

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Join us on Zoom to engage in a conversation about antisemitism.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2022 AT NOON



SCHEDULE



Rabbi Dr. Elyse Seidner-Joseph

Rabbi & Spiritual Leader

12 | Welcome & Overview

12:05 | Topic Overview

12:30 | TED Talk

12:50 | Breakout Rooms



Rochelle (Shelley) Rappaport

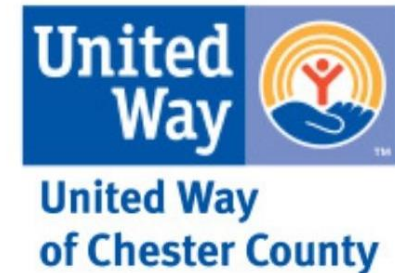
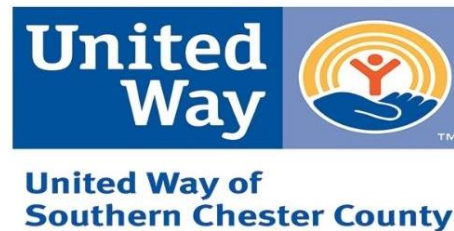
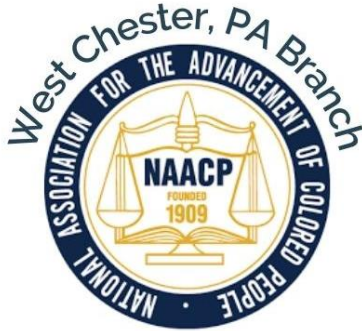
Director of the Kehillah of Chester County
Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia



Jonathan Friedman, Ph.D.

Director of Graduate Holocaust & Genocide Studies
West Chester University

THANKS TO OUR PROMO PARTNERS



A FEW HOUSEKEEPING NOTES

- Please be mindful and respectful to all.
- Some may have never have dealt with these topics before while others may have lived through traumatic experiences.
- Please mute yourself and turn off your video during the TED Talk video streaming.
- Feel free to eat your lunch while viewing the video.
- Please unmute yourself and turn on your video immediately after the TED Talk video streaming to encourage open dialogue.





Judaism: Is it race? Ethnicity? Culture? Nationality? Faith? Heritage?
The answer: It's complicated



Trump signed an Executive Order in December 2019 that made antisemitism punishable under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act — a clause that deals only with race, ethnicity and nationality, not discrimination on the basis of religion.
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/religion/2019/12/19/is-judaism-an-ethnicity-race-nationality-trump-signs-an-order-provokes-an-identity-crisis/>



Antisemitism:

- Hostility to &/or prejudice against Jewish people
- A negative perception of Jews, often expressed as disrespect & hatred
- Rhetorical & physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals &/or their property, & toward Jewish community institutions & religious facilities



Anti-Zionism:

- Prejudice against the Jewish movement for self-determination and the right of the Jewish people to a homeland in the State of Israel
- May be motivated by or result in antisemitism
- Creates a climate in which antisemitism becomes more acceptable



2001-2005

ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS
IN THE U.S. WERE ON THE
DECLINE

2016

INCIDENTS SPIKED 34%

2017

SPIKED BY 57%

2019

2,107 INCIDENTS --
THE HIGHEST NUMBER
ON RECORD SINCE
ADL BEGAN TRACKING
INCIDENTS IN 1979

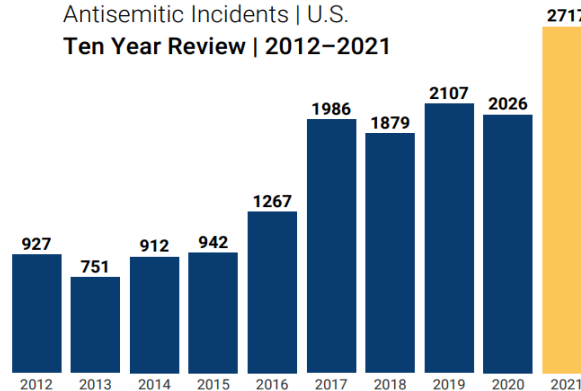
2020

ADL FOUND 2,024
ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS
-- THE THIRD-HIGHEST
YEAR ON RECORD.

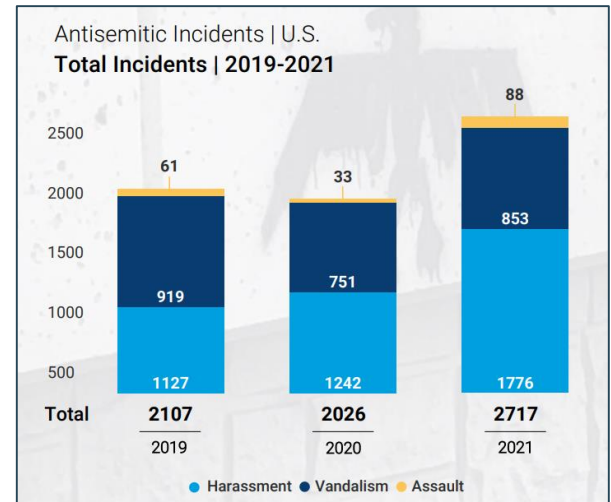
Anti-Defamation League – Audit of Antisemitic Incidents 2021



Antisemitic Incidents | U.S.
Ten Year Review | 2012–2021



Antisemitic Incidents | U.S.
Total Incidents | 2019–2021



https://www.adl.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/2022-05/ADL_2021%20Audit_Report_042622_v11.pdf

JEWISH POPULATION GREATER PHILADELPHIA REGION



As of 2020 the American Jewish population is estimated at **7.6 million people**, accounting for **2.4%** of the total US population.

Community Portrait: A Population Study of Greater Philadelphia

<https://jewishphilly.org/communityportrait/>



Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia

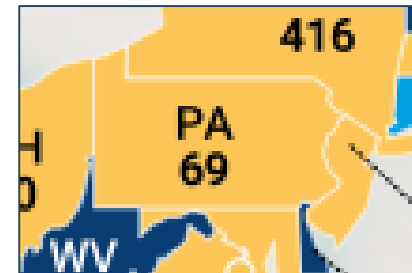
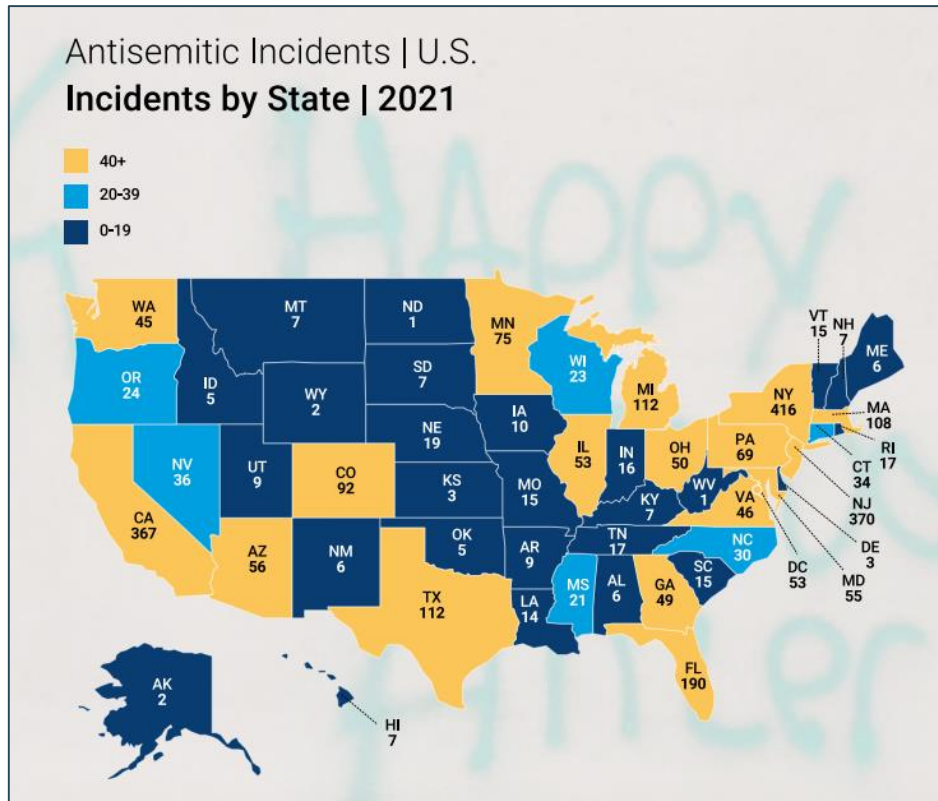
	2009	2019	Percent change
Jewish Households	116,700	185,500	+59%
People in Jewish Households	251,400	423,900	+69%
Jewish adults	177,800	297,900	+68%
Jewish children	36,900	41,500	+13%

	County					All counties total
	Bucks	Chester	Delaware	Montgomery	Philadelphia	
Jewish households	27,100	11,400	12,500	40,600	93,900	185,500
People in Jewish households	65,400	30,000	34,500	100,6900	193,400	423,900
Jewish adults	44,100	18,900	22,000	70,800	142,100	297,900
Jewish children	6,200	2,800	5,900	11,600	15,000	41,500



Antisemitic Incidents U.S. | 2018-2021 Incidents by State

	HARASSMENT				VANDALISM				ASSAULT				TOTAL			
STATE	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021	2018	2019	2020	2021
Pennsylvania	50	68	70	49	37	40	29	16	2	1	2	4	89	109	101	69



Anti-Defamation League Audit of Antisemitic Incidents 2021

https://www.adl.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/2022-05/ADL_2021%20Audit_Report_042622_v11.pdf



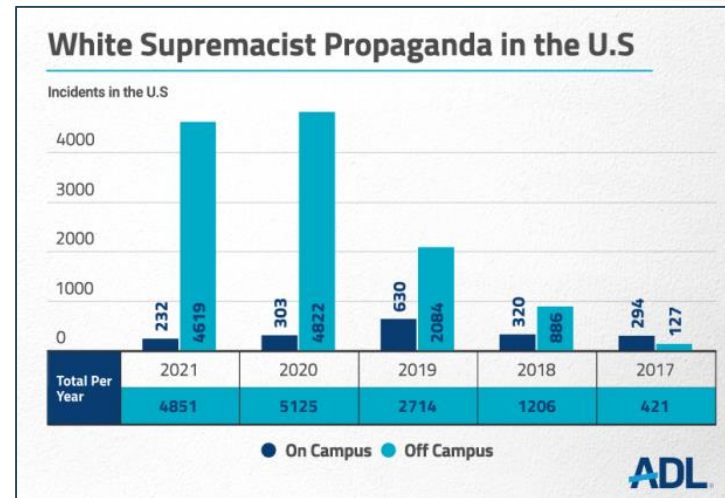
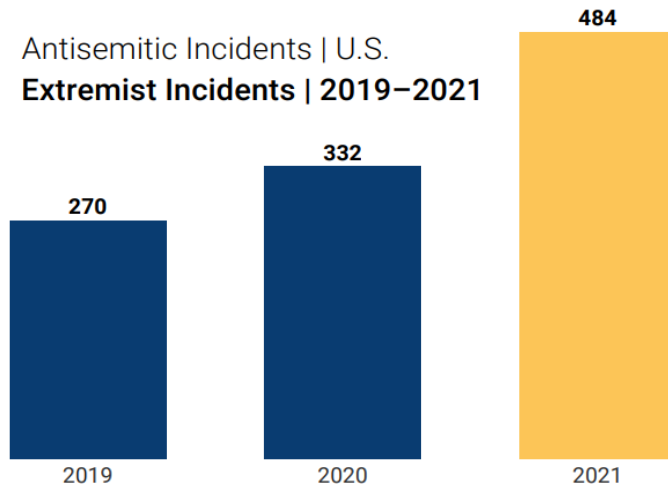
Extremist Activity

Known extremist groups or individuals inspired by extremist ideology were responsible for 484 incidents in 2021, up from 332 incidents in 2020. This represents 18% of the total number of incidents in 2021. All of the incidents emerged from adherents of right-wing or white supremacist ideologies. Of the 484 incidents attributed to hate groups or extremists, 422 took the form of antisemitic fliers, banners, stickers or written messages. This is a 52% increase from 277 in 2020.

The remaining 62 incidents of extremist activity included acts of antisemitic vandalism, bomb threats to Jewish institutions, Zoombombings, and several small protests outside Jewish and pro-Israel institutions. In 2021, ADL documented 27 antisemitic extremist gatherings, parades, picketing events or meetings. This is a 35% increase from 20 such incidents in 2020.



Antisemitic Incidents | U.S.
Extremist Incidents | 2019–2021



ANTI-SEMITISM EXISTS ACROSS AND BEYOND POLITICAL BOUNDARIES



HATE ON THE RIGHT

- Charlottesville “Unite the Right” rally (August 2017)
- Pittsburgh synagogue shooting (October 2018)
- Poway synagogue shooting (April 2019)
- Nazi propaganda at January 6 riots (January 2021)

*Out of the 270 anti-Semitic incidents committed by known political extremists in the US in 2019, at least **two-thirds** were committed by known white supremacist groups. Even among those anti-Semitic incidents specifically motivated by anti-Israel and anti-Zionist sentiment, traditionally the focal point of so-called “left-wing anti-Semitism,” the ADL found that the single largest source was white supremacist groups.* <https://forward.com/opinion/446360/the-adls-data-proves-it-the-right-owns-anti-semitism-in-america/>

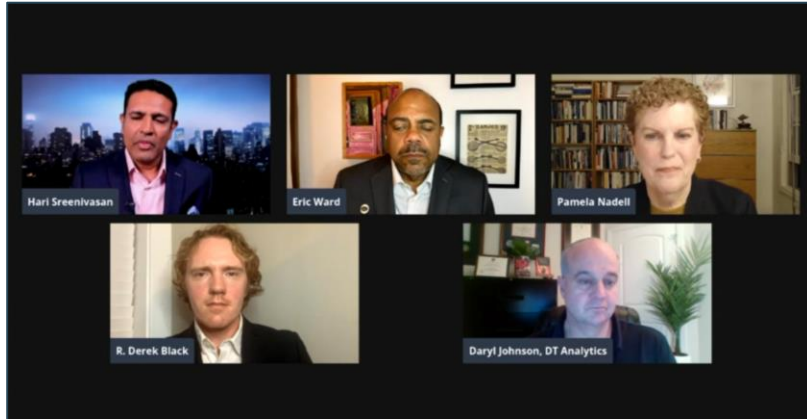
HATE ON THE LEFT

- Cemented in anti-Zionist propaganda & themes
- BDS movement – de-legitimizing Israel
Boycott, Divestment & Sanctions (BDS) is a Palestinian-led movement promoting boycotts, divestments, & economic sanctions against Israel.
- Some 2022 political left candidates have embraced themes related to Israel that range from incendiary to antisemitic

<https://www.adl.org/blog/some-2022-left-wing-candidates-espouse-troubling-rhetoric-on-israel>



You can both criticize the government of Israel and not be anti-Semitic *but* that is where words matter. This is an increasingly delicate matter.



Exploring hate: How antisemitism fuels white nationalism

By PBS News

Antisemitism is a core ideology in white nationalist movements. American University professor Pamela Nadell, former homeland security analyst Daryl Johnson, racial justice activist Eric Ward, and former white nationalist Derek Black join Hari Sreenivasan to discuss.



Antisemitic incidents hit a record high in 2021. What's behind the rise in hate?

By PBS News

The Anti-Defamation League, which tracks anti-Semitic behavior nationwide, found 2,717 incidents in 2021. This is a 34% rise in 1 year. Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of the Anti-Defamation League, joins William Brangham to discuss the record-high occurrences.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Join us on Zoom to engage in a conversation about confronting the painful parts of US history.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2022 AT NOON



Register: ChesCoCF.org/explore/Food-for-Thought

DATE/TIME	TOPIC
Nov. 15th 12pm	Racism & History
Jan. 17th 12pm	Immigration
Feb. 14th 12pm	Black History
March 7th 12pm	Food Access
April 18th 12pm	Healthcare
May 16th 12pm	Intersectionality
June 13th 12pm	Black Wall Street

Brief Intros

- Who are you? What brought you to today's Community Conversation?
- What did you want to learn? What have you learned?

Discussion Questions

- Where do you see antisemitism in your community?
- How are antisemitism and racism connected?
- Why has antisemitic harassment, violence, and propaganda increased so much these last few years?
- How can antisemitism be addressed and prevented?



Rabbi Dr. Elyse Seidner-Joseph



Shelley Rappaport



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