

COLLEGE STUDENT'S GUIDE TO ANTISEMITISM



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Embarking on your college journey is a significant step filled with excitement. It's essential to be aware that Jewish and Israeli students may encounter hostility on American campuses, especially in light of the increase in antisemitism and anti-Israel activity since October 7, 2023. While it's important to approach your college experience enthusiastically, being prepared for potential challenges can help protect your mental and physical well-being. This guide informs and supports you during your time on campus. Remember, you're never alone. The IAC, along with many other organizations, is here to help. We encourage you to connect with the Jewish community on campus and build a strong support network to navigate any challenges you may face.

Enjoy your college experience, and if you encounter antisemitism,
reach out to the IAC for support.



TYPES OF ANTISEMITISM YOU MAY ENCOUNTER

1. FROM PEERS

Antisemitism can sometimes come from fellow students.

Examples: Incidents during campus protests, derogatory comments, and exclusion from social groups.

Preparation: Teach your student about the history and forms of antisemitism. Encourage them to stand firm in their identity and seek out like-minded peers for mental and emotional support.



2. FROM FACULTY/ADMINISTRATORS/INSTITUTIONS

Some faculty members might express anti-Israel sentiments or even antisemitism. Administrations may express antisemitism or may express indifference by failing to condemn or punish acts of antisemitic discrimination properly.

Examples: Biased curriculum discriminatory comments in class.

Preparation: Advise your student to document incidents and report them to the administration. Encourage respectful dialogue with professors to address concerns.



3. OUTSIDE AGITATORS:

Often, outside groups may come onto campus to protest or distribute anti-Israel propaganda.

Examples: Flyering campaigns, public demonstrations.

Preparation: Make your students aware of their rights and campus policies regarding protests. Encourage participation in safe and legal counter-events organized by pro-Israel groups.



HOW TO ADDRESS THESE TYPES OF ANTISEMITISM

PEERS

Familiarize yourself with the school's code of conduct:

- When you see protests, ask yourself: Did they register their protest with the university through a faculty member, department, or official student group?
- Ask yourself: Are they in compliance with school policies?
- For hostage posters: If you feel comfortable, record the person taking down the poster while asking them why they are taking it down. Explain to them that the person in the picture is an innocent civilian.
- Submit the video and/or incident [HERE](#)
- If the posters were taken down on private property, and you got prior permission to put up these posters, report it to the Dean of Students at your university.
- Get out there and put more posters up!

FACULTY/ADMIN/INSTITUTIONAL:

1. If a professor or university faculty member has made public remarks against Israel, Judaism, Israel's right to exist, or Hamas as a "resistance" movement, which has led students at your university to feel discomfort, these are some options:
 - Let the University administration know of the post(s), comment, assignment, or overall behavior you or other students are experiencing that leads you to believe the faculty member crossed the line of protected speech. In most cases, this violates the university code of conduct – make sure to verify it with your school's specific guidelines.
 - Suppose you or someone you know were personally affected by an incident involving a university faculty member. In that case, you should get familiar with your Title VI rights and explore your legal options.



2. **HOW TO FILE A DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT WITH OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS (OCR):** If you suspect discrimination based on race, color, or national origin against any individual or group in a program or activity funded by the Department of Education, you may submit a complaint to the Office for Civil Rights (OCR). You don't need to be a victim of the discrimination case to file a complaint. Complaints should be sent to the relevant OCR regional office within 180 days of the alleged discrimination unless an extension is granted. It's crucial to write in detail in the complaint letter, such as who was affected, how, by whom, when, and contact information for the complainant and the alleged offending institution. Complainant identities are kept confidential except when required by law. If OCR's investigation indicates a Title VI violation, they will seek voluntary compliance. If that is not possible, OCR will initiate enforcement action. This includes referring the case to the Department of Justice or starting proceedings to term.



OUTSIDE AGITATORS

- Alert campus security and request an increased security presence. Only campus security and the police are authorized to handle and/or remove protesters.
- Document Everything! Take videos and pictures of campus disruptions, threatening posters, signs, chants, etc.
- Know your rights and investigate the legal options available to you. Explore the links below for further informational and legal resources.

HOW YOU CAN BE PROACTIVE

- Organize tabling events to promote and show Jewish and Israeli pride on your campus and to answer questions from fellow peers
- Plan events with pro-Israel speakers and invite non-Jewish community members from your school to participate
- Build partnerships with other cultural clubs or administration at your school so they can be there for you if you need support in the future



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES/ALLIES TO KNOW ON CAMPUS:

ISRAELI AMERICAN COUNCIL/MISHELANU (IAC)

ISRAEL ON CAMPUS COALITION (ICC)

CHABAD

HILLEL INTERNATIONAL

STANDWITHUS

STUDENTS SUPPORTING ISRAEL (SSI)

CAMERA

LEGAL RESOURCES:

ADL

BRANDEIS CENTER

THE LAWFARE PROJECT