

# Hate In America - Funders Update

June 2019

Since Reveal Digital joined ITHAKA in February, we have spoken to nearly two dozen librarians, teachers and activists who work with high school students, college students and people from marginalized communities about the collection formerly called Newspapers of the Ku Klux Klan. We heard two messages consistently and clearly from this group.

1. The content proposed for this collection is important and needs to be widely accessible for study to help prevent groups that espouse a similar ideology from gaining such a powerful influence again and to guard against revisionist history.
2. At the same time, the material reflects a hate-filled ideology and must be presented in a responsible way with clear context and a non-neutral approach

In response to all we heard, we have adopted important changes to the project.

1. We are changing the name from Newspaper of the Ku Klux Klan to Hate In America, White Nationalism and the Press in the 1920s. The name in itself begins to provide context to the collection.
2. We are expanding the project's target title list to include newspapers published by groups attacked by the Klan and other white nationalist groups during this period. As you will see when you spend time in the collection, the Klan's attacks were primarily focused on the Catholic Church and immigration. Racial and ethnic groups were also frequent targets. We are working with the Catholic News Archive team to identify and acquire rights to Catholic newspapers that had a strong anti-Klan voice in the 1920s. We are also looking for Jewish, Labor and African American newspapers from the time. Here is a [link to the revised target title list](#) that you can sort or filter by category.

- We have added [a new "Context" page](#) to the site. The context page contains links to books, articles, essays, scholarly blog posts and maps that provide historical context to white nationalism in the 1920s and its parallels to today. Users will also find an extensive list of lesson plans on understanding and responding to bigotry and racism. There are links to the Context page from the introductory text on the home page and on the top navigation bar, which is always visible to users.

## Hate in America

White nationalism and the press in the 1920s

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### INTRODUCTION

White nationalism, embodied by the Ku Klux Klan, surfaced all over the United States in the early 1920s, enjoying a phenomenal degree of mainstream popularity. The *Washington Post* at the time estimated the Klan's membership as high as 9,000,000 and in the Midwest, a particular strong point of Klan support, one in three white protestant males in the state of Indiana were dues-paying members of the Klan.

Central to the Klan's ascendancy was its carefully managed print culture. In its endeavors to construct itself as a positive force in American national life, the Klan effectively utilized its newspaper and publishing empire to make immigration and prohibition enforcement its main political and moral causes. Klan propaganda attempted to create an unambiguous world of good versus evil, of morality versus degeneracy, of white, protestant, native-born Americans against--everyone else.

The *Hate in America* collection includes papers promoting as well as those opposing white nationalism. It brings together for the first time local, regional, and national newspapers published by Klan organizations and by sympathetic publishers from across the U.S. It also includes key anti-Klan voices from newspapers published by ethnic, Catholic, and Jewish organizations.

For more information [about white nationalism](#), the Ku Klux Klan, and the voices that opposed them, go to the [CONTEXT](#) page. More details about the collection itself, including: target title list, cost assumptions, and technical specifications are available [here](#).

### SEARCH THE COLLECTION

 Search

### FEATURED IN THIS COLLECTION



Wisconsin Kourier February 6, 1925

This collection contains 612 issues comprising 5,127 pages.

### FUNDING FOR THIS COLLECTION

The project is funded by the generous support received from our [funding libraries](#). Through their contributions, these libraries are demonstrating their commitment to open access digital collections and making our cultural heritage available to all.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF OPEN ACCESS

The primary mission of Reveal Digital's open access publishing program is to document a range of viewpoints that chronicle the historical record of 20th century America, whether driven by racial, gender, social or political motivations. The publications that make up our collections are the product of their time and place. Some contain extreme images and remarks that readers may consider offensive today. Bigotry and hate have no place in our society, yet they persist. By publishing these primary source collections Reveal Digital seeks to expose the opinions and thoughts of their authors for scrutiny in scholarship and public discourse.

- Coming soon...Because Hate In America will be an open collection, we are also taking steps to ensure people who bypass the Home page by coming into the site from Google searches or similar, are alerted to the nature of the content before they are able to view it. Those users will need to click through a warning box containing the text below:

Many of the newspapers in this collection contain extreme and racist views held by white nationalist organizations active in America in the 1920s. These materials are provided solely for scholarly purposes. Reveal Digital does not endorse or support the views expressed in this content, and the availability of this material on the Reveal Digital website is not intended to promote the views expressed.

Reveal Digital strongly advises the reader to visit the [CONTEXT](#) page to learn more about white nationalism in the 1920s and how people countered the message of hate, fear, and exclusion.

5. Finally, when a user downloads the content for purposes of saving to a local computer or to print, a footer will be printed on each page providing citation information.

With these changes in place, we are moving forward with digitization and fundraising. Below is a summary of the pages of new content in production now. Note that the pages currently available on the site will be re-produced to create article-level metadata, where only page-level metadata exists today. All new content will be digitized to the article level.

<b>Collection</b>	<b>Titles</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Pages</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Hate in America	3	85	583	KKK newspapers
Hate in America	2	192	2,400	KKK newspapers
Hate in America	1	624	7,488	Our Sunday Visitor
Hate in America	1	298	10,140	Catholic News Service
Hate in America	19	612	5,127	Rework to article level for current titles
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1,811</b>	<b>25,738</b>	

Because of the expanded scope of the collection, the funding goal is higher than the original project. Our revised funding goal is \$675,250. To date, sixty-six libraries have contributed \$379,358, which is 56% of the way to the funding goal. Our goal is to complete fundraising in June 2021, but we are optimistic we can reach the goal before the end of 2020.