



This British Nazi cartoon from 1962 is a stark reminder of blatant antisemitism. The antisemitic themes of power and manipulation still resonate to this day.

#### Perspectives on antisemitism

CST has built a reputation based on the work we do protecting synagogues, schools and other Jewish buildings and events across the Jewish community. Countering the threat of anti-Jewish terrorism and hate crime remains at the core of CST's work.

However, the nature of antisemitism has changed since CST first started protecting the Jewish community from physical attack. It is more important than ever to understand what antisemitism is, how it affects Jews and non-Jews and what we can do to reduce prejudice and bigotry in our society. CST's work now takes us into many different areas, in partnership with people and organisations inside and outside the Jewish community.

Inside these pages, you will find perspectives on antisemitism, racism and society from some of the members of CST's Advisory Board. We would like to thank them, and you, for supporting CST in our vital work.

**Gerald M. Ronson** CST Chairman

**Richard Benson**CST Chief Executive



#### The hatred of difference

## What is antisemitism?



of the United Hebrew of humanity. Congregations of the Commonwealth

Chief Rabbi Almost unbelievably, within living memory Lord Sacks of the Holocaust, antisemitism has returned of Aldgate to many parts of the world, Europe not least, Chief Rabbi in ways that are disturbing for the future

> Antisemitism may begin with Jews, but it never ends with them. The reason is that, in essence, it is hatred of difference - of those who, like Jews, do not fit the stereotypes of normality, whose faith or colour or culture or history is not that of the majority. Yet difference is the essence of our humanity. It is what makes each person, each group, unique and therefore irreplaceable. So an assault on Jews is an assault on our shared humanity, and a danger to us all.

We are fortunate to have an organisation like CST that allows us to face the phenomenon without fear. It is one of the great institutions of the Jewish world, and we owe much to its constant vigilance and its steadfast defence.

"Antisemitism" consists of false and hostile beliefs about Jews or Jewish projects; these beliefs often lead to injurious things being said to or about Jews or their projects, or done to them. Antisemites wrong Jews, and they are wrong about Jews. They direct their hatred at Jews in their collective aspect - as a people, as a religious community, as a nation state. Antisemites pass judgments on Jews that are unjust; and their posture towards Jews is determined by malice.

Antisemitism now tends to be bracketed with racisms of colour, which is a mistake. The two hatreds should not be confused. First, racism is based on visual difference but not on any differences of belief, whereas antisemitism is based on differences of belief etc, but not on visual differences (though antisemites typically impute some differences). While racism is hatred of "the Other," antisemitism is hatred of "the imperceptible Other." Second, racisms of colour have no conspiracist dimension.

One consequence is that while the tendency of racism is towards domination and humiliation. the tendency of antisemitism is towards exclusion and destruction.

**Anthony Julius Deputy Chairman** of Mishcon de Reya solicitors and the author of *Trials* of the Diaspora: A History of Anti-Semitism in England (Oxford University Press, 2010)



# Building a better society against antisemitism

Rabbi Dr As the Head of the Reform Movement, it is part **Tony Bayfield** of my job to make contact with senior politicians. Head of the I tend to gravitate towards those who respond Movement for to me and share my interests in education and social Reform Judaism policy. I cannot ever recall experiencing antisemitism.

> Because one of my fields of academic interest is the theology of interfaith relations, I spend a considerable amount of time with leading figures within the churches and, to some extent, within the Islamic, Hindu and Sikh communities. Once again, I experience only genuine warmth and empathy.

> Because I am a Reform rabbi and do not walk the streets. in distinctive dress, I seldom, if ever, sense hostility.

> I am currently working on a book with a Jewish-Christian-Muslim dialogue group I co-convene. The Christians and Muslims in the group find the universalistic dimension of me particularly sympathetic. The particularist, Zionist dimension, my profound attachment to Israel and insistence on its central place in contemporary Jewish theology, bothers them a lot. But it's not antisemitism.

> People like me could easily think that antisemitism no longer exists in British society and anti-Israel feeling is simply the product of not understanding

why Jews, who are 'just like us', should want a land of their own. Thank goodness I realise that I live, work and have friendships within a self-selecting, liberal, intellectual circle. It isn't representative of Britain as it is, only of how Britain should or could be.

Meanwhile, CST operates in the larger world where antisemitic violence continues to increase and anti-Israel sentiments are a paper-thin pretext for hateful, medieval stereotypes of the Jew as the all-pervading, demonic force.

Thank goodness there are people prepared to work with us to build a better, more accepting society. But thank goodness we have CST to protect us from the vilest and most virulent hatred of them all. ■



CST publishes an annual report into Antisemitic Discourse, to explain how discussion of Jews and Israel in the media and politics can sometimes echo antisemitic conspiracy theories or stereotypes. By educating people about the language of antisemitism, we help to build a more tolerant and harmonious society.



Policing antisemitic hate crime

of Greater Manchester Police

Chief Constable Greater Manchester has a large and flourishing Peter Fahy Jewish population, mostly concentrated QPM, MA in the Broughton and Prestwich areas of the city. Chief Constable We are acutely aware of the significant distress experienced by any community or individual when subject to hate crime of any kind. Hate crime is a complex policing issue, not least because its root causes are often more complex than a simple theft or assault. Reducing hate crime demands education and a change of attitude; things which sometimes take generations to achieve.

> However, strong links at a neighbourhood level can improve things significantly and make people within the community feel safer. In Broughton we have strong links with CST, the Broughton Trust and the local synagogues. The Chair of the local Independent Advisory Group is from the Jewish Community and we have developed four separate third party reporting centres, where victims of antisemitic hate crime, and indeed any other type of hate crime, can report their experience in a familiar setting.

> There are many great examples of positive police and community work in this area and with commitment to improve things from both sides, I am confident we can make the Jewish population safer and feel safer.



CST's annual report into Antisemitic Incidents is the only national UK survey of antisemitic hate crime. CST works closely with regional and national Police services to compare the incidents reported to CST with those reported locally to the Police. This enables CST and the Police to work together and provide the best possible protection to the Jewish community against antisemitic hate crime.



To help the Police in their work with Jewish communities, CST publishes The Police Officer's Guide to Judaism, with information about Jewish religious customs, different festivals and the do's and don'ts of the Sabbath. Over 12,000 copies of The Guide have been distributed to police officers in the UK and overseas, including the New York Police Department.

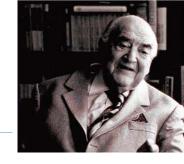


CST produced 25,000 wallet-sized cards with contact details for the Police and CST in London and Manchester, so that people who suffer or witness an antisemitic incident know how to report it as soon as possible. CST also produced 3,000 cards specifically for Jewish students with contact details for CST student security on campus.



# Learning the lessons of history...

# And putting them into practice



The Rt. Hon.
Sir Martin
Gilbert
CBE
Winston Churchill's
official biographer
and a leading
historian of the
Holocaust, Israel and
the modern world

History teaches us that without vigilance there can be no safety. It also teaches that when dangers come upon us, the greatest danger is not to have been prepared.

CST is alert to both these lessons, and in its work ensures that they are learned, not as an academic exercise, but as a real need in our present situation.

That situation is full of complexity, both internal and external.

Churchill was once asked to say what he thought the future had in store. He answered, wisely: 'The future, though imminent, is obscure.'

CST has to penetrate that obscurity with a bright light. We are all of us the safer as a result of its efforts. ■

Not since the dark days of the pre-war threat from Nazi and fascist agitators in Britain has virulent antisemitic and anti-Zionist feelings, partly steeled from abroad and fuelled by hostile media propaganda, threatened the life of the Jewish community in Great Britain as well as - or even more strongly than - in other European countries.

community in Great Britain as well as - or even more strongly than - in other European countries.

So ubiquitous and well organised (and financed as often as not from abroad) are the various efforts to destabilise Jewish life and safety that only an organisation such as CST, with its formidable record of professional know-how and remarkable achievement, can limit and render less dangerous attempts to physically harm and psychologically undermine our community. In close contact with the authorities but with that special inside knowledge of the means

Helping CST means helping the safety of body and mind of every member of the Jewish community of Great Britain.

and methods of radical political groups or criminal

bands, CST provides the tried and tested shield for our families and our friends, for our

sacred and lay communal centres.

**Weidenfeld**of Chelsea
A publisher
and philanthropist



## Antisemitism on campus

Baroness
Deech

of Cumnor, DBE
Chair of the Bar
Standards Board,
Gresham
Professor of Law
and former
Independent
Adjudicator for
Higher Education

Antisemitism on campus is particularly sad because it has taken hold in a new generation. While one is accustomed to the resurgence of antisemitism in an older generation, there were hopes that it would die out and that in the new muticultural Britain with its emphasis on non-discrimination and human rights, the young people would never take on those attitudes. They have, however, as is seen on several major university campuses.

The antisemitism manifests itself not only as a spillover from virulent anti-Israel activity, such as sit-ins connected with Gaza and platforms accorded to speakers calling for boycotts and the end of Israel. It is also seen in traditional forms, such as name calling, graffiti and invitations to Holocaust deniers.

This is done in the name of freedom of speech or freedom of academic activity. In fact there is no such right to absolute speech in British law - everything is circumscribed by laws on human rights, prohibiting race hatred and incitement to terrorism and so on.

University vice chancellors have been less active than they might in applying their codes of practice in relation to freedom of speech

within the law (this limitation is crucial). They have also failed to deal sufficiently vigorously with the UCU and its efforts to continue an illegal boycott of Israeli academia.

The issue of Israel is, of course, inflammatory and can cause tension between Jewish and Muslim students on campus. Excellent work is being done to ameliorate this by Lord Mitchell's Coexistence Trust, which provides a forum for Muslim and Jewish students to talk to each other.



CST staff and volunteers work closely with the Union of Jewish Students to ensure that Jewish students are safe to explore and express their Jewish identity, without having to fear antisemitic abuse or intimidation. A Student's Guide to Antisemitism on Campus, produced jointly by CST and UJS, gives Jewish students all the knowledge they need to recognise antisemitism when it occurs, report it to people who can help and to have the confidence to stand up for their rights and beliefs.



# Antisemitism threatens our democratic society

#### The need for Holocaust education



of Waltham
Brooks, OBE
The Liberal
Democrat Deputy
Leader in the House
of Lords,
Spokesperson for
Communities and
Local Government
and a patron of the
Holocaust
Educational Trust
and Faith Matters

Antisemitism is unacceptable; there are no 'ifs' and 'buts'. We condemn those who preach racism and bigotry.

The evil of antisemitic acts is there for all to see. The desecration of cemeteries, the graffiti splattered on synagogues, the physical violence perpetrated on individuals and the hateful political propaganda that emanates from the far right parties are all unacceptable in a civilised society. It should not - and must not - be tolerated.

Each of us has a duty to stand up and be counted. We will not allow perpetrators of hate crime to destabilise our communities.

The Holocaust was an act of mass genocide which will never be forgotten. I have visited Yad Vashem and my visit to Auschwitz has made me understand the inhumanity towards the Jewish community that has in the past existed.

We must work together to defeat racism of any kind. It is for this reason that I have joined the Advisory Board of CST which has been set up to protect the Jewish community.

We cannot live in peace and harmony with each other until we come to respect the different communities in our midst. ■

If you want a bright future, you must never forget the darkness of the past. The Holocaust was a vast, vile and horrific tragedy – and in these increasingly tough times, we must all work to prevent repetition.

Antisemitism is a form of racism, which is growing in its extent and effect, in too much of our world – especially in continental Europe.

And its effects are already increasing.

Every one of my own family who lived in Lithuania or in Latvia was murdered. Most of their remains are in mass graves, most of which, colleagues and I cleared and cleaned, marked, mapped and signposted. I recently visited some of these graves, and was shocked that they had been neglected and grassed over, and the signs smashed.

We must increase our education about the past, especially in schools, and pay continued visits to Auschwitz. We must recognise antisemitism and racism in any form and reveal and battle against it.

So Holocaust education is increasingly vital.

Lord Janner
of Braunstone, QC
A Labour peer,
Chairman of the
Holocaust
Educational Trust
and a former
President of the
Board of Deputies
of British Jews



#### Racism and antisemitism

Bodmer
FRCPath, FRS
Head of the Cancer
& Immunogenetics
Laboratory at the
Weatherall Institute
of Molecular
Medicine, University
of Oxford

All of us, apart from identical twins, are genetically unique. Our individual genetic make-up influences the way we look and behave, as well as our susceptibility to disease. Modern genetic technology is uncovering the huge variety of genetic differences between us at the level of the DNA, the chemical blue print of life, and confirms that any particular genetic difference may vary in its frequency from one human population to another.

The statistical spectrum of these variations can be used to distinguish two populations, even if geographically they are quite closely related. Thus, in the UK, for example, we may even be able to distinguish differences between populations from Cornwall and East Anglia.

But these distinctions are at the level of the population and not the individual. The genetics tell us that within any population there is far more genetic variety than there is between any two populations. It just so happens that sometimes, there are particular features which are largely genetically determined, such as the colour of the skin, that do serve to some extent to distinguish a person's origin. In that case it is because a light skin has been selected in Northern climates where the sun

is on average much less intense than nearer the equator. Other genetic differences have been selected because they tend to protect us from serious infections, such as malaria.

A major lesson, however, from all these genetic studies, is that there is no biological justification for racial categorisation, and so for racial discrimination at the individual level simply according to a person's origins. We should all be treated as individuals, whatever our particular origins or genetic make-up.

Racism and antisemitism, or any other discrimination based on a person's origins, simply have no objective rationale.



Different communities working together

of Leicester
A Conservative peer
and Shadow Minister
for Children, Schools
& Families in the
House of Lords

History reminds us all, time and time again, that breeding hatred and bigotry destroys nations and preys on the weakest in our societies. Whilst we battle to make sense of why those that choose to divide us as a nation appear to be gaining an upper hand, it is even more crucial that our responses are even more persuasive to ensure we make the argument for unity.

The message of antisemitism along with all hate crime must be addressed head on, in schools, colleges and universities, through community dialogue and greater support from the government at local and national level. Those carrying out these vile acts need to be punished with sentences that reflect our seriousness to address such actions. Whenever an attack is carried out collectively the leaders of all community groups should be united in the condemnations of these attacks. They must be seen to publicly condemn and not remain silent. There is a much bigger role for women to play and their networks can be used far more proactively to highlight the negative outcomes of remaining silent, when they witness changes in attitudes of people around them. To that end, there must be greater protection to those that are willing to speak out.

In working with local community groups on a wide range of issues, what is certain is that much can be achieved if the will is there. Often it is the question of who puts out their hand in partnership first, but sadly much has to be done. Communities can change considerably when the message of peace starts early and remains a thread by which we all are tied. Impacts of what happens in other places will always play a role in our lives, but to what extent we use it as a lever for progress or destruction lies in our hands.



CST supported the Jewish community campaign against the British National Party, to limit the growth of the far right party and restrict the damaging impact they have on community relations. CST has advised groups from Muslim, Sikh, Hindu and Christian communities about security and countering hate crime, and has been cited by several senior police officers and politicians as a model for other communities to follow.