

Anti-Zionism as Anti-Semitism

Antisemitism . . . is not, or not primarily, a pathological disposition or function of the individual mind, but rather a type of *social* or *cultural* pathology: a self-replicating structure of temptations and apparently explanatory delusions embodied, independently of the individual mind, in a multitude of enduring written and quasi-proverbial forms, that stands permanently ready to introduce itself, like the scrap of self-replicating genetic material that constitutes a virus, into the minds of people struggling to define their relationship to society, and of society to them, in moments of political crisis.

--from Bernard Harrison, "The Uniqueness Debate Revisited." In Alvin Rosenfeld, ed. *Deciphering the New Antisemitism*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2015, pp. 289-325.

I would argue that anti-Zionism crosses the line [into anti-Semitism] in the following instances:

1. when it questions the legitimacy of the Jewish state, but no other state, and the legitimacy of Jewish nationalism, but no other nationalism, either in the Middle East or elsewhere.
2. when it denies to the Jewish state, but no other state, the right to express the character of the majority of its citizens (that is, to be Jewish as France is French);
3. when it demonizes the Jewish state, turning the Arab-Israeli conflict into a morality play, a problem that Jews, and Jews alone, created and for which Jews and Jews alone, are responsible;
4. when it expresses an obsessive, exclusive, and disproportionate concern with the shortcomings of the Israelis and the suffering of the Palestinians—to the point that a conflict between two small peoples is transformed into a cosmic, Manichean struggle between the forces of good and evil.

When criticism of Israel crosses any of these lines and begins to traffic in the fantasies, obsessions, fears, and irrationalities that are the stock-in-trade of full-blown antisemitism, it becomes nearly indistinguishable from that which it claims not to be.

--from Todd M. Endelman, "Antisemitism in Western Europe Today." in Derek Penslar, Michael R. Marrus, and Janice Gross Stein, eds. *Contemporary Antisemitism: Canada and the World*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2005, pp. 64-79.