



SELECTIVE SYMPATHY:

The Double Standard in Confronting Jewish Student Trauma & Antisemitism

AFTER THE OCTOBER 7TH MASSACRE

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Executive Summary

The horrific Hamas attack on Israeli civilians on October 7, 2023 had a traumatizing impact on Jewish college and university students in America and exacerbated their fears that already-unprecedented levels of campus antisemitism would skyrocket in the wake of the attack—fears which have become a reality on many campuses. Recent student testimonies have highlighted the failure of administrators at two universities to adequately address Jewish students' trauma and fears about antisemitism in the wake of the Hamas attack. They have also charged administrators with employing a discriminatory double standard, claiming that no other similarly impacted minority group would be treated as inadequately as Jewish students.

This study empirically investigated these allegations on campuses across the country by analyzing the statements issued soon after the Hamas attack by college and university presidents and chancellors on nearly 100 campuses. These statements were then compared with those issued by the same schools in the wake of traumatic events affecting Black students (the George Floyd murder in 2020) and Asian/Asian American students (the murders of six Asian women in Atlanta in 2021).

Our analysis showed that most leaders' statements failed to adequately acknowledge Jewish students' trauma and fears about antisemitism or to offer sympathy, support and assurances of protection following the Hamas attack. Importantly, we also found an unambiguous and discriminatory double standard, with leaders being far less responsive to Jewish students than to their African American and Asian/Asian American peers in the aftermath of traumatic events affecting them.

This double standard points to a broader issue of institutional policies that fail to offer equal protection against discrimination and harassment to all students, particularly those facing abusive verbal and physical behavior because of their perceived support for Israel. The report concludes with recommendations for schools to create or rewrite their policies to ensure that all students, including Jewish and non-Jewish pro-Israel students, are as robustly protected from discriminatory and harassing behavior as any other "protected" minority.

Introduction



TRAUMA, FEAR AND CAMPUS ANTISEMITISM

Upon learning of the most deadly attack on Jews since the Holocaust— Hamas’ brutal massacre, maiming, rape, beheading, burning, and kidnapping of more than a thousand innocent Israeli civilians, from babies to the elderly, on October 7, 2023—Jewish students in America were understandably shocked, grief-stricken, and traumatized. Many not only have family and friends in Israel, a country that is home to half the world’s Jews, the vast majority consider Israel an integral part of their Jewish identity.¹ In addition, the genocidal antisemitism that motivated the attack by Hamas, a terrorist group whose founding charter explicitly calls for a *jihad*, or holy war, to “obliterate” the Jewish state and murder Jews worldwide,² undoubtedly strengthened the identification of Jewish students on U.S. campuses with the horrific trauma of Jews in Israel.

Many Jewish students were also anxious and afraid³ that the Hamas attack would precipitate a

¹ A Pew study found that 80% of Jews view Israel as integral to their Jewish identity.
<https://www.pewresearch.org/religion/2021/05/11/jewish-americans-in-2020/>

² https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/hamas.asp

³ In a poll of Jewish students conducted by Hillel International on November 14-15, 2023, most (54%) reported that they were scared: <https://www.hillel.org/more-than-one-third-of-jewish-college-students-are-hiding-their-jewish-identity-on-campus-new-hillel-international-poll-finds/>. In addition, the longitudinal survey “Campus Antisemitism: A Study of Campus Climate Before and After the Hamas Terrorist Attacks,” conducted by the Anti-Defamation League, Hillel International, and College Pulse and published on November 29, 2023, found that post-October 7th, less than half of Jewish students (45.5%) reported feeling very physically safe, and less than one-third (32.5%) said they felt very emotionally safe:
<https://www.adl.org/resources/report/campus-antisemitism-study-campus-climate-and-after-hamas-terrorist-attacks>

rapid escalation of the already-unprecedented levels of antisemitic bigotry and harassment they had been facing on their campuses well before October 7th,⁴ fears that have become a frightening reality on campuses across the country.

As recently reported by Hillel International Executive Director Adam Lehman, there has been a more than 700-percent increase in antisemitic incidents on campus since the Hamas attack,⁵ including physical assault, death threats, intimidation, bullying, and vandalism. Almost every incident has been linked to the feverish anti-Zionist sentiment that has taken hold among students, faculty and staff at many schools. These sentiments are being expressed at large and sometimes violent protest rallies; in statements and manifestos issued by student groups, faculty, academic departments, and staff offices; in student newspaper op-eds and student government resolutions; and in classroom lectures and departmentally-sponsored events. To the horror of Jewish students, many of their classmates, professors, and school staff are condoning and even celebrating the Hamas attack, calling it legitimate “resistance,” while Israel’s defensive actions are labeled “genocide,” the Jewish state’s very existence is cast as the justification for Hamas’ brutal massacre, and calls for Israel’s destruction are frequently heard.

In her testimony at a recent Congressional hearing, here is how Talia Dror, a Junior at Cornell University, described what she and other Jewish students on her campus have experienced in the wake of the Hamas attack:⁶

“Thirty-nine days ago, as I witnessed the mass rape, mutilation and massacre committed by Hamas, my reality as a college student in the United States radically transformed. Students, professors and administrators at Cornell celebrated the massacre of innocent civilians. Just five days after the heinous terror attacks, the student assembly introduced a resolution calling Hamas ‘an armed resistance,’ and placing full blame for the October 7th attacks on Israel...[M]y community is terrified to walk around the school they pay to attend because they are afraid of getting threatened, assaulted, or killed. Students at rallies chant genocidal phrases, like ‘From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free.’ This is a chant that calls for the elimination of the state of Israel and all seven million Jews inside of it. This is a chant that

Many Jewish students were also anxious and afraid that the Hamas attack would precipitate a rapid escalation of the already-unprecedented levels of antisemitic bigotry and harassment they had been facing on their campuses well before October 7th, fears that have become a frightening reality on campuses across the country.

⁴ <https://www.adl.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/2023-03/ADL-2022-Audit-of-Antisemitic-Incidents-2021.pdf>

⁵ In testimony to the United States House Committee on Ways & Means at its hearing, “From Ivory Towers to Dark Corners: Investigating the Nexus Between Antisemitism, Tax-Exempt Universities, and Terror Financing,” on November 15, 2023, Adam Lehman, Hillel International Executive Director, stated: “In the past five weeks, our Hillel’s have reported 398 antisemitic incidents, a figure that includes 28 physical assaults. This level of antisemitic activity represents more than a 700% increase from the record level a year before in the same period.” (https://www.youtube.com/live/Qu_2afSs97I?app=desktop&si=D_3IG-w5YyX305J_W&t=41m31s)

⁶ Talia Dror testified at the Congressional hearing referenced in footnote 5: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qu_2afSs97I&t=35m30s

calls for a second Holocaust... A Cornell professor announced that he was 'exhilarated' and 'energized' by the Hamas attack—*by the murder of my family and friends*. On October 25th... students walking into their classes, stepped over calls for terror attacks and accusations of being genocidal for supporting the existence of the state of Israel. On October 29th... Jewish students on campus received threats that said, 'If I see another Jew on campus, I will stab you and slit your throat. If I see another pig female Jew I will drag you away, rape you, and throw you off a cliff.'; 'Jew's are human animal and deserve pig's death. Liberation by any means, from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free'; 'Gonna shoot up 104 West [the kosher dining hall]. Glory to Hamas. Liberation by any means necessary.'... Two days later, I got news that the threats were made by a fellow student. This wasn't far away. This was at the same school I worked my whole life to get into, the school I invested my family's hard-earned life savings to attend."

ANTI-JEWISH DOUBLE STANDARD

However, despite the significant trauma and fear experienced by a large portion of the Jewish campus community after the Hamas attack, as well as the unprecedented surge in antisemitism threatening their safety and well-being, Jewish students are reporting that their schools have failed to provide them with adequate sympathy, support or protection. Moreover, they highlight an egregious double standard, noting that no other similarly impacted minority group would be treated so inadequately, and they believe this double standard has given license to, and fomented, further antisemitic activity on their campuses. According to Ms. Dror's Congressional testimony:

"Many universities are unfortunately failing their Jewish students. They have failed to uphold their self-proclaimed values of equity and belonging when it comes to Jewish students. The hypocrisy is glaring."

"Cornell's administration has made firm statements on everything, from Supreme Court cases to the war in Ukraine to Black Lives Matter. But in the wake of the deadliest day in Jewish history since the Holocaust, administrators have excused endorsements of terrorism under the guise of free speech. In their initial statement they compared the "loss of life in the Middle East" to deaths caused by natural disasters. They allowed tensions to fester on campus, professors to use captive audiences to preach terrorist sympathies, and

the targeting of Jewish students on their campus... Many universities are unfortunately failing their Jewish students. They have failed to uphold their self-proclaimed values of equity and belonging when it comes to Jewish students. The hypocrisy is glaring."

Echoing and expanding on this sentiment, a recent lawsuit brought against New York University (NYU) by three NYU students called out the discriminatory double standard in the school's lack of responsiveness to concerns about antisemitic activity on that campus after the Hamas attack:⁷

⁷ <https://www.courthousenews.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/nyu-jewish-students-antisemitism-complaint.pdf>

"NYU has failed to investigate and address the antisemitic incidents described above, which occurred at NYU after the October 7 Hamas terrorist attack, even though such incidents violate numerous provisions of NYU's policies. NYU's deliberate indifference in response to these antisemitic incidents, in which Jewish students are victims, is dramatically at odds with how NYU readily takes action to enforce its codes and policies to investigate and address bias-related incidents when the victims are not Jewish. This discriminatory double standard has helped to create, and has contributed to, aggravated, and exacerbated, the hostile educational environment, and the antisemitic abuse and harassment, that plaintiffs and other Jewish students have been forced to endure at NYU."



Bard SJPs Statement in Support and Solidarity of the Unity Intifada

Bard SJP unequivocally supports the Unity Intifada in Gaza and the broader occupied Palestinian lands. Liberation is a material process that requires confrontation by any means necessary. From the river to the sea, we will continue to fight for the honor and dignity of Palestinian people. We are part of this movement.

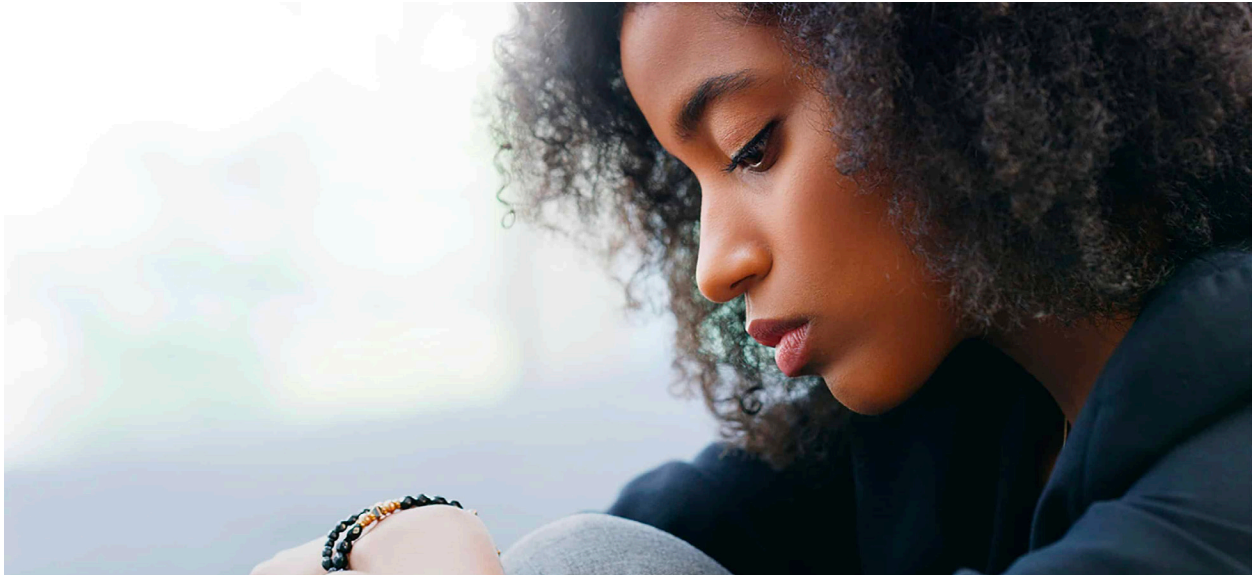


There is ZERO evidence that Palestinians deliberately killed women and children. There is a great deal of video evidence that they deliberately *avoided* targeting women and children.

There is nothing wrong with Palestinians taking prisoners of war in their struggle against the Zionist terror occupation.

We cannot allow the Zionist false narrative become the accepted history of what happened. RESIST

Investigation



INVESTIGATING UNIVERSITY RESPONSES TO STUDENT TRAUMA

The current study sought to empirically investigate whether the inadequate and unfair treatment of Jewish students after the Hamas attack, as described above by students at two universities, was a widespread phenomenon on American campuses. We asked: In the days following the October 7th attack, what proportion of college and university administrators across the U.S. adequately responded to their Jewish students' trauma over the attack and fears about rapidly escalating campus antisemitism? How do these responses compare to the same schools' responses to students from other minority groups following events that were similarly traumatizing to those groups? Was there a discriminatory double standard at work?

We investigated these questions by analyzing the first public statements⁸ issued soon after the Hamas attack by college and university presidents and chancellors on nearly 100 public and private schools popular with Jewish students. We then compared these statements with those issued by the same schools in the wake of traumatic events affecting other campus identity groups, specifically, the George Floyd murder in May 2020 and its impact on Black students, and the murders of six Asian women in Atlanta in 2021 and its impact on Asian and Asian American students. (See Appendix for more details about the study's methodology).

⁸ <https://www.hillel.org/college-guide/top-60-jewish-schools>

1

What proportion of school leaders' statements about the Hamas attack adequately addressed Jewish students' trauma and fears?

a. Acknowledging and accurately characterizing the Hamas attack

The first step in responding to trauma is acknowledging and accurately characterizing its source. Considering the brutality and scale of the Hamas attack – unprecedented in the lifetime of every Jewish college student – an adequate statement of response should at least include an unequivocal condemnation of the attack and an acknowledgment of its perpetrator (Hamas) and terrorist nature. In addition, given the genocidal antisemitism at the heart of Hamas' founding charter, which includes a call for the murder of Jews worldwide, a statement that is sensitive to Jewish students' fears about their own safety following the attack should also identify the antisemitic motivation of the attack.

Our analysis revealed that many school leaders were unwilling to unequivocally condemn the attack or acknowledge its perpetrator or terrorist nature, and almost none identified its antisemitic motivation.

Specifically, while 65% of the post-October 7th statements condemned the attack, almost that many (60%) also accused Israel of perpetrating violence that harmed Palestinians or violated their civil rights, suggesting a kind of moral equivalence that likely diluted the sympathy and support felt by Jewish students. Only 53% mentioned that Hamas had carried out the attack, and less than half (45%) used the word "terrorism" or "terrorist." Strikingly, only 4% of the statements named antisemitism as motivating the attack, even though Hamas has proudly committed itself to the genocide of the Jewish people.

Table 1 summarizes the above results.

TABLE 1: How School Leaders' Statements Characterized the Hamas Attack

Criteria	Percentage Statements* Following Hamas Attack
Condemned Hamas attack	65%
Accused Israel of violence or harming Palestinians	60%
Mentioned Hamas	53%
Mentioned terrorism/terrorist	45%
Identified the Hamas attack as antisemitic	4%

* Out of 99 statements

b. Addressing the impact of the Hamas attack on the campus community

The vast majority of leaders' statements did not single out Jewish members of the campus community to acknowledge their trauma, offer sympathy and support, or address their fears about antisemitism.

In the wake of an off-campus attack that has a traumatizing effect on a particular campus identity group, one would expect a college or university leader's statement to identify the affected group, acknowledge their trauma, offer sympathy and support, and address concerns they may have for their own safety in the wake of the attack. **However, despite the fact that Jews were clearly the campus group most impacted by the Hamas attack and that they had well-justified fears about the attack inciting antisemitism in the world and on their own campuses, our analysis shows that the vast majority of leaders' statements did not single out Jewish members of the campus community to acknowledge their trauma, offer sympathy and support, or address their fears about antisemitism.**

While more than 80% of statements acknowledged the trauma the attack may have caused "to those in the campus community with ties to the region" and reminded them of existing campus resources, shockingly, only 14% acknowledged the trauma of Jewish campus members specifically, and only 5% offered them support or resources for dealing with their trauma. Finally, a paltry 2% of the statements acknowledged that the Hamas attack could incite antisemitism on their own campus or committed to addressing antisemitism.

Table 2 summarizes the above results.

TABLE 2:
How School Leaders' Statements Address Impact of Hamas Attack On Campus Community

Criteria	Percentage Statements* Following Hamas Attack
Acknowledged trauma of campus members connected to region	86%
Acknowledged trauma of Jewish campus members	14%
Offered support/resources to affected campus members	83%
Offered support/resources to Jewish campus members	5%
Acknowledged attack could incite campus antisemitism	2%
Committed school to addressing antisemitism	2%

* Out of 99 statements

2

How do school leaders' statements following the Hamas attack compare to their statements following the murder of George Floyd and the murders of six Asian women in Atlanta?

Although a large majority of college and university leaders' statements failed to adequately address Jewish student trauma and fears immediately following the Hamas attack, it was important to determine if that failure was the result of the school's unwillingness to adequately deal with the trauma and fears of any identity group following an off-campus, hate-motivated attack on members of that group, or was rather specific to how they treated Jewish members of the campus community.

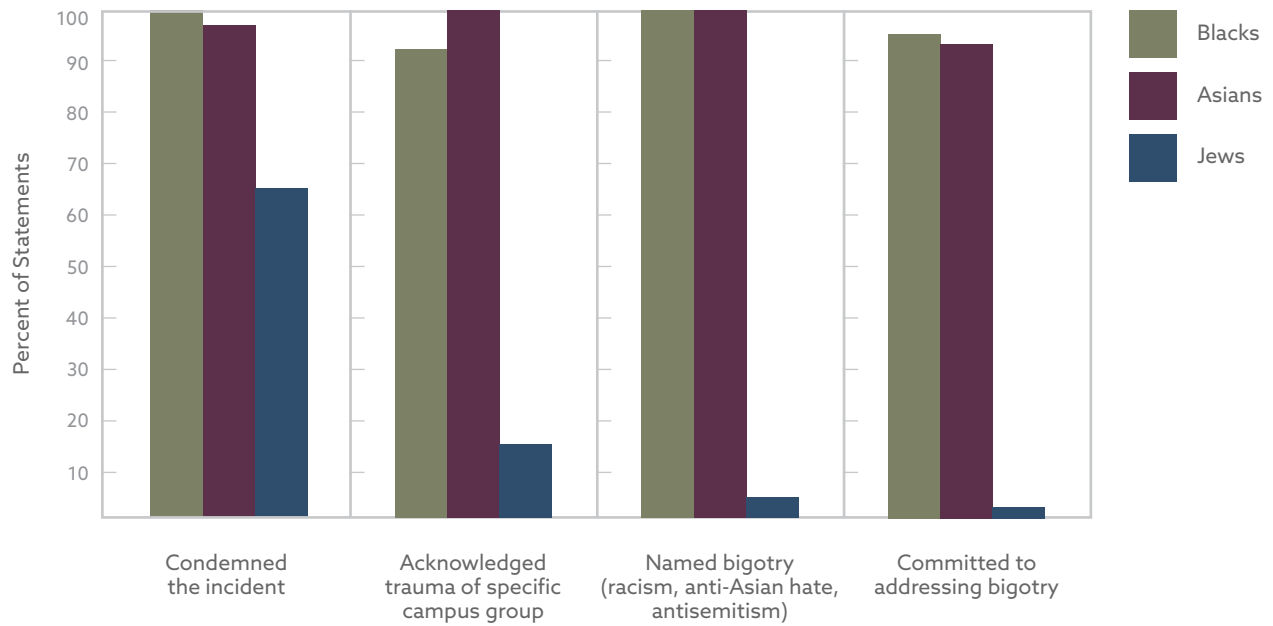
We therefore compared the first statements issued after the Hamas attack to those issued at the same schools after the murder of George Floyd in May 2020 and the murders of six Asian women in Atlanta in March 2021, looking specifically at whether the statements included the following: a) an unequivocal condemnation of the attack; b) an acknowledgement of the attack's impact on a specific campus group (Jews, Blacks/African Americans/People of Color, Asians/Asian Americans); c) identification of the group-specific bigotry associated with the incident (antisemitism, racism/racial injustice, anti-Asian racism/hatred); and d) a commitment to addressing the group-specific bigotry associated with the incident.

Our analysis revealed an unambiguous and discriminatory double standard, with leaders being far less responsive to Jewish students' trauma and fears than to those of their African American and Asian/Asian American students.

Our analysis revealed an unambiguous and discriminatory double standard on all four measures of school leaders' responsiveness to group trauma and fears, with leaders being far less responsive to Jewish students' trauma and fears than to those of their African American and Asian/Asian American students. While 65% of statements condemned the Hamas attack, with many of them also blaming Israel for harming Palestinians, close to 100% unequivocally condemned the incidents affecting Blacks and Asians/Asian Americans; while only 14% of statements acknowledged the impact of the Hamas attack on Jewish members of their campus community, 90% to 100% acknowledged the emotional trauma suffered by their Black and Asian/Asian American communities following attacks targeting members of those communities; and while only 4% of statements identified the antisemitic motivation of the Hamas attack and 2% committed to addressing antisemitism, 100% of statements named racism and anti-Asian hate as the motivator of their respective incidents, and more than 90% committed to addressing bigotry directed against Blacks and Asians/Asian Americans.

Figure 1 summarizes the above results.

FIGURE 1:
School Leaders' First Statements Following the Hamas Attack (N=99),
the George Floyd Murder (N=106), and the Atlanta Asian Murders (N=88)



Conclusions



Our study has uncovered the glaring omissions, minimizations, distortions, and moral equivalences of most college and university leaders' initial responses to Jewish student trauma and fears in the aftermath of the horrific Hamas attack on Israeli civilians on October 7, 2023.

School leaders who respond appropriately to group trauma affecting Black and Asian students, but who are unwilling to do the same for Jewish students cannot be trusted to keep Jewish students safe.

Far more disturbing is our finding that there is a flagrant double standard in how the vast majority of school leaders treat Jewish students as compared to members of other student minority groups in the aftermath of group trauma. This differential (and discriminatory) treatment of Jewish students is more than just unfair. **School leaders who respond appropriately to group trauma affecting Black and Asian students, but who are unwilling to do the same for**

Jewish students—despite the legitimacy of their fears and anxieties about the current situation in Israel and Gaza and the unbridled bigotry they face on campus—cannot be trusted to keep Jewish students safe.

Based on the results of our previous research,⁹ we believe the double standard shown by school administrators is rooted in institutional policies that provide robust protections against discrimina-

⁹ "Falling Through the Cracks: How School Policies Deny Jewish Students Equal Protection from Antisemitism," AMCHA Initiative, December 2022: <https://amchainitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Report-on-University-Harassment-Policies.pdf>

tion and harassment for members of some identity groups but not for Jews. Thus, while school harassment policies obligate administrators to respond promptly and vigorously to abusive verbal and physical behavior directed at students who are members of “protected” groups (based on their race, religion, gender, ethnicity, etc.), they are under no such obligation when it comes to students who are *equally* harassed, but *do not fit* into any of the policy’s protected categories. This is often the case for Jewish students when the harassment they are experiencing is (or is claimed to be) motivated by anti-Zionism, since many administrators do not consider support for Israel an expression of a Jewish student’s religious or ethnic identity—despite the fact that the vast majority of American Jews consider Zionism and the state of Israel to be important components of their identity.

From our perspective, the problem is not that Jewish students don’t fit into the “protected” categories of their school’s harassment policy, but rather, that they must fit into any category at all before getting the robust protection that all students deserve, and that is an essential moral and fiduciary duty of every college and university—public or private—to provide.

The lack of clear protection under school policy from the verbal and physical harassment most frequently experienced by Jewish students has allowed—and will continue to allow—administrators to downplay or ignore Jewish students’ fears and their justified concerns about surging antisemitism. Moreover, by turning a discriminatory blind eye to the harassment of Jewish students, administrators are significantly contributing to the escalation of that harassment by giving a green light to its perpetrators, who correctly infer they can continue their antisemitic behavior with impunity.

From our perspective, the problem is not that Jewish students don’t fit into the “protected” categories of their school’s harassment policy, but rather, that they must fit into any category at all before getting the robust protection that all students deserve, and that is an essential moral and fiduciary duty of every college and university—public or private—to provide.

In response to the Jewish community’s outrage over the explosion of antisemitic activity on many campuses in the weeks following the Hamas attack—and to similar outrage on the part of major donors who have pulled or threatened to pull their support—some universities have issued follow-up statements specifically discussing their commitment to addressing campus antisemitism. For example, at the beginning of November, the presidents of Columbia University, Barnard College, and Teachers College announced the formation of a Task Force on Antisemitism “as part of a commitment to ensuring that our campuses are safe, welcoming, and inclusive for Jewish students, faculty, and staff.”¹⁰ The following week, the president of Harvard University announced specific steps her university would take to combat antisemitism, including education and training programs, community support sessions, and efforts to ensure that students have access to and

¹⁰ <https://president.columbia.edu/news/announcing-task-force-antisemitism>

feel comfortable with voicing their concerns.¹¹ And by the end of the month, the University of Pennsylvania had also issued an “Action Plan to Combat Antisemitism” focusing on safety and security, engagement, and education.¹²

Though these recent commitments to addressing campus antisemitism are positive developments, they are unlikely to succeed unless schools can first acknowledge the egregiously unfair double standards they apply to many students, including Jews, and then take substantive steps to eradicate this fundamental inequality.

Schools must create or rewrite their policies to ensure that all students are as robustly protected from abusive verbal and physical behavior as members of any other “protected” groups. Every student—not just those in “protected” classes—must be afforded the same protections from discrimination, bigotry, and harm.

Specifically, schools must create or rewrite their policies to ensure that *all* students, including Jewish and non-Jewish pro-Israel students, are as robustly protected from abusive verbal and physical behavior as Black students, Asian students, and members of any other “protected” groups. These policies must call out perpetrators’ *behavior* rather than a specific component of their victims’ identity. Every student—not just those in “protected” classes—must be afforded the same protections from discrimination, bigotry, and harm. And this needs to happen now.

Today, wealthy donors and public outrage are the driving forces behind school administrators’ sudden increased willingness to both acknowledge Jewish students’ trauma and to ensure that their campuses are safe for them. But unless these initiatives dismantle the double standard at the heart of their current policies and implement new ones that enshrine *equal protection for all students*, they will fail. And institutions small and large, public and private that refuse to make these changes will surely alienate and lose students, donors, and the public trust.

¹¹ <https://www.harvard.edu/president/news/2023/combating-antisemitism/>

¹² <https://antisemitism-action-plan.upenn.edu/>

About the Researchers

LEILA BECKWITH is Professor Emeritus at UCLA and the co-founder of AMCHA Initiative. After receiving her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, Beckwith went on to teach and do statistical research for more than 30 years at the Neuropsychiatric Institute and the Department of Pediatrics at UCLA. She has published more than 80 research publications in scientific, peer-reviewed journals. She is a board member of the California Association of Scholars and Scholars for Peace in the Middle East. A renowned scientist and researcher, she has been an editorial board member of *Child Development*, *Infant Behavior and Development*, and the *Infant Mental Health Journal*, as well as an ad hoc reviewer for research papers submitted to *Developmental Psychology*, and grants submitted to the National Science Foundation and the National Foundation for the March of Dimes. Beckwith served as an appointed member of research review committees for the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Institute of Drug Abuse and the National Institute of Child Health and Development. She was also a prevention research advisory committee member for the National Institute of Mental Health and a principal investigator for research grants from the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Institute of Child Health and Development, and the Center for Disease Control.

TAMMI ROSSMAN-BENJAMIN is cofounder and director of AMCHA Initiative, and was a faculty member in Hebrew and Jewish Studies at the University of California Santa Cruz from 1996–2016. Rossman-Benjamin has written articles and reports about academic anti-Zionism and antisemitism and lectured widely on the growing threat to the safety of Jewish students on college campuses. She has presented her research in scholarly talks and academic conferences at several universities, including Indiana University, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Harvard University and McGill University. Rossman-Benjamin's research has been featured in several volumes on antisemitism. Articles and opinion pieces from Rossman-Benjamin have been published in *Newsweek*, *The Hill*, *New York Daily News*, *Los Angeles Daily News*, *San Jose Mercury News*, *Sacramento Bee*, *Contra Costa Times*, *Jewish Journal of Los Angeles*, and dozens of others.

Appendix:

Methodology

DATA COLLECTION

Utilizing Hillel International's list of the top 120 public and private colleges and universities in North America by Jewish population,¹³ and eliminating all two-year colleges and Canadian schools, we conducted an online search of the remaining 110 colleges and universities for the first statement that was issued by the school in response to: 1) the Hamas attack on October 7, 2023; 2) the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota on May 25, 2020; and 3) the murders of six Asian women in Atlanta, Georgia on March 16, 2021.

Statements were included only if they were issued by a top school administrator (president, chancellor, provost, etc.) speaking on behalf of the institution. Statements made by departments, individual faculty, or faculty groups were not included in the study.

If more than one statement was issued in response to one of the three incidents considered, only the first one was used for analysis in the study.

Table 1 shows the number and percentage of schools at which online statements in each category were found.

TABLE 1:
Number and Percentage of Schools with Statements in Response to Hamas Attack,
Murder of George Floyd, and Murders of Six Asian Women in Atlanta

Statement in Response to:	Number of Schools	% of Schools*
Hamas Attack	99	90%
George Floyd Murder	106	97%
Atlanta Asian Murders	88	80%

* Out of 110 schools

¹³ <https://www.hillel.org/top-60-jewish-colleges/>

DATA ANALYSIS

Criteria for Analyzing Post-Hamas Attack Statements

To provide a detailed comparison of the different schools' statements in response to the Hamas attack, each statement was evaluated in terms of whether or not the statement included the following:

1. Condemned the Hamas attack
2. Accused Israel of violence against or harming Palestinians
3. Mentioned Hamas
4. Mentioned terrorism/terrorists
5. Identified the Hamas attack as antisemitic
6. Acknowledged trauma of campus members connected to the region
7. Acknowledged trauma of Jewish campus members
8. Offered support/resources to affected campus members
9. Offered support/resources to Jewish campus members
10. Acknowledged attack could incite campus antisemitism
11. Committed to addressing antisemitism

Criteria for Comparative Statement Analysis

In order to compare the statements issued in response to the Hamas attack to those issued in response to the George Floyd murder and the murders of Asian women in Atlanta, we found it useful to employ a generalized version of criteria 1, 5, 7, and 11 above, as listed below:

- Condemned the incident¹⁴
- Acknowledged the trauma of specific campus group (Jews, Blacks/African Americans/ People of Color, Asians/Asian Americans)¹⁵
- Named the group-specific bigotry associated with the incident (antisemitism, racism/ racial injustice, anti-Asian racism/hatred)
- Committed the school to addressing the bigotry associated with the incident

¹⁴ Included in this category were not only statements containing explicit language of condemnation (e.g. "We unequivocally condemn..."), but also descriptions of the incident or responses to the incident that expressed opprobrium (e.g. "horrific attack," "We are outraged...").

¹⁵ Also included in this category were acknowledgments of trauma on all members of the specific identity group (not restricted to campus), if reference was also made to the campus (e.g. "Our hearts go out to the African American community... and to those in our own community who have been feeling overwhelmed by grief or apprehension because of fear for their own safety, their families, and loved ones.").