



**AMCHA INITIATIVE PUBLISHES TWO LANDMARK STUDIES REVEALING THE NATURE AND SCOPE OF ANTISEMITIC ACTIVITY ON US CAMPUSES MOST POPULAR WITH JEWISH STUDENTS**

**STUDY #1: PROVIDES EVIDENCE THAT ANTI-ZIONISM IS STIMULATING A RISE IN CAMPUS ANTISEMITISM  
BDS, SJP and Faculty Boycotters are the strongest predictors of anti-Jewish hostility**

The [\*Antisemitic Activity in 2015 at U.S. Colleges and Universities with the Largest Jewish Undergraduate Populations Report\*](#) investigated antisemitic activity over the last year at more than 100 public and private colleges and universities with the largest Jewish undergraduate populations. The report provides objective confirmation of student reports of antisemitism, as well as evidence that the presence of anti-Zionist student groups, faculty boycotters and BDS activity are the strongest predictors of anti-Jewish hostility.

**Findings include:**

- **Campus antisemitism is highly prevalent.** More than 300 antisemitic incidents occurred in 2015. The 10 schools with the highest incidence of each kind of antisemitic activity included:

<b>Highest Incidence Targeting Jewish Students</b>	<b>Highest Incidence of Antisemitic Expression</b>	<b>Highest Incidence of BDS Activity</b>	<b>Highest Overall Antisemitic Activity</b>
UC Santa Cruz (7)	Northwestern U. (10)	UC Santa Cruz (6)	Northwestern U. (16)
Northwestern U. (6)	UC Santa Cruz (9)	Northwestern U. (6)	UC Santa Cruz (13)
UC Berkeley (4)	UC Berkeley (8)	San Diego State U. (6)	UC Berkeley (11)
UC Davis (4)	UCLA (8)	Stanford Univ. (6)	UC Davis (9)
Northeastern U. (3)	Columbia U. (6)	Oberlin College (6)	UCLA (9)
Hunter College (3)	UC Santa Barbara (6)	Princeton Univ. (6)	Northeastern U. (8)
UCLA (2)	Drexel U. (6)	UC Berkeley (5)	San Diego State U. (8)
Columbia U. (2)	Boston U. (6)	UC Davis (5)	Stanford U. (8)
Stanford U. (2)	UC Davis (5)	Northeastern U. (5)	U. of Michigan (7)
Pace U. (2)	Stanford U. (5)	UC Santa Barbara (5)	UC Santa Barbara (7)

- **Strong correlation between anti-Zionist student groups, such as Students for Justice in Palestine, and acts of anti-Jewish hostility.** Schools with an SJP or similar student group were 7 times more likely to host incidents that targeted Jewish students for harm.
- **Strong correlation between faculty who support an academic boycott of Israel and acts of anti-Jewish hostility.** Schools with one or more faculty members who endorsed an academic boycott of Israel were 4 times more likely to host incidents that targeted Jewish students for harm.
- **BDS strongly correlates with acts of anti-Jewish hostility.** Schools with BDS activity were 2.4 times more likely to host incidents that targeted Jewish students for harm.
- **7 California campuses were in the top 10% of schools with the most antisemitic activity, with 4 UC campuses in the top 5 for overall antisemitic activity.** UC campuses, on average, had almost 3 times the number of total antisemitic incidents as the average U.S. school most popular with Jewish students; 3.5 times the number of incidents that targeted Jewish students for harm; and 2.3 times the number of incidents of antisemitic expression.

## **STUDY # 2: SHOWS A SPIKE IN CAMPUS ANTISEMITISM DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 2016**

### **Suppression of speech doubles; expressions denying Israel's right to exist triples; divestment resolutions linked to the increase in antisemitic activity**

The [\*Antisemitic Activity During the First Half of 2016 at U.S. Colleges and Universities with the Largest Jewish Undergraduate Populations Report\*](#) is a follow-up, mid-year study that examines antisemitic activity from January – June 2016 on more than 100 public and private colleges and universities with the largest Jewish undergraduate populations. The study found 287 antisemitic incidents occurred at 64 schools during the 1<sup>st</sup> six months of 2016, reflecting a 45% increase from the 198 incidents reported in the first six months of 2015.

#### **Findings include:**

- **Suppression of speech approximately doubled from 2015 to 2016.** In 2016, 14 incidents that restricted Jewish students' civil rights by suppressing their speech, blocking their movement or hindering their assembly were found on 12 campuses. These incidents reflect a significant increase from the first half of 2015, in which eight incidents of suppression occurred on seven campuses.
- **Expression denying Israel's right to exist nearly tripled from 2015 to 2016 and correlated with actions intended to harm Jewish students.** The first half of 2016 witnessed an almost three-fold increase in the number of campus incidents that contained expression opposing the existence of Israel. There were 43 such incidents in 2016 compared to 15 during the first half of 2015. Expression opposing the existence of Israel highly correlated with conduct that targeted Jewish students for harm.
- **Divestment resolutions are stimulating antisemitism.** In 2016, the student governments of 10 schools in the study considered anti-Israel divestment resolutions. Of these 10 schools, eight showed the largest increase in antisemitism from 2015 to 2016. Conversely, seven of the nine schools in the 2015 study that considered or voted on divestment resolutions showed a marked decrease in antisemitic activity in the first half of 2016 when no divestment resolution was considered. The two schools that did not decrease in antisemitic activity hosted discussions and votes on divestment.
- **Anti-Zionism, particularly Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) activities, anti-Zionist student groups, and faculty boycotters, remain the strongest predictors of antisemitic incidents on campus.** Consistent with 2015, this study revealed that antisemitism was twice as likely to occur on campuses where BDS was present, eight times more likely to occur on campuses with at least one active anti-Zionist student group such as SJP, and six times more likely to occur on campuses with one or more faculty boycotters. In fact, schools with more faculty boycotters and more BDS activity tended to have more incidents of antisemitic activity.
- **Schools whose overall antisemitic activity increased significantly from 2015 to 2016:**

<b>Schools with the Largest Increase 2015 to 2016</b>	<b># Incidents Jan – June 2015</b>	<b># Incidents Jan – June 2016</b>
<b>Columbia University</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Vassar College</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>University of Chicago</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>New York University</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>University of Minnesota</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Univ. of Massachusetts (Amherst)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Univ. of Wisconsin (Madison)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>University of Florida</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>University of Washington</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>