

White Supremacists and Other Extremists Exploiting This Moment

BY: INTEGRITY FIRST FOR AMERICA BLOG

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It's horrifying yet unsurprising — **far-right extremists, including white supremacists, are trying to exploit this moment in order to sow fear, hate, and violence and distract from the core issue at hand: racial justice.**

It's important to be clear: those trying to take advantage of what's happening do not, for one second, take away from the protests' legitimacy. Rather, they only underscore the importance of these protests and of the broader fight against white supremacy and racism in America.

The murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade, and so many others are the tragic and unsurprising results of a racist and broken system — the same system that fueled Charlottesville, Charleston and the litany of other white supremacist attacks, including some of the very extremism we detail below.

Here's a summary of what we've seen over the last week:

—**Identity Evropa — a white supremacist group that is a defendant in our Charlottesville suit — posed as “antifa” in a viral tweet that urged violence and looting in white neighborhoods.** [1] The tweet made the rounds on sites like Facebook and NextDoor, and people were encouraged to “defend” themselves against the supposed antifa threat. Twitter ultimately suspended the account.

[As our suit details](#), Identity Evropa was a key organizer of the Charlottesville violence, specifically leading the efforts to organize white supremacists from around the country for the weekend of planned violence.

Similarly, Facebook says that they suspended accounts associated with white nationalist groups, which advocated bringing weapons to the protests and spread disinformation related to “antifa.” [2]

Disinformation campaigns like these are a hallmark of white supremacist tactics. Much like we saw in the lead up to the 2016 election and in so many other moments since, disinformation is used to tear communities apart – and white supremacists believe there’s no better way to do that than capitalizing on racial fears and tensions.

–An admitted Ku Klux Klan leader drove his car into a crowd of protesters in Richmond, Virginia. [4]

Nearly three years ago, one of his fellow white supremacists did the same thing, not that far away, in Charlottesville.

The use of car attacks has become a deliberate tactic of white supremacists. This latest attack only affirms that efforts to deflect and distract about who’s responsible for recent violence are cynical and dangerous.

–Armed extremists are showing up to protests in hopes of a “boogaloo” — their code for a second civil war. [5]

Some claim that they’re there to “protect” the protesters. But we should be very clear about who these people are: boogaloo extremists are a loose coalition of far-right militia extremists who urge a second civil war, revolution, or other violent anti-government resistance. They believe these protests can be used as a catalyst for the violent upheaval they’ve long wanted.

After we originally published this post, three of these “boogaloo” extremists were arrested for inciting violence at Las Vegas protests. You can read IFA’s full statement here.

Among other examples, Denver Police seized automatic weapons and tactical gear from two of these extremists at a protest on Friday. [6]

–Some extremists are trying to spur violence at the protests, including against Black protesters to spark a “race war.” [7]

The Department of Homeland Security warned law enforcement that white supremacists – including some boogaloo extremists – are encouraging supporters to shoot protesters. One message encouraged shooters to “frame the crowd around you” for the violence. [8]

Some white supremacist accelerationists - **who seek to speed the collapse of society through violence** - suggested murdering protesters and spreading rumors that law enforcement snipers are responsible, per the Anti-Defamation League. [9]

An armed white man with apparent ties to neo-confederate hate groups was arrested for firing shots at a protest in North Carolina; he’s a member of Sons of Confederate Veterans, which has deep ties to our Charlottesville defendant League of the South. [10] And a Philly journalist was allegedly attacked by a group of racist bat-wielding vigilantes. [11]

Meanwhile, a man from Illinois allegedly brought bombs to a Minneapolis protest with the goal of starting a riot. He was seen handing out explosives and encouraging protesters to throw them at police. [12]

In Queens, a racist white man with knives strapped to his arms tried to stab and mow down Black Lives Matter protesters. [13]

–At the same time, neo-Nazi accelerationists are urging terror attacks on synagogues and infrastructure during the protests. [14]

supremacy and extremism. At IFA, our Charlottesville case provides one specific way to tackle the systems of white supremacy, taking on the leaders and hate groups at the center of this violent movement. The case is moving full speed ahead toward trial this fall, [with our team winning some critical court decisions over the last few weeks.](#)

As always, thank you for being with us in this fight,

Amy Spitalnick

Executive Director

Integrity First for America

1. [White nationalist group posing as antifa called for violence on Twitter - NBC News;](#)
[White Supremacist Group Identity Evropa Posed as Antifa on Twitter and Called For Looting and Violence - VICE News](#)
2. [Facebook takes down white nationalist and fake antifa accounts -Reuters](#)
3. [White Nationalist Group Posed as VICE Reporters While Identifying D.C. Protesters -SPLC](#)
4. [Henrico prosecutor: Hanover man who drove into protest is admitted KKK leader -Richmond Times-Dispatch](#)
5. [Far-Right Extremists Are Hoping to Turn the George Floyd Protests Into a New Civil War - VICE News](#)
6. [Denver Police Seized Assault Rifles from Anti-Government Gun Activists at Friday Night Protest - Colorado Times Recorder](#)
7. [Far-Right Extremists Are Hoping to Turn the George Floyd Protests Into a New Civil War - VICE News](#)
8. ['Domestic terrorist actors' could exploit Floyd protests, DHS memo warns - Politico](#)
9. [Extremists Weigh in on Nationwide Protests - ADL](#)
10. [North Carolina Protest Shooting Suspect Appears To Have Ties to Organized Neo-Confederacy, Hate Groups - SPLC](#)
11. [Philly mayor, police commissioner condemn armed vigilante group in Fishtown - Philly Voice](#)
12. [A White Man From Illinois Allegedly Brought Bombs to Start a Riot at the Minneapolis George Floyd Protest - VICE News](#)
13. [Racist Tries to Kill Black Lives Matter Protestors With His Car - StreetsBlogNYC](#)
14. [Neo-Nazi Accelerationists Calling For Terror Attacks During Protests - VICE News](#)

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