

  
**STATE  
OF BLACK  
AMERICA®**

A NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE PUBLICATION  
STATEOFBLACKAMERICA.ORG



CONFRONTING THE  
THREAT WITHIN

**2023**

DEMOCRACY IN PERIL



## ABOUT THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

The National Urban League is a historic civil rights and urban advocacy organization. Driven to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power and justice for our nation's marginalized populations, the National Urban League works toward economic empowerment and the elevation of the standard of living in historically underserved urban communities.

Founded in 1910 and headquartered in New York City, the National Urban League has improved the lives of more than three million people each year nationwide through direct service programs run by 92 affiliates serving 300 communities in 37 states and the District of Columbia.

The National Urban League also conducts public policy research and advocacy work from its Washington, D.C., bureau. The National Urban League is a BBB-accredited organization and has earned a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, placing it in the top 10% of all U.S. charities for adhering to good governance, fiscal responsibility, and other best practices.

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## ABOUT *STATE OF BLACK AMERICA*®

Since its first appearance in 1976 under the stewardship of the late Mr. Vernon E. Jordan, Jr., the organization's fifth president, the *State of Black America*® remains one of the most highly-anticipated benchmarks and sources for thought leadership around racial equality in America.

The report explores the inequities across America's economics, employment, education, health, housing, criminal justice, and civic participation systems through research and the words of our contributors.

Each edition contains penetrating commentary and insightful analysis from recognized authorities and leading figures in politics, the corporate and tech sectors, the nonprofit arena, academia, and popular culture.

In the 47th edition of the *State of Black America Democracy In Peril: Confronting the Threat Within*, we are raising the alarm around the explosive growth of far-right and domestic extremism and the threat it poses to our communities, our families, and our nation.

After the dismantling of Jim Crow and the freedoms won during the Civil Rights Movement, some of the most violent forms of white supremacy began to go underground throughout America. But in recent years, dangerous rhetoric that emboldens racists and incites violence has moved from the dark web into mainstream politics.

Far-right extremists advocating for the erasure of our civil liberties are infiltrating our military ranks, law enforcement, political system, and classrooms under the guise of "parents'

rights." The racist ideologies supporting this movement can also be tied to the increase in hate crimes, mass shootings, and police brutality, claiming lives in communities of color every day.

In partnership with the Southern Poverty Law Center, we have quantified the increase in racial violence, outlined the effects of hateful rhetoric on public attitudes around our political system, and tracked the growing domestic threat of white supremacists infiltrating our law enforcement and our military ranks.

We also leveraged data from UCLA Law's Anti-CRT legislative tracking project, CRT Forward, which tracks laws across the country that are attempting to block, edit, and rewrite American history.

Our contributing authors reflect on the aftermath of last year's racially-motivated mass murder in Buffalo, New York, that claimed the lives of 10 African-Americans, address the increased threat to our Democracy and way of life posed by these extremists, and outline how the federal government and civil rights organizations are fighting this threat.

We can no longer afford to minimize this movement by painting the actions of violent extremists as isolated incidents and protecting hate speech from far-right politicians by invoking the same freedoms they seek to limit for other Americans. The time to act is now.

To access the 2023 *State of Black America* suite of offerings—including author essays, data, expert analysis, and a ready-for-download version of this executive summary—head to the *State of Black America* website.

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



**MARC H. MORIAL**  
PRESIDENT & CEO,  
NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

At least three members of the current U.S. Congress have promoted a conspiracy theory centered on a cabal of Satan-worshipping, cannibalistic, child abusers that includes Democratic politicians, Hollywood actors and business tycoons.

The leaked membership of a violent anti-government militia group that led the January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection included 81 people who either held or were running for public office in 2022, 373 believed to be serving in law enforcement, and 117 believed to be active-duty military.

Restrictions on teaching the history of slavery and the Civil Rights Movement have grown so stringent that students planning a Black History Month in Alabama could not include events prior to 1970.

The 18-year-old white supremacist who opened fire in a Buffalo supermarket, killing 10 people and wounding three, was motivated by belief in the "Great Replacement" conspiracy theory foolishly promoted by media figures.

The mainstreaming of extremist ideology is an existential threat to American democracy, the rule of law, and decades of hard-won progress toward an equitable, inclusive, more perfect union. No longer limited to passing out mimeographed leaflets on street corners or huddling in corners of the dark web, conspiracy-mongers and white nationalists openly spew their bile across social media and cable television. They weave it into the public policy they impose on their constituents. It corrodes

the trust between police and the military and the communities they are sworn to protect and serve.

Using data and analysis from our research partners, Southern Poverty Law Center, ADL, and UCLA Law, this year's *State of Black America*® reveals just how deeply extremist ideology has seeped into America's most vital institutions, resulting in an ever-rising tide of deadly violence, oppressive laws, and weaponized racial polarization.

In the wake of the Buffalo massacre, the National Urban League and other social justice organizations urged President Biden to convene a summit to confront violent extremism and develop a whole-of-society response. The United We Stand Summit in September marked the first step on that journey. It cannot be the last.

**MARC H. MORIAL**  
**TWENTY**  
YEARS  
NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE

AS PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE SINCE 2003, Marc Morial has been the primary catalyst for an era of change and a transformation for the 100-plus-year-old civil rights organization. His energetic and skilled leadership has expanded the League's work around an empowerment agenda, which is redefining civil rights in the 21st century with a renewed emphasis on closing the economic gaps between whites and Blacks as well as rich and poor Americans.

This timeline recognizes 20 years of President Morial's commitment to the National Urban League movement and the progress of Black America.



2003
2005
2010
2023

**JUNE 2, 2003**  
Marc H. Morial, former two-term mayor of New Orleans, becomes the first elected official to hold the office of President and CEO of the National Urban League.

**JULY 27, 2003**  
Morial outlines the 5-point *Empowerment Agenda*: Education & Youth, Economic Empowerment, Health & Quality of Life, Civic Engagement, and Civil Rights & Racial Justice, during the National Urban League Conference in Pittsburgh.

**MAY 2004**  
*Ebony* magazine honors Morial as one of the 100+ Most Influential Black Americans.

**MARCH 24, 2004**  
Inaugural Legislative Policy Conference opens with release of the first *State of Black America*® report to include the Equality Index™—a tool to compare the social and economic status of Black and white Americans.

**2006**  
Launch of Project Ready, a comprehensive program to prepare high school students for college, work, and life.

**AUGUST 15, 2007**  
Publication of *Opportunity Compact: Blueprint for Economic Equity*, detailing policy recommendations to empower all Americans.

**2008**  
Morial declares a homeowner's state of emergency and issues the Homeowners' Bill of Rights. National Urban League responds to the Great Recession, advocating for targeted relief for hard-hit urban neighborhoods and enhanced social service initiatives.

**JUNE 25, 2013**  
U.S. Supreme Court's *Shelby v. Holder* decision, gutting the Voting Rights Act, triggers an escalation of voting rights advocacy and civic engagement efforts.

**MARCH 2, 2010**  
"I Am Empowered" centennial campaign celebrating 100 years of advocacy and empowerment, unveiled on NBC's *TODAY* show.

**2009**  
A four-star rating from Charity Navigator places National Urban League in the top 10% of U.S. charities for good governance, fiscal responsibility and other best practices.

**2011**  
Induction to the National Parks Service International Civil Rights Walk of Fame.

**2014**  
Appointment to President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing, created in response to the unjustified use of deadly force against Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Tamir Rice, and others.

**2013**  
Realize the Dream March and Rally commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington.

**2016**  
Election of President Donald Trump, prompting a unified response by legacy civil rights organizations, led by the National Urban League, to a surge of racial hostility, hate crimes, and discriminatory public policies.

**2017**  
*NonProfit Times* names Morial as one of the nation's Top 50 Nonprofit Executives.

**2020**  
Publication of *The Gumbo Coalition: 10 Leadership Lessons That Help You Inspire, Unite, and Achieve*.

**2020**  
National Urban League sounds the alarm about the racially disparate impact of the burgeoning coronavirus crisis, commencing an intense advocacy and direct relief campaign later to be called *The Urban League Fights For You*.

**2019**  
National Urban League announces future relocation to Harlem and construction of 425,000 square foot Urban League Empowerment Center.

**2021**  
21 Pillars for Redefining Public Safety and Restoring Public Trust establishes a framework for criminal justice advocacy.

**2022**  
Premiere of *Gumbo Coalition*, a documentary of Morial's work, along with Janet Murguía of UnidosUS, confronting the challenges of 2020.

## 1. A HATE MANIFESTO: THE RISE IN VIOLENT HATE CRIMES ACROSS AMERICA

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## 5. THE DIVIDED STATE OF AMERICA: A SURGE OF DIVISIVE POLICIES



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:  
Southern Poverty Law Center

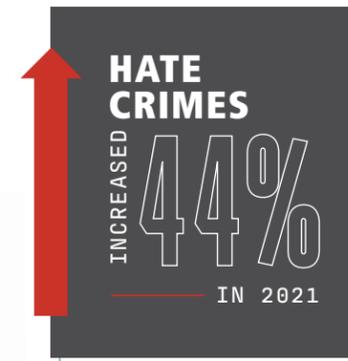
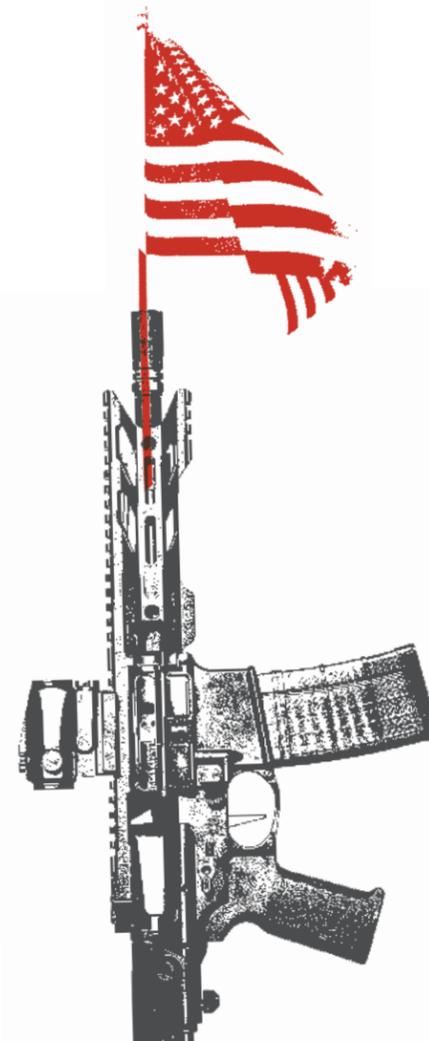
# A HATE MANIFESTO:

## THE RISE IN VIOLENT HATE CRIMES ACROSS AMERICA

Peyton Gendron dedicated a 180-page hate-filled manifesto he made accessible on social media and online forums like Discord and 4chan before he walked into Tops grocery store in Buffalo, NY, last May and murdered ten people because of the color of their skin.

Unfortunately, Gendron's violent attack wasn't an isolated incident. Instead, it was one of the growing number of hate crimes and attacks carried out by white supremacists and far-right extremists.

According to a preliminary report from the Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism at California State University in San Bernardino,<sup>1</sup> hate crimes increased by 44% in 2021. More alarming, the Anti-Defamation League reported a 22% drop in hate crime<sup>2</sup> reporting from law enforcement agencies over the same period. This is a growing threat that we cannot afford to ignore.



TO FIND ADDITIONAL HATE BY THE NUMBERS DATA, VISIT [STATEOFBLACKAMERICA.ORG](https://www.adl.org/resources/tools-to-track-hate/hate-map)

## EXTREMIST MURDERS IN 2022<sup>3</sup>

**5/14/2022 • BUFFALO, NY**  
**RIGHT WING (WHITE SUPREMACIST)**  
Payton Gendron reportedly opened fire at a supermarket, targeting Black people. His attack killed ten people (all Black) and wounded three more (one Black, two white).

**4/29/2022 • FORT PIERCE, FL**  
**RIGHT WING (ANTI-GOVERNMENT)**  
Police arrested Robert Lisby, a self-declared sovereign citizen, and Joy Tyler, for the alleged child abuse murder of a one-year-old infant, who starved to death.

**3/15/2022 • TRACY, CA**  
**RIGHT WING (WHITE SUPREMACIST)**  
Police arrested Jeremy Jones and Christina Garner for the murder of a Black man at a gas station. Both reportedly had a history of connections to white supremacist groups.

**2/19/2022 • PORTLAND, OR**  
**RIGHT WING (OTHER)**  
Benjamin Smith opened fire at a group of left-wing protesters, killing one and wounding five. His online postings revealed racism, antisemitism, and far-right ideas.

## EXTREMIST TERROR ATTACK PLOTS IN 2022<sup>4</sup>

**5/8/2022 • KEIZER, OR**  
**LEFT WING**  
A crisis pregnancy center was the target of an arson attack using Molotov cocktails. It was one of a number of attacks against perceived anti-abortion targets in 2022.

**2/23/2022 • COLUMBUS, OH**  
**RIGHT WING (WHITE SUPREMACIST)**  
Christopher Cook, Jonathan Frost, and Jackson Sawall pled guilty to conspiring to provide material support to terrorists for a plot to attack the power grid in hopes of starting a race war.

**2/11/2022 • WATERTOWN, ME**  
**ISLAMIST**  
Xavier Pelkey was arrested for allegedly plotting to attack mosques and synagogues in Chicago until he was killed by police. The attacks were reportedly to be committed in the name of ISIS.

**2/10/2022 • SPRINGFIELD, MA**  
**RIGHT WING (WHITE SUPREMACIST)**  
Dushko Vulchev was indicted on federal hate crime charges for an arson that destroyed a predominantly Black church. Vulchev reportedly displayed evidence of racism and white supremacy.

**1/15/2022 • COLLEYVILLE, TX**  
**ISLAMIST**  
Malik Faisal Akram took four people hostage at a synagogue, claiming to have weapons and bombs, and demanding a suspected Al Qaeda courier be released from prison. Akram apparently chose the location because, he claimed, "America only cares about Jewish lives."

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ny1.com/nyc/all-boroughs/news/2022/02/14/hate-crime-increase-2021-asian-american->

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.adl.org/resources/press-release/adl-calls-comprehensive-hate-crime-reporting-response-alarmed-gaps-data>

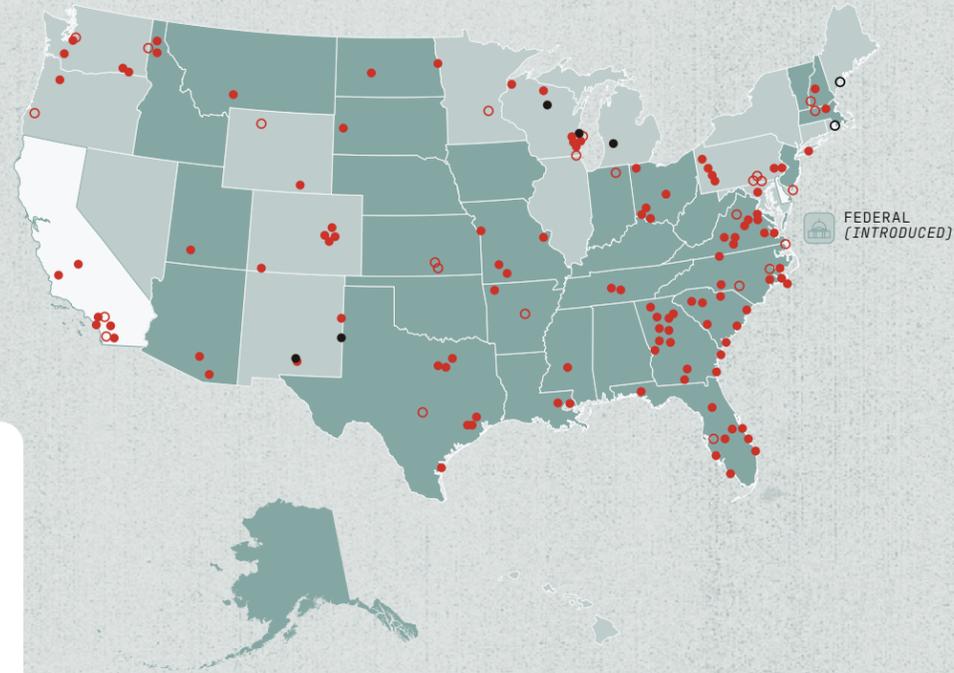
<sup>3</sup> <https://www.adl.org/resources/tools-to-track-hate/hate-map>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.adl.org/resources/tools-to-track-hate/hate-map>

## ANTI-CRT EFFORTS IN THE U.S.

SINCE SEPTEMBER 2020, A TOTAL OF 183 LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ENTITIES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES HAVE INTRODUCED 521 ANTI-CRITICAL RACE THEORY BILLS, RESOLUTIONS, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, OPINION LETTERS, STATEMENTS, AND OTHER MEASURES.

University of California Los Angeles, CRT Forward Project<sup>5</sup>



# TRACKING A PARENTAL RIGHTS' MOVEMENT ROOTED IN RACISM: THE THREAT WITHIN EDUCATION

When Ray Bradbury wrote *Fahrenheit 451*, a dystopian story about an America where books were outlawed and burned, he was inspired by the book burnings in Nazi Germany and the repression of ideologies by the Soviet Union.

Sixty years later, the cautionary tale is becoming a reality.

Across the country, over 567 laws have been introduced to suppress our children's access to school libraries, censor and censure our educators, and rewrite American history. Operating under the guise of "parents' rights," extremists are labeling diversity initiatives in education, and culturally competent curriculums, as critical race theory to suppress the teaching of Black history and center whiteness in the classroom. They are disrupting school board meetings and, under the leadership of extremist state leaders, have even introduced laws to arrest and prosecute teachers for doing their jobs.

<sup>5</sup> <https://law.ucla.edu/academics/centers/critical-race-studies/ucla-law-crt-forward-tracking-project>



IN THE 2022 MIDTERM ELECTIONS, CANDIDATES WHO DENIED THE 2020 ELECTION RESULTS, SPOUTED HATE, AND SPREAD HARMFUL CONSPIRACY THEORIES RAN FOR OFFICE NATIONWIDE. THESE ARE JUST A FEW EXAMPLES OF A GROWING NUMBER OF RADICAL POLITICAL FIGURES ENTERING OUR POLITICAL SYSTEM.

**U.S. REPRESENTATIVE LAUREN BOEBERT (R)** retained her seat representing Colorado's District 3. Boebert is known for her anti-Muslim bigotry, ties to militia groups, and appearances on QAnon-related shows.

**U.S. REPRESENTATIVE PAUL GOSAR (R)** won the primary to retain his congressional seat representing Arizona's 9th District. Gosar has ties to the Oath Keepers, Proud Boys, and America First, and has been seen with far-right fringe figures including Steve Bannon, Ali Alexander, and white supremacist Nick Fuentes. Gosar has a history of promoting conspiracy theories—including those surrounding the 2020 election—and in November 2021 he was censured for sharing an anime cartoon that depicted the killing of a character meant to be Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.

**U.S. REPRESENTATIVE MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE (R)** was elected to the House of Representatives in 2020 and became one of the most visible extremists to enter the Republican party. The Georgian congresswoman, who has suggested Jewish space lasers are responsible for wildfires, speculated whether 9/11 was a hoax and supported the QAnon conspiracy theory, was part of a new wave of Trumpian Republicans, and was mocked, ridiculed, and reviled in equal measure—including by some in her own party.

**CURRENT ARIZONA STATE SENATOR AND SELF-PROCLAIMED OATH KEEPER WENDY ROGERS (R)** won the race to retain her Arizona State Senate seat representing District 7. Rogers spoke in February at the America First Political Action conference—a white nationalist conference organized by Nick Fuentes, appeared on the antisemitic Trunews streaming platform, has been a prominent voice in the effort to undermine the 2020 presidential election, and was censured in March for threatening rival politicians with violence.

**ANGELA RIGAS (R)** was elected to the Michigan State House in District 79 by a large margin despite being a January 6th participant. In response to being called an insurrectionist or treasonist, Rigas said, "I consider all of those terms a compliment, because our founding fathers were called all the same things."

## HATE IN THE NATION: THE THREAT WITHIN OUR POLITICAL SYSTEM

There is a fire brewing in America. Hate-fueled rhetoric and conspiracy theories have radicalized Americans and fanned the flames of an extremist movement. A movement that has taken flight from the internet's darkest corners and found its way into state legislatures, our courts, and the halls of Congress.

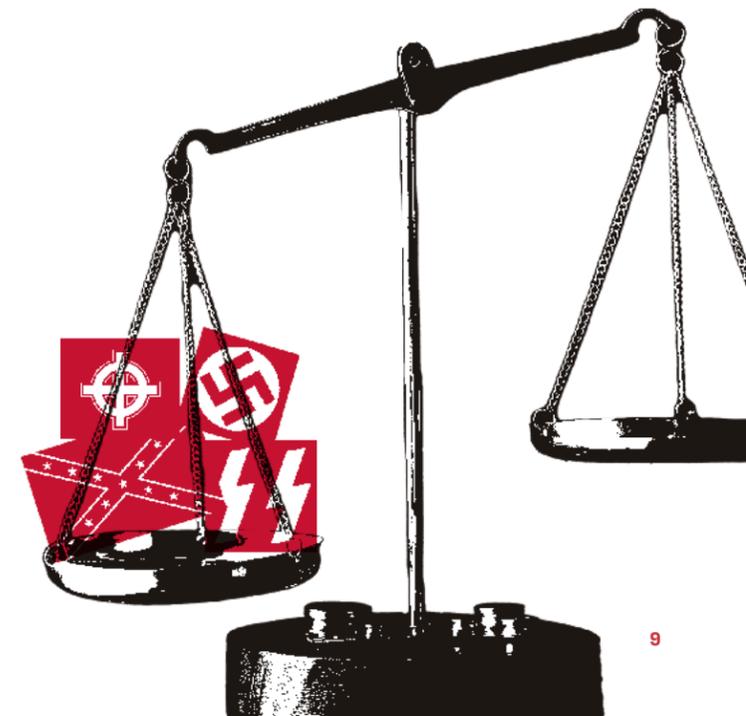
Across the country, we are beginning to see how elected officials are weaponizing dangerous far-right ideologies.

In every state, bills challenging who gets to vote in our elections, what our children are allowed to learn in the classroom, and who is entitled to civil rights are being passed into law. What many on the right are calling a "culture war" is a coordinated attack on every American's civil rights.

Emboldened by an angry base, state leaders have punished the business community and public institutions, including colleges and universities, for embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion practices by threatening to withhold funding.

And in Congress, far-right party leaders have held the country hostage by refusing to pass laws protecting our civil rights and have gone as far as to block the election of a new Speaker of the House.

This report calls this coordinated assault on progress precisely what it is: hatred.



# A THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY:

## HATE WITHIN LAW ENFORCEMENT & THE MILITARY

The uptick in police brutality, specifically against Black Americans, is no coincidence. Across the nation, white supremacist groups and domestic terror cells have infiltrated law enforcement and our military ranks, posing a threat to homeland security and the general public.

According to a Brennan Center report,<sup>6</sup> the FBI reported that white supremacists posed a “persistent threat of lethal violence” that has produced more fatalities than any other category of domestic terrorists since 2000. And FBI policy documents have also warned agents assigned to domestic terrorism cases that the white supremacist and anti-government militia groups they investigate often have “active links” to law enforcement officials.

Countries around the world have been destabilized by military and law enforcement coups led by extremists holding right-wing ideologies. To protect our communities and our democracy, we must take this threat seriously.



# THE DIVIDED STATE OF AMERICA:

## A SURGE OF DIVISIVE POLICIES

Across the country, calls for “law and order” and taking America back to a “Christian nation” have moved from podiums at extremist rallies to bills and policies that are reshaping America.

### REWRITING HISTORY & RACISM IN EDUCATION

In a backlash to the commitments to racial justice after the murder of George Floyd, some states have led an assault on our children’s right to learn under the guise of “parental rights” in a heinous anti-CRT movement.

This January, Florida announced that it would not allow its high schools to teach AP African American Studies, stating that the course “lacks educational value” and violates state law. And though it said that political pressure played no role in the changes, the College Board drastically revised the course for national instruction removing concepts—like intersectionality, mass incarceration, reparations, and the Black Lives Matter movement.

### AN ASSAULT ON A WOMAN’S RIGHT TO CHOOSE

Following the dismantling of *Roe v. Wade*, states across the country launched trigger bans on abortion. One of the most severe was **S.B. 8 in Texas**,<sup>7</sup> which bans terminating a pregnancy after six weeks—1 in 3 women don’t know they are pregnant until after the same time window. The state also made performing an abortion after six weeks an offense punishable by up to life in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

### CONTINUED RESTRICTION OF THE BALLOT BOX

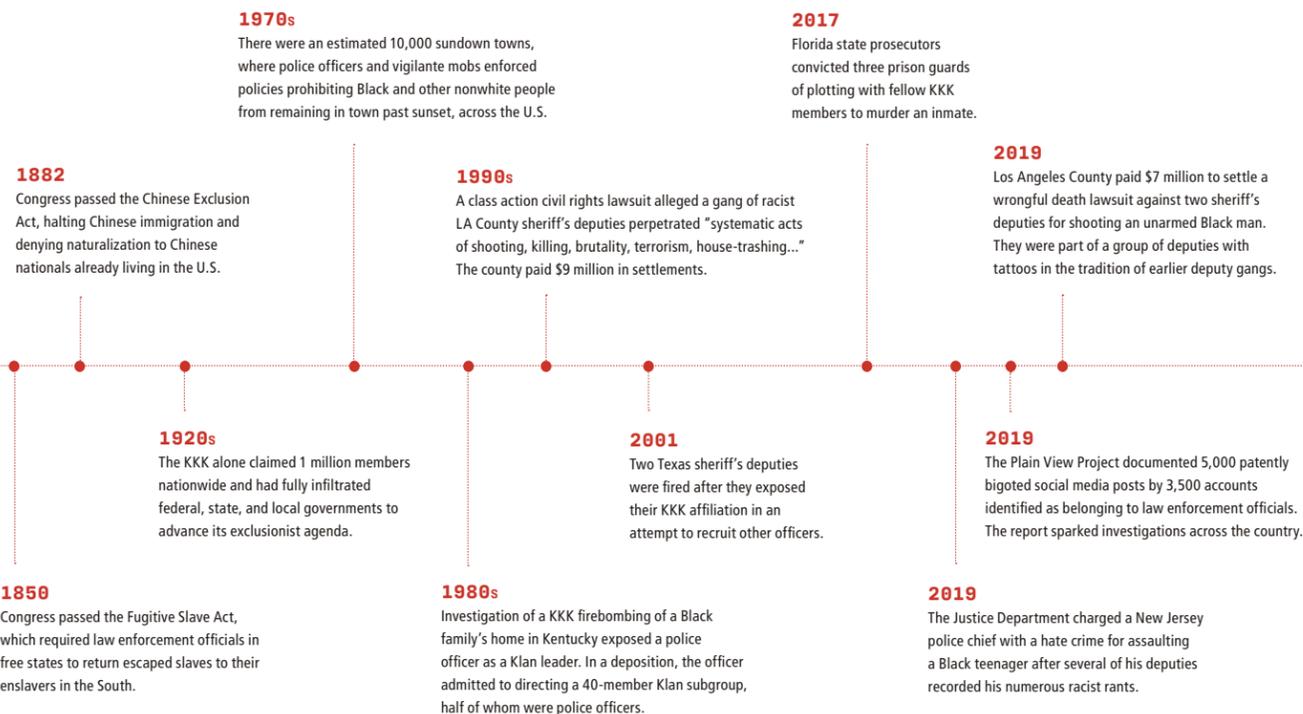
As voters rejected many of the most extreme Congressional candidates in the 2022 midterm elections, states continued to pass some of the most restrictive voting laws since Reconstruction. According to research by the Brennan Center, at least eight states enacted 11 restrictive voting laws. Overall, at least 408 restrictive bills were considered by lawmakers in 39 states in 2022.<sup>8</sup>

*Examples of this include:*

**OK H.B. 3365:** Oklahoma enacted a relatively unique law that will make it more difficult for voters without traditional addresses—such as voters living on tribal lands and homeless voters—to register to vote and cast a ballot.

**AZ H.B. 2243:** Arizona will allow voters to be purged based on information from public safety or national databases that suggest they are not citizens. Even as data suggests the databases are not reliable ways of proving citizenship, the law risks the voter registration status of some 200,000 voters.

## A TIMELINE OF WHITE SUPREMACY & VIOLENCE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT



<sup>6</sup> <https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/hidden-plain-sight-racism-white-supremacy-and-far-right-militancy-law>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.tdcaa.com/legislative/dobbs-abortion-related-crimes/>

<sup>8</sup> [https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/voting-laws-roundup-december-2022#footnote6\\_qs1ajxe](https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/voting-laws-roundup-december-2022#footnote6_qs1ajxe)



**THOMAS BEAUFORD**  
President & CEO, Buffalo Urban League

“Expressions of hate and bigotry towards communities of color cause trauma and reinforce oppression for African Americans in this country. The history of inequality and anguish suffered by the Black community dates to enslavement.



**SENATOR CORY BOOKER**  
U.S. Senator, New Jersey (D)

“We must take immediate steps to protect targeted communities. Resources allocated to houses of worship through federal efforts such as the Nonprofit Security Grant Program have helped enhance security at churches, synagogues, mosques, and temples in the past years.



**SECRETARY JENNIFER GRANHOLM**  
U.S. Secretary, Department of Energy

“Every day, the compounding and catastrophic effects of the use of fossil fuels emphasize the necessity to ensure the viability of a living planet for future generations. We face a collective imperative to transition to a clean energy system made in the image of equity and justice, and we have the tools to do it.



**JONATHAN GREENBLATT**  
CEO & National Director, Anti-Defamation League

“Those who hate aim to divide and isolate us. They seek to demonize and marginalize those they target. The antidote to hate and extremism must therefore be unity and collaboration. We are stronger and safer when we work in partnership.



**KRISTEN CLARKE**  
Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Justice

“As recent FBI statistics confirm, hate crimes remain prevalent, the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice has an ongoing commitment to using federal civil rights laws, such as the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and other tools to combat hate in our communities.



**SUSAN CORKE**  
Director of the Intelligence Project, Southern Poverty Law Center

“White nationalists seek to return to an America that predates the implementation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 ... The hard right in America sees the nation’s increasing diversity as a threat that must be countered in politics, in law, in court, in the media—and with violence.



**MICHAEL LIEBERMAN**  
Senior Policy Counsel, Southern Poverty Law Center

“This racist “great replacement” conspiracy furnishes the central framework for the white supremacist movement. The murders in Buffalo last year provide a brutal example of how antisemitism is an animating feature of white nationalist ideology, inextricably intertwined with anti-Black racism.



**WES MOORE**  
Governor of Maryland

“This issue isn’t just political to me, it’s personal. I come from a family of real patriots: ministers, teachers, and engineers who built this nation with their hands. I led patriots in combat when I served in Afghanistan... I lead patriots every day as Governor—working alongside dedicated public servants committed to building a better Maryland where no one is left behind.



**SECRETARY MARCIA FUDGE**  
U.S. Secretary, Housing and Urban Development

“We recognize that credit scores have long-been barriers to aspiring homeowners, especially people of color. To create more opportunity for hardworking people, the Federal Housing Administration now allows positive rental history to be used to determine someone’s creditworthiness.



**BISHOP GARRISON**  
Former Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Defense; Fellow, National Security Institution at George Mason School of Law

“This dialogue is amplified through the comments of elected officials and pundits with their own agendas. And for the first time in generations, these attacks are now aimed at members of the strongest, most advanced military the world has known. These efforts erode the nation’s capacity to project power and maintain the liberal order.



**JANET MURGUÍA**  
President & CEO, UnidosUS

“The rise in the demonization and even violence targeted at the Latino community has been fueled in large part by two trends—first, the proliferation of misinformation and disinformation about Hispanics online, and second, the continuing lack of fair, accurate, and positive coverage of our community in the mainstream news media.



**JOHN C. YANG**  
President & Executive Director, Asian Americans Advancing Justice

“The histories of Asian and Black communities have always been intertwined, our struggles connected, and our collective progress tied together in unity. Asian and Black communities have been strongest when we have sought to dismantle White supremacy together.

As the nation’s largest historic civil rights organization, we’ve spent over a century fighting for Black Americans’ empowerment and civil rights. Foremost among those rights is the freedom to live in a nation free of hate crimes and domestic terrorism.

The Urban League movement is leading the fight to hold violent extremists accountable for their acts of hatred and working alongside elected leaders to create policies that stop this cancerous violence at its root.

### HOLDING LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCOUNTABLE

In 2021 we introduced *21 Pillars for Redefining Public Safety and Restoring Community Trust*, paving a way beyond the status quo. Our forward-thinking plan is designed to protect and preserve life, dignity, and trust while building safer communities.

### FILLING THE GAP IN THE CLASSROOM WITH PROJECT READY

The National Urban League Movement believes that an education that turns a blind eye to the realities of the world, or schooling that intentionally misinforms students and communities about the history and current events, is as inherently dangerous as no education at all.

Through our 92 affiliates that serves over three million people in 300 communities, our signature Project Ready programs provide educational opportunities that improve our kids’ outcomes in and outside the classroom every day. Our Project Ready programs include mentorship, a focus on STEAM education, and accurate, culturally relevant, and resonant curricula on the Black urban experience in 21st-century America.

### PARTNERING WITH THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION TO ADVANCE PROGRESSIVE POLICIES

In the face of unrelenting attacks by far-right reactionary politicians on our civil liberties, we have taken an active role in supporting and advocating for productive, unifying policies put forth by this administration, including:

- The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act
- Emmett Till Anti-Lynching Act
- The John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act

### INTRODUCING PROJECT CODE: COLLABORATIVE ORGANIZATIONS TO END DOMESTIC EXTREMISM

Research confirms that those who weaponize hate specifically target marginalized and minority communities, including the Black, Latino, American Indian, Asian, and Pacific Islander communities, communities of color, religious minorities, and the LGBTQ community.

With support from the Joyce Foundation in 2022, we launched Project CODE to provide information and collaboration to extend allyship across organizations whose communities are directly affected by rising political violence.

In 2023, Project CODE established [www.theprojectcode.org](http://www.theprojectcode.org) to serve as a resource hub for community members, organizers, researchers, and advocates to leverage data and insight from our partners.

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[STATEOFBLACKAMERICA.ORG](http://STATEOFBLACKAMERICA.ORG)

# NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE AFFILIATES

#### Akron, Ohio

Akron Community Service Center & Urban League

#### Alexandria, Virginia

Northern Virginia Urban League

#### Alton, Illinois

Madison County Urban League

#### Atlanta, Georgia

Urban League of Greater Atlanta

#### Aurora, Illinois

Quad County Urban League

#### Austin, Texas

Austin Area Urban League

#### Baltimore, Maryland

Greater Baltimore Urban League

#### Battle Creek, Michigan

Southwestern Michigan Urban League

#### Binghamton, New York

Broome County Urban League

#### Birmingham, Alabama

Birmingham Urban League

#### Boston, Massachusetts

Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts

#### Buffalo, New York

Buffalo Urban League

#### Canton, Ohio

Greater Stark County Urban League, Inc.

#### Charleston, South Carolina

Charleston Trident Urban League

#### Charlotte, North Carolina

Urban League of Central Carolinas, Inc.

#### Chattanooga, Tennessee

Urban League of Greater Chattanooga, Inc.

#### Chicago, Illinois

Chicago Urban League

#### Cincinnati, Ohio

Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio

#### Cleveland, Ohio

Urban League of Greater Cleveland

#### Columbia, South Carolina

Columbia Urban League

#### Columbus, Georgia

Urban League of Greater Columbus, Inc.

#### Columbus, Ohio

Columbus Urban League

#### Denver, Colorado

Urban League of Metropolitan Denver

#### Detroit, Michigan

Urban League of Detroit & Southeastern Michigan

#### Elizabeth, New Jersey

Urban League of Union County

#### Elyria, Ohio

Lorain County Urban League

#### Englewood, New Jersey

Urban League for Bergen County

#### Farrell, Pennsylvania

Shenango Valley Urban League

#### Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Urban League of Broward County

#### Fort Wayne, Indiana

Fort Wayne Urban League

#### Gary, Indiana

Urban League of Northwest Indiana, Inc.

#### Greenville, South Carolina

Urban League of the Upstate, Inc.

#### Grand Rapids, Michigan

Urban League of West Michigan

#### Hartford, Connecticut

Urban League of Greater Hartford

#### Houston, Texas

Houston Area Urban League

#### Indianapolis, Indiana

Indianapolis Urban League

#### Jackson, Mississippi

Mississippi Urban League

#### Jacksonville, Florida

Jacksonville Urban League

#### Jersey City, New Jersey

Urban League of Hudson County

#### Kansas City, Missouri

Urban League of Greater Kansas City

#### Knoxville, Tennessee

Knoxville Area Urban League

#### Las Vegas, Nevada

Las Vegas Urban League

#### Lexington, Kentucky

Urban League of Lexington-Fayette County

#### Little Rock, Arkansas

The Urban League of the State of Arkansas

#### Long Island, New York

Urban League of Long Island, Inc.

#### Los Angeles, California

Los Angeles Urban League

#### Louisville, Kentucky

Louisville Urban League

#### Madison, Wisconsin

Urban League of Greater Madison

#### Memphis, Tennessee

Memphis Urban League

#### Miami, Florida

Urban League of Greater Miami

#### Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Milwaukee Urban League

#### Minneapolis, Minnesota

Urban League of the Twin Cities

#### Morristown, New Jersey

Morris County Urban League

#### Nashville, Tennessee

Urban League of Middle Tennessee

#### New Orleans, Louisiana

Urban League of Louisiana

#### New York, New York

New York Urban League

#### Newark New Jersey

Urban League of Essex County

#### Norfolk, Virginia

Urban League of Hampton Roads, Inc.

#### Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City

#### Omaha, Nebraska

Urban League of Nebraska, Inc.

#### Orlando, Florida

Central Florida Urban League

#### Peoria, Illinois

Tri-County Urban League

#### Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Urban League of Philadelphia

#### Phoenix, Arizona

Greater Phoenix Urban League

#### Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh

#### Portland, Oregon

Urban League of Portland

#### Providence, Rhode Island

Urban League of Rhode Island, Inc.

#### Racine, Wisconsin

Urban League of Racine & Kenosha, Inc.

#### Richmond, Virginia

Urban League of Greater Richmond

#### Rochester, New York

Urban League of Rochester

#### Sacramento, California

Greater Sacramento Urban League

#### Saint Louis, Missouri

Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis

#### Saint Petersburg, Florida

Pinellas County Urban League

#### San Diego, California

Urban League of San Diego County

#### San Francisco, California

Urban League of the Greater San Francisco Bay Area

#### Seattle, Washington

Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle

#### Springfield, Illinois

Springfield Urban League, Inc.

#### Springfield, Massachusetts

Urban League of Springfield

#### Stamford, Connecticut

Urban League of Southern Connecticut

#### Tacoma, Washington

Tacoma Urban League

#### Tallahassee, Florida

Tallahassee Urban League

#### Tampa, Florida

Urban League of Hillsborough County, Inc.

#### Tucson, Arizona

Tucson Urban League

#### Warren, Ohio

Greater Warren-Youngstown Urban League

#### Washington, D.C.

Greater Washington Urban League

#### West Palm Beach, Florida

Urban League of Palm Beach County, Inc.

#### White Plains, New York

Urban League of Westchester County

#### Wichita, Kansas

Urban League of Kansas, Inc.

#### Wilmington, Delaware

Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League

#### Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Winston-Salem Urban League

SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE  
NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE AS WE  
CONTINUE TO ADVANCE POLICIES  
AND PROGRAMS TO EMPOWER  
AFRICAN AMERICAN AND OTHER  
URBAN COMMUNITIES.

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