

SURVIVING THE YEARS OF HATE: COUNSELING JEWISH STUDENTS AT THE TIME OF RISING ANTISEMITISM



Oren M. Shefet, PhD | Stony Brook University | oren.shefet@stonybrook.edu

TRIGGER WARNINGS

The following presentation will include

- Mentions of physical violence
- Mentions of sexual violence
- Descriptions and examples of expressions of hate



PRESENTATION CONTENT

- **Jewish identity 101** – How many Jews? What sets them apart?
- **Antisemitism** – Old antisemitism, new antisemitism, the last decade
- **And then came October 7, 2023** – The increase of campus antisemitism following the attack
- **Counseling Jewish Students** – Individual counseling and advocacy after the disaster



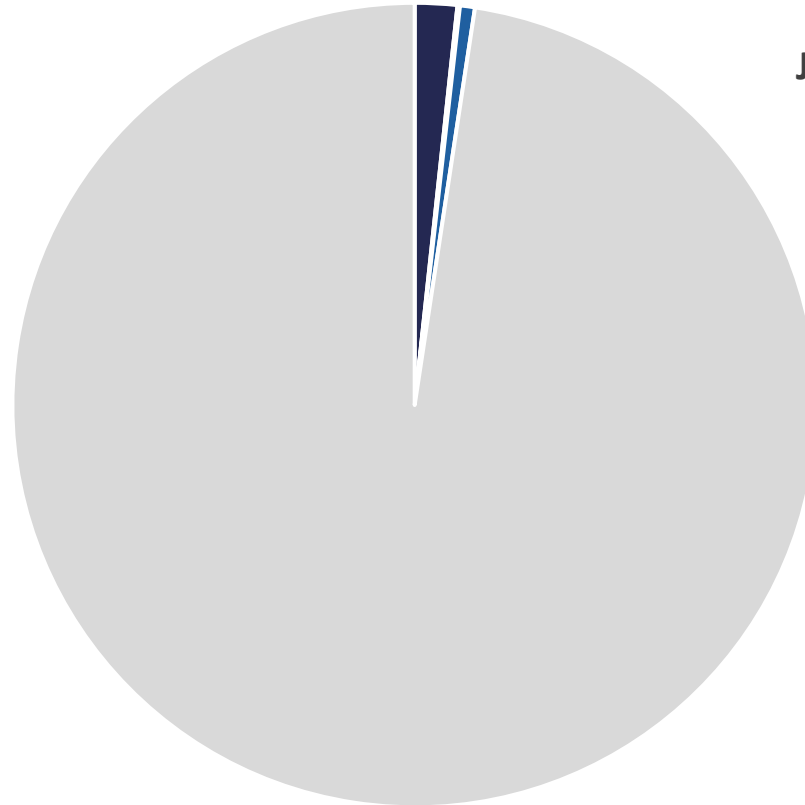
JEWISH IDENTITY 101

PERCENTAGE OF JEWS IN THE UNITED STATES

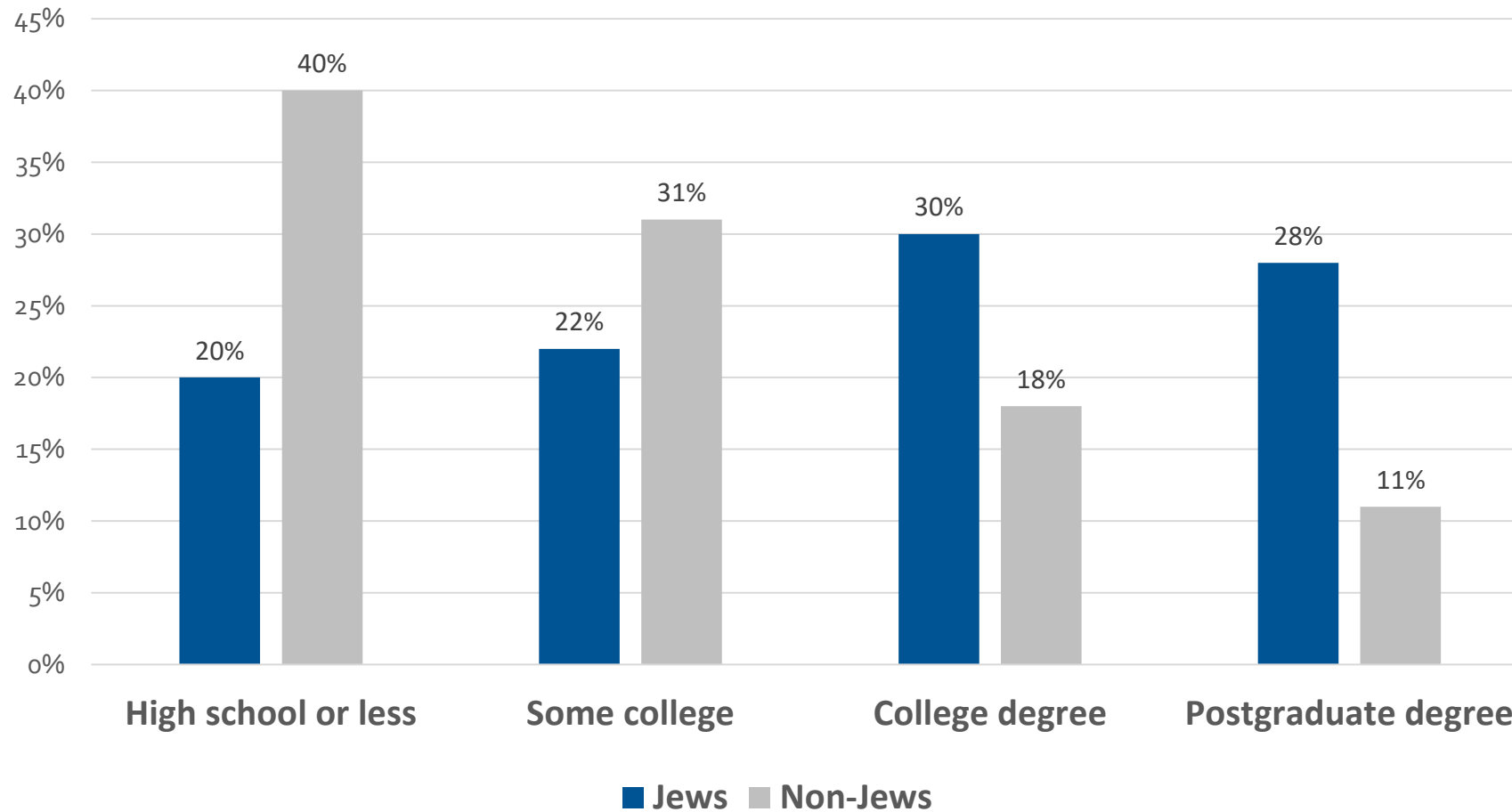
Jewish by religion 1.7%

Bi-religious, including Jewish 0.1%

Jewish, atheist 0.6%



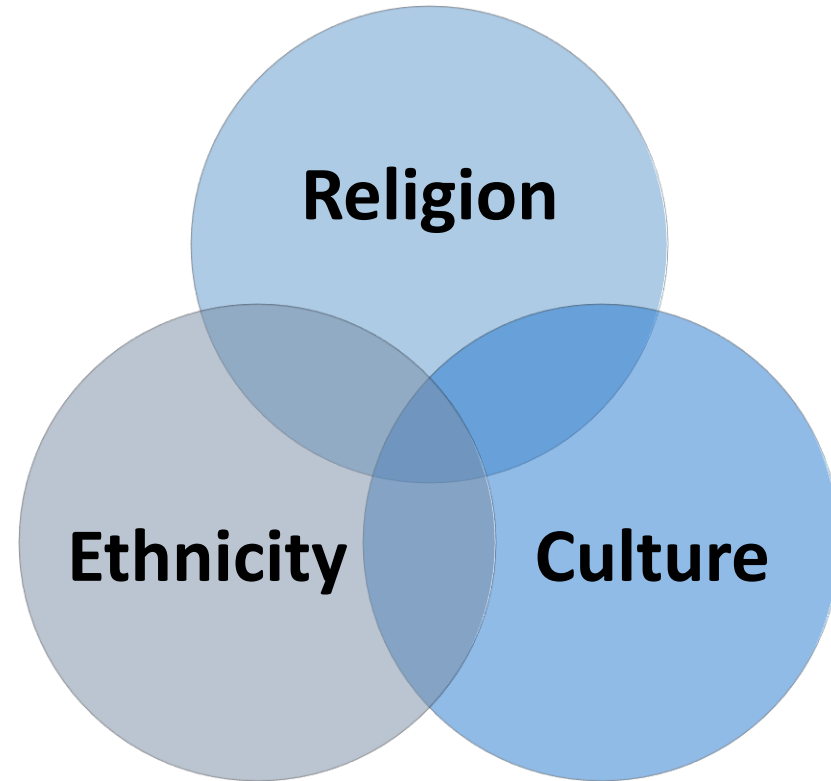
JEWS ARE MORE LIKELY TO ATTEND AND GRADUATE HIGHER EDUCATION



WHAT MAKES A PERSON JEWISH?

Being Jewish is mainly about

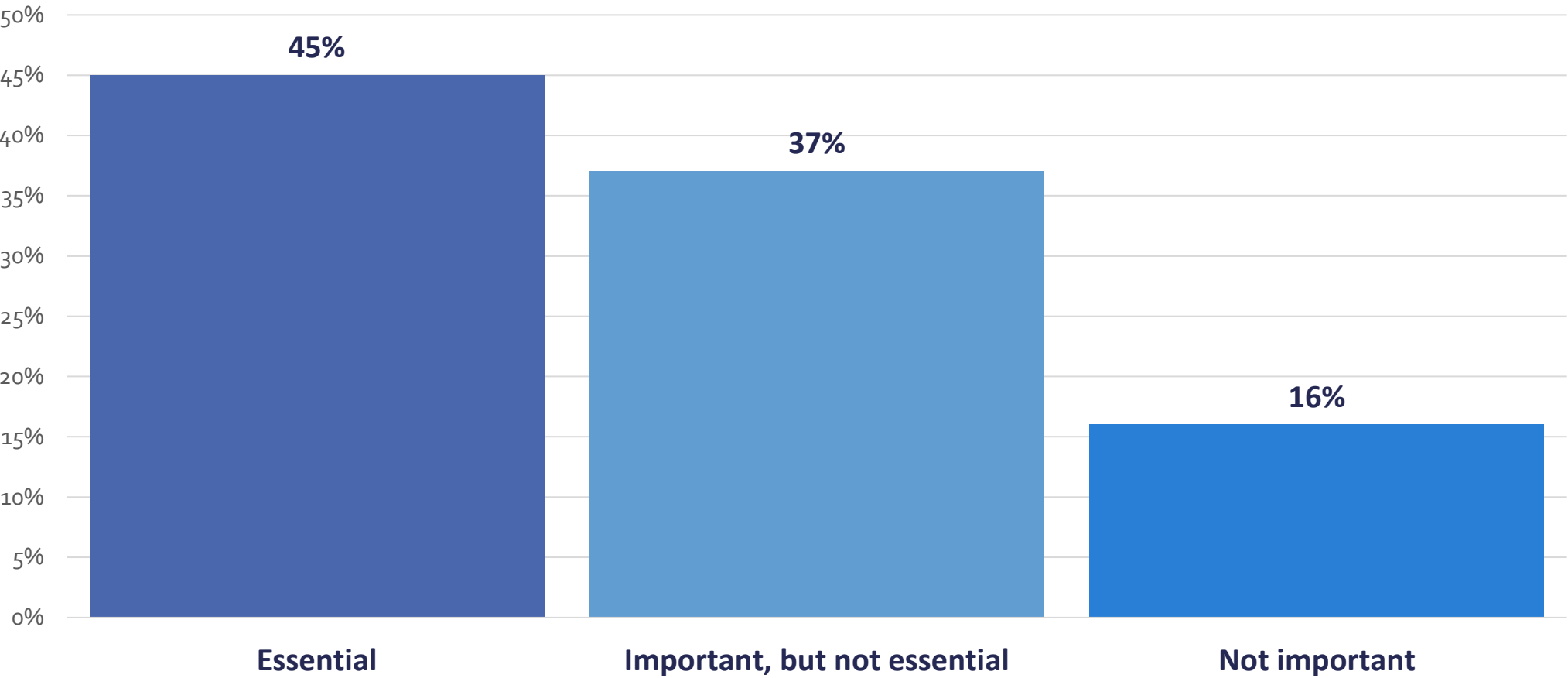
- Religion – 36% (only Religion – 11%)
- Ethnicity – 52% (only Ethnicity – 21%)
- Culture – 55% (only Culture – 22%)
- Religion + Ethnicity – 2%
- Religion + Culture – 4%
- Ethnicity + Culture – 10%
- Religion + Ethnicity + Culture – 19%
- Other – 9%



MULTICULTURAL LENS ON JEWISH CLIENTS

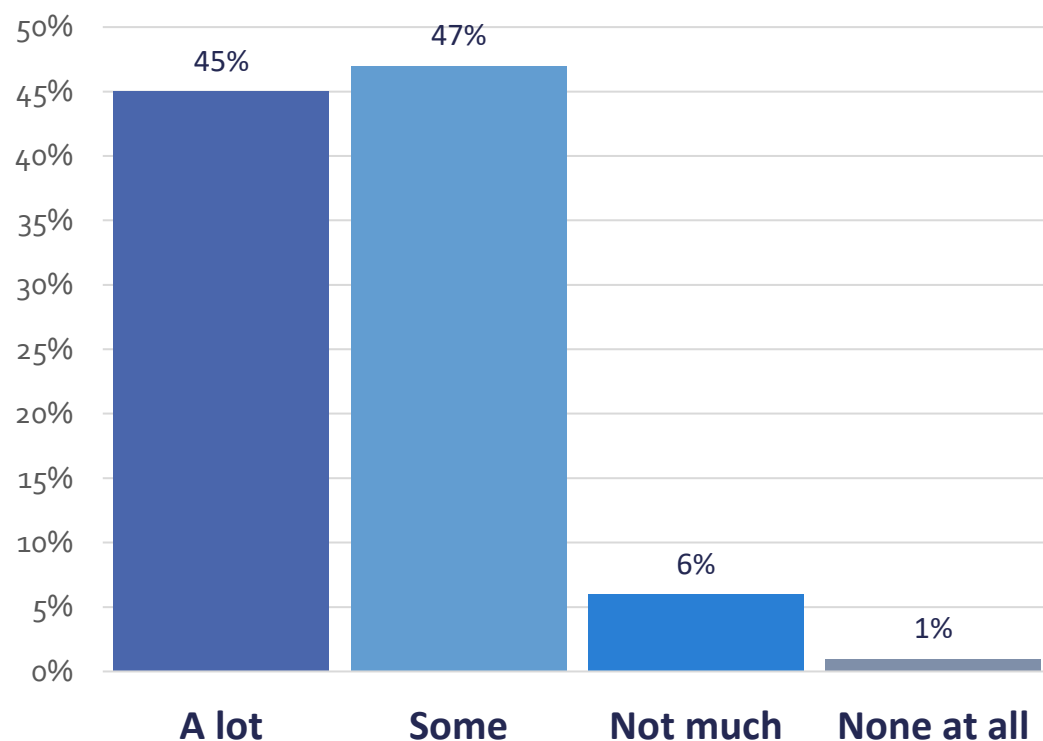
- What does being Jewish mean to you?
- What messages about being Jewish did you receive from your family?
- What messages about being did you receive Jewish from society?
- Consider intersectionality

IS IT ESSENTIAL FOR A JEWISH PERSON TO CARE FOR ISRAEL?

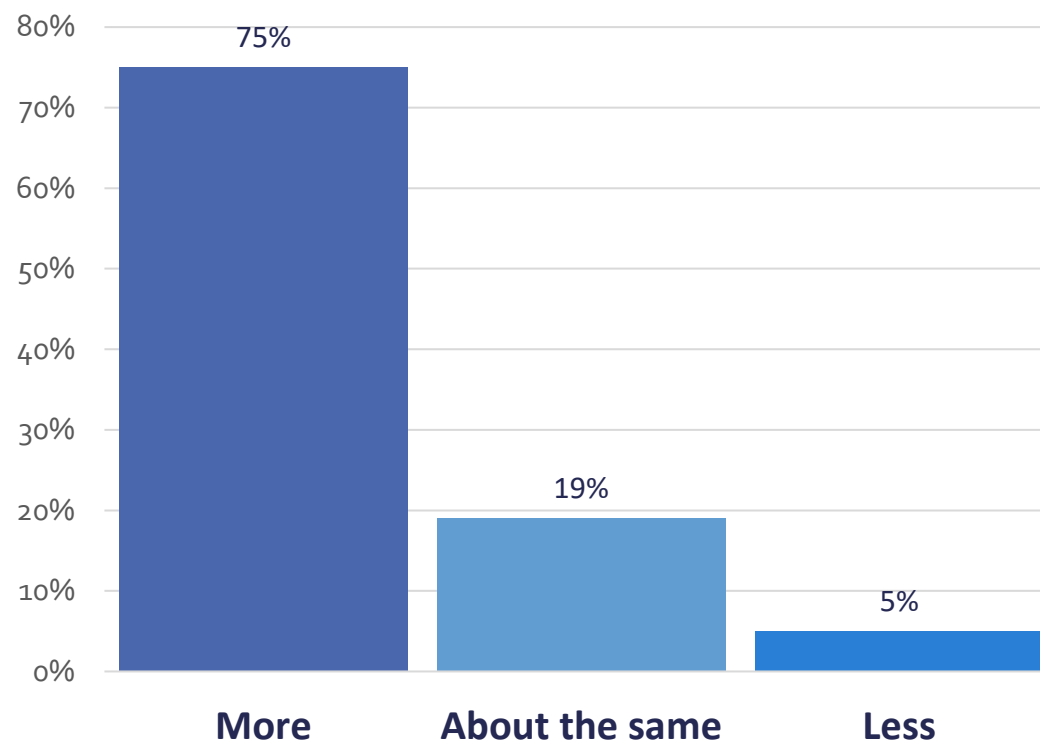


JEWISH PERCEPTION OF ANTISEMITISM IN THE US

How much antisemitism in the US today?



How much antisemitism in the US today compared with five years ago?



ANTISEMITISM

THE OLD AND NEW ANTISEMITISM

Old Antisemitism



New Antisemitism



"Who invited that lousy anti-Semite?"

THE OLD AND NEW ANTISEMITISM

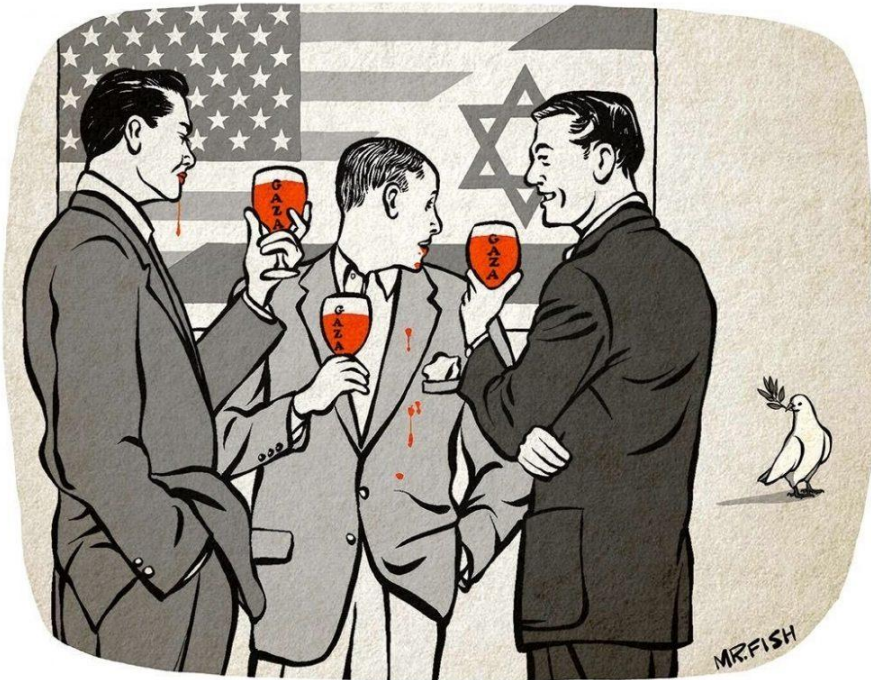
Old Antisemitism



- Discriminates against Jews in their host society, denying or assaulting their right to live as equals, even denying their right to live
- Based on Religious or Racial theories

THE OLD AND NEW ANTISEMITISM

New Antisemitism



"Who invited that lousy anti-Semite?"

- Discriminates against the Jewish people's right to live as equals among nations, even denying their right to live
- Based on Political theories
- Demonizes the Jewish country
- Frequently holds double standards

ANTISEMITISM AND ANTI-ISRAELI SENTIMENTS

Anti-Israeli views are not necessarily antisemitic

They may cross into antisemitism when:

- They employ traditional forms of antisemitic prejudice
- They blame all Jews for the actions of the Israeli government
- Holding the only explicit Jewish state to a different standard than other countries
- Denial of the Jewish people the right to self-determination

THE INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE ALLIANCE (IHRA) DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM

Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.

Antisemitism includes:

- Calling for harming Jews
- Demonizing the Jewish collective
- Accusing the Jews as a people for real or imaginary crimes
- Denying the existence or scope of the holocaust
- Denying the Jewish right for self determination, demonizing the Jewish state or applying double standards to the Jewish state
- Accusing Jews of being more loyal to Israel than to their own country
- Using traditional antisemitic symbols when criticizing Jews
- Using Nazi symbols when criticizing Jews or Israel



ANTISEMITIC TROPES

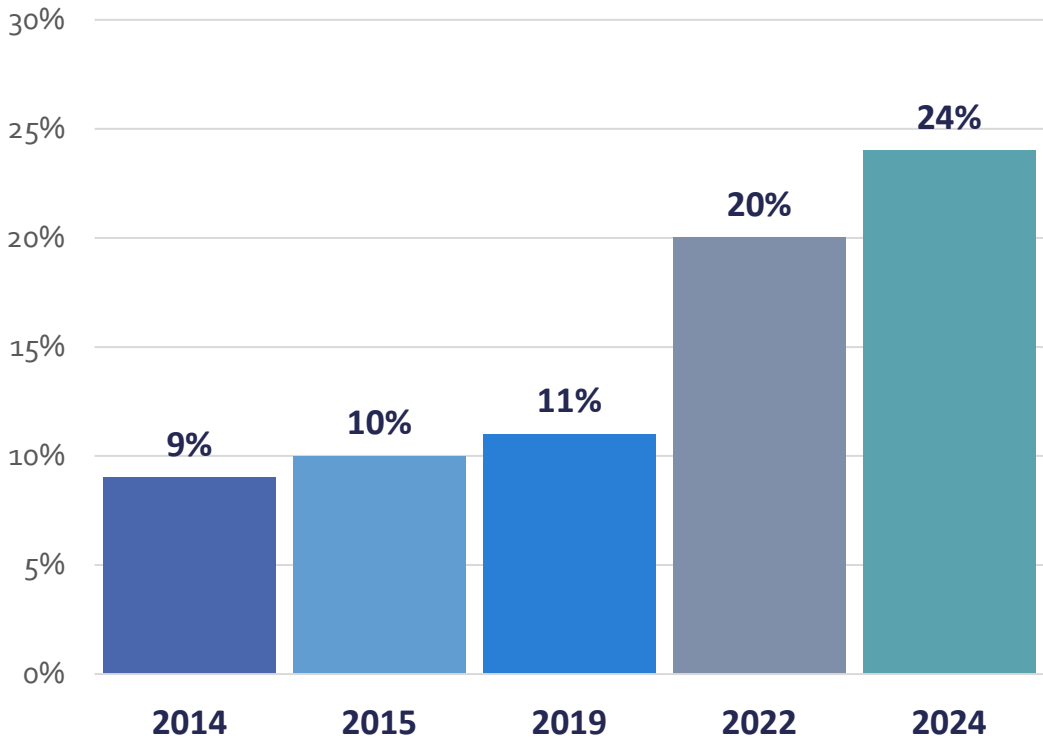
1. Jews stick together more than other Americans
2. Jews in business go out of their way to hire other Jews
3. Jews are more loyal to Israel than to America
4. Jews always like to be at the head of things
5. Jews do not share my values
6. Jews have too much power in the business world
7. Jews have too much control and influence on Wall Street
8. Jews don't care what happens to anyone but their own kind

ANTISEMITIC TROPES

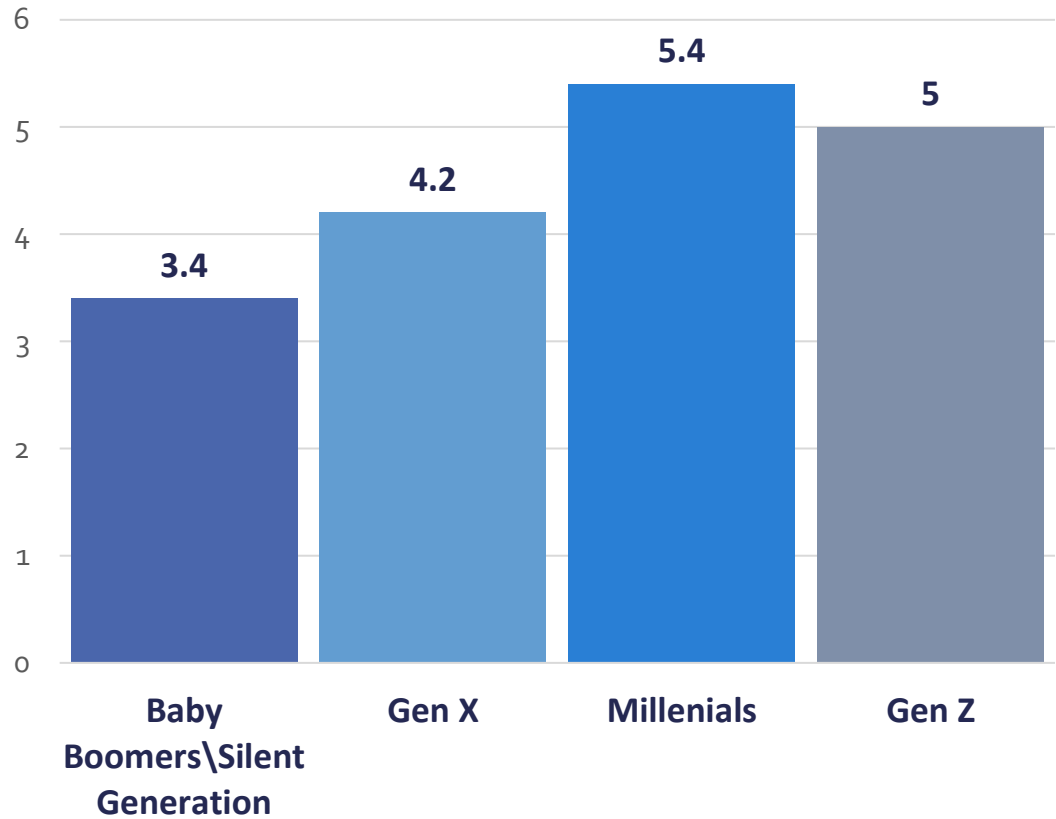
9. Jews in business are so shrewd that other people do not have a fair chance at competition
10. Jews are more willing than others to use shady practices to get what they want
11. Jews have too much power in the United States today
12. Jews have a lot of irritating faults
13. Jews are just not as honest as other business people
14. Jews are not warm and friendly

ANTISEMITIC TROPES

Percentage of Americans holding 6 or more antisemitic tropes



Average antisemitic tropes by generation



ANTISEMITISM FROM LEFT AND RIGHT

Radical Left

Jews are...

- Privileged Whites
- Supporters of White supremacy
- Nationalistic
- Capitalist
- Controlling behind the scenes

Radical Right

Jews are...

- Faux Whites or betrayers of the White race
- Liberals
- Globalists
- Communist
- Controlling behind the scenes

ANTISEMITISM FROM LEFT AND RIGHT



WHEN YOU SAY THAT ANTISEMITISM ONLY
EXISTS ON THE RIGHT OR THE LEFT,
WHAT YOU REALLY MEAN IS THAT
YOU'RE ONLY WILLING TO STAND UP FOR
JEWS WHEN IT POLITICALLY SUITS YOU.

ANTISEMITISM OVER THE LAST DECADE

- Physical Assaults – Jewish Center in Kansas City (2014), Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh (2018), Chabad House in Poway, CA (2019), Kosher grocery store in Greenville, NJ (2019), Synagogue in Colleyville, TX (2022)
- Antisemitism in Politics – Marjorie Green (R), Rashida Tlaib (D)
- Antisemitism in popular culture – Mel Gibson, Halley Berry, Miley Cyrus, Ye

ANTISEMITISM ON CAMPUSES

- 2013 – Pew Survey – 54% had been subject or witnessed antisemitism on campus
- 2015 – UCLA student Rachel Beyda is questioned in her nomination for the Student Judicial Board “Given that you are a Jewish student and very active in the Jewish community, how do you see yourself being able to maintain an unbiased view?”
- 2015 – UC Santa Cruz member of the student government was warned to abstain from voting on a divestment resolution because he was “elected with a Jewish agenda”

AND THEN CAME OCTOBER 7, 2023



STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS CONDONING THE MASSACRE

- October 8, 2023 – Over 30 student organizations at Harvard publish a letter claiming Israel is entirely responsible for the violence
- October 8-10, 2023 – Frequent interruptions of vigils, students receiving curses and threats
- Messages condoning the attack are published by SJP at CUNY Hunter, CSU Fullerton, University of California – Berkeley, Drew University, Oakland University and more

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS CONDONING THE MASSACRE



Drexel University

Bard SJP's Statement in Support and Solidarity of the Unity Intifada

Bard SJP unequivocally supports the Unity Intifada in Gaza and the broader occupied Palestinian lands. Liberation is a material process that requires confrontation by any means necessary.

From the river to the sea, we will continue to fight for the honor and dignity of Palestinian people. We are part of this movement.

Bard College

FACULTY JOINING THE ATTACKS

- Professor Zareena Grewal (Yale) – “My heart is in my throat. Prayers for Palestinians. Israeli is a murderous genocidal settler state and Palestinians have every right to resist through armed struggle solidarity.”
- Professor Joseph Massad (Columbia University) – Published an article about “an innovative Palestinian resistance”, “shocking success” and “stunning victory”, and described the attack on Jewish civilians with words such as “astounding” and “awesome”.
- Professor Marie Cruz Soto (NYU) – Addressed her class that Israel deserves to be destroyed, that violence from Israel permeates the entire world and that she will not be silenced by the “rich Jewish donors that control NYU”.
- Professor Ameer Loggins (Stanford) – Asked the Jewish students to raise their hands and then stand in the corner since they are ‘colonizers’.

FACULTY JOINING THE ATTACKS



SRS-One 🇲🇪 🇵🇸
@jemmaisOKeh

one group of ppl we have easy access to
in the US is all these zionist journalists
who spread propaganda &
misinformation

they have houses w addresses, kids in
school

they can fear their bosses, but they
should fear us more 🔪 🔥 💧 💧 💧

8:34 PM · 10/10/23 from Earth · **516** Views

University of California - Davis



School of the Art Institute of Chicago

FACULTY JOINING THE ATTACKS

More than a quarter (29%) of Jewish students have had a professor say something antisemitic or anti-Israel, or report having been treated differently by a professor because of their identity or beliefs.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S STUDIES ASSOCIATION'S STATEMENT

National Women's Studies Association - Calls for a Ceasefire
and Negotiations to End Gaza Siege and Israeli Apartheid (October 11, 2023)



NATIONAL WOMEN'S STUDIES ASSOCIATION

SIGNS, POSTERS AND FLIERS



The New School for Social Research



New York University

GRAFFITI



University of California – Los Angeles



University of British Columbia



Queens College

NAZI SYMBOLS

Columbia University



Harvard University



Ohio University



University of Michigan



THE KIDNAPPED POSTERS



Harvard University



Cornell University

DEMONSTRATIONS



Harvard University

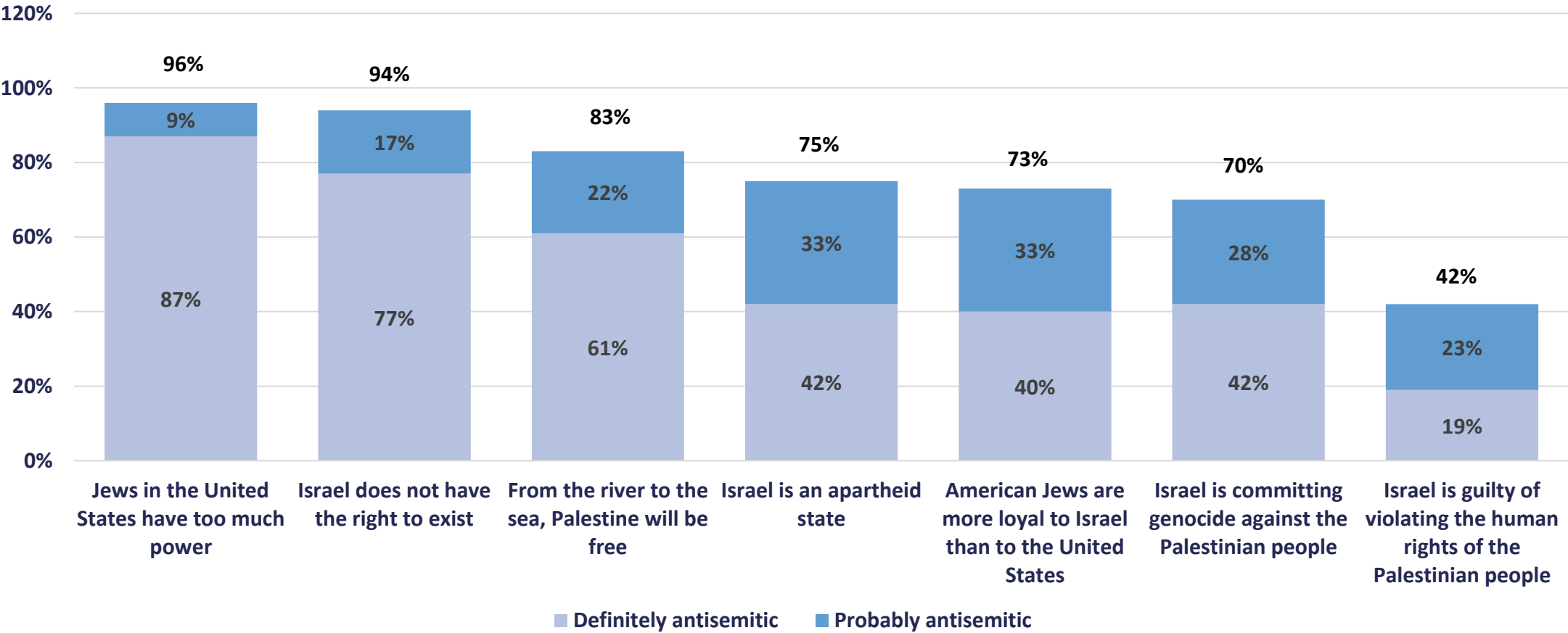


University of Georgia

CHANTS IN DEMONSTRATIONS

- We don't want two states! We want '48!
- From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free!
- Globalize the Intifada!
- There is only one solution! Intifada revolution!
- Say it loud, say it clear, we don't want no Zionists here!

JEWISH STUDENTS' PERCEPTION OF ANTISEMITISM IN STATEMENTS



ENCAMPMENTS AND CLOSURES



Claremont University



University of California – Los Angeles

ONLINE THREATS AND VIOLENCE

gonna shoot up 104 west

allahu akbar! from the river to the sea, palestine will be free! glory to hamas! liberation by any means necessary!

Posted By: kill jews
Oct 29, 2023 3:16:01 PM

Post Reply

0 👍 | 1 🖐️ | 60 Views

Report

Cornell University

watch out jews.

watch out pig jews. jihad is coming. nowhere is safe. your synagogues will become graveyards. your women will be raped and your children will be beheaded. glory to Allah.

Posted By: hamas soldier
Oct 28, 2023 7:34:27 PM

Post Reply

4 👍 | 14 🖐️ | 181 Views

Report

if i see another jew on campus...if i see a pig male jew i will stab you and slit your throat. if i see another pig female jew i will drag you away and rape you and throw you off a cliff. if i see another pig baby jew i will behead you in front of your parents. if i see another synagogue another rally for the zionist globalist genocidal apartheid dictatorial entity known as "israel", i will bring an assault rifle to campus and shoot all you pig jews. jews are human animals and deserve a pigs death. Liberation by any means. From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free!

jews are murdering palestinian babies

jews are murdering palestinian babies. abducting thousands into concentration camps and death camps. they are gang raping thousands of palestinian women in gaza, forcing them into prison, and giving them forced abortiflans after which the fetuses are used in jewish human experimentation.

Posted By: freedom
Oct 29, 2023 1:19:18 PM

Post Reply

jews planning to bomb

report this to the police. jews are planning to take over willard straight hall with ar 15s and are planning to take innocent palestinian students hostage.

Posted By: jew crimes
Oct 29, 2023 2:33:56 PM

Post Reply

0 👍 | 4 🖐️ | 97 Views

Report

watch out jews.

watch out pig jews. jihad is coming. nowhere is safe. your synagogues will become graveyards. your women will be raped and your children will be beheaded. glory to Allah.

Posted By: hamas soldier
Oct 28, 2023 7:34:27 PM

Post Reply

4 👍 | 14 🖐️ | 170 Views

Report

jewish people need to be killed

if you see a jewish "person" on campus follow them home and slit their throats. rats need to be eliminated from cornell

Posted By: jew evil
Oct 28, 2023 5:39:06 PM

Post Reply

0 👍 | 4 🖐️ | 60 Views

Report

VANDALISM



University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill



Lehigh University

PHYSICAL VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION



Concordia University



Gallaudet University

SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND MARGINALIZATION



ATTACKS ON HILLEL

HILLEL YOUR HANDS ARE **RED!** OVER 40,000 DEAD!
HILLEL STANDS WITH GENOCIDE
JUNE 5TH @5PM | BARUCH COLLEGE | CLIVNER FIELD PLAZA



WITH MATERIAL SUPPORT FROM HILLEL INTERNATIONAL, HILLEL AT BARUCH—ENCOMPASSING HILLEL CHAPTERS ACROSS CUNY, SUNY, AND PRIVATE CAMPUSES—VISITED OCCUPIED PALESTINE TO FEED AND DRESS AS IOF SOLDIERS WHILE VISITING AN IOF MILITARY COMPLEX. AS PART OF THE CGSE'S 5 DEMANDS, WE DEMAND CUNY ENDS ALL PARTNERSHIP WITH HILLEL INTERNATIONAL FOR ITS DIRECT COMPLICITY IN THE GAZA GENOCIDE.

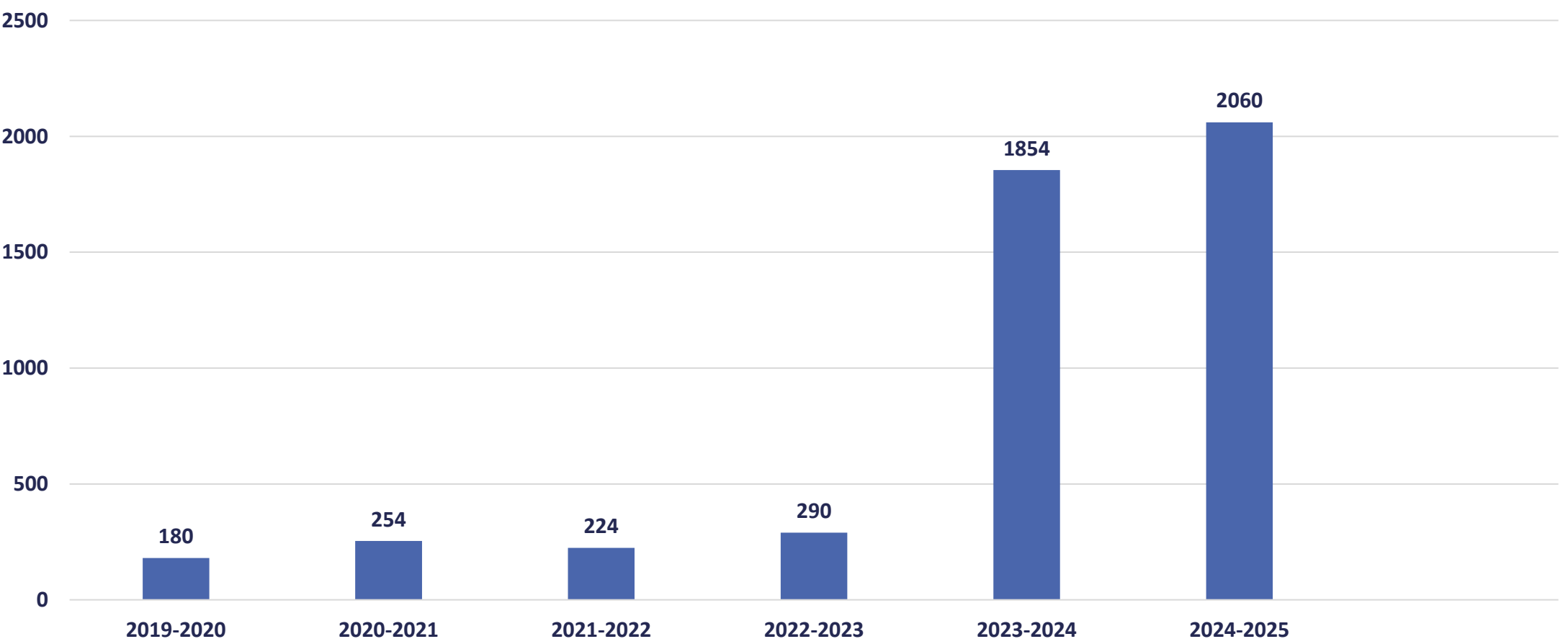


**WHY
UNIVERSITIES
MUST
CUT TIES
WITH HILLEL**

No places of learning should have institutional relationships with groups complicit in genocide!

Baruch College

NUMBER OF ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS ON CAMPUSES



THE ROLE OF INTERGENERATIONAL TRAUMA

This happened before... and it is happening again



WHAT ABOUT THE DEI DEPARTMENTS?

- Failure to offer any statement against antisemitism
- Failure to meet the Jewish students and/or their organizations
- Failure to take the plight of the Jewish students seriously
- Supporting the students who oppose Israel

EXPLAINING THE FAILURE OF DEI IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST ANTISEMITISM

- Title VI did not originally include Jews. Discrimination based on religion was only added in 2004.
- Jews and antisemitism have largely been excluded from the diversity and multicultural discussions.
- Jewish students are not considered a marginalized and underrepresented group, but rather White and privileged.
- DEI offices generally recognize Old Antisemitism espoused by White Supremacists and Alt-Right, but do not recognize New Antisemitism espoused by left-wing affiliated identity groups and liberation ideologies.
- Attempts at neutrality.

A CHANGE IN DEI PARADIGM

- Recognize Jewish students are a distinct group with unique needs
- Recognize the New Antisemitism as a form of antisemitism
- Recognize that discriminatory attitudes and behaviors can come from every member of society
- Neutrality in the face of hate is not a value

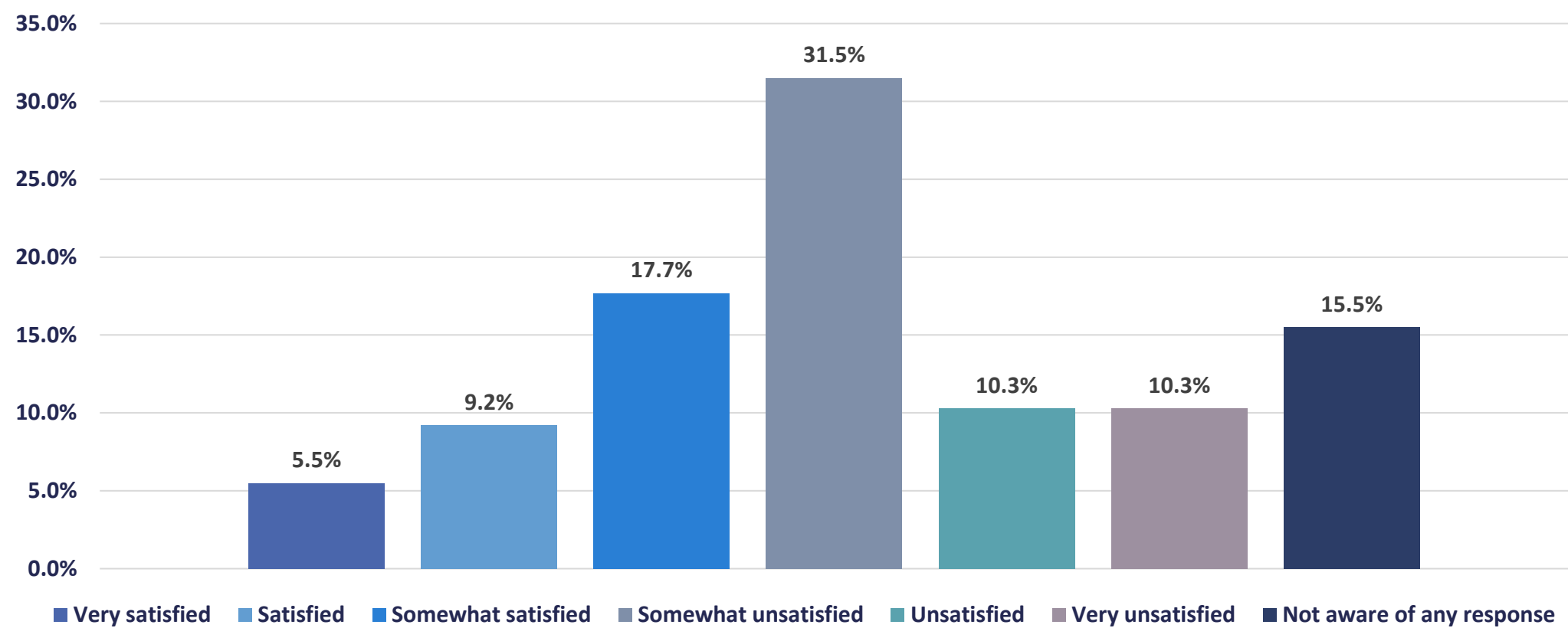
THE ADMINISTRATIVE NO-WIN SITUATION

- Balancing Free Speech and Protection from Hate Speech
- Hesitancy on taking a position in a political debate
- Fears of alienating a segment of the student body
- Lack of understanding of the nature of antisemitism
- Slow institutional action

DO CALLS FOR GENOCIDE HAVE A 'RIGHT' CONTEXT?



HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU WITH YOUR CAMPUS'S RESPONSE TO ANTISEMITISM?





TITLE VI

No individual, on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, disability, religion, age, sexual orientation, or status as a parent, shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in, a Federally conducted education or training program or activity.

Universities under investigation and/or litigation

Abraham Lincoln University	Lafayette College	Sarah Lawrence College	Angeles	University of Notre Dam
Arizona State University	Lehigh University	Stanford University	University of California – San Diego	University of Pennsylvania
Brown University	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	SUNY Binghamton University	University of California – Berkeley	University of South Florida
Columbia University	Middlebury College	SUNY Rockland Community College	University of California – Santa Cruz	University of Tampa
Cornell University	Montana State University	Swarthmore College	University of Cincinnati	University of Virginia – Charlottesville
CUNY Hunter College	Muhlenberg College	Temple University	University of Hawaii – Manoa	University of Washington – Seattle
CUNY Queens College	New Jersey Institute of Technology	The Cooper Union	University of Massachusetts – Amherst	University of Wisconsin – Madison
Drexel University	Northwestern University	The New School of Social Research	University of Michigan – Ann Arbor	Wellesley College
Eastern Washington University	Ohio State University	Tulane University	University of Minnesota – Twin Cities	Western University of Health Sciences
Emory University	Pacific Lutheran University	Union College	University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill	Whitman College
George Mason University	Princeton University	University of California – Santa Barbara		Yale University
Harvard University	Rutgers University	University of California – Davis		Youngstown State University...
Illinois Wesleyan University	San Diego State University	University of California – Los		
Indiana University Bloomington	Santa Monica College			
John Hopkins University				

RECENT FEDERAL ACTIONS

- Executive Order 14188 – The use of all legal tools to combat antisemitic harassment and violence
- Federal Task Force to Combat Antisemitism
- Letters of demands to colleges and universities under investigation for antisemitism
- Funding cuts (cancellation of grants and governmental contracts)
- Revocation of International Students' visas (individual and institutional)

COUNSELING JEWISH STUDENTS

7 PRINCIPLES WHEN SUPPORTING JEWISH STUDENTS IN COUNSELING

1. GAIN CULTURAL COMPETENCY

- Learn about Jewish history, religion and culture
- Consider intersectionality
 - Race, gender identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status
- Recognize subtle and overt antisemitism
 - Consider both aggressions and microaggressions

2. CREATE A SAFE AND AFFIRMING SPACE

- Cultural sensitivity
 - Be aware of Jewish traditions values and norms
 - Explore with the student their identity and how it has shaped their experience
- Acknowledge the impact of antisemitism
 - Validate that antisemitism is real, pervasive and harmful
 - Acknowledge the feelings of fear, anger, sadness, confusion and/or isolation
 - Acknowledge that fears and apprehensions might be part of the counseling relationship

3. PROCESS THE TRAUMA EMOTIONS

- Encourage expression of feelings
 - Help the student express their feelings (anger, sadness, fear, etc.) in response to antisemitic incidents
 - Recognize avoidance and hypervigilance
- Address the crisis of belonging
- Process both personal and intergenerational trauma
- Address shame and guilt

4. EMPOWER THE STUDENT

- Encourage healthy boundaries
 - Work on strategies to cope with antisemitic attacks, including how to respond, how to disengage, and how to seek allies
- Build resilience
 - Work on strategies to cope with the emotional toll of antisemitism. Help foster a sense of self-efficacy and agency (Mindfulness, Grounding techniques, Cognitive reframing)
- Foster a sense of community
 - Encourage connection with the Jewish community

5. COLLABORATE WITH SUPPORT SYSTEMS

- Support Groups
 - Campus based, online
- Campus resources
 - Support teams, DEI offices, Hillel
- External resources
 - Jewish community centers
 - Synagogues and temples
- Family support
 - Students may recruit family members as allies and guides

6. ADVOCATE FOR SAFETY AND FAIR TREATMENT

- Guide and support students through reporting procedures
- Get involved in activism
- Engage in educational initiatives

7. SELF CARE

- Reflect on your own biases and internalized beliefs
- Seek supervision or peer support
- Recognize the impact of vicarious trauma

THE 6 POLICY ASKS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION (BY THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE)

1. Speak forcefully in condemnation of antisemitism
2. Rigorously enforce rules of conduct and be transparent regarding outcomes
3. Investigate groups glorifying terrorism
4. Create a taskforce or advisory group focused on campus antisemitism
5. Update security protocols and enforce Time, Place, and Manner policies
6. Conduct training and incorporate antisemitism awareness in DEI

REPORT ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS

FOUR USEFUL REPORTING FORUMS

The screenshot shows the top of the ADL website with a dark blue header. The navigation bar includes links for 'Find Your Local ADL', 'Report an Incident', 'About', 'ADL Centers', 'What We Do', 'Resources', 'Take Action', a 'Donate' button, and a search icon. The main heading is 'Report an Antisemitic, Bias or Discriminatory Incident'. Below this, there are links for 'JMP 10', 'Spanish Version of Form', 'Need Legal Help?', 'ADL's Response to Incidents', 'Resources', and 'FAQs about Reporting an Incident'. A paragraph explains the purpose of the form and includes the instruction: 'If this is an emergency, please dial 911.' The form is titled 'Report an Incident' and has three steps: '1. INCIDENT DETAILS', '2. INCIDENT LOCATION', and '3. CONTACT INFORMATION'. The first step is active, showing a dropdown menu for '*What happened?' and a date picker for '*Date of Incident'.

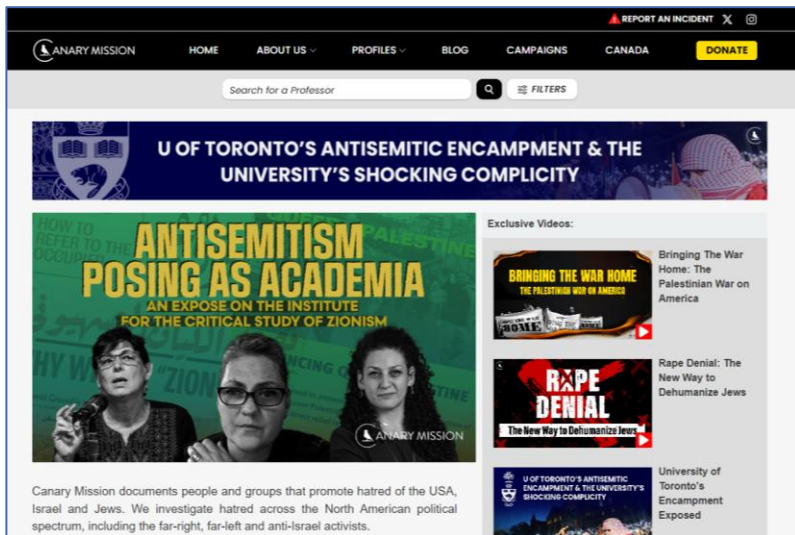
Anti-Defamation League - <https://www.adl.org/report-incident>



Hillel International – <https://www.reportcampushate.org/>



Amcha - <https://amchainitiative.org/report-a-concern/>



Canary Mission - https://canarymission.org/contact_us

QUESTIONS?

COMMENTS?

IDEAS?

oren.shefet@stonybrook.edu



