I am Harrison

I am Harrison Our approach to changing the perception of our community.

Kim Sloan and Houston Strode
Harrison EAST Program
Harrison, Arkansas
Harrison, Arkansas Continues To Be One Of The Most Racist Towns In America.
In Arkansas, white town is a black mark

Residents of Harrison try to fight their reputation as the small town with the most hate groups in America

December 10, 2014 5:00AM ET

by Timothy Bella - @TimBella

Anti - Racist is a Code Word for Anti - White

Welcome to Harrison
Beautiful Town
Beautiful People
No Wrong Exits
No Bad Neighborhoods

It's impossible to have a conversation about race in the town of Harrison, Arkansas, without talking about the yellow billboard.  Timothy Bella
Arkansas Town, Battling Legacy of Klan Activity, Awash in Controversy Over Racist Billboard

By Don Terry on January 17, 2014 - 4.45 pm, Posted in Klan, White Supremacist

Racism isn't just immoral. It's also bad for business.

Just ask Jeff Crockett, the mayor of Harrison, Ark., a small, 95 percent white city haunted by the ghosts of century-old race riots and a current day Ku Klux Klan compound in the Ozarks just 15 miles outside of town.

“Our Internet presence is terrible,” the mayor told Hatewatch today. “When people Google Harrison, Ark., the first page of websites is Klan-related. People don’t come here because of it.”

There’s a Fed Ex regional office in Harrison that employs 1,500 people from across the region.

“We’re finding people who transfer in here, even if they’re white they don’t want to raise their kids around that [Klan history],” he said. “Then they decide to move to Branson, Mo., and drive 30 miles back and forth. So we lose the tax base, we lose the real estate sales. We’ve been working hard to combat that and get a better reputation out.”

It has not been easy, especially in the last few months. The battle over Harrison’s reputation has been waged these days not house to house but billboard by billboard, with acts of vandalism, an arrest, leaks to the Klan and most recently a mayoral investigation.
Harrison, Arkansas has been dubbed the most hateful town in America. With seven different hate groups calling the small town of 13,000 residents home, the dubious title isn’t necessarily unwarranted. One of those hate groups is the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (now renamed the more innocuous sounding Knights Party of Zinc), which has its headquarters just outside of Harrison.

![Image of a billboard](image.jpg)

*Image source: James L. White, Harrison Daily Times*

The Knights have put up a new billboard on Highway 65 that promotes WhitePrideRadio.com, a Ku Klux Klan sponsored broadcast. The billboard shows a white girl holding a puppy. It proclaims “its not racist to love your people”, and then provides the link to the hate radio page.
Is Harrison, Arkansas The Most Racist Town In America...

Jan 2, 2015 - However, Harrison has been trying in recent years to rehabilitate their reputation as one of the most racist towns in America. It must be working, ...

In Arkansas, white town is a black mark | Al Jazeera America

Dec 10, 2014 - “Harrison has the image that it’s a white-racist town, and I’m glad the... The ethnic cleansing of Harrison... is arguably the most important...
KKK Billboard Promotes 'White Pride Radio' in Arkansas Town

Wednesday, 31 Dec 2014 08:47 PM
By Greg Richter

A billboard in Harrison, Arkansas that proclaims, 'It's NOT Racist to (Heart) Your People' is advertising an online "white pride" radio station, the Harrison Daily Times reports.

Klu Klux Klan Erects "White Pride" Billboard In Arkansas: The small town of Harrison has been home to a... http://t.co/UswdfVpDl #buzz

— Sharon Wise (@SharWire) January 1, 2015

The billboard went up on Monday and features a picture of a young Caucasian girl holding a puppy. The picture is a stock photo.

Special: Shocking Footage Buried for 54 Years

from the website Dreamstime.com, which features other images of the girl and the miniature pincher.


The website redirects to www.kkkradio.com.

Thom Robb, national director of The Knights Party, admitted to the newspaper, "Yes, that's us," when asked if his group was behind the billboard.

The station’s website features a lineup of talk hosts and old-time radio shows, including "Amos and Andy," which featured white performers as black characters. Other shows include "This is the Klan" and "The White Side."

The website says the programs "are free of race mixing themes and the exploits of homosexuals — the kind of entertainment that is popular on television today — even on so-called 'family' networks like ABC Family."

The children’s program "Stories from Grandma" is described as containing "racially sound stories they will love."

KKK 'Pro-White' Billboard Reignites Racial Tensions For City Of Harrison Arkansas

By Heather
1/2/15 8:00am

A billboard in Harrison, Arkansas promoting a Ku Klux Klan web based radio show at whiteprideradio.com isn’t sitting all that well with many of the residents there, who would like to do what they can to improve the town’s image and race relations in the community.

That hasn’t seemed to matter much to those supporting the billboard who called Harrison Community Task Force on Race Relations "fools" and are more than happy to keep stoking hatred and resentment among the residents there.
I am Harrison

That was the bad; here is the good - our approach to changing the perception of our community.
safe for diversity - JFK #IamHarrison

Racism is foolishness run rampant. Good to see folks making a difference #IamHarrison

When a society refuses to reverse their absurd and primitive ways of thinking and actions, they are unable to progress forward. #IamHarrison

#IamHarrison keep fighting the good fight. #LoveWillTriumph

"I feel that there is nothing more truly artistic than to love people." - Vincent van Gogh #IamHarrison
You retweeted
1/26/15
I'm proud to be a citizen of the most diverse nation on Earth, because our differences make us stronger. #IamHarrison

You retweeted
1/26/15
We must be conscious of our past. However, we can learn and strive for better days ahead, full of love and acceptance. #IamHarrison

You retweeted
1/26/15
The few do not represent the many, and the many want equality and an end to bigotry #IamHarrison

You retweeted
1/26/15
"...Hatred confuses life; love harmonizes it. Hatred darkens life; love illuminates it." - MLK #IamHarrison

You retweeted
1/26/15
We are defined not by our genetic make up, but by our compassion, our choices #IamHarrison

You retweeted
1/26/15
back into the past. #IamHarrison

You retweeted
1/30/15
Excited for Harrison to be known as a town of love, equality, and diversity. Progress will be made. #IamHarrison

You retweeted
1/30/15
To infringe upon the rights of innocent and deserving American citizens is to destroy the foundation our history has built. #IamHarrison

You retweeted
1/30/15
A reminder to be kind for all our supporters today. #IamHarrison
“Ultimately, America’s answer to the intolerant man is diversity.”
— Robert Kennedy

The agenda of the youth of Harrison is to spread a message of love and acceptance for all.
#iamHarrison

Anti-racism isn’t anti white. Anti racism is the understanding that diversity benefits us all and creates a healthier society #iamHarrison

Be the voice of truth and love that lives in Harrison. #IAmHarrison

8 billion people. 7 continents. 192 countries. 1000’s of languages. 1 human race. #iamHarrison
Let us replace a philosophy of fear with a philosophy of acceptance. #IamHarrison

Eracism (n.) - the removal from existence of the belief that one race is superior to another." #IamHarrison

Don't let the few who aim to inspire fear confuse you, love and acceptance live here. #IamHarrison

We inspired everyday to do great things and work for what we believe in. #IamHarrison

Do not aspire to degrade or dehumanize. Strive to use your mind, heart, and voice to inspire progress and understanding. #IamHarrison

I am Scottish, Irish, 1/16th Native American and who knows what else! #mutt #IAmHarrison

Skin color determines heritage, not character. #IamHarrison

Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. #MLK #IamHarrison

Our generation should be based on diversity, respect, and equal rights. #IamHarrison
Miten ihmeessä jokut on niin sokeita ja kouluttamattomia että ne täytyy ensin katsoa ihonväriä ennen kuin ne voi rakastaa.

#iamHarrison

How come some people are so blind and uneducated that they first need to look at the color of the skin before they can love.

#iamHarrison

"@[1/30/15]: Love ALL people... regardless of their race, religion, sexual preference, etc. We are all human." #iamHarrison
Just because ur parents didn't ride in a carseat doesn't mean you won't put ur kids in one. Things change! #Love #iamHarrison

The difference between love and hate could be a life. #iamHarrison

1/30/15, 4:30 PM

I base my opinion of a person on their character because I know what it's like to be falsely affiliated with a stigma. #iamHarrison

1/30/15, 4:34 PM

how can humanity progress if it's constantly divided? we now start the movement to unite #iamHarrison

1/30/15, 4:40 PM
"Strength lies in differences, not in similarities." #IamHarrison

So proud of everyone for taking a stand and making a difference 😊❤️ #IamHarrison

"Every human is just as human as I am. No question. #IamHarrison"

"Hate: it has caused a lot of problems in this world, but it has not solved one yet." - Maya Angelou #IamHarrison

Fight for what’s right. No matter the opposition. Morals build the Man OR Woman! #IamHarrison

If a shark stops moving forward, it will die. Society is the same. #IamHarrison

"All men were created equal, it is only men themselves who place themselves above equality." #IamHarrison

Diversity in the world is a basic characteristic of human society, and also the key condition for a lively and dynamic world #IamHarrison

Don’t be against social progress and justice. The human race should be past that by now. #IamHarrison
#iamHarrison because a reputation and signs threatens the progress of a new generation. Love conquers.

1/30/15, 4:27 PM

Because nobody should fear a town, let alone it's name. Nobody.

#iamHarrison

This class project is helping teens change their town's racist reputation through social media. AMAZING! bit.ly/1BxTRi

#iamHarrison because someone's character is exponentially more important than any other aspect of him or her.

1/30/15, 4:40 PM
Tweets

1. You retweeted
   Love one another❤️John 13:34 #IamHarrison
   1/25/15

2. You retweeted
   Diversity is much more than 140 characters will ever be able to express #IamHarrison
   1/28/15

3. You retweeted
   "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world." - Margaret Mead #IamHarrison
   1/28/15

4. You retweeted
   All cultures, including but not limited to "white culture," are complex and intriguing. I enjoy celebrating that. #IamHarrison
   1/25/15

5. You retweeted
   Humanity is one species, one that must stand together #IamHarrison
   1/28/15

6. You retweeted
   Diversity is beautiful and necessary in every city in every country in the world. Not just Harrison. Not just the United States #IamHarrison
   1/28/15

7. You retweeted
   "The time I always right to do what is right" - Martin Luther King Jr. #IamHarrison
   1/28/15

8. You retweeted
   "It is never too late to give up your prejudices." - Henry David Thoreau #IamHarrison
   1/28/15

9. Harrison AR @We_are_harrison 1/25/15
   Woohoo! 500 likes before Monday! Let's go for 550 :)

10. You retweeted
    Medi Lager @MediLager 1/29/15
    No one is right all the time. Even me. #IamHarrison
Diversity adds to the richness of society #IAmHarrison

Got to talk to one of my classes today about the efforts Harrison, AR is making to increase diversity and love w/in our town. #IAmHarrison

Open your eyes, not your mouth. Accept everyone. #IAmHarrison

Different is beautiful. #IAmHarrison

I am neither afraid nor ashamed to say that I love ALL people unconditionally. #IAmHarrison

Tonight I could not be more proud to say I am from Harrison, AR! 2 the youth fighting to break down barriers, I salute you! #IamHarrison

I hope some day when I say "I'm from Harrison, Ar," the first thing people think of is love! #IamHarrison
"To find ways to celebrate diversity and debate our differences without fracturing our communities." -Hillary Clinton #iamHarrison

I'm Abi; I enjoy random facts and writing. The amount of melanin in a person's skin does not define them. I will not conform. #iamHarrison

I am continually learning that this world needs more people to just love each other unconditionally. Be one of those people. #iamHarrison

Personality and character matter far more than color ever could. #iamHarrison

Big winter/spring conference this coming Friday! Let's go Harrison! And, from one club to another with the same beliefs #iamHarrison

We have Twitter and Instagram too! Support us on both! We are @we_are_harrison
We understand the frustration you have #IamHarrison supporters. Though we are unfortunately unable to keep propaganda out of the tag ...

Because of the diversity at my school, I got to meet and befriend so many great, talented, intelligent, brave people. #IamHarrison

So proud of the Harrison students! Let's support them and put a stop to racism in Harrison! #IamHarrison @kytv

I'm a minority that has happily grown up in Harrison pretty much my entire life. It will always be the place that I call home. #IamHarrison

Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have. ~Margaret Mead #IamHarrison

I pledge my support for #IamHarrison

@We_are_harrison I'm thankful I was raised in a home with ❤️ for all. Thx Mom & Dad (Mayor Sherrell) #IAmHarrison

This movement will march on bravely for equality and diversity. Nothing shall drag it down. #IamHarrison
I am a proud member of #iamHarrison and #iamHarrison.

1/28/15

You retweeted

Proud to teach youth willing to be the change that promotes love and unity. #iamHarrison

1/28/15, 6:59 PM from Arkansas, USA

20 RETWEETS 26 FAVORITES

#iamHarrison two different breeds become one!! A beautiful result, yay, Atticus!!!

1/28/15

You retweeted

Racism isn’t a skin problem, it’s a sin problem. #iamHarrison

1/24/15

Yes Shannon, it is an amazing time right now with these kids!

1/30/15

This movement may be youth led, but it is by no means youth only. We welcome you to tell us about YOUR