

The Connection of Accelerationism and Involuntary Celibacy

by

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## ABSTRACT

This thesis explored the connection between the incel movement and militant accelerationism. This study was based on the qualitative analysis of several texts written by incels or incel-like figures. Comparisons were made with *The Turner Diaries* and material collected by Theweleit. The Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count and NVivo software packages provided analytic tools for the analysis of language and sentiment. The study found in the incel material themes of misogyny and the collapse of society similar to concepts expressed in neo-Nazi literature. As a result, it was concluded that incels are a form of militant accelerationism built around personal grievances using violent ideology to target women. These findings underline the need for comprehensive study and analysis of the ideological overlaps between online extremist subcultures and their potential to inspire real-world violence. The research further highlights the importance of developing targeted interventions to address the societal and psychological drivers of such movements.

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## **Chapter 1: Introduction**

In the 1990s, a bisexual girl started a website named Alana's Involuntary Celibacy at the internet address incel.is. (Kelly et al., 2021). Alana's intent for creating the website was frustration in her romantic life. She thought she would create a supportive website for those who had not had a romantic relationship for a long time. The phrase involuntary celibacy soon became shortened to incel, a term used on Alana's website to mean anybody of any gender who was lonely, never had sex, or had not had a relationship in a long time (Taylor, 2018).

Later, the website was sold to an unknown person (Taylor, 2018). With the new owner, the incelosphere took a misogynistic turn. The new definition of incel denoted males who believed that they were entitled to find a relationship but could not find one. By 2010, incels had spread online to 4chan, Reddit, and Gamergate. Incels today tend to be young men between the ages 18 to 30 gathered in online forums internationally (Taylor, 2018, Bitsch, 2022).

Incels are often referred to as a hate group because they share violent fantasies about women (Bitsch, 2022). Two of their forums – the still existing incel.is and 4chan's r9k – are now among the largest online communities in a so-called manosphere where toxic discourse and misogyny have become normalized. Suicidal ideation and violence are some of the most serious byproducts of their unfulfilled fantasies (Sugiura, 2021). Frustration about or hatred against women has resulted in murder and sexual violence, including at least 36 individuals known for mass shootings and several others committed murder or were arrested for planning mass casualty events, hate crimes, or forms of stalking (Aiston, 2021; Anti-Defamation League [ADL] , 2024; see partial list of incel criminal behaviors in Appendix A).

While there is an obvious priority for criminologists to understand the motivations behind active shootings, incels have also become a concern in the study of violent extremism. This thesis

contributes to the question of whether a portion of the current wave of active-shooter-like incels in the U.S. is a form of militant accelerationism associated with misogyny and neo-Nazism.

## **Accelerationism**

Accelerationism generally refers to the belief in the use of immediate action to initiate disruptive society-wide change (Mackay & Avanesian, 2014). Militant forms of this ideology, found in extremist groups on both far left and far right, justify the use of violence in support of this transformation (Kriner, 2022). Perhaps the best-known forms of militant accelerationism in the U.S. today are left-wing anarchists and the dirtbag left while the right is known for neo-Nazi extremists like the Atomwaffen and Patriot Front. Far-right accelerationism is also implicit in groups like the Proud Boys and the Boogaloo movement (Kriner, 2022; Markoff et al., 2024). Militant accelerationists, both far-left and far-right, leverage modern digital platforms to radicalize and intensify extremist content to get the attention of people (Beckett, 2017).

Leftist accelerationism advocates for the radical dismantling of the political system in favor of a collective form of governance. The far-left attracts and radicalizes members by creating memes; employing shock-jock comedy, as seen in podcasts like *Chapo Trap House* and *Red Scare*; and using irony to criticize the politics of both parties. The far-left is associated with BlueAnon conspiracies, the left-wing rival to QAnon (Molle, 2024).

Right-wing accelerationism advocates for traditional gender roles and limits civil liberties. It developed through two paths. The first path is through Nick Land, who developed a neo-reactionary ideology consisting of anti-egalitarian and anti-democratic concepts (Beckett, 2017; Land, 2011; 2012). The second path to accelerationism derived from the book *Siege*, which is a compilation of newsletters and posts written by American Neo-Nazi James Nolan Mason, a follower of Charles Mason and participant in several neo-Nazi organizations in the United States



since the 1960s (Mason, 2015; Southern Poverty Law Center [SPLC], 2024). Stormfront was a Neo-Nazi website established in 1996 targeting youth, and in another defunct forum known as Iron March, users featured themselves wearing Waffen SS symbols and black and white skull masks (Molle, 2024). Communicating in lesser known or encrypted online spaces, far-right groups often operate as small-scale cells whose political activities range from harassment, attacking the electrical grid, bomb threats, and murder. These groups often use Telegram, Signal, and other messaging apps for recruiting (SPLC & Rachel, 2021).

During the COVID-19 pandemic, both far-left and far-right united against the lockdown targeting to end the political spectrum (Mollie, 2024). The lone actors emerged by showing their aggression as random (stochastic) violence. The far-right exploited anti-lockdown rallies to transmit anti-government sentiments, amplifying distrust in public health institutions already present due to pandemic policies. The far-left took this opportunity to challenge Big Pharma. All these violent extremists amplified and challenged Western values and institutions. Examples of extremist rhetoric were seen in the revolutionary ideas of Timothy McVeigh or Mario Moretti (Molle, 2024). McVeigh was responsible for the Oklahoma bombing, and Mario Moretti was an Italian terrorist (ADL, 2015).

### **The Manosphere and Incels**

The manosphere comprises groups like Men's Rights Activists (MRAs), Pick-Up Artists (PUAs), and incels (involuntary celibates). All these communities have cultural codes and operate in the public sphere. (The manosphere is further discussed in Chapter 2.) These groups are misogynistic, antisemitic, and misanthropic which attracts the accelerationist who have potential for violent discourse. Incels, the focus of my paper, believe women are responsible for the lack of opportunities for men, advocate for segregation by gender, and incite rape culture (Molle, 2024).

## **Purpose of This Thesis**

Whether incels should be classified as militant accelerationists is a debatable point. The argument in favor highlights the violent actions (such as active shootings) and toxic speech associated with the incelosphere (Barbarossa, 2022). It is even conjectured that their engagement in gender-focused violence and harassment are directly influenced by the neo-Nazi concept of a racial holy war modified to promote a militant antifeminism and justify violent acts of retribution (Dobuzinskis, 2015; Marone, 2021). At the same time, incels are organized differently. Unlike their neo-Nazi contemporaries, incel digital spaces are large and easily found; incels act alone and without coordination with others, and their discourse usually is more concerned about relations with women than political controversies.

In order to address the question of whether incels are militant accelerationists, I offer the analyses of the manifestos, statements, and social media of several incel and incel-like active shooters, and I compare these texts with Nazi and neo-Nazi material known to promote violence.

The existing literature on incels has delved into online radicalization, misogyny, and connection to far-right extremism and accelerationism (Baele et al., 2023; Bratich & Banet-Weiser, 2019; Marone, 2021; O'Donnell & Shor, 2022). I provide further analysis based on text sources of incels and comparing the incel language with neo-Nazi ideology. This thesis contributes to the analysis of incel texts and sheds a light on neo-Nazi and militant accelerationist influences. As a result, this analysis offers a perspective on intersection between misogyny and far-right extremist and to what extent incel adopts accelerationist principles.

## **Chapter 2: Accelerationism and the Incelosphere**

The term accelerationism was coined in political theory to describe imminent, destructive changes to Western capitalist societies as a nihilistic response to discontents with modern society (Mackay & Avanessian, 2014). Accelerationists think that modern social and political systems must fall for society to experience changes that aim for a utopian society (Institute for Strategic Dialogue [ISD], 2022; Mackay & Avanessian, 2014). The nihilism of the ideology regards established institutions and values as baseless, thus legitimating the impulse to destroy the society, violently if necessary (Pratt, n.d.). In this chapter I provide an interpretation of the evolution of accelerationist thought. I then turn to discussions of the manosphere and introduce debate over whether incels are one of its forms.

### **Accelerationism**

As the literature on accelerationism developed, it came to span multiple theoretical traditions and political points of view. Accelerationism was originally tied to concerns over the consequences of technological change shared by Marxist and non-Marxist philosophers alike. The rise of far-right militant accelerationism came via two paths: (1) Nick Land and the Cyber Culture Research Unit (CCRU) created a transitional framework linking previous decades of accelerationist thought to neo-reactionary fascism, and (2) neo-Nazi writings like *The Turner Diaries* and James Nolan Mason's *Siege* inspired the violent extremism of far-right militants.

### ***Karl Marx and the Leftist Accelerationism***

The oldest strands of accelerationist thought were developed by Karl Marx and the philosophical left as part of their critiques of capitalism. Karl Marx is regarded as the first accelerationist due to his belief in the imminence of the revolutionary transformation from capitalism to socialism, an event Marx anticipated in his own lifetime. Marx (1858/2014)

emphasized the transition from human labor to machine production with the help of technological advancement. The appropriation of labor was viewed as a form of capital – modern-day humans were incorporated into the new culture where the means of production had moved from human labor to machines. Marx wrote,

The science which compels the inanimate limbs of the machinery, by their construction, to act purposefully; as an automaton, does not exist in the worker's consciousness, but rather acts upon him through the machine as an alien power. (Marx, 1858/2014, p. 53)

For Marx, a socialist revolution was imminent. The contradiction between the profit-enhancing tactics of the bourgeoisie and the oppression of workers created an unstable situation that would ultimately result in a workers' revolt. A key step forward was for workers to overcome a false consciousness of reality that reinforced the capitalist system; this false consciousness needed to be replaced with a new working-class consciousness that promoted revolution and social change. Marx's most famous writing, *The Communist Manifesto*, was intended to mobilize workers to action (Marx, 1848).

Subsequent philosophers on the left affirmed the coming radical transformation even as they sought to provide reasons for Marx's failed prediction of imminency. The first wave of neo-Marxist accelerationism regarded capitalism as an obstacle in the formation of the working-class consciousness. French philosopher author Jacques Camatte (1973/2014), looking at the cultural upheavals of the 1960s and 70s, criticized Marx for failing to recognize the extent to which people had become dominated by a seemingly authoritarian mode of production under capitalism. Humans had been turned into slaves of capital, which led to the rise of scientific myths creating a new false consciousness regarding the state of economic reality. To bring a revolutionary

change, Camatte argued that the concept of capital had absorbed all the old ideas, so they should be eradicated.

Lyotard (1970/2014) reinforced the concern about obstacles to the formation of a revolutionary class consciousness with his writing on the libidinal economy. Contrary to the conventional Marxist position that regarded workers as oppressed, Lyotard adapted the concept of libido to claim that capitalism dominated through an emotional control that workers found enjoyable. Lyotard's criticism of Marxist orthodoxy was a step toward adoption of a nihilistic worldview that called for a rejection of universal theory building in favor of diversity of thought.

Later leftist writings on accelerationism moved beyond economic considerations by granting a role to the state in the progress of modernity. In "The Civilized Capitalist Machine," Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari (1972/2014) integrated nihilistic themes to describe the inevitable collapse of late capitalism. Each stage in the advancement of capitalism was described as deterritorialization, a return to old concepts purged of out-moded elements and re-emerging in a new form. In capitalist society three things worked together – human surplus value, machine surplus value, and surplus value absorption by injecting anti-production, which is also known as surplus value reflux. With late capitalism, the mode of production in capitalism entailed revolutionizing machines, which called for a new economic order. One of the reasons for the change was for the independence of scientists because they could not perform their skill with full independence within capitalism. The second issue is the way that money and market capitalism promoted anti-production: The state had control over production and could create artificial scarcity through outdated practices in the capitalist system, thus reintegrating people into capitalist society and maintaining the status quo.

Lipovetsky (1976/2014) argued that the state apparatus of power has the order and control that shaped capitalist society. The power of the bank was to provide credit for money. This credit of money was possible with the advance of time and paying back over time, a process governed by the bank or any institution operating with permission of the state apparatus. To bring change, revolutionary actions must be taken, not to overthrow capitalism but to bring change in the system.

In *#Accelerate Manifesto for an Accelerationist Politics*, Alex Williams and Nick Srnicek (2013/2014) argued that combating climate change should be central to accelerationism. According to them, the left must consider the flow of resources to build an effective political infrastructure. The authors suggested that the future must be shaped in an intentional manner as it has been destroyed by neo-capitalism.

### ***Technological Accelerationism***

Concerns about the disruptive nature of industrialization were not limited to the philosophical and social scientific left. During the early 20th century, non-Marxist thought focused primarily on the impact of automation and science, which were accelerating the world toward new cultures and governance. The influence of the media and modern-day digital networking entered the conversation in 21st-century accelerationist literature.

**19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century.** In the satirical novel *Erewhon*, Samuel Butler (1872/2014) wrote about the impact of technology in society in the three chapters collectively known as “The Book of the Machines.” The author described the advancement of the animal and vegetable kingdoms. For the accelerating of modern civilization, machines and technology were required for human progress and advancement. The author stressed the importance of humans in the technology driven world and referred to machines as having a reproductive system needing humans to support it.

Fedorov (1906/2014) encouraged people to think beyond the science of the era and to view progress as not being bound by the limits of the planet. The Earth had become conscious of its fate through humanity, and this consciousness was active and leading people down the path of salvation. God was king and did everything through people. Fedorov further argued that death was a property, which was conditioned by causes and did not define what a human being should be. The assurance of a good agricultural harvest was not dependent on the soil solely but was dependent on storms, sunspots, and other factors whose control required human beings to manage the whole solar system. If people wanted economic needs to be fulfilled, it required a regulatory apparatus that transformed the entire solar system into a controlled economic entity.

Thorstein Veblen, known for his work “The Machine Process and the Natural Decay of the Business Enterprise” (1904/2014), made the point that a machine lacked morals and was just a process. Machines had become like a force for labor for production, and they had become part of the culture in modern society. The technical worker required machine culture, and this machine culture had evolved in the modern world. The author expressed concern that machine culture has weakened traditional society; machines were accelerating output, and this process intensified over time. Attraction to the consequences of the cultural disruption had been neglected: Machine culture stressed output rather than solving cultural problems like natural rights, liberty, law, order, and religion.

**Late 20<sup>th</sup> Century.** In the text “The Two Modes of Cultural History,” Shulamith Firestone (1970/2014) defined culture as an attempt by people to think that anything that was conceivable was possible. A person’s consciousness of oneself within the environment distinguished someone from others; a person was a historian and a creature of time. According to Firestone, in the sixteenth century the matriarchal system was turned into a patriarchal system. The aesthetic mode

was symbolized by the female whereas the male symbolized the technological mode. Following Marx and Engels, Shulamith argued that the rise of patriarchy led to the rise of the nuclear family, an idea embedded in capitalism and realism. Aesthetic modes were more feminine than technology, and when the bourgeoisie evolved in power, the bourgeoisie preferred technology over aesthetics because technology could do so much more. The author concluded that life should be enjoyed by simply experiencing life itself. The author repurposed the psychoanalytic ideas of Sigmund Freud to use the concepts of the id, ego and superego to describe connect desire to social and cultural systems. The id was the initial desire of political infrastructure. The ego related the id to reality, but in the case of the modern world, the reality of the existing political system was failing. The superego balanced id and ego by bringing change without collapsing the system through technology. Life can be satisfactory once we have control of it. The fulfillment of human desires is achieved through technology which enables new ways of living and enjoyment of life.

Science fiction highlighted themes related to science and technology. J. G. Ballard, author of “Fictions of Every Kind” (1977/2014), wrote, “Science is the most important fiction today; you and I will do tomorrow” (p.237). The author stressed that science is the new fiction, spreading like cancer in the world. He gave an example of a supermarket offering green stamps of chance and possibilities in the same way science will become a new currency in the future. In the end the author stressed that science and fiction were a powerful medium that reflected the subject matter of everyday life.

Iain Hamilton Grant (1996/2014) wrote that the complex situation of technology involved a second cortex that shaped the human being’s understanding of the world. He cited as an example of the movie *Bladerunner*, which acknowledged reality was hyperreal or cybernetic realism. Invoking Lyotard, the author highlighted the Freudian concept of biological drive and related the



libidinal energy of the postmodern era to technological advancement. In other words, machines have a crucial position in shaping reality. Grant integrated contemporaneous leftist thought into the argument when seeing powerful organizations as in control of machines. Humanity had declined, and the replicant had replaced humans. Society is governed by the replicants' new order. In *Bladerunner*, reality is governed by technology, which has blurred the vision of reality and fiction is the gist of this movie.

**Early 21<sup>st</sup> Century.** In *Terminator vs. Avatar*, Fisher (2012/2014) argued that the intellectuals failed to acknowledge the desires of those who worked under capitalism. Elites were patronizing the working class. The author stressed the rise of an accelerationist perspective in a libidinal economy. The author concluded that withdrawal from the global market typically often follows a fascist economic strategy. Nonetheless, contrary to neo-reactionary fascism of Land and the CCRU (discussed later in this chapter), another option is to push the limit of capitalism, which meant to push the market toward deterritorialization and accelerating production.

Terranova (2014) highlighted three things – virtual money, social networks, and hypermedia. Christian Marazzi and other authors had argued virtual money can be served as a form of investment. The rise of crypto currency like bitcoin had challenged the money cycle. These currencies supported a post-capitalist economy that looked for collective well-being while continuing the quest for profit or capital accumulation. In addition, there was a huge shift from the media that we used in the past to the media we are currently using. The social media that builds uniformity interactively as society steers its direction through the accumulation of likes and tags. The author further criticizes leftist acceleration for not giving a solution to solve the problem arising from technology. Social networks can be used as global connections, places to share ideas and values. Hypermedia is the growth of devices and human interaction with the devices. Giorgio

Griziotti introduced this term hyper-media. There is an increase in information in the media like coded space where we can share the locations. The development of apps and maps might help migrants bypass border control and the rise in phone hijacking technologies. In the end notes of the author in this section arguing that machinic infrastructure is common. Recoding technologies of values can lead to a political shift to equitable social organization.

Questioning the neo-Marxist approach of Williams and Smicek (2013/2014), Negri (2014) accepted the idea that accelerationism can lead to capitalist development. He emphasized that it should not be confused with speed as accelerationism is a feature of engine apparatus, discovery, and creation within the space determined by capitalism. This can play a huge role in capitalist development and liberation.

### ***The Far Right and the Rise of Militant Accelerationism***

**Nick Land and the CCRU.** Fascist versions of accelerationism derive their inspiration from Nick Land and neo-Naziism (Beckett, 2017). Land was a transitional figure who bridged the gap between left and right. Land's early solo writings and the work of the Cybernetic Culture Research Unit (CCRU) at University of Warwick, England, with which Land was affiliated, were initially in line with the concerns of Marxist and technological accelerationism (Beckett, 2017; CCRU, 1996/2014; Plant & Land, 1994/2014). Modernity had led people to alienation. In response, humans were exploring a new future as a future with technologies like artificial intelligence; the city had been replaced by digital technologies, evidenced in such diverse things as cyberpunk culture is thriving and the electronic management of traffic.

Land also tried to show an analogy between drugs and global capitalism. The author critiqued the war on drugs and argued drug control had not eliminated drugs but protected global capitalism's own drug market. War against drugs was war on drugs. The modern war on drugs

carried cold-war self-destructive trends in global capitalism. The author attempted to show the link of technology and culture. For instance, coming back to drugs, it was an innovation like virtual reality. This was influenced by intelligence, and this was accelerating the environment. Technology and culture were reshaping humans as well as cities. The accelerating or post-human future had caused an uncontrollable system, which had led to instability in modern society.

In the 2011 anthology *Fanged Noumena* and the 2012 book *Dark Enlightenment*, Land's philosophy turned reactionary, though early signs of Land's thinking on the matter were evident much earlier as Land as the CCRU contemplated the appropriate societal response to the wave of protests and terroristic violence that swept across Europe in 1996. "Swarmachines" (CCRU 1996/2014) discussed war and how these complex technologies like intelligence, misinformation, and viruses were spreading. The author referred to the 1996 violence, claiming that it was not about revolution but war. For the CCRU, events in the 1990s indicated that contemporary politics were ineffective; real change was happening through the technological system. The rise of Euro fascist culture foreshadowed the future of humanity, especially the white race, as having only one ruler (Land, 2011; 2012).

The neo-reactionary Land argued that impersonal forces of the economy and technology were not sufficient to resolve the disorder and discontents of the modern world (Land, 2011; 2012). Land's later discussion of technology would explicitly depart from traditional and socialist regulations. His argument for strong leadership to take charge of society's major decisions echoed strains of proto-fascist thought found in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century proto-fascist philosopher Julius Evola.

For Land (2014), the problem for modern civilization was that it was experiencing a controlled explosion. Land emphasized cultural domination as an indirect path rather than direct.

Unlike other theorists who claimed old ideas were repackaged under capitalism, he emphasized stepping out of the old norms and values. He stressed that society should pursue the path of technological advancement to increase the outcome. This means to shift to the technomic singularity, meaning that technology will dominate human civilization, which will mask history and will adjust the outcome in the form of production, capital (Land, 2011).

**Neo-Naziism.** While Land provided philosophical cover for a new wave of fascism, far-right populism in the U.S. was grounded in the 1978 novel *The Turner Diaries*, written by William Pierce under the pseudonym Andrew Macdonald (Ball & Dagger, 1997; Swain & Nieli, 2003; Macdonald, 1978). Pierce, who founded the National Alliance, was in an organizational sense the heir to the American Nazi enterprise started by George Lincoln Rockwell. Pierce's book described an America where Jews and non-Whites had taken control of the country. Eventually, White power would be restored through a racial holy war, which included a nuclear attack on a government military base and the ultimate hanging of minority government leaders in nooses at the U.S. Capitol on the "Day of the Rope."

The manuscript became a key text in American nationalism, fueling claims of White genocide and inspiring the birth of The Order, a violent fringe group (Ball & Dagger, 1997) and Timothy McVeigh's 1995 Oklahoma federal building bombing (Totenberg, 2016). Norwegian active shooter Anders Behring Breivik was a former member of online forum Nordisk, where discussion of *The Turner Diaries* was prominent (Foundation for Defense of Democracies, 2011). Also important was its influence on Charles Manson, who left false clues about Black involvement in the Tate murders in a deliberate attempt to gain White support for a racial holy war (Kaplan, 2010). The meaning of the gallows erected at the January 6 Capitol riot is regarded as an appropriation of the "Day of the Rope" imagery in *The Turner Diaries* (Estes, 2021).

Neo-Nazi leader and Pierce protégé James Nolan Mason (still living) provided additional inspiration for modern-day militant accelerationism through the publication of an anthology of older writings and press clippings under the title *Siege* (Mason, 2015; SPLC, 2024). Mason had a fascination with Charles Manson, who Mason regarded as the personification of the White power movement and placed Manson on a pedestal alongside Jesus Christ and Adolf Hitler. *Siege* had been seen largely as a quirky, unimportant neo-Nazi text until the 2010s, when it gained attention from groups of young males associated with violent fringe neo-Nazi groups like the Atomwaffen and Patriot Front.

Misogynist views have spread in conjunction with the dissemination of militant accelerationism. The Proud Boys openly espouse rape culture as part of the defense of Western civilization (ADL, 2018). Criminal investigations and divorces reveal the physical and emotional abuse of spouses and girlfriends by notable right-wing figures such as Andrew Tate, Stewart Rhodes, and Richard Spencer (ADL, 2023; Bates, 2021). Andrew Anglin of the *Daily Stormer* website once wrote, “The fact is, when you give women rights, they destroy absolutely everything around them, no matter what other variable is involved. . . Even if you become the ultimate alpha male, some stupid bitch will still ruin your life” (quoted in ADL, 2018).

### **The Manosphere and the Rise of Incels**

The manosphere is a group of men against women’s empowerment (Aiston, 2022). In the 1970s, a men’s rights movement rose to combat a so-called gynocracy – a manosphere word for a society governed by women’s interests – by promoting men’s rights on matters related to family law and abortion laws (ADL, 2024). Today the ideology of the men’s rights movement is distinguished by toxic discourse and misogynistic behaviors that contributes to the demeaning and

objectification of women and promotes aggressive behaviors in the name of masculinity (Sugiura, 2021).

There are four main groups in the contemporary manosphere: Men's Rights Activists (MRAs), Men Going Their Own Way (MGTOW), Pick-Up Artists (PUAs), and involuntary celibates known as incels (Aiston, 2021). MRA is the first major movement to challenge the alleged legal protections offered women in the gynocracy. The MGTOW group wants to date women but simultaneously views women as toxic. The reason is men view females as privileged in rights compared to men. The MGTOW approach discourages marriage as it considers marriage as a union between male and female where men lose their power. Another group is Pick-Up Artists founded in 1994. PUAs are a community that teaches men the art of seduction. The movement is the basis for a reality TV show where a game master mentors a group of men. In one week, they use their techniques in so-called fields: nightclubs, grocery stores, and streets .

Incels, the fourth group and the subject of this thesis, are young white men struggling with the formation of romantic relationships with women. A survey conducted by the Center for Countering Digital Hate (CCDH) on a major incel discussion board found that 82% were in the age range between 18-30 years old (CCDH, 2022, as cited in ADL, 2024). Eight percent were younger than 17-years old. Although there is no certainty on the actual number of incels, the incel community thrives online. 4chan's r9k has surpassed 79 million posts. On average, there are 7.6 million visits to the website named incelosphere. Reddit's r/ForeverAlone, a well-known incel subreddit, has over 193,000 members (Kesvani, 2019).

Like other parts of the manosphere, incels believe society is a gynocracy (Bates, 2021). Incels carry forward the idea of gender roles and forced monogamy; they refer to women as vassals, objects used for men's sexual pleasure and reproduction (Barbossa, 2022; Bates, 2021).

However, the sexual revolution created winners and losers, a hierarchy that grants social acceptance to privileged, beautiful, and rich people while others wallow in loneliness and frustration. Social media displays perfect pictures of men, and incel's notion is that women are only interested in perfect men (ADL, 2024). Incels claim that 80% of females are interested in only 20% of males, known as 80/20 rule in incel community. Incels do not see themselves as part of the 20 percent, which ignites their rage and attacks on females. The incel utopia is the creation of a patriarchy (Bates, 2020). Contrary to the trend of the times, incel radicalization tends to be apolitical.

Incels compare their adoption of the incel world view to taking a pill, imagery used in a number of contemporary conspiracy theories (ADL, 2024). The concept of pilling came from the blockbuster movie *The Matrix*. The main character Neo was offered a chance to view the world differently. If he had swallowed the blue pill, he would not have been unaware of reality and accept the simulation as real; if he swallowed the red pill, he would see the real world. In the manosphere generally, red pilling is a recognition of the existing gynocracy. Incels refer to the acceptance of their more extreme interpretation of the sexual marketplace as blackpilling. On different websites like 4chan, 8chan, and incel.is, incels are active, and various kinds of pills ideologies are spreading like a wildfire. There are several red pill groups on Reddit, and many groups are growing all over the internet with a want to collapse the current system and return to a patriarchal system.

### **Violence and Accelerationism**

A common belief with the contemporary manosphere is that the voices of women should be silenced through violence (Sugiura, 2021). Racist slurs, hate speech, and hate against women have escalated online (Bitsch, 2022). Some justify rape against uncooperative women, and in incel

culture those adopting this view are referred to as taking the rape pill (ADL, 2024). For instance, r/TheRedPill, a misogynist forum, was created in 2017 by Robert Fisher, a New Hemisphere state representative (Bates, 2020). While online, Fisher had written, “rape was not bad at all” because at least the rapist enjoyed it. In another post, he wrote, “Feminists are obsessed with rape because we live in a rape fantasy culture where feminists wish they were hot enough to be rapeable” (Bates, 2020, p. 3808). Later, Robert resigned due to public pressure (Bates, 2020). It is evident that incel community escalate rape culture and violence as their saga and normalize it through random attack.

Incels collectively accelerate and promote a nihilistic view of the sexual marketplace and constantly seek a patriarchal system to correct the system (Bates, 2020). The incels accelerate the idea of collapsing the gynocracy to correct the system and switch to “traditional” patriarchal values. Among mass shooters, written statements (e.g., manifestos, suicide notes, discussion-forum posts) are often used to announce violent intentions (SPLC, 2023; Moonshot, 2021). Elliot Rodger (2014, p. 136) declared war against women by stating, “They do not deserve to have any rights.” In July 2020, Roy Den Hollander, a self-described “anti-feminist” lawyer, killed the son of U.S. District Court Judge Esther Salas (Bates, 2020). He said, “manhood is in serious jeopardy in America” and called for revolution. A song that spread through the incelosphere claimed, “We don’t necessarily wish to ah kill the normies, but we do wish to subjugate them ah in order to make them understand that the uhm – that our type is ah the more superior one” (Woodward et al., 2021, pp.20-21). Incels unify and get inspiration from each other’s posts online and amplify the violent discourse. Out of all, some come out as lone attackers and commit mass shootings. Incel members unite as an army on advocating rape culture and punish women as a way of retribution.



The incel community idolizes active shooters from within its ranks with honorific declarations of sainthood and martyrdom (Aiston, 2021; Bratich & Banet-Weiser, 2019; Lewis et al., 2023). Among them, Elliot Rodger (“Saint Elliot”), who killed 6 people and injured 14 others, is praised as the greatest mass murderer of all time and perceived as a martyr/idol in the incel community. Elliot Rodger also is considered the Supreme Gentleman, which means he is given a position of God in the incel community. Marc Lepine, called the original incel, was elevated to sainthood for killing 14 women as a direct response to feminism. Saint Alek Minassian killed 10 in a van attack targeting women in Toronto (Woodward et al., 2021, p.17-22). As stated earlier, incels commit acts of extremist discourse to inspire more people to commit mass shootings.

### **Chapter 3: Methodology**

The analysis engages in the content analysis of a variety of texts generated by incels and incel-like individuals to identify the presence of militant accelerationism in the incelosphere. A variety of methods are used. Key themes were identified in several texts identified using a traditional qualitative content analysis where specific items in the text were highlighted. Word clouds and sentiment analysis were generated with the Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count (LIWC) software packages and NVivo. Comparisons across texts were made using cluster and pairwise-comparison procedures.

This study provides several small case studies to show an interweaving of themes related to violence and militant accelerationism in incel and incel-like language. The combination of these diverse techniques is grouped in a manner to produce three analyses: (1) a textual analysis of Elliot Rodger’s YouTube video and manifesto, *My Twisted World*, (2) the identification of key themes in

a set of manifestos from active shooters who have been identified as incels or incel-like figures, and (3) a comparison of these texts with each other and *The Turner Diaries*. Collectively

### **Research Question**

Are incels a form of militant accelerationism?

### **Text Sources**

Elliot Rodger was given his own analysis because of his preeminent stature. Prior to the Isla Vista shooting, Elliot Rodgers posted a 7-minute YouTube video and emailed a 137-page manifesto to 34 people exploring his repugnance towards women and his frustration with virginity (Taylor, 2018).

The second analysis used a convenience sample of material from active shooters and individuals who promoted incel-like views. This material was taken from various online sources:

- (1) Nicholas Cruz phone records (Langman, 2024b; Shapiro et al., 2024). Nicholas Cruz committed the 2017 mass shooting at Parkland High School, where he shot 17 victims. Research conducted by the Margery Stoneman Douglas (MSD) Public Safety Commission included phone records, Instagram, YouTube, and internet searches.
- (2) Richard Cooper's book *The Unplugged Alpha* (Shortform, 2021). Richard Cooper is a red-pilled entrepreneur who promotes himself as a life coach for high-net-worth individuals. There is no certainty that Richard Cooper is an incel, but his book has similarities with incel texts because of similar ideas about women. He is divorced and believes in making women second-class citizens.
- (3) Malik Sanchez criminal complaint (United States of America v. Malik Sanchez, 2021). Sanchez was arrested for a bomb threat against a restaurant in New York City in 2021.

(4) Christopher Sean Harper-Mercer's manifesto (Langman, 2024a; Mercer, 2015).

Harper-Mercer killed 9 people and injured 8 others in a mass shooting at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Oregon, in 2015 (Langman, 2024a).

(5) George Sodini manifesto (MurderPedia, 2024). Sodini shot and killed women in aerobics class at the LA fitness center in The Bridgeville Great Southern Shopping Center of Collier Township.

(6) William Atchinson note (Langman, 2024d). On 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017 shot and killed 3 people at Aztec High School, Aztec, New Mexico, USA. His notes are small to analyze. No word cloud was created.

(7) Marc Lepine manifesto (Langman, 2024c; Lindeman, 2019). On 6 December 1989, Lepine walked into Montreal's Polytechnique engineering school and shot with a semi-automatic rifle and killed 14 women, injured 14 others (including four men), then killed himself.

To assess Nazi and neo-Nazi influences, the third analysis looks at two texts – *The Turner Diaries* (Macdonald, 1978) and Theweleit's *Male Fantasies: Volume 1: Women Floods Bodies History* (1987). The importance of *The Turner Diaries* has already been discussed in Chapter 2. Theweleit, a psychologist, collected various paintings, letters, and art that accelerated the idea of male supremacy and militant themes associated with fascist ideology among German Freikorps soldiers in World War II. The book highlighted themes of toxic masculinity similar to the violent antifeminism of incels. For example, Theweleit gave an instance of a war zone soldier viewing a nurse rape. The soldiers took it as a time for the desire for love. If not fulfilled, the desire to love mutated into a willingness to kill rather than rape.

## **Quantitative Interpretations**

LIWC (2024) has several tools that help understand the themes of text sources. The word cloud in LIWC analysis is a frequency-based presentation of the most occurring word in the text source. The size of a word indicates levels that correlate with the frequency of a word's use in the text. The larger the word appears, the more prominent the word is in the text source (see also Better Evaluation, 2024)..

The LIWC (2024) sentiment analysis feature analyzes the tone of the dataset. The LIWC software is built on psychological research, including emotions and thinking styles (LIWC, 2024). For instance, LIWC analyzes words like happy, sad, high standing, confident, and emotional to determine the sentiment of the text. The LIWC software was used to measure word sentiment against standardized scales based on word count in four areas – analytic thought, clout, authenticity, and emotional tone. Each standardized scale ranges between 0 (low) to 100 (high) where 50 is roughly the mean score based on the LIWC team's application of its methodology across a wide variety of texts. Analytic thought indicates the extent to which facts are conveyed over opinions. Clout refers to the extent to which the individual uses language that asserts personal authority or dominance over others. Authenticity refers to the extent to which the speaker communicates the genuineness of personal experience. Emotional tone is regarded as positive as the tone score moves above 50 and negative when below 50. If there are positive words for instance, happy, gratitude gives a positive tone whereas, sad and anger gives a negative tone the words I mentioned are the predefined dictionary and does the analysis from positive effect and negative effect from the dataset. If the score exceeds 50 it is a positive tone and if the score is below 50 negative tones.

LIWC analysis I have used LIWC LSM (Language Style Matching). It quantifies the closeness of the two texts analyzed. Generally, the LSM score is from 0-1. If the score is low, it indicates low alignment of text, whereas higher score indicates closeness in the text which has shared understanding and relationship closeness (LIWC, 2024).

The NVivo (2024) method used for this research is word similarity. It helps to compare the word frequency among all the text sources. The method indicates common language patterns through a dendrogram built through an underlying cluster analysis.

### **Methodological Considerations**

The thesis utilizes credible sources such as manifesto, an incident report, and other text sources of mass shooters idolized person in the incel community like Elliot Rodger manifesto. Other mass shooters like Nicholas Cruz phone records, These text sources with which they were compared – *The Turner Diaries* (Macdonald, 1978) and Theweleit's *Male Fantasies: Volume 1: Women Floods Bodies History* (1987) – are well known for the Nazi and neo-Nazi content.

The reliability of qualitative content analysis is often suspect due to reliance on the researcher's subjective interpretation of text. Nonetheless, in this case the use of established software tools like LIWC and NVivo create a replicable quantitative rigor not present in many kinds of content analysis.

LIWC sentiment analyses have external validity built on the standardization of results on a wide variety of textual materials. The recurring patterns in the results across LIWC and NVivo indicate a level of the internal validity not often achievable in text analyses that rely only on subjective means of interpretation. For instance, Elliot Rodger in NVivo. The pairwise contrast gives the output Elliot Rodger match with *The Unplugged Alpha* scholar source gives the misogynist view on Elliot Rodger content. *Turner Diaries* match *The Unplugged Alpha*. This

further gives the match of Christopher Sean Harper Mercer manifesto with *My Twisted World*. It gives the thematic analysis that both are close of Nazi and misogynist themes.

### **Limitations**

The scope of data is limited because all incel shooters do not leave behind textual material. Furthermore, some of the materials left behind may not have been shared for public review. The note, text source, complaint report, and manifesto barely include seven mass shooters. One noteworthy omission is the absence of material reflecting a leftist view in spite of the existence of left-wing accelerationism.

The tone analysis cannot be fully reliable for each mass shooter. Different mass shooters wrote their manifesto in their own way. For instance, Elliot Rodger wrote his manifesto considering his age from childhood 0-6, till 22 years old. He wrote his manifesto when he became an adult, which can create a bias as Rodger creates intentional and unintentional revisions to a narrative built from memory.

## **Chapter 4: Results**

### **Analysis #1: Rodger's *My Twisted World***

#### ***Text Highlights***

Before the killing spree, Rodger's YouTube video displayed repugnance towards women. Rodger was particularly concerned about alleged perceptions of his appearance because Rodger had engaged in what incels called maxxing, i.e., the practice of working on one's appearance by going to the gym or having surgery (ADL, 2024). Quotations from the video follow:

I mean look at me, I'm gorgeous. But you girls do not see it. I do not understand why you are so repulsed by me.

It was only when I first moved to Santa Barbara that I started considering the possibility of having to carry out a violent act of revenge as the final solution to dealing with all the injustices I've had to face at the hands of women and society. (Springer, 2019)

The manifesto contained divisions separating the text chronologically by age breaks from 0 years old until he was 22. Rodger starts the manifesto with his personal grievance:

Humanity... All of my suffering on this world has been at the hands of humanity, particularly women. It has made me realize just how brutal and twisted humanity is as a species. All I ever wanted was to fit in and live a happy life amongst humanity, but I was cast out and rejected, forced to endure an existence of loneliness and insignificance, all because the females of the human species were incapable of seeing the value in me. (Rodger, 2014, p. 1)

Rodger further discussed women in a demeaning manner consistent with the black pill ideology:

Women are like a plague. They do not deserve to have any rights. Their wickedness must be contained to prevent future generations from falling into degeneracy. Women are vicious, evil, barbaric animals, and they need to be treated as such. (Rodger, 2014, p. 117)

Women have more power in human society than they deserve, all because of sex. There is no creature eviler and more depraved than the human female. Women are like a plague. They don't deserve to have any rights. Their wickedness must be contained in order prevent future generations from falling to degeneracy. Women are vicious, evil, barbaric animals, and they need to be treated as such. (Rodger, 2014, p.136).

Retaliation for personal grievances against women was promised:

Such a thing will never become a reality for me, but it did give me something to fantasize about as I burned with hatred towards all women for rejecting me throughout the years. If I

cannot have it, I will do everything I can to DESTROY IT. My orchestration of the Day of Retribution is my attempt to do everything, in my power, to destroy everything I cannot have. All of those beautiful girls I've desired so much in my life but can never have because they despise and loathe me, I will destroy them. All those popular people who live hedonistic lives of pleasure, I will destroy, because they never accepted me as one of them. I will kill them all and make them suffer, just as they have made me suffer. It is only fair. (Rodger, 2014, p. 137)

I had been rejected, insulted, humiliated, cast out, bullied, starved, tortured, and ridiculed for far too long. Humanity is a cruel and brutal species, and the only thing I could do to even the score was to return that cruelty one-thousand-fold. Women's rejection of me is a declaration of war, and if it's war they want, then war they shall have. It will be a war that will result in their complete and utter annihilation. I will deliver a blow to my enemies that will be so catastrophic it will redefine the very essence of human nature. It was time to plot exactly what I will do on the Day of Retribution. I will be a god, punishing women and all of humanity for their depravity. I will finely deliver to them all of the pain and suffering they've dealt to me for so long. (Rodger, 2014, p. 131)

Elliot Rodger speaks in favor of males not having sexual relations with females and gives solutions to bring significant changes in the system to benefit men and control women:

There must exist a new and powerful type of government, a new and powerful type of government, under the control of one divine ruler, such as myself. The ruler that establishes this new order would have complete control over every aspect of society, in order to direct it towards a good and pure place. At the disposal of this government, there needs to be a highly trained army of fanatically loyal troops, to enforce such revolutionary laws. The first

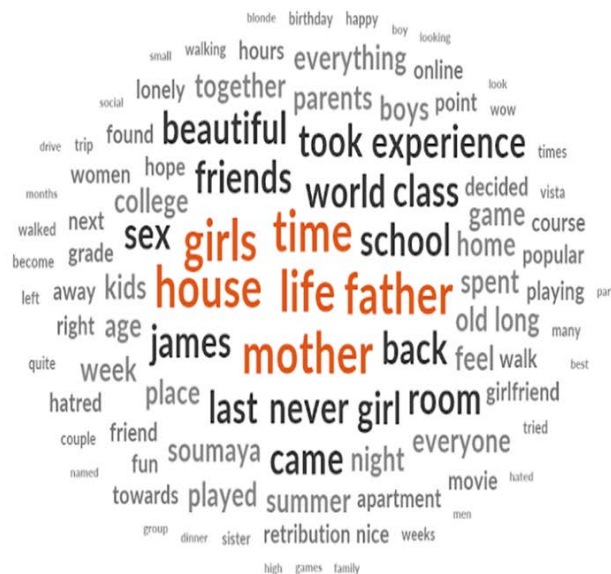


strike against women will be to quarantine all of them in concentration camps. At these camps, most of the female population will be deliberately starved to death. That would be an efficient and fitting way to kill them all off. I would take great pleasure and satisfaction in condemning every single woman on earth to starve to death. I would have an enormous tower built just for myself, where I can oversee the entire concentration camp and gleefully watch them all die. If I can't have them, no one will, I'd imagine thinking to myself as I oversee this. Women represent everything that is unfair with this world, and in order to make the world a fair place, they must all be eradicated. A few women would be spared, however, for the sake of reproduction. These women would be kept and bred in secret labs. There, they will be artificially inseminated with sperm samples in order to produce offspring. Their depraved nature will slowly be bred out of them in time. Future generations of men would be oblivious to these remaining women's existence, and that is for the best. If a man grows up without knowing of the existence of women, there will be no desire for sex. Sexuality will completely cease to exist. Love will cease to exist. There will no longer be any imprint of such concepts in the human psyche. It is the only way to purify the world. In such a pure world, the man's mind can develop to greater heights than ever before. Future generations will live their lives free of having to worry about the barbarity of sex and women, which will enable them to expand their intelligence and advance the human race to a state of perfect civilization. (Rodgers, 2014, p. 136)

### ***Quantitative Analysis***

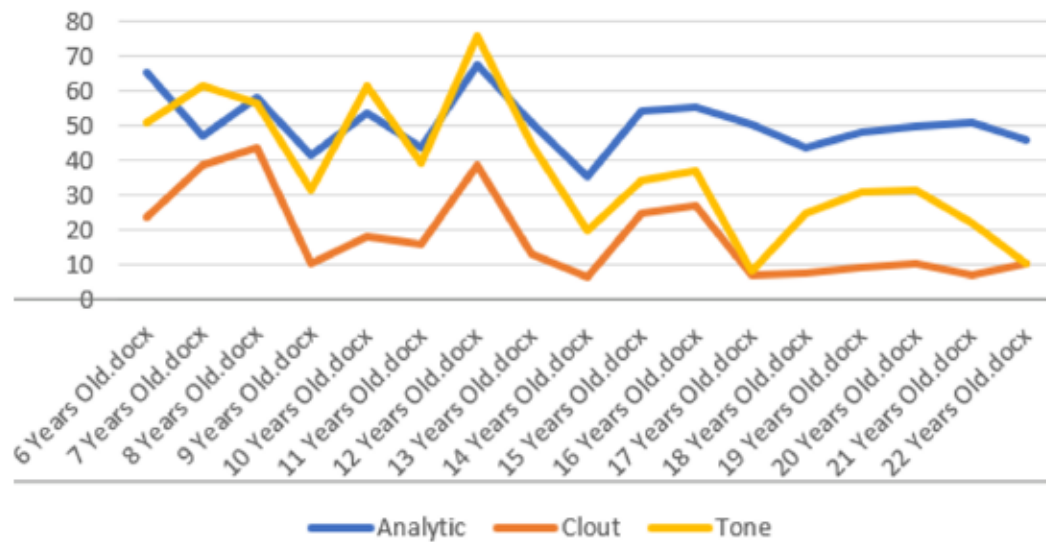
Elliot Rodger's manifesto, *My Twisted World* (2014), contrasted the alleged satisfaction with family and upbringing contrasted with frustration stemming from an inability to establish romantic relationships with girls of the same age. This contrast of themes was seen in the word

cloud (Figure 1). Family and friends themes were highly visible in level 1 and level 2 words: “father”, “mother”, “house”, “James”, “friends.” In Rodger’s reconstruction of events, family and friends were a positive feature of his upbringing. Words like “girl” and “sex” are tied to the sexual frustrations of Rodger’s teen years.



**Figure 1. My Twisted World Word Cloud**

The combination of a factual biographical narrative with personal feelings resulted in an analytic score that was fairly even over Rodger's chronological narrative. Visually, the scores looked higher in the first part of the narrative with a peak score of 68, but there was a randomness to early fluctuations and later scores were still near the standardized mean of 50.



**Figure 2. Sentiment Analysis of *My Twisted World***

With emotional tone and clout, larger changes in sentiment were evident when Rodger’s narrative reached the teen years, the age at which attempts to build dating relationships failed. The most important changes were related to tone. Rodger described a relatively happy childhood, and the tone analysis peaked at approximately 75-78 points at 12 years old. As he aged further, his text indicated that his tone decreased as Rodger became hostile towards his life and women.

The clout score communicated a sense of personal power and authority. Rodger’s manifesto score dropped as he aged. At the age of 22, his clout fell to 10 points, which indicated that he was now playing the victim, no longer trying to establish personal power and authority.

## **Analysis #2: Active Shooter Manifestos and Statements**

### ***Nicholas Cruz***

Cellphone searches for November 14, 2017, mentioned “shooting people massacre” and on November 15, 2017, “rape caught on video” and “armed robber gets shot by every customer” (Langman, 2024b). Nicholas Cruz had a screenshot of a Wikipedia article on the 2012 Aurora movie theater shooting (Langman, 2024b).

His internet history activity showed video clips from the Wolfenstein video game, KKK and Nazi themes, Russian army recruiting videos, a pro-Ukrainian army campaign video, and a “School Shooter Hype Music Video” (Langman, 2024b). He had drawn a swastika in his backpack, and his gun was a strong indication of a hate symbol (ADL, 2024). While examining the content mentioned above of the MSD Public Safety Commission, he expressed deep hatred towards women, Jews, and Black people (Langman, 2024b).



### Figure 3. Cruz Word Cloud

Figure 3 is a word cloud of the Cruz phone content. The analysis showed concern about gender divisions and romantic relationships in the top 4 levels: “men”, “women”, “man”, “woman”, “sex”, “sexual”, “single”, “dating”, “relationship.”

*Richard Cooper*

The LIWC analysis of Richard Cooper's *Unplugged Alpha* showed that he leaned very slightly toward analytic thought in his writing with a score of 54.29. The clout result of 88.21 was high; it suggests he promoted leadership traits in an attempt to influence people through his

writing. The emotional tone the author had in his text was slightly below 50, indicating that the book was not extremely positive or negative. The authenticity of this text was low at 30.81.

### ***Malik Sanchez***

In the Sanchez investigation, the discovery of phrases like “INCEL ARMY RISE UP” showed how incels’ accelerationism looked on a personal level (Department of Justice, 2021). In one video, Malik Sanchez used phrases like “Fuck you on behalf of the Incels. Fuck you.”. Sanchez further expressed strong anti-Muslim sentiments:

Allahu Akbar. Allahu Akbar. Bomb detonation in two, in two minutes. I take you with me and I kill all you. I kill all you right now. And I kill all you for Allah. Fuck, fuck that shit. I’m gonna Allah. I’m gonna do it. I’m gonna fucking do it for Allah. I’m gonna do it, for, Allah, Allah, Allahu Akbar, Come on. I do it, bomb now, bomb now. (Department of Justice, 2021)

While examining the report in LIWC, the most repeated word was Sanchez, as it was a complaint report (Figure 4). One crucial piece of information that came in his investigation was frequency of the word “Elliot,” referring to the former Elliot Rodger, often idolized martyr in the incel community.



**Figure 4. Sanchez Word Cloud**

*Christopher Sean Harper-Mercer*

In the manifesto of Christopher Sean Harper-Mercer, he expressed grief about his lonely, single, and virgin life with no girlfriend. A theme in his manifesto was the influence of demonic forces, which were uncommon in other manifestos analyzed for this research:

I have been forced to align myself with demonic forces. I now serve the demonic hierarchy. When I die will become one of them. A demon. And I will return to kill again and again. But for people like me there is another world, a darker world that welcomes us. My success in Hell is assured. They will give me the power that I seek. It's only fit that I join them after death. And just like me, there will be others, like Ted Bundy said, we are your sons, your brothers, we are everywhere. (Mercer, 2015)

Mercer's further advice to others like him "is to buy a gun and start killing people. Don't be afraid to give in to your darkest impulses. Human life means nothing, we are what matters. I hope to inspire the masses with this, at least enough to get their passions aroused" (Mercer, 2015). He planned on inspiring many people and accelerating the violence and killing. He mentioned "get

their passion aroused” and “inspire mass to kill and join the hell” (Mercer, 2015). The theme which Mercer referred to is to incite mass and kill more people and to join hell; he further suggested killing people by buying guns, which looked like accelerating the violent behavior within the incel community and seeming to inspire each other through their actions.

Mercer’s manifesto expressed hate towards Black males. He had separated a heading as blackness and its effect on men. He mentions that Black men had corrupted the women of this planet. All they cared about is sex and swag, swing their “BBC thang” around in public (Mercer, 2015). He further mentions, “I don’t hate blacks. Just the men” (Mercer, 2015). He referred to Elliot Rodger: “Elliot Rodger was right when he said his thoughts on the black male. I fully agree with him” (Mercer, 2015). By concluding his manifesto, he said, “So, in conclusion this is my manifesto. I hope all who have read it enjoyed it and find inspiration in it” (Mercer, 2015).

His intent seems to instigate violence and killing in the community of incels by using words like martyr to inspire mass shootings and violence:

Learn from what I’ve done. I know this is not as long as Elliot Rodgers but it’s still good. Elliot is a god. For the Vestor Flanagans, Elliot Rodgers, Seung Cho, Adam Lanzas of the world, I do this. For all those who never took me seriously this is for you. For all those who haven’t made their stand I do this. I am the martyr for all those like me. (Mercer, 2015)

The word frequencies presented above in Figure 5 were from Christopher Sean Harper-Mercer’s manifesto. The result of word frequencies indicated racist attitudes toward Blacks. Other repeated words compared to Black were “men”, “man”, and “people”. Elliot referred to Elliot Rodger often known as martyr or God in the incel community.



**Figure 5. Christopher Sean Harper-Mercer Word Cloud**

***George Sodini***

In the manifesto of George Sodini, he mentioned his frustration with no sexual life. He wrote “No sex since July 1990, there are 30 million desirable women and he cannot get one, he said. On April 24, 2009: he brought loaded guns, everything. Hell! Sodini allegedly murdered three women before turning the gun on himself (ABC News, 2009). The word analysis is not here; he was not a well-known figure in the incel community but his manifesto pointed to his frustration and his solution to it was mass shooting.

***William Atchison***

Mass shooter William Atchison added in his note “If things go according to plan, today would be when I die. I wait until the school buses are detected, then head out on foot disguised as a student. I go somewhere and gear up, then hold a class hostage and go apes, then blow my brains out. Work sucks, school sucks, life sucks. I just want out of this shit. Fok this state, it really is bad. Think I’m insane? I’m actually more rational, peaceful and less loony than a majority of the citizenry of this entire region” (Langman, 2024d). The word cloud analysis is not here due to the



small amount of material. The court document indicated he was exposed to violent media although there is no clarity on which media. It is evident that he went to commit mass shooting through the exposure of violent media (Langman, 2024d).

### ***Marc Lepine***

Lepine's manifesto was translated by Langman (2024c) in the school shooters website, the theme of mass shooting or the idea was first introduced by Marc Lepine he expressed his frustration by stating females are the problem which is below.

Forgive the mistakes, I had 15 minutes to write this. Would you note that if I commit suicide today 89-12-06 it is not for economic reasons (for I have waited until I exhausted all my financial means, even refusing jobs) but for political reasons. Because I have decided to send the feminists, who have always ruined my life, to their Maker. For seven years life has brought me no joy and being totally blasé, I have decided to put an end to those viragos. (Langman 2014c).

The incel community and Lepine stress the day of execution, retribution which is mentioned below.

I tried in my youth to enter the Forces as an officer cadet, which would have allowed me possibly to get into the arsenal and precede Lortiel in a raid. They refused me because antisocial [sic]. I therefore had to wait until this day to execute my plans. In between, I continued my studies in a haphazard way for they never really interested me, knowing in advance my fate. Which did not prevent me from obtaining very good marks despite my theory of not handing in work and the lack of studying before exams (Langman 2014c).

The majority of people blame women for not getting employment opportunities. Even if the Mad Killer epithet will be attributed to me by the media, I consider myself a

rational erudite that only the arrival of the Grim Reaper has forced to take extreme acts. For why persevere to exist if it is only to please the government. Being rather backward-looking by nature (except for science), the feminists have always enraged me. They want to keep the advantages of women (e.g. cheaper insurance, extended maternity leave preceded by a preventative leave, etc.) while seizing for themselves those of men (Langman 2014c).

Thus, it is an obvious truth that if the Olympic Games removed the Men-Women distinction, there would be Women only in the graceful events. So, the feminists are not fighting to remove that barrier. They are so opportunistic they [do not] neglect to profit from the knowledge accumulated by men through the ages. They always try to misrepresent them every time they can. Thus, the other day, I heard they were honoring the Canadian men and women who fought at the frontline during the world wars. How can you explain [that since]<sup>3</sup> women were not authorized to go to the frontline??? Will we hear of Caesar's female legions and female galley slaves who of course took up 50% of the ranks of history, though they never existed. A real Casus Belli (Langman 2024c).

The purpose of keeping Marc Lepine text is to show he was not an incel he committed mass shooting. Nonetheless, the incident attracted people within the incel community; people who resonated in their pain got inspired and became like lone-wolf militants (CCDH, 2022).

### **Analysis #3: Comparison of Texts**

The LIWC Pairwise Comparison (Figure 6) displays the matching language style across all texts used in this analysis. The X-axis displays the LSM number, whereas the Y-axis displays the files of manifestos and novels. The higher the LSM number, the more similarity.

Elliot Rodger's manifesto had a high level of similarity with Cooper's *The Unplugged Alpha* (LSM = 0.94). The result suggested that Elliot Rodger text matches with the author Richard Cooper who is well known as Red Pill. The reason for the match was the similarity of their language. Similarly, the LSM of *The Turner Diaries* and *The Unplugged Alpha* is 0.93. *The Turner Diaries* and Elliot Rodger's manifesto had an LSM of 0.92. The Elliot Rodger manifesto matched with the *The Turner Diaries* (LSM = 0.92).

Filename.1	Filename.2	LSM
rodger_manifesto.pdf	The unplugged alpha.pdf	0.94
1-macdonald_1978_turner_diaries.pdf	The unplugged alpha.pdf	0.93
1-macdonald_1978_turner_diaries.pdf	rodger_manifesto.pdf	0.92
Christopher-Sean-Harper-Mercer-My-Manifesto.pdf	George Sodini incel manifesto.docx	0.92
1-macdonald_1978_turner_diaries.pdf	Theweleit_Klaus_Male_Fantasies_Vol_1_Women_Floods_Bodies_History.pdf	0.91
George Sodini incel manifesto.docx	The unplugged alpha.pdf	0.88
Christopher-Sean-Harper-Mercer-My-Manifesto.pdf	rodger_manifesto.pdf	0.86
Christopher-Sean-Harper-Mercer-My-Manifesto.pdf	The unplugged alpha.pdf	0.86
George Sodini incel manifesto.docx	rodger_manifesto.pdf	0.86
rodger_manifesto.pdf	Theweleit_Klaus_Male_Fantasies_Vol_1_Women_Floods_Bodies_History.pdf	0.84
The unplugged alpha.pdf	Theweleit_Klaus_Male_Fantasies_Vol_1_Women_Floods_Bodies_History.pdf	0.84
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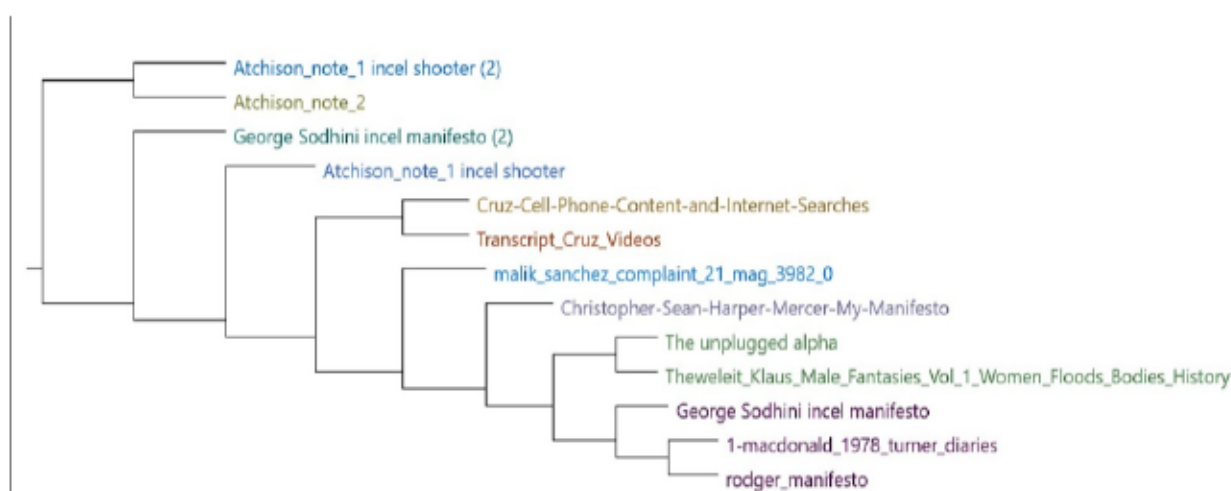
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malik_sanchez_complaint_21_mag_3982_0.pdf	Theweleit_Klaus_Male_Fantasies_Vol_1_Wom en_Floods_Bodies_History.pdf	0.80
The unplugged alpha.pdf	Transcript_Cruz_Videos.pdf	0.80
rodger_manifesto.pdf	Transcript_Cruz_Videos.pdf	0.79
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Atchison_note_1 incel shooter.docx	The unplugged alpha.pdf	0.78
Christopher-Sean-Harper-Mercer-My-Manifest o.pdf	Theweleit_Klaus_Male_Fantasies_Vol_1_Wom en_Floods_Bodies_History.pdf	0.77
George Sodini incel manifesto.docx	Transcript_Cruz_Videos.pdf	0.77
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Christopher-Sean-Harper-Mercer-My-Manifest o.pdf	Transcript_Cruz_Videos.pdf	0.76
1-macdonald_1978_turner_diaries.pdf	malik_sanchez_complaint_21_mag_3982_0.pdf	0.75
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Atchison_note_1 incel shooter.docx	rodger_manifesto.pdf	0.75
George Sodini incel manifesto.docx	Theweleit_Klaus_Male_Fantasies_Vol_1_Wom en_Floods_Bodies_History.pdf	0.75
Atchison_note_1 incel shooter.docx	Christopher-Sean-Harper-Mercer-My-Manifest o.pdf	0.73
malik_sanchez_complaint_21_mag_3982_0.pdf	rodger_manifesto.pdf	0.73

malik_sanchez_complaint_21_mag_3982_0.pdf	The unplugged alpha.pdf	0.73
Cruz-Cell-Phone-Content-and-Internet-Searches.pdf	Transcript_Cruz_Videos.pdf	0.72
malik_sanchez_complaint_21_mag_3982_0.pdf	Transcript_Cruz_Videos.pdf	0.72
Atchison_note_1 incel shooter.docx	Theweleit_Klaus_Male_Fantasies_Vol_1_Women_Floods_Bodies_History.pdf	0.71
Atchison_note_1 incel shooter.docx	malik_sanchez_complaint_21_mag_3982_0.pdf	0.69
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Atchison_note_1 incel shooter.docx	Transcript_Cruz_Videos.pdf	0.66
Christopher-Sean-Harper-Mercer-My-Manifesto.pdf	malik_sanchez_complaint_21_mag_3982_0.pdf	0.66
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Atchison_note_1 incel shooter.docx	Cruz-Cell-Phone-Content-and-Internet-Searches.pdf	0.53

**Figure 6. Pairwise Comparisons**

In the NVivo cluster analysis, the closest result was *The Unplugged Alpha* and *Male Fantasies*. Another significant result was Elliot Rodger's match with *The Turner Diaries*. The match of Elliot Rodger and Turner's diaries connected martyrs and aggressive ideas.



**Figure. 7. NVivo Cluster**

In Figure 7, the results of *My Twisted World* and *The Turner Diaries* were clustered by coding similarity. Next to *The Turner Diaries* novel, George Sodini's manifesto appeared to have similar language to a neo-Nazi text.

Interestingly, *The Unplugged Alpha* text written by Richard Cooper and the book *Male Fantasies* appeared together. The reason for this was that *Male Fantasies* had a compilation of

letters, phrases, paintings, related to misogyny, and *The Unplugged Alpha* book was similar in its language.

## **Chapter 5: Conclusion**

The major highlight of this research is the interweaving of the discourse of incels and incel-like individuals with Nazi and neo-Nazi texts. These connections are especially noteworthy as we consider the results of pairwise comparisons between Rodger's *My Twisted World*, *The Turner Diaries*, and Cooper's misogynistic *The Unplugged Alpha*. More tradition content analysis showed direct connections to neo-Nazi ideology with Nicholas Cruz. Indirect connections to White supremacist discourse in Cruz's racism and antisemitism, Christopher Sean Harper-Mercer's manifesto, and Elliot Rodger's strategy to control and impregnate women was clearly totalitarian in tone. The word cloud analysis, taken from LIWC, is the representation of word frequency appearing more in the text.

Nonetheless, incels represent a very different kind of accelerationism in their linking of violence to personal grievances rather than the debates about government, culture, and society that dictate much of contemporary political discourse. The word clouds confirmed the preoccupation of incels with relationships with failed romantic relationships and not politics. All the manifestos consisted of the word women or female, again showing that these incels had deep personal grievances regarding females. The application of militant accelerationism to personal grievances illustrates the concept of neologism as found in Nick Land's "Teleoplexy: Notes on Acceleration" (2014). Neologism means giving new meaning to existing words (Cambridge University Press & Assessment, 2024).

The findings of this study carry significant implications for the fields of criminology and criminal justice by highlighting the possibility that incels may be viewed as militant accelerationists. Incels have sometimes been dismissed as a group of isolated, sexually frustrated males. This thesis suggests that the association of incels with violent crimes is more sinisterly tied to domestic extremism and militant accelerationism. Incels weaponize their personal grievance, frustration of not having a girlfriend, into violent ideologies which are tied to misogynist, fascist, and neo-Nazi themes. The link of *My Twisted World*, *The Turner Diaries*, and *The Unplugged Alpha* shows the blending of misogyny, Neo-Nazi ideologies, and far-right themes. This combination may inspire many people within inceldom to commit mass shootings, as per the data of ADL there are almost 36 incel mass shooters recorded since 1989 till 2024 (ADL, 2024).

To come to a convincing conclusion, more data is required. However, this research paves the way for further research for militant themes and accelerating their personal grievances in ways that influence the acts of other people within their community and resonate with their belief. If the next researcher analyzes novels like *Siege* and incorporates other books related to Neo-Nazis and misogyny, stronger conclusions may be possible.



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### Appendix A. List of Incel Criminal Offenses

Name	Date	Location	Consequence
Marc Lepine	December 6, 1989	Ecole Polytechnique, Montreal, Canada	Shot and killed 14 women
George Sodini	August 4, 2009	Pittsburgh, PA, LA Fitness Gym	Shot and killed 3 women
Elliot Rodger	May 23, 2014	Isla Vista, CA, mall	Shot and killed 6 people
Chris Sean Harper-Mercer	October 1, 2015	Umpqua Community College, Roseburg, OR	Shot and killed 9 people
William Edward Atchison	December 7, 2017	Aztec, NM, High School	Shot and killed 2 people
Nikolas Cruz	February 14, 2018	Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Parkland, FL	Shot and killed 17 people and injured 17 others

Alex Minassian	April 23, 2018	Toronto, Canada	Drove van, killing 10 pedestrians and injuring 15 others
Faisal Hussain	July 22, 2018	Toronto, Canada	Shot and killed two people and injured 13 people
Scott Paul Beierle	November 2, 2018	Tallahassee, FL, Hot Yoga studio	Shot and killed 2 women and injured 4 others
Christopher Wren Cleary	January 2019	Provo, UT	Arrested before mass casualty event
Brian Isaack Clyde	July 17, 2019	Dallas, TX, Courthouse	Shot and injured 1 person

(continued next page)

Brandon Clark	July 19, 2019	Utica, NY	Killed 1 female internet personality
Connor Betts	August 4, 2019	Dayton, OH	Shot and killed 9 people

Anwar Driouwich	August 31, 2019	Middlesborough, UK	Bomb manufacturing
David Kaufman	October 2019 to August 2020 (arrested December 2021)	New York, NY	Arrested for violent threats and stalking
Oliver Bel	November 2019	Wilmslow, Cheshire, UK	Bomb manufacturing
Jean-Claude Rochefort	December 2019	Montreal, Canada	Online incitement
Oguzhan Sert	February 24, 2020	Toronto, Canada	Machete attack killing 1 woman and injuring 1 other
Carl Bennington	April 21, 2020	Covina, CA	Cyberstalking
Joseph Miner	May 12, 2020	Queens, NY	Buying illegal weapons
Armando Hernandez, Jr.	May 20, 2020	Westgate Entertainment	Shot and killed 3 people

District, Glendale,  
AZ

Cole Carini	June 3, 2020	Richlands, VA	Bomb manufacturing
Gabrielle Friel	December 2020	Edenborough, Scotland	Arrested for weapons possession
Unnamed minor	2021	Birmingham, England	Arrested for plans to make weapons
Malik Sanchez	April 14, 2021	New York, NY	Bomb hoax

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Tres Genco	July 21, 2021	Hillsboro, OH	Arrested for plans for a mass shooting
Jake Davison	August 12, 2021	Plymouth, England	Shot and killed 5 people
Ethan Crumbley	November 30, 2021	Oxford, MI, High School	Shot and killed for people and injured 7 others

Lyndon McLeod	December 27, 2021	Denver and Lakewood, CO	Shot and killed 5 people and injured 2 others
Johnny Young	May 2022	Costa Mesa, CA	Hate crimes
Alejandro Richard Velasquez Gomez	July 22, 2022	San Antonio, TX	Online threats
David Shittu	October 12, 2022	Johnston, RI	Threatening university mass shooting
Jacob Yerkes	November 8, 2022	Loudon County, TN	Aggravated stalking and harassment
Epsom Bell	January 25, 2022	Epsom, Auckland, New Zealand	Drove car into and injured 2 people
Joshua Corfee	February 26, 2023	Lake Havasu, AZ	Airport bomb threat
Michael Lee	October 22, 2023	Tucson, AZ	Threatened university mass shooting
Joshua Bowles	October 30, 2023	Cheltenham, UK	Attempted murder and assault

Alexandre G.	May 21, 2024	Bordeaux, France	Arrests for planning violent attack on Olympic torch relay
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Source: Anti-Defamation League (2024)

Date: 12-3-2024

IRB #: 2023-305

Title: Active Shooter Manifesto Study

Creation Date: 5-18-2023

End Date:

Status: **Approved**

Principal Investigator: Richard Rogers

Review Board: YSU IRB Board

Sponsor:

### Study History

Submission Type	Initial	Review Type	Exempt	Decision	Exempt
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### Key Study Contacts

Member	Richard Rogers	Role	Principal Investigator	Contact	rlrogers02@ysu.edu
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Member	Richard Rogers	Role	Primary Contact	Contact	rlrogers02@ysu.edu
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Member	Priya Dhakal	Role	Co-Principal Investigator	Contact	pdhakal03@student.ysu.edu
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