

ANTISEMITISM AND VIOLENT HATRED ON FACEBOOK “NEEDS TO STOP”

TO: Mark Zuckerberg

We, Jewish leaders from across the country, have rallied together because antisemitism, hate, and online disinformation threaten our community and our partner communities. They fly in the face of our Jewish and American ideals. Violent extremists, conspiracy theorists and other bad actors use your platform to sow hate and division, undermine public health and suppress votes.

You preside over one of the most powerful communications systems in human history. You have the ability and the means to reduce the hate and disinformation that tears us apart. Our history is replete with examples of what can happen when we fail to hold leaders accountable for bringing hate into the public square. We demand nothing more than the same accountability that we expect from ourselves, our kids' schools, clergy, elected leaders, media and other business leaders.

We urge you to make common sense changes to your platform to stem the spread of hate and extremism online. Every day you delay, Jews, our partners in other communities and our society pay the price, while you reap the profits. It needs to stop now.

Below are just some of the actions you can and should take immediately:

1. Stop being a haven for extremist groups. Remove public and private groups focused on white nationalism and extremism, antisemitism, Holocaust denial and pernicious disinformation.
2. Stop playing whack-a-mole. Undertake serious systemic change to better identify antisemitism, Holocaust denial, and other dangerous content so you can truly make a dent in the problem.

3. Stop recommending hate to users. Heed your own internal findings that your algorithms, especially the recommendation features, are directly responsible for the growth of extremist groups online.
4. Stop spreading disinformation that threatens the health of democracy and people. Remove misinformation and intimidation that threatens our voice as voters, our health and our rights. Every advertiser, every leader must be held to the same standard.

American Jews have stood up for the First Amendment, inclusive democracy and a moral compact against shielding, legitimizing or enabling hate. These values were enshrined in a famous exchange between the first US president and the Jews of Rhode Island in 1790 heralding the new American credo giving “To bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance...” In the spirit of those words, we implore you to live up to that ideal, to protect the safety, dignity and rights of our community and others.

Sincerely,

Jewish Council for Public Affairs

National/International

Agudath Israel of America

Ameinu

Avodah

Aytzim: Ecological Judaism

Bend the Arc: Jewish Action

B'nai B'rith International

Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc.

HIAS

Jewish Labor Committee

Jewish Women International (JWI)

Jewish World Watch

Keshet

Moving Traditions

National Association of Jewish Legislators

Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies

Reconstructing Judaism

Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association
The Shalom Center
T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights
The Pomegranate Initiative
Women's League for Conservative Judaism

Local Agencies

Alabama

Jewish Community Relations Council of the Birmingham Jewish Federation

California

Anti-Defamation League Orange County/Long Beach
Anti-Defamation League Central Pacific Region
Congregation B'nai Tzedek, Fountain Valley, CA
Jewish Community Relations Council, A Division of the Jewish
Federation of the Sacramento Region
Jewish Federation of Central
Jewish Federation of the Greater San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys
Jewish Long Beach
Orange County Jewish Genealogy Society

Colorado

Anti-Defamation League Mountain States Region
Colorado Jewish Community Relations Council
Jewish Community Center of Denver
Jewish Family Service of Colorado

Connecticut

Jewish Federation of Eastern Connecticut
UJA-JCC Greenwich

Florida

Anti-Defamation League Florida
Hadassah FAR
Jewish Community Relations Council of Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County
Jewish Community Relations Council of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation
Jewish Federation of Greater Naples

Jewish Federaton of Lee and Charlotte Counties
The Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee
Ferd & Gladys Alpert Jewish Family Service

Georgia

Augusta Jewish Federation
ADL Southeast
Jewish Community Relations Council of Atlanta

Illinois

Anti-Defamation League Midwest
Chicago Jewish Community Relations Council
Jewish Community Relations Council & Jewish Federation of Springfield, IL
Jewish Federation of Greater Rockford

Indiana

Jewish Council on Urban Affairs
Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne

Kansas

Mid-Kansas Jewish Federation

Kentucky

Jewish Federation of Louisville

Maryland

Baltimore Jewish Council

Michigan

JCRC/AJC – Detroit
Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor

Minnesota

Jewish Community Action
Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas

Missouri

Jewish Community Relations Council of St. Louis Institute for Holocaust Education

New Jersey

Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest,
NJ

Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Mercer
Jewish Community Relations Council of Southern New Jersey
Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey
Jewish Federation of Somerset, Hunterdon & Warren Counties
Jewish Federations of New Jersey
The Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey

New York

Anti-Defamation League New York/New Jersey
Buffalo Jewish Community Relations Council
Jewish Community Relations Council
Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Rochester
Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County, NY
Temple Beth Tzedek of Amherst, NY
Temple Beth Zion, Buffalo, New York
New York Jewish Agenda

Ohio

Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Toledo
Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati
Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo
Youngstown Area Jewish Federation

Oklahoma

Jewish Federation of Greater Oklahoma City

Oregon

Jewish Federation of Greater Portland

Pennsylvania

Community Relations Council, Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh
Jewish Community Alliance of Northeastern
Jewish Federation of Greater Harrisburg
Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia
The Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of the Lehigh Valley
The Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks

Tennessee

Jewish Federation and Jewish Foundation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee

Virginia

Jewish Community Federation of Richmond

Jewish Community Relations Council of the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater

Washington

Anti-Defamation League Pacific Northwest Region

Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle

Wisconsin

Jewish Community Relations Council of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation