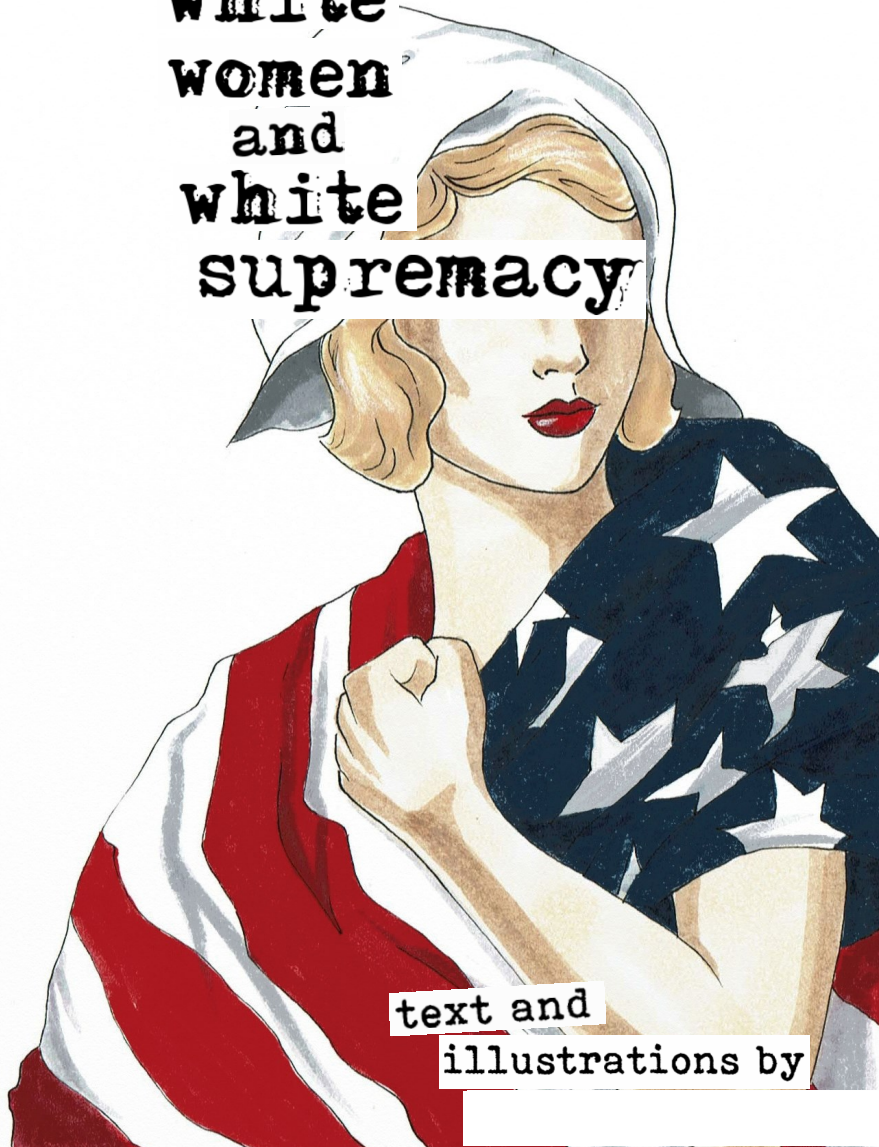


white
women
and
white
supremacy



text and
illustrations by

references

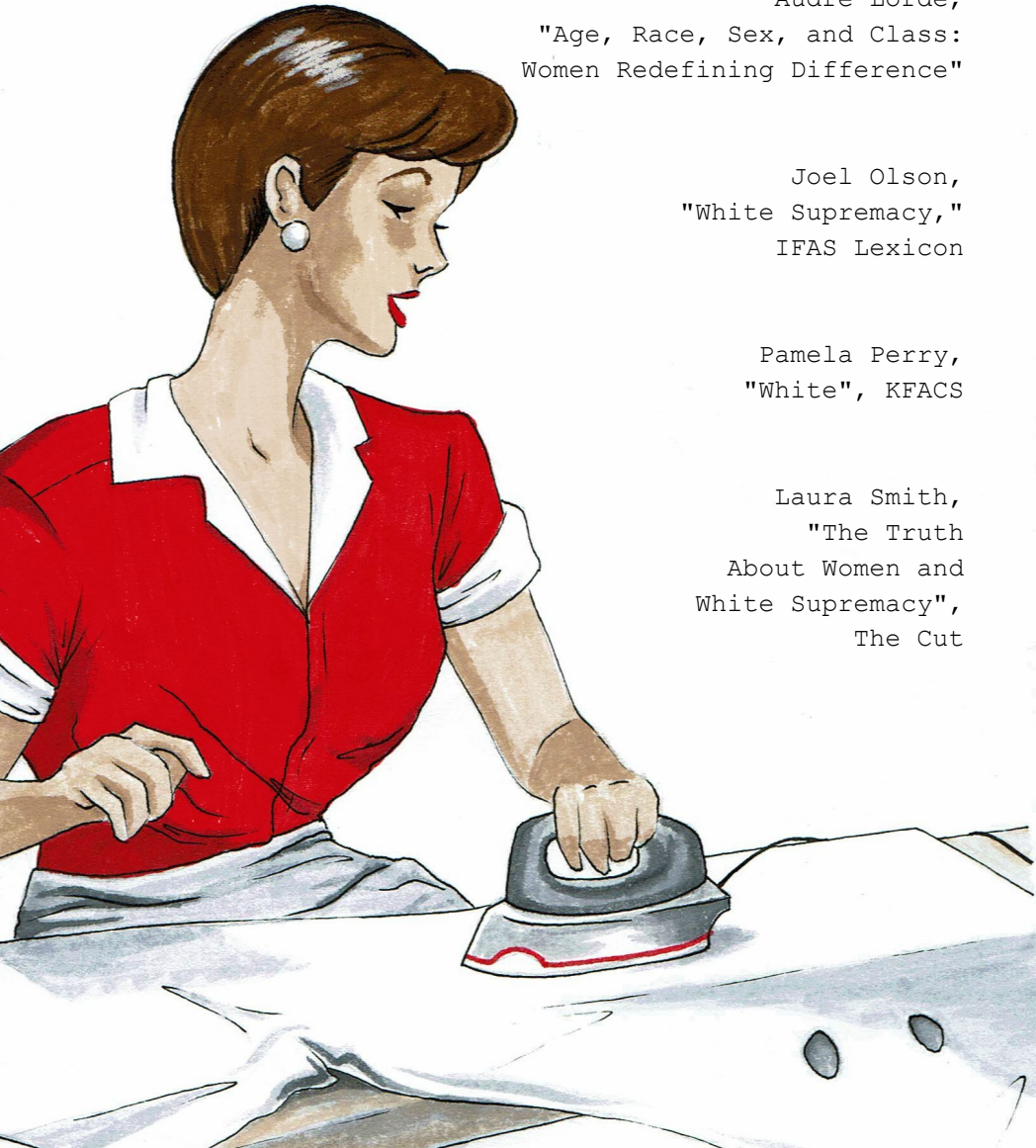
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Whiteness became systematically linked
to power in America in the 1600s.

White settlers feared that they would be
overthrown by non-white groups, even though
these groups had already been exploited,
enslaved, and executed by the whites.
Through this fear, whites were given privileges
that were unavailable to non-whites.
Whiteness became synonymous with power.

**poor whites were poor
but at least they were white**

**white women were women
but at least they were white**

A democracy based on whiteness emerged,
which continues to shape the sociological and
structural aspects of modern-day America.
But as movements have evolved to deconstruct
this system of power, separate white-power
movements have evolved to keep these
systems in place.

America's schools, prisons, homes,
and government have been forever altered by the
privileges given to those early settlers.
These alterations extend to the ways that
white women exist in America.

whiteness

The KKK hit their highest membership in the 1920s. Among these members was a branch of the movement, known as the Women of the Klu Klux Klan. The founder of the WKKK, Elizabeth Tyler, found new ways to recruit women to the movement. Racist ideologies were hidden behind the guise of patriotism and female empowerment.

Lynchings, cross burnings, and rallies were planned over picnics and sewing circles. Because their motivations were disguised as those of patriotism, the WKKK was far more successful at spreading bigotry than the male branches of the KKK.

But the atrocities committed by these women are often forgotten, ignored, or avoided in mainstream media and education. These women, these mothers, these caretakers, were able to transform the beliefs of generations to come.

This is an unpleasant truth in the history of women, but understanding this history is necessary in order to combat modern-day cases of white pride movements in the U.S.

women and the kkk

1614

Size 16
Bust 34

Simplicity PRINTED ON EACH PATTERN PIECE *35c*



Because the roots of American white supremacy are derived from the privileges given to white settlers (male settlers in particular), white supremacy is deeply rooted in patriarchal ideals.

Even though women are oppressed under the patriarchal forces of white supremacy, some choose to join these oppressors. These women choose to side with their race over their womanhood, as white women still receive more benefits than people of color. This is just one reason why women may go on to commit such horrors as those in the WKKK.

Under white supremacy, women are still seen as lesser than men. White women will receive the benefits that come with whiteness while also being oppressed as women. Women of color cannot fall back on whiteness, and so feel the brunt of both racism and sexism within society.

why choose evil?

Simply put, white women should be held accountable for the parts that they have played in the acceleration of white supremacy in America. However, this is not to say that male white supremacists deserve any less blame. The evils of men are the evils of men, just as the evils of women are the evils of women.

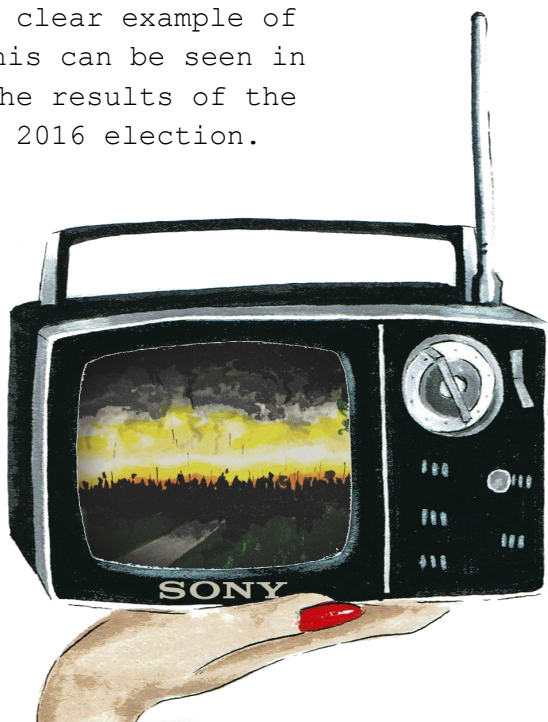
While white supremacy is based on patriarchal values, modern society also devalues the status of women. This is why women, mainly white women, tend to be thought of as feeble and gentle. This in turn works to erase the image of female white supremacists; this image makes it difficult to believe that a white woman could be capable of committing such evil.

There are some people who believe that the act of blaming women for white supremacy is misogynistic; society just likes to blame its problems on women. But this disregards the fact that white women *do* play a part in white supremacy. Just because women are subject to sexism does not mean that they are incapable of racism. All hate is not equal; oppressions do not cancel each other out.



The archetype of the young, white man has been displayed endlessly by media outlets when discussing white supremacy. But this image fails to capture all those who contribute to the growing hate in America. The mainstream media generally fails to acknowledge that female white supremacists exist, or that women can be racist at all. But white women continue to have a huge impact on the privileges that white people receive in America. The secretive organization tactics used in the 1920s are still present, as white women continue to fight for their race over their womanhood.

A clear example of this can be seen in the results of the 2016 election.



as seen on TV

It can be assumed that if one were to vote with women's issues in mind, then they would pick a candidate that cares about the safety of women, works towards gender equity in some way, or treats women with respect.

Based on statements made in the media, in locker rooms, and throughout his time on earth, Donald Trump is not a candidate that one would vote for with women's issues in mind. But regardless of Trump's treatment and attitudes towards women,

**52% of white women
voted for trump**

White women were able to disregard the misogyny and sexism that surrounded the Trump campaign, instead voting in favor of the racism and bigotry of the campaign. They voted for their whiteness. Unfortunately, this assimilation into a race-centered society is detrimental to the ways that people of color are treated in America.

Women may not be visible on the front lines, but that does not mean that they are not present.

They did not march at Charlottesville, but they still have massive control over the spread and advancement of white supremacy; this advancement will only continue if it is allowed to.



Not all white women
actively participate
in white supremacy,
but this does not
mean that they
don't benefit from
their whiteness.

White women are still
white women, meaning they
will continue to benefit
from white privilege.

This is why it is vital
that white women

speak out
against racial
injustices,
while also
understanding
the roots
of these
injustices.

Silence
is not an
option.

three baby steps to actually make america great*

1. Acknowledge your own racism and actively work to change it. America is a country where racism is learned; take steps to unlearn it.
2. See color; understand that people face different injustices depending on their social status, perceived race, and so on. 'Color blindness' ignores the struggles of individual groups that are catalyzed by the presence of white democracy. These issues cannot be resolved if they are not recognized.
3. Speak out against racism when you hear it. Ideologies will not change if we fail to correct those who continue to spread these ideals. Correct your uncle when he explains why Andrew Jackson was the best president. Start a conversation with your aunt when she starts talking about Obama's birth certificate for the third time in one day. Don't let racism go unchecked.

*for the first time ever

The woman power
of this nation can be the power
which makes us whole
and heals the rotten community
now so shattered by war
and poverty and racism.

I have great faith in
the power of women
who will dedicate themselves
whole-heartedly to the task of
remaking our society.

Coretta Scott King