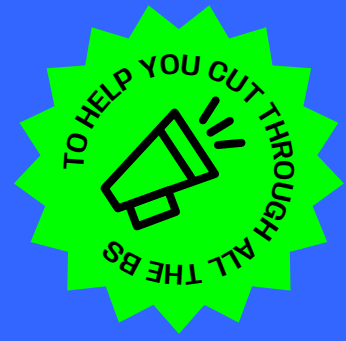


jewbelong

ANTISEMITISM

CHEAT SHEET



WHAT IS ANTISEMITISM?

Antisemitism is hate and hostility towards Jews. It's racism. It's been around for thousands of years (well, because Jews have been around for thousands of years). But currently, antisemitism is growing in the US and Europe, which is scary AF.

Hitler and the Nazis killed millions of innocent Jews and many other targeted groups not even eighty years ago. And on 10/7/23, Jews experienced the deadliest day since the Holocaust when Hamas attacked Israel. The tsunami of antisemitism that was unleashed on October 7th feels endless. Misinformation is a huge part of that. To help clarify some essential truths and cut through the bullsh*t, here are some facts to help.

WHAT HAPPENED ON 10/7?

On October 7th, 2023, the terrorist organization Hamas invaded Israel. They murdered 1,200 people, including babies, children and the elderly. They raped and gruesomely mutilated women. They beheaded babies. They kidnapped 240 civilians of all ages into Gaza, many still held hostage.

WHO IS HAMAS?

Hamas is a globally-recognized terrorist organization, not a resistance movement. Hamas's goal is the destruction of Israel and the killing of Jews. It says so right in their charter. Hamas does not care about the wellbeing of Palestinians. They have diverted nearly all of the billions of dollars that have poured into Gaza since 2006 to fund their terrorism. They use Palestinians as human shields to protect their terrorists. Many Palestinians hate Hamas but cannot say so because Gaza is run as a police state.

Attacking civilians, rape, torture, kidnapping and murder are not legitimate forms of protest. Those who support Hamas dress up their Jew-hate as social justice. They are apologists for rape, torture, and murder.

Hamas is largely supported by Iran, an anti-American, anti-democratic, anti-Western regime. Iran and its sidekicks like Hamas hate Jews everywhere, hate America, hate democracy, hate the LGBTQ community and women's rights. They might be starting with Israel, but they sure as heck aren't going to end there.

CEASEFIRE?

A recent ceasefire reunited three Israeli hostages with their families, but 95 still remain captive in Gaza. In return for these three hostages, 1,000 Palestinian prisoners will be released, some of whom have committed terrorist attacks. Within days of the ceasefire, masked Hamas gunmen returned to the streets and remain the dominant Palestinian power in Gaza. Hamas isn't just our enemy, but everyone's enemy. The safety of both Israelis and Palestinians will continue to be fragile while Hamas remains in control.

ZIONISM

Being a Zionist means you stand for a safe and secure Israel. PERIOD! In most cases, those being anti-Zionist are just being antisemitic. If you don't agree with all of Israel's policies, that's okay – but it's a different conversation. Being a proud Zionist can and should mean that you stand for the humane treatment of Palestinians, Israeli Arabs, Jews and anyone else. Peace between neighbors of different races, religions, and cultures happens all over the globe. It can happen in Israel, too.

As of 2023, Jews comprised only 2.2% of the population in the U.S. but were the targets of 68% of all religion-based hate crimes.

ANTISEMITIC MYTH BUSTING

MYTH Israel is the oppressor.

FACT Israel is situated in a region where many close neighbors practice appalling oppression of their citizens. In parts of Iran, women can be killed for showing their hair. In the Hamas-held city of Gaza, gay people are killed for just existing. It is both astounding and wonderful that in this region of the world, Israel fosters a culture of tolerance and social progress. In fact, 25% of the population of Tel Aviv is gay, making it the safest space in the Middle East for this violently persecuted minority.

MYTH Israel provides no value to the world.

FACT Israel is home of some of the most significant advances in medicine and technology, which they happily share with the world. Like using your cell phone, USB stick, and Waze? You can thank Israel!

MYTH All Jews are white, rich, and powerful.

FACT Jews are every skin color under the sun. And many live below the poverty line.

MYTH Israel is "occupying" Gaza.

FACT Israel left Gaza entirely in 2005.

MYTH Israel is an apartheid state.

FACT Israel is not an apartheid state. Arab citizens of Israel are more than 20% of the population. They hold high-ranking positions in government and the military, account for more than 25% of Israel's doctors, and are experiencing triple digit growth in earning degrees in higher education*.

*Accessibility of higher education in the Arab sector. The Council for Higher Education. (2021, October 14). <https://che.org.il/>.

MYTH Anti-Zionism IS NOT antisemitism.

FACT Anti-Zionism IS antisemitism. Anti-Zionism says that, of all the nations in the world, the Jews are the only ones that should not have their own state. That is antisemitism pure and simple.

MYTH Israel is committing "war crimes."

FACT Israel warns civilians in advance to leave areas of combat. The percentage of civilians killed in Gaza is about the same as the percentage killed in the American fights against Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State.

WHY JEWS NEED ISRAEL

The Jewish people need Israel — history has made this clear. We've been expelled from countless countries, or killed when we stayed. When we were no longer safe, we were displaced from Spain during the Inquisition, Russia, France, Iran, Egypt, Morocco and Turkey to name just a very few. After the Holocaust, Israel absorbed hundreds of thousands of Jewish refugees with no country to return to. The only place where Jews have a national home is Israel.

LINKS/RESOURCES:

<https://time.com/6763293/antisemitism/>

<https://www.adl.org/resources/press-release/us-antisemitic-incidents-skyrocketed-360-aftermath-attack-israel-accordings>

<https://www.thefp.com/p/explosion-of-jew-hate-in-canada-trudeau-israel-palestine22>