Understanding Jewish Students and antisemitism
Representative body for over 8,500 Jewish students studying in the UK and Ireland. Approximately 67 Jewish Societies

In 1919, its conception was as the Inter University Jewish Federation (IUJF) and in 1973 it was renamed UJS. Today it is responsible for facilitating positive and vibrant Jewish life on campus in a number of different ways.

UJS is the only peer-led Jewish student organisation. It is cross-communal, supporting all Jewish students regardless of religious denomination or political affiliation.
COMMUNITY SECURITY TRUST

UK charity that advises and represents the Jewish community on matters of antisemitism, terrorism, policing and security.

CST received charitable status in 1994 and is recognised by government and the Police as a best practice model of a minority-community security organisation.

CST provides security advice and training for Jewish schools, synagogues and Jewish communal organisations and gives assistance to those bodies that are affected by antisemitism. CST has recorded antisemitic incidents in the United Kingdom since 1984.
Antisemitism affects Jewish students in every UK University.

The University of Warwick has 165 Jewish students (April 2021).

There have been a number of instances of antisemitism at Warwick University throughout the last few years.

In the 2018/2019-2019/2020 academic years, Warwick University was the UK higher education institution with highest number of recorded instances of antisemitism by CST (why do you think this is the case?)
FIRST SOME QUESTIONS
Historical antisemitism: stereotypes and tropes
Categorising Antisemitism – the four Libels

- The **Blood** libel
- The **Conspiracy** libel
- The **Economic** libel
- The **Racial** libel

Based on the books, *Trials of the Diaspora*, Anthony Julius and *Jewish Pride*, Ben Freedman
Categorising Antisemitism

The Blood Libel

- Historic accusation that Jews purposefully murder non-Jews, specifically non-Jewish Children, to use their blood in ritual purposes.

- First recorded blood libel in Europe was in 1144, when a young boy called William of Norwich was murdered.
Categorising Antisemitism

The Economic Libel

- Rooted in the accusation that Jews are obsessed with Money
- Origins in early Christianity – Judas, a Jew, betrayed Christ for 30 pieces of Silver
- Libel intensified in middle ages after the church outlawed the act of usury – lending money for interest
- Jews responsible for both capitalism and communism
Categorising Antisemitism

The Conspiracy libel

- Delusion that Jewish people are engaged in a concerted conspiracy to control the world by exploiting the global non-Jewish population for Jewish gain

- Protocols of the Elders of Zion (1903)

- Accusation that Jews were poisoning wells during the black death in the 14th Century Europe

- Rothschilds and Soros
Categorising Antisemitism

The Racial libel

- Attempted use of science to define Jews as a distinct and inferior race
- 1935 Nuremberg laws, legally defined Jews as a race, stripped them of their German citizenship and criminalized ‘racial pollution’
THE HOLOCAUST / THE SHOAH

Did not start in 1939

A result of years of unchallenged conspiracy theories about Jewish greed, power and control; Jews being scapegoated for economic crisis of 1930s and for German defeat in WWI, and inspired by Hitler’s theories of racial struggle

Millions of bystanders stood by as Jews were rounded up and over 6,000,000 Jews systematically murdered across Europe
ANTISEMITISM THEN VS NOW
LET'S COMPARE
ANTISEMITISM THEN VS NOW
LET'S COMPARE

The face of the People’s Vote campaign.
Support us at leave.eu/get-involved

Metzitzah b’peh (Bris) is a process where the Rabbi applies oral suction and drinks the blood of the freshly circumcised mutilated penis of a baby.

According to the CDC this process has resulted in:
- 11 babies contracting Herpes
- 2 Died
- 2 Were brain damaged

This is in NYC alone.

ni ti u gi 21
Let’s have a break
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.

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE ALLIANCE
DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM

*Used by the Jewish community and adopted by Warwick University, the Government, the Labour Party, the London Assembly, Scottish and Welsh Parliaments, the Crown Prosecution Service, the Office for Students, NUS and many others.
Manifestations might include the targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectively. However, criticism of Israel similar to that levelled 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.
EXAMPLES OF ANTISEMITISM IN THE IHRA DEFINITION

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:

Making dehumanizing, or other societal 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 institutions
EXAMPLES OF ANTISEMITISM IN THE IHRA DEFINITION

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:

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)
EXAMPLES OF ANTISEMITISM IN THE IHRA DEFINITION

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:

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.
EXAMPLES OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN THE IHRA DEFINITION

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:

Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
EXAMPLES OF ANTISEMITISM IN THE IHRA DEFINITION

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
EXAMPLES OF ANTISEMITISM IN THE IHRA DEFINITION

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:

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.
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:

**Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust**

“What I actually said was that Israel was a racist endeavour. I also said that Israel tends to exaggerate the importance of the Holocaust for its own political ends.”
EXAMPLES OF ANTISEMITISM IN THE IHRA DEFINITION

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:

**Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel**

*Fifty British synagogues are attacked*

SECURITY at synagogues and Jewish schools throughout Britain has been raised to its highest level since the Gulf War after the Middle East crisis prompted anti-Semitic threats and violent incidents.

Police arrested two men after anti-Zionist and anti-Jewish leaflets were posted on walls and distributed at universities in Birmingham and London. Children's Bible scrolls and an Ark were set on fire in a synagogue in North London.

There were 50 attacks on synagogues in Leicester, Birmingham and London, including ten where bricks or other objects were thrown through windows.
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:

Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis
Let’s have a break
SIGNIFICANT EXAMPLES OF ANTISEMITISM

• 1994: Buenos Aires Jewish Community Centre – 86 killed, 242 injured
• 2012: Toulouse school attack – 4 killed
• 2014: Brussels Jewish Museum – 4 killed
• 2015: Paris Kosher Supermarket (Charlie Hebdo) – 4 killed
• 2015: Copenhagen Synagogue – 1 killed
• 2018: Pittsburgh Synagogue Massacre – 11 killed
• 2019: Poway (San Diego) Chabad Synagogue attack – 1 killed
• 2019: Halle (Germany) Yom Kippur Synagogue attack – 2 killed
• 2019: Jersey City Kosher supermarket – 4 killed
Community Security Trust (CST) recorded 1,668 antisemitic incidents in the UK in 2020. This is the third-highest total that CST has ever recorded in a single calendar year.
Most common single type of incident involves verbal abuse directed at random Jewish people in public.

There were three incidents that were serious enough to be classified as Extreme Violence, compared to just one in 2019.

### INCIDENT CATEGORIES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Extreme Violence</td>
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<td>&lt;0.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damage &amp; Desecration</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Threats</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abusive Behaviour</td>
<td>1,399</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANTISEMITISM IN UNIVERSITIES

123
Total incidents in 2018/2019 and 2019/2020

58
65
In 2018/2019 In 2019/2020
The six cities with five or more recorded incidents throughout this period were Coventry (with 14 incidents, 13 of which took place at the University of Warwick), Birmingham (13), Leeds (11), Nottingham (nine), Bristol (seven) and Leicester (five).
• 13 incidents, 2 in 2018/2019, and 11 in 2019/2020

• All of them were Abusive Behaviour

• 9 were online incidents, 1 was off-campus, 3 were on-campus
Recent examples
ANTISEMITISM ON CAMPUS

In 1970s and 80s, the far-right were dominant force, particularly the National Front.

Very rarely comes in one form.

Toxic debate around Israel and Palestine can descend into antisemitism.

Casual antisemitism – conspiracy theories.

Antisemitism on the left has been a problem.
Fascist group banned from campus

Members of National Action are now legally barred from Warwick University campus. The action was taken on October 15 last month. The National Action party are a neo-fascist group who are notorious for rallying their radical right-wing views across higher education institutions in the UK and the West Midlands. The group has boasted of being "like the BNP, but more radical" with their slogan: "for
Labour councillor suspended over claims she called Hitler 'the greatest man in history'

was also a candidate for Warwick Student Union's Ethnic Minorities Officer, listing in her manifesto a commitment to "Increase awareness of Holocaust Memorial Day".

If it wasn’t for my man Hitler these Jews would’ve wiped Palestine years ago. Sorry but it’s a fact. Not hating on Jews btw
University of Warwick suspends 11 students over rape jokes and racist slurs on Facebook.

Antisemitic and racist comments posted in group chat of students living in Heronbank accommodation.

According to copies of the messages circulated by concerned students online, one of the exchanges read: “What do we do with girls? RAAAAAAAAAAPE,” with one man saying “I love Hitler, I hate r*****x” and Jews and orbs n. Racism is classism.

Student union condemns ‘all forms of sexism, racism, antisemitism, ableism, antiestimism and racist comments posted in group chat of students living in Heronbank accommodation.

The comments said “soo where’s that nasty ass stupid jew”, “kill all jews” and “hail hitler”. Another user said “kill em all” in response to the original messages.
Breaking News: Warwick Marxists say claims that Labour has a problem with Anti-Semitism are 'fabricated lies'

August 04, 2018

With the various incidents of alleged and admitted anti-semitism within the Labour party, the Warwick Marxists have taken a rather striking position on the matter, by claiming in a recent Facebook post that:

"...the idea that there exists a deep problem of anti-semitism in the Labour Party is a fabricated lie by the Blairites and the Establishment aimed at discrediting Corbyn's leadership"
The Jews deserved it’: Coy dodgeball team suspended for antisemitic white t-shirts
Uni MME officer tells Jewish student to be like Israel and cease to exist.

EXAMPLE' DEICER

A l =

to silence the voices of women and 'minorities. Can your ct u ay F off. J ug because you have an opinion does not mean it is valid and worth entertaining. You are not the biggest example of the condescending white man paternalistics. W are too stupid to think for ourschies. Your comments are c.figs. poptab q. where they aren't wanted. Like Reply O
Anti-semitism row in Essex University student society vote

Over 200 University of Essex students vote 'nor in union vote'

EXCLUSIVE: Union of Jewish Students describes 'shock' at the poll, which is only open to university attendees.
York University pays student £1,000 over antisemitic abuse

Zachary Confino will also receive a public apology after two years of abuse that he says ruined his university experience.

A student at York University is to receive a public apology and £1,000 from the student union for antisemitic abuse he was subjected to during his time there.
Multiple parentheses or the "echo," as it is sometimes referred to is a typographical practice used by some antisemites online. It typically consists of three pairs of parentheses or brackets used around someone's name or around a term or phrase.

When used around someone's name such as (((Natalie Weiss))) it is intended by the user to indicate to others "in the know" that the person being referred to is Jewish.

When used around a term or phrase such as (((banker))) the intent is generally that the word "Jewish" be placed in front of the term or phrase, or simply that the term or phrase is actually synonymous with Jews.
ANY QUESTIONS?
LABOUR : ANTISEMITISM
Labour Antisemitism

EHRC found Labour responsible for three breaches of the Equality Act:

- **Political interference** in antisemitism complaints
- Failure to provide **adequate training** to those handling antisemitism complaints
- Harassment, including the use of antisemitic tropes and suggesting that complaints of antisemitism were fake or smears
ANTISEMITISM
AND ANTI-ISRAEL
For a long time, the term ‘Zionist’ has been used as an abusive term.

Many have also used the term ‘Zionist’ in various conspiracy theories such as implying that ‘Zionists’ have control of the media, or that they are part of a lobby of the British government, and so on.

This goes further than criticism of the Israeli government, its policies, and its treatment of the Palestinians.
IS THIS ANTISEMITIC?
WHAT ABOUT NOW?
ANTISEMITISM AND ANTI-ZIONISM

MOTIVATION
To what extent is the criticism, or outright hatred, driven by the Jewish nature of Israel and/or Zionism, or expressed by attacking Israel on the basis of its Jewishness?

TARGET
Are Jews being singled out as recipients for criticism, bias or hatred that ostensibly derives from anti-Israel or anti-Zionist enmity?

CONTENT
Does the criticism, or hatred, use antisemitic or otherwise racist exclusivities, themes and motifs, such as comparing Israel to Nazis?

RESPONSE TO CONCERNS
Are Jewish concerns about the above sincerely and equally engaged with? Or, are Jewish concerns viewed with hostility and singled out for scorn?

REPEAT BEHAVIOUR
Does the offender repeat their behaviour, knowing the consequences and concerns that will be raised?
Examples

Israel is evil. Long live Palestine.

Israel

The genocidal murderers of innocent women and children.

Moses must be proud of you.

GMMLUK.COM

The smoking gun of a false flag event - simply gauge media reaction with other equally tragic...
JEWISH STUDENTS AT WARWICK
"Warwick J-Soc isn't a university society like any other, it's a family. Regular events like Bagel lunches, Friday Night Dinners and infamous nights out have been a crucial part of my time at Warwick."

DESCRIPTION

President

EVENTS

The Jewish Society at Warwick is a vibrant, friendly and active one with over 100 members

Davina Mahgeresteh

Weekly Friday night meals, bagel lunches on Wednesdays and supplement that with talks, lunch and learns and socials
Any questions?

We are happy to provide guidance any time. please do get in touch if you have any question in the future if you’d like to see the slides again, etc

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