

TREE OF KNOWLEDGE INDIANA

# COVEN EVENT SAFETY BOOKLET

SPRING 2022



*This manual was created with the intention of helping guests at our events to be aware of possible threats and dangerous groups in our area. Our coven is a community created for people of all races, genders, and sexual orientations, and we are doing everything in our power to protect our community.*

# COVEN EVENT SAFETY BOOKLET



## SPRING 2022

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Hello friends,

Thank you for taking the time to review this packet and become more familiar with common symbols and phrases that may be used by white supremacists and hate groups in our area. With this knowledge, each member of our coven will have an easier time identifying people that may be a danger or disturbance to our community whether online or at public events. We are hosting many public events for the community this year, and the safety and comfort of our guest is our top priority. Our coven is working to ensure that we are prepared for any safety concern that may arise including fire, first aid, medical emergencies, and aggressive people or groups disturbing our events. Much like a fire drill, these situations are not likely to occur, but we would rather be prepared and have trained volunteers ready for action if they do. If you or another guest are at a public event and notice a tattoo, jewelry, clothing, hand signal, or any other indication that a person or group of people may be affiliated with a hate group, we ask that you please follow these steps:

- 1 DO NOT confront the person. Our goal is to resolve the situation without violence, and without disturbing or endangering other guests.
- 2 Find a member of the Coven Council (they can normally be identified by their black cloaks in the cooler months and shawls in warmer months) or a security volunteer. Discreetly let them know what you saw or heard.
- 3 If you have children or guests with you at an event, find them and wait for instructions from a Council Member or security. Once we have had a chance to assess the situation, we will let you know what to do.

If you would like to learn more about our coven, our community projects, or are interested in volunteering as security during public events, you can reach us at [support@treeofknowledgeindiana.com](mailto:support@treeofknowledgeindiana.com)

Thank you for helping us to create a welcoming, inclusive, and safe community!

# COMMON HATE SYMBOLS

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**A few notes about the symbols listed in this packet:**



This is an overview of images and phrases that are either common and widely used or symbols associated with hate groups in Indiana or surrounding states. However, many groups will include similar images in their symbols. For example the "totenkopf" (above) was used by German SS officers, and is used as an identifier by many groups.



For the sake of efficiency, this list does not include easily recognizable phrases and symbols such as the swastika, "sieg heil", the iron cross, confederate flag, noose, eagles, etc



This list does not include pagan symbols and imagery that have been appropriated by white supremacy groups. Since the majority of people at our events will be pagan, it will be hard to distinguish whether a person with runes, Thor's hammer, or other symbols is a garden variety Pagan, or affiliated with a hate group. However, if you notice that someone has rune tattoos or a Mjollnir necklace (above), you may want to take a second look to see if they have other tattoos or jewelry that raise concern.



White supremacist groups share many political views, talking points, and dog whistles with far-right / alt-right groups. Many symbols are intentionally spread to the political right by hate groups so that they can claim that they are "political phrases" and avoid detection. A good example of this is the "white power hand gesture" (above). Many recent right-wing rallies and spaces have been welcoming to white supremacists groups, or organized by them (ex: the Charlottesville "Unite the Right" rally). This has led to many republicans (intentionally or not) adopting hate symbols, hand gestures, and phrases after observing their peers using them. This can make it hard to discern if a person using many gestures and phrases are members of a hate group or are simply a republican.

# COMMON HATE SYMBOLS

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**14**

14 is numerical shorthand for the white supremacist slogan known as the "14 Words": "We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children."



Racist skinheads prefer wearing steel-toed workboots, typically with red or white shoelaces laced a certain way.

**311**

311 is a number used by Ku Klux Klan members to refer to the Klan. The eleventh letter of the alphabet is the letter "K"; thus 3 times 11 equals "KKK," i.e., Ku Klux Klan.



The Traditionalist Worker party is based in Columbus, IN, but is known to travel statewide and to neighboring states. Their symbol is a four pronged fork in a gear.

**88**

88 is a white supremacist numerical code for "Heil Hitler." H is the eighth letter of the alphabet, so 88 = HH = Heil Hitler.



The Indiana Aryan Brotherhood is a large white supremacist prison gang based in Indiana. It is active both in Indiana prisons and on the streets. Despite its name, it has no connection to the "original" Aryan Brotherhood, which is based in the California and federal prison systems.

**AKIA**

AKIA is Ku Klux Klan shorthand for "A Klansman I Am."

**AYAK**

AYAK is Ku Klux Klan shorthand for "Are You A Klansman?"

**FGRN**

FGRN is a Ku Klux Klan acronym for "For God, Race and Nation," a common Klan slogan.



Firm 22 is the name used by the Vinlanders Social Club, a racist skinhead group, to refer to supporters and associates of the group who are not actually members. The number 22 stands for the letter V.

**6MWE**

6MWE is an acronym for "6 million weren't enough", referring to the roughly 6 million Jewish people killed in the Holocaust.

**(( ( )))**

The "echo," as it is sometimes called, is the on-line use by anti-Semites of multiple parentheses around a person's name to indicate that they are Jewish or, when used around a phrase or term, such as (((banker))), to imply that the word "Jewish" should be added to it.



The Vinlanders Social Club (VSC) is one of the larger hardcore racist skinhead gangs in the United States, with their strongest bases of support in Indiana and Arizona.



The white supremacist version of the Celtic Cross, which consists of a square cross interlocking with or surrounded by a circle, is one of the most common white supremacist symbols.



The Valknot or "knot of the slain" is an old Norse symbol associated with the afterlife that has been appropriated by white supremacists as a racist symbol. Nonracist pagans may also use this symbol, so it should be carefully examined in context.

# COMMON HATE SYMBOLS

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“Anti-Antifa” images are white supremacist symbols and memes directed against antifa activists. Antifa (short for “anti-fascist”) are left-wing and anarchist activists who focus on directly confronting white supremacists.



Aryan Nations is a decades-old American neo-Nazi group with a long history of criminal activity. Its logo consists of a Wolfsangel symbol in which the vertical line is replaced by a sword.



The League of the South is a longstanding neo-Confederate white supremacist group that advocates for an independent, white-dominated South. Its symbol is intended to resemble the St. Andrew’s Cross on the Confederate flag.



SS bolts are a common white supremacist symbol derived from the Nazi-era symbol for the Schutzstaffel (SS), whose members ranged from Gestapo agents to Waffen SS soldiers to concentration camp guards.



In the 2000s, white supremacists created a handsign intended to memorialize the Schutzstaffeln or SS of Nazi Germany, Hitler's secret police, political army, and concentration camp guards. The handsign utilizes both hands to make a lightning bolt symbol, as a pair of lightning bolts was the main symbol of the SS.



The triskele is an ancient symbol with three curved or jointed segments emanating from a single point that has been adopted by white supremacists.



Fasces are an ancient Roman symbol for authority and government coopted by Mussolini's Fascist movement in Italy. Some white supremacists in the United States have recently adopted the symbol both because of its fascist connections and because it is more publicly acceptable than the swastika.



The Arrow Cross symbol derives from the Hungarian fascist political party known as the Arrow Cross Party that was active during 1935-45. Since then, various neo-Nazis and white supremacists have used the symbol themselves, either generically or as part of the logo of a specific hate group.



A number of white supremacists, especially neo-Nazis and racist skinheads, may use various German (or German-like) words or phrases, often derived from Nazi Germany or earlier German ultranationalists, but also sometimes more modern (such as "Weiss Macht" for "White Power").



Bound for Glory is the name of a longstanding white power music band (dating back to 1989) from Minneapolis. It is popular among white supremacists. The main symbol associated with the band is a Thor's Hammer containing the band's initials. Also common are the band's initials in or superimposed over an Iron Cross. Both images derive from albums released by the group.

# COMMON HATE SYMBOLS

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"Blut und Ehre" is a German phrase that translates into "Blood and Honor;" it was popularized by the Nazi Party (as a Hitler Youth slogan and elsewhere). Since World War II, this German phrase (and even more so for its English translation) has commonly been used by white supremacists in Europe, the United States, and elsewhere.



Zyklon B was the name of the gas used to kill over a million victims, most of them Jews, in the death camps constructed by Nazi Germany during the Holocaust. Because of its association with killing Jews, Zyklon B has been adopted as a symbol by modern-day white supremacists, who often use it to make sick jokes about killing Jews.



Pepe the Frog is a popular Internet meme used in a variety of contexts. In recent years it has also been appropriated by white supremacists, particularly those from the "alt right," who use in racist, anti-Semitic or other hateful contexts.



The Vinland Flag was designed in the 1990s by goth metal musician Peter Steele for an album for his band, Type O Negative. "Vinland" was the name given by Viking explorers to the area of North America that they discovered in the Middle Ages. In the early 2000s, white supremacists began to appropriate the flag as a white supremacist symbol.



The Happy Merchant is a very common anti-Semitic meme popularized by the alt right, featuring a person with exaggerated stereotypically Jewish features and grasping hands, meant to convey a "greedy Jew."



Used by the original Nazi party, white supremacists now use the symbol as a unifying insignia for other aryan and neo-nazi groups to recognize each other. Sometimes, this symbol is coupled with other neo-nazi symbols like the wolfsangel or a swastika, but not always.



The "nose emoji" is used to mock Jewish noses, relying on stereotypical antisemitic depictions.



Double lightning bolts look similar to the "SS bolts", and are being used by white supremacists online. Many algorithms filter words easily, but not emojis



While not originally a white supremacist symbol, the gesture now means "white power". Originally, this idea started on 4chan with the intention to "troll" social media users. This image (left) was shared online along with photos of celebrities giving the "OK" gesture in an effort to convince people that certain celebrities were white supremacists. The Alt-right began using it to "troll the liberals" (the joke being that people believed the hoax). Antisemites began using it to taunt Jewish people. Ultimately, the alt-right "trolled" themselves because so many white supremacists started using it that it did in fact become associated with the alt-right and fascist groups. This is often used by The Proud Boys.

# HATE GROUPS IN INDIANA

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Below are the organizations the SPLC has classified as hate groups in Indiana:

## NEO-NAZI GROUPS

### **Gallows Tree Wotansvolk Alliance**

Location: Statewide

Description: Wotanism is a form of modern paganism with white, ethnocentric beliefs imitating those found in 19th and 20th century Germany. Wotanists espouse white nationalism, white separatism and often oppose the U.S. and Judeo-Christianity.

### **National Socialist Movement**

Location: Statewide

Description: The National Socialist Movement bills itself as "America's premier white civil rights organization." The group promotes white European cultural heritage and white separation. Members must be non-Semitic heterosexuals of European descent.

### **White Aryan Resistance**

Location: Warsaw, Indiana

Description: According to the SPLC, "Neo-Nazi groups share a hatred for Jews and a love for Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany. While they also hate other minorities, gays and lesbians and even sometimes Christians, they perceive 'the Jew' as their cardinal enemy."

### **Daily Stormer**

Location: Statewide

Description: Founded by Andrew Anglin, the Daily Stormer is an openly neo-Nazi website that bills itself as the "most genocidal Republican website." The site draws its name from the Nazi propaganda sheet *Der Stürmer*.  
NEO-VOLKISCH

### **Hoosier Headhunters Fight Club**

Location: Statewide

Description: According to the SPLC, the Neo-Volkisch movement veils its "ethnocentric beliefs in arguments for the necessity of separate societies, or tribes, to preserve all ethnicities." The SPLC says the Neo-Volkisch movement promotes "hyper-masculine" imagery and the degradation and disrespect of women.

## ANTI-MUSLIM

### **Soldiers of Odin**

Location: Statewide

Description: The Soldiers of Odin began in Europe as an anti-immigrant group that conducted vigilante patrols. It has since spread to the United States. Earlier this year, the Indiana chapter of the Soldiers of Odin rebranded itself as the American Guard.

# HATE GROUPS IN INDIANA

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Below are the organizations the SPLC has classified as hate groups in Indiana:

## WHITE NATIONALIST GROUPS

### **Traditionalist Worker Party**

Location: Columbus, Indiana

Description: The SPLC says the Traditionalist Worker Party is a white nationalist group that advocates for racially pure nations and communities and blames Jews for many of the world's problems. The Traditionalist Worker Party also reportedly operates the alt-right crowdfunding site GoyFundMe.

### **American Freedom Party**

Location: Statewide

Description: The American Freedom Party describes itself as a "nationalist party that shares the customs and heritage of the European-American people." The group's website describes itself as an alt-right party that represents the interests and issues of White Americans.

### **Sons & Daughters of Liberty / American Guard**

Location: Statewide

Description: The Sons & Daughters of Liberty is the political action wing of a group of "American constitutional nationalists" now operating in Indiana under the name of The American Guard. The group was formerly known as the Soldiers of Odin.

### **Traditionalist Youth Network**

Location: Bloomington, Indiana

Description: Founded in part by Indiana white supremacist Matthew Heimbach, the Traditionalist Youth Network has its origins in the Youth for West Civilization and White Student Union white nationalist groups. Heimbach has railed against blacks, Muslims, Jews, homosexuals, and anyone else he perceives as a threat to white superiority.

### **WTM Enterprises**

Location: Roanoke, Indiana

Description: The SPLC defines white nationalist groups as those that "espouse white supremacist or white separatist ideologies, often focusing on the alleged inferiority of nonwhites."



# HATE GROUPS IN INDIANA

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Below are the organizations the SPLC has classified as hate groups in Indiana:

## RACIST / SKINHEAD GROUPS

### **Aryan Strikeforce**

Location: Statewide

Description: The Aryan Strikeforce is a radical anti-Semitic organization that criticizes what it calls the "failed state of a Zionist-eroded government" in the U.S.

### **Blood & Honour Social Club Indiana**

Location: Statewide

Description: The Blood & Honour Social Club is a U.K.-based international coalition of racist skinhead gangs.

### **Vinlanders Indiana**

Location: Knightstown, Indiana

Description: The SPLC says the Vinlanders Social Club was formed in 2003 by members of a "rogue racist skinhead group." They follow a racist version of paganism that reveres the Norse god Odin. The group is headquartered in Indiana.

### **American Viking Clothing Co.**

Location: Knightstown, Indiana

Description: The SPLC categorizes the American Viking Clothing Co. as a racist skinhead organization. The organization itself purports to be "Havamalistic," which it describes as stemming from ancient Nordic heathen beliefs.

### **Firm 22**

Location: Statewide

Description: Firm 22 is the name the racist skinhead Vinlanders Social Club uses to refer to supporters and associates who are not actually members, according to the Anti-Defamation League. The number 22 stands for the letter "V."

## RADICAL TRADITIONALIST CATHOLICISM

### **Culture Wars/Fidelity Press**

Location: South Bend, Indiana

Description: According to the SPLC, "radical traditionalist" Catholics promote an anti-Semitic message that paints Jews as the "perpetual enemy of Christ."

### **Campus Ministry USA**

Location: Terre Haute, Indiana

Description: The SPLC describes anti-LGBT groups thusly: "Opposition to equal rights for LGBT people has been a central theme of Christian Right organizing and fundraising for the past three decades – a period that parallels the fundamentalist movement's rise to political power."

# HATE GROUPS IN INDIANA

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Below are the organizations the SPLC has classified as hate groups in Indiana:

## KU KLUX KLAN

### **Ku Klux Knights of the Ku Klux Klan**

Location: Three chapters: Muncie, Kokomo & Indianapolis

Description: The Ku Klux Knights call themselves "white Christian patriots." They advocate for a "pure Christian America" and against race integration. They are part of the larger Ku Klux Klan organizational structure which has a long history of violence against blacks, Jews, immigrants, gays and Catholics.

### **Loyal White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan**

Location: Kokomo

Description: The Loyal White Knights recruit native born, white, American citizens of non-Jewish descent to propagate their message of white nationalism and white supremacy. They are part of the larger Ku Klux Klan organizational structure which has a long history of violence against blacks, Jews, immigrants, gays and Catholics.

### **United Dixie White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan**

Location: Statewide

Description: The United Dixie White Knights were a nationwide branch of the KKK. According to the group's website, the group disbanded in June 2017.

### **Confederate White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan**

Location: Two chapters: Madison & Auburn

Description: The White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan are considered one of the most militant and violent chapters of the Klan in American history. The group originated in Mississippi in the early 1960s and has since spread to other states.

## BLACK SEPARATIST

### **Israelite School of Universal & Practical Knowledge**

Location: Indianapolis

Description: The SPLC characterizes the Israelite School of Universal and Practical Knowledge as a black separatist organization. Such organizations, according to the SPLC, typically oppose integration and racial intermarriage and want separate institutions, or a separate nation, for black people in America.

### **Nation of Islam**

Location: Indianapolis

Description: The SPLC defines the Nation of Islam as a black separatist organization promoting a theology of innate black superiority over whites that is "deeply racist, anti-Semitic and anti-gay."

# STAY UP TO DATE

Once a dog-whistle or symbol becomes well known, or social media algorithms are able to detect them, hate groups will change up their tactics. For this reason, its a good idea to look into what signals are being used every couple of months. Another tactic that is often used by the far right is to create false images or information. One example of a reoccurring attempt to spread misinformation with the intention of harming the LGBTQ community is the creation of "clovergenger", "MAPs" and other hoaxes organized on websites like 4chan.



Alt-right groups have created and shared posts online that falsely imply the LGBTQ community is accepting of "pedosexuals". There are different versions of the posts, but most refer to the claim that the community will add the letter P to the acronym LGBTQ. Unfortunately, many people on social media are not skilled at (or interested in) fact checking. A similar situation occurred when a group created images and posts claiming that they want to remove the police dog from the show Paw Patrol. Of course, no one was truly upset about a cartoon dog, but that didn't stop social media users and even news networks from believing the tall tale.

On the surface, this may seem like a harmless prank. However, these social media hoaxes are created with the intention of distracting media platforms from real issues by discrediting the people that are fighting for justice. In the first example, a new hoax pops up every time there is a chance of advancing rights for the LGBTQ community. This is why the "gay people support pedophiles" hoax is a reoccurring problem. In the second example, the "outrage over Paw Patrol" hoax happened during the protests following the murder of George Floyd. The intention of the individuals creating these posts was to convince the public that the people pushing for police reform and demanding that police to be held accountable when they break the law... were just being ridiculous. How can we take anyone seriously when they are offended by cartoon puppies? That's the goal: to create a straw-man argument and distract from the reality of the situation.



MEDIA BUZZ · Published 1 day ago

## Cancel culture goes crazy, claiming classics, cartoons and the confederacy



By Howard Kurtz | Fox News



Charles Payne blasts ridiculous criticism of 'Paw Patrol' as pro-cop propaganda

# STAY UP TO DATE

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If you're interested in learning more, here are some helpful resources:

## **Southern Poverty Law Center**

The SPLC is the premier U.S. non-profit organization monitoring the activities of domestic hate groups and other extremists – including the Ku Klux Klan, the neo-Nazi movement, neo-Confederates, racist skinheads, antigovernment militias, Christian Identity adherents and others. We're currently tracking more than 1,600 extremist groups operating across the country. We publish investigative reports, train law enforcement officers and share key intelligence, and offer expert analysis to the media and public.

<https://www.splcenter.org>

<https://www.splcenter.org/hate-map?state=IN>

## **Jewitches**

founded in 2020, jewitches was created to honor the magic, mysticism, and practice found within Judaism. A play on words (jewish + witches), Zo decided it was the perfect name for everything they were doing. We have provided a description and short breakdown of several tropes, terms, dog whistles, and conspiracy theories. Further research is recommended and encouraged. This is a living document and by no means complete guide to antisemitism.

<https://www.jewitches.com/antisemitism-education>

<https://www.tiktok.com/@exposingantisemitism>

## **Not In Our Town**

Hate groups advocate extreme prejudice, vandalism or violence as a way to instill fear and terror among people on the basis of race, culture, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity. These groups, seeking to tap a vein of underlying bigotry in U.S. society, use hate language, threats, symbols and actual incidents of violence to send a message of intolerance. To counter these bias incidents, many communities have created groups and developed protocols to mobilize a broad and positive show of support for diversity. Here is the protocol we developed

<https://www.niot.org/action-hub/local-lessons/guide-responding-hate-groups>

# COMMUNITY EVENT SECURITY MEETING

Our goal is to have 1 security volunteer for every 10 people present at any given event. We will meet with these volunteers prior to each event to ensure that they are aware of their responsibilities, confident in their skills, and prepared for emergencies.

- Create a list of possible risks and threats that may occur at the upcoming event.
- Work together to create a plan of action to prevent injury, deter threats, and defend our guests if necessary.
- Designate a "watchtower" location. This should be a location that is easy to spot from a distance for guests to relocate to if the event location becomes unsafe.
- Write an **Event Safety Briefing** to be announced or posted at the event informing people of:
  - ⊗ First Aid Kit Location
  - ⊗ Watchtower location
  - ⊗ Safety reminders (no kids near fire pit, high waters in the river, etc)
  - ⊗ Other relevant Information
- Review the "Potential Threat Preparedness" Form with all volunteers. Every time.
- Review discreet phrases and hand signals to indicate that there is a threat
- Run emergency drills at the location with fully equipped security. This could include response drills, loud noises, communication practice, first aid practice, self defense training, and weapon handling. The intention is to help our volunteers feel comfortable and confident in their ability to respond to emergencies
- Discuss workings or spells for protecting the event location and guests. Set a date and time for performing these workings.

# FIRST AID: BLEEDING



While most incidences of bleeding are not life-threatening, more serious cases require proper first aid and urgent medical assistance. It's important you know the steps to controlling blood loss.

While we do have coven members and teachers that are first aid certified, they may not be nearby. You can do this!

**1**

**Ask the person to sit or lay down.  
Elevate the wound if possible.**

**Wear gloves and remove / cut  
away clothes around the wound**

**2**

**3**

**If there is an object in the wound, don't  
remove it. Apply pressure on both sides**

**If there is no object in the  
wound, apply direct pressure**

**4**

**5**

**Call 911 as soon as you have  
pressure on the wound**

**Treat for shock, and add gauze  
to the wound if needed**

**6**

**[Click Here to watch a tutorial](#)**



**Medics Wanted!**

# FIRST AID & CPR TRAINING

Are you interested in becoming First Aid & CPR certified?

*You can get your 2 year certification at home in your pajamas!*

*For only \$35, you can enroll in the online First Aid/CPR/AED course through The Red Cross!*

## *Why Take First Aid Training?*

While this isn't a requirement to become a security volunteer, it may give you valuable skills and confidence to handle medical emergencies

## *What are some other benefits to becoming certified?*

- It looks great on a resume!
- You get to level up to a Medic Tabard at events
- Impress your future dates

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW FIRST AID TRAINING NEAR YOU!](#)