

**NOT
IN OUR
TOWN**

Working Together for Safe, Inclusive Communities.

Ferguson Conversations: New Short Film Series on NIOT.org

A Note from Patrice O'Neill, Not In Our Town CEO



Aaron went to school with Mike Brown. The change he wants is less violence and more education. Patrice snapped this photo during her visit to Ferguson.

Events in Ferguson, MO have opened up a discussion about the persistence of racism in our country, and how police officers interact with the communities they serve. I recently traveled to Ferguson to listen and learn.

I'm from Ferguson. Actually, I'm from Berkeley, MO, which is one town over. What I can say is that this is not merely a story about a bad town. Ferguson is us. This is where we are as a country.

Today we are launching a short film series called **Ferguson**

Conversations. [Check out the first two films on NIOT.org](#) and tell us what conversations you're having about Ferguson in your town.

Schnitzer Shares Her Story in Monroe Township, New Jersey



Twenty-one years after white supremacists threw a brick through her son's window displaying a Hanukkah menorah, [Tammie Schnitzer shared her story](#) that helped start an anti-hate movement at the Greenbriar Ballroom in Monroe Township, NJ last Sunday Sept. 21.

Hadassah Associates sponsored a screening of the [original Not In Our Town film](#)

with featured guest Tammie Schnitzer was a great success. More than 200 people attended, many who were moved to tears. Proclamations were presented by local congressman, a state senator, and the town council president (a Protestant, Jew and

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The [Not In Our School \(NIOS\) Video Action Kit](#) is a comprehensive toolkit featuring 20 films, lessons, and resources designed to motivate students to speak out against bullying, and create new ways to make their schools safe for everyone.

Deal ends on Oct. 31!

Catholic, respectively). Organizer Manny Strumpf also read a letter of support from the governor of Montana, where the Not In Our Town story began.

Sister Cities: Fighting Bigotry from West Virginia to Slovakia



Charleston, WV resident and longtime NIOT member Paul Sheridan describes his experience in Charleston's sister city, Banská Bystrica, Slovakia, and its residents' work to combat the rising tide of anti-Semitic and anti-Roma bigotry.

Building on the Not In Our Town story that started in Billings, MT, the coalition in Banská Bystrica has adopted the name *Nie V Nasom Meste*--Not In Our Town.

"*Nie V Nasom Meste* is built on this simple but powerful idea, that healthy communities consist of neighbors standing up for neighbors. In Banská Bystrica, neighbors are beginning to stand up for each other, especially for those who are most vulnerable," writes Paul.

[Read about Paul's journey and Nie V Nasom Meste's courageous work on NIOT.org.](#)

