no church in the wild

toward a post-civil rights theology

Daniel White Hodge, PhD
North Park University
Changes a happening...

A Generational Shift in Religious Identity

Changes a happening...

The Decline of White Christians, 2006 - 2016

- White evangelical Protestant
- White mainline Protestant
- White Catholic


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

Socio-Religious Shifts

Growth of the Religiously Unaffiliated, 1976-2016

Unaffiliated Americans: Mostly Secular
- Atheist
- Agnostic
- Secular person
- Religious person

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
Definitions

**White Supremacy is:**
- The subconscious promotion of White Culture as the “best” or “White is right”
- The denigration of minorities through subtle racism & passive discrimination
- Good, well intentioned, “moral,” ignorant White people
- The projection and shifting of social inequality and racism back onto people of color and minorities; “blame the victim” worldview
Societal Shifts

- WWII
- 1960’s Post Modern/ Post Soul Transference
- Capitalism as Dominant (late 70’s)
- The Rise of Hip Hop Culture (1990’s)
- The rise of the critical inquiry; 1991 & beyond
- 9/11 & The Culture of “Terrorism”
- White Nationalism; White Fear; White Christian State
Trumpism & Evangelicalism

Male Dominated Evangelicalism
Euro-Centric Power
The Ministry Industrial Complex
Avoidance of issues on Social Inequality
White Supremacy in U.S. Christianity

Hyper masculinity
White Christianity
Rooted in American Exceptionalism
Non-"P.C."

Violence
Celebrityism
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 compete 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 The Tension

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