

Identity Politics

<https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2018/4/24/1759480/-Cartoon-Identity-politics?detail=emaildkre>

"Once upon a time, "identity politics" was a phrase heard occasionally in the halls of academia (at least, for those of us who were social science majors), typically in discussion of nationalist movements or other phenomena outside of day-to-day US political debate.

Now, thanks largely to right-wing media, it has become a noxious catchphrase that lumps together all social justice movements — the fight for civil rights, equality for women, same-sex marriage, immigrant rights, to name just a few — into a belittling abstraction that makes these great historical movements sound frivolous."

The kind of "identity politics" that needs to be eliminated is white nationalism. Recently I saw a post that said "I'm proud to be white". I asked him "What, exactly did you do to MAKE yourself white?"

Oddly enough, he couldn't think of an answer.

-cosmicrat April 29 2018

THE "IDENTITY POLITICS" OF WHITE EXTREMISTS

by [cosmicrat](#) ·

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Yet another Trump-inspired white nationalist, Christopher Paul Hasson was fortunately caught before he could carry out his plans for mass murder. He was in the US Coast Guard and worked in its headquarters in DC.

This is the REAL identity politics: the destructive notion that only white people should govern and control society. It isn't a new idea. America has already fought one civil war because of it. But over the past 150 years, the prevalence of that ideology has declined, and extreme racists have been considered by most to be on the same level as child molesters.

But the advent of Trump and his MAGA maggots has revived those twisted minds who now think it acceptable to despise anyone with darker skin, a different religion, or a different culture, and exclude them from society and, if possible, from the country.

The most dangerous of these are few in number, but they are given aid and comfort by the casual bigots, some of whom may even deny being prejudiced, but find the idea of real equality and tolerance annoying and unimportant.

And here is the result. This one got caught, but will the next one?
[A self-proclaimed white nationalist planned a mass terrorist attack](#)

cosmicrat 2/22/2019

IS THE ALT-RIGHT BECOMING THE NEW ISIS?

[Young white men are being radicalized online and acting out violently](https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2019/1/29/1830633/-A-deluge-of-red-pilled-rage-Young-white-men-are-being-radicalized-online-and-acting-out-violently?detail=emaildksp)

<https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2019/1/29/1830633/-A-deluge-of-red-pilled-rage-Young-white-men-are-being-radicalized-online-and-acting-out-violently?detail=emaildksp>

Zephen Xaver terrorized, then shot and killed 5 women in a bank in Florida. He had spent a lot of time playing computer games and hanging out on online boards. On social media, he favorited Milo Yiannopoulos, the anti-feminist provocateur. Most of all, he hated people and talked about killing them.

Buckey Wolfe took a four-foot sword and stabbed his brother in the head with it, killing him instantly. He had attended Proud Boys gatherings in Seattle and he had come to believe this brother was a “lizard person,” à la the crackpot David Icke conspiracy theory. On his Facebook page, his most recent selfie featured a Make America Great Again ballcap—this one in stylish Proud Boy black-and-gold.

Lane Davis, aka “Seattle4Truth,” a onetime researcher for Yiannopoulos and key Gamergate figure, accused his parents of participating in the supposed global pedophilia ring around which the Pizzagate conspiracy theories revolve, stabbed his father to death with a large kitchen knife.

In December 2018, Scott Paul Beierle, 40, who devoted hours to online rants against feminists, and whom women considered “really creepy,” went to a Tallahassee, Florida, yoga studio with a gun and opened fire, killing two women and wounding five more. He then killed himself.

Jeremy Shaw, along with his wife Lorena, who had become enamored of far-right “sovereign citizen” theories and neo-Nazism (he named his company Aryan Enterprises) murdered a man who owned a property in a rural wooded section of Renton. After bludgeoning the man to death, the couple attempted to take possession of his home. They also sold off his Star Trek memorabilia.

In November 2018, a 15-year-old boy named Gregory Ramos who spent most of his time online in video games and chat rooms strangled his mother, Gail Cleavenger, 46, to death following an argument over his bad grades. Ramos was a devoted alt-righter with a “Kekistan” flag as the chief decoration on his Facebook page.

Dimitrios Pagourtzis, 17, May 18, 2018, killed 10 people and wounded 13 in his high school. He favored neo-Nazi imagery in his social media posts, along with white-power music bands.

“What all these cases have in common is not just that the perpetrators are white, and male, and relatively young, and not just that they all are fueled by far-right ideology. The thread among them that

may be the most significant is that every one of these young white men has been radicalized online."

"Andrew Anglin, publisher and founder of the neo-Nazi site the Daily Stormer, asserted last year, "My site is mainly designed to target children."

"A study by terrorism expert J.M. Berger published in 2016 found that white nationalists were far outstripping their Islamist counterparts. "On Twitter, ISIS's preferred social platform, American white nationalist movements have seen their followers grow by more than 600 percent since 2012. Today, they outperform ISIS in nearly every social metric, from follower counts to tweets per day."

Like most technology, the internet can be used for a great deal of good, and for the ultimate in evil. Obviously the insidious attempts to plant deadly ideas in the minds of young people do not reach or affect the majority, many of whom enthusiastically want to build a better, freer, kinder, and more equal society.

The alt-right targets those who are usually socially isolated, depending on gaming and chat rooms for interaction, and those who are to varying extent mentally unstable. Conspiracy theories are a perfect trap for those vulnerable to delusional thinking, and for those seeking to blame someone else for their unhappiness or unpopularity.

The fact that the alt-right ideas have become more widely known, and are at least partly accepted by an element in our political landscape has made the situation worse. The voices of all our leaders should be universally condemning the destructive notions of racial, cultural, religious, sexual, or gender-preference prejudice, but they are not. Some are using and exacerbating them for political gain.

-cosmic rat, Feb. 3 2019