

EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY FOR JEWISH STUDENTS AT SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

AUTHORS: NATHAN SILBERBERG

SPONSORS: ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

WHEREAS, the Associated Students (“A.S.”) Constitutional Mission includes “promot[ing] students’ rights and provid[ing] effective representation of student interests” and “enhanc[ing] a positive cultural and educational environment on campus,” [Citation 1] and Santa Monica College (“SMC”) has 750-1,500 Jewish students [Citation 2];

WHEREAS, Jewish undergraduate students are subjected to discrimination and harassment in person [Citation 3], in the classroom, online, and on social media [Citation 4], to the detriment of their personal educational experiences and the broader community college culture;

WHEREAS, there are over 3,000 antisemitic incidents nationally since 2015 at colleges and universities [Citation 5], including, in the past month, assault and battery [Citation 6] and blaming Jews for the spread of Covid-19 [Citation 7];

WHEREAS, antisemitism has risen globally [Citation 8] and the 2018 FBI report on U.S. hate crimes found acts of violence against Jews to have reached their highest level ever in this country [Citation 9], including the Pittsburgh Tree of Life Synagogue and the Poway Synagogue shootings which collectively took the lives of 12 Jews [Citation 10];

WHEREAS, this resolution is not intended to infringe or restrict the First Amendment rights of any member of our community college; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the A.S. finds it unacceptable to harass, intimidate, marginalize, exclude or demonize any member of our community college on the basis of their identity;

RESOLVED, that the A.S. does not tolerate antisemitic harassment or discrimination, including on the basis of actual or perceived shared ancestry or ethnicity, religion, race, national origin, or cultural identity;

RESOLVED, that the A.S. advocates for SMC to include in any anti-discrimination or bias training for administrators, faculty, and students, an understanding of antisemitism in line with this resolution; and

RESOLVED, that the A.S. advocates for SMC’s commitment to publicly denounce any incidents of antisemitism that occur and affect the SMC community.

EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY FOR JEWISH STUDENTS AT SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

Sources

Citation 1: <http://www.smc.edu/StudentServices/StudentLife/Documents/AS-Constitution-and-Bylaws/A.S.Constitution.and.bylaws.UPDATED.12.2019.pdf>

Citation 2: <https://oujlic.org/campus/santa-monica-college/>

Citation 3:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gAyFlByb64M>

<https://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-jewish-latino-hate-crime-report-20190703-story.html>

Citation 4:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqwQgVhAo0k&feature=emb_logo

<https://www.ajc.org/AntisemitismSurvey2019>

Citation 5:

https://amchainitiative.org/search-by-incident#incident/display-by-date/?view_279_per_page=100&view_279_page=1

Citation 6: <https://www.insidehighered.com/quicktakes/2020/04/09/yale-rabbi-attacked-outside-jewish-student-organization>

Citation 7:

https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/pke7wg/orthodox-jews-were-blamed-for-spreading-covid-now-theyre-donating-plasma

<https://www.nydailynews.com/opinion/ny-oped-jews-coronavirus-antisemitism-20200408-4arvpei6wvd4td7eyqxpjfhaka-story.html>

Citation 8:

<https://www.osce.org/odihr/383089?download=true>

EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY FOR JEWISH STUDENTS AT SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Religion/A_74_47921ADV.pdf

Citation 9: <https://www.npr.org/2019/11/12/778542614/fbi-reports-dip-in-hate-crimes-but-rise-in-violence>

Citation 10: <https://www.justice.gov/hatecrimes/hate-crimes-case-examples>