



# Final Project



Vernicia Griffie  
Data Visualization



# Research Question

- Is there a relationship between Donald Trump's election and the spike in hate crimes?
- Although there isn't much research on this topic, there have been a few studies that tested this question.
- Edwards and Rushin (2018) determined that there is a "Trump Effect" that did prompt an increase in hate-motivated crimes.
  - These authors utilized a time series design to establish causality, but their results should be taken with caution, because could not determine the direction of the causality
- Muller and Schwarz (2018) determined that Trump's activity on social media over the course of his presidential campaign caused an increase in hate crimes against Muslims.

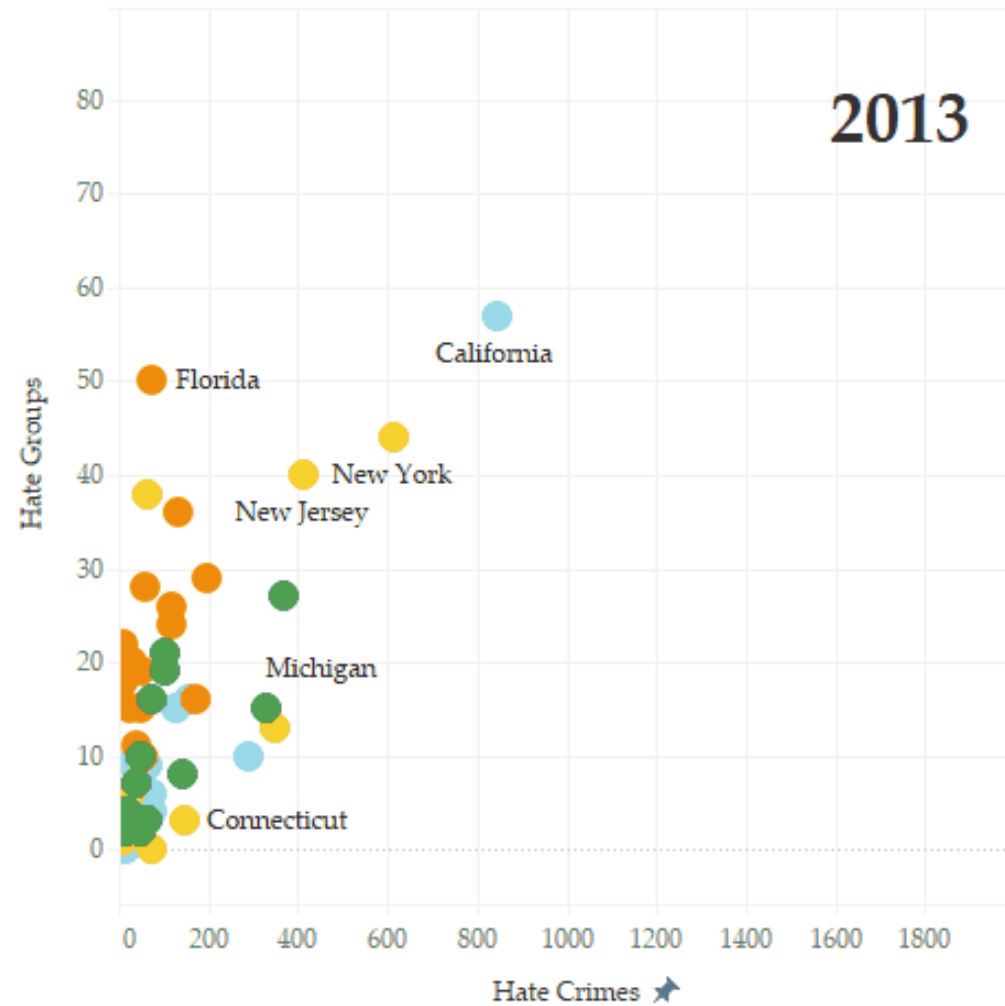
# Data

- Collated from multiple sources
- Data on number of hate crimes
  - FBI Uniform Crime Report
- Data on number of hate groups
  - Southern Poverty Law Center
- Data on hate crime regulation
  - National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

# Hate Crimes and Hate Groups

- The number of hate crimes that are committed has been increasing over recent years
- In addition to growing number of crimes motivated by hate, there has also been a surge in the number of groups who promote discrimination or hatred of others based on their “immutable characteristics” (SPLC, 2019)

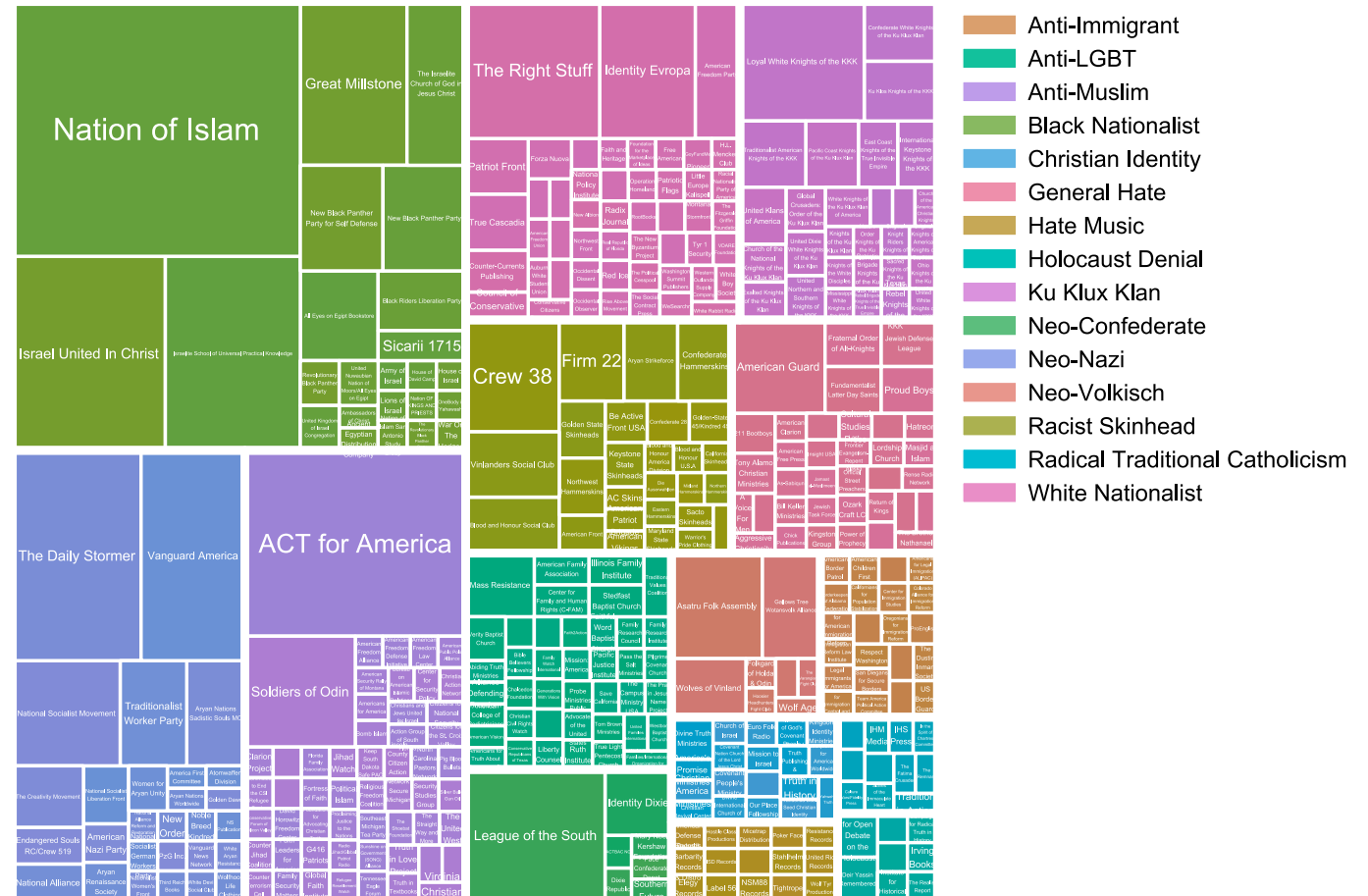
Hate Crimes vs. Hate Groups - 2013



# Types of Hate Groups

- There were 15 hate group categories that were provided by the data, with the topic ranging from Neo-Confederates to Hate Music Groups.

## Composition of Hate



# Laws Against Hate Crimes

- The definition of what constitutes a hate crime varies from state to state
- It is left to the states to determine the types of laws they put in place to address these types of crimes
- For my analysis, the types of hate crimes that were tested were those protecting the following demographics
  - Sexual orientation
  - Age
  - Disability
  - Race
  - Religious Worship
  - Gender
  - Gender Identity
  - Political Affiliation

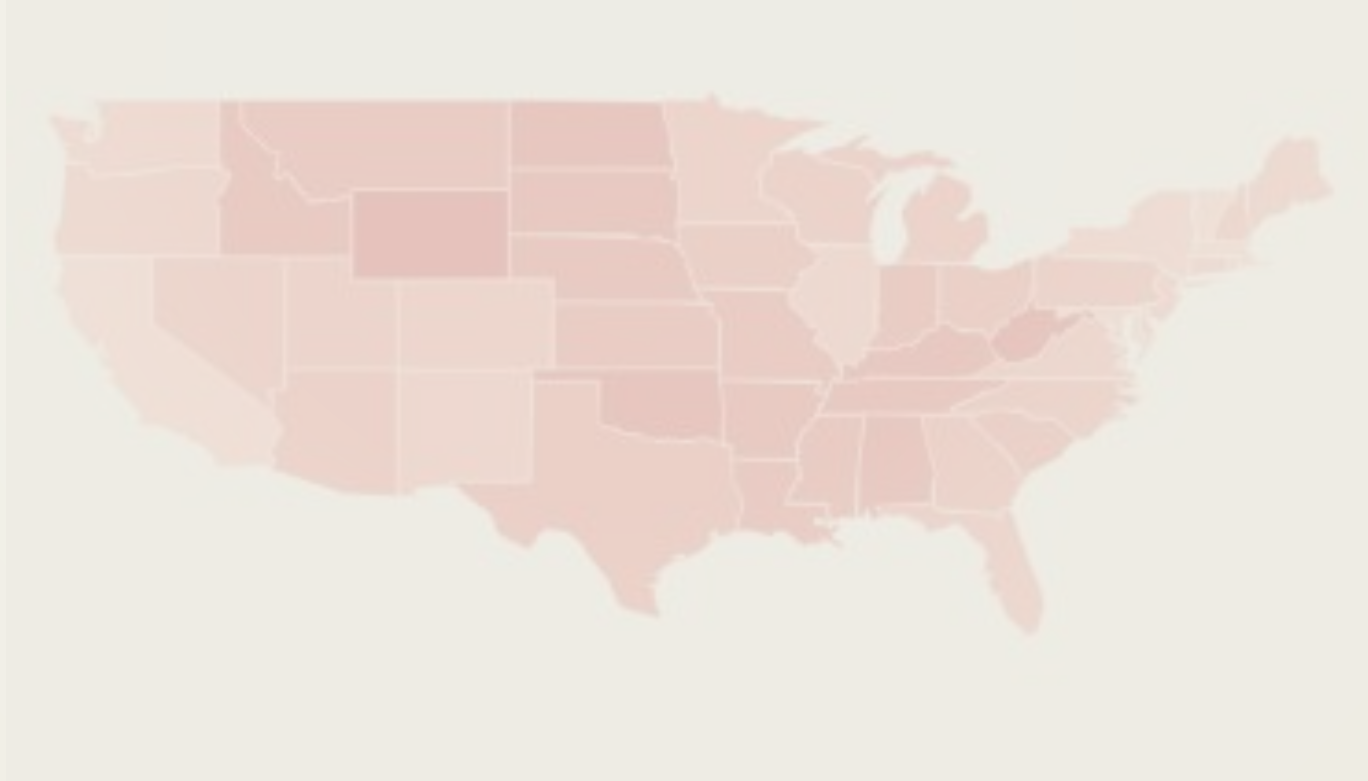
## Alabama

### Laws

Age	■
Disability	■
Gender	■
Gender Identity	■
Political Affiliation	■
Race	■
Religious Worship	■
Sexual Orientation	■

# Vote-Share

- Some presume that the election of Donald Trump is to blame for the spike in hate crimes.
- To gauge whether this holds true, I use the percentage [share of Trump's votes](#) for each state in the 2016 Presidential as a proxy to measure his political support



# Model Results

- For the statistical part of my analysis, I performed a robust regression on the log-transformed number of hate crimes in 2017 on all of the dependent variables.
- The only significant variable in the model are the number of hate groups, and laws protecting disabled populations and sexual orientation.
- The results of my analysis suggest that the hypothesis that there is a relationship between political support for Trump and the occurrences of hate crimes is not true, at least when using the state-level election results as an independent variable.

