

# SORTING THROUGH THE BIGOTS' BAG OF TRICKS

White supremacists such as Milo Yiannopoulos, Ann Coulter, and Steve Bannon use a series of tricks to disguise their hatred. They scapegoat, fear monger, manipulate statistics, ignore history and context, and use false equivalencies to try to represent their bigoted views as the “frontier of free speech.”

While their speech is constitutionally protected, their actual goal is to co-opt the first amendment to advance white supremacy. They hide behind free speech to target people of color, Muslims, immigrants, trans people, and women. Here are the tricks to look out for:

## TACTICS: HOW THEIR HATE, RACISM, AND BIGOTRY SHOWS UP

**IGNORE HISTORY.** They ignore that America was built on centuries of horrific violence, exploitation, and oppression of people of color in an effort to convince their audiences that this history doesn't matter.

*Milo: “Nobody should be doing this grievance, oppression bullshit malarkey.”*

**DENY RACISM.** They claim that racism doesn't exist. They dismiss systemic racism and racial bias and allege that racist stereotypes are scientific and objective. Their goal is to remove empathy by treating people's legitimate and rational pain in the face of oppression as self-victimization and race-baiting.

*Coulter: “Any claim of “hate” directed at Muslims, blacks, gays or Hispanics by Trump supporters should be treated like a UFO sighting: presumed false”*

*Milo: “Behind every racist joke is a scientific fact”*

**CREATE FALSE EQUIVALENCIES.** They draw false equivalencies between social justice and white supremacy. Their goal is to delegitimize and attack racial justice movements by calling them discriminatory against white people.

*Milo: “The world that Black Lives Matter want and the world that the KKK want don't look that different”*

**SPEAK IN CODE.** They de-racialize positions that target people of color by using phrases such as “illegal aliens,” “law and order” or “Make America Great Again.” The goal is to use abstract language to hide the racist and disproportionate impact of their policies while glorifying historical white supremacy.

*Bannon: “America was built on her citizens”*

*Bannon: “I think what we have to do is focus on the American citizens...as the work permits run out they [DREAMers] self deport.”*

**PERVERT FREE SPEECH.** They use free speech as a cover for white supremacy. Because their bigotry is legally protected, they maintain it's patriotic. They don't care about the First Amendment – their goal is to promote a hateful political agenda.

*Milo: “The greatest threat to your future, the greatest risk to the American republic, is from the unprecedented assault on free speech committed by the media, Silicon Valley, politicians, Hollywood producers, and the academy.”*



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