

JACL

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JACL Disturbed By Racist Graffiti On Korean Church in Georgia

Chicago, IL – The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is deeply disturbed by the racial vandalism of a Korean church in Suwanee, Georgia. According to reports, the words “chink mobile,” along with a slew of other racial epithets, had been painted on the church van and much of the church property.

Police uncovered swastikas and anarchy symbols spray-painted on Evergreen Presbyterian Church, in addition to crosses hung upside down and “Jesus is dead” scrawled on the church van. Most of the graffiti was first discovered as churchgoers were making their way to morning service on Sunday.

“Hurtful racial slurs like “chink” are startling reminders that anti-Asian sentiment still exists, and can manifest in ugly and violent ways,” said William Yoshino, JACL Midwest Director. “It is also a sad reminder that 26 years after the murder of Vincent Chin, a Chinese American, Asian Americans are still lumped together as one large indistinguishable, perpetually foreign people,” continued Yoshino. (Chin was brutally murdered following an altercation in which the perpetrators perceived him as Japanese.)

The JACL warned that hateful symbols must not be taken lightly, as vandalism and graffiti can be a precursor to violence. The JACL urges authorities to fully investigate this case and not dismiss it as youthful exuberance.

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The Japanese American Citizens League, established in 1929, is the oldest Asian American civil rights organization in the United States. Our mission is to secure and maintain the human and civil rights of Americans of Japanese ancestry and others victimized by injustice.