



LAWYERS' COMMITTEE FOR
CIVIL RIGHTS
U N D E R L A W

July 15, 2020

DNC Holdings, Inc.
3500 N. Causeway Blvd.
Suite 160
Metairie, LA 70002

To whom it may concern:

I am writing on behalf of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law ("Lawyers' Committee") in regard to DavidDuke.com, a site to which your company provides domain registrar services. As the URL suggests, the site is "The Official Website of David Duke," the white nationalist, anti-Semite, and former Grand Wizard of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. The site routinely publishes racist and anti-Semitic articles and content. We write to alert you to these violations and call on DNC Holdings, Inc and your subsidiaries to terminate services with DavidDuke.com.

The Lawyers' Committee is a nonprofit organization formed in 1963 at the request of President John F. Kennedy to enlist the private bar's leadership and resources in combating racial discrimination and the resulting inequality of opportunity. The Lawyers' Committee's principal mission is to secure equal justice for all through the rule of law, targeting in particular the inequities confronting African Americans and other racial and ethnic minorities. The James Byrd Jr. Center to Stop Hate, at the Lawyers' Committee, supports communities and individuals targeted for hate and challenges white supremacy by using creative legal advocacy, disrupting systems that enable hate, and educating the general public and policy makers.

DNC Holdings, Inc, which does business as Directnic.com,¹ prohibits the type of content found on DavidDuke.com. The company's Terms of Service prohibit users from using Directnic services "to display, distribute, download, host, link to, post, sell, transmit, transfer, upload nor otherwise facilitate access" to "[c]ontent or links to content which contains materials meant to incite violence, promote illegal activities, is unlawful, threatening, abusive, harassing, defamatory, slanderous, libelous or hateful."²

David Duke is a well-known white nationalist who advocates for white unity and racial separation. Duke founded the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan in Louisiana in 1974 and relied on pseudo intellectualism in an attempt to change the face of the Klan from a violent anti-Black

¹ <https://directnic.com/page/company-info.html>

² <https://directnic.com/terms>

group to a professional “pro-White” organization.³ This attempt at reimagining the KKK did little to stop the inherently violent and hateful ideology of the group. Duke continued his white supremacist activity over the next few decades, creating the National Association for the Advancement of White People (NAAWP) in the 1980s (an organization which has been described as a “Klan without the sheets”⁴) and the European-American Unity and Rights Organization (EURO) in 2000.⁵

Duke routinely posts anti-Black content to his site, in violation of your company’s policies. Examples of anti-Black content on his site include Duke calling slavery “the greatest mistake that the country ever made” because it is what brought Black people to the United States of America.⁶ Another example is a June 22nd article titled “Exposing Zio Promotion of Thug Lives Matter & White Lives DON’T matter!” in which Duke denies the existence of systemic racism and the toll that the coronavirus pandemic is having on Black communities. He instead blames disproportionate infections on biological differences, and says Black people are “poorly suited” for “northerly climes [sic] like Scandinavia or Minnesota.”⁷

Duke is also a major proponent of the dangerous myth of white genocide. In an article published on June 23, Duke wrote “they are trying to erase White people and White Heritage in this country... I have predicted for decades that there is a war on White people that has promoted massive immigration into America purposely to outnumber and outvote White people in the very nation our people created.”⁸ The idea of white genocide was relied on by the shooters in the 2015 Charleston massacre at a Black church, the 2019 massacre at a Walmart with predominantly Latinx customers in El Paso, and the 2019 Christchurch mosque shooting in New Zealand. Not only is the myth of white genocide false, but it has been used to justify racism and horrific violence towards people and communities of color.

In addition to routinely posting hateful content targeting Black communities, David Duke also spreads anti-Semitic and Islamophobic messages on his website and radio show. In particular, Duke promotes the anti-Semitic myth that Jews manipulate the media and society. For instance, Duke claims that “the New York times [is] completely Jewish owned” and has “an interest in sparking black resentment and black hatred against white people.”⁹

We ask that you remove this racist and dangerous website. Please contact our offices by July 22, 2020, regarding this important issue or we will assume you have decided to continue providing services to this website. You can reach our office by contacting the James Byrd Jr. Center to Stop Hate at the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law at byrdcenter@lawyerscommittee.org.

³ <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/who-david-duke-white-supremacist-who-endorsed-donald-trump-n528141>

⁴ <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/individual/david-duke>

⁵ <https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/group/euro>

⁶ Audio recording at 26:02, <https://davidduke.com/wednesday200610/>

⁷ <https://davidduke.com/monday200622/>

⁸ <https://davidduke.com/david-duke-warns-president-trump-on-twitter-that-he-must-protect-andrew-jackson-statue/>

⁹ Audio recording at 38:05, <https://davidduke.com/wednesday200610/>

Respectfully,

Kristen Clarke
President and Executive Director
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law