

2013 AUDIT OF ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS



PATTERNS OF PREJUDICE IN CANADA
LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS OF B'NAI BRITH CANADA • LIGUE DES DROITS DE LA PERSONNE

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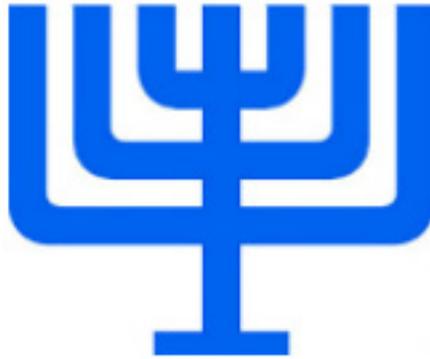
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Impact Statements:

“My heart goes out to their members at having to bear this outrage. The swastika, so linked with unbelievable suffering and misery, is a shameful reminder of the evils of which tyranny is capable.”

“As a Whitby resident I am appalled at the attack against the Jewish community amongst us and the defacement of their building.”

“Racist and anti-Semitic graffiti have no place on campus. Such slogans are an affront to the values of freedom, liberalism and equality that Canadians of all backgrounds hold dear.” - Student Group at Dalhousie University

“I am told that it is just the internet, shut it off and look away. Maybe but the antisemitic ugly images are harder to turn off in my brain.”

“While 2013 would not be remembered for high-profile anti-Semitic incidents, such as the shooting attack that shook the French city of Toulouse in 2012, it would be remembered as ‘the year in which the anti-Semitic atmosphere came to dominate the lives of Jews around the world, particularly in Europe.’” Minister Edelstein

“No one should have to go through this type of torment... we’re people of faith in God, but it’s worrisome to have our home vandalized.”

“It makes you feel unsafe in your own home.” -
Homeowner who had graffiti spray painted at residence

“I know people try to ignore that there is racism in the city or in Saskatchewan or in Canada, but this just goes to show it is out there whether they choose to believe it is or not,” Rose said. Rose said her decision to share the photo was difficult to make. “I didn’t know what to do,” Rose said. “But I did decided to take the picture just so people could see how prevalent racism is in Saskatoon.”

“We have become inured to anti-Semitism. It passes the lips and enters the ears without shock. We don’t name and shame anti-Jewish hatred.”

Ryan Bellerose is a Métis. It didn’t matter. The man who accosted him thought him a Jew. Knew nothing about him and suggested it was sad he existed. Reacting he said, “the saddest part was that when they found out I’m not Jewish some of them said sorry to me, but nobody apologized to my Jewish friend for something so patently offensive.”

“With this BDS campaign, you don’t feel safe if you have a kippah or even a T-shirt with Hebrew letters on it.”

“In the last six months alone, residential areas have recorded numerous cases of antisemitic vandalism and it seems to me that the perpetrators have become more emboldened of late.”

Adam Kingsmith: Canada’s “Mosaic” Has Racist Cracks. Here in the “Canadian Mosaic,” issues of race are largely stricken from the language of the everyday. We prefer not to speak openly about racism, for deconstructing it might chip away at that illusory façade of Canada as a nation of perpetual tolerance and chronic multiculturalism -- a delusion we all hold dear to our glowing hearts. Unfortunately for all those “liberal-minded” Canadians out there who view our country to be so forward thinking and accommodating that racism is a non-issue, institutionalized multiculturalism is not the same thing as social racial equality.

The swastika is an image that has a very clear message to members of the Jewish community, but it’s impossible for us to look at that symbol without feeling a chill

“Is it not taking place or just not being reported? It’s hard to answer, but it can be a little of both.” Last year, hate crime extremism unit investigator Sgt. Nancy Lantz said it’s “statistically proven that hate crimes are one of the most underreported crimes”

“Bill 60 is a message to Jews to go back home. Funny I thought this was home.”



ANTI-HATE HOTLINE

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Report acts of antisemitism. Confidentiality assured

Introduction

B'nai Brith Canada, with a presence in the country since 1875 has been tracking antisemitism in this country since its inception. The Annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, as a formal study in Canadian antisemitism, is now in its 32nd year of publication as a well recognized contribution to the global study of racism.

The incidents reported to the Anti-Hate Hotline of the League of Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada as well as its national and regional offices, partner organizations across the country including hate crime police units, form the basis of the annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents. The report is used widely by governments, research agencies, human right groups and police forces both in Canada and abroad to follow the pattern of antisemitism as well as to analyze the factors contributing to racism against all minority groups in Canada.

Canada-wide, 1274 incidents were recorded in the 2013 Annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents. Cases of vandalism and violence rose significantly from the previous year. In fact, only the category of harassment dropped overall.

The 1274 reported incidents Canada-wide represent a 5.3% decrease from the 1345 incidents recorded for the year 2012. While incidents of harassment decreased by 13.9% (down from 1013 in 2012 to 872 in 2013), vandalism increased by 21.6% (up from 319 in 2012 to 388 in 2013). Cases of violence also rose by 7.7% (from 13 to 14). Regional differences will be explored later in this Audit.

While an overall decrease is welcome, there is every reason to suspect that many have chosen not to report incidents especially where a clear remedy is not in place. A number of cases have contributed to such a reluctance to report. Consider the case out of Manitoba where a male high school student verbally harassed a fellow female student and burned her hair. While the male student was convicted criminally, the court, with support of the Crown and defence, ruled in 2013 that no hate element was made out. Earlier the provincial Attorney General refused to proceed with hate crime charges against a poster that singled out the Jewish mayor and other Jewish businessman for accusations. A complaint by the League to Calgary police regarding online teaching material for Muslim students denigrating Jews was rejected. In Ontario, a complaint that a speech at the annual Al-Quds rally suggesting Jews get out of Jerusalem or be shot was ruled by the Attorney General department not to justify a hate crime charge. Add to that the refusal to remove internet based hate on various forums and one can understand the reluctance to come forward.

The small decrease in reported levels has also to be viewed along side of ongoing concerns about rampant growth in antisemitism in Europe and parallels that can be drawn as some indication as to what might be in store for Canada.

A 2013 report by the Federation of European Unions showed that 29% of all respondents did "not feel safe" living in their countries as Jews. The Internet was seen as the biggest platform for spreading hate against Jews, with 75% of respondents saying they had experienced antisemitism on websites and social platforms. Some 42 per cent of respondents said they had experienced verbal abuse at demonstrations, and 14 per cent at sports events. Furthermore, 76% believed that hatred had increased over the past five years. Similar concerns were seen in impact statements gathered here in Canada. Adding to the concerns and sense of unease shared by Canadian Jewry, was the introduction of Bill 60 in Quebec, the so-called Charter of Values, in 2013 by the Parti Quebecois, signaling a challenge to a policy of multiculturalism.

Key findings

- Antisemitic incidents decreased by 5.3 % Canada-wide
- Cases of Vandalism rose by 21.8% while violence increased by one incident and harassment cases dropped by 13.9%
- Incidents of antisemitism were recorded across the country with regional variations
- Despite the small drop, antisemitism shows a consistent presence in Canada when taking a 10-year view.
- Hatred continues to invade the daily life of Canadian Jewry, at home, work and at school.

Almost 66 years since the founding of the Jewish state of Israel and 69 years since the ending of the Holocaust we must recognize a number of irrefutable trends in Canada.

Firstly, as documented in this Audit, Holocaust imagery and symbols have found a new level of acceptance in everyday rhetoric. This comes at a time where studies have shown that Holocaust education is lacking in Canadian high school programs and textbooks particularly in Quebec. Under Canadian chairmanship of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance in 2013 a working definition of Holocaust denial and distortion was introduced in an important step to recognize the resurgence in this area.

Secondly, while anti-Israel incidents where not clearly combined with explicit anti-Jewish remarks have not been included in this Audit for purposes of consistency, the prevalence of anti-Israel rhetoric in a significant portion of the 2013 incidents off and on campus, make it all too clear that the so called 'New antisemitism' is a constant factor in the study of antisemitism in Canada. Prime Minister Stephen Harper in his historic speech to the Israeli Knesset earlier in 2014 made direct reference to this "new face of antisemitism". The manifestation is not by any means a new concept at all. The connection has been noted in previous Audits. In fact it was been recognized in the definition formulated by the European Union Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) and the Inter-parliamentary Coalition for Combatting Antisemitism in which Canada has taken a leading role. (See Appendix C)



Key Findings of the Audit

The Overall Picture

In 2013, the League for Human Rights documented 1274 antisemitic incidents across Canada, representing a decrease of 5.3% over the 1345 incidents recorded in 2011. An additional 308 cases were investigated but not included in the database as they could not be independently corroborated or did not meet the League's definitions of antisemitism (see Appendix)

While a decrease is always welcome, the incidents reveal the unrelenting nature of antisemitism in Canada. A ten-year view, shows the sustained level of antisemitism in Canada. Since 2004, incidents have almost doubled (48%).

Just over half of the incidents (741) took place, as is the usual pattern, in the province of Ontario. The next largest number (250) were recorded in the province of Quebec. The Regional Charts that follow will further explain the geographical breakdown of incidents across Canada.

Law enforcement experts (see for example Stats Canada 2013 report) estimate that only a small portion of victims of hate-related incidents report their victimization (estimated between 10-30%). In fact, impact statements noted this year by the League indicate a significant reluctance to report primarily due to concerns of retaliation as well as uncertainty of the criminal system's response or a more general frustration of the utility of reporting such incidents.



Of the cases that came to the attention of the League in 2013, 353 cases were reported to police, down from the 373 reported in 2012 and the 446 cases or 34% reported in 2011. While cases with a clear criminal component are generally reported to the police, there is a greater reluctance in cases of harassment.

Incidents by Category

Three broad categories are used to classify the incidents reported across Canada for statistical purposes: harassment, vandalism and violence. The definitions of these categories, as set out in the Appendix of this Audit, have remained consistent from year to year. It must of course be emphasized that a range of behavior with a range of seriousness are captured within each category. A full reading of the report is required to appreciate the nature of the incidents.

The 1274 incidents recorded in 2013 across Canada were broken down into 872 cases of harassment, 388 cases of vandalism and 14 cases of violence.

Harassment continued to show the highest level of activity. The nature of these incidents varied but it should be noted less they be dismissed as trivial annoyance that 113 of the 872 cases classified as harassment involved explicit threats of violence or harm against individuals, families, businesses or institutions.

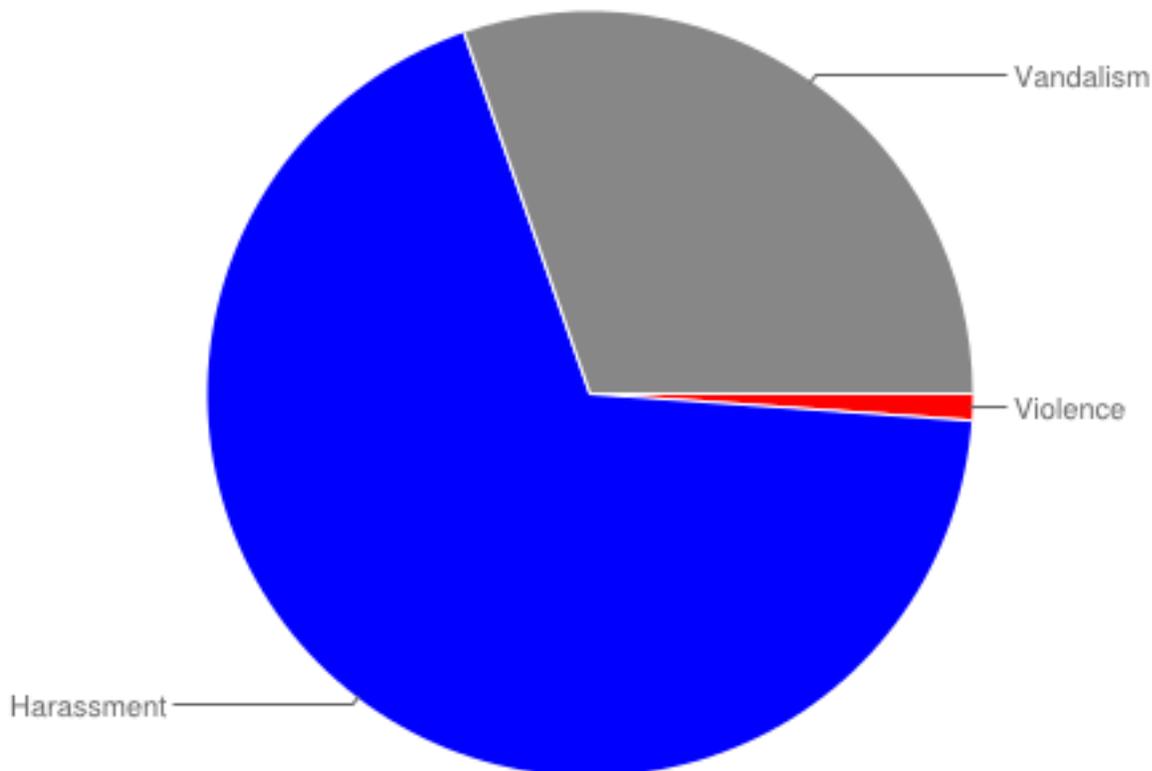
The 872 incidents of harassment represented a drop of 13.9% from the 2012 recorded levels. This certainly reflects the impact statements collected concerning a reluctance to report. This was particularly notable in Quebec where harassment reports were down by 50%. Yet a survey of internet sites with antisemitic content with a connection to Quebec are readily found for example.

Vandalism incidents rose from 319 cases in 2012 to 388 in 2013 – a 21.6% increase across Canada. This is disappointing given the 11.9% decrease in this category seen in the 2012 Audit. A marked increase was noted in the Montreal area as well as Atlantic Canada while dropping in the Western provinces.

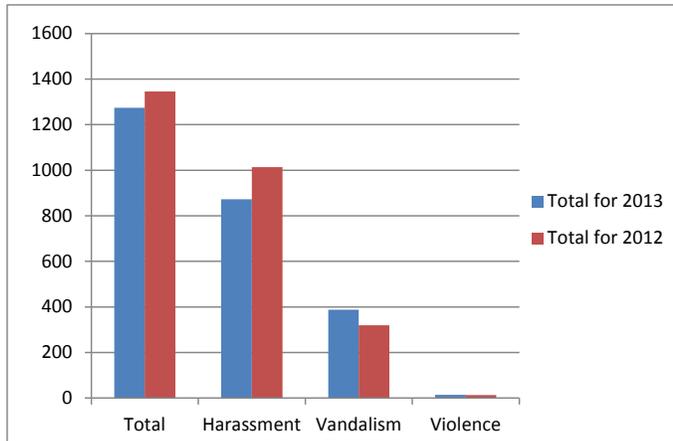
Once again a number of residential areas were targeted with antisemitic graffiti including Toronto (ON), Vaughan (ON) and Winnipeg (MB). A Jewish home was vandalized and later burned down in the St. Agathe area, an area noted with concern in the Audit in previous years. As well a religious Jewish camp reported desecration to religious books and objects. Antisemitic graffiti defaced public sites including parks, memorials and transportation hubs across the country.

Of the vandalism cases, 9 involved synagogues (Ontario and Quebec). Three of the cases involved the use of fire. Likely the potential for greater damage was averted. In at least one case a Jewish community center, in fact one where a school and synagogue meet, received a bomb threat.

Incidents by Category



There were 14 recorded incidents categorized as violence across the country, up from the 13 recorded in the previous year. Incidents included disturbing cases where objects being thrown at teens and seniors on their way home from school or synagogue, ripping off a man's kippah (skullcap) in a busy business district, an assault outside a synagogue.



Type of Incidents

Community Property, Private Homes and the Public Domain

There were 22 incidents targeting synagogues reported to the League in 2013. This continues a downtrend from the 25 recorded in 2012 and notably the 47 recorded in 2011. It is hoped that this decrease in part due to improved security at houses of worship and community institutions with the help of funding under the federal Security Infrastructure Program. However, it is to be noted that a number of these incidents were only disclosed sometime after the incident when the institutions were directly contacted by the League. This might reflect a concern over the reluctance to report for factors noted earlier.

During the course of 2013, B'nai Brith Canada issued security alerts to the community. In late August 2013, it asked community members and institutions to be vigilant as the High Holidays and the 9/11 anniversary approached following a report by the Counter Terrorism Bureau based in



Israel that warned of danger to Israeli and Jewish interests world-wide. Concern was also raised following remarks in August at the annual Al-Quds rally in Toronto where speakers incited hatred against Jews and at least one prominent speaker suggested that Jews should be shot if they did not agree to abandon all of Jerusalem. Another alert was issued in June after a series of vandalism incidents in and around Toronto and Winnipeg.



Other community venues were also targeted in 2013. Fifty-seven incidents involved community centres, more than double the 25 cases in 2012 and more than the 46 recorded in 2011. There were no reports of incidents purposely targeting Jewish cemeteries although callers did express concerns on two occasions of seeing suspicious groups within the vicinity of Jewish cemeteries. In one case it could not be established if overturned tombstones were the result of poor repair or deliberate acts.

In 2013, private residences were targeted in 155 separate cases. There were 144 such cases in 2012 and 146 in 2011. These cases involved repeated mezuzah desecrations, defacement of cars parked outside Jewish family homes. One neighborhood with a concentration of orthodox families was targeted with threatening and hateful graffiti



Jews were harassed and assaulted on public streets. Jews running for office in Quebec had their election signs defaced. Jewish customers were verbally harassed in at businesses in 28 cases. 56 Jewish business owners reported vandalism or harassment directed at them.

Workplace

There were 20 cases directly related to the workplace in 2013, a drop from the 37 cases reported in 2012. This drop while a welcome trend, might in fact reflect a growing reluctance to report, based on impact statements collected. These cases involved unwelcome remarks by co-workers and supervisors. There were 18 cases of systemic discrimination in the workplace that the League assisted in. There were another 10 cases of harassment involving government-based offices. There were also 3 cases involving complaints of systemic discrimination within the prison system in Ontario and Quebec.

Educational Settings



There were 59 cases involving schools in 2013, down from 79 cases in 2012 and 60 in 2011. Of the 59 cases, 24 involved vandalism with antisemitic imagery and swastikas. Cases of harassment included systemic discrimination as well as ongoing bullying between classmates. Nine of the 59 cases targeted Jewish private schools: three of these cases involved graffiti on school buildings. The cases of harassment against Jewish educational facilities included the hacking of a school website in Hamilton, as well as threatening hate-filled material being sent by mail. There were also at least three cases where Muslim private schools were reported as using hate-filled teaching material.

There were 89 cases of antisemitism on university campuses across Canada, a small increase over the 79 reported last year. Fourteen of the cases involved vandalism. In one case a heated argument ended up in two students being physically assaulted on campus. Ongoing graffiti at Dalhousie did evoke considerable outrage by the students but overall the

Jewish students found themselves more and more isolated. Overall tensions are high on campuses across Canada as Israel Apartheid Week has become a year long string of activity. Students report a reluctance to speak up knowing specific cases where students that have taken a public stand are the subject of concentrated harassment. Boycott of Israel campaigns at a number of universities in 2013 have reportedly left Jewish students experiencing a poisoned environment. Student groups have felt at ease, with the tacit support of administrators in the name of free speech, to invite terrorists to address their students. A free speech wall at Queen's has to be taken down due to racist remarks added it. Nonetheless students at campuses such as Calgary and University of Toronto (Scarborough) are to be commended for having the courage to take a public stand.

Web-Based Hate



There were 434 reported incidents involving web-based hate activity. This is a drop from the 521 incidents reported in 2012 and the 528 in 2011. About half of these incidents involved the use of social media applications including facebook and twitter. There were also incidents involving new application such as the Iphone which utilized antisemitic imagery.

A drop in this type of incidents cannot reflect a drop in hate on the internet but again more a reluctance to report due to the perception of a lack of remedies and the rhetoric of free speech.

In addition there were 114 reports of hate-related comments made on media news sites that denigrated the Jewish community but still passed the media's internet/posting policies.

I support free speech only so that Zionists and Neocon Jews like myself can freely dehumanize Muslims so the Western Goyim fight my beloved Israel's wars for her.
Death to all Nazis and Jew haters!



Conspiracy theories against the Jews abounded across the net during 2013 – from age old canards of blood in the matzos to new versions that peg Jews as controlling the climate with sinister objectives. Anti-Israel references which were recorded in 285 of the cases of harassment went hand in hand in such commenting with antisemitism.

Holocaust Denial

Incidents of Holocaust denial sustained the high rate noted in 2012. The Audit recorded 199 cases involving Holocaust denial, similar to the 197 in 2012 compared to only 111 in 2011. In a number of cases Holocaust denial materials were turned away by Canada Customs officials as hate material. Once again Holocaust imagery and comparison crept into political debates. Internet incidents were replete with Holocaust imagery when accusing Jews of horrendous offences. Comedians out of Quebec were noted for including the Quenelle associated with French comedian Deudionne in their routines.

The Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion, adopted by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance at its October 2013 meeting held in Canada under the chairmanship of Canada is most welcome given the



prevalence of this type of incident as a contemporary and growing manifestation of contemporary antisemitism. Under the definition, denying the Holocaust includes not only claiming it did not happen or minimizing its extent but also calling into doubt the methods used to carry out the genocide or blaming the Jews in any way such as the repeated hateful canard that the Jews profited from the Holocaust. As occurred in a number of incidents in 2013, distortion as defined arose as media comments bemoaned that the Holocaust did not go far enough or that Nazi collaborators were more slaves than perpetrators.

Neo-Nazi/White Supremacist Activity

Police from Western provinces in particular note a drop in Neo-Nazi activity – accrediting an intensive effort by law enforcement to bring such activity which had taken at times a violent turn on local streets. Certainly white pride marches in cities such as Calgary (AB) and London (ON) failed to draw a visible and significant mass. Nonetheless, the reported incidents to the League show a sustained level of related activity. There were 163 such reports, compared to 151 in 2013 and 145 in 2011.



Web-based forums which draw those professing to support white supremacist viewpoints remain active in Canada, showing postings from individuals right across Canada. Incidents of recruitment to white supremacist groups were isolated. In one case white pride music cds were found to be on sale at a community based event. A number of reports of businesses selling Nazi related artifacts were reported in Alberta, Ontario and Quebec. In addition, concern was raised by the League as to the amount of

White Supremacist material along with Holocaust denial material readily available on commercial sites including E-bay and Amazon.

Under judicial review is the bequest by Robert McCorkell of his estate to the National Alliance, a nearly defunct neo-Nazi group based in the United States that potentially could be revived with the infusion of money. The League is one of the intervenors arguing that the gift should be blocked on public policy grounds. A decision is expected shortly but likely to be appealed.

European based Neo-Nazi groups also made an appearance in Canada during 2013. The Greek Golden Dawn was noted as trying to organize activities in Toronto. Of the 388 cases of vandalism in 2013, 270 involved swastikas -- or 70 % (last year 185 of 319) This of course suggests that the Nazi symbol continues to be the chosen symbol of hate by perpetrators.

Perpetrators

Overall very few perpetrators were identified. Police reported laying of charges in only 22 cases. However, the ethnic and religious background of perpetrators were documented where corroborating evidence to support such identity could be obtained or the perpetrators self-identified in some way.

There were 126 cases where identify of the perpetrators was revealed in this way. Perpetrators came from a number of different ethnic or religious backgrounds. Where identified the vast majority were adults.



However, as in 2012 the most significant group were those identifying primarily as Muslims – 58 cases in fact. There were such 87 cases in 2012, which was a jump from only 16 in 2011.

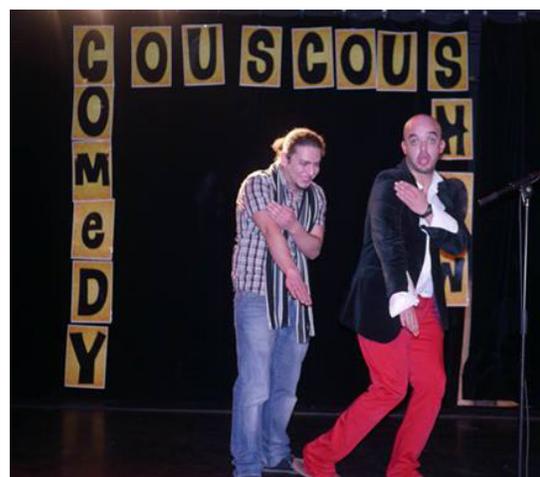
In addition there were 8 face to face encounters involving Christians, and 3 involving Hindu. Perpetrators identified by their ethnic origins were as follows: 3 Aboriginals, 10

Arabs, 8 Bangladesh, 1 Chinese, 3 Egyptian, 3 French, 3 Germans, 16 Iranians, 2 Italians, 3 Polish, 8 Pakistani, 2 Russian, 1 Ukrainian.

Antisemitic blood libels were portrayed in posters advertising rallies to condemn massacres in Pakistan suggesting a Zionist plot behind it. Urdu publications based in Ontario also repeated allegations against Jews world wide. Religion appeared to be a motivating factor as revealed in

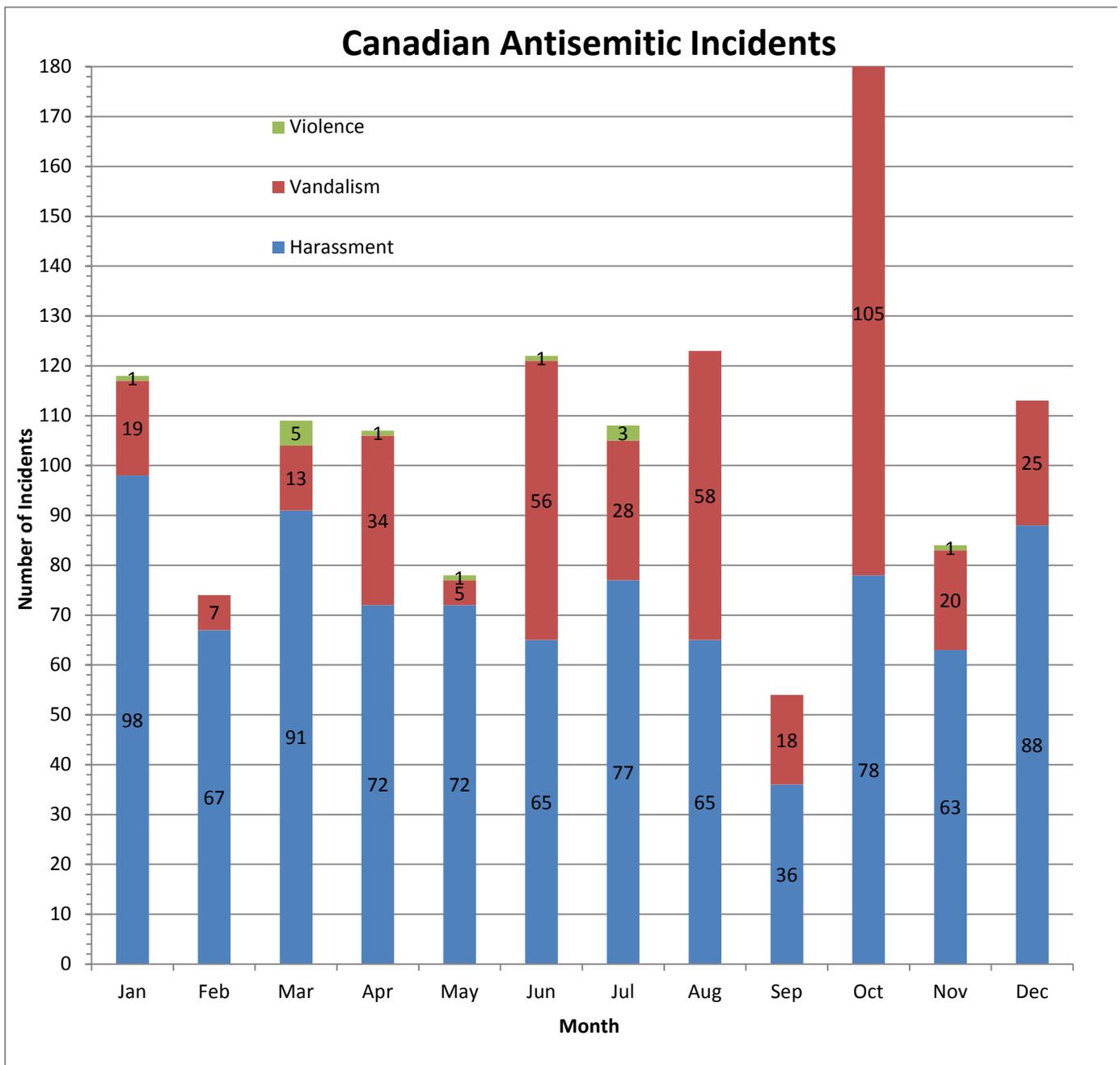


the messaging that appeared in 159 cases, a drop from the 203 cases reported in 2012 but still a sustained level compared to the 94 cases recorded in 2011. Ongoing debates concerning Jewish religious practices such as kosher food, ritual slaughter, circumcision and Jewish synagogue celebrations gave a platform to those on the Internet, in the media as well as at work to express antisemitic, intolerant views.



Patterns of Occurance

There was a sustained level of antisemitic activity across Canada throughout the year. This in part parallels the fact that strife in the Middle East had a sustained presence in the public media with no one period of crisis. The highest number of incidents was recorded by far in October. It is noted that it is in this period that campus activity, and with it anti-Israel activity came to life. This pattern is in part due to a jump in activity in Quebec in particular. Another jump came at the beginning and the end of the year.



Regional Breakdown of Incidents

An analysis of the data by region highlights variations across the country.

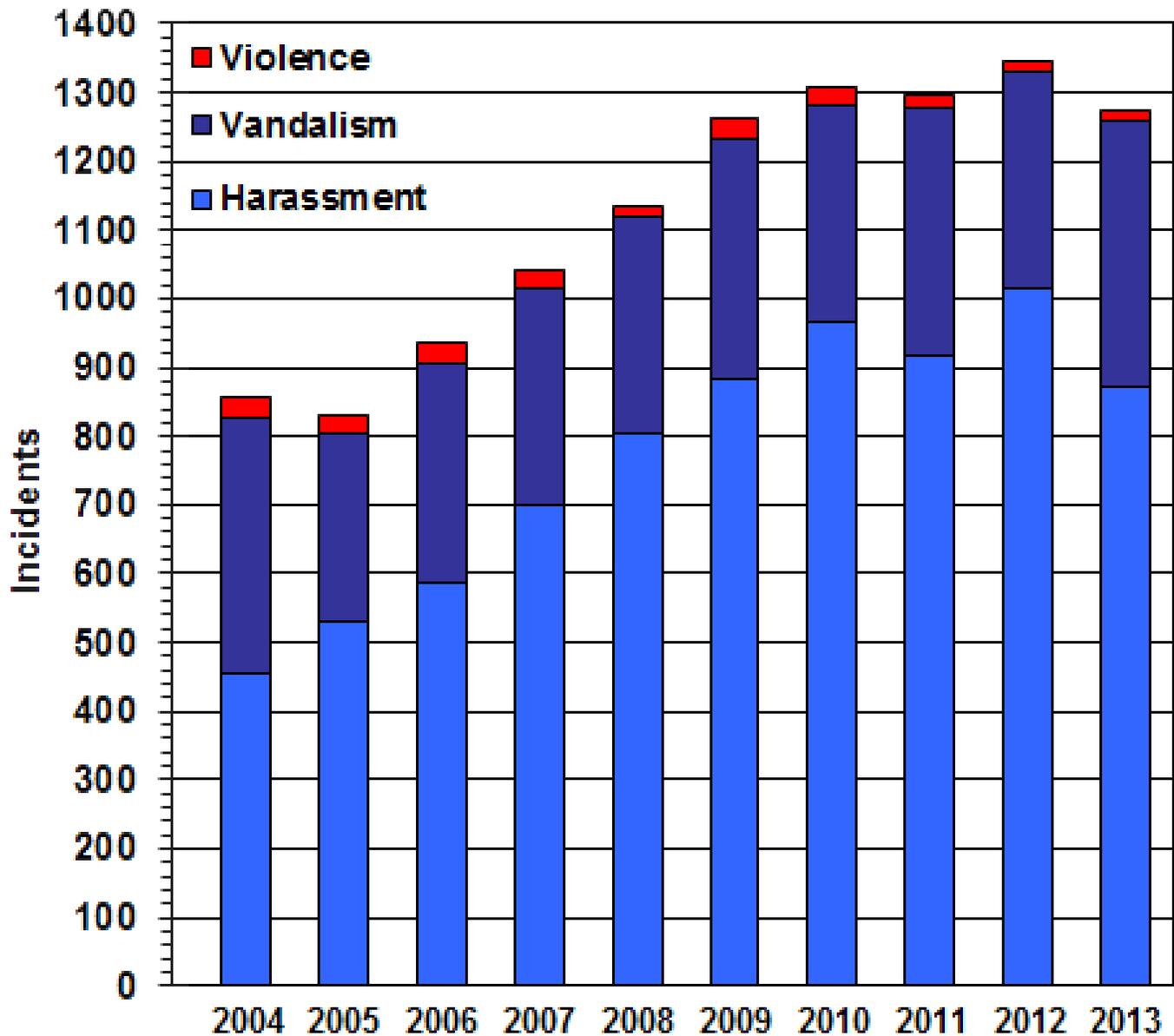
For example: Atlantic provinces showed a marked jump in vandalism well above the country average as did Quebec and Manitoba while vandalism decreased notably in the Western provinces. Manitoba showed increases in all three categories as did areas in Ontario (excluding Toronto and Ottawa). Alberta bucked the national trend to record an increase in harassment incidents.

Year 2013 Region	Number of Incidents				% of Total Percent for Region			
	Incidents	Harassment	Vandalism	Violence	Incidents	Harassment	Vandalism	Violence
Atlantic Region	34	22	12		2.7%	64.7%	35.3%	
Montreal	232	126	103	3	18.2%	54.3%	44.4%	1.3%
Quebec Region	18	4	14		1.4%	22.2%	77.8%	
Toronto Region	509	379	122	8	40.0%	74.5%	24.0%	1.6%
Ottawa	66	60	6		5.2%	90.9%	9.1%	
Ontario Region	166	87	78	1	13.0%	52.4%	47.0%	0.6%
Winnipeg	75	46	27	2	5.9%	61.3%	36.0%	2.7%
Saskatchewan	8	6	2		0.6%	75.0%	25.0%	
Alberta	91	82	9		7.1%	90.1%	9.9%	
British Columbia	75	60	15		5.9%	80.0%	20.0%	
North Region								
Canada	1274	872	388	14	100.0%	68.4%	30.5%	1.1%
All of Quebec	250	130	117	3	19.6%	52.0%	46.8%	1.2%
All of Ontario	741	526	206	9	58.2%	71.0%	27.8%	1.2%

Region	Percent Change Year 2013 vs. Year 2012				% of Total Percent for Region			
	Incidents	Harassment	Vandalism	Violence	Incidents	Harassment	Vandalism	Violence
Atlantic Region	+25.9%		+140.0%		+32.9%	-20.6%	+90.6%	
Montreal	-21.4%	-50.2%	+164.1%		-17.0%	-36.7%	+235.8%	+27.2%
Quebec Region	-57.1%	-84.6%	-6.7%	-100.0%	-54.8%	-64.1%	+117.8%	-100.0%
Toronto Region	-3.6%	-7.8%	+11.9%		+1.8%	-4.3%	+16.1%	+3.7%
Ottawa	-8.3%	+15.4%	-70.0%		-3.2%	+25.9%	-67.3%	
Ontario Region	+27.7%	+13.0%	+47.2%	+100.0%	+34.8%	-11.5%	+15.3%	+0.6%
Winnipeg	+33.9%	+17.9%	+68.8%	+100.0%	+41.4%	-11.9%	+26.0%	+49.3%
Saskatchewan	-50.0%	-50.0%	-50.0%		-47.2%			
Alberta	+21.3%	+74.5%	-67.9%		+28.1%	+43.8%	-73.5%	
British Columbia	-27.2%	-17.8%	-50.0%		-23.1%	+12.9%	-31.3%	
North Region	-100.0%	-100.0%			-100.0%	-100.0%		
Canada	-5.3%	-13.9%	+21.6%	+7.7%		-2.1%	+10.6%	-56.6%
All of Quebec	-25.8%	-53.4%	+116.7%	-25.0%	-21.7%	-37.2%	+192.1%	+1.1%
All of Ontario	+1.5%	-2.6%	+13.2%	+12.5%	+7.2%	-4.0%	+11.5%	+10.8%

A 10 year view:

Antisemitism in Canada



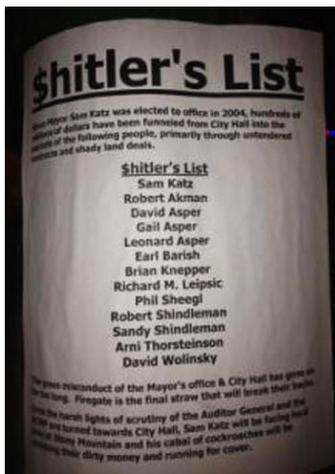
EXAMPLES OF INCIDENTS

January

Vaughan, ON - Rally poster with images of a blood libel accusing Jews as Zionists for massacre of Muslims in Pakistan distributed



Winnipeg, MB – Signs targeting Jewish Mayor and other prominent members of the community alluding to Holocaust imagery tacked to poles in downtown core



Toronto, ON – Mezuzahs desecrated and unidentified white substance found outside of apartment doors

February

Mississauga, ON – Antisemitic images appearing in Urdu magazine

Vancouver, BC – Public School teacher making antisemitic remarks to students in classroom

Toronto, ON – Person opening door of after-school religious program in a synagogue to scream “Fucking Jews” and running off

March

Dollard-des-Ormeaux, QC – Employee of snow removal company fired for screaming “Heil Hitler” and using Nazi salute to gesture to residents



Toronto, ON - Jewish community centre received bomb threat



Moncton, NB – Tweet full of antisemitic remarks threatening to “Fucking Kill Jews” sent under moniker @Hitler

Vancouver, BC – Antisemitic rants attributed to individuals accused of plotting to bomb provincial legislature revealed

Toronto, ON – Congregant physically attacked outside synagogue by unidentified assailant

April

Montreal, QC – Apartment building repeatedly defaced with antisemitic graffiti



Toronto, ON. – Older man terrified on walk home on the eve of Passover by group yelling “dirty Jew” and throwing object at him

Windsor, ON – Repeated calls to residence where family in mourning asking if “Jesus lives here”

Calgary, AB – Hate crime complaint made against Muslim organization regarding education articles posted on line accusing Jews of debauchery and immorality and for having deviated from the Torah as well as quoting from the libelous Protocol of the Elders of Zion.

May

Hamilton, ON - Newspaper publishes letters containing antisemitic canards

Vancouver BC – City councillor apologizes for using antisemitic slang “Jewed down” during council debate

Edmonton, AB – Excerpts from antisemitic website sent by coworker to visibly Jewish employee

June

Montreal QC – Antisemitic graffiti including swastika scrawled on the sidewalk outside store owned by Jewish family



St. Agathe, QC – Cottages belonging to Jewish family ransacked and then burned down

Toronto, ON - Orthodox Jewish families in residential area woke up to antisemitic graffiti including swastikas and the threatening words “watch your children” on their homes and cars including swastikas and the words “watch your children”



Burnaby, BC – racist graffiti with threats to kill along with swastikas painted on playscapes in public park area

July

Toronto, ON – Antisemitic rant broadcast live from site on university grounds

Ottawa, ON – Antisemitic flyers from Larouche group handed out on public street and on campus

Richmond Hill, ON – Pennies thrown at group of young visibly Jewish children as arriving at movie theatre

August

Vaughan ON – Cars outside Jewish homes vandalized with swastikas



Winnipeg MB – Swastikas spray painted repeatedly in neighborhood over course of a couple of weeks



Quesnel, BC – Online postings mocking Jews active in community life

September

Montreal, QC – Mayoral campaign signs defaced with antisemitic graffiti



Hamilton, ON – Hacking and defacement of website of Jewish private school coincides with anniversary of September 11

October

Hampstead, QC – Provincial election campaign posters defaced with antisemitic graffiti and Hitler like mustaches



Hamilton, ON.- Synagogue spray-painted with an antisemitic slur in early morning hours.

Toronto, ON – Antisemitic comments and threats made at public rally to mark Al Quds Day

Calgary, AB – Anti-Israel speaker on campus repeats antisemitic canards

November

Halifax, NS – Antisemitic graffiti appearing at university library

Moncton, NB – Antisemitic emails regarding Jewish group intervention in bequest to white supremacist group

Vancouver, BC – Antisemitic graffiti including swastikas across from Jewish seniors apartment block with many Holocaust survivors

Edmonton, AB – Antisemitic epitaphs and threats directed at Jewish man on another person's Facebook page

Montreal, QC – Antisemitic tirade and assault of Jewish man filming group of Muslim women at coffee shop

Toronto, ON – Antisemitic images at anti-poverty street rally

December

Whitby, ON – Synagogue sign defaced with swastika



Halifax, NS – Antisemitic graffiti appearing at university library

St. Agathe, QC – Religious camp ransacked and religious books desecrated

Montreal, QC – Many antisemitic comments online regarding Charter of Values posting

Regina, SK – Article replete with antisemitic conspiracy theories including so called kosher tax scam left on high school teacher's desk

Conclusion/Recommendations

The Audit, establishes the existence of a sustained level of hatred in Canada despite an overall small decrease from the previous year and regional differences. Clearly, the concern about intolerance in Canada is paralleled in other minority communities including Asian communities in British Columbia which witnessed ugly graffiti targeting them, homes of Black Canadians in Edmonton and Hamilton, hate directed at the aboriginals in Saskatchewan. Acts of disrespect towards government officials and memorial sites have also contributed to a level of concern that has prompted questions as to the success of multiculturalism as a national policy.

It is therefore even more important than ever that communities come together to examine what it means to be Canadian and to find ways for Canadians from across communities to come together to renew their commitment to core Canadian values. A number of provincial initiatives with the support of police units have been established with websites designed to disseminate information and encourage reporting. Such initiatives with community partnerships must be encouraged and extended.

Debates as to the limits of free speech continued throughout 2013. A consensus as to such limits and the balance to be struck in the fight against hate speech is necessary. Section 13 of the Canadian Human Rights Act which allowed for cases of hate on the internet to come before the Canadian Human Rights Commission was repealed in June 2013 even though the Canadian courts in the case of Marc Lemire found that the provision was in fact constitutional. Reaction was divided on the finding by the Supreme Court of Canada which effectively upheld limits on free speech in finding that Bill Whatcott had in some respects breached the applicable provincial human rights code. The debate on the limits of free speech continued with the release of the Supreme Court of Canada in Bill Whatcott, anti-gay activist.

With the repeal of section 13 of the Canadian Human Rights Act, the only remedy left in cases involving hate on the internet, other than voluntary compliance, is the higher standards set out in the Canadian Criminal Code. The case of Arthur Topham, who is accused of committing a hate crime in connection to a website he maintains, is the only hate crime case presently before the courts. The charges were made following a complaint by the League and Richard Warman. In a presentation to the Federal Minister of Justice, the League has asked for the establishment of common guidelines for bringing hate crime charges across Canada.

Action-Plan

Let us make it our priority to:

1. Continue to document the ever-evolving nature and targets of antisemitism in Canada.
2. Work with all sectors and other communities to ensure that policies and educational programming are in place that support a zero tolerance for hate.
3. Make anti-discrimination training at schools and on campus part of the regular mandatory curriculum.
4. Develop guidelines to standardize the process for obtaining the consent of the provincial attorneys general across Canada in the prosecution of hate crime charges.
5. Ensure that sentencing for hate crimes is substantial so as to reflect the seriousness of the charges and the impact on the victims and the community.
6. Make Holocaust Denial a specified hate crime under the Criminal Code.
7. Ban membership in hate groups in accordance with Canada's international obligations, including the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.
8. Add a combination of substantive offenses and penalty enhancements to the Criminal Code so that offences such as vandalism are recognized from the outset as hate motivated crimes.
9. Ensure that the victims of hate crimes are given a voice in criminal prosecutions.
10. Put measures in place to counter cyber-bullying, including incidents involving expressions of hate and discrimination.

APPENDIX

Appendix 1: Definitions of Antisemitic Incidents Used by the League for Human Rights

Harassment

Harassment refers to verbal or written actions that do not include the use of physical force against a person or property. It includes, but is not limited to:

- verbal slurs, statements of hate and bias, or harassment
- stereotyping of Jews, such as the airing on radio talk shows of comments on “Jewish characteristics”
- systemic discrimination in the workplace, schools or campuses
- hate propaganda and hate mail via the Internet, telephone, or printed material
- verbal threats of violence, where application of force does not appear imminent, or no weapon or bomb is involved

Vandalism

Vandalism refers to physical damage to property. It includes, but is not limited to:

- posting of graffiti, swastikas and similar racist emblems and slogans, at times accompanied by other criminal acts including thefts and break-ins
- damage to religious objects such as *mezuzahs* on the door posts of private homes, hospitals and other facilities
- desecration of cemeteries and synagogues
- fire bombing, arson

Violence

Violence refers to physical use of force against a person or group of persons. It includes, but is not limited to:

- bodily assault
- assault with a weapon or accompanied by threat of imminent use of weapon
- threats of violence directed against a particular person or group where there is reasonable cause to believe that bodily harm is imminent.

Incidents that involve or reflect an increasing worldwide trend toward virulent anti-Zionist rhetoric have been included only if there is a clear anti-Jewish component.

APPENDIX B

International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance

Working Definition of Holocaust Denial and Distortion

The present definition is an expression of the awareness that Holocaust denial and distortion have to be challenged and denounced nationally and internationally and need examination at a global level. IHRA hereby adopts the following legally non-binding working definition as its working tool.

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

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

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

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

Distortion of the Holocaust refers, inter alia, to:

- a) Intentional efforts to excuse or minimize the impact of the Holocaust or its principal elements, including collaborators and allies of Nazi Germany;
- b) Gross minimization of the number of the victims of the Holocaust in contradiction to reliable sources;
- c) Attempts to blame the Jews for causing their own genocide;
- d) Statements that cast the Holocaust as a positive historical event. Those 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”;
- e) 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.

APPENDIX C

The European Forum on Antisemitism

WORKING DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITISM

The purpose of this document is to provide a practical guide for identifying incidents, collecting data, and supporting the implementation and enforcement of legislation dealing with antisemitism.

Working definition: “Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

In addition, such manifestations could also target the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity.

Antisemitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for “why things go wrong.” It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

Contemporary examples of antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could, taking into account the overall context, include, but are not limited to:

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

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.

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.

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).

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

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

Examples of the ways in which antisemitism manifests itself with regard to the State of Israel taking into account the overall context could include:

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.

Applying double standards by requiring of it a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.

Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.

Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.

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

However, criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic.

Antisemitic acts are criminal when they are so defined by law (for example, denial of the Holocaust or distribution of antisemitic materials in some countries).

Criminal acts are antisemitic when the targets of attacks, whether they are people or property – such as buildings, schools, places of worship and cemeteries – are selected because they are, or are perceived to be, Jewish or linked to Jews.

Antisemitic discrimination is the denial to Jews of opportunities or services available to others and is illegal in many countries.

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