

Statement on the May 14, 2022 Shooting in Buffalo, NY

We are saddened by the shooting in Buffalo, NY over the weekend. This crime against human dignity is an affront to God and counter to the message of the Gospel. While it might be easy to dismiss this as just another senseless act, the shooter articulated a very clear set of beliefs that include white supremacy and White Replacement Theory as motivation for his actions. These beliefs seriously contradict authentic Christianity.

A truly Christian approach recognizes that culture is a gift shared by all humanity. It doesn't belong to any single group. It encompasses distinct, historical human practices and traditions that, together, have helped Christian and non-Christian communities flourish throughout the world in different times and places. For this reason, culture is not something static to be preserved under glass. A true appreciation for one's own cultural heritage requires the ability to recognize and affirm the goodness found in cultures that one does not immediately claim as one's own. Anything that promotes the flourishing of one cultural group benefits the flourishing of the entire human community. Anything that harms a group and interferes with their flourishing harms the entire human community. We must never fall into the belief, seen all too clearly in white supremacy and White Replacement Theory, that culture is a finite good possessed only by a few or a zero-sum game in which the benefit of one is a loss to another. As stated by St. Paul in the First Letter to the Corinthians, when one member of the Body of Christ suffers, the whole body suffers with it; when one member rejoices, we all rejoice with it.

Many Parts Incorporated rejects white supremacy and White Replacement Theory as a contradiction of the Gospel of Christ. We believe an authentic proclamation of the Gospel requires a clear and public rejection of these views. We call on Christian communities everywhere to join us in stating this contradiction of the Gospel clearly and publicly.