**Anti-Semitism in America Sources**

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| **Document A:** Stephen A. Allen , "Facing Anti-Semitism and American History" , *Origins: Current Events in Historical Perspective,* March, 2000  While other nations and groups have confronted their past anti-Semitism, the United States has remained comparatively unaffected. And because the United States fought against the Nazis in World War II, it has not been forced to confront historical anti-Semitism in the same way that Germany and Austria have.   But the United States has its own history of anti-Semitism. As Adolf Hitler was rising to power in Germany, the United States was producing its own anti-Semitic demagogues. American anti-Semitism may in fact have had some influence on events in Germany. In 1920, Henry Ford's newspaper, the Dearborn Independent, carried a series of articles outlining a malignant — and completely fictional — Jewish world conspiracy. Ford later had these articles reprinted in a book, "The International Jew: The World's Foremost Problem." This book was translated into German and distributed by the Nazis. Hitler at one point even called Ford "my inspiration."  True, the United States did eventually go to war against Nazi Germany, and American soldiers did help liberate the concentration camps, but some of the government's actions during the war were less than admirable. The United States turned away Jewish refugees and enforced rigid immigration quotas to keep Jews out of the country. This past anti-Semitism is little-known these days. Anti-Semitism in general seems to be a relic of the past, something that no longer causes problems in the United States. But this is far from the case. |

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| **Document B:** “Understanding the Origins of Anti-Semitism” , American Jewish Committee, March 2022 ****Why is antisemitism called the most ancient hatred?**** Anti-Jewish sentiment was present in the ancient world, including Greco-Roman persecutions, but evolved and gained steam with the deicide (killing of a god) charge that Jews killed Jesus. Antisemitism evolved to fit historical circumstances. In the medieval era, Jews were blamed for the kidnapping and murder of Christian children and for spreading disease. As Jews began to assimilate in Europe, conspiracies about Jewish power began to proliferate. And since the creation of the State of Israel, antisemitism has come to target the modern Jewish collective, or the Jewish state.  These expressions of antisemitism have been recycled or appropriated for modern times: in societies with and without Jews, online and in textbooks across the Arab world, in both the fringes of society and in mainstream discourse. |

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| **Document C:** “History of Anti-Semitism in America: Collections” , Gale: A Cengage Company, 2022  America's founders imagined a country free from religious persecution, guaranteed in the religious freedoms promised by the Bill of Rights upon its approval in 1791. However, limitations were imposed against religious minorities, including Jews. From the moment they first arrived at the colony of New Amsterdam (New York), Dutch governor Peter Stuyvesant petitioned to have them removed.  During the Civil War conflict, anti-Jewish intolerance was rampant among the Union and the Confederacy, with accusations that Jewish people were helping the opposing side of the conflict as well as selling military supplies at inflated prices to make a profit.  Two million Jews entered the country between 1881 and 1914, escaping poverty and numerous Pogroms in Europe that proved to be financially and personally devastating. Upon their arrival, they were often met with fear and resentment, for their mannerisms, customs, way of life, and perceived successes as they rose both personally and professionally. So, naturally, during economic downturns conspiracy theories surfaced of financial markets and government exploitation by Jews, who were believed to be corrupt international financiers.  These tensions continued to grow, resulting in very public displays of American anti-Semitism, as declarations of Aryan superiority grew louder. American Jewish citizens were becoming increasingly anxious over society’s unwillingness to protect them from extreme prejudice. Mob violence escalated during World War I as Americans feared the influence of foreign nations and the spread of Bolshevism, attributing these negative influences on Jewish citizens.  American anti-Semitism post-World War I inspired quotas restricting Jewish students from attending institutions of higher learning, despite their qualifications, and also led to their exclusion from certain universities, neighborhoods, hotels, and clubs.  In the 1930s the attacks increased, as neo-Nazis were allowed to openly speak hatred over radio airwaves, justifying and inspiring physical assaults against Jewish citizens both in the United States and abroad. American followers of Hitler, or Nazi sympathizers, were inspired to paint swastikas on Jewish-owned businesses and terrorized them as they rallied in the streets.  In the 1940s, approximately 550,000 American Jews fought in World War II. Once the war was over, the awareness of America’s victory over the Nazis coupled with the witnessed atrocities of the Holocaust was jarring enough to result in a noticeable public decline in anti-Semitism in America. Post-conflict criticism of Jewish Americans dropped from 64 percent to 16 percent in 1951, and Judaism was considered a prominent religion in public discourse. This trend would continue through the 1970s, as restrictions loosened, and anti-Semitism faded from view.  Today, complex social change, including anxiety about globalization, economic inequality, the COVID-19 pandemic, and changing demographics, has inspired a resurgence of bigotry, scapegoating, and mistrust. |

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| **Document D:** “The State of Anti-Semitism in America 2021” , American Jewish Committee, October 2021  **A picture containing graphical user interface  Description automatically generated** |