



Randall Blazak

Coalition Against Hate Crimes

Randy Blazak's scholarship on hate crimes and hate groups has made him a regular commentator in media outlets from NPR and CNN to BBC and Al Jazeera. Blazak earned his PhD at Emory University in 1995 after completing an extensive field study of racist skinheads that included undercover observations and interviews across the world. He became a tenured sociology professor at Portland State University and now works on strategies to confront extremism. His work has taken him from classrooms to criminal trials. His research has been published in academic journals, books and in the mainstream press. His co-authored book, *Teenage Renegades, Suburban Outlaws* (Wadsworth, 2001) and his edited volume, *Hate Offenders* (Praeger, 2009) have been widely adopted. Since 2002, he has been the chair of the Coalition Against Hate Crimes. He has worked with the National Institute of Justice and the Southern Poverty Law Center on hate crime research issues. Blazak regularly speaks at conferences, consults on criminal cases, and leads workshops on the topics of hate and bias. He is currently the vice-chair of the steering committee in charge of implementing Oregon's new bias crime law. Blazak is also currently on a federal grant to develop methods to prevent violent extremism.

Topic: *"Election Year Threat Matrix: Dynamics of Violent Extremism in Oregon"*