

**Prompt: Examine the goals of this social group during the 1920s and explain why a person would join the organization.**

**Doc. 1**

*God Give Us Men! The Invisible Empire demands strong  
Minds, great hearts, true faith and ready hands...*

*Men who possess opinions and a will;*

*Men who have honor; men who will not lie;*

*Men who can stand before a demagogue and damn his treacherous flattering without winking!...*

*Men of dependable character; men of sterling worth;*

*Then wrongs will be redressed, and right will rule the earth.*

*---Poem read at meeting, North Carolina, 1923*

**Doc. 2**

*Violation and evasion of the Prohibition laws has had a deep Jewish complexion from the very beginning...This does not mean, of course, that every bootlegger is a Jew. Unless you live in Chicago, New York or other large cities, an actual meeting with the Jew in this minor capacity will not be frequent. The Jew is the possessor of the wholesale stacks;...But notwithstanding all this carefulness, the bulk of the arrests made in the United states have been among Jews...The maintenance of the idea of drink in the minds of the people is due to Jewish propaganda...The idea of drink will be maintained by means of the Jewish stage, Jewish jazz, and the Jewish comics, until somebody comes down hard upon it.*

*---95% of Bootleggers Jews, Dearborn Independent, Michigan, 1922.*

**Doc. 3**

*Edgewood Park was crowded by noon. Members and their wives and families enjoyed a great barbecue, went swimming, dancing, and picnicking. There were airplane stunts during the day with band concerts thrown in for good measure. At night there was a wonderful display of fireworks following the initiation and the address of the member's president.*

*---Report of a Member Gathering in Birmingham, Alabama, 1923*

**Doc. 4**

*Members in Buffalo, New York, 1924*

<i>Occupational Group</i>	<i>percent of members</i>	<i>percent of total native male workers in Buffalo</i>
<i>Professional (clergy, doctors, Engineers, pharmacists, etc.)</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>5%</i>
<i>Business (small businessmen, Managers, inspectors, accountants, etc)</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>10%</i>
<i>Low mon-manual (salesmen, clerks, formen, etc.)</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>23%</i>
<i>Skilled (machinists, electricians, railroad engineers, construction trades, etc.)</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>25%</i>
<i>Semiskilled and service (factory and rail</i>	<i>16%</i>	<i>30%</i>

workers, deliverymen, policemen, repairmen  
etc.)

Unskilled (laborers, gardeners, etc.)

1%

15%

---Researched historical membership list of 2,000 men in the Buffalo area

### **Doc. 5**

*For the organization to say, we want to get rid of the Negros, we want to get ride of the Catholics, it didn't mean a thing to us...I can remember quite well the stories that you hear sitting on the porch...They'd talk about religion, and they'd talk about Catholics...The Catholics were considered horrible people...*

---Anonymous

*Kelly had a grocery store. Well, it hurt their business terribly because people wouldn't go in there, because the club would tell you not to...If you had an empty house..., why you were told not to rent it to a Catholic.*

*Some club leader said that the Pope was coming to take over the country, and he said he might be on the next train that went through North Manchester. You know, just trying to make it specific. So, about a thousand people went out to the train station and stopped the train. It only had one passenger on it. They took him off, and he finally convinced them that he wasn't the Pope. He was a carpet salesman. And so they put him on the net train and he went on to Chicago.*

---Anonymous

---1980s Interviews conducted with Indiana women about life in the 1920s.

### **Doc. 7**

*Humanity has become a commodity. For mercenary motives, our importers of it want the most inferior grade. Industry desires cheap labor. Therefore, we have had this recent flood of 5 and 10-cent citizenship. Take any map which shows the concentration of the South and Eastern European type of immigrant and you will see that wherever manufacturing and mining and lumbering predominate, there the hordes of unskilled labor have overwhelmingly been assembled...*

*The present and recent flood of inferiors foreigners has vastly increased our illiteracy, vitally lowered the health level and visibly menaced America by inheritable mental and more deficiencies...Farms are the only legitimate and justifiable excuse for cheap labor, yet that class is moving irresistibly cityward to swell the slums and multiply immorality. For example, throughout the south the colored race...is migrating to the North-not to its rural districts, but to its industrial centers.*

---A Journal for True American patriots, November 10, 1932

### **Doc. 8**

- 1. Laws to require the reading of the Holy Bible in every American public school.*
- 2. Recognition of the fact ...that Romanism is working here to undermine Americanism...Since Roman Catholics give first allegiance to an alien political potentate, the Pope...their claim to citizenship, to the ballot, and to public office in this Protestant country is illegitimate, and must be forbidden by law...*
- 3. A law to destroy the alien influence of the foreign language press by requiring that the English language be used exclusively.*
- 4. Recognition of the tendency toward moral disintegration, resulting from activities...of the anti-Christian Jews, in our theaters, our motion pictures, and in American business circles; the discontinuance of these anti-Christian activities, and the exclusion of Jews of this character from America.*

5. *The return of the Negroes to their homeland of Africa, under the protection and with the help of the United States Government.*
6. *Strict adherence to the Constitution of the United States, including the Prohibition Amendment, by every citizen.*

*---Program for America, American Standard Newspaper, April 15, 1925.*