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Dear Colleagues in Ministry:

I wish to inform you about a new racial-segregation movement called “kinism,” which seems to have some connection to the “Christian Reconstructionism” of R.J. Rushdoony, and which a CRC pastor in Classis Lake Erie, Rev. Bret McAtee, of Charlotte, Michigan, CRC, appears to be promoting in his online writings. For a popular description of kinism, see <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kinism>; for a kinist self-definition, see <http://spiritwaterblood.com/about/> ). The Southern Poverty Law Center includes advocates of kinism among “the new racialists.” <http://www.splcenter.org/get-informed/intelligence-report/browse-all-issues/2006/summer/irreconcilable-differences/the-new-ra> . . It should be noted that “alienism” and “alienist” are the kinist terms for those who disagree with their racist position. Moreover, not all Theonomists (also called Reconstructionists or Dominionists) are kinists. Kinism is considered a neo-Confederate movement by the SPLC. The SPLC also notes the views of Michael Hill, leader of the “League of the South, and says, “Hill, who has repeatedly told anyone who would listen that his group is not racist, explicitly endorsed white racialism by publicly backing something called “kinism” at the September convention of the Virginia LOS. This ideology, derived from the word “kin” and elaborated at a Web site for The Kinist Institute, calls for laws against racial intermarriage, ending all non-white immigration, expelling all “aliens” (“to include all Jews and Arabs”), and restricting the right to vote to white, landholding men aged 21 or older.” <http://www.splcenter.org/get-informed/intelligence-report/browse-all-issues/2005/spring/the-year-in-hate-2004>

A website promoting this new racist perspective is called “Faith and Heritage” ([faithandheritage.com](http://faithandheritage.com)). This site (in its own words) “has no problem supporting” anti-miscegenation laws, i.e. laws prohibiting interracial marriage, and features an image of a Caucasian, an African, and an Asian combined into a monstrous figure: <http://faithandheritage.com/2012/07/derbyshire-vs-taylor/> See also this post opposing interracial marriage: <http://faithandheritage.com/2011/08/a-response-to-an-article-on-kinism-published-in-the-puritan-news-weekly/>

This Faith and Heritage site would likely be considered racist by most readers, though I suspect its authors would reject that label. Curiously, on a Facebook page called “Rev. Bret McAtee Appreciation Society,” (<http://www.facebook.com/groups/162223619830/>) Rev. McAtee himself posts a link to an article claiming (falsely) that the term “racist” was coined by Communist leader Leon Trotsky who was a traitor to his own Slavic people, and thus by

association with Marxism is merely a “fear-word”: <http://penetrate.blogspot.ca/2010/01/racist-word-invented-by-ussrs-leon.html>. In one of Faith and Heritage’s “flagship articles,” entitled “The Reality of Race,” an author calling himself “Ehud Would” (possibly a pseudonym) claims that “Blacks in America have been proven redundantly by every conceived standard of measure to possess an average IQ of 85. That’s 20 points, or two standard deviations, lower than the Euro-American average of 105.” The author goes on to argue that this alleged lower IQ “leaves a broad breadth of Black men unaccountable for their actions by way of the fact that the Western world regards an IQ of 70 to be, technically speaking, the line of demarcation for mental retardation. In keeping with that resolve, the American justice system officially regards anyone demonstrating a 70-point or lower IQ to be incapable of distinguishing right from wrong or comprehending the ramifications of their actions; this means that the courts will not sentence Blacks in a manner befitting their crimes. This results in an absurd under-representation of Blacks on death row and a continual recirculation of the most vicious monsters back into society.” The article continues in this racist line and appears to depict Africans and African Americans as violent *Untermenschen* who are, by virtue of their African racial makeup, unable to maintain a nuclear family. The author says: “African Christians still routinely burn their children and their elderly alive for suspicion of being witches” He writes that Blacks “are uniquely susceptible to rickets, hypertension, kidney disease, diabetes, heart disease, glaucoma, sickle cell anemia, the contraction of HIV, the progression from HIV to AIDS, sociopathy, schizophrenia, psychopathy, and many other anti-social behaviors besides.” There is much more, but I do not wish to repeat it: <http://faithandheritage.com/2011/11/the-reality-of-race/>

In another flagship article (one that Rev. McAtee links to on his Facebook Appreciation Page) asks the question: “Who Does America belong to?” This article defines a “nation” as “a group of people who share common ethnic origin, and usually implies common culture, religion, and language.” The author, David Opperman, goes on to claim: “The traditional understanding of the American national identity was that Americans were white Europeans, and this fact was reflected in national policy.” It goes on to make an outrageous claim that ancient Europeans were the first settlers of the Americas, not the “Indians,” based on the writings of the white-supremacist South African author Arthur Kemp (on Kemp, see this article: <http://www.splcenter.org/blog/2009/05/06/transnational-white-supremacist-arthur-kemp-slammed-online/>). The author commends slavery-defender John C. Calhoun’s views on white superiority and privilege. The author concludes, “There can be no doubt where our ancestors stood on the question of the white European basis of the American identity.” The image that is included with the article answers the titular question: America belongs to white people.



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seeking religious liberty.

...where people know  
their place. *This is your America.*

*Keep it White & Christian!*

<http://faithandheritage.com/2011/01/who-does-america-belong-to/> Mr. Opperman also writes a number of articles on the Faith and Heritage site defending slavery as biblical:

<http://faithandheritage.com/2012/04/slavery-its-morality-history-and-implications-for-race-relations-in-america-part-1/>

I myself did not believe that any pastor in the CRCNA could possibly be promoting such views, but a retired CRC pastor, formerly of Classis Lake Erie, informed me otherwise and pointed me to the website where Rev. McAtee promotes his views. This “Faith and Heritage” site apparently endorses theonomy and racial segregation in the form of kinism, and lists Rev. McAtee as one of its main contributors. Rev. McAtee is not the author of particular racist screed cited above, but his association with this website as one of its main contributors may merit an investigation of his teachings. Rev. McAtee’s articles on this racialist website can be found online here: <http://faithandheritage.com/?author=33> . His own blog, on which many of his peculiar views can be found, is <http://ironink.org> . Links are provided so that the statements may be read in context. Even though in one post on his own blog he denies that he is a kinist, in another post he openly declares himself “Kinist in my family theology” as well as “Reconstructionist / Theonomic in my Worldview.” <http://ironink.org/the-culprit/> He writes, “The white man has torn down his own house by his abandoning of the Christian faith. However, having admitted that doesn’t explain the ‘how’ in which that has happened or the accelerating factors of the last 40 years. In order to understand the ‘how’ and the accelerating factors I believe that we have to look in some of the directions that kinism points us toward.” <http://ironink.org/?s=kinism>

In one of his posts on the “Faith and Heritage” site, Rev. McAtee seems to defend Rushdoony’s views of racial superiority and separation, (<http://faithandheritage.com/2012/07/rushdoonys-kinism/> ). In his “Iron Ink” blog he appears to write in support of Rushdoony’s theonomy and his kinism: <http://ironink.org/category/reading-rushdoony/> In a July 4, 2012 post rewriting the Declaration of Independence, McAtee writes: “The History of the present oppressive Government is a History of repeated Injuries and Usurpations, all having in direct Object the Establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States and the People therein.” And among the alleged crimes of this government: “It has upheld Policy to deprive the superior Candidates of Opportunity in Education and Career, in the Pursuit of balanced skin pigment and Ethnicity.” He writes of the current US political leaders: “They not only have been deaf to the Voice of Justice **and of a shared Culture**, but have responded to our Pleas by doubling their Tyranny and trebling their Oppression. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the Necessity, which denounces our Resistance, and hold them, as we hold the Rest of Mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends” (emphasis added). <http://faithandheritage.com/2012/07/revising-our-declaration-of-independence/>

In another post, Rev. McAtee writes: “What this means of course is that **the war being waged against the white man is being waged precisely because the white man was the carrier of the Christian faith** — and yet still retains the slumbering remnant of Christianity in its cultural code” (emphasis added). He goes on to declare: “Our enemies positively must destroy the White Anglo Saxon Christian Eurocentrism. It is a threat to all that they desire to build on the grave of the West and Christianity. As an aside it might be asked where the origin of the self hatred of whites lies. The answer is simple. Self hating whites hate Christ and hate God’s moral law and anything of Christ that remains yet in their culture. As such they will, by

way of multiculturalism and political correctness, make league with pagan minorities (most often cultural Marxist in their ideology) by ginning up past real and perceived minority grievances, in order to overthrow what remains of Christo-centrism and Euro-centrism. The real irony is when this is pursued in the Church all in the name of Christ. The real Christ will be murdered by a false Christ by self hating whites who would prefer civilizational [*sic*] death than being ruled by Christ.” and further: “Either white European Christians will create institutions in their culture wherein they will thrive or institutions will be created where they can not survive.” And further: “Like it or not Christianity and Christocentrism has been identified with the European and his Eurocentrism by our enemies. It is a convenient identification because by making this identification our enemies can attack us as “racists” when we defend the Christianity that made Europe, when in point of fact we are “Christianists.” Well, if Christianist equals racist then let the whole world be covered with the success of the Gospel turning all men into racists as they are converted to Christianity.”  
[\(http://faithandheritage.com/2012/06/marzui-attacks-eurocentrism/\)](http://faithandheritage.com/2012/06/marzui-attacks-eurocentrism/)

In another post Rev. McAtee argues that cultural differences are genetically based: “Note here Bojidar [a conversation partner of Rev. McAtee] that the great RJR [i.e. R.J. Rushdoony] recognized that people of different ethnic backgrounds have different strengths and based on those differing strengths that are accounted for, in part, by their genetic inheritance, it is fairly obvious that genes affect culture.” And further: “Now, to be sure the propositions I think (my beliefs) will completely re-arrange the way I lean into life (I sure hope that people would see a difference between me and my Father and Grandfather) but that leaning will still be done as a McAtee, as a descendant of white Scot-Irish Europeans, and as a son of the West. Good Christian, non-gnostic anthropology requires me to think this way.”:  
<http://faithandheritage.com/2012/06/do-genes-affect-culture/> Rev. McAtee appears to emphasize racial and ethnic distinctions, writing “Many putative Christians can’t seem to get their minds around the idea that whenever they deny God ordained distinctions they have at that moment become more cultural Marxist (the current best selling flavor of socialism) then [*sic*] they are Christian. Those Christians who deny that gender, race, class, or set God defined family exists, in part, or in whole, have embrace the agenda of cultural Marxism.”  
<http://ironink.org/2012/07/shafarevich-and-mcatee-on-socialism-insect-social-order/>

In another post Rev. McAtee refers to homosexuals as “Sodomites.” One may enquire whether such language, the CRCNA’s position on homosexuality notwithstanding, is appropriate for a minister of the Word to use with reference to homosexual persons:  
<http://faithandheritage.com/2012/05/arc-christians-who-oppose-sodomy-inconsistent-since-they-don%e2%80%99t-oppose-eating-shellfish/>

Rev. McAtee also appears to engage in a racially-charged attack on the President of the United States, referring (as appears to be his custom on his blog) to the president as “B. Hussein Obama” in an apparent attempt to invoke Islamophobia and the libel that the president is a secret Muslim. Again, one might inquire whether this is inflammatory, extremist, and uncivil rhetoric, and whether it is inappropriate for a minister of the Word. Does it represent a flagrant disregard of biblical mandates to respect those in authority (e.g. in Romans 13:5, 7; I Peter 2:13-17), even if one disagrees with a leader’s policies? In the same post he writes “Obama gains the Black vote for obvious reasons with such a statement [“If I had a son, he would look like Trayvon”], and he also curries the White-educated vote because **educated people are stupid**, having been propagandized against their own self-interest by

the cultural Marxist ruling elite in the universities” (emphasis added). Is this generalized accusation of stupidity on the part of educated people language appropriate to a minister of the Word in the CRCNA? Rev. McAtee concludes with what appears to be a paranoid descent into conspiracy theory: “If enough strife was whipped up by the policy of divide-and-conquer, then Obama could be seen as legitimately declaring martial law, and so would be even better situated to manipulate the results of the 2012 election (should an election occur) and quite possibly collect weaponry from the citizenry.” Does Rev. McAtee really believe that the president plans to subvert the US constitution and declare a police state? Again, is this rhetoric acceptable for a minister of the Word in the CRCNA?

<http://faithandheritage.com/2012/03/wandering-thoughts-on-obama-his-trayvon-martin-son/>

Rev. McAtee goes so far as to claim that the building of mosques should be illegal: “A righteous state, in keeping with its responsibilities to the first table would not allow pagans to build houses of worship on the land the pagan owns simply because they own that land.” Moreover, Rev. McAtee also denies that Jews should be tolerated, claiming, “The West is committing civilization-cide by allowing Muslims or Jews to build Mosques or Temples.”

[http://ironink.org/2010/08/responding\\_to\\_sproul\\_the\\_younger\\_on\\_the\\_/](http://ironink.org/2010/08/responding_to_sproul_the_younger_on_the_/) Moreover, in a sermon preached on July 1, Rev. McAtee preaches not the Scriptures, as a minister of the Word is called to do, but a mix of Calvinistic theory and civil religion, and ends with an attack on the current US government: <http://ironink.org/2012/07/calvinism-on-independence-day-then-and-now/> ; video of the sermon is found here:

[http://www.livestream.com/whitewhelm/video?clipId=pla\\_0eb3baf7-4f9f-4d83-b440-140f2f6f12a1&utm\\_source=library&utm\\_medium=ui-thumb](http://www.livestream.com/whitewhelm/video?clipId=pla_0eb3baf7-4f9f-4d83-b440-140f2f6f12a1&utm_source=library&utm_medium=ui-thumb) . In another post, Rev.

McAtee makes what seems to be a shocking statement of political extremism and radicalism: “We are living under a Criminal State. Morally speaking, we do not owe it obedience.”

<http://ironink.org/2012/06/ behold-tyranny/>

One might also inquire about whether Rev. McAtee is also guilty of spreading anti-Semitic propaganda, making reference to the anti-Jewish conspiracy theory film “The Jewish Hand in Bolshevism/Communism Not Mentioned at School,” (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Mlw2mlf35Y>), which follows the tack of German Nazi propaganda by blaming Jews for the rise of communism, in a comment on this post:

<http://faithandheritage.com/2012/04/alienism-and-marxism-in-complete-agreement/#comment-3146>. In this comment he argues that “Lenin emphasised [*sic*] that he welcomed the mixing of various ethnic groups, everything that leads to one single People.” Anti-Semitic sentiment also seems to be apparent in his blog. There he writes “The Hegelian Dialectic is just a 19th incarnation of Talmudic Judaisms [*sic*] long standing Hermeneutic of deception. Zionists like Ben-Gurion, and Communists like Stalin all share the same commitment to Talmudic subterfuge in order to advance their agenda.”

<http://ironink.org/2012/05/talmudic-judaism-stalins-communism-ben-gurions-zionism/>

And while there is plenty of room within the CRCNA for different views on, and even critique of, the Belhar Confession, one may inquire about whether Rev. McAtee’s take on the matter is characterized at times by hateful vitriol (he calls it an “anti-Christ document”). He seems to direct disdainful rhetoric at his fellow “pastors and pastorettes,” which appears to be a condescending and he patronizing reference to women in the ministry:

<http://faithandheritage.com/2012/03/reflections-on-the-belhar-confession-part-1/> Rev. McAtee also says, “The Belhar is a theologically illiterate statement.” Given that the Belhar was



formulated primarily under the direction of the black South African Dr. Allan Boesak, and given the aforementioned opinion of kinists to consider Africans to have lower IQs, one may inquire whether this comment is intended as a racial slur. But even if it is not so intended, one may still question whether or not it is not civil discourse or language appropriate for a minister of the Word in the CRCNA: <http://faithandheritage.com/2012/03/reflections-on-the-belhar-confession-part-2/>

Rev. McAtee goes on to critique this line in the Belhar: “Therefore, we reject any doctrine which explicitly or implicitly maintains that descent **or any other human or social factor** should be a consideration in determining membership of the Church” (emphasis in original), as follows: “Those seven bolded words in the above quote section clearly teach that sodomy, bestiality, pedophilia, necrophilia, **or any other human or social factor** should not ‘be a consideration in determining membership of the Church.’ [emphasis in original] What is sodomy, or lesbianism, or bestiality, or any other sexual perversions but a ‘human or social factor’?” He goes on to write: “Its [The Belhar’s] language is not merely ambiguous as to what is being communicated, but invites and begs those who want to advance a sodomite agenda to read the document as supporting their cause.” <http://faithandheritage.com/2012/04/reflections-on-the-belhar-confession-part-3/> The use of the term “sodomite,” again, may be a questionable choice of words, implying hatred of both the sinner and the sin, and if so, inappropriate from a minister of the Word.

One may also inquire as to whether Rev. McAtee is engaging in a thinly-veiled malicious satire on certain proceedings in Classis Lake Erie in this post: [http://ironink.org/2011/03/the\\_crc\\_erie\\_canal\\_district\\_meeting/](http://ironink.org/2011/03/the_crc_erie_canal_district_meeting/)

Because these statements are public and openly available, and because, if they mean what they plainly seem to mean, they would bring shame and disrepute upon the body of Christ and particularly upon the CRCNA, which officially and unambiguously rejects all forms of racist or racialist ideology. It would seem that an immediate and urgent investigation should be pursued both by the council of Charlotte CRC and Classis Lake Erie to determine whether Rev. McAtee’s comments, views, teachings, and conduct of the office of minister of the Word are within the acceptable boundaries of the teachings and standards of the CRCNA.

It may be that many of Rev. McAtee’s public statements contradict the officially adopted policies and statements of the CRCNA on race and on Apartheid (with which kinism seems to have a close affinity) and the CRCNA’s shared understanding of scripture’s teaching about race and ethnicity, in which there is no Jew or Greek (Gal. 3:28). These teachings may also stand in serious conflict with the very existence and mandate of our office of Race Relations, and seem to contradict statements in our Contemporary Testimony, §§11, 16, 40, and 47. Moreover the Belgic Confession reflects the Reformed tradition of viewing human beings as belonging to *one* race, the human race, in articles 15 and 36.

It is incumbent upon those charged with the supervision of Rev. McAtee, on the consistorial and classical level, to look into these teachings and to determine whether the bounds of acceptable teaching and civil discourse have in fact been breached.

Moreover, this communication does not constitute an ecclesiastical charge in which I would be named as a complainant, but rather it is intended to inform and to enquire whether an investigation is called for by the appropriate ecclesiastical assemblies. One may note the decision of Synod 1982 that “it is indeed proper according to Reformed Church polity for either classis or synod to intervene in the affairs of a local congregation if the welfare of the

congregation is at stake” (*Manual of Christian Reformed Church Government*, p. 305: Emergency prerogatives of major assemblies).

Sincerely in the work of Christ’s Church,

Rev. Dr. Raymond A. (Randy) Blacketer, Neerlandia Christian Reformed Church