

HOW WE KEEP LYNCHING BLACKS

Thursday January 10, 2008

Perhaps it should come as no surprise that when a developing nation, such as the United States, adopts the most immoral and inexcusable of economic and social policies—that is, a legalized system whereby one group of people holds another group of people as slaves—a heavy price will continue to be levied even after many painful, hard-won steps have been taken to rid itself of that policy and its vestiges. Without a doubt the heaviest price paid for America’s slavery system was paid by the African and African-American slaves themselves. Rising to become a world economic power on the backs of unpaid imported labor, as a young nation the United States only began to approach a genuine democracy after its bloody civil war helped to end slavery. No longer chattel, about four million blacks were granted citizenship, due process, equal protection and the secured right to vote by constitutional decree^{1,2}. Yet the stain of race-based dehumanization—the stain of slavery—had penetrated deep into America’s fabric. The abolition of slavery sired Jim Crow laws, and segregation gave birth to the nation’s oldest domestic terrorist organization, the Ku Klux Klan. Both as hate crimes meant to terrorize blacks and as forms of social control—primarily the domination of whites over blacks—lynchings proved to be a fitting legacy of American slavery. Over 4,700 such mob executions were documented between 1882 and 1968, and almost three-quarters of the victims were black³. A haunting visual record of some of them can be found online⁴. Almost certainly there were other, undocumented lynchings during this 86-year period. As we will show in this report, the dehumanization of blacks—often a physically violent dehumanization—unmistakably continues in America.

Problems with underreporting notwithstanding, the FBI’s hate crime reporting program sheds ample light on how and (conservatively) how often blacks are singled out and victimized based on their race. To understand the magnitude of the problem of anti-black hate crimes, which trendsinhate believes is a vestige of slavery, the focus must not be merely on absolute numbers of hate crimes based on anti-Black bias. Rather, an accurate analysis must examine the expected numbers of hate-crimes based on population estimates of blacks and whites, actual hate crime figures, and probability theory⁵. The magnitude of reported hate crimes based on hatred toward blacks is discovered only by comparing actual hate crime figures with the expected numbers of such crimes given the percentage of the population that blacks make up.

The U.S. Census Bureau provides yearly population estimates that include estimates of the number of blacks in the United States⁶. These population estimates are critical in understanding the scope of hate crimes based on anti-Black bias: they place the hate crimes in context. We examined the FBI’s published hate crime data from 1996 through 2005 focusing on anti-Black hate crimes, and we also used the Census Bureau’s population estimates to help place these crime figures in context. As shown in Table One, during the ten-year timeframe we examined, on average non-Hispanic blacks comprised 12.73% of the nation’s total population, and this figure included children and

infants. Since blacks comprised just 12.73% of the nation’s population from 1996-2005, we reasoned that hate crimes against them should not exceed that percentage.

TABLE ONE

Year	Percentage of Blacks in the U.S. Population⁶
1996	12.64%
1997	12.69%
1998	12.74%
1999	12.78%
2000	12.69%
2001	12.71%
2002	12.73%
2003	12.75%
2004	12.77%
2005	12.79%
1996-2005: Average	12.73%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

Before we analyze the FBI’s data, we must first understand some of the terms the FBI uses in its reporting of hate crimes. A hate crime “Incident” is defined as any criminal activity that involves one or more hate crime “Offenses” which are defined as specific illegal acts, such as murder, rape, arson, assault, intimidation, etc. “Victims” can be persons, businesses, or institutions; however, in some cases (such as murder, forcible rape, and assault) victims are always people. As a hypothetical example, if because of the victim’s race, a black woman had her car stolen, vandalized with racial epithets, and set on fire, then this would constitute one hate crime incident and three hate crime offenses (viz., Motor Vehicle Theft, Vandalism and Arson). Hate crime incidents typically are what the FBI calls “Single Bias Incidents” (as in our hypothetical hate crime example), but they could instead be “Multiple Bias Incidents.” These are hate crime incidents whereby it was determined by law enforcement that more than one form of bias led to the incident (in our example, the perpetrator might have selected his/her victim because of her race *and* her sexual orientation, instead of only her race). The FBI has identified 21 types of bias motivation for Single Bias Incidents, and one of these is the focus of this report: “anti-Black bias”⁷. Finally, hate crime offenses are trifurcated into those “Against Persons”, “Against Property”, and “Against Society.” (In our hypothetical example, the three hate crime offenses would all be tallied as “Crimes Against Property”).

Table Two shows the percentages of all hate crime “Single Bias Incidents,” and all hate crime “Offenses” and “Victims” of “Single Bias Incidents” *based only on anti-Black bias*

as calculated from the FBI's 1996-2005 data. The last column in Table Two shows the U.S. Census Bureau's population estimates of blacks in America as a comparison. It is important to understand that the percentages in Table Two do *not* reflect the percentage of anti-Black bias based on only racial bias-motivated incidents; they are based on hate-based incidents of *any* kind. Had we calculated the percentages of anti-Black bias of only race-based incidents, they would have been considerably higher⁸.

TABLE TWO

Year	Percentage of All U.S. Hate Crime Incidents due to Anti-Black Bias	Percentage of All U.S. Hate Crime Offenses due to Anti-Black Bias	Percentage of All U.S. Hate Crime Victims due to Anti-Black Bias	Percentage of Blacks in the U.S. Population
1996	41.97%	41.82%	41.75%	12.64%
1997	38.78%	38.96%	38.68%	12.69%
1998	37.43%	38.75%	37.74%	12.74%
1999	37.58%	38.12%	37.57%	12.78%
2000	35.80%	36.22%	35.69%	12.69%
2001	29.82%	30.87%	30.84%	12.71%
2002	33.33%	33.62%	33.39%	12.73%
2003	34.04%	34.83%	34.65%	12.75%
2004	35.74%	36.37%	36.53%	12.77%
2005	36.73%	38.22%	37.77%	12.79%
1996-2005 Totals	36.07%	36.74%	38.08%	12.73%

Sources: *FBI and the U.S. Census Bureau.*

In every single year from 1996 through 2005 anti-Black bias accounted for more hate crime incidents, hate crime offenses, and hate crime victims than would have been expected given the percentage of blacks in the population. Even after the 2001 terrorist attacks on America on September 11, 2001—which drove some to hatefully act out against Muslims and those perceived to be of Middle Eastern nationality—the percentage of anti-Black biased hate crimes remained high. Keep in mind that probabilistically, none of the percentages in columns two, three or four of Table Two should have exceeded the percentages found in the last column (which includes infants and children who are not likely to be hate crime victims). Yet, for the ten-year timeframe we examined, the rate was about three times higher than expected as shown in Table Two (bottom row). This was the case for hate crime incidents, offenses and victims for every year from 1996 through 2005. For instance, in the most recent year's FBI data that we analyzed (2005) we see that while blacks comprised 12.79% of the U.S. population, anti-Black bias accounted for 36.73% of all single-bias hate crime incidents, and this represents a 2.87 times higher rate than expected. In that same year, the rate for being a victim due to anti-Black bias was 2.95 times higher than expected.

The disturbing findings shown in Table Two begged the questions: are all types of hate crimes based on anti-Black bias significantly higher than expected or are only certain hate crimes? To answer these questions we examined the FBI's data of five different single bias hate crime offense types against persons (Murder, Forcible Rape, Aggravated Assault, Simple Assault, and Intimidation) and six different single bias hate crime offense types against property (Robbery, Burglary, Larceny/Theft, Motor Vehicle Theft, Arson, and Destruction/Damage/Vandalism). Our results are shown in Tables Three and Four. Table Three shows the percentages of specific Single Bias hate crime offenses against persons due to anti-Black bias from 1996 through 2005. For every type of hate crime offense, anti-Black bias accounted for more of these crimes than the percentage of blacks in the United States. For example, during this ten-year period, there were 115 hate-crime murders, and 31 of these (26.96%) were due to anti-Black bias; yet, blacks accounted for only 12.73% of the population, making blacks 2.12 times as likely to be a hate-crime murder victim than expected.

TABLE THREE

Year	Percentages of Single Bias Hate Crime Offenses Against Persons due to anti-Black Bias					Percentage of Blacks in the U.S. Population
	Murder	Forcible Rape	Aggravated Assault	Simple Assault	Intimidation	
1996	41.67%	40.00%	41.48%	38.37%	45.52%	12.64%
1997	37.50%	22.22%	40.58%	35.88%	43.63%	12.69%
1998	23.08%	36.36%	42.34%	36.34%	47.66%	12.74%
1999	28.57%	33.33%	40.27%	36.32%	43.98%	12.78%
2000	15.79%	25.00%	39.02%	35.79%	42.34%	12.69%
2001	30.00%	0%	36.25%	30.90%	33.25%	12.71%
2002	27.27%	0%	37.68%	33.99%	35.66%	12.73%
2003	28.57%	0%	37.15%	30.92%	41.48%	12.75%
2004	20.00%	25.00%	39.21%	34.50%	42.83%	12.77%
2005	33.33%	33.33%	40.02%	35.38%	46.47%	12.79%
1996-2005 Totals	26.96%	23.44%	39.48%	34.72%	41.77%	12.73%

Sources: *FBI and the U.S. Census Bureau.*

Similarly, from 1995 through 2005 there were 64 forcible rapes that were deemed hate crimes, and 15 of these were due to anti-Black bias which is 1.84 times higher than expected. Rates of aggravated assault, simple assault, and intimidation were even higher: 3.10 times higher than expected, 2.73 times higher than expected, and 3.28 times higher than expected, respectively. It is important to keep in mind when examining specific single years that some hate crimes occur infrequently (namely, murder and forcible rape). For these infrequently occurring hate crimes, it is more informative to examine a period

of time, rather than looking at a single year or changes in percentages from year to year. For more frequently occurring hate crimes, such as aggravated assault, simple assault, and intimidation, trends are more accurately apparent when examining a period of time versus one-year figures. One trend we found as seen in Table Three was a short-lived percentage decrease in aggravated assault, simple assault and intimidation due to anti-Black bias in 2001 compared to 2000; this was due to the anti-Islamic and anti-Middle Eastern national climate caused by the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Temporarily at least, a shift in hate-based assaults and threats away from blacks and directed toward those known or thought to be Middle Eastern and/or Muslim occurred following 9/11. By 2005, however, the percentage of anti-Black bias in these three crime categories had increased to at or near pre-9/11 levels (Table Three).

Similar to crimes against persons, Table Four shows that anti-Black bias was more likely the reason for six crimes against property than would be expected given the proportion of blacks in the United States from 1996-2005, inclusive. Percentages of motor vehicle thefts, larceny thefts and to a lesser extent robberies did not appear appreciable higher for blacks than what would be expected, although all were somewhat higher than the 12.73% of the population of blacks in America during that timeframe. However, the rates of anti-Black biased burglaries, arsons, and destructive vandalism were 2.37 times higher, 2.55 times higher, and 2.62 times higher than expected, respectively. As with murders and

TABLE FOUR

Year	Percentages of Single Bias Hate Crime Offenses Against Property due to anti-Black Bias						Percentage of Blacks in the U.S. Population
	Robbery	Burglary	Larceny-theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson	Destruction, Damage, Vandalism	
1996	16.77%	34.29%	28.00%	14.29%	44.00%	40.68%	12.64%
1997	15.97%	27.93%	23.16%	28.57%	40.00%	35.54%	12.69%
1998	16.95%	38.38%	20.99%	0%	44.00%	32.52%	12.74%
1999	27.34%	25.23%	16.50%	21.43%	22.92%	33.89%	12.78%
2000	19.42%	33.33%	13.16%	27.27%	28.85%	30.93%	12.69%
2001	12.10%	31.54%	16.00%	0%	21.11%	27.69%	12.71%
2002	10.00%	29.01%	14.57%	11.11%	26.32%	32.20%	12.73%
2003	21.50%	26.83%	17.92%	6.67%	38.24%	32.62%	12.75%
2004	19.64%	28.97%	13.02%	6.67%	27.27%	33.49%	12.77%
2005	18.11%	27.41%	12.27%	27.78%	33.33%	35.72%	12.79%
1996-2005 Totals	17.54%	30.16%	16.38%	14.91%	32.45%	33.50%	12.73%

Sources: *FBI and the U.S. Census Bureau.*

forcible rapes, hate-based motor vehicle thefts are relatively infrequently occurring crimes; therefore, examining this type of hate crime could lead to reaching an inaccurate conclusion if only the figure from a single year was examined, or if comparing percentage changes from one year to the next.

When examining the FBI's data it is crucial to keep in mind that their figures are underestimates of the hate-based crimes that actually occurred for a number of reasons. As we described in another trendsinhate report (*Gay-related Hate Murders: A Decade Long Epidemic*), some law enforcement jurisdictions do not participate in voluntarily providing any crime data to the FBI (including hate crime data), some law enforcement agencies specifically do not participate in voluntarily providing any *hate crime* data to the FBI (while providing to them general crime data), and some law enforcement agencies refuse to consider or to conclude that some crimes are hate crimes in spite of compelling evidence. Two crimes in 2007 serve as examples of the latter. First, in early September, 2007, a 20-year-old black woman was allegedly abducted in Logan County, West Virginia, held captive for over a week, and tortured by six white people. During her ordeal—which included her being allegedly stabbed in the left leg, sexually assaulted, forced to eat rat and dog feces, choked, scalded, and forced to drink from a toilet—racial slurs were said to her, which along with the type of incident itself strongly points to a hate crime. The FBI, along with local authorities, investigated the case, and while arrests were made swiftly, a decision was made not to press hate crime charges against those arrested—either on the federal level or on the state level. Thus, it is unlikely that this horrific week-long torture crime-spree, allegedly laced with racial comments directed at the victim, will be tallied by the FBI as a hate crime incident or as hate crime offenses. (The FBI's "Hate Crime Statistics, 2007" is not due to be released until late in 2008, and we hope that this West Virginia incident will be included in it). As another example, in Selma, Alabama in March, 2007, an organization that trains African-American youth for future leadership roles in their communities, the *21st Century Youth Leadership Center*, was significantly vandalized. Racist and obscene slurs were spray-painted on the center's walls, office equipment and plumbing and appliances were destroyed, rooms were trashed, sinks were torn from walls, and gas lines were severed causing about \$200,000 worth of damage. Despite the spray-painted "N" word scrawled at the center, the FBI refused to classify the incident as a hate crime. We suspect that there are many other race-based crimes that go unreported to, or are dismissed by, the FBI as actual hate crimes.

Perhaps to better illustrate the magnitude of anti-Black bias-motivated hate crimes it is useful to show how many *anti-White bias-motivated hate crimes* would have had to have occurred from 1996 through 2005 to equal the magnitude of anti-Black biased crimes reported during that same timeframe. Tables Five, Six and Seven show the actual and the *expected* numbers of hate crime offenses due to anti-White bias based on the FBI's actual hate crime data and based on the U.S. Census Bureau's yearly estimates of the population of whites in the American population. Tables Six and Seven also show the actual percentages of anti-White biased hate crimes for each type of crime; and, they show the population of blacks (third column) and whites in the United States (shown in blue in the last column). The actual FBI-reported anti-White biased hate crimes are shown in black

to the left of the colon in Tables Five Six and Seven, and the census-based *expected* number of anti-White biased hate crimes is shown in red to the right of the colon. Taking

TABLE FIVE

Year	Number and Percentage of All U.S. Hate Crime Offenses due to Anti-Black Bias	Percentage of Blacks in the U.S. Population	Actual: Expected Number of All U.S. Hate Crime Offenses due to Anti-White Bias ¹	Percentage of Whites in the U.S. Population
1996	4,469 (41.82%)	12.64%	1,384: 25,866	73.16%
1997	3,838 (38.96%)	12.69%	1,267: 21,997	72.73%
1998	3,573 (38.75%)	12.74%	989: 20,280	72.31%
1999	3,542 (38.12%)	12.78%	970: 19,924	71.89%
2000	3,409 (36.22%)	12.69%	1,050: 18,670	69.50%
2001	3,529 (30.87%)	12.71%	1,034: 19,119	68.86%
2002	2,967 (33.62%)	12.73%	888: 15,930	68.35%
2003	3,032 (34.83%)	12.75%	969: 16,134	67.85%
2004	3,281 (36.37%)	12.77%	998: 17,309	67.37%
2005	3,200 (38.22%)	12.79%	935: 16,743	66.92%
1996-2005	34,840 (36.74%)	12.73%	10,484: 191,972	69.89%

Sources: *FBI and the U.S. Census Bureau.*

¹Expected figures here equal the magnitude of actual anti-Black biased hate crimes for a given year or timeframe. They are based on the percentages of blacks and whites in the population, and based on actual reported Single Bias hate crime offenses due to anti-Black bias.

1996 as an example, in Table Five we see that there were 4,469 hate crime offenses due to anti-Black bias, and 1,384 hate crime offenses due to anti-White bias. We also see that Blacks constituted 12.64% of the population that year while Whites constituted 73.16% of the population. For anti-White biased hate crimes to have reached the magnitude of anti-Black biased hate crimes in 1996 there would have had to have been 25,866 reported anti-White biased hate crime offenses⁹. For the entire ten-year timeframe we examined, anti-White biased hate crime offenses would have had to have totaled more than 190,000 to equal the magnitude of hate crime offenses due to anti-Black bias. In reality, however, there was about 5.5% of that amount (i.e., there were 10,484 reported anti-White biased hate crimes). To look at the difference in magnitude between anti-Black and anti-White biased hate crime offenses as a function of the population of blacks and whites somewhat differently, from 1996 through 2005 there ought to have been 1,910 anti-Black hate crimes reported based on the actual number of anti-White biased offenses; instead, there were over 18 times that number¹⁰ (i.e., there were 34,840 reported anti-Black biased hate crimes).

Tables Six and Seven illustrate the increased magnitude of anti-Black hate crime offenses by showing the actual yearly numbers (and percentages) of hate crime offenses against persons and against property based on anti-White bias and the *expected* number of

specific anti-White biased hate crimes that would have had to have been reported to equal the magnitude of anti-Black biased crimes reported. The expected numbers of hate crimes (reported in red) are based on the population of blacks and whites, and on the actual numbers of FBI reported anti-Black biased hate crimes.

TABLE SIX

Year	Actual and Expected number of FBI Single Bias Hate Crime Offenses due to anti-White bias					Percentage of Whites in the U.S. Population
	Murder	Forcible Rape	Aggravated Assault	Simple Assault	Intimidation	
1996	1:29 8.33%	5:23 50%	281:3,467 19.49%	430:3,913 24.49%	399:10,881 9.68%	73.16%
1997	2:17 25%	2:11 22.22%	238:2,877 19.26%	400:3,702 22.23%	399:9,537 10.48%	72.73%
1998	5:17 38.46%	4:23 36.36%	174:2,605 16.08%	326:3,519 19.18%	296:8,832 8.49%	72.31%
1999	3:23 17.65%	2:11 33.33%	221:2,537 19.73%	287:3,606 16.26%	232:8,078 7.11%	71.89%
2000	5:16 26.32%	1:5 25.00%	215:2,530 18.16%	280:3,160 17.37%	278:7,618 8.46%	69.50%
2001	0:16 0%	2:0 50%	168:2,427 13.59%	289:3,597 13.45%	263:7,802 6.07%	68.86%
2002	1:16 9.09%	2:0 25.00%	175:2,094 16.91%	262:3,264 14.65%	233:5,944 7.51%	68.35%
2003	1:21 7.14%	1:0 20.00%	147:1,815 16.01%	305:2,975 16.87%	166:6,051 6.06%	67.85%
2004	2:5 40.00%	3:5 75.00%	151:2,147 14.55%	316:3,176 18.11%	228:6,378 8.08%	67.37%
2005	1:10 16.67%	0:5 0%	179:2,224 16.85%	242:2,899 15.45%	172:6,174 6.78%	66.92%
1996-2005	21:170 18.26%	22:82 34.38%	1,949:24,618 17.16%	3,137:33,748 17.72%	2,666:76,863 7.95%	69.89%

Sources: *FBI and the U.S. Census Bureau.*

The numbers in red are the expected numbers of anti-White biased hate crimes that would have had to have occurred in order to equal the magnitude of similar hate crimes based on actual anti-Black bias crimes and based on the percentage of blacks and whites in the United States. The shown percentages of hate crimes are the percentages of anti-White biased hate crimes of the total number of Single Bias Incident hate crime offenses. The ten-year expected figures are the average figures, not the sum total of each year.

These figures in red represent the expected number of reported hate crimes due to anti-White bias if such bias were as common as was anti-Black bias from 1996 through 2005. Thankfully, the expected hate crimes based on anti-White bias do not even closely

approximate the expected figures. The expected figures in red show, however, just how victimized African-Americans continue to be in the United States. For example, from 1996 through 2005 there were 31 reported murders due to anti-Black bias and 21 murders due to anti-White bias. This translates into a 32% higher absolute number of murdered blacks than whites due to racial bias over a ten-year timeframe. However, to reach the *magnitude* of anti-Black based murders during that ten-year timeframe—given that there were approximately five-and-a-half times as many whites as blacks in the United States from 1996 through 2005—there would have had to have been 170 hate crime murders due to anti-White bias. In other words, with respect to hate crime homicides blacks were murdered at a rate of about seven times higher than expected compared to whites from

TABLE SEVEN

Year	Actual and Expected number of FBI Single Bias Hate Crime Offenses due to anti-White bias						Percentage of Whites in the U.S. Population
	Robbery	Burglary	Larceny-theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson	Destruction, Damage, Vandalism	
1996	60: 150 38.71%	30: 278 9.35%	15: 122 20%	1: 6 16.67%	2: 191 2.67%	174: 6,766 6.05%	73.16%
1997	49: 132 30.63%	23: 178 17.58%	15: 126 14.56%	1: 11 14.29%	5: 138 7.04%	153: 5,193 5.36%	72.73%
1998	32: 114 27.12%	4: 216 4.12%	19: 96 23.75%	2: 0 66.67%	3: 125 6%	112: 4,705 4.40%	72.31%
1999	34: 197 26.56%	13: 158 11.71%	26: 96 25.24%	3: 17 21.43%	5: 62 10.42%	134: 5,051 5.06%	71.89%
2000	37: 148 26.62%	13: 252 9.42%	39: 82 34.21%	3: 16 27.272%	5: 82 9.62%	140: 4,672 5.08%	69.50%
2001	43: 103 27.39%	19: 255 12.75%	505: 130 33.33%	6: 0 40.00%	4: 103 4.44%	142: 4,524 4.71%	68.86%
2002	28: 70 21.54%	21: 204 16.03%	28: 118 18.54%	1: 5 11.11%	5: 54 13.16%	112: 4,054 4.78%	68.35%
2003	24: 122 22.43%	36: 234 21.95%	62: 165 35.84%	5: 5 33.33%	1: 69 2.94%	168: 4,539 6.42%	67.85%
2004	22: 116 19.64%	22: 222 15.17%	61: 116 36.09%	7: 5 46.67%	3: 63 6.82%	144: 4,964 5.12%	67.37%
2005	32: 120 25.20%	35: 194 25.93%	79: 141 35.91%	5: 26 27.78%	3: 68 7.69%	135: 4,719 5.35%	66.92%
1996-2005 Totals	361: 1,268 27.41%	216: 2,191 16.33%	394: 1,197 29.60%	34: 93 29.82%	36: 944 6.79%	1,414: 49,088 5.30%	69.89%

Sources: *FBI* and the *U.S. Census Bureau*.

The numbers in red are the expected numbers of anti-White biased hate crimes that would have had to have occurred in order to equal the magnitude of similar hate crimes based on actual anti-Black bias crimes and based on the percentage of blacks and whites in the United States. The shown percentages of hate crimes are the percentages of anti-White biased hate crimes of the total number of Single Bias Incident hate crime offenses. The ten-year expected figures are the average figures, not the sum total of each year.

1996 through 2005, when taking into account the percentages of whites and blacks in the population and when assuming there should be no difference in the magnitude to which blacks and whites are killed due to racial hatred¹¹. Similarly, compared to blacks during this ten-year timeframe whites were almost 35 times less likely to be the victim of race-based vandalism, almost 29 times less likely to be the victim of race-based intimidation, over 26 times less likely to be the victim of race-based arson, over 12 times less likely to be the victim of a race-based aggravated assault, almost 11 times less likely to be the victim of a race-based simple assault, about 10 times less likely to be the victim of race-based burglary, almost four times less likely to be the victim of anti-White biased forcible rape, about three-and-a-half times less likely to be the victim of a race-based robbery, about three times less likely to be the victim of a race-based larceny, and over two-and-a-half times less likely to be the victim of a race-based motor vehicle theft than would be expected given their percentage of the population (calculated from Tables Six and Seven). When one thinks of so-called white privilege in the United States, what typically comes to mind are specific educational and occupational opportunities afforded to whites that are not afforded to non-whites. What our analyses show is that white privilege can also mean a significantly decreased likelihood of being the victim of an array of race-based crimes.

The significantly increased rates of being a hate crime victim in the United States based on anti-Black bias—including being a victim of a physically violent hate crime—without a doubt ought to shock the conscience of any person. We believe that the FBI’s race-based hate crime data illustrate a robust vestige of slavery that is alive and well in America. The data affirm the experience of many blacks, and the data also underscore the rationale behind the United States’ hate crime law which provides protection for those likely to be victimized by race-based hatred, and which also authorizes punishment on the federal level to those who perpetrate hatred through illegal acts. The FBI data also underscore the need to collect hate-crime data in the first place, even though hate crime under-reporting masks the magnitude of actual race-based criminal activity. Perhaps just as importantly, the FBI’s data also beg the question: is the stain of slavery indelible?



Footnotes:

¹Slavery was first declared illegal by President Abraham Lincoln’s two executive orders, known as the *Emancipation Proclamation*, issued on September 22, 1862, and, January 1, 1863. The Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which abolished slavery, was ratified by the necessary three-fourths of the states on December 6, 1865, although some states dragged their feet and only later, sometimes much later, ratified the amendment. The three latest-comers to prohibiting and abolishing slavery by ratifying the Thirteenth Amendment were Delaware (which ratified the amendment on February 12, 1901); Kentucky (ratification date: March 18, 1976), and Mississippi (ratification date: March 16, 1995).

²The Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, ratified respectively on July 9, 1868 and on February 3, 1870, denied states the right: (a) to deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; (b) to deny

to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws; and (c) to prevent its citizens the right to vote because of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

³From the lynching Wikipedia page, at www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lynching.

⁴From the collected work of James Allen at www.withoutsanctuary.org.

⁵The scope of some phenomenon is best revealed when looking not at absolute numbers, but at expected numbers, such as examining the expected frequency of hate crimes in a population during a specific timeframe. The Centers for Disease Control and state health departments employ this logic when examining possible disease and illness outbreaks of potential at-risk groups.

⁶From the U.S. Census Bureau's website: www.census.gov. *Population Estimates for States by Race and Hispanic Origin (1996-1999)*, and *Annual Estimates of the Population by Sex, Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin for the United States: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2005*.

⁷The FBI's 21 types of bias motivation include bias because of *race* (anti-White, anti-Black, anti-American Indian/Native American, anti-Asian/Pacific Islander, anti-Multi-racial Group), *ethnicity and national origin* (anti-Hispanic, anti-Other Ethnicity/National Origin), Religion (anti-Jewish, anti-Catholic, anti-Protestant, anti-Islamic, Anti-Other Religious Group, anti-Multi-Religious Group, anti-Atheism/Agnosticism/etc.), *sexual orientation* (anti-Male Homosexual, anti-Female Homosexual, anti-Homosexual, anti-Heterosexual, anti-Bisexual), and *disability* (anti-Physical, anti-Mental).

⁷Figures calculated from data on page two of the FBI's "Hate Crime Statistics, 2004."

⁸To illustrate this, in 1996 there were 5,395 reported Single Bias Incidents based on race; 68.10% of these (3,674) were due to anti-Black bias. Likewise, in 1996 there were 6,767 reported Single Bias Offenses and 66.04% (4,469) were due to anti-Black bias; and, there were 11,017 Single Bias Victims and 41.75% (4,600) were due to anti-Black bias.

⁹The calculation for 1995 is as follows: $(4,469 \times 73.16)/12.64$.

¹⁰The calculation for 1995 is as follows: $(10,484 \times 12.73)/69.89$.

¹¹Our calculation is as follows: Step 1: higher percentage rate of murders of blacks than whites: $(31-21)/31 = .32258$; Step 2: greater magnitude of whites to blacks in the population from 1996-2005: $69.89\%/12.73\% = 5.490$; Step 3: $5.490 \times 1.32258 = 7.261$.

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