



**Jewish Community
Relations Council**

MILWAUKEE
JEWISH FEDERATION

2018 Audit of Anti-Semitic Incidents

*All incidents have been corroborated. This report does not include unconfirmed reports.
Following is a sample of incidents from 2018.*

Harassment, Threats, and Assault

A hateful message to a Jewish agency included Holocaust denial, mocking of rich Jews, accusation of Jewish control of Hollywood, and terms like “kikes,” “Yids,” and “Hebes.” It included the line: “These Zionists are without a doubt the most despicable religious (or cult) community in the world.”

Text message to a Jewish community member: “Burn in hell you fucking Jew! You will be arrested for your crimes.”

A threatening phone message was left at a synagogue and included: “Hey king Jews, you know what 6 million times zero is? Zero! And that’s what y’all were. Zero!” And “How do you know when you ask out a Jewish girl? She pulls up her sleeve to give you her number.”

On social media, a user called out a Jewish legislator as “a Jewish warlord.”

An avowed white supremacist inmate at a state prison sent violent, threatening letters to a Jewish agency, including: “The only thing worse than niggers are Jews.... My plan of action is to level the playing field in Milwaukee, WI and even up the score.... I am committed and fully intend to murder as many kykes as I possibly can.”

Jewish school received a long threatening email referencing Nazis, bombs, and violent language about Muslims and Jews, including: “I am going to mutilate, drug, rape, bomb, kill, murder, maim, decapitate, use chemical weapons on, sodomize you, fucking Jews.... I will burn all ‘you’ Jews with fire for killing and raping my God’s only begotten son, Adam the Christ.”

Twitter user attempted to undermine another user by pointing out and mocking her apparently Jewish last name.

Jewish university faculty members were targeted with a letter claiming Jewish control, including language: “Jews shut everyone down, be they black, Palestinian, white Christian, Iranian, Russian, etc. on the basis of ‘hate speech,’ but it’s just a weasel play.”

A Jewish person was subject to harassment in a detention facility that included posing barriers to receiving kosher food and putting book under her bed that included Hitler’s face and a swastika.

A harassing prank caller to a Jewish facility mocked Holocaust books and said that his grandfather was a watchtower guard.

Jewish artist received hate mail from someone who called himself “Adolph” that included: “If you don’t like my country, you can haul your ass right on out of it. We can assist you with that, by the way. I’m thinking Berlin permanently will suit you.”

In a series of aggressive, sometimes threatening social media posts, a local man targeted a Jewish women, referencing her Jewishness and posting images of children in concentration camps.

Paul Nehlen

During 2018, self-described “pro-White Christian American” Congressional Candidate Paul Nehlen continued his relentless tweeting directed against Jews. He accused Jews of breaking down children’s traditional views of marriage and wielding Jewish power over politicians; employed anti-Zionist tropes; referred to Jews killing Jesus; and employing the signaling use of (((echoes))) around Jewish Twitter users’ names to signal that they’re Jewish. During the year, Nehlen tweeted a list of critics, including their contact information and the comment: “Of those 81 people, 74 are Jews, while only 7 are non-Jews.” He appointed as spokesperson a man recognized for anti-Semitic statements and Holocaust denial publications.

Nehlen’s expression didn’t end with his Twitter feed, as many of his supporters responded with anti-Semitic expressions of their own, including this threatening comment: “You Jewish supremacists are nothing but hypocrites.... You people make me sick. Your supremacist ways will end soon enough you disgusting pigs.”

In spite of his repeated and relentless anti-Semitic expression, Nehlen won 6,635, more than 10 percent of the votes, in the Republican primary. Though this was an ongoing campaign, JCRC quantified as one particularly heinous incident.

Baraboo

A photo taken as part of prom celebrations showed a group of male students with their arms raised in Nazi salutes. The original incident led to multiple other incidents, including:

- A comment to a newspaper story: “OY VEY DA HOLOCAUST REMEMBER THE 6 TRILLION. Nobody gives a fuck.”
- A Twitter user posted a video on the social networking site, minds.com, warning students to stay away from Baraboo High School’s Day of Peace and employing tropes of Jewish control and nefarious Jewish plots related to predatory banking and corporate nepotism. Video included music with anti-Semitic and racist lyrics.
- In a classroom, one high school student gave the Nazi salute to a Jewish student.
- Student asked a Jewish student to say a Hebrew word, and then mocked the Jewish student by repeating the word in various pronunciations until the teacher stopped the harassment.
- Online anti-Semitic harassment to Twitter users who denounced the original incident.

Vandalism

Overall, Wisconsin saw a 166% increase in incidence of anti-Semitic vandalism.

Seven incidents of anti-Semitic vandalism took place in public parks, including:

- Graffiti spray-painted on a park pavilion in a local park: “Fuck Jews,” “death to all,” “666,” and sketches of a penis, swastika, and anarchist symbol.
- Spray-painted graffiti at a park included a large swastika composed of penises.
- Tennis courts, basketball courts, and playground in local park were spray-painted with “White Power,” a swastika, “Fucking Nigger,” “666,” and multiple penis drawings.
- A swastika and penis were spray-painted on playground equipment in a city park.
- A sign in a city park was vandalized with a swastika and multiple “666.”
- A notice of a child’s bar mitzvah celebration at a local park shelter was vandalized and vandals wrote, “LIBERATE PALESTINE! TERROSTIS (sic) GO HOME!!!”
- A public bike path was vandalized using oil or gasoline to write, “HITLER HAIL” and “HITLER BRIGDE” (sic).

A swastika was drawn onto the floor tiles in the men’s bathroom at a local college. The words, “HEIL HITLER,” were written within the swastika.

A swastika was drawn on a satellite dish at a private residence.

Flyers distributed in a residence hall at university included a swastika and anti-non-Christian language.

Written and Verbal Expression

Flyers distributed at several local supermarkets perpetuated the conspiracy theory of Jews controlling people of color with the intention of causing harm: “The Jews are trying to completely remove healthy, strong families by promoting RACE-MIXING.”

A Facebook comment refers to conspiracies of Jewish control and Jewish greed: "Jewish families own and operate the central banks, they are bad people, that does not mean all Jews are bad! People hate the Jewish families that operate the central banks because of their actions not their religion!"

In a video posted to a website preferred by white supremacists, a woman stood outside a Jewish institution and railed against its civil rights-themed program, implying nefarious intention, racist attitudes, and a Jewish plot to stir up trouble.

Racist, anti-Semitic comments to the above video employed conspiracy theories of Jewish control, Jewish greed, and Jews as puppet-masters: "It's because the blacks are waking up to their Jewish oppressors" "Wake up to the Jew threat. They herd the Goyim like cattle." "If Jews can jump into any cause to celebrate being persecuted? They're on that shit like flies at a picnic." "If shekels can be wrought!"

Comments to a different post on an online white supremacist forum referred to the same civil rights-themed program: "The Jews lie out of both faces." "A curse on the Jews, they will fall." "They put the Jewish interst [sic] above America's interest..."

A high school student created a "dis track," a recording of an original song that disparages someone else," including the lyrics, "[Student name] is a stupid Jew."

Hundreds of flyers were distributed on cars and doorknobs in Central Wisconsin that promoted white supremacist, racist, and anti-Semitic websites.

A senior quote in a local high school's yearbook promoted Nazism and genocide of Jews: "There will always be one true Final Solution."

A motorcyclist was seen with a patch with a swastika inside a tombstone.

A motorcycle clubhouse includes external painted signs of a swastika-emblazoned hand giving the middle finger and SS bolts on the external gate.

A motorcycle had a large, painted swastika and 666.

A comment on a locally-made YouTube video for International Holocaust Remembrance Day included swastika and tropes about Holocaust denial and Jewish greed: "Oy Vey, I was gassed three times, no, six times, no wait, ten times!! Now, gullible Goyim, give me the money."

In response to a negative story about a man named Adam Bloom, a Facebook user signaled Bloom as Jewish with echo marks around his name and a reference to a Jewish Supreme Court candidate. Echoes have become an anti-Semitic tool to flag people as Jewish on Twitter.

Visiting artist shared anti-Semitic artwork at a local university that showed a pig labeled "Zionism" (holding a wand with a Star of David) being vulgarly fed a bottle of dollar bills by another pig named "U.S. Imperialism," as three other pigs (labeled "West Germany," "France," and "Britain,") seemingly tease with their bottles of dollars.

A high school student posted on social media a photo of the OK symbol (which has come to mean white power) superimposed over a school worksheet that included a swastika.

Comment on Jewish Supreme Court candidate's Facebook page challenges the candidate about perceived overrepresentation of Jews on the US Supreme Court, not only holding the candidate responsible for all Jews, but also implying conspiracy theories of outsized Jewish control.

On the school bus, a middle-school student raised his arm in a Nazi salute.

Trends

- 20.5% increase in incidents.
- 166% increase in vandalism.
- Increase in vitriol and violent language in all incidents.
- Increase in the use of classic conspiracy theories of Jewish power, Jewish control, and Jews as puppet-masters.
- Increase in references to Nazism, Holocaust, and white supremacy.
- 26% of incidents involved youth or took place on school campuses.
- 45% of incidents took place online.