

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff,

On September 18, Campus Safety received a report that three swastikas were carved into a Jewish student's door in Ogilby Hall. This clear expression of hate is offensive and traumatizing, and places an entire community of people in a very present danger. To be clear, the state of Connecticut has categorized such conduct as a hate crime. History has taught us that tolerating such acts of hate in a community often signal to perpetrators that more extreme acts will be tolerated. We as a community will not tolerate behaviors that are anti-Semitic, hateful, or divisive. We condemn and reject these behaviors because they are fully and completely antithetical to what we value as community.

We are working to identify the person who committed this act, and Campus Safety is actively investigating the matter. Given the nature and severity of the allegations that have emerged, the case has been referred to the Assistant Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Compliance Pamela Whitley, who will commence a comprehensive investigation, in accordance with Trinity's Policy on Nondiscrimination.

Our response as a community must match the gravity of this behavior. We ask that anyone with information about who committed this unconscionable act to contact either Campus Safety (860-297-2222), Pamela Whitley, Assistant Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Compliance for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Compliance (860-297-2493), or the Campus Climate Incident Response Team at campus.climate@trincoll.edu.

Holocaust survivor Eli Wiesel famously said that, "The opposite of hate is not love, it's indifference..." What this anti-Semitic act tells us is that there are members within our community who are

capable of reflecting the most troubling and disturbing elements of society: those who dehumanize, traumatize, and violate the emotional well-being of others. We call upon each and every one of us to take some action when we witness such behaviors and to never allow this community to become one of indifference.

For anyone who needs additional support, we encourage you to contact the following campus resources:

- College Chaplain: 860-297-2013
- Counseling and Wellness Center: 860-297-2415
- Employee Assistance Program: 800-252-4555
- Office of Multicultural Affairs: 860-297-4251
- Office of Student and Community Life: 860-297-2156
- Queer Resource Center: 860-297-2408
- Trinity College Hillel: 860-297-4195
- Women and Gender Resource Action Center: 860-297-2408

We are committed to fostering an environment that ensures the safety, well-being, and dignity of all members of our community—and we call upon all of us to identify ways to demonstrate our support for the Jewish community.

Sincerely,

Anita Davis, Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
Joe DiChristina, Vice President for Student Success and Enrollment Management