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Up until mid-March, the far-left Southern Poverty Law Center had an almost spotless reputation with the liberal media. It was their go-to guide for exposing hate in America. Journalists used the SPLC's annual "hate map" as an authoritative source—a who's who of haters in America—and were all too ready to parrot SPLC claims to the public. That includes the SPLC's false and defamatory allegation that pro-family groups like Liberty Counsel are, as one AP reporter wrote three years ago, "an anti-gay hate group." For this AP reporter—and many journalists like her—the SPLC's judgments were as good as gold.

But that's changing. Media confidence in the SPLC is starting to crack . . . and it's about time. Truth leaks out about Morris Dees and SPLC

The truth about this far-left hate-mongering money machine is finally beginning to leak out now that the SPLC canned its co-founder, Morris Dees, for unspecified misconduct. "People see him [Dees] as racist and sexist," a senior SPLC leader told the *Washington Post* last week, giving a huge clue to what forced his firing. After Dees departed in disgrace—ending his 48-year SPLC career with a pink slip—the organization's president and its chief legal counsel resigned, following Dees out the door. Then the SPLC brought in Michelle Obama's former chief of staff to run an investigation.

But it's too late for that, says Jim Tharpe, the retired former editor of the *Montgomery Advertiser* which did an eight-part expose of the SPLC in 1994. Writing last week in the *Washington Post*, Tharpe said the IRS and the Justice Department "would be the best bets to really figure out what's up at the center." That's what Sen. Tom Cotton wants, too. The Arkansas Republican fired off a letter to the IRS urging it to determine whether the radical outfit still warrants its tax-exempt status.

The liberal magazine *Current Affairs* ran its own SPLC investigation a couple of weeks ago, concluding the SPLC is an "outright fraud," "fraudulent in the extreme," and "a scam bordering on criminal mail fraud." As we've known for a long time, the SPLC is hypocritical, too. This so-called civil rights champion is now investigating ongoing sexual harassment and racial discrimination inside its own organization.

But don't count the SPLC out. It's large and extremely rich with a war-chest of over a half-billion dollars—with some \$121 million of that stashed in offshore accounts. With all that money and some 350 employees, the SPLC won't stop pumping out demonizing propaganda to blacken the reputation of Christian pro-family groups like Liberty Counsel. And it's partnering with Silicon Valley titans in an aggressive campaign to blacklist organizations like Liberty Counsel which they have maligned as "hate groups."

And as you undoubtedly know, the SPLC is also targeting Liberty Counsel with a series of lawsuits designed not just to harm our reputation but to destroy our organization. The next few months will be critical in our fight to push back against the SPLC's "fake hate" campaign, which has caused major corporations to target, ban and censor Liberty Counsel and many other pro-faith groups.

We are standing against the giants of the Left!

Right now, Liberty Counsel is IN COURT against the ACLU, Planned Parenthood, the SPLC, the American Humanist Association, the National Center for Lesbian Rights and other radical activists in some of the most critical cases impacting our nation. **In just two weeks, we will face off in court against the state of California** as we defend our client Sandra Merritt, who faces a 15-count criminal indictment for exposing Planned Parenthood's bloody trade in baby body parts. And we have filed important briefs to the Supreme Court in cases that have the potential to overturn the landmark 1973 abortion ruling, *Roe v. Wade*.

Defending against the SPLC's outrageous lawsuits has already consumed countless hours of precious legal manpower and financial resources. Plus, I must keep Liberty Counsel lawyers fighting many other crucial battles for faith, family, life and liberty. **For more information about Liberty Counsel, go to [Liberty Counsel](#).**

