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Press Release

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White Supremacist Connected to Aryan Nations Set to Show Film at Library

A Kalispell man preparing to show another film glorifying Adolph Hitler's Third Reich is a well-known white supremacist, according to the Montana Human Rights Network. The Network also reported he is working with members of Kalispell's [Pioneer Little Europe](#), a group of white supremacists trying to make the city a "conscious white community."

"Karl Gharst has tried to present himself as a World War II and German history aficionado," says the Network's Travis McAdam. "He has failed miserably, because he can't keep a lid on his hardcore white supremacist beliefs."

In 2004, the *Daily Interlake* reported that Karl Gharst faced charges for threatening and harassing a social worker. The newspaper cited court records that referred to Gharst as a "self-identified member of Aryan Nations and a white supremacist." Gharst reportedly called the social worker a "greasy, turd-colored mongrel," a "filthy mongrel," and a "wild savage from the Flathead Indian Reservation." He also threatened her by saying she only had a short time to live, and he claimed to be forming a group to take physical action against her and her co-workers. He was arrested on the charges in Idaho, where he was staying at the home of Richard Butler, Aryan Nations' leader.¹

Gharst eventually pleaded guilty and was sentenced to and served five months in the Flathead County Detention Center. He was ordered to have no personal contact with the social worker, the Department of Public Health and Human Services, or his daughter until she was 18 years old.²

While living in Idaho in 2003, Gharst was one of three Aryan Nations members who ran for public office in Hayden, ID. He and another Aryan Nations' adherent ran for the city council,

while the group's leader, Richard Butler, ran for mayor. All three lost, and Gharst received only 42 votes.³

Gharst plans to show *Epic: The Story of the Waffen SS* at the Kalispell Public Library on April 29, 2010.⁴ According to *The Barnes Review*, the film features former Waffen SS soldier Leon Degrelle.⁵ *The Barnes Review* is a publication dedicated to denying the Holocaust.⁶ Numerous white supremacist and Holocaust Denial websites feature a book by Degrelle with the same name as the film. The book is described in glowing terms for its positive treatment of the Waffen SS and Hitler.⁷

When Gharst showed his first film, *The Holocaust Debate*, at the library in March, he revealed some of his white supremacist views. He praised the Ku Klux Klan and alluded to his belief that people of Northern European (white) descent are God's chosen people.⁸ The second remark is a core tenet of Christian Identity, the religion of Aryan Nations, which is based on a racist interpretation of the Bible. It teaches that white people are God's chosen people; that people of color are sub-human "mud people;" and Jews are the literal children of Satan.⁹

At the showing of the film in March, Gharst commented on what he called the four pillars of "common law," a term used frequently by the white supremacist and anti-government movements. He said the fourth pillar of common law was that he doesn't "have to live with someone I don't want to," and that currently we are forced to do so in this country. Gharst also made reference to a passage in the Bible stating that people should take no heed of Jewish fables.

Members of Pioneer Little Europe helped promote the showing of *The Holocaust Debate*. Two of its members, [April Gaede](#) and Brian Gray, were interviewed by *The Flathead Beacon* about the event.¹⁰ Initially, Gray and other Pioneer Little Europe activists posted online that they were excited about the film but didn't take credit for its showing.¹¹ As the event grew closer, the same activists started portraying it as their event or, at the very least, that they were working closely with Gharst.¹² At the screening of *The Holocaust Debate*, it was clear that Gharst and Pioneer Little Europe were very familiar with each other. Gharst repeatedly called the white supremacists in the audience by their first names.

"It is important that the people of Kalispell are not duped into thinking that Gharst and Pioneer Little Europe are only interested in bad revisionist history," says McAdam. "Their goal is to create an Aryan homeland in the Flathead Valley. We applaud the mainline religious community for taking the lead in standing strong against these racist efforts. We hope more people will join them."

¹ *Daily Interlake*, April 23, 2004; Anti-Defamation League, "Aryan Nations' Member Arrested at Group's Headquarters," April 28, 2004.

² Flathead County District Court, *State of Montana v. Karl Eric Gharst*, Judgment and Sentence, Sept. 23, 2004.

³ Anti-Defamation League, "Aryan Nations' Member Arrested at Group's Headquarters," April 28, 2004.

⁴ *Flathead Beacon*, April 7, 2010.

⁵ *The Barnes Review*: http://www.barnesreview.org/catalog/product_info.php?cPath=27&products_id=201.

⁶ For more on *The Barnes Review* and its founder, Willis Carto, see: <http://www.adl.org/holocaust/carto.asp>.

⁷ Some example of websites: Institute for Historical Review: <http://www.ihr.org>; White Revolution: <http://www.whiterevolution.com>; Gary Lauck website: <http://www.nazi-lauck-nsdapao.com>; and National Vanguard: <http://www.natall.com/newBooks/index.html>.

⁸ *Flathead Beacon*, April 7, 2010.

⁹ For a brief overview of Christian Identity, see the Anti-Defamation League's website: http://www.adl.org/learn/ext_us/Christian_Identity.asp.

¹⁰ *Flathead Beacon*, April 7, 2010; The Human Rights Network has previously identified April Gaede and Brian Gray as part of Kalispell's Pioneer Little Europe. See the Network's [December 2009 newsletter](#).

¹¹ Stormfront, "Re: Kalispell, Montana PLE," Feb. 24, 2010 .

¹² Stormfront, "Re: How to Wake People Up Around You," March 19, 2010; Stormfront, "Re: Kalispell, Montana PLE," March 10, 2010 and March 23, 2010.