

TikTok: An Overview of Hate

SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER REPORT – OCTOBER 2021



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OVERVIEW

TikTok is a video creation and sharing platform owned by a Chinese company, ByteDance. It was originally launched in China under the name Douyin in 2016, and the international version, TikTok, launched in 2017. ByteDance also purchased Musical.ly, an app for lip-synching videos, and merged the two audiences in 2017.¹ TikTok users create profiles and can upload, edit and add effects to videos utilizing software provided within the TikTok app. Users can comment, like and share each other's content. Video content covers every area of interest – politics, sports, religion, media, music, tutorials, history, economics, comedy and more. TikTok is used as a vlog (digital video blog) by many users who post regular updates about their lives and experiences.

TikTok experienced rapid growth in popularity, expanding from approximately 11 million American users in January 2018 to over 100 million monthly active US users in August 2020. In September 2021, TikTok reported they now have over 1 billion monthly active users.² Statista estimates TikTok was downloaded over 315 million times in 2020 globally.³ It was reported that adult users of TikTok spent an average of 858 minutes on the app in March 2020 (approximately 30 minutes per day).⁴ In January 2021, it was estimated that TikTok has approximately 689 million users (not including Douyin users).⁵ A study by Statista from March 2021 indicates that 25% of TikTok users are aged between 10-19 years old, and a further 22.4% are between 20-29 years old.⁶ TikTok's most popular account, belonging to 17-year old American dancer and social media influencer Charli D'Amelio, has over 124 million followers, and her combined videos have received over 9.8 billion likes.⁷

MODERATION POLICIES

TikTok operates an online "Safety Center" designed to provide support for users, parents and caregivers. They provide guidance on managing cyber-bullying, online safety practices, as well as support for mental health and digital well-being. TikTok also works to combat the spread of "misinformation" on the platform, most recently with focus on the 2020 Presidential Election and COVID-19 pandemic.⁸ Within TikTok's community guidelines, there are sections titled "violent extremism", "hateful behavior" and "violent and graphic content". These guidelines outline the prohibition of the use of TikTok by dangerous individuals and organizations, terrorist organizations, and for organized hate. Organized hate includes "individuals and organizations who attack people based on protected characteristics, such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, caste, sexual orientation, sex, gender, gender identity, or immigration status. We consider attacks to include actions that incite violence or hatred, dehumanize individuals or groups, or embrace a hateful ideology."⁹ Certain accounts come with a warning that they have been reported for "multiple community violations", that must be accepted by the user before they can follow.

Despite these guidelines and the extensive efforts TikTok has undertaken to limit the use of the platform by nefarious actors, hateful content can still be readily found on the platform. Individuals quickly adapt and change content to avoid detection by moderators, and work around many of the prevention measures put in place to stop content from reaching other users. This report outlines some of the ways in which TikTok continues to be used to spread hateful and extremist content.

ANTI-SEMITISM

Anti-Semitism continues to be a pervasive problem on TikTok, through videos uploaded to the platform, as well as attacks on Jewish creators. Common anti-Semitic conspiracies are frequently shared, contending that Jewish people are money-grubbing, control the media, and manipulate global politics. Videos promote content including the Rothschild family conspiracies, blood libel tropes, alongside anti-Semitic caricatures, Holocaust denial and glorification of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party. Some anti-Semitism is guised in the form of “jokes” or “dark humor”, mocking the horrors and victims of the Holocaust. One video seemingly shows the burning of an effigy that looks like a stereotypical Jewish person, captioned “WW2 Peoples Know”.

Many hashtags associated with Holocaust denial are banned on TikTok, including #holohoax, #zyklonb and even phrases like “fake gas chambers” result in a warning that “this phrase may be associated with harmful behavior” and return no results. However, Holocaust denial material has still found a way to exist on TikTok. One user uploaded multiple parts of a speech given by British Holocaust denier David Irving in the 1990s making false claims about the Holocaust, which have been categorically debunked. Other videos show newspapers referencing the persecution of 6 million Jews prior to the Holocaust, attempting to “prove” the Holocaust “lie” was planned for many years, perhaps even by the Jews themselves.



pt. 1

NY TIMES ARTICLES PREDICTING THE HOLOCAUST PART 1

people have had no darker
their history than that
e Russian Government is v
-day. Six million Jews, one-
e Jewish people througho
ld, are being persecuted, h
miliated, tortured, starved.

@ 6-9
David Irving #fypシ #davidirving #truth
cigarettesgood original s

that's
INTERESTING



TikTok

Some content intermingles classical and modern anti-Semitism. One video shares a quote from Henry Ford's 1920s publication, *The International Jew*, claiming that "There is nothing that the International Jew fears so much as the truth, or any hint of the truth about himself or his plans". This is juxtaposed with a list of the "Top 10 things Jews did to destroy White people" including "LGBT agenda", "Replacement migration", "Hate speech censorship & laws" and "Feminism".

Top 10 things **Jews did** to destroy **White people**

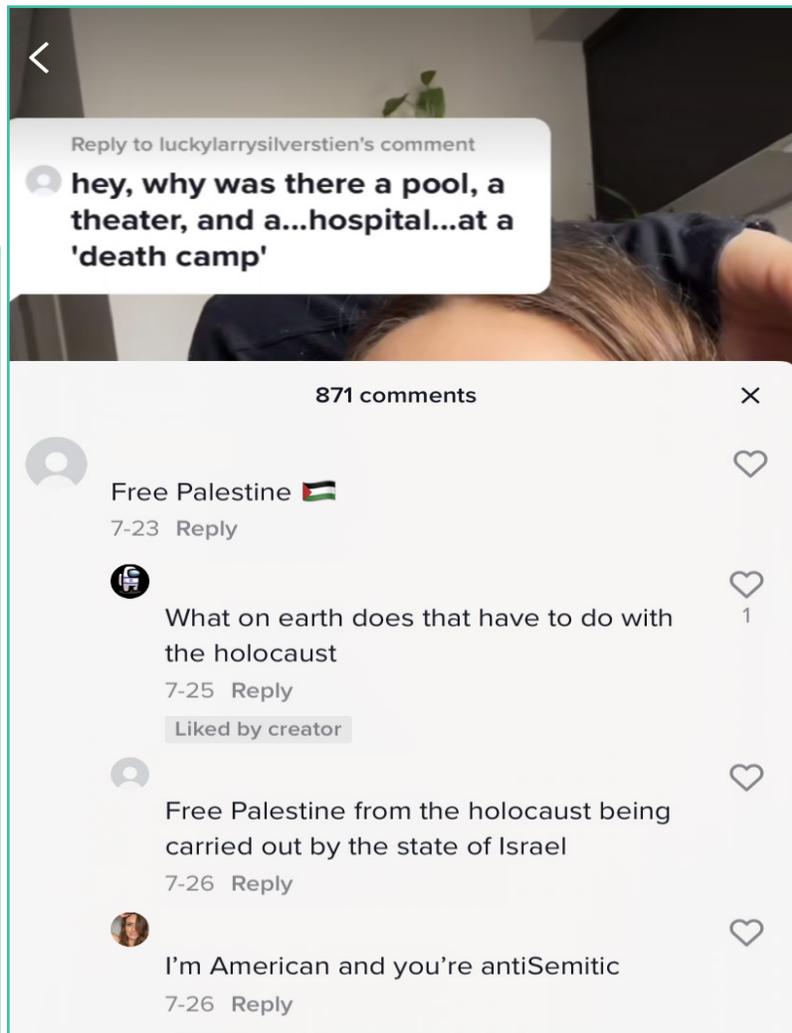
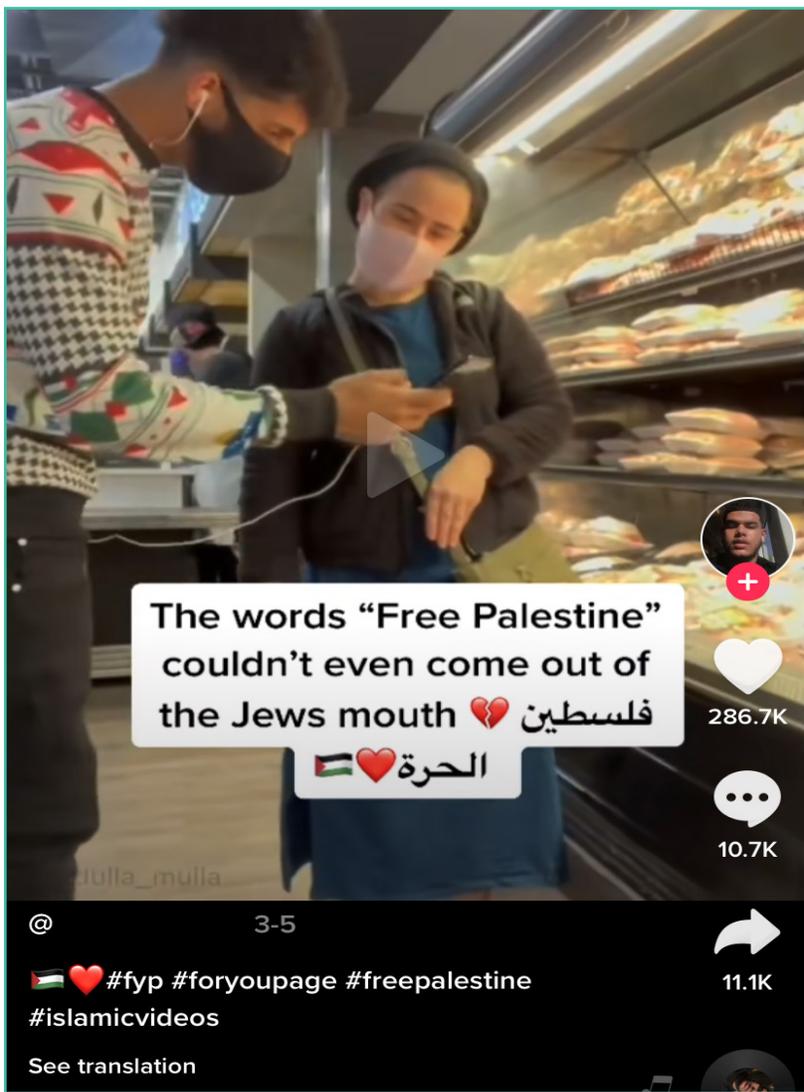
- 1 Cultural Marxism
- 2 LGBT agenda
- 3 Low fertility rate
- 4 Miscegenation
- 5 White Guilt
- 6 Replacement migration
- 7 Hate speech censorship & laws
- 8 Usury
- 9 Anti-White discrimination
- 10 Feminism



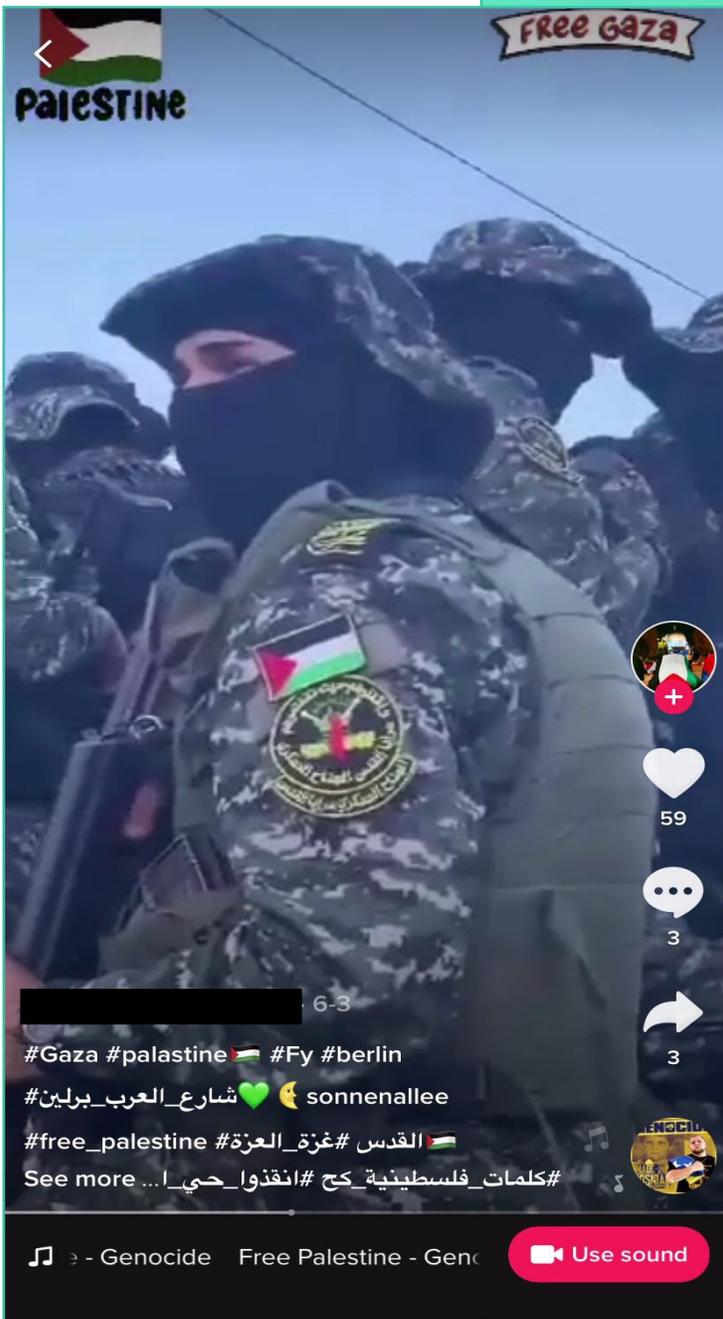
" There is nothing that the International Jew fears so much as the truth, or any hint of the truth about himself or his plans " ~Henry Ford founder of Ford in his book [The International Jew] Vol1 p.200



Anti-Semitic content can also be found under the guise of anti-Zionism. This includes content arguing that Israel controls the banks, media and "every western government", and that Israelis control American foreign policy. Jewish creators on TikTok are also targeted, with comments such as "Free Palestine" being shared on videos about the Holocaust. One video shows a person targeting Jewish people in a market, demanding them to read out the statement "Free Palestine", with the caption "The words 'Free Palestine' couldn't even come out of the Jews mouth".



Multiple accounts also promote the screed that Israel was responsible for the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center – the hashtag #israeldid911 has over 45,000 views (as of 09/15/21). Another video glorifies the Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine (Palestinian Islamic Jihad - PIJ), designated a terrorist organization by the United States. The video shows children posing with PIJ members holding their weapons, and PIJ artillery parades. Several other videos call for the complete destruction of Israel, manipulating images from popular TV shows like Spongebob Squarepants.



There also videos associating Israel with Nazism and the Holocaust, claiming that the Holocaust was a lie utilized by Jewish people to take land, as well as using Nazi symbols to represent the State of Israel as a genocidal regime. One video claims that "Palestinian children die for the 1938-1945 holocaust". Another promotes misinformation, sharing a photo of emaciated Holocaust Survivors at the liberation of Ebensee concentration camp, falsely stating "Those personae non gratae look like these when they were welcomed by Palestine as refugees". Other videos promote misinformation, contending that ethnic cleansing and genocide is being conducted in Gaza, in a manner akin to Nazi Germany. The hashtag #ethniccleansingofpalestine has had approximately 23,000 views (as of 09/15/21). Another creator argues that Israeli soldiers could be compared to Nazis, committing war crimes for which they will be held responsible for in years to come. Other videos promote misinformation, claiming Israel engages in human trafficking and the stealing of human organs, a modern day version of the anti-Semitic blood libel trope.

can you see the fear in her eyes !!!
Palestinian children die for the 1938-1945 holocaust



الانسان ف والطوارئ
ياسل تايه

44

5

2

@ 5-19
#israel #palestine #germany#.Palestinian children die for the 1938-1945 holocaust , Filistinli çocuklar 1938-1945 un bedellini ölerék ödüyor 🇮🇱🇵🇸

original sound - ibrahim

Add comment...

THOSE PERSONAE NON GRATAS
LOOK LIKE THESE WHEN
THEY WERE WELCOMED BY
PALESTINE AS
REFUGEES
70+ YEARS AGO

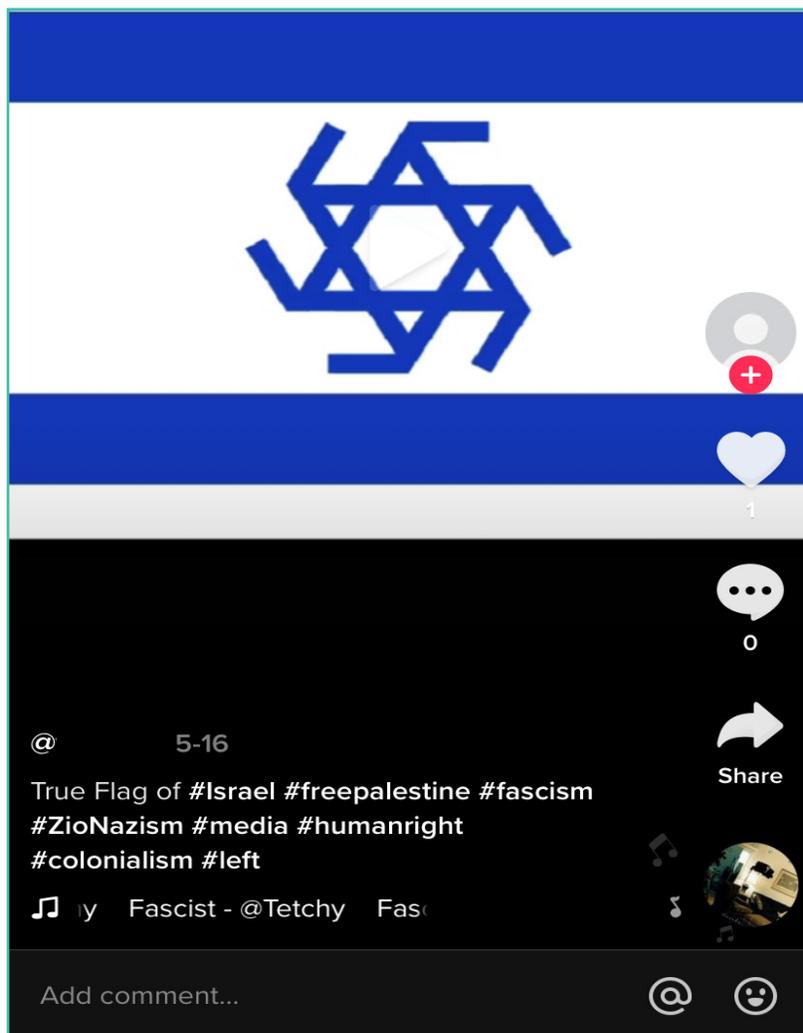


How DARE them claim
PALESTINE
and call it theirs!!

@ 5-20
jews origin.. dont forget yourself #jewsthief #criminal

Share

nal sound - iam_jrsivadass



TikTok also allows users to share “sounds” such as music, sound effects or audio tracks that can be used on multiple videos. The “sound” acts as an audio hashtag, allowing users to search through many videos using the same audio. The song “Free Palestine” by the Bosnian rapper Jusuf Dzilic, aka “Genocide”, is available as a “sound” on TikTok. The song claims that Israel was responsible for the creation of Hamas, accuses Israel of conducting genocide against Palestinians, and features lyrics including: “the media’s controlled and they mold all your views and they won’t accuse the Jews of human rights abuse”. This “sound” has been used in over 400 videos on TikTok.

“AM HERE TO SEPARATE THE GOOD
JEWES FROM THE SATANIC JEWS”
LOUIS FARRAKHAN



THEY CAN'T SILENCE US ALL AS
LONG AS WE KEEP SHARING

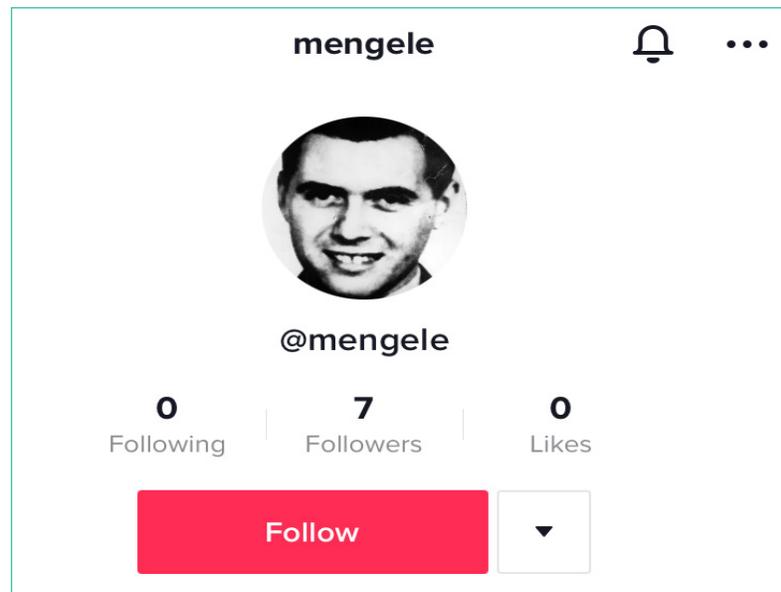
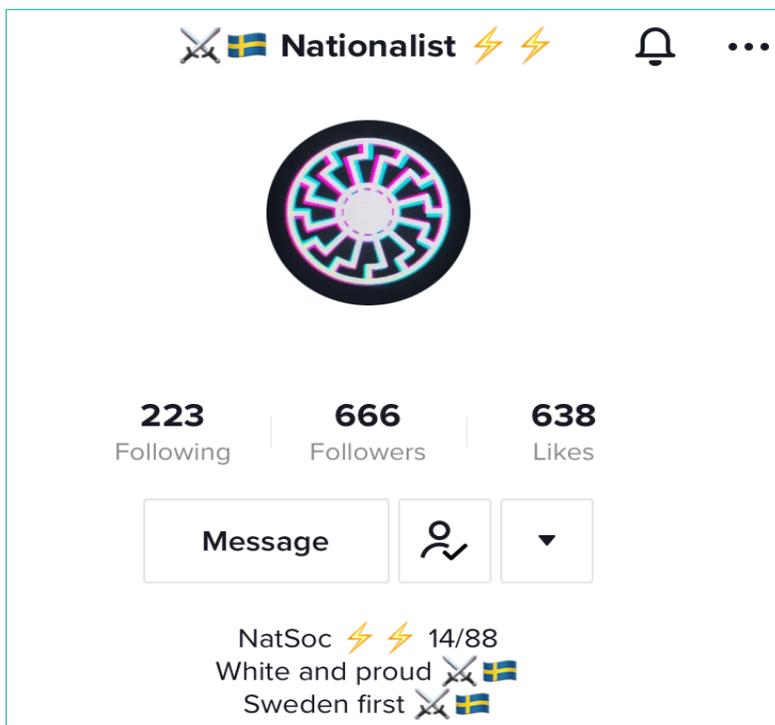


There are also profiles who share videos promoting the anti-Semitic rhetoric of Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam. In one, Farrakhan claims “he is here to separate the good Jews from the satanic Jews”, and another accuses American police of going to Israel to train on “how to kill the black youth better”.

NEO-NAZISM AND WHITE SUPREMACY

Far-right extremists are always looking for new ways to spread hateful ideologies, recruit others to their movements and target victims online. While TikTok has numerous systems in place to try and reduce the capacity of extremists to exploit their services, these actors continually adapt their content to maneuver around these restrictions. For example, the hashtag #1488 has been banned by TikTok. “14” refers to the white supremacist credo, the 14 words: “We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children”. “88” is a numeric code for “Heil Hitler”; “H” is the 8th letter of the alphabet. However, extremists instead now pair #14 and #88 next to each other to indicate their allegiance. Some continue to use “1488” or “88” in their user handle, or use the names of key Nazis like Hitler, Himmler and Mengele. Users also use emojis in place of letters to avoid detection, particularly two lightning bolt emojis in place of “SS” to refer to the Nazi Schutzstaffel unit, responsible for much of the genocidal killing of Jews during the Holocaust. Coded language such as “based” or “redpilled” have also been coined and used to express far-right beliefs using words that do not traditionally get flagged as extremist language.

As a result, a white supremacist and neo-Nazi subculture exists within TikTok. This space appears to be inhabited mainly by individuals rather than organized groups. The profile pictures frequently use the Totenkopf (Nazi SS Death's Head), and the Sunwheel (often used in place of a swastika where such symbols are banned). Others use images of prominent members of the Nazi Party (either as cartoons or actual photos). Many of these videos promote similar beliefs, contending that the existence of white, western society is under threat – manifesting in mass immigration, demographic replacement, and the growth of LGBTQ communities. TikTok provides a space for these like-minded individuals to connect, “like” and comment on each other’s content.



There are multiple profiles and videos promoting the glorification of mass shooters such as Brenton Tarrant and Dylann Roof on TikTok. Tarrant’s image is utilized as a profile picture, and as a profile name under variations of “Saint Tarrant”. Footage of Tarrant’s livestreamed attack on two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand, in 2019, murdering 51 people and injuring 40, is accessible on TikTok. In order to evade moderation, one user placed some video game starting credits at the beginning to disguise the content, and another used a GIF version in place of their profile picture. Videos glorifying Tarrant’s actions are also present. One video shared in June 2021 showed an individual in a skull face mask and dark glasses parked outside a mosque with the comment “no muslim”, apparently indicating intent to conduct a copycat attack. Videos romanticizing Dylann Roof, and the Columbine shooters, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, also exist on TikTok.



148 Following 52 Followers 20 Likes

Follow

we do a little bit of trolling



Remember lads



eeGore.com

32

7



8

0

@ · 6h ago

Oh, I'm so in love, so in love with Dylan Roof!
 😊❤️ #massmuderer #truecrimetiktok
 #dylanroof #charleston #dylanroofedits
 #massmurderes

@Shawn Mendes & Camila

Share



264

21

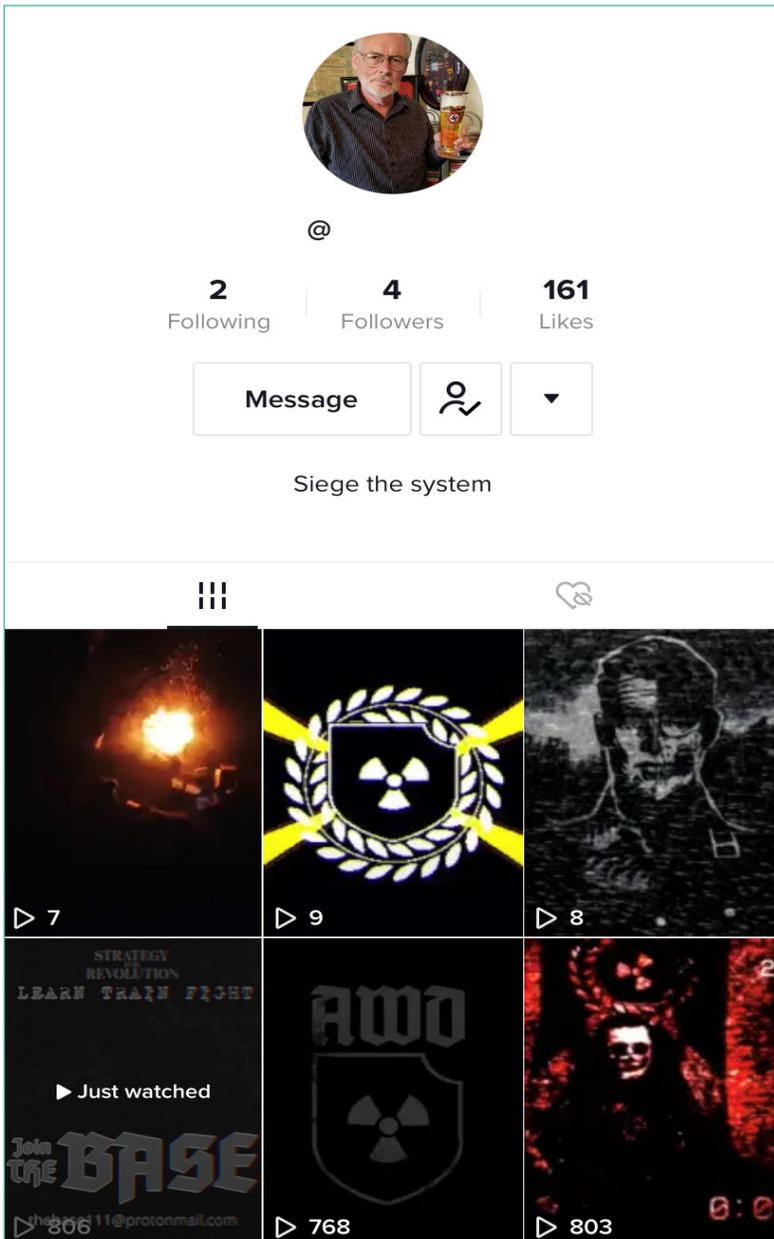
12

@ · 8h ago

Hitmen for hire 🎬

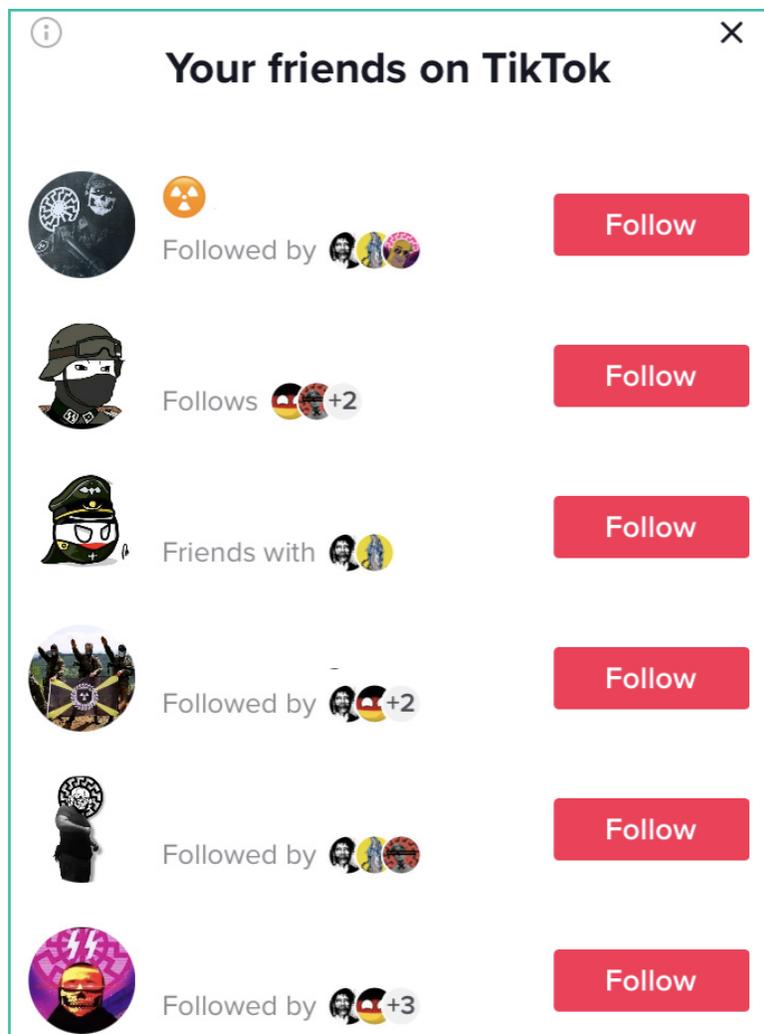
(Contains music from: HAT)

Some references to organized groups such as Atomwaffen Division are evident, using their logo or name in profiles. Atomwaffen Division is a neo-Nazi organization that has been linked to at least five murders in the United States, and has spawned multiple copycat groups in countries such as the UK, Germany and Estonia. Several videos refer to American neo-Nazi James Mason's *Siege*, a text often promoted by Atomwaffen Division, which calls for violent revolution to save the white race. Profiles expressing support or claiming to belong to other movements include the Nordic Resistance Movement, Rise Above Movement, Generation Identity, and Proud Boys. Other users share content from far-right individuals such as Nick Fuentes, Gypsy Crusader (Paul Miller) and the Martinez Perspective, who have been personally banned from the platform for violating community guidelines. Copycat videos of Miller and Martinez can also be located: individuals record themselves using Omegle (an online video chat service that randomly pairs users to talk) to make bigoted and racist comments to random users to see how they react.



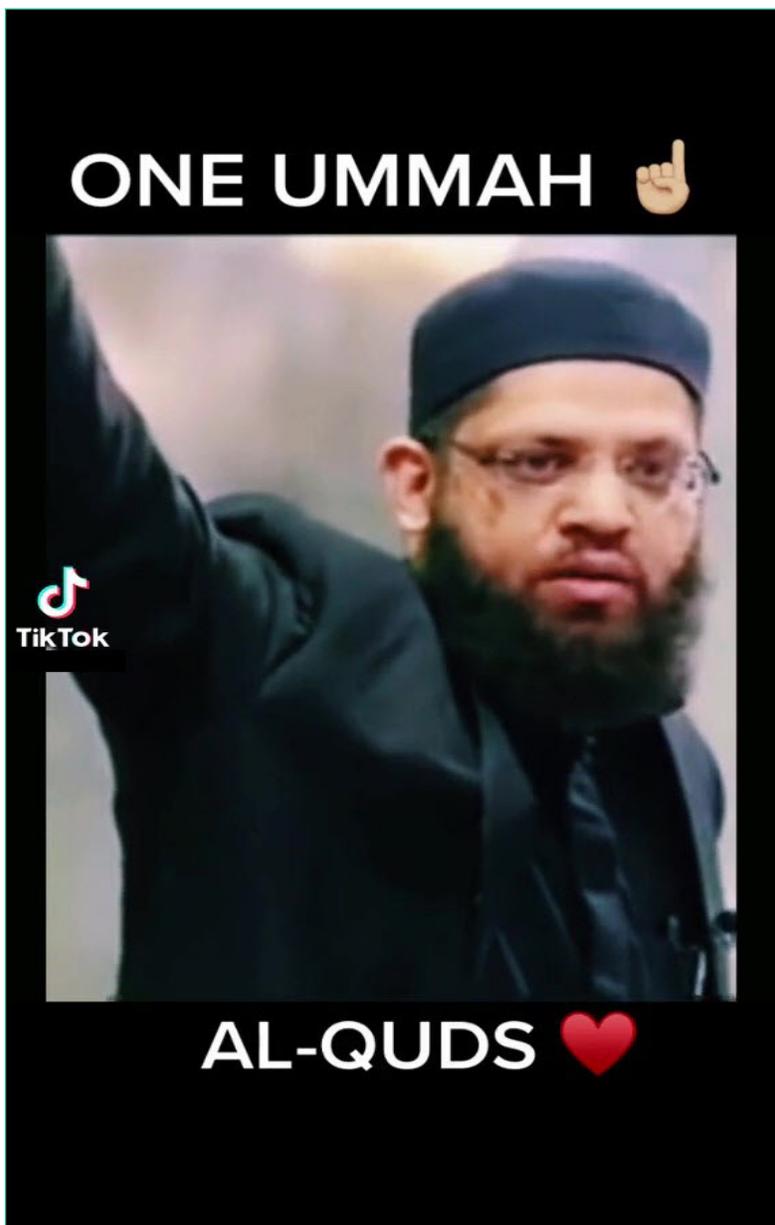
It also appears that the promotion of extremist far-right material is not limited to the USA. Anecdotally, profiles observed in this study appear to emanate from many countries including Germany, France, Spain, Poland, Hungary, Sweden, Italy and New Zealand. However, many users purposefully stay geographically ambiguous or lie about the country they are actually located in. There is a trend of profiles that appear to come from Ukraine and Russia promoting far-right mixed martial arts fight club culture, underpinned by tattoos of Nazi and runic symbols. This phenomenon has been widely documented for several years, with Americans such as Robert Rundo and members of the Rise Above Movement travelling to Ukraine to train and compete.¹⁰

TikTok utilizes a powerful system to suggest and recommend videos and profiles that may be of interest to a user based on their experiences on the platform. It is beyond the scope of this study to assess whether these videos are suggested to users without interacting with similar material first. During the research for this study, it appears that this recommendation system can push users interacting with extremist content towards more extremist content. Following profiles that promote white supremacy and neo-Nazism results in TikTok's recommendation system suggesting more of these types of profiles to follow. This algorithm also impacts the user's "For You" feed, which suggests new content based on your interests, pushing more videos promoting themes of white supremacy and neo-Nazism. This "rabbit hole" phenomenon has been documented on other platforms such as YouTube. It has been posited this has a radicalizing effect as individuals start by watching milder content, and are pushed towards more extreme content based on recommendations made by the platform they are using.¹¹



ISLAMIST EXTREMISM

TikTok has taken measures to prevent, stop and remove Islamist extremist content from permeating their platform. However, as with far-right extremism, some content evades detection and remains online. Several videos glorify terrorist organizations such as ISIS and Hamas, and key Islamist extremist figureheads including Anwar al-Awlaki (Al-Qaeda), Turki al-Binali (ISIS) and Qassem Soleimani (Iranian Quds Force). Other videos promote key tenets of Islamist extremism ideology including jihadism and the unification of all Muslims under a caliphate. One video features sections from a sermon given by British Islamic scholar Sheikh Asrar Rashid in 2017. The video is captioned “One Ummah, Al-Quds” and Rashid argues that millions of Muslims are ready to “cross the border and enter into Jerusalem, no one will be able to stop them”. In August 2021, videos celebrating the Taliban began appearing on TikTok after they took over Afghanistan. One account titled “islamic.emirate” heralded the occupation with a video stating “Long Live the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan”. TikTok has designated the Taliban as a terrorist organization and content related to the group is banned on their platform, resulting in the removal of the videos located in this study.



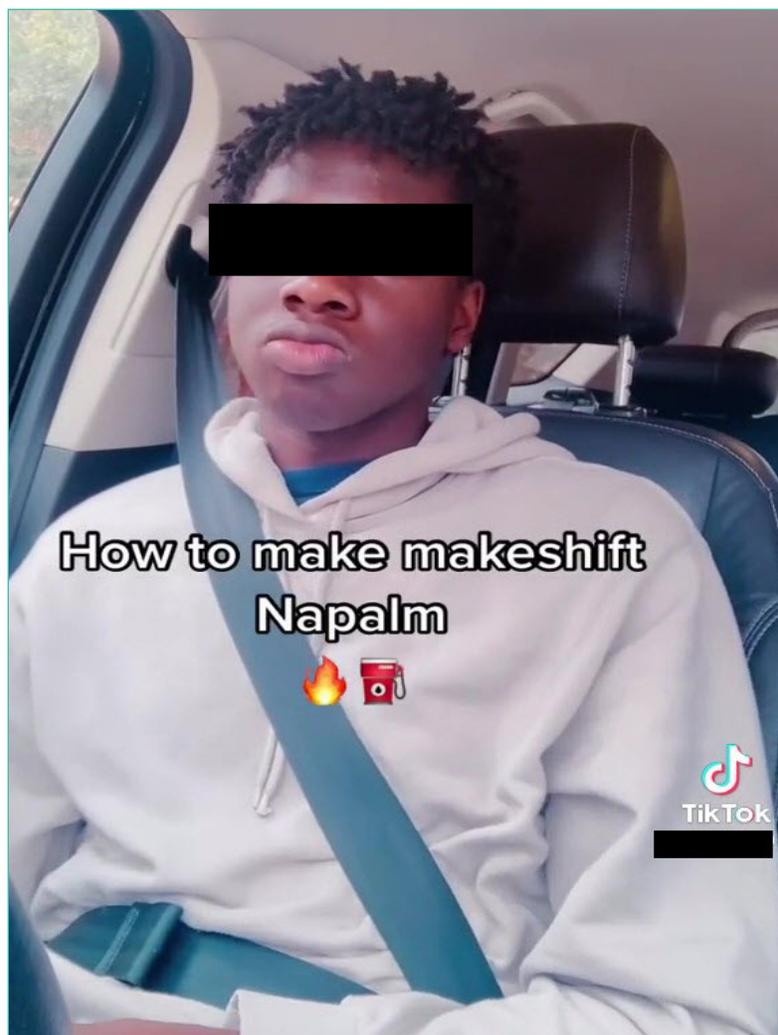
SADDAM HUSSEIN

Another subsection of videos exists on TikTok, paying homage to Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, who was convicted for crimes against humanity and executed in 2006. One video is captioned “May Allah bring another Saddam. The enemies boots are getting too big.” Other videos refer to Hussein as a hero, with comments being left including “Muslim hero miss you Sadam Hussain”.



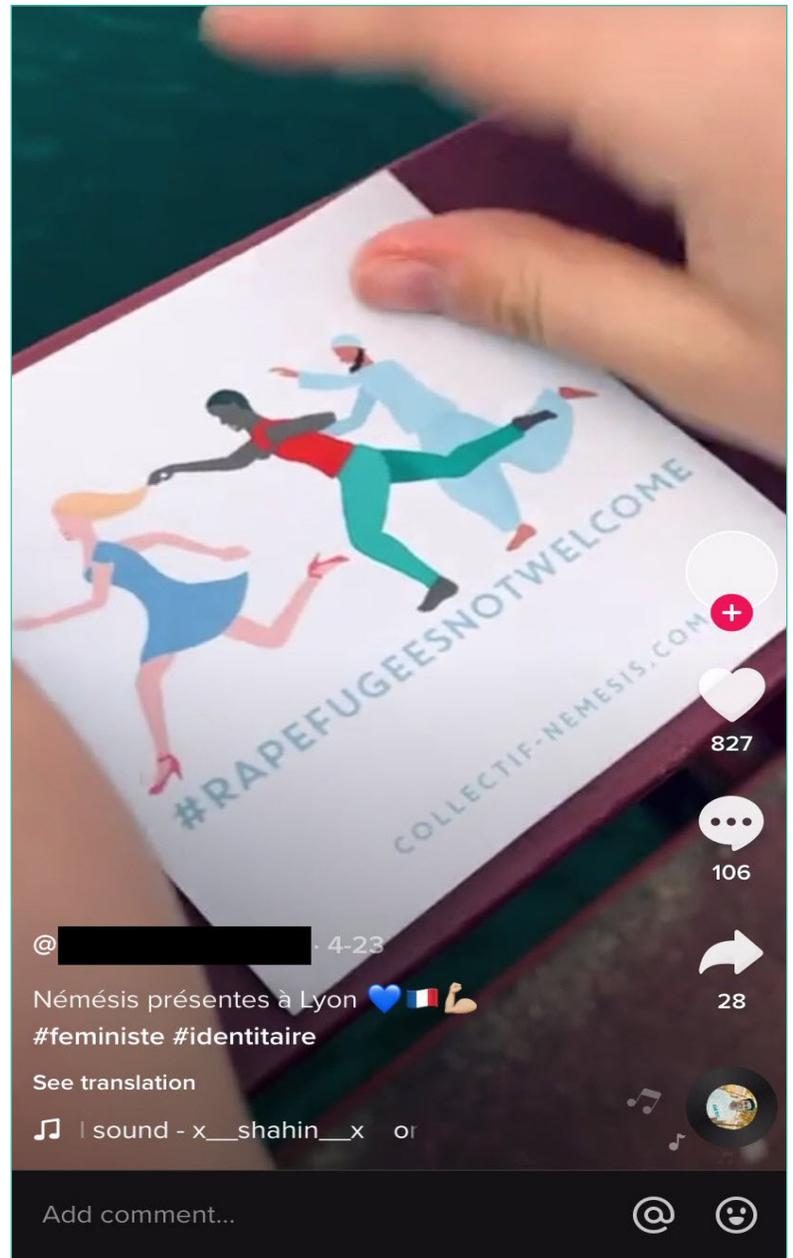
WEAPONS AND EXPLOSIVES

TikTok's community guidelines specifically prohibit the sharing of content that depicts or promotes firearms and explosive weapons, and instructions on how to manufacture them. Despite this, there are videos accessible on TikTok dedicated to sharing content promoting the creation and use of 3D printed weapons, and homemade explosives. Some users post videos to TikTok containing footage of homemade 3D printed components for handguns. One user seemingly from the Czech Republic posted a recipe for a homemade Molotov cocktail. A US-based user uploaded a video, part of a series for "anrchists" (the "x" replaces "a" to avoid detection by TikTok's moderators), which describes how to make "makeshift Napalm". The Anarchist Cookbook, a handbook for the manufacture of explosives and weapons, also appears in several videos, both as a hardcopy and an electronic version. Another user creates homemade explosives and labels them with their TikTok handle before blowing them up, indicating this content was created explicitly for this platform.



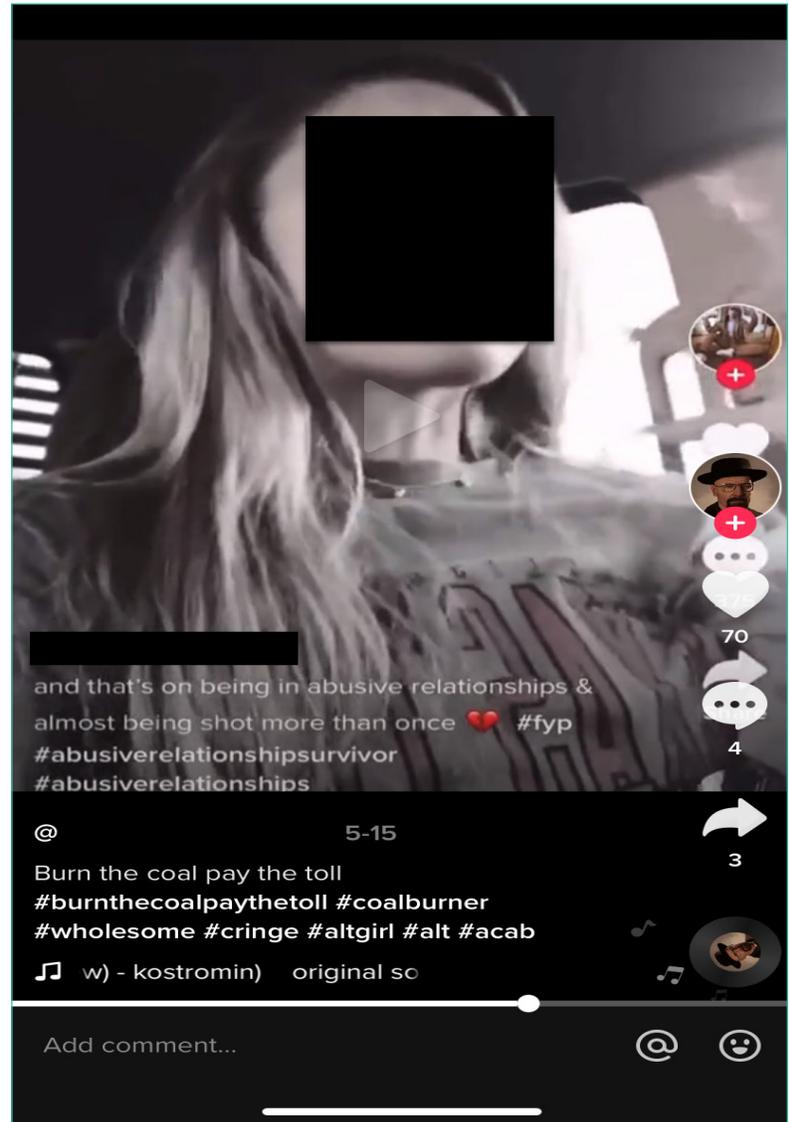
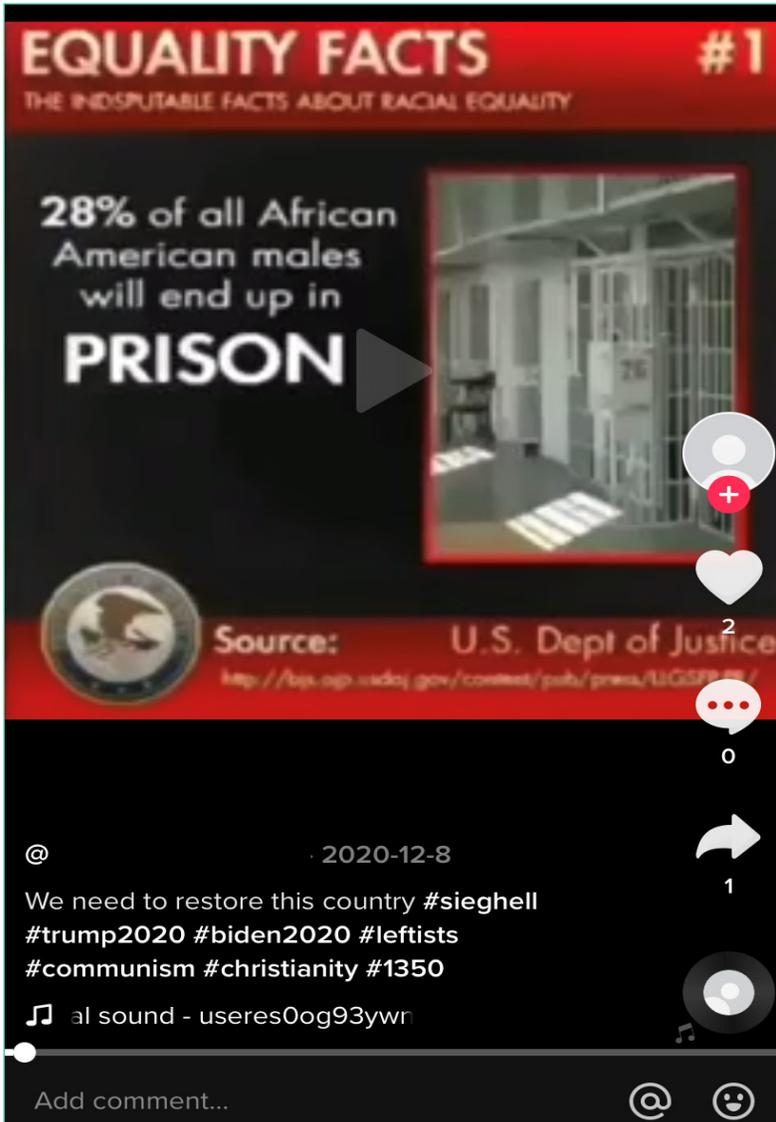
ANTI-ISLAM

Content portraying Muslims as “invaders” to Europe is also accessible on TikTok. One user, seemingly based in Poland, uses hashtags such as #muslim and #christian to increase the visibility of their video, which claims there is a “Muslim Invasion” threatening European society. Another French video uses the hashtag #islamisation and claims that Muslims are taking over France, using questionable statistics and graphics without linking to source material, in order to create a veneer of scholarship and authenticity for this bigoted content. Another French group, Collective Nemesis, promotes their anti-Islamic and anti-refugee sticker campaign they undertook in the city of Lyon. The video shows members of this female group posting stickers including slogans such as “rapefugees not welcome”. They use TikTok as part of their recruitment campaign.



RACISM

The hashtag #1350 is utilized on TikTok to promote the false statistic that black people are responsible for 50% of crime in the USA, but only make up 13% of the population in the USA, in order to villainize the black community and propagate hateful stereotypes. One video stitches together footage of a black baby from a cartoon, followed by another video seemingly insinuating the baby being thrown in an oven. Another video shows a young boy holding a George Floyd doll, before the creator tells him to kneel on the doll, mocking the murder of Floyd by police officer Derek Chauvin in 2020. Other videos condemn so-called “race mixing” (inter-racial relationships). One particular creator uses the racist hashtag #coalburner and states a white woman who was in an abusive relationship with a person of color that if you “burn the coal pay the toll”.



ANTI-LGBTQ

The LGBTQ community is also a target for hatred on TikTok. Many of these videos promote harmful stereotypes about the LGBTQ community, contending that they are pedophiles and child predators, carry STDs and AIDS in greater numbers than the heterosexual community, and generally insinuate that the LGBTQ poses a threat to society. One video from a user seemingly based in Slovakia shows a large number of weapons on a wall, and the user posing with a shovel, captioned “Me pulling up to the local LGBT party”, insinuating threats of violence against the community. Another video takes content from an LGBTQ creator and adds a video at the end stating “gays have done nothing for society, they just get AIDS and die.”

An account sharing the anti-LGBTQ and anti-Semitic preaching of Pastor Stephen Anderson is also accessible on TikTok. Anderson is a pastor at the Faithful Word Baptist Church in Tempe, Arizona. The account is seemingly not operated by Anderson himself. One of the videos shows Anderson shouting to his congregation that “sodomy is an abomination and its worthy of death.”

SPLAGGED PRI

GAYS:
2% OF THE POPULATION
33% OF THE CHILD MOLESTERS
67% OF ALL AIDS CASES
78% HAVE STDS

HAVE LIFESPANS 30 YRS SHORTER THAN NORMAL
28% OF GAY MEN HAVE 1000 OR MORE SEXUAL PARTNERS
23% OF CHILDREN WHO HAD LESBIAN MOTHERS WERE SEXUALLY TOUCHED BY A PARENT OR OTHER ADULT
RAPE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT BEFORE THE AGE OF 18 ARE STRONGLY CORRELATED WITH HOMOSEXUAL BEHAVIOR
HOMOSEXUALITY IS THREE TIMES MORE FATAL THAN SMOKING OR EXTREME OBESITY
GAY “BUG CHASERS” PROMOTE SPREAD OF HIV TO UNWITTING SEXUAL PARTNERS

12

1

@ [redacted] · 6-29

#industrialrevolutionanditsconsequences
#basedandtedpilled #commiehater
#fascisttiktok #crusader

ed_king_baldwin (Contains)

Share

Me pulling up to the local
LGBT party

TikTok

CONSPIRACIES

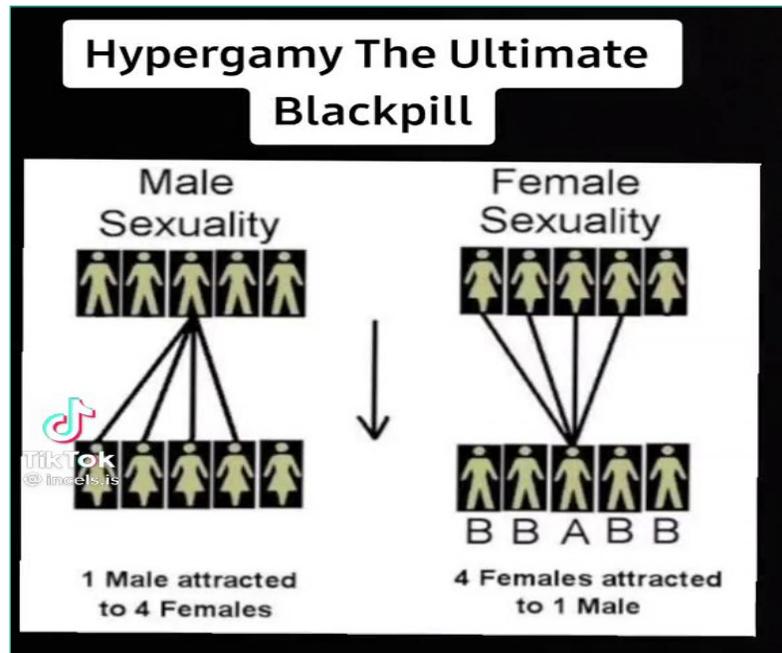
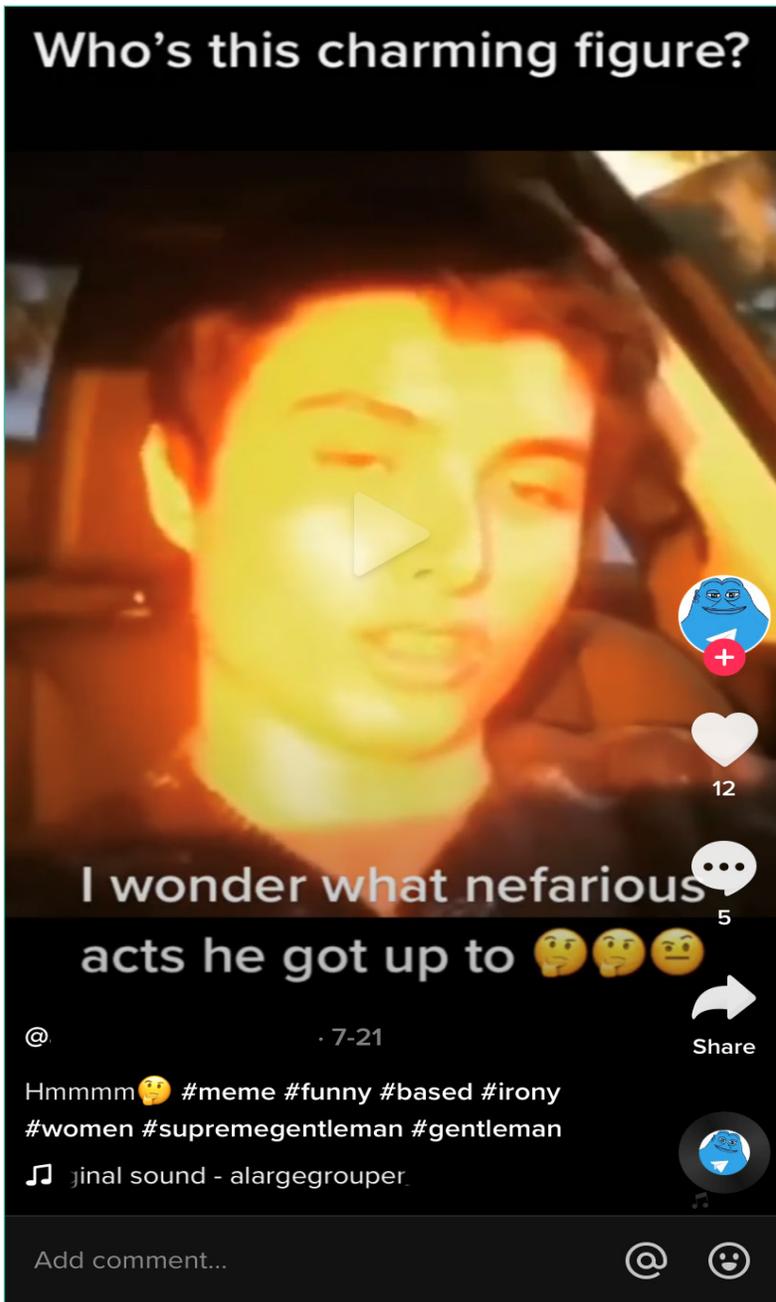
Social media has long been a space for conspiracy theories to proliferate and evolve, and TikTok is no exception to this phenomenon. The range of conspiracies promoted on TikTok is considerable, including but not limited to: flat earth, September 11 attacks as a false flag or inside job, reptilian bloodlines, and new world order (secret totalitarian world government). TikTok has banned much content promoting QAnon, including popular slogans used as hashtags. However, support for QAnon can also be found in the comment sections of videos, sharing slogans such as “WWG1WGA” (“Where We Go One We Go All”). Many of the conspiracies that underpin the QAnon movement can still be found, particularly surrounding the trafficking of children by a secret Hollywood elite who harvest their

blood for a chemical called adrenochrome to maintain a youthful appearance.¹⁴ The word “adrenochrome” is banned from TikTok searches, so alternatives such as “adreno” or “adrenokrome” are utilized as substitutes. Similarly, user accounts with names such as “q patriot” are also easily accessible. Other forms of misinformation spread on TikTok include the belief that the 2020 presidential election was stolen from President Trump, and content pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic. Videos purporting to show forced vaccinations of civilians can be located, as well as content suggesting that lockdowns have been used to orchestrate state control of citizens.



INCELS

A small collection of videos promoting the “involuntary celibate” (“incel”) community is also accessible on TikTok. The “incel” community is primarily online, and is widely considered to be a misogynistic group that has been linked to several mass killings.¹⁵ While searching for the term “incel” is prohibited, multiple videos use hashtags associated with inceldom including #blackpilled and #misogynistic. Several videos glorify Elliot Rodger, who murdered six people in Isla Vista in California in 2014, using his alias “The Supreme Gentleman”. Another video explains the theory of “hypergamy” which posits women only pursue the most attractive men, and will trade “up” for more attractive partners.¹⁶



LEFT-WING EXTREMISM

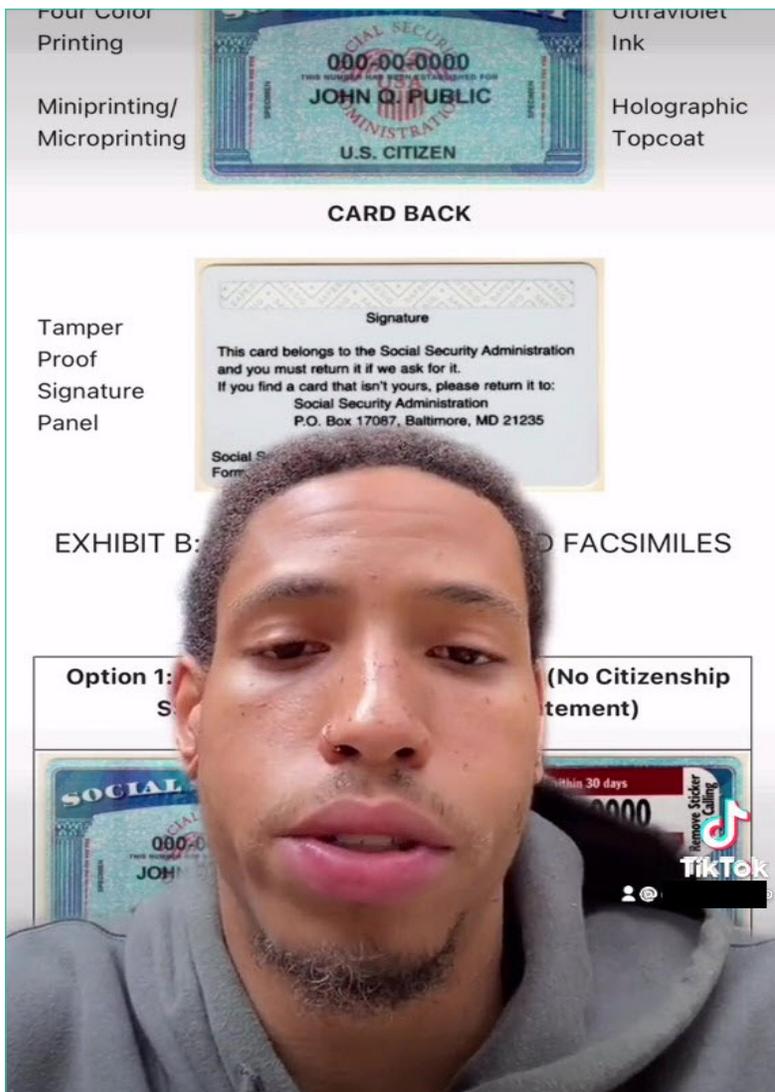
There are some instances of extremism coming from left-wing supporters, but not to the same extent that we see it being promoted by the far-right. Alongside the anarchist content already discussed, there are a few accounts sharing material promoting violent revolution against capitalist society. One account posted a video showing an image of the US Capitol building burning with a Communist flag being raised in front, titled “Revolution”. Another draws on a trope typically associated with the far-right – the image of the “day of the rope” where race traitors would be hanged for their crimes, popularized in the book *The Turner Diaries*. The video shows an edited photograph from the 1930s of a lynching of two African-American men in Indiana, captioned “class traitors face capital punishment on the day of reckoning”. There are also several profiles promoting National Bolshevism (NazBol) which combines elements of communism with extreme nationalism.

There are multiple videos glorifying the actions of Ted Kaczynski, also known as the “Unabomber”. Several videos feature quotations from his manifesto, stating that “The industrial revolution and its consequences have been a disaster for the human race”. Kaczynski is heralded on TikTok by some as an anarchist and eco-fascist hero, often accompanied by the hashtag #tedpilled to indicate support and understanding of Kaczynski’s ideology.



SOVEREIGN CITIZENS

Adherents of the sovereign citizen movement have convinced themselves they are not subject to the laws of the USA. They believe the USA is a corporation and your birth certificate is evidence of a “straw man”, a “paper you” utilized to force you into consenting to legal contracts and authority. Sovereign citizens often foster conflict with law enforcement and the judicial system, as many refuse to pay federal taxes, hold driver’s licenses and pay car registration. In 2010, two Arkansas police officers were shot dead after they stopped a sovereign citizen and his 16-year old son for a traffic violation. Several TikTok creators share videos to educate viewers on these issues and help provide evidence for their beliefs, broadcasting this dangerous ideology to a broader audience.



CONCLUSION

TikTok continues to grow rapidly as a platform, reaching one billion active monthly users at a far quicker pace than competitors including Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.¹⁷ Like their competitors however, TikTok grapples with the same challenges of dealing with the exploitation of their platform by extremists to promote hateful and harmful content. Given the young demographic that TikTok has gained such unprecedented popularity with, TikTok's responsibility to deal with this ever-evolving threat remains considerable. This report outlines the ways in which extremists and nefarious actors continue to evade the safety parameters put in place, in order to spread bigotry and prejudice to a wide audience in a variety of compelling and effective manners. Increased moderation of signs, symbols, codes, images and terminology will assist in limiting the amount of content extremists can upload to the platform. Educational programs for young people to build media literacy and resilience to messaging of this nature is a long-term strategy to invest in, as extremists will continue to work to evade moderation and censorship as long as social media exists. The Simon Wiesenthal Center makes the following urgent recommendations:

- 1. TikTok should prohibit the use of extremist symbols including the Nazi Death's Head (Totenkopf), Nazi SS lightning bolts, and the Sunwheel, as profile images.**
- 2. TikTok must review and adjust the user "recommendation" algorithm to limit driving users towards additional accounts proliferating hateful content.**
- 3. The Simon Wiesenthal Center welcomes partnership with TikTok to develop programs for young TikTok users to build media literacy skills on this platform.**

THE SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER

The Simon Wiesenthal Center (SWC) is a Jewish global human rights organization dedicated to researching the Holocaust and hate in a historic and contemporary context. The Center confronts anti-Semitism, hate and terrorism, promotes human rights and dignity, stands with Israel, defends the safety of Jews worldwide, and teaches the lessons of the Holocaust for future generations. With a constituency of over 400,000 households in the United States, it is accredited as an NGO at international organizations including the United Nations, UNESCO, OSCE, Organization of American States (OAS), the Latin American Parliament (PARLATINO) and the Council of Europe.

For decades, the SWC has researched the promotion of extremism in digital spaces. The Digital Terrorism and Hate Project has produced an annual interactive report annually since 1997. The report focuses on tens of thousands of websites, detailing how the Internet has become a virtual university for terrorism and has emerged as the nerve center for training, recruitment, and terrorist activities around the world. Digital Terrorism and Hate has been distributed to government agencies, community activists, educators, and members of the media.

Explore the report at:
www.digitalhate.net

Report to:
ireport@wiesenthal.com

www.wiesenthal.com

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A list of TikTok profiles studied in this report is available upon request for academic and research purposes. Please contact ireport@wiesenthal.com.