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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, the source of our joy, in this season of gratitude, thank You for Your sustaining power and unsurpassed greatness.

Lord, we borrow our heartbeats from You each day. Search the hearts of our lawmakers, guiding them with Your wisdom and empowering them with Your might. In all their labors, may they work for Your glory. Help them to stand true to what they believe, maintaining a clear conscience in all they think, do, and say. May they acknowledge You in every area of their lives, knowing that You will direct their path. Supply all their needs from Your glorious riches.

We pray in Your gracious Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HELLER). The majority leader is recognized.

WORK BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, it has been a busy and exciting week as we have welcomed new Members, assembled our leadership teams for the

115th Congress, and gotten to work on important issues.

Today we will have an opportunity to take up a bill that is particularly important for Gulf Coast States like Louisiana. Senator CASSIDY has been a leader on this issue, and I appreciate the work he has done to bring this measure up for a vote.

Sometime this session we will also take up an extension of the Iran Sanctions Extension Act, which passed the House overwhelmingly. This bipartisan bill will provide the basis for any sanctions that may be reimposed on Iran, which is critical, given the belligerent behavior exhibited by Tehran since the signing of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. I expect we will pass it on an overwhelmingly bipartisan basis here as well.

Discussions are also ongoing on how to fund the government and for how long, as I noted yesterday. I will have more to say on that issue as more details are available.

So we all have some work to do. Let's get together to finish up the business of this Congress as we begin looking forward to the next.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

TAKING RESPONSIBILITY TO HEAL WOUNDS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, two days ago I came to the Senate floor and called upon the President-elect to rise to the dignity of his office. I called upon Mr. Trump to take responsibility for his rhetoric and his actions and to work to heal the wounds that he created.

I am disappointed to say that our President-elect has chosen to do none of those things to this point. Meanwhile, vile acts of hate and intimidat-

tion continue to occur all across America.

On Tuesday, I said that the Southern Poverty Law Center had reported 315 hate crimes since the election. As of Wednesday, that number jumped to 437. That is a 40-percent increase in 2 days. That is startling.

Here are just a few examples of the instances that have been reported. In Michigan, a Latino family awoke to find that someone had used boxes to form a wall blocking their driveway. The perpetrators left behind vulgar graffiti that denigrated Mexican Americans and praised Donald Trump for "taking back America."

In Tennessee, two men returned home to find a threatening homophobic note. Using gay slurs, the message told the men to go back where they came from. A folding knife with a picture of Donald Trump on the handle was stabbed through the paper.

At a high school in Missouri, a 15-year-old African-American student was burned with a hot glue gun and told he didn't belong in America. Another African-American student at the same school was told by a White student: "Are you ready to get back on the boat now that Trump is President?"

This morning the Washington Post editorial board related this story of a student at Baylor:

The morning after Donald Trump's election as president, a student at Baylor University had a nasty, hate-filled encounter on her way to class. A native of Zambia, she was called the n-word by another student, who shoved her off the sidewalk and said he was "just trying to make America great again," the signature slogan of Mr. Trump's campaign. What is perhaps most appalling about the incident is that it was not isolated.

As I said, I picked just a few examples. There are hundreds of these same kinds of things happening, as we speak, across the country. These are sickening acts of hate, prejudice, and just simple meanness, and they need to be stopped.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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The Washington Post editorial board called on Donald Trump to do everything he can to bring these acts to an end. They said:

Mr. Trump should pay heed. These hateful acts are the work of . . . his supporters, but they have been emboldened by the ugly rhetoric of his presidential campaign. It is his responsibility—not, as his campaign manager has foolishly suggested, President Obama’s or Hillary Clinton’s—to do as much as he can to discourage such actions. Granted, his appointment of media mogul Stephen K. Bannon to a top White House job makes that all the more difficult. So does his mild response when asked about the threats and slurs on Sunday’s “60 Minutes” interview.

He didn’t say much when he was pressed to do so.

Mr. Trump promised in his victory speech to be a president for all Americans. His wife has said she wants to make fighting hate and bullying her main priority as first lady. They need not wait until Inauguration Day to start living up to those promises.

I have several pages of hate-filled, awful incidents that have been reported. There is only one person that can bring a stop to this quickly, and that is the President-elect. Our Nation is looking at Donald Trump. For the sake of the American people, I hope he will.

I ask unanimous consent that these pages be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

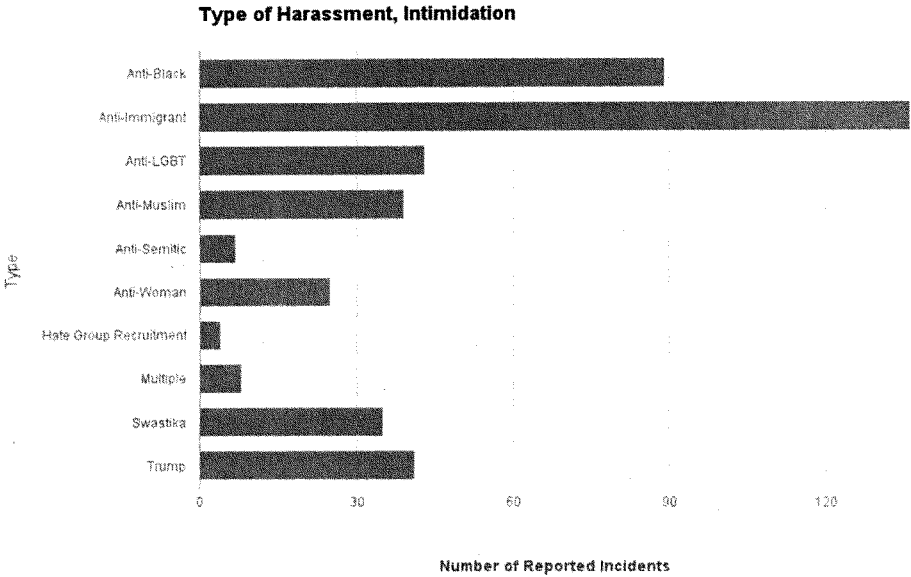
SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER HATE WATCH—UPDATE: MORE THAN 400 INCIDENTS OF HATEFUL HARASSMENT AND INTIMIDATION SINCE THE ELECTION

November 15, 2016

Between Wednesday, November 9, the day after the presidential election, and the morning of Monday, November 14, the Southern Poverty Law Center collected 437 reports of hateful intimidation and harassment.

The following reports were collected through news reports, social media, and direct submissions via SPLC’s #ReportHate page. These incidents, aside from news reports, are largely anecdotal. The SPLC did follow up with a majority of user submissions in an effort to confirm reports. As we reported earlier, many incidents involved direct references to the Trump campaign and its slogans.

Here’s the overview:



Most of the reports involved anti-immigrant incidents (136), followed by anti-black (89) and anti-LGBT (43). Some reports (8) included multiple categories like anti-Muslim and anti-immigrant. The “Trump” category (41) refers to incidents where there was no clear defined target, like the pro-Trump vandalism of a “unity” sign in Connecticut. We also collected 20 reports of anti-Trump intimidation and harassment.

Here are some examples from around the country:

In Oregon:

A Muslim woman was riding the Max to Beaverton in the early afternoon and a group of teenagers went to the corner of the car where she was sitting and got up in her face yelling at her that she was a terrorist, that our new president was going to deport her, that she can’t wear her hijab anymore. They got increasingly menacing, and my friend went over and made them get off the train. When they were leaving through the door they tried to spit on her.

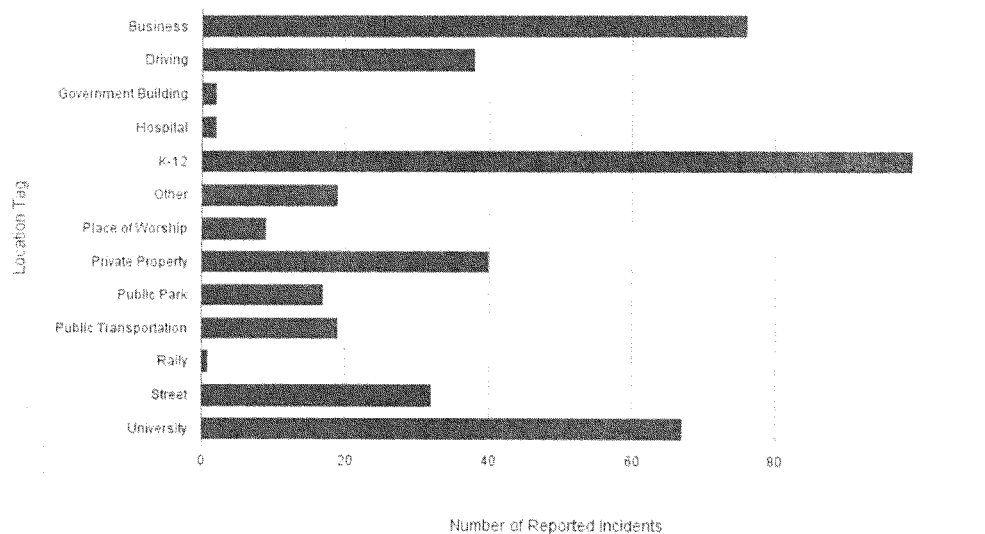
A gay man in North Carolina:

My boyfriend and I were walking down the sidewalk in Raleigh, North Carolina. It was 9:30 PM, and we were holding hands and walking to a restaurant for dinner. A white car passed us and a white male in the back passenger-side seat leaned out the window and yelled, “F* * * f* * *!” at us.

A Latina woman in Texas reported:

I was walking my baby at my neighborhood park and a truck drove by with a male driving and a female passenger. The female yelled “white power” at us as they drove by and then sped away.

Location of Incident



Venues of harassment included K-12 schools (99), businesses (76), and universities (67). Common also was vandalism and leafleting on private property (40) and epithets and slurs hurled from moving vehicles (38).

At an elementary school in Texas:

My 13 yo half Filipino daughter was approached by a child she didn't know as she waited to board her bus after school. The

young man stated "You're Asian, right? When they see your eyes you are going to be deported" and he walked away. I reported this to my district Superintendent.

From a news report in Georgia:

A Gwinnett County high school teacher said she was left a note in class Friday telling her that her Muslim headscarf "isn't allowed anymore." "Why don't you tie it

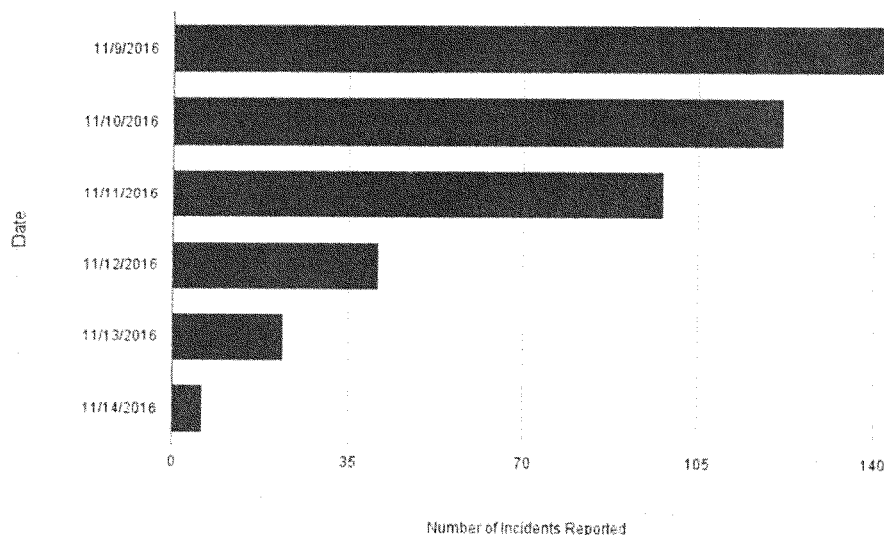
around your neck & hang yourself with it . . .," the note said, signed "America!"

Vandalism involving swastikas (35) was also frequently reported. In California:

A swastika was spray painted on a billboard for the movie "Almost Christmas," which shows an African American cast.

It appears that incidents are subsiding, although earlier incidents are still being reported:

Date of Incident



Mr. REID. Mr. President, I see no one on the floor. So I ask the Chair to tell us the business of the day.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

AMERICAN ENERGY AND CONSERVATION ACT OF 2016—MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will re-

sume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 3110, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 543, S. 3110, a bill to provide for reforms of the administration of the outer Continental Shelf of the United States, to provide for the development of geothermal, solar, and wind energy on public land, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Arizona.

REMEMBERING SERGEI MAGNITSKY AND BORIS NEMTSOV

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, 7 years ago, in a squalid cell inside the prison that once held the political opponents of the Czars and the Soviets, Sergei Magnitsky was murdered for defying the tyranny of Vladimir Putin's Russia.