Anti-Racism Committee Meeting Summary
April 10, 2023
Submitted by Nancy Richman

Mission: Learn, Educate, Advocate

Tonight's meeting focused on the workshop 4 of the group had attended: *Fighting White Supremacy in Rhode Island Workshop.* Lively discussion. Barbara Beckwith, Bina Holtzman, Cathy Solomon, and Nancy Richman shared their takeaways from the workshop.

Key points:

1. Hate groups are multiplying and they are becoming very organized.
2. After the United the Right rally in Charlestown, hate groups had to "rebrand" because of the "bad" optics of driving a car into someone and killing her. Someone wrote a "Style Guide" to help these groups change words and images to help them rebrand and build new strategies. From this came a new name of one white supremacist group, now called "Super Happy Fun America". This group uses backyard Bar-B-Ques and picnics to recruit.
3. Some groups have as their goal to infiltrate school boards, town councils, city councils, elected positions and begin to take over via influential positions.
4. In 2021, the Southern Poverty Law Center tracked 3 hate groups in Rhode Island: Proud Boys, the Nationalist Social Club (NSC 131) and Patriot Front. Hate Map | Southern Poverty Law Center (splcenter.org)
5. This might be considered a "time of urgency". Hitler's party went from 2,000 supporters to 20,000 in 5 years. Is this what we're up against today? From the book Caste: *The forces behind these enactments have been playing the long game while much of the country slept in denial.*

The group discussed the 6" video entitled: *Mussolini to Antifa: The History of Anti-Fascism.* video on the history of antifa, and the workshop handout, *Things You Can Do*.

A list of the many hate groups with presence in New England can be found at this site: New England White Supremacists website.

SAVE THE DATE
for the **United Against Hate** workshop:
Wednesday, May 31, 4:30p - 7:30m. Location: Prout School.
Light supper will be provided.
Details to follow.

Next meeting
April 24, 2023