

#TRANSLATE HATE

**STOPPING ANTISEMITISM STARTS
WITH UNDERSTANDING IT**

AJC's glossary of antisemitic terms, phrases, conspiracies, cartoons, themes, and memes.

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Introduction

Antisemitism is the hatred of Jews. But it is not only a hatred and manifests itself in many different ways. It includes medieval blood libel claims rooted in Christianity and twentieth century conspiracy theories about Jewish control of the world economy. It encompasses Holocaust denial and distortion and virulent anti-Israel animus. It can exist in places where Jews are prominent and visible and in places where Jews themselves are entirely absent. It may be present in physical encounters at work or on the street or in the virtual world of the internet and social media. But in order to combat antisemitism we must first understand it. And that means we must define it in all its forms and expressions, in ways both painfully evident and obscure.

In 2020, nine in ten American Jews believe that antisemitism is a problem in the United States. Eight in ten believe it has increased in the past five years. Their concerns align with FBI data which show increased levels of antisemitism in the U.S. However, non-Jews are largely not aware of this increase. Only four in ten members of the U.S. public believe antisemitism has increased in the past five years. And maybe most startling, nearly half (46%) of U.S. adults have not heard the term antisemitism or have heard the term but do not know what it means.

Translate Hate was created to explain antisemitism. This glossary aims to improve media literacy on antisemitism and hate, especially in the digital realm. It offers a comprehensive list of terms and expressions that will help you recognize antisemitism when you see it. And once you recognize it, you can become part of the global effort to fight it—and eliminate it.

B

blood libel

noun \ 'bləd 'lī-bəl \

: perpetuated accusation that Jews have murdered non-Jews (such as Christian children) in order to use their blood in rituals

WHY IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

The blood libel charge—also known as the ritual murder charge—has falsely accused Jews of killing and using the blood of Christians for ritual purposes since the Middle Ages. Blood libels were commonly spread before the Jewish holiday of Passover, outrageously asserting that Jews “used the blood of Christian children” as an ingredient in ritual breads—an association linked to the ancient accusation that Jews are to blame for the death of Jesus (see *deicide*).

In more contemporary times, blood libel charges evolved into a widespread blame of Jews for unconnected murders and other horrific crimes—including the modern rumors of organ harvesting in Israel (see *Figure B1*) and Jews (or Zionists) eating Palestinian children and drinking their blood (see *Figure B2*).

As one of the longest-standing forms of antisemitism, blood libels have led to horrific violence, destruction, persecution, and massacres of Jewish people and communities—before, during, and beyond the Nazi propaganda that used it to demonize Jews. Despite its utter falsehood and its disavowal by Jews, the Roman Catholic Church, and other nonreligious authorities, blood libel remains an influential myth in the 21st century.



Figure B1

A headline from October 2018 referencing a blood libel charge of Israel murdering Palestinian children for their organs.



Figure B2

An UNRWA teacher in Jordan posted this cartoon on Facebook showing a Jewish person cutting up and eating a Palestinian child while drinking his blood, 2015.

C

cabal

Noun \ kə'bāl \

: a small, powerful group that seeks to establish control

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Jews have long been accused of being part of a secret group that controls the economic and political world order. The term cabal originates from the word kabbalah, the Jewish mystical interpretation of the Hebrew Bible. Often denoted as “Jewish cabal” on social media, it is a dog whistle for Jewish control (see *control*).

Several antisemitic publications and conspiracy theories capitalize on this imagery of a conniving cohort, such as the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* or the New World Order theory which is based on the idea that Jews have formed a power structure in which they control the media, economy, and politics (see *Protocols of the Elders of Zion, New World Order*).



Figure C1

A tweet shared in September 2020.

clannish

theme \ 'klaniSH \

: of or relating to a clan; tending to associate only with a select group of similar background or status

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Referring to Jews as clannish is an antisemitic stereotype claiming that Jews only associate and do business with “their own kind,” using their power to benefit other Jews and keep non-Jews from having a fair chance. This accusation has been used to label Jews as economically untrustworthy, aggressive, apathetic, exclusive, and unaccepting of non-Jews and non-Jewish cultures.

Similarly, the conspiracy that global Jewish financial firms are connected by family ties and work together in an unethical manner is known as the “clannish” theory. This false claim perpetuates the idea that Jews are “elitists” who work against the interest of all non-Jews to gain wealth (see *greed*).

The nearly 200-year-old Rothschild conspiracy theory is an example of how this “clannish” theme has fueled antisemitism throughout history to the modern day. At its core, this theory states that a secret clan of Jews under the leadership of the Rothschild banking family has been manipulating currency and global events for personal enrichment and world domination (see *Rothschild*).

conspiracy theory

theme \ kən-'spir-ə-sē 'thē-ə-rē \

: a belief that some covert but influential organization is responsible for a circumstance or event

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

From medieval times until the present day, conspiracy theories have spread antisemitic beliefs that blame Jews for the world's worst tragedies. Jews were accused of poisoning wells in 14th century Europe causing the Black Death and in 21st century America, they were charged with being the “hidden hand” responsible for the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Antisemitism, like all conspiracy theories, is irrational in nature—unable to be explained by logic or sound reasoning. In his 1986 book *Antisemitism in the Contemporary World*, Michael Curtis describes how no other group aside from Jews has been blamed simultaneously for opposing phenomena: being an insular yet cosmopolitan group; for being capitalists and behind Communist revolutions; for being subhuman but also a chosen people. To conspiracists, conspiracy theories are “self-sealing,” meaning any attempt to dispel the theory with logic will serve as evidence to the conspiracist of the theory's existence.

Many conspiracy theories are rooted in the antisemitic myth that Jews are the “hidden hand,” plotting to take over and

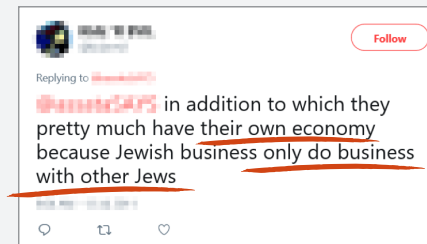


Figure C2

A tweet shared in July 2011.

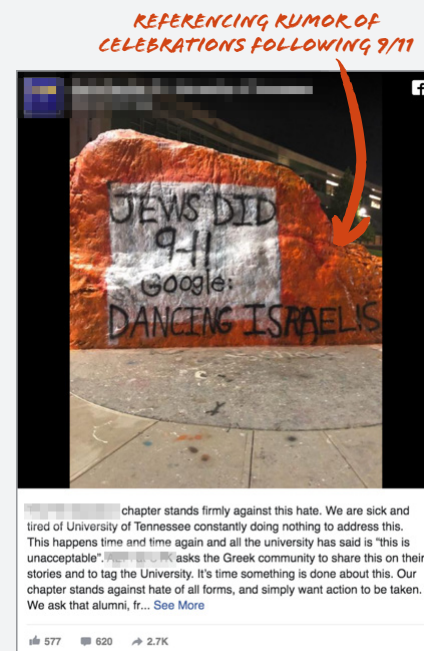


Figure C3

An antisemitic conspiracy involving the 9/11 terrorist attack was spray-painted on a landmark rock at the University of Tennessee in September 2019.

control the world (see *control*). This trope was central in the rise of Nazism and is still present today.

Other conspiracies allege Jews are behind their own hate crimes, such as the “false flag” theories, and even go as far as to say the Holocaust was a hoax created by Jews to gain sympathy (see *Holocaust denial*).

control theme \kən'trōl \

: power or authority to guide or manage

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

False reports that claim Jews control the media, banks, and governments are part of a longstanding conspiracy of secret Jewish power. This antisemitic trope is rooted in the discredited publication, *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*, which was published in Russian tsarist times and accused Jews of trying to control the world (see *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*).

These myths of control portray Jews as secret puppet masters ruling over others and manipulating the world's economies and governments (see *Figure C4*). For centuries, Jews were blamed for leading “blind” world leaders into wars and into debt to enrich themselves and further their own hidden agenda (see *Figure C5*).

Antisemitic propaganda continues to spread the idea that rich or influential Jews are behind the scenes furthering their plans of world domination.

cosmopolitan elite Noun \,kəzmə'pəlɪt(ə)n 'ɪ'lɪt \

: a phrase combining “cosmopolitan,” or representing many cultures, with “elite,” referring to the upper class of society

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

“Cosmopolitan” and “elite” are terms that have separately incited antisemites across the political spectrum. Based on stereotypes of Jewish wealth and insularity, Jews have been accused of being part of an elite class for centuries. In the Soviet Union under Joseph Stalin, for instance, Jews were charged with being “rootless cosmopolitans” and fell victim to Stalin's anti-cosmopolitan campaign where they were arrested and tortured. Today, “cosmopolitan elite” is a code word used by the far-right to accuse Jews and liberals of controlling America and/or being disloyal and unpatriotic by favoring internationalism over isolationism.



Figure C4
An antisemitic meme posted by the former head of the Philadelphia NAACP to Facebook in July 2020.



Figure C5
Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as a dog leading a blind U.S. President Donald Trump published in *The New York Times*, April 25, 2019.



Figure C6
A tweet shared in September 2020.

cowardice

noun \ 'kau(-ə)r-dəs \

: lack of bravery

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Evolving from the erroneous accusation that Jews lacked patriotism (see *dual loyalty*), in the aftermath of World War I, Jews were portrayed as cowardly and weak people who actively evaded military service. According to this trope, Jews' inherent cowardice and disloyalty made them responsible for national defeats. The apparent Jewish meekness in the face of the Holocaust (ignoring the many acts of bravery against overwhelming odds) even allowed antisemites to claim that Jews contributed to their own genocide (see *Holocaust denial*).

creatures

theme \ 'krē-chərs \

: animals, as distinct from human beings; fictional or imaginary beings

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

A common form of coded antisemitism includes illustrations and images that depict Jews as vermin, tentacled creatures, reptilian men, and other “subhuman” monsters.

Antisemitic rhetoric that dehumanizes Jews laid the foundation for the Holocaust, used as rationale by the Nazis to treat them as creatures that needed to be exterminated. It appeared in Nazi literature and other propaganda to spread antisemitic tropes—including Jews as the overlords of global affairs, Jews controlling minds, Jews' quest for world domination, and Jews as superior or elite masterminds (see *New World Order*).

More recently, antisemites such as Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan have referred to Jews as “termites” likening them to unwanted pests who multiply rapidly, take over, and destroy everything they touch.



Figure C7

An antisemitic Facebook threat received in December 2015 by a victim of the San Bernardino shooting one day prior.



Figure C8

An antisemitic cartoon shared on Instagram in July 2018.

ANTISEMITIC CARICATURES MOCKING PRIME MINISTER BENJAMIN NETANYAHU AND LIKUD LAWMAKERS

D

deadly exchange

theme \ 'dedli/ /iks'CHānj \

: suggesting Israel is responsible for American police brutality due to training programs between U.S. and Israeli police forces

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

The deadly exchange trope directly compares U.S. police actions against Black Americans with the Israeli Defense Forces' (IDF) treatment of Palestinians. Believers in the “deadly exchange” allege “worst practices” are shared [between U.S. and Israeli armed forces] to promote and extend discriminatory and repressive policing practices that already exist in both countries, including racial profiling, massive spying and surveillance, deportation and detention, and attacks on human rights defenders.”

Users of this trope argue Israeli and U.S. law enforcement exchange security practices and ideologies to purposely target people of color. This false equivalence appeared in demonstrations in the summer of 2020 when protesters chanted “Israel, we know you, you murder children, too” (see *blood libel*). This is categorically false. Accusing Israel or Zionists (see *Zionists*) of complicity in the murder of Black people is malicious, perpetuates antisemitism, and blames Jews for societal ills (see *scapegoat*).

deicide

noun \ 'di ə,said \

: the killing of a god

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Deicide is the charge that Jews bear eternal responsibility for the death of Jesus Christ. This claim is based on Matthew 27:24-25, “His blood be on us, and on our children,” also known as the blood curse. This verse (25) has led to more Jewish suffering than any other passage in the Christian Bible.

This source of antisemitism among Christians was only refuted by the Catholic Church in 1965, with *Nostra Aetate*, the landmark document that rejected collective Jewish responsibility for this crime. Protestant churches have also repudiated the deicide charge. Nevertheless, antisemites continue to use the charge that Jews killed Jesus to justify their anti-Jewish hatred. Additionally, the same wrongful accusation and imagery connected with Jews as Christ-killers has been recycled in the Middle East, often in the form of Jesus representing Palestinians who are “crucified” by the Israeli Defense Forces or the Israeli Government.

IMPLYING ISRAEL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CLAIMS OF AMERICAN POLICE BRUTALITY AND RACISM



Figure D1

A cartoon shared on the official Fatah Facebook page, May 2020.

Catholic school condemns chants of 'You killed Jesus' at Jewish opponents

Catholic Memorial school near Boston admits it is 'deeply disturbed' after fans chanted 'You killed Jesus' against team with a large number of Jewish students



Figure D2

A headline from March 2016 reporting on an antisemitic chant that broke out during a high school basketball game.



Figure D3

Boukhari, Arabia.com. April 7, 2002.

dual loyalty

noun \ 'd(y)oŏəl 'loialtē \

: loyalty to two separate interests that potentially conflict with each other, leading to a conflict of interest

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Dual loyalty is a bigoted trope used to cast Jews as the “other.” For example, it becomes antisemitic when an American Jew’s connection to Israel is scrutinized to the point of questioning his or her trustworthiness or loyalty to the United States (see *Figure D4*). Dual loyalty accusations also occur on U.S. college campuses when Jewish students are asked to denounce the actions of the Israeli government in order to participate in progressive activities.

By accusing Jews of being disloyal citizens whose true allegiance is to Israel or a hidden Jewish agenda (see *globalist*), antisemites sow distrust and spread harmful ideas—like the belief that Jews are a traitorous “fifth column,” meaning they are undermining their country from within. The allegation of dual loyalty can also be aimed at non-Jews for what antisemites see as being “excessively loyal to Israel,” a criticism rarely leveled against friends and supporters of other countries (see *Figure D5*).

For centuries, these antisemitic accusations of disloyalty have led to the harassment, marginalization, oppression, and murder of Jewish people.



Figure D4

Antisemitic flyer posted in Long Branch, New Jersey, June 2018.

BLAMING JEWS FOR ALL TRAGEDIES



Figure D5

A tweet shared in February 2019.

E

(((echo)))

symbol \ 'e-(.)kō \

: an antisemitic symbol used to highlight the names of Jewish individuals or organizations owned by Jews

WHY IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

The (((echo))) is part of the coded antisemitism that occurs online (see *Figure E1*). Used by antisemites, neo-Nazis, and white nationalists, the triple parentheses are applied to Jewish names or topics to identify, mock, and harass Jews in a way that is difficult to find in search engines, yet hiding in plain sight.

While it originated on an antisemitic blog, the (((echo))) went mainstream with the creation of a now-removed Chrome extension—called “Coincidence Detector”—that placed three sets of parentheses around the names of Jewish individuals, of which there were over 8,000 listed.

This symbol has opened yet another avenue for Jews to be targeted with antisemitic messages and even death threats—but it’s also given some Twitter users a chance to fight back by placing parentheses around their names in an act of solidarity spearheaded by Yair Rosenberg (see *Figure E2*).

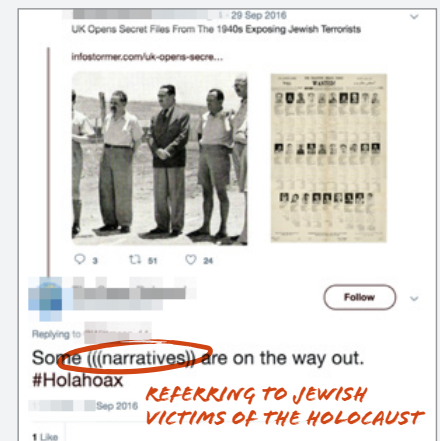


Figure E1

A tweet shared in September 2016.



Figure E2

A tweet shared by Yair Rosenberg in June 2016.

F

“From the River to the Sea”

noun \ˈfruhm ˈthə ˈRIVər ˈtoo ˈthə ˈsi\

: the catch-all phrase symbolizing Palestinian control over the entire territory of Israel’s borders, from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea

WHEN IT’S ANTISEMITIC:

“From the River to the Sea, Palestine Will Be Free” is a common call-to-arms for pro-Palestinian activists. It calls for the establishment of a State of Palestine from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea, erasing the State of Israel and its people. It is also a rallying cry for terrorist groups and their sympathizers, from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) to Hamas, which called for Israel’s destruction in its original governing charter in 1988.

Sometimes the 🇵🇸 Palestinian flag emoji is used as shorthand for this phrase to spam social media posts related to Jews, whether having to do with Israel or not. There is of course nothing antisemitic about advocating for Palestinians to have their own state. However, calling for the elimination of the Jewish state, or suggesting that the Jews alone do not have the right to self-determination, is antisemitic.



Figure F1

A poster from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine terrorist group.

G

globalist

noun \ˈglōbəlɪst \

: a person who advocates the interpretation or planning of economic and foreign policy in relation to events and developments throughout the world

WHEN IT’S ANTISEMITIC:

Much like dual loyalty, globalist is used to promote the antisemitic conspiracy that Jewish people do not have allegiance to their countries of origin, like the United States, but to some worldwide order—like a global economy or international political system—that will enhance their control over the world’s banks, governments, and media (*see control*).

The idea of a Jewish globalist was embedded in the core ideology of Nazism. Hitler often portrayed Jews as “international elements” who “conduct their business everywhere,” posing a threat to all people who are “bounded to their soil, to the Fatherland.”

Today, globalist is a coded word for Jews who are seen as international elites conspiring to weaken or dismantle “Western” society using their international connections and



ANTISEMITIC TERM

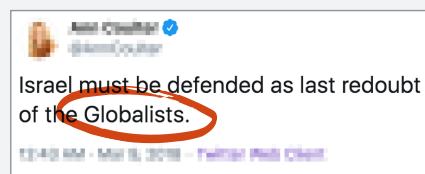
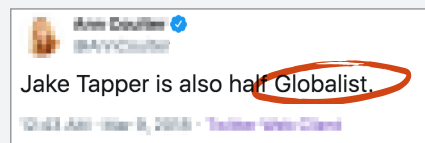


Figure G1

A tweet shared in March 2018.

control over big corporations (see *New World Order*)—all echoing the destructive theory that Jews hold greed and tribe above country.

“The Goyim Know”

meme \ t'hə 'g'i-əm 'nō \

: a catchphrase used to impersonate and mock Jews and the antisemitic conspiracy theories connected to them

WHY IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

“The Goyim Know,” sometimes followed by “Shut It Down,” is a popular antisemitic meme based on conspiracy theories of manipulative Jews with plans of world domination and in control of the media, economy, and governments.

Typically paired with offensive images of a stereotypical Jew talking on a phone or holding a shocked expression (see *Figure G2*), this meme is widely used by white supremacists and other antisemites—on sites like 4chan and 8kun (formerly 8chan)—to mock a panicked Jew whose secret plot or manipulations have been revealed by non-Jewish people, or goyim.

While “goyim” is a term used by some Jews to refer to non-Jews, antisemites and white supremacists have weaponized the word to mock and accuse Jews of promoting a prejudiced support for their own clan.

As it spread online, “The Goyim Know” also made its way offline through an antisemitic song parody by the same name, as well as the phrase appearing on signs during the “Unite the Right” rally in Charlottesville, Virginia. Other manifestations of the far-right using “Goyim” to mock Jews are the Goyim Defense League (GDL) and GoyimTV.com (see *Figure G4*).

greed

theme \ 'grēd \

: a selfish and excessive desire for more of something (such as money) than is needed

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

As a foundation for the most constant antisemitic falsehoods, the association of Jews with greed has fueled antisemitism throughout history and still affects Jews today. In the Middle Ages—when Christians were forbidden by the Church to lend money for interest—money-lending, trade, and commerce were the few professions Jews were allowed to have. Jews were blamed for usury, or the act of charging high rates of interest, and this association led to stereotypes about Jewish greed and wealth. These accusations were among the reasons listed by John Earnest, the white



Figure G2

An example of the popular “The Goyim Know. Shut It Down.” meme.



Figure G3

An example of the popular “The Goyim Know” meme.



Figure G4

A sign with the phrase “The Jews Want A Race War” was hung from the heavily trafficked Los Angeles interstate 405 highway overpass.

supremacist who murdered a Jewish woman and injured others in Poway, CA in 2019. From Shakespeare’s sinister Jewish caricature in *The Merchant of Venice* to Rothschild schemes of world domination (see *Rothschild*) to Nazi propaganda on Jewish economic control, the antisemitic trope of greed can be found in everything from pop culture to deep-web conspiracy theories.

The theme of greed in antisemitic rhetoric is so widespread that it’s led to a long list of Jewish stereotypes, including being excessively materialistic and money-oriented, exploiting others for personal gain, being overly wealthy, and controlling the world’s finances (see *Figure G5*).

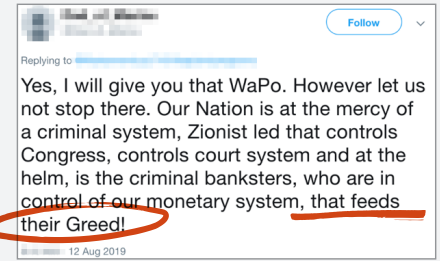


Figure G5
A tweet shared on August of 2019.

H

Holocough

meme \ hälə 'käf \

: a call by the far-right to spread coronavirus to Jews to infect and kill them

WHY IT’S ANTISEMITIC:

“Holocough” first emerged on white supremacist and neo-Nazi channels on alternative social media platforms as news of COVID-19 spread in the U.S. Far-right personality Milo Yiannopoulos used “Holocough” in a Telegram poll, and the term further spread to Gab, a messaging platform with a large far-right and extremist base, after user Bjundabare created an image with the text, “If you have the bug, give a hug. Spread the flu to every Jew.”

The “Holocough” finds its roots in the historic practice of connecting Jews to sickness, providing antisemites with familiar tropes. In the 14th century, Jews in Europe were blamed for poisoning wells and causing the Bubonic plague, and thousands of Jews were murdered in response; in the 1890s, Jewish Americans were blamed for the tuberculosis outbreak in the U.S.; in the 1930s, Adolf Hitler compared Jews to bacteria and disease; and today we are again witnessing Jews being blamed for COVID-19 (see *poisoning the well*).

Ironically, the same people invoking the term #Holocough are often the same ones denying the scope and veracity of the Holocaust.



Figure H1
A poll posted to Milo Yiannopoulos’s Telegram page in March 2020.

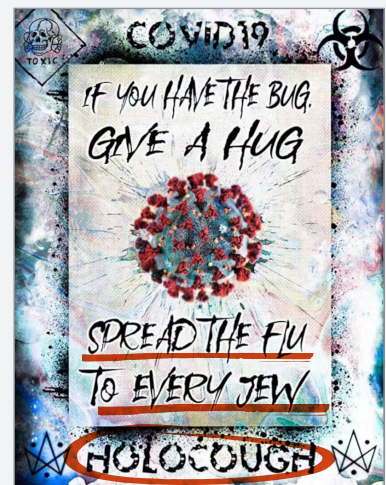


Figure H2
An antisemitic picture created by Bjundabare on Gab in April 2020.

Holocaust denial

theme \ hō-lə-,kɒst di-'nī(-ə)l \

: an attempt to negate the facts of the Nazi genocide of the Jewish people; a belief that the Holocaust did not happen or was greatly exaggerated

WHY IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Despite endless historical facts, Holocaust denial and distortion spread the false idea that Jews invented or exaggerated the Holocaust, including the diary of Anne Frank, Nazism's intent to massacre Jews, the use of gas chambers in concentration camps, and the murder of millions of Jews. Denying the Holocaust, including denying the scope or methods used by the Nazis and their allies during the Holocaust, is antisemitic.

The term "Holohoax" is a common term for Holocaust deniers across the political spectrum, who claim the Jewish people exaggerated or made up the Holocaust. The term appears on dozens of Facebook groups of every political disposition, including extreme-right, anti-Zionist, conspiracy theory communities, pro-Palestinian groups, and more (see *Figure H3*).

And even when antisemites don't deny the Holocaust, they have used it to attack Jews by accusing them of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust or by comparing its horrors by the Nazi regime to defensive actions taken by the State of Israel. Claiming that the State of Israel, home to the largest number of living Holocaust survivors, behaves like the Nazis in its treatment of Palestinians is a personal attack on survivors and distorts the meaning of the Holocaust. Likening the Gaza Strip, governed by the terrorist organization Hamas, to the Warsaw Ghetto, where Jews were confined by the Nazis before being transported to death camps as part of the systematic massacre of 6 million Jews during the Holocaust, or comparing the Israeli Defense Forces to the Nazi army (Wehrmacht), is a form of Holocaust denial. There is no legitimate comparison between defending the State of Israel and ensuring the safety of its citizens to the systematic destruction and liquidation of an entire people.



Figure H3

A tweet shared in August 2020.

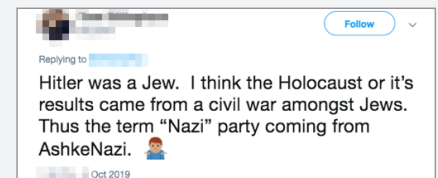


Figure H4

A tweet shared in October 2019.

Illuminati

noun \ i-,lŭ-mə-'nä-tē \

: groups or persons claiming special religious enlightenment

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Historically, the Order of the Illuminati refers to a secret society founded in Bavaria by Adam Weishaupt in the late 18th to advocate for secularism. However, during the interwar period of the 20th century, fascist propaganda claimed the Illuminati were a subversive element which served Jewish elites who were behind global capitalism and Soviet communism (see Jewish capitalist, Jewish communist) and were plotting to create a New World Order (see *New World Order*).

This conspiratorial stance on the Illuminati, as well as its related conspiracy theory of Freemason-controlling Jews, are built on classic antisemitic themes, including the notion of Jewish control over the world, the meddling by Jews in global politics, and the Jewish plot for complete power over world governance (see *control*).

Jewish capitalist

noun \ 'joōiSH 'kapədłəst \

: a person who supports the principles of capitalism, an economic and political system based on private or corporate ownership of production and profits as opposed to public or state ownership

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Jews have been accused of puppeteering the world economy for centuries, having been associated with money since the Middle Ages when commerce, trade, and other financial industries were the only professions Jews were allowed to have. As capitalism replaced other traditional forms of commerce, the association of Jews with money remained (see *greed*).

While capitalism and communism are each terms that describe an economic philosophy and worldview that have been embraced by millions of people and served to define the two adversaries of the Cold War which dominated the 20th century, when an adjective is added and the terms become Jewish capitalist or Jewish communist (see *Jewish communist*), the meanings change.

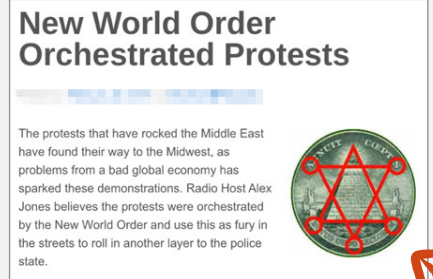


Figure J1

A headline referencing the New World Order from February 2011.

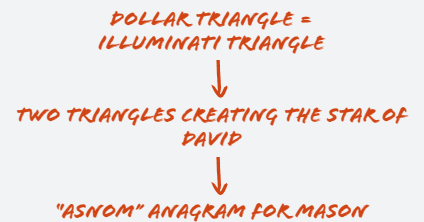


Figure J1

A tweet shared in October 2020.



Figure J2

Graffiti artist Mear One's "Freedom for Humanity" mural depicting white male capitalists, several who are Jewish (see *Jewish features*) as the enemy of the good. London, 2012.

Blaming Jews as “greedy capitalists” or for being at fault for capitalism’s woes is a form of economic antisemitism. Economic antisemitism is based on the alleged economic status and financial behavior of Jews. It can also transcend into government policies which target Jews based on perceived economic practices.

Jewish communist

noun \ 'joōiSH 'kāmyənəst \

: a person who supports the principles of communism, a political and socio-economic ideology, in which all goods are publicly owned as opposed to privately or state owned, and social classes are eliminated

WHEN IT’S ANTISEMITIC:

“Jewish communism,” or “Judeo-Bolshevism,” is an antisemitic conspiracy theory that states Jews have been behind communist revolutions around the world. Leon Trotsky was a political ideologue, who happened to be Jewish, who was personified by the Russian Czarist government as a symbol for Jewish Bolshevism (see *Figure J4*). Nazi Germany invoked the antisemitic “Judeo-Bolshevism” myth to blame Jews for Germany’s woes after World War I. While some Jews were communists and fought in the Red Army during World War II, labeling all Jews as communists is antisemitic. Another code word invoked is “Marxists,” after Karl Marx, who, despite being of Jewish descent, decried Judaism and blamed Jewish merchants for promoting capitalism.

Jew down

verb \ joō doun \

: antisemitic term for haggling or bargaining for a cheaper price

WHY IT’S ANTISEMITIC:

Rooted in the false stereotype that Jews are cheap or stingy, the phrase “Jew down” may seem to be a harmless expression that’s used in everyday vernacular. However, it is an insulting, antisemitic misrepresentation of Jewish behavior that plays into the trope of Jews as greedy money handlers who are unwilling to part with their earnings.

The common, mainstream use of antisemitic terms, like Jew down, plays a dangerous role in normalizing antisemitism and reinforcing conspiracy theories in the minds of antisemites.



Figure J3

A tweet shared in July 2018.

'MARXISTS' HAS OFTEN BEEN USED AS A CODE WORD FOR JEWS AND IS ANTISEMITIC WHEN JEWS ARE BLAMED FOR COMMUNIST OPPRESSION



Figure J4

1919 Russian Civil War propaganda poster depicting Jewish Bolshevik Leon Trotsky (from Serhii Plokhyy's *The Gates of Europe*).

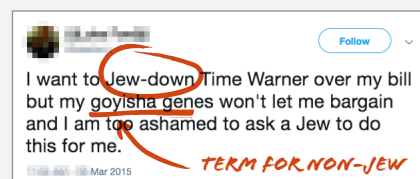


Figure J5

A tweet shared in March 2015.

Jewish features

theme \ 'joōiSH 'fēCHərs \

: antisemitic stereotypes that focus on physical features or characteristics

WHY IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Large curved noses. Curly or red hair. Horns. Dark eyes with drooping lids. Even though Jesus and all twelve of his disciples were Jewish, it is red-haired Judas who is purported to espouse Jewish values of greed and betrayal (see *Judas, greed*). From religious woodcuts to inflammatory publications in the medieval ages, Jewish features like curly or red hair and hooked noses were grotesquely drawn, fueling conspiracies that Jews are easily identifiable and subhuman.

The degradation of Jews through fictional facial stereotypes has been a staple theme in antisemitic propaganda used to portray Jews as subhuman or disfigured. Stereotypical Jewish features are still used today—from Internet memes to cartoons in top-tier news outlets—and they perpetuate the antisemitic notion that base motives are revealed in ugly features. In the 2020 Aalst Carnival theme, “UNESCO: Controlled by the Jews?” Jews are drawn as distorted, red-nosed, and with gold teeth, furthering the stereotype that Jews are malformed and associated with money (see *Figure J6*).

Anti-Zionists also use the common feature of Jews as “white” to attack Israel as a “white, colonial, settler” power, which ignores and disavows the identity of millions of Sephardic and Mizrahi Jews of color living in America, Israel, and around the world.

Jewish figures

theme \ 'joōiSH 'fi-gyərs \

: the use of public Jewish figures to spread antisemitic ideas about Jews as an overall group

WHY IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Much like the age-old theme of blaming Jews for disasters across the world (see *scapegoat*), prominent Jewish figures are often the victim of antisemitic rhetoric that's actually being pointed at all Jews.

By focusing attacks on a single person, antisemites create a coded language in which that person's name or face becomes synonymous with dangerous antisemitic conspiracies or tropes. These can include everything from a Jewish plan for world domination to a Jewish puppet master who manipulates international events and creates social conflict for his own gain.

Modern examples of this include rumors that George Soros—a Hungarian-American of Jewish descent and well-known billionaire—is paying members of a migrant “caravan”



Figure J6

The 2020 Aalst Carnival theme: “UNESCO: Controlled by the Jews?”

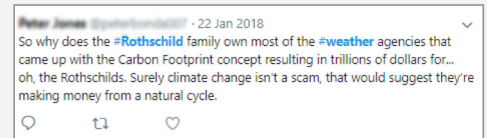


Figure J7

A tweet shared in January 2018.

to march on U.S. borders (see *Soros*). Or when Harvey Weinstein’s history of sexual abuse is somehow linked to his Jewish identity, spreading the antisemitic trope of “Jewish sexual perversion.”

The Rothschilds, another prominent Jewish family, have even been blamed for bad weather, natural disasters, and creating “the concept of climate change” (see *Rothschild, Figure J7*).

Jewish lightning

theme \ 'joōiSH 'litniNG \

: a derogatory phrase describing the act of burning down a home or institution in order to collect the insurance money

WHY IT’S ANTISEMITIC:

“Jewish lightning,” like “Jew down,” is a phrase rooted in Jewish stereotypes of stinginess and greed (see *greed*). The faulty reasoning argues that because Jews love money and are unwilling to spend it, they will commit insurance fraud. Whether directed at Jews or non-Jews (this term is also referred to as “Greek lightning” or “Irish lightning” depending on the area), it is an ethnic slur that should be condemned.

Jewish lobby

theme \ 'joōiSH 'ləbē \

: Jewish interest groups that engage in lobbying to seek influence on a particular issue

WHEN IT’S ANTISEMITIC:

Lobbying groups by definition use their money to support specific causes. Individual Jewish groups use money through contributions, including campaign contributions, to draw support for various missions and causes, as do tens of thousands of other American lobbies and interest groups. There is no one “Jewish lobby” that speaks for the Jewish community. While some people use “Jewish Lobby” and “Israel Lobby” interchangeably and have no antisemitic intentions when saying “Jewish Lobby,” the phrase serves as a dog whistle for those who believe Jews control politics (see *control*). When “Jewish Lobby” is purposefully invoked to describe Jewish control of Washington, then that is antisemitic.

JEWIS BLAMED FOR THE
2019 NOTRE DAME FIRE



Figure J8
A tweet shared in June 2020.

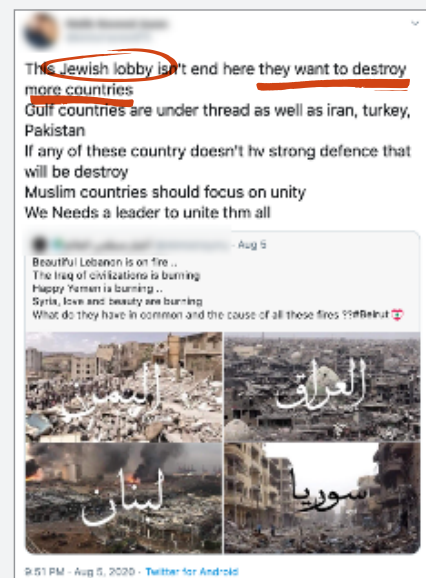


Figure J9
A tweet shared in August 2020.

Judas/30 pieces of silver

person, theme \ joōDUS/ 'THərdē pēsēs 'äv 'silvər \

: in the Christian Bible, Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus Christ for 30 pieces of silver

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Judas Iscariot, one of Jesus's 12 disciples, received 30 pieces of silver to betray Jesus to the religious authorities. Although Jesus and all 12 disciples were Jews, the Western world—through art, literature, music, and tradition—chose to depict Judas as the Jew who sold out his Savior for money. Thus, the name Judas became synonymous with traitor, contributing to the persecution of Jewish communities for two millennia. This false and libelous narrative would feed into Hitler's propaganda and the Holocaust.

K

Khazars

people \ kə'zär \

: a people once existing as a nation in the Caucasus and southeastern Russia

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

In the 6th century CE, the Khazars—an obscure warlike tribe in Turkistan [present day Kazakhstan]—fought for land that was ultimately overtaken by Southern Russia and Ukraine. Despite the decline in population and territorial defeat, the Khazars continued to be mentioned throughout history—especially as one of the first groups to adopt Judaism.

By the 8th or 9th century, antisemitic conspiracy theories began forming around the Khazars' reported conversion to Judaism. This spurred antisemitic beliefs that they were building a secret empire which sought widespread control through financial gains (see *Figure K1*).

Given that the Khazars moved into and settled in Eastern Europe, antisemites push the conspiracy that Ashkenazi Jews—Jews descending from Eastern Europe—are not “real Jews” and are working to infiltrate other nations on their quest for world domination (see “*not the real Jews*”). The Khazar trope is also used to undermine the Jewish connection to Israel, and therefore Israel's right to exist, because it falsely says Jews originated from the northern Caucasus region and were part of the Turkic empire—and not the Land of Israel (see *Figure K2*).

ANTISEMITIC REFERENCE TO
JUDAS AND JEWS AS TRAITORS

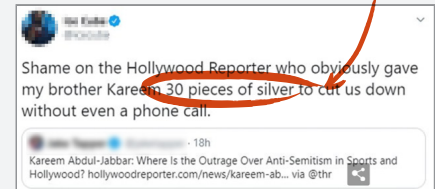


Figure J10

A tweet shared in June 2020.

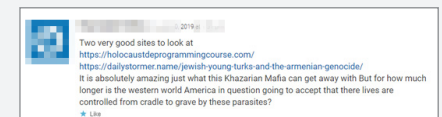


Figure K1

A social post from June 2019.



Figure K2

A tweet shared in February 2018.

Kike

noun \ kīk \

: an offensive, derogatory term for a Jewish person

WHY IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Kike is an ethnic slur for a Jewish person. There are multiple theories about where the term might have emerged. One popular theory is that it is derived from the Yiddish word for circle, “kikel,” a reference to how Jewish immigrants at Ellis Island signed their entry forms: a circle as opposed to an X, which Jews associated with the cross of Christianity. Immigration officers described those who signed forms with a circle as “kikel,” eventually being shortened to “kike.” Kike is a highly offensive term used to insult and denigrate people of Jewish faith or ethnicity that is widely considered to be a form of hate speech.

kosher tax

conspiracy \ 'kō-shər 'taks \

: the idea that food companies and consumers are forced to pay money to support the Jewish religion or Zionist causes and Israel through the costs of kosher certification

WHY IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Many Jews adhere to religious dietary restrictions, which govern the slaughter of animals and the ingredients and production of various foodstuffs. To assist them, these products are usually marked with a symbol attesting to the fact that they are kosher, such as **K** and **U**.

The kosher tax conspiracy theory states that this kosher certification of products is an extra tax collected from unwitting consumers for the benefit of Jewish organizations. It is mainly spread by antisemitic and white supremacist groups, who claim this to be a “Kosher tax” (or “Jewish tax”) that is “extorted” from food companies wishing to avoid a boycott and used to support Zionist causes or the State of Israel.



Figure K3



Figure K4

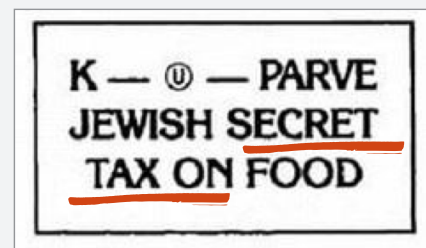


Figure K5

A sticker circulated by antisemites to be placed on kosher items in stores.

N

New World Order

conspiracy \ 'nū 'wər(-ə)ld 'or-dər \

: the conspiracy of a small group of powerful individuals working in secret to establish all-powerful control

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

The New World Order conspiracy theory becomes antisemitic when it's followed by a reference to a Jewish business leader or political official with a secret agenda who's seeking global control.

A widely-used conspiracy theory made popular in the 20th century, the term centers on a cabal of world leaders using the global stage to create an almighty, totalitarian regime that strips people of their individual liberties and consolidates power at the very top (*see cabal*).

The conspiracy theory behind the New World Order involving Jewish leaders is based on the idea that Jews have formed a power structure in which they control every aspect of humankind—the economy, media, and political landscape (*see control*).

“not the real Jews”

theme \ nāt thə 'rē(ə)l joōs \

: a phrase claiming that Jews are not God's chosen people as outlined in the Bible

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

While this phrase has been used by many throughout history, today it is most commonly used by Black supremacists claiming Black people—not Jews—are the true chosen people of God. Black supremacy has roots in “Black Chosenness”—the belief that African Americans are the descendants of the twelve Hebrew tribes of Israel who settled across Africa after the destruction of the Kingdom of Israel and were eventually sold into slavery during the Atlantic slave trade.

Black supremacy argues that Black people are superior to all other races and that “white” Jews are imposters. Elements of Black supremacy can be found within the Black Hebrew Israelite movement, as well as within Nation of Islam under the leadership of Louis Farrakhan and his supporters. In the age of social media, some Black supremacists have co-opted the language of white supremacists when discussing Jews: calling them “termites” and “bugs” with subhuman features (*see creatures*).

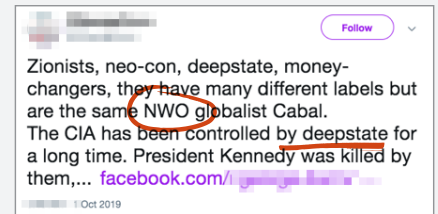


Figure N1

A tweet shared in October 2019.



Figure N2

A tweet shared in September 2020.



Figure N3

An Instagram post shared in April 2014

Some antisemites on both the right and left claim that Ashkenazi Jews are “fake Jews,” and that Israel is a “fake nation.” This accusation has been used historically and continues to be used by those who believe in the Khazar conspiracy theory dispelling the Jewish connection to Israel (see *Khazar*).

P

poisoning the well

trope \ 'poiz(ə)niNG the wel \

: a smear tactic in which an opponent introduces negative information about their adversaries in order to discredit them. The term derives from the ancient war tactic of poisoning an opponent’s water to diminish his strength

WHEN IT’S ANTISEMITIC:

“Poisoning the well,” an accusation rooted in the 14th century Bubonic Plague, blames Jews for purposefully spreading disease. As the Black Death spread across Europe, Jews were accused of spreading the infection through common drinking wells. Thousands of innocent Jews were murdered in response. This trope can be found on all sides of the political spectrum—from Adolf Hitler’s *Mein Kampf*, which accused Jews of being “vermin” and spreading bacteria, to Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan’s diatribes labeling Jews as “termites” also spreading disease. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Jews were blamed by alternative figures on various far-right fringe platforms for creating and/or purposefully spreading COVID-19. This trope reached a more mainstream audience on the far-left, where political cartoons and statements were made saying Israel (or “Zionists”) created COVID-19 in order to hurt the Palestinians and/or profit off the vaccine.



Figure P1
Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu holding a piece of bread for peace doves that he is poisoning with liquid from a bottle labeled “settlement construction,” *Stuttgarter Zeitung*, 2013.



Figure P2
An Instagram post shared in July 2014.

Protocols of the Elders of Zion

conspiracy \ 'prō-tə-,kol 'äv thə 'el-dər 'äv 'zī-ən \

: a fraudulent document attributed to the secret police of Tsarist Russia, first disseminated in the early 20th century and still circulated today, that serves as a pretext and rationale for antisemitism

WHY IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Protocols of the Elders of Zion—written by the Russian secret police in early 20th century—incorporates much of what we know to be classic antisemitic themes and supports the trope that Jews seek world domination, using their “invisible hand” to enslave the rest of mankind.

The book spun tales of a conspiracy that Jews were collaborating clandestinely to use their international influence in the media and economy to take over the world and encourage the downfall of societal norms through communism, gambling, labor unions, and music.

Russian leadership used the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* text to scapegoat Jews as the reason for widespread poverty and suffering (see *scapegoat*).

In the mid-1920s, Henry Ford brought this text to the United States and published excerpts alongside articles in *The Dearborn Independent*, a newspaper he owned. Through this effort, he propagated antisemitic falsehoods that Jews were using ideals of communism and their control over financial institutions to damage the U.S. economy and cause moral harm to the American people (see *Jewish communist*).

Today, *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* can still be found in translation across the world (see *Figure P3*)—including in many Arab nations where it's sold as an authoritative text.

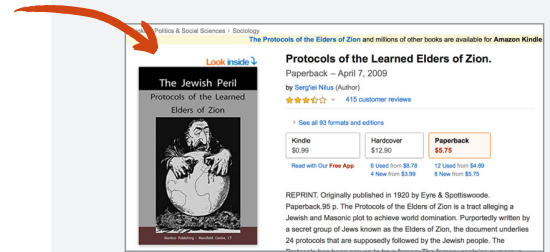


Figure P3

An Amazon listing for the *Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion* paperback.



QAnon

conspiracy \ 'kyoo ən ən \

: a loosely organized, far-right network of people who believe the world is controlled by a satanic cabal of pedophiles and cannibals, made up of politicians (mostly Democrats), mainstream media, journalists, and Hollywood entertainers. This cabal is accused of controlling a “deep-state” government whose purpose is to undermine and attack President Donald Trump and his supporters

QANON'S MOTTO IS "WHERE WE GO ONE, WE GO ALL" OFTEN WRITTEN AS WWTG11WGA.



Figure Q1

Twitter account profile of @Qanon76.

WHY IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Antisemitic conspiracy theories about Jewish elites, globalists, and bankers are part and parcel of the QAnon belief system, and George Soros and the Rothschilds are consistent targets (see *Soros, Rothschild*). The use of children in the conspiracy—the need to rescue children from the hands of the powerful globalists—harkens back to medieval blood libel accusations against Jews (see *blood libel*).

QAnon emerged in October 2017 when anonymous messages appeared on 4chan, an online messaging board used by the far-right. “Q” refers to the top security clearance of the U.S. Department of Energy, while “Anon” references the anonymity of the Q source. “Q” is believed to be a government insider, revealing secrets to his/her followers.

QAnon conspiracy theorists are waiting for the “Storm”—the mass arrest of people in power—and the Great Awakening, where everyone will realize the QAnon theory is the truth. In May 2019, the FBI identified QAnon as a potential domestic terrorist threat.

QANON FOLLOWERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO BECOME “DIGITAL SOLDIERS” AND TAKE AN OATH PLEDGING SUPPORT TO THE CAUSE. ON JULY 4, 2020, MICHAEL FLYNN, FORMER NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR TO PRESIDENT TRUMP, POSTED A VIDEO ONLINE OF A SMALL GROUP, INCLUDING HIMSELF, TAKING THIS OATH.”



Figure Q2

A tweet shared in 2020, using QAnon slogan #WWG1WGA (“Where we go one, we go all.”)

R

Rothschild

person \ rōt SHild \

: a wealthy Jewish family whose banking business dates back to the 18th century Holy Roman Empire

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

The Rothschilds are a Jewish banking family who have been accused of secretly controlling the economy, manipulating the weather, and profiting from wars. “Rothschild” has become a generic term for greedy and manipulative Jewish billionaires (see *Jewish figures, greed*).

In the mid-19th century, French antisemite Georges Dairnvaell, under the pseudonym “Satan,” published a pamphlet alleging Nathan Rothschild witnessed France’s defeat in the Battle of Waterloo in 1815 and returned to London before the news broke to make 20 million francs on the stock exchange. All of this was false. Rothschild was not at Waterloo (or Belgium), nor did he profit from the battle. Despite being provably false, the Satan pamphlet was reprinted and translated into many languages. The Rothschild family (and by extension Jews) were blamed for economic crises and wars for the next 200 years.

ANTISEMITIC CARTOON DEPICTING THE ROTHSCHILDS AS A PIG FEEDING COUNTRIES' INTELLIGENCE SERVICES, INCLUDING ISLAMIST TERRORIST GROUPS.



Figure R1

An antisemitic cartoon centered on the Rothschild family, 2015.

Hitler's propaganda minister, Joseph Goebbels, produced "Die Rothschilds Aktien auf Waterloo" in 1940 as part of Nazi Germany's antisemitic propaganda campaign. Conspiracy theorists in Iraq recently blamed the Rothschilds for the COVID-19 pandemic. Louis Farrakhan's speech, The Conspiracy of the International Bankers, claims the Rothschild banks are members of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, which they are not.

The most malicious of conspiracies about the Rothschilds is that they orchestrated the Holocaust to gain sympathy for Jews in order to create the State of Israel (see *Holocaust denial*).

In January 2021, news broke that Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-GA) had blamed "space lasers...beaming the sun's power down to Earth," funded by "Rothschild Inc.," for California's deadly wildfires in November 2018. It is yet another example of a baseless conspiracy that charges the Rothschilds for world events.

S

Satan

noun \ 'sɛt(ə)n \

: also known as the Devil, Satan is the Western personification of evil. Within Christianity, Satan is also referred to as the tempter, the ruler of demons, and the father of lies

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Referring to Jews as Satan or the devil stems from the interpretation of John 8:41-44 in the Christian Bible. Here Jesus says to his fellow Jews, "For you are the children of your father the devil, and you love to do the evil things he does... When [the devil] lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies."

In medieval Christian folklore and artwork, Jews were depicted with grotesque characteristics such as devil's horns, sharp claws, jagged teeth, pointy ears, and other satanic features to portray the differences between Christianity and Judaism.

Today Jews, and the Jewish State, continue to be cast as Satan, demons, vampires, or other demonic figures. Like the deicide charge, antisemitic elements from Christian tradition have been recycled in the Muslim world (see *deicide charge*). Israel is demonized and, like the devil, viewed as the "source of evil" in the world. The Islamic Republic of Iran openly calls for Israel's destruction and refers to the country as the "Little Satan." Louis Farrakhan has come under fire for ranting about "unmasking the satanic Jew and the synagogue of satan."



Figure R2
A post on Marjorie Taylor Greene's Facebook page, November 17, 2018.

THE STAR OF DAVID BEING USED TO MAKE THE DEVIL JEWISH, WITH THE FACE OF FORMER ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER ARIEL SHARON.

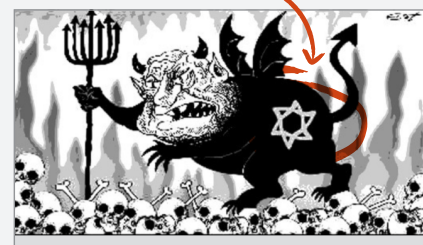


Figure S1
A cartoon shared in Qatari newspaper al-Watan in July 2002.

A SATANIC-LOOKING JEWISH FIGURE LABELED 'ISRAELI COLONIALISM' REPLIES TO THE POPE'S WORDS "MAY THERE BE PEACE THROUGHOUT THE LAND," WITH "MAY THERE BE SETTLEMENTS THROUGHOUT THE LAND."



Figure S2
"The Pope," al-Hayat al-Jadida, March 22, 2000.

scapegoat

theme \ 'skāp-,gōt \

: one that bears the blame for others

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

The story of the scapegoat is derived from the book of Leviticus in the Torah, and is translated from the Hebrew word 'āzāzēl, meaning “absolute removal.” It is said that every year on Yom Kippur, collective grievances and sins are placed onto a physical goat that is sacrificed, as a symbol of the washing away and casting aside of wrongdoing.

Antisemites have been using Jews as “scapegoats” for thousands of years, blaming them for deicide, the murder of Christ, and even the Bubonic plague in the Middle Ages (see *deicide*, Figure D2). Over the past several hundred years, antisemitism has slanderously assigned blame to Jews for world events such as Germany’s loss in World War I—giving rise to Hitler and the Holocaust—and even 9/11 and the financial crisis in 2008 due to the perceived control of financial institutions (see *conspiracy theory, control*).

silencing

theme \ 'sīlənsiNG \

: prohibit or prevent from speaking

WHY IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

One of the longest standing antisemitic attacks leveled against Jews is the “silencing” of their opponents. The false claim that Jews deem any criticism of Israel or the Jewish people as antisemitic, and wield the power of the antisemitic label to silence the opposition, is offensive and dangerous for productive discourse. The idea of “silencing” speech plays into the commonly used trope of “Jewish control” with the false accusation that all discourse that criticizes the policies of Israel should cease to exist in order for the State of Israel to remain powerful.

It is yet another example of the nonsensical way in which Jews are both blamed for silencing their critics and accused of perpetrating hateful rhetoric by speaking out against them in order to gain sympathy.



Figure S3

A tweet shared in April 2018.

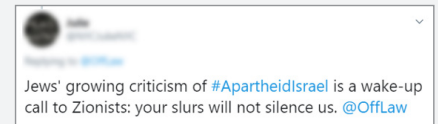


Figure S4

A tweet shared in June 2014.

slavery / slave trade

noun \ 'sleɪv(ə)ri \ 'slāv trād \

: the practice of owning slaves, people who are forced to work with little or no pay and are denied physical freedom or the opportunity to leave

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

The claim that Jews controlled or made up a significant portion of the Atlantic Slave Trade is false. The Council of the American Historical Association (AHA) “condemns as false any statement alleging that Jews played a disproportionate role in the exploitation of slave labor or in the Atlantic slave trade.” While some Jews with resources owned slaves, as did wealthy people of all backgrounds, it was by no means widespread within the Jewish community.

This trope has been spread by the far-right and far-left, from David Duke, the former Ku Klux Klan wizard, to Louis Farrakhan, the leader of the Nation of Islam (NOI). The claim was popularized in Farrakhan’s 1991 publication *The Secret Relationship Between Blacks and Jews, Volume One*, and has most recently resurfaced within segments of the Black Lives Matter (BLM) Movement to prevent Jews from taking part in the protest movement.

smirking merchant

meme \ t'he 'smərkiŋg 'mər-çənt \

: an antisemitic cartoon portraying a Jew based on stereotypes and tropes

WHY IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Visually, the smirking merchant cartoon, also known as the happy merchant meme, relies heavily on derogatory Jewish stereotypes—a large hooked nose, a scheming smirk and pose, frizzy hair, and grimy beard (see *Jewish features*).

As the most popular antisemitic image online, the smirking merchant is also used to symbolize both traditional and modern-day tropes, including Jewish control over the world, Jewish greed, Holocaust denial, and a general blame for white supremacy hot topics like “race-mixing,” feminism, and the LGBTQ community.

While originally created as part of a racist and antisemitic cartoon, the smirking merchant joined other bigoted memes—e.g., antisemitic versions of trollface and Pepe the Frog—on popular, far-right sites like 4chan, 8kun (previously 8chan), and Gab.

CLAIMS THAT JEWS MADE UP THE MAJORITY OF SLAVE OWNERS IS MALICIOUS AND FALSE.



Figure S5

A tweet shared in June 2020.



Figure S6

Antisemitic Facebook comment using the smirking merchant meme.

Soros

person \ 'sORos \

: refers to Hungarian-born Holocaust survivor George Soros, a billionaire philanthropist, who was born Jewish, and champions liberal and progressive causes

WHEN IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

George Soros is vilified in some quarters of the world (and revered in others) for supporting progressive causes such as immigration and criminal justice reform. In the U.S., George Soros has been charged by the far-right with funding Black Lives Matter protests and migrant caravans to the southern U.S. border. He is also the namesake of the anti-migrant legislation in his native Hungary (the so-called "Stop Soros law," which criminalizes aiding migrants).

Criticizing Soros or his politics and actions is not antisemitic. Indeed, those who have suggested that any criticism is antisemitic do real disservice to the cause of fighting Jew-hatred. However, when Soros is used as a symbol for Jewish control, wealth, and power, the criticism may be an updated version of traditional antisemitic tropes (see *conspiracy theory, control, Jewish figures*).

Unfortunately, hatred of George Soros has not remained solely on the Internet. In October 2018, a far-right agitator sent a bomb to his house, as part of a string of bomb threats against prominent Democrats.

Z

"Zionism is racism"

theme / 'zīə.nizəm iz 'rā.sizəm /

: refers to United Nations Resolution 3379 in 1975, in which the General Assembly linked Zionism and the State of Israel, to racism and racial discrimination. This was overturned in 1991 making it one of only two resolutions ever revoked by the UN

WHY IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

Prior to 1948, Zionism was an aspiration—the national liberation movement of the Jewish people, founded by Theodore Herzl in the late 19th century, to re-establish a Jewish nation as a solution to the antisemitism Jews faced in Europe. After 1948 until today, Zionism became a reality: a homeland not only to persecuted European Jews, but Jews from all over the globe, including Jews fleeing persecution from the Soviet Union, the Arab world, Turkey, Iran, and Ethiopia, amongst others. Israel is one of the most diverse countries in the world with over half of its population being from Africa, India, and other areas of the Middle East. The vast majority of Jews around the world identify as Zionists, meaning they support the existence of Israel as a Jewish State in the historic Land of Israel.

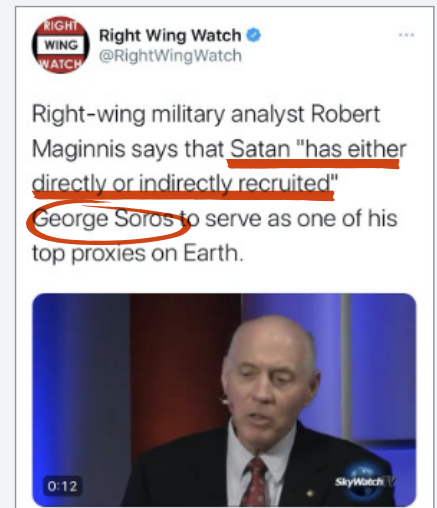


Figure S7

A tweet shared in Sept. 2020.

SOROS IS OFTEN USED AS A SYMBOL OF JEWISH CONTROL



Figure S8

A tweet shared in March 2020.



Figure Z1

The Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council claimed that racist Zionism should be the most concerned about "the collapse of racist symbols." June 2020.

The Soviet Union led the effort to link Zionism to racism, basing their accusations on the notorious Protocols of the Elders of Zion and arguing that Judaism’s concept of “the chosen people” promoted racial superiority. This deliberate slur interpolated and distorted the real meaning of Judaism which explains the Jewish people are ‘chosen,’ or set apart, for special and burdensome religious and social obligations. Other states from Cuba to the Arab world repeated these slurs and criticized Jews and Israel by using the phrase “Zionism is racism,” often taking the discrimination practiced historically against Jews as individuals and employing it against their collective identity.

Criticizing specific Israeli government policies as discriminatory or racist is not antisemitic. However, saying “Zionism is racism,” a phrase which itself is a racist and religious distortion, conveys that the Jewish people—unlike all other people in the world—do not have a right to self-determination. The phrase also denigrates the Jewish State and belittles the diversity of Jewish life in Israel. Famed Soviet Nobel Peace Laureate Andrei Sakharov warned that this resolution would “contribute to antisemitic tendencies in many countries by giving them the appearance of international legality.”

Zionist / “Zio”

noun / 'zīənəst / 'zīō /

: a supporter of Zionism; a person who believes in the development and protection of a Jewish nation in its historic homeland of Israel

WHEN IT’S ANTISEMITIC:

Zionism is a movement and ideology to reestablish and support the existence of a Jewish state in the Biblical Land of Israel. A Zionist is someone who supports Jews’ right to self-determination in their historic homeland and Israel’s right to exist. However, antisemites often use “Zionist” or “Zio” as shorthand for “Jew,” while many antisemites attempt to cloak their hate by claiming to be merely “anti-Zionists” (see *Figure Z3*). Notably, anti-Zionism—the belief that the Jewish people do not have the right to a national home in their ancestral homeland (e.g. that the State of Israel should not exist)—is itself widely believed by Jews to be a form of antisemitism.

Anti-Zionism can also spread antisemitic conspiracy theories. For example, referring to Zionism and Judaism interchangeably blames Jewish people for the actions and policies of the State of Israel, which furthers conspiracy theories about control and world domination (see *Figure Z2*).

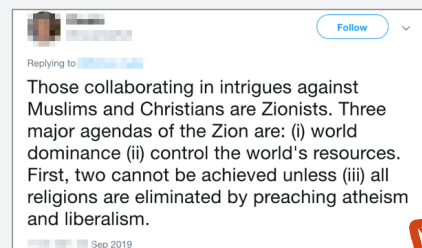


Figure Z2

A tweet shared in September 2019.

- 1. LABELLING JEWS AS "THE OTHER"
- 2. WIDELY USED ANTISEMITIC CONSPIRACIES
- 3. USING JEWS AS A SCAPEGOAT



Figure Z3

A tweet shared in August 2020.

Zionist Occupied Government (ZOG)

conspiracy /'zīə,nɪzɪt 'äkya,pīd 'gəvər(n)mənt (zôg) /

: white supremacist belief declaring the U.S. government is controlled by Jews

WHY IT'S ANTISEMITIC:

ZOG is a white supremacist theory that believes Jews (“Zionists”) secretly control Western politics (see *conspiracy theory, control*). The term first appeared in the 1970s in the U.S. and is found on white supremacist sites such as Aryan Nations and National Alliance. By manipulating Western governments, antisemites claim ZOG controls the world economy, limits free speech, confiscates land, and usurps military and police forces. The phrase “Zionist occupiers” is also used by antisemites on the far-left and by Islamists, seeking to destroy Israel.



Figure Z4

A tweet shared in August 2020.

Defining Antisemitism

The purpose of Translate Hate is to provide visuals and explanations of the diversity of sources of contemporary antisemitism. Recognizing and defining antisemitism go hand in hand. The tropes and themes referenced here are all encompassed within the authoritative International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism, recommended by the European Council, the European Parliament, the UN Secretary General, the Organization of American States, and dozens of governments around the world, including the United States. To effectively fight antisemitism, we must define it. Here is the definition in full:

On 26 May 2016, the IHRA Plenary decided to adopt the following non legally binding working 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.

To guide IHRA in its work, the following examples may serve as illustrations: Manifestations might include the targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. However, criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic. Antisemitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for “why things go wrong.” It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

Contemporary examples of antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could, taking into account the overall context, include, but are not limited to:

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective—such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.

- Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).
- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.
- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a state of Israel is a racist endeavor.
- Applying double standards by requiring of it a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.
- Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

Antisemitic acts are criminal when they are so defined by law (for example, denial of the Holocaust or distribution of antisemitic materials in some countries).

Criminal acts are antisemitic when the targets of attacks, whether they are people or property—such as buildings, schools, places of worship and cemeteries—are selected because they are, or are perceived to be, Jewish or linked to Jews.

Antisemitic discrimination is the denial to Jews of opportunities or services available to others and is illegal in many countries.

How to Report Hate

REPORT HATE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

We can all play a role in reducing online hate. Don't be silent when you see an instance of antisemitism or other forms of hatred on social media. Report it to the platform directly.

1. Tap options symbol (dots, arrow, carrot) on the post, profile, or comment.
2. Tap Report.
3. Select the reason (hateful conduct, hate speech, inappropriate) as listed on the platform.

Not seeing what you're looking for? Find more direct information from [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [TikTok](#).

Help.twitter.com then click "Abuse" then "Report abusive behavior"

Facebook.com/Help then click "Policies and Reporting" then "Reporting Abuse"

Help.Instagram.com and search "Abuse and Spam"

Support.tiktok.com then click "Safety" then "Report a Problem"

But what if the platform doesn't take it down? We may not be able to remove all antisemitic posts, but we can and will have our voices heard. With every report, we shed light on antisemitic behavior—getting us a step closer to stopping it.

REPORT HATE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Talk to Law Enforcement

Check www.justice.gov/hatecrimes/get-help-now for help on reporting hate crimes and incidents to your local police and the FBI.

WHAT YOU CAN DO WHEN INCIDENTS OF HATE OCCUR

Report it.

Speak out and be an ally. Consider a prompt, public statement of condemnation to signal that online hate is unacceptable. Use Translate Hate to explain why a post is antisemitic.

Hold the perpetrator accountable and demand a public apology. Work to restore civility to the public discourse.

Reach out personally to those affected by online hate to show solidarity.

Participate in coalitions and educate others about antisemitism.

Advocate for measures that help reporting and prosecution of hate crimes.

Support funding for Jewish community security needs.

Conclusion

While this glossary is by no means an exhaustive account of all the antisemitism present in our world, it captures the most commonly used tropes and conspiracies. After all, antisemitism is an ever-evolving threat, as are the most widely used tropes that help it spread. Antisemitism continues to pose a direct threat to democracy, democratic values, and human rights. It is a problem for Jews and—even more critically—for non-Jews to solve. Because antisemitism is a societal issue, our aim is to raise public awareness of common forms of antisemitism and elevate the debate on confronting this menace.

[AJC.org/TranslateHate](https://www.ajc.org/TranslateHate)

