



**Written Testimony of  
Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) National President Morton A. Klein<sup>1</sup>**

**Hearing title: HATE CRIMES AND THE RISE OF WHITE NATIONALISM  
Before the  
U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary, 116th Congress  
Tuesday April 9, 2019, 10:00 a.m.  
Rayburn House Office Building, Room 2141  
Chairman Jerrold Nadler (D-NY)  
Ranking Member Doug Collins (R-GA)**

Chairman Nadler, Ranking Member Collins, Members of the Committee: Thank you for holding this hearing. And thank you, Chairman Nadler, for stating in your November 27 letter that this Committee “will likely examine the causes of racial and religious violence.”<sup>2</sup>

For the past 25 years, I have served as president of the oldest pro-Israel organization in the country, the non-partisan Zionist Organization of America (the ZOA). A key ZOA mission is protecting American Jews and others from antisemitism and violence.

As a child of Holocaust survivors, I’ve personally felt the horrors of unbridled antisemitism. I was born in a displaced persons camp in Germany, and grew up without the loving presence of most of my grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins, whom the Nazis murdered.

The FBI reports that Jews are the victims in sixty percent (60%) of religiously-motivated hate crimes.<sup>3</sup> Jew-hatred is the canary in the coal mine, the harbinger of hate in society at large.

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<sup>1</sup> ZOA Director of Special Projects Elizabeth Berney, Esq. assisted with this written testimony.

<sup>2</sup> Congressman Jerry Nadler press release and letter, Nov. 27, 2018, at <https://nadler.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=391395>

<sup>3</sup> FBI Hate Crime Statistics for 2017, Table 1 (2017 is the most recent year available), at <https://ucr.fbi.gov/hate-crime/2017/topic-pages/tables/table-1.xls>

The Tree of Life synagogue massacre perpetrator was a neo-Nazi who hated President Trump for *not* being antisemitic,<sup>4</sup> called Jews in the Trump administration a “kike infestation,” and also hated anti-Trump Jews.”<sup>5</sup>

The New Zealand mosque shooter was a self-described “eco-Fascist” who also published a manifesto praising Communist China as “*the nation with the closest political and social values to my own.*”<sup>6</sup>

We all condemned these horrific attacks. No known major institution provided organizational support for or endorsed those hate crimes.

### **Neo-Nazism Must Not Be Written Off as Marginal:**

Most of us correctly treat neo-Nazis and white supremacists as beyond the pale. But history reminds us that we cannot write neo-Nazism off as a marginal phenomenon. There is a plethora of sickening neo-Nazi, white supremacist Internet sites, fomenting hatred and violence, primarily against Jews and blacks, but also directed towards LGBTQ, women, feminists, and Muslims. We need to determine who is funding and behind this.

MEMRI’s new special report shows examples of this neo-Nazi Internet hate and incitement, such as an ugly cartoon caricature of a Jew and an African American, which says that a world without them would be like a world without rats and cockroaches.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> “*Pittsburgh Synagogue Suspect Robert Bowers Hated Trump—for Not Hating Jews,*” by Kelly Weill Kelly Weill, *Daily Beast*, Oct. 27, 2018, at <https://www.thedailybeast.com/robert-bowers-is-neo-nazi-who-posted-about-killing-jews-on-gab> <https://www.thedailybeast.com/robert-bowers-is-neo-nazi-who-posted-about-killing-jews-on-gab>; “*Synagogue Shooter Hated Donald Trump and Shows What Real Hatred, Anti-Semitism Looks Like,*” by James S. Robbins, *USA Today*, Oct. 29, 2018, at <https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2018/10/29/donald-trump-robert-bowers-racist-anti-semitic-synagogue-shooting-column/1800755002/>

<sup>5</sup> “*ZOA Horrified by and Mourns Pittsburgh Massacre of 11 Innocent Jews; Urges Others-Join ZOA to Condemn and Counter those Creating Atmosphere of Jew-Hatred,*” Oct. 28, 2018, at <https://zoa.org/2018/10/10378852-zoa-horrified-by-and-mourns-pittsburgh-massacre-of-11-innocent-jews-urges-others-join-zoa-to-condemn-and-counter-those-creating-atmosphere-of-jew-hatred/>

<sup>6</sup> “*New Zealand Mosque Shooter’s Manifesto Apparently Posted Online, Admires Communist China,*” by Jack Phillips, *The Epoch Times*, Mar. 15, 2019, at [https://www.theepochtimes.com/new-zealand-mosque-shooters-manifesto-apparently-posted-online-admires-communist-china\\_2839838.html](https://www.theepochtimes.com/new-zealand-mosque-shooters-manifesto-apparently-posted-online-admires-communist-china_2839838.html)

<sup>7</sup> “*Online Incitement Against Jews, People Of Color, Muslims, And LGBTQ – Executive Summary,*” MEMRI Special Report No. 44, Mar. 22, 2019, at <https://www.memri.org/reports/online-incitement-against-jews-people-color-muslims-and-lgbtq—executive-summary>



GAB, February 3, 2019

### The Convergence of Hatreds:

There is also a convergence, or intersectionality, of hatreds, invariably targeting Jews. This can be summed up as “Any hater of the Jews is my friend – at least for now.” Thus, former KKK grand wizard David Duke<sup>8</sup> is now defending Congresswoman Ilhan Omar for accusing Jews of dual loyalty, and praising Omar as the “most important member of Congress.”<sup>9</sup>

<sup>8</sup> “ZOA Sickened, Revolted By, and Strongly Condemns, Neo-Nazi, White Supremacist Charlottesville Act of Terror & Violence,” Aug. 15, 2017, at <https://zoa.org/2017/08/10372359-zoa-sickened-revolted-by-and-strongly-condemns-neo-nazi-white-supremacist-charlottesville-act-of-terror-violence/>; “David Duke, Ex-Klan Leader, Ordered to Turn Over Records Related to Deadly Charlottesville Rally,” *Washington Times*, May 18, 2019, at <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/may/18/david-duke-ex-klan-leader-ordered-turn-over-record/>

<sup>9</sup> “Former KKK Leader David Duke Calls Rep. Omar ‘Most Important Member’ of Congress,” *The Tower*, Mar. 8, 2019, available at <http://www.thetower.org/7309-former-kkk-leader-david-duke-calls-rep-omar-most-important-member-of-congress/>; See also MEMRI Special Report No. 44, *supra*.

Today’s Palestinian-Arab media glorify Hitler and Nazis; Mein Kampf is a best seller in the Palestinian Authority; and some Palestinian-Arabs even give their children the first name “Hitler.”<sup>10</sup>

Last week, at Columbia University in New York, the antisemitic hate group, Students for Justice in Palestine, distributed a flyer for its apartheid week with a caricature of a Jew that looks like it came from the Nazis’ propaganda tabloid, *Der Stürmer*.<sup>11</sup>



### **Muslim Antisemitism is Strengthened by Institutional Support:**

<sup>10</sup> “Admiration of Hitler and Nazism,” Palestinian Media Watch, at <https://www.palwatch.org/main.aspx?fi=655>

<sup>11</sup> Facebook page of Students Supporting Israel at Columbia Univ., Apr. 3, 2019, 10:57 a.m., at <https://www.facebook.com/SSIColumbia/photos/a.476512082528590/1120381318141660/?type=3&theater>

It is unfortunately incumbent upon us to speak about the major issue threatening violence against Jews and all Americans: Muslim antisemitism, which is strengthened by significant institutional support, and is becoming mainstream.

### **A. College Campuses**

**ZOA's Center for Law and Justice** supports and advocates for students, faculty and community members throughout the country, who face harassment, intimidation or discrimination because they are Jewish, pro-Israel, or simply because they refuse to engage in activities or initiatives that demonize Israel.

We have assisted Jewish and pro-Israel students on campuses throughout the University of California system, at the City University of New York, the University of Michigan, Rutgers University, and numerous other campuses. ZOA's Center for Law and Justice led the successful, groundbreaking fight to have Title VI of the Civil Rights Act reinterpreted to protect Jewish students. In addition, triggered by the ZOA's Title VI action against Rutgers University, the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) announced that it will now be using the U.S. State Department's definition of antisemitism when it evaluates and decides Title VI antisemitism cases. The definition accurately recognizes that anti-Zionist and anti-Israel sentiment can be manifestations of antisemitism and will provide OCR with useful and much-needed guidance in effectively addressing antisemitism cases involving Israel.

During more than 15 years that ZOA has been combating campus antisemitism, ZOA has never received a single complaint about antisemitic discrimination, harassment or intimidation perpetrated by neo-Nazis or white supremacists. By contrast, ZOA's Center for Law and Justice and campus professionals receive hundreds calls from students about antisemitic harassment, discrimination and intimidation perpetrated by the hate group "Students for Justice in Palestine" (SJP) –which reportedly has approximately 200 chapters on campuses across the country – and SJP's allies. It's always about the Muslims and left attacking, verbally abusing, and threatening Jewish and pro-Israel students.

The Amcha Initiative database list of almost 2,600 incidents confirms that SJP and its allies are the perpetrators in most incidents on U.S. campuses.<sup>12</sup>

ZOA's 14-page 2016 letter to City University of New York (CUNY) officials documented<sup>[7]</sup> numerous alarming antisemitic activities at four CUNY schools. At a frightening Hunter College SJP rally. SJP demonstrators called for Israel's elimination and screamed: "Jews out of CUNY!"; "Jews are racist sons of bitches!"; "When we take control of CUNY, we are gonna kick you out and make sure you don't graduate!"; "Get out of the Middle East!"; "Get out of America!"; and "Long live the intifada!" and "There is only one solution: Intifada revolution!" The "Intifadas" are the terror wars in which Palestinian-Arabs murdered and maimed thousands of Jews. SJP also called Jewish students "racists," "white supremacists," "fascists," "Nazis" and "supporters of genocide."

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<sup>12</sup> Amcha Initiative Incidents database, at <https://amchainitiative.org/search-by-incident#incident/search/display-by-date/search/>

Campus officials seem to respond swiftly and effectively to neo-Nazi and white supremacist incidents, thus obviating the need for ZOA's intervention.

For instance:

- In November 2018, after a student tweeted support for the Ku Klux Klan, a blue-eyed master race, and for shooting Jews, Davidson College immediately issued a statement condemning antisemitism and bigotry, and announced that the student was no longer enrolled at the college.<sup>13</sup>
- In January 2019, when a professor at Manchester Community College (in Connecticut) held a Nazi salute for 10 minutes and shouted “Sieg Heil” during a faculty meeting, campus police immediately removed the professor, and the college immediately placed the professor on leave and then fired him after an investigation.<sup>14</sup>
- In October 2016, after students participated in a “4th Reich’s Official Group Chat” on Facebook, Boulder Prep high school promptly expelled participating students. According to police, group members discussed “killing all Jews and [N-words]” and encouraged each other to “recruit more members so they can complete their ‘mission’.”<sup>15</sup>

By contrast, college administrators are often reluctant to take action against perpetrators of antisemitic harassment and intimidation, leaving Jewish students with continuing to have to contend with a hostile learning environment that feels unwelcome and even unsafe. Then, when students seek legal recourse through the ZOA and others, to enforce their legal right to a non-hostile learning environment pursuant to Title VI, they may wait years for a legal decision, by which time most of the impacted students have already graduated. For instance:

- In 2004, ZOA filed with OCR a student-supported Title VI action against the University of California, Irvine (UCI). Jewish students at UCI were physically threatened and physically assaulted. One student reported being surrounded by Arab students who cursed and threatened her with: “I am going to kill you, you f—king Jewish bitch.” Another Jewish student endured screams of “Go back to Russia where you came from” and “Burn in hell.” A Holocaust memorial constructed on campus was destroyed. Posters equated Zionism with Nazism, and the Star of David with the swastika. A huge sign on the campus’ main walkway read, “Israelis Love to Kill Innocent Children.” Speakers regularly vilified Jews and Israel, comparing Jews to Satan, and referring to them as “the new Nazis.” The hostile environment – largely created by a student group then called the Muslim Student Union – caused Jewish students to fear openly expressing that they were Jewish and pro-Israel. Some were afraid for their physical safety. At least two students left UCI and transferred elsewhere because they could no longer endure the hostility.

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<sup>13</sup> 11/06/2018 incident, Amcha Initiative list of Swastika incidents,

at [https://amchainitiative.org/swastika-tracker/#swastika-tracker/?view\\_256\\_page=4](https://amchainitiative.org/swastika-tracker/#swastika-tracker/?view_256_page=4)

<sup>14</sup> “CT College Fires Professor Accused of Giving Nazi Salute,” Boston News 7, Jan. 24, 2019,

at <https://whdh.com/news/ct-college-fires-professor-accused-of-giving-nazi-salute/>

<sup>15</sup> “Students Expelled After Facebook Group Calls for ‘Execution’ of Jews, Black People,” by Sam T. Levin, *The Guardian*, Oct. 14, 2016, at <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2016/oct/14/nazi-facebook-group-alt-right-execution-jews-black-people-colorado-students-expelled>

OCR did not issue a decision in the Title VI case against UCI until 2007, when it closed the case. When the ZOA exercised its right to request reconsideration of the decision, OCR did not decide the appeal until 2013 – almost nine years after the case was filed – and it dismissed the case in a cursory one-page decision. The UCI case was dismissed on the same day as two other Title VI cases (not filed by the ZOA), which also complained of unrelenting antisemitism at the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of California, Santa Cruz, which university officials had failed to effectively address.

- ZOA’s student-backed Title VI complaint against Rutgers University also remains unresolved after being filed more than eight years ago. The affected students have long since graduated. Filed in 2011, the complaint alleged, among other things, that Jewish and pro-Israel students were unlawfully discriminated against when an anti-Israel student group called BAKA (“Belief Awareness Knowledge Action”) selectively charged an admission fee for an event that was advertised as free and open to the public. The event – titled “Never Again for Anyone” – absurdly and outrageously compared Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.<sup>[4]</sup> OCR did not decide the case until 2014, when it closed the case. The ZOA filed a request for reconsideration which languished at the agency for almost four years. In August 2018, under the new leadership of Kenneth Marcus, OCR reopened the case to consider previously unexamined evidence. In addition, OCR decided that it will now be using the helpful and accurate U.S. State Department definition of antisemitism in Title VI cases, to determine whether the behavior at issue was motivated by antisemitic bias.<sup>[5]</sup>

In addition to our ZOA’s Center for Law and Justice, **ZOA Campus**, the ZOA’s campus department, works with students on college campuses throughout the country, educating students about Israel, sponsoring speakers and programs, and assisting Jewish and pro-Israel students who face harassment and intimidation from anti-Israel groups like SJP. ZOA’s campus professionals are on-the-ground, every day.

The harassment and intimidation from SJP is frightening. SJP and its allies stage ugly, anti-Israel “apartheid weeks,” “die-ins” and mock checkpoints. They place fake “eviction notices” under students’ doors, which contain hate-inciting lies about Jews and Israel, and cause Jewish students to feel unnerved and afraid. SJP also disrupts and attempts to shut down Jewish and pro-Israel speakers and activities.

In addition, SJP enforces an “anti-normalization” policy – the dehumanizing refusal to have any normal interaction with a Jewish or pro-Israel student. For instance, at a recent college event in California, Jewish students tried to be friendly to members of SJP, and walked over and offered: “Would you like some falafel?” The SJP activists responded: “Don’t talk to them. They are occupiers. Get away from us, you Zionists!”<sup>[6]</sup>

At John Jay College in New York, when the Muslim Students Association (MSA) planned to co-sponsor an event with Hillel featuring a Muslim police officer and a Jewish police officer (a particularly relevant program for a school of criminal justice), the MSA withdrew its sponsorship after SJP warned and reportedly threatened the MSA not to work with Hillel.

The situation is so concerning that the *Algemeiner* newspaper published annual lists of “The 40 Worst Colleges for Jewish Students” with a litany of horrors from each of the “Worst 40.”<sup>16</sup> The Amcha Initiative database lists almost 2,600 incidents, many of which involved SJP, on campuses across the United States targeting Jewish students and staff, expressing antisemitism, and involving BDS activity, during the four-year period from 2015 to today.<sup>17</sup>

SJP frequently disrupts and attempts to shut down Jewish and pro-Israel speakers and activities. Amcha Initiative’s database lists over a hundred such incidents.<sup>18</sup>

For example, last year at UCLA, about 30 SJP radicals, some of whom were wearing keffiyehs, broke into and completely disrupted a pro-Israel event about Jewish, Kurdish and Armenian indigenous people in the Middle East. The SJP disruptors tore down the Armenian and Israeli flags, waved giant Palestinian-Arab flags, blocked the event’s speakers, raised their fists (a symbol of violent Palestinian-Arab “resistance”), blew loud whistles, and yelled, using megaphones, typical chants from the SJP playbook including: “Free, free Palestine”; “We don’t want two states, we want ’48” (a call for Israel’s destruction); “Palestine will be free, from the river to the sea” (another well-known call for Israel’s destruction); “No peace on stolen land” (a call for war against Israel); “1-2-3-4, open up the prison door, 5-6-7-8, Israel is a terror state”; “F--- white supremacy” (the absurd notion that Jews are “white supremacists”); and “From Palestine to Mexico, all the walls have got to go.”

The SJP radicals ignored requests by the pro-Israel event’s sponsors to join them in conversation. When the campus police finally arrived, the SJP disruptors yelled at them: “You stand at the side of the terrorist state of Israel.” And after the police finally cleared the disruptors out of the room, the disruptors screamed through megaphones in the hallway, and beat their fists on the door, to continue preventing the pro-Israel event from resuming.<sup>19</sup>

Afterwards, one of the event’s pro-Israel organizers wrote that the Israeli, Kurdish and Armenian communities were dismayed at the UCLA administration’s inadequate response and failure to discipline or hold the disruptors liable for California law violations.<sup>20</sup>

And yet this SJP disruption was far from the worst.

Others have been downright frightening. For instance, during a speech criticizing the Palestinian Authority by Bassem Eid, founder of the Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group, a student who said he was from Gaza physically threatened the speaker. The student yelled in Arabic, “I’m going to destroy this place!”; “I’m going to kill this motherf---er!”; “Wait until you go to

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<sup>16</sup> <https://www.algemeiner.com/the-40-worst-colleges-for-jewish-students-2017/>

<sup>17</sup> Amcha Initiative Incidents database, at <https://amchainitiative.org/search-by-incident#incident/search/display-by-date/search/>

<sup>18</sup> Amcha Initiative, Disruptions database, at <https://amchainitiative.org/sjp-disruption-of-jewish-events/#disruption-of-jewish-events/display-by-date3/>

<sup>19</sup> Video of event at <https://www.facebook.com/SSIUCLA/videos/1654955314552657/>

<sup>20</sup> “*Failure to Condemn Students for Justice in Palestine Reveals Administration’s Indifference*,” by Justin Feldman, *Daily Bruin*, Oct. 31, 2018, at <https://dailybruin.com/2018/10/31/submission-failure-to-condemn-students-for-justice-in-palestine-reveals-administrations-indifference/>

your car!” and threatened that “we” were going to ready for Eid at Eid’s next lecture. Eid wrote afterwards:

“I was terrified from what’s happened at [University of Chicago], a Palestinian who claimed that he is from Gaza threatened me, . . . and I was escaped from the place by the police. Horrible unbelievable how the Arabs who are supporting the BDS causing damage to the Palestinian’s reputation.”<sup>21</sup>

SJP, along and its allies, also stages intimidating mock checkpoints, has placed eviction notices under the doors of Jewish students, and organizes ugly, annual anti-Israel “apartheid weeks” on numerous campuses, where radical antisemitic activists chant hateful Hamas slogans, equate Zionism with colonialism, erect mock “apartheid walls” with hateful pictures, and screen anti-Israel propaganda films.

A few days ago, at Brooklyn College in New York, SJP circulated a flyer for its “Israel Apartheid Week” portraying all of Israel as occupied Palestinian-Arab land. The flyer stated: “Come check out our recreation of the apartheid wall set up by settler-state Israel between occupied Palestine and current Palestinian territories.”<sup>22</sup>

Also few days ago, at Columbia University in New York, SJP and the equally vicious anti-Israel so-called “Jewish Voice for Peace” (JVP) and “Columbia University Apartheid Divest” (CUAD, a joint SJP-JVP campaign), promoted their “Israel Apartheid Week” by circulated a flyer throughout campus (shown previously) depicting a cartoon caricature of an ugly, deformed, heavily armed Israeli soldier, apparently with horns on his head, looking like he was kicking an Arab, behind a barbed-wire wall. A pro-Israel group, Students Supporting Israel (SSI) aptly wrote:

“Such a disgusting and cheap act of portraying Jewish soldiers with physical deformities is downright abhorrent and anti-Semitic and must be condemned by Columbia University. This kind of repugnant caricature of Jews is a sore reminder of blatant anti-Semitism from the dark ages of medieval Europe when anti-Semitic propaganda depicted Jews as satanic consorts and an incarnation of absolute evil. Physically, Jews were portrayed as menacing, hirsute, with boils, warts and other deformities, sometimes with horns, cloven hoofs and tails. It is extremely painful to see that the same rhetoric is being used on the campus of an Ivy league university in the United States. This horrendous act by SJP must not go with impunity. Lame excuses on the basis of free speech or creating political satire must not be the basis of exoneration. . . we shall not remain silent about SJP’s use of this blatantly distasteful and anti -Semitic imagery. We strongly condemn this disgusting act by SJP and demand proper disciplinary actions from Columbia

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<sup>21</sup> “Palestinian Human Rights Activist Receives Death Threats From Anti-Israel Protesters During U of Chicago Lecture” (including video), by Andrew Pessin, *Algemeiner*, Feb. 21, 2016, at <https://www.algemeiner.com/2016/02/21/palestinian-human-rights-activists-receives-death-threats-from-anti-israel-protesters-during-u-of-chicago-lecture-video/>

<sup>22</sup> “Brooklyn College Students Take to the Quad to Expose Untruths at ‘Israeli Apartheid Week’,” *JNS*, Apr. 4, 2019, at <https://www.jns.org/brooklyn-college-students-take-to-the-quad-to-expose-untruths-at-israeli-apartheid-week/>

University. SSI Columbia has already filed an official complaint to the school. We plead all of you to take a strong stance against this. Do not hesitate to reach out to the office of the President at [bollinger@columbia.edu](mailto:bollinger@columbia.edu).”<sup>23</sup>

## **B. Antisemitism Statistics**

Let’s look at statistics: ADL’s worldwide survey of 100 countries found that 49 percent of Muslims harbor antisemitic attitudes. That’s more than double the antisemitism found among persons of other faiths [24% among Christians; 19% among Hindus; 17% among Buddhists; and 21% among “no religion”].<sup>24</sup>

ADL data also shows that in the U.S., 34% of Muslims exhibit a high degree of antisemitism, versus 14% of the general population – meaning that American Muslim antisemitism is two-and-a-half greater than that of the general U.S. population.<sup>25</sup>

The 16 countries and territories having the highest levels of antisemitism were all in the Muslim Middle East. Levels of antisemitism there ranged from 74% to 93% of the population.<sup>26</sup> The survey also found that in the Middle East, antisemitism increases with greater “education,” while elsewhere more educated populations are less antisemitic. That suggests something very wrong Middle East education, that we dare not import here.<sup>27</sup>

ADL also found increased anti-Jewish violence, and “extremely high” levels of antisemitism among Muslims in western Europe, up to four and a half times the level in the general population. For instance, 68% of Muslims in Belgium harbor antisemitic attitudes, versus 21% of the general population.<sup>28</sup>

At the European “Combatting Antisemitism Conference” in London in December, one speaker succinctly put it: “*Twenty years ago, the major problem was antisemitism on the far right. But it flipped. Now the major problem is the far left and the radical Muslims.*”<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> Facebook page of Students Supporting Israel at Columbia Univ., Apr. 3, 2019, 10:57 a.m., at <https://www.facebook.com/SSIColumbia/photos/a.476512082528590/1120381318141660/?type=3&theater>

<sup>24</sup> “ADL Poll of Over 100 Countries Finds More Than One-Quarter of Those Surveyed Infected With Anti-Semitic Attitudes,” May 13, 2014, at <https://www.adl.org/news/press-releases/adl-global-100-poll>

<sup>25</sup> “In First, New ADL Poll Finds Majority of Americans Concerned About Violence Against Jews and Other Minorities, Want Administration to Act,” Apr. 6, 2017, at <https://www.adl.org/news/press-releases/in-first-new-adl-poll-finds-majority-of-americans-concerned-about-violence>

<sup>26</sup> ADL Global 100 Findings, at <http://global100.adl.org/public/ADL-Global-100-Executive-Summary.pdf>

<sup>27</sup> ADL Global 100 Findings, *id.*

<sup>28</sup> ADL Poll, Apr. 6, 2017, *supra*.

<sup>29</sup> “ZOA Participated in European Conference in London on Countering Antisemitism,” Dec. 28, 2018, at <https://zoa.org/2018/12/10383229-zoa-participated-in-european-conference-in-london-on-countering-antisemitism/>

### **C. Institutional Support for Jew-Hatred and Violence by Leading Imams:**

We are in danger of seeing the spread here of the same violence that spread from the Middle East to Europe.<sup>30</sup>

There's institutional support for violence by leading Imams. Al-Azhar University, the pinnacle of Islamic academe, and the Sunni Islamic equivalent to the Vatican, trains Imams who fan out all over the world. A highly influential 766-page treatise by Al-Azhar's former Grand Imam Tantawi, cites Koranic sources to justify Muslim Jew-hatred and violence, and advises that "gentle persuasion can do no good with [Jews], so use force with them and treat them in the way you see as effective in ridding them of their evil."<sup>31</sup>

The current Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, Ahmed Al-Tayeb, justifies antisemitism, absurdly saying: "Since the inception of Islam 1,400 years ago, we have been suffering from Jewish and Zionist interference in Muslim affairs."<sup>32</sup>

An Al Azhar Friday sermon, broadcasted on television, recited a hadith requiring genocide against the Jews in order to usher in the messianic Day of Judgment. The sermon urges Muslims to prepare to vanquish the Jews until the Jews will hide behind the stones and the trees, but the stones and the trees will say: "Oh Muslim, oh servant of Allah, there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him."<sup>33</sup> (The Hamas charter<sup>34</sup> contains the same hadith.)

In a 2015 speech, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi acknowledged the problem and called for "a religious revolution" among Muslims.<sup>35</sup>

### **D. Imams Preaching Jew-Hatred and Violence in American Mosques**

During the past year and a half, in mosques in North Carolina, New Jersey, California, Texas, Pennsylvania, and elsewhere, Imams were videotaped preaching anti-Jewish sermons including the same genocidal "come and kill the Jew hiding behind the tree" hadith. Sermons in U.S. mosques also accused Jews of killing the prophets; called for cleansing the Temple Mount of

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<sup>30</sup> See "Antisemitism Inside Radical Islam Mosques in America: In Their Own Words" (video), at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-qgR1K1KVds&feature=youtu.be>

<sup>31</sup> Passage from "Jews in the Koran and the Traditions," by Muhammad Sayyid Tantawi, quoted in "Ahmad Al-Tayeb, Sunni Islam's Pope: "Global Zionism" (=Jews) Responsible For Jihad Terror Groups in the Middle East, Sept. 17, 2014, at <https://www.andrewbostom.org/2014/09/ahmad-al-tayeb-sunni-islams-pope-global-zionism-jews-responsible-for-jihad-terror-groups-in-the-middle-east/>

<sup>32</sup> "Sheik of Al-Azhar Ahmad Al-Tayeb Justifies Antisemitism on the Basis of the Koran," MEMRI Clip No. 4048, Oct. 25, 2013, at <https://www.memri.org/tv/sheik-al-azhar-ahmad-al-tayeb-justifies-antisemitism-basis-koran/transcript>

<sup>33</sup> "Antisemitism in Al-Azhar University's Friday Sermon: The Jews Are The Muslims' Worst Enemies," MEMRI Clip No. 3871, May 10, 2013, at <https://www.memri.org/tv/antisemitism-al-azhar-university-friday-sermon-jews-are-muslims-worst-enemies/transcript>

<sup>34</sup> Hamas Covenant, 1988, Article Seven, at [http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th\\_century/hamas.asp](http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/hamas.asp)

<sup>35</sup> "Egyptian President Sisi Calls for Reform of Islam," Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, Feb. 15, 2015, at <http://jcpa.org/article/sisi-calls-for-reform-of-islam/>. See also "Removing Jew-Hatred From The Mosque: A Vatican II Paradigm For Islam?," by Dr. Andrew Bostom, to be published.

“the filth of the Jews”; prayed to “turn Jerusalem and Palestine into a graveyard for the Jews” and annihilate Jews one by one; accused Zionists of treating Palestinians the way Nazis treated the Europeans; charged that some Jews literally turned into monkeys and pigs; and claimed that Jews are running everything; and that the pro-Israeli lobby has been using the United States as a cash cow.<sup>36</sup>

Can you imagine the outcry if clerics of other faiths preached sermons calling for the death of any other group? These sermons encourage actual violence. ZOA urged that these Imams should be fired. The reaction was woefully inadequate.<sup>37</sup>

When caught on tape preaching to murder Jews, the Imams or mosques involved have sometimes offered some sort of apology –often an insincere “sorry if I offended you” non-apology. Commenters have described this pattern as “Kill all the Jews. Oops, I’m sorry.” Sometimes these Imams have attempted to justify their clear, videotaped calls for genocide by claiming they were misinterpreted or taken out of context. As noted below, in some instances, the mosque responded more appropriately.

Here are some examples of these hateful sermons:

- **Imam Raed Saleh Al-Rousan, in Houston TX:** On Friday December 8, 2017, at the Tajweed Institute Islamic Center in Houston, Texas, Imam Raed Saleh Al-Rousan, preached and posted on Youtube and Facebook the full hadith in Arabic calling for the murder of Jews: “*The Muslims will kill the Jews, and the Jews will hide behind the stones and the trees, and the stones and the trees will say: Oh Muslim, oh servant of Allah, there is a Jew hiding behind me, come and kill him, except for the Gharqad tree, which is one of their trees.*”

Imam Al-Rousan then stated in English “*This is the promise of Allah. The hour [of Judgment] will not start until Muslims fight, fight the Jews, there in Falesteen.*” In addition, he repeated the hadith, in English this time, leaving out the well understood words “*come and kill him,*” but prefaced with “*and the Muslims will have victory.*” Imam Al Rousan’s sermon also contained other exhortations and conspiracy theories to incite hatred against Jews, including falsely claiming that the Jews “*killed the prophets, they killed the messengers of Allah*”; that Jews opposed letting Muslims know their Islamic religion; that “Falestin” is not the country of the Jewish people; and that Jews were responsible for Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood president Mohammed Morsi’s ouster.<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>36</sup> See “*Antisemitism Inside Radical Islam Mosques in America: In Their Own Words,*” *supra*; “*Imam’s Hate Speech Can’t be Forgiven with an Apology,*” letters, *The Jewish News of Northern California*, Aug. 4, 2017, at <https://www.jweekly.com/2017/08/04/imams-hate-speech-cant-forgiven-apology/>; and next fn.

<sup>37</sup> “*ZOA: Fire Four Imams Who Called for Murder of Jews,*” Jan. 15, 2018, at <https://zoa.org/2018/01/10377423-zaa-fire-four-imams-calling-for-murdering-jews/>; and “*Imam’s Hate Speech Can’t Be Forgiven with an Apology,*” *supra*.

<sup>38</sup> Video at “*Houston Imam Raed Saleh Al-Rousan: ‘Good Tidings’ – Muslims Will Kill Jews On Judgment Day; ‘Do Not Tell Me That Palestine Is The Country Of The Jewish [People]’*,” MEMRI Clip #6326, Dec. 8, 2017, at <https://www.memri.org/tv/houston-imam-raed-rousan-muslims-kill-jews-palestine>.

Al-Rousan later attempted to excuse his sermon as being misinterpreted.<sup>39</sup>

- **Imam Abdullah Khadra, mosque in Raleigh NC:** On December 8, 2017, Syrian-American Imam Abdullah Khadra preached these opening words of the well-known Islamic hadith calling for anti-Jewish genocide: “*The Prophet Muhammad gave us the glad tidings that at the end of the time, we will fight those Jews until the rocks and the trees will speak: ‘Oh Muslim, this is a Jew behind me’ . . .*” Imam Khadra left unspoken the hadith ending phrase “*come and kill him; but the tree Gharqad would not say, for it is the tree of the Jews.*” However, it is believed that this full call to murder Jews was well understood by listeners.

Imam Khadra also asserted that the Israeli cities of Jerusalem, Haifa, Acre and Jaffa and the Western Wall (the holiest site where Jews are permitted to pray) are “Muslim land” and urged listeners to “*contribute to regaining it*” and to “*move by all possible means to defend their rights*”; and called Jews “*occupiers, aggressors and murderers.*”<sup>40</sup>

- **Imam Aymen Elkasaby, in Jersey City, NJ:** Also on Friday December 8, 2017, Imam Aymen Elkasaby gave a sermon at the Islamic Center of Jersey City, New Jersey, calling for genocide against the Jewish people saying: “*Count them one by one, and kill them down to the very last one. Do not leave a single one on the face of the Earth.*”

Imam Elkasaby also called Jews “*apes and pigs,*” “*the most cowardly of nations,*” “*the weakest of all peoples,*” and “*plundering oppressors.*” Imam Elkasaby further incited anti-Jewish violence with prayers to Allah to “*make us among Your armies*” and “*grant us martyrdom on the threshold of Al-Aqsa Mosque,*” and “*wreak vengeance against the plundering oppressors*” and claims such as “*So long as the Al-Aqsa Mosque remains prisoner in the hands of the Jews, this nation will remain humiliated. So long as the Al-Aqsa Mosque remains under the feet of the apes and pigs, this nation will remain humiliated.*”<sup>41</sup>

Imam Elkasaby’s statements are similar to Palestinian Authority (PA) dictator Mahmoud Abbas’ statements which incited the ongoing deadly wave of terror, in which Palestinian-Arab terrorists have murdered Jews and Americans in Israel.

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<sup>39</sup> “*Three U.S. Imams Have Called for Death of Jews Since Trump’s Jerusalem Announcement,*” by Michael Edison Hayden, *Newsweek*, Jan. 10, 2018, at <https://www.newsweek.com/imams-called-death-jews-trump-jerusalem-announcement-776941>, quoting Tajweed Institute’s Facebook page.

<sup>40</sup> Video at “*MEMRI Clip #6361: Friday Sermon In The Raleigh Area, NC, By Syrian Imam Abdullah Khadra: Haifa, Acre, Jaffa Are Muslim Land; Jews Distorted Facts About Western Wall; At The End Of Time, We Will Fight The Jews,*” MEMRI, Dec. 8, 2017, at <https://www.memri.org/tv/north-carolina-antisemitic-sermon-abdullah-khadra-haifa-acre-jaffa-muslim-land>

<sup>41</sup> Video at: “*Friday Sermon At Jersey City, Nj: Imam Aymen Elkasaby Prays To Be Martyred On The Threshold Of The Al-Aqsa Mosque, Which Is “Under The Feet Of The Apes And Pigs,”* MEMRI Clip #6310, Dec. 8, 2017, at <https://www.memri.org/tv/antisemitic-sermon-jersey-city-imam-aymen-elkasaby>

The Islamic Center of Jersey City took several steps in the right direction following Imam Elkasaby's sermon calling for genocide. The Islamic Center suspended Imam Elkasaby for one month without pay; required Elkasaby to undergo training with imams with more interreligious experience; will not permit Elkasaby to deliver sermons without approval of area imams; and scheduled Elkasaby to deliver a statement of clarification and regret. In addition, the Islamic Center of Jersey City's president, Ahmed Shedeed, issued a statement saying: "*A true Muslim who believes in the scriptures would never call for the genocide of any people let alone the children of Israel, or denigrate a people whose sacred history is the Muslims' sacred history.*"<sup>42</sup>

- **Imam Sheik Ramadan Elsabagh of Garland, TX:** Also in December 2017, Imam Ramadan Elsabagh, head of the Islamic Services Foundation Quran Institute in Garland, Texas, and a featured Quran reader on many Internet sites, posted a recorded prayer on his Facebook page to "*destroy the Zionists and their allies, and those who assist them and those who allowed them into the abodes of the Muslims. . . Oh Allah save [Al Aqsa] from the hands of the accursed violators. . . . Oh Allah destroy them.*"<sup>43</sup>
- **Pennsylvania:** At the Al-Aqsa Islamic Society in Philadelphia, PA, Egyptian guest Imam Abdelmohsen Abouhatab delivered several antisemitic sermons. In a sermon on November 16, 2018, Imam Abouhatab stated that the prime minister of the "occupying entity" [a pejorative term for Israel] admitted that the following Hadith was "true" but that they [Israel] was trying to prevent it: "*You will fight the Jews. You to the east of the river – and they to its west. Then the rocks and the trees will say: 'Oh Muslim, oh servant of Allah, there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him.'*"

In a sermon on February 15, 2019, Imam Abouhatab said the Jews are the vilest people in terms of their nature and moral values, and that the "nefarious" Jewish media causes people to see Muslims as "oppressive and predatory lions." He also said that the "enemies of Allah" [Jews] are ordering heads of state to come to the Knesset, where they sit and "plot against their people, according to what the others want." Abouhatab further told his audience that:

*"[former Israeli prime minister] Menachem Begin, that Polish crook, would stand next to a pregnant woman, and would make bets whether it is a boy or a girl. He would make bets, while the woman was still alive! Then he would slit her belly open, while she was still alive, to see whether it is a boy or a girl. Just like that. This happened. This happened.*"<sup>44</sup>

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<sup>42</sup> "NJ Imam Who Urged Murder of Jews to Be 'Suspended,' Islamic Center of Jersey City Announces," by Ben Cohen, *Algemeiner*, Dec. 18, 2017, at <https://www.algemeiner.com/2017/12/18/nj-imam-who-urged-murder-of-jews-to-be-suspended-islamic-center-of-jersey-city-announces/>

<sup>43</sup> "A Disappointing, Muted Response to Imams Calling for Violence," *Investigative Project on Terrorism*, IPT News, Dec. 20, 2017, at <https://www.investigativeproject.org/7096/a-disappointing-muted-response-to-imams-calling>

<sup>44</sup> "Antisemitic Sermons By Imam Abdelmohsen Abouhatab At Philadelphia's Al-Aqsa Islamic Society – Known For Its Interfaith Activity, Working Closely With Mayor, Law Enforcement, FBI, Jewish Orgs, CAIR: The 'Vile' Jews And Their 'Nefarious' Media Make Everyone Think Jews Control World's Riches; 'The Rocks And The Trees Will Say: 'Oh Muslim... There Is A Jew Behind Me, Come And Kill Him' And

A mosque official said at the conclusion of one of these sermons: “*We thank Abdelmohsen Abouhatab for his wonderful sermon.*” The videos were live streamed on the Al-Aqsa Islamic Society's YouTube channel. The Al-Aqsa Islamic Society runs a school, is involved in interfaith activity, and has worked with the mayor of Philadelphia, the FBI, the ADL, and law enforcement.<sup>45</sup>

Later, after some public exposure of the Imam's remarks, the mosque issued a statement condemning and stating that it was shocked and outraged by these reprehensible anti-Jewish remarks, and undertaking not to allow this to reoccur. Public officials who worked with the mosque reportedly did not respond.<sup>46</sup>

- **New York:** In February (2019), at the Rockaway Islamic Center in Queens, NY, Imam Abul Baraa Muhammad Abdullah Amreeki (who converted to Islam while incarcerated at Rikers Island) delivered a sermon quoting the Koranic verses saying that Muslims should not be friends or allies with Jews and Christians. Imam Amreeki also asserted that the FBI is hiring informants to entrap Muslims and report on mosques. The Imam also declared that Islam forbids reporting mosque activities to government authorities, and that some Islamic authorities say that Muslims who spy on other Muslims should be punished by death.<sup>47</sup>

#### **E. Organized Support for Antisemitic BDS and SJP**

There is also highly organized support for the antisemitic BDS movement, and its campus arms, including SJP. The BDS National Committee (BNC), a Ramallah-based coalition that includes US- and EU-designated terror organizations, including the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ), devises and coordinates BDS messages and activities.

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[Israeli PM Said] ‘*The Hadith Is True But We're Doing Our Best To Prevent This*’,” MEMRI, Mar. 6, 2019, at <https://www.memri.org/reports/antisemitic-sermons-imam-abdelmohsen-abouhatab-philadelphias-al-aqsa-islamic-society—known>

<sup>45</sup> *Id.*

<sup>46</sup> “MEMRI's Exposure Of Antisemitic Sermons By Imam Abdelmohsen Abouhatab At Philadelphia's Al-Aqsa Islamic Society Prompts Mosque's Apology: ‘*We Are Shocked and Outraged. . . [by These] Reprehensible Anti-Jewish Remarks*’; Imam Abouhatab Says ‘*What Was Attributed To Me Is Completely False*’ And ‘*Taken Out Of Context*’; No Response From Mayor's Office, City And State Officials, Or Local Law Enforcement, Who Have Worked Closely With Mosque,” MEMRI, Mar. 12, 2019, at <https://www.memri.org/reports/memris-exposure-antisemitic-sermons-imam-abdelmohsen-abouhatab-philadelphias-al-aqsa-islamic>

<sup>47</sup> “NY Cleric Abul Baraa Amreeki: Do Not Take Jews And Christians As Allies; FBI And Police Hire Informants In Mosques; Islam Forbids Spying For The Authorities, Some Scholars Say It Is Punishable By Death,” MEMRI, Feb. 20, 2019, at <https://www.memri.org/reports/ny-cleric-abul-baraa-amreeki-do-not-take-jews-and-christians-allies-fbi-and-police-hire>

A recent Israeli government report<sup>48</sup> detailed over 100 links between the BDS movement and U.S. designated terrorist organizations.

Let's speak frankly. If you want to fight hate, and stop institutions from supporting and condoning it, we should start right here. Start by further investigating the SJP and BDS terror connections, and passing a federal anti-BDS law with real teeth in it.

Start by demanding that university leaders condemn SJP hate groups by name. Use the Congressional bully pulpit to demand that colleges must suspend and expel students who wouldn't be tolerated for a minute if their anti-Jewish bigotry and threats were directed towards any other group .

#### **F. Tolerating Antisemitic Members of Congress is Harmful**

We must also start here by removing Ilhan Omar and Rashida Tlaib from their committees.

Congress members' positions confer legitimacy upon them, and give them extensive media coverage, enabling them to influence a huge audience. An antisemitic Congress member can do far more damage than a fringe group that lacks the same wide podium.

When Congressman Steve King made what were deemed to be white supremacist comments, he was quickly removed from his committee posts.<sup>49</sup>

It's a harmful mistake to fail to remove Representative Omar from her committees – after she tweeted antisemitic tropes and falsely accused Israel of “evil” and “hypnotizing the world” and “apartheid”; and said that American support for Israel is “all about the Benjamins [Jewish money], baby” – while hypocritically receiving her financial support from Israel-hating BDS leaders and PACs.<sup>50</sup>

Moreover, those Democratic presidential candidates and top leaders of the Democratic party who defended Omar, even claiming that she was not antisemitic, or didn't understand what she was saying, or attacked the critics of Omar's antisemitic statements,<sup>51</sup> exacerbated the harm done by Congress's failure to mete out real consequences for Omar's vile antisemitic bigotry.

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<sup>48</sup> “*Terrorists in Suits: The Ties Between NGOs Promoting BDS and Terrorist Organizations*,” State of Israel Ministry of Strategic Affairs,

<sup>49</sup> “*Rep. Steve King Removed from Committee Assignments Amid ‘White supremacist’ Controversy*,” *Fox News*, Jan. 14, 2019, at <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/rep-steve-king-removed-from-committee-assignments-amid-white-supremacist-controversy> “

<sup>50</sup> “*ZOA Exposé: Antisemitic Rep. Omar (D-MN) Funded by Israel-Hating BDS Leaders and PACs- Remove Her From Committees!*,” Feb. 14, 2019, at <https://zoa.org/2019/02/10390858-anti-semitic-rep-omar-d-mn-funded-by-israel-hating-bds-promoters-and-pacs-remove-her-from-committees/>

<sup>51</sup> “*2020 Candidates Are Wading Into the Ilhan Omar Controversy*,” by Paul Blest, *Splinter*, Mar. 6, 2019, at <https://splinternews.com/2020-candidates-are-wading-into-the-ilhan-omar-controve-1833107990>; See also “*Liberal Complacency with Democratic Antisemitism*,” by Matthew M. Hausman, J.D., *Israel Nat'l News*, Apr. 3, 2019, at <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/Articles/Article.aspx/23680>

It also sends a terrible message that there were no real consequences when Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib (D-MI) said that Senate Republicans who oppose antisemitic BDS “forgot what country they represent,”<sup>52</sup> and replaced Israel with “Palestine” on her Congressional map; wrapped herself in the Palestinian terror regime’s flag to celebrate her election victory; and embraced at her inauguration a Hezbollah supporter who openly calls for Israel’s destruction.

### **G. End Institutional Support for Prominent Jew-Haters**

Antisemitic hatred is also supported and mainstreamed when Jew-haters such as Louis Farrakhan and Linda Sarsour are given major platforms and tolerated and feted by major institutions and national leaders.

How can we eradicate antisemitism, when two former presidents stand together with Black Muslim Louis Farrakhan, after Farrakhan called the Jewish people “termites” and called the Jewish faith “a gutter religion” and the “synagogue of Satan,” and called Hitler a “great man”?

How can we stop the bigotry that leads to antisemitic hate crimes, when the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, School of Public Health co-sponsored a conference keynoted by antisemitic bigot Linda Sarsour?<sup>53</sup> And when a North Carolina County just gave Sarsour \$9,200 of taxpayer dollars to give a speech?<sup>54</sup> And when the City University of New York School of Graduate Public Health names Sarsour as its commencement speaker,<sup>55</sup> and NYU and other universities give her major lecture podiums?

Sarsour’s pro-terror statements led the New York Post to dub Sarsour the “Queen of Hate.”<sup>56</sup> Sarsour says she was “honored and privileged” to stand with convicted terrorist Rasmia Odeh, who murdered two innocent Jews. Sarsour praised the intifada (the terror wars in which Arab terrorists have murdered and maimed thousands of innocent Jews) as “invaluable on many fronts.” She praised children who throw rocks at Israeli soldiers as the “definition of courage”; opposes Israel’s existence and promotes BDS; says that Zionists can’t be feminists; and tweeted

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<sup>52</sup> “Rashida Tlaib Accused of Anti-Semitic Slur, Days After Profane Anti-Trump Tirade,” Fox News, Jan. 7, 2019, at <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/rashida-tlaib-accused-of-anti-semitic-slur-days-after-profane-anti-trump-tirade>

<sup>53</sup> See ZOA Letter to Dean of UNC-School of Public Health (and links therein), Feb. 15, 2019, at <https://zoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/letter-to-Dean-Rimer-re-Linda-Sarsour-as-keynote-2-15-19.pdf>

<sup>54</sup> “Why Did a North Carolina County Fund Linda Sarsour’s Hate Speech?,” by Peter Reitzes, *Algemeiner*, Apr. 8, 2019, at <https://www.algemeiner.com/2019/04/08/why-did-a-north-carolina-county-fund-linda-sarsours-hate-speech/>

<sup>55</sup> “Critics ask Cuomo to Bar Palestinian Speaker at CUNY Public Health School,” by Conor Skelding, *Politico*, Apr. 26, 2017, at <https://www.politico.com/states/new-york/albany/story/2017/04/26/controversy-at-cuny-over-public-health-schools-palestinian-commencement-speaker-111462>

<sup>56</sup> “Linda Sarsour: NYC’s Queen of Hate,” by Lahav Harkov, *New York Post*, Aug. 3, 2017, at <https://nypost.com/2017/04/03/linda-sarsour-nycs-queen-of-hate/>

that female genital mutilation victim Ayaan Hirsi Ali's "vagina should be taken away" and that she does not "deserve" to be a woman?<sup>57</sup> She opposes "normalization" (ordinary discourse)?<sup>58</sup>

How can we stop this hatred when a U.S. Senator, Kirsten Gillibrand, effusively praises Sarsour and fellow Farrakhan-admirer Tamika Mallory as "extraordinary women" in *Time Magazine*?<sup>59</sup>

How can we stop antisemitic hate crimes when Temple University, has still not fired Marc Lamont Hill, after Hill praised violence and disparaged non-violence, repeatedly invoked the most-known mantra calling for Israel's extinction, and spread medieval-style blood libels including that Jews are planting knives on Palestinian-Arab children to kill them, and Jews are poisoning Palestinian-Arabs' water?<sup>60</sup>

How can we stamp out hatred when former Muslim Ayaan Hirsi is accused of "Islamophobia" for raising legitimate issues with Islam? It sent a very chilling message when Brandeis University rescinded Ms. Hirsi Ali's invitation to receive an honorary degree, succumbing to pressure from the Council on America-Islamic Relations – an unindicted co-conspirator in the Holy Land Foundation trial for funneling money to Hamas.<sup>61</sup>

### **The Big Lies That Engender Jew-Hatred Today**

The great non-Jewish historian Paul Johnson wrote in his book "A History of the Jews":

"One of the principal lessons of Jewish history has been that repeated verbal slanders are sooner or later followed by violent physical deeds. Time and again over the centuries, antisemitic writings and statements created their own fearful momentum which climaxed in an effusion of Jewish blood."

Hate crimes do not occur in a vacuum. Jew-haters, including the BDS movement and SJP, effectively use major Orwellian falsehoods to persuade people to hate Jews, and to rationalize discrimination and antisemitic violence. These lies include:

Occupation: The big lie that Jews are colonialist thieves and occupiers of Arab lands ignores thousands of years of Jewish history in Israel and binding international law. The Jewish people

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<sup>57</sup> ZOA Letter to Dean of UNC-School of Public Health, *supra*.

<sup>58</sup> "ZOA: Jihadist, Jew Hater Linda Sarsour's Speech was Call for Sedition, Violence Against Pres. Trump and U.S.," July 12, 2017, at <https://zoa.org/2017/07/10369225-zoa-jihadist-jew-hater-linda-sarsours-speech-was-call-for-sedition-violence-against-pres-trump-and-u-s/>

<sup>59</sup> "Tamika Mallory, Bob Bland, Carmen Perez and Linda Sarsour," by Kirsten Gillibrand, *Time Magazine*, at <http://time.com/collection/2017-time-100/4742711/tamika-mallory-bob-bland-carmen-perez-linda-sarsour/>

<sup>60</sup> "ZOA Condemns Temple U Non-Action Against Pro-Violence Radical Muslim Prof. Marc Lamont Hill," Jan. 18, 2019, at <https://zoa.org/2019/01/10386573-zoa-condemns-temple-u-non-action-against-pro-violence-radical-muslim-prof-mark-lamont-hill/>

<sup>61</sup> *U.S. v. Holy Land Foundation*, Case No. CR NO. 3:04-CR-240-G (N.D. Texas, Dallas Division), List of Unindicted Co-Conspirators, at [https://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/case\\_docs/423.pdf](https://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/case_docs/423.pdf)

have the strongest religious, historical, and legal claim to Judea/Samaria, Jerusalem and to all of Israel. There is no occupation.

Moreover, Israel gave away all of Gaza in 2005, and gave administration of 42 percent of Judea/Samaria to the Palestinian Authority. In the PA, the Palestinian-Arabs have their own parliament, schools, universities, television and radio stations, newspapers and police force running all aspects of their lives except some Israeli security control necessitated by continuing Palestinian-Arab terrorism.

Settlements and Palestinian Statehood: It is a lie that “settlements” and Israel are at fault for the lack of peace and the lack of a Palestinian-Arab state. Jewish communities in Judea/Samaria (so-called “settlements”) comprise less than two percent of Judea/Samaria. There has been no building outside the settlement lines since 1993.

Arabs leaders repeatedly (including in 1937, 1947, 2000, 2001, 2008 and 2014) turned down generous offers to form a Palestinian-Arab state in significant portions of the territory legally designated for the Jewish homeland. Instead the Arabs initiated terror wars and wars of annihilation against Israel. Palestinian-Arab leaders moreover never formed a state during the 19 years (1948-1967) after six Arab nations invaded Israel, when the Arabs occupied and controlled Judea/Samaria and eastern Jerusalem.

Holy Places: This blatant lie was used this lie to incite deadly pogroms in Jerusalem and other cities in pre-state Israel in the 1930s, causing thousands of Jews to be murdered and maimed. Palestinian Authority dictator Mahmoud Abbas revived the exact same lie to incite the recent 2015-2019 wave of Arab terror, resulting in Arab terrorists once again murdering and maiming thousands of Jews, as well as Americans.<sup>62</sup>

Human rights: A sophisticated, well-funded industry of NGOs, which collaborates with one another, and includes NGOs with ties to terror groups, specializes in inventing all sorts of calumnies against Israel, and publicizing and feeding these lies to United Nations agencies, BDS groups, and governments.<sup>63</sup> Israel in fact has an exemplary human rights record.<sup>64</sup>

### **Ayaan Hirsi Ali’s Personal Account of Being Taught to Hate Jews;**

When Ayaan Hirsi Ali received the AJC “Moral Courage Award,” she confessed that her Islamic upbringing taught her to hate Jews, and she had to unlearn this, saying:

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<sup>62</sup> “*Wave of Terror, 2015-2019*,” Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at <https://embassies.gov.il/MFA/FOREIGNPOLICY/Terrorism/Palestinian/Pages/Wave-of-terror-October-2015.aspx>

<sup>63</sup> NGO Monitor’s website (<https://www.ngo-monitor.org>) publishes extensive information on the funding and anti-Israel activities of numerous NGOs.

<sup>64</sup> See, e.g., “*British Commander: IDF Most Moral Army World Has Ever Known*,” by Ryan Jones, *Israel Today*, July 24, 2014, at <http://www.israeltoday.co.il/Default.aspx?tabid=178&nid=24780>

“Ladies and gentlemen I have a confession to make, if you are Jewish. It’s a testimony to my dark past when I lived in ignorance. I used to hate you. I hated you because I thought you were responsible for the war that took my father from me for so long. When the Soviet Union allied with our home-grown dictator in Somalia, I was told the Jews were behind that. In Saudi Arabia I saw poor people from a place called Palestine. Men women and children huddled together in despair. I was told you drove them out of their homes. I hated you for that. When we had no water I thought you closed the tap. I don’t know how you did it, but you did it. If my mother was unkind to me I knew you were definitely behind it. Even when I failed an exam I knew it was your fault. I don’t know how you did all these things. But then I didn’t need proof. You are by nature evil. And you had evil powers and you used them to evil ends. Learning to hate you was easy. Unlearning it was difficult. Even after I had learned about The Holocaust in Europe, the terrible outcome of centuries of Antisemitism, I still found it difficult to take a stand against it. When my half-sister told me The Holocaust was the best thing that had happened to Jews, I refrained from arguing with her because I did not wish to risk breaking the family ties. When she showed me holy [Koranic] verses to support her hatred of Jews I feared arguing with Allah for Allah would burn me. Isn’t it ironic that the American Jewish Committee decided to give me the Moral Courage Award? I am ashamed of my prejudices against you in the past. The good news is I am not alone in learning not to blame you for my misfortunes. Many others who are taught in the name of Islam to hate you have stopped hating you. The tragedy is however that those unlearning to hate are far fewer in number than those who still do. As we sit here thousands, perhaps millions are learning to blame you and wishing to destroy you.”<sup>65</sup>

### **President Trump’s Statements:**

President Trump has repeatedly, specifically condemned and denounced neo-Nazism, the KKK, white supremacists, and antisemitism, in the strongest possible terms. Immediately after the Pittsburgh massacre, President Trump made one of the strongest statements against antisemitism ever uttered by a world leader, saying:

***“The vile, hate-filled poison of anti-Semitism must be condemned and confronted everywhere and anywhere it appears. There must be no tolerance for anti-Semitism in America or for any form of religious or racial hatred or prejudice.”***<sup>66</sup>

(See Appendix for additional statements.)

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<sup>65</sup> Transcript of Ayaan Hirsi Ali speech section, with audio link, at “*The Contrite, Mea Culpa-Based Honesty of Ayaan Hirsi Ali on the Islam Animating Muslim Jew-hatred: “Holy [Koranic] verses support hatred of Jews,”*” post Mar. 13, 2019, at <https://www.andrewboston.org/2019/03/audio-the-contrite-mea-culpa-based-honesty-of-ayaan-hirsi-ali-on-the-islam-animating-muslim-jew-hatred-holy-koranic-verses-support-hatred-of-jews/>

<sup>66</sup> “*Remarks by President Trump at the 91st Annual Future Farmers of America Convention and Expo,*” Oct. 27, 2018, at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-91st-annual-future-farmers-america-convention-expo/>

Yet some – including *The New York Times* last week<sup>67</sup> – keep quoting the president’s phrase that there were “very fine people on both sides” at Charlottesville, completely out of context, without mentioning that, in the very same breath, the president made sure to say:

*“I’m not talking about the neo-Nazis and the white nationalists, because they should be condemned totally.”*<sup>68</sup>

Falsely portraying President Trump’s message risks emboldening neo-Nazis, and does a great disservice to the American public.

It will help us to combat hate if we acknowledge that the president is a partner and a leader in the battle to stamp out neo-Nazi and KKK and white supremacist and antisemitic hatreds. We must join together on this.

### **We Need “No Tolerance” for Hate, and Real Action to Penalize Hate:**

Last week, a liberal Democratic sitting Justice on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, David N. Wecht, became so horrified (his word) by the upsurge in antisemitism, and Congressional inaction regarding Ilhan Omar’s hateful statements, that Justice Wecht broke the traditional judicial silence on public issues, to say:

“What’s changed, I think, is a tolerance for anti-Semitism here in America. . . . People are increasingly willing to voice anti-Semitic sentiments. And when people, particularly leaders, don’t publicly oppose anti-Jewish speech, hatred against Jews festers and grows. And that’s why I think this is a critical time in America. . . .

I coincidentally heard a radio interview this morning of a freshman congresswoman. She was going on and on about all manner of things, and was finally asked about the recent controversy involving Representative Omar’s statements. And, all of a sudden, this very talkative representative said ‘No comment.’ That’s all she said, several times. I found that appalling. The idea that an elected member of the Congress has no comment on anti-

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<sup>67</sup> “*Anti-Semitism Is Back, From the Left, Right and Islamist Extremes. Why?*,” by Patrick Kingsley, *The New York Times*, Apr. 4, 2019, at <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/04/world/europe/antisemitism-europe-united-states.html>

<sup>68</sup> See “*Breitbart News’ Joel Pollak: The Definitive Takedown of the Charlottesville ‘Very Fine People’ Hoax,*” by Robert Kraychik, *Breitbart*, Mar. 19, 2019, at <https://www.breitbart.com/radio/2019/03/19/breitbart-news-pollak-definitive-takedown-of-the-charlottesville-very-fine-people-hoax/> , and video link therein to the president’s press conference.

Semitism is beyond the pale. For shame. Remember: This tolerance of anti-Semitism is occurring within the lifetime of Holocaust survivors.”<sup>69</sup>

Echoing Justice Wecht’s sentiments, I hope that we leave here today determined to take remedial action. Congressional leaders need to enact strong federal laws to counteract BDS, and specifically condemn and impose real consequences on those who are spewing hateful antisemitism, including remove Ilhan Omar from the House Foreign Relations Committee.

We must join together to end hatred.

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<sup>69</sup> “*Justice Wecht Breaks Judicial Silence on Anti-Semitism*,” by Joel Cohen, *Tablet Mag.*, Apr. 2, 2019, at <https://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-arts-and-culture/culture-news/282694/justice-david-wecht-antisemitism>

## **APPENDIX – President Trump’s Statements on Antisemitism, White Supremacy, etc:**

- Immediately following the Pittsburgh synagogue massacre, President Trump made one of the strongest statements against antisemitism ever uttered by a world leader, saying:

“This wicked act of mass murder is pure evil, hard to believe, and frankly, something that is unimaginable. Our nation and the world are shocked and stunned by the grief. This was an anti-Semitic act. You wouldn’t think this would be possible in this day and age, but we just don’t seem to learn from the past. Our minds cannot comprehend the cruel hate and the twisted malice that could cause a person to unleash such terrible violence during a baby naming ceremony. This was a baby naming ceremony at a sacred house of worship on the holy day of Sabbath.

Anti-Semitism and the widespread persecution of Jews represents one of the ugliest and darkest features of human history. **The vile, hate-filled poison of anti-Semitism must be condemned and confronted everywhere and anywhere it appears. There must be no tolerance for anti-Semitism in America or for any form of religious or racial hatred or prejudice.** . . . today, with one unified voice, we condemn the historic evil of anti-Semitism and every other form of evil. And unfortunately, evil comes in many forms. And we come together as one American people.”<sup>70</sup>

- President Trump also strongly condemned the “vile poison of antisemitism” and Iranian-sponsored genocidal terror, in his 2019 State of the Union address, saying:

“My Administration has acted decisively to confront the world’s leading state sponsor of terror: the radical regime in Iran. To ensure this corrupt dictatorship never acquires nuclear weapons, I withdrew the United States from the disastrous Iran nuclear deal. And last fall, we put in place the toughest sanctions ever imposed on a country . . . We will not avert our eyes from a regime that chants death to America and threatens genocide against the Jewish people. **We must never ignore the vile poison of anti-Semitism, or those who spread its venomous creed.** With one voice, we must confront this hatred anywhere and everywhere it occurs. Just months ago, 11 Jewish-Americans were viciously murdered in an anti-Semitic attack on the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh . . .”<sup>71</sup>

- President Trump promptly ordered the opening of a top-priority civil rights investigation regarding the murder of Heather Heyer in Charlottesville; stated that those involved would be held fully accountable; and specifically denounced neo-Nazi, etc. hate groups, saying:

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<sup>70</sup> “Remarks by President Trump at the 91st Annual Future Farmers of America Convention and Expo,” Oct. 27, 2018, at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-91st-annual-future-farmers-america-convention-expo/>

<sup>71</sup> State of the Union 2019 transcript, *CNN*, February 6, 2019, at <https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/05/politics/donald-trump-state-of-the-union-2019-transcript/index.html> . See also “*ZOA Applauds President Trump for Supporting Israel, Confronting Iran & Fighting Anti-Semitism in SOTU Address*,” Feb. 6, 2019, at <https://zoa.org/2019/02/10389897-zoa-applauds-president-trump-for-supporting-israel-confronting-iran-fighting-anti-semitism-in-sotu-address/>

“Racism is evil. And those who cause violence in its name are criminals and thugs, including the KKK, neo-Nazis, white supremacists, and other hate groups that are repugnant to everything we hold dear as Americans. . . . We will spare no resource in fighting so that every American child can grow up free from violence and fear.”<sup>72</sup>

- President Trump promptly signed and announced his support of S.J. Res. 49, the Charlottesville Joint Resolution, which specifically “*reject[ed] White nationalists, White supremacists, the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazis, and other hate groups, and urg[ed] the President and the President's Cabinet to use all available resources to address the threats posed by those groups.*”<sup>73</sup>

- Following an FBI investigation, the Department of Justice announced a 30-count indictment against the killer of Heather Heyer at Charlottesville. FBI Director Wray confirmed that pursuing such hate crimes is a top FBI/administration priority.<sup>74</sup>

- In his proclamation declaring a 2018 week of Holocaust remembrance, President Trump declared:

“. . . The Holocaust, known in Hebrew as “Shoah,” was the culmination of the Nazi regime’s “Final Solution to the Jewish Question,” an attempt to eradicate the Jewish population in Europe. Although spearheaded by one individual, this undertaking could not have happened without the participation of many others who recruited, persuaded, and coerced in their efforts to incite the worst of human nature and carry out the ugliest of depravity. **The abject brutality of the Nazi regime, coupled with the failure of Western leaders to confront the Nazis early on, created an environment that encouraged and enflamed anti-Semitic sentiment and drove people to engage in depraved, dehumanizing conduct.** By the end, the Nazis and their conspirators had murdered 6 million men, women, and children, simply because they were Jews. . . .

[T]ogether as Americans, **we have a moral obligation to combat antisemitism, confront hate, and prevent genocide.**<sup>75</sup>

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<sup>72</sup> “Statement by President Trump,” Aug. 14, 2017, at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/statement-president-trump/>

<sup>73</sup> “Statement from the President about the Signing of S.J. Res. 49 — Charlottesville Resolution,” Sept. 14, 2017, at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/statement-president-signing-s-j-res-49-charlottesville-resolution/>; Also see S.J. Res. 49 text at <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-joint-resolution/49/text>

<sup>74</sup> “Ohio Man Charged with Federal Hate Crimes Related to August 2017 Rally in Charlottesville,” Dept. of Justice, June 27, 2018, at <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/ohio-man-charged-federal-hate-crimes-related-august-2017-rally-charlottesville>

<sup>75</sup> “President Donald J. Trump Proclaims April 12 through April 19, 2018, as the Days of Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust,” Apr. 11, 2018, at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/president-donald-j-trump-proclaims-april-12-april-19-2018-days-remembrance-victims-holocaust/>