

# DON BLACK / STORMFRONT

## INTRODUCTION

Stephen Donald “Don” Black is one of the most influential white supremacists in the United States, due to his role as the founder and operator of Stormfront, the most popular on-line meeting place for white supremacists around the world, and for his appearances and speeches at racist and anti-Semitic gatherings. A former Grand Dragon in the Ku Klux Klan, Black now devotes most of his time to running Stormfront out of his home in West Palm Beach, Florida. He maintains affiliations with a number of figures on the extreme right. His son Derek, clearly influenced by his father, appears to be a rising figure in the white supremacist world.

Black espouses a racist and anti-Semitic ideology. His idea of “White Pride World Wide,” a slogan that appears on the Stormfront Web site, involves demeaning and demonizing Jews and non-whites, while his concept of “victory” for whites includes the creation of ethnically cleansed living spaces. Black claims that blacks and non-white immigrants are increasing in numbers and committing crimes, thereby depriving whites of their majority and power in society. In addition to demonizing blacks and immigrants, Black targets Jews as the cause of societal ills.

## RECENT ACTIVITY

Don Black’s foremost activity is operating Stormfront, the largest and most popular meeting place for white supremacists on the entire Internet. One of the very first hate sites created on the Web, it is widely accessed and has links to hate groups all over the world. Stormfront’s forum members interact with other white supremacists from around the globe, discussing ideology, upcoming events, and recruitment strategies, among countless other subjects. In addition to his role as founder and operator, Black co-hosts an Internet radio show hosted on the Stormfront site.



Don Black (center) at a white supremacist conference in November 2008 with son Derek (left) and Canadian white supremacist Paul Fromm (right)

Black is also an active member of Twitter, which he joined in May 2009 in order to increase traffic to Stormfront. Nearly all of his more than 1,000 “tweets” are links back to user-generated forum topics on Stormfront, often with a racist or anti-Semitic theme. For example, in June 2009, Black created a tweet with the text “Little White Girl and Mom Killed by Illegal Wetback” and a link to a Stormfront topic of the same name. That same month, a Black tweet linked to a Stormfront post espousing Holocaust denial.

Black also has had a hand in promoting [white supremacist infiltration](#) of the right-wing Tea Party events, staged in cities throughout the country on April 15 and July 4, 2009. He became a member of the [Tea Party Americans Coalition](#), created by a

member of Stormfront as “a working group for serious White racist ACTIVISTS in the US who want to effectively coordinate our efforts and intervene for effect in Tea Party-type events.” The group promotes anti-Semitic, racist, and anti-immigrant themes.

In November 2008, just days after Barack Obama won the presidential election, Black attended and participated in a meeting convened by anti-Semite and white supremacist [David Duke](#). Held in Memphis, Tennessee, under the name of Duke’s European Unity and Rights Organization, the conference brought together white supremacists from the United States, Canada, and Russia. In his speech, Black explained that “white Americans are fed up with black crime, immigration, and now they are backed into a corner...their country is being taken away from them and they will fight back...we will provide them with those answers.”

During the primary election season earlier that year, Black was an active supporter of Republican candidate Ron Paul, contributing money to his campaign and using Stormfront to generate interest in Paul among other white supremacists.

In July 2008, Don Black was a guest speaker at a meeting in Orlando, Florida, organized by the Confederate Hammerskins, a chapter of the [Hammerskin Nation](#), a hardcore racist skinhead group. Black also attended a February 2008 conference convened by the white supremacist [American Renaissance](#) publication. He is a frequent attendee at American Renaissance conferences, which take place once every two years and include a large grouping of anti-Semites and white supremacists from around the world.

## IDEOLOGY

Don Black promotes a racist and anti-Semitic ideology. Though he claims to be a “white nationalist,” not a hater, his idea of “white pride” involves demeaning and demonizing Jews and non-whites, and his concept of “victory” for whites includes the creation of ethnically cleansed living spaces.



The Stormfront symbol, Celtic Cross Surrounded by the Phrase "White Pride World Wide"

To support his racist views, Black argues that blacks and non-white immigrants are increasing in numbers and committing crimes, thereby depriving whites of their majority and power in society. During a speech he gave at a white supremacist conference in November 2008, Black explained that “white Americans are fed up with black crime, immigration, and now they are backed into a corner...their country is being taken away from them and they will fight back...we will provide them with those answers.”

In addition to demonizing blacks and immigrants, Black targets Jews as the cause of societal ills. For example, in the wake of the financial crisis that began in September 2008, Black intimated, on an Internet radio show that he co-hosts, that the Jews are “who’s really behind all of these problems...” He also viewed the scandal as the catalyst that will make others realize “who’s behind a lot of these problems.” He reiterated the opportunity for extremists to “provide answers” for others and explained:

That’s pretty much the psychology is that whatever’s good for Jews is all we have to worry about...It [sic] think a lot of people will be waking up as to who’s really behind all of these problems, so it’s up to us to understand that they ensure the full truth and what’s really going on, so that’s the purpose of programs like this...We are reaching more people and it’s up to all of us to ensure that we continue to reach more people

with our message and the truth behind what's really going on...they're looking for answers, so it's up to us to provide them for them.

## STORMFRONT

Don Black is the founder and operator of Stormfront, the most popular Internet meeting place for anti-Semites, neo-Nazis, and other white supremacists. Black operates Stormfront from his home in West Palm Beach, Florida. Stormfront serves as a repository, resource and meeting place for white supremacists of every stripe. Visitors and members to Stormfront's electronic forum interact with other white supremacists from around the globe discussing ideology, upcoming events, and recruitment strategies, among countless other subjects. The site's logo is "White Pride, World Wide."

Created in 1995 as one of the first hate sites on the Web, Stormfront has exploded into a forum with over 6 million posts, 490,000 discussion threads, and 170,000 members. Though the majority of posts are in English, there are discussion threads in Croatian, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, German, French, Russian, and other languages. Following the election of Barack Obama, so many white supremacists tried to post messages to Stormfront's server that it became overloaded and the site was temporarily shut down.

Stormfront does more than host on-line message boards. Its Internet radio program broadcasts shows hosted by white supremacists and anti-Semites. Recently, forum members have been able to create their own individual blogs on Stormfront. Visitors to the forum immediately notice banners that promote Stormfront and a variety of white supremacist causes.

Internet forums like Stormfront have increased the size of the white supremacist movement, providing points of access for those wishing to engage in extreme ideology at a level with which they feel comfortable. From the safety and anonymity of home, people can simply observe, take it one step further and interact with others, or even spearhead the planning of a gathering or campaign. In fact, Stormfront members often organize real-world events like barbecues and meetings, which are frequently billed as 'Stormfront' gatherings. In this way, the forum has the elements of an organization in and of itself. In addition to its role as a vehicle for planning real-world activity, Stormfront's forums are places for cooks to share recipes to feed white families, for singles to find white matches, and for parents to exchange ideas about how to raise white children.

Among the numerous extremist postings to its pages, the Stormfront membership list includes notorious anti-Semite and white supremacist [David Duke](#); long-time neo-Nazi figure April Gaede, mother of the neo-Nazi singing twins Prussian Blue; and [Willis Carto](#), a long-time anti-Semite and Holocaust denier, who publishes the anti-Semitic *American Free Press* newspaper.

Black acquired computer skills while serving a three-year federal prison term for attempting to overthrow the government of the small Caribbean island of Dominica, for which he was convicted in 1981. He later expanded on these skills to develop the Stormfront site. Though Black controls the site, his teenage son [Derek](#), a rising figure in the movement, is a likely successor.

## AFFILIATIONS

Don Black maintains affiliations with many well-known anti-Semites and white supremacists. He shows his support by attending their events and speaking to crowds of like-minded haters.

Black is perhaps closest to – and most inspired by – [David Duke](#), a virulent anti-Semite who has served as Black’s mentor. In 1980, when Duke left his position as founder and Imperial Wizard of the Louisiana-based Knights of the [Ku Klux Klan](#), Black succeeded him. Black has spoken at conferences that Duke has organized under the umbrella name of Duke’s European-American Unity and Rights Organization (EURO).

In May 2005, Black spoke at a EURO conference in Louisiana, attended by over 300 anti-Semites and white supremacists. The theme of the conference was the unification of Europeans and Americans in opposition to Jews, who were demonized as blood suckers and parasites who dominate media and government around the world. A significant number of American extremists and European racists addressed the crowd; Black’s fellow speakers included neo-Nazi [Kevin Strom](#), virulent anti-Semite [Willis Carto](#), and Duke.

Exactly one year before, Black spoke at another EURO conference, also staged in Louisiana. Most notably, Black and other anti-Semites and white supremacists signed onto the so-called “New Orleans Protocol” - a three-point document for white supremacists advocating nonviolence, collegiality and "a high tone in our arguments." After spending a year in federal prison for mail fraud and tax evasion, Duke staged the conference to celebrate his freedom, reassert his place in the movement, and promote unity among white supremacist groups. Several significant neo-Nazi and racist figures attended the event, including speakers John Tyndall (now deceased), founder of the British National Party; neo-Nazi Kevin Alfred Strom; Willis Carto publisher of *American Free Press*, an anti-Semitic conspiracy-oriented newspaper and *The Barnes Review*, a Holocaust denial magazine; anti-Semitic attorney [Edgar J. Steele](#); and Holocaust denier Germar Rudolf.

In addition to his attendance and participation in events organized by David Duke, Black has been a frequent attendee at conferences convened by American Renaissance, a white supremacist publication published by [Jared Taylor](#). Taylor’s conferences feature racists from around the world as speakers, and they attract a wide range of extremists. Attendees have included David Duke; Mark Weber, head of the [Institute for Historical Review](#), a Holocaust denial organization; and members of various neo-Nazi groups. Preceding the February 2008 conference, which Black attended, he wrote on Stormfront, *“I’ve attended Amren conferences since the first one in 1992. And I’ve known Jared Taylor and his family, along with the regular speakers, for many years.”*

## TACTICS

To promote white supremacy and anti-Semitism, Black operates Stormfront, the most popular on-line meeting place among white supremacists, which he founded in 1995. In this capacity, Black enables thousands to share their views, exchange ideas, and plan events. In addition to serving as a vast discussion forum, Stormfront also hosts other extremist Web sites and Internet radio shows. Black hosts one such shows, on which he disseminates his personal views about Jews and minorities.

In addition to operating Stormfront, Black spreads his views by attending and speaking at extremist gatherings. In November 2008, Black attended and participated in a meeting convened by anti-Semitic and



white supremacist figure [David Duke](#). In July 2008, Black was a guest speaker at a meeting in Orlando, Florida, organized by the Confederate Hammerskins, a hardcore racist skinhead group. Black also attended a February 2008 conference convened by the white supremacist publication [American Renaissance](#). Black is a frequent attendee at American Renaissance conferences, which take place every two years and include a large grouping of anti-Semites and white supremacists from around the world.

To ensure the future dissemination of his hateful views, Black has been grooming his son [Derek](#) to become a prominent figure in the movement. As a young teenager, Derek Black operated a Stormfront page dedicated to kids. Don Black regularly brings Derek to extremist events, where he has performed music and given speeches. Derek now co-hosts a radio show on Stormfront, and in August 2008, he was elected to serve as a Republican committeeman in Florida (though the Republican Party unseated him).

### DEREK BLACK

Don Black has been grooming his son, [Derek](#), as a future power player in the white supremacist movement. He is the Webmaster of the Stormfront kids' pages and often accompanies his father to extremist gatherings. Derek made national news when, in August 2008, he was elected to serve as a Republican committeeman in Palm Beach, Florida (the local Republican Party unseated him in December 2008).

In November 2008, just days after Barack Obama was elected President, Derek Black was a keynote speaker at a conference sponsored by former Klan leader and anti-Semite [David Duke](#) and his organization EURO (European American Unity and Rights Organization) in Memphis, Tennessee. A number of white supremacists, including Don Black, racist radio show host James Edwards and Canadian racist Paul Fromm also attended the conference.

In his own speech at the conference, Derek made it clear that he was following in the footsteps of the racist leaders who came before him. He repeatedly referred to white supremacists David Duke, Don Black and others who had spoken at the same EURO conference as "titans." He also claimed that "I have never lived in a country that I consider a white country... I've never enjoyed the good golden bag of advantage that white people have."

Derek also spoke at the conference about infiltrating the Republican Party for the sake of representing "pro-white" views: "We could infiltrate [the Republican Party]... by getting into it in our own positions... there are thousands, hundreds of thousands, millions of white people who realized [because of the election of Barack Obama] ...that they are losing representation." He also claimed that he successfully campaigned by going house to house and talking to voters about "immigration" and "affirmative action," hot-button issues that white supremacists often exploit in order to appeal to a wider audience.

By his teen years, Derek already attended many white supremacist conferences. In 2006 and 2008, he attended the white supremacist American Renaissance conferences. In 2006, 2007 and 2008, he attended the white supremacist [Council of Conservative Citizens](#) national conferences, where he entertained guests with his music. In 2005, he was an attendee at another conference hosted by David Duke and EURO in New Orleans attended by hundreds of white supremacists.

In August 2007, Derek attended the Knights Party Congress, convened by long-time Klan leader Thom Robb, and broadcast the event live on Stormfront radio. He now co-hosts a white supremacist Internet radio show with David Duke on Stormfront.

In 2003, at age 14, on the Introduction page to “Stormfront for Kids,” Derek wrote that “white people are taught in school to be ashamed of their heritage...All the great white accomplishments throughout history are diminished. Therefore, I think that now is the time that all of the white people across the globe should rise above the lies and be proud of who we are.”

Derek Black’s mother and Don Black’s wife is Chloe Black, the ex-wife of David Duke.

## BACKGROUND

Black is a 30-year veteran of the white supremacist movement. His activities date back to 1970 during his high school years in Athens, Alabama, when he was a member of the Virginia-based neo-Nazi National Socialist White People’s Party. During this period, he also worked for the unsuccessful Alabama gubernatorial campaign of hatemonger J.B. Stoner. In 1975, after graduating from the University of Alabama, Black became an organizer for white supremacist and anti-Semite [David Duke](#)’s Knights of the [Ku Klux Klan](#) (KKKK) and distributed racist literature on the campus of his alma mater, urging students of “gentile descent who are white” to join up. At that time, Black was also active in David Duke’s unsuccessful campaign for the Louisiana Senate.

By 1977, Black had become Duke’s right-hand man and reflected a new breed of Klansman as exemplified by Duke – young, articulate and educated. Black later exploited this “respectable” image and ran unsuccessfully for mayor in the 1972 primary in Birmingham, Alabama.

Black, who had been the Alabama Grand Dragon, took over the leadership of the KKKK when David Duke handed him the reins in 1980. Black kept the KKKK from disintegrating and recruited new members. Adopting Duke’s line, Black presented a “toned-down” public image of the Klan while preaching racism and anti-Semitism to fellow Klansmen. Black moved the organization’s national headquarters from Louisiana to Tuscumbia, Alabama, where he organized several Klan rallies and mobilized a large group of Klansmen to confront President Jimmy Carter at a 1980 campaign appearance. During this period, Black also participated in events with other hate groups.

In 1981, Black’s Klan activities were temporarily halted when he was arrested with a group of nine other neo-Nazis and Klansmen in Slidell, Louisiana, and charged with plotting to invade the Caribbean island of Dominica and overthrow its government. The 10 men were indicted for violations of federal law. Two of them, including Don Black, were convicted; seven pleaded guilty, and one was acquitted. Black was sentenced to three years in prison. Following his release from prison in January 1985, Black declared his “determination to put together the fragmented White Movement around America and Canada.”