

# OPPOSE RACIST VIOLENCE!

The Ku Klux Klan and Nazis are on the offensive in and around Chicago. In neighborhoods throughout Chicago, they have stepped up their public appearances -- they rallied in Lincoln Park and Marquette Park this June, they disrupted public anti-racist events on several occasions, they appeared at the Museum of Science and Industry to denounce a Martin Luther King celebration. They pass out their flyers and leave racist graffiti on the walls.

Not surprisingly, the incidents of racist violence in Chicago are also on the rise. In Uptown, a black man was beaten to death by members of a Klan-affiliated gang. Nazi punks have attacked and beaten up several third world people and progressive white people on the north side. Anti-klan activists have been harassed and threatened.

When the KKK spouts its racist ideas and initiates acts of racist violence, it gives other racist people the incentive to act also. Over the past year, several black people have been attacked while walking or driving through white neighborhoods. A number of black homes have been firebombed. In Marquette Park this June, while 50 Klan and Nazi members rallied, nearly 1,000 other white people in the park chased black people out of the area and chanted slogans like "niggers go home". Within a week of the Marquette Park Klan rally, three more incidents had occurred in the Chicago area.:

Three white men firebombed the home of a black couple and their four children in Gage Park.

In Dolton, during a 4th of July parade, a white mob threw bottles and screamed "niggers go home" at an all-black boy's club contingent that was marching in the parade.

A black youth in Zion was shot and killed at a carnival by a white man who was, according to bystanders, looking to attack a black person.



Racists in Marquette Park June 28: 'I don't want no niggers in this neighborhood,' one resident told a reporter.

We're living in a society that is fertile ground for the growth of racist violent groups. Racism exists all around us. Millions of black people live in poverty. Each year, police kill far more people of color than they do whites. Jails are disproportionately filled with third world people. Black people are often projected as a bunch of criminals. At the same time, Bernhard Goetz and the Greensboro KKK are allowed to shoot and kill, and then are set free. Civil rights that were fought for in the 1960's are being rolled back in the 1980's. The U.S. senate will soon approve Rehnquist to be the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court - a man who harassed black voters in the sixties, who spoke in favor of segregation, and who has agreed in his real estate contracts not to sell his home to Jews or black people.

What can be done to stop this racist violence? Many progressive people say "The best way to make the Klan go away is to ignore them."

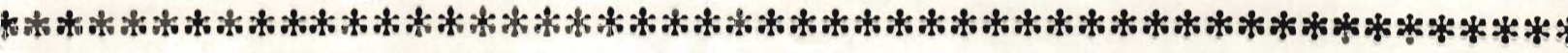
Ignoring the Klan and Nazis does not make them go away. It didn't in Germany, and it won't here. Left alone, they will continue to grow -- they will continue to firebomb, to attack black people on the streets, and to kill. They will continue to espouse their vile anti-semitic and anti-gay theories and to promote violence against these groups as well.

The Klan and Nazis will go away when it is clear that we will not tolerate their presence in our neighborhoods and our schools, and that we will not tolerate the violation of black people's human rights.

Over the last year in Chicago, the KKK has been challenged and opposed. We have held educational forums and community meetings. We have circulated and printed an open letter against racist violence. We have organized "Stamp Out Racist Graffiti" actions. This June, 200 people marched through the streets on the north side of Chicago, and painted over racist and anti-semitic epithets on the walls and alleys. A week later, as the Klan rallied against gays and lesbians in Lincoln Park, we held a counter-protest of about 200.

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR COMMUNITY? WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT?

FOR MORE INFO: John Brown Anti-Klan Committee, P.O. Box 7239,  
Chicago, IL 60680  
(312) 769-8159 (leave message)



HERE IN ZION, THE KKK IS GROWING AND THE THREAT OF RACIST VIOLENCE IS INCREASING. The Illinois Knights of the Ku Klux Klan have a chapter here. In fact, in 1983, a foreman at the Zion nuclear plant was discovered to be a member of the KKK. In 1985, the Knights of the KKK reportedly brought in some out-of-town recruiters to Zion to help build their organization. This past year, KKK members, wearing white robes, have leafleted at the local high school. This summer, a group of whites, including one known member of the KKK, initiated a physical confrontation at Zion's beach. Also this summer, the KKK made two public appearances at town meetings to express their support for the Zion city emblem. (An atheist organization had challenged Zion's right to have a christian city government emblem, saying that it violates the separation of church and state.) Both times that the KKK came out to town meetings, they came dressed in white robes. Zion's police commissioner told the press that he welcomed the Klan's support, but that he wished they would come out without their white robes! The second time they came out, they screamed "white power" at a group of black people and were arrested. Their charges were later dropped.

With incidents of racial tension and harassment on the rise, and with the recent racially-motivated murder of a black youth, Black Zion residents are concerned and angry about the KKK presence in their city. Show your support for them by sending this letter to the mayor of Zion.

TO: MAYOR EVERLINE  
ZION CITY HALL

I SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY'S EFFORTS TO RID ZION OF THE KU KLUX KLAN.  
BLACK PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO LIVE WITHOUT FEAR OF RACIST VIOLENCE MUST BE  
STAUNCHLY DEFENDED.

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