

MESSAGE FROM JACOB

March 6, 2015

I noticed a cop the other night who had several Nordic tattoos. They were associated with the Norse religion Asatru. Asatru is an official religion of Iceland and Norway. It is the Ancient faith of the Norse. It is a Pagan religion.

In Asatru runes are used in mystical rites. One of the runes is Othalo and looks like this:



But Nazi's have tried to appropriate the religion — much like the kkk or Aryan Nations has done with christianism. White Power and skinhead groups also use the Othalo rune but they outline it in black and color it red — like a Nazi-style colored flag.

While red is a common color for Othalo in Asatru, the black border is usually seen in white Power groups. So, I ask the officer if he practices Asatru. He's not Druid, but maybe we can find some pagan kinship, right? No. He gives me a short answer, "No." And zooms away.

Then I notice over a few days other

symbols — a symbol of war in Norse on his back elbow, a snowflake, and other symbols that would clearly make him Asatru.

I ask him again later and he says: "Its not religious, it's heritage." Sounds reasonable, but he told me he wasn't all Norwegian. And a final lone tattoo gave it all away — a spider web on his right elbow. A white power symbol marking, in part, having done harm to another race. It is the only tattoo on his right arm.

I have some knowledge of the White Power racist movement. I knew the moment I seen his Othalo rune, its color and specifically its placement that he had some history.

But that is Florida. In Florida I have heard cops openly call blacks, "boy" and when their black co-workers were out of shot call them nigger. Officers have regularly spoken to me about "Those dumb niggers."

In Northern Florida it is the culture. While I was being driven from the Jefferson Correctional Institution (JCI) in 2013 the driver asks what color the inmate was I had an altercation ~~about~~ with. I said "Black", wondering why it mattered since race never played into the issue. He then pumped his fist in the air and said "yeah! Fucking nigg's drive me crazy."

Not to long before that he was speaking to a black corrections officer calling her "Ma'am".

So he's a polite racist.

Tattoos or none. It's open hostility. In Florida Black prisoners who don't submit like good "boy's" pay. If they are at Florida State Prison or Santa Rosa, it's lurking.

I regularly hear officers threaten, and follow through, with denying prisoners food at FSP and Santa Rosa. "If you don't shut up you dumb monkey, you won't get no food on your tray."

Don't get me wrong. Not all guards are bad in Florida. There are some good folks trying to make a pay check. But they turn an eye to the misconduct of others, or outright condone it as "needed". That makes them just as dirty.

One thing I know these officers hate are the camera's. They complain there are camera's everywhere and they "can't do 'nothing'" no more. There needs to be more cameras, however, there needs to be voice recorders on a unit. The cops need to know what they say will be recorded as well.

The prison phones used by staff to call from unit to unit to warn each other when officers are telling, the warden is coming or keeping watch for administrators, etc., all need to be recorded just like the inmate system. That way they can't use those phones inappropriately, to get their stories straight, to pass messages on who's telling on who. They

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will be under the same scrutiny as prisoners.

This is prison, not their back yard fence.

After all, in the words of many right wing nuts, if they're not doing anything wrong, what are they afraid of??