

# ANTISEMITISM EDUCATION

“Of the vandalism incidents recorded, over 90% included images of the swastika, or messages like “gas Jews,” “We love Hitler,” or “Hitler was right.”



SHINE  
A LIGHT  
on antisemitism

## EDUCATING ABOUT ANTISEMITISM

**“The only way to build a culture of safety is to see racism, oppression and violence as permanently intertwined. This gives all of us a stake when fighting the twin social diseases of antisemitism and racism”**

Shane Burley, NBC News OpEd<sup>[1]</sup>

Antisemitic incidents in the US increased 34% over the previous year, reaching the highest number on record since the ADL began tracking this in 1979.<sup>[2]</sup> 1 in 4 American Jews report that they experienced hatred in the last year.<sup>[3]</sup>

### WHAT IS SHINE A LIGHT?

In response to **the sharp rise in antisemitism in the US**<sup>[4]</sup> in 2021<sup>[5]</sup>, the **Shine A Light** initiative was formed to raise awareness about modern antisemitism through education, community partnerships, workplace engagement, and advocacy. Today, Shine A Light comprises an unprecedented coalition of 65 Jewish and non-Jewish organizations, more than 60 corporations, and 15 US state governors who are committed to addressing rising antisemitism.

### WHEN IS SHINE A LIGHT 2022?

Shine A Light draws inspiration from the story of Chanukah, the Festival of Lights, to champion the message that one light can dispel darkness and hate. **Shine A Light 2022** will launch in December with

a month of programming, media, and events to spotlight modern antisemitism.

### WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN SHINE A LIGHT?

**Do you understand what modern-day antisemitism looks like and why it persists?<sup>6</sup>**

**ARTICLE**



As an educator who is committed to an inclusive and tolerant society, how are you addressing the rise in antisemitism in the US?

Please join us to learn more about modern antisemitism, how it is intertwined with other forms of hate, and how you can take steps to combat hate in your classroom.

# EDUCATING ABOUT ANTISEMITISM

## WHAT CAN THE SCHOOLS IN MY EDUCATION SYSTEM DO?

### PROVIDE EDUCATORS WITH RESOURCES

Shine A Light educators from the Anti-Defamation League, Facing History and Ourselves, the Jewish Education Project, JCRC-NY, and USC Shoah Foundation have curated a list of curricula that best addresses antisemitism- its history, its modern mutations, its effects on others, and how to respond. We encourage educators to read through the materials and incorporate them into their classroom each academic year.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- [Teaching about Contemporary Antisemitism Course for Educators](#) (ADL)
- [Confronting Hate: The Perpetuation of Hate on Social Media](#) (FHAO)

### GRADES K-5

- [Materials for Congregational and Day School Settings](#) (TJEP)
- [The Willesden Project](#) (USC Shoah)

### GRADES 6-8

- [Hate Symbols Database](#) (ADL)
- [Navigating a Digital World - Tips for Youth \(Spanish + English\)](#) (ADL)

- [Antisemitism Explainer](#) (FHAO)
- [Acts of Hate in Schools Teaching Idea](#) (FHAO)
- [Holocaust Trivialization and Distortion Teaching Idea](#) (FHAO)
- [Jewish Americans](#) (ICS & JCRC-NY)
- [Materials for Congregational, Informal, and Day School Settings](#) (TJEP)
- [Countering Hate Through Social Media](#) (USC Shoah)

### GRADES 9-12

- [Best Practices for Responding to Cyberhate](#) (ADL)
- [Echoes Contemporary Antisemitism Unit](#) (ADL)
- [Addressing Hate Online Countering Cyberhate](#) (ADL)
- [Antisemitism Explainer](#) (FHAO)
- [Acts of Hate in Schools Teaching Idea](#) (FHAO)
- [Holocaust Trivialization and Distortion Teaching Idea](#) (FHAO)
- [Jewish Americans](#) (ICS & JCRC-NY)
- [Materials for Congregational, Informal,](#)

# EDUCATING ABOUT ANTISEMITISM

## Day School and Teen Group Settings (TJEP)

- Countering Hate Through Social Media  
(USC Shoah)
- Skittles, Deplorables and “All Lives Matter”:  
Leadership and Media Literacy  
(USC Shoah)

## ALL GRADES

- Extreme Measures Toolkit - Helping Young People Counter Extremist Recruitment  
(ADL)
- Pyramid of Hate Mini-Lesson (ADL)

## SPEAK OUT AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Join states and cities across the US, Jewish and non-Jewish organizations, and Fortune 500 companies, in speaking out about antisemitism the week of Chanukah 2022. Share your commitment through:

- **Supporting Shine A Light on Social Media**
- **Using holiday messaging and internal announcements to Shine A Light on antisemitism.**
- **Offering relevant professional development courses**
- **Creating relationships with local Jewish educators, schools, and synagogues.**

## TAKE ACTION!

Head over to [shinealighton.com/resources](https://shinealighton.com/resources) to explore the entire library of resources dedicated to education around antisemitism.

1. [How Buffalo suspect's hateful propaganda connects Black Americans and Jews](#), NBC News OpEd
2. [Audit of Antisemitic Incidents 2021](#), ADL
3. [2020 FBI Hate Crimes Statistics](#), FBI
4. [Audit of Antisemitic Incidents 2021](#), ADL
5. [Officials Say Hate Crimes Against Jews Are Growing In The Aftermath Of Gaza Violence](#), NPR
6. [Why So Many People Still Don't Understand Anti-Semitism](#), The Atlantic

## ORGANIZATIONS

### **ADL and Echoes & Reflections**

offers lesson plans, self-directed student activities, and asynchronous courses for educators around antisemitism, bias, bigotry, media literacy, and civic engagement, among others. Educators are able to access lesson plans here, as well as student-directed activities and mini-lessons on the Pyramid of Hate, antisemitism, and related themes.

### **Facing History & Ourselves**

uses lessons of history to challenge teachers and their students to stand up to bigotry and hate. They provide the tools and resources for teachers and their students to place current events in a historical context. This approach helps students make sense of the world around them and become informed and active participants in a democracy.

### **The Jewish Education Project**

offers lesson plans and activities designed for educators in Jewish communal settings to explore antisemitism with learners of all ages. All materials are available to be adapted by educators in a variety of settings as they explore contemporary and historical antisemitism and its impact on the Jewish people.

### **Institute for Curriculum Services in partnership with Jewish Community Relations Council of New York (ICS & JCRC-NY)**

ICS is dedicated to improving the accuracy of K-12 instruction and instructional materials on Jews, Judaism, Jewish history and Israel in the United States. ICS develops standards-aligned curricula and provides professional development to teachers around the country.

### **USC Shoah Foundation**

offers activities through the Foundation's IWitness platform, allowing educators to assign activities to students, track progress, and assess learning via provided rubrics. Students are able to interact and share their learning with teachers and classmates. Free IWitness registration can be done [here](#). Learn more about creating an IWitness group for your students [here](#).

**'Audit of Antisemitic Incidents 2021, ADL**