

SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER MUST ADD ITSELF TO ITS LIST OF “ANTI-IMMIGRANT HATE GROUPS”

The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), has grabbed a very lucrative and seemingly permanent seat on the fundraising gravy train by smearing organizations it claims are “anti-immigrant hate groups.” But recently the SPLC itself attacked an immigrant ethnic minority using the exact same language which, when used by other organizations, it denounces as hate speech and as proof that they are “nativist hate groups.” As a result, SPLC is going to have to add itself to its list of hate groups

SPLC’s modus operandi for fundraising based on smear is simple, dishonest and vicious. It assumes for itself the authority to define what is a “hate group.” It broadens that definition to include anyone or any group that has a viewpoint which doesn’t strictly adhere to the SPLC’s politically correct party line. It adds these groups to a list which already includes the Klan, neo-Nazis, etc in order make the list seem credible and to affirm dissenters’ guilt by associating them with those that *legitimately* qualify as hate groups. Then it trumpets to its donors that “hate groups” have proliferated and America is in imminent danger of becoming a fascist dictatorship run by those hate groups and warns them that giving to SPLC is essential if this rapid descent toward fascism is to be stopped.

Of course, the readers of VDare already know that with SPLC’s highly elastic standards, anyone and any group that dares speak out against illegal immigration is eligible to be condemned by in this witch hunt squad as “anti-immigrant, xenophobic, fascist, racist, bigoted,” etc., etc., etc.

The reason SPLC must now add its own name to its “Hate Watch” list is that it has posted on its website a vicious anti anti-immigrant screed directed at legal immigrants from Russia. (see it at <http://www.splcenter.org/intel/intelreport/article.jsp?aid=809>) Some excerpts: These people are “Slavic”... “most of them [are] first- or second-generation immigrants from Russia, the Ukraine and other countries of the former Soviet Union...” “...in early August, authorities announced that two Slavic men, one of whom had fled to Russia, were being charged.” “A growing and ferocious...movement in the Sacramento Valley is centered among Russian- and Ukrainian-speaking immigrants.” “Slavic...talk radio hosts...” These people are “Russian speaking.” Among them are “Scarf-wrapped babushkas.” The SPLC diatribe even quotes one young woman who says that since these Russians came here “I get afraid now... I used to consider Sacramento a safe place...to raise a family.” “Now,” ominously intones the SPLC, she’s “not so sure....”

Many of the standard techniques that the SPLC deems, when used by others, as “hate speech” are contained in this attack. For example, identifying the targets as “Slav” and “Slavic” would ordinarily result in an SPLC claim that one is trying to isolate the minority and mark them

as being different. Identifying the targets as “first or second generation immigrants” would in any other circumstance result in the SPLC claiming this ‘proves’ the speaker is a xenophobe and anti-immigrant. In its attack the SPLC attack notes that their targeted minority are guilty of speaking a *foreign language*. Let VDare criticize someone for not speaking English and SPLC will shout that VDare is against “diversity,” is “racist” and is inciting fear and hatred because it is critical of people who refuse to assimilate and implying that this makes them a threat.

And how about that phrase “Scarf-wrapped babushkas”? How is that for stereotyping? Here’s a phrase that drips with contempt for those whose habit of dress is ‘un-American.’ Substitute “burkha-wrapped” and you have the very term which would SPLC jump on as proof that others are “anti-moslem, anti-immigrant, xenophobic.”

The SPLC even quotes a person who appears to be of that most highly suspect hate group, the native born American: “I get afraid now” because of these Slavic, foreign speaking, scarf-wrapped, immigrants. You can hear the hatred for people who are different. To lend credence to its allegation that the targeted minority is dangerous, the SPLC points out that two of them have been “charged” with a crime. Hey, don’t La Raza, ACLU and SPLC types always lecture us about how being charged with a crime does not mean one is necessarily guilty? And what ever happened to the idea that just because a few members of an immigrant minority are criminals that the rest of them are “just here to do the work that Americans won’t do?”

It is indisputable that the SPLC language intended to encourage hatred of the Slavic immigrants it is targeting since it employs the exact phrases and techniques which, when used by others, are denounced by the SPLC as “hate speech.” The SPLC’s entire marketing plan and income stream are based on attacking speech such as this, and yet here is the SPLC using the very same language. No other conclusion is possible the Southern Poverty Law Center, according to its own standards, must label itself a hate group.

Of course, there’s more to this story, but according to the SPLC’s own standards for judging “hate” these other facts cannot be considered: it is the act of criticizing an immigrant that, by itself, establishes beyond debate that one is anti-immigrant and guilty of hate. The usual SPLC standard does not allow any discussion of wrongdoing committed by immigrant minority. Criticism of immigrants is, per se, hatred.

Thus, the verdict is in. The SPLC is, *by its own standards*, is a “hate group.”

Supporters of the Southern Poverty Law Center, and similar groups need not read further; you have read all the facts you want to know and now you can add that organization to your personal list of hate groups.

Since SPLC supporters have heard enough are no longer reading this, I will address the rest of my commentary to those who don’t profiteer from slander and half truths, which is to say those who require all relevant facts before they make a character judgment.

The relevant fact is this: the “Slavic, foreign speaking, scarf-wrapped, immigrants” SPLC attacks have, it claims, used violence at least once against members of Sacramento’s homosexual and lesbian community, and have strongly criticized homosexuality. If those claims are correct then these Russian immigrants deserve to be criticized for their actions.

But recall, the SPLC standard for adjudging hate groups does not allow for consideration of wrongful acts committed by the immigrant minority; simply criticizing them is an act of hate. Thus SPLC is a hate group.

Using this simple standard the SPLC has listed hundreds of groups on its “Hate Watch” whose only crime is opposing illegal immigration. You say that citizens of foreign nations who choose to immigrate to the United States should do so in accordance with our law? According to the SPLC you’re a hater. You dare to speak of the prevalence of gangs, organized violence and drunk driving among illegal aliens? You oppose giving drivers licenses to millions of people who illegally come to the United States? You oppose free education for illegal aliens? Oppose rewarding illegals with citizenship or giving them free medical care, the right to vote, a government backed mortgages, the benefits of affirmative action? Want employers of illegals punished? Don’t want illegals hanging out on your streets knocking on the windows of passing motorists? Want fences on our borders to keep out illegal aliens? Take any of those positions and according to the SPLC you and yours qualify as a hate group.

Picture in your mind some Uriah Heep/Joe McCarthy characters combing the newspapers day after day looking for some half truth that can be distorted to fabricate a charge of hate against somebody whose sole crime is holding an opposing opinion. These are the people at the SPLC, and the only way to expose them is to confront them directly and aggressively. VDare has dared to do so and SPLC, in worst witch hunt fashion, has added it to its list.

The problem for SPLC is that too many Americans have awakened to the dangers of illegal immigration and thus are in agreement with the views that VDare presents. This overwhelming public opposition to illegal immigration (over 80%) has resulted in more federal and state legislators opposing the SPLC pro-illegal agenda; more legislative defeats for the open border lobby; increasing media coverage of the damage caused by illegal immigration; and ever rising number of anti-illegal immigration groups. These factors have forced the SPLC to attack so many individuals and groups that, like the boy who cried wolf its credibility is disappearing.

It isn’t pleasant to be falsely labeled “racist, xenophobe, fascist” even by the likes of the SPLC, but the best defense against such lies is to keep doing what we’ve been doing, demanding full and equal application of American law regardless of race and national origin. This will pressure SPLC, ACLU, LaRaza, to cry wolf even more frequently. And we all remember that the little boy who cried wolf wound up losing his flock.

