amount of information is available on the site, including articles from each quarterly issue of the Center's *Intelligence Report*. Back issues are archived. Each month, the Teaching Tolerance project posts a new classroom activity for teachers.



W.Va. students give hate the brush-off

Continued from page 1

class painted a paper mural to hang on the side of the building while Sheets' students painted.

Sheets said the project promoted a sense of pride and accomplishment that lasted more than that one Saturday. "The students said in class the following week that the experience had bonded them as a group," she said. "One thoughtful student expressed his hope that the graffiti painters would one day be able to overcome their hatred for others. As a teacher, I was truly impressed with my students' commitment and determination to take a stand for what they believed in."

An article in the local newspaper about the students' project prompted praise from Paul Sheri-

dan, a West Virginia senior assistant attorney general in the civil rights division. "I was very impressed and inspired by your efforts," he wrote in a letter. "Actions like yours really do make a difference. The hearts and minds of people who notice are affected." Sheridan sent the students a supply of "Erase the Hate" buttons.

Teaching Tolerance gets credit

Sheets credited the Center's Teaching Tolerance materials for many of the ideas she regularly uses in her classroom. "Thank you for the work you do," she said. "The Center does a great service for schools by offering materials and ideas. We can't thank you enough."

Center's new building will enhance programs

Construction of a new office building for the Southern Poverty Law Center begins in April. The modern six-story office is going up across the street from the Center's current location in downtown Montgomery. When the 18-month project is completed in 2000, all of the Center's employees will work under one roof for the first time in years, and there will be space available to add additional staff for future Center projects.



Architect's drawing of Center's new building

"Our need and desire to expand our programs was the driving force behind the decision to build a new facility," said Center president Joe Levin. "We are especially concerned that the needs of our current and future programs directed toward issues of tolerance have adequate room to thrive in the next century."

When the Center's current office was completed in 1985, only about 25 to 30 employees made up its staff. At that time, its Klanwatch program was in its fledgling years, and its Teaching

Tolerance project — created in 1991 — wasn't even imagined. Today, the Center employs some 80 people to operate its various programs, and they have been housed in six separate buildings for the past two years.

Current situation is inefficient

"This is not an efficient arrangement," said Levin. "We are out of space, and our scattered locations inhibit a free flow of ideas. In addition, the programmatic demands of Teaching Tol-

erance and the Intelligence Project, plus the needs of our legal department, have outstripped our ability to properly serve them. We need to build in order to have space so that our staff can produce the products necessary to accomplish our mission."

The Center began operation in 1971 in three small rooms rented in the Washington Building, just two blocks down the street from its present site in Montgomery. Its staff moved briefly into a two-story Victorian-era house on McDonough Street. In 1974, a former dentist's

office at 1001 S. Hull Street became the Center's home.

Three members of the Ku Klux Klan firebombed that building in 1983, and Center officials began to plan for a new, more secure structure. In the spring of 1984, ground was broken for the new building. Center staff moved into their new headquarters on May 24, 1985. The arson became an impetus for growth, and over the next 16 years, the Center's work expanded into new areas and its staff more than doubled.

"The attack served to strengthen the commitment of the Center's staff and its donors," Levin said.

Security concerns also influenced the Center's most recent decision to build a new office. Over the years, its aggressive and highly visible response to hate crime earned it a top spot on the enemy list of the militant white supremacists. Protecting employees working in six separate sites strained its strict security procedures.

The new building is designed by Erdy McHenry Architecture of Haddonfield, N.J., and The Hillier Group of Princeton, N.J. The Philadelphia branch of the American Institute of Architects recently gave the design an excellence award in its "Public Architecture: For the Common Good" category.

The Center's current building, which is the site of the Civil Rights Memorial, will be converted into a visitors' center that will provide greater understanding of the significance of the martyrs named and events depicted on the Memorial.

South Carolina lawyer joins Center legal staff

In January, the Center welcomed a new staff attorney, Pete Tepley, to its legal department.

Tepley joined the staff after working two years with Center attorneys as the South Carolina counsel in the Center's lawsuit against the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. The Center won a multi-million judgment

Despite a heavy litigation schedule, Tepley also served as vice president of South Carolina's chapter of the American

Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). His ACLU work included cases involving prisoners' rights and discrimination against people with HIV and AIDS. Tepley also fought bills before the South Carolina general assembly that would



Pete Tepley

have legalized discrimination against gays and lesbians.

"Pete really proved himself in the South Carolina Klan case," said Center legal director Cohen. "We were lucky to get him to pull up stakes and come join us in Montgomery."

Tepley graduated *cum laude* in 1993 from the University of South Carolina School of Law. As a student, he served as the legislative editor for the *South Carolina Environmental Law Journal* and was a recipient of three American Jurisprudence Awards. He was also a member of the Order of the Coif and Order of Wig and Robe.

Tepley received his undergraduate degree from New College of the University of South Florida. He then worked in computer operations for a company in Austin, Texas, and later the Policy Management Systems Corporation in South Carolina.

Tepley replaces Marcia Bull Stader, who left the Center in December to join her husband in Birmingham. She is associated with a private law firm which specializes in labor and employment law.

Speech-impaired get help under court agreement

March 1999

MONTGOMERY, Ala. - The Alabama Medicaid Agency agreed in December to begin paying for special communication devices for children and adults with severe speech disorders.

The agreement signals the end of the Center's class action lawsuit against the agency and the beginning of new opportunities for speech-impaired children and adults in Alabama.

Policy was unfair

"These devices are as important to people who can't speak as hearing aids are to people who can't hear," said Center senior staff Attorney Rhonda Brownstein. "Given that Alabama Medicaid has long paid for hearing aids, it was unfair for the agency not to pay for 'speaking aids.'"

Having an augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) device allows people with severe speech disorders to carry on conversations with family, friends, doctors, classmates and

others, Brownstein said. The devices are portable computers with audio systems that communicate typed messages out loud.



Danielle Brown

Notice of the new policy was sent to members of the Speech and Hearing Association of Alabama and other advocacy groups to help get the word out, Brownstein said. Speech disorder experts estimate that more than 100 Alabamians may need the

devices in the next three or four years.

The lawsuit was filed by the Center in June on behalf of a six-year-old girl, Danielle Brown, from Birmingham. The first-grader suffers from a chromosome abnormality that impairs her ability to speak. The Center's lawsuit claimed that Medicaid violated laws that prohibit discrimination against disabled persons when officials refused to provide an AAC device for Danielle and other Medicaid recipients like her.

Danielle received her AAC device in August in a partial settlement of the case. Now others who meet the relevant criteria will be able to receive theirs. The Center will monitor implementation of the new policy for a year.

Lewis Golinker, an expert on laws relating to the use of new technology to aid disabled persons, and attorneys with the Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program worked on the case with the Center's staff.



Singing "One Song, Many Voices," which premiered at the Friends of the UN (FUN) awards luncheon, are Carole Sumner Krechman (from left), FUN chair; Robert Ryte of the UN International School; Peter Antonijevic, director of the film Saviors; Dennis Quaid, star of Saviors; Howard Berkowitz, chairman of the Anti-Defamation League; Sara Bullard, representing the Southern Poverty Law Center; Mark Williams, composer of the song; Mrs. Nane Annan, wife of the secretary general of the UN; and Tahar Ben Jelloun, author and honoree.

Friends of the U.N. honor Teaching Tolerance project

NEW YORK — In November, the Friends of the United Nations bestowed its first Global Tolerance Award to the Teaching Tolerance project. The prize recognizes individuals and institutions that have significantly advanced tolerance through an unwavering determination to combat racism, prejudice, anti-Semitism and hate violence. The accomplishments of the Anti-Defamation League and novelist Tahar Ben Jelloun also were celebrated.

Center supporters play role

Sara Bullard, Teaching Tolerance's founding director, represented the Center at the awards ceremony. In her acceptance speech, Bullard commented on the special role that Center supporters play in making Teaching Tolerance's work possible. "I want to emphasize that the success of Teaching Tolerance cannot be credited to the work of a few individuals," she said. "Today, the magazine is distributed to nearly half a million teachers across the country.

That's an expensive undertaking, and it is funded entirely by the Center's 400,000 individual contributors. Without them, there would be no Teaching Tolerance project."

Since its inception in 1991, Teaching Tolerance has received numerous awards from educational and community organizations, as well as national and international journalism and film competitions. Last May, in recognition of its "outstanding contributions to the multicultural field," Teaching Tolerance received the coveted Honor Award from the National Multicultural Institute. And in December, the New York Festival's International Non-Broadcast Media Competition awarded *Starting Small*, the film component of the project's early childhood teacher training kit, a WorldMedal in the multicultural education category. The Center has distributed more than 41,000 free copies of *Starting Small: Teaching Tolerance in Preschool and the Early Grades* to schools nationwide.



Center official leads national group

Eddie Ashworth, the Center's director of operations, was recently elected chairman and president of the National Federation of Nonprofits. The organization's members include more than 300 small to medium-sized charities working on environmental, veterans, Catholic, gay and lesbian, law enforcement, poverty and education issues. The Federation represents charities on matters involving donor privacy, First Amendment free speech issues and state and federal regulatory agencies. Ashworth joined the Center's staff in 1992.

Experience with bigotry inspires Center supporter to spread Teaching Tolerance

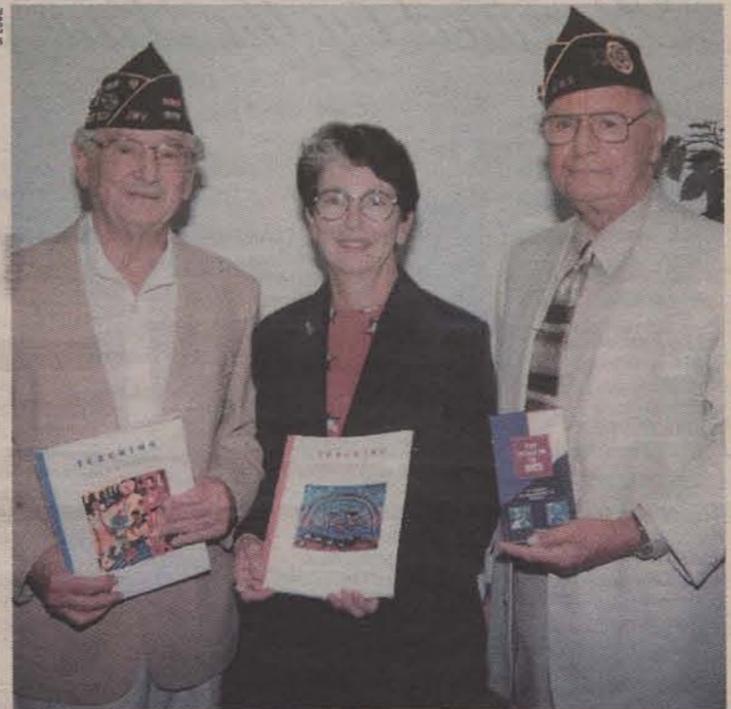
PHOENIX — Center supporter Jack Nemerov experienced prejudice firsthand while serving as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army during World War II, the great struggle against hatred and genocide. A half-century later, that memory inspires him to work diligently against bigotry by spreading the Center's Teaching Tolerance materials in the schools here.

The sole Jew in his battalion during the war, Nemerov worked for an anti-Semitic major and soon found himself — an officer — assigned to garbage detail. The veteran recalls clearly the frustration and humiliation he experienced. "[My major] never addressed me by my name or rank; it was always, 'Hey, you!' And every day at 3 a.m., he had a duty officer wake me and remind me that I had to go around collecting the garbage at 5 a.m.," said Nemerov.

Holocaust memories

It is this recollection, coupled with the horrors of the Holocaust, that have compelled Nemerov and his associate, Irvin Lipman, to help reduce the chances that others will be similarly affected by bigotry. The two men, representing the Jewish War Veterans Post #303, have undertaken the daunting task of bringing the Center's Teaching Tolerance program into all of Arizona's schools.

Nemerov and Lipman work hard to fulfill their goal. "Irv and I devised the plan of having the school district offices work as our allies," said Nemerov. After they secure a favorable endorsement from a district administrator and also a list of principals, the veterans begin contacting schools within a giv-



Irvin Lipman (left) and Jack Nemerov, representing the Jewish War Veterans Post #303, discuss the Center's Teaching Tolerance project with Dr. Margo Olivares-Seck, superintendent of the Dysart School District. The two veterans have introduced Teaching Tolerance to 200 schools in the Phoenix metropolitan area.

en district. "The process of obtaining an appointment with the correct person requires a great deal of patience, as schools are inundated with tons of junk mail. Each appointment we obtain necessitates at least six phone calls and several mailings of brochures," said Nemerov.

Materials placed in 200 schools

Since launching their efforts in January 1998, the two men personally have introduced Teaching Tolerance materials to more than 200 schools, all of which have decided to order the anti-bias tools for their classrooms. The Center supplies its resources, including the semiannual magazine, *Teaching Tolerance*, the project's three video-and-text kits and the "One World" poster set,

at no charge. Free distribution of the materials is made possible through the generosity of the Center's supporters.

"The efforts of Mr. Nemerov and Mr. Lipman are truly impressive — and invaluable to the success of our program," said Jim Carnes, director of Teaching Tolerance. "We spend very little on advertising, so campaigns like this are vital in helping to spread the word about the free resources that are available to schools and educators. On behalf of Teaching Tolerance and the Center, I extend our sincere gratitude to these men for their demonstrated commitment to equity education."

Educators can receive information on Teaching Tolerance materials by faxing a request to (334) 264-3121.

New staff expand work of Teaching Tolerance

The Center's Teaching Tolerance project welcomed two new staff members in January. Jennifer Holladay, who joined the Center as its development coordinator in 1996, now works as Teaching Tolerance's program coordinator, a new position created to help the Center foster relationships with other organizations involved in anti-bias education. She also will oversee a survey analysis and evaluation of the Teaching Tolerance project.



Jennifer Holladay

Staff writer Tim Walker assists with the writing and editing of *Teaching Tolerance* magazine and the project's other educational materials. Walker, who earned a

Bachelor of the Arts in International Affairs from George Washington University, worked previously as managing editor at the Close Up Foundation, a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to promoting citizen involvement in government and the democratic process.

During his 10-year career with the Foundation, he helped develop a variety of educational resources for high school students. Recent accomplishments include the publication of *The*



Tim Walker

First Amendment: America's Blueprint for Tolerance and *Current Issues*. He also assisted in the production of several public policy videos on topics such as affirmative action and immigration.

"I am pleased to be joining an effort with the history and impact of the Southern Poverty Law Center," said Walker. "I look forward to writing for Teaching Tolerance's broad and diverse audience of educators, who are the frontline activists in furthering equity for America's children." A native New Zealander, Walker also has lived in England and the West Indies.

Memorial and Honorary Gifts

Received by the Law Center from October to December 1998

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Securing the future: the SPLC endowment

Every year since 1974, the Southern Poverty Law Center has set aside a small amount of money for the Center's Endowment Fund. This fund was established to ensure that the educational and legal work of the Center would be funded in the future.

The long-term nature of the Center's work makes this kind of planning essential. The goal is to eventually free the Center from dependence on expensive direct-mail fundraising, and allow it to operate solely from investment income. At the end of 1998, the Endowment stood at \$102 million.

The work must go on

There is much to do, and it takes money to do it. To pro-

mote the acceptance of diversity, the Teaching Tolerance project must create and distribute educational materials for years to come. This effort alone will cost millions of dollars.

Some of the Center's legal cases remain in the courts for years, the costs reaching as high as \$500,000 or more. Yet the Center's legal department must be ready — and able — to act whenever justice and fairness are at risk. In January, as the story on page 1 details, the Center sued the most notorious racist, neo-Nazi group in America, the Aryan Nations.

The Center's Intelligence Project continues to investigate and expose the activities of white supremacists and anti-government "Patriots." This

activity becomes larger and more necessary every year — and more costly.

Long-term insurance

The Center's long-range endowment goal is to eventually eliminate expensive fundraising activities and operate the Center from investment income. This is a strategy being employed by other established groups, including the NAACP, the Sierra Club Centennial Fund and the Anti-Defamation League.

Colleges and universities have long seen the need for endowments. Even colleges with as few as 5,000 students have endowments as large as \$300 million. Large institutions such as Harvard have several billion dollars in their endowments.

In the past, a few people have criticized the Center and other groups for their endowment programs. They view the Center and others as charities that should exist strictly on a hand-to-mouth basis. Yet that type of existence is simply not prudent when planning long-term programs.

Other groups learned a hard lesson

Not planning for the funding of long-term programs has led to the demise of many organizations with excellent programs. These groups ceased to exist because they lacked reliable, long-term funding. The same fate could befall the Center if it had no alternative to expensive fundraising.

Today, fundraising costs continue to rise — a perfect exam-

ple is the recent postage increase. Printing and mailing costs have risen much faster than the average donation. We don't look for this situation to change.

Supporters understand

We are fortunate that Center supporters understand the wisdom of raising funds for the daily operation of the Center and its programs, while still building the endowment. By continuing to support the work of the Center, concerned individuals are establishing the legacy of a permanent organization that will litigate to protect the rights of the poor, continue to teach tolerance in our schools, and be poised to move quickly against violent antigovernment "patriot" and hate groups.

Bequests

The Southern Poverty Law Center pays tribute to the memory of its deceased supporters listed below and gratefully acknowledges their including the Center in their wills and other planned gifts. This list includes bequests received from January 1, 1998, through January 31, 1999.

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New employees work to help Center donors

Two new staff members recently joined the Center's fundraising department. After working with the Center on a temporary basis for more than two years, Felecia Taylor accepted the position of special gifts coordinator. Bob McQueen came on board in January as direct mail manager.

A Montgomery native, Taylor attended Concordia College, where she was vice-president of the student body and also played basketball. "I am honored to be part of the Center's team. The SPLC changes lives and makes people aware of social issues in a positive way," said Taylor. "I look forward to working directly with our supporters. Without them, there would be no Center."

McQueen has 25 years' experience as an associate creative director and copywriter with advertising agencies in Chicago, Detroit, North Carolina and Wisconsin. A native of Illinois and a graduate of the University of Illinois, McQueen moved to Montgomery with his wife and two daughters.

"One of the single most important things my daughters can learn is how to respect and get along with others who are different from them. We've always tried to talk about that at home," he said. "This is a chance to show we mean it by switching gears, moving halfway across the country and working at the Center."

"Also, it goes without saying that we need supporters in order to do the work; Teaching Tolerance, the legal department and the Intelligence Project all need long-term funding," McQueen said. "But there is another real upside to our loyal donors — their interest and involvement in the Center goes beyond money. When you read the notes and letters that arrive every week, it's quickly apparent just how much our supporters care about the work of the Center. It is a daily reminder that we're doing good things here."



Felecia Taylor



Bob McQueen

In addition to the new faces in fundraising, there also have been some staff changes. For the past two years, Ashley Alred Thomas was the Center's donor relations coordinator. Now she serves as development coordinator. "I look forward to building relationships with more of the Center's dedicated supporters," she said. Thomas replaces Jennifer Holladay, who is now a program coordinator with the Center's Teaching Tolerance project.

Moving from a research slot with the Center's Intelligence Project is Tafeni English, who now serves as Center relations coordinator. In that role, she answers inquiries from Center donors, provides tours of the Center to visitors and makes presentations about the Center's work to a variety of student groups. "I'm excited about communicating with Center supporters and sharing our work with visiting educational groups," she said. Thomas and English's history with the Center will enable them to fall quickly into step with their new positions.

Memorial Fund provides gift for *Starting Small*

The Center recently received a special gift from the Mark B. Kalmanash Memorial Fund that will go toward distribution of Teaching Tolerance's third video-and-text kit, *Starting Small*. Mark's mother, Paula Kalmanash — a longtime Center supporter — made the memorial contribution possible.



Mark B. Kalmanash

Marc Kalmanash was born on February 28, 1947, in Brooklyn, New York. Following in his father's footsteps, Marc yearned to become a lawyer to help promote justice. In 1972, he earned his law degree from Columbia University. Upon graduation, he was employed with the Parker, Chapin, Flattau & Kimpl law

firm of New York. It was there that his career flourished and that he met Barbara, his future wife. They were married in June of 1978. During their honeymoon trip to Europe, Marc Kalmanash was tragically killed in an automobile accident.

The Center is grateful to be a recipient of funds from the Marc B. Kalmanash Memorial Fund. We honor Mr. Kalmanash and his efforts for justice.

Retired pilot shares enthusiasm for Center's work

PENSACOLA, Fla. — Retired Navy pilot Floyd Brown discovered the Center six years ago through one of its mail appeals and has been a devoted supporter since. "I don't know where the Center got my name, but its letter about Teaching Tolerance caught me," he said. "And I thought, if this is true, then it's the best thing I've seen about teaching tolerance and equality."

Brown, a fixed-wing pilot in the U.S. Navy for 30 years, has seen much in his life. His career took him to both east and west coasts as well as overseas. While living in California in the 1950s, he carpoled from Laguna Beach to San Diego with Scott Carpenter, one of America's first astronauts. He lived for a while in Key West and ended up retiring in Pensacola, the town where he learned to fly and where he met and married his wife, Mary, 54 years ago. Brown also spent three years as a trooper for the Kansas Highway Patrol. He flew gliders from 1966 to 1995, and, until two years ago, gave flight instructions at Pensacola's Navy Flying Club. Brown has operated



Floyd Brown and friends

Pensacola visitors included Annie Thurman (from left); Betty "Boop" Libke of the Belles and Beaux; Floyd Brown; his daughter Carol Williams; niece Carmen Yafi; wife Mary; retired Navy commander Betty Wright; Floyd and Myrtle Pike; and musician and motorcycle instructor Tewanna Rich.

the Pensacola Motorcycle Rider Training Center since 1980.

Center materials created interest

After making his initial donation to the Center, Brown received an information packet and samples of its publications. "The more I read, the more I was

interested," he said. He read all of the Center's publications and passed them on to others. He took the video, *Seeking Justice*, and showed it at an adult day care center sponsored by the local Council on Aging. When Center co-founder Morris Dees spoke at a local junior college,

Brown and his daughter Carol Williams went to hear him.

A gregarious man, full of energy and enthusiasm, Brown resolved to introduce others to the Center's Civil Rights Memorial and educational programs. He wanted to visit the Center and learn more about its work directly from its staff. In mid-December — after months of planning — Brown rented a large van, loaded it with nine friends and family members and drove up to Montgomery.

Traveling was complicated by the fact that Williams, diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1984, is confined to a wheelchair. The rented van had no chair lift, and getting her in was difficult. But Brown persevered in his determination that she be a part of the outing to the Center and insisted that Williams come

along. When they arrived in Montgomery, members of the Center's security staff helped lift Williams out of the van.

Also included in the group were friends Brown met through mutual membership in Belles and Beaux, a Pensacola singing group composed of men and women over age 55, and friends from church. The group turned the three-hour trip to Montgomery into a songfest, singing the gospel, Dixieland and country-and-western standards that the Belles and Beaux regularly perform.

Representatives from the Center's three departments — legal, Intelligence Project and Teaching Tolerance — described their work in detail to Brown's group and answered their questions. A variety of publications was distributed to the Pensacola visitors, and pictures were made in front of the Civil Rights Memorial. After everyone was settled back in the van for the return trip to Pensacola, Brown passed his hat, asking his passengers to make their own financial contributions to the Center. Brown's mission was accomplished.

Partners for the Future

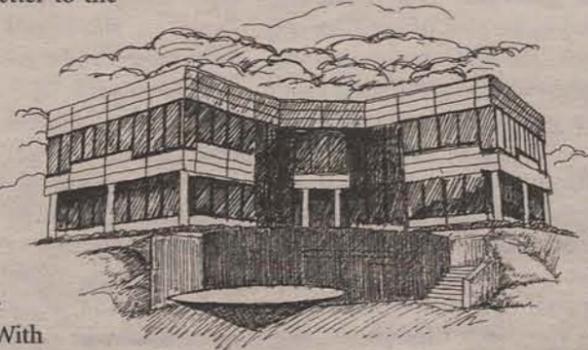
A Way to Help More Than You Thought You Could

The Southern Poverty Law Center has established a planned giving program called Partners for the Future. By participating in Partners for the Future through wills and other special gifts, Center donors can extend their support for equality and justice beyond their lifetimes.

If you plan to or have already remembered the Center in your will or estate plans, please help the Center update its records by sending a letter to the address below.

With the goal of eventually freeing itself from the uncertainties of fundraising, the Center established a permanent endowment in 1974. The Center's goal is to have an endowment large enough to sustain its current level of activities, to fund new projects and lawsuits as the need arises, and to protect the Center from inflation. The Endowment now stands at \$103 million. With your help through Partners for the Future, the Center will reach its goal of self-sufficiency.

The Endowment Fund is a "pact with future generations" that will help ensure resources for the Center's work well into the 21st century.



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IN MEMORIAM

Joan Davis Lockwood (1922-1998)

Longtime activist Joan Davis Lockwood of Tulsa, Oklahoma, died August 16.

Born with an innate talent for the theatre, Mrs. Lockwood studied dance, singing, and acting from a very early age. When she was only 12 years old, she earned the privilege of performing with Micky Rooney and Olivia DeHaviland in the Hollywood Bowl's premiere of *A Midsummer's Night Dream*. The show was a tremendous success, and young Joan was asked to join the tour. At the behest of her mother, she declined and finished school in Tulsa. However, this unforgettable experience spurred her desire to someday perform again. Upon graduation from Wellesley College in 1943, Mrs. Lockwood was chosen to sing on the New York Nightclub Tour.

In 1945 she married Robert R. Lockwood Jr., and, soon after, they started their family. Mrs. Lockwood, a mother of six, felt a strong need to help others. She served on the board of the Tulsa Center for the Physically Limited, supported the Tulsa Day Center for the Homeless, and worked with United Way. Mrs. Lockwood

also was the founder and president of the Tulsa Tennis Foundation, a member of the League of Women Voters and the Tulsa Junior League.

"In the Lockwood home," said daughter Connie, "everyone, regardless of color or religious, ethnic, or political background, was welcomed warmly with open arms." The Lockwood children were raised to embrace diversity. In 1969, during the

Cold War, the Lockwoods took a summer vacation to the Soviet Union and East Germany. "That trip opened everyone's eyes to the reality that human beings are truly the same all over the world," Connie said.

"There were many sides to Joan Davis Lockwood, but she will be forever remembered by those closest to her as an intellect, an actress, an advocate for humanity, and above all, a very warm, loving and lovely lady. She had a great talent of 'giving' with her mind, her words, and her heart," said Connie.

After Mrs. Lockwood died, her family decided to continue that tradition of giving and requested that donations be made in Mrs. Lockwood's memory to the Center.

