

# South Bias Incident Follow Up 8-26-21

Dear Residents of Wilson,

On Thursday,

August 19, 2021, staff were conducting rounds of the building and discovered a swastika drawn on the wall in the stairwell. This type of behavior is directly against the University of Connecticut's values of striving to create a safe and inclusive community for all students.

A bias-related incident is an incident that negatively targets, intimidates, or threatens an individual or group due to race, ethnicity, ancestry, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, physical, mental, and intellectual disabilities, as well as past/present history of mental disorders. This includes, but is not limited to, graffiti or images that harass or intimidate individuals or groups due to the above characteristics.

I will be having open office hours on Tuesday, August 31, 2021 from 9am-10am via [WebEx](#) to discuss the impact this incident had on the community. While this is not mandatory, I do expect that you all have an active part in building an inclusive community and hope that you can come to support members of your community who may have been negatively affected by this incident. If you cannot make it to my open office hours, but would still like to chat with me, please feel free to email me to set up an appointment. Additionally, UCONN Hillel will also be sending out a climate survey at the beginning of the semester to gauge how students on campus are feeling in regards to matters such as this and more. Please see below for resources on anti-Semitism, UCONN Hillel, and the history of the Swastika.

As you move forward in immersing yourself into the community, please keep in mind that these actions have a major impact. We can be proactive and not reactive to situations like this by making the following changes in our daily behaviors: Hold your peers accountable for their decisions; if you see something, say something. You can report this to your RA or to myself.

If you encounter any other bias related incidents within the community please do not hesitate to report it through the

[bias reporting form](#)

Best,

Rachel Conners, Residence Hall Director & the South Campus Staff