

The background of the entire image is a collage of protest signs. The most prominent sign is 'BLACK LIVES MATTER' in white capital letters on a dark background, repeated multiple times. Other visible signs include 'TRANSG QUEER', 'POOR', 'YOUNG', and 'OLD' in various colors and fonts, suggesting a broader social justice context.

# TOWARD A THEOLOGY OF HOPELESSNESS

*EXPLORING WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A BLACK XTIAN IN AN ERA OF  
WHITE RECKONING*

*DANIEL WHITE HODGE, PHD*

## WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

---

- Hopelessness as **process**
- Hopelessness as a **starting point**
- Hopelessness as **being**



# Embracing Hopelessness

Miguel A. De La Torre



# FOUNDATIONS

- Things are f\*cked
- Evangelicalism has failed PoC's; especially Black people
- The need for a theology of the “nitty-gritty”
- God as more a Type 3 civilization & less of “magic & wonders” god



# CHANGES A HAPPENING...

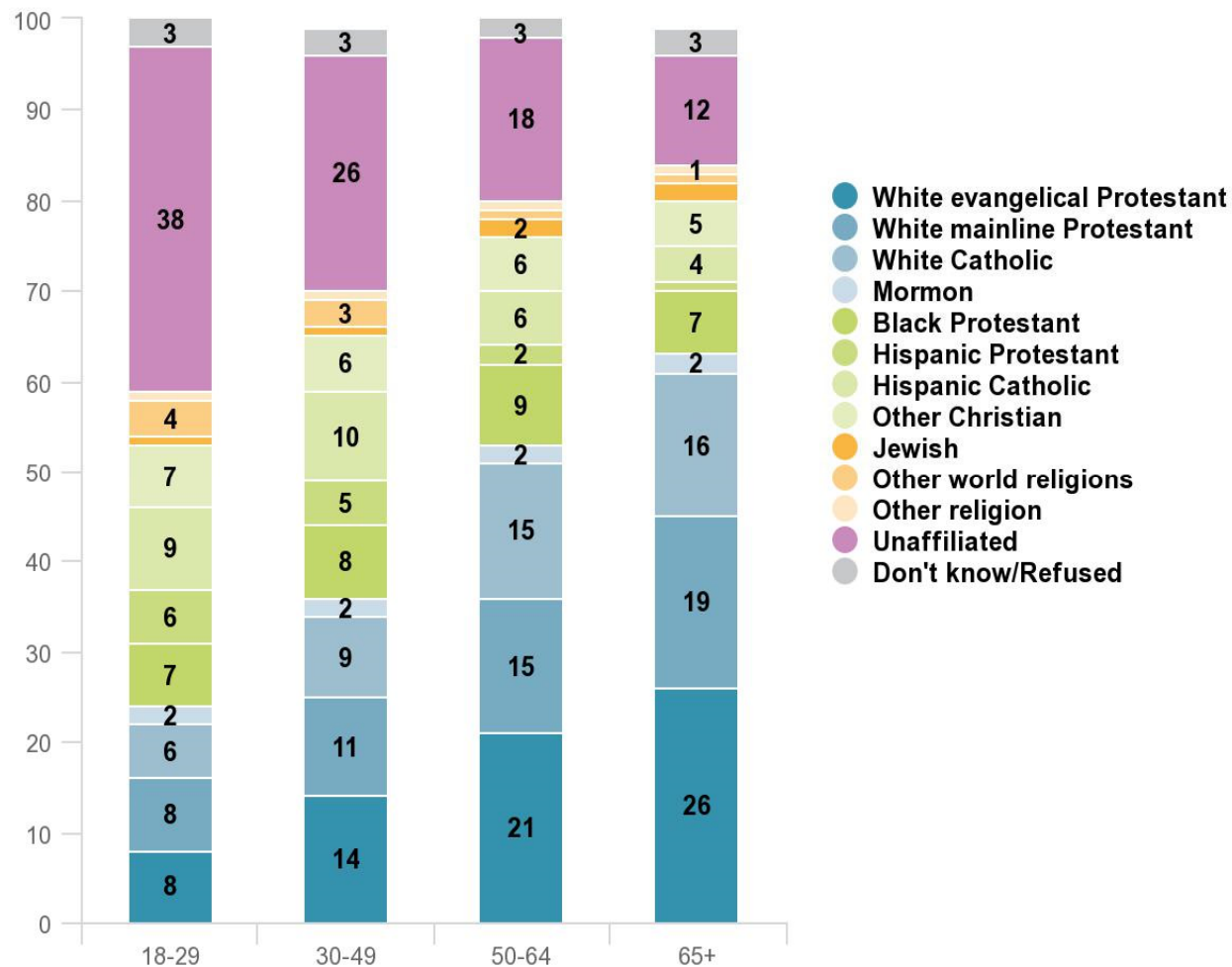
## AMERICA'S CHANGING RELIGIOUS IDENTITY

Findings from the 2016 American Values Atlas



PRRI

### A Generational Shift in Religious Identity

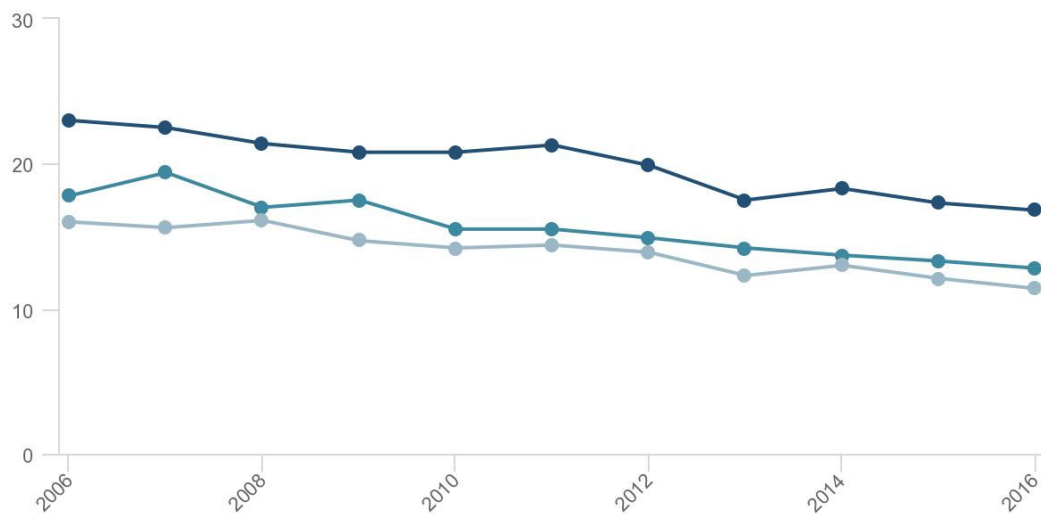


Source: PRRI 2016 American Values Atlas.

# CHANGES A HAPPENING...

## The Decline of White Christians, 2006 - 2016

● White evangelical Protestant ● White mainline Protestant ● White Catholic

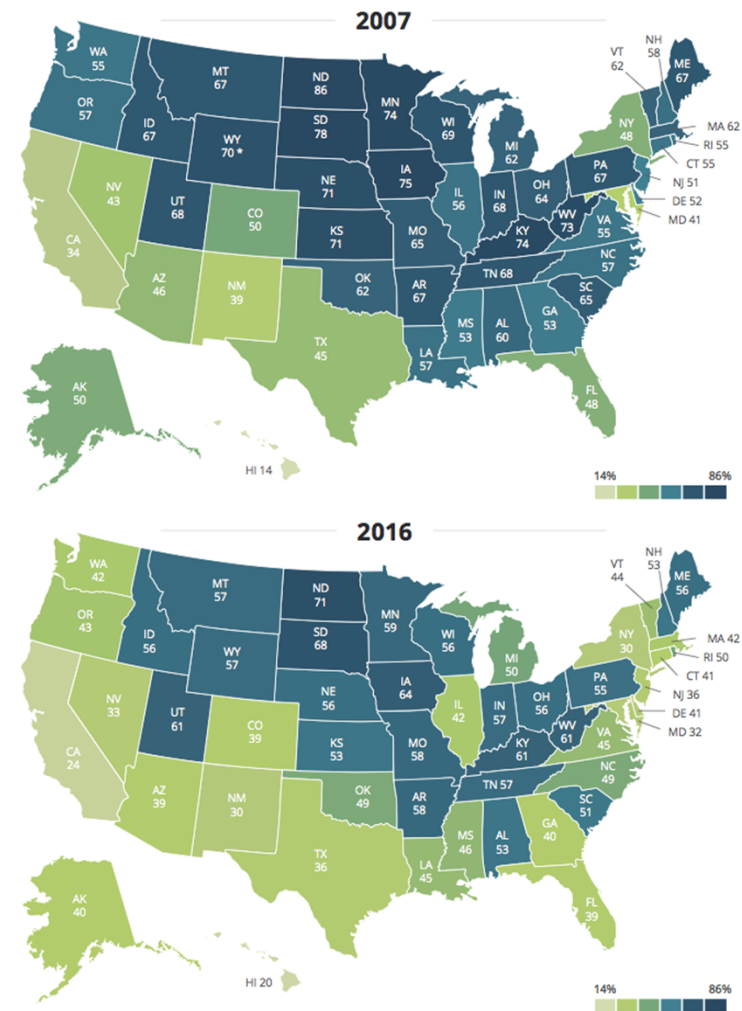


Sources: The Pew Research Center for the People & The Press and Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, Religion and Public Life Survey, 2006-2009; PRRI 2010 American Values Survey; PRRI/Brookings 2011 Pluralism Survey; PRRI 2012 American Values Survey; PRRI 2013-2016 American Values Atlas.

PRRI

## Diminishing White Christian Presence in U.S.

Percent White Christian by State, 2007 vs. 2016



Note: The sample size of Wyoming in 2007 includes fewer than 100 respondents.

Sources: The Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, Religious Landscape Survey, July 2007; PRRI 2016 American Values Atlas.

# RACIAL ATTITUDES IN THE 2016 ELECTION

- Factors contributing to trump's election:
  - Fears of new U.S. electorate
  - Immigration
  - Taxes/ economy
  - Mainline evangelical tropes= abortion, same gender marriage, LGBTQ bathrooms
  - Evangelical support 81.8%
  - Perception of Whites losing majority
  - A return to "American values"
  - A rise in hate for Blacks & feelings of Blacks already having too many privileges

Major, Brenda, Alison Blodorn, and Gregory Major Blascovich. "The Threat of Increasing Diversity: Why Many White Americans Support Trump in the 2016 Presidential Election." *Group Processes & Intergroup Relations* 0, no. 0: 1368430216677304.

# DR. KELLY BROWN DOUGLAS



*Today, the Manifest Destiny stand-your-ground-culture war is fueled by the presence of a black man living in the White House. There is no greater challenge to America's grand narrative of Anglo-Saxon exceptionalism than a black president. This represents a complete encroachment upon the space reserved for cherished white property. It is no surprise, therefore, that stand-your-ground culture has asserted itself in an aggressive and unrelenting manner.*

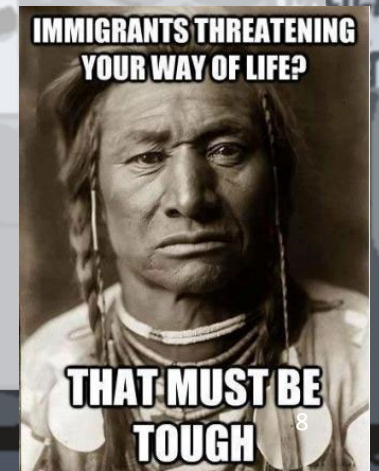
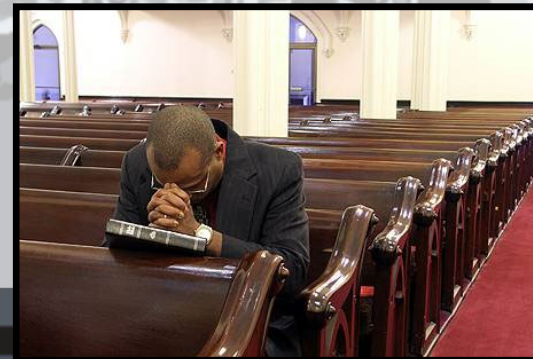
**Stand Your Ground: Black Bodies and the Justice of God**





# MOVING FORWARD IN HOPELESSNESS

- 1) Beyond “Good Intentions”
- 2) Engaging & dismantling the “Great White Hope” worldview
- 3) Embracing the Multi-Ethnic Jesus
- 4) Deconstruction of a neo-colonized Christian ideology
- 5) Prepare for the shit; develop curriculum with it in mind







# Daniel White Hodge

*Professor of Intercultural  
Communication*

[dan@whitehodge.com](mailto:dan@whitehodge.com)

[www.whitehodge.com](http://www.whitehodge.com)

[whitehodgepodcasts.com](http://whitehodgepodcasts.com)

[@danwhitehodge](https://twitter.com/danwhitehodge)

PROFANE  
faith  
podcast

