

AP explains: Election brings white nationalism to forefront

By JAY REEVES
Associated Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Donald Trump's choice of far-right publishing executive Steve Bannon as a top White House adviser is bringing new scrutiny to a troubling, decades-old ideology: white nationalism.

The movement generally advocates formation of a nation set aside for whites. Some adherents openly supported Trump for president, and white nationalists have praised Trump's appointment of Bannon as a senior adviser. Bannon previously headed the Breitbart website that appealed to the so-called "alt-right" — a movement often associated with far right efforts to preserve "white identity," oppose multiculturalism and defend "Western values."

White nationalists often support the idea that white people are under attack in the U.S., and need protection from the growth of minority and immigrant groups. Adherents sometimes use the hashtag whitegenocide on social media to promote their belief that the future of the white race is in peril. They see diversity as a threat to fight, not a goal to embrace.

Here are some questions and answers about white nationalism in the United States:

HOW DID THIS GET STARTED?

Groups including the Ku Klux Klan, which is 150 years old, have espoused various white nationalist ideas. The start of the current white nationalist movement is pegged to more recent years.

J.M. Berger, an author and expert on extremism at George Washington University's Program on Extremism, wrote earlier this year that many of today's white nationalists were inspired by "The Turner Diaries," a racist novel published in 1978. In the book, physicist-turned-writer William Luther Pierce describes a dystopian America in which white people are disarmed by minorities.

Timothy McVeigh had pages from the book with him when he bombed the Alfred P. Murrah federal building in Oklahoma City in 1995, killing 168 people.

IS STEVE BANNON A WHITE NATIONALIST?

Bannon hasn't commented publicly since being tapped for the White House position, but his former colleagues at Breitbart.com dispute any links to white nationalism.

In a statement released to *The Hill*, a political newspaper published in the nation's capital, Breitbart.com said it had been



AP Photo/Evan Vucci, File

In this Nov. 11 file photo, Stephen Bannon, campaign CEO for President-elect Donald Trump, leaves Trump Tower in New York. Trump on Sunday named Republican Party chief Reince Priebus as White House chief of staff and conservative media owner Bannon as his top presidential strategist, two men who represent opposite ends of the unsettled GOP.

under intense scrutiny over Bannon's involvement with Trump and was preparing a lawsuit over media depictions of it as a "white nationalist website."

The statement added: "Breitbart News rejects racism in all its varied and ugly forms. Always has, always will."

Speaking on CNN, a Trump spokesman has called media coverage of Bannon's appointment "irresponsible."

ARE WHITE NATIONALISTS ORGANIZED?

To an extent, yes. One such group, the National Alliance, was actually founded by Pierce, the "Turner Diaries" author.

As with any such group, accurate membership numbers are tough to attain. And the National Alliance's website says it won't accept just anyone into the fold: Only heterosexual whites who aren't addicted to alcohol and drugs are welcome. Members can't be involved romantically with a person of another race, and they can't be in prison.

A postelection commentary posted on the National Alliance's website called Trump's victory "a move in the right direction" and "a temporary reprieve for the United States of America as a majority-white country." Another group with white nationalist leanings, the Council of Conservative Citizens, also has praised Trump's election, as have various KKK groups and the American Nazi Party.

White nationalist groups embrace a number of different symbols. Some with Nazi roots use the swastika as an insignia; KKK groups with white nationalist beliefs use more traditional Klan insignia, like a cross with a red tear. The National Alliance website features a cross with arms

bent upward.

ISN'T ALL THIS JUST PREJUDICE WITH A NEW NAME?

It depends on who you ask.

Critics of white nationalism definitely see it as a racist ideology, a form of hate run amok. They say the very idea of establishing a "white" nation is disparaging and hurtful to the racial minorities, ethnic groups and religious adherents who would presumably be forced to live elsewhere.

Believers in white nationalism disagree. They deny looking down upon other races or believing they are superior to anyone. They say they don't hate. They just want their own country, which would implicitly allow minorities to have their own nation.

ARE THERE OTHER KINDS OF NATIONALISTS?

Absolutely, including black nationalists.

One of the founders of black nationalism was Marcus Garvey, who founded the Universal Negro Improvement Association in 1914. The Nation of Islam, formed in Detroit in the 1930s and now led by Louis Farrakhan, also has a black nationalist strain, as the religion aims in part to free blacks from "servitude" to Western civilization — white society.

Other black nationalist groups have popped up through the years, and several have an internet presence. The gunman in the Dallas police massacre, Micah Johnson, had shown interest in black nationalist groups before opening fire and killing five officers earlier this year.

The Alabama-based Southern Poverty Law Center, a liberal advocacy group which monitors extremist organizations, classifies both white nationalist and black separatist organizations as racist.

MOVE: Pioneer Relief Nursery will start moving on Nov. 28

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people in Pendleton escaped the cold by ducking into the little house and sleeping on cots or pads crowded into a main floor living area and the basement. Space was tight. Guests checked in each night at a table crowded into the area. Men walked through a tiny kitchen to reach the basement stairs, which led to their beds.

The new warming station might not be as homey, but Clemons said the facility offers more square footage, a better location and plenty of rooms.

"We're so excited. It's considerably bigger and comes with a storage building," Clemons said. "We're not having to use one space for six different things."

Challenges include a leaky roof and increased insurance costs, but Clemons is ebullient about the new building.

"It's a wonderful gift," he said. There are no plans to change the warming station's mission. Clemons said it will not become a year-round homeless shelter, instead retaining its identity as a haven from the coldest winter weather.

"That's who we are," he said. "That's what we'll remain."

Barbara Ceniga, executive director of the Pioneer Relief Nursery, is equally ecstatic about her organization's new location, for which there will be no charge.

"It's bigger," Ceniga said. "We won't be crammed into a space that we've outgrown."

The relief nursery will start moving on Nov. 28. The organization's new home near Red Lion Hotel has served as the hospital

pharmacy, a day care center and finally an urgent care clinic. The increased square footage will allow adequate space for preschool and toddler classrooms, a clothes closet, a hygiene closet, an employee workroom, office space, a full kitchen and private areas to meet with clients.

The remodel involved removing walls, replacing the air handling system and flooring, electrical work and other tasks.

Shortly after the nursery relocates, the warming station will move in to the vacated building.

"On Dec. 5, we anticipate the hospital turning in the paperwork to the title company," Clemons said. "We plan to move into the building the first full week of December."

The shelter will be ready for operation approximately a week later and open whenever the weather forecasts predict temperatures below freezing.

St. Anthony spokesman Larry Blanc said reaching into the community is part of the mission of the hospital and its parent company Catholic Health Initiatives.

"Getting out of our walls benefits both the community and the hospital," Blanc said. "It demonstrates that we are concerned about our community."

"This is a win-win for everybody," Ceniga said.

The Hermiston Warming Station recently moved into a new building at 1075 S. Highway 395. The facility, which has room for 22 guests, opens Nov. 21 and will operate each winter night.

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BARRETO: Will introduce bill to address spending in state agencies

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their supermajority in the Senate. He said lawmakers are bracing for what bills are introduced, while revisiting controversial topics from the 2015 session, such as a transportation package and low carbon fuel standard.

"A lot of those things are still on the table," Barreto said.

Barreto plans to introduce a bill of his own to address spending in state agencies. He described Measure 97 as "egregious" and believes there are better mechanisms to balance the budget.

"Sometimes the problem isn't just the amount of revenue, but

how you spend it," he said. "In business or manufacturing, you're always looking for efficiency ... there's nothing wrong with looking at the same thing in government."

In other caucus news, McLane also appointed Jodi Hack (R-Salem) as the House Republican whip. Hack graduated from Pendleton High School before moving back to the Salem area. She was elected to the legislature in 2014.

The 2017 legislative session will begin Feb. 1.

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BUDGET: 'The budget is growing faster than our economy's ability to sustain it'

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97 — may be reluctant to negotiate on taxes.

What's more, Senate President Peter Courtney, the top Democratic lawmaker, said he is unsure there are enough votes to pass a balanced budget.

Gov. Kate Brown will release a proposed budget on Dec. 1, which will include plans for budget cuts and likely options for raising revenue. Brown has signaled that she plans to avoid cutting programs that help children and poor families.

Kristen Grainger, Brown's communications director, said it's too early to say what cuts or revenue options will be included in the governor's budget. Grainger said the state budget is concentrated mostly in schools, health and human services and public safety. Some funding schemes are codified in law, which means there are few options for Brown.

"There's not a lot of flexibility. She's got to be really thoughtful and strategic about how she does this," Grainger said.

Top lawmakers also said cuts are certain.

"We're not going to get through this without some cuts somewhere," said Courtney, a Democrat who has represented Salem since 1999. He added that he had not yet spoken with the governor about where she plans to propose cuts.

"I don't have a path right now and I'm very concerned about it," Courtney said.

State agencies submitted hypothetical budgets cuts to the governor's office months ago, a routine aspect of planning the state's next two-year budget. Brown will develop her plan from those proposals.

February will bring the 2017 legislative session, and lawmakers will be tasked with passing a balanced budget by July 10, based on Brown's proposal.

Sen. Mark Hass, who chairs the Senate revenue and finance committee, said the discussion on

how to raise revenue is already underway.

"The failure of Measure 97 does not change the fact that we have one of the most volatile tax codes in the country or that we seriously under-fund education," said Hass, a Democrat who represents Beaverton. "But it's not like we're back to square-one."

Oregon's revenue system is volatile because it remains tied to personal income taxes, which rise and fall with the economy. States that rely more on sales tax revenues are less susceptible to economic shocks.

Assessments, fees, a sin tax and more are being considered from a philosophical standpoint, Hass said. He's already been in talks with legislative leaders and representatives of business interests and labor unions. They're examining what Plan B might look like, he said.

Courtney said he and House Speaker Tina Kotek, D-Portland, were set to meet Thursday, though they have not yet discussed a specific plan of action. Kotek declined to comment.

Hass and Rep. Mark Johnson, a Hood River Republican who sits on the House revenue committee, proposed a bill in 2015 advertised by the pair as a "peaceful solution" between business and labor interests. The plan would have repealed Oregon's corporate income tax and replaced it with a commercial activity tax; the law was predicted to raise \$1 billion in new revenue per two-year budget cycle. The plan never came up for a vote.

Hass said the commercial activity tax may come up again in 2017, though nothing is certain yet.

For his part, Johnson said the Legislature should figure out how to rein in spending before asking taxpayers and businesses for more revenue.

"The budget is growing faster than our economy's ability to sustain it," Johnson said. "We've got to take a serious look at the cost drivers."

'Sanctuary cities' vow to protect immigrants

By GENE JOHNSON
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SEATTLE — Democratic mayors of major U.S. cities that have long had cool relationships with federal immigration officials say they will do all they can to protect residents from deportation, despite President-elect Donald Trump's vows to withhold potentially millions of dollars in taxpayer money if they do not cooperate.

New York City's Bill de Blasio, Chicago's Rahm Emanuel and Seattle's Ed Murray are among those in "sanctuary cities" that have tried to soothe worried immigrant populations.

"Seattle has always been a welcoming city," Murray said Monday. "The last thing I want is for us to start turning on our neighbors."

In Providence, Rhode Island, Mayor Jorge Elorza, the son of Guatemalan immigrants, said he would continue a longstanding policy of refusing to hold people charged with civil infractions for federal immigration officials. Newark, New Jersey's Ras Baraka echoed that decision, calling Trump's rhetoric on immigration "scary."

Los Angeles Police Chief Charlie Beck told the Los Angeles Times that he's committed to a longtime policy of staying out of immigration issues. Mayor Eric Garcetti has backed that up but stopped short of calling LA a sanctuary city because the term is "ill-defined."

Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney restored sanctuary status when he took office in January and said last week the city would protect its residents. District of Columbia Mayor Muriel Bowser also said it would keep the status.

During the campaign, Trump gave a speech in which he promised to "end the sanctuary cities" and said those "that refuse to cooperate with federal authorities



AP Photo/Elaine Thompson, File

In this Nov. 9 file photo, Seattle Mayor Ed Murray speaks at a post-election event of elected officials and community leaders at City Hall in Seattle. Leaders in Seattle, Portland and other so-called "sanctuary cities" say they won't change their stance on immigration despite Donald Trump's vows to withhold potentially millions of dollars in taxpayer money if they don't cooperate.

will not receive taxpayer dollars." He blamed such policies for "so many needless deaths."

Trump didn't elaborate on his plans for cracking down on the cities. In a "60 Minutes" interview broadcast Sunday, he said his administration's priority will be deporting criminals and securing the border.

But significant questions — and unease — remain about his approach to sanctuary cities.

There is no legal definition of the term, which is opposed by some immigration advocates who say it does not reflect that people can still be deported.

It generally refers to jurisdictions that don't cooperate with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. That can mean, for example, that they don't notify immigration officials when an undocumented immigrant is about to be released from custody.

Some cities, like San Francisco, have long declared themselves safe havens for immigrants, issuing local ID cards to allow them to access government or other services.

The term also been used to refer to cities that bar their employees, including police, from inquiring about a person's immigration status because crime victims and witnesses might be less likely to talk to investigators if they are worried about being deported.

"We don't want anybody to be afraid to talk to us," said Sheriff John Urquhart of Washington's King County, which includes Seattle.

Because states and cities can't be required to enforce federal law — and there's no U.S. requirement that police ask about a person's immigration status — it's likely that any Trump effort to crack down on sanctuary cities would focus on those that refuse to comply with ICE requests, said Roy Beck, chief executive of NumbersUSA, which wants to see immigration levels reduced.

It's also unclear what money Trump might pull. For Congress to impose conditions on federal money heading to the states, the conditions must be related to the funding's purpose, the U.S. Supreme Court has said.