

Stop Weaponizing Zionism

Casey Babb / May 17, 2024

For the last several decades, Jews have often been targeted, vilified and attacked not for some grotesque, morally repugnant or baseless claim — the usual sources of antisemitism – but rather for something we love, cherish, embrace and celebrate: Zionism.

For many, including myself, this form of Jew-hatred is particularly traumatizing given that to us – Zionism is a beautiful and inextricable part of who we are — not something that should be weaponized and used against us.

In December 2023, just two months after the horrific terrorist attacks in Israel, I wrote a newspaper article about antisemitism and how, while it is frequently discussed, it remains woefully misunderstood.

As I argued, one of the fundamental reasons that antisemitism as a social phenomenon is so challenging to unpack is that it's an incredibly insidious form of hatred that shifts and evolves over time — reinventing and binding itself to present circumstances.

Noah Feldman, a legal scholar at Harvard University, explains this as well, stating: “In antisemitic discourse, Jews are always made to exemplify what a given group of people considers to be the worst feature of the social order in which they live.”

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About the Author

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