

**Subject:** FW: January HABTF Newsletter . . and AJC article on antisemitism by Eric Post

**From:** Eric Post <poste@ajc.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 27, 2021 11:35 AM  
**To:** dpinkowitz@dcpmarketing.com  
**Subject:** RE: January HABTF Newsletter . . and AJC article on antisemitism by Eric Post

American Jewish Committee’s State of Antisemitism in America Report 2021 ( <https://www.ajc.org/StateofAntisemitism> ) was released in late October on the eve of the third anniversary of the Tree of Life synagogue massacre in Pittsburgh, where 11 worshippers were killed. It is based on parallel surveys of American Jews and the U.S. general public on their perceptions and experiences of antisemitism in the U.S.

There were four key takaways. Nine out of ten American Jews believe ( <https://www.ajc.org/AntisemitismReport2021/AmericanJews> ) antisemitism is spreading in the U.S. and eight out of ten believe Jew hatred has been on the rise in the last five years. There is a large discrepancy within the general public, where only 60% think antisemitism is a problem and 44% believe believe it has increased over the past five years.

Second, U.S. adults were far less likely than American Jews to have heard about the wave of violent antisemitism in May 2021. Only 48% of the general public ( <https://www.ajc.org/AntisemitismReport2021/GeneralPublic> ) said they had heard “a lot” or “some” about Jews being attacked during that period, compared to 71% of American Jews who said the same. Significantly, of the large majority of American Jews who heard about the attacks on Jews in May 2021, 72% said it made them feel less safe as Jews in the United States.

Third, fear of Antisemitism Impacts Jewish Life. Twenty-two percent of the U.S. Jews ( <https://www.ajc.org/AntisemitismReport2021/AmericanJews> ) said in the past 12 months they have avoided publicly wearing, carrying, or displaying things that might help people identify them as a Jew. One out of four Jews said they avoided posting content online that would broadcast them as Jewish.

Lastly, Jews and the general public agree that anti-Zionism is a form of antisemitism. There is widespread recognition among American Jews - and among the general public ( <https://www.ajc.org/AntisemitismReport2021/GeneralPublic> ) - that hostility toward Israel and hatred of Jews are closely intertwined. Anti-Zionism—that is, the belief that Israel has no right to exist—is viewed by more than 80% of American Jews and the general public as antisemitic. This includes 92% of Republicans and 83% of Democrats.

So what can we do? First, we must define antisemitism. AJC Long Island has advocated for the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism ( <https://www.ajc.org/the-working-definition-of-antisemitism> ) , the most authoritative definition of antisemitism, utilized by three successive U.S. administrations, dozens of countries around the world, and many municipalities nationwide. Nassau and Suffolk County, the Town of Huntington and six other municipalities on Long Island have adopted the definition. Second, we must speak out on social media and in print when we see antisemitism. We must urge our elected officials to do the same. Next, we should do what this anti-bias task force is doing, bringing together diverse coalitions to understand the nature of the problem and speak out. Also, we must support measures that help increase reporting of hate crimes and promote legislation that helps provide government funding of community security needs. Lastly, we must educate our friends and neighbors. Get to know the experiences of the Jewish community, share your own struggles with discrimination and advocate together. For more information, reach out to AJC Long Island Director, Eric Post, [poste@ajc.org](mailto:poste@ajc.org)