

# WSU student's car defaced with hate messages

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## **Moscow-Pullman Daily News**

A white Kia belonging to Washington State University student John Kraus was found vandalized with hate messages Thursday morning.

Pictures of the car were posted on Facebook, apparently by Katie Noble, WSU violence prevention educator. Hundreds of people commented on them.

"Die Faggot," "Fag!" and "Go 2 Hell" were some of the words painted in red on Kraus' white Kia.

Pullman Police said Kraus contacted them and reported the vandalism and hate crime Thursday morning.

According to police, Kraus tried to clean off the red words painted on his vehicle, but it began to smear. After failing to get the words off his car, police said, Kraus left the vehicle and went to his class on the WSU campus. When he returned, his car was surrounded by more than 20 people buffing the words off.

Police said the crime doesn't appear to be linked to the recent presidential election.

Kraus thought different.

"To all, this is what Donald Trump's America looks like," Kraus wrote on Facebook after the incident. "Consider this my call to arms against hate."

Reports of similarly minor but ugly incidents all over the country swirled across Facebook and other social media sites Thursday.

Kraus could not be reached by the Daily News for comment.

The investigation into who is behind the hate crime and vandalism continues, police said.