



In partnership with:



Executive Council of Australian Jewry

Online Antisemitism After 7 October 2023

A joint report of the Online Hate Prevention Institute Report and the Online Hate Task Force. Produced in partnership with the Executive Council of Australian Jewry. Media Partner: The Jewish Independent.

> By Dr Andre Oboler, Eliyahou Roth, Jasmine Beinart, and Jessen Beinart. Report: IR2402

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The background photograph on the cover of this report is of the October 7th 2023 memorial in Ramat Gan. It has been adapted from a photograph by Dr. Avishai Teicher.

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Kids Helpline provides support to those under the age of 25 and in Australia. Support is available:

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- By email, counsellor@kidshelpline.com.au emails are checked 8am -10pm daily.
- By online chat, if you prefer to type rather than talk, you can connect with a counsellor through the Kids Helpline website at https://kidshelpline.com.au/get-help/webchat-counselling/

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- By online chat, if you prefer to type rather than talk, you can message with a qualified mental health line counsellor any time of the day or night (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) at https://www.beyondblue.org.au/support-service/chat

Foreword

The report "Online Antisemitism After 7 October 2023" provides a lot of detail on its subject matter. Yet it makes a few simple points.

There has been a dramatic increase in online antisemitism since October 7th, by a multiple of five. The category of antisemitism with the biggest increase is antisemitism related to Israel. The category of antisemitism that occurs most frequently is traditional antisemitism.

Racist anti-Zionism needs to be distinguished from both ideological anti-Zionism and criticism of Israel. Racist anti-Zionism is a form of antisemitism. It uses opposition to Israeli policy or actions as permission to promote hatred toward Jews. This form of antisemitism underlies the increased prevalence of other forms of antisemitism.

Racist anti-Zionism has normalised antisemitism. In the dramatic increase of antisemitism generally since October 7th, the acceleration is particularly attributable to its spread through social media. What was once limited to anonymous accounts operating at the fringes of social media has seeped into mainstream social media platforms, and from there into antisemitic incidents in the world around us.

These conclusions are easy to state. What makes this report particularly valuable is the wealth of data which makes them impossible to refute.

The report comes up with a number of sensible recommendations to address the problem of antisemitism in social media demonstrated by the data. Both the problem the report demonstrates and the solutions the report proposes deserve serious, urgent attention.

David Matas CM

David Matas is an international human rights lawyer and senior legal counsel of B'nai Brith Canada. He served for over a decade as co-chair of the Working Group on Online Antisemitism for the Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism and is a member of the Canadian Government's delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance.

ECAJ Statement

This report shows the new reality Jewish people and communities have faced since October 7, 2023. Antisemitism is not just rising, it is now pervasive online and too often present in daily life. This is not about criticism of Israel. It is about blatant, well established, often historic forms of antisemitism again flooding mainstream discourse. It is about concerns of antisemitism being dismissed, silenced, or treated with equivocation. The data is here, in this report. It's horrific, but we cannot turn away. This can't become the new normal.

Daniel Aghion KC

Daniel Aghion is the President of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, the peak organisation representing Jews in Australia.

Executive Summary

Antisemitism rose sharply around the world after the October 7 Hamas terrorist attack on Israel and the resulting war between Israel and Hamas. The rise in antisemitism included attacks on Jewish people and property,¹ as well as an increase in antisemitic incitement and discourse online. This report presents the results of an intensive systematic collection of online antisemitism data by the Online Hate Prevention Institute and the Online Hate Task Force across ten online platforms between 21 October 2023 and 8 February 2024.

Data was collected using the Online Hate Prevention Institute's expert analysis methodology, as used to monitor online antisemitism in the year leading up to October 7, but with an increased monitoring intensity. This approach uses a range of techniques to identify initial items of antisemitism, then snowballs through social media networks for additional content.

Data in this report can be compared to the pre-October 7 baseline, and our forthcoming study into Islamophobia which uses the same methodology and had data collected over the same time period, enabling a comparison of the prevalence of different antisemitic and Islamophobic hate narratives across a range of social media platforms and the way platforms responded to them.

The sample of data in this report is made of 2898 items of antisemitism that were found, categorised, and archived. The methodology used 16 cycles of data collection spread over the monitoring period. Each cycle involved a researcher carrying out one hour of monitoring per platform on each of the following 10 platforms: Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, X (Twitter), YouTube, Telegram, LinkedIn, Gab, Reddit, and BitChute. The platforms were selected to include both mainstream platforms and more "alternative" minimally moderated platforms.

The data was categorised using 27 categories of antisemitism, which can be grouped under four broad categories: traditional antisemitism, incitement to violence, Holocaust related content, and antisemitism related to Israel or Israelis. The data shows that the relative prevalence of different categories of antisemitism vary by platform.

- On Facebook traditional antisemitism dominated, while all categories had a significant presence. The level of incitement to violence was particularly concerning.
- Instagram has far less incitement to violence or Holocaust related content. The dominant categories were traditional antisemitism and antisemitism related to Israel, which were almost equally likely. The Israel related antisemitism largely involved the use of traditional antisemitism alongside reference to Israel, or comparing Israel to the Nazis.
- TikTok has a high level of traditional antisemitism, a low level of Holocaust related content or incitement to violence, and antisemitism related to Israel came in at about half the level of traditional antisemitism.
- X has relatively high levels of many forms of antisemitism. The most common was traditional antisemitism, however, the most common subcategories on X alternate between the subcategories of different major categories. The promotion of traditional

¹ "Global antisemitic incidents during the Hamas-Israel war", *Online Hate Prevention Institute,* November 2, 2024. <u>https://ohpi.org.au/global-antisemitic-incidents-during-the-hamas-israel-war/</u>

antisemitism like blood libels, world Jewish conspiracy theories, using traditional antisemitic themes in relation to Israel, glorifying the Holocaust, promoting antisemitic government control conspiracies, and dehumanising Jews are all relatively common on X.

- YouTube is dominated by traditional antisemitism, particularly world Jewish conspiracies, and traditional forms such as the blood libel. Such content is also used in relation to Israel. There was relatively little incitement to violence on YouTube.
- Telegram was strongly dominated by traditional antisemitism and it was very wide prevalent.
- LinkedIn saw a significant amount of antisemitism in relation to Israel, followed by a lower but still very significant amount of traditional antisemitism. It is unusual in the volume of Israel related antisemitism it hosts and how dominant this is compared to other types of antisemitism.
- Gab was very much dominated by traditional antisemitism, but still had significant levels of the other major categories of antisemitism. The level of incitement to violence was particularly worrying.
- Reddit had high levels of traditional antisemitism, followed by a lower but still relatively high level of Israel related antisemitism.
- BitChute followed the same pattern as Gab.

The broad category of traditional antisemitism is the most dominant and by a significant margin. This category includes conspiracy theories alleging that Jews control governments, banks, media, and other institutions. It also includes allegations of blood libel, deicide (holding Jews responsible for killing Jesus), demonisation (often literally presenting Jews as the devil, spawn of the devil, etc), and dehumanisation.

Holocaust related content increased the least from the baseline of pre-October 7 data. This was mostly caused by faster growth in other categories. It was also impacted by the presence of less Covid related examples compared to the data over the previous year. Inappropriate Holocaust comparisons, constituting Holocaust distortion, were a feature of Hamas information warfare in the past.² Some very public examples have occurred in this war as well, for example remarks by the President of Brazil.³ However, while still present, other forms of antisemitism have been far more dominant. We have shifted from "the Holocaust didn't happen", to "it happened and Gaza is just like it", to Holocaust glorification such as "Hitler did a great thing with the Holocaust but he should have finished the job".

We've also seen a new normalisation of antisemitism emerge, which we are calling Racist Anti-Zionism. This is a line of thought that explicitly justified killing or harming Jews on the basis that "Zionism" is so evil that any response to it is justified. We argue "Zionism" as the thing being promoted as an ultimate evil has little relationship to Zionism as understood by most Zionist Jews. In Racist Anti-Zionism, the people considered supporters of this "Zionism"

² "Hamas Interior Ministry To Social Media Activists: Always Call The Dead 'Innocent Civilians'; Don't Post Photos Of Rockets Being Fired From Civilian Population Centers", *MEMRI*, 17 July 2014. <u>https://www.memri.org/reports/hamas-interior-ministry-social-media-activists-always-call-dead-innocent-civilians-dont-post</u>

³ "Israel incensed after Brazil's Lula likens Gaza war to Holocaust", *Reuters*, 19 February 2024. <u>https://www.reuters.com/world/israel-incensed-after-brazils-lula-likens-gaza-war-holocaust-2024-02-1</u> <u>8/</u>

can include any Jew who isn't overtly anti-Zionist, any Israeli, and anyone who has anything positive to say about Israel or anything connected to it. The logic is as follows: "Zionism = Nazism", "You are a Zionist, so you are a Nazi", "You know what we do to Nazis", followed by some variant of harm. The harm could involve online abuse, doxxing, inciting hate, triggering a volumetric attack, or other attacks.

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About the Online Hate Prevention Institute

The Online Hate Prevention Institute (OHPI), established in 2012, is Australia's only harm prevention charity dedicated to tackling online hate and extremism. We work with government agencies, civil society groups, and social media platforms to improve the prevention, mitigation and response to all forms of online hate and extremism.

As a specialist charity we combine expertise in technology, law, hate speech, and extremism. We have been at the cutting edge of tackling online hate internationally for over a decade tackling antisemitism, Islamophobia, racism against First Nations Australians, anti-Asian hate, misogyny, homophobia, transphobia, and many other manifestations of online hate. Our work on extremism has secured the removal of terrorist material thereby reducing the risk of radicalisation online. Our technical recommendations have led to changes to core software by some of the world's largest social media platforms.

About the Online Hate Task Force

The Online Hate Task Force, based in Brussels, is an interfaith group dedicated to making the internet safer for everyone. It monitors, seeks out, and removes hateful content from social networks that targets religious groups and incites violence against them. The Online Hate Task Force has a particular focus on collaboration with legislators and social networks, and is made up of an interfaith team of analysts from Europe, the Middle East and North America.

About the Executive Council of Australian Jewry

Founded in 1944, the Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ) is the peak organisation representing Jews in Australia and the voice of the Australian Jewish Community. ECAJ represents the interests of the Australian Jewish community to the Federal government, to parliamentary inquiries, to national law enforcement agencies, the national media and in regular dialogues with other ethnic and faith communities.

ECAJ's functions cover everything that affects the Jewish community's rights and freedoms to live securely and comfortably as Jews in Australia. This includes working to combat antisemitism, defending Israel and the national rights of the Jewish people, keeping the Jewish community secure, strong and vibrant, promoting freedom of religion and belief, and serving as the voice of the Jewish community to government, civil society, and the national press.

About the Authors

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We also acknowledge the Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ) as the peak body of the Australian Jewish Community, the community primarily impacted by the harms documented in this report, and thank the community leadership for partnering with us on this important work. We particularly thank both Peter Wertheim and Julie Nathan from ECAJ for their engagement, feedback and expertise during the course of this work.

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Introduction

The Hamas terrorist attack on October 7, 2023, and the resulting war, saw online antisemitism change. This report provides a snapshot of online antisemitism in the months immediately after the attack. It is paired with another report "Online Antisemitism Before October 7 2023" which provides discussions and examples of the state of antisemitism in the 11 months before the attack. This report uses the samples of data before and after the attack to examine the shift in the volume and nature of antisemitism across social media platforms.

The report follows similar work by the Online Hate Prevention Institute into Islamophobia (2015),⁴ antisemitism (2016),⁵ and anti-Asian racism (2022).⁶ The comparative approach with data before and after the attack is, however, a new feature in this work. Also new is the depth of analysis employed. In the past we have examined data at the level of four major categories of antisemitism, for the first time here we provide a detailed empirical look at the underlying data for the 27 subcategories of antisemitism we use in our classifications. This provides a far more precise understanding of the nature of antisemitism on specific platforms, how antisemitism differs across platforms, and how that changed.

The project was undertaken together by the <u>Online Hate Prevention Institute</u> and the <u>Online Hate Task Force</u>. Staff from both organisations participated in the gathering and classification of data, and in the creation of this report. The project is also supported by the Online Hate Prevention Institute's partner on antisemitism, the <u>Executive Council of Australian Jewry</u>, and by our media partner <u>The Jewish Independent</u>, both of whom reviewed and provided comments on drafts of this report.

The report presented here described our methodology in detail, including our processes for finding, identifying, recording, and classifying data. We then provide some discussion on the overall prevalence of antisemitism by platform and how this has changed. The growth in online antisemitism since October 7 is incredibly alarming, as is the fact we have not yet seen this growth subside.

We discuss antisemitism by platform, first highlighting how the culture of social media platforms vary, and the distribution between the four major categories of antisemitism differed on a per platform basis before and after October 7. After October 7, antisemitic content became "more antisemitic" in that each item of antisemitism seen after October 7 was likely to have more different types of antisemitism represented. We look at each of the 10 platforms with both empirical data and a set of representative examples.

We consider the four major categories and their 27 subcategories, again providing both empirical data and examples. In this section we provide two examples for each subcategory and have provided a mix over all to ensure there are examples from across the 10 platforms.

⁴ Andre Oboler, *SAMIH: Spotlight on Anti-Muslim Internet Hate Interim Report* (Online Hate Prevention Institute, 2015) <u>https://ohpi.org.au/anti-muslim-hate-interim-report/</u>

⁵ Andre Oboler, *Measuring the hate: the state of antisemitism in social media* (Online Hate Prevention Institute, 2016). <u>https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-1971821446/view</u>

⁶ Andre Oboler, *Anti-Asian Racism in Australian Social Media* (Online Hate Prevention Institute, 2022). <u>https://nla.gov.au/nlaobj-3117746478/view</u>

In the section on Additional Themes we include a discussion of some topics of interest. These include: the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism, the silencing of concerns about antisemitism, an analysis of left-wing and right-wing antisemitism according to ChatGPT, Racist Anti-Zionism - an argument being used to excuse and justify antisemitism, a discussion on TikTok in light of concerns that have been raised about state sponsored bias, a special case involving AI generated imagery, and an in-depth discussion of a particular meme that has been circulated not only online but also in the form stickers posted in public spaces.

The report concludes by highlighting some key findings and making some final recommendations.

This report shared a significant amount of data and there are many stories to pack. We courage journalists and research to review the data presented here, and in the companion report on <u>online antisemitism before October 7</u>, and to help draw out some of those stories.

We are continuing to gather data, but less intensively than during the collection of data for this report. We are in discussions with a number of groups about joining us, expanding the collection of data to more countries, and vastly increasing the capacity and scope of this work. We invite donors interested in supporting this critical work to contact is. In-depth expert focused work like this is needed to cope with the rapidly changing nature of antisemitism, to inform policy and community responses, to monitor the effectiveness of AI and human based trust and safety approaches to moderate hate, and to produce the data to better train tomorrow's artificial intelligence.

Despite the advances in AI, it isn't there yet. The strongest evidence for that is this report itself. If AI was the solution, companies like Meta and Google, who have some of the best engineers and AI researchers in the field, would have already solved this problem. Tackling antisemitism is a hard problem, there are no quick and easy fixes. We need to invest our time, resources, and determination to reduce the risk it poses to both the Jewish community, and society as a whole. What starts with the Jews seldom ends there.

Methodology

Data collection

The main sample of data used in the report was collected between 21 October 2023 and 8 February 2024. The data was collected across 10 social media platforms: Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, X (Twitter), YouTube, Telegram, LinkedIn, Gab, Reddit, and BitChute. An equal amount of time, 16 hours in total, was spent on each platform. The 16 hours were spent in discrete one hour blocks, and these blocks of time were spread across the collection period. To eliminate variations in speed by different staff members, each staff member collected data across every platform. One cycle of collection involved a person completing 10 hours of monitoring, one hour on each of the platforms. Each researcher collected cycles of data spaces across the collection period.

This approach, with 16 cycles of sampling, avoided bias from differing speeds of collection between staff, the time of collection, the algorithms' choice of content to show a particular person (based on their location, history, or other factors), or very short term trends such as topic trending and influencing conversation on a particular day.

Each hour of monitoring began by searching for content keywords and phrases. In addition to searching with the in-built search capacity of each platform, a range of search engines were also used to search for content with keywords and phrases and hosted on a particular platform. This avoided limitations that have been built into some platforms at the level of restrictions on certain searches, or alteration of the search results. Once the first items of antisemitism were found, comments on that content were included, and other content posted by those commenting or expressing support for the antisemitism were examined using a snowballing approach. Data would continue to be gathered in this manner, moving further and further from the content found through searches, through the network of those engaging and socially supporting antisemitism, until the assigned one hour period for the data collection was completed.

Our approach overcomes some of the significant limitations in data collection using the common approach of searching for keywords and phrases to monitor online antisemitism. This is an approach used both manually, and in many technology based solutions which are sometimes incorrectly marketed as AI based solutions. The approach of using keyword / phrases involves searching for those words and phrases whose presence is highly correlated to antisemitic content, such as "kike", "holohoax", "killed Jesus". The presence of such terms is not always antisemitic. For example, they might be used in content discussing an antisemitic incident where the term was used, or in content educating about antisemitism. But their presence can significantly reduce the size of the sample of data collected, and allow the largest number of examples of antisemitism to be collected with the least amount of effort. The Hatebase project, for example, has a database of terms which are correlated to hate against a particular group on the basis of nationality, ethnicity, religion, gender, or sexual orientation.⁷ Hatebase allows the list of terms to be filtered based on the parameters just mentioned, and according to the language of the keyword or phrase.

⁷ Hate Base. <u>https://hatebase.org</u>

Hatebase lists 3,893 terms of hate in total, of which there are 84 terms (only 35 in English) flagged as targeting Jews as an ethnicity and a largely overlapping list of 78 terms flagged as targeting people based on their religion being Judaism (only 35 in English).

The problem with a purely keyword / phrase based approach is that most antisemitic **content will not use these terms.** This is in part because there are simply so many ways for humans to express themselves, both in general and specifically when being antisemitic. Even the examples from platforms that welcome antisemitism (such as Gab) and have no problem with these words being used, will only see them used in a small number of cases. This can be seen in the examples in this report. On other platforms there may be automated approaches to remove content containing these words. Users on those platforms may respond with code words or images, or by posting lists with the antisemitic content posted on another platform entirely but shared through a more popular platform. If all content that doesn't use the keywords is filtered out at the start, the resulting research only covers a small and highly selective subset of online antisemitism. It is not a true reflection of online antisemitism. Further, as this report demonstrates, different antisemitic narratives have a different degree of prevalence on one platform, and what is most prevalent varies by platform. Events that cause a surge in antisemitism, like the October 7 attack, can also lead to different rates of acceleration of different types of antisemitism on different platforms. In short, monitoring the rise and fall of the prevalence of particular keywords on particular platforms is interesting, but can't be generalised as an indicator for what is happening with other forms of antisemitism or on other platforms.

An approach, used by the *decoding antisemitism* project,⁸ which avoids biassing the sample based on the inclusion of particular language, is to focus on particular posts and then examine all of the comments made on those posts. The *decoding antisemitism* project uses posts related to news articles, and by focusing on multiple news articles from different mastheads and in different languages, all related to a particular news incident, the project is able to directly compare the level and nature of antisemitism among different populations (which can be defined by language / country and the political outlook of different papers and the audiences they attract). A limitation of this approach is that commenting on news articles is a particular kind of social media engagement. Not everyone will engage with social media in this way. Those that do may behave very differently when commenting on a thread started by a media organisation (and where the media company may ban them from further commenting on their stories if they cause trouble) compared to how they might otherwise engage with social media. News discussion to some extent has its own online culture.

Our approach overcomes the limitation of keywords / phrases by snowballing out from the initial content found by searches and reading through vast volumes of content to identify additional antisemitic content. It avoids the limitation of the more focused approach used by the *decoding antisemitism* project by collecting content of all sorts (not just comments) and in the wild (across any forms of public social media engagement). Reading through all the comments on an antisemitic item, or the other comments on an item where an antisemitic comment was found, avoids the limitation of requiring a particular word to be present. This idea is expanded when we explore the other content posted by those who have made an antisemitic post, comment, or engaged positively with antisemitic content (for example

⁸ Decoding Antisemitism. <u>https://decoding-antisemitism.eu/</u>

sharing it or liking it). By examining a sample of what these users have posted we can find other antisemitic content, and others that have engaged with it. This snowballing approach does have a limitation, as it is possible to become trapped in an echo chamber of a small community who engage with each and who may represent a particular minority subculture within those engaging in antisemitic online activity. We mitigate this risk by starting the process over, starting with a search, for every hour of monitoring. That means **every platform has 16 different starting points, which avoids becoming trapped within a single echo chamber.** The use of multiple researchers, and the collection of data over a period of months, also shifts the entry point and ensures greater diversity in the sampling.

There are also efforts to build AI solutions to tackle online antisemitism. Some platforms, like Meta, have their own internal models that capture some of the antisemitic content. These models are usually based on machine learning and are only as good as the basis they learn from. They can be trained based on data from human reviewers of users' complaints, but as the data in this and our past reports show, there are often gaps in policy, training, or expertise that lead to reports of antisemitic content being rejected by human reviewers. Most content reviewers for a company will not have particular expertise in antisemitism and it is only one of many types of content they need to review. The changing nature of antisemitic content is also a problem for AI, as people can adapt their language and imagery rapidly to world events, requiring updated models if the AI is to remain effective. The major shifts in antisemitism after the October 7 attack may have rendered both the AI models at companies like Meta, and the training of their staff, at least in part out of date. Research like that presented here is needed on an on-going basis in order to provide the sample of data needed to facilitate AI approaches, and to identify gaps.

Recommendation 1: Platforms should allow users to identify content not only as hate speech based on race or religion, but specifically as antisemitic content.

Recommendation 2: Platforms should have a team with enhanced expertise in antisemitism. Platform Trust and Safety staff should be able to refer hard cases to that team if uncertain about a complaint. The handling of complaints that users marked as antisemitism should be monitored by the platform's antisemitism experts reviewing a random sample of these complaints and comparing their responses to those of regular reviewers.

Recommendation 3: Platforms should provide specific transparency reports on antisemitism, and reports on other specific forms of hate, rather than generic hate speech reports. Governments may need to regulate to require this to ensure it occurs.

Recommendation 4: Platforms should fund audits, like this report, and use them to improve their responses to online antisemitism.

Recommendation 5: Far more investment is needed to maintain work like that carried out for this report on an ongoing basis.

Data recording

Once an item of antisemitism was found, our researchers completed a form to log the item. The form captured who logged the item and when, the platform, URL of the item, the location where a screen capture of the item was stored, the location where video content was stored (if the item was a video), and then the subcategories of antisemitism that apply to the item. Researchers could also mark the item as containing other forms of hate, such as other forms of racism or religious vilification, hate targeting members of the LGBTIQ+ community, violent extremism content, or other types of hate.

The general location of the poster was recorded as: North America, Europe, Middle East, Asia, Australia, other (known), or unknown. This was based on either the account explicitly stating its location, or the content or network of the person providing a very strong indication. Only 41% of the data has a known location, but this is still a sample of over 1100 items. As part of recording the data, and where possible given platform limitations, researchers reported the content to the platform.

Identification of content as antisemitic

This report uses the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism to determine if content was antisemitic. The definition is supplemented by the IHRA Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion which adds clarity for Holocaust related content. This is the same approach we have used in past reports. A consistent definition allows data to be compared across samples, which was the original rationale for creating the EUMC definition, which served as the basis for today's IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism, though there are some small differences between them. We add one distinct category of antisemitism not found in the definitions, which is that of Holocaust jokes. Its prevalence, 107 items which is 4% of the overall data sample, creates the need for it to be specifically identified.

In applying the definition we use a taxonomy developed by the Australian Government appointed experts to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance. It uses four major categories that have been used to classify online antisemitism since 2015,⁹ then 26 subcategories which we have expanded here to 27 with addition of subcategory 1.7 for Holocaust jokes.

The major categories

- 1. Holocaust related content
- 2. Incitement to violence
- 3. Traditional Antisemitism
- 4. Antisemitism related to Israel

Holocaust related content subcategories

- 1.1 Denying the Holocaust
- 1.2 Accusing Jews or Israel of exaggerating the Holocaust
- 1.3 Blaming Jews for the Holocaust
- 1.4 Distort the facts of the Holocaust
- 1.5 Glorifying the Holocaust or suggesting it did not go far enough
- 1.6 Inappropriate comparisons with Nazis
- 1.7 Holocaust jokes

Incitement to violence subcategories

2.1 Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.

- 2.2 Calling for harm to someone because they are Jewish
- 2.3 Calling for harm to Jewish people in general
- 2.4 Calling for harm to Jewish property
- 2.5 Calling for harm to someone believing they are Jewish
- 2.6 Calling for harm to non-Jews for supporting Jews or opposing antisemitism

Traditional Antisemitism subcategories

- 3.1 Dehumanising Jews
- 3.2 Promoting the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy

⁹ Oboler, A. (2016) *Measuring the hate : the state of antisemitism in social media*, Online Hate Prevention Institute. <u>https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-1971821446/view</u>; An earlier version of this work was released at a major conference on antisemitism in 2015.

- 3.3 Promoting the idea of Jews controlling the media
- 3.4 Promoting the idea of Jews controlling the economy
- 3.5 Promoting the idea of Jews controlling government or other societal institutions
- 3.6 Promoting traditional antisemitism such as blood libel and claims Jews killed Jesus
- 3.7 Holding Jews collectively responsible acts committed by individuals
- 3.8 Accusing Jews citizens of being disloyal to their country

Antisemitism related to Israel subcategories

4.1 Accusing Israel inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust

- 4.2 Denying Jewish people self-determination, e.g., by claiming Israel's existence is racist
- 4.3 Requiring a behaviour from Israel not expected of other countries
- 4.4 Describing Israel or Israelis using antisemitic words or imagery (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel)
- 4.5 Comparisons of Israeli policy to Nazism
- 4.6 Holding Jews collectively responsible for Israel's actions

In calculating the number of items in a major category we do not add up the number of categorisations in the subcategories (which would result in some instances of double counting the same item) but instead calculate the number of items that occur in any one or that major category's subcategories.

Nominal Daily Collection Rate

In this report we introduce the concept of the Nominal Daily Collection Rate (NDCR), which is the number of items that would, on average, be collected in an hour of monitoring, multiplied by 8 to represent an 8 hour work day. NDCR can be calculated overall, on a per-platform basis, or for specific categories or subcategories of hate.

NDCR is a reflection of how easy it is to find antisemitism on a platform. A high prevalence of antisemitism makes finding it quicker, as less time is spent searching for it, or reading and ignoring items that are not antisemitic, which allows more items to be gathered per hour. The rate is also impacted by the nature of the content. For example, a video that is clearly antisemitic in its title and description might be captured as quickly as a post, but a video that is possibly antisemitic, or where then nature of the antisemitism is unclear, must be watched (or at least sampled by watching segments of it), taking more time and reducing the number of items that be gathered.

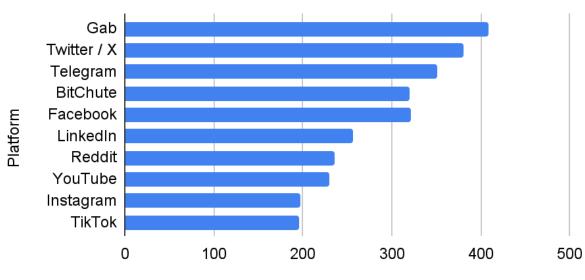
Prevalence and change in online antisemitism

Antisemitism on social media increased five-fold following the October 7 terrorist attack. 2898 items of online antisemitism were gathered in 160 hours of systematic monitoring. This represents a Nominal Daily Collection Rate (NDCR) of 145 items, which is an increase of 539% compared to the 11 months before October 7 when the NDCR was 27.

With the same amount of time (16 hours) spent gathering data on each of the ten platforms it is possible to compare the number of items collected from each platform. This says something about the platform, the culture of its users, and the moderation efforts of trust and safety teams working for the platform.

Antisemitism was significantly more visible on some platforms, notably the minimally moderated platforms Gab and Telegram, but also X (Twitter). It is concerning that in 2024 X appears to have more in common with Gab and other alternative platforms than it does with mainstream platforms. The data suggests it may be time to stop regarding X as a mainstream platform.

Recommendation 6: X needs to add proactive, ideally automated, removal of antisemitic content. This should be a basic expectation for any large platform. Government should require this as part of its basic online safety expectations.



Number of total antisemitic items by platform

Graph 1

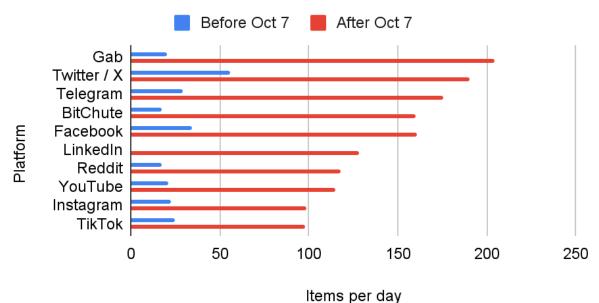
The increase in antisemitism overall is not the result of a problem on a single platform, but the result of antisemitism rising significantly across all platforms. The Nominal Daily Collection Rate increased significantly after October 7 on every platform we monitored.¹⁰

Number of items

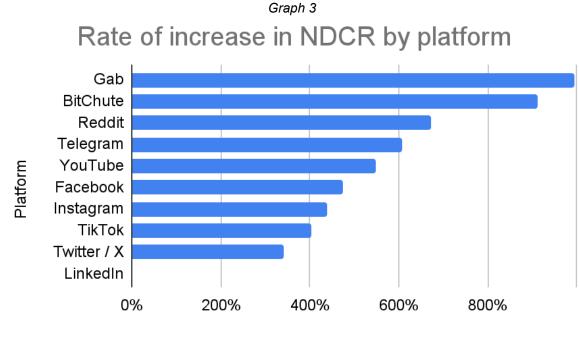
¹⁰ LinkedIn data was only collected after October 7.

Graph 2

NDCR comparison of all data by platform



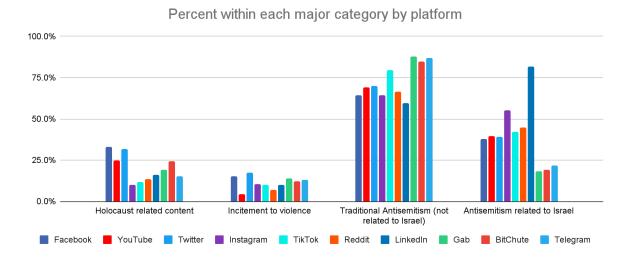
The rate of increase was not uniform. Gab increased by an order of magnitude (a 10 fold increase) and BitChute almost did as well. Antisemitism increased by a factor of around 4 to 6 times for other platforms. X increased the least, despite remaining the platform with the second highest rate of antisemitism after October 7 as it was coming off such a high base before October 7.



Rate of increase

Given the different nature of content predominately posted to different platforms, some comparisons are more useful than others. A comparison between YouTube and BitChute, for example, is useful as both are video platforms. This comparison shows that 39% more data was found on BitChute than on YouTube. This indicates that either more of the content on BitChute is antisemitic, or antisemitic content on BitChute is more explicit and less time is needed to assess it, or both. Our observation is that BitChute is both more explicitly antisemitic and antisemitism is more prevalent on the platform. This is unsurprising given the prohibition on hate speech in YouTube's community standards which results in content being removed and accounts potentially closed,¹¹ while BitChute's policy on incitement to hatred results in the content being blocked in the UK and Europe, but remaining available to other jurisdictions.¹² Bitchute also actively advertises the use of VPNs to circumvent its location based blocks, undermining its minimal steps which are aimed at legal compliance rather than preventing hate speech.

Even with different types of content, comparisons between platforms can raise useful questions that can be answered by further quantitative and qualitative analysis of the underlying data. TikTok, for example, has the lowest rate of antisemitism being collected, but this is in a large part due to the difficulty in searching for content on TikTok compared to other platforms. Further analysis (see the section on TikTok) also highlights how certain types of antisemitism appear far less prevalent on TikTok, for example conspiracy theories alleging Jews control governments, or dual loyalty claims. It's unclear if this is a result of platform intervention or self-censorship by users. The Chinese ownership of TikTok and similar racist allegations made against Chinese communities, as well as legitimate concerns over Chinese government influence and espionage, may make these topics more sensitive on TikTok.



Graph 4

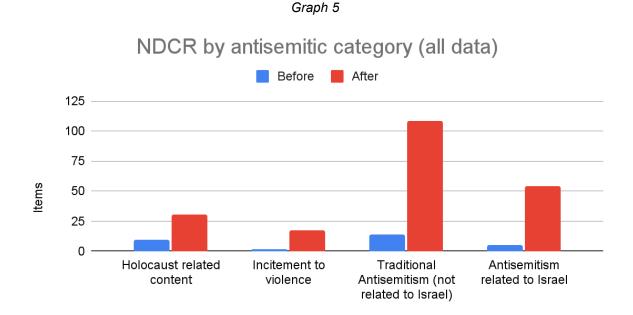
¹¹ YouTube, "Hate speech policy", YouTube Help.
 <u>https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2801939</u>
 ¹² BitChute, "Incitement to Hatred".

https://support.bitchute.com/policy-explanations/incitement-to-hatred

A surprise is the relatively high level of antisemitism on LinkedIn, a platform traditionally for professional use, and where one would assume posting antisemitism, or even controversial views, could have consequences for future job prospects. The culture of LinkedIn, however, was dramatically changed by the Covid-19 pandemic. The divide between personal and professional blurred as people in lock down were forced to work from home. This was accelerated by the LinkedIn algorithm giving more visibility to personal content over professional content and the company seeking to encourage people to "bring their full, authentic selves".¹³ The algorithm has driven a change in the way LinkedIn is used, drawing it closer in culture to Facebook.

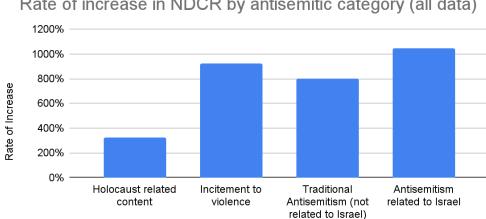
Since October 7 LinkedIn has increasingly been used for advocacy related to the conflict, and some of that advocacy has crossed into uses of antisemitic language and imagery. LinkedIn has not sent a clear signal that this is inappropriate, so has a far larger problem in this area than other platforms.

The Nominal Daily Collection Rate can also be calculated for each type of antisemitism, showing that traditional antisemitism would be encountered about twice as often as Israel related antisemitism, and four times as often as Holocaust related content.



The change in the Nominal Daily Collection Rate shows that Israel-related antisemitism and incitement to violence in grew more than traditional antisemitism in relative terms (compared to their base rate). Holocaust related content tripled, while Israel related antisemitism increased 10 fold, incitement to violence 9 fold, and traditional antisemitism 8 fold.

¹³ Aditi Shrikant, "Why is everyone crying on LinkedIn? Users share why they're getting so personal on the networking site", *CNBC*, 28 September 2022. <u>https://www.cnbc.com/2022/09/28/how-linkedin-became-so-personal.html</u>



Graph 6

Rate of increase in NDCR by antisemitic category (all data)

Where possible we also recorded the location of the poster behind the data. While most posters (60%) did not clearly state a location, of those that did, most were in North America or Australia. This is in part a result of most data being gathered from Australia, in some cases using people's regular accounts that engage with Australian content and are connected to Australian people and pages. This impacts the content the social media platform's algorithms will surface to these accounts.

Location	Count	Percent
Australia	362	12%
North America (USA & Canada)	464	16%
Europe (including UK)	120	4%
Middle East	95	3%
Asia	59	2%
Other	63	2%
Can't easily tell	1735	60%

Unlike the work prior to October 7, we did not deliberately focus more on Australian content in this work, except on Telegram where a number of known Australian groups and accounts where antisemitism was likely were specifically included.

To understand the relative levels of antisemitism by country in a neutral fashion, accounting for the platform's algorithms, we would need multiple monitoring teams in different counties, each applying the same number of hours. We had that to a limited extent this time with some monitoring taking place in Israel, but there is insufficient data to draw a conclusion about the degree of localisation of content.

Summary of antisemitism by platform and major categories

The following table provides a summary of the data at the level of abstraction of the four major categories of antisemitism. The following pay provides a guide to understanding it.

	Holocaust Related	Inciting Violence	Traditional	Israel related	TOTAL
X / Twitter	121 (37.7%) (19.87%)	66 (20.6%) (18.86%)	266 (82.9%) (5%)	149 (46.4%) (17%)	Clas'n: 602 Items: 381 Density: 1.58
Facebook	106 (33.0%) (17.41%)	49 (15.3%) (14%)	206 (64.2%) (5%)	122 (38.0%) (17%)	Clas'n: 483 Items: 321 Density: 1.50
YouTube	57 (50%) (9.36%)	10 (0%) (2.86%)	159 (44%) (8%)	91 (6%) (4%)	Clas'n: 317 Items: 230 Density: 1.38
BitChute	78 (24.4%) (12.81%)	39 (12.2%) (11.14%)	271 (84.7%) (13%)	61 (19.1%) (4%)	Clas'n: 317 Items: 230 Density: 1.40
TikTok	23 (11.7%) (3.78%)	20 (10.2%) (5.71%)	156 (79.6%) (10%)	83 (42.3%) (11%)	Clas'n: 282 Items: 196 Density: 1.44
Gab	78 (19.1%) (12.81%)	57 (13.9%) (16.29%)	359 (87.8%) (13%)	74 (18.1%) (2%)	Clas'n: 568 Items: 409 Density: 1.39
Reddit	32 (13.6%) (5.25%)	16 (6.8%) (4.57%)	157 (66.5%) (5%)	106 (44.9%) (9%)	Clas'n: 311 Items: 236 Density: 1.32
Telegram	53 (15.1%) (8.7%)	46 (13.1%) (13.14%)	305 (86.9%) (16%)	76 (21.7%) (2%)	Clas'n: 480 Items: 351 Density: 1.37
Instagram	20 (10.2%) (3.28%)	21 (10.7%) (6%)	127 (64.5%) (7%)	109 (55.3%) (4%)	Clas'n: 277 Items: 197 Density: 1.41
LinkedIn	41 (16.0%) (6.73%)	26 (10.1%) (7.43%)	153 (59.5%) (7%)	210 (81.7%) (4%)	Clas'n: 430 Items: 257 Density: 1.67
TOTAL	609 (100%) 21.0%	350 (100%) <mark>12.1%</mark>	2159 (100%) 74.5%	1081 (100%) 37.3%	Clas'n: 4199 Items: 2898 Density: 1.45

How to read the main body of the table:

- The first number represents the number of items that platform (see left) that have that classification (see top). E.g. 121 items on X (Twitter) were Holocaust related.
- The second number, in brackets and bold indicates what percent of the items on that platform this represents. E.g. 37.7% of all the antisemitic items on X (Twitter) contained Holocaust related antisemitism.
 - Note: As an item could be in two categories, e.g. it might deny the Holocaust (Holocaust related) and claim Jews control the world (traditional antisemitism)
 - As items can be counted more than once (being in multiple major categories) these percentages across the platform will add up to more than 100%.
- The third number in brackets and colour represents what percent of all of that major category of antisemitism was found on this platform. E.g. 19.87% of all the Holocaust related items in our sample were found on X (Twitter).
 - As an item can only be on one platform, these percentages add up to 100%

How to read the bottom row of the table:

- The first number represents the total number of items classified under this major category of antisemitism. E.g. across all platforms there were 609 items of Holocaust related content.
- The second number, in brackets and colour, confirm that the percentages across the platforms total to 100%.
- The third number, in yellow text on red background, gives the percent of all content across all platforms that were classified under this major category. I.e. 609 items of Holocaust related content is 21.0% of all of the 2898 items in the sample.

How to read the right column:

- Clas'n: This is short for "Classification" and is the total number of classifications into major categories made on data from the platform listed in the left hand column.
 - Remember that each item can be classified into 1, 2, 3 or 4 major categories, so this number is higher than the total number of items.
- Items: This is the number of unique items on this platform.
- Density: This is the average number of classification per item on this platform.
 - A higher number means a single item e.g. a tweet, is more likely to include multiple antisemitic narratives from different major categories. E.g. it might deny the Holocaust (Holocaust related) and claim Jews control the world (traditional antisemitism).

How to read the bottom right cell:

- In total there are 4199 classifications of content into a major category.
- In total there are 2898 items in the sample.
- Overall density is 1.45, that is, for every 100 items there would be 145 classifications.

The density for major categories will be lower than that calculated for classification by sub-category as presented later in this report. We present both as they reflect a measure of the coupling between antisemitic narratives at different levels of abstraction.

Removal Rates

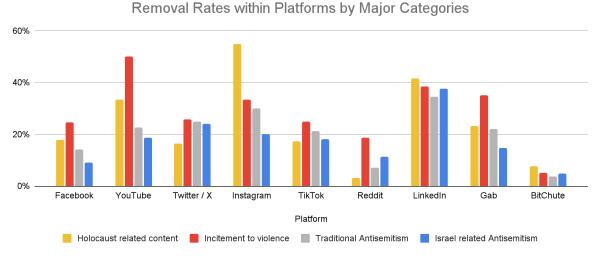
We examined items removed by the 18th of March 2024. In total 522 items (18% of the 2898 items collected) were removed. This is an improvement on the 14% initially removed in our pre-October 7 data, but the higher levels of antisemitism after October 7 means platforms have been falling behind and a greater volume of antisemitism remains online.

Platform	Items Removed	% Removed
Facebook	50	16%
YouTube	58	25%
Twitter / X	90	24%
Instagram	53	27%
TikTok	43	22%
Reddit	21	9%
LinkedIn	92	36%
Gab	88	22%
BitChute	13	4%
Telegram	14	4%
All Platforms	522	18%

Incitement to violence was the most removed category (24%) and traditional antisemitism the least (17%). Removal rates vary significantly. Instagram was most effective (55%) at removing Holocaust related content, YouTube most effective at removing incitement to violence (50%), and LinkedIn had the most consistent high rates, with the highest removal rates on Traditional Antisemitism (35%) and Israel related antisemitism (38%), and the second highest on Holocaust related content (41%) and Incitement to violence (38%).

	Holocaust related content	Incitement to violence	Traditional Antisemitism	Israel related Antisemitism
Facebook	18%	24%	14%	9%
YouTube	33%	50%	23%	19%
Twitter / X	17%	26%	25%	24%
Instagram	55%	33%	30%	20%
TikTok	17%	25%	21%	18%
Reddit	3%	19%	7%	11%
LinkedIn	41%	38%	35%	38%
Gab	23%	35%	22%	15%
BitChute	8%	5%	4%	5%
Telegram	8%	4%	3%	4%
All platforms	20%	24%	17%	19%

This data can also be represented visually which highlights the differences both within and across platforms.



Graph 7

Graph 8

Removal Rates within Major Categories by Platform

The removal rates need to be considered in the context of the particular platform. Proactive measures to prevent antisemitism, such as automated removal by AI, can lead to obvious cases being less common on some platforms, meaning the data reported may be more complex or more frequently involve coded language or more obscure references, making it

harder for a platform to get right.

Conversely, if a high percentage of the antisemitism on a platform is of a particular major category, and the removal rates for that category are low, it indicates a more permissive environment for that category which may encourage a growth in that kind of antisemitism on that platform as it appears to be both common and accepted.

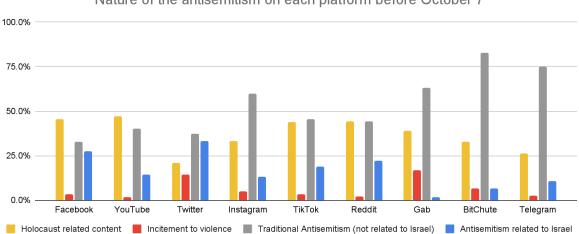
Antisemitism by platform

In this section of the report we examine the nature of antisemitism on each platform after October 7. We compare it to our data on the platform from before October 7. In the next section of this report we focus on each type of antisemitism. While based on the same data, these two sections of the report inspect the data through different lenses.

Examples in this section of the report were selected to be representative of the underlying data from that platform, so a major category that dominated the data is given three examples, a category making up a small segment of the data is represented by one example, and categories in between would be presented by two examples. The examples have then been chosen to represent the most common subcategory (or categories). To see examples of each antisemitic narrative, see this report's *Antisemitism by category* section.

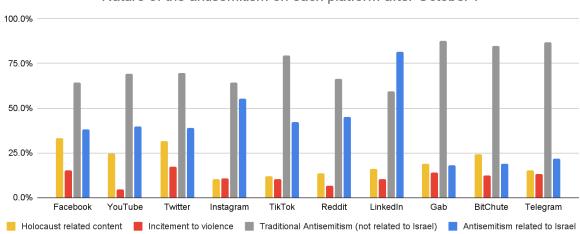
Each example appears with its item number (*i.e.* #2039). The item number correlates to / refers to the data ID number of that specific item within our sample. Including the item number in this report for the reader serves the purpose of facilitating follow up on a specific example. For example, if the reader would like to send us a query as to whether content has been removed by the platform, they can do so by contacting us and quoting the example's item number.

The two graphs below show the percent of antisemitism that fell into each major category on each platform before and after October 7. As a single item can be classified into multiple major categories, each platform's data will total more than 100%. This data is examined on a per-platform basis through this section of the report, along with examples.





Nature of the antisemitism on each platform before October 7



Graph 10 Nature of the antisemitism on each platform after October 7

October 7 caused the nature of antisemitism on each platform to change, sometimes significantly. Some types of antisemitism that were seldom seen before October 7 became a far more common sight after October 7. The number of different antisemitic messages in an item of antisemitism also increased after October 7. In some sense antisemitic content became *more* antisemitic in nature after October 7.

Factors impacting the culture of antisemitism on a platform

We have known for some time that the nature of antisemitism varies significantly between platforms.¹⁴ The difference in the nature of antisemitism on each platform is part of a broader difference between platforms that results from each having its own audience, culture, and technical capabilities which set expectations and affect what people post and how others react to it.

While some viral content moves between platforms, most content does not, nor does not gain the same traction when it is transplanted. Content can be shared through: links to the content hosted on the original platform; reposting the content by pasting the text, uploading the original image, or uploading the original videos; or by posting screen captures of the content on the original platform. We saw examples of this movement of content, but it isn't enough to change the different culture between platforms, or the nature of antisemitism as seen on different platforms.

A significant impact on the nature of antisemitism on a platform comes from community standards policies and their enforcement. This includes both formal policies and their enforcement by the platform and policies set by online communities and enforced by their administrators, whether volunteers helping to run a group, or professional staff managing online spaces run by brands or media organisations. Administrators of pages on Facebook, for example, may hide or delete a comment, and Facebook itself moderates through the use of proactive AI monitoring for hate speech. Many companies have staff, or contractors, who

¹⁴ Oboler, A.,& Beinart, J. (2023). *Online Antisemitism in Australia 2023*. Online Hate Prevention Institute. <u>https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-3213195580/view;</u> Oboler, A. (2016). *Measuring the hate: the state of antisemitism in social media*. Online Hate Prevention Institute. <u>https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-1971821446/view</u>

will remove content reported by users if it breaches the company's community standards, terms of use, or other policies. As different platforms have different affordances for user moderation and reporting, different policies for acceptable content, different training for staff, and different levels of investment in moderation, the effectiveness of content removal varies. Enforcement of policies by a platform can act as a deterrent to reduce the posting of similar content on that platform in the future and can significantly shape platform culture, but the reverse is also true and a permissive attitude to a particular kind of hate speech can lead to more of that content being uploaded to that platform.

The events of October 7 saw a shift in the way some people used particular social media platforms. Many people engaged in online advocacy related to the conflict using accounts that were previously used for other purposes. Some business accounts expressed support for Israel, the victims of the October 7 attack, or called for the release of the hostages and were subsequently targeted. In some cases, individuals who personally expressed support for Israel on one platform had their business targeted on a different platform. The targeting ranged from antisemitic comments and general abuse, to negative false rating and reviews. In some cases videos were created encouraging a boycott of specific businesses because the owners were Jewish and had a history of supporting Israeli charities. These videos often included names and pictures of the owners, and charts noting family members and their businesses, and service on the boards of Jewish or Israel related charities.

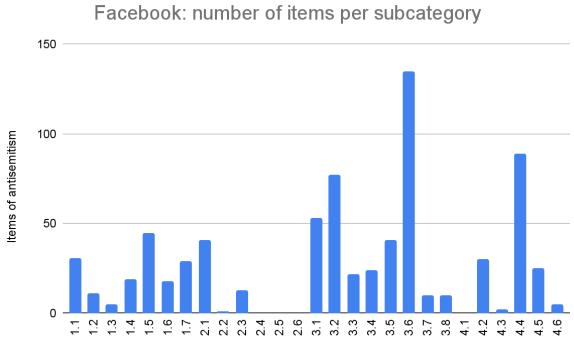
Those using social media to spread antisemitism before October 7 shifted the nature of their content after October 7. Other people were more willing to resort to antisemitism in discussion. A general hostility was fostered towards the Jewish community, individual Jews, and anyone supporting Israel or anything related to Israel. Social media influencers jumped on the bandwagon of popular content. This hostility created a space in which antisemitism could thrive and traditional antisemitism made a resurgence on most platforms, sometimes combined with other forms of antisemitism.

Facebook

Facebook, owned by Meta, is the most popular of the social media platforms we assessed. In Australia, 64% of the adult population uses Facebook,¹⁵ which is about 6.8 million people.¹⁶ The European Union requires very large online platforms to report their average monthly active users. In October 2023, Facebook was reported to have 259 million active users per month within the EU.¹⁷

Facebook allows users to share posts with text, images, videos or links to other online content. Others users can usually leave comments on posts. Posts are either public or have limited visibility. Posts can also be shared by pages (such as business pages) which can have multiple people jointly administering, allowing for admins to post under the page name. Page admins also have the ability to moderate comments. Facebook also allows groups in which administrators can control membership, and in which members can make posts (sometimes only after administrator review) and where post visibility may (optionally) be limited to group members only. If a group's posts are visible, commenting can be limited to group members only. Our data collection has only come from content on Facebook that is viewable by the public.

Data from Facebook accounted for 321 items (11%) of our sample. Each item was categorised into one or more of our 27 subcategories, resulting in 736 categorisations. That is an average of 2.3 categories per item.



Graph 11 book: number of items per subcategory

https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/population-clock-pyramid Seen 8 March 2024. ¹⁷ "Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 Digital Services Act Transparency Report for Facebook", *Facebook*, 27 October 2023. p 22. https://transparency.fb.com/sr/dsa-transparency-report-oct2023-facebook/

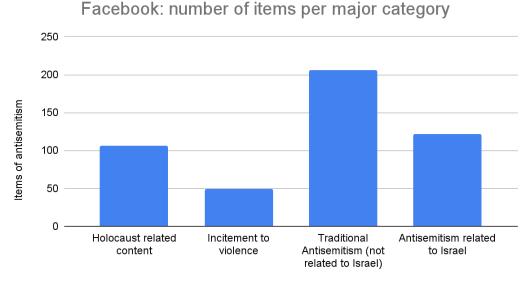
¹⁵ Park et al. (2023). *Digital news report: Australia 2023*, News and Media Research Centre, University of Canberra. pp 4, 87. https://apo.org.au/node/322606

¹⁶ Based on 64% of the adult population according to data from: "Population clock and pyramid", *Australian Bureau of Statistics*.

At a higher level, we can aggregate data according to the four major categories of Holocaust related content, incitement to violence, traditional antisemitism (not related to Israel), and new antisemitism related to Israel. In doing this, each item is counted once for the major category if it has been classified one or more times under that major category's subcategories. It may still be counted in multiple major categories.

On Facebook traditional antisemitism is most common, followed by antisemitism related to Israel and Holocaust related antisemitism which each occur roughly half as often, then incitement to violence which is roughly half as common as them. While lowest of the categories, the high level of incitement to violence is particularly concerning.

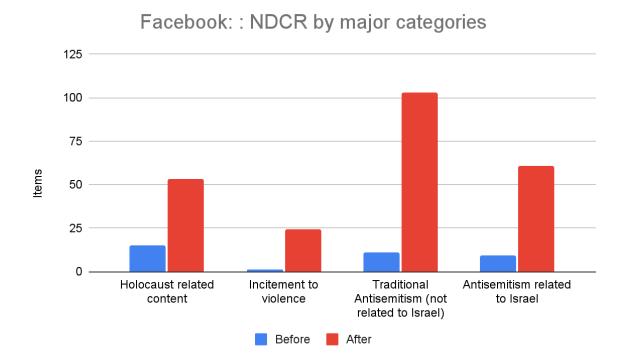
The numbers on Facebook overall are concerning, even compared to Instagram which is also run by Meta. The volume of traditional antisemitism and incitement to violence are each double that found on Instagram, Holocaust related content is 4 times as high on Facebook. Israel related antisemitism is at about the same level, which suggests greater attention in this space given the increase in all other areas.





Major category

The change to the Nominal Daily Collection Rate before and after October 7 shows Incitement to Violence increased from 21 fold ($1.1 \rightarrow 24.5$), traditional antisemitism increased 9 fold ($11.4 \rightarrow 103.0$), Antisemitism related to Israel increased almost 7 fold ($9.1 \rightarrow 61.0$), while Holocaust related content more than tripled ($15.2 \rightarrow 53.0$).



Graph 13

Across the examples from Facebook shown here, we show items classified three times as traditional antisemitism, two times as antisemitism related to Israel, two times as Holocaust related content, and once as incitement to violence. The specific subcategory classifications are also shown below.

Facebook example 1 (#2039)

Classified in subcategories: 4.4 and 3.2



This example from Facebook demonstrates a social media post in which classic antisemitism is applied to Israel. Here we see the antisemitic idea of a world Jewish conspiracy being promoted.

The post reads: "Welcome to the United States of Israel!" It questions how the small world Jewish population allegedly "for some reason they hold all the positions of power". The post contains the hashtags: #UnitedStatesOfIsrael #ZionismIsNazisim #jewishdomination #ZionismIsTerrorism #conspiracy.

The post also shares 42 images which feature traditional antisemitism. These traditional antisemetic themes and tropes include the accusations that Jews are behind abortion, Jews did 9/11, Jews control the media, Jews controlled the slave trade, and that Jews are benhind the Russia's war in Ukraine. The author sees Israel as an expression of Jewish domination ("#jewishdomination") over the world and of governments ("#UnitedStatesOfIsrael"). The images, as well as these hashtags, promote the antisemitic idea that Jews are in control of the world, and accuse Jews of exerting power for nefarious purposes.

Facebook example 2 (#41)

Classified in subcategories: 4.4 and 3.6

This item from our data is an example of content classified under 3.6 "Promoting traditional antisemitism such as blood libel and claims Jews killed Jesus" and 4.4 "Describing Israel or Israelis using antisemitic words or imagery (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel)". The item shares a news story (the headline, photograph, and open text is shown) and adds a comment referring to "Zionist Jews" as "Satanic".

The narratives of Jews as satanic or children of Satan, comes from traditional Christian antisemitism, derived from a passage in the Gospel of John.¹⁸ Robert Bowers who carried out the deadly attack on the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh also used the passage on his



social media.¹⁹ While clearly traditional antisemitism, and explicitly referring to Jews rather than for example Israelis, the comment is made in the context of the news article, so it can be seen as also being Israel related, with "Zionist Jews" perhaps meaning "Israeli Jews" in the context of some refusing to say Israel and referring to it as "the Zionist entity".

¹⁸ Reinhartz, A. (2022). New Testament Origins of Christian Anti-Judaism. In S. Katz (Ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Antisemitism* (pp. 42–56). chapter, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. <u>https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108637725.004</u>

¹⁹ "'Jews are the children of Satan' and the danger of taking biblical passages out of context", *CBS News*, 31 October 2018.

https://www.cbsnews.com/news/jews-are-the-children-of-satan-john-8-44-danger-of-taking-biblical-pas sages-out-of-context/

Facebook example 3 (#26)

Classified in subcategory: 1.5

This example from Facebook demonstrates the categorisation of "Glorifying the Holocaust". The post contains an image of a Palestinian family in Gaza fleeing the rubble of a building. The text of the post states "Terrorist Israel...Hitlar [sic] killed 2 million yehudi [Jews], now i Think he did right. #HitlerWasRight". The author praises Hitler, claiming that he did the right thing to kill Jews.



Facebook example 4 (#2234)

Classified in subcategory: 1.1

This post from Facebook shows an example Holocaust denial. Posted is a meme with the caption: "when u playing scrabble and u cheat by making things up". The image shows a Scrabble game with the word "Holocaust" spelled out in Scrabble letter tiles.

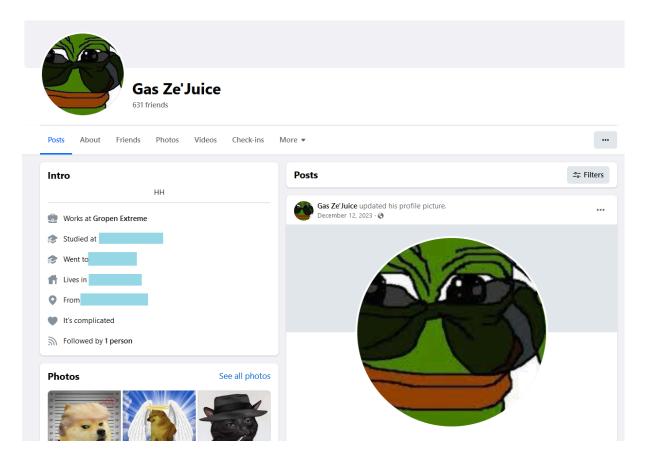


Facebook example 5 (#2231)

Classified in subcategory: 2.3

This Facebook profile shows an example of incitement to violence against Jews in general.

The display name is "Gas Ze'Juice", and the profile picture is a version of Pepe the Frog.²⁰ "Gas Ze'Juice" phonetically is "Gas the Jews".



²⁰ Anti-Defamation League, "Pepe the Frog", *Hate on Display*. <u>https://www.adl.org/resources/hate-symbol/pepe-frog</u>

Facebook example 6 (#3600)

Classified in subcategory: 3.6

In December 2023, tunnels at the Chabad Lubavitch World Headquarters (known as "770") in Brooklyn were discovered. In January 2024, clashes broke out at 770, resulting in the story making headlines.²¹ In our data, we have numerous examples of content where disinformation and antisemitic tropes are perpetuated in relation to this event and the speculation around the purpose of the tunnels in general. This Facebook example was categorised as "Promoting traditional antisemitism". The post contains a number of AI generated images associated with the tunnels at 770.

Two of the images show Orthodox Jews with bloodied and/or soiled childrens' mattresses. This plays into the traditional antiemetic tropes of blood libel and Jewish sexual deviancy. In one of the images, Orthodox Jews are shown eating pizza in the tunnel, evoking the antisemitic "pizzagate" QAnon theory which accuses "elites" of running paedophile rings in pizza restaurant basements.



17

26 comments 5 shares

²¹ Center on Extremism, "Tunnel Discovered Under Chabad Headquarters Sparks Antisemitic Firestorm Online", *Anti-Defamation League*, 11 January 2024, <u>https://www.adl.org/resources/blog/tunnel-discovered-under-chabad-headquarters-sparks-antisemitic-firestorm-online</u>.

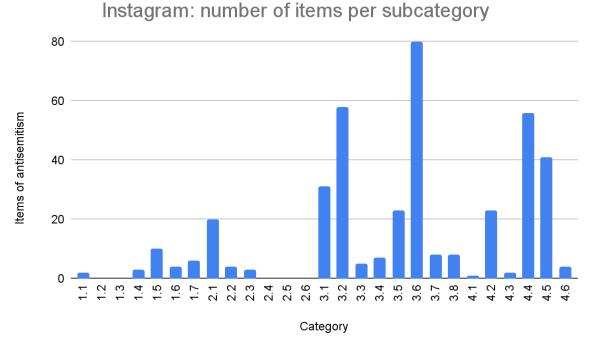
Instagram

Instagram is a popular social media platform from Meta. In Australia, 42% of the adult population use Instagram,²² which is around 4.4 million people.²³ The European Union requires very large online platforms to report their average monthly active users in the EU, which for Instagram was most recently reported as 259 million active users a month.²⁴

Instagram allows users to post photos and videos, as well as comment on posts. Posts can contain text descriptions. Users can also share "stories" which are viewable for 24 hours. Our research has focused only on publicly visible Instagram content.

Data from Instagram accounted for 197 items (7%) of our sample. Each item was categorised into one or more of our 27 subcategories, resulting in 399 categorisations. That is an average of 2.0 categories per item.

On Instagram a few categories of antisemitic content dominate and other categories only appear at lower levels if at all. The most dominant category is 3.6 "Promoting traditional antisemitism such as blood libel and claims Jews killed Jesus", only slightly behind this is 3.2 "Promoting the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy", and 4.4 "Describing Israel or Israelis using antisemitic words or imagery (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel)". Also common is 4.5 "Comparisons of Israeli policy to Nazism", and 3.1 "Dehumanising Jews".



Graph 14

²² Park et al. (2023). *Digital news report: Australia 2023*, News and Media Research Centre,

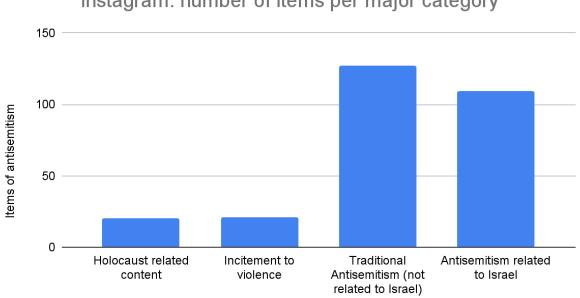
University of Canberra. pp 4, 87. https://apo.org.au/node/322606

²³ Based on 42% of the adult population according to data from: "Population clock and pyramid", *Australian Bureau of Statistics*.

https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/population-clock-pyramid Seen 8 March 2024. ²⁴ "Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 Digital Services Act Transparency Report for Instagram", *Facebook*, 27 October 2023. p 22. https://transparency.fb.com/sr/dsa-transparency-report-oct2023-instagram/

At a higher level, we can aggregate data according to the four major categories of Holocaust related content, incitement to violence, traditional antisemitism (not related to Israel), and new antisemitism related to Israel. In doing this each item is counted once for the major category if it has been classified one or more times under that major category's subcategories. It may still be counted in multiple major categories.

On Instagram traditional antisemitism is only slightly more prevalent than antisemitism related to Israel, and both categories are far more common than incitement to violence or Holocaust related content. The numbers on Instagram are lower than on Facebook, which may either reflect the different audiences / culture, or a difference in moderation.



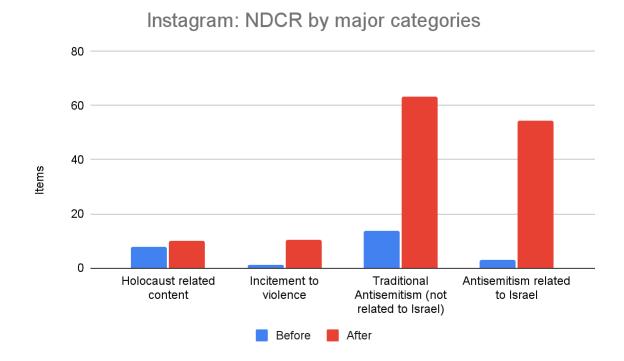
Graph 15

Instagram: number of items per major category

Major category

The change to the Nominal Daily Collection Rate before and after October 7 shows antisemitism related to Israel increased 18 fold $(3.0 \rightarrow 54.5)$, incitement to violence increased from 9 fold $(1.1 \rightarrow 10.5)$, traditional antisemitism increased 5 fold $(13.3 \rightarrow 63.5)$, and Holocaust related antisemitism increased only slightly $(7.6 \rightarrow 10)$.

Graph 16



Across the examples from Instagram shown here, we show items classified three times as traditional antisemitism, three times as antisemitism related to Israel, once as Holocaust related content, and once as incitement to violence. The specific subcategory classifications are also shown below.

Instagram example 1 (#161)

Classified in subcategory: 2.3

This post on Instagram shows an example of the subcategory of "Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion." The AI generated image shows a poster for an imagined Disney-style movie called "Is this Love" in which an Israeli hostage, shown with an injured leg in a hospital bed, is looking lovingly at a uniformed Hamas terrorist.



On social media, the Hamas kidnapping of Israeli female hostages was glorified. A real example of this glorification and justification, on which this AI image is based, was found on X / Twitter (shown to the right). Maya Regev was abducted by Hamas at the Nova music festival on 7 October. She was shot in the leg, and since she has been back in Israel, she has had to have multiple operations for the injury caused by her captors.²⁵

This Instagram post creates a false narrative that Israeli hostages have been treated lovingly and kindly by Hamas. This results in the whitewashing of the atrocities committed on October 7, and minimises the trauma and suffering of the hostages and victims. It also legitimises and justifies the actions of Hamas on October 7.

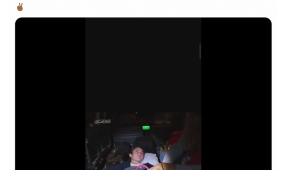
This is Maya Regev telling one of the Hamas fighters "bye, shukran", after

This is Maya Regev telling one of the Hamas fighters "bye, shukran", after he said "bye, Maya"...

Is she basically telling him "thank you for kidnapping me"?

The truth would always come out, no matter what.

For sure, more truths would be revealed, by God's Grace.



²⁵ Renee Ghert-Zand, "Hospital says freed hostage Maya Regev who was shot in leg will need further operations", *Times of Israel*, 30 November 2023, <u>https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/hospital-says-freed-hostage-who-was-shot-in-leg-will-need-further-operations/</u>.

Instagram example 2 (#3303)

Classified in subcategories: 4.4 and 3.6

This post from Instagram demonstrates traditional antisemitism being applied to Israel. An image of Jesus on the cross is shared alongside a headline: "Priest Calls Jesus a 'Palestinian Jew' during Christmas CNN Interview". The caption reads: "Israel is the synagogue of satan 6 pointed star + 6 sided hexagon + 6 triangles = 666 synagogue of Satan". The image of the crucifixion of Jesus adjacent to the antisemitic caption evokes the deicide accusation which holds that Jews are collectively responsible for the death of Jesus.



Instagram example 3 (#1493)

Classified in subcategories: 3.2 and 3.6

This example from Instagram was classified as "Promoting the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy" and "Promoting traditional antisemitism". The content creator accuses Jews of being responsible for the COVID-19 vaccine, and promotes the conspiracy theory that the vaccines have been developed in order to kill people worldwide ("#worldwidegenocide"). The Hashtags that are featured in the post's caption include traditional antisemitic themes such as "#synagogueofsatan" and "#khazarianmafia" alongside a Star of David emoji.

The image in the Instagram post also contains the URL for a Swedish-produced neo-Nazi propaganda film called *Europa the Last Battle*.²⁶



²⁶ J Leman & M Finnsiö, "The Nordic Resistance Movement", *Anti-Defamation League*, 21 March 2022. <u>https://www.adl.org/resources/report/nordic-resistance-movement</u>

Instagram example 4 (#2319)

Classified in subcategory: 4.5

In this post, Israel is compared to the Nazis both in the image shared, and the caption. Here Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is depicted performing the Nazi salute. Instead of a swastika on his armband, there is a Star of David.



The Nazis forced Jews to wear a Star of David, either in the form of a badge or armband, as shown in the image to the right.²⁷

The image posted on Instagram is a particularly provocative and vivid example of what is called "Holocaust inversion". Lesley Klaff describes Holocaust inversion as "an *inversion of reality* (the Israelis are cast as the 'new' Nazis and the Palestinians as the 'new' Jews), and an *inversion of morality* (the Holocaust is presented as a moral lesson for, or even a moral indictment of



'the Jews').²⁸ Deborah Lipstadt highlights that Holocaust inversion distorts the Holocaust, explaining that it "elevates by a factor of a zillion any wrongdoings Israel might have done, and lessens by a factor of a zillion what the Germans did.²⁹

²⁸ L Klaff (Winter 2014), "Holocaust Inversion and contemporary antisemitism", *Fathom.* <u>https://fathomjournal.org/holocaust-inversion-and-contemporary-antisemitism/</u>

²⁷ A Grycuk, Pawiak Museum in Warsaw, "An armband worn by Jews in Warsaw and the Warsaw Ghetto".

²⁹As guoted in "Holocaust Inversion and contemporary antisemitism" by L Klaff.

Instagram example 5 (#3229)

Classified in subcategory: 4.2

The next example from Instagram shows a post in which Jews are denied self-determination. This is done through attempts of delegitimising Israel as a valid state, as well as distorting Jewish history and the history of Zionism. Here, we see a social media user attempting to distance Judaism or anything Jewish from Zionism. The Zionist movement emerged from the wish to fulfil the Jewish people's human right of self-determination. The Instagram user claims that "Zionism hijacked a religion". This distorts the historical fact that Zionism stemmed from Jewish peoplehood, Jewish history, and Judaism. Ultimately, the content in this post is based on fundamental misconceptions about, or an imagined version of, Zionism.

In an attempt to delegitimise the State of Israel, this Instagram user goes on to call Zionism the "craziest form of colonialism" they've ever seen, and refers to Israel as "the Zionist regime" and accuses Israel / Israelis of having a "made up identity". The caption of the post ends with the words: "we [Palestinians] are not responsible for the Holocaust", implying that the only reason the Jewish state exists is as some kind of "reparation" for it. While the State of Israel was established after the Holocaust, the Holocaust as the basis of Israel's existence is also an historical inaccuracy.





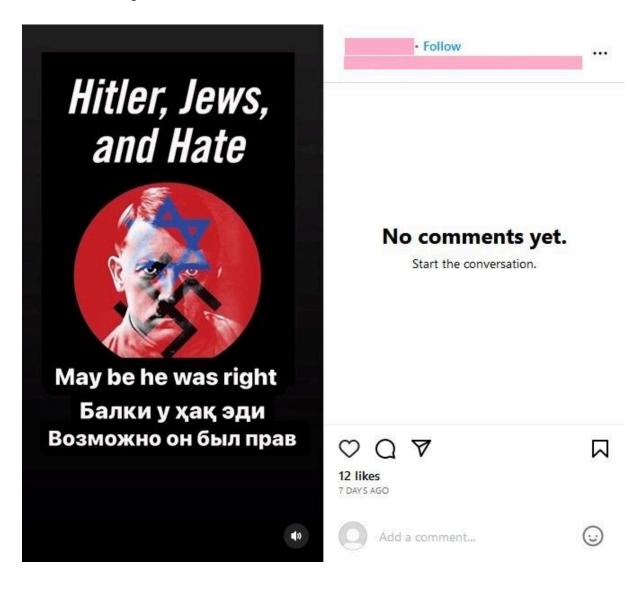
The image included in this Instagram post shows a Jewish person behind bars (allegedly being held "hostage" by Israel) with the text "Zionism is not Judaism". While not all Jews are Zionists, results from the Plus61J (now The Jewish Independent) *Crossroads23* survey demonstrated that overwhelmingly (77%) Jews in Australia considered themselves to be Zionists. Of the remaining survey respondents, 14% did not identify as Zionists and the rest either did not know (8%), or said that they preferred not to say (1%).³⁰

³⁰ A Markus, *Crossroads23: Surveying Australian Jews on Israel* (Plus61J Media, 2023), p. 11. <u>https://plus61j.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Crossroads23_Survey_Report_June_2023_2-1.pdf</u>

Instagram example 6 (#3741)

Classified in subcategory: 1.5

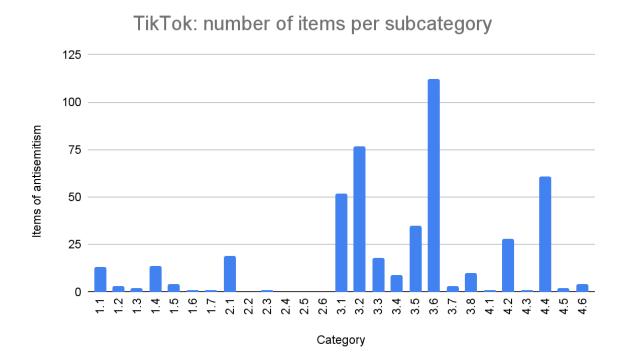
This Instagram post is an example of the Holocaust being glorified through the suggestion that Hitler "was right".



TikTok

TikTok, owned by ByteDance, is an increasingly popular social media platform that allows users to upload short videos (anywhere in length between 3 seconds to 10 minutes). Users can comment on and like videos. Once a video ends, a new one automatically starts playing. In Australia 20% of the adult population use TikTok,³¹ which is around 2.1 million people.³² As of October 2023, in the European Union 136 million people use TikTok.³³ In the US TikTok has over 170 million active monthly users.³⁴

Data from TikTok accounted for 196 items (7%) of our sample. Each item was categorised into one or more of our 27 subcategories, resulting in 471 categorisations. That is an average of 2.4 categories per item.



Graph 17

At a higher level, we can aggregate data according to the four major categories of Holocaust related content, incitement to violence, traditional antisemitism (not related to Israel), and new antisemitism related to Israel. In doing this each item is counted once for the major category if it has been classified one or more times under that major category's subcategories. It may still be counted in multiple major categories. On TikTok traditional antisemitism is dominant, but antisemitism related to Israel is also significant.

23.<u>https://sf16-va.tiktokcdn.com/obj/eden-va2/fsslreh7uulsn/DSA%20Report%20October%202023/DS</u> A%20draft%20Transparency%20report%20-%2025%20October%202023.pdf. Manually summed each country to get total.

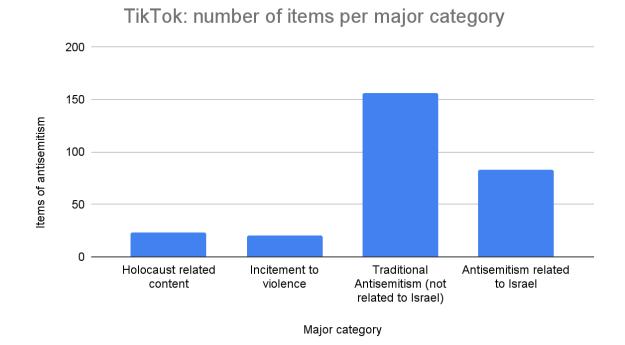
³¹ Park et al. (2023). *Digital news report: Australia 2023*, News and Media Research Centre, University of Canberra. pp 4, 87. <u>https://apo.org.au/node/322606</u>

³² Based on 20% of the adult population according to data from: "Population clock and pyramid", *Australian Bureau of Statistics*.

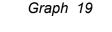
https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/population-clock-pyramid Seen 8 March 2024. ³³ "TikToks DSA Transparency Report 2023", TikTok, 25 October 2023. p

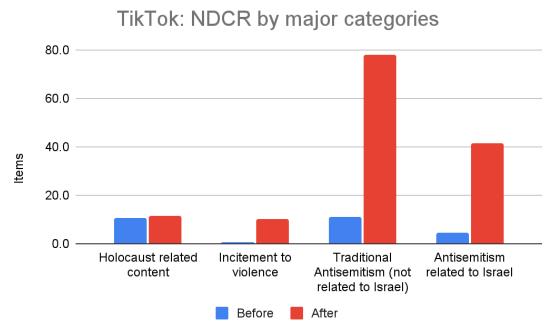
³⁴ https://newsroom.tiktok.com/en-us/opening-statement-senate-judiciary-committee-hearing





The change to the Nominal Daily Collection Rate before and after October 7 shows Incitement to Violence increased 13 fold ($0.8 \rightarrow 10.0$), Antisemitism related to Israel increased 9 fold to ($4.6 \rightarrow 41.5$), while traditional antisemitism increased 7 fold ($11.0 \rightarrow 78.0$). Holocaust related content was close to steady ($10.7 \rightarrow 11.5$).



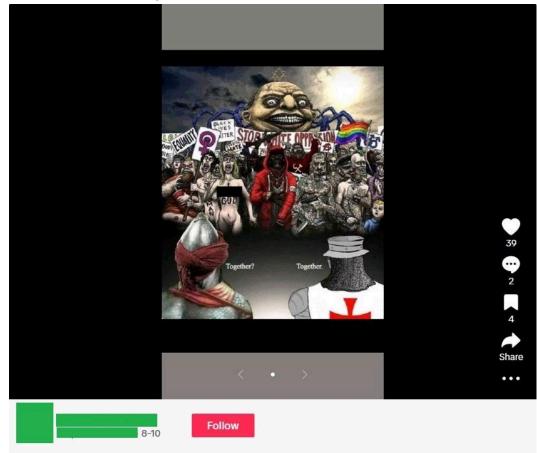


Recommendation: TikTok needs to alter their software to provide URLs to comments. Without being able to link to a specific comment, or easily identify it, this content is very difficult to manage.

Across the examples from TikTok shown here, we show items classified four times as traditional antisemitism, two times as antisemitism related to Israel, once as Holocaust related content, and once as incitement to violence. The specific subcategory classifications are also shown below.

TikTok example 1 (#652)

Classified in subcategories: 3.1 and 3.6



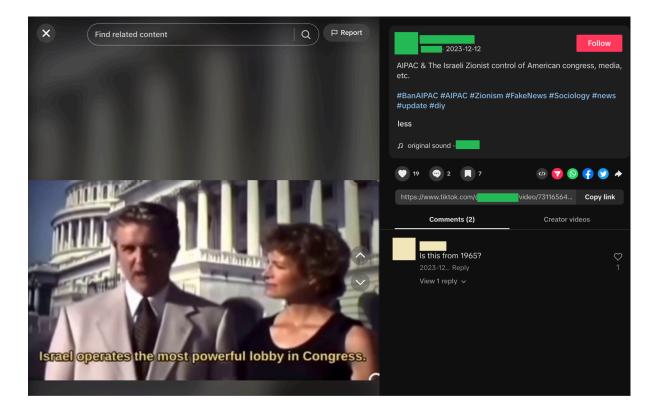
J Level of Concern - twenty one pilots

This video on TikTok was categorised as "dehumanising Jews" and "promoting traditional antisemitism". It shows an image in which a grotesque face of a Jew (denoted by a Star of David above his head) with a large hooked nose is sitting on top of a spider's body. Zoomorphasim, attributing animal qualities to non-animals, is a common theme in antisemitic discourse and imagery, where Jews are portrayed as a beast or vermin that should be eradicated. This dehumanises Jews, and presents them as sub-human. The spider figure stands behind an "army" of causes associated with progressive movements (Black Lives Matter, LGBTQI+, Equality, Feminism, Communism, Atheism), sneakily puppeteering them. This army stands in opposition to two figures, one a Christian crusader, and the other a Muslim soldier, who agreeing to fight against this army together. This evokes Christianity and Islam in opposition against Judaism from a traditional religiously motivated perspective. Another aspect of traditional antisemitism we see here is the idea that Jews are responsible for the ills of the world. In this picture, Jews are shown as being behind progressive causes, which are depicted as in this cartoon.

TikTok example 2 (#3361)

Classified in subcategories: 4.4 and 3.5

This example from TikTok applies traditional antisemitism and applies it to Israel. It promotes the idea of Jews controlling government or other societal institutions. It is stated in the clip: The clip states: "Today, a foreign government, Israel, operates the most powerful lobby in Congress. This is AIPAC: The American, Israel Public Affairs Committee. Through control of Congress, Israel demands, and gets nearly 5 billion dollars annually. No elected official dares criticise Israel for fear that the Jewish lobby will accuse him of 'anti-Semitism'-the kiss of death for any politician."



TikTok example 3 (#1577)

Classified in subcategory: 2.3

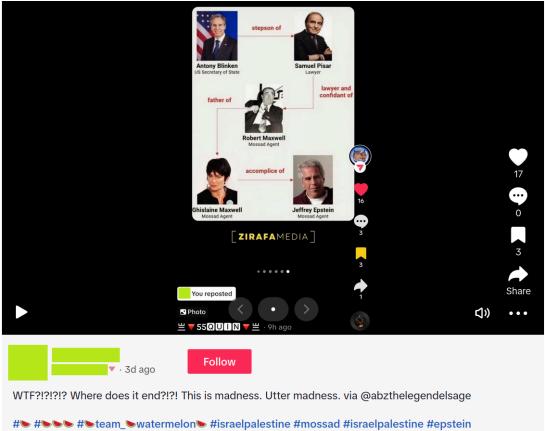
The next example from TikTok falls into the category of "Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion." On a TikTok video with the caption "How I go to sleep when some Zionist calls me a terrorist supporter", a social media user commented: "If Hamas is terrorism then I love terrorism".



TikTok example 4 (#3553)

Classified in subcategory: 4.4 and 3.2

This post on TikTok is an example of the categories of "Describing Israel or Israelis using antisemitic words or imagery" and "Promoting the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy". The post shows an image of connections between people with regards to the conspiracy theory that Jeffrey Epstein worked for Mossad as part of a blackmail operation (to control influential people and politicians around the world), including to Anthony Blinken, the USA's Secretary of State, who is Jewish.



#epsteinfiles #ghislainemaxwell #ghislainemaxwelltrial #blinkenisajoke

TikTok example 5 (#3538)

Classified in subcategory: 1.5

This comment on TikTok glorifies the Holocaust. The comment was made on an antisemitic post about the Chabad tunnels at 770. The author calls Jews "subversives and hypocrites" and claims that it is because of their guilt that Hitler killed "them [Jews]". Note that at the time we captured this comment, it had been "liked" by 105 other TikTok users.

Subversives and hypocrites, Hitler did not kill them	\heartsuit
without guilt	105
1w ago Reply	
View 1 reply 🗸	

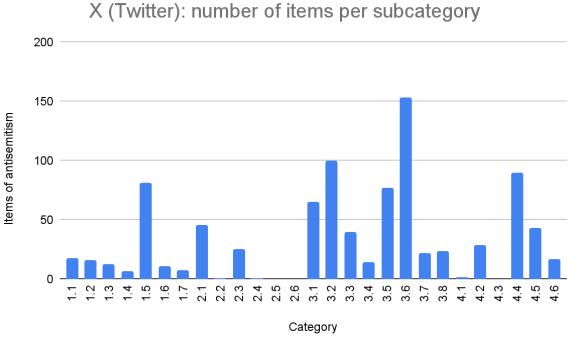
X (Twitter)

X, formerly known as Twitter, owned by X Corp, is one of the largest Social media platforms. In Australia 20% of the adult population use X,³⁵ which is around 2.1 million people.³⁶ X was most recently reported as having 115 million active users within the EU per month.³⁷

People on X can share posts (formerly known as "Tweets") which may consist of short text, images and/or video. Users can comment on other posts, like posts, repost them, and quote them (which is similar to reposting, but gives the X user the chance to make their own comment about the post they are sharing). Verified users can add Community Notes to posts on X, which all users are then able to vote on. The purpose of Community Notes is to give context to posts and can also counter mis- and disinformation.

Data from X accounted for 381 items (13%) of our sample. Each item was categorised into one or more of our 27 subcategories, resulting in 903 categorisations. That is an average of 2.4 categories per item. Category 3.6, "Promoting traditional antisemitism such as blood libel and claims Jews killed Jesus" was the most common, followed by 3.2 "Promoting the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy", 4.4 "Describing Israel or Israelis using antisemitic words or imagery (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel)", 1.5 "Glorifying the Holocaust or suggesting it did not go far enough", 3.5 "Promoting the idea of Jews controlling government or other societal institutions", and 3.1 "Dehumanising Jews".

Graph 20



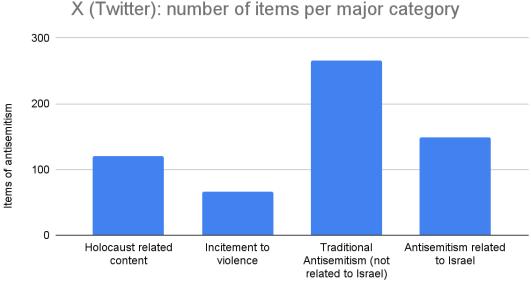
³⁵ Park et al. (2023). *Digital news report: Australia 2023*, News and Media Research Centre, University of Canberra. pp 4, 87. https://apo.org.au/node/322606

³⁶ Based on 20% of the adult population according to data from: "Population clock and pyramid", Australian Bureau of Statistics.

https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/population-clock-pyramid Seen 8 March 2024. ³⁷ X (Twitter), <u>https://transparency.twitter.com/dsa-transparency-report.html</u> Seen 9 March 2024. Report for period August 28, 2023 to October 20, 2023.

At a higher level, we can aggregate data according to the four major categories of Holocaust related content, incitement to violence, traditional antisemitism (not related to Israel), and new antisemitism related to Israel. In doing this each item is counted once for the major category if it has been classified one or more times under that major category's subcategories. It may still be counted in multiple major categories.

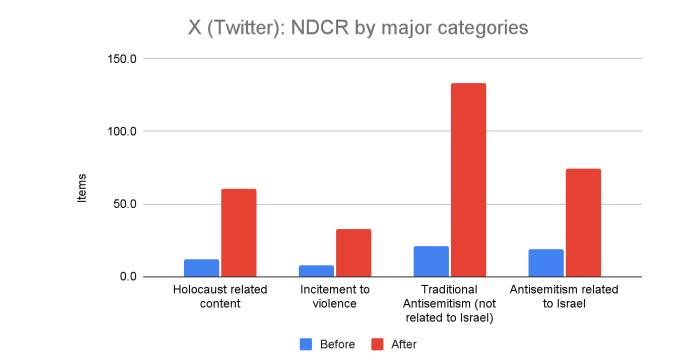
On X, traditional antisemitism again dominated, but all the other categories were also significant. What's particularly worrying is the high level of incitement to violence. This comes from subcategory 2.1 and 2.3, so involved both clearly ideologically motivated content and general expression of violence.



Graph 21 X (Twitter): number of items per major category

Major category

The change to the Nominal Daily Collection Rate before and after October 7 shows traditional antisemitism increased 6 fold ($21.0 \rightarrow 133.0$), Holocaust related antisemitism increased 5 fold ($11.8 \rightarrow 60.5$), incitement to violence increased from 4 fold ($8.0 \rightarrow 33.0$), and antisemitism related to Israel increased 4 fold ($18.7 \rightarrow 74.5$).



Graph 22

Across the examples from X shown here, we show items classified seven times in subcategories under traditional antisemitism, two times in subcategories under antisemitism related to Israel, once as Holocaust related content, and once as incitement to violence. The specific subcategory classifications are also shown below.

X example 1 (#693)

Classified in subcategories: 1.1 and 1.5

This example from X fits both the categories of "Denying the Holocaust" and "Glorifying the Holocaust or suggesting it did not go far enough". The post contains a meme of the painting "Freedom Of Speech" by Norman Rockwell which is commonly used online when someone is sharing a controversial opinion. The caption alongside the image reads: "6 million is too big to be realistic. But even if it is realistic: it wasn't enough!" This example demonstrates an instance of a common theme in antisemitic discourse relating to the Holocaust: the claim that the Holocaust did not happen, but that it should have.



"6 million is too big to be realistic. But even if it is realistic: it wasn't enough!"



4:38 AM · Apr 4, 2023 · 307 Views

X example 2 (#908)

Classified in subcategory: 1.5, 2.3 and 3.1

In this example from X, we see the subcategories of "Glorifying the Holocaust or suggesting it did not go far enough" as well as "Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion". An X user quote-posted a video, and added the text: "Hitler was right to eliminate these pigs. We will finish them and clean our Arab world when the time comes". The post praises Hitler for killing Jews, as well as wishing to "finish them".

The username of the X user contains an inverted red triangle emoji, which, since October 7, has become synonymous with Hamas's violence against Israel. The red triangle originally appeared in Hamas propaganda videos showing attacks on Israeli military targets. It is now used as a symbol on social media to signify support for violence against Israel.³⁸

This post also dehumanises Jews by referring to them as pigs.



8:24 AM · Nov 13, 2023 · 28 Views

³⁸ Anti-Defamation League, "Inverted Red Triangle", *Glossary of Extremism and Hate*, <u>https://extremismterms.adl.org/glossary/inverted-red-triangle</u>.

X example 3 (#1632)

Classified in subcategory: 3.2

In this X post we see the subcategory of "Promoting the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy". The post contains the text: "Fertility went up in Israel, but only among j3wish Israeli women, because covid was a j3w created bioweapon." The post shows a screenshot and link to a news article. This contributes to the conspiracy theory that Jews were behind the COVID-19 pandemic for nefarious reasons. This is reminiscent of the conspiracy theory that Jews teamed up with the devil and spread the Black Plague.³⁹ This post is also an example of the subcategory "Describing Israel or Israelis using antisemitic words or imagery".



³⁹ The Holocaust Explained, "The Black Death", Antisemitism.

https://www.theholocaustexplained.org/anti-semitism/medieval-antisemitism/the-black-death/

X example 4 (#3406)

Classified in subcategory: 3.5

This example from X was categorised as "Promoting the idea of Jews controlling government or other societal institutions". The post shares an AI generated image of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. It shows Martin Luther King Jr linking arms with religious Jews and other African Americans. In the crowd, American and Israeli flags are waving. Capitol Hill appears in the background. The post states: "Yes another puppet controlled by the Jews. Black Lives Matter is also founded and controlled by them..." The AI image suggests that the United States and its government, as well as societal institutions, are controlled by Israel and Jews.



Yes another puppet controlled by the Jews. Black Lives Matter is also founded and controlled by them. At some point you're going to have to recognize the actual power structures that control every aspect of your life.



11:28 PM · Jan 15, 2024 · 821 Views

X example 5 (#3604)

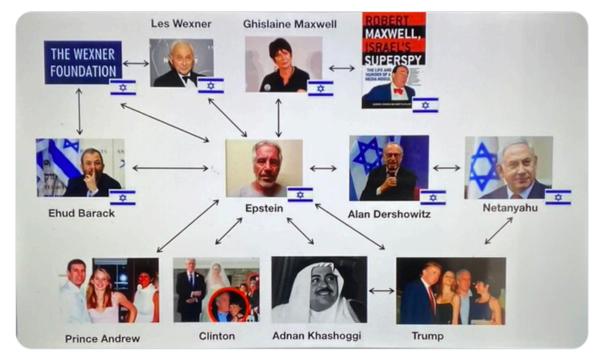
Classified in subcategory: 4.4, 3.2 and 3.6

This example from X displays the subcategories of "Describing Israel or Israelis using antisemitic words or imagery" and "Traditional antisemitism". The text of the post reads: "I'm just going to say it. If you support Zionist Biden or Zionist Trump you support pedophilia and blackmail". The post contains an image mapping out the conspiracy theory that Jeffrey Epstein worked for Mossad as part of a blackmail operation, linking different people and their connections. The Jews in the image have an Israeli flag next to them, despite some of them not being Israeli citizens.

Using the Star of David to identify Jews is common in neo-Nazi propaganda. In this case, the Israeli flag was used instead. This example promotes traditional antisemitic tropes of Jewish sexual deviancy, and Jews as treacherous people who cannot be trusted (with the reference to "blackmail"). This example also suggests that Jews are not loyal citizens of their country and that they are more loyal to Israel.



I'm just going to say it. If you support Zionist Biden or Zionist Trump you support pedophilia and blackmail.



1:32 AM · Jan 20, 2024 · 3,096 Views

X example 6 (#238)

Classified in subcategories: 4.4, 3.3 and 3.5

This example was categorised as "Describing Israel or Israelis using antisemitic words or imagery", "Promoting the idea of Jews controlling the media" and "Promoting the idea of Jews controlling government or other societal institutions".

The post of interest here was made in reply to Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong visiting Yad Vashem on her trip to Israel post October 7. The X user writes: "You're worried that if you don't toe the line for Israel they'll fire you like they do our journalists they don't like. Is Australia a sovereign nation or not?" This social media user explicitly accuses Israel of controlling the Australian Government, implying that Israel has the ability to fire Ministers in Australia. They also accuse Israel of having control of the Australian media.



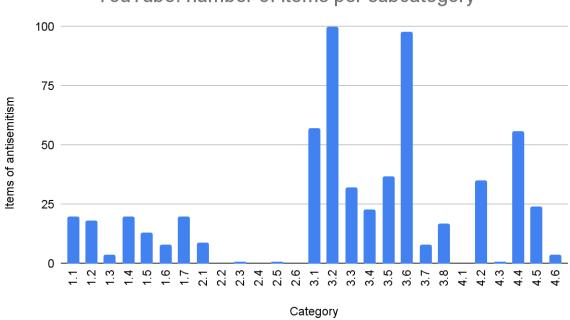
YouTube

YouTube, owned by Google, is a social media platform used for sharing and viewing videos. In Australia 57% of the adult population use YouTube,⁴⁰ which is around 6 million people.⁴¹ YouTube was most recently reported to have 417 million active users a month in the EU.⁴²

YouTube allows users to upload and view videos, as well as comment on these videos. Users can also livestream videos.

Data from YouTube accounted for 230 items (8%) of our sample. Each item was categorised into one or more of our 27 subcategories, resulting in 606 categorisations. That is an average of 2.6 categories per item.

Category 3.2 "Promoting the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy" and 3.6 "Promoting traditional antisemitism such as blood libel and claims Jews killed Jesus" were very prevalent, while 3.1 "Dehumanising Jews" was also quite high. In the category of Israel related antisemitism 4.4, applying traditional antisemitism to Israel, was high as it was on many platforms, but also 4.1 "Accusing Israel of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust".



Graph 23

YouTube: number of items per subcategory

https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/population-clock-pyramid Seen 8 March 2024. ⁴² "Information about Monthly Active Recipients under the Digital Services Act (EU)", YouTube, 16 August 2023. p 3

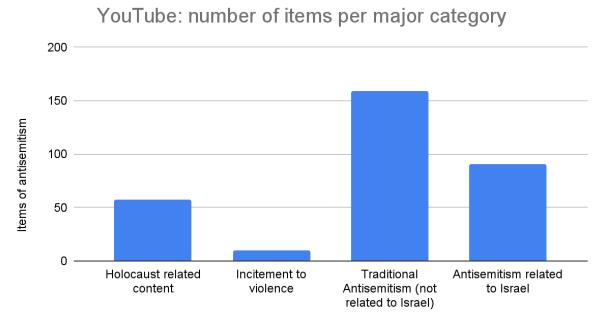
https://storage.googleapis.com/transparencyreport/report-downloads/pdf-report-24_2023-1-1_2023-6-30_en_v1.pdf

⁴⁰ Park et al. (2023). *Digital news report: Australia 2023*, News and Media Research Centre, University of Canberra. pp 4, 87. <u>https://apo.org.au/node/322606</u>

⁴¹ Based on 57% of the adult population according to data from: "Population clock and pyramid", *Australian Bureau of Statistics*.

At a higher level, we can aggregate data according to the four major categories of Holocaust related content, incitement to violence, traditional antisemitism (not related to Israel), and new antisemitism related to Israel. In doing this each item is counted once for the major category if it has been classified one or more times under that major category's subcategories. It may still be counted in multiple major categories.

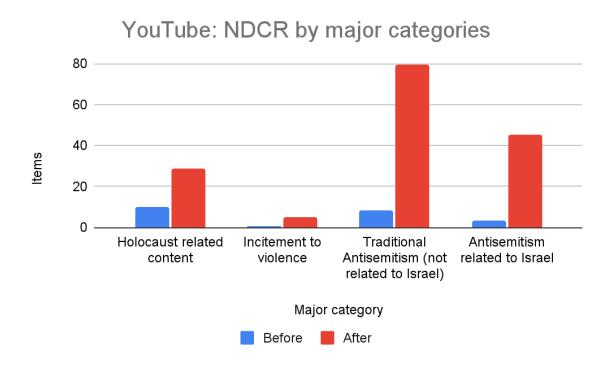
On YouTube at a higher level there are clearly 4 steps, Traditional Antisemitism, which takes a step down to Israel related Antisemitism, then another step down to Holocaust related content, before a final step down to incitement to violence





Major category

The change to the Nominal Daily Collection Rate before and after October 7 shows antisemitism related to Israel increased 15 fold $(3.0 \rightarrow 45.5)$, Incitement to Violence increased from 13 fold $(0.4 \rightarrow 5.0)$, traditional antisemitism increased almost 10 fold $(8.4 \rightarrow 79.5)$, and Holocaust related content almost tripled $(9.9 \rightarrow 28.5)$.



Graph 25

Across the examples from YouTube shown here, we show items classified three times in subcategories under traditional antisemitism, two times in subcategories under antisemitism related to Israel, three times as subcategories under Holocaust related content, and once as incitement to violence. The specific subcategory classifications are also shown below.

YouTube example 1 (#962)

Classified in subcategory: 1.1

This example shows Holocaust denial on YouTube. The video features an interview with infamous Holocaust denier David Irving in which he denies the existence of gas chambers. The caption of the video reads "Holohoax exposed as lies".

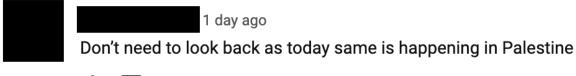


Holohoax exposed as lies.

YouTube example 2 (#1238, 1.4)

Classified in subcategory: 1.4

This comment was made on a video about the Holocaust. This comment engages in Holocaust distortion by minimising it through their comparison with the war in Gaza.

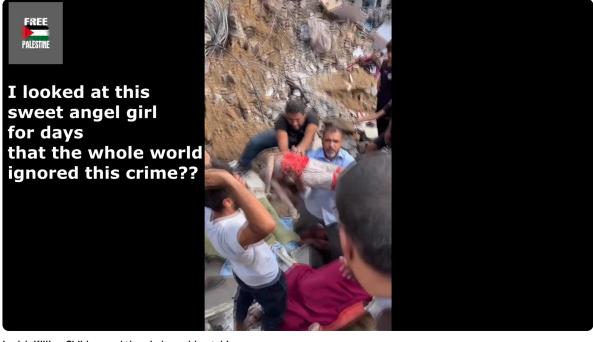




YouTube example 3 (#1237)

Classified in subcategory: 1.5, 2.3 and 3.1

The description and title of this YouTube video glorifies the Holocaust, incites violence against Jews in the name of an extremist ideology, and dehumanises Jews. The social media user writes "Hitler was right", refers to Jews as a "cancer", and calls for Jews to "become extinct because as long as they are on earth there will never be peace".



jewish Killing Children and the whole world watching

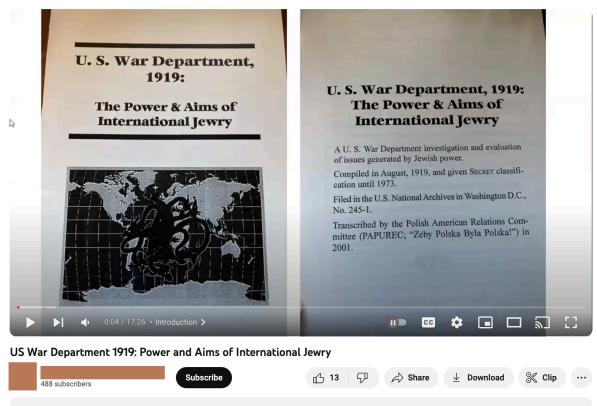
Subscribe 🖒 Like 🖓 📣 Share 💥 Clip =+ Save 4 views Oct 26, 2023

it is time to let the Jews become extinct because as long as they are on earth there will never be peace ... Hitler was right and because of that Hitler wanted to let this cancer make the Jews extinct and that must happen as quickly as possible because they have no balls and want our future to have children murdered and that is their goal, so brothers and sisters around the world stand up

YouTube example 4 (#3242)

Classified in subcategory: 3.2

The idea of a world Jewish conspiracy is promoted in this YouTube video. The content creator shares a document which they claim is an official US report about the alleged power of "International Jewry". The video shares conspiracy theories about world Jewish domination. It has since been removed from YouTube.



92 views Oct 30, 2023

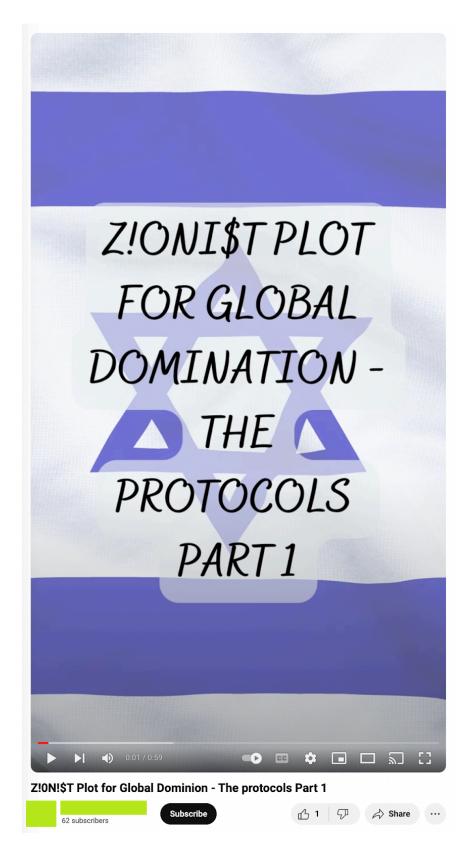
Reading from a document titled "US War Department 1919: Power and Aims of International Jewry".

For educational purposes.

YouTube example 5 (#44)

Classified in subcategory: 4.4 and 3.6

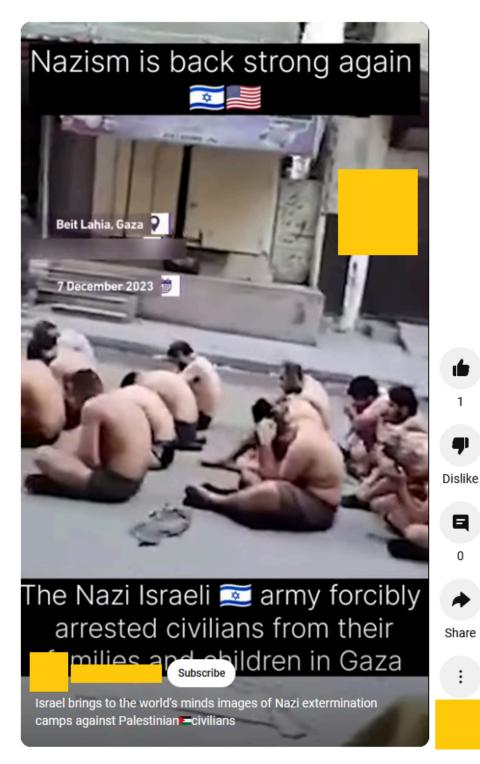
In this YouTube Short, the Protocols of the Elders of Zion is shared. The antisemitic themes of the Protocols are applied to Israel.



YouTube example 6 (#2268)

Classified in subcategory: 4.5

This example shows Israel being compared to the Nazis, as well as disinformation about the war in Gaza with the claim that the Hamas militants captured by the IDF were in an extermination camp.



Telegram

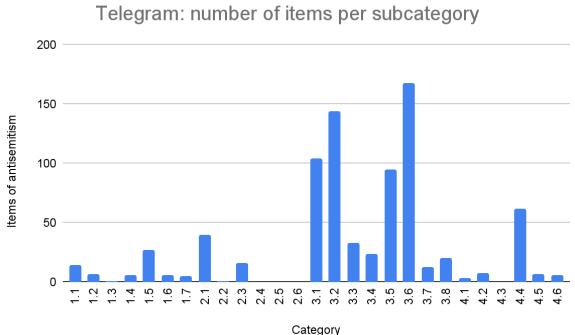
Telegram Messenger, more commonly known simply as Telegram, is an instant messaging app, developed by Telegram Messenger Inc. It is known for its privacy and encryption. In Australia 9% of the adult population use Telegram,⁴³ which is around 1 million people.⁴⁴ Worldwide, Telegram has 800 million users each month.⁴⁵

Telegram allows users to instant message other users, as well as to make audio and video calls between individuals or groups. Telegram also has more traditional social media features such as ability to post "stories", create large public or private groups, and create channels in which only the channel administrator can provide updates (which other users are not able to respond to). Telegram allows users to share text, images, video, voice messages and files.

Data from Telegram accounted for 351 items (12%) of our sample. Each item was categorised into one or more of our 27 subcategories, resulting in 810 categorisations. That is an average of 2.3 categories per item.

The data on Telegram was very contracted in the traditional antisemitism but spread across four different types of traditional antisemitism, and the category of traditional antisemitism applied to Israel.

Graph 26



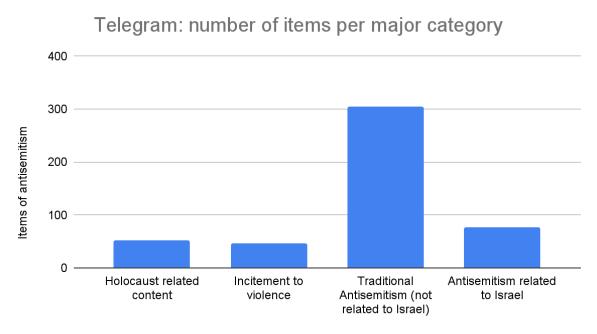
⁴³ Park et al. (2023). *Digital news report: Australia 2023*, News and Media Research Centre, University of Canberra. pp 4, 87. https://apo.org.au/node/322606

⁴⁴ Based on 9% of the adult population according to data from: "Population clock and pyramid", Australian Bureau of Statistics.

https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/population-clock-pyramid Seen 8 March 2024. ⁴⁵ "Telegram raises \$210 million through bond sales", TechCrunch.com, July 19, 2023 https://techcrunch.com/2023/07/18/telegram-raises-210-million-through-bond-sales/

At a higher level, we can aggregate data according to the four major categories of Holocaust related content, incitement to violence, traditional antisemitism (not related to Israel), and new antisemitism related to Israel. In doing this each item is counted once for the major category if it has been classified one or more times under that major category's subcategories. It may still be counted in multiple major categories.

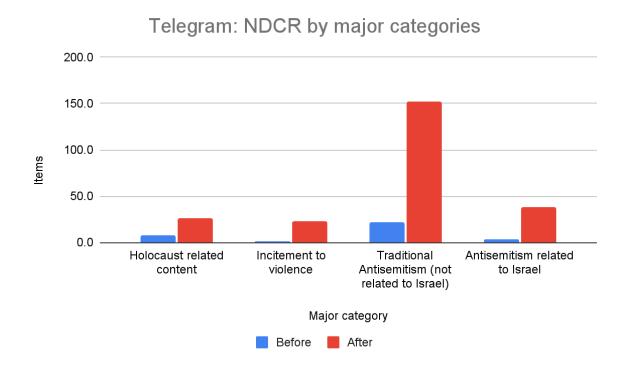
On the major categories we can again see that on Telegram traditional antisemitism dominates strongly with the other categories being at similar lower levels to each other. The fact Israel related content has become as prevalent as Holocaust related content is a significant change since October 7 and a result of antisemitic narratives originating from the far-left being adopted and adapted for use by the far-right.



Graph 27

Major category

The change to the Nominal Daily Collection Rate before and after October 7 shows Incitement to Violence increased 30 fold ($0.8 \rightarrow 23.0$), Antisemitism related to Israel increased more than 12 fold ($3.0 \rightarrow 38.0$), traditional antisemitism increased 7 fold ($21.7 \rightarrow 152.5$), and Holocaust related content increased more than 3 fold ($7.6 \rightarrow 26.5$).



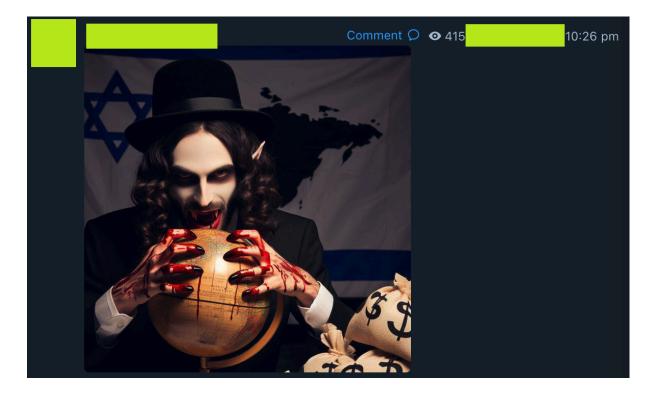
Graph 28

Across the examples from Telegram shown here, we show items classified three times in subcategories under traditional antisemitism, once under antisemitism related to Israel, once under Holocaust related content, and once as incitement to violence. The specific subcategory classifications are also shown below.

Telegram example 1 (#1290)

Classified in subcategories: 4.4, 3.1, 3.2 and 3.6

This AI image from Telegram fits into a number of antisemitic subcategories. It dehumanises Jews (by depicting them as vampires), promotes the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy (by showing a Jew gripping the globe), promotes traditional antisemitism (as evident in the use of the trope of a bloodsucking/blood thirsty Jew, evoking blood libel), and applies traditional antisemitism to Israel (through the placement of the Israeli flag in the background).



Telegram example 2 (#1186)

Classified in subcategory: 2.3

The next example from Telegram was categorised as "Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion." A message was shared on a Telegram channel that has 6,000 subscribers. The channel is open, meaning that one does not need to be subscribed to it in order to view the content shared. The message shares a graphic and confronting image taken by Hamas on October 7 of an IDF soldier that was shot dead. The caption reads: "a good Zionist is a dead Zionist". When we captured this example, it had been viewed nearly 500 times, had 16 "love" reactions and five "like" reactions.



NEVER FORGET... A GOOD ZIONIST IS A DEAD ZIONIST!

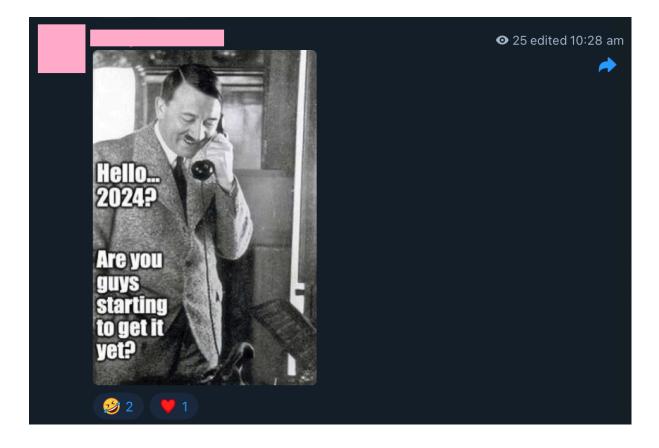


👁 457 🔱 Tr..., edited 12:58 PM

Telegram example 3 (#221)

Classified in subcategory: 1.5

This post glorifies the Holocaust. It shows Hitler "calling up" 2024 and asking "are you guys starting to get it yet?" The implication here is that Hitler's actions were justified because of the troubles that Jews are allegedly causing today.



LinkedIn

LinkedIn is a professional networking social media platform aimed at businesses, employers and employees. It is owned by Microsoft. In Australia 15% of the adult population use LinkedIn,⁴⁶ which is around 1.6 million people.⁴⁷ LinkedIn was most recently reported as having 45 million active logged in users a month within the EU.48

LinkedIn allows business and employees to create profiles to share their experience and current Jobs. Users can also make and share posts, including text, images and video. LinkedIn also has the ability for users to create or join groups.

The presence of antisemitism on LinkedIn is driven by more than a shift in technology and culture. Antisemitism among professionals and professional bodies has grown significantly since the October 7 attack. This is most clearly demonstrated in relation the medical to profession, where standards are usually quite strict to avoid impacting patient trust.

The editor of one US medical publication lamented in an editorial, "The recent spate of anti-Semitic rhetoric, violence, and moral equivocation among colleagues, friends, and professional societies".⁴⁹ In Australia, discussion in a large WhatsApp group of doctors included content reported to the medical board as potentially antisemitic, while other doctors were reported for public social media posts.⁵⁰ In the UK a former NHS Doctor who was competing in a UK spin-off of The Apprentice was first dropped by the BBC then had his registration suspended by the medical board, pending an investigation, after making social media comments calling Zionists "odiously ogre-like" and Zionism a "satanic cult".⁵¹

Medical schools have also seen a rise in antisemitic incidents, many involving social media. One newspaper article focused on students studying medicine at two universities in Washington DC and highlighted how a number of students posted to social media after the October 7 terrorist attack justifying and supporting the killing of civilians.⁵² In a Canadian

https://practicaldermatology.com/articles/2023-nov/anti-semitism-and-dermatologists

⁴⁶ Park et al. (2023), *Digital news report: Australia 2023*, News and Media Research Centre. University of Canberra. pp 4, 87. https://apo.org.au/node/322606

⁴⁷ Based on 15% of the adult population according to data from: "Population clock and pyramid", Australian Bureau of Statistics.

https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/population-clock-pyramid Seen 8 March 2024. ⁴⁸ "Digital Services Act Transparency Report" LinkedIn, October 2023. p 1,

https://content.linkedin.com/content/dam/help/linkedin/en-us/October-2023-LinkedIn-DSA-Transparen cy-Report10.pdf ⁴⁹ Joel Schlessinger, "Anti-Semitism and Dermatologists: A Personal Narrative from the Editor",

Practical Dermatology, November 2023.

⁵⁰ Henrietta Cook, "Dozens of doctors reported to watchdog over Israel-Gaza social media posts", *The* Sydney Morning Herald, January 22, 2024.

https://www.smh.com.au/national/dozens-of-doctors-reported-to-watchdog-over-israel-gaza-social-me dia-posts-20240119-p5eyof.html

⁵¹ Freya Barnes and Richard Percival, "Apprentice star Dr Asif Munaf is suspended from the medical register after he was dropped from BBC spin-off show for making 'anti-Semitic remarks'". The Daily Mail, 24 February 2024.

https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-13117749/Apprentice-star-Dr-Asif-Munaf-suspended-medicalregister-dropped-BBC-spin-making-anti-Semitic-remarks.html

⁵² Cathryn J. Prince, "Med students' antisemitic comments after Oct. 7 roil two prominent DC universities", Times of Israel, 19 December 2023.

university a Jewish medical student who had known one of the victims killed at the SuperNova music festival was harassed on social media for not signing a petition for a ceasefire, an assistant professor in the medical faculty posted imagery referring the death of Christ (alluding to deicide and blaming the Jews for killing Jesus) in relation to Palestinian casualties, and another staff member accused Israel of stealing Palestinian organs (a variant of the blood libel which was started in Sweden in 2009⁵³).⁵⁴ An academic who resigned over the Canadian incidents said it wasn't just his university, but colleagues were reporting similar problems across Canada.⁵⁵ The Australian Medical Students Association issued an apology after one of its sub-groups released a one-sided statement that ignored the October 7 terrorist attack and Israeli suffering, while repeating factually inaccurate information.⁵⁶ Commenting on the incident, the President of the Australian Jewish Medical Federation (AJMF) said that, "Jewish medical students here in Australia currently don't feel safe".⁵⁷

LinkedIn is in one sense reflecting broader society, but as a social media platform it gives the capacity for harmful content to go viral and needs to take effective steps to mitigate against that. Traditionally LinkedIn was somewhat protected by its culture and professional focus which limited the risk, but changes to the platform and society demonstrate the need for an increased focus in Trust and Safety by the platform, and a particular focus to better address antisemitism.

Recommendation 7: LinkedIn needs to be more proactive in removing antisemitic content and other online hate in light of changes to the culture of the platform.

Data from LinkedIn accounted for 257 items (9%) of our sample. Each item was categorised into one or more of our 27 subcategories, resulting in 632 categorisations. That is an average of 2.5 categories per item.

Categories 3.6 "Promoting traditional antisemitism such as blood libel and claims Jews killed Jesus", 4.4 "Describing Israel or Israelis using antisemitic words or imagery (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel)" and 4.5 "Comparisons of Israeli policy to Nazism" are all particularly strong on LinkedIn, with 3.2 "Promoting the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy" and 4.2 "Denying Jewish people self-determination, e.g., by claiming Israel's existence is racist" also significantly represented. This strongly reflects the ideas in the Racist Anti-Zionism theme described later in this report. The virtual absence of other types of antisemitism is also notable. It appears LinkedIn has some real challenges to address and their existing policies and training may not be sufficient to tackle some kinds of antisemitism.

https://www.australianjewishnews.com/jewish-doctors-intervene/

https://www.timesofisrael.com/med-students-antisemitic-comments-after-oct-7-roil-two-prominent-dc-universities/

⁵³ Andrea Levin, "Anatomy of a Swedish Blood Libel: Allegations of Israeli organ theft are ugly, false, harmful—and they spread." *Wall Street Journal*, 14 October 2009.

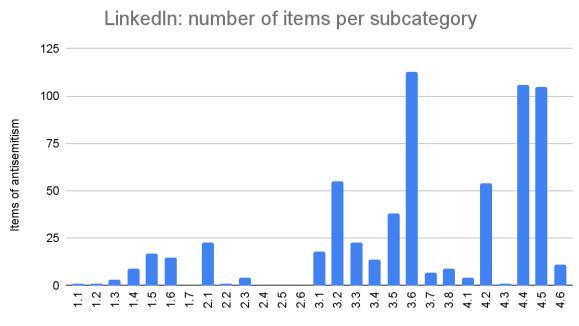
https://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052748704107204574470712953449876 ⁵⁴ Michael Starr, "Doctor who resigned from UBC over antisemitism: 'We need to depoliticize medicine'", *Jerusalem Post*, 8 February 2024.

https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/article-785988

⁵⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁶ Bruce Hill, "Jewish doctors intervene", *The Australian Jewish News*, 26 OCtober 2023.

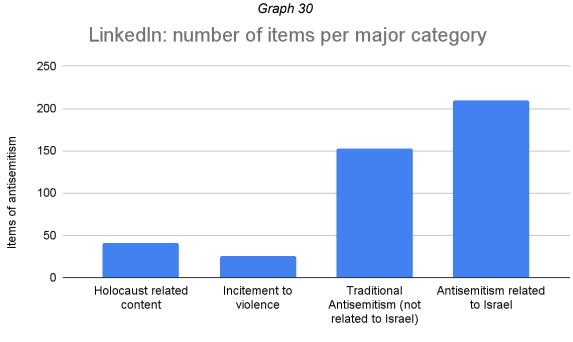
⁵⁷ Ibid.



Graph 29

Category

At a higher level, we can aggregate data according to the four major categories of Holocaust related content, incitement to violence, traditional antisemitism (not related to Israel), and new antisemitism related to Israel. In doing this each item is counted once for the major category if it has been classified one or more times under that major category's subcategories. It may still be counted in multiple major categories. The data at this level is interesting as it highlights that Israel related antisemitism is dominating, which is not the case on other platforms, although traditional antisemitism remains high.



Major category

As the LinkedIn was not monitored before October 7 we cannot show a comparison.

Across the examples from LinkedIn shown here, we show items classified three times in subcategories under traditional antisemitism, four times in subcategories under antisemitism related to Israel, twice in subcategories under Holocaust related content, and once as incitement to violence. The specific subcategory classifications are also shown below.

LinkedIn example 1 (#1595)

Classified in subcategory: 1.5

This example from LinkedIn glorifies the Holocaust. The LinkedIn user says that Hitler "was right" and wishes that he "would return one day".

1mo • 🔇			+ Follow
., .,	ht. I wish they knew wha one day. But time never i hat you knew.		
🖒 Like	Comment	ि Repost	Send

LinkedIn example 2 (#75)

Classified in subcategory: 2.3

This post from LinkedIn calls for the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology. The author writes: "please unleash another Hitler on Israel." While the author themself may not be a neo-Nazi, the reference to Hitler (and their wish for essentially another Holocaust) places this incitement to violence in the category of calling for the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology.



LinkedIn example 3 (#3268)

Classified in subcategory: 3.6

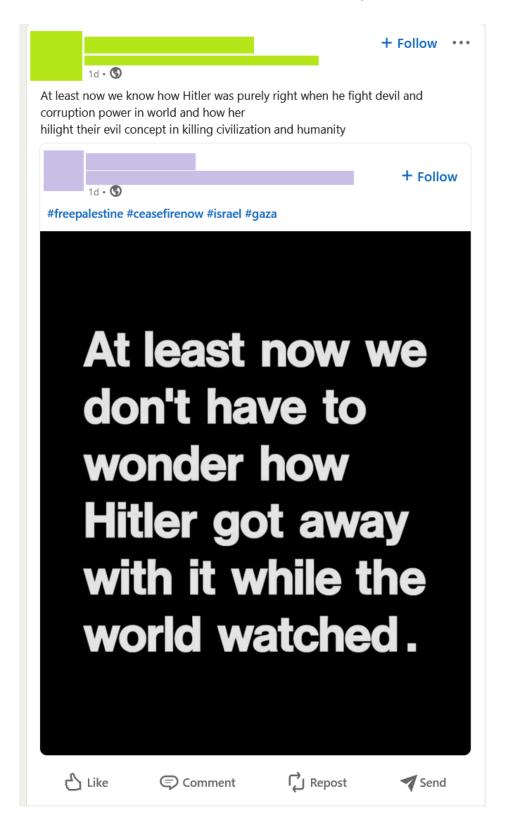
The following example shows an instance of traditional antisemitism being promoted on LinkedIn. The social media user claims that the Star of David is not a Jewish symbol, but rather a satanic one. The author accuses Jews of representing "the synagogue of Satan".



LinkedIn example 4 (#1600)

Classified in subcategories: 1.5, 4.4 and 3.6

Here we see another instance of Holocaust glorification and Hitler being praised on LinkedIn. This LinkedIn user also promotes traditional antisemitism and applies it to Israel when he refers to Jews and Israel as evil with the aim of "killing civilisation and humanity".



LinkedIn example 5 (#3677)

Classified in subcategory: 4.5

In this LinkedIn post, Israel is compared to the Nazis. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is shown with his hand up (which in this image is portrayed as being similar to a Nazi salute) along with the words "we are God's chosen people". This is contrasted with an image of Hitler and the quote "we are the master race".



BTW - Hitler send research team to search their origins in Himalayas. https:// Inkd.in/gs_RT-BE Netanyahu's references to violent biblical passages raise alarm among critics https://Inkd.in/gEnNCEyP



CCC 🗘 12

1 comment • 1 repost

LinkedIn example 6 (#2172)

Classified in subcategories: 4.4, 3.2 and 4.5

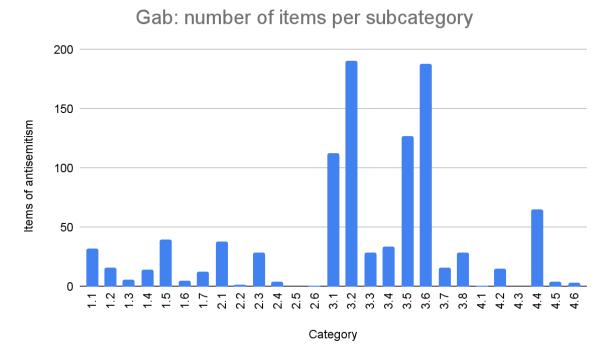
This post from LinkedIn fits into multiple subcategories of antisemitism. It promotes the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy and traditional antisemitism and applies it to Israel, as well as compares Israel to the Nazis. The trope of blood libel is used by this LinkedIn user with their allegations of Israel as organ harvesters and traffickers. At the end of the post, the author asks "who are the NWO [New World Order] globalists?" and claims that "Zionists" and "Khazarian satanists" are part of this conspiracy. "Zionists" are also seen as equal to Nazis ("Nazis = Zionists").

+ Follow ····
1d • S
BELOW WE TRANSCRIBE NUMEROUS LINKS, WITH ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED FOR THE REAL AWAKENING
ISRAEL: Organ Trafficking Capital of the World https://archive.is/vQPFo
NYT Finds 'Disproportionate Role' of Israelis in World Organ Trafficking https://archive.is/UMCfs
Israel Became Hub in International Organ Trade Over Past Decade https://archive.is/ysfBA
Israel Is the Organ Harvesting and Human Trafficking Capital of the World https://archive.is/wIWOK
Israel: Ringleader of Ghoulish Human Organ Trafficking Syndicate https://archive.is/60s6Z
Israeli organ-smuggling 'mastermind' arrested in Cyprus https://archive.ph/DPEaS
Israeli arrested in Rome for organ trafficking https://archive.is/SSPI0
Jewish American Convicted of Organ Trafficking https://archive.is/ewJhS
How US Rabbis & Israel Traffic In Human Organs & Money Laundering https://archive.is/79szd
Israel Special Investigations Unit busts organ trafficking ring https://archive.is/WstUM
Doctor admits Israeli pathologists harvested organs without consent https://archive.is/ISWdf
WHO ARE THE NWO GLOBALISTS? >> ILLUMINATI - BILDERBERG FREEMASONS - COMMUNISTS / SOCIALISTS = NAZIS = ZIONISTS = KHAZARIAN SATANISTS = ALL PEDOPHILES
IMPORTANT NOTE: Disregard DM'S by people pretending to be @EXPOSEthePEDOSendOfTheCABAL 1

Gab

Gab is a microblogging social media platform with traditional social networking features. It is owned by Andrew Torba. There are approximately 74,000 Australian Gab users,⁵⁸ which is about 0.3% of the Australian population. Gab claims to have a total of five million users.⁵⁹ Gab has very similar features to X (Twitter), with users being able to publish posts including text, images and video. Users can also join groups.

Data from Gab accounted for 409 items (14%) of our sample. Each item was categorised into one or more of our 27 subcategories, resulting in 1015 categorisations. That is an average of 2.5 categories per item. Most of the content was spread across traditional antisemitism categories. Antisemitism related to Israel was largely limited to category 4.4, the application of traditional antisemitism to Israel.



Graph 31

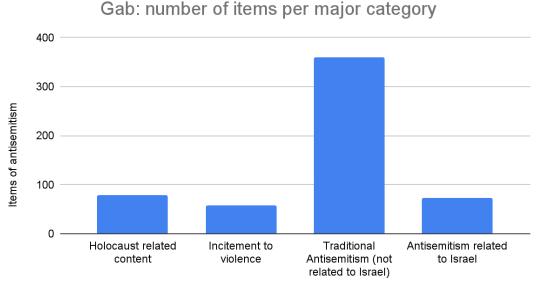
At a higher level, we can aggregate data according to the four major categories of Holocaust related content, incitement to violence, traditional antisemitism (not related to Israel), and new antisemitism related to Israel. In doing this each item is counted once for the major category if it has been classified one or more times under that major category's subcategories. It may still be counted in multiple major categories.

https://periscopekasaustralia.com.au/papers/volume-10-2-2023/demarcating-australias-far-right-politic al-fringe-but-social-mainstream/

⁵⁸ Dr Mario Peucker, Australia 2023, Periscope Australia, Demarcating Australia's far right: Political fringe but social mainstream?

⁵⁹ "This social media site is ready to fund a Christian nationalist America", The Forward, 14 October 2022 <u>https://forward.com/culture/521336/gab-gabpay-paypal-andrew-torba-christian-nationalist/</u>

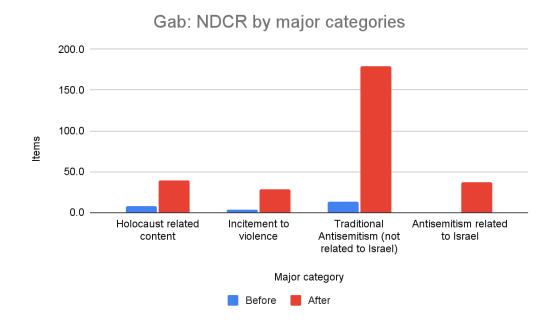
On Gab the division into major categories also emphasises the dominance of traditional antisemitism with very similar levels across the other categories. This does raise a particular concern about incitement to violence being so high.



Graph 32

The change to the Nominal Daily Collection Rate before and after October 7 shows antisemitism related to Israel increased 97 fold ($0.4 \rightarrow 37.0$), traditional antisemitism increased 14 fold ($13.0 \rightarrow 179.5$), incitement to violence increased 8 fold ($2.4 \rightarrow 28.5$), and Holocaust related antisemitism increased 5 fold ($8.0 \rightarrow 39.0$).





Major category

Across the examples from Gab shown here, we show items classified three times in subcategories under traditional antisemitism, once under antisemitism related to Israel, once under Holocaust related content, and once as incitement to violence. The specific subcategory classifications are also shown below.

Gab example 1 (#1302)

Classified in subcategories: 2.3, 1.5, and 3.2

This post was made by a user whose display name is "Burn in hell you fucking Jews". Here, they glorify the Holocaust by praising the Nazis and Hitler for being the only "people who successfully thwarted the world goals of Judaism", promotes the idea that there is a world Jewish conspiracy, and incites violence in the name of an extreme ideology ("keep calm and kill them all [Jews]".

An enlarged version of the text in the centre of the image is provided on the next page.



 Burn in hell you fucking jews

 15h · ♂ · National Socialists

"The Jews have sought domination over the world for thousands of years.

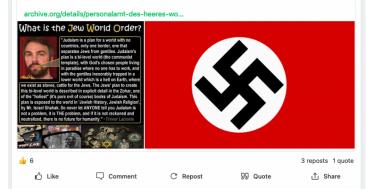
Their political goal is an international world state in which they want to unite and dominate all peoples without regard to their ethnic characteristics and racial origins.

It is not well known that Judaism, as far back as we can trace it, has always had plans for world domination and is pursuing such goals today more than ever. The methods in ancient times were the same as today: political and ideological disintegration of the host peoples and thus destruction of their species-appropriate living systems. In this way the Jews tried to make the people compliant. So far they have always succeeded in infiltrating the leading peoples of the world, except Japan, in such a way that they were able to imperceptibly make their will serve their goal of world domination. It is true that the Jew was perceived as a parasite and was even persecuted at times because of his economic intrusiveness; However, the political and ideological danger of the Jew as a bearer of the individualistic-materialistic world of ideas, which must always be the death of any national order of life, was not recognized. This made it easy for the Jews, especially in the last two centuries, to take possession of more and more of the peoples of the West.

Germany before it came to power was a prime example of how a nation of 60 million was politically and ideologically overwhelmed and ultimately dominated by a handful of Jews.

The Geneva League of Nations represented nothing more than the result of Jewish digging and the first modern attempt to establish a Jewish-led world state. If Adolf Hitler had not come, Judaism would have succeeded in realizing its idea of a world republic.

The only large Nordic-Germanic people who successfully thwarted the world goals of Judaism for the first time in the history of the West are we, the National Socialist German people under Adolf Hitler! The Führer exposed the Jew as the archenemy of every nation. Today we are the first Germanic people to free themselves from Judaism, but also the last Germanic bastion against world Jewry. That's why Judaism hates us profoundly! And that is why no means will be left untried to completely destroy us!"



Burn in hell you fucking jews

15h · 🕉 · National Socialists

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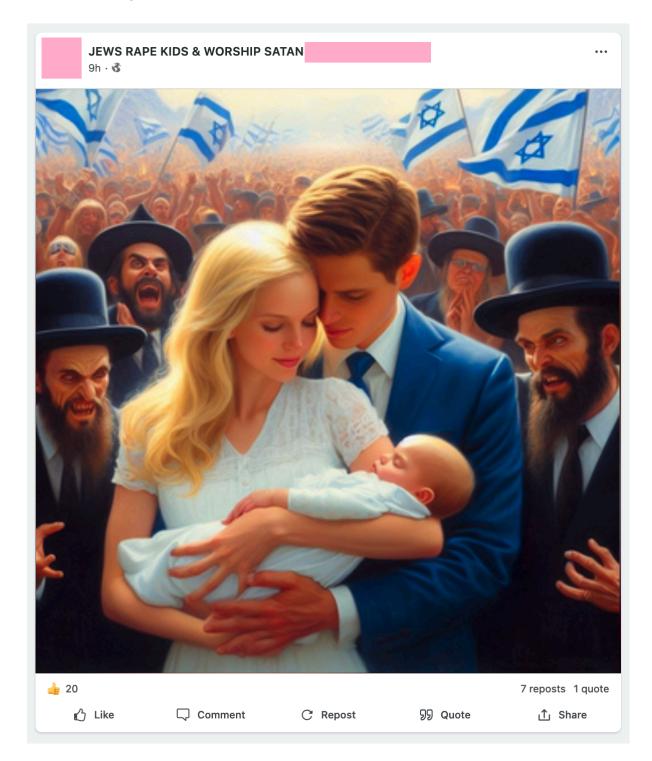
The only large Nordic-Germanic people who successfully thwarted the world goals of Judaism for the first time in the history of the West are we, the National Socialist German people under Adolf Hitler! The Führer exposed the Jew as the archenemy of every nation. Today we are the first Germanic people to free themselves from Judaism, but also the last Germanic bastion against world Jewry. That's why Judaism hates us profoundly! And that is why no means will be left untried to completely destroy us!"

...

Gab example 2 (#1213)

Classified in subcategories: 4.4 and 3.6

Another Gab user with an overtly antisemitic display name ("Jews rape kids & worship satan") shared a post which promotes traditional antisemitism, and applies traditional antisemitism to Israel. In this AI generated image, a white "Aryan" looking couple holding a baby are surrounded by Orthodox Jews, who are depicted as angry and villainous, and a sea of Israeli flags.



Gab example 3 (#186)

Classified in subcategory: 3.5

This is an Australian example from Gab which promotes the idea of Jews controlling government and other societal institutions. The comment reads "The Jews got our guns in 1996" (referring to the gun law reforms after the Port Arthur Massacre)⁶⁰ and is posted with a photograph of John Howard, who was the Prime Minister at the time, with a group of Orthodox Jews.

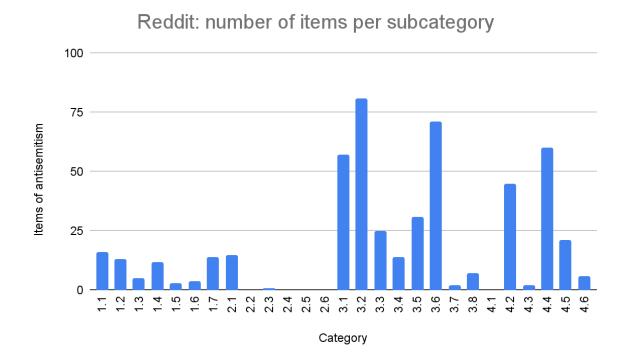


⁶⁰ S Chapman et al. (2006), "Australia's 1996 gun law reforms: faster falls in firearm deaths, firearm suicides, and a decade without mass shootings", *Injury Prevention* 12(6), <u>https://injuryprevention.bmj.com/content/12/6/365</u>.

Reddit

Reddit is a discussion website that allows users to submit content to niche communities. In Australia 11% of the adult population use Reddit,⁶¹ which is around 1.2 million people.⁶² There are 12.8 million users of Reddit inside the European Union.⁶³ Reddit allows users to post content, including text, images, videos and links to communities, called subreddits. Posts can be upvoted or downvoted by other users, and can be commented on. Communities have moderators that can allow or disallow posts and comments based on the subreddits rules. There are site-wide content rules as a catch-all.

Data from Reddit accounted for 236 items (8%) of our sample. Each item was categorised into one or more of our 27 subcategories, resulting in 505 categorisations. That is an average of 2.1 categories per item. Reddit included a spread of traditional antisemitism including 3.2 "Promoting the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy", 3.6 "Promoting traditional antisemitism such as blood libel and claims Jews killed Jesus" and 3.1 "Dehumanising Jews". Also prominent is 4.4 "Describing Israel or Israelis using antisemitic words or imagery (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel)" and 4.2 "Denying Jewish people self-determination, e.g., by claiming Israel's existence is racist".



Graph 34

https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/population-clock-pyramid Seen 8 March 2024. ⁶³ "Digital Services Act (DSA): Information for EU users" Reddit, Seen 9 March 2024

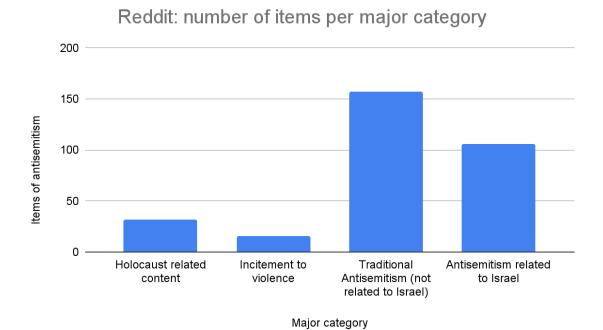
⁶¹ Park et al. (2023). *Digital news report: Australia 2023*, News and Media Research Centre, University of Canberra. pp 4, 87. <u>https://apo.org.au/node/322606</u>

⁶² Based on 11% of the adult population according to data from: "Population clock and pyramid", *Australian Bureau of Statistics*.

https://support.reddithelp.com/hc/en-us/articles/23595536875796-Digital-Services-Act-DSA-I nformation-for-EU-users

At a higher level, we can aggregate data according to the four major categories of Holocaust related content, incitement to violence, traditional antisemitism (not related to Israel), and new antisemitism related to Israel. In doing this each item is counted once for the major category if it has been classified one or more times under that major category's subcategories. It may still be counted in multiple major categories.

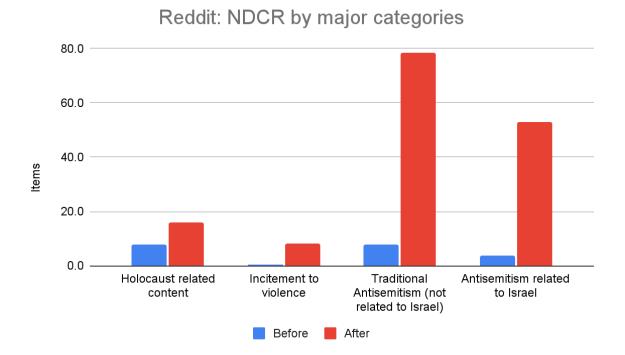
On Reddit Traditional antisemitism is about third more common and antisemitism related to Israel. Both far exceed the other two major categories.





The change to the Nominal Daily Collection Rate before and after October 7 shows incitement to violence increased 21 fold ($0.4 \rightarrow 8.0$), antisemitism related to Israel increased 14 fold ($3.8 \rightarrow 53.0$), traditional antisemitism increased 10 fold ($7.6 \rightarrow 78.5$), and Holocaust related antisemitism doubled ($7.6 \rightarrow 16.0$).

Graph 36



Across the examples from Reddit shown here, we show items classified twice times in subcategories under traditional antisemitism, three times in subcategories under antisemitism related to Israel, and once as incitement to violence. The specific subcategory classifications are also shown below.

Reddit example 1 (#2048)

Classified in subcategories: 4.4 and 3.2

In this Reddit comment, the promotion of a world Jewish conspiracy is applied to Israel. In this instance, it is implied that Israel bears responsibility for the September 11 attacks for the purpose of demonising Palestinians and Arabs.

$\hat{\mathbf{G}}$	Posted by 4 days ago	Ŷ	
148	Why does nobody know this about 9/11 and Israel		
\mathcal{C}	۲ ک		
	💭 22 Comments 🦯 Share 🔲 Save 🕲 Hide 🏳 Report		
	Sort By: Best 🔻		
	View all comments View discussions in 1 other community		
	 A days ago & that time Netanyahu went on live TV years before 9/11 and said Islamic extremists could bring down the World Trade Center <u>https://x.com/kahlissee/status/1745961355541172682?s=46</u> & that time when the Washington Times reported the day before 9/11 that an Army School of Advanced Military Studies (SAMS) report that looked into the idea of the American military being used to help establish a sovereign state of Palestine and keep peace between it and Israel, noting that Israel and Mossad was a "Wildcard. Ruthless and cunning. Has capability to target U.S. forces and make it look like a Palestinian/Arab act." <u>https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2001/sep/10/20010910-025319-6906r/</u> ⁽¹⁾ 45 ⁽¹⁾ ⁽²⁾ Reply Share … 		

Reddit example 2 (#2046)

Classified in subcategories: 4.4 and 3.6

This next example from Reddit is also an instance of traditional antisemitism being applied to Israel. IDF soldiers, here referred to as the "IOF",⁶⁴ were filmed dancing with the Torah. The social media user called this a "talmudic ritual", which is a dog whistle used to demonise Judaism and Jewish customs.



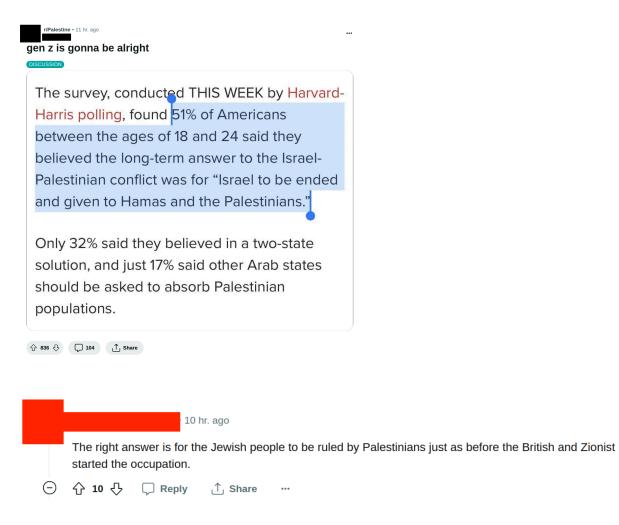
⁶⁴ The term "Israel Occupation Forces" is a derogatory way of referring to the Israel Defence Force. The term attempts to delegitimise Israel's state military and implies that the army exists only for the purpose of occupying Palestinian territories, and not to defend Israel.

Reddit example 3 (#1609)

Classified in subcategory: 4.2

On Reddit, a post about American young adult views on Israel-Palestine was shared. Polling had shown that 51% of 18-24 year olds in the United States believed that Israel "should be ended and given to Hamas and the Palestinians".

A comment on the post explicitly denies Jewish people their right to self-determination by claiming that "The right answer is for Jews to be ruled by Palestinians just as before".



Reddit example 4 (#1398)

Classified in subcategory: 2.1

In this example, we see incitement to violence in the name of an extreme ideology. This Reddit user calls for "Zionists" to be exterminated.

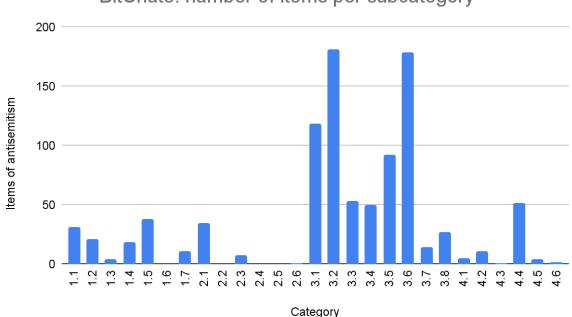


BitChute

Bitchute is a video hosting and viewing service similar to YouTube. BitChute is based in the UK.⁶⁵ On BitChute there are approximately 150,000 Australian users, which is about 0.6% of the Australian population. Bitchute allows users to upload and view videos, and comment on them. The CST, which monitors antisemitism in the UK, produced a detailed report on BitChute shortly before the October 7 attack which highlighted its deeply antisemitic nature.⁶⁶ The platform blocks content in the UK and Europe if reported, but does not delete it, and advertises proxies to work around the blocks it puts in place to meet legal requirements.⁶⁷

Data from BitChute accounted for 320 items (11%) of our sample. Each item was categorised into one or more of our 27 subcategories, resulting in 958 categorisations. That is an average of 3.0 categories per item.

A spread of traditional antisemitism is present with most being in subcategory 3.6 "Promoting traditional antisemitism such as blood libel and claims Jews killed Jesus" or 3.2 "Promoting the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy". A step down is 3.1 "Dehumanising Jews" and 3.5 "Promoting the idea of Jews controlling government or other societal institutions". This represents the expected far-right flavour of antisemitism. The high level of category 2.1 "Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion" and 1.5 "Glorifying the Holocaust or suggesting it did not go far enough" are also in keeping with right-wing extremism.

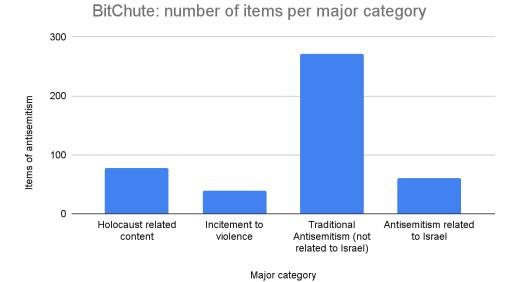


Graph 37 BitChute: number of items per subcategory

dia-platform 67 Ibid.

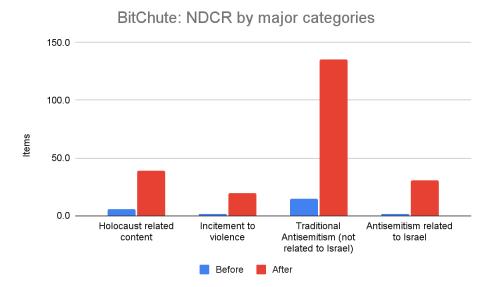
⁶⁵M Trujillo, M Gruppi, C Buntain & B D Horne (2020), "What is BitChute? Characterizing the 'Free Speech' Alternative to YouTube", Computers and Society. https://arxiv.org/abs/2004.01984 ⁶⁶ CST, "BITCHUTE – A CASE STUDY IN HOW NOT TO RUN A SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM", CST Blog, 12 September 2023. https://cst.org.uk/news/blog/2023/09/12/bitchute-a-case-study-in-how-not-to-run-a-social-me

At a higher level, we can aggregate data according to the four major categories of Holocaust related content, incitement to violence, traditional antisemitism (not related to Israel), and new antisemitism related to Israel. In doing this each item is counted once for the major category if it has been classified one or more times under that major category's subcategories. It may still be counted in multiple major categories. The traditional antisemitism category is the largest, and the platform has a significant volume of antisemitism. The other categories are at similar levels, which is particularly concerning in relation to content inciting violence.



Graph 38

The change to the Nominal Daily Collection Rate before and after October 7 shows antisemitism related to Israel increased 27 fold $(1.1 \rightarrow 30.5)$, incitement to violence increased 17 fold $(1.1 \rightarrow 19.5)$, traditional antisemitism increased over 9 fold $(14.5 \rightarrow 135.5)$, and Holocaust related antisemitism increased 7 fold $(5.7 \rightarrow 39.0)$.





Across the examples from BitChute shown here, we show items classified three times in subcategories under traditional antisemitism, once under antisemitism related to Israel, once under Holocaust related content, and twice as incitement to violence. The specific subcategory classifications are also shown below.

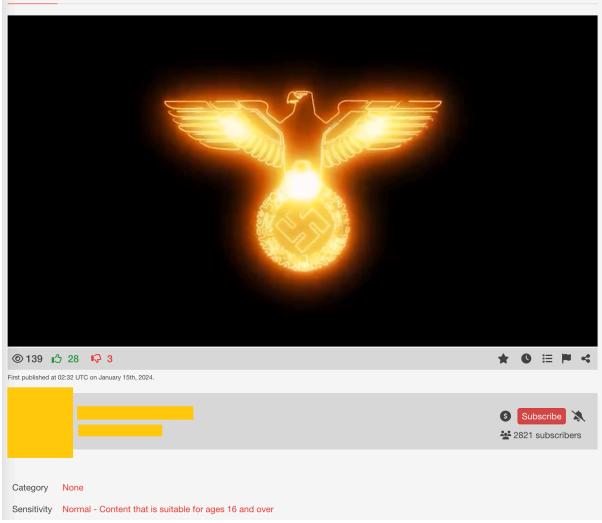
BitChute example 1 (#1446)

Classified in subcategories: 1.5 and 2.1

On BitChute, a video containing images and footage glorifying the Nazis was shared. The caption of the video "this is how you clean society of Jews" is an incitement to violence in the name of an extreme ideology. Due to this social media user's portrayal of the Holocaust as a good thing, this example also was categorised as glorifying the Holocaust.

THIS IS HOW YOU CLEAN SOCIETY OF JEWS

WATCH



BitChute example 2 (#3373)

Classified in subcategories: 3.1 and 3.2

The next example from BitChute dehumanises Jews and also promotes the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy. Here, Jews are referred to as "Jewrats" (evoking the Nazi idea of Jews as vermin) and blames Jews for the COVID-19 pandemic.

NEVER FORGET & NEVER FORGIVE WHAT THESE JEWRATS DID & ARE DOING !!!... 4

WATCH



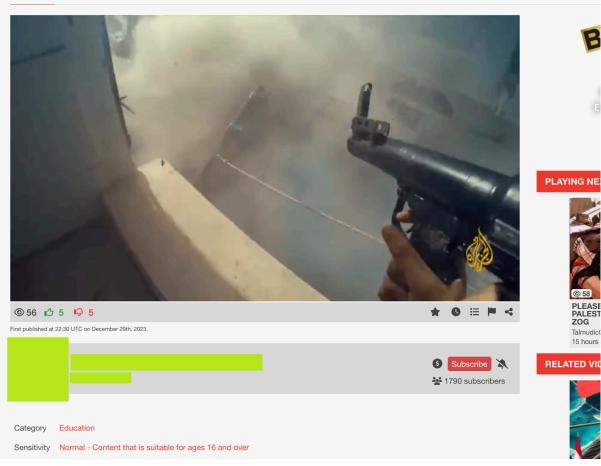
BitChute example 3 (#1373)

Classified in subcategory: 2.1, 4.4 and 3.6

The following BitChute video incites and justifies violence against Jews in the name of an extremist ideology or extreme view of religion. It also applies traditional antisemitism to Israel.

The footage shared contains scenes of fighting in Gaza in which an Israeli tank is blown up. The fighting scenes are glorified as evident in the video's edits, as well as the use of an inverted red triangle.

The caption of the video refers to Hamas's leader in Gaza, Yahya Sinwar, who was also one of the main planners of the October 7 attacks. It reads that Sinwar "says no to the synagogue of satan". Here, the traditional antisemitic trope of Jews as satanic is promoted and applied to Israel.



YAHYA AL-SINWAR SAYS NO TO THE SYNAGOGUE OF SATAN NOT TODAY YOU VIPERS ! WATCH

Antisemitism by category

In this section of the report we look at each category and subcategory of antisemitism, how prevalent they are on different platforms, and how their prevalence changed across each platform after the October 7 attack.

In addition to providing examples by platform, we also provide a couple of examples of each subcategory of antisemitism. The examples we show here were chosen to reflect archetypal or common themes / narratives from each subcategory. We share two examples for each subcategory, where data exists. Across each major category, we aim to share at least one example from each platform. This data is provided to help the reader better under the category and subcategories. All examples are from after October 7, and further examples of the subcategories can be seen from the sample of data before October 7 in the companion report *Online Antisemitism Before October 7 2023*.

Each example appears with its item number (*i.e.* #545). The item number correlates to / refers to the data ID number of that specific item within our sample. Including the item number in this report for the reader serves the purpose of facilitating follow up on a specific example. For example, if the reader would like to send us a query as to whether content has been removed by the platform, they can do so by contacting us and quoting the example's item number.

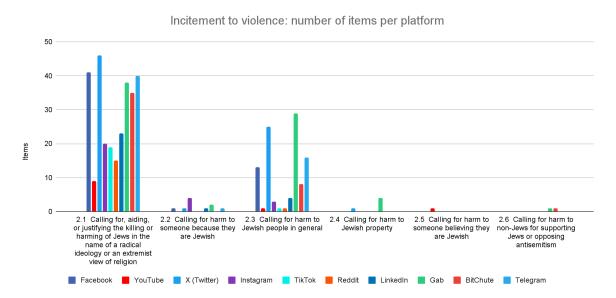
Incitement to violence

The category of incitement to violence includes content that calls for, endorses, or glorifies, the physical harm of Jews or Jewish property. This category can also encapsulate calls for harm against a non-Jewish person if they are mistaken as Jewish, or against non-Jewish people because of their relationship to Jewish people, either personally or due to a role they have e.g. a non-Jewish staff member at a Jewish school, or a non-Jewish security guard at a Jewish institution. In this category we also include incitement to violence against people in response to their statements or actions taken to combat antisemitism. This sort of incitement to violence is included because it seeks to create an environment in which antisemitism can grow unchecked and unchallenged and without consequences.

The subcategories of incitement to violence are:

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
- Calling for harm to someone because they are Jewish.
- Calling for harm to Jewish people in general.
- Calling for harm to Jewish property.
- Calling for harm to someone believing they are Jewish.
- Calling for harm to non-Jews for supporting Jews or opposing antisemitism.
- Other promoting extremism.

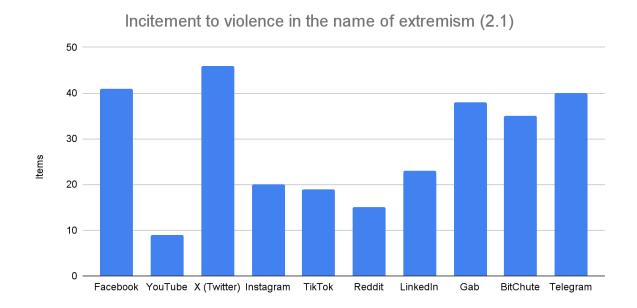
Data in the major category of incitement to violence mostly fell in category 2.1, "Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion", with Twitter, Facebook, Telegram, Gab and BitChute all being significant sources of this subcategory. Category 2.3 "Calling for harm to Jewish people in general" was also significant on Gab, X, Telegram and Facebook, though to a lesser degree. These comparisons are discussed in more detail under the subcategories.



Graph 40

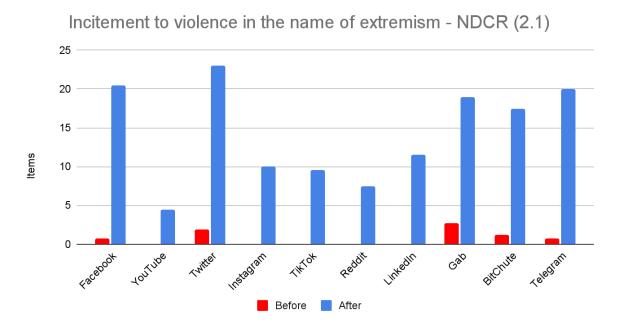
Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion

This subcategory encapsulates content that incites violence in the name of a radical ideology or extremist view of religion. For example, items from social media such as those that promote terrorism against Jews, advocate for genocide against Jews, promotions of violence against Jews coming from neo-Nazi or other extremist accounts, and calls for violence against while glorifying the Holocaust and/or the Nazis was included in this subcategory.









The inclusion of not only X, but also Facebook, along with the alternative platforms for this subcategory is deeply concerning. That concern is heightened when considering the very low level of such content on Facebook before October 7. The rate of growth of this content on Facebook is faster than a platform like Gab or BitChute. The category is also twice as high on Facebook as on Instagram, also owned by Meta. It appears the dangerous organisations policy is not being effectively enforced after the October 7 attack.

Example from Instagram (#545)



This example from Instagram shows someone holding ashes. The heading on the image reads: "This is the ideal Jewish body. You may not like it, but this is what peak performance looks like", and the caption alongside the picture features fire emojis.

The implication of this post is that burnt and cremated Jews, like in the Holocaust, is "ideal". This demonstrates the calling for killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology, namely Nazism. It is also an example of Holocaust glorification.

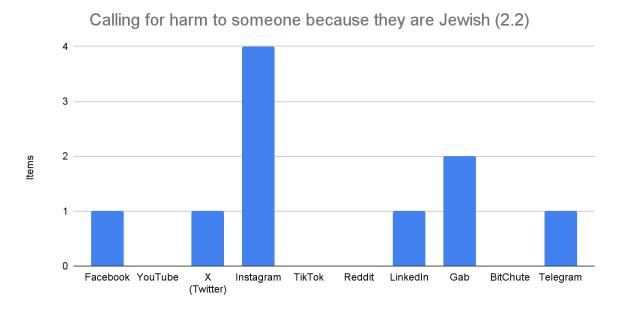
Example from X (#930)



On X, a social media user rejoices in the rise of antisemitism since October 7, specifically the calls for genocide of Jews, and expresses that Jews should be "expelled" so that "they go to the Arabs to cook them on the Arab fire".

Calling for harm to someone because they are Jewish

Social media posts that called for harm against a specific person or group of specific people because they are Jewish were categorised under this subcategory.



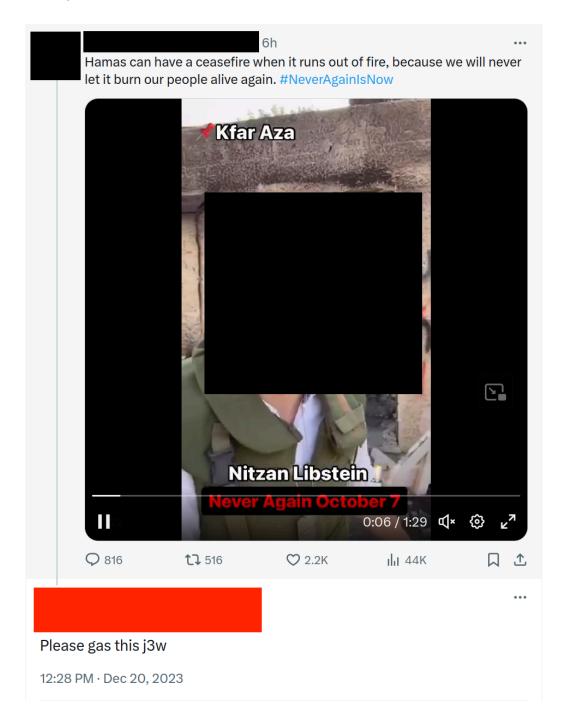
Graph 43

This category was very rare, both before and after October 7 so there is insufficient data to provide a nominal daily rate. The variation between platforms may not be significant on such a small sample, though the existence of more items on Instagram is interesting and worth checking for when additional data is collected.

Example from X (#1627)

Here we see a Jewish person on X / Twitter being targeted with antisemitic incitement to violence. This is another social media post in which the violence of the Holocaust is referred to while also calling for harm.

The author of this post writes the word "Jew" as "j3w" with the number three replacing the letter E. This is a mechanism through which social media users can attempt to hide hateful content from moderators who may only be searching for conventional terms using proper spelling.



Example from Gab (#603)

This AI generated image posted on Gab depicts Seth Rogan, a Jewish actor, dressed in striped pyjamas (referencing the uniform that prisoners of Nazi concentration camps were forced to wear) about to be put into a crematorium.

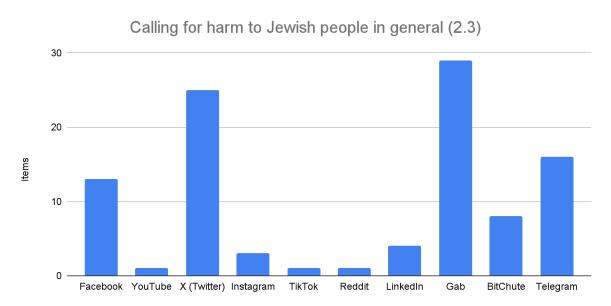




1 reply 4 reposts

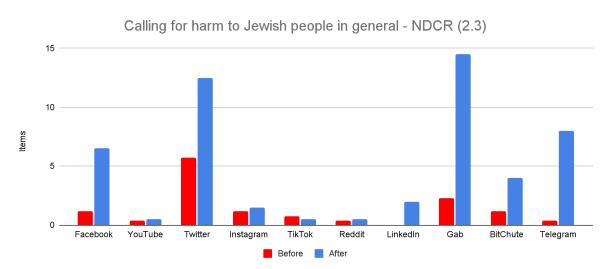
Calling for harm to Jewish people in general

Both this category and 2.1 involve calls to harm Jewish people. However, this category does not include indications of a radical ideology behind the call. The category is most common on Gab and X, but also has a notable presence on Telegram and Facebook.



The rate of growth on Gab, Telegram, and Facebook is particularly high. Other platforms have small samples.





Graph 44

Example from X (#7)

The following example from X also fits into the category of "Holding Jews responsible for acts committed by individuals". Here, because of what an Israeli said, this X user writes: "well I say kill all the #Zionist #jew #Bastards".

	guy all #chris w #Bastards	6h stians should be killed, w 😄	vell I say kill all the	
		-You're not in the United Potate security in James		
0:58		States, you're in Israel.		
Q	tl	\heartsuit	ı l ıl 12	Ţ

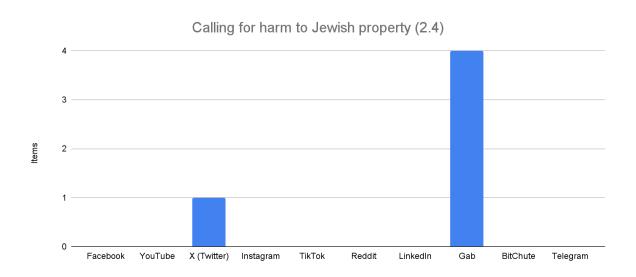
Example from Telegram (#138)

This Telegram user calls for harm to Jewish people and Israel in general in their response to a screenshot of a news article being shared. They state that Jews "reap what they sow" and that "karma is about to pay the Zionist a visit".



Calling for harm to Jewish property

Items which called for, or condones, harm to Jewish property (such as vandalism) was categorised under this subcategory.



Graph 46

This type of antisemitism was not seen in the sample of data collected before October 7, but was seen 5 times in the sample collected after October 7, with four of them coming from Gab.

Example from X (#1061)

This example from X was posted during the Jewish holiday Chanukah. The Al image depicts a Chanukiah (a menorah for Chanukah which has nine branches - although in this Al picture there are ten) being put out by Jesus with a fire extinguisher. This example also promotes traditional antisemitism which is demonstrated by the Chanukiah being inside the the Second Temple, in which there are Jews and gold coins (alluding to the Christian Bible verse in which Jesus "overturned the tables of the money changers"⁶⁸). The use of the red fire extinguisher is based on a real-world antisemitic incident in which a far-right member of the Polish parliament extinguished Chanukah candles.⁶⁹



12:23 PM · Dec 14, 2023 · 218.4K Views

⁶⁸ Jewniverse, "How the Church Turned Jews into Moneylenders", *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*, 12 November 2012. <u>https://www.jta.org/jewniverse/2012/how-the-church-turned-jews-into-moneylenders</u>; Matthew 21:12-13. <u>https://www.bible.com/bible/compare/MAT.21.12-13</u>

⁶⁹ Shaun Walker, "Far-right Polish MP uses fire extinguisher to put out Hanukah candles", *The Guardian*, 13 December 2023.

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/dec/12/far-right-polish-mp-uses-fire-extinguisher-to-put-out-hanukah-candles

Example from Gab (#2090)

This example from Gab comes from a social media user who posts about Hitler and the Nazis in glorifying ways. Here they celebrate a synagogue, which they refer to as a "Jew-infested church", being vandalised with a swastika.

This social media user is also opposed to Christianity, which they perceive as being influenced by Judaism ("Judeo-Christianity").



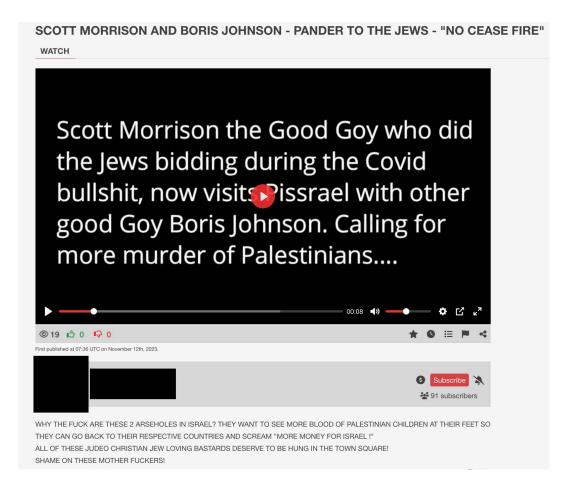
Calling for harm to non-Jews for supporting Jews or opposing antisemitism

As described when introducing the major category of incitement to violence, items were included in this subcategory when allies of Jews, or when people who called out antisemitism, were targeted. Only three examples of this form of antisemitism were seen after October 7. None were seen in the period before October 7.

Example from BitChute (#125)

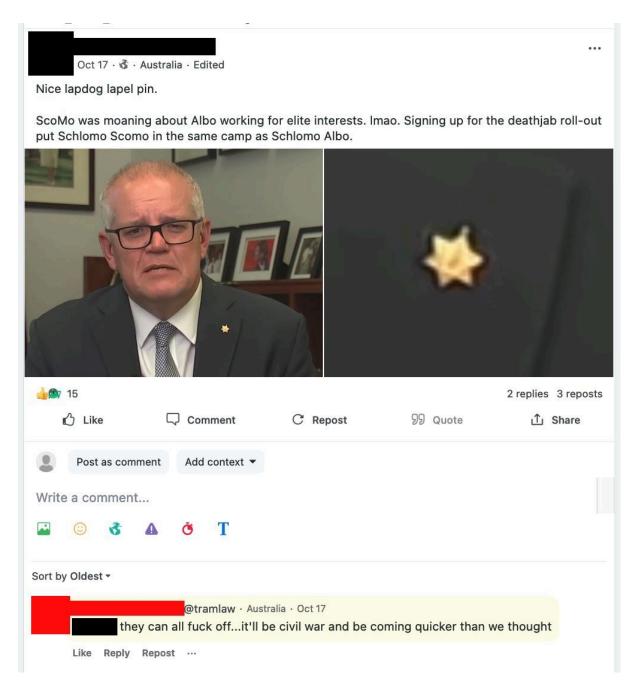
Following the October 7 attack on Israel, former Prime Ministers Scott Morrison of Australia and Borris Johnson of the United Kingdom visited kibbutzim at which terror attacks were carried out. This video on BitChute shows footage from their visit and commentates on it.

The BitChute user, in the video's description, calls for both Morrison and Johnson "to be hung in the town square" for their support of Israel.



Example from Gab (#119)

In this example from Gab, former Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison is once again targeted, this time for wearing a Star of David pin. An Australian Gab user responds: "they can all fuck off... it'll be a civil war and be coming quicker than we thought".



Antisemitism related to Israel

The IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism acknowledges antisemitism related to Israel stating that, "Manifestations [of antisemitism] might include the targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity." It continues, "However, criticism of Israel similar to that levelled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic." This formulation protects legitimate political criticism.

Antisemitism related to Israel, also known as "New Antisemitism", emerged as a significant form of contemporary antisemitism in the early 2000s. The late Chief Rabbi of the Commonwealth, Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, noted:⁷⁰

new antisemitism is different from the old. In the past Jews were hated for their religion, then for their race. Today they are hated for their nation state. But it was not long before I saw how seamlessly the old and new hatreds meshed.

This recycling of old antisemitic tropes, and their application to Israel, explains much (in this report we see most antisemitism related to Israel using traditional antisemitic tropes and themes and applying it to Israel), but not all of the new antisemitism. Other forms of antisemitism related to Israel we see also can be described by Natan Sharansky in what he described as the "3Ds", Demonisation, Double Standards, and Delegitimisation.⁷¹ For example, Demonisation refers to instances when Israel is portrayed as inherently evil, or their actions are "blown out of all sensible proportion" (such as when Israel is compared to the Nazis).⁷² The idea of Double Standards describes when Israel, and only Israel, is treated differently to other nations (such as when Israel is singled out at the United Nations). Finally, Delegitimisation encapsulates when Israel's legitimacy as a nation state is denied and when the existence of the Jewish state is called into question.⁷³

As Prof. Herbert C. Kelman, Harvard University's Professor Emeritus of Social Ethics, explained:⁷⁴

We must be very alert to the danger that legitimate criticism of Israeli policies and practices may provide the excuse and occasion for guilty-free expressions of anti-Semitism - in other words they may relegitimize anti-Semitism... under the guise of political criticism.

He warned about latent antisemitism that "continues to run deep in Christian societies, where the identification of Jews as Christ-killers has not lost its hold on the popular imagination", and where guilt over Europe's long history of antisemitism might be eased "If

⁷⁰ Jonathan Sacks, "The Hate that Starts with Jews Never Ends There", *The Times*, 16th August 2014 <u>https://www.rabbisacks.org/archive/hate-starts-jews-never-ends-there/</u>

 ⁷¹ Natan Sharansky, "3D Test of Anti-Semitism: Demonization, Double Standards, Delegitimization", Jewish Political Studies Review 16:3-4 (Fall 2004) <u>https://www.jcpa.org/phas/phas-sharansky-f04.htm</u>
 ⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ Ibid.

⁷⁴ Herbert C. Kelman, "Anti-Semitism and Zionism in the Debate on the Palestinian Issue: PErsonal Reflections", in M. Polner & S. Merken (Eds.), *Peace, Justice, and Jews: Reclaiming our Tradition.* (Bunim & Bannigan, 2007) p. 305.

Israel, the Jewish state... can be equated with the actions of the Nazis... [so] the sense of guilt for what was done to European Jewry can somehow be eased."⁷⁵

Kelman also warned of "the resort to anti-Semitic formulations by Arabs and Muslims" motivated by anger at the treatment of Palestinians, but using "language and imagery themselves often drawn on the myths and stereotypes about Jews contained in tradition Islamic sources and appropriate the myths and stereotypes of European Christian sources in the service of the service of the political struggle against Israeli policies and practices".⁷⁶

The IHRA definition helps draw a distinction between legitimate and illegitimate discourse by providing examples of common contemporary themes seen in antisemitic discourse about Israel. The list of examples is not exhaustive, recognising that over time antisemitism adapts and morphs. We use the following subcategories of antisemitism related to Israel, and drawn from these examples:

- Accusing Israel inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust
 - IHRA's example is "Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust."
- Denying Jewish people self-determination, e.g., by claiming Israel's existence is racist
 - IHRA's example is "Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor."
- Requiring a behaviour from Israel not expected of other countries
 - IHRA's example is "Applying double standards by requiring of it a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation."
- Describing Israel or Israelis using antisemitic words or imagery (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel)
 - IHRA's example is "Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis."
- Comparisons of Israeli policy to Nazism
 - IHRA's example is "Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis."
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for Israel's actions
 - IHRA's example is "Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel."

The example that causes the most discussion, and differs from some other definitions of antisemitism that have been put forward, is the one about "Denying the Jewish people their

⁷⁵ Ibid.

⁷⁶ Ibid 309.

right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavour." This example labels as antisemitic the infamous "Zionism is Racism" resolution of the United Nations (General Assembly Resolution 3379 of 1975) which is one of only two UN General Assembly resolutions to have even been repealed.⁷⁷ Australia has always opposed this resolution, voting against it in 1975, and for its repeal in 1991. This was not just a position of the government of the day, but of the parliament as whole. In 1986, for example, Prime Minister Bob Hawke moved a motion in the Australian parliament to lend Australia's support to efforts to overturn the UN resolution. In the motion he noted that the UN Resolution "remains unacceptable as a misrepresentation of Zionism" and "has served to escalate religious animosity and incite anti-semitism".⁷⁸

The "Zionism is Racism" campaign was itself a result of the Cold War. After the UN resolution was repealed an effort to reinstate it occurred in the NGO Forum of the UN's World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa, in 2001. As a motion passed in the UN Congress later stated:⁷⁹

the 2001 World Conference Against Racism and its achievements were overshadowed and diminished as some participants in the conference, in particular during the Non-Governmental Organization Forum, called the 'NGO Forum Against Racism' (NGO Forum), misused human rights language to promote hate, anti-Semitism, incitement, and divert the focus of the conference from problems within their own countries to a focus on Israel.

The nature of this antisemitism was also discussed in 2004 by Prof. Robert Wistrich (z"I) who was a leading scholar of antisemitism. He described anti-Zionism and antisemitism as "two distinct ideologies that over time (especially since 1948) have tended to converge".⁸⁰ He noted various forms of anti-Zionism that were not antisemitic were possible, but warned about "radical forms of anti-Zionism" that "display unmistakable analogies to European anti-Semitism immediately preceding the Holocaust".⁸¹ He described it as "exterminationist" and warned that it has now been restructured in the Middle East and exported back into the west where it provided common ground for antisemites across different ideologies. There is also more recent scholarship on the antisemitic nature of this anti-Zionist narrative and its

.pdf ⁷⁹ United States Congress. H.Res.1361–110th Congress. (2008)

⁷⁷ Y Manor (2010), "The 1975 'Zionism is Racism' Resolution: The Rise, Fall, and Resurgence of a Libel", *Jerusalem Centre for Public Affairs* 97.

https://jcpa.org/article/the-1975-zionism-is-racism-resolution-the-rise-fall-and-resurgence-of-a-libel/ ⁷⁸ Commonwealth of Australia. House of Representatives. (1986). Parliamentary Debates. (Official Hansard), p 2636.

https://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/download/chamber/hansardr/1986-10-23/toc_pdf/H%201986-10-23 .pdf

https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/house-resolution/1361/text

⁸⁰ Robert Wistrich, "Anti-Zionism and Anti-Semitism", *Jewish Political Studies Review* 16:3-4 (Fall 2004). <u>https://www.jstor.org/stable/25834602</u>

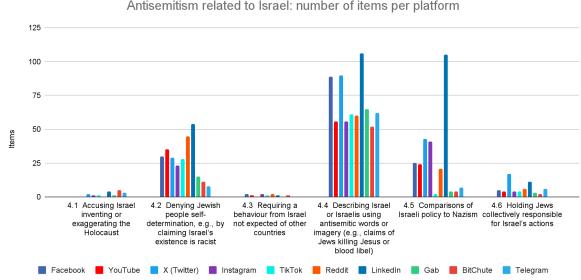
⁸¹ Ibid.

distortion of the term "Zionism",82 as well as work looking at antisemitism in the online discourse of the BDS movement.83

A key takeaway is that this is a large topic with detailed scholarship which explains why seeking to denying self-determination to the Jewish is antisemitic, why seeking the destruction of the world's only Jewish state is antisemitic, and how in a practical sense the promotion of these ideas is very strongly linked to other forms of antisemitic incidents. We hope a discussion on concrete examples can allow even those who disagree on definitions to have a meaningful discussion over the nature of antisemitic content.

In our post-October 7 data, antisemitism related to Israel was dominated by subcategory 4.4 across most platforms but particularly LinkedIn, X, and Facebook. This category uses traditional antisemitism, but in reference to Israel. Often the content was entirely traditional antisemitism but was posted with hashtags related to Israel. This suggests that even in this category, this type of antisemitism should be something people can readily identify and agree on.

The high level of subcategory 4.5 (comparing Israeli policy to that of the Nazis) on LinkedIn is particularly noteworthy. It is on a par with category 4.4 for this platform. While at half the level, 4.2 is still significant and again LinkedIn being the most prominent is notable. In short Linked in seems to have a problem with antisemitism related to Israel in general.



Graph 47

Antisemitism related to Israel: number of items per platform

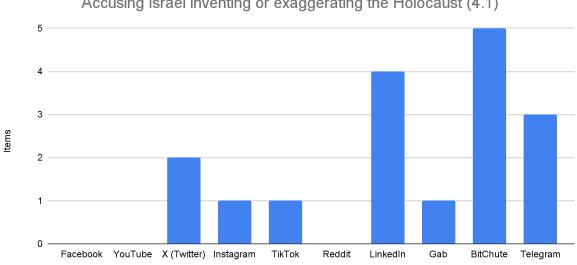
⁸² Andre Oboler, " Zionism through the Internet's Looking Glass", From Antisemitism to Anti-Zionism (Academic Studies Press, 2017) https://doi.org/10.1515/9781618115669-013; David Hirsh, "How the Word "Zionist" Functions in Antisemitic Vocabulary", 4(2) Journal of Contemporary Antisemitism, 2022. https://doi.org/10.26613/jca.4.2.83

⁸³ Andre Oboler, "Online BDS and Antisemitic Hate" in Ronnie Fraser and Lola Fraser, Challenging the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) Movement: 20 Years of Responding to Anti-Israel Campaigns (Routledge, 2023)

https://www.routledge.com/Challenging-the-Boycott-Divestment-and-Sanctions-BDS-Movement-20-Ye ars/Fraser-Fraser/p/book/9781032218809#

Accusing Israel of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust

The subcategory of accusing Israel of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust applies to instances in which such accusations are made, as well as when it is alleged that Israel is "using" the history of the Holocaust for some kind of ulterior motive or nefarious "gain". The implication of this sort of allegation is that the Holocaust is minimised, and perpetuates the notion that Israel (and / or Jews) "still talk too much about the Holocaust" (which insinuates an exaggeration). There is a similar subcategory which falls under Holocaust related antisemitism, but there it is concerned with accusations that Jews invent or exaggerate the Holocaust.



Accusing Israel inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust (4.1)

Graph 48

This category remains very infrequent. Before October our sample had only two examples, one on Instagram and one on Reddit.

Example from X (#233)

Accusing Israel or Jews of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust can take the form of accusing Israel or Jews of talking "too much about what happened to them in the Holocaust". The implication that "Jews still talk too much about what happened to them in the Holocaust" can minimise the Holocaust and lead to accusations that the history of the Holocaust serves Jews and Israel as a tool through which Jews and Israel "gain" from it, such as silencing criticism of Israel. This following example takes this form.



thenewdaily.com.au/news/2023/12/2... The Armenians are not still bleating about the attempted genocide carried out by Turkey last century, israel never shuts up.



From thenewdaily.com.au



Antoinette Lattouf is an Australian journalist who had her employment at the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) terminated due to social media posts she had made which allegedly contravened the ABC's social media policy.⁸⁴ This Australian X user shared an article about Lattouf's case against the ABC. The article does not mention the Holocaust or anything related to Israel vis à vis the Holocaust.⁸⁵

The X user here implies that Jews/Israel still talk too much about the Holocaust. While the X user does not explicitly accuse Israel of exaggerating the Holocaust, the notion that people should "shut up" about it minimises the events of the Holocaust, thereby suggesting that Holocaust commemoration, education, or remembrance is done for ulterior motives.

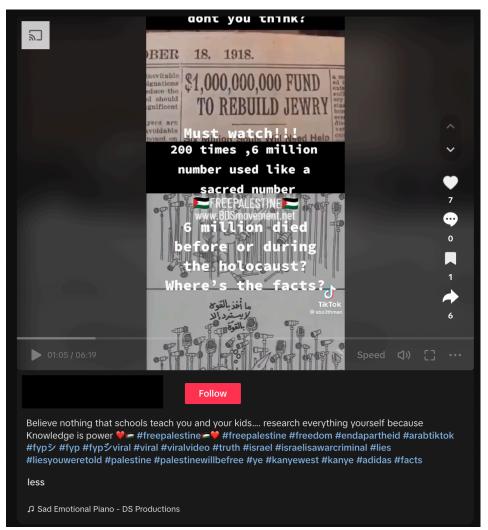
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https://www.thenewdaily.com.au/news/2023/12/21/antoinette-lattouf-sacked
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⁸⁴ Isobel Roe, "ABC denies complaints from public behind Antoinette Lattouf being taken off air, Fair Work Commission told", *ABC News*, 11 March 2024,

https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-03-11/antoinette-lattouf-abc-sydney-fair-work-commission-/103573

⁸⁵ The New Daily, "ABC radio presenter hits back at Auntie over 'unlawful termination'", *The New Daily*, 21 December 2023,

Example from TikTok (#1553)



The next example, while accusing Israel of inventing/exaggerating the Holocaust, also practises Holocaust denial. The video shared in this TikTok post is one that has been published on multiple social media platforms. In our August 2023 Online Antisemitism in Australia report, we shared an example of this video as Holocaust denial found on BitChute.⁸⁶ The original video's creator shows articles from newspapers between 1915-1938 which refer to "six million Jews". The purpose of this is to allude to the number of six million either being planned or falsified, and to bring doubt to the events of the Holocaust.

In this example from TikTok, the video is shared alongside a BDS (Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions) cartoon and text overlay reading "free Palestine", "6 million used like a sacred number", and "where's the facts?" The caption also frames the content to lead the viewer to the conclusion of Holocaust denial: "Believe nothing that schools teach you and your kids", and "#liesyouweretold".

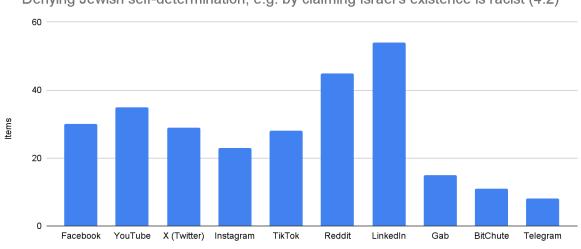
By connecting this Holocaust denial with the Israel-Palestine issue, the TikTok user implicitly accuses Israel of using Holocaust history to justify alleged war crimes ("#israelisawarcriminal").

⁸⁶ Online Antisemitism in Australia 2023, p. 24.

Denying Jewish people self-determination, e.g., by claiming Israel's existence is racist

As mentioned above, this subcategory generates the most discussion and disagreement between the proponents and opponents of the IHRA definition.

Self-determination is a human right accorded to all people in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.⁸⁷ The denial of self-determination of Jews withholds a right from them and applies a different standard to them. As highlighted earlier, there is much detailed scholarship on the topic, but this is one of the simplest explanations as to why denying Jewish people the right to self-determination is antisemitic.

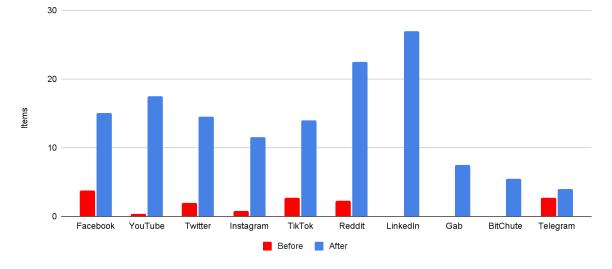


Graph 49

Denying Jewish self-determination, e.g. by claiming Israel's existence is racist (4.2)

Graph 50

Denying Jewish self-determination e.g. claiming Israel's existence is racist - NDCR (4.2)



⁸⁷ International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, General Assembly resolution 2200A (XXI) (Adopted 16 December 1966), Article 1, https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/international-covenant-civil-and-politic

<u>https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/international-covenant-civil-and-politic</u> <u>al-rights;</u>

After October 7, we saw a dramatic increase in the prevalence of this subcategory across all platforms, except for LinkedIn (this was not included as a platform of interest in our previous report - however this is the platform on which we saw this subcategory the most) and Telegram. Earlier in this report we shared examples of denying self-determination from Instagram (Instagram example 5), and Reddit (Reddit example 3). In addition to the two examples below, we analyse another instance of denying self-determination from LinkedIn which was also categorised as "Requiring a behaviour from Israel not expected of other countries" and which was highlighted in that section of our report.

Example from X (#2086)

This example from X explicitly calls for the State of Israel to be "ended", and thereby denies Jewish self-determination.



Example from Instagram (#3305)

The next example from Instagram requires some unpacking as it features multiple subcategories of antisemitism.

The post reads:

the name "israel" was hijacked by pedophiles & that's why u.s. & u.k. funds them bc [because] they want a pedophile state to escape convictions. the word "jew" is a reference not bloodline or descendant of jacob. the fakejew pedophiles want you to believe that they are god's chosen people but if they were to take a dna test, it would prove that they are not semites which is why it's illegal to do a dna test in israel. the word "jew" does not represent the tribes of jacob. the natives, the indigenous are the ones who will inherit the earth & that's why these pedophile pagan fakejews make war with god's children & steal their land. These pedophile pagan fakejews known as the synagogue of satan have been stealing land, identity, & culture from different nations for centuries. they are the gold digging grave robbers [skull emoji] they will be casted out & exiled again in the name of jesus christ.

This wall of text overlays an image of two rows full of blue body bags, and a blue Star of David at the centre, portraying the flag of Israel.

There are several themes here. Let's start with the idea of "fakejews". This social media user invokes the Khazar conspiracy theory which holds that today's Jews are not the "true" Jews, but that rather they are descendants of the Khazars, a nation of people which existed in the Caucus and Southeastern Russia.⁸⁸ As highlighted in our 2023 Online Antisemitism in Australia report,⁸⁹ the Counter Extremism Project explains:

the Khazar conspiracy theory is a "conspiracy theory attacking Jewish identity" which has been popularised by anti-Zionists, white supremacists, Black Israelites, the Nation of Islam and other groups.⁹⁰ It is a conspiracy theory claiming that Ashkenazi Jews (which accounts for a large part of the global Jewish community) are descendants not of the biblical people of Israel, but rather of converts from the Khazar Kingdom in Eurasia who converted in the eighth century.⁹¹

However, there is a lack of archaeological evidence which casts doubt over these claims.⁹²

The American Jewish Committee notes that the Khazar trope is "used to undermine Jewish connection to Israel, and therefore Israel's right to exist".⁹³ Ultimately, by accusing Jews of not being "real Jews", Jewish people are portrayed as imposters, and the legitimacy of the State of Israel is called into question.

The social media user also refers to "the synagogue of satan". This relates to a verse in the Christian Bible which reads: "Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not".⁹⁴ This is another way in which the idea of "not the real Jews" is perpetuated.

It is also alleged here that in Israel DNA testing is illegal. This disinformation could be related to the fact that, while not illegal, genetic testing in Israel is regulated. In 2000, the Genetic Information Law was passed in Israel. Its purpose is to "regulate the conducting of genetic testing and … and to protect the right to privacy of the person subject to such testing".⁹⁵

This Instagram post also attempts to delegitimise the State of Israel by claiming that it is a state that was set up by the United Kingdom and the United States with the purpose of providing refuge to paedophiles. There have been instances in which Jewish people who have faced criminal charges have fled to Israel in attempts to escape prosecution. One notable example is that of Australian Malka Leifer, who was ultimately extradited and

 ⁸⁸ American Jewish Committee, "Khazars", *Translate Hate*, <u>https://www.ajc.org/translatehate/Khazars</u>.
 ⁸⁹ Online Antisemitism in Australia 2023, p. 80.

⁹⁰ Counter Extremism Project, "Sixth Century through Eighth Century: The Khazars and the Birth of an Enduring Conspiracy Theory Attacking Jewish Identity", *Antisemitism: A History,* <u>https://www.counterextremism.com/anti-semitism-history/antisemitism-history/sixth-century-through-eighth-century-khazars-and-birth</u>.

⁹¹ Ibid.

⁹² Britannica, "Khazar", Geography & Travel, <u>https://www.britannica.com/topic/Khazar</u>.

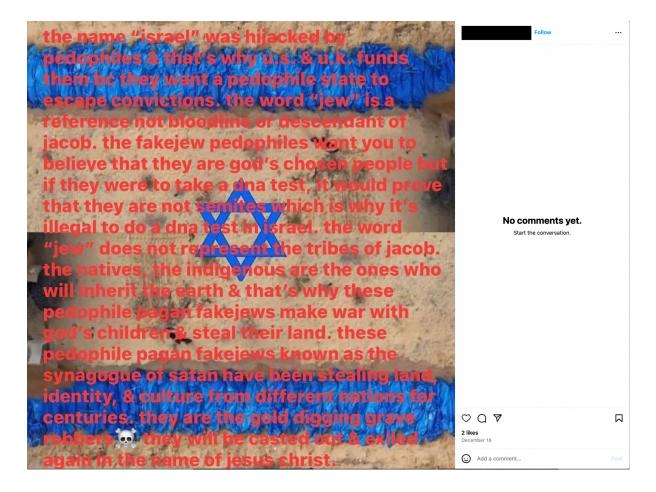
⁹³ American Jewish Committee, "Khazars".

⁹⁴ "Revelation 3:9", *New King James Version*, <u>https://www.bible.com/bible/114/REV.3.9.NKJV</u>.

⁹⁵Joël Zlotogora (2014), "Genetics and genomic medicine in Israel", *Molecular genetics & genomic medicine* 2(2), <u>https://doi.org/10.1002/mgg3.73</u>.

convicted of 18 charges of sexual abuse.⁹⁶ However, the notion that Israel's prime purpose (and origin) is to protect paedophiles is an antisemitic falsehood. QAnon conspiracy theories revolve around the idea that the world is controlled by a "satanic cabal of paedophiles and cannibals", invoking blood libel accusations about Jews preying on non-Jewish children.⁹⁷ The accusation that Jews are paedophiles also leans on the antisemitic tropes of alleged Jewish sexual deviance.⁹⁸

This social media post fits into several subcategories of antisemitism in addition to denying Jewish self-determination. It promotes traditional antisemitism (by demonising Jews, referring to Jews as "the synagogue of satan", promoting ideas around alleged Jewish sexual deviancy and the alleged Jewish desire to harm children, and tropes about Jews and money), and describes Israel using antisemitic words and imagery.



⁹⁶ Australian Associated Press, "Malka Leifer: former ultra-Orthodox Jewish principal sentenced to 15 years for child sex abuse", *The Guardian*, 24 August 2023,

https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2023/aug/24/malka-leifer-jailed-child-sex-abuse-sentenc e-school-principal-15-years.

⁹⁷ American Jewish Committee, "QAnon", *Translate Hate*, <u>https://www.ajc.org/translatehate/QAnon</u>.

⁹⁸ Center on Extremism, "Antisemitism & Anti-LGBTQ+ Hate Converge in Extremist and Conspiratorial Beliefs", *Anti-Defamation League*, 24 January 2023,

https://www.adl.org/resources/blog/antisemitism-anti-lgbtq-hate-converge-extremist-and-conspiratorial -beliefs.

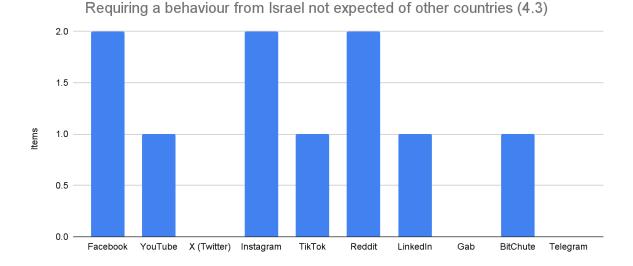
Requiring a behaviour from Israel not expected of other countries

This subcategory can be understood by looking at Sharansky's "3Ds", specifically Double Standards. He explains:

The second 'D' is the test of double standards. When criticism of Israel is applied selectively; when Israel is singled out by the United Nations for human rights abuses while the behavior of known and major abusers, such as China, Iran, Cuba, and Syria, is ignored; when Israel's Magen David Adom, alone among the world's ambulance services, is denied admission to the International Red Cross - this is anti-Semitism.

In testimony to the US Congress in June 2023, Prof. Eugene Kontorovich explained, and refuted, some of the justifications used in advocacy that seeks to exclude this category from consideration as antisemitism.⁹⁹ He also draws a powerful comparison with the way President Trump's ban on certain Muslim majority countries was quickly interpreted as a Muslim ban and Islamophobic.

For this sort of antisemitism to be classified under this subcategory, an item would show an obvious double standard, such as saying Israel has no right to defend itself from a terrorist attack, or should have its membership in the United Nations suspended. This sort of antisemitism occurs more often in actions of inter-governmental bodies. However, advocating for such action on social media may also be captured in this subcategory.



Graph 51

This category was not seen in our pre-October 7 data. It remained rare post October 7.

⁹⁹ Eugene Kontorovich, "What Antisemitism Means Today: Invoking the Jewish State to Justify Jew-Hate", Testimony to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs, June 22, 2023.

https://www.congress.gov/118/meeting/house/116138/witnesses/HHRG-118-FA06-Wstate-Kontorovich E-20230622.pdf

Example from LinkedIn (#42)

Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations holds that nothing should impair the "inherent right of individual or collective self-defence if an armed attack occurs against a Member of the United Nations".¹⁰⁰ The next example from LinkedIn contains disinformation about how this Article applies to Israel, thereby expecting Israel to act differently to other countries when attacked.

The author of this post argues that Israel does not have the right to self-defence after the October 7 attack, and claims that Israel is a "racist", "apartheid", "illegal" state. However, Israel's legitimacy as a state is not in dispute. Israel has been a member country of the United Nations since 1949.¹⁰¹

Other disinformation in this post includes the background to the formation of the United Nations, as well as the purpose of the United Nations, which has been framed by this LinkedIn user as a "decolonisation organisation". The UN was created after World War II with the hope that such an organisation would prevent another world war.¹⁰²

This LinkedIn user, as well as applying a double standard to Israel, also perpetuates a number of antisemitic tropes. They describe Zionism as "a curse on humanity" (which fits the subcategory of describing Israel using antisemitic words or imagery, and the subcategory of promoting traditional antisemitism), denies Jews the right to self-determination by describing Zionism as "barbarism" which "has no right to exist anywhere within humanity", and dehumanises Jews by describing Zionism as a virus for which "there is no vaccine or cure".



On the Global front. Year end 2023. Genocide, Apartheid, Nazism reigns supreme.

Zionism is a despicable sick mentality. A Curse on Humanity formulated by Europe & USA, created by UN. It has to be stopped by any means.

This Barbarism has no right to exist anywhere within Humanity, does not belong to 21stCentury. Any and all who upholds it are War Criminals.

There is no Vaccine or cure for these Psychopaths mental disorders.

Does Zionist racist apartheid Israel have "a right of self-defense" under Article 51 UN Charter?

https://lnkd.in/grhdCtD7

Answer: No!

Why?

Zionist illegal colonial settler occupier state has zero right under Article 51 of UN Charter to "self-defense".

Zionist racist apartheid Israel is an illegal colonial settler violent occupier which under international humanitarian law has only an OBLIGATION to protect and preserve those it occupies and then it has another OBLIGATION to withdraw from all illegally occupied lands.

Now for the Main Relevant Question is DOES OCCUPIED PALESTINE HAVE A RIGHT OF SELF-DEFENSE?

Answer: Yes!

Background:

The UN was formed post-WWI not only as a Intergovernmental Organization of collection of sovereign states but also as a decolonization organization within which settler colonies in Global South could eventually achieve national independence through either peaceful or right of national liberation struggles against Global North colonial occupiers over historic indigneous Global South people's and lands.

The U.N. recognized national liberation movements and granted observer status to them.

https://Inkd.in/g4RSw8Kg

https://lnkd.in/gDEgkcBB

"In an increasingly interconnected world, progress in the areas of development, security and human rights must go hand in hand. There will be no development without security and no security without development. And both development and security also depend on respect for human rights and the rule of law."

In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security and Human Rights for All 21 March, 2005

¹⁰⁰ Charter of the United Nations, Article 51, <u>https://legal.un.org/repertory/art51.shtml</u>.

¹⁰¹ "Member States", United Nations, https://www.un.org/en/about-us/member-states/.

¹⁰² "History of the United Nations", United Nations, <u>https://www.un.org/en/about-us/history-of-the-un</u>.

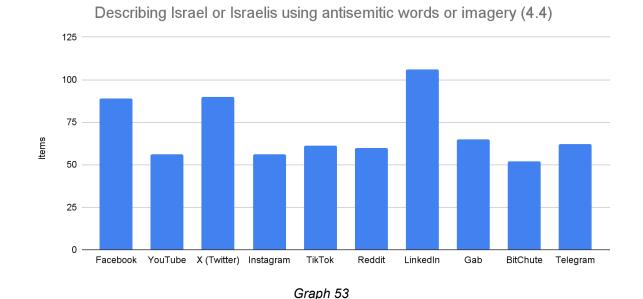
Example from Reddit (#1400)

Here we see another example of a social media user applying a double standard to Israel and Israelis. This Reddit user explicitly accuses Israel of not being like other countries, and states that "being from Israel is almost never apolitical".

$\hat{\mathbf{U}}$	Crossposted by 13 hours ago	Ļ			
1.2k	What flag are they holding? i.redd.it/k91adv 🕑				
\mathcal{O}	х И				
	💭 723 Comments 🧭 Share 🔲 Save 🕲 Hide 🏳 Report				
	Sort By: Top (Suggested) 🔻				
	View all comments View discussions in 1 other community				
	12 hr. ago · <i>edited 2 hr. ago</i>				
	Idk the artist but has anybody consitered they just might be from Israel? Like sure poor timing but I don't neccesairly think they are making a political statement				
	Edit: I should probably say when I mean "political statement" I mean specifically a statement on the Israel Palestine war. Obviously flags are inherently political, I should probably have clarified that from the get go. Granted, checking through OP's post history, I now doubt they didn't intend to make such a statement, and even if they didn't intend to they kinda did anyways.				
	As I said elsewhere, I'm sure there is somebody out there capable of writing a detailed and nuanced breakdown of how symbols relate to identity, history, and what they implicitly say about what we believe, but that's for historians and political theorists, not some random Reddit user.				
	3 hr. ago				
	Being from Israel is almost never apolitical. Its not your average country.				

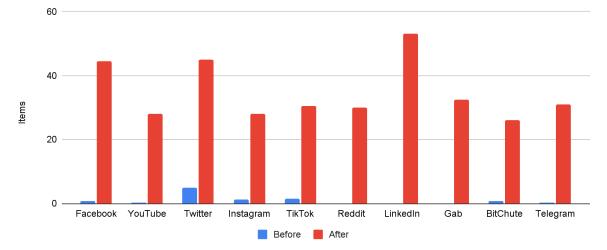
Describing Israel or Israelis using antisemitic words or imagery (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel)

Most of the antisemitism related to Israel involved the use of traditional antisemitic narratives or imagery that target Jews, such as those described in the next section of this report, but in this case it is applied to Israel or Israelis. This was a very significant trend across all platforms, but particularly prevalent on LinkedIn, Facebook, and TikTok. Before October 7 it had been primarily seen on Twitter.





Describing Israel or Israelis using antisemitic words or imagery - NDCR (4.4)



It is important to note that the fact this category dominates Israel related antisemitism means much of the debate related to Israel related antisemitism is moot. The traditional antisemitism is well documented historically and well understood. When such antisemitic tropes are introduced into political advocacy, the advocacy becomes racist, and in this case antisemitic. Avoiding the use of racism as a tool is an entirely reasonable request of those wanting to engage in advocacy and is easily done.

Example from Telegram (#2068)

In this example from Telegram, Israel and the United States are depicted as holding power over the world. In the top right hand corner of the image, there is a cartoon of The Happy Merchant dressed as Uncle Sam. The Happy Merchant is an overtly antisemitic meme which was created by a white supremacist and has been circulated online, mainly by neo-Nazis, since 2004.¹⁰³



¹⁰³ Andre Oboler, *The Antisemitic Meme of the Jew* (Melbourne: Online Hate Prevention Institute, 2014), <u>https://ohpi.org.au/the-antisemitic-meme-of-the-jew/</u>.

Example from Facebook (#2041)

The next example comes from LinkedIn. The author applies the classic antisemitic ideas of a world Jewish conspiracy theory and of Jews controlling government or other societal institutions to Israel by stating that the "global Zionist lobby" has "taken control of not only US politics, but THE WORLD."

a day ago · 🕄

•••

FINALLY, it appears, the USA are beginning to understand that Netanyahu and countless Israel Prime Ministers before him, for decades, HAVE BEEN LYING to them about their real intentions for a TWO-STATE SOLUTION.

Today, Netanyahu could not have been more transparent about Israel's objectives.

NO TO A TWO STATE SOLUTION - EVER!

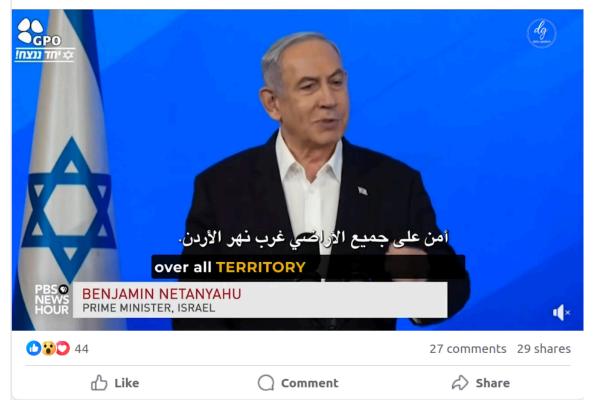
This public statement by the Israeli PM drew the ire of the US administration who retorted with a clear statement that there would be no peace in Israel without an independent Palestinian state.

A SHOWDOWN is on the cards now to see whether the dirty money that has underpinned President Biden and hundreds if not thousands of US lawmakers for more than five decades, buying their votes, buying their allegiance and buying their souls will payoff for AIPAC and the global Zionist lobby that has taken control of not only US politics, but THE WORLD.

Credit: @PBSnewshour

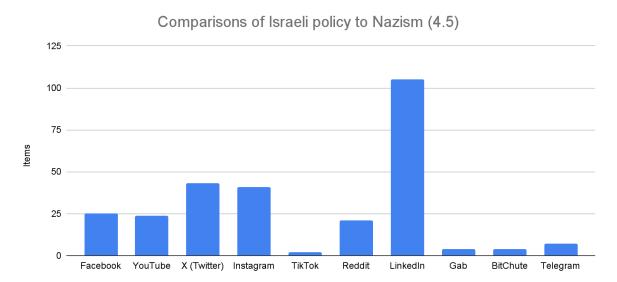
If you advocate for TRUTH & JUSTICE, SHARE to spread the knowledge.

#ceasefirenow #FreePalestine #Interfaith #StandWithUs #Truth #Palestine #Gaza #Humanrights #Israel #فلسطين #اسرائيل #غزة# Jerusalem #Conflict #endtheoccupation #endsettlercolonialism #endapartheid #twostatesolution #endthegenocide #palestinewillbefree #freeisraelofzionism #westbank #jerusalem



Comparisons of Israeli policy to Nazism

Earlier in this report we highlighted some examples (Instagram example 4, LinkedIn examples 5 and 6, and YouTube example 6) of this subcategory and explained the practice of Holocaust inversion and touched on Sharansky's idea of Demonisation.



Graph 54

Example from Instagram (#20)

This image posted to Instagram can be found in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's online collection. It is from 1939 and shows Jewish refugees, who were fleeing the Nazis, disembarking the ship *Parita* near Tel Aviv. On the left is a British policeman who organised the arrest of the passengers.¹⁰⁴ The passengers were being arrested because the British had restricted the number of Jews who were permitted to immigrate to Mandatory Palestine.¹⁰⁵

The caption provided on this Instagram version of the image is misleading, and states as if a fact: "Jews were kicked out of every country in Europe and Palestine was the only country to help and support helpless Jews."

The caption of the Instagram post compares the actions of the Israeli government with the Nazis, and suggests that Jews were to blame for the Holocaust with their comment: "Now the world knows the reason why Hitler hates Jews".

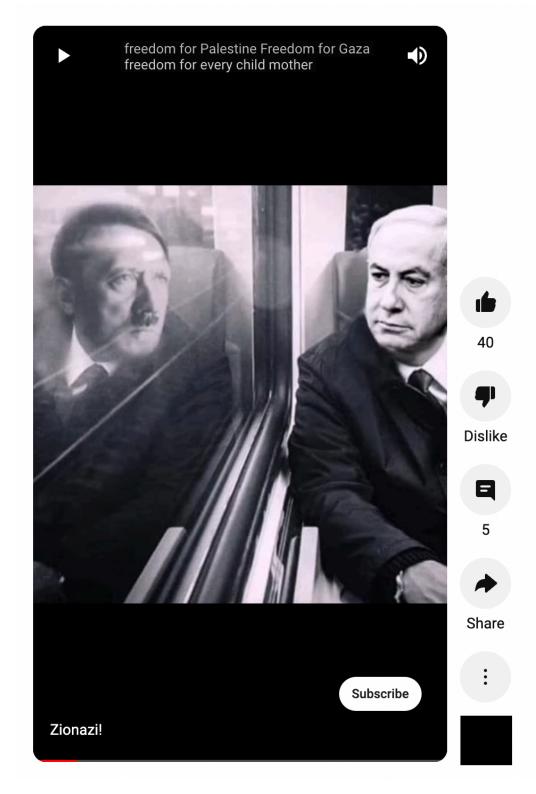


¹⁰⁴"ARREST OF PASSENGERS FROM THE ALIYAH BET SHIP PARITA",

https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/photo/arrest-of-passengers-from-the-aliyah-bet-ship-parita ¹⁰⁵ Arieh J. Kochavi (1998), "The Struggle against Jewish Immigration to Palestine", *Middle Eastern Studies* 34(3), p.146.

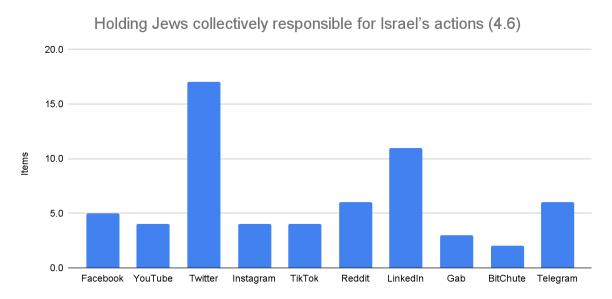
Example from YouTube (#1730)

This YouTube Short shows an image of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu sitting on a train with his reflection in the window mirroring Hitler back at him. The caption of the YouTube video is "Zionazi!" which is a term used to call Zionists "Nazis".



Holding Jews collectively responsible for Israel's actions

This category was mostly found on X and to a lesser extent on LinkedIn. The high level on LinkedIn is another indication of LinkedIn not having an effective response to antisemitism.



Graph 55

There is too little data to provide a Nominal Daily Collection Rate.

Example from BitChute (#1542)

This example from BitChute shares a 2009 news clip from AI Jazeera about a Swedish journalist, Donald Bostrom, who, in Sweden's daily newspaper Aftonbladet, accused IDF soldiers of killing Palestinians to harvest, and traffick, their organs. This is a specific example of a modern manifestation of blood libel. The then Editor-in-chief of Aftonbladet admitted that the newspaper did not have evidence for the charges that were laid against Israel. Bostrom later admitted that he did not know whether the story he reported is true, telling Israel Radio: "Whether it's true or not - I have no idea, I have no clue."106

Although the accusations of organ harvesting and trafficking were false, the BitChute user here still holds Jews collectively responsible for the *perceived actions* of Israel. They do not make any distinction between Jews and Israel, and uses the word "Jew" as if it's the same as Israel.



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Subscribe 1237 subscribers

PALESTINIANS ACCUSE JEWS OF ORGAN HARVESTING - JEWS SAY THIS IS A BLOOD LIBEL! LMFAO WOW



ISRAEL ACCUSED OF ORGANS HARVESTING

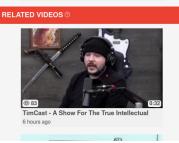
SWEDEN-ISRAEL ROW

Category News & Politics Sensitivity Normal - Content that is suitable for ages 16 and over

◎ 112 13 9 13 4

First published at 12:44 UTC on November 6th, 2023

DISCUSS THIS VIDEO



Mel Gibson Asks Jew Reporter ' in This Fight?" Reporter Whines

Buy Now

PLAYING NEXT

¹⁰⁶ "Swedish reporter: 'I don't know if IDF story is true'", *The Jewish Chronicle*, https://www.theic.com/news/world/swedish-reporter-i-dont-know-if-idf-story-is-true-hv9482hk.

Example from X (#212)

This example comes from an Australian X user. They replied to a post on X which perpetuates the conspiracy theory that Jeffrey Epstein worked for Mossad as part of a blackmail operation, and accuses former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak of being part of this alleged operation too.

The Australian social media user responded "What the Zionists have achieved has been to throw a huge cloud of suspicion over ANY Jewish person working in government service." This holds Jews accountable for even the unsubstantiated actions of Israel.





What the Zionists have achieved has been to throw a huge cloud of suspicion over ANY Jewish person working in government service. That's bound to have huge repercussions.

7:59 PM · Jan 4, 2024 · **305** Views



. . .

Traditional antisemitism

Traditional antisemitism includes classic antisemitic themes, narratives and rhetorical devices such as conspiracy theories, and lies and tropes about Jews that dehumanise, demonise and negatively stereotype Jewish people. Traditional antisemitism is often driven by well-established tropes, conspiracy theories, and stories that have been disproved many times, yet continue to reappear. It includes tropes such as blood libel, deicide (the accusation that Jews killed Jesus), the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, and others.

We use 8 sub-categories of traditional antisemitism derived from the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism.

From the IHRA definition's example of:

Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions

We extract the following discrete sub-categories of traditional antisemitism:

- Dehumanising Jews
- Promoting the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy
- Promoting the idea of Jews controlling the media
- Promoting the idea of Jews controlling the economy
- Promoting the idea of Jews controlling government or other societal institutions

Given another IHRA example explicitly discusses "Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel)", we add:

• Promoting traditional antisemitism such as blood libel and claims Jews killed Jesus

We also use this category to cover other "stereotypical allegations" (from the language above) and racial slurs.

From the IHRA definition's example of:

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.

We add:

• Holding Jews collectively responsible acts committed by individuals

And from the IHRA definition's example of:

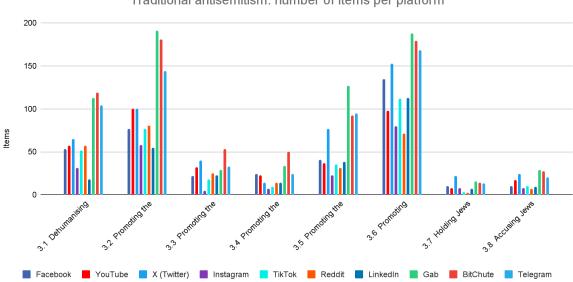
Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.

We add:

• Accusing Jews citizens of being disloyal to their country

The category of Traditional antisemitism was the most common across all platforms, but there are some notable trends, such as Gab, BitChute, and Telegram moving together and traditional antisemitism being more common on these "alternative" platforms than on other platforms. Interestingly, the relative frequency between the platforms on 3.1 and 3.2 is almost identical except for scaling.

Graph 56

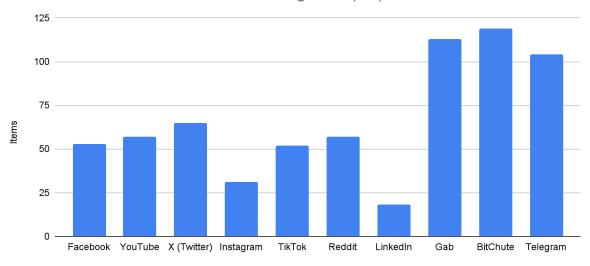


Traditional antisemitism: number of items per platform

Dehumanising Jews

While common across all platforms, it was particularly prevalent on Gab, BitChute and Telegram. The Nominal Daily Collection Rate increased dramatically across all platforms after October 7, meaning this form of antisemitism became much more common.

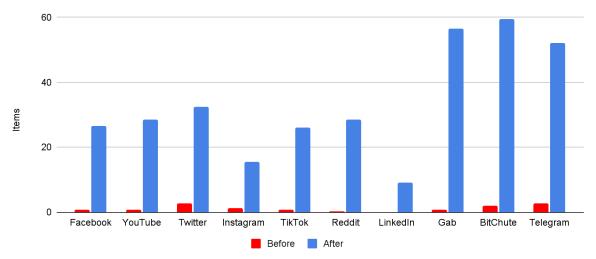
Graph 57



Dehumanising Jews (3.1)



Dehumanising Jews - NDCR (3.1)



Example from Telegram (#165)

This example comes from an Australian Telegram channel that celebrates instances of antisemitism. Here they share a photo of a vandalised sign which implies that Jews are dogs.



Example from X #354

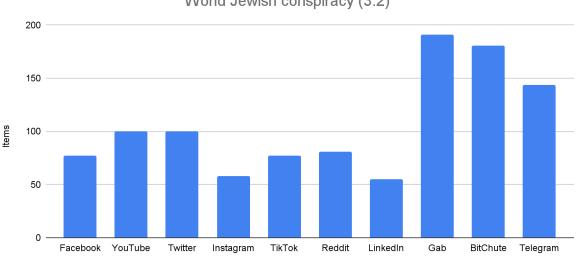
Another Australian example from X dehumanises Jews by saying that "Zionists should have no place in any society" and that they belong in a zoo.

Zionists should have no place in any society. They belong to zoo.

9:52 AM · Jan 15, 2024 · 11 Views

Promoting the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy

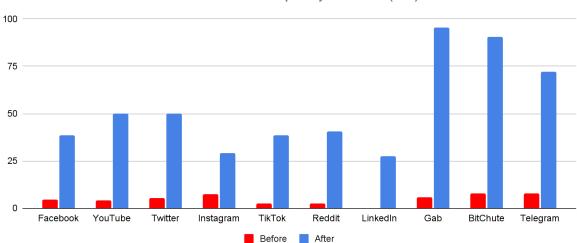
Gab, BitChute and Telegram are the most dominant, and have increased the most since October 7, but all platforms have a significant problem in this subcategory since October 7.



Graph 59

World Jewish conspiracy (3.2)

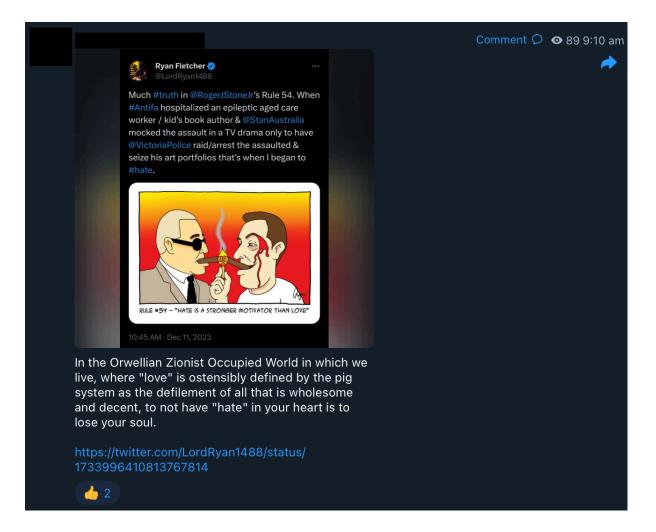
Graph 60



World Jewish conspiracy - NDCR (3.2)

Example from Telegram (#172)

This example from Telegram comes from an Australian neo-Nazi who uses the word "Zionist" instead of "Jewish". They promote the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy by claiming that we live in an "Orwellian Zionist Occupied World".



Example on Gab (#765)

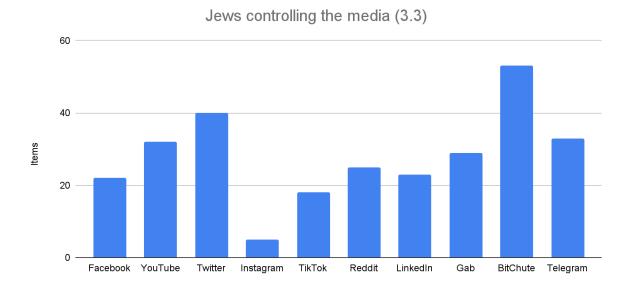
On Gab, this social media user advocates for all Jews in the world to be punished because they allegedly are all part of the "international Jewish mafia". The author of this post accuses Jews of being responsible for both World Wars, and argues that the ancient Israelites committed genocide against the Canaanites, who some claim Palestinians are the modern descendants of.¹⁰⁷



¹⁰⁷ Pinhas Inbar, "Who Are the Palestinians?" *Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs*, 7 August 2017, <u>https://jcpa.org/article/who-are-the-palestinians/</u>.

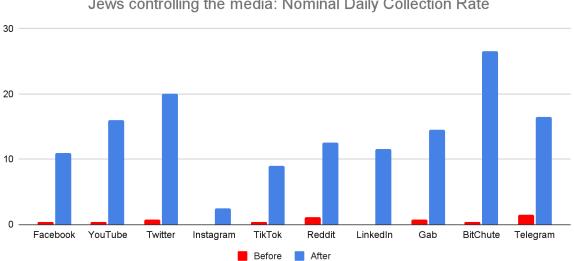
Promoting the idea of Jews controlling the media

Content claiming Jews Control the media has been less common, but is present to a notable degree across all platforms except Instagram. There is less variance in this category between mainstream and alternative platforms. The rate of growth has been substantial.



Graph 61

Graph 62



Jews controlling the media: Nominal Daily Collection Rate

Example from LinkedIn (#1653)

On LinkedIn, this social media user claims that Israel and "the Jews control the media worldwide".



+ Follow •••

I'm human. I'm not perfect. No one is perfect except Allah للله God the most merciful. My opinions belongs to me. I share what I like without hurting anyone. If you block my accounts on social media because I support Gaza and Palestine. That's fine. I don't care or I care less. Because I know this world has double standards. Even some humans have double standards too. If I defend Israel then my social media accounts will be perfectly fine. And If I defend my home country Palestine then I will be blocked in no time. I know Israeali's and the Jews control the media worldwide. But we have the right to express our freedom of speech. Even if some loosers don't like it. Some kind humans still exist and they can differentiate between the Aggressor and the Opressed. Viva Palestina till the end.

🖰 1

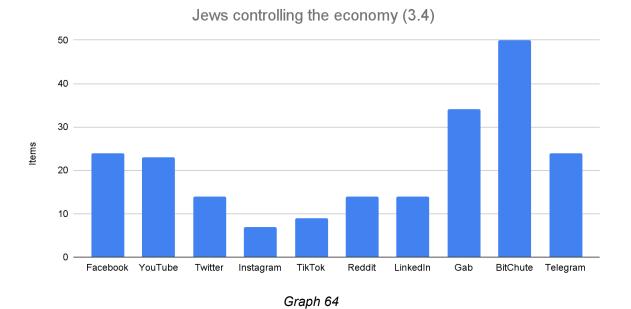
Example from Instagram (#3344)

This example from Instagram shows a series of news headlines and articles to demonstrate what they argue is evidence of the extent of "Zionist influence (even control)" of politics and media in the West.

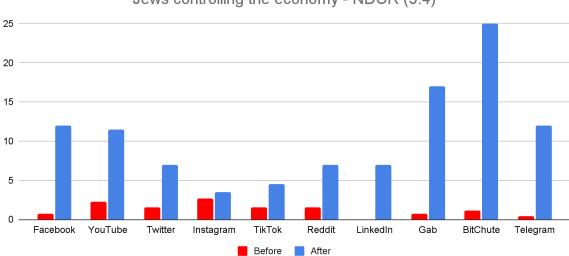


Promoting the idea of Jews controlling the economy

Bitchute dominates this subcategory, but on many platforms the Nominal Daily Collection rate has grown less quickly than for other categories.



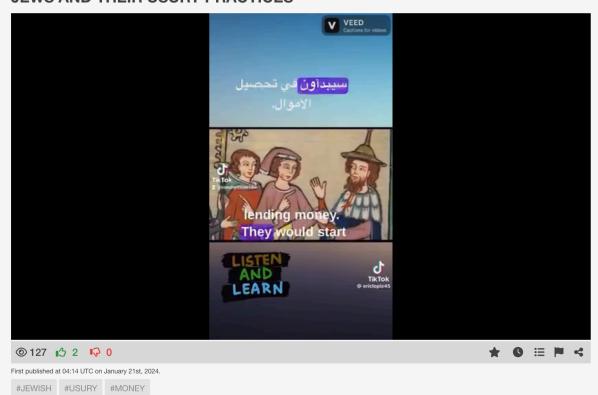
Graph 63



Jews controlling the economy - NDCR (3.4)

Example from BitChute (#2057)

This example from BitChute is a reproduction of a video that originally appeared on TikTok. The video explains that in the Middle Ages it was illegal for Christians to lend money, so the task was given to Jews. The context in which this video is posted, such as the title, attempts to frame "usury" as a specifically and characteristically Jewish practice.



JEWS AND THEIR USURY PRACTICES

Example from TikTok (#1320)

The Rothschilds are at the heart of a number of antisemitic conspiracy theories. The Rothschilds are a Jewish banking family, and are often accused of secretly controlling the economy and financial institutions.

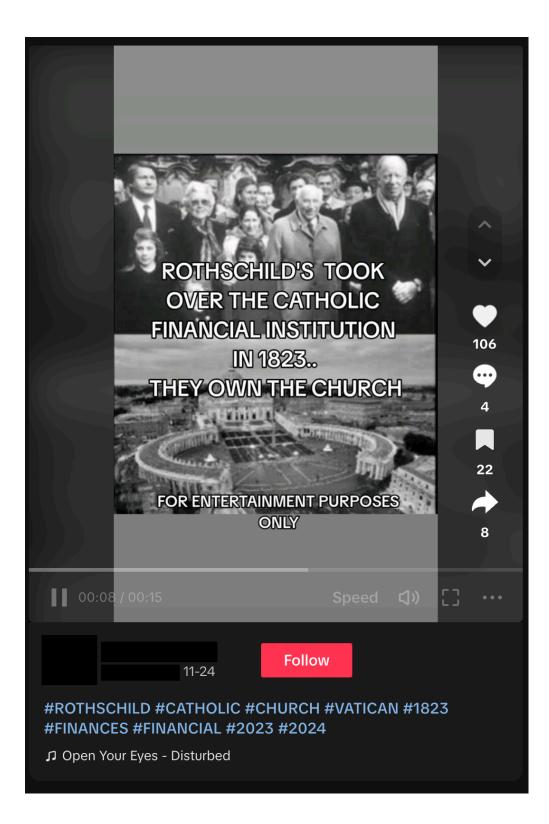
The American Jewish Committee highlight that one of the first conspiracy theories targeting the Rothchilds came from French antisemite Georges Dairnvaell, who published under the nom de guerre "Satan" a pamphlet accusing Nathan Rothschild of having witnessed the Battle of Waterloo in 1815, returning to London and then making 20 million francs on the stock exchange before the news of the battle broke. Despite this being false, over the next 200 years the Rothschilds, and Jews, have been blamed for economic crises and wars.¹⁰⁸

On TikTok, we see in this video a photo of the Rothschilds family alongside an image of the Vatican. The overlay text alleges that the Rothchilds "took over the Catholic financial institution in 1823... they own the church". There are multiple social media posts on other platforms which echo this. Some other accounts who have shared this conspiracy theory include ones which have terms like "Illuminati" in their usernames, as well as neo-Nazi accounts.

There is no evidence to suggest that the Rothchilds have control of Catholic institutions, financial or otherwise as is being suggested by this TikTok user. Social media accounts perpetuating this conspiracy theory may be mischaracterising the contents of a Wikipedia page about Rothschilds loans to the Holy See in 1832. In 1957 in the journal *Church History*, Rondo E. Cameron wrote about Papal finance between 1815 and 1871. Cameron noted that from 1831 until 1859, James Rothschild "was the chief financial support and agent of the Papacy" and that in 1846 it was determined during the pontificate of Gregory XVI that about 150 million francs had been borrowed from Rothschild.¹⁰⁹

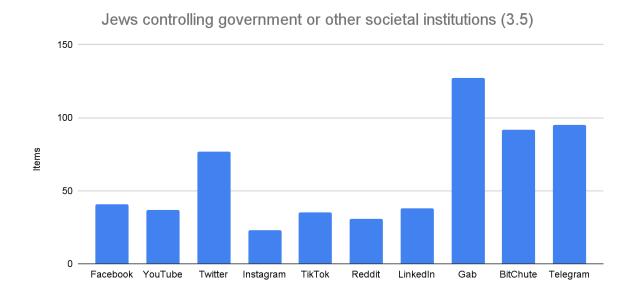
¹⁰⁸ American Jewish Committee, "Rothschild", *Translate Hate*, <u>https://www.ajc.org/translatehate/Rothschild</u>.

¹⁰⁹ Rondo E. Cameron (1957), "Papal Finance and the Temporal Power, 1815-1871", *Church History* 26(2), <u>https://doi.org/10.2307/3161529</u>, p. 133.



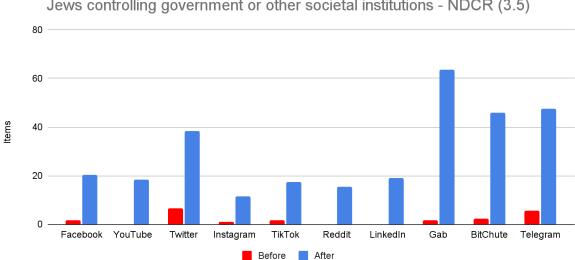
Promoting the idea of Jews controlling government or other societal institutions

This is another significant category, dominated by the alternative social media platforms of Gab, BitChute and Telegram, but joined by X. This is another case of X being closer to an alternative platform than a mainstream one. This category is also present across all social media platforms to a notable degree and its presence has accelerated greatly after October 7.





Graph 66



Jews controlling government or other societal institutions - NDCR (3.5)

Example from Reddit (#1231)

The Goyim Defense League (GDL) is a network of antisemitic provocateurs in the United States. The Anti-Defamation League explain: "GDL's overarching goal is to expel Jews from America. To that end, their propaganda casts aspersions on Jews and spreads antisemitic myths and conspiracy theories in hopes of turning Americans against Jewish people."¹¹⁰

The following GDL flyer was shared on Reddit. It promotes a conspiracy theory about Jewish control of the United States government and other societal institutions. Specifically, GDL accuse Jews of being responsible for the assassination of United States President John F. Kennedy, and portrays JFK as someone who fought "international Jewry".



¹¹⁰ Center on Extremism, "Goyim Defense League", *Anti-Defamation League*, <u>https://www.adl.org/resources/backgrounder/goyim-defense-league</u>.

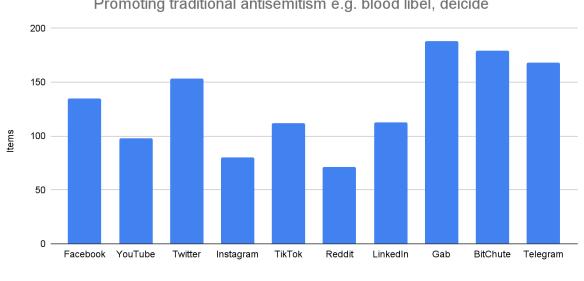
Example from X (#93)

A news article about Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong and her comments about the war in Gaza was shared on X / Twitter. An Australian user promoted the idea that Australian Jews control her: "with a little push from the Jewish lobby she'll do another U turn."



Promoting traditional antisemitism such as blood libel and claims Jews killed Jesus

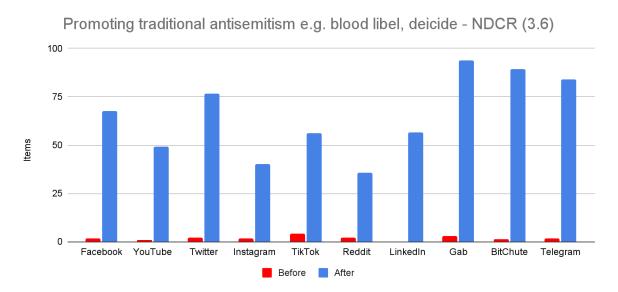
This subcategory has a significant presence across all platforms and while most notable on the alternative social media platforms of Gab, BitChute and Telegram, the other platforms were not far behind, particularly X and Facebook. The growth has again been extremely high since October 7.











Example from YouTube (#1287)

The next example is a comment that was made on a religious Christian YouTube video titled "How to Understand the Jews as Being a Chosen People: An Orthodox Analysis", which contains an audio version of an article published in 1991 bearing the same name.

The YouTube video itself perpetuates traditional antisemitism. The article's author blames Jews for the Holocaust, stating that had it not been for their "apostasy", they would "not have been exterminated en masse". The author also writes: "One cannot doubt that those who consciously confess the Jewish religion strive for the universal supremacy of Judaism, or rather for the Jews."

However, the example we draw your attention to here is one of a deicide accusation: "Have they [Jews] not committed the unpardonable sin ... when they crucified Jesus Christ."

Deicide is the accusation that Jews have a collective guilt for the death of Jesus. It was a key form of Christian antisemitism, which was historically used to encourage Christian populations to act violently against the local Jewish community, usually resulting in pogroms in which many Jews were murdered. In the 1960s, the Second Vatican Council rejected this accusation.¹¹¹

4 weeks ago

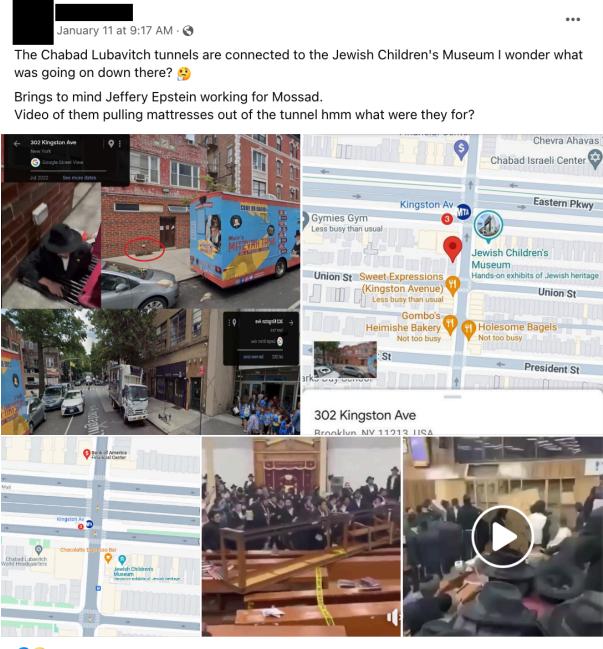
Have they not committed the unpardonable sin of blaspheming the Holy Spirit when the crucified Jesus Christ? For Christ showed us he was the messiah when he came, and despite seeing all of his works they still called for him to die and denied him being the messiah.

_____ 11 √ Reply

¹¹¹ "Antisemitism: Jews killed Jesus accusation (Deicide)", *Online Hate Prevention Institute*, <u>https://ohpi.org.au/antisemitism-jews-jesus/</u>.

Example from Facebook (#421)

The next example from Facebook promotes traditional antisemitism. Here we see an Australian Facebook user share a post about the tunnels discovered at 770. They imply that they think that the Chabadniks had constructed the tunnels in order to access the Jewish Children's Museum and promote the idea that Jewish men are sexually deviant ("Brings to mind Jeffrey Epstein working for Mossad", "Videos of them pulling mattresses out of the tunnel hmm what are they for").

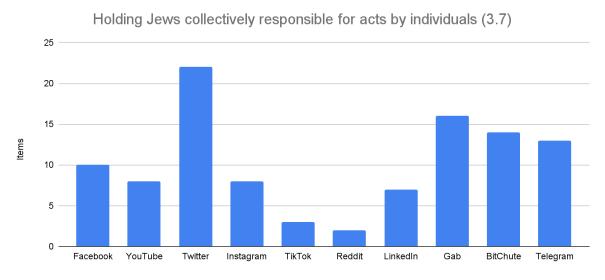


08 5

8 comments 5 shares

Holding Jews collectively responsible acts committed by individuals

This subcategory was not as common as some other categories after October 7, but it came from being completely absent prior to October 7. X was the most prevalent for this subcategory, followed by the alternative social media platforms of Gab, BitChute and Telegram.



Graph 69

This category was not present in the pre-October 7 data.

Example from X (#1509)

In October 2023 there was a trend in Israel for some social media content creators to make racist videos which made fun of Palestinians. This example from X points to a video clip of this trend. They react to it by posting a picture of Hitler and writing: "I'm just gonna say it 6 million wasn't enough tbh [to be honest]".

Here we see all Jews being held collectively responsible for the actions of individuals. Because some Israelis had participated in a racist trend, this X user glorified the Holocaust and suggested it did not go far enough.



I'm just gonna say it

6 million wasn't enough tbh



Oct 26

■ A trend has swept TikTok where Israeli's mock the appearance of Palestinians, the fact they have no electricity and some even compare them to dogs.

Many of these videos also show parents making their kids take part in the \ldots Show more





Example from Telegram (#2069)

On Telegram an edited or AI generated picture of Jewish former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger was posted. In the image, Kissinger's face is splattered with blood, and US dollars are falling behind him.

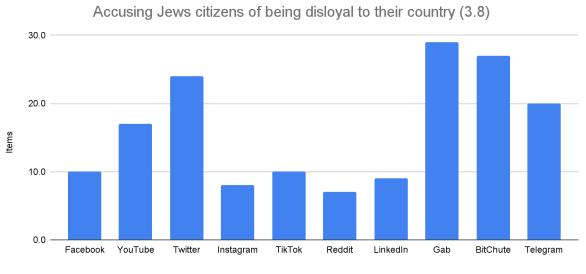
Kissinger was quoted in the 1976 book *The Final Days* by Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein as saying, "Military men are just dumb, stupid animals to be used as pawns in foreign policy". The post here added the word "goyim" in parenthesis next to "military men" to accuse Kissinger of having this view of all non-Jews.

It could be possible to share the (unedited) quote and a regular image of Kissinger to criticise him specifically. However, this is not the case here. This Telegram post comes from an account that shares hordes of explicitly antisemitic content. The Nazi-era yellow Star of David with "Jude" written inside it is placed on Kissinger's jacket to explicitly show that he was Jewish, thereby extending his alleged guilt to all Jews.



Accusing Jewish citizens of being disloyal to their country

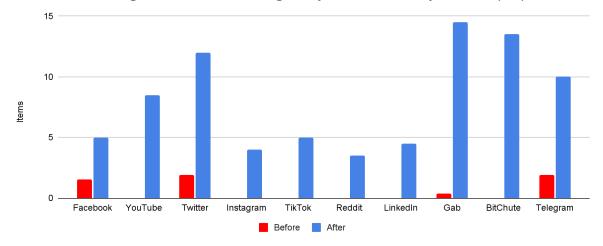
This subcategory is also not particularly common, but is more prevalent on the alternative social media platforms of Gab, BitChute, and Telegram, as well as X and YouTube. It was seen across all platforms after October 7. Before October 7 it was more likely to be seen on Telegram, Facebook, or X.







Accusing Jews citizens of being disloyal to their country - NDCR (3.8)



The following examples both come from neo-Nazi Telegram users.

Example from Telegram (#142)

The first shows a picture of a billboard denouncing antisemitism as "anti-Australian". The Australian Telegram user responds by claiming that the billboard should instead say that "Being Jewish is Anti Australian".



Example from Telegram (#220)

The next example comes from a neo-Nazi account that is based in New Zealand, but sometimes shares Australian content. Here, a video is shared about an Australian-Israeli IDF soldier in Gaza. The author of the post writes: "a Jew is a Jew is a Jew … In other words, he was a Jew living in Australia, and never an Australian. This is why no Jew can be trusted when it comes to Israel."

Forwarded messages	𝑁 20 11:39 am
today at 8:30 AM	
01:10 AUSTRALIAN GENERAL POLICE INVESTIGATE THIS MELBOURNE MAR FIGHTING FOR THE IDF	
Add comment	
Jew leaves Australia to fight for his true homeland: Israel. Remember, a Jew is a Jew is a Jew is a Jew; his tribe and his "people" are above all other things to him. In other words, he was a Jew living in Australia, and never an Australian. This is why no Jew can be trusted when it comes to Israel.	

Holocaust related content

The major category of Holocaust related content largely draws on the IHRA Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion. There is some overlap with the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism, which also introduces some additional related categories. Holocaust denial is by its nature a form of antisemitism, as IHRA explains:¹¹²

Holocaust denial in its various forms is an expression of antisemitism. The attempt to deny the genocide of the Jews is an effort to exonerate National Socialism and antisemitism from guilt or responsibility in the genocide of the Jewish people. Forms of Holocaust denial also include blaming the Jews for either exaggerating or creating the Shoah for political or financial gain as if the Shoah itself was the result of a conspiracy plotted by the Jews. In this, the goal is to make the Jews culpable and antisemitism once again legitimate.

IHRA's Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion describes Holocaust denial as "discourse and propaganda that deny the historical reality and the extent of the extermination of the Jews by the Nazis and their accomplices during World War II."¹¹³ IHRA's working definition of antisemitism described it as "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)."¹¹⁴

Beyond outright denial we capture the following categories of Holocaust related content which directly relate to IHRA's definitions:

- Accusing Jews or Israel of exaggerating the Holocaust.
 - IHRA's working definition of antisemitism includes the example, "Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust."
- Blaming Jews for the Holocaust.
 - IHRA's Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion includes as an example of distortion, "Attempts to blame the Jews for causing their own genocide".
- Distort the facts of the Holocaust
 - IHRA's Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion includes as an example of distortion, "Intentional efforts to excuse or minimise the impact of the Holocaust or its principal elements, including collaborators and allies of Nazi Germany".

¹¹² IHRA Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion,

https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definitions-charters/working-definition-hol ocaust-denial-and-distortion

¹¹³ Ibid.

- IHRA's Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion also includes as an example of distortion, "Gross minimization of the number of the victims of the Holocaust in contradiction to reliable sources".
- While not a form of antisemitism, the example of "Attempts to blur the responsibility for the establishment of concentration and death camps devised and operated by Nazi Germany by putting blame on other nations or ethnic groups" is also included as a form of Holocaust distortion. This mostly occurs in regards to Auschwitz, which was established by the Nazis on Polish territory, being misrepresented as itself a Polish act.

• Glorifying the Holocaust or suggesting it did not go far enough

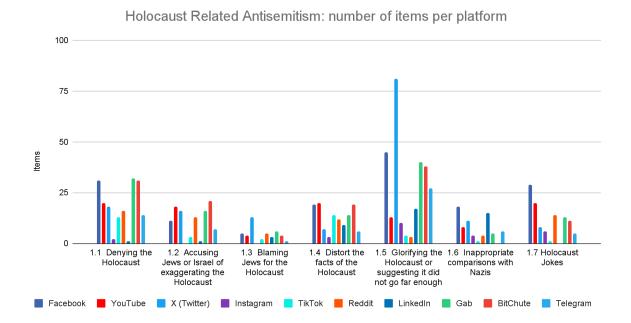
 IHRA's Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion gives as an example of Holocaust related antisemitism, "Statements that cast the Holocaust as a positive historical event" and notes that these "statements are not Holocaust denial but are closely connected to it as a radical form of antisemitism. They may suggest that the Holocaust did not go far enough in accomplishing its goal of 'the Final Solution of the Jewish Question'".

• Inappropriate comparisons with Nazis

• IHRA's working definition of antisemitism includes the example, "Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis."

In this report, seven categories of Holocaust related content included six subcategories used in previous systematic work and one new subcategory for "Holocaust related jokes", largely driven by the repeated appearance of such content on TikTok.

The number of items in each subcategory by platform highlight some significant differences between the platforms. The most notable concern is the high rate on Facebook of content that glorified the Holocaust, or which suggested that it didn't go far enough. This problem also occurred to a lesser but still significant extent on TikTok, X (Twitter), Gab, Reddit, and Telegram. On all 6 platforms this was the most common form of Holocaust related content on the platform and across all platforms there were 313 items that glorified the Holocaust, or which suggested that it didn't go far enough.



Of the 313 items that glorified the Holocaust, 19% of them (59 items) were also categorised into one of the subcategories of Israel related antisemitism (subcategories 4.1–4.6). This means the vast majority (254 items, or 81%) of the content that glorified the Holocaust or suggested it didn't go far enough, targeted the Jewish people without engaging in any form of Israel related antisemitism. This highlights an antisemitic trend of responding to events and discussions with the most extreme forms of antisemitism, the promotion of genocide against the Jewish people.

Of the remaining 19% (59 items) of content that glorified Nazism but also used Israel related antisemitism, the majority of it (32 items, or 54%) did so through "comparisons of Israeli policy to Nazism" (category 4.5). This content accused Israel of behaving like a Nazi state, even as it promoted the Nazi state and its genocide of the Jewish people. The Israel related antisemitism is little more than a gratuitous addition.

Denying the Holocaust

A definition of Holocaust denial is provided in the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion. The part of the Working Definition covering denial explains:¹¹⁵

Holocaust denial is discourse and propaganda that deny the historical reality and the extent of the extermination of the Jews by the Nazis and their accomplices during World War II, known as the Holocaust or the Shoah. Holocaust denial refers specifically to any attempt to claim that the Holocaust/Shoah did not take place.

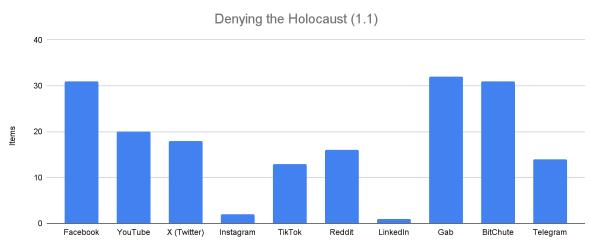
¹¹⁵ "Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion", *International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance*, Adopted in Toronto 10 October 2013. <u>https://holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definition-holocaust-denial-distortion</u>

Holocaust denial may include publicly denying or calling into doubt the use of principal mechanisms of destruction (such as gas chambers, mass shooting, starvation and torture) or the intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people.

Holocaust denial in its various forms is an expression of antisemitism. The attempt to deny the genocide of the Jews is an effort to exonerate National Socialism and antisemitism from guilt or responsibility in the genocide of the Jewish people. Forms of Holocaust denial also include blaming the Jews for either exaggerating or creating the Shoah for political or financial gain as if the Shoah itself was the result of a conspiracy plotted by the Jews. In this, the goal is to make the Jews culpable and antisemitism once again legitimate.

The goals of Holocaust denial often are the rehabilitation of an explicit antisemitism and the promotion of political ideologies and conditions suitable for the advent of the very type of event it denies.

In total our sample included 178 items of Holocaust denial across the 10 platforms. This is an average Nominal Daily Collection Rate (NDCR) of 8.9 across all platforms. The actual number of items and rate varied by platform, but in three bands.

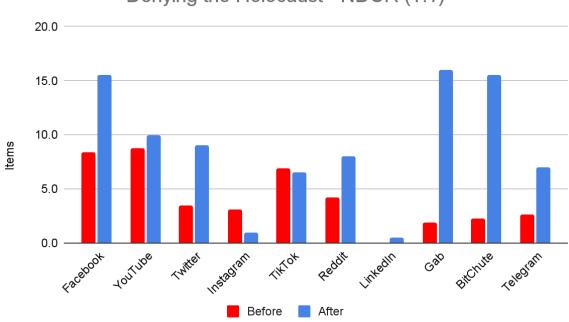




Holocaust denial was most prevalent on Gab, BitChute, and Facebook with around 30 items being collected from each of these platforms. Facebook's inclusion here is notable. YouTube, X, Telegram, Reddit, and TikTok make up the next band between 10 and 20 items, followed by Instagram and LinkedIn which had almost no Holocaust denial.

The biggest difference between the Nominal Daily Collection Rate before and after October 7 can be seen on Gab and BitChute where Holocaust denial became far more common.

Graph 74



Denying the Holocaust - NDCR (1.1)

It has previously been claimed in the media that Reddit and YouTube were effective at removing Holocaust denial, while Facebook was not.¹¹⁶ Our data shows little difference Facebook and YouTube before October 7, and Holocaust denial increasing more on Facebook after October 7 than on YouTube.

In a recent case Meta's Oversight Board examined content on Instagram which engaged in "false and distorted claims about the Holocaust".¹¹⁷ The Oversight Board found the content breached Meta's policies against Holocaust denial and issued a recommendation urging Meta to "take steps to ensure it is systematically measuring the accuracy of its enforcement of Holocaust denial content, at a more granular level," and for Meta to "build systems to label enforcement data... at a more granular level... [to] enable Meta to measure and report on enforcement accuracy, increasing transparency and potentially improving accuracy."¹¹⁸ We strongly endorse these recommendations with respect to Holocaust denial, but also urge systematic measurement of the accuracy in enforcing hate speech policies across different types of hate at the level of the subcategories of antisemitism discussed in this report. Work like this report provides an approach to independently and systematically measuring the accuracy of policy enforcement. We hope the data behind this report related to Meta Platforms, which we will provide to Meta, proves useful in implementing the recommendation of the Oversight Board.

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https://forward.com/news/452790/youtube-reddit-facebook-holocaust-denial/
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¹¹⁶ Aiden Pink, "How can YouTube and Reddit successfully fight Holocaust denial, but not Facebook?", *The Forward*, August 18, 2020.

 ¹¹⁷ "Holocaust Denial", Facebook Översight Board, <u>https://oversightboard.com/decision/IG-ZJ7J6D28/</u>
 ¹¹⁸ Ibid.

We welcome support from industry, private donors, and governments to continue monitoring Holocaust denial in particular. The Oversight Board's case on Holocaust denial highlights the need for such work even before the rise in antisemitism from the October 7 attack.

The Oversight Board commissioned a research report for the Holocaust denial case. The resulting research report "confirmed the prevalence of claims minimising the number of Jewish people who were murdered in the Holocaust" and "noted that Holocaust denial-related content is easier to find and gets more interaction on Instagram than on Facebook." Our data did not support this, which may indicate positive action was taken by Meta on Instagram content over a year ago (before both our samples).

In a separate experiment collecting data on Holocaust denial and distortion over a 3 day period around Holocaust Memorial Day 2024 (over the period of January 27, 28, and 29) we found Holocaust denial was more common on Facebook, but Holocaust distortion was more common than Holocaust denial and running at about the same level on Facebook and Instagram.

Recommendation 8: Platforms that have not yet banned Holocaust denial should do so as a matter of urgency.

Recommendation 9: Platforms that have banned Holocaust denial need to do more to remove old content that is in violation, and to enforce this policy on new uploads.

Example from Facebook (#888)

In this example from Facebook, a meme is posted in which it is implied that the Holocaust did not happen.

In the image Barbie (Margot Robbie) asks Ken (Ryan Gosling): "Wait Ken, are you saying it didn't happen?". Ken responds: "It's mathematically impossible to cremate six million in that timeframe, Barbie".

While an example of Holocaust denial, this could also be considered Holocaust distortion, whereby the distortion of facts is used to deny the Holocaust in its entirety. In this instance the facts of the Holocaust are distorted through the assumption that all of the Jews killed in the Holocaust were killed in crematorium, or that all of the six million killed were then burnt in crematoria. In actuality, the methods of murder in the Holocaust varied. Approximately 2.7 million Jews were murdered at concentration and extermination camps by being gassed, two million were murdered in mass shooting operations, up to one million were killed in concentration and labour camps and ghettos due to the deliberately inhumane conditions caused by the Nazis, and at least 250,000 were killed in other acts of violence such as pogroms, executions, and death marches.

A claim of Holocaust deniers is that "it takes several hours to cremate one body in a civilian crematorium, so the bodies of nearly 900,000 Jews could not have been cremated at Auschwitz Birkenau." The Nazis desecrated the bodies of victims and in actuality multiple bodies were burnt at the same time in a continuous industrialised process. There is no comparison to a civilian crematorium.¹¹⁹ The victims were also buried in mass graves.

The following example was also classified under "Holocaust jokes" due to its jovial nature and making light of the subject matter.



¹¹⁹ "AUSCHWITZ-BIRKENAU CREMATORIA: CIVILIAN OVENS COMPARISON", *Holocaust Denial* on *Trial*, <u>https://www.hdot.org/debunking-denial/ab4-civilian-ovens-comparison/</u>.

Example from TikTok (#644)

The next example from TikTok denies the Holocaust by pointing to a news article about the trial of Holocaust denier Ernst Zundel in Canada. The article highlights the cross examination of a witness of the Crown, which the content creators attempt to manipulate to fit their denial narrative.

At the end of the trial referred to in the newspaper article, Zundel was convicted and sentenced to nine months in jail. Ultimately Zundel was deported from Canada and sent back to Germany where he was arrested and convicted of inciting racial hatred and defaming the memory of the dead. He was sentenced to five years prison.¹²⁰

No scientific proof Jews exterminated: witness

TORONTO (CP) - There are no scientific reports proving that Jews were exterminated in Nazi gas chambers, a Holocaust scholar conceded yesterday at the trial of Ernst Zundel.

But Raul Hilberg, a University of Vermont political science professor, testified that - even though German war documents contain no mention of killing Jews — euphemisms for death such as "resettlement" and "special treatment" were used so commonly that Heinrich Himmler, head of the Gestapo, requested substitute phrases. Hilberg, who has spent 36 years studying the Holocaust and the subsequent Nurembarg trials

the subsequent Nuremberg trials of war criminals, testified earlier for the Crown that five million Jews were killed during the war.

Zundel, 46, a West German cit-izen living in Toronto, is charged with two counts of publishing statements that are known to be false and likely to cause injury or mischief to the public interest of maintaining social and racial tolerance.

Two of his publications - one called Did Six Million Really

Die? - postulate that the Holocaust was a hoax to vilify Germans and exact compensation payments from them. "Can you give me one scientif-

ic report that shows the existence of gas chambers anywhere in Nazi-occupied territory?" defence counsel Douglas Christie asked Hilberg during day-long rapid-fire cross-examination. "I am at a loss," Hilberg re-

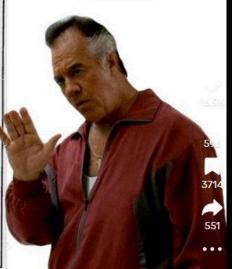
plied. "You are (at a loss) because you can't," Christie said. Hilberg countered that there are aerial photographs of concen-

tration camps, examples of ruined gas chambers, German in-dustrial documents describing the lethal nature of various gases and filters for gas masks which were found at the camps

Hilberg agreed with Christie that there are no autopsy reports indicating that even a single per-son died from exposure to poi-

son uted from exposure to por-sonous gas in chambers. But, Hilberg said, "In tens of thousands of (Nazi) documents, people were 'resettled' or 'the Jewish problem was solved' but the word killing was (not) used."

AY TONE. **DIS RAUL FUCK SAYS** NO PROOF OF PEEPS **GETTIN GASSED** OR DAT DA KRAUTS WANTED TO WHACK DA YIDS



596 comments

¹²⁰ "Ernst Zundel", Southern Poverty Law Center,

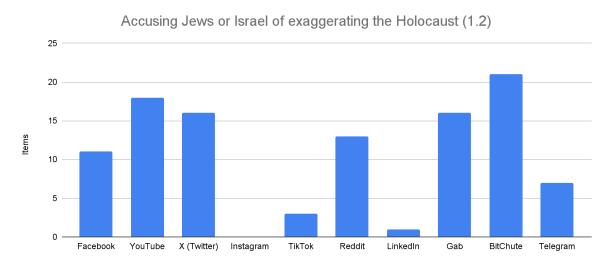
8-2

https://www.splcenter.org/fighting-hate/extremist-files/individual/ernst-zundel.

Follow

Accusing Jews or Israel of exaggerating the Holocaust

The accusation of Jews or Israel exaggerating the Holocaust appeared relatively infrequently and at similar levels across BitChute, youTube, X, Gab, Reddit and Facebook. It wasn't seen on Instagram and was rare on TikTok and LinkedIn.



Graph 75

The Nominal Daily Collection Rate is not presented as the sample size in the pre-October 7 data is too small.

Example from Reddit (#3247)

On Reddit, a user responding to a post about Zionism and supposed "white privilege" accuses Jews of exaggerating the Holocaust in the form of suggesting that Jews use the history of the Holocaust for gain and to silence criticism of Israel.

B	Posted by 18 days ago	Ŷ			
15	Zionism and white privilege				
Û	Anti-Racism				
	א צ				
	\bigcap 18 Comments $ ightarrow$ Share $\ \ \Box$ Save $\ $ Hide $\ \ \Box$ Report				
	Sort By: Best 👻				
	View all comments				
	· 18 days ago				
	Jewish people in America have integrated into whiteness and get all the privilege that comes with it while also being able to use their past persecution as a weapon to avoid any criticism of being a racist or facist defending the ethnic cleansing of Palestine.				
	😚 9 🕂 💭 Reply Share …				

Example from X (#236)

This example from X comes from the same Australian social media user who accused Israel of exaggerating the Holocaust on page 113.

Here, they compare Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to Hitler, and accuses Jews of exaggerating the Holocaust by implying that they use it as a victim card: "The Jews have past the use by date for sympathy for WW2."



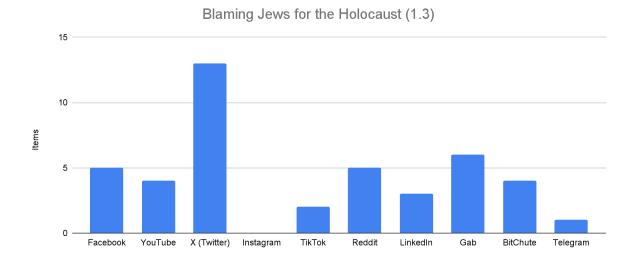


Netanhitler is on a land grab, the Palestinians he doesn't kill will have to flee to other countries. The jews have past the use by date for sympathy for WW2.

7:51 AM \cdot Dec 9, 2023 \cdot 5 Views

Blaming Jews for the Holocaust

Blaming Jews for the Holocaust was a relatively rare subcategory, mostly seen on Twitter.



Graph 76

The Nominal Daily Collection Rate is not presented as the sample size in the pre-October 7 data is too small.

Example from LinkedIn (#78)

On LinkedIn, Jews are blamed for the Holocaust when this social media user accuses "Zionists" of sponsoring Hitler. There are antisemitic conspiracy theories that Jews colluded with the Nazis in order for the State of Israel to be established.

We recently highlighted a similar example of this subcategory of Holocaust related antisemitism in a Briefing about content posted on social media on Holocaust Memorial Day in 2024. There we explain: "The idea that Zionists allegedly collaborated with the Nazis is a manipulation of the history of the Haavara Agreement (Transfer Agreement) of 1933 which made it possible for 60,000 German Jews to flee to Mandatory Palestine between 1933 and 1939 amidst Nazi persecution."¹²¹

	+ Follow ····			
6d • 🕥 We must save these people from the international terrorists of israel, USA, UK and NATO (today's Nazis) controlled by the Zionists who sponsored Hitler.				
	+ Follow			
1w• S	+ FOILOW			
"Today in Khan Yunis! This might be our last call, we are dying! Gaza is completely collapsing! Everything in it collapses.				
There were dozens of raids and three hospitals were besieged in Khanyounis: Al-Amal Hospital affiliated with the Red Crescent, Al-Khair Private Hospital, and Nasser Medical Complex, the largest health institution in the Gaza Strip. People killed in the bombing were buried on front of our eyes in the hospital yard due to tanks blockading the streets, the wounded were on the ground without treatment and there was not enough medical staff! Massacres are still being committed.				
On the 109th day of the war, Khan Yunis, the largest governo Strip and the one that receives the most displaced people, is bombardment, and the number of displaced people in Rafah one and a half million people, in an area of 151 square kilom	under is more than			
We are facing hepatitis and intestinal diseases in the souther and starvation to death in the northern Gaza Strip! Yesterday, people in the northern Gaza Strip began grinding get flour!				
Take to the streets, protest, strike make pressure on the decision makers by striking the economic movement! Call for a ceasefire!" from Bisan Wizard III Call for a ceasefire!				
#ceasefirenow #stopwarcrimes #savegaza #stopgenocide #stopethniccleansing #speakup #bethechange #humanity #di	gnityforall			

¹²¹ Matthew Smith, "Holocaust Denial and Distortion on this year's Holocaust Memorial Day", *Online Hate Prevention Institute*, 6 March 2024. <u>https://ohpi.org.au/holocaust-denial-and-distortion-on-this-years-holocaust-memorial-day/</u>

Example from X (#874)

This X user publishes disinformation and explicitly blames Jews for the Holocaust, as well as promoting the Judeo-Bolshevik conspiracy theory. They write: "The Nazi party was founded by Jews for war and killing. Hitler and the generals of his army were Jews."



The Nazi party was founded by Jews for war and killing. Hitler and the generals of his army were Jews. Communism was the birth of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, and two Jews wrote the Communism Manifesto.

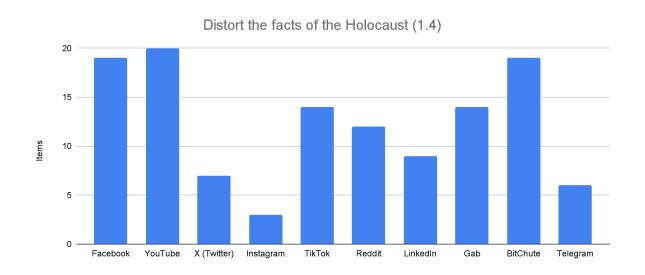


7:11 AM · Nov 12, 2023 · 26 Views

...

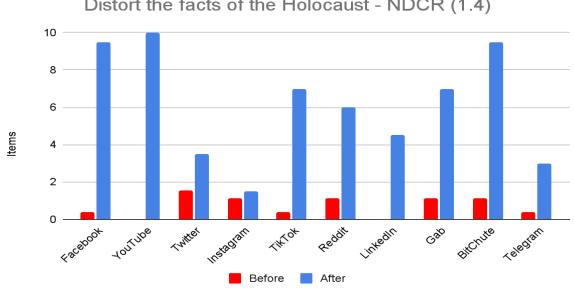
Distort the facts of the Holocaust

Holocaust distortion was a relatively infrequent subcategory but seen consistently across most platforms. Instagram was the platform where it occurred least often. It was more common on YouTube and Facebook than on platforms like Gab (where content was more likely to deny the Holocaust outright). Holocaust denial has grown after October 7, but less than other categories of antisemitism.





Graph 78



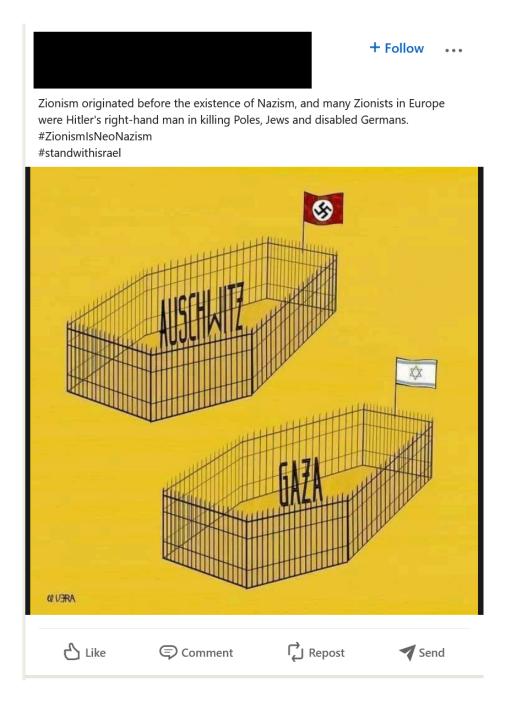


Example from LinkedIn (#1594)

This example of Holocaust distortion also takes the form of comparing Israel to the Nazis and blaming Jews for the Holocaust.

The way that the Holocaust is distorted here is through the comparison of Auschwitz to Gaza. The term "open air prison" is used frequently to describe Gaza, but this social media post takes it a step further.

Notwithstanding the civilian suffering and deaths in Gaza, the accusation that Gaza is like Auschwitz minimises the Holocaust and distorts the facts.

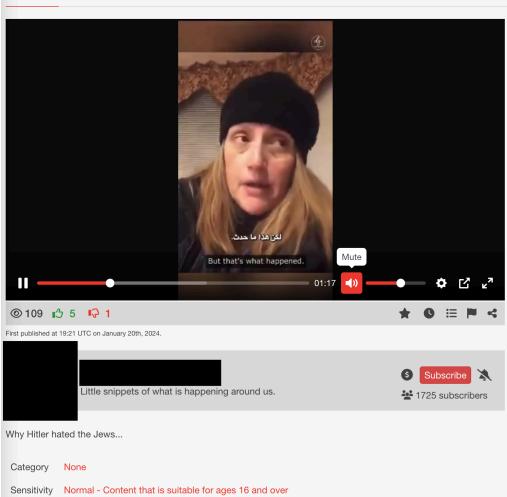


Example from Bitchute (#3575)

On BitChute, a video was posted which shows a woman who claims to be Jewish saying that "Zionist Jews" encouraged the British to continue fighting World War I against Germany. She goes on to say that the Treaty of Versailles was unfair to Germans and that when the

Germans found out "their own countrymen [German Jews] went behind their back" they were "understandably very upset". The woman featured in the video downplays Nazi persecution of Jews in Germany and absolves the Nazis of their responsibility for it. She continues and accuses the world's Jews of declaring war against Germany in 1933. She attempts to absolve Hitler of guilt by claiming that he did not originally want to kill Jews, and that he jiust wanted them to leave.

While distorting the history of the Holocaust, this content creator promotes the antisemitic idea that there is a world Jewish conspiracy by saying if "Zionist Jews" had that "kind of money and power" they could have used the money and power to stop the Holocaust.

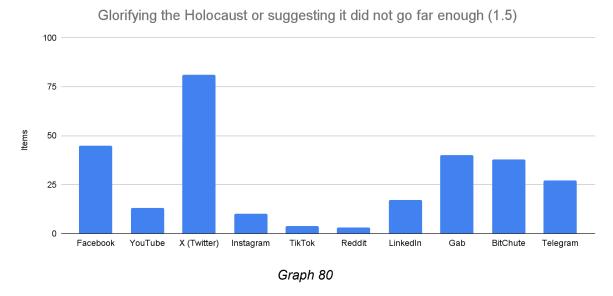


WATCH

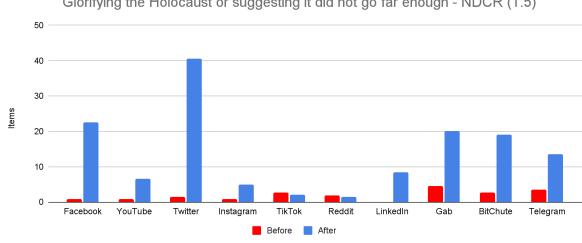
WHY HITLER HATED THE JEWS...

Glorifying the Holocaust or suggesting it did not go far enough

The category of Glorifying the Holocaust or suggesting it did not go far enough was a common form of antisemitism on X, and to a lesser extent on Facebook, Gab, Bitchute, and Telegram. It is notable that after October 7 this content was more common on X and slightly more common on Facebook than on the alternative social media platforms used by the far-right. The reverse was true before October 7. One possible explanation is that Facebook may have been having a difficult time moderating their content after October 7, and far-right activists may have taken advantage of this to engage more on Facebook while the moderation was overloaded and they felt they could get a sympathetic hearing.



Graph 79



Glorifying the Holocaust or suggesting it did not go far enough - NDCR (1.5)

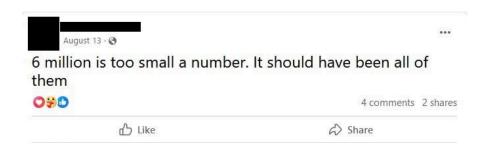
Example from Instagram (#2994)

On Instagram, this social media user glorifies the Holocaust by stating: "Adolf Hitler did the excellent work to swipe six million Jews.... They deserve that".



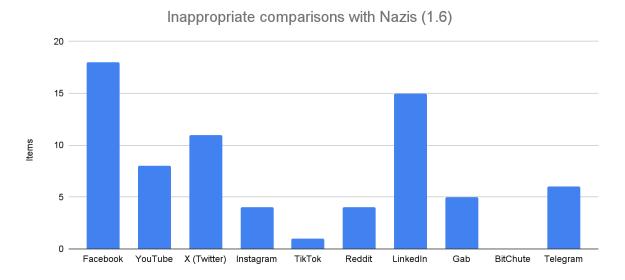
Example from Facebook (#703)

In a similar vein, this Facebook user glorifies the Holocaust and suggests it did not go far enough by posting: "6 million is too small a number. It should have been all of them".



Inappropriate comparisons with Nazis

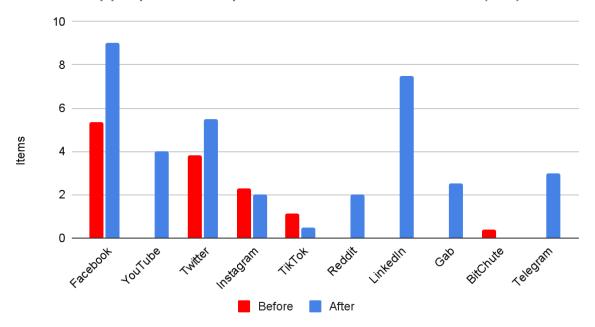
Inappropriate comparisons to Nazis was most common on Facebook, followed by LinkedIn. It has, however, increased slightly on Facebook and X, and fallen slightly on Instagram.



Graph 81



Inappropriate comparisons with Nazis - NDCR (1.6)



Example from Telegram (#1385)

This example from Telegram makes an inappropriate comparison between the Nazis and those who advocate for vaccination against COVID-19.



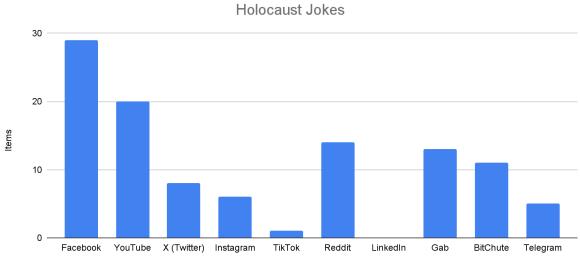
Example from Gab (#190)

On Gab, an Australian social media user alludes to the prohibition of Nazi symbols by showing that an Al tool would not create an image of Hitler containing a swastika. The Gab user highlights what they may see as a sort of hypocrisy that the AI tool would create an image containing a Star of David. The inappropriate comparison here is made by the social media user's implication that a Jewish Star of David is akin to a Nazi swastika.



Holocaust jokes

Holocaust jokes were a particular problem on Facebook, but also seen on YouTube and to a lesser extent on Reddit, Gab, and Bitchute.

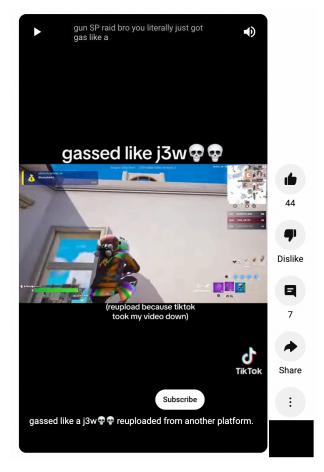


Graph 83

As this is a new category we do not have data to present a comparison of the Nominal Daily Rate before October 7.

Example from Youtube (#1839)

This example from YouTube shows footage from video game play where someone's avatar is shot and then evaporates into thin air. One of the people playing the game makes a Holocaust joke saying, "you literally got gassed like a Jew".

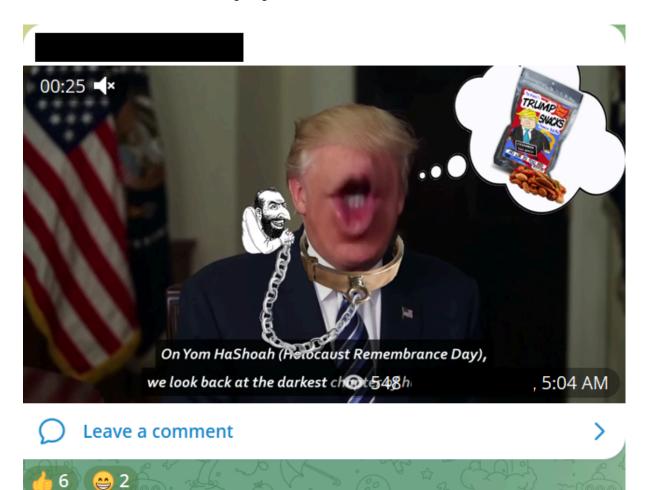


Example from Telegram (#1160)

On Telegram, a video of Donald Trump's Yom HaShoah message was posted.

A filter that is supposed to be "humorous" is applied to the video which then makes Trump's mouth take over his entire face. We can also see a collar around his neck, with The Happy Merchant holding its leash, indicating this content creator's belief that Trump is just a pawn of Jews.

The use of the filter on this video attempts to make the Holocaust and Holocaust remembrance an absurd and laughing matter.



Additional Themes

The IHRA Working Definition

We note various efforts internationally both to adopt the *IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism*, and efforts to oppose adoption. The definition is the de facto standard for antisemitism. It has been adopted at the national level by 43 countries.¹²² Research by the Combat Antisemitism movement and Tel Aviv University reports that by the end of 2023 it had been adopted by at least 1,216 entities including inter-governmental organisations, state governments, local governments, universities and other educational institutions, international institutions, NGOs, corporations, religious groups, student clubs, professional groups, and private enterprises.¹²³

Data in this report highlights that where debate around the IHRA definition has occurred, the arguments are over types of antisemitism that are in practice, at least online, less common. The campaigns of opposition, meantime, undermine efforts to recognise and address the vast majority of antisemitic content which on a case by case basis few would have trouble accepting as antisemitic or condemning. The push to attack the IHRA Definition, including by Jewish groups that are far outside the mainstream community consensus, has at times become a general push to undermine concerns about antisemitism except in very narrow cases usually related to overt neo-Nazi activity. This trend, and the willingness of some mainstream media outlets to give disproportionate space to such views, treating it as "balance" to op-eds and articles about real instances of antisemitism is concerning.

In the years before the October 7 attack, some claimed the adoption of the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism would stifle Palestinian activism. The only activism the definition impacts is activism that uses the language or symbolism of antisemitism (according to the definition). Our data shows the vast majority of antisemitism in relation to Israel involves the use of long established anti-Jewish tropes, e.g. the blood libel, or power conspiracy theories, but now aimed at Israel or Israelis rather than Jews in general. Allowing this traditional antisemitism "in the name of a good cause" is dangerous not only for Jews, but to all victims of racism. It undermines the very concept of anti-racism making it conditional on someone else's interests, rather than a protection for the racialised group from harm, one that should apply at all times and in all places.

Allowing antisemitism if done as part of pro-Palestinian advocacy leads to situation seen at York University in Canada after the October 7 attack, when three student representative bodies passed motions supporting the Hamas terrorist attack.¹²⁴ The horrific attack and the

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https://nationalpost.com/news/canadian-universities-face-challenges-navigating-israel-hamas-war
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¹²² "IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism", *International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance*. <u>https://holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definition-antisemitism</u>

¹²³ *The IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism 2023 Adoptions & Endorsements Report*, Combat Antisemitism Movement and Center for the Study of Contemporary European Jewry at Tel Aviv University, 2024.

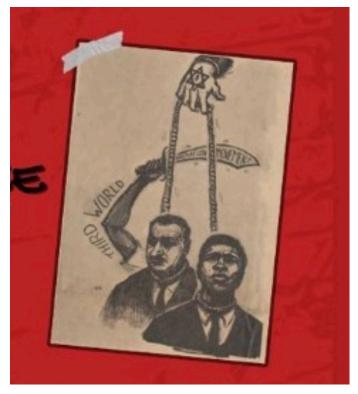
https://combatantisemitism.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/2023IHRAWorkingDefinitionofAntisemitismAdoptionsandEndorsementsReport.pdf

¹²⁴ "Unacceptable' pro-Hamas statement by York student unions condemned by university, government", *The National Post*, 13 October 2023.

support for it are captured in the same example within the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism: "Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion."¹²⁵

At Harvard both a student Palestinian advocacy organisation, then a faculty pro-Palestinian organisation, shared an old deeply antisemitic cartoon, then removed it and issued an apology.¹²⁶ The image¹²⁷ featured a hand with a Magen David (a Jewish star) with a dollar sign in it holding a noose around the necks of two black men. It was decades old and had been incorporated into this online image from the groups after being featured in other recent advocacy material.

Harvard University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Pennsylvania and Cornell University have had the future of their tax exempt status brought into question in Congress over their handling of antisemitism.¹²⁸ The IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism, which



under US law must be considered in cases of allegations of antisemitism on US campuses, and the push by those opposing the definition with the argument it would inhibit their advocacy, is a core part of what is being discussed.¹²⁹

In Europe the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism has been adopted by the European Parliament,¹³⁰ and the European Commission uses it as a key tool in combating antisemitism.¹³¹ Together with IHRA, the European Commission produced a *Handbook for the practical use of the IHRA working definition of antisemitism*.¹³²

¹²⁶ Michelle N. Amponsah and Joyce E. Kim, "As Harvard Warns of Disciplinary Action, Pro-Palestine Groups Apologize for Antisemitic Image", *The Harvard Crimson*, 20 February 2024. <u>https://www.thecrimson.com/article/2024/2/20/harvard-antisemitic-image-apology/</u>

¹²⁷ https://twitter.com/RabbiWolpe/status/1759608930731524298

https://edition.cnn.com/2024/01/10/investing/harvard-tax-status-house-ways-and-means/index.html ¹²⁹ Mike Damiano and Hilary Burns, "It depends on the context.' Harvard plunges into roiling debate about what is considered antisemitism.", *The Boston Globe*, 27 January 2024.

https://www.bostonglobe.com/2024/01/27/metro/harvard-antisemitism-definition/

¹³⁰ European Parliament resolution of 1 June 2017 on combating anti-Semitism (2017/2692(RSP)) https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-8-2017-0243_EN.html

¹³¹ "Definition of antisemitism", *European Commission*, <u>https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/combatting-</u> <u>discrimination/racism-and-xenophobia/combating-antisemitism/definition-antisemitism_en</u>

¹²⁵ <u>https://holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definition-antisemitism</u>

¹²⁸ Matt Egan, "House takes aim at Harvard, MIT and UPenn's tax-exempt status over antisemitism", *CNN*, 10 January 2024.

¹³² European Commission, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers, Steinitz, B., Stoller, K., Poensgen, D. (2021). *Handbook for the practical use of the IHRA working definition of antisemitism,* Publications Office. <u>https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2838/72276</u>

Recommendation 10: The IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism needs to be operationalised as part of governmental efforts to tackle antisemitism, and the IHRA Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion needs to be both adopted and operationalised by governments.

The silencing of concerns about antisemitism

The tendency in the far left to exclude Jews from particular movements, unless they denounce Zionism, is not new but has accelerated.

In January 2018 Steven Salaita published a Tweet declaring "no Zionists" was part of the "basic rules for useful protests".¹³³ Salaita followed this tweet with an article responding to criticism and seeking to justify the position in more detail.¹³⁴ The article is a case study in both antisemitism and misrepresentations of both Israel and Zionism.

One justification he gives for excluding Zionists is because "Liberal Zionists have a remarkable ability to dominate conversation" which he says leads groups to "intensely debate what is or isn't anti-Semitism". He calls it part of a pattern that "can be exhausting for Palestinians", and argues that excluding those who would raise concerns over antisemitism addresses the problem and stops "acrimony and pressure" on other participants.

Racism denial, in which concerns about racism are silenced and explained away, is itself a form of oppression.¹³⁵ Instituted structurally, for example in a set of "basic rules", it becomes a form of structural racism. **In a post October 7 development of this idea, some dismiss concerns of antisemitism by labelling the person who expressed the concern (for example politicians) as Zionists.**

We have also observed a push by some experts to exclude Jewish organisations, many of which are explicitly Zionist like the vast majority of the Jewish community, from consultations addressing online racism. The push has involved suggestions to replace them with fringe anti-Zionist organisations that are engaged in dismissing concerns over the surge in antisemitism. This is another form of silencing, especially when targeted at peak Jewish representative bodies.

As Prof. Eugene Kontorovich reminded Congress a few months before the October 7 terrorist attack, "Even Henry Ford's Dearborn Independent, in its notorious series *The International Jew*, complained that the term [antisemitism] is 'used indiscriminately and vituperatively' against those who merely want to 'discuss… Jewish world-power,' which would be an important topic if it were real".¹³⁶

¹³³ https://twitter.com/stevesalaita/status/955824674562281472

¹³⁴ Steven Salaita, "Zionists should be excluded from left-oriented protests", *Mondoweiss*, 30 January 2018. <u>https://mondoweiss.net/2018/01/zionists-excluded-oriented/</u>

¹³⁵ Babacan, Hurriyet (2012) *Racism denial in Australia: the power of silence*. Australian Mosaic, 32. pp. 1-2. <u>https://researchonline.jcu.edu.au/22526/1/22526_Babacan_2012.pdf</u>

¹³⁶ Eugene Kontorovich, "What Antisemitism Means Today: Invoking the Jewish State to Justify Jew-Hate", Testimony to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs, June 22, 2023.

https://www.congress.gov/118/meeting/house/116138/witnesses/HHRG-118-FA06-Wstate-Kontorovich

Recommendation 11: Efforts to silence concerns about antisemitism in order to create space for antisemitism to grow is a threat that must be addressed.

ChatGPT a generative AI's view of antisemitism before Oct 7

In March 2023 we undertook an experiment to use ChatGPT to examine the concepts of right-wing antisemitism, left-wing antisemitism, and how they differed.

The following two questions were each asked ten times and the responses recorded:

- Describe left-wing antisemitism
- Describe right-wing antisemitism

The text of each response was then coded to extract key concepts. The number of occurrences of each concept across the 10 responses to each question were counted. Concepts only occurring once were eliminated. Other concepts were considered present (appearing 2, 3 or 4 times) or highly present (occurring 5 or more times). This produced the table, shown below, which shows which concepts were common to left-wing antisemitism, which to right-wing antisemitism, and which to both, at least according to ChatGPT.

The AI behind this version of ChatGPT was (GPT 3.5),¹³⁷ was a machine learning algorithm utilising a neural network trained on a large quantity of natural language text. Our use of ChatGPT turned it into a tool to summarise the frequency of concepts in that training data. It essentially unravels the AI back towards the statistical patterns in the data that are relevant to the question posed. This works because this form of generative AI is built from statistical models derived from its training data, coupled with an element of randomness to ensure varying responses. The more times words related to one concept appear in the source material in proximity to words associated with another concept, the more likely the AI model is to associate those concepts and express that in its response. That training data in this case was 60% based on scraping all websites, 22% from websites linked from highly rated Reddit submissions, 16% across two collections of online books, and 3% from Wikipedia.¹³⁸ Repeated often enough, ChatGPT is giving an indication of how often particular concepts are mentioned together in this source material.

The table below presents the types of antisemitism that appeared in at least 2 of the 10 responses to each question. Items that appeared in at least 5 of the 10 are in red and bold. For example, the conspiracy theory of Jews controlling the media was common in responses about both left-wing antisemitism and right-wing antisemitism, but dehumanisation only occurred in responses about right-wing antisemitism, while anti-Zionism only occurred in responses about left-wing antisemitism (but did so strongly i.e. in 5 or more responses). The

¹³⁷ Natalie. (2023, February 1). ChatGPT General FAQ. Retrieved March 19 2023 from <u>https://help.openai.com/en/articles/6783457-chatgpt-general-faq</u>

<u>E-20230622.pdf</u>, including quotes from Henry Ford, "The International Jew: The World's Foremost Problem", *DEARBORN INDEP*., Nov. 1920 (v. 1-4), at 56.

¹³⁸ Brown, T. B., Mann, B., Ryder, N., Subbiah, M., Kaplan, J., Dhariwal, P., Neelakantan, A., Shyam, P., Sastry, G., Askell, A., Agarwal, S., Herbert-Voss, A., Krueger, G., Henighan, T., Child, R., Ramesh, A., Ziegler, D. M., Wu, J., Winter, C., . . . Amodei, D. (2020). Language Models are Few-Shot Learners. arXiv preprint. <u>https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.14165</u>; OpenWebText2. (2021). WebText Background. <u>https://openwebtext2.readthedocs.io/en/latest/background/</u>

table also note how the antisemitism was said to manifest, for example with prejudice being a strong common theme in both left-wing antisemitism and right-wing antisemitism, but violence, while present in relation to left wing antisemitism, was much more dominant in responses about right-wing antisemitism.

Left-wing Antisemitism	Left & Right Antisemitism	Right-wing Antisemitism			
Themes					
Anti-Israel rhetoric Criticism re: Israeli policies Anti-Zionism Demonization of Israel Delegitimization of Israel Delegitimization of Israel Denial of Jewish self-determination Claims of: Israeli Apartheid Colonialism Zionism is Racism Double standards Blaming Jews for: Capitalism Imperialism	Conspiracy theories: • General (Right) • Financial (Both) • Political (Both) • Media (Both) • World events (Left) Scapegoating Jews for: • Ills of society • Social ills (Right) Antisemitic tropes Antisemitic stereotypes (L)	Dehumanisation Scapegoating Jews for economic ills Holocaust: • Denial • Minimization Nazi glorification Jews as: • Greedy • Dishonest • Secretive • Manipulative Jews as a threat to: • Traditional values • Cultural norms • National identity			
	Expressed as				
	Prejudice Hostility Discrimination (Right) Violence (Right)	targeting Jewish buildings hate speech hate crimes			

Some ideas in the responses, like criticism of Israeli policies being a form of antisemitism, are simply wrong. This idea might result from training data that claims allegations of antisemitism are used to silence criticism of Israel policy. Such claims are common and made in general terms, without evidence. Actual examples where criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country, without antisemitic language or imagery being invoked, being labelled antisemitic are very hard to find. The IHRA definition in fact rejects

the idea that this could be antisemitism explicitly. Still, such claims, published online, are enough to influence the statistical models and the responses of ChatGPT.

After October 7 the level of antisemitism related to Israel on right-wing platforms like Gab and BitChute increased not only in absolute terms (Gab: $1 \rightarrow 74$; BitChute: $3 \rightarrow 61$) and Nominal Daily Collection Rate (Gab: $0.4 \rightarrow 37$; BitChute: $1.1 \rightarrow 30.5$), but also in terms of the percent of all antisemitism on the platform that incorporated this form of antisemitism (Gab: $1.9\% \rightarrow 18.1\%$; BitChute: $6.5\% \rightarrow 19.1\%$). While we don't have an almost exclusively left-wing platform to make a similar comparison with the change in left-wing antisemitism, the volume of content from left-wing accounts engaging in what ChatGPT lists as predominantly right-wing styles of antisemitism was notable. Dehumanisation of Jews, framed as dehumanisation of Zionists, was quite apparent in left-wing content, even explicit anti-fascist accounts. Holocaust minimization was also quite common in left-wing content. The stereotypes of Jews as dishonest, manipulative, and secretive also appeared in left-wing content. The spread of ideas and content previously at the extreme fringes of one side of politics, now appearing in the mainstream of the opposite side of politics, is concerning. It also increases the spread of antisemitism as pre-existing content become socially acceptable to new audiences, allowing reuse to increase.

What's interesting about the table, and the reason we include this previously unpublished work here, is that it reflects distinctions in antisemitism, common in discussion before October 7, that our data post October 7 contradicts.

After October 7 we need to re-evaluate the nature of antisemitism and recognise the shift. We need to continue to gather data to track if this becomes the new normal, or if the old paradigm in time returns.

Recommendation 12: The shift in the volume and nature of antisemitism online after October 7 requires on-going monitoring and analysis to determine if this is a temporary or permanent change.

Racist Anti-Zionism

Racist Anti-Zionism is a phenomenon that has evolved from silencing and excluding participation within particular political groups or activities, into an effort to exclude Jews from society at large, and to exclude consideration of antisemitism from the broader considerations of racism, persecution, and oppression. Racist Anti-Zionism moves beyond opposition to Zionism as an ideology, and into expressions of hostility and incitement to hate and violence against people who identify as Zionists or have expressed positivity towards Israel. It rejects or simply disregards the idea that this is antisemitic.

Racist Anti-Zionism starts with the proposition that Zionism is not the national liberation movement of the Jewish people, but rather a unique evil in the world. Online

content creating a thing labelled "Zionism", which bears no resemblance to the Zionism supported by a majority of the Jewish community who identify as Zionists, nor reflective of the great Zionist thinkers, has been a feature of the internet promoted by antisemitic websites since at least the early 2000s and which for a time dominated search results on Zionism.¹³⁹ The BDS Movement also sought to demonise Zionism, particularly by equating Zionism with racism, an idea started by a KGB disinformation campaign in 1967, adopted by a United Nations General Assembly resolution in 1988, and repealed by the United Nations General Assembly in 1991.¹⁴⁰ The last few years has also seen an increased focus on demonising Zionism as settler colonialism, which linked to an increased focus on

In Racist Anti-Zionism, an Israeli, a self described Zionist, or indeed anyone expressing positivity to Israel, is seen as an oppressor. The corollary is that they can't then be a victim of racism. This is a shift from a discussion of an ideology to a focus on people who hold that ideology. This is a significant change in focus.

In some Racist Anti-Zionism, not only is Israel called racist, but it is called a Nazi state. This is more than just a poor analogy, and means that Israelis, Zionists, or those deemed to be Zionists, are then called Nazis. This leads to calls to treat them as the far-left would treat Nazis - with abuse, doxxing, and violence.

Writing in *Time* John Benjamin warns of the danger in Holocaust analogies. He explains, "In war, we talk a lot about proportionality: What is a reasonable, equitable military response to an event? If that event is the same as the worst thing that ever happened, what won't we allow ourselves to do in return?"¹⁴¹ He is speaking of Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Gilad Erdan, who made a Holocaust analogy. Erdan put on a yellow star like those the Nazis forced Jews to wear in the Holocaust, and said he would wear it until the UN condemned the Hamas atrocities on October 7. He was criticised for this move by Yad

¹³⁹ Oboler, Andre. "Chapter 12. Zionism through the Internet's Looking Glass". From Antisemitism to Anti-Zionism: The Past & Present of a Lethal Ideology, edited by Eunice G. Pollack, Boston, USA: Academic Studies Press, 2017, pp. 334-360. <u>https://doi.org/10.1515/9781618115669-013</u>

¹⁴⁰ Oboler, Andre, "Chapter 11: Online BDS and antisemitic hate", in Fraser, R and Fraser, L. (Eds) (2023), *Challenging the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) Movement: 20 Years of Responding to Anti-Israel Campaigns.* Taylor & Francis.

¹⁴¹ John Benjamin, "The Real Danger of Using Holocaust Analogies Right Now", *Time*, 16 November 2023. <u>https://time.com/6336249/oct-7-gaza-holocaust-essay/</u>

Vashem chairperson Dani Dayan who said it "belittles the victims of the Holocaust as well as the state of Israel".¹⁴² Benjamin's argument can also apply in the other direction, to those using Holocaust analogies to attack Israel. When used this way it provides the first element necessary for Racist Anti-Zionism. Those who regard the bombing of Gaza, or the plight of the Palestinians in general, as the worst thing to ever occur, can justify any means necessary to get the ends they want. This leads to justifications of the Hamas terrorist attack on civilians, and of Hamas's other war crimes including hostage taking. More locally it can be used to justify overt antisemitic attacks, or to simply ignore concerns about antisemitism as comparatively unimportant compared to their cause. This lays the groundwork for Racist Anti-Zionism.

We also observed the argument "Zionism isn't Judaism" being used repeatedly to suggest attacks couldn't be antisemitic if they were expressed as targeting "Zionists". That's like suggesting it isn't Islamophobic to attack people who believe women should wear burkas. One could argue that the idea women should wear burkas isn't "Islam" as the Koran only says men and women should "cover and be modest", it does not prescribe specific clothing.¹⁴³ It is, however, a belief held by some Muslims so targeting these people is by definition targeting Muslims, and therefore Islamohpobic. Similarly, the vast majority of Jews are Zionists, so using "Zionists" becomes another way of targeting Jews. This use of Zionists as coded language for Jews is not new. It can be seen in phrases like "Zionist Occupied Government" or ZOG, a term used in conspiracy theories alleging Jewish control of governments since at least 1976.¹⁴⁴

Racist Anti-Zionism adds something more. Building on a more general opposition to settler colonialism it asserts that Zionism is a form of settler colonialism, and therefore Zionists are "oppressors". As Dr Sheree Trotter, an Indigenous person (a Māori from New Zealander), explains, "Settler colonialism adopts a binary vision of the world that is divided into the oppressor and oppressed, painting the former as all evil and the latter totally innocent."¹⁴⁵ In this world view it is asserted that Zionists can't be victims. This allows attacks on Zionists (i.e. Jews) to be framed as a legitimate anti-racism tactic, rather than racism (specifically antisemitism). Trotter noted how messages about "75 years of colonial oppression" flooded the internet after the October 7 attack, implying Israel deserved the terrorist attack and encouraging justification of the attack.¹⁴⁶ Trotter calls the Settler colonialism narrative when applied to Israel "a dangerous political construct devoid of explanatory power" and which suggests "foreign Jewish Europeans invaded Palestine, dispossessed the indigenous Palestinians of their lands and that they engage in oppression to this day", a narrative she says "twists and rewrites history, ignoring facts and evidence".¹⁴⁷

¹⁴² "Israel UN envoy draws criticism for donning yellow star", *DW*, 31 OCtober 2023.

https://www.dw.com/en/israel-un-envoy-draws-criticism-for-donning-yellow-star/a-67263811 ¹⁴³ James Vyver, "Explainer: Why do Muslim women wear a burka, niqab or hijab?" *ABC*, 7 March

¹⁴³ James Vyver, "Explainer: Why do Muslim women wear a burka, niqab or hijab?" ABC, 7 March 2024.

https://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-09-24/why-do-muslim-women-wear-a-burka-niqab-or-hijab/576151

¹⁴⁴ Michael, G. (2014). *Extremism in America.* p. 210.

¹⁴⁵ Sheree Trotter, "Colonization' is a deeply flawed explanation for the 7 October massacre", *Plain Sight*, 13 December 2023.

https://plainsight.nz/colonization-is-a-deeply-flawed-explanation-for-the-7-october-massacre/ ¹⁴⁶ Ibid.

¹⁴⁷ Ibid.

The antisemitism in Racist Anti-Zionism is also facilitated by dehumanisation. As Simon Sebag Montefiore noted in *The Atlantic* the "decolonization narrative has dehumanized Israelis to the extent that otherwise rational people excuse, deny, or support barbarity" and holds that "Palestinians have a right to eliminate their oppressors".¹⁴⁸ He reflects on how "Western academics, students, artists, and activists have denied, excused, or even celebrated the murders by a terrorist sect that proclaims an anti-Jewish genocidal program".¹⁴⁹ He calls the Palestinian decolonisation ideology "a toxic, historically nonsensical mix of Marxist theory, Soviet propaganda, and traditional anti-Semitism from the Middle Ages and the 19th century", that paints Palestinians as people of colour, seeking solidarity, and Israelis as white or white-adjacent.¹⁵⁰ He explains how this draws on an American identity narrative in which it is deemed almost impossible for the "oppressed" to be racist, or the "oppressor" a victim of racism.¹⁵¹

Applying the "oppressor" or "oppressed" choice to Israel, powerful compared to Palestinians, but not in the context of a minority in the Middle East, and often systematically discriminated against in the United Nations, is problematic.¹⁵² It becomes a completely absurd position when used to argue Jewish communities, and individual Jews, around the world are "oppressors" and can't be victims. In the United States over half of all religion-based crime targeted Jews.¹⁵³ In the UK antisemitism was the second highest type of religious-based crime in absolute terms and by far the highest per-capita of the impacted community.¹⁵⁴ Australia follows the same pattern.¹⁵⁵ In Europe FRA (the European Union Agency for Fundamental Human Rights) produces a focused annual report on antisemitism collating data on incidents in each member country and monitoring compliance with relevant European directives.¹⁵⁶ Even if one were to support the false dichotomy of "oppressors" or "oppressed", using it to strip protection from a minority group that is regularly the victim of racism is beyond absurd. This, however, is what Racist Anti-Zionism seeks to do.

The development of a Racist Anti-Zionist argument can be seen in an example we published in an article on the doxxing of a large group of Australian Jewish artists and creatives.¹⁵⁷ In the example a social media influencer posted a link to download the data doxxing around

¹⁵³ "2022 FBI Hate Crimes Statistics", US Department of Justice, 20 October 2023. <u>https://www.justice.gov/crs/highlights/2022-hate-crime-statistics</u>

¹⁴⁸ Simon Sebag Montefiore, "The Decolonization Narrative Is Dangerous and False", *The Atlantic,* 27 October 2023.

https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2023/10/decolonization-narrative-dangerous-and-false/6757 99/

¹⁴⁹ Ibid.

¹⁵⁰ Ibid.

¹⁵¹ Ibid.

¹⁵² Colin Rubenstein, "Israel victimised by broken UN System", *The Daily Telegraph*, 28 December 2021. <u>https://aijac.org.au/op-ed/israel-victimised-by-broken-un-system/</u>

¹⁵⁴ Yago Zayed and Grahame Allen, *Hate Crime Statistics,* House of Commons Library, 14 January 2024. p. 26-27. <u>https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-8537/CBP-8537.pdf</u>

¹⁵⁵ Mason, G. (2019). "A Picture of Bias Crime in New South Wales". *Cosmopolitan Civil Societies: an Interdisciplinary Journal*, 11:1, 47-66. <u>https://doi.org/10.5130/ccs.v11.i1.6402</u>

¹⁵⁶ (2023) *Antisemitism in 2022: Overview of Antisemitic Incidents Recorded in the EU*, European Union Agency for Fundamental Human Rights, 2023.

https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2023-antisemitism-update-2012-2022_en.pdf ¹⁵⁷ Andre Oboler, "Targeting Jews is antisemitic", Online Hate prevention Institute, 9 February 2024. https://ohpi.org.au/targeting-jews-is-antisemitic/

600 Jewish Australians. A Jewish (former) supporter of the influencer criticised the post and how it invites harm to Jewish people. Another user defended the influencer and excused the doxxing attack saying, "She's against Zionists. Zionism = Nazism. She's doxxing Nazis." Another user comments, "All Zionists are Nazis" justifying the comment by saying, "Their political ideology revolves around ethnic cleansing and genocide."





While applying the settler-colonial argument to Israel is deeply problematic, it is also a tangent to the real issue. Even in the case of Australia, a country indisputably resulting from settler colonialism, this fact doesn't make attacks on random Australians visiting another country, Australian expats living in another country, non-Australians who say they like

Australia, or who simply like the Australian TV show *Neighbours*,¹⁵⁸ acceptable. Regardless of past or ongoing harms,¹⁵⁹ or one's views on a national apology, constitutional recognition, or even reparation, these are questions related to government policy or collective national responsibility, they are not matters over which an individual citizen can or should be held accountable. To do so is to discriminate based on nationality, and as such, a form of racism under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. Racist Anti-Zionism engages in just such racism, but targeted at Jews based on views related to either actual Zionism, or some imagined evil given the name "Zionism".

Racist Anti-Zionism seeks to exclude Jews from society as a whole by declaring that the beliefs held by most Jews are unacceptable. It also goes beyond mere exclusion, justifying the persecution of Jews, and even incitement to violence against Jews.

The particular argument for allowing racism (specifically antisemitism) in the name of anti-Zionism based on anti-settler colonialism may be new and manifesting strongly since October 7, but the idea Jews could suddenly be stripped of the protections afforded others in society is far from new.

Since the year 70 (CE) and the Roman exile of Jews from their historic homeland, until the French Revolution, the history of the Jewish people has been one of living as guests within other nations.¹⁶⁰ In some places Jews were granted rights,¹⁶¹ in others Jews were subject to specific limitations and requirements,¹⁶² often persecuted or murdered,¹⁶³ and sometimes expelled.¹⁶⁴ This changed with the *Declaration of the Right of Man and of the Citizen* (1789),¹⁶⁵ and its interpretation by the National Constituent Assembly of the Kingdom of France during the early stage of the French revolution. Following debate, Jews were granted equal rights as citizens.¹⁶⁶

The idea modernity and equal citizenship would protect Jewish people was shaken in France with the Dreyfus Affair in 1894.¹⁶⁷ Antisemitism presented in the form of the idea Jews were

¹⁶⁰ "Ancient Jewish History: the Diaspora", *Jewish Virtual Library.*

https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-diaspora

¹⁶¹ "Jews: Vanishing Colony", *Time Magazine*, 27 December, 1968. <u>https://content.time.com/time/subscriber/article/0.33009.900460.00.html</u>

¹⁶² "Virtual Jewish World Tour: Rome, Italy", Jewish Virtual Library.

https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/rome-jewish-history-tour; "Christian-Jewish Relations: The Inquisition", *Jewish Virtual Library*. https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-inquisition; "Pale", *Britannica*. https://www.britannica.com/topic/pale-restricted-area

¹⁶³ For example "Anti-Semitism: The Persecution of Jews by Roger of Hoveden", *Jewish Virtual Library*. <u>https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/the-persecution-of-jews-by-roger-of-hoveden-1189</u>

¹⁶⁴ "Expulsions", Jewish Virtual Library. <u>https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/expulsions</u>

¹⁶⁵ "The Declaration of Rights of Man and the Citizen", *Elysee*.

¹⁵⁸ Lauren Carroll Harris, "Neighbours is Australia's grandest, trashiest soapie export. So why did it fail in the US?" *The Guardian,* 20 February 2018.

https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/australia-culture-blog/2018/feb/20/neighbours-is-australiasgrandest-trashiest-soapie-export-so-why-did-it-fail-in-the-us ¹⁵⁹ Nathan mudyi Sentance, "Genocide in Australia", *Australian Museum*, 12 July 2022.

¹⁵⁹ Nathan mudyi Sentance, "Genocide in Australia", *Australian Museum*, 12 July 2022. <u>https://australian.museum/learn/first-nations/genocide-in-australia/</u>

https://www.elysee.fr/en/french-presidency/the-declaration-of-the-rights-of-man-and-of-the-citizen ¹⁶⁶ Archives parlementaires de 1787 à 1860. Recueil complet des débats législatifs et politique des chambres françaises. Première série (1787 à 1799) (Paris, 1879-1913), 10:754. ¹⁶⁷ "Dreyfus affair", Britannica. https://www.britannica.com/event/Drevfus-affair

not loyal citizens of the state and could not be trusted, which made the framing of Dreyfus possible and the correction so difficult. The rise of antisemitism and Nazism in Germany a few decades later also took place in a society where Jews were well integrated as citizens, many enjoying positions of esteem. This didn't stop the rise of Nazism, antisemitism, and the Holocaust. In the post-Holocaust Jewish community, when there are systemic efforts to isolate the Jewish community, to refuse to recognise antisemitism, or to justify antisemitism, alarm bells ring for the Jewish community.

While explicit expressions of Racist Anti-Zionism are not a dominant narrative in the data we collected, we believe it is the cause of an underlying cultural shift that has made many other forms of antisemitism, particularly traditional antisemitism, so prevalent. It has also been deeply felt by the Jewish community around the world and is behind the sense of embattlement that many Jewish people have felt but struggled to articulate. Racist Anti-Zionism has normalised antisemitism, and made it more difficult to combat. It has been greatly accelerated through social media.

TikTok and Anti-Israel Bias

The focus of this report is antisemitism. We have not covered other issues, such as balance or disinformation. One area where the issue of balance is of significant public interest is in relation to TikTok, where concerns over potential state influence by the Chinese Communist Party has the US Congress to consider a law that would force ByteDance, the Chinese company that owns TikTok, to either sell it within six months, or see it banned in the US.¹⁶⁸

The Network Contagion Research Institute (NCRI), an independent research organisation based at Rutgers University in New Jersey, published a report in December 2023 noting how topics of a sensitive nature to the Chinese government were disproportionately under-represented on TikTok compared to their presence on other platforms, even after accounting for the relative size of the platforms.¹⁶⁹ The research used the relative popularity of a range of hashtags across TikTok and Instagram as its data, showing how the control items such has political hashtags (e.g. #Biden, #Trump, #BLM, #Democrat, #Republican etc) collectively appeared 2.6 times more on Instagram than on TikTok, while hashtags related to sensitive topics like Uyghur related hashtags (e.g. #Uyghur, #Uyghurs, #FreeUyghurs etc) appeared collectively 11.1 times more often on Instagram than on TikTok, or Tibet related topics (e.g. #Tibet, #DalaiLama, #FreeTibet) appeared collectively 37.7 times more on Instagram than on TikTok.

The NCRI report uses a collective score for a set of hashtags. This is:

$$Collective \ Score = \frac{\sum Views \ on \ Instagram \ for \ each \ term}{\sum Views \ on \ TikTok \ for \ each \ term}$$

This is problematic for three reasons:

- Large differences in the frequency of use of some terms will significantly distort the collective ratio. For example, in the politics category #Trump makes up 29% of all the TikTok data being considered and 24.1% of all the Instagram data considered, so this one term with its ratio of 2.2 has very significant weighting on the collective score compared to other terms. Including or excluding a single term can therefore significantly change the collective score.
- The range of ratios on particular terms indicate they may not be part of the same set. For example, in the political category specific hashtags range from 0.6 for #Trump2024 (i.e. it is more common TikTok than on Instagram) to Instagram having 19.4 times as many uses of #POTUS. If we accept they are part of the same set, and that this is the control set, it suggests a normal range is between 0.6 and 19.4 and we would need scores outside this range to indicate an anomaly.
- The use of certain terms might be influenced by the platforms demographics, for example high ratios exist for #RightWing, #MakeAmericaGreatAgain, and #POTUS, meaning they are significantly more common on Instagram. This could be explained by observing that there may be a particular community on Instagram who choose not to use a Chinese owned platform. This may influence the frequency of use of terms

 ¹⁶⁸ Bobby Allyn, "The House passed a TikTok ban bill. But is the app really a national security threat?", *NPR*, 14 March 2024. <u>https://www.npr.org/2024/03/14/1238435508/tiktok-ban-bill-congress-china</u>
 ¹⁶⁹ "ATik-Tok-ing Timebomb: How TikTok's Global Platform Anomalies Align with the Chinese Communist Party's Geostrategic Objectives", *Network Contagion Research Institute*, 21 December 2023. <u>https://networkcontagion.us/wp-content/uploads/A-Tik-Tok-ing-Timebomb_12.21.23.pdf</u>

commonly used by this community. By comparison, generic terms like #Democrat and #Republican are only 2.1 and 2.5 times more popular on Instagram than TikTok, which means they have about the same popularity on TikTok and Instagram once you take account of platform size.

None of this detracts from the findings of the NCRI work which show that certain hashtags on topics sensitive to the Chinese government are vastly under-represented on TikTok compared to Instagram. #FreeUyghurs for example is 58.8 times and #FreeTibet is 48.8 times more common on Instagram than on TikTok. Whether due to platform moderation or user self censorship, these are results hard to ignore.

The NCRI work did examine hashtags related to Israel after October 7, specifically: #StandWithIsrael (5 times more common on Instagram), #IstandWithIsrael (6.1 times more common on Instagram), #HamasisIsis (7.8 times more common on Instagram), #IsraelUnderAttack (11.6 times more common on Instagram), #BringThemHome (4.7 times more common on Instagram), and #PrayForIsrael (6.3 times more common on Instagram). This data is within the realms of the differences between terms in the politics category. This is similar to data related to support for Ukraine where the ratio between Instagram and TikTok ranged from 4.2:1 to 12:1 depending on the term. These differences may relate to the demographics of the platforms, including self-selection based on people's politics and views on using a Chinese owned platform. The results are very different to #StandWithKashmir (something aligned with Chinese government policy) which is over 660 times more likely to be seen on TikTok than on Instagram. Our view is that variance in the NCRI data on both Israel and Ukraine is within the bounds of what could be explained by different demographics, and while platform policy may have an influence, it is unlikely to be significant. The influence on other topics is much more readily demonstrated by this data.

Another study on potential bias comes from Anthony Goldbloom who analysed data from TikTok and concluded there is significant bias in the reach given to pro-Palestine content on TikTok compared to pro-Israel content.¹⁷⁰ He based his conclusions on the number of views that particular hashtags received. His data gives the most viewed hashtags on content from each country for the week to 22 December 2023, the number of posts that used the hashtag and the total views of those posts.¹⁷¹ Goldbloom selected the top partisan hashtags related to the conflict, and the relative number of views in a selection of countries. He argues that the number of views with the top pro-Israel hashtags, and that this indicates bias either from TikTok's moderation (deciding what accounts are banned and what content is removed), or their algorithm which controls reach.¹⁷² TikTok previously rejected claims of bias regarding the conflict saying, "Millions of people in regions such as the Middle East and South East Asia account for a significant proportion of views on hashtags" and showed #FreePalestine was far more popular than #StandWithIsrael across TikTok, Instagram, and Facebook.¹⁷³

¹⁷⁰ Anthony Goldbloom, "Why TikTok Needs to be Sold or Banned Before the 2024 Election", *Time*, 7 March 2024. <u>https://time.com/6836078/tiktok-sold-banned-2024-election/</u>

¹⁷¹ The data is publicly available at: <u>https://github.com/antgoldbloom/tiktok_israel_hamas/</u>

¹⁷² Anthony Goldbloom, "Why TikTok Needs to be Sold or Banned Before the 2024 Election", *Time*, 7 March 2024. <u>https://time.com/6836078/tiktok-sold-banned-2024-election/</u>

¹⁷³ "The truth about TikTok hashtags and content during the Israel-Hamas war", *TikTok News Room*, 14 November 2023

One way to test the claim using Goldbloom's data is to look at the data on Israeli content. The top pro-Palestine hashtag on content from Israel, #FreePalestine, had 22.3 million views, while the top pro-Israel hashtag on content from Israel #Israel¹⁷⁴ had only 15.8 million views and the next highest #standwithisrael had only 13.3 million views. It seems implausible that #FreePalestine would have more views than #Israel² or #standwithisrael, but being "from Israel" only applies to the post, not the views which come from anywhere.

A better approach is to examine how many posts made from Israel used each hashtag. Of the top 13 clearly partisan hashtags, seven were pro-Israel and together they were used in 9686 posts. Six were pro-Palestine and they were used in 4211 posts. This means that for every 100 posts (made in Israel) with pro-Israel hashtags, there were about 43 (made in Israel) with pro-Palestinian hashtags. This seems very high in the current circumstances.

Factors that may be contributing to this include:

- A strong focus on social media activism that has been fostered among pro-Palestinian activists in Israel over many years.
- The conflict energising pro-Palestinian activists to engage in more activism.
- A strong boost from paid activists working for NGOs funded from outside Israel, often by foreign governments.

On the other hand, recent polling indicates that 39.8% of Israeli-Arabs believe the Israeli government's focus in the current war should be "destroying Hamas in any way possible", compared to 35% who believed bringing back the hostages was the priority,¹⁷⁵ so assuming most Arab-Israelis would be engaging in pro-Palestinian activism at this time would be a mistake. The Israel numbers raise questions.

When it comes to views the 9686 posts with pro-Israel hashtags were collectively viewed 50.8 million times. The 4211 posts with pro-Palestinian hashtags were collectively viewed 47.8 million times. That means each posts with a pro-Palestinian hashtag was on average viewed more than twice (2.2 times) as often as posts with pro-Israel hashtags. This could well be a result of more people having previously viewed pro-Palestinian content, particularly some of the long standing hashtags, so the algorythm might decide they want to see the latest content with these hashtags and is more likely to share it with them. If so, it wasn't coded in for this conflict, but it is nevertheless a form of algorithmic bias impacting balance in the conflict.

¹⁷⁵ Nimrod Rosler and Alon Yakter, "Findings - The Peace Index – November 2023". <u>https://social-sciences.tau.ac.il/sites/socsci.tau.ac.il/files/media_server/social/2023/Findings-November r-2023-EN.pdf</u>

https://newsroom.tiktok.com/en-us/the-truth-about-tiktok-hashtags-and-content-during-the-israel-hama s-war

¹⁷⁴ Goldbloom's data lists this as "israel🇮🇱" and Goldbloom reasonably ignores this as the "🇮🇱" is unreadable. Using a decoder at

https://github.com/iorch/jakaton_feminicidios/blob/master/data/emojis.csv we are able to convert this to N_Flag17, which https://github.com/luisDVA/codeluis/blob/master/emojis.csv allows us to convert to the emoji code for the Israeli flag, which is displayed on some platforms as an actual flag on on others as "rest". This hashtag currently has 293.6K posts on TikTok and can be seen at https://www.tiktok.com/tag/israel%F0%9F%87%AE%F0%9F%87%B1

AI Generated Content and Context

An item from Facebook shows an example of content classified under 3.6 "Promoting traditional antisemitism such as blood libel and claims Jews killed Jesus" and 4.4.

The post shares another Facebook post that included an image of the McDonald's mascot holding a large pot of human feet over a flame. The image in the original post is titled, "The Secret Ingredient That Keeps You Coming Back". The new post adds the comment "This what they are feeding Israhell Demon Forces for free with these days."

The use of "Israhell" (a mixture of Israel and hell) and "Demon Forces" is an example of traditional antisemitism in the form of demonisation, as discussed in Case Study 1, as well as direct references to Israel, both in IsraHell and in the use of "Israhell Demon Forces" which has the same initials (IDF) as the Israeli Defence Force. The suggestion Israelis are eating people (implied by the pot of human feet), even as a rhetorical gesture, has overtones of the blood libel a form of antisemitism that can be traced back to the 12th Century in which Jewish



communities were accused of kidnapping and killing Christian children, and which by the 13th century has been expanded to claim they were killed in order to use their blood in rituals.¹⁷⁶



¹⁷⁶ Teter, M. (2020). *Blood Libel: On the Trail of an Antisemitic Myth.* Harvard University Press. See related information at: <u>https://thebloodlibeltrail.org/about-the-book/</u>; "Blood Libel", *Holocaust Encyclopedia*, <u>https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/blood-libel</u>.

We checked the original Facebook post and there was no reference to Jews or Israel in the post, nor in any of the comments posted on it. Instead there were references to "Soylent Green", a 1973 movie based on Harry Harrison's 1966 dystopian science fiction book "Make Room! Make Room!" and a joke about McDonald's signs claiming "Billions of people served". The image contained a tag to its original source, an account on Instagram.

We found the Instagram post, made on 12 December 2023, and saw that it also had no connection to Jews or Israel and stated explicitly that the image was AI generated and used the hashtags #comedy and #funny among others.



Despite the image not being about Jews originally, this case study highlights how content can become antisemitism when given a new context through additional commentary.

The case study also demonstrates how intended criticism, acceptable as a comment whether people agree with it or not, can become antisemitic speech when expressed using language that is antisemitic and imagery that in that context becomes antisemitic. The poster was probably intending to comment on the fact that the McDonald's Israel franchise announced they were giving free meals to those responding to the October 7 terrorist attack, including soldiers and hospitals.¹⁷⁷ The content, including the image, is objectively antisemitic (in context) regardless of the posters intended meaning. The correct test is objective, and considers how such content would be seen by a theoretical ordinary member of the group being negatively impacted. Experts and community representative bodies can help inform understanding on this.

¹⁷⁷ Pesha Magid, "Free meals for Israeli soldiers divide McDonald's franchises", *Reuters*, 18 October 2023.

https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/free-meals-israeli-soldiers-divide-mcdonalds-franchises-ov er-israel-hamas-war-2023-10-17/

"If I don't steal it, someone else will".

An example from Instagram from our data collection shows a meme that has been shared widely online, and offline (in the form of a sticker). The image merges the Israeli flag with a picture of an identifiably religious looking Jew and features the slogan "If I don't steal it someone else will".

It draws on traditional anti-Jewish stereotypes of Jews as greedy and thieving, as seen, for example, in the character of Fagin in Oliver Twist. The prominent use of the Israeli flag alongside the stereotypical looking Jew, demonstrates the blurring that is occurring among Palestinian activists between criticism of Israeli policy and an antisemitic targeting of Jews.

The Jewish person is also "wearing" a Star of David, which brings flashbacks of yellow stars Jews had to wear under Nazi persecution. This has been added to the picture and was not part of the original photograph.



The photo below shows a physical sticker version of this meme, produced by Free Palestine Printing, seen on 13 February 2024 in Melbourne by Parliament Station, near the Victorina state parliament. Free Palestine Printing also appropriated a popular children's character, "Bluey" to create a "Freedom Fighter Bluey" t-shirt they were selling, including in children's sizes.¹⁷⁸ In addition to being a breach of intellectual property, the t-shirts have been considered a promotion of violent extremism, including to children.



The stickers included a disclaimer "Stickers supplies for personal use. Distribute responsibly and abide by the law" which appears designed to avoid responsibility when the stickers are used to deface public or private property, which seems to be their intended purpose.

This meme refers to a real incident that was captured on video in 2021 and subsequently went viral online. We first saw a version of this from May 25, 2021, which is shown below.

¹⁷⁸ Joanne Panagopoulos, "Pro-Palestinian Bluey shirt removed after BBC warning", *The Australian*, January 8, 2024.

https://www.theaustralian.com.au/nation/propalestinian-bluey-shirt-removed-after-bbc-warning/news story/374e0980874b2124429a5cd7ca63d591

doesn't recommend Zionist

May 25, 2021 · 🚱

a terrorist organization which supports the illegal and apartheid state of isarel. land grabbers, thieves, child murderers and illegal squatters. israel is a terrorist state.



Background to the Meme

To understand it, some background is needed. When Israel was created in 1948, it was immediately attacked by its neighbours. The end of that war saw Jerusalem divided into two with parts: one in Israeli hands and the other in Jordanian hands. Many Palestinians who had been in the land that became Israel left their homes, becoming refugees. Many Jews who had been in Arab countries were forced out and fled to Israel. There were also Jews from East Jerusalem who fled their homes when Jordan took control over it and could not return.

In the 1967 Six Day War, Israel captured East Jerusalem from Jordan, and annexed it (unlike the West Bank and Gaza, which became occupied territories). As it was annexed, Israeli law applies in East Jerusalem. Applications have been made to the Israeli courts to reclaim ownership of properties in East Jerusalem that were owned by Jews displaced by the 1948 war. The court similarly hears applications by Palestinians to reclaim ownership of properties they owned and were displaced from by the 1948 war.

In 2009 an Israeli court ordered that half of a residential property in the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood in East Jerusalem, occupied by the al-Kurd family, was to be given to Jewish claimants.¹⁷⁹ A wall was built down the middle of the property. Jewish settlers have since moved into the property. In 2021, with attention focused on the on-going legal dispute, Muna al-Kurd told her Jewish neighbour, "You know that this is not your house.... You are stealing my house." He replied, "If I don't steal it, someone else is going to steal it." Referring to the fact that if he wasn't occupying the half the court designed to the Jewish claimants, then someone else from the settler group would be there.

Regardless of the complexities around the court case and legal claims to the property by the al-Kurd family and the Jewish claimants, the use of one obviously Jewish person, surrounded by an Israeli flag, and something they have said that helps promote negative stereotypes, is antisemitism.

¹⁷⁹ Rami Ayyub, Zainah El-Haround and Stephen Farrell, "East Jerusalem's Sheikh Jarrah becomes emblem of Palestinian struggle", *Reuters*, 11 May 2021, <u>https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/east-jerusalems-sheikh-jarrah-becomes-emblem-palestinian-struggle-2021-05-10/</u>.

Conclusions

Since October 7 online antisemitism has risen alarmingly and changed in nature in a way that is deeply concerning and will have a long term impact on society. What mere months ago were extremely fringe views, expressed by anonymous accounts on alternative social media platforms like Gab, are now finding their way into mainstream social media discourse. Worse, they are being normalised, accepted as a reasonable part of the online world. Jewish people raising concerns are being told that's "their problem", even in discussions among those who claim to oppose racism. Those with expertise in antisemitism, particularly those dedicated to the topic, are being marginalised. The tolerance for antisemitism is justified through generalisations, or by arguing that another cause is so important that human rights of Jews around the world are a secondary concern and something worth sacrificing. The Jewish community has heard this before, time and time again throughout history.

The Jewish people, and societies themselves, are facing a threat. We need a response. It needs to be informed by evidence. It needs to reflect the sudden changes in reality after October 7. It needs to account for the dominant role of social media in shaping not only views, but also culture. When the poison of hate is allowed to go viral, empowered by technology, it serves as a catalyst accelerating the threat to society. This report provides that evidence base.

One of the most concerning aspects of this report is the shift from generalised incitement to hate, for example, "Kill the Jews" to ideologically linked incitement to violence. Often Hamas related or neo-Nazi related. This change is concerning because it highlights an increased ideological radicalisation which can lead to violent extremism. There were 286 items, that is 10% of all the data, that fell into this category of "calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion". It may not be as big as the 1297 items, 45% of all the data, that fell into the category of "Promoting traditional antisemitism such as blood libel and claims Jews killed Jesus", but it is a type of antisemitism much further along the path to extremism. A particularly shocking form of content "justifying the killing or harming of Jews" is seen in the content that sought to justify or excuse the October 7 terrorist attack by Hamas, or disinformation falsely claiming most of the civilian deaths were caused by Israel. It is also seen in the real world phenomenon of people ripping down posters drawing attention to the Israeli hostages, particularly children, as if the war crime of hostage taking was ok in this situation. The fact that removal rates for incitement to violence is under 5% on Telegram and BitChute is not particularly surprising, but the fact it is only in the mid-twenties on Facebook, TikTok and X (Twitter) is shocking. This is just one story among many in this report.

The methodology used in this report was not predominantly driven by keywords or pre-existing AI models, but based on exploring social media with the human intelligence of experts. It is designed to capture change and avoid both false positives and false negatives. It is exploratory in nature, going where the data goes, but resetting each hour to avoid falling into echo chambers. It was a result of this methodology that we found a starting shift in platforms associated with the far-right, such as Gab and BitChute. On Gab, antisemitism related to Israel rose from an absolute negligible Nominal Daily Collection Rate (NDCR) of 0.4 items, that is we would expect to find only 1 items in about 20 hours of monitoring Gab,

to a NDCR of 37, meaning we would expect to find an item in this category about every 15 minutes. On BitChute the NDCR for Israel related antisemitism is 30.5, before it was 1.1. The data on these platforms for this type of antisemitism before October 7 data is so scarce the rate of increases would not be very exact, but in broad terms it is a change of 1 to 2 orders of magnitude. It is a dramatic change to the nature of antisemitism on the far-right.

At the same time we see the far left engaging in Racist Anti-Zionism, where opposition to Israel is used to dehumanise Jews, and give permission for Jews to be attacked. The slogan "Anti-Zionism isn't antisemitism" is misused by some to claim that even the most blatant antisemitism should be acceptable if coupled with a statement opposing Zionism. "I'm an anti-Zionist and believe all Jews should be killed" would be acceptable by this logic. The latest trend is "Zionism isn't Judaism", which is used to claim anything antisemitic is actually ok, so long as it is only referring to Jews who declare themselves Zionists, or who have a connection to Israel, or indeed non-Jews who express sympathy to Israel for the October 7 attacks. They are all labelled Zionists under an ideology where Zionists is presented as less than human and legitimate target for harassment, including volumetric attacks instigated by social media influencers, doxxing, and threats or actual violence.

The rise in traditional antisemitism is another key theme in this report. Once an excuse is made to leave behind the inhibition against racism against Jews, the full arsenal of antisemitism comes into play. Allegations of blood libels, deicide, Jewish control of media and banks, it's all there and growing sharply. While denying Israel's right to exist was the most dominant form of Israel related antisemitism on Facebook before October 7, it's been vastly surpassed by content "Describing Israel or Israelis using antisemitic words or imagery (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel)". In fact, this is the dominant form of Israel related antisemities closely followed by "Comparisons of Israeli policy to Nazism". The debate in recent years over antisemitism related to Israel is largely irrelevant to the types of antisemitism we are seeing. Saying "Anti-Zionism isn't antisemitism" is no answer, and completely irrelevant, when the type of antisemitism being promoted is literally the blood libel.

The fact Holocaust related content grew the least, only three-fold, and had the higher takedown rates than other categories of antisemitism on Facebook, YouTube, X and even BitChute, shows that improvements can occur when a serious effort is made. The Swedish Government and their Malmö International Forum on Holocaust Remembrance and Combating Antisemitism and the pledges they secured,¹⁸⁰ can be credited with some of this improvement, as can the work of the Oversight Board created by Meta than ran a case on this, and the work of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance. We need such concentrated effort on antisemitism online as a whole.

These are just some of the many stories highlighted by the data in this report. We welcome engagement by journalists and researchers draw out those other stories. This report is a beginning and a mirror to our current reality. There is far more to say, and even more to do.

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https://www.government.se/articles/2023/02/follow-up-report--pledges-presented-at-the-malmo-forum/

For our part, we will shortly be training and working with a team from New Zealand, who will join our researchers in Australia, Europe, and Israel as we continue our monitoring work. With sufficient resources this model, and the sample of data collected, can be greatly expanded. From there it can serve as a backstop to keep both AI driven and human based trust and safety work accountable and on the ball as antisemitism continues to morph and change.

Recommendation 13: Governments that have not already done so should provide the necessary resources to facilitate the on-going collection, measurement, and regular reports on online antisemitism.

Recommendation 14: Governments that have not already done so should provide the necessary resources to facilitate the on-going collection, measurement, and regular reports focused on other forms of online hate.

Recommendation 15: Governments that have not already done so need to start preparing for potential regulation of online hate.

In the short term, the next report from the Online Hate Prevention Institute and the Online Hate Task Force is in pipeline and will share data gathered over the same time period and with the same 160 hours of effort, but on Islamophobia. The Online Hate prevention Institute also has a major report coming out later this year looking at the referendum in Australia on The Voice and the topic of anti-Indigenous racism and electoral disinformation. Social media is both an opportunity and a risk to society. We need to get the regulatory framework right to protect not only minorities of all types, but to protect the fabric of our societies. The IEEE's Conference on Digital Platforms and Societal Harms in October 2024 will provide a forum to continue this large discussion, of which online antisemitism is just one part.¹⁸¹

We end by stressing the urgent need to continue to monitor online antisemitism, at the level of depth shown in this report. Donations and grants to support and expand this work are urgently needed. Donations can be made from around the world to the Online Hate Prevention Institute at https://ohpi.org.au/donate/ and are tax deductible for Australian taxpayers. Donations can also be made from around the world to the Online Hate Task Force at https://tinyurl.com/ohtf-donate and are tax deductible in the United States.

¹⁸¹ See the highlights from 2023:

https://ieeetv.ieee.org/video/highlights-ieee-computer-society-tech-forum-on-digital-platforms-and-societal-harms