

# WHAT IS ANTISEMITISM?

## Definition

According to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, the following has been the non-legally binding working definition of antisemitism since 2016.\*

“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

\*The U.S. adopted this definition through a Presidential Executive Order in 2019.

## Examples

Some examples of antisemitism include the following, a more exhaustive list can be found at [holocaustremembrance.com](http://holocaustremembrance.com).

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.
- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.
- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

## Reporting Hate Crimes

In Pennsylvania, a hate crime is defined as a criminal act motivated by ill will or hatred toward a victim's race, color, religion, or national origin. Contact your local police department or Pennsylvania State Police if you are reporting a crime that you believe was motivated by hate, such as assault or property damage.

The PHRC can help you in determining if an act of hate also violates the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act. To file a complaint, call 717-787-4410 (717-787-7279 TTY) or contact the regional office nearest you:

### Harrisburg

333 Market Street, 8th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
717-787-9780 | 717-787-7279  
(TTY)

### Philadelphia

110 N. 8th Street, Suite 501  
Philadelphia, Pa 19107  
215-560-2496 | 215-560-3599  
(TTY)

### Pittsburgh

301 5th Avenue, Suite 390, Piatt  
Place  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
412-545-5395 | 412-565-5711 (TTY)