

IN THE
CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION

SOL GOLDSTEIN, on his own behalf)
and on behalf of a class)
similarly situated,)

Plaintiff,)

v.)

FRANCIS JOSEPH COLLIN, a/k/a)
FRANK COLLIN and all persons)
acting in concert with him under)
the name of the NATIONAL)
SOCIALIST PARTY OF AMERICA,)

Defendants.)

CLASS ACTION

No.

77CH 4367

COMPLAINT

This action is brought on behalf of Jewish residents of Skokie, Illinois, who are survivors of the campaign of racial extermination ("the holocaust") carried on by Adolf Hitler and the National Socialist Party ("the Nazis") during World War II. The action seeks a preliminary and permanent injunction against persons calling themselves the National Socialist Party of America ("the neo-Nazis"), restraining them from intentionally inflicting severe emotional distress upon plaintiff and the plaintiff class by attempting to reenact a Nazi-style rally in Skokie. As his Complaint against defendants, plaintiff states:

VENUE

1. Venue is properly in this Court since the actions sought to be enjoined would take place in Cook County, Illinois, and because one or more of the defendants is a resident of Cook County, Illinois.

PARTIES

2. Plaintiff, Sol Goldstein, is a resident of Skokie, Illinois. Goldstein is of Jewish ancestry and was born in Minsk, Russia, in 1914. Thereafter, he lived in Lithuania. From 1941 to 1943, he was forced to live in the ghetto in Kovno, Lithuania. From 1943 to the Liberation, he fought with the partisans based in the forest near Vilna. The Nazis murdered his mother by throwing her into a well with fifty other women and covering them with gravel. He witnessed selections for forced labor and concentration camps. His wife's parents and five brothers and sisters were murdered by the Nazis.

3. Defendant Collin is a resident of Chicago. He is the leader (or self-styled fuehrer) of the neo-Nazis.

4. Defendant neo-Nazis are an aggregation of adolescent and middle-aged men who have come together in Chicago, Illinois. They proclaim and subscribe to the doctrines of racial and religious hatred vocalized by their idol, Adolf Hitler, prior to and during World War II. The neo-Nazis have made persons of Jewish ancestry a particular target of their venom, overt actions and hate, and, like the Nazis, demand their annihilation and support genocide.

5. The neo-Nazis have adopted the insignia and symbols of the Nazi party of Adolf Hitler, notably the brown shirt uniform and the swastika.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

6. Plaintiff is representative of a class of residents of the Village of Skokie, Illinois, who are of Jewish ancestry, and who lived in territories occupied by the armed forces of Nazi Germany prior to and during World War II.

7. This class of persons is too numerous to permit practical joinder before this Court.

8. The questions of law and fact raised herein are common to all members of the class, the plaintiff's claims are typical of those of the class, and individual actions by members of the class would create a risk of inconsistent judgments.

9. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent the interest of the members of the class in this action.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

10. The Nazi Party had its origins in the aftermath of the German defeat in World War I. Initially, the Nazis were a very few right-wing extremists and malcontents, whose activities consisted primarily of rallies, public demonstrations and the dissemination of hate-filled, venomous and illogical tracts. Virtually from its inception the group launched vicious attacks against Jews.

11. Within a few years following the end of World War I the leadership of the Nazi Party had been taken over by Adolf Hitler, the party fuehrer. His leadership was marked by an increase in the anti-semitic outbursts of the party and a concurrent increase in the number of rallies and street demonstrations held by the party. In November, 1923, the Nazi Party staged an unsuccessful coup against the legal government of Germany. The party was then banned and Hitler was convicted of treason and sent to prison. His prison writings, in the form of a book entitled Mein Kampf, set out a plan for seizing power in Germany, conquering Europe, and subsequently annihilating the Jews of Europe.

12. After his release from prison, Hitler and a reborn Nazi Party began a steadily increasing effort to come to power. Nazis, in brown shirts with the swastika insignia prominently displayed on armbands, became a common sight. They vilified Jews and perpetrated acts of violence against Jews and their property.

13. In 1933, Hitler became chancellor of the German state. The tempo of anti-semitic violence increased. Gangs of brown-shirted Nazis terrorized Jews. At mass rallies, where Nazi symbols were omnipresent, Hitler launched scathing, vituperative attacks on Jews. The government, entirely controlled by the Nazi apparatus, issued laws intended to isolate and eventually ostracize Jews from German life. A ministry of propaganda purposefully maintained continual agitation against Jews at a high level.

14. By 1938, scenes of violence against Jews became commonplace occurrences on the streets of German cities. Nazi gangs regularly beat up Jews, destroyed synagogues, and looted Jewish-owned stores. Eventually mass deportation of Jews to concentration camps was begun. Storm troopers would appear at Jewish homes at any time of the day or night and drag the inhabitants to camps. Warnings of deportation were only rarely given and the destination was never specified. Usually deportation meant immediate death or extended and atrocious emotional and physical suffering, brutalization and dehumanization, under deplorable conditions.

15. The treatment inflicted on the Jews of Germany was extended to other European Jewish communities as a result of the conquests of the German army. Under the banner of the

Nazi insignia, military personnel and extermination specialists carried out a policy of torture and murder of Jews wherever they were found. Concentration camps became factories of death. Nazi guards mercilessly killed camp inmates without warning. Starvation, disease and exhaustion frequently killed those inmates spared death by shooting or gassing. Eventually some 6,000,000 Jews from all corners of Europe were massacred under the supervision or encouragement of the Nazis and under the aegis of the brown shirt and swastika which were the Nazis' symbols.

16. The terror and suffering imposed on the Jewish communities of Europe by the Nazis stand as an unparalleled example of man's cruelty and barbarism. The period of annihilation, brutality and demonic conduct is commonly known as the holocaust.

THREATENED HARM

17. Prior to May 1, 1977, the neo-Nazis announced that they were planning a campaign of street demonstrations and speeches in areas heavily populated by Jews. The purpose of this campaign was to arouse hatred of Jews by persons living in close proximity to large numbers of Jews. A leaflet announcing the anti-Jewish campaign is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

18. On May 1, 1977, the Collin-led neo-Nazis announced that they planned to hold the first rally in their anti-Jewish campaign in Skokie, Illinois.

19. The Village of Skokie, Illinois, is widely known to have a very high concentration of Jewish residents. Approximately sixty per cent of its population is Jewish.

20. The Village of Skokie, Illinois, also contains a large number of Jews who lived in territory controlled by the Nazi forces of Adolf Hitler during World War II. Such persons refer to themselves as "survivors of the holocaust."

21. Through legal action taken by the Village of Skokie, the planned rally of May 1 was enjoined, but the neo-Nazis have announced their intention to hold a rally on July 4, 1977, and to march in the brown shirt uniform of the Nazi party, wearing the swastika.

22. For survivors of the holocaust, such as plaintiff, the march and rally in Skokie, by persons who call themselves Nazis, wear the brown shirt and swastika, and bear the insignia of the Nazi party, is outrageous and abhorrent conduct, which will necessarily recall the holocaust which the survivors experienced, and will impose on them severe and extreme emotional distress.

23. The symptoms of severe emotional distress which will be suffered by survivors of the holocaust as a result of exposure to this reenactment of behavior they witnessed in conjunction with their experiences during the holocaust are detailed in the affidavit of Dr. Lawrence Z. Freedman, attached hereto as Exhibit B.

24. This severe and emotional distress will be experienced by survivors of the holocaust as a direct and proximate result of the presence of persons bearing the symbols and insignia of the Nazi party marching in or through their home community, an area widely known as being predominantly Jewish.

25. Defendant Frank Collin, and those acting in concert with him under the name of the National Socialist Party of America, know that the population of Skokie is predominantly Jewish, and that many survivors of the holocaust reside in Skokie.

26. Defendants know and intend that the result of their threatened demonstration in Skokie will be the creation of severe emotional distress in those survivors of the holocaust who reside in Skokie.

27. Plaintiff and the class he represents have a right to be secure in their persons and to have their individual human dignities maintained.

28. The action threatened by defendants is imminent, and will cause severe and inevitable irreparable harm to plaintiff and the class he represents.

29. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, on his own behalf and on behalf of all those similarly situated, prays this Court for issuance of a preliminary and permanent injunctive relief restraining Frank Collin, his agents, employees, successors, and all those acting in concert with him, including those acting in the name of the National Socialist Party of America, from engaging in any demonstration, rally, parade, or march of any kind or description, in or through the Village of Skokie, Illinois, at which the uniform of the Nazi party (including brown shirts or swastika armbands) is worn by the participants, or the insignia of the Nazi party are displayed, and from engaging in any said demonstration, rally, parade or march in or through the Village of Skokie on July 4, 1977.

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SOL GOLDSTEIN, individually,
and on behalf of a class
similarly situated

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BY
One of Their Attorneys

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WE ARE
COMING!



Many White Americans who have followed our Movement over the years have been distressed that we have confined our activities to Chicago's far south side and southern suburbs. Recent articles in the Lerner newspapers have expressed the fears of the Jewish community, especially the Jewish Defense League, that we may soon concentrate our efforts in their areas. Traditionally, we have always had the best support in Marquette Park and in suburbs like Park Forest. But a new factor has entered the picture. Namely, the Chicago Park District and the courts. They have both enforced what amounts to a complete ban of our right to free speech in public. And, since we have been so banned, we have decided to relocate in areas heavily populated by the real enemy --- the Jews!

An old maxim goes: "Where one finds the most Jews, there also shall one find the most Jew-haters." With this basic truth in mind, we are now planning a number of street demonstrations and even speeches in Evanston, Skokie, Lincolnwood, North Shore, Morton Grove, etc. This leaflet is but the first of a number now being prepared for eventual mass-distribution. A beautiful, full-color poster, 18 inches by 30 inches, with non-removable adhesive on the back, is already in the works. The poster shows three rabbis involved in the ritual murder of an innocent Gentile boy during the hate-fest of Purim. Our propaganda will deal at large with expose' after expose' of the Talmud, the Protocols of Zion and revealing quotes, many never before presented anywhere, from loose-lipped Hebes. In short, our successful opposition to the Black Invasion of Southwest Chicago will now be turned on the culprits who started it all: the Jews! ALL BECAUSE WE HAVE BEEN DENIED OUR RIGHT TO SPEAK IN MARQUETTE PARK! We are therefore compelled to seek new ground for support. And we shall find it: in the Aryan American masses of the Jewized suburbs, who have had enough of political manipulation, economic thievery and forced integration

HEIL HITLER!

The National Socialist Party of America, at Rockwell Hall, 2519 West 71st Street, Chicago, Illinois 60629

Exhibit A

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... or visit the National Socialist Party of America, 1/4 at Rockwell Hall, 2519 West 71st Street, Chicago, Ill.

or death: the total lack of security for the individual and his inability to know when he would be the target of terrorism, isolation and death.

3. Clinical studies have demonstrated that profound trauma inflicted upon individuals and groups from causes which cannot be avoided and from which there is no escape suffer from depression, withdrawal and intense anxiety -- in short, terror.

4. Even when the circumstances which created these pathological states are removed, the traumatized individual remains sensitized and vulnerable to signs and symbols, as well as to the substance of their recurrences.

5. It is my opinion that exposure to such symbols as swastikas, Nazi-like uniforms and the marching of men in para-military style could inflict serious recurrences of the psychic assault previously suffered by these people. This form of psychological assault has been called by some experts "menticide." It is a significant and possibly dangerous attack on the sensibilities of a highly vulnerable population. The sense of harmful assault is greatly reinforced when such a reenactment is forced upon persons within the very community in which they live.

6. The severe emotional distress which will be suffered by survivors of the holocaust as a result of exposure to this reenactment of behavior they witnessed in conjunction with their experiences during the holocaust includes

- a. an overwhelming sense of anxiety,
- b. feelings of terror, shame or guilt,

c. withdrawal manifested by an inner blunting of emotions, as well as withdrawal from ordinary contact with society, and alienation from family and friends,

c. a paralyzing sense of helplessness and an incapacity to deal with day-to-day problems,

e. an urge to respond pathologically to the reenactment experience,

f. emotional turmoil and anguish in assessing a response to the reenactment,

g. experiencing of psychosomatic symptoms of physical ailments and pain suffered during the holocaust.

Lawrence Zelic Freedman
LAWRENCE ZELIC FREEDMAN, M.D.

Subscribed and sworn to
before me this 27th day
of June 1977.

[Signature]
Notary Public

My Commission expires 1/26/81