



## The Ku Klux Klan (1924)

The Klan used the print media to spread its message of white supremacy

State and local Klans reached followers through Klan publications; the piece excerpted here originally appeared in *The Good Citizen* (Zarephath, New Jersey). In 1926, Hiram W. Evans, imperial wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, explained “the Klan’s fight for Americanism” to a cosmopolitan national audience through the prestigious *North American Review*.

“America for Americans” is an image of the statement of principles published by the Women of the Ku Klux Klan (WKKK), Little Rock, Arkansas.

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### THE RISING OF THE KU KLUX KLAN — THE NEW REFORMATION

On account of the abuses of religion by the Roman Catholic hierarchy, civilization had reached a universal crisis in the sixteenth century; and Martin Luther, the chosen instrument of God, was placed in the breach to prevent the wheels of progress from being reversed and the world from being plunged into greater darkness than that of the Dark Ages.

The thousand years preceding the Reformation, known by religious historians as Satan’s Millennium, was brought on by the Romish Church with her paganistic worship and practices, during which time millions of men and women poured out their blood as martyrs of the Christian religion. . . .

### THE WHITE-ROBED ARMY

Now come the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan in this crucial hour of our American history to contend for the faith of our fathers who suffered and died in behalf of freedom. At the

psychological moment they have arrived to encourage the hearts of those who have been battling heroically for the rights and privileges granted them under the Constitution of the United States.

How our hearts have been thrilled at the sight of this army! Words fail to express the emotions of the soul at the appearance of this mighty throng upon the battle-field, where a few faithful followers of the lowly Nazarene have been contending for the faith once delivered to the Saints, against Papal mobs who have torn down gospel tabernacles, wrecked buildings and imprisoned Protestant worshipers.

### OUR NATIONAL PERIL

The World War was the signal for greater alarm than the average American has been willing to admit. Notwithstanding the sacrifices that had to be made at home and the thousands of our young men who crossed the sea and laid down their lives on the battlefields of the Old World, it has taken the

Ku Klux Klan to awaken even a portion of the population of the United States to our national peril. Our religious and political foes are not only within our gates, but are coming by the hundreds of thousands, bringing the chaos and ruin of old European and Asiatic countries to un-Americanize and destroy our nation, and to make it subserve the purposes of the Pope in his aspirations for world supremacy.

#### ROME WOULD OVERTHROW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

One of the great efforts of the Roman hierarchy toward this end is to get control of our public schools by placing Roman Catholics on school boards and in the schoolrooms and taking the Bible out of the schools. In the event of their success in their efforts to overthrow our present school system there

would be a string of beads around every Protestant child's neck and a Roman Catholic catechism in his hand. 'Hail Mary, Mother of God,' would be on every child's lips, and the idolatrous worship of dead saints a part of the daily programme.

#### THE JEWISH AND CATHOLIC ALLIANCE

The money-grasping Jew, who has no use for the Christ of Calvary, does all in his power to bring discredit on Christianity, and would be pleased to see the whole structure broken down, and in this way get rid of his responsibility for crucifying the Christ on Calvary and bringing the curse on his race, which they have had to suffer since the beginning of the Christian era. The sons of Abraham have therefore become a

AMERICA  
*for*  
AMERICANS



AS INTERPRETED BY THE  
Women of the  
KU KLUX KLAN



CREED  
OF  
KLANSWOMEN



Yesterday — Today and Forever  
God and Government  
Law and Liberty  
peace and Prosperity

strong ally to the Papacy, not because they have anything in common with it in religion, but in their political propaganda against American institutions and principles.

While no true Christian has anything against the Jew, it must be admitted that this alliance with the Papacy is a dangerous menace to our flag and country. The Jew is in-

soluble and indigestible; and when he grows in numbers and power till he becomes a menace to Christianity and the whole moral fabric, drastic measures will have to be taken to counteract his destructive work, and more especially when he is in alliance with the old Papal religio-political machine.

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### Questions

1. Why, according to the Klan, was "this [a] crucial hour of our American history"?
  2. How did the public schools figure in the Protestant-Catholic conflict?
  3. How did the Klan explain the alleged Catholic-Jewish alliance?
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