

HATE IN AMERICA:

Newspapers from the rise and fall of the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s

An Open Access Collection from REVEAL DIGITAL



Klan members march down Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. in 1925 (Library of Congress)

ANTI-IMMIGRATION | ANTI-CATHOLIC | ANTI-JEWISH | ANTI-BLACK
THE MOST POWERFUL EXTREMIST MOVEMENT THAT AMERICA HAS PRODUCED

From its birth immediately following the Civil War to its re-awakening inspired by the film *Birth of a Nation* in 1915 through today's fractured organizations using the Klan's name, the Ku Klux Klan has occupied a persistent place in American society. To understand today's alt-right driven version of American nationalism, we need to go back to the 1920s when the Klan re-emerged as a slick and successful recruiting and marketing engine that appealed to the fears and aspirations of middle-aged, middle-income, white protestant men in the middle of America. At its peak in 1924, Klan paid membership exceeded 4,000,000 and its national newspaper, the *Imperial Night-Hawk*, had a circulation larger than *the New York Times*.

Project Goals

The goal of this project is to assemble a comprehensive and hopefully complete collection of KKK newspapers into a fully-searchable open access database. The collection features national Klan publications (for example: the *Imperial Night-Hawk* and the *Kourier*) as well as regional and local Klan produced papers (i.e., *Sgt. Dalton's Weekly*, *Jayhawker American*, and the *Minnesota Fiery Cross*). The collection will also include a smaller set of papers sympathetic to the Klan (i.e., *The Good Citizen* and *The Fellowship Forum*) and a few important anti-Klan publications (*Tolerance* and *The Record*).

Platform

The collection will be hosted on the Reveal Digital platform, which will provide controlled access to funding libraries until the collection moves to open access. The platform provides page image-based access with full-text searching, hit-term highlighting, searchable article-level metadata, and browsing by title and issue.

Open Access

This collection is scheduled to be complete and fully funded no later than January, 2020, at which time it will become open access.

Prior to this date, access to the complete collection will be limited to funding libraries. If full funding occurs earlier, the open access date will shift accordingly.

Source Libraries

Source material for the collection is scattered across multiple holding libraries, museums and private collections. To date, the following libraries have contributed content:

- Michigan State University
- University of Illinois
- University of Texas
- Wisconsin Historical Society



The Imperial Night-Hawk was the official organ of the Ku Klux Klan

Project Details

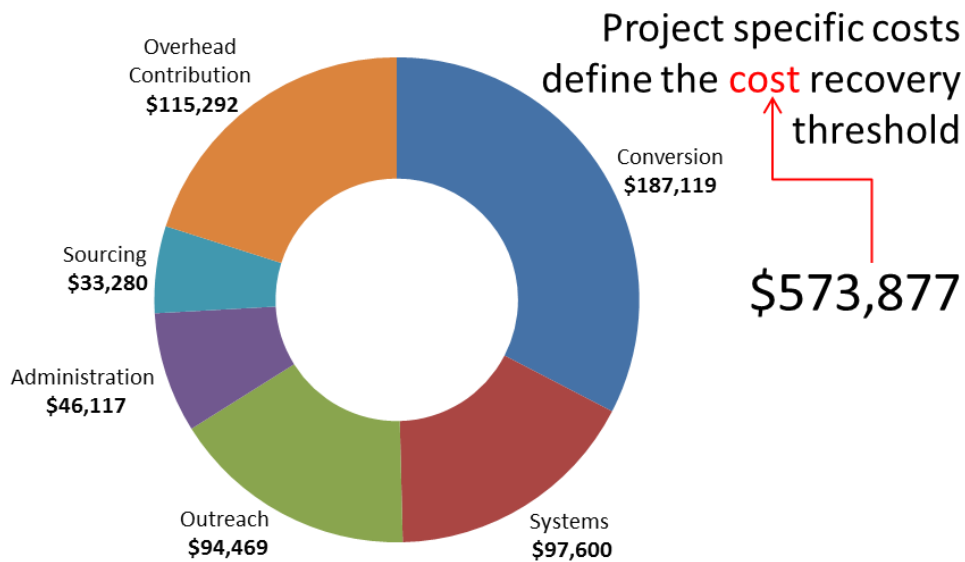
Description: Newspapers published by the Ku Klux Klan, in support of the Klan, or in direct opposition to the Klan

Time period: 1915-1937, bulk of the material between 1921 and 1927

Titles: 89 (Click [here](#) to view and download title list)

Pages: 130,000 (estimate)

Cost Details



Funding Tiers

Library Type	One-Time Contribution
2 yr. colleges and smallest publics	\$2,960
Bachelors	\$3,700
Masters and medium large publics	\$4,440
Other doctorate and large publics	\$5,920
ARL libraries	\$7,400

Benefits

Funding libraries receive the following benefits:

- Early exclusive access
- Unlimited support for text mining
- Priority as a source library
- Usage reports
- Local loading of content