

Understanding how antisemitism operates helps all our intersectional movements for justice!*

This document aims to aid those who wish to discuss Israel/Palestine without replicating the harmful language and rhetoric which contributes to antisemitism.

UU's for Jewish Awareness (UUJA) offers this resource to help increase awareness regarding antisemitism.



Did you know? It can be very easy to (unwittingly) slip into antisemitic or anti-Jewish language!

Such language fails to advance understanding, leading to unnecessary polarization. It can also cause pain and alienation to *both UU Jews and non-UU Jews in our movement.*

➔ **The great news:**
Understanding how antisemitism operates can help our intersectional movements for justice!

And: It is entirely possible to critique policies and actions of the State of Israel (the country) without employing antisemitic or anti-Jewish language.

This requires increased awareness regarding how antisemitism has operated in the past and functions in the present.

Notes:

*This handout is inspired by excerpts from "The past didn't go anywhere: Making resistance to antisemitism part of all of our movements."

Copyright 2014, April Rosenblum,
see: www.thepast.info

Image on front of flyer is from:
<http://mochajuden.com>

This flyer is produced by UUJA: www.uuja.org

Can you recognize Antisemitism?

Become aware. Don't use language that generalizes Jewish people — or any religious, racial, cultural or ethnic identity. Not being specific regarding the person(s) or system you are referencing means you could be slipping into anti-Jewish and antisemitic language. This can alienate people, harm relationships and perpetuate stigma.

So,
please

DON'T

SAY :

"The Jews"
"Those Jews"
"Jewish Power"
"Jewish Wealth"
"New Yorkers"
"The Semites"

"The Jews" is not accurate nor appropriate shorthand for referencing the leaders of the government of the State of Israel.

"Those Jews" is demeaning in the same manner using "those" before any religious, ethnic or racial group of peoples is also demeaning.

AND PLEASE
do not use anti-Arab and Islamophobic rhetoric such as:
"The Arabs,"
"The Muslims,"
"Those Palestinians"

"Jewish Power/Jewish Wealth" are ambiguous terms which are rooted in painful historical myths used to subjugate Jewish people and separate peoples from intersectional movement building.

Jewish people live in many parts of the globe and New York City has over 8,550,405 people.. Please do not use "New Yorkers" as a euphemism for Jewish people.

Unless you are a 19th century Western scholar performing an analysis of the Fertile Crescent, using term "The Semites" is a considered a demeaning generalization. In fact, this term was created by "Orientalist" scholars and is largely rejected now for its essentialist perspective. For definitions of "Semites", "Orientalism" and "Antisemitic" please turn this page over.