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### **Message from Ariel Dybner, Chair, Israel Affairs Committee**

The Simchas Torah Pogrom has had the perverse effect of bringing out the anti-Semites. Instead of hiding from their previous statement and learning that anti-Zionism is anti-Semitism, the murder of 1400 Jews in Israel has brought the anti-Semites out of hiding.

In the United States, the hardest hit so far are our college and graduate students. The climate in academia is the worst it has ever been. Jewish college students at many colleges (but not all) are subject to daily barrages of anti-Semitism, that has included harassment, taunting, vandalism, and violence. I fear it will get worse.

At [Cooper Union](#) yesterday, we witnessed Jews cowering in a library room while pro-Hamas students banged at the window. The students feared for their lives. To date, none of the pro-Hamas students have been disciplined and no charges have been filed despite violating Cooper Union's own policies and the laws of the State of New York. At Montclair State, here in Essex County in the second most Jewish state in the country, the tragic suicide of a student of Algerian/Muslim ancestry led to an explosion of anti-Semitism with horrific claims that Jews/Zionists murdered the student. See [Montclair State Student Death](#). These lies were then spread on TikTok where they were liked over 59,000 times and shared more than 4,600 times. At Rutgers, on October 9, President Holloway issued an even-handed and frankly inadequate statement on October 9 (See [Holloway Statement](#)). After justified criticism, President Holloway issued a stronger statement (See [October 11 Statement](#)) expressing horror at Hamas's actions and offering support to the Jewish community at Rutgers, the second largest Jewish community at any college or university in the United States. This was too much for over 200 anti-Semitic professors. Without one word condemning Hamas or anti-Semitism, the 200 professors insisted that Professor Holloway's expressions of sympathy for Jews and Israeli victims and horror at Hamas barbarity was too one-sided.

At Columbia, an Israeli student was assaulted when he confronted a woman tearing down Kidnapped signs and another student was assaulted for wearing a kippah. At Cornell, a professor said he felt "Exhilarated" when he saw videos of the Pogrom. At Stanford, a lecturer forced Jewish students to stand in a corner. At the University of Pennsylvania and at Harvard, prominent alumni have pulled funding from these schools because of their anti-Semitism. At George Washington University, anti-Semites used projectors to project anti-Israel and pro-Hamas messages onto campus buildings. I could go on. I currently have no kids in college – they are either all done or yet to attend. For students and parents with students in school, these are terrifying times.



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Luckily, we are not helpless. The past May, the Department of Education wrote a letter to every college and university in the country to remind them of their obligations under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to be free from discrimination on race, color, or national origin, including shared ancestry or ethnic characteristics. Both the Trump and Biden Administrations have determined that Jews are covered until Title VI. Clearly many schools have failed to meet their obligations under the law. If your children are facing harassment for being Jewish, here is what you can do:

- (1) Complain to administrators. Keep copies of all communications.
- (2) Contact the Lawfare Project (link [Here](#) ). They are working tirelessly to stop anti-Semitism on campus.
- (3) Contact the House Committee on Education and the Workforce at (202) 225-4527. They are investigating and looking to pass more legislation protecting Jewish students.
- (4) File a complaint with the Federal Department of Education. Here is the form: [How to File a Complaint](#)
- (5) Contact Hillel or Chabad on campus.

I'm excited to announce that on Thursday, November 2, we'll be hosting a speech by the great Blake Flayton, one of the most outspoken young progressive Jews standing up for Israel. You'll see more information about this. Bring your middle schoolers, your high schoolers, any college students who are around. Parents and everyone else are welcome to attend.

What else can I do?

In Florida, the state has banned campus chapters of Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) after determining that SJP was providing material support to a designated foreign terrorist organization. We should do the same in New Jersey. These groups are dangerous and should be shut down. They are accessories to terrorist groups. Text the Governor at (732) 605-5455 and ask him to ban them at state universities.

We'll have "KIDNAPPED" posters available for putting up around town or another town. These jarring posters remind people that Jews are still being held hostage and too much of the world is silent.

Am Yisrael Chai!