Harrison is certainly not unique in hosting an institutionalized racist presence. That is evident from Southern Poverty Law Center online records. In other respects, Harrison has experienced stagnant population growth in the new millennium. It is home to America’s second Walmart town. Harrison’s task force on race relations is established in 1905. Two Christian Identity churches, the Christian Revival Center and Kingdom Identity Ministries, are located in Harrison, Arkansas. Christian Identity churches have been recognized as hate groups by the Southern Poverty Law Center and are centered around racist and anti-Semitic ideologies. The Christian Revival Center is headed by Thomas Robb who is also the National Director of the KKK. Kingdom Identity Ministries is the largest producer of Christian Identity propaganda in the country. There is considerable support for the town of Harrison to retain its reputation as a town steeped in hate from the community. On the contrary, there have been several anti-hate organizations formed in this region which function to denounce the current image of Harrison and promote diversity and change. The small town was dubbed the most racist town in America by British tabloid the Daily Mirror in 2016, yet it is currently at odds with itself.

### The Resistance

Resistance centered towards revoking the negative connotation that Harrison holds in the mainstream is relatively recent. Within the last 16 years efforts have been made by various groups of people to unite the town and promote diversity. Many claim Harrison is painted in a bad light by media outlets and liken the presence of these hate groups to a small stain on a perfectly good town. The Harrison Community Task Force on Race Relations was established in 2003 on the premise of unity within the town. Their core values are listed as, “equality, opportunity, economy, prosperity, justice, security, dignity, fellowship, community, inclusiveness,” (HCTFRR, 2018). They continuously cite the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and praise peace while walking the road that will lead to racial justice. There are 938 people following their Facebook page. The group meets twice monthly to with purposes such as, “to discuss our response to any negative media about the community’s alleged racism and ways to promote Harrison as a warm and welcoming community to all people of goodwill,” (HCTFRR, 2018).

Boone County Indivisible is one of the latest additions to the Indivisible Project, a movement sweeping the nation in response to the election of Donald Trump as president. This grassroots project strives to see the creation of thousands of small indivisible groups to “elect progressive leaders, realize bold progressive policies, rebuild our democracy, and defeat the Trump agenda,” (Indivisible Organization). In 2018 Daniella Scott formed Boone County Indivisible in an attempt to change the reputation of Harrison. The group has 208 members actively working to combat hate in their hometown.

### Is Harrison Typical?

Harrison is certainly not unique in hosting an institutionalized racist presence. That is evident from Southern Poverty Law Center online records. In other respects, Harrison seems to be emblematic of the very large number of small towns which are mostly hidden in America’s “Flyover Country” heartland. Harrison’s population of approximately 13 thousand souls is 96 percent white (Census Quick Facts, 2018). Its median household income is 62% of the national norm. Harrison has experienced stagnant population growth in the new millennium. It is home to America’s second Walmart town. Harrison’s task force on race relations is established in 1905. Two Christian Identity churches, the Christian Revival Center and Kingdom Identity Ministries, are located in Harrison, Arkansas. Christian Identity churches have been recognized as hate groups by the Southern Poverty Law Center and are centered around racist and anti-Semitic ideologies. The Christian Revival Center is headed by Thomas Robb who is also the National Director of the KKK. Kingdom Identity Ministries is the largest producer of Christian Identity propaganda in the country. There is considerable support for the town of Harrison to retain its reputation as a town steeped in hate from the community. On the contrary, there have been several anti-hate organizations formed in this region which function to denounce the current image of Harrison and promote diversity and change. The small town was dubbed the most racist town in America by British tabloid the Daily Mirror in 2016, yet it is currently at odds with itself.

### Abstract

Two Christian Identity churches, the Christian Revival Center and Kingdom Identity Ministries, and the mailing address for the National Director of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan are located in Harrison, Arkansas. Christian Identity churches have been recognized as hate groups by the Southern Poverty Law Center and are centered around racist and anti-Semitic ideologies. The Christian Revival Center is headed by Thomas Robb who is also the National Director of the KKK. Kingdom Identity Ministries is the largest producer of Christian Identity propaganda in the country. There is considerable support for the town of Harrison to retain its reputation as a town steeped in hate from the community. On the contrary, there have been several anti-hate organizations formed in this region which function to denounce the current image of Harrison and promote diversity and change. The small town was dubbed the most racist town in America by British tabloid the Daily Mirror in 2016, yet it is currently at odds with itself.

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