

SUBJECT: DEFINING ANTISEMITISM

SUBMITTED BY: XXXX Osteopathic Medical Association

REFERRED TO: <name of entity (please leave blank – staff will assign a reference committee)>

WHEREAS, based on 2020 Pew Research data, Jewish people represented approximately 2.5% of the United States population, yet, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, in 2024, 16% of all hate crimes were anti-Jewish¹; and

WHEREAS, according to the FBI's UCR Program, 69% of hate crimes motivated by a religious bias in 2024 were anti-Jewish, more than seven times higher than any other group¹; and

WHEREAS, in the last several years multiple Osteopathic students, residents and attendings have made antisemitic statements on social media, and have subsequently faced disenrollment, and termination of employment to the public disparagement of our profession²; and

WHEREAS, in May 2025 an employee of an AOA affiliate organization allegedly murdered two Israeli Embassy employees in an act of violent antisemitism³; and

WHEREAS, in February 2026 the United States Department of Justice opened an investigation into allegations of antisemitic practices and behaviors at a College of Osteopathic Medicine⁴; and

WHEREAS, the American Osteopathic Association embodies a philosophy of non discrimination as promulgated in the Osteopathic Oath, the Osteopathic Pledge of Commitment, The AOA Code of Ethics and current AOA policy (see H511-A/24 as an example); and

WHEREAS, persons making antisemitic statements often seek to justify their behavior by challenging the definition of antisemitism⁵; and

WHEREAS, the United States, the City of Chicago, and many other organizations including private companies, public companies and universities have formally adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) definition of antisemitism to ensure that a clear standard of behavior is established⁶; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) adopts the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) definition of antisemitism (see Appendix I); and, be it further

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RESOLVED, that the AOA encourages all Osteopathic organizations to adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism.

References:

1. UCR Summary of Reported Crimes in the Nation: 2024; Federal Bureau of Investigation; <https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#>. Accessed April 5, 2026.
2. See X posts from @stopantisemitism regarding Iqra Saquib, DO (who equated Nazis with Israel, and Hamas terrorists with Holocaust victims); student Doctor Daniel Dravland who denied the Holocaust, claimed Jews invented “transgenderism”, and wished “death upon the Jews”; Lara Kalab, DO who was fired from her residency after tweeting that she would “purposely give all the yahood [Jews] the wrong meds” as examples.
3. Sworn affidavit and criminal complaint filed in U.S. vs. Elias Rodriguez; <https://www.justice.gov/usao-dc/media/1401421/dl>, Accessed April 8, 2026.
4. Press Release: Justice Department Opens Investigation into Lincoln Memorial University for Discrimination Against Jewish Students; <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-opens-investigation-lincoln-memorial-university-discrimination-against> Accessed April 8, 2026.
5. Understanding The Origins of Antisemitism; <https://www.ajc.org/OriginsOfAntisemitism#:~:text=Why%20is%20antisemitism%20called%20the,the%20world's%20most%20ancient%20hatred> Accessed April 8, 2026.
6. Adoptions and Endorsements of the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism; <https://ihra.combatantisemitism.org/#:~:text=In%20the%20United%20Kingdom%2C%20271,Spain%2C%20and%20three%20in%20Venezuela> Accessed April 8, 2026.

Background Information: Provided by AOA Staff

Current AOA Policy: The Osteopathic Oath, The Osteopathic Pledge of Commitment, The AOA Code of Ethics and H511-A/24

Prior HOD action on similar or same topic: Not accepted for debate as a late resolution / withdrawn prior to debate.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$0

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ACTION TAKEN: _____

DATE: _____

APPENDIX I:

International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of antisemitism:

Contemporary examples of antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could, taking into account the overall context, include, but are not limited to:

1. Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
2. Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
3. Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.
4. Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).
5. Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.
6. Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.
7. Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor.
8. Applying double standards by requiring of it [Israel] a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.
9. Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
10. Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
11. Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.