



Online Antisemitism in Australia 2023



An Online Hate Prevention Institute Report produced in partnership with the Executive Council of Australian Jewry.

By Dr Andre Oboler and Jasmine Beinart Report: IR2301

Online Antisemitism in Australia 2023 By Andre Oboler and Jasmine Beinart

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Content Warning and Support Services

The content in this report may cause distress for some readers. If you find yourself distressed, we encourage you to discontinue reading and seek support. In Australia there are a range of support services you can approach. Here are a few you may wish to consider approaching if you need support.

Lifeline

Lifeline is a national charity providing anyone in Australia and experiencing emotional distress with access to 24 hour crisis support and suicide prevention services. Support is available:

- By phone, call **13 11 14** and speak to a trained Crisis Supporter any time of the day or night (24 hours a day, 7 days a week).
- By text message, send a text to 0477 13 11 14 and receive support from a Crisis Supporter by text message any time of the day or night (24 hours a day, 7 days a week).
- By online chat, if you prefer to type rather than talk, you can message with a Crisis Supporter though the Lifeline website https://www.lifeline.org.au/ at any time of the day or night (24 hours a day, 7 days a week).

Kids Helpline

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

- By phone, call **1800 551 800**. Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- 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/

Beyond Blue

Beyond Blue is an Australian mental health organisation focused on supporting people affected by anxiety, depression and suicide. Support is available:

- By phone, call **1300 22 46 35** and speak to a qualified mental health line counsellor any time of the day or night (24 hours a day, 7 days a week).
- 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

Each year since 1990, the Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ), the peak elected national representative body of the Australian Jewish community, has published the Annual Report on Antisemitism in Australia. The ECAJ records antisemitism in two broad categories: incidents and discourse. In general, incidents are what 'is done to' Jews, while discourse is what 'is said about' Jews. It is recognised that the latter can have a considerable influence on the former.

For decades, antisemitic discourse was largely confined to the murky fringes of western society. But with the advent of the online revolution, social media has emerged as a leading medium for communication and information-sharing, and created an unprecedented potential for people with violent, extremist and hateful views to project their prejudices and emotions to a global audience and to organise into groups.

Unconstrained by national boundaries or almost any kind of fact-checking, hate speech, conspiracy theories and fake news are disseminated to vast audiences, sometimes anonymously, with a simple mouse-click. The effect, and often the intention, is to menace, threaten and vilify minorities worldwide with hate speech, based on their religion, gender, nationality, and race.

Antisemitism is the oldest and most culturally-entrenched of such hatreds. It is also the most readily adaptable to changing events and circumstances. The alarming rise in antisemitic incidents around the world in recent years is consistent with the increase in online hate speech against the Jewish people and the State of Israel.

Australia has not been immune to these trends. The Jewish community is the only community within Australia whose places of worship, schools, communal organisations and community centres need, for security reasons, to operate under the protection of high fences, armed guards, metal detectors, CCTV cameras and the like. This necessity is recognised by Australia's law enforcement agencies. It arises from the entrenched and protean nature of antisemitism in Western and Middle Eastern cultures, resulting in a high incidence of physical attacks against Jews and Jewish communal buildings over the last three decades, and continuing threats.

In order to combat these developments one needs to identify and measure the extent of online antisemitism, especially on social media. The Online Hate Prevention Institute monitors and acts against online hate speech and has developed its 'Fight Against Hate software' for precisely this purpose. This report shines a light on the findings which, on any view, are disturbing in their implications not only for the Jewish community but also for Australian society more broadly. Racism, and its destructive effects, may start with the Jews but it never ends with the Jews.

More importantly, this report has formulated a series of recommendations for government, including intelligence and law enforcement agencies, aimed at supporting public policy engagement to tackle online hate in Australia, enhancing the protection of the Jewish community, and building community resilience.

The research and the recommendations in this report dove-tail with the ECAJ's longstanding efforts to document and counteract antisemitism in Australia, and provide a sound basis for the continuing development of evidence-based policy to address this persistent and pernicious phenomenon.

Peter Wertheim AM
Co-Chief Executive Officer
Executive Council of Australian Jewry

Executive Summary

This report is based on a sample of antisemitic content from social media collected between November 3, 2022 and June 2, 2023. We have taken a strict approach to the inclusion of items in this report. An initial sample of 432 items, all visible from Australia and likely to be antisemitic were collected. After review by two experts, we retained 370 items. These items form the basis of this report. Many of the excluded items are still of interest as they promoted extremism, glorified Nazism, distorted facts around WWII (but not specifically related to the Holocaust or Jews), or engaged in general racism and xenophobia (but did not specifically target Jews).

165 (38%) of the items covered by this analysis are believed to have been posted by Australians. The sample was gathered from nine online platforms: Twitter (116 items), Facebook (42 items), Telegram (41 items), TikTok (39 items), Gab (32 items), YouTube (27 items), Bitchute (26 items), Instagram (24 items), and Reddit (23 items). This report provides both quantitative and qualitative analysis of this data.

In this report, the data has been categorised using a taxonomy developed by the Australia Government's delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA). This taxonomy is based on IHRA's Working Definition of Antisemitism and IHRA's Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion. The taxonomy has 4 main categories and 26 sub-categories. The report provides examples across the platforms and categories.

As items have been classified into multiple categories, a total of 947 classifications have been made, 428 classifications into four major categories, and a further 519 classifications into their sub-categories. The most common major category is *traditional antisemitism* which accounts for 40% of the major classifications. This is closely followed by *Holocaust related* content which makes up 38% of the major classification. The remaining two major categories, Israel related antisemitism and content inciting violence each account for 11% each of the major classifications.

The relative prevalence of each major category of antisemitism (compared to the prevalence of the other major categories) varies significantly by platform. Holocaust related content was the most prevalent major category on Facebook (58%), YouTube (50%), Reddit (46%), and Twitter (39%). On Instagram Holocaust related content and traditional antisemitism were equally prevalent (44% of each). Traditional antisemitism was the most prevalent category on BitChute (61%), Telegram (61%), Gab (54%), and TikTok (43%).

All items were reported to their respective platforms and the removal rates monitored. TikTok has the best removal rate at 15%, while Reddit and Bitchute had the worst with no items removed. Other removal rates were: Gab 3%, YouTube 4%, Instagram 13%, Telegram 12%, Twitter 14%, and Facebook 12%.

Summary of Recommendations

#	Recommendation	Stakeholder	Page
1	Australia needs to start preparing for potential regulation of online hate.	Government	2
2	The government should close the gap in eSafety's remit so it can respond to unlawful online abuse of minority communities, including the Jewish community.	Government	3
3	Government should provide the necessary resources to facilitate the on-going collection, measurement, and regular reports on online antisemitism impacting Australia.	Government	3
4	Government should provide the necessary resources to facilitate the on-going collection, measurement, and regular reports focused on other forms of online hate impacting Australia.	Government	4
5	The IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism needs to be operationalised as part of government efforts to tackle antisemitism, and the IHRA Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion needs to be both adopted and operationalised by the government.	Government	6
6	Twitter / 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.	Platforms / Government	11
7	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.	Platforms / Government	17
8	Platforms should fund audits, like this report, and use them to improve their responses to online antisemitism.	Platforms	18
9	Platforms that have not yet banned Holocaust denial should do so as a matter of urgency.	Platforms	22
1 0	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.	Platforms	22
11	The Australian government through relevant agencies, departments, and the parliament should engage more deeply with IHRA, Inter-Parliamentary Task Force to Combat Online Antisemitism, and other international efforts to address antisemitism, particularly online antisemitism.	Government	94

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 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 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

Dr Andre Oboler is CEO of the Online Hate Prevention Institute and an Honorary Associate in the Law School at La Trobe University. He has worked at the leading edge of international efforts to combat online hate and extremism since 2004. Dr Oboler served as a co-chair of the Global Forum to Combat Antisemitism and co-led its working group on antisemitism on the Internet and in the Media from 2008 to 2017. Since 2015 he has served as an expert member of the Australian Government's delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance. Dr Oboler holds a PhD in Computer Science from Lancaster University (UK), a Juris Doctor and an honours degree in Computer Science from Monash University (Australia). He is a Senior Member of the IEEE.

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an Honours degree in History, and for her thesis researched antisemitism and Holocaust collaboration in contemporary nationalist discourse in East-Central Europe.

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Introduction

Online hate harms individuals, impacted communities, and society as a whole. It destroys people's sense of belonging, and their sense of safety. It normalises hate speech in society and undermines the inclusivity of the community.

This report follows a similar work by the Online Hate Prevention Institute into Islamophobia (2015),¹ antisemitism (2016),² and anti-Asian racism (2022).³ It provides an updated snapshot into the constantly changing nature of online antisemitism, as viewed from Australia in 2023. It also goes beyond past work gathering and sharing data from more platforms than ever before, and examining and categorising the messages of hate in a more detailed manner than done in the past.

Increasingly, work into online antisemitism occurs using artificial intelligence approaches. These approaches have not yet reached a sufficient level of accuracy to be reliable, except for identifying a very narrow slice of content, the most obvious and explicit antisemitic content. Such content can be identified due to the inclusion of words and phrases that uniquely occurs in the context of antisemitism, either promoting it or discussing content that promotes it. Good research using artificial intelligence approaches starts with data highly likely to be antisemitic, based on the presence of these words and phrases, and then has experts manually review a sample of the data to calculate the percent of false positives. From this, the overall volume of antisemitic content within the sample can be estimated.

Work using such artificial intelligence approaches have a number of shortcomings. The initial selection of data, based on keywords and phrases, overlooks a significant amount of antisemitic content before the work has even begun. Experts cannot identify antisemitic content that was not included in the initial data collection. Significant volumes of antisemitic content use code words, images / video with no words at all, or are expressed using everyday language that avoids the words and phrases the algorithms seek to detect.

This work also uses these words and phrases, but only as an entry point. Around half the data in our sample was detected using searches for such phrases. The remaining content is the result of a manual review of other content posted by the same accounts, to the same onlines spaces, or by accounts that have reacted positively to the initial antisemitic content. This manual identification of antisemitic content by expert review of large volumes of unfiltered content has allowed us to capture the content artificial intelligence approaches would miss. This is further supplemented by content reported to us by the public through our online reporting tools, or through direct communication. Much of this content is also of a kind that current artificial intelligence would fail to identify.

¹ Andre Oboler, *SAMIH: Spotlight on Anti-Muslim Internet Hate Interim Report* (Online Hate Prevention Institute, 2015) https://ohpi.org.au/anti-muslim-hate-interim-report/

² Andre Oboler, *Measuring the hate: the state of antisemitism in social media* (Online Hate Prevention Institute, 2016). https://nla.gov.au/nla.obi-1971821446/view

³ Andre Oboler, *Anti-Asian Racism in Australian Social Media* (Online Hate Prevention Institute, 2022). https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-3117746478/view

Most artificial intelligence takes the form of models created through supervised machine learning approaches. Such approaches are only as good as the data on which they are trained. Work such as that presented in this report, which expands the available data able to be used as a source of training data, is a vital step towards improving such systems and expanding their effectiveness.

This work also highlights the nature of content that is falling through the cracks. Some platforms, such as Facebook, use their own artificial intelligence to identify and remove hate speech before people see it. Our data shows the nature of the content that these tools fail to detect, and that remains for users to report, and for the platform's staff to then review. This is the first gap this report helps to identify.

The second gap involves content that is reported, but then rejected by the different platforms. We have reported the items in our sample of data to the platforms wherever this is possible. We have also recorded whether those reports are upheld, and the content removed, or have been rejected with the content remaining online. A failure to remove the content indicates a deficiency in responding to user reports. In some cases this may be due to poor policies or systems, in others it highlights a gap between the policies as intended, and the ability of the platforms and their staff to recognise hate speech of an antisemitic nature. This report provides examples and explanations that can help platforms better recognise and respond to such content in the future.

The public, and the governments representing them, have become increasingly frustrated with the ineffective response to online hate speech. Other countries, particularly across Europe, are moving towards greater regulation of online hate, including online antisemitism. Europe's Digital Services Act (2022) sets new EU-wide rules on detection, flagging and removal of illegal content including hate speech. It also introduces a new risk assessment framework that applies to the largest online platforms. Minimum standards are being set, with fines of up to 6% of global annual turnover for systemic failure.

Australia risks being left behind. Work by the Australian Human Rights Commission, particularly the National Anti-Racism Framework, could provide a framework to address online antisemitism and other forms of online hate, but additional resourcing and a focus on the online world will be needed. Government also can't do this alone, the infrastructure to support systemic partnerships needs to be developed with both community organisations and expert service providers in the space.

We need to begin a conversation on how online hate in general, and online antisemitism in particular, should be addressed in Australia. If we want to move to regulation to have systemic improvement, we must agree on standards for measurement and on acceptable thresholds. This will take time, but we need to start preparing for it.

Recommendation 1: Australia needs to start preparing for potential regulation of online hate.

As a first step towards regulation, we need law reform to close a significant gap in one existing online safety laws. The sample of data provided here, all based on publicly visible content, makes it clear that online antisemitism, like other forms of online hate, often

involves attacks on entire communities. While racism targeting communities is unlawful in Australia, breaching Section 18C of the *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* (Cth), there is no simple way to address it when it occurs online. This stands in sharp contrast to the system of takedown notices and potential penalties for non-compliance that now exist under the *Online Safety Act 2021* (Cth) when it comes to the cyberbullying of an Australian child, cyber-abuse targeting a specific Australian adult, and other categories of harmful online content. This is a gap that needs closing. Other countries have included online hate speech in their online safety responses and Australia should do the same. The ease with which such content can be created, its ability to spread, and the visibility it can generate, justify an online specific response to mitigate harm.

We have been involved in consultations around the Office of the eSafety Commissioner since before it existed. In each consultation we have highlighted the need for eSafety to have the power to address abuse directed against communities targeted by online hate speech. One solution would be to allow a generic power to the eSafety Commissioner to order content removed (using its existing notice process) if the content is in breach of existing legislation. To empower eSafety to act on antisemitic content it would be sufficient to give the eSafety Commissioner power to address content in breach of S18C of the *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* (Cth). A broader power to act on hate speech against impacted groups, however, would allow action on Islamophobia, transphobia, homophobia, misogyny, and other forms of group based online hate.

Recommendation 2: The government should close the gap in eSafety's remit so it can respond to unlawful online abuse of minority communities, including the Jewish community.

This report also highlights the rapidly changing nature of online antisemitism. This is a result of new technologies emerging, narratives adjusting to current events, and changes as antisemites seek to evade both algorithms and laws (such as the recent ban on specific Nazi symbols). Due to its rapidly changing nature, it is essential there is on-going monitoring and access to current data about online antisemitism, and that this data is a true sample of what is online and not only that subset that falls within previously identified parameters for automated collection.

We also need to recognise that the online world as seen from Australia is different to the online world as seen in other countries. Narratives are often localised, and some content may be blocked for certain other countries, but not for Australia. We need to measure what is available to an Australian audience, understand Australian nuances, and ensure enforcement in Australia conforms to Australian law and community expectations.

Recommendation 3: Government should provide the necessary resources to facilitate the on-going collection, measurement, and regular reports on online antisemitism impacting Australia.

As noted already, the problem of online hate goes beyond just antisemitism. Similar reports are needed on other forms of online hate, but each type of hate needs to be monitored and reported upon individually. There are some forms of hate which are generic, and where the name of one targeted community could be readily substituted for another, but most online hate involves narratives, tropes, and symbolism that are specific to the group being attacked.

Like antisemitism these too can change rapidly in response to efforts to evade detection. Our past work across many forms of online hate demonstrates this.

Recommendation 4: Government should provide the necessary resources to facilitate the on-going collection, measurement, and regular reports focused on other forms of online hate impacting Australia.

Methodology

Potential antisemitic online content has been found, documented, classified, and reported to the platform concerned. At a later point it was reported again, and monitored for a response to see if it remained online. The data has been re-evaluated, and reclassified, by a second expert prior to being included in this report. During the second review a stricter approach was taken and some items excluded from our sample. Statistics have then been calculated and representative examples of the different categories selected and presented in this report. Except where stated otherwise, the examples presented are believed to be posted by Australians. They were selected to be illustrative of that category of antisemitism.

Key differences from past work are that:

- Content categorisation used a pre-existing schema rather than grounded theory.
- Most content was gathered by expert staff.
- This work examined content in both mainstream and alternative platforms.
- Content could be categorised into multiple main categories, but only one sub-classification for each main category.
- An effort was made at the time data was collected to determine if the content was posted by an Australian user.

Some of these aspects are now discussed in further detail.

Data collection

This report is largely based on a sample of data gathered by staff at the Online Hate Prevention Institute (OHPI), as well as a smaller collection of data reported to OHPI by members of the public through the Fight Against Hate reporting software, and through direct communications over email and social media.

The data was all reported / collected between November 3, 2022 and June 2, 2023. Data has been gathered from nine online platforms: Twitter, Facebook, Telegram, TikTok, Gab, YouTube, Reddit, Instagram, and Bitchute. Some of these are mainstream platforms with large user bases and policies against hate speech while others are minimally moderated platforms that only prohibit illegal content, and, often being based in the United States, use the First Amendment as a licence to host and distribute hate speech internationally.

Determining if content is antisemitic and classifying it

This report uses the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism to determine if content was antisemitism. The definition is supplemented by the IHRA Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion which adds clarity for Holocaust related content.

Use of the IHRA Definitions

The IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism is used as it has been widely adopted, endorsed, or embraced by many national governments and international bodies.⁴ As of March 2022 it was reported that a total of 865 entities had adopted the definition, including political parties, local councils, universities, and sports clubs and other organisations.⁵

In Australia, the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, the peak body representing the Australian Jewish community, has national policy democratically passed at its AGM stating that it "ENDORSES and ADOPTS the Working Definition of Antisemitism which was unanimously adopted by IHRA member States at the Plenary session in May 2016 and which closely follows the 2005 EUMC working definition" (policy 48.6) and that it "CALLS for the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism to be adopted and applied in Australia by the public and private sectors, including the University sector, civil society, school education systems and sporting organisations" (policy 48.10). The ECAJ uses the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism in its compilation of the annual Antisemitism in Australia reports.

The definition was also adopted in Australia by, among others, the Australian Government,⁸ the Legislative Assembly of the NSW Parliament,⁹ the Legislative Council of the South Australian Parliament,¹⁰ the Victorian Government,¹¹ Glen Eira City Council,¹² the Australian National Union of Students,¹³ the University of Wollongong,¹⁴ the University of Melbourne,¹⁵ Monash University,¹⁶ Young Liberal Movement of Australia,¹⁷ and Australian Young Labor.¹⁸

https://combatantisemitism.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/CAM-Kantor-Center-IHRA-Working-Definition-of-Antisemitism-Worldwide-Adoption-Endorsement-Report.pdf

 $\underline{\text{https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/international/asia-pacific/1634188711-australia-to-adopt-ihra-definitional/asia-pacific/1634188711-australia-to-adopt-$

https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/Hansard/Pages/HansardResult.aspx#/docid/HANSARD-1820781676-88459

https://www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/about-council/news/latest-news/council-calls-on-organisations-to-adopt-ihra-definition-of-antisemitism

⁴ 39 national governments have adopted / endorsed / embraced the definition as at the time of writing https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definitions-charters/working-definition-antisemitism/adoption-endorsement

⁶ https://www.ecaj.org.au/policies/

⁷ https://www.ecaj.org.au/antisemitism-report/

¹⁰ https://www.jwire.com.au/south-australia-adopts-the-ihra-definition-of-antisemitism/

https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/standing-jewish-community-against-antisemitism

¹³ https://www.ecaj.org.au/ecaj-congratulates-nus-resolution-on-antisemitism/

¹⁴ https://www.uow.edu.au/about/our-vision-strategy/statement-on-antisemitism/

¹⁵ https://about.unimelb.edu.au/diversity-inclusion/anti-racism-commitment

¹⁶ https://auis.com.au/monash-university-adopts-ihra-definition/

¹⁷ https://www.youngliberal.org.au/news/young-liberals-endorse-ihra-definition-of-antisemitism

¹⁸ https://www.australianiewishnews.com/young-labor-embraces-definition-of-antisemitism/

We recommend making it clear in any government proposals to address online antisemitism that antisemitism is to be understood with reference to the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism and the IHRA Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion.

Recommendation 5: The IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism needs to be operationalised as part of government efforts to tackle antisemitism, and the IHRA Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion needs to be both adopted and operationalised by the government.

The Australian IHRA Delegation's Antisemitism Taxonomy

Our approach to applying the definitions was to categorise content according to a taxonomy developed by the Australian Government appointed experts to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance. Each category in the taxonomy is derived directly from either the words of IHRA's Working Definition of Antisemitism or the words of IHRA's Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion.

The taxonomy uses four broad categories: Holocaust related content, incitement to violence, classic Antisemitism (not related to Israel), and antisemitism related to Israel (also known as "New Antisemitism"). These are the same four categories used in the first large scale report of antisemitism in social media, which we prepared for the 2015 Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism, then published in 2016.¹⁹ Adding further depth, the taxonomy adds 26 sub-categories.

The Antisemitism Taxonomy:

The top level classification

- 1. Holocaust related content
- 2. Incitement to violence
- 3. Classic Antisemitism (not related to Israel)
- 4. Antisemitism related to Israel

Holocaust related content sub-classifications

- 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

Incitement to violence sub-classifications

- 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

¹⁹ Andre Oboler, *Measuring the hate: the state of antisemitism in social media* (Online Hate Prevention Institute, 2016). https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-1971821446/view

Traditional Antisemitism (not related to Israel) sub-classifications

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

- 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

Application of the Taxonomy

During the initial data collection content was categorised into each applicable major category, and within each major category a single "best fit" subcategory (or the category other) was selected.

A second review by a different expert took place after the sample was complete. This review was carried out in a de novo fashion without information on the previous classification. In this review the URL of the data and saved images and video (where applicable) were considered. The data was classified using the same taxonomy, but this time all relevant categories and subcategories were selected, rather than the "best fit" approach.

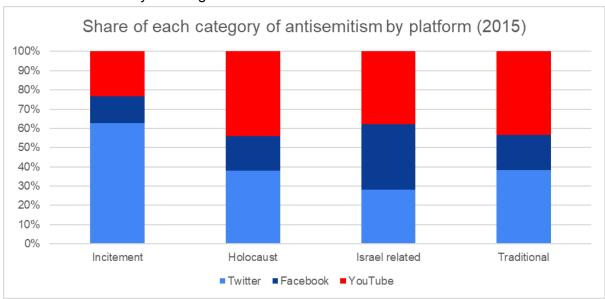
The second review also cleaned the data with some items being marked for exclusion from the sample. Examples of excluded items and the reasons content was excluded are discussed later in this report. Excluded content generally failed the test of being "a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews" or "the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity" as the IHRA definition puts it. Promotion of white supremacy, glorification of Nazism, expressions of racism that would impact Jews along with other minorities, are all excluded unless they also made some specific reference to Jews or the Jewish state. This is a strict approach to the application of the definition. The excluded content may in many cases be indicative of antisemitism, but our examples need to be antisemitic in and of themselves.

Why we use categorisation

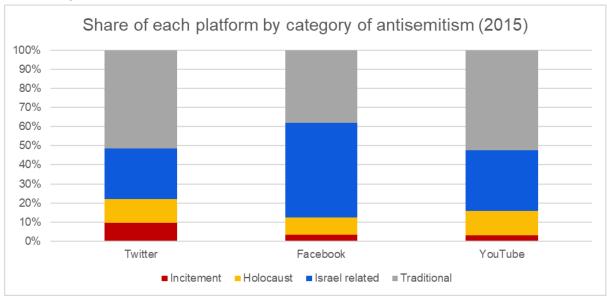
In our past work prepared for the 2015 Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism, then published in 2016,²⁰ we provided the first large scale report of antisemitism in social media.

²⁰ Andre Oboler, *Measuring the hate: the state of antisemitism in social media* (Online Hate Prevention Institute, 2016). https://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-1971821446/view

That report highlighted that it is not only the volume of antisemitism that varies across platforms, but also the relative prevalence of the different categories of antisemitism. As shown below, in 2015 Twitter was hosting 63% of the incitement to violence, while YouTube hosted 44% of the Holocaust related content. This indicates that tackling incitement would be best achieved by focusing onTwitter, while tackling Holocaust related content would be best done by focusing on YouTube.



At the same time, to address antisemitism on Twitter it would make sense to start with the most common form of antisemitism on that platform which was traditional antisemitism. This was also the case for YouTube. Facebook differed, with most of the antisemitism there, a full 50%, being Israel related antisemitism.



These different perspectives on the same data highlight the value in having data on antisemitism specifically, rather than an aggregate of hate speech, but also the value in having data on the specific categories of antisemitism. The 2016 report also included details of the takedown rates by platform. This data highlighted that it is not only the prevalence of different forms of antisemitism that varies, but also the likelihood that the content will be removed if it is reported. The data showed that in addition to Twitter having most of the

incitement to violence, the company also took this content down at the lowest rate of the measured platforms, 14% on Twitter compared to 75% on Facebook.

The data exposed a problem that could be traced to Twitter's policies. Exposure of the problem led to policy change so more incitement to violence would be removed. The original policy only recognised content as inciting violence if it met the legal test and fell outside the First Amendment in the United States. The test required that the reported content show the poster intended to incite or produce imminent lawless action, and their words or conduct were likely to produce such action. This was close to impossible on a platform where the users were generally operating anonymously, from anonymous locations, and it would be unclear if any actual harm was imminent. A tweet saying that someone should finish the job Hitler started, for example, doesn't on its own cross this threshold. At least not in the same way that a person standing outside a synagogue and yelling that to an associate brandishing an automatic weapon might be considered to be inciting imminent violence. Incitement to violence online may not be imminent, but it still leads to radicalisation and deadly terrorist attacks, as we have seen time and time again since the 2016 report was published. Based on the 2016 report Twitter altered their policy to prevent a wider scope of content promoting violence, inline with policies at other platforms.

Knowing about categories of antisemitism, how often they occur on platforms, and how well the platforms respond, is vital data in the fight against antisemitism. It helps identify the gaps where further work is needed to help platforms recognise specific types of antisemitism and respond more effectively. This report contributes to this work.

Determining if content is Australian in origin

Content has been classified as Australian in origin for one of the following reasons:

- The nature of the item itself is specifically Australia, for example it refers to an Australian person, place, or event.
- The profile of the user who posted the content has self identified as Australian in their profile, bio, or description.
- The other online activity of the user who posted the content is very Australian in nature e.g. their content regularly refers to Australian news, sports, events, etc, they are a member of Australian focused groups / spaces on the platform.
- Network analysis shows they have a significant degree of connection to other users who identify themselves as Australian.

The designation as Australian in origin is based on analysis, but may not be perfect. An item posted by an Australian, but while they are visiting or living in another country may still be designated Australian in origin through this approach.

Content that was not identified as Australian in origin is still visible and having an impact in Australia. The items are therefore still of interest to understanding antisemitism that has an impact on the Australian Jewish community, as well as to understanding the content that may influence antisemitic attitudes within Australia.

Some of the content not designated as Australian in origin may well be from Australia. The lack of a designation as Australian may mean that the content is clearly from another

country, or that there was no clear indication of the account's origin, or that there were mixed signals pointing to different possible origins.

The numbers on online antisemitism

When considering how a platforms contribution to the overall level of online hate in the world two factors are important: the size of the platform and how much of its content is antisemitic (known as prevalence). A small percent of content being antisemitic (low prevalence) on a very large platform, such as Facebook, can in absolute terms mean a large volume of antisemitic content online. Conversely, a higher percent of content being antisemitic (high prevalence) on a very small platform, such as Gab, may in absolute terms be less content. The worst case is where a large platform allows a high prevalence of antisemitism.

We can understand the relative size of some of the platforms using data from the PEW Research Center. They reported that Telegram is a regular source of news for about 2% of US adults, and Gab and BitChute are each a regular source of news for about 1% of US adults, which can be compared to 46% for YouTube, 42% for Facebook, and 30% for Twitter. The smaller and minimally moderated platforms are more willing to host all flavours of antisemitic content, and Gab in particular has a policy of only removing content that is illegal in the United States.

It is also important to consider the impact of the platforms. Users on small platforms with high prevalence of antisemitism, such as Gab, experience high levels of exposure to antisemitic ideas and a feedback loop which can strengthen antisemitic views and increase the risk of radicalisation leading to violent extremism. The threat here is in the depth of antisemitism. Large platforms with lower levels of antisemitism pose a different risk, the small levels of exposure may nudge people towards antisemitic views, or into accepting antisemitic expressions from others as acceptable discourse. This threat of normalisation, the antisemitism 2.0 threat,²² can eventually lead people to seek out the content on the smaller platforms where it is more readily found. The mainstream platforms can therefore serve as a gateway with more socially acceptable forms of antisemitism drawing people towards more extreme content hosted elsewhere.

Twitter / X needs to invest in automated approaches to remove data without users first needing to report it. Without this vital defence, the burden placed on minorities is too high and posting antisemitic content takes less than seeking to remove it. This creates a "whack a mole" problem as the antisemitic content is created faster than it can be removed. Even if only the most obvious cases were removed in this way, it would still make a significant impact and make it easier for the rest to be dealt with through reports and manual reviews.

Recommendation 6: Twitter / 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.

²¹ Galen Stocking et al, *The Role of Alternative Social Media in the News and Information Environment* (PEW Research Center, October, 2022)

https://www.pewresearch.org/journalism/2022/10/06/the-role-of-alternative-social-media-in-the-news-and-information-environment/

²² Andre Oboler, "Online Antisemitism 2.0. 'Social Antisemitism' on the 'Social Web'", Post-Holocaust and Anti-Semitism, April 1, 2008.

https://jcpa.org/article/online-antisemitism-2-0-social-antisemitism-on-the-social-web/

Prevalence of antisemitic content

This report is based on the sample of 370 unique items identified as antisemitic and visible in Australia. As some items have been classified into multiple categories, there are 428 classifications into the four main categories, and a further 519 classifications into their sub-categories. The following table provides the breakdown of the data by platform and major classification.

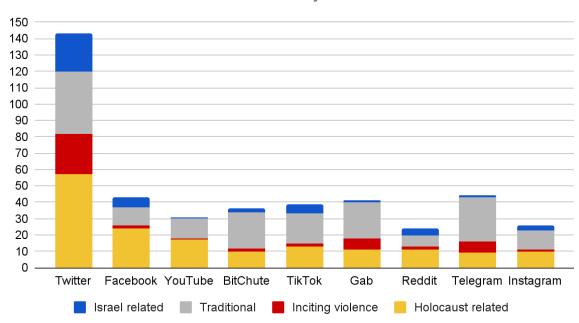
The first number is a count of the items matching that platform and category, e.g. there are 55 items of Holocaust Related content on Twitter. This represents 39% of all classifications of Twitter content, shown in (brackets and bold). It also represents 34% of all of the Holocaust Related classifications (across all platforms) as shown in (brackets and colour). The total columns show that there are a total of 141 classifications for Twitter, which makes up 33% of all classifications in the sample. The totals row shows that Holocaust Related content makes up 34% of all classifications in the data sample.

	Holocaust Related	Inciting Violence	Traditional	Israel related	TOTAL
Twitter	55 (39%) (34%)	25 (18%) (51%)	39 (28%) (23%)	22 (16%) (47%)	141 (100 %) 33 %
Facebook	25 (58%) (15%)	1 (2%) (2%)	9 (21%) (5%)	8 (19%) (17%)	43 (100%) 10%
YouTube	16 (50%) (10%)	0 (0%) (0%)	14 (44%) (8%)	2 (6%) (4%)	32 (100%) 7%
BitChute	10 (28%) (6%)	2 (6%) (4%)	22 (61%) (13%)	2 (6%) (4%)	36 (100%) 8%
TikTok	14 (35%) (9%)	4 (10%) (8%)	17 (43%) (10%)	5 (13%) (11%)	40 (100%) 9%
Gab	11 (27%) (7%)	7 (17%) (14%)	22 (54%) (13%)	1 (2%) (2%)	41 (100%) 10%
Reddit	12 (46%) (7%)	2 (8%) (4%)	8 (31%) (5%)	4 (15%) (9%)	26 (100%)
Telegram	9 (20%) (6%)	7 (16%) (14%)	27 (61%) (16%)	1 (2%) (2%)	44 (100%) 10%
Instagram	11 (44%) (7%)	1 (4%) (2%)	11 (44%) (7%)	2 (8%) (4%)	25 (100%)
TOTAL	163 (100%) 38%	49 (100%) 11%	169 (100%) 40%	47 (100%) 11%	428 100% 100%

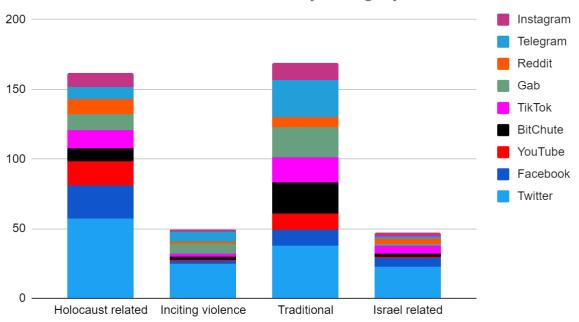
The classification of data by type and platforms is represented by the following stacked column graphs. The first stacks each type of antisemitism within each platform

(corresponding to the rows in the table), while the second stacks the data by type of antisemitism and shows where it is found (corresponding to the columns in the table).









The data shows that Twitter is a larger contributor to online antisemitism than other platforms, including alt-tech platforms like Gab, BitChute, and Telegram. Twitter accounts for 33% of all the antisemitic items collected across the 9 platforms. This is deeply concerning given the inclusion of "alt-tech" platforms Gab, BitChute, and Telegram, all of which promote

themselves as "free speech platforms" and are known for hosting far-right users including white supremacists.

As the data was sourced manually, the greater volume of hate on Twitter is not a result of the ease of access to data that Twitter has in the past provided to researchers. Instead it represents the ease with which such content can be manually found on Twitter. The policy at Twitter of not removing content until someone reports it is contributing to this problem as antisemitic is content is uploaded more quickly than it is reported. Addressing this problem requires a more proactive approach from Twitter, either using artificial intelligence to remove at least the most obvious content, or having staff proactively find and remove content without a user first having to report it. Conversely, it demonstrates the effectiveness of such proactive approaches when applied by larger platforms such as Facebook.

Twitter also continues to be the major source of content inciting violence, accounting for 51% of all such content in our sample. This is despite changes in policy since we last raised this issue in 2016. This category made up 18% of the antisemitic content on Twitter, putting it in a similar position to minimally moderated platforms Gab (17%) and Telegram (16%). It is deeply concerning to see Twitter more closely reflecting these platforms than other large platforms like Facebook and YouTube. This is an example of the worst of both worlds, a large platform with high prevalence for this type of antisemitism.

Twitter also makes up 47% of all the Israel related antisemitism (New Antisemitism), followed by Facebook which adds a further 17% of the category. Looking at the relative prevalence of this type of antisemitism within each platform, Facebook struggles most with Israel related antisemitism accounting for 19% of all classifications from Facebook. Efforts by Facebook to allow "political speech" may be allowing some antisemitic speech to avoid removal. Twitter, where Israel related antisemitism accounts for 16% of the classifications, and Reddit where they account for 15% of the classifications, are not far behind. All three are platforms where current events are more commonly discussed. This form of antisemitism, often associated with the political left, is far less common on alt-tech platforms that largely cater to the right (and far-right). There was only 1 example recorded on Gab, 1 on Telegram, and 2 on BitChute.

Holocaust related content made up 58% of all the antisemitism collected from Facebook, 50% of all the antisemitism on YouTube, and 46% of all the antisemitism related content on Reddit. It was found in significant numbers across all nine platforms. 34% of the Holocaust related content was seen on Twitter, 15% on Facebook, and 10% on YouTube. Given Facebook and YouTube have formally banned Holocaust denial, more work clearly needs to be done to fully implement this policy and to address various forms of Holocaust distortion.

Traditional antisemitism, such as antisemitic conspiracy theories, blood libel, and allusions to Jewish control of banks, governments, and media, was the most common expression of antisemitism on BitChute (61%), Telegram (61%), and Gab (54%). This is often the most clear cut, overt, and well recognised form of antisemitism. It demonstrates how "freedom of speech" on these platforms means accelerating antisemitism.

Antisemitism on TikTok was mostly Traditional antisemitism (46%) followed by Holocaust related antisemitism (33%). This is despite policies on TikTok against hate speech. This

suggests a lack of expertise on the part of TikTok when it comes to recognising antisemitism, and / or difficulties in implementing and enforcing its policies. The results mirror the findings of others.²³

Content deemed to be Australian in origin

While all antisemitism encountered during the data capturing process was recorded, and effort was made to surface Australian related antisemitism. As a result the relative percent of content deemed to be from Australia is not an indication of the prevalence of Australian content overall, or on specific platforms.

In total 141 of the 370 items (38%) were designated as likely to be Australian in origin. The density of content that could be classified as Australian, however, varied by platform. Telegram's 41 items were entirely Australia, making Telegram the largest source of Australian data. Twitter contributed 29 Australian items, the next highest in absolute terms, however this only accounted for 25% of the data from Twitter. The 25 items on Facebook, while lower numerically, made up a higher proportion of the Facebook sample (60%). Reddit items were not able to be identified as Australian, a limitation of the data available given the nature of that platform.

	Australian	Total	% Australian
Twitter	29	116	25%
Facebook	25	42	60%
YouTube	4	27	15%
BitChute	14	26	54%
TikTok	11	39	28%
Gab	12	32	38%
Reddit	0	23	0%
Telegram	41	41	100%
Instagram	5	24	21%
	141	370	38%

A key takeaway is that there are a significant number of Australian posters of antisemitism that can be identified on most platforms. However, identifying the location of users is easier on some platforms than on others. This leads to a larger proportion of the content being Australian on some platforms compared to others.

We can divide the platforms into three groups:

 Mainstream platforms where the platform affordances generally include a user's country or where patterns of discourse such as discussion of local sport, news, politics, etc. make a location easy to deduce. Acting anonymously or at least without

https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/international/technology-science/1592833747-report-tiktok-a-growing -hotbed-of-extreme-anti-semitism-holocaust-denial

²³

- revealing a location takes deliberate effort or deviation from normal usage. For example, on Facebook.
- Mainstream platforms where the platform affordances are less likely to include a
 user's country and usage may not make a location as easy to deduce, such as
 Reddit, YouTube and, to a lesser extent, Twitter.
- Alternative technology platforms like Telegram, BitChute, and Gab, where some
 Australians like to congregate in Australian spaces and find ways to identify
 themselves to others as Australians, regardless of the lack of platform affordances to
 formally support this.

There are additional factors which impact the volume of Australian content:

- A lower volume of Australian content might indicate a platform is hosting antisemitic content that is non-Australia or unknown origin, but which is significantly impacting Australia. For example, Australian based antisemitic content that is captured on one platform may link to / incorporate non-Australian content on another platform.
- A low volume of Australian content may indicate non-Australian or unknown origin content is surfacing easily / showing up high in search results when seeking out antisemitic content from Australia.
- On some platforms, like BitChute, individual prolific posters of antisemitic content, who self identify as Australian, are responsible for many items. Such a user increases the absolute number of items for a platform, and the share of that content that comes from Australia.

Removal rates of antisemitic content

The following table shows the number of items removed for Australia items, other items, and in total. On Twitter for example, there were 29 items we believe were Australian and 2 of them (7%) were removed. There were also 87 items we either identified as non-Australia, or for which we were unable to identify a location, and of these 14 were removed (16%). This means that overall 14% of the items on Twitter (16 of a total of 116 items) were removed.

	Australian	Other	All Items
Twitter	2/29 (7%)	14/87 (16%)	16/116 (14%)
Facebook	5/25 (20%)	0/17 (0%)	5/42 (12%)
YouTube	0/4 (0%)	1/23 (4%)	1/27 (4%)
BitChute	0/14 (0%)	0/12 (0%)	0/26 (0%)
TikTok	0/11 (0%)	6/28 (21%)	6/39 (15%)
Gab	1/12 (8%)	0/20 (0%)	1/32 (3%)
Reddit	N/A	0/23 (0%)	0/23 (0%)
Telegram	5/41 (12%)	N/A	5/41 (12%)
Instagram	0/5 (0%)	3/19 (16%)	3/24 (13%)

The removal rates for antisemitic content were poor across all platforms, the best result being on TikTok where 15% of the content was removed. This was followed by Twitter (14%), Instagram (13%), Facebook (12%), Telegram (12%), YouTube (4%), and Gab (3%). No

content was removed from BitChute or Reddit. Across all platforms 37 items were removed, which is an average removal rate of only 10%.

These numbers are well below those found by the European Commission's annual monitoring exercise on hate speech.²⁴ The European Commission requires platforms remove at least 50% of the clear cases of hate speech within 24 hours and the last report found an average of 64.4% was removed across all participating platforms. The monitoring exercise looks at hate speech in general, and 9.9% of its sample, around 360 items (a similar sample size to this report), was of antisemitic content. The report does not provide relative take down rates for different types of hate speech, though we expect these will vary.

The very significant gap between the removal rates for our data (10%), and that of the European Commission (64%), is mirrored by other monitoring efforts that have taken place outside of the official annual monitoring exercise in Europe. This gap may reflect a lower rate for removal of antisemitic material which also occurs in the European monitoring, but which is offset by higher removal rates for other kinds of hate. There is insufficient transparency in the European monitoring report to know if this is the case. More concerning is the possibility that special treatment may be given to reports from the participants in the monitoring exercise, particularly during the annual monitoring period. If this is the case, it would mean the entire monitoring exercise is occurring under artificial conditions that the results do not reflect the reality that applies at other times and for other people who report online hate.

In our data we can also see some variance between the treatment of Australian and non-Australian content on certain platforms. Facebook was much more effective on the Australian content, while Twitter and TikTok were more effective on the non-Australian content. Further investigation on a larger sample of data is needed to verify this. If the phenomena is still there in a larger sample, it may indicate that some priority is given on Facebook to cases where the poster and reporter are in the same jurisdiction. Conversely, lower response rates for Australian content on some platforms might indicate a lower priority being given to Australian based content. A lack of regulation in Australia, in comparison to growing regulation in other countries, could see Australia left behind as companies prioritise meeting regulatory demands in places where they exist.

Platforms themselves need to start providing transparency reports on hate speech targeting specific groups, rather than generic transparency reports which aggregate the response across all forms of hate speech. A transparency report on antisemitism would be more effective if it included a breakdown of content by language (e.g. how many items posted in English were removed compared to French, Spanish, Arabic, etc.). It would also be more effective if it included details of the number of reports and removal rates at a country specific level.

Recommendation 7: 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.

²⁴ Didier Reynders, "Countering illegal hate speech online: 7th evaluation of the Code of Conduct", European Commission, November 2022.

https://commission.europa.eu/system/files/2022-12/Factsheet%20-%207th%20monitoring%20round%20of%20the%20Code%20of%20Conduct.pdf

Reports which identify specific gaps where policies are not being correctly applied, and areas where existing policies fall short, are essential for systemic improvement. Platforms should fund work by civil society in this space and use the data to improve their policies, automated systems, staff training, and general understanding of the nature of online antisemitism, and of other forms of online hate. This addresses the risk poses by unknown hate their transparency reporting will fail to identify.

Recommendation 8: Platforms should fund audits, like this report, and use them to improve their responses to online antisemitism.

The nature of the online antisemitism

As shown in the empirical quantitative data just discussion, the volume of antisemitism continues to vary by platform. Importantly, the prevalence of particular categories of antisemitism also differs by platform, as does the effectiveness of platforms at removing the content. In this section of the report we take a qualitative look at the four major categories of antisemitism found in the data, and provide examples and discussion for the nature of this content, and its sub-categories, so it can be better understood.

This data is designed to assist in the identification of gaps that need further attention, both in Australian and internationally. Some of these are gaps in the policies of the platforms, others should be covered by existing policies, but their presence reveals a gap in AI detection, and / or the effectiveness of human complaint reviewers when applying the policy to these kinds of antisemitism. We hope this data assists platforms to better identify and respond to antisemitism.

As mentioned previously, we use the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism. While the definition is widely supported, including in Australia, as we have discussed, there are a minority who oppose its use. The "debate" over definitions, however, is often a distraction to tackling antisemitism. By providing examples of the content we have included in our sample, we also hope to facilitate discussion over the nature of antisemitism by reference not to definitions, but to concrete examples.

Some who oppose the IHRA definition may take exception to the inclusion of certain examples, however, we stand by their inclusion both in principle, and as examples correctly covered by the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism. We hold that excluding such examples would be a disservice to the anti-racism effort as it would allow some forms of antisemitism to go unchallenged. Discussing concrete examples is the best way to build an understanding of antisemitism for those needing to address it in real life situations. It also helps to discuss the specific examples in the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism, how they might manifest, and why they are antisemitic.

Debates over definitions often focus on the category of antisemitism related to Israel and the line between legitimate criticism of Israeli policies, and antisemitic expression. The IHRA definition notes explicitly that "Manifestations [of antisemitism] might include the targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. However, criticism of Israel similar to that levelled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic." Despite this clear

statement, some have sought to argue the IHRA definition could produce a chilling effect on Palestinian advocacy. Correctly applied, the only chilling effect would be on Palestinian advocacy which seeks to make use of antisemitic rhetoric. Such rhetoric can and should be avoided in advocacy. When it does occur, it should be called out, not protected. The opposition to the adoption of the IHRA Working Definition is to a large extent an effort to prevent this occurring. Some are explicit in demanding that there should be an exception to antisemitism for political discourse, but this is a position no different to arguing there should be an exception to racial vilification (in general) when it is used for political purposes - a dangerous position and one long rejected by the Australian High Court.

As to where the line is, we note the advice of Herbert C. Kelman, Harvard University's Professor Emeritus of Social Ethics, who explained back in 2007:²⁵

"The line may be hard to draw at times, but criticisms become anti-Semitic – and hence illegitimate – when they are directed at 'the Jews' rather than at Israeli authorities and the policies and practices these authorities pursue and condone. Moreover, the charge of anti-Semitism is particularly appropriate when references to the Jews and criticisms of Israel... evoke – explicitly or implicitly – the traditional, centuries-old stereotypes of the Jew, whether drawn from Christian or Islamic sources, or from the 'Protocols of Zion.'"

We have made similar arguments about the nature of Islamophobia and pictures of Mohamed in a previous report.²⁶ Again, using concrete examples to explore the problem.

We hope this part of the report provides a useful insight into understanding, deconstructing, and tackling antisemitism online. The rhetoric that we see online does not stay there, and the lessons we learn in tackling online antisemitism are an important tool in tackling the wider problem of antisemitism in society.

²⁶ Andre Oboler, *Je suis humain : responsible free speech in the shadow of the Charlie Hebdo murders* (Online Hate Prevention Institute, 2015) https://nla.gov.au/nla.obi-1971649835/view

²⁵ 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. 309.

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:²⁷

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."²⁸ 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)."²⁹

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 minimize the impact of the Holocaust or its principal elements, including collaborators and allies of Nazi Germany".

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

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

https://www.holocaustremembrance.com/resources/working-definitions-charters/working-definition-antisemitism

²⁷ IHRA Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion,

²⁸ IHRA Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion,

²⁹ IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism,

- 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.

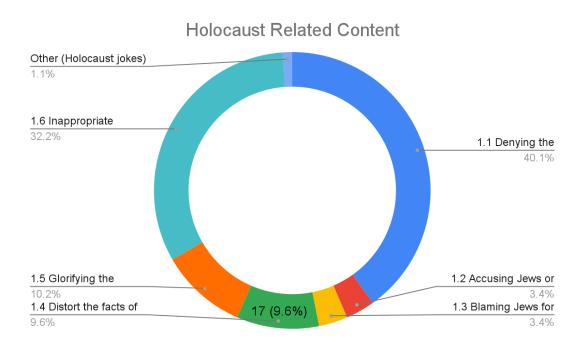
Glorifying the Holocaust or suggesting it did not go far enough

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."

A breakdown of the prevalence of the subcategories shows that the most common form of Holocaust related content is Holocaust denial (40.1%). The second most common is inappropriate comparisons with Nazis (32.2%).



- 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 Other (Holocaust jokes)

Some platforms are yet to put in place policies prohibiting Holocaust denial. They should create such policies, train staff in them, and apply them to existing content.

Reddit, for example, has a policy to quarantine dedicated Holocaust denial communities.³⁰ We recommend such content be banned rather than quarantined. With a quarantine of communities approach, there is also a problem of Holocaust denial content posted in other communities falling into a gap.

Recommendation 9: Platforms that have not yet banned Holocaust denial should do so as a matter of urgency.

Platforms with policies against Holocaust denial do not appear to have applied those policies to older content. Some have instead made it impossible to search for the content using their platforms search function. While this is positive, it is not sufficient. Content stored on one platform can be promoted and shared using other platforms, or other content on the same platform. The best solution is to remove this content, not hide it.

The platforms should invest in an effort to find and remove this content using both automated tools and human resources, whether company staff or through outsourcing.

Recommendation 10: 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.

-

³⁰ https://support.reddithelp.com/hc/en-us/articles/360043069012

Denying the Holocaust

Example from Telegram

This example from Telegram comes from an Australian right-wing group chat that is associated with an Australian white supremacist who has connections to the National Socialist Network. Anyone with a link to the chat could join it. Here a meme is shared in which the Holocaust is outright denied.

Online antisemitism example 1 Australian: Yes Removed: Yes Item #373

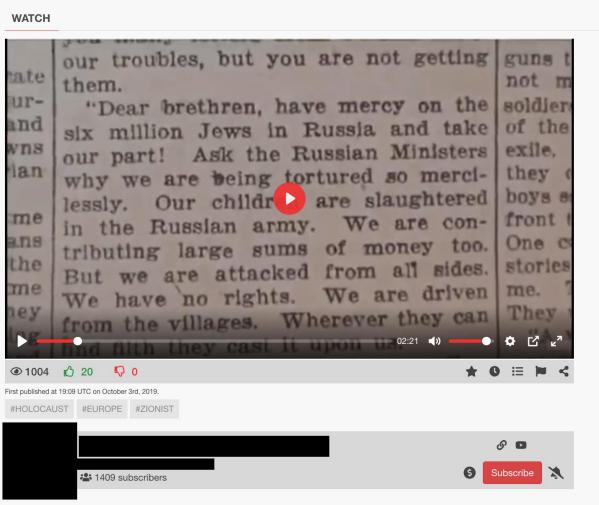


Example from BitChute

This examples comes from an Australian BitChute user with more than 1,400 subscribers and a channel where many of the videos are antisemitic and perpetuate conspiracy theories. In this particular video, articles from newspapers between 1915-1938 referring to "six million Jews" are shared, the implication is that the number "6 million" predates the Holocaust and is therefore made up. The Australian BitChute user's description of the video reads: "6 million Jews have supposedly died in various holocausts a number of times during the 20th century before Hitler got around to doing it. 'My entire family were murdered at least 4 times in the gas chambers and turned into a range of luxury lampshades and scented soaps.' Rabbi Cohen Shekelsponger." The fact that six million Jewish people died in the Holocaust is ridiculed in this content, making the Holocaust out to be a joke and a ridiculous proposition.

Online antisemitism example 2 Australian: Yes Removed: No Item #410

6 MILLION JEWS IN 10 NEWSPAPERS 1915 - 1938 (MULTIPLE HOLOCAUSTS)



6 million Jews have supposedly died in various holocausts a number of times during the 20th century before Hitler got around to doing it. "My entire family were murdered at least 4 times in the gas chambers and turned into a range of luxury lampshades and scented soaps." Rabbi Cohen Shekelsponger.

Example from Reddit

This post on Reddit comes from an account "holohoax" and sees a user explicitly state they are a Holocaust denier. They go on to deny the gas chambers existed, an example explicitly mentioned in the IHRA working definition of Holocaust denial and distortion. Following the IHRA definition, we class this denial of the existence of the gas chambers as Holocaust denial rather than Holocaust distortion even if the user hasn't also self described themselves as a Holocaust denier.

Online antisemitism example 3	Australian: No	Removed: No	Item #297
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Posted by u/holohoax 13 years ago =

IAmA Holocaust denier, AMA

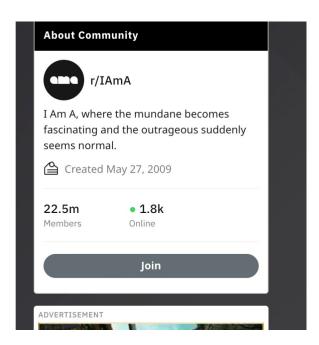


(as per recent request.) I do not believe that anyone was gassed in any of the Nazi concentration camps. I know a lot about the details of what happened in those camps and I am married to a socalled Holocaust revisionist, a person who has spent years studying the historical documents on what happened to especially the Jews in Nazi-occupied territories.

Because I will be accused of such, I want to make clear that by no means I am an antisemite or a Neo-Nazi. I also do not deny that large numbers of Jews were heinously and innocently murdered during WW2. Therefore I was very glad to learn that no Jews were gassed durring WW2, not having been able to find a shred of evidence for such anywhere - and we spent a lot of time and money on researching this topic.

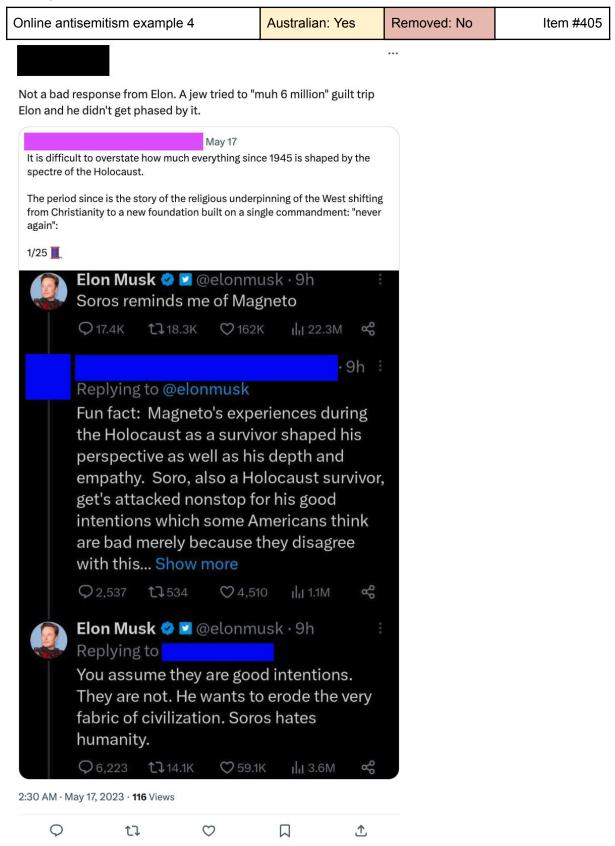
I do not have time to do people's homework, so I remind everyone that the burden of proof is on you, the accusers of genocide, the Holocaust believers, AKA the "exterminationists". Any impolite posting will be ignored.





Accusing Jews or Israel of exaggerating the Holocaust

Example from Twitter



This example comes from an Australian Twitter user whose username and bio reference the antisemitic trope of "the noticing". This antisemitic meme is about ordinary people starting to "notice" Jewish control of world affairs, as presented in traditional antisemitic conspiracy theories such as those in the Protocols of the Elders of Zion. NCRI has reported that this antisemitic meme increased markedly on 4chan in late 2022,³¹ which is around the time this account was created.

In this Quote Tweet, the Australian Twitter user (name redacted in black) writes, "Not a bad response from Elon. A jew tried to 'muh 6 million' guilt trip Elon and he didn't get phased by it." The use of "muh 6 million" mocks the victims of the Holocaust and suggests the number is inflated, and used by Jews to exaggerate victimhood for an advantage or gain. The phrase has been highlighted in the ECAJ's 2019 antisemitism report, "while a variant "muh 6 gazillion" was highlighted in the ECAJ's 2018 antisemitism report. This form of language is common to the antisemitic forum /pol/ on 4chan.

In this instance, the comment replies to a thread in which another user discusses the impact of the Holocaust on world events, while commenting on an image of an exchange on Twitter between Elon Musk and another user in which Soros' background as a Holocaust survivor was raised. The Twitter discussion itself, while concerning, is not the subject of this classification.

³¹ https://combatantisemitism.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/CAM_Musk-Ye-Groypers_1.26.23.pdf

https://www.ecaj.org.au/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/ECAJ-Antisemitism-Report-2019-condensed.pdf pg 13

 $[\]underline{\text{https://www.ecaj.org.au/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/ECAJ-Antisemitism-Report-2018.pdf} \ pg \ 113.$

Example from Telegram

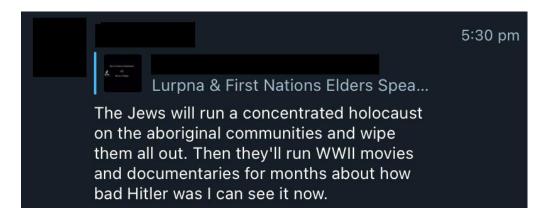
This example is from the public QAnon Australia/NZ group chat on Telegram and part of the discussion on the referendum on The Voice. The post reads:

The Jews will run a concentrated holocaust on the aboriginal communities and wipe them all out. Then they'll run WWII movies and documentaries for months about how bad Hitler was I can see it now.

The author first claims that Jews would perpetrate a genocide against Australian First Nations people, then they they would use the Holocaust to deflect criticism. The implication being made is that the Holocaust is exaggerated and misused to deflect/distract from serious harms carried out by Jews.

The comment appeared to be a somewhat confused far-right attempt to use a narrative more often seen in left-wing antisemitism, that of comparing Israeli policy to that of the Nazis. Done that way, it would use "Zionists" as a code word for Jews, whereas this post was explicit and direct in attacking Jews. The purpose here seems to be to inject antisemitism into a discussion of QAnon followers who are opposing The Voice.

Online antisemitism example 5 Australian: Yes Removed: No Item #370



Example from TikTok

This example from TikTok is a German video which makes fun of the so-called "oppression olympics". In the video, Holocaust victims ultimately "win". Again, this is an example whereby it is implied that Jews use the Holocaust for gain. The account posting the video has a display name referring to Shekels (the Israeli currency) often used by the far-right on /pol/ to promote the antisemitic trope of Jews as rich and/or greedy. The account address refers to "groyper" and the profile picture uses the groyper toad image which is a self identification with the Groyper Army, a group of white nationalist / far-right internet trolls.³⁴

Online antisemitism example 6 Australian: No Removed: Yes Item #248





Follow

#white #whiteprivilege #fyp #fy #blm #georgefloyd #biden2020 #trump2020 #stopmassimmigration #openborders #openbordersforisrael





The hashtags that accompany the video; "#openborders" and "#openbordersforIsrael", identify the poster as supporting the antisemitic replacement conspiracy theory which claims

29

³⁴ https://www.isdqlobal.org/explainers/groypers/

Jews are attempting to replace white people with immigrants in Western countries. As a counter to this, antisemites on 4chan's /pol/ started the "open borders for Israel" campaign to suggest if Jews want non-white immigrants so much, they should take them into Israel. This is an example of traditional antisemitism whereby the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy is being promoted. This example is not Australian and has also been removed from TikTok.

Blaming Jews for the Holocaust

Example from Twitter

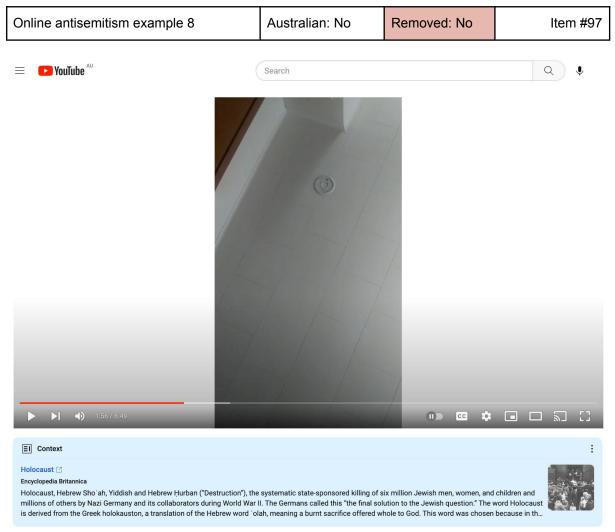
In this example Jews are blamed for the Holodomor, the Great Ukrainian Famine. The famine was a man made disaster and scholars are divided on whether it was a side effect of rapid industrialisation, or a deliberate policy of Stalin. In this post, Jews are held responsible for this disaster, and then also held responsible for creating the Holocaust to "cover it up".



Example from YouTube

This YouTube example shows a man talking about supposed relatives of his who have Jewish ancestry who doubt that the Holocaust happened. He claims that his family warned Jews who stayed in Germany that they should leave and essentially blames the Jews who stayed in Germany for what happened to them. He says that there was not a Holocaust because people had plenty of warning that it was going to happen. This example is not Australian.

As shown here, YouTube includes "context" information about the Holocaust on posts that mention the Holocaust. This is factual information, but runs tangentially to disinformation like that shown in this video.



Who're the Jews saying the Holocaust didn't happen?

Distort the facts of the Holocaust

Example from YouTube

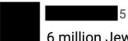
This item is a comment made on a YouTube video posted by Sky News titled "Twin Holocaust survivors celebrate their 100th birthday". The comment reads:

6 million Jews. How? There were in only 300 thousand in all of Europe at that time??

The comment may be genuinely confused, or it may be a deliberate effort to spread Holocaust distortion through disinformation. There were in fact 9.5 million Jews in Europe in 1933.³⁵ That included around 525,000 Jews in Germany alone. The Sydney Jewish Museum's website about the Holocaust provides a useful table showing the pre-war Jewish population of each European country along with the number of victims of the Holocaust from that country.³⁶

The figure of 300,000 in fact comes from the combined total of Jews in Germany and Austria on the eve of the start of the Second World War.³⁷ This is after accounting for many who had fled the country. As shown by the Sydney Jewish Museum's website, about 188,000 Jews from coming from either Germany or Austria died in the Holocaust. The rest of the victims of the Holocaust came from the countries where persecution, killing, and deportation of Jews to death camps swiftly followed the Nazi invasion.

Online antisemitism example 9	Australian: Yes	Removed: No	Item #84



5 months ago

6 million Jews. How? There were in only 300 thousand in all of Europe at that time??



³⁵

https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/jewish-population-of-europe-in-1933-population-data-bv-country

³⁶ https://www.holocaust.com.au/the-facts/the-human-toll/

³⁷ https://holocausteducation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/3-6-things-short-lesson.pdf

Examples from Facebook

The following examples are comments made to a single Facebook post. The original post was by the Jewish media publication Plus61J and linked to their article on lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic. In each of the comment examples discussed, facts relating to the Holocaust were distorted through a poor comparison with current events. These false analogies distort people's understanding about the Holocaust.

The first example is a reply to another comment that said:

"I'm sorry mate but where you put in the concentration camp did you have your loved ones butcherd around you where you put into gas Chambers made to do forced labour and when you could not keep up was shot did you have whole towns and villages burnt down and places of worship were you starved and physically tortured to death don't try and put the comparisons between the two"

It replies "yes", and likens the treatment of people who are not vaccinated against COVID-19 to the persecution of Jews in Europe, claiming that "apart from being rounded up" their situation is the same.

Online antisemitism example 10 Australian: Yes Removed: No Item #127

apart from being rounded up, yes we were not allowed to work like the Jews, we were called diseased, we were told not to get medical help, we were not allowed to socialise, we were not allowed to visit loved ones. We could have starved as we were denied work, we were mentally tortured, God knows how many thousands have not recovered. If the vaccinated had their way we would have been rounded up and put in camps. The whole narrative was to turn the population against us, turns out you have all been poisoned. you should have used critical thinking instead of believing the criminally convicted pharmaceutical industry, corrupt unelected organisations and politicians who received kickbacks

Like Reply 1d

The next example argues that people are being "herded" into lines to get vaccinated, just like Jews were "herded like cattles onto trains".

Online antisemitism example 11

Australian: Yes

Removed: No

Item #128

You're not being herded like cattle onto trains, packed in so tight for hours on end with one tin can for a toilet then those that were still alive at the end of the journey immediately separated into groups, men and women/children. Those that looked good enough to work as slaves were kept the rest were gassed then incinerated. Is this what is happening to you and if not then you are insensitive arxxholes and should withdraw the post.

Like Reply 1d

you do realise they had no idea what they were getting on the trains for.. much like you have no idea what the real motives behind you being herded into lines to receive the so called vaccine was really

This example highlights that medical experiments were carried out as part of the persecution of Jews in the Holocaust, and attempts to present COVID-19 vaccine mandates as similar medical experimentation.

all about.. not too bright folks not too fucking bright

Like Reply 1d Edited



Example from TikTok

Online antisemitism example 13

This example from TikTok needs some unpacking. It was posted to TikTok by an Australian user, but is a variant on a meme posted in 2021 on a meme website. 38 The "joke" is mocking what is presented as a passage from a Holocaust survivor's memoir. The book is Stolen soul by Bernard Holstein, and a picture of its cover forms part of the meme. Also part of the composite image is a passage from the book which describes mechanical sexual abuse of boys by the Nazis. Another element is an image of a contraption, clearly made up, to mock the testimony. There is, however, a further twist, as the testimony itself, the whole book, is a fake. After publication the story of Bernard Holstein's fake memoir was covered by the media.³⁹ Bernard, a cook on a mining site in Western Australia when he published the book, claimed he was a German Jew who had been in Auschwitz. A private investigator found he was likely born into a Catholic family near Coffs Harbour in NSW. The distortion here is two fold, first the effort to mock the testimony, but also the underlying testimony itself. One user with a name of Goebbels and a profile picture of a cartoon of Hitler left a comment crying laughter.

Removed: No

Item #228

Australian: Yes ₽ Repo Follow #holocaust #auschwitz #poland #shoah #worldwar2 #ww2 #europe #christianity #America #russia ☐ When I Run - HANELLA22 🐠 🛜 🕲 😝 💟 🅕 But we never gave in, not really; there was that one time just before liberation but other than that we were strong. We would see the boys they put on those MASTURBATING MACHINES just drop, just die, right there in front of us. The absolute cruelty was beyond That they could do these things to us, that beings... and we would hobble back to camp with a ln, ill so die scrotums whimpering "Do burnp mel Piease, just don't touch me 4d ago Renly Never forget the underground spinning chambers like (page 117) in Prince of Persia, or the Bear and Eagle Cage, or the T-Tone?! shotgun that loops back 6d ago Reply In honour of Holocaust remembrance day, don't Don't forget the bear and the eagle cage Reply forget Nazis didn't just 6d ago Goebbels kill jews with gas chambers, but survivors 6d ago say they had ma\$terbation death (() machines Please log in to comment ① Learn the facts about the Holocaust >

38 https://ifunny.co/picture/but-we-never-gave-in-to-the-masturbating-machines-but-7HKUXDgL8

³⁹ "Auschwitz tale is not all that it seems", The Sydney Morning Herald, 17 December 2004. https://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/books/auschwitz-tale-is-not-all-that-it-seems-20041217-gdkbx 4.html

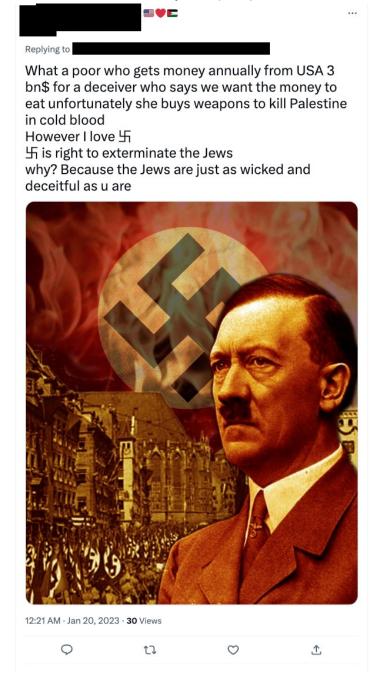
Glorifying the Holocaust or suggesting it did not go far enough

Example from Twitter

In this example from the United States, a pro-Palestinian user praises the Nazis saying they "is right to exterminate the Jews". It goes on to also use traditional antisemitic tropes describing Jews as wicked and deceitful.

Online antisemitism example 14	Australian: No	Removed: No	Item #218
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Online antisemitism example 23 (#218)



Example from Gab

The "About" section of the profile of an Australian Gab user contains a number of dog whistles which glorify the Nazis:

- "1488"
 - 14 refers to the "14 words" white supremacist slogan "We must secure the
 existence of our people and a future for white children". 88 refers to both "Heil
 Hitler" (H being the eighth letter of the alphabet) and sometimes white
 supremacist David Lane's 88 Precepts.
- "109/110"
 - Refers to Jews have been expelled from 109 countries. 109/110 is taken to mean that the author wants Jews to be kicked out of yet another country.
- "ORION"
 - Which stands for "Our race is our nation".
- GTKRWN

Online antisemitism example 15

- Which stands for "Gas the kikes, race war now"
- 28
- Refers to "Club 28" another name for "Blood and Honour", a right-wing extremist group.⁴⁰
- \o:
- The backwards slash and "o" next to it is an illustration of a Hitler salute.

Removed: No

Australian: Yes

1.9k	195	320
Gabs	Followers	Following
About		
Esoteric N	lazi	
1488		
Aryan 100	1%	
Pureblood	l Heathen	
109 / 110	ORION GTKRWN	
Hate lives	here	
	E EVERYWHERE	001-

⁴⁰ https://vtsm.org/tools/vtsmdatabase/blood-and-honour/

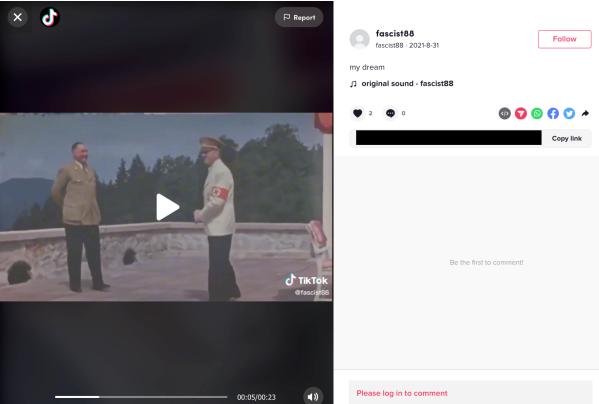
Item #345

Example from TikTok

This example is a video with a montage of video clips of Hitler, he is shown standing, sitting, dancing, playing with a dog, holding children, etc. The music is from "Out of My League" by Fitz and The Tantrum. They say: "'Cause you were out of my league, All the things I believed. You were just the right kind. Yeah, you were more than just a dream. You were out of my league. Got my heartbeat racing. If I die, don't wake me, 'Cause you are more than just a dream." The images and audio clearly glorify and adulate Hitler.

This glorification of Nazism may be illegal in some parts of the world, it would likely violate policies against promotion of dangerous organisations on a number of platforms, but we would not include it in the antisemitism sample if it weren't for the user who posted it. The name of the user who posted it is "facist88" signifying support for facism, and using a common neo-Nazi numeric code. The code is based on H being the 8th letter of the alphabet, so 88 is code for HH or Heil Hitler. This makes it clear the content is ideological and in our view put it over the line as content that could be considered glorification of the Holocaust.





Inappropriate comparisons with Nazis

Example from Instagram

An Australian anti-Vaxxer uses a Holocaust related image to suggest those working to vaccinate the population against COVID-19 and protect the public are acting like Nazis and that the mass vaccination efforts are crimes against humanity. This is an abuse of the Holocaust for a political agenda. The related message says "people in concentration camps were forced to take the poison too" and suggests governments are treating people the way Jews were treated by the Nazis.

Online antisemitism example 17 Australian: Yes Removed: No Item #111



People in concentration camps were force to take the poison too. Earth is now one ginormous concentration camp??

9w

Example from Facebook

A comment made to a post by the Jewish media publication Plus61J (discussed in examples 17-19) says institutions and people became "witch hunters and Nazis" towards the unvaccinated. This is an inappropriate comparison which distorts understanding of Nazi persecution.

Online antisemitism example 18	Australian: Yes	Removed: No	Item #126
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until the whole bloody world, governments medical administrators, media, neighbours, work associates, businesses, family and friends all turn on you shut your vaccinated hob, you have no bloody idea what it was like for people to suddenly turn on you and become witch hunters and nazis. You should all be apologising to us not defending your discusting behaviour

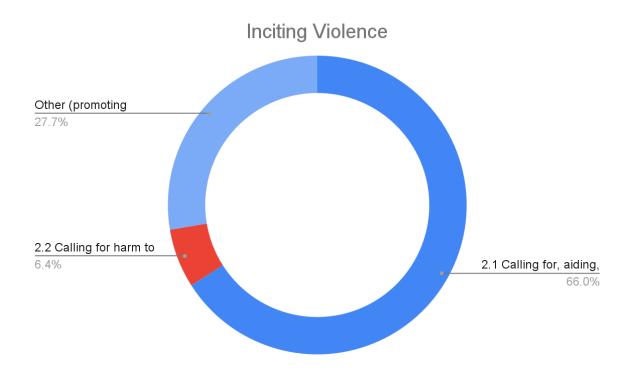
Like Reply 1d

Incitement to violence

Social media content falls into this category if it calls for, endorses, or glorifies, the physical harm of Jews or Jewish property. It can also include calls for harm against a non-Jewish person in the mistaken belief they are 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. Incitement to violence against people in response to their statements or actions taken to combat antisemitism are also included as such incitement seek to use violence to create a climate where antisemitism can grow 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



- 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
- Other (promoting extremism)

Harm from a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion

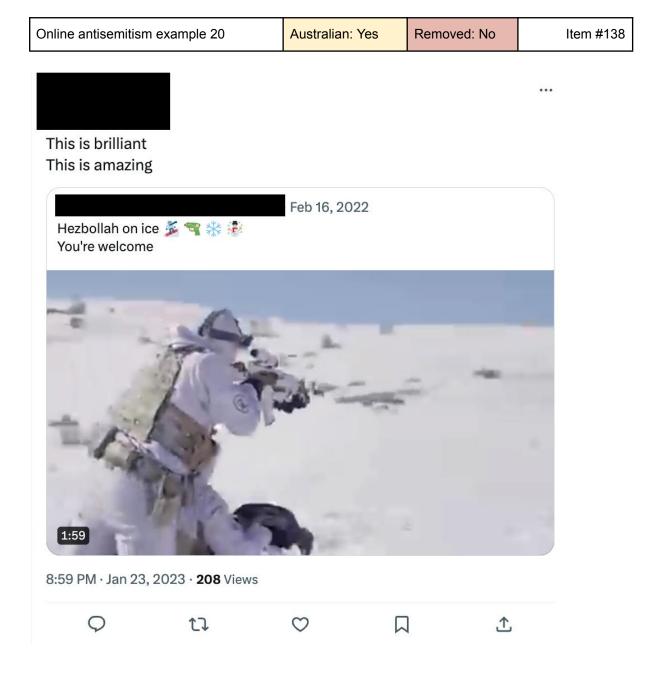
These examples are related to the sub-category of calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.

Examples from Twitter

An Australian user replies to a tweet posted by a member of the Jewish community who is commenting on a deadly terrorist attack that had just occurred in Israel leaving three people, two of them children, dead. The Jewish poster shared a picture which they described as "The terrorist who murdered 2 Israelis, including a six year old, in Jerusalem". The antisemitic response, praising the attack and glorifying the killer, read "an absolute king".



In this example a propaganda video from Hizballah, a group proscribed as a terrorist organisation by the Australian Government,⁴¹ is shared with a caption which calls the video "brilliant" and "amazing". The video shows Hizballah militants using a metal sheet with a Magen David (a Jewish star) on it as a shooting target (shown in image online antisemitism example 2.2). Hizballah has committed terror attacks around the world on Jewish communities and the whole organisation is a listed terrorist organisation in Australia, the United States, and the United Kingdom, while the New Zealand and the European Union list Hizballah's Military Wing (shown here) as a terrorist organisation.



 $\underline{https://www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/what-australia-is-doing/terrorist-organisations/listed-terrorist-organisations/liste$

⁴¹



Example from Gab

An Australian Gab user, motivated by neo-Nazi ideology, posts a picture of a Nazi (represented by the black sun symbol) executing a Jew, a Christian and Muslim. The accompanying text is an attack on another user who posted an accusation that this Australian user was a Jewish infiltrator.

Edited · Apr 30

Your a fucking retarded cunt for real. "EvErYoNe wHo d0eSn'T bELiEVeS iN mUh

jEwSUs kiKE iS a RaBbi."

My Aryan German grandparents lived in the 3rd Reich and were not Christian you fucking imbecile. None of us believe in your jewstianity and we never will you ignorant cocksucker.

Now get back to worshipping your kike nailed to a stick like a good docile and compliant little goy.

Your Heaven is filled with niggers gooks and spics.

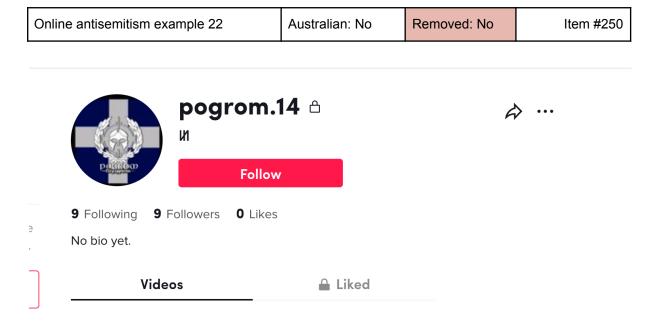
Typical circumcised Yankee christcuck larping as a National Socialist.



Like Reply Repost

Example from TikTok

This example relates to an account name, pogrom.14. The word "pogrom" is Russian and means "to wreak havoc, to demolish violently", historically it was used to describe attacks by local non-Jews on a Jewish community.⁴² The 14 likely refers to the 14 words, a white supremacist slogan. The account is therefore promoting violence against Jews in the name of an extremist ideology.



Calling for harm to Jewish people in general

Example from Telegram

A known Australian neo-Nazi posted in December 2022 on their main Telegram Channel, which has more than 700 subscribers, "Australia needs its own black jew hunter". The comment is in reference to Kanye West who was named as "antisemite of the year" by the group StopAntisemitism. While posted by a neo-Nazi, the comment is not specifically drawing on neo-Nazi ideology. The idea Jews should be hunted has an implication of violence that will follow.

Online antisemitism example 23		Australian: Yes	Removed: No	Item #388
Aus		s its own bla		88 1:41 am

⁴² https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/pogroms

https://nypost.com/2022/12/12/kanye-west-is-2022s-antisemite-of-the-year/

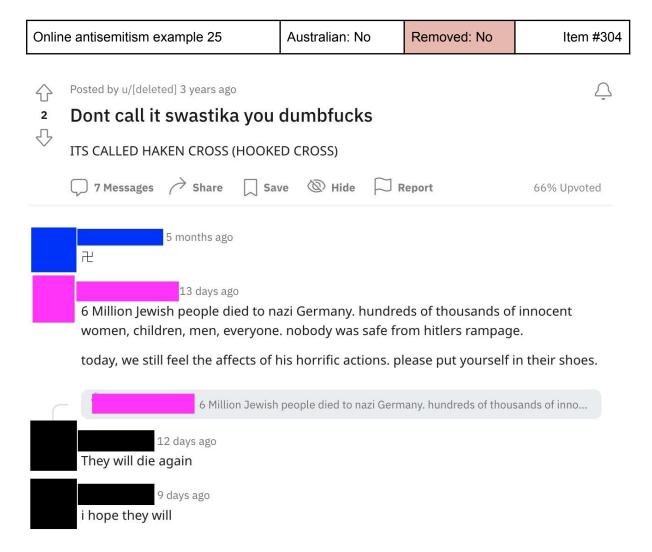
Example from Twitter

This example from Twitter is a reply to a Tweet which highlighted that the family of the Palestinian terrorist who killed seven Israelis at a synagogue near Jerusalem was going to receive a pension for life from the Palestinian Authority. This Twitter user's response, "JudeoNazis must be eliminated" glorifies the attack and incite further terrorism. This example is not from an Australian account.



Example from Reddit

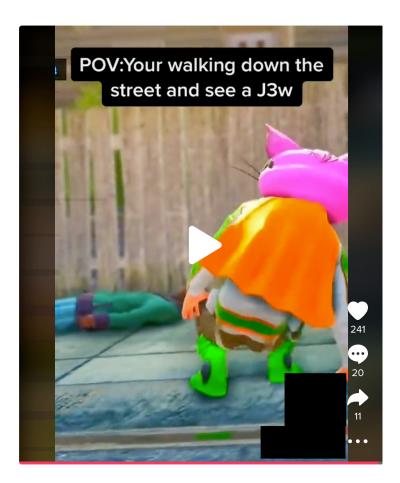
This example from Reddit takes place in a discussion about Nazi symbols. The nature of the Holocaust and the death of six million Jews is discussed, to which a poster replies "they will die again" and then follows this up with, "I hope they will". These comments can be classified as both "incitement to violence", for expressing the wish Jewish people will be killed, and "Holocaust related" antisemitism. Implicit in the Reddit user's comment is that they view the murder of six million Jews as a good thing. This example is not Australian.



Example from TikTok

The TikTok video shares a recording from a video game in which one player is attacking and beating up another. The caption reads "POV [point of view]: Your [sic] walking down the street and see a J3w [Jew]". The TikTok video's description has the #jew and the generic #fyp (for you page) hashtags. This example is not Australian.

Online antisemitism example 26 Australian: No Removed: No Item #238



#jew #fyp #xyzbca

🞵 original sound - Gravy stains



Traditional Antisemitism

Traditional antisemitism includes conspiracy theories, lies and tropes about Jews that dehumanise, demonise and negatively stereotype Jewish people. Traditional antisemitism is often driven by well-established tropes and conspiracy theories that have been disproved time and time again, 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

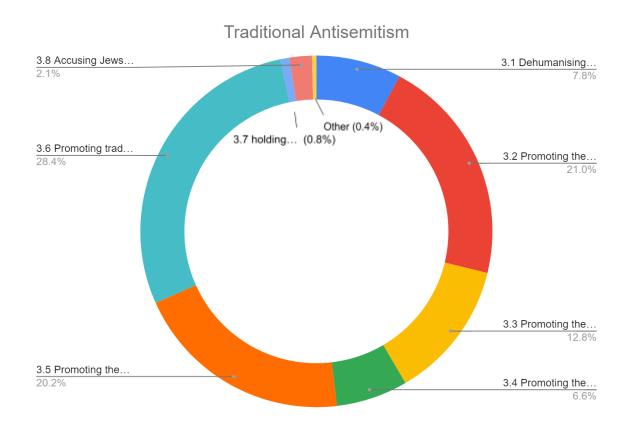
And from the IHRA definition's example of:

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 categories are all represented in the data, with the category "3.6 Promoting traditional antisemitism such as blood libel and claims Jews killed Jesus", which is also the broadest category, being the most common and accounting for 28.4% of this data. The category "3.2 Promoting the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy" is also quite common and makes up 21% of the data, as is "3.5 Promoting the idea of Jews controlling government or other societal institutions" which makes up 20.2% of the data.



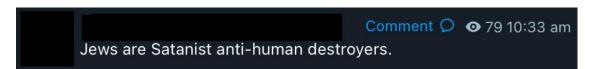
- 3.1 Dehumanising Jews
- 3.2 Promoting the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy
- 3.3 Promoting the idea of Jews controlling the media
- 3.4 Promoting the idea of Jews controlling the economy
- 3.5 Promoting the idea of Jews controlling government or other societal institutions
- 3.6 Promoting traditional 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 Other

Dehumanising Jews

Example from Telegram

This example comes from an Australian anti-Vaxxer group's Telegram. This example highlights the prevalence of antisemitism in anti-Vaxx groups

Online antisemitism example 27 Australian: Yes Removed: No Item #365



Example from BitChute:

A BitChute video uploaded by an Australian user, where Jews are accused of infiltrating the Catholic Church and are demonised and dehumanised being called "cancerous".

Online antisemitism example 28 Australian: Yes Removed: No Item #415



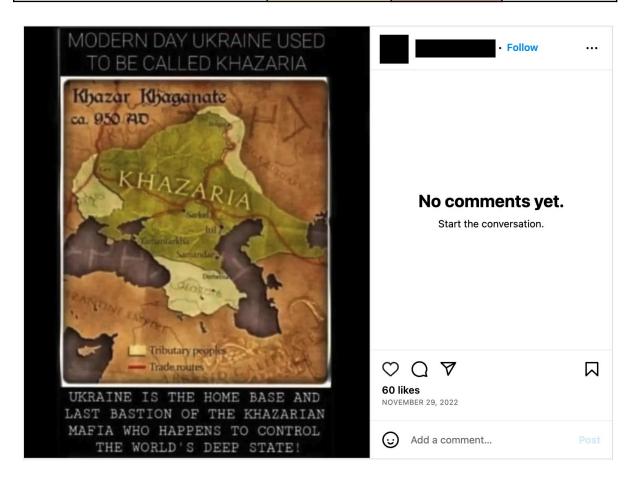
Promoting the idea of a world Jewish conspiracy

Example from Instagram

This example from an Australian in anti-Vaxxer groups perpetuates the antisemitic conspiracy theory that today's Jews are Khazahs, mixed with the conspiracy theory about Jewish control of world events as seen in the Protocols of the Elders of Zion.

This particular example links to Russia's war in Ukraine and holds that this is actually Russia battling against the "Khazarian Mafia", or the Elders of Zion. Through this prism, antisemitic support can be gathered for Russia and against Ukraine.

Online antisemitism example 29 Australian: Yes Removed: No Item #106



Example from YouTube

This video was uploaded to YouTube by an Australian account with more than 5,000 subscribers. The video features clips from Australian X Factor winner Altiyan Childs' presentation about Freemasonry, in which he claims the Freemasons are controlling the world and plan to implement a New World Order.

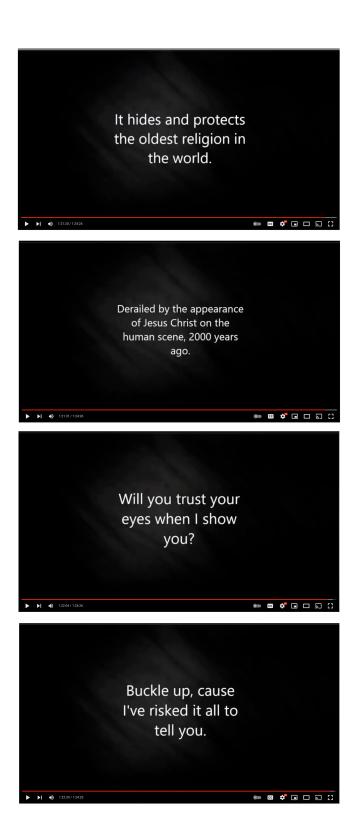
Online antisemitism example 30 Australian: Yes Removed: No Item #334



While Childs' does not explicitly state Jews are behind Freemasonry, he leads audiences to this conclusion through allusion. For example he discusses alleged so-called "satanic" and anti-Christian plans of Freemasons, including the implementation of the Noahide Laws. According to Childs, the Noahide Laws would make it punishable by death for Christians to say that Jesus is their lord and saviour. Childs states: "Who do you think were behind these laws? I can show you right now." The image above of George Bush Sr. signing the Education Day proclamation with Chabad rabbis is then shown. Childs refers to the rabbi second from the left as a "sinister and gloating looking individual." He continues: "You know what Freemasonry's a cover for now."

Another way Childs' expresses his belief that there is a Judeo-Masonic conspiracy is illustrated in the three following screenshots from the video.







In Childs' original video,⁴⁴ the picture of the Zionist Federation of Australia logo is not shown. This may have been edited into the video by the Australian YouTube user who uploaded this version.

44

https://archive.org/details/2010-australian-x-factor-winner-altiyan-childs-exposes-freemasonry_20220_8/

Example from BitChute

This example from BitChute comes from the Australian user. The majority of this video is of a movie called "The Israel Lobby" and the title of the BitChute video is "The Israel Lobby: A Danger to the World".

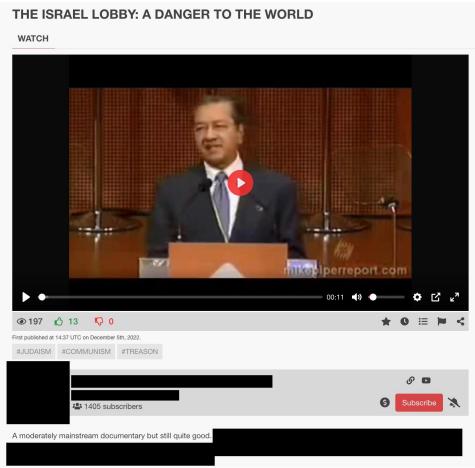
The hashtags used to describe this video include "communism" and "treason", which both echo antisemitic tropes. While the majority of the video is concerned with the supposed Israel lobby, the beginning of the video shows the former Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad in 2003 at the Islamic leadership conference saying: "The Europeans killed six million Jews out of 12 million, But today the Jews rule this world by proxy. They get others to fight and die for them. They invented socialism, communism, human rights, democracy so that persecuting them may appear to be wrong."

Online antisemitism example 31

Australian: Yes

Removed: No

Item #414



Promoting the idea of Jews controlling the media

Examples from Telegram

This example comes from an Australian Telegram channel and promotes the antisemitic conspiracy that Jews control the media. Here the antisemitic stereotype is applied to social media. This image attempts to insinuate that Jews control what can and cannot be said on social media, and that Jews censor it.

Online antisemitism example 32 Australian: Yes Removed: No Item #383



This example, from a different Australian Telegram channel, highlights Jewish people who have played a role in strengthening anti-racism in Australia. It identifies them with photographs and names, adds Jewish stars, and claims they are responsible for censorship in Australia.

Online antisemitism example 33 Australian: Yes Removed: No Item #359



Example from Reddit

In this comment from Reddit the author writes as if it is a fact that Jews "control so much of the media and so many industries like porn". This example is not Australian.

Online antisemitism example 34	Australian: No	Removed: No	Item #283
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8 yr. ago

I still don't understand what it means to be a Jew. Like honestly why do they practice circumcision? Whats going on with that? Also aren't Jewish people white? I mean they have white skin and have Caucasian like features so I never understood the racism. Also why do Jews have so much power in America? Like why do they control so much of the media and so many industries like porn.

I tried my best to do research on Judaism, and the notion of being Jewish but I still don't understand it. I can't ever tell who is a Jew and who is not. I never understood Anti-Antisemitism either. It's true what Hitler did was really messed up with the Holocaust and what not, but there have been many, many, many genocides throughout history. I don't understand why this one in Europe gets special treatment. Can anyone help understand this whole Jewishness thing to me?



Promoting the idea of Jews controlling the economy

Examples from Gab

The following examples come from an Australian page on Gab. It relates to the World Economic Forum (WEF), which is often referred to on platforms such as Gab and Telegram using antisemitic over and undertones. People sometimes accuse Klaus Schwabb of being Jewish and use dog whistles such as "elite" and "globalist". This example depicts Schwabb as an octopus with his tentacles wrapped around the earth, mimicking classic antisemitic Nazi-era propaganda, shown below.





2023 JAN 17 Why Davos only makes the world's 'polycrisis' worse. The World Economic Forum thinks only in top-down, corporatist ways.

Spectator UK Article: by Samuel Gregg

Pages: 3 | Filesize: 175 KB

Download PDF Copy: t.me/FOURCMVAULT/327



Anti-Jewish propaganda by Seppla⁴⁵



Example from Reddit

This example promotes both the conspiracy theory that Jews control the economy (the banks) and that Jews control the media. It's good to see the downvotes on this very blatant antisemitic post, but the fact it remains online allows it to reinforce this conspiracy for those who believe in it.



Promoting the idea of Jews controlling government or other societal institutions

Example from Telegram

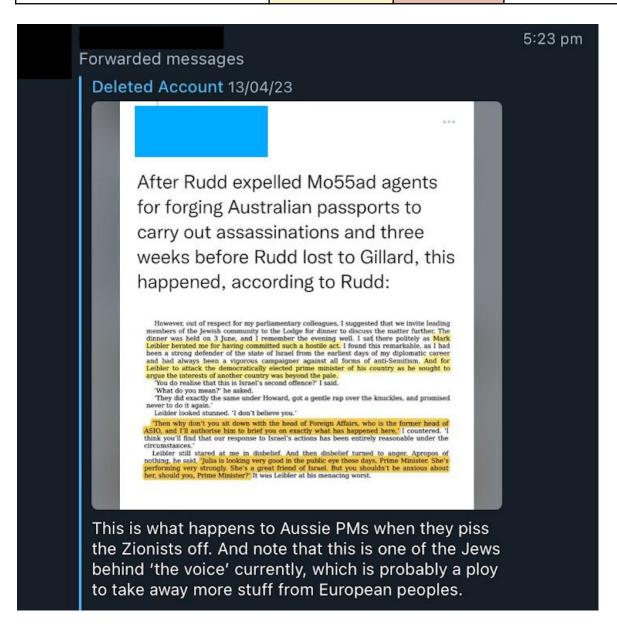
This example from Telegram was found in the QAnon Australia/NZ group chat. The message includes a screenshot of a Tweet from an Australian Twitter user.

The Tweet featured an image of an excerpt from Kevin Rudd's book The PM Years. The comment made by the Telegram user insinuates that if "Zionists" become upset with the

⁴⁵ https://encvclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/photo/anti-jewish-propaganda/

actions of the Prime Minister of the day that they will have them replaced. The comment further alleges that Jews have control of societal institutions: "this is one of the Jews behind 'the voice' currently which is probably a ploy to take more stuff from European peoples."

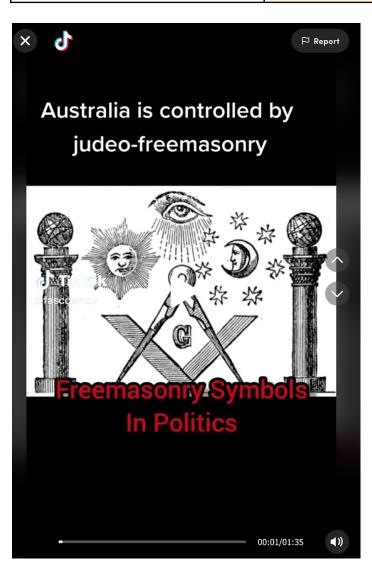
Online antisemitism example 37 Australian: Yes Removed: No Item #369



Example from TikTok

A far-right Australian account uploaded a video to TikTok claiming that Australia is controlled by "Judeo-Freemasonry". The video and the text posted with it are shown.

Online antisemitism example 38 Australian: Yes Removed: No Item #232





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

Examples from Twitter

This example combines antisemitism related to Israel with traditional antisemitism. This Twitter user both holds all Jews collectively responsible for Israel's actions, and makes the claim that "JC" (Jesus Christ) hated Jews.

Online antisemitism example 39	Australian: Yes	Removed: No	Item #114
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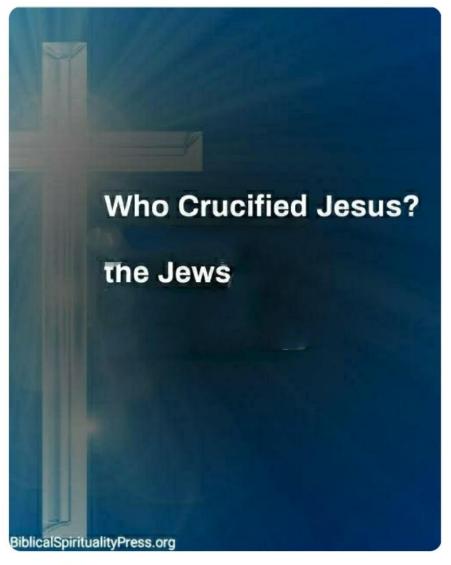
No I mean #Israel. The world is finally awaking to #Israeli atrocities against #Palestinians, killing in the name of some invented invisible sky god that Stone Age desert Jews from the Cannibal state of Caanan invented! It's a fucken massive con job mate! No wonder JC hated them

12:21 PM · Jan 18, 2023 · 1 View

The next Tweet promotes the idea that Jews are responsible for killing Jesus. The author also holds Jews collectively responsible for the actions of the Israeli government.

Online antisemitism example 40 Australian: Yes Removed: Yes Item #140

What you expect from the killers of Jesus.
As per Christian belief Jesus was crucified. But a billion dollar question is who crucified beloved Jesus.????? And the Answer is The Only Jews. #IsraeliCrimes #IsraeliApartheid #IsraeliTerrorism #auspol #GENOCIDE #IsraeliTerrorism



7:27 PM · Jan 27, 2023 · 90 Views

This next example relates to the BDS Movement. It features a message supporting BDS and a photograph of a man with a sign protesting outside a supermarket in Europe. The use of a narrative of children's blood, expressed in red on the sign, seeks to draw on the narrative of the blood libel. This is a very common theme in BDS material.

Online antisemitism example 41 Australian: No Removed: No Item #203



For further background we note a 2016 ECAJ article by Julie Nathan which explains:⁴⁶

"The BDS campaign is, both in intent and effect, antisemitic – because amongst other things it seeks to deprive Jews alone of a homeland. Antisemitism from within the BDS campaign, both in its rhetoric and activities, is becoming increasingly open. There have been threats to kill Jews at an Israeli trade expo in South Africa, a planned protest outside a synagogue on the Jewish Sabbath in Australia, throwing of kosher food on the floor in European supermarkets, and intimidation of Jewish students on campuses in American universities. The level of anti-Jewish hatred in the rhetoric emanating from within the BDS campaign, and the number of antisemitic incidents to which it gives rise, continue to escalate."

A recent book chapter by one of this report's authors documents how the BDS Movement's online presence has used antisemitism, particularly this use of blood libel imagery, as a core theme of the movement. The chapter explains:⁴⁷

"Political advocacy, for any cause, can and should be done in a way that avoids promoting discrimination against others. It is the refusal of the BDS Movement to steer clear of antisemitism in its advocacy, and indeed to seek to normalise advocacy that involves antisemitism... which creates the problem."

Example from Reddit

Included in this category is the use of traditional stereotypes and slurs. In this example from Reddit the poster promotes the stereotype of Jews being "cunning", explicitly adding "they are not wired like other people", a form of "othering" which borders on dehumanisation.

Online antisemitism example 42	Australian: Yes	Removed: No	Item #277



Not that it takes more than talking about bacon in public to offend you, but ,no it's not a simple rewording of stereotypes. It's true, in the same way that they tend to be smart and cunning. They are not programmed like other people. It's not a bad thing, get over it, unless you plan on proving my point.

⁴⁶ https://www.ecaj.org.au/bds-in-a-nutshell/

⁴⁷ 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)

 $[\]underline{\text{https://www.routledge.com/Challenging-the-Boycott-Divestment-and-Sanctions-BDS-Movement-20-Ye} \\ \underline{\text{ars/Fraser-Fraser/p/book/9781032218809\#}}$

Example from Gab

This example from Gab shares a video presenting the blood libel as a fact, rather than the antisemitic conspiracy theory it really is. The post also includes neo-Nazi symbols, note the 1488 (14 for the white supremacy slogan known as the 14 words, and 88 standing for Heil Hitler) and the o/ which represents a Nazi salute.

Online antisemitism example 43	Australian: No	Removed: No	Item #322
·			



Holding Jews collectively responsible acts committed by individuals

Example from Reddit

While this example includes a number of other forms of antisemitic discourse, the reference to Bernie Madoff combined with the comment justifying stereotypes is an example of holding all Jews responsible for the acts of an individual. This form of antisemitism can be used to hold all JEws responsible for the acts of one Jewish person, or for acts of a non-Jewish person.

Online entire mitters exemple 44	A otrolion. No	Damayadı Na	Ham #070
Online antisemitism example 44	Australian: No	Removed: No	Item #278

· 8 yr. ago

how about Netenyahu stating in a hitleresque manner that there will be no Palestinian state? How about george zimmermann? how about bernie Madoff who pretty much caused the states to fail? How about how all the american jews essentially send minimum 2bn\$ a year for weaponizing israel against a bunch of innocent goat farmers who had their land fucked over by a distrought post-war europe?

stereotypes i guess exist for a reason.

↑ -1 ♦ Share •••

Accusing Jewish citizens of being disloyal to their country

Example from Facebook

In this example a Facebook user comments on a post by Prime Minister Anthony Albanese in which he wished Australian Jews a happy Chanukah. The commenter implies Jews are not legitimate citizens of this country, and cannot be Australian. This is implicit in the words "look out for Australians first before you worry about someone else." It seeks to exclude the Jewish community in a xenophobic manner.

Online antisemitism example 45	Australian: Yes	Removed: No	Item #40
Online antisemitism example 45	Australian, res	Removed. No	item #40

This is Australia, stick to our traditions and look out for Australians first before you worry about someone else.

Like Reply 2d

Other

Traditional antisemitism usually has a link to pre-Holocaust antisemitic narratives, but not always. There are some novel manifestations that borrow from ideas more rooted in other forms of racism. One novel manifestation of antisemitism promoted by /pol/ and the Alt-Right has been to express a false concern for human rights, anti-racism, equity, and then seek to use that reasoning to attack Jewish institutions and community organisations. The logic is based on a form of racism that advocates assimilation and the destruction of minorities "for their own good". Efforts to destroy a group's culture and identity come within the scope of cultural genocide. The policies leading to the Stolen Generation is an Australia example impacting our First Nations people. In the US there was Captain Richard Henry Pratt's assimilation speech in which he advocated, "Kill the Indian in him, and save the man."

Example from Twitter

In this example a concern is expressed for "diversity in sports" to question why Jewish sports clubs are *allowed* to exist, and imply they are racist (and therefore Jews are racist). The tweet is not only antisemitic, but also factually incorrect as may club opened their doors ot non-Jewish players over a decade ago.⁴⁸

Online antisemitism example 46 Australian: Yes Removed: No Item #11



If people are looking for diversity in sports why are Jewish people allowed to have their Jews only sporting clubs Maccabi/Ajax

4:40 PM \cdot Nov 18, 2022 \cdot Twitter for iPhone

Jewish sports clubs were in part a response by the Jewish community to antisemitic bans prohibiting Jews from joining social and sporting clubs in a number of countries in the 19th and 20th century. The Atlantic has an article published in 1924 discussing this phenomena in the United States,⁴⁹ and SBS has discussed the creation of two Australia Jewish golf clubs historically created for the same reason.⁵⁰ Today Jewish sports clubs are part of the community infrastructure. They help bring members of the community together and foster Jewish identity and culture. An attack on the right for Jewish people to form clubs (note the language questioning why it is "allowed") attacks Jewish identity and the community.

⁴⁸ "Non-Jews welcome at Maccabi clubs, says MAI", *The Australian Jewish News*, December 2, 2011. https://www.australianjewishnews.com/non-jews-welcome-at-maccabi-clubs-says-mai/; "MacVic welcomes non-Jews", *The Australian Jewish News*, August 15, 2012 https://www.australianjewishnews.com/macvic-welcomes-non-jews/

⁴⁹ "The Jew and the Club", The Atlantic, October 1924 https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/1924/10/the-jew-and-the-club/306258/

⁵⁰ Nitza Lowenstein, "The fascinating history of the Australian Jewish Golf clubs, the Monash in Sydney and Cranbourne in Melbourne", SBS, 7 January 2022. https://www.sbs.com.au/language/hebrew/en/podcast-episode/the-fascinating-history-of-the-australian-iewish-golf-clubs-the-monash-in-sydney-and-cranbourne-in-melbourne/v2k63ws7c

New Antisemitism (Antisemitism related to Israel)

Antisemitism related to Israel, also known as "New Antisemitism", emerged as a significant form of contemporary antisemitism after the year 2000. The late Chief Rabbi of the Commonwealth, Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, explained: "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."⁵¹ This use of old antisemitic tropes, and applying them to Israel, explains much but not all of the new antisemitism. It also includes what Natan Sharanskey described as the "3Ds", Demonization, Double Standards, and Delegitimization.⁵²

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 leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic." This formulation protects legitimate political criticism.

As Prof. Herbert C. Kelman, Harvard University's Professor Emeritus of Social Ethics, explained, "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 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." He 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". 55

The IHRA definition helps draw a distinction between legitimate and illegitimate discourse by providing examples of common contemporary antisemitic discourse in relation to Israel. The list of examples is explicitly not exhaustive. 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."

⁵¹ Jonathan Sacks, "The Hate that Starts with Jews Never Ends There", The Times, 16th August 2014 https://www.rabbisacks.org/archive/hate-starts-jews-never-ends-there/

⁵² Natan Sharansky, "3D Test of Anti-Semitism: Demonization, Double Standards, Delegitimization", Jewish Political Studies Review 16:3-4 (Fall 2004) https://www.jcpa.org/phas/phas-sharansky-f04.htm 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.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ Ibid 309.

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

0 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

o 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 right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor." 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. ⁵⁶ Australia 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".57

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:58

"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

⁵⁶ https://icpa.org/article/the-1975-zionism-is-racism-resolution-the-rise-fall-and-resurgence-of-a-libel/

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

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), 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". 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". He described it as "exterminationist" and warned how it has 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 distortion of the term "Zionism", as well as work looking at antisemitism in the online discourse of the BDS movement.

A key takeaway is that this is large topic with detailed scholarship that explaining 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.

The largest segment of data in this category, accounting for 35.8% of the Israel related antisemitism, was content "Describing Israel or Israelis using antisemitic words or imagery (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel)". This category refers to the use of narratives traditionally used to attack Jews and the Jewish community, i.e. anything falling under "Traditional Antisemitism" as previously discussed, but now used in reference to Israel. The next most common category, making up 26.4% of the total, related to "Comparisons of Israeli policy to Nazism". This is not only deeply offensive, it also distorts and undermines understanding of the Holocaust. At 24.5%, the third largest category was "Denying Jewish people self-determination, e.g., by claiming Israel's existence is racist". This category requires a claim that Israel is illegitimate, should be dismantled, or has no right to exist

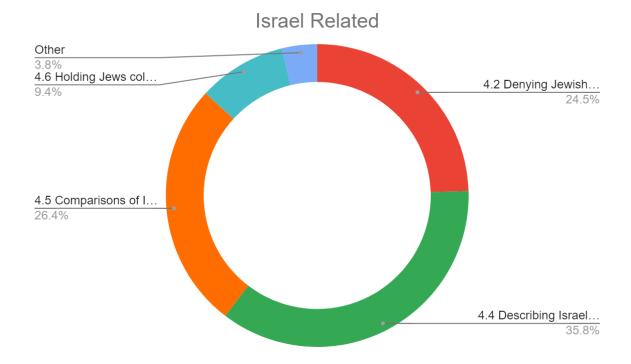
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⁵⁹ Robert Wistrich, "Anti-Zionism and Anti-Semitism", Jewish Political Studies Review 16:3-4 (Fall 2004). https://www.jstor.org/stable/25834602

⁶¹ 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

⁶² 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-Years/Fraser-Fraser/p/book/9781032218809#



- 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 Other

Accusing Israel of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust

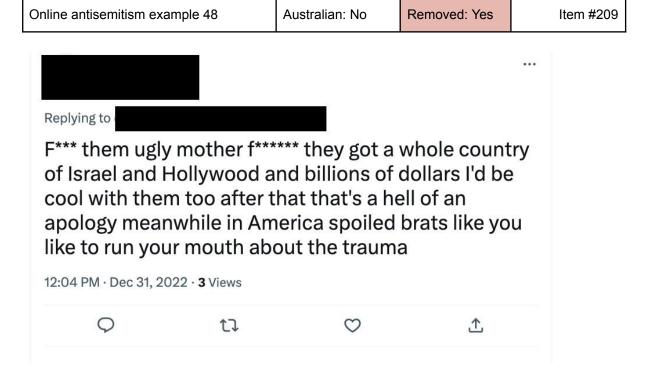
Example from Telegram

In this Telegram message, sent in an Australian far-right group, the author claims that Israel only exists by extorting countries on the basis of "lies and fabrications" (referring to the Holocaust).



Example from Twitter

A Twitter user implies that Jews still talk too much about the Holocaust and that they should be "cool" with the perpetrators because, in the view of the author, as a result of the Holocaust Jews got Israel. This example is not Australian.



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

Example from Twitter

An Australian university student calls for Israel to be "annihilated" and calls for "Death to Israel." They justify this by calling Israel a "genocidal colonial apartheid project". This goes well beyond legitimate criticism of a government or their policies, or legitimate political discourse.

Online antiser	nitism example 49	Australian: Yes	Removed: No	Item #267
	Israel is bombing Pales mainstream media to and cry for diplomacy. always be a genocidal	stine again and killing gnore it and for our p But a genocidal colo	oliticians to clutc nial apartheid pro	h their pearls
their re revolut	we annihilate it. Free sistance and a globa ion ideology and prints of Israel.	I solidarity movem	ans is only guara	
Death 1	to America. (2) • Aug 6, 2022	ı c	2	↑

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

Examples from Twitter

This Tweet from an Australian Twitter user attacks Israel using language similar to traditional antisemitism demonization of Jews, it presents Israel as anti-human and exploitative. The post also attacks Zionism as "an enemy to humanity" saying "we need to fight all their projects", and that "The resistance and fight against Zionism is a human duty". This puts it in the category of "Denying Jewish people self-determination, e.g., by claiming Israel's existence is racist".



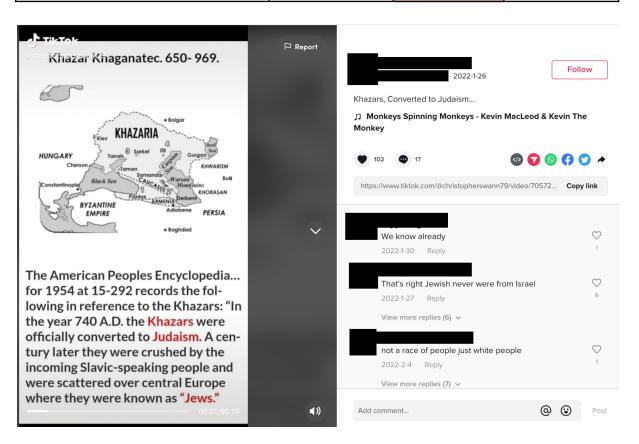
This next example, not from Australia, uses the imagery of the blood libel saying Israel drinks the blood of Palestinian children. It goes on to engage in Holocaust distortion, comparing Israeli policy to Nazism by claiming Israel is responsible for a "Holocaust & genocide of #Palestinians".



Examples from TikTok

This example uses a different form of antisemitism to attack Israel's legitimacy. It promotes the Khazar conspiracy theory. As 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. ⁶³ 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. ⁶⁴

Online antisemitism example 52 Australian: No Removed: No Item #257



⁶³

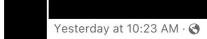
https://www.counterextremism.com/anti-semitism-history/antisemitism-history/sixth-century-through-eighth-century-khazars-and-birth

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Example from Facebook

This Facebook post contains many elements, some are antisemitic, some are not. The post was made by an Australian based Palestinian advocacy organisation.

Online antisemitism example 53	Australian: Yes	Removed: No	Item #8
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New voices are emerging in the Zionist/Jewish communities, particularly among the young who find Apartheid and endless Occupation and colonisation unpalatable unacceptable.

With Benjamin Netanyahu, now is in a position to form Government with extremist coalition partners who openly back ethnic cleansing of Palestinians into the political mainstream and even the heart of government where will this go?

Where was the Jewish establishment's outrage about this reality before last week? Instead, they have spent years endorsing Israel's colonisation program and weaponising the charge of anti-Semitism against critics of Israeli policy.



The labelling of Israel as apartheid is in our view antisemitic

Writing in the Guardian in 2002 Ian Buruma, Professor of Democracy and Human Rights at Bard College in New York, discussed the effort by two UK academics to compare Israel to Apartheid South Africa. These academics, a husband and wife who happened to be Jewish, were seeking to promote an academic boycott of Israel, modelled on the one that applied to Apartheid South Africa. Their campaign was the real start to the BDS movement.⁶⁵

Prof. Buruma explained how "Israel, in many respects, has become the South Africa of today. It is the litmus test of one's progressive credentials. If you are on the left, you can be friendly with Jews, you can be a Jew, but you cannot be on the side of Israel." His point was not that Israel is in fact like South Africa, as he explains, "apartheid, however satisfying

⁶⁵ Andre Oboler, "Online BDS and antisemitic hate", in Ronnie Fraser and Lola Fraser (Eds), Challenging the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) Movement: 20 Years of Responding to Anti-Israel Campaigns (Taylor & Francis, 2023).

⁶⁶ Ian Buruma, "Do not treat Israel like apartheid South Africa", *The Guardian (UK)*, 23 Jul 2002. https://www.theguardian.com/education/2002/jul/23/highereducation.uk

it is for the morally outraged to think so, it is not." Rather it is about that manufactured sense of outrage itself which explains is an application of "double standards... [which] tell us more about the boycotters than about the subjects of their rage."

The issue of the Apartheid label was discussed in a dedicated conference in 2022 titled "Trivializing History: How Anti-Israel Activists Have Hijacked the South African 'Apartheid' Label to Attack the Jewish State". At the conference:⁶⁷

- Nicola Beer MEP, a Vice President of the European Parliament and its Special Envoy on Combating Religious Discrimination Including Antisemitism, stated "Categorizing Israel as an apartheid state is just plain antisemitic. In my opinion, such characterization counters progress made in the region concerning the peace process, instead it deepens the rifts and fuels antisemitism around the world".
- Jirí Kozák MP, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic stated, "The suffering of South Africans under apartheid was unique and attempts to apply the same label to Israel trivializes that history and is unacceptable. We consider this open antisemitism. Claiming that Israel is a racist endeavor is in violation of the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism. Claims of apartheid [are] not about questioning a particular policy, but about challenging the nature of the Jewish state."
- Baroness Ruth Deech, a member of the UK's House of Lords, noted that, "Whatever
 the world's greatest and most unforgivable crime is in any particular moment of
 history, the Jews will be accused of it. Those who accuse Israel of Apartheid are
 themselves racist in that their real mission is to deny the legitimacy of the only Jewish
 state in the world and if they got their way, they would return Jews to dispersion,
 slaughter and discrimination."
- Alan Shatter, the Republic of Ireland's former Minister for Defense stated, "Applying
 the apartheid label serves no purpose other than to delegitimize the Israeli state,
 demonizing the Jewish people and ultimately bring about Israel's destruction".
- Elan Carr, former US Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism stated,
 "The antisemitic apartheid campaign will be defeated because it is built on lies and hate."

The accusation of colonisation

This claim is a distortion of history. It seeks to dispossess the Jewish people, who are indigenous to the land with a history of connection tracing back almost 4,000 years, of any claims to the land. At the same time it seeks to grant indigenous status not only to those who lived in the land under later conquerors such as the Ottoman Empire (1517-1917), but in fact to any Arab peoples who immigrated to the land up until 1948. Under this logic, a Jewish person whose ancestors has maintained a cultural and religious link to Israel for thousands of years, who moved to the British Mandate of Palestine in 1947 from Australia, would be considered a coloniser of their historic homeland, while an Egyptian with thousands of years of history living in Egypt and no prior family history in the land, would suddenly become an indigenous Palestinian.

We regard this as historically inaccurate, but on it's own we do not regard it as antisemitic. If it went on to claim that Israel was an illegitimate state, then we would regard it as antisemitic

⁶⁷

under the IHRA definition. This particular post does not take that extra step, so we would regard this aspect of it as anti-Israel than than antisemitic.

Endless Occupation

We regard this as a statement about Israeli policy that is "criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country" and which therefore "cannot be regarded as antisemitic".

Extremist coalition partners who back ethnic cleansing

When there is no factual basis to it, claims labelling of Israeli politicians as extremists, and claiming there are policies backing ethnic cleansing, would be demonisation, and therefore antisemitic. At the time this post was made, however, there was a factual basis for these claims and therefore the claims are fair comment and falls within the category of "criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country" and which therefore "cannot be regarded as antisemitic".

The facts concerned are widely reported in the mainstream media and established by a history of arrests by Israeli police, and convictions by Israel's courts, against a number of people who are now Members of the Knesset (Israel's Parliament) and who have been members of violent vigilante movements in the past. The articles highlight how one minister was convicted of supporting terrorism and inciting racism, and how he started his political career with a (now defunct) political party based on a platform promoting population transfer that would qualify as ethnic cleansing. Whether any coalition partners currently have such policies or not, the they fact they did in the past moves this into the realm of legitimate discourse rather than demonisation.

Weaponising the charge of antisemitism

We regard this as deeply problematic. Efforts to silence minority groups from raising concerns about racism inherently promote racism. It is reasonable to discuss particular allegations of antisemitism, as we do when compiling research like this, and there are cases where even experts may disagree. It is not reasonable to generally undermine all efforts to tackle antisemitism, or any other form of racism. That only creates space for cases of antisemitism to fester and undermines the sense of safety of Jewish people in the community.

⁶⁸ Shira Rubin, "Itamar Ben Gvir: How an extremist settler became a powerful Israeli minister", *The Washington Post*, 22 February 2023.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2023/02/15/israel-ben-gvir-netanyahu-government/; Ruth Margalit, "Itamar Ben-Gvir, Israel's Minister of Chaos", *The New Yorker*, 20 February 2023. https://newvorker.com/magazine/2023/02/27/itamar-ben-gvir-israels-minister-of-chaos

Comparisons of Israeli policy to Nazism

Example from Facebook

A comment on a Facebook livestream of a meeting of the Student Representative Council of an Australian University says "more ludicrous and tedious white washing of zionist terrorism.. if 'israel' wasn't behaving like the n@zis there wouldn't be rocket attacks". This includes overt comparisons of Israeli policy to Nazism.

This post can additionally be categorised as "Denying Jewish people self-determination, e.g., by claiming Israel's existence is racist" as it goes on to say, "Israel' is not a real country, it was stolen from the Palestinians by western backed zionists and its illegal occupation of Paelstine is kept afloat by western backing."

The post also promotes antisemitism against the Jewish community through its reference to "Zionist terrorism", this goes beyond "just" falsely claiming Israel's actions are terrorism by now holding Jews (the majority of whom identify as Zionists) collectively responsible for what the poster claims are illegal actions of the state of Israel.

Online antisemitism example 54 Australian: Yes Removed: No Item #2	Online antisemitism example 54	Australian: Yes	Removed: No	Item #219
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re ______ - more ludicrous and tedious white washing of zionist terrorism. Fact: if "israel" wasn't behaving like the n@zis there wouldn't be rocket attacks. Fact: "israel" is responsible for all the violence in Palestine and any so-called unprovoked attacks are a response to the vicious brutality of so called "israel" Fact: "israel" is not a real country, it was stolen from the Palestinians by western backed zionists and its illegal occupation of Palestine is kept afloat by western backing.

Like Reply 5d

Example from Reddit

A Reddit user asked "why are Jews hated so much?" which resulted in this response saying "how about Netenyahu stating in a hitleresque manner that there will be no Palestinian state". This directly seeks to compare Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to Hitler.

The post also engages in traditional antisemitism, specifically "holding Jews collectively responsible acts committed by individuals" when it goes on to say, "how about bernie madoff who pretty much caused the states to fail?" This example is not Australian.

Online antisemitism example 55 Australian: Yes Removed: No Item #278

· 8 yr. ago

how about Netenyahu stating in a hitleresque manner that there will be no Palestinian state? How about george zimmermann? how about bernie Madoff who pretty much caused the states to fail? How about how all the american jews essentially send minimum 2bn\$ a year for weaponizing israel against a bunch of innocent goat farmers who had their land fucked over by a distrought post-war europe?

stereotypes i guess exist for a reason.

Excluded Content

During the second review some items were removed from the sample. This section provides some of the reasons content was excluded and examples of that content. None of the examples reflected in this section were included in the statistical analysis. In total 62 items were initially identified, then excluded. The reasons for exclusion include:

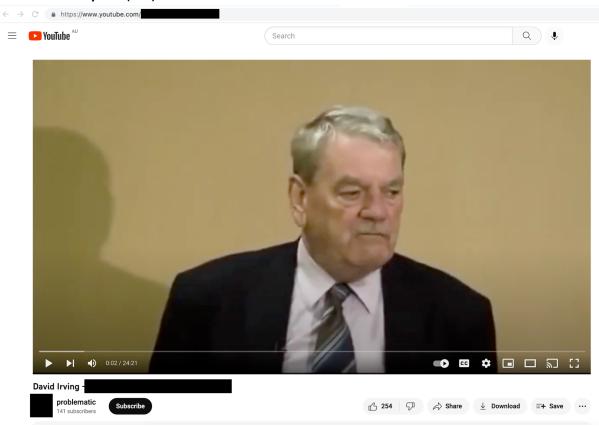
The content glorified Nazism, but did not reference Jews or the Holocaust These items pose a threat to the Jewish community, they are against policy on some platforms, and they are an indication of antisemitic accounts / groups. At the same time, the item itself (as captured in the data) is not on the face of it about Jews.

The example shown here is a video glorifying / celebrating the Nazis. It uses period footage of Nazi marches, Nazi celebrations, positively presenting various Nazi units, but there is no mention of Jews or the Holocaust. The video has been removed by YouTube, likely for promoting an extremist ideology. Other examples we removed from the sample involved the use of Nazi symbols, but with no message beyond their display. Other experts may take a different approach and include such content within the sample of antisemitic material.

The content distorted facts about the Nazis and/or World War II, but not in relation to Jews or the Holocaust.

Some videos by high profile Holocaust deniers distorted facts, for example seeking to present key Nazis in a positive light. Where such content omitted any mention of Jews or the Holocaust we chose to exclude the content. It is disinformation, and tangential to Holocaust distortion, but it is not itself discussing the Holocaust. The example shown here is a video of a lecture by Holocaust denier David Irving, but after careful review there is nothing about the Holocaust itself, or Jews, in this video.

Excluded example 2 (#91)



Offensive comments regarding the Holocaust

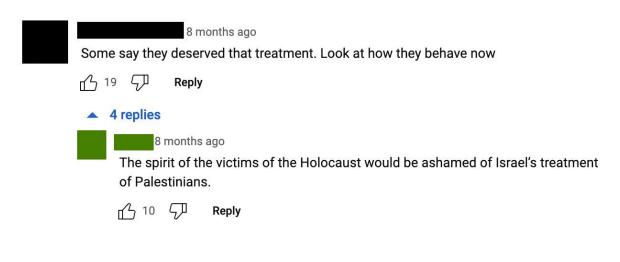
It is possible for comments about the Holocaust to be offensive without being antisemitic. This example takes place in the context of an incident around the film The Kashmir Files. ⁶⁹ The comment here asks why the poster should care about the fate of Jews during the Holocaust if the person they are replying to doesn't care about the suffering of Hindus in Kashmir. The tweet does not deny the Holocaust, it does not glorify it, nor does it draw in appropriate comparisons. It would be regarded by many as offensive, but that alone does not make it antisemitic.

Excluded example 3 (#27)



Another example, in green, says "The spirit of the victims of the Holocaust would be ashamed of Israel's treatment of Palestinians". Using the memory of the victims of the Holocaust in this way is offensive, but doesn't cross the line into antisemitism. If it made a comparison between Israeli policy and those of the Nazis, it would cross the line into antisemitism, but it doesn't do this. The first comment, with the black redaction, comes closer to being antisemitic, but we have excluded it as the antisemitic narrative it promotes is too indire.

Excluded example 4 (#83)



69

 $\underline{https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/nov/29/the-kashmir-files-israeli-director-sparks-outrage-in-india-over-vulgar-movie-remarks}$

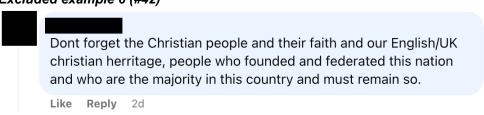
Content was too general in nature

Some content attacks large parts of the community, for example racist content against all non-white people, or anti-theist content against all religious communities. This content is excluded as it is specifically antisemitic, even if Jewish people would be included in the segments of society being opposed.

Excluded example 5 (#41)



Excluded example 6 (#42)



The content was largely incoherent

Content that was very difficult to understand, for example appearing as delusional rantings, was excluded. The content may well be antisemitic if the wider postings of the account are considered, but on the face of it the data was deemed insufficiently clear. In this example "*%#" likely means Jew, and Yeshua Ben Yosef is a reference to Jesus, but even with that it is very hard to tell what this is saying.

Excluded example 7 (#69)



The content lacked context

Some content lacked context and without it, the meaning was unclear. In the example below, there is a general sense of anti-Jewish sentiment, but it is hard to be certain without knowing the context of the comment.

Excluded example 8 (#9)



The content only expressed agreement with an antisemitic statement Some data came from threads of discourse in which a clearly antisemitic item was followed by content expressing agreement e.g. "I agree", "That's right", etc. While this response is in context antisemitic, we excluded it as on the face of it (without that context) the content says very little. Instead only the initial overtly antisemitic content was included.

The example below is in reply to a post saying anti-Vaxxers are treated like the Nazis treated the Jews. The poster agrees, saying "It is true", but also reframes to say they are being treated like outcasts. The reframing creates distance from the original post so it is no longer an inappropriate comparison to the Holocaust (unlike the original comment).

Excluded example 9 (#129)



Criticism of Israeli policy

The IHRA definition states that "criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic". This item essentially says Israel treats Palestinians in a racist manner. It neither denies Israel's right to exist, nor uses antisemitic language or imagery. As such is not antisemitism. People may disagree with it, some may be offended by it, but that alone doesn;t make it antisemitic.

Excluded example 10 (#12)

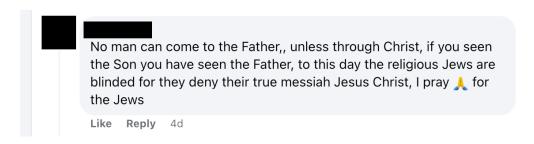


4:40 PM · Nov 18, 2022 · Buffer

Religious content

Many faiths proclaim themselves to be the one true faith. This post claims religious Jews are blind, and struggling in vain, because they have not converted to Christianity. Theological disagreements that simply deny Judaism is a true path are not antisemitic. They are distinct from religious based antisemitism that dehumanises Jews, or spreads anti-Jewish conspiracy theories.

Excluded example 11 (#36)



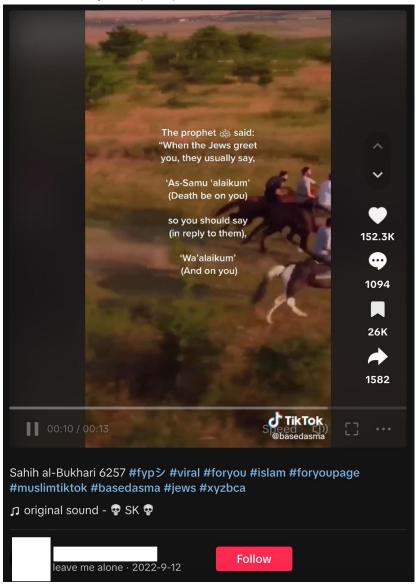
This next example is a TikTok video that features galloping horses and Islamic acapella music with a text overlay quoting from a Sunni Islamic religious book, Sahih Bukhari Volume 8, Book 74, Hadith Number 274. The text of the Hadith is:⁷⁰

The Prophet said, "When the Jews greet you, they usually say, 'As-Samu alaikum' (Death be on you), so you should say (in reply to them), 'Wa'alaikum' (And on you)."

The video has over 152,300 likes on TikTok and includes the hashtags #Islam and #Jews. The video is an accurate quotation of scripture and there is no additional commentary. It uses negative sentiment against Jews to gain popularity, but without more, we have decided to exclude.

⁷⁰ https://sunnah.com/bukhari:6257

Excluded example 12 (#223)



Content has a possible non-antisemitic meaning

Some content may be intended to be antisemitic, but failed to do so. The tweet below is from an account that made many antisemitic tweets about "JudeoNazis" and was openly and explicitly antisemitic claiming in other tweets that all Israelis and all Jews as terrorists and comparing them to the Nazis. This tweet, however, could be read much more narrowly as opposing terrorist attacks by Jewish extremists on Palestinian civilians. It is highly unlikely it was intended that way by the author, given the other tweets surrounding it, but we nevertheless exclude it from the sample as a platform moderator would not be acting unreasonable if they rejected a report about this item.

Excluded example 13 (#188)



Another example looks ready to dive into an antisemitic conspiracy about Jews controlling the world, but doesn't actually go there blaming "corporates" instead. Other examples are similar, looking almost identical to antisemitic conspiracy theories, but making no mention or allusion to Jews and specifically focusing on another group as being responsible.

Excluded example 14 (#329)



Conclusions and Recommendations

As this report demonstrates, online antisemitism is a problem across social media platforms. The degree of threat and the nature of the antisemitic content varies between platforms, as do the efforts of platforms to mitigate this harm. Online antisemitism poisons society, empowers extremism, and undermines Australia's democratic and multicultural foundation.

We also see connections with overseas extremist groups, open white supremacist groups in the United States, having local Australian groups on platforms like Telegram. These groups share the US focused antisemitic material with an Australian audience.

We welcome the National Anti-Racism Strategy, and particularly efforts within the framework to highlight and address online racism including antisemitism. Australia is, however, well behind other countries in its efforts to tackle this threat. A stronger response is needed including legislative reform, resourcing for government and civil society efforts to address online hate, and a strong and visible political commitment to action.

As a member of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA), Australia can access many international experts, as well as government officials from a wide range of countries. The work of IHRA goes far beyond its Working Definitions. The Australian government should do more to take advantage of its membership in IHRA and to draw on international expertise and experiences.

Australia has also participated in the Inter-Parliamentary Task Force to Combat Online Antisemitism when it carried out meetings in Zoom, but we have failed to have a Member of Parliament attend either the hearings in the US Congress in September 2022,⁷¹ or the hearings in the European Parliament in June 2023.⁷² Together this group of MPs is far more effective at holding social media platforms to account that any one country could be on its own. The group is open to any member of parliament from a participating country and some countries have the parliament itself elect their delegates. Australia should consider engaging more strongly with this group and ensuring we are represented at future in person meetings.

Recommendation 11: The Australian government through relevant agencies, departments, and the parliament should engage more deeply with IHRA, Inter-Parliamentary Task Force to Combat Online Antisemitism, and other international efforts to address antisemitism, particularly online antisemitism.

⁷¹ https://wassermanschultz.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=2887

⁷² https://wassermanschultz.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=3031