



Questionnaire for Prospective Students and Their Families Interviewing Colleges/Universities Regarding the Level of Anti-Semitic Activity on Campus

This questionnaire will provide the framework that prospective students and their families can use when determining the campus climate for Jewish students relating to anti-Semitic and anti-Israel activity at a particular college/university.

Background Information: Anti-Semitism on U.S. college campuses is growing at an alarming rate. A number of highly disturbing incidents are reported every year (incidents ranging from swastikas and other anti-Semitic graffiti to verbal harassment and physical assaults), and many Jewish students report feeling targeted and unsafe on their campuses.

An AMCHA Initiative study examining antisemitic activity on U.S. campuses in 2017 found that Israel-related incidents were the largest contributors to a hostile environment for Jewish students. Alarming, a close analysis of incidents from 2015 to the first half of 2018 revealed that those involving attempts to ostracize or exclude pro-Israel students and staff from campus life more than doubled. The trend is clear: Israel-related incidents are becoming significantly more flagrant, with an emergent shift from boycotting Israel to boycotting actual students and student groups.

Information to Note: These questions are designed as guidelines to assist you in assessing how safe or comfortable a school might be for a Jewish student. They will also serve as a reminder to school administrators that prospective Jewish students and their families' decisions are influenced by the level of anti-Semitic/anti-Israel activity on the campus. It will communicate to the school up front that it is in its best interest to have clear policies and procedures in place for adequately protecting Jewish students.

Suggested Questions Regarding Anti-Semitic and/or Anti-Israel Campus Activity and its Affect on Jewish Students:

1. How many students on campus identify as Jewish?
2. What Jewish groups do you have on campus?
3. Have any Jewish students reported acts of violence, verbal or physical harassment, threats, vandalism, discrimination, exclusion, etc., directed against them because of their Jewishness or support for Israel?
4. Have there been reports of swastikas or other anti-Semitic graffiti drawn anywhere on campus? If yes, did the administration swiftly, forcefully and publicly acknowledge that a swastika is an anti-Semitic symbol associated with genocide perpetrated against the Jewish people which particularly targets the school's Jewish members for hatred and discrimination, and that it will not be tolerated on campus?
5. Have you heard reports of students feeling the need to hide their Jewish identity (such as hide a Jewish star necklace) or feeling fear at attending Jewish events?
6. What is the response time of the administration when there is an anti-Semitic incident?
7. Are administrators, campus diversity officers and faculty members trained in identifying anti-Semitism?
8. Is your security personnel trained to identify anti-Semitism? Does your security department have policies in place for hate crimes?
9. How do you deal with "hate crimes" on campus? What kinds of disciplinary actions are taken when a student is found guilty perpetrating a "hate crime"? What if the perpetrator is a non-student?
10. What support is available to students who encounter anti-Semitism on campus?
11. Does your college/university allocate resources and publicly commit to educating students about anti-Semitism and anti-Jewish discrimination?
12. Was there a Boycott, Divestment & Sanctions (BDS) campaign on campus, and if so, what was the result?
13. How many anti-Israel events and activities have there been this year, what kinds of activities have they been, and who has organized and sponsored them?
14. Have pro-Israel events been disrupted or shut down?
15. Have there been any faculty members (including adjunct faculty and graduate student instructors) who were reported as bringing anti-Semitic and/or unbalanced, one-sided, anti-Israel content into the classroom?
16. Is there a registered "Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP)" or similar group on campus?
17. If there is an anti-Israel speaker on campus sponsored or funded by academic departments, do you require a balanced program to include a representative with a different view?
18. Has there been an "Israel Apartheid Week" or "Anti-Zionism Week" on campus? What events occurred during this week?
19. Has there been an "Apartheid Wall" display? If yes, did any of the materials distributed or displayed involve condoning terrorism against Israelis, demonizing Israel or Israelis or delegitimizing Israel?
20. Has the President/Chancellor publicly committed to applying the same stringent standard of protection from harassment and discrimination prescribed by federal and state law to all students at the University, regardless of identity, belief, opinion or legally protected status?