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# HYPOCRISY ABOUT HATE

WILL THESE COMPANIES AND MEDIA OUTLETS CONTINUE TO USE  
THE HYPOCRITICAL SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER AS AN AUTHORITY ON HATE AND EXTREMISM?



The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), founded as a civil rights advocacy organization, has lost its way. The bigotry and racial discrimination described by its former employees is evidence of SPLC's hypocrisy. The SPLC has become a hate-for-cash machine that has weaponized its hate labeling of groups and individual people. As SPLC collected hundreds of millions in donations, it expanded its definition of "hate" to non-violent conservative, Christian, and parent organizations who opposed the SPLC's political agenda. Now, the SPLC's hate for cash machine has been described by within as a "highly profitable scam."<sup>1</sup> Its founder Morris Dees was fired, its president Richard Cohen has resigned, and its top lawyer departed as the scandal spread.

## *Here is what SPLC was like according to former SPLC employees :*

"I would definitely say that there was not a single black employee with whom I spoke who was happy to be working there."

**Christine Lee,  
1989 SPLC legal intern  
(Harvard Law School graduate)<sup>2</sup>**

[SPLC had] "...just a way of talking about black people as jesters in a way that hasn't - I don't think been done in 30 or 40 years." Christine Lee, 1989 SPLC intern

**Christine Lee,  
1989 SPLC legal intern<sup>3</sup>**

"I was surprised at some of the things I saw, because it was a civil rights organization...I've heard racial slurs in the place."

**Gloria Browne,  
former SPLC attorney<sup>4</sup>**

"Sometimes the press will describe us as monitoring hate groups, I want to say plainly that our aim in life is to destroy these groups, completely destroy them."

**Mark Potok,  
former SPLC senior fellow<sup>5</sup>**

"We were part of the con, and we knew it."

**Bob Moser,  
former SPLC writer<sup>6</sup>**

"You will never step foot in a more contradictory place as long as you live."

**The New Yorker,  
quoting a former SPLC employee<sup>7</sup>**

"It could be racial, sexual, financial—that place was a virtual buffet of injustices."

**The New Yorker,  
quoting a former SPLC writer<sup>8</sup>**

Those who use SPLC as their authority on hate and extremism should stop immediately. A bad tree cannot produce good fruit. Will corporations and media outlets continue to align themselves with an organization that its own employees say is racist, bigoted, and rife with sexual misconduct and discrimination? If so, their partnership can only produce rotten fruit.

<sup>1</sup> Bob Moser, "The Reckoning of Morris Dees and the Southern Poverty Law Center," *New Yorker*, March 21, 2019, <https://www.newyorker.com/news/news-desk/the-reckoning-of-morris-dees-and-the-southern-poverty-law-center>

<sup>2</sup> Dan Morse, "Equal Treatment? No Blacks in Center's Leadership," *Montgomery Advertiser*, February 16, 1994, 1A.

<sup>3</sup> Dan Morse, "Black Former Workers Question Treatment," *Montgomery Advertiser*, February 16, 1994, 7A.

<sup>4</sup> Morse, "Black Former Workers Question Treatment," *Montgomery Advertiser*.

<sup>5</sup> Tyler O'Neil, "Southern Poverty Law Center: 'Our Aim in Life Is to Destroy These Groups, Completely,'" *PJ Media*, September 1, 2017, <https://pjmedia.com/trending/2017/09/01/southern-poverty-law-center-our-aim-in-life-is-to-destroy-these-groups-completely/>.

<sup>6</sup> Moser, "The Reckoning of Morris Dees...," *New Yorker*.

<sup>7</sup> Moser, "The Reckoning of Morris Dees...," *New Yorker*.

<sup>8</sup> Moser, "The Reckoning of Morris Dees...," *New Yorker*.