

KINISM

A RACIST AND ANTI-SEMITIC RELIGIOUS MOVEMENT

There is a group of racists in the United States whose aim is no less than to create a modern white supremacist interpretation of Christianity, an interpretation they call “Kinism.” The term “Kinism” is based on the concept of living with one’s own kind or kin. While accepting many standard Christian tenets and declaring Jesus as their Savior, these Kinists assert that whites have a “God-given right” to preserve their own kind and live separately from other races in their own communities. Kinists declare that the social order for man is based on “tribal and ethnic” (by which they mean racial) ties.

Kinism is so far a loosely organized movement, with no one single leader. Rather, there are Kinist activists across the country and especially on the Internet, where they maintain at least half a dozen websites and blogs that promote Kinism.

Although the movement is small, it appears to be attracting a growing number of white supremacists in their 20s and 30s, who feel that Kinism offers a religious foundation for their racist and anti-Semitic beliefs. In various postings on websites and blogs, Kinists dismiss the idea that their views are extreme. They see themselves as practicing Christians who just love their own “ethnic kin.”

Kinists use biblical references to make the claim that God wants different races to live separately. Because the Kinist movement uses the Bible as one of the main text for its beliefs, it may appeal to an increasing number of white supremacists who feel they can justify their racism and anti-Semitism more readily. It is essential to shine a light on this little known movement that views its extremism as a normative extension of Christian beliefs.

ORIGINS

The concepts of Kinism appear to have emerged in the late 1990s/early 2000s. Members of the Patrick Henry Chapter of the Virginia League of the South (LOS), a racist neo-Confederate group, first publicly introduced the principles of Kinism in a statement at an LOS meeting in Virginia on September 7, 2001, according to the late Stan Poston. Poston had been a Maryland State Chairman of LOS.

The group behind the “Kinism Statement” allegedly included Poston; John Vinson, a founding member of LOS and the head of the racist, anti-immigrant group American Immigration Control; Randy Jamison, a former North Carolina chairman and creator of the recently defunct Kinism blog “Spirit, Water, Blood,” and other LOS leaders and members.

Harry Seabrook, the creator of now-defunct Kinism site “Little Geneva” and one of Kinism’s most ardent proponents, claimed in a September 2004 blog post that members of the Patrick Henry Chapter of the Virginia LOS had worked “for years to lay the groundwork for kinism.” Still, it was not until around 2004 that the concept of Kinism began to spread, after Seabrook and others began writing and publishing articles that promoted its principles.

Earlier, in January 2004, Seabrook had included the text of the “Kinism Statement” in an article on the “Little Geneva” site. In the comments section of the article, Poston credited Vinson with actually writing the statement. Apparently directed at the Virginia LOS, the statement declared that, “It is time to discuss the racial issue intelligently,” then argued that whites are usually forced to be either racists or anti-racists but that there was actually a third alternative—to be practitioners of Kinism. The statement then defines Kinism as “the belief that the love of racial or ethnic kin is similar to that of family ties.” The backers of the statement claimed that Kinism is “consistent with Christian belief” and with “justice and decency.”

Poston also relates in the January 2004 comments section that a number of Virginia LOS members held an anti-immigration protest that month in Lexington, Virginia. After the protest, there was a formal signing of the “Kinism Statement” and additional people endorsed it.

Later, in a letter reprinted in a 2005 article on “Little Geneva,” Poston claimed that LOS members constructed the original “Kinism Statement” in reaction to charges of racism leveled at LOS by “VA LOS college professors” in 2001. Poston also declared that the statement was a response to “the massive non-white invasion of Virginia.”

Exactly how receptive LOS members were to Kinism is a matter of some dispute. After Seabrook spoke about Kinism at a September 2004 Virginia LOS meeting, he later claimed that the LOS president, Michael Hill, and other LOS members were very receptive to his speech. However, a 2009 article on the Kinism blog “Spirit, Water, Blood” claimed that the LOS later tried to distance itself from Seabrook and Kinism by posting its own “evasive statement on race.” The LOS statement on race did not mention Kinism but instead focused on the need to protect the alleged “Anglo-Celtic core culture” of the South.

In November 2005, Seabrook and other Kinists drafted a new document, a short “Statement of Kinist Principles,” and founded the so-called Kinist Institute, based in Florida where Seabrook lives. Seabrook declared that the purpose of Kinism “is to save our people.”

In this way, Kinism is in line with the “Fourteen Words,” the most prominent slogan of hardcore white supremacists: “We must secure the existence of our people and a future for White Children.” Kinists believe they can preserve the white race by adhering to their particular interpretation of the Bible.

KINISM PRINCIPLES

Kinists, claiming the Bible is the authority for their beliefs, assert that the Bible condones segregation of the races, the key Kinist principle. The “Kinist Statement” argues that in the Bible, “God has divided humanity into ‘nations,’ which may be properly translated as races or ethnicities.” Kinists believe that the Bible prohibits “unequal yoking,” which they view as a prohibition on race mixing or miscegenation, as well as integration.

Two disparate thinkers have strongly influenced the Kinists: Robert Lewis Dabney, a 19th-century Southern Presbyterian pastor and Confederate Army chaplain, and Rousas John Rushdoony, the 20th century theologian who founded Christian Reconstructionism, a dominionist and severely theocratic interpretation of Christianity. Kinists embrace Dabney’s views on race and Rushdoony’s beliefs regarding a Christian theocracy.

Dabney continued to support slavery and the Confederacy well after the Civil War ended. According to a profile by the Library of Virginia, Dabney “defended an idealized version of the Old South at the very apex of Christian civilization.” He didn’t believe that the freed slaves should be allowed to vote and was against public education of both blacks and whites. Dabney also claimed black slaves learned to be civilized only through interaction with their white masters.

Rushdoony’s beliefs, in particular, resonate with Kinists. Rushdoony supported an eventual end of democracy in favor of a Christian theocracy. He also opposed a centralized government. He argued that children should go to locally organized Christian schools or be homeschooled instead of attending secular public schools. Rushdoony also supported the reinstatement of ancient biblical law as the foundation of civil law and the reconstruction of society based on his version of Christian principles.

Kinists oppose both democracy and egalitarianism. They believe that white Christians should return to original biblical principles and embrace white European culture. They generally support an agrarian economy and extremely limited government. They also believe that only white men 21 and older should be allowed to vote. They are vehemently against racial intermarriage.

Kinists often argue that the foundations of Kinism existed long before the League of the South members introduced the “Kinist Statement” in 2001. In fact, they often seek bridges with other white supremacists by claiming that all white Christians who have embraced a “racial identity” can be called Kinists, because Kinism is simply about wanting to live and worship with one’s own kind.

Not surprisingly, many Kinist concerns mirror those of other white supremacist groups. They declare that Christian whites are losing their place in American society, that all races other than whites are allowed to express “love for their race,” and that white Christians must become racially conscious for the sake of self-preservation. Like many other white supremacists, Kinists advocate for a white ethno-state where whites can live separately from non-whites.

DISTINCTION BETWEEN KINISM AND OTHER WHITE SUPREMACIST RELIGIOUS BELIEFS

What sets Kinists apart from many other white supremacist groups is their embrace of a biblical Christianity that has universal salvation through Jesus at its core. Many other white supremacist groups reject Christianity completely or, when they do practice Christianity, adhere to a form of the religion that recognizes only whites as capable of receiving salvation.

In this, Kinism is quite different from the most popular white supremacist Christian sect, Christian Identity. Identity adherents assert that only white Europeans are descended from the ancient Israelites of the Bible and are thus capable of salvation. They claim that non-whites are subhumans descended from “pre-Adamic peoples” created by God before he created Adam in his own image. They typically also believe that Jews are descended from Satan. Kinists explicitly denounce Identity adherents for their view of non-whites as subhuman, since Kinists believe that everyone is made in the image of God—though not that everyone is equal.

Kinism is also quite different from Creativity, a pseudo-religion created by white supremacist Ben Klassen in the 1970s. Klassen sought to create a set of faux-religious tenets, the goals of which would be “the survival, expansion and advancement of the White Race.” Klassen also asserted the concept of “rahowa,” or racial holy war, in which the white race would “gird for total war” against Jews and non-whites. Kinists, so

far, have preferred expressing separatism rather than racial war. Some Kinists believe that non-whites and non-Christians should be deported--forcibly, if need be--from white Christian communities, but not necessarily from the United States altogether.

RACIST FOUNDATIONS OF KINISM

Despite having an explicit, racially centric set of beliefs, Kinists often deny that they are racists. They say that they believe in maintaining racial diversity, although they reinterpret the concept to mean keeping races separate so that they do not become “one.” They declare that all races can achieve salvation through belief in Jesus Christ but they should do so in their own communities, under separate borders. It is a sort of “separate but equal” set of religious beliefs. Kinists claim that whites should seek unity with other whites and that “this right extends to all other genetic and ethnic families” who should also seek their own kind. They claim that harmony between races can only be achieved by living apart from each other.

The 2001 “Kinism Statement” declared, “Kinism...is not just for white people. It offers the dignity of community life to all groups and subgroups which value their heritage and identity. True diversity, is the glory of mankind. Love of kin is not hate, and self-preservation isn’t prejudice.” However, Kinism’s own precepts belie the deep-seated racism that undergirds it and its adherents frequently express sentiments of unmitigated hate and prejudice.

Kinists justify their racism by claiming that biblical figures such as the Apostles also purportedly believed in the separation of races. Kinists assert that they see the “value, uniqueness and preciousness of all Families of Man,” but that God gave the different races unique gifts and talents.

While Kinists proclaim that they affirm the “multi-national multi-racial makeup of Christ’s Church,” their own writings indicate that they believe whites should be the only group in power. In June 2005, Seabrook argued, “Yes, blacks used to have more stable families, and relations between the races were much better, but this was only because whites held the superior political station.”

Kinists assert that whites are special. For example, an article on the website Kinisim.net argues, “We stand or fall with no other but the White peoples of Europe, and their standards of beauty, their cultural achievements, the achievements of their civilization, established through the confluence of pagan and Christian traditions, are both irreplaceable and vital to our survival as a people.” The site also claims, dubiously, that when it publishes “materials disparaging of other racial-ethnic groups, it is for the sole purpose of exposing the incompatibility and essential uniqueness of the cultures in question.”

Kinists often make disparaging remarks about minorities in the U.S. Seabrook claimed in 2005 that blacks and Central and South Americans commit more crimes in America due to the fact that “this is not their home, and so they have no interest in our longevity.” Ehud Would, a Kinist blogger who writes under the name “William Borah,” asserted in 2007 that the “deportation of most Blacks, Jews and Mestizos would all but end the social ills of America.”

Kinists are as vehemently anti-Semitic as they are racist. Even though Kinists frequently claim they are benevolent toward other races, this benevolence does not extend to Jews. Kinists often refer to Jews as “anti-Christ.” They see Jews as plotting to destroy both Christianity and the white race. Though not directly naming Jews, the “Little Geneva” website and its successor, the “Spirit, Water, Blood” blog, assert,

“In life and in death, we oppose all enemies of Jesus Christ and all who seek our collective displacement, dispossession, or subjugation.”

Would argued in a December 2008 blog that Jews conspired to murder Christ and then covered up his resurrection. He added, “Yet the Jews persist in the same international conspiracy as they have from the first; they lie, bribe, and pervert in all venues in which they have access.” In the same entry, Would asserted, “Just as they resolved two millennia ago, they consider that which serves their interests best is to conspire against God and execute His scapegoat, Jesus.”

In another blog entry from February 2010, entitled “Anti-Semitism defined?” Would claimed that he did not discriminate against Jews but against Judaism because he is “a serious Christian.” He adds that, “people who call themselves ‘Jews’ are monolithically opposed to our Christian and American ideals.” Would also argued that Jews “are naturally hostile to all races, nations, and religions. The most noteworthy prerogatives of the people known as ‘Jews’ are infiltration, subversion, and destruction.”

KEY KINIST THINKERS

In the years after the adoption of the Kinism Statement, several key people emerged as promoters of the concept of Kinism. These promoters came from a number of different right-wing ideological backgrounds. Some were Christian Reconstructionists or “reformed Christians;” others were neo-Confederates, or open white supremacists.

- **Harry Seabrook**

Seabrook was for a time the most prolific blogger on Kinism through his “Little Geneva” blog, which lasted from 2001-2007. Seabrook appears to have gained an interest in Kinism through his Christian Reconstructionist beliefs. His first mention of Kinism appears in the blog in May 2004. In 2005, Seabrook and several other Kinists formed Kinist Institute. In addition, Seabrook now runs the Kinism.net site. Between 2007 and 2010, Kinism.net published *The Kinist Review*, a pseudointellectual journal that discussed the philosophy and religious beliefs behind Kinism and also contained book reviews and poetry.

- **Mark Godfrey**

Godfrey also published a blog that focused on Kinism. Godfrey’s blog ran from 2004 up until 2006 when he posted a message saying that he would be devoting his time to writing a book on the Christian church and race and posting to The Kinist Institute’s forum to stay in touch with the community. *The Kinist Review* is now an online blog on Kinism.net, with most of the articles written by W.M Godfrey. It seems likely that W.M Godfrey is Mark Godfrey, who mentioned in 2005 that all his new blog posts would be on *The Kinist Review* site.

Like Seabrook, Godfrey is explicitly anti-Semitic. In a December 2004 blog piece, he wrote, “You know what the real holocaust is? The social holocaust of Jewish influence in America. And if their deportation to Israel (with all of their assets) is to be considered another ‘holocaust’ for the group most responsible for the poisoning of America, count me in.”

- **Randall Jamison**

Jamison was one of the original signees of the “Kinist Statement” and the chairman of the Virginia Chapter of the League of the South at that time of the 2001 statement. In 2007, he created a Kinist blog, “Spirit, Water, Blood.” The blog, which was active until June 2013, was the successor to

Seabrook's "Little Geneva" blog. Jamison reposted many of Seabrook's original blogs from 2004 to 2006.

"Spirit, Water, Blood" is filled with racist and anti-Semitic articles. In June 2010, Jamison wrote an article in support of white supremacist James Edwards' book, *Racism Schmacism*. Jamison asserts, "Let every man, woman, and child among us shout from the rooftops that we are proud racists! This is what our Southern ancestors did with the epithet 'rebel' ... We too must choose between racism and patricide. Whether to triumph or not, we vow to stand with our race."

In March 2010, Jamison argued, "There are no greater enemies in the Bible and throughout the history of the West than Christians and Jews. The Bible very clearly calls Jews 'anti-Christ.' Yet the numerous crimes committed against our people have not instilled in us a sense of revenge."

On June 7, 2013, Randall Jamison claimed that he was writing his last post to the "Spirit, Water, Blood" blog. He felt that a new generation of Kinists was ready to take the helm. He wrote, "With every passing year, we've seen the ranks of Kinists swell and strong young soldiers step to the front of the line to carry on the fight for our noble and ancient cause."

KINISM ATTRACTING A NEW GENERATION OF WHITE SUPREMACISTS

Today's new Kinists are as racist and anti-Semitic as their predecessors. Their blogs are very much in the style of Harry Seabrook's "Little Geneva" or Randall Jamison's "Spirit, Water, Blood." This new group sees itself as carrying on the tradition of Kinism from their ancestors. They believe that Kinism was the way of life for white Christians for millennia and changed only during Civil Rights era. They blame Jews for disrupting a way of life that favored segregation.

Kinism appeals to this new generation because it offers a religious justification for their racism and anti-Semitism. They define themselves as ardent Christians who believe that God decreed the separation of the races.

This new generation of Kinists is also trying to establish intellectual and religious foundations to advance Kinism. Their blogs are filled with detailed analysis about the various aspects of Kinism, which they want to share with others of their generation. Like other white supremacists, they believe that it is only whites who are not allowed to express love of their race and culture without being labeled racists.

- **Scott Terry**

Terry, 30, is an example of the new generation advocating Kinism. He writes a Kinist blog, "Shotgun Barrel Straight." In a March 2013 interview in the online publication *Examiner*, Terry declared that, as a Kinist, he relied "on an underlying Calvinist theology to support [his] racial realism and ethnic nationalism."

Terry is an avowed anti-Semite. In a June 2013 blog post, while admonishing fellow white supremacists for focusing too much on Jews, he propagates classic anti-Semitic myths of Jews controlling banking, the government and the media and claims that Jews "foster a deep evil hatred for everything the West (and European people) have ever stood for...."

In a March 2013 column, Terry writes explicitly about his hatred of Jews: “My hatred is a perennial hatred, a transcendent one – bred in my bones as an antidote to the evil plans of Satan who, apparently, has merged himself with a particular people, to be their god, in a hideous imitation of our Lord; and as long as these people are defined by a Satanic constitution, no amount of change in their external, accidental characteristics (their culture, their religious rites, their language, or even their financial standing), will allay my hatred.”

- **Christian Gray**

Gray created his Kinist website, “Tribal Theocrat,” in 2011. He has done a series of podcasts in which he examines the theological, historical and racial basis of Kinism. Despite his explicit racism and anti-Semitism, he argues that the “the issue of hatred doesn’t even come to bare the definition or practice of Kinism.”

He accuses “social Marxists” (i.e., Jews) of promoting integration after the 1950 and disrupting the accepted segregation of the races. Again, his views belie his racism when he asserts that the goal of “forced integration” was “never equality and justice for all races but death to whites by granting non-whites access to our women.”

Gray is also an anti-Semite. In a November 2011 blog post on “Tribal Theocrat,” he criticized white supremacist Jared Taylor for defending Jews and saying that whites had to take responsibility for their own problems. Gray wrote, “Whites have indeed gotten themselves in the mess they’re in, but according the general Jewish Question thesis, one key way in that whites got in this mess was by letting Jews in their societies to manipulate and pervert them.”

- **Nathanael Strickland**

Strickland is the owner and chief editor of another Kinist blog, “Faith and Heritage.” Strickland was a junior at Clemson University in South Carolina in 2007 when he invited Jared Taylor to speak at the school. His blog also features other Kinists, including Scott Terry and Ehud Would. The FAQ section of Faith and Heritage features 30 detailed questions about Kinism, which lay out a much more comprehensive rendering of this belief system than the 2001 “Kinism Statement” or Harry Seabrook’s 2005 “Statement of Kinist Principles.” Strickland not only writes about Kinist beliefs, he has detailed articles on his blog that cover just about every aspect of Kinism.

When debating whether “Faith and Heritage” is racist in the FAQ section of the website, Strickland asserts that the term “racist” is used to attack white European interests. Strickland declares, “Race is not a construct made by man, but a meaningful and important creation of God for our social harmony and solidarity.” He then proposes various meanings of the term “racist” and argues, “Notwithstanding its ever-changing meaning – or rather, precisely because of it – the term’s practical utility consists in its crushing any promotion of European interests, especially European Christian interests, as if with the wave of a wand.”

In addition, Strickland defends national borders and the idea that whites should live separately from other races. Like Seabrook, Strickland talks about the benevolence that whites have shown non-whites by “allowing” them to live in their home. He justifies his views, asserting, “Imagine this question on a smaller scale: other families have been residing in your household for a period of

time, benefiting from your gospel instruction and general hospitality. But their time has come to live in self-sufficiency within their own households, as God designed families to live, no longer to be infringing upon your accommodations.”

Strickland also believes that whites and non-whites can be separate in a peaceful way using biblical principles. He claims creating a white ethno-national state “does not require some warlike, forcible removal of people who have resided in a region for an extended time. The objective of national separation is regulated by the biblical precepts of charity and mercy.”

Like other Kinists, Strickland is a vehement anti-Semite. He tries to justify his hatred of Jews by alleging that the Talmud depicts Christians as subhuman. In his words, “if the term ‘anti-Semite’ denotes some hatred of Jews simply because of their ethnicity, then it would truly be a sin, but an inapplicable accusation; yet if it denotes opposition to the religion of Judaism and the politics of Zionism, then it is not a sin in the first place.”

SPREAD OF KINISM

In addition to this new generation of educated Christian Kinists, white supremacists, including racist skinheads, appear to be adopting the language of Kinism. One group--based in Tennessee and affiliated with the racist skinhead group Blood and Honor America--calls itself the South Knox Kinist Kongregation. Kinism has the same appeal for hardcore white supremacists as it does for today’s Kinists—in their minds, it legitimizes their racism and anti-Semitism.

As time goes on, there is a concern that Kinism may increasingly appeal to hardcore white supremacists and not just to purely religious racists and bigots. Hardcore racists have a greater propensity to act out on their virulent racism and anti-Semitism.