

Hate symbols such as swastikas and confederate flags should be banned in schools. Not only are these symbols offensive and hateful, they also do not promote a safe and welcoming space for all students. As a member of the Jewish community, I was scared when I heard about swastikas being drawn on stalls in the boys bathroom at my school. The symbol that is attached to the mass murder of over six million people should not be tolerated in the school building. Going to school in a very rural area means that some students wear confederate flags on various articles of clothing. Some may argue that it is “their heritage” and while that may be true, we should leave the teaching of heritage up to the history teachers. The confederates supported slavery and I cannot see any reason why it would be appropriate to show off their flag in schools.

It is very upsetting to me that we even have to enforce this ban today. Symbols of hate should already be banned in schools across America. I cannot see why anyone feels the need to wear or draw these symbols that promote discrimination and have caused others so much pain in the past. A place that allows these symbols cannot be an accepting and adequate learning environment for all students. Ban hate symbols in our schools!

Sincerely,

Madeline Koenig