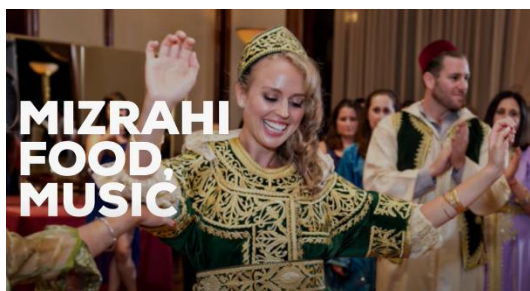


Session 4: Antisemitism

A Cyclical Scourge



Pre-Workshop:

✚ Watch the video clip, [Antisemitism Explained](#), (6:03 min.) Read/watch **two or more items** from “Reading & Viewing Materials” list below, noting any questions.

✚ *Facilitator:* If possible, invite a guest speaker from the Jewish community to join you for this workshop or for a follow-up session to answer questions.

Intro: Although Judaism encompasses many different ethnic and cultural groups, Jews as a group have long been the target of hate crimes. The goal of this session is to illuminate the modern resurgence of a very old form of prejudice and discrimination, its transmission aggravated by the widespread use of social media.

Videos: Watch as a group. Ask participants to take note of the parts that they consider important or that surprised or disturbed them in any way.

- [Types of Jews: Ashkenazi, Sephardi, Mizrahi and More](#), (1:40 min.)
- [The St. Louis – story of the ship 900 Jews fleeing Nazi Germany 1939](#), (2:34 min.)
- [Multiple Truths – Peace requires more than choosing sides](#) (1:06 min.)

Small Group Discussion:

- What stereotypes & attitudes towards Jewish people were common in the place you grew up? How has this changed over the years?
- What is your personal reaction to antisemitism in our history and the present day? Are there elements that are surprising or uncomfortable?
- According to the IHRA¹ definition, an example of antisemitism would be “Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel”. How do you come to terms with this in your own thinking and your own life?



¹ International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance.

Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbour as yourself.

– [Judaism, Leviticus \(Wayiqra\) 19:18](#)

Knowledge is the best treasure that a man can secretly hoard up in life. Learning is the revered of the revered.

– [Hindusim, Garuda Purana](#)

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.

- [Deuteronomy \(Devarim\) 6:4 to 6:9.](#)

Debriefing: Quotes and discussion questions to promote reflection and action

-
- How did workshop (including preparation) change your conception of Judaism?
 - What recommendations would you have for addressing antisemitism in our community?
-



Suggested Reading & Viewing Material:

- [National Holocaust Memorial Day](#), YouTube, (6:32) 2025 No matter what you think of the political situation, no one deserves to be hated.
- [PM Mark Carney at National Holocaust Monument](#), YouTube, (3:28) 2026 We must remember our history to ensure that we never repeat it.
- [The IHRA definition of antisemitism](#) International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance and the [Jerusalem Declaration on antisemitism](#) websites
- [What is Judaism and What do Jews Believe?](#) YouTube, (5:27 min.) 2021 Origins and types of Judaism & questions such as the meaning of 'the Chosen People'
- [13 Principles of Jewish Faith Explained](#) YouTube, (3:52 min.) Judaism's fundamental truths as formulated by Maimonides, one of the great codifiers of Jewish law
- [Jewish History in Canada](#) (1880 - 1981) pdf, 21 pages By Bernard Vigod, UNB
- [Humanist Common Ground: Judaism](#) website A brief overview of the history & branches of Judaism and description of the common bond of *tikkun olam* or *world repair*
- [Jewish Canadians, the Canadian Encyclopedia](#) website History of the Canadian Jewish community, now the fourth largest in the world
- [Sephardic, Ashkenazic, Mizrahi & Ethiopian Jews](#), article Jewish ethnic diversity explained
- [Why is Antisemitism still around?](#) YouTube, (6:34 min.) 2021 Jews experience many of the world's hate crimes, despite being less than 0.2% of the world's population
- [The Israel-Palestine Conflict Explained](#) YouTube (15:53 min.) 2026 Overview.
- [Anila Ali at the 2025 Lion of Judah Conference](#) YouTube (6:01) 2025 Imagine a world where Muslims fight antisemitism and Jews fight Islamophobia.